

Sent by: Portland Revels
[Reply to the sender](#)



NEWS OF THE REALM

MARCH 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

Put on your Dancing Slippers!

Announcing: Auditions for the Christmas Revels

Don't miss Inside Revels

In Celebration of the Vernal Equinox

You're Invited to Flourish!

Revels Recommends

VOLUNTEER WITH US

Volunteers are needed for our upcoming International Family Dance on April 16th and our first annual spring brunch fundraiser, Flourish, on May 7th. For information and to sign up:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Put on your Dancing Slippers!

Do you love dancing and learning about international culture? Join folk dance teacher Heidi Vorst and fiddler Betsy Branch, (with Mark Douglass on piano and Bill Tomczak on clarinet), for a night of music and dance on April 16th at the Kells in downtown Portland.

Heidi will be teaching dances from all over the world, including **France, Italy, Romania, Russia, Bolivia, Columbia, Japan, Israel, USA**, and more!



Our family-friendly dances are a great way to enjoy an evening with friends of all ages. The Kells has food and drink for sale, and a dedicated parking lot across the street.

More information and tickets at: www.portlandrevels.org.

Announcing: Auditions for the Christmas Revels



Are you an aspiring actor or musician? Have you attended our shows and thought "I wish I could do that," or even "I KNOW I could do that!" If so, you should consider [auditioning](#) for the 2016 Christmas Revels!

This year's show is set in the Italian Renaissance, and will include many beloved Revels elements including *Abbots Bromley*, *the Sword Dance*, *the 12 Days of Christmas* and of course, *the Dragon*. Our story will be set in Venice, where a bored Doge runs away with a Commedia Dell'Arte troupe... and zaniness ensues.

Auditions are on June 11th and 18th. Learn more on our website at www.portlandrevels.org.

Don't miss Inside Revels



Our first [Inside Revels](#) events have been fantastic fun! These short house and office parties are a great way to learn more about Portland Revels and how we make the magic happen, and also provide a lovely opportunity to connect with old friends and new. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out!

Upcoming events include:

Building the Revels Sound with Robert Lockwood: *April 14th, 5:30 PM*

Reveling Music with Betsy Branch: *April 17th, 3:30 PM*

Staging the Revels with Bruce Hostetler: *April 24th, 3:00 PM*

[Click here for more information](#)

In Celebration of the Vernal Equinox

While we'll be officially celebrating the Vernal Equinox on Sunday, March 20th, here on the 45th parallel the actual equinox –when the day and night are of equal length (mostly – see below) occurs today, Thursday the 17th! In honor of this mid-point between winter and summer, board and company member David Shepherd compiled a list of fun facts for you to enjoy!

1. The Vernal Equinox marks the first day of spring for most scientists in the Northern Hemisphere, but not for meteorologists. They mark the first day of spring as March 1. Can you guess the last day of meteorological spring? ([Answer here](#))



The serpent in Chichen Itza during the equinox

2. Conventional wisdom suggests that on the equinox everybody on Earth experiences a day and night of equal lengths – 12 hours each. But this isn't true...
 - We define sunrise as the moment the top edge of the sun peeps above the horizon, and we define sunset as the moment the bottom edge of the sun dips below the horizon. Therefore, the length of a day includes all the time associated with both sunrise and sunset, making it slightly longer than night.
 - It is exaggerated further because of the refraction of the sun's light through the earth's atmosphere, which causes the sun's upper edge to be visible from Earth several minutes BEFORE the edge actually reaches the horizon during sunrise, and several minutes AFTER the edge actually passes the horizon at sunset. In this way day steals at least 6 minutes from night.
3. The [Mayan temple in Chichen Itza, Mexico](#), is oriented on cardinal axes. On both equinoxes, shadows cast by the railings create the illusion of a serpent's body descending the stairs, and these join with a carved serpent's head at the base of the stairs, ("which is pretty darn cool," says Dave.)
4. The vernal equinox is also the autumnal equinox for half the globe (of course!)
5. Maren Tirabassi, a poet from New Hampshire, wrote a beautiful poem about the equinoxes and finding balance in all things. It begins:

*Giver of the blessings of light
and the grace of darkness,
who dusts Tokyo and Washington
in cherry blossoms,
but sings autumn wind to Argentina,
Australia, South Africa,
make such an equinox,
that I cherish in equal measure
the day and the night,
growing things and those
that wither away...*

[you can read the entire poem here.](#)

You're Invited to Flourish!

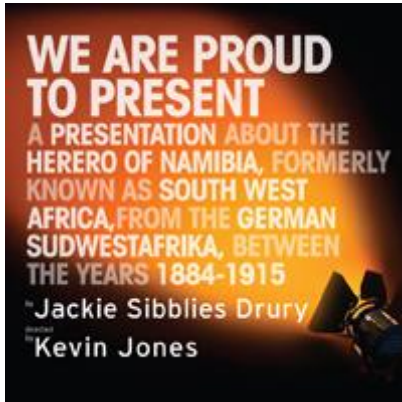


On May 7th we'll be hosting our first annual spring brunch fundraiser, FLOURISH, and you're invited! The brunch will take place in the beautiful lobby of the Artists Repertory

Theater (which doubles as an art gallery). Learn about the future of Revels, join in the singing, and hear from people about why Revels inspires them.

Learn more, or reserve a spot, at <http://tinyurl.com/Flourish2016>.

Revels Recommends



[We are Proud to Present](#)

March 8 – April 10, Artists Repertory Theatre, Morrison Stage

A multiracial cast of six idealistic actors sets out to improvise a story about the first colonial genocide of the 20th Century in Africa, but get lost in the reality of their undertaking. The unusual presentation, humor and inevitable discomfort of this provocative new play gripped theatre hubs like New York, Chicago, London, Washington

D.C. and Seattle with its unique theatrical investigation of prejudice, power and perspective.

[Star Party-Vernal Equinox Celebration](#)

March 19th, Rooster Rock State Park

On Saturday March 19, OMSI, Rose City Astronomers and Vancouver Sidewalk Astronomers will celebrate the vernal equinox and the beginning of spring with a free Star Party at both Rooster Rock State Park and L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park! From beginners to experts of all ages, here's your opportunity to view the stars and other celestial objects up close through telescopes. Viewing highlights includes the planet Jupiter, waxing gibbous Moon, Orion Nebula, and more!

Portland Revels • 1515 SW Morrison Street, Portland, OR 97205 • 503-274-4654

info@portlandrevels.org • www.portlandrevels.org

Portland Revels is a registered service mark of [Revels Inc.](#)

connect with us



This e-mail was sent
from Portland Revels
Immediate removal
with **PatronMail**[®]
[SecureUnsubscribe](#).

patronMAIL