

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly



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WORDS FROM THE ALSHERJARGOTHI



I told you all you should come to the AFA's Stoneship Hearth Freyfaxi and I was right! The gentlemen of Stoneship Hearth put on a great event and I was honored to be there and be a part of it. Thank you to the Stoneship Hearth for making this happen and thank you to the Bubars for their excellent hospitality.

September is the start of the fall season and the time where we harvest the bounty of all we have set into motion and tended throughout the Spring and Summer. This is a time to celebrate the fruits of our labor as well as a time to give thanks for the blessings that have allowed our efforts to flourish. These blessings come from our holy Gods, they come from our Ancestors, they also come from our AFA family. The AFA has been greatly blessed with success this year and for that we are all truly thankful.

I want to encourage everyone who reads this to come out to the fourth annual AFA Fallfest in Minnesota, this event is amazing and held in one of our strongest regions, we would love to see you there. If you cannot make it to Fallfest OR if you loved Fallfest and want more, join us for AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos in October. Coming out and celebrating with your AFA family is what makes our religion REAL. These national events are life changing and they are the best opportunities to meet other AFA members as well as leadership from around the country. Also, these events are my best opportunities for me to get to meet all of you, this is something I am always looking forward to.

Hail the Gods!
Hail the Folk!
Hail the AFA!



Matthew D. Flavel
Alsherjargothi
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FOLKBUILDER UPDATE

I'd like to welcome back Lane Ashby, to the Folkbuilding team! Lane had to step away, but is back with a bang. Lane runs the American Crow Kindred, in Florida, and currently does a study group online. I'm glad to have him back on board and if you don't know him, reach out and meet him.



We've got 2 more events this year, Fallfest in MN and Winter Nights in PA. We are already getting next years events lined up, so everyone will have plenty of time to make plans. If you've never been to a major event, your missing out. Pick one and make it happen. You'll be glad you did!

Marc MacLeod
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KINDRED SPOTLIGHT

In this month's Kindred spotlight, The Asatru Folk Assembly would like to recognize the Ulfhednar Clan of North Dakota.



They were one of the first Kindreds to be recognized as AFA Kindred, hosting monthly study groups and meetups in the Dakotas. For the last five years or so they have hosted a annual Ostara and Yule weekend event at a state park in North Dakota on the Missouri River. Their Kindred is a intricate part of the Fallfest event and has been from the very beginning, doing much of the planning and groundwork for it each year.

Ulfhednar clan, you are part of the foundation that makes our Northern Plains region so strong and the AFA as a whole! Thank you for everything you do and for being a shining representative



Hail the Ulfhednar Clan!

Hail the Kindreds of the AFA!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!



Jason Gallagher
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Freyfaxi at Óðinshof

Freyfaxi...picture a beautiful, warm day with a brilliant sky, blessed by a cooling breeze as we entered our ritual circle. Sheila McNallen welcomed us all and led our call-and-response in the Greeting to the Gods. Our sacred circle seemed especially beautiful in the golden glow of late



Later, Gothi Thorgurn Odden - full of devotion to his “friend among the gods” - offered blot in that circle to our mighty Vanic god, Freyr. Our own gifts and praises to the Boar Rider took on a special depth, a meeting of the human and the divine at this holy tide of the year.

Inside the hall, with the room encircled with the banners of AFA kindreds scattered around the globe, Stephen McNallen spoke. He described for us the dedication of the hof at Winter Nights 2015, when it was newly purchased and so exciting to behold. He told how the leader of the assembled throng ritually knocked on the door asking entry for all the folk there gathered, and how they officially walked through the doors for the first time! Óðinshof... the first full-scale heathen temple in a thousand years that is owned by the folk — OUR hof, on OUR othal land, and the first of many in the years to come!

As the day moved on, we gathered at the outdoor tables for a talk by Steve Ingle, who is our “genealogy wizard.” Topics ranged from DNA testing to migration routes of ancient populations. Be sure to check out the AFA Genealogy Facebook page if you share this passion!

Mid-afternoon, the men gathered with Michael Hunter at the picnic tables while the women

parallels in both discussions. The women braided hair-wreaths of raffia and ribbons, representing two things: our harvest season and their roles as frith-weavers of the folk. On the artistic side of things, Milena Robbins had baked an ornate knotwork bread-horse for our Freyfaxi meal - one more example of her remarkable creativity.

Dinner was a fine feast of grilled tri-tip, chicken, and corn on the cob still in the husk, made complete with delicious goulash, several salads, and sides. To say no one went hungry is an understatement!

At dusk, we again entered the ve for the Odin Blot by Alsherjargothi, Matt Flavel, which was filled to overflowing with the Might of the Gods. The hails to the High One, the sprinkling of the mead, the roaring of the flames, touched us with the Odroerir itself.

Farewells were said to those who needed to get back on the road for long trips home. The final dozen of us took the last of Knute's mead, settled down at the small fire where we, Steve and Sheila, explained the rite of sumbel, and led the group in three rounds, which afterwards was topped off with an informal round of fellowship. Strong feelings, memories and deep thoughts were shared before we ended this day. "The Folk doth abide!"

September's Winter Finding gathering, on September 21st will find us again - gathered at this place we call our spiritual home, the very heart of the Asatru revival — Óðinshof!



Sheila McNallen
AFA Folkbuilder
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Many know the tale of Herman, or Arminius if you prefer, and how he defeated 3 legions of the Roman army in the Teutoberg forest in 9 AD. I mean it is recounted and talked about around fires from here to Asgard. The story of how the Germans came together as one and pushed back against the invading Roman soldiers.

There is a lot more to the story than just a battle in the woods though. Herman, son of the chieftain of the Cherusci, was, in his youth, a captive of the Romans. He started his military career proper as part of the Roman army and by 4 AD was in charge of his own detachment of Cheruscan auxiliaries. After helping put down a revolt in the Balkans he returned back to his homeland to aid the Roman governor Varus. For Herman revolt was on his mind and he quickly began working in secret to build a confederation of German tribesmen strong enough to beat the Romans. Once all of his preparations were in order he went to Varus and gave him false information that sent 3 Roman legions to their doom.

Historians have called the Battle of Teutoberg one of Rome's worst defeats.....for German tribes it was more than just a military victory. After 9 AD Rome suspended all plans of conquest for the German heartland. The German peoples were able to continue living after the fashion of their ancestors, able to keep living their own culture, believing in their own Gods, and developing in their own way for several more generations.

Herman united his people, gave them the gift of freedom for a few more generations, and became a legend still praised to this day. You may not emulate all he did, but you to can make a difference. You to can help your Folk grow, help the next generations to know their Ancestral Gods. How? Volunteer to lead a study group, write a kids book on Asatru, organize meet and greets to introduce new people to Asatru. Become a folkbuilder if there isn't one in your area, pick up a book and begin learning more of your religion. Start a kindred, become an ordained Gothi, donate your time and your money to build our church. All of that and more are things you can do to push back the things threatening our ways today. Look to Herman as an example of what just one person can cause to happen if they persevere.

Hail Herman!!!

Blaine Qualls Jr.



Fallfest IV



We have only a few short days left to register for Fallfest IV, which takes place on September 6th, 7th, and 8th of this year! Members from across the country and the world will converge on the Minnesota Northwoods to honour our Gods and Ancestors. You don't want to miss this annual gathering! Registration is still open at fallfest2019.eventzilla.net.

Many times I am asked about Fallfest, how it got its start, why Minnesota, etc. Fallfest grew out of a conversation between Sheila McNallen, Bryan Wilton, and myself at a Winter Nights in the

together. Sheila was very receptive to the idea.



With Sheila's help we were able to secure a location for Fallfest in Minnesota in 2016. Plans were made, invitations sent, schedules made. The event looked like it would be well attended; yet less than a week before our scheduled start, the camp cancelled our reservation because of pressure from a leftist phone campaign. The Gods were with us though for within a few short hours we secured a new venue for our event. The next few days were a flurry of messages and travel changes, in the end

we were able to get most of our attendees to the new venue. That first Fallfest was the beginning of something amazing. Born out of adversity, it has since that time been one of the premier events of the AFA.

Fallfest II saw us secure a new venue for our event, in just a few months we had out grown the venue of Fallfest I. At Fallfest II my wife and I were wed by our Alsherjargothi, Matt Flavel.

Fallfest III saw Steve and Sheila McNallen finally able to come to Minnesota and honour the Gods with the Northern Plains folk.

Fallfest IV will be no less spectacular this year. We have great speakers, great rituals, and many of our leadership and Witan will be in attendance. We have Steve and Sheila flying in, a Gothi student from Sweden flying in, folk from across the country, and something like 30+ children scheduled to attend. It looks to be another amazing weekend!



Registration is still open at fallfest2019.eventzilla.net. Hope to see many of you there!

Blaine Qualls, Jr.

AFA Gothar Coordinator, Witan

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Winter Nights



The eighth annual Winter Nights in the Poconos will be held in Milford, Pennsylvania from October 18 - 20! 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 in the crisp air of mountains as winter sets in. We build upon the success of the Asatru Folk Assembly here in the Northeast by making new friends and renewing old friendships. We look forward to seeing members and friends!

this weekend at <https://winternights2019.eventbrite.com>. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ves Heill!



Clifford J. Erickson
AFA Folkbuilder, Witan
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Welcome to Ember Rose

On August 31st I had the immense honor of performing a baby naming ritual for Daniel and Michelle Faulkner's daughter, Ember Rose Faulkner in Long Island, NY. The day began with lunch at an awesome german restaurant for family and friends, followed by the ritual at the Faulkner's home.

Attended by over 20 family and friends, everyone was able to enjoy beautiful weather in which to raise the horn to the newest member of the Faulkner family. Surrounded with love, and gifted with the best of wishes from everyone in attendance, Ember Rose was named and and cheered by all.



Hail to the Faulkner Family!

Hail to Ember Rose!

Catie Erickson



Deep South



In Central Florida we held a casual Freyfaxi with good folk. After lunch there was a ceremony to dedicate our ritual hammer. The wood chips from its carving served as a physical manifestation of the labor that went into making it. We then made that labor our offering to Thor that he may continue to protect all those who attend our blóts. After the dedication our blót to Freyr for the first harvest was held. We thanked the son of Njörd for the prosperity of our Folk, the fertility of the fields and the beasts that inhabit Midgard. We ended the day keeping cool by the pool having many wonderful conversations on a range of topics including plans for the future of our growing community.

On the topic of growing community, it is great to see the attendance of our AFA Study Group for Florida continues to increase every week. Everyone participates in the discussions and we all learn from the varied perspectives and how our different life experiences are reflected in the subject matter.



Lane Ashby
Apprentice Folkbuilder
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Midwest

Greetings from Indiana,

This has been an exciting month for the Midwest. We always try to keep things that way but this one is an exception. There are so many things that we plan and look forward to. And I would be more than happy to tell you about them. Each month we build on the last and strive for

First, I'd like to mention that since our last regional event we have been working towards our next and last for the year. A Fall Event where we will be having a handfasting and also presentations by myself on the history of the Midwest, Ancestral Veneration and other things. We will also be having presentations by others that will be joining us. Each time we have had these they have gotten better and better. Please reach out to me if you wish to attend.

Second, there have been two great meetups that we have had this month. Earlier in the month we had a round up of Michigan members and potential members that was a great success. I expect great things to be happening in this area very soon. We, Midwest Folkbuilders, have been working very hard on getting things going for our members in every state. It is happening and happening now! Also, this month, members from my Heimdalls Midgard Kindred met with the Grim Raven Tribe in Southern Indiana. This is the second time this year that we have met up and our relations are growing stronger all of the time. We all wish to continue the interaction and solidarity.



Third, at the end of the month, part of Heimdalls Midgard had a weekend camping trip. All involved had an excellent time. We cooked as well as told stories around the fire. We had kids there that did not spend the weekend on tablets or phones but with nature and family. I am sure that all that were involved will remember the weekend for the rest of their lives. We took the

involved!

We have really taken off in my area! We have been getting new AFA members a lot this month, and being the one to speak with many of them, what an amazing Midwest we are building! And to the already established Midwest, the great deeds never stop! We have had been able to enlighten our lives as well as the children involved and really see how important all of this is! Even though the world isn't exactly how we would like to see it at this time, the things that we are doing are truly making a difference around us. It has to start somewhere and it has begun and showing results!

Until next time, I hope to add much more with the coming month of September. The Regional Fall Event is coming, action around each of our states in the Midwest and action around the whole of the AFA Family of Tribes!

Hail the Doers!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!



Zach Cato
Apprentice Folkbuilder
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Northeast

Updates from Stoneship Hearth

We just celebrated Freyfaxi here in New England. It was a great day with great folk. We can't wait for Winter Nights in the Poconos in October!

On Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 12 PM the Stoneship Hearth will host a Poolside Runestudy in Brookfield, Massachusetts. We will dive into the mystery and the lore of the runes and we will

go over and learn the mysteries of the next in line. We will end the study with a Blot to Odin followed by drinks and refreshment. So all who want to dig deep into our runic mysteries join us and learn the wisdom of the Gods and Goddesses!



The Stoneship Hearth will be celebrating Harvest Blot in Plymouth, Massachusetts at a members home on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 1 PM. The Blot will take place on a sea side cliff; it will be a memorable moment! Come and give Blot and honor our Gods and Ancestors! If you wish to come please PM a member for details.

For more information on Stoneship Hearth [visit our Facebook page](#).

Updates from Lansdale Tru Folk

The Lansdale Tru Folk celebrated Freyfaxi, the first harvest, with our kindred's traditional Blot to Freyr, Njord, and Nerthus. We were honored to host a far travelling AFA member from West Virginia for his first ever Blot and Sumbel. The very next weekend, some of us then had the honor of travelling to visit with the Stoneship Kindred in Massachusetts for their Freyfaxi as well. There is nothing better than knowing that we have other Tru Folk in our AFA family who will welcome us and who we can welcome in frith.

Starting on September 15, Lansdale Tru Folk members will be hosting a series of fall and winter hike moots in beautiful Evansburg State Park! This is open to non AFA members who are interested in learning more about the faith and taking in a great hike. Evansburg State Park is a beautiful forest with easy to medium in difficulty hiking trails nestled in the Suburbs of Montgomery County.

After the hike, we will meet at Lansdale Tavern for lunch! For a full list of dates please see [our Facebook events list](#).



Sif. Please contact
cerickson@runestone.org if interested.

Holy Days celebrated by Lansdale Tru Folk
 in 2019:

Thorrablot,
 Saturday Feb 23
 (Thor)
 Ostara, Sunday
 March 31 (Ostara)
 Sumarsdag,
 Saturday May 4
 (Odin)



Midsummer (private), Friday June 21 (Sunna)

Freyfaxi, Sunday August 11 (Frey)

Harvest, Saturday Sept 21 (Sif)

Winter Nights in the Poconos (AFA), Fri Oct 18 - Sun Oct 20 (Disir)

Feast of the Einherjar, Sunday Nov 10 (Einherjar)

Yule, Saturday Dec 28 (Ancestors)

Please contact Clifford Erickson if you are new interested in any of these events, if you are in the Northeast region looking for other members, or if you will be passing through.

Ves Heill!



Clifford J. Erickson
 AFA Folkbuilder, Witan
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Northern Plains



Plains getting things planned and ready for Fallfest 4. This is the event that us in the Northern Plains look forward to all year long. Hope to see many of you there!

We had our monthly meet and greet which was abruptly halted by a hard downpour. Nonetheless, we still got together in the real world and continued it at my place. We finished off the month with our Third Annual Folkish Family Freyfaxi. What a beautiful event it was, and a nice, warm, sunny day, not too hot.

This marks the end of our third year and we begin our fourth year with the fourth annual Folkish Family Disirblót October 12th. I am really proud of everyone and of how far we have come in a few years' time. It just goes to show when you put time and energy into something and work hard it eventually pays off. I am beyond grateful for my AFA Family and Kindred. Here's to all the great things that are coming our way in the near future.



Hail the AFA!



Group Schedule

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sept. 6-8 | Fallfest, MN Northwoods |
| Sept. 21, 2-5pm | Monthly meet and greet, Redwing, MN |
| Sept. 28, 9am-5pm | Kensington Runestone field trip, Alexandria, MN |
| Oct. 12, 2-5pm | 4th Annual Disirblót Bloomington, MN |
| Oct. 27, 12-2pm | Monthly Hike up 12 pm - 2 pm Minnehaha Park, Minneapolis, MN |

Hail the Doers!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Jason Gallagher
AFA Folkbuilder

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Northwest

There are several events happening around the NW this month. If you would like to sponsor an event in your area let me know and I will help you set it up.

Hails from the Pacific Northwest! The order of Natural Law in the Cosmos states that there is always a masculine and feminine aspect to everything, without it we would not exist. Look around you, it can be seen in all things that are alive, from animals to plants, these two aspects come together to create life. As a man sometimes it is difficult to understand Ásatrú from a feminine perspective, so I've asked Emily, (a founding member of the great Vinland Volk Tribe located in Vancouver BC) to write an article sharing with us how Ásatrú relates to women and what it offers a woman of the modern world. Please enjoy this vital glimpse inside of Ásatrú through a women's perspective.

ASATRÚ AND THE MODERN WOMAN

by Emily Fehr

It can be hard to know where we, as women, fit in today's modern society; what exactly our role is; our purpose. Guerrilla feminism has torn the fabric of collective female self-awareness, and we are all led from birth on a journey away from ourselves, destined for confusion and depression via mass media marketing. We are brainwashed from birth to believe that our value as women is dependent on a combination of base sex appeal and a willingness to imitate our male counterparts in both personality and lifestyle. We're taught that aggression is a virtue, promiscuity is empowering, and only oppressed women stay home to raise their own children. As a result, we are lost adrift. We are the victims of an ideological war - one that has taken us so far from our natural state as nurturing mothers, spiritual vessels, Creators, Goddesses, that many of us barely recognize those aspects of ourselves anymore.

Discovering Ásatrú, and thereby reconnecting with our ancestral values, helps us find ourselves

empowerment as women, so that we may better understand and fulfill our roles in the community and find our true purpose as individuals.

Ásatrú is not just a “boy’s club”, where men reconnect with their inner barbarian and learn to fight for glory; there are likewise innumerable lessons to be learned and inner connections to be made for women who follow the old ways as well. If you look you will find examples of feminine strength and power all throughout the lore - from tales of a Mother’s love, to the unending sacrifice of a wife; the cleverness of the female who wields magic, and much more - wherever you look you can find reasons to be uplifted and inspired by our Goddesses and the roles they play in our myths. Their wisdom will help you navigate your relationships with others (and your relationship with yourself) and help you in your quest to be the best Sister, Daughter, Mother or Wife that you can be. Ásatrú is all of this, plus the swelling pride and indescribable comfort of sharing these unifying experiences with all your fellow folkish sisters.

Ásatrú, and especially the AFA, is nothing if not a close community. We are your people. We share a long history, rich culture, ancient blood, and inescapable fate. This is your home... and when you come home to the true faith of your people, you not only gain the insight and power of our Gods, you gain the love and support of an extended family—and there is nothing more special and more sustaining, as a woman and as a human being, than that.



This Month we have a remembrance for one of Germany's greatest heroes, Herman of the Cherusci—who defeated a Roman legion and kept Germany free from the subjugation of Rome. We will be raising a horn at and donning our Lederhosen at the Mt. Angel Oktoberfest located in Mt. Angel.

Oregon, and camping overnight together behind one of the Festhalle. This truly is the best Oktoberfest outside of Germany, with plenty of German music, dancing, food and of course Bier!

different subject relating to Asatru' and catch up with each other. There are also rune studies in Vancouver BC and Couer D' Alene Idaho, as well as a Hike in northern Idaho. If you would like to organize an event in your area, contact me and I will help you set it up.

Schedule:

Sept. 10	Rune study, Coure d' Alené, ID
Sept. 14	Day of Remembrance for Herman of the Cherusci and Oktoberfest, Mt. Angel OR
Sept. 20-21	Oktoberfest, Coure d' Alené, ID
Sept. 28	Hike, Coure d'Alené, ID
Sept. 28	Rune study, Vancouver B.C.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Joe Rozanek
AFA Folkbuilder
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Scandinavia

August started off good. As usual, on the 9th, most of our Scandinavian and European members dedicated that evening to honor Odin. This 9th we gathered in a very strong and sacred stone ring on the west coast. Nine fine folks and three Odin statues were present as the sound of his many names echoed between the mountains.

The day after, we headed to the house of the Swedes, which is organized and owned by the



than 250 people were present.

Asatru Folk Assembly Scandinavia was on site with a table full of merchandise, but most important is the face to face meetings you get with people interested in Asatru. We made lots of new contacts, international as well as national. We also had the opportunity to be interviewed by a Swedish alternative newspaper. I want to thank all those who helped us at the table,

and a big thanks to the organizers of this event.

I want to remind all of our European members of the Thor Blot next month, during the last weekend of September. Don't forget to signup and get your cabins rented. This is our yearly Ting where we will discuss issues and topics of interest for the coming year, so if you have any questions or ideas please send them to anilsson@runestone.org.

For our Scandinavian members, we are starting a new Utesittnings course. This is aimed at getting the people to experience a closer and living connection with our ancestors and powers. It is divided into three parts. We start with a soft and gentle place and move on during the course. This event is held on different grave mounds and holy places on the west coast. If someone from another part of Scandinavia is interested, I can help with guidelines or a compressed version three nights in a row.



Hail Foldadrottin!

Hail the AFA!

Anders Nilsson

Folkbuilder

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South Africa

Another month has come and gone, with each passing day we creep closer and closer to December, to summer, our holyday time. This September we first have to stop at Ostara (17th – 23rd September) Spring time. This is the celebration of the greatest harmony between male and female; a festival of courtship, coupling and fertility. We honour the Goddess Ostara (Eostre). By giving coloured eggs to family and kin we symbolize well-wishing and fertility and the rabbit as a symbol of sexual virility. When the God Baldur and his bride the Goddess Nanna walk upon Midgard, their footsteps leave a trail of flowers and thus symbolize the end of winter and the coming of spring.



'Our Oranje, blanje, blou': it's about freedom

A flag issue hit South Africa. The old flag of the country is forbidden. Even a flag on your desk at home is hate speech.

The display of the flag is not only hate speech, but also discrimination and harassment. The courts have spoken; case law was created.

The flag is now regulated. There is a clear right and wrong. If you dare to violate it, you are guilty of hate speech and, in Ernst Roets's case, he must be sentenced to contempt, according to the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

short while after 1994, old South African flags were still seen at rugby matches, but after that it disappeared. Here and there you will sometimes see another lost flag. The Black Monday flags that gave rise to the Nelson Mandela Foundation's court case were, ironically, fake news.

The community handled the flag issue in a particularly mature way. There was understanding about the sensitivity of the flag and how other South Africans felt about the flag. The flag was not banned and it was not necessary because South Africans themselves decided not to display it. Handling the old South African flag was a nice story of community maturity.

Rather, communities and societies that are truly free are those where flags and ideas do not have to be banned and where communities interact with respect for each other's symbols and history. This is where all ideas, including the bad ones, are allowed to compete with each other - allowing a community to decide for themselves what ideas they want to develop and which ones to throw out.

Globally, it is a disturbing trend when governments begin to ban flags, and as a result, therefore, ideas. It indicates a government that is unwilling to compete in the fight for ideas and to ban all opposition instead.

It is still seen today in China where the flag of Tibet is banned. As in the case of all ideas, it is never just a flag and you can go to jail in Tibet if you listen to unwanted songs or pictures of the Dalai Lama. In the end, a government can't stop banning symbols and ideas and you end up with the absurdity of a China that forbids pictures of Winnie the Pooh.

Contrary to what Judge Mojapelo's ruling would suggest, flags and symbols in the real world almost always carry more than one meaning. By stating that a symbol's meaning should be based on what the majority would find offensive, extremely dangerous territory is entered. Practically, Judge Mojapelo did not prohibit a flag; he forbade disagreement with the majority.

For many South Africans, the flag has a specific meaning. They see the flag as a symbol of domination, pain and humiliation. This experience of them is real and it must be understood.

South Africans dealt with these conflicting experiences in a natural way. They understood the feelings of black South Africans, much more than was acknowledged. It was decided to save the flag. It was a wise community that acted that way. Those who continued to use the flag demonstratively went against this natural community norm. They were the exception and stood out. Thus, the community itself decided to defuse the potential conflict and voluntarily participated in a larger discussion around reconciliation.

flag. The court must now clarify that. The community must be regulated from above. Those who have violated the norm should not stand out but be punished. They deprive the community of the right to decide for themselves. A high authority must determine centrally. The day the court made a decision, a piece of freedom to decide for themselves was taken away from the community. It is even centrally decided what may be in your home.

Very few people have flags in the house, but many who do not have it themselves can decide that they do not want the flag in the house.



The community's own decision to raise the flag has been lifted, creating immediate tension. The flags are again symbolically taken out of the closet and displayed especially on social media - this time as a symbol of freedom of speech against a government that treats its citizens like children and wants to dictate to them what to say and think. The prohibited flag suddenly unleashed resistance on a government that wants to extend its power to the homes of its citizens. Those who show the flag demonstratively are no longer marginalized, but suddenly become martyrs. The flag is alive again and memories of the flag are recalled.

There is a fine line between a flag offending and you offending; between a flag that symbolizes a repressive system and you that is a repressive system. The flag is gone but you are still here ...

Afrikaners rightly feel the ruling is not in isolation, but is part of a larger bullying process: Lesufi and schools; Afrikaans abolished at universities; race quotas at workplaces and others; the double standards that apply to racism; the legal and illegal destruction of cultural heritage is all part of the background against which the flag saga takes place.

Ironically, it is the Nelson Mandela Foundation that has brought this tension into the community - those who must protect the legacy of Mandela have broken the voluntary community agreement. In the run-up to the court case, AfriForum wrote a long, comprehensive letter to the foundation asking them to rather resolve the issue through healthy dialogue.

In a brief, cold legal letter, the Mandela Foundation rejected the proposal for the dialogue.

The court must speak. An answer must come from above. The Nelson Mandela Foundation's way

Those who rave about the court intervening to ban the flag should not complain too much when deciding where their pension should be invested, or in which hospital they may lie, where their children may go to school or what the contents are of curricula should not be.

Those who rave about the court intervening to ban the flag should not complain too much when deciding where their pension should be invested, or in which hospital they may lie, where their children may go to school or what the contents of curricula should not be. Those journalists who cannot hide their joy at the flag being banned must understand that a totalitarian decision about what may be shown is a cat spit away from a totalitarian decision about what may be written. Jail for what you say or show, and jail for what you write are not far apart. The flag debacle is not simply about freedom of speech but about freedom.

In the last 25 years, I have also never displayed the old South African flag. I also didn't need it. Other Africans and I understand and acknowledge the wider context of the country, which includes historical pain and humiliation from our own history. This past week, though, I caught myself humming: "Oranje, blanje, blou"



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Upper South

We have been super busy across our corner of the Upper South! On August 10th a group met up at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Virginia to enjoy some heartracing rides, beer and dinner in the festhaus, and fireworks in the evening!



The Grim Raven Tribe Kindred in Kentucky met up at the Bavarian Gerst Haus for some fun with the folk and a good German meal!

On Saturday August 24th the Irongard kindred held three simultaneous moots, one in Virginia Beach, one in central Virginia, and one in Maryland!



At the very end of July, a group of folk met up at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, to enjoy a hike with beautiful scenery!



The Upper South is an amazing region. The activity is really building and it is a great place to be! I would like the folk to be thinking about the upcoming national event, Winter Nights in Pennsylvania. If you need help with transportation please don't hesitate to reach out! If you are not part of the Upper South Facebook group, or you don't use Facebook, please reach out to me or another folkbuilder so we can get you on an email list so you stay in the loop.

I'd also like to remind folks that we are still in the thick of transitioning from PayPal. Please

Lastly, and on a very serious note. If you are struggling with addiction, or with any difficulty, you are not alone. Please don't suffer in silence, or struggle alone. We are here, we are a family. Reach out to a gothi, reach out to a folkbuilder, reach out to someone. We often like to think of ourselves as rocks and don't want to show anything perceived as a weakness, but it is not weak to admit you need help; we all need help with something sometimes. A lone stick is easily broken, but when put in a bundle and bound together, it becomes as strong as iron.



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Update from the Sandhills Kindred

It was great spending Sunnasdæg with family. We toasted Freyr and thanked him for the many blessings that he's bestowed upon us this harvest season. We also talked about upcoming kindred projects, events, and the phenomenal growth that we've experienced.



Being a part of the Sandhills Kindred is a commitment to a higher resolve, one that simply consists of honoring the Gods and the nine noble virtues. It's all about building a community that can weather the storms of life. It's about being family and having that support structure in good times and bad. People are notoriously going to quit at things and this is not bad, especially when it comes to building a strong resilient kindred. Division and weakness are both products of undecisevness and lack of discipline.

No kindred needs people who can't show up. There's a big difference between spectators and participants. Back in the day, a tribe was essential to survival. Lame excuses and selective amnesia doesn't carry much weight when you commit to an Oath and others are depending on you. I learned that at a young age growing up on a farm and later on in the military.



who complete our inner circle.

Hail the Sandhills Kindred. We will be solidifying our ranks as it's that time of year when we reaffirm our annual Kindred Oaths. If you'd like to be apart of our thriving community then please reach out to Josh William or Will Hester. Ultimately Freyr is to thank for this bounty and the many people

Hail Freyr! 🌿

Hail the Sandhills Kindred! 🌿

Hail those who answer to a higher resolve.

Hail the High Ones.

Hail the AFA!



Paul Hester

AFA Folkbuilder

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AFA West

**AFA FOLK AND FAMILY
SILVER LAKE CAMPOUT**



From all of us that were there, we want to say “thank you” to Victor Podberger and Krystal Bailey for organizing this event.



Thirteen AFA folk attended this three-day event, and everyone had a great time. A beautiful hike up to one of the mountain lakes on Saturday was the highlight of the trip.

Marc Macleod and Will Migala climbed to top of Spanish Peaks and were rewarded with some fantastic views.

All in all, this was a wonderful event, and we are all looking forward to the next one!





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The Horn-Bearer in Today's AFA



“Joyous then was the Jewel-giver, hoar-haired, war-brave; help awaited the Bright-Danes’ prince, from Beowulf hearing, folk’s good shepherd, such firm resolve. Then was laughter of liegemen loud resounding with winsome words. Came Wealhtheow forth, queen of Hrothgar, heedful of courtesy, gold-decked, greeting the guests in hall; and the high-born lady handed the cup first to the East-Danes’ heir and warden, bade him be blithe at the beer-carouse, the land’s beloved one. Lustily took he banquet and beaker, battle-famed king. Through the hall then went the Helmings’ Lady, to younger and older everywhere carried the cup, till come the moment when the ring-graced queen, the royal-hearted, to Beowulf bore the beaker of mead. She greeted the

Geats’ lord, God she thanked, in wisdom’s words, that her will was granted, that at last on a hero her hope could lean for comfort in terrors. The cup he took, hardy-in-war, from Wealhtheow’s hand, and answer uttered the eager-for-combat. Beowulf spoke, bairn of Ecgtheow: “This was my thought, when my thanes and I bent to the ocean and entered our boat, that I would work the will of your people fully, or fighting fall in death, in fiend’s gripe fast. I am firm to do an earl’s brave deed, or end the days of this life of mine in the mead-hall here.” Well these words to the woman seemed, Beowulf’s battle-boast.—Bright with gold the stately dame by her spouse sat down.”

In this passage from Beowulf (lines 607-641) we have one of many references to women as cup-bearers, particularly during sumbel. Evidence, in runic inscriptions as well as in literature, abound. What was once a jealously guarded privilege held by women of nobility has become a role that seems little understood by both the men and women of Asatru. Speaking specifically in terms of Sumbel, many Asatruar forgo the use of a horn-bearer altogether in favor of the

First we must consider the real role of our ancient horn-bearers. The Lady of the Hall was the only woman who was ever expected to attend sumbel with the men, and it was she who chose the women who would aid her in the task of keeping the men's cups full. It was the Lady of the Hall who chose the seating arraignments, usually by rank or dignity. And it was the Lady of the Hall who was the first to handle the horn, offering it in greeting to men as they entered, and most especially, passing the horn during Sumbel — a task that was held in the utmost esteem.

It was considered imperative to our ancestors that the holy drink pass through the hands of a woman in between each toast. Widely recognized was the “special provenance” of women — the healing touch, or nourishing main that was so innate in them. They are the frith-weavers, the peace-keepers, and even something as simple as their touch could balance the energy. So from toast to toast, the woman’s touch helped to balance the more chaotic energies of the men.

There is also evidence to lend credence to the idea that the horn-bearers, while respectful, were often not just silent witnesses to the sumbel. Often they were sought after to give womanly advice, to help sooth jangled nerves, or to step in and settle tensions between men before the possibility of Frith being broken.

Why is this important? In a world of rampant anti-traditionalism sometimes it is important to take the time to find the small formalities, to bring back the traditional roles of our men and women. We should also consider how the inherent abilities of women can be useful today.

To begin, we consider that women are still frith-weavers and peace-keepers. And men are still chaotic by nature. Couple that with the fast pace, generally angry world that we currently live in and the possibility of that chaotic energy mixing into the horn is high. What better way to combat that than by having a women pass the horn from one person to the next? It is not an easy task, however. It isn't just a matter of handing the horn off. A woman who is chosen to carry the horn becomes the protector of the horn, of the frith of the horn. Thusly, it is her duty to calm an agitated toaster, or to help someone who might need help. Above all things, it is her job to maintain the frith of the hall.



is disinterested in what is being said? Or that she was fidgety and seemed to wish to be elsewhere? How often as a woman acted as though she would rather not be carrying the horn? While this behavior is generally not seen in the AFA, it can be seen outside of it. But why?

Maybe it is because the women don't realize the importance of the task. Maybe it is because they don't understand that they have been honored. There is no real answer to this. What we can do is to simply make sure that our women and our men know that to be chosen to carry the horn is, indeed an honor. It is a recognition of hard work. It is a recognition of dedication. It is the singling out of one woman above the others, not to embarrass, but to rise up. A gythia carrying the horn does so because she understands the enormity of the task, because it is her duty, and because it is her pleasure. For all others it is a recognition and celebration of excellence, and as such it needs to be earned.

By honoring the role of horn-bearer we are endeavoring to fill the horn with the frithful energy of women. We are bringing back traditional roles that we need to help fight back against the anti-traditional world we live in. We are honoring our ancestors by taking up their customs. And above all else, we are elevating our women!



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Widikund, Charlemagne, and the Beginning of the Viking Age—730 CE

Officially, the Viking Age in the history books (which of course are written by the victors of wars), begins in the year 793ce with the destruction of the Priory or Abby called Linesfarne an island off the coast of eastern England.

what is today the Netherlands and Germany, one Widikund was fighting against a war lord of the Church from France, Charlemagne. This battle or more to the point was a long series of attacks from the Franks over a thirty year long period. It seems that the Saxons were holding a yearly assembly where each district would send in 12 men from the three classes of men, the nobles, the freemen and the tenants. There were 100 districts in Saxony that Widikund was in leadership over and at this assembly of 100 districts there was a total of 3200 representatives. This is what Charlemagne attacked. In a day at a place called Verdun he beheaded 3600 men. That was the first attack. Many of the people fled, some to Denmark, as Denmark was still pagan and their king Godfred gave these victims protection, 782ce.

There was another defeat for the Saxons and the failure of the Saxons to keep the peace of a conquered people and fight, so angered Charlemagne that he had a formal document drawn up, most likely by the Church called the Saxon Capitulary, 785. Those that could not flee were put under this document, and many were taken south or put into abbeys if they were women, some just disappeared, thousand, tens of thousands over the 30 year campaign were 'relocated'. So, if one of the Saxon children was hidden to avoid Baptism, Capital Offence, if one was found venerating a spring, Capital Offence, same also if found out in a holy grove, Capital Offence, speaking against Christianity, Capital Offence and from there, smaller offences and penalties.

The above mentioned Danish King Godfred had helped the refugees from Frisia and Saxony and he took to fighting back and while in Frisia he was murdered. His son or nephew, (seems some confusion here) became the new king and signed a peace with Charlemagne.

In a final battle possible where the Danish King was murdered, Widikund surrendered and was placed in an abbey, 810ce where he died. With this final defeat of the Saxons and Frisians Pope Hadrian wrote a glowing letter about Charlemagne and his crushing the pagans the Pope was so pleased with this that he made Charlemagne the first Holy Roman Emperor and was crowned as such.

With all of this cultural cleansing going others were attempting to fight back and as Professor Torgim Titlestad of Stavanger, Norway writes today, that he calls the attack on Lindnesfarne and Iona a pre-emptive attack against the forces of the Church. My thoughts are the same and I would add that at the beginning of the Viking Age this in my opinion was the main point of the counter attack, however, people being people, there are always other motives such as just plain greed and lawlessness. Anyway, some Danish 'Vikings' attacked Paris and the Viking age began in earnest. Lindnesfarne was a place of intrigue, information about the pagans in Frisia, Denmark, and Saxony, the Bishops and priests were the "internet" of the day right back to Rome.

Dragon Slayer.



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The Power of Words

Then said Ægir: "It seems to me that Thjazi was a mighty man: now of what family was he?" Bragi answered: "His father was called Ölvaldi, and if I tell thee of him, thou wilt think these things wonders. He was very rich in gold; but when he died and his sons came to divide the inheritance, they determined upon this measure for the gold which they divided: each should take as much as his mouth would hold, and all the same number of mouthfuls. One of them was Thjazi, the second Idi, the third Gangr. And we have it as a metaphor among us now, to call gold the mouth-tale of these giants; but we conceal it in secret terms or in poesy in this way, that we call it Speech, or Word, or Talk, of these giants." Then said Ægir: "I deem that well concealed in secret terms."

Why would it be concealed? Why would the rich inheritance of a man be concealed from everyone? The power of a small-minded man's words are some of the most dangerous things around. Those half-truths and lies, twisted perceptions, and outright deceptions are how lesser men manipulate the thought process of anyone who will listen to them. It is how they weave a curtain of awe, dread and fear amongst men so they might stay in power. So that they might continue to be perceived as giants. This is how Loki wrought such great devastation amongst his own people. With words. Those words whispered into the ear of blind Hodr at the edge of the crowd. What would happen if everyone, the uninspired and the uninitiated became convinced of the legitimacy of their words? Chaos would ensue. Much as it is today. You end up with men and women pondering half truths as reality and spreading it far and wide as a truth. A plausible course of action for men to follow which always leads them astray. It may shine like gold when these spoken words are brought forth into this world, but they are covered in the drool of giants.

themselves. The conditions by which they insist they might determine the worth of everyone around them. And with a word, they will cause enormous pain, resentment and hate. They will sabotage their own future with these same words. These folks are largely convinced that these things which they feel they can talk about are their identity. When the reality of it is that they are worth far more than the approval of a stranger. Less wisdom by far is found in another's heart. It comes to us covered in a corrosive substance.

Of course the Gods would wish for this deceit to be concealed in secret. No one wants to listen to someone whose mouth is full, especially when they are blowing smoke up your butt. But it is a reality. And it draws us off our path. How would the Gods, who have invested so much in us, head such a crippling idea aimed at the ability of men to advance, off at the pass so to speak. The concept of Poesy is one way. By wrapping these abstract concepts in words which describe what they are, how they function or what they possess. To teach that process of how to think an emissary is given to the world. A representative of wisdom some aspect of which has appeared in almost every ancient mythology of which we know.

And again said Ægir: "Whence did this art, which ye call poesy, derive its beginnings?" Bragi answered: "These were the beginnings thereof. The gods had a dispute with the folk which are called Vanir, and they appointed a peace-meeting between them and established peace in this way: they each went to a vat and spat their spittle therein.

From their mouths, spittle, not gold, but the liquid evidence of the DNA. Their genetic makeup is combined to create something magnificent which is dedicated to us. Once again, a liquid, a form of water, is used as a conduit for the divine. We have the Rigsthula where the divine is invited into the home, we have Baldur and Forsetti establishing justice for a society, and we have all the gods imparting their wisdom onto the world in the form of Kvasir. This seems to me that it is a powerful reassurance that these divine beings are on our side. Furthermore, it seems that they have literally built a path we might follow in order to join them. At the very least, tools with which we might build ourselves a fine life. An Enigma wrapped within a riddle I once heard, and it seems to encapsulate the Runes most accurately. It is up to us to decipher those wise secrets of growth and development hidden within Poesy. And all of them are demonstrations of what a person can become.

Bryan Wilton



Educating Children

Reading the Eddas and other literature handed down to us from our ancestors makes it obvious that many if not most of our ancestors lived in an enchanted world. Unfortunately that is something that is not available to most of us today. I like gardening and occasionally a plant will communicate strong emotion to me and I even saw a classical leprechaun at one point, but mostly I am severely retarded in this way and probably many others. I think that certain things are necessary for us to return to the enchanted world of our ancestors.

1. Our ancestors lived in nature. The structured, manufactured world that we inhabit does not provide an environment that fosters knowledge of the spiritual nature of reality that is necessary to understand our ancestors.
2. We have been taught to view ourselves as individuals and be primarily self centered. Our ancestors were tribal. Their allegiance was to the family, the clan and the tribe. They would consider our focus on ourselves very strange. It seems that they thought they were their ancestors reincarnated and that they would reincarnate into their descendants. Today we tend to take that as either some kind of soul reincarnation or a genetic reincarnation. Either way we live through our family and clan and not as individuals.
3. We are born with a type of mental function that we lose if we do not learn to use it as babies. This means as soon as possible and certainly before we are three years old.

I am reading a series of books called "The Ringing Cedars of Russia" by Vladimir Megré. The books are about a woman named Anastasia who lives in the Siberian Wilderness of Russia.

supposed to be a descendant of a long line of people who are from an early time before Russia was a country with aristocracy, Then the Heathens were systematically exterminated by the Christians. Her ancestors either escaped into the wilderness or were already there and managed to escape the slaughter.

There is no way of knowing how much of this is true. Anastasia suggests how to return to the enchanted world of our ancestors. The books are obviously the authors attempt to explain the lives of our ancestors and provide a roadmap for how to return to what he considers an idyllic existence. Many of the powers supposedly possessed by Anastasia do not seem so bizarre if we realize that many of these abilities have been taught to babies since WWII. I believe that if we truly want to understand our ancestors and return to their world we have to teach our children how to do it. Anastasia's ancestors taught her. She did not just magically acquire her abilities.

Glen Doman recently died at 93. He was a highly decorated soldier in WWII. At that time brain-injured patients were routinely warehoused and considered hopeless. In the 1950's Doman figured out how to restore many patients with virtually no function to normal functioning. He then wondered what would happen if he used these methods with normal children. The results were beyond belief. He wrote books on teaching baby reading, math and physical excellence. Other books are on intelligence and knowledge base. He founded the <https://www.iahp.org/> that has books, materials, and courses for parents and children as well as other things.

To give you the flavor of this I bought the book on teaching math. Babies are voracious learners. The younger they are the easier it is for them to learn. When they learn numbers starting at birth they acquire the movie, "Rain Man," level abilities. They can look at birds in a tree and know without counting that there are say, 73, birds in the tree. They can do calculations with long strings of numbers instantly without thought. This training starts by briefly showing baby a card with dots on it and saying the number of dots. The child quickly learns to just know the number of dots. Here they are learning the number directly rather than working with abstract symbols like "9." Babies love doing this. Their mission as babies is to learn as much as they can as fast as they can.

It is easier to give you a feel for this by considering Makoto Shichida from Japan. He has been doing the same sort of thing as Doman for about as long. You can find out more about his program at <http://www.shichidamethod.com/>. He contends that we are born with a direct intuitive way of learning. We operate entirely this way prenatally and at birth. As we learn language we gradually shift to a verbal way of knowing. Shichida theorized that intuitive knowing uses five senses corresponding to the physical senses that can operate independently of the physical apparatus. Intuitive knowing works independently of conscious memory. It has

memory, perfect pitch and language acquisition ability. It is the basic for athletic survival ability. Direct knowing learns through images, is intuitive, is sensitive to music, and knows the whole without needing to understand the parts. Verbal knowing is linguistic, analytical and goes from the parts to the whole. We need to develop both to be fully functioning humans. Shichida believes there are five basic intuitive functions:

1. Resonance is the basic intuitive function. Everything emits signals that the brain can tune to receive as thoughts, images, feelings and sensations but this is not necessarily conscious. This is the basis of all other intuitive abilities.
2. Image Visualization is the ability to perfectly visualize. People with good eidetic imagery can be shown a random dot pattern in one side of a stereoscope that can be matched with another dot pattern to form an image. Then come back six months later and show the second pattern on the other side of the stereoscope without the first pattern and the subjects can merge the remembered pattern with the current pattern and see the image. Shichida thinks normal children are capable of learning this ability. Vivid imagery is the basis of all other intuitive skills and is taught first. Mother visualizes a color and has baby point to the color she visualizes to develop telepathy. Pictures are shown rapidly to baby who has to identify it. Anastasia attaches extreme importance to visualization and considers it the basis for controlling and manifesting our world.
3. High speed memorization is a fundamental skill Shichida method teaches. This uses eidetic imagery. I had an Aunt who could do this. She would flip through a book and know the contents. On tests she always had everything perfect. Her teachers thought she was cheating. She would have the professor open the book to any page and tell her the page number and then she would recite what was on the page.
4. High speed automatic processing occurs beyond the conscious mind. Children between six and 12 months who listen to foreign language tapes in the background can automatically pick up the language. I knew some of this when my son was born. I played tapes but did not know the full capability. He did grow up with an amazing facility for foreign languages. The previously mentioned math skill is an example of this and so is nearly perfect pitch in children with training as babies.
5. ESP functions are also part of our innate intuitive abilities. He does not consider these to really be extrasensory but a function or resonance that depends on imagery. These functions include tactility (guessing by touching), precognition (predicting events), clairvoyance (sensing the hidden), telepathy (mental communication) and telekinesis

Information must be presented very rapidly for intuitive learning. Images are presented for less than a second. Slowly presented material is processed with verbal knowing.

Anastasia does not deal this way with educating babies. She, and the people who trained her had the intuitive abilities highly developed so they taught this much like we teach language. The information she gives for this was not helpful to me. She does say to raise your children in nature in a loving home domain (this is not a house, it is in nature) that is beyond my ability to comprehend. She also recommends villages where there is a village school where children are properly taught. These include family domains of 2.5 to 5 acres where each family is self-sufficient and develops this as a home of love for many generations. Under these conditions a magical enchanted connection is formed with the land and the life on that land. I gather the basic unit of land area in Russia is hectare or 100 square meters. This is 2.47 acres.

Book three of "The Ringing Cedars of Russia, The Space of Love," has a chapter on the Shetinin school. This school seems to have some kind of relationship with Anastasia. It is highly promoted as an ideal model for children from around 8 to around 22. Many students finish the Russian secondary school and college system that normally takes maybe 6 or more years in one year. This includes passing Russian state exams. (Here is a link to a [video about the school.](#))

I believe educating our children using the principles presented here or something similar is necessary for us to realize our potential and move our Folk into the future or maybe I should say the past, heaven forbid. [View more links related to the Doman Method.](#)

The man who got "The Ringing Cedars of Russia" translated into English [gives a fascinating lecture on YouTube.](#) I think it starts a little slowly but it gets better and better as it goes. One very important thing he says is that Russian is a very emotional language and English is not emotional. This makes it impossible to convey much of the content with a direct translation. To translate to English you have to put in actions to convey the emotions. This probably explains the exaggerated emotional behaviors that it is difficult to imagine adults displaying. These displays are probably necessary to convey the emotion in the original Russian but do not represent the actual outward behavior of the characters.

If you wish to discuss any of this feel free to contact me.

Frederick Kilpatrick
Heimdalls Midgard Kindred

Circle of Eir



Photo courtesy of Kelley Hester, Eir's Blessing ritual from August.

Eir's Blessings!

Everybody needs a little extra help sometimes. Every body does, too. Women, being the frith-y 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! You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

Our next healing ritual will be on Thursday, September 19th, 2019.

AFA MILITARY PROGRAM

by Kevin Long



**ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY
MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Our military program is looking for volunteers, those who wish to help out whether it be for online posts of content, helping your Folkbuilders in your local area better reach out to our military members on base, help out with fundraising, etc.

Before next Yule, we would like to have holiday care packages for our currently deployed members. If this interests you, please send us an email.

Also, I have a few books/pamphlets left from our successful book drive, if you know anyone in your area needing any material; Soldiers Edda and/or the Pocket Voluspa, send me an email as well!



If you are a current business owner and/or in a position of hiring folks and are looking for any transitioning AFA Military members from service to civilian, also send us an email. I am hoping to build a good network for our military members to ensure they are successful and get whatever help needed after their service to their folk and nation.

Thank you all!



Kevin Long
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Folk Services

just an unforeseen chain of events. Whatever the case may be sometimes we find ourselves in a sticky situation, and although we try and to work and do our best to pull ourselves out, sometimes we may need the help of our Folk community to give us a hand up...



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

pitch in. If even a fraction of the folks who like the page did that each month, imagine the possibilities!

AFA Folk Services is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to AFA members in dire need of basic services. It is also to be a source for referrals and information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide. For more information, send a private message to the [Folk Services page on Facebook](#).

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/>.

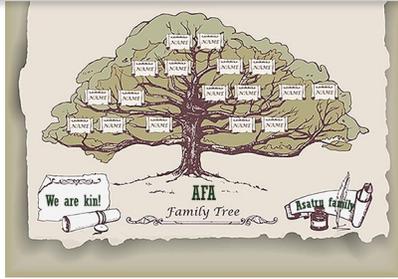
Thanks in advance!

AFA Genealogy Group

I created the AFA Genealogy Group on Facebook to help our Folk with genealogy and family history research. This is a good place to learn, share tips, and information on genealogy.

Discover if you are related to other AFA members! We use GEDmatch kit numbers to batch process each person to every other person in the database and then post a chart in the group so that you can see if you are connected to other members. Many of us have discovered that other AFA members are also blood family.

Come and join us!



members only.

Hail the Ancestors!

Steve Ingle

Genealogist/Family History Researcher

AFA 50 and Over Group

This group is a place where AFA members 50 and over can come to support one another in facing the challenges of aging, caring for family and loved ones and exploring how over shared beliefs can help with it all.

To join the group you must be a member of the AFA in good standing. You must be 50 or older, exceptions are the AFA Witan, AFA Folkbuilders and AFA Gothar/Gythia. There is no commercial activity or soliciting in the group.



Hail the AFA!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the Gods & Goddesses!

Terry J. Rumph

AFA and over 50 Group Admin Team

tjrumph@yahoo.com

Baby Blanket Project

The Baby Blanket project is rapidly approaching it's first year mark, and it 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



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

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 hand made - knit, crocheted, or woven - baby blanket! It's just our little way of celebrating our new folk!

If you would like a blanket for your newborn, or would like to donate to help with yarn cost (yarn is expensive!) please notify Mandy (mandy@runestone.org) with the subject line: BABY BLANKET.

Call for Photography & Art

We are compiling art and photography!

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 anyone has an eye for the camera and enjoys taking pictures at these events please submit your work.

The 2020 AFA Calendar will have the Holy Days for 2020 and other events, and feature art and photography from different members. We'd like to have each month feature photography from AFA events that occurred in 2018 and 2019.

on, please email them to photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken.



Frith Weavers — a new monthly newsletter

Frith Weavers is a new monthly newsletter written by the women and for the women of the AFA. It will include articles about health and wellness, homeschooling and child-rearing, homesteading, spirituality, recipes, and more! The first edition will be released this month on September 6th. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter, please email us at frithweavers@runestone.org.

(Men are welcome to subscribe, too! But don't forget to let your wives know!)

SEEKING SUBMISSIONS!

Frith Weavers Monthly Newsletter is always looking for new submissions! We are seeking articles about health and wellness, homeschooling and child-rearing, homesteading, spirituality, recipes, and anything else in which you think our women would be interested. Do you have a skill or knowledge that could help our women grow? Share it!

Please email your articles to frithweavers@runestone.org, and thank you very much!

Asatru Folk Assembly Calendar of Holy and Remembrance Days

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 20	Thorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 17	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olivir of Egg

April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 30	Hexennacht
May 1	May Day
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric
June 21	Midsummer
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rudd Mills
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 18	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Herman of the Cherusci
September 23	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Guido von List
October 20	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigrith of Sweden
November 11	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egil Skallagrimson
December 20-31	Yuletide

Volunteer for the AFA

Want to volunteer for the AFA? [Join us on facebook](#) or contact your Folkbuilder.

AFA Store Member's Discount

AFA members save 5% on any order at checkout. Use promo code **PXLKVV8** at <http://www.runestonegifts.com/>.



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