



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION League

February 2, Minutes  
Meeting Location - Rochester



## MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Dan Householder	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dick Smith
P	Ambridge	Bob Dormanesh	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	A	Pittsburgh Downriggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Sam Piccinini		(Alt)	David Holderny
A	Beaver Falls	Larry White	P	Green Valley	Don Spearing	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Karen Laurito		(Alt)	Ray Spolarich
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Koppel	Shawn Cox	P	Sewickley	Rod Cowan
	(Alt)	George Klinger		(Alt)	Jerry Tillia		(Alt)	None
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol	Bob Oles	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	Southside	Tonya Cable
	(Alt)	Clinton DeLuca		(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	Guy Cable
A	Conway	None	P	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None	P	PFBC	Jeremy Allen

## 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

Guests - Dick Bear, Tim Kelly, Paul Fedorka, Frank Kelly

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

## COMMUNICATIONS

- None

## AGENCIES

### PA GAME COMMISSION - Mike Yeck

- A CWD case of a white tail deer surfaced in Franklin County.
- The Pheasant Chick and Egg programs started in 1933 have come to an end due to financial reasons.
- Preliminary hunting and trapping seasons have been approved.
- Commissioners meeting items
  - Unanimous preliminary approval given to permit use of semi automatic rifles and shotguns while hunting big game, small game, and fur bearers. **IMPORTANT! See link to Mike's report for additional details.**
  - An additional permit to hunt pheasants is being considered. Possible cost, \$25.
  - PGC Executive Director Matt Hough announced he will retire in March. Motion passed unanimously to approve Deputy Executive Director Bryan Burhans as his replacement.
  - Osprey removed from threatened species list.
- [Mike's Report](#)

### PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- 2017 Trout Stockings are now available at [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)
- New creel and size limits will take effect on March 1, for anglers who fish for Crappies in Crawford County's Pymatuning Reservoir.
- Anglers will have additional opportunities to catch 14"-20" trophy trout this season after PFBC announced that it is adding six new waters to the popular Keystone Select Stocked Trout Program.
- Great American Outdoor Show – February 4 to February 12 – Harrisburg Farm Show Complex .
- Allegheny Sports, Travel and Outdoor Show – Feb 17, 18 and 19. Monroeville Convention Center.
- Washington County Sports Show – February 3, 4, 5. Washington Crown Center.
- [Jeremy's Report](#)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Still need a bio from Pittsburgh Down Riggers.

### GAME - Mike Harcher

- A number of important bills will be introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature this session.
- Rep Malony - Will reintroduce (former House Bill 1168) legislation amending the Pennsylvania Game Code to increase the availability of certified hunter education courses in our public schools.
- Rep Goodman will introduce the following legislation:
  - To expand Pennsylvania's mentored hunting programs to include youth ages 12 to 17.
  - To create a new 9th district under the Game Commission.
  - To add a specific crime within the Game Code for the stealing of trail cameras and devices used to visually record wildlife.
  - To require that every hunter who has had their hunting privileges suspended by the Game Commission take a remedial hunter education and safety course before being issued a new license.
  - Will restrict certain turkey calling practices.
  - Will limit the number of antlerless deer licenses a person may receive in a license year to three.
- Rep Godshall - Will introduce legislation that would authorize the Pennsylvania Game Commission to provide for Sunday hunting. We are one of only 11 states that severely restrict or ban Sunday hunting.
- Sen Eichelberger - Will authorize the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to establish the fees charged by the agency.
- PGC planning on introducing Bob White Quail into Pennsylvania. [Article](#)
- PGC considering requiring a Water Fowl Hunter Education program for hunters at Pymatuning due to so much "Skyblasting" (Hunters shoot at birds long before they are in range)

### POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- Pennsylvania farmers have done much to protect Chesapeake Bay water quality, at their own expense. [Article](#)
- Pennsylvania may finally join Maryland and Virginia in restriction the content and application of lawn fertilizer.
- Sen Reschenthaler - Will re-introduce legislation that would ensure that the regulation of methane emissions in Pennsylvania is consistent with those standards adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Sen Reschenthaler - Will reintroduce Senate Bill 1069 from the 2015-16 legislative session, which would establish Pennsylvania's Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program.

#### FISHING DERBY- Mike Zon

- The 2017 Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday April 29, from 8am to 12pm
- Fish have been ordered and paid for. A mix of Rainbows, Golden's and Brook Trout. Delivery will be April 27, at 12pm.
- 90 more fish will be delivered this year due to the extra \$250 that was approved. 575 compared to 485 last year.
- Motion to approve \$1,000 for posters, trophies and prizes. Aliquippa/FOAC. Passed.
- If you would like to donate a fish, contact Mike. 724-683-5880. [Flyer](#)

#### CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- 2017 Camp dates are June 18 through the 24, and will be at the large camp, Group Camp 2. Will accept up to 65 campers. \$150/camper.
- Applications and Flyers will be on our FaceBook page as well as on the League website.
  - Application deadline is May 21.
- Will only have one Parents' meeting, and will be optional, **"but strongly recommended, especially for new campers."**
- Clubs, if you are going to sponsor campers, please get applications and/or notify me by the beginning of March so I can ensure your kids will have a spot. [Flyer and Application](#)

#### ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening 6pm until whenever the archer wants to leave. No experience necessary. There is no charge for this program.
- Tuesday evenings we're open to the public if you want a nice warm place to shoot your bow. If you're a non member cost is \$7.
- The National Archery in the Schools Program, High School Team State Qualifier event went very well. There were about 250 kids shooting. We would like to thank all the people who came out to help. Great turn out.
- Archery coach, Glen Fillinger, extended his sincere thanks to the League, clubs and Youth Foundation for their donations to this event.

#### EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- Craig asked Frank Kelly (website designer & Rochester Club member) to display some of the recent updates he's done on the site.
- Harrisburg 2nd Amendment Rally. Not all of the League clubs had the flyer for last year's rally posted on their websites. The more sites this rally is posted on the better chance we have of increasing the attendance.
- Tonya - Suggested Craig put out a guideline form for the details he needs to post a complete event on the site. Frank said he will take care of this.

#### LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- The Golden Opportunity to reverse some of the anti-gun orders from the Obama administration and to make even more progress on our gun rights is opening up even wider. Please note the following legislation and contact your Senators and Congressmen and ask them to support them.
- National Firearms Reciprocity Bill H.R. 38
- Repeal the federal "Gun Free School Zones Act" H.R. 34
- Overturn Obama's Social Security Gun Ban. H.J. Res 40 and S.J. Res 14.
- The Hearing Protection Act (Restores your right to buy suppressors) H.R. 367 and S. 50
- [Articles with Contact Information](#)
- This year's Harrisburg 2nd Amendment Rally will be on Monday, May 22. We'll have flyers for you next meeting. Also, I have sign up lists you can post at your clubs. [Rally Flyer](#)

#### FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Barcaskey

- The habitat project for Brady's Run Lake has stalled due to the chairman of the project, who was an employee of the Conservation District, resigning and moving to a different job.
- The Fish and Boat Commission, receives no general tax revenues and is primarily funded by the sale of fishing licenses and boat registrations. A portion of the agency's funding comes from a reimbursement of the state taxes on fuel purchases, which are used for boating purposes. The amount of tax refunded to the PFBC, by the State Treasurer is based on the fuel usage information you supply.
  - The money received from this reimbursement is used by the Commission for the sole purpose of providing boating programs and boating access facilities. You have already paid this tax. Your estimate will NOT affect any fees you pay. Approximately 80% of this reimbursement to the Commission is earmarked for dam reconstruction. Hereford Manor falls into this category.

#### HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

##### • Upcoming Hunters Education Classes

- 3/4/17 Southside Club 9am - 4pm
- 6/3/17 Aliquippa Club 9am - 4pm
- Those youth who are planning on attending this year's Conservation Camp are advised to attend a Hunters Education class prior to camp.

#### CONSERVATION DISTRICT - George Sullivan

- The Maple Syrup Festival is scheduled April 1, 2.
- Adult meal = \$9. Kids meal = \$5.
- We have a new Board member for the district, Robert Guidice.

#### YOUTH FOUNDATION - Jerry Hooks

- Meeting held Jan 19 at Aliquippa Club. We hold our meetings on the third Thursday of every month at 7pm. You are welcome to attend.
- Jerry and Bryan Hooks donated 2 "Big Fish" for the Fishing Derby.
- Solicitation letters will be going out to different businesses and clubs.
- Looking to put together a sporting clay shoot with a Wild Game dinner as a fund raiser for the Youth Foundation.
- Working with CVA to acquire more muzzle loaders for camp.
- Five Points, Rochester, and Aliquippa received certificates of appreciation for donations to the Youth Foundation.

#### FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman

- See Banquet

#### YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- No Report

#### YOUTH FIELD DAY - Youth Foundation / Jerry Hooks

- See Youth Foundation

#### BANQUET - Need a Chairman

- March 4 is the League's fund raising banquet for bus transportation to the 2nd Amendment Rally.
- Tickets for the Banquet are now available. \$40/person. \$400/table of ten.
- Make checks out to BCSCCL [Flyer](#)
- Also, we need more volunteers

#### BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- No Report

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Tony - Brought up the special meeting the League held on Jan 9. Asked that the secretary read condensed transcript of that meeting before the vote for the bylaws changes.
- Tony - After that reading, asked for additions or corrections to the minutes just read.
  - Paul Fedorka - Thanked the board for the opportunity to correct the record on items said about him at the special meeting. Mr. Fedorka read his statement which contained the following two points said about him.
    - Mr. Wilson stated that I was the Vice President of Firearms Owners Against Crime. This is false. I have never been the VP of FOAC. I am a Board member.
    - Mr. Wilson stated that I asked for the membership list of Green Valley Sportsmen's Club for the purpose of giving that to the FOAC. That is also false.
  - Mr. Fedorka's statement, Green Valley Sportsmen's Club RSO (Range Safety Officers) Group Charter and record of pertinent Green Valley Sportsmen's Club RSO meeting minutes were submitted for filing.
  - Kim Stolfer - Stated that Mr. Kerlin portrayed him as a liar in the matter of FOAC not being a member of the Allegheny County Sportsmen's League (ACSL) because FOAC was not listed on ACSL's website and that he believes he was owed an apology.
    - Rich Kerlin denied calling Kim a liar. "If you think I did, I apologize."
    - Both men shook hands and the matter was closed.
- Motion to approve the minutes as read. FOAC/Aliquippa. Passed.
- Tony - Asked if there were any additional bylaws changes to the ones currently under consideration, which today is the 3rd reading.

- Secretary read the bylaws highlighted changes.
- Tony - Asked for any questions before the vote.
- Walt Ketterer - Our club would like to see FOAC and any other current clubs grandfathered in and stay as a contributing club. Then new clubs would come under these new bylaws.
  - Tony - We're voting on the bylaws changes as they stand.
- Jim Farland - If we vote to accept these changes, does that mean FOAC has no right to vote anymore?
  - Tony - No. Since FOAC paid dues for 2017 as a contributing member and they are a voted in organization and they've done nothing in this league against our bylaws to cause us to take just action against their organization, so if they chose to stay where they are at they can. There are no provisions for us to move them into this new category.
- Bylaws Vote Tally:
  - Aliquippa, BVRPC, Five Points, FOAC, Midland = No. Ambridge, BV Archers, Green Valley, Koppel, N. Boroughs, Pine Run, Rochester, Southside = Yes. Beaver Falls, Conway, Pitts Down Riggers, Sewickley = Absent.
  - 5 No Votes, 8 Yes Votes. The Bylaws changes of February 2, 2017 passed.
- **(February 13, 2017 addition to minutes) Although after the bylaws vote at the Feb 2, 2017 meeting, it was stated that the vote passed, after further review of the current bylaws, which we were operating under at the time this vote was taken, “. . . proposed bylaw(s) must be approved by 2/3 rd of the delegates present and eligible to vote . . .” That 2/3 rd requirement was not met. Therefore, this bylaws change did not pass.**

## NEW BUSINESS

- Tony - Hereford Manor Lake Raffle. With the guns the League won and the discounts available to us, we have 20 guns to raffle off. Tickets will be \$20, two guns per day for ten days. July 22 through the 31. [Flyer](#)
- Please fill out and send in the petition from Aaron Bernstine to reopen Hereford Manor Lake.
- Mark - Midland, with the help of Green Valley will be hosting a Boy Scout Camporee at our facilities, May 12, 13, 14. This will essentially be a shooting sports week-end. Could we use the League equipment for this event? If anyone would like to volunteer to help, that would be great.
  - Tony - Yes. See Jerry and just sign everything out.
- Annual BCSCCL Club Presidents Meeting will be on Friday Feb 24, Rochester Club, 7pm

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Rich - I took two youth hunters, one from Ambridge and one from Quaker Valley on a guided pheasant hunt which was won at our Youth Field Day. It was a 12 pheasant hunt donated by Gobbler's Knob Shooting Preserve and Kerlin Kanine Training. During the hunt I was able to locate and put up 18 pheasants for them. They were able to harvest 3 pheasants. It was the first pheasant hunting experience for either boy. A very good time was had by all. [Pictures](#)
- Tony - Last year's Senate Bill 1168, which would give the PGC the ability to set its own fees, which the League voted to support, is this year's Senate Bill 30. Please contact Representatives, Dave Reed 717-705-7173 and Mike Turzai 717-772-9943 and ask them to support this bill.

## 50/50 DRAWING

- \$75 - Randy Wilson. Donated his winnings to the Youth Fund.

## MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Green Valley/BVRPC 10:09pm

## BCSCCL 2017 Meeting Dates & Locations

January 5th	Aliquippa Bucktails	May 4th	Southside	Sept 14th	Ambridge
February 2nd	Rochester	June 1st	Pine Run	Oct 5th	Koppel
March 2nd	Rochester, North Boroughs Hosting	July 6th	Conway	Nov 2nd	Beaver Falls
April 6th	B.V. Archers	Aug 3rd	Midland	Dec 14th	Five Points

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCCL

