

# The Rose Branch

A PUBLICATION OF AAUW SANTA ROSA

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## AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN ADVANCES EQUITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH.

## AAUW VISION STATEMENT

AAUW WILL BE A POWERFUL ADVOCATE AND VISIBLE LEADER IN EQUITY AND EDUCATION THROUGH RESEARCH, PHILANTHROPY AND MEASURABLE CHANGE IN CRITICAL AREAS IMPACTING THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

## AAUW VALUE PROMISE

BY JOINING AAUW, WE BELONG TO A COMMUNITY THAT BREAKS THROUGH EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC BARRIERS SO THAT ALL WOMEN HAVE A FAIR CHANCE.

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## COME CELEBRATE

50 YEARS

OF

AAUW's

EDUCATIONAL

FOUNDATION!



## Annual Meeting Salad Potluck Luncheon

featuring

AAUW AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT — CARI COE  
sharing her research about  
Forest Land Management in Vietnam

We will be voting for the 2009-2010 Branch Board

Saturday, May 9, 2009  
12 Noon

Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Hall  
North Room  
1351 Maple Avenue

\*\*\*\*\* Dessert & beverages will be provided. \*\*\*\*\*  
RSVP by Wednesday, May 6th by calling Colleen, 566-0514

AAUW Educational Foundation  
*Breaking through barriers for women and girls since 1958*

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP: AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA) DEGREE OR ITS EQUIVALENT.



**SANTA ROSA BRANCH  
BOARD 2008-2009**

President/Chair  
Marianne Holt  
Vice Presidents  
Program  
Colleen Wilson, Co-VP  
Sue Finan, Co-VP  
Membership  
Trina Corson-Graham  
Educational Foundation  
Terry Howell  
Legal Advocacy Fund  
Joyce Adams, Co-VP  
Lillian Shelan, Co-VP  
Marianne Holt, Co-VP  
Treasurer  
Harriet Palk  
Secretary  
Alice Crouch

**APPOINTED POSITIONS**

Circulation Manager  
Hester Perani  
Newsletter Editor  
Heather Dawn  
hdawn13@comcast.net  
Interest Sections  
Terry Howell  
International Affairs  
Gerry Carleton  
Membership Assistant  
Arlene Mandell  
Memory Keeper  
Dorothy White  
Parliamentarian  
Ann Horne  
Public Communications  
Judy Hudson  
Public Policy Co-Chairs  
Virginia Benson  
Liz Sasek  
Telephone Tree  
Sara Leech  
Web-Master  
Lynda Hungerford  
Sunshine  
Trina Corson-Graham  
SSU Scholarship Chair  
Linda Trodden  
Tech Trek  
Melinda Moir

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
"COME MEET YOUR NEW BOARD!"

I invite you to mark your calendar for May 9th and come to our May Annual Meeting and Salad Potluck. You will have an opportunity to say thank you to the out-going Board and meet our new in-coming Board. The slate of your 2009/10 Board Candidates is displayed here on this page. I would personally like to thank our outgoing Board for all their past dedication and commitment to our AAUW Branch. They have worked tirelessly to bring to you a meaningful year and quality programs. I also welcome our new Board and thank each of them for their commitment to AAUW. I especially want to thank Gerry Carleton for rescuing the Branch by serving as President for the third time! We are most grateful for her generous spirit and ongoing leadership.

Our May meeting is also special because we are not only celebrating the culmination of another great year for our branch, but the 50th Anniversary of AAUW's Educational Foundation. You will have an opportunity to hear from EF American Fellowship recipient, Cari Coe. Cari will share with us her work in natural resource management in developing countries, with a focus on Vietnam, and how resource management affects the implementation of national policy. I'm sure you don't want to miss meeting Cari and hearing her presentation. I want to thank our Program VPs, Colleen Wilson and Sue Finan, for arranging this opportunity for all of us to come together to share in community and to celebrate another successful year as well as the 50th Anniversary of EF.

I personally want to thank you for the opportunity to serve and represent you as your president for the past two years, and also to thank the great Board I worked with over these last two years. I look forward to continuing to work with the Board in another capacity this coming year.

I look forward to seeing you at our May Annual Meeting.

Most Sincerely,

Marianne

**AAUW SANTA ROSA CANDIDATES  
FOR THE BOARD 2009/10**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President Gerry Carleton  
Vice President Open  
Membership VP Trina Corson-Graham  
Program Co-VPs Sue Finan  
Judy Creek  
Financial VP Harriet Palk  
EF VP Terry Howell  
LAF Co-VPs Marianne Holt  
Lillian Shelan

**APPOINTED POSITIONS**

Newsletter Editor Heather Dawn  
Newsletter Coordinators Alice Crouch  
Sharon Wright  
Circulation Manager Hester Perani  
Public Policy Liz Sasek  
Public Communications Judy Hudson  
International Affairs Arlene Mandell  
Parliamentarian Joyce Adams  
Membership Assist Arlene Mandell  
Tech Trek Melinda Moir  
Interest Groups Colleen Wilson  
SSU Scholarship Linda Trodden  
Web Domain Lynda Hungerford  
Telephone Tree Sara Leech  
Memory Keeper Dorothy White  
Sunshine Trina Corson-Graham



*In 1928, "Molly Pitcher" was honored on a U.S. postage stamp. Festivities were being planned to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth.*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

PAULA FENSTER BRUST

MAGGIE O'BRIEN

**Paula Fenster Brust** has a B.A. from Rice University in Texas with a double major in math and economics and worked for some time at Texas Instruments. She moved to Santa Rosa in 2005 to marry Sam after “living three lives” — in St. Louis, MO, with her daughter, commuting to Tulsa, OK, to learn her father’s business, and to San Francisco to visit Sam, her fiancé.

**Paula** has been working as a math tutor for 39 years, starting at age 14. Her motto as a tutor is “I want to work myself out of a job,” meaning she wants to move students along so they no longer need her services. She has also tutored English, French and Spanish.

**While** working on de-cluttering her home, she recently found the AAUW application in a box of papers. She enjoys playing bridge and is interested in joining the Public Policy group.

**Maggie O'Brien**, who has lived Mon and off in Sonoma County for the past 20 years, has also lived in such far-flung places as Athens, Greece, Vicenza, Italy, and Hawaii, because her dad was in the Army and the family moved often. She has a B.A. degree from Cal State, Sacramento, in Public Administration and an M.A. from Sonoma State in Non-Profit Management.

**You** may have already run into Maggie at the American Red Cross in Santa Rosa where she is the Director of Volunteers and Nursing, a position she has held for the past three years after many, many years of volunteering. She does the behind-the-scenes paperwork that allows the 800 volunteers currently

signed up to be trained and prepared for disaster work.

**M**aggie’s outdoor passion is kayaking in The Laguna and at Donner Lake. She doesn’t own a TV and instead loves reading literary magazines. She was recruited into AAUW by coworker Joyce Adams and several AAUW members she met at a planning session. She is particularly interested in the Tech Trek program because she knows several young women who received AAUW scholarships to that program.

Arlene L. Mandell,  
Membership Assistant

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

**S**pring has arrived. Thank you to all the members responsible for our outstanding March program. During this program we gained three wonderful new members: Paula Brust, Maggie O'Brien and Jane Nielson. I want to wish a warm welcome to our newest members. Thank you to Sara Leech for referring a prospective member.

**I**n addition, graduation is fast approaching for our high school and college students and you may want to think about the “Give a Grad a Gift” program. AAUW members can now give a recent grad—a friend, daughter, granddaughter, or niece—a free national AAUW membership. I can’t think of a better way to send someone you care about off to their future.

Please submit your dues for 2009-2010 and continue your support for AAUW and its mission. You will receive a renewal notice in April; please fill out the membership survey and get involved. The dates of membership are July 1st-June 30th. I look forward to another exciting year with AAUW.

Trina Corson-Graham,  
Membership VP



## BOOKS FOR JESSICA'S GIRLS

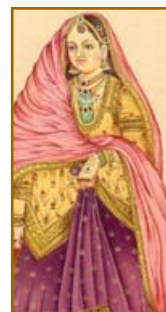
A GLOBAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT

**J**essica Wright, who received an AAUW scholarship while at Sonoma State in 1997, is now a Peace Corps volunteer teaching in “a deep rural village called Steenbok in the Province of Mpumalanga, South Africa.” She contacted us a few months ago to request books for teaching her 7th grade girls English at two schools in a place where many children are without shoes and some are orphans due to HIV-AIDS.

**A**rlene Mandell, a retired English professor, after researching ways of shipping cartons of donated books, learned that it was prohibitively expensive. She devised an alternative plan, and with the generosity of Gerry Carleton and Terry Howell, is sending an illustrated six-book collection about an African-American girl who escaped from slavery during the Civil War and a poetry collection to Jessica to provide her with teaching materials.

Arlene Mandell

## RANI RUDRAMA DEVI



*A prominent ruler of the Kakatiya dynasty on the Deccan Plateau. She was born, Rudrama, to King Ganapathideva. He had no sons, so Rudrama was formally designated as a son through the ancient Putrika ceremony and given the male name of Rudradeva. She remains one of India's most important women.*

**PUBLIC POLICY**  
**OBAMA CREATES WHITE HOUSE**  
**COUNCIL ON WOMEN AND GIRLS**



On March 11, 2009, President Barack Obama signed an Executive Order creating the White House Council on Women and Girls. AAUW applauds the President's efforts to ensure that women's issues get top priority in the Obama administration. The Council will coordinate all government agencies that work towards addressing the challenges faced by women of all ages.

During its first year, the Council will also focus on formulating comprehensive, coordinated policies in the following areas:

- Improving women's economic security by ensuring that each of the agencies is working to directly improve the economic status of women.
- Working with each agency to ensure that the administration evaluates and develops policies that establish a balance between work and family.
- Working hand-in-hand with the Vice President, the Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women and other government officials to find new ways to prevent violence against women, at home and abroad.

Finally, the critical work of the Council will be to help build healthy families and improve women's health care.

AAUW applauds the formation of the White House Council on Women and Girls. It is the first and most critical step in fulfilling the recommendations made by AAUW and signed by more than 40 organizations committed to women's rights

*Reprinted, in part, from the AAUW Website, www.aauw.org and with permission to AAUW from the Liberal Examiner.*



**MARCH 25TH PROGRAM**  
**WOMEN TAKING THE**  
**LEAD TO SAVE OUR**  
**PLANET**



**THANK YOU TO OUR MARCH**  
**PROGRAMMING TEAM**

Thank you to the great team that brought members and guests together during Women's History Month for the March 25th meeting and program, Women taking the Lead to Save Our Planet. Everyone enjoyed an interesting and memorable performance by Lilith Rogers who impersonated Rachel Carson. Rachel Carson is credited with advancing the global environmental movement with her writings and book, *Silent Spring*. Additionally, four environmental community leaders, Brenda Adelman, Rue Furch, Veronica Jacobi, and Jane Nielson, were recognized and presented with an AAUW Award for their environmental leadership. Each woman shared with the audience a short description of their environmental contributions in the community.

Kudos to the team that helped to bring this program to members and guests, including: Arlene Mandell, Colleen, Wilson, Sue Finan, Marianne Holt, Lillian Shelan, Trina Corson-Graham, and Suzanne Karp-Graham. We also greatly appreciate the generosity of Joyce Adams and the Red Cross Office for sharing their facility for the meeting.

Marianne Holt, President

**MANY THANKS TO ALL OUR**  
**MEMBERS ESPECIALLY**

THE 2ND WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP, WHO WORKED TO MAKE THE BRIDGE LUNCHEON A REAL SUCCESS! WHEN YOU SEE THESE PEOPLE, PLEASE SAY THANKS!

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Paula Burst</i>          | <i>Nancy Lowe</i>      |
| <i>Trina Corson-Graham*</i> | <i>Phyllis Lowe*</i>   |
| <i>Hale Darby*</i>          | <i>Nina Lowell</i>     |
| <i>Nancy Hansen</i>         | <i>Phyllis Miller</i>  |
| <i>Len Holt</i>             | <i>Melinda Moir</i>    |
| <i>Marianne Holt*</i>       | <i>Jo Schultz</i>      |
| <i>Judy Hudson*</i>         | <i>Colleen Wilson*</i> |
|                             | <i>Dottie Zieber</i>   |
- \*Members of 2nd Wednesday Book Group*

AAUW Santa Rosa also gratefully appreciates the donors to the 2009 Bridge Luncheon Fundraiser. Please patronize these businesses that were so generous in their support of our branch's local programs.

- Applebee's Restaurants*  
*Santa Rosa Ave. & Hopper Ave.*
- The Bridge Gallery*  
*3401 Cleveland Avenue*
- Dierk's Parkside Café*  
*404 Santa Rosa Avenue*
- Marie Callender's*  
*2460 Mendocino Avenue*
- Favorite Things*  
*1500 4th Street*
- Korbel Champagne Cellars*  
*Guerneville*
- Mac's Deli and Café*  
*630 4th Street*
- Macy's*  
*Santa Rosa Plaza & Coddington*
- Mary's Pizza*  
*4th St.; Marlow Rd.; Summerfield Rd.*
- Santa Rosa Symphony*  
*Wells Fargo Center for the Arts*
- The Oakmont Golf Club*  
*Oakmont*
- Pamposh Fine Indian Restaurant*  
*Mission & Highway 12*
- SRJC Summer Rep Theater*  
*Santa Rosa Junior College*
- And a special thanks to these individuals who also donated raffle items:*
- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Marianne Holt</i>  | <i>Iris Sabelman</i>             |
| <i>Judy Hudson</i>    | <i>Peter &amp; Judith Wolken</i> |
| <i>Phyllis Miller</i> |                                  |

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS BRANCH CALENDAR

### PRETTY SHIELD (1856-1944)

*Her autobiography is Pretty Shield: Medicine Woman of the Crows, and is the women's side of Native American life. Pretty Shield herself ended up raising nine grandchildren on her own, after the death of her husband, Goes Ahead, as well as her daughters. The Pretty Shield Foundation is named in her honor.*

May 6 1:00 PM All members are welcome to attend the May Board meeting, location TBA. Please contact Marianne Holt for additional information, 527-6797, peppy@sonic.net.

May 9 11:30 AM Annual Meeting and Salad Potluck Luncheon, Santa Rosa Veterans Building, Installation of Officers and EF Speaker. Please RSVP to Colleen Wilson, 566-0514.

May 11 1:30 PM The Monday Afternoon Book Group will meet at the home of Nina Lowell, 2625 Hidden Valley Drive, 544-6373, to discuss *The Russian Debutante's Handbook* by Gary Shteyngart. Nina Lowell will moderate.

May 13 7:30 PM The Evening Book Group will meet at the home of Sharon Wright, 2028 Stonefield Lane, 542-3230, to discuss *Bleeding Kansas* by Sara Paretsky.

May 19 9:30 AM The Third Tuesday Morning Book Group will meet at the home Viola Brown, 515 Oak Vista Lane, 538-7775, to discuss *Glass Castle* by Jeanette Wallis.

May 20 9:30 AM Global Issues will meet at the home of Linda Trodden, 1637 Terrace Way, 523-1943, to discuss a special presentation on "The Media Spin on War."

May 21 12:00 noon Gourmet Luncheon group will meet at the home of Delia Nistler, 250 Mockingbird Circle, 538-2965. Geraldine Carleton, 539-9521, will co-host.

May 28 5:00 PM The Working Women's Group will meet at Sea Food Brasserie in the Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel, 170 Railroad Square. Please RSVP to Lynne Durrell, 528-3910, billandlynne@comcast.net.

May - If you are interested in participating in the Walking-Hiking Group during May, please call Phyllis Lowe, 573-1125, for dates and time.

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

DO YOU KNOW A MEMBER WHO  
COULD USE A KIND NOTE OR A GET  
WELL CARD FROM THE GROUP?

Call and leave a message, or e mail  
The Sunshine Committee and we'll  
get a card in the mail.

THANK YOU

526-4982 (Trina)  
corsongraham@sbcglobal.net



## AAUW INTEREST GROUPS 2008—2009

Global Issues ~ Gail Ellestad  
546-0562

Gourmet Luncheon ~ Ruth Huck-  
lebridge 538-1096

Culture Vultures - Need Organizer

Let's Dine In ~ Need Organizer  
566-0514

Public Policy ~ Ginny Benson  
869-0303 & Liz Sasek 570-1564

Romancing the Vine ~ Colleen  
Wilson 566-0514

Tuesday Morning Book Club  
Sylvia Thorne 579-6789

Second Monday Book Group  
Sally Fee 539-7348

Wednesday Evening Book Club  
Colleen Wilson 566-0514

Walking-Hiking Group ~ Phyllis  
Lowe 573-1125

Working Women ~ Trina Corson-  
Graham 526-4982

AAUW Santa Rosa has many in-  
terest groups ~ something for ev-  
eryone. Please join, add your tal-  
ents and make new friends. Any  
questions please call Interest Sec-  
tions Coordinator, Terry Howell  
542-1135.

### URRACA OF LEÓN

(1078 – March 8, 1126) was Queen of León and Castile from 1109 to her death. She was the first woman ever to reign in a Western European monarchy. Urraca was the daughter of Alfonso VI of León by his second wife, Constance of Burgundy. She became heirless to her father's kingdom after her only brother was killed in the Battle of Ucles in 1108.



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## NOTICE FROM AAUW CA PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

### REGARDING THE MAY 19, 2009 CALIFORNIA SPECIAL ELECTION

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has been a staunch supporter of education and public health measures for 126 years. Our nearly 14,000 members in California sympathize with those who protest proposed cuts.

The budget reductions spared few, if any, departments, programs or services. At the same time the budget also depends on significant tax increases.

The AAUW CA statement regarding the budget deficit battle urged “a balanced approach of revenue increase and expenditure reduction geared to maintaining a safety net of vital government services.” We wanted to:

- PROTECT THE BASIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE
- MAINTAIN ALL HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS
- EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTE FUNDING CUTS
- SERIOUSLY ASSESS THE OPTIONS FOR TAX AND FEE INCREASES

We believe the budget proposals are the best we can expect in this difficult time. AAUW members are asked to take a deep breath and vote yes for the budget items: 1-A, 1-B, 1-C, 1-D, 1-E, and 1-F on the May 19 special election ballot.

To read the ballot measures, go to [www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov) and click on ballot measures.



BARBARA MCCLINTOCK  
(June 16 1902 – September 2 1992), the 1983 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, one of the world's most distinguished cytogeneticists.