

Lead, Follow, Or...

10-22-2020

After leading this group for ten years or so, we have had very few problems. Looking back over all the problems I have had, they all involved leading, following, or getting out of the way.

Over the years, I have only discussed this problem with one other person. Then, I laughed about it. I laughed about it because I said that in my experience, people who cannot follow, also cannot, and will not lead.

Today, I am turning the leadership of our group over to Chet Savage and his spokesman Sue Tipps. If they want, I will still send out the announcements, but they will be in charge of communicating where and when we are going. They will also send me descriptions of the hikes. I am looking forward to this arrangement, it will be more fun for me.

It is probably natural that every problem I have had with this group had involved the problem of leading and following. It's not a democracy. It could not be done as a democracy, there is not enough time.

We are going in this direction because this year's four problems happened when Chet led the group away from the planned route, on purpose, and did not apologize, or even communicate with me.

This last time, I requested Chet help me plan the route. When he did not respond, I got the route from Scott Bourassa. The only communication I got from Chet was that he would be at the Trailhead. Then without telling me, he led us on another route. And, Sue, speaking for him, let me know something was very wrong with their attitude concerning where we were going.

Throughout the year, Chet led his own hikes on Wednesday without communicating with me.

On one of the float trips, I went up to Eastport to check out the river. Everything was fine. Then, without communicating with me, Chet sent a message to everyone that the water was too high and too cold. We went anyway and it was perfect.

Probably the major event this year was when Chet led the whole group up towards Westfork Lookout instead of Caribou Ridge.

So, Today, I am turning the leadership of our group over to Chet Savage and his spokesman Sue Tipps. If they want, I will still send out the announcements, but they will be in charge of communicating where and when we are going. They will also send me descriptions of the hikes. I am looking forward to this arrangement, it will be more fun for me. If they do not want to lead, or follow, then I will not hike with them. I will take them off the list. If they show up, I will go home.