

District 15 Division F Director's Report

Courtney Carlovsky, DTM

State of the Division: Division F began the year with 15 clubs spread across the Western Treasure Valley. Division F currently has 10 clubs in good standing, 134 paid members and 0 clubs that have achieved Distinguished Status as of April 1, 2021. However, we would have 3 clubs achieving Distinguished status, but they do not currently meet the minimum members needed to achieve that status. Membership has been slowly declining. This is due to Zoom fatigue and some members wanting the in-person meeting experience. I expect to see a slight uptick in membership as more clubs' ease into hybrid meetings later this spring and into the summer.

Area Directors: Three Area Directors serve with responsibilities for four clubs each while a fourth Area Director serves with responsibility to three clubs. We have had some slight turnover over the course of the year. Two Area Directors were unable to finish their terms due to outside issues and we were able to get those roles backfilled. During the Fall 2020 period, all club visits were made, and Spring 2021 club visits are currently in process. Each Area Director has faced significant challenges through the year with at least one club in their area suspending meetings or disbanding their clubs all together. The Area Directors have shown exceptional leadership working with their clubs through the process.

Division Council: Division Council meetings consist of the Division Director and Area Directors are conducted monthly via email. Area Directors are kept up to date on the latest District information as well as timelines of activities. The Area Directors have been timely in bringing up issues to be addressed. The Division Director and impacted Area Directors have worked together to find appropriate and solutions to the issues.

Pathways Adoption: As of March 27, 2021, 86% of the division membership and 94% of club officers are progressing through Pathways. However, 67% of new members are enrolled in Pathways, indicating a need for improvements in club-level new member orientation and mentorship programs.

Challenges: The COVID-19 pandemic has presented some difficulties for clubs within the division but over the course of this year many clubs have found their rhythm. Most of our clubs still meet exclusively via Zoom due to in person meeting restrictions. A couple have started to meet in a hybrid format. We hope to learn from those clubs' experience in the hybrid environment and develop a best practice for other clubs to use. Many clubs have declining membership due to Zoom meeting fatigue, lack of in-person meeting option, and other factors. Many clubs have held open houses to bring in new members and have gotten many window shoppers, but few new members signed up. Club Fed, Raise Your Voice, and Blue Cross of Idaho have suspended club activities and are in the process of submitting paperwork to disband. Soaring Eagles suspended club activities until they could meet in person, but it is unknown at this time whether the club will rebuild. Victorious Voices suspended meetings due to COVID rules and may change to a gavel club once they can gather again. An issue our clubs may encounter once they begin meeting in a hybrid fashion is finding a location to support the bandwidth needs of the club. This could have an impact on club's membership numbers going forward as location changes and internet connectivity could have members and potential members looking elsewhere.