

NorthStar Chronicle

April Edition

He Is
Risen!

Learn new recipes,
discover new tips,
read new stories
and poems, and
MUCH more!

Press f5 to begin



Dear NSC readers...

Welcome to the Easter/April Edition of our magazine! This is the fifth magazine we have done together...for your enjoyment! We hope that with all of us working together as a team, each of our Chronicles will be better and more enjoyable for you to read!

Happy Easter!

~The Editor~



Because you have seen me, you have *believed*;
blessed are those who have not seen and yet have *believed*.

John 20:29



NORTHSTAR CHRONICLES-Tips & Facts

Helping Everyday Life

Abstract

This document is filled with tips for everyday life, making it easier (hopefully).

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Cyber Time

This part of the issue will focus more on your phones and tablets.



Tips & Facts - iOS

A. Shake n' Undo

Accidentally typed the wrong, long word but too lazy to hold that button for 2 seconds? Well then, just SHAKE your phone to undo! That's right! SHAKE! This works for text, email, notes, and editing photos.

B. Double-tape Space

When wanting to end a sentence, just double tap the space bar and it will automatically insert a period, a space, and a capital letter for your next sentence.

C. Teach Siri How to Pronounce

Does it annoy you when Siri pronounces your name wrong that it you wonder how in the world does that robot even get to that conclusion? Well, next time she does this, just say "You pronounced that incorrectly" or something similar to that. Then just follow whatever comes next.

D. Charge!

Have somewhere you need to go soon but need to charge you phone? Putting it in Airplane Mode while charging lets it charge even quicker.

E. Let the music turn off itself

Let's say you want to turn off your lullabies right before going to sleep. But then that will ruin your sleepiness. So have them turn off by itself. Go to Clock > Timer. Tap "When Timer Ends," go down all the way to the bottom, and press stop playing. Then set the time you want it turn off (e.g. 7 minutes, 10 minutes, 30 minutes). Bonus: If you want to play till you go asleep, the average human falls asleep in seven minutes.

Tips & Facts - Android

A. Screen Recorder

If you have Lollipop 5.0 or higher, you can download this screen recorder called AZ Screen Recorder. It's completely free, and works very nicely.

B. Lollipop Easter Egg

With every OS update, Google sneaks in an Easter egg. This time, in Lollipop it's...well, why don't you find out yourself. Go to Settings > About Phone (or tablet) > Android Version. Quickly tap this till a lollipop appears. Tap it to change color. Hold it down to see the surprise!

C. Screen Pinning

With the new OS, Google has added Screen Pinning. This lets you stay on an app or screen until you unpin it. This is useful when you are handing your device to friends and strangers and you don't want them rummaging through your stuff. Simply go to Settings > Security > Screen Pinning. Turn it on. Now press the Overview button (the button next to the Home button; it could be left or right), and go to an app you want to pin. Press the Pin button at the bottom-left corner and there you have it! To unpin, simply follow what your device says you need to do. Remember, there are different kinds of devices across Android, so for all these tips, you might need to play around a little to find them.

D. Find Your Lost Android Device

Lost your phone or tablet somewhere? No worries, just go to <http://www.google.com/android/devicemanager>, sign in with your Google account. You may need to let it accept permission to turn on the location. Accept, and Android Device Manager will find your phone. You can even erase the data, if you feel the need to do so and if stolen.

The Dream – Written by Shaila Sutherland

I dreamed a dream so fair, so rare, one
night,
A voice spoke in my dream so real, so clear.
I wakened with such joy, and such delight,
I knew I heard God's Word upon my ear.
I, with excitement, shouted out the news!
A precious little boy would soon be ours,
Prepare a room and buy some clothes of
blue.
Three months - I counted, all the days and
hours.
My family had some trouble to believe
The dream God gave would really come to
be.
But on that day, a child we did receive
As promised, God sent baby Zach to me.
When I was twelve God gave me faith to
see
The baby brother He was sending me!!

Loaded M&M Bars – Section by Hannah C.

Loaded M&M Oreo Cookie Bars

I, Hannah, found this recipe online, then decided to try it. We made it once, we LOVED it, my mom taught how to make it in 2 baking classes of hers, and then we made then TWO MORE TIMES. It was SO good...You simply can't NOT make it! Enjoy, and let me know how it turned out if you did make it!

INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup unsalted butter (1 stick), melted
1 large egg
1 cup light brown sugar, packed
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 cup all-purpose flour
18 Oreo Cookies, coarsely chopped (I used Oreo Chocolate Birthday Cake Sandwich Cookies; another type of chocolate sandwich cookie may substituted, or about 2 heaping cups of coarsely chopped add-ins including leftover cookies, graham crackers, chocolate-covered pretzels, etc.)
About 1/2 cup M&M's (I used plain, use your favorite flavor or other chopped candy)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350F. Line an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with aluminum foil, spray with cooking spray; set aside.

In a large, microwave-safe bowl melt the butter, about 1 minute on high power.

Wait momentarily before adding the egg so you don't scramble it.

Add the egg, brown sugar, vanilla, and whisk until smooth.

Add the flour and stir until just combined, don't overmix.

Stir in the Oreos.

Turn batter out into prepared pan, smoothing the top lightly with a spatula.

Evenly sprinkle the M&Ms over the top, lightly pressing them down with your finger or a spatula.

Bake for about 20 to 22 minutes, or until done based on add-ins used.

Top should be set and edges slightly firm. A toothpick inserted in the center (if you can find a bare patch to test) should come out clean, or with a few moist crumbs, but no batter. Allow bars to cool in pan for at least 30 minutes before slicing and serving. Bars will keep airtight at room temperature for up to 1 week, or in the freezer for up to 6 months.

(recipe and photo from

<http://www.averiecooks.com/2013/09/loaded-mm-oreo-cookie-bars.html>)



The Guitar Garage

By: Jeremy Wiens

Geek Speak:

Pre-amp: A device or piece of circuitry that is placed before an amplifier that conditions the sound before amplification.



Spotlight: A pedalboard, where a guitarist's pedals become one.



Me 'n my acoustic guitar.

Tips and Tricks From a Student of the Craft

Hey!

Welcome back to the guitar garage! For this issue, I'm going to focus on gear. However, since this is a humungous topic, I will only touch on pickups, amplifiers, and pedals.

Tip 1.1:

Gear is useful, but it is not necessary. You are not any less of a musician if you don't have gear, and don't let anybody tell you otherwise.

Tip 1.2:

A lot of guitarists get sucked into this futile search for their "tone" or "sound," and they blow way too much money looking for it. While it is not a bad thing to buy gear for fun, don't let it turn into an addiction.

Let's get started.

Pickups

Pickups take the sound of your instrument, and turn it into a form that can be run through an amplifier or PA. There are two kinds of pickups out there: passive and active. Passive pickups are plug-and-play, and are more popular. Active pickups, however, require a battery but also come with a pre-amp* which allows for more sound

control. In acoustic guitars, there may be a small console put into the side of the instrument that allows the musician to utilize the pre-amp, but pre-amp controls on an electric guitar usually go where all the other knobs and doodads are. This is a very condensed description, because there are various different kinds of each pickup, but if you're interested in more, you can research them yourself, or email me.

Amplifiers

Amplifiers take your sound and make it louder, they're pretty self-explanatory. To amplify signal, they have to use special components to do so. The two most common components are: vacuum tubes and transistors.

Vacuum tubes

When rock n' roll was first starting out, the only component capable of amplifying sound in a useful way was the vacuum tube. It was later discovered that if too much signal is pushed through a vacuum tube, it will distort the signal. This was called "overdrive" and was the birth of distortion as we know it today. However, tubes are fragile, wear out over time, and require routine maintenance. Because of this, they are sometimes regarded as a nuisance.

Transistors

Transistors revolutionized technology. They offered a more stable alternative to vacuum



tubes, and took up less space as well. They are reliable, and robust. Although, to make a transistor distort takes a lot of volume, and it doesn't sound great either, so amplifiers that use transistors need special circuitry to emulate distortion.

Types of amplifiers

Vacuum Tubes

Tube amps are the most expensive amplifiers out there, but their sound is generally the nicest. Tube amps almost always make the nicest sounding distortion, and most of the pros use them. However, as was mentioned before, tubes are fragile and require time and money to keep in working order. For this reason, as well as the price tag, tube amps generally are limited to the more advanced players.

Solid-State

Solid-state, or transistor, amps use transistors to amplify signal, and are a cheaper alternative to tube amps. They do have to use circuit boards for distortion, but the durability and reliability of solid state amps is invaluable to many guitarists.

Modelling

Modelling amps are a kind of transistor amp, but they use computers, computer chips, and other digital technology to emulate the sound of real amplifiers. Because of their digital nature, they usually include hundreds of presets, lots of effects, and some form of making your own presets. Modelling amps do have their pros, but their sounds can sometimes seem a bit artificial.

Acoustic

Acoustic amps are special amps built for acoustic guitars. They do amplify the signal of the guitar, but they also condition the sound a bit as well. If your guitar has a pre-amp, you **don't** need an acoustic amp because your pre-amp conditions your sound already. If you don't have a pre-amp in your acoustic guitar, then you may need either an amp or a new active pickup with a pre-amp, because otherwise your passive pickup won't register a lot of the low end of your instrument, making a sound a bit like a banjo.

There is already enough signal coming out of your guitar. The sound guys won't ever have an issue. Acoustic amplifiers are just there for people without pre-amps to get a nice sound out of their guitar.

Pedals

This is a lot of people's favourite part about guitar. Pedals. Pedals are individual effects that you can put your guitar through in order to customize your sound and/or make sounds that you wouldn't be able to make otherwise. I think that most pedals can be divided into dirt pedals, modulation pedals, and utility pedals.

Dirt Pedals

These are the pedals that "dirty" or distort your sound. There are three kinds of dirt pedals: overdrive, distortion, and fuzz, but they all do the same thing: make the sound clip (distort). Because each distorts at a different level, they are used for different purposes. Overdrive is the tamest, and sounds nice as a low-level lead sound or full-chord rhythm sound. Distortion sometimes sounds okay with full chords, but power chords and searing leads generally sound best (note: there are various levels of distortion). Fuzz is a specific type of distortion, named so because it sounds "fuzzy," and is mostly used for the same purposes as distortion.

Modulation Pedals

These guys are the actual effects. They colour your sound, and do funky things with it. Reverb adds reverberations (almost echoes) to your sound to make it seem like you're in a big room; delay echoes the things you played; chorus makes it sound like multiple people are playing at once; wah (or whammy) pedals make your guitar sound like it's whining or crying; tremolo or vibrato makes it sound like your guitar is trembling or vibrating; and synthesizers (synths) let you do just about anything. (I can't quite put to words what flangers and phasers do)

Utility Pedals

These pedals help you get the job done. There are volume pedals, compressors, amp switchers, tuners, pedal power supplies, and more. There are way too many for me to describe them all.

Multi-effects pedals

These pedals are the modelling amps of pedals. They digitally imitate lots of effects for a lower price tag. Some people like them for those reasons.

Tip 2

I want to leave you with this parting word: YOU are the only person who can build YOUR sound. Not others. Do take advice and listen to people, but you can tell when criticism is not constructive, so don't listen to that too much. Make your own decisions about what amp and pedals you want to use, if any. Now that you know a bit more about gear, you can make better choices about the stuff you buy and use. Most music stores will let you try out instruments and gear, so take advantage of that and try out gear before you know you want to buy it. Don't knock pre-owned stuff either. There are a few treasures out there. Keep in mind, your ear will mature in time, and that may mean that you will "outgrow" some of your gear. Don't sweat. That's what eBay is for. :)

Keep jamming, and keep learning. ♪Jeremy

Forces of Evil – By Taya O.

They called themselves the people of England, but they did not belong with that kingdom. They were their own people, the old of this world. They, in their knowledge, knew of dragon fire, but in all their wisdom did not believe. The chieftain of the time, Leonora, led the people in innocent ignorance.

So on the day he came to their village, no one was prepared. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, and the surreal blueness offered a false hope, and life went on in luxury and bliss as it had in the days of old. But then a flickering light appeared over the mountain-tops.

The dragon had come, and a will to survive isn't always enough.

He came on the fresh wind, bringing death instead of life, his scales glittering like rubies and emeralds. As the wind gusted and the dragon pumped his wings overhead the village, fire poured from his maw into the once-blue sky, now dark with black smoke. As the village was consumed, Leonora stood on a hill on the outskirts of her valley home. Freshly fallen tears gleamed on her cheeks. There she stood, watching the death of the past and the future of her people, the demise of anything that had once been hers. For here was fear. Here was death. Here was the King of the Dragons.

Beneath the sound of screams and the roar of the dragon's destruction could be heard a single plea, made by Leonora, who as chieftain, wished to save her clan. Her auburn hair whipped in the wind as her hands reached to the heavens, her eyes closed in a serenity outside of that moment. She stood as stone, frozen in that position, until the people were all gone, the village razed.

She opened her eyes to see the dragon.

His eyes burned with fire and hate, but Leonora's eyes burned hotter with vengeance and the love for her village. There on the hill they faced off, neither willing to back down.

The dragon finally snarled, and liquid fire burned in his stomach, tempting him with the thought of fire and destruction. But he took to the air and retreated back to his horde of treasure and slept for a time. He waited for a time when the reign of dragons would come, when he would rule people and dragons alike, when a new era of terror would seize the land.

Leonora, too, went on her way in mourning. But she abandoned her fear of the dragon, and instead chose to wait to challenge the King of the Dragons. And still she waits.

Animal Facts

Section by Soleil W.

Cheetahs

The cheetah is the fastest land animal in the world. They can reach a top speed of approximately 113km an hour. Cheetahs are extremely fast; however, they tire quickly and can only run their highest speed for only a few minutes. Cheetahs are also the only big cats that can't roar. Also, cheetahs only need a drink every three to four days. Cheetahs have amazing eyesight during the day but poor eyesight in the night.



Squirrels

There are about 280 different species of squirrels. Squirrels mainly eat nuts, fruits, and seeds. Weirdly, the squirrel's tails and eyes help them climb trees faster and more gracefully, and their huge eyes help the squirrels spot predators.

**AGREE WITH GOD!
MOVE WITH GOD!
END WITH GOD!
NEVER DOUBT GOD!
AMEN!**

That's it for this Chronicle! 😞
But don't worry...the next issue,
coming out in the beginning of June,

will be all about 🩸 ✝️ 💣💣 📖 ☀️

📖 ✝️ ☠️ !!

Make sure you let us know if you have any questions, comments, etc. about our magazines.

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