



The Stronghold Canton of Northpass

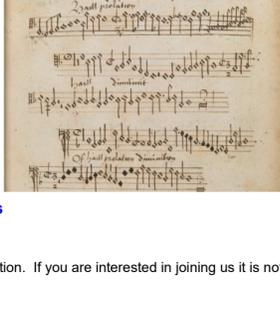
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The Art of Music collect out of all Ancient Doctors of Music by a Scotsman after 1571. HAWKINS COLLECTION VOL III ff. 129) British Library Collection

Save the Date:

Activities:
Illuminations 1/6/19
Brewing 101 1/13/19
Dancing 1/15 & 1/27
A&S 2/10, 3/10, & 4/7

Meetings:
Commons 1/10/19

Events:
Bear's Tavern 3/2-3

Upcoming Activities and Gatherings

Recorder Workshop

A continuation of beginner recorder instruction. If you are interested in joining us it is not too late to start. Please contact Conandil for needed materials information.

Details: Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018
12-1:30 PM
Conandil's 8 Clark Pl, Port Chester, NY 10573
RSVP to [Conandil](#)

Fingerloop Class

Fingerloop is a method of weaving/braiding threads into cord using your fingers. The earliest mention of lac (lace) is from 1230, this is before bobbin lace. It was found in 13th Century fashion- spiraling through eyelets on gowns. It was also used for points to hold up men's hose. Uses also included being threaded through castings to gather and tighten underclothing at the neck and wrists. Also found as cinches and decorative use for purses, cord was seen as early as the 1200s and continued to be used throughout period. Other implementation included holding on hats, as trim, as frogs, and attaching hairnets to the head.

Being able to make cord provides an endless means of creating useful items for SCA and mundane use. Join us as we learn the art of fingerloop. Instruction will start with a basic 5-loop round cord. (Depending on color choices and application this cord will be similar to *purstringe 2 colors* and with a slight variation *2 strings att once*.) If there is time and desire instruction will continue to a *brode lace of v bowes* which is a flatter braid.

Details: Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018
1:30-3 PM
Conandil's: 8 Clark Place, Port Chester, NY 10573
RSVP requested to ensure enough kits are available, as the instructor prefers to pre-set the string so looping can commence immediately.

Embroidery Circle

For those who enjoy playing with string, you might want to consider learning fingerloop (see above). Otherwise, this month's embroidery practitioners are welcome to embroider alongside the fingerloop class. There will be some opportunity for basic stitches to be taught or reviewed as needed. If you have experience, please bring work(s) in progress or new projects! If you have linen (or cotton) scraps, embroidery floss, scissors, and embroidery needles, feel free to bring them along. If you are new to this and need supplies, please let Conandil know ahead so there are enough on hand.

Details: Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018
1:30-3 PM
Conandil's: 8 Clark Pl, Port Chester, NY 10573
RSVP to Conandil and Meadhbh requested to ensure enough supplies, please indicate if you need materials. [Conandil and Meadhbh](#)

Game Day

Join us for an afternoon of board and card games. Some games that will be available include Tablut, Tarochi, Chess (from different times and places), Nine Man Morris, Game of the Goose, Losing Lodum, Mancala, and Glückhaus.

Details: Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018
2:30-5 PM
Conandil and Wilhelm's:
8 Clark Pl, Port Chester, NY 10573
RSVP to [Wilhelm](#) to ensure enough chairs and food.

Archery Practice

Archery practice at Flying Arrows Sports in Carmel, NY. Ranges are available to 30 yards. Targets available will be FITA 5 color, center circle (a bit more period design) and possibly something heraldic. The range is a shared range, so no garb. Loaner equipment is available through Northpass, the local Westchester/Putnam SCA chapter, so please R.S.V.P. if you need loaner equipment.

Royal Round can be done; please note that there is not a 40 yrd shoot available, so that will not be scored.
Details: Wednesdays, December 12th, 19th, and 26th
6:30-7:45 PM
Flying Arrows Sports
92 Old Route 6, Carmel, New York 10512

Flying Arrow policies include: There is a fee for the range directly to Flying arrow: Bows: \$12 for 2 hours; Crossbows: \$12 for 1/2 hour
Children under 10 are not permitted on the range; children 10 and older must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

RSVP requested. For specific questions or to arrange loaner gear please email [Friedrich](#).
If you have sent an attending RSVP and your plans change, please contact Friedrich so he can plan accordingly.

Dance Practices

Please join us for the Renaissance of Northpass' Dance Practice. Come explore the joys of Renaissance dance. All dance steps and choreographies will be taught. There are many different levels of aerobic intensity- from slower than walking pace to rather sprightly skipping!

Everyone is welcome to join us, no dance experience necessary. Practices are generally held in street clothes; however, period clothing lends to more authentic movement for many of the genres. Once we have built a consistent group of dancers and repertoire we may have specific time and place practices.

Details: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 6:30-8:30 PM
Sunday, Dec. 16, 1-4 PM
Site: MAPSpace
6 N Pearl Street, 404 E
Port Chester, NY 10573
Sundays a door opener will be waiting from 12:55-1:15 and on Tuesdays from 6:15-6:40.
If you arrive after the let in times and you can't get in, please phone 845-978-9911 or 845-800-2407
Accessibility: The building has 2 freight elevators. One is accessible from the 2nd floor- From the 6 N Pearl St. entrance plus a flight of steps; the other is accessible from Irving Ave- this does not require stairs, but a two block walk once inside the building. **If you require the use of the elevator, please make arrangements ahead of time with Conandil as both require assistance.**

Transportation/parking: Street parking in the area. Weekdays 9AM -9PM is metered. Do not park in the small lot next to the building. This space is also a few blocks from the Port Chester Train station. (Metro-North New Haven Line from Grand Central or Harlem 125th Street; first stop Rye comes to Port Chester, first stop Stamford does not.)

Please direct questions and RSVP to Conandil and Wilhelm at [Dance](#)

Beginner Brewing 101 Workshop

Introductory workshop for home brewing. At least one batch of beer and one mead are planned for instruction and teaching.

Details: Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019
1-4:30 PM
Site: Oliver de Bainbrig's home in the Bronx
Please note that street parking is limited.

Workshop space is limited to 8 gentles, additional classes will be held if needed.
Please contact [Oliver](#) with questions and RSVP.
Allergy alert: There are 2 dogs in residence.

Commons Meeting-
The monthly meeting of the Canton to discuss upcoming activities, events, policies, etc. Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of the month unless there is a conflict.

Details: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018
7:00-9 PM
Site: The Ossining Public Library- Gallery, lower level
53 Croton Ave
Ossining, NY 10562

Parking: There is free parking at the library. Once you enter the parking lot if you drive down the hill and follow the lot as it curves to the left the entrance to the lower level is on your left.

Accessibility: There is an elevator in the building.

Please bring a festive Potluck item to share, as this meeting has been slated as a Great Commons with Great Food!

Upcoming Events

Bear's Tavern
March 2-3, 2019
Blue Mountain Lodge Peekskill, NY

From the Event Steward, Oliver de Bainbrig:

Do you know what really gets my pantaloons in a bunch? When I don my best garb for an event only to have someone tell me that my boots are 14th century German but my pouch is 12th century. Or when these same 'gentles' point out the stitchwork in my great kilt is French.

Yes, I'm referring to them! The Period Police!

In 'honor' of their hard work at sucking the fun out of the yurt, the Canton of Northpass will dedicate Bear's Tavern, 2019, in their honor by holding the Period Policeman's Ball. Wear your finest tavern garb, but include one small anachronism! Mickey Mouse ears perhaps? Or that smiley face button you purchased in 1972?

No firearms, period.
And when the period police show up, we shall work them to the point of exhaustion!

Bear's Tavern will take place March 2nd and 3rd at the Blue Mountain Lodge, Peekskill, NY. Plenty of opportunity to meet with friends new and old as well as to play many period games. As this is an adult-themed event, we ask that you leave the little ones at home; there will be no activities for them. There are 30 bunks available on a first come, first served basis. If you have air mattresses, inflate-a-beds, or cots, bring them.

Registration: Overnight \$40.
It should be noted that there are only thirty overnight spaces. Bunkroom spaces will be assigned based upon the date pre-registration is received. We strongly suggest you include an email address or phone number for confirmation. Once the bunkrooms are full, there will be a wait-list.

Day-trip \$35.
Again, once full, there will be a wait-list.

There is a member discount of \$5. Please include your SCA membership number with your payment.

Because of site size restrictions, we strongly encourage ALL guests to pre-register, and provide email address AND phone number for confirmation. The only reserved space is a pre-registered/paid for space. Once all spaces are filled, a wait list will be started.

Site Opens: March 2, 2019 at 9:00am
Site Closes: March 3, 2019 at 12:00pm

Please send pre-regs to:
Phil Clarke Jr. (Autocrat)
3176 Decatur Avenue #2F
Bronx, NY 10467
dogglebe@yahoo.com
Make checks out to: SCA NY - Canton of Northpass

[EK announcement](#)

"Near-by" Activities of Interest

Please note that depending on where you live in the Canton some of these events/activities might be closer to you than others...

Deck the Halls of Valhalla—Jan. 12th, Brooklyn
Celebrate Viking Yule.
Site opens at 10 am and closes at 4 PM.
For more information on the event and for reservation information please visit the [EK announcement](#).

Ask Master Richard

Master Richard the Poor of Ely, OP, CM, CSC, et al., has been active in the Society for over 35 years. He likes to consider himself something of an expert on the customs and traditions of the First Kingdom. Whether he actually is remains to be determined, but in the meantime, he will answer your questions on those topics.

Q: At every feast I've been to, they always do a bunch of toasts to people. The Crown, Their Highnesses, the event staff.... How did this tradition start? Is there some sort of special protocol to it?

A: Toasting the Crown is an old tradition whose origins are lost in the Mists of Time (or at least I haven't bothered looking for them). But you're right, there is indeed a special order to them.

The first toast is always to the Crown. For it is the Crown of the East (in the persons of the King and Queen) that is the source of all that is good and honorable in the Kingdom. At least according to the medieval tradition of "*Fons Honorum*". If the event is being held in a barony, this toast is led by the Baron and Baroness (Viceroy and Vicereine in Ostgard), as they are the hosts of the event and are the direct deputies of the Crown. If the event is not in a barony, then this duty falls to the senior Peer who is present.

In general, the order of who gives the toasts goes according to the Order of Precedence. At any time, however, a person can decline to give a toast (for any reason), and the duty goes to the next person in line. It can get tricky determining seniority / precedence on occasion, but people tend not to be sticklers for detail on this as long as a reasonable attempt is made at doing it right. Just don't expect to be leading one of the obligatory toasts if you don't have any awards.

After the Crown has been honored, Their Highnesses are next. Provided, of course, that the event is not in those two or three weeks between Coronation and Crown Tourney when there aren't any Heirs. The last of the three "traditional" toasts is to the host group, either to the Baron and Baroness in a barony, or the event staff (as represented by either the seneschal or group steward) otherwise.

With those three out of the way, standard protocol starts heading for the exit. We've been extending the process somewhat as of late to add two more toasts to the mix.

The cooks and kitchen staff are usually done next. I cannot object to this, except that the toasts are almost always done in the middle of the feast - when the kitchen staff is still hard at work. It's not really appropriate to drag them out at this point for a bow, no matter how well intentioned. In addition to making them drop what they are doing, there's still a chance that they could mess up the second half of the feast. You wouldn't demand a curtain call of the cast of a play during the intermission, would you.... It can wait until the last item on the menu has been brought out. Because then the best way to thank the toast can remind people that they're doing the deed and the kitchen staff is to help them with the cleanup.

Personally, I'd also like to see the honor of making this toast go to the newest peer present. Here in Ostgard, we have so many peers around that the "new kid on the block" may never get a chance at offering a toast otherwise.

The newest toast is the one for "absent friends". This, apparently, is for those members of the Society that have passed on. While I do appreciate the sentiment (heck, we all know SCAdians who have died), I'm not sure that sticking a *memento mori* right in the middle of what is supposed to be a convivial occasion is appropriate. There's got to be a better way to do it.

Two final notes:

While you may be so moved by something at a feast that you feel you absolutely must stand up and offer a toast, keep in mind that there are already a bunch of obligatory toasts, and the "toasters" have already been selected. I advise against dragging things out even further with spontaneous toasts.

The usual cheer in response to a toast is "Vivant!" This is a Latin word meaning "long life to you". However, this is the *plural* form of the word, to be used when cheering more than one person (e.g. Their Majesties, the event staff). The singular form is "Vivat!" The difference in pronunciation is subtle; be careful who don't wind up wishing only one of Their Majesties a long life...*accidentally*.

Questions for Master Richard can be sent via the [chronicler's office](#).

Your Work Here

Well, maybe not exactly in this wee box, prominently placed next to "Ask Master Richard," but somewhere in the publication!

Are you an artisan, researcher, photographer, martial aficionado, or some other vaguely SCA related enthusiast? If you would like to share your work, and see your work in "print" contact the Chronicler.

Accepting submissions of articles, opinion pieces, photos, art work, and anything else that can be manipulated for print.

***Fine Print*—All submissions will require appropriate release forms to be completed. The chronicler will provide all necessary "paperwork."**

Officers:

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Deputy- Lissa K Terra
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Meeting Highlights

From November Commons:

From the Officers
Webminister- continuing to update the site.

Brewmeister- Beginner brewing Jan. 13; 1-4:30 at his home. Two dogs in residence

Chronicler- updating calendars, groups, and lists that she has access to in addition to newsletter.
Congratulations to Seónaid, voted in as our new Herald.

Herald- Intent on helping the populace get names, devices, and badges, as well as get them properly registered.

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MoAS- Dec. 9 there will be a fingerlooping workshop with the regular A&S afternoon. Calligraphy and Illuminations are being planned for next year. As teachers commit to teaching other workshops will be scheduled. Contact Meadhbh or Conandil if there is an activity you really want!

Chatelain- Looking for a better way to show the activities that are on-going to new people coming into the SCA locally.

Events
Oliver would like to do Goat's Tavern again next year. If you are interested in running this event present a bid.

Yule will not be held this year, instead the December Commons will be more of a party with food.

Bear's Tavern specifics will be available soon. Absurd is the event steward, and Wilhelm is in the kitchen. Theme "The Period Policemen's Ball"- wear your finest with an oblong, however subtle (or not so subtle) addition.

Blood & Axes- if you are interested in running this event, please present a bid. Wilhelm is willing to run with someone to train to take over the event. Still awaiting a date.

Barleycorn- Esnade will post to the EK event calendar.

Other Business
Oliver is working on replacing the directional signs for the Canton- for meeting, event, practice, etc. use.

Dance is happening- if you have a suggested site that is more easily accessible for attendees, please contact Conandil. Right now practice is being offered at least one Sunday and weekday a month. Instructors will see what suits those attending going forward.

Archery- practice is still happening, although attendance has not been as strong. If you RSVP yes and then change your mind, PLEASE let Friderich know, so he can plan accordingly. Arrow making has not yet begun, probably after the holidays.

Other Items
Ostgard is looking for gentles, please see the FB page for information. Letters of intent due by Nov. 16th to the Viceregals and the Ostgard's seneschal, Alienor Saltan.

Decameron is moving to a different site. The original site did not replace the stone they promised. Now being planned for the Mt. Kisco Legion Hall.

Siege of Granada being planned for May 11. Looking to reserve Veterans Memorial Park.

For a more thorough account of October's meeting, please find the meeting notes [here](#) and for November's meeting [here](#).

Northpass online...
Northpass information can be found in these other places.

Website: northpass.eastkingdom.org
General information, specific event and activity information, and a calendar at the bottom of the home page.

Email group: [https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Northpass/info?](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Northpass/info?guccounter=1)
guccounter=1
To join

Facebook: The Canton of Northpass page with associated group
[Search for Northpass](#)

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The Stronghold is published monthly. There is no fee for this e-letter. The newsletter can be found on the Canton's website, distributed to the Canton's email group, as well as emailed by specific request to Conandil at chronicler@northpass.eastkingdom.org.