



## ***WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A BOARD MEMBER?***

We asked the 2021-2022 outgoing Board members to answer that question to help 2022-2023 incoming Board members prepare for the coming year. Their responses fell into two categories: the basic requirements as well as benefits to them of Board service.

### **Basic Requirements of Service**

- File reports with the Dropbox designee in a timely manner
- Read reports in Dropbox in preparation for meetings
- Attend Board and General Meetings
- Support Board-approved projects
- Respond to emails, texts, and other messages in a timely manner
- Know the branch bylaws and adhere to them strictly.
- Know the branch strategic plan and keep work focused on goals and objectives.
- Know the requirements of your office and carry them out in the time and manner specified in the position description.
- Update your position description, as needed, for greater accuracy and clarity.
- Continuously work toward collaborative actions with other Board members
- Show up - at meetings: committee, board, general, state, national
- Contribute - your voice, your time, your talents
- Follow through on what you say you will do
- Invite people to join
- Be creative - don't do it the same way it's always been done
- Ask people to be involved - who might not otherwise step forward
- Be kind
- Listen to what others are saying
- Have fun
- Review minutes after Board meetings

- Reach out to new members when help is needed. Involvement leads to retention.
- Know the Branch's “elevator speech” so you can promote AAUW when opportunities present themselves.
- Know the resources and contacts available at the State and National levels.
- Lead by example

### **Benefits from Serving**

- I represent the women of the organization by providing leadership.
- I am allowed to be involved with and get to know educated women, providing me a sense of purpose and fun.
- [Serving on the Board] 'forces' me to get to know people, instills pride while completing tasks and hopefully making a difference.
- Being on the board is an opportunity to get directly involved, inspire others, and encourage new members to join. Although encouraging others to join is everyone's job, I think it is a bit easier and perhaps means a little more, when encouraged by a board member.
- [an] opportunity to apply my organizational skills to process improvement
- Opportunities
  - To give back
  - To support education as one solution to inequity
  - To use my talents and skills to support issues about which I'm passionate
  - To meet like-minded women and develop meaningful relationships with them