



Commissioner Comments

New Unit Support

Consider the sensitive care in building a cooking fire after a storm. We have to treat the new unit with the same TLC.

The Mid-Iowa Council District Executives are doing a super job of bringing on new units, we need to make sure and assign an experienced Commissioner to every new unit who then can provide *immediate* service, provide transition and allow no time to elapse between the organizer's and the commissioner's supervision. Assigning a commissioner with passion and belief in the program builds enthusiasm. Follow these steps for new Units:

1. Make the presentation of the first unit charter a very special event for members of the chartered organization and unit personnel. This will help cement the relationship of the unit to the chartered organization.
2. Attend the first meeting of the unit committee. Listen and guide, but do not take over. Help the committee chairman build the agenda. You may need to help the chairman recruit additional committed parents.
3. Unit leader training is a priority and should be done as quickly as possible.
4. Make sure the new unit leaders get "youth buy-in." In crews and posts, be sure youth officers are elected and that the Advisor trains the officers using appropriate training material. Success requires that youth embrace the program. In troops, be sure the patrol method is used. Troop success depends on the development of boy leaders. In packs, be sure all dens are meeting regularly.
5. Don't assume the unit will have a program.
6. Help the unit start plans for a long-term outdoor experience.
7. Pair the new unit up with an experienced unit—a buddy unit.
8. Recognize unit successes. Congratulate leaders for all achievements.
9. Help leaders solve immediate concerns. Don't let them fester. Be the unit's best friend and confidant.
10. Like good friends, be a good listener. First impressions are very important with a new unit



Holding New Units with Tenderness

Commissioner Focus

- July
 - New Unit Support
 - Unit Health Report
- August
 - Unit Program

News from the Board

The Executive Committee met June 15/Special Board Meeting

- Terry Lebo, announced a new Board member, Tom Cox. Tom and Liz Cox are both active Scouters in the Mid-Iowa Council.
- Chuck Biskner, VP Properties, shared that Camp Mitigwa is ready for the summer season.
- Steve Sypal, Board President reminded everyone of the upcoming Special Board meeting on June 22 to determine next steps on the Capital Campaign.

Special Board Meeting

- After presentations and the status of the Architectural plans and fund raising for the Capital Campaign, a ballot vote was taken. The motion to break ground passed with 38-2 in favor.

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- Unit Visit Tracking System can be accessed at MyScouting.org. Record all your unit visits at this central location.
- Commissioner Manuals <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Commissioners/Manuals.aspx>
- Commissioner Fast Start is at www.myscouting.org- This 'fast start' training is designed to be taken by all commissioners within the first few weeks. Sign in Needed.
- New requirements for Youth Protection! [MyScouting.org](http://www.myscouting.org) takes you to ELearning for on-line training for Youth Protection, Climb On Safety, Safety Afloat, an more!
- Journey to Excellence Link: <http://scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/Commissioners/Journey.aspx>

	SAVE THE DATE!
July 13	Board Meeting at Camp
July 31	Unit Health reports to Bob Hopper
Sept 17	Recharter Planning
Oct 7/8	Sporting Clays
Oct 29	Kaleidoscope

June 2011						
Sun-day	Mon-day	Tues-day	Wednes-day	Thurs-day	Friday	Satur-day
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Commissioner Pledge

On my honor, I will do my best by the example of my daily life to make the Scout Oath and Law a more vital force for the good character and citizenship in the lives of the boys and the leaders I serve.

I will do my best to help secure and help to make more effective the finest possible leadership for the units I serve.

I will do my best to help make the program of the units I serve the best that can be given, rich in wholesome fun and adventure.

In all that I do, I will strive to help my units attract into membership every possible boy so that, through his participation, that boy, can help make America a finer, greater nation in a world community.

Unit Commissioner Visits

District	No. of Units	No. of Commissioners	Visits Reported on-line June 30
Bo Qui	63	14	7
Broken Arrow	50	25	1
Golden Eagle	27	11	0
Hawk Eye	70	16	7
Raccoon River Valley	103	44	1
Tamaha	35	11	0

July 2011						
Sun-day	Mon-day	Tues-day	Wednes-day	Thurs-day	Friday	Satur-day
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2011						
Sun-day	Mon-day	Tuesday	Wednes-day	Thurs-day	Friday	Satur-day
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



New campsite bulletin boards have a map of Camp Mitigwa

Would you like to WIN a Red Commissioner Jacket? Check out the Contest on the next page!!

Komments from Kandra

The greatest possible good can be done by the extension of a helping hand at the right moment, but the attempt to carry anyone permanently can end in nothing but harm.
-President Theodore Roosevelt 1900

The sign ahead said "New York City, 1 mile". Oh My! My meeting was in New Jersey, definitely NOT New York City, so I turned the other direction. This instant decision at 10 o'clock at night led me into a very scary night. With this decision, I was no where on the Mapquest map, my rental car had no compass, and every one of the gas stations I stopped at had no idea how to help me find my way.

I imagine new Unit Leaders can feel this way with all our program guides, acronyms and expectations. There are so many choices, what is the right decision for THIS moment? Commissioners are the travel guides for our new Unit Leaders. A friendly, knowledgeable Commissioner can make the difference between a great experience or a scary one for a new Scout leader.

After two hours of driving and not knowing where I was, I finally purchased a local road map. There was a road sign on the street that said Hwy 28, so with this little bit of information, I found where I was on the map and was able to drive to my motel, much later than expected.

New units need help finding their way, be a road map for them this month. Have a great summer!
-Kandra

Welcome to *Commissioner Service!*

Welcome to Commissioner Service! The Unit Commissioner is one of the oldest leadership positions in Scouting. In 1910, Lord Baden Powell, founder of the Boy Scout Organization, appointed adult volunteers as Commissioners to help units maintain scouting standards, recruit members, train new leaders and oversee the growing organization. The Commissioner's role continues today as a friend and advisor where ever they can make a positive difference for units to succeed. Commissioners are also the only volunteer positions that share the wreath of service on their position badge with the professional staff.

The Mid-Iowa Council has a long legacy of a strong Commissioner Corps with their presence in all Scouting events. Every District has a District Commissioner, a key leadership position, who recruits and assigns Unit Commissioners to support Units in the District. A monthly meeting is hosted by the District Commissioner to share District communications and stay current with Commissioners on Unit happenings.

Every Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Venture Unit should be assigned a Commissioner. If you do not know who that person is for your Unit, please contact your District Commissioner. We welcome any interested adult to explore if this may be an area where you can make a difference in the success of a Scouting Unit. Please feel free to contact one of the District Commissioners below or me for additional information on how you can get involved.

Kandra

Kandra Dickerson, Mid-Iowa Council Commissioner (JWDickerson1@mchsi.com)

Linda Dedecker, Asst Council Commissioner (LDedecker@AOL.com)

Scott Moline, Asst Council Commissioner (Smoline@kaplan.edu)

District Commissioners:

Bo Qui District Commissioner: Ed Kuhl (e_kuhl@msn.com)

Broken Arrow District Commissioner: TBD

Golden Eagle District Commissioner: TBD

Hawk Eye District Commissioner: Randi Woods (woods.randi@principal.com)

Raccoon River Valley District Commissioner: Pete Bergeland (pbergeland@msn.com)

Tamaha District Commissioner: Greg DeSaulniers (gd.philmont@mchsi.com)

Contest!! WIN A Red Commissioner Jacket!

The National Council is tracking unit visits and encouraging the standard of a Commissioner visiting once per month. This number is driving the "Unit Visit" box on the Journey to Excellence dashboard. To encourage our great Mid-Iowa Council Unit Commissioners to record their visits using the on-line system, the Council Commissioner is sponsoring a contest to reward the #1 Reporting Commissioner. The winner will be announced at Kaleidoscope, October 29, 2011. See your District Commissioner for details.