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







Website



Words from the Alsherjargothi

"I can't wait to see what we can accomplish in September!" Those were the closing words I wrote in last month's *Voice*, and, wow! September did not disappoint! I am sure that by now you are all aware of the controversy surrounding FallFest and that the forces of Chaos tried to stop it from coming to fruition. Not only did our first annual FallFest still occur, it was a smashing success! Gothi Blaine Qualls, with the assistance of Apprentice

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momentum is truly something to behold. Our Folkbuilders have really outdone themselves this month: every weekend there have been numerous AFA events across the country and around the world. It was to my great fortune that I spent last weekend celebrating Winter Finding with the AFA Ravens Blood Kindred and Gothi Bodi Mayo at Annette Baum's home. From start to finish, September has been jam packed with real world Asatru activity. Thank you all for your hard work and the beautiful community you continue to build.

Hail the Gods! Hail the Doers! Hail the AFA!

Matt Flavel Alsherjargothi, AFA

Winter Nights in the Poconos



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Please join the Asatru Folk Assembly for our Fifth Annual Winter Nights in the Poconos at Camp Netimus in beautiful Milford, Pennsylvania.

We will have workshops and lectures. We will have meals and music. We will build upon the success of Folkish Asatuar here in the Northeast by making new friends and renewing old friendships. And most importantly we will worship our gods, our goddesses, and our ancestral mothers in the crisp air of mountains as winter sets in.

Don't miss out; register today! See the Facebook and eventzilla pages.

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	10/13 THURSDAY	10/14 FRIDAY	10/15 SATURDAY	10/16 SUNDAY
MA 00:8			Breakfast	Morning Galdr - Allen Turnag
8:30 AM		Breakfast		
9:00 AM				
9:30 AM		Leadership - Michael Sagginario	Psanky Workshop - Alison Stuftz	Brunch
10:00 AM				
10:30 AM				
11:00 AM		Landwights - Joe Bloch	AFA Leadership Talk with Matt, Pat, and Allen	Wayfarer's Blot - Steve Morre
11:30 AM				
12:00 PM				Depart from Camp Netimus
12:30 PM		Lunch	Lunch	Department camp Neumos
1:00 PM				
1:30 PM				
2:00 PM		Folkbuilder Panel - Marc MacLeot and Folkbuilders	Kinder Blot-Heather Clinkenbeard	
2:30 PM				
3:00 PM				
3:30 PM		Kinder Krafts - Veronica Wunjo	Modern Heathen Success - Bryan Wilton	
4:00 PM				
4:30 PM				
5:00 PM		Talk by Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel	AFA Benefit Auction & Competition Awards	
5:30 PM				
6:00 PM	Event Opens - Check-in	Dinner	Dinner	
6:30 PM				
7:00 PM	Opening Blot - Matt Flavel			
7:30 PM		Disir Blot & Clergy Caths - Moder-Gythia Patricia Hall	Wotan Blot - Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel	
8:00 PM	Late Light Dinner			
8:30 PM		Staaf Man-making - Joe Bloch & Joe Marek		
9:00 PM				
9:30 PM	AFA Leadership Sumbel - private	Changes and Apibus Concert	High Sumbel - Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel	
10:00 PM				

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This past Labor Day weekend we celebrated the first ever FallFest in the Midwest, our first large AFA gathering in the Northern Plains/Midwest Regions. Just days before this great inaugural event the original venue decided to cancel our reservation ... needless to say we were less than happy, but we picked ourselves up and dusted ourselves off and pushed on; within several hours we had found a new site. Actually this new site, and the controversy that brought it about, made our event feel more intimate, more close knit, and made the weekend so very powerful and meaningful.

Saturday afternoon our event began with a rousing Welcoming of the Gods ritual performed by Matt Flavel. This was followed by a very intelligent discussion of the state of the AFA and a brief outline of the Three Cauldrons theory, a way for each of us to rise up and become more than we are now. Nightfall saw an amazing Odin blot performed by Matt around a nice bonfire; all who attended felt the power and the inspiration of that ritual, very powerful and well done. Following this we had traditional skaldic singing performed by our very own Mark Cook, again very powerful. Sitting around a fire in the dark with a skald singing the old songs and telling the old tales is surreal; the power from that defies description.

Sunday morning we awoke to a presentation on the runes and Rune Gild, put forth by member Linda Nation. It was a really interesting and thought provoking talk. Following this I performed a Frey blot that was pretty powerful if I may say so. Truly the gods were with us throughout this weekend, and the ravens circling after our Frey blot were only one sign among many. The afternoon saw our very own Les Lauer and Shannon Liebold put on a blacksmithing demonstration, while indoors a presentation was put on about traditional Viking weaponry and clothing. Sunday evening we held our auction. Let me just say there were some very amazing things donated and even more amazing bidders. Thank you everyone.

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goodbyes were emotional to say the least. Our strength, our perseverance, our dedication made this event happen. We came together in the face of adversity and created something amazing. That is what the AFA is about, coming together and making positive changes. Thank you to all who attended, and all who worked their tails off to see this happen. Hope to see you all next year.

Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

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

The October Healing Ritual will be held Thursday, October 20, at midnight EDT/USA. Hail Eir!

Folk Services

AFA Folk Services is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to Asatru Folk Assembly (AFA) members in dire need of basic services. We have helped members bury family members and pay medical bills – sometimes with direct assistance, but also by supporting and publicizing their crowdfunding campaigns on "Go Fund Me" and the like.

It is also to be 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. For more information about Folk Services, send a private message to the <u>Folk Services page</u> on Facebook.

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by Karen Carlson

We may have short- to medium-term savings goals for things like a car, a down payment on a house, a child's education. One thing that we should save for throughout our working lives is retirement. Your retirement savings may be in a variety or combination of forms: your contributions to a company 401k plan, your contributions to a pension plan (although those are probably largely non-existent these days), IRAs, and/or savings in bank accounts and investments (e.g., in mutual funds) outside of any "official" retirement accounts. I've used all of these.

How much should you save? Experts may differ in their opinions. Circumstances certainly differ. So take this with a large dose of salt: the figure I've used is 15% of my gross income. That's probably a reasonable amount for many people, assuming you start that rate of savings as soon as you enter the workforce in your early 20s.

Diversification is another whole topic, which I will not go into in detail. How you diversify depends a lot on your investment aptitude and style. If you are interested and have the time, you may want to learn about growth vs. value funds, long- vs. short-term bonds, market sectors, etc. If you have minimal time and inclination, you might want to look for a target-date mutual fund, which becomes more conservative as you near your target retirement date. In broad terms, however, most people should have a mix of stock, bond, and cash investments. Unless you really know what you are doing, mutual funds are a good way to invest in stocks and bonds.

In general, stocks are more "aggressive," risky, volatile than other investments; they also offer the possibility of higher overall returns. Bonds tend to be in the middle, with cash (savings accounts, CDs) the safest and least volatile. The risk in, say, stocks, is loss of capital. You can lose as well as gain. You can lose a lot if the market tanks, at least in the short run. The problem with an all-cash portfolio is inflation risk. The paltry interest rates on savings accounts often do not keep up with inflation, so a dollar you saved ten years ago is worth less than a dollar today. Again, experts differ as to how much of your investments should be in stocks, some taking a fairly aggressive attitude. Your risk

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60, I shoot for around 40% in stocks.

The most important thing about saving for retirement is: just do it.

Konservative Karen

News from your Assembly of Gothar from Patricia L. Hall, Moder-Gythia

Hail the Folk!

CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER

Before I write anything else, let me wish hearty congratulations and much luck to our newlyweds: Asatru Folk Assembly ordained Gythia Elizabeth Jane Salix and Asatru Alliance ordained Gothi Mac MacBryghde! Mac and Elizabeth Jane were married on September 23, beginning a new phase of their lives together. Please join me in wishing them long life and much love!

THE DISIR

We are entering the month of October and approaching our celebration of the Winter Nights, the beginning of the turning of the year to its darker, more contemplative side, and the time when our ancestors huddled together with family and friends around warm fires and shared a portion of the food and drink that was still being put up for the long winter months ahead. It is at this time that we especially honor and call upon our Holy Mothers, the Disir, for their guidance.

While many types of beings may be Disir, the ones we especially honor here are those women in our ancestral lines who have taken on the loving task of watching over and guiding their own. They are the ones accessible to us by choice. Call upon them often by

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their Disir saying, 'though I do not know your name,' because even without a name, they know they are there. And remember to honor those strong still living women in your family, those mothers, grandmothers, aunts, cousins and sisters who may also one day join the ranks of the Disir to serve their own descendants. Treat them with honor.

Here is a brief exercise to connect to your ancestral Disir:

- Quiet yourself. If you have an ancestral altar, that is where you want to be.
- Find your heartbeat and tap the rhythm out on your chest with your dominant hand. Remember that your heartbeat is just one of a long line of ancestral heartbeats that stand with you and surely will adjust to be in sync with your own.
- As you continue to tap out the heartbeat, call out the name of a passed loved female ancestor, or call on the one whose name you do not know. She will come.
- Ask for guidance, then stop the tapping heartbeat, and listen with your heart as well as your head.
- End with a thank you and a Hail to the Disir.

Remember you are never alone. Our Holy Mothers, as do all our ancestors, have a vested interest in our success and well-being.

HAIL THE DISIR!
HAIL THE ANCESTORS!

Asatru Military Program from Roland L'Heureux

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Courage
Truth
Honor
Loyalty
Discipline
Hospitality
Industriousness
Self-reliance
Perseverance



The Asatru Folk Assembly has a rich heritage of supporting our armed services. Our Military Program has a great team, which together intends on seeing to it that our kinsmen currently serving in harm's way are encouraged and appreciated for all they do.

I have already received some out of state contact from AFA members on active duty who are eager to help in seeing our program become more involved with our warriors. To this end, my first task is to see to it that ALL our active duty military personnel have on hand a copy of our Asatru Book of Faith, For Those in Harm's Way.

SUPPORT OUR AFA ARMED SERVICE MEMBERS!

Folkbuilding News from Marc MacLeod





Hail to all!

Well September has been a wild ride and has resulted in some very positive things: membership applications are triple what they usually are, some old friends are coming back home, we're busy building up areas that typically haven't been that strong for us, and the support we have had from the folkish community has been overwhelming! If anything, this month has made us pick up our game and put some projects we've had stagnant back into high gear. The one thing I'd like to say to everyone is be careful of distractions. Let's all recommit to our mission and not let ourselves get sidetracked by useless arguments or worry about what other groups are doing. Let's instead focus on what the AFA does best building face-to-face, real life communities! There's a reason so many eyes stay on us; let's show them how it is done!

As for Folkbuilder news: We have added apprentices Paul Hester (above right), of the SandHills Kindred, in North Carolina, and Bryan Blue (above left) in Virginia. They'll be working together with Karl Staaf, and I expect to see some great things coming out of the Upper South region! I'm really looking forward to seeing what this Folkbuilder "team" can



help with the Deep South region. I really appreciate her enthusiasm and willingness to step up for now. If you don't know her, reach out; she's a great lady! And last but not least, I'd like to welcome back Bryan Wilton (left) to the AFA; he will be folkbuilding in the Central Corridor and temporarily helping me in the South Central region, until I can find a permanent solution for that region. In addition to Folkbuilders, we have Jamie Lynn Souligny stepping up to be an admin/contact point for Folk

Services and its Facebook page.

We've got Winter Nights events planned from coast to coast this coming month, and a lot of smaller meetups happening this month as well. With lots of good things going on, let's keep our eyes on the ball! And if there are events within a couple of hours from you, take the time to attend! The Internet is a valueable tool, but real life is where the magic happens! I hope everyone has a great month!

Frigga World Day of Prayer from Martin Baluses

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Following in the footsteps of our friend <u>Anders Nilsson</u>, initiator of the <u>Odin World Prayer</u> <u>Day</u>, I have set up the complementary event page: Announcing the <u>Frigga World Prayer</u> <u>Day</u>!

What is it about? Healthy families are the basic building block of a thriving heathen folk. To our children, we give our love. They are our future and the future of our ancestors. We stand by our wives and husbands, take care of each other, always in respect, trying to keep the flame of love alive against all strong winds.

Holy Frigga is the goddess of home, hearth, and family. Let us strengthen the families of our folk; they are in dire need of it. Let us strengthen the complementary polarity of men and women as the healthy foundation of the family. Let us strengthen motherhood, loyalty, compassion, wisdom, and protection of our families.

Together we can make a difference. Let the divine again be part of our lives. Let us give ritual and prayers to the wife of Odin, the Allfather. Hail to our families, hail Frigga!

Feel free to share this page with all who might be interested. I thank you in advance for sharing and participating!

Winter Nights in Northern California from Ryan Harlan, Apprentice Folkbuilder



October 29, 2016, at the AFA Hof (8408 La Porte Rd., Brownsville, CA 95919): Winter Nights in Northern California. Members and trusted guests are invited to celebrate Winter Nights with us at the Hof! Members of the AFA will be gathering at the Hof in Brownsville to pay tribute and to honor those wise females from our past, the Disir. This event will include a blot to be conducted by our own Michael Hunter as well as pumpkin carving and decorating, a presentation on ham radios and food preservation, and as always, feasting. Meat will be provided by the AFA. Guests are asked to provide side dishes (favorite family recipes are always appreciated) or to bring a \$10.00 donation. Those who plan on eating are requested to register when they arrive, for their dinner ticket and to help keep track of what was brought and what may be needed. Attendees are also invited to bring a framed picture of a female ancestor to display on our Disir table. People

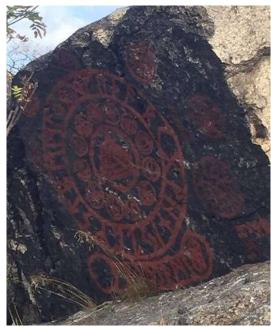
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Herbstblot in Germany from Heather Fort









Hailsa!

The Rosstrappe is a 403-metre-high (1,322 ft) granite crag in the Harz Mountains of central Germany. It rises high over the Bode Gorge in the Harz. From the Rosstrappe there is a view of the rocks on the Hexentanzplatz, the Bode Gorge, the Harz Foreland, the town of Thale, and the highest peak in the Harz, the Brocken. The picture to the right shows the view from the Rosstrappe into the Bode Gorge with the summit cross in the foreground.



According to legend, a giant by the name of Bodo once followed the king's beautiful daughter, Brunhilde, whom he wanted to marry against her will. Brunhilde escaped on a white stallion (German: Ross), but was suddenly confronted by a deep ravine. Her horse leapt in one bound to the rocks on the other side, but her pursuer fell into the depths below. The impression of the horse's hoof may still be seen today. The giant Bodo gave his name to the small river, the Bode.

Scientists suspect that this imprint in the rock is the weathered remains of a Germanic altar basin.

Faith, folk, family Ian and Heather AFA Germany

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Fall Fest in the Moravian Karst from Martin Votava, Apprentice Folkbuilder, Czech Republic and Slovakia





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On Friday, September 16, Asatru Folk Assembly Czech Republic and Slovakia met for a weekend Fall Fest celebration.

For the first time AFA Czech Republic and Slovakia met for an official event. It took place on the edge of some deep woods in the beautiful Moravian Karst. In a hired house we unpacked our stuff and rushed off for the first activities of the weekend: discussions of new books (Lecouteux, Thorsson, Granholm..); testing our first AFA products – nice little AFA expedition flags, various personal heathen objects, and musical instruments; and setting up a time schedule for the rest of the weekend. We



ended up in a great restaurant, Surf-bar, by a nice lake, staying until night enjoying our meal, drinking the great beer Wanderer (with a picture of an Odin-like figure on the beer-glasses), and discussing present and future work, direction, and plans while watching the red full moon.

Saturday we got up early for a nice breakfast and trip to a near-surface mine near Seč. The place was partly filled with water. It is famous for mining rainbow sands and clay. The landscape was both rough and romantic, and also very colourful. After preparing a table in the house with a lot of delicious food, we shared a meal. Then we went to the forest, led by our boy-scout, to find a proper place for evening blot. Having found a great one, we cleaned it and reviewed the planned structure of the blot.

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started to gather all the needed ritual objects, made up the torches and light holders, and had fun while reading the Odin's heiti.

At dusk we started our blot in the woods. We offered mead, had special personal offerings, drew runes, sung galder, and played out a sacral drama as a part of a

blot to Odin. The blot was complicated; all the participants played their roles, and it went really well! We set our ritual standards really high in this first common blot.

After getting back to the backyard of the house, we prepared a big feast by the fire, and held an informal Thing. One of our members agreed to show us his personal runic workout system – a dynamic futhark. It was impressive!

Later we moved into the house for a late informal sumbel. We had a lot of strong toasts, and we didn't forget to toast the whole AFA!

Sunday brought us nice weather and a last common breakfast. We have planned our next common celebrations and are looking forward to them!



We did our best to make a strong foundation for our AFA Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Hail to you all from the heart of Europe!

News from the Deep South from Annette Baum

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Harvest Festival at Hirschwald: The Greater Blessing of the Wanes

Deep South AFA members met at Hirschwald in the Midlands country of South Carolina to celebrate harvest. AFA members from five southern states were in attendance: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee. We were greatly honored to have our AFA Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel, the lovely and accomplished lady Mandy Dale, and Gothi Bodi Mayo as our special guests. Ravensblood Kindred from Alabama, who celebrated Midsummer at Hirschwald, joined us again. It was a real joy to welcome everyone to Hirschwald.

After gathering late Saturday afternoon, everyone set to work to ready the stead and harrow for ritual. The folk then sat down to a delicious potluck feast including bratwurst squash stew, roast venison and root vegetables, hot rolls, hard cider, and Kulmbacher Eisbock. After dark, surrounded by trees, our Harvest Blot began. Starting with a procession through the woods, we were called to blot by drumming and the sound of the hunting horn. The music and mead continued to flow around the bonfire after blot, with many tales shared over the horn and toasted marshmallows claimed by the wights. Later that night, around the bonfire, Alsherjargothi Matt led the group in sumbel. Our moot continued Sunday over breakfast, with tales of more wight mischief reported. The Deep South Folk express their love and gratitude to our honored leadership in attendance; we delighted in your presence and learned so much from you!

The AFA Deep South region can look forward to more such events in future, where we will gather together to worship our gods, explore the mysteries, make new friends, and strengthen ties of kinship.

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

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from James Van Allen, Folkbuilder



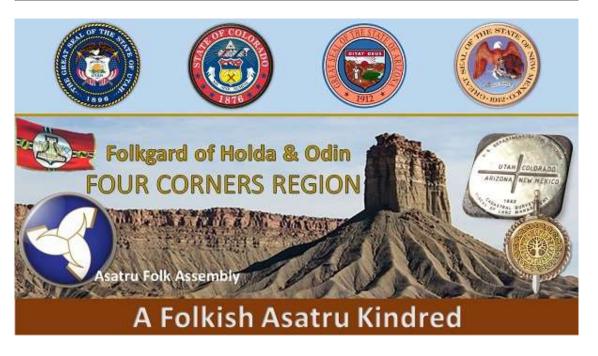
In the Midwest, I've had the opportunity to meet some outstanding folk since taking over as regional folkbuilder. Vargr's Bane Kindred (which is my kindred) had quite a successful September moot. There was lots of food, fun, games, and fellowship. We invite any AFA member in the area to stop by and come to one of our moots. We hold them the first Sunday of every month.

vargrsbane.org jamesdvanallen@gmail.com

"Vargr's Bane Public" on Facebook

I am hoping to get other parts of the Midwest more involved, so if you have any ideas or thoughts for your area, please let me know.

News from the Four Corners from Roland L'Heureux



The Folkgard of Holda and Odin will be hosting an AFA Four Corners Meet & Greet / Pubmoot in Apache Junction, Arizona, on October 8th from 4 to 7 p.m. Folks from around the area will be getting together for not only a time of food, drink, and comradery, but also for planning and preparing for future AFA activities and events. The Four Corners Region has amazing potential ... and we aim to tap right into that potential for the further empowerment of our Folk.

WHERE: The American Legion Post #27, 1018 S Meridian Rd, Apache Junction, AZ 85120-8462

WHEN: October 8, 2016, 4-7 p.m.

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Please remember ... since we are in Arizona and do not change our clocks for daylight savings, 4 p.m. AZ is currently on PST.

News from the Northeast from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

AFA Northeast 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. EDT on Wednesday, October 26, 2016. We look forward to hearing you there! Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580 Access Code: 174-424

Lansdale Tru Folk









Lansdale Tru Folk gathered for our Harvest Faining this month. In addition to discussing kindred business, such as designing a flag and banner, we made offerings created by our

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photos, but forgot to get a group picture. Next time!

Skylands Asatru Fellowship



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Skylands Asatru Fellowship, based in and around the NJ/NY/PA region, had another great and active September, and is looking forward to an even better October.

We began the month with a wonderful appearance at a local Scandinavian Festival, attended by several thousand people and always a big event in our area. We had an information table, and handed out many flyers and books, and gathered quite a few new names for our mailing list. The Fest is always a great time, and the very warm reception we received made it all the better.

workshops, which focus exclusively on magical practices. We're hoping the new series of classes appeals to a new set of people.



One of our members also held a friends-and-family Haustblot celebration, which was a warm and inviting event, and well-catted by all accounts.

In October, we have several events planned:

Saturday, October 1st: Haustblot. Come join us as we celebrate the harvest with a blot, feast, sumbel, and games.

Saturday, October 8th: Pocono Viking Folk Metal Fest. We will have an information table at this second annual gathering of Viking-themed metal and folk-metal bands, in Stroudsburg, PA.

Sunday, October 9th: Asatru 101 class. **Sunday, October 23rd**: Rune workshop.

We will also be having a strong presence at this year's AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos event.

For more information about our tribe and our events, please visit our website at www.skylandsasatru.org

South Central News from Bryan Wilton, Apprentice Folkbuilder

"Welcome back!" This is such a welcome phrase in just about any environment you would wish to imagine. Well I've heard it time and again since I've returned to the AFA, and I want to thank everyone for such a heartfelt sentiment. Stepping back into these shoes, beginning a new podcast for folkish Asatruars, work, writing, and life has led to a very full plate. That being said, I'm about ready for seconds. If you haven't registered for Winter

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learning experience, full of the fellowship we have all sought when we began our individual journeys. I cannot tell you how much of a benefit it is to every individual who makes the effort to be a part of these events. I will be a speaker at this year's Winter Nights and I am going to discuss the idea of success in a heathen context. The plan is to lay out a presentation whereby I might offer to people the kind of life changing information we expect living an Asatru life. This good life is built by our association with winners and a constant reinforcement of the empowering principles you will find among such individuals - not just in the talk about these ideas, but in the demonstration of the successful implementation of these ideas and the ensuing results. It is there for all of us. More importantly it is laid out in our lore. If you haven't made plans to attend, take a second look at what you expect from an Asatru life. Chances are you will get a glimpse of it at one of these fantastic functions.

I've also stepped into an apprentice Folkbuilder role. A lot has been improved upon since I last held such a position. It'll take just a minute to get adjusted, but I encourage everyone who is a member in the south central region to feel free to reach out to me, and let's begin our own dialogue to further the goals we have all signed up for. Whether it is Facebook or by phone or email - don't be shy, feel free to reach out. I've got some experience handling all sorts of difficulties which we might be able to negotiate with our faith and good fellowship. I'll also be scheduling a weekly conference call for everyone to participate in, probably on Sundays. As soon as I have the app installed and I am sure of its success I'll be posting the relevant information on our Facebook page.

All in all it looks like it's going to be a big month. Let's get started.

Editor's note: I have been enjoying Bryan's common-sense, positive podcasts on the <u>Aesir</u> <u>Broadcasting Network</u>. Bryan's inspirational books are available on amazon. -Karen

Minnesota Happenings from Jason Gallagher, Apprentice Folkbuilder

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FallFest was a success, and the AFA in Minnesota is starting to grow quickly. Starting in November we will host monthly meet-and-greets, and we'll hold blot and sumbel for the holidays. If you are in the area or live in the state and would like to join us, feel free to message me or email: <a href="mailto:joinus.joi

Hail the Gods!
Hail the AFA!
Jason Gallagher

San Diego Happenings from Jamie Souligny





Hails from So Cal's Tru Folk Kindred

Old friends and new came together for an open folkish moot. We met some new folks and even had some fellow AFA folk make the trip out all the way from AZ! Thanks for making the trip, Roland and Debra! We had some good sporting fun with knife throwing and

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We hailed the gods for the blessings of fertility for our expecting women folk. After the sun set we had a nice little galder session and enjoyed a nice sumbel around the fire. The night finished with a bang as we enjoyed some nice fireworks from the neighboring Sea World.

We do a moot once a month. We have set up a Facebook group to announce locations and details of such meetings, called 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 myself Jamie at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or <a href="mailto:jamieredsoul@gmai

Hail the Gods and Goddeses! Hail the AFA! Hail the Folk!

An AFA Wedding

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On the 3rd of September, 2016, two AFA members were joined together in marriage. They were married by Gothi Michael Hunter in a wonderful handfasting ceremony, surrounded by friends, family, and the beautiful Sierra Nevada mountains. How do I know this? Because I'm the one who got married. I, Ryan A. Harlan, married the love of my life, Rachel Reinhard. I proposed to Rachel last September and after one year and one day, we held our wedding on the east side of the Sierras near June Lake. Near to the lake shore, tucked away in a grove of aspens, AFA Gothi Michael Hunter officiated our handfasting, while Marc MacLeod spoke good words for me and my side of the family. Witnessed by loved ones, our ancestors and our holy gods and goddesses, Rachel and I were bound to one another and embarked on our life together. Even though we chose to have a small and intimate ceremony, all of our family, friends and folk were with us in our hearts. Our wedding was even more special due to the fact that it was embraced by a crowd which was predominately NOT heathen/Asatru. Many told us how wonderful the ceremony was and how much they enjoyed it. Rachel and I would like to thank (again) Michael Hunter

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RUNESTONE GIFTS: AFA Member Discount

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Upcoming Events for 2016

5th Annual AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos - Thursday, October 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m., to Sunday October 16, 2016, 12:00 p.m. at Camp Netimus. See the <u>Facebook</u> and <u>eventzilla</u> pages.

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