

Christine Renner '77  
Director, Awards and Candidate Selection Chair

Christine '77 calls Northern California home. She was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area with her three sisters. She heard about Cottey from her P.E.O. Grandma Theresa and was hooked! Chris lived in Iowa Suite of P.E.O. Hall throughout her time at Cottey and graduated with an Associate of Arts. Attending dear Old Cottey C proved to be a very formative experience and still resonates in her life today. She returned to California and received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology degree from the University of Redlands followed by a Master in Occupational Therapy at Texas Woman's University in 1983.

Chris spent the first 12 years of her career in Tucson, Arizona, working in acute care, geriatrics rehabilitation and home health care. Her appreciation for the southwest grew after being introduced to hiking, backpacking, bird watching and rock climbing. Having a lifelong love of sewing, nature and animals helped to foster her desire and willingness to "pitch in". Chris began her long history of volunteering with the costuming department at the Arizona Theater Company/Arizona Opera. Later she assisted in Tucson's Household Hazardous Waste program and spent several years in sales and education at the Tucson Audubon Shop.

In 1995 Chris returned to the SF Bay Area to be closer to her growing family, her Dad Bill and Cottey friends. She continued her O.T. career adding out-patient psych, cardiac care, orthopedics and hand therapy to her repertoire. Her love for adventure continued with travels to Antarctica, Egypt, and the Galápagos Islands which helped to quench her interest in culture and history. Her volunteering continued with a 15-year stint at Sulphur Creek Nature Center, a week in New Orleans with Habitat for Humanity and continues today at the Oakland Museum's White Elephant Sale where she has volunteered to repair sewing machines for the past 6 years.

Chris became a member of P.E.O. in 2004, and in addition to recruiting new members to her graying chapter, has served as an officer almost every year since her initiation. Returning to Cottey many times since graduation including class reunions, Vacation College, and P.E.O. Seminar, Chris is elated to see all of the growth and progress on campus.

Cottey friends share a very special bond and in 2010, Chris was fortunate to donate a kidney to her dear friend and Iowa Suite roommate Carla. Chris is currently the Chairman of the California Cottey College Scholarship Committee. This has been a perfect opportunity for her to give back to Cottey, and now being appointed to the CCAA Board is the icing on the cake!

Term Start Date 7/2017  
Biography 8/2019