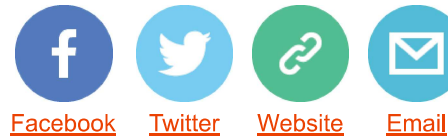


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



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

You folks never cease to amaze me and fill me with pride. October was a fantastic month for the AFA. The highlight of October is always our national Winter Nights event in the Poconos. This year's event was absolutely amazing. AFA members came from all around the country to spend the weekend surrounded by our Folk, united by blood and purpose, honoring our gods and ancestors, building friendships with each other. The enthusiasm and participation this year was the greatest I have seen in

that it is. I want to give special thanks to Cliff Erickson for all his hard work in organizing this event and making sure that it all ran smoothly and exceeded all of our expectations.

I would also like to take this time to announce the formation of the AFA Witan. The Witan is an Anglo-Saxon word that means a counsel of wise men. These men work tirelessly to ensure the very best for the AFA and our mission. I am very proud and honored to have these men assisting me in the great duty of running this amazing organization. The AFA Witan includes: Law Speaker Allen Turnage, Folkbuilder Coordinator Marc MacLeod, Folkbuilder Clifford Erickson, and Gothi Thorgrun Odden.

We greet winter stronger than ever!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Matt Flavel

Alsherjargothi, AFA

Calling All Ásatrú Artists!

The AFA is in need of artwork for Yule cards! As you all probably know, you can't just buy Yule cards in the store, so it's either make do with a generic "holiday" card, or make your own. Since not everyone has the time or desire to make their own, and the generic store-bought cards don't always satisfy, the AFA will be making Yule cards available in our web store, made by the Folk, for the Folk! We have a few concepts for you to work with. Email Elizabeth at emacbryghde@runestone.org if you're interested.

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

The October Healing Ritual will be held Thursday, November 17, at midnight EST/USA. Hail Eir!

Folk Services

AFA Folk Services provides modest, one-time monetary grants to AFA members in need. It's also a source for referrals and information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide – e.g., pointers to appropriate government services, and information about money management and/or financial counseling. All applicants are carefully vetted, and all needs verified, to ensure that help is getting to AFA members who need it most. We have helped with funeral services, food, medical expenses, baby supplies, and more.

As the Founder has said: 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!

AFA Folk Services is one of the things that make us not just an international organization...but a community! Help us build that community today by sending a donation to AFA Folk Services! For more information about Folk Services, send a private message to the [Folk Services page](#) on Facebook.

Penny Pointers: Insurance by Karen Carlson

Buying insurance is a bet. You are betting against the house (the insurance company) that something bad will happen. Insurance companies have to make money. So, just like in Las Vegas, on average the house will come out ahead. Does that mean you should not carry insurance? No! But you should think about the kinds of insurance that are worthwhile for you. This article will discuss a few that you probably

First a few words on my insurance philosophy ... and on how terminology can foster confusion. Employers sometimes offer, for example, a dental plan – maybe it pays for two cleanings a year and most of some moderate work like a couple of fillings. Sounds like insurance, right? Not really, in my book. To me, insurance is to protect you from possible but unlikely, disastrously large financial disasters. It is not for everyday, predictable things. It is not for paying 100% of unexpected expenses. Do not confuse “prepaid plans” with “insurance.” That said...

Some kinds of insurance to carry:

- If you have children or other dependents, life insurance. At least consider life insurance on both parents, whether or not both work outside the home. If your wife is a full-time mom, and something happened to her, could you easily manage the expenses in daycare, etc., you would incur? You only need life insurance when somebody depends on you financially; term life insurance might be a good choice for parents.
- Medical. Besides that it's required by law, an overwhelmingly expensive illness or injury can happen to anyone. Your medical insurance does not need to cover the small stuff, however. A high-deductible plan is good for a lot of folks.
- Liability – as a driver, homeowner, etc. You can be sued for huge amounts, even if someone's injury is not your fault.
- House (fire, etc.) – if you have a mortgage, it's probably required. If you've paid off your house, it would likely be a major financial setback to replace it if it burned down.
- Car insurance (collision/comprehensive) – maybe. This one depends on the value of the car and your circumstances. Go for the high deductible.

Some kinds of insurance you probably don't need:

- Appliance repair “insurance.”
- Dental “insurance” (unless paid for by your employer).
- Pet medical insurance – these generally have fairly low limits, so don't cover really big expenses.
- Life insurance on children. This is appealing to our superstitious side that if we “insure” against something, it's less likely to happen.

The bottom line is: “self-insure” when you reasonably can. That is, in your budgeting, figure on things like washing machine leaks, dental care, illness of a pet, crumpled fenders. If you let the insurance companies force you to save for these things via insurance policy premiums, you spend more on

Konservative Karen

The Cult of the Thunderer from Martin Votava, Apprentice Folkbuilder

Living in central Europe brings many opportunities and difficulties. This also applies to the religious life. Czech Republic (to the north of the Alps) was a region that was home to different ancient peoples, but more recently to the Celtic, Germanic, and Slavic nations. Later it was the Christians, Communists, and after their propaganda, also atheists. After the fall of the "iron curtain" people reinvented the taste of freedom in every possible manner.

In religious freedom it brought to us the Krishnas, the Jehova's witnesses, the Buddhists, the Christians of any thinkable form, the scientists, the Hindus, the Rastafarians, and more. In a Pagan/Heathen context, a boom happened too. People reclaimed their Celtic, Germanic, and Slavic pre-Christian roots with the cultural revival, publishing books, founding organizations, holding events, etc.

The wave is long gone, but the remnants still live on. And since there are several ethnic (folkish) groups in the Czech Republic that keep a good relationship, an idea of finding a common ground arose naturally.

The trans-traditional heathen dialogue and its fruits slowly came to the light. There is a god and his cultic worship appears in all of the mentioned traditions and more. You can easily identify him in Baltic, Hellenic, and Finnish traditions, too. A truly European thing!

My contribution to this movement is initiating and organizing the foundation of The Cult of the Thunderer. It is a mannerbund (for now) of folkish heathens that are willing to celebrate the Thunderer together the manly way.

The concept is to realize an event of common active worship several times a year. The active worship could take on different forms, but for now they are those that demand an effort, will, and strength.

nature, preparing and realizing blots and rituals, and more. All to the glory and joy of the Thunderer (manifold may be his name in different Indo-European traditions involved).

I am the apprentice folkbuilder of AFA Czech Republic and Slovakia. The Cult of the Thunderer is not an AFA official offspring, nor it is an open group for anyone to join. But it is very folkish and the AFA members are welcome to join it and let themselves grow in every aspect in the light of the Thunderer with us!

The information of the first CoT event:

Date:

November 12-13th.

Location:

The Northern Bohemia (Northern Czech Republic), near the town Ceska Lipa

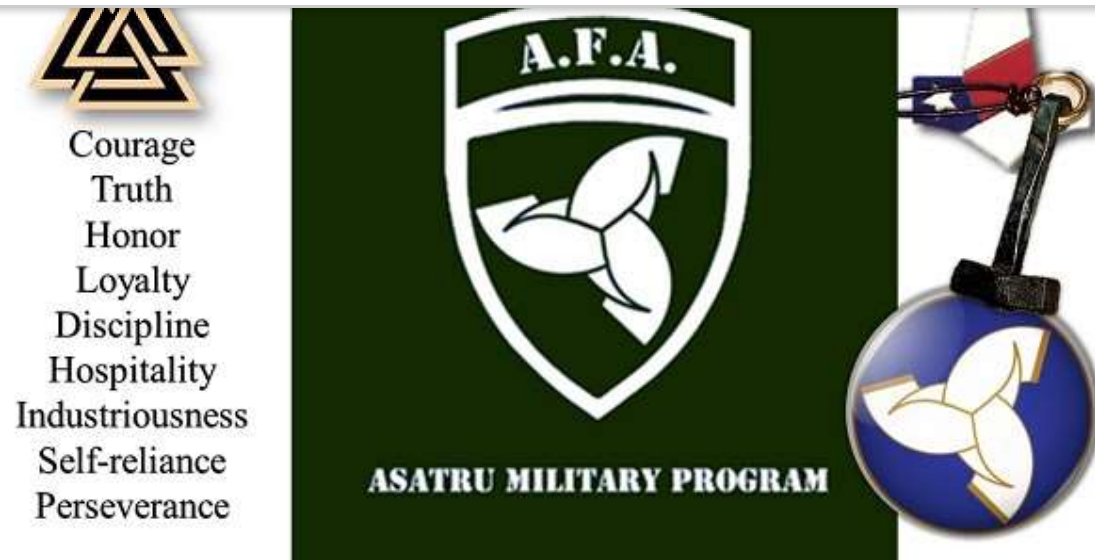
Type of the activity:

30km trail, strength competition, blot to the Thunderer, celebration of the Einherjar, camping and sleeping in the rocks.

Contact:

mvotava@runestone.org

Asatru Military Program
from Roland L'Heureux



Friday, November 11th, Feast of the Einherjar/Veteran's Day (USA)

When we think of our warriors in harm's way this Veteran's Day, many of us will also think of the god Tyr. Tyr was not ignorant of the ultimate outcome of his act. Tyr knew that to save his community he would need to lose his battle hand. Tyr's act exemplified for us the true and underlining meaning of courage and bravery. General Douglas McArthur once said, "The soldier who is called upon to offer and give his life for his country is the noblest development of mankind." Let us this Veteran's Day raise our horns high for those who, in combat or not, have made that decision to sacrifice all if called upon to do so.

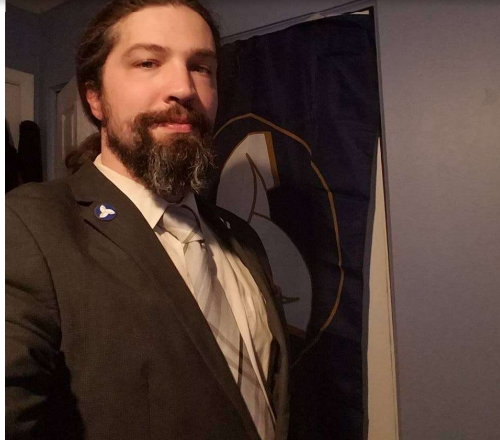
Folkbuilding News
from Marc MacLeod



As October starts to come to an end and we start looking into our winter festivities, I've been reflecting on the last few months. It's been a fast-paced summer, to say the least. I had the pleasure of attending Winter Nights in the Poconos, and all the fruits of our labor were very obvious. We are doing great things! I had the pleasure of spending the weekend with at least 10 of our Folkbuilders/leadership face to face, and I couldn't be more pleased to be part of such a good group of men and women. Every AFA event I attend, I get a lot out of but they keep getting better and better. The AFA pride was obvious from the children all the way to the Elders.

One of the people I had the pleasure to spend some time with and have some good conversation with was our newest apprentice Folkbuilder, Jason Plourde, who traveled from Florida to Pennsylvania to spend the weekend with us. Jason is full of enthusiasm and wants to start building communities in the Deep South Region. He is currently in Central Florida, which has quite a few members but has been pretty inactive for quite a while. I'm excited to see what we can build there. If you're in Central Florida, reach out and introduce yourself to him.

Let's keep up the momentum through the winter months and really try to build some bonds with each other. We get out of this what we are willing to put into it!



Hail the AFA!

Update from Sweden
from Anders Nilsson, Folkbuilder



On September 24th, AFA Sweden held a popular autumn blot. We performed the ritual at a very special stone ring. It is a place from the early iron age, and has been used by the US for about 20 years. It is not possible to avoid feeling påtagligheten of the ancestors and the powers who watch over the ring.

The ritual was designed to unite the Mother Earth and Tyr. The bronze-clad Tyr rune was on a platter filled with soil. We sent our wishes and victims of mjödöt and poured this over the rune so that it was mixed with earth. In the evening we gathered at my house and ate an autumn stew and had fruitful discussions.



**News from the Northwest
from Elizabeth MacBrÿghde, Gythia**



October Events:

The Northwest has been busy this month! On Saturday, October 8th, AFA member Philip Koch hosted a hikemoot at the MacDonald-Dunn Forest in Corvallis, Oregon. Several Washington members carpooled down to attend. We got to see some old and new growth forests as well as interesting wildlife. A good time was had by all.

On Saturday, October 15th, we celebrated Winter Nights in Centralia, Washington with a blot to the Disir, a potluck feast, and a sumbel. We braved the high winds and rain during the blot, and were strengthened by the might of the storm. We were pleased to meet many new friends from near and far, and look forward to seeing them again in the future.

Future Events:

On Saturday, November 19th, we will honor the fallen with a Feast of the Einherjar celebration. Location is currently TBA. Email Elizabeth for details and updates: emacbryghde@runestone.org.
Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk! Hail the Ancestors!



News from the Four Corners from Roland L'Heureux

The Folkgard of Odin and Holda had a great time at our October Pub Moot / Meet and Greet. Since some of us arrived a bit early, we satisfied our competitive nature by accepting the challenge to

Our celebratory mood now in full swing, our moot was moved to a local Oregon's restaurant where we feasted until our bellies were full. By the close of our meeting we had drank, fought, and made our ancestors proud. All present had a great day of fun, food, and comradery, though we were mindful of and missed those who were unable to attend.

Coming Activities:

Sunday, November 13th @ 4pm MST, Conference call. Dial In # 712-451-0200, Access code: 110727.

Saturday, November 19th, 4-7pm, PubMoot at The Handlebar Pub & Grill, 650 W. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 85120

News from the Northeast from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

AFA Northeast Conference Call

Monthly Conference Call

Open to all members to discuss news and updates for the Northeast Region. Our next Northeast conference call will be at 8:00 p.m. EST on Monday, November 28, 2016. We look forward to hearing you there!

Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580

Access Code: 174-424

Lansdale Tru Folk PubMoot!

Saturday, November 19 at 12 PM - 3 PM

A get-together! If you have friends who are curious about Asatru bring them along.

This place is super cheap, but cash only. There is an ATM.

Country Place
1007 Route 313
Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

Winter Nights in the Northeast from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder



children.

Winter Nights has grown into much more than just the AFA's anchor event in the Northeast. It is as much a celebration of the end of the year as Yule is a celebration of the beginning of the year. I am so thankful for the time, the effort, and the sacrifices made by everyone who joined us. It was especially wonderful to see so many families and children at Winter Nights, including one who arrived at the start of the weekend as a boy, but left as a man.



Thank you to all who attended and to all who gave the wonderful workshops and lectures. Thank you to Apibus and Changes for entertaining us with stirring music! Thank you to all of the Gothar who led is in well thought out and intentful rituals! Thank you to the staff at Camp Netimus for their courtesy and some darn good meals! Most of all, thank you to all of the members and friends of the AFA who make all of the effort put into the event worthwhile.

Please check out the bands and vendors whose generosity helped to make this event so successful.

CHANGES

Nicholas Tesluk

<http://www.nmia.com/~thermite/>

<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialChangesPage/>

Stuart Südekum, - Guitar, Vocals

Albo Südekum - Violin, Vocals

Renée Heitmann - Bass, Vocals

<http://apibus.bandcamp.com/releases/>

<https://www.facebook.com/apibus.band/>



ABN Broadcaster John Johnson

soundcloud.com/aesirbroadcasting/

Knives & Teeshirts

Author Bryan Wilton

www.amazon.com/author/bryanwilton

www.facebook.com/Bryan-Wilton-779527288772157/

This weekend's guest speaker and the author of Asatru Book of Days and many more.

Futhark.org

A Heathen Communal Venture

Founded in March of 2013, Futhark is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Irminfolk Odinist Community, a not for Profit religious corporation. No part of the organization's income is distributed to its members, directors, or officers.

Green Island Glass

Heathen Circle

<http://heathen-circle.org>

Heathen Circle is a heathen art community dedicated to promoting pan-European heritage among the people of its descent worldwide.

Maidenfair Meadery

Mead@FreeFolk.org

The 2016 Maidenfair Mead lineup: Cranberry Clove, Bryd's Breath, Wild Huntress, & Winter Wassail

Viking Village

Vikingvillage.etsy.com

Kubb sets, tunics, wooden boxes, tafl sets, fleece blankets, horn holders, chain maille jewelry, Thor's hammer baby rattles, Scandinavian doll rattles, and more!

Whirling Sun

whirlingsun.com

Custom handmade ASATRU heathen Jewelry, decor, and apparel

I am pleased to announce that because of the overwhelming success we had this year we have booked the camp for AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos 2017 a full year in advance. We hope to see you all October 12 - 15 2017 at Camp Netimus!



We are very busy up in this part of the country. Seems like the last few months have seen an explosion of growth and activity up here. We now have regular meet and greets happening in several different states within the region. November 12th will see a meet and greet in Bismarck, North Dakota; and a meet and greet near the Twin Cities in Minnesota. November 20th we will have a regional conference call. December will see a Yule celebration in Minnesota and a weekend-long cabin camping Yule celebration in North Dakota. Nebraska is starting to also have meet and greets and will surely be having more in the future. Any members who may be traveling up this way from other parts of the country please feel free to get in touch and see what we are up to. Hail the Folk! Hail the AFA!

Minnesota Happenings from Jason Gallagher, Apprentice Folkbuilder



On October 2nd I hosted Winter Nights in Bloomington and you could not have asked for a more beautiful day. Sunna was shining bright, and the Disir and Ancestors were there in spirit and joined us



AFA member Bo Bransford ended the day with a traditional Icelandic sumbel. Eleven AFA members and friends came out to celebrate and some drove considerable distances like AFA members: Jerad Christopherson from St.Charles, MN and Joel Eastman from Milwaukee. AFA members Robin and Jeff brought tons of walleye and crappies from up north in Minnesota. Bo brought along his turkey fryer and fried up the fish for our feast. I cannot get over the level of dedication these guys have and how much they the desire to grow. I'm amazed at the enthusiasm that everyone shows. It's very contagious. We will keep the momentum going with our next event in November.

Folkish Family Meet and Greet

November 12th 5-8 PM Park Tavern in St.Louis Park, MN

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



San Diego Tru Folk from Jamie Souigny



Hails from So Cal's Tru Folk Kindred

We had a little kindred fieldtrip out to the Poconos for an amazing Winter Nights celebration with our AFA Folk. What a great weekend with the Folk. We were honored to have our kindred's flag raised high with the AFA flag. We explored the beautiful land of PA a bit and got to know many wonderful people. We also received some great messages and engaged in awesome fellowship.

couldn't make the trip.

Thanks to all who extended amazing hospitality!

Thanks to all who put it together and those who shared knowledge!

Hail the Gods and Goddesses!

Hail the AFA!

Hail the FOLK!

We do a quarterly open moot. We have set up a Facebook group to announce locations and details of such meetings. The name of the page is San Diego Folkish Asatru. We also have folk in the Orange County and Riverside County areas. If you are not a "Facebooker", you can reach me Jamie at jamiereadsoul@gmail.com, or Heather (SD Folkbuilder) at HeaTHOR@runestone.org.



Item of the Month - Official AFA Hat



The official AFA hat has been released! You can buy it here: <http://www.runestonegifts.com/other/official-afa-hat>

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

Volunteer for the AFA

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

Upcoming Events for 2016

I am pleased to announce that because of the overwhelming success we had this year we have booked the camp for AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos 2017 a full year in advance. We hope to see you all October 12 - 15 2017 at Camp Netimus!

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AFA Eastern Europe
V Śląski Paganfest "Politeizm - dawniej i dziś"
domogala@runestone.org

November 4 – November 5
Nov 4 at 5 PM to Nov 5 at 11 PM UTC+01
Pan Majster Craft & Shot Bar
3-go Maja 19, 40-097 Katowice, Poland

Polish: Po raz kolejny pragniemy zaprosić wszystkich na Śląski Paganfest - imprezę łączącą w sobie wykłady, koncerty, wróżby i innego rodzaju atrakcje. W tym roku piąta już edycja wydarzenia organizowanego przez polski oddział Asatru Folk Assembly odbędzie się pod hasłem "Politeizm - dawniej i dziś" - motywem przewodnim imprezy będą współczesne oblicza religii pogańskich.
Program Imprezy

English: V Silesian Paganfest – "Polytheism: Then and Now" Once again we would like to invite

Assembly will be held under the slogan "Polytheism: Past and Today". The leitmotif of the event will be contemporary faces of pagan religions.

Opening lecture will be about the activities of AFA in Poland and all over the world!

Piątek

16.00 - otwarcie bram

17.00 - wykład "Asatru Folk Assembly - działalność i koncepcja" (Asatru)

18.00 - wykład "Współczesny Hellenizm", wróżby

20.00 - koncert zespołu Othalan

Sobota

15.00 - otwarcie bram

15.45 - wykład "Rodzima Wiara dziś" Rafał Merski żerca wspólnoty Rodzimowierców Watra

16.45 - wykład Enenny "Wicca we współczesnym świecie"

18.00 - wykład "A moja święta księga mówi tak!" - czyli moralność we współczesnym kociołku religijnym
- Sylwia Solveig Dylewska (Asatru)

19.00 - koncert zespołu Jar

<https://www.facebook.com/Jar-1436912533210738/>

W trakcie imprezy pojawią się również takie atrakcje jak grill, stoisko z rękodziełem i książkami czy pokaz średniowiecznego uzbrojenia!

Bilety 15 zł (jeden dzień)

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PubMoot!

Saturday, November 19 at 12 PM - 3 PM

A get-together! If you have friends who are curious about Asatru bring them along.

This place is super cheap, but cash only. There is an ATM.

Country Place
1007 Route 313
Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

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AFA Midwest November Conference Call

A regular monthly event. I will talk to many of you then.
bqualls@runestone.org

Phone Number-712-775-7031
PIN Number-----137154380

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Einherjar Feast - AFA Deep South 2016

jplourde@runestone.org

Sunday, November 20 at 1 PM - 6 PM
Bulow Creek State Park
3351 Old Dixie Hwy, Ormond Beach, Florida 32174

Come join us in sumble and feasting in memory to those who gave all. For our distant ancestors and those who are still in our thought and hearts, we will be holding blót and a potluck followed by sumble to honor our folk in Valhalla who gave their lives in service to their fellow man. For those who now train and feast in the service of Wotan, the Einherjar.

There is no entrance fee to get into the park. Everyone please bring a dish and/or beverage. Also pork for entrée dishes is ideal. I encourage anyone who may have a token, photo, or a story of an ancestor (recent or distant) who makes you feel proud or honored to call them your Kin please bring it with you and share!

Yule on the Plains - Friday, December 16, 2016, 2:00 p.m., to Sunday December 18, 2016, 11:00 a.m.
at Cross Ranch State Park. See the [Facebook](#) page.

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