

Annual Intergenerational Labor Day Retreat First UU Church of Columbus



Camp Oty'Okwa

Another year flies by, and we will soon gather again in the Hocking Hills. Activities at camp include swimming, hiking, workshops, games, campfire and sing-along, outdoor worship, talent show, arts and crafts, and rest and relaxation. We will be close to Old Man's Cave and Conkle's Hollow for those who want to hike there.





What to bring:

Sleeping bag or sheets/blankets and pillow

Toothbrush and other toiletries, medications

Towel

Flashlight

Clothes for any weather    

Pajamas

Bug spray and sunscreen

Bathing suit, towel, water toys

Hiking boots

Cards/games to play in lodge

Outdoor games

Musical instruments 

A good book

An open mind

Snacks to share

Bottle of wine and/or non-alcoholic beverages for "Social Hour" before dinner

Lawn chair for sitting outside to read or chat

Ideas for skits and acts for talent show

For the traditional Sunday night Peek game: a small treasure, treat, trinket, or toy in a lunch-size paper bag.

Sorry, no pets, per the camp's new policy.

Some Useful Information for First-Timers

Camp Oty'Okwa offers us the following types of *group* lodging:

- A. Sebring Lodge—the lodge has four rooms of dormitory-style lodging with twin bunk beds and mattresses, electricity, and adjacent bathrooms and showers. We

typically use one dormitory room for women only, one for men only, one for couples, and one for families. Because this is group lodging, please be aware and considerate of others' sleeping preferences. Quiet hours are suggested after 10:00 p.m. (9:00 p.m. for the family room). Using a flashlight rather than the overhead lighting is encouraged when entering and exiting the rooms in the lodge after quiet hours. If you are a light sleeper, you may wish to consider bringing earplugs. *The lodge is not air-conditioned.*

- B. **Group Cabins**—each of the five winterized cabins sleeps 11 in bunk beds with mattresses. If you request a cabin accommodation on your registration, you may also wish to designate others you would like to share the cabin with. We work hard to accommodate all requests. No air conditioning is provided, but there are heaters if the nights are cold (not usual, but it comes in handy). Electric overhead lighting. *Rustic* bath and shower house nearby, but not attached to cabin; or you may use the showers in the lodge or at the Activity Center. Because this is group lodging, please be aware and considerate of others' sleeping preferences. You may want to discuss these with your cabin-mates on your first evening in the cabin. Using a flashlight rather than the overhead lighting is encouraged when entering and exiting the cabin when others are sleeping. If you are a light sleeper, you may wish to consider bringing earplugs.
- C. **Platform Tents**—a variety of sizes of platform tents are available, sleeping from two to four. These are rustic, but ideal for those who like a little more privacy. Mattresses are provided in the platform tents; be mindful of the weather when packing your sleeping equipment, as the tents provide a more outdoors-oriented sleeping experience without heat, electricity, or indoor plumbing. You may use the rustic bath and shower house; and you may use the showers in the lodge or at the Activity Center.
- D. **Your own tent**—many retreat-goers bring their own tents and set them up near the open space across from the lodge.

Accessibility: The camp's outdoor landscape is flat between the dining room and Sebring Lodge, and the lodge has two first floor dormitory rooms, each with adjacent restrooms/showers. Please contact Beth, Deb, or Julie if you have specific questions about accessibility.

Meals: Six meals are served when scheduled in the newly-remodeled dining hall, beginning with Saturday lunch and ending with brunch on Monday morning. The meals are prepared by the Camp Staff. A vegetarian offering is provided for those who request it on their registration forms. If you have other dietary needs, such as vegan or gluten-free, you may use the large guest refrigerator in the dining hall to store any items you bring from home to complete your meals. The camp provides cow's milk; you may bring other types of milk and store in the refrigerator. Please contact Deb, Beth, or Julie if you have specific questions about meals.

Map and Directions

Directions to Camp Oty'Okwa

1st option: Take 70-East to 33-South and take the Lancaster by-pass and proceed south to Logan. Get off at Route 664 (the first Logan exit) and go west (right). Take Route 664 through Old Man's Cave to Route 374. Turn right (north) on Route 374 and the Camp entrance is 100 yards to your left. If you go down the hill, you have passed the entrance. There is a sign that says "Big Brothers Big Sisters Camp Oty'Okwa."

Note: Once you go through Old Man's Cave, Route 374 is approximately 2 miles.

2nd option: Take 270-South to Route 23 to Circleville. At Circleville, take the Route 56 ramp and bear right (south east). Take Route 56 east to South Bloomingville and here it becomes Route 664. Continue on and go to the top of the hill. Once you reach the top, you will see Route 374. Turn left and the camp entrance is 100 yards to your left. If you go down the hill you have missed the entrance to the camp.

Note: South Bloomingville is approximately 3 miles from the camp.

Option 1 is a curvy drive once you reach Route 664. Option 2 is basically flat until you reach South Bloomingville. Both options are approximately 65 miles one way.

