

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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Baldrshof

Third Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

www.baldrshof.org



Donate to the AFA

Words from the Alsherjargothi



August 13th was the official dedication of Njörðshof, Fourth Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly.

What a tremendous honor it was to be there and to dedicate this beautiful hof to Njörðr! There could not be a more gracious and worthy group of people to make up the core of this hof's congregation. Walking the property and experiencing this place was very powerful. Svan's mural is truly magnificent!

We are living in a very special time. I say this a lot, but that is because it is important. As we establish each new hof, we build a special relationship with our Gods. We build this relationship in a way that no one has for millennia, worshiping at these altars, we build a powerful bond with and understanding of the great Gods of our folk. I am honored to be part of this amazing journey with each and every one of you.

Hail the Gods!



Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org

The Quest for Freyshof

“Njördr in Nóatún begot afterward two children: the son was called Freyr, and the daughter Freyja; they were fair of face and mighty. Freyr is the most renowned of the Æsir; he rules over the rain and the shining of the sun, and therewithal the fruit of the earth; and it is good to call on him for fruitful seasons and peace. He governs also the prosperity of men.”

– Gylfaginning



[Freyshof Fund – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org)

This sacred quest has had a great start so far! The generosity has been amazing, as always!

1. We need to pay off Njörðshof. (We have paid off 38%.)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 17%. (This is membership dues/hoftollar plus other donations.)
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.

This is not a "quick" process so stay patient and resolute. As we progress, I will keep you all updated on our progress!

Hail Freyr!



Matthew D. Flavel
Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly
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AFA Homeschool Program



[Welcome | AsatruAcademy.org](https://AsatruAcademy.org)

We are very excited that the first ever AFA Ásatrú Academy class has started! I want to welcome all our parents and students. Our excellent staff (which can be reached [here](#)) is here to assist you with any questions you may have and to make all our students have a great learning experience! We have a lot of awesome things in store for you this year! Parents, please join the MeWe parents group, and watch your email (check the spam folder) and Parent Portal: curriculum and videos will be posted in QuickSchools, but the MeWe group is your place to quickly interact with other parents and Academy staff. Our Assistant Dean of Curriculum, Gythia Sheila McNallen, is also hard at work putting her many years of professional teaching experience into creating top-notch material for you, above and beyond the material we have already posted.

We are so happy and excited for the school year, and hope you are too!

Gothi Rob Stamm
Dean of AFA Asatru Academy
rstamm@runestone.org



Day of Remembrance



German Cherusci Tribe, Segimer in 16 BCE. Segimer was a Roman sympathizer and both of his sons, Hermann and Flavus, were raised in the Roman empire under Roman “guardianship”. Hermann proved to be equal to the task and it did not take him long to excel as a soldier in the Roman Legions. He earned both roman citizenship and the rank of a Roman Knight before distinguishing himself in His exploits in the Great Illyrian Revolt, after which he was sent to Germania to aid in finishing the conquest of the Germanic Tribes.

Once in Germania again, Hermann was able to quietly unite five Germanic tribes with the intention of overthrowing the Roman occupation of his land. His deep knowledge of Roman warfare and his sharp tactical mind lead to the historic Battle of Teutoburg Forest, and Rome’s most devastating defeat. Despite backlash from his Roman sympathizing father and brother and the loss of his wife and then-unborn son, Hermann continued to fight against the Romans and their retaliatory attacks.

Ultimately, Hermann was assassinated by tribal leaders who were frightened of his great power, in 21 CE. Even so, it was his crucial victory in the Teutoburg Forest that forever changed the face of Germania and the Roman empire.

So, what can we learn from this story?

We no longer have the ancestral homeland to fight for as our ancestors did. We live too scattered and the countries of our ancestors are not what they once were. However, we still have families, we have ideals and we have Asatru. Every day is a battle to hang onto those ideals that no longer have a proper place in our modern society. Every day is a battle to make our world a little better, a little stronger for those who we leave behind when we die. Patience and fortitude will get us far. So will the knowledge of how to best fight for what we want. With the knowledge of how to do things the right way, it might take that one decisive victory to reshape the future of our Folk.



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org



[Calendar – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](http://runestone.org)

2022

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 15	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 19	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 20 (observed on 21st)	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 31 (observed on 16th)	Hexennacht
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
May 1 (observed on 21st)	May Day

June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths
June 21 (observed on 18th)	Midsummer
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills
July 16	Sigrblót
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 20	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci
September 21 (observed on 17th)	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List
October 15	Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen
October 15	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden
November 19	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson
December 20	Mother's Night
December 20-31	Yuletide

Winter Finding



Winter Finding is sort of the winter prequel of feasts. This feast happens on the Fall Equinox and is the second harvest feast of the year (the first is Freyfaxi in August). Winter Finding is the beginning of autumn complete with foods harvested from around this time. Traditionally, it was a celebration of putting up crops for the winter and preparing for the cold winter months ahead. This was the time when people prepared to stay indoors, farmers moved their primary livestock inside or into their barns, and extraneous animals were slaughtered and preserved for winter.

Winter Finding was often celebrated with bonfires, feasting, dancing, and blots. In preindustrial times, this was a crucial period because if the harvest was poor, it meant possible death by starvation in the winter months.

food available, provided we have money.

That being said, it helps to have a farmer's market in your area (or better yet, have a backyard garden of your own) because you will get a better feel for the season and the types of food being produced in your area. Eating a feast made with foods from that season is a sure way to connect with our ancestors and the types of foods they ate. Although many foods we eat nowadays weren't available to our Northern ancestors, due to the fact that a number of fruits and vegetables we eat come from the Western Hemisphere, eating seasonal foods puts us in touch with the seasons and the wights.

- So, how do you stay in tune with the season? Check out these ideas and see if any resonate.
- Weather and fire laws permitting, have a bonfire (or light some wood in your fire pit).
- Create a Heathen feast with foods from local farmers that are in season.
- Spend time gathering wild edibles — just be sure you know what you have.
- Preserve food for the winter: canning, dehydrating, and freezing.
- Make sure your pets and/or livestock are ready for the winter. Vaccinations, nail, and hoof trim, warm bedding, enough food, etc.
- Offer a blot to the gods of the harvest: Freyr, Gerðr, Freyja, Thor, Sif, and others.
- Start making your mead for Yule.
- Make sure your hunting gear is ready to go for hunting season.
- Get your house clean for winter.

What do you do for Winter Finding?

Upcoming National Events

Winter Nights 11

October 14th-16th



The Eleventh Annual Winter Nights will be held in Scioto County, Ohio from October 14- 16! Since 2012, this long-running AFA festival has been dedicated to our ancestral mothers, the Disir. When the harvest is in, the summer plants have died off, and the winter is quickly approaching the veil between the living and dead is said to be at its thinnest. Again, we will gather to worship our Gods, our Goddesses, and our Ancestral Mothers. We build upon the success of the Asatru Folk Assembly by making new friends and renewing old friendships. We look forward to seeing members and friends!

Your registration fee includes all workshops, lectures, meals, tent camping, and of course our holy rituals. Only AFA members and vouched-for guests will be admitted to this event. If you are not an AFA Member you should confirm with the member who is vouching for you that they will do so when asked about your registration.

Things to know:

- Children 17 and under attend for free!
- You will need to bring your own bedding and it can get chilly at night, so plan accordingly.
- Tenting is encouraged! There are also hotels within 20 minutes of the camp.
- Dogs are welcome but must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in common indoor areas such as the dining hall.
- The camp location will be provided upon registration.



Winter Nights XI

October 14 - 16, 2022

Friday, October 14

	Adults	Children
12:00 noon	Arrival & Check-in	*Coloring pages and a bounce house will be available all day*
2:00 pm	Welcoming the Gods	
4:00 pm	Daily Spirituality w/ Folkbuilder Adam Hudak	Children Vs. Adult Battle
5:30 pm	Dinner	
7:00 pm	Gothic Q&A Panel	*Coloring pages and a bounce house will be available all day*
8:30 pm	Odin Blot w/ Alsherjargothi Flavel	
10:00 pm	Oktoberfest Dance	

Saturday, October 15

	Adults	Children
8:00 am	Physical Fitness	*Fall-themed sensory bins for youngsters during each period*
9:00 am	Breakfast	
10:00 am	Men's Group w/ Ap. Folkbuilder John Rock Women's Group w/ Gythia Catie Erickson	<u>Craft</u> : Make your own noise <u>Game</u> : Pumpkin Ring Toss <u>Teens</u> : Assemble Yggdrasil
12:00 noon	Lunch	
1:30 pm	Disir Presentation w/ Witan Svan Herul	<u>Craft</u> : Scandinavian Yarn Dolls <u>Teens</u> : Finish Yggdrasil
3:00 pm	Rites of Initiation	Singing and Dancing <u>Teens</u> : Rune Rock Painting
4:30 pm	Raffle Drawing & Auction	Halloween Parade to story time and snacks
6:30 pm	Dinner	
8:30 pm	Disir Blot w/ Gythia Erickson	
10:00 pm	Sumbel	

Sunday, October 16

	Adults	Children
9:00 am	Breakfast	
10:30 am	Wayfarers Blot w/ Folkbuilder Adam Hudak	
11:15 am		Children's Blot w/ Witan Cliff Erickson
12:00 noon	Departure/ Clean Up	

If you have any questions or concerns, please email cerickson@runestone.org

Member Family – Weekend: \$150

Member – Weekend: \$100

Member – Daypass: \$50

Guest – Weekend: \$125

Guest – Daypass: \$60

Child – Weekend: Free

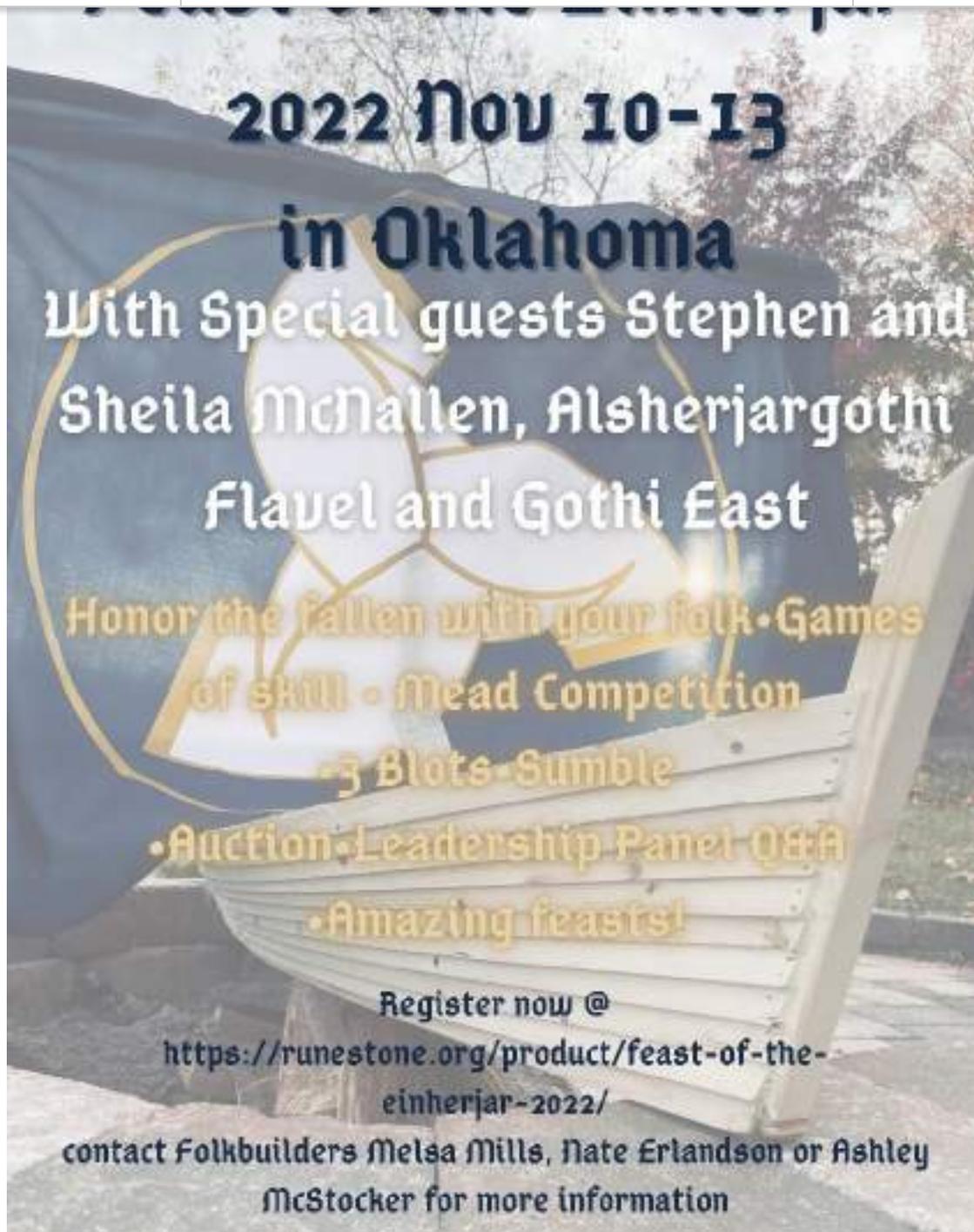
Child – Daypass: Free

Registration is open now at <https://runestone.org/product/winter-nights-11/>.



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Feast of the Einherjar
November 10th-13th



2022 Nov 10-13
in Oklahoma
With Special guests Stephen and
Sheila McNallen, Alsherjargothi
Flavel and Gothi East

Honor the fallen with your folk • Games
of skill • Mead Competition
• 3 Blots • Sumble
• Auction • Leadership Panel Q&A
• Amazing feasts!

Register now @
<https://runestone.org/product/feast-of-the-einherjar-2022/>
contact Folkbuilders Melsa Mills, Nate Erlandson or Ashley
McStocker for more information

Register Here: [Feast of the Einherjar 2022 Nov. 10th-13th](https://runestone.org/product/feast-of-the-einherjar-2022/)

Come and honor the fallen with your Folk.

The event concludes on Sunday at 11 am, but you are cordially invited to stay for the wedding of Terry Clark and Rebekah Brussel on Sunday and check out Monday morning after the wedding festivities.

Let us know if you are entering the mead competition!

To each of our Service Men and Women, thank you for your service. We would like to invite each and every one of you to join us this weekend.

Member Family – \$150

Member – \$100

Guest – \$120

Child – Free

Child – Free

Registration is open now at <https://www.runestone.org/product/feast-of-the-einherjar-2022/>



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

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 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!

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 today!

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

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. 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!

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

Artisans of the AFA
Support Our Folk



I have created Elder Futhark Birthing Affirmation Cards for our women folk to utilize during their labor and delivery journey. These would also be good to utilize prior to labor to help get your mind, body, and spirit in a good place for you and your baby.

What are birthing affirmation cards? They are cards that have images and words specific to each rune stave, drawing on the energy of each one but geared towards labor, delivery, and motherhood. These can be hung up or arranged around your labor and

If you are interested in these, I am asking for donations of \$10 or more to be given to the Freyshof fund. Upon receipt of the donation, I will send you a PDF file with printing instructions. Or if you prefer, for a small charge to cover supplies and shipping, I can print and mail them to you.

Freyr being a fertility god, the brother of Freya, I thought these would be a good way to honor them for the gift of fertility. The more we raise, the closer we get to honoring him in his own Hof, and honoring a fertility god means more beautiful white babies.

My good friend, Christine Dumas, also has done a voice-over with a guided meditation for these cards as some folk needs that extra auditory sensation. This will also be included with your cards, but they come as a packaged deal together, not one without the other.



The top picture here is 4 snippets of the 24 cards with watermarks on them, and the second is the full spread. Watermarks will be removed upon order.

Please contact me for more details or if you are interested!



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Piparkokur (Icelandic Pepper Cookies)



I recently made these for a Moot and people enjoyed the unique spice taste of the cookies. Traditionally they are cut with a 2" round cookie cutter, but I had some cookie cutters that were gifted to me by my husband that I wanted to try. Keep in mind while making them that it is a soft dough and will spread while baking.

Piparkokur (Icelandic Pepper Cookies)

1 cup sugar

¾ cup light corn syrup (or golden syrup)

2 eggs

3 ½ cups flour

1 ½ teaspoons baking powder

½ teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 teaspoon ground cloves

1 teaspoon ground ginger

¼ teaspoon ground black pepper

1. Cream the butter and sugar together in a large bowl with an electric mixer, or vigorously by hand, then mix in the syrup and eggs and beat well.
2. Sift in the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and spices and mix until combined. Wrap dough and refrigerate overnight.
3. Preheat the oven to 350 F and line two baking sheets with baking paper.
4. Roll the dough out on a lightly floured surface to about ¼ inch thickness. This is quite a soft dough, but if it's not manageable to roll and cut, then lightly knead in a little more flour.
5. Cut into rounds with a 2" cookie cutter and place onto the prepared baking sheet, an inch apart. Keep in mind that they will spread.
6. Bake for 7 min. Let cool on the tray for a couple of minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool. They will firm as they cool.

Enjoy!



Folkbuilder Sara Ault
sault@runestone.org

Bread Horse



The recipe which I have found most effective for making large bread animals for blessings and feasts is actually a biscuit recipe. This is better than a yeast bread because the dough does not swell up so much while rising, and thus there is less distortion of the animal's shape and so more detail is possible.

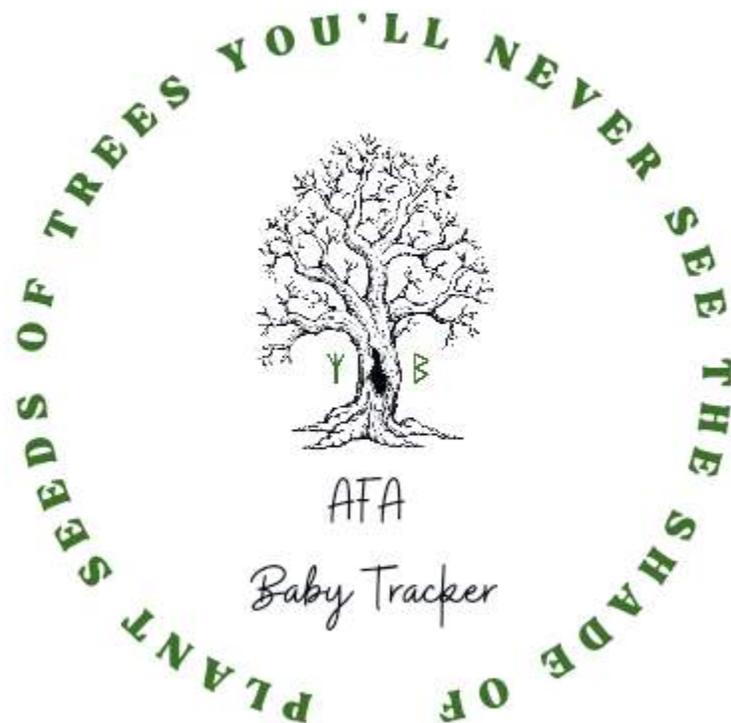
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour 4 teaspoons baking powder $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cream of tartar 2 teaspoons sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter $\frac{2}{3}$ cup milk Sift together flour, baking powder, salt, cream of tartar, and sugar; cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add milk; stir until dough follows fork around bowl. Turn out on a lightly floured surface and shape into your beast.

The less kneading the dough gets, the lighter and flakier the end product will be. Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees Fahrenheit until brown. If you are making a boar, a "bristled" effect can be achieved by making short snips along its back and side with a pair of clean scissors. The same technique can be used for texturing a horse's mane. A raisin or nut can be stuck into the dough to make the animal's eye.



Witan Svan Herul
sherul@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



Members, please be sure to let your local leadership know if you've given birth to a child recently to ensure that we get your new baby added to our baby tracker, as well as to help get you more information about other children-related programs and benefits that the AFA offers!

Total babies born in 2022: 30
(up 6 from last month!)



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Calling All Cooks!



We are putting together an AFA cookbook!

We are looking for your recipes with notes for foods served at Hof's and Moots. Please submit your recipes to cookbook@runestone.org. When submitting a recipe, please include a photo of the meal as well as info about the event and the date the meal was served.

Mike Joyner



Now Available in the AFA Store

AFA Hoodies

\$45.00



Buy Now: [AFA Zippered and nonzippered hoodies](#)

Warm weather apparel is falling into the Runstone.org store!
Hoodies! Zippered Hoodies! Long sleeve shirts!

Look for new items for each Hof over the next week!



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

Baldrshof

Ancestor Altar



All folk are welcome to bring framed photos of their deceased loved ones to be placed on the ancestor altar at Baldrshof!

If you are unable to bring the photo, you are welcome to email a digital copy which will be printed, framed, and hung on the ancestor wall. We also ask that you provide your name, the name of your ancestors, birth and death dates if they are available, as well as a memory, story, or dedication about them. This information will be printed and placed into our book of ancestors kept next to the ancestor altar. Of course, the ancestor can remain anonymous, but remember that our immortality is in our names and stories being spoken by the folk!



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Coming Soon to Baldrshof!



We all know that the Sagas and Lore of our Gods and ancestors help shape our lives today. And how important it is that we read them for a feeling of belonging and connectedness to our ancestors! For inspiration! For guidance in our own lives!

We should be aware that our own Sagas are happening RIGHT NOW! Tomorrow's Heroes are living TODAY! We are all a part of a greater story. We are the folk who have reclaimed our birthright! We were the last generation to know a world without hofs to gather in, without temples to our Gods! Our children will inherit much because of all that our Folk do today.

near future with all the fanfare it is deserving of, will hold a book that will contain the stories YOU WRITE! All of us have memories of our elders in the AFA, of the hard workers that with their own hands, restored to us temples to our Gods! Or the men and women whose deeds inspired us to be greater than we believed we could! And never forget those stories that make us laugh or cry. The living book of Sagas will be in the Hall of Baldr for you to see and read when you visit.

And we are taking submissions now so that they may be in the book when it is placed in Baldrshof. All AFA members are encouraged to submit stories of their folk, along with pictures. We are so excited to see what our Folk have done that will be written about and available for us and our decedents to learn about!

Please send your Stories to Baldrshof Historian Jaime Àlainn, calainn@runestone.org.



Folkbuilder Cormag Àlainn
calainn@runestone.org

Food Pantry at Baldrshof



For this month's food shelf at Baldrshof, we also incorporated a school supply drive. It just so happened to fall on the Saturday of Fallfest which gave us a neat and thoughtful dynamic.



relationships and connections we've made with merchants and philanthropists across the state, we were able to get 24 brand new backpacks donated (nearly \$250 worth!) and other sizeable cash donations that allowed us to fill them to the brim with basic supplies.



We divided them up between boys and girls, and of those categories, divided them further into elementary and middle/high school. Each child received a backpack filled with 20+ items that will surely help them start the year off right!





We attached a list of its specific contents to the bags with a business card as well! The Alsherjargothi and I were able to witness the first little girls to visit us. They were so elated that they were able to pick a kitty and a unicorn backpack, literally skipping back to their vehicles across the street. Pure joy.



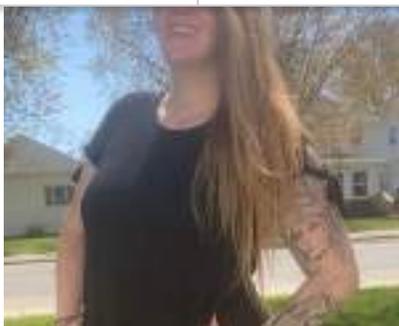


In our little community of 232 people, we were able to help 13 families with dry goods, beverages, and all the meat and bread they would take, along with 18 kiddos getting backpacks. We truly, truly love the moments when we are able to give back to our neighborhood that has taken the time to get to know and respect Baldrshof as a whole. Hail the doers!



(Special shout out to member Jennifer Shusta who brought down a pack of super-duper, high-quality school supplies. We decided to give the extra pack to one of our regulars, a very sweet, grandma who currently is watching over her 5 grandchildren.)

Folkbuilder Ashley Mcstocker
amcstocker@runestone.org



Fallfest 2022 at Baldrshof



August in Baldrshof brought with it exciting happenings. Not the least of which being FallFest 2022, which was outstanding!

The summer weather persisted, though the heat did abate somewhat allowing for a comfortable atmosphere during the gatherings of the event. The food drive was a success, back to school supplies were given out alongside the usual generous helpings of foodstuffs.

Folk gathered from across the country to make the event truly special. It was great to see faces from far away and meet some wonderful people, as well as see old friends again. Now let's talk about FallFest!

Presentations were given on subjects ranging from Freyfaxi, to Viking Age culture, to Nobility. The auction brought some very cool items to bear. Yard games were played; Kubb was enjoyed by our Folk, before the Log was brought out for our men to

Group discussions and activities were also held for our Men, Women, and Children. This, alongside the Leadership Q&A, provided a great opportunity to listen and be heard.

The Blóts were powerful experiences. Our worthy guests brought with them their unique influence and, alongside our own leaders, created a mighty atmosphere in the Hof. The resounding intonations of our Folk left a strong impression of might and main.

Additionally, the event saw three new Folkbuilders complete their apprenticeships. Sara Ault, Jessie Shaffer, and Jaime Àlainn stood together before the Folk and our Leadership to take their Oaths.

There were also exciting events that took place at the Hof and from Folk back home, which you'll read more about below.

Needless to say, a lot happened during FallFest, but it was a lot of good. Our Folk continues to grow and prosper, and our future grows brighter with each passing year. Times like those shared this last month serve to further demonstrate that the Golden Age is upon us and there is much to hope and rejoice for.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped make this event special.

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



Folkbuilder Cormag Àlainn
calainn@runestone.org

And a Special Thanks!



Thank you to all the Folk who traveled to attend the last Fallfest at Baldrshof, especially Alsherjargothi Matthew Flavel and Lawspeaker Allen Turnage, who made the trip from Nevada and Florida!

Special thank you to the Leadership of Baldrshof District who pulled together to make this year's Fallfest the most coordinated and least stressful of any other event thus far! Baldrshof Leadership as a whole took care of all the event coordination, from meals to discussions, blots to transportation. It was a coordinated effort between folk who are separated by hundreds of miles and many states! Well done, Baldrshof Leadership! You all came together flawlessly!

Special thanks to Joel Eastman who provided his Folk with a delicious meal on Friday evening and Kirsten Rapin who took care of so much behind the scenes this year!

And thank you to each and every one of the members who attended this year's Fallfest! A Hof is happier when filled with the Folk!

As I mentioned "Fallfest" will be retired as the National Event for Baldrshof. We will continue with our Freyfaxi celebration as our "big one" in the future.

Freyfaxi at Baldrshof
August 18th - 20th, 2023
Murdock, MN



Witan Brandy Callahan
bcallahan@runestone.org

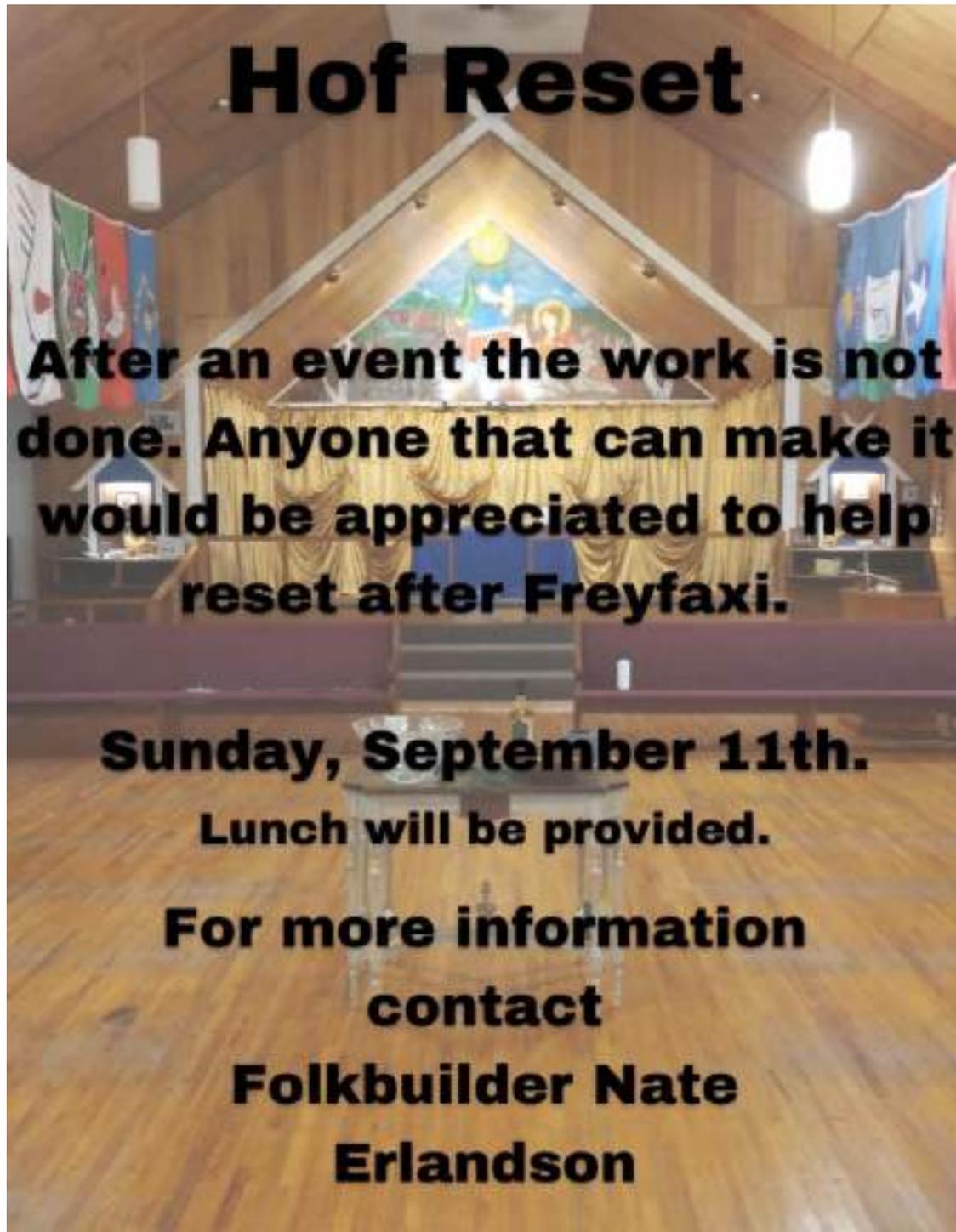
Baldrshof Workday



Projects, projects, projects! Who wants in on helping continue to bring Baldrshof to the glory it deserves being dedicated to bright Baldr? C'mon folk let's do this.

We are in the process of Resetting the Hof after a great Freyfaxi on the 11th of September. We are also currently implementing a beautiful permanent fix for the basement floor which we need all the help we can get. The front of the building is

the front side entryway stairs up and down and tearing the rest of some nasty carpet out of a couple of the back rooms. The steeple needs some work done inside before the bitter cold of the North sets in for those who aren't afraid to get their hands dirty.



Hof Reset

After an event the work is not done. Anyone that can make it would be appreciated to help reset after Freyfaxi.

Sunday, September 11th.
Lunch will be provided.

For more information contact
Folkbuilder Nate
Erlandson

Lots of stuff to do this winter, if you have skills, trades, or are just willing to lend a hand to your Hof get in contact with Folkbuilder Nathan Erlandson (320)250-3933, Folkbuilder Ashley McStocker (320)-828-6708, or Folkbuilder Jesse Shaffer (320)305-4134.

Hail Baldr!



Folkbuilder Nathan Erlandson

nerlandson@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Baldrshof



Baldrshof Calendar

2022

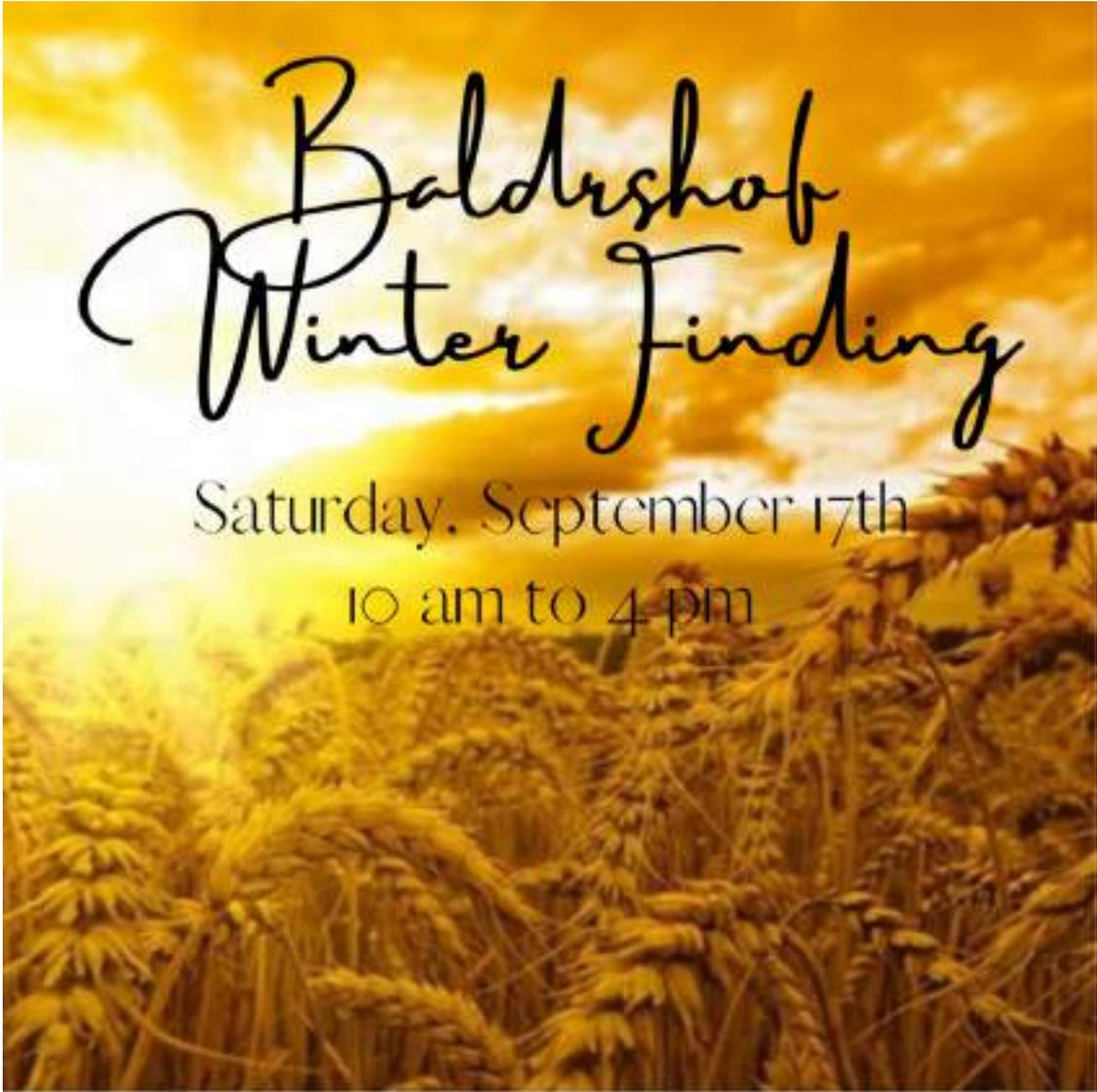
- 1/15 - Food Shelf
- 1/22 - Thorrablot
- 2/19 - Charming of the Plow / Food Shelf
- 3/18 - 3/20 - Ostara
- 3/19 - Food Shelf
- 4/16 - Food Shelf
- 4/30 - May Day
- 5/21 - Food Shelf
- 6/18 - Food Shelf
- 6/24 - 6/26 - Midsummer
- 7/16 - Food Shelf
- 7/23 - Sigrblot
- 8/19 - 8/21 - Fallfest
- 9/17 - Food Shelf / Winter Finding
- 10/15 - Food Shelf
- 10/29 - Winternights
- 11/19 - Food Shelf
- 11/26 - Folksgiving & Feast of the Einherjar
- 12/9 - 12/11 - Yule
- 12/17 - Food Shelf



Baldershof
Women's Book
Study

Friday, September 9th & 23rd
7 pm central
Deep Ancestors by Ceisiwr Serith

Contact Witan Brandy Callahan
bcallahan@runestone.org



Baldershof
Winter Finding

Saturday, September 17th
10 am to 4 pm

Join the gathered folk at Baldershof for the celebration of Winter Finding!

Bring a side, appetizer, or dessert.

Any folk wishing to have their hunting bows, rifles, or knives blessed for the hunting season are encouraged to bring these for Ullr blot. Firearms must be unloaded and cleared and kept in vehicles until Ullr blot.

Fika - 10 am followed by Else Christensen & Ancestor Dedications

Food Pantry - 10 am to 12 noon

Lunch - 12 noon

Discussion - 1 pm

Blot - 1:30 pm

Sumbel - 2 pm



JOIN THE LADIES OF THE
ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY FOR

Coffee & Crotchet

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL MEETING
COFFEE, FRITH BUILDING &
FIBER CRAFTS

Sunday

SEPT		SEPT
18		25
2022		2022

10 am Central

CONTACT WITAN BRANDY
CALLAHAN FOR DETAILS
BCALLAHAN@RUNESTONE.ORG

OR

FOLLOW LINK IN THE EVENT PAGE
OF THE AFA LADIES MEWE GROUP



Baldrshof District Meeting

ALL BALDRSHOF DISTRICT MEMBERS OF THE AFA
ARE INVITED TO JOIN THEIR FOLK ON
A DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CALL.

Thursday, September 29
8 pm central

Presentations by:

GOTHI
JASON PLOURDE

MEISTER GUIDO
VON LIST

GYTHIA
ANNA PLOURDE

ARMANEN
RUNES

ALSHERJARGOTHI
MATTHEW FLAVEL

WINTER
NIGHTS

OUR MEMBERSHIP CALL WILL TAKE PLACE VIA TEAMS
THROUGH AN INVITATION LINK.
CONTACT WITAN BRANDY CALLAHAN FOR DETAILS
OR FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON BALDRSHOF MEWE EVENT



**at
Baldrshof
for
Winternights**

**October 29th
10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

We will enjoy outdoor games, poetry, hearty food, dancing, crafting, blot, and sumbel. Plus good conversations with your Folk.

For more information please contact the hosts.
Folkbuilder Cormag Àlainn - calainn@runestone.org
Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer - jshaffer@runestone.org
Folkbuilder Sara Ault - sault@runestone.org



Yule at Baldrshof

Friday December 9 thru
Sunday December 11

Join your Folk for a 3 day celebration of Yule!

*4 Blots * Sumbel * Feasting * Gift Giving
Tree Lighting * Yule crafts for kids & adults
Educational Discussions * Frith with the Folk*

Contact Witan Brandy Callahan or

Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher to RSVP

bcallahan@runestone.org

jgallagher@runestone.org

Congratulations!

Engagement Announcement



Congratulations to Folkbuilders Nathan Erlandson and Ashley McStocker, and to their family, on their engagement!

Ashley accepted Nathan's proposal for marriage during the third round of the powerful Sumbel at Fallfest.

Both the leadership and membership of Baldrshof District and the AFA as a whole wish Nathan and Ashley along with their children, a very happy union and a bright future!

Hail Nathan and Ashley!

Baby Announcement



Congratulations to Branden and Jessica Fassett of North Dakota on the birth of their son!

Walker Norman Robert Fassett

August 19th, 2022

11:50 AM

6lbs .7 Oz

17 inches

Walker was born 7 weeks early, so will have a stay at the NICU, but otherwise is doing well!

Hail Walker!

Hail the Fassett Family!

Hail the Future!



Witan Brandy Callahan
bcallahan@runestone.org

Illinois

Hail from Illinois!



The month of August was very fruitful, and the spirits and energy are heightened as we feel Fall approaching. As the last warmth and light of Baldr travels over the horizon, we start to see the glimmer fade. But this only brings further bliss. We celebrate Freyfaxi

We carry it with us now into Fall and Winter, ready to keep its warmth and power as we provide for ourselves, our families, our Folk, and emulate our Gods.

Fallfest was great this year, and we commend the Folk who helped keep it moving forward. The Blots held at this mighty Hof always re-energize me personally, but it's clear that it's the same for our Folk as well. Thank you to Folkbuilder Erlandson, Lawspeaker Turnage, the Alsherjargothi, and Witan Callahan for these powerful processions.

I renewed vows to my wife and family in light of the upcoming anniversary of our Baldrshof Marriage and was asked personally by Lawspeaker Turnage to have a key part of Baldr Blót. Folkbuilder Nick Rice gave a near tear-jerking gift to my family: the original Tri-Horn altarpiece which was center in our marriage.

August also saw the addition of an old and close friend of mine finally coming home and becoming a member of the Church and the Assembly of the Folk and Gods. We hope it adds to our steady growth in Frith as we move forward.

September looks to be a more relaxed, albeit no less considerable month for our Illinois Folk and the Hrafnagud Kindred. We are gearing up for a powerful and busy October!

Upcoming Events





Shane Duffy
Apprentice Folkbuilder
sduffy@runestone.org

Freyfaxi in Illinois



We were pleased to welcome our Baldrshof Gythia, Brandy Callahan, to celebrate Freyfaxi with us in Illinois. Joining us were Folkbuilder Josh Rapin, from Wisconsin, and his wife, Kirsten. It was also good to meet our cross-border neighbor, and new member, Tony Austin. We had a great turnout, and the Folk enjoyed a communal meal, followed by a Blot to Frey, and sumble.

Upcoming Events



Our next event will be a restaurant/pub moot on September 17th in the Chicago area.



Folkbuilder James Cummings

[jcummings@runestone.org](mailto:jcumings@runestone.org)

Berserkers in the Mist: Preconceptions of Terror in Regard to the People of the North



I was thrilled to be given the opportunity to discuss one of my pet projects, a favorite area of research of mine, with the Folk gathered at Baldrshof for Fallfest this year. I know I'm a bit wordy, and can only truly present you now with an excerpt from the greater presentation and paper. Reach out if you want any more info on the topics at hand!



As students of history, we are in this position to look back on the world and examine it from a critical, analytical, and hopefully non-biased viewpoint. While doing this work, we examine documents, artifacts, and writings, both from the past and from our fellow historians, who were looking at the very same topics from their own views. By melding the facts that we can collect with our own interpretations of them, we can draw



It can be asserted that some periods and topics are more difficult to talk about, research, and write about than others, whether that is because of a particular taboo or faux pas concerning the situation or because the primary documents and original viewpoints from the time are either missing or particularly hard to come by. The topic at hand for this particular writing falls into both of these categories. A discussion of terror, even if it is one concerning events long past, brings to mind a certain thought process in the current populace where the people are focused on a life of fear, trepidation, and dread derived from a state of being where violent, terrorist acts seem to be a reality perpetuated by a modern age of technology. Couple this dialogue on terror with a topic such as the Norse peoples of Scandinavia, who were lax in their writings of then-current events, and we have a situation where we are to deliberate on a matter in which we are seemingly not supposed to talk about, and we also have trouble finding first-person sources from the primary constituency.



Nevertheless, this paper sought to discuss these Northmen and how they could apply aspects of terror to accomplish their goals, goals of exploring, raiding, and gathering both knowledge and wealth along the way. It does this by examining multiple aspects of what it was to be a member of this society, in particular, the members that are modernly known as the Vikings, those travelers, and warriors who sailed on the legendary longships, with axe and shields, pillaging and sacking those who could offer them something of worth. Is this the complete picture of who they were? Or are we severely misunderstanding the atmosphere and behavior of the time?



My research is attempting to decode the aura of the mythos surrounding the Viking peoples through both primary and secondary sources, with the chief first-hand evidence coming from artifacts such as carvings and remaining accouterments. To explore this

side, so to speak, but instead hopes to enhance one particular aspect of our modern understanding of what a Viking was. In a contemporary culture that perpetuates the understanding of a Viking as a crazed savage, it is completely understandable that this savage would be depicted with horns, and in this case, a horned helm. Why is this, and where did the idea come from? Were the Vikings true terrors inhabited by the irrational behavior of the beast? Was it a reality or was it a case of mistaken identity or misunderstood representation? Is it even possible that a certain consideration on this matter is already accepted but other reflections are being perpetuated above and beyond?



From the research [that was discussed and expounded upon in the full text of this paper] we can certainly determine that Viking warriors certainly had helmets at their disposal, and it is likely only the wealthy would have actually had iron ones. [Richard] Wagner was not incorrect in acknowledging that helmets with curved horns did exist, and it may not be terribly wrong for him to have placed them in his opera, seeing as its inspirations were from the Norse religious texts of the *Volupsa* and *Poetic Edda* (Rolf Sternberg, “Fantasy, Geography, Wagner, and Opera,” *Geographical Review* 88, no. 3 (July 1998): 327).

seamless scores, using landscapes and urban images to forge spatial order on stage," in that "he invested much effort onstage to re-creating past environments echoing a visionary reality"

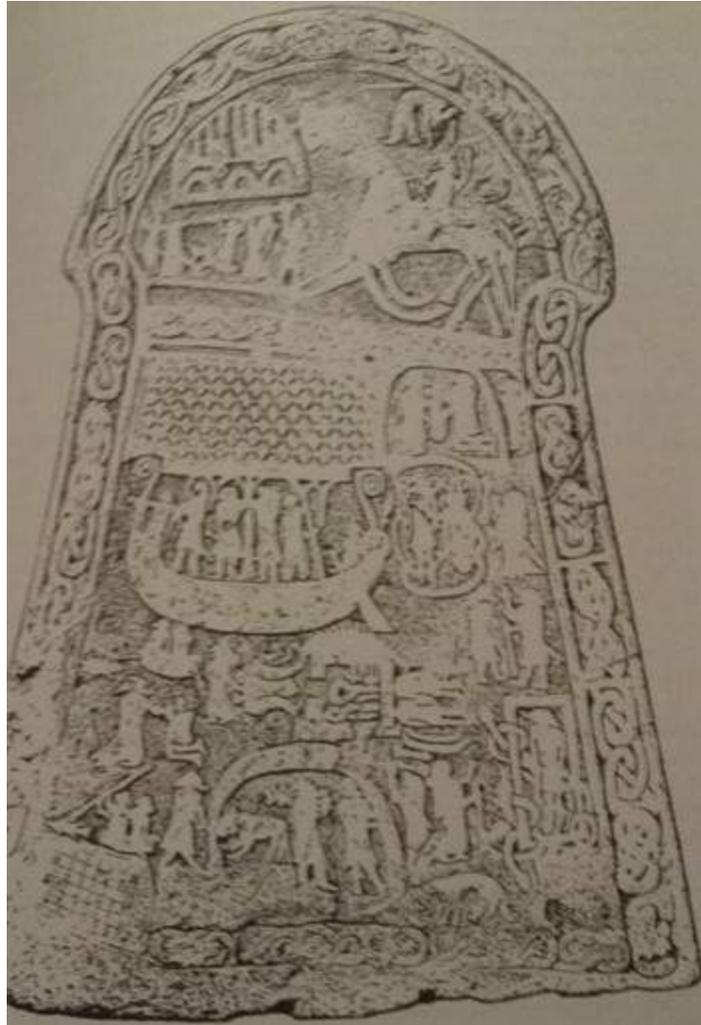
Rolf Sternberg

For the common representation of a Viking raider that is often seen in popular culture, the only possible conclusion is that there is a distortion, that could have derived from a misunderstanding of the context of *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, in common thinking, a misunderstanding of religious artifacts, or a connection to a more nature-based archetype and the lambasting of rural symbolism for the benefit of mass religious fervor.



As a concluding note, we should hypothesize as to what is the essence of a Viking. Were they truly a people of terror? It would not be outside the realms to believe so, but

seen as true mere brutes. They were most certainly an ingenious race, ones who were skilled craftsmen and inventors, creating beautiful works of stone-carving and bringing to fruition a nautical vessel well beyond the skill of other peoples of the period. If they were a rich culture of poets, artisans, technicians, and the like, then why are they degraded to a mere ruthless savage, a Pagan barbarian?



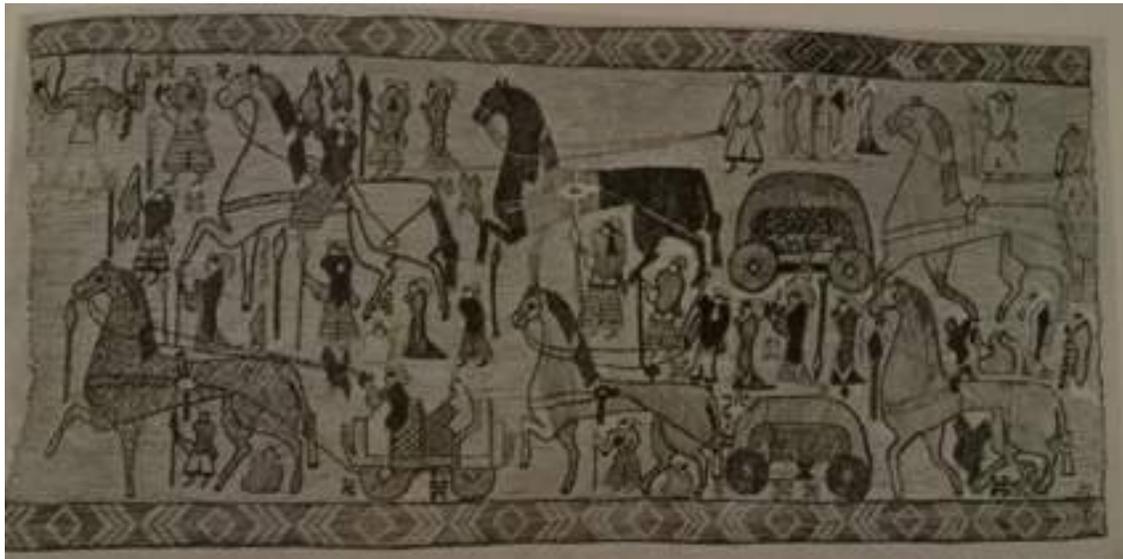
Could we be a people obsessed with being terrified? We have children's stories of the boogeyman, an overabundance of horror movies, and a constant stream of public media never two seconds away from telling us of some act of violence or terrorism, whether that be a block from our home or half a world away. Does this speak to a level of societal fear that is being forced on by some overarching and scheming oligarchy or other such systems, or does it speak of a higher matter that could be associated with the essence of the human psyche? I certainly cannot claim the qualifications to lend any assertions, but this does draw on some suggestions for the future plans associated with the advancement of Viking research and academic writings.



So much is written about what we know and do not know concerning the Viking explorations and raids, but it seems a more simplistic approach is necessary. In sooth, Vikings were a small part of the Norse world, with the Viking being more of a profession or duty imparted to a sect of people, but others lived more agrarian lives back in the motherland. An exploration of this bucolic and pastoral life, the lives of the everyman, would seem fitting to help flesh out a fuller picture of what it was like to live in Scandinavia during the era of these Vikings.



As an end to a piece concerning these Northmen, a quote from one of the sagas, in particular *The Saga of Göngu-Hrolf*, seems more than fitting: "I'd like to thank those who've listened and enjoyed the story, and since those who don't like it won't ever be satisfied, let them enjoy their own misery" (Paddy Griffith, *The Viking Art of War* (London: Greenhill Books, 1998), 209).



If you'd like more information, including the PowerPoint, full text, or a list of resources cited, please feel free to reach out and I'd be happy to send them your way!

Upcoming Events



Hike Moot at Garden of the Gods in Herod, Illinois | Sat., September 24th @ 1 pm ----
Bring your doggos!!



Indoor Sporting Event Moot in Alton, IL | Sat., October 29th @ 2 PM | Come celebrate
my birthday with a bang!



Mark your calendars!

Hrafnagud Kindred is making their way down to join us in Southern Illinois for a Folksgiving brunch, then we'll head over to a local member's house for Fellowship and Blot!

Don't Miss Out



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

Iowa

Moot at Council Bluffs



The Iowa moot for August was held in Council Bluffs. We had two Iowa members and a Nebraska member came to join us. This moot was family-friendly, so parents brought their children.

We have also gained a new member this month, so hopefully as moots continue to grow, our membership will as well.



Clayton Von Kepner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cvonkepner@runestone.org

Minnesota

Catchy Title



August has proven to be yet another unforgettable month! From beginning to end, there were bonds and memories that I hope to never forget. Rearing up for Fallfest, meeting fellow traveling folk to share a meal in the Halls of Baldr, enjoying the frith amongst our Folk during a splendid Fallfest weekend, preserving our harvest while remembering the elders we learned from and dug out their recipes, and the start of the school year with my son being able to partake in the first kindergarten class for the Asatru Academy.



My children rolled up their sleeves in the kitchen to help feed us while cleaning and painting took place early in the month for the festivities. I was lucky enough to catch a traveling apprentice Folkbuilder, Tyler Heinlein, and his lovely wife and daughter while they were traveling through Minnesota. I really appreciated their company and hearing about the great communities and events they are a part of in the Pacific Northwest. I hope to make it to Couer de Alene in November for their Freyr's Harvest Feast. Very intriguing.



The school supply drive for Fallfest and the community of Murdock was a great success! Folkbuilder Ashley Mcstocker's donations, diligence, and shopping smarts (maybe her gift of gab too?) helped several families from the food pantry with a backpack and some supplies for each kid this school year.



Fall Fest was such a great time and I love the images imprinted in my head still. I am so

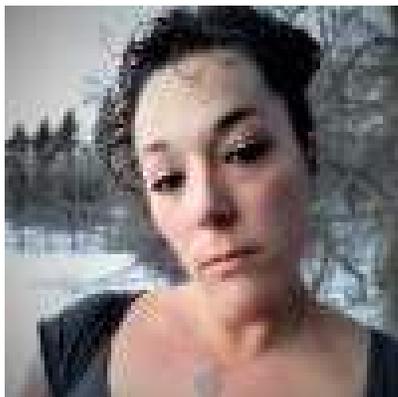
will to light the way for our folk and my family. It took about a week to decompress from the weekend and take it all in. I look forward to the bright future of the AFA!



Change is upon us, the season is getting a bit cooler, the leaves are starting to change, fruits are being harvested from the garden, and school is starting. My family planted tomatoes, jalapenos, strawberries, and watermelon this year. I find if I don't use it, I lose it from time to time, and wanted to engage in my yearly canning fest. I don't think I could forget how to can if I tried, but hey. I always dreaded it as a kid, so what do I do, make my kids dive in? They love it still, especially the end results. We canned pickles, salsa, and jam over a weekend which helped to inspire their young minds.



September has many great deeds at hand and much work is always to be done. Sköl!



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Folkish Family Freyfaxi



On August 14th, Northern Blood Kindred hosted our 6th annual Folkish Family Freyfaxi event. The following weekend was Fallfest at Baldrshof. It was a weekend full of powerful rituals. Always a good time when the folk get together. Already looking forward to next year's event. Yule at Baldrshof is the next event I'm waiting for.





Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher
jgallagher@runestone.org

Virtue Recovery Meeting



Being our most virtuous selves is not always the easiest task. As a community, we are home to many that have struggled or are currently struggling, with addiction. Many traditional 12-step meetings, though so very respected, do not fall in line with what we as a people believe. Specifically, any step pertaining to the divine will or requesting the removal of any shortcomings. So myself and my kindred brother, member Josh

meetings every Thursday at 7 pm CST. The meeting ID is 497 370 4791 and the password is Virtue. Join us!! Feel free to reach out to me with any and all questions!



Folkbuilder Ashley Mcstocker

amcstocker@runestone.org

Women's Folk Chant



Around a year ago, with the introduction of the women kulning prior to blot, and a few months later with the introduction of the lighting of the "Folk Flame" at the beginning of blot, the attention of the Folk at Baldrshof began to focus on the calling of our

We took this "calling" a step further this year at Fallfest for our women and taught our ladies the Folk Chant during our Women's Group. On the last day of the event, during the Wayfarer blot, our ladies joined me around the Folk Flame and put the newly learned chant into practice. While the women chanted, our men surrounded us and galdred the rune Raido for the Folk's journey.

I encourage all of our ladies to learn and utilize this chant if they are called to, either as a morning or evening personal ritual, or as daily meditation.



The Women's Folk Chant in Swedish

"Vi kallar på våra barn,
Vi kallar på våra män,
Vi kallar på våra systrar,
Folk, kom hem!
Folk, kom hem!"

The Women's Folk Chant in English

"We call on our children,

Folk, come home!
Folk, come home!"

If you would like the recording of this chant to learn the tone and tempo, please contact me by MeWe or email: bcallahan@runestone.org.

Special thanks to Apprentice Folkbuilder Erik Lugnet for translating the Folk chant from English to Swedish for us!

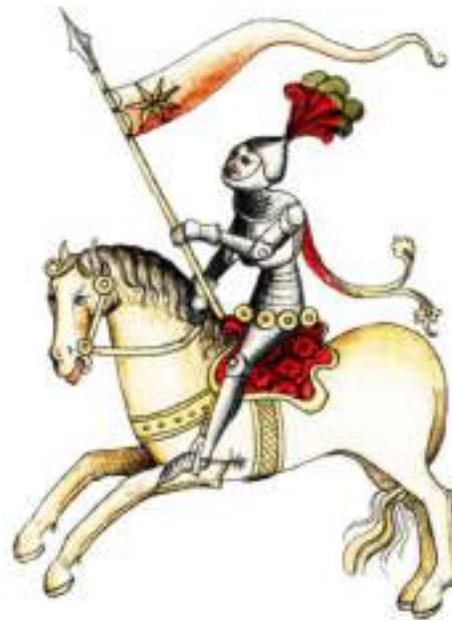
Hail the Folk!

Upcoming Events

Fair Moot!

Join your Folk
for a day of
merriment!

Saturday
September 24



Contact Brandy Callahan or Jason Gallagher
for arrival plans and details!



Missouri

It's almost Sweater time ya all!



Freyfaxi has come and gone and while our cooler weather hasn't arrived yet the first harvest has!

We gathered in Springfield, MO to feast, share in the community, and welcome new AFA members to their first blot and feast with their community. A warm welcome to Chuck and Sara and their beautiful children! Thank you to the Low family for the phenomenal smoked meets! And Lutisha for the AMAZING pineapple upside-down cake! (For those who didn't know, between the Lows and the Wilson family, our feasts are off the chain down here!) Many thanks to Michael for the Frey Blot and the games! And to all who helped make it a success!

family they chose this weekend! Hall Mid-Heartin Kindred!



Upcoming Events

LORE STUDY *night*



*Trivia nights
include prizes!!*

Tell your AFA friends to join you
and pit your knowledge against
each other in friendly
competition!

Every Tuesday @7pm CST
Join the Mewe Lore Study
Group for links and
information.

**We read 2 weeks out of the
month then do review with
TRIVIA NIGHT!**

Then we learn about our
modern Lore and Sagas within
the AFA One Tuesday a month!
And have a second round of
trivia!!

Contact Folkbuilder Sara Ault or
Folkbuilder Melissa Mills to get in
on the fun!

A promotional graphic for Oktoberfest. The background is a dark, textured surface. In the top left corner, there is a glass of beer with a thick head of foam, a bottle, and several large, golden-brown pretzels. The text is centered and reads: "Let's Celebrate!", "OKTOBER", "FEST", "September 17, 2022", "Abilene KS @2pm", and "Contact Folkbuilder Melisa Mills or Aspen Lyra For more details".

Let's Celebrate !

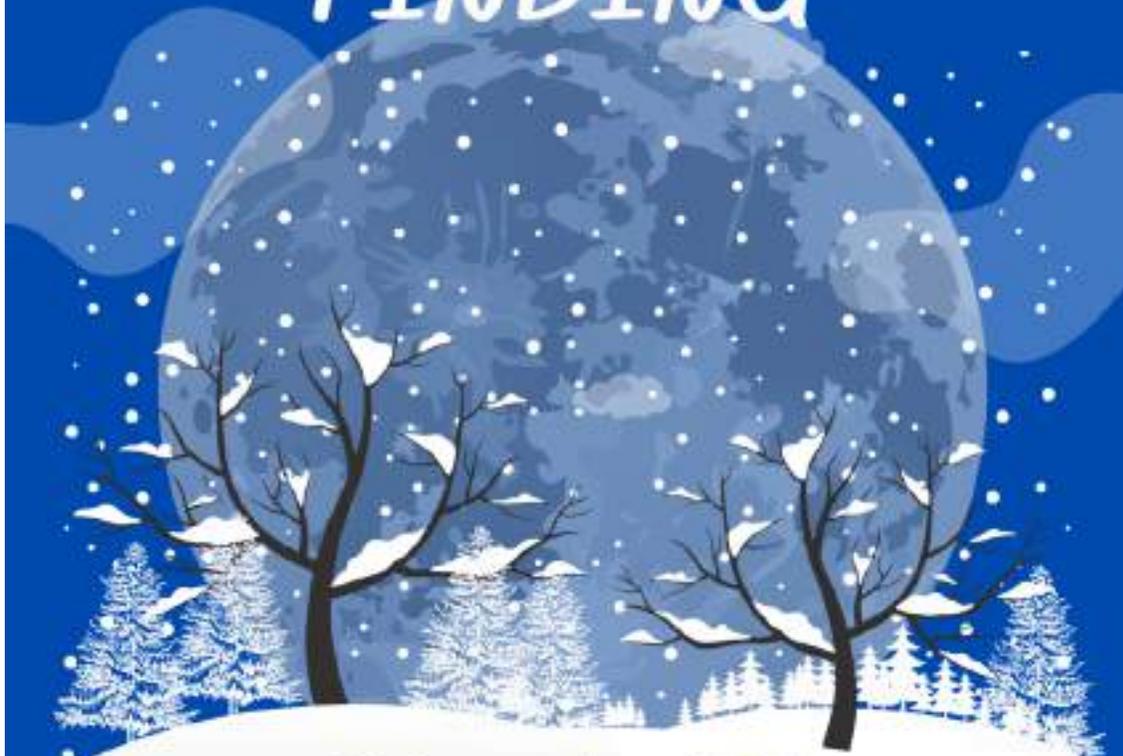
OKTOBER FEST

September 17, 2022

Abilene KS @2pm

Contact Folkbuilder Melisa Mills or Aspen
Lyra For more details

WINTER FINDING



24 September 2022

BLOT/SUMBLE | GAMES | FEASTING | STORY TELLING

Springfield MO

RSVP TO FOLKBUILDER

MELISA MILLS

307-649-5657



SUN 16TH OCTOBER

**HAUNTED
HUZZAH**
AT THE KC RENFEST
Family fun!

ENTERTAINMENT | FOOD | MUSIC

MEET AT 10AM
FOR DISCOUNTED TICKETS PURCHASE
IN ADVANCE AT KCRENFEST.COM
PLEASE RSVP TO FOLKBUILDER MELISA MILLS OR ASPEN
LYRA OR BROOK MCCORMICK

YOU ARE COORDIALLY INVITED TO

Cocktails



& Culprits

A DINNER PARTY FULL OF MURDER,
MYSTERY AND INTRIGUE!

Dinner and drinks
will be served.
Come in your best
date night outfits!

October
29th at 3pm

To RSVP,
message Melisa@
307-640-5657

AN OLD TIME YULE IN OKLAHOMA



*The season's most awaited event!
save the date!*

Dec. 1-4, 2022 located near Heavner
Runestone

Registration available SOON!



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills
mmills@runestone.org



The idea of Nobility has existed since before recorded history. It has also always been at the core of our people's identity; even as the very foundation upon which our Ancestors built the great cultures and tribes that would become Sacred Europa.

From the Romans to the Goths, to the Celts, to the Brittanians, Nobility has always been thought of and pursued. So how do we define it?

The obvious literal interpretation would be the ruling class. As the lore reveals, Rig fathered three classes of men, one of which being the Noble class. However, it is, I

The concept of Nobility has much in common with that of Honour as surely one cannot be had without the other; Nobility, however, presents itself even more readily as a guide on ethics and morality.

Nobility is born of Faith, Honour, and the habit of excellence. It is a calling to recognize and rise above degenerative influences—be they cultural, physical, or spiritual. Moreso, it is a call to Grace passed to us by our Ancestors and the Divine.

From the Knightly code of Chivalry to the Nine Noble Virtues, systems have always been presented to guide the elevation of the mind and spirit of an individual. Nobility is, at its simplest, superiority over the baser self. It is a rejection of the corruption of the mundane world in favor of seeking ascension. Noble conduct and belief foster growth of honor and draw one nearer the Divine.

The Noble Man is characterized by the strength of spirit, mind, and body. Contrarily, the ignoble is weak—choosing to submit to temptation in whatever form it may present itself. Through struggle, a man is able to forge himself into a greater being and it is by way of struggle that his strength is revealed.

Humility and service to others, as opposed to one's own ego, further bring one nearer a Noble state of being. We strive for greatness for our own name's sake, but all we do is ultimately selfless. We do it for those we love—be it our Family, our Ancestors, our Gods, or our Folk. In this way, we create a legacy of Nobility and Honour.

By setting a truly Noble example, free of hypocrisy, we not only forge a shining future for our own but also serve as a beacon to guide the lost back home to our Folk. For as the corrupt is repulsive, so is the Noble attractive.

Nobility is achieved less so by pursuing it for its own end, rather it is gained as a byproduct produced during the elimination of the unworthy within us. Uncompromising integrity and a strong moral fortitude must be guided by constant education and awareness of the influences that draw us away from the path.

The Chivalric Code also speaks of Love and Hope. Though a man may struggle, he does so not from any hatred of what he opposes, but for Love of what he defends. He must also always maintain a hopeful demeanor and goodly speech. On the dimmest night, a man should not bemoan the darkness, but celebrate the beauty of the stars and remember the coming of dawn.

Our Nobility is also a physical thing that can, and should, be demonstrated. From the clothes we wear to the way we speak and behave, our Nobility, or lack thereof, is

We are born of a people defined by Nobility. As our civilization has forgotten that fact, it is our responsibility to remember it and strive to be worthy of the legacy that has been passed down to us.



Folkbuilder Cormag Àlainn
calainn@runestone.org

Wisconsin

Building Your Legacy



This month I had the idea of casting the light on a great man that I've had the pleasure of getting to know over the years.

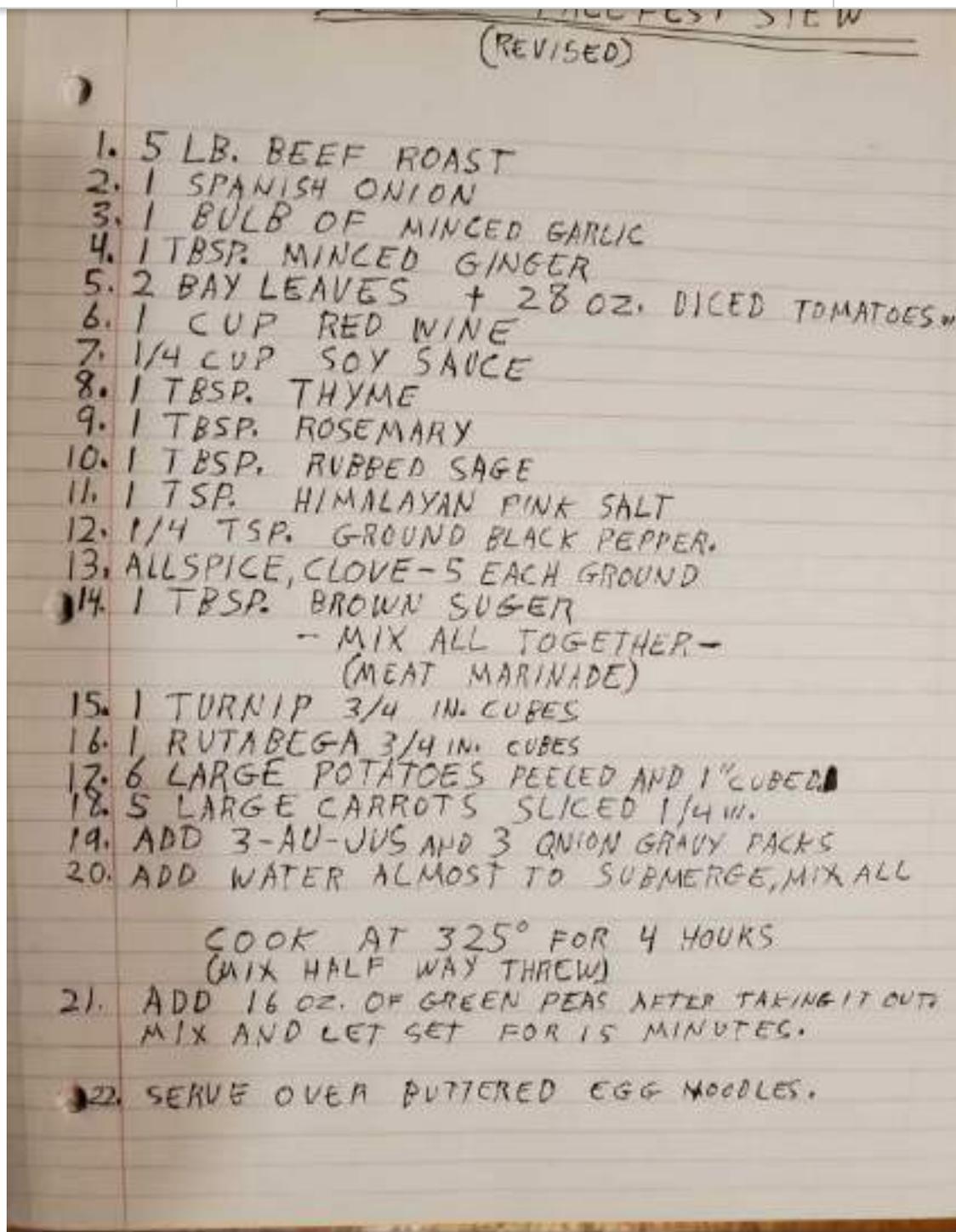
This man is an inspiration and is wholly dedicated to our AFA family.

He has taken the initiative to make the most out of his experience in life and has set the bar high for all others to build for themselves a legacy that will have our folk raising a horn of mead in his name for all times.



The number of states that he has traveled to, the countless hours, miles, and personal resources including physical labor....to build frith is heartfelt with all who know him.

I've seen him literally prepare meals for nearly 100 of our folk, accepting very little if any assistance from anyone.... On more than one occasion!



He shared one of his recipes with me so that I could share it with you and your family. I am including a picture of this recipe. Just remember: in the vegetable section, add 8oz of Bella and 8oz of Shiitake mushrooms sliced for authenticity.

This man has many talents: cooking, creating music, creating things with welding, and singing, if you like "King Diamond" he has a spot-on rendition for you that's amazing to experience.



Like Odin in many respects, he shows up in places that you had no idea that he'd be and imparts some needed knowledge.

If you've met this man, I am speaking about you also already love him. If you haven't yet, you will. He's a doer for sure. The man that I am speaking about is Joel Eastman.

I encourage each of you to be the best self that you can be. You get out of life what you put forward. You don't need a bestowed title to achieve greatness, just simply be one whose action with deeds speaks for you.

You too can build a legacy for yourself.

Be bold, bring your talents to share with our folk.

Hail the Gods,
Hail the Folk,
Hail Joel Eastman,
Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events



GEMEUTLICHKEIT DAYS

Please join us in Jefferson, WI to
celebrate German Heritage on
September 17 at 10 am.

This community festival has been going on for over 50 years to share the beautiful culture the German settlers brought to Wisconsin. Enjoy music, a classic car show, dancing, cultural demonstrations, and amazing food.

For more information contact:

Folkbuilder James Ault jault@runestone.org

ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN UP.

Please join us in Wisconsin on
September 25 at 10 am to clean up the
AFA's 2 mile stretch of highway.

A picnic lunch will be provided after. Due to
highway department rules, no one under 13 may
participate in the clean up. There is a park at our
meeting place where the parents can sit with
their children or feel free to come closer to noon
to enjoy your Folk's company and a delicious
lunch.

For more information contact:

James Ault

jault@runestone.org



Folkbuilder James Ault

jault@runestone.org

“Tradition is not the worship of ashes, but the preservation of fire.”



Teaching our children tradition helps give them a strong sense of identity. Tradition serves as a reminder of where your family came from. It helps strengthen family bonds. It helps build character. In a fast-paced and ever-changing world, it's a comforting sense of consistency. Family rituals also teach strong values. These are lifelong lessons that our children will impart to their children, keeping the Folk-flame alive generation after generation.

The Asatru Folk Assembly strives to keep alive the tradition of our ethnic European faith. In bringing your children to events, you are sharing with your children another aspect of your rich heritage. The rituals and blots your family experience at an event can be then taken back home and worked into your own family's traditions.

helps impart the importance of our gods and goddesses into our daily life plus shows our deep connection to our ancestors and our Folk.

For home sumbels with the children, often apple juice or sparkling grape juice is used instead of mead in the horn. Simply pour the juice into the horn, concentrating on positive energy and what you'd like your children to take away from this ritual. An AFA sumbel is done in three rounds. The first is the god round. Have the child hold the horn and hail whatever god or goddess they would like to. With little children, even having them simply say, "Hail" is a good start. The second round is the ancestor round. Have the child hold the horn and hail someone who has passed away. It is perfectly okay to give them suggestions. Remember this is a learning and bonding time for your family, so be relaxed and enjoy creating good memories from this. The third round is the boasting and toasting round. Have the child hold the horn and hail, someone they love, tell of something good they saw, or something they are thankful for. When this last round is finished, you can have the last child finish drinking from the horn or take the horn outside to pour out by a tree. Remember this is the family tradition you are building, so it's perfectly acceptable to customize any part of this to what works for you.

Remember, we are our future ancestors! Build your traditions to last for generations to come.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Children!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events

**GOING BACK TO
WHERE IT ALL STARTED.
PLEASE JOIN US
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 AT 11 AM
FOR A CELEBRATION
OF
LOVE AND LIFE**

**THE AULT FAMILY INVITES YOU TO JOIN
THEM AT MENOMINEE PARK IN OSHKOSH WI
TO CELEBRATE THE GROWTH OF THE AFA
AND THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.**

**THERE WILL BE A FEAST SERVED, A RENEWING OF
DEDICATION, A WALK THROUGH THE ZOO, AND GOOD
COMPANY.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
FOLKBUILDER JAMES AULT
JAULT@RUNESTONE.ORG
OR
FOLKBUILDER SARA AULT
SAULT@RUNESTONE.ORG**

The flyer features a decorative border with a repeating floral pattern. At the bottom, there is a row of icons including two orange flowers, two green leaves, two green acorns, and two snowflakes.

**IN WISCONSIN TO CELEBRATE A
REMEMBRANCE DAY
FOR
PRINCE HERMANN
OF
THE CHERUSCISI**

**SEPTEMBER 10 AT 11AM
WE WILL MEET AT CHEROKEE PARK
IN COLBY WI.
A PICNIC LUNCH WILL BE
PROVIDED.**

CONTACT APPRENTICE FOLKBUILDER SARA AULT
FOR MORE INFORMATION.
SAULT@RUNESTONE.ORG

Pumpkin Patch Moot

**Please join your Folk for the
annual pumpkin patch moot on
Sunday, October 23rd
at 11am in Central Wisconsin.**

**There will be a corn maze, pumpkin picking, a
semi-haunted wagon ride through the woods, play
area for the children, and a wonderful lunch
provided.**

**Details will be provided closer to the event.
For more information contact
Folkbuilder Sara Ault
sault@runestone.org**



Folkbuilder Sara Ault
sault@runestone.org



Hello Fine Folk of the AFA! Let's start with that August was great!!! You will read all about the wonderful fun and powerful rituals at Fallfest elsewhere in this month's Runestone so I won't write about that too much but wish a very warm congratulations to the newly Oathed Folkbuilders! Hail the Folkbuilders!

We had planned a nice hike and picnic for our moot this month but got rained out unfortunately due to weather. Not to be defeated by a little rain, we switched it up and visited the National Railroad Museum instead! It was lots of fun and they had lots of wild trains!



Next, we met up with Witan Callahan and her sons to attend the Freyfaxi feast in Illinois with the Hrafnagud Kindred! Thank you Hrafnagud and Folkbuilder Jim Cummings! Special thank you to Witan Callahan; it was wonderful to hang out with you and the boys—please come back anytime!



Anyways, here are some rad pictures of some wonderful AFA Folk. Hope you enjoy them!

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

Upcoming Events

VATNAFÖLK KINDRED MEN'S
TENTING CAMP OUT
TWIN VALLEY CAMP GROUND
3PM FRIDAY OCTOBER 21ST -
3PM SUNDAY OCTOBER 23RD.

SAT. BLOT/BLESSING
BUSHCRAFT DEMONSTRATION.
RUSTIC MEALS PROVIDED AS
WELL AS
HUNTING AVAILABLE FOR
LICENSED WI TAG HOLDERS.
4175 WI-23, DODGEVILLE,
WI 53533
PLEASE RSVP OR REACH OUT
TO FOLKBUILDER JOSH
RAPIN FOR DETAILS
JRAPIN@RUNESTONE.ORG
920-288-9710



Folkbuilder Josh Rapin
jrapin@runestone.org



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