



Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



Communicator



January 31st, 2022

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

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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

- Commissioners: a reminder that recharter for 2022 includes not only our units, but also YOU! If you're NOT registered with a unit that will be paying your annual registration fee, you need to renew your individual registration! Contact the Council Office M/W/F, from 9am to 5pm, 505-345-8603, x100, to register.
- While we're making good progress on recharter, please remind your units that there are only 28 days to go until units 'disappear' from BSA IT systems, IF their charters haven't been posted. If a unit vanishes, youth in the unit can't advance, and units can't register for district or council events until the charter is posted.
- The annual Tri-Council College of Commissioner Science is planned for Saturday, March 26th. Planning is underway, and while it will be held on that date, we're still working to determine if it will be in-person in Ruidoso, NM, or a hybrid or all-virtual event. Block out the date on your calendar; specific details coming shortly. There will be tracks for Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate, and Continuing Education courses.

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

JANUARY 2022 UNIT HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- Recharter Status
 - Here's a snapshot of rechartering status, by district, as of 1/31/22

District	Total Units	Units Logged into Recharter Tool	Pct Logged In	Units Submitted to Council and/or Posted	Pct Submitted and/or Posted
Rio Grande	41	31	76%	26	63%
San Juan Mountains	23	18	78%	16	70%
Sandia	36	29	81%	23	64%
Sangre de Cristo	14	12	86%	12	86%
Council Total	114	90	79%	77	68%

- A reminder that unit charters need to be posted by 3/1/22, or units 'disappear' from BSA's IT systems. As a result, advancements can't be entered, and units can't register for district or council events.
- 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, kathy.ferdig@scouting.org

JANUARY 2022 HEADLINES!!!!

GSWC Partner Units-2021

(Benefits received in 2022)

As of 1/26/2022

**Congratulations to the following units for having achieved
Partner status!**

- Rio Grande
 - Packs: 12, 110, 116, 174
 - Troops: (17G-pending JTE), 24G, 116, 174, 702, 703, 708, 831, 1919, 1974
- San Juan Mountains
 - Packs: 225, 508
 - Troops: 501, 538
 - Crews: 612
- Sandia
 - Packs: 166, 442, 640, 990
 - Troops: 166, 285, 640
- Sangre de Cristo
 - Packs: (68-pending JTE)
 - Troops: 2, 57G

More information on the Council's Partnership for Scouting program can be found at:

<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>

JANUARY 2022 TRAINING HEADLINES!!!!

Key information on **training opportunities** for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Adults**

- **IOLS**, Feb. 26-27, South Valley location, \$25 [Training team is planning to hold BALOO and another IOLS May 21-22 at Gorham.]
- Register
here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2863633&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-02-01/45/0/>
- For more information: joball@aol.com or jbalestri55@gmail.com
- **Wood Badge**, April 22-24 & April 30-May 1, Gorham, \$250 (\$225 for first 20 registrants who pay in full at time of registration)
- Register
here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2834855&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-04-01/45/0/>
- For more information: woodbadegswc@gmail.com

- **Youth**

- **NYLT**, June 5-10, Gorham, \$365
- Register
here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2873857&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-06-01/45/0/>
- For more information: gswcnylt@gmail.com
- **Brownsea**, June 12-18, Gorham, \$365
- Register
here: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2873859&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=//www.gswcbsa.org/app/calendar/month/45/2022-06-01/45/0/>
- For more information: brownsea22camp@gmail.com



Membership Minute



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

- The Council has set a goal to add 500 new youth members in 2022, which is a 15% increase on last year's new membership total.
- To help the Council achieve that goal, now is the time for units to begin planning spring membership events. Looking for ideas on how to recruit? Check out the next page for upcoming BSA National “Adventure On” recruiting webinars



Growth Initiatives

“Adventure On” Webinars

- Volunteers and professionals are invited to learn more about the “Adventure On” National Spring Membership related initiatives. We will conduct three webinars focusing on Spring recruitment efforts and Starting New Units.

Upcoming Webinars:

- **New Unit Campaign Webinar, February 10, 2022, Noon–1 pm (Central)**
- Register in advance for this webinar: https://scouting-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IsWCRIJGRP-0IqEV_QdGDw

- **Venturing and Sea Scouting, February 22, 2022, 7-8 pm (Central)**
- Register in advance for this webinar: https://scouting-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w8YVHDw1QjmzddLF9Z0xOA

- **Cub Scout Spring Recruiting Webinar, March 2, 2022, 7-8 pm (Central)**
- Register in advance for this webinar: https://scouting-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D17hU89xQEGpNKBhwtqI_Q

- And a reminder, you can find the new **Adventure On** recruitment assets on the BSA Brand Center at
- <https://scouting.webdamdb.com/cookieconsent.php?path=%2F>

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

A shout out and congratulations go to our 2021 Council Level Venturing Leadership Award (VLA) winners. The VLA cannot be earned and must be awarded by a selection committee.

We awarded two VLAs this year. The youth level winner is Ms Annika Zenger from Crew 612. She served as both Crew President and Crew Vice President. During her tenure she built an outstanding outdoor program for her crew. The adult VLA went to Mr John Greg Williamson of Crew 11. He serves as the committee chair for Crew 11 and is amongst the longest continuously tenured Venturing Adult leaders in the Council going back to the start of Venturing Program in 1998. He is the bedrock for Crew 11 and its many trips/outings and educational sessions.

Speaking of outdoor program; please look into your Crews as they should be doing their annual planning around now. Just like a Troop or Pack the Crew needs an annual plan and various fun and exciting outings to be successful. The plan doesn't have to be overly complicated, although it must be followed to be effective. If anyone has any Venturing related planning questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Yours in Scouting.

Brian Tolson

Email: briantolson99@yahoo.com

Phone: 505-967-6139



V E N T U R I N G • B S A



TOPGOLF



Great Southwest Council's Let's Go Golfing Fun-draiser!!!

TopGolf is an indoor driving range type environment that offers a wide selection of games that utilize micro-chipped golf balls to keep track of every shot. Player's shots will be relayed back to their bay screen showing the accuracy and distance of each ball –we're talking the potential for some **SERIOUS** bragging rights!

- Date: Sunday, March 20th, 2022
- Time: 1-4pm
- Location: 1600 Desert Surf Circle NE, Albuquerque, NM 87107 (I-25 & Montano)
- Attendance in groups of six per bay, 10 bays available
- Cost: \$600 for six-person team OR \$125 per individual
- Includes two hours of golfing, all equipment provided, advice from a TopGolf pro, & buffet-style meal with chicken tenders, pulled pork sliders, cole slaw, fresh fruit, kettle chips, chocolate chip cookie, and unlimited drink (soda, iced tea, coffee, water)
- Register using the attached form





Golfing for the Great Southwest Council



FUNDRAISER

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA | GREAT SOUTHWEST COUNCIL

Sunday, March 20th, 2022 | TopGolf @ Montgomery & I-25

REGISTER

Please fill out this registration form and mail it to the Great Southwest Council, 5841 Office Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109 or email to Stephanie Balmer stephanie.balmer@scouting.org

PAYMENT

Check enclosed

Bill me at my address

PARTICIPANT TYPE

Individual golfer \$125

Team of 6 \$600

GOLFER INFORMATION

Individual golfer:

Team of 6 golfers:

First & Last Name

Team Captain First & Last Name

Address

Address

City State Zip

City State Zip

**If you would like to be in the same bay as other individual golfers, please indicate their name(s) in the space below:*

Golfer 2 Name

Golfer 3 Name

Golfer 4 Name

Golfer 5 Name

Golfer 6 Name

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 **January 30th, 2022**, 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	49.0%	79.6%	13
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/22	7.0%	35%	14
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	21.9%	0%	15
4.3.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/22, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	11%	25%	16-18
Other Commissioner Metrics				
N/A	Commissioner Training	87.2%	87.2%	19
N/A	Units without Commissioners	27%	25%	20
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.0	3.0	21

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 fourth look at 2022 recharter data.

District	Total Units	Units Dropping / Out of Cycle Recharter	Units Rechartering	Units logged into online tool	Pct logged online	Units Submitted to Council online	Pct submitted to Council online
Rio Grande	41	8/1	32	31	96.9%	26	81.3%
San Juan Mountains	23	3/0	20	18	90.0%	17	85.0%
Sandia	36	4/0	32	29	90.6%	23	71.9%
Sangre de Cristo	14	0/0	14	12	85.7%	12	85.7%
Council Total	114	15/1	98	90	91.8%	78	79.6%

This is the fourth look at recharter data for the 2022 recharter season. Over the last four months, we've gone from 10% of the units having submitted to the council in October, to 36% in November, 49% in December, and the current 80%, which meets our council goal, albeit a month later than desired.

("Submitted" includes units pending council review, and those that are posted)

Strat Plan Area 4.1.2

Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

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

Units have been working recharter since the tool opened October 15th, so we've had about 3-1/2 months to work the process.

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	32	26	81.3%	16	50%
San Juan Mountains	20	17	85.0%	5	25%
Sandia	32	23	71.9%	8	25%
Sangre de Cristo	14	12	85.7%	5	36%
Council Total	98	78	79.6%	34	35%

80% of units have submitted their charters to the Council, for Registrar review. However, problems are being identified with the new recharter tool, which are requiring tickets being submitted to BSA National for resolution so that units can be posted. This is impacting the pace at which charters can be reviewed and posted.

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	81	41	100%	0	0%	5	12.2%	0	0%
San Juan Mountains	23	47	23	100%	0	0%	4	17.4%	0	0%
Sandia	36	47	36	100%	0	0%	6	16.7%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	14	33	14	100%	0	0%	2	14.3%	0	0%
Total	114	208	114	100%	0	0%	17	14.9%	0	0%
Council Goal (50%)									57	
Needed to reach Council goal									57	

With the start of the new year, tracking of this metric has been re-set. However, we're off to a good start with every unit in the council having had at least one contact.

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.

The final report on the 2021 Partnership program, including identifying the units that achieved Partner status, has been posted to the Council's Partnership website at <http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>.

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	14	34%
San Juan Mtns	23	5	22%
Sandia	36	7	19%
Sangre de Cristo	14	3	21%
Total	114	29	25%

This is an final look at 2021 Partnership data, pending identification of any errors or oversights. Specific units that achieved Partner status are listed on the next page.

For perspective, in 2019, 54 of 171 units made Partner (32%); and in 2020, 23 of 143 units made Partner (16%).

Partner status files can be viewed at:

<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229>

GSWC Partner Units-2021

(Benefits received in 2022)

As of 1/26/2022

- Rio Grande
 - Packs: 12, 110, 116, 174
 - Troops: (17G-pending JTE), 24G, 116, 174, 702, 703, 708, 831, 1919, 1974
- San Juan Mountains
 - Packs: 225, 508
 - Troops: 501, 538
 - Crews: 612
- Sandia
 - Packs: 166, 442, 640, 990
 - Troops: 166, 285, 640
- Sangre de Cristo
 - Packs: (68-pending JTE)
 - Troops: 2, 57G

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	0	0	2	2	13	12	3	3	18	17	94.4%
SJM	1	1	0	0	9	6	0	0	10	7	70.0%
SA	1	1	2	2	9	8	2	2	14	13	92.9%
SDC	0	0	1	1	4	3	0	0	5	4	80.0%
Total	2	2	5	5	35	29	5	5	47	41	87.2%
Pct Trained		100.0%		100.0%		82.9%		100.0%			

To Goal	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0	-1.0	-3.4
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The percentage of trained commissioners remained at 87.2%, for the second consecutive month.

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	9	22%
San Juan Mountains	23	11	48%
Sandia	36	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	14	8	57%
Total	114	28	25%

For the third month in a row, the percent of un-assigned units dropped due to new commissioners being assigned to units. We've dropped from 28% to 27% to this month's 25% over that time frame.

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	9	2.6	-1.3
Sandia	36	12.0	9	4.0	3.0
Sangre de Cristo	14	4.7	4	3.5	0.7
Total	114	38.0	35	3.3	3.0

There was no change from December’s ratio of 3.0

GSWC District and Council Commissioners

as of 1/31/2022

District	Name	Email	Phone
Rio Grande	Vacant		
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