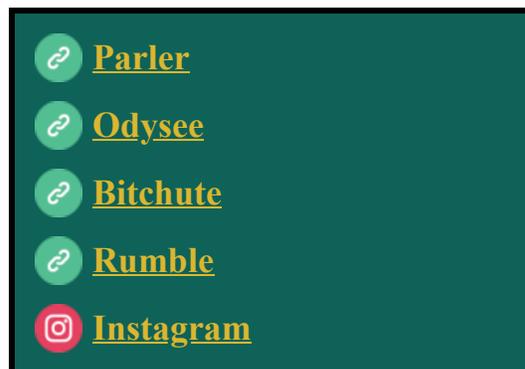


<http://www.njordshof.org/>



Donate to the AFA

Words from the Alsherjargothi



The 29th year of the Asatru Folk Assembly begins!

I am so proud of all we have accomplished together in 2022. During the summer, we dedicated the first Hof to Njörðr in over 1,000 years. In the fall, we enrolled our first class of students into the AFA Asatru Academy. In December, we purchased Sigrheim and began the long-dreamed of AFA community. Throughout 2022, there were 49 beautiful babies born to AFA families. During the course of 2022, our membership grew by an astonishing 20%.

We have amazing momentum coming into this new year and we have much to accomplish. For our families, for our Folk, for our Gods, let's make 2023 the greatest year yet!



Matthew D. Flavel
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Lawspeaker's Challenge

Frugality



One major change that has occurred over the last hundred years or so is the amount of debt that Americans carry. At the turn of the Twentieth Century, most Americans had almost no debt, and many or most owned their homes or lived in the family home. Now, just 120 years later, the average American is NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS in debt. While this figure includes mortgages, it demonstrates that our lives are out of balance.

As many of you know I practice bankruptcy law, so I see every day what happens when spending exceeds income. Other than a house or MAYBE a car there is no reason to go into debt. Too many of us are all just in the habit of swiping that credit or debit card, and there is no immediate difference between swiping ten dollars or a hundred dollars. I am constantly amazed at the people I work with who have no idea how much their utility bills are, their insurance, and sometimes even car payments, as they have it all set up on direct withdrawal and live on auto-pilot.

So, this month's challenge: make a budget, and stick to it. Make coffee at home, skip the Starbucks (or even the convenience store). Cook more, eat out less. Pack a lunch occasionally. Pay down your debt; save more, spend less. There are many tips and techniques out there for budgeting, but ignoring the math and just 'living paycheck to paycheck' will never put you in the mindset to improve the situation.

Don't get me wrong, though. I am not saying that we should live like misers, or never indulge ourselves at all. Just be mindful of your budget, and live below your means. Your grandchildren will thank you.



Witan Allen Turnage
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Words from the Gothar

We are Not Vikings, We are Aryans!



Many of our Folk who have come home to Asatru tend to identify with a very small portion of our Germanic ancestors' past: the Viking Age. There are many reasons for this: the Vikings were all white, they were tough, they were cunning, they were warriors, they were adventurous, and most importantly, they were Asatru. These are all great things to be, and all things to be proud of!

However, this obsession with Scandinavian pirates does have its detriments. The Vikings, even if they were our kin or direct ancestors, are not the example par excellence for Asatruar or our Folk at large. While many of them surely were pious and devoted to the Gods, the majority of them were focused on simply being pirates: pillaging, burning, raping. The average Scandinavian/German/Aryan would not have seen this as a pious or noble or spiritually-driven life. Going a-viking was typically a last resort effort to make one's own fortune and glory. That concept is still alive in us today, as well as in all of our ancestors and cousins between the Viking Age and the present. In the following paragraphs, I'd like to present an alternate group of our ancestors who possessed most of the positive traits of the Vikings, but also managed to cultivate devotion to nobility so well that they became known for their (unfortunately Catholic) piety!



If you are of British, Irish, French, Belgian, Dutch, or Sicilian descent, then these pious adventuring warriors were likely part of your ancestry or culture: the Normans, which is Frankish for “Northmen”.

The Normans were a pan-Aryan mixture of Franks, Saxons, Gauls, and Danes. Their bloodline was formed when Rollo, a Viking leader, was offered land in northwestern France so that he and his men would stop raiding the Christian Frankish kingdom. Rollo and his descendants, unfortunately, converted to Catholicism, but also learned of chivalry and piety, even if it was piety towards a foreign deity. Even as devout Catholics, though, they kept their adventurous nature, their cunning minds, their martial bearing, and their conqueror spirit!



The Normans famously conquered and ruled England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Sicily, the Netherlands, much of France, and some parts of the Middle East. When they conquered these lands, they did it for glory, just as their pagan Viking forebears did, but also because it was often the will of the Pope and, in turn, their god.

To paraphrase something our Alsherjargothi said: we need less “berserkers” and more “knights”!

When we look to one of our ancestral cultures to take inspiration from, let us make it the Normans! Pious, wise, horse-riding, adventurous, conquering Northmen who became knights, priests, and kings! Let us replace their foreign Christ-god with our own

high and holy Æsir and Vanir, and march forward with both strength and nobility! Let us conquer life's obstacles proudly and for the glory of the Gods!



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Time and Lore



It was June this past year, and I had the distinct honor to preside over the Midsummer Blot at Odinshof. I was walking the ritual circle ahead of time, chatting with our Alsherjargothi about what I had in mind. I was also getting used to the ground so I wouldn't trip. A question popped into my mind with regard to what direction I should

focus my gaze, should I look up to the heavens when addressing Baldr, or look toward the ground (the underworld)? What the Alsherjargothi had to say was vitally important. We tend to view our Lore as strictly past tense, rather than in a cyclical fashion. Baldr is in Helgard, he is also returning from Helgard, and he has already risen victoriously... all at the same time. That really resonated with me. I already knew that our Ancestors viewed time as cyclical, but it had never occurred to me to view our Lore the same way. I'll give some examples below.

The sons of Bor were once walking along the seashore and found two trees. They lifted the logs and from them created people. The first son gave them breath and life; the second, intelligence and movement; the third, form, speech hearing and sight.... the man was called Ask, and the woman, Embla. From them came mankind... (Gyfaganning, The Prose Edda)

*To the coast then came, kind and mighty
from the gathered gods three great Aesir
on the land they found, of little strength
Ask and Embla, unfated yet. (Voluspa 17.)*

Do we believe that humankind literally came from two pieces of driftwood? No. But it is my belief that the symbolism indicates that they washed up from the sea of humanity, or the turbulent seas of chaos, unfated...rootless even. It is also my belief, that Ask and Embla represent a generation, rather than the first humans. Perhaps they were the first generation to be conscious of our gods. (Odin gave breath..can be also be interpreted as consciousness.) With that in mind, how would we view this story through the lens of cyclical time? Another generation made aware of our Gods, is the likes of A Rudd Mills, Guido von List, Else Christensen....Stephen McNallen. an Ask and Embla generation right in front of us.

Our Ancestors lost their way after and during the conversion of Europe, perhaps a Ragnarok level of disconnection between our Gods and our people. They became rootless. They were unfated yet again, until a generation of men and women became aware, or conscious of the Gods. Did Odin give the gift of consciousness again to his people? That is my belief.

In the next Runestone, we will take a look at the slaying of Ymir, and how we can see the stories unfold in a cyclical way.

That which was, is, and that which is, is yet to occur.

Hail the Gods, Hail the Folk, and Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!



Gothi Daniel Young
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Inner Conqueror



It is a new year and a fresh start as the Sun Wheel continues to turn. Time stands for no man, and it is finite. Even if we live in politically turbulent times, creating a Wolf Age for our Folk. Midgard on a meta-level is in an information age. Our values and virtues are timeless, and the spirit of Folk is unchanging. We are what we are. This is often why considering our fullest potential; it has been stated our Folk suffers from a soul-sickness. As the Asatru Folk Assembly is on the precipice of founding its fifth temple, and private community for our Folk, we no longer have the luxury of clinging or skulking in said illness. As a Folk, we have achieved too great a Victory for securing the future of our ways, strong relationships with our gods, and the mending of our folk soul, to identify as "victim", "oppressed", "hunted", or "shamed". Our ancestors were pioneers, innovators, and conquerors. Quite often excelling at each, with very little beyond a will to power, and a heartful of wonder. In the Bronze Age, we likely traveled

far out of Europe and across North America, In the Iron Ages, we built wooden boats that traversed seas in which steel ships vanished or sank. In the Dark Ages, we managed to hold off & greatly influenced the Christian church into something barely recognizable to ancient Christianity. The lore is overflowing with heroic tales of men who mastered and conquered the frontiers of their time. So where are heroes in the information age? We invented the means and paved the way for it. Where are our champions? Where are our conquerors in the 21st Century?! We have the power simmering in our blood to do so. Wotan has blessed us with knowledge at our fingertips, and the capacity to will our desires into reality. Fostering the wealth of the Fehu rune is now a matter of Discipline (a Noble Virtue), rather than grueling work, and a daily struggle between life & death. Businesses are now systems founded on Hospitality, Honor, & Frith (again Noble Virtues), and streams of wealth can be made from simply sharing thoughts in a book or a single song that speaks to the soul. We live in good times when strong-willed men can ascend to unimaginable heights in society if they stay focused. So why are we "slumming it" arguing with weak men on internet forums who have no ambition other than to put down and keep down anyone who happens to pass by? Especially when they're as easy to escape as the press of a button or the closing of a laptop screen. The possibilities are so many, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the possibilities. However, there is no need to hide. Instead, we need to take the time to become laser-focused, and like a magnifying glass under the sun, set the world on fire. Sculpted and molded to best serve the needs of our Folk, our families, and ourselves. Take time to assess yourself this year. Meditation is a great tool, as well as journaling. Ask yourself what you truly need vs. what makes you comfortable. Then strike a compromise between the two, and cast your ship off. Look into ways to create the life you desire for your family or how you can generate the success and tools to build up your Folk. After all, wealth and power is worthless without friends & family to share it with. Set goals, make plans, and stick to them! Start out small and compound on them a little more each day. Turn the need fire into a wildfire, to clear your way towards Victory. With four Hof's dedicated to the Asa, we are now champions and a light in the dark for folk. As such we now have a responsibility to become successful as individuals and seize Victory at every corner in the frontiers of the information age, so we can come home and be excessively generous, in deeds & wisdom.



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!

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 40.83% so far)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 9%. (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 the patient and resolute. As we progress, I will keep you all updated on our progress!

Hail Freyr!



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Sigrheim - Home of Victory



We have big plans and big dreams! I am proud to announce our first moot at Sigrheim. This will be a chance to explore our land and plan and plot the shape that our dreams will take in the coming years.



Picnic & Exploration

at



Sigrheim

January 14th



Tennessee



If you would like to join us, please contact Melisa Mills at mmills@runestone.org, or me at mattflavel@runestone.org.



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Victory Never Sleeps



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AFA Homeschool Program

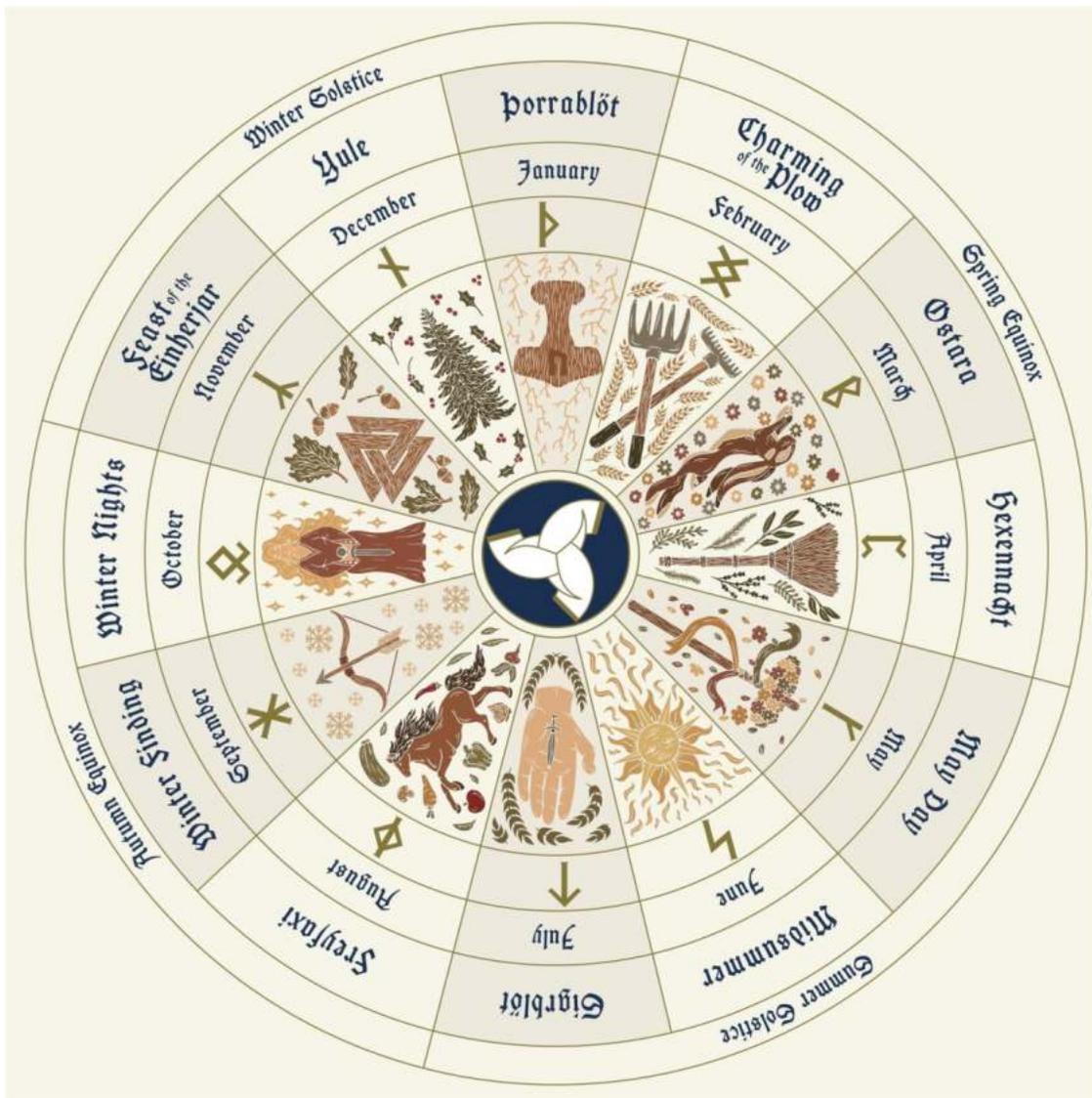


For More Info: [Welcome | Asatru Academy](#)



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Remembrance & Holy Days



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

2023

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 21	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 18	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 21 (observed on 18th)	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 28 (observed on 15th)	Hexennacht
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen

Date	Observance
May 1 (observed on 20th)	May Day
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths
June 21 (observed on 17th)	Midsummer
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills
July 15	Sigrblót
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 19	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci
September 22 (observed on 16th)	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List
October 15	Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen
October 21	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden
November 11 (observed on 18th)	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson
December 20	Mother's Night
December 20-31 (observed on 16th)	Yuletide

Day of Remembrance

Raud the Strong



So well-known was the hero, Raud the Strong, that his story comes to us from several Icelandic Sagas, the most common of which is the *Heimskringla* (The Chronicle of the Kings of Norway) by Snorri Sturluson. The story tells of a great seafaring warrior who had Thor and Seiðr on his side.

Around the year 1000, the zealous Norwegian King, Olaf Tryggvason, began an expedition to North Norway to continue his Christianization of the pagan people. Olaf found much success in his efforts, owing largely to his brutal methods of both torturing and killing those who refused, but not all were swayed.

In Godøy, near present-day Bodø, lived the man Raud the Strong. Raud was known to have a strong connection with the Sami people, and to own a remarkable longship that was larger than any that Olaf himself owned. With a gold-plated dragon head, it is what many suppose the popular Viking longship designs are based on.

Upon hearing that Olaf was heading his way Raud gathered as many men as he could and lead a great assault at sea. Despite everything, however, Raud found himself overwhelmed and had to retreat from the battle. Stories say that Raud was able to Seiðr to call on the winds to speed him home safely while also blocking Olaf Tryggvason's chase.

It was all for naught, however.

Though he made it home, Raud was eventually caught by Olaf Tryggvasson. Despite the King's efforts, however, Raud refused to turn his back on his gods despite torture. In the end, he was killed when a live snake was forced down his throat. Many of Raud's

men, following his example, were also killed after refusing to convert.

So, what can we learn from this story?

Some might make the argument that it is better to fight and die rather than retreat in “shame.” In some cases, this might be true. For every one of us sitting here reading this, however, one of our ancestors made a different choice. The choice to convert saved our lives.

For many of our ancestors, death was the best option. Which of us ever chooses to be killed in a horrible, painful way? Was death the easier option? We have to believe that for some, it was. For Raud the Strong, a friend of Thor, it was. To convert was to turn his back on his Heritage, to turn on his Honor, and to turn on his Courage and a warrior and leader.

Our ancestors lived in a very different time. They lived in a world in which men and women could be killed for choosing to remain loyal to their Gods. We are exceptionally lucky that we live in a society that allows us the freedom to worship our Gods.

That very same society that allows us to worship our Gods, however, does not do so without stipulations. That society, so unlike the sort of tribal society our ancestors lived in, would tell us how to worship our Gods. They would tell us who is allowed to worship our Gods. And that society would try to harm us for choosing to do it differently than they tell us we are allowed to do it.

We don't face the same torture and death as Raud the Strong for choosing to worship our Gods our way, but we do face the possibility of ostracization from society. People, even our families, can turn their backs on us for disagreeing with the “rules” they have given us. We are not free from the effects of the multicultural paradigm, but we don't have to bow to it.

Like Raud the Strong, we can stand tall and be proud of who and what we are. We are Asatruar. Like Raud the Strong, we can stand against those who would tell us to turn our backs on what we know to be Tru. We can live with Honesty, with Courage, and with Honor.

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Þorrablót



Þorrablót is an Icelandic midwinter festival dedicated to, as the name describes, Þor, or Thor. Þorrablót is named after the Icelandic month of Þorri from the historic-calendar and ran from mid-January to mid-February. Though Þorrablót is a relatively modern social celebration in Iceland, there is a reference in the Flateyjarbók that states that the Kvens offered a yearly sacrifice to Þorri at mid-winter. Typically, Þorrablót is

celebrated by gathering together and eating many of Iceland's traditional foods and by singing, reciting poems, and telling stories.

Some good ways to celebrate Þorrablót include eating traditional Icelandic foods, such as Hákarl (putrefied shark), Blóðmör (blood suet, filled sausage/black pudding), Hrútsprungur (ram's scrotum with testicles), Lundabaggi (sheep's fat), or Svið (burnt sheep's head).

Don't worry! If these are unavailable, or simply not to your taste, eating goat and goat products such as goat cheese or goat milk are also appropriate options.

Called by some as the cabin fever holiday Þorrablót is a great way to liven up the doldrums of mid-winter. So, take some time to light a fire and make merry. Have the folk tell stories or recite poems about Thor. Eat, drink, and enjoy the company of folk and family.



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Upcoming National Events

Charming of the Plow at Njörðshof



Order your tickets at

[Charming of the Plow at Njörðshof – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org/Charming-of-the-Plow-at-Njorðshof)

The Charming of the Plow is an ancient custom of our Folk that will be the National Event at Njörðshof for the first time in 2023, held the first weekend in February. The celebration can be tied to the Gylfaginning, where Gefjon, one of the Disir in service to Frigga, went to visit King Gylfi of Sweden to ask for land of her own.

To our ancestors "luck" meant preparation. This was the time to prepare for the new year, to make plans and set goals that will allow us the prosperity we seek. Njörðr is our god of prosperity, and it is at his temple the AFA will gather to make ready the earth to accept the seed of our plans for the coming year. Whether it's preparing the actual soil for planting, sharpening the plow, taking a class that will let you advance at work, or even changing careers; to work our will in this world our implements must be sharp if they are to be effective.

This is why we ask that you join us at Njörðshof for our first Charming of the Plow starting Friday, February 3rd, and running through Sunday, February 5th.

In addition to the blots and sumbel, there will be great food (ask anyone that attended our dedication), activities for the kids, discussions with our Goðar, an auction, and more. Build Frith with your folk in Florida, so get out of the cold for a great time in the sunshine state at Njörðshof.

Tickets are available at

[Charming of the Plow at Njörðshof – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org/Charming-of-the-Plow-at-Njorðshof)

Ostara at Þórshof



Order your tickets at

[Ostara at Þórshof – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](http://runestone.org)

Ostara at Þórshof, an Asatru Folk Assembly national event, is scheduled for March 10 – 12 at our very own Þórshof!

There will be fun and games for the children, classes for the adults, and good memories to be made. We have an assortment of different activities for people of all ages in attendance. Classes to be held will cover a wide range of topics.

As always we will be having an auction of unique and one-of-a-kind Asatru-related items. All auction proceeds go to help fund these amazing events. We ask anyone who would like to donate to this great cause to please donate an item to the auction, or bring your cash to bid! Anyone wanting to set up a vendor table at this event please feel free, all we ask is a donation of a substantial item to the auction.

Tickets are available at

[Ostara at Þórshof – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](http://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



Witan Allen Turnage

aturnage@runestone.org

Ladies' Mysteries Podcast

LADIES MYSTERIES PODCAST
JANUARY 15TH @ 1:30PM CST
CREATING A POSITIVE HOME SPACE

Witan Brandy Callahan

Clearing the clutter

Maintaining positive energy

Gythia Catie Erickson

Protection charms

Folkbuilder

Sara Ault

Hlin

Welcome weaving



Folkbuilder

Christine Dumas

Home cleansing

TEAMS call, contact cdumas@runestone.org
for more information



Folkbuilder Christine Dumas
cdumas@runestone.org

Ladies' Rune Study



Hey ladies! We are going to be back at our Rune study! We are going to be looking at Pertho this time, and I hope to see you all there. Like before, this study is at 8pm EST.

January 18th- Pertho

February 1st- Algiz



Gythia Anna Plourde
aplourde@runestone.org

Cooking for our Folk



Cooking from the Heart. One of the first chefs I worked for told me that there are two main rules to cooking.

1. ALWAYS cook from the heart!
2. You must know the why of the rule before you can think about breaking it.

To this day, I still believe that number one is the most important; but two is the most valuable lesson. So, for example: why would you add flour to the mix when you are

making Fried Potato balls? It doesn't add anything to the dish overall and in fact, it takes away flavor and disrupts texture. The reason is that what flour takes away: is moisture. It adds to the binder and liquid consumption.

So, what does this mean for the folk? Plan and simple, don't take shortcuts. Whenever I pick up the knife and began cooking for the folk, I think of it as channeling the ancestors. Cooking reminds me of that age-old musing "I don't measure seasoning; I wait for the tap on the shoulder from the ancestors to tell me that's enough."

When you cook from the heart, people can tell. Don't cook out of spite or obligation. Cook for the folk because you want to! Find new recipes. Test them. Make them better. And when your heart tells you it is right...time to serve. If you have never made cookies from scratch...make them. Why not? Use the best ingredients you can afford (don't take out a second mortgage for this) but be proud to feed the folk.

When the recipe is right and you feed the folk, please send the recipe to cookbook@runestone.org with details of when and where it was served (Hof/moot).



Mike Joyner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjoyner@runestone.org

Ancestral Food and Culture

Kolaczki



8 oz cream cheese

2 sticks unsalted butter

3 cups flour

1 tsp salt

- Cream the butter and cream cheese together then add flour and salt. We used our hands to mix it.
- Refrigerate an hour or longer OR
- Freeze for 10 -15 mins for quicker results (to get to eating cookies faster lol)
- Roll the dough out to 1/8 inch or you can use a baking mat until u can start to see what's on the mat through the dough.
- Cut dough into (as best you can) square.

- Then cut out 2-inch by 2-inch squares to form a big square.
- Place a teaspoon of the preferred preserve.
- Dab water on opposite corners bring together and meld them somewhat together then fold them over.
- Freeze cookies for 10 mins before placing on oiled cookie sheet
- Bake at 350 for 15 mins or until edges look a lil browned.
- Place on cooling rack.
- Add powdered sugar and enjoy.



This is a traditional Polish cookie. Made for holidays or special occasions. For me, kolaczki represents my childhood with my moms, mom. When I'm making them I think

of her. It also reminds me of my ancestors who came from the hills of Poland. They're a testament to being able to make something great out of very little. They came here with little and these cookies are made with little ingredients. I'm proud to be Polish, and kolaczki are my way of saying thank you to those ancestors.

- Jaclynn Frazier-Duffy, member



Folkbuilder Timothy Dumas
tdumas@runestone.org

AFA Prison Ministry



Greetings kinsfolk,

I am very happy to report, that this past December 20th,2022, our Alsherjargothi Mathew Flavel had the opportunity to gather with a group of followers of Asatru who are incarcerated.

This was no small task to achieve, as there were countless interactions and paperwork and waiting involved. I would like to thank all that were involved with this process with a special thanks to Rodney, Clistie, Jolene, Chaplin Joseph, and Alsherjargothi Mathew Flavel.

Our Alsherjargothi has seen the need for this outreach for a long time and has followed in the footsteps of Haptaguð—Odin's name that is known in the Gylfaginning as (God

of the Prisoners)—as well, has rekindled the torch that was started first by our Folkmother Else Christensen in the 1970s in Florida.

Being able to share in Mother's Night with those kinsmen in prison, Blot and Sumbel and simple camaraderie, was the first time in the Asatru Folk Assembly's history that we have had our Alsherjargothi be able to share with our often forgotten folk.

The importance of this AFA Prison Ministry is so much more than just for those who are actually incarcerated; it benefits not only them as followers of Asatru, but their families and loved ones on the outside, as they will see the noticeable change in their demeanor, and demand that our faith commands for them to lead a Noble life.

We all are future Ancestors and will help them be examples of our faith and not be a burden or a product of recidivism.

We are compiling letters from prisoners that are Educational, Empowering, and Encouraging, along with special spiritual writings from our Gothar, to create a quarterly newsletter to be distributed to inmates, institutions, and jails. Our mission is not about providing free books or literature to bored prisoners who simply want free stuff.

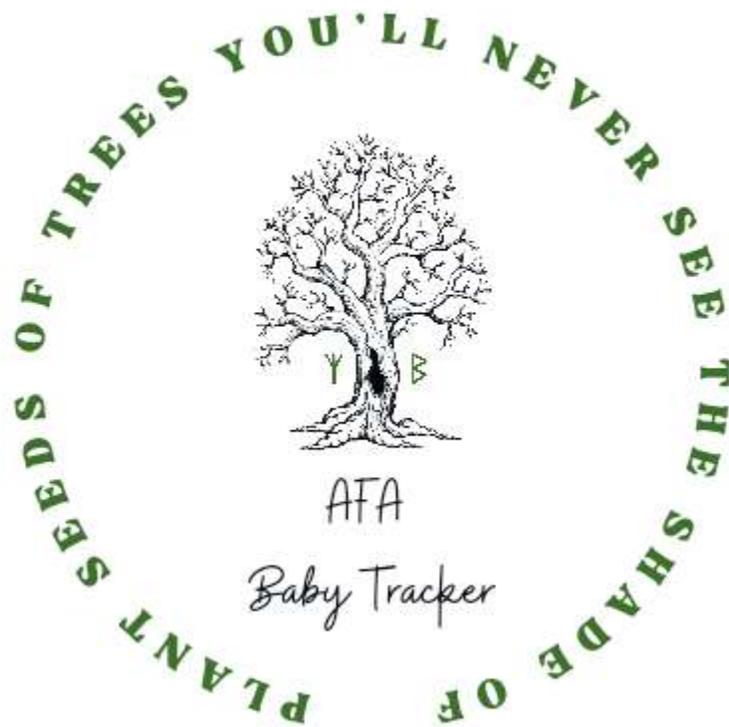
We intend on making real-world change for the better of our Folk.

If you have a loved one who is incarcerated or would like to help with this ministry, please contact me or donate to our general fund on the [Runestone website](#) with an earmark "AFA Prison Ministry" in the comments section.



Folkbuilder James Ault
jault@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



To show the growth of our folk we present 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: 49



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Saga's Literature Project



Saga needs your stories!

Do you have thoughts throughout your day or your studies that you ponder about our Gods, Goddesses, Heroes, or our Faith?

Do you and your family or Kindred have ways you like to venerate the Gods that are special to your own traditions?

How do you celebrate our Holidays or Days of Remembrance?

Do you have advice for those who have finally come home and wish you could have it handy to give to them?

Are you enrolled in Asatru Academy or partake in Lore Study or the Virtue Recovery Group?

The Asatru Folk Assembly wishes to create booklets, brochures, and pamphlets to have on hand in our Hofos and with membership Assembly-wide to give out to anyone with curiosity, whether they are a member or not.

This will be key in our studies as experienced practitioners and should serve as a more efficient way than directing those with questions to our websites alone.

Saga needs your help! Submit any ideas or write-ups you have on the topics listed above to me, Apprentice Folkbuilder Shane Duffy at sduffy@runestone.org!

Note: All submissions are subject to review from myself and up the chain of command to the Alsherjargothi himself.



Shane Duffy
Apprentice Folkbuilder
sduffy@runestone.org

Now Available in the AFA Store

The Usatru Folf Ussembly



2023 Calendar

Calendars will be up for one last chance!

Ordering will begin January 7th and end January 20th. All calendars will be shipped at the end of the ordering time frame and will arrive around the end of January.



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

Njörðshof

Holiday at Njörðshof



For most of us, Yule is simply the happiest time of the year. It is the time for the Winter Solstice, and thus the least sunlight and the longest night. The weather is cooling off and in Florida, that is very unique and welcomed. Also, Yule celebration is about time with our family and those we hold near to us, and dear to us.

At Njordshof, we had a multi-day event and we were extremely fortunate to have some of our favorite folk travel down from out of state. We gathered together in Njord's temple, and we were with our Njordshof family.



The festivities began on Friday with a Moot and Sumbel. As people made it into town from various places, we had a chance to bring our suitcase to their temporary residence and then we all gathered at Njordshof. Excitement was in the air as we decorated the hof and started to get everything ready. We all started to get hungry and the decision was made to go to a local restaurant, Fat Belly's, and get some good BBQ. We ended up ordering everything To Go, and went back to Njordshof. Sumbel followed. At that time, many were ready for bed and excited for the main event.



During Yule we had a great time!! We had some wonderful food and I literally can't wait for more. Mike made us some very delicious soups for one of our first meals. We enjoyed some wonderful Egg Nog and Lefse, which was a dream come true. And our folk made an excellent potluck meal for dinner. Our folk started a new holiday tradition of exchanging ornaments; which was a very nice way to share with each other and build memories. We had an extraordinary Odin blot by Allen Turnage in addition to a remarkable Wayfarer's blot by Lane Ashby.



After the conclusion of Yule, some of the folk didn't want to leave so quickly, so we assembled for another moot as a way to say our goodbyes. I miss you all and can't wait to see you all for Thorrablot!!



Tracy Adler
Apprentice Folkbuilder
tadler@runestone.org

Food Pantry at Njörðshof



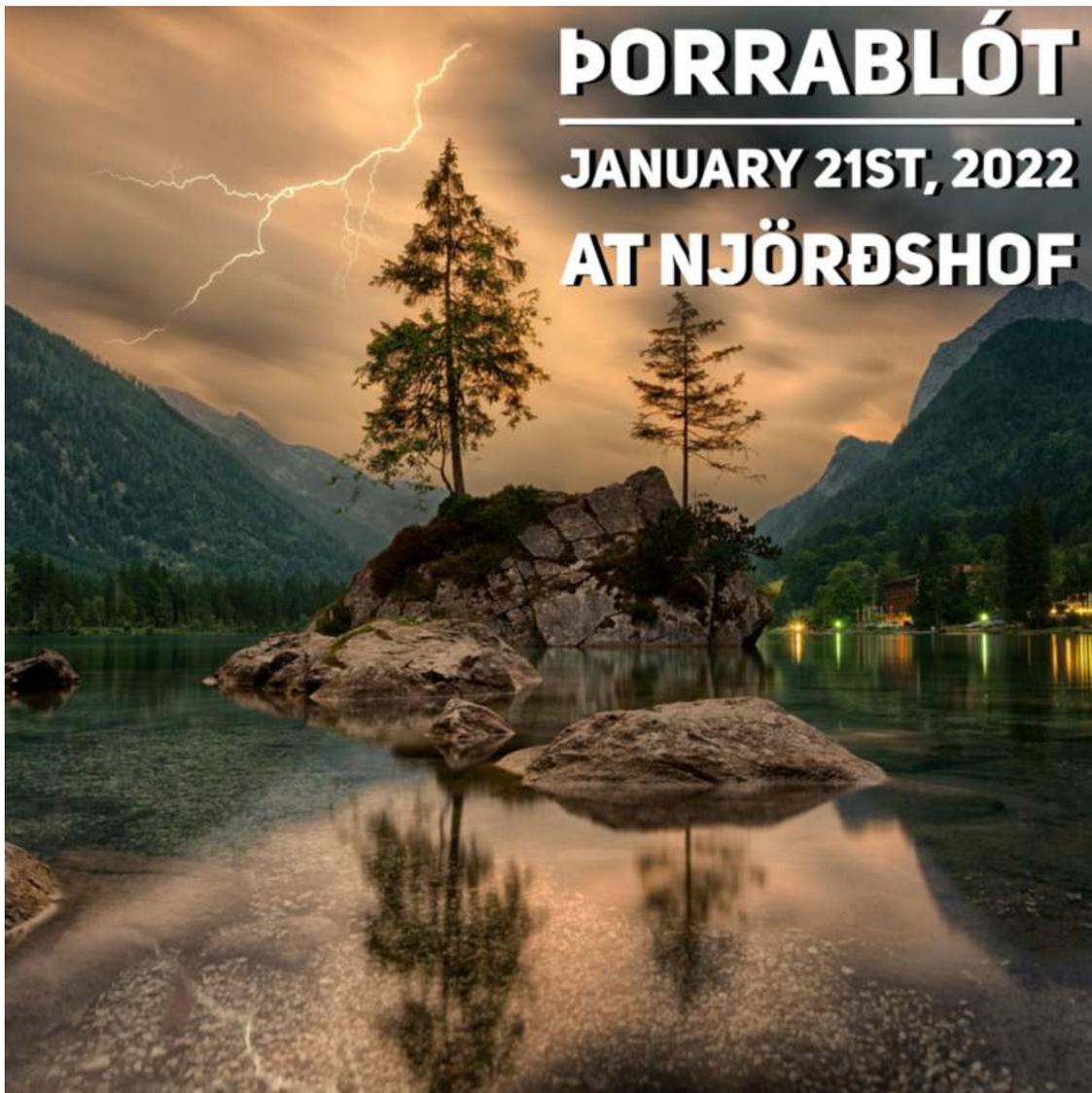
ON Saturday of our Yuletide celebrations, the morning started out with the Food Pantry. 45 families were served and toys were given out to all the children. We were really happy to be able to serve the community of White Springs in this meaningful way.

Tracy Adler



Apprentice Folkbuilder
tadler@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Njörðshof





Arkansas

Yule in Arkansas

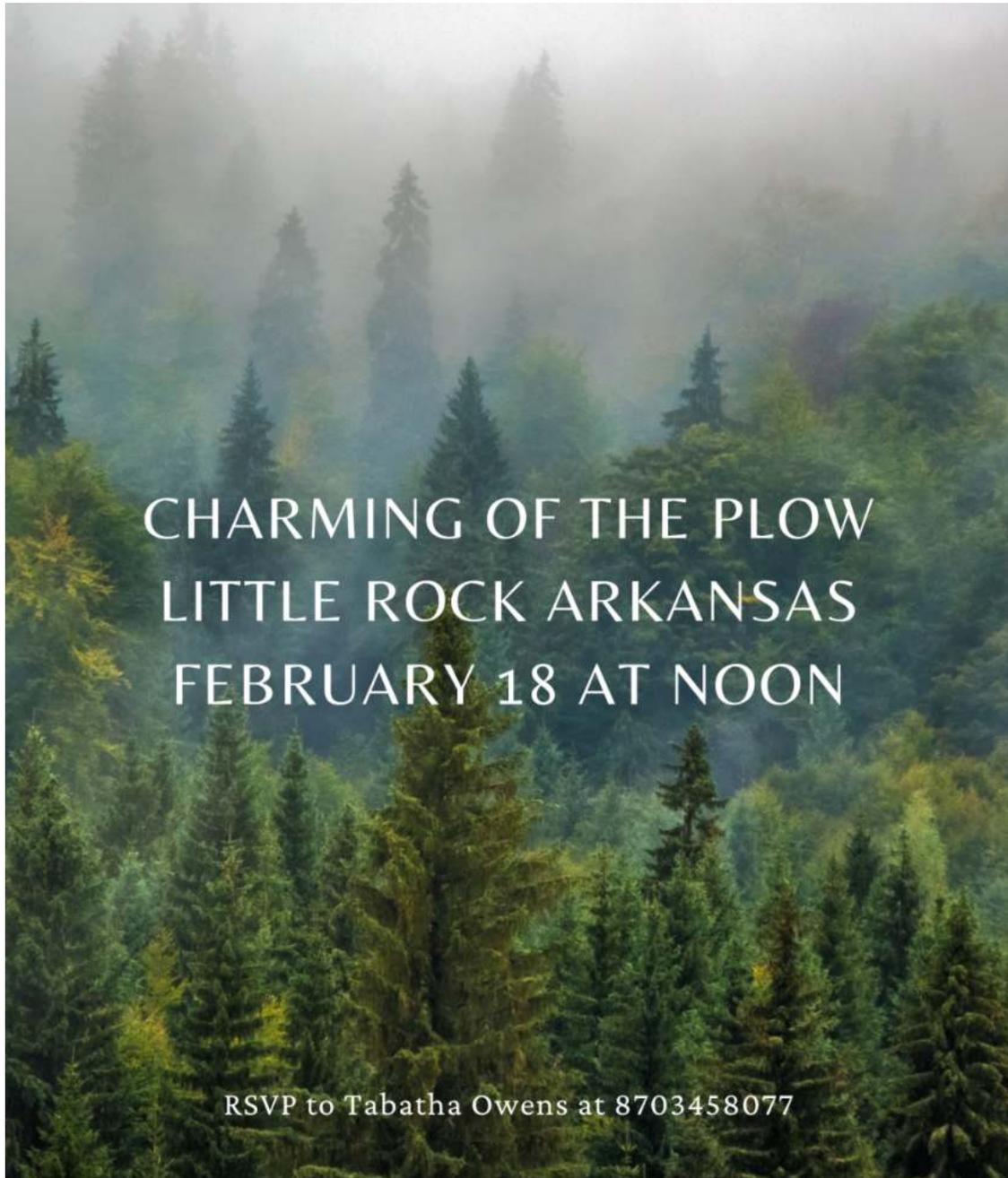


This month we celebrated Yule in Arkansas. We had an amazing feast of a pot roast. We exchanged gifts and did sumbel. My family and I had an amazing time and can't wait to do more in our State.

We will be celebrating Charming Of The Plow in Arkansas on February 18th at noon.
Trust me you don't want to miss it. There will be blot and sumbel.

Also on March 4th, we will be attending a Viking festival in Hot springs Arkansas.
RSVP to me for information on either moot.

Upcoming Events





VIKING FESTIVAL

Hot springs

Arkansas

March 4th

RSVP Tabatha

Owens at

8703458077

Tabitha Owens

Apprentice Folkbuilder

towens@runestone.org



Florida

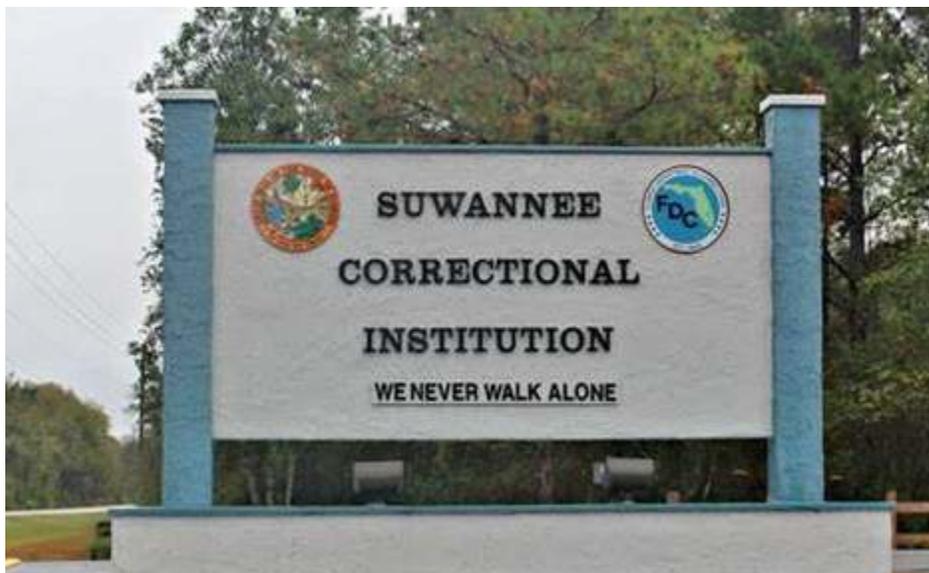
Prison Ministry



I have been an Asatru/Odinist chapel volunteer for approximately 9+ years. I had heard that the Asatru/Odinist community in prison was not allowed to have services and that when they hailed in the day on the rec yard, they were threatened with punishment for gang activity. I didn't think I was capable of being a chapel volunteer so I looked for someone to approach who was capable. The search was fruitless so I volunteered. It turned out to be one of the best choices that I have made in my life.

I have found, in prison, the most dedicated and intelligent people that you will ever meet. At the last blot at Lawley, C.I., a brother was explaining how quantum mechanics correlated to the ordering of the Elder Futhark. I had studied nuclear physics in the Navy and I had won a physics award in junior college, but I found myself having to engage all of what I knew just to stay up with his explanation. Another brother at Suwanee, C.I., writes some of the most thought-provoking articles that you will ever

encounter. He knows minute details about the Sagas and Eddas and can recite many portions of them verbatim.



There are brothers in prison that live and breathe the faith. Most of them learned and converted to Asatru/Odinism while in prison. The best and most spiritually moving blots I have participated in have been created by these brothers. They write moving poems and draw amazing art for the blots. Before I became a volunteer, I heard stories of the brothers having to have blots in broom closets. Today I am allowed to bring in food from Sonny's barbeque, but before that, the brothers would have to improvise. I have had a feast in prison that consisted of whatever the brothers could get from the canteen. I remember pork rinds being crushed and mixed with mustard, ketchup, and hot sauce, and then put in tortilla wraps. Desert was candy made in the prison from various products from the canteen or kitchen. Of all the feasts I have had, these meager feasts were the best, not because of the taste or quality, but because of the Frith and dedication they took to be created.

The brothers don't take anything for granted and are constantly thanking me for my volunteering. These brothers with limited means ask if they can do anything for me, and I reply that the only thing I want from them is that they never return to prison involuntarily. I remember saying that at Suwannee, C.I., and watching a few heads that started looking down. I

would later find out that they were sentenced to life in prison. These were some of the most dedicated, kind, and Frithful individuals that I had ever met. It is humbling watching these brothers with so much Frith and dedication caring about the problems of others when they will never see the outside of prison.

I hope that in this limited article, I have conveyed the value and importance of chapel volunteering at the prisons for the brothers or sisters that are incarcerated. If any of you

wish to be an Asatru chapel volunteer, please contact me and I will help you with the process. It is easy and now it is online.



Otto Rafuse
Apprentice Folkbuilder
orafuse@runestone.org

Goat Lips Moot



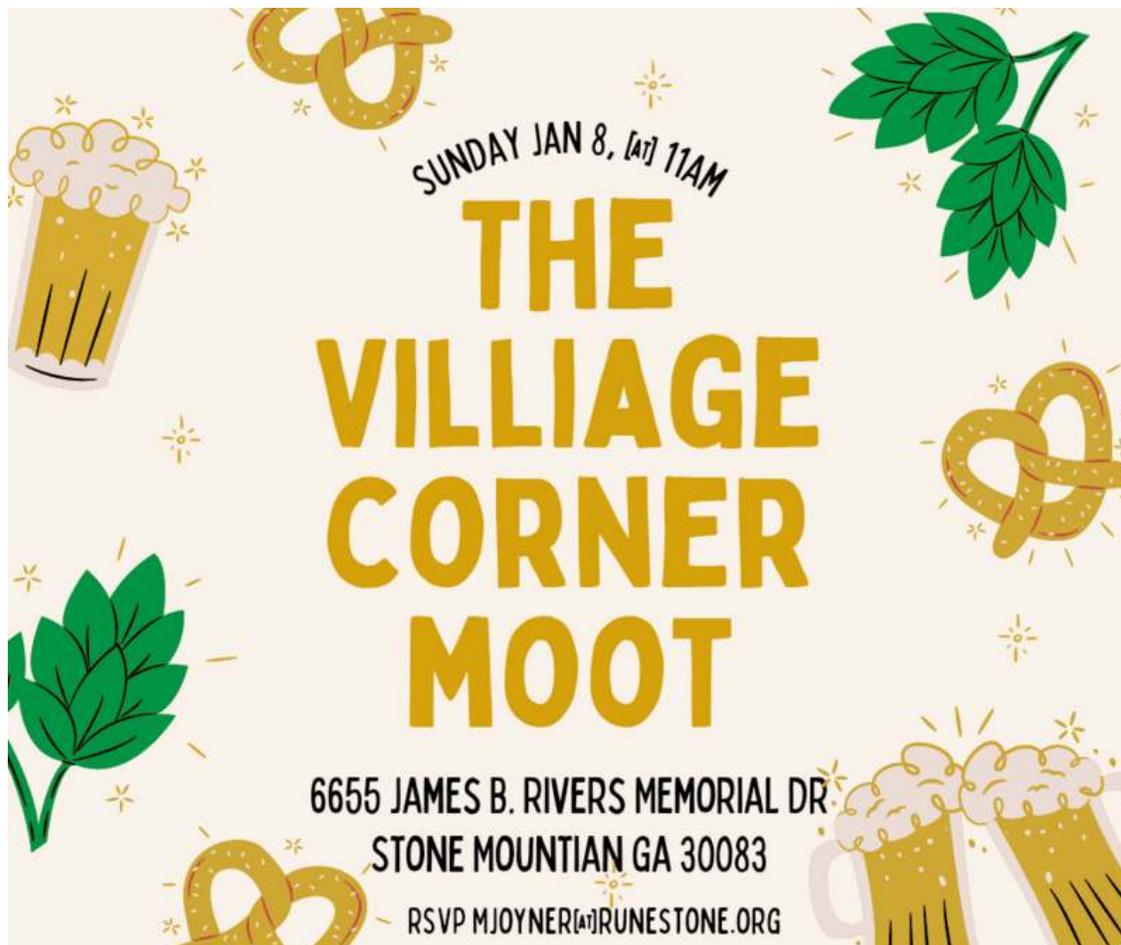
When you are looking for a place to hold a moot and you see a place called Goat Lips Chew and Brew House. You go to Goat Lips Chew and Brew House. A newly transplanted member from the other side of the country met my wife and me for some brews, some chews, and some Frith. They also had a plant library (though that was kinda cool).

Impromptu Tallahassee Moot



What start out as a simple lets grab a beer so I can return your water bottle you left at the hof, turned in to a great night of new faces. Once we had a meeting place I started sending it out to the Tallahassee locals and the Njordshof district. The new faces came from me seeing a Vaultnut with two ravens' sticker on the back of a car at a bar. I left my name and phone number and got a call back. He came to a moot and will hopefully come to the next event.

Upcoming Events



An International Highland Games Federation Series event

TALLY HIGHLAND GAMES MOOT



Feb 12 @ 10
Meet at entrance
Tallahassee Florida

RSVP MJoyner@runestone.org



Mike Joyner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjoyner@runestone.org

Georgia

Yule at Þórshof



During the month of December, the Asatru Folk Assembly celebrates our most well-known holy tide: Yule!

Those reading this article will likely be familiar with Yule and why we celebrate it. However, I will give a brief overview here for anyone who is new. Yule takes place around the winter solstice, and it is the darkest, coldest time of year. It is a time to gather with our loved ones, honor and thank our Gods and Ancestors for our many blessings over the year, and to ask them for continued blessings over the new year.

Since I made it to Njörðshof for Feast of the Einherjar in November, I decided to join my kindred and make the pilgrimage north to Þórshof this month for Yule!

On Friday, we started by opening our toy drive for needy families in the area. After a couple of hours of helping the community, our stellar Folkbuilder Heather Young led us all in welcoming the Gods! We then shared dinner with great company, before heading into the Vé for a blót to Þórr led by Goði Daniel Young. We asked Þórr for strength to shake off the cold and meet our obstacles with confidence and courage!



As for Saturday, we had another day full of Frith and fellowship! Witan Svan and his kitchen crew made a wonderful breakfast, and then he gave a talk on the 12 days of Yule while some of us in leadership ran the monthly food drive. We managed to give away most of our food, as well as the rest of the toys and coats. After the class and drive, we were treated to an excellent Yule blöt led by Goði Rob Stamm, where we thanked Odin and Frigg for their many blessings bestowed on the Folk.

After the Yule blöt, we shared dinner and mead while Witan Svan led the auction. Thanks to many great donations by Nadine Bain, Lauren Young, Madison East, and others, we raised a little over \$2000!



Once we finished dinner and the auction, Witan Svan led us through High Sumbel. Gods, Ancestors, and Heroes were honored by all, with bright and true words spoken into the well. From there, we all cleaned up and went to our lodgings for the night.

Sunday morning, we gathered once again to share breakfast and Frith. Before breakfast, I led the Folk through a Wayfarers' Blöt to Þórr- asking him to watch over us as we make our way home, and to continue to bless us with strength and courage as we tackle life's many awesome challenges. After the blöt, we had breakfast and cleaned up, and went home!

To close, I would like to give a few shout-outs. Folkbuilder Heather Young completely outdid herself with the toy drive, the coat drive, and everything else. Goði Daniel Young put together a fantastic event, delegated things supremely, and led a great blöt to the Thunderer. Goði Rob Stamm led us through an awesome Yule blöt to Odin and Frigg, not to mention the countless hours of work he's done in his position as Dean of the Asatru Academy. Witan Svan Herul cooked quite a few meals at this event, taught an in-depth class on Yule, lit the Yule log, ran the auction, led High Sumbel, and much more. Apprentice Folkbuilders Bobby Shotwell, Matt Bain, James Bethard, and Tyler Bethea were each a tremendous help and made the event as smooth as it was. We often say that the AFA is bigger than any one person, and this is true, but our church is stronger for having all of these folks.

Glad Yule, and a Happy New Year!



Gothi Trent East
teast@runestone.org

Oklahoma

December Holidays



This time of year everyone likes to spend as much time with their families as they can. The joy of giving gifts and traveling to see loved ones has been the practice around the world and it's no different in the AFA.



I changed job sites this month from Texas to Iowa just in time for the snowstorm that hit the Midwest and traveled right after the storm back to my house. Along the way, I saw countless cars, trucks, and semis in the ditch and it got me thinking about those who may not be able to see their loved ones now due to them ending up in a ditch. So just wanted to take some time and remind everyone to be safe when they are traveling to events and also giving themselves extra time and also watch out for others because even if you are being safe and going slow doesn't mean the person next to you is and they could end up sending you off the road as well.

This month I visited my kids for Yule and also loaned my car to my ex so she could take the long 16-hour trip to the Hof and I wasn't going to be worried about her and the kids during the long road trip.



In January, I'm going to have a moot close by. I also plan to see if I can set up a meet-up with some of our Iowa members. If you can perhaps make it up, I'd love for your help in showing them some Southern hospitality!

In closing, I just want everyone to please take the time and think about others. Do everything we can to show the world that we are not what people have labeled us. Just because someone can't be our Folk doesn't mean we hate them.

Upcoming Events



Shepherd Pie Lunch Moot

Ankeny, Iowa
01/08/2023
11am- 2pm

Contact AF Charles Evans
Cevans@runestone.org
(702) 350-4819

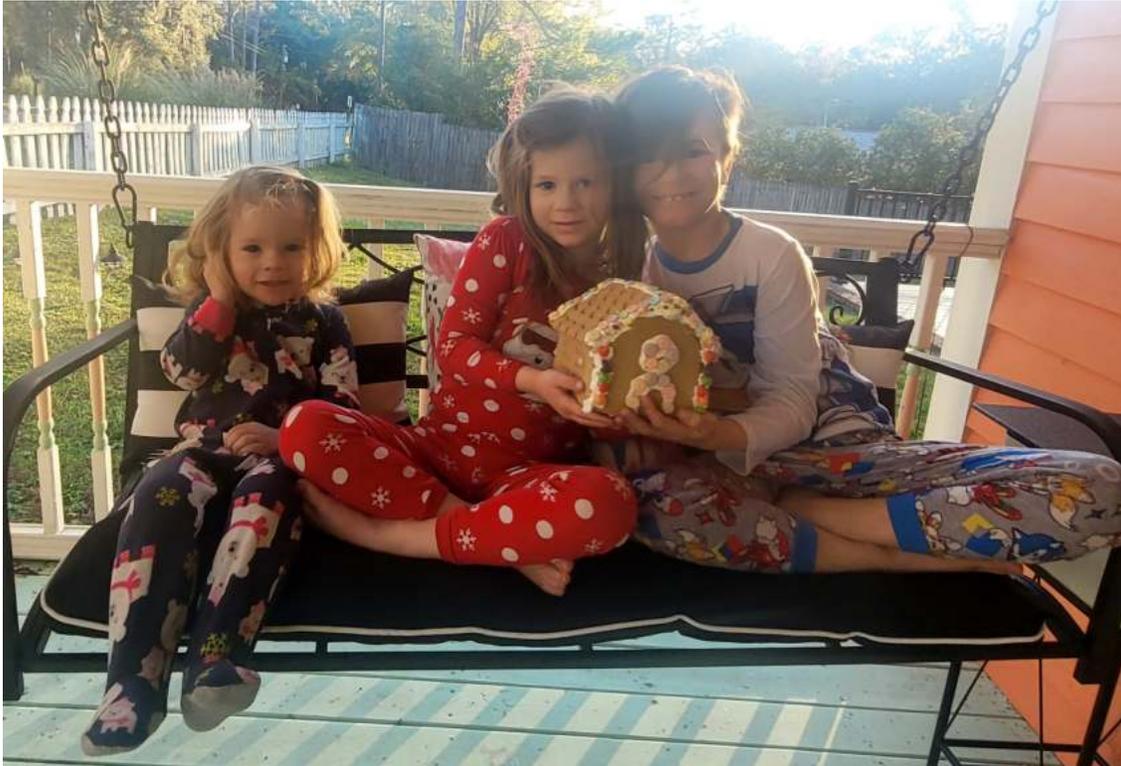


Charles Evans
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cevens@runestone.org

What is your reason for being Asatruar?



December is such a magical time of Year. We have the longest night and the return of the sun. Some are lucky enough to have snow for Yule while others just get a much-needed break from the heat of summer.



For most people, this is the season for family get-togethers, and time spent with loved ones. But for all of us in the AFA, we get together often. Some may have to be willing to drive a lot further than others but for those of us who put in the effort, the blessings of time spent with our Folk is year-round.



I've said it before and I still mean it, anyone who just can't make it to events please reach out to me. I will make something happen. Even if it's just me and my littles coming to visit you, I will. I don't want anyone in Njörðshof District feeling alone.



I am currently (won't be by the time this is published) at my halfway point on my drive back from Yule at Njörðshof. Which is a 16-hour drive for me. I have had so many ask how I do it with three littles. My answer is simple. I do it for them. No matter how hard it is on me to make that drive every month, I do it because I am raising my children to be Asatruar. They need to be a part of everything we do. The children are the reason we do this. Growth is only good if we can keep it up. We only live so long before our children must carry on our traditions.



So, to me, everything I do is for my children. Not only them but all our children. For us, it starts at home. I have one officially in the Asatru Academy, the others I also homeschool and incorporate as much of our traditions as I possibly can. I'm trying to get my children used to doing blot and sumbel at home so that hopefully soon they will be able to participate at Njörðshof. It is difficult with a two-year-old but hopefully, with enough consistency at home, she will learn sooner the need to be quiet and respectful of those speaking.



Then at Njörðshof, it's such an amazing thing to watch the children playing together, building bonds with each other, just like we adults do. These bonds are different though. Our children will be able to grow up with each other, and have a built-in support system that they didn't have to search for like we did.



The other thing that is so special is the bonds our children make with the other adults. I have witnessed many times children leading around other adults. Trying to show them something, getting them to play, or just something as simple as asking for help with something. Even adults without children are forming bonds with all our children. I know I am extremely honored when any of the children come to me for any of those things or just come up to give me a hug or want to hold my hand.



My belief is that if you are in this for yourself and not looking to the future outside of yourself then you are doing it wrong. If your thoughts are "what can I get out of this" or "how do I gain a higher position" then you need to sit back down and get out of the way.



I am reminded of a story about a man who plants a tree knowing full well he will never get to sit under the shade of that tree, but his grandchildren will and the generations following.



Be like that man. Please don't take me the wrong way. You should work to better yourself. Read the books or listen to them on audio or videos even. Study as much as you can so you can share the wisdom. Practice daily what you learn. Find a way to go to the events as often as possible. Even when you can't.... go anyway!! Be the example. Even if you do not have kids of your own or yours are already grown. Our children are looking to all of us to set them in the right direction. Be a good role model. Help to set these children up for success, to become even better than us.

Upcoming Events



Contact
Apprentice Folkbuilder
Fawn Gordon
for Details
fgordon@runestone.org

Jan 14th, 2:30pm
Plantation Tour in Louisiana



Irish Restaurant
Moot

Contact
Apprentice Folkbuilder
Fawn Gordon for details
fgordon@runestone.org
(702) 336-6169

Tulsa Oklahoma
Jan 28th
7PM



Tulsa Ok
Feb 25th
7 pm

Contact

Apprentice Folkbuilder
Fawn Gordon for details
fgordon@runestone.org
(702) 336-6169



March 25th 7pm Tulsa Ok

Contact Apprentice Folkbuilder

Fawn Gordon for Details

fgordon@runestone.org (702) 336-6169



Fawn Gordon

Apprentice Folkbuilder

fgordon@runestone.org

Sacred Space



Where we gather our families together and the atmosphere created there ought to be safe, healthy and positive. Without these criteria, a risk of unwanted consequence may be initiated. We must ensure the safety of our Folk and those in our care most especially.

Where vexatious energies are allowed, chaos has potential. Our Gods vanquish those anarchic forces with harmful intentions and we will do well to follow their example.

The undisciplined cause chaos with their unpredictability. The disciplined have tamed

that wildness within their own sphere of influence and are looked upon to set an example. Often we find ourselves in places where untamed energies run rampant. Choices can be made to change the environment or correct the actions of those wreaking havoc.

There is a reason behind how we start our blóts by creating a sacred space. Let us follow that intention by creating that space for events in general by stating up front, what behavior is allowable. Expectations have the ability to set a tone that could bring harmony amongst our Folk.

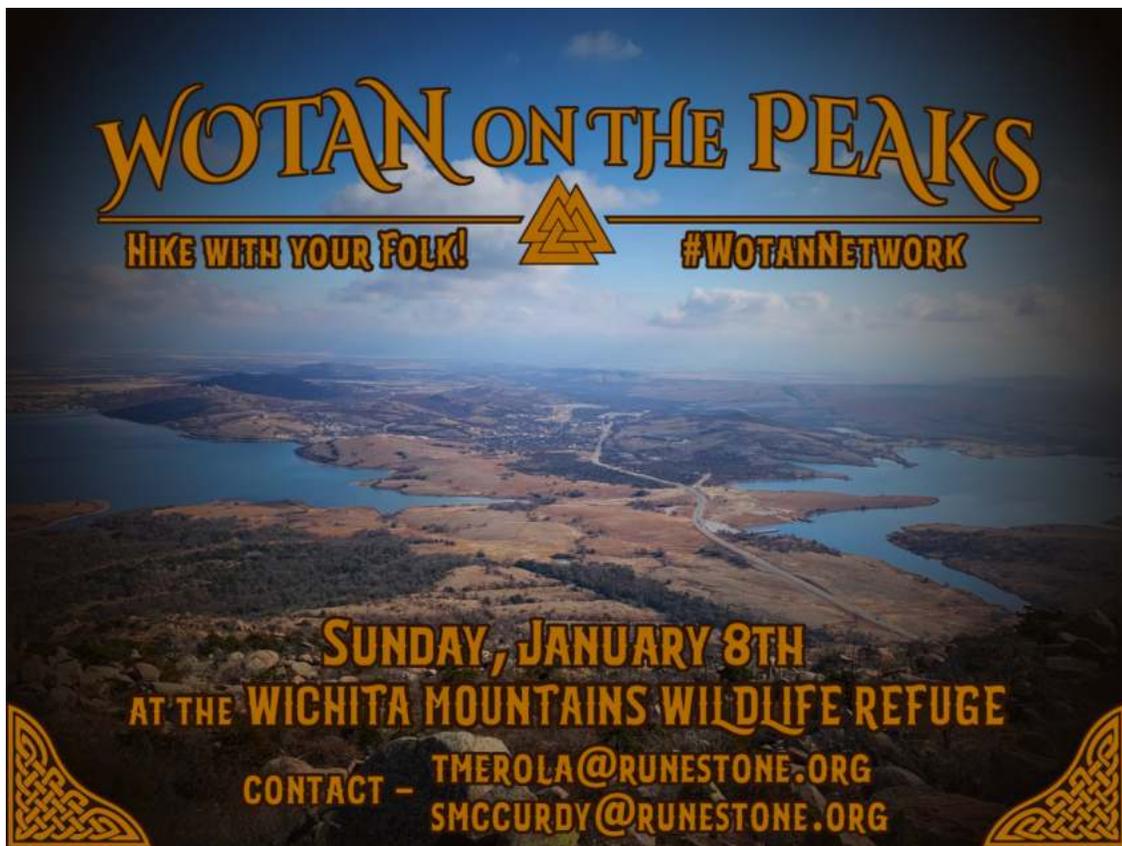
Our Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel and disciplinarian Folkbuilder Adam Hudak spoke to this on the 12/21/2022 Victory Never Sleeps - Ep. 24; Discipline.

“You don't have to accept the unacceptable.”

- Set standards early for the entire group.
- Lay that groundwork up front and it will make everything easier to handle down the road.
- Appropriate communication to guests needing a better understanding of where the boundaries lie, ought to be something we can discuss as a healthy family would.
- Do right and fear no one.
- If boundaries are being crossed, say something. It's better if you say something up front than let it build up and become a bigger problem over time.

With proper leadership, a group's potential is more readily available. Our potential is what we have to live up to, for our Folk, our Ancestors, and our Gods.

Upcoming Events



We will be climbing mountains this weekend and Hailing Wotan on the Peaks in SW Oklahoma. RSVP with me or Tony Merola, tmerola@runestone.org



Folkbuilder Shea McCurdy
smccurdy@runestone.org

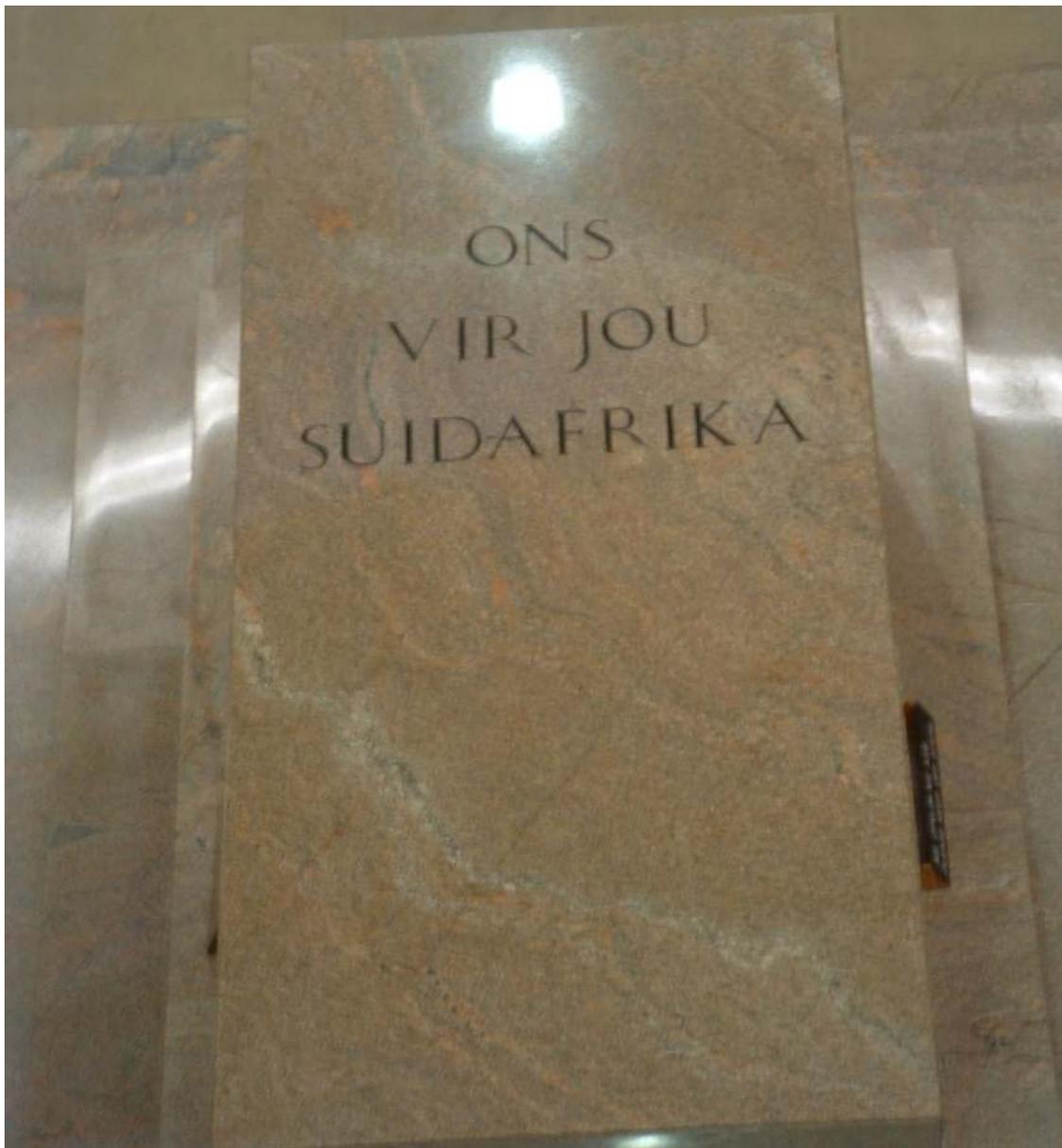
South Africa

Inspirational History



December 16 is a public holiday in South Africa, known since 1995 as the Day of Reconciliation. But before this, it was known as the Day of the Vow, or *Geloftedag* in Afrikaans, a name still in use by many Afrikaners today.

The Day of the Vow commemorates the Battle of Blood River, which took place in what is now KwaZulu-Natal in 1838. It saw 464 Voortrekkers (Afrikaner pioneers) successfully fighting off a force of between 10,000 and 15,000 Zulus set on their utter destruction. The Voortrekkers did not lose a single man, while at least 3,000 Zulus were killed.



Before the battle, the Afrikaners, under the leadership of Andries Pretorius and Sarel Cilliers, made a *geloofte* (covenant, or vow) that, should they be granted victory, they would honour God by constructing a special building commemorating the day, treating it as a holy day and teaching their descendants to do the same for all time. This is exactly what they did, and the Voortrekker Monument, completed in 1949, stands to this day as a testament to their bravery and fidelity to their vow. It is designed so that at exactly 12pm every December 16, a shaft of sunlight enters the roof and strikes the cenotaph below. The Cenotaph Hall is draped with flags of the Voortrekker Republics and tapestries depicting the Great Trek, and there is a lantern with a flame that has been kept burning since 1938, when a symbolic re-enactment of the Trek was conducted a century after the Battle of Blood River.

Although the men who made this vow were Christians, their actions never struck me as particularly representative of that belief system. They were not going to turn the other cheek and allow themselves to be wiped from existence. When I shared details of the

battle and the vow in a chat with South African and European AFA members, they were struck by the same thought. Dave Yorke perhaps summed it up best, saying that the battle and subsequent events “exemplified everything about the European spirit: excelling at warfare, making oaths, fulfillment of said oaths and then in celebration building wonders”.



That spirit was strong in a group of people hundreds of years removed from the last time their ancestors worshipped the Gods, and living thousands of miles from where

they did so, but it was still living within them, inspiring them to greatness. I hope others may find as much inspiration from this as I have.

Midsummer



The fire and the sunwheel were lit, the horn was raised and mead was offered as we celebrated Midsummer on December 18. Although it was a rainy day, the downpour calmed just long enough for us to honour the Aesir by blot. We look forward to Sigrblot on January 16.

DnD with Friends



Previously, on DnD with friends...

Since the last Runestone, the party has been quite busy! Having survived their encounter in the sewers, they have now been forcibly recruited as agents for the Crown. Their first task is to travel to a farmstead-turned-lumbermill. Reports coming from there have stated that operations have ceased due to something or someone sabotaging the wood-cutting.

Our band of heroes travels to the Jackson Lumbermill, formerly the Jackson Farmstead. The owner Jack Jackson explains that something has been chasing the woodcutters out of the forest, and they refuse to go back.



Meeting Lord Amanita

It turns out that a troll named Gunvald is responsible for scaring off the woodcutters. Gunvald surprises the party by being open to discussing how to solve the situation without violence. They are brought by Gunvald before Lord Amanita, an ancient mushroom who rules the forest. They are told that a pack of Pig-men have made a camp in the forest, and have been stealing cattle from the Jacksons, forcing them to convert the farmstead into a lumbermill.

The party quickly travels through the forest and destroys the Pig-men, although several party members come very close to dying in the process. Looting the corpses, the party finds that the Pig-men were carrying coin that must have been minted just recently. This seemed quite strange to the party. Where did they get those coins from?



The party returns to the farmstead and is able (with the help of Grandpa Harald) to convince Jack to go back to raising livestock. The party has done great good, but are informed by their Taskmaster who arrived with a trio of inquisitors that they have not seen to bringing the lumbermill back into production, and are thus not eligible for any salary.

As the party rest at the Farmstead for some two weeks, healing from their fight with the Pig-men, they help the boy Timmy save his sister from an old watchtower on the edge of the forest. They fight sadistic little fey creatures called Redcaps. The party succeeds, although it was a close call for several party members again.

Everyone in the party returns to the farmstead injured. A band of mercenaries have

arrived and seem to be looking for trouble. The party attempts to deescalate the situation. That is when someone cries out "fire!". Cultists of Surtr have come across the farmstead and are intent on burning it all to the ground.

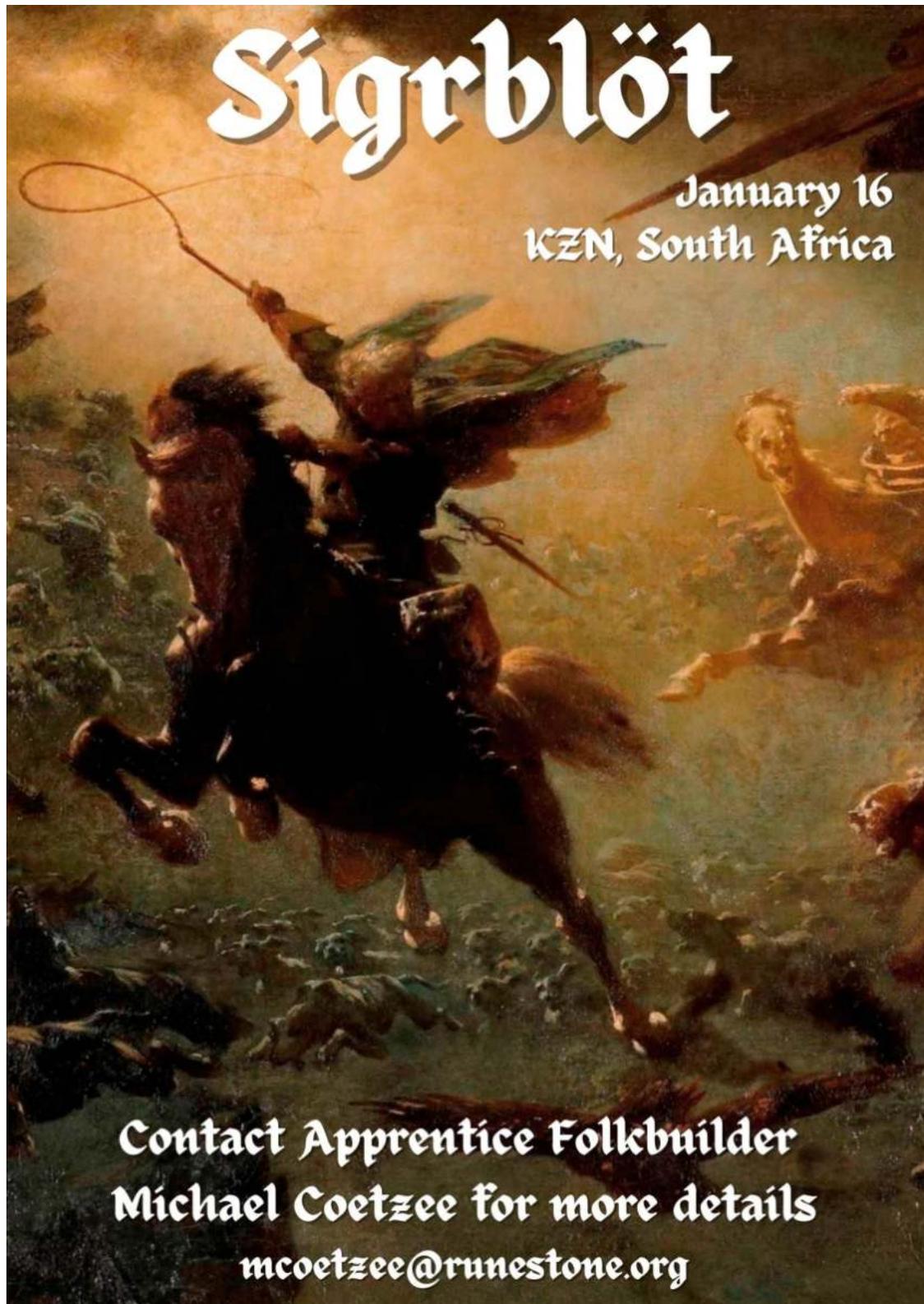


Both fires and battle raged throughout the night, but the party was victorious. Now, two cultists have been left wounded but alive, to be questioned by the inquisitors that need to be summoned. In the aftermath, only the house of the Jacksons remained, all else burnt to the ground.

Despite this fact, everyone was able to enjoy some barrels of ale that survived the flames. And they were also treated to an epic song sung (yes, Roger actually sung the song for us) and composed by the Bard Bragvald, telling of how the cultist Dermlin wielding a giant flaming club was brought low by the party and the mercenary leader Idof.

The Jackson Farmstead is in ruins. Although no lives were lost, and Bragvald's incredible singing has raised the spirits of everyone there, the question remains how the Jacksons are going to recover from this.

Will the party be able to give a helping hand? What will their next task be? And why did both the Pig-men and the cultists carry newly produced coin? Find out in the next episode of Dnd with friends...



Sigrblöt

January 16
KZN, South Africa

Contact Apprentice Folkbuilder
Michael Coetzee for more details
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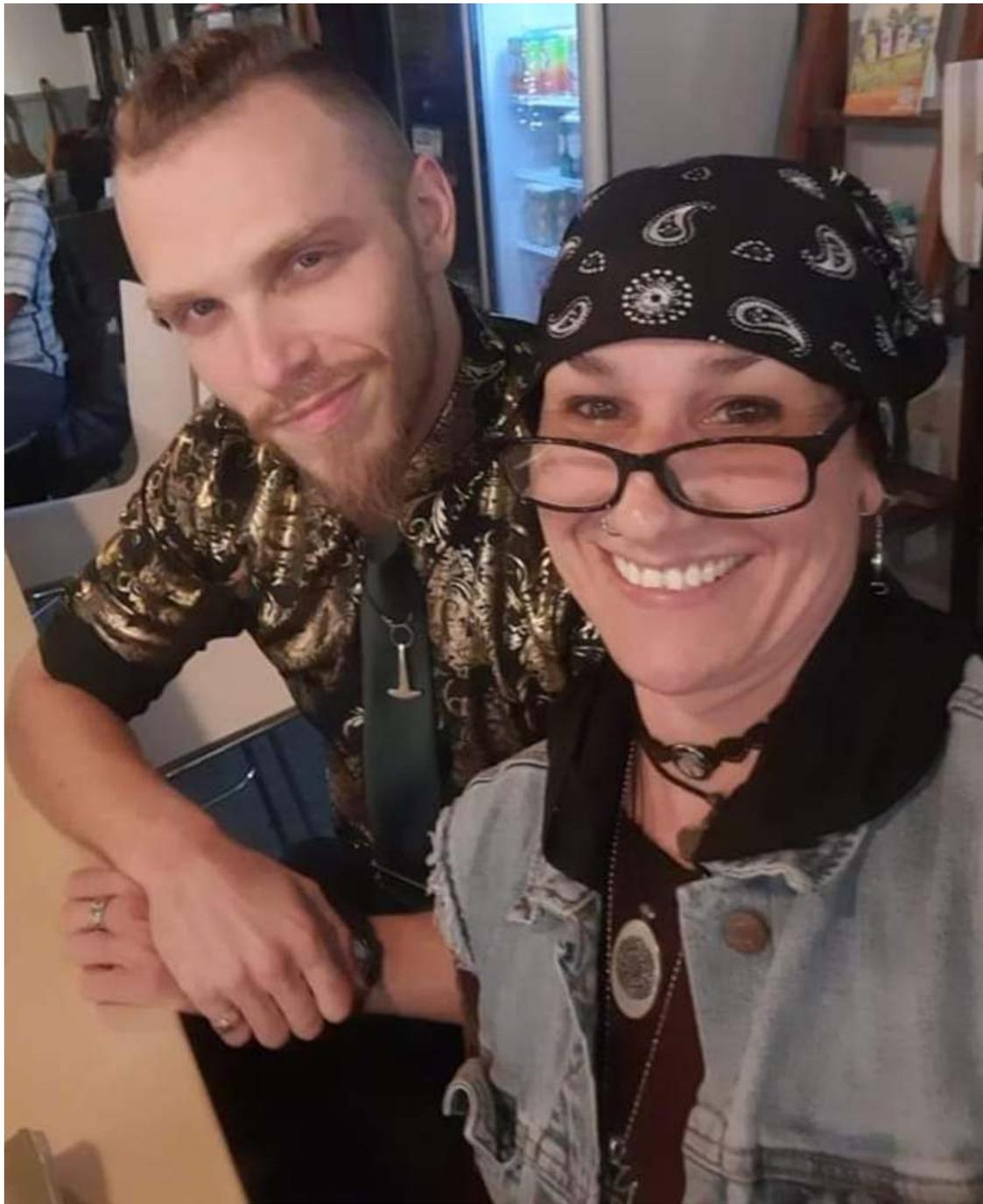
Texas

Karaoke Moot



On December 10th, 2022 members of Friðr Folk Kindred gathered for impromptu karaoke and Frith at Elixir Lounge in Spring, TX and a great time was had by all!

Lore Study



On December 26th, 2022 members of Friðr Folk Kindred gathered in Denton, TX for a lore study to welcome a visiting AFA member from Illinois. Always great to meet and share Frith with other AFA members from across the country!

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