

Njörðshof

Fourth Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

<http://www.njordshof.org/>

Donate to the AFA



Runestone.org



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Words from the Alsherjargothi



In July we celebrated Victory! Across the country and around the world, our AFA family celebrated the victories of the past year with our Gods. We also made commitments and asked for blessings on victories to come. At Óðinshof, in the sight of the Victory Father, I swore on the AFA's behalf, that this time next year, our Gods would be even prouder of us, and that our victories would increase. I need your help to fulfill this commitment!



July was the first month of our Victory Never Sleeps weekly live stream and podcast. I have always loved doing my monthly Live chats and this is the evolution of that. Each week I will bring on an AFA leader to answer all your questions and discuss Asatru. So far, this has been well received and we have had a great time doing them. A huge "thank you" goes to Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice who produces the show each week.

Please join us for these each week at 6 pm Pacific. You can participate on YouTube and Entropy. On Entropy we are able to take tips and super chats.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/asatrufolkassembly>

<http://EntropyStream.live/app/MattFlavel>

And if you can't listen live, you can always listen to the podcast at any time.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/0CULujeOav980SZbAMGk4f>

Hail the Gods!

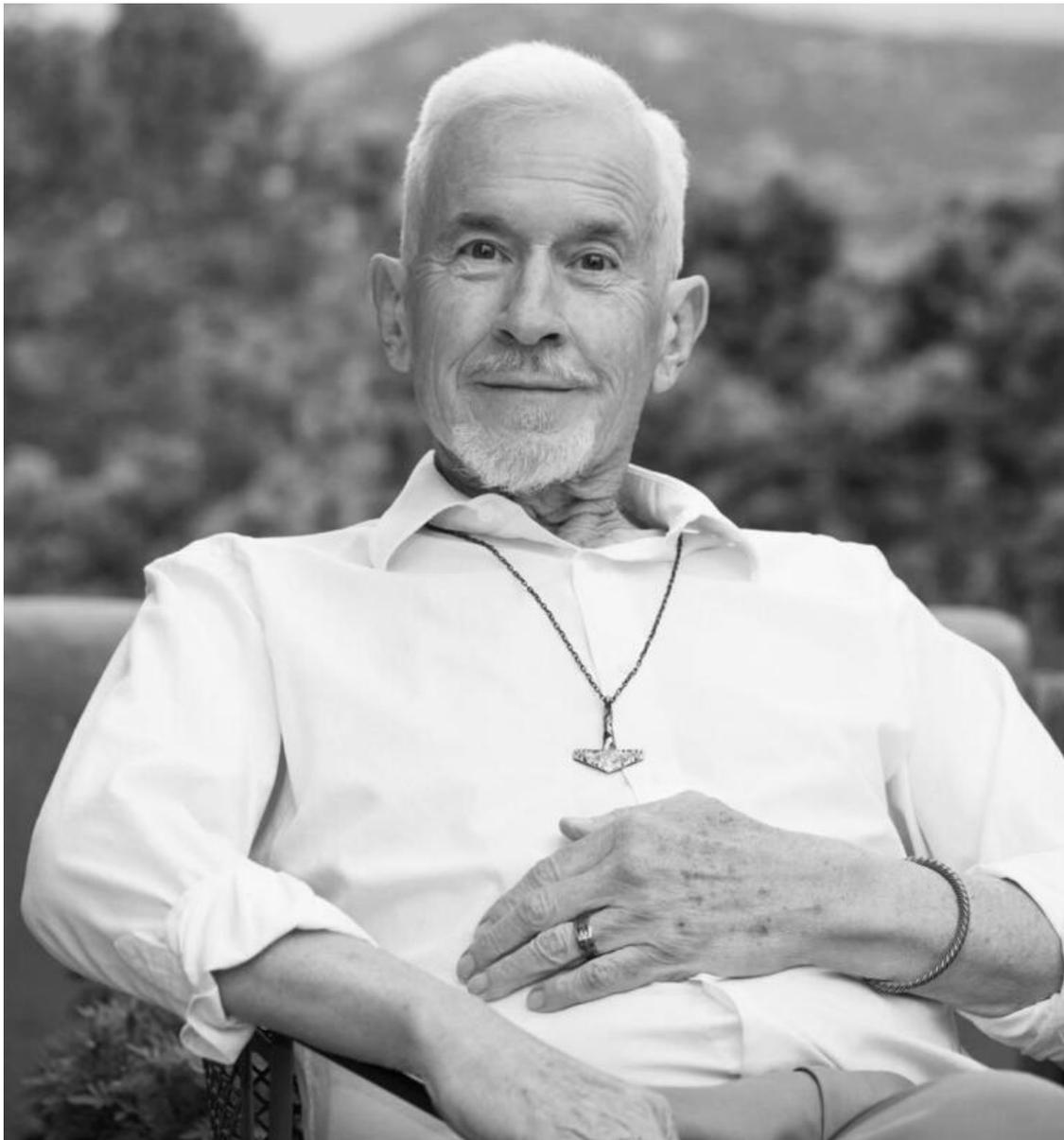
Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Matthew D. Flavel
Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly
mattflavel@runestone.org

Remembering Steve Chappelle
5/02/52 - 7/27/22



I am very sad to report that Steve passed away on Wednesday from pancreatic cancer. Steve has been an AFA member, on and off, for many years. We are honored that he returned as a member after his diagnosis and chose to finish out his days as a proud part of our AFA family. Many of us have had the privilege of speaking with Steve over the years, he will be deeply missed and remembered.

Hail Steve Chappelle!

Folk Futhark Part 2



ANSUZ- This is the rune of Odin and the Æsir in general. It relates to communication and connection with the Gods, as well as the gifts given to us by Odin and his brothers when our Folk was first created from two pieces of driftwood.

The stave of this rune is the same as it is in the Elder Futhark, as you'll see below. One way to remember the meaning of Ansuz is to look at the shape and think of the vertical "spine" of the rune as representing Yggdrasil. From there, it has two arms reaching downward from the top this can be viewed as the Gods connecting with our Folk from their seat at the top of the World Tree.



RAIDHO- The rune of the ride, the ritual, and the right action. On top of these concepts, Raidho also represents natural law and the proper turning of the wheel in regard to life's various cycles. Additionally, our Gothar wears this rune on our rings, and our stoles, as it is considered the rune of the priesthood since the Gothar are the stewards of the various rituals and spiritual traditions of our people.

This rune's stave is the Armanen rune called Rit, but it is very similar to the Elder Futhark stave. The only difference is that the 45-degree angle leg is shorter than the

vertical 90-degree angle leg.



KENAZ- This rune translates roughly to "torch", which is fitting as it is a rune of traditions and passing them from generation to generation. Kenaz is closely tied to Heimdall, Heaven's Ward, the Watchman of the Gods, born on the waves at the edge of the world. This is because Heimdall brought structure and fire and runes to our people, and gifted us his blood so that we may have yet another connection to the Divine.

The Folk Futhark stave for this rune is borrowed from the Younger and English Futharks. As you can see, it looks similar to a torch seated in a wall sconce, whereas the Elder Futhark stave looked more like the letter "C" made out of two sticks.



Gothi Trent East
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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 \(runestone.org\)](http://runestone.org)

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

This is the list of things that need to happen before we can make Freyshof a reality:

1. We need to pay off Njörðshof. (We have paid off 35%)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 18%. (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



Register Here: [Welcome | Asatru Academy](#)

Greetings parents and students! Our school year begins on September 6th! Please look out for an email that will detail your specific state requirements and includes a letter of intent, if your state requires it. The email will be sent through our school's management system, QuickSchools. Please check your spam folders. You'll also receive an invite to our parent and student portal. It is absolutely vital you have access to these portals.

I'd also like to introduce you to your Academy Staff. Gythia Sheila McNallen is an experienced, licensed teacher, and will be your Assistant Dean of the curriculum. Folkbuilder Heather Young is your Assistant Dean of Students. Heather will be reaching out to all our parents, and is your asset to make sure your little Aryan is successful! Folkbuilder Ashley Stockton is our Admissions Director. Folkbuilder Rachel Johnson is our State Compliance Coordinator; she will make sure we are meeting all of your state's requirements. She brings a wealth of knowledge about homeschooling. Folkbuilders Sara Ault and Nick Rice are your Admin Secretaries. And Gythia Catie Erickson will also be assisting with the curriculum.

We have a wealth of volunteers outside leadership as well, who brings a lot of skills and experience. We are very proud to offer you a unique ásatrú-based education, steeped in AFA values.

We can't wait to see you in just a few short weeks!



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

Freyfaxi



Though Freyfaxi is, in name, a modern holiday the celebration around which it is centered is much older. Dedicated to Freyr, our ancestors celebrated the first harvest of the season. The most common offerings during Freyfaxi included the sheaves of wheat, other grains, and freshly baked loaves of bread. Less common was the sacrifice of a horse in honor of Freyr.

The beginning of harvest season marked the beginning of hard work and dedication. Every harvest of the season was necessary for the survival of each family, and of the community. This hard work ensured that there would be food to see them through the long winter months.

Those seeds that we planted after Mayday and tended so carefully for the last few months have grown and some of them should be bearing the fruit of all of that labor. Take some time in the garden, as you pick the first offerings of your plants, to thank Freyr. Share with him some of that first harvest, along with bread and ale. Celebrate the God of Vitality and abundance with your family and folk.

Day of Remembrance

King Radbod of Frisia



Radbod, known as the greatest King of the Frisians, spent his life tirelessly fighting against the subjugation of the Franks. While his predecessor, Aldegisel, had accepted Christian conversion easily, Radbod was unwilling to stray from his belief in the Gods of his people.

On the verge of accepting baptism, Radbod turned to the Priest presiding and asked if his ancestors would be waiting for him in the Kingdom of Heaven. Upon being told that his pagan ancestors were burning in Hell Radbod refused the baptism, expressing that he would rather burn in Hell with his pagan ancestors than live in Heaven with beggars.

His rule, 680 – 719 CE, was spent fighting against the Frankish rule and banishing Christianity from his land. Despite losing to Pepin of Hertal on several occasions

Radbod never gave up. While never successful in his lifetime, his successors continued the battle for many years after his death.

What can we learn from this story?

Radbod was not bolstered in his mission by success. When he looked back he did not see win after win, but quite the opposite. What Radbod could see, however, was the long line of his Ancestors stretching back to the first in his line. He saw them and he was proud of them and of their faith. Rather than disappointing them, King Radbod did his very best to make them proud and continue their legacy.

Our culture, our society, as a whole, is under attack. They would have us turn our back on our families and on our folk. They would have us turn our backs on Asatru and our Ancestors. They would see the death of the traditional nuclear family and of the dedicated community. Everything from the books we read to the shows we watch looks to tear down the idea that our Folk should grow stronger together.

Like Radbod we should look behind us to see the long line of our Ancestors standing behind us, supporting us. We should then look forward to the bright future for our children and their children, a future that we should fight for tirelessly, no matter how many times we might stumble along the way.



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Remembrance and Holy Days



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

2022

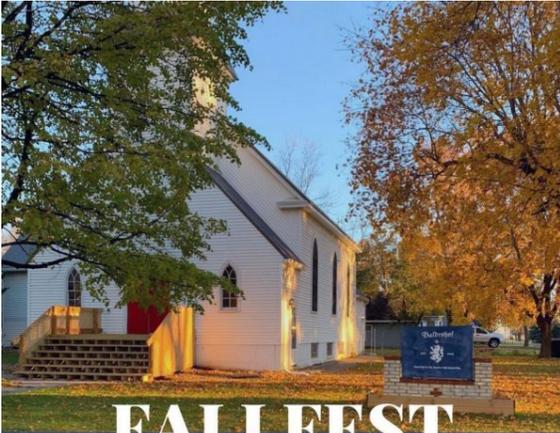
Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 15	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 19	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 20 (observed on 21st)	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 31 (observed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

Date	Observance
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

Upcoming National Events

Fallfest at Baldrshof 2022

August 19th-21st



FALLFEST
At Baldrshof

Friday, August 19 - Sunday, August 21

TICKETS REQUIRED AND
AVAILABLE AT
WWW.RUNESTONE.ORG

CONTACT FOLKBUILDER
JASON GALLAGHER
FOR MORE INFO
JGALLAGHER@RUNESTONE.ORG

Register Here: [Fallfest at Baldrshof 2022 Aug19-21 – Asatru Folk Assembly](#)

runestone.org

Fallfest is nearly here!

Tickets are still available on runestone.org and can be found in the store under the events section.

Pricing is as follows:

Single Member \$75

Member Family \$125

Non-Member Guest \$100

All guests must be vouched for!

If you need a ride from the airport or a recommendation on where to stay, please contact Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher at jgallagher@runestone.org

There are several hotels in the area. A few local folks have rooms available if needed. Members have also rented several bed and breakfasts and some still have beds available. There is also a site to camp not far away.

Fallfest Itinerary

Friday

8 am - Breakfast (True North Folk)

10 am - Else Dedication (Sara Ault/Brandy Callahan) followed by Fika (True North Folk)

11 am - Jaime Alaiinn Presentation

Noon - Lunch (Sygtyr Kindred)

1 pm - Nicholas Rice Presentation

3 pm - Welcoming of the Gods Blot (Nathan Erlandson) followed by afternoon tea (True North Folk)

***Children's Activity available downstairs (Sara Ault)

4 pm - Brandy Callahan Presentation

5 pm - Dinner (Joel Eastman)

6 pm - Nathan Erlandson Presentation

8 pm - Baldrsblot (Lawspeaker Allen Turnage) followed by Baldrsball

***Children's activity available downstairs

10 pm - Hof Closing

Saturday

8 am - Breakfast (Nick Rice / Jim Cummings / Josh Rapin)

10 am - Ancestor Dedication (Brandy Callahan) followed by Fika (True North Folk)

11 am - Leadership Q&A (Alsherjargothi, Lawspeaker, Witan)
Noon - Lunch (Northern Blood Kindred)
1 pm - Men's Group (Nathan Erlandson) / Women's Group (Brandy Callahan)
2 pm – Start of Hnefatafl Tournament (James Ault)/ Outdoor Games (Nathan Erlandson & Clayton Von Kepner) / Children's Blot & Activity (Jessie Shaffer, Sara Ault, Ashley McStocker, Brandy Callahan)
3 pm - Afternoon Tea (True North Folk)
4 pm - Jim Cummings Presentation
4:30 pm - Freyfaxi Blot (Alsherjargothi Matthew Flavel)
5 pm - Dinner (James Ault / Shane Duffy)
6 pm - Auction (James Ault / Melisa Mills)
8 pm - Sumbel
 ***Children's activity available downstairs (Jessie Shaffer)
10 pm - Hof Closing

Sunday

8 am - Breakfast (True North Folk)
10 am - Wayfarer Blot (Witan Brandy Callahan)
 ***Children's Sumbel (Sara Ault)
12 pm - Hof close

Fallfest is the largest fundraiser of the year for Baldrshof. The monies raised at our auction and donation by the folk helping to pay for needed repairs, remodeling, and events at the Hof throughout the year.

**Winter Nights 11
October 14th-16th**



Register Here: [Winter Nights 11 – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](http://runestone.org)

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.

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

Feast of the Einherjar 2022

November 10th-13th



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

Come and join your Folk for a weekend long celebration as we Honor the Einherjar.
Presentations, Games, feasting and Blots!



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@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!

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



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

Would you like a blanket for your newborn, or to donate and help with yarn costs (yarn is expensive!)? Please email babyblanket@runestone.org 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 information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide. For more information, please email folkservices@runestone.org.

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

Thanks in advance!

Photo Donations

We have a real need for hi-res photographs of our members' gathering, being active in their kindreds, and showing what it means to live Asatru!

If you are willing to donate some hi-res photos for use in promotions such as the AFA Calendar, the AFA website, our publications, and more please email them to the AFA at photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken.



Eir's Blessings



Everybody needs a little extra help sometimes. Women, being the frithy creatures that we are, are uniquely suited to the task of manipulating energy for the purpose of healing. Magic, you could say.

Do you have a health concern and need a little extra energy? Are you battling with a mental illness like depression or PTSD? Is your baby having a hard time with teething? If you've answered yes at all, reach out to us. Once a month women of the AFA will get together to perform healing rituals all across the globe. If you would like to be included, please send a message to let us know!

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

You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

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

Ancestral Food and Culture

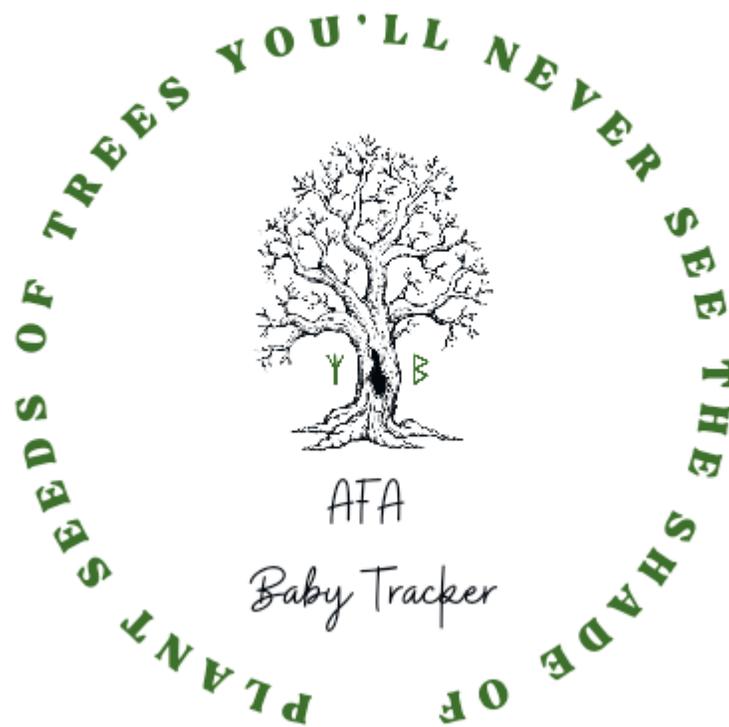


Cook the meat (beef or lamb) with diced onions and mushrooms. Drain the grease. Boil potatoes and then mash. Add butter, milk, salt, and pepper. Take a can of regular corn and a can of creamed corn and mix them. Put the meat mix in a 9x3 pan or casserole dish. Spread the corn over the meat mix and after spreading the mashed potatoes on top. Cut up some butter and dot it and sprinkle paprika. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes or until it's golden on top. Enjoy!



Folkbuilder Timothy Dumas
tdumas@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



In case you missed it last month, we are tracking the growth of our Folk by presenting to you an ongoing baby tracker. We will be keeping track of how many children have been and are born within the AFA from 2022 and forward. The ongoing tracking is proof that we are building something sustainable for the future of our Folk, which is a place for these children to grow up within and a place where they can feel proud of who they are!

Total babies born in 2022: 24

Jesica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org



Now Available in the AFA Store

Njordshof Tank Top

\$25.00 - \$28.00



Buy Now: [Njordshof Tank Top – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org/njordshof-tank-top)

We will gather this month on Aug 12-13 to dedicate the Hall of Njord! We are happy to give him a home with his folk in Midgard.

In honor of that, our store spotlight is on Njordshof and the new Njordshof tank top!

Get over to [Runestone.org](https://runestone.org) and get one! (Or 2...or 3..)



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills
mmills@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Njörðshof

AFA LADIES COFFEE & CROCHET

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

10 AM CENTRAL

MEET WITH YOUR AFA SISTERS &
FRIENDS FOR CONVERSATION AND
FIBER ARTS!

CONTACT WITAN BRANDY CALLAHAN
BCALLAHAN@RUNESTONE.ORG
VIRTUAL MEETING IS VIA TEAMS.
MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE
IN THE AFA LADIES GROUP
IN THE EVENTS SECTION



Work Day at Njörðshof



The quest to acquire a Hof dedicated to the God of Wind & Wealth is over, and now our Florida and Georgia Folk are hard at work to make it worthy for our awesome AFA family to come to visit!

It cannot be overstated just how much work has been put into this temple by Folkbuilder Lane Ashby and the American Crow Kindred, as well as Goði Jason Plourde and Gythia Anna Plourde. Dozens of hours (so far) have gone into transforming a former Christian church into a mighty temple for Njörðr!

Over the past week, Witan Svan Herul has been working his artistic magic and creating a profoundly beautiful mural of the God of Prosperity. On Saturday, Madison and I drove five hours down to Florida to help the local Folk and visit our friend Svan. While speaking to him, I joked that I was a horrible painter, so of course, he had me help him. Lucky for all of us, he made me do the easy stuff! Gythia Plourde and Madison put in some work on the mural, as well!

Many thanks to Witan Turnage, Witan Herul, the Gothar Plourde, Folkbuilder Ashby, Mike & Katie Joyner, Tracy Adler, and the members of American Crow Kindred! We had a great time, and we look forward to the Dedication!

The Dedication will be Saturday, August 13th in White Springs, Florida! Come on by and see all of our hard work!

Hail Njörðr!



Gothi Trent East
teast@runestone.org

Arkansas

Transition to Arkansas



Southern Arkansas has come alive! We are now here and going to be making moots regularly. Soon we will have a place for Blots and other exciting things to come! We had 6 adults and 4 children show up to this moot! We will be meeting at least once a month now. We will be combining our efforts with North Arkansas, which had a moot

of 9 recently. Our current goal is to hit 20+ people. If you, are In or around Arkansas or just passing through, be sure to shoot me an email!



Asatru as an Organized Religion

As we organize and make our religion a real and widespread thing for our Folk, we will always have nay-sayers. People who want to say organized religion is a bad thing. But truth be told, we would not have had the great Empires of the past with a prevailing Religion and worship if our ancestors didn't organize. So, I wrote this here, to help explain the importance of what we are doing.

The Gothar were a very important part of our communities in the past. Made up of Gothi's (Male) and Gythias (Female), men and women who dedicated their lives in Service to the Aesir and the Folk. When our spiritual caste was in place, the greatest of societies existed. So important was it for the Spiritual adept of our people to hold this position, that every attempt was made to remove them entirely.



In doing so, the collapse of societies ensued. Degradation's only result. There are some who think that the organizing of religion is somehow a detriment. Never mind the fact that building anything in any situation, takes organization. When our people build up together, they obtain the highest levels and greatest of Empires.

Yet due to the loss of our spiritual caste, we have fallen into a self-decadent delusion, that never coming together and always being the lone wolf, will somehow benefit anyone or anything. But what is instead simply a selfish mentality of self-gratifying egoism, is the destruction of civilization.

When people instead give of themselves for the betterment of their Folk, Family, and

Nation, they create a feeling of peace on earth. Just thank the millions who eagerly died horrific deaths so we could have this conversation. Being lonely and deprived of community, they think they will shuffle on. At least until they are 80 and then need people to take care of them and have none.

Besides what community does for the individual, it also structures the entire society. Economically, sociologically, politically, and so on. Just look at the success the Asatru Folk Assembly has had. Individual groups came and went for decades, but once a Gothar was created with the aims and desires to organize the efforts of our people, and put them to accomplish things full force, great things that others only talked about began to manifest.

Hofs came into existence, kindreds blossomed, and our Folk had support mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and materially. Talkers became doers, empty promises reality.

One can either whine about things while doing nothing to change them, or they can stand up, take charge, and create the change they wish to see.



Jesse Parton
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jparton@runestone.org

Northern Arkansas



Arkansas now has two Folkbuilders! The events are more numerous, and the holidays are bigger and more elegant with each passing month. Midhearth Kindred plays a role in most moots and major events in the Tristate area and the success has proved self-evident: in just this last year alone, our AFA growth in these areas has been exponential. The next few Runestone articles should be great ones, as the list of gatherings grows. Sept 3rd's Freyfaxi in MO will be an event to catch! Come out and meet your AFA kinsman from AR, MO, OK, KS, and many more. Hail the AFA! Hail Midhearth Kindred!

Folkbuilder Michael Sessumes

mssessumes@runestone.org



Florida

Have you read this?



We had a fantastic time at Folklore Meadery. The phrase that I believe was said the most was “well have you read by” It was wonderful to have two new AFA members join in. It’s always fun to bring your own horn to a meadery and get funny looks.

Upcoming Event



Our next Moot will be a Kayak Moot at Reed Bingham State Park in South GA.



Mike Joyner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjoyner@runestone.org

Hollerbach's German Restaurant Moot



On July 24th, Folk from Njörðshof went to enjoy delicious food at Hollerbach's in Sanford, FL. We also went for a stroll around the block to shop at a German grocery store and clothing shop. The food was delicious and the atmosphere very pleasant. We all want to go back soon, especially since we get to spend time together with Folk.



Tracy Adler
Apprentice Folkbuilder
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Rune Study



Thank you to everyone who has been participating! We are still going strong with our rune study, and we have so much more to cover.

This is a Teams meeting, open to all AFA women. It doesn't matter where you are on your journey, we'd love to see you! The goal is for everyone to walk away having learned something new, and to have grown just a little bit more.

August 17th- Isa

August 31st- Jera

September 14th- Eihwaz

I encourage everyone interested to read ahead, and come ready to ask questions! This is a great time to learn with other women and to build friendships.

Contact me for details, and reading recommendations.



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Oklahoma

Arkansan Invasion of Oklahoma



We had a moot with some of our traveling Arkansas cousins!

And we're planning an Illinois River float trip over the 19-20-21st of August! More details to become available on the Njordshof.org calendar of events!

August 9th Day of Remembrance | Redbad - King of the Frisians





I was honored to be asked to speak on our Day of Remembrance during the monthly Baldrshof Membership Meeting. Redbad came into power after the death of his long-lived predecessor, Aldgisl. Aldgisl had fought against the Franks during his reign and had been successful. He had even given asylum to a Christian monk that fled England

and was also no friend of the Franks. Some of Aldgisl's royal court had even converted, but the Old Whip, as Aldgisl's name is translated, did not.

After the Old Whip likely died of natural causes at age 74 in the year 680, Redbad, who may have been his son, but at least was from an elite Frisian family, was crowned.

Like Aldgisl, Redbad fought many battles against the Franks, but with much less success. This led to his defeat by Pepin in 695 at Dorestad. The Franks then claimed territory up to the Rhine River.

Redbad and Pepin made peace through a union of Redbad's daughter and Pepin's eldest son. This peace lasted almost twenty years until Pepin's death in 714, wherein there was some chaos amongst the Franks. Redbad took advantage of this, and successfully won back Frisian lands and cities. Redbad handed heir and another son of Pepin, Charles Martel, known for his crusades, Martel's only defeat at Cologne. Redbad banned Christianity and destroyed Christian churches while raising an army with the intent of invading Frankish lands. Before he led that invasion, he died in 719 on the island later to be called Heligoland or "Holy Land," known for being a sacred island upon which the God Forseti is honored.

Redbad's memory still haunted the Franks as they rumored he was asleep with his army in a mountain, where ravens circled. The story says that when the ravens stopped circling, he would awaken and exact vengeance on the Franks.

Redbad is known for his false baptism. He had one foot in the baptismal font and paused to ask if he would meet his ancestors in the heaven that the Christians had preached about so often. The monk, Wolfram, is said to have replied that since they had not converted that they would spend all eternity burning in Hell. Speaking of Redbad's noble ancestors as if they were nothing more than common thieves enraged Redbad and he warned Wolfram to leave and stay out of his sight on Earth, in Heaven, or in Hell.

Staying true to his Gods and Ancestors while fighting for his Folk's independence, King Redbad has earned our respect and a place as an AFA honored hero for the month of August. We celebrate his deeds on the 9th of August. Honor him with your loved ones, and share his stories and commitment to his Gods and Ancestors. Show us your celebrations so we can build upon such legendary memories.

There are a plethora of articles to site that tell the tales of Redbad, and even a feature-length movie, "Redbad". Another tale for another time about Forseti's connection to Frisia is worth a gander, too. All in all, the Frisians have a unique culture amongst the

Germanic peoples and rich history of standing up for themselves and their past.

Hail the doers!

Hail the Frisians!

Hail King Redbad!



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Texas

Race Moot



Earlier this month several members of Fridr Folk kindred gathered to share frith and fun. We supported a friend of the Folk, a Texas dirt truck series driver. We were invited

to the pits where he and his team were peppered with questions, they kindly explained every question with joy. Experiencing the race was new to us; much more exhilarating than watching on TV. It was a great time making new friends, and sharing new experiences with the Folk!



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Sigurblot in DFW



On Saturday, July 30th Fríðr Folk Kindred held Sigurblot on the Brazos River outside of Weatherford, Texas. We camped, fished, swam, feasted, held a discussion on the story of Tyr losing his hand to the Fenris wolf, and honored our Gods and Ancestors with a Blot to Óðin!

Justin Day



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