



Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



Communicator



December 30th, 2020

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 12

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"Social distancing protects us; Scouting connects us."

Council Commissioner Corner

- Recharter status: as of Dec 30th, almost 84% of our units have logged into the online recharter tool. This is greater than the 72% that had logged in at this point last year. Similarly, over 63% of units have submitted online; which is more than the 57% from last year. And the charters for the first 10 units have been posted; none had been posted last year at this point! Keep up the good work! The status of each unit in regards to recharter is sent to each District Commissioner and District Executive weekly; you can contact them or me if you haven't received it.
- NEED Detailed Assessments! We have 83 units that need just a DA to meet the "6 contacts, one of them a DA" threshold! Have you entered a DA for your units?
- New single-source BSA webpage on COVID-19:
<https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/covid-19-resources/>
- The Partnership for Scouting status sheet has been updated as of **12/23/2020**! You can download the most recent version of the file at:
<http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229> (scroll down to the Current Status area of the page)
- The first Council Coordinated Committee meeting will be held on January 9th! All are invited to attend! There will be information on current Scouting events and activities, plans for 2021, and breakout sessions, including one for ALL commissioners in the Council. Plan on attending! You must register in attendance to attend this virtual meeting:
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtcO6urDwpG9XoNcGtObX4ZRxeNMZE-xxA>
- Commissioner Technology Focus Group Status Report #51 was released on December 16th. A copy of the report is being sent with this newsletter.
- The information for units on the **Headlines** pages is being sent directly to Unit Commissioners this month.
- Thanks for all you do! Stay safe! Get ready for the new year!

Yours in Scouting,

Dale

Dale Balmer

Council Commissioner

Commissioner Commitments for 2021

- Here are some thoughts on commissioner service in the coming year:
 - From National DFS, Patrick Sterrett, at Dec 6th National Commissioner's Confab
 - What is Unit Service?
 - Friendly regular key unit leader visits
 - Help problem solve
 - Just like friends
 - From National Commissioner, Scott Sorrels
 - Need to show a physical presence
 - From your Council Commissioner
 - Be registered (especially important if you're not registered with a unit)
 - Be trained – Basic or continuing education (via attendance at College of Commissioner Sciences)
 - <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/training/colleges/>
 - Make, AND LOG, unit contacts
- All these thoughts, and more, will be discussed at the January 9th Council Coordinated Committee meeting!

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

- We'd like to announce the 2020 recipients of the Venturing Leadership Awards!!!
- Youth category - Andrew Grobler (Crew 325)
Adult category - Paul Marken (Crew 325)
- Recipients will be recognized during the Council's Annual Business Meeting on January 30th!



HEADLINES!!!!

Key information for units in the Great Southwest Council!

ALL UNITS

- **Recharter status:** as of Dec 30th, almost 84% of our units have logged into the online recharter tool. This is greater than the 72% that had logged in at this point last year. Similarly, over 63% of units have submitted online; which is more the 57% from last year. And the first 10 charters have been posted by the Council Registrar; compared to none last year! **Thanks to all units that have worked so diligently to complete their recharter!** If you're not sure of the status of your unit in regards to recharter, contact your District Commissioner or District Executive.
- **2021 Council-wide Virtual Roundtables:** The following dates in 2021 will be Council-Wide virtual Roundtable broadcasts! Add them now to your calendar; more details as we get closer to the actual date
 - Jan 14th
 - Apr 8th
 - July 8^h
 - Oct 14th
- **COVID-19 info:** There is a new single-source BSA webpage on COVID-19: <https://www.scouting.org/commissioners/covid-19-resources/>
- **The Partnership for Scouting** status sheet has been updated as of 12/23/2020! You can download the most recent version of the file at: <http://www.gswcbsa.org/partnership-for-scouting/66229> (scroll down to the Current Status area of the page)
- The 2021 Journey to Excellence scorecards have been released, and are available at: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/>, under the "2021 JTE Unit Scorecards" area

PACKS

- BSA has archived the slide decks and videos from the Cub Scout Marketing and Recruiting Webinars in June, July, August, and September.
- The archive can be viewed at: <https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/marketing-webinars/>.

TROOPS

- Great opportunity for youth to earn the Weather Merit Badge and the Weather Ready Nation patch on January 10th! It's free, but space is limited! Details are on the flier on the next page!

CREWS

- Great opportunity for youth to earn the Weather Merit Badge and the Weather Ready Nation patch on January 10th! It's free, but space is limited! Details are on the flier on the next page!

"Social distancing protects us; Scouting connects us."

VIRTUAL WEATHER-READY NATION SCOUTING EVENT — SIGN UP TODAY!

<https://wrnscoutevent.wixsite.com/wrnscoutevent>

The American Meteorological Society in partnership with NOAA's National Weather Service is offering Scouts throughout the Great Southwest Council a unique virtual opportunity to earn the **WeatherReady Nation (WRN) patch** as well as the **Weather MB** in its entirety, if desired. A couple of the **Emergency Preparedness MB** requirements can also be completed. Scouts can choose to just earn the WRN patch either individually or as part of their unit. And it's **FREE** but space is limited. Sign up today!



WeatherReady Nation
Scout Event



Virtual Event
January 10, 2021
9am - 12:30pm Local Time

Sign up today!
<http://wrnscoutevent.wixsite.com/>

What: Virtual WeatherReady Nation Scouting Event. (In previous years, this face-to-face event allowed Scouts to interact with professional members of the American Meteorological Society. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this event will be held virtually for the first-time but the format will be similar in spirit!

When: Sunday, January 10, 2021 via a virtual, YPT-approved classroom setting. This event will take place from 9:00am to 12:30pm MST.

More Details-Sign Up: <https://wrnscoutevent.wixsite.com/wrnscoutevent>

Scouts will discuss weather and climate science, disaster preparedness and safety, and emergency management with professionals many of whom are active in Scouts BSA -- a rare opportunity for any Scout interested in learning more about the world of weather!

<https://www.facebook.com/WeatherReadyNationScoutEvent>

If you have questions or would like additional details please contact Kerry Jones, k2jones@gmail.com or 505-244-9150 x222.

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 **December 29th, 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 recharter to Council by 12/31/20 | N/A | 16.3% | 63.7% | 9 |
| 5.1.2 | 80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/21 | N/A | Too early to measure | 8.1% | 10 |
| 5.2.1 | 45% of units have six contacts, including one DA (Gold criteria) | Council #15 | 12.0% | 28.9% | 11 |
| 5.2.2 | 75% of units have Bronze JTE or higher (Gold criteria) | District #14 | Too early to measure | 24% | 12 |
| 5.3.1 | Maintain ratio of one UC per three units | N/A | 3.2 | 3.2 | 13 |
| 5.3.2 | 80% of commissioners complete basic training | N/A | 86.9% | 86.9% | 14 |
| 5.3.3 | 100% of Cub Scout packs have a commissioner assigned | N/A | 67.9% | 67.9% | 15 |
| 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 | 6.3% | 16-18 |
| 5.4.2 | Report PFS status periodically; propose changes to PFS by 6/30/20 | N/A | 3 rd report issued! | 4 th report issued! | 16-18 |
| 5.4.3 | Produce a new PFS brochure by 1/31/21 | N/A | Too early to measure | Too early to measure | 16-18 |
| N/A | Units without commissioners | N/A | 34.5% | 34.5% | 19 |

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 12/30/2020

| District | Total Units | Units Dropping | Units Rechartering | Units logged into online tool | Units Submitted online | Pct @ Submitted |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Rio Grande | 53 | 8 | 45 | 40 | 36 | 81.8% |
| San Juan Mountains | 27 | 4 | 23 | 23 | 16 | 69.6% |
| Sandia | 43 | 3 | 40 | 31 | 21 | 52.5% |
| Sangre de Cristo | 20 | 3 | 17 | 10 | 6 | 35.3% |
| Council Total | 143 | 18 | 125 | 104 | 79 | 63.7% |

The 2021 Recharter season is upon us! The online recharter tool opened on October 5th. As of Dec 30th, 83.2% of units (104/125) have logged into the online tool. Last year at this point, 72% of our units had gone online. 79 of 125 units (63.2%) have submitted online; last year, 57% had. So we're running well ahead of last year's numbers, we just need to keep up the pace!

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 12/30/2020

| District | Units Rechartering | Charters Submitted | Pct Submitted | Charters Posted | Pct Posted |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| Rio Grande | 45 | 36 | 81.8% | 4 | 9.1% |
| San Juan Mountains | 23 | 16 | 69.6% | 2 | 8.7% |
| Sandia | 40 | 21 | 52.5% | 4 | 10.0% |
| Sangre de Cristo | 17 | 6 | 35.3% | 0 | 0 |
| Council Total | 125 | 79 | 63.7% | 10 | 8.1% |

The 2021 Recharter season is upon us! The online recharter tool opened on October 5th, and the first charters were posted in mid-December. Last year, it was well into January before the first charters were posted, so we're making good progress this year.

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 | 53 | 619 | 53 | 100% | 36 | 67.9% | 27 | 50.9% | 21 | 39.6% |
| San Juan Mountains | 27 | 289 | 27 | 100% | 23 | 85.2% | 7 | 25.9% | 7 | 25.9% |
| Sandia | 42 | 487 | 42 | 100% | 40 | 95.2% | 11 | 26.2% | 11 | 26.2% |
| Sangre de Cristo | 20 | 206 | 20 | 100% | 18 | 90.0% | 2 | 10.0% | 2 | 10.0% |
| Total | 142 | 1601 | 142 | 100% | 117 | 82.4% | 47 | 33.1% | 41 | 28.9% |
| Bronze Goal (10%) | | | | | | | | | 15 | |
| Silver Goal (25%) | | | | | | | | | 36 | |
| Gold Goal (45%) | | | | | | | | | 64 | |
| Needed to reach Bronze goal | | | | | | | | | -26 | |
| Needed to reach Silver goal | | | | | | | | To-Go to Silver | -5 | |
| Needed to reach Gold goal | | | | | | | | To-Go to Gold | 23 | |

Significant progress was made in meeting the JTE criteria in the last month! With recharter starting, detailed assessments (DA) are being done and recorded. As a result, all districts have achieved at least Bronze level, and three of them are at Silver. The Council overall is at Silver. 83 units have been identified as needing just a DA, so Gold is well within our reach.

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 12/28/2020

| District | # 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 | 50 | 33 | 17 | 34% | 1 | 3 | 0 | 13 | 16 | 32% | |
| Sandia | 42 | 32 | 10 | 24% | 0 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 24% | |
| SdC | 20 | 18 | 2 | 10% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 10% | |
| San Juan Mtns | 27 | 21 | 6 | 22% | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 19% | |
| Total | 139 | 104 | 35 | 25% | 2 | 4 | 2 | 27 | 33 | 24% | |

With the 2021 recharter starting, we've started to collect data on this measure.

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 | 53 | 17.7 | 18 | 2.9 | -0.3 |
| San Juan Mountains | 27 | 9.0 | 9 | 3.0 | 0.0 |
| Sandia | 42 | 14.0 | 14 | 3.0 | 0.0 |
| Sangre de Cristo | 20 | 6.7 | 4 | 5.0 | 2.7 |
| Total | 142 | 47.3 | 45 | 3.2 | 2.3 |

There was no change in the data from November to December.

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 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 63.6% |
| SA | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 20 | 18 | 90.0% |
| SDC | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 66.7% |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 4 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 45 | 39 | 6 | 5 | 61 | 53 | 86.9% |
| Pct Trained | | 75.0% | | 100.0% | | 86.7% | | 83.3% | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| To Goal | 0.2 | -1.2 | -2.0 | -0.2 | -3.2 |
|---------|-----|------|------|------|------|

There was no change in the data from November to December. 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 | 19 | 3 | 86.4% |
| San Juan Mountains | 10 | 6 | 4 | 60.0% |
| Sandia | 13 | 11 | 2 | 84.6% |
| Sangre de Cristo | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total | 53 | 36 | 17 | 67.9% |

There was no change in the data from November to December.

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: Since summer camp and day camps were cancelled due to the pandemic, this year won't be counted. If a Troop attended a virtual Gorham sessions, they'll be given credit for camp attendance, but otherwise 2020 data in this area won't be 'counted'**
- Earn overall JTE Bronze or higher
 - **Note: BSA National has 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, 2020

Partnership Status Recognition

- Rebate of \$60 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 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

The initial 2020 Partnership report containing membership data and initial FOS and Gondola Patrol information was sent to units in mid-July. Updated financial information was released on October 26th, and another update of financial information on November 29th. Another update reflecting popcorn sales and any other changes was released on December 23rd. The final report will be released in early January 2021.

Strat Plan Area: 5.4.1

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. As of December 23rd, nine, or 6.3% of units, have qualified as Partner units. Another five units just need to turn in their JTE forms to qualify. Another seven units are within \$1000 of qualifying, having met all the other criteria.

| District | # Units | Partners | Pct Partners | Turn in JTE | Within \$1000 |
|------------------|---------|----------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Rio Grande | 53 | 5 | 9.4% | 4 | 3 |
| San Juan Mtns | 27 | 2 | 7.4% | 0 | 1 |
| Sandia | 43 | 2 | 4.7% | 1 | 2 |
| Sangre de Cristo | 20 | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 143 | 9 | 6.3% | 5 | 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 Unassigned_Units report in Commissioner Tools.

| District | # Units | # Not Assigned a UC | Pct Unassigned |
|--------------------|---------|---------------------|----------------|
| Rio Grande | 53 | 7 | 13% |
| San Juan Mountains | 27 | 11 | 41% |
| Sandia | 42 | 14 | 33% |
| Sangre de Cristo | 20 | 17 | 85% |
| Total | 142 | 49 | 34.5% |

There was no change in the data from November to December.

GSWC District and Council Commissioners

as of 12/29/2020

| District | Name | Email | Phone |
|--|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Rio Grande | George Greenlee (acting) | Ltcg2@earthlink.net | 505-681-7319-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 |