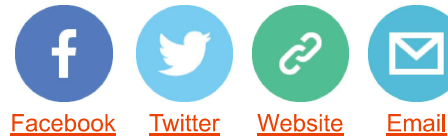


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



Your input is needed to make *The Voice* a publication filled with events, photos and news. Please feel free to submit any events, news or photos to [thevoice@runestone.org](mailto:thevoice@runestone.org).

Donate to the AFA



## Words from the Alsherjargothi

As I write this, Mandy and I are getting settled into our new apartment in Reno Nevada. It is absolutely beautiful here nestled in the mountains, we are thrilled to start putting down some roots. With that in mind, we have already found a great location to host monthly meetups so if you are in the area we look forward to having you join us.

earth and plant the seeds of that which we wish to harvest. This is a time to bless the tools of our industry and prepare for the ways that we each plan to work our will so that we might manifest great things for ourselves, our families, and our folk. This is a time to emerge from the stasis of winter and prepare for the spring. As you each Charm the Plow, be mindful of the mystery of Jera, this cycle of planting, tending, harvesting, and celebrating that was so essential to our ancestors and empowers us today as well. When you all read this, Mandy and I will be on our way to the AFA Southern California Charming of the Plow. We look forward to seeing all our AFA family and sharing with them in friendship and in celebration. I can't urge you all strongly enough, if you can make it out to an AFA event, gather with your AFA folk. It takes time and perhaps it takes travel, but Asatru happens out in the world with your Folk, gathered together in celebration and worship. I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego and if not I wish you a very powerful Charming of the plow where ever you are gathered under the trihorns!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi,

Asatru Folk Assembly

P.S. Though we are in a different state, we are actually an hour closer to Óðinshof.



As Winter's Grasp begins to fade we all turn our faces to great Sól and ask for her warmth to fill the land with life once more. What better way to celebrate such a time of year than to spend it in sunny San Diego with our very own Tru Folk Kindred?

Come join us during the first weekend of February and bask in the warmth of Sól and the company of our Volk. We will have rituals performed by Alherjargothi Matt Flavel and the Tru Folk Kindred, speeches by a number of prominent Asatrur thinkers (including Bryan Wilton!), and plenty of food to go around. Situated in the mountains of Julian, we'll be hidden away from the world at large with only nature (and the camp caretakers) to keep us company. For those of you who joined the Tru Folk Kindred last year for Walpurgis, you'll remember the location, and hopefully you remember the wolves! Expect just as phenomenal an event as last year!

when we plant a tree for the season! Please register at our eventzilla page [here](#).

Hail the Folk!

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the AFA!!!

## Birth Announcement Alaskan AFA

The folk grew once more during January. On the 19th of the month in the early hours of the the morning, AFA member Ryan Skinner and his wife Carli welcomed their third child and first son into Midgard.



Ryanson Skinner.

We welcome him to Midgard and to the great adventure of life, and we Hail his parents for bringing him here.

Hail Brenin!

Hail Ryan and Carli!

Hail the Skinners!

Hail the AFA!

Hail the Folk!

### **Words from the Folkbuilder Coordinator, by Marc Macleod**

It's that time of year again! As I'm packing up for the drive down to Southern California, I'm looking forward Our First major event of the year, Charming of the Plow. If you haven't ever been to one of our National events, I highly suggest you pick one this year and make it happen. It's always a great time full of interesting talks, great speakers, kids activity's, amazing ritual, and plenty of good Folks. We usually get folks, traveling from many states and i can guarantee you'll make some new friends. This is what the AFA does best and I can tell you, from experiencing many of these, you won't be disappointed. So make the effort and get out of the house. Come celebrate with your Folk! After that we will be in North Carolina, Northern California, Minnesota, and Pennsylvania. Real Community can only be successfully done face to face.

Marc MacLeod

Folkbuilder Coordinator

### **Words from the AFA Military Program**



## **ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Hails! We are still currently looking for volunteers that are on and/or near our military bases that would like to assist in furthering our goals as a program for our military folk. We will have 'manuals', information packets, and other materials that we would like our folk to deliver to our on base chaplains to better familiarize them with our faith along with providing the necessary information to our service members who are finding their way home to our religion. If interested please email me at [klong@runestone.org](mailto:klong@runestone.org)

If any of our military members are deploying soon or are currently abroad, please email me your deployment address as well so we can get some care packages shipped out.

Kevin Long  
Military Program Coordinator

**Run to the Sun**  
**A Midsummer's Motorcycle Adventure to Newgrange Hof**



One evening as I was chatting with Bjorn Raido about our two favorite things, The AFA and Motorcycles! We decided what better adventure could there be than riding our bikes from Wisconsin to NewGrange, and what better reason than to celebrate Midsummer!

Our trip is still very much in the planning stages. So far though with picking up another rider, we plan on going West the northern route then heading south west through Yellowstone and the Mountains. We plan to leave June 18th and roll into the Hof sometime on the 21st. The trip will be around 2,000 miles give or take. We plan on roughing it each night with loose destination points.

We are also in the process of figuring out how to make this a fundraiser to help pay off NewGrange Hof. If we were going to ride might as well ride for a good cause!!

Feel free to contact me on facebook or [jasmussen@runestone.org](mailto:jasmussen@runestone.org)

Hail the Gods and Goddess!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the Folk!

Cheers!

Jamie (OX) Rasmussen

Apprentice Folkbuilder Midwest

**Words from AFA Scandinavia  
by AFA member Linus Borgström (Rigsved Kindred)**

**Summary of our Midwinter Blot at Old Uppåkra in Sweden**





Friends and family from all over Sweden and Denmark gathered at Uppåkra to perform a unique blot, the first of its kind in over a thousand years. Old Uppåkra is the largest known city of its age in Scandinavia, and the only site where we can be 100% certain that a temple once stood. From around the year 200 CE to 900 CE the cult of Odin, Thor and Frigg was active at this site, thus making it the longest period of known worship of these gods in a single place. There is no doubt Uppåkra is one of the most magical and mysterious places in Scandinavia and on Saturday the 13th of January 2018, Asatru Folk Assembly Scandinavia, consisting of Rigsved, Ranrike, Gautr and Hroptatyr Kindreds with friends and guests once again opened the door to our ancestors, awakening the Gods, spirits and Fylgia from their slumber! A cold winter storm swept across the plains of southern Scania, challenging the flames of our ritual hearth and torches, but every man, woman and child present endured with great tenacity and made great offerings of mead, meat and bread to the gods. Anders Nilsson (Ranrike Kindred, Folkbuilder) led the blot with Ingrid Carlqvist (Norse News) acting as Gunnlöð incarnate, serving the mead for the ritual. The door is now open for the first time in a thousand years; and a new era for Uppåkra has begun.



Hail the Gods, Hail the Folk and Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

## Words from the Northeast, by Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

### Lansdale Tru Folk Þorablót

2/17 3:00 PM

Lansdale, PA



A cabin-fever celebration of the waning, and hopefully breaking, winter. Between blot and sumbel we will honor Thor with a goat feast. We will honor Thor and will tell stories. Recommended offerings are ale & meat for Thor, grasses & grains for Tanngrisnir and Tanngnjóstr, or iron works.

### AFA Northeast Conference Call

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hearing you there! Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580 Access Code: 174-424

**Words from New England: By George Joseph Schindler III, Apprentice FolkBuilder Northeast**

I hope to convey my heartfelt Folkish greetings to all of our AFA family! It's safe to say that I'm beyond grateful these days...

On a beautiful rainy Massachusetts Yule night I was embraced by my mentor, Witan Clifford Erickson. It was shortly after this dynamic pub-moot that I was honored with the gift of service to our folk. I accepted the Norns decree with a tear of joy clinging to my eyelash. The AFA is now on a mission in New England to awaken our sleeping Folk and to stoke the simmering URFYR of the (once) solitary Asatruarmenn.

I am proud yet humbled to be given this opportunity. I am eager to meet all of you, and determined to strengthen our collective Wyrð. Hailsa one and all! Thank you once again to our AFA family for your words of encouragement and inspiration, it means more to me than you can possibly know.

Hail the Gods!

Hail our Ancestors!

Hail the Folk!

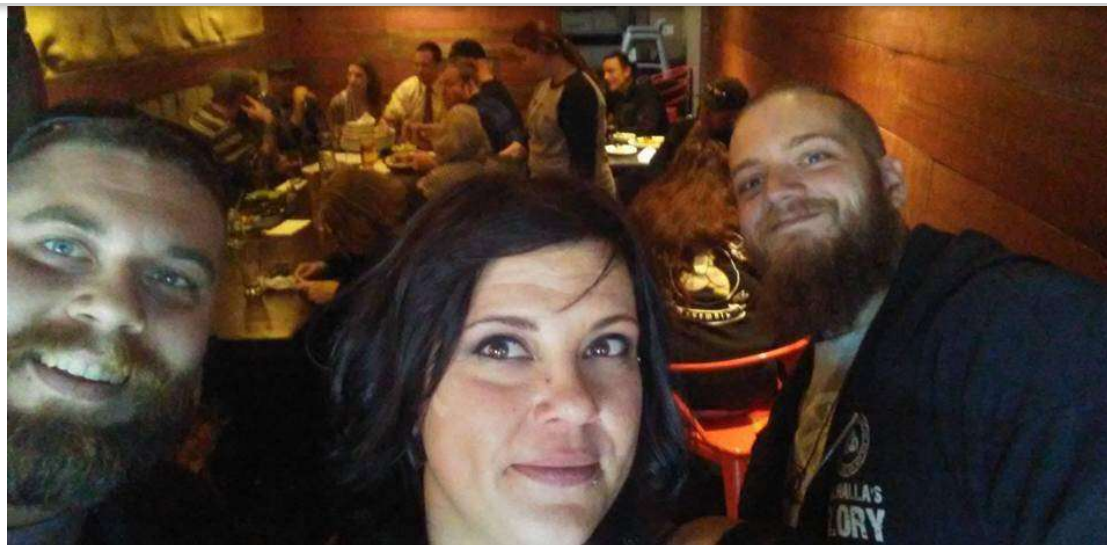
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

**Words from the AFA West  
by Ryan Harlan, Folkbuilder**



On January 13th-14th, we held Thorrablót at the Hof. A time to shake off the winter chill and revel in the frith and company of Folk. With the new year here (and some legal urging) we re-dedicated our Hof and renamed it Odin's Hof, first hall of the Asatru Folk Assembly. We gathered to give praise to the Thunderer, to enjoy feasting and drink, and to wallow in great company and good times. A feast of roasted Goat, and various other food stuffs filled our stomachs. Mead and Ale washed it down. A Blót to the Red Bearded one and Sumble around the fire finished off the night. This was our First Thorrablót at the Hof, but certainly not our last. Thanks to everyone who made it out to join us, and thanks to those who were with us if only in spirit!





A pub moot was held at Kathrin's Biergarten in Rocklin California on January 6th to welcome some new members and to entice a few more into the ranks of our Folk. Great German food, delicious German and English beers, as well as some conversing were all to be had. We had members of our Folk from only a few months old to those much our Senior show up to enjoy themselves! If you're passing through the area and looking for a good bite to eat and some suds to slake your thirst, swing in and give Kathrin some business. This lady held her own with our group of 25+ people, plus regular guests, serving us food and drink all by herself! The bulk of her staff called in sick with the flu, but in tru industrious German fashion, she carried on and made our day! This was no small feat either. She loaded us up with traditional dishes, and never missed a beat. Truly a wonderful establishment, to which, We shall return, and soon!

Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel and the lovely Lady Mandy Flavel will be hosting a Grub Moot at Bavarian World in their new Home town of Reno NV on February 9th. It's a day to remember Eyvind Kinnrifi, and the ultimate price he paid to stay true to his Ancestors and our Folk Customs. We hope to see plenty of Folks show up, but if you can't, please be sure to raise a horn, tilt a cup, or spill a bowl in remembrance of this Folk Hero. Hail Eyvind!

A big thanks to the few hearty Folk who made it out to the Hof for the work and cleaning day on Jan 21st, organized by our own Jessica Rose! We've all been busy, and with the last few events, we

really couldn't do the things we do without the support of our Folk. You aren't just members. Nor are you faceless names on a roster. You are the ones who make the AFA what it is. Thank you!

Shortly after Heather Nicole Clinkenbeard and the amazing Tru Folk Kindred in San Diego host their Charming of the Plow, we will be holding another Charming of the Plow up at the Hof. The date will be February 17th-18th. Ostara is coming up as well and we'll also be hosting an event at the Hof, as well as our National level Ostara in the South. Dates for Ostara at the Hof will be out as soon as possible! Stay tuned for more happenings here on the Left Coast.

Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk! HAIL THE AFA!

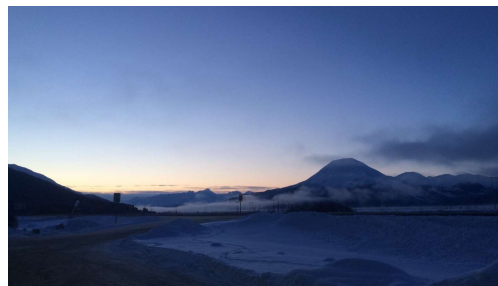
**News from the AFA Alaska  
by Eric Whisman, Folkbuilder**

The last weekend of January, Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar, AFA members and other Folkish Asatruar made a journey to Turnagin Pass to celebrate Thorrablot.



In the pass between Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula, a Fire was made and Folk from all over southern Alaska met. There was hot dog roasting over the fire, warm soup, sledding for the kids and a s'mores roast. A powerful Blót to Thor was led by Steven Morrel; and even after some folks started dispersing, many stayed to enjoy the beauty and company of each other.





**Words from the AFA Upper South  
by Paul Hester, Folkbuilder**

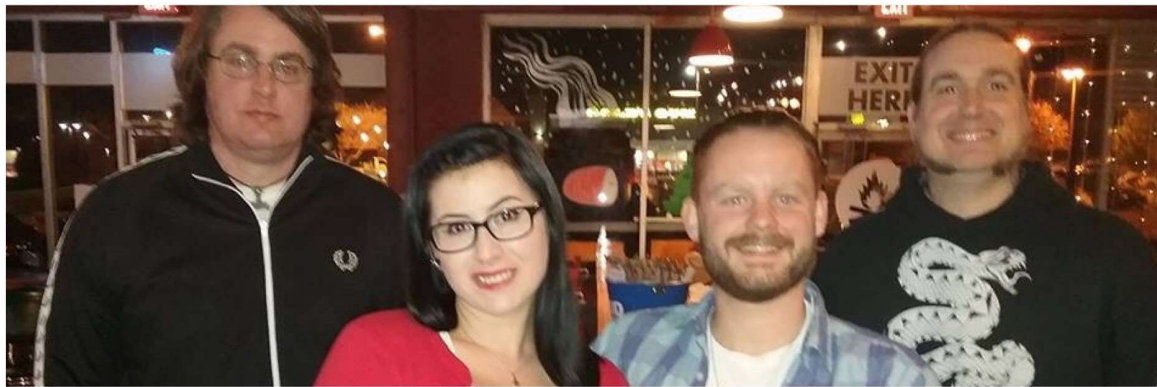
January has been a phenomenal month in the Upper South. We had an awesome turnout at our Pub Moot in Charlotte NC. Where we talked about future events and built frith with some truly great

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The Sandhills kindred, with some great people stepping forward, and we've got some great things planned for the coming year.

The Wild Hunt Kindred also held a Pub Moot in Asheville NC with a great turnout. They talked about organization, future direction, and enjoyed fellowship with some of the best folk in Western North Carolina. Our Maryland folk are also coming together with Pub Moots and I'm looking for some exciting new kindred news from them in the near future.

As our community grows I am constantly amazed at the quality of people that are being awakened and stepping forward. It's truly an honor to be part of such a vibrant region and I know that providence is on our side. Hail the Folk! Hail the Doers!



**Words from AFA Minnesota  
by Jason Gallagher, Folkbuilder**



January was another busy month for us. Northern Blood Kindred and several members from Minnesota and Wisconsin attended Apprentice Folkbuilder Jamie Rassmussen's Thorrbloot in Wisconsin. It was well attended and a magnificent feast and great event. We had another successful crafting and woodworking day with another one set for this month on the 18th. Rune study was enlightening as usual and as always I look forward to the next one. The meet and greet was a great time with awesome food and met some new friends. Charming of the plow is the first event of the month for us then Rune study the next week. If you plan to be in the area and would like to attend an event, you can message me on Facebook or email at:

[jgallagher@runestone.org](mailto:jgallagher@runestone.org)

Congratulations to member Ed Kennetz on passing the CDL test.

2/10 Folkish Family Charming of the Plow 4-7 pm Bloomington, MN

2/15 Folkish Family Rune study group 5:30-8:30 pm

2/18 Folkish Family Crafting and woodworking day 12-4 pm Bloomington, MN

Hail the Doers!  
Hail the Folk!  
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!





**Words from AFA Southern California  
by Heather Clinkenbeard, Folkbuilder**



The Tru-Folk have been very busy over the month of January. We had a beautiful Thorrablot at our regular park we got to monthly and really enjoyed a strong turn out for the first blot of the year. It is so important to start the year off right and strong. I was thinking the other day how lucky we are to have something so wonderful that connects us to our Gods and Goddesses and bring us together with our folk. The AFA has been the greatest foundation for me and I love that I get to bring that to others. the monthly energy renewal we get from meeting with each other is what gets me through the rest of the month. I hope we are all doing what we can to get out there and connect with our folk and bring what we cherish to others that may not even know what it feels like to be in a group setting holding blot to our Gods and Goddesses.

Our month and actually last few months have been super busy, not only with community and rituals but getting ready for our Charming Of the Plow event in San Diego. It is looking like it will be a amazing event, filled with new and old members and even quite a few new to the faith. We will have plenty of pictures in the next issue!

Birthday !!! Mary has been a long time member with us and we value her and all she has done for our faith and folk !!!  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARY !!!

## Words from the Four Corners Region by Nate Hayden, Apprentice Folkbuilder

### Denver Activity in January 2018 [SEP]

January was an exciting month in Denver. More active members and Folkbuilders in the area allows more events! We had a nice Moot at Clancy's, trying an evening meet this time around to compare between day events. The night meet was a little louder than the day events. There is still more experimentation to do. It seems like day events are more attended. We still are going to try different venues and different days of the week. I like Clancy's as it does accommodate an entire family, especially in the day time, but it would be nice to have another go to place for families. If any members in the Denver area have ideas on venues they'd like to see please contact me a [nhayden@runestone.org](mailto:nhayden@runestone.org). [SEP]

[SEP]

Folkbuilder Jason James Plourde had our first Study Group. We held it at a coffee shop. Coffee is good for these events as it is Study over just socializing. It was a small turn out but a start. He gave a solid overview on Firth. The venue may be a little awkward when more than a few members show up, so we may need a bit of a bigger place. [SEP]

We had a great conference call with Marc Macleod for our monthly conference call. He describes how to create Moots and Meet ups so well. The process can be a slow start but a delight to see grow. I like doing Conference Calls as it gets the region talking on subjects we are not able to discuss often due to location and the regular work week. [SEP]

[SEP]

Jason also put on a great Thorsblót followed by a nice pot luck. The Blót happen to land on our first real snow in this state. He did a great job conducting the ritual. It was a tiny turnout, probably due to the weather, but very worth it. I look forward to more of these. As we get more familiar with these they will only get better and better. The meal afterward was a delight.

As there has been more activity here I think eventually we'll be able to begin meets and Blót in





## FOUR CORNERS REGION FEBRUARY 2018

### COLORADO

#### Feb 11th: Folkish Study: Honour

Sunday 1pm to 3pm at Sessions Coffee 1340 S. Santa Fe Drive, Denver, Colorado 80223

This is the second part of three that leads up to an understanding of the Heathen "Soul". We will be using Edred Thorsson's "A Book of Troth" as a general reference, and guide. Other materials may be referenced as well. Bring your notepads, thoughts ideals and questions in regards to the previous study group as well! Remember this is from a folkish perspective, and not a debate session, as we want to build as much of an understanding of our traditional ways as possible! Contact Jason James Plourde for more info: [Jplourde@runestone.com](mailto:Jplourde@runestone.com)

SEP

#### Feb 18th: Freya's Blót/Charmin the Plow

Sunday at 3pm to 6pm. Chatfield State Park Littleton, Colorado 80125

Blót to Freya and also our Charming the Plow. Followed by a Potluck. Come share in the company and frith of other folkish Astuar. Feel free to comment to share recipes, and organize dishes for the potluck! Please bring any gardening tool or symbol you may want blessed.

Contact Jason James Plourde for more info: [jplourde@runestone.com](mailto:jplourde@runestone.com)

#### Feb 25th: Clancy's Moot

Sunday 12pm. 7000 W 38th Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

We'll go back to a day meet here. Come for a meal, a drink and conversation. Clancy's has a



## UTAH

### FEB 11th AFA Utah Blót

Family friendly Blot on February 11th in Provo. Open to AFA and Vouched for guests. Specific details to come! Contact Josh Birdzell on Facebook for more info.



### Words from AFA Central Corridor by Christopher Gower, Apprentice Folkbuilder

Hailsa,

Our first event in 2018 was in the St. Louis area. January 13th hosted by Eric Meier and Sierra Triola. It was a phenomenal success! Over 30+Folk came from every corner of the state to break bread, raise a horn and listen to Gothi Bryan Wilton speak. Wonderful food, children laughing and playing, a powerfully impactful Blot, fantastic conversation and kinships were made. We look forward to this outstanding growth in Missouri to continue and take on a life of its own. With so many finding their way home: it's becoming a community of like-minded families, one of kindness and a shared sense of purposeful adherence to our values and the authentic reconnection to our Holy Kin.



The IBSAK February event is going to be outstanding and will be at the Heavener Rune Stone (reservations cease on February 10th)

Come and join your Folk as we celebrate our Goddesses and the blessings of our new year with fertility and abundance!

We will gather together for Blot, Sumbel and for presentations By Author and AFA Gothi Bryan Wilton, AFA affiliated Iron Bone and Stone Kindred's very own Christopher Gower and Norse Pagan Shaman Sean Black. You can find more information on Facebook [here](#). You can also contact Melisa Mills directly at: (307) 640-5657 for more information.

This is a retreat weekend. We will gather starting on Friday and stay thru Sunday afternoon. Ticket prices include 3 days, 2 nights, accommodations, all food as prepared by our own Heathen award winning chef and all three presentations. (Location address of event will be given out only to paid

Early bird special pricing:  
\$150.0 if paid by Dec 15.  
\$180.00 after December 15th.  
(Please contact for special discount family pricing)

Sunday we will be at the park to view the rune stone and have brunch and our last presentation before we all depart for home. This place is in a convenient driving distance from Heavener Rune stone park. We truly hope you will join us in celebration and in the exchange of knowledge and friendship that will be the driving points of the weekend. We are excited to meet you all!

I could not be more proud of everyone that chooses to stand up, to claim their role in building a legacy for our people and our Church. We are looking forward to becoming the beacon that so many are ultimately searching for. We are excited to be building our own traditions in spiritual observances of our holidays within a state that has been dormant for quite some time. The sense of ownership and pride is at an all-time high.

So please stay tuned to my little section of the Voice in 2018. I'm sure there is gonna be quite a bit to share and raise a Horn to. I'm excited to be a part of something so important to the spiritual lives of our people. Thank you for taking the time to read my little contribution. I promise to try to be both informative and brief in my submissions in the future. Brevity and Clarity. Folk and Faith. Purpose and Due Diligence.

Hail To The Aesir and the Vanir,  
Hail the IBSAK Folk,  
Hail The AFA.

## Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

AFA Circle of Eir performs a monthly healing ritual calling on Eir and naming those AFA members and families in need of healing. If you would like to become a member of the Circle or would like to submit the name of someone who needs healing, please send me an email

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Hail Eir!

## AFA Mead Makers Group

Thanks to the generosity of many of our home brewers, mead is abundant at our events. Mead is a fairly easy brew to make, and can be as simple or as complex as you want it to be. In the past, it was mostly women who were in charge of making mead, but these days people from both sexes enjoy the craft.

Are you interested in learning how to make your own mead? We invite you to join our AFA Mead Maker's group on Facebook. We have folk from rank beginners to people who have been making mead for decades, so there's lots of people to learn from. to join, notify myself, Marc or Clifford and we'll add you to the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AFAMeadMakers>

## Folkish Business Directory



New for the AFA, Carrie Overton is putting together a Business Directory for our Folk! Send us your contact info (website, business type, etc..) and we will add you to our AFA Business and Crafter's newsletter that will be coming soon! This is our chance to promote and support Folkish businesses so we can help each other flourish and grow. Community starts with working together and working in each other's interests. Lets make it happen!

Please send your info to: [coverton@runestone.org](mailto:coverton@runestone.org) with the subject "AFA Business Directory".

## Baby Blanket Project

The Women of the AFA would like to announce a brand new project - 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 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 Jamie ([jsouligny@runestone.org](mailto:jsouligny@runestone.org)) with the subject line: BABY BLANKET.

## Greeting Card Project

our Folk. To have cards available for all of our observed Holy Days and Special Occasions is our goal here.

I can't draw much more than stick people but I am sure there is a lot of artistic talent in our community. We are also reaching out through our Prison Ministry for art contributions from Folk on the inside. Artwork can be submitted via online email or by mail:

Jamie Souligny  
4805 5th st #141  
Rainbow,CA 92028

or

[jsouligny@runestone.org](mailto:jsouligny@runestone.org)

**<PLEASE NOTE! Unless the images are in the public domain, we can't use them without permission. As such, Original Content only, please!>**

If you have and questions or suggestions, please send me an e-mail or private message via Facebook. Thank you!

## Shop and Help the AFA

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SHOP AMAZON and SUPPORT THE AFA

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Want to volunteer for the AFA? Fill out this survey: [www.runestone.org/volunteer/](http://www.runestone.org/volunteer/)

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