



Letter from the Editor

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends of Lenox School,

It's on! The 2021 LSAA reunion is scheduled a week later than usual in Lenox... October 22 and 23. We will celebrate the 50th anniversaries of the classes of '70 and '71. Please review the agenda and response form in this newsletter for the meeting and weekend details and please consider attending.

We strongly encourage all Lenox alumni and their families and loved ones to be vaccinated if approved by your healthcare provider. While the LSAA can't require vaccinations, we want to respect the possible wishes of Shakespeare & Co, the Lenox Club, and our other venues. One or several of them may require covid vaccination. This is particularly important now that infections are again on the rise, almost exclusively among those not vaccinated, and likely from the more virulent Delta variant. The scientific community says that vaccinations provide very strong protection from the original covid and the Delta variant, particularly for us seniors.

In this issue you'll learn about the progress of our growing trust fund, managed by Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. At the reunion, we'll hear about a new initiative to manage our fundraising efforts (and maybe even the Pen and Scroll) using an online system. Many wrinkles remain to be smoothed over... so watch for updates and clarifications in the next P&S as we work through the learning curve. Both of these issues – our scholarship trust and our online fundraising initiative – are important considerations for sustaining the LSAA legacy, our scholarship initiatives, and the P&S as we contemplate a shrinking and aging LSAA and as we move toward a less active retirees association.

Also in this issue, read about the two new Pickett Scholars at Miss Hall's, Muhiim Ali and Shannon Foster, both class of '21. And read about the T-shirts honoring this reunion, soon available through mail order and also on sale at the reunion.

We wish all a safe and enjoyable summer – and a continued healthy summer – and look forward to seeing all at our October 22/23 reunion in Lenox. Don't forget to send in the response form, and consider adding a little extra to support our scholarships.

Don Foster '63

* * *

The President's Message

It's Here!! - New Date for 2021 Lenox Reunion

October 22 (Golf) and 23, 2021

Decisions, Discipline, Reflections, and Bookends

I have to begin by acknowledging the influence three alums and one master have had on this President's message, and the upcoming reunion planning that brought this message about: John Schneiter, Randy Harris, Toby Seamans, and David Southworth. John recently sent me the photo of one of the early Lenox reunions that got me to thinking about what it is that compels us to carry on since that photo from 1988; Randy.... well suffice it to say, that virtually none of what we're able to do these days comes about without the efforts that Randy has put forth in demonstrating "Sed Ministrare" for the LSAA; Toby contacted me sometime ago and shared a document written by Mr. Southworth, which

he obtained from the executors of Mr. Southworth's estate; and finally, the message that is contained in the prelude to that same Southworth 2001 document titled: "**The Reminiscences of Lenox School.**" The prelude is titled: "**What Dreams May Come.**" An extract of this prelude speaks for itself:

*"My sixteen years at Lenox have never left my thoughts, and even today I can still see in my mind people, places, and events as though they were preserved on a series of detailed tapestries woven in brilliant colors. I sometimes revisit Lenox in my dreams as though I were actually there again....Over the past year or so I have felt the need and an inner urge to write about Lenox School and have been doing so through random sketches and anecdotes as they have come to mind.... These writings have been primarily for my own satisfaction as a medium to capture moments of Lenox School life as I knew it. At the same time, I am willing to offer them as a reflection of **that Lenox mystique** (emphasis is mine), which eludes specific words but has existed as an experienced entity, and which touched everyone in one way or another."*

"...**that Lenox mystique...**" phrase caught my eye and started me to thinking about this upcoming reunion, the incredible developments we'll be announcing; and of course, that Lenox mystique that finds us back at a school, now long closed, each October.

"The bookends of success are starting and finishing. Decisions help us start; discipline helps us finish."

Decisions and Discipline

How fortunate are we that in 1926, the foresight and decisions that Revs Thayer, Monks, Griswold and others had made which ultimately afforded us the opportunity to attend Lenox School? Here is an extract of one of the founding documents from 1926 (that can be found in full on our website <http://www.lenoxschool.org/>) under the historic documents section:

**The next issue will be published
December 2021.
Send your news today!**

Don Foster
5 Tinkham Lane
Lakeville, MA 02347
508-947-7297
foster(at)tmlp.net ... replace (at) with @

LENOX SCHOOL LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The first term of Lenox School will open on Wednesday, September 22. All boys are expected to report as early as possible on that day. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Rev. William G. Thayer, Southborough, Mass., until July 1; after this date to the Rev. George Gardner Monks, All Saints' Church, Worcester, Mass.

Lenox School is incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts. The general management is in the hands of a Board of Trustees constituted at present as follows: The Rev. William G. Thayer, D. D. Southborough, President; George Sumner Barton, Worcester, Secretary; LeRoy King, Newport, R. I., Treasurer; The Rev. Arthur M. Dunstan, Concord, N. H.; The Rev. John H. Rosebaugh, Hartford, Conn.; The Rev. Latta Griswold, Lenox; Gilbert M. Congdon, Providence, R.I.; George Higginson, Jr., Lenox; Charles E. Mason, Boston. Episcopal Visitor, The Rt. Rev. Thomas Frederick Davies, D. D.

The School is established under the authorization of the Synod of the First Province to provide a secondary education at a moderate price under the guidance and influence of the Episcopal Church. Boys living in the Dioceses which constitute the First Province will be given preference but other boys will be received if there be vacancies not filled by applicants from the Province.

For the first year there will be forty boys, making up the first two Forms of a five-year course. Each year the School will enroll a new class until the five Forms are completed. Boys will be accepted between the ages of twelve and fifteen. No boy will be eligible who has passed his sixteenth birthday.

Bookends

Why include this message with this historic reflection? Frankly, we're about to honor the Class of 1970 and the last Lenox School Class of 1971 as they storm back for their 50th Legacy Commemoration. In fact, the Classes of '65, '66, '60, '61, '55, '56, '50, '51, '45, '46, all have legacy years to celebrate after the one year hiatus (and of course the great Class of '48 with two members that attend each year) will be welcomed back.

As to the bookend: from the 1926 - 1927 first class, I reflected recently on one of the post-closure Lenox School reunions held in 1988 by an intrepid group that had the discipline of refusing to let the memory and legacy of Lenox School fade, for which we owe our gratitude as the precursor to our current annual reunions and the nascent spirit that influenced us to form the LSAA.

The nice thing about bookends – they can be expanded and moved to accept more books. Like Lenox School re-

The Pen and Scroll

unions, this year we move the bookend to establish room for this year's events and memories.

Granted, we've had some bumps and bruises along the way. And we've sadly lost members of our little band of brothers. But we're still here! Having gone through the worldwide pandemic, we're about to meet again in fellowship to reconnect, reflect, share our collective memories of Lenox School, relay what roads we've traveled beyond, and try again to somehow figure out exactly what that "Mystique" is that Mr. Southworth referred to that draws us inexorably back in Autumn to that little school in the Berkshires.

This year is additionally exciting, as we plan to reveal several developments and initiatives regarding our future activities and reunion plans at the business meeting on Saturday. As such we have some decisions to make as well. Essentially, we're going to make more room on the Lenox School bookshelf. We're going to move the bookends yet again. We really encourage as many as possible to attend

this business meeting, as this meeting and the decisions we make will continue to set the future course for the LSAA.

We of course are thrilled to be able to see our gracious hosts at Shakespeare & Co, who year after year open their campus to us as we "raise our flag" for the reunion weekend. Speaking of which, the business meeting and the luncheon will be held in the **Bernstein Theatre**, the former the Lenox School Sports Center (see below).

Please get your reunion response form in ASAP so we can work with the caterer for the luncheon and dinner. We also need as accurate as possible an indication on the form of how many plan to attend the pay as you go après golf dinner on Fri at Frankie's in Lenox.

If you have never been back to a reunion, but thought you'd like to attend one, then this is definitely the one to make. And if you're one of those intrepid alums/masters/friends that finds his way back each year or most years, then this is definitely the one you don't want to miss!

Bob Sansone '68

Bob



Bernstein Theatre
(the former the Lenox School Sports Center)



1988 Reunion – A Precursor to the Ultimate Founding of LSAA, Inc.

The Lenox School Reunion October 22 and 23, 2021 (oh yes, be there!)



First Lenox School Student Body, 1926-1927 (II and III forms – 8th and 9th grades only)

Treasurer's Report

Hello, everyone! Hope you're enjoying some nice weather, and renewed summer activities over the past couple of months.

At present our money situation looks like this...

Checking	\$ 7,190.15
Savings	\$ 8,245.64
Total	\$ 15,435.79

Both accounts are at the Community Bank in Northfield, Vermont.

If these numbers look a little low...they are. We've spent a considerable amount of money this spring and summer, in part attributable to a new relationship we're entering into which will enhance our fundraising and recordkeeping abilities well into the future, More on that will be forthcoming at our upcoming Reunion.

I know people have contributed to the LSAA Fund we established at Berkshire Taconic, and we'll have a full report on that as well as up to date numbers at Reunion. That fund continues to grow, in part due to the generosity of our members, and in part due to a rising stock market.

The administrative fund at the LSAA... my principal concern is entirely separate from the Berkshire Taconic legacy fund. We pay all the administrative expenses of the LSAA, including publication of the Pen and Scroll three times a year, as well as making annual donations to Miss Hall's (the Pickett awards), Trinity Church (the Whitman/ Curry memorials), Shakespeare and Co. (in memory of David Wood), and a charity or charities selected annually by our friend and former master, Jim Fawcett. The Annual Reunion generally pays for itself, and then some.

If you could spare a few dollars, a contribution to the LSAA would be welcome. Send checks to:

LSAA c/o Edward A Miller Jr., Treasurer
32 Mansfield Lane
Berlin VT 05641

Please note my new mailing address! After 35 years, we've moved into a condo!!

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Not having a Reunion last year hurt a little financially, so any donations to the LSAA administrative fund would be greatly appreciated,

That's it moneywise... Have a good (remainder) of summer everyone. PLEASE make an effort to attend our upcoming Annual Reunion. It should be a good one -- well attended, and lots of fun. And remember... none of us are getting any younger!

Dated: July 12, 2021

Edward A. Miller, Jr. '66, Treasurer

* * *

Letters to the Editor

Kent Hackmann '55 writes...

I graduated from Lenox in 1955; my younger brother Robert in 1957. We both went to Yale and earned Ph.D.s in history at the University of Michigan. My brother had a career with General Electric Plastics in Pittsfield. I was a professor of history at the University of Idaho.

The school of the 1950s was no frills, self-help, and attentive to good teaching and learning. Roger Hinman is memorable for his drills in math and Latin. Ed Mills saw my potential better than I did and encouraged me to aim high in college admissions. The Kennards, the Gleasons and other masters (a title of a past era) all contributed to making a unique learning and living environment. I benefited financially and in other ways from summer employment, first at the school itself as it hosted music students from Tanglewood, and second from employment at Elm Court where I rose from dishwasher to night watchman and part-time office manager. The latter helped me be placed as assistant to Yale's hockey coach as part of my scholarship package.

Lenox flourished for a time, tried to survive in years that were hard for many independent schools, but fell short. I think a chance for survival was missed when a new headmaster resigned because the trustees, including John Crosier, senior prefect, would not honor his contracts with new faculty. That memory is painful years afterwards.

I have written to the P&S in past, especially when I learned of the deaths of Tim Sheldon, Tony Creswell, Alf Heggoy, and Larry Whitten. Regretfully, after graduation, my class-

mates and I had little reason to stay in touch, so we didn't. In reflection, that is not surprising and related to the quirks of my personality. It may be related, as well, to graduation being a point of moving on from adolescence to maturity. With each passing year, which are now many, memories fade.

I wish the alumni association the best in the challenge of keeping a positive memory alive and looking forward. Green sprouts are visible in the financial support for MHS students. That may be the school's most important legacy.

* * *

Jamie Sullivan '69 writes...

Thanks for keeping the Lenox School alive. I attended sophomore, junior and about one half of senior year. It's been nice to get reconnected with memories 50 plus years ago!

* * *

Rob Rieffel, former master, writes...

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the latest edition of the Pen & Scroll.

I have many very fond memories of being the master in the Coop in 1967-68, before moving to Schermerhorn.

As noted below, I've moved to the suburbs of Wilmington DE, and am enjoying being out of the Palm Springs CA desert.

Having returned to the East Coast, I may be able to make the reunion next October.

Thank you for all your good work.

* * *

Robert Akscyn writes...

I was just writing about the prospect of a modern-day "Lord of the Flies" as a project for a film class (Orange County School for the Arts in California) and happened to see the Wikipedia prose:

"Nigel Williams adapted the text for the stage. It was debuted by the Royal Shakespeare Company in July 1996. The Pilot Theatre Company has toured it extensively in the United Kingdom and elsewhere."

...to which I then prepended the paragraph:

"The book was adapted for stage and produced-with-students by David Wood, Head of English Department of the

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Lenox School for Boys in the early '60's (the book being a required reading for the several-hundred boys then at the four-year boarding school)."

As a start --- as I can later add the date (when I find it out) as well as link to the entry for the school (and anything else noteworthy).

As you may know I was at Lenox 61-62, 62-63, 63-64, but missed out attending 64-65 (and graduating with my classmates). I vaguely recall the performance was in the gymnasium, and in the year 62-63 (fall?).

It was a tour de force.

(I'm pretty sure all in the school read the book -- but I could be wrong about that).

Surely we know the date of the production somewhere (and more) -- no doubt in the Pen & Scroll (so will continue to look!).

Please feel free to advise!

I do wish to be on the mailing list (and pay dues) so I can keep up with what's up with reunions...

~Editor's note: Randy Harris responded to Rob Akscyn several months ago and provided detailed answers to his questions.

* * *

Other News

Quo Vadis – Where Are We Going?

In 2008, the LSAA President, Bob Sansone, with this simple phrase kick-started an endeavor "to have a greater impact on the lives of recipients of LSAA....(and ensure)....that the LSAA survives beyond our time..."

The doors to Lenox School closed in 1971 yet through the LSAA, we continue on what some might characterize as a Don Quixote trek, with the evolution of Quo Vadis. Over the years in the *Pen & Scroll* we have read some amazing stories of the School's scholarship recipients who embody the Lenox Mission, *Non ministrari, sed ministrare*. They, like so many of the Lenox alumni, continue to make a difference in their communities, helping people, neighbors and strangers alike, to maximize their potential while realizing their aspirations and dreams.

And now, the LSAA is in a rare point-in-time where we, the LSAA brothers, if you will, can insure the School's mission and legacy continues into the future well beyond our time. To that end, during this year's October reunion we hope you will join us on our Quo Vadis trek as we work to solidify the Lenox School legacy into the future.

Stay tuned and see you in October.....

~ Ira Colby

* * *

T-shirts, T-shirts, and more T-shirts!

Fred Lavenberg has brought T-shirts to the party!

(See our centerfold model below, showing all!)

These will be available from Fred before and after the reunion and, of course, at the reunion.

Prices: Small, medium, large, X-large \$15.00 each and \$17.50 for XX-large.

If ordered from Fred, then add \$6.00 per T-shirt for S&H.

Make checks payable to the LSAA.

(Hint: Come to the reunion to avoid those S&H charges!)

To order from Fred before or after the reunion:

Fred Lavenberg

13 Ridge Road

Jericho, VT 05465

(If questions: FredLavenberg@gmail.com)



* * *

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Pickett Scholars 2021

The Lenox School Alumni Association has named recent graduates Muhiim Ali '21 and Shannon Foster '21 as recipients of this year's Mansfield Pickett Scholarships.

The awards are named in memory of Mansfield E. (Peter) Pickett, who was a longtime teacher both at the former Lenox School and at Miss Hall's.

The scholarships are awarded annually to two students who exhibit outstanding performance in academics and in extracurricular activities. This is the eighteenth year the association has honored Miss Hall's students.

Lenox School Alumni Association representatives Paul Denzel, Don Foster, David Nathans, Allen Jenkins, John Risley, and Bob Sansone presented the awards at a virtual Community Meeting earlier this year to Muhiim and Shannon, both of whom are active members of the MHS community.



Muhiim Ali '21

Muhiim, of Burco, Somaliland, was a member of the Miss Hall's International Student Alliance and Diversity Coalition, played varsity soccer and JV basketball, and previously was an editor for Girls Right the World, an international, online literary and art journal that features work by young, female-identified writers and artists from around the globe. She will attend Brown University this fall.

Shannon, of Valley Stream, New York, was a co-Head of the Diversity Coalition and Essence, a club devoted to the creation of harmony among all students, and President of the Active Minds @ MHS chapter. She also was a member of the Judicial Committee and manager for varsity volleyball. At Commencement, she received the School's Doris E. Pitman English Prize and Christine Fuller Holland '33 Service Prize. Shannon will attend Dickinson College.



Shannon Foster '21

Mr. Pickett, who died in 1996, was beloved by MHS students and faculty alike. The father of Tabitha Pickett Vahle '78, and grandfather of Wendy Panchy '85, Mr. Pickett 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.

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.

~ David Smith
Director of Communications
Miss Hall's School

* * *

Student Body Composition Over The Years (In The Headmasters' Own Words)

Note: In recognition of our primary two legacy classes, the last two to graduate from Lenox School, and their diversity, I thought it appropriate to take a look back at how and why the composition of the student body changed as Lenox School matured over the years. Provided below are excerpts from documents that describe these changes in the words of the men who oversaw them.

~ RH

Lenox School was founded to satisfy an identified shortfall in Episcopal-affiliated secondary schools in the Province of New England. They were all too expensive for sons of professional men of modest means. Thus, since it catered to families of a specific economic group, it's not surprising that the result was a rather homogeneous student body.

School catalogs from the 1920s and 1930s described Lenox School as: "Intended primarily for New England boys of Episcopal families and especially for sons of professional men, and others who are in sympathy with arrangements less elaborate than those prevailing in many longer established church schools. But any boy properly qualified in scholarship and character is eligible for admission to the School."

After taking some non-college bound students to survive the Depression years, by the 1940s, Rev. Monks described a more diverse student body in his 'Twenty Questions About Your Son' brochure. He offered the following response to what sort of boys attend Lenox School and the role of religion.

"They [the student body] are probably a pretty fair cross section. Mostly they live in New England, New York or New Jersey, but happily we have always had a scattering from west and south, as well as missionaries' children from the Far East. At least half are from professional fam-

ilies, but a wide range of home background and economic status is represented."

"I like to think that we are deeply, but not narrowly Episcopalian. Members of other denominations are completely at home here, but frankly I would hope that someone with a completely materialistic outlook on life would feel a bit like a fish out of water." Stated differently in his 'Lenox School Educational Ideals and Methods': "The atmosphere and point of view of the School is so positively Christian that a person rejecting this outlook on life would not feel altogether comfortable."

In addition to greatly increasing the School's enrollment and physical plant and supporting the Episcopal Province of New England, The Rev. Robert L. Curry, the School's second headmaster, was known for his: belief in a diverse student body; a belief in the 'Miracle of Growability' as it pertained to the development of students of varying abilities; an 'Outward Thrust' beyond the boundaries of the campus to those in need; and the positive effects of a Christian community.

As stated in his 1964 speech to the North American Newcomen Society in Boston, Rev. Curry was proud of his efforts to provide a college preparatory education to minority students, thereby increasing the School's diversity in the process.

"As far as we know, ours was the first Church boarding school for boys to reach out and take Black students. This is now all past history and it is so natural it is not even discussed, and we have been blessed in doing what was unexpected to most and impossible to some."

"More recently we have started thinking and talking about the Native American. We started visiting reservations and talking with those who work with this neglected minority group. We found his plight to be far more depressing and futile than many other minority groups. Our chance came to break into this area and we reached out and did it. We did not have the funds to cover full scholarships, but those haunting words from the Man of Galilee, leads you on to take chances, and we believe we are going to win with this experiment as we did with Black students. After all, why shouldn't we win since they too are made in the image of God. Impossible?? Not by the looks of our first two Native American boys" [Gregory Dale Turgeon '65 and David Redhorse '66].

Rev. Curry's concept of the 'Miracle of Growability' is most fully described, and excerpted below, in his Headmaster's

Message in the 1967 Martin Yearbook. Though commonly attributed to him, he believed that he was simply continuing to build upon one of Rev. Monks' original foundation stones of the School. "We keep gambling on boys, and the percentage of success is high and we lose very few. We believe that a community which has warmth, and is small enough so that each boy can be known, is the environment where growability has the best chance to flower."

"Thus we bring to Lenox all kinds of boys. They are black, yellow, red, white; they are Protestant, Catholic, Buddhist, Moslems, nothing; they come from every strata economically and socially speaking – from beautiful houses in suburbia and from shacks and huts; they come from fine schools and poor schools; they come from some of the best homes in the world and from broken homes; they come with brilliant academic records and they come as dropouts from other schools with poor records; some are happy and some are angry; some are secure and some are insecure and fearful; some are sophisticated and some are naïve. It works! The "miracle of growability" is seen almost daily...It has happened because boys have growability and much of it is miraculous. So what is so different about Lenox School? I guess you might say – we believe in miracles and many schools do not."

"Then there is this matter of "serving and not being served."... "Such a spirit of losing yourself is infectious and gets into the bloodstream of boys and they become restless for they too wish to serve. And since they dream dreams and mount up on wings, they want to launch out and go to their fellowmen beyond the confines and boundaries of the school."

"So we have done the unexpected and what seemed impossible. There is an outdoor chapel in the highlands of Japan which our boys built with their own hands and hard digging and carrying of rocks from a river bed up a hill to make an altar; there is a wall around a boys' Episcopal boarding home in Mexico which our boys helped to build; there is a light of hope in the hearts of some Black students in a college in Virginia placed there by our boys who have been to that college and became their friends; there are Native Americans in the Dakotas who will not forget that our boys came out to work with them with their tents pitched side-by-side with the Native Americans."

"To give and not to count the cost" is not the normal or the natural thing to do in the secular society in which we live. Indeed, we count the cost so carefully. It is a harder fight to maintain this at Lenox as costs rise and we draw boys from backgrounds of higher economic affluence and social standing."

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

"The challenge as I see it today is built squarely on the foundation stones which the first headmaster of Lenox School put in place. It is the task to give a better education of truth, to do some gambling with those who might receive it (which test scores often say is impossible), and to get out and serve rather than be served, for it is in giving that we receive."

Mr. Austin P. Montgomery, Jr. the third headmaster said in his Greetings in the 1970 Lenox-In-Portrait Calendar: "No institution without problems today is a living one, but I say in total candor that Lenox is as genuine and interesting a "boys' preparatory boarding" school as I know. This seems due primarily to the atmosphere of a constructive community imparted by a remarkably strong faculty and a marvelously varied student body." Further, that: "Every school hopefully has its special characteristics. The most important of Lenox's has been a sense of community involving young men of widely diverse background." He also noted his belief that: "the boarding schools have too often been terribly insular – tight and narrow little islands. This is part of the reason why Lenox has long aimed to serve a contingent of day students and to rely on their giving it a sense of a larger community."

In regards to Outward Thrust and the positive effects of the Christian community, Mr. Montgomery felt that Dr. Curry's identification of where one can find 'community' at Lenox, beyond the situations and places one would expect within a school, indicate the feeling for something beyond the conventional that he hoped would always characterize Lenox.

" – In the summer when a group of boys leaves for Japan, Mexico, Canada, England or the Native American field, to work with others, and find that no matter where one goes a person is a person regardless of his color, race, geographical location or background."

" – In the 'Backdoor Peace Corps' where boys go through the months to Pittsfield to meet with grammar school boys to tutor them, play games with them, talk with them, and give them a sense that they can make it someday, and that not all of the chips are stacked against them."

" – In boys' relationships to their masters – a teacher is not one to be avoided, [but as a friend, a man] to know because he is dedicated and gives his life for the community. He listens to heartaches of boys; he works with them in extra help sessions on a math problem; he helps them wax their skis; prepares the ice; takes them to outside games or on picnics; he has them in his study for a late evening snack or to watch t.v.; boys learn that teachers are indeed 'men for others'."

And finally Mr. David D. Blanchard, the School's last headmaster, viewed Diversity as one of the goals of the School and expressed his opinions in an Alumni Magazine article republished in the August 2020 P&S. "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." And he acknowledged the greatest challenge in doing so. "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, Asians, Blacks and Native Americans – 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."

~ Randy Harris

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The Evolution Of The Earliest Pen And Scrolls (1926-1929)

Note: as you may recall, in the April edition of the P&S, I highlighted the contents of the last edition of the P&S in the LSAA Memorabilia Collection [December 18, 1970]. As I've been working with our P&S Collection, I realized that I didn't know much about the earliest mimeographed P&Ss that existed from 1926 to 1929 when they were replaced by the printed newspaper style that first appeared in November, 1929.

After my initial surprise that apparently even students were required to pay for subscriptions and that the early editions were put together by 8th and 9th graders, I took a closer look at their evolution and noticed that it went through the same cycle as the modern versions of the P&S periodically did, just a little more quickly. These cycles included: starting with a too aggressive publication schedule and then having to back off [weekly, to biweekly, to monthly, to two per-term]; being criticized for limited coverage and content based upon input from the staff only; and requesting more student input. Read about this evolution in the editors' own words below.

~ RH

Volume II Number I – October 9, 1927

The Pen and Scroll presents to you the first issue of the year 1927-1928. We hope that we will improve the paper this year and we wish to remind all our subscribers and

readers that we are always open for criticism. By our new policy, that of publishing the paper only every two weeks, we will have more time to make up the paper.

The subscription price is reduced from seventy five cents to fifty cents for school subscribers and from one dollar and twenty five cents to one dollar for out of town subscriptions. We are sending three complimentary copies to our old subscribers to make up for the ones which they didn't receive last year, on account of the scarlet fever epidemic.

Vol. II Num. 4 – November 2, 1927

As the Pen and Scroll appears each week we hear many grumblings about the paper from numerous members of the School. We are often asked why we cannot get out a better paper, have more news, more stories, etc.

We can and will get out a better paper if we can get more cooperation from the boys of the School. We are doing our best now, but we receive practically no contributions from those outside the staff. Here is your chance to show your literary ability and to help your School and paper. Any of the editors will be glad to accept contributions at any time.

We would like to remind our subscribers that our three complimentary copies have been given out. Please send in your new subscriptions to the Business Manager, enclosing one dollar.

VOL IV December 1928 No I

The BOARD OF EDITORS TAKE PLEASURE IN PRESENTING A NEW "PEN AND SCROLL"

With this issue we present a new "Pen and Scroll." We hope this will be an improvement on the old one. We are stepping into a new field and the vista of the future is rosy to say the least. With this issue we wish to throw off some of the destructive criticism which has held us back for so long. We have had a difficult time and the path to this step forward has been far from smooth. Our issues were not always readable, were poorly written perhaps through inexperience. But now after three years of plugging we feel that we can lengthen our stride, broaden out and become a more worthwhile publication. We have decided to publish this magazine-paper once a month as a start and if we feel that we are up to it we shall resume our old schedule of twice a month. In any event there will be another issue this term. We are off to a flying start and hope to keep the pace – so wish us well!

Notice Sent Out To Subscribers Announcing The First Printed Pen & Scroll

Lenox School
Nov. 13, 1929

Dear Friend,

In former years the PEN and SCROLL was somewhat inadequate because our printing facilities were poor.

This year, in trying to improve it, we have had it printed. This is of course a great improvement over the mimeographed editions and whether or not it will succeed depends on the number of subscriptions. This year there will be six copies, two each term. If you believe this effort worthy of your support and if it interests you sufficiently to do so, we would appreciate a subscription from you. We have enclosed a copy for you to look over. Yours sincerely, The PEN and SCROLL, John M. Little, Business Manager. Rates \$1.50 per year. Make checks payable to the PEN and SCROLL.

~ Randy Harris



P&S Cover, May 13, 1929



P&S Cover, January 29, 1929



First Printed P&S, November 6, 1929

* * *

Mr. Pell Ordained in New York (P&S January 8, 1928)

Note: This article provides a portion of the address given by The Rev. Samuel Shoemaker Jr., Rector of the Calvary Church, New York City at the ordination of Mr. Walden Pell, a current member of the Lenox School faculty. I find them significant because they capture the strong feelings of a portion of the Episcopal clergy who saw the negatives of the wealthy Church-affiliated secondary schools and consequently the need for simpler schools like Lenox. It should be noted that Rev. Shoemaker was a member of a group that believed that the root of all problems was fear and selfishness and that the solution was surrendering one's life over to God's plan. He would go on to disseminate his sermons and messages in newspapers and radio.

Mr. Pell was one of the School's original four faculty members and had accompanied Rev. Monks and two other St. Mark's School masters, who wanted to be headmasters, on a Rev. Thayer-sponsored trip to England to study the schools there. After his ordination, I believe that Mr. Pell returned to Lenox School and then in 1929 became the first Headmaster of the new Episcopal-affiliated St. Andrew's School in Delaware. It was founded by Felix DuPont; modeled after Lenox; and operated on the same principles and values. Ironically, it would become a well-endowed school primarily for boys from well-to-do families.

~ RH

On Friday morning, Dec. 16, Mr. Pell was ordained Deacon at Calvary Church, New York City. He was presented by the former Rector of Calvary, the Rev. Theodore Sedgwick, and the address was made by the present Rector, the Rev. Samuel Shoemaker Jr. The Right Rev. Arthur Seldon Lloyd, Suffragan Bishop of New York ordained. The following is an extract from the ordination sermon.

You have chosen to begin your ministry in the great field of education, and it is your privilege to be one of the founders of a School for which all of us who know it have great hopes. May I, on this high day of your ordination to the ministry, say to you that I hope with all of my heart that you will keep that School simple and open its doors to all sorts and conditions of students? We Episcopalians are proud of having captured strategic places for Secondary Education, and of putting the seal of the Church upon so many boys before they enter college. I do not need to tell you how many hundreds of church-school boys leave those schools hating religion for the rest of their lives. Something is desperately wrong. I pray God that you may find out what it is and rectify it and make religion the climate and

life of the school where you are. Do not, I beg you, allow it to become another parasitic corollary to the overweening aristocracy of a small section of over-privileged American people. Open your doors to boys of every class, and keep luxury and class consciousness far from it...and to you a more personal word. If you are to fill the lives of those boys with the spirit of Christ, you will need plenty of time alone with Him yourself; at the Holy Communion, with your Bible, alone in the quiet of your own room. Give Jesus Christ time to mold and direct your life...keep your life at the disposal of men always. Open your heart to them. Go to the deep places with them. Get at their needs. Persuade them to follow Christ. Give them a great enthusiasm for Him or you will fail them.

~ Randy Harris

* * *

Classroom Rules Announced Recently By Headmaster (P&S March 11, 1928)

Note: When I first read these rules, my initial reaction was that they were pretty rudimentary rules for a headmaster to be stressing to his students as they approached the end of their second year of school. Followed quickly by aren't these things that masters should have resolved in the first few hours of their classes? Then some things about the relatively new school that may have impacted this action dawned in me and I realized that a lot could be learned about the school from these five short rules.

First, the school had opened the previous year with only an 8th and 9th grade. It added a new 8th grade in its second year and the existing students moved up a grade. Thus there were no upper classmen to act as role-models and instill the expected behavior on the younger students. The students acted like kids because they were kids. Second, things weren't helped by the fact that the students went to school in the same building that they lived in and did just about everything else in, thus inadvertently blurring the difference between home and school.

Third, the four initial faculty members which included the headmaster were chosen primarily for their character and values and not for their teaching experience, which Rev. Monks and at least one other had had very little of. This is despite the fact that in addition to teaching Sacred Studies, Rev. Monks would also be a full-time mathematics and later a science teacher focusing on Physics.

Additionally, though apparently having a compassionate heart and soul, Rev. Monks was a structured and disciplined

man who appreciated order and good behavior from students in his own classes and from those in others' classes, which he could easily hear and observe from his office and during walks around the building. Perhaps publishing these rules simply made them clearer to all.

~ RH

Classroom rules announced recently by the Headmaster are as follows:

1. No boys shall be out of their seats at any time during the class without permission; at the beginning of the class he shall occupy the seat that he will keep throughout.
2. No boy shall speak in class unless recognized by the master. No boy shall raise his hand except to ask a question and then it shall be done quietly.
3. At the beginning of the class period, boys will have on the top of their desks the books which they will probably need during the period, also paper and pencils, and nothing else.
4. No borrowing of books or paper, or sharpening of pencils will be allowed after the period has started.
5. During the interval between classes, boys may leave their seats and talk quietly, but may not rough-house or shout, when the master arrives, all boys must be in their respective seats.

~ Randy Harris

* * *

Trivia Questions

Note: This edition's Trivia Questions deal with periodic school publications in addition to the Pen and Scroll and Yearbook. The information was uncovered during my recheck of all these publications, which will appear in the Lenox School Archives/Website.

~ RH

1. Which are true about Lenox School Catalogs?
 - a. Occurred annually from 1926-1927 to late 1930s and 1943-1944.
 - b. Periodically augmented by Rev. Monks' periodically revised 'Lenox School Educational Ideals and Methods'.
 - c. Rev. Curry restarted in late 1940s.
 - d. Rev. Curry replaced it with the annual Lenox-In-Portrait Calendar in 1952.
 - e. The faculty was working on a new catalog during the School's last year, 1970-1971.
 - f. All of the above.

2. Which are true about Fundraising Brochures?
 - a. Were associated with specific fundraising campaigns.
 - b. First published in the mid-1930s for St. Martin's Hall.
 - c. 7 separate brochures were published.
 - d. All of the above.
3. Which are true about Lenox School Promotional Brochures?
 - a. Published infrequently during Rev. Curry's tenure.
 - b. Publication did not seem to be associated with a specific event.
 - c. Only 4 were ever published.
 - d. Much shorter than a catalog, 2-4 pages.
 - e. Two had the same wording, but a different cover photo.
 - f. All of the above.
4. Which are true about Lenox-In-Portrait Calendars?
 - a. Idea originated with Rev. Curry at the time of the School's lowest enrollment.
 - b. Published annually from 1952 – 1970.
 - c. School's primary, non-building-related, fundraising tool.
 - d. 20 non-calendar-pages included School description, faculty and trustee listings, photos and a donation request.
 - e. It utilized student, alumni, and dioceses mailing lists.
 - f. All of the above.
5. Which are true about the Lenox School Alumni Review?
 - a. Published by Rev. Curry from 1948 - 1951.
 - b. Was the first Alumni publication and augmented/replaced the Alumni News/Notes section of the P&S.
 - c. The first edition, May, 1948 had 12-pages; subsequent editions averaged 7-10 pages.
 - d. 10 Alumni Reviews were published, averaging 2-3 a year, usually in the spring and fall.
 - e. All of the above.
6. Which are true about the Lenox School Alumni Magazine/News?
 - a. A more robust Alumni publication [larger format, more articles and photos].
 - b. Averaged 20-pages in length.
 - c. Published from 1965 to 1970 with three editions per year [Fall, Winter and Spring].
 - d. Articles were of interest to students as well as alumni.
 - e. All of the above.

7. Which are true about the Literary Supplements to the P&S?
- Published annually, if P&S staff was inclined to do so and sufficient material was available.
 - 7-editions were published between 1955 and 1968.
 - Sometimes titled 'The Lenox Reader'.
 - Content included essays, short stories, poetry, and artwork from students, alumni and faculty.
 - Varied in length from 6-pages for the newspaper version, to just over 30-pages for the booklet version, with one reaching 67-pages in length.
 - All of the above.

~ Randy Harris

* * *

In Memoriam

Robert T. Martin '67

Robert Thatcher Martin (Bob), 71, of East Haddam, Connecticut passed away peacefully on June 5, 2021. Also affectionately known as Bobby, RTM, and Thatch, he was born in Hartford, CT on November 28, 1949, to Richard and Patricia (Dimock) Martin.



Bob grew up in Stockbridge, Massachusetts and graduated from the former Lenox School in 1967. Norman Rockwell lived and painted in Stockbridge during that time and often used local folks as models. The 1965 Boy's Life cover, A Great Moment, pictures fifteen-year-old Bob Martin and his parents, Pat and Dick Martin, as he receives his Eagle Scout award. The painting captures the hopes, honesty, and stoicism of the era Bob was born into, and which he personified.

Bob graduated from Boston University in 1971 with a B.S. in Political Science. Following college, he worked for many years in the wholesale lumber industry. He often told stories of perusing telephone books in phone booths in order to set his route of appointments, long before cell phones, the Internet, and GPS. In 1982, on a bet and a dare, Bob accepted a position to work in Saudi Arabia. The stint lasted for five years, and during that time, he took every opportunity to travel and experience other countries

throughout Europe and the Far East. He skied in Switzerland and France, and vacations included the Philippines, Thailand, Australia, and New Zealand. Bob's enthusiasm for adventure, together with a relentless work ethic, formed a personality people admired and emulated: the best of men.



Bob met his wife Mary 53 years ago on Memorial Day weekend. She was his great love in college. Separate for years after college, Mary "went looking" for Bob nearly two decades later. They were married, with a house, a dog, and a baby, in very short order. Settling in East Haddam, CT, they began their new life together hosting old friends and building new relationships with neighbors that continue to this day.

Bob was born of a family impassioned for the outdoors. His father instilled his enjoyment for skiing as a sport, but more importantly, as a group event. Ski trips automatically included family and friends, a tradition Bob passed on to the next generation with the same joy and all-on-board spirit. He was an avid golfer, frequently travelling stateside and internationally to golf with friends. When on the road, a course near-by would be cause for him to reorganize his day, as his clubs were most always shipped alongside marketing material for a game between trade show hours. To know Bob was to also appreciate that he was just as happy tending his own back yard. That was his nature.

Bob and Mary, in partnership with Ed Ritz, were the founders of InCord, which continues to grow and thrive 26 years later. The company supports hundreds of employees and their families. As the definition of a "road salesman," Bob taught many others how to build business relationships, and through persistence and integrity, maintain them for decades. The commitment by ownership to provide a healthy workplace, with excellent benefits, and dedication to the worker's needs before the work, has won InCord Top Work Place awards for years running. During its creation, high value was placed on creating a safe harbor with light, music, and acceptance. Internships were provided to local high school students providing credits for life skills gained in the workplace. At all times, Bob encouraged each employee to continue to grow and succeed within, or beyond, InCord. The "No Whining" sign posted over his door was actually a welcome sign for problem solving. His succinct philosophy: we can help, so we should. Every decision was compassionate and thoughtful. Bob's path in this venture defines everything decent and good, and a pinnacle achievement in a lifetime paying it forward.

Bob was a husband, a father, a brother, a friend, and an uncle; a treasure. A man dedicated to his family, his friends, and his community. Bob was exceptionally proud of his son, Casey, and the life he has manifested.

He leaves behind many hearts heavy with sadness who will miss his magnetic smile, those sparkling blue eyes, the camaraderie of cracking a beer, and his love of the outdoors. We love and miss you, Bob. The broken hearts include his wife Mary Lennon Martin; his son Casey Martin together with his partner Lindsey Schauer and daughter Persephonie; his sister Patty Martin Marchand and her husband Gene; his sister-in-law Johanna Lennon Brogan and her husband Peter; his brother-in-law Bill Lennon and his wife Joan; his true friend Tess Jette, niece Sarah Marchand (Justin), niece Susan Shea (Joe), niece Susan Lennon, niece Sandi Potter (Rob), niece Maura Mellon (Chip), nephew Matt Marchand (Bailey), and Bob's twelve year old black lab, Bode, who was always by his side.

Care of arrangements have been entrusted to Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester. Bob's family would like to express a heartfelt thank you to the LiveWell family for their compassionate care and for loving him. For those who have asked, memorial donations can be made in Bob's name to the "iCare Employee Fund" at LiveWell, 1261 South Main Street, Plantsville, CT 06479. His family is planning a celebration of Bob's life at Smith Farm Gardens in East Haddam on Sunday September 26, 2021. For on-line condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com

From www.legacy.com

* * *



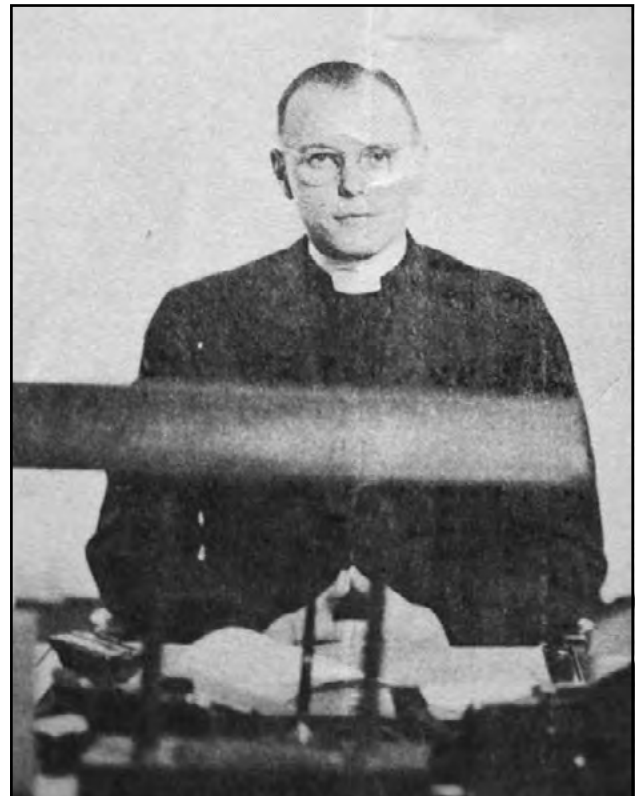
The Headmaster's Chime

(Randy Harris always sends interesting pictures that may or may not be related to a story. These are a few of those.)

~ Ed.



Early Study Hall in St. Martin's



The Rev. Curry at his desk, Spring 1948

The Pen and Scroll



First Faculty of Lenox School, Mr. Walden Pell first on left



The Reverend Curry leads 1951 graduation procession to the Gym

The Pen and Scroll



Friendship, Fred Lavenberg and Les Ellison, Class of 1970



Varsity Basketball, 1970-1971

Options for Reunion Lodging Accommodations

Howard Johnson Inn: 462 Pittsfield Rd (Route 7). \$75 for Thursday night, \$85 for Friday night, \$85 for Saturday night. Only 10 rooms available at this rate, single or double. Make reservations at least a month beforehand. Contact person is Peter (413-442-4000). Mention "Lenox School Reunion" for these rates.

Days Inn: 194 Pittsfield Rd (Route 7). \$75 for Thursday night, \$85 for Friday night, \$85 for Saturday night. Only 10 rooms available at this rate, single or double. Make reservations at least a month beforehand. Contact person is Minal (413-637-3560). Mention "Lenox School Reunion" for these rates. ***There is a chance the Days Inn will be closed for renovations in October; call after September 3rd for more info and/or to reserve a room.***

Quality Inn, Lee: \$139 per night plus tax. No cutoff date. 413-243-0143.

Lawrence Hall (*quoting directly from Steve Ball's email*): We will be able to provide the top floor of the Lawrence Hall dorms - that's 10 bedrooms - with shared bathrooms and with a basement kitchen for rent for the alumni weekend. Each room has linens provided and the kitchen has all that is necessary to prepare and eat food. Renters will have to be able to manage the stairs (up one flight to their rooms, down two flights from there to the kitchen). Renters will also have to bring their own towels and toiletries (and food for the kitchen, of course). Wi-Fi is available in the rooms, and a small lounge is available for gathering.

\$40 per night single occupancy, \$50 per night double occupancy. Payment by cash or check upon arrival, but advanced reservations are required. Call Steve Ball at 413-637-1199 x109 to make reservations.

* * *

2021 LSAA Reunion Schedule of Events

Friday, October 22, 2021

- 1:00 p.m. Tee Off – LSAA's "Charlie McGee Memorial Golf Tournament"; Cranwell Resort, Lenox. All players and classes invited. Scramble event. Please arrive at 11:30 (Sloane's Tavern) for team registration, and lunch. Payment for golf is at course (\$40, includes cart).
- 5:30 - 10:00 p.m. – Optional, informal, pay-as-you-go, après golf dinner at Frankie's (80 Main Street, Lenox, MA).

Saturday, October 23, 2021

- 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. – Annual LSAA Business Meeting: The Bernstein Theatre at Shakespeare & Co (formerly the Lenox School Sports Center).
- 11:45 a.m. – Flag Raising Ceremony (location to be announced).
- Noon – Luncheon: The Bernstein Theatre at Shakespeare & Co (formerly the Lenox School Sports Center) - \$15 each, payable in advance (Masters, staff and their families are always our guests).
- 2:45 - 4:45 p.m. – Campus Tour, courtesy of Shakespeare & Co.
- 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. – Hymn Sing: Trinity Church (Steve Lowry,'66, at the organ).
- 6:00 p.m. – Cocktail Reception at The Lenox Club (pay as you go).
- 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. – Lenox School prayer, missing person ceremony, comments by Masters and Dinner at The Lenox Club (\$45 each, payable in advance). The following will also be occurring – recognition of legacy classes, golf tournament awards presentation, the HOF induction ceremony, and final comments.

* * *

The Hen and Scroll

LSAA 2021 Reunion Response Form

Lenox School Reunion Weekend (October 22 - 23, 2021)

Friday, October 22, 2021 - (please indicate the number attending in the blanks):

- _____ Cranwell - LSAA's annual "Charlie McGee Memorial Golf Tournament" (Golf's Fifth Major; Cranwell Resort). Please arrive at 11:30 for lunch and to register. First Tee time - 1:00 PM. Cost - **\$40 each, pay at the course; includes cart.**)
- _____ Friday 5:30 pm The 19th Hole – Frankie's, 80 Main St. in downtown Lenox (pay as you go – please let us know if you plan to attend so we can give the restaurant an indication of what to expect).

Saturday, October 23, 2021 - (please indicate the number attending in the blanks):

- **9:30 AM – 11:30 AM; Business Meeting, Bernstein Theatre** (formerly the Lenox School Sports Center – see aerial photo with arrow).
- **11:45 – 11:55** – Lenox School Flag Raising Ceremony Location to be announced).
- _____ **12 Noon**; Luncheon: Bernstein Theatre (Formerly the Lenox School Sports Center - \$15.00 each, payable in advance).
- **2:45 – 4:45PM; Tour of Campus**, courtesy of S&Co.
- **5:00 PM; Hymn Sing**: Trinity Church. Steve Lowry will be the organist.
- _____ **6:00 – 6:30 PM Cocktail Reception, followed by Buffet Dinner at The Lenox Club (Starting at 6:30PM)** (\$45.00 per person, **payable in advance**; includes tax and tip. Cash Bar).

- Subtotal from above A. \$ _____
- LSAA Annual Dues (2021 - 2022) B. \$30
- Donation (tax deductible) C. \$ _____
- Total Enclosed (Payable to "LSAA" = A + B + C): \$ _____

Your Name and Class: (Family member/guest names, if attending) _____

Address: _____

Email and Phone Number: _____

Please return this reservation form with check before October 1, 2021 to:

Bob Sansone ('68)
156 North Shore Road
Voluntown, CT 06384

or, if you have questions, call Bob at:
(860) 916-1467
RJSENERGY@GMAIL.com

Answers To the Trivia Questions In the April 2021 Edition

1. (c) and (d). The title of Senior Master recognized the current master with the longest time at the school. Lenox School only ever had two different Senior Masters during its entire existence. They were Mr. G. Roger Hinman (36 years) and Mr. Walter H. Clark (21 years).
2. (d). Occasionally, the school hired individuals to perform a specific function that did not include teaching a classroom subject. Athletic Team Coach, School Business Manager, and Glee Club Director are some of the jobs that fell into this category.
3. (d). The St. Martin's Society, Pen & Scroll/Yearbook Staff, Glee Club, Dramatic Club, and the Student Council are among the longest existing of the 40 or so different extracurricular activities offered at the school during its existence.
4. (f). In addition to an Executive Committee and a Nominating Committee, the Lenox School Trustees were routinely organized into the following committees to best execute their duties: Building and Grounds, Education, Finance, Public Relations, and Scholarship.

~ Randy Harris

Don Foster
5 Tinkham Lane
Lakeville, MA 02347