

Adventure > Character > Leadership

Welcome to Troop AL-1613

Parents Meeting

August 14, 2023

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Welcome to Trail Life!

Our Troop operates as a ministry of Trinity Reformed Church. Mayfair Church of Christ has graciously allowed us to meet here.

- > Christ-centered leadership, character, and adventure program for young men.
- Mission: Guide generations of courageous young men to honor God, lead with integrity, serve others, and experience outdoor adventure.
- Young men ages 5 to 17 are encouraged to join our Troop to participate in scheduled events and activities.

Troop Verse

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. (1 Cor 16:13)

All members meet together, breaking into age-specific program groups at various times during Troop meetings.

This provides a well-rounded program that integrates leadership opportunities for the older boys, and role models to help teach the younger boys.

Program activities are designed to grow life skills and provide faith-building experiences.

TML



Typical Meeting Night

- 6:00 6:30pm Play time and games
 - Combination of troop games and unstructured play time.
 - Opportunity for individuals to sign-off badge work
- 6:30 Opening Ceremony
 - Flag Ceremony: Present colors, Pledge, Trailman's Oath / Motto
 - Announcements from 1st Officer
 - Chaplain's Mentoring Moment
- Divide into Patrols for evening activities
- Organized game activities
- 7:45 Closing ceremony
 - Closing Announcements First Officer
 - Troopmaster Minute
 - Retire the colors
- Closing Prayer and Dismissal

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Troop AL-1613

Trinity Reformed



General Schedule

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed

- Weekly meetings are held on Mondays 6:30 8:00pm
- The 1st Monday of each month we will generally meet off site for a "Hit the Trail" event.
- The 1st Thursday of each month we usually have a Leadership planning meeting.
- Outdoor activities (campouts, hikes, canoeing etc.) once a month for the Navigators & Adventurers (usually the 3rd Weekend).
- One High Adventure travel activity for the Adventures each summer
- We have two annual troop wide campouts, at least one family campout, a Pine Car Worthy Rally, fundraiser, and community service opportunities.
- Award Banquet Ceremonies in December and May.





Youth Protection Essentials It's as Simple as 1-2-3

1 – No One-on-One: The no one-on-one rule is in place for youth protection so no boy is ever alone with an adult. This is for both the protection of the boy and the adult.

2 – Two Deep Leadership: The two-deep rule is in place for safety so there is always a minimum to two Registered Adults in proximity to provide backup and oversight.

3 – Buddy System of 3: The buddy system of three is suggested to keep youth safe from other abusive youth when out of sight of adult leadership. Buddies must be of the same program level.



Core Committee

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Core Committee Leadership Team consists of 5 members.

They hold a monthly committee meeting with other select members of the Troop leadership, overseeing the greater needs and scheduling of the Troop. The Core Team exists to enable the direct contract leaders to focus on delivery of the program and ministry to the Trailmen.

 Troop Ministry Liaison (TML) 	David Francis
Committee Chair (CC)	Ron Garner
Troopmaster (TM)	Jeremy Brown
Chaplain (Chap)	David Francis(T)
• Treasurer (TRS)	Bill McNeese

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Leadership Positions

- DIRECT CONTACT LEADER POSITIONS
 - (all are Registered Adults)
 - Troopmaster
 - Advisor Adventurers
 - Trailmaster Navigators
 - Ranger Woodlands Trail
 - **Trail Guides (TG) & Mentors** Any Registered adults (age 18 or over) who commit to assist in the delivery of the Trail Life program.
- **Committee Chairs:** Adults who volunteer to head up the effort to manage a specific troop requirement.
- **Registered Adults:** Assist where needed and count towards two deep leadership.
- Parents and guardians: Trial Life is volunteer run. Parent participation is vital and encouraged. Parents/Guardians of Woodlands "Fox" Trailmen (K-1st grade) are required to be present for the meetings and activities.



Volunteering

- Fulfilling a Trail Life USA core value, our Troop is entirely volunteer-led. Our parents are very involved and new parents welcomed to participate. We have positions open on the Committee and Direct Contact leadership teams.
- Women are welcome to volunteer on the Committee. All Direct Contact leaders for the Navigators and Adventurers will be men. While Trail Life allows women to serve in the Woodlands Trail program, the troop believes it is a good example for the young boys to see men leading the Woodlands Trail patrols.
- Ladies Our American Heritage Girls Troop is a great place to serve!
- Speak to the Committee Chair, Troopmaster or TML for more information.

*Trail Life USA welcomes boys of any faith—or no faith at all. However, all materials and activities consistently emphasize our Christian worldview and our hope to make faithful disciples. For that reason, all adult members must ascribe and adhere to the TLUSA Statement of Faith and Values.

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Direct Contact Leaders

Troop Master Jeremy Brown

Woodlands Trail (ages 5-10) Ranger	Chazz Moye
Fox Trail Guide	Nathan Keller
Fox Trail Guide	Jason Rikard
Hawk Trail Guide	Daryl Martin
Hawk Trail Guide	Brian Hartwig
Mountain Lion Trail Guide	John Thomas
Mountain Lion Trail Guide	Brandon Dauphinais

Navigators (ages 11-13) Trail Master	Thomas Davison
Navigator Trail Guide	Ron Garner
Navigator Trail Guide	Scott Conner
Navigator Trail Guide	Garret Wilkey

Adventurers (ages 14-17) AdvisorShane O'Neill Adventurer Trail Guide......Vacant



We Want You!

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Troop Committee Members

Troop Ministry Liaison	David Francis
Chaplain	David Francis (T)
Treasurer	Bill McNeese
Troopmaster	Jeremy Brown

Troop Committee Chairman	Ron Garner
Secretary	Vacant
Membership	Garret Wilkey
Onboarding Chair	Vacant
Uniform Buy	Keith Brown
Uniform Closet	Vacant
Equipment Coordinator	Vacant
Health & Safety Chair	Vacant
Community Service Chair	Vacant
Fundraising Chair	Vacant M
Webmaster	
Awards Coordinator	
Navigator Advancement Chair Woodlands Advancement Chair	Vacant
Woodlands Advancement Chair	Vacant







Patrol Method

- In the words of our troop's first Freedom Rangeman
 - "Trail Life is distinctly faith-based and boy-led"
- Definition
 - The Patrol Method splits the troop into small groups (patrols) that explore the theory and practice of leadership, while using the gifts of individuals to build group wellbeing.

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- This is the "boy-led" part of Trail Life.
- · Incrementally introduces Trailmen to
 - Experiencing the gifts of guidance
 - The varying gifts and talents of individuals
 - Hierarchy of leadership
 - Teamwork
- Provides a unique context for our Trailmen to
 - · Be spiritually and physically challenged
 - Grow and mature in a fun yet safe environment overseen by Christian leaders
 - · Experience the joys from stepping up to lead
 - Develop character while simultaneously enjoying outdoor adventure
 - · Become stewards of morale, confidence, and opportunities of experience





Patrol Method

- Patrols are divisions of the troop in the same program usually made up of 6-8 Trailmen who work together
- In their patrols our Trailmen
 - Lead and are led by other Trailmen
 - Learn from trials
 - Are an essential part of a small team that helps one another succeed
 - Begin to accept responsibilities generally at an earlier age than many young men will experience, along with more fun and adventure
- Use of the Patrol Method in Trail Life means that
 - Trailmen will be given frequent tasking, direction, and correction by other Trailmen
 - Both from youth Patrol Leaders and Adult Leaders
 - Trailmen will be challenged
 - As Trailmen mature and advance in the program, parents incrementally take a reduced role in resolving the typical challenges that arise in troop activities
 - Trail Life understands that young men mature and advance in varying ways and at different ages
 - · Parents may need to widen boundaries for their sons to discover what it means to succeed and to fail
- Use of the Patrol Method does not mean that
 - · A Trailmen is prohibited from seeking out a parent for any reason at any time
 - A parent is expected to be unavailable, uninvolved, or absent from their sons' activities in Trail Life
 - A parent is in any way expected to diminish their God-given parental role as a primary discipler of their sons
 - Trailmen are left alone to solve problems that arise

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Woodlands Trail Program

Branch Patch

Earned by learning/demonstrating:

- Trailman Oath •
- Trailman Sign •
- **Trailman Salute** ٠
- Trailman Handshake •
- Pledge of Allegiance ٠

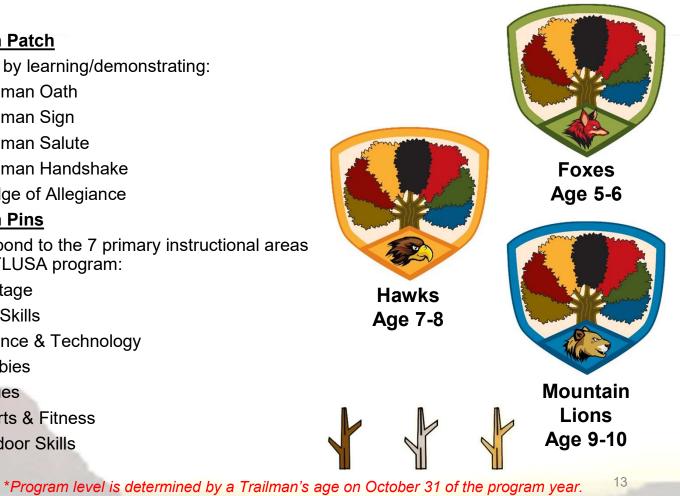
Branch Pins

Correspond to the 7 primary instructional areas of the TLUSA program:

- Heritage •
- Life Skills
- Science & Technology
- Hobbies •
- Values ٠

RGR

- **Sports & Fitness** •
- **Outdoor Skills** •





Woodlands Trail Awards

Forest Award:

- Awarded upon completion of all 7 Branches.
- Replaces the Branch Patch on the right pocket of the uniform.
- Sylvan Stars are attached as additional Branches are completed.

Sylvan Stars:

RGR

Earned through continued participation in the program within his age group (typically year two in a patrol).





Timberline Award

Timberline Requirements

To show that he is living boldly and is avoiding being passive: Earned the Mountain Lion Forest Award Earned all 7 Mountain Lion Sylvan Stars Invited a friend to a Woodlands Trail meeting or activity. Attended an overnight campout with the Troop during his Mountain Lion years.



To show that he is living responsibly:

Discussed, defined and developed a plan to meet a measurable, quantifiable goal or fulfill an area of responsibility. (Minimum duration 2 months and requires prior approval by a Trail Guide.)

To show that he is leading courageously:

Helped plan and lead a service project in his community and enlisted help from his fellow Trailmen to complete it.

To show that he lives for the greater rewards of God:

Completed an approved faith-based option (e.g., Worthy Life Award) for the Mountain Lion level.





Woodlands Trail Leadership

<u>Ranger</u>

- Oversees entire Woodlands Trail Program
- Supports Trail Guides

Trail Guides

- Oversees a single patrol
- 1-2 per patrol
- Primary teachers/direct contact with Trailmen

Registered Adults

- Completed background check & online child protection training
- Count toward 2-deep leadership
- May teach and/or have direct contact with Trailmen
- Signified by red lanyard & badge

Parents (unregistered adults)

- Always welcome (encouraged) to attend and participate with your son
- Do not count toward 2-deep leadership
- May not teach and may not have direct contact with Trailmen (other than their son(s))
- Note: Fox Trailmen require a parent present at all meetings and activities



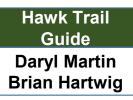
We Need You!

Ranger

Chaz Moye

Fox Trail Guides

Nathan Keller Jason Rikard



Mountain Lion Trail Guide

John Thomas Brandon Dauphinais

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RGR



Navigators Program

- Navigators is for boys in middle school (ages 11-13)
- Navigators advance through the three Core Skills Ranks: Recruit Trailman, Able Trailman, and Ready Trailman
- Rank requirements involve service hours, demonstration of leadership, completion of Core Skills badges, and completion of a certain number of additional elective badges.
- Requirements for each rank are located in The Trailman's Handbook for Navigators and Adventurers.
- A rank of Recruit Trailman is necessary for all Navigator Trailman.
- Capstone Ridgeline Award is for Navigators that complete Ready Rank, Worthy Life Award, and a major Service Project.



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Core Skills Badges





Elective Badges









Heritage



Science and Technology Sports and Fitness



Values



Hobbies

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Adventurers Program

- Adventurers is for boys in high school (ages 14-17)
- Adventurers must complete the 3 Core Skills Ranks before progressing to the Adventurer-only True Freedom Ranks.
- There are three True Freedom Ranks: Journey, Ascent, and Horizon.
- Rank requirements involve service hours, demonstration of leadership, completion of True Freedom and elective badges, and completion of Freedom Experiences.
- Adventurer Awards are earned ONLY by Adventurer Trailmen (ages 14-17).
- The Freedom Award is the pinnacle award for Trailmen. Those who earn this high honor are referred to as a Freedom Rangeman. It additionally requires completion of the Worthy Life Award and of a major service project.



TM/ADV



True Freedom Badges







Worthy Life Award An Award for All Trailmen

Worthy Life or Faith Recognition Awards:

- The most important special award within the Trail Life USA program centers on faith.
- This can be Worthy Life Award, offered by Trail Life USA, or a Religious Recognition award that may be offered by a denomination or faith tradition.
- On the Worthy Life Award (pictured), crosses are awarded at each program level on completion of the Worthy Life Award requirements, with the first cross awarded along with the Worthy Life implement itself.
- A Woodlands Trailman can earn up to three crosses in his 6 program years. These crosses adorn the green ribbon. A Navigator can earn one cross in his 3 program years. An Adventurer can earn one cross in his 4 program years.
- A fully-adorned Worthy Life Award will have 3 crosses on the green Woodlands Trail ribbon, one cross on the gray Navigators ribbon, and one cross on the blue Adventurers ribbon.
- The Worthy Life (or equivalent Faith Recognition Award) is one of only two awards that continue to be worn by the Trailman as long as he is a member of Trail Life USA.



CHAP



Worthy Life

For Woodland Trails, Navigators, and Adventurers:

- Devotional Activity
- Discipleship Activity
- Disciplines Activity
- Demonstration Activity

All Trailmen should meet with the Troop Chaplain BEFORE starting the Worthy Life award for their current level. The Chaplain is here to help you set goals and answer any questions or concerns.





- *Manhood Journey* is a Bible-based approach to building young men through the discipleship and mentorship of fathers. It features guided Biblical discussion with hands-on, interactive activities.
- Meets 3-4 times throughout the year on 5th Tuesday:
 - OCT 30
 - JAN 29
 - APR 29
 - JUL 29
- Navigators and Adventurers will participate with their Dads and complete 1 module / year.
- Navigator "devotional" Worthy Life requirement completed after 2 years.



Troop Standard

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The Troop Standard:

- It is an official part of the Trail Life USA uniform designed and manufactured to hold all Trail Life USA advancements for Navigators and Adventurers.
- Standards are awarded to Trailman who earn the Navigator Able Trailman Rank or the Adventurer Journey Award.
- It is used on ceremonial occasions such as Awards Banquets, parades and other formal occasions.

TROOP STANDARD

Official Standard Features







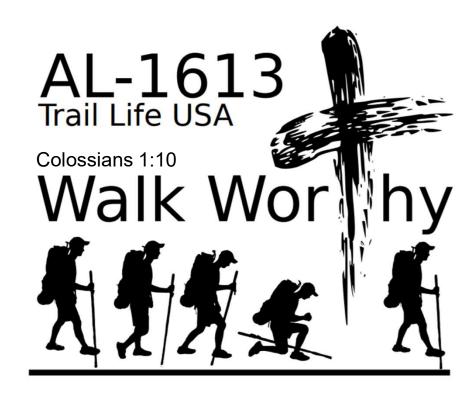
- **AL-1613 Formal Uniform:** This uniform is used for our weekly Troop meetings, certain Hit-the-Trail Activities where we engage the public, or as necessary. We have specifically designated our troop's Formal Uniform to be:
 - All Trailmen will wear the official TLUSA green uniform shirt
 - Navigators and Adventurers will wear a complete uniform including:
 - Any long/short dark green trousers or hiking pants, or TLUSA pants. Zip off pants-toshorts come in handy but can get damaged
 - The TLUSA hat, tri-color or all green (unless in a church sanctuary)
 - Belt and sturdy socks of choice, such as hiking socks
 - Outdoor activity shoes such as dark to earth colored sneakers, soft-sole dress shoes, or hiking shoes/boots
- We encourage active parents and Trail Guides to have and use the TLUSA uniform shirt as well.
- An activity T-shirt will be offered later in the fall. Each Trailman Youth's Annual Activity Fee includes an Activity T-Shirt. Adults may purchase a T-shirt at cost.

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Troop Activity Shirts

- Worn to identify ourselves when Class
 A is not appropriate
- Poly-blend moisture wicking T-Shirts
- Included in youth activity fee
- Adults: \$10/shirt
 \$12 for 2XL;
 \$14 for 3XL
- Orders will be placed after the SEP 16 registration deadline.



Huntsville, Alabama



Group Uniform Buy

- AL-1613 will organize a Group Buy from the Trail Life Store similar to last year
 - Announcements to be made at Troop meetings and instructions sent via Trail Life Connect email to all registered adults
 - Orders collected late Sep mid-Nov with purchase scheduled for Black Friday
 - Orders to be entered on a shared worksheet posted on Google
 - Entries added directly by parents anytime or at Troop meetings
 - We will help you select uniforms and other items from the online Trail Life Store if you wish
 - Start thinking <u>early</u> and talking with Moms about what sizes of clothing are needed
 - Uniform shirts run a little small
 - Shop online and figure out clothing sizes before trying to enter your orders
 - Payments to be collected from individuals <u>upon delivery of their purchased</u> <u>items</u>
 - One return shipment may be an option, but it is a partial refund only and there are no like exchanges possible
 - We should receive items just in time for the December Court of Honor ceremony
 - Savings range from at least \$10 saved shipping cost to an additional 5-25% depending on sales, uniform combo discounts, and availability of items.

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Other Ways to Buy Uniforms

- The Group Buy is optional; you may purchase items on your own earlier if desired
 - Awards to be worn on uniforms are provided by our Troop
 - Troop AL-1613 shoulder patches and epaulettes (loops) are provided by our Troop
 - Troop activity T-shirts are totally separate from the Group Buy and are not available from the Trail Life Store
 - These must be separately purchased from our Troop with registration
- We will post a virtual Closet (shared worksheet on Google) to announce used items for sale by other members of the Troop
 - Our Troop cannot purchase or inventory used items, or sell on behalf of individuals
 - Individuals will need to get together on their own for private sales
 - Items donated to the troop are sold at low prices (~ 50% discount) with 100% of proceeds deposited into the Troop account
- POC for Group Buy and Closet sales
 - We are looking for someone to facilitate the Group Buy and Closet this year

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed



Registration & Fees

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed

- Our Troop Website is: http://TLAL1613.com
- Download registration forms (Fillable PDFs), complete, print and turn in with your registration fees
 - To save time, previous years' forms may be digitally copied, updated, and re-printed
 - Forms go to Membership Chair Garrett Wilkey
 - Fees go to Treasurer <u>Bill McNeese</u>
- Register/Renew via <u>www.traillifeconnect.com</u>
 - New families will receive invite or contact David Francis
- Registration Form, Medical Forms and Activity Fees are required to participate in Trail Life activities

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed



Registration & Fees (Cont)

Required Forms (must submit updated forms each year) Download from <u>https://TLAL1613.com</u>

- Troop Registration Form (1 per family)
- Youth Health and Medical Record
- Adult Health and Medical Record
- High Adventure Medical Form recommended for Navigators, Adventurers and their dads.
- Register/Renew to National at <u>www.traillifeconnect.com</u>

All forms and fees due September 16





Registration & Fees (Cont)

Required Fees

- National Registration Fee is \$33.25 per trailman
 - Paid directly to Trail Life USA via Trail Life Connect
- Local Activity Fee is \$85 per trailman (\$170 max per family)
 - Cash or check payable to:

Trinity Reformed Church Trail Life Troop

Optional Fees

- Registered Adult Fee is \$38.00 per adult
- Adult T-Shirt cost is \$10 (\$12 for 2-XL, \$14 3-XL)



Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed

Typical First Year Expenses

Item	Cost
National Youth Registration Fee (paid online at time of registration) - Required	
Contact the Troop Secretary, Troopmaster, or Troop Ministry Liaison to request registration an invitation link.	\$33.25
Troop Activity Fee - Required	
Covers Troop Program fee, Badges/Awards, Youth Troop T-Shirts, supplies, and other program activities.	\$85.00
Uniform (items sold seperately via the Trail Life Online Store)	
Prices are estimates only. Please visit the Trial Life Online Store for latest pricing. Tax and shipping	
are extra and are applied at check out. Sales occur at various times during the year. Inquire about	
our Group Buy before purchasing.	
Official Class A Uniform Shirt (Required for all Trailmen)	\$45.00
Official Class A Hat (Required for Navigators/Adventurers; optional for Woodlands	\$16.00
Trails)	\$10.0U
Pants - Any olive drab green or similar hiking pants or shorts are acceptable	\$25.00
Handbook	ć17.00
Required for Navigators and Adventures; optional for Woodlands Trails	\$17.00
Basic Cost for Typical First Program Year	\$218.70



Specific Activity Fees

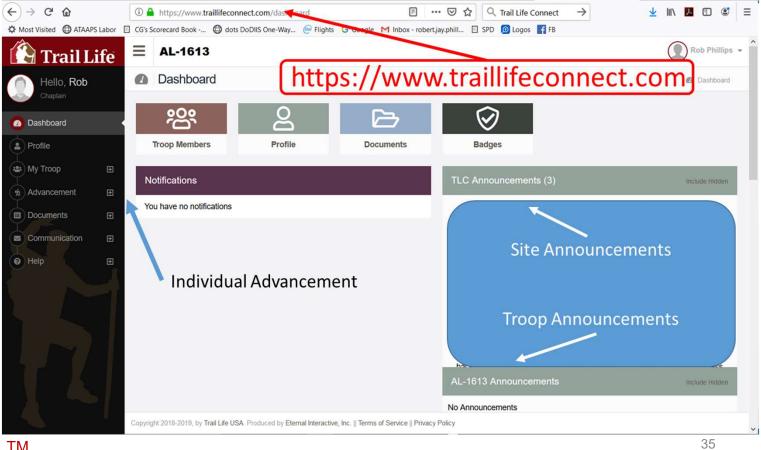
Campouts/Activities

- Campouts and specific activity fees cover the actual expenses for the event (revenue neutral for the troop)
- Campout costs vary and are decided prior to each event
- Campouts cost on average \$12-\$25 per person
- Meals for campouts are generally very low cost
 - \$5 Breakfast, \$6 Lunch, \$7 Dinner
- To keep costs as low as possible campouts are paid with a flat fee per attendee
 - Groceries and camp reservations are purchased based on affirmative RSVPs, even if they have to
 miss the event
 - Affirmative RSVPs must pay their flat activity fees
 - The troop will not cover the cost of no-shows
- Fees are paid to the activity organizer at the event

Troop AL-1613

Trinity Reformed

Trail Life Connect Email, Advancement Tracking, Calendar, Announcements, Resources & Information





The Trail Life Connect Calendar can update your calendar automatically

Trail Life	≡ AL-1613
Dashboard	Troop AL-1613 events iCalendar feed:
Announcements	https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tklwcuunixph/aazhvilkltap/troop G
Profile	Tennessee Valley Area events iCalendar feed: https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tklwcuunixph/aazhvilkltap/area 💼 G
😁 My Troop 🗉	South Central (SC) Region events iCalendar feed:
Calendar	https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tklwcuunixph/aazhvilkltap/region 💼 G
- Create Event	Trail Life USA Home Office events iCalendar feed. https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tklwcuunixpb/aazhvilkltap/home_office
iCalendar Feed	Troop, Area, Region and Home Office as a single, combined iCalendar feed:
(%i) Advancement	https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tklwcuunixph/aazhvilkltap/all
Documents 🕀	Public-facing feed for Troop AL-1613
Communication	Troop AL-1613 events public iCalendar feed. Use this on your public-facing Troop calendar. It will only show events that have "Viewa enabled.
Troop Settings	https://www.traillifeconnect.com/icalendar/tkhafcsjrjsm/na/public
Help	
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Troop Policies

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed

• Service Animals:

Pets are not normally allowed at troop meetings or other troop activities, including campouts and Hit-the-Trails. An exception can be made for bonafide Service Animals provided advance notification is provided and acknowledged by the adult leader of the activity. The Committee Chairman and Troop Ministry Liaison shall also be informed.

• Weather:

The Core Committee reserves the right to cancel troop activities due to increment weather conditions. We generally refrain from cancelling activities due to weather, but we must comply with guidance we receive from our charter church or facilities directors.



Important Dates

Troop AL-1613 Trinity Reformed

- Aug 18-19: Navs/Advs Campout Tim's Ford
- Sep 9: Peak 1 & 2 Training for Registered Adults
- Sep 10: Trail Life Sunday
- Sep 16: Troop Registration Deadline
- Sep 22-23: Navs/Advs Campout Shiloh
- Oct 22-23: Troop-wide Campout with AL-0513
- Nov 11: Veterans Day Parade
- Nov 17-18: Sleep in the Deep Chattanooga Aquarium (T)
- Dec 11: Winter Awards Banquet
- Feb 24: Pine Car Worthy Rally
- Apr 5-7: Peak 3 Training for adults and youth
- Apr 12-14: Family Campout Camp Joy
- May 3-5: Area-wide Spring Gathering Camp Maranatha
- May 20: Spring Awards Banquet

*Stay up-to-date with all troop activities via the Trail Life Connect Calendar and TM Troop Facebook Page. * 39

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Closing Thoughts



Adventure > Character > Leadership

Questions?

TML/TM