

*Toastmasters – District 18
District Council Report
September 24, 2023
Division A*

AnnMarie Givans, DTM – District Director

Topic	D i s c u s s i o n	A c t i o n	Responsibility
Current Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is your team on track for their goals/deliverables? • If there are deliverables, has your delivery date changed? • If you have budget impacts, are your expenditures on track? • State new/revised goals to initial plan? • Have Division/Area Council meetings been held? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Directors have contacted all club officers. • Preliminary, unofficial visits to most clubs; official visits began and 2 reports, both from Area 12, have been completed to date. • Areas 15 & 16 Directors have not accessed the TI AD Visit Reports site. • Division A Director meets with Area Directors the 3rd Monday of each month from 6:30-7:00 p.m. Attendance impacted by conflict with club meetings. • Most Area Directors have scheduled routine meetings with their club officers. • No budget issues. 	<p>Division Director will remind ADs to schedule club visits, write up reports in a timely manner, and submit them on TI website before October 31st.</p> <p>Div Dir will remind ADs to schedule meetings with their clubs & include Div Dir on invitations.</p>

<p>Progress towards meeting goals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List achievements and progress towards goals. If specific members are contributing to those achievements, mention their names. Highlight those things that made progress possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of officers trained correlates with DCP achievement. Spellwizard (Area 16) has already met 7 goals & added 10 new members since July 1st. GNAT (Area 12) & JPMC Wilmington (Area 14) met 4 goals. All of these clubs had all 7 officers trained. Two club members in Area 14 have achieved Triple Crown status since July 1st: Joel Mey (DESEAA) and Asad Chaudhry (JPMC Wilmington). All Area Directors (Stephanie Steckel, Jen Bush, Lauren Hansen, Al Kingcade, and Berlin Stokes) are engaged and active with their clubs. They communicate regularly with the Division Director and request guidance/assistance when needed. 	<p>Division Director</p> <p>Area Directors</p>
<p>Issues affecting progress</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List delays and problems Address schedule implications. Identify issues that are causing delays or impeding progress Explain why problem was not anticipated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division A consists of 22 clubs, 10 of which have membership restricted to employees only. Two of these clubs are hospital-based. Work responsibilities take precedence over meeting attendance Clubs are rebuilding membership lost during the pandemic and coming to terms with virtual or hybrid meetings. Some clubs lost their in-person meeting space. Zoom fatigue is noticeable. Many newer members have never spoken at an in-person meeting, resulting in loss of Toastmasters skills such as applauding speakers to & from the podium, shaking hands, eye contact, and speaking without extensive notes. Some clubs are more responsive than others. For example, Air Liquide in Area 15 sent no officers for TLI training despite repeated reminders from AD. The previous 2 years they trained at least 5 officers each session, added new members, and achieved Distinguished status. Div Dir will investigate. 	<p>Division Director</p> <p>Area Directors</p> <p>Club Officers</p> <p>Club Members</p> <p>Base Camp Managers</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Club Success Plan portal on TI site was not accessible until recently. This frustrated club officers trying to upload their CSPs and ADs trying to assist.• Some clubs have ignored repeated requests from ADs to submit CSPs.• Last year BAC to the Future and JPMC Wilmington did not submit CSPs. We will be particularly looking for those this year.• Educational awards not being submitted in a timely fashion. Last year Blue Hen did not submit awards until the end of June. Members and Base Camp Managers need to be reminded of the importance of timely submission & approval of level completions.• Challenges with corporate clubs: Newly chartered club Nemours Toastmasters started with 26 members; several already decided not to continue due to several month delay between decision to join and dues payment being processed. Mentors working with club to brainstorm more efficient processes. JPMC Wilmington, trying to rebuild membership, currently has 67 members, having added 17 members since the beginning of this year. This seems to be an unsustainable number. How many members attend & participate? Div Dir will investigate.	
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<p>Division/ Area etc Goals for Future Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What targets/milestones you will report on at next meeting • Issues that will be resolved by next meeting • Communicate any calls to action needed by members of the audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Director continues as Traveling Toastmaster for BAC to the Future (Area 12). Although the club only has 7 members & meets once a month, they conduct hybrid meetings & have several guests at each meeting. Club has added 2 members since July 1st. • Division Director continues as Mentor for newly chartered Nemours Toastmasters. All members are new to Toastmasters so have a steep learning curve. Being a hospital-based club, meeting attendance depends on patient-care responsibilities. • Division Director continues as mentor/unofficial coach for Blue Hen Toastmasters. The club discussed having an official coach appointed but decided to pursue mentors instead. Jacinta Fontenelle from GNAT mentors Blue Hen VPE Theresa Carroll. Although the club has 9 members, most meetings have at least 1 or 2 guests. Div Dir is considering conducting SpeechCraft to boost membership. • Division A will host the October 7th Empowered Leadership Series at Bible Fellowship Church in Newark, DE. GNAT members Jacinta & Philip Fontenelle made venue arrangements. • Division A Spring 2024 speech contests dates have been set and added to D18 calendar. Joint Area contests will be held on Saturday, February 10th. Division A contests will be held on Saturday, March 16th. 	<p>Division Director Area Directors</p>
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<p>Respectfully Submitted by:</p>	<p>Janet Leary-Prowse, Division A Director September 10, 2023</p>
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