



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



**August 1, 2024, Minutes**  
**Meeting Location – Midland Sportsmen Club**

## 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		NWTF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Chance Toms	Tim Reichl
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly	P	(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forest Grove	Mike Karkalla	A	North Side	Al Straub
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	Jason Hominsky
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Mike Sabat	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	John Suroweic		(Alt)	Joe McMullen		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
	B.V Rifle & Pistol	Rich Wall	A	Hopewell VFW	Gary Grey	A	Rochester	George Sullivan
P	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Sue Tranter		(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Keith Radcliff		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
P	Ellwood Rod & Gun	Tim Kelly		Midland	Jerry Wamsley			
	(Alt)	Dick Bayer	P	(Alt)	Mark Benzio	P	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
						P	PGC	Mike Yeck

## OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

P	President	A	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 & Dan Householder – keep them in your thoughts & Prayers.

**Host Club Welcome** – Mark Benzio – Midland Sportsmen's Club, President

### Guests

- None

### Last month's minutes

- Motion to accept for audit. BVA / Ambridge. Passed.

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

- Check written for \$250 for Hunt of a Lifetime Donation

Motion to accept for audit. Aliquippa / Pine Run. Passed.

## **Elections**

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

Contact a committee member to nominate an individual.

Craig 724–312–7463

Jeff 724–601–9429

Dan 724–333–0990

## **Communications**

- None
  - 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**

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

### **CWD CHANGES ANNOUNCED FOR 2024-25 SEASONS**

- Disease Management Area 3 (DMA 3) will expand following the detection of CWD in a road-killed fawn in Armstrong County. DMA 3 is located in western Pennsylvania and includes portions of Armstrong, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk, Indiana, and Jefferson counties.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO COUNT BIRDS**

- The Game Commission, together with Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, is conducting the third Pennsylvania Bird Atlas in state history. Between now and February 2029, it will document what birds live in Pennsylvania, where and in what numbers. Report those details at eBird <https://ebird.org/atlaspa>

### **PUBLIC ASKED TO REPORT TURKEY SIGHTINGS**

- The Pennsylvania Game Commission again is seeking input from the public in surveying wild turkeys this summer. The Annual Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Sighting Survey runs July 1 through Aug. 31. Turkey sightings can be reported through the Game Commission's website at <https://pgcdatacollection.pa.gov/TurkeyBroodSurvey>. The mobile app is no longer available.

### **GAME COMMISSION SEEKS FEEDBACK FROM LICENSE BUYERS**

- The Pennsylvania Game Commission is asking hunters to provide feedback on their antlerless deer license buying experience this summer. Hunters can provide feedback through [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov) by clicking on the red "Provide feedback on your antlerless deer license buying experience" button. Hunters will be asked to respond to a few questions and will be offered the opportunity to provide any additional comments. Participation is confidential, as no identifying questions will be asked.

### **HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**

- Final approval to a measure that will allow mentors hunting with a mentored youth to accompany up to two additional hunters, be they mentored youth, junior hunters, or mentored adults. The

requirement that limits mentors and mentored youth from possessing only one sporting arm between them remains.

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

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

- Report on PA recreational boating fatalities so far this year.
  - Many involving canoes, kayaks & smaller boats.
  - WEAR your Life Jackets! “They work.”

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

### **Affiliated Organizations**

#### **Conservation District**

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

- No report

#### **BCSCL Youth Foundation** – Jeff Ruckert

- New member in the youth foundation,
- Currently working on a new website. Coming soon!
- Next meeting Thursday, August 15, 2024 @ 7 pm at Aliquippa Bucktails

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

- Next meeting to be held on August 22, 2024, at 7 pm at Rochester Sportsmen’s Club.
- IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER: We the People of America Rally at the Gazebo in Beaver on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 3:00 pm. There will be several speakers. Come out and listen to what we are facing as an American Citizen. With the elections coming, we as sportsmen & sportswomen need to show up that day to help defend our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment!
- There are 515,000-gun owners in PA who are not even registered to vote! Encourage everyone you know to get registered now & get ready to VOTE!

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Audit Committee** – Mark Benzio

- Will appoint a committee in September.

#### **Booklet** – Rob Smith

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

- Hand them out!

#### **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:

Although in the dog days of summer, the early bird gets the worm. Fishing seems to be a little tougher with warmer water. Early morning or late evening trips seem to be preferred. Find the fish in deep cooler waters or vegetation. Get a local report from Tim @ Reddi Bait - Bridgewater PA

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

Check out this helpful webpage for stream conditions.

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – stream conditions.

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

### Lake Erie Fishing:

The fishing for walleye still seems to be pretty good in the deeper waters. We are catching fish throughout the depths of the lake, and in shallower waters depending on time of day, but you may have to toss them back being shorties. The numbers in lesser depths seem to be down for walleye. Shore anglers are still catching fish concentrating near creek mouths and channels in the bay.

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

## **Conservation Camp** – Tonya Cable

- No report

## **Archery** – Walt Ketterer

- Ambridge 3D shoots starting September 7<sup>th</sup> (8:00 am to 1:00 pm) pm \$15 per person.

## **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

Firearms Owners Against Crime Institute is a non-partisan organization. **This means we do not promote a particular candidate based upon party affiliations.** We are pro-gun and anti-crime. One of our primary missions as an organization is education. We will educate our members and the public at large about the actions, policies, hypocrisies, and atrocities of government officials, regimes, and institutions that promote the wholesale disarmament of the people, seek the servitude of our fellow Americans, and look to circumvent or vicarate our beloved US and Pennsylvania Constitutions, no matter their party affiliation.

## **The democratically controlled PA House of Representatives in 2023-2024 has proposed 61 anti-gun bills and they passed a few of them.**

This legislative session the Democrats ultimately took control of the House. They controlled the calendar, they controlled the committees, they controlled “when and how” things were done. This was due to their razor thin one vote majority. Very recently, Rep. Stephen Kinsey (D) and Rep. Donna Bullock (D), stepped down from office to pursue other endeavors and now... just like that... The Dems lost their majority. NOW the landscape is 100 (D) to 101 (R). Unfortunately, due to the technicalities of the “rules” the Dems will still stay in control of the house, however, it would seem they are staying home. Rather than risk losing power, they have decided to take their ball and bat home with them so nobody else can play.

## **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

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

Famous Plato Quotes on Philosophy, Politics and Life.

**This could be the most important Election of your lifetime, so get involved to support and protect the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and the U.S Constitution.**

Support FOAC so they can continue to support our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights.

Link to FOAC-ILLEA website for membership: [www.foac-illea.org](http://www.foac-illea.org)

- Sunday Hunting – 1 bill is in the Senate & the other is in the House. Nothing has passed yet but contact your local officials and let them know your thoughts.

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

- Baden Legion August 3, 2024
- Sylvania Hills Baptist Church August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Ellwood / Wampum August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Marion Hill September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Hopewell VFW September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Ambridge District Sportsmen Association September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Beaver County YMCA September 21<sup>st</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**

- NWTF Banquet gun (Barretta APX 9 mm) Raffle ticket to go off August 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - **ALL ticket stubs & money have been turned in.**
- Working on a ticket fundraiser with 3 guns to be given away that were donated by Tim Watson to support the conservation camp.

### **Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin**

Pheasant

- Saturday, October 12, 2024
- Will take 26 Licensed Junior Hunters
- Registration online at [Pheasant Hunt Registration Link](#)
- Will have sign-up sheets at September Meeting for volunteering to help with the hunt.

## Goose

- Nothing yet.
- May be the last Saturday in October. Waiting for confirmation.

## Youth Field Day – Tonya Cable

- Had lots of help! **Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time to help!**
- Thank you to Midland!
- Had 90 + kids signed up. 69 participated.
- Added a new station and had no split stations.
- Discussion on ammo complications. See Jeff with any additional details.
- Looking into muffs for the youth to use at the shooting stations in the future. BV Archers alt delegate willing to assist with purchase of muffs.
- Jeff is working on restoring some guns and possibly purchasing some guns.
- Russ is looking into acquiring a couple smaller bows for smaller youth.
- The food went well. (Hoagies from Sweet Peas)
- BB gun station was missing this year due to having no BB guns. So, we need to bring it back next year for the smaller kids. John from Midland offered to help with this station.
- Want to bring back canoeing and a fishing station.
- Aliquippa Bucktails donated \$250 towards the event.
- Income came from the gun raffle, the sportsmen's raffle, & 50/50
  - Rich K winner of 50/50 donated ½ back to the youth foundation
- NWTF presented the BCSC Youth Foundation with a \$500 check.
- All the ammo was donated!
- Thank you to the PA Fish & Boat Commission for attending.
- Financial Report provided.

## Banquet – vacant.

- No report

## Big Knob Fair – Dick Bayer

- 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 in sheet available.
- Guy & Tonya will help set up on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> & Clean up on Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> after the drawings on the fair stage.
- Gun to be raffled will be ordered from Master Ammo.
- Will display pictures from camp & field day.
- Discussion for free gun giveaway for youth.
- Will bring all raffle tickets and sign in sheets to the fair on Sunday for set up.

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

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

- 10/5/24 – NRA Basic Pistol Course – Aliquippa Bucktails
- 11/9/24 – Personal Protection in the Home – Aliquippa Bucktails
- Date to be determined – Personal Protection Outside the Home – Aliquippa Bucktails

Registration will be on-line.

Contact Rich Kerlin for additional details for any firearms training listed above.  
[kerlinkanine@aol.com](mailto:kerlinkanine@aol.com)

### **Unfinished Business**

- Only a few BCSCCL League shirts are available to purchase. \$50 each
  - 2 - Large short sleeve shirts
  - 3 - Large long sleeve shirts
  - 1 - XL long sleeve shirt
  - 1 - 3XL Tall short sleeve shirt
- All committee heads need to provide Tonya with a written copy or email of the report for the minutes.
- 2 Flint locks were donated by FOAC-ILLEA. THANK YOU!!!!!!!
- Western PA Friends of the NRA have monetary grants available. Need to apply through the Youth Foundation. [www.nrafoundation.org/grants](http://www.nrafoundation.org/grants)
  - Deadline to file is 10/15/24.

### **New Business**

- None

### **Good of the Order**

- Pine Run Gun Bash with New Brighton Football at Center Stage on July 27th. See Jeff Ruckert, Pine Run.
  - Sewickley Gun Bash on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
  - Five Points for the "10<sup>th</sup> Annual" Hunt of a Lifetime 8/10 – 8/11/24. \$10 / ticket
  - Aliquippa Bucktails Family Field Day to be held on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.
  - Aliquippa Bucktails has raffle tickets for a chance to win \$1000 gift card to Milk House meats, \$1,000 gift card to National Armory & \$500 gift card to Giant Eagle gift card / certificate.
  - Ambridge Raffle ticket for AR-15 5.56 - .223 for September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, \$5 / ticket
  - Baden Hot Rod Rodeo on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024
  - WTPOA Raffle tickets to win a large amount of scratch off lottery tickets on Nov 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. \$10 / ticket
  - Rick Caton's son is going to be doing on-line sales at National Armory soon.
  - Good of order IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER: We the People of America Rally at the Gazebo in Beaver on Sunday, September 29th , 2024, beginning at 3:00 pm.
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- Next Meeting will be on September 12, 2024.

### **50/50 Drawing**

- none

### **Motion to Adjourn**

- Beaver Falls / 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	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 – <b>Confirmed</b>	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