



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

January 7, 2016 Minutes

Meeting Location - Aliquippa Bucktails



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 Tillia			
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	PGC	Matt Kramer
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Dave Knight	P	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol	Bob Oles	P	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton			
	(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 - Mike Martin, Aliquippa President

Guests - PGC's Southwest Region Information and Education Supervisor, Tom Fazi.

Julie Kerlin, volunteer shipper for "Operation Paperback" is here to collect book donations for service men and women

Last Month's Minutes - Motion to approve, Aliquippa/Five Points. Passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Mike Harcher - Al Moran is in the hospital with kidney failure. He's doing somewhat better now. Mike is sending a get well card and passed it around for signatures.
- Mark received a grant award letter from the PGC commending the BCSCCL for its involvement with introducing hunting and fishing to the youth in our community. [PGC letter](#)

AGENCIES

PA GAME COMMISSION - Matt Kramer

- The 2016 National Archery in the Schools Program State Tournament will be held at State College March 11th. Should be the biggest one ever in Pa. A total of 46,000 arrows will fly that day.
 - Registration can be completed at www.pgc.state.pa.us or at <http://nasptournaments.org>
- Seedling sales, offered by the PGC have begun. Planting shrubs and trees can help wildlife.
 - Call 814-355-4434 or
 - Order from www.pgc.state.pa.us > General Store > Howard Nursery > 2016 Seedling Order Form
- The PGC Hunter Access Program which offers about 2.6 million privately owned acres for hunting was recently recognized by Outdoor Life Open Country. [Read article](#)
- Tom Fazi - Has been with the agency for 25 years. Started out as a WCO in Washington County. Later transferred to Westmoreland County and finally to the Regional Office in 2009.
 - Beaver County is the stand out example for Hunter Education classes. A lot of that credit goes to George Sullivan. It's a great county not only with Hunter Ed but also with its many other youth programs.
 - Rich Kerlin - Have you heard anything about the closing report on our Youth Pheasant Hunt?
 - Matt - So far no one has taken ownership of that program.
 - Tom - The individual who used to run the Youth Pheasant Hunt program left the agency this summer and that responsibility has not been filled by Harrisburg. Fortunately we were able to get birds out to the clubs this year, but a number of other areas, specifically "After Action Reports" have not been attended to. I will see what I can find out next week.
- The Mt Lebanon hunt was very successful in reducing the deer population in that area. 73% of that harvest was donated to "Hunters Sharing the Harvest" or similar programs.
- [Matt's Report](#)

PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Some skim ice in Beaver County on local ponds and lakes. Center County has 3 inches of ice in some areas.
- Ice Safety - At least 4 inches of clear solid ice is recommended for ice fishing
- PFBC recommends always wear a life jacket when on ice.
- We start stocking in the spring, first day of March, every year.
- Nov 1st to April 30th PFD's are required to be worn on boats less than 16 feet in length
- Pittsburgh Boat Show - Monroeville Jan 15 - 17 & Jan 22 - 24
- Outdoor Show - Monroeville Feb 17 -21
- Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg Feb 6th through 14th
- [Jeremy's Report](#) Includes Ice Thickness Chart

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Need to make sure we have booklets on hand for the Fishing Derby. Must have at least 1 to 2 month lead time if we have to order more.
- Craig - Was instrumental in organizing a meeting between Senator Pat Toomey and FOAC's Kim Stolfer. During the meeting Craig gave Senator Toomey a BCSCS booklet that lists member clubs and the number of members within those clubs. The Senator took special notice of three items from the booklet: 1) The number of members of all the clubs within the BCSCS, 2) The picture taken in front of the Capitol Building of all of the attendees of last year's 2nd Amendment Action Day, 3) Tony Rich's cooking, which seems to be known state wide.

GAME - Mike Harcher

- Hunting & Fishing license sales are down so far from last year by 0.74%
- A Nun, Sister John Paul Bauer of St. Mary's Pa. shot a 10 point buck the first day of rifle season. This is not her first successful game harvest.
- State Representative Jim Marshall's, HB 698 has passed and was signed into law. This permits handicapped individuals to use motorized wheel chairs for hunting.
- SB-737 will permit semi-auto rifles to be used for hunting, passed the State Senate and is on the way to the State House.
- HB-263 removes the prohibition against using air rifles for hunting, passed the State House and is moving to the State Senate.
- The public hearing for approving Sunday hunting was canceled.
- This is the 24th year of "Hunters Sharing the Harvest." So far, 1 million pounds of venison has been donated
- Pennsylvania Mammal Atlas is seeking volunteers to photograph mammals from every area of the state. sign up online at: <http://www.pamammalatlus.com>

- Hunting License fee increase proposal
 - The PGC is facing overwhelming financial challenges, many of which are beyond its control and are certain to continue into the future. Hunting license fees account for almost 40 percent of the Game Commission's revenue. The fee for hunting and trapping licenses has not increased in 16 years.
 - Deficits primarily due to increases in expenses related to the **Affordable Care Act**, retirement contributions, accelerating health care benefit expenses, projects mandated by the Office of Administration, and general inflation. Source = <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=2126152&mode=2>

POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- The Susquehanna River's decade-long mutant bass mystery moved closer to a solution with the release of study findings that for the first time identified herbicides and endocrine-disrupting compounds from agricultural sources as likely causes.
- Silt is the number one pollutant in the streams and rivers of Beaver County. Increased development seems to be the primary cause

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. Mike requested \$500 to get the fish on order. Tentative fish delivery for Thursday April 28th.
 - Motion to approve, Pine Run/Five Points. Passed.
- Will request more funds next month for the trophies, flyers and prizes.

CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Results from the camp discussion meeting held just before today's league meeting.
 - 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.
 - Deadline for cancelation is May 31st. No refund will be given if camper withdraws after that date.
- 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>
- This is a big job and we need a lot of help, so I asked Tony if he would approve the appointment of my husband Josh as co-director, which he did.
- [Camp flyer and camper application](#)

ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- Beaver Valley Archers started its indoor league in January on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Cost = \$5 for club members and \$7 for non members. A light dinner is provided. We have a nice warm place to shoot this winter.

EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- Just a reminder, what ever you want posted for your club, send it to me. Please make sure all facts are accurate and it's suitable for posting on the website.

LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- Bob showed a 7 minute video of the of the Legislative Firearm Interactive Presentation held on July 25, 2015 sponsored by BCSC, FOAC & Beaver Valley Rifle & Pistol Club. [View Video](#) [Invitation flyer](#) sent to legislators.
- The push for more gun control from this administration, some members of congress, state lawmakers and the media is accelerating. If you want to preserve your freedom, the time of calling your legislators, from this group here, is over. You have to become an influence among the people you associate with. You have to convince them of the mass assault their rights are under and help them become active in resisting this movement.
- New York: Legislators Propose [Outrageous Ammunition Restriction Legislation](#)
- Congressmen seek [National Ban on semi auto firearms](#)
- [Congressman Keith Rothfus Statement](#) on Executive Action to Restrict 2nd Amendment Rights
- Firearms Owners Against Crime President [Kim Stofler's News Release](#). FOAC – Shining the Light on the Big Lie – ‘Epidemic of Gun Violence’
- [Gun Owners of America on Executive Over Reach](#)

FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Barcaskey

- Brady's Run & Brush Creek Lake Committee
 - January's meeting will be held on the 21st at 10 a.m. in the Ice Arena Conference Room.
- Fishing Report

- December stocking of brown and rainbow trout have kept anglers busy at Brady's Run Lake
- Higher water levels in the Beaver and Ohio Rivers have kept fishing pressure low.
- Anglers were catching striped bass and walleye prior to skim ice forming

• [Mike's Report](#)

HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- 2015 saw 589 students take the Hunter Education course in Beaver County. We're going to try to top that in 2016.
- 2016 Hunter Education Courses scheduled so far:
 - Pine Run Club June 11th 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - Aliquippa Club June 11th 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **The Youth Conservation Camp will not have a Hunter Ed course this year. Since completion of this course is a requirement for campers, the above 2 course dates are a good opportunity to satisfy this requirement.**

CONSERVATION DISTRICT - George Sullivan

- Has an on going improvement project for the trail on its property. It will be improved to provide wheel chair and quad access.
- The 2016 Brady's Run Annual Maple Syrup Festival will be on the first week-end in April. The 2nd and 3rd.

YOUTH FOUNDATION - Jerry Hooks

- Next meeting will be on 1/21/16, 6 p.m. at Aliquippa Bucktails

FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman

- No Report

YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- No Report

YOUTH FIELD DAY - Youth Foundation / Jerry Hooks

- Working with former chairman Ray Spolarich to insure any grants get filed in a timely manner.

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. Further detail to come.
- At this point in time:
 - Contact Tony Rich for reservations. 724-561-8290 or tonyrich39@yahoo.com
 - Send checks to: Tony Rich, 3 Orchard Drive, Baden, Pa 15005

BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS

- Delegates, please remind your clubs to consider a donation to the Restore Hereford Manor Lake project
 - Hereford Manor Lake (HML) was the #1 trout fished lake in the state.
 - 25% of the fishing licenses sold in the state, were sold in a 60 radius of HML.
 - HML contributed millions of dollars to the economy within that 60 mile radius.
 - A section from the League's By-Laws state, "to promote the advancement of hunting, fishing, and competitive shooting sports." This is a perfect example of following that principle.
 - <https://www.wildlifeforeveryone.org/projects/herefordmanor.php>

NEW BUSINESS

- The 2016 League Presidents Meeting will be held at the Rochester Sportsmen's Club on Friday February 26th at 7 p.m. Food will be provided.
 - Delegates, please make sure you communicate this to your presidents as soon as possible so they can fit it into their schedule.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Walt Ketterer requested league booklets to hand out to the other clubs he belongs to.
- Julie Kerlin, Operation Paper Back Update
 - As of last month Julie shipped 267 books. This month she's up to 897. Her goal is 1000
 - If you can help Julie accomplish her very worthwhile goals, please contact her at: juliegoldaward@gmail.com
 - [Julie's Information Packet](#)

50/50 DRAWING

- \$57 Harry Norton

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- 9:30 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	
March 3rd	Rochester, North Boroughs Hosting	July 7th		Nov 3rd	Beaver Falls
April 7th	B.V. Archers	Aug 4th	Midland	Dec 8th	Five Points

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL