Asatru Folk Assembly's The Voice



Words from the Alsherjargothi

My fellow AFA members, I want to share something with you that has been on my mind for some time now.

I created the Asatru Folk Assembly twenty years ago and have led it through thick and thin. The AFA grew out of the Viking Brotherhood, later known as the Asatru Free Assembly, which I founded in 1972. For almost all my adult life, I have led organizations In the last few years we have accomplished some amazing things: I wrote and published my first book, we are holding major, annual events all over the country, and the AFA has active membership in Europe. We bought a four-thousand square foot building, which we refurbished and dedicated as a hof that will stand as a rallying point for our faith for generations to come. I think I can truthfully say that I have established a worthy legacy, taking the practice of our faith to an important pinnacle, and secured my place in the history of the Asatru revival - to say the least. Now it is time for me to step aside.

Soon, the AFA will be led by an able team consisting of Gothi Matt Flavel, Gythja Pat Hall, and Allen Turnage as Lawspeaker. They're going to do a great job for us! We will of course keep everyone informed.

No, I won't be leaving the AFA - but I look around me at the other leaders of my generation and I note that Edred Thorsson does not direct the day-to-day affairs of the the Rune Gild; he has turned that over to trusted leaders who carry on his work. And I see Valgard Murray, still influential in the Asatru Alliance, but he has turned over most of his power and responsibilities to others. It's time for me to do the same. Others need a chance to lead, without standing in my shadow. They need room to grow, for their own good but also for the good of all that I, and we, have built. I don't want to be that old geezer hanging on at age eighty-five because he's just too stubborn to let go.

I will still be around, advising and sharing what I have learned over the years. Think of me as a sort of "Alsherjargothi Emeritus." I will do the occasional blot and give talks from time to time. But I want to turn my focus inward for a while: I want to attain certain personal spiritual breakthroughs, and I want to explore new ways of serving my Gods and my Folk...for this struggle, this adventure, this Cause remains the purpose and the Pole Star of my entire being.

Stephen A. McNallen Alsherjargothi, Asatru Folk Assembly

Midsummer 2016 at NewGrange Hof!

of the AFA's premier regional events, and all AFA members and vouched-for Folkish friends are urged to be there for this historic event!

The date: June 17-19

The place: NewGrange Hof, 8408 La Porte Road, Brownsville, California

We will pack in seminars, speakers, ritual, entertainment, and most importantly, we will build the bonds that tie us to each other. Friday night Rattlin' Bones (formerly Halfpence and Haypenny) will be playing original and traditional European folk tunes for our pleasure.

Camping is available. Additionally, there are a limited number of rooms at the local motel. There are also hotels in Marysville, local B&Bs, and other lodging in the area. Accommodations are not included in the event price. All meals, however, are included with your admission fee.

This is the event of the year for our region. If you can only make one, this would be the one to make.

We will post more details as they become available...but start your planning now!

Stephen McNallen

Update on Indiegogo Perks

Thank you to all of our contributors to NewGrange Hall!

Almost all of the items offered as perks are in now stock, so those of you who have been waiting to hear from us will be receiving your packets in the coming weeks. Before sending

and want a personal update from Sheila, write to afa@runestone.org.

Family Safety Program: Tool

Note from the Alsherjargothi: The AFA Family Safety Program protects individual AFA members and families by (1) providing the information they need to survive emergencies and disasters of all kinds, and by (2) organizing material help in such events. Safety/preparedness articles are provided by Jim Erickson.



"Learn a new skill every week" - Jim and Sara the Corgi

Over the course of our life we encounter dangerous or unnerving times.

Nothing is as unsettling as not being prepared or not having a tool when you need it most.

By tool, I mean a life-saving tool. We often look past these tools as we don't ever see the need for them.

Except when we need them most...

AFA Entrepreneurs - Why?

This month we're featuring not one but two AFA members who have started their own businesses.

experience the peace and empowerment that comes from monetary success. Two, the more wealth our members have, the more they will be able to contribute to our community and promote Asatru!

Here we go!

Rorie Coffee Company

Our first entrepreneur is one you've seen before, in these very pages. Steve Ingle has a good job, but he lives in a high-cost part of the country, and he is single father of a twoyear-old boy. They are a common sight at NewGrange Hof, where they participate in our gatherings on a frequent basis.

I asked Steve how he got ideas for part-time businesses and he replied simply, "I look at a lot of things..." - and for him, affiliate marketing online really works well. If you visit his Ghostwolf Crossbows page on Facebook, you will see how this works. Type in "affiliate marketing" into your browser and you will find a wealth of information.

But Steve does not limit himself to crossbows; as he says, "Many streams make a river." So now he also has...the Rorie Coffee Company! One of Steve's friends owns a coffee plantation in India. Steve did some research and found that the area in question produces some of the best coffee in the world. Steve talked with his friend and arranged to have coffee beans imported from his friend's plantation, to be roasted in California. He sells this excellent coffee online, by subscription. He's also looking into some local sales in stores near his home.

The biggest obstacle, according to Steve, is fear of failure. "Don't give up," he counsels. "Just keep at it!"

He's building a website at roriecoffeecompany.com.

Ingwaz.us

ingwaz.usa@gmail.com

candles, so I messaged her and told her what I wanted. She turned out exactly what I wanted with prompt, efficient, and all-around awesome customer service. There are great pictures of her candles on <u>her Facebook page</u>. She asked to be profiled in *The Voice*, and of course I was pleased to make that happen. I asked her a series of questions that I thought prospective entrepreneurs would want to see answered, and here is what I got -

1) What made you decide to go into business for yourself?

I've been looking for ways out and dreaming of being my own boss by starting a profitable business doing things I love... on my own time. A recent medical issue has me unable to do my previous work and that has spurred me into actually moving on a few business ideas; therefore, ingwaz.us was a logical choice.

Entrepreneurship offers so much in the way of personal freedom and satisfaction, though it certainly has its ups and downs. In the beginning, I definitely worked longer hours than what I did working for someone else, but it is worth the effort and hard work to pursue this kind of lifestyle and business adventure. This is not my first attempt at doing business on my own terms, though it is the most creative. I have also been involved in other businesses such as: a wildland fire support business, a motocross and drag promotions business, and a cryptocurrency venture which is still underway.

2) What is the greatest problem you faced, and how did you overcome it?

This particular business has many great and positive aspects to it that other businesses do not. I have virtually no overhead and the supply is easy for me to acquire. At the moment, I am doing the entire business from supply and inventory to creation of the product to accounting and everything else in between. My greatest problem with this particular business model is in marketing. I have everything I need to make this work with a great return on the investment though I am lacking a good customer base and volume of sales. I really need some help in getting my product to appropriate customers. If I could find the niche market for these items, I know the business could expand.

3) What advice would you give for someone thinking about going into business for

I took a bunch of business courses during my university years and have used this knowledge to my advantage; I suggest finding a nice template of a business plan and working on this prior to and during all phases of your business venture. It helps with organization and structure which can be overlooked when you're working hard at getting your idea off the ground.

Understand that some of the most profitable and successful businesses are the ones with a specialized product line. Inwaz.us sells candles: customized or stock artistic candles and that is all. Like Little Caesars or even In-N-Out Burger, this business model of $\hat{a} \in \mathbb{C}$ K.I.S.S. or keep it simple stupid $\hat{a} \in \mathbb{C}$ appears to be the way to go.

Focus on your idea and product, complete a SWOT analysis (Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities and Threats) concerning your idea and business model and take a look at your market, marketing needs and competition.

There you have it! Two inspiring stories of fellow AFA members who are doing very cool things for financial success! Whether we like it or not, money is the source of energy that makes today's world go round. And if you need any more convincing - just remember that "Fehu (money, cattle) is the first rune of the Futhark!"

-Stephen McNallen

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, May 19, at midnight EDT/USA.

FOIK Services

AFA Folk Services is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to 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 <u>Folk Services page</u> on Facebook.

In the past month we have been able to help a family expecting a baby next month. The dad, an AFA member, needed to change lines of work on doctor's advice. He moved after lining up some contract work; unfortunately the contract was cancelled two weeks after he got there. Folk Services helped this family put food on the table and prepare for the new baby during this rough spell.

Now we have an appeal from a tough and talented AFA member, personally vouched for by Steve McNallen. You can donate directly to <u>her GoFundMe</u>, or to make your donation tax-deductible by donating to the AFA and noting that it is for Folk Services - Jessica.

Clergy Report

We are here to help individuals and kindreds in need of religious and spiritual guidance, and those in need of an officiant for special rituals or rites of passage, even if only for advice or perspective. You are assured the utmost respect and confidentiality for all your needs. If you, or an AFA member you know, needs to get in touch with our clergy for any reason, please don't hesitate to contact us at <u>Clergy@Runestone</u>.

Folkbuilder Update from Matt Flavel, Folkbuilder Coordinator

April has been a big month for the AFA's Folkbuilding work. To start with, at the AFA's Ostara in the South, Clifford Erickson was awarded the first ever Medal of



duties, Cliff has spent countless hours getting and keeping everything running as the head of our tech team. Cliff has also done an invaluable service in his assistance updating our membership database and working with our website. Cliff has stepped up and helped at every turn, in his own duties and also in assisting the rest of leadership with theirs, and we honor him for it!

There have been some changes in Folkbuilding

regions in order to better connect our folk. A new region has been created in Europe, German-Speaking Europe. Martin Baluses (shown right) will be taking the lead as Apprentice Folkbuilder for this new region. In addition, in order to build tighter bonds with our Canadian members, we have broken up the Canada region and added the provinces to their closest United States regions. For specifics please look to our website in the coming days and refer to the map.





Last but certainly not least, Mike Tauscher (left) is stepping up to Folkbuild as an Apprentice Folkbuilder for the Deep South. Mike has worked diligently, alongside his Longboat Kindred, to make events in the south not only succeed but impress. The Deep South is the AFAâ€[™]s second largest group of members and we are very happy to have Mike on board.

Asatruar in Dublin from Eric Lancaster

Translate



Éirà Amach na CÃisca: 100 year anniversary of "Easter Uprising"



Shown above are the General Post Office - the headquarters of the uprising's leaders - and a tour bus parked in front of Dublin Castle. Left is a plaque commemorating the Uprising.

On Saturday April 2, 2016, I arrived in Dublin with my wife. As the rain slowly gave way to sunshine we dropped off our luggage and ventured out on foot to see what was going on. It was the last day of the official centenary celebrations and the streets were, as one would expect, crowded.

We chose to visit Ireland on the last day of celebrations because it was on Easter Saturday of 1916 that the Irish insurrection was quelled, and it was this decisive defeat that would eventually

contribute to the subsequent liberation of the Irish from foreign rule. My wife and I walked from site to site discussing the implications of historic actions that contributed to the

Although we were there to pay respects to fallen heroes it was far from a melancholy visit. Guinness and music were everywhere and the spirits of the land were very much alive. That night we raised glasses to the honored dead. For the English who fought to defend what they felt was their birthright, and for the Irish who would not submit to foreign rule. I doubt very much that Allfather favored the Catholics over the Anglicans, nor vice versa, but he certainly stood watch as his peoples put kith and kin over selfishness and passivity. Are there not heroes on every side of a battle?

The following morning we made our way to the ferry back to England while the rest of the city slept or went to mass. I took home with me a hope that when times of conflict arrive, my family, whatever side we're on, will exemplify the Nine Noble Virtues as well as the warriors of the Easter Uprising did.

Daily Asatru - Immerse Yourself from Martin Baluses, Apprentice Folkbuilder German-Speaking Europe

Guten Tag my AFA friends! We all try to live Asatru on a daily basis. One way to do so is to fill the world, our personal environment, with symbols and signs of our belief system. By doing so, we achieve multiple things at once. First, we strengthen our way of life; we create and show manifestations of the greater spirit of our folk and our bond with the Holy Powers and our ancestors. That would already be rewarding on a personal level, but $\hat{a} \in$ depending on what specifically we are doing $\hat{a} \in$ it could also be a community event, perhaps on a family level, and thus foster good and meaningful times with our dear ones. And further, if we take our symbols out in public, we set a sign for our folk way, our organization.

Well. What specifically do I mean? I want all your ideas – and I would be happy to see all your ideas coming into reality.

l'II give you three examples of my own ideas, to get you started.

angels and so on. Think about our own cookie cutters with an Asatru background: sun spirals, runes, yule arches, Goddess Hulda…

- Asatru hand puppets: As a child I liked puppet theaters. There were the king, the Kaspar, the villain, the crocodile, of course the princess and so on. Well, we could play out for our children the stories of our myths, sagas and lore. Think of hand puppets of the main Gods and Goddesses, their enemies and so on. We could not only read or tell our children of the return of Thor's hammer – we could actually show them!
- Everyday clothes: Give your clothes meaning! We could incorporate symbols of our own into everyday clothes. l'm thinking not of the style of a pagan metal fan t-shirt they are cool at times but rather of trousers, pullovers, even business clothes which will have a little more discreet but still present tone or symbol of our religion or organization. These clothes would not cry aloud "Viking attack!â€□ but would nevertheless get our symbols into public areas as a possible starting point for conversations. And who doesn't want to slip into a jacket with a symbol of protection?

I hope these examples illustrate the direction in which I am thinking. I am sure that many of you have similar ideas.

Now, what would we need to make our ideas come true? We need to find the people who can do this: masters of their crafts, be it smithery, tailoring or whatever. And we need to tell them about our ideas.

And this is why I am writing this for *The Voice*: I think we have such people here in the AFA; for smithery I know for sure we do.

So, step 1: We pool our ideas in a comprehensive list – available to all AFA members. That alone would be very inspirational of course!

And step 2: Everybody who knows somebody who could potentially help realize an idea, list that contact. AFA members would be preferred. We strengthen our community by doing this, another merit.

right now and send me your ideas by email: mbaluses@runestone.org

In the meantime lâ€[™]II check out where to set up the list and then – let our ideas come true! Hail to our Gods and Godesses, hail to our folk, and hail to the AFA!

Alaska Sigrblot from Eric Whisman, Apprentice Folkbuilder





The crackling of the fire, the fluttering of the victory-banners in the breeze; the roar of the wind, and the sounds of the chants of the folk around the fire: This was the spirit in the air during Sigrblot in Alaska. AFA members and other like-minded Asatruars gathered in Palmer, AK, under the clear skies and the warming sun to celebrate our victories achieved and to call upon Sigtyr for our victories to come. The day began with people driving in from all over state and setting up the yard for the games that would build up to blot. There were about a dozen in attendance, including a couple first-timers. The games started with a short foot race to get the blood pumping, followed by memory quiz to help enhance mental acuity. The spear throw was by far everyone's favorite, everyone eager to show off their great skill with Allfather's choice weapon.

With the Ond strong and the Wod stimulated, kin and folk made their way down to the ritual circle, carrying with them the banners of victory, and passing by the table set up with the awards of our victories. Steven Morrell led a powerful blot to Odin, and the blessing of Sigtyr was felt.

Following the blot, we opted to stay outside under the warming sun, had a delicious meal of barbecue salmon, and proceeded to sumbel immediately afterwards. Great words were spoken over the horn, with heroes and ancestors honored for their great deeds.

With the celebration of victories past, and the will to make victories to come, the Folk parted ways once more. Hails the Gods, Hail the Ancestors, Hail Victory!

Northern Plains Update from Blaine Qualls, Northern Plains Folkbuilder

Here in the Northern Plains we continue to see a steady stream of new members. In the Dakotas we have grown to the point where we host regular regional events and see new faces all the time. In Minnesota they have grown to the point where they have begun holding regular small events near the cities. Anyone planning on being in the area please feel free to get in touch; we have regular events happening all the time across the region and I would be happy to put you in touch with some of our local membership.

News from the Midwest from Patricia Hall, Folkbuilder

REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALL

At our April call, we discussed the possibility of holding a moot at the end of May/early June in the Grand Rapids area. Right now we are looking at meaderies, breweries, and pubs in the Grand Rapids area. The Brewery Vivant, Hopcat, and Flanigan's all look promising. Stay tuned!

Our next Midwest conference call will be at 8:30 p.m. EDT/7:30 p.m. CDT on Thursday, May 12. I look forward to hearing you there! The call number is 641-715-3580; Participant Code is 128-737 Call is optional.

MIDWEST CONTACTS

KINDRED IN INDIANA: One of our members, Heather Nance, invites Midwest members to

Translate

AFA Midwest has its own FaceBook group! The FaceBook link is <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/871639299583668/</u> Please request an add! This is for AFA members only. It will be a place to post 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. My Facebook link is <u>https://www.facebook.com/patricia.l.hall.92</u>

MIDWEST GATHERINGS

Midsummer Blot: Litt Ugla will host its annual Midsummer Blot at Addison Oaks Country Park in Leonard, Michigan, June 20-22. See Facebook event <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/1856550851235722/</u> Contact Frank Coleman at Facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/FrankPColeman?</u> <u>fref=ts</u> if you have questions. **This is not an AFA event**. AFA is not familiar with these folks but it looks promising. So if you go, please let us know how you liked it!

AFA Harvest Festival 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! Details on registration are in the works!

News from the Northeast from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

Clifford Erickson hosts a monthly conference call open to all members to discuss news and updates for the Northeast Region. Our next Northeast conference call will be at 8:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, May 30, 2016. We look forward to hearing you there! Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580 Access Code: 174-424

This event will be held in October in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains. Look for more details soon!

HEARTHSTONE THEOD MAY DAY 2016 - from Bill McNamara







On April 24, 2016, the Hearthstone Theod gathered at Thunreshof to celebrate May Day and welcome the warm season and to cast off the cold of winter. It was a gorgeous day to celebrate faith, family, and the folk. The sun was shining, and the breezes were both warm and cool at the same time. All in all it was a perfect spring day to celebrate the turning of the wheel. The horg was decorated by the ladies of the tribe with fruits and flowers, candles, and a carving of the Hearthstone Theod logo while the rest of the tribe prepared the needfyr and surrounding ritual space. The youth of the tribe have been learning some wilderness skills, and as a part of their training, they build and kindle the fires while the runes and galders are sung by senior tribesmen.

The event was a full day of ritual, camaraderie, and games, with the children being the stars of the show. There was archery, axe throwing, knife throwing, Kubb, chess, Hneftafl, and many other games of folk and frith building fun. Some of the folk have a tradition of connecting with the local landvaettier by going hiking through the swamp behind the hof and horg. The hike this day was rather epic, resulting in jovial, muddy tribesmen returning to the homestead after a few hours. As always, food, drink, and home-brewed ritual mead flowed freely, and the sound of the children laughing and playing was sweet music in the symphony of tribal life.

The ritual was both a seasonal rite, and as is the tradition in our theod, the Sigrblot. We gathered in ritual, and gave thanks and gifts of might and maegn, and received that favor which the gods and ancestors bestowed upon us. We were joined by Xander, gothi of the Svinfylkin, to give honor to Odin during the rite. Mike, the president of the Svin, gave his gifts of might and maegn (that are our normal custom) and then removed the hammer from

carved with runes and blooded by the faithful. Gifts were well received and omens read in the fire were positive. All in all it was a moving rite which left behind an energized and positive folk at its close.

Ritual was followed by feast and sumbel, with great food served, and well-said words in abundance. The highlights of feast were the contributions of Marshall of the theod, who is a chef by trade and made a smoked salmon wrapped asparagus in a cream sauce as well as ambrosia salad for dessert. Sumbel was filled with words of devotion and camaraderie, well-wrought boasts to gods, ancestors, and heroes, and yielps of deeds done that bring honor to the ways of the folk and faith! Such days and nights are the reward we receive for the work we do in honor of faith and folk. May the gods and ancestors see and hear the deeds we do, and may our mettle be forged in the fire of the ordeal that is life!

SKYLANDS ASATRU FELLOWSHIP - from Joseph Bloch







On April 23rd, Skylands Asatru Fellowship celebrated Sumarmal. "Summer-meal" marks the end of winter and the beginning of summer, and is highlighted by the celebration of the Sigrblot, or "victory-sacrifice," made to Odin in hopes of securing victory and success in the coming season.

As I've mentioned before, one of the hallmarks of this area of the country is the profusion of Asatru kindreds, Theodish tribes, and other Heathen groups of like mind.

We were honored with the presence of Robert Blumetti, chieftain of Balder Rising, and an old friend.

The Sigrblot itself was very powerful, featuring a recounting of the story of the giving the Langobards their name (and victory against their enemies) by Odin, and ending with dancing around the fire as the sacrificial offerings were consumed. (Ours is a joyous

successful. Afterwards we feasted on ham, salads, bread, and creamed honey.

Sumbel was marked by fine words, much laughter, giving of gifts, and the addition of a new member to the Skylands tribe. We do our sumbel rite somewhat differently than a lot of Asatru groups; rather than the standard three "gods/ancestors/open" rounds, three toasts are made at the beginning of sumbel to Odin, Thor, and Freyr, and then the horn is passed around the hall for a single round. After that, whoever wants to call for the horn is free to do so. As host and goði, I had to $\hat{a}\in cMcNallen\hat{a}\in \Box$ a hefty quantity of mead from the horn at the end of sumbel. Such are the burdens of leadership.

As people began to leave as the night wore on, some few of us were left talking about old television shows and absent friends, and making plans for the future.

Today was a good day: just friends getting together, honoring the gods, and growing our faith and our folk. This is what really matters.

Our upcoming events include:

Friday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.: New Moon Offering to the Landvaettir (Stanhope, NJ) Sunday, May 8, 6:30 p.m.: Asatru 101: Gender roles in Asatru (Stanhope, NJ) Sunday, May 22, 2:30 p.m.: Nature Hike & Dinner (Stanhope, NJ) Sunday, May 22, 6:30 p.m.: Asatru 101: The God Thor (Stanhope, NJ) Saturday, June 25, 2:00 p.m.: Midsummer Celebration (Stanhope, NJ)

Full details can be found on our website at www.skylandsasatru.org

News from the Northwest from Elizabeth Salix, Folkbuilder

Ostara

Translate **•**





A lively Ostara celebration was held on March 20, with thirty people in attendance!

On Ostara weekend, a crew of dedicated Folk helped clean up the ritual area at New Salixheim. We enjoyed a wonderful sumbel around the bonfire at night.

Hikemoot

On April 16, Karl Parker organized a well-attended hikemoot on Vancouver's Salmon Creek Greenway Trail (pictures below). Elizabeth made delicious strawberry tarts. We enjoyed supper after the long hike.



South Carolina News from M. Annette Baum

https://us6.campaign-archive.com/?e=[UNIQID]&u=fc07e3fa2b&id=e7286a2c81

24/29



Last month I attended the AFA Ostara in the South event on Saturday night. There in the piney woods, I was fortunate to meet the McNallens and other fine AFAers, and to experience Stephen's Wotan Blot and sumbel afterwards. I did not meet any other members from South Carolina that night and would really like to network. If you are an AFA member living in SC, please contact me, M Annette Baum, on Facebook. I would like to create a contact point for SC AFA members to facilitate networking, or at least make our introductions. I look forward to hearing from other AFA members in SC!

In other news, Hirschwald Kindred here in Aiken will begin the first in a series of moon blots in May. I will document and compile our work, sharing it comprehensively at a later date. Hirschwald also pitched Spring Mead last month, and collected wood for statuary projects. We are yet a small kindred, but our worship facilities are excellent here on my farm (stead and harrow, super clean and ready for Walburga shown above), and the door is open to new members. We anxiously await our Walburga's Night ritual.



San Diego Happenings from Jamie Souligny







We had a great Ostara gathering down here in sunny San Diego. It was a gorgeous day up in the hills of Valley Center. The kids beat ol' Winter down (represented by our cloaked Gythia, Heathor) so Spring could be reborn. We had a bunny coloring contest and a huge egg hunt (the baskets were overflowing). Then we had a great feast and enjoyed the beautiful day with our

loved ones and kinfolk. We welcomed new folk Janina, Michael, and their son Ragnar to our kindred. Janina brought some delicious German recipes to share. Katie was an amazing hostess as always and joy and kinship were had by all.

We also had moot at our local park and met some of our AFA Folk -- Jennifer and her son Odin. The boys foraged and explored the "huge riverâ€□ (creek). We had a nice little sumbel among the oaks and exchanged personal journeys and tales.

and details of such meetings. The name of the page is San Diego Folkish Asatru meet up group. We also have folk in the Orange County and Riverside County areas. If you are not a "Facebooker" you can reach myself (Jamie) at <u>jamieredsoul@gmail.com</u> or Heather (San Diego folkbuilder) at <u>HeaTHOR@runestone.org</u>

Hail the Gods! Hail the ancestors! Hail the folk! Hail the AFA!

Folk Asatru in Las Vegas Valley from Mary Minshall

Is anyone interested in being part of a Folkish Asatru group in the Las Vegas valley? If you would like to be part of a group that meets at a local pub in the evenings once a month, please e-mail me at <u>marys2cats@embarqmail.com</u>

We can just meet nâ€[™] greet with supper and raised horns and later expand into a discussion group on the runes, the lore, etc. Suggestions: the fourth Wednesday or Thursday of the month at McMullanâ€[™]s Irish Pub on Tropicana and Cameron, just west of The Orleans Hotel Casino.

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AFA members save 5% on any order at checkout. Use promo code PXLKVV8 at <u>http://www.runestonegifts.com/</u>.

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 <u>this link</u>. Bookmark the link for future shopping!

Upcoming Events for 2016

Midsummer at NewGrange, Brownsville, CA, June 17-19

Freyfaxi in the Northwest - late summer - details to come!

Harvest Festival at Camp Courage, Maple Lake, MN, Labor Day weekend, September 3-

5 - our first major gathering in the Midwest!

5th Annual AFA Winter Nights in the Poconos - late October in Pennsylvania. Look for more details soon!

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