

Beaver County Sportsmen's Conservation League President Meeting

3-13-2024 Minutes

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

President Welcome by Rich Kerlin

Welcome by Host Club: Pete Vorderbrueggen, Beaver Valley Archers President

Roll Call:

Club / Organization	President	Delegate / Alt	Other
Aliquippa	X	X	X
Ambridge			X
Beaver Falls	X	X	
BV Archers	X	X	X
BVRP	X		X
Conway	X	X	X
Ellwood / Wampum	X	X	X
Five Points		X	X
FOAC & FOAC Illea	X	X	X
Forest Grove			
Green Valley		X	
Hopewell VFW			
Marion Hill		X	X
Midland	X	X	
North Boroughs		X	X
NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms	X		
Pine Run		X	
Rochester	X	X	
Sewickley			

Other Invited Guests in Attendance

Allegheny Sportsmen's League
Beaver County Conservation District
Beaver County Coon Hunters
Beaver County Recreation & Tourism
Civil & Environmental Consultants
Connoquenessing Valley Archery
Millvale Sportsmen's Club
Possum Hollow

Introduction of Special Guests:

Affiliated Organizations

- a. **“We the People”** – Jerry Hooks, President
 - a. Began 3 years ago to remind politicians that they work for the people.
 - b. 2nd Amendment Rally in Harrisburg on Tuesday, April 30th
 - i. Bus seats available!
 - c. 3rd Thursday of every month meeting. See Facebook page.

Guest Speakers:

1. **Beaver County Recreation/Tourism** – Tony Caltury / Kirah Thomas
 - a. Beaver County Parks: Brush Creek, Old Economy & Brady’s Run are open for Archery, Flint Lock & Spring Turkey. Permits are available at the ice arena for tracking purposes. Working on moving towards on-line permits for the future. 142 permits were issued in 2023.
 - b. Controlled Goose Hunt. 51 applications in 2023.
 - c. Discussion on trapping in the parks.
 - d. Fishing at Brady’s Run & Brush Creek.

Q & A

2. **Civil & Environmental Consultants** – Jennifer Ewing & Mark Orzechowski
 - a. Lead Abatement – Develop an Environmental Stewardship Plan & document everything. Follow Best Management Practices – EPA.
 - b. Be Proactive & keep all records and receipts.

Links for Best Management Practices:

- a. [PADEP’s Best Management Practices](#)
- b. [US EPA’s Best Management Practices](#)

Q & A

3. **FOAC / FOAC ILLEA** – Herb Ohliger
 - a. History on conception of FOAC and difference between FOAC & FOAC ILLEA
 - b. 501c4
 - c. 647 Questionnaires sent out to possible candidates for FOAC endorsement. Discussion on the evaluation/ endorsement process & FOAC recommendation.

4. **Beaver County Conservation District** – Jeff Pflug & Lindsey Shepler
 - a. Presentation on development of the County Conservation Districts.
 - b. Programs available through the Conservation District.
 - c. Environmental Education with youth groups available.
 - d. 80-acre facility located 5 minutes from Interstate 376 (Hopewell Exit)
 - e. Archery & Shotgun only available. Call ahead due to only 4 hunters allowed at one time. No trapping allowed.

5. **Beaver County Conservation Camp** – Guy Cable
 - a. Video presentation on camp activities!
 - i. Discussion on camper / counselor transformations.
 - ii. Posters, Camper Applications & Counselor Applications available.

[Poster here!](#) [Camper application here!](#) [Counselor Application here!](#)

- iii. Thank you to all clubs who sponsor campers! \$250 per camper
 - b. Jake Landis, Counselor – “Experiences at Conservation camp beginning at age 13-14 as a camper & then returning as a counselor.”
 - c. Kara Torok, Jr Counselor – “1st year at conservation camp & placed into the role of counselor.” Discussion on life skills learned as well as conservation.
 - d. Julia Torok, Camper – “1st time camper” “No phone, no parents” “Started out nervous but made friends quickly. Participated in many activities! Some favorites were shooting at Five Points, water rescue / boating safety, compass training, and medical training (first aide).” “Understanding of what Conservation means & why it is important.”

6. **Beaver County Sportsmen’s Conservation League Youth Foundation** – Jeff Ruckert, President

- a. Annual Youth Field Day on Saturday, July 20, 2024. Ages 8-17
- b. Annual Youth Fishing Derby on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Ages up to 15
- c. Annual Youth Mentor Hunts
 - i. Licensed Junior hunters
- d. Annual Conservation Camp (week-long) beginning June 16, 2024
 - i. Ages 13-15 camper / ages 16 – 20 counselors
- e. Support youth archery and trap in the schools.
- f. Events are Free for the youth due to fundraising & club sponsorships.
 - i. Annual Fundraising Sporting Clay Shoot to be held on June 23rd at Rochester Sportsmen’s Club.

7. **Tony Rich Scholarship** – Jerry Hooks
 - a. Tony Rich Scholarship Fund – [click here for details!](#)
 - i. 2 - \$2500 scholarships to be given out each year.

Committee Reports

a. Hunter Safety Education

- a. Concord United Methodist Church on 3/16/24
- b. Coraopolis Sportsmen’s Club 3/24/24
- c. Sylvania Hills Baptist Church on 4/13/24
- d. Aliquippa Bucktails on 5/18/24
- e. Rochester Sportsmen’s Club on 7/13/24
- f. Sylvania Hills Baptist Church on 8/17/24

b. Fishing Derby – Hopewell Park Lake on 5/4/24

- a. [Click here for details!](#)

c. Youth Field Day – held at Midland Sportsmen’s Club on 7/20/24.

- a. [Click here for details!](#)

d. Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

- a. Pheasant Hunt – 1st Saturday in October. Registration will be through the PA Game Commission website. Raccoon State Park.
- b. Goose Hunt – Held at Brady’s Run. Youth & Adult hunts. Usually held at the end of October.
- c. Possum Hollow & Beaver Falls Sportsmen’s Club working together to organize a youth Squirrel Hunt on 9/14/24. Details to come.

e. Firearms Training – Rich Kerlin

- a. 3/16/24 Aliquippa – Refuse to be a Victim.
- b. 4/13/24 Aliquippa – Basic NRA Rifle
- c. 3/20/24 BVRP – Concealed Carry Home Defense
- d. 4/11/24 Ambridge Survival Ready Store – Situational Awareness
- e. 3/23/24 – Build Your Own Bug Out Bag
- f. 5/23/24 Logan Ferry – Defending Yourself and Family AR15

- g. 3/23/24 BVRP – NRA Basic Pistol
- h. 4/6/24 Beaver Falls – Aim Program (Certification to help youth programs)
- i. 4/27/24 & 6/8/24 Beaver Falls – NRA Range Safety Officer
- j. 6/1/24 & 9/7/24 Community College of Beaver County – Boater Safety Course
- k. 4/20/24 & 5/25/24 & 9/14/24 Washington County Community College – Boater Safety Course
- l. 5/13/24 at 68 Feed Mill – Concealed Carry
- m. 6/22/24 – National Train a Teacher Day. Go to the USCCA site for information.

Special Events

a. NWTF Banquet – Tim Reichl

- a. Banquet to be held on April 20, 2024
- b. Nevin’s Hunting Friends Update

b. 2nd Amendment Rally – [click here for poster details](#).

- a. 2nd Amendment Rally to be held on April 30, 2024
- b. Working on getting buses to transport to Harrisburg for the Rally.

Open Forum Discussion:

- Sunday Hunting Bill discussions.
- Join FOAC \$30 / year. [Application](#)
- High School Trap Team Update. Beaver Falls Youth Invitational to be held on 8/17/24.

Good of Order:

- Financial Meeting to be held regarding Herford Manor Funds.
- 6/22/24 Blues for Food Festival at Conway for Butler County Food Bank
- 8/10/24 & 8/22/24 Five Points Hunt of a Lifetime Fundraising Event.
- Midland – Swap Meet 3/16/24, Easter Turkey / Ham Shoot 3/23/24 @ 1 pm, 3D shoots starting in April (3rd Saturday of every month) through September & Center Stage Gun Bash on May 5th.
- Beaver Falls 6-month calendar Ticket supporting Western PA Youth.
- Beaver Falls Archery Range is new this year. See Facebook page.

Adjournment Time: 10:00 pm