**CHURCHES**

Churches in Bradford are:
- Baptist—10:30 A.M.
- Catholic—7:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. (Summer) 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. (Winter)
- Methodist—10:30 A.M.

The churches of Bradford are very happy to extend an invitation to all Scouts and Scouters to attend any of their services.

**A MESSAGE TO HIKERS**

We of the Amaquonsippi Trail Committee want this to be an enjoyable and memorable experience for all who take the trail. We will do all in our power to help in any way we can. We will have a member of our local troop with you at all times to help you, and to answer any questions; he will be at the leader's disposal. A thorough orientation will be given at the hiker's convenience before taking the trail.

The small amount of profit realized from those taking the trail goes for maintaining and improving the trail, and to extend the interests of Scouting in general. Good Hiking!

**REMEMBER WHEN PLANNING A HIKE**

1. The Amaquonsippi Trail Committee requires only three days advance notice.
2. All boys in your troop are eligible to hike the trail.
3. No fees are to be sent in advance—No camping fees.
4. No books to read.
5. No reports to write before or after hiking the trail.
6. No credentials are issued, and there are no check points.
7. No identification of trees or other objects required.
8. The trail orientation will be given at your convenience, not ours.
9. The trail starts and ends at the same place, therefore no transportation needed during the hike.
10. The Scoutmaster is in charge of his own boys at all times.

We of the Amaquonsippi Trail have hiked many trails in many different states, and it is through our experiences that we have set up these things for you to remember when planning a hike with your troop.

**OTHER ILLINOIS KING TRAILS**

- Kewanee Stage Coach and Pony Express Trail, Box 106, Kewanee, Illinois. 19 miles - Patch and medal
- Carl Sandburg Trail, Room 520, Bank of Galesburg Bldg., Galesburg, Illinois. 16 miles - Patch and medal
- The Lincoln Trail Hike, Abraham Lincoln Council, 730 East Vine St., Springfield, Illinois. 21 miles - Medal
- Blackhawk Trail, Camp Director, Camp Lowden, B. S. A., Oregon, Illinois. 20 miles - Patch and medal
- Chief Shabbona Trail, Shabbona Trail Committee, 2207 North Prairie Ave., Joliet, Illinois. 17 miles - Patch and medal
- Cahokia Pilgrimage, 631 North 33rd St., East St. Louis, Illinois. 20 miles - Patch and medal
- Three Rivers Trail, Sea Explorer Ship 5, Box 362, Cairo, Illinois. 22 miles - Patch and medal
- Boyce Trail, Stuart Norgard, 323 West Madison Street, Ottawa, Illinois. 25 miles - Patch and medal

Plan to walk one or more of these fine trails while in our area.

**FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

Sponsored by
AMAQUONSIPPI TRAIL COMMITTEE
Box 251, Bradford, Illinois
THE AMQUOONSIPI TRAIL

When Indian tribes of the Illini nation were still on the banks of the Spoon River, they used clams from the river for food, and the clamshells for spoons. In the Algonquin tongue, the river was called Amquonsippi; the word "Amquoon" meant shell or mussel, and the word "sippi" meant river.

Later the Potawatomi Indians used the Algonquin name of Amquonsippi because of some of the river's peculiar bends which resembled their wooden and shell "spoons." Many Indian burial mounds have been discovered along the banks of Spoon River. Many of the mounds measure 50 feet in circumference. Arrowheads, spearheads, axheads, tomahawk heads, and stone knives have been found near these burial places.

There are also earthworks of an earlier race the "Mound Builders." Little is known of this ancient civilization, though they left many magnificent earthen structures.

Indian trails met in the Spoon River Valley like spokes of a wheel. Many of these trails are still in use today, but as concrete highways.

It has been said that there was no section of the Country which the Indian tribes loved more than their beautiful Amquonsippi country and its fertile garden plots, comfortable sheltering wooded areas teeming with game, and a river alive with fish and clams, and its easy access to the main trails.

LOCATION—Bradford, Illinois is located 35 miles North of Peoria on Route 88; 65 miles Southeast of the Rock Island, Moline and Davenport area; and 140 miles Southwest of Chicago, Illinois. There are 6 Scout hiking trails within 100 miles radius of Bradford.

AWARD—An award will be made to participating hikers. The award will consist of a medal depicting a clam shell with the words Amquonsippi Trail. The medal will be suspended from a black, gold, and green ribbon. A Swiss embroidered patch in seven colors will also be given.

REQUIREMENTS—Who qualify? Any registered Scout, Senior Scout, Explorer, or Scout is eligible. The Scout uniform should be worn on the trail, but allowances will be made for boys who do not own a complete uniform, wet weather, or for any other valid reason.

Long pants should be worn to protect against sunburn, poison ivy, and nettles, as this hike is nearly all along a narrow wooden trail.

Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, and other hiking groups may also hike the trail by obtaining special permission from the trail committee.

HOW TO MAKE APPLICATION—All that is required to make an application to hike this trail is a card or letter three days in advance. Please state estimated time of arrival, and approximate number of hikers.

Please address correspondence to: Amquonsippi Trail Committee, Box 251, Bradford, Illinois

FEES—Fee for the hike is $3.00 per person. This includes the Amquonsippi Trail map and the Swiss embroidered patch. Send no money in advance.

PREPARATION FOR HIKE—1. There should be one adult for every ten boys making the trip. Scouters need not make the hike, but can be in charge of arrangements. However, only Scouters who actually take the hike, and meet the fee can receive the patch and medal.

2. Parent's permission should be received in writing for boys taking the hike.

3. Unit leaders should see that thorough instructions and training are given in highway safety and courtesies; personal first aid, hiking preparation and techniques, before taking the hike.

4. Hikers should be given information on foot care and hiking equipment. Proper clothing for use in bad weather should be listed as essential.

HIKING SAFETY—1. Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic; stay off the pavement.

2. Wear two (2) pairs of light woolen socks and comfortable leather shoes.

3. Carry tape, gauze, and antiseptic and care for blisters immediately.

4. Take frequent short rests.

ON THE TRAIL—The Amquonsippi Trail is a cross country trail. It is nearly all along Spoon River. There is very little hiking along the road. We therefore suggest that you prepare to hike in the wilderness. Small streams will have to be forded, so please wear suitable shoes.

The trail starts 2 1/2 miles West of Bradford. The trail goes South along the East side of the river. About 2 miles from the start of the trail, you will come to a small creek known as "Cooper's Defeat." There is an interesting story of how this creek was named.

The Winter of 1833-34 was one of the severe snows. The weather on December 23 was pleasant. A party of four men were equipped by a trader, John Hamlin, of Peoria, who was buying furs for the American Fur Company. Fitting the men out with an ox team of two yokes, and provisions for their journey from Peoria to the Winnebago swamps which was near the present town of Anna, and with goods to trade to the Winnebago and Potawatomi Indians, they started on their journey. On December 24, a heavy snow started to fall, and the air became bitter cold. The snow got so deep that the men had to abandon their oxen, and start on foot toward the small settlement of Boyd's Grove. With their destination in sight, three of the men could not go on. One made it to safety, but the other three froze to death. Christmas Eve, 1831, on the banks of a small stream. Two of these men were brothers, William and Jerry Cooper. The bones of the cattle and the men were found the following Spring by soldiers on their way from Springfield to the Blackhawk War. The stream where the men perished has since been known as 'Cooper's Defeat'.

Continue down the river until you come to the small village of Modena. Here is a store where refreshments may be purchased.

Now head up stream on the West side of the river to the first bridge. Cross the bridge and head down stream again. Soon you will come to the confluence of the East and West branches of Spoon River. Continue up stream to the West side of the river until you return to the starting point.

The trail starts and ends at the same place, therefore no transportation will be needed during the hike.

CAMPING AREA—The camping area is located at the start of the trail. Bring your usual camping equipment. Water and wood will be furnished. Groceries are available in Bradford, 2 1/2 miles East of the camping area.