



COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Charter Renewal

Charter Renewal is the first step in ensuring the youth of the Mid-Iowa Council are served.

Commissioners are responsible for the on-time charter renewal of all assigned units. Since 1916, Congress grants an annual charter to the Boy Scouts of America. The BSA grants annual charters to organizations that own Scouting units. As Commissioners, we are in an excellent position to help chartered organizations carry out this trust and renew their privileges and obligations.

Internet Rechartering is the method for the Mid-Iowa Council units to recharter. This on-line method, accessed through the council's web site: www.bsa-ia.org, via unit specific access code, allows a unit's designated person to prepare an updated charter renewal application to be brought to the unit's **Charter Renewal meeting**.

The Commissioner and unit Committee Chairman conduct the **Charter Renewal meeting**. Also in attendance should be the chartered organization representative, an executive officer of the chartered organization and the unit leader. The executive officer approves all volunteers and the unit leader certifies the youth to be registered. This is also the time to:

- 1) Check that the pack or troop is a 100% Boys' Life unit
- 2) Determine the status of the unit qualifying for the Journey to Excellence award.

The renewal application with appropriate fees and signatures is completed and delivered to the District's Charter renewal turn-in meeting. The Council Registrar reviews the on-line information with the hard copy signature and fee page from the Unit Charter Renewal meeting. New registration cards for the unit and the new charter are printed and mailed to the unit leader. The Commissioner presents the new charter and membership certificates at an appropriate gathering of the Chartered organization.

If you have any questions on the Charter Renewal process, please work with your District Commissioner and District Executive. This is one of the most important things that Commissioners do for our youth.

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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/scoutsourc/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 takes you to ELearning for on-line training for Youth Protection, Climb On Safety, Safety Afloat, and more!
- **Journey to Excellence Link:** <http://scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/Commissioners/Journey.aspx>



Summer camp attendance is very important to the BSA program.

Commissioner Focus

- **October**
 - Re-charter Process
- **November**
 - Member Retention
- **December**
 - Journey to Excellence

News from the Board September 21

- **Council Journey to Excel. Score: Silver**
- Mark Wampler, Council Program Committee, reported on the School Night for scouting activities.
- Steve Eddy, Council Popcorn Chair reported on the Popcorn campaign and encouraged board members to buy popcorn!
- Kandra reported on the Recharter kickoff meeting with District Commissioners and District Exec and the recent training events.

SAVE THE DATE!

Oct 7/8 Sporting Clays

Oct 29 Kaleidoscope

Sept 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	

Oct 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					

Nov 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			

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 Sept 30
Bo Qui	63	14	3
Broken Arrow	50	25	8
Golden Eagle	27	11	0
Hawk Eye	70	16	20
Raccoon River Valley	103	44	26
Tamaha	35	11	5



Most of us who have been sowing the seed will not, in the nature of things, be here to see the harvest; but we may well feel thankful that our crop is already so well advanced. - Lord Baden Powell 1940

Komments from Kandra

Scout number 12 was missing! We were at Arlington Cemetery, the year was 2001. John and I and three other sets of parents had taken our scout troop to Washington DC. The Scoutmaster had assigned each scout a number for a quick way to take attendance. Several times during the day, we would stop and count off. On this countdown, one of the boys was missing. We immediately reacted; who had seen the scout last, where had they seen him, did Arlington have Lost Child procedures?

October is the start of recharter time. Re-up, renew, re-enlist, stand up and be counted! It's like taking attendance of our entire council. Commissioners, working closely with the District Executives, oversee this process. The Unit Commissioner knows what is happening within a unit and can help the Unit Leader walk through the steps. One of the steps is getting an inventory of scouts who are active. There is also a step in reviewing if scouts are missing.

We found our scout that day, he had taken a different path and gotten separated from the troop. Help your Unit recharter this month, it's important to count off and critical that we locate any lost scouts. - 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.