



Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



Communicator



November 30th, 2021

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 11

Table of Contents

Page	Area
3	Council Commissioner Corner Key info for Commissioners!
4-6	Headlines! And <u>MORE</u> Headlines! Including a Message from the Council President Key info to pass to units!
7	Key Commissioner Goals Summary
8-15	Goal Progress by Strategic Plan Area
16	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

- Here's hoping everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving, and were able to take a few minutes and reflect on all that they have to be thankful for
- With the end of the year approaching, it's time to think about:
 - Recharter! About 1/3rd of our units have logged into the online tool. A breakout by districts is in the Unit Headlines area of this newsletter. There's now a report in Commissioner Tools that all commissioner can access that shows the status of every unit's recharter efforts
 - Program planning for 2022. And a great way to start program planning for 2022 is to look at a unit's Journey to Excellence (JTE) results for 2021. And a great way to do that is combine a review of JTE with completing a detailed assessment of the unit.
- Looking for information on different aspects of commissioner service? A great place to start is the National Commissioner's home page. The list of links along the left side provides access to a number of resources: <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/>
- A reminder that much of what we do as commissioners involves technology, especially the Commissioner Tools suite in my.scouting. This link provides access to pdfs, PowerPoint files, videos, and other resources to better understand Commissioner Tools: <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/tools/>

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

NOVEMBER 2021 HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- Recharter Status
 - Rechartering has started! The online recharter tool opened on Oct 15th, and to-date 37 units in the Council have logged into the tool

District	Total Units	Units Logged into Recharter Tool	Pct Logged In
Rio Grande	41	17	41%
San Juan Mountains	22	4	18%
Sandia	36	12	33%
Sangre de Cristo	13	4	31%
Council Total	112	37	33%

- We encourage ALL units to at least log into the tool as soon as possible. Why? A-to ensure someone from the unit can log into the tool! B-to see what's there! Check out YPT status, Criminal Background Check (CBC) form status, which youth or leaders need to be registered or have their information updated as necessary (new address, phone number, etc). Know what's there, and what will need to be done to finish the recharter.
- More info at:
 - <https://www.scouting.org/resources/internet-rechartering/>
 - OR, contact the Council Commissioner, Dale Balmer, at dbalmer8@comcast.net;
 - OR, contact the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, at 505-345-8603, x100, M/W/F, 9am-5pm
- Remember, our goal is to have recharter completed by Dec 15th!

NOVEMBER 2021

MORE HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- ALL
 - The latest Partnership Program status report is being released with this newsletter, or it can be accessed via the Council's webpage on the program:
<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>
 - Looking for help with Scoutbook? Here's a new resource that's just been released:
<https://help.scoutbook.scouting.org/article-categories/scoutbook/>
- Packs
 - A reminder for Packs as they start planning their 2022 program, that 19 of the Adventures are being retired effective May 31st, 2022. More information is available at:
<http://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/se-packet/2021-05-10/Announcement-retiring-adventures-SE-packet.pdf>
- Troops
 - The new Citizenship in Society merit badge was released on November 1st! The badge will become Eagle-required on July 1st, 2022. More information is available at:
<https://www.scouting.org/about/diversity-equity-inclusion/the-boy-scouts-of-america-introduces-new-citizenship-in-society-merit-badge/>
 - A new Health Care Professions merit badge, replacing the Medicine merit badge, has been released! More details are available at:
<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2021/11/22/health-care-professions-merit-badges-replacing-the-medicine-merit-badges/>
- Crews
 - A reminder that Venturing Scouts turning 18 need to complete Youth Protection Training (YPT) in order to renew their registration

Message from the Council President

Scouting Friends

With the end of the year around the corner, I want to make sure you are aware of some special tax advantages available in 2021 that can help you provide crucial support to the the Great Southwest Council and the Scouts in our area. We are sharing this information with everyone in the Scouting donor community to make sure you have the tools you need to navigate this tax year.

Here are two important benefits that expire after December 31, 2021: Individuals who take the standard deduction on their federal tax returns can deduct up to \$300 in charitable cash contributions from their income. (Typically no deduction is allowed.)

Those who itemize can claim an income tax deduction for charitable cash contributions of **up to 100%** of adjusted gross income (up from 60%).

I encourage you to learn more about these time-limited tax benefits. To do so, we have included a link to the IRS web site (<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-contributions>) and, if you haven't already, consider making a charitable contribution to the Council that suits your individual situation. (<https://donations.scouting.org/#/council/412/appeal/3442>)

Yours in Scouting

Mike

GSWC President



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 **November 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	Too early to measure	35.9%	8
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/22	Too early to measure	Too early to measure	9
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	9.9%	12.4%	10
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	11-12
Other Commissioner Metrics				
N/A	Commissioner Training	88.6%	86.7%	13
N/A	Units without Commissioners	28%	28%	14
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.5	3.4	15

Strat Plan Area: 4.1.1

Recharterers to Council

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

The online recharter tool opened on October 15th, for the 2022 recharter season. This is the second look at 2022 recharter data.

District	Total Units	Units Dropping	Units Rechart-ering	Units logged into online tool	Pct logged online	Units Submit-ted online	Pct submitted online
Rio Grande	41	6	35	17	48.6%	0	0%
San Juan Mountains	22	3	19	4	21.1%	0	0%
Sandia	36	0	36	12	33.3%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	13	0	13	4	30.8%	0	0%
Council Total	112	9	103	37	35.9%	0	0%

This is the second look at recharter data for the 2022 recharter season. We've made significant progress from the initial look, with the percent of units that have logged into the online tool increasing from 10% last month, to the current 36%.

Strat Plan Area 4.1.2

Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

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

The 2022 Recharter season has started! The online recharter tool opened on October 15th, so it's early in the process, but the goal is to have all charters posted by Dec 15th.

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	41	0	0%	0	0%
San Juan Mountains	22	0	0%	0	0%
Sandia	36	0	0%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	13	0	0%	0	0%
Council Total	112	0	0%	0	0%

Units with any questions about their recharter status should contact the Council Registrar, Kathy Ferdig, at 505-345-8603, x100, M/W/F, from 9am to 5pm, 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	383	41	100%	30	73.2%	14	34.1%	10	24.4%
San Juan Mountains	23	195	23	100%	16	69.6%	3	13.0%	2	8.7%
Sandia	36	178	36	100%	18	50.0%	1	2.8%	1	2.8%
Sangre de Cristo	13	102	13	100%	10	76.9%	1	7.8%	1	7.7%
Total	113	858	113	100%	74	65.5%	19	16.8%	14	12.4%
Council Goal (50%)									57	
Needed to reach Council goal									43	

The number of units with six or more assessments AND a detailed assessment has started to climb as we enter recharter season and JTE forms are being completed. The data on the JTE form can be used to enter a detailed assessment, and we saw several completed in November. As a result, the percent of units meeting the criteria climbed from 9.9% to 12.4%.

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.

Updated guidance on the Partnership program, and the initial 2021 progress report, have been posted to the Council's Partnership website at <http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>. A new progress report, with an initial look at FOS and Gondola Patrol contributions, and to-date popcorn sales data, is being released with this newsletter.

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	36	TBD	TBD
Sangre de Cristo	13	TBD	TBD
Total	112	TBD	TBD

2021 units earning Partner status in 2022 won't be available until the end of 2021 or early 2022. In the meantime, updated program guidance was approved by the Council's Executive Committee, and has been posted to the Council's Partnership web page. In addition, an updated 2021 Partnership report, showing to-date FOS/Gondola Patrol contributions and popcorn sales data, is being released with this newsletter, and will be posted to the website. Both files can be viewed at: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229> A final report should be released in late December.

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	8	5	0	0	9	6	66.7%
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	33	27	5	5	45	39	86.7%
Pct Trained		100.0%		100.0%		81.8%		100.0%			

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

After four consecutive months with no change from our 88% trained rate, there was a slight drop this month due to a new unit commissioner being registered in San Juan Mountains District.

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	11	27%
San Juan Mountains	23	11	48%
Sandia	36	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	13	10	77%
Total	113	32	28%

Two units completed their 2021 recharter, but are not assigned a UC. In the meantime, another unit was assigned a UC. As a result, the percent unassigned was virtually unchanged from last 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	23	7.7	8	2.9	-0.3
Sandia	36	12.0	9	4.0	3.0
Sangre de Cristo	13	4.3	3	4.3	1.3
Total	113	37.7	33	3.4	4.7

The ratio decreased slightly, from 3.5 in October to 3.4 in November. This was due to a combination of two units completing their 2021 recharter, and a commissioner being assigned to another unit.

GSWC District and Council Commissioners

as of 11/30/2021

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