

# BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



# September 12, 2024, Minutes Meeting Location – Ambridge Sportsmen's Associated District

#### **MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES**

P = Present. A = Absent

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Р	Aliquippa	Guy Cable	Р	Five Points	Jim Farland	Α	N.	Robert Zeman
							Boroughs	
	(Alt)	Rick Caton		(Alt)	Dan Losco		(Alt)	Dave Herko
Р	Ambridge	Tim Watson	Р	FOAC	Craig Holdren	Α	NWTF 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tim Reichl
	9						Chance	
							Toms	
	(Alt)	Tim Reichl		(Alt)	Frank Kelly		(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
Р	Beaver	Larry White	Α	Forest	Mike Karkalla	Α	North Side	Al Straub
	Falls			Grove				
	(Alt)	Frank Eder		(Alt)	Tim Hartzell		(Alt)	Jason Hominsky
Р	B.V.	Walt Ketterer	Р	Green	Mike Sabat		Pine Run	Rob Smith
	Archers			Valley				
	(Alt)	John		(Alt)	Joe McMullen	Р	(Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
		Suroweic						
Р	B.V Rifle &	Rich Wall	Α	Hopewell	Gary Grey		Rochester	George Sullivan
	Pistol			VFW				
	(Alt)	Lee Gower		(Alt)	Sue Tranter	Р	(Alt)	Jerry Hooks
Р	Conway	Ray Eppinger	Α	Marion Hill	Daniel Freed	Р	Sewickley	Mark Crevar
	(Alt)			(Alt)	Keith Radcliff		(Alt)	Laurie Bush
	Ellwood	Tim Kelly	Р	Midland	Jerry Wamsley			
	Rod & Gun							
Р	(Alt)	Dick Bayer		(Alt)	Mark Benzio	Α	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
						Р	PGC	Madison Pugh

#### **OFFICERS**

P = Present, A = Absent

Р	President	Α	Vice President	Р	Treasurer	Р	Secretary
	Rich Kerlin		Dan Householder		Mark Benzio		Tonya Cable

Call to Order - 7:00 pm

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

Our condolences & a special Moment of Silence for these sportsmen and their families – Sonny Irons, Paul Rosa from Aliquippa Bucktails, Austin Miller from Blackhawk High School Trap Team, and Roger Kronz from FOAC.

Host Club Welcome – Joel Chalupiak, President of ADSA

# Guests

 Amy Swartzlander, BCSCL Youth Foundation director & secretary of We the People of America – WELCOME, Amy!

#### Last month's minutes

Motion to accept for audit. BVA / BVRP. Passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report** – Mark Benzio (see Mark for details)

- Checks written for the fair gun and other supplies for the Big Knob Fair booth \$591.74.
- No deposits
- Big Knob Fair Financial report.
- Conservation Camp Financial report.

Motion to accept for audit. Rochester / Aliquippa. Passed.

#### **Elections**

- Nominating Committee: Craig Holdren, Jeff Ruckert, Dan Losco
  - October Elections for BCSCL President & BCSCL Treasurer
    - Criteria for officer: a delegate or past delegate.

Contact a committee member to nominate an individual.

Craig 724-312-7463

Jeff 724-601-9429

Dan 724-333-0990

- No nominations turned into the nomination committee at present time.
- Opened the floor for nominations for President (verbalized 3 times)
  - Rich Kerlin was nominated accepted.
- Opened nominations for Treasurer (verbalized 3 times)
  - Mark Benzio was nominated for Treasurer accepted.
- Nominations will open again at the October League Meeting.
- Contact someone on the nomination committee to nominate an individual for president and / or treasurer.

#### Communications

- None
  - ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.
    - BCSCL PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

# **State Agencies**

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Madison Pugh – Click Here for Detailed Report

#### www.pgc.pa.gov

#### **EHD**

- WV reported EHD case in Monongalia County 8/21/24.
- Detected in Wayne and Whitely Twp, Greene County
- No confirmed cases in Beaver County or surrounding areas

#### **CWD** – click here for Article.

See attached article for details on CWD.

#### **Board of Commissioners**

Meeting Friday, September 20 at Harrisburg Headquarters

Meeting available <u>www.pgc.pa.gov</u> under "Information Resources." Click on Upcoming Events then click on Final Agenda Link.

Will be livestreamed on the Game Commissions YouTube Channel.

#### HTE

- 9/21/24 Beaver County YMCA
- 9/25/24 CV Middle School

#### **Cadet Class**

22 cadets currently – reporting for field training October 4

Certificate of appreciation presented to the PA Game Commission & Youth thank you letter read aloud.

PA Hunting and Trapping Digest

PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen - absent

**PA Fish and Boat Commission** 

# **Affiliated Organizations**

#### **Conservation District**

Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator - absent Report provided.

"BCCD just finished the 2024 fair season. We had excellent spots at both fairs, and were able to engage with a lot of different people that we might not have otherwise had the opportunity to meet and educate. I'm already starting to plan and make notes for next year on ways to make it bigger and better! Below is a recap of the numbers I am able to estimate:

I am able to estimate we had over 2,000 people come through our booth (both fairs combined). We had 325 pollinator butterflies made, which means potentially 325 new pollinator habitats of wildflower seeds will be planted in Beaver County, which even at half that amount truly getting planted is a huge success in my book. We gave out over 100 bookmarks and educational flyers on ticks and mosquitoes as well as close to 50 activity books. We also gave out close to 50 informational flyers on each pollinator and Pennsylvania bird gamebirds affected by habitat loss. We had a good number of people asking about Ag-Land preservation (close to 50 brochures taken from this program as well) and roughly 25 brochures a piece for each of our other programs. I personally had some great conversations with people regarding what we do here, what programs we offer, and how we can offer assistance to people. Our wildlife kit of critter pelts was a raging success, and did exactly what I had hoped it would do, brought people in, and caught their attention! Through that we were able to engage with them and talk about wildlife management practices and how those relate to conservation as well as teach kids fun facts about each of the critters that were displayed through the pelts. We also gave away about 450 BCCD pens and 450 Ag-Land Pens. Thanks!"

Lindsey Shepler | Watershed Specialist/Environmental Educator 156 Cowpath Road Aliquippa, PA 15001 Office: 724.378.1701 Ext 212

Cell: 412-480-3492

www.beavercountyconservationdistrict.org

#### **BCSCL Youth Foundation** – Jeff Ruckert

- BRAND NEW website for the Youth Foundation. Check it out! www.bcsclyf.com
- Amy Swartzlander welcome to the BCSCL Youth Foundation.
- Presentation of Certificates to Aliquippa Bucktails & NWTF
- Next meeting Thursday, August 15, 2024 @ 7 pm at Aliquippa Bucktails

## We The People of America – Jerry Hooks – 2 A Rally Poster

- There are 515,000 gunowners in PA that are not even registered to vote. Encourage EVERYONE to VOTE.
- Individuals hesitate to become a registered voter because they do not want subpoenaed to jury duty.
   Jury duty is not pulled from voter registration alone. Individuals can be subpoenaed other ways too, such as through selection via driver's license.
- IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER: 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rally at the Gazebo in Beaver, PA on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, beginning at 5:00 pm. There will be several speakers. Come out and listen to what we are facing as an American Citizen. With the elections coming, we as sportsmen & sportswomen need to show up that day to help defend our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment!
  - Bring a chair!
  - Bring an umbrella (the Rally will go on Rain or Shine).
  - o Facilities on-site.
  - Opportunity to register to vote on-site.
  - Opportunity to apply for concealed carry permit on-site.

# **Committee Reports**

#### Audit Committee – Mark Benzio

- Audit Committee: Dan Losco, Mark Crevar & Craig Holdren
  - o These 3 gentlemen will get together with Mark to perform an audit of the BCSCL financials.

#### **Booklet** – Rob Smith

Contact info (724) 407- 3945 or rasmith10@comcast.net

Hand them out!

**Game** – Mike Harcher – absent

No report

Pollution - Mike Harcher - absent

No report

Fishing Derby – Mike Zon – absent

No report

Fish Committee - Mark Crevar

# Local fish report:

Fishing is changing up this time of the year with cooler temps, rain, and varying water levels can be challenging to get the right conditions. Also, can be very productive as the fish prepare for the winter months. As we roll into the autumn months, predator fish like muskie and pike seem to be a little more aggressive. Pay attention to baitfish migrations, creeks flowing into rivers, large water where temps are more stable, (birds will clue you in )

look for transition points, as water gets cold slow your reel speeds, offer bigger bait, look for shallow areas where the sun will warm up the water and for weed cover.

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – stream conditions.

Check out this helpful webpage for stream conditions.

# Lake Erie Fishing:

The fishing for walleye seems to be hit and miss this time of the year as the migratory walleye start moving out. There is some glimmer of hope for the steelhead fisherman as they start staging to move into the tributaries. A few steelhead have been caught at the mouth of the creeks, while some Anglers have been using little cleos and cast masters. As the water temps start to cool off this will trigger fish to migrate. Shore anglers are still catching some fish concentrating near creek mouths and channels in the bay.

#### https://www.fisherie.com/fishing-reports

#### Conservation Camp - Tonya Cable

- Checks written for ink, card stock, pictures, and frames for presentation of camp pictures and certificates to clubs and camp sponsors \$319.78.
- No deposits
  - For camp account details see Tonya Cable.
- Need to pick a day to clean and inventory to league trailer. Who can help?
  - o Tim W would like to take the rods, reels, and fishing gear to maintenance and inventory.
- Presentation of camp pictures & certificates

# **Archery** – Walt Ketterer

Nothing new.

# **Events Coordinator** – Craig Holdren

- BCSCL website under construction.
- Email club information that you want shared on the website to Craig, Frank & Tonya
  - Directions for submitting information for the BCSCL website see here
    - Craig contact at Ch316@comcast.net
    - Frank contact at frankkelly51@outlook.com
    - Tonya contact at gtcttc@yahoo.com
- The calendar is now all on the Google calendar that is on the website.
  - o Continue to get the information to us so it can be added to the calendar.
  - Notify us if things on the Google Calendar are incorrect.
- The print in the book is way too small to be able to read, Frank needs an email with all the perinate information for clubs and new clubs that joined the league.
- Tonya asked for Frank to reach out to her so the website can be reviewed together for accurate information about the clubs.

#### **Legislative** – Craig Holdren

- Very soon we will be posting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rally information for Sunday 9/29/2024 and a link to the FOAC Voters Guide.
- This is a call to action. The time to stand idle is long gone, and if you think your hunting rifle is safe, you're gravely mistaken. The threat to your Second Amendment rights is real, and it's closing in faster

- than you realize. Let's be clear—those who wish to disarm you are not resting. They are relentless, and they're targeting your firearms, even while you're out enjoying a peaceful deer camp.
- Ask yourself, how many hunters do you know who are actively defending their Second Amendment
  rights? Likely, the only ones who are fighting back are those who also participate in shooting sports
  throughout the year. But this fight isn't just theirs—it's yours too. Your right to bear arms is under
  siege, and if you don't stand up now, you could very well lose it.
- On Tuesday 9/03/2024 Michele Stolfer accepted a lifetime achievement award on behalf of FOAC Founder, the late Kim Stolfer.



- On August 30,2024 we lost Roger Kronz FOAC-Institute Life Member a life member of FOAC and one
  of the founding members that had been fighting for our gun rights in Pennsylvania for decades.
  Roger has been active on various committees, at the bashes, in the halls of the Harrisburg Capital, at
  rallies, meetings, and anywhere he was needed to and a very close friend of Kim who helped
  advanced the cause of Liberty. God bless you and your family. Say "Hi" to Kim.
- Articles to Check Out!
- To see the FOAC-PAC Voter Guides Click Here
- Nearly 900 permits processed at South Park license-to-carry event
- 64% of Gun Owners Feel Safer
- Kamala Harris Protected by Same Guns She Wants to Ban Americans from Owning
- As FOAC-Institute President, Jim Stoker has said, most of the crime we fight is elected officials that violate the Constitution.
- When we do this, it requires lawyers, court costs, travel, court costs, lawyer's fees, court costs, travel expenses, lawyers' fees, court costs, etc.........
- We fund the vast majority of our legal efforts through donations and the FOAC-Institute bi-annual gun bash!
- FOAC-Institute Gun Bash Tickets will be available at the next meeting!!!!
- Be sure to mark NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, off your calendar and join us at the Washington County Fair Grounds for our fall bash. The bashes are our main fundraising events, and the money raised through the bash are used to defend our right to keep and bear arms and Article 1 Section 21 of the PA Constitution ALL across the Commonwealth.

2:00 PM	Springfield 1911 TRP CC .45 ACP 4.25" Coy	4:20 PM	S&W 442 .38 Spc			
2:15 PM	S&W FPC 9mm Bronze	4:30 PM	S&W M&P Sport II CT 5.56mm			
2:30 PM	Ruger LC Carbine .45 ACP	4:40 PM	Hellcat 3" Micro-Compact 9mm			
2.30 FM			Donated by Dr. Charles Gallo			
2:45 PM	Colt Python AS .357 8"	4:50 PM	Colt King Cobra .22LR 6"			
3:00 PM	CMMG Resolute 300 5.56mm	5:00 PM	Glock 43X MOS 9mm			
3:15 PM	CZ Scorpion Evo 3 9mm	5:10 PM	Springfield Saint Victor .308 Win			
3:30 PM	S&W Bodyguard 2.0 .380	5:20 PM	Springfield XD-M Elite 9mm			
3:45 PM	Springfield Saint 5.56mm	5:30 PM	Springfield M1A Tanker .308 Win			
4:00 PM	Sig 365 TacPac 9mm	5:40 PM	IWI Tavor 7 .308 Win			
4:10 PM	H&K USC Carbine .45 ACP	5:50 PM	S&W 627PC V-Comp .357 Mag			
6:00 PM	Grand Prize ******* FN Scar 17S 7.62mm ******* Grand Prize					
4:05 PM	Law Enforcement Prize – Colt M4 Carbine 5.56mm					
4:15 PM	Military Tribute Prize - Sig P320 M18 9mm					
5:05 PM	Door Prize - S&W M&P 15-22 Sport 22LR ** Donated by Ace Sporting Goods **					

• Over the last year the FOAC Institute has gained a lot of members from the eastern side of the state. Let me tell you, the food, fellowship, and fun that is had at the bash is well worth the trip. In addition to the main ticket drawings, there are pick of the table drawings, 50/50 raffles, a mystery safe drawing, and a WALL of guns. Join like-minded individuals as they celebrate the individual's right to keep and bear arms.

Support FOAC so they can continue to support our 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment rights. Become a member. Link to FOAC-ILLEA website for membership: <a href="https://www.foac-illea.org">www.foac-illea.org</a>

#### **Hunter Education** – Mike Zon – absent

Beaver County YMCA September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

#### **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

- NWTF Banquet gun (Barretta APX 9 mm) Raffle ticket winning number 487 based on the August 15<sup>th</sup> PA Lottery 7 pm number.
  - Claimed
- \$10 Gun raffle ticket available. Winning ticket number based on the first 7 PM 3-digit PA Lottery drawn on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. All proceeds benefit the conservation camp. Thank you, Tim for your generous donation of the guns on this ticket (Winchester SXP Defender 12 ga. Pump, Citadel Trakr .22 LR & Henry Mini Bolt .22 LR Bolt Action). Please see Guy Cable and take some to sell and / or purchase.

#### Youth Mentored Hunts - Rich Kerlin

#### Pheasant

- o Saturday, October 12, 2024
- Will take 26 Licensed Junior Hunters. Only 4 spots remaining.
- Nichol Doak Field (Raccoon State Park) off route 168
- Must be a licensed Junior hunter with a pheasant stamp.
- o Registration online at Pheasant Hunt Registration Link
- o Will have sign-up sheets at next month's meeting for volunteering to help with the hunt.
- Check in will be done in 2 groups with the 1<sup>st</sup> group will check in 6:30 am 7:00 am & the 2<sup>nd</sup> group will begin by 9:00 am.
  - Hunt to begin at 8:00 am
- Need bird planters & mentors.

# Goose - for poster "click here"

- o Applications at the Brady's Run Park Ice Arena "youth application" & "adult application"
  - Deadline for registration is Friday, October 18th.
  - Application will also be available at the youth pheasant hunt.

- Youth Hunt will be on October 26th.
- Will accept up to16 licensed junior hunters.
  - Federal duck stamp required beginning at age 16.
- 4 blinds will be set up for youth hunt.
- o Adult hunts every Monday & Friday from October 29th through November 26th.
- Handicap accessible blind will be available.
- May have 5 blinds set up for adult hunts.

#### **Youth Field Day** – Tonya Cable

• Presentation of Thank You pictures for the clubs and all others that made it possible.

#### Banquet - vacant.

No report

# Big Knob Fair – Dick Bayer

- Could have used more help.
- Need more magnets that have even more youth activity information on the magnets (maybe include a QR code for easy access.
- Maybe have printed flyers with the youth activities and some detailed information.
- Ideas about maybe a sportsmen's auction table.
- Look at a different banner. One that advertises more about Youth activities.
- Tonya from Ambridge was extremely helpful and wants to help with the fair again and maybe with other activities too.
- Be sure to have a gun case for gun transport back and forth each day during the fair.
- \$1500 budget. Expenses were \$771.25.
  - Space rental \$180
  - o Gun for the raffle (Savage Axis 6.5 Creedmoor w/3x9 Bushnell Scope) \$512.74
  - Walmart (youth fishing combo & candy) \$78.51
- Collected \$2,560 less fair expenses \$771.25 = profit \$1,788.75
- Fair Income \$2,560 deposit given to BCSCL Treasurer 9/12/24.
- Thank you to Dick Bayer and to all that helped the fair to be such a remarkable success!

# Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email <u>dlosco@creswellwater.net</u>

- Best Management Practice website at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges">https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges</a>
- KEEP your Records!

# Firearms Training - Rich Kerlin

- 9/14/24 FOAC-Illea Concealed Carry Seminar 10 am to12:30 pm at Ambridge (Beaver County Sherriff will be on site to issue concealed carry permits.)
- 9/21/24 NRA First Steps Pistol Orientation at BVRP
- 10/5/24 NRA Basic Pistol Course at Aliquippa Bucktails
- 10/19/24 & 10/20/24 or 11/2/24 & 11/3/24 Defensive Pistol Class at Green Valley. Call Master Ammo Company at 724-405-7468 or email <u>info@masterammo.com</u> for information and registration. For Detailed information, <u>click here</u> for course description <u>click here</u>.
- 11/9/24 NRA Personal Protection in the Home at Aliquippa Bucktails
- Date to be determined for US Law Shield Use of Force at Aliquippa Bucktails

Registration will be on-line.

Contact Rich Kerlin for additional details for any firearms training listed above. kerlinkanine@aol.com

#### **Unfinished Business**

• All committee heads need to provide Tonya with a written copy or email of the report for the minutes.

#### **New Business**

- Austin Miller Memorial Shoot Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Click here for details.
  - Motion to donate \$200 to Austin Miller Memorial Shoot.
    - Motion made by Pine Run / FOAC. Passed.
- Legacy Alive Benefit Shoot October 11<sup>th</sup> at Hunting Hills for Gold Star Parents (posted on Facebook)
- South Fayette Township Handicap Hunt Friday October 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Motion to donate \$200 to the South Fayette Handicap Hunt.
    - Motion by Pine Run / Rochester. Passed.

#### Good of the Order

- Aliquippa Bucktails Fall Turkey Shoot October 27<sup>th</sup> sign ups 10 am <u>Details here</u>.
- Ambridge Turkey Shoots every other Sunday beginning October 6<sup>th</sup> with registration starting at 12:00 pm

   details here.
- Ambridge Ridge Road Renegades Muzzle Loader Club Shoots starting 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month beginning on October 13<sup>th</sup> with sign-ups at 8 am <u>details here</u>.
- Five Points Hunt Club thanks the League, the Youth Foundation, the Clubs and all who donated and made the "Hunt of a Lifetime" possible! It was a tremendous success!
- Pine Run Turkey Shoots are opposite Sundays of Ambridge Turkey Shoots with registration at 11 am and shooting to begin at 12 pm.
- Economy Community Days on September 28<sup>th</sup> at the municipal building. Lots of things to do for the kids too!
- Midland Turkey Shoots every Sunday from now thru November 24<sup>th</sup> sign ups at 12:00 pm shooting starts at 1 pm
- Marion Hill Turkey Shoots on Wednesday nights sign ups at 6 pm and shooting starts at 7 pm until Thanksgiving.
- WTPOA raffle ticket goes off November 5<sup>th</sup> winner gets 280 PA Lottery Scratch Off Tickets (Value \$2500) 2 numbers on a ticket. \$10 see Jerry, Amy, Mark, or Tonya for tickets.
- See Guy for the "Conservation Camp" raffle ticket goes off Christmas Day.
- Trailer cleaning and Inventory may be Friday, September 13th.
- Sewickley Gun Bash on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024
- Aliquippa Bucktails has raffle tickets for a chance to win \$1000 gift card to Milk House meats, \$1,000 gift card to National Armory & \$500 gift card to Giant Eagle gift card / certificate.
- Good of order IMPORTANT DATE TO REMEMBER: We the People of America Rally at the Gazebo in Beaver on Sunday, September 29th, 2024, beginning at 5:00 pm.
- Midland has a \$5 Milkhouse Meat Raffle Ticket available. See Mark.
- Next Meeting will be at Conway on October 3, 2024.

#### 50/50 Drawing

none

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

- Ambridge / Conway Passed. 9:25 pm

# **2024 Meeting Schedule**

January 4	Aliquippa Bucktails - Confirmed	2564 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
February 1	Rochester – Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
March 7	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting – Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
April 4	B.V. Archers – <b>Confirmed</b>	277 Rothhart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066
May 2	Green Valley- Confirmed	101 Fishpot Road, Monaca, PA 15061
June 6	Hopewell VFW – Confirmed	138 Stone Quarry Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
July 11	Hopewell VFW – Confirmed	138 Stone Quarry Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
August 1	Midland – Confirmed	142 Eastwood Road, Industry, PA 15052
September 12	Ambridge – <b>Confirmed</b>	2900 Ridge Road, Ext., Baden, PA 15005
October 3	Conway - Confirmed	100 Magill Rd, Zelienople, PA 16063
November 7	Beaver Falls	247 Sportsman Road, Darlington, PA 16115
December 12	Five Points	285 Bocktown-Cork Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001

Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCL <u>gtcttc@yahoo.com</u> 724-494-6465