**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Many thanks to this year’s nominees! And thanks to the 2023 Nominating Committee members: • Ruth Spivak - Kensington Rockville, • Dorothy Fraquelli - Baltimore, • Jeannie Parr - Howard County, and • Bernadette Low - Harford County.

Additional nominations may be made at the convention with the permission of the nominee. Please review the following information about the nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee for the two-year term beginning July 1, 2023:

* Treasurer: Christine Schmitz
* Co-Vice Presidents, Public Policy: Roxann King and Debby Chessin
* Vice President, Membership: Jeanne Blades
* Secretary: Diane Roca

Nominated for the 2024 Nominating Committee:

* Susan Wierman, Baltimore Branch
* Pat Stocker, Bethesda-Chevy Chase
* Beverlee Fallik, Howard County

Becoming an AAUW Maryland officer or committee chair is a great way to gain leadership experience, make new friends, and further the mission of AAUW. Members from any branch are eligible for nomination, so don’t be shy!

**For Treasurer: Christine Schmitz**

Christine Schmitz most recently served as Membership Chair for AAUW Maryland. Previously, she served as Treasurer and as Vice President for Fundraising. She has been a long-time advocate for AAUW, having served as President of the Towson Branch and as a Board Member and Treasurer of the Baltimore Branch. She has experience on several national AAUW Committees: She completed two terms on the AAUW National Investment Committee and currently serves on the National Finance Committee as well as the Governance Committee.

Christine is Director of Wealth Advisory Services for Glass Jacobson Investment Advisors, LLC. She is an Investment Advisor, a Certified Financial Planner, and a Certified Public Accountant.

A graduate of the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, she attained her Bachelor of Music degree prior to turning her focus to a career in business and investments. She is also a graduate of the University of Baltimore and the College for Financial Planning.

In addition to Board service for AAUW, she has been treasurer of VGIF, now known as Women First International Fund. She is also a member of the Peabody Institute Advisory Board as well as a member of the Vestry of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Sykesville.

**For Co-Vice President for Public Policy: Roxann King and Debby Chessin**

***Roxann King***

Roxanne King is currently Co-Public Policy Vice President for AAUW MD and previously served as AAUW-MD Co-Vice President for Programs and Vice President for Membership. Previously, she was Public Policy Co-Chair for AAUW Anne Arundel County and local arrangements cochair for the 2020 AAUW state convention planned for Annapolis. Roxann served as Co-President of the Anne Arundel branch for four years, book sale co-chair for six years and webmaster for 4 years.

Emeritus of Prince George’s Community college, she retired in May of 2016, having taught mathematics there for 39 years. She wrote several mathematics textbooks. Roxann believes very strongly in AAUW’s mission in shaping public policy to support the education, equity, and the well-being of women and families; she also believes that the NCCWSL is one of AAUW’s most powerful activities. On a more social level, she loves playing bridge with her AAUW ladies’ group.

# *A picture containing person, person, outdoor, close  Description automatically generatedDebby Chessin*

Dr. Debby Chessin is currently Co-Public Policy Vice President for AAUW MD and previously served as AAUW Anne Arundel County President. Also, as a member of the branch’s Public Policy Committee, she volunteered with Dr. Catherine Hill, Executive Director of the Women's Legislative Caucus to present research summaries of upcoming bills for legislators, attend hearings, and provide general support.

Before moving to Annapolis in 2017, Debby served two four-year terms as a Planning Commissioner for the city of Oxford, Mississippi. In that position, she sought to balance the needs of the individual with those of local developers to maintain the charming and historic nature of the town.

More recently, she served as the 2019 AAUW AAC Co-Chair of the “STEM Girls Count!” conference for fourth grade girls in Anne Arundel County featuring workshops in the STEM fields presented by women scientists, architects, and engineers. This very successful conference was a collaborative effort between the Anne Arundel County Public Schools, AAUW AAC, and Anne Arundel Community College

Dr. Chessin earned the BS and MS from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and the M.Ed. from The University of Mississippi where she served as Professor of Science Education and Coordinator of Study Abroad for the Department of Teacher Education. She enjoys spending time with her family in Annapolis, reading, keeping up with the news and local politics, riding her Honda Ruckus Scooter, sailing in the Bay, walking, hiking, and enjoying nature.

**For Secretary: Diane Roca**

Diane Roca holds a BA in English Literature from Mount Holyoke College.  Her professional career included various administrative positions at AT&T.   Diane joined AAUW over 50 years ago.  She has been a member of four different branches in three different states and has found membership to be a great way to meet people and learn about a new community.  Reflecting on her AAUW experience, she says that she values her membership, first, for the ways to benefit women and, second, for personal growth.   A member of the Howard County branch, Diane has served her branch as President and in other board positions.  She is currently the Branch Communications Vice President.  On the Maryland state level, Diane served as President from 2006-2008 and is currently the AAUW MD Bylaws Chair.

**For Membership Vice President: Jeanne Blades**

Jeanne Blades is currently VP for Membership for the Harford County Branch. She has been a member for four years and readily engaged in the VP for Membership role. She was drawn to AAUW by the friendly, dynamic women who comprise this branch and by all the work that they do to benefit women locally and abroad. She has been actively involved in many of the groups and events that her branch fosters. In another life before retirement in 2011, she had earned her Master’s in Science to work as a reading specialist and special educator in an effort to reach students with special needs. After 40 years in education, this is still a passion, and you will often find her substituting at her elementary “home” school. She also teaches as an adjunct instructor at Goucher College, believing that one of the foremost ways to improve education within our schools is by helping teachers to adopt exceptional teaching practices.