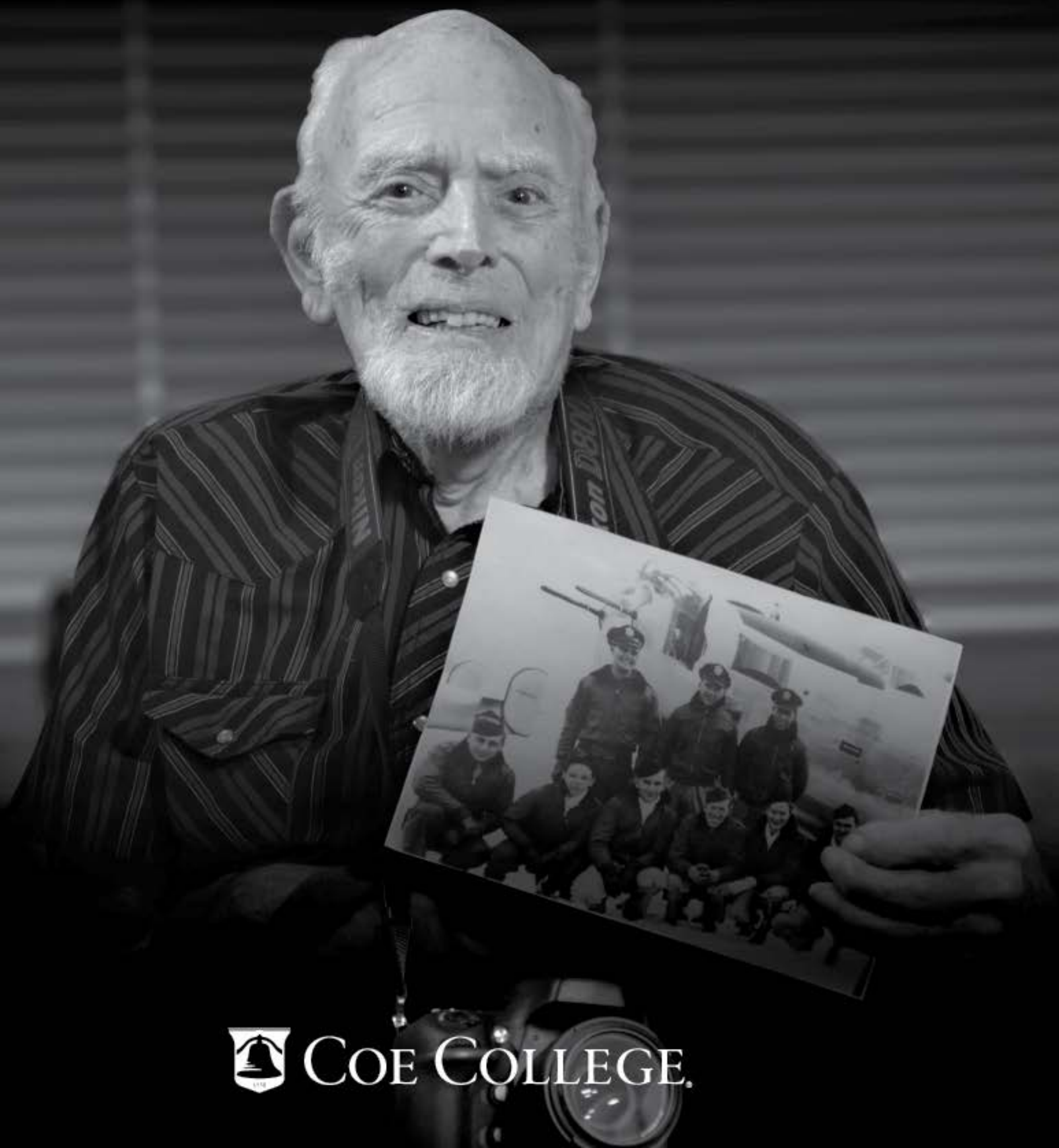


# COURIER

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— SPRING 2020 —



COE COLLEGE.





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Longtime Coe College photographer George Henry '49 reflects on his time in Coe's ROTC and in World War II.

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The beginning of a new decade provides a special opportunity to look forward to the many exciting possibilities ahead of us. With Dave McNally's announcement of his plan to retire following the 2020-2021 academic year, we look into a new decade that will include new leadership in the role of president. While we would have liked for Dave to continue working at Coe in this capacity for a longer period of time, we are grateful for the years we had and appreciate Dave and Janice's service to Coe. The Coe Board of Trustees will identify a search consultant, appoint a representative search committee including faculty, staff and students, and begin working with campus on the leadership transition. Dave's strong leadership has generated significant improvements across all areas, and thankfully, he will be leaving us with great positive momentum as we start the search for Coe's next president. It's also an appropriate time to reflect on where we've been and what brought us to where we are today. As Coe moves enthusiastically into this new decade, we review some of the highlights from 2010-2019 — and there are plenty of them.

The last 10 years were marked by growth and improvement in many areas of the college. We increased our enrollment by welcoming the seven largest classes in the history of Coe, and our student body is the most diverse it has ever been. We added over 20 new areas of study and established the Learning Commons to provide enhanced academic support and guidance to students. The C3: Creativity, Careers, Community center was created to help students explore career options and prepare them for the workforce through internships, experiential learning opportunities and connections with alumni and business partners. Our physical campus has seen many improvements as well, with renovations to Peterson and Hickok Halls, the creation of the Athletics & Recreation Complex and the addition of sustainability initiatives to transform the campus into an urban field station.

These achievements involved a great deal of hard work from many dedicated people, and the results speak for themselves. Coe continues to excel academically and garner national rankings and attention. The college was named a top producer of Fulbright students five times in the decade, and we have had Goldwater and Truman scholarship recipients in our midst, as well as Rhodes Scholar finalists. A few short years after the creation of C3, the college was named one of The Princeton Review's Top 25 Best Schools for Internships (2018, 2019). Coe was again named one of the nation's best for internships in 2020.

Many of these milestones came about as part of the Bolder Coe strategic plan, and we continue to work toward other initiatives laid out in that plan as we move forward. Our sights are firmly and eagerly set on the creation of the Center for Health and Society, which will offer unique learning experiences to prepare students for a variety of careers in the health sciences field. We also are intent on enhancing our performing arts programs and spaces to showcase the talents of our students and faculty and to further contribute to the flourishing cultural life of our community.

We can't reflect on this extraordinary decade for Coe without acknowledging the countless people who made it possible. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am deeply grateful to the students, faculty and staff who gave so generously of their time and talents. We also owe a great debt to all of you among our alumni body who graced our campus with your presence and who have continued to support Coe College in numerous ways. Please continue to fly your Kohawk colors in your communities as we look forward to another decade of progress as Coe moves ever onward and upward.

Ken Golder '82  
Board of Trustees Chairman

The below  
**TIMELINE**  
spans the pages of this  
Courier issue outlining  
many of the college's  
achievements over  
the past decade.

## DECADE IN REVIEW



### ATHLETICS

Over the past decade, Kohawk athletics generated 67 All-Americans, 21 Academic-All-Americans, 40 team qualifiers for the national tournament and five individual national champions.

## 2010



### NEW MAJORS

Since 2010, Coe added more than 20 areas of study, bringing our total to over 60 programs.

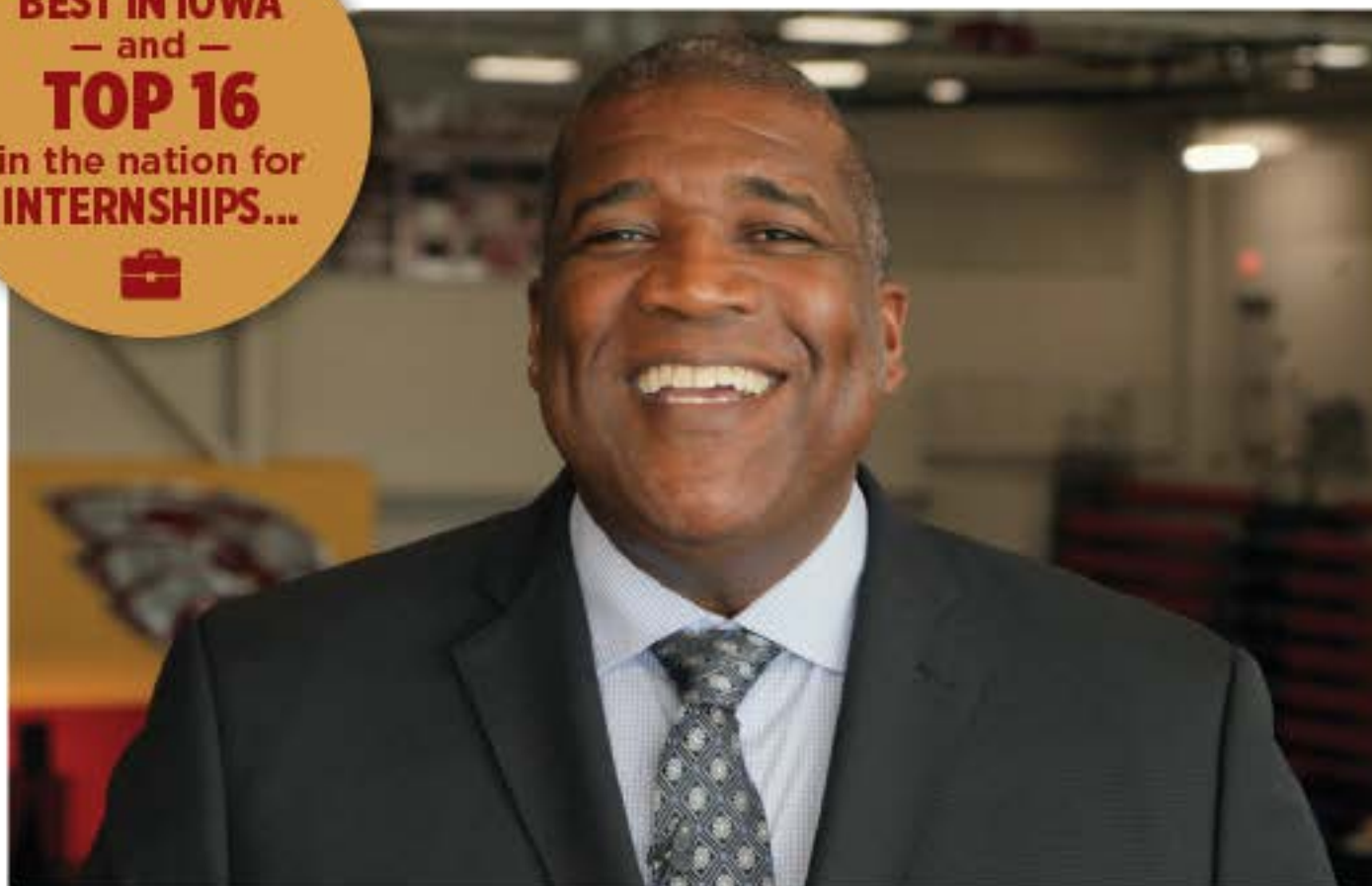


# CAMPUS BRIEFS

CURRENT NEWS AND EVENTS IN KOHAWK NATION

## IT'S A THREE-PEAT!

BEST IN IOWA  
— and —  
**TOP 16**  
in the nation for  
INTERNSHIPS...



For the third consecutive year, Coe College has been included in The Princeton Review's Top 25 Best Schools for Internships list. The Princeton Review credits Coe's location in a thriving metropolitan area, the C3: Creativity, Careers, Community center and graduate school placement as catalysts for inclusion in this prestigious ranking. This ranking puts Coe in the top 4% of all postsecondary schools in the nation for internships.

An integral part of this designation includes the generous help of our alumni

including FOX NFL co-host **Curt Menefee '87**. Menefee is not shy about telling his fans he got his start in television media right here in Cedar Rapids. He completed an internship at CNN during his time at Coe. But the experience he speaks most fondly of and credits the start of his career with was an internship with now-retired KCRG Sports Director John Campbell.

"I was a 19-year-old student and knew I wanted to do something in television," Menefee said. "KCRG was 10 minutes from Coe's campus. I worked there nights, weekends and holidays."

As a member of the Board of Trustees, Menefee has a special place in his heart for Coe. He previously helped communications and public relations alumna **Jessy Holen '19** land a production assistant position on "America's Top Dog" produced by MGM's Big Fish Entertainment.

Menefee now is providing a studio programming internship exclusive to Coe students with FOX Sports Media Group (FSMG). This paid position includes travel expenses to and from California, the cost of summer housing, transportation and meals all provided through the generosity of Menefee. The FSMG intern will work closely with producers, directors and talent of studio shows originating from the Fox Studios Lot in Los Angeles.

"We are excited about this unique opportunity for Coe students and grateful to Curt for making it accessible to all students," co-director for Coe's C3: Creativity, Careers, Community center **Barb Ernst Tupper '89** said. "Coe alumni are so passionate about helping current students succeed, and this internship is yet another example of this commitment."

"The continued involvement and generous assistance of our alumni continue to propel Coe College to new heights," President David McNally said. "We are beyond grateful for the daily support we receive from our alumni and our continued inclusion in this prestigious ranking."

### DECADE IN REVIEW

## 2011



**FLUNK DAY BIRTHDAY**  
In 2011, Kohawks and alumni celebrated 100 years of Flunk Day.

## 2012



### PETERSON HALL RENOVATION

In 2012, Peterson Hall of Science underwent a \$13 million renovation improving laboratory and office space as well as common areas supporting the physics, biology and chemistry departments.





## KOHAWK STARTUP EVENT AWARDS \$10,000 IN PRIZES TO COE STUDENTS

Kohawk Startup, Coe's second annual 24-hour entrepreneurship and innovation event, generated 35 aspiring innovators. Entrepreneur-in-Residence and Coe alumnus **David Tominsky '98** led the group through the entrepreneurial process from idea generation and business modeling to pitching and presenting.

The event began at 6:00 PM on Friday, November 8, and concluded at 6:00 PM on November 9. On Friday evening, ideas were pitched, teams were formed and research ensued. Throughout the day Saturday, teams received guidance from Cedar Rapids area leaders and worked through customer discovery and problem identification.

Thanks to generous support from entrepreneur, author and motivational speaker **Mark Harris '85**, cash prizes were awarded to the winning teams.

First place and \$5,000 was awarded to team Nodey, which pitched the idea of remote monitoring technology enabling the agriculture industry to make optimal decisions using real-time data about field conditions.

Second place and \$2,500 was awarded to team FullFilled with the concept of a data-driven social and gamified app connecting volunteers to nonprofits and nonprofits to donors.

Team Charlie's Community Garden was the third-place and audience choice winner receiving \$2,500. They pitched the idea of installing a hoop house to provide a direct supply of fresh produce to The Nest, Coe's on-campus food and necessities pantry.

"Kohawk Startup was an experience utterly unlike any other I've ever encountered," said **Maria Cargille '23**, a

member of team Charlie's Community Garden. "Because we had all come together based on the expectation that we were going to have to be willing to compromise and let our plans shift and flow, we managed to work effectively as a team with strangers in order to get an incredible amount done in a very short amount of time. Twenty-four hours has never taught me so much."

The top three teams have continued to meet with Tominsky for follow-up consultation and to expand their entrepreneurial spirit. With Tominsky's entrepreneur-in-residence position, he maintains a dedicated space on Coe's campus for one-on-one entrepreneurial coaching, available to all current Kohawks.

## 2013



### NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

Coe was named a top producer of U.S. Fulbright students five times in the decade. Coe also produced Goldwater and Truman scholarship recipients and Rhodes Scholar finalists.



### A TRANSITION OF LEADERSHIP

Dr. James Phifer's 18-year career as president at Coe led us into the decade. In 2013, Dr. David McNally took the helm as president of Coe College.



# MIT AGELAB DIRECTOR

## HEADLINES COE'S 17TH ANNUAL CONTEMPORARY ISSUES FORUM

Joseph F. Coughlin, Ph.D., of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology AgeLab, provided a glimpse into the future at this year's Contemporary Issues Forum on February 18.

Coughlin's career research provides insights on how demographic change, technology, social trends and consumer behavior converge to drive future innovations in business and government.

Coughlin challenged the audience to create a new vision of old age. He detailed advances in technology related to transportation, home automation and health care to assist the elderly. Some of these technologies, such as autonomous cars, exist presently but are not yet perfected or widely available.

In rethinking old age, instead of creating a retirement plan, Coughlin encouraged individuals to create a longevity plan. "People are living longer — close to a century in some cases. They need to plan for an additional 25 years of life following their career," Coughlin said.

He quickly discredited the myth that the elderly population is resistant to technology and went on to explain what the elderly don't like is "bad tech."

"Older adults have a higher bar for tech adoption. It needs to exceed the purpose of what they are already using to be worthwhile," Coughlin said.

To further discredit the myth, Coughlin pointed out the aging population likes the features of high-tech cars and the functionality of iPads. He used the example of being able to remove your glasses, adjust the font size on an iPad and still enjoy the features of the device. "Tech needs to be exciting and delighting for the consumer to buy-in," Coughlin said.

As a globally aging society, Coughlin explained the importance of the need to think about what the future looks like. Think about how and where we live, how we engage with others, how we receive health care and the "cool yet creepy role tech plays" in our lives.

By 2030 Coughlin predicted 60% of health care will be digital and 40% will be face-to-face. And personalized technology, including wearable devices that download our heart rate, exercise and sleeping patterns, may play a role in our health care.

"We're already living in an app-based economy facilitating virtual assisted living through the use of smart speakers,

meal delivery kits and ride-share," Coughlin said. "Convenience and connectivity are here to stay."

Coughlin encouraged college students to prepare for a world where school is never out: We are always learning and staying agile to changes in our environments.

Author of "The Longevity Economy: Inside the World's Fastest Growing, Most Misunderstood Market," Coughlin focuses on enhanced quality of life by developing new business and policy strategies that respond to the demands of today's and tomorrow's older adults.

Coughlin is a Behavioral Sciences Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and a Fellow of Switzerland's World Demographics & Aging Forum, advising and speaking to businesses, governments and nonprofits worldwide.

*Established by the late K. Raymond Clark '30, the Contemporary Issues Forum presents the views of distinguished leaders whose work has shaped and altered the course of world events. The forum has featured former U.S. President George H.W. Bush, former Polish President Lech Walesa, deep-sea oceanographer Robert Ballard, civil rights activist Myrlie Evers-Williams, former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, "Doonesbury" cartoonist Garry Trudeau, ecology expert Jared Diamond, documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Leonard Pitts, celebrated author Sir Salman Rushdie, former Senate Majority Leader and Special Envoy George Mitchell, Pulitzer Prize-winning global health expert Laurie Garrett, legendary soccer player Abby Wambach, leading commentator on race Jelani Cobb, environmentalists and social entrepreneurs Yvon Chouinard and Craig Mathews and world-renowned astrophysicist Dr. Jocelyn Bell Burnell.*



### DECADE IN REVIEW

## 2013



### INCREASED ENROLLMENT AND DIVERSITY

Since the 2013-2014 academic year, Coe has welcomed the seven largest incoming classes in its history, including the most diverse classes in its history.

## 2014



## COE COLLEGE

Coe makes it possible. You make it happen.

### COE BRANDING

Coe introduced a new logo and marketing campaign: "Coe makes it possible. You make it happen."



# SPORTS SHORTS

A HIGHLIGHT REEL OF KOHAWK ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT

## NEW FACES IN SPORTS

Coe recently announced the addition of varsity sports including a clay target team, women's bowling and women's triathlon. Competitive sports clubs also were added in archery, esports, men's bowling and men's triathlon. As we start new athletic teams here at Coe, we welcome some new faces to the Athletic Department. Visit the athletic website at [www.kohawkathletics.com](http://www.kohawkathletics.com) for additional information.



### **PATRICK CORY**

*Head Coach, Clay Target Team*

**As a coach, what values do you have for the team?**

Gun safety. Gun education. Camaraderie. Competition.

**What is the most rewarding part of being a coach?**

Helping student-athletes develop into their full potential athletically, cognitively, socially and emotionally.

**In terms of your coaching philosophy, what can our fans expect?**

You will see us working a process with every repetition. We get control, have a plan and trust/execute the plan the best we can. You will see our team take its preparation and competition very seriously but not themselves. We know what we are doing is for the excitement of improving and competing, but it is not permanent, personal or pervasive in regard to our value and character.

**What makes you different from other coaches?**

I'm a professional educator and coach. All my training and professional development for the last 25 years is funneled to helping others reach their full potential and experience peak performance.



### **RANDY DODGE**

*Head Coach, Men's & Women's Bowling*

**As a coach, what values do you have for the team?**

To help our student-athletes grow as people, students and bowlers.

**What is the most rewarding part of being a coach?**

Watching our players learn and become successful in the classroom and on the lanes and becoming true members of a team and family!

**In terms of your coaching philosophy, what can our fans expect?**

For our team to be focused and determined and to have each other to lean on as needed. Teamwork and trust are the main components to success in college bowling.

**What makes you different from other coaches?**

I believe in the student-athletes I recruit, and they become a part of my family. I see something in each player as opposed to lumping them all together. Not all athletes can be treated or coached the same. I feel I can bring the best out in each athlete by really paying attention to them as a person.

## 2015



### **DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEARNING COMMONS**

In 2015, the Learning Commons was established in Stewart Memorial Library.



### **MAKE YOUR MOVE CAMPAIGN FOR EBY AND HICKOK**

Coe launched the Make Your Move campaign for Eby Fieldhouse and Hickok Hall to create new academic, athletic and recreation spaces for Kohawks.



# NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR APPRECIATES THE PAST WITH A VISION FOR THE FUTURE



After a decorated college baseball career and three years in the minor leagues, including the Cedar Rapids Kernels, Steve Cook knew exactly where he wanted to be...coaching baseball at Coe College.

"The experiences I had in college led me to want to get into coaching and are the reason I've stayed at Coe for as long as I have," Cook said.

In 1996, Cook took the role of assistant baseball coach at Coe and started as an admission counselor soon thereafter. By the following year, he took over as head baseball coach and now is in his 24th season in this role.

Cook credits his combined role for much of his success as a coach. "My admission and recruiting background set me up to see higher education in a different way," Cook said. "You learn a lot about people and have a better sense of managing them. You're able to get the best out of the people you're working with."

And getting the best out of people is exactly what Cook does. In 2019, he celebrated his 500th win as head baseball coach. "When I celebrate, I'm celebrating my athletes, my wife and kids and my parents," Cook said. "It really hit me; it's great to be humble, but there are moments you need to accept the spotlight and undoubtedly share that with the players."

Cook's lengthy and winning career shows no signs of slowing down. After serving as assistant athletic director for approximately 15 years, he now leads the department as director of athletics and recreation.

While Cook will retain his position as head baseball coach, he's looking forward to working on big picture items and moving the department forward at a more macro level. "This opens the door for me to focus on long-term planning, the overall vision of athletics at the college and the student-athlete experience," Cook said.

"We are thrilled to have Steve Cook as Coe's new director of athletics and recreation."

His substantial career at Coe and insight as assistant athletic director made him the perfect choice to take our athletic department to new heights," President Dave McNally said. "Steve is prepared to lead Kohawk athletics with the same passion and tenacity with which he has led the baseball team the last 23 seasons."

Cook credits his long history at Coe for his foresight as an athletic director. "I feel like I grew up at Coe. I have an appreciation for the past that is firmly built in the history of the college as well as the vision and aspiration to change the future," Cook said. And his passion for Coe athletics is evident through a motto he uses with his players, "It's not always easy...but everything you do...do it with passion."

Cook will look to several of his mentors including longtime Coe supporters John Chandler, Bill Quinby, Steve Staker and Bob Timmons for encouragement in his new endeavor. "I learned my work ethic and values from John, and Bill is amazing at using history to add perspective to the future," Cook said. "Coach Staker showed me how to build strong relationships with athletes, alumni and parents, while Bob taught me how to demand a lot from players but to also offer care and support at the same time." The values Cook adopted from his mentors will be at the forefront of his new role.

And if that's not enough, he has plenty of Coe family ties ready to lend a helping hand. Steve married into the Staker family when he met his wife **Shannon Staker** Cook '06 at Coe. In addition to his father-in-law, Cook is in good company with **Tyler Staker '06**, **Kristy Upah Staker '08**, **Lance Staker '93** and **Julie Kleis Staker '93**, all with considerable ties to Coe. "When you marry into the Stakers, you marry Coe," Cook said with a smile.

As the college started a new chapter in the new decade, so did the Athletic Department. Cook began his new role as director of athletics and recreation in January.

## DECADE IN REVIEW

# 2016



### C3: CREATIVITY, CAREERS, COMMUNITY

The C3: Creativity, Careers, Community center was established in 2016 to connect students with alumni, business partners, internship opportunities and more.



### DIVERSITY INITIATIVES

In 2016, the Intercultural Center, Reflection Room and LGBTQIA+ Resource Center opened in Gage Memorial Union.



*"I've always admired Steve's coaching ability in the field of baseball. He has the temperament and the ability to oversee a program that at first he had to develop some fine young players. I feel that Coe has made a very fine decision in hiring him as their new director of athletics."*

— **BILL QUINBY**

Friend, mentor and former athletic director at Coe

*"I think he will do an outstanding job. He's a good man — knows conference and Coe athletics very well. A great choice!"*

— **BOB TIMMONS**

Friend, mentor and former head softball coach at Coe

*"Coach Cook is a great role model and spent as much time developing me as a person as he did trying to develop me as a baseball player. His drive to get the best out of everyone has created a lasting bond with his players and Coe made a great choice that will benefit all of athletics."*

— **MITCH BOCKENSTEDT '06**

*"There is no individual in my life, outside of my parents, who has had a greater influence on my character than Steve Cook. As a player, Coach Cook taught me how to put the team first, what it meant to be a leader and to attack everything I do with passion."*

— **JON REINER '09**

*"Coach Cook was a big reason why I decided to attend Coe. He motivated me to become the type of player he always saw inside of me, and for that, I am grateful. His dedication to the athletes and students of Coe over his many years with the college speaks for itself and is one of the many reasons I am proud to call him Coach."*

— **SCOTT DEANGELIS '12**

*"The impact Coach Cook has had on me is immeasurable. His high intensity and immense passion for the game of baseball is contagious and I've seen how it elevates players and coaches around him."*

— **PAT RICHMOND '10**



*Cook pictured with his wife and four of his six daughters.*

## 2017



### A BOLDER COE

In 2017, Coe's strategic plan, A Bolder Coe, was created.



### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Coe's campus was transformed into an urban field station through a variety of sustainability initiatives. The green roof on Gage Memorial Union, rain gardens throughout campus and solar panels on Clark Racquet Center allow the campus to serve as a living laboratory. Endowments received allow Kohawks to continue studying sustainability efforts at Coe's Wilderness Field Station in the Boundary Waters of Minnesota.





#### DECADE IN REVIEW

## 2017



**HICKOK HALL AND EBY/ATHLETICS AND RECREATION COMPLEX RENOVATIONS WERE COMPLETED.**



**TOP 25 SCHOOL FOR INTERNSHIPS**  
Coe was named one of The Princeton Review's Top 25 Best Schools for Internships in the nation...two years in a row...and last year Coe was #15 among ALL colleges and universities in the nation.

## 2018

**THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION VISITED CAMPUS TO RE-AFFIRM COE'S ACCREDITATION.**



# Coming home

**Kristin Patterson** Lenz '96 learned about Coe College at a very young age. "The first time I visited Coe, I was an infant," Kristin said. She traveled to Coe with her parents, former Trustee **Tony Patterson '70** and **MaryLou Britt Patterson '70**, for Tony to attend board meetings.

Coe was a common language spoken in the Patterson household. Kristin routinely wore Coe apparel, and Tony and MaryLou would host visitors from Coe at their home in Texas. "They were always doing things related to Coe in the Dallas area," Kristin remembers.

When it came time for college, Kristin applied to several and was accepted at all of them. "I had applied to Coe as a token to my parents," she said. But it was her college visit to Coe that sealed the deal. "I had never been anywhere so friendly, and that's not an exaggeration," Kristin said. "I felt at home instantly and couldn't believe professors wrote letters to me following my visit.

"Some of my favorite memories of my time at Coe include the everyday moments on the Tri-Delt wing. We would all line the hallway and chat," Kristin said. "Over J-term I traveled to Paris and to Aspen, Colorado. I spent my junior year J-term on campus learning about the history of jazz. Those were some of the best times of my life."

Kristin got to know her professors on a personal level and wanted to make them proud. "They taught me to advocate for myself as a lifelong learner. I still use these skills today," Kristin said. "I love researching and reading; this was instilled in me by my professors."

Kristin met her husband, **Brian Lenz '96**, at Coe. They sat next to each other during their first-year seminar in Dr. Edmund Burke's humanities class. Brian was an athlete, and Kristin enjoyed cheering for him at games.

"Brian and I both got jobs right out of college thanks to introductions made by our professors and coaches. With all of the support offered, Coe made me believe everything was possible," Kristin said. Learning to write and to speak in front of people were two of the most valuable skills they learned at Coe. "So many of my classes incorporated this, and it only increased my confidence in my work today," Kristin said.

Brian was inducted into the Coe College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2019. He was a three-sport standout athlete earning accolades in football, baseball and track and field. "The Hall of Fame induction was such a special honor for Brian and a great recognition of how hard he worked while he was at Coe," Kristin said.

Now every time they visit Coe, it feels like they're coming home. "It's like we're going to my parents' house; it's the same level of comfort and excitement," Kristin said. They used to make plans to try to see everyone and do everything when they returned to Coe each Homecoming. Now they just show up and have fun. "It's a unique experience each time. You aren't just coming back to visit friends; you're also here to see the coaches, faculty and staff. Everyone on campus makes you feel like you're a part of the community," Kristin said.

And now Coe has come full circle for Kristin. Her and Brian's oldest daughter, **Kallin Lenz '22**, is a sophomore on campus, and Kristin recently joined the Board of Trustees.

"Our daughter, Kallin, has always loved Coe. We've brought our kids back every year for Homecoming," Kristin said. "They've grown up wearing Coe gear. Kallin even had a Coe pennant hanging in her room." Kallin's Coe visit was similar to Kristin's: Everyone said hello, and the professors were welcoming. "Coach Meyer and the entire softball team welcomed her. It's such a culture where everyone belongs," Kristin said.

"As a little kid, every year I looked forward to coming down for Homecoming, as if it were a holiday. Listening to my parents' and grandparents' stories from their college days was always so exciting because it truly was a positive experience for all of them," Kallin said. "Coe is now my school and a piece of my life rather than looking at it through the eyes of my parents. The collection of stories and memories all of us can share is comical and interesting as it highlights the changes of Coe over generations."

Kristin is honored to carry on the legacy of her father on Coe's Board of Trustees. "I admire him for what he did," Kristin said. "Coe is just a part of who I am, and I'll do whatever I can for Coe for generations to come."

The Lenz family plans to continue coming "home" annually for Homecoming. What's in store for the other four Lenz children? We hope they find their home at Coe...

## 2019



**CCBAA READING ROOM**  
The Coe College Black Alumni Association Reading Room was established in Stewart Memorial Library.

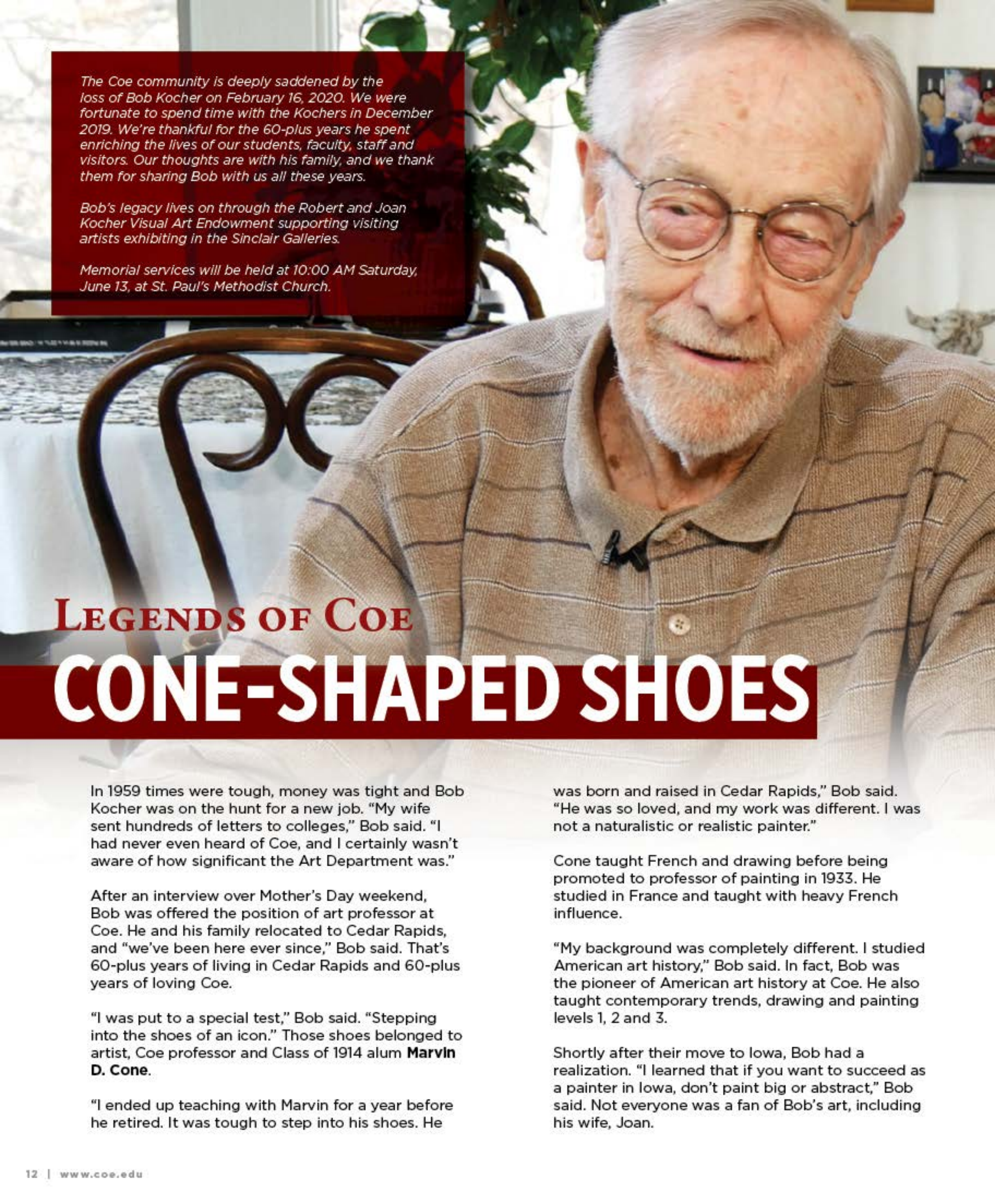


**NEW SPORTS ADDED**  
Clay target team, women's bowling, women's triathlon, archery, esports, men's bowling and men's triathlon are now offered.

## THE PAST DECADE HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF REMARKABLE AT COE.

Please consider making a donation to make your impact on Kohawks for decades to come at [www.alumni.coe.edu](http://www.alumni.coe.edu).





*The Coe community is deeply saddened by the loss of Bob Kocher on February 16, 2020. We were fortunate to spend time with the Kochers in December 2019. We're thankful for the 60-plus years he spent enriching the lives of our students, faculty, staff and visitors. Our thoughts are with his family, and we thank them for sharing Bob with us all these years.*

*Bob's legacy lives on through the Robert and Joan Kocher Visual Art Endowment supporting visiting artists exhibiting in the Sinclair Galleries.*

*Memorial services will be held at 10:00 AM Saturday, June 13, at St. Paul's Methodist Church.*

## LEGENDS OF COE

# CONE-SHAPED SHOES

In 1959 times were tough, money was tight and Bob Kocher was on the hunt for a new job. "My wife sent hundreds of letters to colleges," Bob said. "I had never even heard of Coe, and I certainly wasn't aware of how significant the Art Department was."

After an interview over Mother's Day weekend, Bob was offered the position of art professor at Coe. He and his family relocated to Cedar Rapids, and "we've been here ever since," Bob said. That's 60-plus years of living in Cedar Rapids and 60-plus years of loving Coe.

"I was put to a special test," Bob said. "Stepping into the shoes of an icon." Those shoes belonged to artist, Coe professor and Class of 1914 alum **Marvin D. Cone**.

"I ended up teaching with Marvin for a year before he retired. It was tough to step into his shoes. He

was born and raised in Cedar Rapids," Bob said. "He was so loved, and my work was different. I was not a naturalistic or realistic painter."

Cone taught French and drawing before being promoted to professor of painting in 1933. He studied in France and taught with heavy French influence.

"My background was completely different. I studied American art history," Bob said. In fact, Bob was the pioneer of American art history at Coe. He also taught contemporary trends, drawing and painting levels 1, 2 and 3.

Shortly after their move to Iowa, Bob had a realization. "I learned that if you want to succeed as a painter in Iowa, don't paint big or abstract," Bob said. Not everyone was a fan of Bob's art, including his wife, Joan.





"You've had such a wonderful life. Why do you make such ugly art," Joan routinely teased Bob. "There are thousands of people making art. My work is original," Bob responded with a grin.

In addition to teaching classes, Bob ran Coe's Fine Arts Festival, a weeklong performance exhibition, for approximately 10 years. "We hosted many important people including [violinist] Isaac Stern and Truman Capote," Bob said.

Bob wasn't the only member of the Kocher family dedicated to Coe. Joan served as the first lady of Coe's Art Department for many years. "In the beginning, I prepared all the food for the Fine Arts Festival, and we hosted many of the participants," Joan said. "Then I had three children and got busy." She also was an active member of the Martha Marquis group, bridge club and book club.

Bob and Joan had many opportunities to travel while Bob taught at Coe. They went to Mexico, London, Paris and even spent one of Bob's sabbaticals in New Mexico where he developed an appreciation for Southwestern art.

They also developed a love of creating art together. Their specialty was Trapunto, two pieces of canvas sewn together, stuffed and painted. Bob would create the design, Joan would sew the pieces together then stuff them and Bob would paint the canvas.

"I couldn't sew," Bob said. Which made Bob and Joan the perfect team. "I sewed a great deal and made a lot of our children's clothing," Joan said.

Their most well-known piece of Trapunto art is known as "Watermelon and Cactus." It also happens to be their final piece. "I started pinning the fabric, and



it was too painful for my hands,” Joan said. They finished the piece, and that was the end of their time as an art duo.

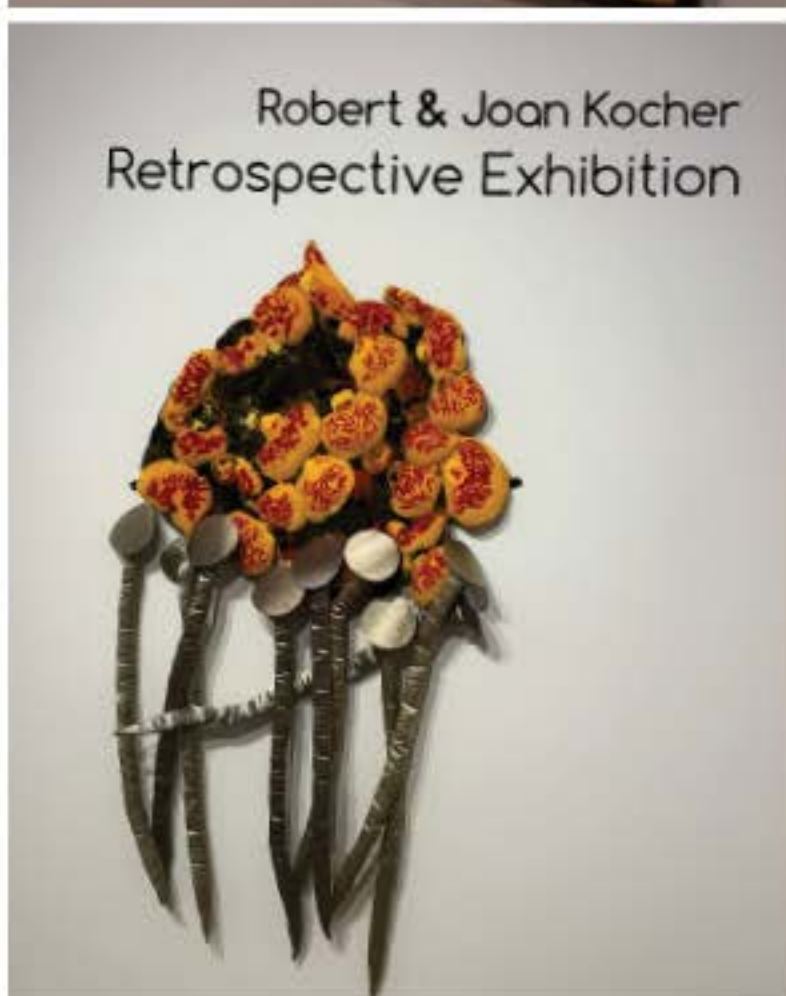
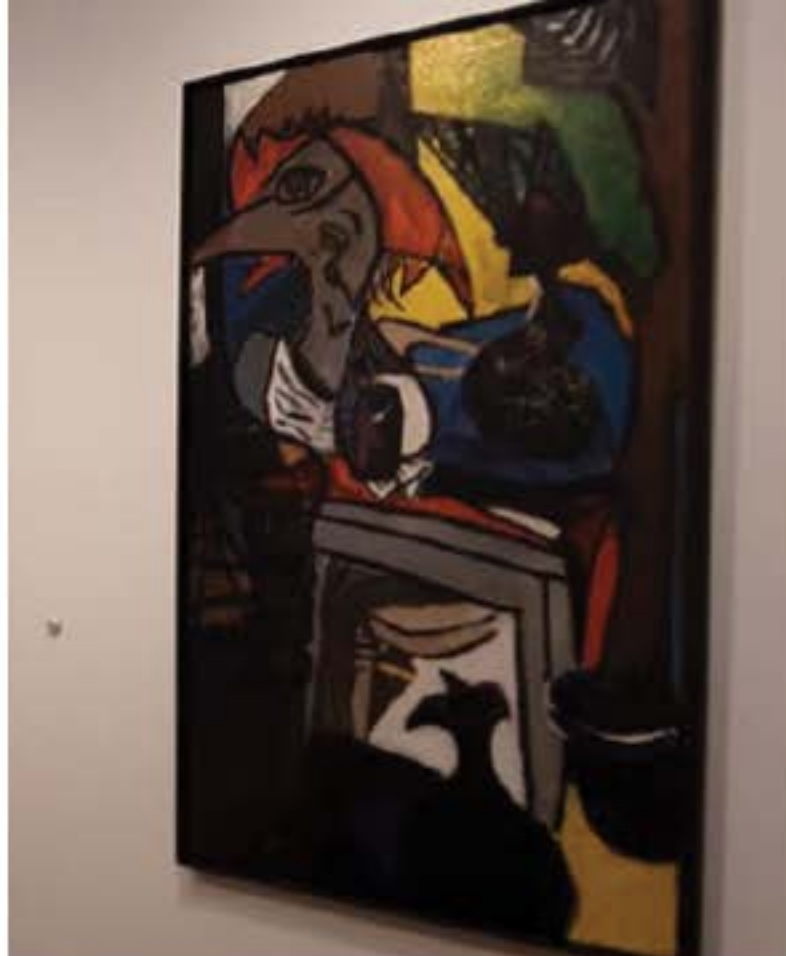
After Bob retired from Coe with emeritus status, he was asked by then-President James Phifer to serve as curator of Coe’s art collection. Fulfilling that role allowed him to stay actively involved with an institution he had grown to love. Bob wrapped up his role as curator in 2013 but remained active with Coe until his passing.

Bob and Joan have generously shared their lives, time, knowledge and constant guidance and support to Coe students and faculty. “Together, they have given so much to the Coe community,” Associate Professor of Art **Jen Hovey Rogers ’03** said. “They religiously attended art openings, plays and musical performances. Furthermore, the Robert and Joan Kocher Visual Art Endowment supports visiting artists who exhibit in the Sinclair Galleries and engage with Coe students, as well as an annual prize awarded to a Coe student.”

When Bob, at the age of 90, was asked about the highlight of his career he didn’t hesitate. “It was our retrospective exhibition because Joan and I were introduced as a team,” Bob said. He was referring to the Robert and Joan Kocher Retrospective Exhibition that served as the 2019-20 academic year opening show in Coe’s Sinclair Galleries.

Their love for each other, their art, Coe and Cedar Rapids kept Bob and Joan active for over six decades.

And those Cone-shaped shoes, once they were broken in, turned out to be rather comfortable.











Coe alumni are *incredibly*

# SOCIAL

*Social media has taken over the world. Well, that may be a bit of an exaggeration, but for 3.2 billion people, it has become an essential part of their daily lifestyle. While social media originated on a personal level, the business world has seized the opportunity to leverage this mode of communication in its favor.*

According to statista.com, approximately 90% of all businesses have a presence on social media and are utilizing it to raise brand awareness. Businesses benefit from a lower cost of advertising, targeting niche audiences and the ability to view in real-time whether their marketing efforts are paying off.

"Social media allows businesses, even those with small promotion budgets, to post timely information of interest to customers," Roger and Mary Baxter Professor of Business Administration and World Affairs Dr. Pam Carstens said. "Whether that information is in the form of a sales promotion or a video, it's a way to gain attention and engage with customers. Active social media use is a sign to customers, though not the only sign of a business's credibility."

Whether they are entrepreneurs or experts in their field, several alumni are especially active on social media. They happily shared their social success and insight into the ever-changing landscape of social networks.



INSTAGRAM: BRI.HULL  
FASHION | FOOD | LIFESTYLE





## Kristin Patterson Lenz '96

### BLOGGER AND ENTREPRENEUR

Lenz serves as blogger and creator of White Arrows Home. Her blog features rustic and vintage decor from her Northwoods Wisconsin log cabin home.

She thoroughly enjoys sharing encouragement and inspiration with her 46,500-plus followers. As a lover of all things decorating, entertaining and hospitality, she is happy to share this part of her life with her followers. "I have a great following that communicates with me daily," Lenz said.

"I discovered blogs around 2008. As I was reading them, I started thinking I could do this," Lenz said. She sat on the idea for a couple of years before she decided to give it a try. "It was like learning a whole new language, but it was so much fun," Lenz said.

Lenz is thankful her Coe education taught her to advocate for herself, ask for help and look for answers. "The writing and speaking experience I gained at Coe was invaluable," Lenz said. "I still use these skills in my everyday life."

After establishing her blog, she branched out to Instagram where her following multiplied. She's been able to turn blogging and Instagram into a career. "Right now it funds the classes and workshops I want to attend," Lenz said. "My blog is self-funding, but I have big financial goals."

Lenz encourages anyone looking to grow through social media to be consistent, set new goals each day and truly care about their followers. "It's helpful to be featured by other influencers and magazines," Lenz said. Her hard work has paid off: She is launching a podcast, "The Cabincast," and has just signed with a literary agent to write her first book.



**INSTAGRAM: WHITEARROWSHOME**  
*RUSTIC AND VINTAGE DECOR,  
ENTERTAINING AND HOSPITALITY*



**FOLLOWERS**



## Brianna Hull '15

### BRAND AND CONTENT MARKETING MANAGER

As a newcomer to the business side of social media promoting her personal brand, Hull doesn't consider herself a social influencer. "I am a lifestyle blogger sharing content on empowerment and growth, health and wellness and fashion," Hull said. She uses social media as a means to connect with a broader audience and to direct followers to her blog.

Hull credits her major-focused courses at Coe with helping her understand how to create engaging content worth reading. She suggests thoroughly planning your content before launching a blog or on social media. "Ever since I sat down and mapped out what I want to share, when I want to share it and how it helps me reach my goals, not only is creating content easier, but it's also more enjoyable and less stressful," Hull said.

"The easiest way to stand out and grow is to have a plan and goals, be consistent and authentic and be as niche as possible," Hull said. She has gained the majority of her followers by making authentic connections.

Hull's ultimate goal as a blogger is to empower women to feel their best. And her key to success is "when someone following me has been inspired or empowered to try something new or different, which in turn helps them grow and feel more confident," Hull said.



**FOLLOWERS**





## Max Schmarzo '15

**DIRECTOR OF SPORT SCIENCE**

Schmarzo runs the Instagram account, website and more for Strong by Science, a science-based approach to athletic training. He considers himself an educator and promoter of like interests as opposed to an influencer for his 141,000-plus followers.

"My success on Instagram is somewhat based on luck," Schmarzo said. "I develop posts that people seem to enjoy." He looks at social media similar to marketing or product development. "You need to convey a specific message that someone can consume in 30 seconds or less," Schmarzo said.

His Instagram account and career go hand in hand; he is the director of sport science at Resilience Code, concierge health and fitness services, in Colorado.

"My education at Coe was in athletic training and serves as the backbone for the knowledge I share," Schmarzo said. He believes learning is key and enjoys sharing the educational information he consumes. "I like to create posts regarding fitness, health and nutrition. I enjoy sharing what I learn," Schmarzo said.

Schmarzo's advice for anyone looking to increase their social media presence is consistency and hard work. "Measure whether or not you're moving forward, and don't compare yourself to the Kardashians. It's not going to happen overnight," he said. His ultimate goal is to develop an online educational platform in the fitness and performance world.



**INSTAGRAM: STRONG\_BY\_SCIENCE**  
SCIENCE-BASED  
ATHLETIC TRAINING



**FOLLOWERS**

"My son Max is my inspiration and who I look to for guidance on my social media accounts," Bill said.



**TWITTER: @SCHMARZO**  
DEAN OF BIG DATA #DOBD



## Bill Schmarzo '79

**CHIEF INNOVATION OFFICER, AUTHOR AND EXECUTIVE FELLOW**

Schmarzo believes he's become an influencer by default. In the 1980s he wrote whitepapers as a mechanism for making information available. As technology advanced and social media became mainstream, he branched out to Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. "Social media is a vehicle for me to share my knowledge," Schmarzo said.

He credits Coe for teaching him the importance of writing and believes a holistic education prepares you for the world. "If you can't communicate what you know, what's the use in knowing it," Schmarzo said.

Schmarzo encourages his followers to write about what they love. The Dean of Big Data begins his day at 4:30 AM. He's up early to spend time writing prior to his job as chief innovation officer at Hitachi Vantara. He is also an author and educator working late nights and weekends creating content to keep his 37,800-plus social media followers engaged.

His ultimate goal on social media is to generate content, share knowledge and create engagement. "It's helpful to write about the industry I work in. I often use scenarios from my work life for case studies," Schmarzo said. "I post a lot; it helps me engage with others in my line of work. I've been told my engagement levels are some of the best in the industry."



**FOLLOWERS**





## Chloe Crain '17

### ENTREPRENEUR

Crain considers herself an entrepreneur who uses social media to grow her business. "My company is called Deeper Than Money, and we are on a mission to help millennials get ahead with money for good," Crain said. While she's been on social media on a personal level for quite some time, she didn't start using it to grow her business until a few years ago.

She credits her education in economics for her problem-solving skills. At Coe, she learned how to tackle real-world problems by tracking them and mapping out solutions. Crain believes having a growth mindset and being ready to problem-solve in business and social media is vital.

Crain encourages anyone using social media to grow their business to be authentic. "Authenticity is everything. Whether you are growing your own company or you want to become an influencer to market a different company's product, it's important that your audience knows, likes and trusts you," Crain said. She also suggested that for your audience to know and trust you, you need to be consistent about posting on social media.

Her ultimate goal isn't to grow her followers, it's to increase her revenue and impact. With 16,300-plus followers, Crain reminded us to not focus too much on growing followers. "Make your focus about providing massive value for the followers you do have," Crain said. She also imparted the wisdom that your follower count doesn't show how successful you are or make you successful at business.



FOLLOWERS



INSTAGRAM: DEEPER.THAN.MONEY  
MILLENNIAL MONEY COACH



FOLLOWERS



## Silvie Lehtis Janssen '17

### CORPORATE SOCIAL MEDIA

Janssen is making a splash in the social influencer scene. She uses Instagram to bring approachable gluten-free recipes with whole, simple ingredients and big flavor to her 4,000-plus followers.

She originally got her start on Instagram as a way to connect with friends and family over food. And she works full time curating social media for a food brand that allows for convenient crossover between the two worlds.

"Part of what I do involves pitching my platform to brands so we can hopefully work together in a mutually beneficial way," Janssen said. "My major in public relations at Coe helped with this immensely." And while Janssen considers herself an influencer, she believes most people are influencers in their own way. "I look at what I do as providing helpful and inspiring content to my audience," Janssen said.

Janssen's advice to anyone looking to get into social media is to be themselves and know the right audience is out there. "Learn to roll with the punches because the world of social media is changing every single day," Janssen said.



INSTAGRAM: SEASONEDBYSILVIE  
HEALTHY GLUTEN FREE RECIPES

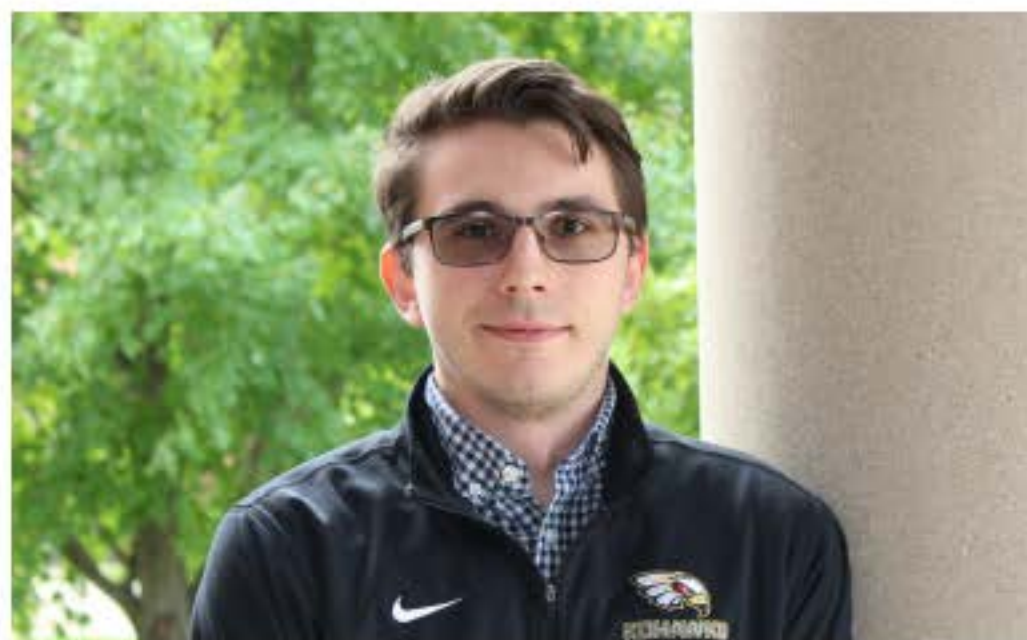
*The moral of the social influencer story echoed by each of our interviewees is to **be authentic, consistent and persistent**. Write about what you love and your passion will shine through in your social media and blog posts. And engagement is key. **Engage as much and as often as you can** with your followers to develop relationships and to keep those followers eagerly coming back for more.*



# SCHOLARSHIPS

At Coe, we believe a student's access to quality education should never be denied simply because they are unable to afford tuition. Our priority is to provide students with need-based and merit-based scholarships and minimize student loans — and it is the support of our donors that makes this possible.

Today, more than 99% of Coe students receive financial assistance, and more than 75% of student financial aid comes from scholarships and grants. Coe provides over \$1.6 million in student aid each year from our Annual Fund and endowed scholarships. Through the support of our donors, these funds help make tuition costs more affordable for our students and their families. We have been able to attract and enroll some of the most academically talented students, and with your help, we can open our doors to more outstanding students who will become the next generation of leaders.



**Patrick Kralik '20** has had no shortage of hands-on learning opportunities at Coe. The senior physics major from Illinois has been conducting research since he was a first-year student, working with Fran Allison and Francis Halpin Professor of Physics **Marlo Affatigato '89** and Associate Professor of Physics Ugur Akgun on glass materials science projects. He also has performed astrophysics research with Assistant Professor of Physics Firdevs Duru.

As a member of the Physics Club, Kralik has shared his knowledge and love of science with others in the community through various outreach projects. He has been a regular participant in Coe's Playground of Science, an annual event that brings interactive scientific demonstrations to hundreds of children in the Cedar Rapids area. He also helped bring a fully functioning version of Nobel Prize-winning physicist Robert Millikan's oil drop experiment apparatus to Maquoketa Valley High School and worked with students and teachers to recreate the experiment.

Kralik's time at Coe has allowed him to explore other areas beyond physics as well. He renewed an interest in chemistry that began in high school and discovered a passion for writing by taking journalism and creative writing courses. Outside the classroom, Kralik is a member of Phi Kappa Tau and works in the physics help room assisting first-year students with homework and exam preparation.

Thanks to the close-knit Coe community, Kralik has developed personal connections with faculty and other



# Make it possible...

students. "Everyone coming to Coe is always striving to do more and find more about themselves. It's a community that wants to further themselves and further each other as well," he said.

Kralik plans to pursue a research or engineering career in the materials science industry after graduation. He is grateful for the scholarships that allowed him to attend Coe and for the alumni who support the college. "Coe makes it possible, but it's the alumni that make Coe possible," he said.



**Ha Nguyen '21** has many interests, and she is exploring them all at Coe. A junior studying public relations, international business, marketing and art, she is pursuing a career path that combines her biggest passions: being creative and connecting with others.

Nguyen has been able to expand her learning through unique opportunities like the Spellman Summer Research Program, New York Term and an internship with the Office of Marketing. Around campus, Nguyen is active in numerous organizations including the Student Alumni Association, International Club, Student Activities Committee and Arts Club. Outside of Coe, she volunteers with local arts organization CSPA Hall, as well as Cedar Rapids AsianFest. "I have met so many wonderful people, and through my involvement both on and off campus, I am able to contribute to the campus community," she said.

As an international student, Nguyen has received support from staff in the Office of International Student Affairs, who helped her get necessary scholarships and adjust to life at Coe. Her professors also have been major sources of guidance and encouragement. "The faculty and staff have been so caring and involved in my life on campus and during the transition as I moved here from Vietnam," she said. "Everyone at Coe is here to support the students."

Coe has been a special place for Nguyen ever since she arrived on campus, and she is thankful she can continue to learn and grow in such a welcoming environment. "I have received so much from Coe — education, work opportunities, a new culture and more," she said. "I have broadened my horizons so much since I started here."



When he first came to Coe from the Chicago suburbs, **Evan Charon '21** planned to study psychology and neuroscience as a pre-med student. But after discovering a new passion when he took an accounting course, he changed his plans. Now a junior, he is majoring in accounting and business administration with a dream of becoming a CPA and helping nonprofits provide better services to those in need through budgeting and cost-saving measures.

Charon keeps busy on campus as a member of several organizations. He participates in Student Senate, serves as treasurer of Coe Alliance and is working with several other students to establish a Coe chapter of Sigma



Lambda Beta, a Latino-based fraternity with multicultural membership. He also works as a resident assistant in the campus apartments.

Charon chose Coe because he was looking for a welcoming community where professors knew him by name, and he has found all that and more. "The professors at Coe are all so accommodating. They don't just come to work to teach; they really want to see students succeed, learn and follow their dreams and goals," he said.

Scholarships funded by donors have made all the difference for Charon, and he sincerely appreciates the support. "I wouldn't have been able to attend Coe without the scholarships I received, so thank you to everyone who gives each year and makes it possible for me and so many other students!" he said.



**Piper Cooper '22** was drawn to Coe for the wealth of learning opportunities available. A sophomore from Alaska studying political science and economics with a minor in philosophy, she is hard at work on a voter engagement project through the Crimson Fellows honors program and C3: Creativity, Careers, Community.

Cooper and her fellow researchers noticed many people — especially college students — do not feel they are able to discuss political issues without feeling attacked or getting misinformation. To address the issue, her group is developing a political discussion club that would bring in experts on various topics and

allow individuals to discuss their beliefs and opinions in a respectful manner, then be able to leave without further discussion if they choose. To determine how best to achieve their goal, Cooper's group has conducted surveys on campus and is exploring community outreach options. They also intend to work with other political organizations on campus.

Although the project is still in development, the experience already has been valuable for Cooper. "I've learned a lot about working with other people, especially of different backgrounds and beliefs," she said. "It's been an interesting experience learning how to get a program started and what tools we need to get people interested in participating."

In addition to the project, Cooper is taking advantage of many other opportunities on campus. She is a member of the Student Alumni Association, Delta Delta Delta sorority and Alpha Phi Omega, a new co-ed service fraternity. She is currently studying in Washington, D.C., where she hopes to one day have a career working in government or the nonprofit sector. "There are so many ways to expand your knowledge and explore your major at Coe," she said. "Everyone has been so encouraging — it's true what they say: Coe makes it possible. You make it happen."

*To support scholarships for Coe students, go to [alumni.coe.edu/waystogive](http://alumni.coe.edu/waystogive).*



## ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

A named scholarship can be endowed with a minimum gift of \$25,000. An endowment gift establishes a fund that is permanently invested. The principal of an endowment is kept intact and only the annual earnings — typically income and a portion of the capital growth — are used to fund scholarships.

Such income is a permanent source of funding that will make a lasting, meaningful difference.

Further, an endowment gift publicly honors the name of the donor or the name of a family member, friend or beloved professor.



# LOOKING BACK:

## Coe alumni in World War II

*In honor of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, the Courier collected stories and remembrances of Coe alumni who served in the war. These stories were generously provided by alumni, family members and friends.*

*National Archives photo*



# Coe's Iwo Jima hero

BY DENNIS W. GREEN

*If not for a phone call from a World War II historian, the son of a Coe wartime hero might never have known much about his dad.*

For Bob Schuelzky Jr. of Council Bluffs, Iowa, historian Brent Westemeyer is not the researcher who proved one of the men in Joe Rosenthal's iconic Iwo Jima photo had been misidentified for decades.

To Schuelzky Jr., Westemeyer always will be the man who helped him get to know his father, **Robert E. Schuelzky '43**, a hero of the historic battle who never returned home to his bride or the son who was born two months after his death.

An investment consultant from Johnston, Iowa, and World War II historian, Westemeyer had been researching the photos taken on Mount Suribachi during that fateful battle. Rosenthal's Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph was one, as was a second, lesser-known picture known as the "Gung Ho" photo.

Westemeyer had found a picture of Schuelzky Sr. and thought he resembled an unidentified Marine in the picture. The historian contacted Schuelzky Jr. seeking more photos and any family stories that might document his theory.

But there weren't any family stories. Schuelzky Jr.'s mother had remarried after the war, and his grandparents, heartbroken over the loss of their son, rarely spoke about him. The younger Schuelzky had grown up and spent most of his life knowing very little about his dad. All that remained was a modest grave in a Council Bluffs cemetery and a footlocker tucked under the basement stairs.

Spurred on by Westemeyer's call, Schuelzky Jr. cracked open his dad's locker, which had rested undisturbed for decades. Among the personal articles it contained was a heartfelt condolence letter from Schuelzky Sr.'s commanding officer, which gave Schuelzky Jr. one of his first glimpses into the kind of man his father had been, and the lives Schuelzky Sr. had touched in his short time on earth. Lining the bottom of the locker was Schuelzky Sr.'s Delta Phi Epsilon fraternity blanket, a tangible reminder for Schuelzky Jr. of his dad's affection for Coe College.

Bob Schuelzky Sr. was born in Council Bluffs in 1921. He played football and ran track, graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School. At Coe, Schuelzky anchored the offensive line for the Kohawks and was team captain his senior year. He was elected president of the Clan of C and also served as Delta Phi president.

The staff of the Coe Cosmos found him a quotable source, whether it was breaking down the challenge of an opponent's backfield, which the paper said he did with "some mild cussing, before breaking into his usual broad grin," or explaining the justification behind calling a campus skip day to honor the track team.

Schuelzky was admired by his teammates and friends. One of his Delta Phi brothers wrote, "Bob was one of the finest fellows I have ever had the pleasure of associating with, in both the fraternity and athletics. He never knew what the word quit meant, and yet he always maintained that smile."

In between classes and sports, Schuelzky also found the time to meet and fall in love with a young woman he met in town, Margaret Mitchell from North English, Iowa. The two married in April 1944.

Schuelzky graduated with a physical education degree. His goal was to return to Council Bluffs and coach high school football at his alma mater.



**"Bob was one of the finest fellows I have ever had the pleasure of associating with, in both the fraternity and athletics. He never knew what the word quit meant, and yet he always maintained that smile."**

— Delta Phi brother

***But first, there was a war to win.***

Schuelzky applied to the Marine Reserves, which required him to get letters of recommendation attesting to his character. In the footlocker, Schuelzky Jr. found copies of those letters, glowing testimonials from several elected officials from Council Bluffs, including the mayor and county sheriff. Coe basketball coach Willis Lamb's letter said Schuelzky's willingness to "carry responsibility makes him a man worthy of great promise."

These words would be especially prophetic of Schuelzky's coming months of service and sacrifice.

With his Reserve commission secured, Schuelzky applied to and was accepted to Officer Candidates School, training in Quantico, Virginia, and Camp Lejune, North Carolina. He entered the Marines as a second lieutenant just six months after getting his diploma. Schuelzky and his wife moved to California as he continued his training at Camp Pendleton.

Schuelzky was assigned to E Company, Second Battalion, 28th Regiment, Fifth Division of the Marine Corps and on February 19, 1945, landed with the rest of "Easy" Company at Green Beach on Iwo Jima.

By this time of the war, the U.S. was regularly bombing the mainland of Japan with the new B-29 Superfortress, staged out of the Northern Mariana Islands. The capture of Iwo Jima was to provide a base for the bombers' escorts, P-51 Mustangs (which had smaller fuel tanks), as well as provide an emergency landing runway for damaged bombers. In the 36 days of fighting on Iwo Jima, U.S. troops suffered 24,000 casualties, including nearly 7,000 killed. The majority of the nearly 21,000 Japanese soldiers on Iwo Jima died in the conflict.

The fighting was fierce in the hours after the Marines landed, but within the first week, thanks to superior air support and the dogged determination of the Marines on the ground, U.S. forces began to get the upper hand.

Schuelzky, now called "Ski" by his Marine buddies, already had distinguished himself. So many of Easy Company's rifle platoons had been wounded that David Severance, Schuelzky's commanding officer, turned to the young lieutenant, then leading the machine gun platoon, to divide his machine gunners among the rifle platoons, in order to shore up their numbers.





In the condolence letter received by his mother, Schuelzky Jr. learned of the high regard Capt. Severance had for his dad: "I never had to tell Ski to get something done, nor ask if it had been done, because I knew he had attended to it. ... To use a Marine terminology 'he was on the ball all the time.'"

Severance soon made Schuelzky an executive officer and put in a request to promote him to first lieutenant.

On February 23, to cheer up the Marines and sailors still embroiled in dangerous fighting, Severance dispatched a patrol to raise the Stars and Stripes over Mount Suribachi, which would result in one of the most iconic military photos of all time. While it is possible that Schuelzky was in that group, no proof of that exists.

But even though the Stars and Stripes flew over Mount Suribachi, the Battle of Iwo Jima was not over. The Marines were still mopping up pockets of Japanese resistance for the next several weeks.

It probably came as no surprise to Capt. Severance that it was Ski who volunteered to lead a patrol to clean out a group of caves where enemy combatants continued to harass the Marines. Schuelzky led his patrol out without incident two nights in a row, but on the third night, March 17, soon after radioing his commanding officer that things were pretty much under control, Schuelzky was shot and killed by a hidden sniper. Schuelzky would be the last Marine officer lost under Severance's command during the battle.

The news of his death hit Schuelzky's Coe friends hard, especially when they learned his son was born just 62 days after he was killed. Schuelzky's Delta Phi brothers began planning for a memorial in his honor just a few weeks after learning of his death.

In a letter excerpted in the November 1945 *Courier*, **W. D. "Dud" Moore '25** asked his brothers to honor their fallen friend through his young son, who he described as "the spitting image of Bob's baby pictures." The article contained a photo of Schuelzky Jr., then just 5 months old.

Twenty of Schuelzky's friends, most still serving themselves, stepped up immediately. One who had just returned from overseas wrote, "We who came home have an undying promise to keep. I only hope we are as worthy of our job as they were of theirs."

### ***The fund easily reached its \$3,000 goal.***

A few years after the war's end, Schuelzky's family was given the opportunity to have his remains brought home, and he was laid to rest April 1949 in Council Bluffs' Cedar Lawn Cemetery, carried by six of his Delta Phi brothers.

Schuelzky Jr. doesn't really remember that 1949 funeral. He does recall a member of Delta Phi Epsilon coming to his house in 1967 to tell him about the scholarship his dad's friends started for him. But by then he was already working in construction, and college wasn't in the picture. Schuelzky Jr. released the funds, and the Schuelzky Scholarship continues to assist Coe students to this day.

But years later, as he went through his dad's things, Schuelzky Jr. was touched by the tributes and contributions his Coe friends had made. He began to understand how important a role Coe had played in his father's life.

Schuelzky Jr. also wanted to make a lasting tribute of his own. With the help of his ex-wife, Evelyn, who remained a close friend, he planned a memorial to give Schuelzky Sr. the honors he hadn't received in the simple service held in 1949.

And so, on a sunny Sunday in March 2019, 74 years to the day after his death, a detachment of active-duty Marines and local veterans gave Lt. Robert Eugene Schuelzky Sr. full military honors.

As is the custom for the family of a fallen warrior, Schuelzky Jr. was presented with an American flag. But he also had a gift to give. He presented Schuelzky Sr.'s fraternity blanket to Coe Development Officer Debbie Green. The blanket now resides in the college archives.

And on the sun-dappled hill of Cedar Lawn Cemetery in Council Bluffs, a granite bench and new gravestone honor the memory of Bob "Ski" Schuelzky. The engraving not only bears his name but also those of Coe College and Delta Phi Epsilon, the institution that helped make him the man he was, and the band of brothers who, like him, answered the call of their country.

*Dennis W. Green is a radio personality and author from Cedar Rapids. He has recently published "Traitor," the final installment in The Traveler Trilogy, a sci-fi detective thriller series that has dozens of five-star Amazon reviews. Visit his website at [www.denniswgreen.com](http://www.denniswgreen.com).*





Joe Rosenthal's "Gung Ho" photo.  
Associated Press photo

## The Search for "Mr. Unknown"

Historian Brent Westemeyer already has rewritten the World War II history books once. In October 2019, the Marine Corps confirmed Westemeyer's theory that one of the six Marines immortalized in Joe Rosenthal's iconic photo of Marines raising the American flag over Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima was not Rene Gagnon, as had long been thought, but actually was Harold "Pie" Keller from Brooklyn, Iowa.

For a while, Westemeyer thought it was possible a Coe alum appeared in another historic photograph taken that same day. The "Gung Ho" photo features a group of 16 Marines and two Navy corpsmen surrounding the flag, also taken by Rosenthal, shortly after the famous flag-raising picture, on February 23, 1945.

Over the years, all the Marines in the "Gung Ho" photo have been identified but one: a stocky, dark-haired man visible in the lower left, grinning wildly and waving his helmet over his head. World War II buffs call him "Mr. Unknown."

Westemeyer became interested in identifying the unknown man in the "Gung Ho" picture and obtained a copy of the official Company E regiment photo.

"I just went through one by one and thought Robert Schuelzky looked a heck of a lot like Mr. Unknown," Westemeyer said. "But there were a lot of families that said that was their dad, and that's when I started contacting the families to get photos."

One of those he contacted was Bob Schuelzky Jr., which began Schuelzky Jr.'s quest as an adult to learn more about his father. There is no denying the man in the "Gung Ho" photo bears a resemblance to Schuelzky Sr. However, it has been concluded that he is most likely not in the famous picture.

The stenciling visible on Mr. Unknown's field jacket is different from what Schuelzky Sr.'s would have been. In addition, Schuelzky Sr.'s commanding officer, Dave Severance, actively worked with historians to identify each man in the "Gung Ho" photo. Bob Schuelzky was the last officer in Easy Company to be killed on Iwo Jima under Severance's command. Severance certainly would have recognized him, as would Ski's buddies when asked over the years since the photo was taken.

Finally, the same Marine board that confirmed it was Harold Keller, not Rene Gagnon in the flag-raising photo had the FBI look at Mr. Unknown again. Westemeyer provided pictures of both Bob Schuelzky and another Marine who seemed a likely candidate, but the FBI could not conclude that either Marine was the man in the photo.

Even if Bob Schuelzky Sr. isn't Mr. Unknown, Schuelzky Jr. always will be grateful to Brent Westemeyer for bringing him closer to the father he never knew.

And no matter who Mr. Unknown may be, his big grin is certainly reminiscent of the trademark smile Bob Schuelzky was known for during his years at Coe.



## Earl ALTMeyer '50

When Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941, **Earl Altmeyer '50** was only 14 years old and had just begun his first year of high school. Just a few days later, three of his older brothers enlisted in the military. He and his other older brother were eager to join up as well but had to wait until they were old enough. Finally, in December 1944 at age 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a combat air crewman and was sent to boot camp in Memphis, Tennessee, one day after receiving his high school diploma.

After completing six weeks of boot camp, Altmeyer was selected for advanced service school and designated a combat air crewman and aviation machinist mate. He was sent to Norman, Oklahoma, for 21 weeks of aviation mechanics school and two weeks of airborne radar operations school. As he awaited graduation from his training in August 1945, the joyous announcement was made that Japan had surrendered and the war would soon be over.

But there was still work to be done. To Altmeyer's surprise, his combat training continued for a short time after the surrender was announced; had the war continued, he likely would have been sent on an invasion of Japan in February 1946. Instead, the Navy sent him to Guam to guard Japanese prisoners of war on work details. Altmeyer recalls that these POWs "were not the run-of-the-mill, fanatical, no-surrender type and were quite friendly." He then was assigned to the Naval Air Transport Service (NATS) in Guam and promoted to aviation machinist mate third class. NATS performed great humanitarian service by flying wounded soldiers back to the U.S. and hauling critical supplies and personnel.

Altmeyer was discharged from the Navy in July 1946 and immediately enlisted in the Naval Reserve for four years. Shortly after receiving his diploma from Coe, he was called back into active duty to serve in the Korean War.

Altmeyer is immensely proud of the service his family gave in World War II, and his parents were very proud of the five-star flag that hung in their window during the war.

*Submitted by Earl Altmeyer '50*



## Robert H. ANDERSON '39



**Robert H. Anderson '39** arrived at Coe in the fall of 1935 and joined the ROTC program. As he neared graduation, a lack of available jobs led him to seek appointment as a second lieutenant of infantry in the U.S. Army beginning on June 2, 1939 — his Coe graduation date.

Anderson served on active duty at Fort Crook in Nebraska and Fort Ord in California until June 30, 1941. Recalled to active duty in November 1941,

he spent the first years of the U.S.'s involvement in World War II receiving training and training others. With his two brothers already serving in Europe, and contrary to the urgings of his younger brother who had been in combat since late 1942, Anderson asked to be shipped overseas.

On June 6, 1944, he left New York harbor aboard the Queen Mary bound for Europe. He landed in Normandy in early July and on September 19, 1944, received command of Company F, Second Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, Third Armored Division. Other than when he was recovering from injuries received in action, Anderson would command Company F in combat until early March 1945 through some of the most intense fighting in northwest Europe at the time.

In September 1944, Anderson's company was fighting through the heavily defended Siegfried Line, Nazi Germany's main defensive barrier on its border. In November, his unit joined the fight in the meat grinder that was the Hürtgen Forest. Anderson's recollection of that fighting was "toothpicks," referring to the appearance of the closely spaced, branches-stripped trees that turned every attack into close-quarters combat. On November 16, he suffered what was described as a traumatic brain injury caused by nearby enemy blast explosions. He returned to his command just in time for Germany's last-ditch assault — the Battle of the Bulge.

On Christmas Day 1944, his company was mistakenly bombed and strafed by American fighter-bombers, suffering heavy casualties — every officer under Anderson's command was killed except for one. Anderson was wounded a second time in early January 1945 fighting in Belgium and later wounded a final time by shrapnel on March 5 in Germany and evacuated to England.

Anderson finally returned home to Iowa in January 1946. Promoted to captain, he stayed in the Army Reserves until 1954. Among his many decorations, Anderson received the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, American Defense Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with four campaign stars, Combat Infantryman Badge and Belgian Fourragère.

Anderson's combat experiences haunted him for the remainder of his life, likely due to what is now known as PTSD. He met those challenges with courage and lived a long, full life. He passed away in 1996, survived by numerous nieces and nephews for whom he was their beloved "Uncle Bob."

*Submitted by Anderson's nephew, Coe Trustee Alan M. Anderson '78*



# The First SEAL

*In the years after the second World War, heroes strode the sidewalks of Coe College. They were unassuming men, attending class and going out for sports, on the way to becoming teachers, lawyers or engineers.*

Most rarely spoke of their military service. Or if they did, it was probably over beers in the company of fellow veterans, those who had been through the same life-changing experiences.

For most of us, it would only be much later, in books like "Band of Brothers" and "The Greatest Generation," when we would hear the stories of the part these young men, many still in their teens and early 20s, played in preserving the world for freedom and democracy.

**One of these heroes was Mel "Squib" Collins '50.**

Collins grew up in Ottumwa, Iowa, during the Depression. He was one of eight children, with no father. As soon as he was old enough to venture around the neighborhood on his own, he started hanging out at the Ottumwa YMCA because his friends there would share their lunches with him. It was at the Y that he discovered his athletic talents. He played all the sports but developed into such a strong swimmer that his buddies called him a squid, which then morphed into his lifelong nickname, "Squib."

Collins entered the Navy in 1943, and by fall of that year, the 19-year-old found himself a radarman on the destroyer USS Franks. Destroyers were the utility infielders of the fleet, and one of their most important jobs was to rescue pilots who crashed into the sea. Aircraft carriers were much too large to do much to assist a downed pilot, so the job fell to the destroyer, a smaller, more nimble ship. The rescue attempt was generally done by deploying a whaleboat and motoring out to the crash site. But all too often, it took too long to get the boat launched, and the plane sank. Time after time, the crew watched helplessly as pilots disappeared into a watery grave. Until the captain of the Franks made an inspired decision. Ordered to render assistance to a Navy attack plane that had been downed by enemy gunfire, the skipper found himself in a classic no-win situation. The sea was too rough to launch a boat. Should he risk the lives of his crew to attempt a rescue that was likely to be doomed to failure anyway?

But the captain had an ace in the hole. A radarman with Red Cross lifesaving training and a nickname that testified to his swimming skill. The captain ordered Collins to attempt a swimming rescue. Here is how the young sailor described it later in his diary:

*"Avenger goes down after bombing. Waves plenty big — ship is really rolling. Too rough to go after them in a boat so officer let me rescue them. Tied a rope around my waist and dove off forecastle and swim to the plane — exhausted — saw to one who was going down. I towed him in and put him in a stretcher that was over the side of the ship, then went and got the other two who were 'OK.' All three pilots saved."*

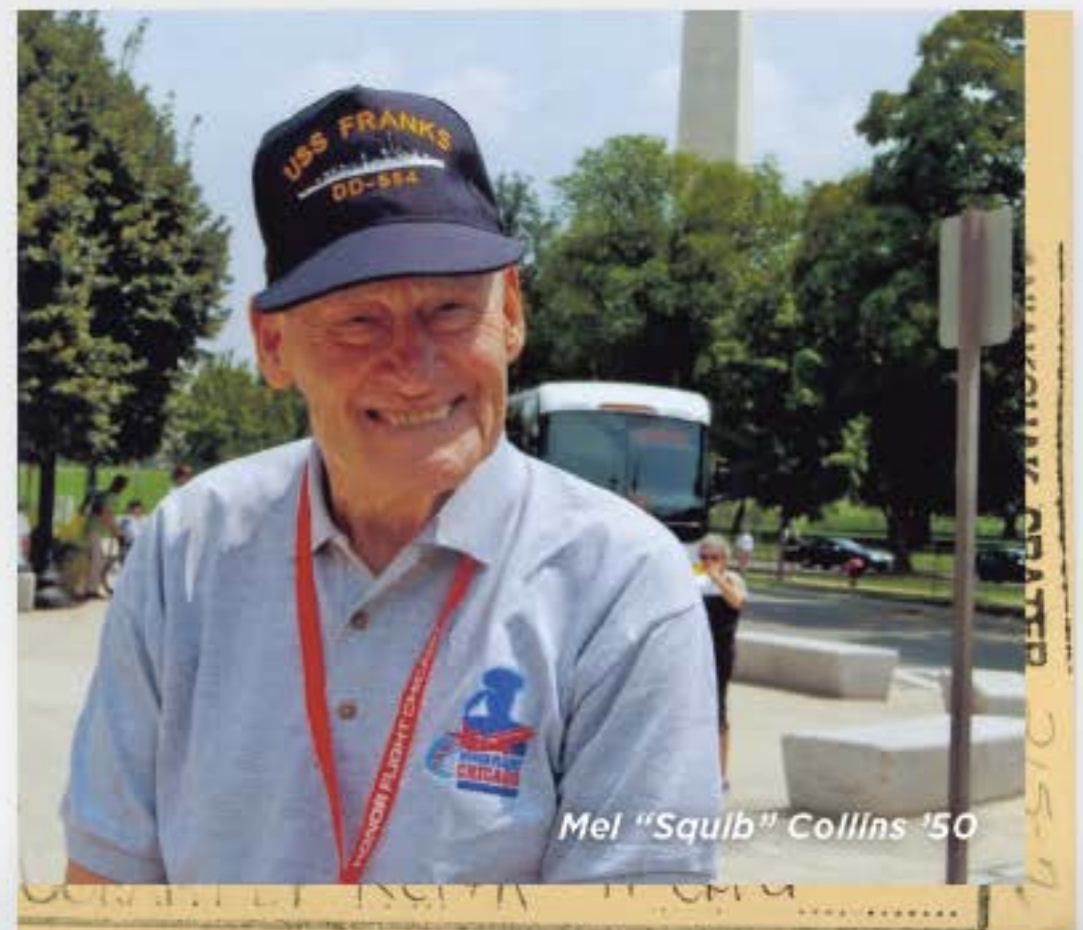
And thus, the Franks became the first destroyer to use a swimmer to rescue downed pilots. Collins' crewmates helped him refine the technique, designing a leather belt to wear with a "D" ring sewn into the back where the lifeline was attached. Sharpshooters stood guard while Collins was in the water, ready to discourage any sharks attracted by the blood and turbulence.

A swimming rescue required that Collins dive 15 feet from the deck of the Franks into the open sea, then fight through cresting waves to reach the sinking aircraft. If he was successful, the crew on deck towed him back by his lifeline, carrying the dead weight of an unconscious pilot and flight gear. A stretcher was lowered, and Collins would have to wrestle his precious cargo into it. Only when the pilot was safely aboard would Collins be winched back up to the ship.

Collins' rescue skills became so well known that other carriers in the group soon were demanding the Franks' presence during their maneuvers.

Collins rescued a pilot during the Battle of Philippines in the Mindanao Straights, reportedly some of the deepest water in the world, 5 miles straight down.

He dove into the cold and choppy seas in Tokyo Bay and nearly lost his own life, barely escaping being sucked under by his own ship's propellers.



Mel "Squib" Collins '50



After one rescue, a nearby cruiser sent a message to the Franks that Collins recorded in his diary:

*"Congratulations on fast rescue. If all ships used your method, there would be more pilots alive today."*

Collins and the Franks would be involved in many of the naval battles whose names live today in the legends of World War II: Guadalcanal, Guam and Leyte Gulf, which culminated in Douglas MacArthur's famous "return" to the Philippines.

The crew of the Franks even made a game out of their missions, trying to beat each elapsed time from the one before. A successful rescue also meant the pilot's carrier would send over 20 gallons of ice cream, the greatest delicacy of the Pacific theater.

***Collins and his buddies ate a lot of ice cream.***

By the end of the war, he personally would save 22 pilots. He was awarded the Bronze Star, as well as the Navy and Marine Corps Medal of Honor.

Collins' heroics also were chronicled by world-famous military journalist Ernie Pyle, who witnessed the rescue of his friend, Jimmy Van Fleet, and described it in his book "The Last Chapter":

*"Jimmy had hardly hit the water when we saw (a) destroyer heel over in a swath-cutting turn. They had been watching the takeoffs through their glasses, and had seen him go over. ... They didn't put over a boat for him, but instead sent a swimmer out with a line tied around his waist. He got there just in time; Jimmy passed out in his arms. ... The swimmer(s) were Seaman 1st Class Franklin Calloway ... and ... Radarman 3rd Class Melvin Collins of Ottumwa, Iowa."*

After their discharge, thousands of veterans returned quietly to civilian life. For Collins, this meant attending Coe on the GI Bill.

The athletic prowess he showed on the Franks served him well in contests with lower stakes. Collins was a four-year letterman in football, basketball and golf. He was a basketball captain and voted outstanding player his senior year. In golf, he routinely beat young men who had grown up playing the country club course and did it with borrowed clubs and golf shoes. He never owned his own set. Coe didn't have a swim team during Collins' years on campus. One can't help but wonder what a Squib-led swim squad might have accomplished in the natatorium.

Collins graduated from Coe with a degree in physical education, beginning his career as a teacher and coach in Decorah. His early career included giving back to the institutions that helped him when he was young. He returned to where it all began, with a stint as physical director at his hometown Ottumwa YMCA.

He also came back to Coe, serving as assistant director of admission for 10 years. This would become his career, as he would go on to work in admission at Hiram Scott College, Drake

University and Ohio Northern University before finishing his career at the National University of Health Sciences (NUHS). He became something of a legend at NUHS. After suffering a stroke, he retired in 2001. But a year later, fully recovered, he returned to work for nearly another decade.

In 2008, NUHS awarded Collins an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. The president of the college later told Collins the standing ovation he received at the close of his commencement speech was the only one the president had ever seen.

Collins was a generous donor to Coe throughout his entire life. He participated in every campaign when asked, and he had a 30-plus year record of continuous annual gifts.

Sixty years after his discharge, Collins' pioneering service hit the national spotlight when writer Brian Murphy learned Collins had kept a journal during his wartime service. Murphy told Collins' incredible story in a 2006 article for American Legion Magazine entitled "A Sailor's Diary."

The article would lead to contacts from organizations like CNN and the Illinois Veterans Project, wanting to know more about his experiences. Jean Van Fleet, wife of the pilot whose rescue Ernie Pyle had chronicled, wrote him, thanking Collins for decades of a happy marriage, which wouldn't have happened had Collins not pulled her husband from the water.

Timothy Smith, chief of the U.S. Navy Seals Swimming School in San Diego, also read the article. After contacting Collins and hearing his story firsthand, Smith named Collins an honorary member of the school.

Writer Murphy, recognizing how Collins' aquatic feats presaged those the Navy would later train their most elite warriors for, dubbed Collins the "First American Seal."

In later years, Collins joined his fellow veterans for Honor Flight Chicago, where he saw the brick adorned with his name in the World War II Memorial Wall. His name also appears on the Honor Hall at the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas.

He was invited to sign an American flag that hangs in an Indiana federal courthouse, where his signature adjoins other American heroes such as George H.W. Bush, John Glenn, Bob Dole, Walter Cronkite and others.

This hero and dedicated Kohawk passed away on October 27, 2019. His obituary ended with one of his favorite quotes: "There is no better exercise for strengthening the heart than reaching down and lifting people up."

***Collins lifted others up, figuratively and literally, throughout his entire life.***

*The Courier is grateful to Brian Murphy for allowing us to use his articles "A Sailors Diary" and "First American Seal" as additional sources for telling Mel Collins' story.*

By the end of the war,  
he personally would

**SAVE 22  
PILOTS.**

He was awarded the  
Bronze Star, as well as  
the Navy and Marine  
Corps Medal of Honor.



## H. D. MARTIN '40

H. D. "Don" Martin '40 was a member of the Coe ROTC program and graduated in 1940 as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He entered active service on February 3, 1941, and served in the First Battalion of the Sixth Armored Infantry, First Armored Division. He participated in the initial assault force landings at Oran, Algeria, on November 7-8, 1942. In their second major action in December 1942, his company commander was killed, and Martin took command of the company. He was responsible for 200 fellow foot soldiers. The numbers often swelled to 400-500 when tank units, artillery units and engineers were assigned to his fighting forces during several actions versus German forces.

Martin was wounded when shot in the head by a German sniper during a close skirmish on March 28, 1943. He spent several weeks in a military hospital near Oran, Tunisia. Following several months in various military hospitals and recuperation sites, he was retired with the rank of captain on November 21, 1944.

Martin is entitled to wear the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon with two Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart for wounds received in action, the American Defense Ribbon, the Silver Star for gallantry in action and the Combat Infantry Badge. Martin also treasured a battlefield order promoting him from first lieutenant to captain signed by commanding general of II Corps Maj. Gen. George S. Patton.

*Submitted by Martin's son, Tom Martin '65*



## Harley L. MOORE JR. '40

The names of many World War II battles are well known to Americans through movies, TV, books and stories told by those who participated in them. The Battle of the Bulge, which took place from mid-December 1944 to mid-January 1945, is one of these well-known names — and one of those participants was 25-year-old Lt. Col. Harley L. "Dinty" Moore Jr. '40.

Six months after the D-Day landings in Normandy, the Allied forces had pushed the German army back out of most of France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, close to the border of Germany.

On December 16, 1944, the German forces then started a new offensive and rapidly pushed the Allied armies back into Belgium and Luxembourg. The goal of this new counterattack was to push all the way to the North Sea port of Antwerp, Belgium, dividing the Allied forces and cutting the Allies' supply lines. Within three days, the German forces had pushed the Allied units (primarily the U.S. First Army) back about 40 miles, creating a "bulge" in the front lines up to 30 miles wide. This battle took place in a primarily densely forested area known as the Ardennes, and that December was one of the coldest in recent history, with heavy snow. Before this battle was over, up to 1 million soldiers had been involved.

As the German troops moved westward, many of the U.S. units were overrun, and thousands of soldiers were captured. One unit, the 101st Airborne Division, commanded by Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, held on in the town of Bastogne, which was completely surrounded by the Germans. When the German commander insisted the Americans should surrender, McAuliffe's answer was "Nuts!" A scene in the movie "Patton" recreates a meeting at Verdun, France, that occurred on December 19, 1944. This meeting of the Allied top commanders in that theater of battle and a general representing Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, the supreme Allied commander in Europe, was to discuss strategies to counter this new German offensive and to relieve the besieged town of Bastogne. During that meeting, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, commanding general of the U.S. Third Army, stated he could break through to Bastogne in three days. Some of the other commanders stated their beliefs that this was not possible because Patton's units were already engaged in a pitched battle about 150 miles south, and he would have to turn 90 degrees to the north and fight through heavily defended forested terrain. Patton's reply was "my staff is already working on it."

Moore was one of Patton's staff members and played an instrumental role in the planning and completion of the maneuver. On December 22, the plan was put into action, and on December 26, units of Patton's Third Army broke through the German lines to relieve the besieged U.S. soldiers at Bastogne.

Moore received a medal for his actions, which Patton himself pinned to Moore's uniform. (see photo at right)

*Submitted by Moore's son, Mike Moore '70*





*Roland Roupe Crew  
Roupe is on the bottom right*

## Roland **ROUPE '50**



**Roland "Gene" Roupe '50** entered the Army Air Corps in 1943 at the age of 18. He entered navigation training as an aviation cadet and upon completion of that course received his commission as a second lieutenant and was sent to Advanced Radar Navigation School. He then was assigned to a B-29 bomber crew that was dispatched to Guam to fly missions against Japan. The oldest crew member was the pilot, who was only 21 at the time.

Roupe flew in 18 missions during his World War II service. While most were routine, memories of two events stayed with Roupe for the rest of his life. Shortly after the fighting to take Iwo Jima had ceased, Roupe and his crewmates had to land on the island for minor repairs and fuel to ensure they would make it back to Guam. He and another crewmate scaled Mount Suribachi and from that vantage point looked down upon a scene of utter devastation. Realizing that 7,000 U.S. Marines had lost their lives there just weeks earlier was an overwhelming thought.

In contrast, Roupe's second memory from a few months later was very pleasant. Flying over Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945, he was able to look down on the deck of the USS Missouri as papers were being signed to bring the war to an end.

Roupe was honorably discharged and back home in Cedar Rapids before his 21st birthday. After graduating from Coe, he reentered the Air Force and during the Cuban Missile Crisis was assigned as an Atlas F, ICBM launch crew commander. Following that assignment, he attended staff transportation officer school and then assumed command of the transportation squadron at Ramey Air Force Base in Puerto Rico. Next, he was sent to Vietnam, where he served as deputy director of operations for the Transportation Management Agency of MACV Headquarters. On returning to the U.S., Roupe commanded the transportation squadron at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota, followed by an ROTC assignment at Michigan State University. Toward the end of his career, he was assigned by the Air Force to the Defense Logistics Agency at the Detroit and Boston Regional Headquarters.

Among Roupe's awards and decorations were the Bronze Star, Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters, several campaign medals and the Vietnam Honor Medal.

After retiring from service, Roupe traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia courtesy of the Air Force. One of his trips included a visit to Calcutta, where he had the special opportunity to meet Mother Teresa.

*Submitted by Robert Kappmeyer '61. Kappmeyer served with Roupe as an Atlas F deputy combat crew commander from 1962-65 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York. After 32 years of separation, he ran into Roupe by accident at the Marion Hy-Vee store in 1997, and the two met on a weekly basis until Roupe's passing in 2015.*



*Harley Moore Jr.*



A MANUSCRIPT BY 1<sup>ST</sup> LT.

# George Henry '49

CREW 63 | 767 BOMB SQUADRON | 461 BOMB GROUP | RECORDED IN 2004

I was trying to make room. I have been in the photography business since before I graduated from college and after I had parted from B-24s and World War II.

I was going through old clutter and making more shelf space for new clutter. As I gradually filled wastebaskets I came across this old, green cardboard, somewhat-mildewed suitcase. It was under a layer of old sorted negatives that, believe it or not, were put on top of this old suitcase so I would know where they were.

All of a sudden I said to myself, "What in the world is in there?" I opened the latches (they still worked) and there, sitting on top of World War II orders of base changes, directions of who I was and where I should go, and other related material were two manuals. One manual was how to operate the B-24, and the other was maintenance of the B-24.

Both of these manuals were in pretty good condition as I don't think anyone connected with the B-24s ever read them — I know I didn't. Anyway, I wondered if I could get any hindsight if I just read the introduction. I opened the cover of one of the manuals and, reading only a couple of paragraphs, discovered we really didn't need a huge air force, just a few B-24s that could go out and bomb their targets and on their way home shoot down half of the German air force. I was surprised, too!

I was in my second year at Coe College in my hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Coe was one of the chosen colleges that had an ROTC program and the military personnel to run it. ROTC was required of all male students. I was proficient on the rifle team and making good grades when along came World War II. At that time all the military were briefed, and the program had a purpose. Those who wished could sign up for the advanced course and at their graduation could become second lieutenant in the infantry. I just supposed that was the route I would take, basically because it was there.



*George Henry and his bomber crew  
Henry is on the top left*



Along came spring, and I happened to mention to one of the military officers at Coe that I would not be going to summer school because I was going to vacation at our cottage at the lake. I had done this all my summers, and I didn't want to stop now. I was told that if I didn't go to summer school I could not continue in the advanced program.

Well, I still wanted my summer off, so I went to Des Moines and enlisted in the Air Corps. Then I took my summer off and went back to Coe in the fall. I was finally called up the following semester, became a cadet and got my commission in the Army Air Corps and not the Infantry.

### GLIMPSE BACK 1

Graz, Austria, was our target on my second mission. As you join a squadron, you start at the back of the formation and work your way forward. I was back as the No. 9 plane in a 10-plane formation. Graz didn't have a huge number of guns, but it was known that their gunners were as good as any in the German army.

It was a clear day, but we had been given a new weapon, a radar-jamming device, and we were trying it out for the first time. Our squadron flew over Graz, dropped our bombs and returned home. We had used our new gadget, and it had worked just like it was supposed to. We had few bursts of flak and not even close to our altitude. We had the war won! All we had to do was fly to our targets, jam their radar, drop our bombs and fly home.

Mission No. 3 was back to Graz. I was No. 9 again. It was cloudy and overcast. We felt good because we had our new toy. We approached Graz, and all of a sudden there was a red burst of flak at our altitude about 100 feet in front of us. Oh-oh! We started our bomb run. Planes were aborting to the left and to the right. I started moving up, first to No. 6 position and almost immediately to No. 3. We now had four planes in our formation, and we were not on target. Again, oh-oh! We had to make the run again! We had started with 10 planes, and now the four that were left went around again. This time we dropped our bombs, and within seconds, before our bomb-bay doors could be closed, the lead plane received a direct hit in the bomb-bay. A big hole appeared as all the radio equipment disappeared through the side of the plane. Some damage was done to the controls, but the plane flew on.

What happened to all the planes that left the formation? I was told later that they all were able to land someplace; some in Russia, some in Yugoslavia and a couple made it home. What had happened to our wonderful radar-jamming machine? Well, it seems the gunners had learned well. They had learned to zero in on the machine and were able to get our exact altitude and location. So much for technology.

### GLIMPSE BACK 2

It was summer; it was hot, and we were still wearing our winter wool outfits. We kept waiting for the notice to be posted that summer was really at hand and that it was hot and that the 461st could change into its cooler khakis. Day after day it didn't happen, so my co-pilot and I decided that our uniform for the day would be the lighter outfit.

We put on our khakis, but everyone else still had their wool uniforms on. We weren't sure exactly what would happen, but we sure got the once-over by all. Day 1: Nothing happened. Day 2: Nothing happened. Day 3: A notice appeared on the bulletin board that no one would change into summer uniforms until the order to do so was issued. Day 4: We were back in our winter uniforms. Day 5: The order was issued to go to summer uniforms. We did!

### GLIMPSE BACK 3

I was flying No. 3 position as we were assembling our formation after takeoff. Everything was normal as we started on our way until I noticed a slight drop in oil pressure on an inboard engine. Upon visually checking the engine, I discovered it was throwing some oil around the cowlings. Being very patriotic and knowing how difficult it was to replace oil in a B-24 in-flight, I called the lead plane and reported my finding. The lead plane was very patriotic, too, so he called the P-40 that supervised the flights as they assembled for their mission. Lo and behold, out of nowhere, a P-40 was flying, as if in formation, under my engine and inspecting it thoroughly. The report came through my radio, "It looks OK to me." And away we went on the mission.



**"I was trying to make room. I have been in the photography business since before I graduated from college and after I had parted from B-24s and World War II."**

**— George Henry '49**

We had been gone maybe an hour with the oil pressure gradually decreasing when all of a sudden, with no oil pressure at all, the engine quit. Now here I was in a perfectly good airplane with a load of bombs that I really didn't want to take home with me, so I radioed the lead to see if I could continue to target on three engines. He said OK, so on we went.

Now a B-24 flies well on three engines. I had no trouble as we were increasing altitude and got nearer the target, but I had miscalculated how high I could fly and maintain formation without putting heavy stress on the other engines. We had reached about 21,000 feet on the way to 24,000 when I found my other engines were getting to a point where they might be overextended and also might quit. Having not read my B-24 manual, I didn't realize how well we were equipped and how we could shoot down eight to 10 enemy planes as we headed for home on less than the normal four engines, so I turned back when we still had at least

three.

As we headed for home, we still didn't want to bring our bombs back, so we looked for a target of opportunity. Well, we didn't want to stretch our luck too far and make the Germans mad at us, so when we saw some railroad tracks we followed them from above and dropped our bombs on the track. Having no bombardier (only planes No. 1 and 2 had them) we probably weren't too accurate. Anyway, we made a lot of dust and probably bent a rail or two there in the middle of nowhere.

The flight home was uneventful, and our three engines performed flawlessly. Our navigator was right on the money, and we landed at our base before the rest of the squadron returned. Of course we were called in to debrief and to see why we returned early, and I was really glad I had a good reason and there was no question as to why a new engine was needed.



# Benjamin DeWayne SILLIMAN '17



**Benjamin DeWayne "B.D." Silliman '17** joined the U.S. Army in 1918 after graduating from Coe and served in the coast artillery in the U.S. during World War I. Silliman received his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1923 and married his wife in the Coe Chapel in 1928. He started a law firm in Cedar Rapids in the late 1930s, after representing the National Association of Food Chains in Washington, D.C., for several years.

Silliman stayed in the Army Reserves after World War I and was recalled to active duty in the JAG Corps in May 1942 and was appointed to the rank of major. He served for over three years as judge advocate, Northwestern Sector, Western Defense Command at Fort Lewis near Tacoma, Washington.

Much to his surprise, the Army ordered Silliman to Germany in early August 1945 to assist with preparations for the major war crimes trials to be held in Nuremberg. Once there, he served in the Interrogation Division in the Office of the U.S. Chief of Counsel. In that capacity, he interrogated and transported to Nuremberg a number of key defendants and witnesses, including several Nazi leaders who later were convicted at the major war crimes trials. Silliman became disillusioned when the Army refused to promote him to the rank of lieutenant colonel unless he agreed to serve a further six months in Germany. Instead, he asked to be released from active duty after the major war crimes trials started in late November and returned to the United States in mid-December 1945. The Army awarded him the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in recognition of his work in connection with preparations for the major war crimes trials.

Silliman remained in the Army Reserves, finally retiring in 1955 at the rank of lieutenant colonel. He practiced law in Cedar Rapids for more than 50 years and served on the Coe Board of Trustees. He was a generous supporter of Coe and established the B.D. Silliman Endowed Chair in the Natural Sciences. The college recognized him with the Alumni Award of Merit in 1967. Silliman passed away in 1988.

*Submitted by Coe Trustee Alan M. Anderson '78*

# Karen RUGAARD WHITE '35



**Dr. Karen Rugaard White '35** will never forget Hiroshima. As a hospital dietitian in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, she was there six weeks after the U.S. dropped the first atomic bomb and stayed a year to help feed the survivors. "We first went to Tokyo and found people living in gutters with no food. Then we went on to Hiroshima. It was a sight I'll never forget. I had already seen so much, but this seemed so complete. It was all gone.

"One of my jobs before going overseas was to feed 185 men who had no mouths," she recalls. "I taught another how to feed himself with hooks for arms. He was 17 years old and didn't want anyone to see." White added, "These are things that you don't forget. War is ugly — no matter which war you talk about.

"I didn't want to deal with it anymore. After the war, I didn't want to plan to feed any more sick people."

White had graduated from Coe with a degree in home economics and completed her master's degree in food chemistry at the University of Chicago. She worked there with a professor who had been appointed by the federal government to set up diets for the troops in World War II. Commissioned as a first lieutenant, White spent three years feeding the troops. At Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, for example, her unit fed 2,000 Manchurian prisoners of war. "Coming out of Bataan and Corregidor where they had been on the death march, these men were sick, wounded, beaten and starving. When they saw food, they just gorged themselves." She noted, "You don't hear much (today) about the torture the American troops endured."

After the war, White switched gears. She studied social studies, French and health education at Eastern Michigan University, then earned a doctorate in education at the University of Michigan. She married in 1953 and had two children. After her husband, Charles, died in 1971, she returned to teaching, becoming a supervisor in the Ann Arbor Public Schools and helping her children through college.

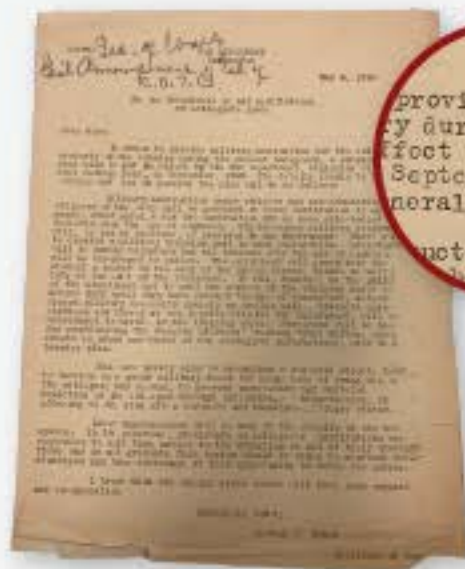
White was interviewed by the Ann Arbor newspaper in 1995 for the 50th anniversary of the first dropping of the atomic bomb. "Historians aren't telling the story as it really happened," she said in the article. "They shouldn't try to rewrite history. So much has been written about the effects of 'the bomb' on people. But the Japanese had no food. They starved to death. More people died from starvation than from radiation."

White's name is included on the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. White passed away in 2007.

*Adapted from an article in the Fall 1995 Coe College Courier*



# The evolution of Coe College RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)



provide military training during the present year by the War Department. The plan was to have the ROTC function under the provision of the War Department.

**May 8, 1918**

Secretary of War Newton D. Baker issued orders for colleges enrolling 100 or more able-bodied students older than 18 to begin providing military instruction under officers and noncommissioned officers of the Army with the next college year.



**January 27, 1919**

A War Department bulletin authorized the establishment of a Senior Division Infantry ROTC unit at Coe College formed under the command of the Seventh Corps Area.



**January 23, 1919**

ROTC director Capt. Shaw gave his first lecture in military science at Coe College.

**October 1, 1918 - December 22, 1918**

Commanded by Capt. Melborune H. Brokaw, the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) was formed at Coe. The campus assumed the appearance of a military camp rather than a college using Williston Hall as barracks and the football field for drilling practice. The total strength of the corps was 178.

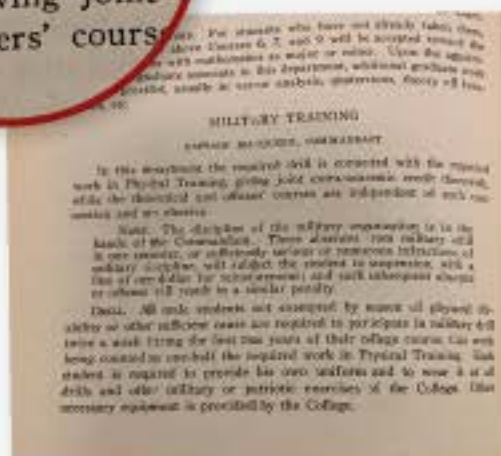


**July 28, 1914 - November 11, 1918**

**WORLD WAR I**

**1919**

MILITARY TRAINING  
CAPTAIN MACQUEEN, COMMANDANT  
The required drill training, giving joint instruction in the ROTC and officers' courses.



**1918-1919**

**academic year**

Coe College catalog was updated to include mandatory military training under Capt. Macqueen, Commandant.



**January 1919**

The 100-plus member Coe ROTC was established by temporary officer Capt. Robert J. Shaw followed by Capt. Ralph C. Harrison, then Capt. Samuel J. Sutherland.







**1920**

Coe College ROTC cadet officers.



**December 1943**

Twenty-two members of the Class of 1944 departed Coe for Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and were commissioned second lieutenants in the United States Army Infantry in May 1944. In the preceding years, 1940-1944, the same 22 men as a group had completed the ROTC program at Coe, the Infantry Basic Training in California or Texas and the Army Specialized Training Program on the Coe campus. In March 1944 "The Coe Twenty-Two" graduated from the college with degrees awarded in absentia by the Board of Trustees. Each of the group commanded infantry units in Europe during 1944 and 1945. Lt. **Donald H. Niggemeyer** was killed in action during that service. *This plaque is located on Coe's Victory Bell.*



**1942**

Led out of the chapel by Dean Harve Geiger, new second lieutenants headed off to war. *Photo by George Henry '49*



**September 1946**

Air ROTC was officially established at Coe College under the command of Lt. Col. Morgan. The military course at the college was on a four-year basis. All military students were enrolled in the same military course during the freshman and sophomore years. Junior and senior years included the advanced course, and military students could choose either the new air training (subsequently known as Air Force ROTC) or infantry training (subsequently known as Army ROTC) that had been installed at Coe for many years.

**September 1, 1939 – September 2, 1945**

**1920 — 1929 — WORLD WAR II — 1946 — 1951 —**



**March 5, 1929**

The Coe ROTC band serenaded President Herbert Hoover and Iowa Gov. John Hammill on the White House lawn. *Photo from the Associated Press, Washington Bureau*



**1951**

Louis "Dave" Rosenberg '55 and Paul Kosek '53 compared rifle targets in the rifle range in the basement of Eby Fieldhouse. *Photo by George Henry '49*



**February 21, 1943**

Coe College military staff was expanded to include the Army Air Forces College Training Detachment, a separate program designed to provide educated officers for the Air Corps in the United States Army. *Photo from Cedar Rapids Gazette*





**1961**

Coe's class of cadets received their commission at graduation. *Photo by George Henry '49*



**1971**

Air Force scholarships were presented to 27 students, giving Coe the highest percentage of cadets on scholarship of any program in the country.



**1959**

Class in the military barracks beside Eby. *Photo by George Henry '49*



**1970**

Coe's first female ROTC cadet **Kathy Johnston '74** of Centerville attended the annual ROTC "Dining-In" banquet. She talked with Judge Loren Hullinger Jr. at the social hour preceding the banquet. *Photo by Cedar Rapids Gazette*

**1959**

**1961**

**1970**

**1971**



**January 1961**

The Coe College Air Force ROTC band was in Washington, D.C., to play in John F. Kennedy's presidential inauguration parade. *Credit unknown*



**June 15, 1970**

Brig. Gen. **Harley Moore '40** and the provost marshal of the U.S. Army in Europe attended Coe commencement to swear in Harley's son, **Mike Moore '70**, as a second lieutenant in the Air Force Reserve. **Judy Blake Thompson '69** and Mike's mother, **Catherine Timm Moore '39**, also were present.



**Tamia WHITHERS '21**

*Becoming stronger, staying grounded*

Originally from Chicago, Coe's Air Force ROTC Cadet Capt. **Tamia Whithers '21** is a training flight commander with Detachment 255. She takes all of her educational classes at Coe and does all of her ROTC training with the Mighty Hawkeye Battalion at the University of Iowa. Whithers completed her Reserve Officers' Training in Alabama the summer between her sophomore and junior year. Her goal is to become a contracting officer in the U.S. Air Force. "The AFROTC program is a great program," Whithers said. "It speeds up the process and teaches you to become a stronger person and helps keep you grounded."



### 1973-1975

The draft ended, and draft registration stopped.



The Mighty Hawkeye Battalion

### 1978

Coe signed a crosstown agreement with the Mighty Hawkeye Battalion at the University of Iowa Army ROTC that remains as it is currently.

— 1973-1975 — 1978 — 1996 — 2018



### July 1996

Coe signed a crosstown agreement with Detachment 255 at the University of Iowa Air Force ROTC Detachment 255 that remains as it is currently. Credit to University of Iowa AFROTC Det. 255



### 2018

A permanent display was installed in the Athletics and Recreation Complex honoring Henry Tippie and his fellow cadets who were part of the Army Specialized Training Reserve Program (ASTRP) on Coe's campus during World War II. The group of about 200 17-year-old cadets bunked in the basement of Eby Fieldhouse in 1944 while receiving an introduction to college coursework as well as military training. The program had a profound effect on Tippie, who went on to become a prominent business leader and philanthropist, providing generous support to Coe and many other educational institutions.

## Like father, **LIKE SON**



Coe Army ROTC Platoon Leader **Griffin Clark '21** is following in his father's footsteps and U.S. Army Col. **Matt Clark '95** couldn't be more proud. The father-son duo have a rich history with Coe's ROTC program.

Matt credits the experiences he had at Coe and in ROTC for his path of success. "I was a tenacious young man. Maj. Ramos and Capt. Sullivan gave me the opportunity to challenge authority in an appropriate way," Matt said. "They looked after me and advised me."

He also feels his experiences at Coe empowered him as a young officer and led him to obtain his doctorate. "My professors found a way to challenge me and support me to be sustainable. At Coe, you receive guidance without being directed," Matt said.

Currently a junior at Coe, Griffin leads the Army ROTC platoon. "It's scary; you're in charge of people and their decisions," Griffin said. "It's a huge responsibility, but it ultimately makes you a better person."

Griffin offers advice to anyone considering ROTC: "Self awareness is key," he said. "It's critical to understand the root of who you are before entering the program. You have to be open and honest and not afraid to ask for assistance."

Matt was the recipient of the first Young Alumni Award given by the college in 2010. This award honors an alumnus who has achieved a high level of success within 15 years of graduating. Matt's decorated career in the military is certainly something worth celebrating.

Griffin looks forward to being commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army upon graduation. "Coe's slogan is so true," Griffin said. "If there is something you're passionate about, Coe makes it possible."



# CLASS NOTES

NOT FOUR YEARS...FOR LIFE. STAYING CONNECTED TO THE COE FAMILY.

## 1950s

'56 **Bruce Spivey** of San Francisco, California, was honored at the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2019 Orbital Gala for his work in the field. Spivey was the founding CEO and executive vice president of the academy.

## 1960s

'64 **Randall Bellamy** of Upper Saint Clair, Pennsylvania, is a publisher's sales representative specializing in library media sales for Infobase Learning.

**1** '65 **Tom Martin** had the privilege of participating in the Honor Flight from Eastern Iowa Airport in October 2019. He served in the Army from 1966-68. Martin's son, Jeff, accompanied him as his guardian.

'69 **George "Skip" Farrell** of Landrum, South Carolina, retired from Amaya-Astron Seating Company at the end of 2019. He is currently consulting for the company until the end of 2020.

## 1970s

'70 **50th Reunion: October 15-18, 2020**

'71 **50th Reunion: Homecoming 2021**

'74 **Dennis Drummond** of Seattle, Washington, has retired to the milder climate, mountains and Salish Sea of Washington. He does not miss Iowa winters, but he does miss his friends from Coe.

**Dick Lucchesi** of Chatham, Massachusetts, retired from the U.S. Army Reserves in September with the rank of colonel. His 34 years of military service included 21 years of active duty in the Air Force and Army, seven years in the Air National Guard and seven years in the Army Reserves.

'76 **Bradley Schnee** of Loveland, Colorado, recently retired as a family physician after 22 years. He and his wife, Mo, have moved to Colorado to spend time with family and friends.

'77 **Kim Wasson** of Arkdale, Wisconsin, is a professional artist and author whose writings have appeared in Midwest Chaparral for 18 years. Her artworks were on display in exhibits in Illinois, Wisconsin and Arizona in 2019.

## 1980s

'81 **Alicia Naylor** Goehring of San Francisco, California, became executive director and CEO of the California Historical Society.

**Joanne Nechanicky** Philips of Billings, Missouri, is a senior emissions engineer for John Deere Remanufacturing in Springfield, Missouri.

'84 **Diana Andrews** Cook of North Richland Hills, Texas, retired from her position as a registered nurse.

'85 **Robert Untiedt** of Marshalltown, Iowa, was elected to the Marshalltown school board in November.

'86 **Toini Landis** of Big Sky, Montana, and her husband, Dick, celebrated the opening of a high school in Kenya, which they helped build with their friend, **Titus "Kip" Korir '74**.

'88 **Alexis Osborne** Hulett and **Kevin Hulett '89** of Springville, Iowa, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in April.

## 1990s

'91 **Rahul Kumar** of Boulder, Colorado, became CEO of Everest Mechanical in 2019.

'96 **Doug Beadle** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, earned member emeritus status in the American Meteorological Society after 51 years of continuous membership.

**2** '97 **Michael Scott** of Waxahachie, Texas, competed in the Masters 2 Classic Raw Division at the RPS Texas Merry Gainzmas powerlift meet in Austin, Texas. He set state records in the bench press (386 pounds) and deadlift (562 pounds) and state and world records in the squat (606 pounds) and total (1554 pounds).

'98 **Stafford "Larry" Davis** of Wilmington, Delaware, became a senior business director at Secura Bio Inc. in November.

'99 **Myrtle "Myrt" Clark** Bowers of Mount Vernon, Iowa, was named one of HER Magazine's Women of Achievement in 2019. She was honored for her 40-year nursing career, during which she served as vice president of patient care at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids for 12 years. After retiring from nursing, she served as the executive director for Witwer Senior Center for 13 years, where she worked to improve the lives of older adults in Linn County.



## 2000s

'01 **Trisha King** Brauer of Roeland Park, Kansas, was elected to the Roeland Park City Council.

**Nick Nielsen** of Marion, Iowa, became vice president of sales operations for GreatAmerica Financial Services. He has been with the company for over 10 years.

**Laci Palar** Lower of North Liberty, Iowa, received a Bravo Award from Think Iowa City. The award recognizes individuals who are making the community a better place to live, work and visit. Lower is the founder of Interlace, a product management consulting company, and serves as a board member and volunteer for many local organizations.



# CLASS NOTES

SHARE YOUR CLASS NOTES AT [WWW.ALUMNI.COE.EDU](http://WWW.ALUMNI.COE.EDU).

'03 **Khadija "Michiko" Rehma** of Saint John's, Newfoundland, Canada, is pursuing her master's degree in humanities at the Memorial University of Newfoundland.

## 2010s

'10 **Lane Moser** of Des Moines, Iowa, completed his fellowship training in Akron, Ohio, and became the pediatric palliative care medical director at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines.

'11 **Brandon Burton** of New Haven, Connecticut, is pursuing his master's degree in fine arts at the Yale School of Drama.

'13 **Lauren DuBay** Gilbertson of Solon, Iowa, is the creative strategist for Shive-Hattery in Cedar Rapids. Her husband, **Dennis Gilbertson**, is the physical education teacher at Johnson STEAM Academy in Cedar Rapids.

**Stephanie Mahnke** Leslie of West Des Moines, Iowa, is a tax senior at LWBj in West Des Moines.

'14 **Brooke Wheelwright** of Columbia, Missouri, is an associate on the business litigation team at Lathrop Gage in Saint Louis.

'15 **Anne Dugger** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was nominated as an Everyday Hero by Fairfax State Savings Bank for her work helping refugees and immigrants at the Catherine McAuley Center in Cedar Rapids.

'16 **Ashley Glassberg-Nazette** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is an IT support analyst for the University of Iowa.

3 **Mikaila Matt** of Charleston, South Carolina, graduated cum laude in the top 15% of her class from Charleston School of Law. She passed the South Carolina bar exam and was admitted to the South Carolina Bar Association in November. She is currently an associate attorney with Dell Family Law.

'19 **Taylor Anderson** of Muscatine, Iowa, is a fourth grade teacher at Franklin Elementary in Muscatine.

**Ali Clifton** of Dubuque, Iowa, is a College Access Coach at AmeriCorps in Dubuque.

**Jaimee Rindy** of Atlanta, Georgia, accepted a full-time position as a marketing production assistant at CNN after completing an internship with the company.



# PUSHA DA PEN

WRITTEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF COE'S ALUMNI



'68 **Cindy Lundine** of Alburnett, Iowa, published the book "Come In and Sit Down: Inside the Walls of Homes Past and Present of Cedar Rapids and Marion." The book covers numerous aspects of local history through research, interviews and photographs. This is Lundine's third historical book about the Cedar Rapids area. Interested readers may contact the author through the publisher, Bridleweath Studio Productions, at P.O. Box 10873, Cedar Rapids, IA 52410.



'79 **Bill Schmarzo** of Palo Alto, California, published the e-book "The Art of Thinking Like a Data Scientist." Designed as a workbook, it is a tool to help organizations leverage data and analytics to power their business and operational models. It is available on Schmarzo's website, [www.deanofbigdata.com](http://www.deanofbigdata.com).



'83 **Joel Barrows** of Bettendorf, Iowa, published the novel "Deep Green Cover." Based on true events, the book is the second in Barrow's "Deep Cover" series featuring ATF Special Agent David Ward. It is available through Down & Out Books, Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



# KOHAWK TAKES FLIGHT TO BRING AN END TO POLIO



**John Ockenfels (left) and Peter Teahen (right) with Teahen's Piper Lance airplane**

**Peter Teahen '75** and his cousin, John Ockenfels, are on a mission to help eradicate polio worldwide. To complete that mission, the two seasoned pilots are flying around the globe in Teahen's single-engine 1978 Piper Lance airplane. Their journey will span 51 days and consist of 29 landings in 16 countries.

Teahen is president and funeral director of Teahen Funeral Home in Cedar Rapids, and Ockenfels is the retired CEO of City Carton Recycling in Iowa City. Both pilots are members of Rotary International and are partnering with the organization to raise awareness and funds for continued polio vaccination efforts. Although the disease has been eliminated in the U.S., it remains a threat in other countries.

*"Studies show that unless we end polio within 10 years, as many as 200,000 new cases could occur around the world each year," Teahen said.*

Teahen and Ockenfels will take off from Cedar Rapids on March 24. Their journey is estimated to take more than 135 hours of actual flight time and presents several obstacles. "The 20,000-mile eastbound route has us facing one of our biggest challenges almost immediately, as we fly nearly 10 hours across the North Atlantic between St. John's, Newfoundland, and the Azores," Teahen said. When flying over hazardous water, the pilots will wear immersion suits and have a four-man raft with emergency supplies, satellite phones and personal tracking devices.

The aircraft also is equipped with a 165-gallon fuel tank to supplement the 96 gallons in the wings. Due to the lack of aviation fuel in most parts of the world, over half of the fuel stops will require the two pilots to hand-pump fuel from 55-gallon drums, which will be shipped by train or cargo ships to the various airports.

One planned visit along the route is to Pakistan, where polio is very active. Teahen and Ockenfels will meet with medical providers and victims suffering with polio to better understand the needs of care teams and individuals affected by the disease.

The pilots are covering the entire cost of their trip so that 100% of all donations raised prior to, during and after the flight will go toward the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus Program. In addition, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is matching all donations 2:1.

Incredibly, Teahen will not be the first Kohawk to fly around the world. In 1966, **Joan Claassen Wallick '52** and her husband, Robert, achieved the feat in their twin-engine Beechcraft Baron. In the history of aviation, only about 700 pilots have flown around the world in light aircraft.



**TO MAKE A DONATION AND TRACK THE PROGRESS OF  
TEAHEN'S AND OCKENFELS' FLIGHT IN REAL TIME, VISIT**

**[www.flighttoendpolio.com](http://www.flighttoendpolio.com).**







## 1970s

'79 **Beth Freedman** and Clark Maseman of Bozeman, Montana, on October 19.

## 1980s

'87 **Kathie McIntosh** and Keith Larsen of Antioch, Illinois, on September 14.

## 1990s

'98 **Colleen Helmricks** and Charles Dorsey of Minneapolis, Minnesota, on August 24.

## 2000s

'07 **Andrew Hinds** and **Elizabeth Curley** '13 of Mendota Heights, Minnesota, on July 13.

## 2010s

'10 **Lauren Garcia** and Andrew Pastorek of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on July 12.

1 '11 **Robert Hayes** and **Kayla Freeborn** of Montezuma, Iowa, on November 8.

2 '16 **Molly Boland** and Evan Constant of Madison, Wisconsin, on June 29. Kohawks in the wedding party were **Emma Ambrose '15**, **Mackenzie Harbaugh Atwater '16**, **Erin Pisarik '16**, **Kolbie Creger '15**, **Hannah Torry '16**, **Chelsea Matthews '16**, **Bri Smith '16**, **Colton Storla '16**, **Clay Heick '16**, **Erik McKillip '16** and **Kory Wiele '16**.

**Ashley Glassberg** and Andrew Nazette of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on September 27.

3 '19 **Heidi Graff** and Ethan Ford of Marion, Iowa, on September 28.

# ALUMNI COUNCIL *Update*

Hello fellow alumni,

Since I last spoke to you, we have begun a new year and a new decade. Happy 2020! Spring is here, and the Alumni Council will meet April 17-18 to be of assistance to the college on items from an alumni perspective. The college truly values the input and involvement from alumni, and the Alumni Council is proud to be your representative and voice. If you have any thoughts, ideas or suggestions, please share them with us.

Remember, there are many ways alumni can get involved. I encourage you to think about hosting an event for alumni in your area. The Alumni Office would be happy to assist with planning something in your region, including taking registrations and payments, sending a box filled with Coe swag and more. You can reach out to [alumni@coe.edu](mailto:alumni@coe.edu) to get started!

The Alumni Council plays a big role in Homecoming, and we hope you plan to join us for Homecoming 2020 taking place October 15-18. As always, we will have our signature silent auction with all proceeds supporting students through on-campus and off-campus study scholarships.

The students know these scholarships come directly from alumni, and your participation does not go unnoticed.

I am also very excited to announce the Coe College Black Alumni Association (CCBAA) will be hosting its biennial Black Alumni Reunion at Homecoming 2020. This reunion has been hosted in a variety of cities in the past including Houston in 2018, so we are excited to have it taking place back in Cedar Rapids again. This reunion weekend is centered around the fond relationships that were fostered during our Coe experiences. It will be great to continue to promote diversity on campus, and it's truly going to be a special event.

Alumni are very important to the college and students. The Alumni Council represents ALL alumni, and we want to hear from you. Let's stay connected!



Always a Kohawk!  
**Charles Davis '86**  
President, Coe Alumni Council

## Share your news!

Information compiled in "Class Notes" comes from a variety of sources, including direct correspondence from alumni, clipping services and news releases. The college received these class notes by December 15. **The deadline for the Fall 2020 issue will be available at a later date.** Announcements older than one year at the time they are submitted will not be published.

Please follow these basic guidelines when submitting information:

### NEWS

At least the following basic information should be provided with any submission: name and class year, spouse name and class year if Coe alum, city and state of residence and your news. Please spell out acronyms. Milestones (anniversaries, birthdays, etc.) will be noted only in five-year increments (25th, 30th, etc.)

### MARRIAGES & ANNIVERSARIES

Include both spouses' full names (including birth/maiden names, where applicable) and complete date. Please notify us after your wedding; we cannot publish based on an engagement announcement.

### BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Include child's first name, legal names of parents (mother's birth/maiden name will be published if Coe alum) and complete date.

### DEATHS

Include full name, complete date and city/state of residence at time of death. Please include a newspaper obituary, if possible.

### PHOTOS

Digital photos must be at least 300 dpi when sized to 3.75 inches wide. Please save the file as a TIFF or JPEG file. We must have the photographer's permission to print a copyrighted photo. Please indicate if you would like prints returned.

Submit information via email to [courier@coe.edu](mailto:courier@coe.edu) or mail to 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. Information may also be submitted online at [www.alumni.coe.edu](http://www.alumni.coe.edu).



# FUTURE ALUMNI

## WELCOMING NEW KOHAWKS INTO THE NEST

### 2000s

- 1 '00 Nicole Brucker** Gussick and her husband, John, of Dyer, Indiana, a son, Brendan Eli, on September 24.
- 2 '05 Dana Lede** of Fife, Washington, a daughter, Emeline May, on January 3, 2019.
- 3 '08 Lee Boyse and Kaitlin Johnston** Boyse of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, a son, Martin James, on June 1.

- 4 '09 Shayla Chalker** of Claremont, California, a son, Harrison David, on March 6, 2019.

**Anne Pauler** and her husband, Charles O'Malley, of Congers, Massachusetts, a daughter, Grace, on September 15.

- 5 Lisa Sadewasser** Schroeder and her husband, Ben, of Dubuque, Iowa, a son, Thomas John, on November 1.


### 2010s

- 6 '10 Lane Moser and Michelle Klobassa** Moser '11 of Des Moines, Iowa, a daughter, Cora Gayle, on August 1. *Cora is pictured with sisters Lucille and Eleanor.*

**'14 Noor Amr** Burkle and her husband, Jeremy, of Marion, Iowa, a daughter, Laylah, on October 25.





 Indicates decedent was a member of the Coe College Heritage Club. For information, contact Director of Planned Giving Debbie Green at 319.399.8592 or [dgreen@coe.edu](mailto:dgreen@coe.edu).

Full obituaries for all decedents can be found at [www.coe.edu/why-coe/discover-coe/publications/courier](http://www.coe.edu/why-coe/discover-coe/publications/courier).

## 1940s


**1940 Alvin Hurtt**, 100, of Springfield, Oregon, on December 5.

**Primrose Selden Jackson**, 100, of Indianola, Iowa, on December 13.

**1943 Monita Hayes Ebersole**, 97, of Wyoming, Iowa, on November 13.

**1944 Dorothea Moser Huebner**, 96, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on September 22.

**Kathryn "Kay" Wandel LaFontaine**, 96, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on July 28.

 **1946 Gwen Cravens**, 101, the wife of **Jay Cravens '46**, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on February 20, 2019.

**1948 Elaine Alles Rygr**, 93, of Lisbon, Iowa, on September 25.

**Mary Aossey Joslin**, 92, of Torrance, California, on November 12.

**Ruth Coates Lauther**, 93, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on October 26.

## 1950s

**1950 Melvin "Squib" Collins**, 95, of Downers Grove, Illinois, on October 27.

**1951 Beverly Blencoe Lawrence**, 90, of Edwardsville, Illinois, on November 28.



**William "Bill" Shuttleworth**, 92, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 28. Bill served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-46. He earned his bachelor's degree and a master's degree in speech criticism from the University of Iowa and his Juris Doctor from Yale University. He then joined the law firm of Elliott, Shuttleworth and Ingersoll that his father had helped found in the 1920s. He became a partner in the firm and remained one until he became "of counsel" in the late 1990s and was known for his expertise in real estate and probate matters. Bill loved Cedar Rapids and was an active member of the community. He acted as legal counsel for Coe College and served on the Board of Trustees for many years, including two terms as chair. He and his wife, Winifred "Teddy" Shuttleworth, supported Coe's music and humanities programs and established the William R. and Winifred Shuttleworth Chair in History and the Shuttleworth Pre-Law Award. Bill supported the Cedar Rapids Symphony, was a board member and chair of its foundation and recently established the Shuttleworth Chamber Series. He also was active in the Iowa Division of the United Nations Association as director and officer from 1957 until 2013 and supported the University of Iowa International Writing Program. Bill is survived by his wife, Teddy; a son, Jeff Shuttleworth; two daughters, Jane and Amy Shuttleworth; two grandchildren; and a nephew.

**1954 Annalee Clemons Oakes**, 88, of Shoreline, Washington, on October 25.

**JoAnn Laatz Hustis**, 88, of Marseilles, Illinois, on November 6.

**1955 Max Daehler Jr.**, 85, of Belmont, California, on August 27.

**1956 Joanne Andrews Pappas**, 85, of Denver, Colorado, on October 24.

**Mary Ann Filipi Saks**, 84, of Germantown, Maryland, on May 9.

**Ahmed Sheronick**, 93, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on November 9.

**1957 Jean Thompson Imoehl**, 93, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on November 10.

**Delores Ward Lathrop**, 84, of Mason City, Iowa, on December 14.

## 1960s

**1961 Eugene "Gene" Zhorne**, 82, of Longview, Texas, on October 5.

**1966 Michael Malina**, 74, of Bolingbrook, Illinois, on July 7.

## 1970s

**1970 Stephen "Steve" Gray**, 70, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, on October 2.

**1974 Franklin "Joe" Nosek**, 67, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 27.

**1975 Marilyn Fuller Delong**, 75, of Long Beach, California, on November 23.

## 1980s

**1980 Russel "Scott" Mansfield**, 62, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on September 29.

**1986 Glenn O'Dell**, 54, of Naples, Florida, on August 18.

## 1990s

**1990 Jim Montague**, 71, of Troy Mills, Iowa, on December 6.

## 2000s

**2002 Ashlea Betzen Miyauchi**, 39, of Fordland, Missouri, on November 24.



**Dean Hutter '44**, 98, of Columbia, South Carolina, on January 9. A retired U.S. Army colonel and war hero, Dean was a member of the "Coe 22," a group of senior ROTC cadets who trained together at Camp Roberts and entered active service for World War II in May 1944. He served in the military for 28 years and in combat roles during World War II and the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam. He spoke four languages fluently and employed that skill throughout his service in France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Vietnam, Virginia, California and his favorite place in the world, Hawaii. He earned the Silver Star, two Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, two Legions of Merit, the French Croix de Guerre, the Italian Award for War Merit, two Vietnamese Medals of Gallantry and the Army Commendation Medal. He also received the keys to the city of Paris for his service with the French Army. During his military career, Dean served as chief of war plans for the Central Army Group of NATO and as chief of operations for the U.S. Army Pacific.

After retiring from the Army in 1972, Dean served as professor and dean of business for 42 years at Chaminade and Strayer universities. He earned Teacher of the Year honors at Chaminade for 17 straight years until the award was retired. Dean earned his master's degrees in personnel management and communication from The George Washington University and the University of Hawaii respectively and his doctorate in business from the University of Bath. He was also a fellow of the British Institute of Management. Another important part of Dean's life was the piano; during his 20s, he played the piano on his own radio show in Aurora, Illinois, and considered becoming a concert pianist before joining the Army. Dean is survived by two daughters, Debra Pletcher and Diane Gilbert; a son, Paul Hutter; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 68 years, Helen; and a brother-in-law, fellow Coe 22 member and former Coe Trustee **Paul Scheele '44**.



## KOHAWK GATHERINGS

## KOHAWKS REUNITE AROUND THE WORLD

**1** A group of Chi Omega alumnae enjoyed a trip to Seattle together. Pictured are **Beth McKnight Hand '64**, **Bonnie Bilharz Quinn '62**, **Barbara Moninger May '63**, **Fran Bailey Fuerstneau '64**, **Jan Maresh Bowersox '64**, **Carolyn Wieker Weaver '63**, **Catharine "Rae" Dicks '64**, **Linda Eichmeier De Grand '63**, **Donna Oetjen Farley '65** and **Franci Anderson Bolen '63**.

**2** Associate Director for International Recruitment Rohit Dalal had dinner with several alumni living and working in New Delhi, India. Pictured (left to right) are Rohit, **Katie Blanchard '10**, **Nicki Thiher '10**, **Kim Hoff Strever '10** and **Ben Strever '10**.



## FACULTY & STAFF

## UPDATES AND ACCOLADES

### Forty-plus YEARS OF SERVICE

James Y. Canfield Professor of Psychology Dr. Wendy Dunn taught her first class, social psychology, at Coe in the summer of 1976 while pursuing her doctoral studies at the University of Iowa.

"I remain grateful to Fritz Fredrickson, longtime chair of the Psychology Department, for giving me this chance to begin a career in teaching at Coe. Together with Chuck Hamilton, Dick Bahwell and Michael Morris, I felt welcomed and supported, while being afforded the freedom to craft my own style of approaching students as well as the content of the field of psychology," Dunn said.



Professor Dunn felt incredibly lucky to be hired into a full-time, nontenure-track position at Coe in the fall of 1980, which was converted to a tenure-track line the following year. "I have taught at Coe continuously since that time, with just a few interludes for administrative assignments and sabbatical leaves, both of which I am grateful to have undertaken," Dunn said.

When asked about her proudest accomplishment during her career, Dunn responded, "I have always thought of my position as one that aims to celebrate the accomplishments of Coe students... and there have been so many Coe students of whom to be proud. To the extent I have succeeded as a member of Coe's faculty, it is because so many Coe students whom I've taught and known have gone on to do remarkable things with their lives."

Dunn's hope is that all her former students reflect with fondness on their experiences at Coe. "If they do, then perhaps that is something of an accomplishment and one that I share gladly with generations of faculty and staff at Coe," Dunn said.

Professor Dunn has made such a positive impact at Coe over the last 40-plus years. We can't thank her enough for all she has done for her students, fellow faculty and staff.



Fran Allison and Francis Halpin Professor of Physics **Mario Affatigato '89** published several papers, including "Topological Model of Alkali Germanate Glasses" in the Journal of Physical Chemistry B, with B.D. Silliman Professor of Physics **Steve Feller** as a co-author.

**Dennis Barnett** received the William R. and Winifred Shuttleworth Endowed Chair in Theatre in 2019. He wrote a chapter titled "DAH Theatre: 'Decontaminating' the Serbian Culture" for the book "Staging Postcommunism: Alternative Theatre in Eastern and Central Europe" published by University of Iowa Press, as well as a chapter titled "Racial Nationalism and the Serbian Theatre: From Radovan III to DAH" for the book "Race and Theatre" to be published by Palgrave. His review of the 2019 Belgrade Theatre Festival will be published in the spring edition of the Performing Arts Journal.

Assistant Professor of Physics **Caio Bragatto** published the paper "Optimization of Electrical Conductivity in the Na<sub>2</sub>O-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-AlF-SO<sub>3</sub> Glass System" in the Journal of the American Ceramic Society.

Assistant Professor of Rhetoric **Allison Carr '05** coedited the book "Failure Pedagogies: Learning and Unlearning What It Means to Fail."

Professor Emeritus of Physics **Jim Cottingham** published the paper "A Survey of Recent Studies on Initial Transition in Free Reed Real Oscillations" in the Proceedings of the 23rd International Congress on Acoustics. He also published "The Khaen as a Miniature Pipe Organ" in the Proceedings of ISMA.

**Joe Demarest** was promoted to director of community and civic engagement.

Assistant Professor of Physics **Firdevs Duru** published the paper "The Effects of Crustal Magnetic Fields and Solar EUV Flux on Ionopause Formation at Mars" in the journal Geophysical Research Letters.

B.D. Silliman Professor of Physics **Steve Feller** published several papers, including "The Structure of Amorphous TeO<sub>2</sub>" in the Journal of Physical Chemistry C.

Advancement Data Services and Outreach Specialist **Tad Fundemann** presented the webinar "Data Analytics: Creating an In-House Rating System" to the Association of Professional Researchers for Advancement — Great Plains Chapter.

McCabe Professor of Philosophy **John Lemos** published the article "On the Compatibility of Evolutionary Biology and Theism" in a special issue of The European Journal for the Philosophy of Religion. He also published the article "A Moral/Pragmatic Defense of Just Deserts Responsibility" in the Journal of Information Ethics.

Director of Athletic Training Services and Assistant Professor **Shaun McCarthy** received the 2020 Athletic Training Service Award from the Mid America Athletic Trainers' Association. The award recognizes MAATA members for their distinctive contributions to the athletic training profession at the local, state and district levels.

Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Writing Center Director **Jane Nesmith** published the article "Diversity in Dance: Dance Theatre of the Hemispheres in Iowa" in the March/April issue of Iowa History Journal.

Professor Emeritus of Biology **Floyd Sandford** continues to pursue his interest in long-distance hiking. In 2019, he hiked a 45-mile section of the Appalachian Trail through Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and the 100-mile West Highland Way in Scotland. In 2020 he plans to hike 70 miles of the South West Coast Path in England along the Jurassic Coast.

College Chaplain and Counselor **Melea White** was ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in October.

**Nanci Young** was promoted to director of careers.



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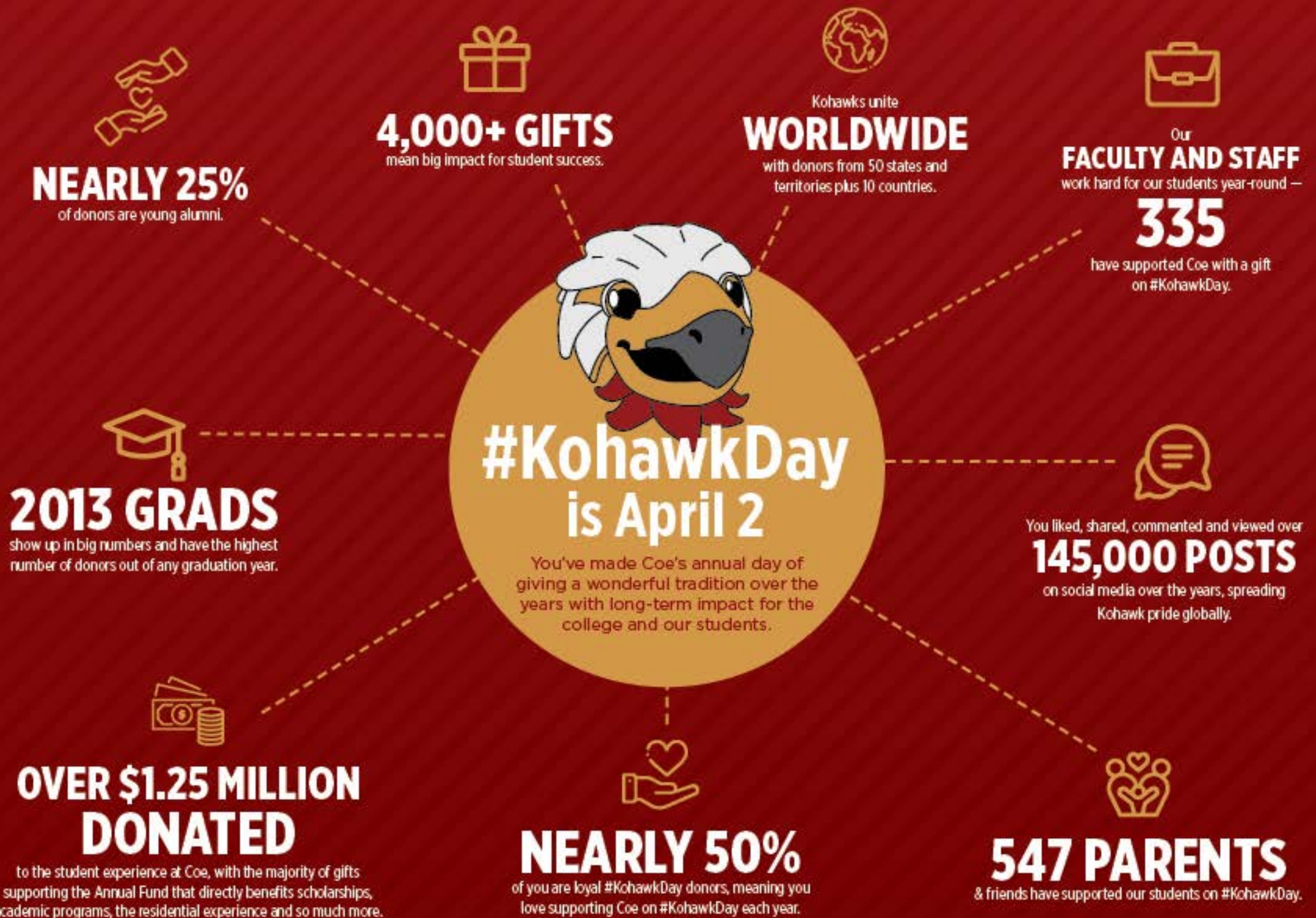
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**#KohawkDay belongs to you. Thank you for demonstrating your love for Coe each year.**  
Join us on April 2 to continue the tradition and celebrate what it means to be a Kohawk!  
Visit [alumni.coe.edu/KohawkDay](http://alumni.coe.edu/KohawkDay) for more information.