



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



August 3, 2023 Minutes
Meeting Location – Midland

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
P	Ambridge	Tim Watson	P	FOAC	Craig Holdren	A	NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms	Tim Reichl
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	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	P	Rochester	George Sullivan
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Dan Bailes		(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
P	Conway	Ray Eppinger	P	Midland	Mark Benzio	P	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Dave Knight		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
			A	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed			
				(Alt)	Keith Radcliff	P	PGC	Mike Yeck
						A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen

OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

A	President	P	Vice President	P	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 – Dave Knight, Midland Sportsmen's Club

Guests

- George Klinger, BV Archers

Last month's minutes

- Motion to accept for audit. Five Points / BV Archers. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Benzio

- Report provided & reviewed.
 - Deposits received from clubs for camp fees / sponsorships.
 - Checks written for camp, "Hunt of a Lifetime" and Keppel Insurance
- Tony Rich "Celebration of Life Funds" will be transferred to the Scholarship Fund & report will be prepared.

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

Elections

July – appointed nominating committee / October – Elections

- **Positions up for election are Vice President & Secretary – *no nominations to date as of yet***

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.**
 - **BCSCL – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009**
- Rudy Prigorac, member of BVRP Club. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.
 - <https://www.timesonline.com/obituaries/psom0537347>

State Agencies

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Officer Mike Yeck - Report

- 3rd round of doe permits & D-map permits begin August 14th
- 4th round begins August 28th - A hunter can buy additional licenses until reaching their personal limit of six at this time
- Remaining permits:
 - 1 A 3,744
 - 2 A just under 24,699
 - 2 B 44,5580
 - 1 B, 2 F, 2 G, 3 A, 3 B, 3 C & 4 C *sold out.*
- Archery season opens
 - 2 B – September 16th
 - Statewide – September 30th
- Questions & Discussion

[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

- No meeting in July due to Conservation Camp
- Next Meeting to be held on September 21, 2023 @ Aliquippa Bucktails beginning at 7:00 pm

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

- Next meeting to be held on September 5th, 2023 @ Rochester beginning at 7:00 pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee – Mark Benzio

- 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 NO LATER THAN the END of the YEAR!**

Game – Mike Harcher

- Bill to give PGC License Fee control
- Hunters Sharing the Harvest set new records for venison donations
- Red-headed woodpeckers decline in PA
- PA Game Commission slows plan to re-introduce Pine Martens
- New Bill introduced that will eliminate antler restrictions for seniors
- Another Bill introduced that would allow out of state college students to purchase a resident hunting license
- The PA Game Commission adds 1,034 acres to the state game lands

Pollution – Mike Harcher

- Oceanic researchers are coloring parts of the surf pink to study freshwater flow to the ocean
- Environmental concerns about letting cruise ships onto the great lakes
- PA project of putting in sediment dams to reduce and remove pollution in the waters

Fishing Derby – Mike Zon – *absent*

- No report

Fish Committee – Mike Zon – *absent*

- No report

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Held July 23 – July 29, 2023
- 27 campers & 10 Counselors
- Thank you to all that helped, especially those that stayed with us for the week.
- 14 clubs sponsored the campers!
- Expense report complete and viewed by all present at the meeting
 - Cost of camp approx. \$11,030.45 (donated items taken into consideration in calculation)

- Thank you letters & drawings from campers and group picture complete and provided to clubs, businesses and individual who donated to the camp
- Family night was awesome!
- Need Supplemental check from the youth foundation to cover remaining cost of the camp in the amount of \$545.55
 - Motion to approve supplemental check in the amount of \$545.55. BV Archers / Ambridge. Passed.

Archery – Walt Ketterer

- Tuesday evening shoots @ BV Archers
- BV archers hosting weekend archery field day September 9th & 10th with sign ups beginning @ 8 am and continued through 2 pm. Contact George Klinger for more information at 724-622-1676

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren

- Working on updating the BCSCCL website bcsccl.net
- **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

BIDEN ADMIN SINKS LOWER, KEEPING FUNDS FROM SCHOOLS WITH HUNTER ED

The Biden administration has sunk to a new low in its anti-gun crusade, reportedly withholding funds from schools that have hunting or archery programs as part of their curriculum, the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms said today.

Fox News is reporting the administration “is blocking key federal funding earmarked under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 for schools with hunting and archery programs. This is allegedly happening because the administration may be “misinterpreting” provisions in the ESEA and last year’s Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), as suggested by Texas Sen. John Cornyn and Sen. Thom Tillis of North Carolina, both Republicans...

EXCLUSIVE: The Biden administration is blocking funding for elementary and secondary schools with hunting or archery programs under its interpretation of a recent school safety law. | Fox News

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-admin-withholding-key-funding-schools-hunting-archery-program>

GOA WARNS EXECUTIVE ACTION FOR UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS COMING

Written by AWR Hawkins, Breitbart Published: 02 August 2023

Gun Owners of America (GOA) sounded the alarm Tuesday with a warning the Biden Administration is planning executive action to put universal background checks in place.

GOA’s warning came the same day Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) **called on** the Biden Administration to act under the auspices of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to “issue and [make] effective” more regulations on gun sales.

Breitbart News **noted** Blumenthal’s push for executive action on gun control, pointing out that it would entail a change in the definition of who/what constitutes a gun dealer.

This change in definition would be made in light of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, an act which Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) brokered with Democrats and would usher in a broadened requirement for background checks on gun sales.

In a press release sent to Breitbart News, GOA noted they already plan a lawsuit against the executive action for universal background checks, but they explained that Congress must act as well:

While Gun Owners of America fights for the Second Amendment in the courts, Congress must repeal the *Bipartisan Safer Communities Act*—which was a compromise with the Biden Administration that Republicans NEVER should have struck.

It has been completely weaponized, gun owners have gained nothing, and America is no safer. Cornyn-Murphy has got to go, and Republicans must expiate for this sin.

Congress must also participate in the rulemaking process and voice its opposition to backdoor universal background registration checks during the public notice and comment period alongside GOA members. After commenting during the proposed rule phase, Congress must also take up a joint resolution of disapproval pursuant to the *Congressional Review Act* and strike down this unconstitutional infringement.

[Read more at Breitbart](#)

PA State Legislation:

PA State House – 59 Total Firearms Bills, 48 anti-gun, 11 pro-gun. Current PA House legislation can be accessed at this link: <https://foac-illea.org/Proposed-Pennsylvania-House-Legislation>
House-Legislation = 4.36 anti-gun Bills to 1 pro-gun Bill.

PA Senate – 35 Total Firearm Bills, 26 anti-gun, 9 pro-gun. Current PA Senate legislation can be accessed at this link: <https://foac-illea.org/Proposed-Pennsylvania-Senate-Legislation>
= 2.9 anti-gun Bills to 1 pro-gun Bill.

Federal Legislation:

US Senate– Total Firearm Bills, 50 bills to date, 28 anti-gun and 22 pro-guns, 1 watched. – See updates at <https://foac-illea.org/Proposed-Federal-Senate-Legislation>
= 1.3 anti-gun Bills to 1 pro-gun Bill.

US House – Total Firearm Bills, 119 total bills, 72 anti-gun, 46 pro-gun1 watched. – See updates at <https://foac-illea.org/Proposed-Federal-House-Legislation>
= 1.56 anti-gun Bills to 1 pro-gun Bill.

For every action there is a reaction, look at the numbers above maybe it's about time to get involved.

If every Hunter in the State of Pennsylvania registered to VOTE & VOTED, we would not be in the anti-2nd Amendment climate we are in.

Solution: get involved and take a conservative friend or family member to VOTE!

RESULTS for: ASK your clubs,

- Does your club support the use of semi-automatic rifles for big game hunting?
 - o 9 – yes
 - o 3 – no
 - o 1 – even split (½ yes & ½ no)
 - o 6 – no response yet

Hunter Education – Mike Zon – *absent*

- 8/12/23 – Baden American Legion
- 8/19/23 – Marion Hill
- 8/21/23 thru 8/22/23 – Ambridge
- 9/9/23 – Aliquippa Bucktails
- 9/23/23 - Rochester

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

- 8/19/23 Annual Youth Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot Fundraiser will be held at Rochester. Dinner provided
- NWTF Banquet gun to raffle: Savage Axis 6.5 Creedmoor with Bushnell Scope – may need to add something more to the prize package to increase the value

- Print & Knife available to raffle for the Tony Rich Scholarship Fund
- Working with Sam Piccinini for the fair gun

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin - absent

Pheasant

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

Goose

- Rich is in contact with the County.

Youth Field Day – Tonya Cable

- Held on 7/15/23 at Midland Sportsmen's Club
- 74 youth registered online: however, 57 in attendance
- \$3,000 budget: Expenses \$1,902.74 & \$1,567 income. Final cost of field day \$ 335.74
- Thanks to Midland for hosting with the location
- Thank you cards with group picture made and sent out. Extras available for anyone who would like a picture
- Thanks to all that helped in any way!
- Tim Riechel won a 410-turkey gun at the Tony Rich Scholarship Fundraising Event, and he donated back to be raffled off to a youth
- New inventory list of items and Ammo in the Cabinet located at the Cable house complete
- Jeff Ruckert now has all the guns and is working on an inventory list

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 & raffles
- Sign up sheet passed around the room

Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email dlosco@creswellwater.net

- 5 Points still waiting to hear from the DEP.
- If your club shoots trap, get a plan in place.
- 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
- Only a few PFSC patches and plates remaining. \$5 for a patch & \$10 for a plate.

New Business

- Nothing new

Good of the Order

- 9th Annual Hunt of a Lifetime for 5 Points on August 12 & 13.
- August 19th - Ambridge 3 D archery Shoot \$10 per person (kids under the age of 16 are free if accompanied by an adult) Food will be available

- FOAC gun bash tickets available
- Sewickley Gun Bash Tickets available for Nov 5th \$50 per ticket.
- 8/26 - Aliquippa Flea Market \$3 admission and \$10 if you want a table
- Breast Cancer Fundraising ticket available \$10 per ticket. See Mark B

50/50 Drawing

- None

Motion to Adjourn

- Aliquippa / Ambridge. Passed 9:00 pm

2023 Meeting Schedule

January 5	Aliquippa Bucktails - confirmed	May 4	Green Valley – confirmed	Sept 14	Ambridge - confirmed
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