



# Great Southwest Council **Council Commissioner**



## **Communicator**



**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

*VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2*

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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*

- Recharter Update: We're (almost) done! 95% of charters were posted through today, with just five charters left to post. Thanks for all the time and effort that led to the most successful recharter process in at least five years!
- Lots of upcoming events to make your units aware of; details are on the Council Calendar or in this newsletter!
  - March 4<sup>th</sup>: Council Pinewood Derby
  - March 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm: Roundtable
  - March 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am: COR training
  - April 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>: Spring Camporee
  - June: Cub Day Camps in Durango, Albuquerque, and Los Alamos
- ***Thanks for all you do! It's time to THRIVE!***

*Yours in Scouting,*

*Dale*

Dale Balmer

Council Commissioner

**COUNCIL COMMISSIONER  
COMMUNICATOR  
FEBRUARY 2023  
UNIT-RELATED INFORMATION!!!!**

Key information for **all type** units in the Great Southwest Council!

- Recharter update!
  - The online recharter tool closed today (2/28/23)
  - The 2023 recharter season was an outstanding success! Details by unit-type and/or district are in this newsletter, but 95% of units were posted prior to the deadline, the best showing in the last five years!
- New YPT rules will be effective Sept 1st; see the attached presentation with more information, but basically, the “72 hour rule” is being eliminated, and anyone staying overnight at a Scouting activity must be registered in an adult fee required position, and current with their YPT training. There is a limited exception for Cub Overnight program where parents or guardians attending with their children are not required to be registered as leaders
- Virtual Roundtable on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. See the flier in this newsletter!
- Virtual COR Training on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am. See the flier in this newsletter!
- The 2023 JTE scorecards for Packs and Troops have been released, and can be found at:  
<https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/unit/>

**COUNCIL COMMISSIONER  
COMMUNICATOR  
FEBRUARY 2023  
PACK-RELATED INFORMATION!!!!**

Key information for **packs** in the Great Southwest Council!

- It's time to talk about Cub Day Camps!
  - The theme this year is "Off to the Races"! Lots of very fun activities! And, of course, an opportunity for your Cubs to participate in archery and BB guns!
  - The dates are:
    - Durango area, June 1-3
    - Albuquerque Metro area, June 5-7
    - Los Alamos area, June 7-9
  - The fee is \$85 for incoming Tigers through Arrow of Lights (incoming 1st through 5th graders). Most of the camps will allow registrations up to the week before, but as a Scout is thrifty, we won't be ordering many extra shirts, so please, please, please register by April 22 to guarantee a t-shirt. Late fees will be charged starting on May 13. Also, Order of the Arrow is offering camperships for our Day Camp. If a family needs some assistance with the fees, please have them fill out a form by April 1. The form and instructions are available from Mary Mazza-Andersen.
  - Just a few reminders:
    - Register as a Pack, regardless of how many families are participating.
    - Send one adult volunteer for every FOUR youth. If one Cub is going, send one adult. If five Cubs are going, send two adults, etc.
    - It is acceptable for parents to split the three days up with other volunteers if they cannot take that many days off work, for instance. It is easier on the Day Camp staff if one person can take a whole day, rather than splitting up the day into shifts.
    - We are asking for all volunteers to be current with Youth Protection Training, even if they are not a registered leader.
  - Here are the links to each camp. It will take the user to the Tentaroo site, which you will need to log into in order to register. If you don't recall passwords, the Council Office can help with that and if you have had personnel changes within the unit, we can help with that, too. There is no need to create a new account if the person who previously registered the pack has moved on or if you forgot login information.
  - Albuquerque Metro: <https://greatsw.tentaroo.com/admin2/events/6346/27146/Albuquerque-Metro-Day-Camp-6523---6723>
  - Los Alamos: <https://greatsw.tentaroo.com/admin2/events/4503/27150/Sangre-de-Cristo-Day-Camp---672023---692023>
  - Durango Area : <https://greatsw.tentaroo.com/admin2/events/6347/27148/San-Juan-Mountains-Day-Camp---6123---6323>
- A reminder there are a number of Cub Scout uniforms in the uniform bank at the Scout Office, including, brand new, still have the tags on, blue uniform pants! Check it out!

**COUNCIL COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATOR  
FEBRUARY 2023  
SCOUTS BSA/VENTURING-RELATED  
INFORMATION!!!!**

Key information for troops & crews in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Scouts BSA**
  - Spring Camporee will be April 28-30. More details will be out soon, but it will have a focus on shooting sports. Also, an IOLS training course will be offered for adult leaders, so please let any leaders who need the course know that they can complete this training at Camporee.
  - Merit Badge weekends @ Gorham are being planned for April 21-23, and May 12-14. Stay tuned for more details!
- **Venturing**
  - There are a number of the dark green Venturing BSA uniform shirts available in the Uniform Bank at the Scout Office. Many of these shirts are brand new, with the tags still on them!

# A Note from the Assistant Council Commissioner for Recognition

- Hello fellow Leaders. As discussed at the round table on February 9th 2023, along with the transition to Units Strong 2, I am assuming a new role in the Council to be your point of contact for youth and adult awards. This role is to consolidate all non-advancement awards into a single place and to provide little summaries of how to go about recognizing our outstanding volunteers and youth. I will try to get something out each month in this medium. If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me.

- Brian Tolson

- Email: [briantolson99@yahoo.com](mailto:briantolson99@yahoo.com)
- Cell phone (text capable): 505-967-6139

# February's highlighted award: The Scouter's Training Award

- Undoubtedly, you've heard that "every Scout deserves a trained leader." This is absolutely true and is recognized by earning the Scouter's Training Award. There are 6 easy to complete requirements that can be accomplished within the minimum 2 years of registered service. All a Scouter has to do is obtain the progress record/application form from <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/> Once on this page scroll down to the bottom to a section called "Training Awards". Download the form for your specific position (i.e., Cub Scouts, Scouts, BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouting) and work towards the requirements. Once the 6 requirements are complete, please have your unit committee chair sign it and send it to myself. I will get the Council Training Committee's endorsement. This is a slight modification to older procedures because we moved away from districts in 2023. After the form gets endorsed, it will be sent to the Council Office for processing into your adult record. Please let me know if you need assistance.

Brian Tolson

Email: [briantolson99@yahoo.com](mailto:briantolson99@yahoo.com)

Cell phone (text capable): 505-967-6139





# Roundtable



- Topic: Council Roundtable
- Time: Mar 9, 2023 07:00 PM  
Mountain Time (US and Canada)
- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86087639654?pwd=UkMzeDVYN1ZIZWFLZHE3OE0zQ25FQT09>
- Meeting ID: 860 8763 9654
- Passcode: 602640
- Featured Speaker: ***Jack Hess,***  
***Council Treasurer and VP, Finances***
- Plus lots of other information!





# COR Training

- ***The training will cover the role and responsibility of a Chartered Organization Representative, including what a charter is, the type of Scouting units BSA offers that require a COR, BSA membership standards and Youth Protection guidelines, and use of the online tools in my.scouting that a COR can access.***
- Time: Mar 25, 2023 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83198887735?pwd=UjdpYkMyWVJhUzBWbFkyRVNmVGpEZz09>
- Meeting ID: 831 9888 7735; Passcode: 306424
- A reminder this training is also available online in the BSA Learning Center, but the online training does NOT cover the use of the online tools that are covered in this virtual course
- Pre-registration is not required; any questions: Dale Balmer, [dbalmer8@comcast.net](mailto:dbalmer8@comcast.net)



# Council Overall Recharter Status

as of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Type Unit	Total Units	Dropping / Out of Cycle	Rechartering	Online	Submitted to Council	Posted
Pack	33	3/1	29	29	28	28
Troop	61	4/1	56	56	56	53
Crew	8	1/0	7	7	7	6
Total	102	8/2	92	92	91	87

## GOALS

100% of units posted by 2/28/2023 before the online recharter tool closes and rechartering reverts to a manual process.

**95% of units were posted before the online recharter tool closed on 2/28/23, the best performance in five years!**

# Rio Grande District

Type Unit	Total Units	Dropping / Out of Cycle	Rechartering	Online	Submitted to Council	Posted
				100%	100%	97%
Pack	11	3/0	8	8	8	8
Troop	21	1/0	20	20	20	19
Crew	2	0/0	2	2	2	2
Total	34	4/0	30	30	30	29

# San Juan Mountains District

Type Unit	Total Units	Dropping / Out of Cycle	Rechartering	Online	Submitted to Council	Posted
				100%	100%	94%
Pack	7	0/0	7	7	7	7
Troop	10	0/0	10	10	10	9
Crew	2	1/0	1	1	1	1
Total	19	1/0	18	18	18	17

# Sandia District

Type Unit	Total Units	Dropping / Out of Cycle	Rechartering	Online	Submitted to Council	Posted
				100%	100%	97%
Pack	12	0/1	11	11	11	11
Troop	20	2/1	17	17	17	16
Crew	3	0/0	3	3	3	3
Total	35	2/2	31	31	31	30

# Sangre de Cristo District

Type Unit	Total Units	Dropping / Out of Cycle	Rechartering	Online	Submitted to Council	Posted
				100%	92%	85%
Pack	3	0/0	3	3	2	2
Troop	10	1/0	9	9	9	9
Crew	1	0/0	1	1	1	0
Total	14	1/0	13	13	12	11

# Youth Protection Training Current Status

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 **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

District	Current	Expired	Pct Current	Pct Expired
Rio Grande	282	0	100	0
San Juan Mountains	149	0	100	0
Sandia	391	0	100	0
Sangre de Cristo	151	0	100	0
Council Staff	53	0	100	0
Council Overall	1026	0	100	0

Trend data is on the next chart.

**100%!**

# Youth Protection Training Trends

Council Trend*	
6/1/2022 Baseline	96.88
10/31/2022	99.63
11/30/2022	99.23
12/30/2022	98.47
1/31/2022	99.09
2/28/2022	100.0

National Trend Data**					
National's Goal is that >98% of adult leaders are current with their YPT					
Date	GSWC YPT %	GSWC NST Rank	GSWC National Rank	Councils Meeting Standard	Councils @ 100%
5/30/2022 Baseline	96.74	6 of 12	149 of 249	76	7
10/31/2022	99.81	2 of 12	14 of 248	52	6
11/30/2022	98.45	4 of 12	41 of 248	47	6
12/31/2022	98.36	6 of 12	48 of 248	51	6
1/31/2023	99.09	2 of 12	21 of 248	50	6

\*-data from Council's my.scouting.org Training Manager

\*\*-data from National "Stack Charts"

Goal: Greater than 98% of adult leaders are current!

***With recharter requiring all adult leaders to be current on their YPT, and recharter concluding on 2/28/23, the Council achieved 100%!***

# 2022 Partner Units

Here's the final look at Partner units, pending receipt of the information listed

- Rio Grande
  - Packs: 12, 116, 174, 1974
  - Troops: 116, 1974
- San Juan Mountains
  - Packs: (179-need JTE), 321, 508
  - Troops: 501
  - Crews: 612
- Sandia
  - Packs: 241, 442
  - Troops: 285, 444, 640B, 640G, (1395-need JTE)
- Sangre de Cristo
  - Packs:
  - Troops: 2, 22, 122



# 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 **Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, 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 rechartrers to Council by 12/31/22	74% to council	99% to council	18
4.1.2	80% of unit charters posted by 1/31/23	33%	95%	19
4.2.1	50% of units have six contacts, including one Detailed Assessment	0%	1%	20
4.3.1	50% of units achieve Partner status by 1/31/22, under the Partnership for Scouting (PFS) program	21%	21%	21-24
<b>Other Commissioner Metrics</b>				
N/A	Commissioner Training	86.1%	86.1%	25
N/A	Units without Commissioners	40.2%	41.2%	26
N/A	Units per Commissioner Ratio	3.8	3.8	27

# Strat Plan Area: 4.1.1

## Recharterers to Council

(Goal is to have 80% of recharterers submitted to the Council by 12/31/2022)

**The online recharter tool opened on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, for the 2023 recharter season, and closed on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 100% of the units that are rechartering had logged into the online tool, and all but one had submitted their charter to the council for review.**

District	Total Units	Units Dropping / Out of Cycle Recharter	Units Rechart-ering	Units logged into online tool	Pct logged online	Units Submit-ted to Council online	Pct submitted to Council online
Rio Grande	34	4/0	30	30	100%	30	100%
San Juan Mountains	19	1/0	18	18	100%	18	100%
Sandia	35	2/2	31	31	100%	31	100%
Sangre de Cristo	14	1/0	13	13	100%	12	92%
Council Total	102	8/2	92	92	100%	91	99%

# Strat Plan Area 4.1.2

## Rechartering Process-Charters Posted

(Goal is to have 100% of recharterers posted by 1/31/2023)

**The online recharter tool opened on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, for the 2023 recharter season, and closed on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 100% of the units that are rechartering had logged into the online tool, and all but one had submitted their charter to the council for review. 95% of charters were posted before the online tool closed. This is the best performance, by over 30 percentage-points, in the past five years! Thanks, everyone!**

District	Units Rechartering	Charters Submitted	Pct Submitted	Charters Posted	Pct Posted
Rio Grande	30	30	100%	29	97%
San Juan Mountains	18	18	100%	17	94%
Sandia	31	31	100%	30	97%
Sangre de Cristo	13	12	92%	11	92%
Council Total	92	91	99%	87	95%

# 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	122	34	100%	4	11.8%	3	8.8%	0	0.0%
San Juan Mountains	19	60	19	100%	0	0.0%	6	31.6%	0	0.0%
Sandia	35	112	35	100%	1	2.9%	5	14.3%	1	2.9%
Sangre de Cristo	14	56	14	100%	0	0.0%	4	28.6%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Council Goal (50%)</b>									<b>51</b>	
<b>Needed to reach Council goal</b>									<b>50</b>	

**We’re starting to see units with six or more contacts already this year! And with 18 units having received Detailed Assessments, we have the first unit that met the “six contacts, one of them a DA” criteria.**

# 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.

*A **final** report on the **2022** Partnership program, reflecting the latest FOS and Gondola Patrol donations, day/summer camp attendance, and final popcorn sales data was released on **1/21/2023**. It can be viewed at:*

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

### **2022 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

### **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 Current Status

(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	# Meeting Financial Goal	# Meeting Camping Goal	# Meeting JTE Goal*	# Partner Units*	Pct Partner Units
Rio Grande	34	6	33	12	6	18%
San Juan Mtns	19	5	18	5	5	26%
Sandia	35	7	33	15	7	20%
Sangre de Cristo	14	3	10	3	3	21%
Total	102	21	94	35	21	21%

\*=includes units pending receipt of JTE form/recharter paperwork

**This is the final look at Partner units for 2022, pending any feedback.**

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

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

# Partnership for Scouting Historical Participation

Year	# Units	# Partners	% Partners
2017	221	49	22%
2018	226	39	17%
2019	171	48	28%
2020	143	23	16%
2021	115	30	26%
2022	102	21	21%

# 2022 Partner Units

Here's the current status for Partner units.

- Rio Grande
  - Packs: 12, 116, 174, 1974
  - Troops: 116, 1974
- San Juan Mountains
  - Packs: (179-need JTE), 321, 508
  - Troops: 501
  - Crews: 612
- Sandia
  - Packs: 241, 442
  - Troops: 285, 444, 640B, 640G, (1395-need JTE)
- Sangre de Cristo
  - Packs:
  - Troops: 2, 22, 122



# 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	1	1	10	10	3	3	14	14	100%
SJM	1	1	0	0	7	4	0	0	8	5	62.5%
SA	0	0	2	2	7	6	2	2	11	10	90.9%
SDC	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	3	2	66.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>86.1%</b>
<b>Pct Trained</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>		<b>80.8%</b>		<b>100.0%</b>			

To Goal	-0.2	-0.6	-0.2	-1.0	-2.0
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**No change from last 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	34	13	38%
San Juan Mountains	19	7	37%
Sandia	35	12	34%
Sangre de Cristo	14	10	71%
Total	102	42	41.2%

**The percent of unassigned units increased slightly this month, from 40.2% to 41.2%, as one unit became un-assigned in Sandia District.**

# 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	35	11.7	7	5.0	4.7
Sangre de Cristo	14	4.7	3	4.7	1.7
Total	102	34.0	27	3.8	7.0

**The ratio remained stable this month, with no change from last month’s numbers.**

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

as of 2/28/2023

<b>Area of Responsibility</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Rio Grande	Vacant		
Sandia	Vacant		
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 Recognition	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