

Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly

[View this email in your browser](#)



Óðinshof

First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

www.odinshof.org



Runestone.org



[Email the Witan](#)



[YouTube](#)



[VK](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Parler](#)



[Odysee](#)



[Bitchute](#)



[Rumble](#)



[Instagram](#)

[Donate to the AFA](#)



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



mattflavel@runestone.org

Folk Futhark Part 2



ANSUZ- This is the rune of Odin and the Æsir in general. It relates to communication and connection with the Gods, as well as the gifts given to us by Odin and his brothers when our Folk were first created from two pieces of driftwood. The stave of this rune is the same as it is in the Elder Futhark, as you'll see below. One way to remember the meaning of Ansuz is to look at the shape, and think of the vertical "spine" of the rune as representing Yggdrasil. From there, it has two arms reaching downward from the top- this can be viewed as the Gods connecting with our Folk from their seat at the top of the World Tree.



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

This rune's stave is the Armanen rune called Rit, but it is very similar to the Elder Futhark stave. The only difference is that the 45-degree angle leg is shorter than the vertical 90-degree angle leg.



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

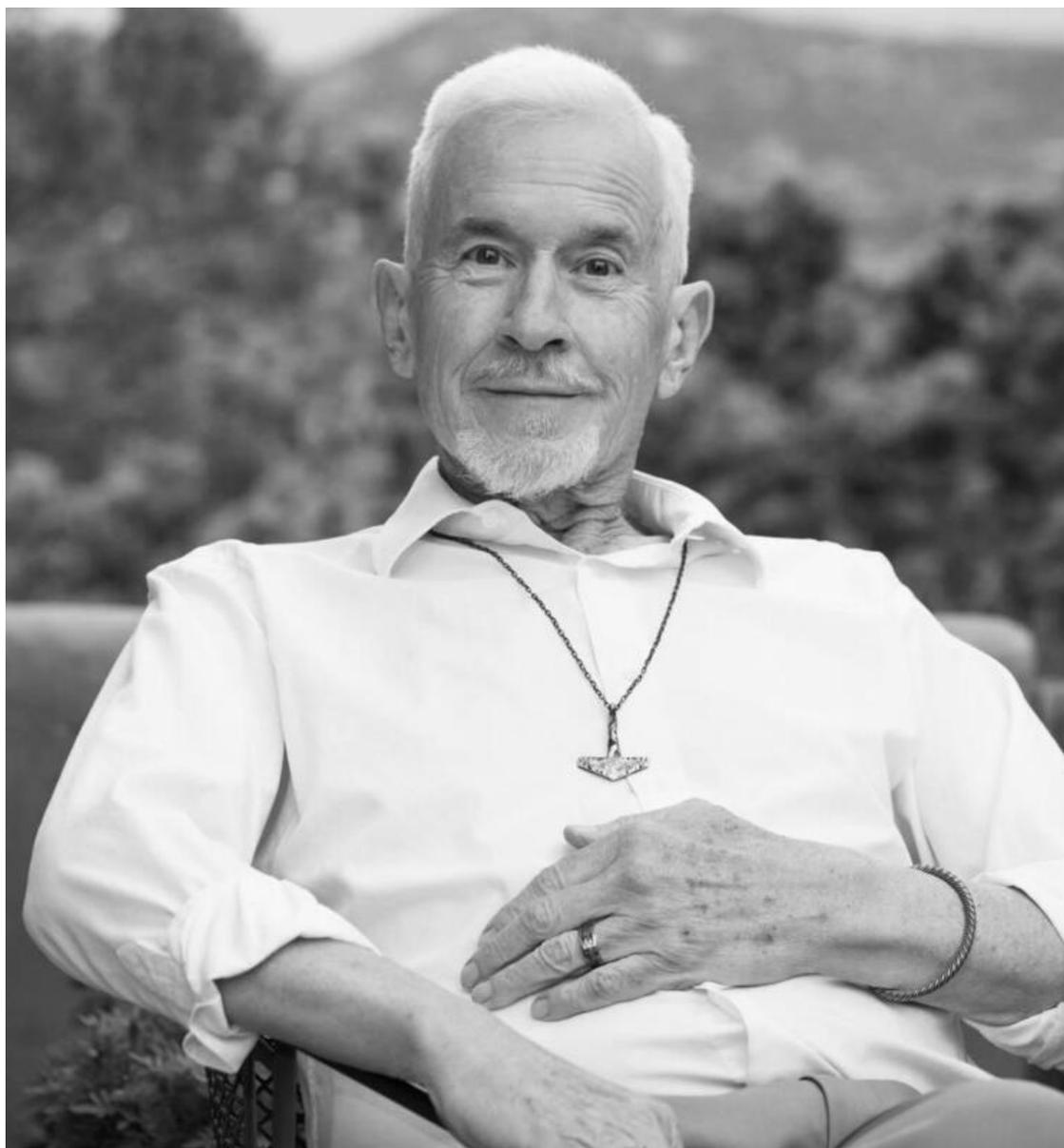
The Folk Futhark stave for this rune is borrowed from the Younger and English Futharks. As you can see, it looks similar to a torch seated in a wall sconce, whereas the Elder Futhark stave looked more like the letter "C" made out of two sticks.



Gothi Trent East
teast@runestone.org

Remembering Steve Chappelle

5/02/52 - 7/27/22



I am very sad to report that Steve passed away on Wednesday from pancreatic cancer. Steve has been an AFA member, on and off, for many years. We are honored that he

years, he will be deeply missed and remembered.

Hail Steve Chappelle!

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 35%)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 18%. (This is membership dues/hoftollar plus other donations)
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.

you all updated on our progress!

Hail Freyr!



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

AFA Homeschool Program



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

intent, if your state requires it. The email will be sent through our school's management system, QuickSchools. Please check your spam folders. You'll also receive an invite to our parent and student portal. It is absolutely vital you have access to these portals.

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

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

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



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

Day of Remembrance

King Radbod of Frisia



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

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

His rule, 680 – 719 CE, was spent fighting against the Frankish rule and banishing Christianity from his land. Despite losing to Pepin of Hertal on several occasions Radbod never gave up. While never successful in his lifetime, his successors continued the battle for many years after his death.

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

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

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



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Remembrance and Holy Days



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

2022

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 15	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

Freyfaxi



Though Freyfaxi is, in name, a modern holiday the celebration around which it is centered is much older. Dedicated to Freyr, our ancestors celebrated the first harvest of the season. The most common offerings during Freyfaxi included the sheaves of wheat, other

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

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

Upcoming National Events

Fallfest at Baldrshof 2022

August 19th-21st



Register Here: [Fallfest at Baldrshof 2022 Aug 19-21 – Asatru Folk Assembly](https://www.runestone.org/fallfest-at-baldrshof-2022)
([runestone.org](https://www.runestone.org))

Fallfest is nearly here!

events section.

Pricing is as follows:

Single Member \$75

Member Family \$125

Non-Member Guest \$100

All guests must be vouched for!

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

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

Fallfest Itinerary

Friday

8 am - Breakfast (True North Folk)

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

11 am - Jaime Alaiinn Presentation

Noon - Lunch (Sygtyr Kindred)

1 pm - Nicholas Rice Presentation

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

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

4 pm - Brandy Callahan Presentation

5 pm - Dinner (Joel Eastman)

6 pm - Nathan Erlandson Presentation

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

***Children's activity available downstairs

10 pm - Hof Closing

Saturday

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

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

11 am - Leadership Q&A (Alsherjargothi, Lawspeaker, Witan)

Noon - Lunch (Northern Blood Kindred)

1 pm - Men's Group (Nathan Erlandson) / Women's Group (Brandy Callahan)

2 pm – Start of Hnefatafl Tournament (James Ault)/ Outdoor Games (Nathan Erlandson & Clayton Von Kepner) / Children's Blot & Activity (Jessie Shaffer, Sara Ault, Ashley McStocker, Brandy Callahan)

4:30 pm - Freyfaxi Blot (Alsherjargothi Matthew Flavel)

5 pm - Dinner (James Ault / Shane Duffy)

6 pm - Auction (James Ault / Melisa Mills)

8 pm - Sumbel

***Children's activity available downstairs (Jessie Shaffer)

10 pm - Hof Closing

Sunday

8 am - Breakfast (True North Folk)

10 am - Wayfarer Blot (Witan Brandy Callahan)

***Children's Sumbel (Sara Ault)

12 pm - Hof close

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

Winter Nights 11 October 14th-16th



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

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

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

Children 17 and under attend for free!

You will need to bring your own bedding and it can get chilly at night, so plan accordingly.

Tenting is encouraged! There are also hotels within 20 minutes of the camp.

Dogs are welcome but must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in common indoor areas such as the dining hall.

The camp location will be provided upon registration.

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

Member Family – Weekend: \$150

Member – Weekend: \$100

Member – Daypass: \$50

Guest – Weekend: \$125

Guest – Daypass: \$60

Child – Weekend: Free

Child – Daypass: Free

Feast of the Einherjar 2022

November 10th-13th



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

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



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Be A Doer



We need you to volunteer for the AFA!

Yes, you. We have work to do and need folk who are artists, editors, writers, accountants, lawyers, publicists, reputation managers, professionals of all manner, technical support, web developers, system admins, tradesmen, craftswomen, and more. See the list of amazing projects we have below. We will find a way for you to help our Folk.

Please email volunteer@runestone.org to help us make a difference in our world.

Baby Blanket Project

The Women of the AFA are proud to be continuing this fine and noble work we call the Baby Blanket Project! We're committed to ensuring all new babies born within the AFA are gifted a handmade — knit, crocheted, or woven — baby blanket! It's just our little way of celebrating each new addition to our folk!

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



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



We never know when tragedy will strike. We have a responsibility to our loved ones, we have a responsibility to our own legacies, to plan for our passing, and to make our wishes known. Planning for and contemplating our death is uncomfortable. Hopefully, we all have plenty of time for that down the road, but we can't count on that. Maybe we worry about expenses or hiring a lawyer. We all have excuses to put things off until later, unfortunately, sometimes the clock runs out before "later" happens.

We have found an amazing resource for our U.S. members to make legally binding wills in minutes online for **free**. This site also has resources to make Advanced Medical Directives and Powers of Attorney. It takes only **minutes** at <https://www.doyourownwill.com/>.

Please make your will **today**.

The AFA would like to collect signed original copies of wills for all our members and store them. We want to ensure that when members of our AFA family die, their wishes are honored. Please send these to:

Allen Turnage
PO Box 16027
Tallahassee FL, 32317

Ancestral Food and Culture



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



Folkbuilder Timothy Dumas
tdumas@runestone.org



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

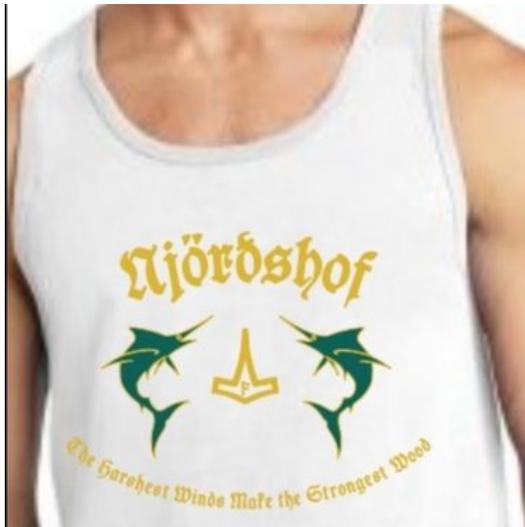
Total babies born in 2022: 24



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Now Available in the AFA Store

\$25.00 - \$28.00



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

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

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

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



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

Food Pantry at Odinhof



Food banks across the country are experiencing supply chain issues and shortages. That becomes more apparent every time we pick up our monthly supply from the Interfaith Food Ministries in Grass Valley. In spite of their difficulties meeting the huge need in Nevada County, they generously share their bounty with Odinshof in neighboring Yuba County.



Hot summer weather greeted us on July 16th, the day of Sigrblot. As our small crew set up tables and popups, we were joined by three members, newly arrived from Oregon. Steve, John, and Jeanie stepped right up to load tables while I readied my clipboard for the detailed check-in of each family.



As each month passes, it's clear the huge impact we're having on individual lives. Our warm greetings and caring approach make a difference for those suffering bleak times. A Brownsville friend sent me this text, "Sheila, I just wanted to say thank you for the food giveaway. (It) Really helped stretch the meals. I appreciate it so much."



We'd like to expand by offering health and household goods, animal food, and items that aren't available through the IFM. No separate funding is provided for our Food Pantry Program. Would you like to help us? If so, write to me for details and I'll help set this up.

Sigrblot at Odinhof



This month I had the honor of putting on our monthly event at Odinhof. The weekend

gathered in the ritual circle for greeting to the gods.



We moved on to a few AFA announcements, children's activities, and lunch. Soon thereafter many competed in a tug-of-war game played on top of unsteady logs, where our brand-new Apprentice Folkbuilder Steve Mundy was the reigning champion! Even the children got in on the action.



A beautiful and moving Freyja blot was held by Sheila McNallen where we all buried under the Freyja pole our personal victories we hope to see in the coming year. That evening we enjoyed a hearty dinner before a powerful blot by our Alsherjargothi.

As the sun set and the evening winded down, we held Sumble by firelight at the back of the Odinshof property.



All-in-all it was a great day where we all connected, met new folk, got to better know some new ones, and connected with our Gods and Goddesses. Here's to many more. Hail Victory!



Ashley Stockton
Apprentice Folkbuilder
astockton@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Odinshof

Freyfaxi at Odinshof

A celebration of good harvest
to honor Frey

August 20, 2022

11 am to 9 pm

Something for everyone!

***Frey Blot led by Gothi Thorgrun Odden
Lunch and dinner provided. Side dishes
appreciated.***

Questions & RSVP's:

Apprentice Folkbuilder Sierra Chapman
schapman@runestone.org

Apprentice Folkbuilder Ashley Stockton
astockton@runestone.org



Food Pantry

Saturday, August 20, 10:15 to 11:30 am

Just drive in and let us load your car.

All zip-codes welcome.

No ID required

No one will be turned away.

*Helping residents of rural Yuba and Butte counties
during these unsettling times.*

Odinshof Church

8408 LaPorte Road, Brownsville, CA 95919

Website: odinshof.org Info: sheila@runestone.org



AFA LADIES COFFEE & CROTCHE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

10 AM CENTRAL

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

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



Last of the 2022 Events at Oðinshof

Gatherings with Rituals

August 20	Freyfaxi
September 17	Winter Finding
October 15	Winter Nights
November 19	Feast of the Einherjar
December 17	Yule Celebration

odinshof.org

"Our Events" has a Calendar listing district events.
Check it often.

Arizona

Our Journey to the Old West



Tombstone, Arizona was the second largest city in Arizona Territory as of 1880, and it was known as a place where a man could make a living in the silver mines. Like many boom towns of the past and present, there was a thriving industry in the town designed to part the miners from their silver, hard-earned in their dangerous work underground. As hundreds of people arrived daily to strike it rich or stake a lucrative claim, the gambling dens and brothels that gave the lawless Old West its reputation flourished, and hastily deputized lawmen were hard-pressed to maintain a semblance of order.



The old tales from the American West give us a stark contrast to the world of today. In our modern society, food, clothing, and basic necessities are in abundance, and society is strictly controlled by government officials who tax nearly every transaction we participate in and regulate almost every human activity. The evidence of those who came before us has been bulldozed, with a handful of artifacts being put in museums. But certain sites act as conduits to the past. Many sites in Europe can directly connect us with our most ancient ancestors, like the Externsteine. Tombstone, AZ is one of these conduits; while it may not be a direct link with our European ancestors or our native European religion, the town acts as a direct link to the struggle of our ancestors in America in the second half of the 19th century. This struggle often played out in sagas of personal vendettas between families and groups, and the fabled gunfight at the OK Corral was no exception. The personal hamingja of Wyatt Earp won him the day, as every other armed participant was wounded or killed, but Earp was untouched in that gunfight and every other gunfight he took part in.



The Arizona AFA got together in Tombstone and renewed our link to the untamed American West, watching a gunfight reenactment, eating lunch in a historic saloon, riding in a stagecoach through the streets, and paying our respects to the men killed on

went to the afterlife served as a powerful reminder of the hardship of 19th-century American life (most graves were men in their 20s and 30s), and the thin line between the living and the dead. The day would not have been complete without dressing up as a cowboy, so Folkbuilder Sam Ramsey and many other loyal members of the AFA donned the outfits of the Old West and looked great. All in all, we had a good time building frith and community and proudly wearing the Mjolnir in the streets of Tombstone.



Lou Nickerson
Apprentice Folkbuilder
lnickerson@runestone.org

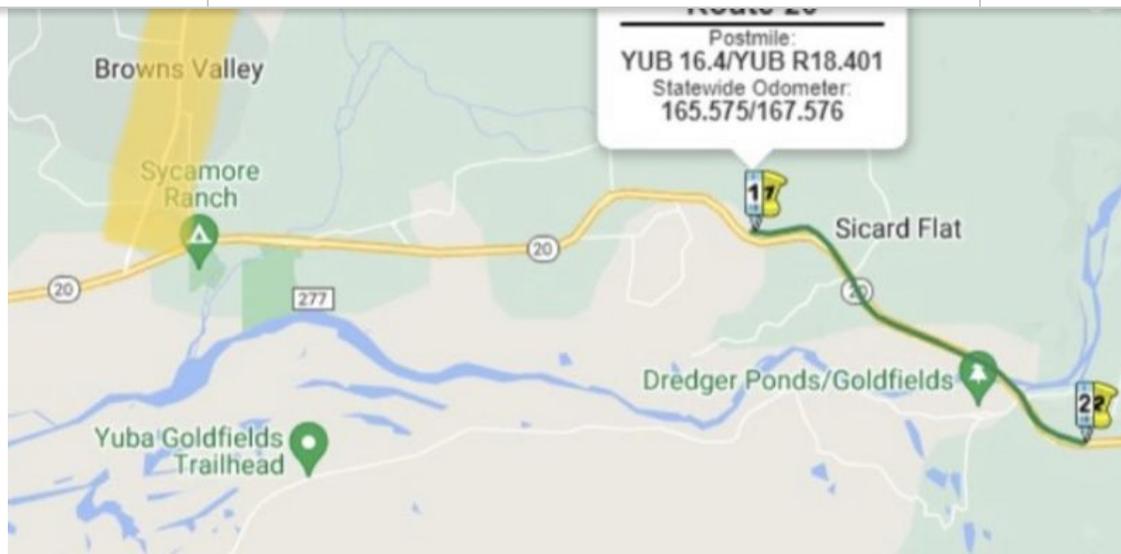
I absolutely honored to be a part of such a great community of like-minded folks. The AFA has brought so much more to life than I ever had. I couldn't see myself anywhere else.



Samuel Ramsey
Apprentice Folkbuilder
sramsey@runestone.org

California

Adopt-A-Highway



This month I have some exciting news for Odinhof District. We have been approved for the Adopt-A-Highway program here in California! We here at Odinhof are so excited to be able to serve our community in this way. We have been given a stretch of land very close to the roadway we take to get to Odinhof, so now we can honor our Gods and Goddesses by caring for a piece of land that leads to Odin's holy place. We are responsible for litter removal and wildflower planting. The great thing about this stretch of land that we have been given responsibility over is that it is right along a new bridge that has been built. An ode to Bifrost it truly feels like, crossing over from the mundane land into a pathway to the Holy Hof of Odin and it sits along the Yuba-Sutter River so water will be plentiful for any flowers we decide to plant. I have also reached out to ask about planting a tree as well, who knows maybe we can get an Ash Tree planted along this path as well. The litter removal will be happening once a month once our sign is erected. This is a great way to spend time with folk while also doing some good for the community, and if you have any friends that are curious about Asatru but are not ready to come to the Hof for an event, this would be a great way to get them involved with Folk for some exposure while giving back to the local community. Please keep an eye out as I will be sending some updates as we get closer to the sign being installed and our first cleanup/wildflower planting moot happens!

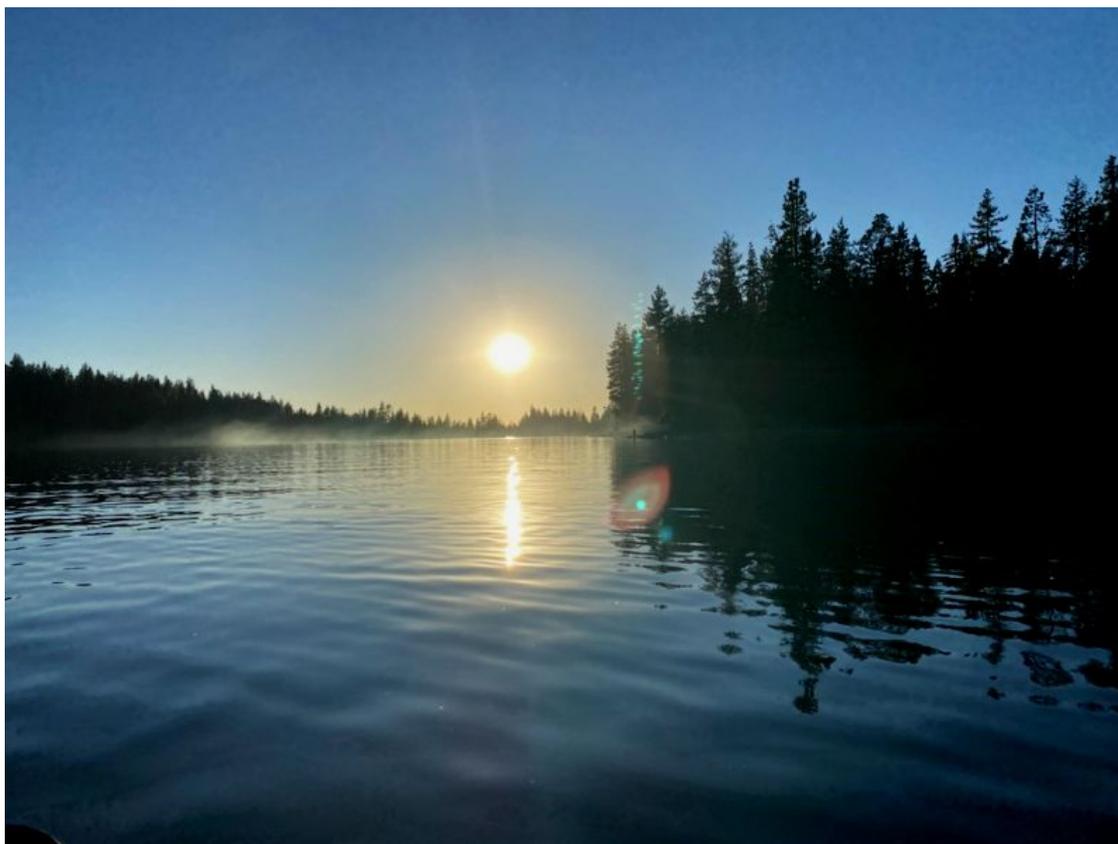


Sierra Chapman
Apprentice Folkbuilder
schapman@runestone.org



In the mountains 30 miles or so above Paradise California spring is in full bloom this time of year. Melting snowpacks and fertile ground makes for lovely wildflower displays, healthy wildlife, and thick beautiful forest.

This month I decided to host a semi-short notice camp out at Philbrook Lake just below the popular High Lakes OHV area.



Friday night we set up camp lakeside and got settled in. Naturally, as soon as tents and kitchen were up the fishing supplies came out and relaxation time began. Toasts to Njord were popular this weekend as we were all very much hoping to catch some fish.



Saturday we were joined by the Maurer family, and we were all back on the water.

Everyone had a lovely time kayaking, swimming, fishing, and exploring the lake. Asa, lucky as he was, caught the only fish that day. I am glad we didn't rely on catching fish for everyone's supper, or we'd leave with empty stomachs!

Once everyone decided they'd had too much sun and they rehydrate and had lunch we went on a walk to the meadows at the other end of the lake. I enjoyed being able to teach both the kids and adults about the plants on display.



The following weekend Hagvirkr Kindred had a BBQ to discuss our Folkish Family Camp Out. It's looking like this event will be Labor Day weekend. Once we have the details nailed down, I will send out invites to Folks in the region.



Folkbuilder Krystal Bailey
kbailey@runestone.org

Freyja's Place, Freyja's Time



In 2015, one of the first things that established dedication to our Gods was the placing of three god-poles, carved by Gothi Thorgrun Odden twenty-five years ago. East, south, and west, those stately columns face in, toward our ritual space. We were gifted with a new god pole, made by Chris Matthews, about two years ago when we purchased the adjoining property. It was placed at the back of our property near the camping area. There it remained, relatively unused -- our goddess-pole to Freya.

Early in the spring, I walked that land with a lady from the county assessor's office who wanted to see if the new parcel met the requirements for our non-profit tax exemption. That patch of earth was quite forlorn, and since it is out of sight of our general activity each month, it needed extra attention.

On one work weekend, the base of the Freya pole was ringed with blocks and filled with good earth. Krystal and Milena did some special plantings over time including springtime bulbs. The squirrels had a feast!

Then came Midsummer and Sigrblot. Seven black torch holders were placed to visually designate this Ve as sacred space.



Our Sommarfest, featuring Sigrblot for Victory was held in mid-July. It was about time to duly honor and bless this goddess-pole, acknowledging this as Freya's home. If you take a critical look at our Freya, she doesn't have the curvature that one would expect. However, I provided some historical background that would make this seem natural. Early Germanic tribes used similar god-poles, simple and plain. They believed the power of that deity didn't require anthropomorphic details. It wasn't until the influence of the Romans that our Gods and Goddesses took on the physical features that we tend to expect today.

Honoring Freya at Sigrblot seemed the best choice, for which goddess has a greater link to Victory? As part of our offering, each person wrote down a victorious achievement they'd like to see one year from now. Those small slips of paper were buried in a time capsule at the base of the Freya pole. This first time using the Freya circle, we placed our own energy there, knowing we'll be back throughout the years to connect with our goddess. Freya will know us well.

As we descend into the cooler months, we'll do further development of this special site dedicated to the Lady of the Vanir. If you'd like to contribute to this endeavor, reach out to Krystal Podbreger or Sheila McNallen.



Gythia Sheila McNallen

sheila@runestone.org

Colorado

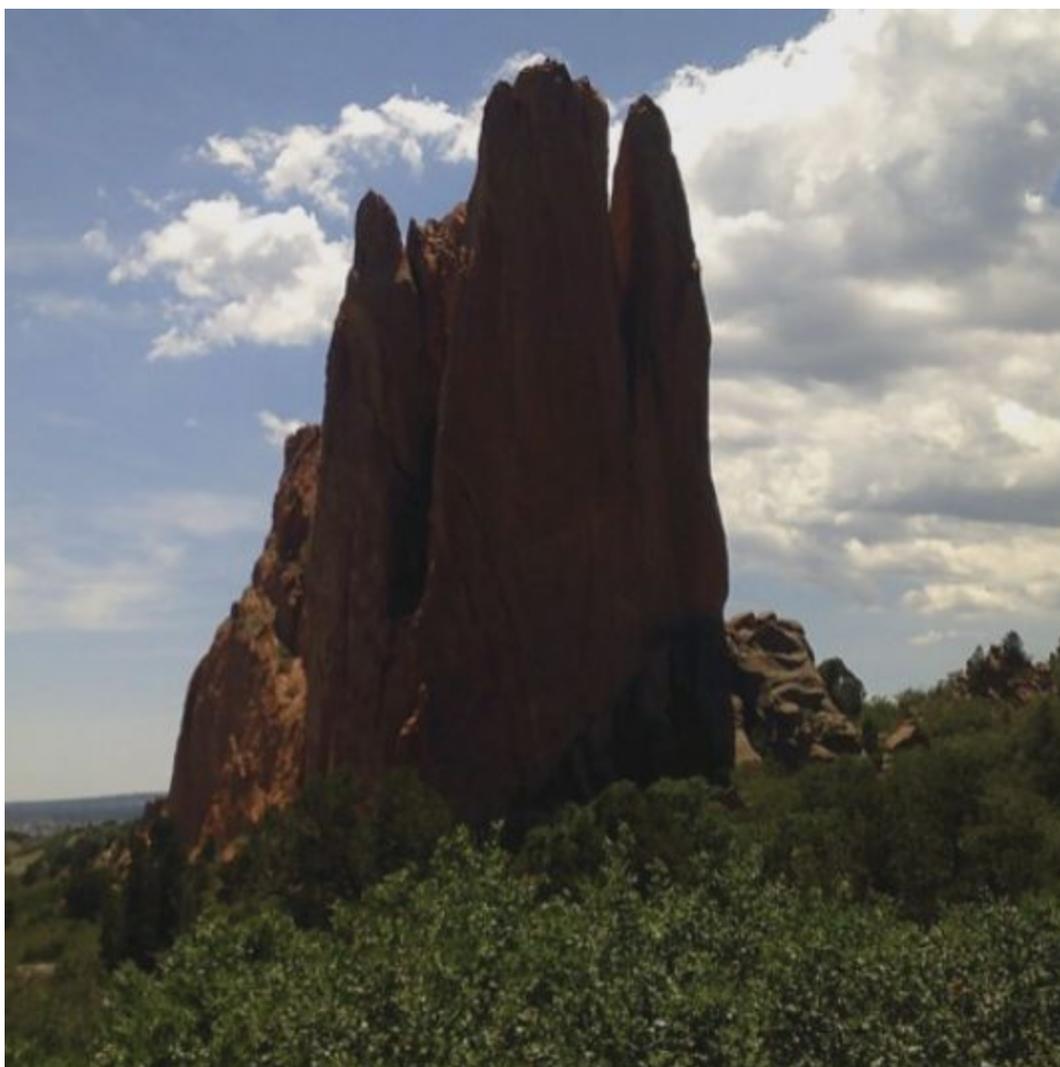
Garden of the Gods Moot



Greetings from Southern Colorado. This month I was granted the wonderful opportunity to serve as an Apprentice Folkbuilder. I selected Garden of the Gods as the location to host a moot. I figured with a name like that how could you go wrong? I have to say I do not regret my decision.

This location has a lot of history including how it got its name. In 1859 there were two gentleman surveyors from Europe who explored this location. One was named M.S.

stated “Oh, surely you must be joking. This is a fit place for the Gods to assemble.” I could not agree more with Mr. Cable.



The Garden of the Gods is a beautiful natural landmark at the foot of Pikes Peak on the west side of Colorado Springs. It is known for its massive red rocks sticking straight out of the ground, tourists come from all over the world to wander the trails. Also, if you are lucky, you just might witness various wildlife to include big horn sheep. The park is free, and you can drive through it in 20 minutes, but hiking is where it's at. There are multiple trails to choose from ranging from ½ mile to 3-mile round trip.



The hike started at the visitor center at 0930. The visitor centers had free maps, but they were not really needed as the trails are marked well and it is easy to find your way through the park. Parking was easy to find at the visitor center and this was a convenient entry to the park. The park had lots of tourists from around the world. However, I was able to quickly distance myself from the crowds by seeking out the farthest most difficult trails. There were plenty of high secluded spots to sit and reflect on ancestors and the Gods. It is easy to get lost in the beauty of this location and before I knew it, I hiked for 3 hours. There is something magical about this place and I will return. Hopefully with more folk.



Andrew Stutts
Apprentice Folkbuilder
astutts@runestone.org

Idaho

Timber Days Festival



This month the Northern Bastion Kindred met in Priest River for the annual Timber Days festival which celebrates the lumber-themed heritage of the town. Games included ax-throwing, log-riding, and various lumberjack games. We also enjoyed a huckleberry pancake breakfast and a wonderful parade. The July heat was intense, but our bonds of kin were stronger! Hail Sunna and hail the Folk!



Derek Wright
Apprentice Folkbuilder
dwright@runestone.org

Montana

Blot to Woden



After coming home from our Midsummer sojourn to Odinshof, life has gotten busy. Fire season is here, and with it, my schedule has changed. Long days, extended shifts, working weekends, and mandatory overtime have left me little free time. In the spare time, I do have, calls are being made to our Montana members, plans for moots are still being made, as well as pursuing our own local kindred.



On Wednesday, July 27th, the Harlan family took a short trip to the top of Mount Belmont, which casts its shadow over the sleepy little town in which we live. A Blot to Woden was held, and our girls helped out in blessing the Mead and pouring out the libation to the Allfather, and giving thanks to the Landvættir. Our girls have only ever known Asatru as a faith, and the AFA as their church, and it's starting to show, as evidenced by their willingness to help, and curiosity as to why we give Blot.



A walk around the summit provided us with some grand views of the land we now call home, beautiful wildflowers, some cooler temperatures, and a few family photos.



Folkbuilder Ryan Harlan
rharlan@runestone.org

Nevada

Tropical Schnitzel



In July we had a triumphant return of Tropical Schnitzel, but few came to partake of the magnificence. This month we are excited to have one of our Southern Nevada members scheduled to join us for dinner as well as our regulars.

As always, please let me know if anyone needs carpooling assistance to get over to Óðinshof for events!

Upcoming Events

Alsherjar- gothic

DINNER

Bacon Goat Cheese
Pasta

Pear Martinis

August 6, 2022

Bring Stuff!

Reno, NV



Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org

Oregon

Introduction



I have found and been with the Old Gods since 2010. I have attended many gatherings across the States, and even hosted several of my own. Yet nothing compared to the experience I had at Odinhof.

I was welcomed with open arms and instantly accepted as one of the family, this was an unexpected surprise, I'm so used to reliving the first day of school. You know the scenario- the one where you have to steadily creep up to someone and introduce yourself, hoping you fit the bill. Not a lick of judgment here! Odinhof was a home away from home...

The building and grounds were spectacular! The time and dedication put in by fellow Folk members showed, man the artwork. There was a flame within my soul that kept getting hotter and brighter as the day proceeded and when I approached the Sacred Circle, I became fully enlightened. The power, the magic during Blot was just

I have met a lot of people over the years who want to experience more than a solo ritual in the woods and when that time comes when they can finally experience something more. Our brothers and sisters become nervous and hesitant, they begin questioning who or what they are going to find, and this is what deters them from showing. It's up to us to give them reassurance, be the hand that reaches out. Once they see, hear, and feel this for the first time, there is no going back.

I thank our Clergy and our Folk for making this a reality. To those who have not had an opportunity to witness something in a group setting, I urge you to get out, break away from the same old mundane repetitions, and feel the power of multiple hearts beating for one purpose!



Steven Mundy
Apprentice Folkbuilder
smundy@runestone.org

Washington

Silver Falls



NordVestri started off the month with a hike in Oregon at Silver Falls. With a blot to Baldur. It was a lovely hike to 1 of the 8 waterfalls.



The BBQ after was great, full of wonderful conversations and good food. We ended the day with offerings to the landvaetter.

Kindred Camp Trip



Halfway through the month, we had a Kindred Camp trip. It was one of the hottest days

Tyr, with a sumbel, and everyone did a Rune pull. The kids ran around the woods, worked on fire making, and built shelters. Everything went well until goats attempted to eat our tents. Thankfully our tents survived. Looking forward to the next camp trip.

Iron Club

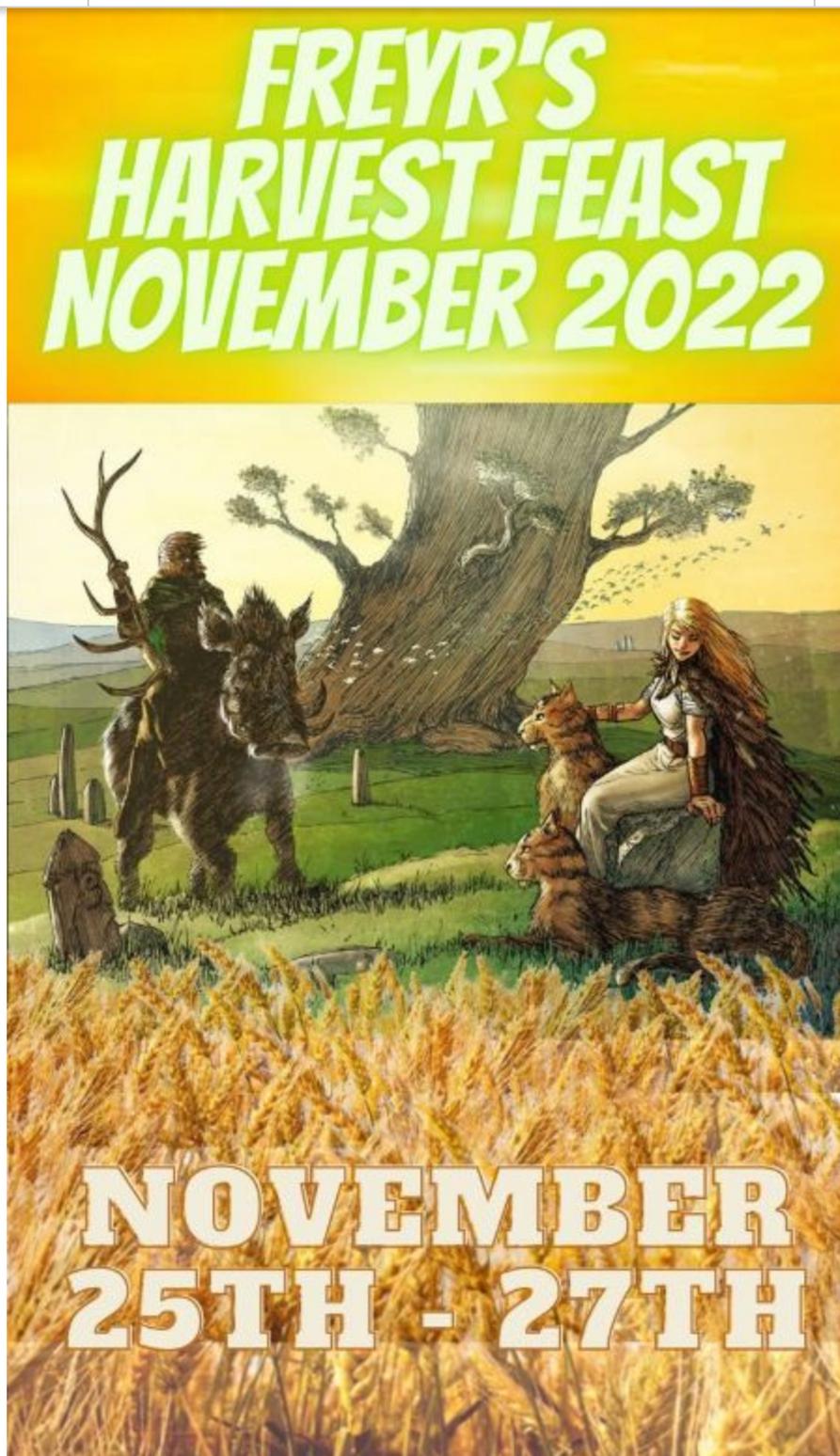


Iron Club continued as usual Tuesday and Thursday. We continue to grow, and push ourselves physically, mentally, and spiritually. If you are ever in the area come and join us for a great workout, good food, and Frith.

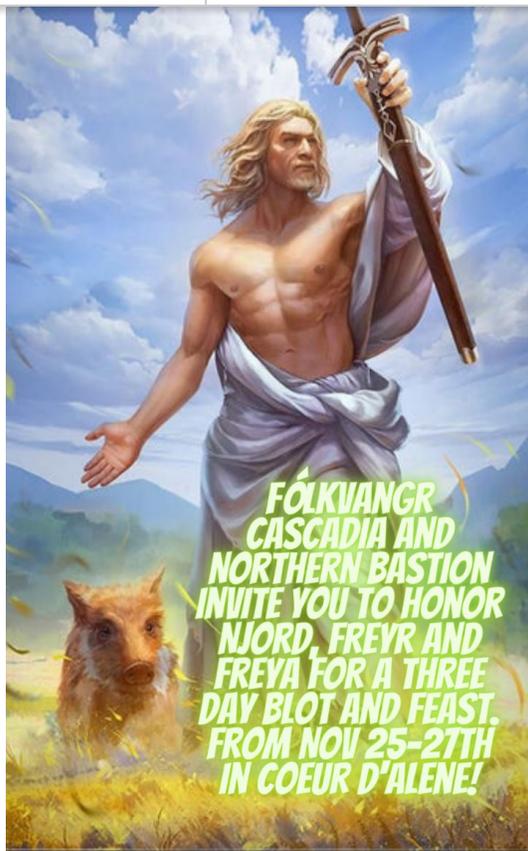
Upcoming Events



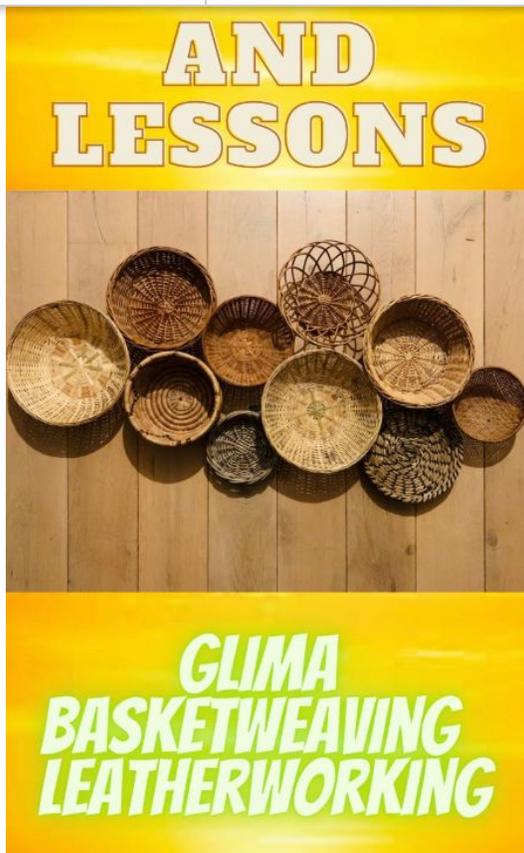
Rachel Johnson
Apprentice Folkbuilder
rjohnson@runestone.org



This has been a month of preparation as we get ready for the harvest, the Kindred relocation, and the annual Freyrs Harvest Feast. There is much to be said about all three, but I will try and make each of these succinct.



Our Harvest was planted and maintained by three people and has provided food for fifteen despite a complete crop loss of potatoes. Even with such a staple crop failing, our efforts have proven that we can keep our Kindred fed as we move towards the goal of total self-sufficiency.



This leads us to our next point of victory. We have secured the loan for the new farm. It's 20 acres on a river with plenty of room to expand into. Our entire Kindred will be making the move together which is an exciting display of the dedication our members have. We hope to pick up the neighboring pieces soon and grow our Kindred and the small community we wish to carve out of the river basin.

VIKING GAMES TOURNAMENT

TRIAL

Storming the Shore
 Sharpshooter's Gate
 Axe Throw
 The Bell of Victory

MAX SCORE

3 points
 3 points
 3 points
 Time Factor

Do you have what it takes to earn the rank of Thegn?

All men are invited to sign up to the lists to compete against all males fifteen and up to determine who amongst them is the most skilled. The winner of the Tournament will receive a prize forged by our own smiths



Those who win will be invited to Thegnar's Hall the subsequent year to dine with all previous champions before the launching of Freyrs Harvest Feast

Lastly and I believe most importantly we have been working hard to prepare for this year's Freyrs Harvest Feast. It is a three-day event in late November consisting of three blots, a blacksmithing demonstration, a telling of Freyr's proposal, crafts and workshops, Viking games with a prize, and more! Join us on the 25th through the 27th of November for an event you won't want to miss as we celebrate the gods and goddesses together out in Couer D'Alene



theinlein@runestone.org



Copyright © *2022* Asatru Folk Assembly, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Grow your business with  mailchimp