



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

Oct. 1, 2020 Minutes  
Meeting Location - Conway Club



## MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Guy Cable	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	Mike Harcher		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dick Smith
P	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	A	Pittsburgh Down Riggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Clinton DeLuca		(Alt)	Ed Lamb
A	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forrest Grove	Mike Karkalla	A	Rochester	Jerry Hooks
	(Alt)	Frank Eder			Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	None
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Vic Gurinowitsch	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)	Jack Weisman		(Alt)	None		(Alt)	None
P	B.V. Rifle & Pistol	Bob Oles	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	A	Southside	Louie Muller
	(Alt)	Rich Wall		(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	None
P	Conway	Brian Lippert	A	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
	(Alt)	Jacob Lippert		(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 - 7:00pm

Host Club Welcome - Brian Lippert, Conway Delegate

Guests - Beaver County Sheriff, Tony Guy

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

Treasurer's Report - Starting Balance 2/6/20 = \$15,629.88. Ending Balance 10/1/20 = \$13,813.93.

• Motion to approve, Pine Run/Ambridge. Passed.

**GUEST SPEAKER** - Beaver County Sheriff, Tony Guy

The Sheriff spoke on the recent decision by the Pennsylvania Superior Court which will allow the parents of J.R. Gustafson of Westmoreland County PA. who was accidentally shot and killed when he was 14 years old by a friend, to sue both Springfield Armory and Saloom Department store where the gun was purchased. Prior to this ruling the PLCAA (Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act) prevented this from happening. With the current judges on the PA Supreme Court, this ruling could be upheld, if so, there will be HUGE implications. Rather than putting the responsibility of that crime on the individual who committed it, they're using this opportunity to damage the gun industry. [Article](#)

We, the citizens of this state elected the Superior Court judges who made this ruling including Judge Deborah Kunselman who was a Beaver County judge in Common Pleas Court from 2006 to 2017, [Kunselman's History](#) and the judges on the PA Supreme Court who will hear its appeal. Elections are important and have consequences. This November's election is so important in its implications for our future freedom. Make sure you get out to vote and cast an informed ballot.

One important race in the 17th Congressional District is between Conor Lamb and Sean Parnell. Lamb has an F rating from the NRA. Sean Parnell has a A+ rating from the NRA.

Craig - Sean is endorsed by FOAC and GOA. GOA has given him an A+ rating

Tony Rich - If you value your freedoms, and your guns, and your country, it's very important how this election turns out. Tony mentioned the PA Governor's Emergency declarations and how they have restricted our freedoms by restricting the open carry of firearms without a Concealed Carry Permit, which is unconstitutional, and the further restrictions on long guns.

Tony Rich - Thank you Sheriff for coming to the meeting tonight and bringing this to our attention.

### **ELECTION - October**

- The President and Secretary offices are up for election this year. Nominating Committee Chair, Craig Holdren.
  - Tony Rich is running for President. There were no other nominations. The Secretary cast 1 vote for Tony Rich for President.
  - Bob Oles is not running for Secretary. Tonya Cable was nominated and accepted. There were no other nominations. The current Secretary cast 1 vote for Tonya Cable to be the new Secretary.
  - Congratulations to both Tony and Tonya.
- Tony - Thanked Bob for his years of service to the league as Secretary.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

### **STATE AGENCIES**

#### PA GAME COMMISSION - Mike Yeck

- The Elk camera is now live with video and audio on State Game Lands 311 in Elk County. [www.pgc.pa.gov](http://www.pgc.pa.gov)
- Statewide Archery starts Oct 3 for antlered and antlerless deer.
- Hunters may use long recurve or compound bows (draw weight minimum of 35 pounds) or cross bows (draw weight minimum of 125 pounds)
- Be aware of CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease) rules concerning bringing back parts from other states.
- New Maps to help hunters. Some features are - food source locations, whitetail bedding areas, travel routes and pinch points for deer. Also has DMA (Disease Management Area) boundaries, head collection bins and high risk parts dumpsters. [Link to the PGC news release](#)
- Night vision and infrared optics, hand held or sporting arms mounted have been approved. Will become effective once reviewed and published in the Pennsylvania Manual. Should take 6 to 8 weeks.
- We didn't have Hunter Ed this year, due to the coronavirus.
- For the Hunter Ed Instructor of the Year I nominated Dick Ward and Dave Knight for the Northern District of Beaver County. So congratulate them when you see them.
- Tony - How many bears have you counted?
- Mike - The bear population is doing great. He listed a number of different areas and the bear count within each area.
- [Mike's Report](#)

#### PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Due to Covid-19 restrictions, trout stocking will be done by employees only. Stock dates:
  - Raccoon Lake - 10/19 to 10/24
  - Brady's Run - 11/16 to 11/21
- The PFBC now has the power to set license and registration fees thanks to HB-808 becoming law. We're hoping to make small incremental raises in rates on a yearly basis to avoid the large fee hikes every 10 to 15 years. There is a sunset provision on this bill.
- New state records - Brown Trout in Lake Erie = 20 lbs. 8 oz. Flathead Catfish from the Susquehanna River = 56 lbs. 3 oz.
- Our new Executive Director is filling the ranks of the Waterways Conservation Officers (WCO) back up. The 22nd WCO class graduated in June and they're all in the field now. The 23rd class should start in January and the 24th class in July next year. [Jeremy's Report](#)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Tony - We have booklets from last year so we're good for awhile

### GAME - Mike Harcher

- No Report

### POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- 1/3 of PA's waterways are impaired by pollution. But on the plus side, 26 waterways have been restored since 2016.
- 1 of every 3 miles of rivers and streams in PA has impaired water quality. The number of impaired stream miles has grown by 5,568 miles since the last assessment two years ago.
- Of the 85,146 miles of rivers and streams that have been tested, 25,460 miles failed to meet standards for water supplies used for recreation, aquatic life and fish consumption.
- 1 in every 8 miles of rivers and streams are considered unsafe for recreation.
- Nearly 1/2 of public lakes in the state have fish that are not safe to eat.
- The top 3 sources of water pollution are - Agricultural run off, Abandoned Mine run off, storm water.
- 99% of all rivers and streams in the state have been assessed.

### FISHING DERBY - Mike Zon

- Absent
- Rich - The date is set for Saturday May 1, 2021

### FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Zon

- Absent

### CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Absent

### ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer.

- Our club has been pretty much shut down except for a couple of shoots this year. We just starting getting activities going again.
- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening from 7:00pm to 8:45pm. There is adult supervision. No experience necessary and equipment will be provided. No charge for this program and you don't have to be a member to participate.
- Walt has been recovering from a broken hip he suffered from a fall earlier this year.
- <http://www.beavervalleyarchers.com>

### EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- No report

### LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- Conservative economist and American treasure Thomas Sowell has a warning for Americans:
  - The 2020 elections could be a "point of no return" for the United States. To think that things would degenerate to the point where adult human beings are talking about getting rid of the police at a time when murder rates have been skyrocketing over what they were just a year ago. And what is frightening is how many people in responsible positions are caving in to every demand that is made, repeating any kind of nonsense that you're supposed to repeat. The Roman Empire overcame many problems in its long history, but eventually, it reached the point where it simply could no longer continue on. And much of that was from within, not just the barbarians attacking from outside. The same thing we see happening right here in the United States. [Thomas Sowell Article](#)
- This 4 minute video of Detroit Auto worker Jerry Wayne illustrates the anti-gun nonsense we'll be face with should Biden win the Presidential election this November. [Jerry Wayne Video Link](#)
- Every pro-gun organization I can think of is screaming as loud as they can that the Biden / Harris ticket is bad news for guns, for freedom, for America. Here's a [Link to a list of 7 pro-gun groups](#) that are telling gun owners not to vote for Biden and or have endorsed President Trump for reelection with a short statement from each.
  - [A Firearms Policy Coalition article lists 21 actions](#) how a Biden / Harris administration would attack your Right To Keep & Bear Arms. And [here is that plan](#) spelled out in detail.
  - Remember the couple from St. Louis who defended their home against a Black Lives Matter mob that broke a gate down to trespass on their property and threatened them? Mark and Patricia McCloskey, the home owners waved a couple of guns around to encourage the mob to leave them alone. Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner (you guessed it, a Democrat) says their actions risked creating a violent situation during an otherwise "peaceful protest" and ordered

their guns confiscated and the McCloskey's arrested. Unbelievable!! But maybe [\*The Democrats Really Are Coming for Our Guns.\*](#)

- FOAC, Firearms Owners Against Crime, each election publishes a Pro-Gun Voters Guide for almost all elections in Pennsylvania. Here is a copy of this [\*FOAC Voters Guide for Beaver County.\*](#) You can obtain a copy of this guide or a Voters Guide for any county in Pennsylvania on their website <https://foac-pac.org/Voter-Guide>
- If you believe the 2nd Amendment is the foundation that all of our freedoms are based upon, with all of these pro-gun groups telling us what a catastrophe Biden and Harris would be for that freedom, and you still plan on voting for Biden / Harris, I don't know what to tell you.
- 2 bills in the PA Senate need your help so contact Senator Vogel and ask him to help get these on the floor for a vote.
  - HB-1747 will remove the Governor's ability to infringe upon our rights by requiring a LTCF to open carry during a state of emergency. See Item #3 of [\*PA Pro-Gun Legislation\*](#)
    - In case you didn't know, we're in the 5th year of a state of emergency. The first state of emergency was for drugs. Now the current state of emergency is for Covid-19.
  - HB-2440 would protect the firearms industry and shooting ranges from arbitrary closure during a state of emergency by making them life-sustaining businesses. [\*GOA HB 2440 Info\*](#)
  - Senator Elder Vogel - Rochester 724-774-0444. Harrisburg 717-787-3076

#### HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- Absent

#### CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Dick Smith

- Absent

#### YOUTH FOUNDATION - Guy Cable

- YF meeting held at Aliquippa club 9/17/20. Guy was absent, Mike Zon chaired the meeting.
- Checking = \$1,093.08. Savings = \$15,136.87.
- Fishing Derby - \$750 fish order money was returned. No expense for prizes. All due to cover restrictions.
- Next years Derby May 1st.
- Mike is requesting the PGC's virtual reality trailer again.
- Fund raising clay shoot has been postponed. Hopefully we'll be able to hold this event in the spring.

#### FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman.

- No Report

#### YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- Youth Pheasant Hunt Oct 10. Going to be a little different this year.
  - To participate, must be a PA licensed Junior Hunter and must possess a pheasant stamp.
  - 2 separate registration times. 7:00 am & 9:30 am.
  - Seating area will be roped off. If you want a seat, you'll have to bring your own.
  - Masks will be required at registration and for the group picture, if we take one. No masks in the field due to sufficient separation.
  - No coffee, drinks or water. Bring your own.
  - Youth hunter must stay with their parents until it's time for them to hunt.
  - As soon as a kid's hunt is done, they are going to be leaving with their parents and travel out to Route 168. If anyone wants to go on a separate hunt then they can come back in.
  - No bird cleaning station.
  - **NEED HELP IN THE FIELD!!!!** If you can't be in the field, don't come out. I hate to do it this way, but covid-19 restrictions necessitate it. I only have 6 volunteers so far. At a bare minimum I need 4 guys for each field.
  - Volunteers, please be there no later than 7:15 am. Safety briefing will be at 7:30 am.
  - I ordered 6 additional roosters from Gobblers Knob.
  - All the dogs are lined up.
- Goose Hunt
- Youth Hunt is Oct 31. So far, zero kids have applied.
  - Masks required for check in
  - No coffee, hot chocolate, or donuts will be provided. We'll get the kids checked in and out in the blind as quick as we can.
  - I have 3 or 4 people with dogs lined up. Need mentors on Oct 31 that have water fowl experience.
  - If you want information or to apply call the Beaver County department of Recreation & Tourism 724-770-2060.
  - Deadline to apply is Oct 13
  - Thanks to Frank and Craig this information has been on the league website for a couple of weeks.

- **NEED HELP!!!** Blind set date is Oct 13. Meet at the Beaver County Public Works building on Route 51 just south of the Brady's Run Park entrance at 8:00am. Bring gloves and a small pair of pruning sheers.
- Contact Rich for information and to volunteer. 724-601-6974. [kerlinkanine@aol.com](mailto:kerlinkanine@aol.com)
- Adult Goose Hunts - Nov 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20
  - Adults who apply will pay a \$5 administrative fee when picked for a blind.
  - Deadline to apply is Oct 13.

**YOUTH FIELD DAY** - Chayce

- Canceled for this year.

**BANQUET** - Tony Rich

- No banquet scheduled for this year.

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

- Canceled this year. Deposit check returned.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Tony - Reviewed the progress of the Hereford Manor Lake project.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Tony presented a Plaque / Certificate of Achievement to Chayce Cable for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. We've watched him grow from a young boy to a young man. A few of his many achievements, being involved with 4H, being the youngest Hunter ED Safety Instructor in Pennsylvania, also all of his community work. For his Senior project Chayce was the chairman of the Youth Field Day last year. Well done young man. Congratulations. Your Mom and Dad are proud of you. I know they were a big part in all of this.
  - Guy Cable extended his thanks to everyone in the league who helped shape Chayce into the young man he has become.
- Tim Watson extended an invitation, that the league could meet at Ambridge club if one of the clubs that was scheduled to host a league meeting couldn't. Thanks Tim

**50/50 DRAWING**

- No Drawing

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

- FOAC/Green Valley. Passed. 9:05pm

**BCSCL 2020 Meeting Dates & Locations**

January 2	Aliquippa Bucktails	May 7	Southside	Sept 10	Ambridge
February 6	Rochester	June 4	Pine Run	Oct 1	Conway
March 5	Rochester - North Boroughs Hosting	July 2	Rochester BVRPC Hosting	Nov 5	Beaver Falls
April 2	B.V. Archers	Aug 6	Midland	Dec 10	Five Points

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL