



# Citizens of Shawtown Camp Workcoeman Spring 2020 Newsletter



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## *Camp Director's message...*

The current Covid-19 crisis is something that none of us have experienced before and hopefully never will again. We all face uncertainty in our lives and history shows that the Boy Scouts of America has endured for over 100 years and emerged stronger from other national and world crises. Scout camping has been the backbone of Scouting and that will not change. Our country will need Scouting more than ever after this crisis is controlled.

Currently we have no idea how the summer camp season will be affected by Covid-19. Until we can make informed decisions, the Connecticut Rivers Council officials as well as the camp administrations are moving ahead with planning for a SAFE 2020 summer camp season. This includes making all camp preparations. We have developed a list of single-person projects that anyone can do. You can contact Ranger Frank if you would like to select a project to complete on your own. Materials will be staged in advance. Just come to camp on a prearranged day and complete the task. Social distancing MUST be followed. This will be of great assistance while our planned group work days are suspended.

At Camp Workcoeman we also will be conducting leader orientation meetings using Zoom or similar platforms. We are following CDC and local official guidelines. New procedures are also being developed at camp to ensure the health and safety of all participants. At this point, we don't know what the summer picture will look like but we do know that there will be a summer camp experience for all our members.

Stay Safe and Scout on!

Lou Seiser , Camp Director

## **Upcoming Events and Activities**

### **Dates Subject To Change**

June 6  
Beaver Day  
and Annual Steak Dinner  
Fundraiser

June 26  
Laurel Music Camp starts

July 5  
Scout Camp Opens!

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**Dates to Plan For... REMEMBER, ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!**

**June 6 Beaver Day** - This day is dedicated to putting out and putting up tents in all campsites and more! We need dozens of helping hands especially on this day! This may be the largest Beaver Day ever! Lunch provided

**June 6 Annual Steak Dinner Fundraiser** - Steak or Chicken Dinner followed by Silent Auction with dozens of items to choose from - Tickets available now!

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**TERRIFIC NEWS!** The camp has received a donation of a 2003 4X4 GMC pick-up with a plow for use at camp! O&G Industries of Torrington was gracious enough to continue their support of Camp Workcoeman with this vehicle which will allow Ranger Frank to possibly retire one of our other aging vehicles! O&G Industries, a long-time supporter of our camp, heard our call and rose to the occasion. Thank you O&G!

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**Steak Dinner Fundraiser Tickets...**

Be sure to get your tickets for our Steak Dinner Fundraiser! We really need a large turnout for the Dinner this year to help fund the numerous projects the Citizens need to accomplish in 2020.

***Now a few words from our Fearless Leader...***

**"Chairman's Minute and a Half"**

Greetings to all Citizens of Shawtown!

As I write this, we are currently all experiencing a very trying time in our lives - personally, professionally and in our Scouting lives and routines. Together we will get through this as we pull together to assure our families and communities stay safe and healthy.

Is this easy? No. Will our Scouting lives and plans for the balance of 2020 be the same as they have been for the past 95 years at Camp Workcoeman? Absolutely. Being "agents of change" is something we can all commit to and I will be the first to encourage all Citizens to do so as we work to ready Camp Workcoeman for the Summer season on potentially a shortened timetable, continue our efforts to support Ranger Frank in maintaining the camp (we all know we have alot to do this year) and to carry on the tradition of the Citizens of Shawtown as we have since 1983.

As discussed at our Annual Luncheon and Meeting, we have new benches and tent platforms to build, a Family Camping area to create to be sure it's successful for the Council, roofs to repair on several buildings, painting and other repairs to do and so much more! Already donations have been received directed toward **The Calder Challenge** goal of \$8000 per year for the next two years to rehabilitate that building that has served camp so well for so many years! Beyond that, we also need to search for and fully support even more ways to raise monies to finance our maintenance plans for Workcoeman. I challenge all of you who read this communication to step up to the plate with me, especially in 2020, with your time, talents and monetary donations to assure Camp Workcoeman remains the primo camp in the Council.

Lots to do..... stay healthy and safe..... see you around camp real soon!

Brian Cornell, Chairman, Citizens of Shawtown

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***THE CALDER CHALLENGE!***

At our Annual Luncheon and Meeting in February, our Chairman issued a challenge to ALL Shawtown members..... specifically requesting that we all work to raise a goal of \$8,000 per year for the next 2 years (total \$16,000) to use toward rehabilitating the Calder building at camp. Donations of materials can also move us in a positive direction toward our annual goal. The Calder building needs some serious work - starting with the roof and then windows, doors, siding and eventually upgrading the interior. This structure has been a fixture at Workcoeman for years and needs to be preserved. This challenge is in addition to other general Shawtown fund raisers we'll have during the year to complete projects around camp and assist Ranger Frank all year.

This means we need to focus together and bring this challenge to local businesses, private citizens, etc. to raise these dollars. As of this writing there have already been several donations made toward the effort, but \$8,000 per year is a huge goal! It doesn't take alot of effort to talk-up this challenge to others and if we pull together, many smaller donations and several \$500 or larger donations will move us closer to the annual goal quickly.

We'll update all members frequently as the year proceeds. If anyone has any questions or needs ideas on how to address this challenge, please contact Brian Cornell at [bcornell@campworkcoeman.org](mailto:bcornell@campworkcoeman.org)



***Just arrived!***

Our first Shawtown swag of 2020. We ordered a limited supply to start but once those sell out we will certainly re-order ASAP. Reserve yours now by sending an email to our chairman Brian Cornell at [bcornell@campworkcoeman.org](mailto:bcornell@campworkcoeman.org).

Each gray cap with our Shawtown emblem embroidered on it is only \$12.50!!

