

## EXONIANA DO YOU REMEMBER?

“Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee...”

—William Blake

Do you recognize this mystery photo and can you identify its location? (We'll award extra points if thou dost know who made it or if thou canst tell us from whence it came.) Send us your remembrances and we will publish them in the next issue; you might even win a prize. Mail to Exoniana, c/o The Exeter Bulletin, Phillips Exeter Academy, Communications Office, 20 Main Street, Exeter, NH 03833.



### ANSWER TO THE LAST ISSUE:

Exonians let their fingers do the walking and correctly identified the card catalog drawers from the Class of 1945 Library.

### AND THE WINNER IS:

**PETER L. BECKET '58** of Lakeville, CT, who received an engraved Exeter Cross pen. “Judging by the photos, I would have to assume that the card catalog drawers shown on page 14 of the winter 2006 *Bulletin* remain in the school's library (as seen in the photo on page 25).”

### A CLOSER LOOK

The winter 2006 Exoniana photo shows the card file in the library. It told students what books could be found in the stacks. Today, students are more likely to use the computer. I believe *A Dictionary of Exeter Language*, a book I co-wrote with William Harvey '38 is (or at least was) in this card file.

If you take a closer look at the photo, below the handle you will see a brass knob, the head of a long rod that goes through a hole in every card. The librarian can add or remove a card by unlocking the rod and pulling it out. The index cards were used



for many years before the introduction of the computerized system.

*James A. Fisher '38*  
Pittsburgh, PA

*Editor's note: The Academy Library introduced Biblion, its computerized catalog, in July 1994.*

### DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM

Surely the picture is the card catalog in the Davis Library. Every book had its own card (usually several cards) arranged by subject, author, title, field of emphasis, etc., cataloged in those days using the Dewey Decimal System. The card told the location of the book in the library stacks—a weird and intricate piece of structural architecture. But this was before the days of online catalogs and open stacks, so you had to write up a “call slip” and wait for a librarian to retrieve it. That is, if it was not on “reserve.”

*Lawrence B. Clark '53*  
Wilsonville, AL

### RIGHT YOU ARE

The picture is the library card catalog.

*Michal Shimshoni '75*  
Israel

### WELCOME ICON

I remember very well the card catalogs in the Class of 1945 Library, which, with the advent of computerized catalogs, became

more decorative than practical. I believe when I came in as a new lower in 2000, Mr. Desrochers mentioned that the card catalogs had not been updated since the mid-1990s. They now serve as a base for some of the interesting objets d'art in the library, including my favorite, a model sailing ship. The physical card catalog is a welcome icon of a simpler library experience, when you felt you were actually doing research, combing through the catalog rather than simply calling up a record on a screen.

*Alex J. Frain '03*  
Naples, FL

*Editor's note: Congratulations to Alex J. Frain for winning the second prize.*

### SPELLCHECK

As one of a number of Nimicks who have had the good fortune to be Exeter grads, I doubt that Eleanor Nimick Hay '78, one of the winners of your winter “Exoniana,” has changed the spelling of her maiden name as you printed it.

*David Nimick '42*  
Sewickley, PA

*Editor's note: Our apologies to Eleanor Nimick Hay for changing the final “k” in her name to an “h.”*

### THE LAST DANCE

My response to your summer 2005 Exoniana is probably way too late, but, the photo was probably taken at the senior prom of the class of '54. Clearly visible are Mike McCrary '54, Jay Rockefeller '54 and Dick Robinson '54. In fact, it's very possible that I took the photo!

*Henry F. Olds Jr. '54*  
Arlington, MA



### FOUND MYSELF

I graduated from PEA in 1954. I think the photo is from the Junior Prom. While I'm not sure what year it was taken, I do recognize myself in the photo. Not sure who any of the others are!

*Ray M. Lauerman Jr. '54*  
Shorewood, WI

## TWO CONTEST WINNERS EVERY TIME!

There will be two prizes awarded for the correct answer to the Exoniana contest. One prize will be for the first correct answer received via delivery by the U.S. Postal Service. The rest of the correct answers will be placed into a drawing and one winner will be chosen at random.