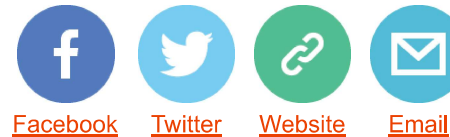


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



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

Fallfest III was truly amazing! Gothar Coordinator Blaine Qualls and Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher hosted an absolutely wonderful event. Fallfest has become one of the highlights of the year and one that Mandy and I always look forward to. Thank you so much to our entire Northern Plains AFA family for all their hard work and overwhelming hospitality!

We started off this fall right with Fallfest and we are keeping that momentum rolling as we prepare for Winter Nights in the Poconos. Winter Nights is always a powerful event

This month we take time to honor the Disir as the veil between the world of the living and the land of the dead becomes thin. The Disir are those sacred mothers of our folk that watch over us in death with the same love and care that they showed us when they were here with us in the flesh. In the dark nights of fall and winter our ancestors are close to us and our families, they look on. Let us take the time to acknowledge the ancestors, welcoming them in, remembering them, speaking their names with love and respect. I wish you all a magical Winter Nights and I hope to see you all in Pennsylvania as we honor our Disir.

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



AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos

Every year the Tru Folk here in the Northeast gather to worship our Gods, our Goddesses, and our Ancestral Mothers in the crisp air of mountains as winter sets in. We build upon the success of the Asatru Folk Assembly here in the Northeast by making new friends and renewing old friendships. We look forward to seeing members and friends at this year's Winter in the Poconos hosted by the Asatru Folk Assembly in Milford, PA from Friday, October 12 2018, 12:00 PM to Sunday, October 14 2018, 12:00 PM [EDT].

If you are not an AFA Member you should confirm with the member who is vouching for you that they will do so when asked about your registration. Due to popular demand the registration deadline has been extended from October 1st to October 7th at: <http://winternights2018.eventzilla.net>. This cannot be extended any further so get those registrations in ASAP!

Things to know:

- Stephen and Sheila McNallen will be joining us for this event.
- Children 17 and under attend for free!
- The cabins have bunks. You will need to bring your own bedding and it can get quite chilly at night, so plan accordingly.
- Tenting is permitted in the main field.
- Dogs are welcome for a small fee but must be leashed at all times and are not permitted in common indoor areas such as the dining hall.
- Camp location will be provided upon registration.
- Check out the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/2154889354794973/> more information and updates.

If you have any questions or concerns please email cerickson@runestone.org or gschindler@runestone.org.

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Ves Heill,

Clifford J. Erickson

AFA Witan, Technical Administrator, & Folkbuilder- North America Northeast



Fallfest III
by **Blaine Qualls, Jr.**, Folkbuilder, Gothar Coordinator and
Member of the Witan



Fallfest III was a resounding success. Members and guests from across the country were in attendance; from California to Florida, North Dakota to Texas, and everywhere in between the Folk all came together for a weekend in celebration of our Gods and our noble heritage.

Friday afternoon our Alsherjargothi, Matt Flavel, officially opened the weekend with a blessing to the Gods. The Gods were hailed, people were introduced to one another and the weekend was off to an auspicious start. Our Lawspeaker, Allen Turnage, followed this up with another of his amazing presentations. Later that evening we sat down to a traditional German style meal of sauerkraut, sausage and all the side dishes we could eat. It was, for a brief time, as though we were in an old style German bierhaus with the people all enjoying themselves and their feast.

Once darkness set in we followed in a processional down to our torch lit ritual area for a

Wotan Hail! With each back and forth chant the power built and flowed into the mead and into us. We were reconsecrated as the sons and daughters of Wotan, the noble heirs of a noble people. Words do no justice to the sense of awe, the feeling of connectedness with the holy, the sheer power that flowed into us that night.

Saturday morning dawned with a sense of purpose, a sense of joy at knowing it would be an entire day spent with only our Folk and our Gods. Member Amanda Wilde held a very insightful presentation on the spiritual aspects of pregnancy and birth for both men and women. After that the ladies of our Folk went off on their own to welcome a young lady into womanhood. Gythia student, Anna Funk, led this rite of passage and from all accounts did an amazing job. Tears were shed, Goddesses were hailed and a teenage girl took her place as a woman of the Folk.





Following that I led all of the Folk in a Harvest blot to Yngvi-Frey. Things don't always go as planned in a ritual setting.....I had lined up four very young men to hail the four quarters before the ritual proper began, at the time of the ritual all but one, young Tanis Jansen(son of member Jesse Jansen) were nowhere to be found. So, he and I hailed the four quarters as a team and began a proper blot to Frey. For those unaccustomed to leading ritual at a large gathering it can be a daunting thing. This is not your backyard with a few friends, this is 50, 60,70 people; this is looking across a circle at Matt Flavel, Steve McNallen, Sheila McNallen, Allen Turnage, all people I still rely on for guidance and smiling inwardly with confidence before you go hail the Gods and share gifts with them. Leading blot is always a powerful, yet humbling thing, knowing you are there as a chosen representative of the Folk to offer up their gifts to the Gods and to share the reciprocal gifts of the Gods with the Folk, nothing can adequately describe such a holy experience.

After our blot to Frey and a quick lunch we were treated to a presentation given by the founder of the Asatru Folk Assembly, Steve McNallen, on his masterwork for the Rune Gild. With only a short break in between, this was followed by a presentation from Gothi Bryan Wilton. Bryan's talks are always very thought provoking and well received. During these talks our children were engaged in some activities of their very own, painting their

Now it was time for a very delicious and filling supper created for us by our own membership. Pork roast, potatoes and all the trimmings. No one went hungry that night, fairly sure I saw a few faces in the line for seconds and even thirds. This was followed by a baby welcoming led by our Alsherjargothi. Amanda Wilde wanted to see her young son, Kolbjorn, welcomed into our big extended AFA family and dedicated to the Gods. It was a very moving ceremony and left all of us with a warm, hopeful feeling inside. Here was our future, here was the future of our Folk and our traditions.

Now it was time for Allen Turnage to entertain us as we parted with our money. Auction time led by our Lawspeaker. It saw many special and unique items up for auction and more than a few things went for quite a good price with all proceeds going back to the AFA so we can continue to do all the things we do. Rounding out the night our Alsherjargothi led the folk in a sumbel. This sumbel ran long into the night and saw the emotions of everyone laid bare as the Gods were hailed and ancestors remembered around the fire.

Sunday brought an end to our weekend, but not before Gothi Student Kevin D'Addezio led us all in a Wayfarer blot to Thor to see all of us safely home. Another very successful Fallfest, each year we grow and each year this event gets better. Next year will be no different I am sure.

Many thanks to all who attended, to all of our presenters, and a very big thank you to the cooks for a weekend of some delicious food. These events would never happen with out all of your help and support. Hail those who do!

P.S. For those interested in attending Fallfest IV, we have already secured the camp for next year. September 6, 7, and 8 we will again join together in the Minnesota Northwoods to honour our Gods, our ancestors, and our Folk. Hope to see many of you there.





Paying off Óðinshof



In 2015, the AFA made history and established the first Hof devoted to our Gods and to Asatru in North America. The hard work and generous donations of our folk have made this possible. At Óðinshof we have build a tangible place in Midgard. We have a permanent sacred space. Óðinshof has hosted a wedding, baby namings, a funeral, record breaking Midsummer celebrations and monthly Blots and Sumbles. Óðinshof has become a force in the community, partnering with the Food Bank to feed hundreds of people in need. The dreams of generations are being realized and our people are coming home. We have a 30 year mortgage on this Hof, we intend to pay it off in 4. We can do this. We will do this. Now is the time to put us over the top and make it happen! Victory is within our grasp. We have more Hof's that need to manifest and it is time to charge forward with generosity and will. Please donate what you are able, please help us make this a reality. Let's put our backs into it and own Óðinshof - First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly out right and from there let's make AFA Hof's take shape throughout Midgard.



Please go to www.runestone.org and click on the donate icon. After you've filled out all the details please write "For the Hof Fund" in the comments.

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

Life and the Love of Life: The Book of Asatru

There is one tale in the lore which sets the stage for a magnificent change in the life of

much of it either. I was far more content to read what someone else thought I ought to think about it. Most of the time I would chose the readings which least challenged my current perception of reality. Usually content to believe that perhaps the Gods might come to me as they had done with Ottar, Kon and Sigurd. But then I read something written by Julian the Apostate. The Roman Emperor who was adamant concerning the return of Paganism to the Empire.

Julian was decidedly against what he called the Galileans. He felt that they pulled the people away from the gods and subsequently themselves. Here is what he wrote which prompted my entire train of thought concerning this book.

Further, that to make oneself like God as far as possible is nothing else than to acquire such knowledge of the essential nature of things as is attainable by mankind, is evident from the following. It is not on the score of abundance of possessions that we count the divine nature happy, nor on the score of any other of those things that are commonly believed to be advantages, but it is because, as Homer says, "The gods know all things"; and indeed he says also of Zeus, "But Zeus was older and wiser." For it is in knowledge that the gods surpass ourselves. And it may well be that with them also what ranks as noblest is self-knowledge. In proportion then as they are nobler than we in their essential nature, that self-knowledge of theirs is a knowledge of higher things.

Much like I have mentioned in past writings, this is the sentiment written over the entrance to the temple of Apollo at Delphi. The phrase "Know Thyself" is steeped in tradition and esoteric meaning. This legendary phrase was carved into the entrance to the temple and everyone who entered must have read it and wondered what it might mean. When I discovered the meanings of the Runes, I found a deeper sentiment of Julian's philosophy. One which suggested that this knowledge of all things resides within our very being.

If one were to truly know thyself, what need would he have for an oracle. If anyone had control of his thoughts and thinking process, had tapped into the ability to create the world he wished to live in, what need would he have for someone to tell him what his future holds? To varying degrees, he would be comfortable in his own skin and capable of not only accepting the world as it is, but he might also have the strength of will to make it

That careful play on words, has, to those who were not initiated, resulted in a thinking process that must be a cornerstone for monotheism. The ruinous idea that something “out there” controlling your future. This is the type of behavior that has pulled people away from their Gods, the beings who have been so instrumental in our development, beings who are by many accounts (including this one) our distant ancestors and coerced literally billions of people to begin looking outside of themselves for the knowledge of life. When it has been contained within us for all these long centuries.

Many times I have seen men proudly exclaim that they stand before their gods. While the sentiment is one of rebellion against Christianity, there is a requirement that we know who and what we are. Acting upon the rebellious decision to stand in front of the divine before we have fully accomplish the tasks in our lives is reminiscent of Odin hurling the spear over the heads of the Vanir. It cost him everything and it led to the need for him to sacrifice himself to himself. The hurling of Gungnir is arrogance of the highest order and ego on full display. The wisdom of Odin was such that he understood this soul sickness which had cost him so much. Just like Julian surmised he knew enough about himself to know what must be done. He had the courage to set an example and do something about it. We have all dealt with it for so long, watched our family and friends deal with this soul sickness all of our lives, it has become the normal pattern of existence. And when you look at it, really look at it, it has always been very hard to rectify how the Vanir could over run and conquer Asgard. Because that's life buddy. And when you build you identity on how separate you are from it, you will always lose.

There is a process, a pattern, men should follow to prepare themselves to be worthy of this act. Again, this pattern can be found in the Runes. But it is the example of Odin reconnecting with the Sacred place in his world, becoming one with it again, and shedding the ideas which separated him from it in the first place. Becoming one with all aspects of existence in one moment. The benefits of such a process will manifest a much different, happier experience with regards to the life you enjoy.

Joseph Campbell, the celebrated mythologist, pointed out that the first thing a people do when they settle in some location, is to make that place holy. They incorporate their life energy into the energy of life around them. In the same manner that you cannot tell where

reminding us that if we are to understand anything we must think in terms of energy, waves and frequencies. People are the waves of energy rolling across this ocean of energy and wavelength which we call life. It is all around us, within us and without us and we are a part of that.

When we do our best to create an identity for ourselves by separating our being from this life, we are building our ego. The majority of the world builds an identity on separateness. I am this or I am that because I am not this or not that. Their sense of importance is wildly out of proportion to what they really are. An expression of wavelength (all things are composed of atoms in unique combinations that move, vibrate and resonate with a frequency and a wavelength) and life energy from the earth with a connection to the divine. Think of Loki at Aegirs feast. Perhaps it is just coincidence that it occurs in the realm of the Ocean, the powerful energy of Laguz. Water which connects everything on this planet. But I doubt it. It is in this substance, this arena of energy, where Loki does his level best to demonstrate how much different he is from the divine beings sitting there with him. He has a seat at the table and instead of becoming one with it, like the ancient people of the past did with their new homes, he goes out of his way to build a corrupt sense of self by celebrating his difference. No matter what damage it may cause. And he was bound because of this thought process. We are too.

Ancient people and the lifestyles they are legendary for are most often remembered by how magnificently they separated themselves from the source of life around them. The temples, pyramids, stone complexes so on and so forth. We see the ruins of these “great” civilizations all over the world. Yet, with the exception of Stonehenge and Newgrange, these features are largely absent in the countries of our forefathers. But we have them now. Sky-scrapers which tower hundreds of feet into the air. Separating us from the world we live and expecting something else to handle the intricacies of our lives. This pain of ego building through the celebration of uniqueness is forcing us to re-examine this ancient faith and way of life.

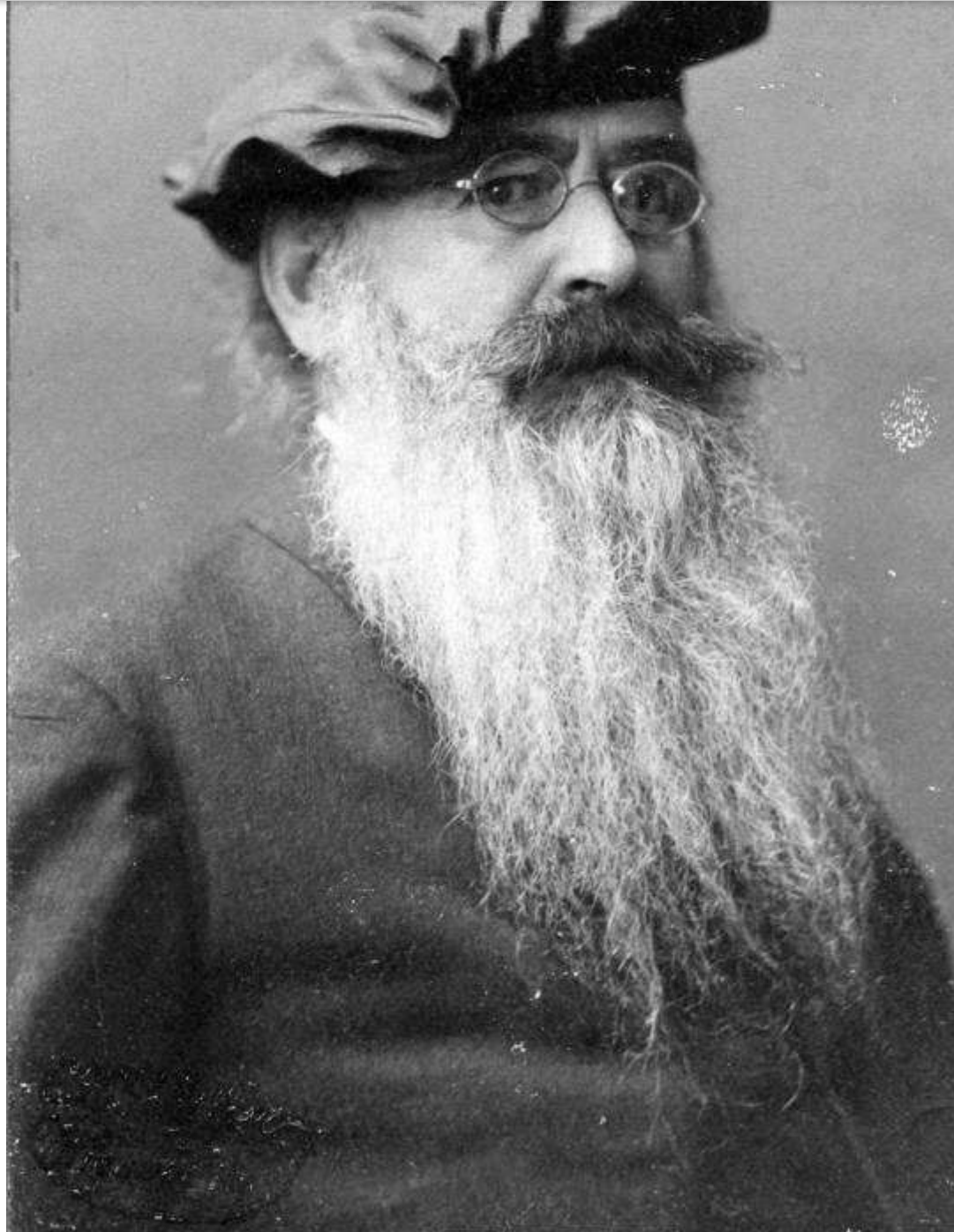
From the forthcoming book *Life and the Love of Life: The Book of Asatru* by Bryan Wilton



Odin Zielsdorf Jensen was born Monday, August the 13th to Briana and Joseph Jensen. Little Odin weighed 10 pounds and 5 ounces. May his life be filled with the wisdom of his namesake!

Day of Remembrance For Guido von List





available to us almost instantly and on demand. In the early days of our revival, this was not the case. It took years of research and thought to begin to rebuild, to lay the groundwork for what we have now. Guido von List was one of these early builders. Von List grew up surrounded by the natural beauty of Austria, and spent many days exploring the lands of the ancestors. Throughout the years, he channeled his love for his heritage and home into his written works, promoting the return to native cultures and customs to his countrymen.

While recovering from a cataract surgery that had temporarily left him blind, List turned his thoughts towards the secrets of the runes. Diving into these ancient symbols and the mysteries surrounding them led Von List to develop the Armanen Futhark. The publication of these works drew many back to their ancestral faith, and added to the momentum of our revival. List spent the rest of his life promoting and educating. His work inspired many others to seek truths that lie within our lore, our history, ourselves. As we continue to grow as individuals as well as a community, it's time that we gave Guido von List the credit he deserves.

Hail Guido von List!

Submitted by

Gythia student Anna Funk

Our Folk in Plight
by Camerron Mottus, Folkbuilder for Australia, New Zealand
and South Africa

The plight of the South African Whites continues. In my opinion, the situation in South Africa is the thin edge of the knife for European people around the world. Marxism and anti-European hate are an existential threat to our Folk. What we do now will define our future.



"We are cutting the throat of whiteness."
Joseph Malema, South African Politician

What started out as a challenge put out to the members of my region (Australia, New Zealand and South Africa) has now turned into a fully fledged fundraising campaign supported by the Asatru Folk Assembly.



Over the last few months the AFA has raised a tremendous amount of funds for the South African Family Relief Project (SAFRP). Originally at the beginning of our campaign I had

"Thank you so much for your kindness and the fact that you are willing to share our plight in your country. We truly need all the help we can get. We live without electricity and try to be self-sufficient but it is not easy. Winter is upon us and we are not coping to feed the masses. We are positive and pray every day. Hard work and giving to families in need is our passion and we will continue to do so."

Granted, most of the folks we are helping are not Asatruar, but they are still our Folk and I am taking a personal interest in ensuring that we do what we can to assist them. What I find most inspiring is that the South African Folk, despite the hardships they are facing, keep moving forward and making the best of the situation they are in.



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](#)

Personally, I am committing to \$20 for the next 12 months. If we all do that the Folk in need will get an ongoing, predictable stream of funds.

Where does the money go? Initially, the money will be held by AFA Folk Services. Every month the AFA will make a donation to one or more charities in South Africa. Currently, there are two that we are considering.

1. [The South African Family Relief Project](#) - The SAFRP works on a daily basis to assist people in need.
2. [Suidlanders](#) - The Suidlanders are preparing for the potential of a future emergency (genocide/civil war)

If you know of any other South African charities or you want to help please contact me at cmottus@runestone.org.

Words from the AFA Military Program

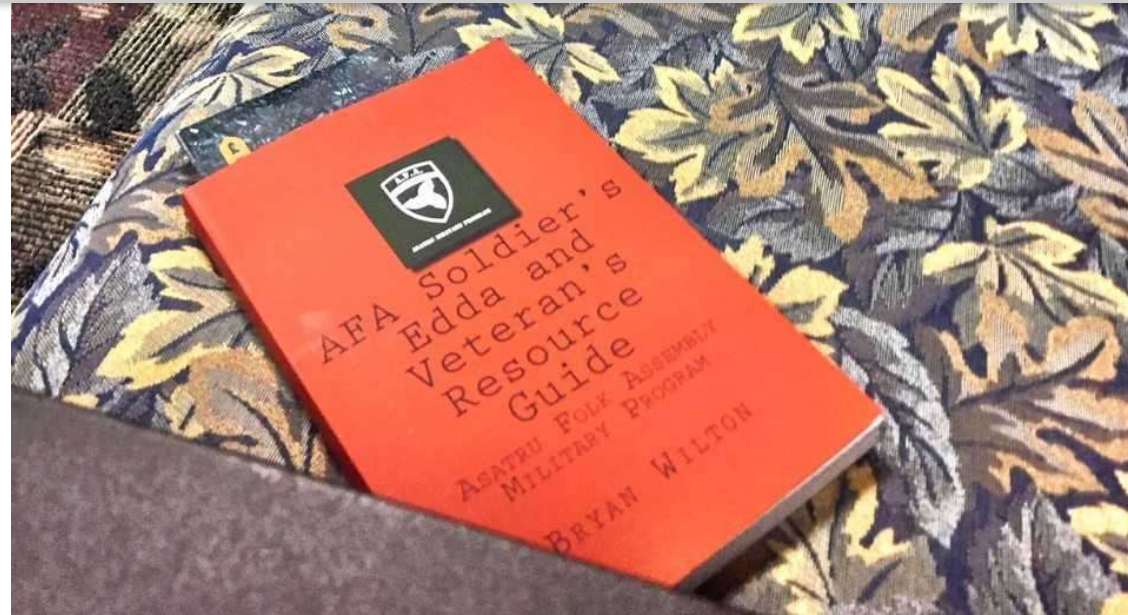


ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY MILITARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our material has reached states all over the US and even abroad! Once again thank you to all our folk who donated to our book drive fundraiser, volunteers, and those who share our posts! We have already helped some of our folk find their way home and become AFA members, that is a victory!! We have some plans in the making to further our success and presence as AFA military members on our bases and in our community! If you are interested in volunteering to help the program out in any way, send us an email or reach out on Facebook.

Kevin Long
Military Program Coordinator
Klong@runestone.org





Folkbuilder Coordinator Update by Marc MacLeod, Member of the Witan

September has been another great month. Every weekend i open my social media and I'm flooded with photo's of our Folk, building bonds, happy children, new babies, and groups all over the country getting together to honor our Gods and Goddesses. Its a beautiful site , there isn't a day that goes by, that I am not getting event invites for upcoming events or hearing the praises of the Folk that have finally made their way home. Me and Honora had the pleasure of going to FallFest in Minnesota this month and like always was overwhelmed with the hospitality that the Northern Plains region is becoming famous for. FallFest gets better and better every year. Our membership numbers hit a all time high this month and our Kindred Program is growing by leaps and bounds.

Which leads me to the Kindred Program. At the beginning of 2017, Matt and I were talking about ways we could support and show appreciation for the Kindreds that supported us. We decided to start up the Kindred Program and officially recognize the kindreds that had

unique in their own ways. What it has become is so much more than that! We went from a few kindreds in the beginning to, as of this week, 24 kindreds spread throughout the states, Sweden, and New Zealand all united under the AFA banner. These kindreds have not only increased our activity ten fold but are starting to come together and doing multi kindred events where it's geographically plausible. They are creating community's for us to send new folks too when they reach out to us and solidifying loosely associated groups of scattered members. This program is lead by Apprentice Folkbuilder George Schindler, now Kindred Coordinator, and George has brought his enthusiasm with him full force. If anyone has any questions, wants to start a kindred in your area, or has a kindred that is interested in applying for the program, George can be reached at gschindler@runestone.org. He'd be glad to get you in the right direction.

October seems like it's going to be just as full of life, with the end of summer and the coming of winter, there are events being planned in every region. Do yourself a favor and get out to one of them. There is no replacement for doing Asatru with like minded Folk. And of course our Winter Nights in the Poconos is in a couple of weeks. If you can make it to that, I highly suggest it. You won't be displeased. I hope the change of season brings you close to family and Folk.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Marc MacLeod

Folkbuilder Coordinator



Folkbuilder at Large Update by Jamie Lynn Souigny, Apprentice Folkbuilder

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

Hail the doers!!!

Hail 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

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 Souigny

Apprentice Folkbuilder at Large

Northwest Regional Updates

Oregonian Update
by Joseph Rozanek, Apprentice Folkbuilder



Hails from the great Pacific Northwest! September was quite a month, filled with tons of activity and spiritual advancement! Our Hikes were strenuous, challenging, and rewarding climbs up Mount Si and Dog Mountain to demonstrate our Troth to the holy powers. The runic study groups advanced our knowledge of the great mysteries and hidden powers of the multiverse that the Allfather won for us through his self-sacrifice. The Hermann of the Cherusi Remembrance brought one of our greatest Heroes to the forefront of our minds, and we celebrated his accomplishments by partaking in the German festival of Oktoberfest!

The biggest and most important news is that the SVARTA'LFAR Tribe in Klamath became the first recognized AFA kindred in the NW! A hearty congratulations to them, they serve as an inspiration to all of us!



All of these gatherings created strong bonds of friendship and strengthen our Frith to each other and the gods and goddesses of the Aesir and Vanir!

The month of October has more runic groups, moots, and a hike planned. Make an effort to come out and share in our Frith and Troth. If you would like to add to the schedule or create an event in your area, don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

10/8 Runic Study group 6:30pm-7:30pm Moscow, ID.

10/9 Guido von List Remembrance 6:00-8:00pm Vancouver Wa.

10/16 Rune Study group 1st Session. 6:30pm SKYPE available 6:30 pm Vancouver, British Columbia

10/20 Guido von List Remembrance and Runic discussion. 6:00pm Seattle WA.

10/22 Runic Study group 6:30pm-7:30pm Moscow ID.

10/23 Runic Study group 5:30 pm-6:30pm Vancouver Wa.

10/27 Hike location TBD

10/31 Svarta'lfar Tribe closed event

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Joe Rozanek

Apprentice Folkbuilder NW



Northeast Regional Updates

Pennsylvanian Update
by Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder and Member of the Witan



Winter Nights in the Poconos

October 12 – 14

Milford, Pennsylvania

Registration is open at <http://winternights2018.eventzilla.net>! See the main article in this issue of The Voice or visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/2154889354794973/>.

Lansdale Tru Folk, an AFA Kindred in Pennsylvania, and friends gathered to honor the Lady with Golden Grain Hair, Sif, for Harvest Blot 2018. We enjoyed a retelling of the story of how Sif lost and won her golden hair, we enjoyed the bounty of the fields while also reflecting on our role in the production and consumption of the foods that we need.

Great food and people! Good times were had by all!

- Feast of the Einherjar, 11/17 at 3pm
- Yule, 12/29 at 3pm

Our 2019 schedule will be released shortly after Winter Nights in the Poconos.

--

Ves Heill,

Clifford J. Erickson
Asatru Folk Assembly
North America Northeast Folkbuilder & Witan



Massachusetts Update
by **George Joseph Schinlder III, Apprentice Folkbuilder & Kindred Program Coordinator**



My how quickly our months pass when we have so many things to do! The Asatru Folk Assembly is busy!! We up here in New England are preparing for Winter Nights in the Poconos and holding Blots to honor our Gods and our ever present ancestors. As autumn creeps in and the leaves begin to change I sense an upwelling of Spiritual tension. Our Folk are coming home. The more that chaos reigns the more the powers of order awaken those who can defeat it.



Wotan stirs! The Wild Hunt is growing larger in retinue. The season of the Disir is upon us. The veil between life and death is very thin. Honor your ancestors and honor yourselves. Reach out to your Kinsman. Strengthen your Kindred. Become all that you have sworn to become. If you need help? Ask your friends! You may be surprised with the pleasure with which they assist you.

We of the Botulfr StoneShip Kindred held a binding Blot and a windswept Wotan Blot in honor of our assembled guests. It was a first for many as the winds whipped up our Need Fire and carried our voices to great heights.

To stand in the face of the furious storm and smile is an act of acceptance. An act of defiance in the face of disruption. The Gods of divine order are watching and choosing. Are we a lazy lot or AFA Kindreds of tenaciousness.

There is work to be done and our Folk deserve the efforts of our toil. To be in service of our family, our Folk and our Gods is an honor we volunteered to accept. All of us. Be that which you desire. If you wish to have more community? Begin building one. It starts with two and then we attract those we endeavor to awaken with truth and joy.

Be that momentum...be that Wotanic Force.



The Botulfr StoneShip Kindred will soon begin holding monthly Rune studies and Rune rituals to serve our impetus.

We will begin looking long and hard at those seeking what we personify. We are what we attract. We are either resilient or we are simply lame.

The path of Yggdrasil is laden with thorns and vines...will you cut through the briar or wither under the relentless grip of the tendrils?

wonder and Wöd. We look forward to meeting you all and forging the bonds of tru frith.

Hail the Gods

Hail our Ancestors

Hail our Folk and the AFA

Midwest Regional Updates

Ohio Update by Josh Wilson, Apprentice Folkbuilder





We in the Midwest have been holding events more then ever. We have traveled, sacrificed, and pushed further everyday to accomplish the goals we have as individuals, as leaders, and as Asatru. We gathered in Minnesota for Fallfest, and it was amazing. Great people, food, and entertainment. Sitting next to the fire keeping the brisk cold air off our faces and just enjoying each others company was a bond, I feel, could never be replaced. We are a family, and that, I am honored to be a part of. In the Midwest we have had several events. We had a canoe trip, meet ups at some of the finest German restaurants, bowling nights, and all sorts of learning activities. Now we are continuing to plan and push these events to help further the bond we have with each other and make this family stronger. I know we have a lot of great people throughout the Asatru Folk Assembly and we as a whole will fly to new heights together. I am personally excited for Winternights as this will be my second time going, and I know it will be amazing. I believe we in the Midwest and in the Asatru folk assembly live, breathe, and bleed Asatru, as I have seen it so many times from different parts of the world. I know we have great things in our wyrd and nothing can stop us if we push harder everyday, more then the last.







Greetings from Indiana,

This month marked another great month for Heimdalls Midgard Kindred. Throughout the month we have had weekly calls where we've discussed chapters from the book True Hearth by James Allen Chisholm which is an excellent book on Traditional Householding. September 29th we got together to work on Ancestry, have dinner, blot and discussion on the future work of our Kindred and our part in the scheme of things with the AFA. Each time we get together our bonds, goals and actions become more solid. I am truly thankful to have the members that I do in my kindred. There may not be many of us but the quality is better than the quantity. In October we will be meeting

Hail the Gods!
Hail the Folk!
Hail the Ásatrú Folk Assembly!
Hail the Doers!

Upper South Regional Updates

North Carolinian Update
by Paul Hester, Folkbuilder



September has been another phenomenal month of record growth and unforgettable events in the Upper South. One of the most beautiful Hand Fastening's that I've ever seen was between AFA Members Orië & Megan Franklin. One of our very own Svan Herul, an AFA Gothar Student, helped preside over the ceremony. They are so vital to our community. We wish them the very best and truly cherish them both.



The Sandhills Kindred spent some time up in Quebec Canada with family, but we took a day to make a Saxon showing and honor the Allfather on Mt. Royal, which is the summit that overlooks the beautiful city of Montréal.



The Wildhunt Kindred had a month full of activities. They held a Pub Moot, Freyfaxi Dinner, and attended the local Renaissance Festival. They are truly a thriving community.



Our Upcoming Activities:

- Wildhunt Kindred Pub Moot, 9/30/18 @ 4PM
- Sandhills Kindred Winter Finding, 10/13/18 @ Noon Dan Nicholas Park
- Wildhunt Kindred Winter Nights 10/27/18 @ 6PM

Sent from Paul's iPhone

West Virginia Update
by William Michael Sailor, Apprentice Folkbuilder



Hail, Brothers & Sisters

How have you been?

I'd like to introduce myself, I'm William Sailor, I'm the Chieftain of the Hollow Creek Kindred here in West Virginia & I've just begun my journey in being your Apprentice Folkbuilder here in the Upper South.

have from our Folk has me feeling very welcomed, it's an humbling experience.

I'm interested in how everyone is doing (that you care to share), while also working on building upon our Folkish family here in the AFA, keeping you currently updated on what we're doing within our AFA & our Region.

I truly do feel when we say "Welcome Home" we're saying we're family, and as such I don't want to be a stranger.

Thanks & look forward hearing from you and hopefully seeing you at Winter Nights.

Our kindred continues to grow!

Our Hollow Creek Kindred had a moot and meetup this September 29, at a great little Italian restaurant in Beckley WV.

Followed by holding a renouncement of Prior Faith and then our Oathing into Kindred Ceremony's of two of our Members which was made special by having dear friends come up from Virginia to be in attendance.

The Hollow Creek Kindred

recognizes

Jared Bieszczat And Zachary Sulphin

Of being folkish Asatru Members

That is focused on honoring the

Gods and Goddesses of Asgard

In Courage, Truth, Honor, Fidelity, Discipline, Hospitality, Industrious, Self-reliance and Perseverance.

Witness by all of Asgard upon the ring and with all in attendance, it is my humble honor as Chieftain to announce the growth of our folkish family and be able to say "Welcome Home"

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Ancestors!



South Carolinian Update by James Dover, Apprentice Folkbuilder



The South Carolina crew was able to put a Winter Finding gathering together in spite of

to the AFA were in attendance for this event, Kevin Gelesh and Daniel Young as well as their family. We had an incredible ritual and a day full of Frith and fellowship. We are looking forward to many more.

Western Regional Updates

Northern California Update by Jessica Roesner, Apprentice Folkbuilder



buzz of the Viking Brotherhood preparing the Hof for the weekend's activities making repairs on our beautiful Hof, men and women making deeper connections and let's not forget babies, crying, laughing and being oh so adorable. Michael Hunter lead an inspiring chat about what Winter Finding means to us individually and as a Folk. It's a time to take stock in our own personal harvests as well as how we have grown as an organization over the last year. In order for us to continue our positive growth and establish permanence in our lives we must be mindful of how and where we direct our energy. Nurturing only that which makes us stronger. As a whole the AFA is growing strong and will continue to do so thanks to the combined effort of its leaders, kindreds and folk. Hail the Doers!!





The folk came together before dinner like we always do but this time we harnessed our combined energy, gave thanks and as a whole blessed the food. We carried that energy with us into a powerful Odin's Blot and once more into sumble. Directly after we had the privilege of witnessing The Three Rivers Kindred take their oaths, binding themselves to each other in glory and honor. Welcome Three Rivers Kindred!

Please Join us for more awesomeness on October 27th and 28th for Winter Nights, and for those of you that wish to volunteer for the next food drive keep in mind its on Saturday, October 6th, 11am at Odin's Hof.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!





Southern California Update by Heather Clinkenbeard, Folkbuilder

TruFolk San Diego is keeping it short and sweet this month. We held our Winter Finding blot on Saturday the 29th and all of our men and women are keeping as busy as possible.

Northern Plains Regional Updates

Minnesota Update by Jason Gallagher, Folkbuilder



September was a amazing month. We started out with our monthly Edda study. Next up was Fallfest 3 and wow is all I can say. A weekend full of great workshops and speakers and Rituals. We were honored to have the McNallens attend this year. Next year is already set and I'm looking forward to it. Big thank you to everyone who helped out with rides and

Snelling state park. What a beautiful day it was on the river spent with great folks and met some new ones too. Next meet and greet will be indoors till spring. Fall is here and with hunting season coming up we had a Ullr/Winterfinding Blót. What a amazing time it was! If you are interested in attending a event, please contact me at jgallagher@runestone.org.





Upcoming events

- 10/6 Children's 9 Noble virtues Study Bloomington, MN 1-3
- 10/14 Crafting and Woodworking day 12-3 Bloomington, MN
- 10/20 Disir Blót 3:30-7 Bloomington, MN
- 10/27 Herman the German field trip New Ulm, MN 2-5
- 11/3 Pizza feast and greet 4-7 Davannis Woodbury, MN
- 11/11 Woodworking day Bloomington, MN 12-3
- 11/17 Feast of the Einherjar Gasthof Minneapolis, MN 5-7
- 11/24 Feast of Einherjar 3 MN Kindreds Green Isle, MN 12pm to 11pm
- 12/15 Folkish Family Yule Bloomington, MN 3:30-7
- 12/20 Mother's night Blót 6-8 Bloomington, MN
- 12/29 End of yule meet and greet 4-7 Pizza ranch Shakopee, MN



Far North Regional Updates

Alaska Update
by Eric Whisman, Folkbuilder



Wotan on the Peaks & Day of Remembrance for Hermann of the Cherusci
-Eric Whisman, Folkbuilder

Julius Evola wrote of the mystical and spiritual metaphor of the mountain climb, of lofty abodes of the gods and the spiritual quest which is allegorized by the real physical event of climbing up the steep side of a high place. The mountain has ever been the symbol of the questing man, of his desire, to dwell with the gods, and each of the obstacles which he faces, as he overcomes them show him how to overcome other obstacles in his life, and to expand this into the greater collective unconsciousness of the European Folk describes the purpose of Wotan on the Peaks, and the attitude of the four men who attempted, and conquered, the 3800 foot Mt. Marathon.

On September the 9th, an already powerful day, the men of AFA kindred Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordliche Bar, fellow AFA members and Folkish Asatruar gathered at the home of Tyler Hansen in Seward AK and started the day with a Blot to the great German King,

Struggling through aches and pains, the four men fought through with grim determination and purpose to make it to the top of the mountain.

On the peak, a powerful ritual to Wotan and the heroes of our Folk was performed, and the power of Wotan was felt amongst the men there.

Several horns of mead brewed by one of our men there were poured out to Wotan on the Peak of Mt. Marathon.





Alaska Update
by Tyler Hansen, Apprentice Folkbuilder







This day i want to say a few words about a recent achievement made by Frank Hesse.

Very minimally had Frank alluded to an old ankle injury prior to our Wotan on the peaks event on sept.the 9th. Little did i know that my kinsman has an assortment of hardware within him from that injury. As the climb intensified, i became aware that he was dealing with a great amount of pain and discomfort, yet upward he persevered. He endured, and drove ever onwards with determination. Never a complaint.

Atop the summit, Franks mighty words rose strong! Inspiring and empowering. The Gifts were Given and Received.

Then began the descent. The perseverance demonstrated by my kinsman displayed the Utmost in noble self sacrifice that i have seen. There and back again, going all the way, the loyalty to our cause, and its completion was one of the most epic sacrifices its been my honor to witness. That i feel, was the mightiest Gift Given!

Mighty deeds in my eyes, of which i will speak of until the end of my days. Hail the Iron will of our Folk as displayed by Frank on that day!!!
HAIL FRANK HESSE !!!

European Regional Updates

Sweden Update



To gain knowledge through reading and discussions is a great way for getting wisdom and is maybe the first stepping stone in one's spiritual development. But to combine that intellectual work with spiritual practice is the best way for us to understand the depth of our religion.

In many of the sacred sites here in Scandinavia you can actually meet, see, smell, and talk to different beings and powers of our religion and history. For people to experience this closeness and direct contact with the “other side” is a life changing experience, so we started a 3 part course in the practice of ute sitning which goes from soft and easy to more intense.

We started the first one on the 28e on a really nice burial mound and will continue forward into the winter.



BURIAL MOUND ~ DAS GROSSE



Here, at one end of the Vrångstad Grave Field, is a large burial mound. Next to it are a few smaller mounds. The large mound measures 16 metres across and is 3 metres high. As it has not been excavated, no-one knows its exact age, however excavations of other mounds have shown that they were built during the transitional period between the Roman Iron Age and the Migration Period, around 400 A.D. It is very likely that the large mound at Vrångstad is from the same era and therefore of a similar age to the rest of the grave field.

IRON AGE BURIALS

During the Iron Age, cremation was common. The bodies were burnt on a funeral pyre. The ashes were then gathered and usually placed in a

mound. Over this, a large mound of earth was placed. This was the most common way to build burial mounds in Bohuslän in the Iron Age, irrespective of the size of the mound.

When Emil Ekhoﬀ in 1879 excavated a number of graves in the Grave Field at Vrångstad, he found several that were constructed in this way. He also discovered other types of grave structures. In some mounds, a pile of sand had been placed on top of the central chamber; others were built almost entirely of stone.

ON THE BORDER BETWEEN TWO PARISHES

The stone fence that runs along the grave field marks the border between the



eine liegt Grab hat e ist 3 nicht nicht ist. Au Hgel sie w rmische Vlker gebaut auch da so alt is brigen

BEGR

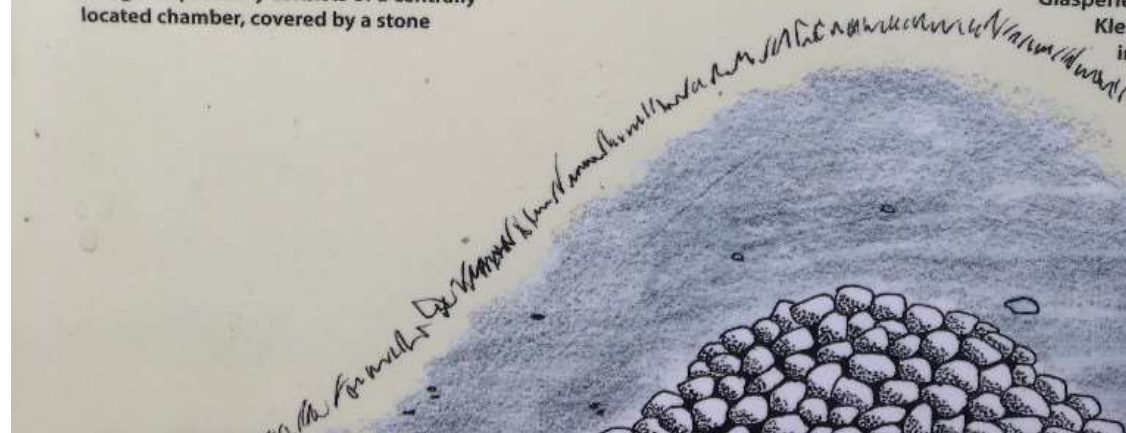
during the Iron Age include glass beads, bone combs, and dress fasteners. Knives and weapons also feature.

HOW IS THE LARGE BURIAL MOUND CONSTRUCTED?

The grave probably consists of a centrally located chamber, covered by a stone

parish borders have probably remained the same since medieval times. Ancient graves were often used to mark borders, as they are easy to spot and cannot be confused with anything else.

Scheiter
gab man
Grabgesch
verbrannt
zusammen
Grabgesch
Glasperler
Kleid
in



The following was submitted by Werner Holm.

"We traveled north out in the wood were it is many miles to the nearest residence, but the woods have several old cabins and settlements and some are many years old and not from this century. Some are so old so that woods have swallowed them totally. The woods are old too and have not been cultivated for many years and decades in some places. Our place is near a lake and a river. We put up our camp with the intent to come back and practice survival skills and for recreation through all four seasons of the year. When we finished with the fist foundation for our camp, we made food and then shared some food and mead with the gods. Even though I am not particularly spiritual, I could feel their presence in the wind that came like breeze in the dark night and brought fourth the moon. A strong and powerful presence."







Australian, New Zealand, & South African Regional Updates

**New Zealand Update
by Cameron Mottus, Apprentice Folkbuilder**

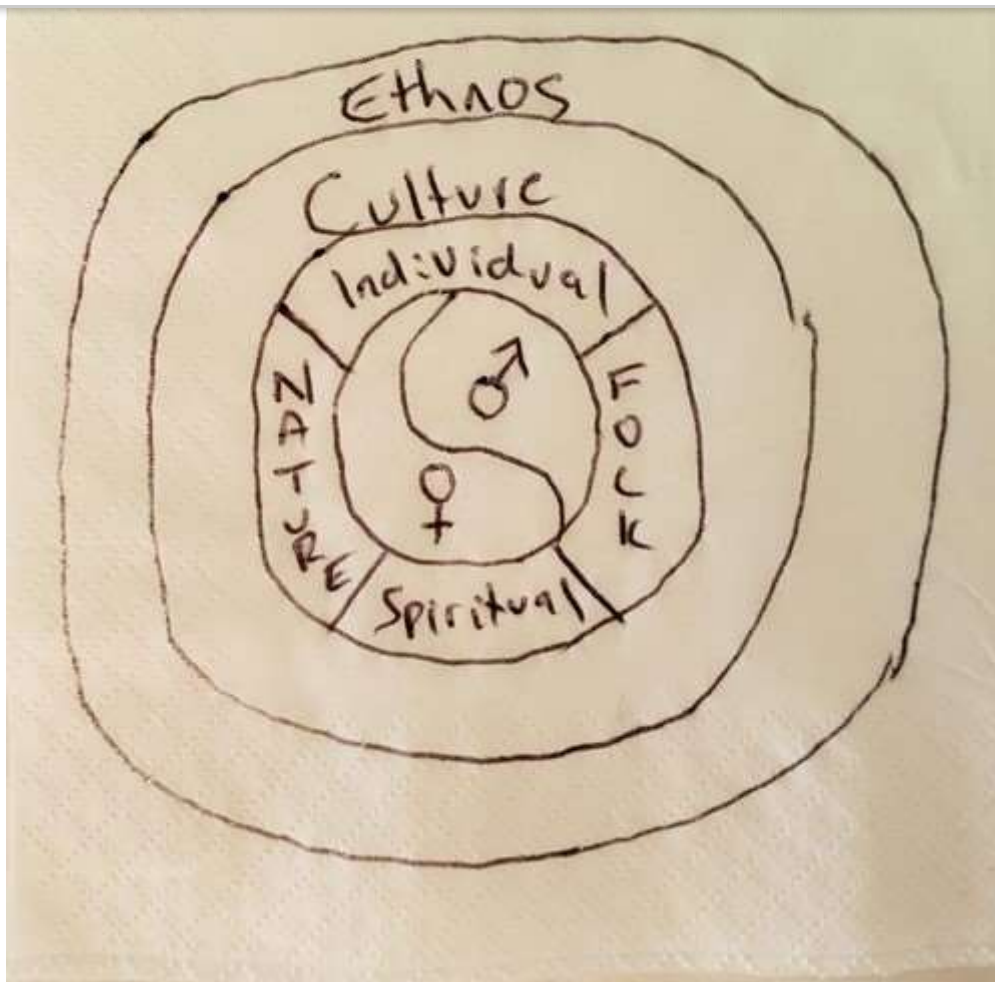


Ostara Blot

On September 22nd Fensalir Kindred hosted our Ostara celebration at my home in Kaiapoi, New Zealand. The attendees were made up of the friends and family of our kindred. There were a number of people who had never participated in an Asatru celebration before and they found it very inspiring.

We began the celebration with a BBQ and potluck dinner.

After dinner I talked about a topic currently being promoted by Carolyn Emerick called "Ethnos". From my understanding, the ethnos is the wholistic whole of your ethnic way. Ethnos is the balance between the male and the female, the individual, the folk, nature and the spiritual. The combination of these aspects results in culture that we follow. I have summarised my ethnos graphically.



You will have to forgive the graphic. It was created while I was waiting at the airport to fly back to New Zealand from Australia the day before our Ostara celebration. The concept of ethnos is applicable to every human being who wants to follow their indigenous way. To find out more I would recommend following Carolyn Emerick on YouTube.

Just before sunset we headed to a special place at Pines Beach that our gothi (Isaac Bennet) and I discovered about 6 months ago.



I gathered the folk and lead them through the bush to the location of the blot. As we got closer we could here a drum beating and singing in the distance. It was a reminder of times past.

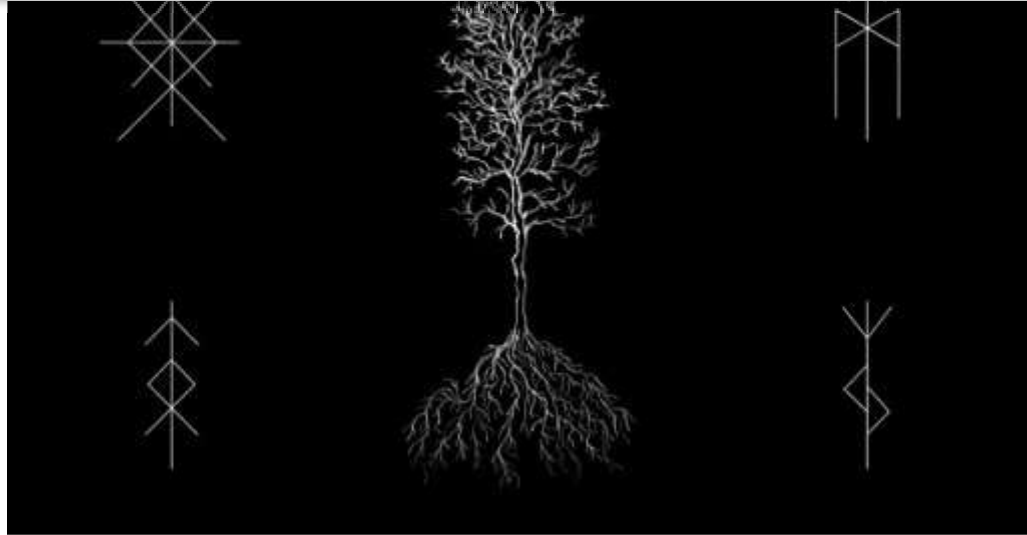
When we arrived, Isaac Bennet welcomed the folk and led the blot. We concluded the blot with a rousing rendition of Song for All Father.

We concluded the evening at my home with a sumbel and some great conversations.



On September 25th I hosted a small Ostara celebration in Sydney Australia.

Fensalir Kindred Flag



Upcoming Events – Fensalir Kindred

Tramp (Hike) and Bunny Hunt – October 22nd

Hororata Highland Games – November 10th

Native European Folk Music Jam – November 24th

Midsummer Celebration – December 15th (Regional Event)

Wotan on the Peaks – Mount Oxford December 16th

Kind regards,

Cameron Mottus

Apprentice Folkbuilder (ANZ and SA)

Asatru Folk Assembly

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Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

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 18th, 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 Baby Blanket project is rapidly approaching it's first year mark, and it has been a ROUSING success! The Ladies of the AFA have knitted, crocheted, and sewn beautiful baby blankets for over 20 of our littlest folk, with more on the way. They've been delivered everywhere from Alaska to Florida, California to Sweden!

If you are a member of the AFA and are expecting a baby, please let your Folk Builder know so we can get a blanket to you. If you would like to contribute, either financially or volunteer as a baby blanket crafter, let your folk builder know about that as well, too, and he'll get you in touch with the right people. It's so rewarding to see your handicraft being loved by our little heathens!



The Women of the AFA are proud to be continuing this fine and noble work we call 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's 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 Mandy (mandy@runestone.org) with the subject line: BABY BLANKET.

Photography & Art for 2019 Calendar

We are compiling art and photography for a 2019 calendar. The 2019 AFA Calendar will have the Holy Days for 2019 and other events, and feature art and photography from different members. We'd like to have each month feature photography from AFA events that occurred in 2018 and 2017.



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

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

There is a lot of room to work with here.

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

Greeting Card Project



At Midsummer we were able to look at various prototypes for cards and discuss plans of how and when to print them. Any artists and poets or people that know the Lore well and might enjoy being involved, please contact me below.

Holy Days: Our plan will be to concentrate on 1 to 3 card designs per upcoming Holy Day. At this time we are looking at ideas for Winter's Finding and Yule. Yule may be a little more important at this time, but a great Winter Finding design is always welcome.

Life Tides: These designs are always welcome as they can come at any time. A life tide can be any important moment to note. Marriage, Baby Birth/Naming, Graduation, Recovery, Military Memorial, and so on.

Art Cards: This would be cards that are creative and relevant to Asatru. This may be photography, or art related to Lore. Poetry and phrases of Lore may go well here as well.

For poets and those that know our Lore: The inside of our cards would always benefit from a thoughtful phrase. I am not always the best at finding a fitting phrase, so if there is a phrase or line of poetry meaningful to you, please send it and I can aim to fit it with our art. Or, if you'd like, I can send rough drafts of cards that I'm unsure what would fit best, and you can have a go at figuring something out.

Please contact me at nhayden@runestone.org.

ITEM OF THE MONTH

Oðinshof. The spiritual center and first Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly. Mighty. Tranquil. And wonderful. And now you can show your support for such a storied place with this excellent T-Shirt! A stunning red to match the blood of our Gods and Ancestors that flows in our veins! Comes in sizes small to XX for \$20+shipping. All proceeds from this shirt will go directly towards our 'Pay off the Hof' fund. Get yours [now!](#)





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