

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly



Your input is needed to make *The Runestone* a publication filled with events, photos and news. Please feel free to submit any events, news or photos (plain text with attachments) to therunestone@runestone.org.

[Donate to the AFA](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)



[Email](#)

WORDS FROM THE ALSHERJARGOTHI

Big thanks to everyone who was involved in making Midsummer at Óðinshof a massive success! Thank you to Sean Saindon and the Viking Brotherhood for making everything run like clock work. Thank you to Jessica Roesner for running the kitchen and slaving away so we could all have a great time.... and for making some of the best meatloaf I have ever had. And thank you to all our AFA family who came from near and far to make this such an amazing event!

I always feel super charged after Midsummer but this year I feel more energized than ever! We have huge things to accomplish in the next year and I am committed to hitting the ground running! This year the AFA will continue our focus on Immortality, the symbol that will guide us for this year is Othala. The Anglo-Saxon Rune Poem tells us of Othala:

“An estate is very dear to every man, if he can enjoy there in his house whatever is right and proper in constant prosperity.”

establishing physical houses of worship, sacred spaces of our own here in Midgard. Also, we will focus on building up a solid faith community as a refuge from the Wolf Age. We will focus on making the AFA, our church, an outpost of the Golden Age here in Midgard, where our folk can call home and feel comfort doing “whatever is right and proper in constant prosperity”. By Midsummer 2020, we WILL have our second hof. By Midsummer 2020, we WILL have a place to inter the ashes of our dead. This will require help from all of you and I know that help will be there. Great things are in store, we will build a ladder to Immortality by stacking success upon success.

As always I highly encourage everyone reading this to make it out to an AFA event, it will change your life. Next up is Fallfest in Minnesota, if you can make it out we would love to see you there.

Matthew D. Flavel
Alsherjargothi,
Asatru Folk Assembly



KINDRED SPOTLIGHT

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

In this month's Kindred spotlight the Asatru Folk Assembly would like to honour Der Volkstamm Auf dem Nordliche Bar Kindred of Alaska. They were one of the first Kindreds to gain AFA affiliation and remain very active to this day hosting events for the Holy days and meetups and hikes. Our very own Alsherjargothi came from this Kindred, from this far north state. The AFA thanks you for everything you do and for being a beacon home for our people.

Hail the Der Volkstamm Auf dem Nordliche Bar!
Hail the Kindreds of the AFA!
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Jason Gallagher
Kindred Coordinator
Asatru Folk Assembly
kindred@runestone.org



GOTHAR UPDATE

by Gothar Coordinator Blaine Qualls



This past weekend during Midsummer at Óðinshof, Kevin Long of San Diego, California was ordained as the AFA's newest Gothi. This is the culmination of years of study and determination.

The Asatru Folk Assembly is proud of Kevin and we are excited for the Folk to have a new spiritual leader. Hail Gothi Kevin Long!

by Folkbuilder Coordinator Marc MacLeod

It's been another busy month! First I'd like to welcome our newest Apprentice Folkbuilders! Steve Ingle (West), Christo Le Roux (South Africa), Josh Williams (Upper South), Rob Stamm (Upper South), Jessica Lambert (Midwest), and Zach Cato (Midwest) are our newest additions to the team.

Steve is from the Bay Area of Northern California and a member of the Asmegir Kindred. He runs the AFA Genealogy page and has been running the East Bay Meet up for a few years.

Christo Le Roux is from Cape Town, South Africa and a member of Volkswachstum Kindred. With Christo's and our other members there we know have a direct line to provide aid to the camps there and no longer have to send money to other groups.

Josh Williams is a member of the Sandhills Kindred, lives on the South Carolina / North Carolina border and will be Folkbuilding for the Upper South.

Rob Stamm has shown great enthusiasm and commitment to our faith and the AFA. He lives in Virginia and will be organizing in the upper portion of that region.

Jessica Lambert is in Ohio and has already been helping to get events off the ground there. If you're in that region, I'm sure you will hear from her. Her energy is infectious.

Zach Cato is a member of Heimdalls Midgard Kindred in Indiana. He is another active member in the region and has hit the ground running.

The AFA is on a growth spree and its hard to keep up. These guys and gals have really been stepping up to help accommodate that growth. Folkbuilders get a lot of work piled on them with very little in return. I'm very proud of this newest group of Apprentices and am looking forward to the results of all their hard work.

Last but not least, a big congratulations goes out to Joe Rozanek of the Northwest Region. One of the many highlights that made this Midsummer special for me was being able to give Joe his Folkbuilder Oath and be part of the ceremony for Kevin Long's Gothi Oath. Both of these gentlemen make me proud and have become friends to me. Joe has been representing us in the Northwest for the last year and his consistent effort and steady hand up there is really starting to reap rewards. I'm looking forward to seeing what he can do now that he has some momentum. Congratulations to you both.



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Óðinshof

Midsummer at Óðinshof

Where to begin? After months of planning, and seemingly endless messages and emails, members volunteering their free time and weekends to prepare, it was here. Midsummer 2019. For myself, Midsummer has a special place in my heart. It was after

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

best to ensure that those who attend, get that same experience, and bring home the same feelings of frith, friendship, and leave us charged full of spiritual energy. I think we succeeded! Leadership began to show up on the Thursday before the event was scheduled. Running about, prepping meals, cleaning up any last minute items, and basically making sure we had everything well in place. It also gives us Folkbuilders and Gothar some time to enjoy each others company, as we end up working to keep things on schedule during the event. With the night's work complete, it was off to an early bed for many of us. The main event kicks off in the morning!

Friday found us up early, and right back to work. Opening up the Hof, setting up tables, welcoming the arriving members, and preparing for the opening ritual, where we called upon our Gods, Goddesses, Ancestors, and the holy spirits of the land, to be with us during the weekend. From start, to finish, we wanted our holy powers to witness and join us as we added our deeds and words into Urd's Well. Kevin Long led us all in our greeting to the Gods. Standing in our newly expanded ritual circle, we called out their names, and gave them our gifts. Lunch followed the opening ritual, which for some of our weary travellers, was a welcome respite. Sean Saindon of the Viking Brotherhood gave a talk on physical fitness, and how we can better ourselves physically. Many of our members are absolutely inspiring in this regard, and it truly is a fantastic thing to see. Some of our attending members provided their own experiences and wisdom in regards to our physical betterment, and ways we can approach it.

Both Heather Clinkenbeard and Sean also gave a talk on Asatru Parenting. Our organization is growing by leaps and bounds, and in large part, it's families who are coming in and helping us grow! What is it like to raise a child in our Folk Faith? Trials, tribulations, successes and learning situations were all discussed. Even my own growing family is experiencing these things. Knowing that we have other families and people to pull wisdom from in these moments is an absolute boon to our Folk

Dinner followed our discussion, and we all enjoyed a hearty meal thanks to the hard work of Jessica Rose and her kitchen crew volunteers. While we were all still within the Hall, we were treated to a presentation from our leadership who recently returned from the AFA's first INTERNATIONAL event, Ultima Thule in Sweden. Seeing the amazing pictures of our Folk Family across the pond, and hearing the stories of places visited, sites seen, rituals held, and hospitality so sweet, we had no need for dessert. But there was dessert! And plenty of it.

Alsherjargothi, well, let's just say you're missing out. Our Midsummer Odin Blots are quite possibly the most powerful thing I have experienced. Fire burning, and ritual area lit by torches, ushered in by the beating of a drum. Chanting in cadence, and shouting out to the Allfather, allowing ourselves to tap into our Wod. If you didn't have a bit of a sore throat, or sounded a little hoarse the next morning, you weren't trying hard enough! Some had sore throats directly after, and may have had a difficult time singing by the fireside with Sheila!

With the morning's light, and Sunna gracing the sky once more, the scent of breakfast and coffee wafted about the Hof. Folks showering, and dressing for the day. We blessed our morning meal and gave thanks to the noble beasts who left this plane, so that we might gain sustenance. Refuelled, and ready, our Ladies took over our Hall, while our men gathered outside. What sorts of Seider and feminine magic was discussed within those walls, I may never know. And for us Men Folk, it's not ours to know. That's for the Ladies to discuss amongst themselves. Likewise, we Men had our own discussion outside, and we'll not reveal it here.

Once the Women had finished their discussion in doors, we swapped places, and allowed them the ritual area, and we went indoors. A discussion on Midsummer was led by Our Alsherjargothi, Matt Flavel, and our resident Gothi and Viking Brotherhood alumni, Michael Hunter. Immortality, our future, the part we play, and heritage/ancestry and Odal property discussed, we made ready for our Midsummer Blot. A Sunwheel made of wicker, tied with ribbons containing the power and intent of Folk, was passed hand to hand around the circle, while our Gothi spoke his words. A drum beating in the background like the hearts within our chests. The Sunwheel was hung above our ritual fire, and we asked to receive the blessings of our Gods for another year, and the Sunwheel was set alight. As we watched our offering burn, we were gifted the blessings of the Holy powers.

A late lunch was had, and the Vikling Brotherhood did double duty in preparing our Barbecued feast, as well as leading us in Viking Games. Feats of strength and skill for all to take part in. One of our games was brought to a bit of a halt when our Alsherjargothi and another member, pitted their strength against each other, and broke our makeshift "Oar". It was quite a snap, but also a sight to see when it happened!

Heather Clinkenbeard led a children's blot. It was fantastic to see so many children there, and it was made even better by giving them their own time to connect to the

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

already have our own routines, but some of us may also struggle to develop such affirmations or practices into our day to day. Some may be totally new to our faith and not even know where to begin. Approaches of different designs were not only discussed but shown in practice. Do you have a daily ritual or routine? You should.

One of the highest points of our weekend together was the Oathing in of a new fully fledged Folkbuilder, and a brand new Gothi. Congratulations go out to Joe Rozanek on becoming an Oathed Folkbuilder, and to Kevin Long who recently completed his Gothi training! I am beyond proud to know these Men and elated to have been a part of their ceremony. Joe has built a growing community in our Pacific Northwest region, and continues to impress. Kevin has put in a ton of time, energy and effort. Reading endless stacks of books, writing essays, developing rituals, and much inner reflection. Welcome aboard Gothi Long!

With the ringing of the dinner bell, we gladly entered into the Hall once more, and feasted upon copious amounts of Barbecue! Sides and salads, bread and desserts. Appetite satiated, and food comas setting in, Michael Hunter once again entertained, and kept the night active with his shenanigans as auctioneer. Outside the hall under the waning Sunlight, Mike modelled, fawned, goofed, and hammed it up, as many fine items found new owners. With the night growing darker still, those still awake gathered around for Sumbel. Gods, Ancestors and Heroes were toasted, and the songs and revelry lasted well into the wee hours.

Sunday morning is always bittersweet. Breakfast comes, and people start to go. Sheila McNallen led those remaining in our Wayfarer's Blot, and for the first time that I can remember, our Wayfarer's Blot filled the ritual circle. It was fantastic to see so many had stayed for it. We asked for protection and safe travels, and blessed our Hammers before we went our separate ways. As our numbers dwindled and we became fewer and fewer, we began to clean up, and prepare for our July event. To quote one of our members, who many of us know needs little introduction, exclaimed that in only a few days, we might find ourselves at work or at home, suffering through the mundane once more, and we might reflect upon the experiences we each had, and ask our selves if we were really there. Did this weekend really happen? Yes. It did. Wise words Knute! I found myself doing this exact thing today. But fret not, because we're going to do it again next year!

I would like to thank each and every person who made it out to Óðinshof, and participated in what I feel was one of the smoothest and best events we've had. Our

Brotherhood for keeping us safe and sweating it out over the coals, to Jessica Rose for her kitchen prowess, and to our vendors and all who donated to our auction.

Thank you!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the Folk!

HAIL THE AFA!

Ryan Harlan Folkbuilder AFA West

FOOD DRIVE

Our monthly food drive takes place on July 13th. This will also include a barbecue day at the lake, and folks who aren't able to make the food drive, are still encouraged to try and make the lake adventure. Details are on the Óðinshof facebook page, and I can be contacted for any questions or information needs. Óðinshof events for the remainder of the year are also available on the Óðinshof page.



[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼







Wedding Announcement



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Clifford Erickson and Catie Erickson, née Reid, affirmed their Asatru family on Midsummer Day, 2019 in Glen Rock, Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania does not require a priest or justice of the peace, allowing a couple to "self-unite" thanks to the original Quaker heritage of the colony. This ceremony was legally binding, in front of our family, friends, Lansdale Tru Folk and AFA members. We signed the marriage certificate at our head table right after the meal blessing.

We want to express our great admiration and appreciation to Svan Herul who took the time to drive 5 hours up to us in Pennsylvania, even knowing he had to make it back for another wedding the very next day. He was kind, he was enthusiastic. And he absolutely made our wedding day perfect! We couldn't have asked for a better officiant than Svan.

Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills

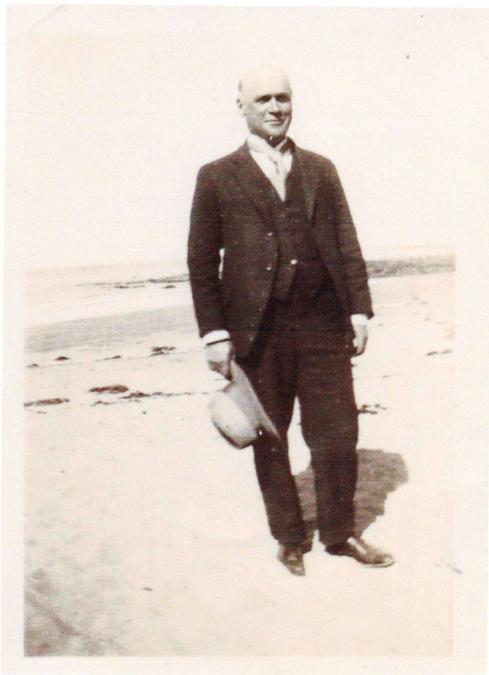
July 1st marks our remembrance day for Alexander Rud Mills.

Born in July of 1885, Mills trained as a lawyer in Australia. In the 1920s, he travelled the continent of Europe, exploring the lands of our ancestors. He began writing about the ancient folkways and began to publish his work. When he returned to Australia in 1934, Mills founded the Anglecyn Church of Odin. This organization encouraged those of European descent to explore their pre-Christian faith, and remain loyal to their own interests as a people. During World War Two, the Australian government imprisoned Mills for 9 months, and attempted to quiet those who agreed with his ideas. He was later cleared by a judicial panel of any wrongdoing. Mills died in 1964.

Despite the attempted suppression of his works, the ideas present by Mills sowed the seeds in the minds of many, including Else Christensen. As these ideas were built

Hail Alexander Rud Mills!

Submitted by Gythia Student Anna Funk



Alaska and Far North

June was a busy month for Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar and for the Alaskan AFA community.

We started the month with a meetup in Wasilla that had a great turnout of Folk.

Folkbuilder Eric Whisman then left the state for a week and spent time at the Hof and met and rejoined with the greater AFA folk at midsummer at Óðinshof.

The following weekend we held our annual midsummer event at the home of AFA member Channcie Alfred and her husband Chris Alfred. We started off the weekend by attending the annual Scottish Highland Games, and then a two day event spent camping out at Channcie's home.



Midsummer in Florida was fantastic. At high noon during the hottest part of the day we held blot. We gave our our best to the God Baldr. There was a record-breaking turnout as Lane Ashby led us in a spirit-filled, heartfelt blot. We gave sumbel to our ancestors, passing the horn three times. We remembered a personal God, an ancestor, and toasted those that couldn't make it.



Florida Folk is experiencing a great moving of the Gods as people from all walks of life are getting interested in Asatru and the Asatru Folk Assembly.

I'm personally excited, as we plan for our next turning of the season and Yule ... the great one. We will hold a Fall fest and another moot before December.

Deep South

June has been a productive month for the Deep South! On top of gaining about half a

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

for dinner.

Total attendance was myself and my lovely fiancée, plus our four newest members, and one of their children. We got to know each other, shared a great meal, and laid the groundwork for a great little community!

Keep an eye out for our Wotan blöt next month!

Glad Midsummer to my AFA family!

Hail Baldur and Nanna!

Hail Sunna!

Hail the AFA!

Trent East

Apprentice Folkbuilder

Asatru Folk Assembly

teast@runestone.org



Europe

For us in Sweden midsummer is the closest we have to a traditional national day yes

feeling is shared not only by Asatruars but by most of the native Sweds. This year midsummer and the actual summer solstice happened on the same day and that's happens very seldom.

We have plenty of old traditions surrounding the solstice one of the most cherished ones is the maypole and the dancing around it. They have tried hard to diminish the symbolism of the Maypole even trying to make it into a Christian symbol of the cross. Of course this is not true and very ridiculous the Maypole was used as far back as the Bronze Age in Scandinavia we know this from the many petroglyphs that shows a standing tree sometimes with only the top branches left and in Viking times they placed a tree with only the top branches out side the entrance to the long hall to mark special occasions.

We held a traditional feast at our home with family and friends and of course erected the Maypole the symbol for the now declining sun.



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Four Corners

Four Corners wants to welcome the Rocky Mountain Kindred of Utah, to the four corners region this month! Also in Utah, we want to give a big welcome to Arabella our newest addition to our folk, Daughter of Mitch and Kristina Loveless was born this past month! Keep an eye and ear out as our membership has begun hosting moots in Arizona! Feel free to contact Jason Plourde for more details and how to join!

Midwest

On July 20th members of the AFA will be running in the Wigs for Kids 5k that is being held at the Cleveland Zoo in Ohio. Wigs for Kids is a non-profit group that collects hair donated as well as funds and they make wigs for children who have lost their hair due to illness. The wigs are at no cost to the patient or their families!! The charity is based out of Ohio but helps children all over the country.

The Midwest Region has created a team fundraising page and our goal is to raise \$1800. This is the amount needed to sponsor a child. If you can help us out in our goal please email jlambert@runestone.org for details on donations.



Greetings from the Midwest!

June has been one of the best months, if not the best month, that the AFA Midwest has had. Earlier this year we had our first regional event, Ostara. There we had 14 members come together from Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. In June we had our second regional event, Midsummer in the Midwest. We almost doubled our numbers this time with 25 people showing up all together from each of the five states mentioned above. We had nearly just as many women as men and four children join us in this historical moment, ten of which had been present at Ostara and returned. The other hosts and I could not have been more pleased with the outcome.



On the first night Josh Wilson, Jessica Lambert and I eagerly awaited the arrival of our folk from many states. Most of this evening was spent welcoming new members of the AFA home to the Folk and having lively discussions. This first night brought in 19 people already more than the last time! Josh led an Odin Blot for us and we followed it with Sumbl. The second night we had great food from our master chef cooked over a fire. All of the ingredients harvested by our folk or local farmers, not simply bought from a mass market grocery chain; home-baked bread, harvested pork, gathered spices and vegetables, etc. Our chef gave us a great presentation on the gathering of this food and the traditional significance of how it was grown, prepared and served. One of the greatest meals I've ever ate! We were thankful for our chef and gave him a gift of a AFA Flag to show our appreciation for all of the hard work he put into making Midsummer filled with delicious and healthy food.

Josh and I individually gave presentations on the past, present and future of the AFA Midwest. I discussed parts of our lore that are particularly important to this time of year, our survival and taking on the strife that life may throw our way during our journey through Midgard and beyond. That night I led our Folk in a Baldr Blot and followed it with a Sumbl. This Sumbl truly brought us all together! I can not stress how intimate these two ceremonies were! Our Folk was truly moved during this last night of our Midsummer. The next morning we cleaned up camp and began the farewells. None of us were really ready to go. It had ended just as fast as it had begun.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

were made that weekend. Frith of the Folk left us with a spiritually healing that many of us had needed. And showed the proof that what we have is worth preserving and developing for many generations to come.



On another note, I must add that the areas of the Midwest that had previously not had much activity are beginning to flourish. Northern Illinois is building what may soon become a kindred. Middle-North Indiana is working on a kindred. I am assisting the Michigan and Ontario members to connect and begin having regular meet ups. Kentucky has recently had an official AFA kindred added. My kindred in Indiana is stronger than ever and so is Josh's kindred in Ohio. Wisconsin has much activity going on.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Kindreds in the other states that have previously not had much organization are finally seeking connections. And I am sure that these will continue from now on, continuously uniting the AFA membership in the Midwest and elsewhere.

Having been a part of this awakening from the beginning it makes my heart swell with the love for my Folk that things are coming together beautifully! Every bit of work I and many others have done has been worth every second it has taken to get here over the last three or so years! I assure all in the Midwest that this is just the beginning!

Until next time...

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Midwest!

Hail the AFA!

Zach Cato, Heimdalls Midgard Godhi

AFA Folkbuilder, apprentice

HeimdallsMidgardKindred@gmail.com

Northeast



At Midsummer the Stonehammer Kindred climbed Mont Marie for Wotan on the Peaks. Wotan Mit Uns!



Lansdale Tru Folk held a small private Sunna blot immediately after Clifford and Catie's wedding ceremony on Midsummer Day in Glen Rock, Pennsylvania. Sunna was shining bright and we are truly blessed!

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Thorrablot, Saturday Feb 23 (Thor)
Ostara, Sunday March 31 (Ostara)
Sumarsdag, Saturday May 4 (Odin)
Midsummer (private), Friday June 21 (Sunna)
Freyfaxi, Sunday August 11 (Frey)
Harvest, Saturday Sept 21 (Sif)
Winter Nights in the Poconos (AFA), Fri Oct 18 - Sun Oct 20
(Disir)
Feast of the Einherjar, Sunday Nov 10 (Einherjar)
Yule, Saturday Dec 28 (Ancestors)

Lansdale Tru Folk events in Pennsylvania are open to all AFA members, except where otherwise noted. For information contact Clifford at cerickson@runestone.org or check out <https://www.facebook.com/LansdaleTruFolk/>.

FREYFAXI

Freyfaxi AFA Northeast!
Join us as we honor Yngvi-Freyr. Let us celebrate the mysteries of harvest.

August 17, 2019.

This will be a Faith, Folk, and Family event, bring swim suits and a music instrument you like to play.

Contact members of the Stone Hammer Kindred if you have any questions.

AFA Northeast Freyfaxi Blót will be held in western Massachusetts and hosted by the Stone Hammer Kindred. This is a Faith, Folk, and Family oriented event. Bring swim wear and a music instrument you like to play. We're going to make Yngvi-Freyr hear us! Bring a potluck dish or snacks.

Registration is currently open at <https://events.eventzilla.net/e/northeast-freyfaxi-bl-2138744.725/>. Contact Eric at ethiboutot@runestone.org or check out <https://www.facebook.com/events/665393657254530/> for details!



Last, but hardly least, planning is already underway for the 8th annual **Winter Nights in the Poconos**, which will be held in Milford, Pennsylvania from October 18 - 20!

Ves Heill,
Clifford J. Erickson
Asatru Folk Assembly
North America Northeast Folkbuilder & Witan

Northern Plains

June was another busy and productive month for us in December. First, we celebrated the day of remembrance for King Athanaric in Hudson, We made some new friends in the process. We had our third annual Midsummer which turned out amazing!

Also, we attended a Midsummer gathering with our friends Jordsvolk Kindred in Wisconsin And finished the month out with our monthly fundraiser crafting day working on new merchandise. The guys in the Omaha area got together for Midsummer and have a study group planned and more events coming up. I am really proud of them and glad to see some action in that area now.

Fallfest 4 is coming up in the first week of September the 6-8th. Registration is available at fallfest2019.eventzilla.net.

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

7/9 Wotan on the Water

7/14 Monthly Fundraiser Crafting Day 12-3 Bloomington, MN

7/20 Monthly Grill and greet 3-5 Lake Maria state park Monticello, MN

8/17 Monthly Grill and greet Fort Snelling state park 2-5 St. Paul, MN

8/24 Third Annual Freyfaxi 1-4 Bloomington, MN

9/6-9/8 Fallfest MN Northwoods

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Jason Gallagher

Northern Plains Folkbuilder

jgallagher@runestone.org



Pacific Northwest

gathering of our folk in this region. It is one of my life's greatest accomplishments to take the Folkbuilder oath, and I will do my utmost to hold true to our intrinsic values of duty, loyalty and honour in carrying out this sacred task.

Two years ago, I had a spiritual "birth" wherein I realized that there is more to this life than we can see, hear and touch. I began to pray, to use my mind to try and cause changes in this reality; to save my marriage, to protect my children, to be successful at my job. In the corner of my mind, I could feel an energy just out of my reach, it took me 6 months of personal discovery, research and fasting to find that this energy was Wotan. The god of my ancestors was calling take his rightful place in my life.

After my enlightenment, I realized I was alone and as we are a tribal people connecting with our folk is a vital part of this life. I began to search out Asatru' and discovered that there were many different communities, I found Stephen Mcanallen's videos and was guided to the AFA by the Allfather. After joining it turned out that there was still no one in my area to gather with and I knew what must be done, to create an active folk here in the NW. Wotan gives me the knowledge and spiritual power, and I in exchange I help to bring his people together. A year ago, I visited the Hof and knew no-one, and now I know all of you, and together we will awaken our Folk!

There are no holy days in July, but there is a remembrance to Alexander Rudd Mills. In Eugene Oregon and Boise Idaho, we now have several members and potential members that we are in contact with. We are having a hike to bring out the members in Eugene, and a discussion is in progress to figure something out in Boise. It is up to you to create a community if one does not exist if there is nothing going on in your area make it happen! It is amazing how much gathering together re-energizes one's spirit, I could feel the energy of the Gods at the midsummer blots, there is a great power in the folk soul just waiting for you to grasp it!

July 11: Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rudd Mills/Rune study, Vancouver, WA

July 14: Hike, Eugene, OR

July 27: Hike, Coeur d'Alene, ID

TBD: Moot, Boise, ID

Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk! Hail the AFA!

Jrozane@runestone.org

Folkbuilder ,NW



Scandinavia

Midsummer is one of the most important and celebrated day for us Swedes. So it has always been and hopes that this will always be the case. Families and friends or entire villages are gathering and celebrating, dancing around the maypole, singing songs and having fun together.

This by celebrating the summer solstice has never really disappeared from us.

actually celebrate the day of John the Baptist. Even so, the Swede knows better than that, but our children or grandchildren can lose their history. So we feel the importance of keeping the tradition and teaching why we hold that day high.

Enough about this let us come to how we celebrated Midsummer.

We in Gautr felt we wanted to celebrate it close to a lake. Now we happen to know one who has land very nicely placed at a lake, she also has a stone fortress, which is not kattpiss as we usually say here. And it was no problem for us to borrow a place. What we did not know before was that there were a number of stone rings on the site. And that's not all because also several earth fortifications. So a very cool place to be on. One can say that the gods and the ancestors were with us from the beginning.

So we set up our tents and made sure we got everything ready to the best.

We held a blot in the middle of the day. And what I thought of when I was preparing ceremony was life. Just at this time, life grows in vegetation and in wildlife. And something that covers eternal life is for me Idun with her apples. So we held a blot to her honor.

And we chose to stand in one of the stone circles. In the same stone circle that we witnessed early in the morning how two deers stopped in. Just to look at us. made a nod and ran further along the sea lane.

Further in the evening we held a ceremony for Balder. It had come to be windless and we were standing by the lake holding Friggs son's boat. The boat that Balder and Nanna traveled to Hel and her domains.

After howling and healing we lit fire on the boat. We let it go over the lake. All of us who stood on the stand knew the power that surrounded us. And it will stay with us forever.

This was our simple celebration of Midsummer. Thanks for the word.

Gautr Kindred - Martin Klasson



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



South Africa

We wish our AFA friends and family at the North hemisphere a happy summer solstice.

We at the South celebrated our Yule, even with the wetness that comes with the winter rain the cold and mist our temperature still allows for an outside Yule day. Like every Yule it brings time for celebration, fires and gifts, as we receive we also give, We want to thank the AFA family for the gift they have given South Africa this winter with \$30 per family we were able to reach out and give food parcels to those living in squatter camps, my greatest gift came in two's this year. We receive land to start our own organic vegetable farm and with that helping Folk kids who struggle with disabilities and drug use and teaching them the way of farming (we are excited about this and can't wait to get our hands dirty), my second gift came from the AFA Family as I was

I wish everyone a bless Yule time and with the change of seasons may your harvest be plenty full this year.

Once more I want to thank each and everyone who helps with Donations to the South African White Camps your \$10 or more goes further than you can imagine.

THANK YOU

We look forward to building a long-lasting working relationship with you.

Best Regards

JP Steel

Christo Le Roux

072 268 3930

021 930 4405

021 911 2266



South Central

If you're in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, come join the folk on Sunday, July 14th at a well-known German restaurant in Fort Worth. Anna Lee has stepped up to help organize AFA events in Texas. Contact Anna on Facebook or me, if you need more information. We expect to get similar things happening in the Austin area as well.

Our conference calls are taking place every two weeks, on alternate days of the week. Write to me if you need any information about the South Central region.

Upper South



The Sandhills Kindred held their Midsummer Celebration on the beautiful Pee Dee River. From the Peach Mead to the roast pork, it was truly a wonderful gathering. I'd

balance, victory, and success on this Solstice Day.

Hail the Doers 🌿 Hail Baldur 🌿 Sig-Tyr 🌿



We've got a lot of events planned for the coming months from meetups to several "Wotan on the Peaks." Reach out to your Folkbuilder and he'll help you get connected with your greater community. We're all about action in the Upper South. Hail the Doers 🌿

On June 28th members of the upper south region gathered at the falls of hill creek in pocahontas county west Virginia to celebrate a wotan on the peaks blot beneath a

black rock mountain. Contact rob Stamm at rstamm@runestone.org if interested

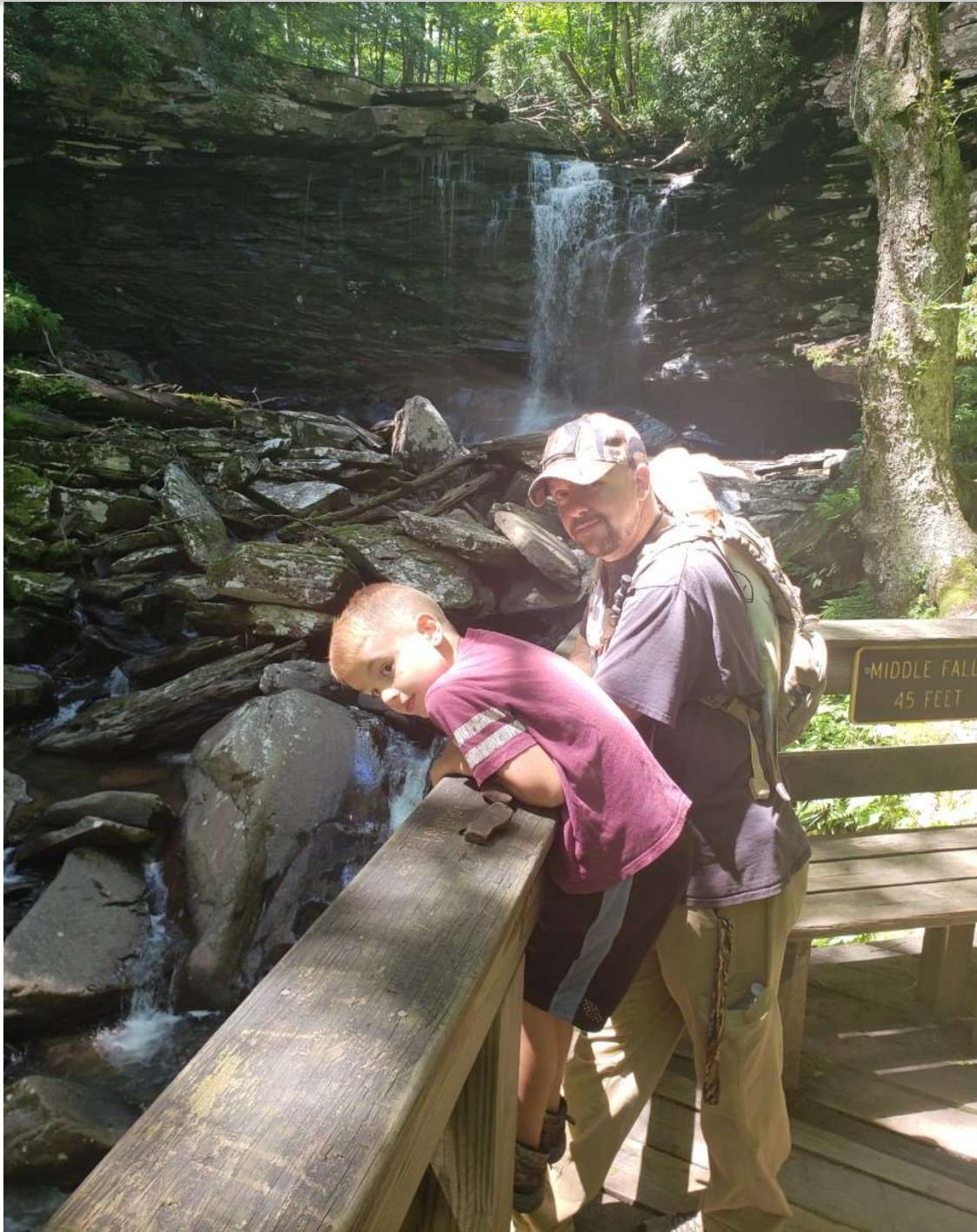


[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate ▼](#)







Rob Stam Apprentice folkbuilder from Virginia

On June 22nd the folk of the Irongard kindred gathered to witness kindred member Cody Raynard marry Michelle Raynard. Svan Herul presided over a beautiful wedding with the lake at twin lakes state park in the background. After the wedding was celebrated, the folk processed to a secluded knoll and celebrated the midsummer!

Rob Stam Apprentice folkbuilder from Virginia

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

The North half of the Upper South, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland. (in also in Pennsylvania)Has been bustling with activity. The Irongard has held several moots in Northern Virginia and Maryland, as well as conducting Midsummer along with two weddings and a Wotan on the Peaks! We will continue to carry out moots and our preparation for first harvest of Sheafing of the Wheat (Freyfaxi) for the remainder of July August and September.

Here are just some of the pictures from our most recent events.



West



The week before Midsummer I was accepted as an Apprentice Folkbuilder for the Western Region. I want to thank Marc, Matt and the AFA for this opportunity to serve the AFA and our Folk. I hope that going forward I will be an asset and help to grow our AFA family. Thanks to everyone for the warm welcomes and kind words of encouragement.

Hail the Gods!
Hail the AFA!
Hail the Ancestors!
Best regards,
Steve Ingle

June started off welcoming baby Roxanna Kuh on June 3rd. Daughter to Brad and

seeing a young family off to a great start with a lot of love and support.

Did I mention I am the Godsmother ?? I am so honoured and looking at that sweet baby girl I know I will be the best Godsmother possible, Really had me thinking, this is what we work for. We give gifts to the Gods and Goddesses and in return, they gift us with the energy we ask for fertility, love, success, and if you ever been to an AFA blot you may have heard the term HEALTHY BABIES yelled out. It is such a special thing when you have a young couple join you're kindred and be a part of fertility rituals, be a part of the asking for healthy babies and we even have galdered Bri's belly while Roxanne was just about ready to come out. We were there the day she was born with the hammer and horn welcoming her to Midgard. So to be her Godsmother feels so right for I feel our kindred is a part of her and she will always be a part of us.

Hail Brad Bri and Roxanne Kuh !!!



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Babies were born and the folk met up. We had a park moot that was half the group meditating and the other half were in training with Gray Will. We all then joined for a powerful ritual and blot. This is also the midsummer month so a few of our members went to Odinshof while the others stayed back having midsummer on their own for the folk who were staying in town. Matt Waldrum lead a powerful ritual on our beach.

The month was very busy, with park moots, babies, pool parties, steak night movie night and midsummer. It is no wonder we are as close as we are. I encourage you to meet up the folk as much as you can. It doesn't always have to be a ritual or main event. Meeting up for the movies or dinner anything can really strengthen the bonds we share.

We would also like to congratulate our very own Kevin Long for somehow in his very busy life found the time to excel at the Gothar program. We are all so proud of Kevin how far he has come and the many achievements he has, He walks the walk and leads by example. The Asatru Folk Assembly has gained a great man.

Hail Kevin Long!

July will bring even more fun with the folk as the weather is nicer and we can enjoy the sun.

July calendar: please contact me@ Heathor@runestone.org

July 4th at Tru-Folk beach for the fourth of July celebration right under the fireworks

July 7 morning meditation and park moot in Escondido at Felicita Park

July 27 Bonfire at Tru-folk beach

Hail the Folk!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the AFA!

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Heathor Clinkenbeard

Folk builder for the west

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Oh, beautiful one!

Most beloved by all!

It is to you we come, oh Baldr it is to you we call!

Like you, many of us did fall.

Be with us, your people through big and small.

Shine bright like the sun for us when in darkness we crawl.

Oh, beautiful one!

Most beloved by all!

It is to you we come, great Baldr this to you we call!

Gray Wilson Tru-Folk

Gothi Bryan Wilton



In this radical shift of our consciousness from monotheism to the ways of our

become aware that most of what they've been told or taught, really has no meaning or bearing on the success we wish to enjoy in our lives. In fact, in most cases, it is the prime crippling factor which inhibits people in this world. Asatru has resurfaced as a gift from our gods to rectify that very condition.

16. "The fear-helm I wore | to afright mankind, While guarding my gold I lay; Mightier seemed I | than any man, For a fiercer never I found."

Just as I described in the previous paragraphs, Fafnir wore his fear helm to keep everyone away. To varying degrees, we do the same thing. We wear that mask which protects us and what we treasure from the unwanted incursions of the insanity of mankind.

We risk losing sight of who and what we really are when we do so. We must remain aware of the world and our society because we live in it. We can no more afford to lay around the house thinking about how great we are than Fafnir can. We run the risk of resembling that great bloated wyrm as everyone perceived this ancient being. Sitting behind a computer and quoting old books as if we've actually read them, we will also start to take on a certain appearance. But it is not a fear-inducing image even if one's ego insists that we believe it is.

Sigurth spake: 17. "The fear-helm surely | no man shields When he faces a valiant foe; Oft one finds, | when the foe he meets, That he is not the bravest of all."

As Sigurth so eloquently points out. Let the edge lords say what they will from the safety of their basement sanctuary. When they face a valiant foe, all that book knowledge is for naught. Moreover, it is woefully inadequate to face many of life's situations. Unless you are a college professor or teacher. Far too many individuals firmly believe that they might jump to the front of the ranks of respectability if they can quote the authors from the turn of the last century. Authors whose sole purpose was to produce a narrative which justified the colonialism of the age. The PC factor of that day and age. The few who disagreed with the religion of society also left their mark with insipid comments meant to demonstrate that they saw through the thin veneer of civilization and it's paltry worth. Nothing has changed. Men and women still do it today albeit with the convenience of the internet. Yet still, nothing changes. The Helm of Fear has an ally in the internet bullying of egotistical men. The one great drawback in this internet age is that these men will very rarely put themselves in a situation where they might even come across a worthy foe.

(There was none so mighty | as dared to meet me, And weapons nor wiles I feared.)"

Sigurth spake: 19. "Glittering worm, | thy hissing was great, And hard didst show thy heart, But hatred more | have the sons of men For him who owns the helm."

Even so long ago, no one liked a braggart who proclaimed greatness because of his fathers' money. Most people simply will not deal with them. They will avoid them. And in that peculiar twist of insane thought, these braggarts will assume it is because of their greatness. Never understanding that they are brought to scorn by their full bellies.

Fafnir spake: 20. "I counsel thee, Sigurth, | heed my speech, And ride thou homeward hence, The sounding gold, | the glow-red wealth, And the rings thy bane shall be."

Sigurth spake: 21. "Thy counsel is given, | but go I shall To the gold in the heather hidden; And, Fafnir, thou | with death dost fight, Lying where Hel shall have thee."

Fafnir spake: 22. "Regin betrayed me, | and thee will betray, Us both to death will he bring;

His life, methinks, | must Fafnir lose, For the mightier man wast thou."

Sometimes this is what it takes. A slow painful realization of the truth about who and what we may have become in this world. And when that bloated image is finally dead, we will realize just how mighty we are. We will become aware of the dangers around us. We will be able to face them like men. For us to step forward in life subsequent to this realization of what we may have become, there is a reckoning with those individuals and institutions which brought us to this crossroads to begin with. We will finally see with clear eyes the shining of the sun and the moon as the gods intended when they set them along their courses. And to find that true nautical standard of the North Star in our own lives.

Regin had gone to a distance while Sigurth fought Fafnir, and came back while Sigurth was wiping the blood from his sword. Regin said:

23. "Hail to thee, Sigurth! | Thou victory hast And Fafnir in fight hast slain; Of all the men | who tread the earth, Most fearless art thou, methinks."

gods,) Who bravest born shall seem; Some are valiant | who redden no sword In the blood of a foeman's breast."

There comes a time when we have spent ourselves in the efforts to secure another man's glory that we begin to understand that there must be something more to this journey of life. This kind of thinking has brought many a man or woman into the doorway of Asatru. It is much the same with King Gyfli at the very beginning of the Prose Edda. His perception of greatness had been shattered. And he went seeking answers. For some of us, the realizations pour down upon us as the rain in a storm. Washing away the blood, sweat, and tears we have brought forth from ourselves based on the teachings and half-truths of people who only want to use us for a greater idea or cause as they see it benefits them. For some, it is an absolute deluge of emotion and thought. Such as the soldier who loses a buddy in combat or a woman after the end of an abusive relationship. In that moment, that glimpse of the divine appears before us and we realize that we are not as great as we thought we were. That glimpse is a gift. It gives us that one moment where we might see something better for our future. We are afforded a chance to breathe for just a moment free of the constant bombardment of conditioning. The soldier will resolve to carry on. The abused wife will decide to walk away. The child becoming the adult will leave certain teachings behind.

There is a great deal of peace involved in the understanding that we don't know who is the greatest of gods and men and that sometimes the most valiant act reddens no sword. It offers us a chance. It is an observance of the baseline condition of human existence. It is not one of suffering. It is simply one of a constantly evolving or shifting the awareness of what should come next. If we wish to be champions, we should train like one. We cannot rest on our laurels or talk ourselves into greatness from behind a keyboard. If we have talked ourselves into such a state of mind that the killing of someone else outside of the defence of our country or our homes, we might want to consider rethinking this proposition.

Such an act of courage which reddens no blade occurs when we pierce the heart of the falsehoods of our lives with the truth of who we really are. When we apply courage and honesty to ourselves with the same keen and penetrating stare with which we comment on the failings of our society. The ability to honestly exam the integrity of our own thought process is but one example. The sacrifice of Odin to himself was just such an act. We ought to be asking ourselves "How does the adoption of this or that belief allow me to move forward in life?"

This is the part which gets to the core of a persons' resentments. For years, Regin has been bragging and living a life of greatness in his own mind. Everyone has tacitly agreed to buy into his thought process. He is ancient and supposedly skilled in magic. Perhaps he is. He seems to have fooled everyone. With the exception of the person closest to him. The one who has seen through the façade, even if it is only one or two great moments of cowardice. This person may well have an issue with him coming up and trying to take a little credit for himself. But Regin is full of himself and takes just enough credit to claim a portion of greatness. Though he hasn't done anything more than whisper in the ear of the child with no father. A person who is figuratively standing at the edge of the crowd. A longer version of the process Loki used to kill Baldur through Hodur. He whispers in his ear and after the danger of personal harm has passed, he begins to brag about his prowess. Men who promote their understanding of societal ills and encourage others to take action are doing the same thing.

It is very much a double-edged sword for Sigurth, for he has killed a family member. In short order, Regin can claim rights of vengeance for himself. There will be no need to share this treasure.

Sigurth spake: 26. "Afar didst thou go | while Fafnir reddened With his blood my blade so keen; With the might of the dragon | my strength I matched, While thou in the heather didst hide."

The resentment at Regins cowardice boils over with this statement. It is tinged with regret now as he has figured out that this Fafnir may not have been as evil as was suggested. He was simply cursed by the circumstances of his conditioning. The training he had received from his father. It was a love of gold, it was the bewitching of the minds of men and the teamwork of the family was stolen from them. The descendants of those three all-powerful female jotuns who entered Asgard during it's Golden Age. Gullveig, Heith and Hrossthjof.

When people figure out that they have been manipulated, it pisses them off. The person doing the manipulation is always surprised.

Regin spake: 27. "Longer wouldst thou | in the heather have let Yon hoary giant hide, Had the weapon availed not | that once I forged, The keen-edged blade thou didst bear."

it has become. Though Regin may have provided some instruction, it does not change the fact that he is, in reality, a manipulative coward. It was the courage of Sigurth, the strength of his arm and his faith in the words of the man on the mountain which brought him to this crossroads of realization.

Sigurth spake: 28. "Better is heart | than a mighty blade
For him who shall fiercely fight;
The brave man well | shall fight and win,
Though dull his blade may be.

You might feel as if you are not equipped to handle what is going on around you. Try anyway. Then, if you don't succeed, try again. That's what it is all about. Put one foot in front of the other and move forward. Do not let the obstacles of your own thinking defeat you. If you think you can't do it, you probably can't. But as my grandfather always told me "Can't never did nothing, try got a whole helluva lot done".

Bryan Wilton

Gothi

Asatru Folk Assembly

Excerpt from the forthcoming book *Resolute*.

Circle of Eir

Eir's Blessings!

Everybody needs a little extra help sometimes. Every body does, too. Women, being the frith-y creatures that we are, are uniquely suited to the task of manipulating energy for the purpose of healing. Magic, you could say. Do you have a health concern and need a little extra energy? Are you battling with a mental illness like depression or PTSD? Is your baby having a hard time with teething?

If you've answered yes at all, reach out to us!

Once a month women of the AFA will get together to preform healing rituals all across the globe. If you would like to be included, please send a message to let us know! You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

T. William's alter for June 2019 healing Ritual)(If you can also include the photo from last month as the head photo, that would be awesome. Thank you!

AFA MILITARY PROGRAM by Kevin Long

AFA Pages

AFA Genealogy Group

On the 13th of May, I created the AFA Genealogy Group on Facebook to help our Folk with genealogy and family history research.

This is a good place to learn, share tips, and information on genealogy.

Discover if you are related to other AFA members! We use GEDmatch kit numbers to batch process each person to every other person in the database and then post a chart in the group so that you can see if you are connected to other members. Many of us have discovered that other AFA members are also blood family.

Come and join us!

Contact Steve Ingle, Sheila McNallen, or Terry Rumph for an invitation to the group.

As a side note, this group is for AFA members only.

Hail the Ancestors!

Steve Ingle

Genealogist/Family History Researcher

Item of the Month

vintage style AFA shirt \$20

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, our publications, and so on, please email them to photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken. Thank you in advance!

Folkish 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 handicraft 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!

If you would like a blanket for your newborn, or would like to donate to help with yarn

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

Asatru Folk Assembly Calendar of Holy and Remembrance Days

| Date | Observance |
|-------------|---|
| January 9 | Day of remembrance for Raud the Strong |
| January 20 | Thorrablót |
| 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 |

| Subscribe | Past Issues | Translate ▼ |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| July 7 | Day of Remembrance for Ragnar Lodbrok | |
| | 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

Want to volunteer for the AFA? [Join us on facebook](#) or contact your Folkbuilder.

Copyright © *2019* Asatru Folk Assembly, All rights reserved.
[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

