



# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE

April 8, 2021 Minutes

Meeting Location – Beaver Valley Archers



## MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Guy Cable	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	A	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
P	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forrest Grove	Mike Karkalla	P	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
A	Conway	Brian Lippert	A	N. Boroughs	Harry Norton	A	PGC	Mike Yeck
	(Alt)	Jacob Lippert		(Alt)	None	A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen

## OFFICERS

	President		Vice President		Treasurer		Secretary
P	Tony Rich	P	Rich Kerlin	P	Mark Benzio	P	Tonya Cable

Call to Order - 7:00pm

Host Club Welcome – Ray ILLig, Beaver Valley Archers Vice President

Guests – Venise Joseph (Tony's daughter)

Last Month's Minutes – Have not had meeting since November 2020.

Treasurer's Report – See Mark Benzio for report

## **GUEST SPEAKER - NONE**

## **ELECTION – October**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- We lost a longtime friend of the league, Harry Gromo - He was the delegate of Green Valley for many years and also the county league delegate for the PFSA for many years bringing information to the league. Keep Harry's family in your thoughts. He will be missed.

## **STATE AGENCIES**

### PA GAME COMMISSION - Mike Yeck

- Absent

### PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Absent

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Absent

### GAME - Mike Harcher

- Sited information from an article on "Deer Dispersal" (Outdoor News) April 2021
- Provided some information from an article on "A Mallard Duck Study" (Outdoor News) April 2021
- Tony R – comment RE: Ducks Unlimited information – decrease in population contributed to the West Nile Virus.

### POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- Information regarding Chesapeake Energy Corporation – Filed in Federal Court (1.9 million dollar Fine to be paid by Chesapeake for damage to Wetlands and Streams and operating without proper permits. They are also to clean up the wetlands / waterways. 26 acres of wetlands were impacted. The fine will be split between 2 agencies (The US EPA & Chesapeake)

### FISHING DERBY - Mike Zon

- Absent

Rich Kerlin provided report:

- The date is set for Saturday May 1, 2021 8:00 am – "Kids Fishing for Fun" – 15 years and younger
- Fish delivery on 4/28 – no set time but usually comes around 10 am
- No Prizes and No Trophies this year. No fish measurers needs but you are welcome to come down and represent the league.
- Tent will be set up with Youth Foundation information and County fishing equipment for kids to borrow.
- 50/50 and Youth Foundation Memberships
- Tagged fish for gift card
- Friends of Hopewell park will handle the bait
- Adult Fishing on 5/2 – no trophies / awards (will run for a week) run by the township.
- Flyers / posters printed by the township this year.

- Tony R – announce at your clubs

FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Zon

- Absent

CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- No camp this year.
- Present to answer questions.
- No guarantee that the camp / park would even be open.
- Tony R. – scheduling would be to difficult.
- Rich K. – restrictions would be to difficult to follow with all the kids.

ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer.

- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening.
- 3 D archery shoot this Sunday, April 11th
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month throughout the summer BV Archers has 3 D shoots.
- Every Tuesday – (shoots are open to the public)
- Dave Knight – Russ Sabo wanted to let the League know that the Beaver School took the State Championship in their Archery and they are going to the Grand Nationals. Russ thanks the league for all the support.
- Tony R. – Thanks Russ for putting his “heart and soul” into the archery program and thanks for everything he has done for the kids.

EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- Absent

Craig has had medical problems – keep Craig and his wife Penny in your thoughts and prayers.

- Tim Wetzel has brought some information that Craig wanted to be sure got to the meeting for the clubs.

LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- Absent

Bob was feeling ill so he thought it be best to stay home but he has asked Tony to share some information regarding upcoming 3 votes on the May Primary Election.

Tony R – Vote “yes” to all 3

1. Relating to determination of extension of disaster emergency declaration
2. Disaster emergency declaration and management
3. Prohibit against denial and abridgement of quality of race and ethnicity

Tim Wetzel – These are the constitutional amendments that were passed and now they need authorized by the people. The wording is confusing. See Elder Vogel’s most recent newsletter for some comments.

- Bob wanted to be present with handouts for May Primary Election.

HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- Absent

George is having medical problems / back surgery. He and his wife have been taking many trips to the doctor. Wishing them well.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT - Dick Smith

- Absent

YOUTH FOUNDATION – Mike Zon

- Absent

Rich K – Treasurer Report Checking = \$ 412.69 Savings = \$ 15,654.05

- Tonya will pass out the Youth Foundation Sponsorship Applications to all Clubs. Only 3 clubs have donated so far this year.
- Trailer – youth foundation determined that it was not going to be feasible to turn the trailer into and mobile education building; therefore, it is in the process of being sold to Tony R. (the county did not want it back)
- Gun ticket raffle going on for the youth foundation (200 tickets) 5 numbers per ticket. Tickets goes off on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Prize is the 2 turkey federation banquet guns. All proceeds are split between the BCSCLYF and the BCSCCL.
- Jerry H – Sporting Clay Shoot to be held on September 11, 2021

Rich K – take this back to your clubs in hopes of having every club represented at the shoot.

Tony R – Some clubs have been very generous this year. Please go back to your clubs and ask for a youth foundation donation as these funds are needed to drive these youth events. When all clubs contribute together, we can run events for the kids.

Rich K – covered expenses by the youth foundation (fishing derby including stocking fish, field day expenses, pheasant hunt, goose hunt, conservation camp expenses not covered by camp dues, supports all club youth field days, etc)

Dan H – make checks payable to BCSCCL Youth Foundation.

- [Youth Foundation Minutes](#)

FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman.

- No Report

YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- No Report

YOUTH FIELD DAY – Jerry Hooks / Chayce Cable

- Cancelled for 2021
- Tonya volunteered to take over the Youth Field Day for Jerry

BANQUET - Tony Rich

- Need to get back to the banquet soon.

BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- August 31 – September 4<sup>th</sup>. Discounted rate this year will be (\$142.50). Must follow CDC and PA Health Department Guidelines for COVID 19
- If the fair is cancelled this year, our money will Not be refunded like last year; instead, it will be used towards the fee for the following year.
- Need to think of ways to lessen contact this year but still have prizes to give away.
- Mark to provide check for Big Knob.

## ***WE THE PEOPLE***

United States of America Constitution 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment

Tony read, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

- Rights to practice our freedoms that were handed down to us by our forefathers.
- Remember, the legislators / politicians work for us.
- After Kennedy was assassinated, things began to change in our Country.
- The Constitution is being used to control us. It is being used to try to take our privileges / rights away. If we sit back and let this happen, we are not doing our job as "WE THE PEOPLE". Democrat or Republican does not matter, we are all friends and here for the same reason and we are mostly all gun owners. We want to continue to have those rights and continue to hand them down to the next generation.
- Beaver County has been well recognized for being Strong supporters of the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment. Our reputation goes far beyond the one day at the capital for the Rally.

- Tony R. formed a committee consisting of Jerry H, Bob O, Rich K, Craig H. – Tony attended a Republican committee meeting along with a few other club members and spoke up asking the republican committee to support us regarding making Beaver County a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment County.
- Gun Owners of America sent Tony some information from Virginia regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment. Kim Stolfer reviewed this information. The document was being put together.
- December 17, 2020 Beaver County officially became a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment County (This process began approximately 2 years ago with a conversation with the sheriff and the district attorney.) Please view the attachment.

Comments:

Dave K. – those that come to the league for our support, we need to let them know when they are not doing right by us.  
 Jerry H. – one of the club members called one of the politicians in regards to the voter ID and the politician’s response was, “why would a person from a sportsman club / a hunter care about voting”. The politicians are not listening to us. We need hats to wear to the rally that say “We the People” and we need to wear them and not hand them out.  
 Dave K. – discussed “unbecoming conduct” of club members.  
 Tony R. – Republican and Democratic Party does not matter. We are all friends. We are here with a common goal, that is to protect our clubs. With no guns, our clubs will fold. With no clubs, we would have no league. Since Beaver County received their Proclamation 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, the following other Counties have received their 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Proclamation or are in the process of doing so: Greene, Washington, Armstrong, West Moreland, Butler, Lawrence and hopefully soon, Allegheny.  
 Tim W – Constitution and Bill of Rights are available, ask your Representative for a copy. We all need to understand what these are and why they are important. Gun handling, gun safety, Constitution and Bill of Rights. Discussion on what else clubs can do, such as gun handling safety, as well as education on Constitutional Rights.  
 Rich K – spoke of recently attending an NRA Range Officer Safety class. Clint Macro, President of Allegheny Sportsmen’s League spoke highly of the impact Beaver County has on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rally. Gun Handling and Safety classes are a great opportunity now with so many new gun owners. There are not enough classes.  
 Tony R – might be a good opportunity for the clubs to open ranges to the public for education on gun handling and safety.  
 Tim W – Craig Holdren made a point in a letter that “it is a right not a privilege” to keep and bear arms and this right needs to be protected.  
 Vic G – Green Valley has recently increased in membership due to opening the club to the public for classes / shooting.  
 Larry W – Noted about many people have used their stimulus checks to purchase fire arms.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Herford Manor Lake – March 24, 2021 Tony attended a meeting with the Rocco Ali, the Fish Commission, the engineer who drew the plans and others involved with the Restoration of Herford Manor. Everything is approved. \$27 million dollars is the obstacle. There were 2 options discussed to finance the restoration. 1<sup>st</sup> option could be to put it under a Flood Control dam (would finance everything through the government) or go under an Aquatic Restoration Project (would take less time but you may not get all the money needed). The money is the problem and it will be sometime next year before anything is heard from the core of engineers. The property was not sold and the restoration is still in the works.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Rich K – attended an NRA range safety officer class with a plan to obtain a chief range safety officer certification. Recommended that all clubs have RSOs. The course is excellent. Every club that has a shooting range should have a documented printed standard operating procedure. It is a liability if you have an incident on your range and you do not have a standard operating procedure. Indoor pistol ranges need to not only be swept, but mopped as well to better clean up the gun powder that could be a fire hazard when firing pistols. Clean seams in concrete.
- Tony R – Have your shoots that are open to the public printed in the minutes.
- Jerry H – Rochester has written reports that they would be willing to share.
- Dave K – Koppel Big Beaver is going to share their process of paperwork in regards to range responsibilities with Midland and Midland intends to implement.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Guy C – youth foundation raffle tickets available for purchase and / or to sell.
- Aliquippa Bucktails has a raffle for lottery scratch off tickets, Ham Shoot on April 25th (giving Giant Eagle gift cards in place of the ham) and having an Outdoor Flea Market on May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Dave K – Midland having increased amount of range damage. Stopping all rapid fire.

- Walt K – Lawrence County Sportsmen Club has rules in place to keep the range safe.
  - Rich K – Aliquippa has cameras audio / video to monitor conduct.
  - Tony R – introduced Clint Deluca.
  - Mike Harcher will continue making picture boards for the league displays.
  - Tim W – Prayers for Craig and Bob. Bob has sent 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rally information that will be distributed to the clubs at the end of the meeting. [2A Rally Flyer](#) Craig has sent post cards to distribute to all clubs. These cards need turned around quickly. Encouraging Senator Toomey to vote against the gun control legislation that is on the house floor currently.
  - Clint D – House Bill 8 is going to register every fire arm. With registration comes possibility of confiscation. House Bill 1446 the Feds can wait 10 days plus to grant you the ability to purchase a firearm.
  - Tony R – House Bill 1445 would cause a 10-20 day wait for gun transfer.
  - Vic G – provided article Re: 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit [Article](#)
  - Larry W – Beaver Falls having a Trap Shoot on Friday night at 7:00 pm open to the public.
  - Tony R – has gun tickets for the Florida Rotary Club based on the Florida lottery.
- Presidents Meeting – “We the People” tentatively scheduled to be on Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 at Aliquippa Bucktails beginning at 7:00 pm. – a reminder / confirmation email will be sent out to all. Anyone is welcome to attend.
    - Rich K – suggest that we extend an invite to other Sportsmen’s Club in the County to attend the President’s meeting.

**50/50 DRAWING**

- No Drawing

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

- Rochester/Aliquippa. Passed. 8:50pm

January 2	Aliquippa Bucktails	May 6	Southside	Sept 9	Ambridge
February 6	Rochester	June 3	Pine Run	Oct 7	Conway
March 5	Rochester - North Boroughs Hosting	July 1	Rochester BVRPC Hosting	Nov 4	Beaver Falls
April 2	B.V. Archers	Aug 5	Midland	Dec 9	Five Points

**BCSCL 2021 Meeting Dates & Locations – These dates will be reviewed and /or confirmed at each monthly League meeting.**

Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCL