Dr. Joan Friedman Newmark ’61

Joan Friedman Newmark has enjoyed a rewarding and diverse career in education, science, and the community. After marrying her fellow graduate student, Richard, and raising two children, she earned a secondary teaching certificate and taught chemistry, physics, and math in St. Paul, Minnesota’s public schools. She then worked until retirement in the Abrasives Laboratory at 3M.

She has held many leadership positions in civic organizations, notably in the League of Women Voters. In St. Paul she has been unit chair, treasurer, voter service chair, and Bulletin editor; she has also served on the board of the Minnesota League of Women Voters and has been its voter service chair. Her strong record led to appointment as treasurer of the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District.

Newmark is also active in the religious community. She has served for many years on the board of the St. Paul chapter of Hadassah, for whom she has been treasurer and editor of the newsletter. She has also been on the board of Mount Zion Temple, and was chair of its long-range planning committee.

After completing her BS in chemistry at Queens College, she earned her PhD in chemistry at the University of California at Berkeley, then was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Institutes of Health for both Brandeis University and the University of Colorado, Boulder. She and her husband have passed on their love of the outdoors and foreign travel to their children and six grandchildren. She feels herself to be forever grateful to the city and state of New York, which provided such an excellent education to the grandchild of immigrants.