



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

November 1, 2018 Minutes
Meeting Location - Beaver Falls Club



MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Mike Harcher	A	Five Points	Jim Farland	A	Pittsburgh Down Riggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)	Guy Cable		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	David Holderny
P	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	A	Rochester	Jerry Hooks
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Sam Piccinini		(Alt)	Ray Spolarich
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	P	Green Valley	Vic Gurinowitsch	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	A	Southside	Louie Muller
	(Alt)	George Klinger		(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	None
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	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
	(Alt)	None		(Alt)	Dick Smith	A	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 - Bob Miller. President, Beaver Falls Club

Guests - George Molchen, Gary Finnigan VP Aliquippa Club

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

Treasurer's Report -

- Motion to approve, Pine Run/BV Archers. Passed.

ELECTION - October

COMMUNICATIONS

- Thank you card from the Harcher family for the BCSCCL donation to the Youth Foundation, in memory of Andrew Harcher, Mike's Father.

STATE AGENCIES

PA GAME COMMISSION - Mike Yeck

- Matt extended his thanks through Mike, to everyone who helped with this year's Youth Pheasant Hunt.
- The 2017-18 year pheasant stamp sales topped \$1.1 million.
 - This enabled the statewide pheasant allocation to be increased to 220,000 birds.
 - The number of roosters released were increased by 75%.
 - Hen hunting is now permitted in WMU's 2A, 2C, 4C and 5B.
- New mobile device app that can be downloaded at the iTunes and Google Play stores gives access to the Hunting and Trapping Digest and the agency's mapping center.
 - You can also buy licenses through the app or find nearby issuing agencies for an in person purchase.
 - You can report harvests and find the locations of bear and elk check stations.
 - Wildlife-law violations can be reported through the app.
- Motorists use caution, deer are becoming increasingly active.
- Tony - Many hunters just do not know the counties that contain Disease Management Areas (DMA) that are affected by CWD. If you harvest a deer in a DMA you must get that deer processed at a shop within that DMA. It cannot leave the DMA unless it's processed and all high-risk parts are removed.
- Tony - Because of CWD, The Safari Club International, is not accepting any donated meat for distribution to the homeless. Sharing The Harvest is still in play.
- [Mike's Report](#)

PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- No Report
- Tony - Frank Kelly is working on the advertising space for the booklet.

GAME - Mike Harcher

- Small game hunting is declining in our state. In the 1990's, 350,000 people hunted rabbits. As of 2014 that number dropped to 75,000. A similar rate of decline affected squirrel and pheasant. Attributed causes are: Loss of young hunters, loss of habitat which has led to the decrease in the small game population. There are 3 times as many big game hunters as there are small game hunters.
- The PGC has added a "Hunting Outreach Coordinator" position to recruit and retain hunters to restore the hunting sport in our state. Over all hunter numbers are declining.
- PGC is starting a strategic plan that will run through year 2020 to put wild life resources first. Improve wildlife habitat. Follow sound business practices. Improve support for hunting and trapping.
- The rules for wearing fluorescent orange by hunters are changing next year.
- PGC approved an updated turkey management plan.

POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- Local concrete contractor was caught dumping concrete into Elkhorn Run. He was fined.
- All work on the pipeline that exploded in Center Twp. was ordered to stop until the company addresses what happened to cause the explosion.

FISHING DERBY- Mike Zon

- No Report

CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Absent
- Pictures from this year's camp. [Link](#)

ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- We're involved in archery hunting right now and not doing much at the club.
- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening 6:00pm. There is adult supervision. No experience necessary and equipment will be provided. There is no charge for this program.
 - You don't have to be a member of the club to participate.

- The Junior Olympics Archery Development (JOAD) program started this Saturday. This will be open only to members of the club. We now have about 20 young people shooting.
 - Here's a [Link](#) for a look at JOAD.
- The first Pennsylvania archery season was in 1951. 5000 archery hunters bagged 33 deer. That was less than 1/10 of one percent of the total deer population at that time.
 - Last season over 300,000 archers harvested 118,110 deer. That was 34% of the total deer harvest.
 - 61% of archery hunters use cross bows.
- <http://www.beavervalleyarchers.com>

EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- No Report

LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- Tom Gresham, host of Tom Gresham's Gun Talk, the first nationally-syndicated radio show about guns and the shooting sports recently wrote:
 - All over the country Democrat candidates are calling for gun bans. Pelosi and Schumer are calling for gun bans and ammo bans, or any other form of regulation they can burden us with. To put a fine point on it, any vote for any Democrat is a vote for Schumer and Pelosi. [Tom Gresham Article](#)
- Kim Stolfer, Chairman of Firearms Owners Against Crime wrote in a letter to FOAC members:
 - Did you ever wonder how in the world it is possible that anti-gun politicians are getting away with shoving their agenda down our throats without suffering at the ballot box? It could be a lot of gunners aren't voting. Pennsylvania is home to 1.17 million citizens with a License to Carry Concealed Firearms, which means we should control nearly every State and Federal race in PA. [FOAC Article](#)
- Listen to the difference between Congressional candidates Keith Rothfus and Conor Lamb from their statements:
- Keith Rothfus - "Law-abiding Americans need semi-automatic guns because the bad guys are going to get these guns." [Rothfus Article](#)
 - In 2016 Keith Rothfus co-sponsored HCR-148, a pro-gun bill. Keith understands the importance of the 2nd Amendment. HCR-148:
 - Expresses the sense of Congress that the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States protects the individual right to keep and bear arms for the purpose of self-defense and that the Second Amendment right is fully applicable to the States.
- Conor Lamb - "...the 113th Congress won't act on "even the most common sense things, things most anyone would consider uncontroversial." This is a veiled reference to gun control laws. [Lamb Article](#)
- Gun owners, we, need to do everything we can to insure candidates who understand our 'Right To Keep & Bear Arms' are elected. Use this link to the [FOAC voters guide](#) when you vote. Also pass it around to everyone you know.
- Tony - As an American Citizen, Republican or Democrat, it is your duty to support the Constitution (2nd Amendment) by voting for candidates, Republican or Democrat) who also support the Constitution (2nd Amendment). A candidate who works to take your guns away, does not support the Constitution.

FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Barcaskey

- Absent

HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- Absent

CONSERVATION DISTRICT - George Sullivan

- Absent

YOUTH FOUNDATION - Guy Cable

- We congratulate Guy Cable who was elected President of the Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League Youth Foundation.
- Congratulations also to Mike Zon, elected Vice President. Dan Householder, elected Treasurer. Tonya Cable, elected Secretary
- 2019 Youth Fishing Derby tentatively set for Saturday April 27.
- Saturday, May 11, 2019 is tentatively scheduled for the 2nd annual Sporting Clay Fundraising Shoot for the Youth Foundation, to be held at Rochester Sportsmen's Club.
- Pastor Bob Singleton was appointed to replace Shawn Cox as a Director of the Youth Foundation.
- [BCSCLYF Minutes](#)

FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman.

YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- Pheasant Hunt
 - 20 youth signed up. Ended up with 16 hunters.
 - Divided hunters up into 8 groups with 2 hunters/group and ran 2 fields.
 - 11 pheasants were harvested. Only 2 groups did not harvest birds.
 - Thanks to some last minute pleas by Tony and others, we ended up with plenty of help.
 - Club's providing help - Aliquippa, Rochester, Beaver Falls, Midland, Sewickley, Five Points and others.
 - Youth Foundation provided refreshments
 - Thanks to the PGC for their support.
 - Special thanks to the dog handlers.
 - Total cost for the event was \$200. This included the extra pheasants and the food and drinks.
 - Mike took pictures and will get them to Craig.
- Goose Hunt
 - Set up the blinds on Oct 17. Only had 2 volunteers to help, myself and Mike Zon. We usually have 8 helpers. Don't know what happened.
 - Youth Hunt held Oct 27. Had 6 youth hunters sign up. Ended up with only 4 kids. Used 2 blinds with 2 kids in each blind.
 - Guy Cable was a mentor and Doug Dean who is a hunter set instructor. Mike Zon was our mobile scout checking out where the birds were at.
 - No birds were harvested
 - Held first adult hunt Oct 29. Had 6 hunters in 3 blinds.
 - 2nd adult hunt will be tomorrow, Friday, Nov 2. Last adult hunt will be Monday Nov 5.
 - Next year's application deadline will be the Monday after the Youth Pheasant Hunt.

FAMILY FIELD DAY - Need a Chairman

- [Sampling of Pictures](#) from 2018 Family Field Day.

BANQUET - Tony Rich

- No banquet scheduled for this year.

BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS

- Walt - What's the latest on Hereford Manor Lake?
- Tony - Tim Schaeffer will be the new Executive Director of the PA Fish & Boat Commission. At a future date Rocco Ali will work on setting up a meeting between the new Director and Tony Rich, State Rep Aaron Bernstine and Rocco Ali about Hereford Manor Lake.
- Craig - Concerning the league's letter to Dick's Sporting Goods, I've communicated with Dick's representatives 6 times and still can't get an appointment with Dick's Merchandise Manager and Firearms Buyer.
 - Motion to send registered letter to Scott Casciato at Dick's. Original motion which passed, was to hand deliver the letter to a Dick's official. FOAC / Green Valley. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tony - Sent in two names of nominees for the Conservation District. Jeff Lyons and Wayne Harvey.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Vic - Made voters guides available. These particular guides have questions that were asked of candidates and then their answers are given.
- Bob - Asked for confirmation of meeting dates for clubs that are hosting league meetings in 2019.
- Craig - Get out and vote. Could lose more of our 2nd Amendment rights. Just look how bad HB-2060 turned out in regard to Protection From Abuse orders.
- Vic - I was born in a Nazi labor camp. Looking back on that experience I wonder how in the world those people were able to be fooled into letting the Hitler take their guns. But yet, I see the very same thing happening here.
- Mark - Please turn your credential sheets and dues in as soon as you can.

50/50 DRAWING

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- FOAC/ North Boroughs 9:25pm

BCSCL December 13, 2018 meeting location = Five Points

BCSCL 2019 Meeting Dates & Tentative Locations

January 3	Aliquippa Bucktails	May 2	Southside	Sept 5	Ambridge
February 7	Rochester	June 6	Pine Run	Oct 3	Rochester - BVRPC Hosting
March 7	Rochester - North Boroughs Hosting	July 11	Conway	Nov 7	Beaver Falls
April 4	B.V. Archers	Aug 1	Midland	Dec 12	Five Points

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL