



**BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE
ANNUAL PRESIDENTS MEETING
Held on 3/23/26 at North Side Sportsmen's Association**



CONSERVATION PLEDGE I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country, its soil, air, mineral, forests, water, and wildlife.

Call to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Conservation Pledge

Moment of Silence & Prayer – Remembering our fellow Sportsmen (Delbert Young & Rick Wall)

Welcome from Host Club by Al Straub, Northside Sportsmen's Association President

Welcome by Rich Kerlin, BCSCCL President

Roll Call

| Club / Organization | President / VP | Delegate / Alt | Other |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Aliquippa | X | X | |
| Ambridge | | X | |
| Beaver Falls | X | X | X |
| BV Archers | X | X | X |
| BVRP | | X | X |
| Conway | X | X | |
| Ellwood / Wampum | | X | X |
| Five Points | | | |
| FOAC & FOAC Illea | X | X | X |
| Forest Grove | X | | X |
| Green Valley | | | |
| Hopewell VFW | | X | |
| Koppel / Big Beaver | X | X | X |
| Marion Hill | | | |
| Midland | X | X | |
| North Boroughs | X | X | |
| North Side | X,X | X | X,X,X |
| NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms | X | X | |
| Pine Run | X | X | |
| Rochester | X,X | X | |
| Sewickley | | X | |
| WPAYO | X | X | |
| Total | 16 | 18 | 10 |

Other Invited Guests, Clubs, Organizations in Attendance

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| Allegheny County Sportsmen's League |
| Beaver County Conservation District |
| Beaver County Coon Hunters |
| Butler County Sportsmen's Conservation League |
| Lawrence County Sportsmen's Conservation League |
| Mars Rod & Gun Club |
| Moraine Conservation & Sportsmen's Association |
| PA Game Commission |
| Pitcairn Monroeville Sportsmen's Club |
| PFSC |
| Trumbull County Rod & Gun Club |
| We The People of America |

Total number in attendance: 62 (A total of 31 Clubs / Organizations in attendance.)

Organization's Presentations / Guest Speakers

Beaver County Conservation District – Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist/Environmental Educator

Good evening, thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today. I want to take a few minutes to talk about how Beaver County Conservation District can be a valuable partner for local sportsman's clubs right here in our county.

As sportsmen and woman, you all play a critical role in conserving our natural resources. Whether its maintaining healthy wildlife populations, protecting waterways, or preserving land for future generations, your mission closely aligns with what the Conservation District works towards every day.

One of the biggest ways the Conservation District can help is through technical assistance. If your club owns land or manages property, the district can provide guidance on habitat improvement, erosion control, and streambank stabilization. This means healthier ecosystems for game species, better water quality, and more sustainable land use overall.

We also offer education and outreach programs that can benefit your members. From workshops on soil health and native plantings to guidance on managing invasive species, these programs can give your club practical tools to improve your land and pass along knowledge to the next generation of outdoorsmen and woman.

Additionally, we can be strong partners in community engagement. Many sportsman's clubs already host youth events, fishing derbies, and conservation days. Working with the Conservation District can expand those efforts, bringing in education materials, expertise, and sometimes even additional volunteers.

Most importantly, building a relationship with the Conservation District helps ensure that your club stays ahead of environmental regulations while continuing to protect the land you care about. We are not just regulators; we are collaborators who want to help you succeed.

In closing, sportsman's clubs and the Beaver County Conservation District share a common goal: protecting and enhancing the natural resources that make outdoor traditions possible. By working together, we can ensure those traditions continue strong for generations to come.

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert, President

- Our mission is to promote the outdoor sports and conservation of our natural resources through educating our youth and providing them with outdoor educational opportunities and experiences.
- Events
 - Beaver County at Full Draw Archery Event in March. Josh Wolfe, Committee Chair.
 - Joe Craig Memorial Fishing Derby held at Hopewell Park in May. Mark Crevar, Committee Chair.
 - Week-long resident camp at Raccoon State Park in June. Tonya Cable, Camp Director.
 - Youth / Family Field Day held at Midland Sportsmen's Club in July. Amy Swartzlander, Committee Chair.
 - Youth Pheasant Hunt at Raccoon State Park in October. Rich Kerlin, Committee Chair.
 - Youth Goose Hunt at Brady's Run in October / November. Rich Kerlin, Committee Chair.
 - Annual Fundraiser: Sporting Clay Shoot held at Rochester Sportsmen's Club in August organized by Jerry Hooks, President of Rochester Sportsmen's Club.
- Follow us on Facebook or look us up at www.bcsclfyf.cmo
- The youth foundation has financially helped to support the startup of youth trap leagues and archery in the schools in Beaver County.
- The League / Youth Foundation have an inventory of firearms and bows that are available to help educate and instruct the youth in outdoor sporting activities.

W.PA.Y.O – Ron Neff, President

- Western PA Youth Outdoorsmen is a 5013c nonprofit started in 2022 with a mission to assist the youth outdoors with programs and shooting sports outside of the ordinary sports such as football, baseball, basketball.
- In 2024, WPAYO began gaining momentum once a Midway Foundation Endowment was set up. Started raising money and building a foundation that allows giving back to youth foundation and other programs in the area for years to come. Last year a grant was secured through the Midway Foundation that assisted in putting in a full sporting clay course at Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Association which allowed 2 sporting clay teams to start up that had not previously existed and compete.
- A rewards program was set up to help with the fundraising, such as earning flats of shells for assisting with the fundraising.
- Outside of youth shooting, WPAYO sponsors campers and support events such as fishing derby and other outdoor sporting activities.
- Each year a Youth Trap Invitational (will be a youth Clay Invitational this year) is organized and held at Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Club. Last year, there were 350 youth shooters. 2-day event, non-sanctioned. Youth come from all over.
- If anyone is interested in assisting with raffle tickets for fundraising, contact Ron Neff.

Tony Rich Scholarship – Jerry Hooks, President of Rochester Sportsmen’s Club & WTPOA

- Tony Rich was the founder of the Beaver County Sportsmen’s Conservation League Youth Foundation in addition to being known as the founder of many other organizations. He helped his fellow sportsmen / women in Beaver County and all over the state of Pennsylvania.
- When Tony passed, “Celebration of Life” fundraiser was held, and money was raised that began the “Tony Rich Scholarship Fund.” We will continue fundraising efforts to keep this funding available for scholarships for years to come.
 - Tony Rich Scholarship – Two \$2500 scholarships given out each year.
 - Essay of “What it Means to be an Exceptional Citizen of an Exceptional Country.”
 - For the scholarship application criteria, click [here](#).

Youth in the Outdoors Presentations / Guest Speakers

Beaver County Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable, Camp Director & Zoe Russell, Past Camper / Future Counselor

- Rich Kerlin provided history of the camp: The camp began in Beaver County in 1979 through the Conservation District. It was originally called the Beaver County Conservation School. One male and one female from 9th grade was taken from every school in Beaver County and sent them to Raccoon State Park for Conservation School. This ended in 1987. Doug Carney, Beaver County Officer, worked hard to get the camp restarted. In 1998, the camp came back as a 3-day weekend camp. It is now a week-long resident camp. No electronics, no cell phones.
 - Picture slide show presented of camp in 2025.
- June 21 - 27, 2026. For poster, and information, click [here](#).
- At present we have 10 campers, 6 counselors & multiple staff for camp this year.
- We have 44 sponsors at the present time. (\$250 / camper)
- We hope to have 50 campers and 15 counselors this year. Goal is to have all 50 campers sponsored.
- For Camper (age 13-15) application, click [here](#).
- For Counselor (age 16-20) application, click [here](#).
- Brief Summary of some of what this camp has to offer youth: Hunter-trapper education course set up prior to camp, basic first aid / cpr instruction, boater safety / water rescue, fishing, a visit from the PA Fish & Boat Commission, canoeing, education by the Conservation District, Kerlin Kanine Dog Training presentation, education by the PA Game Commission, opportunities to shoot firearms and archery at Five Points Hunt Club, night security by the Beaver County Sheriff’s office, education on Patriotism, respect with flag raising in the AM and lowering in the PM, family night with camp fire and proper flag retirement, McDonald’s lunch for a day, Frye bus transportation, State Park Ranger education and so much more.
- Counselors & Staff are thoroughly trained and CPR / basic first certified.
- We pride ourselves on the teambuilding skills taught to the campers, counselors & staff.
- We need more campers. Please share this information and encourage youth that you know to get signed up. We will take campers from Beaver County and beyond (from anywhere).

***Special presentation by Zoe Russell on what camp meant to her as a camper last year who signed up to be a counselor this year.**

Youth Archery Opportunities – Josh Wolfe, Archery Committee Chair

- Youth Archery Building and Maintaining the Future of our Sportsmen Heritage
- The Vitality of Youth Archery
- Youth Archery Opportunities
 - National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP)
 - Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD)
 - BCSC Youth Foundation
 - Local Programs
 - Scholastic 3D Archery
- Youth Are Our Future
 - For Presentation, click [here](#).

Sportsmen’s Concerns Presentation / Guest Speakers

Legislation – Jim Stoker, President of FOAC – ILLEA

- Your 2A rights are on the chopping block as Virginia Dems plot insane gun bans | Fox News

- Pennsylvania must be resilient and not give up the fight. We are the keystone state for a reason, and the nation's gun control failings will follow our own if we do not turn the tide.
- There are no pro-gun Democrats in Harrisburg anymore. There are posers, but any pro-gun democrats in the state are not limited to county offices and sportsmen, not in legislature.
- Whether you are democrat or republican, the sportsmen's organizations MUST activate their memberships to vote for pro-gun candidates, regardless of what side of the aisle they walk.
- This is not optional. We are TWO senators away from following Virginia's lead and becoming an anti-gun state.
- There are 61-gun control bills in the general assembly just this session. If we lose those two senators many of these will become law within 60 days.
- If you think you can still bury your head in the sand and this won't affect you, practice apologizing to your children and grandchildren, because YOU will have let their rights slip away.

With you in freedom,

"The Constitution shall never be construed... to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms." – Alexander Hamilton

2026 - [2APA Industry Membership Sheet](#)

2026 - [FOAC-ILLEA Membership](#)

Certified Hunter Program – Dave Wentzel, PFSC

Just the overview of the Certified Hunter Program that was a collaborative effort developed by the Game Commission and the Farm Bureau to help ease crop damage loss on specific properties:

- 1) was piloted in Southwest PA for the 2025/2026 season
- 2) The E-tagging of game taken, was a new component being tested
- 3) plans to expand the program statewide for 2026/2027 season
- 4) certified Hunter program is for only specific properties
- 5) additional information and applications are on the game commission website

PA Game Commission – Sgt. Matt Kramer

- PA Game Warden 19 years+
- 1st County league meeting attended at Koppel Big Beaver Sportsmen's Club
- Encourages delegates to be sure to take information received at all League meetings back to individual clubs.
- Change with Game Commission happens yearly.
- Agriculture deer damage discussion.
- Questions & Answers.
- You that get involved with the youth make a difference!

Open Forum Discussion: Sportsmen & Club Concerns / Issues

Good of the Order

If you have any questions regarding anything in these minutes, please feel free to reach out to Tonya Cable, Secretary of BCSCCL at gtcttc@yahoo.com or 724-494-6465.

Adjournment Time 9:50 pm