

QUO VADIS 101
WHAT IT IS, THE GAMEPLAN AND HOW YOU CAN HELP
By the *Quo Vadis* Working Group

1. Why Quo Vadis? In his Quo Vadis Article for the Pen & Scroll (Aug 08), the President saw it as his duty and responsibility to address the future of the LSAA and how to **focus its efforts to best manifest the mission, spirit and motto of the School**. He felt that in the past, the President had been primarily focused on the important task of ensuring that the annual Reunion went smoothly. His major point was that perhaps it is within the LSAA's ability to do more than it has to have a greater impact on the lives of recipients of LSAA assistance. This focus does not mean that the scholarships currently supported are inappropriate or must necessarily be discontinued, but perhaps simply that more can be done. Likewise, the camaraderie enjoyed at annual Reunions will in no way be lessened, regardless of what additional new approaches may be pursued.

2. What Is Quo Vadis? It's Not Just for The Next Generation. At the 2008 Reunion Business Meeting the President quickly characterized the *Quo Vadis* effort as primarily ensuring that the LSAA survives beyond our time by involving current members' children. In fact, as stated in his Pen & Scroll article, much of his vision and associated initiatives and proposals involve better manifesting the School's mission, spirit and motto now.

What Are the Specific Current Initiatives? The current initiatives include: 1.) Determining the LSAA's overall willingness to investigate and possibly pursue new initiatives; 2.) Supporting more meaningful and/or higher-impact scholarships and service-oriented projects; 3.) Remembering the School's/LSAA's existence and telling its story through a memorabilia display, commemorative plaques and markers at various locations and perhaps contributing to the upkeep and/or renovation of Lenox School Legacy Buildings; 4.) Ensuring that the LSAA extends beyond our time, not only through involving our children, but also through endowments funded by grants and in part by alumni gifts and estate donations; 5.) Manifesting service by its members through soliciting grants and donations for projects. And, 6.) Looking at the ultimate living legacy, a new Lenox School, in various significantly different and innovative configurations, to include an Arts-Themed Summer Camp. Thus, it's quite possible that the LSAA organization itself, though not surviving beyond our time, might still better manifest Lenox's motto over the next 10-15 years.

3. Where Will the Money Come From? Any suggestions on LSAA's new directions or new scholarships and/or service-oriented projects that it could support are predicated on getting additional sources of income through public or private grants and fundraising donations, and possible estate donations and endowments. This will be the specific task of the Fundraising/Finance Committee, as authorized by the current LSAA By-Laws. Nothing new can be done with the existing LSAA assets and current dues, with the exception of the memorabilia display and perhaps some commemorative plaques and markers. We have no intent to raise the annual dues amount in order to fund any new Initiatives.

4. Quo Vadis-Related Terminology. Just so we're all on the same sheet of music in the future, the overall effort is now referred to as the *Quo Vadis Project*. Within the overall *Quo Vadis Project*, based on the President's original Pen & Scroll article, there are currently seven major **Initiatives** or major categories that make up the Project, e.g. Future Allocation of Resources and Resurrecting a New Lenox School. As subsets of these Initiatives, based again on the President's article and some alumni input, there are currently 29 separate **Proposals** that are either actions that manifest individual Initiatives or are decisions required to implement them. Over time, the number of Initiatives and Proposals may change, as new ideas are received. The "*Quo Vadis Project Current List of Initiatives and Proposals*" provides all Initiatives and Proposals and will be posted on the LSAA Website.

5. How Will We Accomplish the *Quo Vadis* Project?

Keeping Abreast of the Project and Providing Feedback. In order to fully address the issues involved in the *Quo Vadis* Project, We propose the following methodology.

First, increase awareness of the entire *Quo Vadis* Project by posting applicable reference documents on the LSAA Website and by providing updates in the Pen & Scroll. The “LSAA *Quo Vadis* Some Additional Thoughts” memorandum discussed at the 2008 Reunion was one alumnus’ attempt to stimulate increased thinking on the matter and to put the President’s vision into specific required actions.

Second, determine what the LSAA membership wants to do and the types of projects it might want to pursue. This will be accomplished by use of the “**Quo Vadis Project Feedback Survey**” that specifies each Initiative and associated Proposals and requests member feedback on each. This Survey will be disseminated by email and in this copy of the Pen & Scroll. Responses are requested within 30 days of receipt, but not later than July 17, 2009. Instructions and procedures for responding are provided in the Survey and the overall Survey results will be provided at the 2009 Reunion.

Developing the Specifics on Proposals and Determining Support. 1.) The *Quo Vadis* Working Group/Committee will determine those specific Proposals that are complex and require research and then determine the expenses and related tasks required to accomplish them. 2.) A summary of each Initiative and its associated Proposals that has been properly researched will be presented to the LSAA membership at the 2009 Reunion, in order to determine the membership’s support for each. 3.) The LSAA leadership will then have a rank-ordered list of Proposals/projects it can pursue and an estimated cost for doing so. 4.) Utilizing some LSAA funds, but primarily by leveraging the LSAA’s non-profit status, grants and fundraising donations will be solicited to obtain support for each specific project.

Memorabilia Display to be Highlighted Separately. As part of the *Quo Vadis* Project, we also hope to be able to do the necessary analysis to make a decision on the memorabilia display’s final location. In the near-term, we plan to establish an initial display in a Lenox School Legacy Building. For the time being, we’re highlighting the memorabilia display separately from the *Quo Vadis* Project (see related P&S Article).

6. What You Need to Do Now and How You Can Get Involved (All Referenced Documents Will Be Available on the LSAA Website).

Read and Respond. 1.) Increase your awareness of the entire *Quo Vadis* Project and all the specific Initiatives and Proposals by 1.1) Reading the “LSAA *Quo Vadis* Some Additional Thoughts” packet; 1.2) reading the “A Modest Suggestion Regarding Our Shared Past...and Future” (a proposal on an Arts-Themed Lenox School Summer Camp, and 1.3) reading the “*Quo Vadis* Project Current Initiatives and Proposals” memorandum. 2.) Let us know your thoughts on the Project by filling out the *Quo Vadis* Project Feedback Survey described above. It should take you less than two hours. If you feel you don’t have the time, let us know your thoughts separately by email or letter.

Do You Have Memorabilia or Special Skills to Offer? 3.) After looking at the “Current List of Lenox School Memorabilia”, let us know if you have any additional items that you’d be willing to donate to the collection. 4.) Let us know of any scholarship opportunities and/or service-oriented projects that you are aware of that meet the President’s intent and may be worthy of LSAA support. 5.) And finally, let us know if you possess any of the unique technical skills and experiences that we need to fully investigate each Initiative and Proposal and are willing to provide assistance. A list of these skills is provided in “Unique Required Skills To Support the *Quo Vadis* Project”. They are also included in the *Quo Vadis* Feedback Survey. Responses to items 3, 4 and 5 may be made directly to Bob Sansone (rjsenergy@gmail.com) or 69 Mount Sumner Drive, Bolton, CT 06043), (860) 916-1467. Responses to items 4 and 5 may also be made in the applicable sections of the *Quo Vadis* Feedback Survey.

[Ed.: *Quo vadis* = Where are we going?, for those who are Latin-impaired]