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.

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Website



Words from the Alsherjargothi

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen of the AFA. It feels like this year is going by swiftly. Mandy and I are getting settled into life here in Reno and we are loving every minute in this truly magical place. February started out in style with the AFA Charming of the Plow in Southern California, hosted by the AFA's own Tru-Folk Kindred. The quality of this event was phenomenal, great presentations by Steve McNallen and Bryan Wilton and one of the most

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changing!

The past few months have been about celebrating, planning, and preparing. In March we shift our focus to DOING. As the season of action springs upon Midgard, let us burst forth with renewed vigor and life. In March we celebrate Ostara on the vernal equinox. Ostara is the Germanic goddess of the dawn, like our ancestors, this victory goddess rides out of the east and her radiance conquers all before her, darkness cannot stand against her onslaught. Let our folk spring forth and sweep away all that is dark and foul in our lives and replace it with the warmth and light of great accomplishment. May we build ourselves into the men and women we wish to be and build our kindreds and our AFA family into the heroic force we are destined to become. Always greater, always more, ever ascendant!

It makes me so proud to see all the activity in the AFA, this issue will show pictures of our amazing folk gathering together, sharing, celebrating, DOING. I encourage each of you, come on out and get involved, our church is what we make of it and your AFA family is waiting to welcome you with open arms. We have great folks doing great things and, if the first 2 months are any indication, 2018 will be a year of power and victory.

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

Matthew D. Flavel Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

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Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg

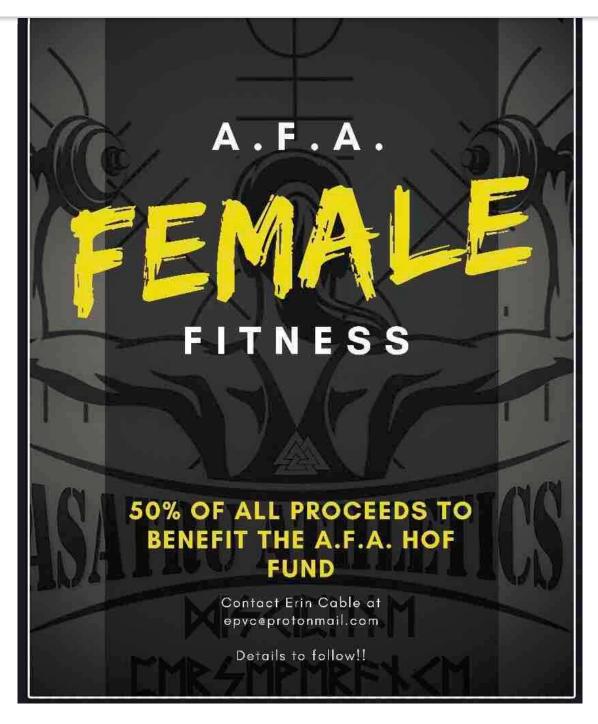


On March the 9th, the Asatru Folk Assembly celebrates a Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg. During Olaf the Saint's reign of terror, local Asatruar had to hold blot and sumble to our Gods in secret and at the risk of their very lives. Olvir was a leader of his community and organized local celebrations and worship of our Gods, not just for himself and his family, but that all loyal Asatruar in his region could carry on their sacred rites and traditions. For this steadfast loyalty and commitment to the Aesir, Olvir and many with him were murdered by Olaf and the followers of the White Christ. Raise a horn in his name, remember his deeds, join your brothers and sisters in doing so as a family.

Hail Olvir!

AFA Female Fitness Challenge





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invite you to join the AFA Womens Fitness Challenge Main Group to discuss our upcoming event!

The registration fee will be \$50 per person. Registration will be open from March 5, 2018 until March 14, 2018. 50% of all fees will immediately be donated to the AFA Hof Fund and documentation of this donation will be posted directly to the group. For this reason, there will not be any refunds issued. Now... onto the juicy details!

The Challenge will involve an exercise program each woman will follow closely. Modification due to injury or level of fitness can be taken into account. Each woman will provide several pieces of objective information to me privately and this will be used to tailor a nutrition plan to your specific needs. Every Saturday, we will have check-ins to keep track of our progress.

We will use our group for support, questions, accountability, and to further uplift each other spiritually. Also, every Sunday evening, there will be a FaceBook Live event that every lady is encouraged to participate in. This will allow me to answer any questions and even do some demonstrations if anyone needs it!

The Challenge will officially kick off on March 19, 2018! For anyone with further questions, you can reach me on Facebook, or by email at epvc@protonmail.com

In Frith, Erin Cable

Words from the Folkbuilder Coordinator, by Marc Macleod

Well Midsummer at Óðinshof 2018 is right around the corner. Last year will be hard to beat, with record numbers, and folks from 15 different states, but this year is going to be the biggest and best yet!! Planning has started, and here in California we are busy trying to

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out your tents, put in for the days off work, and put June 22-24 on your calendar. We'll have a event page and registration up probably next month. So hang tight....more details to come. See everyone there. You won't regret the trip!!!



Words from the Northern Plains, by Blaine Qualls, Jr., Folkbuilder

February began with a meet up in Bismarck that saw a decent number of people come out on a cold, blustery North Dakota winter day. We discussed some of our Ostara plans and spent a few hours engaged in good conversations. Was nice to see everyone that could be

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In Nebraska, members Trace Svendsen and Ben Peterson held a meet up that saw a few new interested people. It seems more and more people are taking an interest in their ancestral spirituality and across our region we have members who are more than happy to help them "come home".

The rest of February has been spent finalizing plans for our big Ostara in the Dakotas event. This has become something of a tradition, growing from just a few locals to a region wide event with people attending from all across our region. It is a highlight for our region and a welcome beacon of the ending of winter here in the North(we hope).

Words from the Northeast, by Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

Upcoming Event Ostara Hosted by Lansdale Tru Folk

Saturday, March 17 at 3 PM - 10 PM Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Ostara -also known as Eostre, and likely related etymologically to the Old Norse dwarf of the East and Light, Austri- is the namesake of Easter and East, where the light comes from daily. Celebrating light overcoming the dark, the return of flowers, insects, animals and growth.

Contact cerickson@runestone.org

Words from the AFA Military Program

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ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Hails! We have finished our final draft for our Tri-folds that we will be sending out with books and other materials to the bases. 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. Between this month and the next, we will have our "brief info" on Asatru tri-folds made and ready to ship. These, books and other supplies we need our folk to deliver to the on base chaplain offices, chapels etc. If you would like to help out please email me at klong@runestone.org

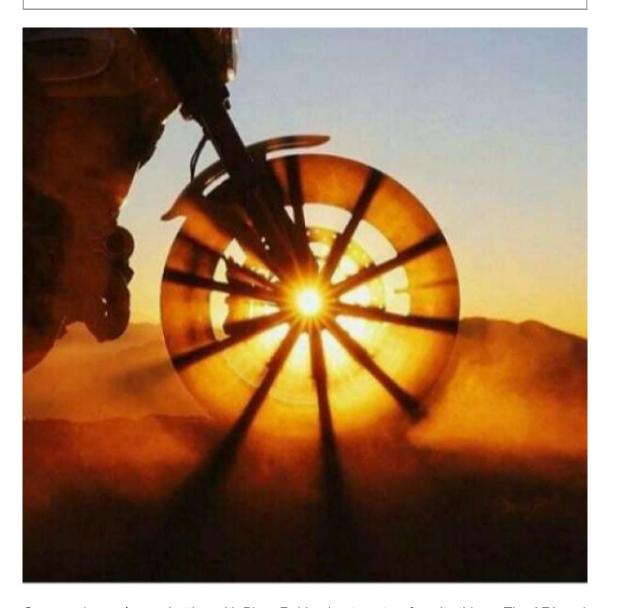
If any of our military members are deploying soon or are currently abroad, please email me your deployment address as well so we can get some care packages shipped out.

Kevin Long Military Program Coordinator





Some of our military members that made it out to the Charming of the Plow event in SoCal!



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 Óðinshof, 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

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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 would like to invite any AFA member to join us on any leg of our trip! I recommend a motorcycle with 1000cc or more, but ride anything you want as long as you can keep up!! We are also in the process of figuring out how to make this a fundraiser to help pay off Óðinshof. If were going to ride might as well ride for a good cause!!

Feel free to contact me on facebook or <u>irasmussen@runestone.org</u>

Hail the Gods and Goddess! Hail the Ancestors! Hail the Folk!

Cheers!

Jamie (OX) Rasmussen

Apprentice Folkbuilder Midwest

Words from AFA Australia, New Zealand and South Africa by Cameron Mottus, Folkbuilder

Hail from down under!

The Kiwis and Aussies have been quietly beavering away over the past two months. Firstly, I would like to welcome two new members from New Zealand, Rex Foote and David Stone.

I had the good luck to meet up with Kevin Reilly in Sydney and Finn McMillan in Melbourne. They are a couple of top notch gentlemen. It turns out that Finn is a singer and he shared one of his albums with me and I would like to share it with you all: https://haethenfolc.bandcamp.com/

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In January I hosted a Meetup in Christchurch to discuss what blot is and how it is performed. I had five attendees who were keen and got their hands dirty by each performing one part of the blot. An offshoot of meeting up was the decision by a number of us to form an AFA affiliated kindred. We are going to hold a thing in mid-March to formally kick off the creation of the kindred.

I would like to finish off my update with a quick discussion about helping the folk out. In the

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care and Folk Services if you need assistance to make ends meet. What ever you do, please do not cancel you membership if you cannot afford it. We can see about giving you an extension to make sure that you get the support you need. We are all your family and we are here to help you.

I would like to extend this sentiment one step further. My region covers Australia, New Zealand aaaaaand South Africa. I have not focused on South Africa because we do not yet have any members (as far as I know). However, I have been watching Lauren Southern's videos about the farm murders and have listened to Karen Smith and Simon Roche do interviews with Red Ice, Stefan Molyneux and The Warrior Project with Master Chim. The plight of the whites of South Africa is dire. This evening I spoke to the founder of the South African Family Relief Project (http://www.safrpsa.org). It was a heart breaking talk. The living conditions in the white squatters camps are appalling. The mothers are malnourished and cannot breast feed and do not have the money to pay for formula. Mothers have to resort to giving their babies watered down cows milk. As a result some of the babies are sick and some of them are dying. This is a call to action for the members of my region to do what we can to help our brothers and sisters in South Africa. I will extend this request a step further and extend a hand to the rest of our membership in America and Europe who may want to assist us make these people lives better. Over the next month I will be investigating what we can do to help the folk out. If you want chat with me you can message me on Facebook Messenger (Cameron Mottus) or email me at cmottus@runestone.org.

South Africa Family Relief Project NPC

www.safrpsa.org

The South Africa Family Relief Project is a charity organization that aims to help relieve the poverty and squalor that the European descendants living in South Africa live with daily. The Boers are facing hardships we can hardly imagine. If there is a worthy cause to support, this is it.

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by Eric Whisman, Folkbuilder

On the last Sunday in February, AFA Kindred Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar, AFA members and other folkish Asatruar gathered at the home of Gothi Steven Morrel for our annual Charming of the Plow.

With the land blanketed in fresh snow, he led Blót to Freyr and following our tradition he blessed the tools our trades for the upcoming season of work.

Following Blót, we planted our first seeds of the year, leeks, and then there was a large feast, and good conversation held by the folk gathered, and a tangible anticipation for Ostara and the coming of spring.





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Words from the AFA Upper South by Paul Hester, Folkbuilder

February has been a spectacular month in the Upper South. We now have 5 prospective kindreds which are truly an indicator of our commitment and motivation. Many of our Kindreds celebrated Charming of the Plow this month and all are looking forward to another year steeped in spiritual growth.







So far registration for "**Hexennacht in the South 2018**" has been phenomenal. This will be the premier event in the Upper South, so be sure and do yourself a favor that will not only rekindle your spirit but give you the opportunity to meet AFA leadership, local kindreds, and other motivated folk who are making a difference in our resilient community. This event will be in **North Carolina April 27th - 29th**. Remember we have a limited amount of spaces so make sure you register early rather than later. Hail the Folk. Hail Wotan. Hail the AFA. Hexennacht.eventzilla.net

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by Jason Gallagher, Folkbuilder





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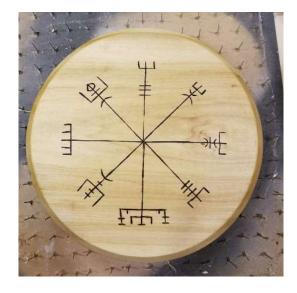
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celebrated Charming of the plow on the 10th and had another great turnout. Anna led the Blót with the assistance of the other ladies of the group. Member Ryan Hanson made a offering plate from Poplar wood for the Godplate that was burned in the fire. And we finished off the night with a feast and Sumble. Rune study was enlightening as usual and always a good time. We are taking a break for March and will have the next Rune study at the beginning of April. Crafting day was on the 18th and we worked on a few individual projects and carvings. Starting in April we will start working on group crafts and activities like making game sets to start. Also in April we will have a story day for the kids starting at the beginning with the Norse creation story. After story time the kids and parents will work on crafts like birdhouse kits that they can paint and make their own.

Hail the Families!
Hail The Doers!
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

Jason Gallagher AFA Folkbuilder jgallagher@runestone.org





AFA Minnesota March Schedule

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- 4/5 Folkish Family Rune study 5:30-8:30 Bloomington,MN
- 4/8 Folkish Family Crafting day 12-4 Bloomington,MN
- 4/21 Folkish Family Children's story day. 12-4 Bloomington,MN
- 4/28 Folkish Family Bbq meet and greet 3-6 Hyland park reserve (Chutes and ladders) Bloomington,MN
- 5/19-5/20 First Annual May day plant a tree event. Hosted by the Hanson Clan on their land in Central Minnesota.

Words from AFA Southern California by Heather Clinkenbeard, Folkbuilder



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second national event, Charming of the plow in Julian California.

We were blown away by the amount of folk that not only showed up, but traveled from far and wide. I found myself many times looking around in awe over the people that were there. The people that put in so much effort to be at an event are the Do-ers, the ones that stand out above the rest, the one's willing to sacrifice for the Folk. Even if it's for something as small as an event. And we were surrounded by them all weekend. It made for an amazing weekend that was filled with camaraderie, nature, fun times, workshops and some truly amazing speakers. We are very grateful for everyone who helped put it together, to all who showed up and for the wonderful friendships and memories.

Our folk planted an ash tree in honor of the season of fertility and the changes spreading over the land. Bryan Wilton held a very memorable blot in which he asked the women present to lend their life giving powers to the tree. The tree itself will be cared for by the camp and we will visit regularly. Kevin Long made a very nice plaque that will mark our place their as long as it stands.

We had our very own Steve and Sheila McNallen with us giving amazing talks. Steve spoke on his Cauldron system, something that is too in depth to go over here, while Sheila held a very informative discussion about heritage and lineage. Both were enlightening discussions and it was a pleasure having them with us. After the weekend rituals were complete and everyone went their separate ways, Steve held a blot to Odin at the peak of Mount Volcan with local AFA members Gray Will and Kael Drachen.

Matt Flavel showed his softer side with the baby naming for baby Elina, daughter of Jessica Choyce. It was a beautiful ceremony and very intimate. Hail Elina!

Till next time!

Hail the Folk!
Hail the Gods and Goddesses!
Hail the AFA!!!

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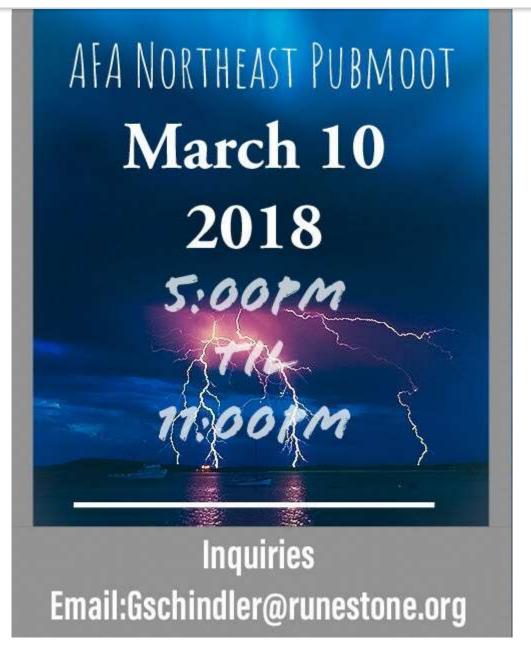


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Words from the Northeast by George J. Schindler III, Apprentice Folkbuilder



A heartfelt Hailsa and hello to all the hard working Folk who endeavor to strengthen our worldwide AFA Kindred.

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outstanding results.



The Allfather's Wild Hunt subsides and Wotan has gathered his retinue...may we carry the breath of inspiration to those awakening and aloof.

We are growing in New England. There is no doubt about that! We continue to emphasize

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embrace.

As I type these words, plans for establishing an AFA Kindred in New England are underway. In time a New England AFA Kindred Flag will hang in Odin's Hof and fly in the spring breeze of a beautiful sunny day.

Wÿrd is Real...We determine our choice. The Furious wind of Wotan is caressing the souls of our people and they are arising to an new reality, a new consciousness. As the exchange of questions and answers get underway, we stand to develop our intellect and to enlive our Odic force.

The Goddesses will soon visit us and thaw our minds free from the deep freeze of Isa. Kenaz burns bright!

The sweet, tender kiss of Frigga will crack the coldest heart and Freya will warm it....Sif will yearn for her golden locks and our lands will burst full with color and fragrant whispers will tickle our senses.

Ah Yes, an awakening is underway, a coming together of the Folk is blessed by the great Nornir. Ùrd, Verdhandi and Sküld spin the threads from deep Ürdrbrünn with smiles of joyful contentment.

Hail Östart and the beauty of our children! Hail the Doers and the work they accomplish! Hail our Folk!

Hail our Ancestors and all who have gone before us!
HAIL OUR GODS AND GODDESSES!!
HAIL OUR WONDERFUL ÀSATRŪ FOLK ASSEMBLY!!

Words from AFA Scandinavia by AFA member Martin Klasson (Gautr Kindred)

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We were some who defied the cold weather of the winter. We stood and held Disablot as we call this in Sweden. The mead was sacrificed to Vanadis the foremost of the diserna. We are lucky enough to have a very holy place very close to our home. Where our folk have enjoyed our gods since the Bronze Age. And all of us who stand in the ring feel the power around us. We are very humble and happy at the same time. We stand by our ancestors around us and we feel the heat despite the bitter cold.

From Gautr blotlag (kindred) Sweden Martin Klasson Äring och frid.

May the gods be with us Hail Freja which is also called Vanadis Hail Asatru Folk Assambly Hail Gautr

Words from Northern California by Jessica Rose, Apprentice Folkbuilder





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We gathered at Odinshof the weekend of February 17-18 for charming of the plow. Members of the Viking Brotherhood spent the afternoon building two runic planter boxes, Jera and Berkano. We later filled these beautiful planters with our spiritual seeds for the upcoming year. In the next couple months these planters will then be filled with a lush vegetable garden that we may use to fuel the folk. While we waited for the evening to start Sheila McNallen enlightened us with all the many ways we can go about researching our genealogy.

As the cold evening set in the ritual fires were lit and we gathered for an inspiring Blot to Freyr, led by Michael Hunter. Thanks was given for the past years bounty which sustained us through the cold, dark winter months, and hope was ignited for the year that lies ahead. Thank you to everyone that made it out and helped celebrate Charming of the Plow.

Our next event at Odinshof will be Ostara, held the weekend of March 17th.

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

Jessica Roesner

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

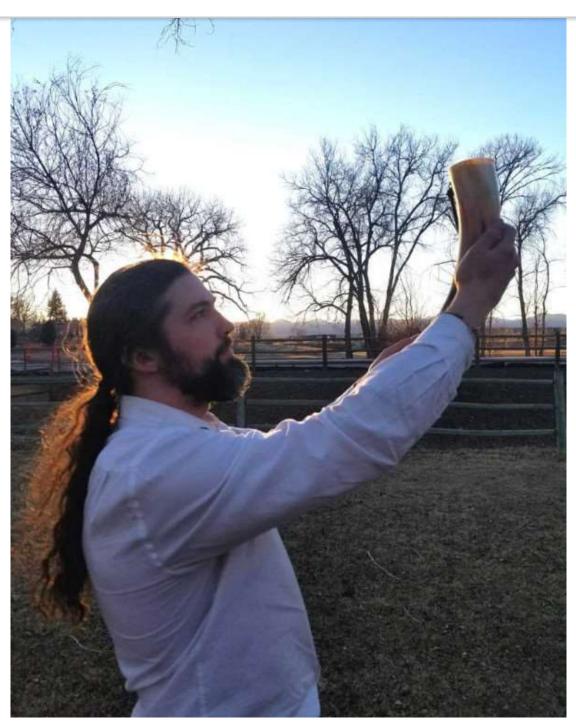
February has has flown by, and it is time to get this update off to Heather and Matthew. Much activity was done, Jason Plourde has been having fine study and Blót each month. For Freyja's sacrifice we tried a nice park near a small lake. The wind was gusting as we arrived and took one of the bottles of mead with it as soon as we placed it on a park table.

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day sun. Cecile Johnston in New Mexico has been having Rune Studies, Blót, Moots and Sumbel in Albuquerque, she has also been creating events with Steven Chappell in Sante Fe.

On the schedule in March will be a conference call with Jason to begin discussing how to coordinate a regional event. This regional event will cover the Four Corners members so anyone interested in this even please tune in. I will send flyers for the conference call as soon as we've settled a date. The talk will most likely be on a Sunday evening. I personally am interested in this happening in any of our four states, so if you have any ideas for locations I'd be interested to hear.





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March Events

Arizona

If there are any members in Arizona motivated to create Events please reach out. Contact Nate Hayden at nhayden@runestone.org

Colorado

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Sessions Coffee 1340 S. Santa Fe Drive, Denver, Colorado 80223

Come join us as we continue to discuss what it means to be a heathen and how to live as an Asatruar. This months topic will be tying Frith and Honour together, as we discuss what "Luck" is in a heathen context. Hosted by Jason James Plourde. Contact:

jplourde@runestone.com

March 18 Ostara Blot

Sunday 3pm

Sterne Park 5800 S Spotswood St, Littleton, CO 80120

Come join other folkish Asatruar in honoring our Victory goddess, and goddess of the coming spring Ostara with Bløt and feasting! Please feel free to comment below to coordinate dishes!

Contact: jplourde@runestone.com

March 25th Clancy's Moot

Sunday 12pm

Enjoying the food and atmosphere here. Come for a meal, a drink and conversation.

Clancy's has a children's menu, and plenty of options for food.

Contact Nate Hayden for more information: nhayden@runestone.org

New Mexico

Cecile Johnston will be having a kindred Sumbel to coincide with the equinox. Please contact her for date and time. Steve Chappell and Cecile are also planning a meet up in Santa Fe in March. Please Contact Cecile through her email for more info: hypognosis321@gmail.com

Utah

Utah has opened a public Folkish Facebook page called "Utah Folkish Asatru". If in Utah or surrounding area please Like the page for local events and other updates.

Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

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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 15th, a Thursday.

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 with the subject "AFA Business Directoryâ€□.

Baby Blanket Project

The <u>Women of the AFA</u> 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.

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Hails my Folk!!!

We are in the process of gathering artwork for a collection of greeting cards to be offered for sale to 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

<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!

Item of the Month

This month's highlighted item is the legendary Black Sun in pendant form, ringed by the Elder Futhark. Display your love of Folk and Faith with this stylish Sonnenrad, which comes on a 20" chain. Grab your's for \$20 <u>here</u>.

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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

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Volunteer for the AFA

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

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