



Citizens of Shawtown Camp Workcoeman Spring 2019 Newsletter



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Camp Director's message...

Spring is running at us full speed and we have so much to do! The Buck Foundation Grant plans are moving forward quickly. The many new program options consisting of underwater drones, a log rolling event, rope swing and new docks provided by the grant will surely enhance the program. Plans for workdays are being developed as they will be an important part of the preparation of the summer camp season. The hiring of the camps' staff is underway. I am looking for some quality young people on the staff so PLEASE pass the word along to anyone who you think would do a good job.

I appreciate all your efforts in supporting Camp Workcoeman and look forward to seeing you this Spring at our many scheduled events. Without your great efforts we would not be able to maintain Camp Workcoeman a premier Scout facility for year-round use in the state. Best wishes for an early spring!

Lou Seiser, Camp Director

Upcoming Events and Activities

Spring Work Day
Saturday April 20
9AM 'til...

May 11 Work Day

May 18 Work Day

June 1 Beaver Day
and Annual Steak Dinner
Fundraiser

September 14
Fall Work Day

Dates to Plan For...

April 20: Spring Work Day - 9AM to 3PM

- Clear inner-camp roads of brush/limbs, etc
- Prepare and install metal roof panels for the Pole Barn
- Cut trees taken down by Eversource last Fall into manageable lengths so they can be transported to Griffin Lodge .
- Paint/stain repair many items as needed and more
- ONLY those coming to camp with their own chainsaw and proper safety equipment will be allowed to cut after inspection and OK by the Ranger. (headgear, chaps, eye and ear protection, gloves, etc.)

May 11: Work Day

- Prep lumber for two new Pavilions (big job)
- Build a new 8X16 shed just below the Parade Ground
- Repairs to benches around camp
- Prep lumber for repairs to tent platforms

May 18: Work Day - Super important day!

- New DOCKS will be assembled and MUST be put into the water.
- Those assisting with this should bring bathing suits and water shoes.
- Continue on lumber prepping and construction
- Other priority tasks as required by Ranger Frank to get Camp in great shape prior to opening.

June 1 Beaver Day and Annual Steak Dinner Fundraiser - This day is dedicated to putting out and putting up tents in all campsites. We need dozens of helping hands especially on this day!

September 14 : Fall Work Day - Please mark your calendars as a reminder of work to be done after Camp closes. Tasks to be determined by the Ranger.

LUNCH will be provided for ALL workdays.

Stay as long as you can. Let us know if you are coming. E-mail Ranger Frank or Brian Cornell.

Now a few words from our Fearless Leader...

Greetings!

Welcome to the Spring 2019 edition of the Citizens of Shawtown Newsletter. Thank you to the Communications and membership patrol for putting this together. There is a lot of info packed into this edition so hopefully you will take the time to check it all out.

The main thing I wanted to speak about this month was the future of this group. We have some very dedicated volunteers who give their heart and soul to making Camp Workcoeman an incredible place. I understand that the main focus of this group is to work on and complete projects around camp. Exactly as it should be! However in my opinion with a little organization we could be so much more. We can be much more effective as not only a group to take care of physical projects at camp but also vocal, organized advocates for Camp Workcoeman. Unfortunately in this age of consolidation and budgetary constraints we all know that properties such as our camp are viewed as expendable assets. Every camp needs to have that voice to ensure that they are not liquidated and turned into fading memories. We can be that voice but only if we work together and step forward if and when needed.

As I have mentioned over the past year, my time here in Connecticut is drawing to a close. I will be stepping down as Chairman of the Citizens of Shawtown as of the Annual Steak Dinner. We need someone to come forward to take over the helm of this ship and steer us forward. I have tried to reorganize the group so that the work is spread over more people versus one or 2 of us taking care of things or relying on Lou and Frank to carry the weight.

At various meetings of the group, I hear a lot of really great ideas as to various initiatives that the Citizens of Shawtown should embark upon. Unfortunately, those great ideas will remain just that, ideas, if there is not a person or person's to step forward and make them reality. Every great idea needs a champion. That does not mean it needs someone to do all of the work, just that there must be that advocate who pushes that idea forward and keeps the momentum moving forward. **We all need to be the Citizens of Shawtown's champion and ultimately Camp Workcoeman's champion.**

I thank each of you for the hard work, energy and passion that you put into making Camp Workcoeman such an amazing place. My hope is that in the coming months and years you continue to invest your time and talents into supporting our wonderful camp. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work alongside you and to serve as the chair of this outstanding group! I will be around for a bit longer to help out with projects and assist with any work that may need to be done. Hopefully I will see you all at camp soon!

Dan Bielefield, Chairman, Citizens of Shawtown

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***Steak Dinner Fundraiser Tickets...***

Tickets for our Steak Dinner Fundraiser will be available soon! We really need a large turnout for the Dinner this year to help fund the numerous projects the Citizens need to accomplish in 2019.

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Donations to our Citizen's Account...

Remember: Donations in any amount can be made to our Citizen's account at the Council office. Please note Account 400 on your check, make it out to CRC, BSA and mail to CRC, BSA, 60 Darlin St, E. Hartford, CT

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***URGENT!...*** The search is on for a new Chairman of the Citizens as Dan Bielefield has served us well for a long time. Its time to find his successor. If interested contact Dan at danb63@optonline.net. With several active subcommittees the Chairman just needs to "guide the ship". Step up now!

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JUNE 1ST IS DAN'S LAST DAY AS OUR CHAIRMAN!

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***Hear Ye! Hear Ye!***

We are looking for a new wave of adult and young adult members from Cub Packs, troops and Venture Crews. Come join in the Shawtown adventure at Camp Workcoeman! Please contact Brian Cornell at bcornell@campworkcoeman.org

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Exciting News!

Troop 68 from Farmington and Troop 174 from Simsbury have graciously donated \$2000 each to build new Pavilions at Camp Workcoeman! Thank you to both units for your generosity.

Dan on the Citizens of Shawtown annual meeting...

The Citizens of Shawtown held their annual meeting on Sunday, February 10th at the Log House Restaurant. There were 20 members in attendance and all enjoyed good food and fellowship. During the meeting Ranger Frank updated the members on several ongoing projects currently going on at camp as well as outlining some planned projects including the installation of some campsite pavilions, tree removal that needs to be completed and repairs to Calder Lodge. Lou informed everyone about the Buck Foundation Grant that Camp Workcoeman recently received and the ongoing projects being financed by that endowment.

Under new business we discussed the Annual Steak Dinner which is scheduled for June 1st this year and the importance of everyone being involved, even if just getting a gift card or some sort of donation for the raffle. It was noted that most of the income from the Steak dinner comes from the raffle.

There was also continued discussion regarding reorganizing the Citizens of Shawtown into a troop format. Last year we started this initiative with mixed results. Our Communications/Membership Patrol is super active and has taken on the work of ensuring our members are up to date and informed.

Finally, the calendar for the coming year was finalized and the various work days and other activities were established and are in this newsletter. There was also a very good discussion regarding a Citizens of Shawtown members Appreciation Day at camp at which our members could gather for fun, food and fellowship. More details will be following I am sure.

Dan Bielefield, Chairman, Citizens of Shawtown



A robust gathering of Shawtown members gathered recently for a hearty Annual Luncheon and Annual Meeting to make plans for the 2019 season at Camp Workcoeman.

Rantings from our Ranger...

Who's ready for Spring? I sure am. We have plenty of projects lined up once Mother Nature gives us a break. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming workdays. Projects include the roof on the Pole Barn, Repair to the Camp Director Cabin Roof, New Waterfront dock system, tree work project cleanup, as well as getting platforms and outriggers repaired for the tents to go up. We need your help so please mark your calendars and please invite a friend to bolster our ranks.

We are also looking for volunteers to head up certain projects.

Camp Director Cabin roof repair: Project Manager needed!

New 8x16 bike shed construction: Project Manager needed!

I hope to see you all on April 20th. Plenty of work will be waiting all that arrive.

Thank you again for your commitment to our beloved Camp Workcoeman.

Ranger Frank Galliher, Camp Workcoeman

