THE LEXINGTON SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

TLS

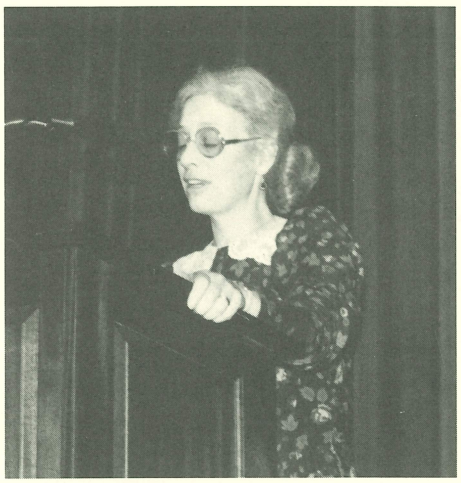
December 1988

TLS Hosts Conference

Faculty and administrators from ten independent schools around the state gathered at TLS on October 21 to "renew, revitalize, and recharge." They were 375 strong. The occasion, which occurs every two years, was the Kentucky Association of Independent Schools Conference.

Conference participants arrived at TLS over the course of an hour, allowing time for coffee, for browsing through exhibits in the library, and for chatting with colleagues from other schools. Guests were entertained by the TLS jazz band as part of our welcoming efforts before the formal opening remarks. Lively selections were right in tune with the almost palpable energy which could be felt throughout the day.

Dulany Bennett, Head of the Wilmington Friends School in Delaware, was the keynote speaker for the conference. Her topic was "faculty morale and professional development." Her



Dulany Bennett was the keynote speaker for the K.A.I.S. Conference.

years of experience as both a teacher and an administrator in independent schools provided insight into issues near and dear to the hearts of all who have made the same career choice. She addressed these salient issues articulately, and shared her beliefs about the school climate which enhances faculty morale and promotes professionalism. She said that one of the most important things in a school is "to talk about problems, and not to try so hard not to have any." The school environment is a measure of society, and she believes that the resolution of conflicts builds optimism.

Conference participants had the opportunity to select three one-hour presentations on a wide variety of topics to fill the rest of their day. Making a choice among so many attractive offerings was no easy task. They could pick anything they wanted, but they definitely could not pick everything they wanted. TLS is proud of the fact that almost one-third of the conference presenters came from our own ranks. Over a year went into planning the K.A.I.S. Conference. Congratulations for a job well done are in order for The Lexington School's Professional Development Committee: Roberta Owen, Ann Eames, Donna Adams, Frank Hardesty, Pat Kline, Jennifer Stith, and Mary Beers. ■



Jawanna Ford presented a workshop on using drama in the science classroom.

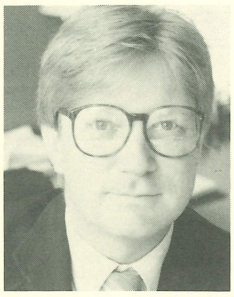
SAVE THIS DATE!

Alumni Reunion

Tuesday, December 20, 1988

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

From The Headmaster: *by David Lowry*



Teachers are the heart of a school. This edition of the Newsletter introduces the teachers who are new to TLS this year. They are a diverse and interesting group of professionals whose skills and talents enrich our already strong faculty.

As headmaster, I feel that one of my major responsibilities is to find the best teachers available and do my very best to encourage them to teach here. This task is not an easy one. There are fewer young people entering the teaching profession and excellent teachers are sought by both public and independent schools everywhere. The competition to attract the best is becoming stronger.

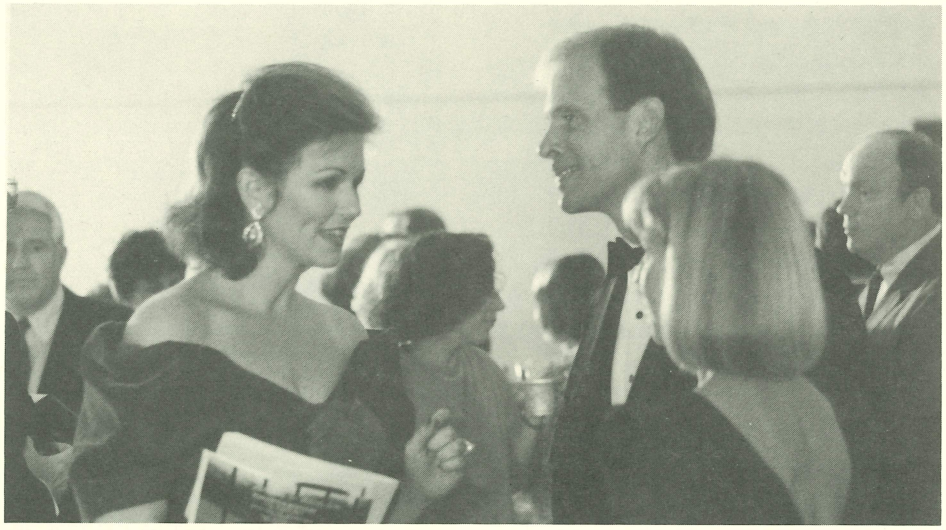
Please welcome these new members of our faculty. They have made a choice to join TLS and they deserve our thanks. ■

It Was A Celebration for A Cause

How can a school get 99% participation in a fundraising project? Make it a CELEBRATION!

Parent power, teachers' time, administrative alliance, staff support, kids' creations, and community contributions formed the partnership that made this year's event another rousing success.

A special thanks goes to Reynolds Bell, Jr. for chairing CELEBRATION '88. The sky was the limit for his energy to make "shoot for the stars" a meaningful and motivating theme for everyone involved. Under his leadership, CELEBRATION was a team effort in every phase of its operation. Volunteers shared a common goal and the satisfaction of the hard work it took to achieve it. People wore hats they never thought would fit, and they wore them well. New families who pitched in their talents had the opportunity to feel a part of the school right off the bat and to experience the vitality and excitement that is TLS. It was fun for committee members to meet and work with the parents of their children's friends.



Phyllis George Brown chats with Reynolds and Lynne Bell at CELEBRATION.

The evening of October 7 began with a cocktail party to honor the faculty. The TLS gym had been transformed into a glittery, glimmering gathering place for 450 guests. A buffet of silent auction items preceded an elegant sit-down dinner. As dessert was being served, the excitement of the live auction began. Included were trips to faraway places, jewels and furs, parties, children's affairs, and a potpourri of other attractive items.

Mistress of Ceremonies Phyllis George Brown graciously contributed her talents to CELEBRATION by providing commentary to accompany the live auction. Congratulations and thanks are due Walt Robertson for getting the most of the best from the bidders.

Assuring the standard of excellence in education we have come to expect at TLS is what CELEBRATION was all about. It was a grown-up affair that was strictly for children. CELEBRATION raised over $120,000. The generosity of supporters of The Lexington School continues to affirm the goals and expectations for its stars. ■

Look Who's New

Sandra Wirtz

brings 12 years of teaching experience to her first graders at TLS. A native of Lexington, she received her undergraduate degree at the University of Kentucky and later earned a master's degree in early childhood education at Peabody College in Nashville. She has taught kindergarten, first, and second grades, and was the director of her own Montessori school in Aiken, South Carolina. Mrs. Wirtz's classroom here at TLS reflects her commitment to materials which provide hands-on learning experiences for young children. She believes that a child's active involvement in learning enhances his or her ability to create and explore new ideas and ways of thinking. Sandy's husband Paul is a professor of education at Eastern Kentucky University. They were invited to present a seminar, "Meeting kindergarten children's developmental needs in the face of state competency requirements" at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Anaheim, California this November. Laura '89, Paul '93, and Emily '96 are as excited about being at TLS as their mother is.



Robin Jones

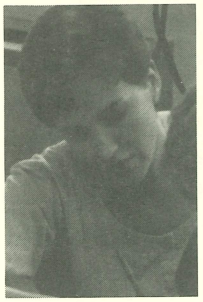
has joined the faculty as a middle and upper school math teacher. She is a 1987 graduate of Centre College. In addition to earning her B.S. degree in mathematics, Robin fulfilled the requirements for secondary certification in Kentucky.



Her internship year was spent at Henry County Middle School in New Castle, Kentucky. She taught 7th grade math and coached both 7th and 8th grade girls basketball. She will be coaching girls basketball at TLS. Robin says she was "hooked" on TLS when she first toured the school and grounds. Small class size, the philosophy of the school, and its goals for students were a match with her own teaching values. Mrs. Jones is married to a first-year law student.

Kelly Eichhorn

is not exactly new to The Lexington School, but she is new to her full-time position as a 2nd grade teacher. In 1987-88 Kelly was on call to substitute and, with kid gloves, she handled the evaluations for preschool admission. Kelly has a B.A. in education from UK and taught at Lee County Middle School in Beattyville, Kentucky. She is thrilled to have 17 of her very own students, a chance to be creative in the classroom, and the opportunity to work with parents. This is how she has always felt teaching should be. This summer Mrs. Eichhorn starred as Luisa in the Midway Summer Dinner Theatre's production of *The Fantasticks.* This was the first time since high school that her love for singing and acting could be indulged. Proceeds from the play went toward the construction of a new arts center in Versailles.



Sharon Sadler

assists with morning kindergarten and takes over for lower school head Penny Lastinger in 2nd grade in the afternoons. She is a New Yorker who earned her undergraduate degree in elementary education at state universities in New York and North Dakota. She taught public school in North Dakota for eight years. While there she was part of a team of teachers who developed a remedial reading program which became a national model. The Sadlers moved to Lexington in 1986 with their three daughters for husband Pete to join the faculty at the University of Kentucky College of Engineering. Sharon has been a volunteer reading tutor at Tates Creek High School and Charter Ridge Hospital.



Sandra Gillespie

graduated from Western Kentucky University with a double major in elementary and special education. She brings ten years of classroom experience in Florida and Kentucky to her 3rd graders here at The Lexington School. Many of Sandy's students over the years have been children with "special needs" according to measurable strengths and weaknesses. Her



continued on page 4

Who's Who

continued from page 3

own belief that "all children are unique to this world and that it is her responsibility as a teacher to provide an environment for their success on an individual basis" gives that term a different meaning in her classroom. Sandy feels that teaching enhances her life on a daily basis. She was voted teacher of the year by the faculty at Jessamine County Junior High School in 1983. Outside of school Ms. Gillespie enjoys sports, sewing and decorating, and being involved in community organizations. She is particularly interested in environmental issues.

Dorothy Brock



is a doctoral candidate in educational psychology at the University of Kentucky. She joins the TLS staff as a consultant for teachers and parents. Her work here will include psychoeducational evaluations and educational counseling. Mrs. Brock has worked as a school psychologist in Jessamine County for four years. She has also worked in outpatient psychiatry at UK and at Charter Ridge Hospital. She is very excited about the opportunity to be involved with an independent school. Her own elementary and secondary education took place at the Kentucky Home School for Girls, now known as Kentucky Country Day. Mrs. Brock is married to Walter Brock, an independent documentary film maker and instructor in the art department at UK. The Brocks have two children.

Suzanne Karem

has taken over for Pat Kline while she is on leave. Mrs. Karem has been actively involved at TLS for many years as a parent and as a substitute teacher. Her oldest son, Fred, is a graduate of TLS. Another son,



Robert, is now in 5th grade and her daughter, Rebecca, is a 1st grader. Mrs. Karem holds a B.A. degree from Smith College, an M.A. degree from the University of Texas, and a Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. We feel extremely fortunate to be able to take advantage of her expertise and experience.

Mary Brenzel

is a Virginian who received a B.S. in microbiology from the University of Notre Dame. She has joined the middle school faculty at TLS after two years of teaching science at St. Francis School in Goshen, Kentucky. Mary moved to Lexington for her physician husband to begin



a residency in pediatrics at the Chandler Medical Center. Her first impressions of TLS are of "a faculty and staff that are very helpful and friendly." She finds her middle school students' enthusiasm to be infectious. When asked to share something about herself that was not asked in the interview for this article, Mary related an interesting part of her work history. She spent several high school and college summer vacations as Pluto at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Patricia Carney

wears several different hats here at The Lexington School. She assists Mrs. Ireland in the library, spends two afternoons each week with the full-day kindergarteners, and substitutes in the lower school. She and her husband John have just moved



to Lexington from Oklahoma City with their three daughters, Ann '92, Sarah '94, and Rachael '96. The whole family had the same first impression of TLS. They could feel the energy. The decision about school in Lexington was unanimous. "This is where we'd like to be!" At Westminster Day School in Oklahoma Mrs. Carney volunteered in the Montessori program. She developed a Montessori-based preschool cooking program which she taught for two years. Patricia has a B.A. in social work from Michigan State University.

Please remember the Library Gift Book Program when planning holiday giving.

What's Going On Around Here?

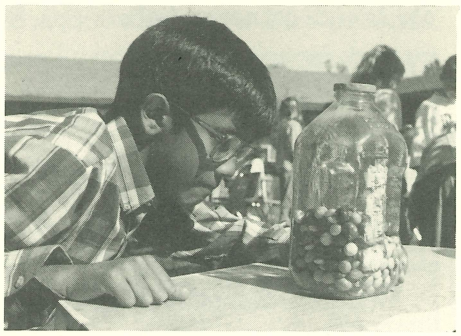
The week of September 26, Jack Brost visited nine boarding schools in the Northeast. As Director of Secondary Placement, Mr. Brost keeps his finger on the pulse of schools that TLS students are interested in exploring. He met with directors of admission, toured campuses, and chatted with students. Mr. Brost had the opportunity to mix business with pleasure at a few of his stops. At Lawrenceville he touched base with 1988 grads Lee Brown and Andrew May. He visited with Taylor Keller '88 at Taft and with Phelps Jackson '87 at Andover. Richard Peden and Maggie Cassidy of the class of '87 had dinner with Mr. Brost while he was at St. Paul's School. Heather Clay '86 and John Philpott '88 greeted him at Groton.

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The Eighth Annual Boarding School Symposium was held at The Lexington School October 18. Representatives from six schools formed a panel to address questions from parents and perspective applicants about the issues pertinent to the decision-making process.

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Bet you didn't know that the week of the tenth month which includes the tenth day is designated National Metric Week. The math department could not let such an occasion pass without a special enrichment activity for students. Since 1981, the 8th grade has sponsored the Metric Olympics for 4th graders. This year's games were unsurpassed for fun and opportunities to think metric. Favorite contests included the M&M count (how many M&M's are in 0.5 kilograms?), the metric smile (judges measure smiles to the nearest millimeter), and the licorice chew (eat a string of red licorice one meter long).



Waseem Karim is "counting" on guessing how many M&M's are in the jar.

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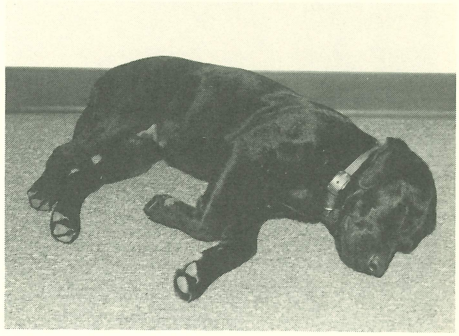
Doris Mager, "the eagle lady," visited TLS in October with an entertaining and educational program for lower and middle schools. Ms. Mager specializes in the care and rehabilitation of American raptors. Her special guests this year included a bald eagle, a magnificent golden eagle, a peregrine falcon, and a crested caracara. A great-horned owl was the clown of the show. The presentation was excellent in conveying the need to protect birds of prey.



"The Eagle Lady" brought special guests to an assembly.

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If there is a missing Factor in the math lab it can usually be found sound asleep under a desk. Factor is a four-month old black labrador retriever who has become the mascot of the math lab. He is fully schoolbroken, thanks to a group of dependable middle school service committee members who take him outside for regular walks during their break. Factor has won the hearts of all the friends he's made at TLS. A sign on the door to the math lab tells why. "The dogs around here are going to the people."



Factor, the math lab.

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The Kentucky Opera Association's production of *Little Red Riding Hood*, was the highlight of this fall's artists' series. The 17th century fairy tale was brought to life in a performance that delighted every age in the audience. Costumes, props, and scenery were outstanding. Author Seymour Barab's version of the Grimm brothers' tale had a comical twist to the traditional happy ending. The wolf had a queasy stomach. As Little Red Riding Hood rhapsodized about her favorite foods (strawberries and cream), he lost his appetite and she and her granny were spared.

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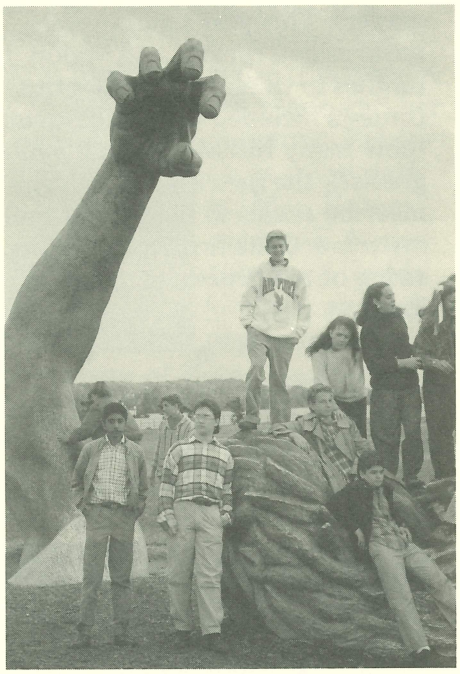
The lower school science lab has been enriched by the addition of a 55-gallon salt water aquarium. It was a gift to the school from Dr. and Mrs. Allen E. Grimes, Jr. As part of the tank set-up procedures, 8th graders tested the level of copper in some decorative coral to establish its safety for the sea anemones. The 4th grade's unit on oceanography and the 9th grade biology unit on invertebrates will be especially "lively" this year. ■

Great Expectations Fulfilled In Washington

Up, up, and away! It was seven o'clock in the morning, but this year's 9th graders were bright-eyed and bushy-tailed as they boarded Piedmont flight 1200 for the long-awaited trip to the nation's capitol. Thanks to Andy Barr, Amanda Freeman, and Alex Gariepy (our own AAA) for providing insider information for this story.

Most of the class had been to Washington before. Some students had not been there for many years, however, and things impressed them differently this time. "The Washington Monument was so solemn and dignified. You forget those things about places." It's different being there with friends, too. Another person's interest and excitement can double your pleasure, if you let it.

It is impossible to single out the highlight of the trip for everybody.



Ninth graders at "The Awakening," one of Washington's most popular sculptures.

Stops at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery were moving, thought-provoking experiences. The gun demonstration by an agency sharpshooter at the FBI was, in a word, "awesome." The precipitation in the tropical rain forest atop the National Aquarium in Baltimore rivaled the downpour in *Singing in the Rain* for special effects.

As always, a certain sense of class permeated the 9th grade's trip. Browsing through a bookstore in Georgetown with a friend, shopping, and "hotel time" were as important to the experience as all the planned events. The 9th grade trip is a unifying time that sets the stage for classmates to work together for the rest of the year in positions of leadership and responsibility, and in the spirit of friendship and teamwork. ■

People to People

On October 11, ten 9th graders and two of their faculty spent the day at the University of Kentucky as our school's delegates to People to People. The conference was sponsored by the Bluegrass Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The schedule included workshops and small group discussions aimed at exploring ways to build better human relations in the participants' own schools and lives. By all accounts, the TLS delegates felt their day was very worthwhile.

TLS students were paired with delegates from Lafayette High School for the small group work. They chose to examine the stereotypes about students who attend private versus public schools and ways to break down those prejudices. After sharing, the two schools regrouped individually to emphasize specific ways to bring about change in their own institutions.

Our 9th graders realized that stereotyping not only occurs across groups, but within groups. As one person said, "Some of us have been together so long, we think we know everything about one another, but we really don't. Sometimes we assume things that are definitely not correct."

Delegates came back from UK fired up about the possibility of an in-house People to People conference for the whole 9th grade. Administrative support for their excitement and energy was there. The Monday before Thanksgiving, the class of '89 spent a very special day at school talking to one another about thoughts and feelings. Bridges were built, linking old friends in new relationships. ■

An Invitation

The Lexington School Newsletter requests the pleasure of information about its graduates. "Alumni Update" will appear in January and June.

R.S.V.P.

Newsmakers

Sara Meekins was recently elected to the board of the Kentucky Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. The conservancy is an international conservation organization committed to preserving natural diversity by finding and protecting lands and waters supporting the best examples of all elements of the natural world.

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Leadership Education is a training program designed for Fayette County career teachers under the auspices of the Kentucky Educational Foundation. Mary Beers and Mark Scarr were selected to participate in this year's program. The seminars provide a probing study of community challenges that may best be addressed by educators, business, and industry. They also expand participants' knowledge of community resources for classroom teachers.

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Headmaster David Lowry directed the Independent Schools Association of the Central States Beginning Teacher Institute in October. Forty first-year teachers attended the three-day workshop. In November, Dr. Lowry traveled to Kansas City to chair the ISACS evaluation of the Ozanam School.

The Lexington School admits students of any race, religion, color, sex, national or ethnic origin.



Stan Rosenbaum's (far right) winning composition was performed by classmates at state competition.

Congratulations to Stan Rosenbaum '89 for winning the Kentucky Music Teachers Association student composition competition. His work, entitled "Desatiar," is a blend of African polyrhythms and Latin melodies. Ten of Stan's classmates supported his efforts by performing his piece in the contest at Morehead State University.

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Custodian Bobbie Johnson spent almost every evening this summer at Masterson Station Park. He has been awarded a plaque for outstanding volunteer work in the horsemanship program.

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Nicole Charron and Roberta Owen were part of the evaluation team that visited Kentucky Country Day School this fall.

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Lower school division head Penny Lastinger is serving on the board of the Good Shepherd Day School. ■



These young men are enjoying the availability of another computer in their classroom. It was a gift to the school from several of John Fox's former Spanish classes who raised the money for its purchase by throwing a "bash" for upper schoolers. Movies, munchies, and music made for fun times and successful fund-raising.

Soccer Stats

The TLS soccer teams began practice before the opening of school and played hard to the very last game. Varsity boys coach Parviz Zartoshty, assisted by Todd Bretz and Tom Parlanti, felt we had a talented, disciplined, and hard-driven squad. Many of the boys brought years of experience to the field. Their record certainly reflected their capability. In 14 contests, 53 goals were scored and only 15 were given up.

	Varsity	J.V.
Boys	11-3-0	5-7-1
Girls	5-7-1	

The boys J.V team, coached by Todd Bretz and Tom Parlanti, found themselves on the short end of the score in seven of 13 matches. To have earned this record against the level of competition at which they were playing, however, was truly a significant achievement. These 7th and 8th grade boys found themselves pitted against players from other schools who were much older and much bigger. "Facing tough odds only made them work harder," said Coach Parlanti. They looked upon every game as a learning experience. Watch out for them next year!

The varsity girls team had some big shoes to fill this year. Those shoes were left empty by members of the class of '88, a strong, soccer-oriented group of young ladies. The addition of a large, athletic, and enthusiastic



Headley Butler defends the goal.

7th grade class helped a lot. Coach Grace Chesney and assistant Roberta Owen felt that the camaraderie that developed between the newcomers and the returnees was their outstanding characteristic. They enjoyed being together and their lighthearted attitude made for an enjoyable season. ■

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