

Soroptimist International of the Americas® Central East Coast Region

Dear Members of the Central East Coast Region:

The Nominating Committee of the Central East Coast Region comprised of myself, Donna Jones of SI/Upper Montgomery County, MD and Carolyn Skowron of SI/Raleigh, NC are putting forth the slate of officers for the 2026-2028 biennium. The following nominations were received (and their resumes follow this memo):


- Governor Elect Candidates (1 position):
Carol Padgett, SI/Woodbridge
- Treasurer Candidate (1 position):
Cathy Brinsfield, SI/Salisbury
- Secretary Candidate (1 position):
Heather Jankovich, SI/Williamsburg
- At-Large Board Member Candidates (2 positions):
Linda McCann, SI/Salisbury
Virginia Dempsey, SI/Woodbridge

As evidenced by their nomination forms, all of the candidates are members in good standing with Club and/or Region leadership experience. We will be accepting nominations for the open positions through the Business Meeting on May 16. Those on the final nomination list will be voted upon by the Region Delegates at the Business Meeting during Spring Conference taking place May 15-17 in Annapolis.

Per Region Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4.3, the incoming Governor for the 2026-2028 Biennium is automatically assumed by the 2024-2026 Governor-Elect Deborah Mackes of SI/Manassas. Those elected will be installed as the Officers and Board of Directors of the Central East Coast Region for the 2026-2028 biennium.

Sincerely,

Cathy Brinsfield
Nominating Chair, Central East Coast Region
Member, SI/Salisbury, MD
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.

 (443) 783-1636



 cbrinsfield@comcast.net



soroptimist-cecr.org



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CENTRAL EAST COAST REGION NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name: Carol Padgett

Applying for: Governor-Elect

Primary Phone Number: (703) 855-7762

Club: SI of Woodbridge, VA



Email Address: ckpadgett@cox.net

Joined Soroptimist in: 2021

SOROPTIMIST ACTIVITIES:

- **Club Offices Held:** President and Secretary
- **Club Committee(s) Chaired:** LYDA, Fundraising, Public Awareness
- **Club Committee Participation:** I have participated on all of our club's committees
- **Region Meetings Attended:** Fall Meetings and Spring Conferences
- **SIA Federation Activities/Offices:** Leadership Round Table webinars; SIA Leadership Fellow Program 2026
- **Soroptimist International Activities/Meetings:** numerous webinars offered throughout the years

Other Activities/Interests: Dance

Education:

- TJ High School; Northern Va. Community College (AA);
- Old Dominion University (BSE);
- Notre Dame Graduate (ThM);
- George Mason University (M.Ed)

Family: Married for 45 years to Robert with two children and one son-in-law (and two grand kitties)

I agree to submit my name as a candidate for the position identified above:

Carol Padgett

3/1/2026

NAME

SIGNED ELECTONICALLY ON THIS DATE



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**CENTRAL EAST COAST REGION
NOMINATION FORM**



Candidate Name: Cathy D. Brinsfield

Applying for: Treasurer

Primary Phone Number: 443-783-1636

Club: SI of Salisbury, MD

Email Address: cbrinsfield@comcast.net

Joined Soro Optimist in: 1989

SOROPTIMIST ACTIVITIES:

Club Offices Held:

- Treasurer 1991-1993, President 1994-1996, President 2022-2024
- Board member – numerous years, Parliamentarian- numerous years
- Club Committee(s) Chaired: Finance Committee – numerous years; Eleanor L. Caldabaugh Scholarship Committee; Gift Card Raffle Committee; Dream It, Be It Committee
- Club Committee Participation: Ways & Means; Recruitment and Retention; Gift Card Raffle Fund Raiser; Bingo Committee; Recruitment and Retention

Region Offices Held: Board Member – 2024-2026

Region Committee(s) Chaired: Fundraising (co-chair) 2024-2026

Region Committee Participation:

- Nominating Committee - 2023-2024,
- Chair of Nominating Committee – 2025-2026
- Spring Conference Planning Committee – 2024-2026

Region Meetings Attended: Numerous

Occupation/Business:

- Retired Banking/ Executive Vice President, Chief operation Officer, Compliance Officer, Chief Branch Operations Officer
- Wicomico Housing Authority, currently an appointed Commissioner, past Chairman.

Education: Salisbury State College, Wor-Wic Community College, General Banking Diploma from the American Institute of Banking, Maryland Banking School Diploma from University of Maryland, numerous banking webinars and seminars.

Family: Married To Brian Brinsfield, two adult sons, Derek Perdue and Keith Brinsfield, two grandsons and one granddaughter, and two lovely daughter-in-laws.

Other Activities/Interests: Many professional banking groups. Affordable Housing for all individuals. I like to travel and antiquing.

I agree to submit my name as a candidate for the position identified above:

Cathy Brinsfield

2/24/26

NAME

SIGNED ELECTONICALLY ON THIS DATE



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CENTRAL EAST COAST REGION NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name: Heather Jankovich

Applying for: Secretary

Primary Phone Number: 757-630-0383

Club: SI of Williamsburg, VA



Email Address: Heatherjan@aol.com

Joined Sorooptimist in: 2006

SOROPTIMIST ACTIVITIES:

Club Offices Held: President, Delegate, Corresponding Secretary, Board Member

Club Committee(s) Chaired: Fashion Show 2017

Club Committee Participation: Fashion Shows, Pancake Suppers, Spaghetti Suppers, Golf Tournament, Puzzle-Mania

Region Offices Held: Secretary (22-24, 24-present)

Region Committee(s) Chaired: Celebrating Success 2022

Region Committee Participation: Celebrating Success 2022, Fall Meetings, Spring Conferences

Region Meetings Attended: Numerous

SIA Federation Activities/Offices: None

Federation Meetings Attended: None

Sorooptimist International Activities/Meetings: None

Other Activities/Interests

Certifications:

- Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education Administration and Supervision PRE - K12
- Doctor of Education: University of Phoenix
- Certificate of Advanced Studies: Educational Leadership, Cambridge College
- Masters of Arts in Education: Hampton University
- Bachelors of Science in Education: James Madison University
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts: Shenandoah University
- Professional Experience: Retired from Public Education after 34 years

Family: Husband Ben, 3 Adult Children, 6 Grandchildren

I agree to submit my name as a candidate for the position identified above:

Heather Jankovich

3/1/2026

NAME

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CENTRAL EAST COAST REGION NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name: Virginia "Ginny" Dempsey

Applying for: Board Member

Primary Phone Number: (H) 703-642-2248 (O) 703-642-2328

Club: SI of Woodbridge, VA



Email Address: vmdempsey@aol.com

Joined Soroptimist in: 2008

SOROPTIMIST ACTIVITIES:

Club President:2011-2013; 2015-2016

Club Board Member: 2022-2026

Club Committee Participation:

- Co-Chaired Fundraising Committee in various years including 2012, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020,2021,2022;
- Evaluating LYDA applications 2022-2026
- DIBI events with SIUMC 2018-2024 - Mentor
- DIBI events with Woodbridge Club at BCC 2025 and 2026 – Mentor
- Region Offices Held: Board Member 2020-2022

Region Committee Chaired: Fundraising Chair (2014-2018 and 2019): Program Chair: (2018-2022)

Fundraising/Philanthropy Co-Chair: 2020-2026

Region Committee Participation: Spring Conference (2014-Current); Nomination Committee: 2019

Region Meetings Attended: Fall and Spring Conferences 2010-Current

Federation Activities/Offices: Soroptimist International Activities/Meetings: Attended CSW 59-61 at the UN in NYC; CSW65 virtual; Visited SI Warsaw and Krakow, Poland in 2015

Other Activities/Interests:

Traveling, reading, studying history and art, regular exercise, and entertaining

Education:

BA from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 1975

Family:

Husband, Rod Speer, a "Soroptimister"

I agree to submit my name as a candidate for the position identified above:

Virginia Dempsey

3/4/2026

NAME

SIGNED ELECTONICALLY ON THIS DATE



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CENTRAL EAST COAST REGION NOMINATION FORM

Candidate Name: Linda A McCann

Applying for: Board Member

Primary Phone Number: 410-726-0036

Club: SI of Salisbury, MD



Email Address: lamccann1006@comcast.net

Joined Soro Optimist in: 1986

SOROPTIMIST ACTIVITIES:

Club Offices Held: 1992-1994 President; 1990-1992 Vice President; 1986-88 Board Member; 2012-2016 Treasurer. Have served as Board Member numerous terms.

Club Committee(s) Chaired: 1990-92 & 1994-95 Chair Growth & Development; 1991-92 Doll, Miniature & Toy Show and Sale; 2018-2021; Quarter Auction. Over the years have chaired most committees.

Club Committee Participation: Been a member of all committees over the years.

Region Offices Held: Board Member 1996-1998, Treasurer 2024-2026

Region Committee(s) Chaired: 1994-1996 Chair Growth & Development

Region Committee Participation: None

Region Meetings Attended: At least 20

SIA Federation Activities/Offices: None

Federation Meetings Attended: Bellview, 2024

Soro Optimist International Activities/Meetings: None

Occupation/Business: Owner Bay Shore Insurance Inc. Retired, member of the Board and a consultant.

Education: High School Graduate; Certified Property & Casualty Underwriter degree

Family: Married for over 50 years. Have one son and two grandsons.

Other Activities/Interests: Member of the International Association of Insurance Professionals for over 40 years, serving in various positions on the local, state and national level. Currently serving as Co-Chair of the National Sponsors & Partners Task Force. Have been very active in the Insurance Agents & Brokers Association since 1985, served on the Legislative Committee of Maryland for 30 years and chaired the committee numerous times as well as served a MD President several terms. Instructor for Continuing Education classes for agents since 2000. Member of the Eastern Star for 35 years and served as Worthy Matron 1988-90.

I agree to submit my name as a candidate for the position identified above:

Linda A. McCann

2/28/2026

NAME

SIGNED ELECTONICALLY ON THIS DATE