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Words from the Alsherjargothi

I would like to start off by thanking Witan Clifford Erickson and his lovely wife Gythia Catie Erickson for hosting an amazing Winter Nights in the Poconos. This was our 9th Winter Nights in the Poconos and it was the best yet. Huge thank you to Lansdale Trufolk and all the people who helped make this event such a success.

At Winter Nights, I had the honor of administering the Folkbuilder oath to both Adam Hudak and Daniel Young, welcoming these gentlemen into the ranks of AFA leadership.

Speaking of Folkbuilders, this month we added two new Apprentices to our Folkbuilding program. William Migala of Tennessee stepped forward to build the folk in the AFA's Upper South Region and Lori Wadsworth of Texas will help to build the folk in the AFA's South Central Region.

As we near the end of 2020 and the year we have celebrated 25 years of the AFA, I

would like us all to take time to make a note of all the many things we have to

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be thankful for. This year has brought many amazing things for our Asatru Folk Assembly, very significantly, the establishment of Þórshof and Baldurshof. It is important that we give thanks for the huge things like the



establishment of temples as the AFA. It is also very important that we give thanks for the smaller and more personal things in our daily lives. Our lives swell with the blessings bestowed upon us by friends, by our family, by our mighty ancestors, and by our holy Gods. As we feast, let us all have a mind toward thankfulness and appreciation.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org

Óðinshof - First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

Winter Nights – Year Six

As in years past, people came from all over for this special seasonal gathering. This event took more prep than most because we focus on our families and typical Halloween-type activities for our children. Our hof grounds were transformed with spider webs, skeletons, and pumpkins, and so the games began. One very special treat was the making of bird feeders using pine cones, suet, and seeds which one of our moms provided.

followed with a Self Reliance Skills workshop on how to start fires using a simple bow-and-drill.

Another highlight of the day was our short, but significant, walk to our newly acquired land for an official “land taking.” Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel called out to our Gods and the Landvaettr of our respect for this sacred space, as we anointed it with mead and bread made as an Othala rune. To a drumbeat, we all walked that land with great reverence. It did not take long for our children to discover this magical place and fill it with their youthful energy, creating a new world for wild imaginations and games of hide-and-seek well into the evening.

As for the occasion of Winter Nights, Gythia Sheila McNallen spoke of this season when the veil between the worlds is at its thinnest, and how to imagine those noble women from our own family lines when called on to join us at the Disablot that evening. Then, at Sheila's request, Steve read aloud his well-known poem “October Women” which also describes the essence of Lady Freya as *Vanadis* -- the goddess of this holy tide.

Following late afternoon pumpkin carving and a superb feast in our hall decked out in autumnal magnificence, we prepared for the Disablot. The women waited in the torchlit circle with a lilting song of welcome for the men who filed in, in preparation to again connect with their Ancestral Mothers.

The day had been full and rewarding by the time a dozen or so people gathered around the sumbel-fire. For those folk otherwise occupied and not part of the Sumbel, the one phrase that was shouted over and over, melding into the darkness, was “Hail the AFA!” Hail, indeed!

Folk Gather to Honor Guido von List Following Monthly Food Distribution

After the tumult of fires, smoke, power outages, and Covid - the October food distribution went on without a hitch. Our own Odinshof team worked smoothly with the staffers who came on the truck from Yuba City. We continue to build our reputation with the Yuba/Sutter Food Bank and are now ready to stock the shelves as our own Odinshof Church Food Pantry. Special thanks go out to Milena, Jim, Steve, and Sheila for volunteering today.

In honor of Odin World Prayer Day, Guido von List, and the AFA's accomplishments, they raised a horn together while standing beneath a giant cedar tree on a piece of land which is finally ours. The contiguous parcel was wonderful to behold, as they poured a

Dedicated Volunteers Clean Up Former Homeless Camp

A huge thank you to our volunteers that came out this weekend to clear the camp from our new property next to Odishof. This camp has been an issue for the community for over a year. We assisted the campers in moving what they wanted to storage and disposed of the rest in a giant dumpster. All this was done in one day because of the amazing dedication of a dozen of our members. The community is grateful, local law enforcement is grateful and the AFA is grateful. We are excited to see future possibilities for this area!!

Also a thank you to Victor for hanging a sign at the entrance of the firefighters base camp showing our appreciation for the brave crews who saved this beautiful mountain community and our Hof from the North Complex Fire.

Upcoming Dates

Odishof Work Weekends before Yule

Contact Krystal Bailey (kbailey@runestone.org) if you want to help out. A work schedule will be announced soon.

Yuba-Sutter Food Bank monthly distribution

We need volunteers to help on Friday, November 13th, and also December 11th. Duration is about two hours, beginning at 10 am.

Feast of the Einherjar, November 14th

This will be a typical 10 am – 10 pm event, but it is possible to stay overnight at Odishof. More information will be emailed to our members. sheila@runestone.org

Nevada County Food and Toy Run, December 12th

The AFA is confirmed as a vendor at this year's event at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. This has been a fun and rewarding holiday tradition for us, so please join us as a volunteer in our booth selling pulled-pork sandwiches.

Yuletide Celebration at Odishof, December 19

This is always a day of great merriment and feasting, gift-giving, and song.



Gythia Sheila McNallen

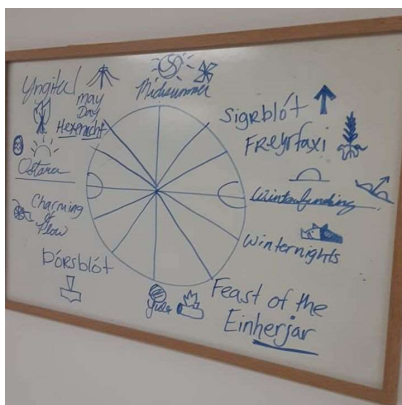
sheila@runestone.org

Þórshof - Second Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly



On October 3rd we had an impromptu workday where Gothi Svan Herul, Apprentice Folkbuilder Cody Raynard, and Brookelyn Gates went to work moving pews and flags at Þórshof.

The dedication of the Folk in the Upper South region to building a legacy for future generations is awe-inspiring. May we start the flames of the torch and pass them on to the next with our words and deeds.



For those who attended Winter Nights at Thorshof, they were inundated with the class that Gothi Svan Herul taught us the different Blots for the year. We were led through the meanings and times of the year that each Blot was to be held. Gothi Svan helped us to visualize a different symbol for each Blot and made it very simple and easy to follow.

After the Winter Nights ritual, we have a wonderful dinner. We sat around and had great conversations with each other sharing laughter and good memories. Then after the sun went down, we gathered for the Winter Nights "Battle". With the battle between the Light and Dark sides clashing in combat, Gothi Svan conducted the ritual and looked

into the way the battle went. We thank all of the warriors and participants who joined in this occasion

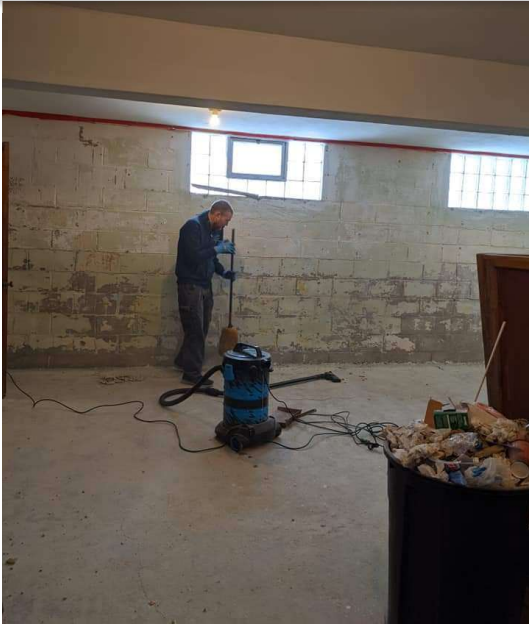
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Cody Raynard
Apprentice Folkbuilder
craynard@runestone.org

Baldurshof - Third Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly





This month, the Northern Plains leadership team took a look at what it would take to create not only a safe and comfortable place for our members but also what we needed to do to create the best possible home for our bright and shining god.

After weighing all of our options, we decided that this is a job that we would rather do right the first time, even though it may take a little bit more time than originally planned.

We have since gathered in Murdock every weekend, to put our time and effort into this new temple. This month has been mostly dedicated to the basement, which we are turning into the feast hall. Old walls have been ripped out, and new ones have been put up. We tackled the ongoing humidity problem and scraped off layers of paint to make way for something new. In all of this, we have also gotten to know each other as we have laughed, cried, and torn down walls together.

There is still plenty of work to go around, so nobody needs to worry about missing out! If you are interested in helping to create a beautiful Hof, please reach out to any member of the Northern Plains leadership team, or to your local folk builder!

Gythia Anna Mae

afunk@runestone.org



The Hoftollar

WHAT IS IT?

The Hoftollar is the AFA's newest membership contribution payment form, and is already making a tremendous difference in how we pay for the things that make Asatru actually happen!

Among other things, this is how we pay off the current Hofs and acquire new ones. Many people pay the bare minimum of \$10/month, which is fine and is still no small amount as it adds up. However, the Hoftollar is great for the individual because it helps you contribute more, but affects your monthly finances with less of an impact because it can be as little as 1% of your paycheck!

IN RESPONSE TO THE ARGUMENT THAT HOFTOLLAR IS A "CHRISTIAN THING"

Much like the word and concept of a church, the Hoftollar/"tithing" is a EUROPEAN concept utilized by our Christian ancestors to better their communities! When Christianity was all out Folk had, their churches meant a great deal to them, as that was where they went to try to connect with the Divine. Because of this, it was considered a very noble thing to contribute to the upkeep of those buildings!

We are now blessed enough to have this option, and we can use it to build more temples to OUR Gods for OUR people to worship in!

AS A "META-RITUAL"...

When we participate in a blöt, we do the "heart to hand to horn", where we focus our

or Goddess is being praised in that particular ritual.

This is similar, although much more mundane. With the Hoftollar, we are each putting a percentage of our hard-earned money into a combined effort to honor our Gods by building temples in their name!

HOW DO I SET IT UP?

Long story short: you can contact me or your local Folkbuilder!

Long story long: you will be sent a form with the AFA's bank account and routing numbers so that you can give them to your payroll department and ask them to put a percentage of every paycheck into that account. It may sound awkward, but I promise that donating to your church is already a very common thing!

Please consider paying with Hoftollar, as even 1% will make more of a difference than the \$10/month option! It is TAX-DEDUCTIBLE!

And if you have any questions at all, reach out to me here on Facebook, or email me at teast@runestone.org!



Folkbuilder Trent East

teast@runestone.org

Kindred Spotlight

Stoneship Hearth



In this month's Kindred Spotlight the AFA would like to honor and thank The Stoneship Hearth of Massachusetts. These guys are busy every month hosting events for our Holy Days and honoring our Gods and Ancestors. AFA Kindreds are the local congregations that host events and represent our church. Thank you for everything you do and for being a Noble representative of our church.

Hail The Stoneship Hearth!



Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher
AFA Kindred Coordinator
jgallagher@runestone.org

Winter Nights in the Poconos IX



Months of planning and preparations all accumulated into the 9th Winter Nights in the Poconos.

Many arrived Friday. They took a few hours to get settled into the cabins and catch up with old friends or meet many for the first time. Around 3:00 we welcomed the Gods and made the space our own for the weekend. Before we knew it dinner was over and it was time for the Octoberball fest. Some danced and some had beer, and some did both but, we laughed and enjoyed ourselves late into the night.

Saturday morning we had breakfast and soon after some participated in a PT session

of the battles we face and some solutions to them.

A great dinner was served and soon after Folkbuilder Young and myself took our oaths to be inducted as official leaders in the AFA. We are both honored and happy to forever serve our Folk. Soon after we had our auction with many great items going home with our members. I'm sure they will be cherished forever along with the memories already built.

It was now time for us to do what we truly set out to do, to hold Blot and to honor the ones that gave us life, our beautiful and noble women of the past, our Disir. The Blot was very powerful. In the woods, we could all feel their presence. When it was all over I'll never forget the look on some of our members' faces. Changed forever by this beautiful experience.

We finished up the night with Sumbel. Late into the night, we said words of power, words of praise, and words of thanks to the Ones sometimes unseen, to the ones we will one day join again, and to the ones still with us doing right deeds.

Sunday it was time to say goodbye. The Wayfarers Blot was held and we went our separate ways again but, the power from that special weekend in the Poconos is still in and around us as we go about our days. Till next time and I'm so happy to have spent it with all of you.

Folkbuilder Adam Hudak
ahudak@runestone.org

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!

January 22 - 24

Thorfest 2021

Colorado

<https://thorfest2021.eventbrite.com>

February 5 - 7

Charming of the Plow 2021

Washington

<https://charmingoftheplow.eventbrite.com>

Ves Heill!

Witan Clifford J. Erickson

cerickson@runestone.org

Alaska

Torben Robert Whisman

On October the 6th, Folkbuilder Eric Whisman and his Fiancée Josie Willis welcomed their first-born son into Midgard.

(much to the
annoyance of friends
and family) we held a
naming ceremony at
our house, led by
Gothi Steven Morrell with our Kindred and both our
families in attendance. It was a happy and joyous
occasion filled with emotion and a few tears as we
welcomed Torben Robert Whisman into his family
and his Tribe.

Hail the Whismans!

Hail the Willis's!

Hail Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar!

Hail the AFA!

Hail Torben Robert Whisman!

Folkbuilder Eric Whisman

ewhisman@runestone.org

Australia

The night of the 9th of October was a great night Wynter from my Kindred and her
mum Darinka travelled 6 hours to Newcastle from Canberra and came to my place for
an Odin blot. Using locally produced mead we all found it to be very positive and
moving. All enjoyed my home-style French cooking afterwards as we enjoyed Chicken
Marengo and Traditional Ratatouille all washed down with the local mead.

I have been honoured by our gods that they have sent these two Shield Maidens to be
part of my kindred and our movement. Darinka decided to apply to join the AFA. At

the end of the night, they presented me with a wonderful
pot plant as a token of their appreciation of the blot and

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my hospitality.

All round a successful night.

Peter Walker
AFA Member
Newcastle, Australia

Deep South

We held a small but moving blot to the Disir honoring Freya; the most splendid of the Disir, and the húsfrú to whom she lends her name; our female ancestors. We made an offering that the Goddesses may turn the thoughts of our men and women to love, listen to the oaths and vǫrðar made between them, and guard the doors of our halls and lock out those who should not enter.

Kneeling to our forbearers we remembered the hardships they endured so that we could enjoy the beauties of Midgard and take strength in our daily lives from the examples they have set. After blot, we shared the stories and pictures of our ancestors building the bonds of Frith.

Our study group finished the 'Culture of the Teutons' this month and look forward to our next journey together as we grow in our knowledge and understanding of the faith. Planning for Yule in Florida has begun and we have secured our venue. We fully expect this to be our biggest and best event hosted by the American Crow Kindred yet!

Lane Ashby
Apprentice Folkbuilder
lashby@runestone.org

This month, we had quite a few of our Appalachian Folk make the long pilgrimage up to Pennsylvania for the AFA's east coast Winter Nights event!

As always, this was one of the highlights of my year. It was such a pleasure being able to see my AFA family, meet new members, and to see all the little ones running around.

It was also my tremendous honor to be able to witness the Folkbuilder oaths of my good friends Daniel Young and Adam Hudak. Welcome to the team, gentlemen!



Folkbuilder Trent East
teast@runestone.org

Europe

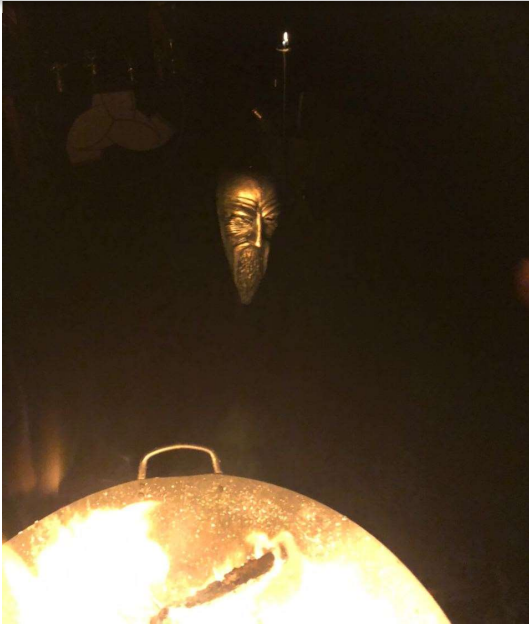
Norway



Noregr Kindred visited gravesites and a stone ring in Tingelstad Norway. This place is rich in very old sites dated from before b.c. to 1000 a.d. We held a ting to discuss future events and the road ahead and also held a short blot.

Sweden





Hroptatyr held alvablot outside of Trollhättan in a stone circle from the iron age. After the ritual, we grilled sausages over the fire and share some thoughts and laughs! Hail our forebearers! Hail Hroptatyr! and Hail AFA!

Andreas Svensson, AFA Member



Folkbuilder Anders Nilsson
anilsson@runestone.org

Midwest

Indiana

We had a great camping trip this month. We've begun doing some Stav training on Saturdays. We are having a lot of fun with that. We celebrated Winter Nights and had a wonderful chili dinner. We also had a new member come to visit us. We've had a lot of new people this year visit with my kindred. It's been an exciting year for us!

Winter Nights usually comes to the end of our

camping trips for the year. For the first time, we will be renting cabins until the campsites open back up. We are very excited to be continuing our weekend trips instead of meeting at a restaurant for a few hours. It really is a game-changer holding things over the span of a weekend instead of an evening.



The next Indiana Moot will be November 21st. If you are interested in attending please reach out to me for more information. Until next time...



Folkbuilder Zach Cato

zcato@runestone.org

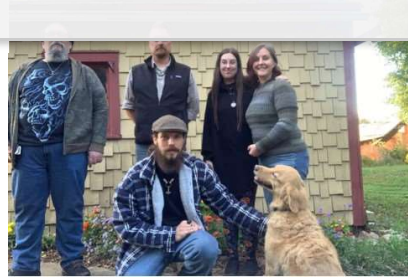
Ohio



On October 10th, traveled from Wisconsin to Ohio to host a Moot in hopes of bringing our members there together. It was heartwarming to see the response of our Folk. A fire was renewed and plans were made to continue to strengthen the bonds and grow together.

The next week, a land taking was held with the Folk. As a member said, " And speaking of goals... northeastern Ohio folk got together today. We did a land taking rite, then had a nice lunch followed by blot. Plans are being made among us five. Hope more to join us in the future."

We have a lot of members in Ohio and lots of future plans. Next month, several Moots will be held in different locations around the state on November 15th. Emails will be sent to members. Anyone with questions or a willingness to join can contact James Ault at jault@runestone.org for more information.



James Ault
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jault@runestone.org

Wisconsin

Greetings. As we renew our focus on building families, we have seen an amazing time of growth among the Folk of Wisconsin. Our monthly meet-and-greets are always held



on the last Sunday of the month. September's meeting was held on Washington Island. Our members took the ferry ride to the island, had lunch at the famous Nelsen's Hall Bitters Pub, and spent the afternoon learning about the rich history of the Island.

October's meet-and-greet was held at the historic Fox and Hound Restaurant in south-central Wisconsin. Amazing food and conversation with new members joining us.

November's meet-and-greet will be held in the Green Bay area. Details will be emailed to members. Anyone with questions or wanting to join in can contact James Ault at jault@runestone.org.

to get together and meet the Folk. We participate in Odin's World Prayer Day on the 9th of the month, Wotan on the Peak, crafting days, and various other opportunities to build frith among our Wisconsin Folk. Come and be a part of Wisconsin's growth.

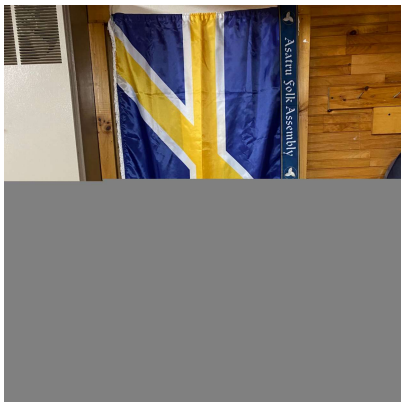


As events are set up they will be shared on social media or through email, text, and phone calls. Anyone interested in getting involved with the AFA in Wisconsin, please feel free to contact me at jault@runestone.org.



James Ault
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jault@runestone.org

Northeast



It was a great month in the Northeast!

What a great thing we are all a part of. Often I try to remember what life once was before joining the AFA. It seems like a lifetime ago and certainly nothing like it was. I'm sure many feel the same. Awakening every day with a purpose, a drive, to do what's right for our community with Folk who all are on the same path. Special indeed and no wonder why we have had so

many successes thus far in 2020 regardless of what goes on around us.

The relationships we have renewed with our Gods allows all ill to deflect around us as we continue moving forward towards what we are here to do, to build a healthy future

Upcoming in the month of November:

The 14th Lansdale Tru Folk Hike

The 15th AFA Meet up in Lititz

The 21st Feast of the Einherjar in Lansdale



Also look for another Wotan on the Peaks in early December at the Catskill Mountains, New York. More details to follow.

Adam Hudak

Apprentice Folkbuilder

ahudak@runestone.org

WinterNights was an overwhelming success this year. From far and wide our people arrived to bask in the beauty of the Poconos and to celebrate and worship our Gods and honor our Disir. Our culture our way.

This was my first WinterNights event and it definitely made a huge impact!

I had the esteemed pleasure of meeting some of the finest folk of our AFA. If I was to use one word to encapsulate the essence of our spectacular weekend? FAMILY.

Children of all ages played and sang. The uplifting sounds of their laughter and the rumbling of their busy feet filled the crisp air.

The energy and power of ritual flowed through all of us like an unseen magnetic force.

I was left in a state of mesmerization as Gyðia Erickson conducted the eerily beautiful Disir Blot. Empowered and motivated by Stephen McNallen's passionate address to awaken our sleepwalking people. Alsherjargoði Matt Flavel, ever-present and available, reinforced the absolute urgency of our purpose; Our Mission.

fantastic as always. Sheila and Stephen McNallen brought an abundance of love and hope along with them. I'm forever blessed.

So many awesome conversations! It was one special moment after another! Words of power were used to honor Terry J. Rumph. You sir will always be remembered and regaled.

So many couples! Mothers and fathers. Brothers and sisters. Kindred folk and friends alike. Healthy, wholesome, and free. I can't wait till next year!!

Oh yeah, the Mead flowed like golden fire.

The StoneShip Hearth wishes to congratulate Adam Hudak and Daniel Young for swearing their oaths as Folkbuilders. Thank you Gray W. for bringing so much enthusiasm and style. You have a natural gift of attraction that helps the men gel.

All of the ladies were elegant in their flowered lace.

I shed a tear as we said our goodbyes. It's been a long time since I've done that. We make lifelong friends and create extended families at AFA events.

George Schindler
Apprentice Folkbuilder
gschindler@runestone.org



Northern Plains

Northern Blood Kindred

October was quieter than usual with just one event this month. We celebrated our Fifth Annual Folkish Family Disirblót event. Our next event will be Yule in Bloomington, MN. There will be a Yule Log and Julbok like previous years. This has become a tradition for us here in Minnesota.

Other than that we have been putting most of our focus on getting Baldurshof finished and ready for the dedication. If you would like to come out and help at Baldurshof please let Folkbuilder Brandy Callahan or Gythia Anna Mae or myself know and we would be happy to join you there.

Hail the Doers!

Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher
jgallagher@runestone.org



Northwest

Hails from the great Pacific Northwest!

Mark your calendars the weekend of February 5-7 2021 for our yearly AFA Pacific Northwest national event! We will be coming together to blot the Gods and Goddesses of the Aesir and Vanir to encourage new growth in the upcoming year and share together in troth. Leavenworth Washington is the location and is as close to the alps as you will find with a Germanic themed city nestled in the snowy mountains. This is a Family-Friendly event and there will be plenty of activities, blots, and a trip to the Bier Stube!

This past month of October saw members of the Seattle area coming together to create an active community in that region. Thanks to all those that participated and made the effort to leave their busy lives to be among our kinsman. Gathering with our fellow AFA members always recharges me mentally and spiritually, I'm looking forward to this next month and getting out!

Every Wednesday evening, we have our AFA NW weekly call-in forum so that there is an opportunity for all of us to learn, grow, and share with other AFA members. In the forum, we discuss topics ranging from the basics of Asatru' to the otherworldly powers of the runes. In this week's forum, we will be discussing "Sacred symbols' their origin

If you would like to organize an event in your area, contact me and I will help you set it up.

November 4,11,18,25-----”Wodenstag” AFA NW weekly call-in Forum 8:00 PST

November tbd -----Rune Study/Holiday celebration, Vancouver BC.

November 7th----- “Shoot-n-Moot” blot to Ullr, Vernonia Or.

November 8th----- Feast of the Einherjar, Couer d’Alene ID

November 8th-----Kindred Moot, Seattle Wa.

November 28th -----Feast of the Einherjar, Kelso Wa.

Folkbuilder Joe Rozanek

jrozanek@runestone.org

South Central

Texas

This October marked the beginning of what portends to be a bright, hopeful, and long-lasting future for the AFA in Texas and Louisiana. We kicked off the month with a friendly meet and greet in Houston, Texas, where we joined our comrades in great conversation, food, and drink at the King’s Bierhaus. This was followed up with a blot in a local park in order to celebrate our new beginnings as a group.

Our Winternights celebration on the 24 of October was an inspirational event filled with new hope and

newly established Friðr Folk kindred. This was our largest event thus far and we joined our spirits with the Disir in a customized blot conducted by Kevin and Megan Long. We ended the night with an awe-inspiring Sumbel filled with emotion, reverence to our Gods, Goddesses, the Disir, our ancestors, and to all of our folk.

Texas/Louisiana is waxing strong in this newly organized inception of the AFA in this region. Bonding with other members in Frith is what we are all about and that is what the Friðr Folk kindred is accomplishing. Our leaders in this region can see a very bright future for this kindred and we have a bunch of great folks that are making this all possible.

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!
Hail the Ancestors!
Hail the Friðr Folk kindred!
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

Lori Wadsworth
Apprentice Folkbuilder
lwadsworth@runestone.org

Upper South

The upper south continues to be building great renown!

covering Tennessee and Kentucky and has already organized meetups. Will brings a love of the church and boundless enthusiasm, we look forward to what he has in store!

Speaking of
apprentice folk
builders, Daniel
Young traveled with
a good contingent of

upper south folk to the National Winter Nights event in Pennsylvania where Daniel took his oath as a full folk builder! Congratulations Daniel, you earned it! Daniel has been a steadfast and dedicated folk builder and we celebrate his oathing.

Thorshof continues to be a beacon for good folk to gather and enjoy the warmth of the hof and the AFA. Monthly gatherings are scheduled. If you are not on Facebook, let us know so we can email you a schedule. We also have a very active Telegram group for those interested.

As the days get shorter, and the weather turns cold and gray. Keep each other in mind. This time of year we often retreat into our homes and personal spaces. Remember we have a vibrant AFA family that is always glad to share a word or a smile. And please if you can, come on over to Þórshof for Yule. We would love to see you.

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 hand made — 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 notify Mandy (mandy@runestone.org) with the subject line: **BABY BLANKET**.

The AFA Youth Program is wrapping up its very successful first year! The Youth Program is focused on providing free education to Folkish Asatru families with a concentration on Lore, Days of Remembrance, Holidays, and AFA Culture and Values.

Registration is now open for 2021 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 to get started.

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!

information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide. For more information, send a private message to the [Folk Services page on Facebook](#).

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

Thanks in advance!

Genealogy Group

This is a place for AFA Members to discuss genealogy, family history research, and share tips and information related to genealogy.

Rules here are simple: Keep your posts to the subject matter of this group, keep it friendly, have fun.

Every month, Steven Ingle publishes a spreadsheet listing all participants with their cousin matches. Yes, we all have cousin matches in the AFA, some closer than others. This is open to our greater family tree and is not just for members in the U.S.

What if you're brand new to all of this? First, you will need to have your DNA tested through one of the companies like Ancestry DNA or 23andme. We will give you instructions on what to do when you get your results. What if you're not on Facebook but still want to participate? When your DNA is tested, and you get results, you can create a Gedmatch kit number, Send that kit number to Sheila and we'll run it in the next batch. She will send you the results of your analysis. You too will say, "Oh, my Gods! Wow! Incredible! and "Hey, there Cousin!"

Fifty & Over Group

This group is a place where AFA members 50 and over can come to support one another in facing the challenges of aging, caring for family and loved ones, and exploring how over shared beliefs can help with it all.

To join the group you must be a member of the AFA in good standing. You must be 50 or older, exceptions are the AFA Witan, AFA Folkbuilders, and AFA Gothar. There is no commercial activity or soliciting in the group.

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 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

Photo Donations

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 photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken.

Remembrance & Holy Days

2020

Date	Observance
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	Mother's Night
December 21-31	Yuletide

2021

Date	Observance
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

Date	Observance	Tradition
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	

Volunteer for the AFA

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

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