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# The Pen and Scroll

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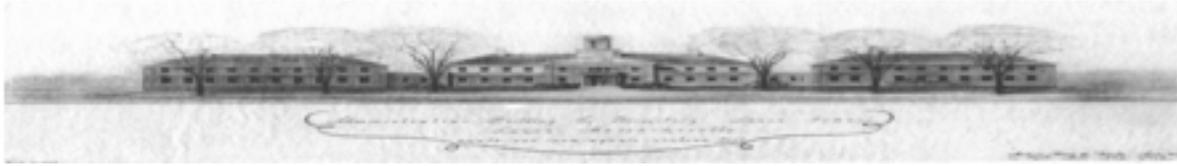
VOL. XVII, NO. 2

LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

November, 2008

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## Letter from the Editor:

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

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2008, we are snug in our new old house awaiting the first real snowstorm of the season that's blowing hard out of the northwest. We have here what is called "lake effect" storms, even as we are 20 miles south of Lake Erie in a river valley. I can tell you I'm more excited than my kids, as I haven't had a decent snowstorm in more than 32 years. Of course, if anyone could predict the future (for instance, the weather) with any accuracy they would not be in the business of predicting weather; he or she would be lying on a beach somewhere in retirement for having won a lottery. [Update: As of November 20<sup>th</sup>, we had 12" of snow on the ground.]

I regret very much that I was unable to attend the 2008 Reunion. I wouldn't have enjoyed it in any case, for fear of suddenly having to run to a restroom: I was stricken with some sort of bug that has since bugged off. I neglected my duty as the Secretary to the Board in recording the Minutes of the Business Meeting; I have been told they were well taken-care of in any case.

By all accounts the Reunion was fun for all those who were there. Apparently a record number of people came for dinner on Saturday night and the Lenox Club's kitchen had to scramble to make up a deficit of 20 meals.

In this number you will see reports from the Board about attendance; the approval of the new By-Laws of the Corporation and Association; the outcomes of the Business Meeting, including this year's recipients of the Hall of Fame honors; new plans for enhanced family friendly activities for future reunions; and other business.

Best of all, we have a number of newsy items from our fellow alumni. We always welcome hearing from all of you, whether via Chagrin Falls OH 44023

email or snail mail. For the next number, contact your curmudgeonly editor at the addresses below.

Sincerely,  
Mark David Gottsegen, '67  
The 1853 David Nettleton House  
7694 East Washington Street  
Chagrin Falls OH 44023-4404  
[mdgottsegen@earthlink.net](mailto:mdgottsegen@earthlink.net)

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## Letters to the Editor

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To Lenox School Alumni:

I want to express my deep appreciation for my selection to membership in the Lenox School Hall of Fame and for the fine reception you gave me at the Lenox Club dinner. I am both moved and honored. I wish to express like sentiments on behalf of David Wood who, though he is no longer with us, would likewise feel very honored by his posthumous appointment to the Hall of Fame.

Here follow some words about David's and my time together at Lenox School and some experiences that we shared. It is, of course, virtually impossible to do true justice to every aspect of David's life and work at Lenox and his outside activities in the Berkshires. In fact, I feel as though I have barely "scratched the surface."

David Southworth  
November 2008

### Remembering David Wood

In the spring of 1955 I rode the bus from Boston to Lenox to interview for a teaching position at Lenox School. Awaiting my arrival at the bus stop in front of the Lenox town hall was a young man in a Ford convertible. He took me to lunch in Thayer Hall where I joined him at his table of boys. After lunch he introduced me to Bob Shirley who was to show me around the campus.

Thus was my first acquaintance with David Wood that over the next 52 years grew and evolved into a close professional and personal friendship. He was 32 years old at the time, senior to me by four years.

David was Assistant to the Headmaster, Robert Curry, and Head of the English Department. His activities, however, were many and varied not only in the school, but they also extended far beyond the campus into Lenox and Stockbridge and elsewhere in Berkshire County. He also maintained his ties with his native roots on Nantucket Island where he was born and grew up.

David had an apartment in St. Martin's in the one-story curving segment connecting the central building with the Sixth Form Wing. His sitting room was always a clutter of books, papers and newspaper piles, randomly stacked on available floor space. He also had a study a few steps down the hall in one of the single rooms in the dormitory wing, just to the left of the outside door. Here he had his desk, and the walls were lined with shelves of his considerable book collection. David was a collector of antique furniture and other objects, and he used various places around the campus to store these items, including the upper story of the barn (later to become the Field House), closets on the third floor of St. Martin's, and the Schermerhorn Annex.

David might be thought of as the "Master of St. Martin's Hall," for he was constantly everywhere in the building, in the dormitories at lights-out and rising times, checking the classrooms at night for open windows, running fire drills, helping distribute the recess milk, and running the dining hall when Bob Curry was absent. During vacation periods, David and I were often the only remaining inhabitants in St. Martin's, and I would hear his characteristic footsteps downstairs as he came and went, reassuring to know that there was other life nearby. David was a true St. Martin's "presence."

David Wood was a superb teacher, presiding over the table of his students in Room W or calling out typing drills to his classes in the Typing Room with his clear and resonant voice. He had a profound knowledge of English grammar, structure, and vocabulary, and of English and American literature. He could freely quote from poetry, drama, or prose. He was also an excellent writer who had a special way with words.

In 1969 David published his first book, "Lenox: Massachusetts Shire Town." The Town of Lenox was celebrating its bicentennial, and the Lenox Bicentennial Committee commissioned David to write a history of the town. The resulting book is a thoroughly researched and detailed view of 200 years of Lenox history, including people, places, and events. An appendix contains a comprehensive listing and description of all the great estates of the Lenox Gilded Age.

One of David's greatest Lenox School legacies remains his staging of a major dramatic production each term. "The Tempest," "Marat Sade," "The Lord of the Flies," "Dial M for Murder," are but a few of his many achievements where in casting he drew upon the talents of Sixth Formers and, when needed, of younger boys, and sometimes filling female roles with faculty wives or children. In these monumental efforts, David was ably assisted by Nol Putnan, who managed the stage crew. Judy Conklin Peters, librarian at the town library and a close friend, helped with the costumes. Those were memorable nights in the Old Gym as the stage curtains opened on a new production.

During two summers in the 50's, David and I worked together at Elm Court, a great rambling mansion up the road in back of the school. A remnant of the Lenox Gilded Age, Elm Court was owned by George Wilde, a Lenox School trustee, who ran it as an inn during the Tanglewood season. David was the inn manager, and I assisted him in the office along with George Shippey '53. I also lived at Elm Court during this time, while David stayed in his quarters in St. Martin's. Many of the guests were regulars each summer from Boston, New York, and farther afield. Several visiting performers with the Boston Symphony also stayed at Elm Court, among them Pierre Monteux, Isaac Stern, Leonard Bernstein, Benny Goodman, and Ogden Nash, to name a few. Charles Munch, the BSO conductor, lived at Elm Court for the entire season. I have a store of anecdotes about the Elm Court summer days, working with David and living in that great house; but those are for another time.

In the summer of '62, David Wood and David Blanchard chaperoned a group of Lenox boys on a trip to Japan for a work project at a Christian farm and conference center. In the summer of '63, I headed another group to Mexico

to live and work at an Episcopal school for native Mexican students. A year or so later David Wood and I drove to Washington, D.C. to attend a conference on student work/travel programs abroad and report on our experiences. I cannot recall details of the meetings, but I do remember vividly the night when David and I went out for a walk and came upon a man about to jump off the high Connecticut Avenue bridge over Rock Creek Park far below. He was already over the railing and just hanging on. Fortunately, while we were pondering what to do, a foot patrolman happened by, handcuffed the man to the bridge, summoned assistance, and, after asking us a few questions, sent us on our way. Having no desire to linger, we headed back to our hotel, considerably bemused by this bizarre encounter in the dark of night.

In August 1971, Lenox School closed for financial reasons. A year later, in September 1972, Lenox reopened merged with the Bordentown Military Institute of New Jersey. David Wood, Roger Hinman, Pete Pickett, and I were offered positions at this new venture and we returned to the Lenox campus under new "leadership." Three months earlier, David and I had driven down to Bordentown, N.J., to attend the final graduation ceremony of the Institute, prior to its move to Lenox. It was a rather unsettling visit, for we felt like interlopers in an alien world where people were formally polite, but standoffish. BMI staff, unhappy and sad with the departure of Bordentown, seemed to embody an understated, but palpable, resentment toward the two of us. David and I stayed at a motel in nearby Princeton and were not sorry to head back to Lenox. In hindsight, we should have been more aware of some subtle clues presaging the ultimate failure of the new Bordentown/Lenox School that closed a year later in June 1973. Basically, it had been an attempted merger of two incompatible philosophies. David and I, in later years, often talked about this failed venture.

David Wood had numerous affiliations outside of the school, especially in Stockbridge where he was very active in St. Paul's parish. He was also a close friend of the Norman Rockwell family and at one time had lived in an apartment in the Rockwell home. He told me much about his experiences with the Rockwells. After the Lenox School demise, David became director of the Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge before its later

move to new quarters in Glendale. When he left the Berkshires and retired to his family home in Nantucket, David kept an apartment in Stockbridge to use at Reunion time and during other visits to the area.

David and I kept in touch during his final years on Nantucket. He would phone every few weeks, and we would have long chats about Lenox School times, the state of the nation, politics, world affairs, and whatever else came to mind. At Reunion time, David would come over to the mainland and spend a few days on the Massachusetts North Shore before heading out to Lenox. He stayed in Magnolia, next to Manchester where I live, and we would meet for dinner. When I later arrived in Lenox on the Reunion Friday, we would have dinner at the Cork 'n Hearth in Lee before heading over to Sloane's Tavern at Cranwell. David's final Reunion visit was the year he set up that splendid exhibit of Lenox School memorabilia in the Founder's Theater lobby. He and Tina Packer, head of Shakespeare and Company, got along splendidly. Upon his return to Nantucket that year, David's health began to fail, and he was no longer able to travel. We still kept in touch by phone, but I could sense changes in David, and the calls became fewer and farther between. David's final call was in March '07, shortly after the death of Judy Conklin Peters in Lenox, a very old and dear friend whom he had known since his early Lenox School days. Her passing must have affected him deeply, and I never heard from David again.

I cannot end without mentioning another Lenox icon with whom David Wood had a close and long-standing friendship, namely Helena Tongring, known as "The Duchess." She was one of the first persons David met when he visited Lenox School for an interview in 1947 (I believe that is the correct year). David had a wonderful anecdote about that first meeting which only he could tell. I believe that meeting strongly influenced David to take the job. The Duchess was the school's Housekeeper and Housemother, a former nurse who had an innate understanding of kids' illnesses. She was a formidable, but kind, lady whose St. Martin's apartment was an oasis for boys to visit. She retired in 1956 and moved up the street to a little house she had built across from Schermerhorn. From her large front window, she would watch the comings and goings of Lenox

boys, many of whom were frequent visitors. David Wood was very caring toward the Duchess, dropping in on her, driving her places, and seeing to her well being. As the years passed, she became unable to live alone and moved into a nursing home in the town, but kept her little house for visits. The Duchess passed away in December 1984. Bob Curry officiated at her funeral in Trinity Church, and David Wood and I were pallbearers along with other Lenox School old-timers. I do not recall the Duchess' age, but she had to have been in her eighties. She is buried in Lenox, beside her sister, in the Church-on-the-Hill cemetery. David and I often reminisced about the Duchess and Art "Gramps" Howland, head groundskeeper and another Lenox icon. He and the Duchess were a pair of memorable individuals on the Lenox campus.

The passing of David Wood leaves a great chasm in the fabric of today's Lenox School alumni and faculty body, a chasm which we must now sadly bridge as we push on to keep alive the memories of the years that were. Yet one cannot think back and reminisce about those Lenox years without seeing David everywhere, so central was he to the entire school community. He remains a true icon of Lenox School and, one might say, he was the "heartbeat" of Lenox. Now he lives on in our thoughts where he will be forever honored. David will always be at future Reunions in spirit, and we will still see him in the aisle up front in Trinity Church, leading the Hymn Sing, one of David's finest Reunion legacies. But, this man of Lenox School, who possessed so many and varied recollections of Lenox history, and whom one could always ask about the past, is gone, and that strong and passionate voice is forever stilled. Live on, sweet memories!

"And the rest is silence."

"He was a man, take him for all in all,  
I shall not look upon his like again."

-Hamlet-

**Written in fond remembrance**

**by David Southworth**

**Lenox School 1955-1971**

**November 2008**

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To the Editor:

With the last issue of P&S it all came back once again. Somehow I felt I needed to write it down. And it feels so good and right when I get it

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written down right. Some of that's got to have come from David Wood.

My favorite memory of Mr. Wood is, I guess, rather banal. I suppose that's the right word.

No, it's not one of the puns, of which I still remember one of the more meaningless for some reason. And it's not the most meaningful, which would be the nice – no, perfect -- postcard he wrote me after my father's passing. This postcard managed to infuse what is probably the most everyday of events, meeting in the post office, with something real and significant.

And along the same lines, the best grade I ever got from David was for a paper about my very regular visits to my neighbor the auto mechanic: I would just listen and watch to as he worked away at day to day project of some sort. It's no small irony to me that David and he both passed in the same year.

No it's none of that. It's something not so great. It's how that whenever tapioca pudding was served, there were a handful of us that always ended up at table number 2 with a half-dozen or more of mostly untouched large stainless bowls of the stuff. I was taught how ending with something like, "I look forward to eating tapioca once again with my teacher and friends" might ruin the whole thing, but the hell with it.

**Keith Simpson, '70**

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## LENOX SCHOOL ARCANA

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"The White Queen"

The Editor is happily relieved to report that **Steve Lowry '66** has correctly identified "The White Queen" as Faculty member Richard DeMone's Dodge, a Boulevard Barge if there every was one.

The prize is a one-week all-expenses paid trip for four to the Cannes Film Festival next ... uhhh, wait ... wrong notes. The prize is a permanent seat on the organ bench in Trinity Church in Lenox, MA, for the annual Reunion Hymn-Sing. Not quite a trip to Cannes, but better than a sharp stick in the eye.

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**More Letters to the Editor**


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To the Editor:

I was surprised by the lack of news about classmates on the Lenox School web site. We all ought to have at least a few things to report about the last 30 years. It would be great if classmates would contribute their stories before the reunion so that we all arrive somewhat informed about one another.

Here is my contribution, if you and others agree that circulating this information is a good idea.

After graduation from Lenox in 1968, I moved on to New Haven, CT and eventually graduated from Yale College in 1972. Since I had enough graduate school credits to qualify for a Masters Degree in just one more year, I remained there to finish up my Masters. The really big event of that year was that Sandy and I got married.

In 1974 I joined the IBM Corporation as a sales trainee in the small computer group in the Boston area. A "small" computer in those days was about the size of city bus, and required special flooring, special power supplies, air conditioning, etc. It was a great time to be in the computer business, and IBM was still the undisputed Goliath of the industry. After six fun-filled years with IBM, Sandy and I decided to move our family to Wolfeboro, NH to take over the business that my parents created.

The family business idea did not work out very well. I wound up selling off the assets in 1984 - 85. However, that experience got me interested in how families go about solving complex family business problems. I began to learn about personal financial planning, which was just beginning to be recognized as an organized field of study and professional practice.

To fast forward to today, I head up a team of 50 professionals who are responsible for the financial well-being of about 100 families in the US, Canada, and Europe who hold substantial wealth and have complex financial situations. It is a privilege to go to work to every day knowing that these extraordinary families have invited us to be an intimate part of their lives. It is also a lot of fun to see if can stay at least one step ahead of the other members of our professional team – so that I can keep my job! I hope that when I start to fade they will still let me come in and open the mail....

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Along the way, Sandy and I somehow acquired two children – a girl and a boy. They are both now in their thirties and doing well. Our first grandchild was born about two months ago. That was an exciting addition to the family!

I was a pretty serious skier and sailor at Lenox, and I have continued both of those activities for fun. About 10 years ago, I started combining skiing and mountaineering – which results in technical mountain climbing done on skis. This is a team sport, because if one were to go alone the odds of coming back alive are not good. Glacier travel and serious mountain climbing requires being roped up at least some of the time. Most people might think that living in a tent in a high mountain pass in western Canada during the winter could not possibly be fun, but it can be!

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### Lenox School Pix (two)



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To the Editor:

Many people, black and white, wept as Barack Obama spoke on election night – wept not from sadness, but joy. One friend told me of watching the election coverage on a black TV channel, and listening to a real-life gangster

rapper talk about how he will now clean up his act because the basic premise of gangster rap has been shattered: "we are no longer oppressed". I could clearly see the moisture in my friend's eyes as he told me the story days later. "Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Obama – that's the progression", he said.

I feel as if our country has finally come to where Lenox School was 50 years ago. We are one people.

Dick Williams, '61

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To the Editor:

Nothing new to report from Amherst, New Hampshire, just thanks for your work in keeping us all in touch with each other. While I only spent one year at Lenox ('62-'63) I have more affinity to her than to Conard High in West Hartford where I spent the other 3 years of high school. If anyone ever hears from Charlie Hoch, Chris Seacord, or David Eckel I'd enjoy finding out what they're up to now...

Also, I remember pictures being taken during my year at Lenox for the yearbook, but, as I recall, no yearbook was ever published that year. Is there a photo archive still in existence, or did all of that get lost over the years?

Finally, here is a link to what I've been up to lately when not doing computer support at the local high school:

<http://www.designscience.com/JeffsBest/index.html>

Best,  
Jeff Hall

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To the Editor:

(Dear Curmudge:)

Shortly after a wonderful Lenox reunion visit to the beautiful Berkshires, the company which my father ('41) started, Sky WindPower, received notice that we were number 35 in Time's list of the 50 Best Inventions of 2008. I have added a link to the Time.com presentation video, which shows a portion of my son's video simulation of our flying electric generator 18 seconds into the video.

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/link/bcpid1485842900/bctid1887840886>

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We are also in Time Magazine Nov.10, 2008 issue on page 87.

We have a ways to go to prove that our technology is viable and the cheapest currently available form of clean energy, but give us a few years and some government cooperation.

Best Regards to all, and I promise to Charlie McGee that I will try harder at the golf tournament next year!

Len Shepard '71  
CEO, Sky WindPower

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To the Editor:

I have recently given an interview for "Story Corps" for possible later airing on National Public Radio.

I included my Lenox School days in the interview. The following is a precis(?) of the interview. My apologies for making it so long. Do your curmudgeonly duty and cut, delete and edit.

I was born and raised in southeastern Alaska in Ketchikan, an American of Japanese ancestry. I spent my first 14 years there in that small fishing and lumbering, "frontier-like" town. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, our lives changed radically. My father was arrested immediately, as were all Japanese males residing in Alaska. Our firearms, short wave radio, and cameras (including my KODAK Box camera) were confiscated. In April 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry were placed in a Troop Ship and shipped to Seattle where we were placed in a temporary internment camp, and later on in the year were shipped to our permanent relocation camp in Idaho.

While in the camp, I helped teach Sunday school and learned to be an acolyte. The school in the camp was very poor because the teaching materials were old and scarce. After a year being interned, my priest offered several of us the opportunity to leave camp to go to an Eastern United States School. The National Episcopal Church Council offered us scholarships. I was sent brochures from St. Pauls, St. Marks, and Lenox, and chose the latter. I left the camp in December 1943, rode a train across country by myself (a frightened teenager), arrived in Pittsfield, MA and was met by Dr. Walter H. Clark, the acting Headmaster of

Lenox. The first semester was a disaster for me, academically speaking. Although I studied hard, I was lucky to make C grades. Dr. and Mrs. Clark were particularly helpful for me in my difficult transition. We only had 12 students in our form. Dr and Mrs. G.G. Monks returned the second year I was there and was additionally helpful. The nurse, Duchess, was a jewel to all of us students. I made the transition, and the period spent at Lenox was a significant positive milestone in determining my future. I made life long friends there, as I still communicate with 5 of the former students and their wives. We kept in touch with Dr. and Mrs Clark until they passed away. As a matter of fact, Dr. Clark even counseled my younger daughter when she was considering a NE college, and they visited us here in Florida.

Thanks to all of my mentors., I went on to Marquette University, University of Michigan, and finally earned my PhD in Anatomy at Tulane University. My first position was as an Instructor at the Yale University School of Medicine, followed by professorships at the U of Arkansas School of Medicine, and a deanship at the College of Health Related Professions, and Professor of Anatomy in the School of Medicine, University of Florida I published some 70 refereed scientific articles. I was also appointed on a National Institutes of Health Study Committee, and helped establish a regional and national organization. After retirement, I became an avid scuba diver, and published underwater photographer, wildlife photographer, and aquatic life sculptor. I also published 4 books on carving wildlife

My wife and I have been married for 56 years. She earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology after our four children were in High School. She postponed her education and even turned down a fellowship at Yale when I accepted another position elsewhere.

Lenox School was a significant turning point in my life. If I did not go to Lenox, and I returned to Alaska after the war's end, I do not know what I could have accomplished

Howard K. Suzuki '45

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To the Editor:

Since I have not appeared in the Pen and

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Scroll since about 1964, perhaps the following entry would be useful.

David Nye, '64, has been teaching American history in Odense, Denmark, since 1982. "I expected to be here for two years, but it seemed every time I was about to go back to the US I got promoted. After ten years I was quite comfortable. By then I was living with a Dane, Helle Bertramsen, whom I married in 1996." Since 1979 David has been publishing books about American history and technology, and is completing a new one for MIT Press on the history of electrical blackouts, from World War II to the present.

Try the new American Studies Research Engine at <http://www.google.com/coop/cse?cx=002331999179534190742:qpci9jus7gs>

See my blog at:

<http://aftertheamericancentury.blogspot.com/>

Professor David E. Nye  
Center for American Studies  
SDU - Odense  
Odense 5230 M DENMARK

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To the Editor:

I am sure that nobody, even Dr. Blanchard, will recall the nitrogen trioxide incident or the cloud of grey-green gas in the hooded lab basin. He might just barely recall rushing over to lower the glass screen, activate the ventilator and ask what I'd managed to dump into the basin "this time" to create such a noxious mess. Nor will any recall the rude and uncomplimentary comments I made (within earshot of the Headmaster) about the folks from a a visiting school. Both earned me a goodly amount of time in evening study-hall under the watchful eye of Messrs. Picket or Brooks. But, all that is beside the point. What these earned me was a slot on the work squad with Dr. Curry. Sure, most who found themselves behind the eight ball for some reason or another dreaded the prospect of having to endure the time spent in the close company of the Headmaster himself.

But, after 45 years and the kind of hindsight that puts all things into their proper perspective, I can say that my time with the Headmaster was one of the highpoints of my life (as it were) at

Lenox. I rather doubt that many of the young Lenox men ever got to know much about Dr. Curry. His official persona as Headmaster kept his somewhat distant from the everyday lives of the students. His office in Schermerhorn was far from the gravitational center of the school which more-or-less revolved around the dining hall and St. Martin classroom complex. But, the work squad was where his most eloquent leadership-by-example and faith-by-example characteristics were to be found by anyone who cared to brush aside the onerous travail of raking leaves and who would but only listen and watch.

In the context of this natural world, he seemed far less austere and greatly more approachable. Nearly half a century later, I no longer recall any of the specific things he said to me during our conversations; but the meat and potatoes was about service to others, the meaning of work, faith, and courage. While he put aside his shirt and collar for his everyday work clothes, neither his less professional attire or the humble and simple act of raking the plentiful leaves into great piles never obscured his calling. Indeed, as I look back, the time spent in this context was more meaningful than the time spent listening to more formal sermons -- perhaps because the man and work themselves were the sermon.

My most memorable moment as a first year epee fencer took place on a cold but clear December day in 1961. We practiced in the old dining room of Clipston Grange. The light fixtures hung from the ceiling on short chains.

The protective glass globes, long ago removed, left only the bare bulbs to light the hall. During an epic foil attack, Coach Pickett (dare I say "Pickett's Last Charge?"), an overhanging bulb was shattered. To everyone's amusement and horror, our coach inserted his foil into the base of the broken bulb, producing an umbrella of sparks and an inevitable black-out from the blown fuse. I thought he would surely electrocute himself. But, that fate was not to be.

Apparently, by standing on the rubber fencing mat, he was adequately protected from the current passing through his vital organs. Scary, but true.

Jud Fisher, 63

\* \* \*

To the Editor:

Bruce Beardsley '60: "semi-retired" and  
Chagrin Falls OH 44023

playing piano for the middle- and high-school choruses in West Irondequoit (Rochester), NY. At Lenox I was co-editor (with Bill Carlton) of the P&S for awhile, and chapel organist for 3 years -- including the first year we outgrew the chapel and moved to Trinity Church.

Both of those aspects became career ingredients: 23 years as copywriter/proofreader (and early on, layout artist) for Wegmans Food Markets, which has grown to be a national leader in the high-end "superstore" supermarket category; and with my wife Kathy, 14 years (in two stints) as music ministers in a large UCC church with a fine choir and an excellent, very versatile pipe organ which continues to remind me of the "American Classic" Aeolian-Skinner at Trinity. Still substituting regularly.

Got back in touch last year with my "student mentor" at Lenox, Earl McClenney '59, with whom we started the school's first jazz quartet; and regularly in touch with Gordon Auchincloss '60, who retired from Austin Organs in Hartford.

Looking now for 3 people in particular: Mike Dunlop '60 -- Glee Club VP when I was president; Steve Rich '60 -- my "partner in crime" in unauthorized trips to Springfield; and Robert Ames, who married Mary Ellen Boland of Pittsfield and became Lenox Glee Club director in school year 1959-60. Any help, anyone?

Bruce Beardsley '60  
[KABAMX@aol.com](mailto:KABAMX@aol.com)  
585-244-3192

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## POST-REUNION DRAMA!

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Shortly after the Reunion, Charlie McGee '71 popped "the question" to Wendy Bartsch, who joined him for this year's Reunion events. And surprisingly (just kidding, Charlie!) Wendy said YES! The wedding is scheduled for sometime in 2009. Congratulations, Charlie and Wendy!! And Wendy, welcome to the Lenox School family!

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## A PICTORIAL INTERLUDE

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From the October 2008 Reunion



Class of '64 (l-r Bill (Wink) Bryan, Bruce Chapin, Scott Horton, Arthur Richardson, Dave Perry, Louis (Ski) Larsen) autograph a Lenox Shirt for missing companion Hubert Nelson.



.....  
 "After Lunch at the Gateways," by John Schneider  
 Front Row- Left To Right: Randy Harris, Charlie Rosenthal, Mike Carley, Pete Custer, Cy Lauriat, Bob Sansone  
 Standing- Left To Right: Ralph Herter, John Schneider, Bob Tschilske Gil Skidmore, Mark Sinkinson, Larry Wilhelm, Roy Ballentine. Missing: David Nathans, Doug Adams, David Hurst

## LENOX SCHOOL TRIVIA QUESTION

Alan Thielker, a paintings conservator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, taught art at Lenox School in the 1960s. He was also an illustrator and a painter. He decorated the shields above the Gothic arches in Trinity Church in Lenox. For the prize, answer these questions: How many shields? Painted on what kind of support. What kind of ground? What kind of paint? What other techniques did Alan use on these shields.

Only those who can answer ALL of the questions will be eligible for the prize.

And good luck!

Chagrin Falls OH 44023

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## ANOTHER PICTORIAL INTERLUDE

From Allen Sloane, '67:



The Hockey Pond

[Your curmudgeonly editor never had to ice that thing at 2:00 a.m., thank you very much!]



Griswold Hall

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 Griswold Hall

In the early 1990's I bought a number of old postcards from different dealers, among them a few depicting Lenox School. When I first saw the building my thought was that it was either Schermerhorn or Basset Hall. Recently, when I looked at them again I could see that the building was neither.

When I attended Lenox from 1965 to 1967 there were the remains of a foundation to a large building that sat at the edge of a semi-circle between Schermerhorn and Thayer Hall. I was told that this had been Griswold Hall and that it had been the first dormitory. There was also the tale of Gramps hoisting beds up to the second floor with a block and tackle even as the first students arrived

with their parents.

If you look at the postcard of the Hockey Pond, the buildings are from right to left, East Cottage, where Gramps lived, North Cottage with Thayer Hall directly above it, and on the left a large and more ornate building. If you compare the chimneys and architectural details one can see that it is the building depicted in the first postcard. To my knowledge this may be one of the only surviving photos of Griswold Hall. I have been told that Griswold was torn down around 1941 after the new St. Martin's building was built.

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### A Message from the President

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#### Much to be Thankful For

What better time to write this than at Thanksgiving? I say ignore the economic insanity we are all facing; if we learned anything at Lenox, it was that man does not live by bread alone. We have much to be thankful for in our LSAA community. We had a wonderful reunion, with many of us reuniting after 40+ years — and it seemed like we had just returned from the TUCK shop! It was simply marvelous to see the near record numbers of returning alums. Can you believe this: Paul Warren represented the class of 1939! How great to have him with us this year, accompanied by his son Paul Robert Jr., also an alumnus. I'd be remiss if I didn't also note the Lord family back in force as well!

We had the first installation of our LSAA Hall of Fame inductees: You will see a piece about it in this edition of the P&S. We initiated a new Friday night venue that was very successful. The entire weekend just seemed to go very well, thanks to the efforts of some dedicated alums who always have ensured that everything was ready for our reunion activities.

I believe the quality of our first inductees to the Hall of Fame reflects the enduring reason we have such a vibrant Alumni Association, despite the closure of our school so many years ago. These men reflect the highest ideals of our motto and accomplished much in their time, and in some cases, beyond. In their individual ways, they bring credit to the memory of our alma mater. Their

shining example instills a great sense of pride that we were all privileged to walk the same well worn paths at a school that may have closed its doors, but has never ceased its vibrancy and meaning to those of us lucky enough to have attended.

I am pleased to tell you, that as a result of the phenomenal turnout for this year's reunion, we are already looking at our venue for next year with some exciting new ideas. We are going to try to incorporate some "family friendly" events so we can attract more family members (who always add so much to the weekend). We have reconstituted our Board of Directors for the coming year; introduced a new set of By-Laws that the membership approved (to be posted at the LSAA website); initiated an earnest effort to chart LSAA's future direction through a "Quo Vadis" committee; and, our recent Board of Directors meeting established some excellent goals and objectives for us to achieve. I'd like to share these goals with you even as some have already been completed:

1. Confirm the Massachusetts Secretary of State's office's acknowledgement of LSAA's corporate status and any other aspects of our corporation that need to be confirmed. We have already completed this for Massachusetts; IRS confirmation is in progress.

2. Scrub the e-mail and surface mail address lists to reach a new reunion record turnout for 2009 and use 1<sup>st</sup> class mail once to ensure reunion notices are forwarded or returned: The Board of Directors has approved the use of 1<sup>st</sup> class mail for a one-time mailing.

3. Redesign the LSAA website architecture: The Board has approved expending some money to update the architecture so that we can post photos and rectify access issues. Photos? There must have been one thousand from the 2008 Reunion waiting to get posted! This is in progress.

4. Establish a centralized and economical lodging location for LSAA Reunion attendees by negotiating dates/rates now: in process.

5. Create some "family friendly" venues and activities for the Reunion.

6. Deliverables for the Committee on 'LSAA *Quo Vadis*,' with Randy Harris's involvement and contributions. I have received an update from Randy on this very important Committee and will be moving ahead to determine our future course as an organization. I want to

recognize Randy's efforts to this point, as he has provided a tremendous amount of thought and effort to help us grapple with this issue.

7. Establish and formalize a location for our LSAA memorabilia location even if it is temporarily located in one of the legacy buildings that may be ready now. We have received an offer from Dr. Journey for the use of an entire wall in Schemerhorn when it is ready and we're still in the process of engaging Shakespeare & Co. regarding the use of some legacy buildings they own. I believe that this effort will also be part of the *Quo Vadis* Committee's work.

8. Recruitment of a candidate for Vice President of the Association. We are looking for someone in LSAA to step into this open position as a possible prelude to taking over the President's position when that becomes necessary.

I am really looking forward to also having a record turnout next year. In fact, there is a part of me that wants to have the Town of Lenox struggle with traffic control as a result of our having so many people returning. I'd view this as signaling the fact that we may have closed our doors but we really never left!

I realize that by the time this reaches you, Thanksgiving will be a but a pleasant memory. So I wish you a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and holiday season. Thank you all for your sustained support of the Lenox School Alumni Association, and I hope to see all of you at the next Reunion.

Bob Sansone  
LSAA President

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## Minutes of the LSAA Business Meeting

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October 18, 2008

Bob Sansone called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Tina Packer of Shakespeare & Co made a short presentation about the status of the campus buildings. The LSAA made a donation to Shakespeare & Co.

Ed Miller provided the Financial and Treasurer's Report. Accepted by unanimous vote.

Fritz Eckel reviewed the Scholarship/Donations process –including The Curry Scholarship. The

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rules regarding the Curry Scholarship were discussed. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Association approved making a challenge/appeal regarding seeking additional funds from those present at the Reunion, which would be added to either the regular scholarship amounts or the Curry Scholarship. Any additional amounts donated would be apportioned at the Board's discretion.

Bob Sansone reviewed the status of the Pen & Scroll and the LSAA web site. He said we have a problem using 2<sup>nd</sup> class mail based upon a number of reports of members failing to receive their hard copy of the Pen & Scroll. He said the Board would now authorize a one-time use of 1<sup>st</sup> class mail to improve this situation, as the Editor would receive Returns and other items would be Forwarded ("Forwarding and Return Service Requested"). Mr. Sansone went on to explain that the LSAA web site, which has served us for so long, requires a new architecture so we can resolve some access issues, fix issues with the bulletin board and allow easy posting of photos. Using 1<sup>st</sup> class mail for one mailing and upgrading the web site architecture will cost additional money; the Board thinks the value added to the association is more than justified.

Bob Sansone discussed the responses he received regarding the P&S "Quo Vadis," and the report submitted by Randy Harris regarding the future direction of the LSAA. On a motion duly made and seconded, the LSAA approved establishing a committee to be chaired by Mr. Sansone and include Randy Harris, among others, to review and report to the Board on their recommendations.

Ed Miller introduced the new By-Laws for the LSAA. On a motion duly made and seconded, the new By-Laws were unanimously approved.

Ed Miller then introduced the new slate of LSAA Officers and Board members. On a motion duly made and seconded, the new Officers and Board members were unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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## Other LSAA BUSINESS

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### 2008 LSAA Reunion Attendees

[Editor's note: This is one of the biggest turn-outs, ever]

Chris Kinchla `66  
Doug Adams `68  
Ed (`66) and Sarah Miller

Bruce Chapin `64  
Bill (`64) and Judy Bryan  
Len Shepard `71  
Gil Skidmore `68  
Charles McGee `71 and Wendy Bartsch  
Noel (`58) and Cindy Sodher  
Jim (`58) and Ann Wilmeth  
Bob (`62) and Cathy Mitnik  
Peter Custer `68  
Roy Ballentine `68

**2008 LSAA Reunion Attendees, continued**

Jeff Ballentine `69  
Jon Magro `66  
Pete (`61) and Cathy Baker  
David Southworth-Faculty 1955-1971  
John (`68) and Joeleen Schneiter  
Jeff Ballentine `69  
Tim Robinson `70  
Bob (`68) and Linda Tschilske  
Dick (`58) and Karin Currie  
Bob (`58) and Lynn Brownlee; Gail Bonner  
John Smith `58  
Bill Willis `58  
Ed Ockenden `43  
Fritz (`65) and Meredith Eckel  
Fred Kellogg `54  
Bob Kline `48 (Faculty 1953-1956)  
Don (`63) and Carole Foster (wife), Cate Foster  
(daughter)  
David Smith `58  
Eric (`58) and Lynn Anderson  
Allen Sloane `67  
Randy Harris `68  
Ralph Herter `68  
David Hurst `68  
David Nathans `68  
Jim (Faculty) and Jeannine Paterson  
Cyrus Lauriat `68  
Nicholas Solley `68  
Jody (`70) and Kim Haddow  
Bob (`58) and Susan Hardman  
Arthur (`64) and Jay Richardson  
Fred Lavenberg `70  
Michael Carley `68  
Charles Rosenthal `68  
Larry Wilhelm `68

Tom Schaefer `66 and Ellen Nash  
Bob `68 Diane, and Andrew Sansone  
Rob Foster `68  
Scott (`66) and Chris Reynolds  
Paul Denzel `67  
Mark Sinkinson `68  
Steve Lowry `66  
David Perry `64  
Lou Larsen (`64) and Suska Matsik  
Kim Morton `68  
Jim Braim `58  
Charles Rogers (Faculty 1966-1970) and Teresa  
Morelle  
Jim Fawcett (Faculty 1963-1970) and Eugenie  
Fawcett  
Stephen Booth, Rector Trinity Church, and Gillian  
Booth  
David Nathans `68  
Nicholas Solley `68  
Jon Eckel `66  
David (`66) and Sallie Acton  
Arch (`68) and Anne Acton  
Gene St. Jean `63 and Dawn Carlotto  
Wray Gunn  
Patrick Gable `69 and Janet Smargie, Mary Jane  
Gable, and Bonnie Gable  
Trustin Boyd `62  
Rob Warren `69  
Carl Albano `67  
Paul (`39) and Isabel Warren  
Ira Colby `67  
Bill Quigg `67  
John Hill `62  
John Powlovich `63  
John Risley `67  
Hem `67 and Linda Merriman  
Tabby Pickett (Faculty daughter)

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**New LSAA Officers**

Those assembled at the business meeting Saturday morning elected a new slate of officers, in accordance with newly adopted Association bylaws. According to the bylaws, the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer all serve one-year terms. We elected Bob Sansone `68 president, Mark Gottsegen `67 secretary, and Ed Miller `66 treasurer. We are hopeful that someone will indicate an interest in serving as vice-president

next year, understanding that he would likely be asked to serve as president sometime in the future.

The By-Laws call for three-year terms for other Board members. In order to assure a rotating Board membership, we elected the following:

To an initial 3 year term

Oliver Kempton `70  
Fritz Eckel `65  
Charlie McGee `71  
Paul Denzel `67

To an initial 2 year term

Allen Sloane `67  
Ed Ockenden `43  
Jim Paterson-Faculty

To an initial 1 year term

Bob Brownlee `61  
John Schneiter `68  
David Nathans `68

As the initial one and two year terms expire, successor Board members will be elected to three year terms, thus creating the desired rotation.

Thank you to those of you willing to continue on, and to the new members willing to serve on our Board.

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## Lenox School Service and Athletic Hall of Fame

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We are happy to announce the 2008 Hall of Fame Inductees.

We had a tremendous response to our calls for nomination to the first class of the Lenox School Service and Athletic Hall of Fame this year. Honoring ten outstanding candidates listed below, we are committed to honoring a similar number each year. Ten strong nominees for this past year will be carried over for full consideration next year.

Induction into the LSAA Service and Athletic Hall of Fame honors and celebrates those people who have lived their lives in the spirit of the Lenox School motto of *Non ministrari sed ministrare*, "Not to be served but to serve."

We here list this 2008 class in alphabetical

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order with name and association, including graduation date if the person is an alumnus.

Nominations for induction at the 2009 Reunion are encouraged and welcome. For details on the information we need and on eligibility, please contact either Charlie McGee at [cvmcgeejr@hotmail.com](mailto:cvmcgeejr@hotmail.com) or David Nathans at [sydco@att.net](mailto:sydco@att.net) and we will send you a list of pending nominations and guidelines.

### The 2008 Inductees:

Blair Cleveland 1934  
Rev. Robert Curry – Headmaster  
John A. Gable 1961  
David Gunn -Coach-Master,  
Spencer P. Kennard -Master 1934  
Edward A. Miller, Jr. 1966  
Robert C. Seamans, Jr. 1936  
Jeffrey A. Smith 1970  
David L. Southworth –Master  
David H. Wood -Assistant Headmaster

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## T-Shirt Mania!

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Ed Miller has a number of Lenox tee shirts for sale, and would like to sell them ASAP. They're new, but made to look old. Classic gold, with black "Lenox" lettering, reminiscent of the '60s. A perfect holiday gift for your wife or your Lenox roommate! Sizes M to 3x are available. 1 for \$15, 2 for \$25, includes postage. (Checks payable to LSAA)

Guaranteed Christmas delivery if ordered by December 18.

Contact: Ed Miller `66  
38 N. Main Street  
Northfield, VT 05663  
802-485-8397  
[edmiller@tds.net](mailto:edmiller@tds.net)

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## More Arcana

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For a prize of one greasy grinder from Maria's Sub Shop in Pittsfield, identify these miscreants:



**In Memoriam**

No notices received as of November 20, 2008

**SAVE THE DATES:****Reunion Weekend****October 16, 17, 18, 2009**

Lunch will be at 12:30 Saturday, October 17, at The Gateways

**Class of 1939, 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Class of 1949, 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Class of 1959, 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion****Be there, or be square.**

The next number will be published *circa* June 2009

**SEND YOUR NEWS TODAY!**

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