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LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

DECEMBER, 2023



### Letter from the Editor

Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends of Lenox School,

Despite early forecasts of bad weather, we lucked out. The rain held off. Overall, the reunion weekend was outstanding. Shakespeare & Co. were exceptional hosts, as always, and welcomed us warmly. Meals, meetings, and events all occurred smoothly and seamlessly in the Bernstein Theatre.

I'll be brief, because others have written about the Legacy Fund, the dinner, the business meeting, and so on – it's all on the following pages.

In our last P&S, we grieved the loss of Nol Putnam. Mr. Putnam's niece Katharine Putnam Bennett sent an informative email, which is in the "letters" section. Please note that a memorial to Nol's life is in the works – Saturday, June 8 at the Wakefield Country Day School, Huntly, VA.

If you are able to attend, then please note this on your calendar. We will announce any changes to this schedule in our spring P&S.

We were fortunate to find an online article written by Dr. Chad Krouse at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Among other things, Dr. Krouse is interested in the study of heraldry and the design and meanings incorporated in shields. He focused on the shields of three Episcopal preparatory schools — Lenox School, St. Paul's School, and St. George's School — and explored the design process. We have reprinted Dr. Krouse's scholarly article in this issue with permission. I hope you enjoy his article. Note in the Works Cited that Dr. Krouse credits the LSAA for several of his sources. I've no doubt that our studious archivist, Randy Harris, played a key role just as he does for the P&S.

Please reflect thoughtfully on the widespread divisions surrounding us – not only America's own very serious political divisions, but also the genocidal wars between Israel and Gaza as well as the ongoing and deadly battles in Ukraine with Russia.

We continue to discuss how we properly "sunset" the higher level LSAA activities when we reach 2026. This most likely means that our in-person annual reunions and business meetings in Lenox and our triannual newsletters will significantly throttle back. Initial thoughts suggest that a modernized Website will continue and an annual issue of the P&S, albeit somewhat slimmer, might continue. To that end, generous alumni continue to donate toward our Legacy Fund. This fund will primarily underwrite scholarships, donations, and very limited administrative costs (Website, P&S, Zoom, etc.) according to our instructions. Another possible variation on this theme is that we "throttle back" on our face-to-face activities, P&S, and so on for a few more years before finally turning off the lights.

We ask you for three things: First, PLEASE donate to the Legacy Fund. Every dollar helps, and young people will benefit and help our society prosper by ensuring a much needed and enduring message regarding the lessons, legacy, and history of Lenox School for future generations. Second, please join the conversation and help us decide how and when we put the LSAA to bed. Finally, please consider participating in the process when that process arrives. We need willing dollars, willing voices, and willing hands.

Here's wishing a joyous, relaxing, and a safe holiday season and a prosperous and healthy 2024 for all our LSAA alumni, families, associates, and friends.

Don

Don

### The President's Message

## What a Reunion! Nearly 100 for Dinner! Who said Lenox Closed?

Simply incredible. We had class representation from 1948 through 1972 (yes, an unfortunate one who had the school close before he could graduate).

The catering for all the meals was superb and the golf tournament trophy this year was secured appropriately by the class of 1968 (celebrating their 55th legacy reunion).



The Hall of Fame inductions were some of the most moving in recent memory. We heard from Jack Hill '62 (last year's recipient) as well as from this year's inductees: Roger Hoefer '70, Garth LaPointe (on behalf of his father Mort); and Jody Haddow '70.

We had alums who were back for the first time in 65 years (and vowed they'd never miss another one!). We again provided Rev. Tuck from Trinity Church the Curry Whitman donation (we were fortunate to have Romi Whitman with us again this year); and of all things, Bill Homans '68 (aka Watermelon Slim) provided a solo rendition of the Lenox School hymn at the hymn sing!



The Class of '68 had an incredible turnout (along with their **two** senior Prefects... it was after all a very special class!)



Class of '68 includes, front row and left to right: Bob Sansone, David Nathans, Michael Carley. Back row, left to right: Larry Wilhelm, Nick Solley, Phil Westcott, Bob Tschilske, Mark Sinkinson, and Peter Custer.



'68 Senior Prefects Larry Wilhelm and Bob Loomis



We even had the opportunity to help celebrate a wedding anniversary for Dave De Rita '58 & his bride!

And of course, it isn't a real reunion without Bob Kline '48 and Dr. Elizabeth Hanson-Smith in attendance!



During the business meeting, we were provided an update from Allyn Burrows regarding Shakespeare & Co status and plans; an update about our Legacy Fund; a briefing on an initiative the board is reviewing to re-connect with ABC to expand our scholarship outreach; a financial report from Ed Miller '66 our treasurer; and an update on the status of the new website development from Keith Simpson '70.



We remain deeply indebted to everyone at S&Co for allowing us to have our reunions on the old campus each year, and the bonds of friendship with them grows every reunion. We especially want to thank Steve Ball, Allyn Burrows and Tina Packer for their enduring friendship to the LSAA.

Masters in attendance e were Mr. Selkowitz, Mr. Rieffel, Mr. Kline; and representing masters and faculty were - Dave Curry and his wife Sandy, Garth Lapointe, Marion Rutledge, Tom Lowry, Katherine Putnam Bennett, Eugenie Fawcett and son James, Kris and Don Warfield (the Wells family), and Romi Whitman.

There was a poignant session after the luncheon remembering and celebrating the life of NoI Putnam, which was spearheaded by Bruce Clarkin '65.

These reunions just get better and better each year, and we're looking forward to the next one! You're really missing something special if you miss these!

Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

I'll close by wishing everyone a joyful and peaceful holiday period, and reminding you of the following -

### 18 - 19 October 2024 - Save the Date.

Don't miss this next one; or we'll not only put you on work squad, we'll have you run (well, maybe walk) the circle as well!

Bob

Bob

Treasurer's Report

Reunion weekend produced a nice mix of good weather, friends, food, golf, and generous financial contributions, which significantly enhanced our treasury. After a post-reunion transfer of \$12,000 to our legacy fund at Berkshire Taconic, and after the payment of all our reunion-related expenses, the administrative fund looks like this:

 Checking
 Account #....1592
 \$ 6,314.98

 Savings
 Account #....9324
 8,260.62

 Total
 \$14,575.60

The accounts are held at the Community Bank in Barre, Vermont, where Bob Sansone and I are the authorized signatories. Our administrative fund is in great shape. Therefore, I would encourage anyone so inclined, to make a tax-deductible contribution to the LSAA Legacy Fund at Berkshire Taconic Community Fund (800 N. Main St., Sheffield MA 01257).

Since many of us have reached the age where annual mandatory withdrawals are required from retirement funds, please think about sending some of those funds directly to Berkshire Taconic. You should discuss the details of a direct transfer with your retirement fund manager. It's really easy to arrange, and every little bit helps.

Best wishes to all for the holidays and for 2024!

Hope to see you all in Lenox next October!

Edward A. Miller, Jr. '66 LSAA Treasurer November 13, 2023 6130 N. Via del Tecaco Tucson AZ 85718 (520) 354-2664 (until May 2024)

### Letters to the Editor

Katharine Putnam Bennett [Nol Putnam's niece] writes:

Finally, an update on plans for Nol's celebration of life. It's taken a while for everything to settle out a bit pragmatically and emotionally; not just for ourselves, but for many people, and so the general census was to wait a bit. However, a few weeks ago, as I was sitting in my perennial garden on the bench Nol gave me, I felt that it was time for him to be properly celebrated. And so, I'm taking the plunge -- for Nol! In addition, attending the remembrance for Nol at the reunion was heartwarming and uplifting and that too helped us to transition to making plans for his full blown celebration of life. So thank you for that!

We've been able to figure out the two cornerstones:

Date: Saturday, June 8

Location: Wakefield Country Day School, Huntly, VA

So, now we are getting the word out about the date and location and hoping that there will be a ripple effect, and that the info will spread far and wide! Please share in whatever manner you feel appropriate as a *Save the Date* announcement.

Many details remain to be worked out of course, but it will be approximately 2–5 p.m. There will be a structured formal-ish service with an officiant, designated speakers, and some of Nol's favorite poetry and music. This will be followed by a reception with nibble food and beverages. There will also be an exhibit covering the entire span of Nol's blacksmithing career, a slide show with photographs spanning his entire life (going to be a big slide show!), a designated time when guests who wish to speak may do so, and of course time for everyone to socialize and reminisce.

We hope that as many as possible can make it! Please spread the word! We have quite a large venue because we have no idea how many people will come, but it could be a lot! Also, feel free to get back to me with any specific questions and I'll do my best to answer them or point you in the right direction.

Thanks so much,

Kathy and Alex

### Other News

### Minutes of the Lenox School Alumni Association Meeting October 14, 2023

### **UPDATE FROM SHAKESPEARE & CO**

Allyn Burrows gave an update on the programs being offered by S&Co and the upcoming programs. He also informed us about the condition and plans for the physical plant. A new outdoor theater has been built in the area of the former Monks Hall, which was demolished. Plans are in the works to improve South Cottage and the infirmary. Future plans still include rehabbing St. Martin's, the Field House, and the Library as money become available. Each project involves millions of dollars. They have also inherited the house built on the old soccer field.

### **UPDATE ON FINANCES**

Ed Miller reports \$27,276.14 as of this meeting. This is more money than we have ever had in the administration account. There are also pledges collected and due in the future for the Berkshire Taconic Fund.

Donations: Trinity Church, \$2500; S&Co, \$2500; Miss Hall's School, \$2500; and Christ School, \$1000

(The Treasurer's report is in this issue of the Pen and Scroll.)

### **UPDATE ON SCHOLARSHIPS**

Bob Sansone and Paul Denzel reviewed the scholarship ceremony at Miss Hall's School and invited everyone to join the presentation. Questions included a volunteer component associated with the scholarships. And just as work was required from all of us at Lenox, so too is community service required from students at Miss Hall's.

### UPDATE ON THE LEGACY FUND.

### David Nathans – Review of where we are today

Currently, we have more than 40 gifts at Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF) totaling \$245,000. There is an additional \$85,000 in pledges due between now and Re-

unions 2026. That totals \$330,000 or 55% of our \$600,000 goal. Our balance as of September 30, 2023, including investment gains, is \$265,000.

The fund is at 55% of the goal as of this reunion. To date, \$205K has been collected and another \$110K is pledged.

A more detailed account of the BTCF is in the current Pen and Scroll.

### Jeff Smith - ABC Program

(From the August 2023 P&S)

The Legacy Fund Campaign Planning Committee continues to look for additional historically relevant associations that will provide significant impact long into the future. In doing so, it continues the process of due diligence on expanding our potential beneficiary group to include the independent and national scholarship organization known as ABC (A Better Chance).

ABC was an early leader in identifying students of color, with academic potential and financial need, and in preparing them for success at private secondary schools. It remains among the country's leading organizations in the diversity scholarship arena. Many know that Lenox School had an active partnership with ABC in the 1960s and through the school's closing in 1971. Indeed, several Lenox graduates came to Lenox through the ABC program and so it may be appropriate for this partnership to be revived.

### Joe Baker – Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

Joe Baker (BTCF) reviewed the Legacy fund, how we fit in, and where we are. He centered on the ways we partner with other organizations and how this fits into the BTCF model. For a more detailed look at BTCF, please refer to their Website: https://berkshiretaconic.org/

Many asked about the cost of working with BTCF, where gifts would go, additional costs, etc. The bottom line was we pay a fee for BTCF help but no additional fees are added as money is added. When LSAA active reunions and ongoing operations cease, the few LSAA remaining expenses (not including our gifts and scholarships) will primarily be our Website and Pen and Scroll. These are now paid by our current administrative account and will be handled by BTCF when the LSAA ceases activities.

### **UPDATE ON WEBSITE**

Kieth Simpson reported the updates to the Website and the integration of the Website and the archive. Most importantly, a migration is planned of the present Website to a platform that will support the Website in the future. Keith demonstrated his beta version for searches that will be available to all alumni.

### **BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS**

The following individuals, per LSAA by-laws, have offered their continued service through 2024 on the LSAA board:

David Curry '65
Paul Denzel '67
Bob Sansone '68
John Schneiter '68
David Nathans '68
Don Foster '63
Fred Lavenberg '70
Jeff Smith '70
Les Calley (67)
Randy Harris '68
Oliver Kempton '70
John Risley '67

Ira Colby '67

Motion to approve offered by Ed Miller and seconded by John Schneiter. There was no discussion. All voted in favor.

The following individuals, per LSAA by-laws, are standing for re-election to serve as officers for the LSAA board for a 1-year term (expiring on Oct 19 2024):

Bob Sansone '68 – President Paul Denzel '67 – Vice President Ed Miller '66 – Treasurer\* Fred Lavenberg '70 – Secretary

Motion to approve offered by Ed Miller and seconded by John Schneiter. There was no discussion. All voted in favor.

### **1st LSAA ANNUAL SKI DAY**

The first annual LSAA Ski Day was held at Okemo last winter. John Risley, Ira Colby, and Fred Lavenberg had a great ski day. We'd like to have another one this year, open to all alumni, spouses, and friends. We're thinking of trying to get to New Hampshire; it will be announced in the Pen and Scroll. It's a fluid thing because of ski conditions. We are considering getting together the evening before and then skiing the next day; we're open to suggestions. Hopefully, we'll hear from people. You can contact me, John Risley, or Ira Colby.

My email is: FredLavenberg@gmail.com.

~ Submitted by Fred Lavenberg, Secretary

### The Lenox School Centennial Legacy Fund

Our Centennial Legacy Fund honors the School's tradition of service to others and is accepting contributions through Reunions 2026 and the 100th Anniversary of its founding. Since the October 2021 launch, the Legacy Fund has nearly \$364,129 in gifts and pledges or 61% of our \$600,000 goal.

Specifically, the Legacy Fund Mission Statement reads: 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 wellbeing of people in other countries, coupled with a record of achievement in academics or athletics, may be recognized. The Lenox Fund allows 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.

The Lenox School Legacy Fund intends to follow in the tradition of the LSAA current giving pattern in providing financial support for two-students annually at Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield, for Trinity Episcopal Church, and for Shakespeare and Company, both of Lenox. These have been among the LSAA's core beneficiaries for more than 20 years. At Reunions 2023, the assembled LSAA members heard about some exciting news of a potential additional beneficiary. Please see the Update below for more details.

Upon completion in 2026, The Legacy Fund will also support the on-going maintenance of the website containing the history, important documents, and memorabilia of Lenox School.

### A Legacy Fund Campaign Update

The Legacy Fund Campaign Planning Committee reported at the Reunion's 2023 annual business meeting about their productive on-going conversations with ABC (A Better Chance), an independent national scholarship group. For 60 years, ABC has placed high-performing students of color into the nation's leadership pipeline through increased access to top independent boarding, day, and public secondary schools. Jeff Smith '70 and John Risley '67 presented to LSAA members on the progress they have made with ABC senior management. Particularly exciting is a proposed collaboration celebrating the fact that Lenox School was among the earliest partners with ABC. Many of our classmates of color, both Black and native American, from 1963 until closing in 1971, were identified, nurtured, and placed

at Lenox through ABC. ABC has continued to expand its reach in the years since Lenox closed and is now a national leader in helping create the types of private school communities that Reverend Curry envisioned and celebrated at Lenox.

Earlier positive feedback from the LSAA Board regarding an ABC partnership was confirmed by the incredibly supportive comments at the Reunions 2023 business meeting. There are details still to work out as to how the Lenox School Legacy Fund might support ABC, but the energy and excitement became very real with an immediate \$7,500 Legacy Fund pledge encouraging the ABC relationship. Since the Reunion meeting, we can report that an additional \$12,500 in pledges are being formalized. The partnership has tremendous potential to help ABC meet a valued mission while building the Legacy Fund to reach our \$600,000 goal by Reunions 2026.

Reporting on the numbers, as of November 13, 2023, more than 40 donors have contributed \$270,629 to our Legacy fund at the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation (BTCF). This is a significant increase of \$27,500 over July 2023. Adding this to the \$93,500 in outstanding pledges promised over the next three-plus years gives us a total of \$364,129. With 61% of our \$600,000 Legacy Fund goal in gifts and pledges, we remain confident that the campaign will be a success. Please know that an additional single planned bequest (made via will) of \$50,000 is not included in these totals. We continue to be very pleased with the generosity of Lenox School alumni, faculty, family, and friends. In conclusion, the BTCF Legacy Fund had an appreciated balance of \$287,405 as of September 2023 month-end.

On challenge gifts, the Class of 1967 recently closed a successful \$20,000 challenge established in October 2021. The Classes of 1970 and 1971 have a \$20,000 challenge still available with no specific end date. With a one-to-one match, this challenge is to encourage all classmates to contribute and/or pledge to the Legacy Fund.

For any questions or additional information about ABC or the '70-'71 challenge match opportunity, please contact either John Risley '67 (413-531-7755 or jrisley2@comcast. net) or Jeff Smith '70 (917-494-5341 or jeffasmith230@aol. com).

The Centennial Legacy Campaign was launched at the 2021 reunion and is active and ongoing until Reunion 2026. There is still plenty of time to plan, to give, and to pledge.

Please consider supporting the mission of Lenox School for generations to come by giving to the Centennial Legacy Fund Campaign.

### Ways to Give to the Lenox School Legacy Fund

Our Legacy Campaign fund manager and administrator is the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation in Sheffield, MA. BTCF's main number is 413-229-0370. Kara Mikulich (kmikulich@berkshiretaconic.org) or Kelly Sweet (ksweet@ berkshiretaconic.org) are very responsive to any questions and helpful to assist in any contribution transactions.

**Giving By Check:** Please make your check out to "Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation" and write "Lenox School Centennial Legacy Fund" on the memo line. Mail the check to: Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, 800 North Main Street, Sheffield, MA 01257.

Online Gifts: To make an online gift with a credit card, use the following link: https://berkshiretaconic.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit\_id=1676

Cash/Stock/IRA Gifts/Bequests and Other Planned Gifts: To wire a gift of cash, appreciated securities, or a required minimum distribution from a retirement account, please contact Kelly Sweet, Community Engagement Officer at BTCF. Kelly is also the person to contact for help with bequests or other planned and deferred gifts. Kelly can be reached directly at 413-717-7036 or at ksweet@berkshiretaconic.org.

Again, many thanks in advance to those who have made gifts or pledges and to the many others who are considering doing so.

~ David Nathans '68, on behalf of the Legacy Campaign Planning Committee

Dear Bub,

On behalf of the Congregation and Vertry of Truity Church, thanh you for the generous donation made by the Alumni Association of the Lenon School for Boys. We at Trinity remain provide of our shorel history with your school. The many players and pictures that adam our compus curince our past, present, and Patrice partnership remembering the legacy of the Students and faculty. This gift, along with many others over the years, will help keep Trinity's place as the gatemay to Lenox secure. I hope that we can continue to support each other, especially as the 2006 centenial approaches. Until them, all the best to you and your fellow classmates.

Regards,

Jake Puliston - Senior Warden

Trinity Episcopal Church

88 Walker St.

Lenox, MA 01040

Editor's note: We recently learned of an interesting blog post, written by Dr. Chad M. Krouse at Virginia Commonwealth University, that explores his interest in and studies of heraldry. This piece specifically discusses **Pierre de**Chaignon la Rose's (1872-1941) development of shield designs used by three notable Episcopal preparatory schools, one of which is our own Lenox School. Dr. Krouse gave permission to reprint his work in the Pen and Scroll.

### A Case Study of La Rose's Designs for Episcopal Preparatory Schools

by Dr. Chad M. Krouse



The Pen and Scroll, the student newspaper of Lenox School which prominently features the arms of the school.

Throughout the heraldic work of **Pierre de Chaignon la Rose** (1872-1941) there exists many categories defining his corporate heraldry: diocesan heraldry for the Episcopal Church, Roman Catholic diocesan and archdiocesan heraldry, heraldry for Roman Catholic religious communities, and scholastic heraldry to name but a few. Within the category of scholastic heraldry there are multiple subcategories, and perhaps one of the smallest of those categories would be la Rose's corporate heraldry for Episcopal preparatory schools.

For this article, I will focus on three corporate coats la Rose designed for Episcopal preparatory schools found in New England, namely Lenox School, St. Paul's School, and St. George's School. While this subcategory is rather small when compared to the overall volume of designs la Rose created within scholastic heraldry, these three coats showcase the brilliance of his methods and techniques for new corporate arms. Moreover, I fully suspect there are more schools which fall into this category--especially Episcopal schools which have closed in the mid-to-late 1900s--and more research will be needed to uncover any additional arms.

Established in 1926, Lenox School was the visionary work of **The Rev. George Gardiner Monks** (1878-1978) to offer, "at moderate cost, a good secondary education with distinctly Christian emphasis" (Lenox School, 1933, 4). By 1972, the school located in Lenox, Massachusetts would close due to a variety of enrollment and financial factors (Lenox School Alumni Association, 2014).

The seal and arms of Lenox School designed by Pierre de Chaignon la Rose in 1930-1931. Image is from Lenox School (1937).



Between 1930-1931, la Rose was commissioned by Lenox School to create a seal and coat of arms.

On Monday, November 10, 1930--the eve of the Feast of St. Martin of Tours--**The Rev. Latta Griswold** (1876-1931) delivered a sermon in Trinity Church, Lenox and offered this description for the school's newly adopted motto for the coat of arms:

"At their recent meeting the Headmaster and Trustees of Lenox School placed this school under the patronage of St. Martin of Tours. A diligent search of the kalendar would fail to find a saint more fitting to be a patron of a school of the character and ideals of Lenox.

"The Trustees adopted a motto and planned for a coat of arms. The motto is the Latin version of part of the text chosen for this sermon [Matthew 20:28]--Non ministrare sed ministrare. The Latin translation gives us a pleasant play upon words, for ministrare and ministrari, are spelled exactly the same...(Griswold, 1930, 1).

According to Lenox School Alumni Association (2014), la Rose was asked to provide two sketches of designs for consideration. Unfortunately, there is no data regarding the first sketch, but the second rendering was the adopted version seen above (Lenox School Alumni Association, 2014, 20).

Arms of Lennox, Image source: Wikipedia.

For the arms of Lenox School, la Rose retained the use of an open, inscribed book bearing the Vulgate version of Matthew 20:28, and translated in the NRSV version as, "Just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

Because the Town of Lenox was named for His Grace Charles Lennox (1735-1806), 3rd Duke of Richmond and Lennox, la Rose would draw inspiration from the duke's arms (Lenox School Alumni Association, 2014, 20). As a reference, the Lennox arms are blazoned: Argent a saltire engrailed gules between as many roses barbed and seeded proper.

La Rose would use the cross saltire, though not its engrailed version, and render it in gold upon a black field between three roses. To honor the patron saint of the school, St. Martin of Tours, la Rose placed a martin in chief.

The blazon for the Lenox School coat of arms: Sable, on a cross saltire or an open book edged of the second thereon inscribed NON MINISTRARI SED MINISTRARE between as many roses barbed and seeded with a martin in chief all or.

One limitation regarding the arms of Lenox School is that due to school's closure in 1972, the archives have been scattered, or even worse, lost altogether. It has proven impossible to uncover either the initial design sketch la Rose proposed, or a colored emblazonment of the adopted version rendered by la Rose--there are several drawn



The arms of St. Paul's School located in Concord, New Hampshire and designed by la Rose in 1931.
Image source: Wikipedia.

examples which do not match la Rose's careful hand. I am grateful for the Lenox School Alumni Association's ongoing work to collect, archive, and share the rich history of Lenox School.

St. Paul's School, an Episcopal-affiliated preparatory school located in Concord, New Hampshire, opened its doors in 1856 (Heckscher, 1980). By 1928, **Ralph Adams Cram** (1863-1942), the father of "collegiate gothic," was enlisted to renovate the school's chapel, and undoubtedly this commission would draft la Rose's heraldic skills for the school (Heckscher, 1980, 217-218).

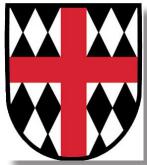
Lenox, Massachusetts 01240

Designed in 1931, la Rose would do something quite different for the arms of St. Paul's School (D. Parsi, personal communication, August 8, 2023). We know la Rose's preference for using the book as a charge on scholastic arms, and I have numerous examples in my data of the book rendered as an open and inscribed charge; however, for St. Paul's arms, la Rose decidedly used a closed book. Through the arms of St. Paul's School, we have the first and only known example of la Rose employing a closed book on a scholastic coat. It is likely, as in the case of Lenox School, that la Rose provided two sketches for the school's consideration but no other sketches could be found in the school's archive collections.

The two swords in saltire are a clear reference to the school's patron and namesake. Including the "pelican in her piety" charge in these arms represents the broad Anglican tradition of inclusion which the school embodies (Anderson, 1999, 81). These arms are still used today by the school.

The arms for St. Paul's School is blazoned: "gules, two swords in saltire argent hilted or between in chief a pelican in her piety and in base a closed book of the last" (Anderson, 1999, 81)

The arms of St. George's School located in Middletown, Rhode Island and designed by la Rose in 1939. Image source: Wikipedia.



St. George's School is the third and final coat of arms designed by la Rose for Episcopal preparatory schools in New England, and perhaps my personal favorite within this subcategory. Founded in 1896 by the **The Rev. John Byron Diman** (1863-1949), St. George's School was to be located in Middletown, Rhode Island and established as a preparatory school for boys (Taverner, 1987).



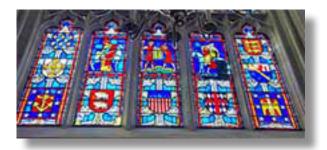
The flag of arms of St. George's Schooldesigned by la Rose. Image is courtesy of the Archives of St. George's School, August 2023.



Interestingly enough, Diman would resign from St. George's and received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1917, where he would later become a professed monk in the Benedictine Order and establish the Portsmouth Priory School (now Portsmouth Abbey School) in Portsmouth, Rhode Island (Taverner, 1987, 63).

According to Taverner (1987), Diman changed his name to Father Hugh Diman, and was deeply conflicted about opening a new school so close to St. George's but did so out of obedience to his vows (65). La Rose would also design the arms for both Portsmouth Abbey and its school.

Fortunately the archives of St. George's School has a bounty of information concerning the school's beautiful and simplistic arms. Just as Cram was commissioned to work on the chapel at St. Paul's School, Cram was hired in 1924 to create a design for the chapel on the campus of St. George's School (Taverner, 1987).



Bottom portion of the "Chivalry Window" inside the chapel of St. George's School. Image is courtesy of the Archives of St. George's School, August 2023.

La Rose provided two design sketches for St. George's School. In St. George's design #1, la Rose proposed: argent, on a sun in splendor gules, an open book edged with two clasps or thereon inscribed VERITAS. This design is simple and elegant, but somehow missed the mark for the school, as they selected his second design for adoption.

St. George's Design #1 created by la Rose for St. George's School. This design was not adopted by the school. Image is courtesy of the Archives of St. George's School, August 2023.



For the adopted design, the arms of St. George's School is blazoned: "lozengy sable and argent, a cross of St. George gules" (St. George's Alumni Association, 1939, 9). La Rose's second design combines two elements together in a striking way to clearly identify the owner of these corporate arms.



Two carved shields above the south portico inside St. George's Chapel. *Image is courtesy of the* Archives of St. George's School, August 2023.

Through the arms of St. George's School, we see how brilliantly la Rose used the lozengy as a play on diamonds and the surname Diman--the school's founder.

The red cross of St. George is made clear for identification. When combined on the field, the lozenges and red cross simply create a visual aesthetic unmatched by any other of la Rose's designs--especially when these arms are rendered as a flag.

The arms of St. George's School can be found in the "Chivalry Window" inside St. George's Chapel as seen above, and carved into limestone above the south portico. Above the south portico are two shields, both designed by la Rose.

The shield on the left shows the impaled arms of The Rt. Rev. James DeWolf Perry (1871-1947), seventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island and later elected Presiding Bishop. La Rose designed the arms for the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island in 1905 (The Churchman, 1905 May 27, 809). The blazon for the arms of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island is: azure, on an anchor argent our Lord upon the cross proper. The shield on the right is that of St. George's School.

Scholastic heraldry represents a major portion of la Rose's heraldic portfolio. In the examples of his work for Lenox School, St. Paul's School, and St. George's School, la Rose

Banner of arms of St. George's School designed by la Rose. Image is courtesy of the Archives of St. George's School, August 2023.



used a different design technique for each coat of arms to create clear and simplistic arms for each school. Moreover, we see how la Rose evolved regarding the use of his favorite charge for scholastic corporate coats--the open and inscribed book. If Lenox School represents the traditional "la Rosian" approach for incorporating an open and inscribed book, then the arms of St. Paul's School illustrates la Rose's singular design for a closed book.

The arms of St. Paul's School represents the only design where la Rose employed the closed book on a scholastic coat. While la Rose initially proposed an open and inscribed book for the arms of St. George's School, the adopted arms for the school would not have a book at all incorporated into the design--and thankfully so given the visual delight of the final design.

La Rose's capacity for capturing the history and spirit of the institutions he rendered arms for is a testament to his deep knowledge of the art and science of heraldry. While Lenox School is no more, the arms for St. Paul's School have now been in use for 92 years, and those of St. George's for 84 years. That these important academic institutions still proudly bear these coats of arms designed by la Rose so long ago, underscores the power of perspicuous heraldry to survive in an age of branding and marketing. There is no doubt that countless generations of alumni from all three schools proudly claim these arms of their alma maters.

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~ Dr. Chad M. Krouse

Editor's note: While doing research, my archivist wife happened upon the following four articles from The Berkshire Eagle, circa 1929-1930. These might interest P&S readers.

### LENOX SCHOOL GETS \$50,000 LEGACY

LENOX, Feb. 17—William Armory Gardner, who died in Boston about a week ago left a legacy of \$50,000 to the Lenox School for Boys according to his will which has been filed for probate. The local institution is rapidly becoming one of the most prominent Episcopalian boys' schools in the state and its growth is an anticipation of the future.

Source: The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, February 17, 1930

### Lenox School for Boys

Lenox school, the Episcopal boys' boarding school in the town of Lenox. opened in the fall of 1926 closes its third season with an enrollment of over 60 students, having grown onethird since its first year's enrollment of 40. The school is located on the estate formerly owned by the late F. A. Huntress of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, almost opposite Trinity church. The property includes the \$50,000, 40-acre place of Frank E. Sturgis, former governor of the New York stock exchange, who gave Clipston Grange to the school in July, 1927, the villa being used as the house of the headmaster.

Lenox school was established under authorization of the Episcopal province of New England to make possible a good secondary education at moderate cost. It is conducted on the basis of simplicity and self help. As in many mid-western co-educational colleges, the boys wait on table, take care of the rooms and do all necessary work in connection with the school save the laundry and the kitchen.

The idea of founding such a school originated with a committee appointed by the synod of the province of New England in 1922. The work was brought to completion under the Rev. William G. Thayer, headmaster of St. Mark's school in Southboro, whose report was accepted by the synod in 1924, and at the same time a resclution was passed, authorizing the committee to proceed with plans for the school. Dr. Thayer was made chairman of the trustees, the others being Rev. Latta Griswold of Lenox and George S. Barton of Worcester, Rev. G. Gardner Monks of Worcester was made headmaster.

Lenox itself has warmly supported the school, contributing considerable toward its support and the gifts of buildings and property by former Lenox residents have been little short of magnificent.

> Source: The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, June 22, 1929, page 3

### Miss Hall's School

One of the few finishing and preparatory school in this section of the country is Miss Mira H. Hall's school on Holmes road. The only other such institution in Berkshire county is the Barrington School for Girls in Great Barrington.

Miss Hall has conducted a school for girls since 1898 when she opened in a brick building at the north corner of Reed and South streets with a day and boarding school for girls. The building had housed a boys' boarding school from 1826 to 1852 and a girls' school until 1898 which had been directed by Miss Mary E. Salisbury. In 1899 an additional house on Reed street was rented by Miss Hall and the following year she moved the school to Elimwood, the former home of Edward Learned.

Nine years afterwards Miss Hall purchased the house and property once occupied by Colonel Walter Cutting on Holmes road and reopened her school there in the fall of 1909. The main building was destroyed by fire in February, 1923, and while the new school was being built, sessions were held in the Curtis hotel in Lenox.

At the present time the school is housed in one large red brick building of Georgian-Colonial type of architecture and a recent addition of similar structure which includes a recreational hall and gymnasium with all modern equipment. There are four floors in the main section with a total of 110 rooms.

Since the erection of the new building the enrollment each year has exceeded 100 and has included girls from all parts of the United States as well as other sections of the world. This year a class of 19 was graduated, the exercises being held for the first time in the new auditorium opened last fall.

Miss Hall's school is one of the finest educational institutions in this section and rates very high among preparatory schools of this country.

> Source: The Berkshire Eagle, Saturday, June 22, 1929, page 3

# Lenox LENOX SCHOOL TO GRADUATE 11 BOYS

## Exercises Take Place in Thayer Hall Friday Morning

LENOX, June 9.-Graduation exercises for Lenox school will take place on Thursday and Friday of this week. Eleven boys will be graduated: Frederic Crosby Bartter, Baguio, P. I.; George Crosby Bartter, Bagulo, P. I.; James Eldredge Grainger, Easthampton, N. Y.; Llewelly., Hall Hubbard. Brookline; John Chandler Melville, Hartford, Conn.; John Hollis Packard Milton: William Francis White Plains, N. Y.; Jean Penvenne. Lenox; John Mason Little III, Brookline; John Steward Slosson, Pittsford. Vt., and William Evarts Tracy, Concord...

On Thursday, June 12, at 4 o'clock, in Sedgwick hall, the school dramatic club, will present a one-act play, members of the second and third forms will give selected parts of Shakespeare's "Henry IV," and the school glee club will give a concert. This program will be followed at Thayer hall by a tea at which the parents of the boys and guests of the school will be entertained.

The graduation exercises proper will be held in Thayer hall on Friday morning at 10 o'clock. The chief speaker will be the Rev. Dr. William G. Thayer of St. Mark's school, the founder of Lenox school, and president of the board of trustees. The valedictory will be delivered for the sixth form by John Mason Little, 3rd. Diplomas and prizes will be awarded by the headmaster.

Baccalaureate services for Lenox school were held at Trinity church yesterday, the sermon being preached by the Rev. George Gardner Monks. The service was sung by the Lenox Glee club, assisted by the men of the parish choir.

The headmaster has announced the following prefects for next year: George Starr Scofield fo Geneseo, N. Y., (senior), John Otis Thayer of Southborough, Richard Barber Tillinghast of Sharon, Conn., and Standish Van Voorhis of Boston. These were installed on the evening of May 25, and took over immediately their duties from the retiring prefects.

The following have been awarded baseball letters: W. F. Payson (captain), W. E. Tracy, G. S. Scofield, J. O. Thayer, G. I. Willis, J. S. D. Cooper, F. C. Downing, Jr., R. A. Ferrera, R. J. Tracy and J. E. Grainger (manager).

Work is being started on a new wing for the school infirmary and an addition in the rear of South cottage for a married master.

The first graduating class, June, 1930 (Friday the thirteenth)

Source: The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, June 9, 1930, page 14

### **LSAA SKIERS UNITE**

For anyone interested in an LSAA ski day this season...

Please contact Fred Lavenberg: Fredlavenberg@gmail.com.

Dates are flexible depending on ski conditions.

Site is fluid -- more details to come. Spouses, family members, and friends, all invited to join in the festivities.



## Characteristics Of A Church School According To Mr. Monks and Mr. Curry

Note. There always seems to be a great deal of discussion about just what factors classify a school to be referred to as a Church School. Though I am not qualified to offer the definitive answer on the matter, a reading of some of the Founders,' Trustees,' and Headmasters' thoughts on the matter provide several characteristics that should be considered when attempting to define this term. Ultimately, what description to accept remains a personal decision and though many may feel strongly about the term, it is without a right or wrong answer, since it has no official legal meaning or religious status, except in the mind of the person concerned with the classification. RH

### **Church School Characteristics**

It appears that there are at least four characteristics that should be considered in classifying a school as a Church School. First, is the degree of involvement that a parent church has in the founding of the school; in establishing its goal, purpose and principles; and in the degree of feedback and involvement in the operation of the school that it retains; even though all such schools are independent non-profit corporations in the State in which they are located. The three remaining factors are how the school chooses to deal with three matters related to religion. One is the degree of mandatory formal and voluntary formal and informal worship opportunities that are required or available to the students. Another is the purpose of any Sacred Studies instruction that's integrated into the mandatory curriculum. And finally is the degree that Christian Character and values are integrated into and manifested in the daily life of the school community.

### **Points of Confusion**

Some degree of confusion seems to be added into any analysis of what makes a Church School by the fact that many contend that a Christian character and its values may be adopted by and be beneficial in the lives of non-Christians as well as Christians, without making these people Christians. It also seems that some believe that being classified as a Church School means that only members of that school's associated faith or denomination may be admitted to the school or have any role to play in its oversight, operation and faculty. Some also believe that if students of another faith or denomination are admitted to such a school that the school has an obligation to attempt to convert them to its particular denomination or faith.

### The Need for Lenox School

The need for Lenox School was established after a national study conducted by Dr. William G. Thayer D.D. the noted educator and long-time Headmaster of St. Mark's School in Southborough, Massachusetts found that the Episcopal Church was not meeting all the needs of its parishioners in New England because there was no school providing a good secondary education at a tuition well below that of most of the longer established Church Schools that was suitable for working-class professional families, thus forcing them to attend non-Episcopal schools.

"Mr. Thayer believed that such a school need not sacrifice on such essentials as food, health and instruction, but could maintain high standards and pay its way from tuitions received. He feared the growing elaborateness of education, and believed that a simpler, more immediately personal organization could offer a number of positive advantages. At his suggestion, the First Province of New England in 1926 authorized the founding of Lenox School and assured it of its moral support."

### **Oversight**

In order to maintain the proper focus on the school, in accordance with the Episcopal Church's values, Mr. Thayer was directed to be the first President of the new school's Board of Trustees, and he selected one of his protégés, The Reverend G. Gardner Monks to be its first headmaster. He had observed Mr. Monks as a student at St. Mark's; sent him to England to study the school system there; and put him in charge of St. Mark's Brantwood Summer Camp for three successive summers to hone his leadership skills. Additionally, the Bishop of the Diocese of Western Massa-

chusetts would always be a Trustee of the School and the School's Headmaster would report annually in writing to the Synod of the First Province on its status. Twenty years later, the Reverend Robert L. Curry, a protégé of Bishop William Appleton Lawrence, Bishop of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts was appointed the school's second headmaster. He remarked at the time that "parents had found distinct advantages in a small and intimate school with a firm emphasis on worship and on the religious factor of her curriculum bore witness to their conviction of the importance of spiritual values in the life of an educated man. They have shared the belief that there is no technique of education that will serve as a substitute for a group of boys in the close association of an able teacher."

### The All-Embracing Goal, Purpose And Principles

"The all-embracing goal which was set at Lenox was the development of Christian Character. To this end all aspects of school life must be made to contribute and any practices at variance with this ideal must be checked and corrected." [Secondary objectives are useful in making the goal more concrete and tangible. Insofar as these implement the development of Christian Character in the actual living of the school, we accept them gladly [e.g. Christian, moderate tuition, academic excellence, gambling on boys with potential, and a focus on service], but we part company with them whenever they implicitly become an end in themselves, and usurp the central place.

As a College Preparatory School, "we strive to impart a mastering of such skills and information as may be necessary to clear the hurdles of college entrance...We believe however that education goes far beyond this suggestive, but narrow definition and teach the skills necessary" to be a responsible member of society; to lead a successful and happy life; to learn that true richness of life is only to be found through giving; and to gain a sense of his place in the eternal picture..."

"Therefore, a respect for personality, kindliness, understanding, and helpful and sympathetic self-giving are seen to be valued even more highly and widely than the ability to write a first rate examination, or to catch a winning forward pass, these qualities will be the more likely to reappear in others. The demonstration that Christian character may flourish, is the goal to which Lenox is dedicated."

### Worship

In regards to worship, Mr. Monks believed that a student should be taught the importance of worship and learn their

own style of making it meaningful. He stated "We believe in the long run more good is done by offering wide voluntary opportunities than by requiring attendance at a large number of services..." Voluntary opportunities exist for specialized church services and even for services directed entirely by students, who are often listened to more closely than are the clergy. Additionally, there are widespread opportunities for a variety of civic services and outreach initiatives that demonstrate a boy's faith in the local and wider community. Thus, he concluded: "Genuine religion cannot be forced on a person. Anyone foolish enough to try would more likely than not succeed only in creating an aversion...Yet suitable soil can be provided so that any seed that is already present, or that later may be implanted, will be nourished in its growth."

### **Sacred Studies**

Finally, Mr. Monks addresses the informational and instructional program of courses known as Sacred Studies, courses which meet twice a week through all five years. "While religion is primarily a way of life, and as such is on a different plane from the various subjects of the academic curriculum, yet it has an intellectual foundation, best taught in the classroom. Certain facts ought to be known, regardless of what one thinks about them or does with them. Therefore, a systematic attempt is made to have the boys religiously informed, rather than illiterate." Mr. Curry added that he viewed Sacred Studies as a way to discuss and impart Christian ideals, standards, and values.

## The School's Applicability for Boys of Other Christian Denominations and Non-Christians

Mr. Monks expresses the opinion that "the atmosphere and point of view of the School is so positively Christian that a person rejecting this outlook on life would not feel entirely comfortable. I also would hope that sincere Christians whatever their ecclesiastical allegiances [denomination], would find themselves at home in the School; for while Lenox is definitely Episcopal, we welcome on an equal basis members of all denominations."

Mr. Curry supports Mr. Monks by stating that the School's emphasis was to be wholeheartedly on the building of Christian character, but made a point of stressing that admission would not be restricted to any one denomination, but open to all. "Entrance requirements made no mention of religious denomination: the opportunities of Lenox School were to be open to all, which liberal principle is still maintained." As you can infer from the previous sentence, Mr. Curry was showing early signs of his beliefs on diversity,

and when he stated "open to all, he wasn't just referring to all denominations, but to all religions as well. Apparently, this position was not shared by all within the school's and Church's hierarchy, as evidenced by his last words: "Which liberal principle is still maintained." By 1967, Mr. Curry stated clearly in his 'Miracle of Growability' yearbook message just what he had meant: "Thus we bring to Lenox all kinds of boys. They are black, yellow, red, white; they are Protestant, Catholic, Buddhist, Moslems, nothing;..."

## So, Did Dr. Thayer D.D., Mr. Monks and Mr. Curry Consider Lenox School to Be a Church School?

So there you have it, my attempt to describe the characteristics of a Church School in a very limited space, based upon the writings of the Lenox School leaders. Did Dr. Thayer D.D., Mr. Monks and Mr. Curry consider Lenox School to be a Church School? Definitely yes, because at least Mr. Monks and Mr. Curry referred to it as such in their writings. And because they believed in the same School goal, purpose and principles and the same methods of instilling Christian Character and its values in their students and for making this Character and these values, the cornerstone of life in the School Community; though they perhaps differed somewhat on style and technique; and the degree of religious diversity as it applied to the school's students.

### The Importance Of Being A Church School To One Trustee

Though certainly not a hot-topic among many today, consider the heated feelings of a Trustee in 1927 when faced with the decision to have to amend the Board's By-Laws to allow non-Episcopalians to serve on the Board, in order to allow a much needed, highly respected, but non-Episcopalian Treasurer to serve as an officer.

"We feel most strongly that it would be inadvisable to admit non-Episcopalians to the Board of Trustees of Lenox School. Lenox School, from its very inception, was and still is a Church School. The appointment of the original committee which led to its establishment was made by the Synod of the Province of New England of the Episcopal Church and it has been the auspices of the Episcopal Church ever since. The original Trustees were elected because they were Church members. It is known at the present time as a Church School and the sums of money which have been given to accomplish its foundation and to further its progress and growth were offered and accepted on this understanding."

"We feel that the admission of non-Episcopalians to the Board would be a retreat from the established position of the School and would not be understood by most of its friends and supporters and would be a sign of lack of conviction and weakness on the part of its leaders. In other words, Lenox School is either a Church School or it is not. If there not be sufficient churchmen to choose from in order to make up the number of its Trustees, the School had better go out of business. All the arguments that might be advanced about broadmindedness and expediency seem to us to be futile..."

~ Randy Harris

# What Happened When Old Man Winter Got Delayed Winter Activities at Lenox School Without Ice and Snow

Note. All Lenox School students come to learn how variable the weather could be in the Berkshires. Though on the average, seasonable weather could be expected, perhaps a little colder in the fall; with healthy amounts of snow and thick ice in the winter; and lingering cold and wet weather in the spring. But sometimes the onset of winter was delayed for prolonged periods resulting in no ice or snow, when it would normally be expected. Consequently, outdoor winter sports [Hockey] and normal winter recreational activities such as Skiing and skating were precluded. Outlined below are what steps the masters took to deal with student boredom and to provide exercise opportunities in a new school with limited facilities, when there was no ice or snow. RH

In the early 1930s, organized winter team sports were limited to Hockey. The school wouldn't field a formal Ski Team until 1938 and there was no gymnasium to play basketball in or compete in other indoor team sports or exercise until 1950. A basketball team was formed in 1934-1935, but had to share smaller than normal indoor courts at the Brotherhood and the Town Hall Annex in Lenox. Additionally, mandatory participation in a team-sport each and every season was not yet required and students were allowed to develop their own exercise programs, while Mr. Monks favored frequent 'Hare and Hound' races that usually extended beyond the campus's borders. Though the early winter weather was often warmer than normal, it was usually cold and wet enough to keep boys inside.

Compounding difficulties was the fact that at this time of year, there was a real threat of several highly contagious diseases whose primary treatment was isolation and time

to heal. Several outbreaks had occurred on campus in the School's first years and consequently, as a precaution, students were often quarantined on campus for most of the winter, restricted from going off campus except for scheduled school events.

Regarding on-campus facilities, the only available 'indoor' space suitable for physical activity was a large barn, adjacent to and slightly behind South Cottage. It was used for parking cars; sporadic organized group exercise sessions; and even once, an attempt to create a make-shift 'commons room' by adding a wood-burning stove and some furniture. However for unknown reasons, but probably involving structural weakness, Mr. Monks tore the barn down in the mid-1930s. That left the Dining Hall in Thayer Hall as the last large indoor space, but it had been used to play ping-pong on the dinner tables and the damage to the tables from paddle-strikes was so great that it cooled any ideas about using the area for any other recreational activities.

Thus, the only other location for indoor activities was the Brotherhood in Lenox, which is now the Community Center that is located directly across Walker Street from Trinity Church. It was built in 1923 by Major George E. Turnure of the Trinity Parish as a memorial to his son who had been a fighter pilot who was killed in WWI, while serving as a member of the Lafayette Escadrille in France.

### **Tournaments**

Another method of stifling boredom was by scheduling school-wide tournaments involving various recreational activities that exercised the brain, but not the body. The only types of tournaments that the school routinely hosted were a 'ladder-type' hand-ball tournaments at the Brotherhood, between students and faculty, and a school-wide Tennis Tournament in the spring. The following article from the February 9, 1935 Pen and Scroll tells of three of the brain-exercising tournaments.

"Three tournaments have been inaugurated to help wile-away the long dull winter afternoons. Mr. Noble arranged the checker tournament where those exponents of "barn-yard golf" tried their skill. Bushnell, fresh from the back-woods of Newton, Mass. emerged the victor. Mr. Baker sponsored a contest for those more intellectual members of the student body who wished to indulge in more grueling mental exercises, chess. Nelson walked away with the

honors. Bridge, that comparatively low-brow yet fascinating game finds Mr. Swanson's disciples fighting ace to ace, trump to trump for the "Grand Prize."

### **Minor Sports**

The masters did not ignore the need for more strenuous workouts for the cooped up boys as described in this article from the March 1, 1937 Pen and Scroll. Minor sports was the name used to refer to any seasonal sport in which participation did not warrant the awarding of a Lenox Athletic Letter which was reserved for Major Sports with varsity and junior interscholastic teams.

"In the early part of the term as the hockey squad watched its rink boards slowly sink to the bottom of the pond and the ardent skiers searched in vain for a little snow, the minds of the mob naturally turned towards other pastimes. The masters helped to stimulate several of these interests by personal supervision. Mr. Clark held forth in the South Cottage barn with several pairs of gloves and demonstrated to some of the boys the ancient and honorable art of fisticuffs. Mr. Tyng took another group of boys and disappeared into the basement where a session in wrestling was held every afternoon. Mr. Noble and Mr. Hey were in charge of the bowling and the handball and some of the less exerting boys ran off a ping-pong contest of which Mr. Davis had charge."

~ Randy Harris

### Some First-Ever School Happenings As the 1930s Began

[According to the Pen & Scroll Editions: December 6, 1929, February7, 1930 and December 16, 1930]

Note. In past articles I've highlighted significant school happenings and activities in the 1940s and around the school's 25th Anniversary in 1951. This time I've provided some of the significant happenings from 1929 and 1930. Of course, 1930 was the first time that the school reached its full size of Five Forms and graduated its first class of 11 boys. Therefore, this period saw the first occurrence of some events and the creation of some new items that would go on to become traditions throughout the school's subsequent years. RH

The First 'Class Pin' is Chosen. The Fifth and Six Forms have chosen the 'class pin' for the school. The pin will probably remain the same from this time on. It is a small

octagonal shape of fourteen carat gold with a black enamel background. In the center is a gold "L" and to the upper left and lower right are the class year numerals. Some of the classes are having them made into watch chain charms, while others are retaining the pins. The Fifth and Sixth Forms are the only Forms that are allowed to have the pins. Each year the incoming Fifth Form will be allowed to order them.

For the First Time Names Are Affixed to Buildings. With this year's expansion [i.e. to Clipston Grange] and the successful completion of the Dining Hall in the stable building, it became evident that appropriate names should be given to the buildings. The Main Building will be called Griswold Hall in honor of the Reverend Latta Griswold, Rector of Trinity Church, School Trustee, and primarily responsible for locating the school in Lenox and for raising the funds to purchase its first campus. The new Dining Hall Building is called Thayer Hall in honor of the Rev. William G. Thayer, Headmaster of St. Mark's School and since the founding of Lenox School, President of the Lenox School Trustees. The 'Lenox Idea' originated in Dr. Thayer's mind and it was largely through his efforts that funds for the completion of the Dining Hall were obtained.

The First Major Athletic Awards Are Bestowed. This year for the first time since the inception of the school, one of our teams in a major sport has competed regularly with the 'First' teams of other schools. Thus, winning or losing, it is considered to be our best representative in that sport. Accordingly, the following award has been defined suitably to recognize honorable participation in any sport of senior grade. The award is to be a block chenille letter 'L', gold in color, and six inches in height. In order to avoid any implication of the superiority or inferiority of any sport or sports, the major awards for the first teams of our three main sports [Football, Hockey, and Baseball] are to be identical. These letters are to be worn on black sweaters only [amended in later years to allow it to be worn on the white cardigan sweater.] Members of the Junior Squad deserving recognition will receive a 3-inch straight felt gold 'L' with a small 's' built around the stem of the 'L'. These awards are not to be worn on black sweaters.

The Announcement of the First and Only Lenox School Coat of Arms. Mr. Pierre La Rose of Boston, who was commissioned by Mr. Monks to design a school Coat of Arms, submitted two suggested designs. The last one received was finally accepted by Mr. Monks and Mr. Griswold [it is

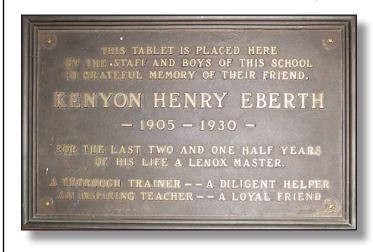
the one we are all familiar with today]. At the same time it was announced that St. Martin had been chosen as the Patron Saint of the School. [See the related article on the Coat of Arms in this edition.] The Reverend Griswold explained the meaning behind the crest's heraldry, the School's Patron Saint and the School Motto, located on the crest, in a sermon at Trinity Church shortly before St. Martin's Day in November, 1930. The key information was repeated in a P&S article in the December 16, 1930 edition.

Lenox School's First Stage Has Been Completed, and the footlights put in so that it is ready for the dramatic club production to be given next month [March 1930]. This refers to the Little Theater or Shredded Wheat Theater whose stage was located in an alcove off the Thayer Hall Dining Hall. Previously, plays had been presented in the main hallway of Griswold Hall or on the town's Sedgwick Hall stage.

The School Eagerly Awaits Its First Motion Picture Machine To Afford Amusement On Saturday Nights, One of the Mainstays of The Entertainment Program. The first "movie" is scheduled for February 8, 1930.

The School Deals With The First Death of An Active Master. Donations from members of the School have been made which are to go toward the erection of a bronze tablet to the memory of Mr. Kenyon Eberth. [He was killed on the icy Pittsfield Lenox Road while a passenger in the front seat of a car that collided with a parked truck]. The tablet hangs in Trinity Church to this day, thanks to the efforts of the Rev. R. S. S. Whitman.

~ Randy Harris



### **Trivia Questions**

Note: This edition's questions deal with the various athletic opponents that Lenox School's Interscholastic teams at all levels played against. As part of the School's Digital Archive, I'm recreating some of the information that would have been in the School's records that ha they not been lost to time and never located. Some of these records would have been from the Athletic Director's Office and identified the teams that we played against, which can tell a lot about the quality of our own teams throughout the various years. To create this roster required two tasks. The first was to identify the schools that Lenox had competed against for which I used many of the fine yellow seasonal calendars suitable for mailing, as well as our yearbooks and Pen & Scrolls. The second task was to list the available pertinent information about each opponent school including type, founding date, location, affiliation, significant history, grades available, enrollment, campus type and size, school colors, team name, and relative frequency and type of sport(s) if this was unique, for which I used various Internet sites. It was interesting that just about every independent [private] secondary school that survived went Coeducational in 1970 or 1971. Enjoy! RH

- What is the total number of different athletic opponents [private schools, public schools/clubs, and colleges/universities combined] that Lenox School played against at least once? [Note: a school is counted as an opponent only once, regardless if it played against Lenox only once or one hundred times and regardless of the level at which played: i.e. Varsity, J.V., Jr., etc.]
  - a. 42
  - b. 61
  - c. 73
  - d. 89
  - e. 107
- 2. What was the percentage of total Lenox School opponents that were: private schools, public schools/clubs, and colleges/universities?
  - a. Private 64%, public 24%, college 12%.
  - b. Private 57%, public 26%, college 17%.
  - c. Private 45%, public 44%, college 11%.
  - d. Private 52%, public 35%, college 13%.
  - e. Private 68%, public 26%, college 6%.

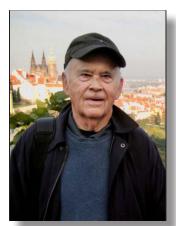
- 3. What was the percentage of Total Lenox School opponents that were located in: Massachusetts [MA], New York [NY], Connecticut [CT] and Rhode Island [RI]?
  - a. MA 56 %, NY 12%, CT 30%, RI 2%.
  - b. MA 41%, NY 33 %, CT 24%, RI 2%.
  - c. MA 48%, NY 27%, CT 23%, RI 2%.
  - d. MA 17%, NY 51%, CT 30%, RI 2%.
  - e. MA 65%, NY 16%, CT 17%, RI 2%.
- 4. Which is the correct order of the top five predominant colors in Lenox School opponents' home uniforms?
  - a. Red, Blue, Green, Purple, Orange.
  - b. Blue, Red, Purple, Black, Gold.
  - c. Orange, Blue, Red, Green, Gold.
  - d. Red, Black, Blue, Gold, Green.
- 5. Which of the following were valid team names for Lenox School opponents?
  - a. Avon Old Farms 'Winged Beavers'.
  - b. Concord Academy 'Chameleons'.
  - c. Darrow 'Ducks'.
  - d. Kent School 'Fighting Episcopalians'.
  - e. Mount Hermon 'Hoggers'.
  - f. All of the above.
- 6. Which of the following groupings of Lenox School opponent junior colleges/colleges/universities contains a college/university that Lenox School never did play?
  - a. Albany College, Hobart College, Siena College
  - b. Harvard University, Yale University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
  - c. Amherst College, Trinity College, Williams College, Union College
  - d. RPI, American International College, Berkshire Business College
- 7. Which of the following Lenox School opponents were affiliated with the Episcopal Church?
  - a. Ascension Farm Academy.
  - b. Cheshire Academy.
  - c. Hoosac School.
  - d. Kent School.
  - e. South Kent School.
  - f. Wooster School.
  - g. All of the above.

- 8. Which one of the schools listed below was the most frequent Lenox School opponent after Berkshire, Cranwell and Darrow?
  - a. Millbrook School
  - b. Munson Academy
  - c. Salisbury School
  - d. Trinity Pawling
  - e. Windsor Mountain



## Bruce Peter MacCullough '58 March 6, 1939-September 17, 2023

Bruce P., MacCullough, of Somers, NY, formerly of Bluffton, SC and Greenwich, CT, died Sunday, September 17, 2023 at Northern Westchester Hospital.



Bruce was born on March 6, 1939 in Port Chester, NY to Clifford and Elizabeth (Van Riper) MacCullough. He grew up on Argyle Road in Rye Brook, NY with his parents and older brother, Craig and next door to his aunt, uncle, and cousins, Barbara and Penny.

Bruce attended the Lenox School for Boys in Lenox, MA. He served in the U.S.

Army and was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. Bruce was proud of his military service and maintained contact with friends from his unit all his life.

After the Army, Bruce returned home to NY and finished his degree at the University of Bridgeport and earned a masters degree in Finance from Iona College. During this time, he met and married his loving wife, Kathryn. The couple welcomed three daughters, Lisa (Aaron), Jennifer (Jeremy), and Carolyn (Frank).

Bruce worked for PepsiCo for over thirty years, first in Purchase, NY and then in Somers, NY.

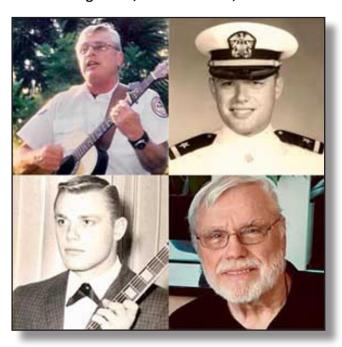
Bruce loved spending his time boating, riding his motorcycles, trap and skeet shooting with friends, and doing all types of gardening. He was an all round

outdoorsman. He was a capable mechanic and liked to dabble in woodworking. Bruce could usually be counted on for all types of home and car repairs.

Bruce is survived by his wife, his three daughters and six grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to St. Jude's Children's Hospital at www.stjude.org.

Richard Alan "Dick" Dow '59 August 31, 1941-March 5, 2023



The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

-1 Corinthians 15:26

Richard Alan "Dick" Dow died peacefully on March 5, 2023 at Venice Health and Rehabilitation in Venice, Florida. Dick was born on August 31,1941 in Worcester, Massachusetts the oldest son of Harry and Winifred Dow (née Pope). He grew up in Northborough where he was active in Boy Scouts, as an acolyte at his church and, along with his brother Norman, sang in the men and boys choir at All Saints Episcopal Church in Worcester. Dick's father built a cottage on Lake Sunapee in New Hampshire and Dick spent many happy summers there that included playing guitar on the Mt. Sunapee and at The Barn where legendary rock band Aerosmith would later meet and play. Dick attended

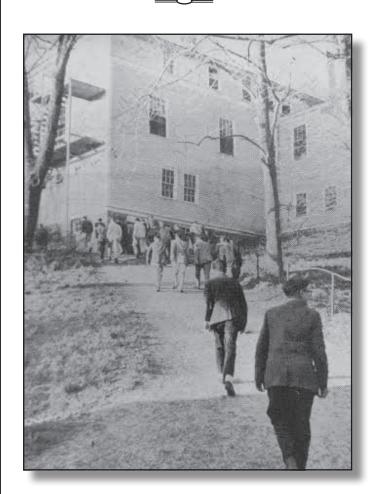
Northborough High School until he won a scholarship to the prestigious Lenox School for Boys in Massachusetts. High school pursuits included football, fencing, sailing, theater and music. After graduating from Lenox, Dick went on to Colgate University and then Clark University where he graduated with a B.A. (Honors) in English. Dick entered the U.S. Navy's Officer Candidate School and was commissioned in 1964. He was a Communications Officer, Lieutenant Junior Grade and served tours in both Vietnam and South America until his discharge in 1967.

During his career, Dick worked in a variety of fields including Chief of Information and Public Relations for the Rhode Island Development Council (during which time he also assisted with PR for the Governor's Office), Executive Director of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission and as Executive Editor of "Man at Arms" magazine. In 1985 he started his own business as a freelance technical writer and editor in Rhode Island and then for ten years in Palm Bay, Florida. While in Florida Dick also served as a volunteer EMT for the Harbor City Volunteer Ambulance Squad. He returned to Rhode Island in 1996 and then moved to Laconia, New Hampshire in 1998. In 2001 he took a part-time seasonal position with U.S. Forest Service in the Pemigewasset Ranger District, White Mountain National Forest. The position transitioned into a full-time post in the Supervisor's Office working as a writer/editor on the forest plan, editing the district website and overseeing the fleet of service vehicles. At age 60 Dick had come full circle, fulfilling a childhood dream of becoming a forest ranger. He retired from the Forest Service in 2011. After retirement, Dick stayed active enjoying time with family and friends, serving as a volunteer and, later, Deputy Chief of Administration and Dispatch of the Lakes Region (NH) Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and becoming an amateur HAM radio operator. A stroke in 2016 brought him back to Florida, first Melbourne and then Venice.

Dick's love of music, singing and playing guitar, continued through his life. He performed solo and in bands, church music groups and as a tenor drummer in the Rhode Island Highlanders Pipe Band. A deeply faithful man, Dick was active for much of his life in the Episcopal Church in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Florida and New Hampshire including serving as a vestry member, singing in choirs and leading music ministry. He was also involved with the St. Michael's Conference and Cursillo.

Dick is survived by his two daughters with his first wife Patricia (née Wilkinson): Jody Mahaffey (husband Ed) and Robin Kimzey (husband Kevin) and his two daughters The Reverend Meghan Farr (husband Daniel) and Katherine Dow with his second wife Constance (née Quirk); Eight grandchildren: Kaitlyn Kimzey (fiancé Brian Burrell), Reed Kimzey (wife Alina), Grace Kimzey, Alexa (née Mahaffey) Rogers (husband Jacob), Dylan Mahaffey, Aidan Farr, Declan Farr and Cavan Farr; and one great grandson Jarrett Rogers. Dick was preceded in death by his parents and his younger brothers Norman and Lawrence.

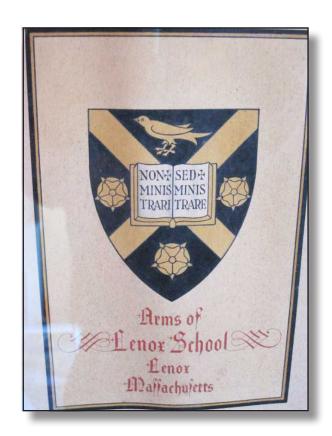
In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a Hospice of your choice.



Approaching Thayer Hall from downhill shows its true size



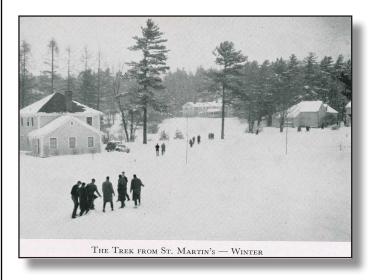
Plaque From Clipston Grange now in box at Lenox Library



Coat of Arms of Lenox School possibly by designer Pierre la Rose



Iconic White Cardigan Letter Sweater Chris Oakman - 1961



Notice large barn behind South Cottage in the distance

### Trivia Answers to Questions in the August 2023 Pen and Scroll

- 1.a. Mr. Monks' word guaranteed a student's acceptance to the finest colleges and universities because Lenox School was smaller, each student was better known within the school; and therefore the curriculum could be more easily tailored to each student's needs; and there were less colleges and universities, as well as less applicants.
- 2.a. Mr. Monks believed that a simple, but adequate school infrastructure that could be supported by a reasonable cost-per-boy, enhanced learning the principles and values that the school was tasked to impart, versus building the necessary facilities to provide a complete school experience similar to like-schools by increasing enrollment to fund needed projects, and trusting in faith to generate the remaining funding.
- 3.a. Mr. Monks oriented the content of chapel services more to the time and calendar-appropriate formal services found in the Book of Common Prayer, versus varying the content of chapel services with readings from books by Christian authors and periodically featuring student, clergy and laymen guest speakers from both within and outside the school.
- 4.b. Mr. Curry had to stop increasing enrollment until sufficient infrastructure could be built to properly support the increase, versus being forced to enroll non-college-bound quality students in order to generate the necessary income to meet operating expenses and keep the school open.
- 5.b. Mr. Curry took more interest in the records and efforts of the school's various interscholastic athletic teams because of their ability to directly affect the overall morale of the entire school, versus simply acknowledging the positive aspects of competitive athletics, but focusing more on other priorities.
- 6.b. Mr. Curry believed that student body diversity and accepting students from 'minorities in need' was a critical element of a caring and functional Christian Community versus focusing more on the school's-directed target audience, boys from families of moderate means residing in the Episcopal Church's First Province, New England.
- 7.b. Mr. Curry increasingly felt that the First Province, New England should provide some financial support to the school, since the school was doing the Church's work and shouldn't have to rely solely on ever-increasing enrollment

and its tuition-income to generate required funds.

8.b. Mr. Curry felt that the direction of the Episcopal Church demanded that the school institute an 'Outward Thrust' program to both take its message to and assist Christian communities in need, and to bring 'minority students in need' to the school, so that the communities, minorities and the school would benefit.

~ Randy Harris

### **Missing in Action**

As we've done in previous issues of the P&S, below is a list of mailed copies that were returned. Some of the people have had copies bounce back several times, while others only bounced once -- and we really don't know why a copy would bounce one time but be delivered the next time.

That aside, if you're listed here but reading this, then you clearly received your P&S. I apologize for listing your name... and we're grateful that you're still receiving the Pen and Scroll.

If you recognize any of these names and have contact info, then please forward it.

James Aberg Maurce Leavitt Richard Belair Paul LeMaistre Roger Bryne Bruce Macduffie Richard Campbell Richard Middleton Gardner Carter Charles Minifie Edna Casman Morton Nace Henry Wolfer John Durkee Robert Knight Joseph Zavattaro

## The next issue will be published Spring 2024

### Send your news today!

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The newly constructed St. Martin's Hall was fully operational in 1938

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