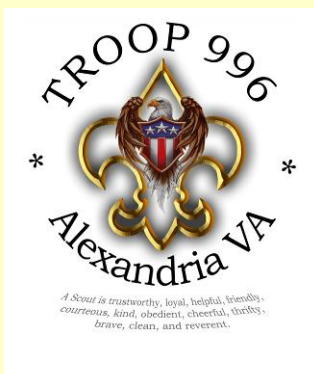


# BSA Troop 996

1301 Collingwood Rd  
Alexandria, Va 22308



Mr. Vinnie Accardi  
Scoutmaster Troop 996  
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703 360 0644 hm  
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## Welcome

I would like to introduce myself and Troop 996 to you and your family. My name is Vinnie Accardi and am Scoutmaster for Troop 996. My greatest enjoyment as a scoutmaster is watching and helping boys grow into young men of high character and integrity. The practical and leadership skills boys have the opportunity to learn in scouting are second to none. It is very rewarding to see a scout achieve each and every rank in scouting. In today's world there are few places a boy can go and that parents can depend on to help instill a moral and ethical foundation. Along with our faith organizations scouting is that place. Scouting truly is producing the next generation of leaders for our communities, our Nation and the world. One only has to look at scouting's past to know this is true.

## Leaders

Many of our nations business, military and government leaders are Eagle Scouts. When you ask them what their greatest achievement has been, many of them will tell you "achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout." This in itself is a testament to scouting and the devotion that adult leaders have to the program. The skills a boy learns in scouting last a lifetime. Many of these skills are things they would not get as chance to learn anywhere else, some of which they may never have learned if it weren't for Scouting. Perhaps this is why many grown men look back on their scouting years as the foundation of their lives.

## Personal Note:

My 17 year old son, Vincent joined Scouting as a Tiger Cub. As a Cub Scout he enjoyed all the Den activities, day trips, and the family camping. During his Cub Scout years in Maryland his favorite places to go and things to do were visiting civil war battlefields, state and national parks, the Air Show at Andrews Air Force Base, and of course the annual family campout. He is now an Eagle Scout in Troop 996 and remains involved scouting. In the summers of 2008 and 2010 he and I went to the Philmont Scout Ranch with 8 other scouts and two other adult advisors where we spent 2 weeks hiking in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The scouts challenged themselves (and me 😊) everyday and became a true Boy Scout crew helping and encouraging one other to accomplish their goals. When it was over they had hiked 140 miles and 110 miles respectfully in 10 days and were ready for more.

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Scout



Tenderfoot



2<sup>nd</sup> Class



1<sup>st</sup> Class



Star



Life



Eagle

## Personal Note cont:

Since joining Boy Scouts, Vincent has been to many other summer camps with the troop. He has gone to the Goshen Scout Reservation every year since Webelos; sometimes twice in one summer. He has gone to Mountain Man Camps, Civil War Camps, Philmont, and Sail School and will be going to Sea Base in the Bahamas as one last hooray before joining the Marine Corps. All these camps and activities have one thing in common – friends, camaraderie, and having a good time all while building character and leadership skills.



*Summer Camp at  
Goshen's Camp  
Bowman*

## Why Scouting?

Many of our scouts in Troop 996 are involved in sports programs at FHVA, APLL, and West Potomac HS or are involved in Marching Band and JROTC programs. These are great programs where a young man can learn team work, fitness and self confidence. Boy Scouting can be and is a life long journey that builds character by teaching practical skills and service to others and has produced some of the greatest leaders our nation has ever had. As a parent, I really appreciate the fact that Boy Scouting is designed to build character, physical fitness, practical and leadership skills, and service to others; all values we try to instill at home. It gives a boy a chance to be independent while at the same time be responsible for and lead others. I became Scoutmaster of Troop 996 because of all that Boy Scouting has given to my son. It has given Vincent and me a chance to experience many things together that we may have never done if it weren't for scouting.

*"An individual step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual." – Lord Baden Powell*

## Who are we?

The Troop 996 members are primarily boys from the Fort Hunt, Mt Vernon and Belle View areas and take an active part in their community. Troop meetings are held every Sunday @ 7:30pm at the Aldersgate United Methodist Church at the corner of Fort Hunt and Collingwood Roads. Troop 996 is a boy lead troop with *adult advisors*. We believe in the patrol method with each patrol having a Patrol Leader who works with the Senior Patrol Leader to lead and teach scout skills and instill scouting principles. There are many other troop leadership positions which contribute to the success of the troop each of which are designed to teach responsibility and instill a sense of accountability. Once every 3 months a Court of Honor is held during which time scouts are recognized for rank advancement and receive the awards and merit badges they have earned. Every scout is recognized for his individual accomplishments along with the accomplishments of their patrol and the entire Troop.



*Troop Campout at  
Harpers Ferry, WV*

## Who we are? cont:

The Troop has won awards at the District Camporees, earned special recognition awards at summer camps, and has set new standards at Goshen's Civil War Camp. For the past 4 years, Troop 996 has been among the very few that have earned Camp Bowman's "Camp Achievement Award." Our Philmont Crews have continually exceeded all expectations by achieving and exceeding the goals they have set for themselves.

We also have one of the few, if not the only, Troop Bands in the Council. Our Band has played at Camporees, Flag Retirement Ceremonies, Fourth of July Parades, 9/11 Observances and our Courts of Honor. The Band is open to all scouts whether they are in our Troop or other area Troops.

## Troop 996 on the Web - <http://troop996.com/>

### WELCOME TO TROOP 996

Chartered by the Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Meetings are located at 1301 Collingwood Rd. in Alexandria

Meetings are every SUNDAY from 7:30-9:00pm - Parents Welcome!!

Please visit our newly redesigned Troop Web Site (<http://troop996.com/>) where there is a calendar of events, upcoming activities, many pictures of past activities, and general scouting information including summer camps and our monthly campouts.

To learn more about the Boy Scouting program in general you can also visit National Capital Area Council (NCAC) web site at:  
[http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/view\\_homepage.asp?orgkey=370](http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/openrosters/view_homepage.asp?orgkey=370).

## Troop Open House Invitation -

Lastly, the scouts of Troop 996 would like to invite you and your son to our **Troop Open House and US Flag Retirement Ceremony on November 13, 2011** in honor of all our active duty military, veterans and public servants. Your son will have the opportunity to meet our scouts learn a bit about our troop, and participate in the ceremony.

If you have any further questions about our program, scouting and/or about joining the troop I can be reached at 703-360 0644 or at [yankeevincent@aim.com](mailto:yankeevincent@aim.com).

Sincerely,  
Vinnie Accardi  
Troop 996 Scoutmaster and BSA Volunteer

**"No one should boast of being honest, dependable, courteous, and considerate for those are fundamental qualities essential to good character that everyone ought to develop and use."**

**--Waite Phillips**



Mt Baldy, Philmont Scout Ranch  
Cimarron, NM

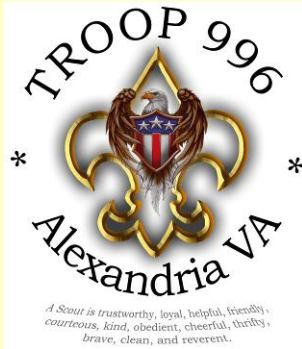


Troop Band at Waynewood  
4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration

*"For food, for raiment,  
For life, for opportunity,  
For friendship and fellowship,  
We thank thee, O Lord."  
Philmont Grace*



The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.



**The Scout Oath**

On my honor  
I will do my best  
To do my duty  
to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake,  
and morally straight.

**The Scout Law**

A Scout is:

Trustworthy	Obedient
Loyal	Cheerful
Helpful	Thrifty
Friendly	Brave
Courteous	Clean
Kind	Reverent

The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law

BSA Troop 996  
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Alexandria, VA 33208



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STREET ADDRESS  
ADDRESS 2  
CITY, ST ZIP CODE**