

VOL. 3, NO. 2
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Viewpoint magazine

A Publication of Cottey College:
For Women, By Women, About Women

highlights

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NEW BEGINNINGS

Letters to the Editor

Steve Reed,
 Congratulations for continuing to promote Cottey College! Each issue affirms and promotes all the reasons why I am so proud of my Alma Mater—Cottey. Please keep sharing your gift of journalism. Many THANKS!!
 Barbara McCarty Cofer
 Class of 1962

Dear Steve,
 After reading so many "thank you" notes to you in the Viewpoint, I feel a little repetitive...but first and foremost, I want to thank you for the work that you do with this publication!

As a women's college admission professional, I've delighted in recruiting transfer students from Cottey over the last 10 years. As a P.E.O., I've been delighted to see the College grow into 4-year programs, even as I simultaneously mourn the fact that I won't be seeing as many of those students at MY college!

And as a P.E.O., I've also delighted in getting the Viewpoint, and sharing it with my chapter. We do-

nate regularly to various projects, and Cottey is always at the top of our list. Our chapter (UN, CA) includes several alumnae, and both alumnae and supporters always enjoy passing around the magazine.

Which brings me to my point. Is there any way to ensure that I continue to get this publication? I really do enjoy sharing it with my chapter, but I don't currently make any personal unrestricted gifts to the College. Our CHAPTER sure does, though! Would it be possible to continue receiving it? If not, I'll suck it up and start sending a small gift to the annual fund. But I thought I would at least ask!

Thank you for the consideration, and thank you again for the work everyone does in putting this together for us to enjoy!

Sincerely,
 Vala Burnett '05

Vala,
See the note below regarding our mailing list.

Dear Steve,
 I just read your editorial

in the recent Viewpoint and wanted to ask you a question--in addition to affirming your belief that there is still a need for women's colleges.

The question is about a quote I saw in Omni magazine back in the '80s. I wrote it down but have lost track of it and can't seem to find it anywhere. Since you "collect" quotes, I thought you might have encountered it. It has to do with the fact that we can put up with a miserable situation as long as there is no apparent solution, but once a solution becomes apparent, the situation becomes "untenable." Untenable is the word I specifically remember about the quote. I don't remember if it was attributed to anyone in particular.
 Thank you.
 Camille Newlon

Camille,
I was unable to find the quote you're referencing. Can any of our readers help her out?

Hello Mr. Reed,
 I eagerly read through the latest issue of View-

point. I was surprised to read in the "Daring to be Different" column that you mentioned Sweet Briar. I live close to SB, and it's been all over the news! The lawsuits to keep it open, the controversy, the fight! I am not sure I even understand how one can "sue" to keep a private university open - but I thought I'd let you know, in case you haven't heard - Sweet Briar will remain open!

On another note, my daughter, Courtney Crawford Lowry (2004, I think!) was a legacy, and transferred to VCU in Richmond, Virginia, and then spent a year at Randolph Macon Women's College (before they went co-ed)!

Thanks for your hard work!!
 Kathy (Ferris) Lowry '79

Hello. I just wanted to send a quick note to let you know that I really enjoyed your strong woman column and I plan on reading a couple of those books!

Thank you.
 Melissa Chee

We Listened to You

For the last three issues, Cottey announced that to continue receiving the *Viewpoint*, readers would have to contribute \$20 or more to the annual fund. Although we did not receive many responses—pro or con—to this announcement, we have tentatively put that new guideline

on hold during this time of administrative transition at the College. For now, the *Viewpoint* will continue to be mailed to all alumnae, regardless of gift history, as well as friends of the College and others who have contributed \$20 or more per year to the annual fund.



message from the PRESIDENT

The Excitement of a New Chapter

Just a few days after the beginning of the fall semester, I entered the dining hall and parked myself with a group of first-year students, asking them simply, "What made you the most nervous about starting college?" Immediately a symphony of voices began singing out responses: "Making friends. I came to Cottey without knowing anyone!"; "Staying organized... time management. Will I get enough sleep?"; "Being homesick. I already miss my family and my dog"; "Having a roommate. I've always had a bedroom to myself"; "Finances- managing my own money"; and even "really" important issues such as "Where would I find quarters to do my laundry," and "Is the 'freshman 15' a real thing?"

I followed up with a second question: "What made you the most excited about coming to Cottey," and as the faces of the young women lit up, they regaled me with responses such as "Being independent! I like making my own decisions"; "Growing as my own person and learning new ideas"; "The 'Suite Life'"; "Being in classes with teachers who really care about me and my education," and "Having lots of new female friends in a safe environment."

As I strolled back to my office (it was a beautiful day!), I realized that the fresh(wo)men and I have a lot in common. While I don't worry about change to operate the washers, I, too, was a little unnerved when I walked into my office the first day without really knowing anyone and aware that I had so much to learn about the institution. But just like them, I was immensely excited... enthusiastic to meet new people, be involved

"...the institution of Cottey College is also embracing change and moving in new directions, building on its amazing past, embracing all that she was.. and is.. and can be.. to become the best institution possible."

~Dr. Jann Weitzel

with such a dynamic campus, and employed by an institution that truly cares about the students, staff, and faculty and only wants the best for each individual. For both the students and for me, the excitement far exceeded any nervousness.

Cottey is in a time of transition and change, and, as Alvin Conway stated, "Today is another valuable opportunity; not to alter the past, but to help shape the future." Just as the young women who bravely moved all of their prized possessions into the residences on campus demonstrated their understanding that in order to progress through their lives and reach the goals they have set for themselves, they must take from their past all that they have learned and experienced and move forward, unafraid and undeterred, the institution of Cottey College is also embracing change and moving in new directions, building on its amazing past, embracing all that she was.. and is.. and can be.. to become the best institution possible.

Jann Weitzel

Viewpoint
magazine

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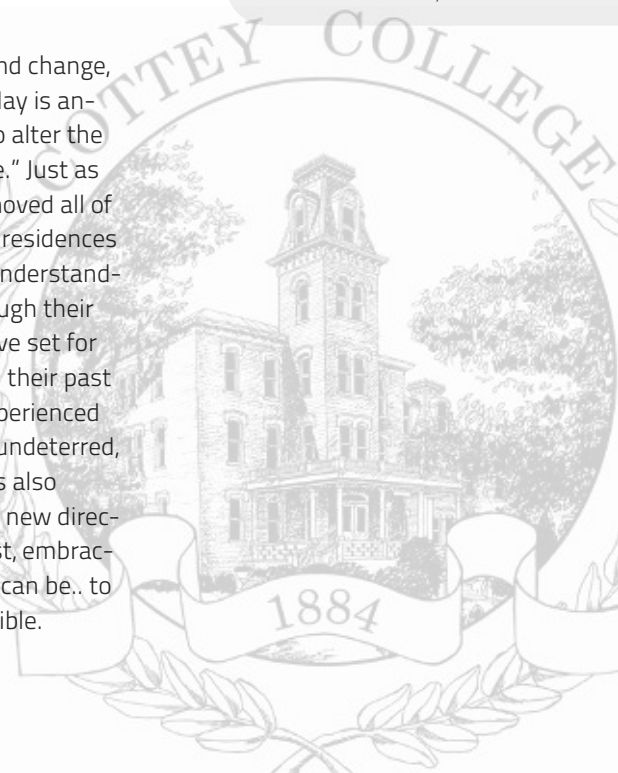
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ADVISORY GROUP
Members of the *Viewpoint* Advisory Group include: Steve Reed, Rachel Painter, Carla Farmer, Tracy Hass Cordova '04, Dr. Mari Anne Phillips, '76 Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu; Kristine Anderson Fulton '89, Nancy Kerbs '79 Miranda Wheatley Kassner '09, and Dr. Kathy Pivak.



contents

**On the cover:**

New Cottey President Dr. Jann Weitzel poses in the Auditorium of the Haidee and Allen Wild Center for the Arts. Although a presidency doesn't really compare to a play, the fall semester is Dr. Weitzel's opening act in what we hope will be a long-running production. Meet the Weitzels on pages 12-13.

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A Message from the EDITOR

A Beautiful Sunrise

What's exciting at Cottey College? Most notably, enrollment is up significantly for this academic year. In fact Cottey had 20 percent more freshmen at the beginning of this year compared to the beginning of the last academic year. Not only that, Cottey had a 17 percent increase in overall student population growth.

The College dedicated the new Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building in September. Around the time you receive this issue, Cottey should have possession of the building.

The Office of Public Information merged with the Office of Marketing and Strategic Communication beginning July 1. This will focus

the College's external communication resources to better position and promote the College among its constituencies.

By all reports, International Convention was a success and many of you dropped by the Cottey room to see many of the wonderful things happening at your college. You'll read about many more inside the pages of this *Viewpoint*.

Independence Hall in Philadelphia houses a chair that was used by George Washington for nearly three months of the Federal Convention's continuous sessions. On the chair a decorative half sun peeks above the top rail. Benjamin Franklin reportedly said, "I have often looked at that

behind the president without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting. But now I... know that it is a rising...sun."

As long as Cottey College remains steadfast in its charge to educate women, it will always be a "rising sun" whatever changes should occur. It may be a new dawn in many ways, but it looks like it's going to be a beautiful day.

As always you are encouraged to write me at sreed@cottey.edu.

Sincerely,

Steve Reed, editor



Nominate an Outstanding Alumna

By Peggy Vasquez Moore '61
CCAA Board Nominations Chair

Founder's Day each year is the time that we honor our alumnae who have made their mark on the world. Your help is needed to make this happen. As you remember your classmates and reminisce with them about your days at Cottey C, make note of those who have made outstanding contributions to their community and to Cottey College.

The CCAA Executive Board is looking for nominations for the following awards. Send us a nomination that describes someone you feel should be honored in one of the following categories.

The Distinguished Alumna is a Cottey alumna whose accomplishments in professional or human services have brought distinction to the name of Cottey College. Each year it makes us proud to see what varied and outstanding contributions Cottey women have made in their lifetimes.

The Alumna Service Award is presented to an alumna who has contributed significant service and dedication to the College and/or the Cottey College Alumnae Association.

The Outstanding Young Alumna Award is given to an alumna who graduated fewer than 15 years ago, and who has achieved recognition in a career, exemplary community service, or service to the College.

The Friend of the College Award is presented to individuals who are not alumnae, but who have contributed specific and meritorious service toward the advancement of the College and/or the Cottey College Alumnae Association.

The Honorary Alumna Award is presented to those who are not Cottey alumnae, but who have contributed significant service to the College and its alumnae over a period of time.

Excluded from eligibility are current members of the CCAA Executive Board, the Cottey College Board of Trustees, or the Executive Board of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Also excluded are their immediate family members.

Nomination forms are available online (<http://community.cottey.edu/nominate>) or can be sent to the Annual Fund and Alumnae Office for forwarding on to the Candidate Selection Committee.

Nominations are also accepted for positions on the CCAA Executive Board. The Board seeks diversity and makes its selections based on class year, geographical location, financial support of the College, and membership in the P.E.O. Sisterhood. When possible, please include the nominee's resume for consideration. Terms begin July 1 every year. The nomination forms are available online and from the College.



Mary Beth Garrison McAfee '60 (left), the 2015 recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award, shares a smile with a classmate after the Founder's Day Awards Luncheon. Is there someone in your class who deserves to be recognized for her achievements?

**Founder's Day Weekend
is April 1-3, 2016**

Refer a student for a chance to win a Cottey adventure: www.cottey.edu/referral.

Remember Who, What, or When?

Doris "Dee" Kingsbury Gayzagian, Class of 1942, passed away on September 2, 2015, in Winchester, Massachusetts. A stick figure drawing Dee drew during her freshman year became a part of Cottey history. Following are excerpts from a history of Dottey Cottey, written by Dee in 1997.

Cottey has always had an atmosphere of friendship, not only among students but also between faculty and students – a closeness rarely possible on large campuses...Out of this spirit Dottey Cottey was born.

Dottey began as a little stick figure drawing my freshman year when I was working on the student newspaper, then called the *CO-CO Comment*... Dottey seemed to fill the need for a little character to represent the typical Cottey girl and the lighthearted aspects of our college life...

Before I went to Cottey, my mother and sister designed and made some stuffed dolls, most of them representing characters from children's books. Dottey seemed to want to join the business. We knitted small sweaters on needles the size of toothpicks, sewed lace on tiny lingerie and made many pairs of tiny saddle shoes from felt and leather. Mom was a stickler for fine craftsmanship and checked all of our stitches with an eagle eye. Each doll was an individual order with color specified for the yarn hair, clothing, bobby sox, and hair bow. Frequently the purchaser provided remnants from a favorite skirt or jacket so that the doll would be a miniature of its recipient. The appeal seemed to be in this personal approach and the craftsmanship, qualities that would have been lost had we commercialized as many people urged us to do.

At the College's request, I did sketches of Dottey to represent many of the clubs and other activities on campus and these were used to illustrate the college handbook sent out to orient and inform incoming students. ...While waiting for our first child in 1951, I designed a Dottey Cottey calendar with a Dottey for each month – a project I had had in mind for a while but without time to concentrate on it. Several kinds of note papers and book marks followed...

Dottey kept popping up. From time to time requests were made to use her as a poster girl for Cottey exhibits at P.E.O.

state conventions. My own P.E.O. chapter made packs of Dottey cards from the calendar illustrations to use as a fund raiser... Recently she was invited to decorate materials for the Cottey Alumnae Legacy Scholarship Fund. She has taken part in Founder's Day at the College, most recently in 2002 when my own class of 1942 celebrated their 60th reunion.

Dottey was responsible for my being given the Distinguished Alumna Award at Cottey Founder's Day in 1997. It was an honor that almost embarrassed me because so many other people helped to make Dottey possible – my mother and sister, countless Cottey students, P.E.O.s, with their collective enthusiasm and friendship...



The title page of the 1942 Sphinx featuring Doris Kingsbury Gayzagian's Dottey Cottey.

We love revisiting Cottey's amazing past. This issue's *Who, What, When* features a photo of Doris Kingsbury Gayzagian receiving an alumnae service award at the 1997 Founder's Day luncheon. Do you have any photos of Doris or a Dottey Cottey doll? Post your photo on your personal Facebook page and share your memory and tag "Cottey College Alumnae" in the post so the Annual Fund and Alumnae Office can share in the fun of remembering this great part of Cottey history. Don't have a Facebook page? Send your image and story to alumnae@cottey.edu with the following information: your name, class year, photo, brief explanation of the photo, and the words PLEASE POST ON FACEBOOK!

The Annual Fund

"For Women... Because of You!"

Women's Leadership Family Safe

Art Appreciation CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY Cottey Food

Community Delphian Amish Farm Educational Excursion

Travel Fitness Swimming P.E.O. Sponsored

Baking

Alumna Recruit oregon suite

Friendship

ALGEBRA

Ethics

Educate

English

Creative Writing

SOCIOLOGY

Four-Year Program

Global Diversity

Confidence

Environmental Studies

p.e.o. hall LEO

Mentor Professor Sarah Quick

GROW

Traditions

Meet Yamini West from Port Orchard, Washington. She plans to earn her BA in Environmental Studies from Cottey College and become a cultural anthropologist. YOUR gift to The Annual Fund will help provide all the things Yamini enjoys above, and more. YOU can help students like Yamini reach new heights and realize their ambitions.

Please consider making a gift in ANY AMOUNT, EVERY YEAR to The Annual Fund at Cottey College.

Make your gift payable to Cottey College using the enclosed envelope or give online at <http://community.cottey.edu/give>.

Cotley's New Vice President for Academic Affairs: Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu

Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu received her Ph.D. in journalism and a doctoral portfolio in women's studies from the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to assuming the vice president for academic affairs position at Cotley College, she served as the dean of the School of Social Sciences, Business and Education at Mount Mary University and the assistant dean in the J. William and Mary Diederich College of Communication at Marquette University.

Dr. Ugochukwu has taught several media courses, including Newswriting and Reporting, Mass Communication Theory, International Communication, Media Law, Communication Research Methods, and Women in the Media. While serving as a tenured associate professor of journalism at the University of South Carolina Upstate, she assumed the role of adviser to the student newspaper and coordinator of the Journalism unit.

Dr. Ugochukwu has received several advising and teaching awards, including the "Bank of America's Excellence in Teaching and Advising Award." She was selected as the USC Upstate's nominee for the 2006 "South Carolina Governor's Professor of the Year Award." Other honors Ugochukwu received include the University of Texas' "University Continuing Fellowship," the "Ada Frances Miller Fellowship for Excellence in Journalism," and the Broadcast Education Association's "Research in Progress Award." Ugochukwu was a winner of the Royal Commonwealth Essay Competition and a member of Kappa Tau Alpha- Journalism Honor Society.

Dr. Ugochukwu's research interests focus on race, ethnicity and gender, new media, and international communication. She has written papers on women's issues and published a contribution in the book, *Women, Men and News: Divided and Disconnected in the Media Landscape*, edited by Paula Poindexter, Sharon Meraz, and Amy Schmitz Weiss. Dr. Ugochukwu has maintained an active grants portfolio, including Diversity Incentive Grants, Teaching and Productive Service grants, and other grants from the Community Outreach and Partnership Center in South Carolina, Mayor of Spartanburg's Cultural Foundation, and a DAMM grant from the Greater Milwaukee Journal Foundation.

Prior to her academic work, Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu was a professional journalist and worked as a political reporter, columnist, and features editor. She is deeply committed to social justice and initiated an annual

diversity conference/speaker series at USC Upstate. The series attracted senators, policy makers, human rights activists, authors, and industry experts, who addressed critical issues in human rights, women's issues, and international affairs.

She has been featured in media interviews, including the *Herald Journal*, Bill Drake's morning show, SC 107.3's "Pause for the Cause," and a *Belle Magazine* ad as one of USC Upstate's "Women of Accomplishment."

Dr. Ugochukwu was an active member of the College Media Association, formerly College Media Advisers, where she served on the Diversity Committee and gave presentations on diversity-related issues at the annual spring and fall conventions. Ugochukwu received a "Diversity Advocate" award at USC Upstate and was honored with the "Golden Roses" award, which honors women who support diversity and inclusivity at Marquette University.

In her free time, Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu volunteers for charitable organizations, including Mobile Meals. She sits on the board of Courage to Dare, a non-profit organization dedicated to creating breast cancer awareness among women in Africa and the diaspora. She is a member of Professional Dimensions, the largest women's membership organization in Wisconsin dedicated to the leadership and professional advancement of women. She is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a professional honorary society of women educators.



COTTEY

NEW BEGINNINGS

By Steve Reed



Before this issue went to press, I finished my first 40-mile bike ride at the Maple Leaf Bicycle Festival in Carthage, Missouri. In the last two years, I've ridden in two 25-mile and one 30-mile bicycle event. As fun as it has been becoming a bicyclist, that's happened in the last couple of years, and only because I had to give up running.

My love affair with running ended three years ago. I didn't get tired of running; I got injured. A skilled orthopedic surgeon was able to repair my hip, but gave me news I never wanted to hear. "I strongly recommend you never run again," he said, explaining the damage he'd uncovered.

"I'll show him," I thought while nodding my head yes. "You're a tough runner. It's only hard work separating you from the roads."

Six months of arduous physical therapy had me off the crutches and strong as ever. Now was the time, so early one morning I went to the local park to try an easy jog. I didn't go far before the pain stopped me. I waited a few weeks and tried again but got the same result. I had to say it; I used to be a runner.

The end of my running became the beginning of my bicycling. My girlfriend and I bought bikes and began riding. We spent Wednesday evenings in the summer of 2014 riding with an area bicycle club. Soon I'd made new biking friends and explored some bicycle trails in Arkansas with them. On mild days, you can spot me (in my suit and tie) riding my hybrid bike to work at Cottey.

New beginnings often require hard work, but they also open up new opportunities that didn't exist before. The key is commitment, putting one's hand to the plow and looking forward, not backwards.

As W. H. Murray wrote in *The Scottish Himalaya Expedition*, "But when I said that nothing had been done I erred in one important matter. We had definitely committed ourselves and were halfway out of our ruts. We had put down our passage money—booked a sailing to Bombay. This may sound too simple, but is great in consequence. Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffective. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then providence moves too. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents, meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamt would have come his way. I learned a deep respect for one of Goethe's couplets:

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it.

Boldness has genius, power and magic in it!"

That is exactly what happens with commitment to new beginnings. A year ago, Cottey alumna **Emily Summers '09**, contacted me and asked if I would like to have her grandfather's road bike. (It's pictured at the top of this page.) She wanted to gift the bike to someone who would appreciate and use it. I rode that bike in the 40-miler last weekend, and

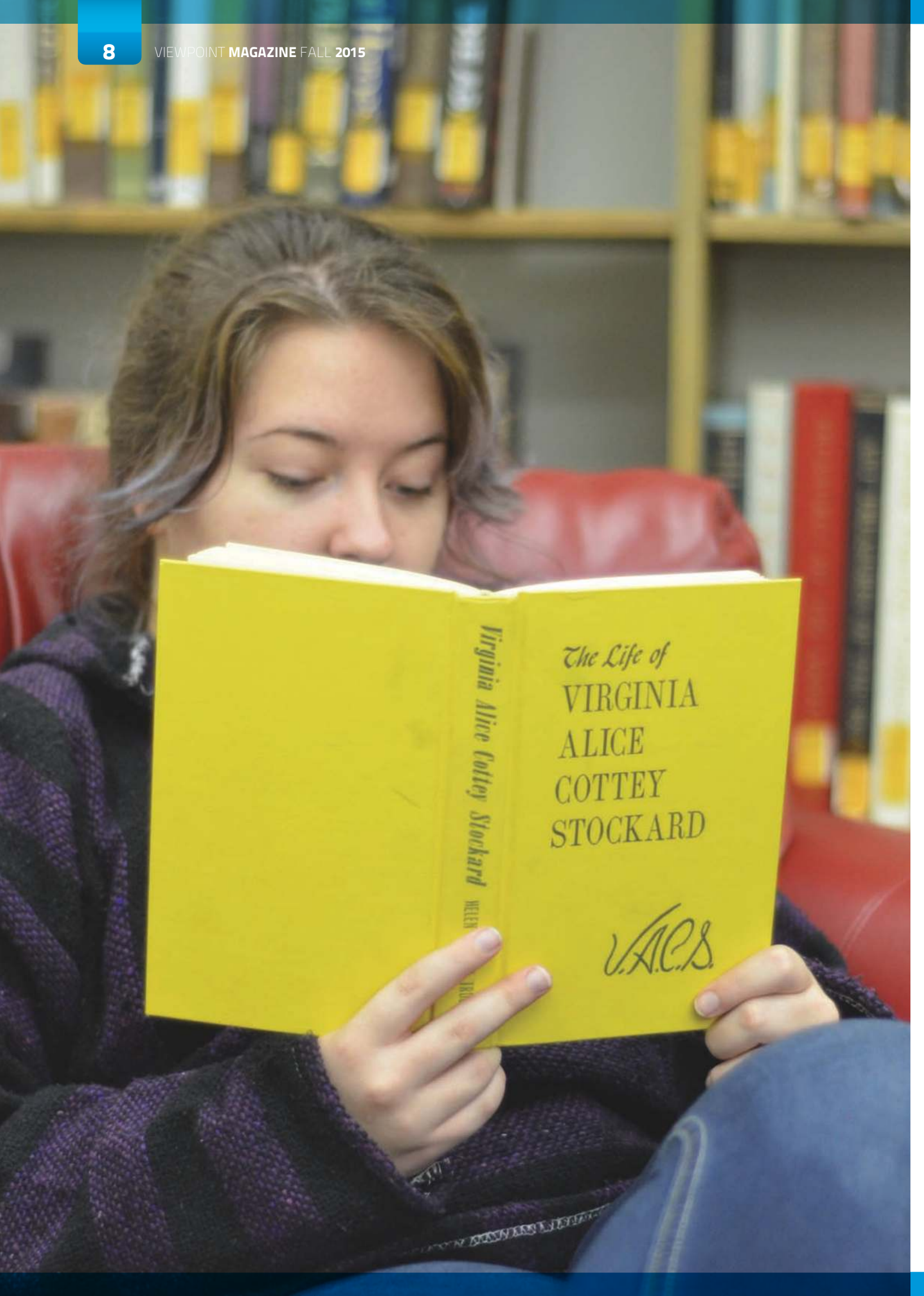
believe me, I truly appreciated having a faster, lighter bicycle to pedal for that distance.

The words "new beginning" have an enthusiastic ring to them. A new beginning can be exhilarating. Who doesn't remember getting his or her's driver's license or registering to vote for the first time? For those of us a bit older, there's nothing that quite compares to our first home or the birth of our first child. But sometimes the idea of a new beginning can be frightening, either because what's new is unknown, or because beginning again means giving up something else.

I have every confidence that as we begin this new era at the College, we will find opportunities abound as we celebrate these new beginnings.

"The moment one definitely commits oneself, then providence moves too. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents, meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamt would have come his way."

-W. H. Murray



Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard

The Life of
VIRGINIA
ALICE
COTTEY
STOCKARD

V.A.C.S.

What's Old is New Again

Dr. Helen DeRusha Troesch and her Book *The Life of Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard*

By Nancy Kerbs

Director of Assessment and Institutional Research

Helen DeRusha Troesch, Ph.D., joined the Cottey faculty in the fall of 1940 to teach speech and theatre. Cottey's founder passed away on July 16 of that year, so Dr. Troesch never met Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard; however, she was intrigued by the legendary figure and her life's work.

For the observance of Mrs. Stockard's birthday on Founder's Day in 1948, Dr. Troesch wrote and produced "First Fruits," a five-act play based on Alice's life. While doing the research for the play, the idea for a full-length book occurred to Dr. Troesch.

In compiling the material for the book *The Life of Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard*, Dr. Troesch read every issue of the *Nevada Daily Mail* newspaper from 1883 through July 1940. In the state historical library in Columbia, Missouri, the author found data on the families of the founder's parents. She interviewed and corresponded with living relatives, alumnae, and residents of Nevada, Missouri, who knew the founder well. The result was the first full-length book ever written about the founder of Cottey College. In the words of Virginia Watson, Alumnae Secretary, in an article in the December 1955 issue of *The P.E.O. RECORD*, "in this...book... Mrs. Stockard lives again. She marches firmly through the pages, a devoutly religious woman strengthened by the iron determination that 'Cottey shall not fail.'" She dedicated her book to "the Cottey girls, past and present, who have benefited by her life and work."

Dr. Troesch received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and her Master of Arts and her Doctor of Philosophy degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She taught theatre at Cleveland College and Schauffler College for Women in Cleveland and at Akron University in Akron, Ohio.

In a Founder's Day speech in 1975, Emily Sturm, Class of 1951, described Dr. Troesch as a "formidable-looking woman," whose "advice to a student whose voice quavered inaudibly was: 'Get some guts into it'...I didn't know it in the

classroom long ago, but I know it now that Dr. Troesch was speaking of something more than projecting one's voice. Put something of yourself, all of yourself, into what you are doing. You, too, have something to give."

Dr. Troesch apparently took her own advice. When she retired in 1958, the Cottey College Board of Trustees issued a resolution of appreciation that read in part:

"Her work with dramatics has been outstanding and the results have often been achieved with a minimum of equipment...In a very real sense her accomplishments are to be measured in the stimulation which she has given to hundreds of Cottey students. Her chronicle of the beginnings of this school will continue to warm the hearts of those who have an affectionate regard for Cottey College."



Dr. Troesch with an unidentified student.

The Life of Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard, by Helen DeRusha Troesch, is being reprinted. The P.E.O. Sisterhood, who holds the copyright, authorized Cottey College to reprint the book. It will be available for purchase in early 2016 for the cost of \$20.00.

DEDICATION OF THE FAB

On Saturday, September 26, the College celebrated the dedication of the Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building.

In a short 14 months from the groundbreaking ceremony, Cottey College dedicated the Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building on Saturday, September 26. And what a grand opening it was! On the Thursday evening prior, employees and retirees got a "first sneak peek" at the facility. Plenty of employees could be spotted taking photos with their phones to post online or share with friends later.

On Friday evening, a special reception was held for the donors who had named spaces as well as major donors to the campaign. Also in attendance were the Cottey College Board of Trustees, the Executive Board of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, representatives from both the construction firm and architectural firm, and the guests of honor – Judy and Glenn Rogers. A string trio, Golden Key greeters, and, of course, magnificent Cottey food greeted those in attendance. All were impressed with the beauty and well-designed functionality of the new building and the renovated Neale Hall.

On Saturday morning, a close-to-capacity crowd filled the Auditorium in the Haidee and Allen Wild Center for the Arts. The audience was treated to a magnificent performance of Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* featuring Cottey instrumentalists, singers, and dancers. Speakers at the dedication ceremony included Dr. Weitzel, President of the College; Peggy Bottorf, chair of the Board of Trustees; Maria Baseggio, president of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood; Sally Holland, president of the Cottey College Alumnae Association; Barbara Andes campaign chairman of *A Defining Moment* Campaign; Mary Haggans, project manager; Theresa Spencer, professor of music; TyCember Jones, president of the Student Government Association; and Drs. Judy and Glenn Rogers.

Following the remarks, the crowd recessed to the front of the new facility where the ribbon was cut, the doors were opened, and the building was available for self-guided tours. Comments from visitors were overwhelmingly positive as they admired this state-of-the-art facility.

The new building is not quite ready for occupancy. Too many rainy days over the summer months pushed the completion date back. However, by the time this article is printed, the contractors will have completed

their tasks and the College will have possession of the building. When the next semester begins, the Fine Arts Building will be full of students learning and practicing their crafts in music, dance, and art. Many thanks to all who have helped make this building a reality.

Both the ceremony and the ribbon cutting were live streamed over the Internet. That video is still posted on Cottey's website and is available for viewing at www.cottey.edu/dedication.

"What a wonderful dedication it was. Beautiful sunshine, lovely food and so many smiles. Cottey really hit a home run."

~Sophia Zetmeir

"It is such an honor to have my name attached to such a grand building...and it is a grand building."
Dr. Judy Rogers



Photo above: Mary-Frances Main '87 member of the Cottey College Alumnae Association board, and Sally Holland '85, president of the Cottey College Alumnae Association, pose by the plaque recognizing the achievement of Cottey alumnae in raising \$2 million to name the renovated Neale Hall.

Photo below: The official ribbon cutting for the Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building included Theresa Spencer, professor of music; Brian Leonard, mayor of Nevada, Missouri; Barbara Andes, campaign chairman of *A Defining Moment* campaign; Maria Baseggio, president of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood; Dr. Jann Weitzel, President of Cottey College; Dr. Judy Rogers, president emerita of Cottey College; Dr. Glenn Rogers; Peggy Bottorf, chair of the Cottey College Board of Trustees; Frank Arnold, Nevada/Vernon County Chamber of Commerce representative; Mary Haggans, project manager.



Photo above: Sophia Zetmeir found the classroom she named in the new building.

Photo below: Barbara and Jerry Andes stand next to the sign identifying the shared space on the second floor named in Barbara's honor by the California State Chapter.

Photo below left: Cottey dancers, along with Cottey singers and instrumentalists, opened the dedication ceremony with a performance of "Ode to Joy."



Meet the Weitzels

At her first all-campus meeting, Dr. Jann Weitzel set the tone for the year when she shared this story about her first day of teaching.

"I was 21 years old and had gotten a job teaching speech/language arts at a junior high in northeast Iowa," she began. "It was August in Iowa; my classroom was on east side of the third floor of a brick building with no air conditioning; thus my classroom had been baking in the Iowa heat for three months. I entered my classroom and faced 36 hot, sweaty 9th graders for whom language arts was not their favorite subject.



Dr. Jann Weitzel and Jack Weitzel (center) with their extended family.

"I knew that all I had to do was take attendance, take a count of the number of students planning to eat hot lunch and those who planned to ride the activity bus home, record all information on a slip of paper, and put that slip of paper outside my classroom door on the bulletin board. I called the roll, messing up plenty of the names and being made aware of my errors by the groans from and scowls on the faces of my sweat-soaked students... and I headed to the door with the information slip in my hand. I opened the door, walked through the door as it closed behind me, and immediately knew that I had made a mistake.

"Now, you might be thinking that I walked into the hallway and the door locked behind me. No, but that would have been a better answer to my situation—but no, the situation was that when the door closed,

I found myself facing the back wall of my 4x4 dark closet. And I knew that there were 36 surly, perspiring freshmen sitting outside that door who all knew that this 21-year-old first-year teacher couldn't tell her closet door from the hallway door. Now, if I had been more experienced, I would have grabbed a book and made it look like I intended to stop in the closet. But I was new... young... inexperienced... and my only option was to back out and face my charges.

"So, what was the point of my story? My point was that often, we are faced with outcomes that we didn't intend... some things just don't go as we expect or the way we plan. I told the faculty and staff that I knew that I wouldn't get everything right as president just as classes that the faculty plan or the responsibilities that staff members have may not always go as planned. What I asked, though, was that we each just do our very best, work together as a team, and work toward our common goal... providing the best possible education for the young women of Cottey College."

Sharing that anecdote with the employees not only brought a laugh to the entire group, but sent a signal that Dr. Weitzel was going to be personal and personable.

In her first few months, she has only reinforced that opinion with her good humor and gentle approach to leadership. Dr. Weitzel believes that her openness is an asset to her presidency.

"In terms of a sense of humor, I remember telling the search committee at the end of my interview during which we had been both serious and jovial that the person they were interviewing was the person who would show up for work. I don't pretend to be something that I am not. I love my job and I want everyone else to love their jobs and want to come to work- being pleasant, being able to share a laugh... and then being able to get down to work and meet our responsibilities is vital to the success of Cottey College."

That sense of "everyone pulling together" is what attracted Dr. Weitzel to the Cottey presidency.

"It truly feels that every person on campus has one goal- to educate our young women," she explained. "I've said to others that there seems to just be something magical about Cottey- the young women who awkwardly and nervously walked across the stage to sign the Cottey Book during the first week of class have already changed into confident young women



Dr. Jann Weitzel, Callie the cat, and Jack Weitzel relaxing at President's House.

who walk across campus with their heads up, ready to engage, growing and maturing each day."

When Cottey hired Dr. Weitzel, they also got a valuable partner in her husband, Jack.

"He [Jack] has enjoyed getting involved- he is working with Habitat for Humanity and he has rejoined the Lions (he was a member 20 years ago)- he loves attending events at Cottey- he's been to softball and volleyball games... and is now into basketball season," said Dr. Weitzel. "We spent his birthday at the magician's performance—he thoroughly enjoyed International Convention of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, helping ladies with their cameras and hanging out with the BILs. He had a great time grilling the bison burgers at the health event and just drove to Des Moines to pick up the CIC materials. He likes being busy and he likes being asked to help- and honestly, he is happy not to have to mow the lawn anymore!"

The Weitzels have two adult daughters and four grandchildren and a cat named Callie.

"We have two daughters- Sarah (38) is married to Joe- she is a middle school vice-principal in the Lake St. Louis, Missouri, area. They have two children, Maya, 8, and Jack, 6. Lauren (35) is a stay-at-home mom who does logo design for area organizations- her husband is Brandon, who is an eco-dentist in Ashland, Oregon. They have two children, Bella, 6, and Bauer, 3. We have one cat, Callie, who came to live with us after Sarah

graduated from college. She is a good cat, but hates the vet- in fact, the cover of her chart in a St. Charles vet's office actually says, 'bad cat!'"

While Dr. Weitzel may be Madam President to the Cottey community, she is just grandma when the grand-kids come to visit.

"Oh, I'm grandma," she said. "They have loved running up and down the stairs and exploring the attic and basement at the President's House. They have all visited the campus and understand my position, but it doesn't mean much to them other than I take them to the bookstore to buy T-shirts and ducks!"

At the end of her career, Dr. Weitzel hopes that she will have overseen growth in enrollment, faculty and staff, and programs offered. She would also like to see the athletic department move to the NAIA so that Cottey could recruit athletes for four years. Most important, she would like Cottey to be "the best women's college we can be." When asked how she wanted to be remembered after her tenure, she gave this answer.

"As a president who cared about the college, her students, her employees... someone who was available.. someone who values the worth of every person. And someone who was approachable and a partner in this endeavor."

With that end in mind, she is off to a good start.

Dr. Weitzel's official biography is online at <http://www.cottey.edu/college-offices/jann-weitzel/>

New Cottey Trustees



Sue Baker

Sue Baker is first vice president of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Raised in Wooster, Ohio, Sue attended Miami University and graduated from The Ohio State University earning her BS in nursing. As an RN and registered vascular technologist, she specialized in cardiac and vascular nursing during her professional career. In addition to her faculty responsibilities at the Trumbull Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, she has also held supervisory positions in obstetrics, newborn nursery, psychiatry, medical and intensive care.

Sue was initiated into Chapter EE, Warren, Ohio—her current chapter—in 1979. With the theme of “The Pursuit of Peace and Purity,” she presided at the Convention of Ohio State Chapter in 2004. Sue was grateful for the incredible insight gained and the opportunity to develop and extend her P.E.O. service through four years on the International Peace Scholarship Board of Trustees. She is a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians.

Sue and her husband Chuck have four granddaughters and two grandsons to enjoy. Their three daughters, Kristen Gebhardt, EE/OH, Deanna Andamasis, EE/OH and Julie Lintz, GM/TX are active P.E.O.s, initiated by Sue, and all married to wonderfully supportive BILs! Active in the United Methodist Church, Sue has served as church council chair; sings in the choir; plays handbells, piano, organ and harp; and helps with children’s music and the Christian preschool. She is currently involved as a grief share leader. Past community activities include Women’s Panhellenic Association, Warren Junior Crafts and the Board of Trustees of the Northeast



Diann E. McChesney

Born and raised in Texas, McChesney lived in Irving for 22 years before marrying her husband, Jeff, who whisked her away to a life of adventure as an Air Force fighter pilot’s wife. She has lived in Phoenix, AZ; Newport News, VA; McLean, VA (twice); Boston, MA; the Netherlands; and Okinawa, Japan. In 2000, Jeff retired from the military. They settled in Ridgefield, Connecticut, where they currently live. Married 34 years, Diann and Jeff have two adult children and a 15-year old Pug named Yoda.

Diann is a Certified Financial Planner® professional and investment advisor in an independent “fee only” registered investment advisory firm. On her daily 130-mile commute she thinks, ponders, learns (by listening to NPR, audio books, and various podcasts), and generally amuses herself.

She has a bachelor’s degree in audiology from Texas Tech University, a master’s degree in community health administration and wellness promotion from the California College of Health Sciences, and a master’s degree in personal financial planning from the College of Financial Planning in Denver, Colorado. She earned and maintains the distinguished Certified Financial Planner® professional designation (CFP®), as well as the Accredited Domestic Partnership Advisor designation (ADPA®).

An active member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Diann was initiated into Chapter G, Washington D.C., in July 1998. After moving to Connecticut, Diann transferred her membership to Chapter G/CT in Ridgefield. She served in various offices at the local level, and seven years on the Connecticut State Chapter’s



Jackie R. McMorris

Jackie R. McMorris, born in Kilmichael, Mississippi, graduated from Rust College in 1984 with a bachelor’s degree in mass communication and a minor in television broadcasting. In 1985, she received her master’s degree from Auburn University in speech communication with an emphasis in human resource & organizational development (HRD/OD). After completing her master’s, she was employed as an English and speech instructor at Tuskegee University. While working as instructor, she also worked as a radio news anchor and hosted her own radio talk show titled, Straight Talk.

She worked in various capacities in higher education for 15 years, serving as a tenured professor and in several administrative roles, including special assistant to the president, director of alumni affairs at Georgia Perimeter College, and associate director of alumni affairs at the University of Arkansas. There she earned a doctorate in adult education, training and development.

In 2003 she returned to Georgia where she began work in local government. She worked for Cherokee County Government as the agency director for community services and also served as chief of staff for the Fulton County District Attorney’s Office. Currently, Dr. McMorris is the agency director for Public Services for Cobb County Government in Marietta, where she is responsible for an estimated 1200 employees and oversees approximately one-third of Cobb County government’s workforce.

She is a member of the County Manager’s Executive Team, serves on numerous committees, represents the County in various public arenas, is involved in community outreach, and is a proud



Student Spotlight / Kelsey, Karlie, and Kasey Acton

By Steve Reed

Good things come in threes, so they say. The Cottey Comets basketball team will find out soon as the Acton sisters—Kelsey, Kasey, and Karlie—take the floor this season. The Comets have never had two sisters play for them much less three sisters at the same time.

Head basketball coach Stephanie Beason first saw Kelsey Acton play in the homeschool national tournament in Springfield, Missouri, where Kelsey had back-to-back 30-point nights. That was enough to convince Beason she needed to offer Kelsey a scholarship. While she was meeting with Kelsey's mother, Kristi Mercer, Mercer mentioned she also had two older daughters who had played basketball.

"After my initial contact with Kelsey," said Beason, "her mom mentioned to me that the two older sisters had commented about how fun it would be for all three of them to play college ball together. I told her if they would send game film I would check it out. Honestly, I was so impressed with Kelsey and her work ethic that I thought if I needed to bring the sisters in to get her to commit then I would. When I watched their game film, I was pleasantly surprised. All of them have a great work ethic. They are some of the hardest working players I've ever had."

Soon, all three sisters were signed to play for the Cottey Comets.

"Honestly, it took me a little while to adjust to the idea of playing basketball again," said Kasey. "I was excited about the opportunity, but I just really didn't see it coming! The more I thought about it though, the more excited I got about being able to play basketball again--especially with my sisters."

Karlie agreed with Kasey. "College basketball was my lifelong dream," she said. "Growing up, life was sleep, eat, basketball... and I loved it. Being homeschooled, however I never had the opportunity to be seen. Even after high school, I still played all the time. I had people tell me that I should try and pursue college ball, but I felt like my window of opportunity was shut. So when I was approached about playing at Cottey, it was a dream come true!"

Although the sisters are competitive, the competition is not against each other; it's against the common opponent.

"We love to win. We are all extremely competitive," explained Kasey. "If we're outside playing a pickup game of 21, there is definitely competition to be the best. But if we are on the court playing as a team, we want to win, and in order to win we need to work together. At that point, there's no competition between us. We all know our individual roles. I want my sisters to be the best they can be. We are all very supportive of each other."

Kasey is a point guard; Kelsey is a shooting guard; Karlie is a power forward. That means fans could see all three on the court at the same time for the Comets.

"All three of them have potential to start at different times throughout the season," said Beason. "So far in our scrimmages there have been numerous times where all three have been on the court together. They know what to expect from each other



Kasey, Karlie, and Kelsey Acton will play together for the Comets.

and know where the others are going to be or going to go which leads to some interesting plays on occasion, especially when they make passes to 5'2" Kasey cutting through the paint surrounded by post players."

"I think that we all have different roles on the court. As for me, I like to play down low under the basket," said Karlie. "I like to get big and I'm a contact player. But Kasey likes to play up top, take two-foot jumpers and put the pressure on defense. As for Kelsey, her position can vary--basically wherever Coach wants her at that time. Even though our roles are different, we all have the same expectation for ourselves and each other: to hustle our backsides off and leave it all on the court."

"One thing that I love about playing with my sisters on the court is that we have chemistry together," said Kelsey. "My sisters know when I am about to make a cut to the basket and they are ready to whip me the ball."

Better than their ability in the gym, though, is their desire to do well both in the classroom and on the court.

"I can't speak highly enough of the sisters so far," said Beason. "Not only am I impressed with their work ethic, it runs much deeper than that. They are great young women who put a lot of work and focus into their academics as well. All three of them have bright futures ahead, and I'm glad that the Cottey College basketball program has become a stepping stone to their future."

Points of Pride: Meredith, Kim, and Julie Wilson

Cottey is definitely a family tradition for Meredith Goodrich Wilson '51 and her daughters Kim Wilson Saiki '76 and Julie Wilson '82. Julie in particular has been very involved with her Alma Mater, having served first on the Cottey College Alumnae Association Executive Board and later as a member of the Cottey College Board of Trustees. Her mother and sister have been staunch Cottey supporters as well over the years. When the College announced *A Defining Moment* Campaign in 2009, the Wilsons knew that they would participate.

"We liked that it covered all the important areas: an exciting new building, scholarship support, faculty endowments, and more," said Julie. "By exceeding the goal of the campaign, everyone involved has really set Cottey up for future success."

As part of the Campaign, Cottey offered naming opportunities in the new Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building.

When asked why they decided to name a space, Julie explained, "We're silly sentimentalists. With Mom having gone there, and then my sister, and then me, and then a 'grand-daughter in spirit' (Alla Pivniak '09) from Ukraine, Cottey has been a huge part of our lives. Prior to this courtyard, we had a bench at Reeves Hall, and it's just fun to go and visit a space when we are on campus."

The Wilsons chose to name the courtyard between the renovated Neale Hall and the new facility. Why the courtyard over a classroom or other space?

"When my mom married my dad (a cattle rancher), she committed to a life in the country and has never looked back. She loves the peace and beauty found in the outdoors and wanted the space to be 'a gathering place.'"

Julie and her mother Meredith attended a special preview on the Friday evening before the dedication and saw their space for the first time that evening. What did they think of the facility now that it was a reality?

"Mom says, 'It was cool!' We loved the specialized rooms and also the openness of the common area," said Julie. "It's going to be a facility that the College can use a lot, for various gatherings and occasions; it just really adds multi-purpose event space to the campus."



Alumnae Julie Wilson '82 and her mother Meredith Goodrich Wilson '51 stand in the Wilson Family Courtyard between the Judy and Glenn Rogers Fine Arts Building and the renovated Neale Hall.

Julie's experience on the alumnae board and the board of trustees has given her a unique perspective over that of a typical alumna of the College.

"As with anything, the more you know, the more you appreciate something," she said. "I loved my experience as a student, but I now have a much fuller appreciation of the opportunities that students have. So many talented and passionate people make it happen, including administration, staff, faculty, boards, volunteers, alumnae, P.E.O.s. All these people want to make the world a better place and empower women, and one of the things they invest in is our school. It's pretty awesome!"

New Trustees, continued

Sue Baker

Ohio Adoption Agency for special needs children. In her spare time, Baker enjoys her family/grandchildren, travel, cooking and reading.

Diann E. McChesney

executive board, completing her term as president in 2013-2014.

In addition to her membership in P.E.O., McChesney is an active member of the Financial Planning Association (FPA), the National Association of Professional Financial Advisors (NAPFA), the Personal Financial Planning section of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA/PFP), and PridePlanners.

Jackie R. McMorris

recent graduate of Leadership Cobb.

She enjoys networking, mentoring, serving her community and traveling. Dr. McMorris is a certified customer service specialist (CCSS) and is the process of working toward becoming a Sherpa Certified Executive Coach.

Dr. McMorris and her husband Mack reside in Canton, Georgia. They have a son, Cody, and an 18-month-old grandson Julien, who reside in Greenville, South Carolina.

Faculty Feature: Karen Polon

By Steve Reed

Karen Polon, professor of physical education, has been teaching students how to live a healthy lifestyle for 22 years. In her additional position as wellness coordinator, she's been teaching Cottey employees how to do the same for the last seven years. Like most things, fitness education at Cottey has undergone change since 1993.

"When I arrived on campus, Cottey had a lot of team sport classes offered like basketball, volleyball, and softball, but there were not very many fitness or exercise related courses," Polon explained. "So I proposed several and have been teaching them ever since. Professor Theresa Burger and I have an emphasis in our PE program on individual fitness and health. As obesity increases worldwide, I've been considering a new proposal for a course in Weight Management."

Although female employees may enroll and take PE classes, the wellness program encourages everyone in the Cottey community to participate.

"During our annual health event I try to provide a 'healthy' lunch to employees by serving things like buffalo burgers and brats as a leaner choice than burgers," she explained. "One year I served brownies and everyone loved them. I then told employees the special ingredient in the brownies was black beans. Most people still said they liked them. I try to offer Wellness activities each year that might meet the interest of all Cottey employees, things like yoga, Zumba, toning classes, aerobic classes, volleyball, tennis, fitness walking, mini triathlons, and cycling local events or paths as a Cottey group. I have been working with Michael Richardson for several years now on analyzing the Cottey Food Service recipes and posting the nutrition information on our website for the campus community."

Polon's efforts in the wellness program seem to be paying off.

"Wellness has increased the number of participants at the Health Event each year. In 2009 we had 47 percent employee participation, and this past fall we had 69.4 percent employee participation," said Polon. "We have had several employees find out that they had significant health issues at these events and

get follow-up medical care, which may have saved their lives and at the very least, has helped them to physically feel better instead of suffering and not knowing why. My personal mission statement is "Being Fit for Life" and I try to influence students, employees, and anyone else I come into contact with whenever I can, without being too intrusive."

What advice would Polon give someone interested in beginning a fitness program or making changes for a healthier lifestyle?

"I would recommend making one small behavior change at a time until it becomes a habit. The biggest mistake most people make is they try to change too many things at one time: the way they eat, their exercise habits, shopping, cooking and possibly even what time they get up in the morning. This typically leads to failure. Choose something as simple as eating each meal slowly, taking at least 20 minutes to eat at a real table and really enjoy the taste of the food. Most people will eat less because they have slowed down and the stomach has time to tell the brain it's full."

What fitness activities does Polon enjoy?

"I love to run; okay I'm really a jogger but being outside and having time to listen to music or just enjoy my surroundings is great and often a way that I relieve stress," said Polon. "Other fitness activities I do on a regular basis include weight training, cycling, and yoga. I'm also a decent golfer and have achieved a Class A teaching license through the PGTA (Professional Golf Teachers Association of America).

With her healthy lifestyle, does she ever indulge in guilty pleasures like a chocolate bar?

"I'm human and occasionally don't eat as well as I would like," Polon admitted. "I actually love chocolate. Good dark chocolate preferred. I rarely eat an entire bar of anything though; I truly believe in moderation. I've found eating a guilty pleasure slowly allows me to truly enjoy the taste and flavor and sometimes that means I don't need as much."



"I try to offer Wellness activities each year that might meet the interest of all Cottey employees, things like yoga, Zumba, toning classes, aerobic classes, volleyball, tennis, fitness walking, mini triathlons, and cycling local events or paths as a Cottey group."
Karen Polon

Hampton Named Professional of the Year by Missouri Campus Compact

Cottey College is pleased to announce that Reneé Hampton, interim coordinator of career and transfer planning and community liaison, has been named 2015 Community Engagement Professional of the Year by the Missouri Campus Compact.

According to the Missouri Campus Compact, the Community Engagement Professional of the Year award recognizes a professional from a member campus who has worked toward the “institutionalization of academic service-learning and/or service, created and strived toward a vision of service for his/her campus, promoted higher education as a public good, provided exceptional support to faculty and students, and has been instrumental in forming innovative campus-community partnerships.”

Hampton has been involved in many Cottey community service projects, most notably the *Join in for Joplin* campaign. In the three years Cottey participated in the program, student and staff volunteers contributed over 3,000 hours of

service to help rebuild the Joplin community.

Hampton’s work was also reflected in Cottey’s naming to the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for Interfaith Community Service. Fewer than 100 institutions in the country received this honor.

Cottey College is fortunate to have professionals like Reneé Hampton, and her recognition is well deserved.



The College remains truly grateful for the support of alumnae and friends who sustain Cottey’s dedication to women’s education through charitable giving. During the past quarter of the fiscal year, donors established new endowments totaling more than \$105,000 in support of scholarships, library acquisitions, musical instrument maintenance, student conference travel, and unrestricted operations. We wish to specially recognize the following with contributions from May 21 to September 30, 2015, totaling \$5,000 or more.

To make a gift in support of Cottey College’s commitment to education for women, visit www.cottey.edu/give, or use the gift envelope provided in this issue of the *Viewpoint*.

Gifts or Pledges of \$5,000 or more

Larry Andre—Spirit Lake, IA

John K. and Rebecca W. Baird Estate—El Paso, TX

Leyla Lynn Beyaz '79 Estate—Port Orchard, WA

Linda and Gene Chartier—Overland Park, KS

Gail and Michael Davis—Branson, MO

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund—Cincinnati, OH

Florida State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood

American Society of the French Legion of Honor—Harriman, NY

Jeannette Gangl—Beavercreek, OH

Janet M. Hansen—River Falls, WI

Helen Hester Fund of Hutchinson Community Foundation—Hutchinson, KS

Illinois State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood

Indiana State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood

Marilyn N. Lager Trust—Chicago, IL

Sandra and Stanley Lehman—Lubbock, TX

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Walter and Margaret Meyers Charitable Foundation—Minneapolis, MN

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Finis M. Moss Trust—Nevada, MO

The Nelson Survivor’s Trust—Tucson, AZ

Mrs. Margaret D. Newell—Des Moines, IA

The Oregon Community Foundation—Portland, OR

Sue Prange—Laguna Beach, CA

Ronald and Janet VanMynen—Shelburne, VT

Class Notes

1940s

Rachel Rouse Bard '41 has published her third historical novel, *A Reed in the Wind: Joanna Plantagenet, Queen of Sicily*.

The book completes her Plantagenet Trilogy, about medieval queens who, against great odds, made their way in a man's world. First in the series was *Queen Without a Country*, about Berengaria of Navarre, queen of Richard I of England—Richard the Lionheart, Joanna's older brother. Next came Isabella of Angouleme in *Queen Without a Conscience*. Isabella married King John, Richard's younger brother.

Two of these queens married into the Plantagenet dynasty and one, Joanna, was born in it. All have been almost overlooked by history. Rachel's goal was to bring them into the light.

All three books are available from Amazon, in bookstores, and as e-books.

Before becoming hooked on novels about medieval queens, Rachel wrote eight nonfiction books, including a history of Navarre, two cookbooks, several travel guides and a pair of journalism textbooks.

When asked if now, at ninety-three, she intends to write about a fourth Plantagenet queen, she says she has several candidates in mind. "But then it wouldn't be a trilogy and I don't want to step on the toes of Lawrence Durrell and Joseph Haydn. They were much better at quartets than I am."

Margaret Sutherland Orndorff '44 was featured in the *P.E.O. RECORD's* May/June issue. Margaret shared her recollections of being a Cottey student during Pearl Harbor.

1960s

Jenny Meadows (formerly Jo Willis) '65, moved to New Zealand in September



2015. She and her Kiwi husband live in Atawhai, a village outside of Nelson, atop the South Island. She continues her work as a proofreader and copy editor, while enjoying the views through her office window overlooking Tasman Bay and the Boulder Bank. **[PHOTO 1]**

Sylvia Sharman '65 recently moved to 4701 7th Avenue SW, Unit #227, Olympia, WA 98502. She obtained her Washington state license to substitute teach and is enjoying spending time with her granddaughters Isla and Elle. Life is good in Olympia where she walks and swims almost daily! Sylvia welcomes contact from alumnae and P.E.O.s in the area.

Mary Kay Engler Ray '67 is serving as president of her P.E.O. chapter this year. By the end of October, she will have eight grandchildren, and she continues to enjoy travel to historical sites, antiques, and crafts.

1970s

Linda Gilbertson Nadel '74 received the distinct honor of being awarded the 2015 NRA Marion P. Hammer Woman of Distinction Award. Linda was the only recipient nationwide this year and was recognized for her "Lifelong Commitment to Preserving our Second Amendment Rights through Safety Education and Mentoring in the Field and in the Classroom." Her business LADIES DAY LLC (<http://www.ladiesdayllc.com/>) continues to educate women in personal protection with firearms, and she teaches Firearms Safety to students in 6-8 grades in a local school. **[PHOTO 2]**

Class of '76: Michelle (Deirdre's wife), **Deirdre Curtis, Jennifer Walter, Leslie Moyer Schillinger, Juliann Mastain, Janet Ruch Bruelhart and Pam Webb** all gathered at Michelle and Deirdre's house. Different configurations of this group have been doing this for about 12 years

now! It just gets better and better. **[PHOTO 3]**



Class Notes

Jennie Olsen '79 writes, "I've got a new job working as a consultant/referral management nurse for joint service military members in San Antonio. My new address is 3815 Parkdale St. # 321, San Antonio, TX 78229. I've been staying in touch with **Robyn Shipley Gerko '79** and was able to attend her daughter's high school graduation in Plano, Texas, in June 2015. Also, **Tori Hill '78** who helped me transfer to her P.E.O. Chapter GM, Texas. I would love to hear from any/all Cottey classmates!"

1980s

Melinda Domingo Rhodes-DiSalvo '86 (left) represented Cottey College at the Investiture of the 20th president of the first HBCU in the nation on September 25, 2015. Melinda (left) posed with Wilberforce University President Alegania Marie Warren Freeman, Ph.D., (center), and a Miami University representative following the event.

[PHOTO 4]

Gretchen Pippenger Meinhardt '88 is an assistant professor at Donnelly College in Kansas City, Kansas, where she teaches English to preparatory education students, as well as some ESL classes. After attending Cottey, Gretchen earned a bachelor's in photojournalism and news writing from the University of Kansas and a master's in education from Kansas State University. Her earlier career included work as a newspaper photographer and as a public relations/marketing professional. She considers it a privilege to teach students from the urban core, many of whom are first-generation college students. Gretchen and her husband, Cliff, live in Parkville, Missouri, with their two children.

Dr. Jennifer Baublits '89 recently graduated from Creighton University after successfully defending her doctoral dissertation titled, "The Influence of Socioeconomic Status on Adolescent Leadership in Colorado Public High Schools." Jennifer is CEO of Renatus EduWorks, a company dedicated to encouraging life-long educational development through research, writing, and learning. [PHOTO 5]

1990s

Dr. Amy J. Alonso '95 is proud to announce her May 2015 graduation from the University of Maryland.



She earned her doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies and successfully defended her dissertation, "Principals as Strategic Volunteer Talent Managers: Matching Talents and Tasks" in December 2014. [PHOTO 6]

2000s

Future Cottey Student, Jovy Meyer, explored the ancient Mayan city of Tulum with her mommy and Cottey alum, **Aimee Starlin Meyer '02** in July 2015! (Jovy was representing Cottey wearing her pink onsie). [PHOTO 7]

In early June, **Amy Christofis '03** shared a few thoughts on the importance of mentorship at the PwC Chicago meeting.

Melisabeth Wright Johnston '04 started a new job in September as the Member Marketing Specialist for the Girl Scouts in Springfield, Missouri.

Vesi Hristova '09 graduated with her master's degree in social work from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, on May 18, 2015. Beginning June 15, Vesi will be a staff clinician on the inpatient psychiatry unit at the North Shore Medical Center in Salem, Massachusetts.

Class Notes

2010s



8.

Katie Valdes '11 is proud to announce her completion of the occupational therapy program at Towson University on May 22, 2015, with a Master of Science degree in occupational therapy. [PHOTO 8]

Mattie Richardson '13 published four books by her 19th birthday, and she's just released her newest book, *Day and Night*. The

book is available on Amazon.

Shauna Schmitt '13 is happy to announce that she is an admission counselor for her transfer institution, University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa. Ever since attending Cottey, serving as a Golden Key, and working as

the Alumnae Relations and Annual Fund intern, Shauna has set her sights on a career in higher education.

"Without Cottey I know I would not be where I am today. I am excited for this opportunity. Who knows, maybe someday this career path will lead me back to my home at my dear ol' Cottey C. And don't worry there will be a few ducks and daisies in my office, too!"

Ly (Harriet) Huong Bui '14 recently returned from a summer study abroad from Mount Holyoke College. She worked with Kopernik, a leading nonprofit organization that delivers clean technologies to rural areas around the world to reduce poverty. She assisted with setting up a photo library management system for the company, created a recruiting video for the organization, and utilized social media channels to interpret gender disaggregated data in Indonesia. Outside of the office, she traveled to Bali and Eastern Indonesia. She did a climb of the highest volcano in Bali, did a backpacking boat trip to see the Komodo dragons, and snorkeled and free dived at two shipwreck sites.

Mini-Reunions



Class of '91 (above) A group of alumnae from 1991 gathered in Durango, Colorado, for a mini-reunion in June. Kathie Finestead wrote, "This trip was so vital - some of us hadn't seen each other in 24 years but a Cottey bond knows no time passed!" From left to right are: **Kathie Finestead, Kirstin Walsh, Amy Goins Thornton, Kirsten Lee, and Kristin Deichman Goodman.**

Below: On Sunday, October 11, eight Cottey alumnae gathered for brunch at Nel Centro in Portland, Oregon. **Kristin Heli Maidment '93** organized the event in conjunction with a prospective student gathering that took place during Cottey admission representative **Taryn Sprankles '93** travel to the area. (left to right) **Kristin Heli Maidment '93, Linda Ramsey Fisher '56, Mary Johnston Meier '93, Taryn Sprankles '93, Trisha Derr '00, Mary Heintz Rotherham '00, Martha Kluver '96, Barbara Mason Miller '76.**



Births

1990s

Megan O'Meara Starner '98 and husband are so excited to announce the arrival of Noah Jeffrey Starner! He was born Wednesday, July 8, at 1:23 p.m. and was a little squirt at 4 lbs., 14 oz. and 18.5 inches long. Love to all - Megan & Jed. **[PHOTO 1]**

2000s

Caroline Fitzgerald Seavey '01 and husband Mark were excited to welcome future Cottey girl, Violet Grace, July 1, 2015. She was 8 lbs, 3 oz, 21.75 inches. **[PHOTO 2]**

Melissa Moore Hartwell '03, along with husband and son,

welcomed baby girl, Evelyn June, on June 9, 2015. They could not be happier!

[PHOTO 3]

Amber Todd Rosenberg '03 and her husband Jason are thrilled to announce the birth of their son Linus James. He was born August 25, 2015, in Kettering, Ohio.

Linus weighed 8 lbs. 6.4 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Big sister Amelia is excited that "her baby" has arrived. **[PHOTO 4]**

Kristin Gumbert Milne '06, and husband, Patrick Milne, welcomed a baby girl on November 28, 2014. Lillian Kay weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz. and was 21 in. "We are loving life with this little dolly!" **[PHOTO 5]**



Weddings

2000s

On May 23, 2015, **Anne Blankley '07** married Christopher Weyer in Rapid City, South Dakota. Fellow Cottey alumnae **Amber Rhodes '07** and **Margaret Wolfenden '07** joined in the celebration. **[PHOTO]**

Left to Right: Amber Rhodes '07, Anne Blankley '07, and Margaret Wolfenden '07



In Memoriam: Miriam Stephens Kindred '51

The College lost a true friend and ally with the passing of **Miriam Stephens Kindred '51**. Beloved mother, grandmother and loyal friend passed away on September 30, 2015, after a long battle of many illnesses. She was born into a family of five on February 18, 1931, in Huron, South Dakota.

In 1961, Miriam married Guy Ben Kindred, M.D., who preceded her in death. Guy, who had three small boys, and Miriam with her small daughter, blended their families. When Guy joined the Medical Center Group in Plainview, Texas, Miriam started her financial career in town. After moving to Dallas, Miriam went on to become a vice president and the first woman manager for E. F. Hutton and then later for Smith Barney. Her career in the financial industry spanned over forty years during which time Miriam deepened many of her client relationships into personal friendships. When she retired she passed those relationships onto her daughter, Valli, who still has those today.

"Cottery had a way of making you feel that you needed to do your best. I owe my success in life to Cottery."

-Miriam Stephens Kindred

Miriam's greatest joy in life was helping and mentoring others. Miriam touched the lives of so many people emotionally, spiritually, and financially. In retirement, Miriam continued her commitment to

giving back by working with her alma mater Cottery College of Nevada, Missouri, by serving on the *Defining Moment* Campaign Cabinet.

Miriam reminisced about her career success as a featured alumna on the campaign website and in the printed material. "In 1978," she wrote, "I became the first woman manager and stock broker at E.F. Hutton. I realized it was because of Cottery."

Through the campaign, Miriam shared that though she had come from a legacy P.E.O. family, she was the first to attend Cottery. An ambitious learner who naturally excelled at intellectual pursuits, Miriam was surprised by the academic challenge, the variety of clubs and sports, and the high expectations she found at Cottery.

In 2010, Miriam established the Miriam Kindred Library Fund and, one year later, the Miriam Kindred Internship Fund. In 2013, the Cottery College Alumnae Association awarded her the Alumna Service Award. Numerous members of the Cottery community will deeply miss Miriam.



Obituaries

Doris Kingsbury Gayzagian '42 passed away on September 2, 2015. Her obituary is found online at: <http://www.costello-funeralhome.com/obituaries.htm> See page 4 for more information on Doris.

Dorothy Jacoby Nix '45 passed away on August 11, 2015. Her obituary is online at <http://ads.tulsaworld.com/tulsa-adportal/listingView.html?id=2375>

Thelma Janis Bulls Roehr '51 passed away on July 15, 2015. Her obituary is online at [http://www.stewartfamily-](http://www.stewartfamily-funeral.com/obituaries/Thelma-Jan-Roehr/#!/Obituary)

[funeral.com/obituaries/Thelma-Jan-Roehr/#!/Obituary](http://www.stewartfamily-funeral.com/obituaries/Thelma-Jan-Roehr/#!/Obituary)

Sherrill Lee Hansen Rinden Boyle '61 passed away on August 23, 2015. Her obituary is online at http://qctimes.com/news/local/obituaries/sherrill-lee-hansen-rinden-boyle/article_8d428d7b-0b81-549a-ae9a-37467b59f329.html

Coral L. Western Pinke '67 passed away on August 19, 2015. Her obituary is online at http://www.fureyfh.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=3283866&fh_id=11853

The College was notified of the deaths of the following alumnae:

Peggy Johnson '42
Dorothy Ball '43
Sue McNeely '43
Dorothy Joan McCorkindale '46
Anna Marie Smith '46
Martha Ann Sutton '46
Marjorie Jones '51
Helen Dowell '52
Kay McCoy '56
Susan Helander '57
Patricia Bybee '59
Kathi Rowe '78

Faculty/Staff Notes

Dr. Carmen Bourbon, associate professor of Spanish, graded Advanced Placement Spanish and Culture exams in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the week of June 12-18, 2015. She also attended a conference sponsored by College Board titled "Second Languages and Cultures: Theory, Practice and Instructional Strategies," at Duke Energy Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 17, 2015.

Dr. Jorge Dioses, assistant professor of mathematics, attended MathFest 2015, the summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America, August 5-8, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Ganga Fernando, associate professor of chemistry, recently had two articles published. The first, "Ion Dissociation Methods in Proteomics," was published in the *Encyclopedia of Analytical Chemistry*. The second, "The Role of Proton Mobility in Determining the Energy-resolved Vibrational Activation/ Dissociation Channels of N-glycopeptide Ions," was published in *Analytica Chimica Acta*. Please note that Dr. Fernando's student and Cottey alumna, Gabriela De La Cruz '13, is listed as a co-author!

Dr. Amanda Gilchrist, assistant professor of psychology, attended the biennial meeting of the Society of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition (SAR-MAC) in Victoria, British Columbia, from June 24-28, 2015. While there, she took part in a statistical software workshop.

Dr. Gilchrist also had several journal articles accepted for publication recently. The first, written with co-authors, Audrey Duarte and Paul Verhaeghen, is titled, "Retrospective cues based on object features improve visual working memory performance in older adults," and will appear in the journal *Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition*. The second is an opinion piece in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology: Cognition*, titled "How Should We Measure Chunks? A Continuing Issue in Chunking Research and the Way Forward."

Dr. Selena Kohel, associate professor of psychology, has a book chapter in press, titled "Fostering intercultural competence through short-term study abroad," in *Integrating Curricular and Co-Curricular Endeavors to Enhance Student Outcomes*. The book chapter is based on the *Step into the World!*:

Thailand course that Dr. Kohel and Dr. Angela Firkus, professor of history, offered spring 2015.

Dr. Kohel also traveled to Havana, Las Terrazas, and Vinales, Cuba, July 19-26, 2015, to learn more about Cuba as a country, Cuban people, Cuban culture, and the relationship between Cuba and the United States. Her intent is to incorporate her findings across her courses during the 2015-2016 academic year. Dr. Kohel's trip was funded by Cottey's Clover Faculty Development Fund.

An essay written by **Dr. Trisha Stubblefield**, professor of English, and **Dr. Kathy Pivak**, associate professor of English, titled "Preparing Women for the Twenty-First Century: Cottey College's New Baccalaureate English Degree" was published in a special 2015 issue of the *South Atlantic Review*, titled "Sustaining English Programs in the Twenty-First Century." The *South Atlantic Review* is the journal for the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, and the article grew out of a conference presentation Dr. Stubblefield and Dr. Pivak made at the SAMLA conference in Fall 2013.

Cottey welcomed the following new faculty for the 2015-2016 academic year:

Prof. Andrew Clausen, visiting assistant professor of mathematics. Prof. Clausen holds a B.S. in mathematics and a B.A. in physics education from Greenville College in Greenville, Indiana; and an M.S. in applied mathematics from Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Dr. Ujjaini Das, assistant professor of environmental studies. Dr. Das holds a B.S. in geography from Loreto College, India; an M.S. in geography from the University of Calcutta, India; a M.Phil. in geography from the University of Delhi, India; and an M.A. and Ph.D. in geography from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Oindrila Roy, assistant professor of international relations and political science. Dr. Roy holds a B.A. in political science from Presidency College, India; an M.A. in international relations from Jadavapur University, India; and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Kent State University.

Dr. Catherine Volle, assistant professor of microbiology and biochemistry. She holds an A.B. in biology from Mount Holyoke College and a Ph.D. in molecular and cellular biology and biochemistry from Brown University.

Elizabeth Hannon, adjunct assistant professor of English. B.A., Sweet Briar College; M.A., University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Morgan Frew, adjunct assistant professor of art. B.F.A., Missouri State University; M.F.A., Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York.

Peggy Graves, adjunct assistant professor of music. B.Mus., M.Mus., University of Oklahoma.

Michael Pommier, adjunct lecturer in art. B.S., Pittsburg State University.



Marketing and Strategic Communication Department Launched



Pictured are (left to right) Carol Urner, office assistant, marketing and strategic communication; Donna Lenharth, webmaster; Carla Farmer, associate vice president for marketing and strategic communication; Steve Reed, director of public information; Rachel Painter, public information assistant.

By Carla Farmer

Associate Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communication

New beginnings often herald the anticipation of a new era – a new way of doing things. Cottey College has experienced several new beginnings this year including welcoming the 12th president; the addition of senior leadership and faculty, three new board of trustees members, and the exploration of new baccalaureate programs. In July, we experienced another new beginning with the announcement that the Going Places marketing initiative would transition from an initiative to become the Department of Marketing and Strategic Communication. In the past year, the Going Places initiative focused on reaching new external audiences to positively impact awareness, increase student inquiries, and develop potential donors.

The restructuring brings together the Office of Public Information Director, assistant, and webmaster with the Special Assistant to the President for Marketing and marketing assistant. Steve Reed serves as Director of Public Information and leading the department is Carla Farmer, associate vice president of marketing and strategic communication. This team will work across all campus units to support new programs, services, and growth.

Development of strategic partnerships is an important function of the new department. Cottey has entered the second year of a partnership with the Women's Foundation of Greater Kansas City with Denise Hedges, director of the Center for Women's Leadership, facilitating its Girls Leadership Program. As with all the partnerships established, the opportunity to bring

these 50 potential students to campus is an important goal. Recently, through outreach to the Arkansas KIPP Delta Public Schools and Executive Director Scott Shirrey, 19 students eagerly registered to make their first trip to a college they had never heard of to attend "C" for Yourself" weekend.

Additional partnerships have been created with Kansas City's Central Exchange, Future Career Community Leaders of America; Northeast Kansas/Northwest Missouri Girl Scouts; Diamond Girl Scouts of Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma; Women's Foundation of Arkansas; KIPP Delta Public Schools; and Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland.

"We have an exciting opportunity to take the awareness of Cottey College to the next level," said Farmer. "This is a win-win for the College as we develop relationships that impact student inquiries and referrals. The key is collaboration among campus units to optimize our efforts."

In the short term, strengthening partnerships already created in the Kansas City and Northwest Arkansas regions is a priority. Discussions are also underway to determine geographic regions to expand to in 2016.

Expanding Cottey's social media presence and a refresh of the website are also priorities on the near horizon.

Sharing Cottey

Whether you are an alumna or friend and supporter of the College, now is the time to share Cottey with a young woman in your life. Use our Refer a Student Form at www.cottey.edu or simply give the Office of Enrollment Management a phone call. Cottey is busy planning recruitment events, and who knows...we may be in your area! Start making your plans to change a young woman's life today.

COTTEY

Inquiries and information should be addressed to:

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Cottey College's Stockard Society recognizes those who provide future support for Cottey. To find out how you can belong, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement by phone at 417-667-8181, ext. 2120, or via email to advancement@cottey.edu.

Please consider a planned gift to help sustain Cottey College's commitment to educating women.