

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 they are essential, yet often go unnoticed: refinishing the windowsills in the dining hall, replacing steps to the Director's 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 Tuesday 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, Shawtown Chairman
– bcornell@campworkcoeman.org
- Keith Zwart, Membership & Communications Chairman
– keith.zwart@gmail.com

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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

Citizens of Shawtown help Camp Workcoeman in many ways, continuing 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 retiree corp works year round to help the ranger with big projects. We also support troop camping, by serving as Campmasters for short-term camping.

To learn more about joining the Citizens of Shawtown, contact the Shawtown Membership & Communications Chairman Keith Zwart via keith.zwart@gmail.com

Making a Difference

Bike Shed



Through teamwork with the Laurel Music Camp, a new shed style building was built between the Pavilion and the Boat House. We will use it for managing our bicycles and associated gear and the music camp will use it as their store for swag.

New Waterfront



Through a large grant, our waterfront will be getting a complete face lift. As of now you, can see the thinned out trees and the fence and tower are gone, clearing the way for new growth. This will be a significant upgrade, with changing rooms as well as the new docks. These new docks do not need to be removed seasonally, shortening our shutdown and setup times for camp.

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 roofed it, 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



Joining the Citizens

If you have stepped foot on Camp Workcoeman, then you belong. If your children have adventured and grown here, then you belong. Our time is precious, but giving back to posterity is also. Consider yourself cordially invited to come down and help us preserve and enhance our summer home. It is a jewel of a place on one of the clearest, cleanest freshwater ponds in the Northeast. Let's all make it last, and let's make it better.