Sequoyah District
Commissioner Unit Service and Visitation
2011 Summary

The Sequoyah District had 21 Cub Scout Packs, 23 Boy Scout Troops or Teams, and 15 Venture Crews or Explorer Posts in 2011. That is a total of 59 units. We had Commissioner contacts with 37 different units during the year. That means that 63% of the units in our district had some sort of contact with a Commissioner during the year. However, that also means that over one-third of our units have had no contact with a Commissioner in the past 12-months, and probably much longer. But none-the-less, it was a good year for the Commissioners in the Sequoyah District.

The Journey to Excellence (JTE) program encourages at least 6 visits or meaningful contacts with each unit during a year. A total of 23 packs or troops in the district received this level of unit service during 2011. This is a little over the 35% mark and should earn us Silver level points in JTE for "Unit Visitation". Not bad for the first year of the program, but we are shooting for Gold in 2012. A visit or contact does not count for JTE unless it is logged into the UVTS 2.0 program at the national website. According to my review of the data we had a total of 225 visits logged during 2011 by six Unit Commissioners, the District Commissioner or the Council Commissioner. A total of 114 of the visits were logged as visits to unit activities, unit meetings or leaders meetings. The other 111 "visits" were listed as other, which in many cases were meaningful phone calls or e-mail exchanges. Again, not bad but our true mission is to be out observing first-hand the quality of the program the youth are receiving. It is great to have such a strong team of volunteers working together. Each Commissioner did a great job and their efforts are very much appreciated.

Sequoyah District Roundtables were a huge success during 2011 and we have our three Roundtable Commissioners to thank for heading that up. I don't have the actual sign-in sheets for the year, but I estimate the average monthly attendance was about 20 to 25 people. The programs were great and new faces continued to appear throughout the year. These sessions are a great service to the units and should help them to deliver quality programs. Certainly, we will have a lot of new and exciting Roundtables to look forward to in 2012.

The Commissioner staff has a lot of additional work ahead of us in the coming year. Based on the number of units in the district, we need about 19 total Unit Commissioners to adequately handle the workload, not overload anyone, and offer units the service we are promising them. That is over double what we are currently at. There is also a need to recruit "New Unit" Commissioners that will work one-on-one with each new unit for a couple of years. Please put any prospective Commissioners in contact with me. Six of our Commissioners in the district have received face-to-face basic or advanced training for their positions. We need to continue emphasis on this with any new Commissioners. We also need to further develop the structure of the district's Commissioner staff to facilitate growth and prepare for leadership succession. So there is a lot of hard but rewarding work ahead of our Commissioner staff. I would like to thank each of the Commissioners for their service during in 2011. I look forward to working with each of them and your units in 2012. Remember that the Commissioners are available to help your unit succeed. Please let us know what we can do to help.

Sincerely,

Paul Overboe
Sequoyah District Commissioner