

# Green Mountain Council VT State Camporee

## Deployment Edition

### “Spartans Overseas”

# EDITION #7

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CALEDONIA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, 1 FAIRGROUND RD. LYNDONVILLE, VT

## SPARTAN GAMES - THREE DAYS OF VICTORY

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### “This is Sparta!” Trivia

#### No Border Wall Needed!

King Agesilaus disliked the concept of walls. He was once asked why Sparta was without border walls, he pointed to the citizens in full armor and said, “These are Sparta’s walls. When asked, “how far do Sparta’s boundaries reach?” he simply held out his spear and said “as far as this can reach”.

### Kween’s Korner

*The Green Mountain Council welcomes armies from territories outside of the state. We have many that come as friends from New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. There is no fence at the border of Sparta. Come sit at our fire, eat our food, compete in our games and when you leave we will be better friends than when you first arrived.*

### Meet the Committee: Wood Badge Critters!



We are in need of committee members. To be frank, this request has gone out many times, but all we’ve heard is crickets. It’s time for new animals to step up.

This is an official call out to all Wood Badgers to show their leadership abilities and dedication to Scouting. There is a new Wood Badge happening and there are many duties and responsibilities that need to be done. This is a great opportunity for new Wood Badge Tickets! General Short Beard will be at Wood Badge and will have a list of opportunities.

This could also be a Critter Pride Challenge. New and old members of a patrol can band together and challenge each other. Who is the strongest critter, Bear or Buffalo? Who is the best bird, Eagle, Owl or Bob White? Are the Foxes, Antelopes or Beavers contenders?

**Time to walk the walk!**

### SPARTAN DEPLOYMENT

**Did you know that Spartan mercenaries fought for the last Egyptian Pharaoh?**

King Agesilaus II spent his final days leading a mercenary Spartan army in Egypt. In 362 BC, at around 80 years of age, King Agesilaus II was summoned by Pharaoh Nectanebo I to lead his Egyptian forces against the Persians. (Egypt had been conquered by the Persians in 525 BC, but then later regained independence). Agesilaus saw this as a good opportunity to increase diplomatic and trade relations with Egypt, as well as to fill the coffers of an otherwise declining Spartan state and punish the Persians for their previous actions against the Spartans.

What happened next can only be described as political chaos. Shortly after Agesilaus arrived in Egypt a group of Egyptian troops rebelled against Nectanebo, and the rest then deserted him. Nectanebo fled for his life while he could still escape. This left Agesilaus with no obvious employer, and no guarantee of payment. Agesilaus was then in the position of deciding which of these two groups of Egyptians to support. Agesilaus chose the right side, helping to secure Nectanebo’s grandson, Nectanebo II as the Pharaoh. (Nectanebo II would be the last native Pharaoh of Egypt). Nectanebo II paid Agesilaus well for his services, and the Spartan king set about returning home. But it was a journey he was never to complete. Agesilaus died peacefully in North Africa on the way home to Sparta.

## ***Marching Forward!***

***(Units that are coming)***

**Troop 888** Danville, VT  
**Troop 55** Northville, NY  
**Pack 738** Lyndonville, VT  
**Troop 116** West Rutland, VT  
**Pack 447** Brattleboro, VT  
**Troop 353** Bennington, VT  
**Troop 525** Monkton, VT  
**Troop 742** East Montpelier, VT  
**Troop 714** Barre, VT  
**Troop 42** Georgia, VT  
**Troop 70** St. Albans, VT  
**Troop 690** Hinesburg, VT  
**Troop 334** Arlington, VT  
**Troop 658** Winooski, VT  
**Troop 23** Richmond/Bolton, VT  
**Pack 007** St. Johnsbury, VT  
**Pack 876** Morrisville, VT  
**Troop 729** Northfield, VT  
**Troop 18** Fair Haven, VT  
**Troop 635** Essex, VT  
**Troop 219** Lancaster, NH  
**Troop 38** Claremont, NH

**(who's the next to  
accept the challenge?)**



As Philip II of Macedon was conquering Greek city-states left and right, Sparta was left alone. Philip had achieved a crushing victory, and Sparta was without walls. Philip sent a message to the Spartans saying "You are advised to submit without further delay, for if I bring my army on your land, I will destroy your farms, slay your people and raze your city."

**The Spartans replied  
with one word, "if"**

**(‘nuff said)**

## **WHAT'S NEW?**

Spartans loved to be challenged. Not just one-on-one, but competing as an individual in "Battle Royale" fashion. There was no honor winning a contest over 3 others, but competing against a group of 100, 200 or even 500. Every Spartan giving their all made the group stronger. By doing this there was honor for everyone.

You are hereby challenged to invite all your neighboring Scouts, out of Council friends, those you have conquered and those that owe you money. How cool would it be to look down onto a city of 700 tents; to enjoy a Rock Concert and fireworks with 1,500 other Spartans; to live the life of smoke, fire, mud, crud, swords, spears and beating hearts; and to bust an all-time attendance record! If Leonidas had 1,500 Spartans they would have won. Let's go for it!

## **HISTORY OF THERMOPYLAE**

***(Seven Days)***

When the invading Persian King Xerxes heard from Demaratus that Spartan King Leonidas was leading an army of the resistance fighters, made of 300 Spartans and 7,000 other Greeks he couldn't believe it. Xerxes asked his scouts why an army of so few would dare fight against his massive army. "O king," Demaratus answered, "use me as a liar, if the event of this be not what I tell you."

Xerxes would not believe him. For 4 days Xerxes waited expecting that Leonidas would retreat. On the 5<sup>th</sup> day, seeing them not withdraw and acting defiant to his superiority, angered Xerxes. He sent the Medes forces to attack, instructing them take the Spartans alive and bring them into his presence. The Medes charged; many fell, and others attacked in turn; and though they suffered grievous defeat, they kept attacking in waves. The Medes were badly butchered, and ordered to retreat from the fight.

The elite Persian warriors, whom the Xerxes called "Immortals" attacked next. It was thought that they at least would make short and easy work of the Spartans; but fighting in a narrow space, as well as having shorter spears than the Spartans there was no advantage of their greater numbers, Leonidas proved to be strategically brilliant. Among many of his military strategies, he instructed small groups of Spartans to turn their backs and pretend to run away. The Immortals would chase after them, and just when it seemed like they were to be overtaken, the Spartans turned back upon the Immortals and slaughtered them. For this maneuver to work a few of the Spartans had to be sacrificed which they were happy to give their lives for the greater good. The Immortals attacking by companies and in every other fashion, could not gain an inch, they too drew out of the fight.

## **What do YOU want to know?**

**Q:** (Fred M. wants to know) ***"When can we start registering for this event? Can we order the big patch sets at the same time? Will there be tee shirts? Can I pay for all of this with a credit card?"***

**A:** ***WOW! Fred, you and your army are charging forward. You can start registering TODAY! YES you can order Patch Sets at the same time but need to fill out separate form. YES there will be Spartan gear and we will be taking pre-orders (announcement coming soon), YES, you can pay with your Credit Card (or being a GMC unit you can pay through your unit's account). All forms are on the Council website;***

**<https://www.scoutingvermont.org/2020-council-camporee.html>**

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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