



Biographical Information Joan Oefner - Owner

Mission To provide proactive, personalized management to scientific & medical non-profit societies by partnering with technology solution providers and integrating the most innovative, cost effective on-line tools for improving organizational quality and efficiency.

Association Management Experience *Rhema Association Management*, Regensburg, Germany (formerly in Northern California)

Since 1992

- Owner & Manager, founded company in 1992 to provide full service association management and meeting planning to non-profit scientific and medical societies.
- Expanded to three full-service association management contracts and several symposia management contracts with combined annual budgets of \$1,780,000 within five years of establishment and a staff of four FTE.s. Moved company to Germany in 2005 becoming fully virtual

Current Association Clients

International Society for Developmental Psychobiology (www.isdp.org)

Kaposi's Sarcoma Herpesvirus (KSHV) and Related Agents Association (www.ksvirus.org)

Tularemia International Society (<https://tularemia.org/>)

Past Association Clients

- Managed the **International Cytokine & Interferon Society (ICIS)**, from 2017 through 2024 during a period of exponential growth in membership, annual meeting participation and outreach. After eight years managing the [International Cytokine & Interferon Society](http://www.icis.org), it is time to pass the torch to Stephanie Flores, CAE, who also took over another former client ([casss.org](http://www.casss.org)) that outgrew us, which is the goal of Rhema Association Management!
- Managed the **Society for Molecular Imaging** beginning two years after its founding, from July 2002 through December 2006, as the society grew from 200 – 1,200 members. Organized their annual conferences in San Francisco (2003 - 750 people); St. Louis (2004 - 850 people); Cologne, Germany (2005 - 1,072 people); and Hawaii (2006 - 1,250 people). www.wmis.org
- Managed CASSS from 1996 to 2001. Our greatest contribution to CASSS was the founding of the WCBP Symposium in 1996 which is still held annually and has spurred many smaller international programs and transformed the society from a local discussion group for biotechnology professionals to a global community of industry, academic, and regulatory professionals working together to resolve scientific challenges in the field of biopharmaceutical development and regulation. <https://www.casss.org/wcbp>.
- As Executive Director for the **North American Society for Cardiac Imaging**, (managed from July 1993 to August 2005 www.nasci.org, helped increase membership through consolidating various meetings and activities into one successful Annual Meeting which grew from 130 to 550 participants from 2001 – 2005.
- Provided full-service management and meeting planning for the **San Francisco Neurological Society** (www.sfneurological.org) from 2002 – 2005.
- Managed the **Southwest Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine** <https://swc-snm.org/> from 1993 – 2000, which former Rhema employee, Charles Metzger, took over in 2000 and continues to manage this very successful chapter of the SNM from his office in Texas.

Joan Oefner, Managing Director
Regensburg, Germany
E-mail: joefner@societymanagement.com
www.societymanagement.com

Hotel Management Experience	Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center , Breckenridge, CO <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Director of Conference Services for this year-round resort and conference center with 450 sleeping rooms and 30,000 square feet of conference space. Started as a Front Desk Clerk and moved through the ranks to Conference Services Coordinator, Reservations Manager, Group Sales Manager and then Director of Conference Services.
1982 - 1990	
1990 - 1992	Clarion Hotel San Francisco Airport , Millbrae, CA <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Senior Sales Manager, specialized in the State Association & State Government conference markets. Resigned from this position to start Rhema Association Management.
Education	1978 – 1980, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ 1980 – 1982, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, BA, Psychology
Continuing Education & Certification	July 1993, <i>Institute for Organization Management</i> , Stanford, CA. Sponsored by the US Chamber of Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Designated with the Certified Association Executive credential in November 1998 (CAE) by the <i>American Society of Association Executives (ASAE)</i> January 2006 through April 2007, <i>Volkshochschule, Regensburg</i> , Grundstufe 1 – 6, German Language Course
Membership	Member of the <i>European Society of Association Executives</i> since 1997 Member of the <i>American Society of Association Executives (ASAE)</i> since 1992 Member of the <i>Northern California Society of Association Executives (NCSAE)</i> 1992 - 2005.
Interests	Family, traveling, road cycling, mountain biking, skiing, singing & playing guitar
References	References from current and past clients are available upon request.
Awards	International Cytokine & Interferon Society (ICIS), 2020 ICIS Distinguished Service award International Cytokine & Interferon Society (ICIS), 2024 Joan Oefner Travel Award: in honor of ICIS retiring Managing Director. Joan's dedication has fueled ICIS's growth, and this award will continue her legacy by supporting future leaders in our field.
Languages	English (mother tongue); German