

# LAKESIDE HISTORY

by C.L. "Mac" McCuskey

## THE FIRST DECADE

"Be it known that whereas Reginald H. Parsons, J.V. Peterson, Frank L. Wilson, Eli Moorhouse, Mrs. Robert E. Moriss, and J.Y.C. Kellogg have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of the Lakeside Day School, Inc..."

In these words, on May 4, 1923, the Secretary of State in Olympia, J. Grant Hinkle, acknowledged the receipt and filing of the Articles of Incorporation of what has come to be known as Lakeside School.

Four years earlier, in 1919, Frank G. Moran, founder and head of the Moran School for Boys on Bainbridge Island, had opened a school for boys on the shore of Lake Washington. The new school, a "feeder" school for the one across the Sound, was located in the Denny Blaine district at the old Kittinger home, now 330 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. The Kittinger home was the nucleus and served as a dormitory; nearby "a rather good-sized building, rectangular in shape, was built specifically for school purposes," according to J.Y.C. Kellogg, who, as noted, was one of the "founders" of the Lakeside Day School, Inc.; and a bit later, as we learn from Ralph A. Schoenfeld, who entered Moran's school in 1922, a third building, "a pavilion, practically on the lake shore, with a manual training shop and a locker room on the first floor, and a regulation-size basketball court on the second floor.

Moran called his new school the Moran-Lakeside School. Since, in a sense, it was the parent of Lakeside Day School, Inc., a brief look at its four-year history is perhaps of interest. In 1919, the school had a principal, D. C. Wilson, four teachers and 13 students including its first coed --- the Moran's daughter.

As a result, presumably, of a drop in enrollment, Mr. And Mrs. Moran decided to give up the school. It was at this juncture, in the spring of 1923, that Reginald Parsons, et al. decided to incorporate in order to save the school. The articles of Incorporation were received in Olympia on May 4. On May 5, Mr. Parsons and Mr. Kellogg entered into a written lease with the Morans for the school property, and Mr. Parsons and Mr. Peterson each signed a loan for \$750 to meet the first payment of \$1500 on the lease.

Mr. Parsons was president of the corporation, Mr. Kellogg the secretary, and Mr. Moorhouse the treasurer. A school car - the first of a long line of such cars and buses - was purchased according to the minutes for the Board meeting of June 13, 1923; the Board bought Mr. Peterson's 1918 Buick for \$250.

It was at this time that Charles K. Bliss, who was, in his words, "sitting in the backroom of an old colonial residence on Brattle Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts, musing over a letter received that very morning from Seattle, Washington," came into the picture. President Parsons had written inviting him to become the first headmaster of the new school, at a salary of \$4,000 a year. Mr. Bliss had long had ambitions to head such a school. He had attended a private school of fewer than 80 boys, and now had come the opportunity to put into practice the many lessons learned when he "was just a thoughtless tow-headed youngster."

Mr. Bliss's background was impressive. A graduate of the University of Chicago, where he played football for the famous Alonzo Stagg (and in one game made a long touchdown run which he later recalled as the greatest thrill in his life). Bliss became the principal of De Soto High School in De Soto, Missouri, from 1898 to 1901, then principal of Vigan Normal School in Vigan, P.I.[Philippine Islands] from 1901 to 1909. From 1909 to 1917, he headed the Department of History and Language at Queen Anne High School in Seattle. In 1917, he became headmaster for the Moran School on Rolling Bay, Bainbridge Island. In 1921, he went to Harvard for two years to get his Ed.M. It was in Cambridge that he received the letter offering him the headmastership of Lakeside, a position he held from 1923 until 1930, when he became assistant headmaster under Mr. Hyde and taught Latin from 1934 to 1938.

An offer to purchase the school's facilities was denied forcing the Trustees to search for a new location. In July 1924 the land where Bush School is now located was purchased at \$10,000 for the land and \$1,500 for grading, clearing and "grubbing". H.A.P. Myers was engaged to erect a school building for \$9,905.38. In August, less than a month before school was to open, the stockholders, who had purchased shares a year earlier, ratified the Board's actions, and the move from the waterfront to 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue North was assured.

Reasons for the move, according to Headmaster Bliss, were three: a deficit for the year 1923 – 1924; the lack of room for expansion; and the fear that so much enticing water provided a potential danger to the students. At any rate, the three and one-half acres on 36<sup>th</sup> were bought from the Pacific Coast Coal Company.

All that summer, Mr. Bliss recalls, "...it was a busy cup of tea for the headmaster." But by fall Lakeside's first real home, as contrasted with a rented one, was at least open for classes at 405 – 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. The headmaster describes that opening with these words: "What a crude beginning! Carpenters were still at work on opening day. School equipment was constantly being carted into the building. We started something in the way of an athletic field by leveling off a sufficient area for a baseball field...of the softball variety. Not until Thanksgiving could anyone say 'This is a school.' Again the dormitory problem was at hand. The far end of the assembly hall was furnished with nine cots. Each dormitory boy had, in addition, a four-drawer pine dresser and a chair. All ablutions were performed in the school's washroom."

As nearly as can be ascertained from meager minutes, records, notes and reminiscence, it was a physically as well as an intellectually busy first year for the students at The Lakeside School; they were learning as much by doing as by studying. (The Board, incidentally, had decided to refer to the school publicly as The Lakeside School, while officially retaining the old name, Lakeside Day School, Inc. (Perhaps to avoid overworking Secretary of State Hinkle?) Mr. Bliss, as was his custom, let the boys decide whether or not to retain the name Lakeside. They apparently voted unanimously so to do, and to keep the school colors, Maroon and Gold. It might be added here that Bliss was a firm believer in a democratic school rather than in a "benevolent despotism," as he described Headmaster Frank Boyden's rule at Deerfield Academy.)

As structured in 1924 – 1925, the school had an upper and a lower division: grades five through eight in the lower division, with five and six to be dropped as soon as possible, and grades nine through twelve in the upper division. The school had grown in numbers, and – if a *non sequitur* may be allowed – "Lakeside was now ready to take up

the matter of ideals,” says the Headmaster. After prayers one morning (morning chapel was already a tradition) the Headmaster spoke to the assemblage on the subject of ideals; a committee was appointed to meet with him to discuss the matter; and out of these conferences emerged the Gold Star program. The ideas favored by the boys, and represented by the five points of the star, were Character, Scholarship, Sportsmanship, Friendship and Effort. If a boy won a gold star three out of the four quarters, it was his to keep; and if, upon graduation, he had three gold stars in his possession, the last one earned in his senior year, he was awarded the prestigious Maroon and Gold Star. (That Christmas the boys awarded Bliss the first such Maroon and Gold star “as a compliment,” and he wore it proudly the rest of his life.) The first boy to win one was a 1929 graduate. After that perhaps fifty or more were given out until the tradition was dropped in the late fifties due to lack of interest on the part of the boys.

In the meantime, according to Bliss’ recollection, an “influx of new boarders presented a problem that would vex a saint.” Since the assembly hall could not hold more cots and dressers and leave room for assemblies, a dormitory must be built.

A new two-story building adjoining the main building was started immediately. The facility which included a dining room, kitchen, and reception room on the first floor, dormitory rooms on the second floor, cost \$14,000. (In his 1952 reminiscences, Bliss could not remember how the place was ever equipped, only that it was and that by the time it was he had a monumental headache. He even had to issue bonds - “most ornate documents” - and peddle them to his friends, to the patrons, and to himself, this to pay the workmen, who were inclined not to return to the job if they were not paid each Saturday night. He tried first to get the necessary funds from the Board, but the committee on appropriations, having voted what it thought necessary, said it had no more money. In fact, the committee, considering its duty done, had thought itself discharged. Many years later, attorneys settling the estate of one of these bond-holders, tried to redeem his bonds, but were told that it was too late. (Statute of limitations, perhaps?))

In addition to the Gold Star tradition still another tradition was born in 1927, the Lincoln Forum. Its aims were to increase efficiency in public speaking and to acquaint students with Lincoln’s life and character. Originally there was some debate among the boys as to which great American was most to be admired --- Washington, Jefferson or Lincoln --- but Lincoln won. Alumni of the 20s, 30s, 40s and 50s will remember that the Lincoln Forum contests were usually held on February 12, and that Lincoln medals were awarded to one Upper School and to one Lower School speaker. Winning the Forum was considered a great honor.

The six-year period from 1924 to 1930 at the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue North site saw the enrollment grow slowly but steadily. Apparently, however, if senior class lists are an accurate indication, the growth was primarily in the lower grades. The class of 1926, for example, consisted of five boys.

Other interesting facts emerge from the Board’s minutes for the ’24 to ’30 era. For instance, faculty salaries in 1925 – 1926, while not exactly munificent, were probably representative. The Headmaster received \$3,500. (One wonders about the \$4,000 figure mentioned when he was asked to become the head.) Teachers’ salaries were either \$1,800 or \$1,350 plus room and board. Part-time faculty were paid from \$450 to \$675 for the year. By the ’27 – ’28 school year, the figures had increased an average of \$300 per teacher.

The next year, 1929, 5 boys graduated. Wilbur Huston from that class became famous that year, and to some extent, presumably, his fame rubbed off on Lakeside. Wilbur Huston, who at graduation was awarded the coveted Maroon and Gold star, traveled to Menlo Park to compete in the Thomas Edison examination designed to find the “exceptional boy.” Huston came away with the highest score and was promptly dubbed the “smartest boy in the United States.” Headmaster Bliss, in his reminiscences, noted his fears that the fame and adulation accorded Huston probably did him (Huston) the utmost measure of harm,” but the facts seem not to bear out these fears. At last report, Huston had retired from NASA in 1976 after 32 years of government service, the last fourteen in the field of meteorological satellites, but had immediately gone to another job, also in the satellite field.

As Mr. Bliss says in connection with the Huston affair, “Lakeside reaped rewards from having made possible this prodigy of learning. Lakeside now took rank on equal terms with the foremost independent schools in the country.” He goes on to say that one of the rewards reaped the next year was a \$4,000 profit which he calls the first in the school’s history. He had perhaps forgotten the lesser profit made a few years earlier. Whether this profit was the result of Huston’s success is a moot question. More probably, the fact that 92 boys were enrolled explains the matter.

As the school entered upon its sixth year at the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue location, rumors of change were already in the air. The Board of Trustees had taken an option on some land outside the city to the north. There was to be another move; another expansion. Approximately 30 acres in the country at 145<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue N.E. were purchased, architect Carl Gould was engaged, a money-raising campaign was launched, and by April of 1930 construction was underway. Between then and September, the main building, named Bliss Hall, the dormitory, later named Moore Hall after Trustee Dr. Walter A. Moore, and the Refectory were built. William Boeing then gave money to build the gymnasium, to complete three sides of the quadrangle. (Boeing later, in 1931, offered to give \$10,000 if the school would raise \$15,000 to purchase property to the south for a headmaster’s house.)

In connection with this move, the school underwent another change of name. In June of 1930 the now familiar name of J. Grant Hinkle, Secretary of State in Olympia, was to be found on the request for the name change. The school was to be called Lakeside Country Day School. It also was to have a new headmaster, for as Charles Bliss says in his recollections, the old headmaster “was quite worn out and begged relief.” It should be added that there was another factor contributing to his decision: Mrs. Bliss died in March of 1930. T.R. Hyde, a Yale man who had been at Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia, (it might also be presumed that the several Yale men on the Board had a hand in the choice) was chosen [to be the new headmaster], and came on the scene in the late summer of 1930. Mr. Bliss stepped down to become assistant headmaster and teacher of Latin and Spanish.

It would be interesting to know what Mr. Hyde’s reactions were when he first saw the north limits of the city. It must have looked a bit bleak. Pictures of the period show a dearth of trees with the new buildings starkly arranged on the perimeter of the quadrangle. The many trees along First Avenue and those in the gully between McKay Chapel and the headmaster’s house had not yet been planted. Parsons Field and the

quadrangle were grassless, and all around, almost as far as the eye could see, was the logged-off land, with only a house or two visible.

The physical aspect was not the only bleak feature at Lakeside in 1930. The stock market crash of 1929 and the ensuing depression had created financial problems so acute that Mr. Bliss feared for the life of the school. Many of the pledges made to pay for the new school were in default. The Board was faced with borrowing to meet expenses. But let the man on the scene, Charles Bliss, tell part of the story.

“T.R. Hyde...was appointed headmaster at \$10,000 a year; the former headmaster became his assistant, teaching Latin and Spanish, at \$2,200 a year. As the depression deepened...registration fell off until it reached fifty, the number the school had at its optimistic beginning. Salaries fell accordingly. The assistant headmaster reached a low of \$1,320, not to recover until his retirement ten years later.”

However, “the school just would not die.” Mr. Hyde apparently tried during his short three-and-a-half-year tenure to stem the tide. Among his efforts was the appointment of a music teacher, one Asa Merrill, who composed the Lakeside School song, “Hail to Lakeside”, which was traditionally the last song sung by the seniors at commencement.

Also during the early years at the new site the tradition of publishing the news continued to prevail among the boys. Before the move there had been a school paper called the *Lakeside Star*, professionally printed and good enough to win scholastic prizes. In 1930 the seventh-graders had started another publication, *The Torchbearer*, and immediately, not to be left out, the sixth-graders came out with their paper, the *Tattler* (sic). Three years later the seniors and the News Club started another paper, the *Lakeside News*. All these eventually became *The Tatler*, as it is now spelled.

In these publications was to [be] found the usual mixture of school news, profound editorials, bad jokes, and so on. For example, did you know that George Washington owned the first mule in the United States? Or have you ever heard the joke about Norah? “Have you seen Norah’s new frock?” “No, what does it look like?” “Well, in many places it’s very like Norah.” And then there was the editorial, a summarization of which follows: Mr. Bliss asked Mr. Bleakney to do a survey of classes to find out how much of the morning services was remembered by students and faculty. Mr. Bleakney did as he was asked. The results: 50 percent of one class, 40 percent of another, and 40 percent of the faculty remembered nothing!

In 1931 two Board actions stand out: the signal was given to build the headmaster’s house, and once more the school name was changed through the usual channel – Secretary of State Hinkle. The school was now to be called The Lakeside School. Many years later “The” was dropped.

By September of ’31 the enrollment stood at 75, a far cry from the 200 that had been projected with the school move. The class that graduated the previous June had six boys. Little activity is recorded in the minutes, though it may be noted that the new president, David Whitcomb, recommended “some sort of setting-up exercises to improve the carriage of the students.” The Board also effected the sale of the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue property to the Helen Bush School.

In his first year, Mr. Hyde had introduced a few other innovations. He had proposed that each boy have his own checking account for incidentals, presumably an in-

school account, not a bank-operated one such as the one now in force. He also granted smoking privileges for all boys over 17 who could get their parents' permission.

By October of 1932 the enrollment was down to 67, of whom 14 were boarders, 15 lower schoolers. Jean Lambert was now on the faculty, teaching mathematics, directing the activities of the boarders, and coaching basketball. What a schedule the team had that year! Games with Bainbridge, Seattle College, Bitter Lake, Highline, O'Dea junior team, Edison, Broadway, Vashon and Moran Junior College. Lambert also organized the annual Lakeside Invitational Basketball Tournament, which became a traditional finale to the season.

While the lower echelons of the school were carrying on as usual, winning and losing basketball games, passing and failing Lambert's math tests, or sneaking out of the dormitory to run up to Ma's store, an upheaval was taking place in the top command. Board minutes and school papers do not throw any light on reasons, but the fact remains: T.R. Hyde resigned the headmastership, to be effective in June of 1934. The Board, however, granted him leave of absence from February on, and Charles Bliss reassumed the task of heading the school until another headmaster could be found. Mr. Hyde was gone after about three and a half years.

Roughly ten years had elapsed since the founding of the school, some years good, some a bit shaky. The depression was still in evidence, the school was still deeply in debt, and enrollment was not good. The new headmaster, whoever he was to be, would face problems.

### **ADAMS' FIRST YEARS (1934 to 1940)**

On April 11 the entire school turned out for a Campus Day to tidy up the grounds. On April 23 Robert S. Adams appeared on the scene to look the school over and to be looked over by the Board, the faculty, the students, and some of the parents. All parties to the looking were evidently pleased, for Mr. Adams was subsequently offered the headmastership and accepted.

Robert Simeon Adams, known as Sim to wife and friends (and later referred to by the boys as "Big A" or "Red"), was head of the English department at Hawken School in Cleveland, Ohio, and also teacher of history and dramatics. Both he and Mary, his wife, were graduates of Ohio State, and he held a master's degree from Western Reserve University. Their one son, Hazard, was eight years old when he made the long trip across country with his parents in the summer of 1934.

Like Charles Bliss, Mr. Adams was an athlete and a firm believer in supervised athletics. He was also a poet and a student of philosophy. (He used to invite the resident faculty to readings and discussions of philosophy in the big living room of the headmaster's house, meetings at which he and Jean Lambert would usually engage in vigorous, but friendly, argument, while some of the others sat around wondering what they were talking about. The poetry, some of which had already appeared in print, was later published posthumously by Mary and Hazard.) Another interest was antique furniture. The home was full of beautiful pieces, many of which Adams himself had refinished.

This, then, was the man who became the third headmaster of Lakeside. The records indicate that he faced two chief problems: low enrollment and, for that time, a huge debt, some \$150,000. He attacked these problems with vigor. The enrollment began a slow but steady rise; the debt a slow but steady decline. In the sixteen years between 1934 and 1950, when his sudden and tragic death occurred, he reduced that debt to zero and could count some 170 students.

A glance through *Tatlers* for 1934-35 reveals many sidelights of the school. J.G. "Gordie" Hamilton joined the faculty that year. So, too, did Wilford "Bill" Reaper. Gordie had done some of his teacher training here, working under Jean Lambert in math.

Lakeside teams were then known as the Wolverines; the Lions tag supplanted that name about a year later. The school's water supply was a well located between the Refectory and Moore Hall, the dormitory. Apparently this well failed once, creating joy in the hearts of the boarders: no morning cold shower. The failure was soon corrected – just a clogged filter. In 1934, too, the school bought its first two "buses" – Ford station wagons, pictures of which appeared in the *Tatler*, with Gordie Hamilton and Veo Small the drivers.

By 1935 affairs had improved a bit. A new promotion man, Frank Metz (also the rifle coach and director of the woodworking shop), and Adams himself spent hours on the promotion circuit "finding" boys. Hence, at Commencement '36, there were 35 graduates, including a number of excellent football players who had been recruited by the University of Washington coaching staff from as far away as Chicago. These lads were farmed out to Lakeside for a year of "conditioning".

As the 1936 – 1937 year opened, the records show about 115 enrolled, 43 of them boarders. An innovation in the dress code occurred: maroon flannel blazers and gray flannel slacks became the uniform of the day. Accessories were up to the individual, but in general shirts were white, ties and socks and shoes were black. (Since some of the boys did their best to make one uniform last four years, it is easy to imagine what a junior, say looked like in his freshman jacket – wrists and hands and part of forearm protruding six inches or a foot, patches on the elbows, and a few grass stains here and there from roughhousing on the grass.)

What [was] life like for the boarders? Regimented is perhaps the best adjective to use, though the regimentation seemed not to harm their mental or physical growth. A quick run-through of the activities of a normal day may give a general idea. Up, out of bed, covers thrown back, by 7:25; ablutions, including a shower (not more than three minutes per boy and usually cold since the hot water had not arrived from the boiler room that early); line up for personal inspection on the walk in front of the dormitory – hair combed, fingernails, etc., clean, shoes shined, tie straight; breakfast; back to the room to make beds, sweep, dust, and stand by for room inspection; off to classes at 8:30, with no returning to the dorm during class or athletic periods; four to six [o'clock] normally free; dinner (dark jackets); then study hall in Bliss, where, besides studying, only quiet breathing was permitted; bed for the Lower Schoolers at 9:00, for the Upper Schoolers at 10:00 – though, later, seniors were allowed {to be up} until 11:00.

Some amusing incidents occurred in the dormitory in the late '30s. Ned Skinner '37 remembers vividly the dark night when he and some friends "sneaked" out after lights, headed for Ma Long's store or some other equally off-campus destination. When he came tiptoeing in and started to crawl into bed, guess what he found! "The Iron

Duke”, Mr. Lambert asleep therein! (After all, why wait up for the miscreant? Why not get some sleep?) Ned has recovered from the shock. Then, later, there was the running feud between Chuck Bingham, who liked to turn his radio on full blast, and Mr. McCuskey, who lived across the hall and liked soft music. (Another noise maker lived down the hall a bit – Jim Bridge – whose trumpet was louder than Gabriel’s.) And there was the night when Joe Hebert and “Buck” McArthur, who had been out on the Saturday senior privilege – noon until midnight – dragged in very late with a most original excuse. It seems they had been walking down 145<sup>th</sup> from the Aurora bus stop when two girls in a car stopped, kidnapped them, took them out into the country, and, well, returned them in far from pristine condition. (The master on duty, overcome by their ingenious excuse, did not report them to higher authority.)

The school year 1937 – ’38 found some changes taking place. The rifle range moved indoors, to the third floor in Bliss Hall; a new well was drilled, but the school also connected with the city water lines (for emergencies); a new 42-passenger bus graced the oval in front of Bliss Hall, thanks to founder and longtime trustee Reginald Parsons, who had given so much to the school over the years; the football field was turfed and the track refurbished, and at half-time in the O’Dea game that fall the field was officially dedicated as Parsons Field; and the football team had an undefeated season.

The school year that followed – 1938-’39 – brought a few changes and innovations, too. A faculty committee consisting of Messrs. Lambert, Bleakney, Wilkins, and Reaper formulated an intramural sports and activities program known as the club system. The entire Upper School was divided evenly among three clubs, the Parsons, the Brownells, and the Whitcombs, named after members of the Board. These clubs, each of which had three or four faculty members as advisers and/or coaches, competed in all sports and in other activities as well. Points were awarded in each area of competition, so many for the winner, so many for second place, so many for third. The principal competition was in sports, but other activities produced points, too. One year the Parsons would jubilantly win the crown; the next year the Brownells or Whitcombs might come out on top. Rivalry was keen and as the school grew larger, a fourth club, the Venables, was added. In the Lower School the traditional rivalry continued between the Maroons and Golds.

On the administrative and business front, too, there was activity. The Board discussed and tabled temporarily the construction of an infirmary. World War II was brewing; a wait-and-see attitude prevailed as far as such commitments were concerned. Down on Fourth Avenue, north of the Refectory, construction began on four faculty houses, and by Christmas four faculty families were ensconced therein.

In 1939 a new activity was added. Every Wednesday evening dancing was taught in the gym. In the “council chambers”, the Student Council, Art Schmitz, president, debated the relative merits of maroon blazers versus dark blue ones. Despite the headmaster’s presence, the blue blazer won handily. (It is presumed that one reason for the change was that those maroon jackets tended to elicit a few uncomplimentary remarks from the public school students Lakesiders sometimes brushed elbows with, remarks such as “Lakeside sissies.”)

At this point, if another parenthetical remark is in order, there was also another community attitude toward Lakesiders, an attitude especially prevalent in the area around the school. The common belief seemed to be that at least 90% of the Lakeside students

were problem boys, that Lakeside was a sort of high-toned reform school. It wasn't until the chapel was built and the cross installed on the spire that this attitude began to change, to be replaced by "That's some kind of religious school, isn't it?"

Mr. Adams, despairing of the singing at morning chapel, assigned Mr. McCuskey to lead singing every Thursday morning. After several weeks of practice, Arenz' valiant piano pounding and McCuskey's plaintive pleas, nothing had materialized. The program slowly died a natural death and was never revived, and the singing of the morning hymns continued to resemble the grumbling thunder on the far horizon.

Other events of note: the Rifle Club, still shooting in the attic of Bliss, ranked fifteenth in the nation, out of 342 schools participating, and second west of the Mississippi; the senior class spent time, money and hours of labor building a new practice field on the southwest corner of the campus - the Class of 1939 Field - an endeavor that was helped along on several "field days" when the entire school turned out to rake rocks and otherwise clean up the field.

That fall the enrollment stood at 149, according to the Tatler, with the senior class the largest, 47, and the Lower School numbering 34. Boarders had arrived from such distant places as Washington, D.C., Ontario, Pennsylvania, California and Alaska. Most, of course, were from Washington and Oregon.

Social life was not neglected during this period. Dancers were kept busy with the Football informal, the Senior Blackout (war influence, perhaps, or perhaps just a chance to turn all the lights out), and Senior Formal, the Big L Club's Campus Carnival, and the Soph Hop.

Best of all, the Board voted to give the faculty a Christmas bonus - two and a half percent of annual salary. In most cases this amounted to around \$40 - no small blessing in those days.

## **THE FORTIES**

In the early summer of 1940, Francis Brownell resigned the presidency of the Board. He had been president since 1933, a year when only 43 boys were in school. The debt was in default, and the future did not look bright. When he resigned seven years later, the Board expressed in formal resolution its appreciation and gratitude for all he had done for the school. The debt had been materially reduced, and the interest payments and current obligations were being met.

That autumn there were 154 students enrolled. Tuition had risen to \$1,150 for boarders, \$500 for Upper School day boys, \$450 for Lower School day boys. Fifteen full-time faculty and two part-time men were manning the classrooms. The rifle coach and the boxing coach were part-time. (Boxing, by the way, was, by vote of the Board, to "be made compulsory, at the discretion of the headmaster, for all boys not engaged in a major sport." The "manly art" was highly regarded in those days.)

In those days the Student Council was a fairly powerful organization in the school structure. One of the council's priorities in 1940 was to undertake "the development of a garden in the wooded area around the Thomas Carlisle Memorial Garden," the area that McAllister House now sits on.

Next to the council in "power" was the senior class. Seniors were the "big wheels" on campus. Their sacred Senior Circle, east of Bliss Hall, was off-bounds to

underclassmen, and the front door of Bliss was “their” door, not to be used by anyone else – though the faculty religiously ignored this dictum. However, woe (and usually a paddling) to any underclassman who invaded senior turf! (Except when the seniors were away on their annual sneak. Then the underclassmen had a field day.)

Commencement ceremonies in the forties sometimes tended to be a bit long and drawn out, not because the speakers were overly verbose but because the awarding of cups, medals, and other prizes was a time-consuming rite. Most of the awards are no longer on the program; the Scholarship Cup and the Athletic Cup are about the only ones left. A reading of the following fairly complete list of awards may explain the reason. Maroon and Gold Stars, the Dormitory Honor Cup, the Popularity Cup, the Club Trophy (and the medals that went to the leaders in the clubs – those who accumulated the most points over the year), the Leadership Cup, the Good Fellowship Cup, the Spelling and Writing Cup, the Blocking Trophy, the Physical Training Cup, the Good Citizenship Cup, the Maroon and Gold Trophy, and the Torch Bearer Cup. (Not awarded at commencement were the wall plaques on which were engraved the names of team captains, dorm council president, student council president, track record-setters, and so on.)

On opening day in September '41 it was obvious that the “promotion” men had done a thorough job. The enrollment stood at 173, and since 64 of these were boarders, living space was at a premium. As usual, the Headmaster and faculty housed students. The banner enrollment also necessitated double shifting at lunch in the Refectory – Lower School at one sitting, Upper School at the second.

Things looked good on the always present economic front, too. The debt had been reduced to \$60,000, and over \$11,000 in donations had been raised toward the construction of an infirmary, which was completed and ready for use by May.

Then came December and Pearl Harbor, and even though Franklin Roosevelt said that he and Eleanor and even Fala hated “wah”, the country was in one. Lakeside, too. Many faculty members enlisted and during the next few years many new names appeared on the faculty roster.

The war effort had its effect in other ways, too. The school had a Defense Fund Drive, headed by faculty member Gordie Hamilton. Blackouts became the order of the day – or night. But headlights had to be hooded or painted; in fact, the early morning runs at first were driven with the lights off. And, in the basement of Bliss, where Eddie Bauer’s Lakeside branch of his athletic supply store was located, the civilian defense people took over. The headquarters of Local Defense Area #2 of the State of Washington Emergency Defense Commission (called in the Board minutes “the Second Interceptor Command”) was set up. Its “area” ran from Lake Washington to the Sound and from the city limits to the Snohomish County line. Sentries – civilian volunteers – were posted at strategic places about the school, armed with nasty looking shotguns. Identity cards were issued to Lakesiders. And every morning, just at daybreak, PBY’s from the Sandpoint Naval Air Station would climb from the lake, lumber slowly over Lakeside, always just over the rooftops, and disappear to the west on their routine patrols.

Yet life at Lakeside went on much as usual. That was the year that Mr. Bliss had to leave because of a serious illness. By spring Parsons Club appeared to have a comfortable lead over the second-place Brownells. The usual sports had been maintained – football, basketball, rifle, tennis, golf, track and baseball. The basketball tournament

went on normally. The *Numidian* carried a picture of Master Carbray decked out in a toga teaching a Latin class. And finally, in June, some 35 seniors graduated.

Following the graduation of the 28 members of the Class of '43, something new appeared on campus – a summer session. Course offerings were limited to math, American history, Latin and physics. There is some evidence to the effect that girls were going to be allowed to attend, Lakeside's second venture into coeducation. (Remember the Moran daughter?)

As the summer merged into the fall of '43, other innovations were in evidence. There was a shortage of help because of the war; hence the students waited on table and helped in the kitchen, replacing the traditional waitresses. Seniors and some faculty pitched in to help the maintenance department, which was down to one man. Lakeside's part in the War Chest Drive was \$893.11.

The war dragged on. The list of Lakesiders who had been killed grew longer. By the time peace was declared on both fronts, fourteen [Lakesiders] had lost their lives: King Huntington '40; Ted McKay, Chuck McAllister, Bob O'Brien and John Kerl, all of the class of '38; George Fix '41; Corwin Shank '43; Arthur Robbins, Tom Symons and Wade Goodman of '37; Ralph Booth '36; Bob Fifield and Harold Dupar of '43; Bob Bronson '40. In '43 – '44 several seniors were graduated at midyear to enable them to enter the various services.

Otherwise the school year went on much as usual. There was a Mothers' Tea in October. Also in October the Helen Bush girls staged a Bush-Lakeside Frolic, a get-acquainted dance, held at the home of Paul Pigott in the Highlands. Following a bit of piano work at intermission by Beriah Brown and "Crusty Rusty" Cummings, one girl was heard to remark, "That Berry Brown – he's a kill!" It is interesting to note that the proper proportion of boys to girls was maintained – fifty boys, thirty girls.

Now a quick look back a bit. Following Ted McKay's death in the South Pacific, the William O. McKays evinced a desire to give the school a chapel in the memory of their son. The Board accepted the offer, and Reginald Parsons sent a local architect, John Paul Jones, on a scouting trip back east to look at school chapels. Board member Venables moved that the chapel be constructed for religious, cultural and aesthetic needs. Also, in 1943, the Board voted to go into the TIAA (Teacher's Insurance and Annuity Association) program which is basically a retirement program, paid by the school and the teachers. (Earlier, the Board had adopted a tenure program, which granted a teacher certain immunity from arbitrary firing, except in cases of moral turpitude, etc.) Whether either of these moves was the result of a mini-revolt on the part of some of the old-time teachers, who had, during the "bad" economic days of the thirties, gone without pay for some time because there "was no money," in some cases drawing perhaps \$45 a month or whatever of the monies could be split, is a moot question. The fact was there, however. Men like Lambert, Logan, Small, Bleakney, Hamilton, McCuskey, Murray, Ellis and Bliss *had* gone through such an ordeal. At any rate, they drew up a petition for the Board, explaining their grievances. They were justified, it would seem, for the Board had paid Adams a tribute for "having reduced the debt from \$150,000 to zero" in his ten years at Lakeside. The money was coming in. Salaries, however, were still low.

In 1945 the basketball tournament was revived, and arch rival O'Dea won. The Alumni Association was in action after several years of inactivity because of the war. The Board unveiled a five-year plan: to build the Theodore Aiken McKay Memorial

Chapel, the Charles Ralyea McAllister Memorial House (originally designed to be a recreation spot for boarders, but changed into another, smaller dormitory), the George Dodson Fix Memorial Library and the Thomas Douglas Stimson Memorial Field (now Stimson-Carlisle Field).

In April 1946 the *Tatler* published a note from “Ma” Long, who operated the small neighborhood store at the corner of First Avenue and Roosevelt Way, where the Arco station now stands. “Pa” Long had died in 1941, and “Ma” and her daughter, Dorothy, and Dorothy’s husband were running the store “dispensing pop, candy and ‘soothers’ to Lakesiders. (Although we have a sneaking idea as to what ‘soothers’ were, we won’t mention the word.) Here is what “Ma” wrote: “Just a few words of welcome and appreciation to my boys who have attended Lakeside from 1930 through these many years. I am proud that so many of you responded to the call to arms, and thankful for your safe return. For those boys who sleep in foreign lands, I say “Rest in peace! And God bless you all!”

The war had ended the preceding August. Jean Lambert had been discharged from the Navy and had resumed his work at Lakeside. George Logan was ruling the science labs and classrooms as he had done since the days at the Bush site in the late ‘20s. Others on the faculty: Fred Bleakney, English, later to add philosophy to his load; Veo Small, French, geometry, Commissar of Transportation; Ray Olson, Lower School math and director of that school; John Pletz, history, art, Carnegie Art curator; Joe Harris, Lower School, later to become head of that body; Paul Cantonwine, math, track, frosh-soph football; Homer Hendricks, math, physics, athletics; Vern Parrington, history, English, publications; and two new men, Amos Lawrence in the Lower School, William Rogers, Spanish and athletics.

As their class gift that June, the seniors presented the school with two cement lions, which were to be placed on pedestals at either side of the gym entrance to “serve as inspiration to future Lakeside athletes.” Somehow the lions wound up on the front steps of Bliss Hall, whence, at too frequent intervals, they were purloined by certain miscreants. Finally, after several such heists (and a couple of counter-attacks) the lions were nailed down with steel rods set in concrete. Even these, however, were ripped off by the dastards.

An event in the autumn of 1946: Dick Carbray’s Latin students staged a “Roman Holiday” complete with dancing (and presumably girls) at the Vashon Island dance hall. Only apparent accident was that someone slipped a little salt into the gas tank of the old International station wagon. (That wagon, by the way, was the boarders’ delight, very easily started without benefit of keys. And if driven quietly off campus without lights, excellent transportation for night riders to [go] to wherever night riders went – Potlatch Tavern on 15<sup>th</sup> and 125<sup>th</sup> perhaps? Later on, in 1960, when that wagon was long gone, the school pickup served the same purpose.

Claude Johnson had joined the faculty, teaching Spanish. His soft-shoe dance routines quickly became a part of Lakeside functions. Student government by now consisted of a Senate and a Council, and somewhere along here a Student Court crept in. The Senate “carried out all pertinent business.” The Council President ruled the Student Body as a whole, which had the “power of initiative and referendum on the filing of prescribed petitions.” Officers were elected in the spring for the ensuing school year.

By this time it had become a tradition for the entire dormitory population, plus most of the resident and some of the non-resident faculty, to repair to Lake Wilderness for a Saturday of fun and games on the first weekend of the school year, a sort of get-acquainted outing. Well organized outings they were, too – qualified older boys serving as lifeguards, faculty doing most of the catering with food prepared by the Refectory staff (except for the hotdogs), and faculty, of course, counting noses, keeping fingers crossed to ward off drownings, escapes and accidental marooning of boys.

In June of '47 the Board was thinking in terms of a \$250,000 expansion campaign. This expansion was to include, in addition to the buildings and field already listed, a “twin” to the dormitory, to be situated north of the Refectory. It was to match Moore Hall externally, but internally was to be set up on a “house” plan – boys of different ages living on the same floor, with a junior and senior master or prefect for each floor – instead of having vertical distribution in which the older boys lived on the upper floors, younger on the lower. (The Board was planning for a school of 200, divided evenly between day and boarding.) This new dormitory was never built, however. Instead, McAllister House was re-designed to house nineteen boys and never did become a recreation building.

A few more prizes had been added to the commencement trophy table: a Character and Religious Integrity Cup, an Industry and Perseverance Cup, the Randolph Pooley Varsity Scholarship prize, a Faculty Medal, the Bosch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, and the Headmaster’s Award. Perhaps by way of repayment, the senior class gave the school as its class gift a portrait of Mr. Adams, painted by a local artist, Miss Enid Stoddard.

In June of 1947 The Board membership was increased to twenty-four. Dr. Thomas Cole, the trustee who had succeeded Dr. Padelford as educational adviser and head of the education committee, recommended that reading and music be among the first priorities of the Board. Because the cost of food had risen 139% since 1938, a hike in charges for meals was in the cards: breakfast 40 [cents], lunch 60 [cents], dinner 80 [cents], about a 50% increase. The Howard Wright Construction Company was given the contract to build the \$50,000 McAllister House, for which ground was broken that month. And, when school opened in the fall, there were 194 enrolled.

The remedial reading program, eventually referred to as Reading Methods, was started in the second semester. Wilmer “Bill” Eiseman came to Lakeside and remained for many years, helping students with their reading problems and counseling them in study methods, and often acting as a sounding board for their problems and complaints. He was known as “Doc” to the students.

Another interesting action of the Board was recorded in the minutes for March 1948. A motion was made and passed unanimously “That all masters on a full-time basis be obliged to give their full time to the needs of the institution and to whatever duties, curricular or extra-curricular, may be assigned by the Headmaster.” (Most of the full time men at the time were making from \$3,500 to \$4,200 a year, with teacher/administrators earning \$6,000 and a few of the veterans averaging \$4,350. Of course it must be remembered that the dollar was more nearly worth 100 [cents] then than it is now. Example: the school bought three new station wagons to replace the old ones – total cost \$4,200.)

The biggest and best remembered event of the year, however, was the completion and dedication of the Charles Ralyea McAllister Memorial House, a building made possible through the generosity of friends of Chuck and of the school. Following graduation from Princeton, he had joined the Marine Corps, and on July 21, 1944, was killed leading an attack on a Japanese unit that had surrounded part of his men.

Nineteen forty-eight was the year of Fred Bleakney's physical troubles – slipped or broken discs. He had one operation which was apparently badly botched, necessitating a second, and his absence for most of the year. The absence of the fabulous FWB was felt. He had joined the faculty in 1930 and retired in 1972. During those years the Bleakney legend grew. Rather small, but wiry, muscular and quick, he could out-do anyone on the faculty or in the student body in certain athletic endeavors – passing a football, throwing the wickedest curves this writer has ever seen, playing tennis, handball, squash. In the classroom his teaching of English and philosophy, or of anything else he was asked to teach, was an example of perfection. His prodigious memory was legendary; he could recite verse, especially humorous verse, by what seemed to be the hour without reference to a book. In 1972, the year of his retirement, Headmaster Dan Ayrault, on some pretext, lured him to the Refectory where a large group of alumni from all over the Northwest had come, to shake his hand, tell him of their gratitude and of their memories of his classes, in short to express their respect and affection. No speeches, no ceremony, no cheers, no gold watch; just a greeting and a handshake. (Mr. Bleakney had already been given the Distinguished Service Award in 1966. At this writing he is still living a mile or two south of the school and drops by for a too short visit occasionally, either to check up on the librarians or to leave a few newspapers and tin cans and such at the recycling depot, which he has referred to as the refuse station – pronounced with the accent on the second syllable, he says.)

The 1949-50 fall term had been underway only a short time when good news was announced. The rule demanding that every Upper School boy write a 2,000 word term paper for each course was rescinded, or perhaps “modified” is a better word. Instead, there was to be one term paper in each of three areas: the humanities, science and language. The cheers from the proletariat were loud and prolonged.

In November ground was broken for the Theodore Aiken McKay Memorial Chapel. The Mothers Club, under the leadership of its president, Mrs. Harry Henke Jr., raised over \$2,000 with its first Rummage Sale.

Thirty-six seniors graduated in June 1950. Four months later, less than a month after the opening of school, tragedy struck Lakeside. Headmaster Adams died suddenly and unexpectedly of a heart attack at the age of 53.

Robert S. Adams, coming to Lakeside in 1934, had steered the school through perilous years of depression and war. His insistence upon strict standards of behavior had become legendary. He had been known, for instance, to stop his talk to an assembly in mid-sentence, descend from the podium, and physically confront some malefactor in the audience, to the great discomfiture of that malefactor. Just as legendary was his adherence to strict standards of scholarship. But let the 1951 dedication tell the story: “Robert S. Adams was for sixteen years headmaster of Lakeside School. During these years his vision for the growth of the school materialized in the masters’ houses, the infirmary, McAllister House and McKay Memorial Chapel. Through these years, too, his insistence upon high intellectual standards for Lakeside was rewarded by an increasing

national recognition of the school. More important than all this, however, was his successful inculcation of the finest and highest ideals in boys. He instilled in those about him a will and a determination to uphold these ideals and to respect that which is just and fair. Colleges have graduated countless men; few can be considered educated. *Robert*

*Adams was educated.* He imparted to those about him a love of learning for the sake of learning. He was a man to be admired, respected and emulated. It is, therefore, with humility that we dedicate this book to Robert Simeon Adams – a headmaster, a teacher, a friend.”

The school was stunned by the death of the headmaster, but it rallied quickly. The Board asked Assistant Headmaster Jean Lambert to take up the reins “until it could find a new headmaster.” Mr. Lambert did so, adding the thousand and one tasks of a headmaster to his already heavy schedule of teaching. The only concession he made to the impossible demands on his time and energy was to ask McCuskey to supervise the dormitory – but even in this area he kept a steady finger on the pulse. At the end of the school year the *Tatler*, in its final issue, paid tribute to Jean A. Lambert for what he had done for the school. The following is quoted from that *Tatler* column. “The boys of Lakeside would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. Lambert, for the complete loyalty and devotion that you have shown for the school and for us during the school year. It is not very often that we can behold a living example of those qualities of character for which we should strive in life. We appreciate your unwavering sense of duty toward school and country and the people that make up each.

We thank you deeply for your true and sincere efforts to teach us those traits of character which will enable us to uphold the dignity of man. We realize, too, the sheer amount of work that you did this year in carrying out your ideals: the countless hours of preparation that must have gone into your chapel talks, the time spent attending to your tasks as a mathematics teacher, and the work you did in attending to school affairs. Our deepest appreciation, though, lies in your unfailing willingness to give personal attention to every boy who has a problem, whether it be a problem in math, a problem in school life, or a problem in personal affairs. We know that to boys in the future you will continue to give this guidance as faithfully as you have given it to us. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you, Mr. Lambert, for a job well done.”

The school year rolled on. Among the highlights: the Gold Star list for the first quarter contained 54 names; the Honor Roll, begun the year before under the aegis of Mr. Adams, listed 23 boys at the end of the first semester – boys with all B’s or better, no grade under B-, and for every B- or a B+ to balance it; a new fad in the dormitory – smoking the cardboard tubes on coat hangers (dorm boys would smoke anything!).

In 1951 the Mothers Club raised the money to finance the publication of Mr. Adams’ poetry. Dexter Strong, the headmaster of Pomfret School in Connecticut, came west at the Board’s invitation to consider taking the helm at Lakeside. On his tour of the

school he dropped in on a pep assembly in the study hall, where Mac McCuskey and a couple of other ham actors were “performing” on stage, and the sight almost caused him to go straight back east (he says). Later, in March, having accepted the position, he came west again with Mrs. Strong to meet the faculty and check out the headmaster’s house.

## **THE ‘50s AND ‘60s UNDER DEXTER STRONG**

Dexter and Helen Strong and daughter Joan arrived from Connecticut in July of 1951. When they pulled up in front of Bliss Hall and went in to get the key to the headmaster’s house, they were greeted, in rather startling fashion, by a maintenance man with “Welcome to Lakeside! Your urine has arrived!” This was in reference to a large 40-cup coffee urn they had shipped on ahead.

Forty-four-year-old Dexter K. Strong was born in Portland, Oregon, attended school there and at Thacher School in the Ojai Valley and received his A.B. degree from Williams College in 1929. He did graduate work at the London School of Economics in 1931-32, and later received his M.A. from Harvard in 1940. In the meantime he had taught at Thacher, then had taught history at the Pomfret School for ten years before he became its headmaster. The call of the west, however, influenced his decision to accept the position at Lakeside – that plus the challenge of heading a relatively young school and helping it grow. Helen Strong, though an easterner (from Concord, Massachusetts), had seen enough of the west so that she too welcomed the move to Seattle. She was a graduate of Smith, the college from which daughter Joan also graduated.

September 1951 found the Strongs comfortably settled in their new home and ready for the opening of school. The evening before the opening faculty meeting, they invited the faculty in for supper. Next day, at the first meeting, Mr. Strong opened his remarks by saying, in effect, “I’ve heard of headmasters who were ready to poison the faculty at the end of the first year, but this is the first time it has happened before the opening of school.” Something at the supper had apparently been a bit “off”, and a good many of the faculty had been ill during the night. Mr. Strong apologized.

For the second year in a row, however, Lakeside was hit by a death. George Logan had recovered from his stroke of the year before and was back in the chemistry and biology labs, teaching those subjects in his own inimitable way; but in December a second stroke brought on his death. Mr. Logan was, in point of service, the oldest member of the faculty, having joined it when the school was at the Bush School site. The Logan “ranch” on the shore of Deer Lake on Whidbey Island was a favorite retreat for students and faculty alike, a peaceful place to get away to on a weekend, there to feast on the delicious food George himself prepared. In the summers he frequently took students on trips to such places as Mexico, and, during the school year, on field trips to eastern Washington or to the ocean beaches.

In October the Theodore Aiken McKay Memorial Chapel was dedicated. In a sense, the dedication was a memorial service not only for Ted McKay, who had been killed in the South Pacific, but also for the other Lakesiders who had given their lives in the war. The plaque engraved with their names hangs in the vestibule of the chapel, its listing of the dead prefaced with Rupert Brooke’s lines,

“...These laid the world away; poured out the red

Sweet wine of youth, gave up the years to be  
Of work and joy..."

Also, by this time, the electronic Baldwin organ stood in the northwest corner of the sanctuary, the organ given in memory of Harold Dupar, killed at Anzio not long after he graduated from Lakeside. The organ was a gift of the Dupar family, who some years later gave the school two named scholarships in Harold's memory.

McAllister House and McKay Chapel had been completed. Time now to move ahead on another memorial building – the George Dodson Fix Memorial Library. Ground was broken in the spring of '52, and for the rest of the school year the sound of hammers and saws caused teachers on the west end of Bliss to close their west-facing windows.

Lakesiders were making scholastic news, too. As Len Bushnell had done the year before, Rod Dayan '51 had won the Princeton Regional Scholarship and in '52 was at Princeton and was stroke on the number one freshman boat. Bob Farrell and Blake Howe had won NROTC scholarships. As a headline in the *Tatler* proclaimed, "IT PAYS TO STUDY."

Back home in the dorm the powers had weakened and permitted a coke dispensing machine to be placed in the commons room. (It didn't last very long. Before it had induced tooth decay in too many mouths it fell prey to various methods of "beating" and had to be removed.) Sophomore George Vaughan achieved local fame by winning \$75,000 in the Irish Sweepstakes. In May Doug Oliphant pitched what was probably the first no-hitter in Lakeside history – against Bothell.

Also in the spring of '52 Dr. Dan Morris, who had joined the faculty in 1951, had a book *Possibilities Unlimited* published by Harper's. The book dealt with the relationship between religious concepts and the scientific method, and was the first of many Morris books and articles published during his tenure here.

Nineteen fifty-one-1952 merged into 1952-53, Mr. Strong's second year as headmaster. The new Fix Library was open for business. The dedication, however, did not take place until mid-winter. George Fix had been killed in France while serving as a commando with the "Yankee Division." Funds given by his family and by friends went into the construction of the George Dodson Fix Memorial Library.

The year went on. One "memorable" happening occurred about ten one night. Some banana cream pies served to the boarders at dinner had not been properly refrigerated. Result – the agonies and discomfort of food poisoning hit many of the boys and some of the faculty. Greatest agony of all, perhaps, was suffered by Hazel Murray, the nurse, who, until the school doctor, Joe Koutsky, and a hastily mustered band of extra nurses could reach the scene, had to deal with the problem alone except for the assistance of those who were unaffected.

Fred Bleakney, who was famous for his ability to win magazine and radio contests, won another prize, from Rod and Gun Club of the Air with his explanation of the paradox "Some birds sit on their eggs to keep them warm, some to keep them cool." As FWB said, "You never know when some useless piece of information will come in handy."

Another Lakeside Book was published. Bobbs-Merrill came out with a slim volume of Sim Adams' verse. Mrs. Adams and Hazard had selected the poems for it, and according to the *Tatler* the Mothers Club had raised money for its publication.

Opening day in '53 found the enrollment over 200; 145 day boys, 58 boarders. The tuition was \$1,800 for boarders, \$775 for Upper School day boys, \$725 for Lower School.

In October, four students were inducted into the fledgling Cum Laude Society. A bit later the new Latin man, Jim Naiden, caused a brouhaha by assigning "The Golden Ass of Apuleius" to one of his classes. Since it was to be read in translation, everyone could understand it, and because of certain, shall we say "controversial" passages, there was an immediate outcry from some of the constituency. Even an assistant city attorney became involved, if memory serves. The furor soon died down, however.

On the sports scene, the football team won three, lost two, and tied two. Unfortunately, the dribblers did not do as well; they won one and lost 17. Baseball was so-so – the usual story of good pitching, decent fielding, and weak hitting. In track, the lads did very well again. The ski team did well, scoring a second place in the All-City meet. There was a fencing team; the tennis team did well; but the rifle shooters lacked experience.

A final note, the Lincoln Forum competition was still very much alive in both the Upper and Lower Schools. In fact, the Lower School had long since added forum requirements: each boy to give two talks per year.

By this time –1953-54 - the Strongs were well settled at Lakeside and were both very active in school and community affairs. Boarders and faculty were frequent guests at the home – for snacks after study hall or on weekend evenings, or, in the case of faculty members, for evenings of bridge, conversation, or whatever. Even though the old rules that limited the number of weekends a boarder might take had been relaxed somewhat, there were still a good many boarders who were around any given weekend. Mr. Strong was particularly active in organizing outings – skiing, hiking in the mountains, and so on. In a sense, he "snapped" the dormitory routine out of its rut with a shopping bus on Saturday morning and a show bus to town on Saturday evening. More weekend possibilities were opened, and the boarders appreciated them.

Mid-year and final examinations – two-hour type – were still in vogue. Essay-type too: none of this true-false, multiple choice stuff. In the middle of the year this meant that students would go home for Christmas vacation and forget everything they had learned in the fall, return, review it all, and get ready for the ordeal. Consequently there was considerable agitation for a quarter system. (When the quarter system did finally appear, it was a bit different; the Christmas vacation came a couple of weeks after the second quarter had begun; hence there was another gap.)

In the spring Headmaster Strong, in his report to the Board, included the fact that one-fourth of the Class of '55 had ranked in the top tenth percentile of College Board candidates in the country.

At this time – 1955 – Reginald Parsons died. One of the founders of Lakeside following the Morans, president of the Board for many years, a man who was always ready to contribute time and money to the welfare of the school, Mr. Parsons had retired from active service on the Board in 1953 – after 30 years of service in Lakeside's behalf. Without him, probably, Lakeside might not have lived.

The Board was considering converting the basement of McKay Chapel into a music center, a conversion that did occur. And a list of projects recently completed: soundproofing the corridors in Bliss and Moore, a project that vastly improved those

areas as far as noise was concerned; the purchase of a second-hand pickup truck, the old International wagon having long since died and been stripped; renovating the heating system to give McAllister House and the Lambert House at least a little heat; installing a new stove, a new oven and a new dishwasher in the school kitchen; and putting 30 new lockers in the gym.

After a lapse of about eighteen years, boxing returned for a brief time. At the first “Fist-Fest Night”, National AAU champion Jim McArter refereed 12 bouts. The “Fest” brought in \$125 for the athletic fund. Football was good, basketball so-so (5 and 6), and baseball, believe it or not, lost only 9 while winning 8. Track, too, was so-so.

On the agenda of the Board: to buy the Stimson property across First Avenue; to proceed with the music center in the basement of McKay Chapel, the money in part coming from a Reginald Parsons bequest; to convert McAllister House from a dormitory to a Lower School classroom building; and to grant Jean Lambert a year’s leave in ’57 – ’58 to study at Stanford on a National Science Foundation grant.

The Lincoln Forum tradition had more or less disappeared from the Upper School, replaced by a debate team, but in the Lower School it was going strong, if in slightly modified form. Talks were no longer limited to Lincoln topics; that year the contest was won with a speech on Walt Whitman.

On October 4, 1957, two earth-shaking events took place: the first earth satellite was launched, and the Lakeside Rocket Society was born; the formal, authorized Rocket Society, that is. There had been earlier informal, unauthorized playing with high explosives – (the concrete on the back wall of McAllister still bears the scars of that explosion.) For some years the campus would occasionally shudder under the impact of the static firings; one of the last such was so powerful that everyone in the northend called the police to ask what was going on. These were, as indicated, static firings; no rockets were sent soaring over Seattle.

The kitchen staff reported that in September the following quantities of certain foods were consumed: 3,823 quarts of milk, 1,440 pounds of potatoes, 63 gallons of ice cream, 142 pounds of butter, 360 pounds of sugar and 3,120 eggs.

In an eighth-grade math class Mr. Robert Spock devoted most of a period to discoursing on postulates. At the end of the discourse a hand shoots up. “Sir (they still called masters “sir” in those days), why are you telling us all this?” “Just for the hell of it!”

Senior class president and his “tribunal” abolished the age-old practice of giving “hacks” to recalcitrant underclassmen. However, there still was no right of appeal for the accused.

Following his annual trip east to visit colleges and attend the meetings of the Headmaster’s Club, Mr. Strong reported to the assembly on his travels and calmly announced that at a wedding reception he had attended in New England he had met Mrs. Arthur Miller. (Five minutes later the audience caught on – Marilyn Monroe.)

Cheers resounding through Bliss Hall were the result of a momentous decision on the part of math men Lambert and Coombs: no more grades on daily papers: grades would be based on the results of quizzes and tests. What had by now become a tradition, the annual *Numidian* Christmas Auction, raised a record amount through its sale of outrageously priced goods and services. Another annual event, the UGN Drive, was also a success.

## THE '60's

At the beginning of the Lower School section of the 1960 *Numidian* there is a full page picture of the entrance to McAllister House, with a line of Lower Schoolers charging out at top speed, mouths wide open in an obvious yell of triumph because school was over for the day. The facing page, the last of the Upper School section, displays a photograph of the faculty chaperones suited up for the "beatnik" dance at the Norselander – the Strongs, the Taylors and the Ayraults. George Taylor looks a bit "square," but the others look "real beat," especially Mrs. Strong, who had "the dubious honor of being the beatest chick" there, according to the *Tatler*. These pictures, in a way, portray the spirit of the school as the '60's began – everybody "with it."

The Board of Trustees was involved with discussing further expansion and a possible move to a new and larger site, perhaps east of Lake Washington. The suggested move was tabled indefinitely. In May the Board approved a capital funds drive to move math to McAllister and science to the basement of Bliss.

The *Tatler* had a year's supply of interesting issues, with many "in-depth" articles on space exploration, rocketry and other topical subjects. (The *Tatler* also contained the usual number of "corney" jokes, of course.)

On the scholastic scene John Drumheller was one of 448 students in the nation winning a Westinghouse Science Award – for his construction of DRING (a digital relay integrator, numerator and calculator) and for his high score on an exam covering all facets of scientific study. History teacher Tom Wendel's Music Appreciation course – was very popular. Compulsory chapel was down to one meeting a week. The Mothers Club gave the music department a new stereo hi-fi system. And there were four National Merit semi-finalists for the year.

Following a successful Rummage Sale (\$6,000) and an equally successful Summer Workshop which had added a course in creative writing, the '60 – '61 year opened with two hundred and thirty students enrolled. A Mr. Stanforth, from the money-raising concern of Tamblyn and Brown, Inc., New York, was on the scene to get the capital funds drive started. First Vice-President of the Board Philip Padelford was chairman of the Development Program committee. By this time the Board had grown larger and included many alumni: John Blethen '36, John Davis '34, Garrett Eddy '33 – secretary, treasurer and assistant treasurer respectively – Lyman Black '41, Jack Fix '44, Jim Griffiths '32, Wells Ostrander '32, Howie Richmond '32, Doster Rolfe '41, Ned Skinner '37, Harry Venables '39, Howie Wright '45, Willard Wright '32 and Tom Youell '51 (president of the Alumni Association). Walter Moore was Honorary President; Charles F. Clise and R. J. Venables were Honorary Members.

By April of '61 the fund drive had raised 53% of its \$510,000 goal and plans were under way for building changes.

Forty-five oarsmen were churning local waters under the coaching of two-time Olympic gold-medal winner Dan Ayrault. And another rule had been eased which made it permissible to use the chapel for assemblies.

During the summer of 1961 contracts were let for the remodeling of McAllister, the science and office areas of Bliss, the first floor of Moore and the gym. A small apartment on the third floor of Moore, north end, was also included in the contracts, an

apartment for Bob Spock, who was soon to become the head of the dormitory. The fund drive to pay for all these improvements had, by August, reached \$340,000.

On hand for the opening of school in 1961 were 227 day boys and 24 boarders. The Board's decision to phase out the boarding department because of a falling demand and an increased demand for day spaces was obviously having an effect. In fact, the remodeling of the first floor of Moore, for the use of the Lower School, was already complete; hence the boarders were relegated to the top two floors. Other construction was still in progress – a strike in the summer had delayed completion – and the workmen were working around and among the students and vice versa

The year went along much as usual – no rebellions, sit-down strikes, or other signs of the student unrest that seemed to be prevalent elsewhere as the '60's gained momentum. Rocket Society minions were conducting more and more studies, and the usual number of firings. The Drama Club, with the help of imports from St. Nicholas, staged *The Lady's Not for Burning*, a very ambitious piece of work for amateurs. The *Numidian* came out on time with a good issue. The *Tatler* was doing well. A new venture had started: volunteers were spending time each week working with the mentally retarded at Fircrest.

On the playing fields of Lakeside, teams were enjoying success. Footballers were again undefeated. And soccer was becoming popular among the members of the various clubs.

In September, 1962, the State Highway Department paid the school \$18,825 for some of the school's land lying east of Fourth Avenue, most of it steep hillside or swamp. Interstate 5, the Freeway, was on the move and would soon bring noise and noxious exhaust fumes to the campus area.

Enrollment stood at 266. Only eleven of them were boarders. If memory and records serve, those eleven were six seniors, two juniors and three sophomores.

Several minor courses had been added to the curriculum, the latest being a course called Contemporary Religion, offered by Dan Morris and George Taylor. Later in the year many of those taking the course, with other faculty members as guards, journeyed to Tacoma to attend a religious conference at Annie Wright Seminary. (Memory fails us here. Was it at this conference or another that a Lakesider somehow became stuck in a dumbwaiter?) As to the conference itself, the *Tatler* carried an excellent description of it, couched for the most part in Biblical language. Whether George Taylor's role at the conference was the primary consideration is hard to say, but shortly afterward it was announced that he was to leave Lakeside to become the headmaster of Annie Wright ... or, as the *Tatler* irreverently referred to it, "head warden."

It was during this year that fear of nuclear warfare caused the government to issue warnings to cities, towns, schools, etc. to build or find shelters and to lay in a stock of food and water. Lakeside dutifully obeyed orders, laying in a supply of biscuits and water, marking out zones in basements that were thought to be safe from blast and fall-out, and conducting numerous drills. As with fire drills, the school community took part cheerfully and obediently, if at times a bit irreverently.

The sports scene was normal, though the football team failed to maintain its perfect record – it tied one game, won the rest. Skier Jamie Paul came in first in the Western States Championship, the All City and the Beta Cup, fourth in the Junior

Nationals. The swim team did well, breaking twelve school records and winning the medley relay in the district meet.

The Glee Club, combined with the Bush Glee Club, had three very successful Christmas concerts and a presentation of Faure's *Requiem*. The latter was at the University Presbyterian Church.

In 1963 – '64 John Blethen '36 was the new Board president. Alumni Association president Jack Pankrantz '53 was working hard to reactivate the association, toward which end he organized a combined alumni-faculty dance at the Windjammer. On the academic scene an attempt was being made to "break the lock-step" of traditional classroom education by allowing certain qualified seniors to do "their own thing" with research on their own, a written paper and presentation to the faculty board. This experiment was called the Adams Scholar Program, named after the former headmaster R. S. Adams. All the usual, and unusual, activities were going on: senate, court, rocket range, playing fields, and gym. Spirit was good despite having been dampened temporarily in November by the assassination of President John Kennedy.

Perhaps the biggest single event of the 1964 –'65 year was the success of the four-with-coxswain in the spring – winning the National Schoolboy Championship in Washington D.C., through their defeat of highly favored Washington and Lee School of Arlington, Virginia, by two and one-half lengths. This group of Lakeside athletes – Bill Tytus, stroke, Lauren Colman, Gary Wright, John Van Amerongen, bow, and Pat Hester, Cox – went east all by themselves, no coach, no adults along as "chaperones", and warmed up for the Nationals by racing and beating both Groton and Brooks by three lengths, moving on the next day to defeat Exeter by the same margin, then taking Pomfret over, same three lengths again, on the third day ... May 15, 16 and 17. And when they returned from their triumph, they were challenged by the University of British Columbia and whomped that crew, too. [The crew was coached by then teacher Dan Ayrault.]

Back on the Lakeside campus there were changes. All the boarders were gone. The Lower School and the Language Training department were in firm control of Moore Hall. Soccer was the sport in the Lower School. The Drama Club put on A. A. Milne's *The Ivory Door*, somehow managing to squeeze a cast of some 21, including six Shoreline High School girls, onto the limited facilities in the chapel.

The Rocket Society was fading a bit but still managed a big boom at the range in May and hoped eventually to send up a real rocket at the Takima Range one day.

During 1964 – '65 a special fund for endowed chairs was started and the announcement was made that LEEP (Lakeside Educational Enrichment Program), a summer program for some sixty 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders from the central area, would start. All would be on scholarship.

In June, at Commencement, with 41 seniors graduating, the announcement was made by Headmaster Strong that a group of parents had given the school an eight-oared Pocock shell and ten oars (the shell appropriately named the A. D. Ayrault, Jr.)

The next year the sophomore no-grade experiment was put into effect – comments but no grades, except perhaps a final grade in June. A rotating minor in the Lower School provided students with a quarter each in science, music and history. And an Advanced Placement English course was established for seniors.

The first LEEP, under the direction of Mr. Ayrault, was judged a success by all involved and provided Lakeside with two new students, Tom Vassar and Floyd Gossett,

who were to become school leaders. These young men were among the first black students to enroll at Lakeside.

The alumni started a basketball attack on the varsity. In February the third annual Alumni Mid-winter Dance, at the Windjammer, drew 52 people. In April the Mothers Club broke the record again: over \$12,000 in the Rummage Sale.

The first named scholarships were made possible: the Class of '45 in memory of classmate Paul Voinot; and the first Harold E. Dupar Memorial Scholarship, given by Harold's sister, Mrs. Franklin P. Matz. After 36 years at Lakeside, Mr. Lambert's retirement was announced, but he planned to head a new school that was in the process of being developed, Overlake.

At Commencement 37 seniors and Mr. F.W. Bleakney were honored, the latter being given the Board's Distinguished Service Award. Eight members were tapped for *Cum Laude* and there were four National Merit finalists.

In the fall of '66 there were 328 enrolled; of these, 32 were sons of alumni. Of the 30 full-time teaching faculty, five were new.

In the absence of Mr. Ayrault who had been appointed Upper School Director, on leave to study at Harvard (and to assist in directing an in-depth study of American independent schools), Messrs. Taylor, Bauer, Maestretti and Soule were sharing the labors of the Upper School director.

Honors were falling Lakeside's way. Final reports from the preceding spring's Advanced Placement examinations were excellent: of the 39 exams taken by 18 seniors and 13 juniors in English, American history, biology, mathematics and physics, seven received "High Honors" ratings (the top), eight "Honors", sixteen "Good", eight "Credit" and none "No Credit".

The Lakeside math team won top honors in the Washington-Idaho-Oregon-Alaska section of the National Mathematics contest, and were presented an engraved cup which nestled on a shelf in McAllister House. Again, in 1966-'67, the math team won the state title.

In science, junior Dave Schulberg was one of 20 national winners and one of two west coast winners in a contest sponsored by the American Institute of Physics; sophomore Lou Otto won first prize in a contest sponsored by the Snohomish County Science Fair; Bob McCaw, a sophomore, sent in solutions to problems printed in a national mathematics journal, his solutions were subsequently published, and he was listed as a "commended solution student".

Events, doings, etc: "free study" privileges for seniors and some underclassmen necessitated structural changes in Bliss to provide study areas in B25 (the old study hall-assembly room); a personal checking account system was substituted for the old bookstore charge slips; the year-old practice of having outside speakers, panel discussions and question-and-answer periods in assembly was again very successful; in May the earth movers were making good progress on Stimson-Carlisle Field; the Annual Fund, as of June, had surpassed the \$45,000 mark reported at the same time the year before; an alumni basketball squad – beat the varsity 64–65 in a December game.

The Rocket Society had shrunk to a Model Rocket Club, but there was a Science Club, a Radio Club, and, under Peter Seibert, a new Jazz Club.

Coats and ties were still the standard of dress – except in spring, when slightly more casual dress was possible. The abolition, or relaxation, of the dress code was yet to come.

The 1967-'68 year at Lakeside saw the beginning of some of the student unrest that was sweeping the country at the college level. This unrest never reached epidemic levels here; it was mild and relatively short lived. It did result in longer hair, on face as well as on head, and in an eventual relaxation of the dress code (for faculty as well as for students). It also fostered the student attitude that eventually led to the disappearance of student government.

A survey of the faculty pictures in the '68 *Numidian*, however, shows every last man in coat and tie, clean shaven, and most with short haircuts. The 63 seniors were also “respectable”, though the haircuts were a bit longer. In October, *Seattle Magazine* published an article called “Hair, the Long and Short of It”, a definitive history of male hair grooming written by none other than Headmaster Dexter K. Strong.

Money, the life blood of an independent school, was flowing more abundantly. William A. Carlisle had willed the school \$25,000 in memory of his brother Tom, the money to go into the new athletic field across First Avenue, Stimson-Carlisle Field. John M. Moran, in memory of his brother Frank G. Moran, had given \$25,000 for a scholarship to be named after Frank; Warren Bean had pledged \$25,000 to the Faculty Endowment Fund, subject to the Board's raising another \$200,000 for the same fund - \$53,000 of which had already been raised. Again, the Annual Fund had broken all records and was over \$50,000. Lakeside now had some 1,400 alumni.

On and off campus life went on much as usual, the only really unusual item being the presence of Lakeside's second co-ed – Karen Williams, from St. Nicholas, here for an advanced physics course (summer session co-eds don't count.) The first parent-faculty discussion of the “drug problem” was held. The Class of '52 fielded its own basketball team to play the JV, but the court had somehow grown longer and wider. The varsity beat the “younger” alumni by one point.

Innovations, changes, new faculty; honors to students, these and more marked 1968-69. The offerings of the art department expanded with courses in sculpture, graphics and architecture. Evening courses for parents were offered. The Scholastic Review Board was re-activated. A faculty-student council was organized. “Open campus” for seniors; the dropping of the dress code (not without howls of anguish from some alumni and parents); the abandoning of chapel services were other changes. By June, '69, Dr. Joel Baker, chairman of the Board's Education Committee, could announce with pride that the Faculty Endowment Fund – now called the Dexter K. Strong Faculty Endowment – had accepted Warren Bean's challenge and had raised the fund over \$297,000, thus increasing Lakeside's total endowment to more than \$500,000.

A new sport, kayaking, introduced by history teacher Dwight Gibb, was catching on. Under Frank Cunningham, crew was going strong. A team of a different sort, made up of “experts” was winning regularly on the TV “Hi-Q Show”, a local high school version of “College Bowl”. Johnson's golfers were doing well, as were the other seasonal sports teams.

On April 30, 1969, trustees, faculty, alumni and other friends gathered in the Olympic Hotel Grand Ballroom for a banquet in honor of Dexter and Helen Strong who were leaving Lakeside after 18 years of dedicated service to the school and to the

community. It was a gala evening with speeches, dramatic skits and other forms of entertainment. As their gift to the Strongs, the trustees brought on stage a large, hand-carved wooden bench, on which the Strongs dutifully sat to have their picture taken. The bench now sits in front of the Strongs' home in Hansville, facing a bit northwest and overlooking Admiralty Inlet. One guest at the banquet was the headmaster-elect, A. D. Ayrault, Jr.

At Commencement '69 Headmaster Strong became the fourth man to receive The Lakeside Distinguished Service Award, the earlier recipients being [Willard] Bill Wright '32, Jean Lambert and Fred Bleakney. On August 31, A. D. Ayrault, Jr. – Dan, or as he sometimes signs notes, Ay – formally assumed his duties as Lakeside's fourth headmaster. Stanford graduate, officer in the Navy, two-time winner of an Olympic Gold Medal in rowing, teacher of math and history here from '59 to '66 (except for the year when the Navy called him back to duty), Upper School Director, folk-singer and guitar player, organizer and first director of LEEP, coach of rowing – Dan was still enmeshed in the work he had been doing at Harvard, winding up the "Study of the American Independent School" for publication; hence, during his first few months as headmaster he was working days in Bliss, nights at home.

Hairiness continued. For the most part the faculty philosophy was "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em." Dress styles, too, were varied. They ranged from the bucolic – boots, Pennsylvania Dutch hats and hair, etc., to the Messiah look – all except the crown of thorns.

Homecoming, October 31, beautiful weather, a not so beautiful loss in the last quarter to Vashon. At the luncheon downtown, then a "tradition", the Class of '57 won the champagne for the greatest number present, the Class of '34 for the highest percentage on hand.

Faculty, administration, trustees, all were trying to look into the future, to answer such questions as coeducation, expansion of plant, enrollment, scholarships, wilderness and urban studies. Stimson-Carlisle Field had been dedicated, Ayrault had been tapped for a four-year term on the Board of Directors of NAIS. The Board approved coeducation "in principal", and in that year approved a resolution to merge with Saint Nicholas School at the beginning of school in 1971. And, at the end of the year, the Board evinced concern about loose off-campus activities and the sloppy look of the seniors in a *Bulletin* picture.

Amidst all these changes, one constant remained: Frederick W. Bleakney was still philosophizing on the second floor of Bliss, both closets filled with manuscripts submitted over the years by his English students, and an enormous pair of dungarees hanging on one wall with a tag on them saying "Humility Symbol".

The Baughs, the Thomsens, the Greenleafs and other friends of Lakeside's rowing combined forces with rowers and the indefatigable coach, Frank Cunningham, to build a boathouse at the north end of Lake Washington. A new four-oared shell, named for Mesdames Greenleaf and LaZerte, co-chairmen two years running of the Rummage Sale and each the mother of three Lakeside sons, was christened in the spring and joined the other shells in the new home. Alumni basketball had expanded to league status and the winners were the '62 and '64 men. The track team sent six to the State meet after winning the Olympic League and West Central District "A" titles and breaking five

school records during the season. The baseball team tied with Port Townsend for second place in the league.

At Commencement, the speaker, by request of the class, was “Old Blunt” as he characterized himself – Bob Spock. Earlier, on Class Day, the sixty-man senior class, the last all male class to graduate from Lakeside, gave as its class gift to the school a tombstone suitably inscribed *Vigor Vivat Virilis*, an inscription which, roughly translated, means “Long Live Male Chauvinism”. (The stone stands just north of McKay Chapel and acts as a memorial not only to the class but to someone’s boo-boo. *Vigor* has an extraneous R).

Long-time trustee Norton Clapp had been honored at Commencement. Board President Langlie, flanked by Headmaster Ayrault and Headmaster Emeritus Dexter Strong had called Mr. Clapp to the platform to present him with the Lakeside Distinguished Service Award for his many services to Lakeside.

Earlier, at the end of April, there had been a gathering, or “retreat”, involving the faculties, staffs and some trustees of St. Nicholas and Lakeside, held at Philip Bailey’s Chevy Chase near Port Townsend. The purpose – to help in the transition. The retreat was a weekend affair and touched on such subjects as reminiscence (history), “Lakeside’s Role in the Community; What Are We Educating For?” and, of course, “Male-Femaleness at Lakeside.”

The summer ended. School opened in September ’71, but not exactly as usual. There were more bodies on the campus – or campuses, for the Lower School had moved its base of operations to the St. Nicholas site and was now Lakeside Middle School. The enrollment in the Upper School had jumped to around 380, of whom 104 were girls. At the Middle School, there were 83 eighth-graders. On the combined faculties there were 29 new teachers. In short, the student population had almost doubled, the faculty was not far behind, and when one adds the 27 staff and the 34 members of the Board, it’s easy to see that the Lakeside “family” had indeed grown. In many ways that first year of coeducation was like the shake-down cruise of a ship, a period of finding and solving problems, of de-bugging the bugs.

National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists numbered 12; those receiving commendations, six. Board President Baker opened Board meetings to the public. Representatives of faculty, trustees, parents and students, about 60 in all, took part in an education conference in March. At Homecoming in the fall, four alumni (actually three alumni and one alumna) had been given Distinguished Alumnus(a) Awards: Mrs. Everett Griggs ’19 (SN), Phil Green ’34, Irving Clark ’37 and Ed Ferry ’59.

January 30, 1972, was a tragic day for the Lakeside community. Middle School teachers Bruce Burgess and Bob Haig were flying in a Cessna 150. The plane crashed on a road in Alderwood Manor; both men were killed instantly. [They had gone up on a beautiful but ice-cold day to take pictures of the Lakeside campus with Mt. Rainier in the distance.] Bruce taught English and was the school’s ace photographer; Bob, an ex-Navy pilot, taught math, was assistant to Jon Bayley, [then Middle School director] and had been for some time invaluable in helping with crew, even before he joined the faculty. His son, Bob Jr., was a Lakeside junior; his daughter, Alison, was to come to Lakeside and graduate in ’76.

Bruce Bailey had donned another hat, that of sports columnist for the *Lakeside News Bulletin*. Taking the title “The Lion’s Den” from the early *Tatlers*, he kept alumni

abreast of sports news, both boys' and girls'. From the editor's point of view the best thing about his colorful, enthusiastic columns was that they were always turned in on time.

A new attempt to break "the lock-step" was made. Lois Salisbury, assistant to Mr. Ayrault, and a group of students organized what was called "April Days", a two day break from routine, with everyone – teachers, students, some parents – doing his "thing", which might range from kite flying and cooking to Zen Tea Ceremony and Instruction. (Nowadays "April Days" is sometimes held in January and named "January Days", or named "January Days" and held in February.)

After some thirty-eight years of teaching Lakesiders, Frederick W. Bleakney "FWB" retired in June '72. The Board not only published a resolution expressing its regard and affection for this "Master Teacher, poet, actor, humanitarian, counselor, friend," but it also elected him to the Board.

The '72 graduating class numbered 87 and of these some 18 were girls, the first to graduate from Lakeside. The final term of '71-'72 had been less hectic than the first two terms. April Days had been a success; musical and dramatic performances had been outstanding.

To the Alumni:

My recollections of all of you are keen. I think of you as individuals – as people about whom I am still interested; I do not think of you as students. And I do not think of myself as an instructor, for doing so is humiliating, gives me a feeling of inferiority and leads to deep depression. In my several years at Lakeside, my chief accomplishment has been to spread garbled misinformation, to disseminate trivia, and to confuse good minds in a captive audience. For example, a few years ago a brilliant boy of the early 1940's sent his regards to me via his son's wife: "Give Mr. Bleakney my regards. He taught me to tie my necktie properly." It is immensely satisfying that he got something out of four years of suffering in Room 18, now 28.

One year I made a serious attempt to teach some *Old Testament* stories and spent a good deal of time on the story of Isaac, Jacob and Esau and of Esau's selling his birthright for a mess of pottage. Incidentally, we had made some mention of Aesop earlier in the year. In a test, one of you wrote: "Esau wrote fables and sold his copyright for a mess of potash." A few days on Samson and his feats brought out among other things that Samson had killed a thousand Phillistines with the jawbone of an ass. A test gave me this from one of you: "Simpson was a famous man and quite strong. He chewed the asses off forty thousand Philadelphians and broke his jawbone." Later someone else wrote another answer that indicates my inadequacy. "A Protestant is a wicked woman who makes her living by leading an immortal life." About 1940 a senior who gave a talk embarrassed the English department with his final sentence: "And so I say, as Shakespeare said in his *Paradise Lost*,

‘A man’s a man for a ‘that.’” So you can see why I do not want to be recalled as a teacher. Fortunately you learned in spite of me.

Some schools, I feel, bask in the reflected glory of alumni, *often* taking undue credit for the success of graduates. Such an attitude I cannot take. In all honesty, I feel that Lakeside’s success is due to your character and your abilities. Had you not been just what you are as individuals, Lakeside would not *enjoy* the position of solidity that it *enjoys* today. And as you made the school a success when you were in school, you as alumni do much to insure its future success.

Again, I do not think of you as paragons of virtue or as straight A students or as excellent athletes or as ordinary students. I think of you as individuals with the potential for doing great good. I wish I could know what each of you is doing and something of your happiness. And always I am grateful to you for making Lakeside an interesting and successful place.

FWB

(Oh yes, I almost forgot. If the person who many years ago hid a fifth of Johnny Walker Black Label under the wooden drag then used on the athletic field will see me at the proper time, I shall be glad to return the bottle, which under the circumstances I thought best to place in bond again.)

At commencement, the alumni named Mrs. William Trudgian ’33 (SN) winner of the Distinguished Alumnae Award. The year before, there had been discussion of another merger – Bush-Lakeside – but nothing had come of it except that a new transportation system had been formed as a more or less autonomous agency. The busses were labeled Bush-Lakeside, and served not only Bush and Lakeside but other independent schools as well.

The September ’72 opening was smoother than that of the previous year. Autumn was marked by class “retreats”, the first eighth-grade camping trip to the lava caves, the sophomore Estates-General games, and other get-to-know-each-other activities of an innovative nature.

Through the use of a synthesizer developed earlier by a student, the eighth-graders were learning some basic science and making sometimes cacophonous music under the gentle tutelage of John Jamison. Eleven semi-finalists and six “commendeds” in the National Merit competition were Lakesiders. Alterations within the chapel had been made to permit its use for the performing arts productions. Reports from summer programs were glowing – LEEP and Science and Survival.

After much discussion at Board and faculty levels, it was decided to postpone moving the Middle School to the Upper School campus. (The original plan had been to build a Middle School unit just to the west of the headmaster’s house, perhaps incorporating that house in the plan.) The perennial smoking problem was studied by a committee made up of four parents, two faculty members and two students; and recommendations were made which eventually reduced the areas where smoking might legally take place. For his excellent teaching, Dr. Morris won another award from the

American Chemistry Society. The Lakeside girls were champs in basketball, volleyball and tennis. Lakeside received good ratings from the PNAIS evaluation team. Of the eight National Merit Scholarship awards in the Seattle area, three went to Lakesiders. And – believe it or not – the Senior Prom, complete with all the trimmings, was resurrected.

In June the 87 members of the Class of '73 graduated in a ceremony which saw Hazzard Adams '43 named Distinguished Alumnus. The Board re-elected Dr. Baker its president. The Annual Fund was \$21,000 ahead of the '71-'72 June mark.

That fall, '73, found 596 enrolled on two campuses: 374 boys, 222 girls; 388 at the Upper School, 208 at the Middle School. Scholarship funds had reached a level that permitted 98 students to share in \$115,958. The Dexter K. Strong Faculty Endowment Fund had distributed \$13,000 in grants in the academic year just past.

Other happenings of '73-'74: Rummage Sale over the \$19,000 mark; girls' varsity basketball team placed third in the State tournament; Visual Arts faculty held a display of their work at the Polly Friedlander Gallery in Pioneer Square; work was beginning on the expansion of the Refectory and the physics department's Bliss basement empire; snow-shoe hikes were becoming popular; so, too, ceramics; the Middle School was going strong, with Black Mac's beater stick hung in the office with care.

Athletic highlights of '74-'75 included a Lakeside third place in the State cross-country meet. In the Cascade League the girls took first place in tennis, the boys in cross-country; the football team tied for first as did the girls' volleyball team. The basketball team came in second in the league with a 16-8 record. Oarsmen and women, over 60 strong, provided a good season. Baseball, with mostly freshmen on the team, built character again (and before many seasons would be dropped for lack of interest and manpower). The boy's tennis team was a league leader; enthusiasm was high in lacrosse and rugby; golfers were "the best ever" with third place in the district matches; and the girls' softball team finished third in the league.

The scholastic side of things found eight seniors rating National Merit honors. In the Advanced Placement examinations, 53 Lakesiders took 93 exams and scored 3's, 4's or 5's on 77 of those 93. In the National Merit Program for Negro students, Ross Baker and Mike Smith were semi-finalists, Angelo Butler a "commended". Jim Morford led the Lakeside mathematics team to first place in the State, three of the teams making the National Honor Roll.

In June the largest senior class in Lakeside's history, 102, graduated. The president-elect of the alumni, John Baker '60, presented the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Dr. John Holcenberg '52.

At the Board level, Joel Baker, president since 1969, turned over the reins to Howard Wright '45. John Baker, alumni president, and Mrs. Don Axworthy, president of the Mother's Club, joined the Board as ex-officio members by virtue of their respective offices.

More alumni activity was afoot. In the Bay area, Lakeside and St. Nicholas alumni ranging from the Class of '35 to the Class of '68 gathered in the St. Francis to reminisce, watch a slide show of school activities and swap the usual lies about how it had been in the good old days. Alumni in other cities, such as Spokane, were gathering too.

December of 1974 was a bad month for Lakeside. Two long-time teachers died during the holidays: Vernon Parrington, of cancer, on the 19<sup>th</sup>; Jean Lambert, of a heart attack, on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lambert was retired; Dr. Parrington was on sick leave. The contributions of these two men to Lakeside over the many years they were here are too many to enumerate. Suffice it to say that both were highly regarded by students, faculty, trustees, parents and the community and that their many strengths helped to make Lakeside what it is today.

As June of 1975 neared, the new fireplace room in the Refectory was in use and popular; Claude Johnson was teaching tap dancing as well as golf and French; Friends of Lakeside Rowing sponsored a regatta on Green Lake to raise funds for a new four-oared shell which was christened April 12; The Annual Fund passed the \$115,000 mark on its way to a goal of \$145,000; and April Days was again held in May.

On June 5 the Class of 1975, numbering 98, received diplomas. Senior Leigh Anderson delivered the valedictory address, the first girl in Lakeside's history to do so. A woman also won the Distinguished Alumna Award, posthumously; Audrey Wurdeman '27 (SN), who, at the age of 24, had won the Pulitzer Prize for her poetry. The class gift to the school was a pair of plaster lions, *couchant*, for the front steps of Bliss, to replace those mysteriously missing and presumed to have been purloined by certain UW fraternity boys – though even the Chief of Police at the UW, Mike Shanahan '58, was never able to locate the culprits or the lions.

In the fall of '75 enrollment stood at 618: boys 364, girls 254; Upper School 391, Middle School 227.

Voluntary giving was reaching very satisfactory levels. In '75 it had risen to a grand total of \$384,059, which included voluntary gifts of all kinds – for scholarships, Annual Fund, etc. The latter had reached \$140,560. In '76 the Mothers' Club Rummage Sale and Auction raised \$45,000 which was \$10,000 more than in '75.

Something new had been added to the Athletic Department's program: aerobics. The program was designed to promote physical conditioning throughout the entire student body (no pun intended). Other athletics went on as usual: football, basketball, etc.

Other events: former athletic director Don Anderson was honored at a banquet in January in the Refectory. Some 75 people, mostly alumni, joined in the fun and swapping reminiscences about the "good old days". The Alumni Association staged a "Great Yachts" day at Shilshole Bay Marina with some of the regions most interesting and luxurious yachts on the tour: *Silverado*, *Diamond Head*, *Olympus*, etc. Fifteen Lakeside seniors made the National Merit semi-finals and fourteen went on to the finals. Nine others won commendations.

June 3 was the date of Lakeside's 20<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony. An even 100 seniors graduated. Josh Mackoff, one of some 31 seniors who had started as 7<sup>th</sup> graders in the Lower School days, delivered the valedictory, an epic and amusing oration about Lakeside lunches in the old days. (Now everything is cafeteria style, with brown-bagging permitted). David E. "Ned" Skinner '37 was named Distinguished Alumnus. He had served on the Board since 1949; he had helped organize and had been the first president of the Alumni Association, and his loyalty and devotion to Lakeside were a matter of public record. (Apparently his finding the assistant headmaster in his bed years before had not had any damaging effects).

At the Middle School the day before, 78 eighth-graders had celebrated their graduation in the usual formally informal manner associated with that ceremony.

The big story in '76-'77, of course, was the Capital Funds Drive, the major fund raising effort of the generation for Lakeside. Fred Bassetti and Associates had been hired as architects, with Board, faculty and administration providing in-put on plans for a new library, humanities and arts building and a fieldhouse. A campaign to raise \$5.5 million was underway, under the leadership of Barbara Lease Crutcher '52, Howie Wright '45 and Ned Skinner '37. Other alumni and friends were leading special committees: Willard Wright '32 and Gary Reed '57, Leadership Gifts; Advanced Gifts, Gary Reed; Special Gifts, Ann Farrell '53 (SN) and Pete Hanson '59; Community Gifts, Nancy Nordhoff '50 (SN). Other leaders included Irving Clark '37, Janet Footh '50 (SN), Lang Simons, Kate Webster, Cal Dickinson '49, Gretchen Hull and Don McKay '45. A full-time professional staff of John Grenzebach and Associates manned a downtown office, and some 400 volunteers rallied to the cause. By June 29, after seven months of solicitation, \$4 million had been raised.

Construction for the facilities on the upper school campus began in September 1977. Pigott Memorial Library, contributed by the Pigott Family, was completed in October 1978. The fieldhouse construction which had begun in November 1977 was completed in November 1978. The humanities and arts building, named Saint Nicholas Hall, began construction in February 1978 and was completed in January 1979. By 1980 the \$5.5 million was raised for these buildings and \$1.5 million had been added to the endowment fund.

The success of the campaign resulting from this sustained effort on the part of so many people exceeded dollar amounts raised by any single campaign at an educational institution in the State of Washington to date. The generosity of donors – parents, trustees, alumni, friends, faculty, corporations – was overwhelming. In addition to the Pigott gift, there were large donations from others close to the school – ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

On October 15, 1976, 500 alumni, parents, trustees, faculty and friends set Homecoming weekend off to a good start by attending a dinner dance at the Olympic Hotel. The highlight of the evening was the production of a “musical drama”, *The Belles of St. Lakeside, or Merger is Murder, Man*. Written by Spencer Clark '27 and directed by Stu Ballinger '32, it had an all-star cast of alumni: Ned Skinner, Sally Black, Lyman Black, Shane Brown, Alice Calvert, Craig Calvert, Maggie Clark, Irving Clark, Don Flynn, Janet Footh, Gretchen Gould, Mary Hutchinson, Gina McAusland, Jane Williams, Florence Valentine and Pete VanNess. It was a hit!

Eighteen semi-finalists and ten “commendeds” made up Lakeside’s National Merit quota for that year.

The *Tatler* won second place in the State. The girls’ softball team, attractively garbed in discarded varsity baseball uniforms, was highly successful. Stimson-Carlisle Field was rebuilt and enlarged (no more sinking out of sight in the mud). The Annual Fund, despite the competition from the Building and Endowment campaign, was nearing its goal of \$150,000. A quartet of runners broke the State and school 440 records with a time of 43.5 seconds. Toni Rembe Rock '53 (SN) was named Distinguished Alumna, *in absentia*, classmate Anne VanNess Farrell accepting for her at commencement. C. L. McCuskey, about to retire, was given the Board’s Distinguished Service Award. (He had

already had a “wake” at the May Homecoming, and his immediate boss at the Middle School, Jon Bayley, had presented him with a going-away present consisting of framed beater (meter) stick, eraser and piece of chalk, all weapons he was reputed to use with abandon – plus a suitably “engraved” maroon sweatshirt.)

Highlights of '77 – '78 and on into '79 – '80 are all so recent that they hardly rate being called history. Lakeside had gone into the Metro AA League and was doing relatively well in some areas. Cross-country was the fastest growing sport, with boys and girls competing. Football lacked the manpower to compete successfully; basketball and girls' sports were generally good; baseball – well, it dropped out of the scene after the first Metro year.

Thirteen of the 23 Seattle area Merit semi-finalists were Lakesiders. A service program, with students, faculty and administration devoting a certain amount of time each week to campus work, was an innovation. The Mothers Club Cookbook, started in '74, was a phenomenal success, and continues to be. Lakeside neckties and umbrellas were selling well. And LEEP was in full swing in the summers.

In April Bill Vanderbilt and ten Wilderness Class students were off to Grand Canyon and the Canyonlands National Parks to study and do volunteer work. January – not April – Days actually started in January, but ran over into February.

In June the 100 members of the Class of '78 graduated, several of them following the example of the preceding class, opting for a year of study or travel instead of heading immediately to college. Spencer Clark '27 was named Distinguished Alumnus to the delight of his four children, all Lakeside or St. Nick graduates, and of his grandchildren who were current Lakeside students.

In 1979-80 the Faculty spent more than a year reviewing curriculum at the Upper School. At this printing, the final recommendations have not been made. Some issues being considered: distribution of course requirements; a year-long program; course content; department priorities. The Alumni Association had a film festival; Alumni Week in May featured a reception for Claude Johnson and Frank Cunningham who were retiring from the faculty after 34 years and 11 years, respectively. Evening classes taught by the Lakeside faculty were offered throughout the week. The classes of '30, '55 and '70 were honored at the Saint Nicholas Day Luncheon and the Alumni Dinner.

The board, after once again considering the questions, re-affirmed its decision to consolidate the Middle and Upper Schools. An offer from Cornish for purchasing the Middle School was accepted and the Planning Committee began its deliberations to determine the most appropriate site for the New Middle School.