



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



November 7, 2024, Minutes
Meeting Location – Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Association

MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

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

OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

P	President	A	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

- Keep Mike Harcher family & friends in your thoughts and prayers
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/rochester-pa/michael-harcher-12055448>

Host Club Welcome – Ron Neff, President of Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Assoc.

Guests

- Jaxson Miller Beaver Falls Treasurer.

Last month's minutes

- Motion to accept for audit. Five Points / Green Valley. Passed.

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

- \$250 to Mason Lodge (coordinated with Conway Sportsmen's Club) for victims of the Hurricane.
- \$256 for annual post office box
- \$4.75 for bank fees
- \$88 safe deposit box rental fee
- Time to submit 2025 Credential Sheets & Dues.....[2025 Credential Sheet](#)

Motion to accept for audit. Northside / Midland. Passed.

Elections

- No report.

Communications

- No report.
 - ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.
 - BCSCCL – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

State Agencies

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Mike Yeck – [Report](#)
www.pgc.pa.gov

DOZENS OF TROPHY BUCKS POACHED, CHARGES FILED

- A two-year investigation by the Pennsylvania Game Commission has led to the filing of 71 charges against three Chester County residents – a father and his two adult sons – who are accused of poaching dozens upon dozens of trophy bucks in Chester and Delaware counties.
- Charged in the incident are:
 - Carroll Nelson IV, 44, of Downingtown, facing 11 charges including a first-degree misdemeanor punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.
 - Carl Nelson III, 70, of West Chester, facing 35 charges, including a first-degree misdemeanor punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.
 - Mark Nelson, 40, of West Chester, facing 25 charges, including a third-degree felony punishable for up to seven years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

BEAR HUNTERS DREAMING BIG

- Last year, hunters harvested 2,920 black bears across Pennsylvania, getting at least one in 58 of the state's 67 counties and 20 of its 22 Wildlife Management Units (WMUs). They took seven in the early season, 695 in archery season, 541 in the muzzleloader and special firearms seasons, 1,086 in the regular firearms season, and 591 in the extended seasons.
- The average female bear checked in by hunters weighed 152 pounds; the average male went 198. Last year's largest was a 691-pounder taken in Pike County.
- Bear archery hunting got underway in WMUs 2B on Sept. 21, and will run through Nov. 29, including two Sundays, Nov. 17 and 24.
- The regular statewide firearms bear season comes in on Nov. 23, continues Sunday, Nov. 24, and runs through Nov. 26.
- The extended bear season – which runs concurrent with portions of the firearms deer season – goes from Nov. 30 to Dec. 7, including Sunday, Dec. 1 in WMUs 2B.

FALL TURKEY SEASONS BEGIN

- WMU 1A – Nov. 2-Nov. 16.
- WMUs 2A & 2B – Nov. 2-Nov. 16 and Nov. 27-Nov. 29.

[PA Hunting and Trapping Digest](#)

BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN’S CONSERVATION LEAGUE – November 2024

Area trout stockings:

Brady’s Run Lake – November 13, 2024 @ 1:00

North Park Lake – November 13, 2024 @ 1:00

Canonsburg Lake – October 22, 2024

Dutch Fork Lake – October 22, 2024

Pennsylvania Fishing Licenses go on sale December 1, 2024, for the 2025 calendar year.

Virtual Intro to Ice Fishing Program – November 20, 2024 - 630-830 – sign up on our website fishandboat.com.

SciTech Day - Animal Science & Wildlife – November 15, 2024, 9:00-2:00

About the Event - Carnegie Science Center

SciTech Days is a monthly in-person career-focused field trip for students Grades 6–12.

SciTech Days connect middle- and high-school students with real-world scientists, engineers, tradespeople, and other STEM professionals from local companies, organizations, and universities. Students will explore demonstrations and interact with STEM experts and activity tables hosted by partnering organizations.

Regulatory Changes

BOATING - Manufacturer Installed Equipment - 95.10. Engine cut-off switch.

The operator of a boat less than 26 feet in length equipped with an engine cut-off switch shall use the engine cut-off switch when the boat is operated at greater than slow no-wake speed. The use of an engine cut-off switch should not be required when the operator is in a fully enclosed cabin of a boat.

[PA Fish and Boat Commission](#)

Affiliated Organizations

Conservation District

Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator – [BCCD Newsletter pdf](#)

- No report.

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert

- BRAND NEW website for the Youth Foundation. Check it out! www.bcsclfyf.com
- Ed Lamb resigned from the Youth Foundation committee. Thank you, Ed, for the time you dedicated to the youth foundation.
- Dave Sparkman joined the Youth Foundation committee. (Camp Kitchen Chef / Coordinator). WELCOME & THANK YOU!
- Elections: Jeff Ruckert, President; Rick Caton, Vice President; Dan Householder, Treasurer; Tonya Cable, Secretary.
- Next meeting Thursday, November 21, 2024 @ 7 pm at Aliquippa Bucktails

We The People of America – Amy Swartzlande

- Next meeting will be December 12, 2024.

Committee Reports

Audit Committee – Mark Benzio

- Audit Committee Dan Losco, Mark Crevar & Craig Holdren
 - These 3 gentlemen will get together with Mark to perform an audit of the BCSCCL financials.
- Audit Results to come next month.

Booklet – Rob Smith / Mark Crevar / Tonya Cable

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

- Once again, please take a booklet back to your club. READ it, REVIEW it, and get update turned in at the December or January Meeting for printing of the 2025 booklet.
 - If possible, send to Tonya at gtcttc@yahoo.com in a WORD document.

Game – (vacant)

- No report
 - If interested, please reach out to Rich Kerlin with questions regarding the expectations of this committee. Rich Kerlin at kerlinkanine@aol.com or 724-601-6974

Pollution – (vacant)

- No report
 - If interested, please reach out to Rich Kerlin with questions regarding the expectations of this committee. Rich Kerlin at kerlinkanine@aol.com or 724-601-6974
 - This committee will only need to report quarterly or as needed.

Fishing Derby – Mike Zon – *absent*

- No report

Fish Committee – Mark Crevar

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – Stream Conditions <https://ncflyshop.com/pages/stream-reports>

<https://www.fisherie.com/fishing-reports>

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Will reserve Group Camp for June 2025 Camp sometime in December. Initial Planning meeting with be arranged for some time in January.
- Bank account balance for camp at Huntington Bank currently is \$2722.14. May be moving the account to West Air comm for banking next year.

Archery – Walt Ketterer

- Beaver Valley Archers currently involved with 3 different organizations for archery.
 - JOAD (Junior Olympic) program
 - 12 youth shooters. They need 16 for a team. Reach out if interested!
 - Linda Roth 412-680-0007
 - Practice every Sunday from 11 am – 2 pm. Tournaments start in January and will be held on Saturdays. 10 JAOD clubs in Wester PA.
 - In School Program: Saturday evenings at 7 pm
 - Medieval Group Shoots: Thursday evenings at 7 pm

- Indoor shooting will start in November after Archery.

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren

- BCSCCL website under construction.

Once all club credentials for the BCSCCL are updated and ready for booklet print, they will also be updated for the BCSCCL website.

- Email club information that you want shared on the website to Craig, Frank & Tonya
 - Craig - contact at Ch316@comcast.net
 - Frank - contact at frankkelly51@outlook.com
 - Tonya - contact at gtcttc@yahoo.com

Legislative – Craig Holdren

Pro-Gun Candidates that Won!

Donald J. Trump – President of United States

J.D. Vance – Vice President of United States

Dave McCormick – U.S. Senate

Dave Sunday – PA Attorney General

Elder Vogel – PA State Senate 47 District

Aaron Bernstein – PA State Representative District 8

Josh Kail – PA State Representative District 15

Roman Kail – PA State Representative District 16

With a slim margin in the Pennsylvania House and Senate Democrats are already lining up Anti-Gun House and Senate Bills for 2025.

Like it or not in 2024 the Democrat House and Senate tried to pass 75% of the firearm bills that were all anti-guns.

The “We the People of America” 2nd Amendment Rally held on a rainy Sunday night 9/29/2024 at the Irvine Park Gazebo in Beaver, PA had 154 attendees, and 13 speakers and the local politicians were well represented. If it had not rained, we would have had at least double the attendance.



Dear 2nd Amendment Supporter,

Bob Casey is another one that does not pass the smell test. I have contacted him MANY times about 2A related issues, and I always get the same tired old stock gun control response:

“I support the Second Amendment right of law-abiding Americans to own guns for protection, sporting, and collection. But, like many Americans, we need commonsense gun safety measures that will help to prevent tragic mass shootings as well as the daily gun violence that takes the lives of approximately 45,000 Americans each year.”

- Senator Bob Casey

When a politician follows a statement with a “BUT” the first half of that statement is a lie.

Examples could include:

I am for freedom BUT....

I am for lower taxes BUT....

I am in favor of the 2nd Amendment BUT.....

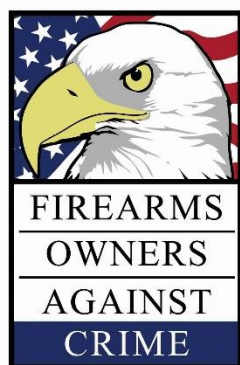
Bob Casey does not care about your individual right to protect yourself or those that you love. Otherwise, he would not hold YOU accountable for the actions of criminals by being “in favor of” commonsense gun safety measures.

How stupid does he think YOU are???

Do you know what the candidates are about?

I would hope that if you are reading this newsletter and have been reading this newsletter in the past, you should be fairly schooled on who is running and what their stance on the 2nd Amendment or Article 1 Section 21 of the PA Constitution is.

Would you like to advise a friend? Looking for a resource?



Pennsylvania's Preeminent Pro Gun Organization



www.FOAC-ILLEA.org

FOAC-Institute is continuing to fight for the hearts and minds of our fellow Pennsylvanians to promote individual liberties and freedoms. We are steadfast and resolute and dedicated to protecting our Constitution and advancing the cause of the 2nd Amendment and Article 1 Section 21 of the PA Constitution.

FOAC-Institute's educational efforts are expanding across the Commonwealth. FOAC-ILLEA volunteers are teaching more concealed carry classes each month and additional virtual education events are forthcoming.

FOAC-Institute is continuing to fight in the courts. Whether this means new litigation to challenge local tyrants, fight the bureaucrats that make it harder for Pennsylvanians to exercise their most basic rights, or the funding of amicus briefs to support others who are already involved in court battles, we are actively helping to establish case law that will help advance the cause of liberty.

FOAC-Institute volunteers research proposed legislation, consult with experts, and offer advice to elected officials about legislation as well as educate the public on the strength or folly of legislation that could have lasting positive or negative effects upon our liberty and the liberty of our children.

I urge you to help me spread the word about FOAC-Institute. **Share this newsletter and the website with your sphere of influence.** Get a fellow gun owner to join FOAC-Institute.

[Sign up for membership HERE.](#)

[Contact your Legislators HERE.](#)

[Read previous newsletters HERE.](#)

The [FOAC-Institute website](#) is a wealth of information. Track current legislation, contact legislators and elected officials, look up gun laws, read easy to understand synopsis is on standing your ground, castle doctrine, and legal use of force. Keep up to date with current gun related news. There is all this and more on the [FOAC-Institute website](#).

Get involved!

If you have read this entire newsletter and made it here to this statement... you are already interested and vested.

[Donate your time, your talents, or your treasure.](#) VOTE pro-2A and get your friends to vote pro-2A as well. [Become a member](#) and make your friends to become a member. If you are already a member, consider "[upping your membership](#)" to a higher level. [Volunteer](#) to help at the bash. [Volunteer](#) to join a committee to send emails, write letters, make phone calls...

NOW IS THE TIME TO DO. DON'T PUT IT OFF. "We the People" have been sitting on the sidelines too long.

Armed and Educated Citizenry is the true check and balance in our Constitutional Republic and the ultimate homeland security.

FOAC-Institute [Gun Bash Tickets are ON SALE NOW!!!!](#)

The fall 2024 FOAC-Institute gun bash is on like Donkey Kong! Join us on Saturday November 16th, 2024, from 1PM to 6PM. This is the best gun bash ticket in the Commonwealth!

The FOAC gun bash is as legendary and all American as the stories of young George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, the Doolittle Raiders, and [Timothy Murphy](#). However, 2 times a year, YOU can be part of that legend and tradition.

Be sure to [mark NOVEMBER 16th, 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 across the Commonwealth.

Over the last year 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.

Fall "Wall of Guns" 50 Tickets at \$20 each, 1 in 50 Chance of Winning (see PDF attached). Must be present to buy tickets and Win!

Hunter Education – Mike Zon – *absent*

- Many requests for Hunter Safety Courses in October & November.
- Online classes are available but in person classes are recommended.
- Schools in need of a class now for the high school teams. Especially new kids just joining the teams.
 - Feb 8th – YMCA (Life Center) will be hosting a class.
- **Please get ahold of Mike Zon to get classes scheduled!**

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

- \$10 Gun raffle ticket
 - The winning ticket number will be based on the first 7 PM 3-digit PA Lottery drawn on Wednesday, December 25th, 2024. All proceeds benefit the conservation camp.
 - Please see Guy Cable and take some to sell and / or purchase.
 - 11 tickets remaining.

All tickets sold and / or unsold MUST be turned in at the DECEMBER Meeting.

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- Saturday, October 12, 2024
- Thank you for all the HELP this year! It was a great turnout! Had more help than we have had in years past.
- George Sullivan cleaned birds.
- 28 kids signed up. 2 cancellations; was able to take 1 from the wait list. We did have 1 no show that day due to illness.
- 10 pheasants harvested during the hunt. 2 more taken later that day after the hunt. 4 more on the Monday following the hunt.

Goose

- Saturday, October 26, 2024
- Blind set up with help from Rick & Lee. Thank you!
- 9 youth signed up. 1 no show.
- Ran 3 blinds.
- Rick, Mark, Ed, and Guy helped sit in the blinds with the kids.
- 2 geese on the water but they never flew.
- Unfortunately, there were no opportunities to shoot.
- 24 adults signed up; did recognize some County League people.
- 0 geese taken so far.

Conservation campers in attendance for both pheasant & goose hunts!

Youth Field Day – Tonya Cable / Amy Swartzlander

- No report. Will begin plans in January.

Banquet – *vacant*.

- No report. Thoughts regarding bringing some awards back at the President's meeting.

Big Knob Fair – Dick Bayer (Guy & Tonya)

- Working on a rough draft. Submit ideas to Tonya.

Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email dlosco@creswellwater.net

- Best Management Practice website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges>
- Discussion on the importance of clubs being proactive with the best management practices and good record keeping for lead.
- Discussion on streams on club property and location of clubs regarding surrounding area.
- Buy a test kit to check the ph of the soil in the impact zone. (Kits available at places like Tractor Supply, Family Home and Farm, Amazon, etc.)
- **KEEP your Records!**

Firearms Training – Rich Kerlin

- 11/9/24 NRA Personal Protection in the Home at Aliquippa Bucktails. The class is full.
- 11/19/24 US Law Shield Legal Use of Force at Aliquippa Bucktails. 6 pm – 8 pm.
- 12/4/24 Green Valley hosting US Law Shield class.

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

Unfinished Business

- South Fayette handicap hunt took place. Dan H participated.
 - We received an invitation for 2 members to attend a South Fayette Township appreciation luncheon on 11/15/24.
- Austin Miller Shoot was an unbelievable event. Great job, Beaver Falls!

New Business

- Rick Caton will need to decline any position with the Conservation District at this time.
 - Any interest in that position, see Tonya C. or Rich K for instruction on how to apply.
- Indoor shooting range discussion.
- Ed Majors, who is bringing back the Freedom 22 rifle shooting team. They have 8 kids now looking to increase their numbers but need some donations to help them get started. Will be taken to the Youth Foundation for discussion. Have Ed Majors come present at a youth foundation meeting.

Good of the Order

- Herford Manor Funds discussion. Jerry Hooks is collaborating with the PA state game agencies on projects that need done that may generate opportunities for additional grants to get these projects done.
- People are asking when the applications will be available for the Tony Rich Scholarship awards for the upcoming year.
- Five Points Hunt Club Turkey Shoot – 11/15/24 starting at 6:30 pm
- Hopewell VFW Fundraiser event for the Hurricane Victims on 11/16/24. \$20 at the door. Doors open at 2 pm. Food, raffles, live bands.

- On the 1st Sunday in May will be Midlands Annual Gun Bash. Tickets are coming soon.
- Midland will be hosting a Night at the races on Saturday, March 1, 2024.
- Next Meeting will be held at Five Points Hunt Club on the 2nd Thursday of December (**NOT the 1st Thursday**). **The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024.**
- Hunters, Good Luck and Be Safe!

50/50 Drawing

- none

Motion to Adjourn

- Green Valley / FOAC Passed. 9:18

2024 Meeting Schedule

December 12	Five Points - Confirmed	285 Bocktown-Cork Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
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2025 Meeting Schedule

Date of Meeting, Club Name & Address

January 2	Aliquippa Bucktails - Confirmed	2564 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
February 6	Rochester	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
March 6	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
April 3	B.V. Archers	277 Rothhart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066
May 1	Green Valley	101 Fishpot Road, Monaca, PA 15061
June 5	Hopewell VFW	385 Blacks Woods Road, Freedom, PA 15042
July 3	Hopewell VFW	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
August 7	Midland	142 Eastwood Road, Industry, PA 15052
September 11	Ambridge	2900 Ridge Road, Ext., Baden, PA 15005
October 2	Conway	100 Magill Rd, Zelienople, PA 16063
November 6	Beaver Falls	247 Sportsman Road, Darlington, PA 16115
December 11	Five Points	285 Bocktown-Cork Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001

Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCCL

gtcttc@yahoo.com

724-494-6465