



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



**July 11, 2024, Minutes**  
**Meeting Location – Hopewell VFW**

## 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	North Side	Al Straub
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	Jason Hominsky
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Mike Sabat		Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	John Suroweic		(Alt)	Joe McMullen	P	(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V Rifle & Pistol	Rich Wall	P	Hopewell VFW	Gary Grey		Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Sue Tranter	P	(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Keith Radcliff		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
	Ellwood Rod & Gun	Frank McCowin	P	Midland	Jerry Wamsley			
P	(Alt)			(Alt)	Mark Benzio	A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
						P	PGC	Madison Pugh

## 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

-Mike Harcher & Sam Piccinini – keep them in your thoughts & Prayers.

**Host Club Welcome** – Keith Black, Hopewell VFW

## Guests

- Michael Perich – running for the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative District
  - A large percentage of the clubs in the BCSCCL are within the 16<sup>th</sup> district.
- Jim Stoker
- Family & Friends present for the presentation of the Tony Rich Scholarship awards.

- Jerry Hooks / Venise Rich: Presentation of \$2500 Scholarship to Isabella Wagoner & Chase Grable

### **Last month's minutes**

- Motion to accept for audit. Pine Run / Green Valley. Passed.

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

- Report provided for 2 months.
- Received camp fees & club dues.
- Received a \$200 refund from misprint of booklets.
- Checks written to camp for camper's sponsorships.
- Liability Insurance paid.

Motion to accept for audit. Hopewell / Five Points. Passed.

### **Elections**

- Nominating Committee: Craig Holdren, Jeff Ruckert, Dan Losco
  - October Elections for BCSCS President & BCSCS Treasurer
    - Criteria for officer: a delegate or past delegate.

Contact a committee member to nominate an individual.

### **Communications**

- Plaque presentation to the BCSCS & YF for the donation given to the Beaver Archery Team.
- Rich Kerlin had a zoom Meeting with the new Director of the PA Game Commission.
  - ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.
    - BCSCS – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

### **State Agencies**

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Madison Pugh – see emailed report below.

[www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov)

The correct dates are as follows-

- The second round will begin Monday, July 22, 2024. Residents and nonresidents are eligible.
- The third round will begin Monday, August 12. The sale of Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) permits also will begin on this date.
- The fourth round beginning Monday, August 26, 2024, a hunter can buy additional licenses until reaching their personal limit of six.
- The Elk Drawing will take place July 27<sup>th</sup>. The last day to apply is July 14<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, the PGC will be present at the Hookstown and Big Knob Fairs again this year.

All HTE classes should be online through September. If an instructor notices a discrepancy, please contact Mike Zon.

PGC doesn't have jurisdiction on domestic wildlife, including Domestic Ducks. We do not enforce any laws regarding the dumping or removal of domestic wildlife if they're abandoned on property not controlled by the PGC.

### **PA Hunting and Trapping Digest**

PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen – *absent*

- No report

### **PA Fish and Boat Commission**

## Affiliated Organizations

### Conservation District

Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator - *absent*

- No report
- No open positions currently for associate director (delegate for the league). The application for Rick Caton will be on file and considered when an opening becomes available.

### BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert

- No report
- Jerry Hooks: BCSCL Youth Foundation Annual Sporting Clay Shoot. \$4,069.59 profit

### We The People of America – Jerry Hooks

- Represented at the Beaver County Boom!
- Next meeting to be held on July 25, 2024, at 7 pm at Rochester Sportsman's Club
- Working on a Rally to be sometime in September. Will need EVERYBODY's support!

## Committee Reports

### **Audit Committee** – Mark Benzio

- No report.

### **Booklet** – Rob Smith – *absent*

Contact info (724) 407- 3945 or [rasmith10@comcast.net](mailto:rasmith10@comcast.net)

- No report

### **Game** – Mike Harcher – *absent*.

- No report

### **Pollution** – Mike Harcher – *absent*

- No report

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

- No report

### **Fish Committee** – Mark Crevar

#### Local fish report:

Smallmouth, catfish, walleye, and carp seem to be what's biting this time of the year. Any lures in the tackle box, any bait like dough ball, chicken liver, nightcrawlers shiners, and minnows, depends on what you're after. Try your luck at Brighton Dam, Big Rock Park, or Montgomery Dam. Find a local report from Tim at Reddi Bait - Bridgewater PA

<https://www.facebook.com/ReddiBait>

#### Trout Fly Fishing:

Trout fishing is fading, and there are still a few hidden in deep holes or cooler water. Check out this helpful webpage.

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – stream conditions.

<https://ncflyshop.com/pages/stream-reports>

### Lake Erie Fishing:

The target fish seems to be the walleye, and still seems to be hot! Trolling and bottom bouncing worm harness in 50-70fow has been successful. Shore anglers are also catching fish concentrating near creek mouths and channels in the bay.

<https://www.fisherie.com/fishing-reports>

A good reference for fishing opportunities in the state parks.

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Recreation/WhatToDo/Fishing/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Conservation Camp** – Tonya Cable

- Thanked and recognized EVERY person in the room for having a successful camp.
- Camp account & expense reports provided.
- Thank you to all sponsors!
- 41 campers, 7 counselors.
  - The counselors worked very hard. They were shorthanded but did a great job!
- Thank you to everyone who stopped out to help during the week.
- 4 of the “Thank you” letters written by the campers were read aloud.
- Handed out the camper thank you letters and posters.
- Campfire picture displayed.
- Had a debriefing meeting.
- Working on forming a committee for next year.
- Comments from those who were at camp.
- Many pics were posted on The Conservation Camp Facebook page.
- PA Game Commission did a program at camp & came out as a complete unit. Great job!
- Thank you to Friends of the NRA for the hats provided to the campers.

### **Archery** – Walt Ketterer

- No report
- Mark mentioned: Russ Sabo was recognized and awarded #1 Jersey at Beaver High School.

### **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)
- The calendar is now all on the Google calendar that is on the website.
  - Continue to get the information to us so it can be added to the calendar.
  - Notify us if things on the Google Calendar are incorrect.

### **Legislative** – Craig Holdren

Jim Stoker:

You have probably heard it before. Well, this time it is the most important Election of your lifetime, so get involved just going and Voting is not enough anymore, for this Election Day Tuesday November 5, 2024, and help get out the Vote.

[Famous Plato Quotes on Philosophy, Politics and Life](#)

“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.”

The Firearms Owners Against Crime will be circulating voters guides make sure you and your club circulate them to all your members and family.

## “Your Constitutional Rights are under Attack.”

Second Amendment **Right to Bear Arms** A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

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Jim Stoker discussion at BCSCS minutes from Thursday 7/11/2024.

FOAC-Institute is a non-partisan organization. We are neither for nor against any one party. However, one cannot ignore the fact that the Biden Administration, MANY of the Democrats in Washington D.C., and those that support the Biden. Regimes are “ALL IN” for gun control. Every chance they get, they cry for bans, restrictions, confiscations, limitations, and red flags. All of which ONLY affect law-abiding gun owners, NOT the criminals that commit violent crime.

At one of the clubs the FOAC-ILLEA concealed carry team recently visited the president of a club questioned Jim Stoker about what kind of mud we were dragging their club into when we were discussing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and the importance of getting involved. When the Second name in their club is GUN, do they really think because they stay under the radar and by not getting involved the Government will overlook your clubs name, you are already a target, and they will come after your club. After an interesting conversation with the President and the board of the club they understood and agreed with Jim and the FOAC-ILLEA team.

Governor Shapiro’s proposed 2024-25 budget proposal invests \$100 million to reduce gun violence. Project Exile: Still the Model for Firearms Crime Reduction Strategies. Now that Project Exile is nearly 15 years old, is it still a useful model for law enforcement executives to employ? Arends, Supervisory Special Agent, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

**The Pennsylvania Democratic Representatives and Senators have introduced 75% of all Firearms legislation which has been all anti-gun legislation.**

[www.foac-illea.org](http://www.foac-illea.org) see 3rd tab from left LEGISLATION - Proposed State House Legislation & Proposed State Senate Legislation

Why don’t they try Project Exile and support the Police by having the Judges and District? Attorneys enforce the current laws on the books to the fullest extent of the law.

In Summary it’s not about politics it’s about the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1 Section 21 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

[Supporting information.](#)

**Over 92 percent of violent crime in America has nothing to do with firearms.**

*John L. Lott, Jr.* is the President of the Crime Prevention Center, and the Author of *More Crime, Less Guns*, *The Bias Against Guns*.

**[Why John Lott Is the Right's Favorite Gun Researcher](#)**

[thetrace.org](http://thetrace.org)

<https://www.thetrace.org/2022/11/john-lott-gun-crim...>

Nov 3, 2022 — Since the 1990s, *John Lott* has provided the empirical justification for looser firearms laws.

**[Dr. John R. Lott, Jr.](#)**

**Critics: Despite what Biden says, guns factor in only a small percentage of violent crimes**

John R. Lott Jr. | Real Clear Investigations Jul 21, 2021

**Subject:** Biden's 'guns first' approach to violent crime ignores basic facts | Fox News  
Gun ownership didn't fuel the increase in crime over the last couple of years. Rather, people worried about violent crime and decided to arm themselves for self-protection. | Fox News

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/biden-guns-first-violent-crime-john-lott>

Jim Stoker from Firearms Owners Against Crime - Institute for Legislative, Legal and Educational Action might stop by for a surprise visit.

**[NRA Election Meetup](#)**

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

- Rochester July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (7 openings)
- Baden Legion August 3, 2024 (26 openings)
- Sylvania Hills Baptist Church August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (20 openings)
- Marion Hill September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Hopewell VFW in September (not yet posted)

**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

- NWTB Banquet gun is at Big Bucks (Barretta APX 9 mm) will be a 5 number ticket for \$5.
  - 3 books left. ½ tickets are turned in. **Bring ALL ticket stubs & money to the next meeting.**
- Working on a ticket fundraiser with guns being donated by Tim Watson to support camp.

**Youth Mentored Hunts** – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- October 5<sup>th</sup>
- Will take 26 youth hunters.
- Hoping to see registration online by the end of July.

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
- Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm for set up.
- Check in Begins that day @ 6:30 am
- Registration is online at [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov)
- 64 youth signed up to date. Will reach out to campers for participation.
- Still looking for items for the Sportsmen's auction table.
- Review of the schedule of events for the day.

**Banquet** – *vacant.*

- No report

**Big Knob Fair** – (Looking for someone NEW to be the chairperson of this committee) we will have people to help run the booth; however, we need someone to be the contact person in charge of the booth.

- Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> (5pm to 9 pm. Tue – Fri) & (12:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Sat)
  - Sign-ups sheets will be at next month's meeting.

**Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices** – Dan Losco

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

- Review of Environmental Stewardship Plan for Five Points.
- Best Management Practice website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges>
- **KEEP your Records!**

**Firearms Training** – Rich Kerlin

- 8/17 – NRA Basic Pistol Course – Instructor Lee Gower

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

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

**Unfinished Business**

- Youth Trap Invitational to be held in August at Beaver Falls.
- Motion to provide \$250 sponsorship of a target for Five Points "Hunt of a Lifetime" Fundraising event by Aliquippa / Conway. Passed.

**New Business**

- Western PA Friends of the NRA have grants available. Need to apply through the Youth Foundation.
- Youth Foundation is looking into prices to purchase some new Muzzleloaders & refinishing the shotguns.
- Discussion on the use of Earmuffs for our youth programs.
- North Side Sportsmen's Association is excited to announce the launch of our Youth 3-Position Air Rifle League! This league is designed for experienced young shooters who are ready to take their skills to the next level in a competitive and structured environment. [Click to Sign up](#)
- Heritage Festival opportunity to set up and share who we are and what we do. Application due by Sept 7, 2024. Will decide at next month's meeting. Festival days are held on September 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Good of the Order**

- Pine Run Gun Bash with New Brighton Football at Center Stage on July 27<sup>th</sup>. See Jeff Ruckert, Pine Run.
- Five Points for the "10<sup>th</sup> Annual" Hunt of a Lifetime tickets to be held on 8/10 – 8/11/24. \$10 / ticket
- Aliquippa Bucktails Family Field Day to be held on August 3, 2024.
- Aliquippa Bucktails has raffle tickets for a chance to win Milk House meats, National Armory & Giant Eagle gift card / certificate. See Dan Householder.
- Next Meeting will be on August 1<sup>st</sup> at Midland.

**50/50 Drawing**

- none

**Motion to Adjourn**

- Aliquippa / FOAC Passed. 9:30 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	Hopewell VFW – <b>Confirmed</b>	138 Stone Quarry Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
July 11	Hopewell VFW – <b>Confirmed</b>	138 Stone Quarry Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
August 1	Midland – <b>Confirmed</b>	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 BCSCL*  
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 724-494-6465