



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



January 4, 2024, Minutes
Meeting Location – Aliquippa Bucktails

MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Guy Cable	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	A	N. Boroughs	Robert Zeman
	(Alt)	Rick Caton		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dave Herko
P	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	A	NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms	Tim Reichl
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forest Grove	Mike Karkalla		Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell	P	(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Mike Sabat	A	Pittsburgh Down Riggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)	Michael Osman		(Alt)	Joe McMullen		(Alt)	Ed Lamb
P	B.V Rifle & Pistol	Rich Wall	P	Hopewell VFW	Gary Grey	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Dan Bailes		(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
P	Ellwood Rod & Gun	Frank McCowin	A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed			
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Keith Radcliff	P	PGC	Matt Kramer
						P	PFBC	Jeremy Allen

OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

P	President	P	Vice President	P	Treasurer	P	Secretary
	Rich Kerlin		Dan Householder		Mark Benzio		Tonya Cable

Call to Order – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance & Sportsmen's Pledge & Moment of Silence

- Keep the families of Ralph Burns & Richard Smith in your prayers. Click [HERE](#) for Dick Smith's obituary.
- Host Club Welcome – Rich Kerlin, President of Aliquippa Bucktails

Guests

Jerry Wamsley – will be a delegate for Midland Sportsmen's Club

Last month's minutes

- Motion to accept for audit. Pine Run / Five Points. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Benzio

- Report provided & reviewed.
 - Check written for Beaver Archery Booster \$500
 - No deposits
 - Dues still not paid: Green Valley, North Boroughs, NWTF 2nd Chance Toms, Pittsburgh Down Riggers & Sewickley. Dues need to be paid by the February meeting to have a voice / vote.

Motion to accept report for audit. BV Archers / Rochester. Passed.

Elections

- No report

Communications

- Please send ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.
 - BCSCCL – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

State Agencies

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Matt Kramer

- The buck killed in Archery season on Ingle Road in Industry 24 scorable points; scored 211 5/8 nontypical. This deer was unlawfully taken. Hearing held and the violator was fined. Thank Judge Dappenbrook for hearing the case. Appreciated by sportsmen.
- Matt Kramer has moved into position of Sargeant as the direct supervisor WCOs of Group 1 which is all of Beaver County, Western Allegheny County and Northern Washington County.
 - Matt hopes to take the good that we all have done in Beaver County and move it to a larger scale (Western Allegheny & Washington Counties)
- Maddison Pugh will be taking Southern Beaver County. Mike Yeck still has Northern Beaver County.
- Matt thanked all for everything that the BCSCCL has done, is doing and will do. "I appreciate you all!"
- Avian flu in birds discussed.
- Question & Answer
- The League thanks Matt for all he has done while in the WCO position for Southern Beaver County!
- Matt asked all delegates to please take all league information back to your clubs so we can continue to make a difference.

[PA Hunting and Trapping Digest](#)

PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen – Welcome back!

- Click [HERE](#) for [report](#).
- 2024 Fishing License on sale. Price \$27.97 for residents. \$14.97 for trout permit.
- Personal Floation Device are still mandatory till April 30th (cold weather)
- WCO class is coming soon. Having trouble with retention & recruitment. More information, click here for [Poster](#) and [FAQ](#)
- Hiring process presented
- Herford Manor was sold to Franklin Township for fair market value. The township is leaving it a recreational area.
- Feb 16-18 Monroeville Sportsmen's Show
- 2024 Trout coming soon. Trout season opens 1st Saturday in April
- Blue Catfish will be stocked in the Ohio river again this year.

PA Fish and Boat Commission

Affiliated Organizations

Conservation District – (*vacant*)

- Jeff Pflugh, District Manager
 - Working towards making a stronger connection with the league
 - Sarah Barnett, Ag Land Preservation Board Admin and Resource Conservationist
 - Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert

- No meeting in December. Will begin meeting again in January.
- Working on reviewing the bylaws
- Presented certificates for youth foundation sponsorship to Five Points Hunt Club & Beaver Valley Archers

We The People of America – Jerry Hooks – *absent*

- No report

Committee Reports

Audit Committee – Mark Benzio

- Complete with no corrections needed.

Booklet – Rob Smith: Contact info (724) 407- 3945 or rasmith10@comcast.net

- Still need a new Bio or confirmation of an existing bio from the following clubs: Ellwood Rod & Gun, Forest Grove, Marion Hill, North Borough, NWTF, Pine Run & Pittsburgh Down Riggers.
 - **Submit ALL updates and bio information for the booklet ASAP!**

Game – Mike Harcher

- Black Bear harvest unofficial (2,898) down for the first time since 2007.
- The initial phase of the Pittsburgh City Park hunt was successful. 80 hunters & 80 deer harvested. Managed by the department of agriculture. No violations.
 - 644 acres in Frick Park & 288 acres in Riverview Park
- Hunters Sharing the Harvest program began in 1991. Donations are up 34% from last year.
- 1 fatality. Hunter burned in tree stand from propane stove.

Pollution – Mike Harcher

- Styrofoam pellets in wastewater discharged into the Ohio River and Raccoon Creek waterways. Being settled out of court.
- Article Re: DEP accepting Project Applications click [HERE](#)

Fishing Derby – Mike Zon – *absent*

- May 4, 2024

Fish Committee – Mark Crevar (New committee chair) Thank you!

- No report

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Father's Day June 16, 2024, will be the check in date for next year's campers. Staff & counselors will arrive Saturday, June 15, 2024!
- Will be Group camp 2 (the larger group camp).
- I will be scheduling meetings, making phone calls and working on the application.
- Camp committee meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 pm prior to the 7 pm Youth Foundation Meeting. All are welcome to come and help!
- Hoping for double the number of campers which will mean we need more counselors & more adult staff.
 - Campers 13 – 15 years of age
 - Jr Counselors 16 – 17 years of age
 - Senior Counselors 18 – 20 years of age

Archery – Walt Ketterer

- Indoor league started open to the public in January Tuesday evenings 6 pm
- JOAD archery Shoot starts January 5th (135 kids signed up)

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren

- Working on updating the BCSCCL website bcsccl.net
- Need to get booklet information to Frank as soon as it is all collected from clubs.
- **Email** club information that you want shared on the website to Craig, Frank & Tonya
 - Directions for submitting information for the BCSCCL website – [see here](#)
 - Craig - contact at Ch316@comcast.net
 - Frank - contact at frankkelly51@outlook.com
 - Tonya - contact at gtcttc@yahoo.com

Legislative – Craig Holdren

- NRA-ILA Grass Roots Webinar series.....Click [HERE](#) for details
- Analysis of **proposed anti-gun legislation**, year to date as of November 29th, 2023 and guess who proposed it:
 - PA State Legislation:
 - PA State House 80%
 - PA State Senate 74%
 - Federal Legislation:
 - US House 64%
 - US Senate 60%
- Article.... [Bang](#)
- The [FOAC-Institute website](#) is a wealth of information. Track current legislation, contact legislators and elected officials, look up gun laws, read easy to understand synopsis' on stand your ground, castle doctrine, and legal use of force. Keep up to date with current gun related news. There is all this and more on the [FOAC-Institute website](#).

Click the Link: [Rep. Dan Frankel](#) pushed a memo

Click the link: [Have Gun Will Travel – Considerations for Traveling With Your Firearm](#)

Click the link: [“Congratulations on your new gun. Now lock it up.”](#) I wrote a response to this op-ed with the help of (then President) Kim Stolfer.

- Consider joining FOAC. Get involved!

Hunter Education – Mike Zon – *absent*

- Midland Sportsmen's Club Class will be March 9th, 2024
- Aliquippa Bucktails to be scheduled in May
- YMCA to be announced.

REGISTRATION for classes are on-line [PGC](#)

Contact Mike @ 724-683-5880 (call or text) to host a hunter-trapper education class.

Fundraising – Guy Cable

- Raffle tickets available for the chance to win: Savage Axis 6.5 Creedmoor with Bushnell Scope (NWTF table gun) & 45 ACP Derringer (donated by Mark). \$10 ticket. Raffle goes off on Valentines Day!
 - **Tickets & money must be returned at the February League meeting!**Call Guy to get tickets and or turn in tickets and money. (724-494-6464)
- Annual Sporting Clay shoot (Will coordinate with Jerry on date)

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- No report

Goose

- Over 30 adults attended & 5 kids. 11 geese harvested.

Youth Field Day – Tonya Cable

- To be held on 7/20/24 @ Midland.
- The committee meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 pm prior to the 7 pm Youth Foundation Meeting. All are welcome to come and help!

Banquet – *vacant*

- No report

Big Knob Fair – Guy & Tonya Cable

- None

Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email dlosco@creswellwater.net

- Best Management Practice website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges>

Firearms Training – Rich Kerlin

- Get information to Rich regarding any upcoming club firearms training.
- Contact Jim Stoker for concealed carry classes.

Unfinished Business

- PFSC – 1 plate & 3 patches left to sell.

- Clubs vote for opening day to return to Monday.
 - Aliquippa –
 - Ambridge – most preferred Monday opener
 - Beaver Falls – split 50/50
 - Beaver Valley Archers –
 - BVRP – 38 in favor and 19 against
 - Conway –
 - Ellwood –
 - Five Points – 48 to Monday & 3 Saturday
 - FOAC –
 - Forest Grove –
 - Green Valley – 50 /50 split (Those that hunt around here want Saturday & those that go north to hunt want Monday)
 - Hopewell VFW –
 - Marion Hill –
 - Midland – 24 yes to Monday & 71 stay Saturday
 - North Borough –
 - NWTF 2nd chance Toms –
 - Pine Run –
 - Rochester – 28 Monday & 1 Saturday
 - Sewickley – 45% Saturday & 55% Monday

Asking the delegates that have NOT already done so, to go back to their club to get a vote on returning to Monday opening day for hunting.

- 2024 Budget proposal - \$13,000
 - Booklets - \$1,000
 - Fishing Derby - \$1500
 - Conservation Camp - \$5000
 - Field Day - \$3000
 - Big Knob Fair - \$1500 (booth included in this budget)
 - Youth Mentor hunts (pheasant & goose) - \$300
 - President's Meeting \$700
- Calendars passed around the room for the club delegates to put club events, meetings, etc on it so we can make a collaborative League calendar. Still need posters & flyers for detailed information.
- **President's Meeting for 2024 to be held on Wednesday, March 13th beginning at 7 pm. Location: Beaver Valley Archers. Let Tonya know if you have suggestions on clubs we should or could invite.**

New Business

- A lady named Beverly has deer mounts and fish mounts she is looking to donate to a club. If interested, contact her at 724-561-7527

Good of the Order

- Midland Gun Bash May 5th @ Center Stage. \$50 / ticket. Contact Mark B.
- Ambridge Cash Bash May 18, 2024. See Jeff R or Tim W
- Ambridge Swap Meet March 9, 2024. (9 am – 4pm) \$10 / table. \$5 admission
- Ambridge Turkey Shoot Jan 7th & 21st.
- Ambridge Springfest Cash Bash. May 18th. See Jeff R or Tim W
- Pine Run Turkey Shoot Jan 28th & Feb 11th & Feb 25th & Mar 24th
- FOAC Gun Bash on March 16th. \$50 / ticket. See Craig.
- Five Points Hunt Club Polar 3D Shoot of February 4th (8 am to 2 pm)
- Beaver Falls Friday night shoots
- 24th annual TET Remembrance held at The Fez Saturday, February 17, 2024
 - Click here for more details [TET Remembrance](#)
- FOAC: “Great Guns & Great Food” & the only Gun Ticket that all the money goes to protect our “**God given 2nd Amendment Rights**”.

Click here to [Read previous newsletters HERE.](#)

- Great American Outdoor Show Link www.GreatAmericanOutdoorShow.org
- Working on details for a date for the 2A Rally
- Laurel High School will be having a sportsmen's event. Details to follow.

50/50 Drawing

- Winner – Dan H

Motion to Adjourn

- BVA / Bucktails. Passed 9:30 pm

2024 Meeting Schedule

January 4	Aliquippa Bucktails - Confirmed	2564 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
February 1	Rochester - Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
March 7	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting - Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
April 4	B.V. Archers	277 Rothhart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066
May 2	Green Valley	101 Fishpot Road, Monaca, PA 15061
June 6	Pine Run	385 Blacks Woods Road, Freedom, PA 15042
July 11	Rochester – BVRP	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
August 1	Midland	142 Eastwood Road, Industry, PA 15052
September 12	Ambridge	2900 Ridge Road, Ext., Baden, PA 15005
October 3	Conway	100 Magill Rd, Zelienople, PA 16063
November 7	Beaver Falls	247 Sportsman Road, Darlington, PA 16115
December 12	Five Points	285 Bocktown-Cork Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001

Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCCL
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724-494-6465