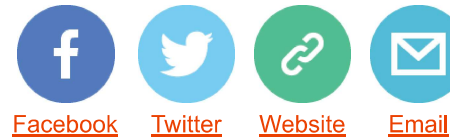


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



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

Happy May Day!

I hope everyone was/is able to dance with your AFA family around the maypole and infuse this year with willful fecundity. Mandy and I just returned from an amazing AFA Hexennacht in the South. I want to give a heart felt thank you to our Upper South Folkbuilder Paul Hester. Paul and his lovely

quality of our national events, those of you who have attended can surely attest that the intimacy and family feeling gets better each time.

I am very proud of all the activity I have been seeing lately from the AFA. We have AFA Kindreds being established all over the country, not to mention in Sweden and New Zealand! Through the efforts of Folkbuilder Cameron Mottus and the colossal generosity of YOU amazing folk, we were able to raise and send much needed relief money to folks suffering in South Africa. Everywhere I look, new AFA babies are being born and AFA ladies and gentlemen are marrying each other, building strong relationships based on shared values and beliefs. Those of you who have been in Asatru for a long time know that this sort of thing was not always the case. The growth of, not only AFA members, but AFA families is a powerful testament to the legitimacy of our church and its bright future.

I want to finish by inviting you to attend AFA Midsummer at Óðinshof in June. Midsummer at the Hof is the biggest AFA event each year and it is a truly special event. If you have not been to our/ your Hof, it is hard to describe how it feels to have a place of our own, something real and permanent. I want to share that feeling with all of you. If you have been to Óðinshof, then you know how special it is and we want to have you back for Midsummer. This year's event will be an amazing celebration of our Folk and our Gods and we invite all our AFA family to come on out and be with us.



To all of you who have donated your hard earned money, thank you. To all of you who have donated your precious time, thank you. To those bold folk who have stepped up to become leaders in our AFA, thank you. Together we are a mighty force for our Gods and our Folk.

Hail the AFA!

Matthew D. Flavel
Alsherjargothi
Asatru Folk Assembly
mattflavel@runestone.org



Birth Announcement

On February 11th, 2018, Barrett James Colclough made his entrance into Midgard at 7lbs 13oz and 21.5 inches long. Born to Jeffery Melvin and Kelly Colclough, Barrett joins his parents, and older sisters Elizabeth and Rose. On February 20th, in a small ceremony, Barrett was officially welcomed into the family and named. He is a happy, healthy boy who has already passed all expectations of one so young. Hail the Gods! Hail the Ancestors! Hail the Melvins and the Colcloughs! Hail Barrett James!



HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN!
HAIL! HAIL! RAISE UP YOUR HORN!
OF GOOD STOCK AND HEALTHY FORM
HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN!

A HANDSOME VISAGE ALL ADMIRE
HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN

A MOTHER'S LOVE, FATHER'S PRIDE
WELCOMED INTO THE HEARTH OF THE TRIBE
PRODUCT OF HIS ANCESTRAL LINE
HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN!

ODIN'S WISDOM, JUSTICE OF TYR
STRENGTH OF THOR TO OVERCOME FEAR
LET ALL WHO HEAR THIS POEM CHEER,
HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN

THE WORDS HAVE BEEN UTTERED, THE FATHER ACCEPTS
TO TEACH, RAISE AND ABOVE ALL PROTECT
HIS LINE OF BLOOD TO HIM HAVE EFFECT
HAIL! HAIL! A SON IS BORN!

-Jeff Melvin

Midsummer 2018 at Óðinshof

June 22 – June 24

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,

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> !

Folkbuilder Coordinator Report, from Marc MacLeod

the headaches and petty stone throwing you have to endure when you're at the top, I would not give it up for the world. It is great getting to see new folks transition from showing up and having no idea what to expect because all they really know is the trash they see on social media from folks that think they will gain, if they can just hurt the reputation of others, to by the end of the weekend they leave with smiles as big as their faces, hearts of joy, spirits filled, happy children, and the knowledge that there is like minded people in this backwards world. I don't care if its the other side of the country or the other side of the world if we have Folk and they are ready build something positive we will be there to help. If you've never made the effort to get to one of the events, you're cheating yourself. We put a lot of time and effort into these events and we do this for our membership. Pick one and make it happen, you won't be sorry!

In Folkbuilder news, I'd like to introduce our newest apprentice Folkbuilder Svan Herul. Svan has lead the Iron Guard Kindred in Virginia and proven himself to be a great addition to the upper south region. I'm really looking forward to see what Svan and Paul accomplish.



Bryan Blue is on his way to Las Vegas, NV and will bring the same leadership to that area he has shown in the Upper South.

And last but not least, I want to give a big Congratulations to Jason Plourde for taking his Folkbuilder Oath this weekend. Jason has earned his place and it was a Honor to be a part of that ceremony.



Hail to the Doers!

**Words from Australia, New Zealand, & South Africa
by Cameron Mottus, Apprentice Folkbuilder**

Hail from the southern hemisphere!

South Africa Update

I would like to thank all of the AFA members who have donated to the South Africa charity



was donated to the South African Family Relief Project. (<http://www.safrrpsa.org/>)

A note from Dyanne, Financial Director at the South African Family Relief Project:

Hi Cameron

We hereby would like to confirm the receipt of the donation of \$1500 you sent.

We would also like to thank you and your donors very much. This will help a lot to feed our families.

We will send you video and photos of the families and children receiving much needed food.

Thank you for support.

Kind regards

I am excited to see how our donation has helped! If we can keep this fundraising momentum up for the next year, we could raise around \$18,000 to go to the Folk in need in South Africa. It important for us to keep South Africa front of mind. Our Folk there are more or less on their own with a government who is acting against them.

One of our Swedish members, Jonas Nilsson, produced a documentary called "Boer Project: South Africa A Reverse Apartheid?". I would recommend that everyone check it out. It is the best that I have seen. The documentary can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VEDU0xIILKA>



Donations for South Africa

How do you help? Simply go to www.runestone.org and click on the Donate button. In the description, type "South Africa", fill in your particulars and then click Donate Now.

20.00
USD

Make this a monthly donation [?](#)

South Africa

Donate Now

New Zealand and Australia Update

The primary focus for the region over the past few months has been on South Africa. Australia and New Zealand will get more focus over the next few months. In the past two months I have hosted two regional conference calls. Personally, I love conference calls as they allow me to talk with the Folk of my region. One of the interesting discussions that we had during the first call was about the use of Christian terms for different things. We spent some time identifying Christian words and thought of Asatru equivalents. An example would be, that instead of using the term "pastoral care" we could use "gothar care" when talking about how to look after our Folk in need. During the April conference call we discussed the Northern European soul complex. The source was Stephen McNallen's "Asatru: A Native European Spirituality". I would recommend that everyone read that book.

ANZ and SA Conference Call: Yule Traditions



Date: 20 May

Time: 9pm New Zealand Time

Numbers:

New Zealand: 06 928 7533

Australia: 02 8077 0505

South Africa: 87 825 0144

PIN: 633202

Yule Blot - Yule Celebration in Mackenzie Country

Hosted by the Fensilar Kindred.

Location: Twizel, South Island, New Zealand

Date: 23 June to 24 June 2018

RSVP: d.lastovicka@live.com



The Folk on the South Island of New Zealand are planning a Yule blot in the beautiful Mackenzie Country. It is a four hour drive from Christchurch with the amazing Southern Alps as a backdrop. The event will be hosted by Fensalir Kinred and is open to kindred and AFA members as well as friends and family. If you are interested, please RSVP ASAP!

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



Hexennacht in the South was a phenomenal event. Friendships were made and alliances were built. Our Freya & Odin Blots were breath taking. Congratulations to Chris, Karissa, & Amélie on their baby naming ceremony. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped out. Plans are already in place for “Ostara in the South 2019.”

Our region was once again ripe with activity. All of our Kindreds celebrated Ostara. Our Kindreds are growing as is our community. Congratulations to Wild Hunt Kindred for becoming an AFA official Kindred. If you'd like contact any of our Kindreds reach out to me at PHester@RuneStone.org and I'll get you connected.



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



and Thor greeted us with mighty lightning. Bad weather always stops when we perform our rituals but today I had doubts, the rain was just too heavy. Yes, you guessed right. It actually stopped when we all gathered in the stone circle. What's my take on that? Well, never have any doubts!

That's how easy it can be, when we open that special door to the other side, just leave doubts behind it won't do you any good. When the blot was done we went home to Peter and Sara, two great hosts, and ate a nice dinner.

Scandinavia is growing in numbers but the really important thing is the growth of friendship and community- the feeling of being in the right place with the right people.



Words from the Far North, Alaska by Eric Whisman, Folkbuilder

Walpurgisnacht/Mayday 2018 - Alaskan AFA

On the last weekend of April, the AFA folk from Alaska packed up their vehicles and made the 200 mile (one way) trip down the coast to the home of AFA member, and oathed Tribe brother Tyler Hansen in Seward, Alaska.

As the sun began setting on Saturday, we held Blot to Freya and began our workings for Witch's Night. We spent the night there amongst kin and new friends, and after a hearty breakfast the following morning, we welcomed May with a blot to Freyr.



he built himself, beautifully nestled in a wooded hillside overlooking the sea. Old bonds were strengthened and new bonds were forged.



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

Spring is finally here in Minnesota and we are finally able to go outside and host a meet and greet in a park. Was a beautiful day spent with great folk. We had our monthly Rune study which will now be a monthly Edda study group starting this month with the Havamal. Children's story day went pretty good for our first one. The next one is in July and will be a children's 9 noble Virtues study and also a good idea for us adults to learn too. And we finished the month off with the meet and greet. May is going to be another busy month with lots of events.



jgallagher@runestone.org

5/13 crafting day 12-4 Bloomington,MN.

5/26 memorial day grill and meet 4-7 Andover,MN Bunker Hills Park.

5/19 First Annual May day plant a tree event.Hosted by the Hanson's on their land in Central Minnesota.

5/31 Havamal study group 5:30

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

6/16 Folkish Family Midsummer Celebration 4-7 Bloomington,MN.

7/8 Fieldtrip to Gasthaus in Stillwater,MN 6-9

7/14 Children's 9 Noble Virtue study group 12-3 Bloomington,MN.

7/28 Riverview picnic meet and greet 3-7 Afton State park Hastings,MN.

Hail the Doers!

Hail the Families!

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!!!

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



They say if you look at the closest people in your life you can get a good idea of where you are headed. I look often, and see the Tru-folk. I see a group of folk continuously motivating each other, being there for each other, racing out to each other and striving in life to consistently be better than they were the day before. I am in awe regularly and couldn't ask for a better kindred for myself or my child. It all started with a willing to not give up. Our folk are our tribe our future and our reason for

being. The rewards of staying in touch and connecting regularly are profound.

bonfires, park moots, holidays and studies. Building community. This mayday we unplugged in the mountains. Stayed up laughing playing board games and ending the night in a witchy ritual. Waking up to a beautiful hike to a waterfall where we held blot to Freya and for mayday. Wishing for blessings for all our folk.



From Gray Will, who is leading a program for the Tru folk of San Diego and motivating us all to be the best we can be.

Hávamál, Stanza 38 is the name sake of our training team, for it reads:

*Let a man never stir on his road a step
without his weapons of war;
for unsure is the knowing when need shall arise
of a spear on the way without.*



We are a Folkish training team focused on empowering members of the folk both men and women to be able to keep Hávamál 38 at all times as since we are not permitted to carry "spears" in public and having concealed weapons are a right often infringed upon in this age, the ability to make one's Mind and Body a weapon is the focus of our training.

We teach Muay Thai Kickboxing as this 8 Point (fists, elbows, knees, shins) and thus the most complete striking system. Specifically teaching the Dutch Kickboxing Style as this is widely accepted as the best form of the 8-Point Kickboxing System. We also teach Boxing, wrestling, and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.

The goal is threefold:



2. To build comradery among the folk through "sweat together" as the presence of fellow folk working together to make positive changes builds strong bonds and makes a good representation of the folk.

3. To build fighting skills that make members capable of being "comfortable in uncomfortable situations", able to defend themselves when the situation arises, and carry themselves with confidence knowing this.

Contact #: [5409315256](tel:5409315256)

**Words from the West, Northern California
by Jessica Roesner, Apprentice Folkbuilder**

Greeting All,

We took full advantage of the sunshine out here in California and decided to invest most our time during the last event preparing the HOF for Mid-Summer. These are always some of my favorite weekends. Honoring the gods by helping keep the HOF fully functioning and looking pristine. Listening to the children run around, the chatter of folk, the hustle and bustle of the Doers. We repaired a ceiling, finished carving and painting our beautiful horse heads, and set up lighting in the outdoor sitting area. There is still much to be done but thanks to our amazing volunteers we were able to take a chunk out of our list of to-dos.

"There should be a sacrifice at the beginning of winter for a good year, and in the middle of winter for good crops, and the third prior to Midsummer's day. That sacrifice was for victory." And so we took a break from our and listened to a talk lead by Matt Flavel and Micheal Hunter. Inspiring words about success and victory in our daily lives no matter what they are as well as victories for our folk as a whole. We were reminded that success and victory sometimes means sacrificing things that are important to us to achieve victory. On that note we held Sigbrlot and made offerings, sacrifices of items that were near and dear to us.

Hail the Gods
Hail the Folk
Hail the AFA

Words from the Northeast
by **George J. Schindler III, Apprentice Folkbuilder & Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder**

Updates from New England
by George J. Schindler III, Apprentice Folkbuilder



Hailsa and Hello! Spring has finally sprung in New England and its a beautiful birth to witness. Fragrant Cherry Blossoms abound and Singing Robins greet Sunna with aplomb. Sunna stirs our soul. Something remarkable is also growing here in New England: The Asatru Folk Assembly!

Midsummer will be here before we know it. Let's put our Declaration of Purpose to work. Raise your smiling face to Sunna and proclaim your commitment to our People. We will raise many a horn to our ancestors and strengthen our Wýrd. Balder will surely smile upon those who strive to overcome! May we earn this gift.

Major plans are underway to expand and enrich our spiritual lives AND represent our dynamic AFA. I welcome ALL New England Asatruar to reach out to me so we can make our ambitious dreams a formidable reality. It's time to awaken from our winter slumber and rise to the challenges ahead. The Spring of our Asatru Folk Assembly is in full swing. We are our deeds. Let us revel in our accomplishments!

Hail our Asatru Folk Assembly

Updates from the Mid-Atlantic by Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

Winter Nights in the Poconos 2018

October 12 - 14

Registration information coming soon!

Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen

Hosted by Lansdale Tru Folk, Lansdale PA

5/19 3PM

Any AFA member is welcome to Lansdale Tru Folk rituals in Lansdale, PA. In addition to the above ritual for May, our calendar for the rest of the year is:

Midsummer, 6/23 3PM

Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rudd Mills, 7/21 3PM

Freyfaxi, 8/25 3PM

Harvest, 9/22 3PM (actual equinox!)

AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos, October 12-14 (confirmed)

Feast of the Einherjar, 11/17 3PM

Yule 2018, 12/29 3PM



Contact: cerickson@runestone.org

Baltimore/Maryland Area Pub-Moot

Hosted by AFA Member Robert Powell (<https://www.facebook.com/robert.powell.900>)

Saturday, May 19 at 3 PM

Glen Burnie, MD

Greetings Folks!

Sat 19th May 3pm. I'm proposing a pub-moot for the local folk, it will be in the Glen Burnie area. Everyone who commits to attend will get the exact location. If anyone has a better location suggestion that would entice a bigger turn out, chime in and well make it a tribe effort.

Hail the folk!

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

May 2018: Four Corners Region^[L]_[SEP]



April was active in Denver. The Asafolk Kindred was founded with a nice ceremony and feast in Littleton, Colorado. Any members interested in the activities of the Asafolk Kindred please contact

Jason James Plourde:
jplourde@runestone.com^[L]_[SEP]

The following is activities occurring in the Four Corners region.^[L]_[SEP]

ARIZONA^[L]_[SEP]

If there are any members in Arizona motivated to create Events please reach out. Contact Nate Hayden at nhayden@runestone.org^[L]_[SEP]

^[L]_[SEP]

COLORADO^[L]_[SEP]

Sunday May 13th. 1PM

Study Group "Treasures And Sacred Spaces"

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

works. What are they? How are they made? Why do they benefit me? All these and more will be explained as we continue to discuss being an Asatuar.

SEP

SEP Sunday, May 20th, 3PM - 6PM

Freyr Bløt And Potluck with the Asafolk

Stern Park - 5800 S Spotswood Street, Littleton, Colorado 80120

Hosted by Asafolk Kindred. Contact for more information: jplourde@runestone.com

Come celebrate the arrival of spring, and honor Freyr with bløt. This is an excellent opportunity to come out and get to know the Asafolk and like minded folkish heathens!

SEP

SEP Sunday May 27th 12pm

Clancy's Irish Pub Moot

7000 W 38th Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

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

This event is entirely open to the Public. It is a good event just to meet others. Come for a meal, a drink and conversation. Clancy's has a children's menu, and plenty of options for food.

SEP NEW MEXICO

SEP May 6th - Open Blot

SEP Albuquerque

Cecile Johnston will have a blot and open meeting with the Albuquerque group. Please contact Cecile for time and location: hypognosis321@gmail.com

SEP UTAH

If in, or around Utah please join the the "Utah Folkish Asatru" Facebook page for more information in the area.

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

Have you had some recent victories in life? A new marriage? A promotion? A new baby? Have you

Souligny!

Hail the doers!!!

Hail the AFA!!!

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!!!

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

AFA Military Program



Hails!

We have received the books and tri-folds, now all we need is more volunteers! I will start sending out material this week to the volunteers who already messaged me. If you are on or near a military base, VA hospital, or any other associated military installation and would like to help get this material into our military folks hands, please send me an email or a message on Facebook. Again thank you to all the doers out there!

Also, if any of our folk are currently deployed or will be deployed soon, send us a message as well so we can set up care packages!

Kevin Long
Military Program Coordinator

Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

AFA Circle of Eir performs a monthly 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 email to Patricia Hall at patriciahall@runestone.org. This month's ritual will be held on the night of the 19th, 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 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 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 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'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.

Have fun and please send submissions to Nate Hayden nhayden@runestone.org

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:^[1]_[SEP]

^[1]_[SEP]

Seasonal (Holy Days, Equinox, Solstice)^[1]_[SEP]

Greetings^[1]_[SEP]

Get Well! [SEP]

Bereavement

Lore

Gods and Goddesses

Runes

and others ideas can of course be considered! [SEP]

[SEP]

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

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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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