

Council Commissioner Communicator **December 2023 HEADLINES!!!**

Unit-related information!!!!

Key info for all type units in the Great Southwest Council!

- **The Council Awards Banquet will be on Saturday, January 27th, 2024, at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center! Come out and recognize our Silver Beavers, District Award of Merit recipients, Venturing Leadership Award recipients, Distinguished Commissioner Service Award recipients, and others! Award recipients are being notified, so plan now to come out and celebrate their accomplishments! You can register for the banquet at this link:**
<https://www.gswcbsa.org/content/115694/2024-Banquet--Awards-Banquet>
- **2024 Journey To Excellence Scorecards are now available at:**
<https://www.scouting.org/awards/journey-to-excellence/>
 - Pdf version of each type scorecard (Pack, Troop, Crew) are being sent with this newsletter
- **Following each Roundtable, materials discussed at Roundtable are sent to each unit's Key 3. They can also be found on the Council's website at:**
<https://www.gswcbsa.org/content/113799/On-line-Roundtables>

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Unit-related information!!!!

Key info for Cub Scout Packs in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Cub Leaders? Hearing rumors about a big update to the Cub Scout program? They're not rumors; it's a fact! The new program starts June 1st, 2024! Want more info?**
 - <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/>
 - <https://linktr.ee/cubscoutprogramupdates>
 - Also, our January Roundtable will have a presentation by Greg Kelly, NST-2 Program Lead, with detailed information on the new program and it's rollout
 - Info on how to sign up for Roundtable is available later in this newsletter
- **Reminder: Klondike Derby will be February 10th, 2024, at Gorham Scout Ranch! Webelos/AOL Cubs can attend that day (no overnight camping). FMI:**
<https://www.gswcbsa.org/content/116031/Klondike-Derby-2024--1---Klondike-Derby--1->
 - Registration has opened; sign up now!

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Unit-related information!!!

Key info for Troops and Crews in the Great Southwest Council!

- **Klondike Derby at Gorham Scout Ranch!**
 - Registration has opened for the Klondike Derby!
 - February 9th – 11th, 2024, Gorham Scout Ranch
 - A Leaders Guide and other information is now available at:
<https://www.gswcbsa.org/content/116031/Klondike-Derby-2024--1---Klondike-Derby--1->
 - Webelos/AOL-age youth can attend on Feb 10th (no overnight camping); a great opportunity for Troops to do some outreach and recruiting!

December's highlighted award: Interpreter Strips

- Purpose:
To identify and recognize a Scout or Scouter who speaks a foreign language (other than English)
- 17 languages are available to be presented to youth and adult members who meet the criteria.
- Applicable to all program tiers
- Additional details can be found at:
<https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/interpreter-strip/>

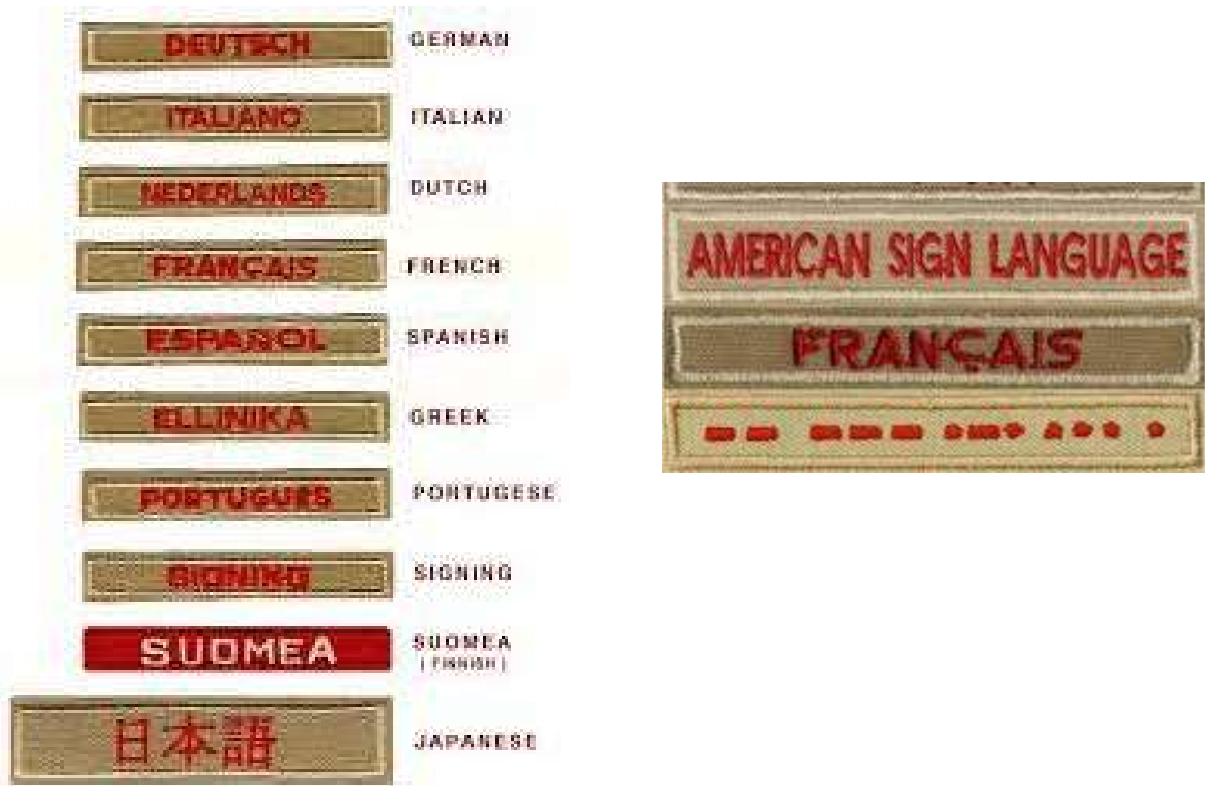
Brian Tolson

ACC, Recognition Programs

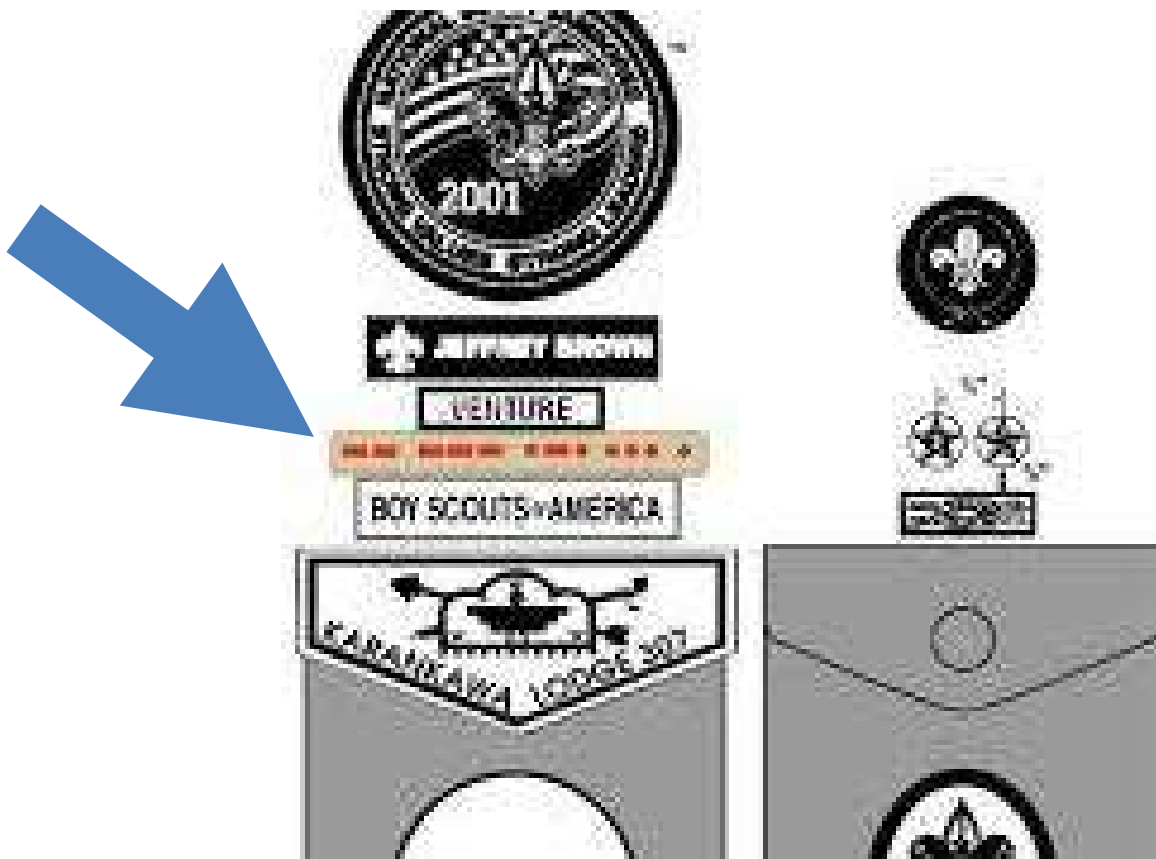
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Interpreter Strips



Uniform Placement



Award Requirements

- Requirements for spoken language and American Sign Language
 1. Carrying on a five-minute conversation in this language.
 2. Translating a two-minute speech or address.
 3. Writing a letter in the language (does not apply for sign language).
 4. Translating 200 words from the written word.
- Morse Code Requirements
 1. Carrying on a five-minute conversation in Morse code at a speed of at least five words per minute.
 2. Copying correctly a two-minute message sent in Morse code at a minimum of five words per minute. Copying means writing the message down as it is received.
 3. Sending a 25-word written document in Morse code at a minimum of five words per minute.

Award Processing Procedure

- There is no nomination or tracking form
- It is highly recommended that the Scout's foreign language teacher or other knowledgeable person provide a verification letter to the Unit Leader
- For Scouters it is on your Honor
- If Unit leader is satisfied the requirements are met (both youth and adult) they purchase the cloth patch from our Scout Shop

Council Commissioner Communicator

DECEMBER 2023 Recharter Status!!!

We've made astounding progress in the last month, with 98% of all units logged into the recharter tool. We didn't reach 98% until last February when doing the 2023 recharter. And we have a new record for pre-posting of units – with 12 in that status this year, we've topped last year's record of 7.

With the start of the new year, the Council Registrar will be reaching out to each unit that is On-Hold at the Council, outlining what is needed to finish the process.

GSWC Recharter Status	At Start 9/29/23	As of 10/31/23	As of 11/30/23	As of 12/30/23
Total Units	100	100	100	100
Units Available for Renewal	99	99	99	99
Renewals Not Started	99	62	31	9*
In-Process Renewals: Initiated	0	37	60	32
In-Process Renewals: Locked-Waiting Key 3 Approval and/or Payment Completed	0	0	0	2
On Hold Council Review	0	0	8	44
Pre-Posted Units	0	0	0	12
Posted Units	0	0	0	0

*-8 of the 9 units have indicated they are not planning on rechartering, leaving just one unit that needs to log into the tool!

Partnership Update

- An updated Partnership report, dated 12/28/2023, is being released along with this newsletter. It contains updated FOS and Gondola Patrol donations through 12/28/2023, and popcorn sales credit through 12/11/2023.
- Six units have achieved Partner status. Congratulations to: Packs 116, 174, 321, & 409; and Troops 116 and 122
- Another seven units will become Partner units upon submitting a JTE form showing the unit achieved a JTE level of Bronze, Silver, or Gold:
 - Packs 442, 495, and Troops 2, 22, 53, and 831
- All other units need to meet some combination of the Financial, Camping, and/or JTE goal, as indicated on the unit-by-unit portion of the Partnership report. Please contact the Council Commissioner, Dale Balmer, dbalmer8@comcast.net, if you have questions about any of the data shown on the report. FOS contributions to make Partner status need to be received at the Council Office by Friday, January 5th, 2024, so that they can be posted against 2023 financial records.



Roundtable

- Topic: Council Roundtable
- ***Featured topic: Cub Program Changes!***
- Time: Jan 11, 2024 07:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
- Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on this link to register:
 - https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vf-ghpzkvH9enMgou3yhka3-uwatb_M5V
 - Meeting ID and Passcode provided after registering
- Registering will register you for Roundtable through Feb 2024!

