

# Viewpoint

magazine

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

## highlights

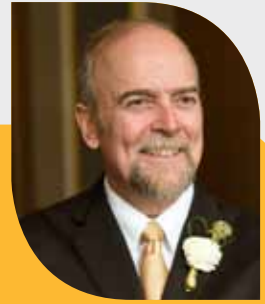
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————— We Are Cottey —————

## A Message from the EDITOR

# Anchora Imparo



Typically the top two-thirds of this page is given over to letters from *Viewpoint* readers who have questions, concerns or comments on the previous issue. After our first digital-only issue, we received more than the usual amount of emails with comments on this first foray into digital publishing.

Michelangelo is reputed to have had a sign in one of his workshops that read “Anchora Imparo.”<sup>1</sup> Those words sound like a curse from a Harry Potter book, but it is Latin for “I am still learning,” or “Yet I learn.” It’s a phrase I’ve often thought of when trying a new task. My mountain bike riding buddies express it this way: “If you’re not crashing once in a while, you’re not trying hard enough.” (Sidenote: In late summer, I was able to prove to them I was trying hard enough. I also demonstrated unaided human flight with only a hill, a big rock, and a bicycle traveling at sufficient enough speed down said hill when it struck said rock.)



Creating the first-ever, digital-only *Viewpoint* was a learning experience for me, although not anywhere near as painful as learning the skill set for mountain biking. As someone who was trained and raised in the print world, I tend to fall back on old design habits. Some of those techniques make perfect sense in print but unfortunately are not always the best answer for the digital world.

In print we tend to lay out text and graphics in what are called double page spreads. That is, two facing pages, which is what a reader sees when a magazine or book is laid open on a desk. However, no one lays a digital magazine on a desk and pages are (somewhat) irrelevant. In fact, a digital article is best laid out in one long single page, than in traditional double page spread style. If I had remembered this truth earlier, I could have saved us all some frustration.

One of the things you, the *Viewpoint* reader, let me know was that this layout was darn near impossible to read on a smaller screen, such as a smart phone. You also let me know that only one page at a time could appear on a smaller screen and headlines that spanned two pages could not be read in their completeness because of this.

As many of you stated about yourselves, I’ve never been a big online reader either, except for short news articles. My wife reads almost all of her books on her Kindle. Personally, I still prefer the feel of a physical book and paper in my hands. (You’ve just gotten a keen insight into which age demographic I fall.) Many of you let us know that you very much prefer our printed versions of the *Viewpoint* over anything we do online.

Interestingly enough, we’ve been converting our print versions of the *Viewpoint* into a digital copy for years now and posting those links on the website. No one had ever commented on this format until we sent out the link to the last issue via email. Apparently—and the analytics show this—there weren’t very many people who checked out the

previous digital versions. Most who responded to the email let us know you primarily wanted to get the print edition. No worries; we have no intention at this point to eliminate our twice-yearly print versions of the *Viewpoint*. If you’ve been getting a hard copy, you’ll still continue to receive one.

We’re going to give this digital version another try next summer. Cottey’s webmaster and I will work to create a specific template for the digital-only edition that will be more conducive to reading articles on a tablet or phone. We think there is still value in working on a better version of a digital edition. It gives us greater opportunity to communicate with you without the budget constraints that print imposes.

And to be fair, we received several complimentary emails praising us for going digital and not using paper as well as emails from readers who truly enjoyed the digital layout.

I am deeply appreciative for every bit of constructive criticism and praise you have passed along. If you didn’t care about your Cottey publications, you wouldn’t have taken the time to write. We’ll go back to the drawing board over the next few months and see what we can do to improve our digital publications.

Anchora Imparo!

As always you are encouraged to write me at [sreed@cottey.edu](mailto:sreed@cottey.edu).

Sincerely,  
**Steve Reed, editor**

1. Although this expression was quite popular during the 1500s when Michelangelo was alive, there is no evidence that this quote can be attributed to him.



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### On the cover:

"We Are Cottey." This mosaic, which was created for International Convention and completed at that event, features 1,884 unique photos of students, faculty, staff, P.E.O.s and alumnae, all of whom make up Cottey. The hashtag "#WeAreCottey" was used throughout the weekend on various social media platforms by participants at the convention and those who followed along online.

Have you ever wanted to write for the *Viewpoint*? We've had several contributors in the past and would love to have others add to the conversation in future issues. If you have some expertise in a particular area and would be willing to write an article, email [sreed@cottey.edu](mailto:sreed@cottey.edu) and use the subject line "Author." In the body of your email tell us who you are and in what subject areas you have expertise to share with our readers. Maybe your byline will be in the next issue!

**#2** 2018 BEST  
VALUE SCHOOLS

**#2** 2018 LOWEST  
STUDENT DEBT LOAD AT GRADUATION

**#3** 2018 MOST  
PROPORTION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**#7** 2018 BEST  
REGIONAL COLLEGES

**COTTEY**  
COLLEGE

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT  
REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE MIDWEST



## message from the PRESIDENT

# We Are Cottey Together

We are all familiar with the story of how Virginia Alice Cottey gifted her college to the P.E.O. Sisterhood in 1927; at the 2017 Convention of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in Charlotte, North Carolina, we celebrated that 90-year partnership between a women's college and a women's organization joined in a common theme: women's education.

Over those many years, alumnae, P.E.O.s, and friends of the College have worked together to make Cottey what it is today. At Convention, Cottey personnel had an opportunity to visually represent how "We Are Cottey Together." The highlighted feature of the Cottey Room was the use of 1,884 individual photos to create a mosaic of Main Hall. Cottey's director of P.E.O. relations, Margaret Haverstic, gathered the photos from a variety of sources, including faculty, staff, students, alumnae, P.E.O.s and friends of the College, who, together, are Cottey College, and she worked with Picture Mosaics LLC to digitize the photos and create the visual.

Visitors posted numbered photos of individuals or groups...some alumnae, some P.E.O.s, some friends of the College, some Cottey faculty and staff... onto similarly numbered spots on the canvas, and it became obvious, as the image of Main Hall began to shine through, that all of those people, together, truly are Cottey College.



Christina Ellis '96, Director of Alumnae Relations; and former Cottey College trustees and friends of the College Kathy Leffler '64, and Janet Hansen.

Visitors came back over and over to see the design come together, until finally, on the last day, the final photo was placed, and the result was amazing! (Stop by campus to see the mosaic on display! You might find a memory among the photos!) A photo of the completed mosaic is on the front cover of this *Viewpoint*.



Margaret Haverstic, Director of P.E.O. Relations





Alumnae gather at a reception at Convention of International Chapter in Charlotte.

A second Cottey feature was the alumnae reception, organized by Cottey Director of Alumnae Relations, Christina Ellis. At this event, alumnae present at Convention joined together to share memories and reconnect with friends and their College.

Finally, one of the most inspiring happenings at Convention and one that was totally unplanned was an impromptu Cottey alumnae "sing." Announcements had been made that the Projects Night program, which includes speakers for Cottey College and the other P.E.O. philanthropies, would be shared via livestreaming; however, the business meeting ended a bit early and convention found itself with extra time prior to the scheduled streaming. Based on a suggestion by Terri

Srroh, Class of 1974, President Beth Ledbetter called for all Cottey alumnae to come to the stage. Throughout the convention hall, P.E.O.s sat in amazement at the impressive number of women who answered the call. Soon, the stage was filled with Cottey alumnae sharing Cottey songs with their P.E.O. sisters.

As those voices joined together in song to celebrate Cottey traditions, we all realized that we... as delegates, visitors, P.E.O.s and alum-

nae... are all united in support of the goal of educating women. For those of us in the audience, this event was a highlight of the Convention. Not only did it demonstrate the sisterhood that *IS* Cottey, but it was also very impressive to see the large number of alumnae who are P.E.O.s. I wouldn't be surprised if this "sing" is a scheduled part of upcoming conventions.

Not all P.E.O.s are alumnae, and not all alumnae are P.E.O.s. However, joined... Our College and P.E.O... We are Cottey Together!

*Jann R. Weitzel*

## Viewpoint magazine

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**DESIGN**  
Paul Lewis Design (PLD)

**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
All photos copyright of Cottey College unless otherwise noted.

**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
*Viewpoint Magazine* is printed using soy-based vegetable inks, which have replaced petroleum-based inks.

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**ADVISORY GROUP**  
Members of the *Viewpoint* Advisory Group include Steve Reed, Rachel Painter, Carla Farmer, Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu, Dr. Mari Anne Phillips '76, Kristine Anderson Fulton '89, Nancy Kerbs '79, and Dr. Kathy Pivak.



Cottey alumnae gather on stage to serenade the delegates at Convention..

# Join the Club! (Or Form Your Own!)

**By Christi Fulton Ellis '96**  
**Director of Alumnae Relations**

The Office of Alumnae Relations, with the support of the Alumnae Association is excited to announce the creation of COTTEY CLUBS! For many years Cottey alumnae have gathered together, creating informal regional groups for social gatherings, sharing and comparing their memories of time spent as Cottey

meeting, the Cottey Alumnae Club of DFW has come together to send a care package to Texas Suite and participate in a food drive, and this month, it hosted an Ugly Sweater Christmas Party.

Alumnae Relations is ready to expand and assist alumnae everywhere to help start clubs in their area. These clubs will be recognized and promoted by Cottey College along with the endorsement of the Alumnae Association. In order to be recognized as an official Cottey College Alumnae Club, each club must have an organizer/primary contact and a secondary point of contact. Both must be alumnae of Cottey College. Alumnae Clubs must have 2-3 activities per year and provide a brief report of their activities to the Office of Alumnae Relations.

What kind of activities, you may ask? How about volunteering as a group for a service project in your area? (Don't forget to wear a Cottey shirt while you serve.) You could host a send-off party in August for current Cottey students in your area. Get together for a watch party for one of Cottey's livestreams. Assemble your own Founder's Day Activities at the same time as Cottey's Founder's Day Weekend (April 6-8, 2018) or watch Cottey College Alumnae's Facebook live video of the Chapel Service, Awards Luncheon, Homecoming Celebration and Sing at the Senior Sidewalks. Work with our Enrollment Management team and host an informational gathering for prospective students and support getting them to visit our campus. Create opportunities for professional networking and mentoring as Cottey alumnae and create activities to help us bring awareness of your Alma Mater to your area.

Are YOU ready to start a Cottey Club in your area? Use the link: <http://community.cottey.edu/alumnae-clubs> to fill out a club form. Read more about Cottey Alumnae Clubs at: <http://www.cottey.edu/alumnae/cottey-clubs/>. For questions about our clubs contact the Office of Alumnae Relations at 417-667-8181 ext. 1492 or email: [alumnae@cottey.edu](mailto:alumnae@cottey.edu).



Director of Alumnae Relations, Christi Fulton Ellis '96, meets with alumnae in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for the first gathering of the Cottey Alumnae Club of DFW.

students and perhaps singing a song or two. However, in more recent years, many alumnae have reached out to Cottey wanting more support and structure for these regional groups gatherings, hence the development of the Alumnae Club was initiated. A pilot club in the Dallas/Fort Worth area launched under the organization of newest Alumnae Association board member, **Beth Poortinga '07/'14**. The first gathering included a guest speaker from Genesis Women's Shelter and Support. Alumnae brought donations of toiletries for Genesis; toiletries are in great need at the shelter, given that many of the residents are escaping from abusive relationships with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Since their inaugural

# WE are a Part of Cottey

By Christine Renner '77  
CCAA Merchandising Chairman



**W**ebster defines **We** as, "I and the rest of the group that includes me." As the CCAA, **We** are part of the Cottey community that includes faculty, staff, current students, P.E.O.s and Nevada residents. The mission of CCAA is to develop and sustain a bond between Cottey College and its alumnae by creating a

loyal alumnae base, cultivating a sense of community among alumnae, and supporting the mission and goals of our dear old Cottey C.

**We** as alumnae are a big part of making Cottey a success and **We** can continue to contribute to Cottey's success by working alongside the rest of the Cottey community. The CCAA is constantly striving to support our alumnae while working closely with the College toward a common goal: Cottey's growth and longevity. Members of the CCAA Executive Board encompass six decades of Cottey life experiences, insights and relationships that create a unique and dynamic perspective.

Hopefully you are asking yourself, "What can **I/We** do to support the success of Cottey?"

The CCAA Executive Board has refined its goals for 2017-2018 to include the following:

## To encourage greater alumnae participation in the area of financial support.

At our Executive Board meeting in September, we established a campaign to refurbish our alumnae suite (p. 22), Rosemary in Robertson Hall, and board members pledged their financial support. Let us not forget the multitude of other giving opportunities available at Cottey:

- **Unrestricted Giving/The Annual Fund** - allows the College to allocate funds to areas of greatest need (p. 20).
- **Designated and Restricted Gifts** - allows the donor to support a program that has personal significance.

- **The Wish List** - introduced at the request of guests at Founder's Day 2017, these gifts are earmarked for items that faculty and staff request for their programs that cannot be funded out of the operating budget.
- **Alumnae giving to alumnae-supported endowments** - gifts going to six active endowment funds supported by the CCAA or the many class funds established for scholarships.
- Donate online at [www.cottey.edu/give](http://www.cottey.edu/give).

## To encourage student referrals and campus visits by alumnae.

As alumnae who attended Cottey College, we have a unique perspective and ability to promote Cottey to prospective students. We have instant recall for the benefits of suite living, small class sizes, the educational opportunities, and the camaraderie and lifelong friendships gained by attending Cottey. Here is how you can help the CCAA reach this goal:

- **Submit names to Enrollment Management** - find young women through volunteer and community organizations, church or even your own family.
- **Bring Prospective Students to Cottey** - "C" for Yourself Weekends, the Summer Workshop or a Customized Visit - students who visit Cottey are more likely to enroll!
- **Visit the Cottey website** at: [www.cottey.edu/referstudent](http://www.cottey.edu/referstudent).

We as members of the CCAA are many in number. To quote journalist Mark Shields, "There is always strength in numbers. The more individuals that you can rally to your cause, the better."

# Save the Date!

# Founder's Day

# Weekend

# April 6-8, 2018

*Donna Lakshmi*

# #YouAreWelcomeHere



# Cottery Says, "You Are Welcome Here!"

By Carla Farmer

Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communication

International students began to express apprehensions about studying in the U.S. amidst the politically charged atmosphere in 2016. A grassroots effort, begun by a half dozen colleges and now numbering more than 300, focused on making students from around the world feel more welcome using the hashtag #YouAreWelcomeHere.

Cottery College is joining ranks with other colleges to affirm the college's commitment to offering a safe, diverse and friendly campus, becoming the first women's college in the country to participate in the campaign.

Cottery has a history of welcoming students from around the world and in the 1950's was referred to as the "College of World Friendship."

In September, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Cottery #3 among colleges in the Midwest region with the Most Proportion of International Students. In fact, this year 15% of the student enrollment is comprised of international students.

The campaign, launched at an all-campus meeting, uses marketing and social media featuring the message #YouAreWelcomeHere. The Marketing and Strategic Communication Department, in cooperation with Enrollment Management, Academic Affairs and Student Life, developed a communication plan that was submitted to the #YouAreWelcomeHereusa.org for acceptance into the campaign.



Students at Cottery's 8th Annual Multicultural Festival let international students know they are welcome at Cottery College.

Cottery College is joining ranks with other colleges to affirm the college's commitment to offering a safe, diverse and friendly campus, becoming the first women's college in the country to participate in the campaign.

An important goal of the campaign is to inform students from around the world that Cottery supports diversity. International students enrich the learning experience on campus and help prepare all students to work in a global society.

Cottery is communicating its message of welcome in statements, photos, video, social media and other creative expressions that feature students, faculty and staff. A short video was created featuring faculty,

staff and students saying "You are welcome here," in their native languages. The video along with information about services available to support international students is located on the Cottery Cares web page at [www.cottery.edu/cottery-cares](http://www.cottery.edu/cottery-cares). It can also be found on the #YouAreWelcomeHereusa.org website.

According to the #YouAreWelcomeHere website, students have expressed gratitude and relief. Several students report that the video messages are especially reassuring to their parents who are comforted to see friendly faces behind the many higher education institutions across the country.



COTTERY  
COLLEGE

# P.E.O.s Visit Their Campus

**By Margaret Haverstic**  
**Director of P.E.O. Relations**

**O**n September 21, 2017, Cottey College welcomed special guests on campus for P.E.O. Visit Day. It was the highest ever number of event registrants at 151 and it was a fantastic day of fun, learning, and fellowship!

Guests enjoyed coffee and a light continental breakfast during registration in the Wild Center for the Arts foyer. Tickets were available for a raffle of an oil

painting to benefit the Annual Fund and sisters enjoyed taking pictures in front of the new Cottey selfie stand. Each guest received a name-tag, a new Cottey bag, and a luggage tag along with brochures and informational sheets.

The opening was followed by a presidential welcome

and student panel in the Missouri Recital Hall. The program opened with the video that was produced for P.E.O. Convention of International Chapter showcasing the beautiful 90-year relationship between the P.E.O. Sisterhood and Cottey College. Dr. Weitzel then spoke on the theme "We Are Cottey" followed by a brief thank you video. Moderated by Denise Carrick-Hedges, director of leadership development, three

students, Melanie Dillon, Anita Kamwendo, and Tiara Rowell, presented short speeches that highlighted the themes of the Serenbetz Institute: women's leadership, social responsibility, and global awareness. Members of the audience followed up with a time of questions and comments.

The opening session was followed by campus tours led by members of Golden Key, an honorary society of selected students whose purpose is to serve as official ambassadors of Cottey College. These women are the student volunteers who give tours to prospective students, guests, alumnae, P.E.O.s, and friends of the College. They love to share their story and their college!

At lunch in Raney Dining Room, guests had the opportunity to taste Chef Michael's delicious baked potato soup AND take the recipe home, so they may make it for themselves. Note: Chef Michael's *A Taste of Cottey* cookbook has the baked potato soup recipe and many more Cottey favorites. Interested guests were able to buy his book, along with lots of Cottey swag, in the Bookstore throughout the afternoon. The raffle winner of the daisy painting was announced at lunch, and Sally McMillen of Chapter EJ, Kansas, took home a lovely daisy oil painting.

Several optional activities were available for the guests to enjoy in the afternoon. A volleyball game, a reception at the President's House, and an information fair, followed by the all-campus open house allowed the guests a chance to see the Comets in action, learn more about Cottey programs and departments, visit residence hall suites, stop by the Bookstore, and see classrooms and instructional facilities.

After the conclusion of the scheduled events, some guests lingered and enjoyed visiting with their Cottey students. We were so glad to see each guest and hope many will come visit us for future events on campus. Help spread the word about our upcoming campus events!



A group from Lee's Summit, Missouri, posing in front of the President's House after the P.E.O. Visit Day reception.

Below: a full Missouri Recital Hall listening to the P.E.O. Visit Day student panel.



# COTTEY

WE ARE COTTEY

By Steve Reed

Have you ever had to block a friend or family member from a social media account because of all the negative, argumentative comments that person posted to your site? Yeah, me neither. OK, I'm just kidding on that one. We may or may not be living in a more divisive time—as a young boy, I remember the late 60s as being scary—but we are definitely living in an age when people certainly feel free to post negative, even hateful, comments. It almost seems as though some people go out of their way to be argumentative. Well, divisiveness is not what this article or this issue is about. No, this issue celebrates Cottey's strength through the many different groups and individuals who are a part of this great institution.

"Define yourself by what you love," said comedian Tim Minchin in a commencement address at the University of Western Australia in 2013. "I see it all the time online," he continued, "people whose idea of being part of a subculture is to hate Coldplay or football or feminists or the Liberal Party. We have a tendency to define ourselves in opposition to stuff. But try also to express your passion for something. Be demonstrative and generous in your praise of those you admire. Send thank you cards and standing ovations. Be pro-stuff and not just anti-stuff."<sup>1</sup>

On that note, let's define ourselves by something the vast majority of *Viewpoint* readers love: Cottey College.

"We Are Cottey" was the theme the College chose to use for this year's Convention of International Chapter held in Charlotte, North Carolina. Who is the "We" referred to in the theme? Approximately 8,900 alumnae worldwide along

with 236,000 or so P.E.O.s (not including all those BILs!) and 8,500 residents in the City of Nevada plus the 300 students and 180 employees that call Cottey home make up "We." That doesn't include the friends of the College who are neither alumnae nor P.E.O.s, yet support Cottey with their gifts. Together we all are Cottey College.

"Working hard for something we don't care about is called stress. Working hard for something we love is called passion."

~Simon Sinek

"We" come from everywhere. Students typically represent over 20 countries and 40 states annually. Approximately 20 percent of our faculty members are international. Our alumnae are **everywhere**, and so are those wonderful P.E.O.s who own and support the College. Sidenote: And I mean everywhere. I serendipitously ran into an alumna I knew under the Eiffel Tower and met a P.E.O. in Guatemala City. "We" truly are global.

Our alumnae who are also P.E.O.s are some of the strongest advocates we have for not only the College, but for women's education as well. **Marcia Peeler '72** has been a solid supporter of women's education and Cottey for years. She has been the Cottey State Chair on the state board of Oklahoma for three

years, and her experience as an alumna gives her the background that helps her make wise decisions as an advocate for the value of women's education. See the article about her on page 18.

Even with the global reach of alumnae and P.E.O.s, one shouldn't underestimate the power of the local "We." From the beginning, Nevada, Missouri, has been the home Virginia Alice Cottey desired for her college. See Nancy Kerbs' article on page 11 to read about one of the College's earliest local supporters. Today, Nevada is still a strong partner in the education of young women. Not only do local families provide a home-away-from-home for many students through area churches' Adopt-A-Student programs, but Nevada businesses have proven to be great resources for Cottey students looking for internship opportunities in their fields. As Renee Hampton, coordinator of career and transfer planning and experiential learning coordinator, tells everyone, "When we place a student in an internship here, we KNOW those business owners and can vouch for them." See the articles on pages 12-13 about two local Cottey internships.

This fall was the 90th anniversary of the partnership between Cottey and the P.E.O. Sisterhood. In 1937, our founder, Virginia Alice Cottey, gave away her life's work to the sisterhood at the Convention of Supreme Chapter. Partners in the education of women, Cottey employees, faculty, and staff; alumnae and friends of the College; the students and their families; along with the Sisterhood, have been stalwart workers in making Cottey a highly respected institution of higher education. Virginia Alice couldn't do it alone, and neither can the College today. But together? **We Are Cottey!**

<sup>1</sup><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoEezZD71sc>

# One Hundred Years of Phi Theta Kappa !



Phi Theta Kappa isn't the only one celebrating 100 years — the Epsilon Chapter at Cottey College is also in its centennial year as a PTK chapter. The Epsilon Chapter has the unique distinction of being the oldest continually operating chapter in Phi Theta Kappa. It was one of the eight original chapters founded in 1918; the other chapters have since disbanded because their college either closed or transitioned to a four-year university. Pictured above are current members and advisors of the chapter.

# Harry C. Moore, an Early Partner with Cottey

By Nancy Delehanty Kerbs '79

Director of Assessment and Institutional Research

The original name Virginia Alice Cottey chose for her school was Vernon Seminary. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a female seminary was a private educational institution for women. These institutions met an important need when educational opportunities for women were scarce. Since the business leaders of Nevada, Missouri, were so supportive of her idea to found her school in the city, Virginia Alice Cottey named her seminary after the county in which it is located. In less than two years, the school was renamed Cottey College in honor of the founder because the citizens of Nevada refused to call it by any name that did not include Cottey.

Specific examples of the support of Cottey College and its students abound. One story that began before Virginia Alice Cottey's dream became a reality is told in two books that chronicle the history of the city and the college. *Scenes from the Past (of Nevada, Missouri)* [Revised Edition], written by Betty Sterett, compiled and edited by Donna Logan, and *The Life of Virginia Alice Cottey Stockard* by Helen DeRusha Troesch both chronicle the ardent support of Harry C. Moore, one of the city leaders who was intrigued by Virginia Alice Cottey's offer to build a school in Nevada, Missouri. When Moore arrived in Nevada by stage coach in April 1870, he expected to spend the night and then continue his journey, but the town of less than 500 that was struggling to rebuild after the Civil War caught his eye. He discovered that the railroad line would soon reach south from Clinton to Nevada, and that would bring commerce. In addition, he was impressed with the beautiful new courthouse and the friendly people.

In the next decade, the little town grew and Harry C. Moore became a successful merchant and enthusiastic promoter of Nevada. When Alice and her sister Dora Cottey arrived by train in November 1883 to consider locations in Nevada on which to build a school for young women, Mr. Moore accompanied the Reverend W.T. McClure to greet them and give them a tour of the city and

properties available that met Alice's specifications. Mr. McClure (who was later married to Dora) was one of the Methodist ministers to whom Alice sent letters inquiring about the possibility of establishing a seminary for women in their community.

In 1882, Moore's Opera House was built at the corner of Washington and Cherry streets across from the Mitchell Hotel. No expense was spared to make the theater on the second floor "one of the finest in the state." [Sterett] Tragically, the theater was destroyed by fire the week after it opened. It was rebuilt on the same spot, which was fortunate for Cottey College. Before Rosemary Hall was built in 1903, many of the performances by students and faculty, fundraising events, and Cottey's first commencement ceremony were held at Moore's Opera House.

**"The generosity of Nevada's pioneer citizens was never more evident than it was on a February night in 1886, on the stage of Moore's Opera House."**

*~Scenes From the Past*

In February 1967, Betty Sterett, who was the society and features editor for the *Nevada Daily Mail*, wrote the following account of an evening at Moore's Opera House in 1886. It is included in *Scenes From the Past*.

"The generosity of Nevada's pioneer citizens was never more evident than it was on a February night in 1886, on the stage of Moore's Opera House. A

large crowd had assembled for a 'literary and musical' presented by the teachers and students of the new seminary. Following the program, which was received with great enthusiasm, Miss Cottey introduced her brother Louis, who made such an impassioned plea for help in improving his sister's school by proposing the sale of certificates of scholarship, that 25 of the city fathers immediately pledged \$2,000. The merchants and business men of Nevada supported Cottey by buying these certificates and reselling them to the parents of prospective students at reduced prices." [Sterett]

These scholarships not only supported young women pursuing advanced education, but also financed improvements at Cottey College that helped the college grow. That growth would not have been possible without the help of citizens like Harry C. Moore and the many who followed his example.

## A Picture Perfect Internship

Senior Makayla Zweck has a love for photography and design. She was on the yearbook staff for two years, where she served as business manager, and she also started her own small photography business on campus. When Zweck began an intern-

About the only thing that Zweck doesn't handle is payroll, which Schroer has outsourced.

This fall, Zweck accompanied Schroer to all of the Nevada schools for picture day. While Schroer was in charge of the actual photography, Zweck collected from students the order envelopes that were sent home to parents and scanned the unique student ID barcode into the system so names would be linked to the photos. She also made notes when a student refused to smile for their photo.

"We do that to let the parent know that we made an effort to get their child to smile for us," said Schroer. "It's mostly high school boys. They're sort of 'over that' with yearbook photos," she joked.

An internship is a requirement for the Business Administration-Management major. Zweck works about six hours per week to complete the 90-hour requirement for the semester. The internship is a two-hour credit course.

"Internships are great for the résumé," Zweck added. "Even if it is not for credit, I totally suggest [each student take] one because if you have never had a job before, it will give you experience and an idea of what a job is like."

Zweck's goal after graduation is to get a job in human resources or payroll and save up money until she could afford to start her own business. For now, she'll work on completing her degree and internship and then see what develops.

An internship is a supervised work experience, related to a student's major or area of career interest, with intentional learning goals. It is monitored by a faculty member and an internship site supervisor and offers course credit. Because students earn course credit, internships are often unpaid.

For more information on Cottey internship opportunities, contact Renee Hampton, coordinator of career and transfer planning and experiential learning coordinator, at [rhampton@cottey.edu](mailto:rhampton@cottey.edu). Additional information is available online at [www.cottey.edu/campus-community/kolderie-center/internships-and-volunteering/](http://www.cottey.edu/campus-community/kolderie-center/internships-and-volunteering/)



Kristen Schroer (left), owner of Photography by Wynn, checks an order with Cottey intern Makayla Zweck.

ship this fall at a local studio, Photography by Wynn, it seemed like a natural fit with her interest in taking photos and doing design work. However, Zweck is not interning as a photographer, but on the business side.

"I am a Business Administration-Management major," she explained. "I've always had an interest in business, especially with numbers. I love accounting and finance and knowing what I am spending."

"She's been great to have working with us," said Kristen Schroer, co-owner with husband Charlie and principal photographer at Photography by Wynn. "She does everything from stamping proofs to organizing old negatives to running Excel spreadsheets."

"I also answer the phone and track orders and expenses. I designed a pricing sheet using InDesign, and I'm getting to learn more about using Photoshop," Zweck added.

## Bowes Combines Criminology Major with Police Internship

Perhaps someday in the future a reporter for the national news will speak about a recent interview with Katherine Bowes, director of the FBI. Having a female director of the FBI in itself would be newsworthy (every director of the FBI since its founding in 1908 has been a man) but having a Cottey graduate become director would be truly exciting. Make no mistake: Katherine Bowes has her eyes set on becoming the director. "I'm going to become a criminal profiler first, on my path to becoming the director," she said.

Bowes is one of the first students to declare a major in one of Cottey's newest baccalaureate programs, criminology. She is double majoring in criminology and psychology and minoring in theater.

Bowes is not only taking courses in criminology to prepare for her career; she is also completing a semester-long internship with the Nevada Police Department three days per week. She's not there just to do filing, although everyone in the department has responsibilities involving paperwork.

"I go on ride-alongs," she said, explaining some of her duties. "I've done some CIT [crisis intervention training] analysis. What I've been doing is taking a look at some of their data and compiling it into an analysis of what they have done, what calls they've gone out on, and how many of those they have gone on during the year and what is the average."

Although there are some limitations as to what a civilian can do with the police, Bowes particularly enjoys the ride-alongs. "Sometimes she'll go out with [Officer] Marcus [Champion] for a couple of hours and run traffic," said Bowes's supervisor, Lt. Steve Bastow. When asked if she ever sees anything exciting, Bowes grinned and said, "Every once in a while."

Lt. Bastow commented on one recent ride-along where a truck pulling an oversize load was routed through town. Police and highway patrol were required to escort the vehicle as it had to weave across lanes to avoid hitting traffic signals, and it frequently stopped so linemen could lift or in some cases move power lines out of the way. Bowes was with an officer on traffic duty, helping ensure that local traffic and the truck stayed out of each other's way. Bowes and Lt. Bastow joked about those drivers who ignored the flashing lights and kept driving because they were in a hurry.



Katherine Bowes poses with Lt. Steve Bastow (left) and Police Chief Casey Crain (right) outside the Nevada Police Department. Bowes is completing a semester-long internship there as part of her major in criminology.

Lt. Bastow let the *Viewpoint* in on a research project that Bowes was completing for one of her criminology classes. "She's doing an analysis of one of our individuals in town," he explained, careful not to reveal identifying details. "It's about his criminal progression. Similar to a profile, it's more the psychological side of it."

"It's more on whether or not the prison system is helping him or hindering him," said Bowes.

"It's something she needed to do for school [assignment], but I think it's going to be interesting to see what she comes up with. She's a very smart lady, so I want to see what she finds," said Bastow.

Although criminology is one of the newest programs on campus, Bowes is an enthusiastic supporter of it. "Criminology is a great degree program because you can do so much with it. You can go into a police department like this; you can go into multiple law enforcement agencies; you can go into the FBI, the CIA; you can even transfer overseas if you need to."

Bowes, however, is quick to point out that the real advantage to taking criminology is taking it at Cottey College. "The best thing about coming to Cottey has been chances like these to do an internship with the police department and work closely with faculty and staff to make sure that things like this happen – not only for my department, but for all others," she explained. "If you really want a place that will help you succeed, I think Cottey is the best option and choice for you."



# Never, Never Give Up

## Cottey College and IPS Partner to Help Fulfill an Educational Dream

By Steve Reed

Second-year student Selica Piloy might look like a typical student, but the story of how she got her education and found her way to Cottey College is anything but typical. Piloy's singular focus and dogged determination to get an education is the stuff stories are made of, but it's not fiction. It's an all-too-real tale of what some women have to go through to get educated.

### Elementary school

"I have a large family," Piloy begins. "I have seven siblings and my father works as a farmer and my mother is a housewife. We wanted to go to school but couldn't because we didn't have the money for that."

Free education is something most of us take for granted in the United States. It's not the norm in many countries. For a child in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala, school is for those who can afford the tuition. By U.S. standards, the tuition seems reasonable, about \$250-300 per year. However, Guatemalan incomes in small, rural communities are hardly on par with the U.S. average. So what can a parent do to get an education for their children? Most rely on sponsorships.

"One day, my mom took me to the office of Unbound in San Lucas and asked the people there if they could take my picture, send it to Kansas [Unbound's headquarters are in Kansas City], and see if I could be sponsored."

It was almost a year later when Piloy learned she had a sponsor in the United States who would fund her elementary education.

"I was so happy because it's hard to get resources, and Unbound provided food, shoes and clothes so I was able to go to school with all the supplies that I needed. It was a lot of help. Also, my sponsor wrote me some letters and talked about the weather in the United States, everything he was doing. He was a priest and would tell me how his church was doing. I wrote him letters about my school, my friends, my community and everything.

It was a good relationship. By having the small scholarship from Unbound I was able to go to school and finish my elementary school."

### Hard Times; Difficult Choices

Getting an elementary education was a breeze compared to what came next.

"When I finished my elementary school and I pursued my junior high education, my dad got sick and we had an economic crisis in my family. My dad told me I would no longer attend school. I was so sad because I wanted to have an education; I wanted to learn so many things."

**"Brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls aren't there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to show us how badly we want things."**  
Randy Pausch

At the age of 14, and unwilling to give up her dream, Piloy made a difficult choice to leave home and get a job.

"I was around 14 or 15 years old then," she said. "I decided to travel to Guatemala City and find a job and work for what I wanted. I was there for a year working for a bakery and I saved part of the money I earned, and the following year I went back to high school."

Even though she had saved money for her secondary education, Piloy had to continue working.

"When I started my high school, it was kind of difficult for me because I had to work mornings, study in the afternoons, and do my homework during the nights. I still had some money from the previous year, so I could pay for my school. I could pay for everything for my first year of high school. The second year it was a little more difficult because I didn't have enough money. I had to work more to be able to pay for my transportation and all of the school supplies. I couldn't ask my dad. I understood that part."

### Almost Ready to Quit

"My last year of high school, we had a small project to do in which we went into a different community,

Left: Selica Piloy in native clothing shares her culture at Cottey's annual Multicultural Festival.

# Never, Never Give Up, from page 1

researched a problem, and created a program or project to help them overcome problems like poverty or discrimination or violence against women. I needed more time to finish the project. I needed time to work. And I needed time to go to school.

"I met a man in my school named Brother Dennis, who has a connection with [Dr.] Brenda [Ross, professor of chemistry] at Cottey. He came to my high school to talk about the scholarship that Cottey was offering, and when I heard that, I got excited. That's my dream, to follow my education and to continue going to school, so I didn't hesitate to apply."

Piloy dutifully filled out all the paperwork, writing essays about herself, what she wanted to do with her life and her family profile including her dad's career. A couple of months later, Piloy was called in for an interview along with several other girls who were competing for the scholarship.

"There were five at least," said Piloy. "I responded to all of the questions and at the end, in December 2014, he [Brother Dennis] called me and told me I won the scholarship. I screamed! It was my best gift for Christmas."

After the initial excitement, Piloy debated whether or not she should accept the offer.

"I wasn't sure I wanted to come and pursue my degree and my dreams here at Cottey or not," she said, getting choked up with the memory. "I have younger siblings, and they also want to attend school and I already

Do you know a great story that should be told in the pages of the *Viewpoint*? We learned of Selica Piloy's amazing story via email from a P.E.O., Nancy Nielsen. She had heard Selica Piloy speak at an Unbound event in Omaha and was so impressed with Selica's story, she had to let us know about it. We are so glad she did! Although we knew Selica was the second student from Guatemala to attend Cottey, following Maria Sicay '16, we had no idea of the depth of her story. If you hear a great story about a Cottey student or alumna, please share it with us. Send it to [sreed@cottey.edu](mailto:sreed@cottey.edu).



A view of San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. Lake Atitlan is in the background.

graduated from high school. I wanted to work in order to support them. It was a hard decision for me because I want to have my education, but I also want to help my siblings." She paused. "My mom helped me to make up my mind. She told me, 'You gotta go. That's your dream. That's something you want to do and now this is your opportunity. Opportunities don't come every day; it's just once in a while.' So then I decided, 'Yes!' and I accepted it."

## Another brick wall

The late Randy Pausch, who was a professor at Carnegie Mellon University, gave a well-known speech titled the "Last Lecture." In it, he told the audience that they would run into brick walls as they pursued their goals and dreams. "The brick walls aren't there to keep us out," he said. "The brick walls are there to show us how badly we really want things. The brick walls are there to keep other people out."

After accepting the scholarship offer from Cottey, Piloy ran into yet another brick wall delaying her dream of an education.

"In 2015, I didn't know how to speak English," she explained. "So I had to start studies in English."

Piloy began taking English language courses in February 2015 and completed her course of study in November of that year.

Interestingly enough, it was another Guatemalan Cottey student who helped Piloy with her English, Maria Sicay who was in her fourth and final year at Cottey when

Piloy completed her English studies.

"I didn't know her," she explained, "but when I accepted the scholarship to Cottey and Cottey accepted my application, she [Sicay] started to help me with English pronunciations."

## A Safe Haven

In addition to the great education that Piloy is getting at Cottey, it has also proved to be a truly safe haven for her compared to her educational experiences back home.

"When I was in my community, I always worried about what was going to happen to me because I have to travel every day to my school and come back in the late afternoon. It wasn't a safe place for me," she said.

"At home doing my homework, I started to think about how I could get to my school tomorrow...and when I'm in school I started to think about how I could get back home. I had to hope that nothing bad was going to happen to me. But being here at Cottey is wonderful because I just go to my room to my classroom, and from my classroom to my room or the library. I'm almost all the time in the library because I love the place," she laughed.

## Giving Back

Piloy is an international relations major and after graduation would like to work for an NGO, a non-governmental organization, that helps with the needs in poor communities.

"I'm passionate about helping people, helping communities," she said. "And since I grew up in a small town, I know very well the necessities there and sometimes the government doesn't. They don't reach out in the small towns; they just focus on the big towns. I would love to go to Guatemala and work for an NGO."

Piloy knows how blessed she is to have received so much help along her educational journey.

"Cottey College has given me the opportunity to pursue a higher education to learn more. And now I can go back to my community and apply it there, so it's a huge opportunity and I cannot—I don't even have the words to describe how I feel now," she said. "It's a blessing for me; it's just something, I cannot explain it. Because without this scholarship from Cottey College and without this scholarship from IPS [International Peace Scholarship from P.E.O.], and without scholarships from other people, I wouldn't be able to be here now and share my story. I'm just thankful to the College and to everybody for supporting me through my education. And everything that they are doing for me, I'm praying that in my heart when I go back home, I will do it for my people."



A look back at San Lucas from beautiful Lake Atitlan.

In the article, Selica Piloy spoke of the sponsorship she received from Unbound to pay for her school tuition in elementary school. But what is Unbound?

Unbound is an international organization based in Kansas City that works to support children and aging in 16 countries. The countries are predominantly in Central and South America, but also in Africa and Asia. Until recently, Unbound was known as CFCA—Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. There is an Unbound headquarters in San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala, which is Selica Piloy's hometown.

The description of Unbound, from their website, states, "Unbound partners with families living in poverty, empowering them to become self-sufficient and fulfill their desired potential." Learn more about them at [www.unbound.org](http://www.unbound.org).

Unbound is highly rated as a charity by Charity Navigator, Great Nonprofits, and Charity Watch and is a registered 501c(3) nonprofit organization.

This information is not intended as an endorsement of the charity, but for informational purposes only.

## Points of Pride: Marcia Peeler '72

**M**arcia Peeler '72 is not your typical alumna. As the State Cottey Chair for Oklahoma, what sets Peeler apart is her commitment to recruit and promote the College. (She skipped her last Cottey class reunion to meet with students.) She represents the best of Cottey and P.E.O. in her efforts to promote and support her college.



Assistant director of admission Stephanie Grgurich '03, alumnae Hillary Dittman '08, Marcia Peeler '72, and Natalie (Almen) Bonney '78 at an alumnae gathering at the Oklahoma State Convention.

Surprisingly, attending Cottey was not Peeler's first choice. How did she end up at Cottey?

"My mother was a P.E.O.," she explained. "I wanted to go to business school and be a secretary, but mother said, 'No. You're going to college.'"

Although she was reluctant at first, a weekend visit to campus with a high school friend convinced her that Cottey was the right choice. She fell in love with everything about the place.

"I was an only child. My favorite thing was the way the seniors embraced the freshmen. They took us under their wings and showed us what we needed to do," she said. "I remember the sing outside of Main Hall early in the year. I learned my first song 'C-C-C-Cottey.'"

Peeler attended Cottey for only a year and a half. However, 18 years later she took classes at the University of Central Oklahoma where she majored in interior design.

"I had a friend who was in the interior design field and I got interested," she explained, "and thought I'd take a couple of classes to see if I liked it. I started doing interior design work on my own. I had my business for about six years, but it happened during the oil bust in Oklahoma. I left the field and went to work for the newspaper, the *Daily Oklahoman*, in the newsroom.

"I learned a lot about the business world," she said. "I worked on the Internet side of the newspaper and for the general manager of ConnectOK.com; I was the administrative assistant. I returned to the newsroom and worked for the editor of the paper. My interior design skills came in handy as the newspaper was growing and always needed to find where to put people."

Today, she and her husband run their own business creating high-pressure air breathing equipment for fire fighters, manufacturing equipment used to fill breathing tanks, as well as manufacturing containment and cascade systems. Peeler credits Cottey with giving her the broad experiences and confidence that allowed her to branch out into divergent careers.

"Cottey was a great experience for me because it broadened my horizons and I was better equipped to do what I wanted to do. I don't think I could have done different things without the confidence that Cottey gave me," she said.

Since 2014, Peeler has served as the Oklahoma State Cottey Chairman. She was asked what those duties entail.

"I think my first duty is to Cottey, to make P.E.O.s aware of how great Cottey is and to encourage them to identify young women who would be a good prospect for Cottey," explained Peeler. "I was fortunate in my first convention that the board let me have a Cottey room. Before convention I learned we were raising money for Oklahoma Suite

[in Robertson Hall]. My challenge was to make them aware of the needs and responsibilities we have as P.E.O.s. We raised the money for the new bedroom furniture the first year and then raised money for the endowment. I've done programs for chapters and student gatherings (sophomores and juniors). I just keep them aware of what is going on at the College and encourage them to visit.

"My second convention was when Stephanie [Grgurich, admission representative] came. I learned a lot listening to her. I think it encouraged the P.E.O.s. I still want to get a Cottey alumnae group started, but after I'm off of the board."

"Marcia has a real passion for the College as a P.E.O. and as an alumna," added Grgurich. "She sees each interested student from her state as an opportunity to help young women grow. She truly believes that the potential of each of those students can be realized at Cottey. She is incredibly dedicated and a valuable volunteer within her state committee.

"Since working with Oklahoma as a recruitment territory, I've noticed the way that Marcia effectively involves her P.E.O. sisters with the College as well. She goes out of her way to bring them to campus when she can. Many P.E.O.s are aware of Cottey in a 'Oh, yes, we own a college,' sort of way, but Marcia has been intentional about sharing the College with those sisters. She sees her role on the committee as an opportunity to affect change and inspire others to think of the College as well. She's been very successful, and it's due to her hard work and resolve."

In addition to raising money and awareness among P.E.O.s, Peeler also actively recruits students. She has worked college fairs and she provides information to chapters that attend fairs. So dedicated is Peeler that she skipped her 45th class reunion at Founder's Day last spring to recruit students.

"There is a chapter in Clinton, Oklahoma [that wanted to host a student gathering]," she explained. "The chapter gave me the option of two weekends. One was the Sunday after spring break. The other was Founder's. I thought I should do my duties as state chairman. There will be other reunions I can come to."

Founder's Day Weekend is held the weekend closest to Virginia Alice Cottey's birthday on March

27. Peeler noted that she and Virginia Alice Cottey share the same birthday. "But not the same birth year," she quipped.

"I admire so much her vision for young women to think ahead and keep the College current with what is going on," she said. "The fact that the P.E.O. Sisterhood owns the College is important because that's not the norm. Cottey College and P.E.O. work together so that women can grow and become leaders and do things they might not be able to do at larger colleges. You ladies need to go see what you're doing and where your money is going!"

Why should alumnae and P.E.O.s care about recruiting students to Cottey?

"Why shouldn't they!? Alumnae and P.E.O.s should support their college. Get out there and find some girls to go. Don't keep it a secret," said Peeler.

What types of things should alumnae and P.E.O.s say and/or do to get a young woman interested in Cottey?

"The first thing they need to do is tell them what a great deal Cottey is as far as tuition. They can go to the web and get that information," Peeler continued. "Second, they need to encourage the parents to bring the student for a visit or THEY need to bring the girl for a visit. Coming to Cottey is the best recruitment tool that Cottey has. I don't accept the fact that 'Cottey is too far to go.' People don't think anything about going to one of the coasts for college. I believe that Cottey offers the best education for a young lady who wants to be successful and be a leader. Why not tell her?"

Although her term on the Oklahoma State Board ends this year, Peeler's involvement won't end.

"I will continue to promote Cottey after I am done with my state responsibilities," she said. "If I had the opportunity and no obligations here, I'd work for Cottey in a heartbeat."

"Working with Marcia on various Cottey-related projects was a wonderful experience. She is an amazing mentor! She sees potential in others and knows exactly how to direct them to best utilize their strengths. I am very lucky that Marcia saw something in me and asked me to assist her in the creation of the Oklahoma Cottey Club."

-Hillary Dittman '08

## We Are Cottey

Over the last 134 years, Cottey College has stayed true to her founder's ideology of educating young women. Cottey's core values are grounded in tradition and history as set forth by founder Virginia Alice Cottey and supported by the owners of the College, the International P.E.O. Sisterhood. Cottey's supportive environment helps our students realize their personal and professional ambitions and take thoughtful actions as lifelong "learners, leaders, and citizens."

Cottey College alumnae span the globe but no matter where their lives lead, they will always have a home at Cottey. We hear time and time again that they wouldn't be where they are now if not for Cottey. The College's deep-rooted traditions and high expectations prepare students for success and that success is reflected in our alumnae.



## Benefits of a Women's College

- Tomorrow's Leaders: Women's college graduates make up less than 2% of college graduates but comprise more than 20% of women in Congress and 33% of women on Fortune 100 boards.



- Students attending women's colleges are 1.5 times more likely to major in math, science, or pre-med, so they are well prepared for the jobs of the future.



- Women and their needs are at the center of academic and campus life.
- More female role models: 90% of women's college presidents are women.
- Women's college graduates are almost twice as likely to complete a graduate degree.

Your contributions to The Annual Fund will help Cottey women reach their full potential. **We Are Cottey; are you?** Please make a meaningful gift to Cottey College today by contributing online at [www.cottey.edu/give](http://www.cottey.edu/give).

Cottey remains grateful to our alumnae and friends who include the College in their estate plans, some of the most meaningful gifts we receive as they represent a legacy of friendship that will support the mission of the College beyond the lifetime of the donor.

As we mourn the passing of these dear friends, we are honored to have been included in their estate plans. Below are bequests that were received from May 1, 2017, to October 31, 2017.

**Doris Berteau**; Chapter DJ, Wisconsin

**Sara Jane Cross**; Chapter FN, Florida

**Barbara Jordan Toy Hansen**; Chapter BX, Nebraska

**Richard and Beth Throne Landis**; Chapter TE, California

**Barbara J. Saunders**; Chapter JO, California

**Margaret Holton Wilson**, Friend of the College

**John M. & Lou Ellen (James) Yuncker**; Class of 1945, Chapter F, New Mexico

To find out more about supporting Cottey College through a planned gift, please call Sherri Taylor, vice president for institutional advancement, at 417-667-8181, ext. 2120; or email [staylor@cottey.edu](mailto:staylor@cottey.edu).

# Do You Have a Match?

By Kristine Anderson Fulton '89

Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement

During the past fiscal year, Cottey supporters contributed an additional \$84,000 simply by requesting matching funds through their employers. Corporate matching gift programs are a quick and relatively easy way to double (or even triple) donations to Cottey College, yet many people fail to take advantage of this important employee benefit.

Sometimes, people do not realize such programs exist; however, thousands of companies offer matching gift programs. The following are a few examples:

- Bank of America – Matches \$1:\$1 up to \$5,000 annually per employee
- IBM – Migrated from paper forms in 2016 to a single Matching Grants portal for employees, retirees and institutions
- Johnson & Johnson – Triples donations with \$2:\$1 matches for current employees and dollar-to-dollar for retirees

The benefits coordinator or personnel director where you and/or your spouse work should know whether the company matches gifts to qualified educational institutions and can offer advice or assistance on how to apply.

Jim Berg, a retired chemist and process engineer, says he was vaguely aware of his employer's matching gift program when he worked full-time, but the travel required for his job and commitments to raising a family with **Barbara Wheeler Berg '65** kept him too busy to navigate the matching gift application process.

"As our three kids were getting out of college, we were able to prioritize supporting other organizations, including our alma maters," Jim says. He obtained his matching gift forms by calling the Bristol-Myers Squibb human resources department after he retired. His first matching gift request through the company was on behalf of Cottey College.

"His first matching gift request through the company was on behalf of Cottey College."

"Cottey College, the professors, and Barbara's lifelong friends were always special to her," Jim reminisces. While attending Cottey from 1963-1965, Barbara's major switched from library science to chemistry, in part because of Dr. John Strasser, who taught math.

"She always thought she wanted to be a librarian, but Dr. Strasser really encouraged her in math and sciences and her career goal took a different path." After graduating from Cottey, Barbara completed a degree in chemistry at Iowa State University where she met Jim. She worked at a pharmaceutical company in New Jersey for a year before marrying Jim.

When Barbara passed away in 2012, Jim designated memorials to Cottey College and applied for matching funds with his own contribution toward

the Cottey College Alumnae Association's challenge to renovate Neale Hall. He continues to support Barbara's alma mater, faithfully requesting matching funds each time.

"Anyone whose employer offers matching gifts should take advantage of the opportunity," Jim advises. "It's a great way to give a little extra and make a bigger impact on the organizations you care about that are making a difference in people's lives."

To find out whether your employer (or that of your spouse) has a matching gift program, use the matching gift search engine on Cottey's online giving form at [www.cottey.edu/give](http://www.cottey.edu/give). You may also contact **Kristine Anderson Fulton '89**, assistant vice president for institutional advancement, via email to [kfulton@cottey.edu](mailto:kfulton@cottey.edu), or by phone at 417-667-8181, ext. 2286.



Rosemary Alumnae Suite is in need of refurbishment. Cottey alumnae can help accomplish that goal by growing the suite endowment and providing extra funds for new bedroom furniture! In total we need \$35,000- WE CAN DO IT! Every gift, no matter what size, is greatly appreciated.

Some Rosemary Alumnae Suite history: When the suites were closed in Rosemary Hall and Robertson Hall was opened in fall 1959, one of its 14 suites was chosen to carry on the name that honors two Cottey professors- Mary Boddie and Rose Cottey. Rose was the oldest daughter of Virginia Alice Cottey's brother, William Cottey. Rosemary Suite is the only suite on campus that does not have a state, family or P.E.O. sponsor. Its formal name is Rosemary Alumnae Suite meaning it belongs to our alumnae and we are her sponsor!

That being said, it is one of the few suites remaining that has not had a face lift in many,

many years. While the bathrooms have been upgraded and mattresses are changed regularly, the bedrooms and suite furniture are definitely in need of refurbishment. Now is the time to do something about this! We, the alumnae, need to raise \$35,000 to refurbish these areas and we are hoping (and challenging) all of YOU to help reach this goal. Your CCAA board has committed the first funds, both personally and as a board, to start this initiative. Please consider making a contribution to the Rosemary Suite Fund by sending a check to Cottey with Rosemary noted or by making your gift online, where you will find an option for this fund. It's as easy as visiting [www.cottey.edu/give](http://www.cottey.edu/give).

As of press time, a total of approximately \$9,100 has been given. This year at Founder's YOU can Run for Rosemary! Fifty percent of the proceeds from the Imagine, Believe, Achieve 5K Walk/Run/Cheer entry fees will go towards Mission Refurb Rosemary (the other 50% is going to the Nevada Food Pantry).



These Rosemary residents from 2008-2009 were the last to see any new furnishings in the suite. The Class of 1998 was the last class to see any new bedroom furnishings.

# Class Notes

## 1980s

**Cheryl Hansen '83** and **Carrie (Reeves) Funke '98** spoke to students at Pullman High School in Pullman, Washington, about Cottey on October 12. They had a great time and had many students express interest and request more information from the College. **[PHOTO 1]**

This summer **Terri Cox Fallin '87** and **Andrea Johnson Serkes '87** had a fabulous time camping and hiking in Ithaca, NY. **[PHOTO 2]**

## 1990s

Major Boston-based seafood importer, processor and distributor Stavis Seafoods hired **Brandii O'Regan Holmdahl '94** as the company's new Director of Quality. Holmdahl is a veteran of the quality assurance industry in the seafood business. She has more than 20 years of experience in seafood and is NOAA/USDC HACCP, Lean Manufacturing, IPM, and AQS independent auditor certified. Most recently she was the Quality Operations Manager at Icicle Seafoods.

**Kristine Cox '96** attained Alpine Level 2 in March after already achieving certifications in snowboarding, freestyle, and children's specialist. Kristine was hired by Aspen Ski Company to be based at Buttermilk with the option of instructing at Ajax, Highlands and Snowmass. Kristine invites any alumna planning a ski trip to contact her. "It would be my pleasure to teach them, their families or children to snowboard," she wrote.

## 2000s

**Ashley Ensey Stasch '01** has accepted her dream position with her dream company, Southwest Airlines!

**Becky Bratt Hanafin '03** says, "Hi Cottey friends! There have been several big changes in my life over the past few months." She, her husband, and three fur babies moved to Aurora, Illinois. This move provided better opportunities for her husband's job and experiences to enjoy life in a larger city. In July she finished her Master of Science degree in curriculum and instruction through Western Governors University. Both of these events kept her very busy. She will be exploring the world of education--job searching while doing some substitute teaching--this year with the hope of gainful employment soon. She'd love to catch up with any Cottey sisters if they live nearby or are in town visiting. Her email is dazy5@hotmail.com.

**Christine Chillington '05** and her family just moved into a new house in Portsmouth, Virginia. They are so excited for a new start and her oldest daughter started school.

**Jessi Jordan '05** has work in a book coming out in February but pre orders are up right now. It's an anthology with Dark Horse called *The Secret Loves of Geeks*. Jordan has a piece called "Dear First Love" with writer Vita Ayala. She also has a piece with writer Kelsey Hercs in *Mine! An Anthology to Benefit Planned Parenthood* called "Elinor/Elenor" and "Quick to Argue" with writer Tini Howard in the anthology *They've Got Issues*. Both were successful Kickstarters.

**Emily Mouri '08** got engaged to Bill Mortimer at the end of July. They currently live in Beloit, Wisconsin. Emily is a third-grade teacher and her fiancé is the director of enrollment at Beloit College. Wedding plans are in the works for October 2018. **[PHOTO 3]**



# Class Notes



In May of this year, **Tanne Stephens '09** moved from New Zealand to Thailand after a two-month road trip in Australia. In May she also started a new job teaching young-aged kindergarten (it's called KG1, which is comprised of mostly four-year-olds). All exciting stuff! She is hoping things at Cottey are awesome!

**Scout Swopes '09** got engaged this fall and started a new job. Scout is a mental health recovery coach at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City after five years of dedicated work in child welfare as a foster care case management supervisor, trainer, and consultant.

[PHOTO 4]

## 2010s



**Jessie Cummins '10** took a short vacation to the Chicago area to meet Cottey friends. Here she is pictured with **Afrah Hussein '10**, and **Sarah Collings '10** at the Cheesecake Factory. [PHOTO 5]

**Ellie Spresser '10** was sworn in as a Peace Corps Volunteer on May 22, 2017. She will be serving in Indonesia as a high school English teacher for two years.

[PHOTO 6]

**Kymee Bair '13** is a hospital zookeeper at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in California. She takes care of all the sick animals and the new animals that need to go through quarantine. She is going back to school to earn her veterinary technician degree.

**Stevie (Van Horn) Russell '13** earned her nursing degree and is working in labor and delivery at Mercy Hospital in Ft. Scott, Kansas.

At the end of July, **Anna Hope '14** started working for TheatreSquared as their Production Assistant! Yay for working in your field! Here is a picture of Hope on the Fayetteville Square enjoying the fall weather.

[PHOTO 7]



# Class Notes

## Births

### 1990s

**Carrie Reeves Archer '96** and **Whitney Jones Archer '01** welcomed their second child, Holden Graham Archer, on July 1, 2017. They are enjoying life as a family of four and Dalton, 2-1/2yrs, is loving his new role of big brother. Both Carrie and Whitney work at Oregon State University and are always happy to hear from Cottey friends – they can be reached at Whit.Carrie@gmail.com. **[PHOTO 1]**



**Adria (Woudstra) van den Berg '99**, gave birth to her son, Leif Nathan van den Berg, at home on April 21, 2016, at 9:11 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz. and measured 22 inches. Blix is so happy to have her baby brother. The family is so thankful for the support and expertise of their midwife team and doula. They are on cloud nine! **[PHOTO 2]**



### 2000s

**Caroline (Fitzgerald) Seavey '01** and her husband Mark are excited to announce the birth of their boys Ransom Jonn and Spencer Augustus. They were born August 7, 2017. Ransom was born at 12:39 a.m. at 7 lbs., 9 oz. and 20.5 inches, and Spencer at 12:40 a.m. at 5 lbs., 4 oz. and 19 inches. Everyone is healthy and happy, especially big sister Violet who loves her babies! **[PHOTO 3]**

**Charmaine Robledo '02** and husband Steven McAbee welcomed their daughter and future Cottey grad and P.E.O., Cadence Lily McAbee, on January 24, 2017. Cadence is their first child and the first grandchild for both sides of the family. They also celebrated another milestone this summer when they bought their first home as a family in Aurora, Colorado. Charmaine currently works as the director of communications for the Mountain Sky Area of The United Methodist Church, and Steven is a communications technician for Denver Transit Operators, a contractor with RTD. **[PHOTO 4]**



**Caroline Dohack '04** and husband Justin Willett welcomed Zinnia Louise Dohack-Willett on August 13, 2017. The little madame senator (her parents try to avoid referring to her as a princess) weighed 8 lbs., 11 oz, and measured 19 inches. Zinny Lou joins big brothers Danny, 2, and Carter, 12, along with the dogs and chickens on the Dohack-Willett urban homestead in Columbia, Missouri. **[PHOTO 5]**

# Class Notes



**Meghann McCracken Bower '06** and husband Alex welcomed twin boys into the family on February 16, 2017. Clark Hunter (4 lbs., 12 oz.) and Rowan Paul (4 lbs., 13 oz.) joined big brother Thane.

**[PHOTO 6]**

**Betsy Miller Curtis '06** and husband JJ announce the birth of their first child, a boy named Miller (Mills) Joseph Curtis on May 23, 2017. **[PHOTO 7]**

**Kristin Gumbert Milne '06** and husband Patrick are pleased to announce the birth of their second child Oliver Graeme Milne who came into the world on June 12, 2017, weighing 7 lb., 14 oz. and was 20 inches. Big sister Lily is in awe, and so are the happy parents, too! **[PHOTO 8]**

**Kelly (Garten) Otter '06** and Tyler Otter welcomed twin girls Finley and Taeyln on April 3, 2017. Finley and Taeyln join big sister Blair and big brother Blake. **[PHOTO 9]**

**Melissa Simons Carlson '07** and husband Army Captain Bryce Carlson announce the birth of their first child, Robert Kenneth, born on June 6, 2017, at Evans Army Community Hospital in Colorado Springs. The Carlsons are currently stationed at Peterson Air Force base in Colorado Springs. Melissa is attending CSU Pueblo earning a double major in accounting and finance. **[PHOTO 10]**

**Kassia Forsberg Cox '09** and hubby Steven welcomed their second son, Jacob Benjamin, on June 24. Big brother Nathan is crazy about "his" baby. **[PHOTO 11]**



# Class Notes

## Weddings

### 1990s

**Jamie Eslinger '94** and her boyfriend Justin Aiken surprised everyone with a secret pop-up wedding at the family reunion in Estes Park, Colorado, June 28. From high school sweethearts to rediscovering each other a few years ago, they have had quite an adventure. The surprise wedding seemed appropriate. There were many happy tears. **[PHOTO 1]**

**Cheri Ingalls Silvas '94** and John Silvas finally tied the knot June 13 on the beach in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Celebrating with the couple were Cottey sisters (bridesmaid) **Laurie Kivel '93**, **Trish Butler '93**, **Cynthia Hoyt '93**, and **Amy Eckhoff '94**.

**[PHOTO 2]**

**Julia Bogart '98** got married in January 2016 to her love Ana Ortiz in Phoenix. **Melissa (Jenkins) Bown '98** was her maid of honor, and **Michele (Strawn) Hart '98**, **Danielle (Ryan) Zaderaka '98**, **Alison Wamsley-Cruz '98**, **Sarah Taylor '98**, **Allyn Lambertz '97**, and her aunt **Tricia Johnson '86** were all there to celebrate with them too.

This last spring, after nine years of full-time Renaissance festival work and travel, Julia and Ana "got off the road" and put down roots in Colorado Springs. So far Julia is slowly adjusting to this different "normal" way of life. Ortiz currently teaches at Corepower Yoga and is a team lead full time at Target. Julia is also happy to report that she has picked up her cello again and is playing in a symphony for the first time in over eight years as principal cellist of the Pikes Peak Philharmonic. Julia is very much looking forward to seeing all her classmates next April for their 20th reunion.



### 2000s

**Jillian (Myers) Davis '07** married Kalie Davis on August 18, 2017. The couple reside in Meadville, Pennsylvania, where Jillian works from home as a senior concierge with a health insurance company. **[PHOTO 3]**

### 2010s

**Tatsiana Kvitsko-Trimborn '10** married John Trimborn on July 23, 2017, in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. **Ria Jewell Allen '10**, Tatsiana's Cottey roommate, and **Maryia Newman-Kireyeva '10** were in attendance. Tatsiana works for Knit-Rite and is occasionally featured in short videos on their Facebook page.

# Class Notes



**Jessica Joseph '10** and **Amanda Akers '09** got married on April 15, 2017, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. They were joined by Cottey gals **Sunshine Seitz '10, '13**, **Bailey Ross '10**, **Sally Stamback '09** and **Aubrey Robinson '10!** **[PHOTO 4]**

On September 2, 2017, **Katie Valdes '11** and Patrick Kincius were joyfully married before their friends and family in Baltimore, Maryland. The couple currently resides in Rockville, Maryland, and both work as occupational therapists. Cottey alums **Amanda Sanders '10**, **Rachel LaGrou '11**, and **Sharese Ward '11** were in attendance. **[PHOTO 5]** (Photo by Kayce Shoffner, Photographer).

**Brittani Christensen-Lair '13** married Brianna Lair on September 22, 2017.

**Grechen Grant Hargrove '13** was married on May 20, 2017, to Jeffrey D. Hargrove. **[PHOTO 6]** Fellow 2013 classmate and Iowa Suite roommate, **Georgie Hammerle**, was Grechen's maid of honor. They celebrated with 125 of their closest friends and family. Grechen has been working at the Sleep Inn & Suites of Idaho Falls, Idaho. **Lis Gillott '03** (who was married a week before Grechen and Jeffery) was also in attendance with her husband, Eric.

After getting married in May, **Carly Schooley Cumpton '14** finished up her time at Cottey as an admission representative and moved to Fort Polk, Louisiana, with husband Wyatt. A few weeks later she started a new job at AMERISAFE as a marketing specialist. She reports, "lots of exciting new changes, but very busy." **[PHOTO 7]**

## Obituaries

**Jae (Robinson) Santman '56** of Dysart, Iowa, died on September 28. She was born August 13, 1935. Santman graduated from Dysart High School in 1953. On August 23, 1957, she married Roger Santman in Killeen, Texas. She attended AIB Business College in Des Moines and Cottey College. She was a member of the Dysart United Methodist Church, the church bell choir, Rebekah's Circle, 20th Century Dysart Women's Club, the Board of Permanent Planning in Waterloo, Iowa, two bridge clubs, and P.E.O. Chapter MZ, Vinton, Iowa, for over 50 years. She is survived by her husband Roger; three daughters Julie (Eric) Doyle of Lake City, Minnesota; Sheri Perroti of Phoenix, Arizona; and Susan (Marvin)

Reints of Ankeny, Iowa; one son, David (Missy) of Hudson; two brothers, eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and eight nieces and nephews.

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

**Mary (Layson) Pease '39**  
**Bette Dene (Boggs) Goodman '40**  
**Caroline (Hobson) Newman '41**  
**Rachel (Roush) Bard '41**  
**Elizabeth (Moore) Simpson '42**  
**Ms. Marilyn (Kuhn) Lawless '42**  
**Marian A. (Wichert) Long '43**  
**Mrs. Phyllis (Crowley) Sheldahl '44**  
**Mary Ellen (Carr) Kindschi '45**  
**Jane Louise (Thomas) Imel '46**  
**Mrs. Marilyn (Mayo) Manore '46**

**Lucille (Hogue) Gilliard '49**  
**Dorothy Ann "Dot" (Radle) Bolieau '50**  
**Jane (Paschal) Wahlers '50**  
**Kay Maxine (Johnson) Witham '53**  
**Janet (Simpson) Brooks '54**  
**Barbara (Smith) Horseman '55**  
**Ms. Sally (Gibson) Bowman '55**  
**Marilyn (Jones) Orr '56**  
**Ms. Stephanie (Mass) McKinnon '58**  
**Victorine (Perkins) Trammell '59**  
**Ms. Clydene (Drake) Smith '60**  
**Anne Stoutimore '68**  
**Nancy A. (Turner) Brown '69**  
**Elizabeth "Betsy" (Lane) King '75**  
**Starla (Kay) Fowler '87**  
**Sarah (Larson) McGettrick '95**  
**Kayla Wardrup '07**  
**Mary-Anne Thomas '17**

# Faculty/Staff Notes

**Dr. Carmen Bourbon**, associate professor of Spanish, attended the Texas Foreign Language Association Fall Conference October 11-12, 2017, at the Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas. Dr. Bourbon took part in a panel on Developing Cultural Proficiency. She also attended a workshop on the Teaching of Legal Spanish.

**Prof. Jo Byrnes**, associate professor of dance, attended the YogaFit ([www.yogafit.com](http://www.yogafit.com)) Level One Teacher Training August 26-27 in Columbia, Missouri.

**Dr. Amanda Cook**, assistant professor of music, attended the music theory pedagogy conference, "Pedagogy into Practice: Teaching Music Theory in the Twenty-First Century," in Cleveland, Tennessee, on June 1-3, 2017.

**Dr. Melody Denny** and **Dr. Mary Laughlin**, assistant professors of English, presented their research at the Council of Writing Program Administrators' conference in Knoxville, Tennessee, this past July. Their talk was titled "Threshold Concepts and Conversations: WAC Initiatives at a Small, Rural, Single-Sex Campus."

**Dr. Michael Emery**, professor of English, recently had a review published for the book, "Classical Traditions in Modern Fantasy," in *CHOICE MAGAZINE*, a publication of the American Library Association. The review will appear in the December 2017 issue of *CHOICE* but was issued electronically on October 16, 2017. Dr. Emery has had over 90 reviews published in this publication since the mid-90's.

**Prof. Morgan Frew**, assistant professor of art, exhibited one of his art pieces at the Platform Art Fair in Brooklyn, New York, September 29-October 1. The piece, titled "Amalthea" (3rd moon from Jupiter) is a 12"x12" oil on wood panel.

The art fair, book art fair, and film festival featured 155 visual artists, 33 filmmakers, 11 art book publishers, and 13 poets and writers. You can learn more at [www.platformartfair.com](http://www.platformartfair.com).

**Dr. Jackie Lordo**, assistant professor of music, had an article accepted for publication. Her article, "Effects of Deliberate Play Activities on Middle School Student Motivation and Performance" was accepted for publication in the Missouri Journal of Research in Music Education and should be appearing in the next edition.

**Dr. Kathryn Pivak**, associate professor of English, attended the British Women Writers Association's annual conference in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, in June. She moderated two panels, one on Aphra Behn and another on time in the novel. She also attended panels on Charlotte Lennox's *The Female Quixote*, Jane Austen, Spatial Imaginary in the nineteenth-century novel, and several other general panels on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British literature.

**Prof. Karen Polon**, professor of physical education, attended the National Exercise Trainers Association's Fit Fest this summer in Kent, Ohio, to train and certify in both Kettlebell training and Barre Connect which utilizes the ballet barre for exercise.

**Dr. Trisha Stubblefield**, professor of English, presented "This is What a Feminist Looks Like: Finding Sisterhood in Diversity" to Central Exchange in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 9, 2017.

**Dr. Julie Tietz**, professor of psychology, attended the Society for the Teaching of Psychology's Annual Conference on Teaching in San Antonio, Texas, October 20-21, 2017. While there, she attended several sessions on best practices in teaching and assessment.

**Dr. Chioma Ugochukwu**, vice president for academic affairs, and Carla Farmer, vice president for marketing and strategic communication, attended the 25th anniversary event at the Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts for the Women's Foundation of Kansas City. Cottey facilitated the Foundation's Girls Leadership Program from 2015-2017.

**Dr. Elizabeth Verklan**, assistant professor of women, gender, and sexuality studies, was chosen as a 2017 First Book Prize Award Winner by NWSA (National Women's Studies Association) and the University of Illinois Press for her book, "Objects of Desire: Feminist Inquiry, Transnational Feminism, and Global Fashion." As a part of this award, Dr. Verklan was recognized at NWSA's annual conference in November and received a book contract from the University of Illinois Press.

**Dr. Catherine Volle**, assistant professor of microbiology and biochemistry, presented on Friday, October 6, at Central Exchange in Kansas City, a women's professional development organization. Her presentation was titled Ada, Marie and Shirley: Cultivating the next generation of women in STEM.





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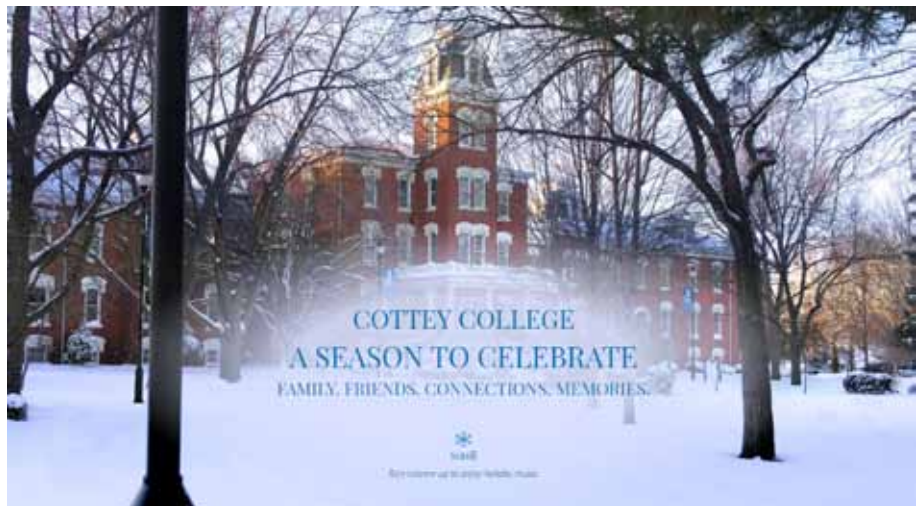
Did you receive Cottey's interactive holiday card in your email inbox?

**[Pictured right]** If you haven't seen this yet, it could be that Cottey doesn't have your current email address.

"We have email addresses for approximately 4,800 alumnae," said Christi Fulton Ellis '96, director of alumnae relations. "That's about half of the alumnae we have on file in our records."

As the College moves toward more digital communications, such as the annual digital summer *Viewpoint* update and this holiday greeting, your email address is key to getting all of your Cottey communications.

It is also important that cottey.edu addresses are on your email white list and are not blocked as spam.)



## Happy Holidays from Cottey College!

**Keep yourself in the know and on the email list. If you are not getting digital communications from Cottey but would like to receive them, send your email address to [marketing@cottey.edu](mailto:marketing@cottey.edu).**

If you didn't receive the email greeting, you may still see it at [www.cottey.edu/holiday-2017/](http://www.cottey.edu/holiday-2017/).

Happy holidays from all of us at Cottey College!