



Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



Communicator



August 30th, 2021

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 8

Table of Contents

Page	Area
3	<i>Council Commissioner Corner</i> Key info for Commissioners!
4	Message from Assistant Council Commissioner for Older Youth Programs
5-7	<i>Headlines!</i> Key info to pass to units! Including info on the new Scout Uniform Bank!
8	Key Commissioner Goals Summary
9-16	Goal Progress by Strategic Plan Area
17	District/Council Commissioner Roster

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

- The Commissioner mantra for this month is recruit, recruit, recruit! They say the way to a man's heart is through the kitchen; the way to a new Scout's joining is through his/her mom's social media accounts! Have your unit's updated their BeAScout pins lately? What is their social media presence?
- And giving a look ahead at next month's mantra... recharter, recharter, recharter!
 - There's updated information about the new recharter tool! Make sure your units receive ***the Internet Rechartering 2.0-201_08_27.pdf*** file with screenshots and other info on the new tool. There's also an FAQ document ***FAQs-Internet-Recharter-2.0 .pdf*** (this is an update from the FAQ file made available last month), and a video as well:
 - <https://vimeo.com/592215637/22e21c113d>
- Other news for Commissioners:
 - A reminder that the online training for unit commissioners has been updated. If you haven't completed the online UC position-specific training, you'll have to start from scratch. If you have previously completed it, you might want to check out the new training for any changes
- Here's a great BSA Safety website with TONS of great info and resources for units:
 - <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/>
- The information for units on the ***Headlines*** pages is being sent directly to Unit Commissioners this month.

*Yours in Scouting,
Dale*

Dale Balmer
Council Commissioner

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

Greetings Unit Commissioners.

This month's update will be short highlights that the Council's Venturing Office Association (VOA) is planning a Venture Weekend at Gorham Scout Camp. The event will be held on October 1st through 3d, 2021. Events will be centered on the Camp's amenities/facilities. Please encourage all of your Crews to attend to make this a successful event. Further details were released in the most recent Trail Marker newsletter and will continue to be there.

Additionally, we are still looking for nominations for youth and adult level for this year's Venturing Leadership Award (VLA). The VLA is a prestigious leadership award that can't be earned and only awarded after nominations. Please encourage your crews to submit their leadership. If anyone has questions regarding the VLA please have them contact myself.

Yours in Scouting.

Brian Tolson
Assistant Council Commissioner for Young Adult Programs
Email: briantolson99@yahoo.com
Phone: 505-967-6139



AUGUST 2021 HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

ALL UNITS

- This month's mantra is recruit, recruit, recruit! They say the way to a man's heart is through the kitchen; the way to a new Scout's joining is through his /her mom's social media accounts! Has your unit updated their BeAScout pin lately? What is your unit's social media presence so Mom can find you?
- And giving a look ahead at next month's mantra... recharter, recharter, recharter!
 - There's updated information about the new recharter tool! Check out ***the Internet Rechartering 2.0-201_08_27.pdf*** file with screenshots and other info on the new tool being sent with this newsletter. There's also an FAQ document ***FAQs-Internet-Recharter-2.0 .pdf*** (this is an update from the FAQ file made available last month), and a video as well:
 - <https://vimeo.com/592215637/22e21c113d>
- The initial Partnership report for 2021 should be uploaded to the Council's Partnership web page in the next day or so (<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>)
- **Finally, Scouting is fun... but we need to ensure Safety is our #1 priority. Here is a great BSA resource for doing Scouting safely:** <https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/>

Membership Minute

Questions about recruiting and membership? Contact the Council Vice President for Membership, John Foley, at john.foley11@gmail.com

- **Who: Vice Presidents for Program in NST2 Territory Councils**
If you cannot make it, PLEASE pass this invitation along to someone in your council that can represent you.
What: An informal, informative 60 minutes to share ideas and resources and help you create programs in your council to jump start Cub Scouting this fall.
When: Tuesday August 31 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM MDT
Where: Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/98822161167?pwd=UWNUcDJ6SnFEUmR0b2NadjlYa2lRQT09>

Announcing.... the Great Southwest Council's Uniform Bank!

Looking for uniform items? Stop by the Scout Office during normal business hours! The front desk will have an inventory, and can help with accessing the uniform bank. There is no cost for any of these items!



Many thanks to Jolinda Balmer and Heather Chaffee Daniel for their work in inventorying, labeling, and otherwise organizing over 125 uniform shirts and pants, plus many other uniform accessories like belts, neckerchiefs, hats, caps, epaulets, patches, and other goodies!

If you have items to donate, drop them off at the Scout Office and they'll be added to the inventory!

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 25th, 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 **August 29th, 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
Strategic Plan Goals				
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	92.3%	93.2%	10
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	6.4%	8.1%	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
Other Commissioner Metrics				
N/A	Commissioner Training	88.6%	88.6%	14
N/A	Units without Commissioners	41% w/o Sandia	28%	15
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.4	3.5	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 8/30/2021.

One re-charter was posted in August.

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%
Council Total	143	26	117	112	109	93.2%

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.

One unit's charter was posted using the manual method in August. There are still eight units that need 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 8/30/2021.

One re-charter was posted in August.

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	35	97.2%	35	97.2%
Sangre de Cristo	17	11	64.7%	12	70.6%
Council Total	117	110	94.1%	109	93.2%

One charter was posted in August, leaving another eight 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

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	255	37	90.2%	19	46.3%	14	34.1%	7	17.1%
San Juan Mountains	22	122	19	86.4%	14	63.6%	2	9.1%	1	4.5%
Sandia	36	137	30	83.3%	16	44.4%	1	2.8%	1	2.8%
Sangre de Cristo	12	56	9	75.0%	7	58.3%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	111	570	95	85.6%	56	50.5%	17	15.3%	9	8.1%
Council Goal (50%)									56	
Needed to reach Council goal									47	

The number of units with six or more assessments AND a detailed assessment increased slightly from July, with the percentage increasing from 6.4% to 8.1%.

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, revised guidance on the program has been approved by the Council Executive Committee and will be posted to the Partnership area of the Council's website. The initial 2021 Partnership report, showing youth membership and financial goals, will also be posted shortly.

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 15th, 2021

Partnership Status Recognition

- Rebate of Council 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.

District	# Units	Partners	Pct Partners
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. The updated guidance was approved by the Council's Executive Committee, and will be posted to the Council's Partnership web page in the next few days. The initial 2021 Partnership report, showing membership data, FOS goals, and updated camping data based on this summer's camping season, should also be released in August.

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%
Total	3	3	4	4	32	27	5	5	44	39	88.6%
Pct Trained		100.0%		100.0%		84.4%		100.0%			

To Goal	-0.6	-0.8	-1.4	-1.0	-3.8
---------	------	------	------	------	------

There was no change this month from the July data.

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	10	43%
Sandia	36	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	12	9	75%
Total	111	31	28%

With all district recharter actions completed, and commissioner assignment information updated in Commissioner Tools, we have an accurate measurement of this goal this month!

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	36	12.0	9	4.0	3.0
Sangre de Cristo	12	4.0	3	4.0	1.0
Total	111	37.0	32	3.5	5.0

The ratio increased slightly, from 3.4 in July to 3.5 in August. This was due to adding two units (one via recharter, and one a newly organized unit) in Sandia, while there was no change in the number of registered unit commissioners.

GSWC District and Council Commissioners

as of 8/30/2021

District	Name	Email	Phone
Rio Grande	George Greenlee	Ltcg2@earthlink.net	505-681-7319-c
Sandia	Jerry Brenden	jabrenden@gmail.com	505-239-7656-c
Sangre de Cristo	Vacant		
San Juan Mountains	Matthew Griffis	matthewgriffis@gmail.com	510-427-3843-c
Assistant Council Commissioner for Older Youth Programs	Brian Tolson	briantolson99@yahoo.com	505-967-6139
Council Commissioner	Dale Balmer	dbalmer8@comcast.net	505-898-9076-h 505-554-8545-c