Reneker Family Camp

2014 Manual

Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Chicago Area Council **Boy Scouts of America**

Table of Contents

Contact Information 2

Letter from the Camp Director 3

Overview of Camp Reneker 4

Camp Facilities 5

Arrival and Departure 6

Reneker Camp Policies 9

Annual Health and Medical Record Policy 13

Emergency Procedures 14

Camp Reneker Program 15

Outposts at Reneker 17

Appendix 20

Contact Information

Chicago Area Council

The Chicago Area Council Camping Department is located at the Chicago Area Council Office, and can handle any questions concerning reservations and payments.

C.A.C. Camping Department
1218 West Adams
Chicago, IL 60607

Or, you may contact the Camping Specialist, Bryan Kumzi, by phone or e-mail at:

C.A.C. Camping Dept. Phone 312-421-8800 ext.226
C.A.C. Camping Dept. Fax 312-421-4725
E-mail bryan.kumzi@scouting.org

Visit the Chicago Area Council online at:
www.chicagobsa.org

Owasippe Contact Information

Owasippe's mailing address is:

Name
Owasippe Scout Reservation (Specify "Reneker", if necessary.)
9900 Russell Road
Twin Lake, MI 49457

In the event of an emergency during the camping season, you may call or fax information to the following numbers.

Reneker Direct Line (231)894-6703
Owasippe Phone (231)894-4061
Owasippe Fax (231)893-6531

**Remember, Owasippe time is one hour LATER than Chicago time.

Letter from the Reneker Camp Directors

February, 2014

Hello Reneker Campers!

Welcome to Reneker Family Camp at America's Oldest and Premier Scout Camp: Owasippe Scout Reservation. Thank you for your interest in attending Camp Reneker! Our staff is excited and ready to have a wonderful week with your family. This summer, the Reneker staff will celebrate Owasippe's 103rd Camping Season (and Reneker's 49th!) by stepping into the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss!

As we speak, the Reneker team is planning an experience you should certainly expect to ENJOY! Our incredible staff is outgoing, energetic, and eager to begin the camping season. Our great mix of staff members are excited to put their experience working with children, teens, and adults to use in a variety of ways to get you trying new things during your stay with us. They are just as excited to see you, as you are to see them this summer!

For campers ages four through adult, mornings will be filled participating with others your age in activities such as hikes, crafts, swim instruction, and nature and Scout activities. The afternoons at Reneker offer the opportunity to hone personal and Scouting skills through hiking, swimming, team games, marksmanship (BB guns and archery), nature and conservation projects, and/or craft projects for both adults and children, just to name a few! In the evenings, our program focuses on the family, while encouraging campers to meet new friends and socialize with each other. We will continue with our usual favorites such as Ice Cream Social and Potluck, but have added some fresh activities to our schedule to get you spending quality FUN time with your family and friends.

Reneker families also have the opportunity to participate in many of the outposts Owasippe has to offer on property including horseback riding, sailing, Low C.O.P.E. (team-building course), High C.O.P.E. (high ropes course), climbing, river tubing, canoeing, the list goes on!

There are an endless amount of activities that have been carefully planned for your family to take advantage of…I hope you are up to the challenge! Reneker's camp call is "Go For It!" and our staff is available to make sure you can make this happen every day during your stay. This Leader's Guide gives you an idea of what to expect at camp, from programs to physical facilities.

On behalf of the Reneker staff, we can't wait for your arrival and for you to join us on our journey, and we look forward spending an unforgettable week with you making lifelong memories.

Because We Believe in OSR,

Caitlin and Mo

Caitlin Boline and Maureen Haneberg
Camp Director and Assistant Camp Director of Camp Reneker, GO FOR IT!

Overview of Camp Reneker

For almost five decades, Camp Reneker has provided quality camping experiences to Scout families at a very modest cost. Nestled at the south end of Owasippe Scout Reservation, Reneker provides outdoor recreation programs for the spouses and children of Scouting families.

One way to ensure that you experience all that Reneker has to offer is to participate in the camp's planned program activities each day. Each morning, campers ages four through adults are invited to join our age group programs lead by one of our energetic staff members. Here, participants will hike, create craft projects, play sports and games, sing songs, participate in swim instruction, learn or develop skills, and participate in activities and a service project. Each afternoon and evening campers are welcome to participate in different individual and family activities as well as social events.

Surrounded by the forests of Owasippe, Reneker campers have many opportunities for fun in the natural beauty of the outdoors. Guided by experienced staff, campers may hike to the nearby Quaking Bog, (one of the natural wonders of Owasippe), to the E. Urner Goodman Scouting Museum, Owasippe's Grave, or to Paradise Valley. If sports are what you enjoy, you can play a game of volleyball, shoot baskets, or perfect your marksmanship skills on our archery/BB gun range, among others! Campers may also take advantage of other opportunities Owasippe has to offer, such as a trail ride at the Diamond O Ranch, climbing at the climbing wall, participating in Project C.O.P.E., testing your skills at archery, or sailing on beautiful Big Blue Lake at the Fossett Sailing Base.

Afternoons can be spent enjoying the warmth of the wonderful Michigan weather at our swimming pool. Reneker offers a full aquatic program, including both instructional and recreational swimming as recommended by the Boy Scouts of America. Under the guidance of certified lifeguards and swim instructors, children and adults may participate in swimming lessons, afternoon and evening recreational open swims, and/or the mile swim program. Our facility includes a large swimming pool with a staircase entry and a wading pool.

Every evening Reneker campers have an opportunity to get to know one another through program activities, such as: Family Activity Night and Ice Cream Social, Potluck Dinner, Camp Cooking, or Closing Campfire, which align with a theme that is fun for all ages. These events offer an opportunity to meet new people and develop friendships, or rekindle old ones. Camp Reneker also provides easy access to the many resources of the western Michigan region.

Reneker has its own trading post, which is open at various times throughout the day. In addition to souvenir T-shirts and other Owasippe memorabilia/sundries, the post also sells a few grocery items, ice cream, soda, and candy. Campers may also visit the main trading post at the Ad Center complex or travel to nearby Whitehall for additional groceries and other supplies.

Camp Facilities

Cabins
Reneker provides camper families with a rustic cabin that sleeps 4-5 comfortably. Each cabin consists of two bedrooms with bunk beds, a closet, and a dresser/mirror. It is also equipped with an electric stove range, refrigerator, kitchen sink, table/chairs, wash-up sink, and a sofa.

Bathrooms
Toilets, showers, and laundry facilities are centrally located in a sanitary unit, or "KYBO", in the middle of each 20-cabin site. Each sanitary unit includes six bathrooms, each of which includes a toilet, shower, and sink. In the large front room are two sets of coin-operated washers and dryers, as well as two wash sinks. Campers must provide their own detergent.

Playgrounds
Each site, or "side" of 20 cabins also includes a centralized park with playground equipment and park benches.

Garbage
Each camping side has several areas to place garbage, called garbage racks. These racks are essentially six large metal garbage cans where trash can be placed. **Please** replace cover securely to help keep animals out of the garbage. Racks are located in areas near the cabin parking lots, as well as near the camp office.

Camp Office/Circus Tent

The camp office and circus tent area are busy areas during program hours. While you are at the circus tent participating in an activity, be sure to stop in the camp office to check your mail or speak with the Camp Director about anything you may need help with. You may also borrow a board game or book from the office to use under the circus tent or bring back to your cabin. During off hours, we request that you use the camp office only in case of emergency. The camp radio, to be used by campers only in an emergency, is located here.

Trading Post

The Reneker Trading Post is your one-stop shop for Owasippe apparel and novelty items, ice cream, candy, soda pop, and other sundries. The Main Trading Post located at the Ad Center has an even larger selection for your Scouting and apparel needs.

Pool

Open during most program hours, the Reneker aquatics area is usually a main area of fun and activity. After you have completed your swim check, you are invited to cool down in our rocket ship shaped pool!

Arrival and Departure

Check-In

Check-in is held on Sunday afternoon, from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., in front of the camp office. Those arriving after 5:00 p.m. will be checked in following Orientation, which starts at 7 p.m. (your cabin key will be on your table). Owasippe is approximately 210 miles from Chicago, and the trip takes about 3.5 - 4.5 hours. Owasippe is on Eastern Daylight Time. For directions, please see the Appendix. The check-in process has several steps, all of which take place in the camp office/circus tent area. After checking in, a Reneker staff member will escort you to your designated cabin and inspect the cabin with you.

Step 1: Initial Check In and Key Deposit

During the first step of check-in, each registered family will submit a completed roster, a vehicle registration form, and leave a required key/damage deposit of $25.00 that will be returned upon staff checkout approval. Campers will also make sure that their account is current and all cabin fees are paid. Finally, campers will receive the wristbands that are required to be worn in camp for the duration of their stay, as well as the vehicle permits that must be kept on the dashboard of any vehicle parked in camp.

Step 2: Medical Recheck and Buddy Tags

The next step of check-in includes the medical recheck process and issuing of buddy tags. All campers staying at Reneker must complete the Annual Health and Medical record and complete a medical re-check as required by the BSA, and submit a copy of the record for the camp to keep. Please see the Health and Medical Record Policy in this manual. A copy of the Annual Health and Medical record is in the appendix. After medical re-checks, each camper will be issued a buddy tag with their cabin number written on it. This buddy tag is to be used to gain admittance to the pool, and will be kept at the buddy board outside the pool gate.

Step 3: Cabin Keys

Finally, campers will be issued their cabin key and will be shown to their cabin. This is a great time to ask any questions and to become familiar with the layout of camp.

Swim Checks

After completing check-in and moving into your cabin, it is a good idea to complete a swim check. In order to swim in the deep section of the pool, or to participate in sailing, tubing, or boating at camp, campers must complete the standard BSA Swimmer Test. The swimmer will have completed their test once they have been cleared by our BSA trained Aquatics staff. Swim checks will be given on Sunday afternoon from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., as well as at 2:45, 3:45, and 4:45 p.m. Monday-Friday. Just come to the pool!

Orientation

Camp Reneker orientation takes place on Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. sharp under the circus tent. All campers are required to attend orientation where they will meet the camp staff and learn about the overall program; campers will also receive the weekly schedule, including activities, times and fees. While the adults review camp policies and ask any questions they may have, the children will meet the staff responsible for their age-group activities and tour Camp Reneker. The children will also meet new friends and discover the exciting week of fun and adventure planned for them. Reneker staff is also available during the week to answer questions and ensure your understanding of our policies and programs!

Program Registration

Immediately following the orientation, campers should enroll in the various programs offered by the camp. Fees vary with each activity, and programs that require fees include all morning age-group programs, crafts/food activities, and outposts (climbing, C.O.P.E, horseback riding, sailing, etc). Fees will be paid Friday afternoon at "settlement" with the Camp Director or Assistant Camp Director, or earlier if necessary. All fees must be paid before campers leave to go home.

Early Arrival

A $65 early arrival fee applies to any Reneker campers who arrive on Saturday. Campers should plan to arrive between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday. Early-arrival campers should go directly to the camp office to start the check-in process, and should be aware that there will not be any program or staff support available until Sunday at 12:00 p.m. Campers will be required to complete the check-in process between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Check Out

The Reneker staff cleans every cabin prior to the opening of camp to ensure they are ready for occupancy. In turn, the Reneker staff expects campers to leave the cabin as clean, if not cleaner, than they found it upon arrival and ready for the next camper. The staff is available at A and B side laundry rooms between 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. on Saturday to check out cabins. Upon staff approval at checkout, damage deposits are returned to campers during your final checkout under the circus tent. **Campers are asked to adhere to the 10:30 a.m. checkout time.** Please complete the following checkout procedures:

- Empty, clean, and defrost the refrigerator, turn to #2 setting
- Clean oven and burners and make sure stove is turned off
- Clean kitchen sink, wash-stand, and counters
- Wipe shelves and furniture
- Empty wastebaskets and deposit garbage in garbage racks, securing the can's lid
- Check drawers, cabinets, under beds, cushions, and sofa for personal items
- Sweep and mop the floor (mops are located in the laundry room)

- Pick up litter in the area around the cabin
- Close all windows, EXCEPT the transom windows
- Report any problems with your cabin to the checkout staff

When your cabin is clean and mopped, please see a staff member in the laundry room to check out your cabin. From there proceed to the camp office for final checkout, return of your key deposit, and to register for next year.

2015 Registration

At the time of checkout, Reneker campers may choose to reserve a cabin for the same period the following year by paying a non-refundable deposit. Following Saturday of the current period, reservations open for any others to reserve cabins for that period of the following year. Cabins will only be reserved with a paid deposit.

As of 2012, the Chicago Area Council Camping Committee has instituted a new policy regarding Reneker cabin reservations. This policy mostly affects Reneker campers attending camp without an immediate family member staying with a Boy Scout unit in camp the same period. For more information about the Reneker Cabin Reservation policy, please visit www.chicagobsa.org.

Reneker Camp Policies

Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking

- The consumption, possession, and/or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or controlled substances while participating in the Scouting program and/or on Scouting property is not permitted.
- Violations of all local, state, and federal laws will be reported.
- Violators will be asked to leave Owasippe property.
- Adults are asked to refrain from smoking while in proximity of underage campers.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited in all buildings on Owasippe property, including Reneker cabins.

Bicycles in Camp

For safety reasons, campers are not permitted to use bicycles in camp except with express permission from the Camp Director.

Cabin Occupancy

Each Reneker cabin is equipped to comfortably accommodate 5 campers. Occupancy of the Reneker cabins is a maximum of 5 people.

Camper Security

Wristbands

Upon arrival, Reneker campers will be issued wristbands to be worn throughout the week. The wristbands are used to properly identify those individuals who BELONG in camp and it is required that all campers across the reservation adhere to this policy to keep everyone safe. If a wristband becomes misplaced or ripped, the camp office will gladly replace it. All visitors must report to the camp office to receive a visitor wristband.

Staff Name Tags

Camp staff and camp volunteers are issued an Owasippe nametag and staff wristband that is to be worn at all times while on the property. Food service staff has a special uniform that identifies them.

Proper Identification

Anyone not showing a proper identification may be stopped and questioned by a staff member or camper. Visitors should be directed, and if necessary escorted, to the camp office and/or Ad Center to check in properly and receive a wristband. Trespassers will be escorted off the property.

Children

Children are their parents' responsibility and are to be supervised at all times.

Fire, Liquids, & Propane Fuels

- Fires may only be built in designated areas and under adult supervision.
- Liquid or propane fuels should be used only under adult supervision.

Firearms, Ammunition, Fireworks, Bows and Arrows

- No firearms, ammunition, fireworks, or bows and arrows of any kind may be kept in the possession of any camper.
- Camp insurance does not allow the use of personal weapons, including paintball guns, BB guns, bows and arrows, or ammunition on Council property. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Garbage

Seal garbage in plastic bags and place bags into the garbage cans/rack closest to your cabin. Please be careful to properly secure the lid, as this will prevent most animals from access to the garbage.

Pet Policy

Due to the closeness of the cabins, allergen concerns, and Michigan Health Department regulations, pets are not permitted at Reneker. Please make arrangements to board your pets before arrival.

Phone Use

Due to low call volume, we no longer have a pay phone at Camp Reneker; we recommend that you bring a cell phone. There are also pay phones available in the nearby town of Whitehall.

Porch Lights

Please leave the porch light of your cabin on during the nighttime hours to provide safety and security in camp.

Quiet Times

- During lunch time (12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.) the large tent and pool areas are closed.
- At dinner time (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.) the large tent and pool areas are closed.
- From 10:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m. the large tent, pool areas, and the playgrounds are closed. Peace and quiet should be observed throughout Reneker.

Sanitary Unit Cleaning

- The staff cleans the sanitary units once a day, after breakfast.
- Campers are asked to maintain the cleanliness of the bathrooms throughout the day.
- In the event that the bathrooms need further maintenance, please notify the camp office.

Swimming Pool

- A lifeguard must be present before anyone is allowed inside the pool fence.
- A soaking-wet shower is required before entering the pool.
- Hair longer than shoulder length must be pulled back into a ponytail while in the water.
- Parents must assume the supervision of children under 3 & children using the wading pool.
- No glass, bottles, cans, or other dangerous objects allowed around the pool deck.
- Food and beverages are not permitted inside the pool fence.
- No running or horseplay is permitted on the deck or in the pool.
- Camp Reneker follows the BSA buddy check system. All campers must use their assigned buddy tag.
- Diving is only allowed in the deep end from the marked red boxes.
- Toilet facilities are located next to the pump house.
- SWIMSUITS are a MUST!

Swim Checks

All Reneker campers, in order to swim in the deep area of the pool, or to participate in an aquatic Outpost program, must complete a swim check. All parts of the swim check must be administered by a Reneker Aquatics staff member. Swimming lessons are provided throughout the week during morning age-group program to help campers improve swimming skills.

Swimmers Test Requirements

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, swim 75 yards in a strong manner using one or more of the following strokes: side stroke, breast stroke, or crawl; then swim 25 yards using an easy, resting backstroke. The 100 yards must be completed in one swim. After completing the swim, rest by floating.

Beginners Test Requirements

Jump feet first into water over the head in depth, then swim 25 feet on the surface, turn, and swim 25 feet back to the starting place.

Swimmer Classifications:

Non-Swimmer: allowed to swim up to where the water reaches the individual's chest
Beginner: allowed to swim anywhere in the shallow section, restricted from deep end
Swimmer: allowed to swim the entirety of the pool, including the deep end

Vehicles and Parking

- All vehicles in camp must be registered at check-in. Each vehicle will be issued a parking permit, which must be placed visibly on the dashboard while the vehicle is in camp.
- All drivers of vehicles on camp property must be 18 years of age or older, have no moving violations during the past two years, and possess a valid driver's license.
- All campers and staff will wear safety belts when riding in a vehicle on camp property.
- All riders must remain seated and refrain from distracting the driver.

- All loading and unloading of campers and gear must be done in the parking lot. Reneker campers are not permitted to drive up to their cabins to unload.
- No one is allowed to ride in the back of ANY truck.
- The speed limit on all camp roads is **10 miles per hour.** This speed limit is strictly enforced.
- Parking is limited to designated parking lots.
- Special parking permits for campers with special needs can be issued by the Camp Director.
- Repeated or flagrant violation of these policies will result in denial of driving privileges or expulsion from camp.

Visiting Section Camps

Reneker campers may visit section camps but must check in at that camp's office upon arrival. It is recommended that visits occur in the evening, after program hours. Under no circumstances may Reneker campers drive vehicles into campsites.

Annual Health and Medical Record Policy

Policy on Use of the Annual Health and Medical Record

In order to provide better care for its members and to assist them in better understanding their own physical capabilities, the Boy Scouts of America recommends that everyone who participates in a Scouting event have an annual medical evaluation by a certified and licensed health-care provider—a physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. Providing your medical information on this four-part form will help ensure you meet the minimum standards for participation in various activities. Note that unit leaders must always protect the privacy of unit participants by protecting their medical information.

Parts A and B are to be completed at least annually by participants in all Scouting events. This health history, parental/guardian informed consent and hold harmless/release agreement, and talent release statement is to be completed by the participant and parents/guardians.

Part C is the physical exam that is required for participants in any event that exceeds 72 consecutive hours, for all high-adventure base participants, or when the nature of the activity is strenuous and demanding. Service projects or work weekends may fit this description. Part C is to be completed and signed by a certified and licensed health-care provider—physician (MD or DO), nurse practitioner, or physician assistant. It is important to note that the height/weight limits must be strictly adhered to when the event will take the unit more than 30 minutes away from an emergency vehicle, accessible roadway, or when the program requires it, such as backpacking trips, high-adventure activities, and conservation projects in remote areas.

The annual health and medical record is a national BSA form. A copy of this form is in the appendix and can be downloaded from the council website: www.chicagobsa.org.

Medical Record Retention Policy

The State of Michigan requires that the camp retain a copy of the Annual Health and Medical Record for up to three years after attending camp. As such, campers should plan on submitting a **copy** of their health form during medical rechecks. Owasippe will keep the copy submitted at check-in. Medical forms will be kept in locked storage.

Medical Recheck Policy

The State of Michigan requires that every camper undergo a medical screening within the first 24 hours of arriving at camp. This is part of the unit check-in process in the section camp. Campers who arrive late must report to the camp office upon arrival at camp for their medical screening.

Emergency Procedures

Accident or Illness

- Basic First Aid is available at the camp office.
- In the event of serious illness or injury, notify the camp office before going to the Health Lodge. At night, notify staff located in the emergency cabin A1 or staff row.
- If accident or illness is severe, send runners to notify the camp office. Do not move the victim. Give the location and nature of the problem to the staff, and they will call for Health and Safety personnel to respond to you.
- If accident or illness is severe the patient will be transported by ambulance to the local hospital.
- Only youth or adults who are registered members of Chicago Area Council, BSA are covered by the council's Accident & Sickness Insurance. However, the individual's personal medical insurance will be utilized first.

Lost Camper

- Immediately notify the camp office of a missing camper.
- Return to cabin, allowing the staff to initiate the camp emergency procedure and conduct a search.

Fire in Camp

- Notify the camp office immediately of the cabin number and/or location of the fire.
- If safe to do so, campers may use fire extinguishers located in each cabin to extinguish fire.

Severe Weather

- All aquatic areas, C.O.P.E., climbing, and the horse ranch will close when thunder or lightning occurs, no matter how distant.
- Campers should store all loose items outside of their cabins in preparation for high winds.
- Move away from streams (flooding) and lone trees (lightning hazard).
- As severe weather approaches, move inside cabins or sanitary units and stay away from windows. If caught outside in the open, lay down flat and cover your head.

Camp Reneker Program

Camp Reneker offers a wide range of programs for campers of all ages. Activities begin in the morning with age-group programs and continue into the evening with family activities. Whatever the interests of the individual and/or family, the Reneker program has something for you!

Morning Programs

Camp Reneker's morning program begins at 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday with our flag raising ceremony; families are encouraged to participate in the color guard and ceremony! Following the flag ceremony and announcements, the age-group activities for children four through teenage begin. While children are involved with their age groups, adults may enjoy the adult program, which includes hikes, crafts, and adult swim instruction. Adults can also choose to socialize, read a book, or sunbathe on the pool deck.

4-6 Year Olds

Our youngest campers will enjoy their morning program as they ease into camp activities. They will do crafts, enjoy short "hikes" around Camp Reneker, play group games, and enjoy age appropriate activities and songs carefully planned for their enjoyment. Their pool time is full of play and fun games while swimming basics are introduced. In order to make sure all children in this group are able to participate safely, the age requirement is strictly enforced.

7-9 Year Olds

The 7-9 year olds also enjoy daily age-appropriate crafts and activities, but this age group also has the freedom to go further in their exploration of Owasippe during their hike time. Their longer pool time introduces basic strokes and technique to either strengthen the skills they already possess, or introduce and teach beginner swimmers.

10-12 Year Olds

The 10-12 year old group is similar to both the 4-6 and 7-9 age groups in that they do a daily craft and swimming lesson, but they are also given more freedom to branch out in the quest for adventure. Some groups may travel to Camp Wolverine to do leatherwork, or may practice their archery skills during program time.

Teen Group, 13-17+

The Teen Group is a great way to meet new friends, try something new, and branch out of your comfort zone! The teens start their week by attending our C.O.P.E. course Monday morning as a group. They participate in team-building activities designed to mold them into a working group for the rest of the week. Each year is different and offers new and out-of-the-box activities teenage campers are sure to love!

Adult Program

Everyone is included in morning program! While you may opt to spend the morning on your own, adults are highly encouraged to participate in morning program as well. Reneker offers classy crafts, camp cooking, water aerobics, and hiking for our adult campers. Programs are designed for enjoyment and relaxation and our adult program is a huge hit!

Afternoon Programs

The afternoons at Reneker are flexible and provide a variety of activities, if you choose to participate in them. Each afternoon the pool is open from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. for open swim. The pool is a comfortable place to relax and enjoy the beautiful, warm summer days at Owasippe, or to challenge yourself to train for the mile swim. Other activities offered during the afternoon include crafts/tie-dye, team games, volleyball, basketball, Frisbee golf, wood-burning, participating in a beanbag toss tournament, or testing your marksmanship skills at either our BB gun and archery range or our new paintball range, and that's just the beginning! You may want to explore the trails of Owasippe on a guided hike to some of Owasippe's most unique places, such as the Quaking Bogs, Paradise Valley, Chief Owasippe's Grave, Bass Lake, or to see some of the endangered species on the property. An afternoon at Reneker is a time of activity or relaxation; the choice is yours.

Evening Programs

Each evening at 7:00 p.m. a different, family-oriented program activity is scheduled. The week begins on Sunday with orientation and registration, and concludes on Friday with a closing campfire. During the week, campers have fun participating in activities such as Ice Cream Social, Family Potluck Dinner and Dance Party, and the Closing Campfire. In addition to these activities, the pool is open on various nights of the week for evening swim. If these family-centered events do not spark your interest, the local towns of Whitehall, Montague and Muskegon are close by for you to explore. Our campers take shopping excursions to the outlet mall in Holland, journey to Lake Michigan beaches, Michigan's Adventure Water Park and Miniature Golf, and dine-in area restaurants.

2014 Camp Reneker Activity Fees

4-6 Age Group Program
$25.00

7-9 Age Group Program
$25.00

10-12 Age Group Program
$25.00

13-17+ Age Group Program
$35.00

Adult Craft Fee Daily
$10.00 per day

Adult Craft Fee Weekly
$40 per week

Tie-Dye
$3.00

Outposts at Reneker

Reneker families are encouraged to branch out and seek adventure at other locations at Owasippe. Like our other programs, families have the opportunity to sign up for High Adventure outposts on Sunday night. Signing up on Sunday is **STRONGLY encouraged**. While Scouts have first choice, great care is taken to accommodate Reneker campers and families. Campers will be informed Monday morning of the activities they have secured.

Diamond O Ranch

Calling all cowboys and cowgirls! Campers ages 12 years of age and older have an exciting opportunity to see the deserts and forests of Owasippe via horseback on an awesome trail ride. This program caters to everyone from participants who have never seen a horse before to professional riders. Trail rides are intended to be an introduction to riding, as well as an opportunity to see parts of the camp you can only see on horseback.

Requirements

Participants must wear jeans or long pants (below the ankle) that are at least as thick as sweatpants, and must wear sturdy, closed—toe/top shoes. Boots are preferred, and absolutely no sandals are permitted. Maximum weight is 250 lbs. Participants must be able to reach stirrups and use them actively to participate. A waiver signed by a parent or guardian must be presented prior to participant attending program, and is required. Ranch staff reserves the right to deny a ride to any participant for any reason, including improper attire, behavior, or lack of waiver form. Campers must be 12 years of age to participate.

Price

$20 per ride

Offered

Afternoons

Fossett Sailing Base

The Fossett Sailing Base is located in Camp Blackhawk on beautiful Big Blue Lake. It houses a wide selection of sailboats, including Sunfish and Aquafins. With the wind at your back, you'll get a chance to admire Camp Blackhawk's breathtaking coastline.

Requirements

Participants must have passed the Swimmer Test and be 13 years of age or older. Campers attending the sail base must bring their boating buddy tags.

Price

The cost of a sailboat rental is $5.00 per person, $10.00 per boat.

Offered
Afternoons and Evenings

Low C.O.P.E.

Our Low C.O.P.E. (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) course offers campers the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and experience team-building at its finest.

Requirements
Participants must wear long pants (below the ankle) and sturdy, closed-toe/top shoes. Boots are preferred, and absolutely no sandals are allowed. Campers must be age 13 or older.

Price
$15 per person (included in Teen Group fee)

Offered
Monday Morning

High C.O.P.E.

Our High C.O.P.E. ropes course is one of the ultimate thrills Owasippe offers. Participants climb 30 feet in the air to a vertical playground of personal and physical challenges. Ending in a 250-foot zip line, this is one adventure you can knock off your bucket list!

Requirements
Participants must wear long pants (below the ankle) and sturdy, closed-toe/top shoes. Boots are preferred, and absolutely no sandals are allowed. Campers must be age 13 or older.

Price
$20 per person

Offered
Tuesday Evening

Climbing

Our 32-foot vertical tower is waiting for the adrenaline junkie to scale its many sides! Come enjoy the ever-changing themes, fun, and challenges of our climbing wall!

Requirements
Participants must wear long pants (below the ankle) and sturdy, closed-toe/top shoes. Boots are preferred, and absolutely no sandals are allowed. Campers must be age 13 or older.

Price
$10 per person

Offered
Afternoons by appointment

River Tubing

Though camp life is a blast, sometimes you need a chance to recoup your energy. During your stay at camp, sign up for a nice, relaxing tubing trip down the White River. Sit back in the summer sun and take a chance to enjoy nature's beauty and wonder. Tubing provides some time off your feet, and an opportunity to just drift along.

Requirements
Participants must have passed a Swimmer's test to tube. Parental supervision is required for campers under age 13.

Price
$15 per person

Offered
Afternoons by appointment

Canoeing

Long before Owasippe was a camp, the canoe ruled the streams, rivers, and lakes of Western Michigan. Back then, with a paddle and canoe, the sights, sounds, and smells of nature were there to see, and you could explore to your heart's content. If you'd like to feel that kind of freedom again, and get out of the designated boating area, then plan a canoe trip down the White River. Trips can be scheduled for both three-hour and six-hour trips.

Requirements
Participants must have passed a Swimmer's test to canoe. Parental supervision required for campers under age 13.

Price
$15 per person

Offered
Afternoon by appointment

Appendix

What to Bring to Camp

This is a checklist that includes articles you may want to bring to camp.

Camp Songs

Learn the Reneker camp song, the Family Camp song, and the Owasippe Hymn!

Annual Health and Medical Record

This is a copy of the Medical form required for all campers at Owasippe.

Equine Liability Form

This form must be signed by the participant and a parent/guardian as necessary to take a trail ride.

Vehicle Registration Form

All vehicles parked in camp must be listed on this form in order to receive a parking permit, which must be kept on the dashboard of any vehicle parked in camp.

Reneker Cabin Roster

Please list any and all campers who will be staying in camp. All campers must have a completed Annual Health and Medical Record with them at check-in.

Directions to Camp

Map of Owasippe

Map of Camp Reneker

What to Bring to Reneker

- Bedding (sheets, pillows, blankets, or sleeping bag)
- Cleaning supplies (dish soap, dish drainer, paper towels, laundry soap)
- Cookware (pots and pans, baking dish, cooking utensils, can opener, grill)
- Table settings (plates, bowls, cups, utensils)
- Bath and beach towels
- Toiletry items (soap, shampoo, sunscreen, etc.)
- Clothing (bathing suit, shorts, t-shirts, jacket, long pants, poncho, socks, underwear, etc.)
- Hiking shoes, shower shoes
- Clock/radio
- Small throw rugs
- Insect repellent
- Food (a week supply)

If you forget anything, remember that the Reneker trading post and the Main Trading Post in the Ad Center does carry a variety of sundries. Also, there are many shopping options in town.

Camp Songs

Family Camp

Hey look us over, we're from Family Camp
Fresh from the city to serve our time at camp
We like to swim and we like to hike
But on our way to the eagle's nest we have to take a thousand rests

It's up in the morning at the crack of dawn
While the staff goes swimming, the campers mow the lawn
But what we like best about this joyous place is all the campers' happy faces
We're from Family Camp
F-A-M-I-L-Y Why? Because we like it!
We're from Family Camp!

The Owasippe Hymn

All the wealth of Earth and Heaven
Bless thy woods and dales
Over all thy lakes and forests
Happy youth prevails

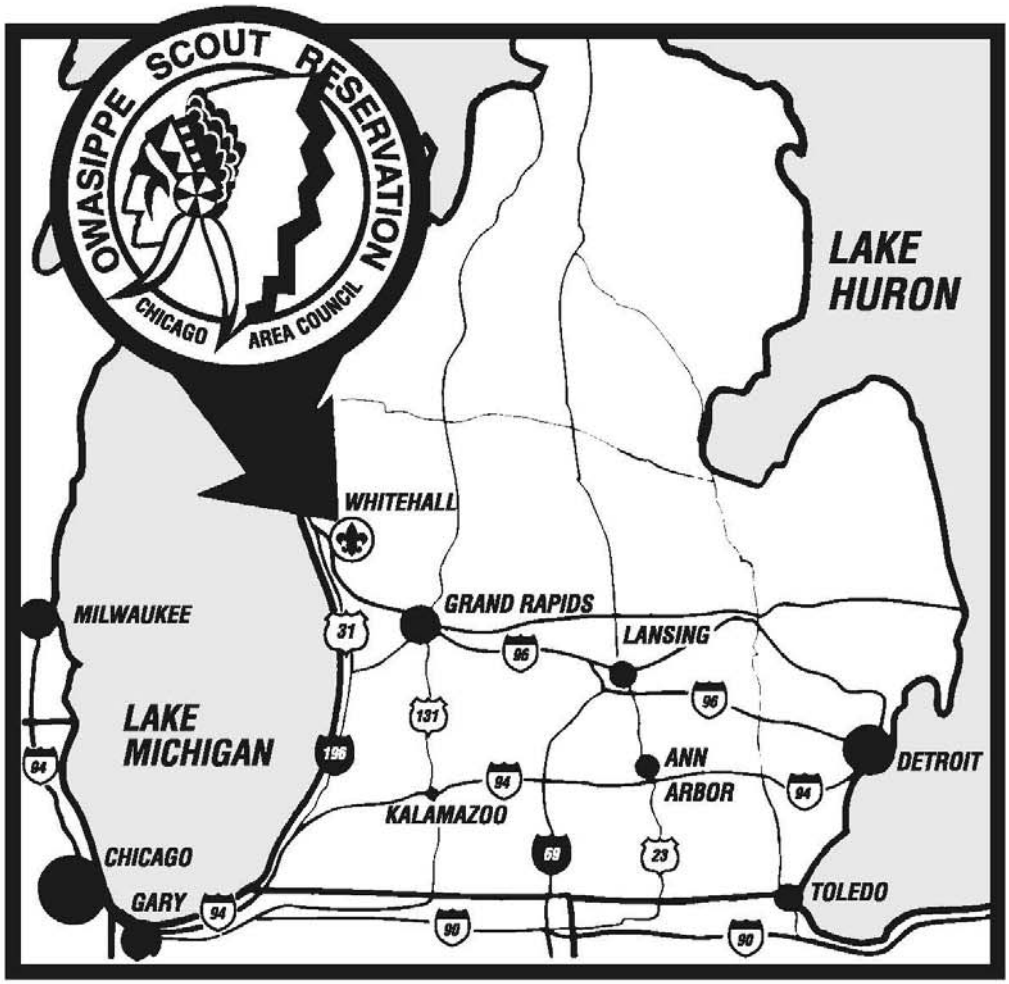
So, may Scouting's bond of friendship
Seal our loyalty
To the camp so dear to memory
Hail Owasippe

Camp Reneker Song

Consider yourself at home
Consider yourself a part of Reneker
You will never feel alone
With Scouting families as your friends

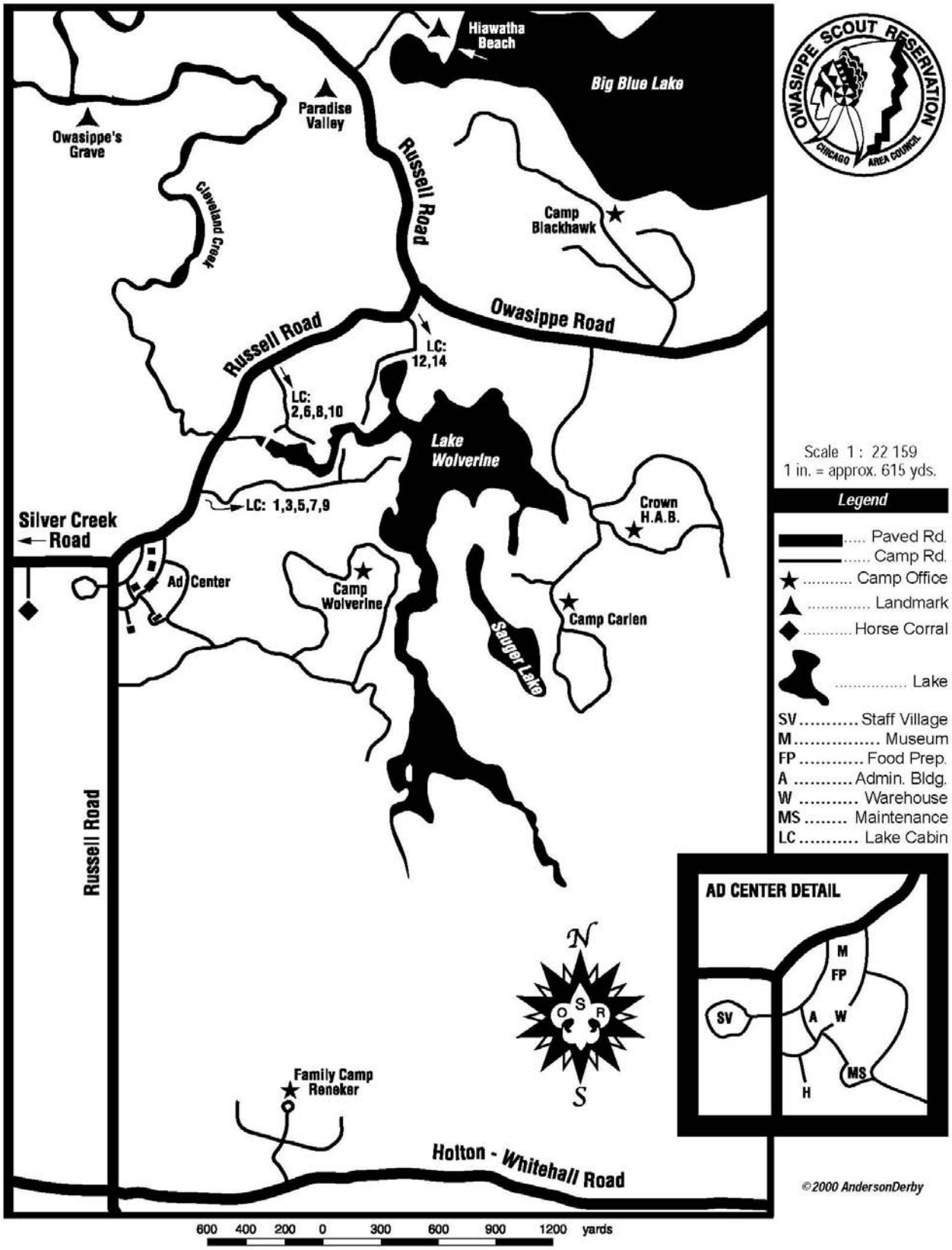
Oh, you can hike the trails and sail the
Lakes and greet the sun
It will all be worthwhile
You will sing the songs and shout the cheers
And feel the start of a happy scouting smile – "Smile!"

Consider yourself at home
Consider yourself our friends
So, come on down and camp around at Reneker
Consider yourself one of us!



Directions to the Owasippe Scout Reservation

From Chicago, Wisconsin	I-94 to exit 34 in Michigan; I-196 north to Holland,north on U.S. 31 to Russell Road; go right on Russell Road; and go 7 miles to Reservation.
Michigan & West;	North on U.S. 31 to Russell Road; go right on Russell Road; and go 7 miles to Reservation.
From Indianapolis & South:	I-69 to I-94; west to U.S. 131; north to Grand Rapids; I-96 to U.S. 31; north on U.S. 31 to Russell Road; go right on Russell Road, and go 7 miles to Reservation.
From Detroit:	I-96 west past Lansing and Grand Rapids to U.S. 31 at Muskegon; U.S. 31 north to Russell Road exit; turn right on Russell Road, and go 7 miles to Reservation.
From Southeast & East:	Any route north to Ohio Toll Road; west to I-69; I-69 North to I-94; I-94 west U.S. 131; follow same route north given from Indianapolis.


Hiawatha Beach
Big Blue Lake
Paradise Valley
Owasippe's Grave
Cleveland Creek
Russell Road
Camp Blackhawk
Owasippe Road
Russell Road
LC: 12,14
LC: 2,6,8,10
Lake Wolverine
LC: 1,3,5,7,9
Silver Creek Road
Crown H.A.B.
Ad Center
Camp Wolverine
Camp Carlen
Seuger Lake
Russell Road
Family Camp Reneker
Holton - Whitehall Road
600 400 200 0 300 600 900 1200 yards
Scale 1 : 22 159
1 in. = approx. 615 yds.
Legend
Paved Rd.
Camp Rd.
Camp Office
Landmark
Horse Corral
Lake
SV Staff Village
M Museum
FP Food Prep.
A Admin. Bldg.
W Warehouse
MS Maintenance
LC Lake Cabin
AD CENTER DETAIL
M
FP
SV
A
W
MS
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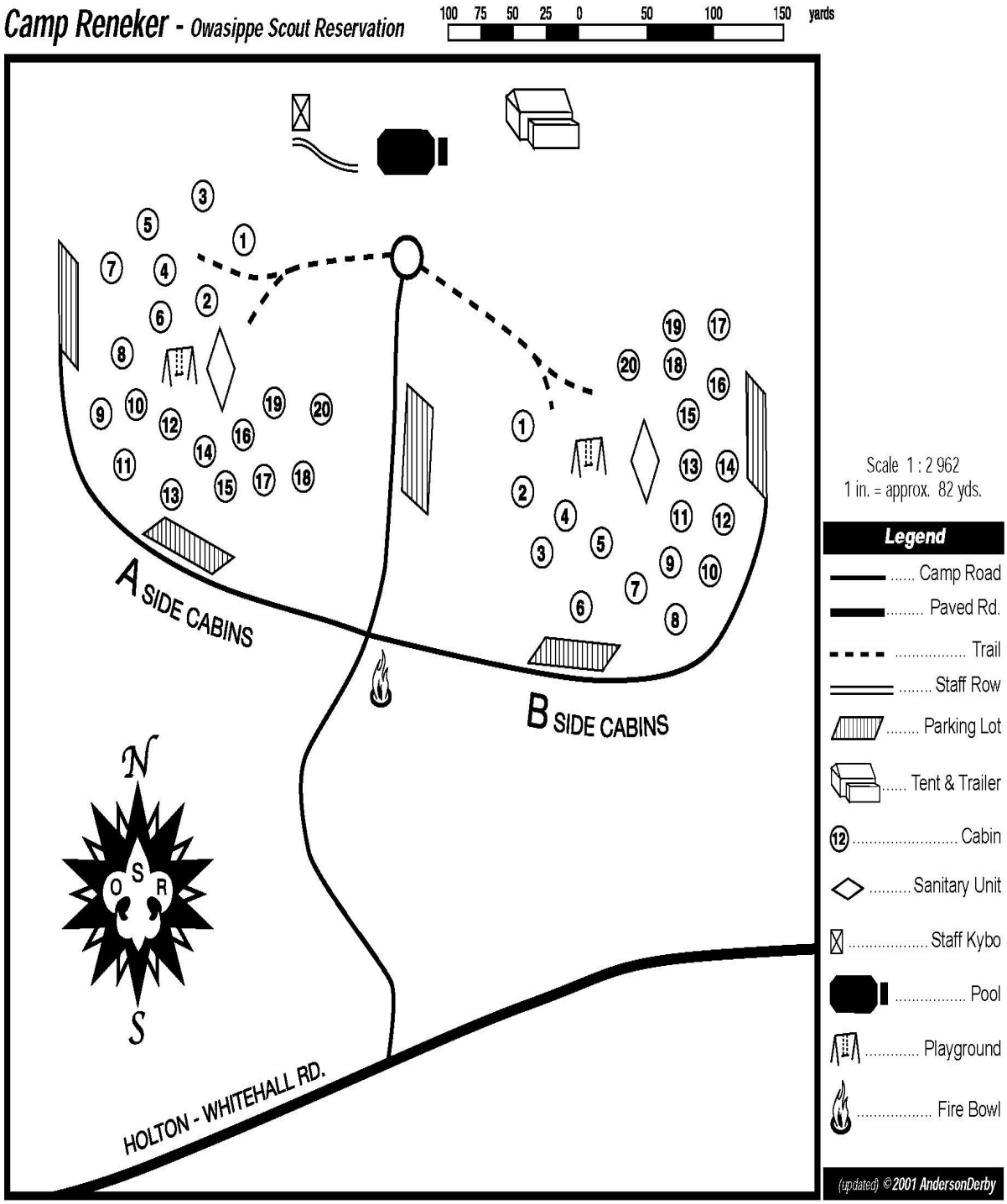
Camp Reneker - Owasippe Scout Reservation
100 75 50 25 0 50 100 150 yards
A SIDE CABINS
B SIDE CABINS
HOLTON - WHITEHALL RD.
N
S
O S R
Scale 1 : 2 962
1 in. = approx. 82 yds.
Legend
Camp Road
Paved Rd.
Trail
Staff Row
Parking Lot
Tent & Trailer
Cabin
Sanitary Unit
Staff Kybo
Pool
Playground
Fire Bowl
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