Note from the Editor: Cottey recently announced a comprehensive campaign called “A Defining Moment.” Kristine Anderson Fulton ’89, assistant vice president for institutional advancement, was discussing the title.

“You know,” said Fulton, “if you gathered a room full of alumnae, I would bet that every one of them could point to a defining moment at Cottey College.”

Following up, Carrie Reeves ’96, coordinator of alumnae relations, e-mailed a request to 1400 Cottey alumnae. “What was your defining moment?” we asked. The results were almost instantaneous and overwhelming. Compiled into one single-spaced document those responses totaled 17 pages. Unfortunately, space would not permit us to print them all in this issue. A selection is below, and as space permits in future issues, we will print more. Thanks to all of you who shared your defining moments with us.

—Steve Reed, Viewpoint editor

When I came to Cottey in September 1958, the experience of being my own taskmaster, providing my own discipline in study was new to me; this was an important habit to acquire for academic success and work. Plus, somewhere during the fall 1958 semester, I found a love of learning, and that has never left me! I learned to invest in MYSELF, and that I must never stop learning and growing; this has made life through all its seasons an exciting, wonderful experience. Cottey really set me up for living a purposeful LIFE!

Sheila Thompson Findley Risser ’60

I was 16 years old when I arrived at Cottey in the fall of 1961. In high school I was shy, quiet, and couldn’t speak in front of a class to save my life. My English teacher would tell me to sit down and come in after school because she was afraid I would faint.

During my first few days at Cottey, I realized that no one there knew me and I could be whatever I wanted. I took public speaking—and got an A. I stepped up and participated in many activities, enjoying them all. I made lots of friends and in the spring of 1962 was elected president of Reeves Hall for the ensuing year. That gave me a seat on the student senate and a leadership role in the student body.

I went on to KU and minored in municipal recreation, worked for the city of Lawrence and eventually came to my current position of the executive director of the Y in Leavenworth. I speak, promote, publicize, preside, mentor and have had leadership positions throughout the community. None of this would have happened had I not realized those first few days at Cottey that I could be whatever I wanted to be.

Pat Rehm Barnhardt ’63

My first semester at Cottey I was enrolled in Dr. Helen Troesch’s Beginning Speech class. The first day of class Dr. Troesch (a handsome but imposing figure) stood before the class and told us all of her rules and expectations. Then, arms folded in front of her, she said, in her deep, rich voice “Now, if any of you think you cannot take my criticism you better get up and leave right now.”

I got up and left. As I walked down that long center aisle of the classroom I could hear her guffawing.

The next day, in the congestion of classes passing in Old Main, I felt someone grasp my hand. It was Dr. Troesch. She said, “You...you are the one that got up and left! I have been doing that for 25 years and no one has ever had the guts to get up and leave.”

My leaving was certainly my loss. I studied speech with her the next three semesters but missed out on that one. I grew to love her; any alum who studied with her would appreciate that story.

Kay (Livgren) Horner ’58

During my time at Cottey, I met Dr. Helen Troesch, who taught speech. I got the award that year for the most improvement in the speaking voice. I spoke in a high-pitched, fast manner, and she taught me to lower my pitch and speak quietly. Because she was the theatre director, I volunteered to wash flats, work with props, all that backstage stuff. I had originally planned on a career in medicine, but I found myself more and more interested in the stage.

One day, while washing flats, Dr. Troesch came to me and told me I was to play the lead in the melodrama, “The Two Orphans.” I had never been onstage before and it scared me silly, but I went to work on it. I suppose I did fairly well, except that during one performance, in a scene with the hero, I was supposed to ask him to save me “from one who would make me his wife.” Instead, I said “from one who would make me his husband.” It brought down the house. But the worst part was, I broke character because I couldn’t quite keep from laughing a bit myself. Afterward, I got quite a drubbing from Dr. Troesch, but I deserved it. After that, I stayed backstage, though I was truly bitten by the theatre bug.

Marjorie Allen ’49

On a sunny day in September, over forty years ago, I arrived on the campus of Cottey College. Starting from Tokyo, Japan, after a long journey across the Pacific Ocean, a long train ride half way across the continent and an anxious bus ride from Kansas City, I was finally at the destination. Although I had finished a year of university education in Japan and had some confidence in my academic preparation, my English was quite poor. I had never traveled outside of Japan and had no experience living away from my parents. The people I met along the way, the P.E.O. members who met me at the Vancouver pier, another P.E.O. member who provided me with an overnight accommodation at her Kansas City home and Mrs. Berry with her unforgettable big smile who came with her daughter to meet me at the Nevada bus depot, all were uncompromisingly gracious toward me. I am still to this day grateful for their hospitality and friendship. Yet, on that sunny day, standing in front of Robertson Hall, I was not just tired but I felt full burden of worry about my future.

Machiko “Miki” Kashiwagi ’62

Please see My Moment, page 15
Susan Reese Sellers, Houston, Texas, is the first vice president of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She assumed an ex-officio position on the Cottey College Board of Trustees in 2009.

A Missouri native, Ms. Sellers was born in Lebanon, Missouri, and initiated into Chapter EO, Lebanon, the chapter of her mother and grandmother, in 1966. Ms. Sellers has been a member of Chapter CN, Ponca City, Oklahoma, and a charter member of Chapter GK, Spokane, Washington, before moving to Houston and dimitting to Chapter ES in 1976.

Ms. Sellers has served P.E.O. at the local, state, and international levels. She is a past president of Texas State Chapter (1989-90), she served as the chairman of the Special Committee on Membership Research, the Special Committee to Inventory Texas State Chapter Archives (served as chairman of the Finance Committee) and the Texas State Chapter History Book Committee, and was president of the Texas P.E.O. Home Board of Directors. At the International level, Ms. Sellers has been a member of the board of trustees for the P.E.O. Scholar Awards, as well as serving on the Special Committee on Electronic Communications and the Nominating Committee. She was elected to the Executive Board of International Chapter in 2003.

Ms. Sellers received an associate’s degree from William Woods University—a women’s college at the time—in Fulton, Missouri, and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She was employed as a preschool and elementary teacher in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas, and then served in administrative capacities for two Houston-based energy companies.

Ms. Sellers is active in her church, Houston’s John Wesley United Methodist Church, where she is a member of the church choir and plays handbells with the Angelus Bells; she is a member of ECI Keep Pace Advisory Board, a program serving children under the age of three with developmental delays; and also enjoys needlepoint, quilting, and serving as a mentor to students.

Greg Hoffman of Nevada, Missouri, was appointed to the Cottey College Board of Trustees in 2009.

Mr. Hoffman is the principal at Hoffman Financial Resources, a wealth management firm in Nevada, Missouri, affiliated with LPL Financial. Hoffman Financial Resources manages approximately $95 million in assets for its clients and specializes in retirement planning and helping successful people and businesses build, preserve, and transfer wealth.

Mr. Hoffman is a member of LPL Financial’s Chairman’s Club, a prestigious status reserved for the top four percent of LPL’s 11,920 advisors (based on prior year production). He is also a member of PEAK Quest for Excellence, a consulting organization for top wealth advisors whose firms have met certain standards of excellence.

Mr. Hoffman earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Central Missouri, graduating cum laude, and was an honors graduate at Pittsburg State University where he earned his Master of Science. He holds professional designations as Wealth Management Specialist (WMS) and Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor (CRPC).

Mr. Hoffman has lived in Nevada since 1981. He and wife Melissa have three children. Hoffman is active in many local organizations including the Lions Club, Salvation Army, and the Nevada/Vernon County Chamber of Commerce. He was honored with the Rotary Citizen of the Year Award in 2005 and the Wayne Neal Impact Award in 2007. In his spare time, Hoffman enjoys reading, exercising, and playing outside.

In Memoriam, Linda Platt

Linda Marie (Gray) Platt, 50, of Nevada, Missouri, died from complications of ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease) on October 22, 2009. She was born to Wilbur and Josephine Gray on August 12, 1959, in Pierre, South Dakota. She married William Earl Platt, of Wichita, Kansas, on August 20, 1977, in Rapid City, South Dakota. From this union three children were born: Andrew Thomas, Tabitha Michelle and Jennifer Julia. She would claim that these were the inspirations of her life.

Her faith and personality were a daily testimony to God and her family. She cherished being a servant, a wife, and a mother. Within the last few years of her life she would shine as the service learning coordinator at Cottey College. The experiences and gifts that were shaped as a preacher’s wife and a mother would be magnified by her opportunities to serve at Cottey and in the community of Nevada.

The following are her feelings as to the disease that would claim her life: “When I was first diagnosed with this disease, I had many people question the ‘why’ of it all. And I never personally questioned why, as much as the frustration of giving up dreams. However, my ready response has always been ‘why not me?’ I have never believed you can take only the good and not the bad of life. Life has a way of dealing out both. Upon contemplation of what I was to do with this news, I understood that my task was still the same. Proverbs 1:7 tells us that we are to start anything with God, that He is really what it is all about. So if I properly understood the scriptures, my task, even though I was ill, was to continue to worship God and to do what He asked me to do, which was to tell others about Him. I have tried hard to do this well. I request that you join in the celebration of my life by worshiping our Lord, who gives us hope among so many other things.”

Linda is survived by her husband, Bill, of 32 years; her children, Andy and wife Anne of Fairfax, Virginia; Abe, of Nevada; Jai and her husband David Miller, of Florissant, Missouri; and her mother Josephine Anne Gray, of Camby, Oregon. Linda was the oldest of four children. Her surviving siblings are: Gary Wayne Gray, of Simla, Colorado; Holly Jane Meyer, of Rapid City, South Dakota; and Karin Anne Burnes, of Rapid City, South Dakota. Among Linda’s final tasks was to have a five-generation photo with her grandmother Dorothy Monsen, of Custer, South Dakota; and her grandchildren, Elena and Ronan Tai Miller, of Florissant, Missouri; Grandmother Opal Duncan, of Spearfish, South Dakota; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and in-laws also survive Linda. Linda was preceded in death by her father Wilbur Warren Gray, of Blackhawk, South Dakota; grandfathers Harold Duncan and Glide Gray; and grandmother Catherine (Sheridan) Gray.

Funeral services were held at the First Christian Church of Nevada on October 27.
Recruit a Student!

I had a very good time recently meeting with prospective students and their families as they explored Cottey for the first time. This was a small group, not nearly the size of a “C” for Yourself! turnout, and so we met in the boardroom just outside my office. I started, as I usually do when I welcome a group of prospective students, by suggesting what special features of Cottey I think they should ask questions about as they tour campus and meet faculty, staff, and students during the day.

My list always includes explaining the focus of the liberal arts, the defining differences that being a very small college make, and the advantages or disadvantages of attending a women’s college. I explained that Cottey, as a liberal arts college, truly focuses on the general education component that provides the foundational knowledge and skills for their major field of study, while, in most cases, permitting them to begin courses in their majors. (As I asked the prospective students around the table about their intended fields of study, I found that Cottey’s curriculum would accommodate their interests.) I elaborated on the meaning of being truly small and found that one of our prospects had already attended a larger college and was willing to share her positive opinion of a small college.

I got more reaction and knowing smiles when I talked about being a women’s college. I explained that the real difference was there are no males in their classes, and this changes the learning experiences and their level of participation. I recommended they consult the Web site of the Women’s College Coalition [www.womenscolleges.org] for articles, research, and testimonials about women’s colleges. I ended, as I usually do, by recommending that they not rule Cottey out as too expensive until they actually speak with our director of financial aid about a financial aid package. Cottey has generous financial aid and 97 percent of our students receive financial aid.

I finished my welcome and left the room feeling really positive because I had had the opportunity to tell some young women about Cottey. I believe in the education and the learning opportunities that Cottey offers so strongly that it actually makes me feel good to talk to young women who can take advantage of them. I invite you to share information about Cottey with a young woman or perhaps her parents. This could be the daughter of a friend, a young woman in your neighborhood, or someone who checks out your groceries. I invite you to share information about Cottey. If you don’t want to go into detail, just suggest that she visit the Web site at www.cottey.edu where there is a great deal of information and links to follow that will allow her to learn about Cottey on her own.

If you do find a prospective student who is interested in Cottey, then you can help her immensely by becoming her mentor during the admission process. Being a mentor should help the prospect with every step to ensure it is completed on time. It is ideal to send in a deposit before December 31 and to file financial aid information no later than March 1.

Yes, You Can!

I know a student! Please send information about Cottey to:

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
E-mail address

High School
Year of Graduation

Have you talked to this student about Cottey?  □ Yes  □ No

Are you a P.E.O.?  □ Yes  □ No

Cottey alumna?  □ Yes  □ No

Your name and address
Your e-mail address

Please return to: Office of Enrollment Management, Cottey College, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772

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In her message above, Dr. Rogers encourages alumnae and P.E.O.s to recruit a student for Cottey College. “I don’t know any young women of college age,” you might be thinking, or, “I wouldn’t know what to say.” If so, read the story of Christine (Chris) McGee, a first-year student from Maine.

McGee was waitressing in a restaurant on Cape Cod when she served Jim and Sally Perry. As she waited on them, McGee talked about her interest in attending college someday. Fortunately for McGee, Sally Perry was a P.E.O. Even better, Perry was a P.E.O. who told McGee about Cottey College.

Intrigued by the possibility, McGee followed up, applied to Cottey, and received a financial aid offer. Still, she judged that Cottey was out of reach because the aid package included loans. With no parents and two sisters who needed her help, she was concerned about repaying loans. She told the enrollment management staff that she would not be coming to junior or senior in high school makes strong demands on young women, and they may need your assistance to stay focused on the necessary steps to take to apply and proceed through the process. They may also procrastinate and not send in information in time to be considered for the best scholarships and placements. Help her follow the necessary admission steps in a timely manner. (See box at left.)

I realize I am asking for a time commitment, but I truly believe the commitment is worth the effort. I have seen the hugs that Cottey students give alumnae and P.E.O.s who have helped them come to Cottey, and those hugs are special!
A Defining Moment is Coming to You

by Carla Bryant Farmer
Campaign Manager/Senior Major Gifts Officer

A Defining Moment: The Campaign for Cottey College, a campaign to raise $35 million, is truly historic in several ways. In the 125-year history of Cottey College, this is the first comprehensive campaign ever conducted. However, fundraising efforts have always been an essential function of the College beginning with Virginia Alice Cottey, who understood that for her school to grow, she must enlist the financial support of the community through the sale of scholarships.

Again in 1927, when she gave the College to the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Virginia Alice asked that they raise an endowment of $200,000 to support the functions of the College. In more recent years, funds were successfully raised to build the Rubie Burton Academic Center.

What makes this campaign unique is that it encompasses fundraising for scholarships, faculty chairs, library endowment, a new fine arts instructional building as well as unrestricted funding to cover annual costs of operating the College. This campaign will chart the course of the College for years to come.

This is our defining moment. Cottey must grow. Cottey must develop new academic programs that young women seek in the 21st century. Cottey must be able to offer an academic learning environment equal to or superior to other women’s colleges. With fewer than 50 women’s colleges still in existence today, we must take bold steps to preserve the Cottey experience.

To achieve these goals, we will spread the word about Cottey and the Campaign to P.E.O.s, alumnae, and friends. Over the next five years, Cottey will host Awareness Events across the country that are regional in scope. We will invite alumnae, P.E.O.s and friends of the College to come and learn more about their College and the campa-aign. This is also “a defining moment” for the P.E.O. Sisterhood because Cottey’s efforts to gain visibility and recognition will heighten awareness of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

We have already hosted our first two Awareness Events in Coronado, California, and Kansas City, Kansas. Both were very well attended and met with enthusiastic response from guests who were excited about the future of their College.

Leading the awareness efforts is Jan Goodsell, past state president from Tennessee.

Jobs Opportunities with Cottey College

Senior Admission Representative

Cottey College is seeking a senior admission representative. Candidates must be enthusiastic and good communicators with a strong belief in the value of a women’s college. Responsibilities focus on recruitment of prospective students. Candidates must possess excellent written, interpersonal and oral communication skills, event-planning capabilities, enjoy travel, and have a sense of humor. Strong computer skills and experience with word-processing, spreadsheet and database software required. Position requires a bachelor’s degree. Previous work experience in admission is recommended; experience in marketing or sales is desirable. Cottey alumnae are encouraged to apply. Interested candidates should send letter of application, résumé, and three references to: Director of Human Resources, Cottey College, 1000 West Austin, Nevada, MO 64772. For information about Cottey College, please visit www.cottey.edu.

EOE

Coordinator of Alumnae Relations

Cottey College seeks a coordinator of alumnae relations. Duties of the coordinator include, but are not limited to, planning and directing alumnae activities on and off campus; fundraising for the comprehensive campaign; and maintaining communications and records related to alumnae.

Position requires some travel; excellent written, interpersonal, and oral communication and public speaking skills; and event planning. Strong computer skills and experience with word processing, spreadsheets, database software, and web content management preferred. Team player, tact, diplomacy, discretion, and a sense of humor are invaluable attributes. Bachelor’s degree and valid driver’s license required. Two years previous work experience in alumnae relations is preferred. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Interested candidates should send letter of application, résumé, and three letters of reference to: Director of Human Resources, Cottey College, 1000 West Austin, Nevada, MO 64772.

EOE

Cottey Can Help You Study Abroad

Have you been envious the last few years as you’ve read about the Cottey trips to Europe and wished you could have the same experience? Has it been your dream to study abroad? Have you been accepted to a university in another country and are now wondering how to pay for it? If so, you are encouraged to apply for the Lucille H. Smith Scholarship for Foreign Study.

As an alumna, you may be eligible for this scholarship, established by the Illinois State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in honor of Lucille H. Smith, past president of International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. The scholarship is available to a Cottey alumna who will study abroad. Applications may be obtained from Cottey’s Office of Financial Aid after February 1, 2010.

To request an application, write to: Office of Financial Aid, Cottey College, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772.
A Four-Year College?

"Is Cottey becoming a four-year college?" is a question several Cottey staff members have heard lately from alumnae and P.E.O.s. That question has been driven by the announcement that Cottey is considering the addition of new programs, some of which may become Baccalaureate programs. However, Cottey will remain a two-year college offering the Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees.

Cottey is investigating the possibility of adding a limited number of upper-level classes in the next year or two. One of the keys to adding any Baccalaureate program is receiving accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Cottey’s regional accrediting agency. As is the case now, Cottey has initiated discussions with the Higher Learning Commission regarding its goal of adding Baccalaureate programs to the curriculum in the future. Cottey’s liaison to the Higher Learning Commission has agreed to approve up to 15 upper-level courses which may be offered as soon as the 2010-2011 academic year.

Cottey will create position descriptions and job ads for three new positions to begin in the 2010-11 academic year. The College will have a focused visit on January 24-25, 2011, for the purpose of reviewing and promoting the programs to students and in our materials after that notification, not before.

Cottey will continue to promote and support its associate degree programs with the same quality and offerings that it has currently. For the immediate future, current students should plan for their transfer as usual, following the completion of their associate degree.

The Viewpoint will continue to update its readers as more information becomes available.

When you are speaking with prospective students please be careful not to say that Cottey is offering Baccalaureate degree programs, since the College is not doing so at this time. You can tell students that Cottey is in the process of receiving approval to offer some upper-level courses next year and is seeking accreditation in order to award Baccalaureate degrees in English, International Relations and Business, and Environmental Studies.

Cottey could be denied approval or approved for one or more of the three programs. Cottey may advertise and promote the programs to students and in our materials after that notification, not before.

Current Students Request Your Memories

It began innocently enough. Our English professor assigned us a three-page paper that would’ve explained one aspect of Cottey’s history. But once we were in the archives, surrounded by amazing items from the past, our curiosity overcame us. We began to ask questions: what was life like at Cottey in the past? How have certain traditions changed over time? What specific clubs and activities have endured throughout the years? So to find the answers to these questions, we turn to you: Cottey College alumnae.

• What memories of campus activities did you have?
• During your time at Cottey, how was intersociety run?
• What events were held?
• Who was in charge of certain events?

We would greatly appreciate any answers you have for us. You may direct e-mails to cottey_questions@yahoo.com or write to Carrie Reeves, Cottey’s coordinator of alumnae relations. She will make sure we get any mail. Thank you so much for your continued support of Cottey College.

~Molly Jones ’11, Brielle Farrell ’10, and Edie Jones ’10

Founder’s Day Weekend 2010

Save the Date!

Founder’s Day Weekend 2009 made a few changes from previous years, and your CCAA will be continuing them this year. Make note of some important event switches as you make your plans. In particular, the Saturday events have been moved about to accommodate requests from alumnae. The big change is the Awards Presentation has switched from a luncheon to a Saturday brunch. In past years, the Homecoming Celebration, a more casual event, occurred prior to the Presentation Luncheon, a dressier event. Alumnae often had to scramble to change clothes between the two events. Now the Homecoming Celebration will precede the Supper and Sing on Saturday evening as both are more casual dress events.

Although the schedule has changed, the fun and the spirit of Founder’s Day Weekend have not. Mark your calendars for March 26-28 for a great weekend. An online registration form will be available after the first of January. Log onto the Cottey Community after January 1 for full instructions.

Founder’s Day Weekend 2010

Friday, March 26
1-8 p.m.
1-5:30 p.m.
3:00-5:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:30-11 p.m.
8-10 p.m.
9-11 a.m.
9:00-10:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
1:30-2:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m.
4:00-6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:30-11 p.m.
9 a.m.-Noon
10 a.m.-1 p.m.
1-8 p.m.
1-5:30 p.m.
3:00-5:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:30-11 p.m.
8-10 p.m.
9-11 a.m.
9:00-10:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
1:30-2:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m.
4:00-6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:30-11 p.m.
9 a.m.-Noon
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Registered Parking

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A Message From Your CCAA

Jen Charpentier, vice president – Founder’s Day – Hold these dates: March 26, 27, 28, 2010, for a cram-packed weekend of fun, friends, food, and singing. Founder’s Day is fast approaching; contact your classmates and make those airline reservations. Pay special attention to the letters that your class agent will be sending you. There will be many opportunities to see the “new” as well as reminisce with “old” friends. It’s an exciting time to be a Cottey alum. See you there.

Caroline Taylor, secretary – CCAA Executive Board members volunteer much time and energy to their duties, many of them for a full six years. We want to keep them informed after their term is over and hope they will continue with their enthusiasm and support for Cottey. Karel Lowery, a past board president, has agreed to be the contact person for former board members. I look forward to working with Karel and providing her with meeting information and board activities.

Michele Hart, class agent coordinator – Most of you know who your class agent is but do you know what they do? The agent program used to consist of Cottey alumnae who would serve as host during your Founder’s Day Reunions but now their jobs have grown into much more. As an agent they help find lost alumna, organize a class gift or campaign, build class comradery, and write letters several times a year. These fine alumnae that your class agent will be sending you.

Your Cottey College Alumnae Association Executive Board. Left to right: Betzy Fry, Diane Sampson, Karma Quick, Jan Ensminger, Adele Dolan, Jen Charpentier, Caroline Taylor, and Michele Hart.

Summer Programs Reminder – Mark Your Calendar for Fun!

Despite the cooling temperatures and the falling foliage, Cottey is already getting warmed up for another fun-packed summer of learning. For alumnae, P.E.O.s, and friends, Vacation College is a weeklong residential program led by Cottey faculty and staff. For high school-age girls, Cottey’s summer programs in dance, music, and science provide advanced instruction by Cottey professors and professionals. While you take care of your guests this holiday season, make plans to let the Cottey College family take care of you this summer!

Cottey Vacation College
Who said you can’t have your cake and eat it too--and at Cottey you will definitely want the cake! Vacation College is a great opportunity to experience the life of a Cottey student while being surrounded by sisters from across the country. Information and class schedules will be available in January. For information, contact the Office of P.E.O. Relations, Cottey College, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772. You may also e-mail the office at pererelations@cottey.edu or phone 417-667-8181, ext. 2122. This year’s Vacation College dates are May 18-23, 2010. Early registration is March 15, 2010.

Summer Programs for Girls
Cottey again offers outstanding weeklong programs for girls the week of June 13-19, 2010. Exploring Careers in Science is for girls currently in grades eight, nine, ten, and eleven, interested in exploring various science professions. Activities include hands-on experiments, lectures from professionals, and discussion sessions. The Music and Dance Workshops are for girls currently in grades nine, ten, and eleven who wish to study music or dance in a college environment. Participants will push their creativity through technique classes, repertoire, theory, and performance. For information about these programs, contact the Office of P.E.O. Relations at the address listed previously. The early registration deadline is April 15, 2010.

Additional information on all programs will be available on www.cottey.edu in the summer programs page beginning mid-January.
I not for modern technology, Cottey might never have found the woman who is believed to be the College’s oldest living alumna, Delma Lowman Kollar ’21.

A Google Alert notified the Office of Public Information that Cottey College was mentioned in an article from The Creswell Chronicle, Creswell, Oregon. The feature investigated whether Kollar, a Cottey resident, may actually be 112 years old, instead of 111.

Staff in the Office of Alumnae Relations did a little digging and from the limited records discovered that Kollar attended Cottey in 1919-1920. She is listed as a junior in the 1920 Sphinx, the Cottey yearbook. The Sphinx lists Kollar’s nickname as “Of Sport,” her characteristic as her voice, her favorite expression as “Darn me!” and her ambition was to become a Bible teacher.

The following information on Kollar’s life is from the article in The Creswell Chronicle and is reprinted with permission.

Originally thought to have been born in 1898, Creswell Health and Rehabilitation Center resident Delma Kollar apparently became a supercentenarian, someone who has attained the age of at least 110, on her October 31, 2008, birthday. However, when Robert Young, gerontology researcher for the Gerontology Research Group and senior claims investigator for Guinness World Records examined census documents to verify her claim, he discovered that several census records indicate that she was actually born in 1897, making her a year older than previously believed.

The confusion about the year of her birth arose from the fact that she was born in a relatively remote location in Kansas, and the state didn’t begin issuing birth certificates until 1906. That means that as of her birthday, Kollar was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the 13th oldest resident of the United States, and the 28th oldest person in the world.

Born October 31, 1897, in a homesteaders’ log cabin in Lone Elm, Kansas, Delma Dorothy Lowman Hoggatt Kollar was the fourth of six children. She grew up on a farm, and rode her horse bareback to school.

After high school, she attended Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, earning a teaching certificate. Her first teaching job was in a two-room schoolhouse in Prairie Dell, Kansas.

My Defining Moment, from page 1

Then I heard the music. “Misty” by Johnny Mathis. The same music I listened to and was so fond of back in Tokyo. These girls listen to the same music I listened to. I have something, even just a little, in common with my experience with the girls I was about to meet and to live with in the same dormitory. I felt a deep sense of relief: I told myself I should be OK here.

In 1987, Cottey College awarded me the Distinguished Alumnae Award. I traveled to Nevada from New York to receive it in person. I walked toward Robertson Hall as I did nearly 30 years earlier. Then I heard the music. This time, “Loving on A Prayer” by Don Jovi. Not my favorite but the same music I listened to back in New York. Yes, the time has passed and I got older. Yet I still have something in common with these girls, after all these years. Robertson Hall had provided me again with another magical moment.

Machiko “Miki” Kashiwagi ’62

Mine would be participating in the Cottey debating team. I traveled all over the Midwest to tournaments representing Cottey. I gained confidence in my persuasive abilities and analytical qualities which ultimately led me to a legal career. My transfer to Marietta College to get my bachelor’s included a scholarship due to my debate experience. When I applied to law schools, I chose William and Mary because I had attended a tournament which introduced me to its campus and its reputation. I believe that had I not chosen to join Cottey’s debate team, and encountered these experiences with persuasion and leadership, my career choice may not have been law.

Janet L. Brown ’71

I came to Cottey in 1959 into New Mexico Suite of Reeves Hall. One of the several reasons I chose Cottey was that I was such a tomboy all my life I didn’t really get the girl thing. I was quite a jock, grew up playing sports with boys, and most of my friends were boys. But somehow I knew that I had to learn about girls and how to fit into their culture. Growing up “as a boy” (meaning part of the boy/sports culture), I kinda thought girls were pretty dumb and stupid and didn’t bring much to the table.

Wow, did I figure out how wrong that was in my very first year at Cottey. I made such good friends in that first year that I am still in touch with many of them, including my “senior” who gave me her duck jacket. She, among others, taught me how truly three-dimensional we women are.

Fad/dissolve, 25 years later I am among the first female managers in a large corporation called TRW. And this person who grew up thinking girls were dumb and stupid, became president of the TRW Women’s Advisory Group, champions management roles for women.

Cottey made such a difference in my life I have included the College in my “will.” Julie “Judy Hunsaker” Grandi ’61

I couldn’t read all the material assigned or even comprehend enough to interact in the discussions during Western Civ. Coming from a small high school where I got all As just for coming...it was very defining to not have someone smooth it over for me...to get a C...but to come through it broader minded and humbler.

Classmates recognized/affirmed leadership abilities I didn’t feel/want...but being P.E.O. Hall Songleader one year and Senior Class Songleader the next pushed me to use music as well as my convictions to create social movement and connectivity.

I consciously “took” the religion I was raised with and “made it my own” over the two years because of relationships with classmates.

Mary Ann Huskins Guinn ’70

Until the two years I spent at Cottey, my days were spent within the confines of a little town in Iowa. My vision of the world was very limited indeed. While at Cottey, due to the efforts of a wonderful teacher, I became engaged in events taking place all over the world. As president of the International Relations Club, the teacher-sponsor drove me to a regional conference in Omaha. I met other students with the same passion.

Now, 70 years later, I look back at the years spent traveling the globe with my Air Force husband, living in far-away places, Saudi Arabia and Swaziland for two, and loving the experiences, the people and the adventures. Now in my old age I am content with involvement in the activities of the world-wide communities of the Bahá’í Faith. I am grateful to Cottey for starting me on my lifetime search to understand the diversity and ultimate unity of the inhabitants of our world and that it is indeed, One World.

Irma (Beals) Nyby ’39
Hey, Golden Girls....AKA Class of 1958. We did it. We surpassed the initial goal of $25,000 in our scholarship fund!

The Class of 1958 Scholarship Fund, as you know, was established at our 50-year class reunion in April, 2008. Kudos to Diane Endicott Sampson, our former Class Agent, for being the impetus behind that endeavor. The enthusiastic support of our classmates allowed us to present a check for $15,000.00 to the College. In a little over a year, the amount has grown to $30,140.90. We are excited to have had responses from so many of our classmates! And did you know that more contributions, of any amount, could significantly raise our percentage rate of donors? We’re thinking a little competition among classes would be a good thing. How about it, shall we try for that greater percentage of donors? Shall we reach even higher, and set a new goal of, say, $35,000.00? We could be the class that did both! Why not!?

Again we say, think of the gift Cottey gave you. Show your appreciation by giving back with a contribution, large or small, so that other students can receive the gift of Cottey. Remember to designate the Class of 1958 Scholarship Fund as recipient of your contribution.

We appreciate you.
Class Agents: Janet Atkinson Cordell, phone: 816-795-7196; Marva Savvel Kerns, phone: 303-674-4843, e-mail: mskb@earthlink.net.

Karen (Hefta) Scott ’58 shared that her husband Tom died from ALS on August 11, 2009. This was just short of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Shelley (Sullivan) Shellenberger, our former Class Agent, continues her career as an artist by pursuing her MFA in painting at Laguna College of Art and Design.

Joyce Bernhoft, our former Class Agent, is still teaching French at El Camino High School in Sacramento and travels every chance she has. Joyce is pursuing the college presidents over the years, beloved professors too many to count (the repeated sentiment was how much Cottey professors care about their students), and traditions of all kinds – with, of course, a special interest in the eb and flow of the duck tradition (or as it is known today, “the game”). Among them was a county council member, a victim’s advocate (who is three weeks from completing her master’s degree), a computer technician, an early childhood development professional and of course wives and mothers and singles and sisters -- both literally (Erin and Megan) and lovingly in our bond to Cottey. For all the Indiana alumna unable to attend, everyone there agreed we should do this again, so be prepared – your chance is coming.

The fourth Minnesota Suite reunion – look at us 20+ years later!!

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Arlene (Schweigerdt) Kestner ’59, Sandy (Sands) Willis ’51, Jen (Wren) Charpentier ’64, and Liz (Sprinkle) Wyatt ’55 got together for a gathering in Louisiana organized by Jen.

The fourth Minnesota Suite reunion – look at us 20+ years later!!

[Deaths]

The College was notified of the death of Betty (Greengrass) Beutz ’49. She is survived by her sister, Barbara (Greengrass) Eason ’47, two daughters and a son. Betty was a member of Chapter BL, Oklahoma.

The College was notified of the death of Sarah (Ingram) Wright ’60 on January 17, 2009.

Elizabeth (Baker) Beutelscheis ’61, died on May 30, 2009, in loving company of her sons. “Adventures both ordinary and extraordinary she was always looking to dance in the desert.” She attended Cottey College for one year but transferred to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Ann graduated in 1963 from the University of Arkansas with a degree in elementary education. She was an active member of the Delta Gamma Sorority. Ann valued education and spent her professional life in areas of speech therapy, elementary teaching, and later specialized in vocational rehabilitation, always touching the lives of those around her with patience, persistence, and compassion. Service to others and organizations was important to her. Ann had a love for family (both immediate and extended), friends, animals, nature, geography, dancing, travel, and history.

The College was notified of the death of Gloria (Good) Pittman ’66. She was preceded by the death of her mother, Hortense (Heaton) Good ’32. Gloria is survived by her sister, Gretchen Good-Pankratz ’57, her husband, daughter, and son.

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She enhanced her experience by sharing these passions with her children, friends, and co-workers. She especially enjoyed adventures with her two grandsons.

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Sharon (Barfield) Culwell ’62 died in her sleep on September 18, 2009. Her husband, Don notified the College and told us that she had a very positive experience while attending Cottey College.

W. Ellen (Hall) Mai ’62 died Tuesday, August 4, 2009. She received an associate’s degree from Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Kansas, a master’s degree in education from Kansas State University and a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Missouri. Mrs. Mai worked as a teacher of nursing at Garden City Community College for 33 years. She also worked many years as a registered nurse in Garden City. She also volunteered at the American Red Cross and was a member of P.E.O. She married Raymond Mai in Kansas City, Kansas. In addition to her husband, survivors include a son, a brother, a sister, a grandson; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents.

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Expanded class notes and additional photos are online at www.cotteycommunity.org

Caryn Egbert ‘91 is proud to announce the adoption of her son, Cody Dallas, on June 12, 2009. He’s a beautiful, “terrific” toddler, who will be three in December. She currently lives in Denver and would love to hear from all her old Cottey friends. She can be reached at toolgirlz@earthlink.net.

Theresa Matos ‘93 and husband William Hart on October 14, 2006, at a mountain-top vineyard in St. Helena, California. She currently works as a human resource generalist in New York City while pursuing a master’s degree in human resource management at New York University. Theresa would love to get back in touch with her Cottey friends and may be reached at theresa.hart@yahoo.com.

Rebekah (Ribbs) Robinson ‘96 and husband Shawn greatly rejoiced for the addition to their family of Shepherd on August 19, 2009. He was 9 lb. 2 oz. and 22 in. long. His sisters, Adelia (born 8/8/08) and Danielle (7 years) and brother Tyler (6 years) pamper him with lots of kisses, hugs and cuddles. The family lives in North Pole, Alaska, and Rebekah would love to hear from her friends. She can be reached at srobinson@ideafamilies.org or http://tjedmomforliberty.blogspot.com/.

Correction:
In the Class Notes in the fall issue of the Viewpoint, we reported on the 60th wedding anniversary of Mary and Dick Mastain. We referred to Dick Mastain as Mr. Mastain. He has an Ed.D. and should have been referred to as Dr. Mastain. We apologize for the error.
Volleyball Comets Struggle in 2009

It was a tough season for the volleyball Comets this year. Although it was a rebuilding year, with only two returning players from last year’s squad, there was optimism that the first-year players would step up and maintain the winning tradition. Unfortunately, injuries and lack of experience conspired to make life difficult for the Comets as they finished the season with a lone win against 19 losses. Despite the record, the team was often quite competitive.

“In 22 games this year (not matches), we scored at least 20 points or more on our opponent,” said head coach Marla Kandidy Foreman. “That is out of our total 59 games played. These are very close games that could have gone either way, and it would end up being the team that made the fewest mistakes, or that made the great plays. My team this year played with a lot of heart, and I have been proud to be around that kind of team that had all players giving everything they had in practice and in the matches.”

“We struggled all season with injuries and someone being sick in nearly every match,” continued Foreman. “This is nothing against my players at all, but rather a fact of life and how this year played itself out. If someone were to ask me if I regret this year, or if I was happy for the regular season to be over, I think they would be surprised by my answer, which would be ‘NO.’ How many coaches could say that they had a whole roster of players that would play with heart, even through all the season’s practices? My players didn’t complain about things. They just got in there and worked hard to get better, and I feel like we did get better. Unfortunately, the opponents we played got better as well, and nearly every team we played had at least one or two of those strong go-to players.”

Unfortunately for the Hinkhouse faithful, the lone win came on the road against Central Bible College. With the losses, it might be assumed that the crowds would dwindle as the season wore on. At Cottey, it was just the opposite. As the season continued, the crowds got louder and more supportive. Students created an informal pep band with drums and horns and kept the crowd fired up for every game. The Comets may not have had the top team on the court, but they definitely had the best home crowds.

Even with the setbacks, coaches in Region XVI recognized there was talent on the Comets. After the postseason tournament, first-year player Kailey Kelly was recognized as first team All-Region and first-year player Emily Moore was recognized as second team All-Region.

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Name

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Class Year Home Phone

E-mail address Business Phone

Return to: Cottey College, Office of Alumnae Relations, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772

Looking for a lost classmate?

Maybe the Office of Alumnae Relations can help you find your missing person. It’s as easy as picking up the phone, sending an e-mail, fax, or letter. Simply contact the office, give us your name and address, and we’ll forward it to your friend’s most recent address. We can give out an alumna’s address to another alumna, or we can verify an address for you. Contact us and ask if our most recent address matches the one you have. Here’s how to contact the Office of Alumnae Relations to help locate your friends and classmates.

Mail: Cottey College, Office of Alumnae Relations, 1000 W. Austin, Nevada, MO 64772
Phone: 417-667-8181, ext. 2122
Fax: 417-667-8103
E-mail: alumnae@cottey.edu

Remember to include the class year of your school pals when requesting information. Please notify us when you move, so we can help your classmates keep track of your whereabouts as well. Use the coupon to the left to let us know when you change your address.
Basketball Comets Tip-off a New Season

This year’s basketball Comets will have their work cut out for them. Not only are they following the winningest team in Cottey history (last year’s team was 15-6, ranked first in Region XVI, and had a national top-20 ranking last February), but they are having to play a tougher schedule this season.

“We’re a victim of our own success,” said head coach Dave Ketterman. “A lot of the teams we’ve played in the past won’t play us this season because of our record the last two years. We’ve had to upgrade our schedule and play a lot tougher competition to get enough games in.”

Teams from Springfield and Joplin, Missouri, dropped the Comets from their schedule and in turn, Cottey had to add games against teams from the very tough Kansas Jayhawk Conference. Those Jayhawk teams are in Division I while Cottey is in Division II.

The basketball Comets, like their volleyball counterparts, also have only two returning starters: Alex Noble, from Springfield, Missouri, and Amanda Sanders, from Bentonville, Arkansas, both of whom were preseason all-region picks. Ketterman added four transfer players, Bailey Beale and Tessa Porter from Missouri Southern State University, Sharese Ward from Crowder College, and Natascha Lord from Southwest Baptist University. Five freshmen signed to play for the Comets this season: Bailey Beale, Tessa Porter, Sanders, from Bentonville, Arkansas, Kelsey Langston, who joined the team at mid-season last year, also returns.

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Cottey Runners Bring Home More Hardware

A group of Cottey College runners had a successful day at the Nevada Area Multisport 5K race to benefit the YMCA Strong Kids program. Finishing first overall in the women’s 5K was second-year student Taylor McCoy. Taking second place overall was first-year student Ria Jewell. In the women’s 15-19 age group, second-year students Brielle Farrell and Vanessa Ophorst took first and second places respectively. Pictured on the awards stand above are McCoy and Jewell.

We may take a few lumps early,” said Ketterman, “but the goal is to get better as the season goes along and be ready next semester for Region XVI competition and especially for the postseason.

We have the talent to compete each and every night, and our goal is to be playing the best that we can be in February.

I hope we can play an up-tempo and entertaining style of play that all our fans will enjoy.”

As of the Viewpoint deadline, the team had taken a few lumps against the ramped-up competition. The Comets have a 1-4 record as of November 17. One good sign is that after a loss to border rival Ft. Scott Community College, the Comets came back in a tournament rematch to beat a team that a week earlier had soundly defeated them.

Ft. Scott held a ten-point lead in the first half, 11-21, when the Comets began their charge. Credit Cottey’s trapping defense with part of the comeback, but just as important was the Comets’ Bailey Beale heating up from three-point range.

Beale hit three during an 11-0 run that put the Comets in the lead at 24-23 with 22 seconds to play. The Greyhounds hit a basket to give them a one-point lead as the teams went into the break.

Cottey came out in the second half with the same momentum, scoring the first nine points out of the gate to build a solid lead at 33-25. The Greyhounds scored two baskets, and then Amanda Sanders warmed up scoring seven consecutive points to give the Comets a 40-29 lead with less than 10 minutes to play. Ft. Scott made a bit of a run, but the lead was enough as Cottey held on down the stretch to notch its first win of the season.

Check the schedule at right for a game near you. Follow the game scores and results on the basketball page on the Cottey Web site, www.cottey.edu.

Bailey Bush, right, plays tight defense and goes for the steal in a game against the Ft. Scott (Kansas) Community College Greyhounds. The Comets fell at home against the Greyhounds but came back a week later on the road to get revenge and their first win of the season.
Change in Action Recognized as a Best in Class

The Jenzabar Foundation announced that Change in Action at Cottey College was selected to receive a “Best in Class” award for its exceptional work in the areas of community service and humanitarianism. This award was a direct result from Change in Action’s nomination for a 2009 Student Leadership Award, an honor that drew nearly 150 nominations from institutions across the United States earlier this year.

Cottey’s “Best in Class” award included a $1,000 grant which was presented to Dr. Brenda Ross, associate dean of the faculty, and Vanessa Madrid, Class of 2010 and president of Cottey’s Rotaract Club, at the Best in Class Conference held in October in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Change in Action raised $3400 last year alone, and that money has been used to pay for the educations of three indigenous Guatemalan girls through high school. The group, under the guidance of Dr. Ross and the Office of Institutional Advancement, has established a scholarship, the Friends of Peace Scholarship, to pay for a Guatemalan student’s Cottey education. It is hoped that enough funds will be raised to make this an endowed scholarship.

Cottey may have its first Guatemalan student as early as next fall. A student in San Lucas Toliman, the parish that Cottey’s service learning group visits each winter, has been selected. Members of this year’s service learning group raised just under $300 at the third annual Hunger Banquet. That money will be used to help pay for intensive English classes for the Guatemalan student to prepare her for classes at Cottey.

Change in Action is a truly student-led organization. It receives no funding from the Student Government Association, but raises all its funds itself. The organization has at least one member from Rotaract and Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year honorary, as liaisons between those campus groups. Otherwise the membership is open to all students. Because of her extensive involvement with the service learning group and its annual trip to Guatemala, Dr. Ross serves as mentor for this organization.

Congratulations to Change in Action for being an effective agent for change in its community as well as the world, and for being recognized by the Jenzabar Foundation for that.