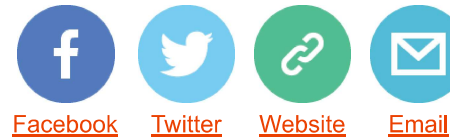


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



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.

Donate to the AFA



Words from the Alsherjargothi

It's hard to believe that June is already upon us! As this month's Voice will show, the AFA has been on fire. Applications for the 2018 Gothar class are the most on record (with still 2 more days to go). We have added new Apprectice Folkbuilders who are off to a great start in their regions. I can proudly say that for the first time we have an AFA member in South Africa! So many beautiful babies are being born that our Ladies can hardly keep up with making blankets for all of them. I am so very proud of all the hard work our wonderful AFA leaders and volunteers are doing.

yesterday AFA Founder Steve McNallen had us join him on an amazing Wotan on the Peaks hike. I never notice how much I miss enjoying the outdoors until I make the point of getting out in the woods, it is always such a refreshment for mind, body and spirit. I encourage each of you to get outside this summer and let yourself be dazzled by the splendor of nature. That being said, I would also invite you to be dazzled by the splendor of your AFA family.

Midsummer is almost here! We would love to see you all at Óðinshof for the annual AFA Midsummer. If you cannot make it out this year, take heart, there are Midsummer events all over the country. Please contact your local Folkbuilder to find a Midsummer event near you.

The AFA is surging with energy and enthusiasm all around the world, go out and get involved! The AFA is not some organization "out there", the AFA is a hof inside the heart of each member of our AFA family. Make the AFA happen in your area and in your home, reach out to your AFA brothers and sisters and fill the AFA with your energy and your enthusiasm. It is beautiful beyond measure to watch the AFA blossom and grow, every day, every week, every month, that is because of members like you! Thank you.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Matthew D. Flavel

Alsherjargothi

Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org



Midsummer 2018 at Óðinshof June 22nd - 24th

Come and join us for our annual celebration of Midsummer in Northern California, the largest Folkish Asatru event on the West Coast! We will have workshops, inspirational speakers, kids' activities, breath-taking rituals, and plenty of time to bond with your Folk. We will have vendors, an auction, and plenty of good food. There will be things for the whole family!

AFA events are for members, their families, and vouched-for guests. This event is a camping event. Most folks stay at the Hof, but there are hotels in the area if you prefer. There are showers, bathroom facilities, and a full kitchen at the Hof. All meals are included in your registration, so a tent

If you have a craft and want to set up a vending table we don't charge for that. All we ask is that you donate something substantial to our auction, which is a fundraiser for our Hof.



We look forward to seeing you all at our biggest Midsummer event to date. Register now at <http://midsummer2018.eventzilla.net> !

A Loving Gift, Warm Hearts Soar High





She is the first child of Cory and Danielle Imperato of Salem Massachusetts, with just this little girl a new generation of folk is being established in Massachusetts, There will be a small ceremony in the coming months, Hail the Gods! and Hail the Folk and Hail the Ancestors!

Words from The Folkbuilder Coordinator by Marc MacLeod

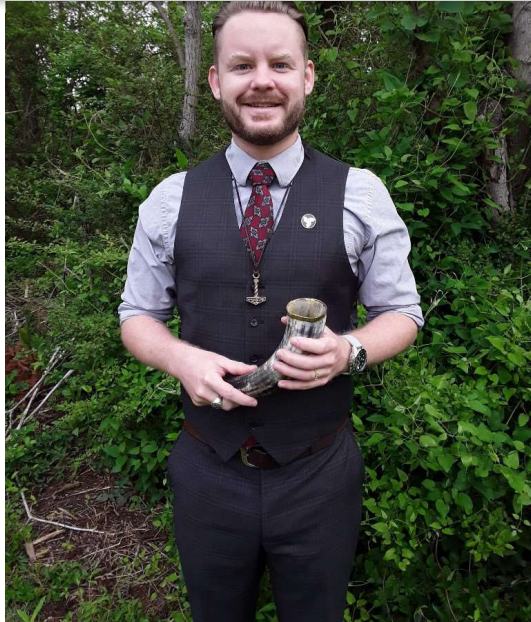
Greetings Folk!

Well this year seems to be flying by! It seems like we were just celebrating Yule and here it is with Midsummer coming up fast! We're busy here in California working out the details and making sure this is going to be the Midsummer for the record books. From a pig roast, powerful rituals, some great presentations, and folks from all over the country, it's gonna be a weekend that folks will never forget.

First I'd like to announce our two newest Apprentice Folkbuilders! Ryan Deal is from Asheville, NC and is the founder of the newest AFA Kindred, The Wild Hunt Kindred. He will be Folkbuilding in the Upper South Region, along with Svan Herul and Paul Hester. Joshua Smith is from Atlanta, GA and already is hitting the ground running, working with Trent East, he's really getting folks excited in the region. I am looking forward to seeing what these gentlemen can accomplish in the South. Welcome to the team!!

Ryan Deal, Apprentice Folkbuilder of the
Upper South. Asheville, NC

Joshua Smith, Apprentice Folkbuilder of
the Deep South. Atlanta, GA



For those of you that don't know, our Folkbuilders go through an apprenticeship for a minimum of a year, before they are eligible to Oath into that position. This gives us a year to see what level of commitment, skills and consistency our apprentices hold and also gives them some time to make sure it's something they are willing to oath into (Folkbuilding is not for everyone and that's fine). Lately I've had some Folks ask how someone becomes an apprentice Folkbuilder. The answer is pretty simple, start doing Folkbuilder things. Get in contact with your Folkbuilder and tell him/her that you would like to start hosting meet ups in your area. They can help you and get you connected to members close to you. Start a local kindred and start having gatherings to celebrate our holy days. Reach out to the members close to you and start building some relationships, even if its just dinner, a beer, or coffee, to get to know each other. Your local Folkbuilder can help advertise all of these things even if they don't live in your local area.

I'm on all the regional pages and always watching for motivated members that go above and beyond, in their perspective community's. Some of the things I look for are a willingness and ability to get out and get face to face with people, team players, a commitment to follow through, descent social skills, leadership qualities, some basic tech abilities, and last but not least that you present yourself in a way that represents the AFA's standards and an

strong as our members, and the fine folks that stand up and try to make a difference. The AFA isn't just some online chat room, that's what makes us different then everyone else, we actually DO Asatru! There's so much more we can do! We always get held up by the same limits, manpower and money. Both necessary to our rate of growth. So if this sounds like something that interests you, lets get you on the path. We are all here to help!

Hail the Doer's !!

Marc MacLeod
Folkbuilder Coordinator

Words from the AFA Military Program



**ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY
MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Hails!

and Daniel Steiner. Again, thank you very much and we appreciate you stepping up to help us out! We still have plenty of material that needs to find it's way to our bases, VA hospitals, libraries, etc. So, if you are interested in helping with these efforts, send us an email. Thank you in advance!

Kevin Long
Military Program Coordinator
klong@runestone.org

From Mary Minshall;

[Here](#) is a project that we AFA ladies who knit and crochet could do to support our folk in the Armed Forces.

Mary Minshall
Southern Nevada



Words from the Upper South, North Carolina by Paul Hester, Folkbuilder

The Upper South has been teeming with activity the whole month of May. All of our kindreds have been hard at work building Frith and our new Apprentice Folk Builders have ignited the region with a defined purpose of awakening our Folk.



We have 3 upcoming events in June. The first is our Rigshule Pubmoot in Gastonia, NC on June 16th. This will be the kickoff to announce the Rigshule, an educational project covering literature, language, history, and so much more. Members Edward Ravenheart and Aldous Blackthorne will be heading this project and it's something we're all proud of for it will be a new way to not only reach out to our Folk but enrich our community as well. The second will be Iron Guard Midsummer in Central Virginia on June 23rd and 24th. This will be hosted by the Iron Guard Kindred and will be an event geared toward the upper part of our region. The third will be our Deep South Midsummer on

Finally, one of our AFA Upper South Members has started “BerskerWorx” an online store where you can purchase hammers and so much more. You can even contact him for custom pieces because all are hand made. He’s a great AFA member and friend who saw a need and fixed it. I’ve already purchase the one below on the left, and I loved it. There’s nothing like supporting our Folk. You can visit his store [here](#).



range and started climbing. We braved the rain and found an amazing spot on top of the mountain to hold a blot to the Holy Powers, serenaded by the rumbling of Thor in the distance. The rain held off and Sunna blessed us with her light and warmth throughout our ritual. We spent the time we had remaining discussing our faith, our people and our own respective spiritual journeys. After a couple of hours the storms returned along with Thor's mighty song and we knew it was time to head back down the mountain. I'm always blown away by the incredible kindness and quality of the people I have met on this journey and the friendships we've quickly formed. This day was no exception. A special thanks to all who joined us and to our Gothi, Edward Ravenheart, for helping with the blot, opening the ritual by singing a beautiful song in Old Saxon and closing with a poem. We look forward to many more journeys together into these magical, ancient mountains as we grow our community here in the Upper South.



Although typically a busy weekend for most folks, members of AFA kindred Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar as well as other AFA members met up for our traditional presence at the official Memorial Day ceremony held at the national cemetery of Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson just outside of Anchorage Alaska.

With a strong Veteran presence in the Tribe, this is always a special time for us, gathered around the gravestone of one dear to us. We performed somber and warming ceremonies in honor of the fallen.

After the official ceremony, we punched out to Morrellheim where we had a BBQ followed by a sumbel.

Eric Whisman
Folkbuilder
AFA Far North





Words from the Northern Plains, Minnesota by Jason Gallagher, Folkbuilder

May went by pretty fast and we had a full month of activities. Member Ryan Hanson and his wife Jessica hosted the first annual tree planting day on their land. Several members hopped in their vehicles and drove hours to participate in this event. It was a beautiful day spent with great folk setting up a new tradition for us and our future generations. Saturday of Memorial Weekend we had a picnic meet and greet in the swelling heat and humidity. I was blown away by the number of people that came out that day. I really do enjoy these outdoor meet and greets. We also had the crafting and woodworking day and started the Havamal for the study group from now on. Looking forward to June and Midsummer and all the other great things coming up. If you are interested in attending an event you can email me at jgallagher@runestone.org.

Hail the Families!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Congratulations to Mathew and Anna Funk on getting married and starting their lives together!

Congratulations to Charlie Mueller on getting certified as an aircraft mechanic!

Congratulations to Nick Panyk and his wife on having a beautiful bay girl! Sophie Ecklund Panyk was born at 8lbs 8oz.

6/9 - AFA Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric Winzer Stube. Hudson, WI

6/10 - Crafting and woodworking day 12pm - 4pm. Bloomington, MN

6/16 - Folkish Family Midsummer Celebration 3:30pm - 7pm. Bloomington, MN

7/8 - Gasthaus fieldtrip 6pm - 9pm. Stillwater, MN

7/14 - Children's 9 Noble Virtues study 3:30pm - 7pm. Bloomington, MN

7/28 - Afton State Park meet and greet 3pm - 7pm

8/11 - Children's 9 Noble Virtues study 3:30pm - 7pm. Bloomington, MN

8/18 - Riverside grill and greet 3pm - 6pm. Hastings, MN

8/25 - Freyfaxi 3:30pm - 7pm. Bloomington, MN







Words from the West, Southern California by Heather Nicole Clinkenbeard, Folkbuilder

Hail from San Diego!

This month has been just as busy as the rest. We had our regular bonfire that brought about new people and had us hailing into the night. We ended this month with a Frigga blot, during which we dedicated a round to Memorial Day. Having quite a few military vets and active duty personnel in our kindred, the round was very deep and filled with passion and pain. One of our members, Gray Wilson, wrote a poem to the fallen that was so intense we were able to feel his words. Really made the meaning of Memorial Day stand out and stick with us.



**Words from the Folkbuilder at Large
by Jamie Lynn Souigny, Apprentice Folkbuilder**

Have you had some recent victories in life? A new marriage? A promotion? A new baby? Have you gathered with Folk for a Holy Day or even just a moot? We want to celebrate with you as a community! Please submit anything YOU would like added to "The Voice" to your Folkbuilder Jamie Souigny!

Hail the doers!!!

Hail our Folk!!!

[AFA Folk Services](#) is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to Asatru Folk Assembly (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](#).

We have had some amazing support to boost our funds for Folk Services as of late. It is the support of our community that helps our Folk in times of unforeseen troubles. Without this support we would not have the levels of success we have achieved and I am looking forward to seeing how far we can go in the future.

We need your help! Lots of people "like" our posts, but fewer actually pitch in. I understand--that's human nature--but we need to build at least a small fund for emergencies, rather than simply passing the hat for specific events. Your contributions are earnestly solicited and of course are tax-deductible! Every little bit adds up! Got an extra \$5 this month? Shoot it over to Folk Services!

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

Thanks in advance!

Jamie Souligny

Apprentice Folkbuilder at Large

**Words from Europe, Scandinavia
by Anders Nilsson, Apprentice Folkbuilder**

As a Folkbuilder for Scandinavia, I am very glad that we have members here that are dedicated and enthusiastic. Many of them are willing to go that extra mile to make things more efficient and productive.

things. This kind of work is only happening due to these dedicated and strong willed members.

What's more, is that we now have three fully recognized AFA kindreds in Sweden with regional rituals and local events. Kindreds don't just pop up all by themselves; it's hard work from a few people to serve the greater family. This is what it's all about. Doing volunteer services for a cause greater than yourself. It doesn't matter if it's done in rituals or for the organization, what you as an individual give is also what you will receive. This is the *Gift for a Gift* principle in action. We make this happen together.

Anders Nilsson
Apprentice Folkbuilder
AFA Scandinavia

Words from the Deep South, Georgia by Joshua Smith, Apprentice Folkbuilder

Our folk in the Deep South are slowly starting to become more active! We are now having monthly meet ups and conference calls. We will be holding blot to Njord on Georgia's east coast in July, as well as a blot to Sunna near the Georgia/Alabama state line. It's a great time to be in the Deep South!

Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

AFA Circle of Eir performs a montly healing ritual calling upon 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 an an email to Patricia Hall at patriciahall@runestone.org. This month's ritual will be held on the night of the 14th, a Thursday.

Hail Eir!

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 please notify your Folkbuilder and we'll get you added 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

in each other's interests. Lets make it happen!

Please send your info to: 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) with the subject line: BABY BLANKET.

Photography & Art for 2019 Calendar

We are compiling art and photography for a 2019 calendar. The 2019 AFA Calendar will have the Holy Days for 2019 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 2017.



If anyone has an eye for the camera and enjoys taking pictures at these events please submit your work. The work may be useful for more than just the calendar. An example may be as follows:

A photo from a Midsummer event, such as a pic from Blót, Sumbel, or nice picture of the sun, nature and folk may be a perfect picture for the month of June.

There is a lot of room to work with here.

Greeting Card Project



We are gathering art and poetry for seasonal greeting cards. Heather Nicole Clinkenbeard and Jamie Lynn Souigny have been collecting work in the past. Now it is time to finalize the first amount of work and ideas for layout and print. The Greeting Card project will always be open for submission, so if you do not have work now please submit in the future.

Themes for cards can be as follows:

Seasonal

Seasonal (Holy Days, Equinox, Solstice)

Greetings

Wedding

Baby Naming

Get Well

Bereavement

Lore

Gods and Goddesses

Runes

and others ideas can of course be considered!

Please

Please make submissions to Nate Hayden: nhayden@runestone.org

Shop and Help the AFA

RUNESTONE GIFTS: AFA Member Discount

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

SHOP AMAZON and SUPPORT THE AFA

Support the AFA by shopping Amazon through our Amazon affiliate link! The AFA gets a small percentage of every Amazon sale made by starting your search from [this link](#). Bookmark the link for future shopping!

Volunteer for the AFA

Want to volunteer for the AFA? Fill out this survey: www.runestone.org/volunteer/

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