



SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Candidates for SIA 2021-2022 President-elect



Jackie DeMartini



Stephanie Smith



Resume for SIA President-elect 2021-2022

Name: Jackie DeMartini

Member, SI of the Loomis Basin in the Sierra Nevada Region

SOROPTIMIST EXPERIENCE (Include **significant** Club, Region, Federation and International service **with dates**):

- Member since 1998
- Club - Every office in the club, except recording secretary and chaired most of the club committees at one time or another over the years including Finance and Bylaws.
- Region – Governor 2014-2016, Governor-Elect 2012-2014, Treasurer (2 terms) 2006-2010, Region Membership Chair 2008-2010, Region Realignment Chair 2012-2014, Finance Committee 2002-2006 & 2016-present, Conference steering committee 2006-2014, Soroptimist Development Retreat (SDR) steering committee 2006-2010 & 2012-2014, Bylaws committee 2014-2016
- Federation – SIA Board of Directors 2019-2021, SIA Laws and Resolution Chair 2019-2021, SIA Secretary-Treasurer 2020-2021. Member of the Healthy Region Committee 2012-2014 and the SIA 100th anniversary committee 2018-2019. Attended the SIA conventions in Calgary 2004, Philadelphia 2006, Taiwan 2008, San Francisco 2010, Hawaii 2012, Vancouver 2014, Orlando 2016, and Yokohama 2018, and was an attendee at the Leadership Training Seminar in Philadelphia 2007.
- International – Attend the quadrennial conventions in Sydney Australia 2003, Glasgow Scotland 2007, Istanbul Turkey 2015 and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2019. Silent observer to the SI Board Meeting in Glasgow Scotland and Istanbul Turkey.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Education: AA Liberal Arts, Sierra College California (1976-1980)

Designation: Enrolled Agent to practice before the Internal Revenue Service (2003-Present)
Ongoing continuing education to maintain E.A. license

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

I have been in the accounting and tax field since 1983. I started JC Bookkeeping and Financial Services in 1993 with 1 bookkeeping client in a spare room in my home. The company has grown to over 100 bookkeeping /payroll clients and 7 fulltime plus 2 part-time employees. Bookkeeping has remained a constant, but we have added services including payroll, QuickBooks consulting, tax preparation, financial planning and wealth management. My tax practice focuses on small businesses and nonprofit organization.

OFFICES/BOARD SERVICE/MEMBERSHIPS IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Currently I am the treasurer of the Newcastle Portuguese Hall Association (2010-present) and I have been the treasurer of and involved in a number of local organizations including the Placer Elementary PTC (1999-2001), the Newcastle Community Association (2001-2005) and the Sacramento Area Wrestling Association (1988-2018). I also held an advisory position on the Loomis Library and Community Learning Center (2017-2020) while it was a non-profit.

I am currently an active member of the Loomis Basin Chamber of Commerce (1998-current) and Newcastle Area Business Association (2005-current). I am also a member of several professional organizations including, NAEA, CSEA, NSA and CSTC.

HONORS/RECOGNITIONS:

JC Bookkeeping & Financial Services has received the local “Best of the Best” award for Bookkeeping and Payroll services for 10 years in a row; as voted by the readers of the Loomis News. In both 2019 and 2020 JC Bookkeeping and financial services received “Best of the Best” award for best Place to Work and best Tax Preparation.

I was awarded the Town of Loomis’s “2019 Business Person of the Year”.

CANDIDATE’S STATEMENT

What is there specifically in your background, training, education, experience and interests which qualify you to serve as SIA President?

The first attribute for any caring leader is passion. One must believe, with their whole heart, that what they are doing has value, and is important. I am passionate about Soroptimist.

The second attribute is leadership. Leadership is something you are either born with or something you learn. Over the years I have learned how to be a fair, thoughtful, resourceful and encouraging leader in both Soroptimist and my business. If I hadn’t learned how to be a leader and learned it well, I would not have grown my business as I have. Nor would I have been Governor of my region or elected to serve on the SIA Board of Directors.

How would you use your background and experience to help SIA achieve our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dreams of half a million women and girls through access to education as directed by our Strategic Plan?

My experience in Soroptimist and in business has shown me that a great leader should have two aspects, leadership skills and management skills so they can educate, motivate, and involve their members.

Leadership is leading the organization towards reaching its goals using its mission as its focus and its strategic plan as its directions to reach its goals. This is extremely important, but sometimes overshadows what I see as the second most important aspect of leading an impactful organization, management.

A good manager should have the ability to educate, encourage, promote, and engage the members of the organization. Members need ongoing education and the tools to carry out the mission. The Members need the encouragement to know what they are doing is important and be empowered by the support of the Leadership. More importantly, all members need to feel valued, to know their contribution is important and they are making a difference towards the mission. As simple as it seems, a Thank You or lack of one, can keep or lose a member. If a member does not feel their voice is being heard or their contribution is not valued, they will not stay involved.

I believe it all begins and ends with membership. Through the members we can achieve our Big Goal investing in dreams, locally, and globally.

What special qualities would you bring to the office of President?

Problem solving, it is one of my greatest strengths. Having an analytical mind allows me to take a complex problem and break it down into manageable parts. In a group of diverse individuals with different thought processes, opinions or creative thinkers, I become an asset. I can help bring their ideas together, help make their creativity a reality through my problem-solving ability.

I believe another great strength I have, is common sense. Common sense has become underrated, but I believe it is one of the greatest assets a person can possess.



Resume for SIA President-elect 2021-2022

Name: Stephanie L Smith

Member of SI of Oak Harbor in the Northwestern Region

SOROPTIMIST EXPERIENCE (Include **significant** Club, Region, Federation and International service **with dates**):

CLUB EXPERIENCE:

- Joined SI Oak Harbor in July 1994. Active member for over 26 years.
- Club President from 1999-2000. Served as Vice President, Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Chair of all major club committees.

REGION EXPERIENCE:

- Northwestern Region Governor (2016-2018); Governor Elect (2014-2016); District 1 Director (2012-2014); Region Professional Development Coordinator (2009-to present); Region Site Coordinator (2018-2020, 2002-2003); Region Bylaws Chair (2020-2022); Region Finance Chair (2002-2004); Region Venture Advisor (1998-2000).
- Presented numerous workshops and seminars at District/Region meetings on topics such as: volunteer engagement/motivation; group problem solving/consensus decision making; managing change; generations and recruitment; communication skills; conflict resolution; leadership skills; diversity and inclusion; member experience/anti-bullying and more.
- Facilitated region board leadership training, club retreats and previously presented at the Western Canada Region Conference and Leadership Retreat; 2015 South Central Region Conference.

FEDERATION EXPERIENCE:

- Federation Board Member (2020-2022); SIA Laws and Resolutions Chair (2020-2021)
- 2020 SIA Convention Chair
- Governor's Round Table Lead Facilitator/Designer 2018-2020. Created and provided training to incoming and current governors on behalf of SIA on topics related to leadership, coaching and communication.
- Workshop presenter at the 2014 SIA Convention
- Venture Clubs of the Americas Advisor from 2000-2002
- Member of the Laurel Society at the Ambassador level and Laurel Legacy; Stargazer monthly donor; Dream Big Campaign donor
- Provided four Laurel Society Attaché memberships to other Soroptimists.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

- AA Degree in Education from Centralia College
- Certified Leadership and Performance Coach –Cylent Coaching and Feedback in the Moment; Zenger, Folkman Extraordinary Leader; Clifton StrengthsFinder Talent Themes and Domains; Human Synergistic Acumen Workstyles; Human Facets Inclusion Skills
- Certified Flawless Consultant, Designed Learning

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- S L Smith Coaching & Consulting LLC, Owner – Coaching and consulting group that focuses on leadership and team coaching, diversity, equity and inclusion, engagement, change management and personal development. Working with governmental agencies, non-profits and businesses we create development plans to help individuals and teams navigate organization and company culture changes in order to achieve and/or exceed individual, team and company goals.

- Retired 30 year veteran of Wells Fargo Bank as a Vice President, Senior Learning and Development Consultant. Responsibilities included: design and facilitation of leadership and professional development programs and diversity, equity and inclusion courses; coaching and consulting with leaders to enhance their overall effectiveness, communication and leadership skills.

OFFICES/BOARD SERVICE/MEMBERSHIPS IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

- President, Whidbey Playhouse Community Theater (2020-2022), Board Member at Large (2018-2020)
The Playhouse is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

HONORS/RECOGNITIONS:

- Numerous Outstanding Service Excellence Awards with Wells Fargo, including three national recognition awards for the work I did within leadership and professional development and diversity and inclusion.
- Linda Klinger Outstanding Soroptimist Award, given by the Northwestern Region's Venture Clubs, in 1999.

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT:

What is there specifically in your background, training, education, experience and interests which qualify you to serve as SIA President?

Professionally my depth of experience in working with organization and company culture change management initiatives will be of value to our Soroptimist organization. We have had to make significant changes over the last 12 months in order to maintain our viability, our members' engagement and our support of the Dream Programs. I have had to serve as a leader during times of change and crisis and I bring that experience to my role as a member of the SIA Board of Directors and would continue to leverage that experience as SIA President. My ability to bring people together in a collaborative manner, honoring diversity of thought and cultures, is a critical skill that will help us make the best decisions for all members. I believe that we are at our best when we embrace the strength of the diversity of our Federation. Personally, I have been a Soroptimist for over 26 years and I have experienced many changes within the Soroptimist organization. I choose to stay actively involved at all levels (club, region, SIA) because I believe that we are transforming the lives of the women and girls we support. My energy and passion is centered on providing our members with the tools and resources they need to do the work that is necessary to help half a million women and girls achieve success through education and economic stability.

How would you use your background and experience to help SIA achieve our 2021-2031 Big Goal of investing in the dream of half a million women and girls through access to education as directed by our Strategic Plan?

My professional experience and success in consulting and coaching has brought together individuals and groups, with differing ideas and strategies that achieved consensus on goals and direction. This allowed the collective group to move forward and implement the strategies for successful goal achievement. My professional work directly translates to the work we are doing as a Soroptimist organization. I know the power that collaboration and consensus building has on individuals supporting the goals of an organization. I would encourage and work toward this and the sharing of ideas between members, clubs, regions and SIA in order to successfully implement the strategies that will help us achieve our 2021-2031 Big Goal. It will take all of us sharing our time, energy and financial resources to do this and by creating an environment where diversity of thought and cultures are shared we should not only be able to achieve the goal, perhaps we could exceed it!

What special qualities would you bring to the office of President?

As a Soroptimist and a woman, I am passionate about our vision, mission, clubs, members and the work we are doing to increase our collective impact for the women and girls we serve. As an organization we are fortunate to be surrounded by strong women who serve the members and our Dream Program recipients. I consider myself one of those women and as a servant leader I am willing and able to do the work that is needed to help Soroptimist celebrate another 100 years. We have had a "Bright Past" and together we can ensure our "Brilliant Future". My favorite leadership quote is- "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." by John Quincy Adams. We are ALL leaders and we are stronger when we work together to empower women and girls. I believe that my positive attitude, ability to develop and nurture relationships, strong Soroptimist knowledge, coaching, consulting, and leadership skills, along with my sense of humor makes me an outstanding candidate for President Elect and ultimately President.