

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly



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Words from the Alsherjargothi

2019 is off to a great start! Thank you to all our generous members who contributed so far towards our efforts to help the white South Africans in their time of desperate need. I have been humbled to hear the words of appreciation from there cousins of ours. If you are interested in contributing please go to <http://www.runestone.org/donate/> , we will continue until our people are restored to safety and dignity.

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rustic cabins, wind chill, and knee deep snow reminded me of my Alaskan homeland. I want to thank Folkbuilder Jason Plourde for all his efforts to host this event and make it such a memorable occasion.

I am looking forward to my first AFA event in Texas. If you are able, please join me and your AFA family for Charming of the Plow February 15-17, hosted by the AFA's own Black Sun Kindred. This is the first AFA National Event in the Lone Star State and I would love to see as many of my AFA family as we can. This will be a great weekend, come on out. Ostara in the South is coming up in March and in May we have Ultima Thule in Sweden! There is so much activity in the AFA these days, as you can see from this issue of The Runestone, it is a great time to be Asatru! Huge thank you to all the volunteers and local leadership for putting the love into making this happen.

Finally, I want to say congratulations to the AFA's newest newlyweds. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Lugnet!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi

Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org



Kindred Spotlight

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In this month's Kindred spotlight the AFA would like to recognize Missouri's Mid-hearth Kindred. These folks are always up to something. They host several events during the year for the Holy days many that are full weekend events. Like a Midsummer gathering BBQ, Blot and Swimming. A feast of the Einherjar event that had over 20 people under one roof for the duration of the weekend. Rune and Lore studies, mead making class, a children's survival skills program, the list goes on! The events they host are packed full of classes, workshops, guest speakers like Gothi Bryan Wilton. Besides all the great events they host every month, these amazing folks have committed to making 10 baby blankets to donate for the baby blanket project for the AFA.

We Thank you for all you do and for your generosity and commitment to our folk. You make us proud Mid-Hearth!!!

Hail the Doers!

Hail the Kindreds of the AFA!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Gothar Update

by Gothar Coordinator Blaine Qualls

The time is quickly approaching for our next class of students to begin. Each year we have a new class of students; applications become available in February or March, are due to be returned by May 1, throughout May these applications are reviewed, and our new students are announced at Midsummer. Classes are very limited in size and applicants are chosen, or not chosen, according to the needs of our church.

Qualifications for students are listed in the application itself, but for those interested, please be aware, this is not any kind of a beginners course or Asatru 101 class. We expect that all applicants are already well versed in all aspects of Asatru. This is a full year of academic studies on par with an online college course, you will be expected to write essays, read and reread a good number of tomes related to our traditions. You will also be required to interact with one of our ordained Gothar who will serve as a personal mentor to help you through the course. Upon completion of your academics, you will then embark on applying what you have learned to the real world and to our membership. That portion can last up to, and possibly beyond, one year. Once you have shown that you are capable of serving the Folk as a Gothi or Gythia you will be ordained in a ceremony that requires you to become oath-bound to the AFA.

It is not an easy course by any means, but at the end of it you will have earned the title of Gothi. You will have all of the respect afforded to your position and you will be far more than just some person calling themselves a gothi amongst their friends.....
You will be a fully ordained priest/priestess of our church, and you will have earned the

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Copies of the application are available on our website, runestone.org , under the Gothar contact heading.

Blaine Qualls
Gothar Coordinator

Our Gothar are always here for any member who is in need, please feel free to contact any of us and we will be happy to help you if we are able. Our Gothar are:

Matt Flavel, Alsherjargothi, Nevada
Blaine Qualls, Gothar Coordinator, North Dakota
Allen Turnage, Lawspeaker, Florida
Thorgrun Odden, Witan, California
Bryan Wilton, Gothi, Oklahoma
Bodi Mayo, Gothi, Georgia
Steve Morrell, Gothi, Alaska
Michael Hunter, Gothi, California

Contact information for each of them is available on the website, runestone.org . And the next time you see one of them, give them a pat on the back for all they do for our church and our Folk.

Folkbuilder Updates

by Folkbuilder Coordinator Marc MacLeod

I'm pleased to announce the AFA's 2019 event schedule! If you have never experienced a AFA event, you are missing out. I highly suggest you pick one and make it happen.

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All of our events are packed with inspirational speakers, powerful ritual, kids activity's, AFA leadership, and plenty of time to socialize, building bonds for a lifetime. All of our events are for members, their family's and vouched for guests, as in you personally take responsibility for your guest. This is looking like a record year for the AFA, get involved and be a part of the solution.

Feb. 15-17 Charming of the Plow- Texas - cbrown@runestone.org

Mar. 22-24 Ostara in the South - North Carolina-
Phester@runestone.org & sherul@runestone.org

May 24-26 Ultima Thule- Sweden- anilsson@runestone.org &
lborgstrom@runestone.org

June 21-23 Midsummer at Odinhof-Northern California-
Jroesner@runestone.org & rharlan@runestone.org

Sept. 6-8 Fallfest - Minnesota- bqualls@runestone.org & jgallagher@runestone.org

Oct. 18-20 Winter Nights in the Poconos- Pennsylvania- cerickson@runestone.org &
mdenuzzio@runestone.org

Marc MacLeod
Folkbuilder Coordinator

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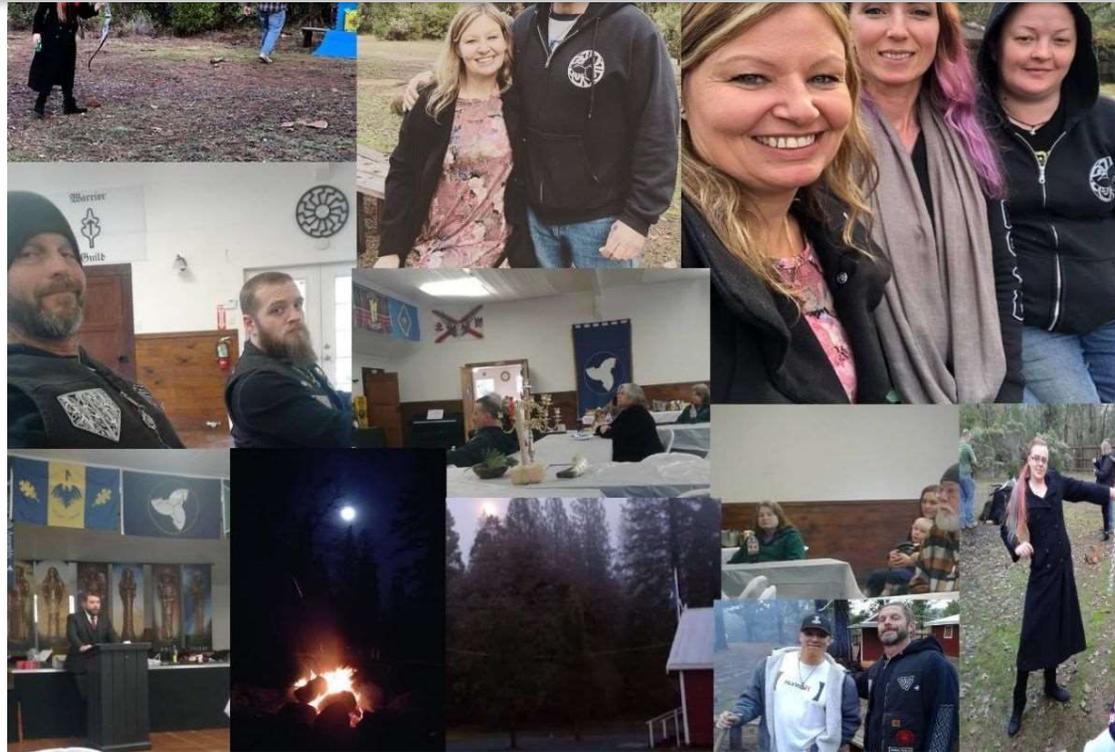
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Óðinshof

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Thorrablot Write up

This January the folk gathered upon Óðinshof for a Thorrablot event which was small but intimate. Attendance was approximately twenty-five but the Hof was full with joy and the festiveness of a new year. The early day saw some light showers, however, a very nice weather presented itself shortly before noon.

Lunch was served and social time followed. Thereafter, Rocco Urman lead a talk explaining the origins of Thorrablot and an examination of the Poem Harbardslijoth or “The Lay of Harbard”. The afternoon progressed with more social time and a round of games representing trials of strength to honor Thor. These consisted of archery, a

Leading into the evening a blót was performed to honor the red-haired one, Thor. After blót was conducted, the folk retired to the hall for an evening feast. An after-feast film showing was prepared by Sheila McNallen featuring “The Viking Sagas”, a film from 1995 detailing a story of vengeance and proving honor.



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Many folks who have never been to California, still have an image in their mind's eye. They might think of the beaches typical to Southern California, or perhaps the rolling grassy foothills of Wine country, the Golden Gate Bridge and the liberal paradise of San Francisco. Few people, however, think of the Sierra Nevadas. A long and rugged mountain chain, which springs up and towers above the fertile Central Valley. This is where I grew up. Vast forests, Granite Peaks, Lakes and Rivers (which provide almost all of the drinking and irrigation water for the rest of the state!), and the Mother Lode of Gold Rush history. Nestled high in these mountains is a place called Truckee. Originally called Coburn's Station, the name was changed to an Anglicized version of a Piute Indian word which means "everything is okay". But everything wasn't always okay there. This town is also near the location of one of the Sierras darkest moments: The Donner Party disaster. These mountains can turn on you. They can go from beautiful blue skies in the summer, to powerful thunderstorms in the blink of an eye. In winter, they can do the same, except instead of thunderstorms, powerful snowstorms take their place. Many other areas of this country get snow, but few get the same type of snow. Our snow is known as "Sierra Cement". It gets this name from its

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On the weekend of January 4th-6th, a group of AFA members made the trek high into the Sierras, into Truckee, and got stuck in the snow. Actually, we spent a fantastic weekend in a mansion of a cabin to celebrate the Twelfth Night.....and then we got stuck in the snow. On that Friday, people started making their way up to Truckee, but unlike the Donners, we knew that we were in for some snow. Climbing higher and higher up the mountain, above Truckee, and still, further up, I knew we were in for a bit more than a dusting of powder. As we pulled the truck into the driveway, familiar smiling faces greeted my wife, daughter, and I. Inside, the warmth from the fire, and the smell of dinner greeted us. Unpacked and settled, we ate dinner, conversed, and relaxed. A more casual affair than our typical events, Twelfth Night in a cabin is a much more intimate environment. No real schedule to stick to other than meals. The next day, we awoke to a fine breakfast. Kids and adults got to play in the snow, watch the storm come in, and set by the fire. The type of things which make winter in the Sierras amazing. As the day progressed, the storm intensified and brought with it more and more snow. We gathered that night after dinner, and sat near the fireplace, circled up for Bragaful. A ceremony in which we get to recount our accomplishments from the past year, and share them with our folk. We also recall some low points, and how we can make the changes necessary to move forward, into this year, and improve upon ourselves, and our situations. You get to know your Folk so much better in situations like this. Opening yourselves up, and sharing not only your high points but your low ones as well. Victories and losses are shared by us all. Our Folk is connected, not only through shared ancestry but through our Hamingja, our Folksoul. Each gain, each loss, affects us all. Passing the horn around and speaking our thoughts and pouring our hearts out, back into the well of origin. The well that we all drink from.

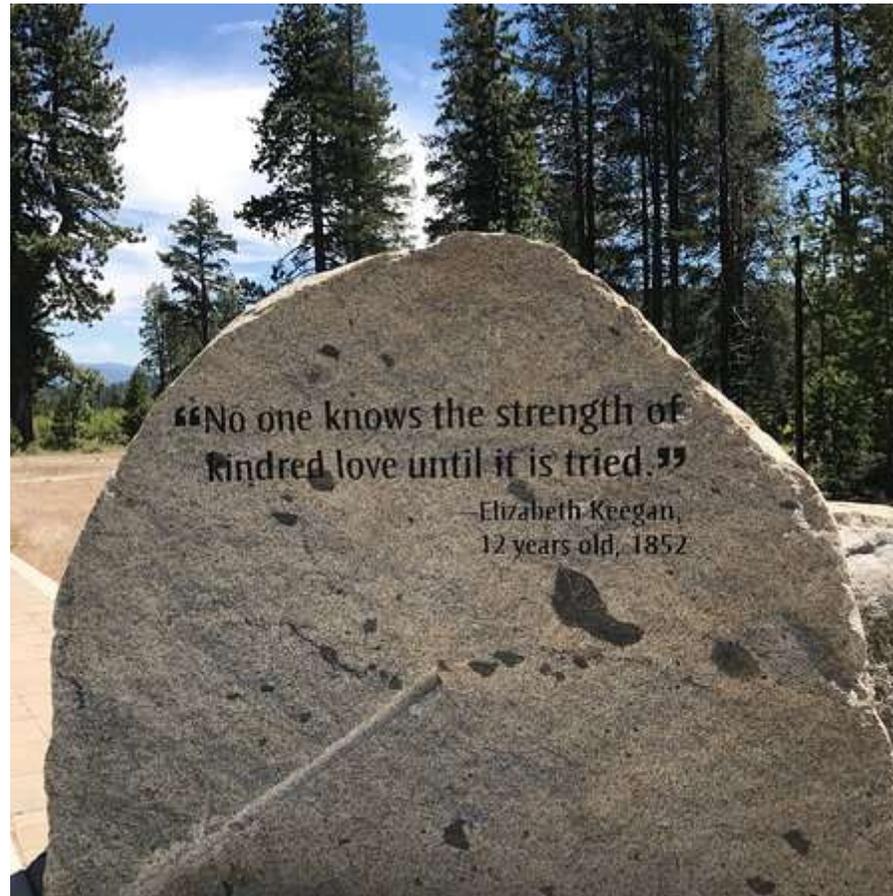
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our weekend shelter, and effect an escape from the madness of snow covered Interstate Highway. We ate our breakfast, cleaned the cabin, packed, and made ready to turn wheels in short order. But it still wasn't fast enough. By the time we had left the cabin, the highway was already a mess. Traffic was backed up all the way up the road that led to the cabin. Many in our group needed to head back West on I-80. Almost everyone had to work the following day. For those of you who are unfamiliar with it, the stretch of I-80 which goes from Sacramento to Reno can be a slaughterhouse. Especially in winter. People still try and pass in blizzard-like conditions, people in two-wheel drive vehicles without chains, trying to drive at highway speeds in a foot of snow at 8000 ft, spinouts, crashes, the works. It was no different that day. Traffic flow was completely stopped in the Westbound lanes, and wouldn't resume flow for another 24 hours. Most of our party was now completely stuck in Truckee. Unable to make it home. Unable to make it to work the following day. Eastbound traffic was moving, however, and since my family and I didn't need to go West to go home, we decided to make our way East. We just had to get through the madness of a gridlocked Truckee first. After effecting our escape, we pulled onto I-80 East and cruised safely into Reno. By the time we were in Carson City, many of our compatriots had made the decision to spend another night in the cabin, and a few had made their way to Highway 50, but were now stuck due to blizzard conditions, and had to wait out the storm in Tahoe. Still cruising at 60mph, I made my way to the only other open pass. Watching the yearly parade of people desperately trying to chain up their minivans, fishtailing up the road, we pulled up to the head of the line at chain control. "Where you headed?" Sonora. "No, you're not. We just closed the road due to an Avalanche." Back to the in-law's house in Reno we went and made the last leg of the journey the next day.

By now you're all fully aware of what an adventure our Twelfth Night weekend became, and I've forced a little local history on you. Happily, none of us had to eat

Mountains, in the often forgotten part of California. Hail the Gods! Hail the Goddesses!
Hail the Folk! And, Hail the AFA!

"No one knows the strength of Kindred love until it is tried." -Elizabeth Keegan, donner
party member, 12 years of age, 1852.



Day Of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi

It is on this day, February 9th, that we remember and honor Eyvind Kinnrifi who was tortured and murdered in a most gruesome fashion. An unforgivable act by none other than Olaf Tryggvason.

While today we don't face death for ours, Eyvind's actions are much like our own; refusing world rejecting montheism through a steadfast loyalty to the ways of our ancestors. Eyvind stood tall in the face of death by refusing forced conversion to christianity and remaining loyal to our Gods and Goddesses.

Cattle die and kinsmen die,

thysel too soon must die, but one thing never,
I ween, will die, fair fame of one who has earned it.

It takes a tremendous amount of bravery and loyalty to stand against the cruel wave of conversion while so many others did not. You and all others who have made similar sacrifices have earned your spots in history. For your unfaltering love of the Gods and Goddesses may you forever be remembered.

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail Eyvind Kinnrifi!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Submitted by Gothar Student Schuyler Palmer



Alaska and Far North Regional Updates

In the cold of the month of January, AFA members gathered from around the state at a central location in a mountain pass between two of our cities and held a Blot to Thor. The entirety of the time there was spent outside, but our Hearty Folk were prepared with a fire pit, thermoses of hot coffee and appropriate winter attire.

While the children took full advantage of the winter season and went sledding and digging snow caves, the adults kept a watchful eye while catching up with each other and having conversation.

Blot was let by Gothi Steven Morrell, and it was a powerful Thorsblot under the powerful and awe-inspiring mountains.



Heading towards the warmer months has us looking to vent off a bit of cabin fever!
Looking forward to spending the 27th with folk family and do exactly that..a good fire,

Another notable development is a newly formed pact between clair, ross, and myself to unite on the 9th of each month to participate in Odin world prayer day together. I thank claire for the request, it gladdened my heart to agree, and am looking forward to growing our influence on that day.

Last but not least, i have scheduled a meet up with some newly met folk here on the kenai, am ambitious to get to know where they stand and get them involved with Doing Asatru!

Tyler Hansen

Apprentice Folkbuilder





Northwest Regional Updates

As I sat down this morning to write the update for the NW, I reflected on where the path of Asatru has led me in the past year. I now follow our Allfather Odin and his example to constantly learn and grow from every interaction and event. His self sacrifice to win the runes inspire me to do what is right, no matter what the cost for the greater good. We live our lives along this path and sacrifice our time and energy for something that is larger than ourselves. The large majority of our folk are asleep, unaware that inside slumbers their true gods still present after a 1000 years of spiritual oppression. These gods once awoken provide a path to enlightenment, a purpose in this life that you were born on this earth to fulfill. The feeling of liberation and freedom that finding one's true self creates is something that I want our folk to experience! I know that there is a movement among our Folk, Wotan is marching and he is spreading like a

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in Vancouver BC and Portland oregon to remember the great Raud the Strong, and I had the pleasure of meeting Steven the Cheiftain of the Svartálfar tribe here in Portland. The stars were aligned and the Norns wove their web so that he would be present during our remembrance and strong bonds were made!. We had Rune meetings in Vancouver BC, and Moscow ID. The Svartálfar tribe had several gatherings in Kalamath including a Thorblot, and there was a blood moon blot to this mighty protector in Portland as well. The month of February brings forth more opportunities for us to gather in Frith and Troth in the Pacific NW. Let me know if you would like to create an event in your area and I will assist you in the best way I can. Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk! Hail the AFA! Joe Rozanek Jrozanek@runestone.org Apprentice Folkbuilder NW 02/1-3 Charming of the Plow, regional NW event Leavenworth, Or 02/04 Runic Study group 6:30pm-7:30pm Moscow, ID 02/09 Eyuind Kinnrifi Rememberance, Portland Or 02/09 Northwest Rune study group, vancouver BC- skype available 02/16 Son's of Ivaldi blot, Kalamath Or Svartálfar tribe . 02/18 Runic Study group 6:30pm-7:30pm Moscow, ID 02/23 Son's of Ivaldi blot, Kalamath Or Svartálfar tribe Svartálfar Tribe Growing up I always struggled with finding myself and where I belonged. Shaving down my metaphorical puzzle piece to fit in constantly didn't make it any easier either. The turning point for me was when I discovered that I had to forge my own path, break from the mold in a sense. It started with looking to the past, within my family's heritage. Simply put, I was curious as to the culture and traditions of my Scandinavian ancestors, of which no one seemed to know or speak of. I began to read whatever I could find on the subject matter that I found myself so deeply engrossed in. I kept on it until I inevitably found others of like mind. From the interactions with these like-minded individuals, we formed a brotherhood. We held true to our roots, and pushed eachother to be better every passing day. The bond of brotherhood is a strong and sacred thing, not easily broken. We keep this mentality in the community we have grown into today. As we continue to develop and do great things, I look back to our humble beginnings and see just how far we've travelled. I wake up every day proud of

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Hail the Svartalfár Tribe! -Mike Richardson Tribe Gothi

Let me know if you would like to create an event in your area and I will assist you in the best way I can.

Hail the Gods!

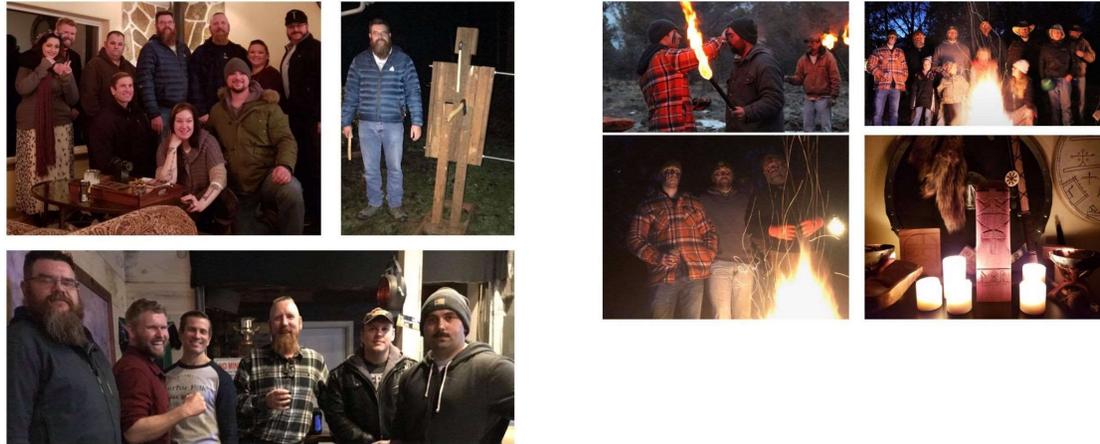
Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Joe Rozanek

Apprentice Folkbuilder

Jrozanek@runestone.org



West Regional Updates

Tru-Folk started the year sending off two of our kindred and AFA members, Angie and Randy. As sad as it is for us here, it is beautiful to see a young couple come together in the kindred and go off to raise their new family. We would like to wish them all the best

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We held the first bonfire of the year for our Thor Blot that was led by our very own Schuyler Palmer who is in the Gothar program. He led a very powerful blot that was much needed by all who showed up. Thinking it was going to be a small gathering due to people that have moved away or the few that couldn't make it we ended up having over 30 people, What a perfect way to start the year. Kevin Long has been making the sacrifice for our kindred blots for years now, and they deserve every part of the word sacrifice. There is a picture in the box below.

We have some big plans as a kindred for this upcoming year. Our kindred has grown and our members are all being involved in our gatherings and reaching out to people and making our kindred as great as it is. This is helping us to take our kindred to a new level. It is so important to have each person contribute to our group. It makes all the difference in our success. The beauty is each person has something unique to share. This is going to be a powerful year all around, just looking at all the pictures from around the world of all the events happening is motivating. Make sure you are doing all you can to help your local folk grow too.

A big Tru-Folk Happy Birthday to Gray Will And Bri Kuh

Upcoming events for Tru-Folk

Feb 2 (late) Charming of the Plow Felicita Park Escondido. 2:30 p.m.

Feb 17 Park moot Felicita Park Escondido 11:00 a.m.

Heather Clinkenbeard

Folkbuilder and Leader of the Tru-Folk kindred

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For those of us that live closer we have what we call "bring your own steak night". These dinners do each of us so much good. Those few nights a month we aren't eating alone and eating with folk, with likeminded people. Able to talk freely about the world we live in and just enjoy frith and kinship,

Good evening Folk.

As I sit down to write this I find myself still in gym clothes which I do very appropriate considering the topic; for while I lay no claim to being a Fitness Expert I do know a thing or two about fitness and it this and perseverance that I wish to share with you all.

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running into the first snags or walls of the plans we started

(myself included here).

Take for instance today.

I pushed through the traffic in the rain and showed up motivated to the gym ready for kickboxing at 6 pm only to find myself short my shin guards which are mandatory for training.

Just like that the wind was let out of my sails, I contemplated heading home or doing some light cardio and telling myself that would be enough for today.

But then it hit me that January came and went in a blur and that's been a reflection of how the years are these days.

Before you know it it will be 2020 and we'll be looking up at the same proverbial mountain we swore to ourselves we'd climb Last year.

So my encouragement to you is if you haven't started get a going!

Or if frustration is building remember consistency pays off but nothing worth having is earned quickly!!

Or if you're starting to run into difficulty or temptations

push on through to a new you!!!

Gray of Tru-Folk.

Coach of Team Hávamál 38.



Four Corners Regional Updates

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made to enjoy a weekend filled with Frith. With speaker Matt Flavel, and a lecture on "Folkishness and the Corner Stones of Asatru" by Jason Plourde, there was just as much enrichment available as there was fun and games! From pig roast to speeches, and even a game of hammerschlagen which was new to most, Thor Fest was a blast, and soon to be a staple tradition of the Four Corners region! A big thanks to Matt Flavel for leading our Wotan Blot, and Jason Plourde for stepping up to leading the Thor Blot during Thor Fest. Also a few words from Grayson Williamson who hosted the physical readiness, and kickboxing workshop at Thor Fest: "Off to the Colorado Mountains with the Asa Folk to celebrate and worship Thor!

To him of great strength, who's archetype encourages us to do More!

To him of Red Beard and to the Allfather mead did we pour!

From a Gothi Apprentice did we learn wisdom from the Lore.

Training did we too to honor the ancestors like times of olden war.

Through intuition of a homemade smoker we enjoyed delicious boar.

The songs of a Bard made our imaginations soar.

Vows were exchanged for a wedding and white the bride wore.

Horns were raised sending laughter to the rafters and tears to the floor.

Unfortunately back to everyday life and away from nature's beauty we would have to be tore.

But Frifth we shall share again for more adventures are In-store!!!!" - Grayson Williamson Honored are we to have moved a skald to a poem in hosting our first regional event in the four corners, and we look forward to seeing, even more of you

Jason Plourde
Folkbuilder



On January 26th 2019 at the Colorado Thor Fest Laura Lundberg & Erik Lugnet were married by Matt Flavel.



Northern Plains Regional Updates

The new year started out amazing as I was honored to attend two different Kindred's events. Was a busy month traveling around and visiting Wisconsin too. Big thank you to

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support Kvasirs Scholars Wotans wolves program.If you are interested in ordering the AFA Trihorn bookmarks and keychains please let me or Jessica Hanson know.The next run is starting up and we are taking names down for the waiting list.Our Study group had another productive time finishing up the Poetic Edda.Next month we are talking about Guido Von List and his life.And finished the month up with our monthly meet and greet.

If you are interested in attending a event

jgallagher@runestone.org

For AFA Kindred program questions etc

kindred@runestone.org

Hail those who Do!

Hail the Kindreds of the AFA!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Congratulations to Anna Mae Funk on graduating nursing school!

Upcoming Events

2/9 Third annual Folkish Family Charming of the Plow Bloomington,MN 4-7

2/23 Folkish Family Meet And Greet Pizza Ranch Albert Lea.MN 4-6

2/24 Monthly fundraiser crafting day 12-3

3/9 Folkish Family Monthly Meet And Greet Crooked Pint Alehouse Duluth,MN 4-6

3/16Third Annual Ostara Bloomington,MN 4-7

Jason Gallagher

Folkbuilder



South Central Regional Updates

Still reeling off of a wonderful and powerful Yule weekend, the Black Sun Tribe held its last Meet 'n Greet gathering with Clyde in attendance as a Texan. This was a special one indeed. On the 27th of January, the tribe held a personal and heart-warming meeting, opening our arms to all who would come and introduce themselves. We bid farewell to a true friend and brother. Some of us traveled from afar, some close... regardless, we had to have a proper send-off! As always the food was amazing. Thanks to all who contributed and especially Theresa, who never fails to kill it in the kitchen

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Tired and weary was our brother Jesse, fresh off of a long stint in the West Texas oil fields, but make the trip he did. We held an informal sumbl. The High Ones were toasted. Promises and oaths were made, strengthening our commitment to each other and continued activism in Texas and abroad. Bonds between Tru friends were strengthened and cherished.

The Black Sun Tribe is even more committed than ever to accelerating our progress and continuing to set an example that is befitting for our great AFA family and organization. The future is looking bright for us all.

HAIL THE GODS!

HAIL THE FOLK!

HAIL THE BLACK SUN TRIBE!

HAIL THE AFA!

Clyde Brown

Apprentice Folkbuilder



Central Corridor Regional Updates

I want to start out by giving a special shout out to a few of our region's members:

Duncan Edmister for making it out to his first AFA event and joining us at Yuletide. We are glad you made the 3.5 plus hour trip, And for bringing some fantastic mead, some gifts for the children and some volumes of Grimm's fairy tales and an original Snow

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Justin Harp for making it out to his 1st AFA event and joining us in southern MO for Yule, all the way up from AK. You took the bus when driving wasn't an option and we are so glad you did what you had to do to get here. Thank you for bringing the mead, and sharing your native language, Norwegian. With us. Especially during lore study! Now we know how those words and names are supposed to sound even if we don't sound the same saying them! Lol! We are very glad to know you and call you friend, and family for some as we find that we share some relatives.

Bill Tucker, thank you for making the 4-hour trip to spend some of the Yule seasons with us. And for your gift of fine bourbon! We really enjoyed getting to know you. It was your 1st big holiday event and we are so glad you made the effort and the time to be here!

James Newsham, you also made a 4 hr trip to be with us at Yule. You also took the leap of faith and came out not having met any of us yet. We appreciate you doing so as we really enjoyed getting to know you. Thank you for your donation and the mead. It was very much appreciated. We hope to see you again soon!

J.R. Wilson, this was your 1st Yule with us as an AFA member and we could not be prouder to have you join the ranks. Thank you for coming down and making that 3-hour drive. We appreciate you!

Faun Marie Evan's and Charles Evan's, for rounding up the gang, all 5 beautiful kids and joining us over an hour away to share the holiday! It was awesome of you and we look forward to seeing you all again!

These events that we put on here in Missouri, they are for us all to see each other. Grow friendships that turn into familial bonds, grow children up in the ways of their ancestors, and rooted in the faith of our Folk. To grow the loyalty, love, and devotion to

milestones we have in this life. I can not imagine a life without my Folk. I can not imagine where I would be today had I not driven almost 5 hours to my first event. I would not want to imagine that my daughter would not know the love and support of our Kindred family and the sense of belonging that comes with it.

Because I made the leap of faith those years ago, my life is amazing! It's full of purpose, there are bonds and connections that I can not imagine living without today. There is knowledge gained from those I have met along the path most of whom I am proud to call friend and kin. There is a community that has come together that if each one had not made that same choice to leave the comfort of what and who they knew, that they would not have found what we have now.

In the new year, I challenge you all, if you have not made it a priority to go to an event. Do so.

If you have travel restrictions, host one.

If you need help to set them up, ideas on what to do, etc, call me. Reach out and I will do everything I can to help and connect you to others who will be happy to do the same.

We are not like Christian's, we don't have a church on every block. If you want a community, you are going to have to put some time and effort into finding and building one. But I promise you the rewards will be well worth the effort.

Make this your year of action.

Because we can not grow by staying where we are, doing the same things. Much how flowers must be repotted in order to keep growing and to stop their root system from dying in a space too small to contain them.

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grow.

Will you accept the challenge and grow with us this year? My hope for you is that you will and that your life and the legacy you leave behind will be all the richer for it.

We will be hosting in Missouri this year for

Frey Feast

Midsummer

Winter Nights

And our annual and what has become for us here in the Ozarks, our most beloved event, Feast of the Einherjar.

We also have Lore studies Starting up in February that will be available on a video call with interactive capabilities.

And various meetups throughout the year.

Please join us on the AFA Central Corridor group page, and

The Central Corridor Asatru Folk Events and news page

To stay current on what is happening in the area.

Winter is almost over and spring is on the way, stay warm, stay safe and a very happy new year to all of you, from all of us in the heart of the country!

Melisa Mills

Apprentice Folkbuilder





Midwest Regional Updates

This month Heimdalls Midgard Kindred met up at the Overlook Restaurant where we had Sumbel: first round in honor of Thor, the second round in honor of Raud the Strong and the last round in honor of our ancestors and the awakening of their ways in our lives and deeds.

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these nine points and how we are and should be part of making these things happen since we are the face and voice of the AFA in our area.

I have mentioned before that we have weekly conference calls where we usually cover chapters of a book of importance, these have been True Hearth by James Allen Chisholm (Asatru in the home) and A Book of Troth by Edred Thorsson (the fundamentals of Asatru). We will now be moving on to the AFAs declaration of purpose, law of the hall and code of ethics and how it is our aim and duty as a kindred of the AFA to keep these at heart and do our part to help achieve these aims.

Being our first meeting since Yule and the start of a new year, the above set the scene for our kindred; to understand and proclaim why we chose the AFA, why we still choose the AFA and why we exist as a kindred to help achieve the goals of the AFA.

Beyond this is the uniting of the established Kindreds of the Midwest and seeking to unite members without a kindred in the Midwest. We have set up a number of regional events to unite the area beginning with Ostara in the Midwest, April 12-14 at Tippecanoe River State Park, an continue with a Midsummer and Fallfest.

Tippecanoe River State Park
4200 N US Highway 34

Winamac, IN 46996

With uniting the folk scattered about, I will be setting smaller events in areas that focus on central and northern Indiana and central and southern Illinois. There will also be visits to Kentucky. More on all of this in the months to come. And if you are in these areas mentioned above please contact me so we can begin to make plans.

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Zach Cato

Heimdalls Midgard Kindred

HeimdallsMidgardKindred@gmail.com

HAIL the GODS!

HAIL the FOLK!

HAIL the AFA!

Deep South Regional Updates

February 16 at 11 am

Meet us for a Charming of the Plow moot in Crystal River, FL.

A meet and greeting followed by a blot to Gather.

Come and prepare our fields for seeding. Plant the seeds for the upcoming year. Metaphorically and spiritually speaking and well as conducting the physical activity we will plant life, and give back to Mother Earth. What you harvest in the future depends on what you plant today.

There will food drink and music. This will be a casual and informal family event.

We will have one hel of a Folkish time.

Feb 16 11 am Crystal River, FL.

rviola@runestone.org

Ralph Voila

Apprentice Folkbuilder

Upper South Regional Updates

We're excited to announce that "Ostara in the South 2019" event sign up is now open, just click on the eventzilla link below. The event will start at 11 am Friday, March 22nd and end at 10 am Sunday, March 24th in the beautiful North Carolina Piedmont. This will be the premier event in the Southeast region and will set the tone for the year. Your sign up fee will cover great food, warm lodging, lectures, entertainment, crafts, and children under 17 get in Free. We've got some great speakers like AFA Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel and best selling book author Bryan Wilton. We'll also have local Folk Builders giving workshops and Apprentice Gythia Ms. Catie Reid will be giving a women's workshop on Frith. We'll be having painting and Easter egg hunt for the kids, not to mention ax throwing and archery for the adults. It's sure to be an awesome time with many surprises. If you have any questions or suggestions please reach out to Will Hester, Svan Herul, James Dover, Ralph Viola, or Trent East and we'll be glad to help you. For those who'd like to secure a place at the event and pay once they get there, you have the option of paying a \$50 deposit. We are expecting at least 100 people at this years Ostara so it could get tight. Do know, It will be a phenomenal event, get ready to be blown away. We are putting our heart and soul into it. Remember the first 10 to sign up will be selected as judges in our Mead Competition. 

<https://events.eventzilla.net/e/ostara-in-the-south-2019-2138729576>

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Asatru Folk Assembly's 4th Annual
OSTARA
 IN THE SOUTH 2019

MARCH 22ND-24TH **NORTH CAROLINA**

- FRITH
- MEAD
- COMPETITION
- AUCTION
- 50/50 RAFFLE
- VENDORS
- LIVE MUSIC
- KIDS CRAFTS
- GREAT FOOD
- WARM CABINS
- MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKERS
- AMAZING RITUALS
- GALDR CLASSES
- BEST SELLING BOOK AUTHORS
- WORK SHOPS
- MEET LEADERSHIP
- NIGHTLY BONFIRES

FIND A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO CHALLENGE AND INSPIRE YOU. SPEND SOME TIME WITH THEM AND IT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

The Sandhills Kindred will be holding our annual "Charming of the Plow" on February 9th from 1 pm till 7 pm. This will also coincide with the "Odin World Prayer Day," which is on the 9th of each month. We'll be holding a Blot to Frey and a Sumbel to

bring a side and your choice of beverage. This will be a kid-friendly event. We invite you to come out and share in frith with others who are making a difference in our thriving community. Contact Will Hester for more information. Hail the Folk 🌿



On Saturday January 20th gathered for a study group that will be picking up the torch for the Rigschule project, a structured educational program. This group is eager to take the idea and run with it. The structure is loosely based on the tripartite caste system theory of Georges Dumézil. Each meeting is divided in to three sections. The first section will focus on lore, spirituality, history, and religion. The second section will focus on physical health and fitness. The third section will focus on practical life skills.

On February 16th we will be celebrating Charming of the Plow in Walhalla SC, and we look forward to seeing all who can attend.

Apprentice Folkbuilder



Lansdale Tru Folk is pleased to announce our 2019 ritual schedule open to all AFA members.

Thorrablot, Saturday Feb 23 (Thor)

Ostara, Sunday March 31 (Ostara)

Sumarsdag, Saturday May 4 (Odin)

Freyfaxi, Sunday August 11 (Frey)

Harvest, Saturday Sept 21 (Sif)

Feast of the Einherjar, Sunday Nov 10 (Einherjar)

Yule, Saturday Dec 28 (Ancestors)



These aren't all we will be up to, but are among the most important. Please also look for more moot as the year progresses.

Clifford Erickson

Folkbuilder

Scandinavia Regional Updates

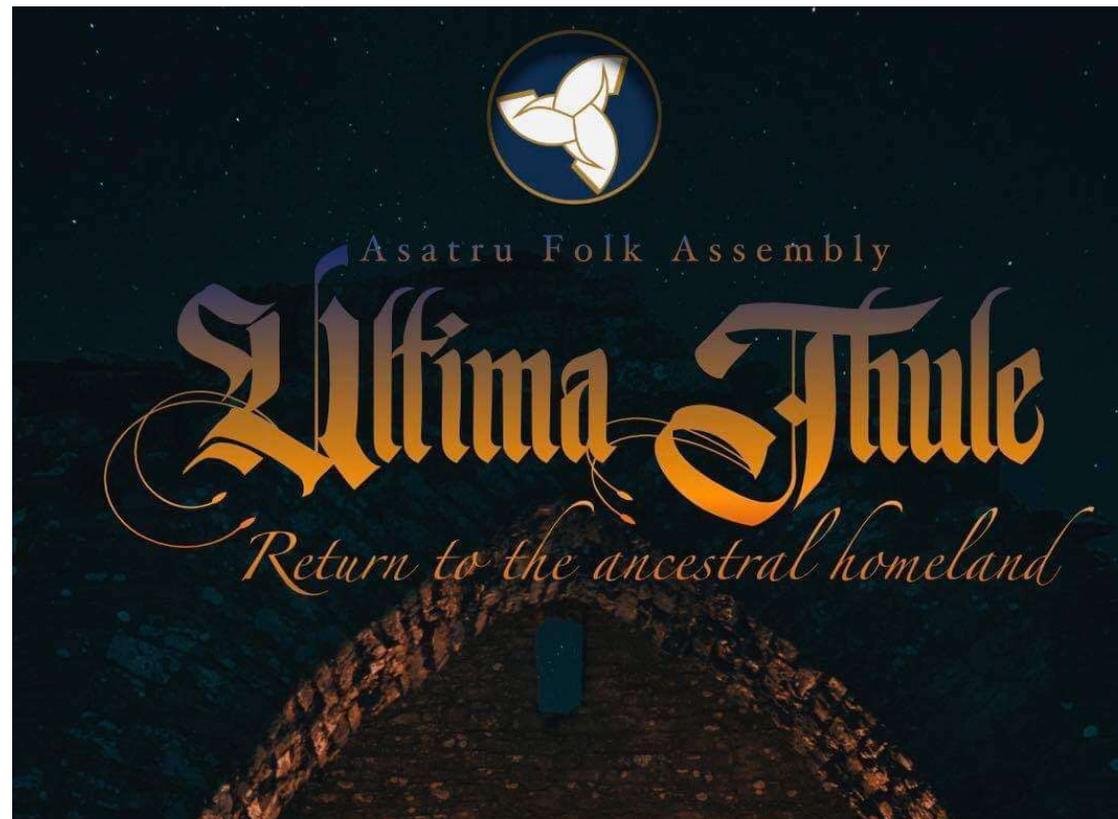
Europe/Scandinavia Finally the initial planning stages is over and the date and tickets have been confirmed on the 22 of June Scandinavia is going to be the place you want to travel to. Scandinavia is going to be visited by our American friends for a full eight days. I'm so excited and glad that things worked out so well but what I'm most excited about is guiding them through all of our ancient holy places and get them to meet all of our members. Friday 24 to Sunday 26 we are hosting the main event open for all of our

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come later. The trip will cover a lot of ground first a guided tour in Oslo and the Vikingskiphuset and then to Sweden to see the world heritage site with all the Bronze Age rock carvings in Tanumshede on the way to the main ritual we are Abel to visit a lot of the prehistoric sites on the west coast after the weekend we travel further north and finally to Stockholm and all the fantastic sites there. As you can see this week is going to be hectic and packed with exciting things I really encourage all that can to join in on this not only our European members but also international members are more than welcome. Contact me on anilsson@runestone.org

Anders Nilsson

Apprentice Folkbuilder



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Welcome to Sweden!
May 24th - 26th 2019

Gather together to celebrate the arrival of spring
with Blot, Lectures and Workshops
in the ancestral homeland of Sweden

Gothi Bryan Wilton



IX. Then said Gangleri: "Much indeed they had accomplished then, methinks, when earth and heaven were made, and the sun and the constellations of heaven were fixed, and division was made of days; now whence come the men that people the world?" And Hárr answered: 'When the sons of Borr were walking along the sea-strand, they found two trees, and took up the trees and shaped men of them: the first gave them spirit and life; the second, wit and feeling; the third, form, speech, hearing, and sight. They gave them clothing and names: the male was called Askr, and the female Embla, and of them was mankind begotten, which received a dwelling-place under Midgard.

This one paragraph has more information in it than you might expect. But one must couple it with the Voluspa for a more complete understanding of what we are going to outline here.

empty of might.

18. Soul they had not, | sense they had not, Heat nor motion, | nor goodly hue; Soul gave Othin, | sense gave Hönir, Heat gave Lothur | and goodly hue.

When we talk about any origin mythology, the first temptation is to think it was just something that happened a long time ago. Something which is so far back in the distant past that it has no effect on who and what we are today. The wording is ancient and perhaps full of riddles or references to concepts which we no longer value. These two paragraphs from the Voluspa and the one from the Gylfaginning are no exception. We enjoy them from the standpoint of faith and enjoy a certain sense of gratitude towards the mighty three from the throng.

In a stand alone setting there seems to be no rhyme or reason as to why these three shapers and harnesser of energy might venture forth. They step out to inspect their creation so to speak. They meander along the barrier of sea and land in leisurely stroll it would appear. But we know that they are in fact still very much working in their efforts to manipulate energy into something their

minds will make sense of. Beauty as they understand it. Something far beyond an uninspired minds ability to comprehend.

Even as we address the notion of the gifts themselves, we find an amazing overlay of the gifts and the actual structures of the brain. It is an amazing organ which controls the functions of the body, it interprets the sensory input of the outside world and it embodies the essence of the mind, spirit and soul. the first gave them spirit and life; the second, wit and feeling; the third, form, speech, hearing, and sight. The three gifts and the three structures of the brain align in some fantastic ways. Perhaps it was a coincidence perhaps not. There are plenty of mummified and ancient skulls which show evidence of brain surgery and healing. When you further break it down into the various

How would you go about exploring an almost limitless abundance of shape and form, of light and dark, of action and stillness? For people today, we simply click on any number of websites to view the great things at the far reaches of our world and our imagination. The works of art from the greatest most inspired minds are simply a click away. The most majestic works of the forces operating in this world are visible to anyone with a Television. Awe inspiring wonders of the natural world, majestic temples of the ancient world, great savannahs, jungles and high mountain peaks covered with verdant forest so vast we cannot easily grasp the amount of life contained within them. Trees so old and so tall we cannot imagine anything being so grand.

For the inhabitants of the ancient world, they went on a journey. Grand adventures across the seas, or on horseback. Life and death were very real and experienced through all of the senses. How could one possibly experience it all? The origin of the myth of the Christ has its roots in this very question. But it was consolidated to one man so that everyone might focus their attention and their energy into one location. And man began to look outward toward a central point instead of inward and his relation to the world. We became lost within our own minds. Blind as it were, to what it was we were supposed to be experiencing. Not as beings experiencing the world through our senses, but something intended to be much more magnificent. The harvesting of those ensuing doubts and the resources we would willingly expend to rid ourselves of

these doubts has gone on for thousands of years. But this was not the original intended purpose.

For Odin, Vili and Ve, there was the understanding that the energy that they had modified and harnessed would also change in the same way that they themselves had changed their environment. So gifts were given to beings they either made or blessed, depending upon whom you ask, so that they might have a conduit for unlimited viewing of every experience. And it spread. Two became many millions in the abundance of the

emotions in a billion different situations every instant of every day. What would it mean to Asatru if we began to realize that those gifts of the far distant shores along the ancient sea of time are ours to enjoy today? Readily accessible as conduits to the divine.

How would Odin deal with this diversion? Perhaps he would sacrifice an eye to see a part of what we had been seeing so lost in our thoughts. While we were content to experience the world vicariously through the actions of others. What might it look like in a story to warn of us of becoming lost? Who would take from us the joy of being that conduit with the divine, sharing experience and shaping with divine energy the course of our own lives? Why, it might look like the uninspired human intellect encouraging the blind man to rob the world of that most promising example of what man might become.

Every single time a baby enters this world. This new bundle of joy, life and unbridled energy they are in receipt of those wonderful gifts. It is our actions which hinder them. It is the teachings of blind men listening to the whispers of another that blot out the sun in the lives of these most precious of gifts. Sometimes it originates from their own parents. Teaching them the ways of the world as they understand them. Never once attempting to raise their heads to reach for the stars and something more. Are they not born with “the first gave them spirit and life; the second, wit and feeling; the third, form, speech, hearing, and sight” so that they might navigate the world? How come we don't all end up in the same place? How do so many become so lost in their own head when everything about them is designed to be the perfect vehicle with which to roam this world?

Point of fact is that we do all end up in the same place. That great North/ South doorway of death herself. In ancient times when the ship barrows were

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the sides, it was separated from front to back. The front or south half was beautiful warm, sun facing goddess welcoming all to the next stage of the journey. The back half of her was the dark, mysterious, decaying matter which produced more life. Energy changes, it is never destroyed. The complex processes of cellular utilization of energy stops to become food for another complex organism or to become heat in a home where another organism absorbed it. It did not go away, it simply changed into something so wildly different the organism could not even comprehend what that might be.

But humans have another little trick to help with that. Some call it intuition. Others call it second sight or a bad feeling. Others refer to it as hope or love. The complex state of emotions as oriented around the sensory input of the situation we may be in is as complex a state of being as anything a baby might ever begin to understand. Faith and divine guidance have always been relied upon to help with that. But, now, again, science has helped to shed some light on that.

We might begin by asking where does inspiration come from? Well part of it are those gifts we enjoy when we come into this world. Part of it is that our minds are tuned to experience things other than what our senses tell us is going on.

In Oct of 1997 a team of researchers began to notice something unique about our brains. Namely that certain cells remained in action despite the fact that there was seemingly no sensory input. It suggested a completely new theory concerning the processes of the brain.

For most of scientific history we have logically concluded that the brain and our understanding of the world we live in is largely deduced from a constant stream of input. It has been a foregone conclusion that it is our senses which drive our thought process. What we see, feel, taste, touch and smell are how we define the world around us. Never mind that we are not all going to interpret it all the same way. When you leave a room and someone else enters it, they may not even see the same color. They

know it is wet? It is so pronounced and such a large part of our lives today that there are entire branches of science

dedicated to how the various forms of media may most effectively program our brains. It is a passive model of the brain. That they operate on what goes in. The automatic processes of living are part of an older structure in our brain. The autopilot so to speak.

But we've never truly had an inkling as to how this really works. In Oct of 1997 a team of scientists produced an article which pointed out that there is a certain set of neurons which rotate continuously in the brains of monkeys. So they began to study rats as well. The whiskers of a rat will help it feel its way around. Sending sensory input back to the brain. But it also sends a signal in the exact same manner an FM signal is utilized. They noticed that these neurons would oscillate at a frequency of about 10 hertz. Whenever these whiskers would touch something, the frequency would change. A waveform of energy would travel through the brain and all of its pathways to provide a clear picture of just what the rat was dealing with.

This research was followed up by scientists at the Radboud University in Nimegen. These researchers actually illustrated the manner in which these brain cells "lit up" or tuned in to other parts of the brain along a set of frequencies from 35 hertz to 60 hertz. 35 hertz was the corresponding frequency for navigating a maze from memory while a higher frequency, 60 hertz was used when utilizing landmarks. The brain was actually tuning in to frequency to help it understand the world around it.

Our feelings, our emotional states or lack of them, produce the same kind of results in the brain with no sensory input. A different frequency. What about those great spiritual "ah-ha" moments we have all experienced? Where does that frequency originate? Some would tell you and I will too that it is a spiritual connection which activates a set of neurons in our brains in exactly the same way. And we perceive our world as a rosy,

In telling you all of that, my hope is that you might begin to see that we are in receipt of those old, original gifts right here and right now. To avail ourselves of what that means, we find a clue in science to suggest that our brains may well still be specifically designed to interpret wave lengths of energy.

What if we are capable of tuning in to a spiritual frequency as well? It would seem that our brains are more than capable of doing so. Our ancestors placed much stock in the validity of dreams. Where else would these fantastic thoughts originate? Where exactly do your spiritual thoughts originate? What do they sound like? Have you ever thought about them before? What was the triggers which tied two things together so that you obtain a clearer picture? Or a much more tainted one?

The possibility in all of this is that we might have access to a much larger inventory of tools to handle life than we previously imagined. Faith is a state of mind. If we tune ours to the proper coordinates who knows where we might end up. I suspect it will be much further along the path than we currently are. Is it really possible that all we need to do is pay attention to our own intuition? It most likely is just as simple as that. Enough people have done so that this faith of Asatru has re-emerged on this planet at a time when it is sorely needed.

There is another way to begin to understand this tale. It is one where mankind follows the example of the gods and our ancient ancestors. The first thing a culture did when it settled into an area was to incorporate itself into the world around it. Not to conquer it as we do today. But to become a part of it. To be incorporated into the very environment in a manner that they would thrive. We have examples today of animals which have done exactly that.

Their brains are more developed than ours by many multiples of magnitudes. They have developed to be perfectly at ease enjoying the abundance of the seas without the

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world to us we can hardly understand what that comparison might mean. But if humans had continued to do the same thing, our world would be a much better place. Today we have technologies which will allow us to do just such a thing.

At what point do we learn this lesson from the divine and the example of the creatures we share this world with? Excerpt from “Blind in One Eye” <https://amzn.to/2T1uSk5>

South Africa

The plight of the South African Whites continues. In my opinion, the situation in South Africa is the thin edge of the knife for European people around the world. Marxism and anti-European hate are an existential threat to our Folk. What we do now will define our future.



"We are cutting the throat of whiteness."
Joseph Malema, South African Politician

What started out as a challenge put out to the members of my region (Australia, New Zealand and South Africa) has now turned into a fully fledged fundraising campaign supported by the Asatru Folk Assembly.



Over the last few months the AFA has raised a tremendous amount of funds for the

"Thank you so much for your kindness and the fact that you are willing to share our plight in your country. We truly need all the help we can get. We live without electricity and try to be self-sufficient but it is not easy. Winter is upon us and we are not coping to feed the masses. We are positive and pray every day. Hard work and giving to families in need is our passion and we will continue to do so."

Granted, most of the folks we are helping are not Asatruar, but they are still our Folk and I am taking a personal interest in ensuring that we do what we can to assist them. What I find most inspiring is that the South African Folk, despite the hardships they are facing, keep moving forward and making the best of the situation they are in.



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Now!

\$20.00
USD

Make this a monthly donation [?](#)

South Africa

[Donate Now](#)

Personally, I am committing to \$20 for the next 12 months. If we all do that the Folk in need will get an ongoing, predictable stream of funds.

Where does the money go? Initially, the money will be held by AFA Folk Services. Every month the AFA will make a donation to one or more charities in South Africa. Currently, there are two that we are considering.

1. [The South African Family Relief Project](#) - The SAFRP works on a daily basis to assist people in need.
2. [Suidlanders](#) - The Suidlanders are preparing for the potential of a future emergency (genocide/civil war)

AFA Military Program Update by Kevin Long



ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

We will be making a private group on Facebook for our military members. If you would like to be added, please send us an email or a message on Facebook and you will be added. This forum will be the place for our military members; active, veteran, or reserved can start networking. We want to see more growth as a program, and this will only happen with a combined effort from our members. For Folkbuilders, if you could pass this information on to your regional folk that might not read the Voice, that would be greatly appreciated, and thank you in advance!!

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garrison, or stationed abroad.

We are trying to compile a list of each military member and their locations so we can send out care packages through the holiday seasons, quarterly, ensure your religious needs are being met etc. That being said, if you know of any of our members and their status, being they don't have service and what not, send us their mailing address and we will get some items send out.

Also if you or anyone of our members who are veterans, active, retired, or about to transition from the service and are having a hard time finding a new career path or just need other vets to talk too, let us know as well and we can try networking and/or lend an ear for you or the individual.

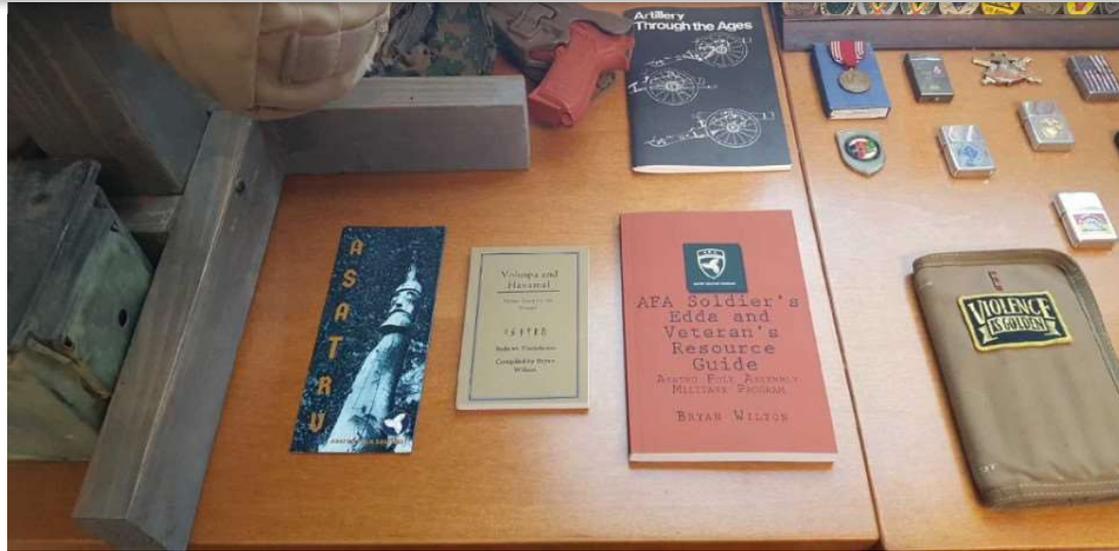
Thank you,
Kevin Long,

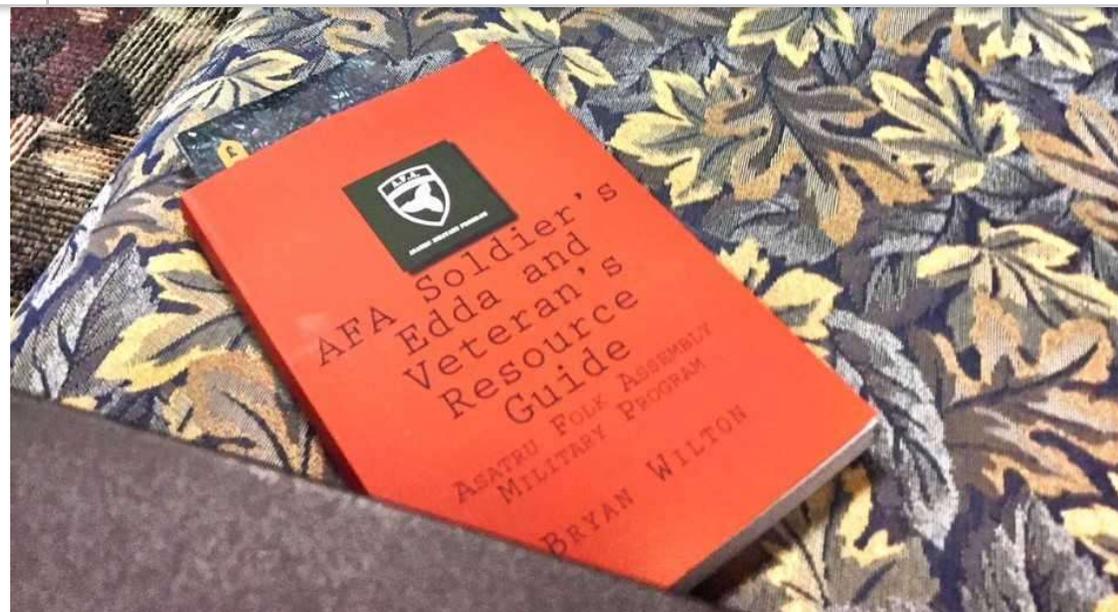
AFA Military Program Coordinator

klong@runestone.org

Or

military@runestone.org



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AFA Store

RUNESTONE GIFTS: AFA Member Discount

AFA members save 5% on any order at checkout. Use promo code PXLKVV8 at <http://www.runestonegifts.com/>.

SHOP AMAZON and SUPPORT THE AFA

Support the AFA by shopping Amazon through our Amazon affiliate link! The AFA gets a small percentage of every Amazon sale made by starting your search from [this link](#). Bookmark the link for future shopping!

8-ounce, 50/50 cotton/poly Double-needle stitching at waistband and cuffs Unlined hood with dyed-to-match drawcord Metal zipper 1x1 rib knit cuffs and waistband with spandex Front pouch pockets.



Call for Photo Donations

We have a real need for hi-res photographs of our members gathering, being active in their kindreds, and showing what it means to live Asatru. If you are willing to donate some hi-res photos for use in promotions such as the AFA Calendar, the AFA website, and so on please email them to photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the

Folk Services

For some it may be a natural disaster. For others an unexpected change in health, and for some just an unforeseen chain of events. Whatever the case may be sometimes we find ourselves in a sticky situation, and although we try and to work and do our best to pull ourselves out, sometimes we may need the help of our Folk community to give us a hand up...

That's when our folks Services Program comes in. We give one-time monetary grants to those members in need. These folks are so grateful and we know that once they get back on track they will contribute to this fund. For those that are able, we are in need of funds so we can be prepared for when these situations arise in our community. If you're able please place a donation today. Even a small donation adds up in the grand scheme of things and even \$5 or \$10 can help if enough people pitch in. If even a fraction of the folks who like the page did that each month, imagine the possibilities!

[AFA Folk Services](#) is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to Asatru Folk Assembly (AFA) members in dire need of basic services. It is also to be a source for referrals and information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide. For more information, send a private message to the [Folk Services page on Facebook](#).

Your contributions are earnestly solicited and of course are tax-deductible!

Thanks in advance!

Wotan's Wolves Youth Program by Cole Distel

The Wotan's Wolves Youth Program is a one of a kind program where Asatru youth can learn of the Gods and their culture in a fun and interactive environment. Each Wolf has the ability to earn different rewards based on a point system. Points are awarded per assignments(which may range from a reading assignment to crafts).

This program is headed by Cole and Tiffany Distel. Ever changing and evolving the Wotan's Wolves is growing into the dream that the Distel's envisioned for the youth. The Wotan's Wolves look forward to the 2019 year and all the new adventures and new youth we will meet. So if you have not enrolled your child yet stop by the Facebook page or contact Tiffany Distel to join this completely FREE program.

We also provide our Wolves with an award system based on point earnings. After achieving so many points they will receive the corresponding prize. Your child will join the ranks of youth getting a jump-start on learning our ways and beliefs while having a blast at the same time. The best part about this program is that it is 100% FREE all we ask is for your time and dedication. Thanks for all the support and we hope to enroll your children soon.

If you are interested in enrolling your child please contact us on Facebook or personally.

Director

Cole Distel- distec11@gmail.com

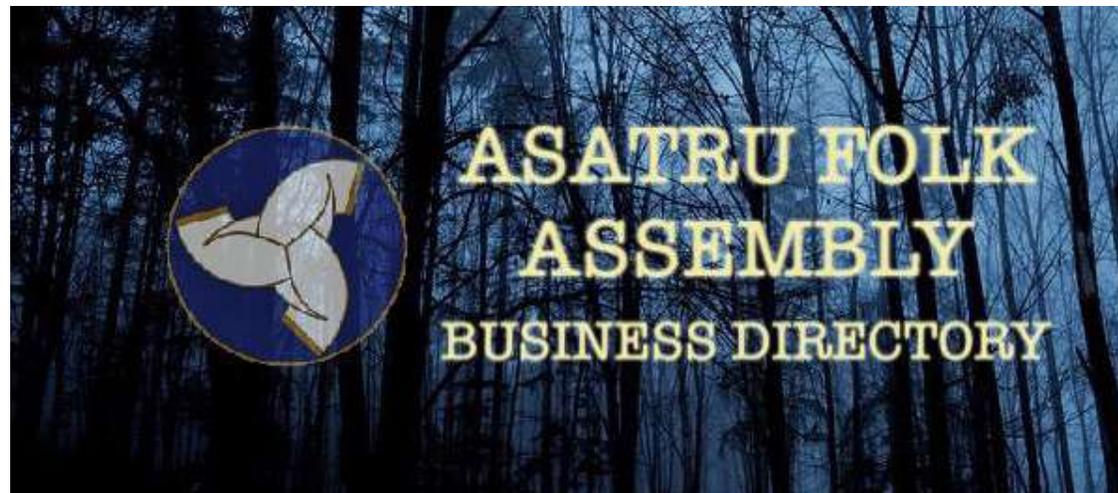


Thanks to the generosity of many of our home brewers, mead is abundant at our events. Mead is a fairly easy brew to make, and can be as simple or as complex as you want it to be. In the past, it was mostly women who were in charge of making mead, but these days people from both sexes enjoy the craft.

Are you interested in learning how to make your own mead? We invite you to join our AFA Mead Maker's group on Facebook. We have folk from rank beginners to people who have been making mead for decades, so there's lots of people to learn from. To join please notify your Folkbuilder and we'll get you added to the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AFAMeadMakers>

Folkish Business Directory



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Send us your contact info (website, business type, etc.) and we will add you to our AFA Business and Crafter's newsletter that will be coming soon! This is our chance to promote and support Folkish businesses so we can help each other flourish and grow. Community starts with working together and working in each other's interests. Lets make it happen!

Please send your info to: coverton@runestone.org with the subject "AFA Business Directory".

Baby Blanket Project

The Baby Blanket project is rapidly approaching it's first year mark, and it has been a ROUSING success! The Ladies of the AFA have knitted, crocheted, and sewn beautiful baby blankets for over 20 of our littlest folk, with more on the way. They've been delivered everywhere from Alaska to Florida, California to Sweden!

If you are a member of the AFA and are expecting a baby, please let your Folk Builder know so we can get a blanket to you. If you would like to contribute, either financially or volunteer as a baby blanket crafter, let your folk builder know about that as well, too, and he'll get you in touch with the right people. It's so rewarding to see your handcraft being loved by our little heathens!





The [Women of the AFA](#) are proud to be continuing this fine and noble work we call the Baby Blanket Project! We're committed to ensuring all new babies born within the AFA are gifted a hand made - knit, crocheted, or woven - baby blanket! It's just our little way of celebrating our new folk!

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line: BABY BLANKET.

The RUnepebble next issue is in March. We would love to have your children and the children of your kindred draw pictures, write articles or stories for our publication. Please help us make the Runepebble just as awesome as the voice. The children need it !! Please send anything to heathor@runestone.org Thank you!

Photography & Art for 2020 Calendar

We are compiling art and photography for a 2020 calendar. The 2019 AFA Calendar will have the Holy Days for 2020 and other events, and feature art and photography from different members. We'd like to have each month feature photography from AFA events that occurred in 2018 and will occur in 2019.



If anyone has an eye for the camera and enjoys taking pictures at these events please submit your work. The work may be useful for more than just the calendar. An example may be as follows:

A photo from a Midsummer event, such as a pic from Blót, Sumbel, or nice picture of the sun, nature and folk may be a perfect picture for the month of June.

There is a lot of room to work with here.

Have fun and please send submissions to photos@runestone.org

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Remembrance Days

January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 20	Thorrablot
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 17	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olivir of Egg
March 20	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 30	Hexennacht
May 1	May Day
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric
June 21	Midsummer
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rudd Mills
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 18	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Herman of the Cherusci
September 23	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Guido von List
October 20	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigrith of Sweden
November 11	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egil Skallagrimson
December 20-31	Yuletide

Volunteer for the AFA

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