



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

February 1, 2018 Minutes  
Meeting Location - Rochester Club



## MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Mike Harcher	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	Guy Cable		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dick Smith
P	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	P	Pittsburgh Down Riggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Sam Piccinini		(Alt)	David Holderny
A	Beaver Falls	Larry White	P	Green Valley	Vic Gurinowitsch	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Ray Spolarich
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Koppel	Shawn Cox	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)	John Surowiec		(Alt)	Jerry Tilia		(Alt)	None
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol	Bob Oles	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	A	Southside	None
	(Alt)	Clinton DeLuca		(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	None
A	Conway	None	P	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton			
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
						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 - 7:00pm

Host Club Welcome - Jerry Hooks, President, Rochester Club

Guests - Ray Shulty, Dick Bayer

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

Treasurer's Report -

- Motion to approve, Rochester/Sewickley. Passed.
- Credential Sheets needed = Conway, Koppel, Sewickley, South Side.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Shawn Cox - Presented the league with a thank you card for its announcement to the members to keep him in their thoughts and prayers after his automobile accident.

## STATE AGENCIES

### PA GAME COMMISSION - Mike Yeck

- Of the harvested deer samples tested within Disease Management Areas, (DMAs) 51 deer have tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). 48 of those from DMA 2. 3 from DMA 3.
- Matthew Schnupp replaced Wayne Laroche as the new Wildlife Management Director for the PGC. Wayne was appointed as the agency's special assistant for chronic wasting disease response.
- Preliminary 2018-19 hunting / trapping seasons were approved. Refer to Mike's Report for details.
- Preliminary approval that would permit the use of centerfire semiautomatic shotguns, that propel single-projectile ammunition, for hunting deer, bear, or elk. For elk, the shotgun would need to be 12 gauge or larger.
- Proposed mandatory use of a fall restraint harness for people that install, use, or occupy tree stands on state game lands. This was tabled for rewording issues.
- Preliminary vote to dissolve Somerset Wild Pheasant Recovery Area. The population failed to take hold.
- Preliminary approval to eliminate the need for a baiting permit on private property in the Southeast Special Regulations area.
- Adopted a host of improvements to enhance public access to state game stands by persons with mobility challenges.
- Preliminary approval to require junior hunters to obtain a free pheasant permit to hunt pheasants. This will help the PGC quantify the number of youths hunting pheasants in the state.
- [Mikes Report](#)

### PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- The 2018 adult trout stocking schedules are now available online and on the PFBC's "FishBoatPA" mobile app.
- Included in this year's stocking lists are the Keystone Select Stocked Trout Waters, a program where 21 streams across the state are stocked with large 14" - 20" trout.
- Mentored Youth Day will be held on April 7, the Saturday before the April 14 regular opening day of trout season.
  - To participate in the mentored youth program, adult anglers (16 years or older) must have a valid fishing license and trout permit and be accompanied by a youth. Youth anglers must obtain a free PFBC-issued permit, or a voluntary youth fishing license (only \$2.90 including all fees)
  - For every voluntary youth license sold, the PFBC receives approximately \$5 in federal revenue from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Sport Fish Restoration Act program.
- The PFBC annually stocks approximately 3.15 million adult trout in 720 streams and 126 lakes open to public angling.
- In addition to these fish, the PFBC plans to stock about 8,700 trophy golden rainbow trout that weigh an average of 1.5 pounds and measure at least 14 inches long.
- PFBC Executive Director John Arway reminds anglers that the 2018 stocking numbers are the same as in previous years but advised that the number of stocked trout in 2019 could be reduced if legislators don't approve a license fee increase.
  - Please ask your legislator to support SB 30.
- The Great American Outdoor Show Feb 3 - Feb 11 [Link](#)
- Allegheny Outdoor Sport and Travel Show Feb 16 - Feb 18. [Link](#)
- [Jeremy's Report](#)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- No Report
- Send your club information to: [rasmith10@comcast.net](mailto:rasmith10@comcast.net)

### GAME - Mike Harcher

- Meat from the average size deer will provide approximately 200 meals of venison.
  - A new record was set in the 26th year of "Hunters Sharing the Harvest." 120,555 lbs. of meat from over 3,000 harvested deer was donated to food banks across the state. [Link](#)
- Bobcat numbers are in decline in PA and the PGC is considering shorter seasons for 2018-19.
- The fisher population is increasing. The PGC is considering expanding fisher trapping to 2 additional WMUs.
- Black bear hunting was extended 4 days in WMU 3A.
- PGC set a policy for "no wind turbines" on state game lands.
- New state record for typical buck in archery season. It had a net score of 185-4/8. [Link](#)
- Range of area elk herd expanding. [Link](#)
- There is a winter research project to determine the source of a decreasing elk pregnancy rate.

#### POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- EPA Awarded \$3.7 Million to Pennsylvania for Chesapeake Bay Restoration. [Link](#)
- Harmful algae blooms continue to plague Lake Erie, threaten drinking water, fish, pets. [Link](#)
- Tiny plastic micro-beads have been found in alarming numbers in the Great Lakes. [Link](#)
- Sunoco gas pipeline construction shut down in southern Pennsylvania. [Link](#)

#### FISHING DERBY- Mike Zon

- Motion to release \$1,750 for this year's derby. Pine Run/Five Points. Passed.
- Scheduled for Saturday April 28, 2018. 8:00am till 12:00pm Registration starts at 6:30am

#### CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Scheduled dates, June 17 - June 23 in group camp 2 again. Setup will be June 16, after 3pm We will accept 50 campers.
- Changes for this year:
  - Application / Tuition - Applications post marked prior to April 15, will require a tuition of \$150. Applications post marked from April 15 to May 31, tuition will be \$200. Applications post marked after May 31, will be \$300. No verbal reservations will be taken. Application and payment must be received for it to count.
  - We are changing the entry age from 12 years old to 13 years old.
- Campers are required to successfully complete the PA Hunter-Trapper Education Course PRIOR to the start of camp.
  - List of available courses can be found at this [link](#).
- There will be an optional Camper / Parent meeting on May 20, at the Aliquippa Bucktails Sportsmen's Club at 7pm. New campers are strongly recommended to attend.
- [Breanna's Report](#) [Camp Flyer](#) [Camp Application](#)

#### ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening 6pm until whenever the archer wants to leave. No experience necessary and equipment will be provided. There is no charge for this program. This is where the local youth who attend the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) start their archery experience.
  - You don't have to be a member of the club to participate.
- Starting our indoor shoots on January 9, 2018. \$5/club member. \$7/non club member.
- The NASP, State Qualifier, held at Brighton High School on Jan 20, hosted over 300 young archers. The event went very well. We had plenty of help for set up on Jan 19, but we could have used a little more help on the day of the event. Thanks to the league for its donation to support this program.
- There were 390 black bears harvested by archers during this year's hunting season.
- <http://www.beavervalleyarchers.com>

#### EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- Please check out the new updates on the league's website.
- Still getting limited information on club events. Can't post it, if we don't get it. Posting your club's information on our website can only help your club.
- Frank Kelly, website designer - When we get information about your club, we want to link back to your club's website. In some circumstances I can't find anything to link back to. So it would help you out if you could supply that information. We get a lot of traffic which can be pointed in your direction, if we have the information we need.
  - Frank gave an example of an individual who made the decision to join Rochester Club based upon the information he found on Rochester's website. It's a new day and a new time and if we're going to be successful, we need to make some adjustments on how we present information about our clubs.

#### LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- With the 2nd Amendment Rally in Harrisburg coming up April 30, it's important to know what we're up against in this constant struggle to maintain our freedom. In the past we have focused on educating misinformed legislators and their staff who don't read the United States Constitution the same way we do, or for that matter, they don't read it at all. And we encourage the legislators who do understand that the same Constitution is the law of the land, to continue supporting legislation that falls within the parameters of that founding document that all laws are supposed to be based upon.
  - But now, we find ourselves in a civil war of sorts where the political left in this country refuses to obey the Constitution or any legitimately elected government officer if that office holder is not one of them, controlled by them. This is not protest or activism, it's treason. Read Kim Stolfer's, [Letter on this civil war](#)
- Our primary focus this year will be on:
  - Eliminating the PICS System (PA Instant Check System) SB 224 & Hb 763
  - Passing Constitutional Carry HB 170
  - Strengthening PA Firearm Preemption Law HB 671 & SB 5
  - Review these bills as well as other [Pro-Gun Bills](#)

- Governor Wolf's Statewide Emergency Proclamation on the Opioid Crisis brought to the surface an aspect of official government emergencies that most gun owners know nothing about. That is, your statewide constitutional right to carry a firearm openly without a concealed carry permit is revoked during the emergency. What in the world does an opioid crisis have to do with your right to openly carry a firearm without a concealed carry permit? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!
    - Title 18 Section 6107 is the offending culprit that HB 2021 will repeal. We will bring this bill to the attention of lawmakers and their staff at this rally. [See HB 2012](#)
  - We will also bring to the attention of lawmakers a list of anti-gun bills that need to be defeated. [Anti-Gun Bills](#)
  - If you're interested in attending this rally, contact: Bob Oles at [roles120@reagan.com](mailto:roles120@reagan.com) or 412-327-2985.
  - To get a flavor of what takes place at these rallies, see a [Video of the 2016 Rally](#) produced by Eric Cooper of Beaver Valley Rifle & Pistol Club. [Rally Flyer](#)
- **FISH COMMITTEE** - Mike Barcaskey
- Absent

#### **HUNTER EDUCATION** - George Sullivan

- Upcoming Hunter Education Classes
 

3/03/18	YMCA, New Brighton	9am - 4pm
3/10/18	Mill Creek U.P. Church, Hookstown	9am - 4pm
- PGC has started an online Cable Restraint Class. Sign up at, [Link](#)

#### **CONSERVATION DISTRICT** - George Sullivan

- 2018 Maple Syrup Festival at Brady's Run is April 7 & 8.
- The Beaver County Conservation District hired a new employee, Phoebe Prince. She will be spraying for mosquitos throughout Beaver County in an effort to reduce the West Nile Virus.

#### **YOUTH FOUNDATION** - Jerry Hooks

- January's Committee meeting was canceled.
- Committee meetings are at the Aliquippa Club on the Third Thursday of the month at 7pm. Anyone can attend.
- Tony - We need more people to get involved with the Youth Foundation.

#### **FUND RAISING** - Need a Chairman

- Craig - So far we've received donations for the Harrisburg buses from:
  - Rochester \$1,000
  - BVRPC \$1,000
  - Five Points \$500
  - Sewickley \$250
- Vic - Suggested that those going to the rally could also be encouraged to donate for their seat.
- Craig - We have Fund Raising Gun Ticket. 4 guns \$10/ticket going off on April 20. [Ticket Flyer](#)

#### **YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS** - Rich Kerlin

- No Report

#### **YOUTH FIELD DAY** - Need a Chairman

- Still looking for a committee chairman. If anyone wants to step up, Jerry Hooks said he would work with them to help them get started.

#### **BANQUET** - Tony Rich

- We weren't able to get the committee together and had to cancel the meeting. At this date, we just don't have enough time to put the Awards Banquet together on the tentative date of March 3. We'll reschedule for a later date.
- Committee volunteers - Mike Harcher, Guy, Tonya, Chayce Cable, Rich Kerlin, Mike Zon, George Sullivan.
- See [Awards Description](#) for this Banquet.

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

- No Report

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

## NEW BUSINESS

- Rich - Reminded committee chairman to bring their committee budget requests to the floor in the first part of the year and not wait until just before their event takes place.
- Rich - We also need to re-confirm committee chair appointments in the beginning of the year to keep matters up to date.
- The annual Presidents meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 14, 2018, at 7:00pm. All Presidents, Vice Presidents and Delegates are invited to attend. See [Invitation](#) letter sent out to club Presidents and Vice Presidents.
- Since the invitation was sent out, additional presentations have been added to the agenda.
  - President of the PA Fish and Boat Commission Rocco Ali will discuss progress on funding the restoration of Hereford Manor Lake.
  - State Representative, District 10, Aaron Bernstine will discuss ITAR and progress on the funding for Hereford Manor Lake.
- Tony - Lisa Olszak was hired by the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (PFSC) to find out why the Federation's membership is declining and why the group is faltering.
- Craig - Had questions about who we could ask for donations for the Harrisburg Rally trip.

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Andy - Pittsburgh Downriggers Lake Erie Charter Raffle for four people. Saturday July 28 (half day charter) and Sunday July 29 (full day charter) plus \$500 in cash. \$5/ticket with two numbers. Drawing goes off on July 10.
- Andy - April 7, Pittsburgh Down Riggers is sponsoring a fishing seminar, tentatively at Raccoon Fire Hall. Will have an Erie Boat on display, fully rigged for fishing.
- Andy - Will also have a seminar on river fishing and maybe a small lake fishing seminar, like for Pymatuning. Finalized information will be available at the next league meeting.
- Vic - Haley Barbour, former Mississippi governor, as arrested with loaded gun at an airport. This oversight will cost him at least \$4,000. Moral of the story, don't forget where you put your gun. [Article](#)
- Craig - Asked those who are voting members of the NRA to consider voting for Adam Kraut for the NRA Board of Directors. [Adam Kraut Bio](#)
- Craig - FOAC is having its semi annual gun bash Saturday March 17 at the Washington County Fair Grounds. Tickets are \$50. Many fine guns will be raffled off that day. [More Info](#)
- Five Points is having its 4th annual Hunt of a Lifetime Shoot, which supports this event, on June 10. The Hunt of a Lifetime sends kids with life threatening diseases on a dream hunt or dream fishing trip. Last year Five Points raised over \$10,000. Any club that would like, can sponsor a target for \$100. [Flyer](#)
- Rich - Three people who have been involved in the county league passed away during the last month.
  - Babe Adams who was very active at Midland Club and helped the league out.
  - Tom Colalella, Vice President of Beaver Valley Rifle and Pistol Club.
  - Steve Cukrovany
- Rich - Sara Benzio recently represented Beaver County in Hershey, for the State Fair Queen competition.
- Ambridge Club is having a Gun Show/Swap Meet on Saturday March 10, 9am - 4pm. \$5 admissions fee. [Flyer](#)
- Midland Club is having a Sportsmen's Swap Meet on Saturday March 3, 9am - 3pm. \$2 admissions fee. [Flyer](#)

## 50/50 DRAWING

- \$62.50 Rob Smith. Rob donated \$30 to the Youth Foundation.

## MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Koppel/Aliquippa, 9:30pm

## BCSCL 2018 Meeting Dates & Locations

January 4th	<b>Aliquippa Bucktails</b>	May 3rd	<b>Southside</b>	Sept 13th	<b>Ambridge</b>
February 1st	<b>Rochester</b>	June 7th	<b>Pine Run</b>	Oct 4th	Koppel
March 1st	<b>Rochester, North Boroughs Hosting</b>	July 5th	Conway	Nov 1st	<b>Beaver Falls</b>
April 5th	<b>B.V. Archers</b>	Aug 2nd	<b>Midland</b>	Dec 13th	<b>Five Points</b>

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL

