

## Monique G. Grayson – BGNW Marlins Secretary Nominee

I was born, raised, and educated in Brussels, Belgium where I used to be a Physical Therapist working with physically and/or mentally handicapped children. I met Steve, my American husband, while he was in medical school in Brussels. We came back to the USA in 1975 and settled in Westchester County. I was only speaking French at the time but did everything I could to learn English and to assimilate with my new life in America. I am now a proud American citizen.

I have always loved the world of swimming. The Olympic Games every four years were the highlight of the summer. I was extremely lucky to be in the stands at the Games in Atlanta in 1996. This was an immensely proud moment for me as I watched Frédéric DeBurghgraeve, win the first ever Gold medal in Swimming for Belgium, while setting a new world record in the 100 breaststroke! My sons grew up at the pool everyday each summer and they were both swimming by the time they were 2-year-olds. They both started swimming at the Boys Club of Mount Kisco (now the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester. The rest is history. Sitting in the stands at swim meets was not for me! I wanted to be involved with the dry side of swimming.

I became a volunteer with the Marlins in 1985 as the team administrator and have enjoyed learning the ropes by volunteering at Metro Championship Meets. Mary Ann Senecal of LIAC taught me everything I needed to know. In 1992, Metropolitan Swimming needed someone to volunteer as the secretary and I have held that position ever since. I also volunteered as the secretary for Northern Westchester Swim Conference and for Westchester County Swimming Association; I was the team parent representative for the Briarcliff Manor summer swim team for over 15 years, as well as for the Terrapins Swim Team at the University of Maryland – College Park – 1995-99 – where my older son had been recruited as a breaststroker. I was the webmaster for BGNW Swim Team, NWSC and WCSA. I was Section One Swimming High School Championships Computer Coordinator for boys' and girls' seasons for 25 years. My older son is now swimming on the Marlins Masters Team and my younger son has been the Diving Coach for the Bedford Central School District for over 10 years. I love watching my grandchildren compete on the Marlins Swim Team, like their parents, aunts, and uncles!

In addition to being the Secretary for Metropolitan Swimming, I have held the position of National Times Verification Officer for the USA Swimming SWIMS database (formerly OVC) for over 20 years and was a member of the Technical Planning Committee. I am a USA Swimming Life member, a recipient of the ConocoPhillips Outstanding Service Award, and was proudly inducted in the Metropolitan Swimming Hall of Fame in 2012.

As the Secretary for Metropolitan Swimming, I am responsible for keeping a record of all meetings of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors. My primary function is to take attendance at each meeting and write the minutes in a timely manner. I am a voting member of the Board of Directors. I keep and update the Metro Records (SCY, SCM and LCM), and the Championship records for Senior Mets and Junior Olympics.

It is my privilege to be a nominee for the position of Secretary of the Metropolitan Swimming LSC. I love working with the Board of Directors and believe that we are doing all that we can to help all our teams and swimmers, especially during the last 6 months of COVID-19.

