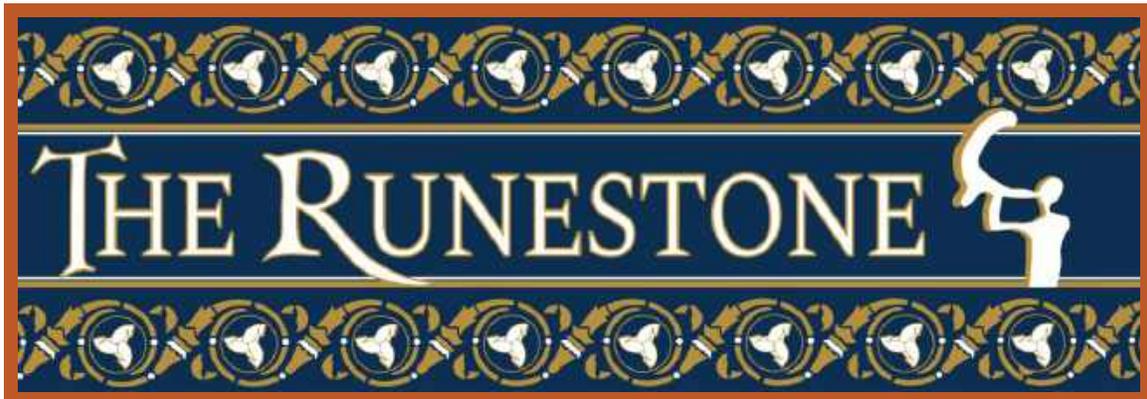


Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly

[View this email in your browser](#)



Þórshof

Second Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

<http://www.thorshof.com/>



[Runestone.org](#)



[Email the Witan](#)



[YouTube](#)



[VK](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Parler](#)



[Odysee](#)



[Bitchute](#)

[Donate to the AFA](#)

Words from the Alsherjargothi



August 13th was the official dedication of Njörðshof, Fourth Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly.

What a tremendous honor it was to be there and to dedicate this beautiful hof to Njörðr! There could not be a more gracious and worthy group of people to make up the core of this hof's congregation. Walking the property and experiencing this place was very powerful. Svan's mural is truly magnificent!

We are living in a very special time. I say this a lot but that is because it is important. As we establish each new hof, we build a special relationship with our Gods. We build this relationship in a way that no one has for millennia, worshiping at these altars, we build a powerful bond with and understanding of the great Gods of our folk. I am honored to be part of this amazing journey with each and every one of you.

Hail the Gods!



Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org

The Quest For Freyshof

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

– Gylfaginning



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

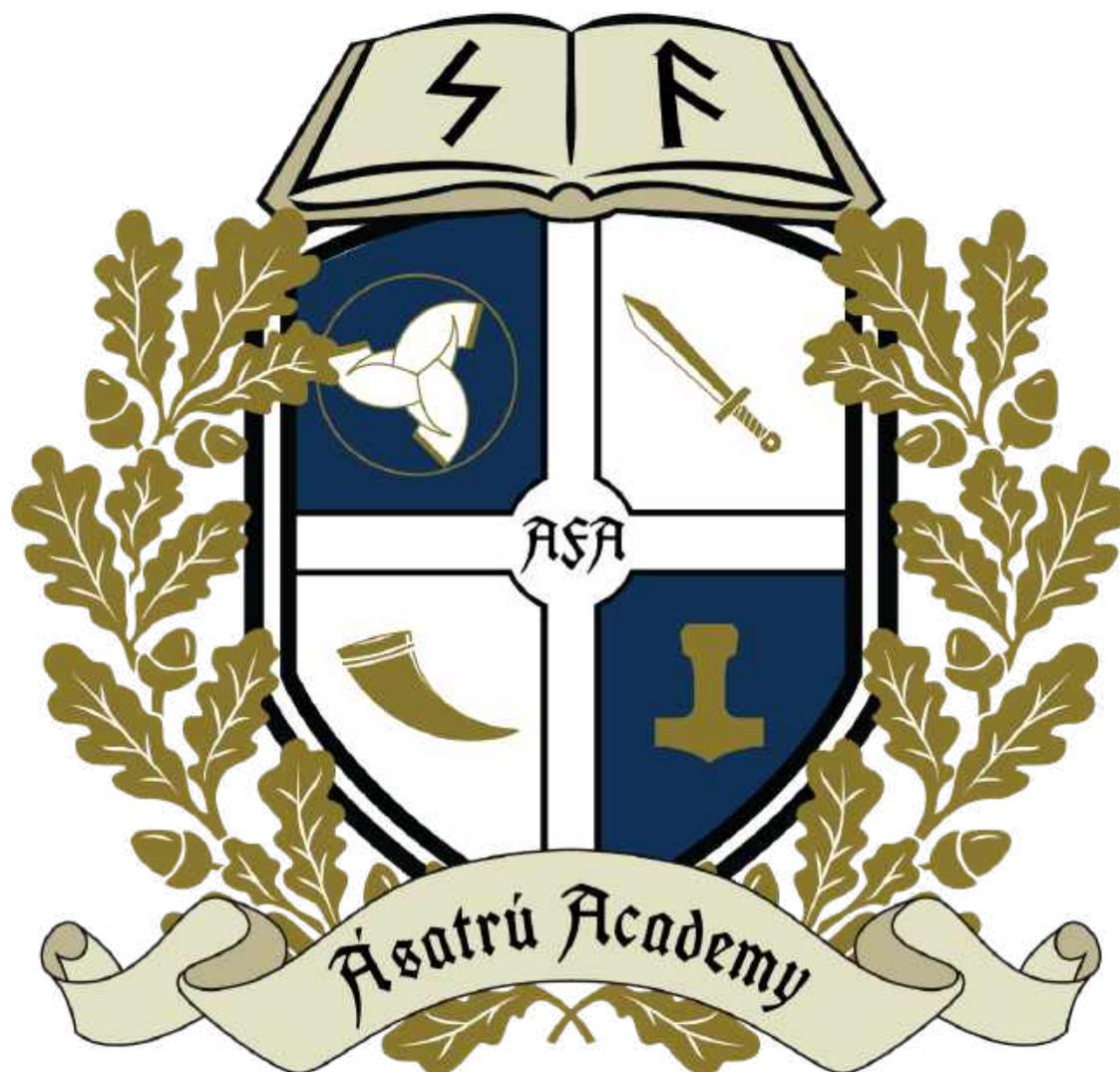
This sacred quest has had a great start so far! The generosity has been amazing, as always!

1. We need to pay off Njörðshof. (We have paid off 38%)
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 17%. (This is membership dues/hoftollar plus other donations)
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.

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

Hail Freyr!

AFA Homeschool Program



[Welcome | AsatruAcademy.org](https://AsatruAcademy.org)

We are very excited that the first ever AFA Ásatrú Academy class has started! I want to welcome all our parents and students. Our excellent staff (which can be reached [here](#)) is

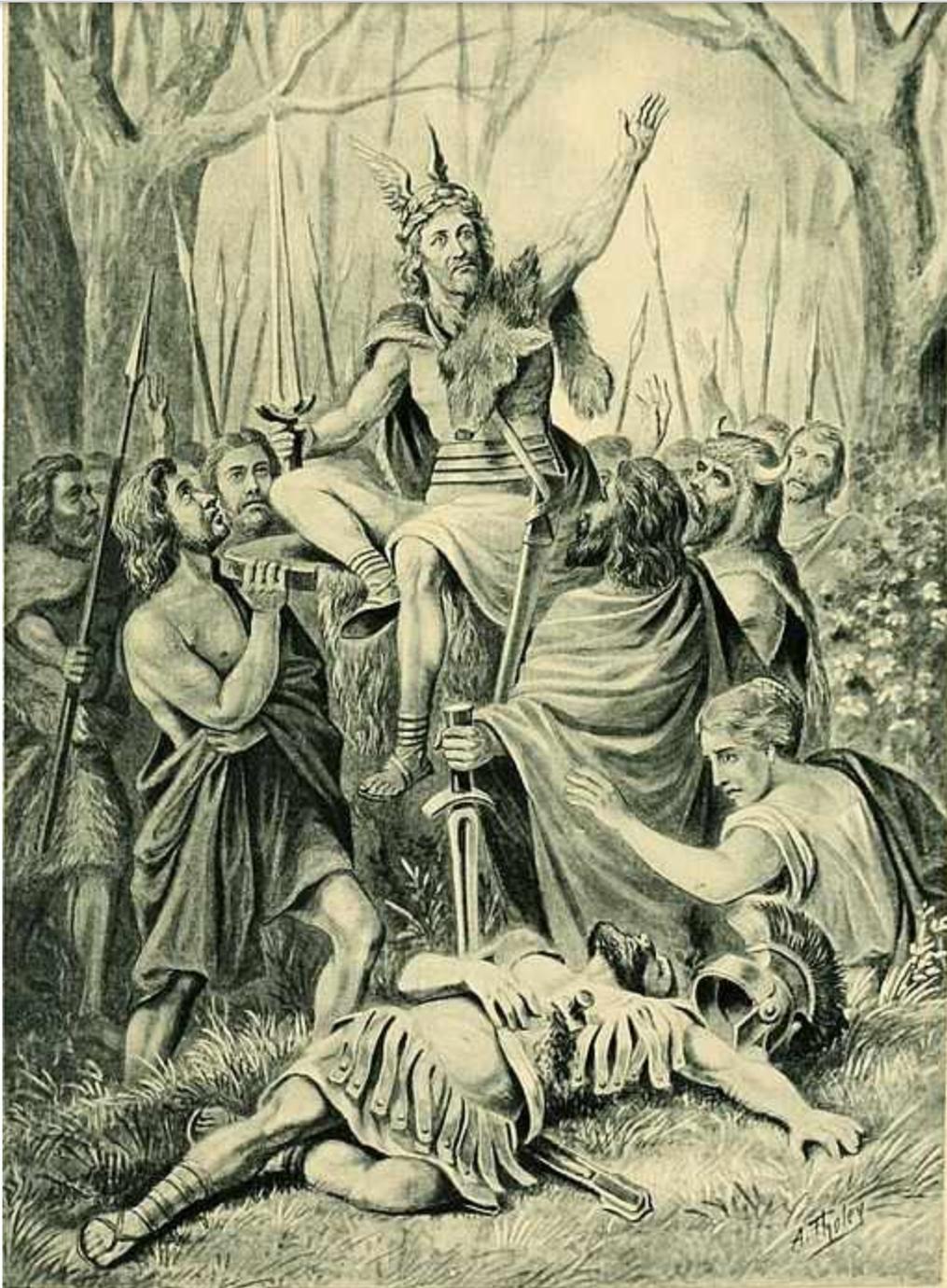
Parents, please join the MeWe parents group, and watch your email (check the spam folder) and Parent Portal: curriculum and videos will be posted in QuickSchools, but the MeWe group is your place to quickly interact with other parents and Academy staff. Our Assistant Dean of Curriculum, Gythia Sheila McNallen, is also hard at work putting her many years of professional teaching experience into creating top-notch material for you, above and beyond the material we have already posted.

We are so happy and excited for the school year, and hope you are too!



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

Day of Remembrance



Prince Hermann of the Cherusci, or Gaius Julius Arminius, was born to the Chief of the German Cherusci Tribe, Segimer in 16 BCE. Segimer was a Roman sympathizer and both of his sons, Hermann and Flavus, were raised in the Roman empire under Roman “guardianship”. Hermann proved to be equal to the task and it did not take him long to excel as a soldier in the Roman Legions. He earned both roman citizenship and the rank of a Roman Knight before distinguishing himself in His exploits in the Great Illyrian Revolt, after which he was sent to Germania to aid in finishing the conquest of the Germanic Tribes.

Once in Germania again, Hermann was able to quietly unite five Germanic tribes with the intention of overthrowing the Roman occupation of his land. His deep knowledge of Roman warfare and his sharp tactical mind lead to the historic Battle of Teutoburg

continued to fight against the Romans and their retaliatory attacks.

Ultimately, Hermann was assassinated by tribal leaders who were frightened of his great power, in 21 CE. Even so, it was his crucial victory in the Teutoburg Forest that forever changed the face of Germania and the Roman empire.

So, what can we learn from this story?

We no longer have the ancestral homeland to fight for as our ancestors did. We live too scattered and the countries of our ancestors are not what they once were. However, we still have families, we have ideals and we have Asatru. Every day is a battle to hang onto those ideals that no longer have a proper place in our modern society. Every day is a battle to make our world a little better, a little stronger for those who we leave behind when we die. Patience and fortitude will get us far. So will the knowledge of how to best fight for what we want. With the knowledge of how to do things the right way, it might take that one decisive victory to reshape the future of our Folk.



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

Winter Finding



Winter Finding is sort of the winter prequel of feasts. This feast happens on the Fall Equinox and is the second harvest feast of the year (the first is Freyfaxi in August). Winter Finding is the beginning of autumn complete with foods harvested from around this time. Traditionally, it was a celebration of putting up crops for the winter and preparing for the cold winter months ahead. This was the time when people prepared to stay indoors, farmers moved their primary livestock inside or into their barns, and extraneous animals were slaughtered and preserved for winter.

Winter Finding was often celebrated with bonfires, feasting, dancing, and blots. In preindustrial times, this was a crucial period because if the harvest was poor, it meant possible death by starvation in the winter months.

In most cases, we don't have to worry about having enough to eat during the winter

That being said, it helps to have a farmer's market in your area (or better yet, have a backyard garden of your own) because you will get a better feel for the season and the types of food being produced in your area. Eating a feast made with foods from that season is a sure way to connect with our ancestors and the types of foods they ate. Although many foods we eat nowadays weren't available to our Northern ancestors, due to the fact that a number of fruits and vegetables we eat come from the Western Hemisphere, eating seasonal foods puts us in touch with the seasons and the wights.

- So, how do you stay in tune with the season? Check out these ideas and see if any resonate.
- Weather and fire laws permitting, have a bonfire (or light some wood in your fire pit).
- Create a Heathen feast with foods from local farmers that are in season.
- Spend time gathering wild edibles — just be sure you know what you have.
- Preserve food for the winter: canning, dehydrating, and freezing.
- Make sure your pets and/or livestock are ready for the winter. Vaccinations, nail, and hoof trims warm bedding, enough food, etc.
- Offer a blot to the gods of the harvest: Freyr, Gerðr, Freyja, Thor, Sif, and others.
- Start making your mead for Yule.
- Make sure your hunting gear is ready to go for hunting season.
- Get your house clean for winter.

What do you do for Winter Finding?

Upcoming National Events

Winter Nights 11
October 14th-16th



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

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

Things to know:

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



Winter Nights XI

October 14 - 16, 2022

Friday, October 14

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

Saturday, October 15

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

Sunday, October 16

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

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

Member Family – Weekend: \$150

Member – Weekend: \$100

Member – Daypass: \$50

Guest – Weekend: \$125

Guest – Daypass: \$60

Child – Weekend: Free

Child – Daypass: Free

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



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Feast of the Einherjar
November 10th-13th

2022 Nov 10-13
in Oklahoma
With Special guests Stephen and
Sheila McNallen, Alsherjargothi
Flavel and Gothi East

Honor the fallen with your folk • Games
of skill • Mead Competition
• 3 Blots • Sumble
• Auction • Leadership Panel Q&A
• Amazing feasts!

Register now @
<https://runestone.org/product/feast-of-the-einherjar-2022/>
contact Folkbuilders Melsa Mills, Nate Erlandson or Ashley
McStocker for more information

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

Come and honor the fallen with your Folk.

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

Let us know if you are entering the mead competition!

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

Member Family – \$150

Member – \$100

Guest – \$120

Child – Free

Child – Free

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



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

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

way of celebrating each new addition to our folk!

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



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

Would you like a blanket for your newborn, or to donate and help with yarn costs (yarn is expensive!)? Please email babyblanket@runestone.org today!

Folk Services



For some, it may be a natural disaster. For others an unexpected change in health, and for some just an unforeseen chain of events. Whatever the case may be sometimes we find ourselves in a sticky situation, and although we try and to work and do our best to pull ourselves out, sometimes we may need the help of our Folk community to give us a hand up...

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

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

You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

Last Will and Testament

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



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

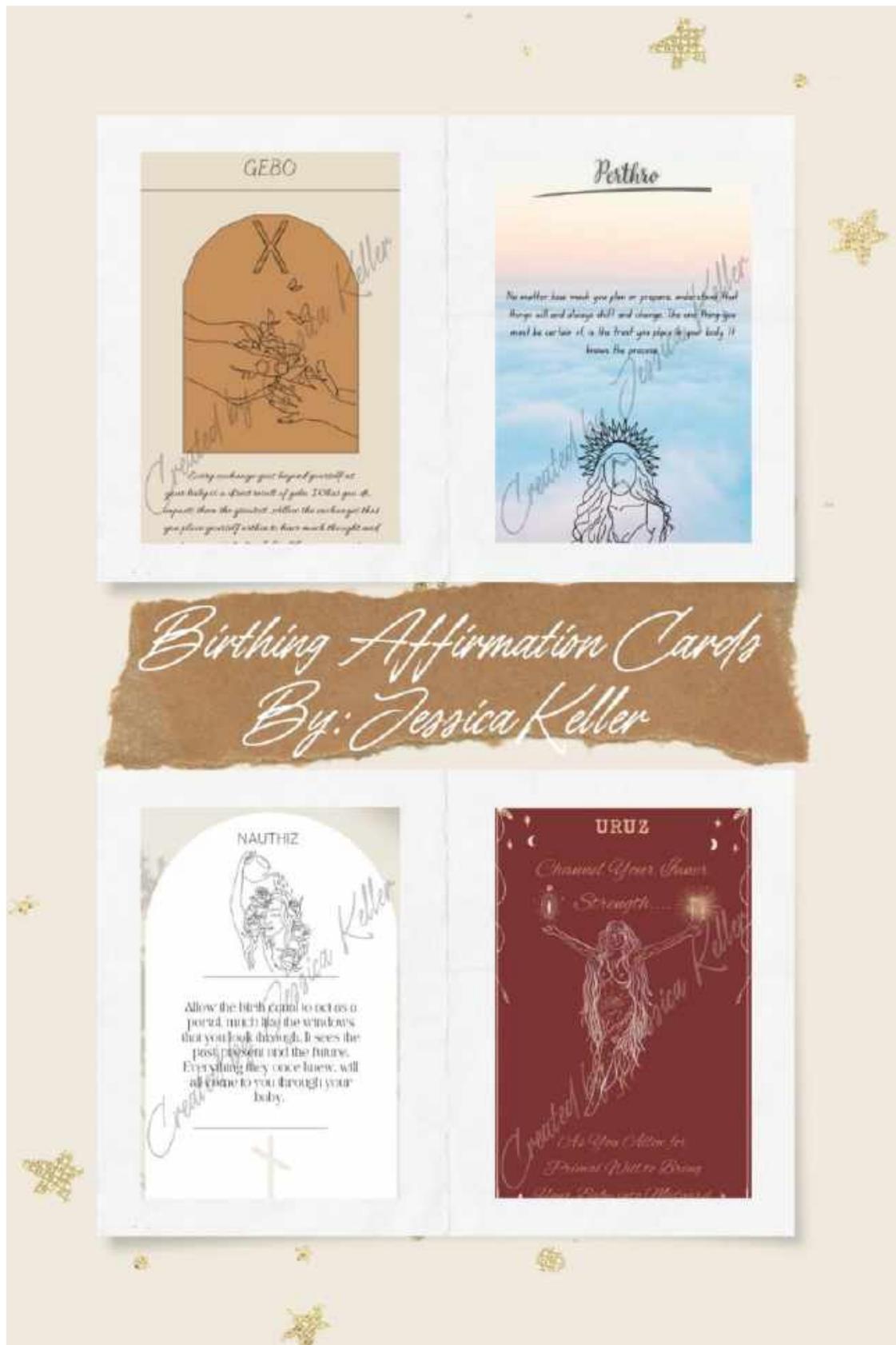
We have found an amazing resource for our U.S. members to make legally binding wills in minutes online for **free**. This site also has resources to make Advanced Medical Directives and Powers of Attorney. It takes only **minutes** at <https://www.doyourownwill.com/>.

Please make your will **today**.

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

Allen Turnage
PO Box 16027
Tallahassee FL, 32317

The Artisans of the AFA Support Our Folk



I have created Elder Futhark Birthing Affirmation Cards for our women folk to utilize during their labor and delivery journey. These would also be good to utilize prior to labor to help get your mind, body, and spirit in a good place for you and your baby.

delivery, and motherhood. These can be hung up or arranged around your labor and birthing space so that you can feel and see the freedom, power, and energy that can be tapped into during this monumental milestone in your life.

If you are interested in these, I am asking for donations of \$10 or more to be given to the Freyshof fund. Upon receipt of the donation, I will send you a PDF file with printing instructions. Or if you prefer, for a small charge to cover supplies and shipping, I can print and mail them to you.

Freyr being a fertility god, the brother of Freya, I thought these would be a good way to honor them for the gift of fertility. The more we raise, the closer we get to honoring him in his own Hof, and honoring a fertility god means more beautiful white babies.

My good friend, Christine Dumas, also has done a voice-over with a guided meditation for these cards as some folk needs that extra auditory sensation. This will also be included with your cards, but they come as a packaged deal together, not one without the other.



The top picture here is 4 snippets of the 24 cards with watermarks on them, and the second is the full spread. Watermarks will be removed upon order.

Please contact me for more details or if you are interested!

Jessica Keller

Apprentice Folkbuilder

jkeller@runestone.org



Ancestral Food and Culture

Piparkokur (Icelandic Pepper Cookies)



I recently made these for a Moot and people enjoyed the unique spice taste of the cookies. Traditionally they are cut with a 2" round cookie cutter, but I had some cookie cutters that were gifted to me by my husband that I wanted to try. Keep in mind while making them that it is a soft dough and will spread while baking.

Piparkokur (Icelandic Pepper Cookies)

1 cup butter (room temperature)

1 cup sugar

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup light corn syrup (or golden syrup)

3 ½ cups flour

1 ½ teaspoons baking powder

½ teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 teaspoon ground cloves

1 teaspoon ground ginger

¼ teaspoon ground black pepper

1. Cream the butter and sugar together in a large bowl with an electric mixer, or vigorously by hand, then mix in the syrup and eggs and beat well.
2. Sift in the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and spices and mix until combined. Wrap dough and refrigerate overnight.
3. Preheat the oven to 350 F and line two baking sheets with baking paper.
4. Roll the dough out on a lightly floured surface to about ¼ inch thickness. This is quite a soft dough, but if it's not manageable to roll and cut, then lightly knead in a little more flour.
5. Cut into rounds with a 2" cookie cutter and place onto the prepared baking sheet, an inch apart. Keep in mind that they will spread.
6. Bake for 7 min. Let cool on the tray for a couple of minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool. They will firm as they cool.

Enjoy!



Folkbuilder Sara Ault

sault@runestone.org

Bread Horse



The recipe which I have found most effective for making large bread animals for blessings and feasts is actually a biscuit recipe. This is better than yeast bread because the dough does not swell up so much while rising, and thus there is less distortion of the animal's shape and so more detail is possible.

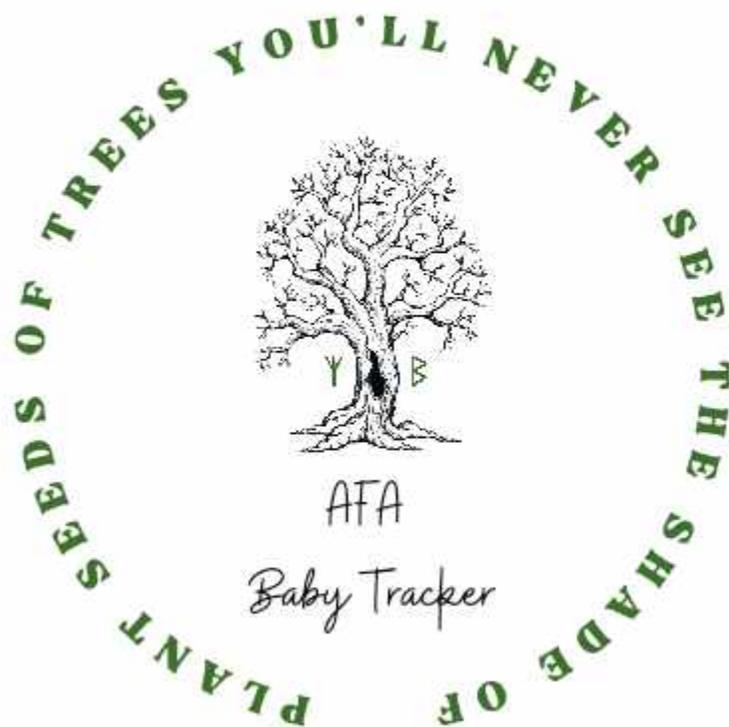
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour 4 teaspoons baking powder $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon cream of tartar 2 teaspoons sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter $\frac{2}{3}$ cup milk Sift together flour, baking powder, salt, cream of tartar, and sugar; cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add milk; stir until dough follows fork around bowl. Turn out on a lightly floured surface and shape into your beast.

The less kneading the dough gets, the lighter and flakier the end product will be. Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees Fahrenheit until brown. If you are making a boar, a "bristled" effect can be achieved by making short snips along its back and side with a pair of clean scissors. The same technique can be used for texturing a horse's mane. A raisin or nut can be stuck into the dough to make the animal's eye.



Witan Svan Herul
sherul@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



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

Total babies born in 2022: 30
(up 6 from last month!)



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

Calling All Cooks!



We are putting together an AFA cookbook!

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

Mike Joyner



Now Available in the AFA Store

AFA Hoodies

\$45.00



Buy Now: [AFA Zippered and nonzippered hoodies](#)

Warm weather apparel is falling into the Runestone.org store!
Hoodies! Zippered Hoodies! Long sleeve shirts!

Look for new items for each Hof over the next week!



Folkbuilder Melisa Mills

mmills@runestone.org

Þórshof

Food Pantry at Þórshof



This year's Freyfaxi celebrations began with a very successful Food Pantry, where we fed 26 families, a high water mark for us. That is more than double our usual number of families fed! This is something we take great pride in, and we are very pleased with our volunteers taking the time and effort to help out a community in need in Cumberland County, North Carolina.



Freyfaxi at Þórshof



Freyfaxi has a special place in the hearts of the Folk at Þórshof as it was the very first holiday celebrated in 2020. As is usual with many celebrations at Þórshof, there are often many "firsts", this was the first "3rd Annual" event we have had.

After the Food Pantry, we gathered in Rumph Hall to begin our celebration of the annual harvest. Witan Herul gave a class detailing the origins of the holiday in a modern context, and in the ancient context.

We then gathered in the Ve to give blot to the gods. Witan Herul began with our traditional prayer to Heimdallr, asking him to open heaven's gate, so that we may exchange gifts with the Gods. While the ladies blessed the mead, we galdred the rune JERA. We gave blot to Freyr to bless the harvest, to bless what we have reaped. We



We returned to the Ve for a beautiful Baby Naming ceremony for the new son of James and Lindsay Bethard. After blessing the child with runes revealed by the Norns, the young boy's name was given, Jaeger Frey Bethard. A blessing from Freyr to be sure. Baby Namings are among the favorite Rites of all our Gothar.

We returned to Rumph Hall for supper, and a class by Gothi Daniel Young on the cyclical nature in which our ancestors understood time. Using many examples of Lore Stories, we talked over how each event (creation being the most talked about) HAS happened, IS happening, and WILL happen. We followed that up with a Q&A session with the folk.

We also announced that this year, Þórshof will celebrate Yule as a 3-day event in December. Contact your local folkbuilder for details (their information can be found at Thorshof.com).

Join us for Winter FInding this month at Þórshof on September 24th, where we'll celebrate the beginning of the hunting season, and if you are a hunter, bring some of your gear to be blessed by Ullr!



Upcoming Events at Þórshof



Fall 2022 at Þórshof

Sept. 10 - Work Day

Sept. 24 - Winter Finding

Oct. 29 - Winter Nights

Nov. 12 - Work Day

Nov. 19 - Feast of Einherjar

Dec. 10 - Work Day

Dec. 16-18 - Yule

**Food Pantries are held on the Saturday
of each holiday weekend.**

Italy







I just came back from a 20-day trip visiting Iceland. I wanted to share with the folk some of the amazing sites I saw.

The little church of Hof in Iceland was built on a Heathen temple (Hof) probably dedicated to the god þórr (Thor). The sacrificial stones used for the blóts and are considered by the locals magical and healing against many diseases are still there.

- Francesco Morese

Indiana

Indiana Jon and the Temple of Njord



Friends and Folk,

This August, during the course of archaeological adventuring, I came across whispered rumors of intrigue emanating from the American South. There was talk of a fabulous temple, the first of its kind, nestled in the bath-salt-ridden swamplands of Florida. As I heroically boarded my aircraft, and resolutely ate my complimentary pretzels, I knew that I would need to conserve my strength for the trials ahead.

Upon landing in America's Basement, I rendezvoused with another intrepid explorer from Michigan and we proceeded to pick up my rental vehicle. Naturally, I assumed

Sportsball upgraded us to automobile status.



After traveling many weary miles, my colleague and I came to the fabled temple in all its rustic glory. The goodly priests and hard-working locals showed me the home that they had created for Njord, God of Bounty and Oceans, likely the first such temple to this most-deserving God in a thousand years and certainly the first ever on this continent. We enjoyed the local delicacies of goat, grits, gumbo, and chilled monkey brains, all expertly prepared by our tireless hosts.



and communed with our brethren during the expertly administered rituals held within the newly sanctified space while marveling at the devotional murals painstakingly gifted to our eyes and Njord's walls.

We had such an excellent time among our friends that I made up my mind not to loot this temple of plenty out of respect for Gods and countrymen...

...

aaaand then the auction happened.



While the natives engaged in the ritualistic trading of wampum for handmade soaps and fire water, I carpet-bagged my way into a set of very nice handmade candlesticks and, best of all, the wooden bowl used in the first blót ever held in Njord's hall, an artifact unknown to our Folk for easily a thousand years. I "donated" the candlesticks in an attempt to bribe the local priest while I made my escape, but had not yet absconded

saddled their alligators to pursue, but luckily I and my colleague managed to lose them in one of Florida's hourly hurricanes. Soon I was safely on my way back to the cornrows of my homeland as the distant drumbeats of the natives' Jimmy Buffet albums faded safely into the distance.



Fun Fact: In a recent study conducted in a Floridian airport, female attraction to religious relics is statistically insignificant. However, female attraction to hand-turned wooden bowls is essentially off the charts.

Throughout the course of my life, I have been spontaneously accosted by attractive women exactly zero times (this has led to fallacious rumors that women do not find me stunningly handsome). During roughly three hours of airport loitering, no fewer than three women were forced by some innate desire to comment to me on how much they liked Njord's bowl. These women then wisely scuttled off before I had an opportunity to ruin their admiration by being creepy.



A week after returning to my homeland, I celebrated in the company of my own Folc Irminsul as we held a lakeside moot in the not-shark-infested waters of Indiana. We grilled, we chilled, and we tried to dissuade our children from drowning. Several of us posed for a picture that makes us look like a 90's alt-rock band, and we grew our artificer's horde with the addition of a hand-forged seax created by one of our kinsmen for use in our rituals.



Njord's home may be in White Springs, Florida, but the gift of his bounty follows us everywhere.

Upcoming Events



Johnathan Rock
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jrock@runestone.org

Maine

Northern New England



We had a fun time in Maine this past month! A few of us met up for a moot at the Maine Highland Games. The event started with traditional Scottish games like the Caber Toss. During that event, the competitors worked their way up to a very large Caber (pole) which was so large and heavy that they claimed that no man had ever successfully tossed it in the 10+ years they had it. One very strong man came very close and almost landed it on its end, but not quite. It was half the size of a telephone pole! It landed with such force, that it shattered into pieces! It is awesome to see old European traditional games like this kept alive and well.

Upcoming Events

The American Stonehenge

Salem, NH on September 17th at 1pm
email Apprentice Folkbuilder Daniel Mason for more info at
dmason@runestone.org

Next up, we are planning another outdoor gathering, but this time in New Hampshire at the “American Stonehenge”. Nobody is certain who built this interesting stone structure, but it is thousands of years old and some say that it may have been built by Europeans who visited North America in ancient times. Please join us if you're able, on September 17th! Let's meet at 1 pm and after we are done there, we can find a local restaurant for dinner.



Daniel Mason
Apprentice Folkbuilder
dmason@runestone.org

Michigan

Michigan Rising



Friends and Folk,

To many, it seems a little unfair that Michigan should be blessed with so many picturesque lakes. As we tend to despise the inherent weakness of complaints about "fairness," we chose this month to further rub the world's face in the superior waters of Pure Michigan with a second (of probably many) lake moot.



As summer wanes we chose to celebrate with a little end-of-season swim-time. We did some endurance swimming and ran drills rescuing a diligently bellicose drowning victim. At some point, something slimy touched my leg and I made everyone stand around staring menacingly after it while I stood in the water at exactly the right depth to hide my pudge from the camera.



Now, it's common for our moots to build upon the goodwill and friendship of our Folk, but every so often tempers flare, which is unfortunate but perfectly natural. I am sorry to report that, when we began to run low on brats, things turned predictably ugly.



removed from our clutches, training knives were put away and tempers were allowed to cool. Things ended as they often do during our moots; with a handshake and a big hug...



aaaaand then an attack...then more hugging.

I actually seem to remember a fair amount of swearing now that I think back on it... odd.



We closed the evening with a blót to Frigga in thanks for the recent birth of several healthy daughters to our local Folk and a discussion of hamingja and the responsibilities of child-rearing to the fame and honor of our familial lines...



...we were then lectured by a disapproving park ranger for running our dog up and down the beach while pretending we didn't know that we weren't supposed to. My clumsy attempts to explain the obligations of dog-hamingja were not helped by my canine's dignified refusal to justify her actions and thus failed to sway the argument. We finished our goodbyes and made the journey home until we all reunite in September.

Upcoming Events

The Sport of Kings (probably)



Saturday, September 17th races start at noon!

\$20 contact JROCK@Runestone.org



Johnathan Rock
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jrock@runestone.org

North Carolina

Carolina Pub Moot



What a great time with great people! Reach out if you are ever in there area. There's always something going on!



Robert Shotwell
Apprentice Folkbuilder
rshotwell@runestone.org

Ohio

Ohio Dublin Irish Festival Moot



It was a hot day in central Ohio! Then again, it was early August when Sunna's warmth is welcomed. The Dublin Irish Festival has been a long-standing tradition in Columbus and one that some of our members have visited before though for others like myself was our first. The grounds are expansive and beautiful with much greenery in the spirit of the namesake's motherland.

In the first wave, our folk met and assembled under a huge tree which we quickly adopted for shade while we watched some of the games of strength! A wee pint or two of Ireland's finest was enjoyed along with some of the boiled meat our Irish brethren are famous for. Some of our newest members joined us and brought others of our folk along to witness what we have built and continue to build here in the great state of Ohio!



Ohio AFA membership was together again!

The luck of the Irish was with us that day because later on that night, another beautiful child was born to our folk, healthy and happy to our beloved Dumas'!

It was wonderful to be in the company of the folk that I have come to know and love and to meet others who have been given the divine spark to seek out Home!

Visiting our people's cultural festivals is vitally important. While they are somewhat expensive to attend, it is important that we support them so that the traditions of our folk continue in a public way. In a world of ever-increasing slander foisted upon our folk and our "lack" of culture, these festivals are a bright light shining through that darkness.



Mike Melillo
Apprentice Folkbuilder
mmelillo@runestone.org

Power in the Blood



They say when Ragnarok comes that no men will be brothers. Could such a fate come to pass? It certainly can if we let it. My self, other leadership, and you reading this publication are the ones standing in the way of such things. I think we should all be proud in knowing that we are on the ground floor of a resurrection of ideals and a way of life not seen by this world for far too long.

That said we must all understand the importance of this. You must understand how important you are. This is more than even just our church, it is our culture to manifest again. The blood that runs through your veins is precious as well as every action we all take in this world gone mad. We have the power to spin a fate filled with glory and accomplishments unimaginable by our forebears.

songs still resonate with us. My point in saying all of this is quite simple. So many of us speak of future glory and I'm here to tell you we are the bearers of glory. We're seeing it before our eyes. Every gathering, every baby born, and every shred of wisdom gained is looked upon with love and pride by our Gods and ancestors. We are the new guard. Our disagreements be damned, our complaints be damned, and selfishness be damned. What we have created here is beyond any one of us and future generations will look fondly upon our exploits for many years to come I'm sure of it.

This month I did not have a formal moot but I did help our folk, visit our folk, and celebrate our folk. No matter what is going on, always cherish each other. Every chance you get lift the folk and remember who we are. We are the children of the Gods, we are mighty, and we will be here as long as Midgard is in existence. Hail the Gods, hail the ancestors, hail the AFA, and hail to you reading this now. I raise my horn to you and thank you for coming home.



Joe Drotos
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jdrotos@runestone.org

Birth Announcement



At the end of the month, our Folk held a Blot to Frigga, specifically for pregnant mothers. During this Blot, the three mothers expecting held wood-burned birch Berkano, which were to be offered to Frigga for her blessings. The pregnant mothers were to offer the birch Berkano to their own liking.

On Friday 8/5/22, I took out my runic bells, and with the help of my son, Cormac, we galdred Berkano as we lit the birch Berkano. Once the birch Berkano was ash, Cormac, Tim, and I mixed the ash with mead and fruit from our property. We went to our outdoor alter and honored Frigga with our offerings.

Later that night, contractions began. Saturday, August 6th, we enjoyed the festivities at Dublin Irish Festival with our Folk. After returning home, I prayed to Mother Frigga and my ancestors for strength as I knew our baby was on her way to Midgard. I

At 9 pm, my water broke and I contacted the midwife. An hour later, my contractions intensified, and I turned on my rune birth affirmations meditation made by Jessica Keller. About thirty minutes later, I pushed three times and Tim caught our baby girl, Corva Rose. Our midwife team arrived shortly after birth; baby girl and I were checked out as healthy.

Hail Frigga!

Upcoming Events





Christine Dumas
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cdumas@runestone.org

Pennsylvania

Upcoming Events



Spencer Kerns
Apprentice Folkbuilder
skerns@runestone.org

Frefaxi / Meadowcroft, Western PA



We got to meet up with a new local family to explore the 19,000-year-old historic site of Meadowcroft. There were several buildings full of antique agriculture artifacts as well as 19th-century modes of transportation. Throughout the layout, they displayed villages from the 16th century where we got to learn how to throw primitive spears, and our target was an elk. Unfortunately, we didn't get to explore the rock cave this time around, but we did get to build frith and have good conversations as we explored the main sites. After lunch, we honored Freyr by holding a blot for Freyfaxi. We gave offerings of Biscuits shaped like boars and horses. Offerings were also made to Nerthus, Njord, and Freya such as fresh sunflowers, potatoes, and zucchini from our garden, crabs, mussels, and Mead. We discussed the importance of Freyfaxi and how it brings a full circle of honoring and asking to honoring and thanking.

Lederhosen and Dirndl



There's never a bad time for Folk! (And there's never a bad time for lederhosen and dirndl!)

Upcoming Events

HERITAGE
Festival

SUNDAY September 25th 2022

Mcconnells Mill State Park
Portersville, PA

LIVE MUSIC | CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT | FOOD
HERITAGE VENDORS | MILL TOUR | HAY RIDE

We will meet for Winder Finding Blot
at 10am then proceed to the festival

Contact Jessica Keller
jkeller@runestone.org



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org



This month was Freyfaxi in Pennsylvania. We spent part of Saturday and most of Sunday enjoying what seemed like the last days of the summer months as the leaves began to fall around us.



Good food was had.



Sunday was our day to hold blot for the Vanir. There was some concern that there would be many onlookers because the camping area was quite crowded that weekend. Strangely enough, as soon as we began to set up everyone slowly cleared out and it was just us and THEM.



The Ritual began with me leading. Generally, I like to take a few moments of silence before hallowing the space. I closed my eyes in the center of the circle for a brief period of time and when I opened them a shadow of a woman was on the tree directly in front of me. I stared at it for a little while in awe and at that point, I knew it was time to begin.



Part of the rite was baking bread as was the tradition of our people long ago. That was

in our space.



Once done, Folkbuilder Patrick Cook and I did the invocations to Freyr, Nerthus, Njord, and Freya. They were written by him. Some of the most beautiful words I have ever heard and could not have been more perfect for that special occasion. The gifts were presented and Pat closed us out with galdring the Ingwaz Rune and then the space was reopened.



The day was complete with Sumbel. We said good words over the horn to the Ancient High Ones, to our Heroes and Ancestors, they still walk among us and within, and to the ones more easily seen making a difference in our lives today.



I want to give a special thanks to Folkbuilder Patrick Cook, Apprentice Folkbuilder Spencer Kerns, and Apprentice Folkbuilder Jessica Keller. It has been a great pleasure and helps to work with all of you more closely this year. May it continue to be so!



Lastly, to everyone else that made it out that weekend. There were many new people and to see the look on your faces, a look of healing of the soul after a long journey away from home brought much joy to all of us in leadership there. That IS what it is all about and one day you too will do the same for others.



Hail the Vanir!
Hail the Folk!
Hail the AFA!



Folkbuilder Adam Hudak
ahudak@runestone.org

Blot to Njord



Though far away, the establishment of our fourth Hof has touched our hearts and souls over here. Though we could not participate in person, we gave blot to the Lord of Waves, thanking him for his hand in making this fourth Hof become reality.



Thank you all good folk who have struggled and fought to make this Hof come to be.
May your spirits never falter.



Hail Njord!
Hail the Doers!



Freyfaxi. Harvest. The end of summer. It is all here. The air is crisp, the mornings wet with dew. The next phase of this year begins, and we approach the cold harsh winter. We had a great blot to Freyr, the lord of the harvest. We thanked him for this year's bounty, giving him a share of our harvest.



of early Fall was. Bright sunshine, and a strong northern wind breathed life into the AFA flag.



We are thankful for what this year has brought us, and we are excited for what next Summer will bring. Until then, we will prepare for Winter.

Hail Freyr!

Blot to Ullr

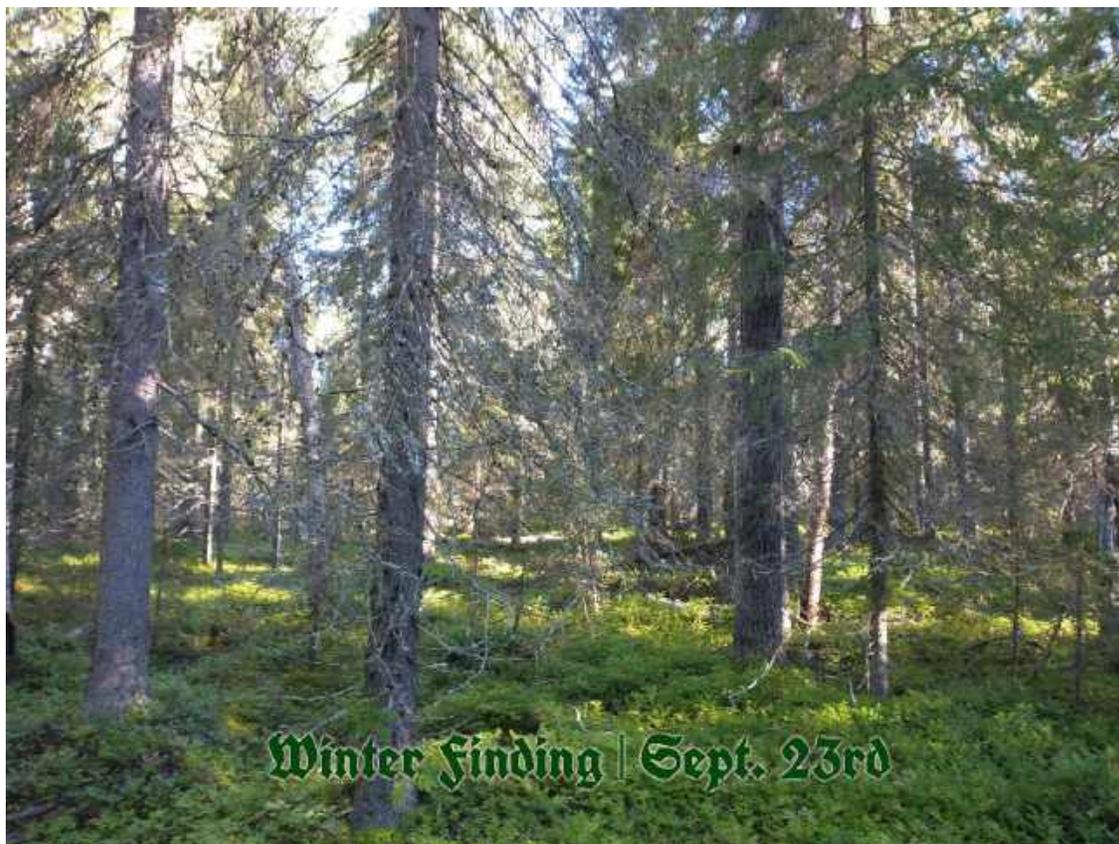


Hunting season has begun in Sweden. And for us, it usually starts off with a duck hunt on the 20th of August. This year was no different, and Ullr gave us many chances to show him our skills. As thanks for this, we gave blot to the Bow-God. The hearts of the ducks felled felt an appropriate gift. We also asked Ullr to give us patience, steady trigger fingers, and short suffering for the game we have yet to meet this year.



Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events



Join the Lugnets up north on the 23rd of September as we celebrate Winter Finding.





Erik Lugnet
Apprentice Folkbuilder
elugnet@runestone.org

Tennessee

Upcoming Events

RESURRECTION
A JOURNEY TRIBUTE
Free Concert Moot!

MCKEWN FRAZIER PARK
216 BIG SPRINGS AVENUE
TULLAHOMA, TN
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH!
7:00P.M.

Contact Apprentice Folkbuilder Chase May for more information



William May
Apprentice Folkbuilder
wmay@runestone.org

Virginia

The Greatest Gift of Giving



Whenever there is a National Event planned, there is always the feeling of coming to a family reunion. We also have the best memories of spending time with the Folk and forging the friendships we have into tangible real-world experiences instead of just on a computer screen.

One of the greatest memories I personally have is always at the Auctions that we have at those events. There is never a dull moment of friendly banter, laughing, and all-around good fun. It never ceases to amaze me at the quality and dedication people have to dedicate pieces of their art, words, pictures, and other beautiful things to be auctioned off.

And that to me is the greatest gift of giving. When you gift a piece to the Auctions, there is a sense of pride when that piece is wanted by many, and you see the price of that piece go upwards. Knowing full well that that money raised in the auction goes towards helping our church grow, pay bills towards keeping the Hofs open and running, or money set aside for the Folk Services that help out those who fall on tough times.

We should all look into our own selves and try to find a gift to go towards an auction for the Folk at one time or another. So, if you have something you wish to donate for an



Folkbuilder Cody Raynard

craynard@runestone.org

West Virginia

Freyfaxi Campout



This month, we were honored with the opportunity to join our brethren in the northeast at Green Lane Park in Montgomery County, PA for a weekend of relaxation, fellowship, and a deepening of the Frith-bond in our shared region.

The Freyfaxi Blot was based on Stonewall Kindred's ritual from last year, calling upon the four principles Vanir: Njord, Nerthus, Frey, and Freya. To this, we added a revival

season and beyond.

After the gifts were given to the Vanir, and the loaf presented before the altar for a blessing, each of us took a piece of it with us, each hallowing the four corners of our homesteads with a piece of the summer harvest, as it was done in days of old.

Blot was well attended, given in honor of the Folk Nation, and the AFA, which bears her standard.

It was a rare honor to team up with Folkbuilders Adam Hudak and Spencer Kerns to make this weekend a rousing success!

Thanks also to all of our first-time members. Freyfaxi was my first AFA event, and for this reason, it will always hold a special place in my heart as I hope it will in yours.

Holodomor Memorial Moot



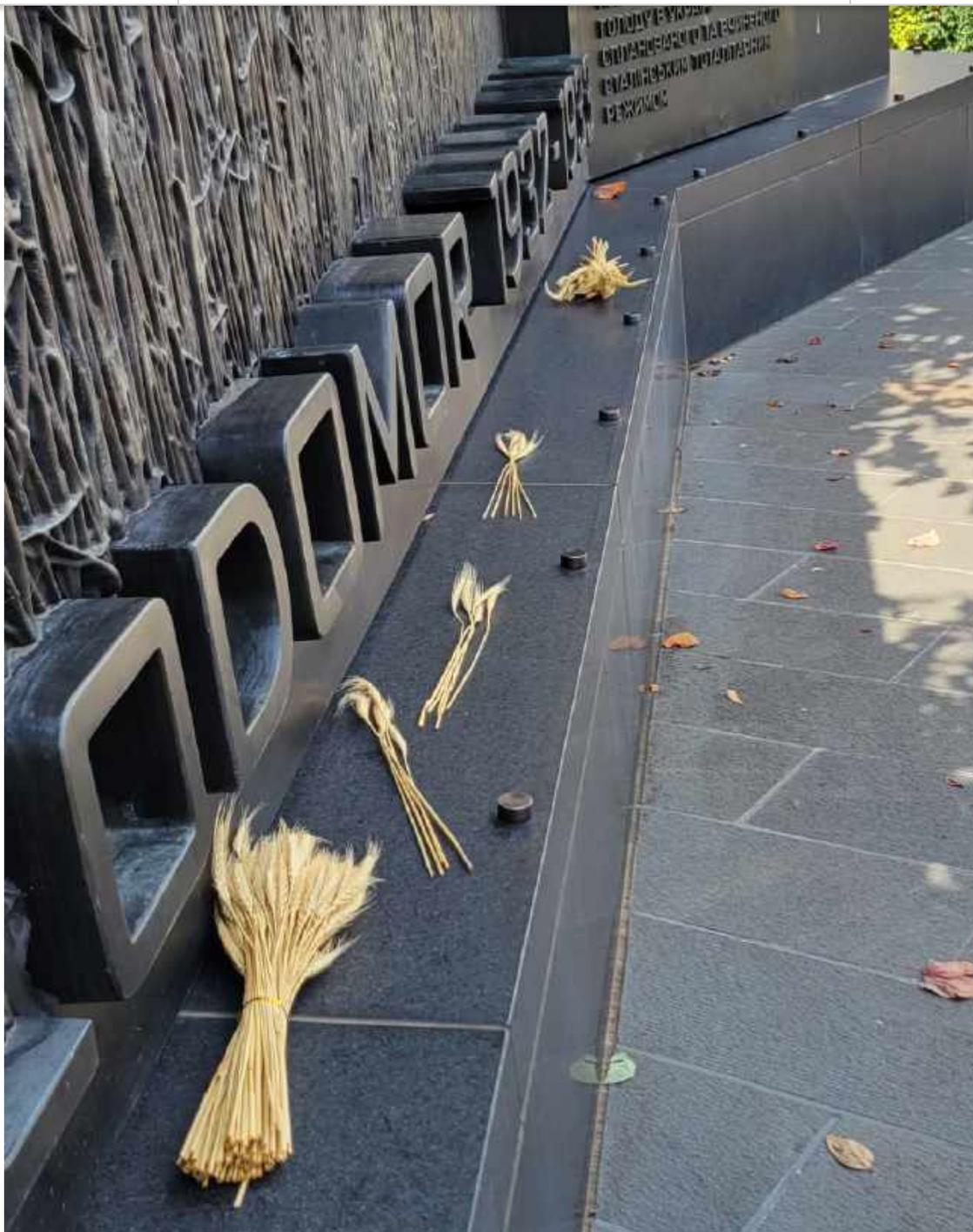
August is the beginning of the harvest season. Naturally, we think of wheat.



There was a time when it was more precious than gold, and we remember those of our



At the opening of harvest tide, we laid fresh sheaves of wheat upon this small, often overlooked memorial: in solidarity with those uncounted millions who weren't allowed to keep any of their own.



Deepest gratitude to our Stonewall Kindred brother James Bethard for hosting this deeply moving tribute in the midst of the capital city.

Upcoming Events

Please join us at the Fall Equinox:

WINTER FINDING

September 24
Barboursville, Virginia

Potluck;
Camping accommodations;
Families welcome!

Bring your ancestral relics and
hunting supplies to be blessed
for the coming season.

Presented by the Stonewall
Kindred, Asatru Folk Assembly



Copyright © *2022* Asatru Folk Assembly, All rights reserved.
[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**