Green Mountain Council

VT State Camporee

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Inside This Issue

- Meet the committee
- This is Sparta!" Trivia
- Kween's Korner
- GORGO. QUEEN OF SPARTA
- Princess Cynisca Olympic Champion
- Marching Forward
- · WHAT'S NEW?
- What do YOU want to know?

"This is Sparta!" Trivia Powerful Women

Due to the men of Sparta being killed in the many wars, women became amongst the richest members of society. Eventually, women controlled 2/5th of Spartan land. Unlike other Greek city-states where women had less freedom, Spartan women could own property which would be gained through dowries and inheritances.

<u>Kween's Korner</u>

To all the Strong Women;

- May we know them, May we be them,
- May we raise them



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Meet the Committee - Kari Harris "Princess Kari" & Cub Program Director

> Greeting fellow and future Spartans! I am Princess Kari, Ruler of the Spartan Cubs and creator of Spartan Boot Camp for Cub Scouts at the GMC2020. I started my journey in scouting as a Den Leader for my oldest Scout, and now I have advanced to Cub Master while my youngest son is in the pack. In my years of scouting I have been a Den leader & Cub Master for Pack 738 in Lyndonville, VT. I have the distinct honor of being an assistant to the Long Trail District Activity Chair and GMC2020 Kween Kristy and part of the Great Lady Krackens. I am also a Committee Member for Troop 795. I have soared in Scouting with my Eagle patrol from Woodbadge N3-592-17.

Gorgo, queen of sparta

Gorgo is one of the very few women mentioned by name in Greek history, and one of even fewer to have had direct influence in politics. But what she was really famous for was her deep wisdom, which she used to advise the Kings of Sparta, beginning at the tender age of 8.

Her father was King Cleomenes, who was exiled from Sparta for plotting against another king. The Spartans allowed him to return when he was considered harmless and insane. His half-brother Leonidas ordered Cleomenes be placed in chains and thrown in prison. He was later found dead from suspicious causes.

Gorgo was the only child of Cleomenes and when he died, Gorgo was in the extremely unusual position of being the female heir to a Spartan throne. She was already married to Leonidas, and he became King after his 2 older brothers died (but that's another story). They had a son and he became King.

Gorgo totally bought into the Spartan ethic. She was asked why the Spartan women were the only ones who could rule men. Gorgo replied, "Because we are the only ones who give birth to real men."

Gorgo was the daughter of one Spartan King, wife to another, and mother to a third. To honor her wisdom and bravery we celebrate her spirit

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(Troops that are coming) Troop 888 Danville, VT Troop 55 Northville, NY Lyndonville, VT **Pack 738** Troop 116 West Rutland, VT **Brattleboro**, VT Pack 447 Troop 353 **Bennington**, VT Monkton, VT Troop 525 Troop 742 East Montpelier, VT Troop 714 Barre, VT Troop 42 Georgia, VT Troop 70 St. Albans, VT Troop 690 Hinesburg, VT Troop 658 Winooski, VT Troop 23 **Richmond/Bolton**, VT Pack 007 St. Johnsbury, VT Morrisville, VT Pack 876 Troop 729 Northfield, VT Troop 18 Fair Haven, VT Troop 635 Essex, VT

WHO ELSE ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE?

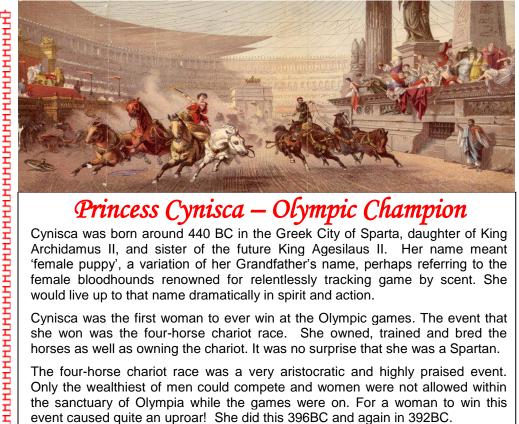


LADY KRACKENS GETT'N IT DONE!



A STRONGER WOMAN CAN STAND UP FOR EVERYONE ELSE.





Princess Cynisca – Olympic Champion

Cynisca was born around 440 BC in the Greek City of Sparta, daughter of King Archidamus II, and sister of the future King Agesilaus II. Her name meant 'female puppy', a variation of her Grandfather's name, perhaps referring to the female bloodhounds renowned for relentlessly tracking game by scent. She would live up to that name dramatically in spirit and action.

Cynisca was the first woman to ever win at the Olympic games. The event that she won was the four-horse chariot race. She owned, trained and bred the horses as well as owning the chariot. It was no surprise that she was a Spartan.

The four-horse chariot race was a very aristocratic and highly praised event. Only the wealthiest of men could compete and women were not allowed within the sanctuary of Olympia while the games were on. For a woman to win this event caused guite an uproar! She did this 396BC and again in 392BC.

Cynisca was honored by having a bronze statue of herself with a chariot and horses in the Temple of Zeus in Olympia. The inscription on the statue is a quote from Cvnisca:

"Spartan Kings are my fathers and brothers. I Cynisca, victorious with the chariot of swift-footed horses,... I am the only women in the whole of Greece to take this crown."

In addition, a hero-shrine of Cynisca was erected in the City of Sparta where religious ceremonies were held. Only Spartan Kings were graced in this way and Cynisca was the first woman to receive this honor.

WHAT'S NEW?

THERE WILL BE CHARIOTS! One of the team events at the GMC2020 will be the Great Chariot Race. Instead of horses you, and a handful of others will maneuver the chariot up and over, through and around the obstacles that are between you and the finish line. Hustle beats muscle in this event. Watch for future newsletters to catch all the updates!

What do YOU want to know?

Q: (Lucille wants to know) "Will there be accommodations for girl troops?"

A: Thank you Lucille for this thoughtful question. For the record let's not confuse the word "accommodation" as meaning a modification to the program. This is an event that knows no gender. Mud, crud, smoke, fire and fun does not discriminate and treats everyone as an equal. There will be a large camping area strictly for Girl Troops called "Queen Gorgo's Village" to honor her wisdom and bravery. Come embrace her spirit and enjoy the GMC2020 with all she has to give.

If you have any questions or concerns, send an email to the Co-Chairs; Karl Fortman and Kristy Walker. Your concern may be featured in this section for others to learn. k_walker333@yahoo.com karl@fortman.us

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