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Words from the Alsherjargothi



This is the first year that we can celebrate our holy days at 3 hofs! It is a wonderful time to be Asatru, it is an amazing time to be in the AFA!

We have a lot going on lately and May was no exception. May saw the first-ever AFA event honoring the Folkmother, Else Christensen. The Else event was a fantastic success. Huge thanks are in order for Folkbuilder James Ault and his Vedrfolnir Clan for organizing and hosting this groundbreaking event.

At the Else event, Gythia Brandy Callahan was elevated to Witan of the AFA. Congratulations Brandy!

May also saw a healthy boost to our Folkbuilder corps. Sam Ramsey of Arizona joined our Óðinshof team. Jayme Kirby of Massachusetts and Jesse Parton of Tennessee joined the Þórshof team. Finally, Ashley McStocker of Minnesota joined our Baldrshof team. We are appreciative and excited for these new future AFA leaders.

I hope all our AFA family has an amazing Midsummer, where ever it finds you. This summer looks to be filled with action, growth, and blessings... make time to be a part of it!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

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**Day of Remembrance**



King Athanaric, King of the Visigoths, ruled his people from 369 CE until he died in 381 CE. Sometimes called the first and greatest King of his people, Athanaric was a staunch Gothic Pagan. Viewing it as his responsibility to foster and promote the faith of his people he went so far as to execute over three hundred Visigoths that had converted to the Christian faith. Their Gothic culture was paramount, and he feared that the advent of Christianity would destroy it.

During his 12-year reign, Athanaric fiercely defended his culture against the advance of the Roman Christian conversion. In the early years, he allied with his fellow Visigoth King, Fritigern, to stop the encroachment of the Roman legions into their lands. While the two were allied the Goths managed to stave off the Roman armies. For unknown reasons, however, Fritigern turned his army against Athanaric, causing the Gothic Civil War.

In the early stages, Athanaric won every encounter he had with his one-time ally. This prompted Fritigern to turn and request aid from his former Roman enemy, Emperor Valens. Even so, despite some advances, Fritigern lost the war. The Gothic Civil War

took a toll on the land and the Visigoths, however, and when the Huns began to invade shortly after the end of the Civil War Fritigern appealed to Emperor Valen to allow him and his people to cross into Roman land. The appeal was answered, but only for Fritigern, who had since converted to Christianity, and his followers.

The rest of the Visigoths were left to fend for themselves. Despite his best efforts, King Athanaric was unable to hold his ground against the ruthless and better-provisioned Huns. In the face of starvation, Athanaric led his people into the Alutus Valley (modern-day Transylvania) where they settled. In 380 CE Athanaric was deposed and removed himself to none other than Constantinople and the lands of his once upon a time Enemy, the Roman Empire. The new Emperor, Theodosius I, accepted Athanaric to the Empire graciously. Upon his death some two weeks later Athanaric was buried in state to show Theodosius's respect for the Gothic Culture.

So, what can we learn from this story?

King Athanaric stood his ground in the face of all that would have torn him down. He recognized the importance of maintaining the Culture of his people and saw the dangers of conversion for what they were. In these modern times, it is even more important to view Athanaric's struggles for what they were and to remember that the preservation of our people and our culture is so very paramount.

It's about Roots.

It's about Connections.

It's about coming home.



Gythia Catie Erickson

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**Remembrance & Holy Days**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Observance</b>
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 23	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 20	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 20	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 17	Hexennacht
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
May 22	May Day
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths
June 20	Midsummer
July 1	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills
July 17	Sigrblót
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 21	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci
September 22	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List
October 15	Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen
October 16	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden
November 11	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson
December 20	Mother's Night
December 21-31	Yuletide

## Upcoming Events

There is so much going on around the country right now in spite of various obstacles. Please contact your favorite Folkbuilder or Gothar if you are interested in attending the events below. The way to get the most out of your membership in the Asatru Folk Assembly is in person with your Folk!

September 3 - 4

Fallfest at Baldrshof  
Minnesota



October 15 - 17  
Winter Nights in the  
Poconos  
Pennsylvania



November 11 - 14  
Feast of the Einherjar at Baldrshof  
Minnesota

<https://www.runestone.org/product/baldrshof-feast-of-the-einherjar/>



Witan Clifford Erickson  
[cerickson@runestone.org](mailto:cerickson@runestone.org)

## Njörðshof Fundraiser

*"The third among the Æsir is he that is called Njördr: he dwells in heaven, in the abode called Nóatún. He rules the course of the wind, and stills sea and fire; on him shall men call for voyages and for hunting. He is so prosperous and abounding in wealth, that he may give them great plenty of lands or of gear; and him shall men invoke for such things."*



Njörðr shall have his hof and our AFA Family shall make this happen... The road to Njörðshof begins today!

The road to Njörðshof has 3 phases:

- 1) We must pay off the remaining loan amount for our previous 2 hofs (\$17,860.37).
- 2) We increase our average monthly income (including this fundraiser!) by \$3,000.
- 3) We locate a property and secure funding and any necessary down-payment. (we will break this down as needed when we approach this step)

I will adjust these numbers and update you all on progress as it happens. Your generosity is always appreciated.

<https://www.runestone.org/product/njordshof-fundraiser/>.

HAIL NJÖRÐR!

**Be a Doer**

**We need you to volunteer for the AFA!**

Yes, you. We have work to do and need folk who are artists, editors, writers, accountants, lawyers, publicists, reputation managers, professionals of all





manner, technical support, web developers, system admins, tradesmen, craftswomen, and more. See the list of amazing projects we have below. We will find a way for you to help our Folk.

Please email [volunteer@runestone.org](mailto:volunteer@runestone.org) to help us make a difference in our world.

## Baby Blanket Project

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 handmade — knit, crocheted, or woven — baby blanket! It's just our little way of celebrating each new addition to our folk!

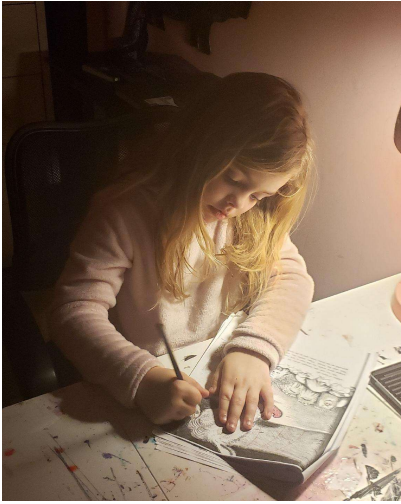
This project has been going strong for nearly a year now, and has been a rousing success! The Ladies of the AFA have knitted, crocheted, and sewn beautiful baby blankets for over 20 of our littlest folk, with more on the way. They've been delivered everywhere from Alaska to Florida, California to Sweden!



If you are a member of the AFA who is expecting a baby, please let your Folkbuilder know so we can get a blanket to you. If you would like to contribute, either financially or by volunteering as a baby blanket crafter, let your Folkbuilder know about that as well, so he can get you in touch with the right people. It's so rewarding to see your handicraft being loved by our little heathens!

Would you like a blanket for your newborn, or to donate and help with yarn costs (yarn is expensive!)? Please email [babyblanket@runestone.org](mailto:babyblanket@runestone.org) today!

## Youth Program



The AFA Youth Program is now halfway through a very successful year! We had high hopes when this program started in January and the kids have surpassed all of our expectations and goals. Our youth have been working on monthly assignments and fun projects centered around Lore, Days of Remembrance, Holidays, AFA Culture, and monthly themes based on the Nine Noble Virtues.

Registration for the Youth Program is open year-round and open to youth ages 6 to 18. Our program is currently e-mail based. Parents receive their assignments through e-mail on the first of each month. The Youth Program is free and open to all of our AFA families!

If you are interested in registering your child for the AFA Youth Program, send an e-mail to [youth@runestone.org](mailto:youth@runestone.org) to get started.

## Pen Pal Group

Did you know the AFA has a Pen Pal group?

This group is for folks who still love the fading art of writing a letter.

If you would like to participate in this amazing endeavor and connect with different people from all across the world, please send an email to [penpal@runestone.org](mailto:penpal@runestone.org) with your name and address, and we will get you set up with a pen pal for correspondence.



## 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 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, please email [folkservices@runestone.org](mailto:folkservices@runestone.org).

Your contributions are earnestly solicited and of course, are tax-deductible! Please donate to Folk Services or one of our other AFA Fundraisers at <http://www.runestone.org/donate/>.

Thanks in advance!

## 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 more please email them to the AFA at [photos@runestone.org](mailto:photos@runestone.org). The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken.

## Eir's Blessings



Everybody needs a little extra help sometimes. Women, being the frithy 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 perform healing rituals all across the globe. If you would like to be included, please send a message to let us know!

At the same time, Women of the AFA! If you are interested in helping to create a frithful, healing magic, let us know! It's easy, but it makes a huge difference to those in our community who need our help!

You can reach us at [EirsBlessings@runestone.org](mailto:EirsBlessings@runestone.org)

## Last Will and Testament

Recently, several members of our AFA family have passed beyond the veil. One was an old man in ill health, two were young men in the prime of life... all died with no legal will on record. Sadly, in two of these cases, our dead AFA members did not have their wishes respected regarding their funerals nor the final resting places of their remains.



We never know when tragedy will strike. We have a responsibility to our loved ones, we have a responsibility to our own legacies, to plan for our passing, and to make our wishes known. Planning for and contemplating our death is uncomfortable. Hopefully, we all have plenty of time for that down the road, but we can't count on that. Maybe we worry about expenses or hiring a lawyer. We all have excuses to put things off until later, unfortunately, sometimes the clock runs out before "later" happens.

We have found an amazing resource for our U.S. members to make legally binding

wills in minutes online for **free**. This site also has resources to make Advanced Medical Directives and Powers of Attorney. It takes only **minutes** at <https://www.doyourownwill.com/>.

Please make your will **today**.

The AFA would like to collect signed original copies of wills for all our members and store them. We want to ensure that when members of our AFA family die, their wishes are honored. Please send these to:

Allen Turnage  
PO Box 16027  
Tallahassee FL, 32317

## New Odysee Channel

In the ongoing effort to bring our Folk home, the AFA is happy to announce we now have added a channel on Odysee.com. Not only will being on multiple platforms help spread our message to a broader audience, but it is a hedge against future religious persecution from mainstream platforms.

Odysee is a video-sharing platform free of censorship. Many of your favorite de-platformed content providers are already there, including Red Ice TV.

Odysee is on a decentralized blockchain network making it harder for the site to be shut down. PLUS they offer cryptocurrency to validated accounts for watching videos that can be sent to a channel in the form of a tip, or it can be used to Boost a particular video you liked. The entire Stephen McNallen / Asatru Folk Assembly video library is there.

Support the AFA at [https://odysee.com/\\$/invite/@AsatruFolkAssembly:e](https://odysee.com/$/invite/@AsatruFolkAssembly:e)

## Óðinshof First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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*She Is Our Folk Mothers*  
by Gray Wilson



*She carries within her the blessed dawn of new LIGHT, within her is a spark most precious and worth defending through any hellish FIGHT.*

*She carries it as a warrior, strong and powerful in her own RIGHT!  
Birthed through blood and pain requiring strength of utmost MIGHT.*

*When you see her, it is the most ethereal of anything in SIGHT.  
For it, we strive onwards never surrendering no matter the PLIGHT.*

*Come now forces of chaos and enemies with terrible BLIGHT.  
You cannot overcome us no matter how dark the NIGHT.*

*For she, she is our inspiration to ascend to a new HEIGHT.  
Her beauty is surreal, her skin silver like moonlight.*

*She is our Folk Mothers her femininity as pure as the color WHITE.*

*And she is our inspiration, burning ever BRIGHT to ever and always carry on our  
FIGHT.*

*She is our Folk Mother, she carries the blessed dawn of new LIGHT.*

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## **Alaska**



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## **Arizona**

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## California

### *May Day at Odinhof*



May Day at Odinhof had a picnic atmosphere, compared to previous gatherings. Both lunch and dinner were enjoyed outdoors in a casual setting. A children's area was the set-up for artwork and Steve Ingle did a Q&A about genealogy; no particular schedule was guiding us. We all knew the Maypole would be our focus for the day.

We did a single ritual - a blot to Yngvi Frey led by our Alsherjargothi. In the brightness of day, we boldly asked for Frey's bounty and blessings. At the completion of the ceremony, Matt Flavel threw wide his arms and called for us to meet at the Maypole.

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Interesting how setting up a Yule tree and making it festive is mirrored in the Maypole. In our case, we had a log over 20 feet tall from the ground up that gleamed in the sunlight. The men were the ones who attached the floral wreath and all the ribbons. With oohs and ahhs, the log was tipped into place. It dwarfed Victor when he stood next

to it. Our plan is to keep it permanently in that spot. Before any of us could grab a ribbon, the wind had already entangled them. We didn't get them untwisted before we just gave up, and with laughter, each took a ribbon. Young folk, old folk – the men walking sunwise and women the opposite to some lively German and Irish music. Without any practice, this was a bit chaotic but absolutely a delight. Wunjo – the joy of the community was felt by all!



*Odinshof Food Pantry*



The Odinhof Food Pantry continues to grow, with one new food source in May. Two days in a row, Gythia Sheila McNallen filled her car to overflowing from food-bank distribution sites, which meant making an extra trip out to Brownsville to unload. The long trip was worth it! We were well-stocked and ready on Saturday when cars began arriving. For one intense hour, a team of AFA members filled a couple of bags for each waiting car.

For June, we're expanding our promotion in Brownsville which will increase our outreach.

Working alongside established non-profits enhances our reputation as they see our dedication to reducing hunger in rural Yuba county. This is a win-win situation for all!

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS at Odinhof***

June 11-13, MIDSUMMER

June 19, Odinhof Food Pantry

July 17, SIGRBLOT & Odinhof Food Pantry

August 21, FREYFAXI & Odinhof Food Pantry

September 18, WINTER FINDING & Odinhof Food Pantry

October 16, Odinhof Food Pantry

October 23, WINTER NIGHTS at Odinhof

November 20, FEAST OF THE EINHERJAR & Odinhof Food Pantry

December 18, YULE & Odinhof Food Pantry.



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## Colorado



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## Idaho

*Rocky Mountain Hearth*

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Rocky Mountain Hearth is making steps toward becoming officiated as an AFA Kindred. Our flag's vector image has come in and our application is submitted. Rocky Mountain Hearth also celebrated a glorious May Day with a Wotan's Blot. We have had several new people attend Kindred events and several new AFA members join and attend their first events. The inland North West is growing!

With all the people moving to the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane areas it's a blessing to also have Asatruar flocking to our area. Many of our Kindred members also attended a large party of good Folk hosted by Henrik and Lana at RedIce.tv. There was much networking and fun involved among AFA, Asatru, and those on the periphery. The North West marches on. Hail Wotan!



Lucas Huston  
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## Nevada



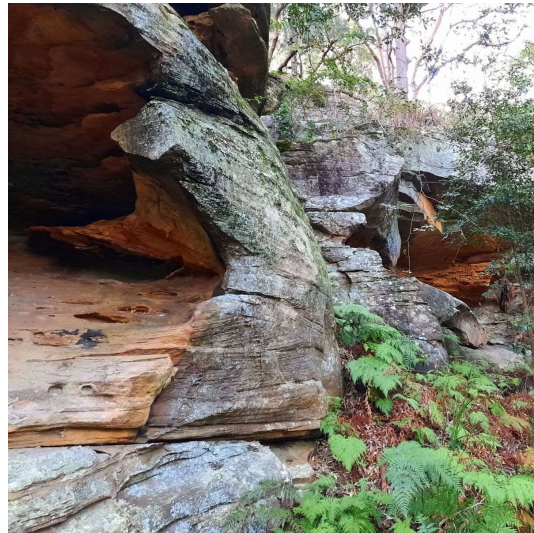
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## Oceania

*Oceania May Social Gathering*

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AFA Oceania members & guests in the New South Wales region of Australia came together during May for a social gathering of our folk. Meeting at a picnic area within a large nature reserve located on the Central Coast. We enjoyed a BBQ lunch together, the children also had a lot of fun playing together outdoors surrounded by nature. After lunch we took a walk through the amazing local bushland, containing natural caves & lookouts taking in the nearby coastal inlet waters.

A great day was had by all that attended. We also really appreciated & enjoyed the



company of some new folk coming along to meet us. Although we are coming close to winter here in the Oceania region, we were favoured with sunshine & warm weather on the day.

Hail the Gods,  
Hail our Folk,  
Hail the AFA.



Tj Rudd  
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## Oregon



Hails from the great Pacific Northwest! I have the pleasure to announce that after many years of little activity we have created a kindred for the Portland, Salem, and the Vancouver Washington Area! We have called it the Northwest Odinsfolk and are confident that it will help spur more growth and fellowship here. We met in May for a blot to Odin wherein we asked for wisdom for the correct strategies and choices to make in our lives for success, as well as victory over the things that may be holding us back in our personal lives. The Nordvestri kindred traveled from Seattle and stayed in the area to attend the blot and support our new kindred, so a great thanks to them and

their camaraderie.

The emblem for the Odinsfolk has a lot of meaning to it. We have the Black Sun which is the ultimate source of Immanence, creative fury, and Will to Power, it is the void from which Being emerges, and into which Non-Being is annihilated. The Black Sun is the illumination of the soul, the exposing of the lie of absolute peace and passivity, and the revelation of action in the cosmos, and interactions and indeed a conflict between different karmas, different Wyrds, as the cause of all increase and manifestation. To manifest a reality, there must be passion and action. There must be the vortex, the inward flow, the concentration of will. The Black Sun represents the first stage of awakening, the nigredo, in which you are forced to confront your "shadow aspects" or the uncomfortable truths about your own nature and past before a conscious change in your life path can be made. [1]



We have the Runes, the primordial energies of the universe won for us by the self-sacrifice of the All-father, Odin. His example of self-imposed austerity spurs us on to our own development, pushing ourselves to become complete beings, mentally, physically, and spiritually. The Runes are as the keys of a piano, each one vibrating its own frequency that when learned in order along with the developing will, leads to enlightenment and the discovery of one's higher purpose here in Midgard. They provide the tools necessary to impose one's will upon the cosmos.

The bind rune in the center of the disc is for connecting with Gods.

Eihwaz-The world tree, this is what is used to establish a connection with the other worlds, on your body the nerves in your spine connect with the Yggdrasil.

Tiwaz- this rune separates energy and matter by Irmunsul so that a manifestation can take place.

Ansuz – this is Odin, it is inspiration, power, and Magic.

Gebo- This is the energetic exchange between us and the deity you are contacting.

Elhaz-this is your fetch, your true self and it facilitates communication with the Gods.

The Odinsfolk emblem can be used to obtain higher states of consciousness. If you stare at it and quiet your mind, it will begin to glow and move. Chant the mantra “Eihwaz, Tiwaz, Ansuz, Gebo”, and every 4th repetition chant “Elhaz, Elhaz”, or the name of a particular deity you wish to connect with. Doing this shifts your awareness into a trance state, it quiets the mind so that you begin to operate as your True-self, the immortal being that occupies the flesh and blood Avatar that you see in the mirror.

This June the main event will be the midsummer festival at the Hof in California, but there are several events around the NW if you cannot participate. As always, 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!

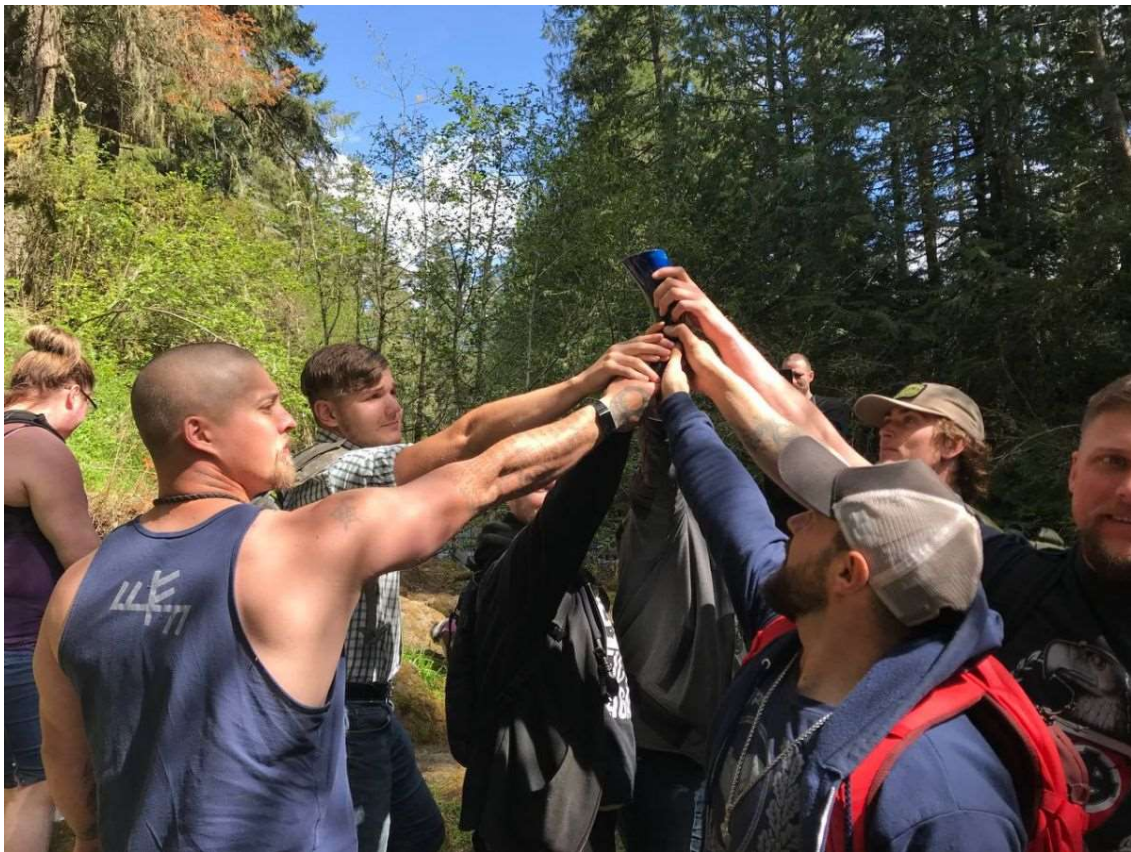
I also host a weekly discussion on Asatru', we cover everything from the mundane to the esoteric. It is every Wednesday evening at 8:00 PST, if you wish to attend send me an email and I will give you the Zoom meeting information. We always learn something and to advance our consciousness here in Midgard is our goal for the betterment of our Folk!



Folkbuilder Joe Rozanek  
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**Washington**



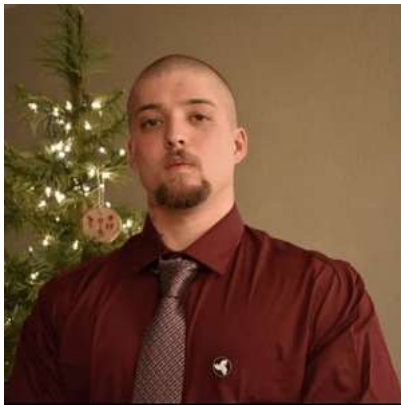
This May started out powerful with a Beautiful May day blot Led by Jarrett Cordell. With 16 Members in attendance, we walked the trails of Deschutes Falls Park until we found a semi-secluded spot along the river to hold our Sacred rite, share frith, and a feast with our kith and kin. Later in the month, we as a kindred traveled to Oregon to

attend a Blot to AllFather hosted by our region's Folkbuilder Joe Rozanek. This blot was an extreme success and Odins offering was received and blessings were bestowed upon us. We were beyond pleased to meet Oregon's new Membership along with old friends and are excited to see the up-in-coming growth in this region. We also maintained our offerings to tThorhor in the temple of iron three times a week throughout the month with very few exceptions and each of us locally have continued growing towards our goals mentally, physically, spiritually, and Temporally. With may behind us now with all its glory and growth we are most certainly looking forward to what June has to bring including a most glorious pilgrimage to Odinshof for most of our kindred to celebrate Midsummer with our Folk.

HAIL THE FOLK!

HAIL THE ANCESTORS!

HAIL THE AFA!



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Connor Norris  
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**Þórshof**  
Second Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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## Alabama



Folkbuilder Trent East  
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## Florida

### *American Crow Kindred*







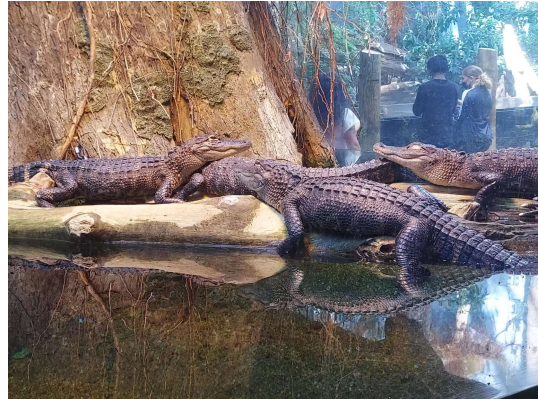
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## Indiana

### *Greetings from Indiana*







We had a very busy month this May. At the beginning of the month, we make a trip down to Chattanooga, TN to meet with members down that way. We went to the Tennessee Aquarium and went hiking up around the mountains.

Later the following weekend half of my kindred joined me at the Elsefest in Wisconsin. What a great time we had. Meeting old friends and new alike. It was my daughter's first big event. It will always be memorable for me.

One of our little ones in the Kindred had a birthday this month. She turned a big one. We love our kiddos.

Then we finished up the month with a May Day celebration and Day of Remembrance for Else. My little girl turned 10 years old this month so we raised a horn in honor of her as well. We also had a new person come to our outing. Great times!

This month has been both eventful and exhausting, to say the least. Good problems to have though. In June, I'll be visiting Ohio for Midsummer, Tennessee for our new apprentice Folkbuilder Jesse's first moot and our Kindred Camp. Anyone who's interested in joining Heimdall's Midgard at camp the weekend of June 25-27th, please email me and I'll forward you the details. Until next time...



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Charles Hopping

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## Italy



Francesco Morese

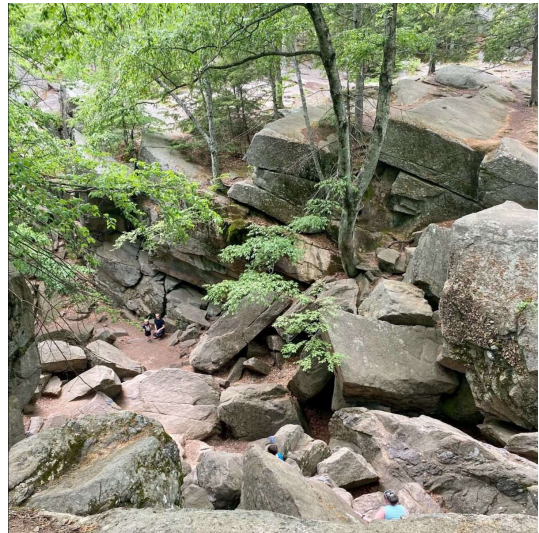
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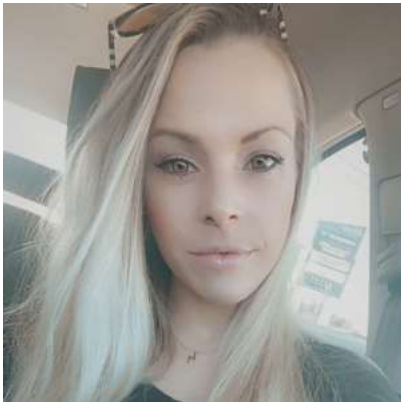
## New England

*Purgatory Chasm Hike*





On Saturday, May 22nd, Folk gathered at Purgatory Chasm in Sutton, MA. We enjoyed a hike in beautiful Midgard. This is only the beginning of the activities planned for the New England area. Watch for more exciting events to come!



Jayme Kirby  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jkirby@runestone.org](mailto:jkirby@runestone.org)

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**New York**

***FUN, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP OF OUR FOLK!***



Hosted by: Daniel Tomkiell, AFA Member NY

Date: Saturday, June 26, 2021

Time: 1:00pm – 6:00pm

Location: Anthony J. Santaro Memorial Park

Street Address: 4977 Velaske Road, Syracuse NY 13215

To all AFA members able to attend from NY and surrounding states. AFA members can bring family and friends. The Park has many great features like beautiful landscaping and walking trails around the lake and for athletic activities as Baseball, Soccer, Lacrosse fields, Tennis and Basketball Courts; and also a playground for the kids. Anyone who attends can bring sports equipment to play during the day.

There are on-site cooking grills. Everyone can bring homemade dishes, desserts, and beverages. The main food will be grilled bratwurst, German Hoffman Hotdogs, and hamburgers to eat.

We can come together and discuss the EDDA's and spiritual Asatru subjects pertaining to Our great Folk and culture. We can bring together a stronger understanding of Our heathen pagan living practices and become united because we meet each other with

honor and respect. We live by the Nine Virtues so I welcome all my fellow Folk to attend!

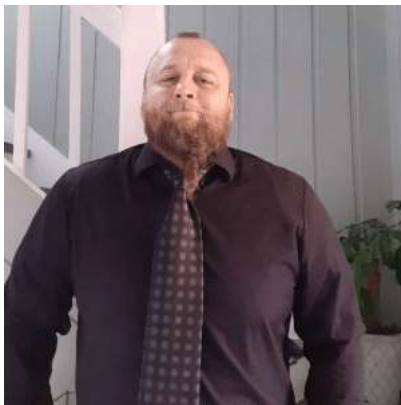
There is Upper and Lower sections of Onondaga Hill Park, so we can configure where to meet that will give access to the facilities I explained above. May the weather be calm and pristine and the Asgard Gods favor us this day and oversee Our fellowship!!

HAIL VICTORY!! HAIL ODIN!! HAIL WOTAN!! HAIL THE AESIR AND VANIR!!

AFA Member Daniel Tomkiell

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## Norway



Werner Holm  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[wholm@runestone.org](mailto:wholm@runestone.org)

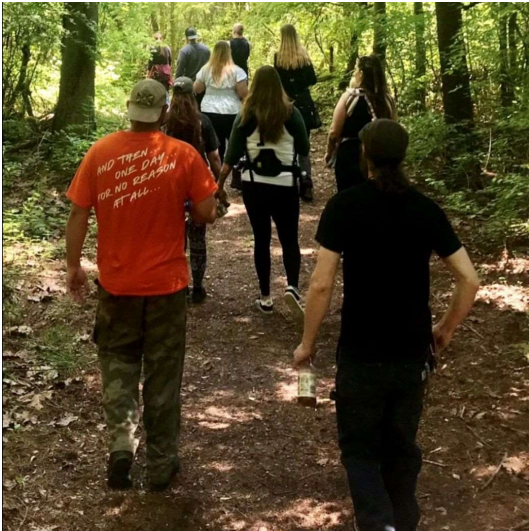
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## Ohio

### *Columbus Ohio Moot*

On Sunday, May 16th your Ohio Folk met at Three Creeks Metro Park in Columbus, Ohio with the intention of doing a park cleanup. Well, this was probably the most immaculate park I have seen in my life and was in no need of our help, but why waste the opportunity to have a good time?! So we took off on many of the beautiful trails, having laughs and all manner of discussions. After working up a good appetite we stopped by a local restaurant for some refreshments and continued the Frith for several hours.

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I would like to announce the formation of a new probationary AFA Kindred: Under Ash + Oak. It encompasses Central to Southern Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Northwestern West Virginia all along the Ohio River. We are very excited to see our flags up in the Hofs one day!

Join us Saturday, June 19th at my home in Athens, Ohio for a Summer Solstice celebration. There will be outdoor activities, plenty of food, a flower crown workshop, a Blot, Sumbel, a bonfire, and all the Frith you can handle. Bring your tent, and we ask for no hard alcohol.



Timothy Dumas  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[tdumas@runestone.org](mailto:tdumas@runestone.org)

### *Mayday Celebration*





On the first day of May, with a shining sun and singing birds, the folk of Ohio came together for our Mayday celebration. Food, frith, and drinks as far as the eye could see we're enjoyed many new and old faces shared games of chess and great conversation as well. The men prepared the maypole and one fine young man of twelve made a massive fire all on his own, instilling pride in the older attendees. The ladies worked diligently to ensure a proper feast and made wonderful flower crowns adding to the beauty of the special occasion. A wonderful blot was officiated by our own Jessica Lambert as always, the ladies offering their blessing and the men taking part in a powerful galdr around the fire led by fallen timbers kindred member Chris. The main celebration was incredible but I believe the small goings-on are equally as important. From the young one, aged four, wheeling fuel for the fire in his little wagon to the lovely new friendships made that day. This is what it's all about, community and the love of our people and Gods. I wish you all a beautiful spring and prosperous summer.



Joe Drotos  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jdrotos@runestone.org](mailto:jdrotos@runestone.org)



Jessica Lambert  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jlambert@runestone.org](mailto:jlambert@runestone.org)

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## Pennsylvania

It has once again been a month with much activity in the Northeast!

*Camping at World's End*





First up was a camping trip hosted by the Lansdale Tru Folk at World's End State Park in Forksville, PA. It was by far one of the most beautiful areas we have ever been to. It is a very rugged area with no cell phone service 20 mins in or out. Obviously, it was nice to disconnect from the noise so to speak, and be with our AFA family instead. The worry for us that weekend was the weather. It was supposed to rain heavily the whole time but instead, it didn't. Luck was with us! We went on a few hikes, ate, and sat around the fire enjoying our time together. I hope to do something like this some time again soon. Thank you once again to all that came.

### *May Day in Lansdale*





Next was May Day in Lansdale. We arrived in the afternoon as we usually do and with the nice weather spent our time outside. We all talked for a while till it was time for Blot led by Gythia Erickson. That day we honored Asa Freyr and Freya. During the Blot, we took a walk through the woods and were told to think about all the beautiful things we have in our lives. Things to be grateful for. For me, I saw visions of my children and wife. I'm sure some may have seen other things but, I am always amazed how during ritual my concentration or vision is so much clearer than normal. Something is certainly different in a very special way. We circled back to the fire and gave what we found in the woods to our Lord and Lady as an offering and soon after Blot had ended. Not long after we ate. The food, especially the burgers, was very good. Maybe the best I have ever had. The night was soon coming to a close and it was time for Sumbel. We sat around the fire listening to the children playing in the background on a quiet Saturday night putting words of praise into the Well. Thank you to all that attended that night and thank you as always to the Erickson's for having us at your home.

*AFA Wotan on the Peaks Hike*





Lastly, AFA Members gather for one of the monthly Wotan on the Peaks hikes!

Hail Odin!



Folkbuilder Adam Hudak  
[ahudak@runestone.org](mailto:ahudak@runestone.org)



Gythia Catie Erickson  
[cm.erickson@runestone.org](mailto:cm.erickson@runestone.org)



Witan Clifford Erickson  
[cerickson@runestone.org](mailto:cerickson@runestone.org)

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## South Carolina

### *Þórshof News*

We are hosting our first annual Midsummer at Þórshof on June 19 starting at 1:00 pm. Arrival is at 11:00 am. Bring a dish of your choice, as always we are having a potluck meal. Enjoy being in the company of you Folk as we give thanks and Blot to the most beautiful of our gods, Baldr. The return of Summer is a wonderful time to celebrate Baldr, the reawakening of our folk-soul, and share Frith with our folk!

We would love to see as many of our folk as possible come out and celebrate. Please reach out to your Folkbuilder for details.



Folkbuilder Daniel Young

[dyoung@runestone.org](mailto:dyoung@runestone.org)



Heather Young

Apprentice Folkbuilder

[hyoung@runestone.org](mailto:hyoung@runestone.org)

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## Tennessee

### *Florence Alabama Moot*

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Jesse Parton, Zach Cato, Justin, and his wife and two kids, all met at Deibert Park in Florence Alabama. After a stroll through the park, and good conversations about getting people together, we all got out of the heat and drove to a Mexican Restaurant. After good food, we headed to the Mall, where we explored and continued discussions. Then we had one last talk in the parking lot as it began to lightly rain. Which was much appreciated, as the day was too hot. We look forward to meeting again and bringing more people together in the Alabama Area.

*Nashville Parthenon Moot*







Jesse Parton, Zach Cato, and Bill Sapp all met at the Parthenon in Nashville Tennessee. After being awe-struck at the magnificent job they did at replicating it, we drove to a long-horn steak house and enjoyed a meal and conversation. After which we took a walk at a nearby park.

Jesse Parton



Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jparton@runestone.org](mailto:jparton@runestone.org)

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## Virginia

### *Man-making Ceremony*



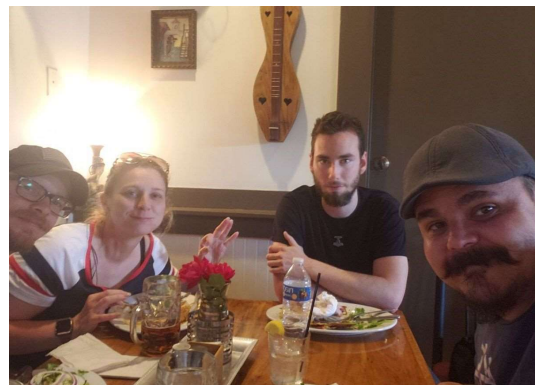
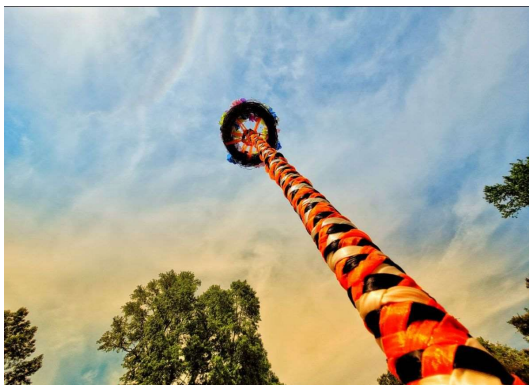
On May 7th, 2021 Thorshof had its very first boy start his journey into manhood. The Man-making ceremony of Colin Raynard, son of Apprentice Folkbuilder Cody Raynard was held at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach, VA. With Witan Svan Herul leading the ceremony, it was a night filled with joyful banter and love of the Folk. Colin, surrounded by close family and friends witnessed his dedication to becoming a noble man of the Folk, as well taking his first steps into the role of Torch-bearer. With his stepmother giving him to the menfolk and leaving behind his childish ways, we hope to see nothing but great things from him in the future.

Hail Colin Raynard!



Cody Raynard  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[craynard@runestone.org](mailto:craynard@runestone.org)

*Rob Stamm Update*



Greetings!

I hope everyone has had a fantastic month. We have been busy at Thorshof. This month our friend Folkbuilder Trent East married his love, madison. Several folks traveled to Georgia to attend the wedding officiated by our very own Gothi Svan Herul. The day after the wedding there was a meetup in the beautiful town of Helen Georgia. Helen is

made of look like a bavarian village in the alps. Members enjoyed a meal together and walked around town to take in the sights.

Later in the month, we held May Day at Thorshof, and what a grand May Day it was! Our beautiful maypole stood proud to the sky as our folk danced and weaved around it. Look forward to seeing more folk venture to the temple, we hope to see you



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[rstamm@runestone.org](mailto:rstamm@runestone.org)



Witan Svan Herul  
[sherul@runestone.org](mailto:sherul@runestone.org)



Jacob Wells  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jwells@runestone.org](mailto:jwells@runestone.org)

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**West Virginia**

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On Saturday, June 12, Stonewall Kindred hosted a moot at Cafe Anglais, a traditional English restaurant and tea room in Frederick, Maryland, with 10 adults and 8 children

in attendance. On this very important occasion, two new families came to meet us after having reached out over email through [runestone.org](http://runestone.org). Both were homeschooling families looking for a community of like-minded folk in which to set down roots. They came with an earnest hope of finding warmth, community, family, and a quest for spiritual growth, and found it! For 3 hours we sat and discussed their interest in Asatru, family traditions, homeschooling, health, and the culture of the AFA. All who attended said it was a great success, and we are looking forward to welcoming these two new couples and their children into the AFA and our Gard.



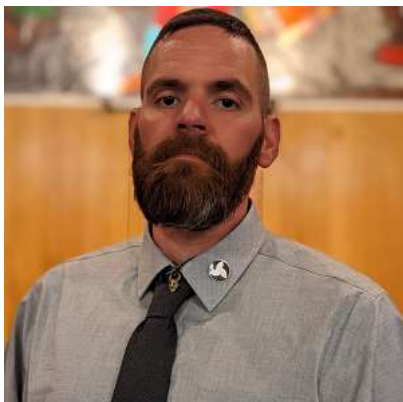
Patrick Cook  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[pcook@runestone.org](mailto:pcook@runestone.org)

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## Baldrshof Third Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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### Arkansas



Michael Sessumes  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[mssesumes@runestone.org](mailto:mssesumes@runestone.org)

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## Illinois



James Cummings  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[jcummings@runestone.org](mailto:jcumings@runestone.org)

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## Louisiana



Michael Foley  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[mfoley@runestone.org](mailto:mfoley@runestone.org)

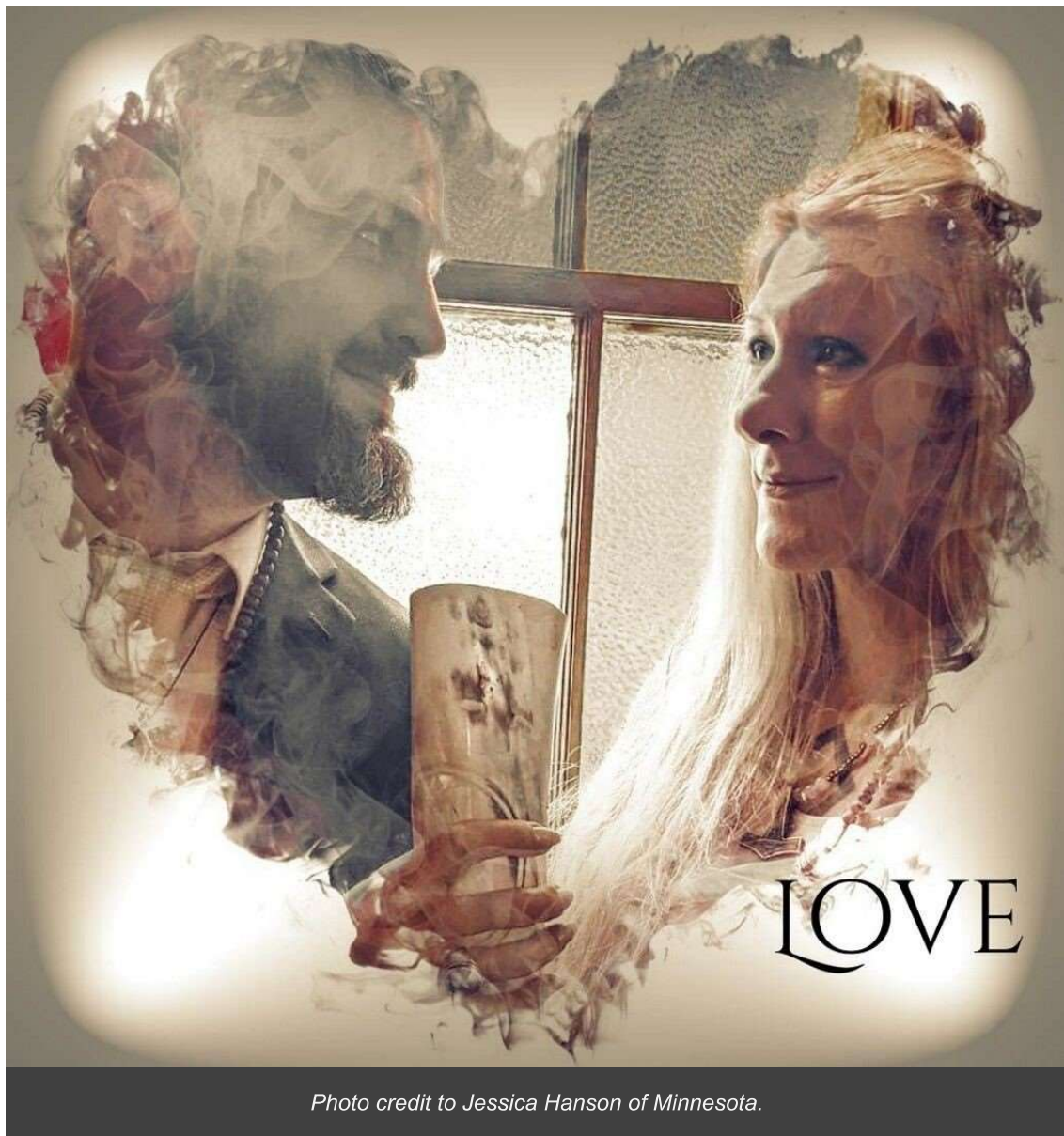
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## Minnesota

### *Engagement Announcement*







Baldrshof District celebrates the announcement of the engagement of Gothi Jason Plourde and Gythia Anna Szczepanski of Minnesota. Gothi Plourde and Gythia Szczepanski have been a vital team at Baldrshof and what better way to celebrate this union than at Baldrshof itself this Fall!

Congratulations to you both from the leadership and Folk of Baldrshof District and the AFA!

Witan Brandy Callahan  
[bcallahan@runestone.org](mailto:bcallahan@runestone.org)



*Meet and Greet in St. Cloud*



On Sunday, May 2, 2021, AFA members and friends met for an absolutely tasty lunch at the Olde Brick House pub and restaurant. Eleven of us and a baby shared food and frith in a historic Irish pub, catching up with old friends and making new ones. Thank you all who came out to meet, especially those who drove over three hours to attend.



Ashley Mcstocker  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[amcstocker@runestone.org](mailto:amcstocker@runestone.org)

*Baldrshof Work Weekend and May Day*

We had a great turnout of folk at Baldrshof this weekend to work. Thank you all that helped out with this community effort!

We made a ton of headway on meeting the city ordinances for us to operate. Dug and planted 20 lilacs with more to come. The grass was mowed, the post holes were dug for the privacy fence with materials hauled in, the majority of the posts were cemented in place, and the weeding is done around the building.

Still, to come- the concrete front steps, finishing the fence, planting the remainder of lilacs, wood floor finishing, hauling materials to landfill, and steeple repairs. We also need a plumber that can make time to come out.

With the work that was done this weekend, the Gothar here planned and executed a successful May Day event that folk joined in throughout the day taking breaks from work to enjoy. Thank you, Gothi Jason and Gythia Anna Mae.



Nathan Erlandson  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[nerlandson@runestone.org](mailto:nerlandson@runestone.org)

*Northern Blood Kindred*





Spring has sprung at Baldrshof! We celebrated Mayday with our first Maypole at Baldrshof. With a productive workday that ran simultaneously. Members came as far as Illinois, Wisconsin, and North Dakota. Lilacs were planted and the fence was put up. Things are coming together fast! The next Holy Day is Midsummer June 19th at Baldrshof. This month we started the first food drive here in Murdock, MN at Baldrshof. We truly have been blessed in this region. If you are within traveling distance to any of the three Hof's, I highly recommend coming together with your folk if you are able. Nothing more powerful than spending time with your folk at one of our Holy Temples. Thank you to everyone who has donated time and money to Baldrshof. We appreciate it!

Stay tuned for more events with Northern Blood Kindred. We have a few events that we will announce next month.



Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher  
[jgallagher@runestone.org](mailto:jgallagher@runestone.org)

*Baldrshof Update*



The first May at Baldrshof has been a month of planning, brainstorming, and coming together to ensure that this Hof has a great start. While continuing to work on the Hof itself, the leadership team in Baldrshof District has begun to lay the groundwork for this Hof to be the place where the Folk is inspired to shine. Expect plans to be unveiled in the near future for book studies, crafting days, and other events.

On May 22nd, the Folk gathered for a combined workday and May Day event. While continuing to work on the exterior of the Hof, they also had the opportunity to chat candidly with leadership about the plans for the Hof, and future projects. We welcomed in the summer with a jubilant Maypole dance, the first of many to come. Gothi Jason Plourde then led a blot to Freyr, thanking him for the increasing prosperity of our Folk as we continue to grow.

If there are ever any questions, feel free to reach out to any member of the Baldrshof Team! We are always happy to talk.

Hail Baldr!

***Baby Announcement***

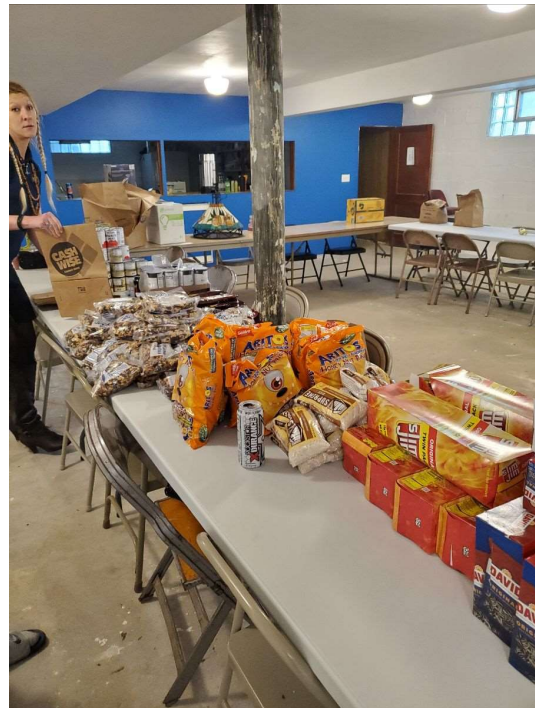


Charles Ludwig was born on May 9th, 2021 to Janine and Connor of Wisconsin. He is the couple's third child and was welcomed by his two older brothers. Welcome to the AFA family!  
Hail Charles!



Gythia Anna Szczepanski  
[aszczepanski@runestone.org](mailto:aszczepanski@runestone.org)

*Baldrshof Food Shelf Distribution*



On May 29th Folk from Baldrshof came together to distribute food, hygiene items, and paper goods, to folks in need in Murdock, MN. The hof was able to raise far more than expected for the first food distribution thanks to the footwork & outreach of Folkbuilders Ashely McStocker and Nate Erlandson.

A big thank you as well to Witan Brandy Callahan and Gythia Anna Szczepanski, who diligently sorted donations, so a family of four could have a well-balanced & rounded meal from the donations we received, during Baldrshof first Sobriety & Recovery group meeting.

The amazing work and effort the folk of Baldrshof have been putting forth, ended up



feeding 10 families and even bringing in former detractors who came in humbled, to thank everyone for the work being done for the greater Murdock community.



Gothi Jason Plourde  
[jplourde@runestone.org](mailto:jplourde@runestone.org)

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### Missouri



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills  
[mmills@runestone.org](mailto:mmills@runestone.org)

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### North Dakota

*Meet & Greet*



On Sunday, May 16th, local AFA members and several friends gathered for Food and Frith in Dickinson, ND. The adults competed in a friendly competition of axe throwing and the kids played a variety of games.

We discussed Else Christensen and the importance of her Day of Remembrance and about upcoming holidays and events in our area.

It was a pleasure to see new members enjoy their first gathering and to catch up with friends who haven't seen each other in awhile.

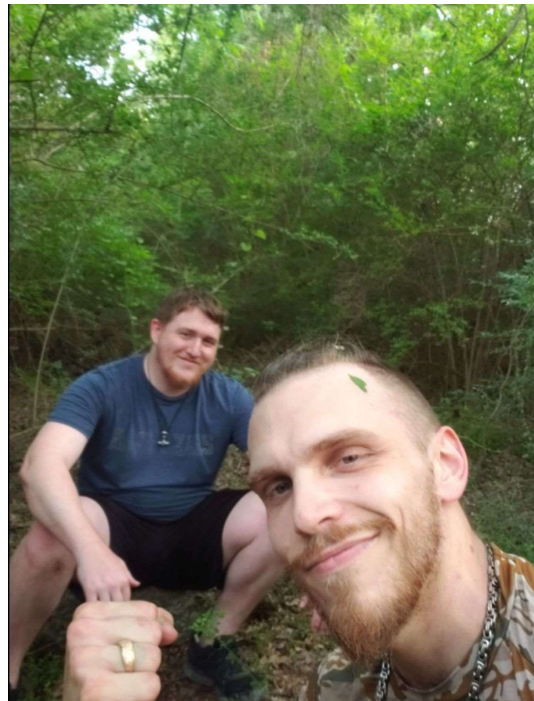
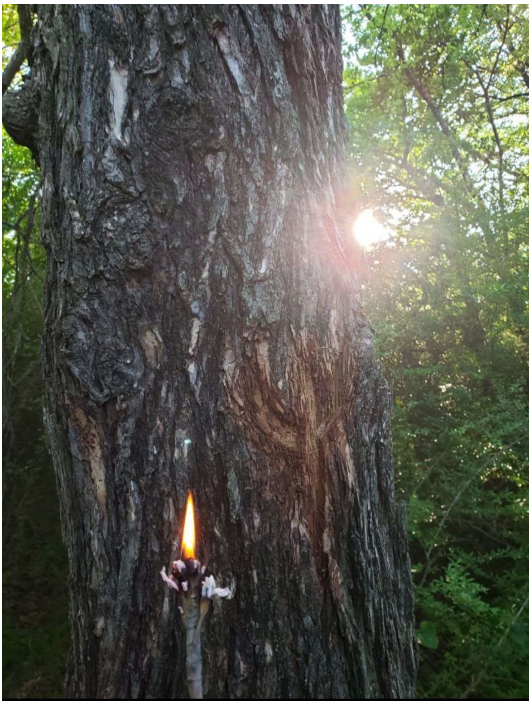


Witan Brandy Callahan  
[bcallahan@runestone.org](mailto:bcallahan@runestone.org)

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## Texas

### *May Events*



Unfortunately, Texas had to cancel our MayDay festivities due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. We had three informal moots, hikes, and meet and greets throughout the month. One of those moots involved camping out on a beautiful piece of property in Seguin, Texas. Many of our members in the Dallas/Fort Worth region have committed to gathering throughout the month in small groups. We are currently looking forward to a big event for Midsummer on the 26th and 27th of June. Planning for that event has been a great team effort and we look forward to welcoming many of our new members in Texas to their first gathering. Friendship and Frith continue to blossom, and we are looking forward to a bright future as we continue to build, grow, and expand in the great state of Texas.



Lori Wadsworth  
Apprentice Folkbuilder  
[lwadsworth@runestone.org](mailto:lwadsworth@runestone.org)



Gothi Kevin Long  
[klong@runestone.org](mailto:klong@runestone.org)

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## Wisconsin

The start of the month of May brought people from all over the United States together for the Else Christensen Memorial in Wisconsin. We ended up having over 50 men, women, and lots of children in attendance. Friday night saw the Folk get settled in the beautiful forest campgrounds. Zach Cato gave a wonderful talk on ancestral veneration. The men of the Vedrfolnir Clan prepared a traditional Wisconsin Fish boil and good frith was had by all. Like the sunset, a procession up a candle-lit path to the sacred circle for a powerful Wotan's Blot lead by Matthew Flavel. Conversations around firepits were had long into the night. Saturday brought a teaching on Else Christensen by James Ault, followed by a very moving Else Blot by Gythia Anna.

After lunch, Viking games were held. Men and women competed with atlatl, hammer toss, spear, and ax. The winner received a trophy specially designed for the event by Apprentice Folkbuilder James Cummings. This was followed by lively men's and women's discussion groups. After supper brought an auction which raised enough money to cover the expenses needed for the roof at Baldrhof. Such a wonderful day was ended with a sumbel and a proposal...the second engagement of the event!

Sunday everyone enjoyed a meaningful Blot by Witan Callahan in honor of Mother's day where the women Folk used their voice as one. We would like to thank everyone who came, donated, helped in the kitchen, helped with the children, the games, and the clean-up. Special thank you to the AFA kindred Vedrfolnir Clan for your willingness to host, plan, cook, and help in every way possible.



On May 21st several AFA members from Wisconsin made the journey up to Baldrhof for the weekend to work on fencing, security, and steps. A lot of hard work was put in to make it easier to meet the June 1st deadline. While there, Gothi Jason hosted a May Day celebration and Blot. Hail the doers.



The end of the month brought the monthly meet and greet for Wisconsin members. This month's event was held in Germantown at Von Rothenburg Bier Stube. Meet and greets for members to get to know each other are held on the last Sunday of every month. Next month's event will be held at an escape room with lunch after. Reminders will be sent out by email, text, and phone calls. Any questions please contact James Ault.



Folkbuilder James Ault

[jault@runestone.org](mailto:jault@runestone.org)



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