

A Brief History

In 1983 a group of camp staff and veteran Scouters began working together to support the program and facilities at Camp Workcoeman. One of the first projects of these dedicated volunteers was to create a trek program for Scouts and troops. The result was an Outpost Trek to the Shawtown, a late eighteenth and early nineteenth century village. Part of this abandoned settlement was on land that is now in the backwoods of camp. This trek incorporated an overnight stay at the old Wright Homestead and reenactments of pioneer life, including a blacksmith demonstration. The following year the group organized more formally, choosing the name Citizens of Shawtown and selecting an anvil as their emblem to reflect their early work with the outpost program.



From the early 1980s to the mid 1990s Camp Workcoeman did not have a full time ranger. During these years, the Citizens of Shawtown repaired campsites and re-roofed buildings. Members took the lead on building new tent platforms, assembling a new walk-in cooler, and clearing some of the early hiking trails. The Citizens constructed a shooting sports facility and built the Maintenance Shop.

Citizens of Shawtown Retiree Corps

The Citizens of Shawtown's work includes much of the basic maintenance projects that are essential, yet often go unnoticed: refinishing the windowsills in the dining hall, replacing steps to the Directors Cabin, building a covered porch behind the Weed Lodge, refinishing oars & paddles, and replacing the floor of the health lodge. Many of these projects were completed by the Citizens of Shawtown Retiree Corps, a group of people who work at camp on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Anyone is welcome to join.

For more information and to join the Retiree Corps, contact Camp Ranger Frank Galliher via rangerfrank@campworkcoeman.org



Get in Touch:

- Visit us on the web: campworkcoeman.org/shawtown
- Brian Cornell, Membership Chair
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Citizens of Shawtown

Camp Workcoeman's
Volunteer Support Organization

What We Do:

- Provide instructional support for camp programs.
- Organize, fund, and carry out maintenance projects.



The Citizens Today

Today the Citizens of Shawtown help Camp Work-coeman in many ways, they continue to focus on organizing construction and maintenance projects, and also raise funds for those projects. Members provide instruction for camp activities, especially the shooting sports program. The Citizens of Shawtown also support troop camping, by serving as Campmasters for short-term camping.

To learn more about joining the Citizens of Shawtown, contact Membership Chair Brian Cornell via bcornell@campworkcoeman.org



Recent Projects

Adirondack Shelter Campsite

One of the recent projects is the Adirondack Shelter Campsite. The Citizens of Shawtown took the lead on this endeavor by providing design and financial backing for the first of the five Adirondack Shelters. Others followed up on this by donating funds for the materials of four shelters. The Citizens ensured the completion of this campsite by providing labor on three of the Adirondack Shelters.



Barbecue Pit Shelter

Another recent Shawtown project was to build a shelter over the barbecue pit. The Citizens built this structure of pressure-treated lumber and steel roofing, to ensure the long-term use of this facility with minimal upkeep costs. This project will ensure that the recently renovated barbecue pit is protected from the ravages of New England weather.



Pole Barn

The Citizens of Shawtown's current large project is constructing a pole barn to the north of the Maintenance Shop. This large structure will provide covered storage for camp vehicles and equipment. The Citizens have raised funds for this project, with support from Sanford & Hawley on some materials, Lowe's for the metal roofing, and Eversource for two poles and the installation of seven poles. As of this writing, the Citizens have sheathed the walls and raised the roof trusses, but there is still much work to be done.

To help out with the pole barn, contact Project Superintendent Brian Goodrich via briangoodrich7402@sbcglobal.net

