



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

Annual Presidents Meeting
 February 26, 2016 Minutes
 Meeting Location - Rochester Club



MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa Deletgate	Mike Zon	A	Five Points Delegate	Jim Farland	A	Rochester Delegate	George Sullivan
P	Aliquippa President	Mike Martin	A	Five Points President	Dave Schumacher	P	Roshester President	Jerry Hooks
A	Ambridge Delegate	Bob Dormanesh	P	FOAC Delegate	Craig Holdren	P	Southside Delegate	Tonya Cable
A	Ambridge President	Joe Chulupiak	A	FOAC President	Kim Stolfer	A	Southside President	Greg Sauers
P	Beaver Falls Delegate	Larry White	P	Koppel Delegate	Shawn Cox			
P	Beaver Falls President	Robert Miller	A	Kopple President	Jerry Tillia			
P	B.V. Archers Delegate	Walt Ketterer	P	Midland Delegate	Mark Benzio	A	PGC	Mike Yeck
A	B.V. Archers President	Larry Osman	P	Midland President	Dave Knight	A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol Delegate	Bob Oles	P	N. Boroughs Delegate	Harry Norton			
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol President	Bill Fortuna	P	N. Boroughs President	Bob Reid			
A	Conway Delegate	None	P	Pine Run Delegate	Rob Smith			
P	Conway President	Bill Frishkorn	P	Pine Run President	Greg Carney			

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 - Jerry Hooks, Rochester Club President

GUEST SPEAKER - Keith Fries, CPA

- Keith spoke on the financial and tax issues sportsmen's club deal with when they lease their land for gas drilling.
- Important points to consider:
 - Clubs are required to derive "substantially all" of their income from membership dues
 - Clubs may receive 35% of their gross receipts from nonmembership source without jeopardizing their exempt status.
- [Keith's report outline](#)

GUEST SPEAKER - Rocco Ali, PA Fish & Boat Commissioner

- Updated the league on the Restore Hereford Manor Lake (HML) project
 - Hereford Manor (HM) is approximately 448 acres located in Franklin Twp Beaver County. It was acquired by the PFBC in 1973. HM serves Beaver, Allegheny, Butler and Lawrence Counties
 - Plans to replace the two breached dams with a single new dam are in the conceptual stage and estimated to cost \$15 million.
 - The PFBC sold some of the land surrounding the lake bed to Zelenople Airport. Funds maybe used for engineering studies
 - PFBC is working with the Beaver County Commissioners on a no cost 25 year lease agreement that would give the county management control of the property, this would not include any liability for the dam or lake. The agreement would prohibit any activities that would impede fishing or hunting.
 - Necessary funding is being pursued by a citizens group, the Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League plays a major role, and has partnered with the "Wildlife for Everyone Endowment Foundation" which allows contributions to be tax deductible.
 - Local legislators are also aware of the importance of this project. Representative Gibbons and Senator Vogel are working to find capital budget funding for the project.
- Other News:
 - SB 1103, increases fishing license fees and has support in the Senate and should come before the Game and Fisheries Committee soon
 - A Senate memoranda has been put out to propose a bill that would permit the PFBC to set its own fees. This would be an ultimate victory.
- [Rocco's report](#)
- Tony - The Citizens Committee to Restore Hereford Manor Lake is operated by the Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League, Chairman Tony Rich and Co-Chairman Jerry Hooks. We need to raise \$150,000 to give our politicians the foundation they need to seek capital funding. All contributions go to:
 - Wildlife for Everyone Endowment Foundation, 341 Science Park Road Suite 103, State College, PA 16803-2287
 - <http://www.restoreherefordmanorlake.org>
- I would hope all clubs could make a donation to this endeavor, as much as you comfortably can. Because
- Hereford Manor Lake is in Beaver County
- It is our lake for the future of fishing. We continue to lose hunting and fishing areas and we want to be able to leave this fishing and hunting area to future generations.
- To help fund this project, we'd like to run a raffle for 100 guns, for 50 days, and have 2 guns a day raffled off. Early number, late number. 1,000 tickets @ \$100 per ticket would bring in \$100,000. We've been working with Field and Stream in Cranberry, they'll give us \$50,000 worth of goods for \$47,500. If we sell all the tickets we'll make \$52,500. We need all the clubs to work together so we can sell all the tickets.
- It was suggested that the league develop a petition to present to the PFBC commissioners on Hereford Manor
- Tony asked for a show of hands from presidents and delegates who would be in favor of this raffle. The overwhelming majority supported it.
- Raffle will probably take place early or late fall.
- There is no assigned number of tickets to club or individual. Whatever you can do will be appreciated.

SOUTHSIDE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB DELEGATE - Tonya Cable

- Tony - Tonya gave a presentation to the Southside club at their last meeting, the subject of which, is important enough that we all should hear it.
 - Highlights of that presentation, "Sportsmen's Clubs Unite"
 - Some people wonder what the Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League does for the clubs that belong
 - Every activity / youth event the league holds, our name goes down as being one of the clubs responsible for making that activity happen. Such as:
 - The Annual Youth Fishing Derby
 - The Annual Youth Conservation Camp
 - The Annual Youth Field Day
 - The Annual Youth Pheasant Hunt, and Youth Goose Hunt, and Trap Teams etc.
 - Some of the learning opportunities in these activities include:
 - Hunter Safety education

- Compass Training
- CPR / First Aid Boaters Certification
- Trapping & Fur-Taker education
- Hunting Dog and Water Fowl education
- Flag Ceremony
- And so much more
- The main focus of all the Sportsmen's Clubs that come together and belong to the County League is the future of sportsmanship, wildlife and conservation. . . Future meaning, "our youth." Because, without our youth, there is no future.
- Tony - That presentation covers what the county league is all about, what we do together. I've heard that same question from various individuals. It's not about what the county league does for anybody. The county league gives clubs the opportunity to participate in exactly what Tonya talked about. Collectively we gain strength and we've been able to use that strength in a positive way to accomplish many goals and will continue to do so. We're recognized throughout the state of Pennsylvania. Everywhere I go, when someone asks where I'm from and I reply, Beaver County, they ask, how do you do all that? It's because of you people. Your involvement, your club's involvement. That is the key to us for getting things done. Getting results. That increased strength makes itself known when we go to Harrisburg. We defend your rights and the future rights of our youth so that we have a heritage to pass on to the next generation.
- [Tonya's presentation](#)

BANQUET - Tony

- This banquet is to raise the money for the buses for the rally in Harrisburg.
- Dave Knight was able to get permission to park and for the buses to load and unload at the Beaver County Rehabilitation Center. See details on [rally flyer with bus information](#)
- The FOAC found a bus company, Budget Charter Tours, that is substantially less expensive than the companies we have been using.
- Motion to approve using Budget Charter Tours for transportation to the rally. Midland/Rochester. Passed.

HARRISBURG RALLY - Tony

- For those of you who have never gone to the rally, it gives you the opportunity, one day out of the year, as an American, as a modern day patriot, to communicate to our law makers what you think and feel about your freedom and your right to exercise it. I can't begin to imagine the amount of time Representative Metcalfe, Kim Stolfer and other FOAC members put into organizing, gathering and preparing information for this event. And all we have to do is show up, carry the information and talk to legislators.
- Bob Oles - Here are a few of the anti-gun bills looking for cosponsors. This is the freedom killing legislation we go to Harrisburg to oppose.
 - HB 1020 - If you misplace, lose or have a firearm stolen, if you don't report it within 48 hours, you become a criminal
 - HB 1368 - Large capacity ammunition magazines require a permit. More than 15 rounds or 5 shotgun shells! First offense, misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment. What in the world good would this do to stop crime?
 - HB 503 - This bill would create the Firearms Registration Act to require all firearms in the Commonwealth to be registered with the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). Cost = \$10 / firearm / year.
 - SB 1029 - "Firearm eligibility license." A license issued by the commissioner that authorizes a person to purchase, possess, control or use a firearm. An additional license just to own or even possess a firearm. Must have this license before you can apply for a License to Carry a Firearm.
 - HB 418 - Prohibiting use of human silhouette targets at shooting ranges; and imposing a penalty. Thaddeus Kirkland Delaware County. If this wasn't so real, it would be laughable.
 - Read Representative Kirkland's [Cosponsorship Memorandum](#).
- Pro-gun Bills include:
 - SB725 & HB921 - Eliminate the Pennsylvania Instant Check System
 - SB737 & HB366 - Permit Hunting with Semi-auto Rifles
 - HB718 - Modify Transportation of Firearms Laws
 - HB230 - Constitutional Carry
 - HB510 - Firearms Freedom Act
 - SB357 & HB357 - Right To Keep & Bear Arms Protection Act
 - HB783 - Prohibition on Maintenance of Firearms Registry
 - Read [short description](#) of each of these bills
- Another critical area of concern deals with the appointment of a new Supreme Court Justice after the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Gun Owners of America entitles its article about this: "Our Gun Rights are Hanging in the Balance." [GOA article](#)

TRAINING - Tony

- Current concerns in the general population for safety and the fear of additional gun control in the future, are motivating record gun sales nationwide. These concerns affect sportsmen and club members similarly. That being the case, do you think the league could be of service to clubs and their membership by gearing up to be able to offer firearms training in gun safety and self defense? After all, league member clubs have the shooting facilities. Perhaps we could somehow coordinate the use of some of these facilities for this purpose. Our main thrust is to pass on the outdoor sporting heritage to the next generation. To do that we need to keep that generation safe, protected and with an intact and strong 2nd Amendment.

THE ADVANTAGE OF UNITY - Tony

- The united front sportsmen's clubs have when they pull together as a league was displayed last week when Dan Householder and myself had a meeting with the County Commissioners. While at the meeting we were able to convince the commissioners to not implement proposed plans to:
 - To cancel archery hunting in the parks during September
 - To cancel camping at Brady's Run Lake the Thursday night prior to the first day of trout.

Because the clubs have band together as the county league, and we present that united front, they listened to our reasons why these two items should not be changed. Tonya referred to this unity in her speech.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Dick Ward - Have you found out about security for the Youth Conservation Camp?
 - Tony - Still working on that
- Jerry - Reviewed important dates for this year
 - April 30 - Fishing Derby at Hopewell Community Park. Can always use extra help. [Flyer](#)
 - If anyone has any extra old rods, tackle, please think about donating it for this event. Some kids come to this event with old non working equipment.
 - June 19 to June 25 - Conservation Camp. [Flyer & Application](#)
 - July 16 - Youth Field Day at Midland Club. Can always use extra help.
- Bill Frishkorn - Offered to give the names of the attorneys they used for gas leases at their club to anyone who is interested
- Dave Knight - At this year's Youth Field Day we need to make sure the parents stay with their kids. Let's put that on the application.
- Guy - Hunter Trapper Education Course, March 5, 2016 9am to 4pm Southside Sportsmen's Club
 - <http://southsidesportsman.com>

50/50 DRAWING

- \$80 - George Klinger
 - Jerry Hooks donated Rochester Club's half of the 50/50 to the upcoming Fishing Derby

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Southside/Rochester 9:43 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