



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

March 3, 2016 Minutes
 Meeting Location - Rochester Club
 North Boroughs Hosting



MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Mike Zon	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	Dan Householder		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Ray Spolarich
P	Ambridge	Bob Dormanesh	p	FOAC	Craig Holdren	P	Southside	Tonya Cable
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Sam Piccinini		(Alt)	Guy Cable
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	P	Koppel	Shawn Cox			
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Jerry Tilia			
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Dave Knight	P	PGC	Chris Shallcross
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol	Bob Oles	P	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton	A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
	(Alt)	Clinton DeLuca		(Alt)	None			
A	Conway	None	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith			
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Dick Smith			

OFFICERS

	President		Vice President		Treasurer		Secretary
P	Tony Rich	P	Rich Kerlin	P	Mark Benzio	P	Bob Oles

Call to Order - 7:00 p.m.

Host Club Welcome - Bob Reid, President North Boroughs Club

Guests - PGC Deputy WCO Chris Shallcross

Last Month's Minutes - Fishing Derby fish delivery, 12pm, not 8am to 12pm. Motion to approve as corrected, Koppel/Five Points. Passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

- None

AGENCIES

PA GAME COMMISSION - Matt Kramer

- Matt introduced his newest Deputy WCO, Chris Shallcross. Chris will be working with Matt in Beaver County.
 - Chris - Resident of Economy. Chris is a 911 dispatcher. He started the process to become a WCO two years ago and now works part time for the Game Commission.
 - River Otter season - This is the first river otter season Pennsylvania has had in over 50 years. It is only open in the 3C & 5D WMU's which is in the Northeastern portion of the state. The season ran from Feb 21 to Feb 23. Since the harvest goals were not met, the season was extended for an additional five days. We're hoping it will eventually open in the western portions of the state.
- Matt - Cabela's is now providing \$50 gift cards to the game commission for use as a reward to those who report wildlife crimes and the tip is responsible for a conviction.
- PA Bear harvest ranks third all time high. 3,748 bear were harvested in 2015.
- Game Commission to host annual waterfowl briefing. The public is invited to attend this briefing on the status of the Atlantic Flyway waterfowl populations and proposed federal frameworks for the 2016-17 waterfowl hunting seasons.
- The "Seedlings for Schools" program provides tree seedlings to classrooms so students can plant them as part of the project to improve wildlife habitat. Orders are being accepted from Feb 29 to Mar 25. Visit www.pgc.state.pa.us and click on the "Seedlings for Schools" icon. There is no charge to schools for participating.
- The PA Board of Game Commissioners has scheduled a public, working group meeting for Monday, Mar 7 at the Game Commission headquarters in Harrisburg.
- A new initiative unveiled in Washington D.C. would dedicate \$1.3 billion in funding to help states address the needs for thousands of species in trouble across America. To get involved contact your legislator in the U.S. Senate and House and ask them to get behind this initiative.
- More news is coming out about the Game Commission cutting programs due to lack of funding. The PGC hasn't had a license fee increase since 1999. The average hunter doesn't stop to think about the value of the PGC in protecting species of animals throughout the state. The increase in the bald eagle population is one example of the PGC's work.. Sportsmen have always paid their own way and I'm sure it will be the same when they support this license fee increase.
- Matt has received nothing but positive feedback about the Cable Restraint class Mike Zon held back in January. Good job Mike. A lot of people are hoping to see additional classes from Mike.
- [Matt's Report](#)

PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Absent

GAME - Mike Harcher

- Absent

POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- Absent

FISHING DERBY - Mike Zon

- The 2016 Fishing Derby will be held Saturday April 30th at Hopewell Community Park from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. for kids 15 & under. [Flyer](#)
- Fish delivery is scheduled for Thursday, April 28th, 12 p.m. After stocking the township will close the lake to fishing until the derby.
- Wayne Mateer, owner of DJ's Quick Stop is supplying all the prizes at cost, again this year.
- Beaver Falls, Koppel/Big Beaver, Rochester, Five Points, Aliquippa and Beaver Valley Rifle & Pistol donated additional prizes.
- Tim Reddinger from Ready Bait is going to do a Facebook video for advertisement, not only for the Fishing Derby but a number of our other events as well.
- Mike Zon will donate a "First Fish Caught" prize again this year.
- Mike received a letter from the hatchery informing us that fish prices are going up due to feed and maintenance costs.
- Rich - For as long as I can remember, we've budgeted and spent \$500 each year on fish. It's time we consider increasing that amount.
- Since the kids parents are present, those of you who want to help with the derby will not need to have your background checks.

CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Absent. But additional information has been added
- Camp dates are set for Sunday June 19th to Saturday June 25th.
- Tuition remains at \$150 per camper for this year.
- Application deadline is May 14th. Payment must accompany application to reserve a spot at the camp. Payment goes directly to Breanna, not Mark.
- Deadline for cancelation is May 31st. No refund will be given if camper withdraws after that date.
- Campers must have completed the PA Hunter Trapper Education course prior to camp. See application for times and locations
- Volunteers - **PLEASE** go on line and get your background check and child abuse clearance form. I promise it will be super easy and volunteers get reimbursed for that expense. **YOU HAVE 6 MONTHS TO DO THIS. It will only take 5 minutes.**
 - Back Ground Check <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>
 - Child Abuse Clearance <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
 - Tonya Cable - Detailed instructions on applying for a [background check](#).
 - Jim Farland - This is relatively painless and it's free.
- Dick Ward - Is the Youth Foundation going to buy T-shirts for camp participants this year?
 - Jerry - We'll have to discuss that at the next YF committee meeting.
- Rich - Due to budget cuts, we may not have the support of the PFBC this year. That means we'll have to find boats, fishing gear and instructors to put on the boating course.
- [Camp flyer and camper application](#)

ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- Beaver Valley Archers has its Youth Archery program for school age kids on Thursday evenings, no charge and open to the public. Starts around 7 p.m. and ends around 10 p.m. Kids can stay the entire time or leave when they want. It's designed to introduce this age group to archery fundamentals.
- <http://www.beavervalleyarchers.com>
- The two most important things I think our clubs do is participate in the county league and our youth programs.

EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- Our website is currently being taken care of on a volunteer basis. Articles and posters that I submit are not being posted in a timely manner, therefore our site is not staying current. So we're going to get estimates from a couple of companies to have it taken care of professionally. The website is our display window to the world about who we are and it should stay current.

LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- The Rally to Protect Your Right to Keep and Beaver Arms is on Tuesday May 24, 2016 at 10am in the State Capitol Rotunda. [Rally Flyer](#) with Bus and additional information. It's important that you register on line www.2ARally.com
 - Please review the important [Pro-Gun bills](#) so you are up to date when your team talks to Legislators.
 - Also, Take note of some of the [Anti-Gun Legislation](#) that has been proposed. If we sit back and do nothing, some of these freedom killing bills could pass.
- The increasing terror threat on U.S. soil made itself known again, with the San Bernardino attack in December. Judge Jeanine comments on the necessity of arming ourselves. [Watch video](#)
- With our [wide open borders](#), encouraging [higher numbers](#) of illegal aliens crossing, the risk of more terrorist entering the U.S. increases. Citizens are buying [guns in record numbers](#). Now is not the time to let down on our defense of the 2nd Amendment and let liberals in our government restrict our access to firearms just as the need to protect ourselves is increasing. **GET ON THE BUS!!**
- Tony - When we were younger, the only thing we thought about using firearms for was hunting. Today's world requires us to also think about using them for defensive purposes. With the record sales of firearms, is there a need for us to somehow help in the training of these new firearms owners. We can also sit back and do nothing but then what are we going to feel like if he could have done something to help? Take these thoughts back to your clubs and explore possibilities.

FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Barcaskey

- Absent - Rich read Mike's report that he sent via email.
- The Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program project we're working on for Brady's Run Lake is tentatively scheduled for August 2016. Depending how things fall into place, we may need volunteers to help build and place fish cribs and catfish breeding boxes. Further information to come.
- [Mike's Report](#)

HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- 2016 Hunter Education Courses scheduled so far:
 - Mar 5 9am to 4pm Southside Club
 - Mar 26 9am to 4pm YMCA New Brighton
 - April 9 9am to 4pm Gobblers Knob
 - June 11 9am to 4pm Pine Run Club
 - June 11 9am to 4pm Aliquippa Club
 - Aug 6 9am to 4pm Rochester Club
 - Sept 17 9am to 4pm Concord United Methodist Church
- Rich - What's the possibility of Beaver County hosting a Hunter Ed Instructor course here in the county?
 - Matt - We can't make that request until the applications are in from those interested in becoming instructors. Best way to apply is sign up right on the website. Once the apps are in, then we can make that request. These apps come to Mike and me and we can let you know how many there are.
- Matt - We're having the annual update seminar for Hunter Ed Instructors at Rochester Club, April 14 6pm
 - Here is the pathway for those individuals that want to request a hunter education instructor application via the Game Commission Website.
 - From the main page: www.pgc.state.pa.us click on the **education link** in the center of the banner.
 - Under "Hunter education & related information" click on "**Becoming an instructor**"
 - There will be several paragraphs of text about becoming an instructor and imbedded in the text is a link marked "**online**". Click this link and fill out the form. An instructor application packet will be mailed to the individual requesting one.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT - George Sullivan

- The Beaver County Commissioners cut the Conservation District budget by 50%. It looks like this cut is going to remain, so it's going to be very tight for us for the coming year.

YOUTH FOUNDATION - Jerry Hooks

- Committee meeting was held on 2/18/16, 6:30pm at Aliquippa Bucktails
- Planned the job list for the Fishing Derby
- We continue to work with the county on the trailer transfer to the league.
- Rich asked Tonya if after the Fishing Derby, she could put the Goose Hunt information on her "Upcoming Youth Events"
- [Flyer](#)

FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman

- See Banquet Committee Report

YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- No Report

YOUTH FIELD DAY - Youth Foundation / Jerry Hooks

- July 16th has been scheduled for YFD at Midland Sportsmen's Club.
- Event is scheduled to be on the PGC's website for sign up the week of March 7th
- Station leaders will be contacted within the next 2 weeks
- Next Month we will ask for budget approval
- Flyers will be out as soon as we get a couple of corrections made
- We're aware that we may have to make alternate plans incase the PFBC WCO cannot attend due to budget cuts
- Dave - This may be the last year Midland can donate ammo. Ammo prices are the issue.

BANQUET - Need a Chairman

- This year's fund raising banquet will be Saturday, March 5th at Monaca Turners. Individual seats are \$40 and a table of 10 will be \$400. [Banquet Flyer](#)
- This banquet will raise funds to provide buses on May 24th to Harrisburg for the "Rally to Protect your Right To Keep and Bear Arms."
- Meals are ordered. Set up will be at 11am. Jerry lined up help.
- Representatives Daryl Metcalfe and Rick Saccone and Fish Commissioner Rocco Ali will be speaking.

BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Tonya read [her letter](#) again for any delegates that were not at the Presidents meeting. Tony asked her if she would read it at the banquet as well. She agreed.
- Rich - Think about the possibility of having a new category of “Clubs in Good Standing.” For example a club has to be represented at the league meetings at least a “certain” number of times per year for that club to have a vote on league matters. This would require a bylaws change.
- Tony - I’d like to find a way to prevent delegates from having to go back to their clubs and ask for donations for prizes for league activities just about every month. Perhaps a once a year donation for prizes would work.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Pastor Bob thanked the league for its help with his wild game dinner. It was a huge success, over 500 attended.
- Ambridge Gun Show, Sunday, March 20, 9am to 4pm [Flyer](#)
- Mike Zon - Aliquippa Club upcoming events
 - March 13th Ham Shoot 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - March 19th Swap Meet 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - April 2nd NRA Basic Pistol Course [Flyer](#)
 - <http://www.bucktails.us/news-and-events>
- Mark - Upcoming events
 - Midland’s First Annual Gun Bash, tentatively Sept 10th
 - Midland’s First Wild Game Dinner March 20th. Food served 2pm
 - Midland’s Turkey Shoots each Sunday until March 20. [Info](#)
- Guy - Southside Sportsmen’s Bash Sept 10th
 - Also have Turkey Shoots each Sunday up until Easter. [Info](#)
- Dan Losco - Conway Club Jam Night & Benefit Spaghetti Dinner for Stan Bingle, whose is fighting pancreatic cancer. Donation, \$10. March 5th. 5pm to 10pm

50/50 DRAWING

- \$62.50 Shawn Cox - Donated \$20 to the Youth Foundation

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Aliquippa/Pine Run. 10:05 p.m.

BCSCL 2016 Meeting Dates & Locations

January 7th	Aliquippa Bucktails	May 5th	Southside	Sept 8th	Rochester Twp Municipal Bldg
February 4th	Rochester	June 2nd	Pine Run	Oct 6st	Koppel
March 3rd	Rochester, North Boroughs Hosting	July 7th	Conway	Nov 3rd	Beaver Falls
April 7th	B.V. Archers	Aug 4th	Midland	Dec 8th	Five Points

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL