

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Letter from the Editor:

Dear Friends, Faculty and fellow Alumni
of the Lenox School,

It's been quite a while since we've
corresponded. I could say that a lot of water has
since passed over the dam, but here in the
southeast the extreme drought continues despite
reports of rain. Nevertheless, quite a bit has
happened.

As many of you know by now, David
Wood, a long-time Master at Lenox, died in late
February. You will read more about that shortly.
David was a most influential teacher at Lenox
for several generations of students, and certainly
had an affect on me as an artist, a writer, and a
thinker. Moreover, I had a brief and intense
friendship with him while he was Director of the
Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge in the
mid-1970s, and I still feel his influence from
that. I will miss him.

The Board of Directors has been
particularly active since the directives of the last
meeting at our Reunion in October 2007. Bob
Sansone, the Board President, reports on those
activities in his Message later on.

We have received a perceptive and
wonderfully written "An Early History of Lenox
School" from Ed Ockenden '43, which is here
published for the first time. We're certain that
many of you will be intrigued by a veteran's
perspective. In addition, a letter of reminiscence
from Charles Eddy underlines the significant
influence of a Lenox education – upon even a
dayhop.

Finally, on a personal note, the Gottsegen
family is busy packing for our move to northeast
Ohio – we think in June, after the kids are out of
Lenox, MA 01240

school for the year. Our house is sold, and our
buyers are entertaining offers on their own
house. Among our remaining tasks is to find a
house to buy in Chagrin Falls, the town we have
focused on since December. The one casualty of
the move that I regret is that I will not have my
vegetable garden this year – just too much work
to do over the summer, getting settled into a new
house and new job.

By all means, please stay in touch. We
are happy to publish all sorts of correspondence
from our fellow alumni.

Sincerely,
Mark David Gottsegen, '67
1203 NC 62 East
Climax NC 27233
mdgottsegen@earthlink.net

* * *

A Message from the President

I write this message with a mixture of
sadness and hopeful anticipation. The death of
David Wood reminds us again of the
contributions made on our behalf by the selfless
and dedicated staff and faculty we were blessed
to have known.* It also reminds of the relentless
march of time and what it means to us at the
LSAA. While my sadness about Mr. Wood's
death is palpable, I take some comfort in the
following from Charles Brent, which I hope
represents what may be happening for our Lenox
family, staff, faculty and alumni who have died
before us and are greeted on the other side:

"What is Dying?"

*"I am standing upon the seashore. A ship
at my side spreads her white sails to the morning
breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an*

object of beauty and strength and I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then some one at my side says: 'There! She's gone.'

"Gone where? Gone from my sight -- that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her; and just as the moment when some one at my side says, 'There! She is gone,' there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, There she comes!"

"And that is dying."

My hopeful anticipation springs from several areas. We have experienced a phenomenal response thus far to the coming 2008 reunion. Ed Miller's initiative to help find the "lost" has had incredibly positive results and we have heard from some long lost friends. The initiative by a number of alums from the class of 1968 to muster a record turnout for the reunion has also seen tremendous responses from some who have been out of touch for the full 40 years. We have already accomplished many of the goals we set out for ourselves this year: We now have a new look to our web site; we have a generous scholarship grant we will be providing this year in addition to the other scholarships we provide; and, thanks to David Nathans and Charlie McGee, we established the Lenox School Service and Athletic Hall of Fame (for which we'll induct our first honorees this year).

The sense I get from speaking with many of you is one of positive enthusiasm. Of course the true measure will be how this translates into attendance at the October reunion, fund raising for our scholarship initiatives and the ability to build on the momentum that has been started. To this end, I encourage anyone who is on the fence about attending the reunion to give me a call. I can assure you that the camaraderie, fellowship, and shared sense of purpose will be well worth it. We also plan a few surprises this year in the

nature of entertainment. I can't wait to see all of you back at school again!

Bob Sansone, '68

*The memorial service for David will be Wednesday April 23, at 11 am at St. Paul's Church on Nantucket.

[Editor's Note: Shortly after David's death, Bob Sansone received this note from Esther Sekyere, David's caretaker in his last years of life.]

Dear Bob,

[I am] writing to inform you that the date ... for David's funeral is April 23. I'm still in Nantucket waiting for the funeral service before going back to Ghana to start the School.

You remembered we were thinking of a name for the School but finally I asked David if I could name the school after him. He was honored and asked me to name it [the] David Wood Academy. Isn't [that] something? Even at that time when he was struggling with life, he was thinking of these needy children in Africa.

Saint Paul's Church in Nantucket (David's church) is raising money to buy a school bus for the David Wood Academy in Ghana.

I'm giving you all this information because I know how much you and your old boys cared so much for David.

Sincerely,
Esther Sekyere

Special Announcement

The Rev. Robert L. Curry Scholarship

We are fortunate to have received an anonymous pledge to create a scholarship in honor and memory of the Reverend Robert L. Curry in the amount of \$5,000 per year. We are therefore soliciting nominations for this very special scholarship. Here are some guidelines to consider:

The scholarship will be awarded to: a student of proven excellence and leadership abilities in the community and classroom and on the athletic field, whose capacity to lead and inspire his or her classmates significantly enhances the school community.

Because the criteria for the award of a Curry Scholarship are somewhat different than those for our current scholarships and the amount of the award is greater, the LSAA Board will be establishing a detailed diligence process, using the following parameters:

- A special nomination committee will be established
- Nominees will be considered from among students who are entering the 9th grade up to those entering their senior year of high school.
- The Curry Scholarship will be awarded as a single scholarship to a specific named individual.
- In addition to the stated scholarship criteria, the committee will consider the applicant's financial need.
- Nominations must be submitted between March 1 and July 1 each year.
- The decision of the nominating committee will be made by September 1.
- The Curry Scholarship recipient will be announced at the annual reunion business meeting by the head of the scholarship committee.
- Recommendations for Curry Scholarship recipients will include the following:
 - o Name of person sponsoring the nomination for scholarship
 - o Name of student being nominated
 - o Age of student
 - o Address of student
 - o Name of current school attended or where scholarship is to be applied
 - o Specific details and examples of why this individual meets the criteria of proven excellence and leadership abilities in the community and classroom and on the athletic field, whose capacity to lead and inspire his or her classmates significantly enhances the school community. In addition, specific examples of how this

individual meets the spirit of the Lenox School motto may be included.

- o The financial needs of the nominee.

We will publish detailed guidelines for this scholarship in the next Pen and Scroll after the board has made some final detailed decisions on the process. In the interim, please send recommended names following the above criteria for consideration to the attention of Bob Sansone: Bob.Sansone@xlgrou.com

* * *

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,

Good morning. I just received your letter reminding us of our impending reunion. It hardly seems possible that 50 years have come and gone since that memorable graduation day at Lenox School.

My wife and I had the pleasure of attending a LSAA reunion two years ago and though there was only one other member of my 1958 class in attendance that year, we found many alums to talk with, lives to catch up with, and found the time we spent at the reunion to be most enjoyable.

I have returned to the Berkshires and the school campus many times since graduation and always enjoyed catching up with the progression of events that have transpired at Lenox over the years. Walking around the campus with my family always brought back recollections of the many activities and adventures we endured as Lenox School students during those times when we were all growing up and trying to find ourselves. I know my kids, especially, grew tired of the many stories I would relate as we trudged from athletic fields to classrooms, dining rooms and dorms. Somehow, it was important for me to try to imbue in them an understanding of what "prep school" life was like for me when I was their age and facing many of the same trials and challenges that they were experiencing right then in their own lives.

Lenox School had a profound and important effect on my life. I wasn't always sure of what the outcome would be at the time I was in attendance. It's also true that it wasn't until much later in my life that I was able to truly look back and appreciate the education, knowledge and opportunities I had received while at Lenox and recognize what my Lenox experience enabled me to accomplish.

I didn't mean to bore you with my musings. I really just wanted to write to let you know that I enjoyed reading your letter and to let you know that I'd be happy to volunteer to be one of the Reunion Coordinators for the Class of 1958. Please let me know what you'd like me to get started on and I'll look forward to working with others to ensure a good turnout and an outstanding experience for all those attending the LSAA reunion on the weekend of October 17 - 19 back in the Berkshires.

Warm regards,
David DeRita, '58

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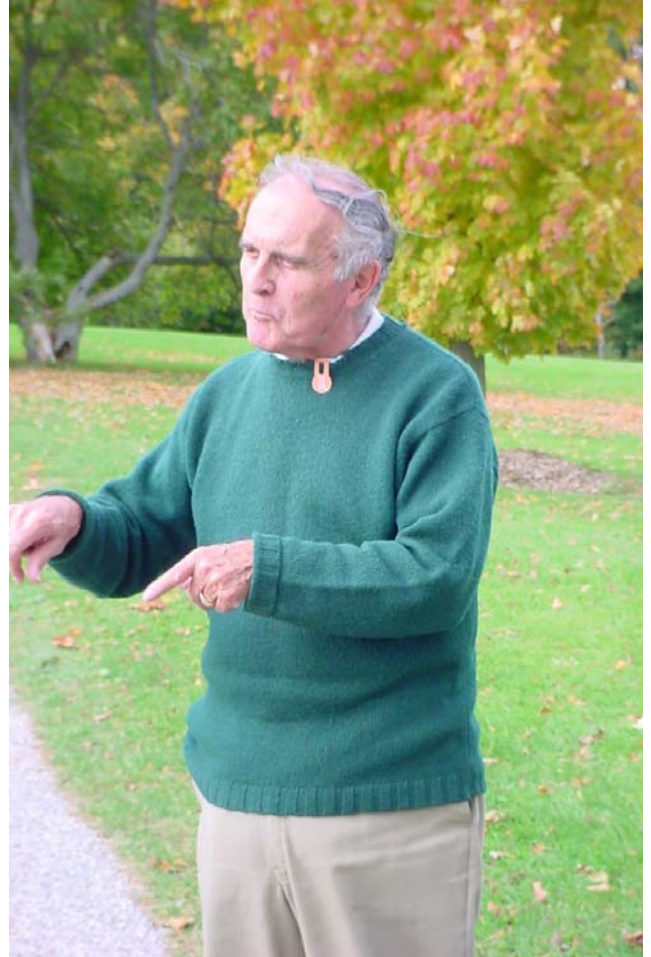
Space-filling Trivia Question

What was the White Queen?

This question has been asked and unanswered for the last four editions of the *Pen & Scroll*. Take your best shot!

In Memoriam

Received as of March, 2008



David H. Wood

David H. Wood

1923-2008 NANTUCKET - David H. Wood, 84, died Friday, Feb. 22, at Nantucket Cottage Hospital after a period of failing health. Mr. Wood was born on Nantucket on March 4th 1923. He was the son of the late Allan D. Wood and Virginia Hamblin Tobey Wood. Mr. Wood was educated at the Nantucket public schools and went on to study at Middlebury College, Vt., majoring in English. He taught at the Deveaux School in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and then The Lenox School in Lenox, MA. Following his teaching career he became the Director of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA, until his retirement. Mr. Wood was a lifelong collector of antiques, especially well known for his extensive collection of Nantucket lightship

baskets. Mr. Wood retired to the family home on Nantucket and became active in the Nantucket Historical Association, serving in several capacities there. He was for many years Senior Warden of St. Paul's Church Episcopal and remained active there until he became ill. He leaves a brother, James A. Wood of Jacksonville Beach, Fla. and Contoocook, N.H. and his wife Constance; his nieces Signa A. Watts and her husband Dale, Kristen A. Dunklee and her husband Daniel, all of Concord, N.H.; many grand nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by another niece, Licia A-W O'Connor of Atlantic Beach, Fla. He was also predeceased by a sister, Edith W. Howarth of Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA. FUNERAL NOTICE: Services for Mr. Wood will be held April 23rd on Nantucket. Memorial contributions in his name may be made to St. Paul's Church, 20 Fair Street, Nantucket, Ma. 02554. Please do not send flowers. The LEWIS FUNERAL HOME, Union Street, Nantucket, MA is in charge of arrangements.

(Published in The Berkshire Eagle on 02/24/2008)



The David Wood Academy, Ghana

* * *

From a letter sent by Jane S. Harrop:

William H. Harrop III

Middleborough MA. – William H. Harrop III
Lenox, MA 01240

passed away at home, August 17, 2007, after a period of declining health. He was a member of the class of 1951 at The Lenox School. He played football and ice hockey for the years he was there. He attended their 50th Reunion and had a wonderful time renewing old friendships.

He graduated from Bryant University in Smithfield RI and went on to spend a lifetime in the oil industry, first with a family business and later with Don Adams Oil, Inc., both in New Bedford, MA. He was active in the industry, at one point serving as President of the Oil Heat Council of Rhode Island and Southeastern MA. He also served our town in many capacities and our church as a Vestryman. He was an avid sailor, loved to read and travel and even played ice hockey into his forties.

His wife, Jane S. Harrop, two children, William H. Harrop IV and Cornelia Middleton, and four grandchildren, Cency Middleton, and Will, Jenna and Delaney Harrop, survive him.

George D. VanZandt, Jr.,

Lee, MA. - George D. VanZandt Jr., 55 of 110 Fox Run in Lenox MA, after being stricken at home. Born in Albany, N.Y., on Aug. 5, 1952, son of George and Eileen Flynn VanZandt, he was educated in the Lee schools and was a 1971 graduate of Lenox School for Boys. He served in the Air Force Reserve in the 1970s. In the 1970s, Mr. VanZandt joined his father in the operation of George D. VanZandt and Sons Welding and Fabrication Co. in Lenox Dale. In 1989, he added C.S.C.F. Distributors, selling wood stoves and pellets. His son, Scott joined the family business in 2002. He enjoyed snowmobiling and belonged to the Tyringham Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club. He also enjoyed motorcycling, scuba diving and boating. He and his family did their boating out of Oxbow Marina in Northampton. Mr. VanZandt married the former Peggy G. Marshall May 20, 1978. Besides his wife, he leaves two sons, Christopher G. VanZandt, stationed with the Air Force in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Scott A. VanZandt of of

Lee; and a brother, Michael J. VanZandt of Lee. George also leaves his daughter-in-law Sontaya VanZandt, his uncle and aunt, Frank and Carol Consolati, and his aunt, Mary Flynn.

FUNERAL NOTICE -- A memorial service for George VanZandt, who died Monday, December 31, 2007, was held at St. Ann's Church in Lenox with the Rev. Christopher J. Waitekus, pastor, officiating. Following the memorial service the family received friends at the Greenock Country Club in Lee. Friends wishing to do so may make donations to a charity of their choice.

Via email:

Edward Swiedler

I regret to inform you that my father, Edward Swiedler, an alumnus of Lenox School (1945?) passed away on August 9, 2007 after an illness.

We will be having a memorial celebration April 20, 2008 at 11:00 am in Sandy Springs, GA at the Arlington Memorial Cemetery.

Jennie McCann
41 Candlewood Lane
York, ME 03909
(207)363-3538

* * *

**ANNOUNCEMENT
Nominations Requested**

Lenox School Service and Athletic Hall of Fame

Nominations have already been submitted for some outstanding Lenox School alumni and extended family for the inaugural class of the Service and Athletic Hall of Fame.

The 2008 Reunion will provide the perfect forum to honor and celebrate those individuals who have lived their lives in the spirit of the Lenox motto, *Non Ministrari Sed Ministrare* ("To serve, not to be served"). The nominees for the Hall of Fame will be considered for their dedication to community at Lenox and in their lives, and/or for their athletic talent, leadership and spirit.

Lenox, MA 01240

Who is eligible, and who may nominate? Lenox alumni, faculty, coaches, staff and members of the extended Lenox School family are eligible, and may also nominate candidates.

What form does a nomination take?

Nominations must be in written form and include the following: (1) The nominee's name, current address and contact information or, if deceased, a relative who can be contacted; (2) The nominee's connection to Lenox, including as much information as you know (dates, positions held, sports played/coached, extracurricular activity involvement) while at and/or serving Lenox School; and (3) A short biography of the nominee's service and accomplishments after Lenox School.

Nominations will be reviewed by a five-person committee composed of alumni from the 1940s through 1971.

Where and when to send the nominations?

Your nominations must be submitted either by **mail or email by June 30, 2008** to the attention of the Lenox School Alumni Association Secretary:

Email (preferred): mdgottsegen@earthlink.net
OR

Mark D. Gottsegen
Materials Research Director
Intermuseum Conservation Association
2915 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

* * *

PICKETT SCHOLARS

**Miss Hall's Students Named Pickett Scholars
by Lenox School Alumni Association**

PITTSFIELD – Miss Hall's School has announced that seniors Janice Brea and Sheniqua Little have been named by the Lenox School Alumni Association as recipients of this year's Mansfield Pickett Scholarships.

The annual awards are named in memory of the late Mansfield E. (Pete) Pickett, who was a longtime teacher at both the former Lenox School and Miss Hall's School. This is the fifth year the association has honored Miss Hall's School students.

Janice, the daughter of Manuel and Gloria Brea, of Hyde Park, Mass., is a four-year senior at Miss Hall's. She is a member of the Girls Leadership Project, named the Personal Authority and Leadership Source (PAaLS); a proctor; a three-year Admission Ambassador; and a four-year member of the field hockey team, which she co-captained this year. Janice represented the School in 2006 and 2007 at the NAIS Student Diversity Leadership Conference, and she is also heavily involved in a PAaLS program through which she mentors local middle school girls in developing confidence in their critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Sheniqua, the daughter of James Little and Yuvanda Brown, of Bridgeport, Conn., is also a four-year senior and a member of PAaLS. She is a Big Sister this year to two new MHS students and a member of the Social Committee and the Spanish Club. Sheniqua is also a three-year member of the soccer team and a contributor both to *Hallways*, the School's student-run newspaper, and *SoL*, the School's literary magazine. Additionally, she is part of the PAaLS "skill-building" group developing communications workshops for MHS freshmen and juniors.

Mr. Pickett taught Latin and English at Miss Hall's from 1973—when the Lenox School closed—to 1992. He also served as MHS Director of Development from 1973 to 1975. The Lenox School Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the spirit and camaraderie of Lenox School, which was an independent secondary school founded in 1926. The school operated on the grounds of what is today the home of Shakespeare & Company.

Lenox, MA 01240



(That's Paul Denzel on the right ...)

About Miss Hall's School

Founded in 1898, Miss Hall's School was one of the first girls' boarding schools established in New England. Today the School is a nationally recognized, boarding and day independent secondary school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum with two nationally recognized programs, Horizons and the Girls' Leadership Project. Miss Hall's School enrolls 195 girls, representing 20 states and 20 countries. For more information, call (413) 443-6401 or visit the website at www.misshalls.org.

* * *

LOST ALUMNI SEARCH

Following a search by a volunteer crew organized by LSAA Board member Ed Miller, he reports the following:

Jeff Aberg `60
3123 Olive Knoll Place
Escondido, CA 92027
760-294-8381

Lawton Bourn, Jr. `61

61 Ashley Drive
Laconia, NH 03248
603-366-2624

lpbourn@verizon.net

Geoffrey M. Champion '68
375 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02116

George R. Cogswell '50
Address unavailable

Duncan W. Crane '65
11 East Street
Southampton, MA 01073
413-527-8321

duncan.crane@charter.net

John "Doug" Griffin '60
27 Janine Street
Chicopee, MA 01013
413-536-3137

DG111442@aol.com

John R. Hawkins '52
4 East 8th Street, Apt. 4F
New York, NY 10003-5957

JHawkinsNYC@aol.com

(Frank) George Francis Lockwood '62
239 Tirrell Hill Road
Goffstown, NH 03045-2728
603-497-2539

ljange19@juno.com

Hubert A. Nelson '64
4040 Fountain Plaza Drive
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-790-4611

hughnelson@sbcglobal.net

Gordon Noyes ('59-'60)
101 Wyoming Drive
Holden, MA 01520-2160
508-829-2510

Lenox, MA 01240

GordonBvie243@aol.com

David B. Nye '64
Department of English
University of Southern Denmark
Campusvej 55
DK-5230 Odense M
Tel: +45 6550 3132
Fax: +45 6593 0490
nye@hist.sdu.dk

Stephen Zanieski '61
3074 SE Galt Circle
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34984

John W. Day, III '68
address unavailable

Russell Gillis '68
2835 EU Avenue
Vicksburg, MI 49097

Robert M. Smith '58
372 Winter Street
Weston, MA 02493-1041

Robert Wilner
525 State Road
Media, PA 19063

Ned Zorigian '64
9600 Riddick Place
Matthews, NC 28105
nzorigian@altavistawealth.com

The following inquiries were returned ...

Peter Custer
4200 Wise Avenue, Suite 106
Washington, DC 20016

David Foote
118 Steeplechase Way
Southern Pines, NC 28387

Paul Henderson, Jr.

6 State Street
Randolph, MA 02368

Britton Ransford
5205 128th Place, NE
Marysville, WA 98271

David Taft
Bailey Corner Road
Wall Township
Belmar, NJ 07719

SPECIAL FEATURE,
In the form of a Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Discovering the Lenox School Alumni Association web site has solved one of the biggest mysteries of my time at Lenox. More importantly, it's encouraged a long overdue acknowledgement of gratitude to the school.

I was a day student at Lenox School from September 1961 through December 1962. I would have graduated in 1965, but left the school when my family moved to Cleveland. I live in California now and don't get back to Massachusetts very often. I was in Lenox last summer though and enjoyed being on the campus again in spite of all the changes.

That visit and finding the web site have restored immediacy to memories at the heart of my adolescence. I recall hours of class time with Messrs. Bemis, Sawyer, Putnam, Rutledge, Faxon, Pickett and Chip Middleton's father who taught a sacred studies class. Mr. Putnam was easily one of the most approachable and engaging teachers I ever had. I remember Ara Dostourian's famously lampooned car. Of course, the car to be taken seriously was David Wood's red Mercedes. Bob Curry, benevolent, confident and purposeful must have had *Headmaster* coded in his DNA. I remember a young David Blanchard, who at first I confused as an upperclassman. His father, Roger, was the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Lenox, MA 01240

Ohio. Roger was a great leader for the diocese during times of racial turmoil in Cincinnati. He was the model of visionary and progressive leadership for the national church. Also, he was my bishop when I entered seminary.

For years *Come Labor On* would evoke an amazing wave of nostalgia. After college I attended the Episcopal Theological School (now the Episcopal Divinity School) in Cambridge. Rather than become a priest I became a social worker. The "*who dares stand idle on the harvest plain*" and "*not to be served but to serve*" sentiments contributed to my interest in going to ETS and have always stayed with me as a social worker and public policy advocate. They've helped to inspire and to sustain thirty-five years of working with others to find ways to reshape the justice system's punishment paradigm by seeking juvenile justice reform, alternatives to incarceration and abolition of capital punishment, while promoting the alternative paradigm of restorative justice.

One of my last memories is one of the most compelling. I thought Lenox School was a great place, but being a day student felt a little like second class citizenship. That changed on a Sunday afternoon in September 1962. I had just turned sixteen and was driving around with a friend from Stockbridge who was a student at Foxhollow School. I pulled into the parking lot in front of St. Martins Hall. We got out and went inside to find a book I needed for some homework. As we got back into the car, I saw several upper classmen watching us from the second floor windows. I surprised myself with a sharp sense of sadness for kids who were separated from their families and weren't free to drive around in the family car with a friend on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. The mystique of boarding school life had suffered a setback. I suddenly felt I had the best of both worlds. I was happy to be a Lenox School student, but grateful for living with my family and having the freedom and mobility that teenagers want and need.

My public high school outside of Cleveland was a big let down after Lenox. It

wasn't long before I was recalculating the trade-offs between living at home with its freedoms and living the life of a boarding school student immersed in a lively community with access to a much better education. A bold move would have been to appeal to my parents to send me back. I've never been comfortable with the fact that I didn't do that. Although it was thin on endowment and struggled in its last years, Lenox had nobility about it. I'm sure it came closer to promoting real gospel values than most of its richer cousins, other Episcopal Church affiliated schools around New England. If doing the right thing was all that mattered, Lenox School would still be with us today.

As for that mystery...I remember teasing Mr. Putnam about his middle initials "DeM." I couldn't figure-out what they stood for, so I suggested that maybe it was "demagogue." He laughed and assured me that wasn't it. Too cheeky for my own good, it would have been kinder and closer to the truth to suggest that maybe they stood for "demigod." Thanks to LSAA for finally revealing the truth about that middle name. Thanks to Mr. Putnam too for an enduring memory of a fine teacher. Lenox School had many good teachers, and looking back they all seem like demigods compared to most that followed.

It was a good surprise to find the Lenox School Alumni Association web site. I had tried before to find references to Lenox School online, but all I ever found was the occasional reference in an obituary. A telling commentary on the school's demise I thought, until I found the alumni association's web site. The time and effort that have gone into the association, reunions and web site are impressive.

Although I was there only a short time, Lenox School had a big impact on me, which continues to this day. I'm grateful for that experience many years ago. It confirmed for me all that was good and possible, and gave me encouragement that I drew from over and over again. Also, I'm thankful to all those who have worked hard through the alumni association to preserve the school's legacy and our memories.

Lenox, MA 01240

It's a labor of love and a fine example of *not being served but serving*.

Regards,
Charlie Eddy '65
Oakland, CA

... SPECIAL FEATURE ...

My Weekend With Jimmy Carter

By Carl Albano, '67

Actually, it wasn't a weekend but February 6-11 when 150 friends, volunteers and associates of The Carter Center gathered in West Palm Beach, FL to celebrate another year of advancing human rights and alleviating human suffering. Although it was a wonderful, relaxing event filled with good times and good friends, it's more important for me to reflect on and tell you about the mission of The Carter Center.

The Carter Center in Atlanta just celebrated its 25th anniversary. It's not just a think tank but an action agency with a staff of 160 and an annual budget of \$49 million – 7% from government and the balance from individuals and corporations. Whereas the original concept was to be a vehicle for mediation between countries or regions in conflict, it has evolved to promoting peace and good health in more than 70 countries, mostly in Africa and Latin America. With its access to world leaders The Carter Center can mobilize government officials while working at the village level.

The Center believes there is a complex relationship between peace, respect for human rights and the basic quality of life. Although much has been accomplished in monitoring elections and helping countries transition to democratic rule, 80% of its budget is allocated to

creating health – not just treating disease but eliminating the conditions that cause disease. Disease affects entire communities – children suffer and are unable to attend school, a parent suffers and is unable to harvest crops or care for children. Using a village based health care delivery infrastructure, combining personnel, health education and treatment, The Carter Center helps others help themselves, offering them the tools and knowledge they need to improve their own lives and leads a worldwide effort to eradicate Guinea Worm disease and is the sponsoring organization to eliminate River Blindness, the leading cause of preventable blindness, affecting the poorest of the poor with more than 500 million people at risk. In Africa, one child in ten dies from malaria before the age of five. The Carter Center has been responsible for the distribution of millions of insecticidal bed nets.

The weekend ended with an auction of gifts to The Carter Center and presidential memorabilia since the Ford days. We raised \$1.2 million that night. I came away with a Big Papi tee shirt, which President Carter autographed for me. I won't tell you my winning bid, but I was fortunate there weren't many Red Sox fans there.

“When people believe in themselves, hope is born.” (Jimmy Carter)

* * *

... SPECIAL FEATURE ...

An Early History of Lenox School

By Ed Ockenden, Class of 1943

Lenox School had its beginning in the agile imagination of the Rev. Dr. William G. Thayer, headmaster of St. Mark's School, in Southborough, Massachusetts. Perhaps motivated by the stream of desirable applicants from families unable to afford the St. Mark's tuition, Dr. Thayer dreamed of founding another school. This would be a school that, while Lenox, MA 01240

duplicating St. Mark's excellent education, would serve boys from families of modest means.

Dr. Thayer probably discussed the idea with other Episcopal school headmasters of like minds. Some of these would have been men likely to be summoned by their bishop to form a planning committee. Meanwhile, two young masters from St. Mark's, the Rev. Waldo Pell and the Rev. G. Gardner Monks, had made known their interest in becoming headmasters. They sailed to England to study typical English schools and wrote a report on their findings. It is likely that before taking the next step to found a new school, Dr. Thayer and the other headmasters read their report.

Coincidentally, about that time a family named Sturgis offered to donate a 63-acre estate on which to found a school in Lenox. The property included seven buildings plus a barn, an exquisite stable, and some small outbuildings, enough to serve over a hundred boys. This was enough incentive to form a planning committee. Most members of this committee headed schools founded in the 1800s and had little experience with startup schools. Among the half dozen men was the colorful recent founder and headmaster of Kent School, Kent, CT, Father Frederic Sill.

Father Sill was a Columbia University graduate and a coxswain whose crews were winners. When he founded Kent School, he relied on this experience to establish crew as the school's major sport. He personally trained and coached his crews and they soon were taking on college freshmen crews and beating them – Harvard and Princeton were two of their victims. Father Sill began sending his crews to the Henley Royal Regattas where they won the coveted Thames Cup four times and the Princess Elizabeth Cup as well.

Though his crews were his pride and joy, Father Sill had also championed the self-help

concept for private school students. All Kent boys had jobs: setting tables, washing dishes, sweeping, dusting, washing windows, polishing brass, and keeping their own rooms ready for inspection. The self-help concept became the most important contribution Father Sill brought to the meeting of the committee to found Lenox School.

Although Kent had successfully practiced self-help for over fifteen years, the practice was rarely found in boarding schools, and there were objections among the committee members. Sill had to remind them that, as a school dedicated to educating boys of modest means, the new venture could not afford to hire people to do what the boys could handle themselves. Besides, he reminded them, it is good for a boy's character to learn respect for the common laborer and to understand the dignity to be found in honest work.

If Gardner Monks had been in that meeting, he would have been Father Sill's strongest supporter. Nobody understood better than he that the less he spent on hiring help the more scholarship aid he could offer.

So unlike some schools where maids make the beds for pampered students and hired help sets the tables, washes the dishes, and performs all housekeeping chores, you and I at Lenox had to do it ourselves.

As the new school plan took shape, Dr. Thayer buttonholed the Rev. Latta Griswold, prolific author and rector of Trinity Church, in Lenox. Thayer suggested Griswold ask his wealthy parishioners to help support the new school. In addition to rich retirees, Lenox in those days was the preferred summer getaway for the rich and powerful, much as Martha's Vineyard is today. For instance, a stained glass window in Trinity Church is dedicated to U.S. President Chester A. Arthur, who negotiated with God at Trinity Church, near his Summer White House while his staff sizzled alone back in

hot, humid Washington.

With the plan for our new school activated, Dr. Thayer told Gardiner Monks that he would back him as the founding headmaster. Despite the many buildings on the Sturgis property, there was room for two or three baseball teams and two or three tennis teams all to play at the same time. A mansion given the name Griswold Hall anchored the Northern end of the property. It adjoined Springlawn, the Schermerhorn property with its strikingly beautiful house and terraced lawn. Years later Schermerhorn would be given to the school, as would be its neighbor, the Kemble property.

Griswold had more dormitory space and classrooms than the school would need for several years. Later, as the student body grew to fill it, more boys lived upstairs in the building just across the driveway from Griswold. Thayer Hall was a carriage house remodeled to provide a large dining room, dish room, and kitchen, while just below was a room made into a chapel. It had an altar, a lectern, a small organ, and seats for over a hundred boys.

Lenox School opened with five students in the fall of 1925. As the school continued to grow, more boys were domiciled in the two residences that were named South Cottage and West Cottage, adjacent to the Monks family home in Clipston Grange. Between these buildings and Thayer Hall were two other houses. One became the infirmary and home of the original school nurse, a delightful bossy Swedish lady nicknamed "the Duchess." The other was home to "Gramps" Howland and his family. Also known as "Gramp," Mr. Howland was the overseer of the property.

There were three teachers: Walter Clark, who became senior master and served until the 1940s; the Rev. Waldo Pell; and the Rev. Gardiner Monks, who doubled as teacher and headmaster. As the student population grew, so did the faculty. In the early years, George A. Hey

and Carl Herbert Gilmore arrived, and the school took shape and began to grow.

In September 1938 St. Martin's Hall opened for service, the first building of its type in the U.S., built by pouring concrete into molds. By then there were about ninety students and nine full-time masters, plus two more who were part timers teaching music and bible studies. Griswold was torn down that year, but Thayer with its dining and sleeping space continued in use. Gardner Monks kept a surveyor's transit in his office, and in the first year of St. Martin's, he could be seen moving around the premises carrying it from one place to another and peering through it.

The school budget could not yet afford two wings for St. Martin's, so it began with one—the side nearest the present Shakespeare & Co, theater. The wing housed the 5th and 6th form boys, two masters, and downstairs, locker rooms and showers. The center of St. Martin's housed 2nd form boys, classrooms, the post office, headmaster's office, and the library. Third formers lived in South Cottage, and fourth formers lived in West Cottage and Thayer Hall, over the dining area.

In the spring of 1946, the Rev. Gardner Monks retired and the Rev. Robert Curry became headmaster. In the years that followed, a gym and a new dorm were built near St. Martin's. The Seaman's family donated a beautiful library to the school. Finally, Lenox School built a swimming pool and the biggest sports center of any private school in New England. The financing problems of the latter two projects contributed to the eventual closing of the school.

It may surprise many Lenox alumni to learn that the school was part of an informal international network of schools founded on similar principles to ours. These are Episcopal schools that share the nearly universal goal of providing their students with development of mind, body, and spirit.

When the Dupont family decided to build a school in Middletown, Delaware, Felix du Pont latched onto Lenox headmaster Gardner Monks, learned from him and planned his school using the same value system shared by Lenox and other Episcopal and Anglican schools. The result was St. Andrew's School, which opened in 1929. The Rev. Waldo Pell then left Lenox School to become the founding headmaster of St. Andrews. In other words, St. Mark's sponsored Lenox School and Lenox sponsored St. Andrew's. Interested headmasters from other Episcopal schools attended both births.

Now, take a fresh look at the Lenox School motto: it came from the gospel of Matthew, Chapter 20, Verse 28: "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister . . ." In a more recent translation, it reads, ". . . the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve . . ." Many Episcopal schools have mottos based on the same Christian principle of service to others.

Some of these schools, but not all, are rich and famous. Groton, in Groton Mass., educated Franklin Roosevelt. But the former Hoosac School, in Hoosick, NY, was built next to railroad tracks in 1889. Those old coal-burning steam locomotives often showered the school with hot coals, and burned it to the ground more than once. Today, it seems to be thriving: a co-ed school on a great looking campus, and no more steam locomotives.

Other Episcopal schools relatively close to Lenox are Holderness, in Plymouth, NH, 1879; White Mountain School, Bethlehem, NH, 1886; St. Paul's, in Concord, NH (where the Rev. Mr. Curry once taught), and four in Connecticut: Salisbury, Kent, South Kent, and Pomfret. Many Episcopal secondary schools have from one-third to two-thirds of their student on scholarship. They number in the hundreds, and the glue that binds them together are the three principles of character building: mind,

body, and spirit. This is what separates them from most other schools.

SAVE THE DATES:

Reunion Weekend

October 17, 18, 19, 200

Lunch will be at 12:30 Saturday, October 18, at a location TBA

Class of 1938, 70th Reunion

Class of 1948, 60th Reunion

Class of 1958, 50th Reunion

Class of 1968, 40th Reunion

Be there, or be square.

The Reunion number will be published in August 2008.

SEND YOUR NEWS TODAY!

Mark David Gottsegen, '67

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