

## Overview of Summer Camp Information (Good for NEW Scouts)

Owasippe Scout Reservation is owned and operated by the Chicago Area Council, BSA. Since 1911, Owasippe has provided an exceptional summer camp experience, making it the oldest continuously operating scout camp in the nation. Owasippe consists of almost 4800 acres of lush forest, lakes, streams and hiking trails. The camp is located in Twin Lake, Michigan.

We stay at Camp Blackhawk (GO!) which is located on Blue Lake, where scouts can swim, canoe, row, and sail. Scouts eat their meals in the large dining hall, which the lower level serves as a shelter if needed. The first year boys follow a program called Pathfinder where they are supervised and stick together for most of their activities. They will participate in up to 4 Merit Badges which are usually Swimming, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, and Basketry. The 2<sup>nd</sup> year and thereafter, the scouts will be in charge of making their own schedule.

In addition to Merit badge activities, scouts may also participate in Trail Rides, Tubing on the White River, and an overnight on USS Silversides.

USS Silversides was commissioned in the U.S. Navy on December 15, 1941, just 8 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Silversides served with the Pacific Fleet, in the waters along the coast of Japan. Silversides sank 23 ships and damaged 14 ships, ranking the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in sunk ships totally 90,080 tons during World War II.

USS Silversides was moved to Muskegon, MI in August of 1987. Restoration is still underway to bring her back to World War II authenticity.

### Other Information for NEW Scouts-

Make sure you bring your Merit Badge booklets (can be borrowed from the troop library or purchased at the scout store or the Chalkboard). If any pre-work needs to be done before going to camp- Be Prepared!

Make sure you bring your Scout Book so Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class requirements completed at Summer Camp can be signed off.

Make sure you have enough Troop Activity Shirts (aka Class B) to last the week.

See other forms about General Information & Specific Information for the year you are attending on the Troop 81 website ([www.troop81.org](http://www.troop81.org)). Also, other valuable information is posted, including maps and release forms, etc.