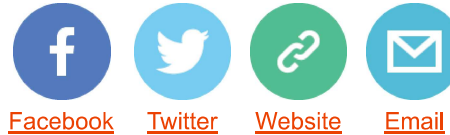


Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



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

August started off with a bang! I was able to attend the AFA Northwest Freyfaxi for the first time. Folkbuilder and Gythia Elizabeth Salix, along with her team of proud local AFA members, made this an event to remember. The land and the sea were breathtaking to behold; standing on that beach with the gathered folk to honor our holy Gods was unforgettable. The energy and enthusiasm has been high across the country and we

officially recognize and acknowledge some of the wonderful kindreds that have established local Asatru communities in their areas. We proudly honor our AFA kindreds and we will be seeing more of them in the coming months. In the month of August I have seen so many wonderful things. The enthusiasm and support I have seen for the AFA, both from members and from outside, have been truly amazing. In all my years with the AFA I have never seen more unity of purpose and enthusiasm. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish in September!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Matt Flavel

Alsherjargothi, AFA

AFA FallFest in the Midwest

Here in the Northern Plains we have been preparing for our AFA Fallfest in the Midwest in Minnesota over Labor Day weekend. This looks to be a great event, and it will be the first large folkish event - and the first large AFA event - here in the Midwest. Modern cabin camping in the woods on the shores of a large lake, does it get much better? Live traditional style folk singing, live old time blacksmithing presentation, an opportunity to meet our new Allsherjargothi, Matt Flavel, and our new apprentice Folkbuilder, Jason Gallagher.....Come out and help us make history.

--Blaine Qualls, Northern Plains Folkbuilder

Date: 3-5 September

Location: Camp Courage in Maple Lake, Minnesota

For more information and to register see the [Facebook page](#) and [eventzilla event](#).



Thursday, October 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m., to Sunday October 16, 2016, 12:00 p.m., at Camp Netimus.

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.

Specifics on our keynote guest, bands, and event schedule will be released soon. Keep checking back! See the [Facebook](#) and [eventzilla](#) pages.

Freyfaxi at NewGrange Hof



Men, women and children from all over California and the country gathered at NewGrange Hof during the weekend of July 30th to celebrate and venerate Frey, and to witness the ordination of a damn fine member of our folk. What was supposed to be a small, one-day local event, quickly took on a life of its own and evolved into a weekend-long event! The

faces, and lots of new ones, too.

On Saturday, things formally got underway with the opening ritual, a welcoming of our gods, goddesses, ancestors, and spirits of the land. We introduced ourselves, gave hearty "Hails" to the specific god or goddess on our minds. Directly following the opening ritual, our Alsherjargothi, Matt Flavel, proceeded to swear in Michael Hunter as a new member of the AFA's clergy. (I can honestly say I'm very proud to know this guy. Congrats, Mike!) Once we had concluded our rituals, the folk proceeded to the main hall where we discussed some business and brainstormed some new ideas for the continued evolution of our organization and folk. Great things are coming!

Feasting: if there is one thing that we know how to do at an AFA gathering, it's putting out an impressive meal. With our bellies now full, it was time to loosen our belts.....and wallets. Those who were interested were able to purchase tickets for our raffle. A table covered in donated goods and folk-crafted arts and wares was on display. Original works of art by Sarah Cuthill, handmade leather goods, jewelry, a sword, and more were raffled off. Once we had run out of items to raffle, we gathered again in the ritual area for our Frey Blot. The fire burning in the center of the ritual area was only dwarfed by the fire in our souls as we called upon our god of fertility, virility, and abundance. Among the godpoles and trees, we gave our gifts to Frey, knowing inside that they were well received. A powerful sumbel around the fire capped off the night. Good words were spoken as we opened ourselves up to the power of the past, placing those words deep into the well. Drinking deeply, we partook of the deeds and words placed in the well by the ancestors.

Morning came and Sunna's beauty roused us from our slumber. The smell of coffee, bacon, and eggs once again wafted from the kitchen. Our fast broken, cleanup ensued. Before we parted ways, Matt called upon the Red Bearded one for protection on our journeys. New faces became like family. Those we already consider family became closer. Bonds made. Bonds reformed. A great event indeed!



Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing

The AFA Circle of Eir is up and working. A core group performs a monthly healing ritual calling on Eir and naming those AFA members and families in need of healing. If you would like to be in the AFA Circle of Eir Facebook group or if you would just like to submit the name of someone who needs healing, please let me know at patriciahall@runestone.org. The next healing ritual, which is jointly done by AFA members from both the States and Europe, will be performed on Thursday, September 22, at midnight EDT/USA. Hail Eir!

FOLK SERVICES

This month we have been able to help a member who was caught in the disastrous flooding in Louisiana, through the generosity of his fellow AFAers. He was grateful for the material help, and for feeling he was not alone and forgotten. Thanks to all who contributed, both through the Folk Services fund, and in their own names directly to his GoFundMe.

Folk Services maintains a modest balance to be able to deal with emergency situations, and we need ongoing contributions to be able to do so. Please consider giving on a regular basis, or when you can "not just when there is a specific need. This is part of being prepared, as a community that looks after its own.

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

*"O Autumn, laden with fruit, and stained
With the blood of the grape, pass not, but sit
Beneath my shady roof; there thou may'st rest,
And tune thy jolly voice to my fresh pipe;
And all the daughters of the year shall dance!
Sing now the lusty song of fruit and flowers." □
- William Blake, To Autumn, 1783*

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer full of family, friends, and gatherings with the folk!

The autumn equinox looms before us in September, and we can feel it in our blood and bones - the shortening days, the cooler nights, the fading greens, the dropping leaves, and plants gone to seed. We have entered the seasons of harvests...fruits and vegetables, grains, and lastly the culling of the herds for meat for the winter months. It is a time to

This is the way of all the cycles of our lives.

The law of harvest is to reap more than you sow. Sow an act, and you reap a habit. Sow a habit and you reap a character. Sow a character and you reap a destiny. -James Allen

Hail the Folk! Hail the AFA!

Folkbuilding News



Well, August is behind us now, and what a month it was! I had the pleasure not only of doing FreyFaxi here at NewGrange but in beautiful Washington as well! We started endorsing kindreds and giving them the recognition they deserve, and all around making huge strides as an organization. I have been very excited about the new faces in leadership, and I'm yet to have any regrets about even one of them. The new Folkbuilder

our members, and part of that has been trying to get better coverage of the states, with quality leadership. We are down to just a few regions that are lacking a local Folkbuilder, and I'm working very hard to seek out the best in those areas. It's been a challenge in areas that don't have much activity, but I've met some great folks in those areas so I have a feeling it won't be too long.



This month we've had a few additions to the Folkbuilding team: Karl Staff (shown left) has taken over in the Upper South Region from Cody Mower (Cody recently moved to the Northeast Region), James Van Allen (above left) has stepped up to cover the Midwest, and Anders Nilsson (above right) has now volunteered to cover Sweden. Just in the short time these guys have been on board, they have really impressed me with their new enthusiasm, steadfast values, and fresh ideas; even when faced with some adversity this month, they stood tall and proud, and never flinched! My hatâ€™s off to all three of them and I'm looking forward to working with them going forward. Our members are lucky to have them.

News from Scandinavia
from Anders Nilsson, Apprentice Folkbuilder



On Sunday, August 21, Asatru Folk Assembly Sweden with associated kindreds held a Harvest blot. In a setting in the middle of Bronze Age ancient carvings, we headed to a nice stone circle from the Iron Age. With the forefathers and gods as guests, we implemented a powerful blot.

We clarified the major differences between ancestral and modern motives in celebrating a

internal harvest, that daily harvest through our actions. When the toasts were made and the offerings given, we ate a hearty autumn casserole to the accompaniment of laughter and interesting discussions.

AFA Sweden commemorates eight blots per year, and in between we also have our monthly Odin blot every 9th.

We have definitely opened the door for our gods and goddesses to walk among us again.

Hail to all of you from Sweden.

News from the Midwest from James Van Allen, Folkbuilder

REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALL

Our September Midwest conference call will be at 8:30 p.m. EDT/7:30 p.m. CDT on Thursday, September 15. Call Number is: 641-715-3580; Participant Code is: 128-737 Call is optional.

PUBMOOT IN GRAND RAPIDS: POSTPONED to later in September or early October!
Stay tuned!

MIDWEST CONTACTS

KINDRED IN INDIANA: One of our members, Heather Nance, invites Midwest members to check out her kindred, Wolves Wod Kindred located in Evansville, Indiana:

www.wolveswodkindred.org

AFA Midwest has its own FaceBook group! The FaceBook link is

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/871639299583668/>

conference call info, gatherings, and other goings on in the AFA as well as for discussion. Also if you have not friended me on Facebook, please feel free to do so.

AFA Fallfest in the Midwest will be held Labor Day weekend at Camp Courage in MN September 3-5. Please mark this on your calendars! This is the first northern mid-country AFA gathering! See the event on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/events/131926053880749/>

News from the Northwest from Elizabeth Salix, Folkbuilder

GREAT NORTHWEST FREYFAXI





Wow, what an event! August 5-7, 2016, AFA members and friends from the Northwest and beyond gathered in Pacific Beach, WA, for Year 3 of this inspiring national event. From the sunset Njord blot (above lower right) on the beach Friday night, to the inspiring guest speakers on Saturday, to the Freyr blot (above top), Odin blot, and beach bonfire sumbel, I think this year was my favorite Freyfaxi to date. I was glad to see old friends, and to meet many new friends, whom I look forward to seeing again. The might of this event was almost too great for words, so I'll let the pictures speak for themselves; above lower left is the adventure team, and immediately left is the making of Swedish pancakes. See you next year!

AN AFA WEDDING IN WASHINGTON

On Saturday, August 27th, I was blessed with the honor of joining two of our folk in holy matrimony. It was a beautiful misty day on the Columbia River, friends and family came from near and far to celebrate with the lucky couple, and I received many compliments on the Asatru ceremony. Congratulations Jamy and Dakota! Wishing you many joyous, frithful, and bountiful years together. Hail the newlyweds!

UPCOMING EVENTS

If you live in or around SW Washington and are Scottish (or just appreciate highland culture), come see us at the Kelso Highlander Festival, September 10-11, at Tam

attendance, and we're always glad to see our friends.

Our next big Northwest events will be in celebration of Winternights in October, and Feast of the Einherjar in November. Stay tuned for dates and times in the October edition of *The Voice*!

Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk! Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the AFA!

Elizabeth

Gythia, Northwest Folkbuilder



News from the Northeast from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

SKYLANDS ASATRU FELLOWSHIP



Skylands Asatru Fellowship, located in northern New Jersey, has had a busy summer, and there don't seem to be any signs of slowing down

Pennsylvania Dutch) culture. We spent the day attending lectures, eating fabulous food, exploring the various vendors' wares, and enjoying each other's company. We also continued our Asatru 101 classes and held a nature hike along one of northwest New Jersey's excellent trails.

In August, we had a strong presence at the Irminfolk's Folkish Summer Hallowing celebration, held at Camp Netimus in the Poconos. We had a splendid time with the various classes and workshops, rituals, and conversation with like-minded heathens.

In September, we have the following events planned.

Sunday September 4th: Scandinavian Festival. We will be attending the annual Scandinavian Festival at Vasa Park here in New Jersey.

Saturday September 10th: Hrattablot. We will make an offering to the local river goddess who embodies the Musconetcong River, in traditional Germanic fashion.

Sunday September 11th: Asatru 101 class. This month's topic will be "The Big Picture." This is the ten-thousand foot view of what Asatru is â€” a perfect start for the beginner.

Sunday September 25th: Runa Workshop. This will kick off a new series of workshops designed to explore the mysteries of Germanic magical practices.

And looking ahead to October, we will be celebrating the harvest with a Haustblot on Saturday, October 1st, visiting the Pocono Folk Viking Metal Fest the following weekend, and of course AFA Winternights the week after that.

For more information and to RSVP, please visit our website at www.skylandsasatru.org

IRMINFOLK ODINIST COMMUNITY



Folkish Summer Hallowing 2016 was a HUGE success!

The Irmifolk would like to thank each and every one of our guests for their friendship and generosity this past weekend. We appreciate all of you from the bottom of our hearts!

Hail the Gods! Hail the Folk!

irmifolk.com



Feast of ViÃ°arr. Had a awesome day with my tribe. All day was a day of activities and joy. Was truly a positive and power ritual with real meaning and connection involved.

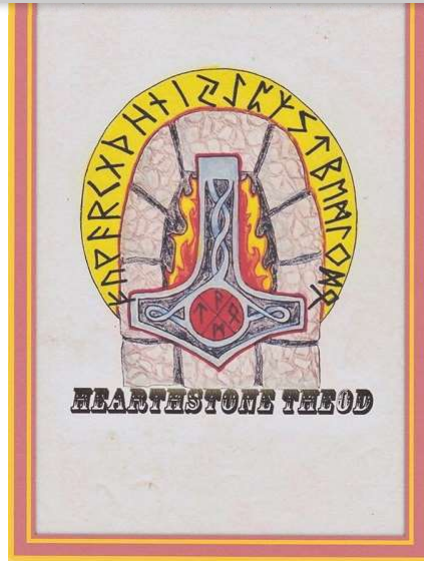
There was a lecture/discussion on tribe and community building, as well as a Skald hour.

Hail to all who came and hail our friend Jakob we can now call Brother...

Svin Hail! Svin Hail!

Svinfylkin@yahoo.com

www.facebook.com/Svinfylkin/



Hearthstone Theod has launched a new website;
check it out at

<http://thunresknaegt.wixsite.com/hearthstonetheod/>.

Alaskan Freyfaxi and King Radbod Celebration from Eric Whisman





Summers in Alaska are always a very busy time for our folk, and after two months of working, hiking, camping, hunting and fishing, Der Volkstamm auf dem Nordiliche Bar, other Alaskan AFA members, and Folkish Asatruar from around the Great State met together to honor Yngvi-Freyr and the stalwart King of the Frisians, Radbod.

The weather was very cooperative and the whole event was spent outside under the embrace of the northern sun. Clergy Student Steven Morrell led us in an especially powerful blot to Freyr, and to King Radbod.

Following the blot, and continuing the theme of the harvest and prepping for the imminent winter, the menfolk ceremonially took down the Maypole, which had been standing tall and proud all summer, and stored it for the winter.

Our great feast was that of moose meat that had been hunted and killed only a few days before our celebration by our own Paul Sibley.

There was much merriment and good conversation around the fire as we ate dinner, caught up with each other, socialized and began to plan hunting trips for the coming fall season.

San Diego Happenings from Jamie Souligny



Hail, kinfolk, from the San Diego Tru Folk kindred. We had an awesome moot at the Old World Bavarian village in Huntington Beach this month. It was bittersweet as we noticed much of the heritage and rich culture of the small town seemed to have been forgotten over time. We heard tales of the glory days from one of the loyal shopkeepers/residents named Heidi. She showed us pictures of the days when the town was full of folks embracing their heritage with dance and song.

We met up with some familiar friendly AFA folk (Doug and Karen and the Montgomery brothers) and shared a great feast there and great times with talk and laughter.

Following our feast we found an amazing park to hold our Freyfaxi blot. We were surrounded by wild nature in the middle of the city, complete with wild berries. Hawks and falcons perched in the trees, seeming to join in with our communion with the gods. As the sun set and the skeeters starting biting we closed out this great celebration.

Thanks to all who participated and made the trip to join us!



We do a moot once a month. We have set up a Facebook group to announce locations

myself Jamie at jamieredsoul@gmail.com or San Diego Folkbuilder Heather Clinkenbeard at HeaTHOR@runestone.org

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

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Support the AFA by shopping Amazon through our Amazon affiliate link! The AFA gets a small percentage of every Amazon sale made by starting your search from [this link](#). Bookmark the link for future shopping!

Upcoming Events for 2016

AFA FallFest at Camp Courage, Maple Lake, MN, Labor Day weekend, September 3-5 - our first major gathering in the Midwest! See the [Facebook](#) and [eventzilla](#) pages.

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 [Facebook](#) and [eventzilla](#) pages.

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