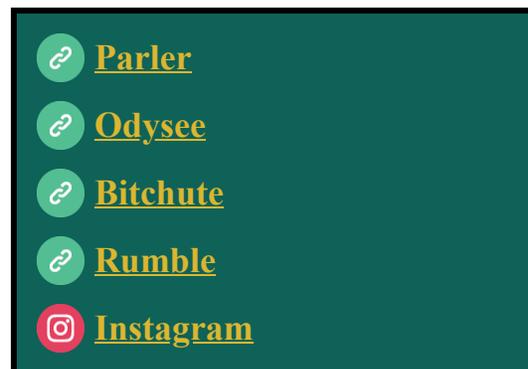


<http://www.njordshof.org/>



Words from the Alsherjargothi



September was a big month for the AFA and I made a very important announcement last week that I want to make again here for our Runestone audience and for posterity. That announcement is Sigheim!:



"Sigrheim

Home of the Asatru Folk Assembly

Established 202X

“IV. The restoration of community, the banishment of alienation, and the establishment of natural and just relations among our Folk:

Our ancestors had religious and social folkways that gave them a feeling of continuity and community while jealously preserving individual rights; we can and will re-establish this natural order among our Folk. Asatru encourages sound, traditional families while providing an extended family or tribe to support the basic family unit. We help each other materially, socially, and religiously while respecting the privacy of individuals and families. Society would work better if families and communities cared for each other, rather than relying on coercive, intrusive “help” from outside sources such as government”

– AFA Declaration of Purpose

When I first became actively involved in the AFA, around 2009, there was talk of the AFA Hof and Land Fund. The vision was, a hof of course, but also land for an intentional community of AFA members. The more I studied our roots and spoke with other members, the more the theme of intentional communities was talked about as the dream. Not only is this the dream of so many when they join, this has been a dream of Asatruar since the reforging of our faith in the 1960s. We have certainly all seen and been part of the dream of hofs, our current 4 hofs are a testament to our ability to accomplish and manifest dreams into realities. The time has come for the next stage in the Asatru dream to take shape- Sigrheim.

Sigrheim means “Home of Victory.” Sigrheim will not only be the home of victory but the home of the Asatru Folk Assembly. As with all dreams, the form changes and shifts as the dream becomes real. This is the vision as it stands now. An AFA neighborhood will be built with several members constructing their homes on a common parcel of AFA land. On this land, there will be a magnificent hof. On this land, there will be guest lodging. On this land, there will be a common meeting/cooking/dining area. This land will serve as the corporate and ecclesiastical headquarters for the Asatru Folk Assembly.

After my first AFA national event (Midsummer in the Sierras 2010), I was hooked, and I have tried to make it to all that I could from that time on. It occurred to me after the first few years that I was living my “mundane” life for 350 days so that I could live my real life for 15 (at AFA gatherings). I have tried ever since to make every day like those beautiful event days. I want that for myself, I want that for my family, I want that for us. This will be a home for our AFA family. Those who have the commitment and desire will be welcome to move here (or to an area close by), whether or not you make

your permanent home on the grounds, you will be welcome here always because this is HOME.

In faith and as a church, we have grown. Our mission and scope have grown by leaps and bounds! We have AFA membership in 14 countries! This is amazing and it makes the case for a headquarters from which to manage and coordinate all the glorious things we have going on. We have long wanted a place to host AFA national events. Up until now, we have had to rent venues and camps (I am confident we will still do this in the future). Our hofs are a great place to host events and we love that, but the lack of on-site lodging is problematic. A place of our own, with facilities and accommodation for large gatherings, will be a useful and fantastic thing. The whole project will be focused around a hof to Týr and a grand gathering hall, in this way it will have all the functionality of our current hofs but so very much more.

There is an additional need that has weighed heavily on me for some time now. Our elders often find themselves impoverished and with no family willing or able to care for them. Our members living with disabilities have trouble living on their own with dignity and with their spiritual needs fulfilled. We have families who find themselves without safe places to live and stay. Sometimes this is due to a natural disaster, sometimes due to loss of employment, and sometimes to the dissolution of an unhealthy relationship. We can, we should, and we will do better with this. Sigrheim will increasingly be a place where these folk can come and be cared for by family, our AFA family. We can't promise luxury and are not equipped to provide medical care, but we will provide food, shelter, and love for our elders, disabled, and folk going through hard times.

As this dream grows, we also envision facilities to do homeschooling, summer camps, community craft fairs, and athletic training. As with all dreams, there is no end to the possibilities."

As with any of these endeavors, success hinges upon the generosity of our amazing AFA Family. The first step is securing the land, we are working on that, but it will take a significant down payment. If you are able, please consider contributing to this project and do remember that your contribution is tax-deductible.



<https://www.runestone.org/product/sigrheim/>



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Words from our Witan

Lawspeaker's Challenge - Speaking with Intent



This begins a series of challenges that I will present to all members of the AFA, including myself, so that we may continue to improve ourselves. The goal is to be our highest and best selves and live in a way that demonstrates our nobility and honors our ancestors and gods. The first challenge: Speaking with Intent.

As many of you already know, I have been on a crusade (okay, maybe just a campaign) to eliminate profanity at the Hofs. Our Hofs are sacred grounds, dedicated to the protection and preservation of our Gods and our Ancestors. Are those goals served by speech littered with profanity and vulgarity? If you went to a church or temple of different faith and heard that sort of language, would you be impressed with their nobility?

Profanity is defined as “showing contempt or disrespect for sacred things.” Vulgarity is “lacking culture or taste; crude, boorish.” Is this how we want to present ourselves to the world? Would your great-grandparents be impressed with your command of Low speech?

This ideal is especially true for our Folk. Our knowledge that galdr changes ourselves and our world for the better necessarily means that Low or idle speech changes the world for the worse. Every ill-intentioned swear or curse coarsens our part of the multiverse.

In addition, vulgarity has always been shunned by those of a higher mindset. Not long ago, critics noted that certain comics could not work in large venues because their language was too vulgar; the change in the culture since then, only 40 or 50 years ago, represents a decay in thought and attitude. I also confirmed with a scholar of Anglo-Saxon history that the tribal Folk would not have sworn at inanimate objects, as they took their words more seriously than that.

The attack on our families, our faith, our culture, and our civilization continues with the attack on our noble ideals of self-expression. We should decide not to participate in the degradation of our Folk by speaking in a way that honors our ancestors and our Gods: with high ideals, with nobility, with intent.

Words from our Gothar

ALU, Wodanaz, & the Gifting Cycle



What does the runic formula ALU mean? Why did our ancestors call Odin “ALU-God”? What does all this have to do with the gifting cycle?

In the Gylfaginning, King Gylfi of Sweden is asked questions about the Gods and the cosmos by “three men”, who are all most certainly Odin.

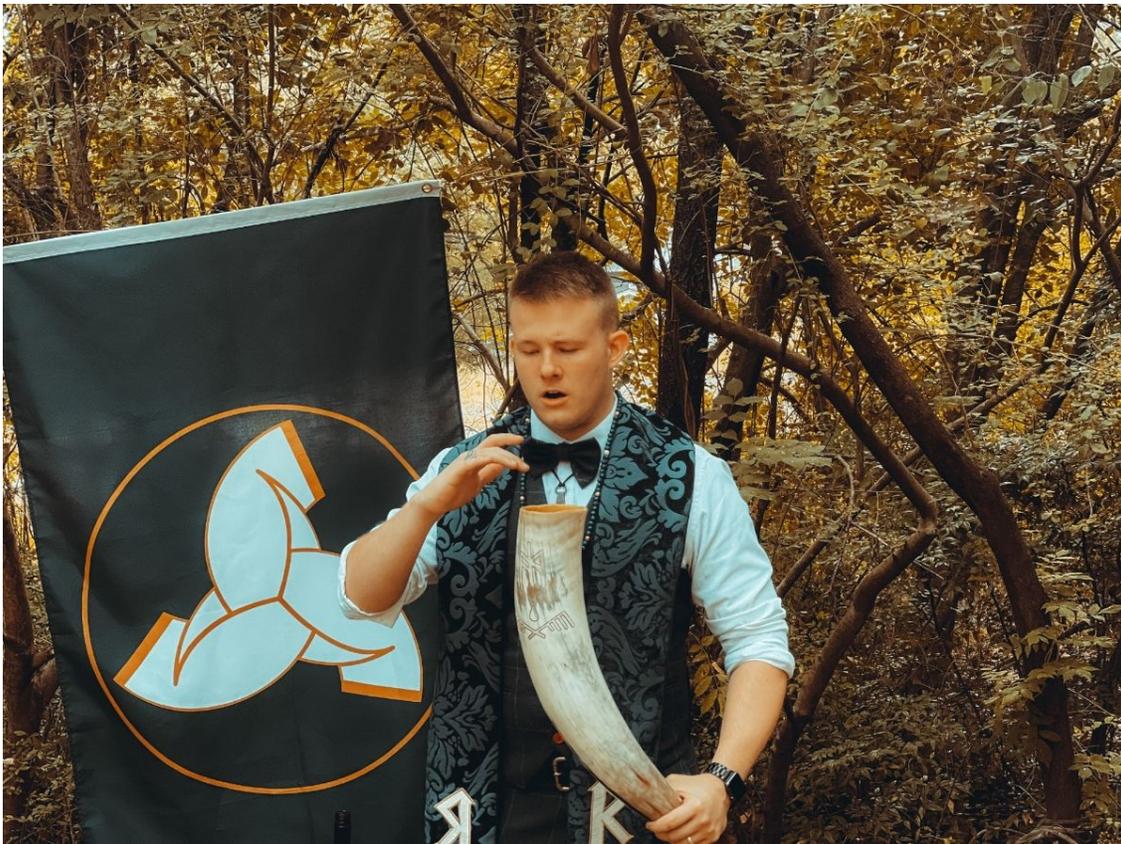


The three men give their names as High, Just-As-High, and Most High. These are thought to represent different forms that Odin takes. Let's discuss those three forms, and how they relate to ALU:

“High” is the human form of Odin, often called Grimnir. He is credited with being the progenitor of many lines of Germanic royal dynasties, as well as a wanderer and wizard. This is URUZ, the rune of primordial power, cthonic while still sacred.

“Just-As-High” is the disembodied form of Odin, the “divine ecstasy” that he is known for. Pure Oðr, fury, ecstasy, inspiration. This is LAGUZ, the intermediary flowing force between Aryan and Æsir, between Uruz and Ansuz.

“Most High” is the God form of Odin, King of the Æsir, the All-Father, the High One who discovered the runes. This is ANSUZ, the rune of the Æsir and their king, representing the Gods as a single concept.



Now, when we analyze how Odin won the runes, we can identify it not only as an example of the gifting cycle, but as a representation of ALU and what it means. Odin's "human" form, representing Uruz, stabs himself with his spear and hangs himself from a branch of Yggdrasil. He does this as a sacrifice, a gift(Laguz) to his higher self, which is Odin the God(Ansuz). He sends this gift of his lower self to his Higher Self, from "High" to "Most High". From here, the gifting cycle is completed, and Odin's gift is returned in the form of grasping the runes!

Uruz gives the gift, Laguz, to Ansuz, and Ansuz returns the gift in kind!

Our ancestors called Wodanaz the "ALU-God", as he himself embodies the entirety of the gifting cycle that is found in the runic formula of ALU.

From Aryan, into the well, to Æsir- from Æsir, into the well, to Aryan. A gift for a gift.

Gothi Trent East

teast@runestone.org



The Quest for Freyshof

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

– Gylfaginning



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

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

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 39% so far)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 17%. (This is membership dues/hoftollar plus other donations)
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.

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

Hail Freyr!



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AFA Homeschool Program



Welcome to October! All our kids have been hard at work and doing great in their studies!

This month I would like all our students to complete an art project that is outlined in the Waldorf book OR complete a coloring sheet from the posted options on quickschools. Parents, please upload a good picture of the project either to quickschools or you can email me directly. We will feature the artwork in this section in the next runestone!

We would also love to see your Halloween costumes!

We sure hope to see as many of our students as possible at winternights in Ohio this month! Extra bonus, you'll get to meet the man with the story himself, Uncle Timmy!

Feel free to contact me or any member of our academy staff at any time and have a great October!

We need your help, too:

AFA ACADEMY Wants YOUR Artwork!



*Please send any drawings of
Gods, Goddesses,
or
Asatru themed art
to
Rstamm@runestone.org*



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

Victory Never Sleeps



The AFA is thrilled to be continuing to host Victory Never Sleeps as a weekly live stream and podcast. I have always loved doing my monthly Live chats and this is the continuing evolution of that. Each week I 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. We promise you an hour every week and keep over-delivering.

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

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

<https://twitter.com/FolkAsatru>

<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>



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Day of Remembrance

Meister Guido von List



Born in October of 1848 in Vienna, Guido Karl Anton List was the son of a prosperous middle-class family who traded and worked in the Leather goods industry. Raised a Roman Catholic, List found his love of mythology and history early in life, often acknowledging that his belief in the Germanic Gods, and Wotan in particular, developed during these young years. A scholar, painter, and writer, his big ambition was to live his life doing the things he loved. His father, however, pressured him strongly into taking over the family business.

In his spare time, he continued to write and paint. He also took part in several leisure sports clubs, such as rowing and mountaineering. During one of his many trips List purportedly left his group to spend a solitary midsummer atop Geiselberg hillfort. Here, it is said, he reaffirmed his belief in Wotan. Upon the death of his father in 1877 List abandoned his family business in favor of pursuing his writing passion.

Despite being an avid believer of Wotan, he married his second wife in a Protestant ceremony in 1899. This didn't hamper his writing or his influence, however, and by 1902 when his writings took on a different direction, he was a prolific and well-known voice in the nationalist and volkish movements.

It was in 1902 that von List had his great epiphany. After a cataract surgery left him blind for eleven months, List was left with much time for reflection and meditation. During this time he discovered the Armanen runes. He called this set of runes the Proto-language of the Aryan race. It was through these runes that Von Lists occult ideas and writings evolved.

The popularity of his ideas exploded amongst the wealthy, middle class of Austria and Germany at the time and the Guido-von-Gesellschaft was born. The von-List society further evolved and on the Midsummer of 1911, the inner group called the High Armanist Order was created. While the main group focused on his occult and political ideologies, the inner group was dedicated to the worship of Wotan through his writings and sacred pilgrimages.

With food shortages after the war and old age creeping up on him, von List's health deteriorated and in May of 1919 he passed away at the age of 71. His body was cremated and buried in an urn in the Vienna central cemetery, Zentralfriedhof.

Among his many novels, plays, and political manuscripts it was his first dedicated occult manuscript, "Das Geheimnis der Runen" or "The Secret of the Runes," that really sets Guido von List up as a forefather of modern Asatru, influencing many including the Asatru Folk Assembly's hero Alexander Rud Mills.

What can we learn from this story?

We can never anticipate when the spark of inspiration will lead to the flame of an idea. It's easy to look at that inspiration and say that it isn't real, or it's just the imagination going crazy. With faith, however, our limitations can be cast off. Have faith in our Gods. Have faith in our Ancestors and in our Folk soul. Most importantly, have faith in yourself. each one of us can accomplish great things if we work hard enough and maintain our faith.



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday Founder Stephen McNallen



“Anyone who has raised a horn in honor of our ancestral Gods, has done so because of, or in spite of Stephen McNallen.” – Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel. Ostara In the South, March 2020

This month we celebrate the birth of our Founder, Stephen McNallen. Before he became the Father of Modern Asatru, before he started a religious movement on his own, before the Kennewick Man, he was born in a small rural town in Texas in 1948.

“On a more intimate level, I chose my parents well: My father was a hard-working, Irish Catholic oil hand who had come to Texas for the oil boom some years earlier, and my mother was a loving, kind, and intelligent woman who – significantly – bought me the books I wanted and read them to me.”

Founder McNallen developed an interest in pre-Christian religion in college after reading the book *The Viking*, by Edison Marshall. In 1968 or 69, he dedicated himself to worship the Gods of Europe. In 1969-70, he founded the first Asatru church in the new world, *The Viking Brotherhood*, which gained tax exempt status in 1972. He began writing and distributing *The Runestone* which was hand typed and copied on a mimeograph machine.

“At first it was a private thing, but then I began quietly promoting the religion – which at that point I simply called “Norse paganism,” as I had no name for it. I really was starting from scratch. About the time of my graduation from college, I started a minuscule publication called *The Runestone*. I cranked it out on a mimeograph machine (!) – the first run was eleven copies. Within a year or so – August 29, 1972 – I had received recognition of the *Viking Brotherhood* as a tax-exempt religious organization.”

After reading Magnus Magnusson's book, *Hammer of the North*, where first heard the word Asatru, Founder McNallen began to use and promote his religious ideal as Asatru, rather than Odinism.

At some point during his time in the US Army, Founder McNallen began to adopt the belief that Asatru was a religion of the peoples of Europe, rather than being a religion for all, thus adopting Folkism. In 1976, after being discharged from the Army, he renamed the *Viking Brotherhood* to the *Asatru Free Assembly*. in 1987, Steve dissolved the *Free Assembly*.

After seeing what American Asatru had developed into, which denied that Asatru was a uniquely ethnic faith, Mr. McNallen stepped back into the Asatru scene. Establishing the *Asatru Folk Assembly*. The emphasis on Folk to differentiate from the universalist lie that threatened to take hold of our ancestral faith.

“It flourished. Over the years it grew, and I wrote *Asatru: A Native European Spirituality*, which defines my convictions and purpose. We purchased a permanent building which became *Odinshof* – our first temple to the Gods. The AFA has since expanded to include four Hofs in the USA and continues to grow. In 2016, after leading the *Asatru Folk Assembly* for 20 years, I turned it over to a younger generation and started the next phase of my service to my Gods and to my Folk.”

In the years since Mr. McNallen retired, he has remained an active participant at *Odinshof* with charitable giving and contributing in any way possible.

It is often said that we stand on the shoulders of giants, and none are more giant than that of our Founder, the First Alsherjargothi. Thank you, and Happy Birthday, Mr. McNallen, from all of us in the Asatru Folk Assembly.



Gothi Daniel Young
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Remembrance & Holy Days



2022

| Date | Observance |
|------------------------------------|---|
| January 9 | Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong |
| January 15 | Porrablót |
| February 9 | Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi |
| February 19 | Charming of the Plow |
| March 9 | Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg |
| March 20 (observed on 21st) | Ostara |
| April 9 | Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon |
| April 31 (observed on 16th) | Hexennacht |
| May 9 | Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen |
| May 1 (observed on 21st) | May Day |
| June 9 | Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths |
| June 21 (observed on 18th) | Midsummer |
| July 9 | Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills |
| July 16 | Sigrblót |
| August 9 | Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia |
| August 20 | Freyfaxi |
| September 9 | Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci |
| September 21 (observed on 17th) | Winter Finding |
| October 9 | Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List |
| October 15 | Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen |
| October 15 | Winter Nights |
| November 9 | Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden |
| November 19 | Feast of the Einherjar |
| December 9 | Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson |
| December 20 | Mother's Night |
| December 20-31 | Yuletide |

Winter Nights



Autumn has officially started. The days are noticeably shorter. The nights are noticeably cooler. The trees are ablaze with the colors of Fall and the crunching of the fallen leaves underfoot has begun. All around us the world is dying. This was a time of drawing in close, of hearth and home and family. For our ancestors, this was not an Autumn festival, but a quiet Winter rite in which the female spirits were honored in a rite called Disirblót.

Today, Winter Nights is often seen as a death of the physical world, the world we can see, and the reawakening of the intangible. It is the world of high energy, of spirits. It is that deeper feeling and connection to the things we know to be there. This is the time we honor our Disir—our female ancestors. We remember that without our ancient mothers we could not be. They cared for the home and the hearth fires. They cared for their families. Our ancient mothers, with strength and determination, raised the next generation against odds we cannot really begin to fathom.

With the harvests finished, there is a quiet lull before we turn our minds to the hectic holiday season. Now is a good time to turn inward in introspection, and to self-improvement. It is also the time to meditate on things of a more spiritual nature. Connect to the energy that is always there.

Upcoming National Events

Winter Nights 11
October 14th-16th



Register Here: [Winter Nights 11 – Asatru Folk Assembly](#)

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

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

Things to know:

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



Winter Nights XI

October 14 - 16, 2022

Friday, October 14

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

Saturday, October 15

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

Sunday, October 16

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

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

Member Family – Weekend: \$150

Member – Weekend: \$100

Member – Daypass: \$50

Guest – Weekend: \$125

Guest – Daypass: \$60

Child – Weekend: Free

Child – Daypass: Free

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



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Feast of the Einherjar
November 10th-13th

Feast of the Einherjar

2022 Nov 10-13

in Oklahoma

With Special guests Stephen and
Sheila McNallen, Alsherjargothi
Flavel and Gothi East

Honor the fallen with your folk • Games
of skill • Mead Competition

• 3 Blots • Sumble

• Auction • Leadership Panel Q&A

• Amazing feasts!

Register now @

<https://runestone.org/product/feast-of-the-einherjar-2022/>

contact Folkbuilders Melsa Mills, Nate Erlandson or Ashley
McStocker for more information

Register Here: [Feast of the Einherjar 2022 Nov. 10th-13th](#)

Come and honor the fallen with your Folk.

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

FEAST OF THE EINHERJAR

**THURSDAY
11/10/2022**

11am check in
12pm - lunch
1:30pm - Welcoming of the Gods (Nathan)
5:30pm - Dinner
6:30pm - Freya blot (Sheila)

FEAST OF THE EINHERJAR

FRIDAY 11/11/2022

7am - brisk morning swim
8am - Breakfast
12:30pm - lunch
(games)
5:30pm - dinner
6:30pm - Odin Blot (Steve)
7:30pm scripted stories
8:30pm - ~~Sumbel~~

SATURDAY 11/12/2022

8am - Breakfast
12:30pm - ~~lunch~~
(games)
5:30pm - Einherjar Blot (Nate & Trent)
6:30pm - Feast
7:30pm - auction

Let us know if you are entering the mead competition!

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

FEAST OF THE EINHERJAR

SUNDAY 11/13/2022

8am - Breakfast
10am - Wayfarer Blot (Mike)
11am - checkout

CLARKE WEDDING

12:30pm

**ALL EVENT ATTENDEES ARE WELCOME AND
ENCOURAGED TO STAY FOR WEDDING
CEREMONY AND CHECK OUT MONDAY WITH
OTHER WEDDING GUESTS**

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

Member Family – \$150

Member – \$100

Guest – \$120

Child – Free

Child – Free

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



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

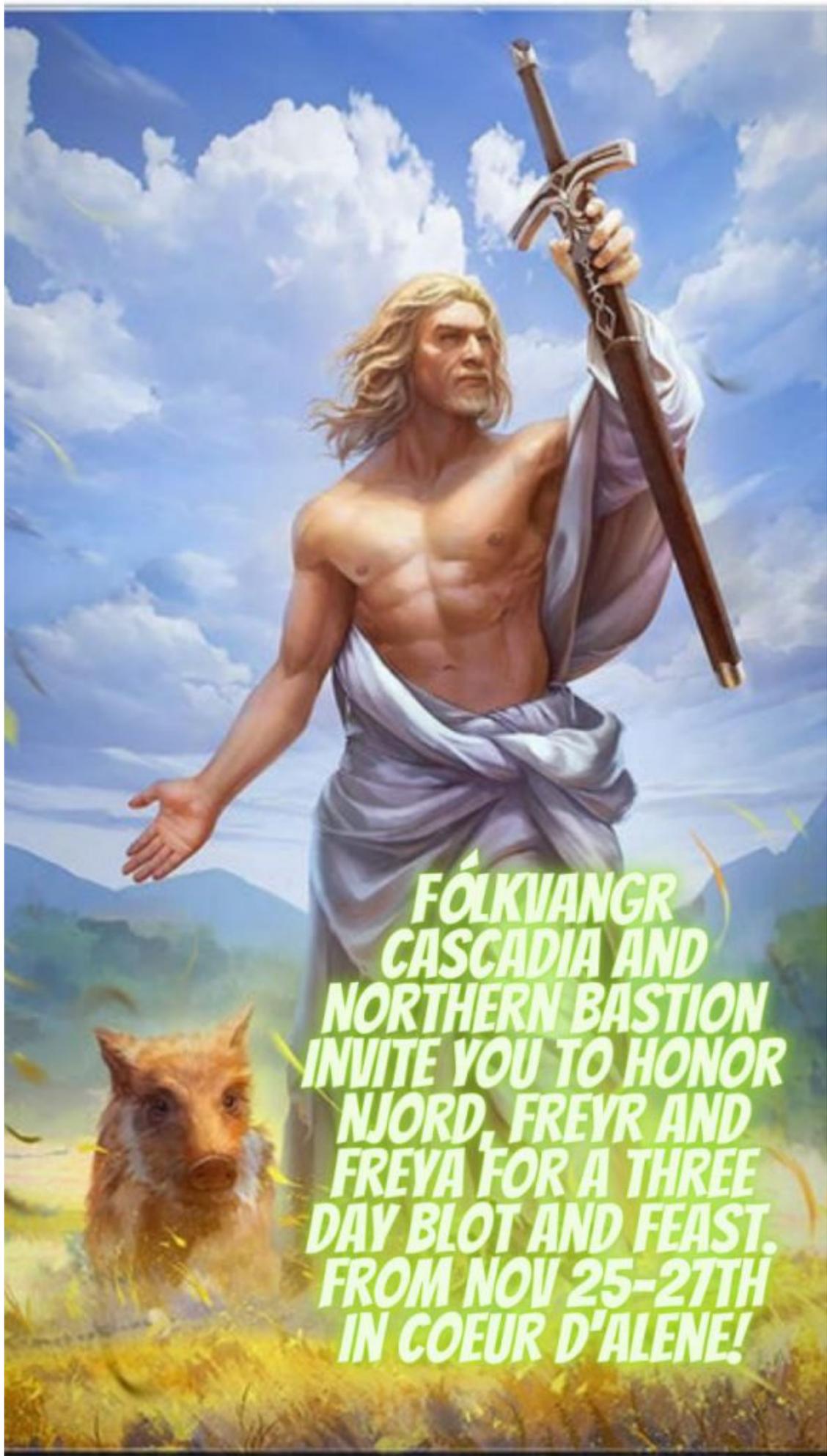
Freyr's Harvest Feast in Idaho

FREYR'S HARVEST FEAST NOVEMBER 2022



**NOVEMBER
25TH - 27TH**

Fólkvangr Cascadia and Northern Bastion invite you to honor Njord, Freyr, and Freya for a three-day Blot and Feast on the banks of Lake Couer D'Alene where we will gather in frith enjoying good food and even better company. An AFA blacksmith will be working the forge for all to see and our instructors will teach Glima (historical Viking wrestling) leatherworking and basketweaving. Compete in events for prizes, see the telling of Freyr's Proposal on stage and give thanks to the gods. With events, speeches, a big auction, and vendor tables there's too much to do to be put into words and it's definitely something you don't want to miss.



**FÓLKVANGR
CASCADIA AND
NORTHERN BASTION
INVITE YOU TO HONOR
NJORD, FREYR AND
FREYA FOR A THREE
DAY BLOT AND FEAST.
FROM NOV 25-27TH
IN COEUR D'ALENE!**

Join us from Nov 25-27th in Coeur D'Alene greater area. The event kicks off Friday afternoon and ends Sunday. Lodgings include cabins, bunkhouses, auxiliary buildings, and campsites. The feast will be in the great hall and festivities range from the forge, throughout the site, and even on the stage. Email Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein (theinlein@runestone.org) for more details!



Tyler Heinlein
Apprentice Folkbuilder
theinlein@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 fruitful, 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/>.

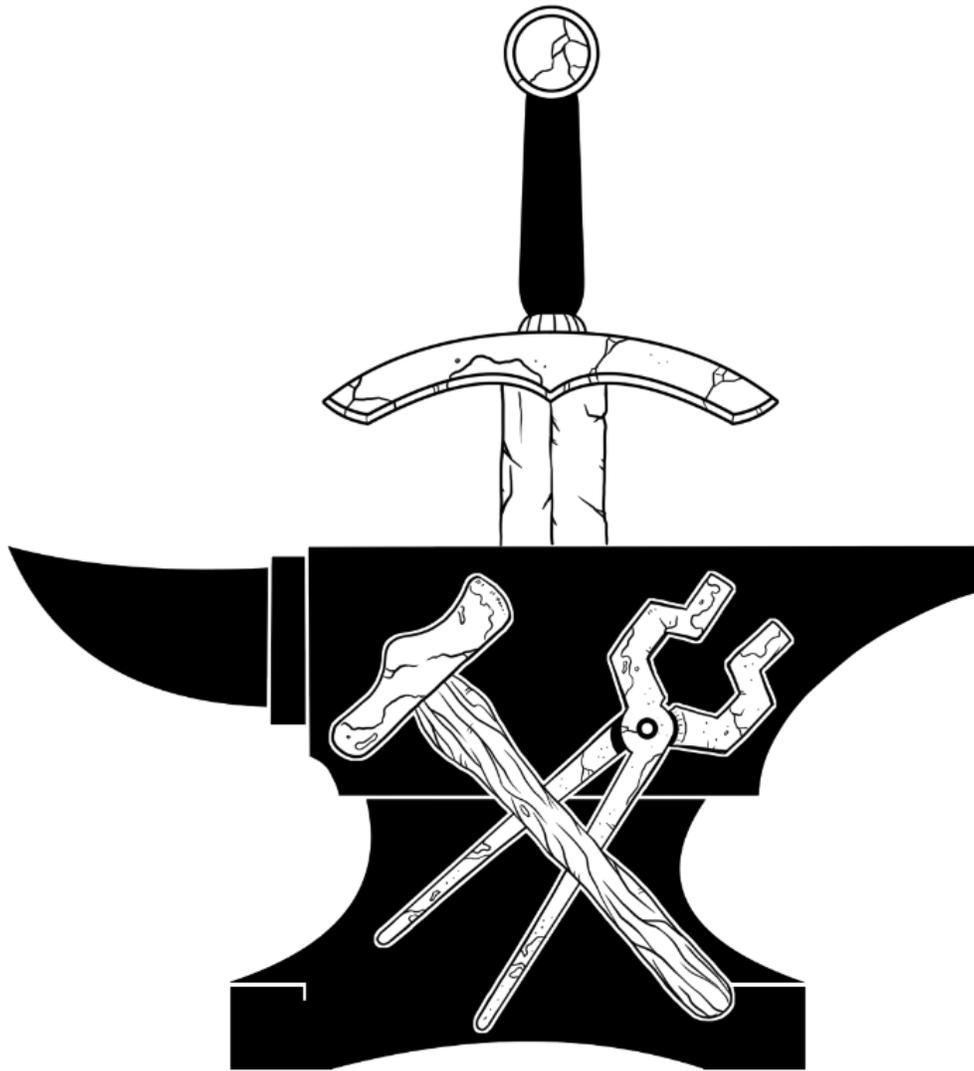
Please make your will **today**.

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

The Artisans of the AFA
Support Our Folk

Stalvind's Forge



At Stalvind's Forge, we craft blades and some tools. We offer sharpening, cleaning, and repair! Veteran Owned and operated.



Contact us today at stelvindsforge@gmail.com or reach out at 270-293-8690



Folkbuilder Jessica Lambert
jlambert@runestone.org

Ancestral Food and Culture

Pierogi



My name is Maya, and we just moved to PA from Washington, but my family came to PA in the late 1800s/early 1900s from Czechoslovakia and Prussia. My grandma tells us stories about her dad, Pa, who I remember only as a little kid when he had severe dementia. There wasn't much we kept from the culture because they tried hard to Americanize but we did keep halupki and pierogi.

Pa and his family worked in the coal mines so all the women in the family would get together and make large batches of pierogi and wrap them up in the newspaper as a way for the men to transport them with them to eat for lunch at work.

Here is the recipe for pierogi:

For the dough

- 4 cups flour
- 2 egg
- 1 tsp salt
- 3 tbsp oil
- Add flour/water as needed*
 - (you must learn to feel Baba's Slav Power in your fingertips and just know when a dough is a dough and not a rock or a soup)

For the filling:

- (We only had potato and onion because we were poor but here are some add-ons)
- A decent amount of potatoes, as many as you like but not less than 4 preferably
- 1-2 onions, minced
- As much garlic as you like
- Ricotta/farmer's cheese/tvarog
- A handful of shredded cheddar
- 3-4 spoonfuls of cream cheese or sour cream
- Salt
- Garlic powder if desired
- Pepper
- a Good deal of milk
- 1 stick Butter

Recipe:

- *For the filling:*
- Boil the potatoes in a large pot.
- Sautee onions and garlic if desired in a pan with butter or oil.
- Mash the potatoes and salt to taste, add garlic powder, and pepper if you want.
- Add milk, butter, cottage cheese/sour cream, ricotta(or other option), cheddar, etc. to the potatoes.
- Add the onion to the potatoes.

For the dough:

- Mix the ingredients for the dough together in a large mixing bowl and add water or flour as you need to make it more wet/dry until it is a dough consistency.
- Knead just a bit.
- Cover and let rest for an hour.

Roll out to a thin, but not too thin thickness on a floured surface- if you stretch it and it tears, it is too thin.

Take the bottom of a glass and make circles with the dough.

Take some filling and put it in the center of the dough circle. Fold over the circle so it becomes a crescent dumpling shape and pinch the edges with your fingers. Not required, but if you want to make it look better, take 1 egg and a fork and lightly egg wash the edges, and press the tines of the fork into the edges.

Do this until all your dough or filling is used up.

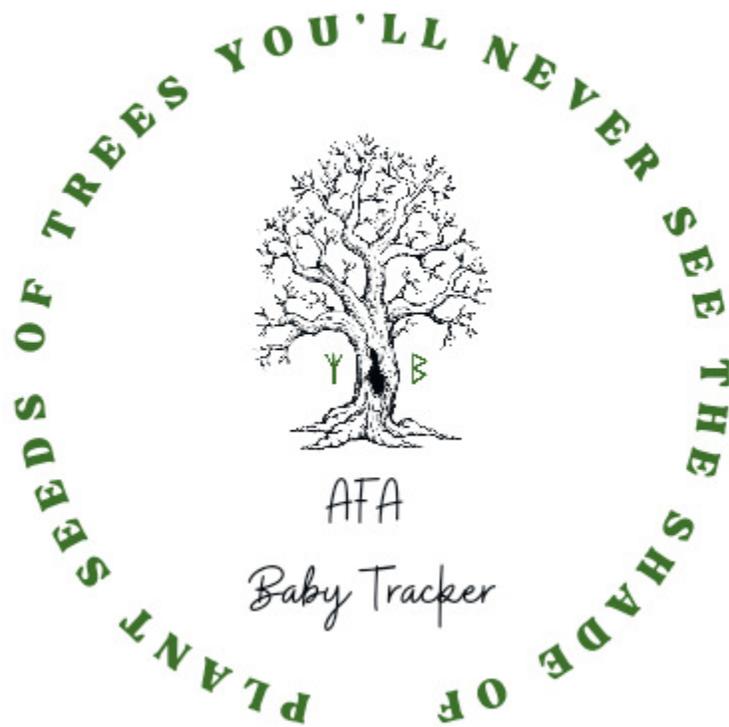
Boil the pierogi in very hot water until they float to the surface, then take them out.

You can leave them boiled like this, and put onion on top or sour cream or sauerkraut or whatever you like, OR you can fry them in hot oil/butter in a pan and they will become crispy.



Folkbuilder Timothy Dumas
tdumas@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



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

Total babies born in 2022: 35 (*up 6 from Aug!*)



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Women's Mysteries Podcast

AFA Ladies' Mysteries Podcast

OCTOBER 9TH, 1:30 PM CST

Mark your calendar for our new monthly ladies' Teams call. An invite link will be provided to join.

Themes and Topics

SACRED SPACES

By Witan Brandy Callahan

WINTERNIGHTS AND DESIRE

By Gythia Catie Erickson

ALTERS AND OFFERINGS

By Gythia Anna Plourde

FRITHWEAVING AMONG WOMEN

By Folkbuilder Sara Ault

OFFERINGS WITH YOUR CHILDREN

By Apprentice Folkbuilder Christine Dumas

Contact Christine Dumas,
cdumas@runestone.org
with any question.



The women in AFA Leadership have something new, just for womenfolk! Check out the Ladies' Mystery Podcast on Teams on 10/9/22 at 1:30 pm CST.

Christine Dumas
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cdumas@runestone.org



Odinshof's Online Raffle

AFA FUNDRAISER

ARTISANS NEEDED

Woodworking | Sculptors | Blacksmiths
Leatherworkers | Painters | Jewelers | Weavers

Details on raffle and drawing dates to
come soon

We are asking all artisans for donations of something handcrafted for an online AFA fundraising raffle. Have a hand in raising money for Óðinshof repairs and get your name out there as a crafts person. We will purchase your item or donations are greatly appreciated!

To get involved contact Ashley Stockton
707.800.5333

ASTOCKTON@RUNESTONE.ORG



ÓÐINSHOF
FUNDRAISER

AFA VIRTUAL RAFFLE!

\$10.00 A SQUARE

We are delighted to announce the first annual AFA Virtual Raffle! Help restore Óðinshof first hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly, buy a numbered square and get a chance to win this beautiful one-of-a-kind, high quality, limited edition AFA scarf!

The winning number will be drawn on Nov 6th at 6pm

Limited squares available!

Contact Folkbuilder Ashley Stockton to participate and good luck!!

BUY A SQUARE NOW!



ASTOCKTON@RUNESTONE.ORG

707.800.5333

[HTTPS://MEWE.COM/1/ASHLEYSTOCKTON3](https://MEWE.COM/1/ASHLEYSTOCKTON3)



Ashley Stockton

Apprentice Folkbuilder

astockton@runestone.org

Just in Time for the Holidays



AFA YULE CARD FUNDRAISER

*Let the Competition
Begin!!!*



Card Artwork created by Reign Kinsler

Odinshof & Baldrshof Districts
contact Ashley Stockton
astockton@runestone.org

Thorshof & Njordshof Districts
contact Jessica Keller
@jkeller@runestone.org



\$20+ shipping
Per pack of 10
All proceeds go to the Hof
with the most orders

Yule Card Fundraiser/ Competition Announcement!!

As much as we loved our folk-created poems from last year, we listened to your feedback and made changes to the card designs this year.

Competition: The district with the most orders, will receive all donations to that district's Hof fund!! Last year we raised \$600!!!

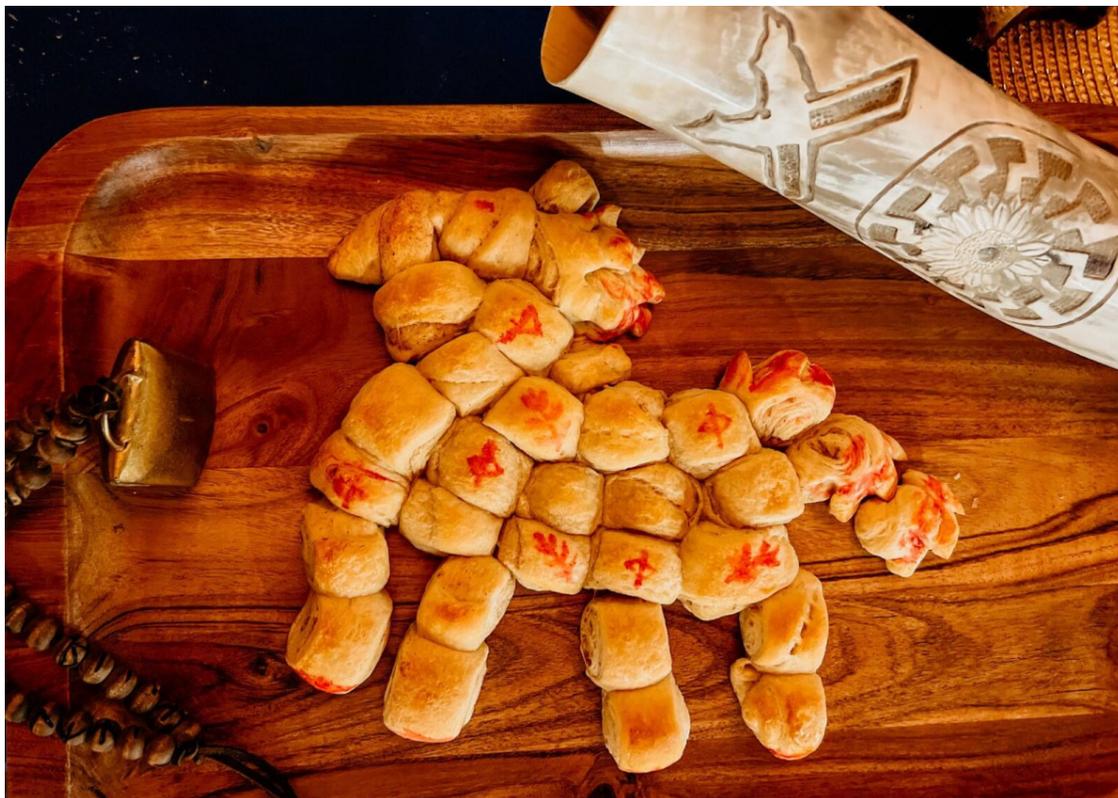
Ashley Stockton will be in charge of Odinshof and Baldrshof orders, and Jessica Keller will be in charge of Thorshof and Njordshof orders!

The artwork was originally painted by Reign Kinsler, the daughter of one of our AFA folk sisters, Rachel Kinsler.



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Calling All Chefs!



We are putting together an AFA cookbook!

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



Mike Joyner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjoyner@runestone.org

Now Available in the AFA Store



Stay warm this season with your new Zip and Non-Zip hoodies! Get yours today!

<https://runestone.org/product/afa-zippered-and-non-zippered-hoodies/>

<https://runestone.org/product/odinshof-zippered-and-non-zippered-hoodies/>

<https://runestone.org/product/thorshof-zippered-and-non-zip-hoodies/>

<https://runestone.org/product/baldrshof-zip-and-nonzip-hoodies/>

<https://runestone.org/product/njordshof-zip-and-nonzip-hoodie/>



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

Njörðshof

Food Pantry at Njörðshof



We had another successful food pantry feeding 15 families this month. One gentleman returned bringing other families. We were able to provide multiple bags of food to each family and reminded them we would be there on the third Saturday of every month to distribute food.

Winter Finding at Njörðshof



In September we celebrated Winter Finding at Njörðshof by honoring Ullr with his first blot. Ullr is renowned for his skill with a bow, but he is far more than an archer with whom none could compete. His bravery was legendary, for with his half-brother Oðr,

he rescued Njörðr's fair daughter from the Jötun. As a reward, Óðinn accepted him into the Æsir.

And after the war between the gods, it was Ullr who was so respected for his wisdom, that he was placed upon the throne in Asgardr during the Alfater's banishment.

Taught skills by his father to defeat opponents larger than himself, we made offerings to Þorr's stepson that he teaches us those skills that we may overcome our quarry, whatever it may be.

Hail Ullr!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Gothi Lane Ashby

lashby@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Njörðshof



2022



Feast of the Einherjar
November 19th

Yule
December 17th - 18th

Þórrablót

Winter Nights
October 15th

Charming of the Plow
February 27th

Winter Finding
September 17th

Ostara
March 26th

Freyfaxi
August 27th

Hexennacht
April 16th

Sigurblót
July 17th

Midsummer
June 18th

**May Day -
Beach Blót**
May 7th



Winter Nights - October 15th

Feast of the Einherjar - November 19th

Yule - December 17th - 18th

Arkansas

September Arkansas



Well, we have been busy this month and we have been holding events like crazy! Multiple states and almost every single weekend we have a moot or blot somewhere.



It is a great time to be Asatru and the AFA is doing it like no other!!!! We are growing our faith and you can see the quality of folk at our real-world festivals.





The days of online actors/LARPer are done and our folk are returning home to our native folkways and ancestral Gods! Long live the Asatru Folk Assembly!! Long live the Folk!



Folkbuilder Michael Sessumes
mssesses@runestone.org

Florida

Godafoss



In the winter of 2017, I was planning a vacation to Iceland. I wanted to visit the land of the sagas and the lore. I went through the various trip advisor's websites to develop an itinerary. I mapped off the different sites to maximize the limited time that we were going to be there. One of the sites listed was Godafoss, Waterfall of the Gods. I added it to the list, but when I mapped it, I determined that it was a five-hour trip from Reykjavik, so it would consume a whole day of our trip.

I was about to write it off the list when I read the reason it was named Godafoss. In 1000 C.E., Thorgeir Thorkelsson, the law speaker of Iceland, threw the statutes of our gods/goddesses into the falls and announced that Christianity was the official religion of Iceland. I took this as an insult to our gods/goddesses, our ancestors, and to our faith. At that moment, I decided that I was going to go to the falls and make an offering to attempt to right this injustice. I told the brothers at Lawtey C.I. and Suwannee C.I. about my intention to make an offering and we decided that I would make a leather pouch and the brothers would write their messages to the gods/goddesses to be inserted in the pouch. Each of the brothers wrote a message on a small slip of paper. Some wrote in runic, some in English and some even blooded their message.

We left early for the fall. The road to Godafoss was on a two-lane road in the middle of nowhere. It was a very desolate drive which at times that the snow was blowing so hard that you could barely see the road in front of your vehicle. We arrived at the fall and part of it was iced over so that you could walk to the edge. I hammered and called to our gods/goddesses, ancestors, and the land vaettir (wights). I thanked them for rekindling the fire of our faith that lay dormant in our blood. I threw the pouch, but

because of its rectangular shape, it started to tumble back towards a ledge outcropping. I thought that it was going to land on the outcropping and not make it into the falls, but at the last moment, it made a sudden turn toward the falls and landed in the water. I don't know whether it was the wind, or that the rectangular shape caused it to suddenly tumble towards the falls, or that the gods/goddesses appreciated my offering and helped it turn towards the water.

I have visited many places in the world. I have seen the Grand Canyon and I participated in setting a Guinness World record for toasting the New Year in Las Vegas. I have walked the steps of a Mayan temple in Guatemala and the steps of Chica Itza in Mexico. I have seen the Coliseum in Rome, walked the steps in the leaning tower in Pisa, walked the rim of Mount Vesuvius, and walked the ruins of Pompei. I have been to the Pearl Tower in Shanghai, the terra cotta soldier museum in Xian, visited the Forbidden City in Beijing and walked the Great Wall of China. I have ridden dog sleds and reindeer sleighs in the Arctic circle in Finland. I have traveled all over Ireland and experienced the simulated solstice in New Grange. But the greatest memory I have is visiting Godafoss and trying to right an insult that occurred 1000 years before.

I created a video to memorialize it for the brothers. I include the video for this article. You will notice that I replace Freyr with Freya in my hammering. I like making sure that the goddesses don't get left out.

I will return one day and make another offering. When I do return, I hope to carry messages from my brothers and sisters in the AFA.



Saga Moot



I decided to hold my first moot in September. I didn't know what to call it until synchronicity hit. As I watched Witan Brandy Callahan interview Gothi Lane Ashby, someone asked about home altars. Witan Callahan answered that she has a home altar to the goddess Saga. I was surprised by her answer because few people I have encountered even knew who Saga was, much less had an altar to her.

Saga is the goddess of prophecy and memory. Odin sits with her and they both drink Sökkvabekkr's waters from golden chalices. When I think of Saga, I think of a best friend that you share a beer with. You share your successes and defeats. You confide and counsel each other. Thus the Saga Moot was born.

The first moot was held at the Bottlenose Brewery, named after the Bottlenose dolphin. It was attended by members of the AFA and prospective members. We tried a flight of every beer they brewed.

We toasted Saga and Witan Brandy Callahan. We toasted Saga for the obvious reason and we toasted Witan Callahan for not only inspiring us with naming the moot the Saga Moot, but also for all that she does for the AFA.

So...



Hail Saga!

Hail Brandy Callahan!



Otto Rafuse
Apprentice Folkbuilder
orafuse@runestone.org

Panama City FL Moot



Fantastic showing at the No Name Moot AKA the Dog House Moot AKA the Panama City FL Moot. Members of the Ravens Blood Kindred brought out some great food for a Pot Luck and even had a chance to vote on a new kindred flag. A special thanks to Tracy, Kayliegh, David, and Anna for making the trip up to Panama City.



Mike Joyner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjoyner@runestone.org

A View on Afterlife



The ancient Germanic conception of the afterlife was a highly nuanced and sophisticated system. When men (and women) died they tread the hel-way as they make their way to the lower world where they face the judgment of the gods. The realms they are sent to in the afterlife are determined by the type of life they lived on Midgard.

We've all heard of Valhalla, a sort of warrior heaven. Popular opinion holds that only the bravest of warriors who fall in battle go to Valhalla, where they fight all day and rise again in the evening to feast together in Odin's high hall as comrades. There are a few things to consider on this point, such as how such a situation would favor death and defeat over victory in battle. I believed this misconception stems from a literal interpretation of ancient lore that is full of esoteric implications, and that the death in battle is more symbolic of the self-sacrifice required of one to dedicate their self to a higher cause- for instance, the folk spirit. One who chooses to sacrifice personal comfort or gratification for non-earthly ideals can expect to be counted among Odin's chosen warriors, the Einherjar.

If Valhalla is understood as a kind of "heaven" it sort of leaves out regular people, huh? There are realms of bliss for regular folks who live plain but honorable lives. Everyone from farmers to fishermen to merchants has their place. People who die as children have special places, as well as women who die unwed. Most people are reborn in subsequent generations of their family line, but without memory of their past lives. This is why children often remind us of their ancestors in the way they look and behave, and in their natural talents.

In the lower world, there are realms of punishment for the damned, who are called nidings. While the road to Hel is an ordeal not pleasant for anyone, it is a particularly unpleasant journey for nidings, who's lives were defined by dishonorable deeds. They are abandoned by their fylgjas, protective spirits who assist and guide us through life and represent people like an attorney at the judgment of the gods. The nidings die a second death instead of being sent to realms of bliss and living again. They wade through an icy river of venom where spears and swords swim like fishes and cut through them but only cause pain without damage. They are eventually gnawed by a serpent at the end of their journey but face unmentionable torment the whole way. This journey to the caves of torture is reserved for murderers, oath-breakers, rapists, grave

robbers, those who commit sacrilege, people who lie to harm others, greedy people, thieves, and those who commit treason.

The gods expect us to honor them as children honor their parents, but are kind and benevolent in their disposition. They don't expect us to be free of faults and they will allow us to make recompense for all but the most dishonorable deeds. Oath breakers and murderers are seldom pardoned. By thinking good thoughts, speaking good words, and doing good deeds we ensure a judgment of approval from the gods. These are defined by the nine noble virtues: courage, truth, honor, fidelity, discipline, hospitality, industriousness, self-reliance, and perseverance.

Saga Moot Continues



Florida folk requested more moots statewide, and Njordshof is delivering. One of our moots took place in Tampa, Florida at a restaurant called Babushka's. The food there was very tasty and reminiscent of Eastern European cuisine. The Saga moots are meant to honor the goddess Saga, who is Odin's confidant and drinking buddy and, in many ways, best friends, similar to how we all feel when we get the chance to get together.



Tracy Adler
Apprentice Folkbuilder
tadler@runestone.org

Women's Mysteries



We are so excited to see how many women have found their way home in this faith. Finding your way home is the first step. Making it your home, making it somewhere that you can not only live but thrive is the rest of the journey.

Join us on October 9th at 2:30 Eastern for an online presentation geared specifically for our sisters in this life. We are here to guide, inspire, and help you find what you need to make this path yours.

Hope to see you there!

Ladies' Rune Study



Ladies! Our Rune Study is still up and running! Feel free to join us on alternating Wednesday nights for discussion and fellowship with your sisters. This is the place to learn and grow, and there is always room for questions.

October 12th-Eihwaz

October 26th-Perthro

November 9th-Algiz



Gythia Anna Plourde
aplourde@runestone.org

Georgia

Winter Finding in Arkansas



On September 7th, folks from all over Arkansas gathered at the new home of long-time member Steve Ingle for a Winter Finding celebration!



We started the day off with a land-taking ceremony of Steve's new home, performed by me with the assistance of Folkbuilder Jesse Parton, and Student Goði Michael Sessumes. We hallowed the property with the blessings of the land vaettir, the ancestors, the Vanir, the Æsir, and Thor himself! We moved from south, to east, to west, to north, with our path creating the rune Sowilo as we claimed this land in the name of a very devoted man of our Folk. Last, we traced a Thurisaz rune on the two doors, as well as on the heads of Steve and his young son, before pouring out a final libation at a large pine tree in the front yard.



Next, I was honored to lead a baby-naming ceremony for Miss Hanna Edelweiss Owens! The morning before the ceremony, I asked the Norns for their gifts while pulling three runes, one for each Norn. Urd gave the rune Kenaz, representing the gift of tradition and shared ancestral knowledge. Verdandi gave the rune of Ehwaz, representing the gift of companionship and community found in our AFA family. Skuld gave the rune of Isa, representing iron will- the strength to stand tall and hold fast to what is right and true!

Then, Folkbuilder Michael Sessumes led us in a fantastic blöt to Ullr, asking him for blessings of strength and right action as we navigate the coming winter. Gifts were

exchanged, and the Glorious Hunter was hailed many times!

Finally, we shared High Sumbel before eating a delicious dinner, and then making the long trek back to Georgia.



Many thanks to Steve and Dawson Ingle for their hospitality, and for giving me the honor of performing their land-taking ceremony! It was also a high honor to be asked to officiate a baby-naming ceremony for one of the newest members of our AFA family! I was very glad to see the Woodwards, the Owens, and Folkbuilder Jesse Parton once again, as well as being able to finally meet my Goði Student in person!

Happy Winter Finding to all! And Hail Ullr!



Gothi Trent East
teast@runestone.org



Oklahoma

Hellllloo People of the Njordshof District



Hello, Njordshof district!! I am honored to be the newest Oklahoma Apprentice Folkbuilder. I am ready to build Oklahoma alongside Apprentice Folkbuilder Shea McCurdy.

I figure I should start off with a short introduction. I am a mother of 5 amazing children. I have been a stay-at-home and homeschooling mom for the last 11 years. I am a forever student of herbalism and all things natural-birth-related.



I grew up Methodist. I left that when my Nana passed. I looked into many religions for many years but nothing stuck. I first found Asatru when I was researching my

ancestors, which lead me to the AFA. That was when everything just started to make sense.

So much has happened since I first joined in 2016. From financial struggles to losing my oldest daughter, Marissa, to suicide almost 3 years ago, to getting divorced. To say it's been rough is an understatement. But I am still here as proof that when you stay true to Our Gods and Goddesses, blessings do happen and you *CAN* get through anything.



I am here for anyone that wants to reach out. Even if it's just to have someone to talk to.

I am a great listener. I am just a phone call, text, or email away.

I will be back and forth between Oklahoma and Florida often. So even if you aren't in Oklahoma, please feel free to contact me. I would love to meet with each and every one of you.



Fawn Gordon
Apprentice Folkbuilder
fgordon@runestone.org

Equal Night



As our days exponentially grow shorter, we prepare for upcoming seasonal changes. Bringing folk together to build frith is important, especially with so many precarious situations to be found outside of our circle. We were honored to have Folk from near and far join together in Oklahoma for Winter Finding.



So many preparations are to be made regarding what bounty our harvest brought or didn't bring us, that taking full account before Summer's end and Winter begins could change our fates.



We gathered together and shared a delicious home-cooked feast. We lit up a fire and circled around it and gave blót to our God of Winter, the hunt, fleet of foot in the snow, that we call upon in single combat, Ullr!



After some time to reflect, we held sumpul to give gifts to our Gods and loved ones. Such bonding experiences are few and far between.



The strength and love we create by having a community is evident. Get together with your folk near or far and live this life in the here and now. These are the good ol' days when bonds are forged that carry us through the future we build together.

Shea McCurdy



Apprentice Folkbuilder
smccurdy@runestone.org

Texas

Winter Finding in Texas



As the Veil thins, our weather cools, and our Ancestors feel closer than ever. We recently gathered to celebrate Winter Finding. A time difficult for our Ancestors, and also for us in different ways, but still we recognize this date to gain strength and vigor moving deeper into winter. Sharing Frith, food, and horns of mead are the surface. Gathering, and honoring the gods and goddesses in Houston Texas; Is a difficult experience to define in words. You will just have to check out an event!

Friðr Folk Kindred Texas Attends Winter Finding in Oklahoma



Members of Friðr Folk Kindred Texas made a pilgrimage to Apprentice Folkbuilder Shea McCurdy's farm in Oklahoma to celebrate Winter Finding and the acceptance of Fawn Gordon as an Apprentice Folkbuilder.



We were joined by Folk from Arkansas and Missouri as well, including Folkbuilder Michael Sessumes, who led a fantastic Blot to Ullr! Shea and Fawn will be a fantastic vanguard in growing the AFA presence in Oklahoma. We look forward to working with them and further developing the bonds of Frith between Oklahoma and The Lone Star State.



Justin Day
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