

Rosalyn LaVerne Coates

Rosalyn was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She earned a BA from Yale and a JD from the university of Iowa College of Law. She is a member of the California and Illinois state bars and is employed as Legislative Counsel for the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board. Rosalyn served as Grader for the Illinois State Bar and later tutored bar applicants. Rosalyn was introduced into the Oracle Set Book Club in 1989 by Bernadette Derr. Using her legal expertise Rosalyn incorporated the Oracle Set Foundation and served on its founding Board of Directors. She currently serves as Board Secretary, Trustee for Union Temple Baptist Church, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Library of Congress Federal Credit union, and Chairman of the MD/DC Credit Union Chairman's Forum. She is past president of the Shepherd Park Citizens Association and remains active with that Association.

Rosalyn is married to Paul Coates, founder and owner of Black Classic Press and BCP Digital Printing. She is "Mom" to Darius and Jared and, through marriage, is "Mama Roz" to Damani, Kelley and Kevin, Kristance, Malik, Jonathan and Anike, Ta-Nehisi and Kenyatta, and Memelik and Joy; and "Nana Roz" to ten grandchildren. Roz enjoys the sisterhood of the Book Club and their shared interest in supporting the literary arts, literacy and scholarly works in general. She is very proud of the legacy of the Oracle Set Book Club and its charitable arm, the Oracle Set Foundation. "I give honor to the memory of visionary, Claudette Franklin Ford and all founding members of this amazing organization, to those who were past members of the Book Club and to my current sisters of the Oracle Set Book Club for creating a cultural institution that has had a profound impact on the lives of many in the Washington Metropolitan Area."