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# The Pen and Scroll

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VOL. XXIX, NO. 2

LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

AUGUST, 2020



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## Letter from the Editor

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Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends of Lenox School,

We apologize for a delayed publication of this issue of the Pen and Scroll. As you probably know, we've decided to cancel the LSAA reunion this October because of the pandemic. The most critical issue is that we're all in an "at risk" population. In addition, we don't know Shakespeare & Co's plans this October and we don't know if the Lenox Club will be open. The Board decided that it is in our collective best interests to wait out the pandemic, and in particular to watch for an effective vaccine.

Given that we're not pressed to publish on a strict timetable to meet the reunion schedule, we've allowed other priorities to push the P&S back a few weeks.

You're no doubt tired of hearing, "These are unprecedented times." We will look back at 2020 with our crystal clear 2020 hindsight and wonder how all this happened. Not only are we in the midst of a disastrous resurgence of covid-19, but we're faced with the worst economic downturn in our history. Storms on the East Coast and wildfires on the West Coast, social unrest and protests—some violent—in a number of cities, the Russians allegedly funding the Taliban to target our military, the Federal Government sending military into cities to "restore peace," an apparent increase in police brutality resulting in deaths, complete chaos in the science of this highly communicable virus, chaotic and clumsy foreign policies and tactics, and what many observers would call chaos in our executive and legislative branches along with possible judicial misconduct, the anticipation of the upcoming election—all are worrisome. And I'm sure I've overlooked a few other things that might keep us awake.

A quick reminder – although we've pushed the reunion out a year, **the LSAA still depends on members' dues and**

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**contributions for ongoing expenses, such as the P&S.** We also want to keep some momentum going on donations to underwrite our new endowment as well as our hallmark scholarships and charitable donations to Shakespeare & Co, Trinity Church, BCD, and MHS... please consider the goodwill we do under the banner "Not To Be Served, But To Serve."

We hope that this issue finds all well and covid-free. Please remember to wear a mask, social distance, wash and sanitize hands often, and keep away from others. Best wishes to all for the rest of the summer and into the fall.

Don Foster '63

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## The President's Message

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**"Was that a pivotal historical moment  
We just went stumbling past?  
Here we are  
Dancing in the rumbling dark  
So come a little closer  
Give me something to grasp  
Give me your beautiful, crumbling heart  
Another disaster  
Catharsis  
Another half-discarded mirage  
Another mask slips  
Now I don't have the answers  
But there are still things to say  
I stare out at my city on another difficult day  
And I scream inwardly  
When will this change  
I'm beginning to fade  
But my sanity's saved, 'cause I can see your faces  
My sanity's saved  
'Cause I can see your faces"**

*Excerpts from Kate Tempest – "People's Faces"*

Yes, we are living through a pivotal, unprecedented historical moment for all of us. Hopefully we're not stumbling. Based on all the information we have and with the full concurrence of the LSAA board of Directors, we have to postpone the 2020 reunion until 2021. How's that for a pivotal, historical moment? Still, I can't wait to see your faces!

Thus, the next reunion is –

**October 15 & 16, 2021**

and...

**we'll have the classes of 1970 and 1971 celebrating their 50th legacy reunions.**

The reasons for postponing are numerous and compelling, but the obvious ones are – the LSAA attendees represent the most vulnerable class of individuals by virtue of age, and an assembly such as ours would be reckless unless and until a vaccine is available and widely administered; it is at best uncertain as to whether Shakespeare & Co, the Lenox Club, or Trinity Church would even be in a position to support or even allow a reunion gathering; the flare ups that seem to occur may result in restrictions imposed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for self quarantine upon entering the state, etc. Planning a reunion in 2020 would be a triumph of hope over reason.

**Which brings me to the other points I need to share:**

- **We're still an active organization!**
- We have made four scholarship donations this year (two to Miss Hall's and two to BCD);
- We have made two separate donations to Shakespeare and Co during this trying time to help them weather the storm along with two separate donations to Trinity Church;
- In parallel, we will still need funding (via tax deductible contributions to LSAA) for the next few years to support our administrative costs (printing the P&S, making donations, awarding scholarships, etc.);
- **PLEASE! -- We need your membership dues (\$30);**
- We still seek nominations for the LSAA Hall of fame for the 2021 reunion;
- The memorabilia chronicling and disposition plan is nearly complete. We have a number of options regarding what we will do with the items, and these include but are not limited to: finding a permanent display or storage location via historical societies, etc.; returning items to donors who want them; offering them for sale to alums; general sale of items to the public;

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- The website effort to inventory, and prepare for digitizing the important papers and images of other memorabilia has progressed under the incredible efforts of Randy Harris.

**"Tough times never last, but tough people do."**

~ Robert Schuller

It bears saying again—Lenox Strong—refusing to be victims; we're survivors.

Next Reunion:

**October 15 & 16, 2021**

**"Be There!"**

**Classes of 1970, 1965, 1960, 1955,  
1950 and 1945 ... stay strong!  
We'll see you in a year!**

Bob Sansone '68



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## Treasurer's Report

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This report is a little longer than my usual "bare bones" reports because it contains some information on charitable giving, which may be of interest to our members, particularly those who must take required minimum distributions (RMDs) from their retirement accounts in future years. (Congress has suspended the RMD provisions for 2020.)

First, let's go over the preliminaries. As of mid-July, we have \$5,614.14 in our checking account, and \$8,243.99 in our savings account, for total cash of \$13,858. Our accounts are located at the Community Bank in Northfield, Vermont. If those totals look a little low compared to our usual numbers, please keep in mind we transferred \$30,000 to Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation this past fall. This was in order to set up an LSAA endowment fund account within the confines of the larger foundation. (More on that later.)

Over the past several months, we have also made sizable contributions to Miss Hall's School (the Pickett awards), BCD (the Fawcett awards), Shakespeare & Co., and Trinity Church (Whitman and Curry Memorials). Some of the awards are usually made at our annual fall reunions. How-

ever, your officers decided to make the awards early this year, in part because of the uncertainty surrounding our ability to conduct a Fall 2020 Reunion.

As of May 31, 2020 (the last quarter reported), the LSAA account at the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation amounted to \$38,327.53, which represents the initial \$30,000 contribution, an additional donation of \$10,000, and a stock market skid, resulting in a sizable loss. Naturally, we hope the Fund is on the rebound, and the last several months have experienced good improvement.

Let's spend a moment on retirement funds and upcoming minimum distributions. Without getting too deep in the weeds, those of us who are forced to take the required minimum distribution (formerly those aged 70 ½, now changed to those who are at least 72) can give away a portion of their RMD (up to \$100,000) with that donation serving as a qualified charitable contribution.

The tax implication of making a qualified charitable deduction (QCD) from your IRA to a qualified charity such as Berkshire Taconic, in order to satisfy your RMD, lies in the fact that the QCD is excluded from your income. It's not deductible per se, but it reduces your taxable income.

So for example, if you are taking a \$30,000 RMD, you could give \$5,000 to the Foundation, and that \$5,000 will count as part of the RMD. The net effect of this is that you will only be subject to income tax on \$25,000, instead of \$30,000. That way, it makes it a little easier to part with your money, and the qualified charitable distribution can benefit a variety of good causes. In theory, you could give away all of your RMD, up to \$100,000, and not pay any tax on it at all. But... you get the idea. Please help if you can.

If you're interested in this process to benefit the LSAA fund administered by the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, please call or e-mail Joe Baker or Kara Mikulich of BTCF to discuss the specifics. They can be reached at:

Joe: (413) 429-8412; [jbaker@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:jbaker@berkshiretaconic.org)  
Kara: (413) 429-8404; [kmikulich@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:kmikulich@berkshiretaconic.org)

The procedure isn't difficult, but some coordination between you, the Foundation and your retirement fund is required to be sure the distribution works properly. If you prefer to contact the Foundation in writing, the address is:

**Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation**  
800 N. Main Street  
Sheffield, MA 01257

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

A brief consultation with your tax advisor is recommended... at least for the first time you make a donation.

After a lot of due diligence and a couple of meetings, the LSAA is pleased to partner with the BTCF to support the Lenox School legacy. We hope our members will support this effort financially.

That said, the LSAA still needs funding to support itself over the coming months and years. If you would like to donate directly to the LSAA (and your contributions are deductible also), please send me a check, payable to the LSAA:

Edward A. Miller, Jr. '66  
147 Spring Hollow Lane  
Montpelier, VT 05602

Finally, there is a provision in the 2020 (first) Congressional tax and budget act (CARES) which allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction (and who don't itemize) to still deduct up to \$300 in charitable contributions. This provision would appear to allow limited charitable gifts and deductions to organizations like the LSAA and BTCF for people who don't itemize. Bottom line, please keep the LSAA and the LSAA endowed fund at Berkshire Taconic in mind as the 2020 tax year unfolds, and into the future.

I've provided you the basics of the new tax law, but a caveat is still warranted... If you're giving a substantial amount of money, particularly to the Foundation, please seek qualified tax help, and call or e-mail Joe or Kara prior to writing a check, to make sure the proper procedures are being followed.

Thanks very much for any donations, either to the endowed fund at Berkshire Taconic or directly or to the LSAA. These are critical to maintaining the Lenox School legacy, and are very much appreciated.

Best wishes to you all. Stay well. I hope to see you at our next Reunion... in October of 2021!

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward A. Miller, Jr. '66  
LSAA Treasurer  
7/15/2020

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## Letters to the Editor

Allen Sloane writes...

I was most interested to see one photo in your first draft of the P&S that showed a major portion of the painting of St. Martin, which aided our digestion, lo those many years ago. I could not remember what it looked like in enough detail to guess who had painted it or how it came to Lenox.

I recall that it was a real painting of fairly high quality. This is the first photo of reasonable quality that I have seen.

So who was the original master? Where did it come from? What happened to "our" painting?

A quick search of Google images leads me to two answers of which I am certain. The original master was Anthony van Dyck and it was painted around 1620. Van Dyck was associated with Peter Paul Ruben's studio at which there were many students. A popular image like this would have been copied and reproduced for sale not only by van Dyck himself but by competent students in the workshop. It is my judgment from some details even in a simple black and white photo, that this was a good student copy of the design by van Dyck.

Our little school in the hills of western Massachusetts was lucky to have something of quality and I wonder what happened to it.

I believe that this may be the van Dyck variant that spawned our version:



Allen

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*Randy Harris prepared the following informative and very thorough response to Allen:*

Allen,

Provided below is what I know about the St. Martin painting that hung in the dining hall and what may have happened to it. The information has been gathered over the years that I've worked with the memorabilia collection and school history.

You are absolutely correct about the artist who painted it.

The photo is of the oil painting titled 'St. Martin Dividing His Cloak'. It was a copy of the original that hangs in the King's Drawing Room in Windsor Castle, England, painted by Anthony van Dyck in 1620. It was left to the school in 1947 in the Will of Mrs. (Countess) Carlos de Heredia, a Trinity Church parishioner and owner of the Wheatleigh Estate, who used to periodically entertain Lenox School students and faculty at her estate. This photograph was taken during a graduation day buffet luncheon.

The photo in the April P&S is the only close-up of the painting that I could find among the thousands of jpeg images in the archives. I have no idea as to the origin or the quality of the copy of the painting that the school had, but I was interested in what you said about the majority of the high-quality copies that were made. It's hard for me to believe that ours was a copy from van Dyck's time, but then as I said I don't know.

There is no record of where the painting went after the school closed. However, it was likely sold after the Borden-town/Lenox School closed in 1973, but there are several possibilities.

In several emails, Mr. Southworth recounted to me that when the school closed due to insufficient funds that some items of value were given to masters in lieu of their salaries, which the school was unable to pay. No mention of the specific items was made and he didn't offer or recall any details. However, most everything was simply left in place when the merger with the Borden-town Military Institute occurred in 1972.

After the ensuing Borden-town/Lenox School (B/LS) closed at the end of its only year in 1973, declaring bankruptcy, Mr. Wood, who taught there along with Misters Hinman, Southworth, Pickett, Bill Graesser '67 and Jim Hunt, recalled in a letter "That Mr. Nordstrum, the business man-

ager of the Bordentown/Lenox School had sold “everything he found saleable” upon the school’s closing, “including office equipment, pictures, rugs,...anything with even the smallest value.” That Mr. Wood had found the school records and files in “ragged piles” on the basement floor of Schermerhorn Hall, because the filing cabinets had been sold. I would guess that “pictures” probably referred to the paintings. In several emails that I exchanged with Bill Graesser, he didn’t recall anything about the painting either.

For several years, until the campus was sold to ‘The Bible Speaks’ in 1976, Mr. Nordstrum represented the B/LS as the bankruptcy was administered, trying to raise money through leasing portions of the campus and ultimately trying to find a buyer for all of it. As I recall, during this period, a former Lenox School trustee, or perhaps someone on his behalf, wrote to Mr. Nordstrum inquiring about what had happened to a print that he had donated to the school and that had been displayed in the Memorial Gymnasium’s upstairs Sixth Form Lounge. He was irritated because he had heard that it was ‘missing’. Though I don’t have Mr. Nordstrum’s response, the print likely would have been sold with everything else of value.

I doubt that the St. Martin’s painting would have still been around when in the fall of 1973, Mr. Nordstrum leased a portion of the southern campus, including St. Martin’s Hall to a group of teachers from the former Litchfield School in Connecticut who called their new school, the ‘New School At Lenox’. It lasted a little over a year before going bankrupt in the fall of 1974. During this time, Mark Gottsegen worked in the kitchen and recalled a totally different atmosphere than had ever existed at Lenox. He didn’t recall the painting being there.

Eventually, ‘The Bible Speaks’ bought the entire campus in 1976, boxed up all the Lenox School material that they found on campus and offered it to the Lenox Library, where the Librarian, Mrs. Margaret Kennard accepted it and her husband, Spencer Kennard ’34 sorted through it and created four scrapbooks of photos many of which had been framed and displayed on campus. Most of the rest of the material, except for a portion liberated by Charlie McGee ’71 and added to our collection, remains at the Library, but no St. Martin painting.

Best wishes to all and stay safe!

Randy

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Bill Graesser writes...

I want to thank you for all the work on the newsletter. I always enjoy reading it and I know how much work it must take to put it together.

If I read it correctly, I saw my name mentioned as the varsity coach in 1970. I was still in college at that time and I believe that was actually my brother Tom. He was teaching and coaching at the school from about 1968 to when it closed. I have copied this to him in case my dates are off.

My best to you in these crazy times. Please be safe.

Bill Graesser

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Nick Chapin writes...

Thank you for the latest Pen & Scroll. I might have missed some previous ones because my e-mail was blocked by some sort of virus but it is working fine now. I will go into the website and search for them.

I don’t know whether I informed you but I got remarried back 10 November 2018 to a very lovely Romanian lady, Simona, who is now living with me here in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. She brought her 10 year old daughter, Ramona, with her and she started in Grade 6 at the public school. We have applied for her to become a Permanent Resident and also for a Work Permit which she got. She started working late last year but when the coronavirus hit, all of the staff were laid off, her included. She is currently on Unemployment Insurance from the Government of Canada.

I was sent home about five weeks ago on paid leave but that has come to an end so now I have to apply for unemployment insurance as well.

However, we have all been well and hope that it stays that way.

We hope that everyone is healthy, happy and staying sane.

Best regards,

Nicholas (Nick) Chapin, ’64  
Calgary, AB  
Canada

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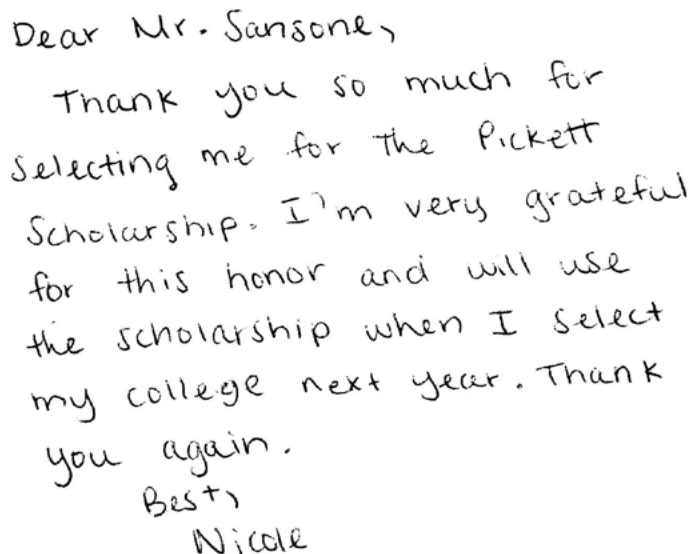
Toby Seamans writes...

I read with interest on Randy Harris' article in the last P&S about the Class of 1930 who all performed well in the College Board exam, especially in area of physics. In his sophomore year, my Dad took the college entrance exams and received honors in math and physics. He was in the Class of 1936. Reverend Monks was a unique individual by being the headmaster of the school; he was an inspiring teacher to students in both Science and Sacred Studies.

Toby Seamans  
Lenox '65

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*Below is a Thank You note from Nicole Forman, a rising senior at Miss Hall's and a recipient of the Pickett Scholarship.*  
~ Ed.



Dear Mr. Sansone,  
Thank you so much for selecting me for the Pickett Scholarship. I'm very grateful for this honor and will use the scholarship when I select my college next year. Thank you again.  
Best,  
Nicole

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## Other News

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### School Happenings 50 Years Ago According to the P&S – October 7, 1970

This was the first edition of the 1970-1971 school-year and the front page headline: 'Doc [Mr. David D. Blanchard] In For Gomer' [Mr. Austin P. Montgomery] reflected the sudden and unexpected change in headmasters. Two front page articles 'Opening Days At The Prep', and 'Modules' outline the "dazzling display of changes" that greeted returning students, many of which had been discussed in previous years, in addition to the headmaster change.

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These two articles are included in their entirety elsewhere in this edition in order to accurately describe the numerous changes, as is the article 'What's Up Doc?', which provides Mr. Blanchard's reactions to and comments on his new job and school changes.

Also on the front page, is the article 'Montgomery Bids Farewell', which summarizes his background and provides his thoughts on the matter. He is a graduate of Williams, with a Masters from Columbia in English and History. He enlisted for service in WWII and was discharged earlier than expected and then taught at St. Paul's School for 16 years. He then spent seven years as Headmaster of a Virginia Prep School that was in terrible financial trouble and brought it back on its feet. During a year in Europe with his family, he wrote a magazine article outlining the work he liked, which resulted in Rev. Curry telling him that Lenox needed his help and offering him a job. The terms were that he and Rev. Curry would work together for three years. However, much sooner, Rev. Curry resigned and in October 1969, the Trustees asked Mr. Montgomery to take over as headmaster.

Then, just before the 1970-1971 school year, he was asked by the Board to make a cut in the school budget. He said he'd try on two conditions. That no cut would interfere with the contract he'd made with parents (e.g. not serving meat at some meals) or require firing any teacher, because it would be impossible for them to find a job at that late date. A week later, the Trustees asked for his resignation. Mr. Montgomery is unsure of his future plans and felt that "you can't make a change just for the sake of making it, rather you make a change when it will most certainly benefit the institution socially or educationally. Change for the sake of change ain't educational."

After four years of teaching history at Lenox, Mr. Rogers resigned "as a result of personal reconsideration, made in the light of new contract arrangements" and did not return to school this year. Regarding the future of Lenox, he provided the following thoughts. "Under the guidance of Mr. Blanchard, Lenox has an excellent opportunity to excel in the various academic areas. Also I am confident that the ideas of community and fellowship will continue to play a significant part in the life of the school. Hopefully the ideas can become a reality in a world shaken by economic and social insecurity." Mr. Rogers hopes to continue teaching or at least to work in a history-related educational field.

Editorial content in the edition consisted of two editorials, one commentary and six pieces of prose. The lead editorial focused on the especially shocking and completely unexpected resignation of Mr. Montgomery and two mas-

ters and caused us to ask what Lenox was going to be like now and how was it going to change. So far the answers look good. Freedom in dress; weekend leaves; exchange of students with Miss Hall's; and greater freedom in curriculum. On the negative side are larger classes due to departed teachers and limitations on activities caused by lack of funds. "But for the most part, Lenox seems to be looking up." This is the year for students to express their criticisms freely; to be heard; and "to transform Lenox into a more agreeable place to live."

A second editorial exalted youth as a time for experimenting and experiencing different things and lamented that some "want us to "grow up"; to carry our burden in society; to take up our role as adults." But youth shouldn't end at a certain age, it should last throughout life. Finally, was a commentary by the faculty advisor to the P&S expressing his thoughts on the present school and the functions of the newspaper, which were to reflect the life of the school, telling it like it is; while encouraging students and faculty to use it well, freely, openly and wisely to express their views on the many changes, some good, some bad, but all exciting. He summarized ongoing faculty action as a complete review of the school through various committees, the headmaster and trustees to make the school "right" for all and challenged everyone to provide issues to discuss.

School events during the period included the following. In view of the drug presence that is occurring at all schools, Mr. Paterson, at the request of Mr. Montgomery, attended an 11-day seminar program on the subject at Northeastern University; featuring lectures and group study. With the knowledge gained by Mr. Paterson, and in view of the closeness of the students and faculty during the past year, Mr. Montgomery suggested that a committee of faculty and students be formed to discuss and in some cases act upon important matters within the school and outside with a very in-depth and honest look into drugs and why youth are the way they are today. The committee consisted of Mr. Paterson, Mr. Thomas Graesser and Mr. Rieffel; five Lenox students, including the Senior Prefect; and three students from Miss Hall's. Mr. Blanchard also enthusiastically supports its continuance, and through frank and honest discussions, problems are and will be worked out.

On Saturday October 3, the Akwesasne Program: 'White Roots of Peace' conducted an all-day program on the traditional Indian ways. The program has traveled extensively throughout the U.S. and Canada and Lenox is one of the many schools and communities that are concerned with Indians. Akwesasne is the St. Regis Mohawk reservation straddling the St. Lawrence River on both the Canadian and U.S. sides of the border. The morning consisted of Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

speakers at six seminars on the ways that traditional Indian ways are still important to contemporary life; and a display of Art and Handcraft at the Library. Many students and faculty from Lenox, Miss Hall's, Foxhollow and Cranwell attended, as did some from the local community. The afternoon featured five films on Indian culture and issues, but was lightly attended due to athletic commitments. The evening included a reshewing of 'Ballad of Crowfoot' and a traditional Iroquois meeting or assembly with dancing that all participated in. A rap session followed and closed the night's activities.

On the evenings of October 16th and 17th, the combined Drama Module of Miss Hall's and Lenox School will present segments of the Musical "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" to the parents of new girls at Miss Hall's and to others who are interested. The show is directed by Mrs. Annie O'Connell, drama coach at Miss Hall's and features Jay Albert as Charlie Brown, Ann Costello as Lucy, Di Dennis as Patsy, Richard Leach as Linus, Tuck Kamin as Schroeder, Heather Gubner as Snoopy, and Randy Coleman as Violet.

Varsity Football's Head Coach Mr. Barry instituted a new style of play which coaches Paul Jenkins, Gene Peters from Berkshire Christian College, Gordon Rutledge and the smaller in quantity, but big in ability team Co-Captained by Jim Couch and Charlie Beach quickly learned. In a pre-season scrimmage at Avon Old Farms they showed much potential, but lost their opener to a rough Marianapolis squad 20-0 despite many opportunities to score; the fantastic play of H.D. Pearl and fumble recoveries by George Van-Zandt and Rusty Hunter. Berkshire is up next in a five-game season.

Veteran coach Mr. Hall was working hard to overcome the problems facing the Illrd Football Team. He lost two coaches; had only 19 players compared to last year's 30; had two key players injured; and only had four returning starters: Bob Crosby, Chip Hewitt, John Hill, and John Rouner. The schedule is Darrow, Cranwell and Eaglebrook.

Varsity Soccer, led by Co-Captains Kent Paul and Neil Anderson featured five-returning letterman and started the season 0-2-1. The team had pre-season scrimmages against a more-practiced Pittsfield High team and then won 7-1 against St. Joseph High. In the regular season, the team came back from 3-1 to tie Hoosac 3-3 in its first game; before losing big to Williston 9-3. In its third game, the team dominated the first half against a strong Berkshire team, before succumbing 4-2. Len Shepard in goal and forward Jeff Gulick turned in outstanding performances. Junior Varsity Soccer, led by Mr. Berry and Mr. Rieffel

faces a six-game season, and began with a smashing 6-2 win over Windsor Mountain with Spike Kennard scoring three goals and one a piece by Tom Dobbin, Ken Cryan and Chad Vorhees. The team was run into shape by several scrimmages against the Varsity Cross Country Team.

The only two experienced runners on the Varsity Cross Country team under new head coach Mr. Thomas Graesser, were Co-Captains Bill Ryan and Steven Begay. The other five runners were all rookies who were steadily improving on a newly designed, hilly and difficult course designed by Mr. Graesser, a top-runner while at Lenox. The team won its first meet of the season against Marianapolis 25-33 on the new course, with Begay winning and Jeff Woloshyn placing third. Lenox will host the New England Class 'C' Championship on the course at the end of its 10-meet season.

~ Randy Harris

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## Opening Days At The Prep An Article from 50-Years Ago in the P&S October 7, 1970

**Note:** This was the featured article, centered at the top of the 50-Years Ago P&S edition's cover page, which described all the changes to student life and the curriculum that were taking place that school year, in large part due to student suggestions and Mr. Montgomery's approval during the previous year. This article is so fact-filled that it was impossible to fairly summarize it without omitting significant content and so it is printed here in its entirety.

~ RH



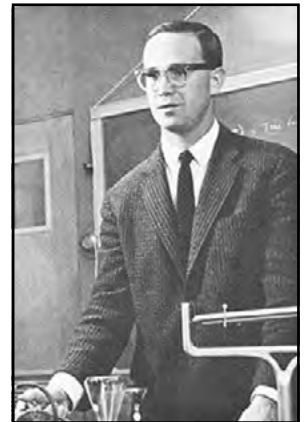
New Headmaster,  
Mr. Blanchard

For the returning student, Lenox School opened its doors with a dazzling display of changes. They were greeted by cries of "Did j'a hear the news? Doc's the headmaster." Reactions varied from stunned silence to "Oh my God," to "Wow!," to "Oh, no. Another Squid." The formal announcement was handed to parents and students in the form of a cryptic letter from the President of the Board of Trustees. Scarcely had the dust begun to settle, when in that

same week, the school through discussion with faculty and students instituted some sweeping changes in school rules.

Of major importance was the acceptance of an informal dress code for almost all occasions based upon "neatness and cleanliness" and respect for individual feeling. Any questions concerning a lowering of that standard is to be adjudicated by a faculty-student-staff committee. Then smoking was permitted from breakfast until lights out, in specified locations and up town.

All students were required to have parental permission (written and on file) for this "vice." Lo and behold, weekends were granted at the rate of two a term provided the student had cleared himself of obligations from Friday lunch to Sunday at 8:30 P.M.



Headmaster  
David D. Blanchard  
1970

Chapel was changed to Tuesdays and Thursdays and is now held in the Lenox School Chapel in Thayer Hall. Sunday worship may be at any church up town, or at a school service of Holy Communion at 9:30 in the Chapel. Sunday breakfast became optional, with a buffet style served. Saturday classes were abolished to be replaced by an 8:00 A.M. breakfast and then seminars and various activities from 9:00 until 11:00. An exchange program was set up with Miss Hall's and Cranwell so that students now go to Miss Hall's for courses in drama and the fine arts, and students come to Lenox for courses in Biology, Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry. Also a music appreciation course was set up on campus under the tutelage of Mr. Steigler of First Church in Pittsfield.

Other changes included revising the checkbook system to allow the purchase of food, and an increase in the allowance. Music systems are now allowed in all dorms, and students may have bicycles on campus.

That about sums up the present situation as Lenox School at last reaches the full sunlight of the twentieth century, and stretches eagerly to embrace her newfound liberties and responsibilities. What may lie ahead? Look for Senior Spring term projects, field trips, a continued excitement towards "true" education.

~ Randy Harris

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## Modules

An Article from 50-Years Ago in the P&S  
October 7, 1970

**Note:** This is another of the front page articles in the featured edition of the P&S. It addresses the 'Module' system that expanded and varied the school's curriculum beyond the purely college preparatory courses, which had been the standard in the past. Most replaced the classes on Saturday mornings, while a few others, hosted by Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield, were part of Lenox School's attempts at coordinate education (coed). You'll notice that Drama was one of the Miss Hall's modules, since Mr. David H. Wood, Lenox's Dramatic Club Director since 1947, had taken a year's sabbatical to, among other things, complete his book on the Town of Lenox history: 'Lenox, Massachusetts Shire Town.'

~ RH

For the first time in Lenox School history the students have not had to go out for a fall sport. Modules have been set up at Miss Hall's School, which have provided an interesting alternative. Art, drama, and photography are being instructed there. These courses give a student, who is not taking a sport, something to which he can devote his time, instead of wasting it.



Miss Hall's joins Lenox in  
Mr. Berry's science class - 1970

Also another first for Lenox is the Saturday program: a module system has been set up in place of classes. Indian studies, publications, hockey coaching, geography, photography, chess, poetry, ecology, art, automotive mechanics, mechanical drawing, woodworking, band, typing, slide rule, introduction to music, remedial math, and remedial English are the open courses. These give a broad choice of classes, and completely destroy the idea of a somewhat boring Saturday.

~ Randy Harris

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Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

## What's Up Doc?

An Article from 50-Years Ago in the P&S October 7,  
1970

**Note:** This article, another from the front page of the featured P&S edition, provides Mr. Blanchard's initial thoughts on being appointed headmaster; his thoughts on some of the changes being implemented; and his thoughts on the future. Once again, it was impossible to summarize its content without omitting significant facts or modifying his responses, so it is provided here in its entirety. Mr. Blanchard expanded his thoughts on the school, its principles, and what it was trying to accomplish in an article from the Fall 1970 - Alumni Magazine that's also included in this edition.

~ RH

Q. How does it feel to be the new Headmaster?

A. Awesome and exciting. Awesome because of the challenge to be met. Exciting because the faculty and student body are so enthusiastic.

Q. Do you like the changes made?

A. Yes, because every change is to bring a quality of life more in line with philosophy.

Q. Will Lenox School live on?

A. Yes because it's got to find a way to do its job. The Board of Trustees say Lenox School must not close and they've worked hard to make sure it does not close. With faculty, student body and trustees of this caliber it's got to make it. Financially we've got problems, but there are some real advantages to being a small school. Financially it creates problems but we've got to make the most of our advantages.

Q. How do you feel towards the arts? sports? curriculum?

A. It's too bad a boy must choose between sports and arts. I hope it can be changed eventually. We've taken our first steps in arts with Mr. Steigler and the art module. I think team sports are a part of every boys' education. You learn things in them you can learn no other way. The things that make this year's start the most interesting in many years are the changes in curriculum. They make it exciting for teacher and student.

Q. What are your plans for the future?

A. I'd like to reopen some of the dorms and fix them up like St. Martins. I'd like to make a quadrangle of the two wings (art room, Mr. Pickett's room) of St. Martins by adding another section. I'd like to make the gym into a theatre. The Field House may be used as a shop, classrooms, or a student art center. The Annex may be used for student maintenance (autoshop). Basically, the school has got to be made of diverse people who trust each other, so that they can better understand each other and respect each other.

~ Randy Harris

\* \* \*

## This Month In The Pen and Scroll

**Note:** This article takes a look at what the Pen and Scroll reported about school happenings 60, 71, 82, and 90 years ago. Occasionally, missing P&Ss from the LSAA Memorabilia Collection, and the desire to equal or exceed a 10-year interval between editions resulted in some intervals in excess of ten years.

~ RH

### 60 Years Ago – October 2, 1960

The school opened its 36th year with 224 students, 74 of them new boys, with the following geographical distribution: 64 from Berkshire County; 57 from elsewhere in Massachusetts; 50 from elsewhere in New England; 18 from New York; 34 from elsewhere in the U.S.; and one from Argentina. Additionally, Mr. Terwilliger arrived from teaching math and English at Berkshire Country Day School and Mr. Blanchard from completing a Master's degree in Chemistry at Yale.

Two new acquisitions occurred over the summer: the purchase of the 12-acre former Louise Gilmore Estate across the Old Stockbridge Road from the varsity lacrosse field, whose dilapidated house will be demolished to create an athletic field and possible future faculty housing; and the old 'Banana Wagon', replaced by a 1960 Chevrolet, 6-cylinder, standard transmission, 'Carry-All' seating 8-9, with removable seats for cargo, dubbed the 'Mustard Wagon'.

For 6-weeks beginning at the end of June, over 200 Berkshire Music Center, male and female students, from 7 to 70, and from throughout the world, studying Music Appreciation, Opera, or Instrumental, lived and practiced on campus. They were supported by 14 Lenox boys living in the Annex, under the direction of Mr. Pickett, who were paid to provide kitchen help, waiters for breakfast and supper, and to drive school buses to and from Tanglewood.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Just before school opened, it hosted the Annual Clergy and Couples Conference of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts featuring 80 clergy and 22 couples representing the parishes. The Rev. Robert S. S. Whitman, alumnus, trustee, and Rector of Trinity Parish, accompanied by his wife and two daughters, returned from 11 months of study as part of a 6-American delegation at St. Augustine's College in Canterbury, Kent, England, the central college of the Anglican Communion.

The fall sports season began with varsity football winning its opener for the first time in 15 years by romping over Monson 38-0; while varsity soccer dropped its opener to Marvelwood 3-1, despite out-shooting them 23 shots on goal to 7.

### 71 Years Ago – October 28, 1949

The Fall Term started for new boys on September 20th and the school soon mourned the loss of 1948-Alumnus Jerry Wendt, as word arrived of his drowning in a boating accident that summer. Over the summer, Mr. Wood, Miss Lindquist, and six students hosted 120 girls of the Berkshire Music Center on campus for six weeks.



Architects sketch of new Gym - Oct 1949

Ground was broken and bulldozing began, a week before the old boys returned in September, at the site for the new gymnasium. Work included an access road and trenches for the foundation and braces. It followed approval of the project by the Board of Trustees, after graduation on June 12th, following visits to many surrounding gyms, and the selection of the blue-prints, contractor, and location. The gym will feature a 70' x 40' playing floor; two cross-courts at either end; a 32' x 19' stage with a boiler on one side

and a storage/'dressing room' on the other; and on the other end of the gym, a shower/locker room, a women's bathroom, and a heater. A playroom over the shower/locker room will be finished at a later date. Completion of the gym is likely by basketball season. The initial cost was \$55,000, with a total cost of \$75,000 expected when all the necessities and landscaping are added.

Varsity football lost its first two games, 18-0 at home to Darrow and 26-6 away against Berkshire; while varsity soccer lost its opener at Darrow 6-1 and a heartbreaking home opener to Albany Academy 2-1. 'Parent's Weekend' was scheduled for October 29th and 30th and will feature varsity football against Wooster; varsity soccer against Berkshire; and junior varsity football against Indian Mountain; a tour of the new gym under construction; and the dramatic society's presentation of Thornton Wilder's 'The Happy Journey'.

### 82 Years Ago – October 7, 1938

Commencement weekend went off really well, with a Baccalaureate Service and sermon by the headmaster, followed by a Glee Club concert at Thayer Hall in the afternoon and then High Tea at Clipston Grange. Graduation was on Sunday morning in Thayer Hall with speakers Bishop Lawrence and Remsen Ogilby, President of the Board of Trustees and President of Trinity College. Leonard Shepard graduated Magna Cum Laude and won the Founder's Scholarship Cup; and Sidney H. Paige won a Gold Scholarship Medal, only the second one ever awarded. In the school's thirteenth year, it added 26 new boys for a total enrollment of 89, a few more than last year. And Mr. Tying (head of the science and athletic departments, junior football and junior hockey coach, and biology, chemistry and physics teacher) wed Miss Gertrude Bent in Brookline, Massachusetts; and Mr. Davis (head of the history department and the Civics Club, history teacher, and senior football and probably baseball coach) wed Miss Janet Westbrook in Westmount, Quebec.

The school occupied its new building (St. Martin's Hall), while rain drenched opening day. All masters and students moved in immediately, while classes began at Griswold Hall due to some yet to be completed interior painting and finishing work. It was designed by McKim, Mead and White who also designed recent buildings at Amherst and Trinity Colleges. It featured reinforced concrete beams to support its weight, negating the need for a steel framework. The

verdict by the school: "Certainly beauty was not sacrificed in the attainment of great practicality; the result is something of which everyone is proud." Updates on extracurricular activities were provided, including on the Classical Music Club and its associated 'History of Music' course; as well as on Mr. Gilmore's efforts to create a French bookshelf in the Library.

The football team, light, fast and employing the Warner 'C' double-wingback system, looked strong on defense in a pre-season scrimmage against the Lee High School varsity. The Gold-Strippers face a 6-game season against Hope Farm, Salisbury, South Kent, Kent School IIs, Rumford, and Millbrook.

### 90 Years Ago – October 17, 1930

The school's first-ever graduation exercise was held on Friday, June 13th; preceded on Thursday by a Dramatic Club presentation of 'His First Dress Suit' and a Glee Club recital, both at Sedgwick Hall in Lenox, followed by High Tea at Thayer Hall. School enrollment increased by 19 new boys and Mr. Gilmore (French), Mr. Hey (Latin and English) and Mrs. Downing, the headmaster's personal secretary arrived. A new wing for contagious diseases was added to the Infirmary (North Cottage) and a two-story family addition, designed by Mr. Monks, was added to South Cottage. College Entrance (Boards) Examination results for the 6th, 5th, and 4th forms, taken at the school in the spring, were exemplary for the 6th form; lower, but an improvement for the 5th form; and a combination of good and bad for the 4th form.

For the first time in school history, the football team had a regular 7-game season against teams believed to be equal to its strength; opening with losses to Salisbury 26-13 and Dalton High School 19-7; and with games remaining against Troy Country Day School, Wooster Academy, South Kent, Kent Seconds and Hoosac. Mr. Monks briefed the trustees on his Annual Report providing school highlights, its financial status, and an explanation of the theory and application of self-help. Mr. Gilmore started a new French Club and the choir participated in the Annual Choir Festival at Trinity Church with the Lee and Stockbridge choirs. The 'Grounds Job' on campus was taken over by the boys not playing football; and as there was no 'Walking Squad', the former 'Grounds Boys' washed windows every afternoon.

~ Randy Harris

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## 'From The Headmaster' Mr. David D. Blanchard Lenox Alumni Magazine – Fall, 1970

**Note:** *This thoughtful and comprehensive article from Mr. David D. Blanchard, the new Headmaster since just before the start of the 1970-1971 school year, and a veteran of ten years at Lenox, including a one year sabbatical, appeared in the Fall, 1970 edition of the Lenox Alumni Magazine. It provides his thinking on the purpose and goals of the school, expanding upon his brief thoughts in the space allotted in the October 7, 1970 edition of the Pen and Scroll. Thus it is a must-read to understanding how the school was changing and what it was trying to accomplish in what would be its last year.*

~ RH

The past two months have been the most difficult, the most stimulating, and the most exciting of my life. Essentially we have here a new school, built on the strong foundation laid by my predecessors. The fact that we have survived a very difficult year of transition is irrefutable testimony to the strength of these foundations. There has been much good done here over the years and my debt and gratitude to those who have gone before is unbound- ed.

It is my firm belief that the school should be run by the faculty and that my function should be primarily one of guiding the faculty as they make decisions and then finding ways to implement those decisions. I have, however, done much thinking about the school over the past ten years, and much of this has crystallized in discussions with the faculty and other educators since I became headmaster. I would like to share with you my thinking about the school and its goals and invite comment from you about these thoughts.

### DIVERSITY

The character of a school is determined largely by the character of its faculty and student body. Lenox is determined to continue to be a gathering place for a tremendously diverse group of people – gathered together in an atmosphere that is as free from threat as is possible – so that each may feel free to speak to his deepest beliefs. We are convinced that only through this sort of interaction can come a true and deep respect for all men – a respect for another person because of rather than in spite of, his differences. There is no place here for the attitude of the person who hypocritically maintains he does not notice

the color of a man's skin. We view Blacks, Indians, Orientals, and Whites as fundamentally different people, each with his own beliefs and culture, and each with his own contribution to make to the school. There is nothing to be gained by trying to make all people the same, and much has been lost whenever this has been attempted.

In striving for this goal, we recognize that each culture must be supported here. Thus we do not take a single American Indian, drop him into a middle class white community, and ask him to relate, as an Indian, to those around him. To do so would be foolish, for it would be asking the impossible. Similarly we do not ask a Black, or Oriental, to come and "represent" this segment of our society. Our approach has been increasingly to bring groups of Indians and Blacks into the school (we presently have 8 American Indians and 9 Blacks in a school population of 130) and to encourage them to support each other as they seek to define their culture for themselves as well as for others. Thus we have an Indian Studies Program, open only to Indians, which seeks to identify and intensify those things which make Indians unique. Drawing on this program, the Indians then can interact – as Indians – with the rest of the school. Similarly from time to time, the Blacks have established Afro-American Societies to give them an opportunity to explore – as Blacks – their cultural heritage. It is our view that these programs must be encouraged if we are to avoid simply "whitewashing" the Blacks and Indians who are a part of our community.

And yet we recognize that if we are to live together and to come to understand each other, we cannot become a collection of self-oriented groups, each living only for itself. Such a community would be self-defeating. Thus we all – Whites, Orientals, Blacks and Indians – must make adjustments for the good of the community. One of the most difficult and yet stimulating challenges that we face is the working out of a life style which provides for cultural identity and yet provides a meaningful life together.

### INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

The word educate comes from the Latin educare meaning "To lead out." Thus we view education as the process of leading people out of their closed worlds to consider the world at large. Whatever else may be said about the world of 1970, it is fundamentally a world of fantastic and rapid change. Thus any process which does not develop the ability to reason – to react rationally to change – seems to us to be invalid. Education must force young people to open doors for themselves; it must allow them the pos-

sibility of failure in order that they may learn to rise from discouragement and develop the courage to experiment; it must encourage independence of thought and action – not a blind, self-centered-arrogant independence, but one conceived in the light of the lessons of the past and the clear recognition of the rights and sensibilities of other people.

We are examining every aspect of our teaching at Lenox in the light of the above goals. We feel that many of the traditional “educative” processes, with their emphasis on learning facts and past events rather than on critical analysis and confrontation of issues, not only do not lead toward these goals, but, in fact, often lead away from them. Thus we are, with the co-operation of the University of Massachusetts School of Education, carefully investigating alternatives to the traditional approach to teaching. While we reject the concept of change for the sake of change, we are not afraid to question our teaching and to make changes if it appears that they would move us closer to the goals stated above. Let me illustrate what we are doing with two examples:

1. In one of our III form math sections, the entire course is being presented by the students, with Jim Paterson acting only as a resource person and a guide. We have found that this has stimulated far more thinking and leads to far better understanding than the standard lecture-discussion technique.

2. The first month of Nol Putnam’s Sociology course has been largely concerned with the development of a feeling of community and complete trust within the class in order that in-depth, open, and honest discussion of sensitive areas such as racial conflict can occur. One of the most successful techniques in this area has been the use of “Blind Walks” on which some of the class is blindfolded and each must depend entirely upon a sighted friend to guide him as he runs around a football field or walks down a busy city street. This is an experience which demands a complete physical trust, which we find is translatable into an emotional and mental trust.

As we closely examine our teaching and our curriculum, we are finding that although in some areas, changes such as those outlined above are both necessary and desirable, much of what we had been doing over the years has been of excellent quality. We do not feel defensive about continuing existing programs and teaching methods essentially unchanged if on examination they are found to be effective. One of the things that has made the start of this year so stimulating is the diversity of teaching techniques that have been developed.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

## QUALITY OF LIFE

The key word that guides us as we consider the life-style of Lenox is integrity. We feel strongly that every aspect of our life together must reflect the goals outlined above, and that anything not in line with these goals should be subject to serious questioning if we are really to be honest. Thus, recognizing that our commitments to education extend far beyond the classroom, we have tried to make the quality of our life together as free of petty restrictions as possible. At the same time we recognize that learning cannot occur in an atmosphere of chaos, and that absolute freedom on the part of any individual would necessarily restrict the freedom of other individuals. We feel that there is a distinct and essential difference between a realistically relaxed life-style and permissiveness. Education can be open and exciting in the former – it is impossible in the latter.

The second word that guides our thinking is excitement. If the educational process does not excite the imagination and intellect of the student, then it will in all probability cease the minute that the required time has been served. On the other hand, if schooling is a process of excited involvement, then it will continue throughout one’s entire life. We feel strongly that the latter situation is the only healthy one and that in it lies the only real hope for the survival of our society.

## RELIGION

Lenox was founded in 1926 as a school for New England boys of Episcopal families. Since that time we have evolved into a school of far greater diversity. Thus we have found an increasing need to respond to the needs of many faiths, Christian, Muslim, Jewish, and many others. We feel strongly that Humanism is a necessary but not sufficient basis for life and that a sense of the Spirit must pervade all of our life. Finally we feel that if we are truly to come to understand each other, we must explore each other’s beliefs about the Spirit. In this exploration and questioning not only do we grow in our knowledge of each other but also in our knowledge of ourselves and our beliefs.

If the philosophical objectives outlined above are clear, ways to make them a meaningful part of our life in 1970 are equally unclear. At present the entire school attends twice-weekly chapel services led by clergy and laymen both from within the school community and from the outside. On weekends, the boys worship according to their belief, but we do require that they attend a service at one of the churches or synagogues in the area.

We are convinced that these more formalized activities are a vital part of our religious life here, they are not the whole answer. For if we cannot translate our worship together into action in our daily lives, then it is meaningless. We have long been a school dedicated to service to others and to the development of a loving relationship between diverse people, as exemplified by our self-help system and outreach program. It seems to us that these are two of the most important ways to witness to our faith and that our main thrust must be to find ever more effective ways to make this witness.

One of my top priorities this year is to keep the alumni informed and to involve them more and more in the life of the school. We need the support of all-students, parents and alumni as we seek to define and reach new goals. Thus I invite you to become as involved as you can in the work of this place. You will soon be hearing from John Crozier about the reorganization of the Alumni Council. In the meantime visit the campus, talk to students and faculty, but above all contribute ideas and criticism.

~ Randy Harris

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## Trivia Questions

**Note.** *This edition's Trivia Questions focus on the school's total enrollment, student body composition and class size. In working with various items of school memorabilia, it was interesting to see how the school's size and composition varied over time, due either to certain specific events and factors, or to the approach taken by different headmasters. It's also important to remember that when discussing the numbers and composition of the student body, all figures are best estimates based upon a review of the reference material available, since the school records have been lost to time. Additionally, available reference documents, like yearbooks, catalogs, alumni directories, and P&S's use different formats and thus do not always contain the same information, thus hindering the collection of specific details. That being said, the numbers used in these questions are pretty reliable. Some other questions that we may want answers to remain beyond our reach.*

~ RH

1. What was the total enrollment in the school's first year (1926-1927) and in the school's last year (1970-1971)?
  - a. 40/130.
  - b. 60/120.
  - c. 80/150.
  - d. 100/157.
  - e. 120/164.

2. During the Depression, enrollment remained between the mid-70s to the low-80s. During the War Years it stayed in the 70s. However, some years after the War ended, enrollment dipped. This was primarily because the school's reputation had dropped due to 6 of 9 of the faculty serving in the military since 1942 and because the best replacements were going to the larger schools. Additionally, the number of veterans needing schooling eventually decreased. How low did enrollment dip and in what year after WWII did it occur?
  - a. 37/1947.
  - b. 46/1949.
  - c. 52/1951.
  - d. 55/1953.
3. After the dip in enrollment, it grew steadily until it reached a level where the trustees put a cap on it until the Lawrence Hall dormitory could be built in 1964. What was the enrollment cap and in what year was it implemented?
  - a. 11/1958.
  - b. 227/1959.
  - c. 240/1961.
  - d. 250/1963.
4. On average, what percentage of the total enrollment were students from Berkshire County, many of whom were Day Students, during the periods 1930-1949, primarily Rev. Monks' tenure (1926-1946), and 1950-1969, entirely in Rev. Curry's tenure (1946-1969)?
  - a. 11%/23%.
  - b. 7%/25%.
  - c. 22%/17%.
  - d. 18%/27%.
5. Only three graduating classes had 70 or more students in them. Which were the years when this occurred and how many students were in each class?
  - a. 1961/70, 1967/75, 1970/71.
  - b. 1966/70, 1968/73, 1969/72.
  - c. 1966/70, 1967/75, 1968/73.
  - d. 1965/72, 1967/75, 1968/73.

~ Randy Harris

\* \* \*



# The Hen and Scroll

To: Shakespeare & Company

Attn: Rick Martelle

CC: Allyn Burrows, Steve Ball, Adam Davis

From: Lenox School Alumni Association

Subject: Donation

Dear Rick:

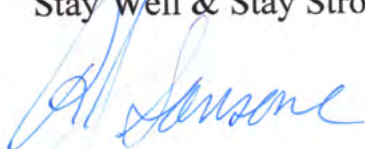
Shakespeare and Company has always been a great friend and warm host for our annual Lenox School reunions. While each year we provide a donation/scholarship in memory of David Wood (who was assistant to the Headmaster) as a small token of our gratitude, we want to advance our support of S&Co during these difficult times.

In that regard, and in consonance with LSAA's mission of service to others, we want to help now by sending you the enclosed \$1,000 donation.

The entire S&Co family is in our thoughts and prayers during this truly difficult time. We hope that this donation helps provide some assistance while we all navigate through these uncharted waters.

We do believe we will endure and prevail over this; and we are looking for the time when we can see all of you again. In the interim, we wanted you to know that we are gripping hands with you while we go through this challenge.

Stay Well & Stay Strong!



Bob Sansone  
President  
LSAA

To: Shakespeare & Company

Attn: Rick Martelle

CC: Allyn Burrows, Steve Ball, Adam Davis

From: Lenox School Alumni Association

Subject: 2nd Donation

Date 7/24/20

Dear Rick:

In our enduring effort to assist Shakespeare and Company during these difficult times, and in consonance with LSAA's mission of service to others, we want to help once again by sending you the enclosed \$1,000 donation.

S&Co has always been a stalwart friend and warm host to LSAA as we assembled each year at our former campus for the reunions. While we have decided to postpone the 2020 LSAA reunion and hold it in 2021, we want you to know the S&Co family remains in our thoughts and prayers.

We hope that this additional donation helps provide some assistance while we continue to navigate through these unprecedented challenges.

We still remain convinced that we will all endure and prevail over this; and we are looking for the time in 2021 when we can see all of you again at the reunion. LSAA - still gripping hands with you while we navigate through this challenge!

Stay Well & Stay Strong!

Bob Sansone  
President  
LSAA



To: The Reverend Michael Tuck, Trinity Church, Lenox. MA

From: Lenox School Alumni Association

Subject: 2nd Donation

Date: 7/24/20

Dear Michael:

We are still gripping hands with you, your family, and everyone else at Trinity Church during these unprecedented times. We also recognize that the need remains for the spiritual aid, comfort and service that you and Trinity Church continue to provide.

Our Lenox School motto compels us to continue LSAA's mission of service to others. In that regard, we want to help by sending you the enclosed donation to continue helping support your ministry.

While we have decided to postpone our own 2020 reunion until 2021 (when we feel that the risk and threat will have been sufficiently diminished; and/or a vaccine has been successfully deployed); we look forward to seeing you at the hymn sing in 2021!

In the interim, we remain steadfast in our belief that we will all endure and prevail over this, but we wanted you to know that you remain in our thoughts as we continue through to the successful end of this crucible.

Very Warmest Regards,

Bob Sansone  
President  
LSAA

## In Memoriam

### Blanchard "Bunny" Pratt '43

Blanchard "Bunny" Pratt died on November 23, 2019 in Hanover, New Hampshire. He had lived for many years in Norwich, Vermont. After graduating from the Lenox School in 1943 he entered Dartmouth College with their class of 1947. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1949, his college education having been delayed by two years of service in the US Navy from 1944 to 1946. After graduation he worked for Dartmouth College for many years. He did scientific research about, among other things, cosmic rays. He later worked for the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) in Hanover, NH also doing scientific research. He never married. In 1957 he bought a small house in a rural part of Norwich, Vermont where he lived for the rest of his life. He leaves two nephews and two nieces. He also leaves a grand niece, two grand nephews and a great grand nephew. His parents and siblings predeceased him.



His brother, Amasa Pratt, also a Lenox alumnus died in 2010. His year of graduation was 1939.

\* \* \*

### James Bud Wells 1926 - 2020

James Bud Wells, 94, was called to mercifully take his place among family and friends who have passed before him. Bud died peacefully at home on April 6, 2020. He was born January 18, 1926 in Donora, PA to James Playford Wells and Annie Elsie Gray.



Immediately after graduating from Donora High School, Bud, like many of his buddies, joined in the fight of World War II. He joined the Navy and was stationed aboard the USS Sitka (APA-113) and served as a pilot of a troop landing craft from the attack transport. On D-Day he made numerous trips between the shores of Normandy and the Sitka ferrying many brave

men to the beaches and the front lines. He spent the rest of his life as a very proud veteran and was carefully guarded of what he experienced during those times.

Coming home to Donora, Bud took a job as a bricklayer in the steel mills of U.S. Steel primarily layering bricks inside the giant Kilns. It was while working for the mills that he met who would become the love of his life, his best friend for life and his wife all in one all in one special person. Bud married Beryl Jean Compton, the boss's daughter from up on the hill on January 17, 1948. While still residing in Donora, they had their two children, Kristine and Timothy.

After the closing of the mill, Bud moved his family to Lenox where he was head of maintenance for the Lenox School for Boys. Reunions for the school tell many, many stories about Bud and Beryl opening their campus home to the boys to watch television, play games and socialize in the warm settings they provided. It was at the school Bud developed a love of hockey that led him to be a manager of not only Lenox School teams but later for the High Lawn Jerseys, a semi-pro team from Lenox.

After Lenox School closed and became Bordentown School, Bud remained for a bit but moved on to take a job as a shipping assembler for Lenox Machine until 1988 when he could not resist his never-ending urge to just travel and to play golf every day that he possibly could. He retired and fulfilled both those urges the best he could. He was an avid Boston sports fan, it didn't matter which Boston team was playing, one could find him watching them on television.

A deeply religious man who grew up attending St. John's Episcopal Church in Donora, carried that faith with him through the war years and to Lenox where he served faithfully St. Helena's Chapel and Trinity Episcopal Church.

He also had a special gift of working with his hands in wood. Using knowledge and tools passed by his father, Bud crafted many pieces of furniture which he shared with every member of his family.

Bud is survived by his best friend and wife, Beryl, by his daughter Kristine Warfield (Donald) and their daughters Sara Ordyna (Dennis), Nora Tassone (Aaron) and Keri Kelley (Joseph), by his son Timothy Wells and also by his great-grandchild Quinn Ordyna, Joseph Tassone, Theodore Kelley and Avery Tassone.

Bud was predeceased by his parents, sisters Dorothy Wells and Lillian Wells Hall and was also predeceased by a great-grandson, Conrad Kelley.

Bud's favorite charity and one that he supported through the years is the Jimmy Fund. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name to the Jimmy Fund or any worthwhile cause that would benefit individuals caught up in these difficult times. Also, a special thank you to the Lenox Volunteer Fire Dept. and Lenox Police Dept. for their assistance.

To share memories and stories please visit [www.rochefuneralhome.com](http://www.rochefuneralhome.com)

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## Constantine Demetrious Tollios '49

Word has been received that Constantine Demetrious Tollios, a longtime resident of Falmouth who spent many years in the ocean engineering department at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, died January 18 in Florida. Mr. Tollios, who was known as Gus, was 90.

The son of Demetrious J. Tollios and Poliminia (Scantalides) Tollios, he was born and raised in a house on Queen Street.

He was the widower of Harriet May (Johnson) Tollios. With his wife, who was called Jay, he shared a love of cooking the Greek specialties passed down in his family, and the couple was featured in a 1986 Gourmets And Good Eaters column in the Enterprise. They had been married for 37 years at the time of her death from cancer in December 1994.



After graduating in 1948 from Lawrence High School, he attended and graduated from Lenox School for Boys, a private preparatory school, prior to furthering his education at the University of Pennsylvania. He earned his undergraduate degree in engineering before serving for two years in the United States Air Force. Following his military discharge in late 1955, he joined the Falmouth office of the Cape Cod Standard-Times in 1956, handling classified advertising for a time.

Mr. Tollios pursued his graduate degree at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He met Ms. Johnson, also a stu-

dent at the university, and they would marry in 1957. After their first son was born during the summer of 1959, they returned to Amherst from Falmouth so Mr. Tollios could complete his senior year in engineering.

Mr. Tollios found work in the aerospace industry at Rockwell International in California. The family lived in Santa Ana, and their second son was born in June 1963.

He returned to the East Coast from California in 1968 and accepted a position as software engineer at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where he remained until his retirement.

In retirement Mr. Tollios engaged in computer consulting work at the Marine Biological Laboratory.

He was a member of the town cemetery committee and its restoration work of Oak Grove Cemetery, and had served as secretary of the group. He also had been active in organizing his Lawrence High School Class of 1948 50th reunion weekend that took place in September 1998.

In his younger years, Mr. Tollios had been a lifeguard at Surf Drive Beach. He also had tended bar at The Hunt Club and the Nimrod and, later in life, enjoyed sharing his memories of the bar-tending experiences.

Mr. Tollios moved from his Falmouth home to South Florida several years ago.

He leaves two sons, D. Paul Tollios of Falmouth and Mark J. Tollios of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; two grandchildren, Erin D. Tollios and Mark D. Tollios, both of Falmouth; and other family.

He was preceded in death by his two sisters, Patricia D. Sethares and Evangeline P. Wilkins.

\* \* \*

## Stanley (Stan) Whitfield Burrows '66

Stanley (Stan) Whitfield Burrows, most recently of Waltham, MA, was born in Boston in January of 1948, and passed away on May 1, 2020. As a nearly lifelong resident of Cambridge, Massachusetts, he enjoyed a forty-year career as an Information Technology and Software Engineering Executive, with a special emphasis on helping organizations use technology to enhance executive leadership and decision-making. He also successfully led efforts to design and implement many high-profile technology-based products and services.

During his career, Stan served as Programming Project Leader for the Data Services Division at The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; as Senior Software Engineering Manager for software engineering companies such as Digital Equipment Corporation, where he managed worldwide strategic planning and competitive analysis processes; assisted in the launch of Internet start-up organizations; and as a Consultant to organizations as diverse as the World Bank Group and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Among the many achievements, of which he was most proud, was his service on the boards of a number of local non-profits, including: Operation A.B.L.E. of Greater Boston; The Guidance Center in Cambridge, a service of Riverside Community Care; and the Microloan Foundation. He also served as a volunteer on the Membership Committee of The Harvard Club of Boston, of which he was an enthusiastic Club member for 36 years; The Cambridge Club where he served as President from 2009 to 2010; the Administration & Finance Committee of the Board of Directors (for more than 9 years); and as a Consultant to United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, for close to 3 years.



Stan earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Boston University; a Master's Degree in Computer Science from Boston University; and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, both in the same year.

He was the son of Oscar S. Burrows, Cambridge Attorney and former Assistant District Attorney for Middlesex County, and Dorothy E. Burrows who was Head of the Boston Public School Art Program. His brother, Attorney Quentin Caldwell Burrows (husband of Janice Dost of Sunriver Oregon), passed away on May 17, 2006, in Taos, New Mexico, at the age of sixty-three.

He was also a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle, and will be remembered with love and affection by his wife, Jill V. Burrows, son, Dylan D. Burrows of Maynard, Massachusetts and his wife Mandy (Hyden), grand-daughter Avalon

and her children Ryder and Raina, of Seaside, California; sons of his brother Quentin: Matthew Burrows and his wife Katherine (Lazar) and their sons Miles L. and Lloyd S. Burrows; and Christopher Burrows, and his wife Dr. Adrienne (Bell) and their children, Ryann E. and Jacob L. Burrows of Santa Monica CA; and step son Dr. Jeremy Bragdon, his wife (Hiromi), and sons Ray and Rio of Okinawa, Japan. A virtual memorial service for him is planned for the not so distant future.

Stanley was also well loved by his many friends from coast to coast (many of whom date back to his childhood and years at the Lenox School in Lenox, MA), as well as an untold number of members of the many community organizations he was called to serve with distinction, and he will be sorely missed.

\* \* \*

## Edward "Rip" Scott Van Winkle

Edward "Rip" Scott Van Winkle, age 76, ended his life Thursday, August 22nd at his home in Essex, CT. He was proudest of his children who survive him: Pieter K. Van Winkle of Paonia, CO, Hannah K. Van Winkle of Brooklyn, NY, Noralee Walker of Maynard, MA, and step-daughter Ana Marie Cox of St. Paul, MN. His wife Shirley Cox predeceased him in 2012. He's also survived by siblings Peter Van Winkle of Center Sandwich, NH and Anne Van Winkle of Oakland, CA. Sister Kate Van Winkle Keller died in 2018. A devoted father, "Rip" was always ready with a clever pun and a hearty laugh. He was happiest on a boat with a cigar and a cocktail. A true original, he possessed a brilliant, quick mind and an almost encyclopedic memory of all things trivia. He spent over 20 years in the advertising business in Boston and New York City and served in the US Air Force from 1965-1967. He graduated from the Lenox School and earned a BA from Boston University and an MA from Brandeis University, both in English and American Literature. Born in Worcester, MA in 1943 to Kathryn Louise Vondermuhl and Edward Kingsland Van Winkle, Rip grew up in Hartford, CT and Squam Lake, NH. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to Death with Dignity, a non-profit with the mission of expanding end-of-life options for terminally ill Americans.



\* \* \*

## William J. Rudge III '49

Mr. William Jerome Rudge, III, 89, passed quietly on 21 May 2020, surrounded by his family at Brookdale Independent Living.

William (Bill) was the son of William Jerome Rudge, Jr. and Lena Anne Wyss and spent his childhood in Lenox, MA, where he attended Lenox High School and Lenox School for Boys. He earned an A.B. Degree at Duke University in 1954, majoring in psychology and later took several graduate courses. He served as a corporal in the army from 1954-56 and was briefly stationed in Germany before he was honorably discharged.



In 1957, he began work for the General Electric Company as a specialist in technical training programs and as part of his training rotation worked briefly at the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, where he met his future wife, Beverly Anne Cook, who worked there as a secretary. They were married on 6 Dec 1958 and eventually settled in Clinton, NY, where they raised four children.

Mr. Rudge retired in 1991, at which time he devoted himself full-time to a variety of volunteer activities for the American Boy Scouts, American Red Cross, Kiwanis, the Mohawk Valley Engineering Council, the Clinton Historical Society and the Clinton United Methodist Church. Mr. Rudge's extensive participation in these organizations earned him several distinguished honors, including the Silver Beaver Award by the American Boy Scouts in 1975, the



highest award the American Boy Scout Council can bestow on a volunteer. He donated almost 20 gallons of blood and aided extensively in the organization of several blood drives for the American Red Cross. He served as president of the Clinton Kiwanis Club. He organized numerous career fairs for future engineering students. He served as a lay speaker

for the United Methodist Church. He also served as Village Trustee from 1976-78. Mr. Rudge's extensive service to his community was honored in 1992 when the mayor of Clinton proclaimed June 11 as "Bill Rudge Day." Mr. Rudge

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

and his wife maintained a cottage on Laurel Lake, Lenox and engaged in local community work there as well. During their retirement, they traveled extensively. More recently, they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary shortly after arriving at Brookdale. On 7 Mar 2019, Bill was awarded the first Clinton Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year award for his many decades of community service. In September of 2019, Bill and Bev were recognized for their 50 years of dedication to the Kirkland Blood Drives.

Surviving are his wife, Beverly; four children, William J. Rudge, IV (wife, Patricia), Mrs. Laura Wolfe (husband, Dan), David Rudge (husband, Bob) and Mrs. Susan Corney (husband, Jim); six grandchildren, Caleb and Sarah Rudge, Stephanie and Eric Wolfe and Philip and Mindy Corney.

Bill and his family greatly appreciate the help and support of numerous local medical community doctors and staff and also the friendship and support of his many neighbors, friends and fellow parishioners at Clinton United Methodist Church, who have been so helpful during the last six months. Many thanks to Sharon Meyer and the staff at Brookdale for their tremendous care and compassion.

In lieu of flowers, Bill asked that you consider donating a pint of blood (to save 2 ½ lives) or donating to Rise Against Hunger of the Clinton United Methodist Church, the American Red Cross, the Leatherstocking Council, Boy Scouts of America or your local food pantry.

\* \* \*

The next issue will be published  
Fall 2020

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foster(at)tmlp.net ... replace (at) with @



## Trivia answers from the April 2020 edition

1. (b) On average, 24 graduation prizes, excluding Scholarship Medals, were awarded each year and 17 of them remained the same from year to year.

2. (d) On average, the rank order, from most to least, for the number of annual prizes awarded in each of the four major categories: Athletics, Citizenship, Extracurricular Activities, and Scholarship was: Scholarship//Athletic-Citizenship [Tie]/Extracurricular.

3. (b) On average, the rank order, from most to least, for the number of annual prizes awarded to the following three major categories of student: Graduating Class, the Lower Forms; and Any Form was: Any Form/Lower Forms/Graduating Class.

4. (b), (c), (e) The criteria for the three prizes given in honor of the memory of the school's two founders, Rev. Thayer and Rev. Griswold and its first headmaster, Rev. Monks are: the member of the graduating class with the best scholastic record (Founders Prize in memory of Rev. Thayer); the member of the lower three forms who in the opinion of the prefects, has been the most faithful and reliable in the

performance of his job (Knowles Prize in memory of Rev. Monks); and the member of the graduating class, who in the opinion of the masters has shown the greatest sense of responsibility toward the school, with satisfactory scholarship (Griswold Prize).

5. (f) Alfred G. Vanderbilt and George Vanderbilt, for whom two of the school's most prestigious and impressive annual prizes were named: were sons of Alfred Gwayne Vanderbilt, the heir who inherited the bulk of Cornelius Vanderbilt's fortune and who went down on the Lusitania in 1915; as toddlers in 1916, along with their mother, Mrs. Margaret Emerson, lived across the street from the school's future campus at George H. Morgan's Ventfort Hall; moved to the 304-acre Holmwood Estate, part of George Westinghouse's Erskine Park, which was the location of Lenox School's first 'home' football game in 1926; hosted the Berkshire Symphonic Festival in 1936, which then became Tanglewood in 1937; and a portion of which became a part of the Foxhollow School in 1939; both graduated from St. Paul's School, but may have attended Lenox for a short-time as underformers, in the school's first years. At the least, they were friends of many of the students; their two prizes/cups were only awarded to Lower-Form students.

~ Randy Harris

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