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## Letter from the Editor:

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

This is the "Pre-Reunion" number, in which you will find information about the October Reunion, on the horizon. It also contains the mail-in form, on which you can make your reservations for various paid-in-advance events, pay your annual dues to the LSAA, and make your generous donation in support of the main project of the LSAA: its Scholarship Program. We expect to see you among the throngs in attendance, and I am personally expectant of record-breaking attendance from the Class of '67.

As I write this in early August, the temperatures are over 38°C in my garden. The corn has come and gone (second crop is maturing), the tomatoes have given up, the squashes are producing little squirts, and the okra is struggling. Twice-daily watering is all that's keeping anything alive, as we are well into drought conditions. It may be time for a rain dance.

With this number, we are introducing a Letters to the Editor section, with a couple of commentaries I received since June. I hope you all will consider sending me further letters, and other news of interest to our community. All submissions are subject to ruthless editing, of course.

Stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Mark David Gottsegen, '67

1203 NC 62 East

Climax NC 27233

[mdgottsegen@earthlink.net](mailto:mdgottsegen@earthlink.net)

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## Letters to the Editor

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To the Editor:

### THE HEART OF OUR CHARACTER

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "The function of [education](#), therefore, is to teach one to

Climax, NC 27233

think intensively and to think critically. But education which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society. The most dangerous criminal may be the man gifted with [reason](#), but with no morals [...] We must remember that [intelligence](#) is not enough. Intelligence plus character--that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate.."

"Intelligence plus character..." What an excellent point Dr. King makes, but what is our character? When I try to wrap my mind around the concept, words come to me such as honor, courage, integrity, respect, responsibility, caring, trustworthiness and maybe even citizenship. All these words help define character, but when it takes so many words to define a subject, I find myself constantly searching for the root of the idea, to the place in my memory where I began to understand the significance of all those words. My mind, like the seemingly random wheels on a slot machine, slowly comes to the word Lenox.

How blessed we were to be at Lenox, (although I sure didn't feel that way my third form year). To be successful, all we had to do was be a God fearing, athletic, janitor with a photographic memory. Oh yeah, and stay off the work squad and out of Mr. Southworth's office. But there was more to Lenox than that. We didn't have all the confounding factors like, cars, booze, girls, and drugs that we see in public schools today. We had time to listen to our house masters, our good friends, our minister, our teachers. Oh sure, we remember, "to serve and not to be served," but Lenox taught us more than that. We learned about all those words; about integrity, respect, responsibility, fairness, and caring. These are the building blocks of a man's character.

Maybe we had the seeds of these things when we first walked into Lenox, but they were nurtured and strengthened by the moral ethics of Lenox. I think we draw from them everyday without realizing it. We graduates go about our lives,

scattered around the world, making key decisions, leading companies and people, totally preoccupied, and forgetting the gift we carry. Looking back now, I realize that it was Lenox that became the true heart of my character, and it is this heart from which I draw my strength, my faith, and my beliefs everyday.

**Niall Finnegan '65**

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To the Editor:

[It's the] **seventieth** reunion [for the Class of '37]? Congratulations to those!

I think old timers know that my brother, Len Shepard '38 was shot down attacking a Japanese warship in 1944.

My son, Len '71, has been to reunions. I was once a student and once a Trustee, have intended to attend, but never have. Now that I'm in sunny Coronado, California, I really am not really keen on cold fall weather. But I hope you'll accept my attendance in spirit.

I'm still active. Please see the <<http://www.skywindpower.com>> website. We think Flying Electric Generators may turn out to provide the world's most economic source of energy, as well as being non-global warming.

It is interesting that my brother Len and Richard Campbell, also '38, roomed together at Harvard (studying engineering!) and intended to work on the first major wind turbine project (in Vermont) before their plans were interrupted by WWII. And now I'm involved in harnessing wind energy -- but higher up.

**David Shepard '40**

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## LENOX SCHOOL ARCANA

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The Editor regrets that he must fill this space with something lest the empty white space proves to be an embarrassment to those who promised but did not deliver a story.

So. Who was the White Queen?

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To the Editor:

Climax, NC 27233

This item was up for sale on Ebay [as of early August]:



*Another school endowed with distinctive and enduring beauty, at low cost, with **CONCRETE***

Concrete helps both the architect and the owner to achieve their objectives. It gives the designer the creative freedom inherent in a material that can be molded into any desired shape or form, and finished in a wide range of surface textures. It insures long life, fire safety and low maintenance.

And concrete helps *cost* too by permitting frame, walls, floors and decorative detail to be cast in one thrifty material. Typical concrete surface textures, architectural detail and complete buildings are illustrated in the booklet, "The NEW Beauty in Walls of Architectural Concrete" (furnished free in the U. S. and Canada). Write for your free copy today.

**PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION**  
Dept. A15-8, 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill.

A national organization to improve and extend the use of concrete... through scientific research and engineering field work.

**ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE**  
Architectural and Seasonal Finishes Combined in One Process, Enduring More...

The Lenox School for Boys or Lenox School, an all-England concrete, limestone structure. An Fine Model A White of New York and the building, Lenox School of Vermont, Mass., the construction.

**Jud Fisher, '63**

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To the Editor:

I was in the first BCD class in 1946, my parents having been one of the founding families. I graduated from the 6th grade in '53 (repeated 3rd grade) and went to Lenox. Graduated in '58 (skipping 8th grade) and went to Cornell where I graduated in 1962. At Cornell I learned of Economics and set my life goals. From 1962-1964 I was on active duty in the Navy (stayed in the reserves until 1984). I went to the University of Chicago in the fall of 1964 where I got an MA in '66 and PhD in 1969 in Economics. Have been at UIC for 40 years. See [www.uic.edu/~hhstokes](http://www.uic.edu/~hhstokes)

My life seems to have flashed by, although I have written 90 publications including 5 books. It has been especially rewarding teaching first generation kids.

BCD required people to leave at the 6th grade. Girls stayed to 8th grade. In my time it would have been impossible for Lenox boys to take courses at BCD since no males were allowed above 6th grade. This story got on the BCD web page and I told them it was not true up to 1962 as far as I know!

I have written of my Lenox Days in "My Journey." I talk of the good and the bad. The school motto "To Serve, not to be Served" is the key to a life that one can look back on with pride. It sets a standard. I am blessed with two wonderful boys, a daughter-in-law and a wonderful wife. I only wish that religion was not dividing the world and causing so much pain. I am reading Dawkins' "The God Illusion" at present. The school motto does not require religion. It applies to all.

The electronic P&S is excellent.

**Houston Stokes, '58**

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To the Editor:

The following appeared on Boston.com:

Headline: Shakespeare & Company

upgrading Lenox campus

Date: June 30, 2007

"Shakespeare & Company will spend \$5 million to convert a brick gym building on its Berkshires campus into a theater, with rehearsal spaces and costume and set design shops. The project, to be announced tonight at the company's gala, should be complete by next spring, the organization's leaders said this week."

**Bill Forester**, member of the "few but fabulous" class of '51

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Excerpts from a letter to Ed Miller:

Thank you for your letter. Actually I had already seen the Globe article you appended. The building in question is the former Wilde Sports Center down back where the ice rink used to be [...] Last Reunion I went with a group for a tour of the Sports Center, and we were told about Shakespeare's plans for it which are essentially as described in the Globe article.

I agree with you that there should be a separate alumni position to develop and coordinate Reunion weekend events. It is too much for Bob Sansone to have to handle alone. Preferably such an alumnus should be resident in the Berkshire area [...] Yet, with today's rapid communication technology, I suppose anyone elsewhere in the US could do it fairly easily. It just would be nice to have someone on the spot.

With regard to the Friday night get-together at the Tavern at Cranwell, does the place have a separate room? Last year we were jammed into half the main dining area along with other dining

customers in the other half, and it was crowded and noisy for table-hopping and conversation. Regardless, I would stick with Cranwell for its convenient central location rather than seek a different place.

I thought the Pen and Scroll was excellent; Mark Gottsegen did a fine job [the humble Editor blushed here]. I was saddened to learn about Sally LaPointe. It was a nice tribute to her in the Pen and Scroll.

Forgive me for ending on a rather cynical note: The Red Sox have built up a tremendous lead over the Yankees and others. Is it possible that the Sox are saving this up so that they can blow it all in September? You know that old saying: "Once burned, twice shy." Yet, there is still Pandora's box, the residence of Hope!

**David Southworth, FAC**

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To the Editor:

It was often said that one of the reasons Lenox School for Boys was founded was to provide a quality education for Episcopal boys of lesser means. What were the connections to the Episcopal Church and how did the relationship evolve over the years?

At the beginning were all the students Episcopalians? By the time I graduated in 1967 we had quite a diverse student body including Muslims, Jews, Catholics, other Protestants, and "others."

Was it a coincidence that the campus was developed directly across the street from Trinity Church? What were the chapel practices and schedules while you were a student? Was there any religious training or education in your time? What were the connections to the Episcopal Church in your time?

**Allen Sloane, '67**

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

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**No Announcements, Alak Alas.**

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**A Message from the President**

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**“A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Parade”**

**By Bob Sansone ‘68**

This is the first metaphorical tap on the shoulder I received from the silent hand of Lenox after graduating in early June 1968. On July 1, 1968, around 1,200 of us reported for duty at West Point.

Sometime later that July, a number of us were marched to the Catholic Chapel at the post for what they called “New Cadet religious in-briefings.” By this time, we had already lost around fifty of our class to an inevitable process that would result in about a third of the class not making it to graduation. We had already endured a withering verbal and physical assault on our confidence, capabilities, sense of who we were, whether we were worthy, why we had made the decision to attend, and if we’d make it to the end of any day, much less to the beginning of the academic year. Forget about graduation, an eternity in the future.

That day, for reasons I can’t specifically recall, I had reached a low point: I started to question whether I had the mental and physical strength to continue, and whether I could make it all the way. Self-doubt was the order of the day.

I was sitting on the front left side of the chapel and I started to do something that I had rarely done in my life: I silently started to ask for some divine strength, guidance or a sign.

Nothing. I earnestly tried again to seek some divine inspiration or guidance. “Give me a sign,” I thought. “Am I in the right place or have I started down a path I will not finish?” Nothing again -- but this time nothing was accompanied by increased despair and isolation. Then, for no particular reason, I looked up to my left and noticed I was sitting right next to the stained glass window.

Right next to me, looking down with the light streaming through the panel: Saint Martin with his cloak and sword. I know it sounds corny, but it washed over me at that point that the lessons that I received at Lenox were still with me, and that if there was ever a sign, this was surely one.

Coincidence? Possibly. But I know what it meant to me that day: It was a silent tap on my shoulder. Marching back from chapel that day took on a new feeling. I’d encounter other seemingly insurmountable hurdles in the years ahead before

graduation from West Point but on that day, Saint Martin and Lenox made all the difference.

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**Paul Denzel Reports:**

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**Pickett Scholarships Awarded**

The LSAA named Miss Hall’s seniors Jasmine Mickens and Cedar Niles as recipients of this year’s Mansfield Pickett Scholarships.

Jasmine was Senior Class Secretary and an Admission Ambassador, and was a member of the Social Committee, a Proctor, and a Big Sister at Miss Hall’s. She was also a member of Essence, a club devoted to creating harmony and tolerance among students, the founder and president of the dance group SWAT, and a member of the junior varsity and varsity softball and volleyball teams. She will attend Denison University in Granville, OH.

Cedar was Secretary of the School and a member of the Judicial Committee during her senior year. She was also a big Sister, and Admission Ambassador, a member of the Social Committee, and a member of Z-Club – a community service club. She was co-founder of the MHS SADD chapter and was co-president during her junior and senior years, and a member of the varsity lacrosse and field hockey teams; she was co-captain of both squads. She will attend Salve Regina University in Newport, RI.

The Pickett awards are named in honor of the late Mansfield E. (Pete) Pickett, who taught at both the Lenox School and a Miss Hall’s School and was beloved by faculty and students alike. The scholarships are designated to help seniors with tuition and the added costs of senior year.

Mr. Pickett, father of Tabitha Pickett Vahle ’78, 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 1973-1975. He died in 1996, and this is the fourth year the Lenox School Alumni have honored Miss Hall’s students.

See photograph, next page



Pictured: Jasmine Mickens and Cedar Niles  
Recipients of the Mansfield Pickett Scholarships

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### Sandy Purdon Reports:

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I just got an invitation from the Rumseian Society (founded by Ben Franklin) in Sherpherdstown, WV to join them on their steamboat at the 200th Fulton steamboat Anniversary Meet at the Clermont Historic Site in August. I've already accepted. I met these guys through my involvement in the Fulton research.

<<http://www.jamesrumsey.org/>>

The Rumseian Society's "Experiment," an approximate 2/3-scale replica of James Rumsey's boat. The boat is different in that the propulsion is by a water/steam jet instead of paddles or a propeller.



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From the Editor:

**David M.G. Huntington, '44**, sent to this office a six-and-a-half page document called "War Stories," in which he describes his family as not "particularly bellicose" and in which he goes on to describe the participation of some seventeen of his

relatives in "some of our country's major conflicts." The story begins with his great-great-great-great-grandfather, James Barrett, 1710-1779, and ends with a relative by marriage to his first cousin. The relative, a British subject named Brian Urquhart, thought he was joining the British Royal Navy in 1939 but ended up in the British Army instead. Following WWII, Mr. Urquhart served at the United Nations, and retired as Under Secretary-General in 1985.

For a copy of the complete story, you may write to Mr. Huntington:

David M. G. Huntington  
4043 N. Lake Drive  
Shorewood WI 53211-2145  
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### In Memoriam

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Received as of August, 2007

June 7, 2007

Dear Mr. Gottsegen,

I am sorry to report that my beloved husband, **John E. Upham '35**, died almost a year ago on June 11, 2006. He had been in poor health for several years with memory loss and leg vascular disabilities. He was a happy man to the end with many family members close by - including 4 grandkids, who visited and played card games with him often.

He lived on the Cape, graduated from Trinity College in Hartford after Lenox and worked for Hercules Powder and Chemical, Inc., in Wilmington, DE for 42 years; he was also an avid golfer and sailor.

He is greatly missed, but his life was quite long and happy. He had many friends, three married daughters, and 2 young and lovely great-granddaughters.

I enjoyed scanning the "Pen and Scroll" when it came around. The Lenox "physical plant" has led a diversified life.

Sincerely,

**Gine Upham**

**SAVE THE DATES:****Reunion Weekend****October 12, 13, 14, 2007**

Lunch will be at 12:30 Saturday, October 13, at The Gateways

**Class of 1937, 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Class of 1947, 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Class of 1957, 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Class of 1967, which ROCKS: 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Remember the Class of 1966's challenge!****Be there, or be square.**The Reunion number will be published *circa* November 2007**SEND YOUR NEWS TODAY!**

Mark David Gottsegen, '67

1203 NC Hwy 62 East

Climax NC 27233-9183

[mdgottsegen@earthlink.net](mailto:mdgottsegen@earthlink.net)

2007 LSAA Reunion

Schedule of Events

**FRIDAY, October 12, 2007**

12:30 PM:

Class of 1966 Invitational Golf Classic; Cranwell Resort, Lenox. All players and classes invited.

Paul "Long Ball" Denzel, '67 Commissioner pro tem; Charles "Fibber" McGee, '71 (Greatest alum to never win a Major), presiding.

6:30 – 10:00PM:

Informal cocktail party (cash bar) and dinner (on your own) for early arrivals. Sloane's Tavern, Cranwell Resort.

**SATURDAY, October 13, 2007**

9:30 – 11:30 AM:

Annual LSAA business meeting: Founder's Theatre (old gym, adjacent to St. Martin's)

12:00 Noon

Luncheon: The Gateways (Lenox), across from Trinity Church (\$15 each)

2:00 – 5:00PM:

Tour of Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield

Open Campus, courtesy of Shakespeare & Co.

5:00 PM:

Hymn Sing: Trinity Church. Jeannie Norris (Head of School, Miss Hall's) has generously donated her time and talent this year as our organist. Additionally, we will have the "Grace Notes," the Miss Hall's *a capella* group, starting off our service.

6:15PM:

Cocktail Reception at The Lenox Club.

Special event: **Lenox Jeopardy**. 30 minutes of hilarity and trivia.

7:00 PM:

Dinner at The Lenox Club

Award presentations and comments

**SUNDAY, October 14, 2007**

Services at Trinity Church

**Recommended Hotels:**

1. Days Inn, Routes 7 & 20; 194 Pittsfield Road, Lenox, MA (413-637-3560). Twenty-five (25) rooms are being held until 25 SEPT for LSAA members; a single/double room rate is @ \$109.00/night + tax. Continental breakfast is included. Ask for Laura Rollins.
2. Econo Lodge, Routes 7 & 20; 130 Pittsfield Road, Lenox, MA (413-637-4244). Twenty-five (25) rooms are being held until 10 SEPT for LSAA members; a single/double room rate is @ \$110.00/night + tax. Continental breakfast is included. Ask for Glen.

# The Pen and Scroll

## Response Form 2007 Lenox School Reunion Weekend (October 12 -14)

**Bob:**

Please count me in for the following: (indicate # of people attending in the blank):

**Friday, October 12, 2007**

# attending

\_\_\_\_\_ Class of '66 Golf Classic (Cranwell Resort, 12:30 PM)

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday night cocktail party and/or dinner (Sloane's Tavern, Cranwell Resort; cash bar and dinner on your own)

**Saturday October 13, 2007**

\_\_\_\_\_ 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM; **Business Meeting**, Founder's Theatre (Old gym, Campus)

\_\_\_\_\_ Noon; **Luncheon: The Gateways (Lenox)**, across from Trinity Church (\$15 each, payable at lunch, not in advance)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2:00 – 5:00PM; **Tour of Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield; Open Campus, courtesy of Shakespeare & Co.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 5:00 PM; **Hymn Sing**: Trinity Church. Jeannie Norris (Head of School, Miss Hall's) has generously donated her time and talent this year as our organist. Additionally, we will have the "Grace Notes," the Miss Hall's a *capella* group, starting off our service.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6:15PM **Cocktail Reception at The Lenox Club**

\_\_\_\_\_ 7:00 PM **Buffet Dinner at The Lenox Club** (\$25.00 per person, includes tax and tip); Award presentations and comments.

Total amount from above \_\_\_\_\_

LSAA Annual Dues (2007 -2008; \$25) \$25.00

Donation (tax deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed (Payable to "Lenox School Alumni Association") \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name and Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Family member names, if attending \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail and Phone Number : \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return THIS reservation form with check before October 1, 2007 to:**

**Bob Sansone'68**  
**69 Mount Sumner Drive**  
**Bolton, CT 06043**

Or if you have questions:

Call Bob at 860-916-1467 (cell); 860-293-6260 (Office)

E-Mail: [Bob.Sansone@XLGROUP.com](mailto:Bob.Sansone@XLGROUP.com)