Trip Leader Training

By Jud Hurd

TO HELP MEMBERS STEP BOLDLY

WHERE MANY HAVE GONE BEFORE

Have you ever considered leading a trip but just weren't sure what was involved and didn't have enough information to help you boldly step out there and go where many have gone before you?

Have you led a trip in the past but it has been some time and you aren't sure if anything has changed?

Have you recently led a trip but had questions arise that you would love to discuss with someone?

Have you ever wished the RMSKC would provide a Trip Leader class, as do other clubs, to address all these issues?

Well, take heart! The Steering Committee has heard your concerns and is developing just such a course to be offered this spring. The goal of the Trip Leader Training is to cover everything you need to know to plan, promote and lead a trip.

The topics to be covered are:

- ACA Insurance
- How to decide you want to lead a trip
- Trip logistics from start to finish
- Obtaining Steering Committee approval
- Planning for first aid and emergencies
- Advertising the trip
- Getting people signed up
- What you need to do after the trip
- RMSKC resources available for you

The heart of the RMSKC is our paddle trips. We are grateful to our members who currently lead trips and we want to do everything we can to support them. But we can't rely forever on the same people being available as trip leaders. If we don't have other members willing to step forward and fill their shoes, we will see a deterioration of our trip calendar and the eventual deterioration of the RMSKC.

I encourage all members to consider leading a trip. This course is designed to help you. While the prospect of leading a trip can be intimidating, I believe you will find that with good information and support, it is not that big of a deal. The best way to get familiar with leading a trip is to attend this class and then do a day-paddle to a local lake. After getting comfortable at this level you will find yourself considering a multi-day paddle to a larger venue.

So, give this some thought and sign up for this course when we get it published. In the meantime, it would be useful to hear what questions you have about leading trips and what information you would like to see covered in the class. So email your thoughts to me, Jud Hurd, at hurdofcows@q.com.