



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



July 6, 2023, Minutes
Meeting Location – Rochester “Hosted by BVRP”

MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa	Guy Cable	P	Five Points	Jim Farland	P	N. Boroughs	Robert Zeman
	(Alt)	Rick Caton		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dave Herko
A	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren		NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms	Tim Reichl
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly	P	(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
A	Beaver Falls	Larry White	A	Forest Grove	Mike Karkalla	P	Pine Run	Rob Smith
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V. Archers	Walt Ketterer	P	Green Valley	Vic Gurinowitsch	A	Pittsburgh Down Riggers	Andy Theodore
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Michael Sabat		(Alt)	Ed Lamb
P	B.V Rifle & Pistol	Rich Wall	A	Hopewell VFW	Gary Grey	A	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Dan Bailes		(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	A	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
			A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed			
				(Alt)	Keith Radcliff	P	PGC	Matt Kramer
						A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen

OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

P	President	P	Vice President	A	Treasurer	P	Secretary
	Rich Kerlin		Dan Householder		Mark Benzio		Tonya Cable

Call to Order – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance & Sportsmen's Pledge & Moment of Silence

Host Club Welcome – Rich Wall, BVRP Delegate

Guests

- None

Last month's minutes

- Motion to accept for audit. Five Points / Aliquippa. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Benzio - *absent*

- Report provided & reviewed.
 - Checks written for BFSYA Youth Trap Shoot, Bri Edmiston's reimbursement from 2022 camp cost, DnB for League shirts, Tonya Cable for camp fees, Jeff Ruckert shirt refund, Bank for deposit books & Jerry Hooks for the Celebration of Life Meat Processing fees.
 - Deposits consist of camp sponsorships & fees, hat sales, scholarship funds & League dues.
 - Marion Hill joined the League.

Elections

July – appointed nominating committee / October – Elections

- Positions up for election are Vice President & Secretary

Notify the Nominating Committee for placing nominations. Nominating committee contact info listed below.

- Craig Holdren – Ch316@comcast.net or call (724)728-8930 or (724)-312-7463
- Rich Wall – wall585@comcast.net or call (724)-987-8919

Communications

- **The League now has a Post Office Box for a mailing address.**
 - BCSCS – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

State Agencies

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Sgt. Matt Kramer - [report](#)

- CWD surveillance continues – So far, more than 400 deer tested positive for CWD. Results can be on the CWD Surveillance Dashboard available at <https://pgcdatacollection.pa.gov/CWDResultsLookup>
- Game Commission to hold a Junior Game Warden Camp – “a day of what a game warden does”. For ages 12 to 15. Southwest Region to be held on Wednesday, July 19th in Bolivar, PA. Other Region dates & locations listed in attached report.
- Board of Commissioners to Meet in Harrisburg July 7th & 8th at the agency's Harrisburg headquarters.
 - Public comments welcome on Saturday, July 8th. The agenda for the meeting can be found on the Game Commission website under “Information & Resources, Upcoming Events. www.pgc.pa.gov
- PGC seeking input from the public for the Annual PA Wild Turkey Sighting Survey from July 1 to August 31.
 - Sighting to be reported through the PA Game Commission website <https://pgcdatacollection.pa.gov/TurkeyBroodSurvey>
- Doe license update & availability to date: WMU 1A – still has 30,367 & WMU 2 A has still has 37,619 & WMU 2 B still has 50,191.
- The Elk application deadline is July 16th, 2023.
- Discussion on the new process of license sales.

See attached report for more detail.

Remember: The season does not dictate the safety zone for hunting. It is the “method of take” in your hands that dictates the safety zone for hunting.

[PA Hunting and Trapping Digest](#)

PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen – *absent* – “deployed”.

- No report

[PA Fish and Boat Commission](#)

Affiliated Organizations

Conservation District – Dick Smith – *absent*

- No report

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Mike Zon – *absent*

Guy Cable, vice-president

- Meeting on June 15, 2023
- The trailer was cleaned out, organized and inventory was taken.
 - Found some old pictures, the fair booth table covering with club patches.
- Jeff Ruckert volunteered to oversee inventory of the League guns.
 - We now have 2 small .22 crickets for smaller framed youth to use at events.
 - The league's small gun cabinet at Rochester will be moved to Pine Run for Jeff to maintain the gun inventory including the signing out & in of all guns.
- Elections for Youth Foundation officers are in October. All are welcome to attend youth foundation meetings.
- SCI donated \$500 to the youth foundation.
- Bylaws are set to be reviewed soon.
- Going to request the July Youth Foundation Meeting be changed to July 27, 2023 @ 6 pm to be held at Raccoon State Park Group Camp 3 for Family Night & Camp's 20th Year Anniversary. Emails will be sent.
- The annual Youth Foundation Fundraising Sporting Clay Shoot will be held on Sunday, August 19th, 2023, at Rochester Sportsmen's Club from 9 am – 3pm. Registration at 8 am. \$50 per shooter. Tony Rich's wild game will be provided for dinner! Posters printed and available. Take some tonight and hang them for advertisement! [poster](#)

We The People of America – Jerry Hooks - *absent*

- No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee – Mark Benzio - *absent*

- No report

Booklet – Rob Smith: Contact info (724) 407- 3945 or rasmith10@comcast.net

- Books available *printed in 2022*. See Rob or Tonya
 - All clubs need to review their bio and get changes turned in ASAP.
 - **New clubs that have recently joined the League need to submit a bio for the book.**
- UPDATES to the books need to be turned in BEFORE the END of the YEAR!

Game – Mike Harcher

- Surveillance on CWD with antlerless disease with collars shows an increase in CWD from last year.
- Wildlife Crossings House Resolution 87 passed the on May 23rd to conduct a study in PA on the status management and benefits of conservation crossings to be constructed on roadways in PA.
- Some discussion on the new process of purchasing hunting license online.

Pollution – Mike Harcher

- The PFA “forever chemicals” put on gardens and farmer fields can be toxic. Biosolids found the parts per million are higher than what is allowed. EPA is working on this; however, there are no regulations set at this time.

- Satellites and drones use infrared to monitor air pollution in PA by looking for leaking gas wells, etc. Looking around industrial plants.
- Incident in Pittsburgh - 9-mile stream run that came from a municipal water plant noted to have changed colors. It is now clearing and there is no report of it harming fish or people.

Fishing Derby – Mike Zon – *absent*

- No report

Fish Committee – Mike Zon – *absent*

- No report

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Dates of the Camp are July 23 – July 29, 2023
- There will be directional signs to direct you into camp from Rt. 18
- 28 kids, 12 counselors & 10-15 adult staff
- All campers are now sponsored! Thank you to the generous clubs!!!!
- Still need background checks on counselors ages 18-20 & adults helping with the camp
 - (Copies need to be given to Tonya)
 - [“link for PA state Police Check”](#)
 - [“link for Child abuse Clearance”](#)
 - [“FBI background”](#)
 - HTE Instructors that are current and up to date; **a copy of your card is acceptable.**
 - **BE SURE TO SPECIFY “VOLUNTEER” when completing the background checks, so they will be FREE.**
- CPR classes were held at Hookstown Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday, July 1st and 10 counselors / staff were certified for camp. **A second opportunity to get CPR certified will be offered on Sunday, July 16th @ 2 pm at Mill Creek Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Hookstown located at 5005 PA-151, Hookstown, PA 15050. Let Tonya know if you plan to attend! 724-494-6465**
- On the 1st day of camp, counselors and staff will meet in the parking area near the dumpster by the ranger station right off route 18 @ NOON.
 - Kids will arrive at 4:00 pm
- MOST HELP WILL BE NEEDED:
 - **Need help on Tuesday July 25th at Raccoon State Park for canoeing & fishing. (9 am to 5 pm)**
 - **Need Lots of help on Wednesday July 26th at 5 Points Hunt Club for shooting activities. (12 pm to 4 pm)**
- Meeting held with staff & counselors. Meeting held with campers & parents.
- Buses are reserved for 2 days of transportation. Veery expensive.
- The food inspector will arrive on Monday at 9 am.
- I will be meeting with Breanna who will help with grouping the kids & counselors and cabin assignments.
 - I must know what adults will be spending the nights for cabin assignments.
- All supplies are ordered.
- Just need to tighten up the schedule.
- Adjust the menu and shop for food.
- Pictures will be taken during camp.
- Discussion on the construction that may cause some changes in the night hike.
- **We will need HELP with traffic and parking for family night.**
- **20th Year Anniversary and Family night on Thursday, July 27th. ALL PAST Campers, Counselors & Staff Invited to attend!**

Archery – Walt Ketterer

- 3 D shoots Tuesday evening @ BV Archers
- BV Archers 2023 Annual Memorial 2023 Scramble Shoot on July 8th

- Ambridge Summer Field Archery Season on Wednesday nights @ 6 pm – more info on Facebook
- 5 Points – 9th Annual Hunt of a Lifetime August 12th & 13th

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren

- Working on updating the BCSCCL website bcsccl.net
- All updated or NEW club bio's need turned in to update the website.
- Working on covering the expense of the website with the use of advertisements.
- Use the County League to advertise all your club events through the website & Facebook page!
- Need to consider other ways to reach the younger generation. What social media is the younger generation using???
- **Email** club information that you want shared on the website to Craig, Frank & Tonya
 - Directions for submitting information for the BCSCCL website – [see here](#)
 - Craig - contact at Ch316@comcast.net
 - Frank - contact at frankkelly51@outlook.com
 - Tonya - contact at gtcttc@yahoo.com

Legislative – Craig Holdren

- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced new prohibitions on lead ammunition and lead tackle usage across public refuges, a move hunting groups blasted.
- <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-admin-takes-aim-hunters-latest-regulation-preventing-americans-from-hunting>
- To stay current on these important topics, explore the Fox News apps that are right for you at <http://www.foxnews.com/apps-products/index.html>.
- The following are portions of the FOAC-ILLEA newsletter dated 6/19/2023, Please consider joining FOAC-ILLEA to help protect your 2nd Amendment Rights.
- FOAC membership application – [click here](#)

Speeches were given by the rally hosts, House 2A Caucus Chair, [Rep. Abby Major](#), and the Senate 2A Caucus Chair [Sen. Chris Dush](#). Special guest speakers were Karise and Jerel Crew, fellow Pennsylvanians, educators, leaders in the PA Chapter of the National African American Gun Association, and founders of [That Gun Talk LLC](#).

There was a slight drizzle, and there were massive audio issues with the PA system, that were never resolved, but the speakers used their “outdoor voices” and all in attendance heard their messages of freedom.

That day, FOAC-ILLEA leadership and other concerned gun owners met with various elected officials and staff members to further the cause of freedom and our US and PA Constitutions.

What will it take for Pennsylvania gun owners to get involved?

Perhaps if the legislature passed an AR-15gun ban, would that motivate people to make a showing and get involved? How about a red flag law? Maybe a magazine capacity restriction law? How about a gun confiscation act? Maybe mandatory storage laws? Perhaps mandatory training to BUY a firearm? What about a law that limits the number of guns and ammo you can buy each month? How about a law that lets every individual town and municipality make their own laws about guns and ammo? Oh wait, I know, what if the government tried to re-write or repeal the 2A of the US Constitution and Article 1 Section 21 of the PA Constitution... I bet gun owners would get active THEN, RIGHT???

Hey... guess what.... There are elected officials and appointed officials in all branches of government trying to do all of those things RIGHT NOW!!!!!!!!!!

Here are 44 “anti” bills out of over 100 “gun” bills that have been proposed this year (so far) in the *Pennsylvania Legislature*. Let me tell you.... THEY ARE TRYING TO DO EVERYTHING I LISTED ABOVE AND MORE!

- **Assault Weapon Bans/Restrictions** – HB335 / HB336 / SB214
- **Universal/Mandatory Background Checks** –HB714 / HB766 / SB60
- **Article V Constitutional Convention** – HB37 / HB458 / SR51 / SR52 / SR77
- **Mandatory Storage Laws** – HB713 / HB731 / SB427 / SB431 / SB457
- **Elimination of Preemption** – HB217

- **License to Purchase Handguns/Age Restrictions** – HB690 / HB898 / SB65
- **Ammunition Purchase/Capacity Restrictions** – HB586 / HB738
- **Waiting Periods** – HB337
- **Gun Registries/Ghost Guns** – HB776 / HB777 / SB48 / SB49
- **PFA/Red Flag/Extreme Risk Due Process Violations** – HB226 / HB835 / SB204
- **Gun Free Zones** – HB465 / HB644 / HB912 / SB53 / SB536
- **Mandatory Reporting/Liability** – HB338 / HB712 / HB941 / SB220 / SB281 / SB461
- **Repealing Stand Your Ground** – SB424

Gun owners' **inaction** as VOTERS has placed anti-Constitutional representatives in positions of major influence. Our government is being run by those that are trying to disarm you and they are hog wild on wielding their power by enacting a blitzkrieg of legislative assaults upon our personal liberties. We have an uphill battle to take back the ground we lost in the last election. We are being assaulted by more anti-Liberty / anti-Constitutional, Anti-2A legislation EVERYDAY. We cannot wait any more.

- Harrisburg Rally on Monday June 12, 2023, pictures to be on the website soon.

Pennsylvania: Anti-gun bills

Multiple anti-gun bills made their way through the House Pennsylvania 5/22/2023.

- [HB714](#) - Universal Background Checks.
- [HB731](#) - Safe storage requirements for long guns.
- [HB1018](#) - Extreme Risk Protection Orders.

ASK your clubs,

- Does your club support the use of semi-automatic rifles for big game hunting?

Each delegate is to respond to gtcttc@yahoo.com with your response as soon as possible following your next club meeting.

Hunter Education – Mike Zon – *absent*

- Baden American Legion
- Ambridge

Check the website for details.

REGISTRATION for classes are on-line [PGC](#)

Contact Mike @ 724-683-5880 (call or text) to host a hunter-trapper education class.

Fundraising – Guy Cable

- NWTB Banquet gun to raffle: Savage Axis 6.5 Creedmoor with Bushnell Scope – going to add something more to the prize package to increase the value. (Ideas: print & knife)

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- Received the application. Pheasant hunt will be on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at Raccoon Park.

Goose

- Will be contacting the County sometime in August.

Youth Field Day – Tonya Cable

- Scheduled for 7/15/23 at Midland Sportsmen's Club

- Set up on Friday @ 5 pm then again on Saturday @ 6 am.
- **Registration** is on-line – <https://www.register-ed.com/programs/39?zip=15052&distance=10>
- Open with a safety briefing @ 6:45 am **inside** the building followed by a picture then the dog demonstration.
- Schedules will be available on the morning of the Field Day.
- Donuts & Coffee for breakfast & Pizza & chips for lunch & drinks.
- Ohioville Fire department will be onsite. I meet with them on Monday.
- We now have two .22 crickets for smaller youth.
- Ohio Valley Septic – 2 port-o-johns (1 rental & 1 being donated)
- 50/50, Sportsmen’s Raffle with 2nd chance for a Mystery gun, Gun Raffle
- Pheasant hunt raffle & Appleseed training raffle will be held following lunch.
- Pictures will be taken that day by Shawn.
- 57 kids signed as of today – registration will take up to 100 youth.
- Information found on BCSCSCL website www.bcscl.org

Banquet – vacant

- No report

Big Knob Fair – Guy & Tonya Cable

- August 29 – September 2, 2023
- Tuesday through Friday 5 pm to close & Saturday 12 noon to close.
- 50/50, Gun package & kids raffle.
- Sign-up sheets will be available at next month’s meeting.
- The Big Knob Fair tablecloth with club patches was found in the trailer.
 - ***If your club patch is NOT on the tablecloth, get your club patch to Tonya ASAP so it can be sewn on before the fair.***
- Accepting candy donations to hand out to the kids.
- Request a fair budget.
 - Motion to approve \$1,000 budget for the Big Knob Fair. 5 Points/NWTF 2nd Chance Toms. Approved

Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email dlosco@creswellwater.net

- Nothing new. 5 Points still waiting to hear from the DEP.
- Best Management Practice website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges>

Unfinished Business

- We have a Green Short Sleeve League Shirt. If interested, see Tonya. Size XXL

New Business

- PFSC patches and plates found in the trailer. \$5 for a patch & \$10 for a plate.
- \$100 donation to sponsor a target “5 Points Hunt of a Lifetime”.
 - Motion North Borough / Pine Run. Approved
- PFSC plates and patches available (\$5/patch & \$10/plate).

Good of the Order

- 9th Annual Hunt of a Lifetime for 5 Points on August 12 & 13. \$10 tickets
 - Motion to approve \$100 donation to sponsor a target for Hunt of a Lifetime. North Borough / Pine Run. Approved.
- Aliquippa Bucktails on August 5th 9 am – 2 pm Family Field Day. Registration @ 8:30 am
- Rochester Sporting Clay shoot Saturday, July 8, 2023.
- Annual BCSCCL Youth Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot 8/19/23 (9 am – 3pm). We would like to see each club get a team together for the day. (Tony Rich’s Wild Game Meat for dinner).
- Lee shared information on the Appleseed Training Program.
- Aliquippa Bucktails Raffle tickets are available for a chance to win lottery tickets.
- Sewickley Gun Bash Tickets available for Nov 5th \$50 per ticket.

50/50 Drawing

- None

Motion to Adjourn

- Conway / FOAC. Passed 9:55 pm

2023 Meeting Schedule

January 5	Aliquippa Bucktails - confirmed	May 4	Green Valley - confirmed	Sept 14	Ambridge
February 2	Rochester - confirmed	June 1	Pine Run - confirmed	Oct 5	Conway
March 2	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting - confirmed	July 6	Rochester – BVRPC Hosting - confirmed	Nov 2	Beaver Falls
April 6	B.V. Archers - confirmed	Aug 3	Midland - confirmed	Dec 14	Five Points

Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCCL

gtcttc@yahoo.com

724-494-6465