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## Letter from the Editor:

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

Our President's letter is a call to action: Come to Lenox for Reunions! The form included at the end of this newsletter gives you all the details, including times, locations and prices. As an alum who has often made the trip, I can attest that it is a rejuvenating experience. Calling classmates to join you makes it even better.

The connections with Lenox here on Martha's Vineyard continue, as you will see from the letters to the editor. Also you will find a short autobiography of Reverend Timothy Cogan, a Lenox master from the 1960s.

Thanks to all who have sent me material for this newsletter, and if I missed anything please be sure to write or email me as to my error. Mark Gottsegen '67, editor extraordinaire, continues to be much missed and should be thanked for all his help in this issue.

Please send your stories, reflections and news to me: electronic is best.

Sincerely,

David Nathans

46 Little Way

Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

508-687-9515 (home)

609-937-3985 (mobile)

[sydco@att.net](mailto:sydco@att.net) or [dnathans@mvmuseum.org](mailto:dnathans@mvmuseum.org)

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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### Reunion!

**“Truth is a river that is always splitting up into arms that reunite. Islanded between the**

**arms, the inhabitants argue for a lifetime as to which is the main river.” Cyril Connolly**

The truth is, we are all part of that main river we call Lenox School. It should come as no surprise that as we approach the legacy years of the last few classes to graduate, the challenge of drawing more alums back to our annual get-together will become more challenging. Yet we were pleasantly surprised by the number of grads from Lenox '69 who assembled last year for their legacy (and we want to see them again this year!!)

We have started as early as possible in seeking to generate bigger numbers and have been targeting the classes with graduating years ending in 0 or 5 (1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, etc thru 1970) to make this a legacy reunion and hopefully flood the event as we never have before.

Toward this end we have engaged with a few classes already to help them contact their classmates. In fact, the class of 1964 is already active and we hope they use this year as a warm up for their legacy anniversary next year! The dates for this reunion this year are OCT 15 and 16 and you will find herein the reunion response form (to send into me along with dues) along with the reunion weekend agenda.

**“History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.” Robert Penn Warren**

By the time this goes to print, we will have accomplished some fairly important tasks which I feel inure not only to the benefit of the members but also honor the memory of those who have gone before us. Let me summarize:

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# The Pen and Scroll

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1. Thanks to the incredible efforts of one of our alumni (Randy Harris asked that he not be named as the principal author of this, so I won't name him as the principal author... let's just say he's an author...) we have a wonderful document completed, which is titled "The Lenox School Campus History". It memorializes the history of the campus we all knew; and the story that comes forth from this document is nothing short of incredible and captivating. Some of his thoughts on putting this History together are provided in this edition.

2. On July 27<sup>th</sup> we will have around 20 Lenox alums, wives and masters assembling in Lenox for a memorial service honoring the memory of Canon Whitman '33, who was so instrumental as the Rector of Trinity Church for 31 years and as a board of trustees member in contributing to and guiding Lenox for so many years.

2.1 We have our first Rev. Curry Scholarship recipient identified; and this individual will be formally announced at our reunion dinner.

2.2 The LSAA web site now has not only "The Lenox School Campus History" available in it, but we also have included a paper detailing the work done by the Quo Vadis committee regarding the prospect of resurrecting Lenox school (The Feasibility of Reestablishing the Lenox School").

2.3 Here is your chance to memorialize your version of the legacy of Lenox: As described in an article below, we are continuing work on the Lenox School Book of History and Memories Project that will be yet another means of creating an enduring legacy, as well as being an enjoyable read and trip back to the past. Essential to this Project are your recollections of our School and its campus and so I encourage you to contribute to the effort by submitting them as requested.

**"The part always has a tendency to reunite with its whole in order to escape from its imperfection." Leonardo da Vinci**

I am going to make this my shortest President's message (I am sure much appreciated by our Editor and many of you!!) by making a simple 3-part decision tree for whether you should attend the 2010 Lenox School reunion or not:

1. If you have not been to any of our Lenox School reunions, come to this one!

2. If you have been to one of our Lenox reunions, you don't want to miss this one, so come to this one!

3. In the event you are not sure of the answer to #1 or #2 above (and this is the universally correct answer) - attend the 2010 reunion.

If you contact me, we will find a way to provide you with a contact list of your classmates to facilitate reaching them (*along with the 3-part decision tree above*) to ensure they are planning to attend this year. As Leonardo exhorted, come escape your imperfections and reunite with us at the Lenox School 2010 reunion!

Bob Sansone  
President, LSAA  
Lenox '68  
860-916-1467  
[RJSENERGY@Gmail.com](mailto:RJSENERGY@Gmail.com)

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## Letters to the Editor

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Email of 7/8/2010:

Dear David,

I just got the hard copy of *The Pen and Scroll* and was bowled over to see your address. Can you believe that my wife and I own a house in Menemsha (a family home since 1967) and lived there from 2000 to 2008. We now live in Providence full-time but scoot to the island often, at a whim's notice. In fact we'll probably be there some time next week, and I'll - for certain - look you up. I'll give you a buzz. Our address is 466 North Road, Chilmark and our tel. # is 508-645-2414. Getting to the island for us is simply and hour and ten minutes to Woods Hole and we can drive right on at any time 'cause we ride up on the Harley (Road King).

Question: have you actually made contact with Tim Cogan? I'd love to say hello.

With cheers,  
Bayard (Rob/Bob) Kellam '64

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# The Pen and Scroll

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Email (after phone) of 7/13/2010:  
Hi David,

Great to talk with you just now! I look forward to meeting you and also to seeing Tim Cogan again after nearly a half century. Small world, indeed. Our thoughts are with the folks who live in Menemsha after yesterday's disastrous fire. That's hard to imagine. Jeannie's dad, Fred Littleton, who was harbormaster there for a number of years, would be so distressed. He died this past March and is buried at Abel's Hill along with his wife, Ellie and three of their grandsons, one of them our own son, Jamie, who was murdered here in Richmond during a robbery in 1997 when he was 21 while working in a Friendlys restaurant.

We have spent our summer vacations in Chilmark for years at the Littleton's home overlooking the Keith Farm.

I really look forward to meeting you, David, and perhaps, if you could stand it, you could come and enjoy the view from the deck. I would love to be in touch with Tim Cogan if you have his e-mail address. He may or may not remember me. I enjoyed singing in the choir under his direction.

See you soon as we arrive in the Vineyard on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July and will be there until August 5<sup>th</sup>.

David Knight '63

.....  
Email of 6/5/2010 to Editor Mark Gottsegen:

Greetings Mark,

I enjoyed reading the latest P&S but was especially interested in your story about Ed Gleason.

I did know that Ed had passed on, but I did not know anything about his association or involvement with Haiti.

Without going into any lengthy detail, I would really appreciate you letting me know the bullet points what he did in Haiti. Better yet, if there is something on the Internet that details his service, so much the better.

Lenox, MA 01240

Here is what I remember about Ed. As you know, he was the hockey coach. In my senior year I was captain of the hockey team and therefore had a great deal of communication with him.

When it was my turn to sit at his table for meals, he always asked a trivia question and whoever answered it correctly got what was left of the mashed potatoes or whatever happened to be left over. Luckily for me, when I was at his table, he always asked hockey related questions that I knew easily and nobody else had any idea what he was talking about.

I must admit that I am not proud of the following. We had a game that we were winning 2-0 after the second period. The team we were playing had one player who was a real stud and I knew that he was going to be trouble for us. I asked Ed to put our best forward on that guy and shadow him for the rest of the game. Ed did not agree with me, and thought that our defense could handle him. Sure enough, the guy scored three goals in the third period to win the game. I was so angry at Ed - I can't even begin to tell you. The sad part is that I never got over it. When I have thought of Ed over the years, guess what I think about? Not very mature, is it.

That is why I am especially interested to know about his Haiti connection. I would like to be able to remember him for what he did in his life that was really important - not some stupid hockey game.

He was a gentle, even-tempered man who put up with some kids who were the antithesis is that temperament.

Thank you for any help that you can give me on this.

My very best regards and God Bless you and yours.

Scott Ingram '70

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## LENOX SCHOOL TRIVIA QUESTION

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This exchange between the previous editor and the school historian is enlightening. The

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# The Pen and Scroll

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historian letter writer is Randy Harris '68 and the replies are from Mark Gottsegen '67 (in boldface type).

From June 15, 2010 email:  
Mark,

Hope that things are going well for you! I just wanted to ask you several quick questions and provide some additional information that may make you smile.

I saw that you were on the Squash Team and wonder if you could tell me where you practiced and played your matches? **The Pittsfield Country Club on Rte. 7.** Are you aware if this location was always used or if somewhere else had been used in the past? **Probably always used—but can't be positive. It was an old court, but in good shape, and unheated. Sometimes we'd get snow blowing in drifts from behind the tin in the front wall!** In the 1930s the School had an active School-internal handball competition. Would the facilities that you're aware of for squash have been around in those times? **No idea.**

I assume that you were also on the Tennis Team (**yes**), but in your duties with the Pen and Scroll, do you happen to know if the Sailing Team always used the Stockbridge Bowl? **Ironically, I was not editorially involved much with the Pen and Scroll—more the yearbook.**

Was the Pen and Scroll printed in the little Printing Plant Building behind St. Martins? **I think it was printed in Lee. I remember 2 a.m. trips to Joe's Diner to celebrate turning in page proofs ... Joe's is still there, but it's a different Joe.**

Finally, I recently was the last alumnus to get his own copy of the Trinity Parish History, "The Goodness That Doth Crown Our Days," by John Allen Gable '61 and I happened to come across the answer to the question you asked in a recent edition of the Pen and Scroll. Sorry if I failed to notice if it's already been answered.

The subjects of the eight heraldic corbel shields on the walls of the nave, covering the beam

joinings, installed by Rev Whitman in 1980 and painted by Alan Thielker are as follows.

The four on the right (south) wall!  
Lenox School/Foxhollow School  
Town of Lenox  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
United States of America

The four on the left (north) wall!  
Trinity Parish  
Diocese of Western Massachusetts  
The Episcopal Church  
Province of Canterbury

I don't want any recognition if I happen to be the first to answer your question and I certainly don't need any additional food; so please let someone else discover the answer. Besides, I was under the employment of the LSAA when I came across the information, so I'm probably technically ineligible for the competition.

**Bravo! For this, I am referring you to David Nathans, the current P&S Editor, who now owes you a greasy grinder from Maria's in Pittsfield. Sadly, Maria's is now a gas station; would you settle for Subway? No.**

**But, what is the paint used on the shields? Give up? Egg tempera on traditional gesso (the panels are walnut, I think), with traditional gold and silver gilding.**

Take Care!  
Randy

.....  
A note from Reverend Timothy Cogan

*TEMPUS FUGIS*

David Nathans' appearance on Martha's Vineyard has opened the doors of the past, which is appropriate for the director of a museum. But it is a surprise in my seventy-sixth year to have the days of my callow youth come back to mind, with a growing group of Facebook friends from Lenox ("the only school that doesn't exist that still exists!") reminding me of *les neiges d'antan* and twenty-degree-below-zero weather in Berkshire County.

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# The Pen and Scroll

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Where have I been in the last forty-five years? It surprises me, and, if like Niall Finnegan you thought I might have kicked the bucket, it might surprise you.

At graduation in 1965 the Big Bopper paid me the best compliment ever received. You remember that he gave each of us a “character” as we were departing. Mine was: “He has done the work of four men.” It was much appreciated because, before going to Lenox at age twenty-six, I had never really worked as hard as I should have – “late-bloomers” were still in fashion – the “competition” had not yet become the only game in town.

My friend John Snow had said: “Lenox is a great place if you need work therapy, but not everyone needs work therapy.” I was someone who did need it, and the Rev Robert L. Curry didn’t let me, or any of you, down.

You may remember that, at the height of the Civil Rights Movement and after the choir had gone to such places as Hubert and Arthur’s home, St. Paul’s College in Lawrenceville, VA, and St. Martin’s Church in Harlem, I took the job of Director of Christian Education at St. Philip’s Church on 133<sup>rd</sup> Street, where I ran the Church School of 70 teachers and 700 students in a parish of about 7,000 people (once the largest Episcopal Church in the US). Two years later I moved to Grace Church, at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway, as Assistant Minister was Chaplain to Grace Church School, taught theology, and founded Grace Opportunity Project, which still survives.

Ruth and I were married while I was at Grace in 1967; John was born in 1969 during the country’s turmoil after the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Bobby Kennedy, and amid Viet Nam protests. In the fall of 1969, two 26-year-old teachers at Trinity School in New York told the Headmaster, Dick Garten, that, if he made students who had cut classes during the week to attend an anti-war rally make up the time on Saturday (no Saturday classes, lucky city kids), they would quit. He told them to go ahead and quit. So there was a need for fifth-grade teachers. I left Grace to take the job, the then chaplain

resigned in the spring, and I became the Chaplain of Trinity School.

Our second son, Milo, was born in 1972, and two days after his birth I was offered the job of Episcopal Chaplain at Princeton, where we stayed for 13 years. Highlight? I was goalie coach of the Princeton Women’s Lacrosse team for 10 years (remember, Bruce?).

As the boys were growing up, we wanted to get back to New England for school. Now the story gets interesting. The Rev George F. Vought, School Minister at Brooks School in North Andover MA, was going on sabbatical. Would I be willing to come for one year to cover for him?

Brooks School was founded in 1926 by Groton School, the same year that St. Mark’s founded Lenox School, a fact that continues to amaze me. In addition, George Vought had been appointed chaplain at Lenox in 1972 and had already moved to the campus when Lenox “gave up the ghost”. Bishop Stokes called Frank Ashburn, Headmaster of Brooks, and asked him if he could give George a job, which Ashburn did. Thirteen years later I went to Brooks to cover during George’s sabbatical – on Ash Wednesday George died – to make a long story short, I became Brooks’s School Minister for 17 years, to be succeeded by Fred Emrich, Senior Prefect at Lenox in the late 1950’s.

When we retired from Brooks in 2002, our summer home became our permanent residence – except for the winter, which we began to spend in Florida. In the spring of 2004 I was Chaplain at King’s College, Cambridge, England and sang Evensong every night for three months. (That was the year Virginia Seminary, my seminary, gave me the degree of Doctor in Divinity *honoris causa* – unearned – for my work in Episcopal education.) Upon returning, an old friend for my days at Grace Church, Hap Warren, asked if I could join the staff of the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea in Palm Beach for the winter – “an offer I couldn’t refuse”. So that’s what we do now.

I got to a reunion once and keep hoping to get back soon. Recent reminiscences on Facebook have meant a lot to me, especially the reminder that that’s where I learned to work hard,



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# The Pen and Scroll

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and to help make an integrated society, and to “Let the Peoples Praise Him”!

I once preached a sermon that said that the only institution I had ever known that lived by its motto was Lenox School: *Non ministrari sed ministrare!!!*

Faithfully, your old friend,  
TBC

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## In Memoriam

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John Hough Was Quiet Chronicler of Truth

John Talcott Hough, whose newspaper career spanned nearly half a century and who retired 16 years ago to the family home called Fish Hook in the woods of North Tisbury, died on Sunday of natural causes at the JML Care Center in Falmouth. He was 87.

Mr. Hough, who was known to all as Jack, was born in New Bedford in 1922 into a newspaper family. His father, George A. Hough Jr., was city editor of the New Bedford Evening Standard. The elder George Hough, Mr. Hough’s grandfather, was managing editor, a position he’d held since before the turn of the century.

Mr. Hough and his older brother, George 3<sup>rd</sup>, grew up with talk of newspapers in the air, and the craft was in their blood from an early age. mMr. Hough’s family came to Falmouth in 1929, when his father bought the Falmouth Enterprise and took over as publisher. Mr. Hough attended the Lenox School in western Massachusetts, where he was captain of the football team and one of two graduates in the class of 1940 to receive the silver medal for scholarship.

He attended Haverford College in Pennsylvania and played guard on the 1942 football team, which went undefeated for the only time in school history. In May of that year, on a blind date, Mr. Hough met a chestnut-haired Bryn Mawr College English Mary Small Kurtz. They were married in 1944 in York, Pa., Miss Kurtz’s home. Mr. Hough was a lieutenant in the Marines by then. He and his bride spent the next 15 months at military bases across the South, and in 1945

Lieutenant Hough was sent to the Pacific island of Okinawa to serve with the Marine Air Defense Command. On Okinawa he saw combat and won promotion to first lieutenant. He was discharged in August, 1946, and went to work as a reporter for the *York Gazette and Daily*. Years later he recalled what he described as his apprenticeship in the small factory city above the Maryland border:

“I look back on my five years with the *Gazette and Daily* with undiluted nostalgia. In my case it was the opportunity for a callow youth to learn the rudiments of an old and honest trade; to go out and report the news as it happened, as we saw it.

“We attended aldermanic hearings, the police court, school board meetings, and the township commission meetings. We covered the churches and visited undertakers, hospitals, the YMCA and YWCA, courthouse and county fair. “The news for us was a live thing, to be hunted down and captured.” All this was prelude. In 1951 Mr. Hough came home, with his growing family, to Falmouth and the *Enterprise*. He began as a reporter, took over the day-to-day running of the paper by degrees, and became publisher with the death of his father in 1976. He eased into semiretirement in 1991 and was succeeded by his two youngest children, Margaret Hough Russell and William Henry. Mr. Hough never hesitated to take a firm and unpopular stand in his editorials, but he believed that a newspaper’s primary obligation is honest and comprehensive reporting — “telling the truth as plainly as possible.” A good newspaper, he said, develops a “compact” with its readers to give them the news complete and unvarnished.

Mary Hough died in 1987.

Mr. Hough, whose uncle was the late Henry Beetle Hough, editor and publisher of the *Vineyard Gazette*, had visited the Vineyard and Fish Hook all his life, and had always intended to retire here. He came in 1994. It was a quiet life. He ordered books by mail — dozens and dozens over the years — and read them all. He enjoyed old movies and said there was never a better one than *Casablanca*. He took long walks with his bull terrier, Jock, and cut wood for his fireplaces, sawing and splitting by hand. He cleared brush,

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# The Pen and Scroll

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planted trees and shrubs. He was well into his 80s before his physical vitality began to ebb.

Mr. Hough cherished the English language and used it with precision and quiet elegance. At Fish Hook he kept a daily logbook, as his grandfather had done, chronicling life in the country. "I was downstairs at 5:30 a.m.," he wrote one June. "Not long after 7 o'clock we set out on the morning walk.

The woods and the beach and the water were all lovely. "Has this corner of North Tisbury ever been so green?" Fall was his favorite season. "There was no breeze," he wrote one October. "The Sound was a smooth expanse, robin's egg blue in the soft morning sunlight. Small waves lapped at the shore." And one late August: "After noon it cleared. By late afternoon we were in September — that crystal clear air, high cottony white cumulus, an infinity of dazzling blue sky, bright but gentle sunshine. We are approaching the best part of the North Tisbury year."

In addition to his brother (George '39) and niece and nephew, Mr. Hough is survived by a son, John Jr. of West Tisbury; his two daughters, Mary Hough-Schroeder of Orono, Me., and Julia Hough of Weekhauken, N.J.; and by seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in Falmouth at a date still to be determined.

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**Birth Date:** Nov. 30, 1951

**Death Date:** Jun. 15, 2010

Thomas P. Mayne, 58, of Old Orchard Beach, died Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at his home. He was born November 30, 1951 in Athol, MA, the son of Paul and Elizabeth (Ryan) Mayne. Thomas was educated at the Lenox School in Lenox, MA, graduating in 1971.

Mr. Mayne served in Vietnam with the U.S. Air Force until February of 1973.

On April 24, 1982, he married Diane Chretien in Biddeford.

He worked as a self employed Lobsterman until he became disabled 10 years ago.

Thomas was a member of the Outlaw Motorcycle Club and enjoyed the time he spent riding with them. He also enjoyed making music on his guitar, surfing, playing hockey, fishing and lobstering. He was known to have a "green thumb" and spent many hours gardening with his wife.

Surviving are:

His wife of 28 years: Diane Mayne of Old Orchard Beach; 2 daughters: Alison Mayne of Scarborough, ME and Erin Nason of Saco, and his brother-in-law Ken Chretien of Old Orchard Beach

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# The Hen and Scroll

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Memorial visitation will be 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 26, 2010 at Cathedral Pine Funeral Home, 156 Saco, Avenue, Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064. To share condolences online, please visit [www.HopeMemorial.com](http://www.HopeMemorial.com).

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## Other LSAA BUSINESS

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Dear Class of 1961

Our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion is coming up in just a little over a year.

50 years ago, we (or our parents) received this letter from the school and later the flyer. Do any of you remember them? (see attached – in the email version of this only) Actually I think one of them was sent after we graduated.

Doesn't it seem like just yesterday that we were planning for our senior year at Lenox? Remember the summer reading list with those big fat books. We were thinking of fall athletics and those big games with Berkshire. Doesn't it seem just like yesterday that we were planning on what colleges to apply to? Our lives have taken us in many different directions over the years, but we still share in a common bond, LENOX. It may not have been the best times of our lives and it probably wasn't the worse. Travel to Lenox and share in memories then and now. Be part of the Celebration.

It's not too early to start planning for our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. I hope that you will consider attending. The Lenox School Alumni Association holds its annual Reunion around Columbus Day weekend in October. We, the Class of 1961, will be celebrating our graduation's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the 2011 Reunion. If you need help with your planning or need information you can contact **Howard Prestwich** or **Pete Baker**.

The Class of 1967 started a tradition of the Anniversary Class organizing a Friday evening buffet at one of the Lenox restaurants. Theirs was at the Cranwell Resort. Should we continue with the tradition? If yes we should coordinate with the LSAA.

Looking forward to hearing from you.  
Let's get together in 2011.

Best regards,  
Howard/Pet

PS: if you are in contact with any classmate not on the E-mail list or if the address is wrong please contact them and us. THANKS

**Howard Prestwich**

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## THOUGHTS ON CREATING THE CAMPUS HISTORY

The LSAA President suggested that I provide some thoughts on the process and experience of putting the Campus History together and what surprises I found as I uncovered the information along the way. One big surprise to begin with was that I undertook the task at all. At Lenox I pretty much lived in the present and didn't focus on historical matters; as with most I recalled many details, but other events and times are completely gone; I had wandered in the wilderness for over 35 years without even realizing that the LSAA existed; that is until I was informed so by a metal-detecting Pittsfield resident who found my School ring buried in the dirt below the rear steps to St. Martins and then tracked me down, but that's another story (I hadn't even realized I'd lost it); I had lost track of most of my Lenox possessions during numerous moves; and I lived in Central Texas, 1,900 miles from the campus and the School's Memorabilia Collection.



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# The Pen and Scroll

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Though I was an unlikely candidate to prepare a history, as I worked on the Memorabilia Display and the Quo Vadis Project and spoke with other alumni, I got interested in the project because every conversation on the subject seemed to end with partial bits of information; conflicting recollections; and differing names for the same organizations. I thought that surely someone must know the complete story, but apparently no one did or at least had not written it down. Feeling somewhat guilty over my prolonged absence; enjoying a certain Don Quixote bent; and believing that the LSAA should know and tell the whole story, I undertook the task.

Preparing the History was a humbling experience that emphasized the axiom that you don't know what you don't know. I was surprised that people in the Town of Lenox and its Historical Society didn't know more about the School and the use of the campus, as the most definitive work on-hand was a class paper by a high school student, which focused on the School itself. Throughout the entire effort, everyone associated with the School that I approached was most generous with their time and recollections. This began with Ralph Herter '68, my senior-year roommate who got me started with his stash of School memorabilia and who unbeknownst to either of us had also ended up in Texas less than an hour away. In the process I had to remind myself not to say to another alumnus "what do you mean you don't remember when the milk and cookie break during the academic day was, some 67 years ago", when I hadn't even remembered that one existed. A busy lawyer took time to mail me a handwritten proof of a section of the History with the caution never to ask a lawyer to review a document (it was world's better). Another alumnus intimated "not another question on the History", when I had another ten that I wanted to ask (he answered them all without complaint).

Feeling pretty cocky after completing an initial version, I shared it with a fellow alumnus. For one particular period, I had confidently said that during that time there was no record of any activity on the campus and he replied that during that time, he had worked in the St. Martins kitchen that was being used by the Vershire School, which up until that point, no one had even known had

used the campus. Quite an ego deflating experience!

I was also fortunate to be able to rely upon some wonderful source documents which provided many of the details contained in the History. I began the effort by reviewing Ed Ockenden's '43 excellent "An Early History of Lenox School" that got me inspired and provided some great information on the founding of the School. In the process, I ironically discovered that my Uncle had attended the Kent School and that his widow had fond memories of meeting its founder and Headmaster, Father Frederic Sill who was primarily responsible for Lenox's self-help policy and was on the committee that recommended the founding of Lenox School. I also discovered that Bishop Malcolm E. Peabody, a member of my home parish when I was a youth, was the son of Rev. Endicott Peabody, founder and Headmaster of the Groton School for 50 years and who was a mentor to our own Rev. Thayer. I also conducted an Internet search on the people and organizations that I'd heard mentioned and pursued the various pieces of information uncovered. Along the way I consulted two books written by Lenox folks and was glad I did. Mr. David Wood's "Lenox: Massachusetts Shire Town" written for the Town of Lenox's bicentennial in 1967, addressed the numerous Estates and Cottages which Lenox had more of than any other school in the area; made sense of the numerous local personality references in other sources; and provided a great look at some of the Town's more prominent residents. Likewise, John Allen Gable's '61, History of the Trinity Parish, "The Goodness That Doth Crown Our Days", written for the Parish's bicentennial in 1993, not only provided the only picture I've found of Rev. Latta Griswold, but provided great information on the Church; its relationship with the School; events in the local area; and information on many parishioners whose land and money went to Lenox. I also took the opportunity to review again the numerous LSAA Pen and Scroll Letters to the Editor which took on greater meaning as I became more familiar with the School's history and which provided useful bits and pieces of information that filled in gaps in coverage. The varied stories on the impact that Lenox had on many of the writers was truly inspiring.

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# The Pen and Scroll

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In regards to what surprised me a partial list follows: that the date of the School's founding, first year and first graduating class were not a given in everyone's mind (it's pretty certain that it's 1926 and 1930); that the majority of the campus was not donated initially in one parcel by a single individual, but rather in several parcels over ten years; how difficult some of the years were for the School, that it almost foundered, and that it had to accept non-college category students for a period to survive; that a Second Form or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade existed for many of its years and that one former Master recalls a First Form or 7<sup>th</sup> Grade in 1955, perhaps only surprising to me as a latter-year graduate; how much both Rev. Monks and Rev. Curry expected the School's athletic teams to win and routinely commented on their efforts and records; the very limited financial relationship with the Episcopal Church (Rev. Thayer was told at the School's founding "never to look to the Province for financial support"); the difficulty in obtaining an accurate count of the number of School graduates (no lists agree, but use 1,365 plus or minus 2%); that the School could make such a large error in the cost and financing of the Sports Center; that no acceptable way could be worked out to continue the School when it ran into decreasing enrollment and financial difficulties; that there was in fact a Bordentown/Lenox School with former Lenox Masters, even though it had been mentioned in a Pen and Scroll article; that the campus was involved in the United States' Landmark case on brainwashing during The Bible Speaks Era; that John Barth was once successful in registering the Lenox School name and even tried to enlist the LSAA and its predecessor into raising funds for him; and I guess I also couldn't help thinking about Dick Clark and famous musicians performing in Schermerhorn Hall during the National Music Foundation era.

In the end, I was left wondering as I suppose many of you have, as to why the School, consisting of intelligent men of good will, couldn't be saved, even in the face of reduced enrollment, a \$190,000 operating cost deficit, unpopular times for private preparatory schools, a seemingly restless student body and a \$650,000 Sports Center debt. Despite having no access to the discussions at the time, my thoughts, based on the School's reactions to similar times in its past include: no

young-driven tenured visionary like Rev. Monks or Rev. Curry to work the problem; fewer wealthy trustees than in the past; the decision to have no endowment; no girls; limited funds provided by alumni, perhaps the result of a shortened and therefore less than optimum fundraising effort; no apparent attempt to sell portions of the campus to generate required working capital; and an unwillingness of the faculty to accept the reductions proposed to meet operating shortfalls or to come up with an alternative solution to no scholarships and a 10% percent faculty reduction. Ultimately, despite an apparent lack of corporate will to continue that may indicate a deeper issue as yet uncovered, without an endowment Lenox School was doomed. All the surviving schools went coed in the early 1970s and our Quo Vadis look at existing New England preparatory schools taught us that all have large endowments that pay up to 40% of the annual operating costs for each student. A look at the three schools most closely associated with Lenox: Kent (where the self-help model was pioneered), St. Marks (Rev. Thayer was Headmaster) and St. Andrews (formed in the image of Lenox/Rev. Waldo Pell an original Lenox Master was its first Headmaster) reflect estimated current endowments of \$73 Million, \$133 Million and \$177 Million respectively. In 1993, even Trinity Church had an endowment begun by Rev. Griswold valued at \$1 Million.

Randy Harris '68

# The and Scroll

## LSAA 2010 Reunion Response Form

2010 Lenox School Reunion Weekend  
(October 15 -17, 2010)

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

### Friday, October 15, 2010

#### (Number attending)

\_\_\_\_ - Lenox School Invitational Golf Classic (Golf's Fifth Major) (Cranwell Resort, 12:00 PM) \$45 each includes cart.

\_\_\_\_ - 6:30 pm The 19<sup>th</sup> Hole - - cash buffet and cocktail party at Cork 'N Hearth, Route 20, Lee 413-243-0535 (On Laurel Lake, about two miles south of Cranwell)

### Saturday October 16, 2010

\_\_\_\_ - 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM; **Business Meeting**, Founder's Theatre (our old gym, adjacent to St. Martin's)

\_\_\_\_ - 12 Noon; **Luncheon: The Gateways, 51 Walker St., Lenox**, across from Trinity Church (\$15 each, payable in advance)

\_\_\_\_ - 2:00PM – 4:00PM; **Tour of Campus, courtesy of Shakespeare & Co.**

\_\_\_\_ - 2:00PM; **Show Time !!!; "The Real Inspector Hound"** performance at Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre (the converted Lenox School sports complex) starting also at 2:00PM; Tickets may be purchased in advance through Shakespeare & Co.; or at the performance.

\_\_\_\_ 5:00 PM; **Hymn Sing:** Trinity Church. 88 Walker Street; Lenox, MA 01240

Steven Lowry '66 will be the organist.

\_\_\_\_ 6:00 PM Cocktail

**Reception at The Lenox Club cash bar.** 111 Yokun Avenue, Lenox, MA 01240 Telephone : 413-637-0030

\_\_\_\_ 7:00 PM **Buffet Dinner at The Lenox Club** (\$35.00 per person, includes tax and tip); The Lenox School Hall of Fame nominees will be inducted at this time, along with the announcement of our Rev Curry Scholarship recipient.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ - **Total amount from above**

\$25.00 - LSAA Annual Dues (2010 -2011)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ - **Additional Tax Deductible**

#### **Donation**

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

Your Name and Class and family member names, if attending:

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

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail and Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this Reunion Reservation form with check before October 1, 2010 to:

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

Or, if you have questions, call Bob at 860-916-1467 (cell) E-Mail: [rjsenergy@gmail.com](mailto:rjsenergy@gmail.com)

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# The Pen and Scroll

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**REGISTER TO ATTEND:**

**Reunion Weekend  
October 15, 16, 17, 2010**

**Class of 1940, 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1945, 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1950, 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1955, 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1960, 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1965, 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Class of 1970, 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion**

**Be there, or be square.**

The next number will be published *November 2010*

Send your news today!

David Nathans, '68

46 Little Way

Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

508-687-9515 (home)

609-937-3985 (mobile)

[sydco@att.net](mailto:sydco@att.net) or [dnathans@mvmuseum.org](mailto:dnathans@mvmuseum.org)

