



# Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



## **Communicator**



**June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*VOLUME 5, ISSUE 6*

# Table of Contents

Page	Area
3	<b>Council Commissioner Corner</b> Key info for Commissioners!
4-11	<b>Headlines!</b> And <b><u>MORE</u> Headlines!</b> And Membership Minutes! YPT info! Be A Scout Pin Info! Membership Challenge info! 😊 And fee increase info... sorry 😞 Lots of useful info to pass to units!
12	Key Commissioner Goals Summary
13-20	Goal Progress by Strategic Plan Area
21	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*

- All – hope this finds you with lots of plans for a fun summer!
- A reminder that there are a number of training opportunities for commissioners looking for training beyond the basic level. A flier for one such opportunity is being sent out with this newsletter; other courses can be found at: <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/training/colleges/>
- There's lots of news in the Unit Info section of the newsletter; please make sure you review it and provide it to your units. There's a lot going on in Scouting right now, here are a few of the topics covered:
  - Youth Protection Training (YPT) & the Council's Expired YPT Process
  - Membership Minutes with info on upcoming membership-related activities and events
  - Membership Challenge
  - Be A Scout Pin
  - New BSA Fee Structure (effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022)
- Please let me know if you have any suggestions for how we can improve unit service in the Great Southwest Council!

*Yours in Scouting,*

*Dale*

Dale Balmer

Council Commissioner

**COUNCIL COMMISSIONER  
COMMUNICATOR  
JUNE 2022  
UNIT-RELATED INFORMATION!!!!**

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Eagle Scout Rank Application from Scoutbook (SB)**
  - An Eagle Application report is available in Scoutbook. It is available on the Scout Reports menu to anyone with a Full Access connection to the Scout, or to the Scout their self. The report is the official BSA Eagle Application. It is an editable PDF, filled in with information contained in Scoutbook, including merit badges, leadership positions, and various dates. It must be downloaded to your computer before editing. The Scout should make sure that all information is correct, and to complete all other required information on the application.
- A reminder about the Council's Uniform Bank! We have 200+ uniform items available at the Council Office – pants, shirts, neckerchiefs, socks, belts, unit numbers, and much more! You can call the Council Office, or stop by and 'browse'. No charge for these items!
- The following pages have important information on these topics. Please review them, and if you have any questions, please reach out to myself, your Unit Commissioner, or District Executive
  - Youth Protection Training & the Council's Expired YPT Process
  - Membership Minutes with info on upcoming membership-related activities and events
  - Membership Challenge
  - Be A Scout Pin
  - New BSA Fee Structure (effective August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022)

# Youth Protection Training

BSA has established a national standard for Councils for Youth Protection Training (YPT) currency. The standard is to be at 98% or higher of registered adult leaders being Current with their YPT. For a Council our size, with approximately 1000 adults, this means we can have no more than 20 expired at any one time. Here is a snapshot of where we are as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

District	Current	Expired	Pct Current	Pct Expired
Rio Grande	301	15	95.25	4.75
San Juan Mountains	146	5	96.69	3.31
Sandia	394	10	97.52	2.48
Sangre de Cristo	168	3	98.25	1.75
Council Overall	1009	33	96.83	3.17

For comparison, at the end of May, the Great Southwest Council's Current percentage ranked 6<sup>th</sup> of the 12 councils in NST2, and 149 of 249 councils in BSA. As a side note, 76 councils were meeting the standard, including seven councils with 100% current.

# Great Southwest Council

## Expired YPT Process

- With the criticality of having our adult leaders current with their youth protection training, the Council has established the following process to ensure we're meeting the National standard of 98%.
  - On the first of each month, those with YPT that expired the preceding month will be contacted via email by the Council's YPT Champion. For example, on July 1<sup>st</sup>, anyone who's YPT expired in June will be sent an email. The email will request they complete YPT training within two weeks. (Note: at this point, the individual should have received three email notices from BSA about the training coming due).
  - On the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, the unit Key 3 will be contacted to let them know the person has expired YPT and must complete it. Otherwise, their membership will be expired on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the following month (per the example above, the individual's membership will be expired on August 1<sup>st</sup>).
  - When their membership is expired, it cannot be renewed until proof of YPT completion is provided, and due to how the BSA's registration systems work, the individual will need to pay the pro-rated membership fee for the remainder of the recharter year (currently \$7/month for each month left in the recharter year)
- Unit Key 3 can check the YPT status of all registered adult leaders by logging into their my.scouting.org account, select their unit, and then select the Training Manager function. YPT status will be shown on the right 'pie chart'. csv/xlsx reports showing the YPT status of each individual can be generated by clicking on the "Report" button.
- Reports can also be obtained by contacting the Council Registrar (Kathy Ferdig, [kathy.ferdig@scouting.org](mailto:kathy.ferdig@scouting.org); 505-345-8603, x100, M/W/F, 9am-5pm), or the Council's YPT Champion, Dale Balmer, [dbalmer8@comcast.net](mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net)



# Membership Minute #1



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

- **Here's info on two key upcoming membership-related events**

- Thursday, July 14, Fall recruitment training (this will be the quarterly Council Roundtable via Zoom; you'll get incentive points for having a leader attend)

- Thursday, August 18, Council-wide date for Fall recruitment!!! (Remember that you can hold more than one recruitment; if this date does not work, please let Mary Mazza-Andersen know your alternative plan.)

- Looking for ideas for Cub Scout Recruiting? Check out

<https://www.atlantabsa.org/recruitingresources>





# Membership Minute #2



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

- Here are two GREAT events for your current members AND recruiting others to Scouting!

- **Baseball: Isotopes, July 30**

- Sign up

here: <https://gswcbsa.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2921711&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=https://gswcbsa.doubleknot.com/app/calendar/month/45/2022-07-01/45/0/>

- **Soccer: NM United, August 20**

- Sign up

here: <https://gswcbsa.doubleknot.com/registration/calendardetail.aspx?activitykey=2900598&orgkey=45&ReturnURL=https://gswcbsa.doubleknot.com/app/calendar/month/45/2022-08-01/45/0/>





# Membership Challenge

## Here's a Membership Challenge from our District Executive, Mary Mazza-Andersen

- Are you ready for a challenge? Scouting is fun, so let's make this a game!
- We all want our units to grow and thrive! Here is a checklist of ideas to help with retention and recruitment.
- Your unit will get one point for each of these activities. Send me pictures and we can put them on our Council Facebook page.
- I'm looking for ideas for rewards to go with this competition. Some of my thoughts ... weekend at Gorham, weekend at Campbell, shooting sports day ... what would motivate your unit?
- Here's the checklist ...
- Staff recruitment/activity table at community event (can earn more than one time)
- Perform service project for your neighborhood school
- Perform service project for your Chartered Organization
- Have 100% fully trained leaders
- Have at least one leader attend Fall membership training (July 14)
- Participate in Fall recruitment event (August 18)
- Hold additional Fall recruitment event
- Scouts create and share video to use for recruitment
- Hold "normal friend activity" for peer-to-peer recruitment
- Earn National Summertime Pack Award OR National Outdoor Challenge Unit Award (troops) [crews will automatically get this point as there is no comparable unit award]
- Earn silver or gold in 2022 JTE
- Place 10 yard signs around neighborhood school and/or meeting location
- Recruit and train New Member Coordinator for your unit
- Have at least three leaders decorate their car with recruitment slogans two weeks prior to August 18 event
- Recruit at popcorn site sales
- Update BeAScout pin & respond to leads within 48 hours
- Reconnect with families of dropped Scouts from 2019, 2020, and 2021
- Bonus points: Recruit adults to join Council Committees (Activities, Membership, Training)
- Share with Mary photos of the activities above, as you check them off your list.
- Have fun with this! Thanks all!!!

# Be A Scout Pin

A reminder that a great recruiting tool is the Be A Scout website (<https://beascout.scouting.org/>). However, it's important that the information about each unit on it's 'pin' be current and correct. Here's a snapshot showing the key functions of the website. Unit Key 3 can manage their 'pin' via the Roster function in my.scouting.org.

			<u>6/30/2022</u>			
District	Total Units	Pin Active	Pin View: Unit	Online Apps: Active	Unit Contact Listed	Unit Website Listed
Rio Grande	34	29	30	20	30	16
SJM	19	16	18	16	18	2
Sandia	32	27	30	29	31	12
SdC	14	10	13	10	14	7
Council	99	82	91	75	93	37

To get maximum benefit from the tool, a unit's pin should be set to Active, showing Unit data, allow online applications, have a unit contact listed, and provide info on a website or social media account where more information can be found.

If you need more information on updating your 'pin', you can contact your District Executive or the Council Commissioner.

# New BSA Fee Structure

- To ensure BSA has the resources to fulfill the promise of Scouting, the following national membership fee structure will take effect **August 1, 2022**.
- **\$75** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts participants **(was \$72)**
- **\$45** for Exploring participants
- **\$30** for council-paid memberships
- **\$45** for all adult volunteers (includes cost of background check)
- **\$100** for a unit charter/affiliation fee **(was \$75)**
- **\$25** one-time joining fee for new program participants in Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouts (Not pro-rated)
- **\$15** for Scout Life magazine; this is the first price increase since 2005 **(was \$12)**
- **At the current time, there is NO plan to raise the Council Program Fee; it will remain at \$66 for youth and \$39 for adults**

# 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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
<b>Strategic Plan Goals</b>				
4.1.1	80% of unit recharter to Council by 12/31/21	99.0%	99.0%	13
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/22	99.0%	99.0%	14
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	7.2%	12.1%	15
4.3.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/22, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	26%	26%	16-17
<b>Other Commissioner Metrics</b>				
N/A	Commissioner Training	85.7%	85.7%	18
N/A	Units without Commissioners	Bad data	Bad data	19
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.7	3.8	20

# 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 15<sup>th</sup>, for the 2022 recharter season. This is the seventh and final 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	42	9/1	32	32	100%	32	100%
San Juan Mountains	23	4/0	19	19	100%	19	100%
Sandia	36	5/0	31	31	100%	31	100%
Sangre de Cristo	14	0/0	14	14	100%	13	92.9%
Council Total	115	18/1	96	96	100%	95	99.0%

**Recharter concluded in April. This data won't be updated until the 2023 recharter cycle starts in October 2022.**

# 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 15<sup>th</sup>, so we've had about 6-1/2 months to work the process, which is now completed.**

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	32	32	100%	32	100%
San Juan Mountains	19	19	100%	19	100%
Sandia	31	31	100%	31	100%
Sangre de Cristo	14	13	92.9%	13	92.9%
Council Total	96	95	99.0%	95	99.0%

**Recharter concluded in April. This data won't be updated until the 2023 recharter cycle starts in October 2022.**

# 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	34	189	33	97.1%	18	52.9%	11	32.4%	4	11.8%
San Juan Mountains	19	97	19	100%	10	52.6%	5	26.3%	2	10.5%
Sandia	32	163	32	100%	11	34.4%	11	34.4%	4	12.5%
Sangre de Cristo	14	89	14	100%	9	64.3%	2	14.3%	2	14.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99.0%</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48.5%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29.3%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
<b>Council Goal (50%)</b>									<b>50</b>	
<b>Needed to reach Council goal</b>									<b>38</b>	

**For the second month in a row, the number of units with six or more contacts increased significantly. In May, it increased by 13, this month by 15. Almost half of our units now have 6 or more contacts in 2022! This is a great step towards meeting the goal of a unit having six contacts and a detailed assessment by the end of the year.**

# 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 **initial** report on the **2022** Partnership program, reflecting youth membership numbers and financial goal, based on \$175/scout, has been posted 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
- Partner units must complete all recharter actions by Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Partnership Status Recognition

- Rebate of Council program fee for youth members
- 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	15	34%
San Juan Mtns	23	5	22%
Sandia	36	7	19%
Sangre de Cristo	14	3	21%
Total	114	30	26%

**No change from last month; this reflects the final 2021 data.**

**Partner status files can be viewed at:**

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

# 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	0	0	10	10	3	3	13	13	100%
SJM	1	1	0	0	7	4	0	0	8	5	62.5%
SA	1	1	2	2	7	6	2	2	12	11	91.7%
SDC	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	50.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>85.7%</b>
<b>Pct Trained</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>80.8%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>			

To Goal	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-1.0	-2.0
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**For the second month in a row, the percentage of trained commissioners remained at 85.7%.**

# 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	34	13	38%
San Juan Mountains	19	7	37%
Sandia	32	32	100%
Sangre de Cristo	14	14	100%
Total	99	66	66.7%

**The data above is considered to be unreliable due to the posting of district charters. This normally 'breaks' unit assignments, and until the assignments are re-entered in Commissioner Tools, the data will be inaccurate.**

# 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	34	11.3	10	3.4	1.3
San Juan Mountains	19	6.3	7	2.7	-0.7
Sandia	32	10.7	7	4.6	3.7
Sangre de Cristo	14	4.7	2	7.0	2.7
Total	99	33.0	26	3.8	7.0

**After two months with the ratio at 3.7, it increased slightly to 3.8 this month. This was due to two new units being added, with no increase in the number of commissioners.**

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

as of 6/30/2022

<b>District</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Rio Grande	Vacant		
Sandia	Jerry Brenden	<a href="mailto:jabrenden@gmail.com">jabrenden@gmail.com</a>	505-239-7656-c
Sangre de Cristo	Vacant		
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