

Green Mountain Council VT State Camporee

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SPARTAN GAMES - THREE DAYS OF VICTORY

Inside This Issue

- Meet the Committee
- "This is Sparta!" Trivia
- *King's Korner*
- **BATTLE FORMATIONS**
- *What's New?*
- *Marching Forward*
- *History of Thermopylae*
- *What do YOU want to know?*

"This is Sparta!" Trivia

The Honor of having a headstone. - In Sparta only two types of death would result in a marked headstone; soldiers who died in combat during a battle that was victorious, or a woman who died giving birth, because they both made the ultimate sacrifice for Sparta. All other graves were simple and unmarked.

King's Korner

The ball is rolling! The Green Mountain Council's 2020 State Camporee, or "**GMC2020**" as we like to call it, is under way. The Committee had its first in person meeting in January in West Rutland. Thank you, Capt'n Ed Gelbar, for hosting.

Meet the Committee -

"General Short Beard" Scott Herring



Hello, I am Scott Herring.

I will be known as General Short Beard for the 2020. I am Committee Chair for Troop 795 in Barre. I am also Vice Chair for the Long Trail District. I have been and am still currently on several committees/boards in the Long Trail District in and out of scouting.

I have helped with Webelo Woods, Long Trail Cub Camporee, Long Trail Fall Camporee (Bog) and Long Trail Spring Camporee to name a few.

I am committed to help, organize and run an awesome event. With a great group of scouters coming together to create and put together one epic event.

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at s_j_herring@yahoo.com.

So, gather your masses and prepare for one spectacular event.
General Short Beard



BATTLE FORMATIONS

We have some of the best of the best already on the GMC2020 Committee, but we are in need of a lot more help. These are some of the exciting positions that are still available.

- Asst. Finance (Procurement Officer)
- Sanitation Officer
- GMC Liaison
- Cub World Coordinator
- Patch Trading Coordinator
- Scout Shop Coordinator
- Merit Badge Coordinator
- Scout Museum Coordinator
- Several Merit Badge Councilors

We will also need help with setting up, running the events and clean-up. If everyone kicks in this will be an event that will be long remembered, maybe for another 2,500 years!

If you are interested in any of these positions, or if you know of anyone, please reach out to Kristy or Karl. Forward this newsletter to everyone in your Scouting network, and please encourage them join the Facebook page. That's where the latest and most up to date information is posted. We are excited to give the GMC youth a great experience and know that you will be there and ready to lend a hand.

Marching Forward!

(Units that are coming)

This will be an ongoing list of those units that have registered. First to register stays on top of the list. Show your pride and claim your rightful place at the top of the list!



If the GMC2020 Spartan Challenge isn't on your "bucket list" you need to get a better bucket!

LIFE FOR SPARTAN BOYS

Spartan boys left their families at the age of seven to go to a military training school, where they learned to read and write, had a very tough physical education regiment to keep themselves strong and healthy. They also studied nature, singing and dancing!

LIFE FOR SPARTAN GIRLS

Growing up as a girl in Sparta was similar to being a boy. Around the age of seven girls were sent to school and were trained in athletics and fitness so that they would grow up strong and healthy.

Sparta is one of the very few ancient cultures that recognized males and females as equals. Both lived their lives for Sparta

"LUCKY" CHILDREN

Spartan children considered themselves "lucky" if their father was a member of the Spartan military. He would occasionally come home from battle or training, but other than that he would not ever see his family.

What's New?

On January 19, 2019 A.D., brave Spartans from around the state met in West Rutland for the Kick Off Committee Meeting. It was an incredible meeting of the minds.

Our challenge is to create an event that will capture the hearts and minds of an army of 1,500 Scouts. This great event will be known to all as the "Green Mountain Council 2020 State Camporee" or "**GMC2020**".

The year 2020 marks the 2,500 anniversary of the Battle of Thermopylae (480 B.C.) For real, 2,500 years! It only seems appropriate to celebrate the way of the Spartans. Their camaraderie, strength and honor is impeccable.

A Lion's roar can be heard from up to 5 miles away and is used to advertise his presence. Lions have the loudest roar of any big cat and can reach over 115 decibels (louder than a Rock Concert!)

"I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep; I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion." Alexander the Great.

The "Green Mountain Council 2020 State Camporee" will be an army of lions, led by lions! ROOOOOOOOOAAAAARRRRRRRRR!

History of Thermopylae, 480BC

(DAY ONE)

Through their sheer level of training and high morale the Spartans were steadfast in the face of an overwhelming Persian force on the first day of the Battle of Thermopylae. The battle proved to be unsuccessful for the Persian King Xerxes, with a heavy defeat rather from the constricted landscape of the pass mitigating the massive numbers.

The longer spears of the Spartans were actually better suited to the task of engaging the enemy than the shorter spears of the Persian infantrymen. The Spartans fought in relays, with contingents allowed to take a break from the front-line – thus making the defense more effective with fresher batches of men.

However, while much has been said about Spartan 'obstinacy' in the face of imminent danger, one should also understand that the Spartans were brilliant in the art of warfare. In many ways, their army was the closest to what can be termed as a professional military force in the contemporary ancient world.

To that end, an often overlooked ploy in the Battle of Thermopylae related to how the Spartans not only held their positions but also made organized retreats, to lure the Persians into tighter terrains. And once a large enemy force was cut off from the main body, the Spartans turned around and used their superior melee skills (along with the element of surprise) to destroy them in a piecemeal fashion. This tactic of feigning retreats also stopped the famed Persian archers from shooting into a large group of Spartans.

What do YOU want to know?

SG wants to know: "This sounds great! I know this is a statewide event, but I have a friend from New Hampshire that would like to come. Can he bring his troop to the event?"

Answer: YES! We are already expecting at least one Troop from New York and one from New Hampshire. There will be plenty of mud, crud, smoke, fire and fun for everyone! He should visit our Facebook Page to check it out.

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.

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