



**CONTRA
COSTA
COLLEGE**

Generational Connections

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Construction of the Humanities Building at the San Pablo campus, 1954/55. It has since been torn down.

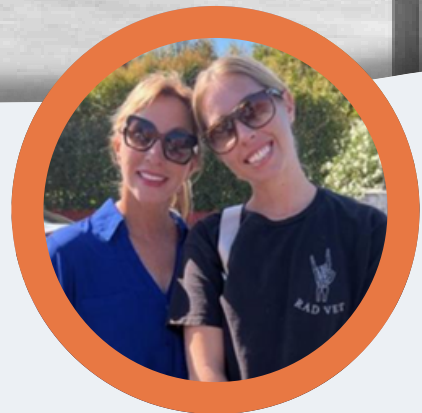
Photo Credit: Contra Costa Historical Society

75 Years of Excellence!

Established in 1949, we proudly began our journey with the first classes in Spring 1950. Here's to honoring our legacy and embracing the future together!

Look up the definition of a public community college. You'll find: an undergraduate educational institution that provides education and training primarily for students from its local community. CCC has been educating and interacting with its community for 75 years. That time period encompasses multiple generations, so it is perhaps unsurprising that there are strong connections between the college and the families of the individuals who have been educated and/or employed at CCC over these many years. We will be highlighting some of their stories as we celebrate this milestone anniversary.

- Ellen Geringer



In this issue:

The Goehring-Tobler Family

Beth Goehring has worked at CCC for 27 years (so far!) Beth is currently the Acting Athletic Director, in addition to teaching Physical Education, Health and Kinesiology. Her son Kyle and daughter Haley attended CCC.



CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

2600 Mission Bell Drive, San Pablo CA 94806 | **Special Thanks to Ellen Geringer**



Legacy Talks

Passing the Baton from
One Generation to the Next

Did you grow up in the local community?

Beth

I grew up in Oceanside, CA. I moved here for my job.

Kyle

Haley

We were kids – we moved here with Mom.

Did you attend CCC? If so, why did you choose to?

Beth

I have taken lots of classes at CCC, some for work advancement, some to improve my skills, some just for fun (i.e. to play volleyball!).

Kyle

I earned an AA in Kinesiology. I came here partly because of Mom, but mostly because it gave me the opportunity to play both baseball and football.

Haley

I graduated from the Early Childcare Lab School! I also took CCC classes throughout high school, earning credits that applied towards HS and college. I came partly because of my mom, but also because CCC had a broader choice of classes than those at my small high school.

How satisfied were you with your experience at CCC?

Beth

I LOVE my job! I always wanted to teach, but internships at university level made me realize that I wanted to teach at a community college.

Kyle

I am very satisfied. I met great people, and was able to build an enjoyable life outside of my academics.

Haley

I enjoyed it, especially when I was at the Lab school.

“

My earliest memories are all at CCC, it's always felt like home.

Fun Fact

Kyle was inducted into the Comet Athletics Hall of Fame in Fall 2024 under the football category.

What is your most positive CCC memory?

Beth

Being offered the position by Dr. Rose. I also like that we get new students to interact with every semester.

Kyle

Getting to go to school with some people I already knew and getting to make new friendships.

Haley

I loved the preschool, hanging out at exercise classes and athletic games (they nicknamed me “Scooter”). My earliest memories are all at CCC, it's always felt like home.

Connections At a Glance

By The Numbers

There are 31 current employees who received a degree or prepared for transfer at Contra Costa College. Add in 13 active retirees.

By Family

There are at least 8 parent-child employee combos (though not all at the same time!). Nine if you count daughters-in-law.

At one point, there were 7 married couples who worked at the college at the same time (some even met here).

Do you remember seeing any of the musicians, artists, and speakers who have performed at the college?

Beth

Mostly college events – a billion athletic games, an MCHS cardboard boat parade, many theater and vocal performances. Jazzology is amazing!

Kyle

I got to meet baseball player Willie McGee, Ryan Coogler (creator of the Black Panther movies), and P-Lo, Iamsu and other local rappers. I also remember really liking an African dance performance.

Haley

The college theater productions.

Was there a college employee (faculty, classified or manager) who had a significant positive influence on your time at CCC?

Beth

John Wade, we've worked side-by-side for years; McKinley Williams; Rose Orpilla; and Modjeh Medizadeh - her guidance (especially when Senate prez) gave me boundaries, but also the room to grow and contribute meaningfully to the college.

Kyle

John Wade talked to me about academics and also about life and interpersonal relations. He also listened.

Haley

Ed Green, John Wade, Brian Powell, and Jim Ulversoy were always supportive. Carol Lee always had candy in a dish on her desk.

What is something at CCC (not class-related) that you enjoyed being part of?

Beth

Meeting people from different areas and across the district; participating in all the different committees.

Kyle

Sports; attending music and dance performances.

Haley

All the sports activities.

How did attending CCC prepare you for the “real world” & your career?

What was most applicable?

Beth

I have learned so much chairing the College Instruction Committee and being president of the Academic Senate.

Kyle

It opened my eyes to the rest of the world. I met people with different backgrounds and cultures and experiences. It helps me feel comfortable working with all the people I meet in my job at a high-end construction firm.

Haley

Statistics and Bio-tech classes. I got a nice introduction to how college classes work and how to navigate college on my own (currently in veterinarian school).

If you had the chance, would you choose the same program or position again?

Beth

Kyle

Haley

Yes, definitely!



What advice would you give someone thinking of attending/working at CCC?

Beth

Time goes by fast, so enjoy it while you can. Don't stay in your own area! Get involved on campus and across the district. Take the time to learn about the system so you know how it works, why things are changing.

Kyle

Broaden yourself, explore fields and genres and all other options to discover what you are passionate about.

Haley

Take classes from my mom (esp. yoga)!