



Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



Communicator



July 28th, 2020

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7

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"Social distancing protects us; Scouting connects us."

Council Commissioner Corner

- Late-breaking commissioner-related news can be found at: <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/news-for-commissioners/>
- The information for units on the **Headlines** pages is being sent directly to Unit Commissioners this month. District Commissioners will be 'cc'-d on the email.
- Commissioners – please encourage your units to participate in the Family Fun Fest on August 8th! Details on Page 5!
- Commissioners – also encourage your unit's Key 3 to check their Be A Scout 'pin' status, which is found in my.scouting, under Organization Manager. In the current environment, much of our recruiting will have to be done virtually via the beascout.org website; having current/correct information displayed on the website comes from the unit. Page 6 of this newsletter provides a district-level snapshot of which features are being used; Page 7 shows what the Key 3 can look for if they want to make updates.
- The latest Commissioner Technology Focus Group Status Report is being sent with this newsletter. It contains a bunch of information on upcoming fee changes, updates to the recharter tool, and a 'hack' for viewing Commissioner Tools reports on your mobile device.
- The initial Partnership Status Report is now available and is being sent with this newsletter.
- And check out the last page of the newsletter... a little humor about trying to do advancement in our current situation!
- Thanks for all you do! Stay safe!

Yours in Scouting,

Dale

Dale Balmer

Council Commissioner

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

- Greetings, I hope everyone is still healthy and well. From the Young Adult Program perspective, here is something we all can use to keep our Scouts focused on and in the program. Recently I read an article on the website “Bryan on Scouting” that highlighted a cool award that most of us probably don’t know about (I didn’t). It is the “Congressional Award” and can be earned by all of our Scouts in Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Sea Scouts for doing normal Scouting activities. It is a non-competitive award that has multiple levels from certificates to medals. All a Scout has to do is register on the Award’s website and complete the requirements by their 24th birthday. The starting age is 13 ½ and the Scout has to keep a record of their service hours, personal development (aka advancement and merit badges), physical fitness and expedition/exploration activities (aka camping/backpacking/outdoor activities). As an Adult Leader we play an important role of mentorship and validator of task accomplishment. More specifics can be found at the following website:
https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2020/07/01/the-congressional-award-an-impressive-honor-scouts-can-earn-just-by-being-scouts/?utm_source=scoutingwire&utm_campaign=swvolunteer782020&utm_medium=email&utm_content=
- Brian Tolson, email: briantolson99@yahoo.com, phone 505-967-6139



HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

- Register now for the August 8th Family Fun Fest, starting at 9am MDT! Lots of cool hands-on activities, interviews with amazing people, and opportunities to make your community better with a service project! The focus is on Cub Scout-age youth and their families, but anyone can participate:
 - <https://www.scouting.org/familyfunfest/>
- For Troops:
 - One last reminder that on August 3rd, BSA is releasing updated training for Scoutmasters & Assistants, Committee Chairs and Committee Members, and Merit Badge Counselors. See the third page following this one for details
 - The National Scouts BSA Committee is having live office hours on Thursday, Aug 6th, 7pm Central Time. This Q&A Session is available for all Scouts BSA leaders, including SPLs! You can register at:
https://scouting-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0kceCrgDosGdwXviJ4Xih65SMOE_elh9gp
- The initial Partnership Status Report is now available; contact your Unit Commissioner or District Executive to get a copy.
- A reminder about making sure your unit's Be A Scout pin is current. Check out the next two pages for information on how we're doing at the district and council level, and how your Unit Key 3 can make changes to your pin.

"Social distancing protects us; Scouting connects us."

Be A Scout PIN Data

as of 7/28/2020

The table below provides a snapshot of district-level usage of the different features provided by the Be-A-Scout 'pin' program. Ideally, we'd have every unit using every feature.

District	Total Units	Pin Active	Pin View: Unit	Online App: Active	Unit Contact Listed	Unit Website
Rio Grande	52	52	42	24	45	19
San Juan Mountains	27	27	20	11	20	2
Sandia	45	45	32	18	35	15
Sangre de Cristo	20	20	5	3	8	4
Council Total	144	144	90	50	103	38

This table shows any changes since this data was initially compiled in June.


Delta from 6/26/20 to 7/28/2020						
District	Total Units	Pin Active	Pin View: Unit	Online App: Active	Unit Contact Listed	Unit Website
Rio Grande	0	0	3	2	2	1
San Juan Mountains	0	0	4	2	1	0
Sandia	0	0	1	1	1	0
Sangre de Cristo	0	0	1	1	1	1
Council Total	0	0	9	6	5	2

Be A Scout PIN Actions

as of 7/28/2020

With the continuing impact of the pandemic, virtual recruiting takes on a much greater importance. Be A Scout pins are a way to provide information to individuals searching online for a Scout unit. It's a great tool for recruiting, but only if Unit Key 3 are actively managing it, using the Unit Pin feature under Organization Manager in my.scouting.org. Here is information for a unit Key 3 on how to implement a feature; more detailed instructions are available via the link at the bottom of the page:

- Turn on Unit View:



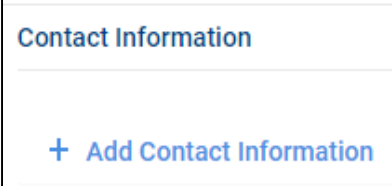
Appear on BeAScout:

- Activate on Online Application:



Allow People to Apply Online:


- Ensure a unit contact is listed:



Contact Information

+ Add Contact Information

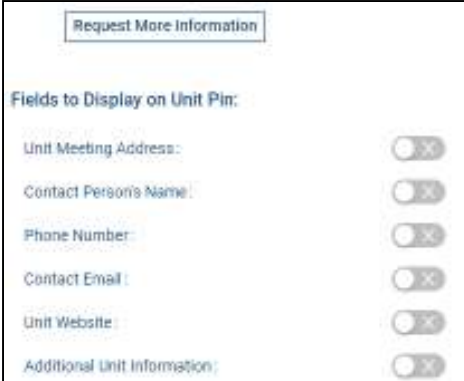
- List a unit 'website' or information site (social media, etc):



Unit Website

www.scouting.org

- And make sure to enable display of each piece of information:



Request More Information

Fields to Display on Unit Pin:

Unit Meeting Address:

Contact Person's Name:

Phone Number:

Contact Email:

Unit Website:

Additional Unit Information:

- More info at <https://www.scouting.org/resources/online-registration/>

New Scouts BSA Training

- A new online/facilitated version of the Scouts BSA (Troop-level) training will be available on August 3rd. If you are currently completing the training please complete prior to this date as BSA will be changing the Learning Plans for all positions – Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, Committee Member and Merit Badge Counselor. If you do not complete by August 3rd you will have to restart the training using the new learning plans and modules.
- The new online learning combines content resulting in fewer modules. BSA has also streamlined courses to help reduce the total time it takes to complete the training. The new facilitated course uses offline versions of the learning modules to facilitate maintenance on any future changes - thus the online and facilitated content are simultaneously updated to ensure consistency in the versions of the training.
- Please note: Completion of the appropriate portion of the Scouts BSA facilitated session will meet the requirements for.
 - Scoutmaster & Assistant Scoutmaster: S24 Scoutmaster Specific Training
 - Merit Badge Counselor: D76 Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Training
 - Troop Committee Chair & Committee: WS10 Troop Committee Challenge
- Thank you for being a trained leader and working with the youth!

Commissioner-Related Strategic Plan Goals

This page summarizes the commissioner-focus areas outlined in Section 5, *Unit Service*, of the Council's 2020 Strategic Plan, dated March 26th, 2020. Subsequent pages in the newsletter look at each of these areas. All data is as of **July 28th, 2020**, unless otherwise noted. Results are shown for last month and the current month.

2019 Council Strat Plan Area	Goal	JTE Area	Last Month	Current Snapshot	Page
5.1.1	80% of unit recharterers to Council by 12/31/20	N/A	88%	88%	10
5.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/21	N/A	84%	84%	11-12
5.2.1	45% of units have six contacts, including one DA (Gold criteria)	Council #15	4.5%	5.0%	13
5.2.2	75% of units have Bronze JTE or higher (Gold criteria)	District #14	66.7%	66.7%	14
5.3.1	Maintain ratio of one UC per three units	N/A	3.1	3.1	15
5.3.2	80% of commissioners complete basic training	N/A	84.5%	83.6%	16
5.3.3	100% of Cub Scout packs have a commissioner assigned	N/A	66.6%	61.5%	17
5.4.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/21, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	N/A	Too early to measure	Too early to measure	18-19
5.4.2	Report PFS status periodically; propose changes to PFS by 6/30/20	N/A	Too early to measure	1 st report issued!	18-19
5.4.3	Produce a new PFS brochure by 1/31/21	N/A	Too early to measure	Too early to measure	18-19
N/A	Units without commissioners	N/A	42.5%	42.4%	20

Strat Plan Area: 5.1.1

Recharterers to Council

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

Recharter data current as of 5/18/2020

District	Total Units	Units Dropping	Units Rechartering	Charters @ Office	Pct @ Office
Rio Grande	60	6	54	47	87%
San Juan Mountains	27	3	24	22	92%
Sandia	52	5	47	41	87%
Sangre de Cristo	24	2	22	20	91%
Council Total	163	16	147	130	88%

Having achieved our 2019 Strategic Plan goal of 80% of charters received in the Office, we've stopped tracking this until the 2021 recharter process starts this Fall.

Strat Plan Area 5.1.2

Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

(Goal is to have 100% of recharterers posted by 1/31/2021)

Recharter data current as of 5/28/2020

District	Units Rechartering	Charters @ Office	Pct @ Office	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	54	47	87%	47	87%
San Juan Mountains	24	22	92%	21	88%
Sandia	47	41	87%	38	81%
Sangre de Cristo	22	20	91%	17	77%
Council Total	147	130	88%	123	84%

Having achieved our 2019 Strategic Plan goal of 80% of charters posted, we've stopped tracking this until the 2021 recharter process starts this Fall. The units that still need to have their recharter processed are identified on the next page. District Executives and the Council Registrar are working with these units to resolve any remaining issues so that the charters can be posted.

Recharter Tracking

“What’s Left...”

The table below provides a summary of which units still need to post their charters, as of 7/28/2020.

District	Unit Type	Unit Number	Location
RGD	Pack	0106	With Unit
RGD	Pack	0584	With Unit
RGD	Post	0429	With Unit
RGD	Post	0911	With Unit
SA	Crew	0001	With Unit
SA	Pack	0003	Office
SA	Pack	0185	Office
SA	Pack	0395	With Unit
SA	Pack	0396	With Unit
SA	Pack	0463	Office
SA	Pack	1172	Office
SA	Troop	0409	Office
SDC	Pack	0034	Office
SDC	Pack	0045	With Unit
SDC	Pack	0073	Office
SDC	Troop	0129	With Unit
SJM	Pack	0302	With Unit
SJM	Pack	0325	With Unit

These are the units left to finish rechartering. Those in the Scout Office have issues that need to be resolved before the charter can be posted. Units should contact the Council Registrar to resolve any issues.

Strat Plan Area: 5.2.1

Unit Contacts

(Goal: 45% of units have 6 or more contacts, including one DA [Council JTE Gold])

This page looks at the critical unit-service area of unit contacts, which falls under Council JTE Criteria #16. The JTE criteria requires at least six contacts per year, with one a Detailed Assessment. 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 JTE criteria. Data is from a Council-level "District_Contact_Stats" report. In 2018, 40% of our units met this criteria, which equates to a Silver rating for JTE in this area. In 2019, 51% of the units met the criteria, which earned Gold. The challenge for 2020 is to continue the upward trend!

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	2020 Pct w/6 or more AND a DA
Rio Grande	51	348	51	100%	23	45.1%	8	15.7%	7	13.7%
San Juan Mountains	27	147	27	100%	13	48.1%	1	3.7%	0	0%
Sandia	42	341	42	100%	36	85.7%	0	0%	0	0%
Sangre de Cristo	19	90	19	100%	6	31.6%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	139	926	139	100%	78	56.1%	9	6.5%	7	5.0%
Bronze Goal (10%)									14	
Silver Goal (25%)									34	
Gold Goal (45%)									61	
Needed to reach Bronze goal									10	
Needed to reach Silver goal								To-Go to Silver	30	
Needed to reach Gold goal								To-Go to Gold	57	

Here's the to-date info on unit contacts so far in 2020. We're doing extremely well with meeting the six contacts per unit criteria. Detailed Assessments should follow in the fall, once the modified JTE criteria is received.

Strat Plan Area: 5.2.2

Units with JTE Bronze or Higher

(Goal: 75% of Units achieve Bronze or Higher
[District JTE Gold])

This page looks at the how many units achieve JTE level Bronze or higher, which falls under District JTE Criteria #14. Districts that achieve 50% earn Bronze; 60% are Silver, and 75% are Gold. JTE forms are normally collected at the end of the calendar year, as part of the recharter process.

Data current as of 6/26/2020

District	# Non-LDS Units	NO JTE Form Submitted	Form Submitted	Pct w/ Form	None	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Total Bronze or Higher	Pct Bronze or Higher	District JTE #14
Rio Grande	57	12	45	78.9%	2	4	3	36	43	75.4%	Gold
Sandia	52	19	33	63.5%	0	1	3	29	33	63.5%	Silver
SdC	24	8	16	66.7%	3	5	0	8	13	54.2%	Bronze
San Juan Mtns	26	6	20	76.9%	3	2	0	15	17	65.4%	Silver
Total	159	45	114	71.7%	8	12	6	88	106	66.7%	Silver

Two recharterers were posted in July, but their JTE forms had been previously processed and accounted for. As a result, there was no change in the data from last month.

Strat Plan Area: 5.3.1

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	51	17.0	18	2.8	-1.0
San Juan Mountains	27	9.0	9	3.0	0.0
Sandia	42	14.0	14	3.0	0.0
Sangre de Cristo	19	6.3	4	4.8	2.3
Total	139	46.3	45	3.1	1.3

Several units completed charter, but several new commissioners were registered. As a result, the ratio stayed at 3.1 from June to July.

Strat Plan Area: 5.3.2

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	2	2	18	18	3	3	24	24	100%
SJM	1	1	1	1	9	4	0	0	11	6	54.5%
SA	1	1	2	2	14	13	3	2	20	18	90.0%
SDC	1	0	1	1	4	2	0	0	6	3	50.0%
Total	4	3	6	6	45	37	6	5	61	51	83.6%
Pct Trained		75.0%		100.0%		82.2%		83.3%			

To Goal	0.2	-1.2	-1.0	10.2	-2.2
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Three new commissioners were registered in July; two of them have completed their training. We remain above our 80% goal.

Strat Plan Area: 5.3.3

Packs have a UC

(Goal: 100% of Packs have a UC assigned)

Having strong packs that excite youth about Scouting is critical to retaining the youth as they age-up to become eligible for Scouts BSA, Venturing, and Exploring. Having commissioners assigned to the unit helps to ensure strong packs. The data is from the Assigned_Units and Unassigned_Units reports in Commissioner Tools.

District	Packs	Packs Assigned a UC	Packs Not Assigned a UC	Pct Packs Assigned
Rio Grande	22	18	4	81.8%
San Juan Mountains	10	3	7	30.0%
Sandia	13	11	2	84.6%
Sangre de Cristo	7	0	7	0.0%
Total	52	32	20	61.5%

A combination of pack charters being posted, and commissioner clean-up resulted in two more packs without commissioners. As a result, the percent of packs with an assigned commissioner decreased slightly from 66% in June to 61.5% this month.

Strat Plan Areas 5.4

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.

2020 Partnership Status Criteria

- \$175 per registered youth, via FOS contributions, beef jerky or popcorn 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: How to apply this criteria since summer camp and day camps have been cancelled due to the pandemic is being discussed**
- Earn overall JTE Bronze or higher
 - Note: BSA National has indicated that revisions will probably be made to JTE criteria once the impact of the pandemic is better understood**

Partnership Status Recognition

- Rebate of \$25 insurance 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 Areas 5.4

Partnership for Scouting (PFS)

There are three goals in this area:

- 5.4.1-PFS Unit Percentage
 - Goal: Achieve 50% of units qualifying as Partner Units
 - Deadline: 1/31/2021
- 5.4.2-PFS Report
 - Goal: Prepare report on Partnership for Scouting status and proposed changes to PFS requirements to Council Executive Committee
 - Deadline: 6/30/2020
- 5.4.3-Promotion of PFS
 - Goal: Produce a new brochure promoting PFS
 - Deadline: 1/31/2021

2020 Youth Membership totals have been obtained, and initial FOS and Gondola Patrol donations data has been compiled. The initial 2020 Partnership report is now available.

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 Unassigned_Units report in Commissioner Tools.

District	# Units	# Not Assigned a UC	Pct Unassigned
Rio Grande	51	11	22%
San Juan Mountains	27	17	63%
Sandia	42	15	36%
Sangre de Cristo	19	16	84%
Total	139	59	42.4%

With several charters posted in June, and commissioners available for some of them, the percent of units with UCs remained about the same... 42.5% in June, 42.4% in July.

GSWC District and Council Commissioners

as of 7/28/2020

District	Name	Email	Phone
Rio Grande	Felipe Rael	frael@outlook.com	505-980-5922-c
Sandia	Jerry Brenden	jabrenden@gmail.com	505-239-7656-c
Sangre de Cristo	David Jones	dciones59@gmail.com	505-662-5289-h
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

The reality of virtual Scouting and advancement.....

