



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



April 4, 2024, Minutes  
Meeting Location – Beaver Valley Archers

## 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 <sup>nd</sup> Chance Toms	Tim Reichl
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forest Grove	Mike Karkalla	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Mike Sabat	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	John Suroweic		(Alt)	Joe McMullen		(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	B.V Rifle & Pistol	Rich Wall	A	Hopewell VFW	Gary Grey	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Sue Tranter		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed			
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Keith Radcliff			
A	Ellwood Rod & Gun	Frank McCowin	P	Midland	Jerry Wamsley			
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Mark Benzio	P	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
						P	PGC	Mike Yeck

## OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

A	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

- o Dick Smith – Conservation District is hosting a Tree Planting Memorial on April 12<sup>th</sup> 11am – 1pm
- o Bob Oles – [obituary](#)

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the families.”

Host Club Welcome – Pete Vorderbrueggen, BV Archers President

## Guests

- Jack Jamison from Rochester

## **Last month's minutes**

- Motion to accept for audit. BV Archers / Aliquippa. Passed.

## **Treasurer's Report – Mark Benzio**

- Report provided & reviewed.
  - Checks written for NWTF Banquet table, Big Knob Fair table & President Meeting meal
  - Deposit \$1,800 (dues & camp sponsorships)
  - All 2024 dues are paid.

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

## **Elections**

- No report

## **Communications**

- No report
  - ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.
    - BCSCCL – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

## **State Agencies**

### PA Game Commission (PGC) – Mike Yeck – [Report](#)

- Game Commission hosts Open House Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
- Bobwhite Quail back in PA; on 3/19/24, Game Commission released 50 bobwhite quail on the grounds of Letterkenny Army Depot in Franklin County.
- Game Commission delivers annual report on 3/20/24. To view a copy of the agency's annual legislative report, visit [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) and click on the link under "about us" on the homepage.
- Deer harvest estimate. Hunters harvested an estimate of 430,010 white-tailed deer. The overall harvest is 2% greater than that from 2022-23, which was estimated at 422,960.
- Board of Commissioners to meet in Harrisburg April 12 & 13.
  - See attached Report for more details of items listed above.

Matt Kramer – History of the Smith Family including the total loss fire.

- Gavin age 13 & Emma age 12 love the outdoors and love to hunt. Looking for donations to get their hunting items back to get them back into the outdoors hunting.
- Details of where donations can be made will be sent in an email later.

Motion made for the League to donate \$500 to assist with outfitting the 2 Smith children in hunting gear facilitated by Matt.

Aliquippa / Five Points. Passed.

Youth Foundation & other clubs are going to discuss donation availability.

## **[PA Hunting and Trapping Digest](#)**

### PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen – [Report](#)

- Mentored Youth Fishing was March 30<sup>th</sup> & Beaver County had a great turnout!
- Statewide Opening Day of Trout Season April 6, 2024. Anglers begin fishing at 8:00 am.
  - Regular Season (opening day through Labor Day) anglers may keep up to five trout (combined species) per day measuring at least seven inches long.
- Reminder: cold weather life jacket requirements are in effect from November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Anyone aboard a boat 16 feet or less, including all canoes and kayaks, is required to wear a life jacket. Ages 12 and under are always required to wear a life jacket while boating in PA.
- Blue Trout stocked in Beaver County.
  - See attached Report for more details of items listed above.

## **[PA Fish and Boat Commission](#)**

## Affiliated Organizations

### Conservation District – (vacant)

Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator

- Tire Collection Day April 13<sup>th</sup> 9 AM – 1 PM - \$2.50 per tire. Registration required.  
[www.beavercountyconservationdistrict.org](http://www.beavercountyconservationdistrict.org)
  - Up to 20" tires off the rim
- Envirothon April 10<sup>th</sup> – 155 students participating from 6 different school districts.
- With the recent heavy rains, we are fielding a lot of storm water complaints. Visiting sites all week to do inspections and field visits to follow up on complaints received after the heavy rains and flooding.
- April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> is the Maple Syrup Festival at Brady's Run Park hosted by PUSH of Beaver County. The Conservation District will have the Mobile Education Center trailer set up at the event for the weekend to share with participants of the festival about wetlands, conservation, wildlife, mosquitos, and ticks, and more!

Richard A Caton expressed interest in the director position of the Beaver County Conservation District.

- Nomination Request Letter attached – [click here](#)
- A letter from the league will be sent to the Beaver County Court House Commissioners office requesting that this position be filled by Richard A Caton.

### BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert / Rick Caton

- Meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at Bucktails at 7 pm. (Camp & Field Day committees meet at 6 pm). All that want to help are invited to come to the meetings!
- Need volunteers at the Youth Field Day on July 13<sup>th</sup> & again during the Conservation Camp June 16<sup>th</sup> – June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Opening on the board & anyone is welcome to attend the meetings anytime.
- Annual Youth Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot.

### We The People of America – Jerry Hooks (absent)

- There is a bus going to Harrisburg for the Rally this year. [Click here for details.](#)

## Committee Reports

### **Audit Committee** – Mark Benzio

- No report.

### **Booklet** – Rob Smith: Contact info (724) 407- 3945 or [rasmith10@comcast.net](mailto:rasmith10@comcast.net)

- Booklets being printed.

### **Game** – Mike Harcher – [report](#)

- Newest State Game Land established in Philadelphia County (18 acres) 5D WMU to be open in 2024 Hunting Season.
- New Turkey Group focusing on the science behind the turkey. Founded 2020. Will be adding for habitat.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act.
  - See attached Report for more details of items listed above.

### **Pollution** – Mike Harcher – [report](#)

- West branch of the Susquehanna River now has wild trout.
  - Fish Diversity has increased.
- History of the BCSCL and the support in cleaning up the Raccoon Creek watershed.
  - Working on putting something together to show the history / progress.
- Grants cap wells that were abandoned that may be causing water pollution (Allegheny National Forest).
  - See attached Report for more details of items listed above.

### **Fishing Derby** – Mike Zon – *absent*

- Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>
- 8 am – 12 pm
- Registration begins at 6:30 am
- Ages 15 & under
- Prizes for tagged fish & door prizes.
- Bait will be sold at the park.

### **Fish Committee** – Mark Crevar

- 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! ... [poster](#)
- Camper & Counselor applications ready! ..... [camper application](#)..... [counselor application](#)
- Looking for Sponsorships. Checks to be made out to BCSCCL & the money will be turned over to the camp for a camper. \$250 to sponsor a camper!
  - Camper Sponsors to date are: Five Points, Aliquippa & Midland
- **Need campers, counselors & adult staff.**
  - Campers 13 – 15 years of age
  - Jr Counselors 16 – 17 years of age
  - Senior Counselors 18 – 20 years of age
  - Staff 21 years of age and older
- Racoon Creek State Park – Group Camp 2
- Working on Schedule confirmations & menu confirmations.
- Placing an order for shirts & other supplies
- Meetings
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Counselor (parent) & staff meeting on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at Bucktails beginning at 6:00 pm
  - Staff Meeting on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> 4 pm. Meeting at the Maintenance Yard. Curt McDowell is taking us to group camp 2.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Counselor (parent) & staff meeting on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Bucktails beginning at 6:00 pm
  - Camper / Parent Informational Meeting on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Bucktails beginning at 6:00 pm
- The transformations of these campers throughout the week of camp is AMAZING!
- **If EVERY club could help us find at least 2 campers each, we can fill the camp!**

### **Archery** – Walt Ketterer

- Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 – Beaver Valley Archers “George Osman” Memorial 2024 Team Scramble Shoot ... for details [“click here”](#)

### **Events Coordinator** – Craig Holdren

- BCSCCL website under construction.
- **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](mailto:Ch316@comcast.net)
    - Frank - contact at [frankkelly51@outlook.com](mailto:frankkelly51@outlook.com)
    - Tonya - contact at [gtcttc@yahoo.com](mailto:gtcttc@yahoo.com)

### **Legislative** – Craig Holdren

- April 23<sup>rd</sup> is Primary Election Day. Don 't forget to VOTE!
- Voter Guide for Beaver County attached here – voter guide [federal](#) & [state](#)
  - **Voter Guides for other Counties are on the FOAC website.** <https://foac-pac.org/Voter-Guide>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rally April 30<sup>th</sup> in Harrisburg beginning at **10 am.**

- Need a FREE Bus ride!!!
  - Need better attendance!
    - 2A Rally Poster – [Here](#)
- For a FREE bus ride to Harrisburg to help defend your 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights, please contact Jerry Hooks at 724-601-6964 (call or text)

**Hunter Education** – Mike Zon – *absent*

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Hopewell VFW – THE instructor training.

- Sylvania Hills Baptist Church April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Aliquippa Bucktails to be scheduled on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- Rochester to be on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**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

- Annual Sporting Clay Shoot to be held at Rochester on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.
    - Notify Jerry Hooks of Team and / or individual reservations. 724-601-6964 (call or text)
- All proceeds benefit youth activities!!!

**Youth Mentored Hunts** – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- No report

Goose

- No Report

**Youth Field Day** – Tonya Cable

- To be held on 7/20/24 @ Midland .... [Poster](#)
- Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>
- 7:30 am to 4:30 pm
- Check in Begins that day @ 6:30 am
- Registration is online at [pgc.pa.gov](http://pgc.pa.gov)
- 34 youth signed up to date.
- 2 dog Presentations
- PA Game Commission & Fish / Boat Commission
- 10 + stations
- Locking in lunch (Hoagies)
- 2 port-o-johns order (pay for 1 & 1 will be donated)
- Gun raffle & 50/50
- Need items for the Sportsmen's auction table.
  - Thank you to Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Club & Tim Watson for donations thus far.

**Banquet** – *vacant*

- No report

**Big Knob Fair** – Guy & Tonya Cable

- Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> (5pm to 10 pm Tue – Fri) Saturday will start about Noon.
  - Sign-ups will be necessary for the League to run the booth this year.

## **Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices** – Dan Losco - *absent*

To contact Dan: email [dlosco@creswellwater.net](mailto:dlosco@creswellwater.net)

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

## **Firearms Training** – Rich Kerlin

- 4/27/24 & 6/8/24 – NRA Range Safety Officer classes to be held at Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Club. Register on NRA website.
- 4/11/24 Situation Awareness Class at Survival Readiness in Ambridge.
- Get information to Rich regarding any upcoming club firearms training.

Contact Rich Kerlin for additional details for any firearms training listed above.

[kerlinkanine@aol.com](mailto:kerlinkanine@aol.com)

## **Unfinished Business**

- President's Meeting – Went well. Positive feedback. Rich will provide a report next month.
- Open seats available for the bus to Harrisburg. Call Jerry to reserve a seat for a FREE ride to the 2A Rally in Harrisburg!

## **New Business**

- None

## **Good of the Order**

- Thank You Card from "Nevin's Hunting Friends" read aloud.
- Many stores are not allowing us to post youth activity posters in the windows but will post them on bulletins in the back.
- 1040 attendees at the FOAC gun bash! One of the best FOAC gun bashes!
- Concealed Carry Class at Route 66 Feed Mill on May 13<sup>th</sup>. – [see here for more detail & registration](#)
- Midland Gun Bash May 5<sup>th</sup> \$50 / ticket held at Center Stage
- Ambridge Springfest on May 18<sup>th</sup>. See Tim for Tickets.
- NWTF Banquet on April 28<sup>th</sup>

## **50/50 Drawing**

- \$ 39 to the winner.

## **Motion to Adjourn**

- Aliquippa / Ambridge Passed. 9:00 pm

# 2024 Meeting Schedule

January 4	Aliquippa Bucktails - <b>Confirmed</b>	2564 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
February 1	Rochester – <b>Confirmed</b>	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
March 7	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting – <b>Confirmed</b>	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
April 4	B.V. Archers – <b>Confirmed</b>	277 Rothhart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066
May 2	Green Valley– <b>Confirmed</b>	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*  
[gtcttc@yahoo.com](mailto:gtcttc@yahoo.com)  
 724-494-6465