

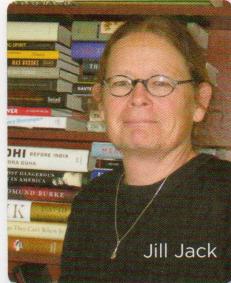
COE COLLEGE BIBLIOPHILE

A newsletter for members of the Coe College Library Association

FALL 2014

CCLA, 'NEW' LIBRARY MARK 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Stewart Memorial Library is celebrating 25 years in its "new" building, as well as the silver anniversary of the Coe College Library Association, whose members have helped fill the library's shelves. Generous donations from CCLA members have allowed the library to add an average of more than 1,000 titles per year to the collection.



"Quite simply, we could not have the collection we do without the help and continued support of CCLA members," says Director of Library Services Jill Jack.

It was an exciting time in December 1988 when the library reopened after a \$4.3 million remodeling and expansion. "This library is the crown jewel of the Coe College campus," the late Coe Life Trustee **William P. Whipple '34** declared at the dedication.

The Hall Foundation (now the Hall-Perrine Foundation) of Cedar Rapids provided \$3.5 million for the project, with major gifts from U.S. West Communications, and the Paul K. Richter and Evelyn E. Cook Richter Trusts.



Richard Doyle

"We were fortunate to have the support of Coe President John E. Brown, who was a strong believer in the academic library," recalls Richard Doyle, who retired as director of library services in 2010. "He was an avid reader then—still is—with phenomenal recall, a true bibliophile."

President Brown knew that the library, while being a physical place, "also is a collection of materials that takes money," Doyle says. The Coe College Library Association was formed

to help finance the acquisition of resources supporting the academic pursuits of the college. Brown wrote to Coe graduates and prospective donors, asking them to become charter members of the CCLA and "help fill up the new space," Doyle says. "The CCLA, along with the redo of the library, was totally transformative for Coe faculty and students," he adds.

The 443 founding members of CCLA, along with other designated gifts, provided an additional \$34,500 for book purchases in the 1988-89 fiscal year. That was enough for approximately 1,300 new titles. CCLA now has around 2,218 members. Over the years, Doyle says, "we've been very good about putting book plates in books showing the names of donors. We correspond with donors and let them know what we bought with their money. We've had donors come in and ask to see their books."

Also of assistance with acquisitions has been the growth in endowed

A Thank You Note

Dear CCLA Members,

Congratulations on 25 incredible years of giving!

As a member of Coe College Library Association, you have made it possible for the college to produce the excellent students that it does. As I choose your gift titles, I am both humbled by your generosity and intrigued by the individual donors and those you chose to honor. For though I do not know most of you personally, there is one thing that binds us together: we all value libraries.

On behalf of all students and faculty over these past 25 years and for those to come in the future, I thank you.

With warmest regards,

Jill Jack

Jill Jack

Director of Library Services

funds. When Doyle began working at the library in 1972, he says, the library had one such endowment; it now has 21.

THE 'NEW' LIBRARY

It's hard to overstate the impact the expansion and remodeling of the library had on the Coe campus.

Stewart Memorial Library opened in 1931. Fifty-five years later, the structure was still sound, though it was no longer an appropriate style for a modern library.

Doyle had worked with four different architects over the years designing an addition to the building that retained the five-level book stack. When architect Ben Weese was hired, Doyle knew that the stack tower had to go if Coe was going to have a modern library. The fifth and final design called for razing the tower and replacing it with a four-story addition, with windows, meeting rooms, and air conditioning, on the north side of the Stewart building.

"People were a little aghast that we were eliminating 19,000 square feet of

Continued on page 2 ►

Continued from page 1 ►

storage so we could do a proper library," Doyle recalls of the demolition. "But President Brown said it was OK. He'd visited a lot of academic libraries and understood."

The "new" library had 57,910 square feet, nearly double the space in the original building. It had room for 300,000 volumes, with seating for up to 600. It also was built to last, with load-bearing floors of 150 pounds per square foot and with an elevator and mechanical systems to support future expansion, Doyle says. "Building a library is not like building a dorm," he says. "We also built with the possibility of adding another floor in the future."

Importantly, the project also provided the opportunity to bring together Coe's impressive

art collection, which was then scattered throughout the campus. Galleries and mezzanines were added to the original library building—along with the original building's refurbished chandelier—to highlight the art work of Grant Wood, **Marvin Cone '14** and **Conger Metcalf '36**, and to provide a beautiful public space for college and community gatherings.

"We had an outstanding art collection that we weren't displaying or promoting or protecting," Doyle says. "One of Marvin Cone's paintings, for example, was hanging on a nail in the Admissions Office. This was a chance to make the collection part of the Coe brand."

Through the generosity of Kay and **George Henry '49**, the George T. Henry College

Archives was created. Five times larger than the previous archives space, it includes the large collection of **William L. Shirer '25** papers. The enhanced facility provides an engaging atmosphere for students and for an increasing number of researchers each year, enhancing the academic mission of the library.

As with any silver anniversary, this one for the "new" Stewart Memorial Library prompts reflection and thanksgiving for those who have had—and who continue to have—the vision and generosity to create a quality academic library, one that continues to provide an inspiring place of learning and collaboration for students, faculty and staff, as well as a beautiful, welcoming space for public gatherings in the heart of the Coe campus.

STILL THANKFUL FOR 'NEW' LIBRARY



▲ Dr. David Gehring '89

Dr. David Gehring '89 confesses students did not enter the "old library" on the Coe campus as a matter of choice. Rather, "one almost felt sentenced to the library, entering only when one ran out of excuses not to go." But with the opening of the newly remodeled library in December 1988, "a new attitude has pervaded the Coe campus," Gehring wrote in the first edition of the Bibliophile in the spring of 1989. "Rather than thinking of excuses not to go to the library, students are thinking of new and

creative ways to use the new facility. One of the most notable of these excuses has been—strangely enough—to study."

Gehring, an orthodontist in Cedar Rapids, met his wife-to-be, **Susan Koenig '89**, at freshmen orientation at Coe; they have three children. Gehring, who majored in chemistry, English and general science at Coe, says he and his wife graduated the spring the library reopened and that the Clark Racquet Center was still under construction.

In his 1989 article for the Bibliophile, Gehring, on behalf of all Coe students, thanked the donors who made the library expansion possible. He also suggested that such thanks could best be expressed by using the library "to (its) fullest capacity" and "by following your example in the future by showing such dedication to the college." He took his own advice, joining the Coe College Board of Trustees nine years ago. "I got reeled in and never really left," he says. "I have a strong bias for the strong liberal arts college experience."

Gehring, who also is a member of the Coe College Library Association, says he visits the library for receptions and also walks through to look at the art. "I still look at it as the 'new' library," he says. "When I consider that it's been 25 years, it just boggles my mind."

▲ Coe senior **David Gehring '89** stands with Coe President John E. Brown at the dedication of the remodeled and expanded Stewart Memorial Library in 1989. Gehring was chosen to speak about the difference the new facility had made to students.



◀ Longtime Coe photographer **George Henry '49** took this picture of **Marisol Bigler Stork '91** in early 1989, shortly after the expanded and remodeled Stewart Memorial Library opened. A large print of the photograph hangs in the Library to this day.

'SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PLACE'

Marisol Bigler Stork '91 well remembers the pictures **George Henry '49** took of her as she sat on the floor, looking for a library book. The picture of her looking at the camera was published in the first Bibliophile, in the spring of 1989, shortly after the newly remodeled and expanded Stewart Memorial Library reopened. A large version of this same Henry photo hangs in the library to this day.

"He gave me a copy of the picture, and I gave it to my parents, as proof that I was in the library, where I was supposed to be," she says.

Stork's father, **John Bigler Jr. '70**, met her mother, Suzanne deYcaza, at Coe. A couple of decades later, Stork met her husband, **Brian Stork '91**, at Coe. They live in Spring Lake, Michigan, and have two children, Jack, 13, and Marin, 9.

She remembers the "new" library opening in December 1988. "We were all feeling so gratified that we could use it," she says. "The outside was in keeping with the traditional architecture of the campus, but the inside felt so modern with its big windows and beautiful galleries. Each level was nice, with lots of nooks and crannies in addition to the open academic spaces. It was a regular study zone for me."

After Coe, Stork earned a Master's of Social Work degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She works today with an adult literacy program. She and her family visited the Coe campus four years ago during Iowa Private College Week, when all the buildings were open. They visited the library. "It's still such a beautiful space," she says.



▲ Marisol Bigler Stork '91

DOUGIE'S 'THINK BIG' GIFT BENEFITS LIBRARY

Doug Peters '81 has a motto that fuels his giving and his work as Coe's equipment manager. It is: "Start Small, Think Big."

Just about everyone on campus, past and present, knows "Dougie," as he likes to be called. And he likely remembers them from their years at Coe and their visits to the Eby Fieldhouse, where he presides over vast laundry and equipment rooms. He's there to hand out the clean clothing, and he's always curbside to deliver his patented "Dougie Wave-Off" as athletic teams leave campus for away games.



▲ Doug "Dougie" Peters '81 shows off the plaque that notes his gift of lounge furniture to the Stewart Memorial Library

What people may not know, though, is that Dougie has been "giving back" to Coe for years, ever since he paid off his school loans.

Dougie started working at Coe two days after he graduated in 1981 with a major in business, and he's only missed a few days of work since. He started giving \$50 a month and has gradually increased that amount. He's now giving \$400 a month, with a portion of that gift designated for the Stewart Memorial Library.

Dougie decided, with former Library Director Rich Doyle, that he'd like his gift to go toward new library tables, lamps, and couches. Doyle "fronted" the money, and Dougie paid off the balance in 10 years. He's now waiting to find out what the library wants next, so he can start paying toward another goal.

"Coe is my life, my beloved college," he says. **"I firmly believe in starting small, thinking big. If you give in increments, it doesn't hurt."**



▲ Stewart Memorial Library loaned this Grant Wood study for Daughters of Revolution to the Cincinnati Art Museum this fall. The study is now back in the Perrine Gallery.

GRANT WOOD STUDY LOANED TO CINCINNATI

One of the prize pieces in the Coe College art collection—a study by Grant Wood for his painting "Daughters of Revolution"—spent this fall at the Cincinnati Art Museum. The museum owns the 1932 Wood painting and displayed it with the Coe study in a show that ran through Nov. 16. The show also included Wood's famed "American Gothic," on loan from the Art Institute of Chicago, and works by other regionalist painters.

Wood's pencil-on-paper study (20 by 39.75 inches) typically hangs in the second-floor Perrine Gallery of the Stewart Memorial Library. It was donated to Coe in 1954 and was loaned in 1996 to the Museum of Art in Davenport, Iowa; in 2005 to the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art; and in 2006 to the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C.

Coe Gallery Director and Art Instructor **Jennifer Rogers '03** arranged the loan to Cincinnati and oversaw the complex packaging and shipping of the Wood piece.



Class of '14 Library Workers

Seven seniors who worked at the Stewart Memorial Library pose for a farewell photo. The 2014 Coe graduates are, from left, **Brenden Drahm**, now completing his student teaching; **Shanel Wermerskirchen**, traveling for a year before graduate school; **Michael Cranwill**, working for Boeing in Washington state; **Beth Rumpza**, attending the University of Iowa as a graduate student; **Rashad Harris**, working at a law firm in Wisconsin and applying to graduate schools for film studies; **Petreece Jones**, taking a year off before medical school; and **Kallie Bamsey**, working at CRST in Cedar Rapids.



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LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW HEAD OF REFERENCE



Elizabeth Hoover de Gálvez is the new head of reference for Stewart Memorial Library. The primary focus of her job is ensuring that Coe's students develop "information literacy," which requires teaching students how to find, evaluate and use information in a rapidly evolving technology landscape.

"The teaching is something I really enjoy," Hoover de Gálvez says. "We meet with all 25 classes of incoming freshmen at least once to welcome them

to the library and to begin introducing the research tools that the library provides. We also offer sessions to upper-level classes to assist them with their research, and we meet one-on-one with students whenever they need help. In addition, we work closely with faculty to tailor library instruction to specific assignments."

The final goal of the instruction, she adds, is to take students, "who primarily rely on Google to find answers, and show them the variety of resources available. We want to be sure they know how to confidently and efficiently find the right answers to their research questions and then communicate and cite their findings in a trustworthy fashion."

Information literacy isn't something that can be taught in a couple of sessions, she says. Rather, it is a set of skills that should be developed throughout a student's time at Coe.

"Students today have a flood of information available to them," she says. "The key can be figuring out how to narrow down research questions so as not to drown in information. We also teach students how to evaluate all of this information at their fingertips—how to identify legitimate, quality sources and how to identify those that are not. I'm constantly searching for better ways to illuminate the complexities of research for students. I want to make it easier for them by providing fantastic tools and databases and making sure they know how to use them."

Hoover de Gálvez also manages research databases and the new search engine, CoeQuest, which links many of Coe's research databases with the Library's physical collection and electronic books. "It allows students to search everything at once," she notes. "The user experience is comparable

to searching Google or Yahoo, but the records that are returned are trustworthy published sources—books and scholarly articles along with magazine and newspaper articles, and even primary sources." The CoeQuest link can be found on the library's website (library.coe.edu).

In addition, Hoover de Galvez works with Coe faculty in acquiring new subscriptions to electronic resources and in recommending additions to the library collection.

Hoover de Gálvez has a B.A. in health studies from the University of Iowa and an M.A. in library and information sciences from the University of Iowa, with a special interest in digital librarianship. She previously worked at the Coralville Public Library, UnityPoint Health-St. Luke's Hospital and Kaplan University.

"I've always loved libraries and databases," she says. "Even when I was in high school in West Des Moines, I was a library page. Given that, and how I really like helping people, this career chose me. I love the size of Coe and how it's small enough that the professors work directly with individual students."

— STEWART STORIES —

Do you have a fond memory of your time in the Coe library? Would you be willing to share it with readers of the Bibliophile?

If so, please send it our way for possible use in a new series, "Stewart Stories." It's a way of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Coe College Library Association and of the "new" Stewart Memorial Library.

You can email your story to Library Acquisitions Assistant Cheri Pettibone at cpettibo@coe.edu or mail it to her at Coe College, Stewart Memorial Library, 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. Audio files and videos are also welcome for the archives.