



# Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



## **Communicator**



**June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

*VOLUME 4 ISSUE 6*

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## Our Mission

***As commissioners, we share the BSA's mission: To prepare youth to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.***

## Our Vision

***Every member of the BSA has a great Scouting experience.***

# *Council Commissioner Corner*

- Recharter status: as of June 18<sup>th</sup>, we still have 9 units that haven't completed the recharter process. All 9 are receiving contact from their District Executive and the Council Registrar. If you have any questions, please contact one of them.
- With summertime upon us, Day Camps are completed and summer camp is in full swing. Please work with your units to think about how they can leverage their great experiences from this summer into recruiting tools for the fall. As a reminder, our quarterly council-wide Zoom Roundtable will be on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, and the topics will be focused on successful recruiting.
  - Roundtable Zoom Meeting Info
    - Tuesday, July 8th, 7pm
    - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84170330062>
    - Meeting ID: 841 7033 0062
- The information for units on the ***Headlines*** pages is being sent directly to Unit Commissioners this month.
- I hope everyone is taking a chance to recharge their batteries and get back into their normal routines now that the pandemic is starting to show signs of being behind us. Let's put the "out" back into Scouting and Outing!

*Yours in Scouting,*

*Dale*

Dale Balmer

Council Commissioner

# JUNE 2021 HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

## ALL UNITS

- **Council-wide Roundtable via Zoom on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm**
  - Information will be provided on recruiting for this fall!
  - Roundtable Zoom Meeting Info
    - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84170330062>
    - Meeting ID: 841 7033 0062
- **PACKS**
  - Check out “Cub Chat Live”, every Friday at 2pm (Central) on Facebook for great tips and tricks for Cub Scout leaders. The summer schedule will be focusing on how to help scouts join and be part of the fun. You can follow this page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/184855717150/135558881488551>
  - BALOO Training August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Gorham
    - FMI:  
<http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2825947&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2021-08-01/45/0/>
- **TROOPS**
  - IOLS training on August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Gorham
    - FMI:  
<http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2823095&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2021-08-01/45/0/>
- **CREWS**
  - Short-notice Kodiak Challenge at Philmont opportunity, July 11-17; see next page

# Venturing Kodiak Challenge



- GSW friends: I've been corresponding with Amy Hermann, the former Southern Region Venturing Officers' Association President, who is now staffing a Kodiak course at the Philmont Leadership Center with Sherry McGugin, the current National VOA Associate Advisor of Communication. They have a few more spots open on their July 11—17 course that they would like to fill.
- As you know, Kodiak Challenge courses are centered around a challenging 5-day trek. Kodiak teaches leadership skills in a fun way that is internalized by the participants. Kodiak is not taught indoors or in a classroom; it is done completely outdoors using nature's examples of leadership. Kodiak is a good bridge between ILSC, NYLT, & NAYLE. Kodiak is designed to be an adventure that pushes the boundaries of every participant— one that will encourage youth participants to try new things that may be out of their comfort zone. It is an experience—but one that has its underpinnings in the application of the leadership skills they learned in the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops or Crews. It is, as is all of Scouting, an adventure with a purpose.
- This will be a unique opportunity to experience Kodiak in the amazing setting of Philmont - truly a Scouting Paradise! Any of the older youth in our Troops and Crews who are looking for a growth opportunity and some mountain-top adventure this Summer would be prime candidates for this Kodiak Challenge.
- I ask that you please reach out to your Unit connections for GSW youth who would benefit from this week of "fun with a purpose."
- Registration for the course starts at <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/ptc-conferences/> and Amy can be reached at [amynhermann@gmail.com](mailto:amynhermann@gmail.com). Thanks!

Yours in Venturing  
Chris Sandberg  
NST2 Venturing Coordinator  
[cksandberg.scouting@centurylink.net](mailto:cksandberg.scouting@centurylink.net)

# Membership Minute

- Join us for the Council Roundtable on July 8th at 7PM to hear recruitment ideas and best practices! Zoom Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 841 7033 0062
- Check out the contest descriptions and dates for Summer of Contests.



**\*Social Media Who?..... Due June 26th**

Get a Cub Day Camp flyer from our FB & post it on your social media! Post with the most engagement wins.

**\*Yard Sign Contest..... Due June 30th**

Create a recruitment yard sign.

**\*A Scout is..... Due July 19th**

Show us what it is to be a Scout! First Scout to complete all 12 Scout Law activities wins!

**\*All Around Town..... Aug. 6-8th**

Decorate your car windows using washable window markers with your pack/troop information for the weekend! All participants will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win an incredible prize.

**\*Flyers..... Aug. 29th**

#GSWCSummer

- Questions about recruiting and membership? Contact the Council Vice President for Membership, John Foley, at [john.foley11@gmail.com](mailto:john.foley11@gmail.com)

# A Message from Brian Tolson, Assistant Council Commissioner for Older Youth Programs

- Greetings and Happy Summer! As a reminder all of us should have a completed annual physical (BSA form 680-001) to make sure we're all fit and cleared to undertake our recently resumed outdoor programs. The electronic version can be downloaded after a quick google search. Please ask your Crew/Post/Troop if this has been done? Additionally, I'm starting to send out feelers for nominations for the 2021 Venturing Leadership Award (VLA). Period of this award is January 1 through December 31, 2021. We can award the VLA to one Youth and one Adult in the Council who is nominated based on their demonstrated leadership potential. The criteria for nomination are minimum 1 year registration as a Venturer/Sea Scout/Explorer; held a leadership position and are nominated by the award. A Scout/Scouter can't strive to earn this award. Please let me know if you have any units interested.

Yours in Scouting.

Brian Tolson

Email: [briantolson99@yahoo.com](mailto:briantolson99@yahoo.com)

Phone: 505-967-6139



# Commissioner-Related Strategic Plan Goals

This page summarizes the commissioner-focus areas outlined in Section 4, *Unit Service*, of the Council's 2021 Strategic Plan, dated March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. With the pandemic and other challenges facing the council, and the elimination of District and Council JTE goals, the Strategic Plan for this year has been streamlined to focus on key components of the Council's operations, so there are fewer goal areas than in previous years. Subsequent pages in the newsletter look at each of these areas. All data is as of **June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**, unless otherwise noted. Results are shown for last month and the current month.

2021 Council Strat Plan Area	Goal	Last Month	Current Snapshot	Page
<b>Strategic Plan Goals</b>				
4.1.1	80% of unit rechartrers to Council by 12/31/21	93.2%	93.2%	9
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/22	89.7%	92.3%	10
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	7.7%	6.4%	11
4.3.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/22, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	Too early to measure	Too early to measure	12-13
<b>Other Commissioner Metrics</b>				
N/A	Commissioner Training	90.2%	88.6%	14
N/A	Units without Commissioners	Not Available	Not Available	15
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.5	3.4	16



# Strat Plan Area: 4.1.1

## Recharterers to Council

(Goal is to have 80% of recharterers submitted to the Council by 12/31/2021)

**Recharter data current as of 6/18/2021**

District	Total Units	Units Dropping	Units Rechart-ering	Units logged into online tool	Units Submitted online	Pct @ Submitted
Rio Grande	53	12	41	41	41	100%
San Juan Mountains	27	4	23	23	23	100%
Sandia	43	7	36	35	34	94.4%
Sangre de Cristo	20	3	17	13	11	64.7%
<b>Council Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>93.2%</b>

**With the closing of the online recharter tool at the end of April, all further postings are having to be done manually, with representatives from the unit working with the Council Registrar. As a result, the data above on units that have logged into the online tool or submitted online are not longer pertinent.**

**Three units were posted using the manual method in June , leaving another nine units to finish the process.**

# Strat Plan Area 4.1.2

## Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

(Goal is to have 100% of recharterers posted by 1/31/2022)

**Recharter data current as of 6/18/2021**

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	41	41	100%	40	97.6%
San Juan Mountains	23	23	100%	22	95.7%
Sandia	36	34	94.4%	34	94.4%
Sangre de Cristo	17	11	64.7%	12	70.6%
Council Total	117	109	93.2%	108	92.3%

**Three charters were posted in June, leaving another nine to be posted manually. Units with any questions about their recharter status should contact the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, at 505-345-8603, x100, or [kathy.ferdig@scouting.org](mailto:kathy.ferdig@scouting.org)**

# Strat Plan Area: 4.2.1

## Unit Contacts

(Goal: 50% of units have 6 or more contacts, including one DA)

This page looks at the critical unit-service area of unit contacts. The National goal is for at least six contacts per year for each unit, with one a Detailed Assessment. The Council goal is for 50% of the units to achieve the National goal, with a sub-goal that all units receive at least one contact. This chart helps determine how a district is doing on both contacts, detailed assessments, and the combination of the two which determines the success in meeting the National goal, as well as the sub-goal. Data is from a Council-level "District\_Contact\_Stats" report.

District	# Units	Total Contacts	# of Units with any contacts	Pct of units with any contacts	# of Units w/6 or more contacts	Pct of units with 6 or more contacts	# of Units with a DA	Pct of Units with a DA	# with 6 or more visits AND a DA	2021 Pct w/6 or more AND a DA
Rio Grande	41	179	36	87.8%	13	31.7%	14	34.1%	6	14.6%
San Juan Mountains	22	89	18	81.8%	6	27.3%	2	9.1%	1	4.5%
Sandia	34	97	29	85.3%	1	2.9%	0	0%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	12	38	9	75.0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6.4%</b>
<b>Council Goal (50%)</b>									<b>55</b>	
<b>Needed to reach Council goal</b>									<b>48</b>	

**This data above reflects the current data. However, with the addition of several units that completed recharter in late May and June, the total number of units increased from 104 last month, to 109 this month, which drove a decrease in most of the measures.**

# Strat Plan Areas 4.3

## Partnership for Scouting (PFS)

The Council's Scouting Partnership initiative, started in 2017, is an effort to recognize those units that meet certain goals for program, camping, and financial support of the Council.

***As the program hasn't been updated since it started over four years ago, we've started an effort to update the guidance for it. Any suggestions for improvement should be sent to the Council Commissioner.***

### **2021 Partnership Status Criteria**

- \$175 per registered youth, via FOS contributions, popcorn or other product sales, Gondola Patrol, or other donations to the Council
- Attend a Council-sponsored day camp (packs) or attend Gorham for scout camp (troops) at least once every three years; Crews need to achieve Bronze or higher for Crew JTE Criteria #4, Adventure
  - **Note: Summer camp and day camps were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic, so that year won't be counted, unless a Troop attended a virtual Gorham sessions. In that case, they'll be given credit for camp attendance, but otherwise 2020 data in this area wasn't 'counted.'**
- Earn overall JTE Bronze or higher
  - **Note: BSA National released revised unit-level JTE criteria to reflect the impact of the pandemic on unit operations and increased virtual Scouting**
- Partner units must complete all recharter actions by Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### **Partnership Status Recognition**

- Rebate of \$60 program fee
- 10% rebate for day camps and Gorham Scout Ranch fees
- Free Eagle Scout/Summit Award presentation kits
- Free cloth and card for rank advancement
- Free use of Gorham Scout Ranch in the off-season
- 10% off camping gear at High Desert Scout Shop
- Free basic training for all adult leaders
- 10% off Wood Badge, Brownsea and NYLT training
- 5% bonus commission for take order popcorn sales
- Free Journey to Excellence patches
- Free Pinewood Derby Cars for packs

# Strat Plan Area: 4.3.1

## PFS Unit Percentage

(Goal: 50% of units qualify as Partner units)

The goal for this measure is to have 50% of our units qualify as Partner units.

<b>District</b>	<b># Units</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Pct Partners</b>
Rio Grande	41	TBD	TBD
San Juan Mtns	22	TBD	TBD
Sandia	34	TBD	TBD
Sangre de Cristo	12	TBD	TBD
Total	109	TBD	TBD

**2021 units earning Partner status in 2022 won't be available until later in 2021. In the meantime, we've started an effort to update the program's guidance. Any suggestions for changes should be sent to the Council Commissioner.**

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## UCs are Trained!

(Goal: 80% or more of UCs have completed basic training)

A key component of providing quality unit service is having UCs that are trained in their role. This table looks at commissioner training data. Data is compiled from a Council-level Trained Leaders Report (“TrainedLeader\_Great\_Southwest\_Council\_412”) produced from Training Manager in my.scouting.

District	# DCs	# Trained DCs	# ADCs	# Trained ADCs	# UCs	# Trained UCs	# RTCs	# Trained RTCs	Total Comm	Trained	Pct Trained
RG	1	1	1	1	13	12	3	3	18	17	94.4%
SJM	1	1	0	0	7	5	0	0	8	6	75.0%
SA	1	1	2	2	9	8	2	2	14	13	92.9%
SDC	0	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	4	3	75.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>88.6%</b>
<b>Pct Trained</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>84.4%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>			

To Goal	-0.6	-0.8	-1.4	-1	-3.8
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**There was a slight decrease in the overall percent, as we went from 90.2% last month to this month’s 88.6%. This was driven by an increase in registered commissioners, from 41 overall to the current 44. With one of the three newly registered commissioners needing training, the overall percentage decreased slightly.**

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## Units without Commissioners

(Goal: minimize the number of units without a UC assigned)

To have effective unit-level commissioner service, there needs to be 'ownership' of a unit (or units) by a UC. While not a Strategic Plan goal, tracking units without a commissioner assigned provides feedback on either making sure a commissioner has been assigned administratively, or show the need to recruit additional commissioners. Data is from the Assigned\_Unassigned\_Units report in Commissioner Tools.

District	# Units	# Not Assigned a UC	Pct Unassigned
Rio Grande	41	12	29%
San Juan Mountains	22	11	50%
Sandia	34	*	N/A
Sangre de Cristo	12	9	75%
Total	109	*	N/A

**\*-district recharter actions have been completed, but UCs need to be re-assigned to their units.**

# Strat Plan Area: N/A

## Ratio of Units per UC

(Goal: 3.0 or less)

Having enough UCs to cover all units, without overburdening the UC with too many units to provide effective service, requires that we look at that ratio. This metric does just that! The data on number of units for the report is from looking at the number of units in the District\_Contact\_Stats report, and commissioner assignments from those shown as registered as UCs in the “TrainedLeader\_Great\_Southwest\_Council\_412” training report.

District	# Units	Goal # UCs	Actual # UCs	Ratio	# UCs to Meet Goal
Rio Grande	41	13.7	13	3.2	0.7
San Juan Mountains	22	7.3	7	3.1	0.3
Sandia	34	11.3	9	3.8	2.3
Sangre de Cristo	12	4.0	3	4.0	1.0
Total	109	36.3	32	3.4	4.3

**With several units completing recharter in June, and having commissioners assigned to some of them, the number of UCs needed decreased slightly from 4.7 to 4.3.**



# ***GSWC District and Council Commissioners***

as of 6/28/2021

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Rio Grande	George Greenlee	<a href="mailto:Ltcg2@earthlink.net">Ltcg2@earthlink.net</a>	505-681-7319-c
Sandia	Jerry Brenden	<a href="mailto:jabrenden@gmail.com">jabrenden@gmail.com</a>	505-239-7656-c
Sangre de Cristo	David Jones	<a href="mailto:dciones59@gmail.com">dciones59@gmail.com</a>	505-662-5289-h
San Juan Mountains	Matthew Griffis	<a href="mailto:matthewgriffis@gmail.com">matthewgriffis@gmail.com</a>	510-427-3843-c
Assistant Council Commissioner for Older Youth Programs	Brian Tolson	<a href="mailto:briantolson99@yahoo.com">briantolson99@yahoo.com</a>	505-967-6139
Council Commissioner	Dale Balmer	<a href="mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net">dbalmer8@comcast.net</a>	505-898-9076-h 505-554-8545-c

**LEAVE NO TRACE CAMPING**



**IF BIGFOOT & ALIENS CAN DO IT...  
SO CAN YOU**

# Scouts BSA Recruiting Poster

