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# The and Scroll

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VOL. XXVIII, NO. 1

LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

APRIL, 2019



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## Letter from the Editor

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Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends of Lenox School,

Our calendars claim that spring is here... but we in New England are starting to think that “March: in like a lion, out like a lamb” really means “March: always a lion, but sometimes a lamb.” Just to tease us. They forecast sun, it rains. They forecast rain, it snows. And sometimes, fortunately, they forecast snow and it’s sunny. That aside, we can have some April lamb for Easter. It is warming a bit, however, as the days lengthen.

Following on the heels of last year’s very successful scholarship fundraising challenge, we have another this year. Again, an anonymous challenge of \$12,500 – and already, we have almost \$7,000 toward it, largely because of a single very generous \$5,000 gift. Keep in mind that the LSAA is using these funds primarily for two purposes: first, for scholarships. And second, for our initiative to secure permanence for valuable parts of the Lenox School memorabilia and our digital records. Among other things, we are considering a partnership with Miss Halls’ students to help create the digital archive by photographing and scanning important artifacts. More on that initiative as it develops. In this issue, Jeff Smith, Fritz Eckel, and Bob Sansone provide much detail on the challenge and the considerations around a perpetual trust to manage the funds in Lenox School’s name after our time.

And now, a personal observation – nothing to do with Lenox or the LSAA. As a few know, I still work full time in a marvelous retirement job. After years in industry, I was blessed to return to university for graduate studies (yes, just for fun). That morphed into part-time teaching and full time employment. In this role, I work every day with promising engineering students and brilliant faculty. Every day is more fun than I deserve.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

To me, two troubling trends are apparent. First, the younger, newer faculty today are largely oriented toward their graduate research interests and dissertations. While they know that stuff well, few have any practical knowledge, experience, training, or wisdom. They know what they did in their graduate research, they know what the text says, and they know what their computer models predict. But hand them a screwdriver and they’re lost. Senior level faculty are mostly retiring and taking with them their life’s work and practical experience. More than once, I’ve been asked why my lab work didn’t match their computer simulations. I think they’ve forgotten “garbage in, garbage out.” They make naïve assumptions about their mathematical models, yet somehow it’s my fault that the world doesn’t obey their computers.

Second, very many of today’s young faculty are not native English speakers. That’s not a slam at them. They are nice people, bright, creative, motivated, very hard working. And they’re excellent researchers who bring in research grants. But so many of their undergrad students come into my office, close the door, and whine “I can’t understand a word he says. I learn nothing in his class.”

Why aren’t promising English-speaking youth seeking educations that makes them competitive as professors and researchers? What became of American faculty?

I don’t know what happened to public speaking courses in our schools. So many, both students and faculty, desperately need that skill. At Lenox, we all took public speaking; I remember giving a talk on methods of timekeeping. But I cannot remember who taught that course.

Anyway, thanks for letting me vent.

Best wishes for a safe spring and a delightful journey into summer.

Don 

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## The President's Message

### How did we ever do it?



The following classes have their legacy reunions upcoming (October 18 and 19):

1969 - 50 years  
 1964 - 55 years  
 1959 - 60 years  
 1954 - 65 years  
 1949 - 70 years

**“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.”**

— Benjamin Franklin, Founding Father of the United States

We're at a somewhat critical juncture regarding our Lenox School Band of Brothers and the efforts we will expend through the LSAA to keep the spirit and legacy of Lenox School alive. We have some pretty significant things to accomplish in the coming years to responsibly handle the future course of the LSAA.

I was racking my brain to figure out how to deliver this particular message, and truthfully, the influence and memory of one of our most prominent Masters edged its way into my thoughts.

David Wood's influence, like many of the Masters, persists over half a century later. He was a true master of the English language and taught us not just in the classroom but by constantly flourishing a wit and knack for expressing things in the figurative; the metaphoric; or utilizing catachresis (the use of a word in a way that is not correct, as in dead people in a graveyard being referred to as “inhabitants”). You didn't actually have to be in one of his classes to have his wit and wisdom rub off on you; you just had to be at Lenox. To this day, alums engage in exchanges that mimic his use of the language.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

So before I get to the essence of this message regarding our current LSAA initiatives and their critical nature, I wanted to share (in homage to Mr. Wood) something I think he would appreciate. To be honest, when I first encountered this



word, I thought it was used as an adjective named after some obscure historical figure named Paraprosdok (i.e. “How Paraprosdokian of you!”); or, some famous Armenian. Just goes to show you when unencumbered with knowledge, how the brain can fill in all sorts of rubbish:

**Paraprosdokian (from Greek meaning “beyond” and “expectation”): a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part. It is frequently used for humorous or dramatic effect, sometimes producing an anticlimax. For this reason, it is extremely popular among comedians and satirists (and I believe certain, a former Assistant to the Headmaster...):**

Examples (hopefully for your enjoyment) and without attribution; but I suggest that you imagine Mr. Wood reciting them as you read:

- Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- Evening news is where they begin with ‘Good evening’ and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.
- Some people are like Slinkys... not really good for anything, but you can't help smiling when you see one tumble down the stairs.
- Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.
- I didn't say it was your fault; I said I was blaming you.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
- Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.
- You're never too old to learn something stupid.
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

**“The little bit you and I might change the world,” Malloy smiled, “it wouldn’t show up until a hundred years after we were dead. We’d never see it. But it’d be there.”**

— From Here to Eternity

What “little bit” are we going to leave the world from Lenox School? As I indicated last P&S, our mission going forward is to maintain our current activity while making solid plans regarding the future of the LSAA for that time when we’re no longer the active organization we are today. In essence, we have to plan for what we leave behind as an organization.

History is the ship carrying living memories to the future.

— Stephen Spender —

This crucially compels a few issues:

- Finding a way to create an enduring impact for Lenox School via the LSAA beyond our active existence, consistent with our motto (such as scholarships); and
- creating a repository (likely on a Website) by digitizing important memorabilia for inclusion, such as the Lenox School Story video, historical documents, yearbooks, other publications; campus and campus life pictures, a sampling of awards, trophies, textiles; artwork and school logoed items; and other items we deem important enough to carry the story of Lenox School into the future. As I see it, that would be “The little bit you and me might change the world with, and it would be there” past our time.

To succeed at this, we’ll need to accomplish the following:

1. Establish a relationship with a trust organization that carries on our LSAA mission of scholarship donations and acts as our surrogate manager of the website that will contain the digitized items, all pursuant to specific directions and guidance we provide;
2. initiate the process of selecting and digitizing the items for inclusion on a Website;

3. start the process of determining how to transition our current website into the design functions of a new Website and how such a Website is to be managed in the future by others and determine the capabilities and software compatibility requirements recognizing technical advances in the future will present advantages currently unknown to us;
4. establish a plan for the orderly distribution/disposal of physical memorabilia; and
5. ensure that we raise sufficient funds to perform the necessary digitizing and carry on the LSAA mission by a trust organization on our behalf when we are no longer active. Such an organization must understand and fully accept the mandates we would provide as to how this would be carried out consistent with our existing activities and motto.

Fortunately, we already have dedicated board members actively engaged in helping to create a path forward for all of these and we will be bringing a motion to the dues paying members at one of the next business meeting to approve the plans involved.

**“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.”**

— Edith Wharton (*Foxhollow seems to keep nudging its way into LSAA issues, albeit obliquely!*)

In a real sense, you are all the candle and the officers and board are your mirror. Thus, I want to spend a moment regarding item five above. We remain deeply grateful for the continuing support of all of our members, especially and most recently for the generosity of an anonymous alumni donor who has issued another challenge grant of \$12,500 for 2019 as well as for a very generous donation toward that challenge by one other alum of \$5,000. The challenge grants from 2018 seem to have lit a fuse, for which words are insufficient to properly express our appreciation to those alumni.

However, please understand, it is not our intention to simply undertake yearly fundraising goals and targets to accumulate a growing bank account for the LSAA; quite the opposite. We recognize that fundraising fatigue sets in rather quickly. We’re structuring a way to responsibly

sunset the organization while affording the work we do and the history of the school the opportunity to remain beyond us. After all, the youngest among alums is perhaps mid-60's, and the clock is ticking.

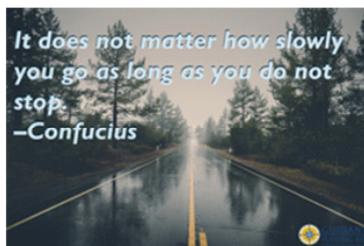
In order to continue the message and work that the LSAA has accomplished and to honor the lifelong, noble, dedication and sacrifice of the Lenox School headmasters, masters, staff and their families who created and provided the Lenox School experience, we need to place the organization on a sound glide-path so their and the school's unique story, message and legacy, can be told beyond our time.

**"Trust is the glue of life. It's the most essential ingredient in effective communication. It's the foundational principle that holds all relationships."**

— Stephen R. Covey

We recognize through our own shared experience regarding Lenox School and its aftermath, that our efforts require us to tread very carefully regarding the future desires of the LSAA being placed in the hands of others. I assure you all that the board is approaching this very methodically and with an abundance of caution.

However, deploying our donated funds in a trust is, in my opinion, the best way to ensure that the current donation efforts, history, legacy, motto and example of Lenox School endure. The reality is, that to accomplish this requires a threshold financial amount to become eligible to engage with a trust organization.



I am pleased to announce that the board feels they have found a trust organization that understands our history, our future intentions and can faithfully carry out the work we prescribe. We are continuing our due diligence efforts in qualifying them.

While we are building this relationship and the road ahead for the future, we are and will continue to do the work that our motto inspires. This includes but is not limited to providing LSAA donations and scholarships to organizations

and entities like Trinity Church; Shakespeare and Co; and for young men and women of need at schools which share a similar mission to what we experienced at Lenox. As an example, we are scheduled to present scholarships at Miss Hall's on May 13.

With this in mind, let me briefly cover the prerequisites surrounding the \$12,500 challenge grant offered to us:

1. The matching \$12,500 must be raised on/before the 2019 October reunion; and
2. an endowment agreement must be finalized (i.e., signed with a trust, such as the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation) by May 1, 2020.

Including the \$5,000 donation already received, along with donations from other LSAA members, we have already reached \$6,817 as of the beginning of March (or about 54% toward our goal of \$12,500).



Our treasurer Ed Miller reports that our savings and checking total \$38,362.93 (also as of the beginning of March). Assuming we meet the challenge grant, we should be positioned this year to initiate the necessary funding for the trust effort.

Accordingly, I would again respectfully ask if you are in a position to help support achieving this new fundraising challenge grant for 2019, to please do so by sending

your donation (identified specifically for the 2019 LSAA challenge grant) to the attention of Ed Miller at the following addresses:

*Until May 15, 2019:*

Ed Miller  
6130 N Via Del Tecaco  
Tucson, AZ 85718-3322

*After May 15, 2019:*

Ed Miller  
147 Spring Hollow Lane  
Montpelier, VT 05602-8445

**"If you don't know where you're going, you'll end up someplace else."**

— Yogi Berra

**Don't be that person. Don't end up someplace else.  
Come to the reunion!**



**Next Reunion – October 18 and 19, 2019  
Be there! (and yes, there is a buffet...)**

Bob Sansone '68

*Bob*

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## Letters to the Editor

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Dear Pen and Scroll,

Good way to present the newsletter. I also have a question that may seem strange and now quite moot for most of us. Does anyone know what happened to our individual student records? Our file with grades, SATs, etc. I am a retired public high school principal, and that's probably a question only someone like me would ask. I remember asking Pete Pickett that question before he passed away. He had no idea. Perhaps in the vaults at Lenox High School? Thrown out? Any idea? (In Connecticut, the law requires that a permanent record be kept for 50 years.)

Dave Perry '64

*That question bubbles up often. Attempts have been made to locate the records at the Lenox Town Hall, Lenox Library, Lenox Historical Society, Lenox School system, and even the vaults in the basement of Schermerhorn -- maybe other places -- all to no avail. But give it a try. As a former high school principal, you may know the right way to locate these records.*

*For a more detailed and informative discussion of this question, please see Randy Harris's very complete article later in this issue.*

\* \* \*

~ Ed.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Dear Pen and Scroll,

In November 2017 we purchased a pre-owned Class C motor home. A lot of 2018 was given to this. It needed some mechanical work and other work. We got this done because of our wonderful mechanic here and some good friends who gave hours of their time to make sure that we had a safe piece of equipment in which to travel.

Our first trip was to Quartzsite, AZ where we spent several days with about 10 others. Then we took a trip to Patagonia Lake State Park with about 5 others. Our final shake down trip was to City of Rocks State Park outside of Silver City, NM. Then the major trip came. We left for New England towing our pickup and with Nugget joining us. The trip was a good one with no major problems. We were gone 6 weeks and did over 6200 miles, getting about 9 mpg. We made contact with 39 out of 40 relatives, and attended the wedding of one granddaughter.

Upon arriving home, we came to the conclusion that we needed to get closer to family, in order to get more time with them and in order to be with family as we get on with our lives. Next summer we will be moving to NH, which will put us about in the middle of all the family. We will be with family for all the special celebrations that we have missed by returning to New England for just 2 weeks/year.

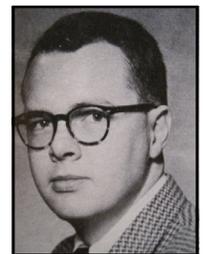
We have put the house on the market and have learned to live with very minimal things as we have gotten rid of many things that have accumulated over the years.

LOVE to all of you, Jeannine & Jim Paterson

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Dear Pen and Scroll,

Please find enclosed my contribution to the Lenox School Scholarship Fund. I smiled as I wrote the check remembering I started my career at Lenox in 1953 with my newly printed Master's degree in one hand and the hand of my wife of two weeks in the other. (Last summer we celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary, so it took!) We lived in the front half of Gramps Howland's house and my salary was \$1500 base pay plus \$100 for my master's degree and an additional \$100 for my wife's ability to bake cakes for athletic teas. I like honoring Pete Pickett as he and I joined a Masonic Lodge in Pittsfield and were good friends.



The memory of my nine years on the Lenox faculty until 1962 are most positive -- hard work, too much asked for in time allotment, but given joyously for RLC who was a really splendid school master and leader.

I enjoyed your fine Pen and Scroll, particularly the pictures: old friend Bob Kline, the beaming face of Eric Anderson a former baby-sitter of ours, old friend John Smith who captained the varsity basketball team for me, Jim Braim a fine athlete and leader of the School, always cheerful Bruce MacCullough, and Houston Stokes a fellow sailor and philatelist, all reminded Lou and me of the fine time we had working and starting our young family in Lenox. We left with great reluctance in 1962 -- we had two little ones to educate on a salary that simply couldn't manage it.

Over the years we kept up with Ed and Eleanor Gleason, godparents to our son, and with "Uncle Riker," "Uncle Roger," both Bill Matthews SR and JR, David Wood, and occasionally David Southworth. I left to teach at St. Paul's, my alma mater, and retired in 1990 somewhat slowed down with rheumatoid arthritis.

Keep up the good work. Lenox School was a very special place. Please give our best to anyone who remembers us.

Warmest regards,  
Dick Sawyer

*Richard D. Sawyer taught at Lenox from the fall of 1953 to June of 1962. He received a BA from Kenyon College; an MA from Harvard; and attended the Middlebury Summer School of French. He primarily taught French at Lenox, though periodically he taught Latin and History as well. He also coached varsity football and varsity basketball and in his early years, skiing.*

\* \* \*

~ Randy Harris

Dear Pen and Scroll,

Yesterday, Mayumi and I hosted a lunch in Tokyo for Mrs. Hata, Director of the Paul Rusch Museum at KEEP, (site of the Lenox Altar and Chapel) and Bishop Muto (retired), who dedicated the Altar 56 years ago and who just turned 85. Mayumi and I are standing behind them. The Japanese language note is Mayumi's thank you for them joining us. The Bishop is a mad keen supporter of Lenox AA and sends his regards to our band of brothers. Midori-san also stays in touch with them. If appropriate, feel free to publish the photo in a P&S.

Merry Christmas, Doug and Mayumi  
Doug Hardy '62

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240



武藤 六治 先生  
秦 英水子様

本日は貴重なお時間を頂きまして、本当に有難うございました。  
武藤先生と秦様には、もっと早くご挨拶すべきところ、本日もなってしまうことが、お目に掛らせて頂きまして本当に嬉しく存じました。  
ダグラスより、KEEPが彼の人生においてどれほど貴重で、大きな意味を持って来たかということは、常日よりも聞いておりました。  
懐かしいお話を伺う事が出来、とても楽しかったです。  
来年は必ずKEEPに伺いたいと思っておりますので、またご連絡させていただきます。  
その時は更に色々お話を伺えましたら幸いです。

本当に有難うございました。  
これからお楽くなると思っておりますので、くれぐれもご自愛くださいませ。

ハーディ浅羽まゆみ

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## Treasurer's Report

### LSAA Treasurer's Report March 24, 2019

As of late March, our two accounts at the Community Bank (Northfield VT) consist of the following:

Checking:	\$15,205.54
Savings:	\$23,235.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38,440.90</b>

Authorized signatories at the bank are Bob Sansone, Assistant Treasurer Allen Jenkins '59, and myself.

At our last reunion, one of our members offered up a second financial challenge, and a second member immediately made a significant donation toward it. We're off to a good start! Bob Sansone spells out the details in his President's Report and offers his perspective on future fundraising.

Anticipated upcoming expenditures will include the Pickett awards to students at Miss Hall's, presenting the Fawcett awards to students at BCD, and publication and distribution of the spring edition of the Pen & Scroll.

Hope to see all of you back at Reunion (October 18-20, 2019). Among other returnees, we're expecting to see Jim and Jeannine Paterson, who are moving back to New Hampshire after many years in southern Arizona. I've seen Jim and Jeannine a couple of times this winter, and they're looking forward to a return to Lenox.

Best wishes to all!  
Ed Miller '66, Treasurer

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## Other News

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### JANICE BREA '08 — Pickett Scholar Profile

Janice Brea '08 loved being a Miss Hall's Admission Ambassador. "I really enjoyed connecting with people who were thinking of coming to MHS," recalls Janice. "I remember that very vividly, and I still do some of that type of outreach in my current work."

Facilitating connections seems to come naturally to Janice, the Associate Director of Community and Family Engagement with the Uncommon Schools charter school network in Boston. Based at the network's Roxbury Preparatory Charter School's Mission Hill campus, Janice works to foster family involvement in the school and build partnerships with local organizations and businesses. Mission Hill is one of the network's three middle schools in Boston. There is also a high school, and, in all, Roxbury Prep serves about 1,500 students. "I love building relationships with students and families, and I love that I get to empower people," says Janice, whose status as a Roxbury Prep alumna establishes credibility with students and families. "I am also learning a lot about myself and



learning that you can't shy away from challenges." She credits Miss Hall's with helping to develop that mindset. Janice's path from Roxbury Prep to MHS started when a placement advisor suggested she look at independent schools. At Miss Hall's, she was a four-year boarder, a Proctor, and member of the Personal Authority and Leadership Source (PAaLS), through which she mentored middle school girls. She also played field hockey. "I didn't even know what field hockey was when I got to Miss Hall's, but I tried it, and it was the best experience," says Janice, recalling that there were only enough players for one team her freshman year. "By senior year, I was co-captain," she adds. "I went from being an extra person my first year to being a leader senior year."

At Trinity College in Hartford, Janice majored in Public Policy and Law and minored in Urban Studies. She planned on law school, but a part-time job tutoring middle school students changed her plans. "I fell in love with the kids in Hartford," she explains.

In 2012, Janice returned to Roxbury Prep as a High School and Summer Placement Coordinator—the same position as the advisor who steered her to independent schools. After two years, she joined Milton Academy as a one-year sabbatical replacement, then, in 2016, moved into her current role at Roxbury Prep. She also earned a master's degree in Education Policy and Leadership from the Boston University School of Education.

Janice credits MHS with significantly influencing her path. "First, I became a better public speaker," she says, and Miss Hall's shaped her self-awareness. "When you are aware of your strengths and weaknesses, you have a better idea of where you can grow. Being able to listen to and accept feedback is a valuable and buildable skill. MHS also helped me find my voice and recognize when I'm being heard—and when I'm being ignored. All the skills I developed at Miss Hall's, I still carry with me personally and professionally. I don't believe I would have been exposed to the same opportunities had I not gone to MHS."

*Editor's Note: The Lenox School Alumni Association annually awards the Mansfield Pickett Scholarships, named in memory of Mansfield E. (Peter) Pickett, a longtime teacher at the former Lenox School and Miss Hall's School. The scholarships are given to two students who exhibit outstanding performance in academics and extracurricular activities. This occasional feature will provide updates on Pickett Scholars and their achievements.*

~ David Smith, Director of Communications  
Miss Hall's School

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## LSAA Money and Mission – Looking Forward

To paraphrase the writing on the side mirrors of many cars: Warning – Our future may be closer than it appears. The LSAA has now formally opened an important chapter in planning for that future.

After hearing from LSAA Treasurer, Ed Miller '66, that the LSAA is in the strongest financial shape in its history – thanks in no small measure to the matching grant generosity of two anonymous alums and the response from the LSAA membership to meet those challenges – those gathered for the business meeting began a robust discussion of how to manage the Lenox legacy, and the money that helps fuel it, for years to come.

In many ways, the calendar is not our friend. Members of the youngest graduating class are now all in their mid-60s. Lenox has been closed longer than it was open. But Reunion Weekend continues to draw significant attendance, and every year a loyal LSAA core is supplemented by members of milestone classes and others who have heard that a return to campus retains a special magic. Those forces have led to steadily increasing contributions to the established scholarship and memorial funds, now managed internally. They have also led several alums to inquire how they might leave money to the LSAA in their wills.

In response, the LSAA Board established a committee, consisting of Paul Denzel '67, Ed Miller '66, Fritz Eckel '65, and Jeff Smith '70, to explore what vehicles might be created to ensure proper management of this money in future years, as well as the possibility that funds could be distributed in accordance with donor wishes to sustain the Lenox mission of service even after the LSAA itself has ceased to be active.

After several conference calls to assess the possibility of achieving these goals in a structure created internally and managed directly by the Board, the committee turned to an assessment of outside resources. As part of that process, on Reunion Friday, Fritz and Jeff met with Tony Pietrantone, a Vice President of the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, based in Sheffield.

Berkshire Taconic is a 30 year-old organization, recommended to Paul as having both money management expertise and a mission that included educational attainment, community engagement and economic opportunity, all of which aligned well with Lenox's broad goal of service.

Berkshire Taconic manages \$150 million in a portfolio of funds held for several different purposes, ranging from those that are directly donor-advised and go to specific causes to those more generally earmarked for education enrichment or other areas of community interest. Their annual fees vary, depending on the amount managed, and range from 0.25% for the threshold, and more general, \$25,000 Agency Agreement to 0.75% for larger, more complex and specific endowments. Details can be seen on their Website. ([www.berkshiretaconic.org](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org))

More generally speaking, outside management has two advantages over our current financial arrangements, which have been steadfastly overseen by Ed for two decades. First, the rate of return on invested money, net of fees, is likely to exceed the rate of return that a local savings bank will yield. (For example, Berkshire Taconic's 10 year average is 7.1%). If the amount of money in LSAA coffers continues to increase, this difference could become important. Second, creating a clear written purpose for the funds and putting the ongoing administration of that purpose in the hands of an institutional fiduciary, increases the chances of establishing an LSAA legacy – whether it is in scholarships or other, broader purposes – that will outlast the organization itself.

The committee's first draft of such a written purpose – in the form of a mission statement for an agency agreement with Berkshire Taconic – follows next.

As was true for the discussion at the business meeting, this draft is intended to prompt input, reaction and modification, not to be the definitive word - on whether such an arrangement is desirable; whether Berkshire Taconic is an appropriate manager; or whether the mission statement captures the purpose itself.

These types of decisions have historically yielded strongly-held feelings and many good, and sometimes contending, ideas. As President Bob Sansone '68 noted, however, the time to begin deliberations is on us, so that they can be done carefully, thoughtfully and with full consideration of all views.

Please address any such thoughts that come to mind to the committee members, to the Editor of the P&S, or to Bob.

~ Jeff Smith '70 and Fritz Eckel '65

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*The draft below is an example of a Mission Statement by which the LSAA would direct the Berkshire Taconic Foundation. It would be appended as an Exhibit to the Non Profit Endowed Agency Fund Agreement that would be executed by both the LSAA and Berkshire Taconic. That Agreement contains a section that provides:*

*“The Fund shall be used for the sole purpose of supporting the charitable, scientific, or educational purposes of the Lenox School Alumni Association, as described in Exhibit B.”*

## THE LENOX FUND MISSION STATEMENT

WHEREAS, the Lenox School was founded and chartered as a Massachusetts educational corporation in 1926, and began doing business shortly thereafter in Lenox, Massachusetts.

WHEREAS, the motto of Lenox School, stated in Latin on the shield in its coat of arms, is “Not to be served, but to serve.”

WHEREAS, during its period of active operation, the Lenox School sponsored and participated in many community outreach and betterment programs, locally, nationally and internationally.

WHEREAS, during the period of active operation of the Lenox School, which ceased in 1972, approximately 1,250 boys graduated and became members of an organization then known as the Lenox School Alumni Association (the “LSAA”).

WHEREAS, after a period of dormancy following the closing of Lenox School, the LSAA began actively seeking out its members and with former members of the Lenox School faculty in order to rekindle the fellowship and sense of purpose that had shaped, sustained and inspired LSAA members during the time they were Lenox School students.

WHEREAS, in furtherance of those objectives, the LSAA elected a Board of Directors, obtained not-for-profit status under the Federal Internal Revenue Code, and began holding annual reunions in Lenox which continue to this day.

WHEREAS, the LSAA Board of Directors, at the urging of LSAA members, established several scholarship funds, named in honor of former Lenox School masters and funded by donations from LSAA members, to assist current secondary school students of proven need who had established a record of service, combined excellence in academics or athletics.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

WHEREAS, having awarded such scholarships annually for 15 years, typically to students attending schools in the Berkshire County area, and having determined that these scholarships were deeply meaningful for the recipients and their families and allowed LSAA members to publicly reward the ethos of service and achievement characteristic of Lenox School students at their best.

WHEREAS, the LSAA membership voted in 2019 to extend and broaden this program of giving so that it might reach beyond secondary school scholarships to other activities worthy of recognition that would perpetuate the spirit of Lenox School.

WHEREAS, the LSAA Fund for Lenox School (“The Lenox Fund”) was established by vote of LSAA members.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is declared that The Lenox Fund has the purpose of:

Generating and maintaining in perpetuity financial resources through which students with demonstrated need, who have shown a commitment to service of their schools, communities, family, or country or to the well-being of people in other countries, coupled with a record of achievement in academics or athletics, may be recognized. The Lenox Fund is intended to allow such students to continue their education or training, irrespective of any financial constraints of their own personal circumstances, in the spirit of service that was the founding principle of the Lenox School.

~ Jeff Smith '70 and Fritz Eckel '65

\* \* \*

## School Happenings 50 Years Ago According to the P&S – May 17, 1969

This edition of the Pen and Scroll, only four pages long, was the last for the outgoing staff, led by Co-Editors- In-Chief Matt Gottsegen and George Cleveland. It reported on news and activities from the end of the first week in March to mid-April and so covered only the beginning of the spring sports season.

News articles included the following. Rev. Curry announced his plan to split his time between being on the road to ‘sell’ the school and being on campus performing headmaster duties and that a new Dean would be hired to run internal operations during his absence. [See the related article in this edition.] Beginning on March 19th Paul Blatz and David Clarke participated in a 14-day trip to England, Italy, France, Spain and Portugal as part of a 20-man

soccer team sponsored by the People-to-People Sports Committee to play and learn about soccer in Europe. They were coached by leading professional coaches and were guests of the two leading soccer teams in the world. They also attended a reception at the U.S. Embassy in Paris with our ambassador. On Saturday, April 12th at 2:30 in the morning in the South Wing of St. Martin's, Francis Calabro caught a drunken thief taking some money [\$2.12] from his desk drawer. He yelled out and pushed the thief into the hallway where Jimmy Hinson tackled and subdued him! The thief gave an excuse and Mr. Wood escorted him to his car, which he immediately drove onto the grass surrounding the flagpole and got stuck. He then returned to the South Wing at which time Mr. Wood called the police and the thief was arrested and got 30 days observation.

At sixth formers' request, Mr. Wood offered a Dramatics Workshop to seven seniors as part of the curriculum, meeting on Mondays and Fridays. Its purpose is to give instruction in the arts of acting, playwriting, set design, and other facets of the theater. It included viewing plays produced by other companies and each student completing a drama project, often a short play. The Backdoor Peace Corps, to which Lenox Students provided tutorial assistance in Pittsfield's West End, came under new management and became 'the Berkshire Tutorial Project'. More study space and tutors were allocated meaning that both recreation and study time could be conducted and a second building for students over ten was obtained. Eight Lenox students participated, but as winter wore on, other tutors stopped attending and the Lenox contingent ended up being the only ones there.

Entertainment focused on several concerts, a lecture and a play by two members of the recently formed Dramatics Workshop. On Saturday, March 12th the 40-member choir of men and women from St. Paul's College in Virginia made its annual visit to Lenox, arriving just before noon and staying at faculty homes. They performed at 8:00 p.m. at the gym to a standing room only audience. The program consisted of several early English chorales, a collection of several contemporary church songs, and several popular songs. After the concert, a dance was held in their honor at Schermerhorn, hosted by the Glee Club. The choir departed early Sunday morning to sing in a church service in Albany. On Sunday March 30th, in the lecture room of Lawrence Hall, about 75 students and faculty listened to Special Agent W. Stuart of the Springfield Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation speak on the F.B.I.; its general workings; the qualifications needed for employment; and about past cases and methods in general. The first F.B.I. agent to speak at Lenox enjoyed a captive audience.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

The Glee Club participated in two concerts during the period. On March 8th, 40-members of the Glee Club travelled by chartered bus to Dartmouth College in Hannover, NH to participate in a concert with five other glee clubs. Songs performed included 'Christ To Thee' and 'Vive L'Amour'. A great time was had by all. The MacDuffie and Lenox School Glee Clubs, as well as a folk group 'Take Nine' from MacDuffie, performed at Thayer Hall on Saturday night, April 5th. The girls arrived for dinner, met their dates, and after the concert enjoyed a dance at Schermerhorn. In the gym on Sunday evening, April 20th the Dramatics Workshop presented 'Zoo Story' a one-act play by Edward Albee starring Paul Blatz and Kim Sanders, the only two characters in this contemporary play, whose central issue is that of communications between two individuals. Mr. Devenish provided a review commending both actors, but suggesting that the play should have been presented in a smaller venue, to better provide physical and emotional intimacy between the spectator and player.

Editorial contributions included one editorial, one letter to the editor and a humorous article. The editorial was a 'Goodbye' from a co-editor saying that it had been an interesting and frustrating experience due to the question of what the purpose of the newspaper is: to sell the school to the outside; become an alumni bulletin; or be a paper of student protest and opinion? He concluded that it should be all these things and bounded by taste and school policy, striking a balance between student opinion and school news. The letter-to-the editor regarded tokenism as it relates to a person who happens to be Black or an American Indian. It stressed that schools and businesses are not looking for people to be tokens, but rather are looking for them to perform assigned tasks while providing: a long denied chance to show what they can do; the chance to learn the skills needed to compete in today's world; and a helping hand to those less fortunate. 'In Search of the Sixth Form Commons Room' provided a humorous look at a day-student's four-year journey to attain the privilege of using the room.

In athletics, though losing its opening game to Watkinson, Varsity Baseball could be one of the best teams in years despite the loss, due to injury, of starters Roger Green and Jeff Smith. Returning varsity team members are co-captains catcher Bill Williams and third baseman and relief pitcher Jerry Way; first baseman Paul Blatz; and outfielder and power-hitter Bob Wilson. Six first-year players from other schools could complete the team. Junior Varsity Baseball's first game against Berkshire Farms was rained out, but the team looks forward to an excellent season with great fielding and strong hitting from Morgan, Tobler, Emerson and Flynn.

Varsity Lacrosse got off to a fine start, winning scrimmages against Springfield College 6-1 and the Amherst Freshman 10-1, before losing to the Williams Freshman 7-4 and then winning their season opener against the R.P.I. Freshman 14-1. The offense looks good with great depth, but the defense has no returning varsity players. Junior Varsity Lacrosse has yet to play their first game on April 26th against the Berkshire Varsity, but has great potential. In Club action: Blackfeet 2-0, Mohawks 1-1, and Iroquois 0-2.

Sailing got off to a late start due to thirty inches of ice on Laurel Lake. The new fiberglass Bluejays did not arrive, so Peter Day and Captain Ken Lo overhauled the existing fleet. A rigid inter-club competition was held to determine the varsity squad for the first meet against Laurelcrest on April 22nd. The top three were Fritz Gehagan, Matt Poz, and Ken Lo. Tennis lost two weeks due to having to chop a foot of ice off the courts, and are undergoing two weeks of stiff competition for the seven varsity positions. Wilkes Stranch and Davis White appear to be numbers one and two. The team lost their only match to the R.P.I. Freshman who showed up a month early, and all other games since have been rained out.

~ Randy Harris

\* \* \*

## Head Heads Out

An Article from 50-Years Ago in the P&S – May 17, 1969  
Robert L. Curry, Headmaster

*Note: Rev. Curry likely foresaw the coming drop in enrollment that all boys' private schools would experience and needed to keep the school's enrollment between 240 to 250 in order to maintain the entire current faculty which had grown with enrollment. Perhaps he was also setting up the conditions for his departure which occurred in December 1969. His use of the terms "move to the outside" and "the lag on the inside" were likely inspired by 'Mister Outside', Army halfback and Heisman Trophy winner Glenn Davis and his teammate, Heisman winner, fullback Doc Blanchard, 'Mr. Inside', who together led Army to three consecutive National Championships and a 27-0-1 record from 1944-1946. The Dean to be brought in to run the internal operations of the school during his absence would be Mr. Austin P. Montgomery who would become headmaster upon Rev. Curry's departure. ~ RH*

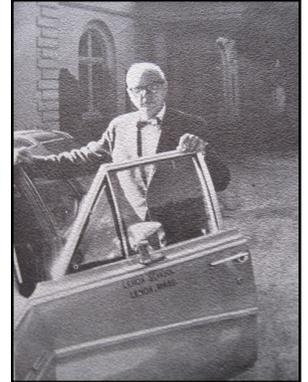
I was recently listening to an advertisement with a sales pitch to buy telephones. Why of all the products in the nation should the telephone systems be advertising to sell its product?

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

The answer is, that if you wish to sell what you have, you must advertise to create a need in persons, or to let people know that you have a product which they ought to know about and buy.

Lenox has developed one of the finest educational products at the secondary school level. We have relied on

"satisfied customers" to spread the word, and they have done this in part, but we have suddenly awakened to the fact that others in the field of education have become most competitive, and our product is largely unknown. I recently asked the headmaster of a small junior school (boarding) if I could come and visit next fall and talk to boys, and he replied that I would be most welcome...last fall they had some fifteen headmasters come to visit!



*Headmaster Moves to the Outside in the Big Buick to Visit Junior School*

When we come to the 1969-1970 school year in September, I will move to the outside and split my time between the school and going on the road to "sell" the school. I will be looking for prospects; will be fund raising, and seeing alumni parents and past parents.

In order for me to do this the school is now looking for a Dean who will be responsible for the internal operation of the school while I am away.

This man will teach (probably in the field of English) and will relate directly to the students, parents, discipline (through the Disciplinary Committee), curriculum (through the Director of studies), the extracurricular calendar (through the Entertainment Committee), etc.

Our hope is to bring the decision making process more current and to eliminate the lag which we now have in the school – the lag on the inside of the school when I am travelling and vice-versa.

This is a move to create assistance for the headmaster and to make administration more efficient.

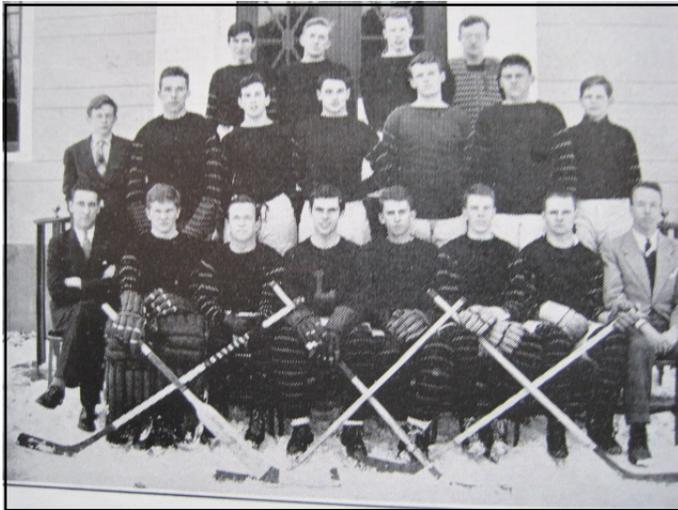
~ Randy Harris

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**A Letter To The Editor of the Pen and Scroll  
Stop Smoking and Start Winning  
An Article from 81-Years Ago in the P&S  
May 18, 1938  
An Interested Alumnus**

*Note: Apparently the pressure to win was tough even in the young school as the writer decries the adverse effects of smoking on the school's two most high profile sports at the time, football and hockey. The school was yet to field soccer, cross country and lacrosse teams and basketball was only in its third season. The hockey team had gone 1-1-8 that year and 2-8 the previous year, while the football team had lost its first five games that year, winning only the last game of the season. The school often shared in the joy of winning teams, especially in games against rivals, which heightened the spirit of the entire school. Winning was also important because one of the stated goals of mandatory athletics in addition to building a sound body and learning teamwork and sportsmanship, was for boys to learn what it takes to be a winning team and transfer those qualities to other parts of their lives. Apparently, the writer's message was heard as is reflected in this entry about the following year's hockey team in the 1939 yearbook. "...the spirit of the players was fine at times, witnessed by the fact that the whole hockey squad voluntarily gave up all smoking..."*

~ RH



*Non-smoking 1939 Varsity Hockey Team*

The Editor of the Pen and Scroll:

It would seem to me that the not too successful sports record of football and hockey teams in the past several years would indicate that there is something holding our teams back. Of course the fact that there was little material for some of the teams made some difference, but the trouble lies deeper than this. The perfectly obvious answer seems to be lack of training. By this I do not mean lack of guidance and teaching by the coaches but rather of condition in the boys. In short, they smoke too much during a sports season. There is no reason on earth why the school should not have a training table for the teams. There is however one definite drawback to this. No matter how hard the boys exercise or how rigidly they train they can never have the stamina necessary to play a hard game and win unless they stop smoking. Why don't they stop smoking? Perhaps they would rather see schools like Berkshire, Romford, South Kent and Salisbury, who do train regularly and fully, walk off with every athletic victory. Let's hope not. To the boys of next year's teams this is a matter for serious consideration. Think it over and decide whether or not you really want to win.

An Interested Alumnus

~ Randy Harris

\* \* \*

## This Month In History On Campus

*Note: This article provides a look back at what was happening at the school, 60, 70, 81, and 90 years ago. These snapshots of school activities will allow us to better use and share the contents of the 223 separate editions of the P&S currently in our collection. Occasionally, missing P&S's will cause us to be off by a month or two or in rare instances, a year or two, as is the case here. Unfortunately, there are no P&S's for 1939 or 1940.*

~ RH

### 60 Years Ago – May 28, 1959

Mr. Hinman celebrates 25-years at Lenox. One-third of school's enrollment is day-students. Plumbing nears completion in the new Field House and Science Building; their completion scheduled by fall. Spring chapel features eight student speakers. Entire school attends Lenox School Day at St. Stephen's in Pittsfield. Glee Club, Barons, Bruce Beardsley on the piano, and Windsor Mountain Madrigal Singers entertain at Gym. 'Master Players' present 'See How They Run' directed by and starring Mr. F. Brooks Butler. Hubert Eaton leads Varsity Tennis to a 7-2 record, winning all but one of his games.

## 70 Years Ago – March 11, 1949

South Lee is cutoff after 8½ inches of rain falls in January; flooding wreaks havoc; 3½ feet of water on roads; Lenox students aid relief efforts by rotating 15-boy teams to fill in holes created by water; the water at school is impure. Highly unusual lack of snow or ice by end of January disrupts winter sports schedules. Varsity Hockey starts 2-1. Lenox High School builds new gym, requires their basketball team to use the Town Hall Annex court, meaning no practice or home games for the Lenox basketball team. Despite Tom Bosworth, a former Lenox High basketball ace and future Lenox School trainer in the 1960's return from the Service and contributions to the team, Varsity Basketball starts 0-5.

## 81 Years Ago – May 18, 1938

Trustees vote to construct the Central Building and South Wing of St. Martin's Hall; pouring of concrete begins; scheduled completion by mid-September. Daily Chapel Service is to be moved from before breakfast to before supper due to increased distance to dining hall in Thayer Hall. Due to initial success, a second annual Parents' Day is scheduled for May 2nd. The Seventh Annual Alumni Weekend is set for May 14th. Captain Bill Spofford leads Varsity Baseball to a 3-2 start.

## 90 Years Ago – May 13, 1929

Titled 'Spring Number' this was one of the last mimeographed editions of the P&S before it went to a printed-newspaper format. A fundraising effort to obtain \$75,000 began in order to eliminate the debt incurred in the school's first several years and to cover the cost to repurpose the barn (i.e. Thayer Hall) into a dining hall and dormitory. A contract was already signed; work had begun; and completion was scheduled for September. Mr. Monks the headmaster celebrated his 31st birthday on May 6th. Varsity Baseball started out 0-4 and tennis was yet to play a game due to constantly flooded courts. Students entertained with the spring vaudeville night and preparations for the end of year gala at Sedgwick Hall (i.e. now part of the Lenox Town Library) were underway and included a presentation of Shakespeare's 'The Twelfth Night' and performances by the Glee Club and School Chorus.

~ Randy Harris

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Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

## Recent Donation to the Memorabilia Collection

Provided below is a description of the memorabilia items donated since the last edition of the Pen and Scroll. Our deepest appreciation and sincere thanks go to Jud Fisher '63. The six items indicated below have been added to the existing Collection Inventory.

Jud Fisher '63 provided the following items from his continuing search through his purchased estate-sale items related to David H. Wood (DHW): Thirty-nine documents sent to Mr. Wood consisting mostly of personal letters and notes from family members, with a few legal and business-related documents, all from 1962-1981, with the most from 1976. Six concerned Lenox School. Memorandum: 'Thoughts, Problem, Ideas, Instructions for the Week of February 18', 1962 from Robert L. Curry (rlc) cc: Mr. S. Roberts, Mrs. E. Roberts, Mr. Southworth, Mr. Wood, Courtney Turner; Typed 3x5 'Pink Notecard' from Robert L. Curry (Bob) to Mr. David Wood (DHW), 16 March 1962; 'Letter to Parents of Japan-Bound Students', 10 May, 1962; 'Memorandum For Heads of Departments', from Robert L. Curry (rlc), 15 March 1965; Letter, Robert L. Curry (Bob) to David H. Wood, 29 July 1965, on yellow Lenox School Headmaster stationary/envelope; and Letter, Robert L. Curry (Bob) to David H. Wood, 30 June 1966, on yellow Lenox School Headmaster stationary/envelope. Also of interest are two 'Academic Reports' for English 135: 'Modern Movement', dated 28 May 1976, one on a female student and one on a male student, both signed by Mr. Wood from The Hall School, 492 Holmes Road, Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201. *Note: Mr. Wood recalls this time in his article: 'In Memory and Celebration of Mansfield Elliot Pickett 1916-1996' in the March 1997 edition of the P&S. "After the close of Lenox School and at a time when I was at the Rockwell Museum, I had a chance to do some part-time teaching at Miss Hall's School (then the Hall School), an opportunity which I jumped at because it meant that once more Pete and I would be teaching together."*

~ Randy Harris

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## Inquiry On Thomas R. Minifie and Mr. F. Brooks Butler

*Note: On the following pages is a recent example of the type of requests for information that we periodically receive and the type of response that the LSAA routinely provides. Also please note how the LSAA president safeguards the release of any information on Lenox School students, masters and staff.*

~ RH

**August 13, 2018, 11:26 AM**

Hello Mr. Sansone, I am writing to ask if you could tell me the graduation year for a Thomas R. Minifie. I believe he attended the Lenox School in the early 1960s. Also, was there an English Professor named Mr. Butler from that time period? Any information you have or could direct me to is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Catherine White

**August 13, 2018, 11:32 AM**

Hi Catherine: Many thanks for your inquiry. We have always been very careful in releasing info on alums; as such, could you please indicate the nature of your request before I commence any investigation into our records? Please feel free to call me directly if that would be easier. Very Best Regards, Bob Sansone, President LSAA, 860-916-1467

**August 13, 2018 at 11:50 AM**

Yes of course! I am with the Berkshire County Historical Society. Someone recently donated a book, *The Portable Melville*, [*Note: the Berkshire County Historical Society is located at 'Arrowhead', Melville's home when he was in the Berkshires*] that was used

by Thomas Minifie for, I believe, Mr. Butler's English class (there's a bit of water damage over the name, as best as I can make out it's Butler). With the book there are some photographs, unfortunately undated. The photos seem to be from the early 60s based on the clothing (the book was printed in '59 so I know it was after that). I'm just seeing about getting some more information about this artifact. Regards, Catherine



*F. Brooks Butler 1961-1962 in the Faculty Lounge*

**August 13, 2018 at 12:10 PM**

Many thanks for understanding Catherine. We have a Charles Minifie class of 1959 listed as an alum of Lenox School, but I can't find a Thomas (unless Thomas was his middle name). I have asked for our historian to see if we had a Mr. Butler as a master during that time and will revert as soon as I get more info. Bob

**August 19, 2018 at 4:57 PM**

*Note: The following are some key portions of what was provided by the LSAA historian. A few new bits of information, not included in the original document, are indicated in brackets. Also provided were all the photographs of Thomas R. Minifie that were available in the two year-books as well as two of Mr. Brooks, one of Charles Minifie '59, and a few of the buildings where Thomas Minifie lived and studied.*

*As a result of research and verified by yearbook entries, we can confirm that a T. Minifie was a student at Lenox School for two years (1959-1961), probably as a fourth and fifth former (sophomore/junior), at the same time as Mr. F. Brooks Butler was teaching English at Lenox (1957-1964). He lived in North Cottage and Schermerhorn Hall; played Junior Varsity Soccer; and was in the St. Martin's Society and on the Pen and Scroll staff. We have nothing that confirms that T. Minifie was in Mr. Butler's class, other than by the names on the book in Catherine's possession. T. Minifie did not graduate from Lenox School. [Some LSAA rosters indicate that he was on the faculty, but there are no references to him being on the faculty in any of the school publications. So if he was, it was likely for less than a complete school year.] No available school documents other than our own database and Catherine's book provide a first name or a middle initial for T. Minifie.*



*Mr. F. Brooks Butler in his Schermerhorn Apartment (circa 1969)*

*Mr. F. Brooks Butler was a well-liked and respected master who taught English for seven years, arriving in the fall of 1957. [Originally from Boston, he attended St. Paul's School and graduated from the Westminster School.] He received an A.B. degree from the University of Pennsylvania, [his time there interrupted by a stint in the Army, primarily in Europe as a Military Policeman, working in Criminal Investigations] and did some graduate work at Columbia University. [He came to Lenox from working in the personal trust department of a New York Bank.] He taught only English while at Lenox, and helped out with public speaking. For the last six of his seven years, he was a member of the school's 3-man Disciplinary Committee.*

*His additional responsibilities included being one of two dorm masters in Schermerhorn Hall/SpringLawn Mansion, where he lived in an apartment. He was married in June, 1962 to the former Miss Jane Beals and continued to reside in Schermerhorn. He occasionally coached lacrosse and tennis, while coaching a highly successful junior hockey team each and every year; formed and advised the Press Club and later advised the Pen and Scroll staff, both student extracurricular activities; and performed other routine faculty tasks such as heading a table at meals, serving as a study hall monitor at night, and serving as the on-call/duty master. [He was also the director and one of the lead-actors in the 'Master Players' a troupe of masters who periodically provided enjoyable plays for the school.] He*

departed Lenox in June of 1964 for the Eaglebrook School in Deerfield, Massachusetts.

**August 20, 2018**

Bob and Randy: This is amazing -- you guys are incredible! This gives so much context and is the kind of information that give artifacts meaning. I can e mail you over copies of the photos that were tucked in the book, snapshots really. I'm up there next on Thursday. One's definitely on campus, the other two people standing in front of a tree, I'm assuming they are on campus as well. Thank you for all of your help, Catherine

~ Randy Harris

\* \* \*

## Search For Lenox School Student Records Proves Unsuccessful

Dave Perry '64 inquired about the status of the school's student records in this thoughtful and informative email received when the electronic edition of the December P&S went out. *"Good way to present the newsletter. I also have a question that may seem strange and now quite moot for most of us. Does anyone know what happened to our individual student records? Our file with grades, SATs, etc. I am a retired public high school principal, and that's probably a question only someone like me would ask. I remember asking Pete Pickett that question before he passed away. He had no idea. Perhaps in the vaults at Lenox High School? Thrown out? Any idea? (In Connecticut, the law requires that a permanent record be kept for 50 years.) Dave"*

The only specific account of what happened to these records is in a Mr. Wood, March 20, 1985 letter in response to an alumnus, which stated: That Mr. Nordstrum, the business manager 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. That most [Lenox School] student records got put together, no thanks to Mr. Nordstrum, and sent to the public school [i.e. Lenox High School] for a repository. That "'The Book of Lenox School,' the handsome book that every graduate signed on graduation day morning," had been found in one of those discarded piles on the floor of the Schermerhorn Hall basement; was now in his possession;

and would be donated to the Lenox Library where Spence Kennard had organized a memorabilia collection. Additionally, that he culled the address labels for Lenox School graduates and gave them to Trinity Church.

Based upon this information, the following actions have been taken. The vaults in the basement of Schermerhorn, where some of the records were reportedly stored, were inspected by Board members and found to be open and empty. The Lenox Memorial Middle School and High School was contacted and verified that they had no Lenox School student records or any evidence that they had ever been brought to the school. The registrar thought that they were sent to the Lenox Town Hall. The Town Hall was contacted and said that they didn't have them, but requested the library to check their inventory to see if they had any record of them. The library responded back that they didn't have the records. Previous annual visits to the library to review existing and newly uncovered Lenox School memorabilia verified that 'The Book of Lenox School' was not in their collection. Board members had also previously visited the Lenox Historical Society, which confirmed that they didn't have the student records either or any knowledge of where they were.

Consequently, the LSAA President drew the following conclusions: "That, currently and unless we receive a positive lead from a member, we must acknowledge that the final disposition and location of the records are simply unknown" and that "I think we should dispense with further efforts and simply accept that absent a miraculous discovery, we'd be better off devoting ourselves to other association matters."

~ Randy Harris

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## Has Anyone Heard of These Campus- Related Nicknames?

*Note: The email below addresses an inquiry that LSAA President Bob Sansone received regarding information on a particular area on campus near the football field known as 'the slough of despond' or the 'millpond of destiny', and for information on any other nicknames that may have been used to refer to other parts of the campus. Neither Bob nor I had ever heard of the two referenced nicknames or for that matter any nicknames regarding the campus at all. Bob responded as such, referring them to the 'Lenox School and Campus History' White Paper on the LSAA website for additional information on the campus.*

We'd appreciate any information that you may have on the specific two nicknames in question and on any other nicknames referring to parts of the campus that you may be aware of. Provided below are the original email request; the results of the search of the archives; and the results of some cursory research into the meaning of the two nicknames.

~ RH

### Original Email Request Dec 6, 2018 at 7:04 PM

Dear Robert, I hope you don't mind me contacting you but my wife Bella Merlin is writing a history of Shakespeare and Co who now occupy the site of your wonderful school. Near the football field there was an area known as something like 'the slough of despond' or 'the millpond of destiny' can anyone help me here and did any of the other parts of the campus have nicknames? Any information would be gratefully received. Sincerely yours, Miles Anderson

### Archive Search Results

In regards to Mr. Miles Anderson's three specific questions: I've never seen the terms 'the slough of despond' from Pilgrim's Progress or the 'millpond of destiny' used in reference to an area near either the upper or lower football fields, or to any other area on the Lenox School campus, or seen them written in any archival documents or publications. I specifically looked at the yearbooks and Pen and Scroll newspapers from around the time that the land for the upper football field was purchased and the field was created (1935-1937), but found nothing.

### Meaning and Literary Use of the Nicknames

Since I'd never heard the terms 'slough of despond' or 'millpond of destiny' used before, I had to google the two just to make sure that I understood what the words meant, if they were commonly used literary terms, or had been used in any famous literary works. I found that 'slough' referred either to a "place of deep mud or mire (swamp)" or "characterized by lack of progress or activity." The term was used in the 1678 book 'Pilgrim's Progress' to refer to "a deep bog into which the protagonist sinks under the weight of his sins and his guilt over them." It's also known as the "swamp of despair." I found no particular literary source for 'millpond of destiny' though a millpond is somewhere where water is stored for future use. I thought it was curious and significant that both terms were associated with some type of standing water, a problem that Shakespeare & Company has experienced near the site of the upper baseball field diamond, but that I don't recall having happened during my Lenox School days.

~ Randy Harris

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## Trivia Questions

We're all familiar with what the Lenox School campus buildings were used for while we were at school, but many of these buildings had distinctly different uses both before and after their use by Lenox School. This edition's Trivia Questions focus on some of these unique uses and changes to the buildings that we were so familiar with.

- 1) In addition to the school offices, reception area and dormitory, what other uses were true about Schermerhorn Hall (Spring Lawn mansion)?
  - a) Private summer residence for one of the richest families in America.
  - b) Site of the daily evangelical radio show, 'Telephone Time'.
  - c) Site of fundraising performances by celebrity musicians in support of the National Music Foundation.
  - d) 99/102-seat theater specializing in Edith Wharton presentations.
  - e) A planned luxury bed and breakfast boutique, with an upscale dining facility, the centerpiece of a larger spa and resort.
  - f) All of the above.
- 2) Which of the following are true about Bassett Hall used by the school as a dormitory and faculty apartments?
  - a) First location of BCD's coed 7th and 8th grade classes.
  - b) A bed and breakfast and an inn/restaurant.
  - c) Summer residence of U.S. Secretary of State, Frederick T. Frelinghuysen of New Jersey.
  - d) Lodging for President Arthur in 1885 when he dedicated the cornerstone of Trinity Church.
  - e) Starting and ending point for Mrs. Bassett's horse-drawn carriage rides to Trinity Church for the Sunday service.
  - f) All of the above.
- 3) After Lenox School closed, what other uses did the Sports Center have?
  - a) A Hollywood movie set.
  - b) An 1,800 capacity main chapel capable of broadcasting televised services.
  - c) The Berkshire Performing Arts Center, hosting nationally acclaimed music and comedy acts and Lenox Town Meetings.
  - d) Artists' 'Loft Residences' as part of a proposed 'Lenox South' community development project.
  - e) The Bernstein Performing Arts Center and Theatre.
  - f) All of the above.

- 4) Who removed the engraved 'Lenox School' from the front of St. Martin's Hall and why?
- The Bordentown/Lenox School because the engraving had begun to deteriorate and they didn't have the money to repair it.
  - The 'New School At Lenox' in order to eliminate any possible connection to Lenox School.
  - 'The Bible Speaks' who renamed and engraved it 'Charis Hall', meaning 'Grace' in the Greek New Testament.
  - 'The National Music Foundation' to denote ownership of the property, along with changing 'The Bible Speaks International Headquarters' elongated concrete sign at the top of the grass circle in front of St. Martin's Hall to their name and logo.
- 5) Who added the balconies in the former Lenox School Memorial Gymnasium?
- 'The Bible Speaks' added a rear balcony to create a larger capacity chapel and lecture hall.
  - 'The National Music Foundation' reportedly planned to renovate the existing facility to create a performance venue for campus and visiting musicians.
  - Shakespeare & Company added balconies on the sides and elongated the stage to create a Shakespearean-type theatre experience.
  - Both a and c. 'The Bible Speaks' and S&Co both contributed to making the theatre what it is today.
- 6) Besides a Field House with locker rooms, the Athletic Director's Office and storage area, an athletic equipment store, and the Tuck Shop, what other uses did the Field House have?
- Barn and carriage house with commercial mushroom beds in its basement.
  - Housed the school's first small Computer Room in a locker room in one of the Field House's wings, with the school's first and only computer, a DEC PDP8 machine.
  - A Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Office, Headquarters, and Armory.
  - A nursery, elementary school classrooms and Sunday School Director's Office.
  - All of the above.

~ Randy Harris

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*Majestic Schermerhorn Hall*



*Bassett Hall Then*

## In Memoriam

### Jane 'Jennie' Butler Friend of the LSAA

Jane "Jennie" B. Butler, 87, of Lenox died unexpectedly Tuesday, Jan. 1, as the result of a fall. Her family was with her.

Born Oct. 23, 1931, in Brookline to the late Edward Mauran and Julia (Blake) Beals, she attended Windsor School in Brookline and Garrison Forest School in Owings Mills, Maryland. She graduated from Radcliffe College in Cambridge in 1954. Jennie spent her childhood summers at her grandmother's house in Lenox and moved permanently to the Berkshires in the early 1960s, teaching at the Pine Cobble School in Williamstown. She met her husband, F. Brooks Butler, in Lenox, and they were married June 16, 1962. Jennie and Brooks raised their children in Lenox. Brooks predeceased her Feb. 22, 1999.



Her great loves were history and teaching, especially the history of World War I, which she wrote about and studied

extensively. A devoted teacher, Jennie taught primarily at Berkshire Country Day School, as well as at Miss Hall's School. Though history was her preferred topic, she taught English and math, as well. She was proud to self-publish "A Force Unfamiliar to Me," a memoir that included the writings of her son Peter. When not teaching or reading, she was an avid lover of the New York Times crossword puzzle.

Jennie served on the boards of both the Northeast chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the Literacy Network of South Berkshire, where she was also a literacy tutor. For many years she also read for Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic. After retiring from teaching, she volunteered for over 25 years at the Pittsfield Adult Learning Center where she helped adults earn their GEDs and taught English as a second language. In the last years of her life, her greatest joy was spending time with her granddaughter, gardening, and swimming in the summer.

Jennie is survived by her children Carolyn Butler of Lenox, and Tom Butler and wife Jenny Maguire of Beacon, New York; granddaughter Brooks Butler Maguire; and siblings Margaret Beals of New York City and Isabella Frost of Brookline. Besides her husband, she was predeceased by her children Julia Butler and Peter Butler, and by her sister Julia Beals.

\* \* \*

## Richard B. Cohen '62

Mr. Richard B. Cohen, age 74, of 275 Eleanor Rd. Pittsfield, died Tuesday morning, March 5th at the Berkshire Medical Center. He was born in Worcester on July 24, 1944, the son of the late Emmanuel and Sarah Hurley Cohen. Educated in the local schools, Richard attended the former Lenox School for Boys. Continuing his education, he was a proud graduate of UMass Amherst where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Management.



Returning to Pittsfield, he joined his late father in the operation of the former Michael's Shoes which was located on the Pittsfield Lenox Rd. Mr. Cohen retired and closed the store in 2001.

A student of local, national and global politics, he prided himself in being always well informed. Mr. Cohen enjoyed reading and studying about history and world events. Proud to be a father and grandfather, he instilled in his

three daughters and his grandchildren the same desire to become well informed, pragmatic, accountable and the need to be solid citizens. A proud alumnus of UMass, he followed all of the sporting teams, including the football team. Richard enjoyed good films with intriguing story lines. He also loved tending to his garden, especially his delicious tomatoes.

He and his wife of nearly 50 years, the former Roberta A. Brown, would have celebrated their anniversary this coming Sept. 13th.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his three daughters, Kimberly A. Wells, and her husband Russell, of Clifton Park, NY, Tracy B. Galdamez and her husband Omar, of Agawam, MA, and Erin L. Cohen and her husband, Kevin Burgess, of Los Angeles, CA, his brother Marty Cohen of Castle Rock, Col. and his beloved grandchildren, Ariana, Natalie, Evin and Matthew. He was predeceased by his brother, Robert Cohen, who died in 1988.

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## Edward Linskill Warren Ehart '60

Edward Linskill Warren Ehart, 76, died on Monday, March 18, 2019, at Coastal Hospice at the Lake in Salisbury, MD. Born in Wilmington, DE, he was the only child of the Rev. Dr. Edward H. Ehart Jr. and Grace Holden Ehart.

He is survived by his court-appointed guardian, the Rev. Nathaniel W. Pierce, of Trappe, MD; and his good friend of 25 years, Mr. Robert K. Sellers, of Cambridge, MD.

Ed Lin graduated from the Lenox School for Boys (Lenox, Massachusetts) in 1960. He was the entertainment editor of the school newspaper, Pen and Scroll, worked in the "Tuckshop," and in his senior year was appointed a Prefect (student leader). He was known among his friends as "someone who always looked for the best in everything and was seldom disappointed." After he completed his freshman year at Trinity College in Hartford, CT, he was struck by a hit and run driver at 19 years of age. Subsequently he spent much of the rest of his life in various institutions for the disabled.

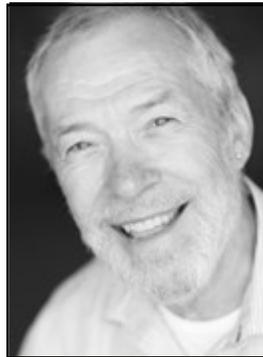
Ed Lin often expressed a desire to become a teacher. He studied the Bible and the works of Shakespeare and Thoreau, often quoting passages from memory. He found many colorful ways to express himself to others. As he lived with his difficulties, he taught those around him to live each day with grace.

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## Dennis Krausnick Friend of the LSAA

Dennis Krausnick, the co-founder of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox and a well-respected stage educator who trained thousands of actors and left his mark in Boston-area theater after more than four decades, has died at 76.

Shakespeare & Company confirmed that Krausnick died peacefully in his home on Tuesday, surrounded by loved ones, after a long battle with prostate cancer. His wife, Tina Packer, the founding artistic director of Shakespeare & Company, said messages of love and support had come in from as far as India, Australia and Canada.



An actor, director and writer, Krausnick co-founded Shakespeare & Company with Packer and Kristin Linklater in 1978. There, he helped stage many plays, including three dozen plays he wrote inspired by Edith Wharton books. But Krausnick's most enduring legacy may be the prolific work he did to train thousands of actors across the country. For 25 years, he led Shakespeare & Company's Center for Actor Training and taught more than 5,000 actors using his unique training methods. Krausnick also provided residencies and workshops for theater companies and university theater departments throughout the U.S.

The ARTery's critic-at-large Ed Siegel remembers watching Krausnick teach. "I saw a video of him working with an actress using a Shakespeare & Company technique called 'dropping in,' in which they use words in the Shakespeare text and have the actor relate it to personal experience. She was in tears but he was a real guru in helping her through it. I saw Tina use a version of the process at MIT with college students and the results were amazing."

Not everyone praised Krausnick's techniques, thinking they were too psychodramatic and harsh on the actors, Siegel said. "All I can say is that I was knocked out by the transformations I witnessed."

Up until four months ago, when his prognosis became terminal, Krausnick still traveled to different cities every weekend to teach actor workshops. At first, Packer said she filled in for him, but stopped doing so in the last month of Krausnick's life, when she could no longer leave him. It was then that Packer said the two drew into each other more intimately than ever before.

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

"Something beautiful happened in the last month. There was a tenderness there that was not about us getting on with Shakespeare & Company. It was really about our relationship with each other and that had never really happened before — that it was just the two of us," Packer recalled. "And it was just lovely."

She said upon learning of his impending death, Krausnick began doing the things he'd always wanted to do but never got around to. He readied 80 poems he had written for publication ("White Flash" will be released in early 2019). He dictated his research and thoughts on Elizabethan era culture and actors, leading to 600 pages of recorded notes Packer plans to organize into a manuscript.

In the last few weeks, Krausnick urgently worked to complete these projects, at times frustrated over the uncertainty of his time left. "What he raged about more than losing his life was that he didn't know the timeline. And so he started getting angry that he didn't know exactly when he was going to die. It could be two months and it could be two days."

Krausnick and Packer met as theater students in the mid-'70s at New York University. He was a Jesuit priest sent by the order to New York so he could later lead a priestly theater department. At NYU, Krausnick served as Packer's stage manager for a few productions. And then, a serendipitous accident led to a relationship. Packer twisted her ankle. "He had to carry me everywhere. I had to hobble on his arm. So that was why our relationship became intimate."

She never asked him to leave the order. "I was not going to seduce a priest. You know I wasn't going there." But after NYU, she went back to her native England and Krausnick decided to leave the order. "So then after he started that process, then we became a couple. And of course his mother never forgave me. She's dead so I guess I can say that," Packer remembered with a chuckle.

Packer moved back to the states and they founded Shakespeare & Company together.

In the last few months of his life, Krausnick passionately worked on establishing the Dennis Krausnick Fellowship Fund to support and increase diversity within the Shakespeare & Company Actor Training program. His family asks that instead of flowers, friend show their support by donating to the fund.

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## Trivia Answers From The December 2018 Edition

1.(e) The proposed Chapel/Dining Hall to be created from the barn and stable that would eventually become the Field House: was the primary goal of the 25th Anniversary Fund (1947-1951); estimated to cost \$90,000, only \$20,000 if converted to a chapel only; would eliminate the inadequate and inefficient Thayer Hall; consolidate school activities on the southern portion of the campus; support an increased enrollment; and alumni felt St. Martin's Chapel in the basement of Thayer Hall was inadequate and wanted a new chapel to be dedicated to the school's 27 WWII dead.

2.(e) The proposed on-campus stand-alone Chapel (circa late 1950's): had an estimated cost of \$300,000; would be Colonial style, in the round, with a balcony and a capacity of 300; would be located where Lawrence Hall was built facing the Taconic Mountains, and later between the Faculty Cottage and the Gym; and an artist's concept appeared in the 1961 Lenox-In-Portrait calendar.

3.(d) Building dedicated Faculty Housing (circa early 1960's): was made possible by the purchase of the 12-acre Lithgow Estate and the creation of the Howland Playing Field across the Old Stockbridge Road; would be used to replace inadequate married faculty apartments; and would eliminate the need to lease off-campus faculty housing.

4.(e) The new Student Dormitory (circa early-mid 1970's): was part of the 50th Anniversary Fund (1966-1976); estimated to cost \$450,000 to \$500,000; would replace the four wooden cottages, three of which were student dormitories and one, staff/faculty housing; would be similar to Lawrence Hall, with faculty housing; and be named Founder's Hall.

5.(e) The new Academic Complex (circa early-mid 1970's): was part of the 50th Anniversary Fund (1966-1976); estimated to cost \$250,000 to \$300,000; was to be connected to the rear of St. Martin's Hall and extend to the west towards the baseball diamond; and would provide new classrooms, science laboratories, and language lab facilities.

*~ Randy Harris*

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