VOL. XIX, NO. 3

#### LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

November, 2010



#### **Letter from the Editor:**

Dear Friends, Faculty and fellow Alumni of the Lenox School,

Martha's Vineyard continues as a place to get reconnected to Lenox, although I was particularly sad to miss this year's reunions.

Just a few weeks ago I was walking off the 18<sup>th</sup> green at Mink Meadows Club here in Vineyard Haven when I noticed a distinguished looking gentleman in sweats carrying three tennis rackets walking briskly down a path cutting by the clubhouse. I did a double take and said: "Mister Lowry, is that you?" He stopped and when I approached I asked if he knew who I was and he said: "I am afraid I don't, but I think you were probably a student of mine." I introduced myself and we caught up briefly as he was late for a match. His partner lives just a few doors away and I intend to catch up over the winter.

Thanks to all who have sent me material for this newsletter and others this past year. As we end this year of *Pen and Scrolls*, I am pleased that we will have Frank McCoy '70 helping for future editions. Mark Gottsegen '67, LSAA secretary and editor, continues to be much missed and should be thanked for all his help in this issue.

Please send your stories, reflections and news for the January/February 2011 number to Mark Gottsegen at the address on the last page.

Sincerely,

David Nathans

sydco@att.net or dnathans@mvmuseum.org

#### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"In Western Massachusetts, nestled in the Berkshire hills, she was but a small school.
But on many a day, the golden sun shines on her.
And it shines on me, and it shines on you, and it shone so brightly that day in June when we walked between the masters there."

In seeking appropriate quotes to capture the reunion spirit for my portion of the Pen and Scroll for this edition, I couldn't find anything more appropriate than extracts from a prayer we have all become familiar with. Howard Prestwich's '61 moving "Prayer for a Lenox School Reunion" is perfectly suited to what we experienced at this year's reunion. What a great weekend! Despite the rain on Friday, which closed the course for our golfers, the sun did indeed shine upon us!

We kicked off our business meeting on Saturday by the surprise award of our first Rev. Curry Scholarship to Kyanna Joseph of Miss Halls School. Coincidentally, Mrs. Curry sent us the portrait of Rev. Curry for our care and preservation; and her timing was impeccable, as we had the portrait prominently displayed while we provided the scholarship.

"So let us recall those days, but only those days when the sun was shining and our schoolmates were smiling. Thank you for the gracious gift of memory. Don't cry for us, Lenox School. The truth is, we never left you."

In a joyful gathering, approximately 100 alums, masters, staff, family and friends convened for lunch, the hymn sing and dinner at the Lenox Club. We proved yet again, that aside from our reminiscing and retelling of our fondest or funniest Lenox memories, we never really left. We took what we feel will be an iconic group photo at Trinity Church of everyone gathered around the portrait of Rev Curry which should be in this edition, or, as a minimum, available on the LSAA website.

Speaking of the website, it is now functioning flawlessly thanks to Kimball Packard. The memorabilia was again in full display thanks to the incredible efforts of Randy Harris; we are well along in creating our book of recollected memories; the movie "The Lenox Story" will soon be available for streaming on the website, and with the consent of Tony Simotes, we are going to be placing a proper historical marker identifying the school with a brief history and legacy plaques on buildings. Finally, the Hall of Fame ceremony was another highlight of our reunion as 5 more stellar individuals were honored and suitably installed (see the Minutes).

"Eagerly we travelled so far, for surely as any Thursday in November, this is a day of Thanksgiving, for after all these years Lenox School is in reunion, and God, it feels great."

For those of you who were not able to make it this year, we enthusiastically encourage you to make it next year, as the words in Howard's prayer are indeed true when you attend: "And God, it feels great!"

Bob Sansone President, LSAA Lenox '68 860-916-1467 RJSENERGY@Gmail.com

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#### LSAA Business Meeting SAT OCT 16, 2010 9:30 – 11:30

#### **AGENDA**

#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order: 9:35 a.m.

#### **Welcome and Opening Comments**

Thanks to Shakespeare & Co for again hosting our annual meeting.

Review of the reunion events: Luncheon – The Gateways, 12:00

noon

Lenox Campus Tour, 2:00 p.m. Lawrence Hall

The S&C Show. "The Real Inspector Hound" 2 p.m.

Hymn Sing & Prayer Service. 5 p.m. Trinity Church

Pre-Dinner Social @ Lenox Club with Memorabilia Display

Memorabilia, AV display, Dinner, LSAA Hall of Fame induction and comments: 6:00 p.m., dinner @ 7 p.m.

#### 2. Reports

#### **Financial Report**

Current Balances (Checking and Savings): \$25,341.22

After all 2010 expenses, the balance will be ~ \$14,500.00

Ed Miller will provide details upon request. Substantial donation to Haitian relief fund in memory of Ed Gleason.

<u>Scholarship/Donations Report</u> - The Curry Scholarship, a \$5,000 fund for a scholarship in honor of the memory of Robert Curry.

Jeannie Norris, Head of School, Miss Hall's, introduced the school and described its students and programs, and the school's alignment with the educational philosophy of the Lenox School. Kyanna Joseph from Bergen County, NJ – a sophomore – talked about how Miss Hall's has changed her life in giving her a sense that she can be a leader. To her surprise, Ms. Joseph was then awarded the first Curry Scholarship.

A motion to approve 4 additional \$1,000.00 scholarships for the year duly made and seconded, passed unanimously.

Fritz Eckel reported on the scholarship program philosophy; Jeff Smith suggested expanding and reinforcing our influence with Miss Hall's' alumnae.

Ed Miller talked about raising more money for the next Curry Scholarship gift to help match the anonymous donor's gift.

Frank McCoy, a free-lance journalist, told a story of the influence that the LSAA Scholarship had on a student (his daughter) who is now doing service work in northeast Thailand.

Paul Denzel report on recent scholarship recipients will be emailed for inclusion in P&S (Denzel and McGee)

Portrait of Rev. Robert L. Curry was displayed. Donated to the Alumni Association by Mrs. Betty Curry, and brought to campus from Maine by Rob Billings.

#### 3. President's Report

#### **LSAA Web Site**

Bob Sansone showed the link and Kimball Packard explained its operation, for which he was given a rare Lenox tie.

### Quo Vadis initiative and The Memorabilia Display (handout)

Randy Harris distributed a status update, including a discussion of the book project: History of the school, 1926 - 1971, including recollections of alumni and masters.

Bob Sansone discussed the future focus of preserving and caring for the memorabilia collection (attached), and finding an appropriate location for the Curry portrait.

Bob also discussed the *Quo Vadis* accomplishments and new proposals in 2010, and focus for 2011.

#### LSAA Audio/visual materials

- 1. A movie has been made photos of Lenox School with a narrative. This will be reviewed by Bob, Randy and Kimball for possible inclusion on either the website or another hosting location.
- 2. A second version of stills with no narration is also produced. Technical difficulties prevented its display.

Jeff Smith inquired about D.H. Wood memorabilia collection and Bob Sansone will follow up with the family.

#### 4. Old Business

### The Lenox School Service and Sports Hall of Fame

Five inductees were introduced at the Lenox Club dinner:

- 1. Mansfield E. ("Pete") Pickett (faculty)
- 2. Don Terwilliger '46 (student & faculty)
- 3. Dr. Robert Tracy
- 4. Mr. Chris Kinchla '66
- 5. Mr. Edward Ockenden '43

#### 5. New Business

#### **Succession planning**

Make sure By-Laws meet our most current needs.

Try to get fresh faces on the Board.

### Nomination and election of board and officers

On motions duly made, seconded and unanimously passed, the following were renominated to serve on the LSAA Board of Directors:

Allen Sloane `67 Ed Ockenden `43

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Ed Miller nominated Jim Fawcett to a three-year term as a faculty advisor to the Board, and in the absence of his agreement, to accept Jim Paterson's continuing service. Nomination seconded and passed unanimously. (Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Fawcett has agreed to serve as our faculty advisor. Bob will advise Mr. Paterson.)

On motions duly made and seconded, the following were unanimously elected to serve an additional one-year term on the LSAA Board of Directors:

Bob Sansone '68 – President Paul Denzel '67 – Vice President Ed Miller '66 – Treasurer Mark Gottsegen '67 – Secretary Open -- Assistant Secretary

#### Assistant Editor for the P&S.

Frank McCoy '70 has graciously agreed to serve as Assistant Editor to the Pen and Scroll.

### Tony Simotes (Artistic Director, Shakespeare and Company)

Mr. Simotes reported on the status of Shakespeare & Company. In much better financial and artistic shape. Looking for business partners to create income flow which can contribute towards the refurbishment of some of the campus buildings (St. Martin's, for example). Tony was very upbeat and optimistic about the future.

Bob Sansone presented to Tony a donation from the LSAA to S&Co for \$1,000.00 towards a youth summer school scholarship fund known as The Colm Higgins Memorial Scholarship Fund. This was just established, as Colm was a Fall Festival participant for many years; he died tragically in August 2010. The LSAA also donated our usual \$250.00 annual gift.

#### 6. Open (Balance of time until 11:30)

Ara Dostorian (faculty) suggested moving business meeting back to the lobby next year.

There was discussion about also moving the cocktail reception back to the lobby.

There was discussion about how to buy Lenox memorabilia clothing, hats, and so on, on the website. The Cafe Press and Zazzle sites were brought up.

The "Market America" model of fund-raising was also discussed — a percentage of the cost of any product an alumnus might purchase online through their "buying association" is donated to LSAA. Ed Miller looked at the terms and conditions of the agreement with Market America and found no reason not to go forward. On a motion duly made, seconded and passed unanimously, the Board will look into the proposal from Market America further and if it appears prudent, will move forward.

#### 6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Mark D. Gottsegen, '67

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### LSAA Board of Directors and Officer Nominations

#### The following individuals, per LSAA bylaws, remain active on the LSAA board:

Randy Harris '68, Jeff Smith '70 John Schneiter '68 Oliver Kempton `70 Fritz Eckel `65 Charlie McGee `71 Paul Denzel `67

### <u>Terms expire in 2010 - Standing for renomination</u>

Allen Sloane `67 Ed Ockenden `43

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The following, per LSAA by-laws, have placed their names in nomination for consideration to serve as officers for the LSAA board for a 1-year term:

Bob Sansone – President '68 Vice President – Paul Denzel '67 Ed Miller – Treasurer '66 Mark Gottsegen – Secretary '67 Open -- Assistant Secretary

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#### **Further information from the meeting:**

#### Memorabilia Displays

Present

- Two Memorabilia Displays are in place at Founders Theater (Gym) and Bernstein Theatre (former Wilde Sports Center) and are holding up.
- Same wall displays.

## The Pen 장 and Scroll

- Website now includes pictures and descriptions of each display.
- No plans to expand current displays.
- Memorabilia collection stored on S&Co campus, with additional reunion display items stored at Springlawn (formerly, Schermerhorn Hall).

#### Future focus

- Develop a "virtual memorabilia display" tour for the website.
- Scan and/or retype fading Pen and Scrolls ('27-'29) and documents.
- Improve storage conditions of memorabilia items.
- Find appropriate location for Rev. Curry's portrait.

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#### Quo Vadis Accomplishments

- Memorabilia displays are in place and holding up.
- "Campus History" white paper is completed.
- "Feasibility of Reestablishing Lenox School in Some Form" white paper is completed.
- Audiovisual presentations on the School are completed.
- Work has begun on Lenox School Book Project (History and Memories). Integrated school history into Dr. Jurney's plans for Springlawn Resort.
- Completed design and wording for a Lenox School historical marker for S&Co campus.
- Completed legacy building plaque design and wording.
- Developed draft introductory letters to Episcopal Schools (Kent, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's) on commemorating our historical links – it is likely only one school will be chosen:
- Graduation award in the name of Lenox School
  - Commemorative plaque
  - Scholarship/Endowed chair

\* \* \*

#### Quo Vadis 2011's Focus

- Continue the Lenox School Book Project.
- Procure and install the school historical marker on S&Co campus, at St. Martin's. Permission granted by Shakespeare & Company.
- Procure and install the legacy plaques. The former gym, St. Martins and the Library are the proposed locations).
- Assemble fundraising team and develop plan of action.
- Review the LSAA By-Laws to ensure that they support current and future LSAA focus.
- Continue coordination with S&Co (MOU, scholarship), Dr. Jurney on Springlawn Resort and with Trinity Church (plaque and memorabilia display).
- Incorporate "virtual memorabilia display" and other related proposals on the Website
- Scan or retype fading Pen & Scrolls ('27-'29) and documents.
- Improve the storage environment of the memorabilia collection.
- Determine status of the Lenox School name with the State of MA; obtain rights, if possible
- Make initial contact with regional Episcopal schools to determine whose interested.
- Continue to resolve open proposals in Quo Vadis

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#### Pickett Scholars 2010



Pictured, left to right: Charlie McGee '71, Geneva MacDonald, Jessica Garzon, and Paul Denzel '67

The Lenox School Alumni Association has named Jessica Garzon '10 and Geneva MacDonald '10 as recipients of this year's Mansfield Pickett Scholarships. The awards are named in memory of Mansfield E. (Pete) Pickett, who was a longtime teacher both at the former Lenox School and at Miss Hall's School.

The scholarships are given to two seniors who exhibit outstanding performance in academics and extracurricular activities, and this is the sixth year the association has honored Miss Hall's students. Paul Denzel and Charles V. McGee Jr., both representatives of the Lenox School Alumni Association, recently presented the awards to Jessica and Geneva.

Both Jessica and Geneva are four-year seniors at MHS. Additionally, Jessica is an Admission Ambassador, Big Sister, Proctor, and member of the Social Committee and the varsity field hockey team. As Social Committee co-Head during junior year, she served on the School's Student Council, and she also served last year on the Student-Faculty Advisory Committee.

Geneva is a Big Sister and two-year co-President of the MHS Anime Club. Also an accomplished athlete, Geneva is co-Captain of the varsity volleyball team and a member of the varsity softball team. She also played varsity soccer as a junior.

Mr. Pickett, who died in 1996, was beloved by students and faculty alike. The father of Tabitha Pickett Vahle '78 and grandfather of Wendy Panchy '85, he taught Latin and English at Miss Hall's from 1973—when the Lenox School closed—to 1992. He also served as MHS Director of Development from 1973 to 1975.

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#### **2010 Reunion Attendees**

Ed (`66) and Sarah Miller Randy Harris `68 Bob (`61) and Lynn Brownlee Sig (`59) and Janet Herliczek Mark Gottsegen `67 Donald (`63) and Carole Foster Paul Denzel `67 Fritz (`65) and Meredith Eckel

Ara Dostourian (Master, 1959-1962)

John Schneiter `68

Peter (`61) and Cathy Baker

Patrick Gable (`69) and Janet Smargie

Jack Braim (`60) and Sheila Stewart

Tim Robinson `70

John (`67) and Alexandra Risley

Peter (`66) and Becky Davis

James Davis `60

Bob Kline (`48) and Stacie Beedy

Peter Hansen `60

Michael (`60) and Judy Gottsegen

Brett Smith `70

Frank McCoy `70

Kimball (`70) and Neysa Packard

Judy and Kim Haddow (family of George

Haddow `70)

George (`70) and Lisa Cleveland

Doug (`62) and Maki Hardy

Jan (`61) and Min Yin Selkowitz

Fred (`70) and Bonny Lavenberg

Jeffrey Smith `70

David (`61) and Gay Tracy

Ed Ockenden '43

Charlie (`71) and Wendy McGee

Rob Billings `65

Niall Finnegan`65

Michael Carley `68

David Hurst `68

Marc (`70) and Patti Bauman

Bill Quigg (`67) and Krista Fanelli

Charles (`48) and Zoe Daniell

Donald Terwilliger (`46) and Peggy Voight

Bill Boswell `70

Tabitha Pickett-Vahle and Gillian Panchy

(daughters of Pete Pickett)

Joshua Belknap (grandson of Pete Pickett)

Stephen Tracy `68

Jim Braim `58

Jim (Master, 1963-1970) and Eugenie Fawcett

Charles Rogers (Faculty 1966-1970)

Ward Johnson `70

Mike Kent `70

David (`63) and Debby Webster

Bob (`68) and Diane Sansone (Linda Brogan-

guest)

John Powlovich `63

Jack Hill `62

Carl Albano `67

Harry Schneider (`48) and Dori Mills

James Martin, III `65
Bud and Beryl Wells (Kris Wells Warfield and Keri Warfield) (Staff and family)
Dr. James Jurney, Sr. (Current owner of Schermerhorn Hall, now called "Springlawn")
Gene St. Jean `63
Chris Kinchla `66
Craig (`66) and Laurie Moffatt
Toby (`65) and Stella Mae Seamans
Richard Mole `65
Reverend Stephen Booth, Rector, Trinity
Church
Tony and Lucy Simotes, Shakespeare & Co.
Jon Eckel `66

102 strong! Let's do it again next year!

#### **Letters to the Editor**

July 23, 2010 email from Houston H. Stokes '58 on the origins of Lenox School's Squash Team:

I am from the class of 1958. In the winter of 1957 my Dad, W. E. D. Stokes Jr., offered to create and coach a squash team. We played at the Pittsfield Country Club in the unheated court with a doubles ball that was faster and would work in the cold weather.

The first team was Robin Ross and David Currie and myself. Robin Ross was the best player.

Our first match was at Deerfield. As a sign of kinds of "tricks" played, the coach of Deerfield had the teams warm up. Right before the game was to begin the coach gave us an "official game ball" that had been specially heated to speed it up. Ethics and sportsmanship was not a strength at Deerfield!

After I left the school, my Dad continued the team for a few years.

PS: I prepared some notes on my experiences at Lenox in some notes on my life "My Journey" that look at the school from the perspective of the present. A great deal of progress has been made.

PPS: Ed Gleason, Spencer Kennard, Bob Kline, Robert Shirley and Rev. Curry were indeed fine people.

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Two casual reunion email notes from David Knight '63 on visits to Martha's Vineyard and Lenox

Hi David,

It was great meeting you at the museum yesterday and seeing Tim Cogan again after all these years. I'm sending you two pictures from yesterday and will get more in Lenox when we see Bill Robinson. I can also get some pictures of the campus, though that might be depressing. We'll see.

I'll also write an article when I get home.

Next year, David, we look forward to having you come out to Chilmark and enjoy the view from the deck. It's great to connect with another Lenox alum and I look forward to keeping in touch. That's a great museum where you are and I look forward to a more thorough tour next summer.

A few weeks later:

It was great to see you and Timothy Cogan on the Vineyard in August. Then, on August 7, Jeannie and I went to Lenox where, after 42 years I reconnected with Bill Robinson, Lenox '61 who was a boyhood friend. It was amazing. We picked up where we left off years ago! Our wives Arlene and Jeannie met for the first time. We went to Bill's sister Rosie and her husband Don's home in Stockbridge for what was to be lunch and ended up visiting all afternoon through supper and into the evening! What a reunion with reminiscences of Lenox School days. We plan to continue getting together next summer. How great it is to be back in touch after all these years. Bill, a retired school administrator in Vermont, and Arlene live in Barre, VT where Bill drives bus in Burlington. I'm semi retired as an Episcopal priest and now work as priest associate at St. Mary's Church, Goochland, VA (Western part of Richmond) This picture shows

Bill and me by the dairy at High Lawn Farm, where Bill grew up and where his dad, George Robinson, was Farm Manager for many years.

I took some pictures of the campus but they are depressing. The place is in shambles. The Monks science building is all caved in. Pity. But the alumni spirit seems, if anything, to be getting stronger.

\* \* \*

Reflections on Ed Gleason, Master and Coach and Humanitarian

While I never had Ed as a master I considered him a good friend. He was behind Lenox getting a sailing team and as one of the first members I got to know him well. I guess because of the small difference in our ages I considered him more as a big brother than a master. As a coach he was great. I remember the whole team crammed in his Studebaker and driving to Stockbridge bowl and sailing his Lightning or QAs on loan from the local yacht club. He was the type of man, that when I made the wrong move and blew a race, took me aside and quietly explained why my move was wrong and what would have been a better tactic.

I lost track of him after graduation and didn't find out about his death until a recent Pen & Scroll. I hope in the next issue you can write more about him especially the Haiti connection.

Keep up the good work.

John Morris '54 August 25, 2010 email

Assignment: Who will write more on Ed Gleason's passion for Haiti?

\* \* \*

Letter came typed (on a typewriter) on business stationery with the gravestone logo for "Thomas Memorials, Granite Monuments and Markers" in Lee, MA

July 13, 2010

Hope this note finds you in the best of health! Many thanks for sending me the Pen & Scroll!

I was in the class of 1954 at Lenox School after graduating from Lee High School in 1953, only the one year. However I am very glad that I attended. I have real good memories of my year and of Rev. Curry.

Dave Wood was my typing teacher of which as you can see and read, I still type. Also, David Gunn was my basketball coach after the hockey season. Terrific Man!

And my all time favorite coaches in hockey were Ed Gleason and Robert Klein! Photo of our hockey team enclosed, we had a pretty good season! Rev. Ray Ferguson was an excellent goalie, number 5, and I was left wing, number 14! [Photocopy and sadly too poor quality to include.]

My time is up, I remain, Very Respectfully Yours,

Also enclosed and dated the very next day:

I wrote yesterday, however I would like to mention the memory I have in regards to the Lenox School Hockey Team.

We played St. Marks Prep School in the Boston Arena and what a game I had! I scored 4 goals and 2 assists, but we lost 7 – 6!! I hope somebody in the picture I enclosed yesterday will have this wonderful memory of that particular game! I know my Dad went to the game and some of my friends from Lee. Just thought I would mention this! I remain, Very Respectfully Yours, Ed "Cookie" Thomas '54

\* \* \*

Reunion regrets from Douglas Paige '70

Greetings, and thank you very much...and Jeff Smith (such a great guy) for your correspondence.

I realized this week for sure that would not be possible for me to be at the reunion weekend. I would LOVE to be there, and it would be heartwarming to see as many people as possible who I knew through Lenox School. I could have visited Lenox in July for a possible gathering, because I was with members of my family in Massachusetts then. However, I did not find out about such a possible gathering until I read about it after I had arrived home to Evanston.

David Wood was a remarkable man who I liked and respected very much. I wrote to him years ago, and I am very happy for Doc Blanchard and his wife. I think it was probably the influence of Mr. LaPointe, Mr. Blanchard, and Mr. Corrigan that motivated me once with an important project, where I was working for close to 22 hours, from 12 noon one day until close to10 AM the next morning. Amazingly, everything worked out fine!

All the people I knew in my class of 1970 have had a special place in my memories, and they will ALWAYS have my heartfelt very best wishes.

This must close, because I have another responsibility here.

I hope ALL of you have a splendid reunion weekend.

Cheers!

#### In Memoriam

Kenneth J. Cyran '71

My name is Fredrica Cryan and my husband Ken was an alumnus of Lenox. I wish to let you know that he passed away unexpectedly on April 25th. It has been on my to-do list to notify the alumni group, so perhaps you can forward this information to the appropriate person. Thank you.

Kenneth Jarvis Cryan, 55, of Pittsburgh, died Sunday, April 25, 2010. He was born May 22, 1954, in Wayne, a son of Alice and Eugene Cryan. A devoted and beloved husband and father, he is survived by his wife, Fredrica; son, James; and daughter, Elizabeth. A remarkably caring person, Ken approached his entire life with a vigorous sense of fun and adventure. An avid world traveler, he loved 'splorin' with his family.

While he loved hiking and backpacking through the mountains, his true passion lay underneath the waves. From Palau's "Blue Corner" to chasing whale sharks in Mozambique, Ken loved traveling the world with friends and family. Ken approached his professional life with the same spirit of caring and adventure. For more than 30 years, Ken worked in the financial services industry. Most recently, he led the Mid-Atlantic region for Genworth Financial Services. He greatly respected and admired the people with whom he worked. Ken was a president and board member of the Financial Planning Associations in Houston, Texas, and Pittsburgh, and was an active board member for multiple other professional and service organizations. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fox Chapel. Professional services are entrusted to the care of THOMAS M. SMITH FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY LTD., Blawnox. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Global Links. www.globallinks.org.

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Gordon Hale Hubbard '37

Notice sent via letter from Thomas J. Hubbard '43 and dated August 30, 2010:

I write to inform you that my brother, Gordon Hale Hubbard, Class of 1937, died at his home in Tucson, Arizona, on June 12, 2010. Gordon never married and I am his only survivor. After graduating from Lenox, Gordon attended the University of Connecticut, receiving his degree in 1946, after four years Navy service in the Pacific. Until his retirement some twenty five years ago, Gordon was employed by the Torrington Company in Torrington, Connecticut. Brought up in Cornwall, Connecticut, his ashes are interred in the North Cornwall Cemetery, alongside those of his mother, father and three siblings who predeceased him.

I, Class of 1943 at Lenox, retired from the practice of law in New York City after fifty years at the bar. My wife and I just moved our principal residence in Bronxville, NY to an apartment; my new address is One Stoneleigh, 5K, Bronxville, NY 10708. We maintain another home in Cornwall, where all four of our children also have homes.

Your newsletter is appreciated.

\* \* \*

Eugenia Ayer Merrill Seamans W'36, P'65

Obituary by Vivian Ho from The Boston Globe, August 31, 2010

Whether raising money for various charities, accompanying her husband on his travels, socializing with the politically powerful, or teaching her children, Eugenia Ayer Merrill Seamans was dedicated to helping others reach their full potential.

"There are many more people in the world, many more crises, many more wars, many more diseases, and many more choices, paths to follow, places to go," she said in her self-published memoir, "Light and Life." "It is easy to condemn some modern developments from the comfort and security of one's home, but the real world is marching ahead, and I want to be a person who listens, loves, and tries to understand."

Mrs. Seamans, a philanthropist and family matriarch, died from heart failure on Aug. 12 in her home in Beverly Farms. She was 88.

Mrs. Seamans was born in Madrid, where her father was the American consul. Her family returned to the United States when she was about 2 years old; she spent most of her childhood in Washington, D.C., and her summers at her family home in Prides Crossing. She graduated from the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., in 1940.

In Washington, Mrs. Seamans grew up in the presence of prominent politicians and government figures, according to her memoir. Jerry Land, her godfather, was chairman of the US Maritime Commission, and General George Patton was her uncle.

"She had a really fun relationship with" General Patton, said her son Joe of Pittsburgh. "They played squash. He didn't want to play with men his own age until he could hold his own, so my aunt and my mother would play with him and get him up to speed."

Mrs. Seamans experienced more of the Washington social scene when she married Robert Seamans Jr. in 1942. He became secretary of the Air Force and deputy administrator of NASA. After first raising her family in Middleton and the family home in Beverly Farms, Mrs. Seamans returned to Washington in 1959.

Her husband's work brought the couple into close contact with many government figures and five presidents, according to her memoir. When President Kennedy was assassinated, the couple attended the funeral, and Mrs. Seamans helped his widow, Jacqueline, respond to the letters of condolence. Mrs. Seamans also described Lady Bird Johnson as "a pleasure to be with," and wrote that President Ford was her favorite among the presidents she met.

"There were so many of them," her daughter Katharine Padulo of Philadelphia said of the politicians her parents met. "They wouldn't intimidate her. She had a lot of things she could talk about. Her main thing was 'get people talking.' You have to figure out how to get them talking about something interesting. She could do that naturally because she was sincerely interested in other people. That's the essence of having social grace. She was always thinking of the other person."

Out of her esteem for George Washington, she represented Massachusetts as vice regent for 16 years and as regent from 1986 to 1990 of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association. During her time as regent, she escorted the key to the Bastille to France for the country's bicentennial celebration. President George H.W. Bush insisted that Mrs. Seamans present the key to the French president, Francois Mitterrand, said Jim Rees, president of the Mount Vernon Association.

"She was chairman during a tumultuous time on our board," he said. "Our attendance was declining, and we were facing some financial troubles, but we never went in

the red, and she kept the ship moving ahead. She was a very effective leader. She was always incredibly gracious, but she was determined when she had to be."

Mrs. Seamans took that leadership to other aspects of her philanthropy. She served as president of the alumnae association of the Masters School and was an avid supporter of the House of the Seven Gables and Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, the Beverly Farms Library, the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, and the Hospice of Mission Hill, the first in the nation for AIDS patients.

She was also a former trustee of the Deafness Research Foundation and a supporter of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, organizations she became involved in because of her eldest son, Robert III, who is called Toby. At age 3, doctors told Mrs. Seamans that he was deaf.

"When a doctor told her that I would never live a normal hearing life, she took a correspondence course at the Tracy Clinic in California and found a wonderful speech teacher, Helen T. Patten," Toby said by e-mail. "She convinced the head mistress at a grade school in Beverly that she would take the blame if I did not perform well at the school."

Mrs. Seamans and her husband also spent much of their time sailing. Mrs. Seamans accompanied her husband on several races in Bermuda and Halifax, serving as cook and crew for the family boat Viva. After her husband died in 2008, Mrs. Seamans spent more time in their Beverly Farms home, which they called Sea Meadow, gardening and painting, her children said. "She brought out the best in everyone," Katharine said.

In addition to her sons Joe and Toby and her daughter Katharine, Mrs. Seamans leaves another son, Daniel of Berkeley, Calif.; another daughter, May Baldwin of Cambridge; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

#### **Other LSAA BUSINESS**

#### LENOX SCHOOL BOOK PROJECT

We need your recollections of the Lenox School experience to accurately portray

it for the book of "Lenox School History and Memories (Lenox: A Place Apart)." It will be a quality hard bound book, full of School pictures, published primarily for your enjoyment. It will also commemorate the School and its members "as we knew them" and provide an enduring legacy. Don't hesitate to suggest a better name for the book, if you have one!

Over the next year, we will continue a review of every *Pen and Scroll* and yearbook to extract appropriate recollections and pictures. We will also learn about the print-on-demand book publishing business, which appears to be the least expensive way to produce a quality product in the limited quantities that we will need. It will involve an initial modest investment and then a reasonable printing cost per copy. The current goal is to have a final draft version by the end of 2011.

Many thanks if you have already provided material. We look forward to hearing from the rest of you: Your memories are the key to bringing this book to life.

Please send your information to: Randy Harris '68 at rdassist7@gmail.com, with a copy to Ed Ockenden '43 at edock2@verizon.net. Written material can be mailed to Randy Harris, 410 Cottonwood Drive, Harker Heights, TX 76548. Or, telephone if necessary: Randy Harris at (254) 690-6795.

\* \* \*

#### Lenox Yearbook on Ebay:

Allen Sloane '67 noted a 1964 Martin yearbook for sale on Ebay in a September email. The LSAA memorabilia collections already have four from that year so we took a pass on bidding. Nevertheless, the auction listing is worth a read:

You are bidding on the vintage original yearbook shown in the picture and listed in the title. It is what it is and nothing more.

WHAT A GREAT PIECE OF HISTORY. This yearbook is in great shape and is signed (very professionally, not like most high school

## The Pen 🔻 and Scroll

yearbooks) by a lot of the students and faculty. I counted 9 faculty and 41 students (all signed next to senior picture) but I may have missed a few. I'm not sure if there is anyone famous in the lot but chances are pretty good that someone did very well from this small, private Christian school in MA.... and you may even get their autograph.

There is some ink writing and the owner's name on the first page. [Wonder who the alum is?]

\* \* \*

#### A Pickett Family Recollection

I am the middle Pickett sister, currently working for Franklin Pierce University in Goodyear, AZ (establishing a remote campus) and unfortunately will not be able to attend the wonderful event honoring my Dad. My sister Tabitha sent me the info on this and it breaks my heart to miss this wonderful tribute.

I was 12 years old when we moved to Lenox - Tabitha had not been born quite yet. I went away to MacDuffie in Springfield at 15 and so was not at Lenox year-round after that but I did attend a few dances between the two schools. Those were great years for my Dad he was discovering his inner educator at that time. He completed his MEd (part-time in the evenings) and he reawakened his love of language and literature. The surprise, I think was his emergent passion for Latin - who knew! He became such an outstanding teacher over the ensuing years - and really found his true calling in the profession. The testimony to his success was the number of students who stayed in touch with him over the years...he had a sort of "Mr. Chips" effect on his students - his standards were high but he was compassionate and empathetic, as well.

We adored him - and were totally blindsided by his sudden death - we have not recovered even yet - and it has been nearly 14 years. I miss him (and my Mom) every single day with a sharp pang of loss. He was smart, witty, and wickedly sarcastic - but not cruel. He was thoughtful and often sensitive. He was proud of his kids and he adored my Mom. He has left a legacy of wit, humor and love of

language that extends to his children, grandchildren and now his great grandchildren. You do us honor by honoring him. My sisters and all of our children and grandchildren thank you for remembering this wonderful guy. He loved pomp and circumstance and would have loved this event.

Do you ever correspond with Bernie Desautels - who coached fencing at Lenox with my Dad? He has remained a good friend of our family ever since those years. He loved my Dad and went on to become quite a fencing aficionado - and even had a fencing school in Dalton, MA.

I would love to hear how things went at the event - and perhaps a photo or two?

Many thanks, Andrea Pickett Brode Assistant Dean, Franklin Pierce University Goodyear, AZ

\* \* \*

#### **Curry Scholarship Awarded**

A big part of the Annual Meeting this year at Reunions was the award of the award of the Rev. Robert L. Curry Scholarship. Below see the very generous note from Head Norris of Miss Hall's to LSAA Board Members Paul Denzel '67 and Charlie McGee '68:

Dear Paul and Charlie,

Kyanna did not know what was happening when the scholarship began to be announced. What a surprised young lady. She beamed all the way back to school.

It was a magical moment seeing Kyanna honored, and I thank you sincerely for this award. The support for scholarships could not be more important. We seek mission-appropriate girls regardless of a family's ability to pay, but our capacity to offer scholarships is very limited.

It is wonderful to have the support of the Lenox School Alumni Association. We are very grateful.

Thank you for thinking of Miss Hall's School and encouraging us to apply. I continue

to see much that unites our two organizations, and I hope that we will continue our conversations around the idea of establishing a legacy for the LSAA that would live in perpetuity here at Miss Hall's School. I look forward to our continued partnership.

This was a fabulous surprise - thank you!

My very best, Jeannie Norris Head of School

The official press release that follows tells us why Kyanna is so worthy a recipient:

#### Miss Hall's Student Receives Lenox School Alumni Association Scholarship

PITTSFIELD – Miss Hall's School announces that sophomore Kyanna Joseph has been named by the Lenox School Alumni Association as recipient of this year's Rev. Robert L. Curry Scholarship.

Kyanna, the daughter of Alton and Jennifer Joseph, of Elmwood Park, New Jersey, is an Honor Roll student and an active member of the MHS community. She is an Admission Ambassador and a member of the MHS Theater Ensemble, the Vocal Ensemble, and the Grace Notes, the School's a cappella music group. She is also the archivist for the Class of 2013, is a member of *SoL*, the School's literary magazine, and is on the Editorial Board of *Hallways*, the School's student-run newspaper.

The Curry Scholarship is named in honor of Rev. Curry, who was Headmaster at the Lenox School from 1946 until 1969. It is awarded to "a student of proven excellence and leadership abilities in the community and classroom and on the athletic field, whose capacity to lead and inspire his or her classmates significantly enhances the school community." The Lenox School Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the spirit and camaraderie of Lenox School, which was an independent, all-boy secondary school founded in 1926. The school operated on the grounds of what is today the home of Shakespeare & Company.

**About Miss Hall's School** Founded in 1898, Miss Hall's School was one of the first

all-girls boarding schools established in New England. Today the School is a nationally recognized, boarding and day independent secondary school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum with two acclaimed programs, Horizons and the Girls' Leadership Project. Miss Hall's School enrolls 180 girls, representing 15 states and 14 countries. For more information, call (413) 443-6401 or visit the website at www.misshalls.org.

\* \* \*

A thank you letter from Kyanna Joseph to Charlie McGee, received November 6, 2010:

Dear Mr. McGee,

Thank you so much for the funding I received as the recipient of the Lenox School Alumni Association Robert L. Curry Scholarship. This scholarship means a lot to my family and me. I am grateful to have the opportunity to have been selected for such an honor, and I have such an appreciation for the kindness that the Lenox School Alumni Association has showered on me.

As a sophomore at Miss Hall's School, I have learned so much about the world and myself. I never thought that I would be able to have such an educational opportunity when growing up in Elmwood Park, NJ. Miss Hall's School has changed my life for the better, and I love it here. I am thankful that the Lenox School Alumni Association believes in me, and I will continue to provide excellence in anything and everything I strive for.

With the money included in the scholarship, I will continue my studies at Miss Hall's where I plan to graduate from and further my education in college and beyond to wherever God takes me. As for the spending the money, I have been offered and will attend a People to People trip, which is a student ambassador program that offers international travel to selected students, this summer, so I will be using that money to finance part of my trip.

Once again, thank you for believing in me and providing the funds to help me continue my Miss Hall's School career. Sincerely, Kyanna Joseph

# The Pen 🏿 and Scroll

Photographs from Reunion 2010 at the Trinity Church Hymn Sing on Saturday night, October 16, 2010. Other photographs from the Reunion can be found at the Lenox School website: <a href="http://www.lenoxschool.org/">http://www.lenoxschool.org/</a>





#### **HOLD THE DATES:**

Reunion Weekend October 14, 15, 16, 2011

Class of 1941, 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1946, 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1951, 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1956, 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1961, 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1966, 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class of 1971, 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Be there, or be square.

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Send your news today!
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