

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly





Þórshof

Second Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

www.thorshof.com

-  Runestone.org
-  Email the Witan
-  [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/Runestone.org)
-  [VK](https://vk.com/Runestone.org)

-  [Parler](https://parler.com/Runestone.org)
-  [Odysee](https://odysee.com/@Runestone.org)
-  [Bitchute](https://bitchute.com/Runestone.org)
-  [Rumble](https://rumble.com/Runestone.org)



[Donate to the AFA](#)

Words from the Alsherjargothi



In October we celebrated Winter Nights at Sigheim for the very first time. What an amazing event it was! This was the biggest event yet at Sigheim and it felt amazing to have so many of our Folk there together in the Home of Victory!

It is very hard to explain to those that weren't there, but this was one of the most powerful gatherings the AFA has ever hosted. I have spoken many times of that moment when this faith becomes "real" to someone. The greatest thing as a Gothi is to see this moment happen in the eyes of one of the Folk better yet to feel like you were a part of facilitating such a moment. There were many of these moments from at Winter Nights.

There will be much more written about the event, but I have to share something really special that I got to do this year. As many of you know, there is a very old cemetery at

Sigrheim with graves from as far back as the 1850s. You may also remember that I interred my mother's remains in this cemetery in July. We all invite our Dísir to be with us in the Dísir blot, our Dísir are always with us... but this year I was able to stand with one of my Dísir in very different and very special way. We made our circle in such a way that to incorporate my mom's grave in the circle with us and I was able to stand in Blot by her side. I can't do it justice and I can't share the feeling, but I do want to share that it was extremely special for me, and my soul is better for it.

Lots of us had "the magic" happen at Winter Nights this year.

Hail the Ericksons!

Hail the Dísir!

Hail Týr!



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

Words from the Witan

Picking up the Torch



We have been blessed with a divine spark. It was handed down from Heimdall to our ancestors and from them to us. It is your sacred birthrite. It is also our duty to kindle that spark into a flame that burns ever bright upon the altar of your heart. Let that flame burn as a beacon to those who are lost. May it be a beacon of beauty, of strength, of piety, and let it burn away all weakness and fear.

That torch is passed from your fathers to their sons to guide the Folk toward Victory. Our path is illuminated by our forebears, but it is our sacred duty to carry our torches past the safety and comfort of that path. To push into the dark and wilderness, to plant torches and clear obstacles for those who follow in our path. Our lives will be viewed through a mythic lens in the generations to come. The pioneers of Modern Asatru, and we must live up to that mythic status. Will you bear that torch? Will you prepare the next generations to do the same?

We are the Alfar of the future, our Alfar guide and protect the Disir beyond the veil. It is a sacred rite that begins in this life and carries on into the next. Will you be ready?

The flames of candles and scared needfires all go out eventually, but this sacred flame that burns in our heart must never extinguish. Others who carry the flame will recognize it in you, and those who are lost may follow the light that burns inside us all. We are recognized by our deeds and those deeds are what makes us Asatru.

Words are wind, deeds are iron.



Witan Daniel Young
dyoung@runestone.org

Words from our Gothar

Drawing Inward for the Winter Holy Tides



This morning, I woke up to a brisk temperature of 40 Fahrenheit- quite a marked change from the 90 degrees of two weeks ago! As I breathed in the cold air, I reflected on my ancestors. How did those noble Saxons feel when they felt the first cold morning of their winter? Did they welcome it, or did they feel a sense of dread?

Whatever the case may have been for our forebears, we know that the winter months are the time to look inwards: to our own hearth, to our ancestors on the other side of that thinning veil, to our own strengths and weaknesses.



My people at Njörðshof are familiar with this, as I have proverbially beaten them over the head with it for over a year now, but to borrow some imagery from John Steinbeck, any “long discontent” should be treated the same as these winter months.

If you are in pain, or mourning a loss, or simply feeling lower than usual due to the change in weather, please do not wander out into the cold. Look inwards, to your AFA family, and come sit by the flame of the Folk. We are here for you, and we will suffer through any winter right by your side. Keep attending events, keep our Gods and Heroes in mind, and reach out to your Gothar if you need us. We are here to serve you, and we will do so no matter what.



Gothi Trent East
teast@runestone.org

Mothers All!



Halloween is one night, but Winter Nights is -- always. That sense of high expectation as a child has now flowed from Halloween into Winter Nights. With the rich colors of autumn with its sights and smells, it's easier to dip into our ancestral past and imagine the lives of our forebears. Our Gythias play a special role in this as they lead us in blot to our Mothers at Winter Nights. We enter the circle where we stand shoulder to shoulder. And yet the goal of the Disablot is the thread that connects us to the other side. With eyes closed, we call the name of one of our Mothers. We sense the veil just beyond us and feel it quiver to our words.

Mothers All! We sing to you. We sing to your sons. We kuln among the women, calling to our Folk. We honor all the Holy Powers and give our gifts. Then it is our turn to receive our gifts from you.

Excitement grew, like the anticipation of a child at Yule. At Óðinshof, each murmured-message to a Mother was answered with a rune drawn from a box... Something to guide, to comfort, to teach -- all given by the Mothers with a touch of love. My own rune, taken last in the darkness, was Ingwaz.

Ingwaz? Such a small and simple rune. And yet, I came home with a sense of fulfillment and energy I haven't experienced in a long while.



Ingwaz? Since then, it has been like an egg cracked open. New ideas and creativity are helping me fulfill my obligations as a Gythia to the Aesir and my role in Asatru Academy and our Oðinshof District. I will make the most of this gift which arrived at a time of need.

The veil is thin, for sure, but our Ancestors are forever. We grow closer to them every day. Did you take or seek a rune at Winter Nights that has led you in the right direction? What will be your next step?



Gythia Sheila McNallen

sheila@runestone.org

We Remember You



Alan Wittenberg
Y 7/2/1949 - 10/28/2023 h

Alan Wittenberg was a long-time member of the Asatru Folk Assembly and a good friend. He was born in Missoula, Montana on July 2nd in the year 1949.

His father was a stone mason and scholar, preserving a tradition of his family that went back to Scandinavia. His mother lovingly cared for the hearth and raised him to be a kind and caring man.



For a time, Alan worked with his father and his Uncle Stanley Hendrickson, learning the family trade. His work, and that of his family's, can be seen throughout Missoula.

Alan was part of two rock bands during his life. He played with Intripid and the Klassics.

He was a green thumb, and had a very healthy garden where he grew vegetables and flowers alike.

But Alan's true calling was the family occupation of scholar. Alan was witty and a brilliant writer. His sense of humor and the joy he found in this world filled volumes of his work as he studied the mysteries of the Runes.



Alan can be best described as a seeker. His thirst for knowledge set him on the Odinic path decades ago and his work primarily focused on runic knowledge and mysteries.

His work is being cataloged and preserved by the Odinic Order of the Ulfhednar, of which he was involved with as the Hall's Patron Hero. Now in his passing, the Hall remembers him and honors him by preserving his legacy.



More important than his involvement with the Hall, he was a long time AFA member and once told me that his favorite part of the month was getting *The Runestone*. Alan was far too remote to be able to make it to the hofs but his constant support dated back to the Asatru Free Assembly days. In later years, thanks to technological improvements, he became much more involved. I will never forget that we held his first group Blot together or the joy he professed during his first Sumbel.

Alan received last rites in the form of the final Wayfarer's Blot surrounded by his loving family and afa members. Alan was perfectly lucid for the blot where he was honored by those who loved him and where he was presented with beautiful grave goods.

Alan passed with a smile on his face listening to Hemkomst ready to meet his ancestors.



Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein
theinlein@runestone.org

Thank you for Folk Services



I want to thank everyone for their help. I know it's a rough time for everyone and a lot of people are in the same boat as my family. This year has been a struggle for my family. From not getting paid for a month by an unscrupulous employer to taking a pay

cut and having to resign from my second job to start my Union Apprenticeship, we ended up getting behind on bills. With your help we were able to keep our electricity on. As winter approaches, I am so thankful to have the Folk give my family a helping hand when we needed it the most. Knowing we'll have heat this winter is a huge relief for our growing family. And we have all of you to thank for that.

Hail the Gods

Hail the Folk

Hail the AFA

— Asatru Folk Assembly & Keystone Tru Folk member David Green

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.
 - The first of 2 loans have been paid off!
 - We now owe \$102,699.60 on our remaining loan.
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 6.2%.
 - This is membership dues/Hoftollar plus other donations.
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.

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

Hail Freyr!



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

Sigrheim: Home of Victory

Preparing for Winter Nights



This month, members from three states converged on Sigrheim to help ready the land for our second national event on the property this year. There was a lot of work to be done, but we were willing and eager to pitch in and do our part. Most of the work consisted of cutting up the many fallen trees in order to clear the path to the top of the mountain, and to fell a dead tree and clear the cemetery.



We worked pretty efficiently, with a team cutting and hauling, more Folk stacking wood and clearing debris, all while Folkbuilder Nick Rice steadily cut the seemingly never-ending grass on the lower fields.



As the light faded, we finished marking what graves we could find with orange engineering flags and made plans to head into Gainesboro for dinner before we all headed home. We settled on the Pie Peddler and were not disappointed by either the food or the entertaining locals. Every time we head to Sigrheim, it's like going home.



I think anyone who has visited Sigrheim multiple times will take note of how much the property improves with each visit. We were just down there earlier in the month for a workday, and the property was already more cleared and improved by the time Winter Nights rolled around, thanks to the hard work of the Ericksons and other dedicated Folk. It may seem like a literal mountain of work, and it is, but with more of us pitching in, we'll see those improvements stack on top of each other as we continue to make Sigrheim ours and shape the Home of Victory in a fashion that will make lord Tyr proud of us.



Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea

tbethea@runestone.org

Helping to Build Sigrheim



Help Sigrheim get stocked
and ready for our Folk!

Donate Supplies
from our
wishlist ✨
amazon

Thank You!

click here

Upcoming Events





Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Victory Never Sleeps

The Asatru Folk Assembly Presents

Victory Never Sleeps!

Wednesdays at 6PM Pacific / 8PM Central

vk.com/AsatruFolkAssembly

entropystream.live/app/MattFlavel

youtube.com/@AsatruFolkAssembly

odysee.com//@AsatruFolkAssembly:e

rumble.com/AsatruFolkAssembly

twitter.com/FolkAsatru



Here's the Latest Episode



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

AFA Asatru Academy



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

Greetings Parents and Students!



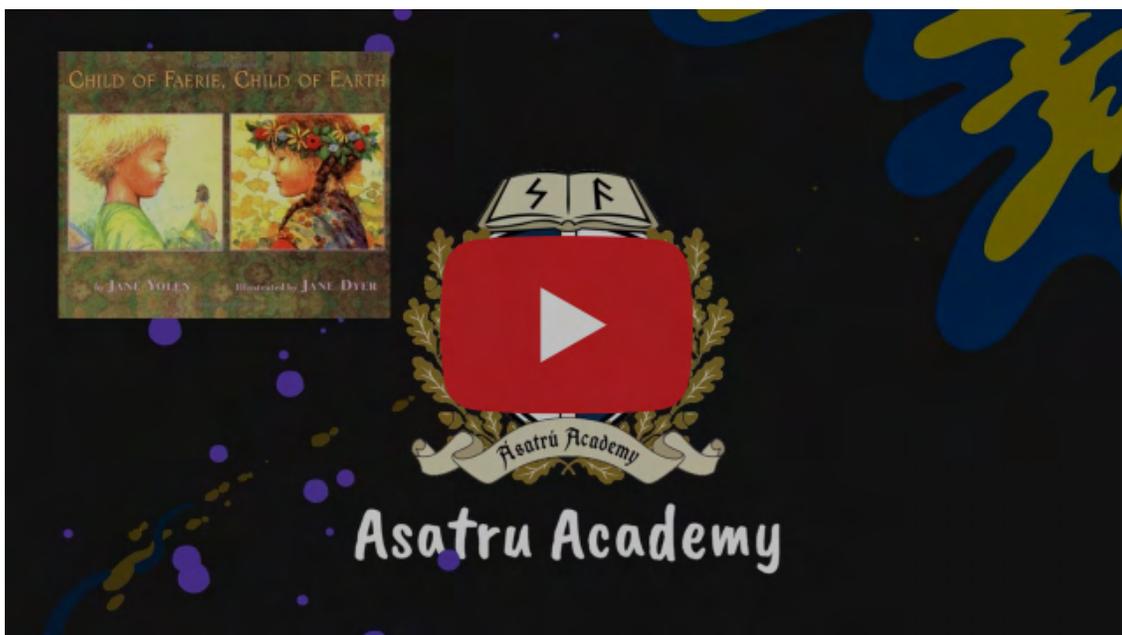
Hard to believe that we are nearing Yule, and halfway through our school year. We are all very proud of you and the entire Assembly cheers you on!



Parents, every Friday we have a parents, students, and teachers meeting. Check the parent's group in MeWe, or your email for the link to these meetings. I can't begin to tell you how helpful these meetings are. We have a live story telling for the kids, and also, we have Gythia Mcnallen often on the calls who is a very experienced teacher and can offer some tips and tricks to help you on your educational journey.



Our fantastic staff is always here to help and guide in any way we can! The meetings also help our parents to get to know each other, share our triumphs, and our troubles, and support each other. Experienced homeschoolers are there to offer good advice to those who are brand new to homeschooling. And we also have a lot of fun! We really hope to see you all on the calls on Fridays!

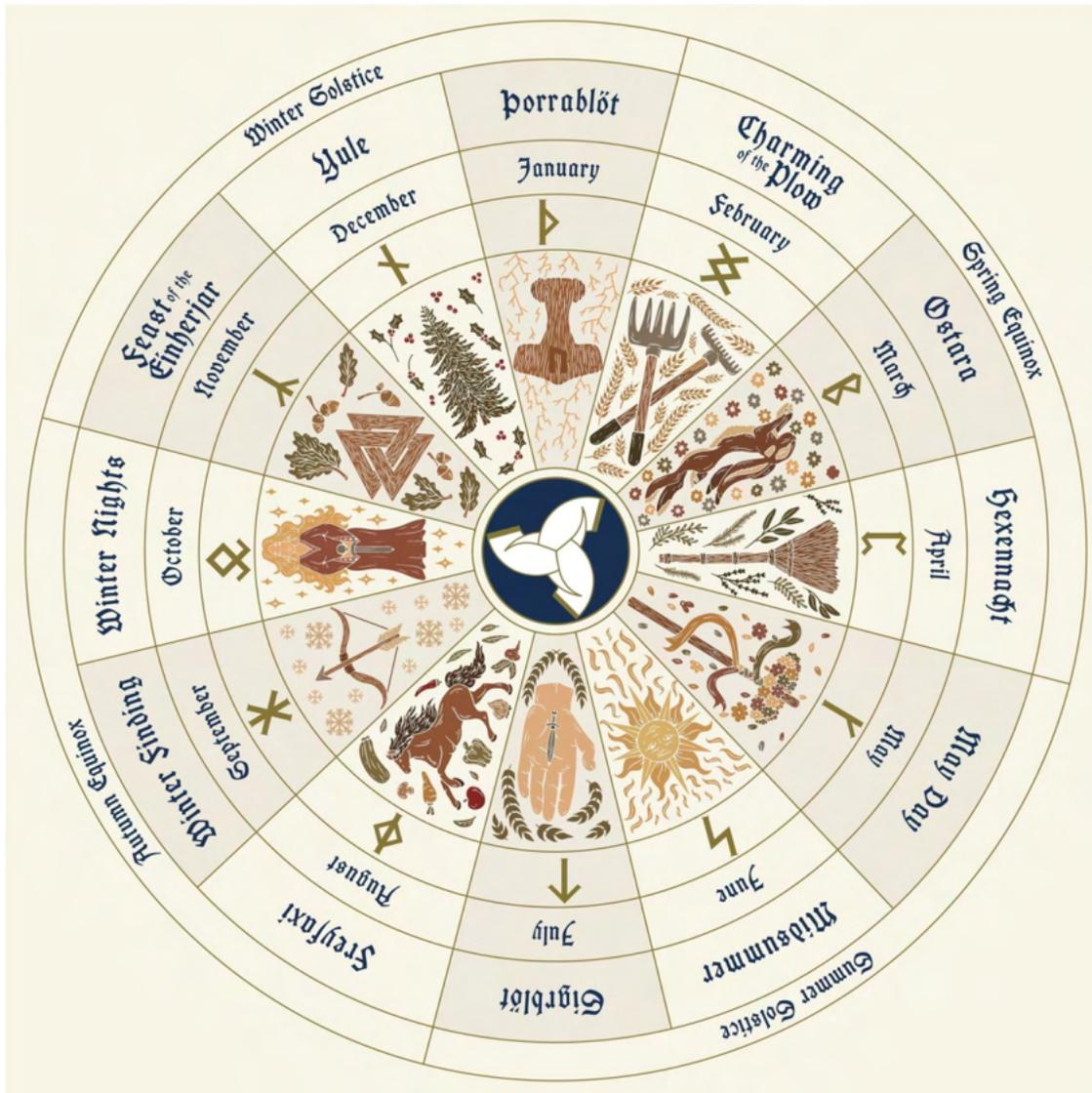


A lot of the story tellings are being put up on the AFA YT, along with many other story-time videos, so make sure to check those out! We're having so much fun helping to put out solid content for our kids!



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

Remembrance & Holy Days



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

2023

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 21	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 18	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 21 (observed on 18th)	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 10	Day of Remembrance for John Yeowell “Stubba”
April 28 (observed on 15th)	Hexennacht
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
May 1 (observed on 20th)	May Day
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths
June 21 (observed on 17th)	Midsummer
July 4	Day of Remembrance for Sveinbjorn Beinteinsson
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills
July 15	Sigrblót
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 19	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci
September 22 (observed on 16th)	Winter Finding
October 1	Day of Remembrance for John Gibbs-Bailey “Hoskuld”
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List
October 15	Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen
October 21	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden
November 11 (observed on 18th)	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson
December 20	Mother's Night

Date	Observance
December 20-31 (observed on 16th)	Yuletide

Day of Remembrance

Queen Sigríð of Sweden | November 9



Though little information of Sigríð, Queen of Sweden, exists in a historical text, the stories abound. Born a Swedish noblewoman Sigríð married Erik the Victorious and together they had one son. She became the Regent after the king's death, and it wasn't long before her vast wealth drew out all of the suitors, one of whom was her own foster brother.

Tired of the constant suitors, and very aware of poor manners, it is said that Sigríð invited her foster brother and another suitor to a feast only to light the building on fire and lock them inside. This didn't scare away the Christian Tyrant, Olaf Tryggvason. She might have entertained his proposal, but when he demanded that she convert to Christianity to wed him, Sigríð immediately turned him away. This enraged Tryggvason so much that he first insulted her age and beauty, and then slapped her. The story says she then told him that his behavior very well might lead to his death.

It was not long before Sigrid united Sweden with Denmark by marrying King Sweyn Forkbeard. Already feuding with Olaf, it didn't take much for Sigrid to convince her new husband to go to war. This led to one of the largest ancient maritime battles, the Battle of Swold, in which Olaf Tryggvason was killed.

What can we learn from this story?

While we can't run around burning to death the people that annoy us, we can take a stand for ourselves and our Folk. We have the right to defend ourselves and our dignity from those who would try to diminish us. And when we all work together as a cohesive group so much can be done to defend and raise our Folk up.

It is never in our best interest to play it nice just for the sake of being polite. Honesty and hard truths are rarely looked at with fondness, but they are so important. Be honest, be truthful, defend and build your dignity. We are our deeds.



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Holiday

Feast of the Einherjar | November 11 (Observed November 18)



One of the most recognizable motifs in Asatru is that of the Viking warrior. Helm, sword, beard, and blood: boys and girls have long been mesmerized by the stories of Valkyries and the eternal feasting and fighting of the Einherjar in Odin's Hall, Valhalla. Pop culture has taken the Berserker and the Valkyrie and remade them hundreds of times.

Our ancestors lived in a different time, when fighting wars and general "viking" was necessary for survival. For a warrior, to die in battle was the greatest honor. Today, war is not necessary in the same way. Most people scoff at war, urge their children to "do better" or "be better". For those of us who practice Asatru, however, we recognize the importance and the value of the warrior. More important still, is the importance and the value of those who have fallen, the Einherjar.

Once a year we set aside a day specifically to honor the Einherjar. We raise a horn to the fallen warriors to thank them for fighting for our people and our freedom. One way to celebrate is to set a place at the table for the Einherjar. Serve them the same food you are eating for dinner. Pour them a glass of wine or beer. When you are done, leave the plate outside under a special tree in offering. Another way to celebrate would be to visit the graves of veterans at a local cemetery and help to clean them up. Leave some decorations or a small flag.

You don't have to have any veterans in your immediate family. It is a guarantee that somewhere down your ancestral lines you have family who fought in war, and most as

likely, that some of them didn't return from the front lines. It is in your blood. So, raise that horn, and raise it high. Remember our fallen.

Hail the Einherjar!



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Winter Nights XII at Sigrheim

Winter Nights XII



Hail to you, Folk!

On the last weekend of October our Folk gathered from near and far at Sigrheim to celebrate the 12th annual AFA Winter Nights. From as far California and as near as Jackson County, Tennessee we came together.



On Friday afternoon, we began with a Procession of the Nine Noble Virtues led by Witan Erickson, who boasted the virtues of the Folk as they announced themselves loudly and upward to greet our Gods, Ancestors, and the Landvaettir. Later that evening, Alsherjargothi Flavel lead the Folk up to the top of Sigrheim where he made Blot to Tyr and hailed our Tenth Virtue, Victory! Gythia Catie and many helpers prepared a hearty vegetable and chicken soup for supper.



On Saturday, we had eggs and sausage for breakfast followed by children's crafts, ladies' discussion with Witan Brandy, osteomancy with Gythia Catie, and a Halloween costume parade of the children. After a Q&A with our Gothar, the Folk helped the Asatru Folk Assembly raise \$4600 in our benefit auction and raffle.



Supper on Saturday was a delicious beef stroganoff over buttered egg noodles, with squash soup and salad on the side. During supper, Katie Joyner took her Oath as an AFA Folkbuilder! We then headed up to the Sigrheim cemetery for Alfar Blot and Disir Blots from Witan Young and Gythia Catie. Our ancestors were called, and the present Folk felt their presence, and as Witan Young told me after some of us “left something up on that hill”. Sumbel was heartfelt and powerful, but you must have been there to know the words poured into the Well.



On Sunday morning after sausage and cheese grits prepared Folkbuilder Joyner, Witan Brandy led the Folk in a Wayfarer's Blot to Frigga reminding us to bring home the energy we built on this holy weekend.



I can't name everyone who made this event so successful, but special thanks to all our Gothar and Folkbuilders who ran this event, to all the auction donors and bidders, to Sarah Dye for donating the coffee and summer squash used all weekend, and to Gilbert Page for donating so many beautiful wood carvings. Thank you most of all to Nick Rice, the Youngs, the Betheas, and to my wife for the many days spent at Sigrheim making it ready.



Hail the Gods!
Hail the Ancestors!
Hail the Folk!



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

A Winter Nights Reflection



This past weekend we celebrated the 12 Annual Winter Nights at Sigheim, and what a great weekend it was. As wonderful a weekend as it was, however, doubt plagued us for months before the event.

Facility cancellations, lack of any utilities like running water and electricity, overgrown fields, and fallen tree's blocking the path to Tyr's Ridge- we knew we were going to have a lot to contend with this year.



There are a few Folk who turned out for hours, days, weekends, to make sure that Sigrheim would be ready for all of us to take over. Nick Rice, Tyler Bethea, Kevin Flynn, The Young Family, and Riley Cox, all of you showed up to do the hard, but necessary work in the grueling summer sun and without you we could not have gotten it all done. Thank you so much! And a shout out to our Folkbuilders who worked their tails off during the event, too! It takes teamwork to make the dream work and we have a great team.



For myself, Winter Nights is one of the highlights of my year. It was the first big event I performed an AFA blot at, and I have been doing it ever since. My husband proposed to me during sumbel at a Winter Nights. We announced that we were having our daughter at a Winter Nights. We have watched our children grow alongside the other children of the AFA at Winter Nights.



For all that Winter Nights is my favorite, however, it is the one event I attend that I spend the very least amount of time socializing with our Folk at. This year, for example, I don't think I had a single conversation with anyone outside of car time while I helped drive people to and from Airbnb's. So much of my time is spent running around, no doubt appearing like a chicken with its head cut off.

Here's the thing, though. What I see while I'm rushing around the tent to clean up the tables before the "next thing"? Groups of people getting to know each other and building bonds. What I hear while I'm rushing up the hill to prepare the ritual space? The buzz of conversations filling the valley. When I'm in the kitchen getting the next meal ready? The laughter of our feral pack of children as they build lasting friendships with children they will know forever.



And in the few moments, here and there, when I let myself take a few moments break? Smiles. Everywhere. I saw our strong, noble Aryan men, women, and children building the Asatru community that we have all, at some point, longed for. A community that, though separated by miles and miles, still manages to feel perfectly natural whenever it gathers together.



To everyone who came to Winter Nights at Sigrheim, thank you for helping to build the future for our children!

I look forward to seeing all of you again next year, and Hopefully I'll have a chance to chat with all of you before then!



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Winter Nights at Sigrheim



Thank you to Thorshof District for your incredible show of hospitality at Winter Nights 2023 at Sigrheim! I am amazed at each and every event that I attend at the Frith, friendship, and devotion to Folk and Gods, but Sigrheim had an extra special impact.

For those who have not yet made their trek to Sigrheim, please do. There is something magical and powerful about stepping on to the land the first time.

The cemetery is both solemn and sacred, surrounded by beauty and serenity. Seeing the headstones and understanding the amount of love and work that had gone into clearing and fixing this special place is still moving to think about.



The hike to the top of the location of the future Hof is beautiful. While it does take effort, the experience itself as a lead up to a sacred ritual prepares you in a very powerful way.



The fields that will hold our future homes and halls hums with energy and the emotion of the Folk who have been so diligently maintaining it.

The mountains literally echo with the devotion of our Folk in ritual!



Sigrheim is an experience all Folk should have. Thank you to the Folk and to the leadership who are paving the way for Victory!!

Witan Brandy Callahan
bcallahan@runestone.org



Upcoming National Events

Feast of the Einherjar in South Dakota | November 9th-12th

FEAST OF THE EINHERJAR
 GET YOUR TICKETS AT RUNESTONE.ORG

SPECIAL GUESTS:
FOUNDERS ELDER STEPHEN AND GYTHIA SHEILA MCNALLEN

SOUTH DAKOTA
 Nov. 9-12

Contact Goði Nathan Erlandson or Folkbuilder Ashley McStocker for more info nerlandson@runestone.org
amcstocker@runestone.org

> [Get your tickets HERE!](#) <

Join your Folk in honoring our warrior ancestors and those that still fight for the folk today! Veterans Day weekend in South Dakota November 9-12.



Ticket includes all meals, lodging, Folk activities, and ceremonies. Tickets \$100 for individual, \$125 for family.

> [Get your tickets HERE!](#) <

Gothi Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@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...

That's when our folks Services Program comes in. We give one-time monetary grants to those members in need. These folks are so grateful and we know that once they get back on track they will contribute to this fund. For those that are able, we are in need of funds so we can be prepared for when these situations arise in our community. If you're able please place a donation today. Even a small donation adds up in the grand scheme of things and even \$5 or \$10 can help if enough people pitch in. If even a fraction of the folks who like the page did that each month, imagine the possibilities!

AFA Folk Services is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to AFA members in dire need of basic services. It is also to be a source for referrals and information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide. For more information, please email folkservices@runestone.org.

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

Thanks in advance!

Photo Donations

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



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

Eir's Blessings



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

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

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

our community who need our help!

You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

Last Will and Testament

Recently, several members of our AFA family have passed beyond the veil. One was an old man in ill health, two were young men in the prime of life... all died with no legal will on record. Sadly, in two of these cases, our dead AFA members did not have their wishes respected regarding their funerals nor the final resting places of their remains.



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

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

Please make your will **today**.

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

Allen Turnage
PO Box 16027
Tallahassee FL, 32317



Witan Allen Turnage
aturnage@runestone.org

The Artisans of the AFA Support Our Folk

GOTHIC RUNES



FRITZ MAES

GOTHIC RUNES

Energy Elements Ethnicity

Fritz Maes

2023

260 pages (revised edition)

The array of the Elder Futhark as uniquely understood by the Goths of Ancient Europa.

Historical & Spiritual + Powerful

Illustrated + Massive Bibliography

Formatted in legal-sized landscape-layout for large viewing & optimal printing

USD \$19: PDF e-book for sale now only at LuLu: downloads in minutes :
<https://www.lulu.com/shop/fritz-maes/gothic-runes/ebook/product-yv7vgyw.html>

"Gothic Runes is the Das Rheingold of runic books."

Cooking for our Folk



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

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

To this day, I still believe that number one is the most important; but two is the most valuable lesson. So, for example: why would you add flour to the mix when you are making Fried Potato balls? It doesn't add anything to the dish overall and in fact, it takes away flavor and disrupts texture. The reason is that what flour takes away: is moisture. It adds to the binder and liquid consumption.

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

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

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



Folkbuilder Mike Joyner
mjoyner@runestone.org

AFA Prison Ministry



The importance of this AFA Prison Ministry is so much more than just for those who are actually incarcerated, it benefits not only them as followers of Asatru but their families and loved ones on the outside as they will see the noticeable change in their demeanor and demand that our faith commands for them to lead a noble life. We all are future ancestors and will help them be examples of our faith and not be a burden or a product of recidivism.

We are compiling letters from prisoners that are Educational, Empowering, and Encouraging along with special spiritual writings from our Gothar to create a quarterly newsletter to be distributed to inmates, institutions, and jails. Our mission is not about providing free books or literature to bored prisoners who simply want free stuff. We intend on making real-world change for the better of our folk.

""No packed rooms in the prisons; in each institution I have only a few people; occasionally about a dozen, but 5-6 is more common. I certainly do not want the Fellowship to be a club for cons, or ex-cons; the advantage is that when in prison the inmates have time to discuss and digest what they read, a point that often is lost to people on the outside in the hubbub of daily concerns" - Else Christensen

By the example of our Folkmother, Else Christensen, we will also be going into prisons as we are able to. Some of our Gothar and other leadership, will be going into the prisons to hold study groups, lead blot, and encourage continued growth in the folk inside.

If you have a loved one who is incarcerated or know of someone who is Folkish and will benefit from this ministry, please contact us at prisonministry@runestone.org.



Or if you'd like to donate to this ministry, there's a donation earmark set up on our site [here](#). The donations will be used to get small ritual items and books into the prisons and the hands of our Folk inside.



James Ault
Prison Ministry Director
jault@runestone.org

Ancestral Food and Culture

Apfelkucken Recipe



An Autumn treat enjoyed with coffee breakfast, after supper for dessert, or even for a nice snack. Perfect for the leftover apple pickings. Enjoy this classic traditional German dish with your family and friends.

Apfelkucken

8 Granny Smith apples

4 thinly sliced

4 chopped

2 c granulated sugar
5 tbl granulated sugar
2 tsp ground cinnamon
3 c all purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp salt
1 1/2 baking soda
1 1/2 baking powder
6 eggs
1 c applesauce
2 tsp vanilla extract
1/3 c orange juice

Glaze:

1 1/2 c powdered sugar
2 tbl butter
1 tbl water

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter to round cake pans, dust with flour, tap out excess flour.

Peel, core, and slice apples then place in bowl. Mix sugar and cinnamon toss evenly.

In a large mixing bowl combine flour, 2 c sugar, salt, baking soda and powder. Add eggs, applesauce, vanilla extract, and orange juice.

Fill bottom of each pan with batter, then layer with apple slices and chopped apples, and add remaining batter on top.

Bake for 1 hour, prick with toothpick to ensure its fully baked.

Mix glaze ingredients until smooth. Drizzle over cakes. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream on top or coffee.

— Timmy, Member, Ohio

Baby Tracker



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

Total babies born in 2023: 26

Online Events and Meetings



Virtue recovery
meeting

Thursdays at 7pm CST;
5 pm PST; 6 pm MST;
8 pm EST

With Ashley Mcstocker
amcstocker@runestone.org

Saturdays at 9 am CST;
7 am PST; 8 am MST;
10 am EST

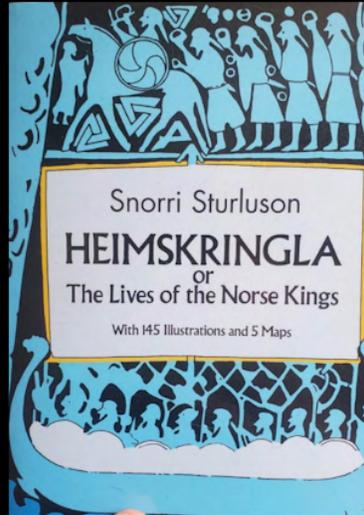
With Jaclynn Duffy
jduffy@runestone.org

VIA ZOOM

MEETING ID: 885 2917 0746

PASSWORD: Virtue

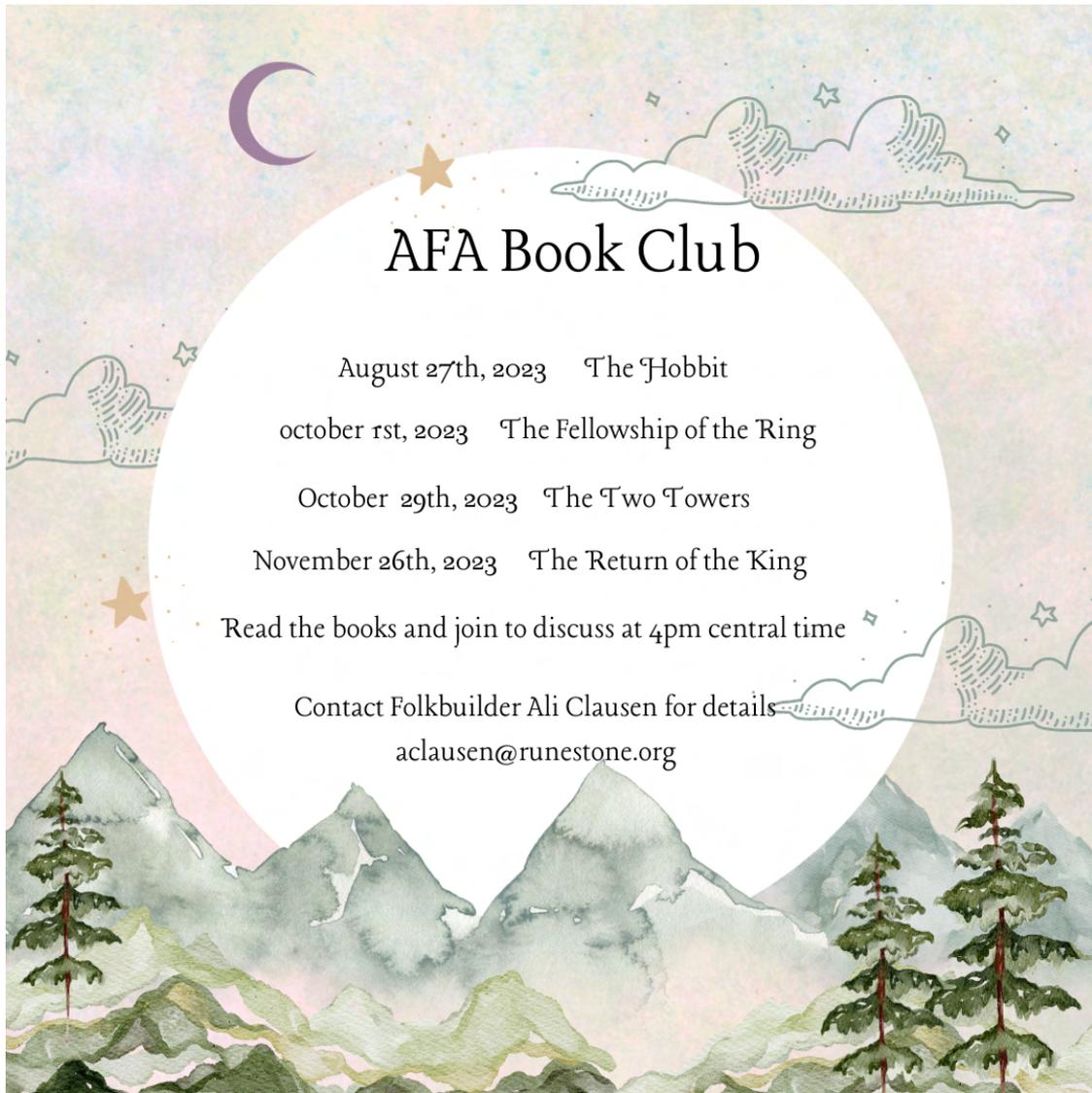
Lore Study with Gothi Jason Plourde



**Join us every Tuesday night
at 8:30 pm EST**

**The link can be found in the AFA
Spiritual Excellence Group on Mewe.**

**For more information
reach out to Gothi Plourde
jplourde@runestone.org**



AFA Book Club

August 27th, 2023 The Hobbit

October 1st, 2023 The Fellowship of the Ring

October 29th, 2023 The Two Towers

November 26th, 2023 The Return of the King

Read the books and join to discuss at 4pm central time

Contact Folkbuilder Ali Clausen for details

aclausen@runestone.org

Ladies Book Study

Thursday Nights at 7 pm CST

Link for Teams meeting will be posted in
the AFA Ladies group on MeWe

For more information contact:

Gythia Brandy Callahan

bcallahan@runestone.org

or

Folkbuilder Sara Ault

sault@runestone.org



Ladies Mysteries Podcast

Yule Traditions

Sunday, November 26th

at

2:30 pm CST

Witan Brandy Callahan

Gythia Anna Plourde

Gythia Catie Erickson

Folkbuilder Sara Ault

Folkbuilder Heather Young

Folkbuilder Ali Clausen

***Link will be emailed to all AFA
Ladies the week before and posted
in the AFA Ladies Group on Mewe***



Sisters' Fitness Challenge



*Introducing the all new
AFA Sisters
Fitness Challenge*

NOVEMBER '23

*\$5 to join
Prize money and keychain
for the champion!*

Contact Folkbuilder Ali
Clausen for details and to
join on MeWe, by email
aclausen@runestone.org,
or text 402-853-4246

Introducing the new and improved Sisters Fitness Challenge! We invite all our AFA ladies to join us on this monthly challenge to improve our health and strive for Physical Excellence. We ask you to set three realistic daily health goals for yourself and we'll help to support you to Victory throughout the month! This is not a weight loss challenge; this is a challenge to build new and healthier habits, to build the areas of our life that need improvement, and to get out and get active! The woman who hits her goals the most consistently throughout the month will be awarded the prize money, as well as a small prize declaring her the Sister's Fitness Champion for the month! \$5 to join, please contact me for details and to join the fitness challenge!

Folkbuilder Alison Clausen
aclausen@runestone.org



Just for Fun

Now Available in the AFA Store



Tis' the season for decorating, hosting, feasting, and staying cozy indoors. Show your Hof pride to all your guests with a flag! Spark conversation, maybe even interest, among those who find themselves in your Hall this Fall, and bring the Folk home to Asatru!



[Check out the selection and fly your flag high!](#)



Folkbuilder Ali Clausen
aclausen@runestone.org

Þórshof

Food Pantry at Þórshof



We held our food drive. Every month, we set up a table and offer assistance in the form of food to those in the surrounding area who are in need. The drive has steadily grown over time and provides a wonderful opportunity to assist and interact with the community.



Folkbuilder Robert Shotwell
rshotwell@runestone.org

Winter Nights at Þórshof



October 21st marked the Winter Nights celebration at Þórshof in Linden, NC. We gathered together with the Folk to give back to the community, celebrate the Disir, share a meal, enjoy each other's company, witness our annual "Battle of The Land Spirits," and spiritually prepare for the coming winter months.



We gathered in Rumpf Hall, a gathering place for our Folk to converse and enjoy each other's company. After spending time meeting with the newest members of the AFA and those visiting Þórshof for the first time, we processed into the Hof for Blót. Witan Herul led a powerful Blót to the Disir, and we all hailed a cherished ancestor and drank from the horn. At the conclusion of the Blót, we returned to the hall and enjoyed an incredible meal provided by some of our local members before heading outside for “The Battle Of The Land Spirits.”



The Battle of The Land Spirits is a tradition introduced to Þórshof by Witan Herul. The light and dark spirits engage in a battle to determine whether the winter will be mild or intense. Each spirit delivers two blows to the other's weapon before moving on to the next. The last spirit standing decides what the coming winter will hold. This year, Bear emerged as the victor, after Horse held out for an impressively long time. After the battle, everyone bid their farewells, and the event came to a close.



Winter Nights at Þórshof 2023 proved to be another great event, filled with fun and an incredibly powerful spiritual experience. If you've never attended an event at the Hof, please consider doing so. It offers a unique experience with the Folk and the Gods that you won't find anywhere else.



Folkbuilder Robert Shotwell
rshotwell@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Þórshof

2023 events at Þórshof

December 15-17
Yule

January 28
Thorrablot

February 18
Charming of the Plow

March 10-13
Ostara

April 29
Hexennacht

May 27
May Day

June 24
Midsummer

July 29
Sigrblot

August 26
Freyfaxi

September 30
Winter Finding

October 21
Winter Nights

November 25
Feast of the Einherjar

**Fujitsu Moot at
Þórshof**

November 11 @ 3pm
rshotwell@runestone.org

Þórshof Wishlist



Boasts and Toasts

Eoghan Erickson Yellow Belt Promotion



In October, Eoghan Erickson, son of Witan Clifford Erickson and Gythia Catie Erickson, was promoted to the rank of yellow belt at his local martial arts academy. Eoghan wants to one day earn the rank of black belt. Eoghan's parents, sister, and grandparents are very proud of him.



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Indiana

Odd Occasions of October



I would like to share with you a very odd thing that happened to me. I haven't yet made any sense of the situation, but I hope that by recording my thoughts here I will be able to sort and understand them later.

I awoke one morning in early October to find that my home looked inexplicably different.



I walked a couple of hundred feet through a mass of humans that I did not recall living on my lawn the night before. Thankfully, I was soon put at ease by the familiar sight of Hoosiers roasting copious amounts of corn.



I then walked past a group of political activists warning me to “Beware the Fate of Brittain.”

“Well, that’s reasonable advice” I thought to myself, and wandered along my way. I briefly considered correcting their spelling, but, so far as “movement” guys go, I found it was well above average; no need to be a snob.



Eventually I stumbled across a group of AFA members. It is no wonder that it took me so long to find them as my kinsman was wearing a very inconspicuous (albeit stylish) new hat.



I would have found it odd that all of these people were milling around if I had not then rounded a corner and ran into celebrated rune-rockers Heilung. I surmised that they must have been preparing to play a concert and that's what had brought everyone out.



I got their autographs (they were really down-to-earth for pseudo rock stars) and then watched the warm up bands (who in my opinion were both better than Heilung, but “there’s no accounting for taste” as they say).



Adrenaline flowing from the music, my kinsman and I succumbed to a streak of patriotic indiscretion and joined up with the earlier political movement “revolutionaries.” Despite their rhetoric, I thought their arguments to be a little... obtuse. While there are many potent issues presently plaguing our country all they seemed to want to do was malign the British. I couldn't understand why they seemed to be our primary concern (maybe they're major WEF players or something?) but I'm a team player.



I had to eat my words when, much to my amazement and chagrin, we were promptly attacked by the British military (no doubt angry about the flag from earlier). I like to think I'm a pretty well-informed guy, and this breakdown in Anglo-US relations caught me admittedly off-guard.



Ourselves and our AFA brethren were sentenced (in direct violation of the Geneva Accords) to forced labor, cutting logs with a rusty and primitive saw.



Released and sweating profusely from my labor, I staggered out into the throng where I accosted a nearby woman (as is my way). Normally, her agreement to have her picture taken with me would have made me highly suspicious, but when she adopted the standard grimace that most women make when enduring my company I soon regained a sense of ease and familiarity.



The last thing that I recall before passing out from the exertion were fleeting images of Ted Nugent’s “Great White Buffalo” which seemed to manifest itself before my swimming eyes.



When I awoke the next day my life returned largely to normal (though my bank account appeared to have taken a hit somewhere) and the month finished as the Octobers before it, by partying at a Winter Nights celebration (this year in Sigheim). I will not tell the story of Winter Nights in Sigheim as I'm sure there is a version or two contained elsewhere in this newsletter; Sigheim never disappoints and neither does Winter Nights. However I will close with this picture of me wearing my Winter Nights Halloween costume.



I was dressed as a sweaty, disheveled, slightly out of breath middle-aged man who had just climbed to the top of a ridge for blot; I am told that my costume was “astonishingly realistic.”

Until next time friends, Hail the Folk.

Upcoming Events

Root Beer taste test and Democratic Death match
We are going to taste test and rank root beers, because we care about the issues.

Nov. 12th 5pm

Fortville, IN



IT'S ABOUT ROOTS!!!
Jrock@runestone.org for details

The image shows two muscular men in a wrestling ring. The man on the left is shirtless and has a large glass of Sprecher Root Beer balanced on his head. The man on the right is wearing a red singlet and has a large mug of root beer balanced on his head. They are both holding hands, suggesting a wrestling match. The background is a dark room with some lights.

**JROCK@RUNESTONE.ORG
FOR DETAILS**



**FOOD.
GAMES.
BLÓT.
COOL-GUY STUFF.**

**DECEMBER 30TH
FORTVILLE, INDIANA
2023**

ULTIMA YULE



Folkbuilder Jonathan Rock

jrock@runestone.org

New Hampshire

A New England Winter Nights



The New Hampshire Folk gathered In the southwest part of the state for Winter Nights. It was an awesome turnout! Folks from all over the state as well as some of our New York Folk were in attendance.



Two ravens joined us from above as we started our Blot to the Disir. After the ritual we enjoyed an outstanding meal together. Hearty offerings of pork, corned beef paired with delicious veggies and snacks to boot.



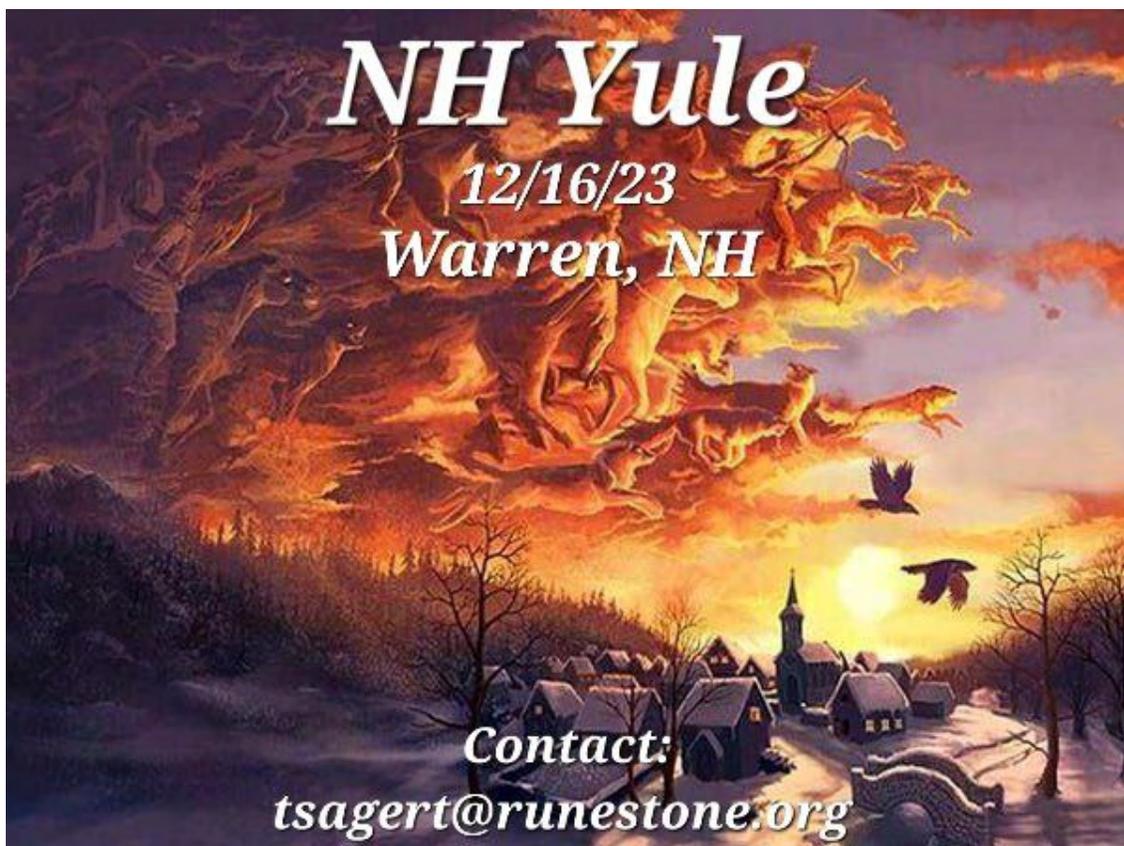
After supper we came together in the Blot House for Sumbel before going our separate ways. Thanks again to all who came! A special thank you to our new Apprentice Folkbuilder Dani and her family for making the drive from NY!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

Upcoming Events



Tyler Sagert



Apprentice Folkbuilder
tsagert@runestone.org

New York

Hello to My Folk



I'd like to introduce myself; my name is Danielle Risso, I am a new apprentice Folkbuilder for the Thorshof North region. A little about me as a person, I'm a mother of 4 wonderful daughters! Ava who is 22, Lillian who is 18, Germania who is 15 and Italia who is 7. Motherhood has been a grounding foundation in my life. It has been a great honor that I was blessed by the gods with so many beautiful daughters. I'm an avid equestrian and have 3 amazing horses. I ride English hunters and jumpers as well as Rodeo barrel racing! I find the bond with my horses as a gift from our gods and

ancestors. I came into Asatru as a teenager. I felt a strong connection to my ancestral beliefs and wanted to walk the same path as thousands of generations before me had. It seemed so much more natural than anything did and of course made much more sense.

I'm so happy to serve my folk and honored to be of help in bringing more folk together. I'm excited for what the future holds and look forward to the journey.

Upcoming Events



NY Moot

MEXICAN Food

Join us Saturday
November 25th @3:00 pm
Saratoga Springs NY

RSVP with Apprentice
Folkbuilder Danielle Risso
for details.
drisso@runestone.org

Danielle Risso
Apprentice Folkbuilder
drisso@runestone.org



North Carolina

A Twisted Autumn at the World's Edge



What is your first thought of autumn? Is it the leaves changing? Is it fresh apples? Apple cider?

That was the experience for us in Appalachia, Western North Carolina.

South Carolina, Tennessee, and North Carolina Folk gathered in the mountains at an

organic apple orchard for an apple cider doughnut breakfast and wonderful talks amongst ourselves. A few of us finally got to meet others, but it was a colourful reunion for everyone. As the morning ended and the sun was warming, we headed to “World’s Edge” – Where the Appalachian Mountains end on a sheer cliff. From a dead-end road, it was a gorgeous and health inspiring walk through nature to the “end”.

Fallen leaves had peppered the trail leaving notes of awe to be seen by all and collected by some. As the trees disappeared, so did the ground beneath us. Large rocks and a ferocious view was all that stood before us. Looking over the wide valley below, above the trees were a few puffy clouds and beautiful sunshine. At the right angle could be seen an intermittent rainbow; A beautiful bridge spanned through the sky.



As we proceeded back to the vehicles and meandered down the mountain, eventide had been setting in. We regrouped at a local member’s house for homemade German cuisine. The women-folk were hard at work in the kitchen conversing, laughing, and, of course, preparing the food, all whilst having a wonderful time together. The men-folk, hard at work outside in the chilling ever-diminishing light to darkness gathering wood and preparing the fire for Sumbel. Sumbel, lit only by firelight, was a serious occasion with a few tears and a few laughs.

Afterwards, we all sat together enjoying this hearty meal of pork schnitzel with two

sauces, hot potato salad followed by a fresh apple cake and many other desserts.

What is family night without games and German beers? It was a time to be had, for sure, as everyone rounded the coffee-table for a hilarious card game where laughter, memories, and good times abounded.

Upcoming Events



Zach Clary
Apprentice Folkbuilder
zclary@runestone.org



Appalachian Happenings



I've got an awesome article all about the Work Day we did at Sigrheim, so go check it out up in the Sigrheim section!

Upcoming Events



Feast of the Einherjar

Nov. 11th, 2023

Join us in Jonesborough, Tennessee on Veteran's Day for food, ritual, games, tattoos (yes, you read that right!), and a hot tub Sumbel! We'll be having finger foods for lunch (feel free to bring your favorite appetizer), and a feast for dinner provided by the ladies of the Appalachian Hearth Kindred. We will be honoring the Einherjar and our warriors, both past and present, with somber ritual and feats of strength. We will also have a tattoo booth hosted by one of our North Carolina members, with half the proceeds going to benefit the Thorshof fund. You won't want to miss this much-anticipated event! Contact Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea or Apprentice Zach Clary for more information.



Folksgiving
Nov. 25th, 2023

The Bethea family would like to personally invite you to a Folksgiving dinner at our house on Saturday, November 25th in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Throughout the years, I have had to work on holiday weekends while I sent my wife and sons to her parents for the holiday. I was extremely fortunate to have Folk around me that invited me to have a meal with their family before or after my shift, and I'd like to pay that back. If any of you are alone for the holiday or just want to gather with your Folk,

please consider coming out and gathering with us. Emily is working on a menu right now, but for anyone that has ever had the pleasure of her cooking, you know you won't be disappointed by whatever she cooks up. Please RSVP to Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea if you plan to attend.



Men's Backpacking Moot

Jan 13-14, 2024

Join Apprentice Jace Cameron and myself for a cross-District backpacking moot in January in the rugged Appalachian mountains of north Georgia! The weather will be cold, the cell service lacking, and the miles challenging. Come build bonds with your brothers in the frozen wilderness and test your endurance of the elements. Contact Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea or Apprentice Jace Cameron for more information



Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea
tbethea@runestone.org

Ohio

Welcoming a New Apprentice Folkbuilder



Please welcome Mary Jane Wilburn of Ohio as our newest apprentice Folkbuilder for the Þórshof District! We are excited to see the success Mary Jane will achieve in the coming months and years.

Hail Mary Jane Wilburn!

Hail the AFA!!

Hail Þórr!!!



Mary Jane Wilburn
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mjwilburn@runestone.org

Welcoming a New Apprentice Folkbuilder



Please welcome Dan Borden Wilburn of Ohio as our newest apprentice Folkbuilder for the Þórshof District! We are excited to see the success Borden will achieve in the coming months and years.

Hail Borden!
Hail the AFA!!
Hail Þórr!!!



Dan Borden
Apprentice Folkbuilder
dborden@runestone.org

Southern Ohio Winter Nights



The time of year is upon us again, where the veil between our loved ones that have passed beyond and those who are amongst the living is at its most transparent, it's thinnest.

We gathered again for the purpose on honoring and remembering our Disir and folk from as far away as Missouri & West Virginia traveled to join their Ohio brothers and sisters for our holy rite.

Photos and items were laid upon the Disir table and immediately we could feel the presence of our beloved with us.

A heart warming Blót was performed by our women folk welcoming our departed to join us.

I do not believe there was a dry eye among us, as it should be.

The Disir and Alfar alike are our ancestors, our progenitors, and our very blood.

They have taught us how to love, how to not only survive, but how to truly live.

We owe a debt to them for they shaped up into the very people we have become.

Noble, courageous and honorable men and women.

Keep them in your heart and mind daily for they have always been and always be with

you.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Hail the Ancestors!

Oktoberfest Moot



As the month of October winds down, Oktoberfest celebrations do as well. It's always bittersweet for me as the season has been near and dear to me ever since I was a child.

A local German club held their festivities with all the music all the food and all the bier one would expect for the occasion.

While our gathering was small in number, we were graced with an AFA member all the way from our Odinshof district which was very special indeed.

A quick word regarding heritage clubs.

They need your support. While the hall was packed with not a seat to be had, I looked upon the attendees and it is clear that the majority are middle aged and older.

These clubs while not Asatru in nature, promote our European cultural roots on a daily basis and in my opinion are vital for our folk.

If the choice to take your family to an amusement park or an event at one of these cultural centers arises, I ask that you enrich yourselves and loved ones and attend something far more meaningful and be among those celebrating our peoples.

I am fortunate that my parents made that very decision and took me to my 1st Oktoberfest when I was 8yrs old.

The memory of that day so long ago is still with me and I hold it dear.

Upcoming Events

FEAST OF EINHERJAR

Honor our Fallen

November 18th
@2 pm



CONTACT
MMELILLO@RUNESTONE.ORG

Southern Ohio
Potluck•Ritual

Camping on site available

imgflip.com



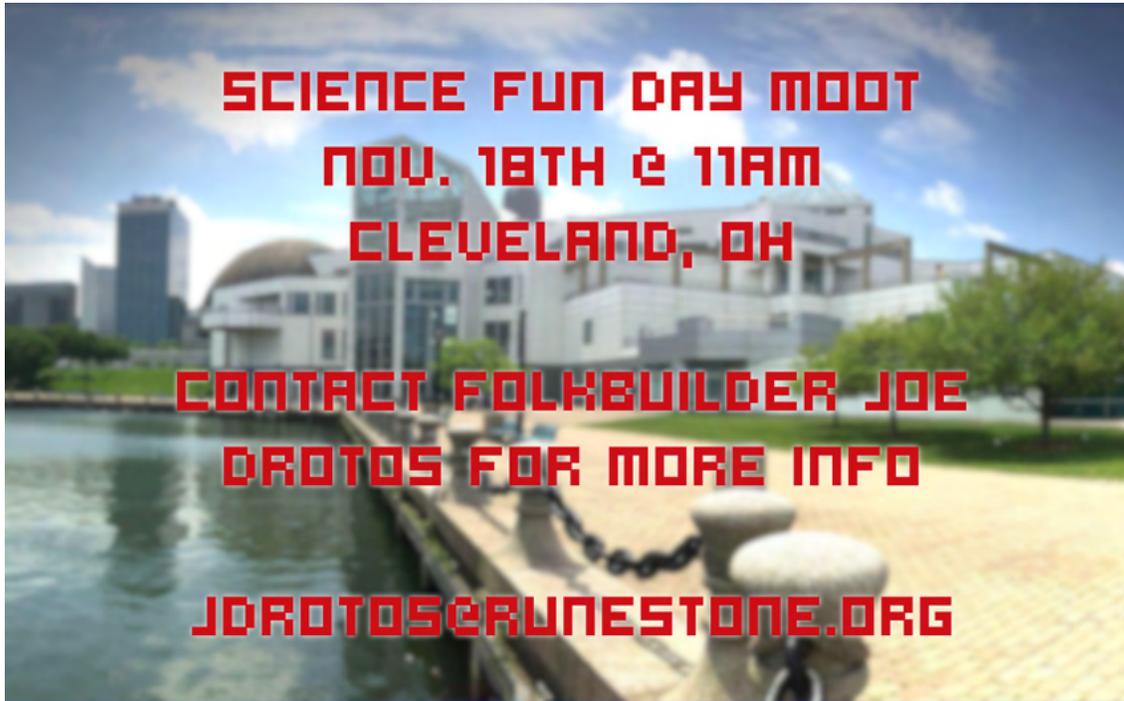
Folkbuilder Michael Melillo
mmelillo@runestone.org

The Importance of Being Present



We all have busy lives, especially this day in age. Some of us have difficult circumstances, this I understand fully. Regardless of being very busy, and many times possessing annoyingly difficult circumstances when I first joined the AFA, I made my way to a moot. It was then I had no idea how much my life would truly change. Over time I began to realize how much we as a people have strayed from our natural mode of being. We no longer tend to our roots and that truly begins with forming community with your folk. Actually forming bonds and living in the real world together. Those first moots stirred a part of my soul that lied dormant but is always there. I have formed strong bonds and found depth lost in the frivolous modern pursuits which are numerous. I'm speaking to all those that have joined the AFA but haven't joined us. I would like to shake your hand at a moot and show you a new possibility for not only your life, but for all our descendants. The future the AFA is creating has endless potential. By joining you did not just join an online club but a family. A group of people forging an honorable return to sanity and a reverence for our Gods and ancestors, a way of life. To share a Sumbel, attend a blot, or even a fun moot, I assure you it's worth an uber. If it's my moot give me a call I'll pick you up. A simple trip and a single visit changed my life. It can certainly change yours. I hope to see you at a Sumbel some day. Hail the Gods, Hail the Folk, and Hail the AFA.

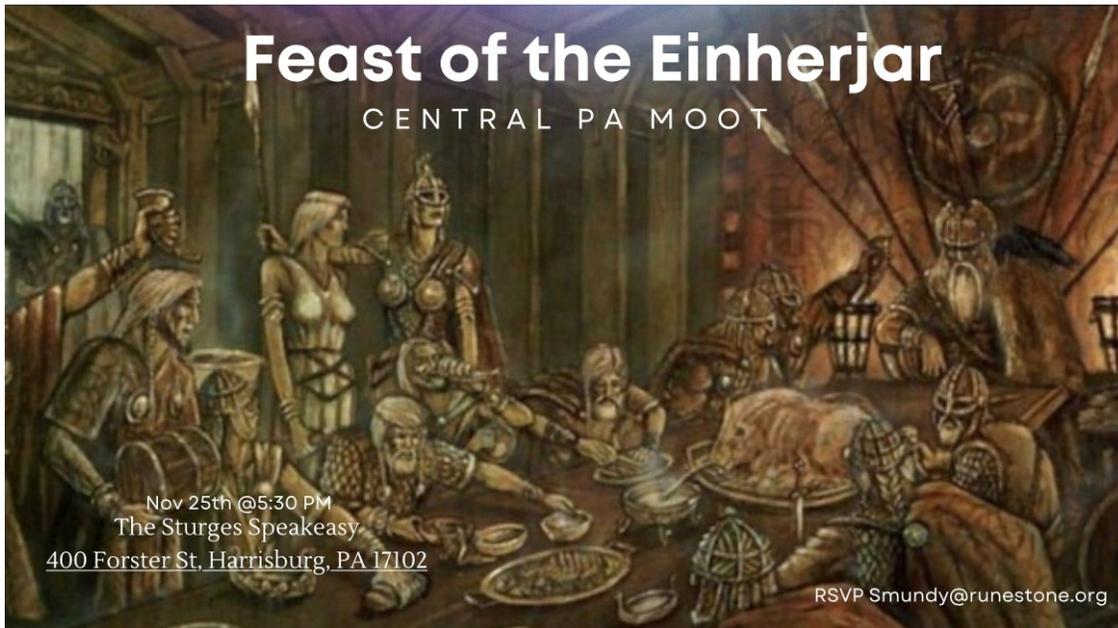
Upcoming Events



Folkbuilder Joe Drotos
jdrotos@runestone.org

Pennsylvania

Upcoming Events



Feast of the Einherjar
CENTRAL PA MOOT

Nov 25th @5:30 PM
The Sturges Speakeasy
[400 Forster St, Harrisburg, PA 17102](https://www.google.com/maps/place/400+Forster+St,+Harrisburg,+PA+17102)

RSVP Smundy@runestone.org



Folkbuilder Steve Mundy
smundy@runestone.org

Upcoming Events



Keystone Tru Folk invites you to join us for our
2nd Annual Gettysburg Feast of the Einherjar!
Saturday, November 18th @11 am

Tour this historic Battlefield with facts about the war from the Malseed Family. Celebrate the Einherjar with a blot on the Battlefield, and join us for Dinner afterwards!

Contact Cythia Catie for more information!
cm.erickson@runestone.org

We look forward to seeing you there!



Gythia Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Upcoming Events



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Poland

October Report from Poland



Here in Poland we treat Halloween a bit differently. Naturally, when it comes to the native faiths of Europeans there are different ethnic and cultural ceremonies that otherwise share common themes and/or origins. In this case, Poland celebrates a holiday known as Dziady, or ‘Ancestors’, or the literal translation, ‘Grandfathers’. It is a holiday that has its roots in pre-Christian, Slavic beliefs, so it is part of the Polish native faith. Dziady is celebrated in honor of our ancestors and other deceased people who are resting in the land of Weles, the Slavic God of the underworld, but on this special day they come to feast together among the living.



Celebrating Dziady for us was a time of enjoyment as initially held as a Moot, with games, fire roasting kielbasa, and competitions in both skill and strength before finally

being treated to a story about how one of our ancient heroes slew a dastardly dragon. The next though, will be the authentic ceremony, learning about the relics of the ancient past and leading to the exploration of the native tradition that accompanied the Slavs for generations from birth to death.

Hail the Gods!

Hail our Ancestors!

&

Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events





Aspir Befreier
Apprentice Folkbuilder
abefreier@runestone.org

South Carolina

Upcoming Events



Folkbuilder Heather Young
hyoung@runestone.org

Sweden

Vinternätter



Snow has arrived, temperatures below freezing around the clock, and darkness closing in all around. Yet our home is still a lively place with laughter and cheer!

We had a wonderful time together celebrating our female ancestors.

As our oldest daughter is growing up, she begins to take more and more an interest in ritual and blot. She is excited to be part of giving gifts in particular, and seems to take it very seriously.

We have yet to see the darkest time of year, and yet our hearts are filled with joy and gratitude.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Disir!

Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events



Fika Friday

Come and have fika with your
Folk!

15th of December

Norrbottn

elugnet@runestone.org



Erik Lugnet
Apprentice Folkbuilder
elugnet@runestone.org

Tennessee

Their Story is Told

In halls of Valhalla, where heroes abide,
 The Einherjar gather, their fate by the Norns tied.
 In battle and glory, their lives were defined,
 Now they rest in the realm of the divine.

Mighty warriors, with swords in hand,
 They fought for honor, in a far-off land.
 Their valor and courage, forever renowned,
 In Odin's great army, they are forever bound.

They feast in Valhalla, on mead and on meat,
 Their spirits unbroken, their victories complete.
 Each day they spar, with weapons in hand,
 In the great hall of Valhalla, where they will stand.

When the final battle, Ragnarok, draws near,
 The Einherjar will rise, without fear.
 They'll ride with the Allfather, into the fray,
 For their bravery and strength, they'll have their day.

In the style of the sagas, their story is told,
 Of warriors of old, so brave and so bold.
 The Einherjar's saga, forever they'll sing,
 In Valhalla they rest, in the halls of the king.

Upcoming Events



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org



Copyright © *2020* Asatru Folk Assembly, All rights reserved.
[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

