



## **KONSTANTIN "DINO" CHARALAMBIDES**

Konstantin "Dino" Charalambides was born in Worcester, MA, the second son to Greek refugees from what was then Communist Romania. As a first generation American, his parents thought it important that Dino benefit from some traditional American opportunities. Dino became a member of Pack 946, sponsored by Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Worcester, MA. It was here he learned the basics of scouting and participated in many activities, including his first Pinewood Derby. Alas, he was unable to transition to the Troop, but the camping ethos had taken root.

Many years later, Dino graduated from Bentley College (now University) with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Finance. He worked for a decade in the corporate accounting field and as a mutual fund accountant, when in 1996 he returned to his hometown to work in the corporate finance office at the Hanover Insurance Company. In 1998, Dino was elected to the Parish Council at his home parish of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral and served as its council secretary and then treasurer for a community of 1,200 families.

In 1996, Dino began to assist his parish with various youth ministries, including a new camping ministry with the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Boston, which began to sponsor a regional Orthodox summer camp. It was here that Dino volunteered his summer to help New England's Orthodox youth learn about their faith while enjoying traditional summer camp activities.

In 1998, Dino was selected by the National Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to serve as a summer camp counselor for the Ionian Village summer camp located in Greece. The mission of this travel camp is to take the youth of Greek American families



and introduce them to the wonders and history of their ancient homeland. He was a camp counselor twice, once in 1998 and again in 2000.

In 2006, wanting a change of pace in his life, Dino accepted a youth director position at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Wilmington, Delaware. Here he ministered to the Greek Orthodox youth programs at the parish while volunteering at a Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Summer camp, called Camp Good Shepherd. Through this program, Dino met his future wife, Stephania Gianulis. They married in the summer of 2010 and have three children: Maximos, age 11; Athanasios, age 9; and Anastasia, age 7.

In 2006 Dino also began a relationship with the newly founded Odyssey Charter School of Wilmington, DE. Odyssey is a school that has grown from the beginning number of 127 students to over 2,300 in less than 20 years. The mission of the school is to use the Greek language (the foundational language of western civilization) as the basis for students' education across all disciplines. Dino is currently the IT manager for the school and is active in its Senior Leadership.

Through Odyssey, Dino met some scouting families who were associated with Troop and Pack 29 at Red Clay Presbyterian Church in New Castle County, DE. Desiring the same scouting basics for his own children, his family joined the Cub Pack in the fall of 2021.

Over the course of the next four years, Dino and his wife Nia became Den Leaders as they moved through the dens with their children. This past spring, their older son Maximos crossed over to Troop 29, heralding a new era in Dino's Scouting adventure.

Dino will continue to serve as a Wolf Den Leader in Pack 29 and as Popcorn Colonel. He will also support the Troop's activities and needs, and he looks forward to supporting the Del-Mar-Va Council as a new Executive Board member, in any way he can.

