



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION League

Annual Presidents Meeting
 February 24, 2017 Minutes
 Meeting Location - Rochester Club



MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa V. President	Dan Householder	A	FOAC President	Kim Stolfer	P	Rochester President	Jerry Hooks
A	Ambridge President	Joe Chulupiak	A	Green Valley President	Randy Willson	A	Sewickley President	Michael Tomana
A	Beaver Falls President	Robert Miller	A	Koppel President	Jerry Tilia	A	Southside President	Greg Sauers
P	B.V. Archers V. President	Bob Kolarich	P	Midland President	Dave Knight			
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol V. President	Craig Holdren	P	N. Boroughs President	Bob Reid			
P	Conway President	Bill Frishkorn	P	Pine Run President	John Cummins			
A	Five Points President	Dave Schumacher	A	Pitts Down Riggers President	Dan Kelly			

OFFICERS

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

Call to Order - 7:00 p.m.

Host Club Welcome - Jerry Hooks, Rochester President. BCSCL Hosting at Rochester Club.

Guests - John Surowiec, Jim Keener

Tony - Welcomed attendees and outlined the agenda for the evening. BCSCL is well known throughout the state because of the effort our clubs, who support this league, undertake. It's important that Presidents avail themselves of this opportunity and attend this meeting designed for them so they can take back a more thorough understanding the their club's involvement in this league.

Guest Speaker - Rocco Ali. President of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission's Board of Commissioners. He is also Commissioner of Pennsylvania's Second District which includes, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Fayette, Greens, Indiana, Washington and Westmoreland Counties. [Read Rocco's Bio here.](#)

Topic - SB30 / HB554 & HB521 / SB460

The Commission is back in the legislature trying to get the ability to set our own fishing license and boating license fees instead of seeking fee rates from the legislature. SB30 in the Senate and HB554 in the House, if passed and signed into law will give us that ability. Also, HB521 and SB460 have been introduced and will give the Commission a fee increase but keep the legislature in control of fees. [Rocco's Report highlights](#)

Answers to questions from the group:

Rocco - The 430 some acres of Hereford Manor is owned by the state of Pennsylvania through the PFBC. The PGC has nothing to do with it. We did sell a lease to ABARTA Oil in 2011 or 2012. That lease has expired, we are able to renegotiate another lease which we have not done yet. The money from the ABARTA lease went into the general fund, not into Hereford Manor.

Bill Frishkorn - offered the help of one of his club's member's, who is on the Governor's Advisory Commission for Hunting, Fishing and Conservation.

Tony - Rocco speaks as a representative of the PFBC. I speak as a representative of the sportsmen's arena. The PFBC would like to have SB30 or HB554 pass so they can set their own fees. When the general public calls into their legislators about a bill concerning the fish commission, some percentage of them will not be fishermen or boaters, but yet they have an influence on what happens to the fishing and boating community. We feel it would be better to have the fishing and boating community represent themselves and not have their input diluted by those who don't even fish or boat.

Rocco - SB30 will 'sunset' in 3 years.

Topic - Hereford Manor Lake Project

Rocco brought the Presidents up to date on the Hereford Manor Lake project. He thanked Tony and the work the BCSCCL has done to move things along. The gun raffle to support this project has gone a long way in showing Harrisburg that there is great interest in the community to accomplish it.

Tony - We didn't sell all of the tickets for Hereford Manor Lake, so we've taken the guns that were left over and added a couple more and we're having another raffle for these. A \$20 ticket for 20 guns for 10 days, 2 guns each day. This will give us an additional \$20,000 to add to the \$36,000 from the first ticket and will give us \$56,000 total. The more we raise, the more Harrisburg is convinced the community really wants this lake back.

Please consider sending a donation in to the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation to support the Hereford Manor Lake project. Be it from you or your clubs, every little bit helps. [Restore Hereford Manor Lake](#)

Answers to questions from the group:

Rocco - I need to talk about two fuel taxes:

- 1) The 'Liquid Fuel Tax' is paid by you every time you put gas into a vehicle, boat, car, truck, motorcycle etc.
- 2) The 'Oil Franchise Tax' is paid by the retailer before the fuel gets to the consumer.

Prior to the Corbett Administration passing Act 89, which increased the fuel tax by 13 cents / gallon, the PFBC received a portion of the "Liquid Fuel Tax." After Act 89 became law, the PFBC received its share of the fuel tax from the 'Oil Franchise Tax.' The amount the PFBC received in both instances was determined by how many gallons of fuel were used for boating purposes. This was determined when boat owners renewed their boat registrations and estimated how much fuel they had used for boating. The inclination is to under estimate because you think you're going to get charged more. When they do this (under estimate) the PFBC receives less money. Boat owners will not be charged any additional money whether they use a little or a lot of fuel. So be accurate with your answer. This money has been ear-marked for five years to fix 'High Hazard Dams.'

End of Rocco's Presentation.

Topic - BCSCCL Banquet March 4, 2017

Tony - Coordinated tickets sales with sellers.

This is a fund raiser for the Monday May 22nd 'Make the 2nd Amendment Great Again' rally in Harrisburg. We have 4 buses going. 3 from Beaver County and 1 from Butler County. Glen Beatty from Northside Sportsmen's Association is organizing that bus.

Over the years we have seen a number of good laws passed, such as Castle Doctrine and Preemption, and we can take pride in that we played a part in that happening.

At the dinner, we're going to have a bunch of guns to raffle off. There are 2 guns on the ticket and if your club bought a table, there's 1 table gun raffled as well. We're going to have numerous raffles throughout the evening, such as a 50/50.

Topic - Youth Foundation

Jerry - The Youth Foundation was recently able to get its 501c3 tax status. This will allow us to be more effective in soliciting businesses and other organizations for donations. We have new solicitation forms for that if you'd like to take some and distribute to help out. We definitely do need donations, because historically it take about \$17,000 / year to put on everything we do for the youth.

Mike Zon - This year's Fishing Derby will be on Saturday April 29th at Hopewell Community Park for kids 15 and under. We're putting in more fish and awarding more prizes this year. [Fishing Derby Flyer](#)

Jerry - This year's Youth Field Day as always, will be at Midland Sportsmen's Club on Saturday July 15th. And we have the Youth Conservation Camp coming up June 18th through the 24th. [Camp Flyer](#)

Dan - Any camper who hasn't taken a Hunter Safety Course, Aliquippa Club has a class scheduled for June 3rd. You can sign up on line at the PGC site. Even if it says it's full, come anyway. We'll squeeze you in.

Rich - The Youth Foundation supports all these events as well as the Youth Pheasant Hunt at Raccoon State Park and the Youth Goose Hunt at Brady's Run. All of these events require staff, and we're always looking for more help.

Rich - A clarification on who to send Conservation Camp donations to. Make checks out to B.C.S.C.L. and send them to:

Breanna Edmiston
317 Sassafras Trail
Moon Twp Pa 15108

Tony:

Hereford Manor Lake

Compared the League's Annual Fishing Derby, which provides so much joy for one day for the kids who attend, to Hereford Manor Lake when it has been reconstructed, being able to provide that level of joy to our kids continuously. That thought should help us to continue our efforts to bring this lake back.

Dues Structure

In our effort to get away from constantly selling raffle tickets for fund raising, we came up with the 'Graduated Dues' structure we have now. When clubs find out they can get a Wild Game Dinner, which I provide all the meat for, if they donate at the Platinum Level, more of them tend to do that. We haven't had to have a fund raising raffle since. Clubs have a great time at this dinner and can even make money through a raffle of their own. So those clubs that are eligible for the dinner, let's get them scheduled.

Individual Memberships

Tony asked for input on the subject of individual memberships (which is non voting) which we haven't pursued as of yet, in the County League.

Open Topics for League Clubs

Bill Frishkorn - One of our club member's son, Cameron Perth who in the past has attended the Conservation Camp, was paralyzed from the waist down in a car accident. He has maybe a 5% chance of walking again. June 10th Conway Club is having a music festival to benefit him. It starts at noon. We'll sell tickets at the door. Food will be served.

Larry White - Read an article from the Weekly Bargain Bulletin about the high number of deer fawn kills that were captured on a trail cam set up close to a coyote den. [Article](#) See "Outdoor Opportunities" by Col (Ret) Grey D. Berrier II

Bob Kolarich - The courses for the weekly events at Beaver Valley Archers will change every week. We're hoping to add some excitement and generate additional interest in archery.

Mark Benzio - Midland is starting its Spring Turkey / Ham shoots either the 1st or 2nd Sunday in March and shoot through Easter. More information to come. Tony will do the Midland Wild Game Dinner on the last shoot date. [Flyer](#)

Dave Knight - Midland just put a brand new Wobble Trap in. Come on down and have some fun.

Dan Householder - Thanked all the clubs and individuals who support the Youth Foundation. We wouldn't be able to do what we do if it wasn't for your help.

Aliquippa Swap meet March 25th [Flyer](#)

Aliquippa is having a Ham Shoot on April 9th. [Flyer](#)

Pittsburgh Down Riggers is having a seminar on how to fish for walleyes, Tuesday evening starting at 7:30pm at the Coraopolis Sportsmen's Club. Open to anyone who would like to attend.

Rob Smith is working on booklet updates. New clubs and any club with updates they would like to see in the league booklet, please get that information to Rob. rasmith10@comcast.net 724-407-3945

Tonya Cable - Southside's Spring Shoots are coming up. Every Sunday in March and the first 2 Sunday's in April. [Flyer](#)

Bob Dormanesh - Ambridge is having a Gun Show Swap Meet March 11th. [Flyer](#)

Jerry Hooks - This Sunday Rochester is having a Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation Shooting League Trap Shoot. We've also organized a 200 bird pheasant hunt for 16 people. Starting May 1st we're going to kick off our Rochester 200 Gun Club. We're also going to do a benefit shoot for the Youth Foundation.

Rich Kerlin - Asked for volunteers for the league's upcoming events. Fishing Derby, Conservation Camp, Pheasant Hunt, Goose Hunt.

Bill Frishkorn - Conway's Inner City Fishing Derby is May 6th. This will be our 20th year of holding this event. [More Information](#). Bill offered the league the use of Conway's fishing gear.

Bob Oles - Covered Legislative issues for State and Federal.

- The upcoming "Make the 2nd Amendment Great Again" rally in Harrisburg will be on Monday May 22nd. Please distributed these flyers to as many people as you can. You also have sign up lists to ride the buses that you can post at your clubs. [Flyer](#)
- One of the reasons we go to these 2nd Amendment Rallies is to point out to legislators some of the awful anti-gun legislation being proposed and ask them to not cosponsor it. Here are 2 examples. [Firearms Eligibility License and a Gun Registration program](#).
- Calls are still coming into the PGC asking them NOT to permit the use of semi-automatic rifles for hunting. Legislation permitting semi-autos for hunting, under control of the PGC has been passed. The PGC has already had a unanimous preliminary vote to do so. The final PGC vote takes place at the end of March. Please email the PGC comment line and let them know how you feel. pgccomments@pa.gov [Additional Information](#)
- Obama's Social Security Gun ban will be overturned when President Trump signs legislation already passed by the House and Senate (The President signed this legislation Feb 28th)
- We have a huge opportunity to recover from the anti-gun laws and rules that have come out of the last administration. Legislation being moved through the Senate and House:
 - National Reciprocity [HR-38](#). Repeal federal 'Gun-Free School Zones' [HR-34](#). Hearing Protect Act [HR-367 & S-59](#).

Tony - Asked that all President's wear their League shirts for next year's President's meeting.
Thanked everyone for coming out to this meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Koppel/Rochester 9:20pm

BCSCL 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 BCSCL

