



Carolyn Wilson: 35 Year Branch Member

Carolyn and Chuck Wilson have moved permanently to their Santa Cruz beach house, selling their home in Holiday Lakes. She has been a branch member for 35 years, joining AAUW in 1984.



In December 1971 Carolyn and Chuck moved to Morgan Hill into a house that Chuck had built. They came from Livermore when Chuck's employer, General Electric, moved its offices to San Jose.

After spending a dozen years raising their three children, Carolyn joined AAUW Morgan Hill in 1984. She wanted to meet people, now that she had only one child left at home. She already knew Nancy Foster (a charter branch member), as their sons were good friends through sports.

Carolyn was impressed with AAUW members' enthusiasm and liked meeting so many interesting and smart women. She recalls that Marilyn Gadway was president then and immediately added her to a committee.



In 1989 Carolyn was one of 29 members who each made a quilt square depicting various aspects of Morgan Hill history. She had never quilted before but had always wanted to learn. Her square depicted Transportation: El Camino Real bell and the MH railroad station. The completed quilt was presented to the historical museum, where it is still on display.

Over the years Carolyn served the branch in many ways: chair of hospitality and interest groups, calendar, and membership vice president in 1998-1999. In 2001 she was instrumental in encouraging the branch to participate in the 4th of July parade after a multi-year hiatus.



2009 parade

Carolyn ran in the Wildflower Run only once. That was the year a man with a gun threatened the women runners. After that, she stuck to volunteering. For several years she was in charge of the snack shack and food for runners. She says that it was all much simpler in those days. She later was a course marshal and more recently worked the 2K kids run.



She has also enjoyed various interest groups: afternoon book group, bridge, Poppy Jasper Singers (and learning to play steel pans), bicycling, hiking, and Smart eGals.

2005 with Jane Blissett (L) and Sandy Clark (R)

Most recently, Carolyn has participated with Mamas in the Kitchen. She is a great cook but always liked to try out her assigned recipe in advance to be sure she got it right. One time she made chicken mole for a Mexican theme meal ahead of time. She and Chuck really didn't like it, but she still had to make it again for the group.



Cooking Chinese 2017

Carolyn and Chuck have traveled all over the world and have been to at least 53 countries. Her favorite trip was their first foreign trip in 1989, trekking in Nepal. She remembers the exact date, as they left the day after the Loma Prieta earthquake. Switzerland's beautiful scenery was another highlight of their travels.

Carolyn says that she has loved living in Morgan Hill, but that it was time to downsize and move to the smaller beach house that Chuck built in 1976. They will also be closer to their children and grandchildren.

We will miss Carolyn, her warm friendliness and enthusiasm, and hope that she makes frequent trips back over the hill to visit her many Morgan Hill friends.