

Troop 221 Essentials of Leadership 2/9/2010

First of all, be safe! Second, have fun!

“Boys learn by small successes.” *Tom Grey*

What are Leaders good for?

Remember the lesson of the fasces; E pluribus unum. Many Scouts working together in a coordinated way, with division of labor and specialization, can accomplish much more than many Scouts doing everything individually. The Leader’s role is to envision a good work, to convey that vision to his Troop, to motivate the Troop to pursue the vision, to organize the work, to delegate and coordinate the tasks, to monitor progress and maintain balance, to praise his Troop for success and to take responsibility for failure.

Before he can lead, a boy must learn to follow. The potential leader is a boy who is thrilled to be part of the group and its success, and who is willing to help in any way possible. He often asks for assignments. He delights to take responsibility. His reward is in serving and in sharing in the Troop’s success, with his own advantage being a secondary consideration. Such boys are excellent followers. Teach them as much as you can. As they grow, have them teach others. Start with Scout skills, then advance to problem solving, planning, team building and, finally, leading.

Leaders go first; don’t ask some one to do something you would not do yourself. Set and example.

Leaders Teach. The more good skills Scouts have, the can participate in pursuing the vision. A leader should never let a teachable moment get by un-used.

Leaders:

- Anticipate
- Plan/Prepare
- Execute
- Serve

Leaders critique performance and adjudicate disputes. They must be impartial regarding age, rank, friendships, etc. They must remember that fair does not mean equal and that the good of the Troop is of prime importance. Conduct should be measured against the ideals of Scouting. Ideally, corrective assignments serve to reinforce these ideals in the Scouts’ characters.