

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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Baldrshof
Third Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

www.baldrshof.org

October 2024



Donate to the AFA

Words from the Alsherjargoði



We are our DEEDS!

This month I would like to take a moment to remind everyone that Ásatrú is about what we do. I had the honor of attending Freyr's Harvest Feast in Montana and it was great to see ideas and dreams become action and accomplishment. This event has been hosted

on Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein's homestead. I have heard countless people talk about homesteading and I am proud to see that Tyler has actually done it and continues to do so. We all shared a wonderful weekend in a space he and his associates have built and are building. Dreams became deeds.

We all have things we dream on and ways we want our lives and our futures to be different. Far too few of us take actions to build those dreams and shape our lives and futures. Tyler dreamt of a homestead and a meadery. Some may have similar dreams; many will doubtlessly have wildly different dreams. With effort and persistence, we can all shape our reality to more closely fit our dreams, piece by piece, brick by brick. I am reminded and inspired to always work to make Victory happen.

As we celebrate the Autumn and the harvest, let's nurture our dreams and make firm plans on the deeds necessary to make those dreams reality. We are building dreams of generations together as a Folk and as a church; teamwork makes the dream work.

Hail the Æsir!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Matthew D. Flavel

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Words from Our Founder



Asatru - Winter Nights & the Disir
<https://youtu.be/KL2Xcv8IEek>



Founder Steven McNallen

Words from Our Witan

Soul Complex, The Hugr



It has been quite some time since we visited the topic of the Soul. I began these articles last year, and in late July 2023, I had a serious health scare that derailed me a bit. It's been a year since that ordeal and I'm happy to share that I have made a full recovery. Let's pick up where we left off.

We left off with the second soul component, the Ek. (For a refresher of my previous articles on the subject, there's a reposting of it on the Runestone.org blog at [LINK](#).) There we discussed the importance of a well-trained and healthy ego, versus a weak and untrained one.

Next, we are discussing the Hugn, the logical mind. As before, we will be using Founder Stephen McNallen's *Asatru, A Native European Spirituality* as our reference.

Pronounced "h yewer," of note to remember that the g is silent. It is the logical mind, or active thought.

"In the Northern Lore, Odin has two ravens that fly forth every day and report back to him at night. Their names are Hugin (Thought) and Muninn (Memory). They represent two soul components, called the hugn and the minni."

Stephen McNallen, *Asatru, A Native European Spirituality*

Founder McNallen goes on to describe the two soul components from a psychological view as left brained and right brained. Hugn is conscious thought, in the moment, the ability to have discernment. To break down situations or topics and come to a logical conclusion. It is thinking, counting, reasoning, judgement and is linear.

We are often driven by emotions. Our people, especially in this modern world, react

with a hair trigger when a topic or event sets them off in an emotional way. It's far less often that we take a step back and give the situation some thought and reason. We see this far too frequently.

Don't try to suppress your emotions, but do not let them drive you. When faced with a hot topic or a heated moment, it's best to take a step back and think before you speak or act. This will help in relationships with your significant other, your friends and colleagues, your brothers and sisters in Ásatrú. Use your Hugr for reason and understanding before you react. I think we could all be better in this regard.

This is especially true when dealing with your Folk. The benefit of the doubt is often not given, and that leads to hard feelings and often results in the dissolution of a relationship. Let us try to avoid that.

"To learn objectivity, pick an issue on which you have strong feelings. Now study the other side of that issue - not pouring through it with the idea of refuting the arguments, but challenging your preconceived notions."
Stephen McNallen, *Asatru, A Native European Spirituality*



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Words from Our Goðar

The Life and Times of Thorgrun Odden, 1946-2024



<https://youtu.be/11OF31Vnasg>

Timothy Edward Thompson was born on August 18, 1946 in Inglewood, California, the only son of Laverne “Tommy” Thompson and Mandalie Bulgrin. Generally called “Timmy” by his friends, we all knew him as Thorgrun Odden.

He was always a country boy at heart, as they moved to rural Colorado and then back to southern California. Eventually, the family came north where his father started building homes.

While in a Santa Cruz drugstore, the pretty young clerk caught Tim’s eye. It was mutual, and in no time, Timmy Thompson and Katie Fuhs were a twosome with all the passion and promises of youth. They married on September 9, 1969, just before he joined up with the California National Guard during the Vietnam War years. He also worked alongside his dad, doing carpentry and learning “the trade.”

Life was good. Work was plentiful, and they soon had two children, Josh and Rebekah. However, a family crisis occurred when Bekah was diagnosed with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis while still a toddler. They searched for answers and medical advice from the best in the field, but there was no silver bullet to prevent the life-long pain and crippling that came with her illness.

Thorgrun was always fascinated by American and European history. He began collecting works like the Poetic and Prose Eddas, plus the saga stories based on his own Scandinavian roots. He knew that the family name was changed to Thompson upon arrival in the US. In an old family photograph, a young child identified as his great,

great grandfather is where he learned the name that he took for his own. In 1985, Timothy Edward Thompson, became his true self, Thorgrun Edward Odden.

During the early 1980s, Thorgrun came across a magazine advertisement posted by Stephen McNallen with the words “ODIN LIVES!” He signed up for *The Runestone* but would be many years before the two men would meet at an Asatru Alliance Althing in Wisconsin.

Thorgrun built Katie’s dream home in the forested hills near Santa Cruz where he set up his woodland Vé encircled by redwoods. Strange things happened there. He came back on consecutive days to find the ground torn up at the site where he did ritual. Realizing this was the work of a wild boar, he left offerings and made his troth to Ingvi Freyr. He soon established the Gullinbursti Kindred, using the name of Freyr’s boar.

As Goði of Gullinbursti Kindred, Thorgrun attended an event called “Gathering of the Gothar” at the desert homestead of old-timer Kirby Wise. He came back with vivid details about the event and the assortment of odd characters. This event is where he was officially ordained among other Goðar. His article was published in a 1996 edition of *The Runestone*, a classic piece you can read today found in the [Runestone Library](#).

During those early years of the Asatru Folk Assembly, Thorgrun was there for the ebb and flow of the AFA. Times like the Kennewick Man era were dynamic and exciting. Other times left us dismayed in our fellow men. Thorgrun was steadfast -- never wavering in his loyalty to the Æsir or the principles of the AFA.

In time, he and Katie moved to Nevada County to live near their daughter’s family. Grandparent-life was great, but times changed after the death of their daughter and the two grandchildren relocated to Reno with their father.

Thorgrun’s last construction project was overseeing the building of the McNallen home in Nevada County. In time, Thorgrun and Katie moved into a travel trailer next to Óðinshof. The mornings were his time to set out sprinklers and do general upkeep. Known for his generosity, clients of our Óðinshof Food Pantry knew they could reach out to Thorgrun when their cupboards were bare. Children of Óðinshof will forever remember him as Papa Yule, the kindly wanderer who would stride through the door, holding his staff and jingling bells. Then he would hand out the wrapped presents amid the excited chatter of little Folk who sat before him.

Significant to those who call Óðinshof home, it was Thorgrun who contacted the realtor who would lead us to the old Grange Hall in Brownsville. That act changed the lives of

us all. In the manifestation as the First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly, he brought in his towering god-poles, Óðinn – Þórr – Freyr, that finally had a permanent home. Over time, he donated other items to the Hof from his personal collection as a Goði.

Besides fruit trees, Thorgrun planted rare conifers at Óðinshof in an overgrown area next to the cemetery. Through the efforts of our Folkbuilders, it has become a sacred spot now called Thorgrun's Grove. It already feels like a healing-place with a waterfall and bench for quiet contemplation. We all hoped it would be Thorgrun's place of recuperation, but that wasn't meant to be. It will forever be Thorgrun's place of peace and healing for others.

Thorgrun lived out his last years as an emissary of Freyr, his task to bring abundance, wisdom, and peace to this place he called home. His will-to-live could not override the timing-out of his body. Thorgrun passed to his Ancestors with Katie by his bedside, on July 10th. His Memorial Service took place on his 78th birthday, August 18, 2024.

Alsherjargoði Matthew Flavel wrote a brilliant piece for the August Runestone, one that I've shared with many people. He commemorates Thorgrun's life as an AFA Goði, and also Goði David Byron James who passed through the veil in 2014. Once a Goði, always a Goði. In this world and beyond.

Thorgrun's Grove will be a main beautification project at Óðinshof for years to come. His spirit and dreams reside there more than any other place. May he continue to inspire us to further the work he began in Miðgarðr.

We appreciate all of the family members who came to celebrate his life: grandchildren Abigail Roth and Benjamin Roth from Reno; Thorgrun's sister, Cheryll McKowan and her granddaughter Willow; son Josh Thompson and his wife Theresa from Turlock; Katie's sister-in-law Lola Fuhs, with her daughters, Jessica and DeAnna who drove out from Wisconsin.



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Survivor or Conqueror: A Change in Perspective



When our parents brought us into this world, they did so with the understanding that life is good, but never easy. Everything that the Nornir have woven for us will inevitably have some impact on us—either positive or negative. These events build up and become an integral part of who we are, for better or for worse. However, we can mitigate some of the negative impact by changing the way we think about negative events, the way we react to future events, and even the frame in which we view ourselves.



How we view ourselves in our mind's eye is so much more important than we might think. We are all something of a "character" in our own heads. Maybe your character is a winner or a loser, a genius or a moron, a warrior or a poet, a champion or a couch potato.

I urge you to think on how you view yourself, and to ask yourself what negative events contributed to this perception of yourself.

When looking at these negative events, do you see them as defeats? As missteps? Or as trials?

If you see unfortunate events in your life as defeats that you simply suffered through, I would encourage you to change that. If you are still here and reading this and standing with the Æsir and the AFA, then you are not defeated. You are more than a survivor, and your mindset must reflect that.

View your negative experiences as trials that you conquered, or at least learned from. Every new day is another chance to grasp victory, to reforge a part of yourself in the fires of struggle.



Shed the “survivor” mindset, the self-pitying and self-fulfilling prophecy! Don the armor of the conqueror, with your loyalty to the Æsir as your weapon! Every day is a mountain to climb and a skill to gain! Your ancestors did not give us this life so that we could merely trudge through it with our heads down!

Goði Trent East

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The Wild Hunt: The Aegis of Óðinn



The Wild Hunt is well known among Ásatrúar. The army of the dead, the Einherjar, led by Óðinn upon the fall storms when the veil between the living and the dead is at its thinnest. Tales of armies of the dead stretch across time from its undoubted Indo-European origin, to the troops in ancient India of the Maruts led by Rudra, to the Mesnie Hellequin of the Middle Ages, and even in more modern times, Tolkein draws upon this lore for the dead men of Dunharrow.

Over the centuries, there have been many names for this ghostly troop, and even more tales; the Furious Army, the Wild Army, along with the Wild Hunt and the Mesnie Hellequin. This is one of the more recent terms for this procession of spirits that roamed the European countryside. In France, it came to mean people who assembled to commit acts contrary to good character, but that probably just meant there was a whiff of paganism.

Originally the Wild Hunt was associated with the coming of Autumn and the thinning of the veil, but in the 13th and 14th centuries, and with the predominancy of Christianity, it was said the host came in troubled times to rouse the fighting spirit.

One of the first to see the connection between the leader of the Wild Hunt and Óðinn was Jacob Grimm. He studied the Furious Army and the Wild Army of the regions to the east of the Rhine, and in their leader, he saw a form of Óðinn that had been downgraded by Christianity to the rank of a ghostly figure.

People have also seen other gods as the leader of the Wild Hunt, but they do not hold up. One is Þórr, because of the storms always associated with the coming of the Furious Army. But this connection is misplaced, due to that the storm is not associated with the leader, but with the troop of the dead. There is a long association with the dead and storms. In Switzerland, people still say “the Turscht is on the hunt” or “it is as if the Turscht was hunting” when a strong autumn wind blows or a heavy winter rages. In the Thun region, the passage of the Furious Army is accompanied by a great rumbling, and when the Waldhooli blows his horn, the weather is going to turn foul.

Another god associated with the Wild Hunt is Freyr, but this connection is even more tenuous than Þórr. With a painting by Lucas Cranach the Elder called Melancholy from 1532 depicting a Furious Army lead by a figure on a wild boar and the pig being one of the most often cited ghost animals, the connection falls apart when you realize the rider of the boar in the painting was a woman with a spear.

Of the animals associated with the Wild Hunt, none is more prominent than the horse. The Infernal Throng often consists of warriors and horsemen, and as the god of war and the owner of Sleipnir, Óðinn is right at home in this context. The horse’s role as psychopomp is well attested and ancient. Sleipnir literally carries Óðinn to Helheimr and back. His function as the master of Jöl, through his knowledge of necromancy and other magical practices, solidifies his role at the head of the Furious Army.

In closing, I’ll note how Otto Hofler, like Grimm, proposed “the priority of the ecstatic worship over mythic legend is the reflection of secret German ecstatic cults” and the

reflection of the rites binding warriors within a brotherhood, placed beneath the ægis of Óðinn.

So, whether it's another winter or turbulent times, when you hear the horn on the wind, the Furious Army is moving, and our Folk are roused to meet the challenges ahead.

Hail Óðinn!



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Runic Thoughts



Life is meant to be a ritual. Not a grandiose show with snakes and gibberish, but an exchange with the Divine that rebuilds our inner temples. We saw that we indeed had a home, and we started walking toward it. Day by day we build that inner sacred space. We are becoming the people that we once were, openly seeking a relationship with OUR Gods. When that cycle built itself up enough, we turned that outwards. We sought physical temples and sacred spaces. In front of the world, we praised the Gods of our ancestors, and revived our Folksoul. Our ritual continues, and we are coming home.



It seems that there is always something occurring that we don't like. Be it on a micro or larger level, there's always going to be something that riles the masses. The easy thing to do is to allow the indignation around you to seep in and carry you off in a dust cloud of temporary feelings. The noble thing to do, however is to stand where you are. Stay solid and upright. This is what our people need. Become the iron, as opposed to the dust.



This is not a solo venture. For us to fully realize who we are, we need to get out of our own space, and enter the space of the Folk. The Folk are bigger than just one, we are stronger, and we rise faster together.

Being among the Folk makes us better. It breaks us out of our own headspace, and shows us how our world can be. Whenever we gather to raise a horn and exchange gifts with our Gods, we are where we need to be. There is no substitute for that.



What's in your blood?

Our blood contains the building blocks of who we are and the people that came before us. It contains our history, the rich tapestry of your personal heritage. It is not something to merely throw away in a fit of blackpilled pique. Take these gifts, and use them to build something more valuable than anything else. With this blood we build our future.



A healthy spine supports the entire physical body. If any portion of that series of bones falls into disrepair, your overall well-being will suffer. The same can be said for your spiritual spine. Maintain your resilience and strength emotionally and spiritually as you would the physical. Standing up straight is more than a physical ability. It is vital to maintain that mental and spiritual uprightness when faced with challenges.



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The Runestone - A Throwback

Abide No Strife and Build Bright Flame

from *The Runestone*, October 2021



Germanische Tracht zur Eisenzeit
um 400 n. d. Z.

Everyone who joins the Asatru Folk Assembly agrees to the [Declaration of Purpose](#), the [Statement of Ethics](#), and the [Law of the Hall](#). From my own personal experience and from speaking with so many fellow AFA members through the years, I know that the Declaration of Purpose is what inspires Folk and that the Statement of Ethics is our foundation. These differentiate us from the outside world; they define what makes us Ásatrú.

But we don't talk about the Law of the Hall often enough. This document is not primarily about how we deal with the outside world or what sets us apart from it, even in positive terms. It is primarily about how we deal with one another. In fact, it is an ethical demand of what we OWE to one another as members of an Innangarðr.

Abide no strife in the hall or between kin. One must be able to speak one's mind candidly, but disagreements must never exceed the bounds of respect or courtesy. All within the hall are brothers and sisters and are to be treated appropriately.

Build bright fame, not dark disdain, for those who dwell in the hall. Our deeds and words must be such that the reputation of the Asatru Folk Assembly, and of Ásatrú as a whole, grows more glorious because of our presence. Do good to your kin, grow in your might and main...and when we disagree among ourselves, let it be done out of the sight of others.

We can all do better at these. They seem obvious but are tremendously difficult. Social media is socially flawed. It doesn't matter what platform, or whether its public or private. Social media is inherently anti-social because it doesn't communicate nuance or feelings. Let's all commit to being very careful with it. When we get angry or offended by something on social media, reach out directly to the person and remember they are kin, a brother or sister.



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Ásatrú Trúlögmál



Ásatrú Trúlögmál: The fundamental beliefs of the Asatru Folk Assembly.

You can find it on our website at <https://www.runestone.org/asatru-trulogmal>.

We have known for a long time that a clear expression of the fundamental beliefs of the AFA was needed and recently, we took the first steps in presenting that in a clear and straight forward way. Please know this is the first step and is by no means all-encompassing. The intention here is to express the very fundamentals of our religion in one place, in a way that is easy for our AFA family to reference as well as a document to explain our religion to those who ask: "What is it that you guys believe?"

Hail the Heroes of Ásatrú that paved the way!

Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

Hail the Æsir!

Matthew D. Flavel

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The Quest for Freyshof

“Njördr in Nóatún begot afterward two children: the son was called Freyr, and the daughter Freyja; they were fair of face and mighty. Freyr is the most renowned of the Æsir; he rules over the rain and the shining of the sun, and therewithal the fruit of the earth; and it is good to call on him for fruitful seasons and peace. He governs also the prosperity of men.”

– Gylfaginning



[Freyshof Fund – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](http://runestone.org)

This sacred quest has had a great start so far! The generosity has been amazing, as always!

This is the list of things that need to happen before we can make Freyshof a reality:

1. We need to pay off Njörðshof.
 - The first of 2 loans have been paid off!
 - We now owe \$78,841 on our remaining loan.
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 6.9%.
 - This is membership dues/Hoftollar plus other donations.
3. We need to locate a suitable property.
4. We need to find lenders and build a war chest.



This is not a "quick" process so stay patient and resolute. As we progress, I will keep you all updated on our progress!

Hail Freyr!



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Sigrheim: Home of Victory

Support the Home of Victory



Help Sigrheim get stocked
and ready for our Folk!

Donate Supplies
from our
wishlist ✨ ✨ ✨
amazon

Thank You!

CLICK HERE

Upcoming Events

A sign for Sigrheim WORK DAYS. The text 'Sigrheim' is in purple, 'WORK' is in orange and brown, and 'DAYS' is in green, blue, and pink. The sign is set against a background of a dirt path and greenery. A grey box on the right contains the text: 'Every ~~First~~ Weekend of Every Month starting May through the Fall'. At the bottom, it says 'RSVP U1/ PRICE@RUNESTONE.ORG'.

Sigrheim
WORK
DAYS

Every
~~First~~ Weekend
of Every Month
starting May
through the Fall

RSVP U1/ PRICE@RUNESTONE.ORG

Winter Nights at Sigrheim



October 19th at 830pm

RSVP to
nrice@runestone.org



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

Upcoming Events



Sigrheim Family Camping Trip, November 23-24

Please join us as we camp out at the Home of Victory, Sigrheim! We'll be camping out in the lower field, hiking along the old road to the summit and future home of Týrshof, and exploring an old cemetery. We also have a good bit of work planned; we will be clearing some downed trees, cleaning up headstones, and digging a set of steps, so also come ready to work. Let's lend Folkbuilder Nick Rice some helping hands while doing service to our Folk and the Æsir.



Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea
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Victory Never Sleeps

The graphic is a promotional poster for the podcast 'Victory Never Sleeps'. It features a central image of a large, multi-story house at night. The text 'The Asatru Folk Assembly Presents' is written in a stylized font above the house. Below the house, the title 'Victory Never Sleeps!' is written in a large, bold font, followed by 'Wednesdays at 6PM Pacific / 8PM Central'. The background is a dark, textured surface with various social media icons and links. On the left side, there are icons for VK (vk.com/AsatruFolkAssembly), Entropystream (entropystream.live/app/MattFlavel), and YouTube (youtube.com/@AsatruFolkAssembly). On the right side, there are icons for Odysee (odysee.com/@AsatruFolkAssembly:e), Rumble (rumble.com/AsatruFolkAssembly), and Twitter (twitter.com/FolkAsatru). At the top center, the Twitch logo and URL (twitch.tv/victoryneversleeps) are displayed. In the center, there is a circular logo with a white triskelion symbol on a dark background, surrounded by a laurel wreath.

Victory Never Sleeps, a weekly podcast produced by the Asatru Folk Assembly, hosted by Alsherjargothi Matthew Flavel alongside weekly guests. The show doesn't stop until the questions stop rolling in. Come listen and learn about a variety of topics and truths relevant to our modern Asatru Folk.

Aesir. Virtues. Heroes. Doctrine. Beliefs. Cosmology. Runes. Holidays. Literature. Lore.

Help [support](#) the stream and keep the cameras rolling!

Catch us LIVE with new episodes on Wednesdays at 8pm Central / 6pm Pacific on YouTube, Twitter, Entropy, Odyssee, VK, Rumble, and Twitch. Audio versions drop on Spotify, Apple Podcast, iHeartRadio, and Amazon Podcasts on the Friday after the new episodes air.

Check out the full playlist with 100's of hours of previous recordings on our [YouTube](#).



We've also got merch over at the [Runestone Store](#)! Go check it out!

Matthew D. Flavel



Alsherjargoði, Asatru Folk Assembly
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AFA Homeschool Program



Check out the Asatru Academy at AsatruAcademy.org



We've also got merch over at the [Runestone Store!](#) Go check it out!

Letter from the Assistant Dean



Autumn is upon us; and our Ásatrú Academy children are ready to explore all the delights of the coming season. The Waldorf curriculum supports the crafting, nature experiences, cooking, and stories that we associate with fall-culture, Halloween, and our own Winter Nights celebration in honor our ancestral mothers.

As my personal introduction, much of my attention is given to Óðinshof District, but I'm officially an Assistant Dean of the Ásatrú Academy program as well. Having taught in the public school system for thirty years, I support the need for parents taking the lead in their children's education. Ásatrú Academy does exactly that. Parent can choose the full Waldorf curriculum option, or the adjunct AFA religious instruction which is there for all enrollees.

Academy Dean and Goði Rob Stamm alongside Witan Brandy Fassett are making sure that we have the necessary documents for legal compliance in states where our families

live. This is a complex project for our staff who are compiling documents to help all parents meet state homeschooling requirements and deadlines.



Another focus is to have Ásatrú Academy staff known as Education Coaches, communicating regularly with our families, on whatever schedule works best for the parents. My role is to add supplemental materials to our current curriculum to meet state mandates and requests by parents. Adding to our religious education offerings will be continual process.

If you have the time and the background to support an aspect of Asatru Academy, talk to one of our staff members. One goal is to add to our [library](#) of Storytime videos, including adding videos for some of our older grade levels. Folkbuilder Nick Rice can tell you exactly what we're looking for. nrice@runestone.org

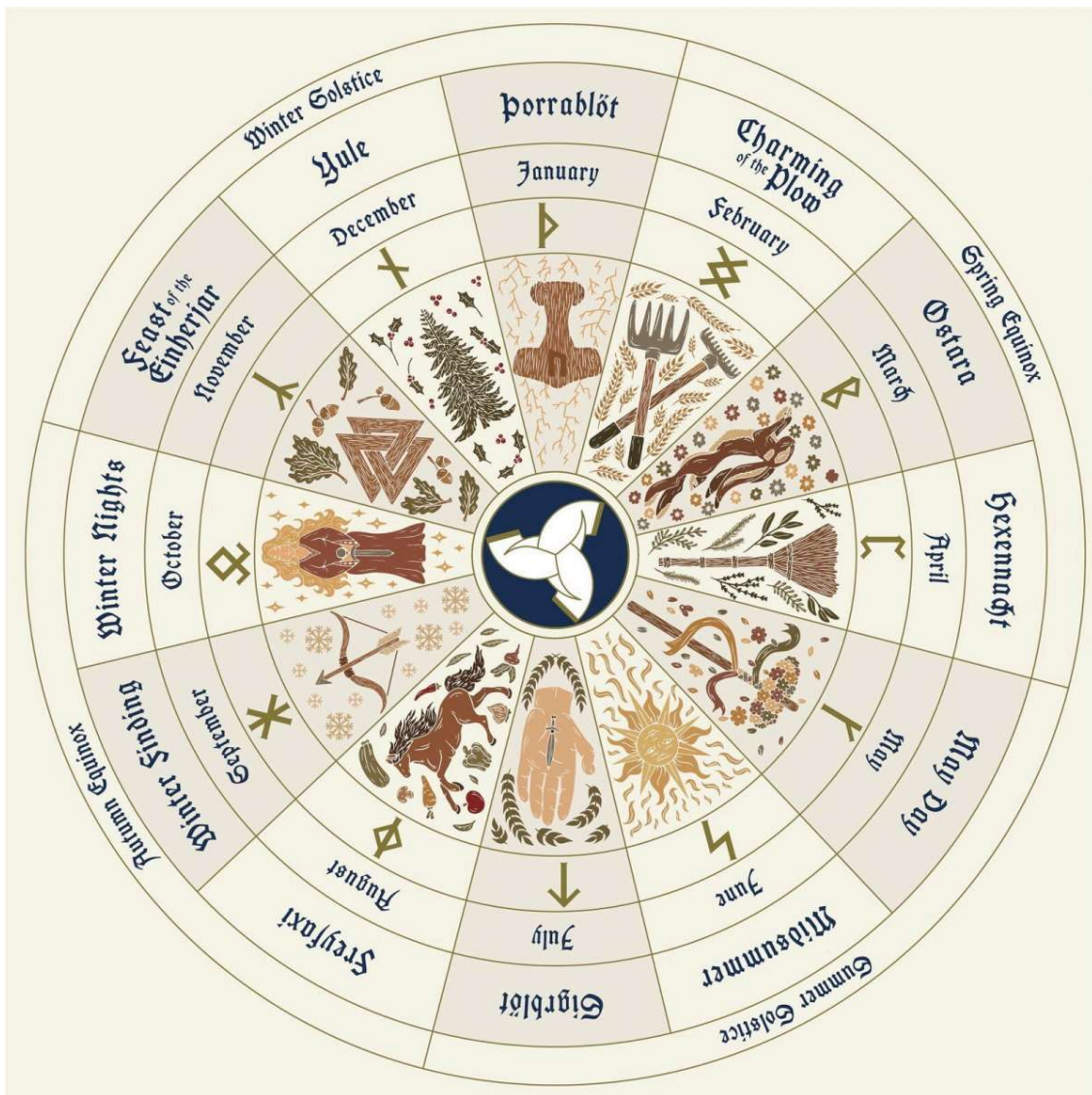
Thank you for supporting our program and encouraging our families to participate. Our enrollment is up to 38 students in grades K-6, but we do have room for more. Talk to

us! Email us at academy@runestone.org or feel free to use the Contact Us form at AsatruAcademy.org.



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Remembrance and Holy Days



2024

| Date | Observance |
|------------------------------------|---|
| January 9 | Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong |
| January 20 | Porrablót |
| February 1 | Day of Remembrance for King Eanfrith of Bernicia |
| February 9 | Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi |
| February 17 | Charming of the Plow |
| March 9 | Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg |
| March 19 (observed on 16th) | Ostara |
| April 9 | Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon |
| April 10 | Day of Remembrance for John Yeowell “Stubba” |
| April 30 (observed on 20th) | Hexennacht |
| May 9 | Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen |
| May 1 (observed on 18th) | May Day |
| June 9 | Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths |
| June 20 (observed on 15th) | Midsummer |
| July 4 | Day of Remembrance for Sveinbjorn Beinteinsson |
| July 9 | Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills |
| July 20 | Sigrblót |
| August 1 | Day of Remembrance for King Osric of Deira |
| August 9 | Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia |
| August 17 | Freyfaxi |
| September 9 | Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci |
| September 22 (observed on 21st) | Winter Finding |
| October 1 | Day of Remembrance for John Gibbs-Bailey "Hoskuld" |
| October 9 | Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List |
| October 15 | Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen |
| October 19 | Winter Nights |
| November 9 | Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden |

| Date | Observance |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| November 11 (observed on 16th) | Feast of the Einherjar |
| December 9 | Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson |
| December 20 | Mother's Night |
| December 20-31 (observed on 21st) | Yuletide |

October



Asatru Holidays - October 2024 - Hoskuld | von List | McNallen | Winter Nights
<https://youtu.be/pMtXssPfZas>

Days of Remembrance

John Gibbs-Bailey | October 1st



‡ May 22, 1913 - January 1, 2003 †

John Gibbs-Bailey, better known as Hoskuld, was a very private man. There are no known photographs of him, and even those in the highest positions within the Odinic Rite knew very little about his personal life. His birth date, as well as the date of his death are not commonly known. Despite this lack of information, the legacy of Hoskuld is one that continues to impact Ásatrúar today.

While we do not have much information about his life, it is commonly known that Gibbs-Bailey had an interest in organized Ásatrú since at least the 1930s. Throughout the years, Gibbs-Bailey realised that in order to truly organize Ásatrúar, he would need a strong foundation and doctrine. Gibbs-Bailey met John Yeowell in the late 1950s, and in 1973, they founded the Committee for the Restoration of the Odinic Rite.

During the early years of the Odinic Committee, Gibbs-Bailey held a more public role. He began to use the name Hoskuld, one he had adopted from the name of Hoskuld Dalla-Kolson, an Icelandic Goði who lived in the tenth century CE.

It was also during this time that many of Hoskuld's ideas on doctrine were recorded. The most notable examples of this being the Nine Noble Virtues. Although Hoskuld had been working on the Nine Noble Virtues for many years by this point, it was not until his partnership with Stubba that they took on their current format. Prior to this, there were only eight virtues, and they were not in the same order used today.

In the late 1970s, it was decided amongst the two founders that Stubba would begin to take on a more public facing role and Hoskuld would step back from the spotlight. In 1980, after Stubba renamed the organization The Odinic Rite, Hoskuld was named the

first treasurer. Not much else is known about the life and deeds of Hoskuld after this point.

Despite the lack of biographical information, we can still learn from the life of Hoskuld. The very Virtues by which we live our lives as Ásatrúar was first compiled by Hoskuld and form a foundation for all those of our faith.

On October 1st, 2023, the AFA marked the first official celebration of a Day of Remembrance for John Gibbs-Bailey, known as “Hoskuld.”

Hail Hoskuld!



Folkbuilder Ali Clausen
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Meister Guido von List | October 9th



‡ October 5, 1848 - May 17, 1919 †

Born in October of 1848 in Vienna, Guido Karl Anton List was the son of a prosperous middle-class family who traded and worked in the Leather goods industry. Raised a Roman Catholic, List found his love of mythology and history early in life, often acknowledging that his belief in the Æsir, and Óðinn in particular, developed during these young years. A scholar, painter, and writer, his big ambition was to live his life doing the things he loved. His father, however, pressured him strongly into taking over the family business.

In his spare time, he continued to write and paint. He also took part in several leisure sports clubs, such as rowing and mountaineering. During one of his many trips List purportedly left his group to spend a solitary midsummer atop Geiselberg hillfort. Here, it is said, he reaffirmed his belief in Óðinn. Upon the death of his father in 1877 List abandoned his family business in favor of pursuing his writing passion.

Despite being an avid believer of Óðinn, he married his second wife in a Protestant ceremony in 1899. This didn't hamper his writing or his influence, however, and by 1902 when his writings took on a different direction, he was a prolific and well-known voice in the nationalist and Volkish movements.

It was in 1902 that von List had his great epiphany. After a cataract surgery left him blind for eleven months, List was left with much time for reflection and meditation. During this time he discovered the Armanen runes. He called this set of runes the Proto-language of the Aryan race. It was through these runes that von Lists occult ideas and writings evolved.

The popularity of his ideas exploded amongst the wealthy, middle class of Austria and Germany at the time and the Guido-von-Gesellschaft was born. The von-List society further evolved and on the Midsummer of 1911, the inner group called the High Armanist Order was created. While the main group focused on his occult and political ideologies, the inner group was dedicated to the worship of Óðinn through his writings and sacred pilgrimages.

With food shortages after the war and old-age creeping up on him, von List's health deteriorated and in May of 1919 he passed away at the age of 71. His body was cremated and buried in an urn in the Vienna central cemetery, Zentralfriedhof.

Among his many novels, plays, and political manuscripts it was his first dedicated occult manuscript, "Das Geheimnis der Runen" or "The Secret of the Runes," that really sets Guido von List up as a forefather of modern Ásatrú, influencing many including the Ásatrú hero Alexander Rud Mills.

We can never anticipate when the spark of inspiration will lead to the flame of an idea. It's easy to look at that inspiration and say that it isn't real, or it's just the imagination going crazy. With faith, however, our limitations can be cast off. Have faith in the Æsir. Have faith in our Ancestors and in our Folk soul. Have faith in yourself. Each one of us can accomplish great things if we work hard enough and maintain our faith.

Guido von List is the dedicated hero of Óðinshof. For more information and a deeper dive into the life and acts of Meister von List, check out Odinshof.org.

Hail Meister Guido von List!

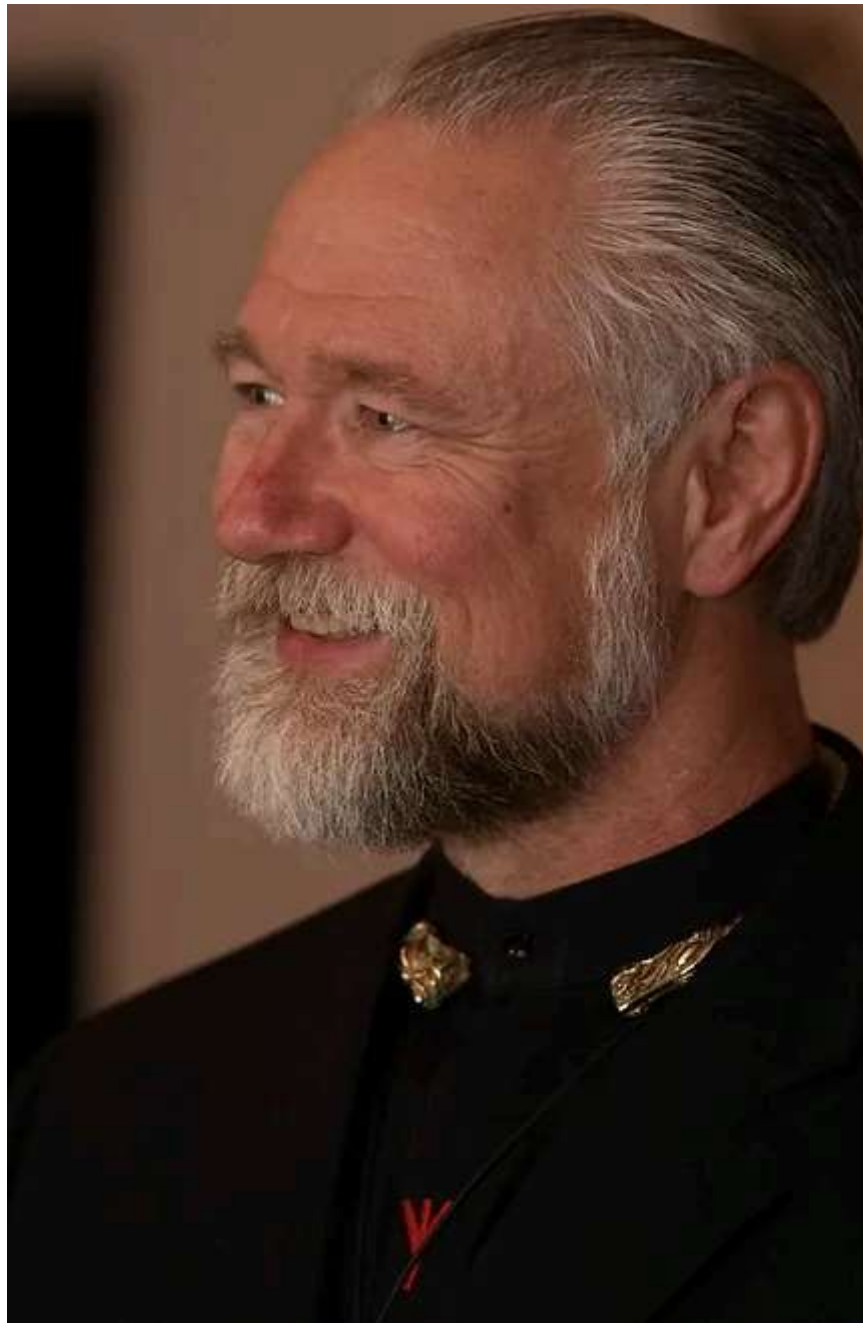
Hail Óðinn!



Gyðja Catie Erickson
cm.erickson@runestone.org

Happy Birthday

Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen | October 15th



"Anyone who has raised a horn in honor of our ancestral Gods, has done so because of, or in spite of, Stephen McNallen."

Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel. Ostara In the South, March 2020

This month we celebrate the birth of our Founder, Stephen McNallen. Before he became the Father of Modern Ásatrú, before he started a religious movement on his own, before the Kennewick Man, he was born in a small rural town in Texas in 1948.

"On a more intimate level, I chose my parents well: My father was a hard-working, Irish Catholic oil hand who had come to Texas for the oil boom some years earlier,

and my mother was a loving, kind, and intelligent woman who – significantly – bought me the books I wanted and read them to me.”

Founder McNallen developed an interest in pre-Christian religion in college after reading the book *The Viking*, by Edison Marshall. In 1968 or 69, he dedicated himself to worship the Gods of Europe. In 1969-70, he founded the first Ásatrú church in the new world, The Viking Brotherhood, which gained tax exempt status in 1972. He began writing and distributing *The Runestone* which was hand typed and copied on a mimeograph machine.

“At first it was a private thing, but then I began quietly promoting the religion – which at that point I simply called “Norse paganism,” as I had no name for it. I really was starting from scratch. About the time of my graduation from college, I started a minuscule publication called *The Runestone*. I cranked it out on a mimeograph machine (!) – the first run was eleven copies. Within a year or so – August 29, 1972 – I had received recognition of the Viking Brotherhood as a tax-exempt religious organization.”

After reading Magnus Magnusson’s book, *Hammer of the North*, where first heard the word Asatru, Founder McNallen began to use and promote his religious ideal as Ásatrú, rather than Odinism.

At some point during his time in the US Army, Founder McNallen began to adopt the belief that Ásatrú was a religion of the peoples of Europe, rather than being a religion for all, thus adopting Folkism. In 1976, after being discharged from the Army, he renamed the Viking Brotherhood to the Asatru Free Assembly. in 1987, Steve dissolved the Free Assembly.

After seeing what American Ásatrú had developed into, which denied that Ásatrú was a uniquely ethnic faith, Mr. McNallen stepped back into the Ásatrú scene. Establishing the Asatru Folk Assembly. The emphasis on Folk to differentiate from the universalist lie that threatened to take hold of our ancestral faith.

“It flourished. Over the years it grew, and I wrote *Asatru: A Native European Spirituality*, which defines my convictions and purpose. We purchased a permanent building which became Odinshof – our first temple to the Gods. The AFA has since expanded to include four Hofs in the USA and continues to grow. In 2016, after leading the Asatru Folk Assembly for 20 years, I turned it over to a younger generation and started the next phase of my service to my Gods and to my Folk.”



In the years since Mr. McNallen retired, he has remained an active participant at Óðinshof with charitable giving and contributing in any way possible.

It is often said that we stand on the shoulders of giants, and none are more giant than that of our Founder, the First Alsherjargoði.

Thank you, and Happy Birthday, Mr. McNallen, from all of us in the Asatru Folk Assembly.

Witan Daniel Young
dyoung@runestone.org



Holiday

Winter Nights | October 19th



Autumn has officially started. The days are noticeably shorter. The nights are noticeably cooler. The trees are ablaze with the colors of Fall and the crunching of the fallen leaves underfoot has begun. All around us the world is dying. This was a time of drawing in close, of hearth and home and family. For our ancestors, this was not an Autumn festival, but a quiet Winter rite in which the female spirits were honored in a rite called Disirblót.

Today, Winter Nights is often seen as a death of the physical world, the world we can see, and the reawakening of the intangible. It is the world of high energy, of spirits. It is

that deeper feeling and connection to the things we know to be there. This is the time we honor our Disir—our female ancestors. We remember that without our ancient mothers we could not be. They cared for the home and the hearth fires. They cared for their families. Our ancient mothers, with strength and determination, raised the next generation against odds we cannot really begin to fathom.

With the harvests finished, there is a quiet lull before we turn our minds to the hectic holiday season. Now is a good time to turn inward in introspection, and to self-improvement. It is also the time to meditate on things of a more spiritual nature. Connect to the energy that is always there.



Gyðja Catie Erickson
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Upcoming National Event

Winter Nights XIII | October 11th-13th



Started in 2012, the Asatru Folk Assembly's Winter Nights festival was hosted at a beloved camp in Pennsylvania for its first decade. Winter Nights has since been hosted in Ohio and in Tennessee and this year Winter Nights XIII will be held from October 11th – 13th, in Cheshire County, New Hampshire!

This long-running AFA festival is dedicated to our ancestral mothers, the Disir. When the harvest is in, the summer plants have died off, and the winter is quickly approaching the veil between the living and dead is said to be at its thinnest. Again, we will gather to worship our Gods, Goddesses, and Ancestral Mothers. We build upon the success of the Asatru Folk Assembly by making new friends and renewing old friendships. We look forward to seeing members and friends!

Your registration fee includes all workshops, lectures, meals, tent sites, and of course our holy rites. Only AFA members and vouched-for guests will be admitted to this event. 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.

Winter Nights Ætt Troy, NH Oct. 11th-13th



Friday
 12:00 Arrival
 13:00 Lunch
 15:00 Welcoming of the Gods
 16:00 Presentation by Folkbuilder Jon Rock
 17:00 Blot by Alsherjargothi Matt Flavel
 19:00 Supper

Saturday
 08:30 Breakfast
 10:00 Adults vs kids battle
 11:00 Women's Group / Men's Group
 12:00 Lunch
 13:00 Presentation by Folkbuilder Mike Melillo
 14:00 Osteomancy with Gythia Catie Erickson
 15:00 Folk services
 17:00 Auction
 18:30 Supper
 20:30 Disir Blot
 22:00 Sumbel

Sunday
 09:00 Breakfast
 11:00 Wayfarer's Blot

Things to know:

- Children 17 and under attend for free!
- Meals are included with all passes.
- You will need to bring your own bedding and it can get COLD at night, so plan accordingly.
- Accommodations are on-site tent camping. Bring your tent!
- Please contact Witan Clifford Erickson if you will attend.
- Guests, please include the name of the AFA member who is vouching for you.

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

Get your tickets [HERE!](#)



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Feast of the Einherjar | November 8th-10th



Mark your calendars. Join your Folk in honoring our warrior ancestors and those that still fight for the Folk today! Meet us in South Dakota for the 4th Annual Feast of the Einherjar, November 8-10. Ticket includes all meals, lodging, Folk activities, and ceremonies.

Get your tickets [HERE!](https://runestone.org)



Goði Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@runestone.org

Freyrs Harvest Feast - A Recap

The Dream is Alive at Folkvangr



Over the last four years, Freyrs Harvest Feast has become the flagship event of the Pacific Northwest, and it's been an honor to go from being simply a guest to part of the crew behind the scenes making it happen. Essentially a Winter Finding celebration under a different name possessing a unique charm all it's own, each of the Feast's respective three days is dedicated to one of the Vanir, with Freyr's day in the middle being the most prominent. The 2022 iteration at Camp Easton on the shores of Lake

Couer D'Alene was my first ever AFA event, and where I met the people I now consider my best friends, so it's safe to say this particular event holds a special place in my heart. Though the number of scheduled events was dialed back to a certain degree, the general consensus from everyone I've talked to seems to agree with my assessment that this was the best one so far (as much as I'm able to judge; I missed the very first one).



As far as any of us on staff were concerned, the Feast really began about a week prior to it's scheduled opening day. Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein made the journey all the way out to Spokane to assist myself and Chad Reis in carving a god pole out of a downed pine tree in my yard. None of us had any woodcarving experience, decorative or otherwise, and the Óðinn pole in question turned out fantastic all things considered. Initial carving was done in roughly eight or nine hours split between the three of us. Once that was done, we threw it in the back of Tyler's pickup and made the five hundred some odd mile journey out to Billings to gather the rest of the supplies, and from there it was a straight shot back to Folkvangr. The rest of the week was spent putting the finishing touches on the Meadery and helping put out a fire down the street that may or may not have been the result of someone failing to take proper welding precautions. The world may never know.



For those of you that have never been to Eastern Montana, it still feels to this day like the edge of the known world. With its vast, almost Martian expanses of relatively untouched steppe land, labyrinthine canyon networks and the most spectacular lightning storms I've ever seen, it's Miðgarðr in a more primal state than what most of us are accustomed to these days. It really is the perfect setting to celebrate and give thanks to the Gods of Natural Law.



Our Alsherjargoði as well as Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea from North Carolina joined us for the festivities this year, and it was an honor as well as a blast to have them both out and I can only hope they return in the coming years. Powerful rituals, great conversation, fantastic Folk in a one-of-a-kind setting. I want to thank everyone who came out and everyone who made this event what it is. Freyrs Harvest Feast is here to stay, so make it out if you can. It's not going anywhere anytime soon.



Nick Gunn
Apprentice Folkbuilder
ngunn@runestone.org

Victory at Freyrs Harvest Feast



Having taken some time to reflect since Freyrs Harvest Feast ended this year, I have concluded that this year marked the fourth year as the best so far. Many small changes over the years have taken place to make the event structure itself optimal and this contributed to our success this year.



Even more obvious, the changes to the venue site have had major positive impacts to the feast as well.



Our first year was around ten of us and we had rented a campsite for the night and the dining hall for the day at an old summer camp. The first day we had a few activities, gave blot to Njörðr and ate brats by the water. The next morning, we gave thanks for the harvest. Most of us had barely gardened but for me the harvest had been remarkable. On less than an acre we gleaned ten families' worth of produce. Foolishly, not a single item of that harvest made it to the table that half weekend. Instead, people ate snacks from their cars the next morning, we discussed Lord Freyr, and we packed up and went home. It was hardly an illustrious occasion, but it got me thinking bigger and better for the following year.



Our second year we did a major overhaul. Three whole days and we rented out the Hall, the kitchen and some cabins. We had a much larger attendance. Our activities evolved to include workshops, and we formalized the Viking games to include rules and a prize. That year Freyrs Harvest Feast took the form it's known for. It was a great time despite some difficulties of the venue shutting water off for the year. We put out a Thanksgiving feast turkey and all without running water anyway. It stamped our area with an attitude of resourcefulness and an indomitable will.



When I purchased my homestead there was much to do. Outbuildings were filled with trash from the previous owner. I had to establish, fence, and develop the field for my livestock. The land was a mess and the structure that has since become my meadery was a steal skeleton completely unfinished and unfurnished. But it gave us a beautiful opportunity.



The third Freyrs Harvest Feast could now be hosted on an Asatru Folk Assembly member's property and so we did. We had a massive trucker tent for a roof when the unexpected and out of season storm smashed down on us. Some tents flooded, those set up correctly did not. The place was certainly a work in progress, but the event came out great regardless. We were fortunate enough to have Founder McNallen and his wife Gyðja McNallen join us and bring their wisdom to our event. We had refined our workshops. The food now saw a fair bit of attendees' produce added to it. It was the second year Aaron Simbeck out of Washington had provided all the seafood requirements from his hooks and nets. It was beautiful what we put together as a community with how little time and resources we had. But the biggest factor is we had done it together and independently.



As I said before this year was the best yet. It's true the event site looked wonderful, especially compared to our humble beginnings. The construction of the meadery has afforded us a pleasant and cozy space to gather. A vast roof overhead replaced the Tarps and painted and decorated walls kept the wind out better than open space and desire ever could. We were graced with both good weather and our Alsherjargoði, Matt Flavel himself. Our Vé space has a new God Pole, and our Blótar were as beautiful and powerful. These are all good things, but they are not the reason this year was the best yet.



The reason is simple, you guys were. It may seem cheesy but it's true. The event was a gathering of a family. This family was one built of mutual vision. It was a family forged from our labors together over the past years. The victories we experienced came from our joint labors and joint generosity.



As such, it was the extended family coming to the hall for a big harvest meal. We joked like only old friends could, shared stories of the year, and boasted our feats. We competed and we collaborated. We shared advice to young bucks and received some more from our elders.



The event was described as cozy, and I do not for a second feel like that is inaccurate, but I'll add a word: intimate. Everyone there behaved as family and shared from the heart. High Sumbl showed grit and vulnerability in equal amounts as people spoke from the heart. Our group discussions were of substance and everything we did we did together as a big family. I couldn't ask for better.

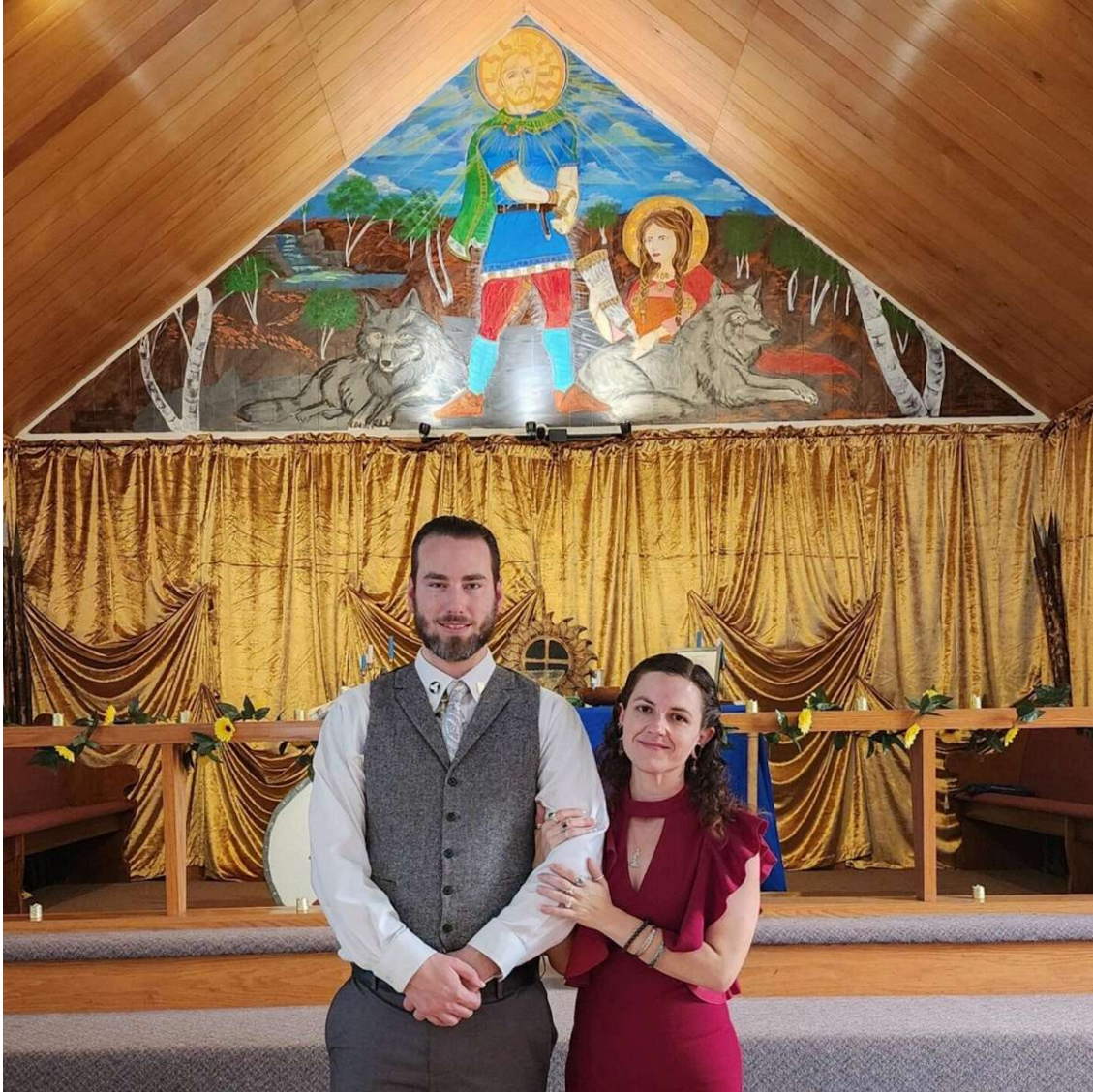


If you haven't been to Freyrs Harvest Feast you've missed out. It's a statement of fact. More so if you haven't committed to getting involved with the AFA in the real world you are missing out. Ásatrú is in the real world and these events are where we grow together. These events take strangers that share belief and forge tight bonds where we realize we are a people who share blood and our Gods. Victory doesn't happen from the basement. Victory happens at Freyrs Harvest Feast, and I can't wait to share the next year's victories with you all.



Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein
theinlein@runestone.org

Folkbuilder Spotlight



Folkbuilder Jesse Parton isn't someone working quietly behind the scenes. He is on the front lines every single day for our folk and the Æsir. He is not someone who I have to ask, "if you haven't heard of, or if you don't know Jesse", because he makes himself known every day to our Folk. Jesse has found a tremendous talent in bringing our Folk home and supporting the Church of the Æsir.

Jesse Parton is one of the strongest Folkbuilders I have ever seen, in terms of drive and will to succeed for the church. He is seemingly always on the road, getting the folk together and either hosting or attending moots that he has helped organize. His passion and dedication is inspiring to everyone he meets. I'm very glad he's a part of our church.

— Goði Bodi Mayo

I first met Jesse not too long after he joined the AFA. He was exuberant, hungry to learn, and eager to get involved.

Fast forward a couple of years and Jesse is still exuberant, hungry for knowledge and eager to get involved.

When I hear folks say “I’d go to that event, it’s just too far away,” I often think of Jesse. Folkbuilder Parton logs miles every week. One day he’s in TN, next week, Baldrshof in MN, then he’s in Texas. Distance isn’t an obstacle for him, and his dedication can’t be measured in miles. He works tirelessly behind the scenes, building the folk. He does all this because he loves it, not because it’s expected.

I like to claim to be the Founder of the Jesse Fanclub. I’m very proud of his accomplishments and look forward to seeing what he can accomplish later in life.

The bar has been raised, thanks in large part to Jesse Parton.

— Witan Daniel Young

Jesse Parton has been a constant help in building our AFA family since the very day he joined as a member over three years ago. From being an extremely helpful member at Þórshof, to the pious and hardworking Folkbuilder he is today, he never stops chasing the goal of bringing all of our Folk home to the Æsir.

— Goði Trent East



Goði Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@runestone.org

Be A Doer

We need you to volunteer for the AFA!

Yes, you. We have work to do and need folk who are artists, editors, writers, accountants, lawyers, publicists, reputation managers, professionals of all manner, technical support, web developers, system admins, tradesmen, craftswomen, and more.



See the list of amazing projects we have below. We will find a way for you to help our Folk.

Please email volunteer@runestone.org to help us make a difference in our world.

Baby Blanket Project

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 handmade — knit, crocheted, or woven — baby blanket! It's just our little way of celebrating each new addition to our folk!

This project has been going strong for nearly a year now, and 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 who is expecting a baby, please let your Folkbuilder know so we can get a blanket to you. If you would like to contribute, either financially or by volunteering as a baby blanket crafter, let your Folkbuilder know about that as well, so he can get you in touch with the right people. It's so rewarding to see your handicraft being loved by our little heathens!

Would you like a blanket for your newborn, or to donate and help with yarn costs (yarn is expensive!)? Please email babyblanket@runestone.org today!

Folk Services



For some, it may be a natural disaster. For others an unexpected change in health, and for some just an unforeseen chain of events. Whatever the case may be sometimes we find ourselves in a sticky situation, and although we try and to work and do our best to pull ourselves out, sometimes we may need the help of our Folk community to give us a hand up...

That's when our folks Services Program comes in. We give one-time monetary grants to those members in need. These folks are so grateful and we know that once they get back on track they will contribute to this fund. For those that are able, we are in need of funds so we can be prepared for when these situations arise in our community. If you're able please place a donation today. Even a small donation adds up in the grand scheme of things and even \$5 or \$10 can help if enough people pitch in. If even a fraction of the folks who like the page did that each month, imagine the possibilities!

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, please email folkservices@runestone.org.

Your contributions are earnestly solicited and of course, are tax-deductible! Please donate to Folk Services or one of our other AFA Fundraisers at <http://www.runestone.org/donate/>.

Thanks in advance!

Photo Donations

We have a real need for hi-res photographs of our members' gathering, being active in their kindreds, and showing what it means to live Asatru!

If you are willing to donate some hi-res photos for use in promotions such as the AFA Calendar, the AFA website, our publications, and more please email them to the AFA



at photos@runestone.org. The larger the resolution the better, so please email them from the device where the photo was taken.

Eir's Blessings



Everybody needs a little extra help sometimes. Women, being the frithy creatures that we are, are uniquely suited to the task of manipulating energy for the purpose of healing. Magic, you could say.

Do you have a health concern and need a little extra energy? Are you battling with a mental illness like depression or PTSD? Is your baby having a hard time with teething? If you've answered yes at all, reach out to us. Once a month women of the AFA will get together to perform healing rituals all across the globe. If you would like to be included, please send a message to let us know!

At the same time, Women of the AFA! If you are interested in helping to create a frithful, healing magic, let us know! It's easy, but it makes a huge difference to those in our community who need our help!

You can reach us at EirsBlessings@runestone.org

Last Will and Testament

Recently, several members of our AFA family have passed beyond the veil. One was an old man in ill health, two were young men in the prime of life... all died with no legal will on record. Sadly, in two of these cases, our dead AFA members did not have their wishes respected regarding their funerals nor the final resting places of their remains.



We never know when tragedy will strike. We have a responsibility to our loved ones, we have a responsibility to our own legacies, to plan for our passing, and to make our wishes known. Planning for and contemplating our death is uncomfortable. Hopefully,

we all have plenty of time for that down the road, but we can't count on that. Maybe we worry about expenses or hiring a lawyer. We all have excuses to put things off until later, unfortunately, sometimes the clock runs out before "later" happens.

We have found an amazing resource for our U.S. members to make legally binding wills in minutes online for **free**. This site also has resources to make Advanced Medical Directives and Powers of Attorney. It takes only **minutes** at <https://www.doyourownwill.com/>.

Please make your will **today**.

The AFA would like to collect signed original copies of wills for all our members and store them. We want to ensure that when members of our AFA family die, their wishes are honored. Please send these to:

Allen Turnage
PO Box 16027
Tallahassee FL, 32317



Witan Allen Turnage
aturnage@runestone.org

AFA Prison Ministry



The importance of this AFA Prison Ministry is so much more than just for those who are actually incarcerated, it benefits not only them as followers of Asatru but their families and loved ones on the outside as they will see the noticeable change in their demeanor and demand that our faith commands for them to lead a noble life. We all are future ancestors and will help them be examples of our faith and not be a burden or a product of recidivism.

We are compiling letters from prisoners that are Educational, Empowering, and Encouraging along with special spiritual writings from our Gothar to create a quarterly newsletter to be distributed to inmates, institutions, and jails. Our mission is not about providing free books or literature to bored prisoners who simply want free stuff. We intend on making real-world change for the better of our folk.

""No packed rooms in the prisons; in each institution I have only a few people; occasionally about a dozen, but 5-6 is more common. I certainly do not want the Fellowship to be a club for cons, or ex-cons; the advantage is that when in prison the inmates have time to discuss and digest what they read, a point that often is lost to people on the outside in the hubbub of daily concerns" - Else Christensen

By the example of our Folkmother, Else Christensen, we will also be going into prisons as we are able to. Some of our Gothar and other leadership, will be going into the prisons to hold study groups, lead blot, and encourage continued growth in the folk inside.

If you have a loved one who is incarcerated or know of someone who is Folkish and will benefit from this ministry, please contact us at prisonministry@runestone.org.



Or if you'd like to donate to this ministry, there's a donation earmark set up on our site [here](#). The donations will be used to get small ritual items and books into the prisons and the hands of our Folk inside.

Ancestral Food and Culture

Köttbullar



As the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisp, October invites us to gather around hearty meals that warm the Folk Soul. This month, I'm sharing a family recipe which encapsulates the essence of autumn as we celebrate Winter Nights: Swedish Köttbullar (Meatballs) with Lingonberry Sauce.

Swedish köttbullar, or meatballs, have become a beloved staple at many of our events and is a comforting way to welcome the fall season.

For the Meatballs:

- 1 cup breadcrumbs
- ½ cup milk
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 pound ground beef
- ½ pound ground pork
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon allspice (or nutmeg)
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder (optional)

For the Gravy:

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups beef broth

- ½ cup heavy cream
- Salt and pepper to taste

For Serving:

- Mashed potatoes
- Lingonberry sauce (available in stores or homemade)

1. Prepare the Meatballs:

- In a small saucepan, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the chopped onion and sauté until soft and translucent. Let it cool slightly.
- In a bowl, combine the breadcrumbs and milk, allowing the breadcrumbs to soak for a few minutes.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine the ground beef, ground pork, sautéed onions, soaked breadcrumbs, egg, salt, pepper, and allspice. Mix until just combined; do not overmix.
- Shape the mixture into small meatballs, about 1 inch in diameter.

2. Cook the Meatballs:

- In a large skillet, heat a bit of oil over medium heat. Add the meatballs in batches, cooking until they are browned on all sides and cooked through, about 8-10 minutes. Remove and set aside.

3. Make the Gravy:

- In the same skillet, melt the butter for the gravy. Whisk in the flour and cook for a minute until it forms a roux.
- Gradually whisk in the beef broth, stirring constantly to prevent lumps. Add the heavy cream and bring to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

4. Serve:

- Plate the meatballs over a bed of creamy mashed potatoes, generously drizzled with gravy. Serve with a side of tart lingonberry sauce for a perfect balance of flavors.

A Cultural Connection

Köttbullar is not just a dish; it's a symbol of Swedish hospitality and tradition. Often enjoyed during family gatherings or festive occasions, these meatballs evoke a sense of warmth and togetherness. In Sweden, they are commonly served with pickled cucumber and creamy sauce, showcasing the balance of savory and tangy that defines Nordic cuisine.

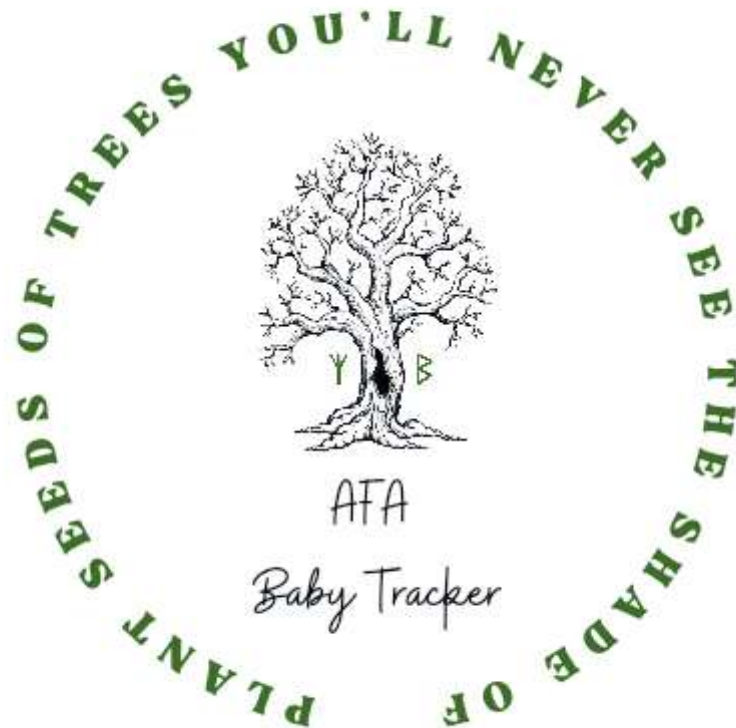
As October unfolds, let's embrace the flavors of fall with this comforting dish that brings family and folk to the table. Whether you're enjoying a cozy evening at home or hosting a moot, Swedish köttbullar with lingonberry sauce will surely warm your heart and satisfy your taste buds.



Folkbuilder Bruce Perron

bperron@runestone.org

Baby Tracker



To show the growth of our folk we present to you an ongoing baby tracker. We will be keeping track of how many children have been and are born within the AFA from 2022

and forward. The ongoing tracking is proof that we are building something sustainable for the future of our folk, which is a place for these children to grow up within and a place where they can feel proud of who they are!

Total babies born in 2024: 24

Online Events and Meetings




Being our most virtuous selves is not always the easiest task. As a community, we are home to many that have or are currently, struggling with addiction. Many traditional 12 step meeting, though so very respected, do not fall in line with what we as a people believe. Specifically, any step pertaining to the divine will or requesting the removal of any shortcomings. So, we run what we are calling the Virtue Recovery Meeting. Since we are an international organization, the best way for us to do this is online. We hold

our meetings every Thursday at 7pm Central. Join us!! Feel free to reach out to Folkbuilder Ashley McStocker with any and all questions!

AMcStocker@Runestone.org



Second and fourth Sunday of the month
10 am central
Contact Folkbuilder Ali Clausen



2024 AFA Reading Challenge!

50 books in 52 weeks!

Contact Folkbuilder Ali

Clausen for details

aclausen@runestone.org

AFA Reading Challenge Meetings



| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 1/9/24 | Link will be | 7/9/24 |
| 2/13/24 | posted on | 8/13/24 |
| 3/12/24 | MeWe the | 9/10/24 |
| 4/9/24 | weekend | 10/8/24 |
| 5/14/24 | before the | 11/12/24 |
| 6/11/24 | meeting | 12/10/24 |

CONTACT FOLKBUILDER ALI CLAUSEN FOR DETAILS
ACLAUSEN@RUNESTONE.ORG OR ON MEWE

These meetings are family friendly so please, no politics or overly mature topics

Ladies Book Study

Revolt Against the Modern World

by Julius Evola

Starting

July 11th

7 pm CST

**We will meet
every Thursday.**

**Unless there
is a national
event that
week.**



**Free PDF
and meeting link
in Mewe Ladies Group**

For more information contact

Witan Brandy Fassett

Folkbuilder Sara Ault



Our Ladies' Rune Study is just getting started! We meet on Teams every other Saturday.

Contact with any questions you might have — aplourde@runestone.org

I hope to see you there!

Lore Study with Gothi Jason Plourde

Join us every Tuesday night

at

6:00 pm EST

5:00 pm CST

4:00 pm MST

3:00 pm PST

2:00 pm AKST

**The link can be found in the AFA
Spiritual Excellence Group on Mewe.**

**For more information
reach out to Gothi Plourde
jplourde@runestone.org**

Eldri *Virtual Moots*

TUESDAYS October 8th & 22nd 5:00 PT

FRIDAYS October 11th & 25th 2:00 PT

Topics relate to the season

Gythia Sheila McNallen
sheila@runestone.org

Use the Tinyurl link:
<https://tinyurl.com/yc289cn8>

Open to All

McNallens Pub

Saturday, October 26

5:00 AkT 6:00 PT 7:00 MT 8:00 CT 9:00 ET

TOPIC: Something cool!

Just for Fun

Winter Nights Translate the runes

XQBFI

DISIR

BQTFIRM

SCQQLJ

BQT

LNACLI

PMB

SMTMTQT

QQTSTMR

QQTQBMR

AFS<

NFTQPMI

Here's an oldie but a goodie from a Winter Nights' past. Who can translate these runes? Impress us with your runic knowledge, and send in your words to press@runestone.org!

Have a wonderful Winter Nights, All!



Folkbuilder Olivia Sutherland
osutherland@runestone.org

Won't You Be My Neighbor?



**Pittsburgh
Metropolitan
Asatru**



**Asatru Folk
Assembly**

Won't You Be My Neighbor?



On behalf of **Pittsburgh Metropolitan Asatru** and the **Asatru Folk Assembly**, we are asking for your help in taking care of our precious Folk. Downtown Pittsburgh is currently home to people who need our help. We are currently working to supply the unsheltered Folk living near the mighty Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers with the very basics of survival. **We can't do this without help.** Currently, thanks to generous donations we are able to provide healthy meals once to twice a week. However, with winter fast approaching the Steel City, we know that simple meals won't be enough. **With your help**, we hope to be able to provide warm socks, coats, undergarments, and gender specific hygiene products.

Homeless Population Statistics

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Total Population | 1,026 people |
| Emergency Shelters | 857 people (84%) |
| Unsheltered | 169 people (16%) |

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Census

- **White adults** were more likely to be unsheltered (57%) than adults of other races
- The unsheltered adult population skewed slightly younger than those who were in shelter; **a third of sheltered adults were 55+** (vs. 13% of those unsheltered).
- **Veterans** made up a small percentage of both the sheltered (7%) and unsheltered (5%) populations.
- There were 93 unique households and they tended to be **younger families**, most adults were under 45 and **60% of the family shelter population was under 18.**

You can use the QR code to donate directly at the Pittsburgh Metropolitan Asatru GoFundMe page or go to:
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/wont-you-be-my-neighbor-pittsburgh-asatru>

For more information and other ways you can help please email
Apprentice Folkbuilder Ryan Fenton at:
RFenton@Runestone.org



So for the past month or so, I've been working on helping our unhoused Folk in Pittsburgh with meals a few times a week. I'd like to start to expand those efforts, especially with the coming Winter fast approaching. If that feels like something you would like to help be a part of or support, please reach out and we can work to help our Folk together.

If you're not local, there's still plenty of ways to support the work. Reach out!



Ryan Fenton
Apprentice Folkbuilder
rfenton@runestone.org

Aiding Our Appalachian Brothers and Sisters



We often speak of Victory. While we justly celebrated our harvest and comradery, a storm began to brew. By the time our esteemed guest Tyler Bethea came home from visiting us in Montana for Freyrs Harvest Feast, it had transcended into an approaching hurricane. This storm, Hurricane Helene, destroyed many areas of the Appalachian region of western North Carolina.

The damage from the storm has included catastrophic flooding, mudslides, and tornados. The number of missing individuals, as well as those who were not fortunate enough to make it has yet to be tallied as rescue crews attempt to evacuate those stranded. Among those stranded are some members of the most vulnerable communities including injured, elderly, disabled, and small children. There are many poor & rural areas with very limited resources. Devasting flooding has compromised power grids as well as water resources. Communication is crippled & many residents are reliant on air evacuation. Members of the community are in dire need of various supplies for survival.

It is in these moments our people can shine as the best example of Aryanity we can be, or we can show ourselves lacking empathy for our folk brothers and sisters caught in the devastation.

The Odinic Order of the Ulfhidnar is sending members of our Fraternal organizations, all proud members of this holy church of the Ásatrú, the AFA, down to North Carolina to work with the local members to help with the rescue and recovery of those souls trapped, injured, missing and in need of proper burial.

We will be handing out medical supplies, water and treatment tablets as well as kid care packages designed to bring light back to the children's faces. These people of our folk in many cases have lost everything and we intend to ease the burden as much as we can.

I am asking those of you reading this to lend a hand if you can. I understand many cannot make the trip or perform the work needing done, so I ask a second thing of you. Help fund this mission. I will be in North Carolina soon and parsing out supplies to those in need as well as working on the rescues and recoveries. Aid me in our work by keeping the supplies coming. Financial donations can be made at <https://store.runestone.org/product/hurricane-relief/>. We can talk to see about arranging physical donations too. If you want to help, please contact me or Tyler Bethea and we will make sure to put your generosity to good use where you can make a profound difference in survivors' lives and help make sure the death toll doesn't climb.

I spoke of Victory earlier and I meant it. Victory needs right action to continue, join me in turning this tragedy into our next Victory.



Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein
theinlein@runestone.org

AFA Physical Excellence

AFA Men's Squatober Challenge



Squat! Don't worry about how, just get it done! Log it daily then go squat some more.

The district with the most squats by month's end wins a free hof gym tank sent to a random dude.

Challenge runs October 1st-31st.

We're already started, but it's not too late to join in!

Gentlemen, now's the time to show off and add to your district's numbers. Ya might even win a free shirt!

Log your squats at [http://tinyurl.com/squatoberAFA!](http://tinyurl.com/squatoberAFA)



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Calling All Folk Photographers



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Baldrshof

Ancestor Altar



All folk are welcome to bring framed photos of their deceased loved ones to be placed on the ancestor altar at Baldrshof!

If you are unable to bring the photo, you are welcome to email a digital copy which will be printed, framed, and hung on the ancestor wall. We also ask that you provide your name, the name of your ancestors, birth and death dates of they are available, as well as a memory, story, or dedication about them. This information will be printed and placed into our book of ancestors kept next to the ancestor altar. Of course, the ancestor can

remain anonymous, but remember that our immortality is in our names and stories being spoken by the folk!

Please contact Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer for more info or to submit your ancestor pictures and information.



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Food Pantry at Baldrshof



This September 2024 food distribution at Baldrshof was pleasantly warm and brought out our whole town, right away when we opened. We are all so blessed to have the trust of our community that we will always be there, every third Saturday of the month! We were able to help 18 families with frozen meals, frozen meats, bakery goods, dry goods, beverages and a few household items as well! It takes so much work from so many; we could not stay true to our commitment if it weren't for each and every contributing factor. In particular, Baldrshof leadership would like to thank and recognize members Brock and Corrie Proudfoot, for assuring that the trips to round up donations throughout the month not only happen but are carried out with safety and care so that storage of the goods is possible. Thank you to all who support this essential resource Baldrshof gets to provide. Hail the Doers!



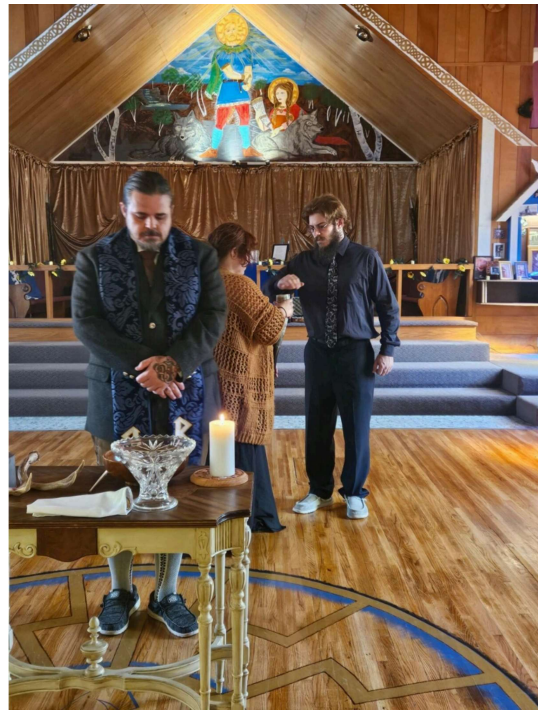
Folkbuilder Ashley McStocker
amcstocker@runestone.org

Winter Finding at Baldrshof



Greetings Folk! Another beautiful holiday was celebrated this month at Baldr's Temple in Miðgarðr. The Folk gathered early for food pantry and Fika, and the day started from there





Goði Stamm presided over a wonderful blot to Ullr, asking the Lord of hunting, archery, and skiing to bless the Folk in their autumn endeavors. After the Blót, Goði Stamm blessed the hunting rifles and other tools that the Folk had brought for the occasion.



A delicious lunch was served after being blessed by our Gyðja student, Ali Clausen. The Folk enjoyed Frith making and each other's good company.



After lunch Goði Stamm continued his lecture series on Aryan peoples and migrations, this time while the Folk enjoyed apple pie! Courtesy of Folkbuilder Ashley Mcstocker. Witan Fassett lead the gathered Folk in the Litany of the Æsir, a ritual quickly becoming a favorite of the Baldrshof Folk. We ended the day with a very delicious meal of chicken pot pie, lovingly made by Witan Fassett. We had a wonderful Winter Finding, and eagerly look forward to Winter Nights! Come out and see us!



Goði Rob Stamm

rstamm@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Baldrshof





Baldr's Steeple Project

A blue banner for the Baldr's Steeple Project. The banner features a central logo consisting of a white, stylized 'X' shape with intricate patterns and a circular emblem at the bottom center. The text 'Baldr's Steeple Project' is written in a white, gothic-style font at the top. Below the logo, the text 'Beautify Baldrshof' is on the left and 'Click Here to Donate' is on the right. At the bottom, there is a white progress bar with a small white segment and the text '4.7%'.

We have a lot more to do, and we're determined to make it even more glorious and worth of Baldr! Help the project as you, whether that be through donations or coming out to the Hof to swing a hammer.

Baldr's Steeple Project > <https://store.runestone.org/product/baldrs-steeple-project/>

Hail the Gods

Hail the Folk
Hail the AFA
Hail Baldr



Goði Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@runestone.org

Help Keep Baldr's Light Shining

A graphic with a blue background featuring a close-up of white flowers. In the upper right, there is a stylized logo consisting of two crossed swords with intricate patterns on their hilts. The text "Baldershof Wishlist" is written in a gothic-style font. Below it, the text "Help Elevate the Shining One and Keep Baldershof Beautiful!" is written in a serif font. At the bottom, there is a call to action: "Click Here or Use the Link to check out the Wishlist at" followed by the URL "https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/UUJLG9IM9VM3?ref_=wl_share".

Baldershof Wishlist

Help Elevate the Shining One
and Keep Baldershof Beautiful!

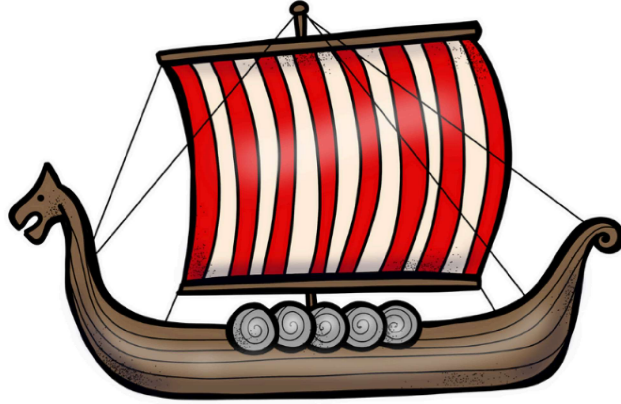
Click Here or Use the Link to check out the Wishlist at
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/UUJLG9IM9VM3?ref_=wl_share

Baldershof District Virtual Moots

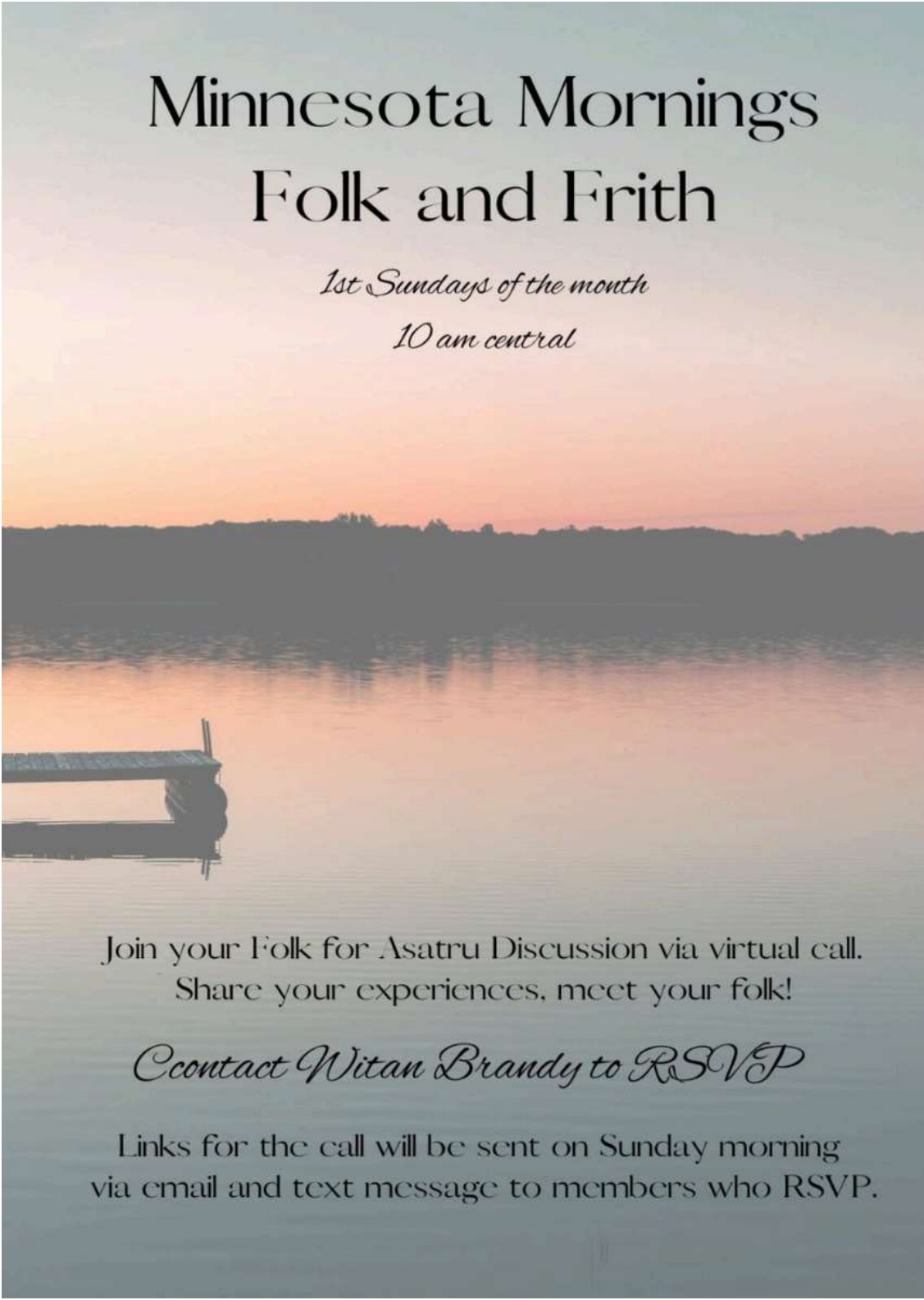
A is for Asatru!
B is for Baldrshof!
C is for Courage!



Baldrshof Children Pre-K through
3rd grade are invited to the
Baldrshof Children's Call:
Last Wednesday of every month
7 pm central



Contact Witan Brandy or Gothi Rob
to RSVP



Minnesota Mornings Folk and Frith

1st Sundays of the month

10 am central

Join your Folk for Asatru Discussion via virtual call.
Share your experiences, meet your folk!

Contact Witan Brandy to RSVP

Links for the call will be sent on Sunday morning
via email and text message to members who RSVP.



Kansas & Nebraska
Virtual Mead Hall

Connect with your folk!

Share a drinks!

Learn Avartrul!

Share stories & experience

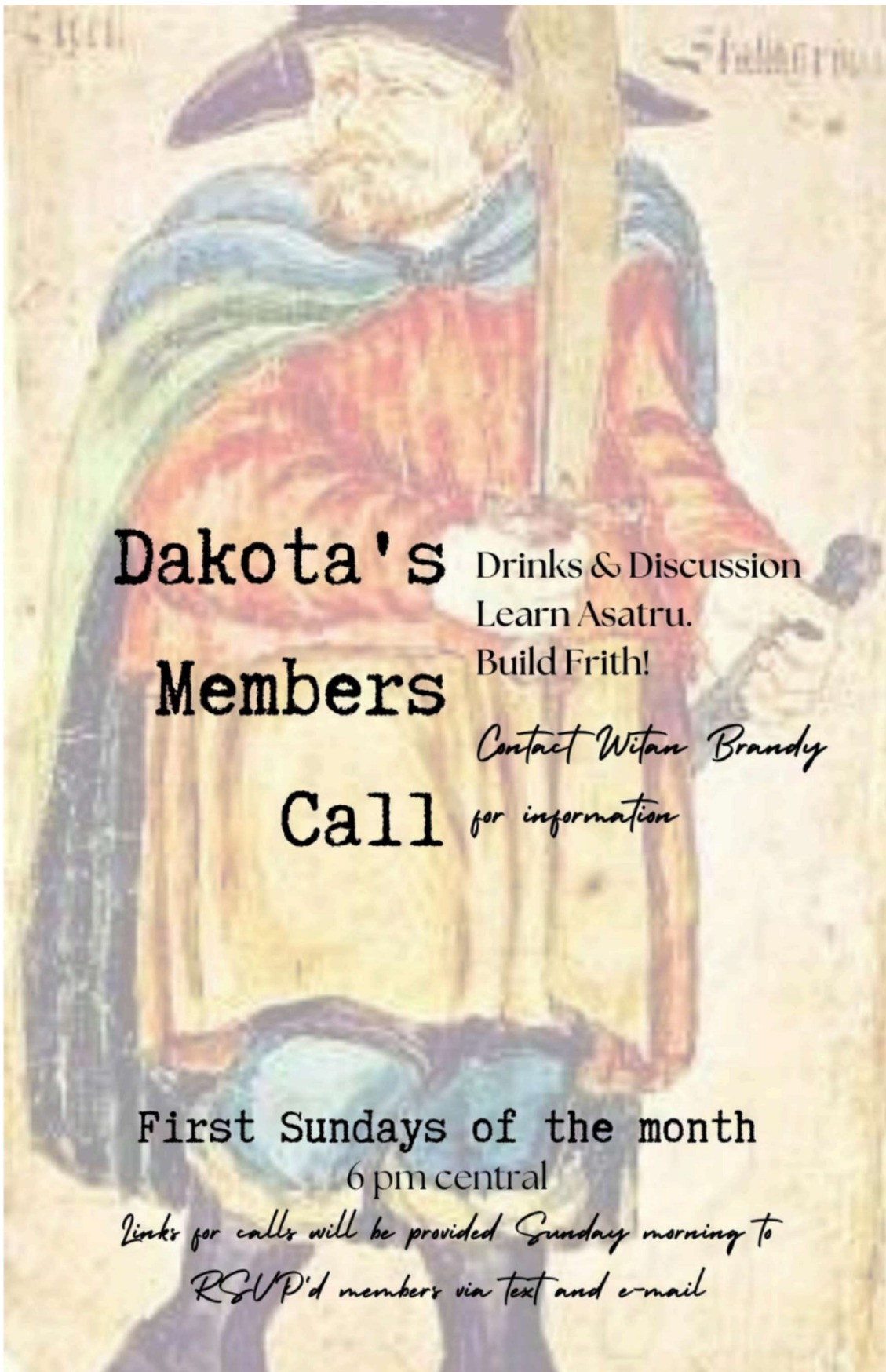
First Saturdays of the month

7pm central / 6pm mountain

Contact Witan Brandy for more information

Links will be sent via text & email

Saturday morning to members who RSVP



Dakota's Members

Drinks & Discussion
Learn Asatru.
Build Frith!

Contact Witan Brandy

Call *for information*

First Sundays of the month
6 pm central

*Links for calls will be provided Sunday morning to
RSVP'd members via text and e-mail*

Did You Know?



Illinois

Upcoming Events

St. Charles
Scarecrow
Festival



Hosted by
S. Swanson

Family Fun!

RSVP to
nrice@runestone.org





Iowa

Clearing the Field



For Winter Finding, I went through the garden and harvested the last of the fall crops. I gathered the dried corn stalks, pumpkin and cucumber vines in a pile for later use. That night, I placed the dried plants in the firepit and enjoyed the warmth of the fire while gazing into the night sky. The ashes from the plants will be placed back into the ground come Charming of the Plow to fertilize the following years vegetation.

Clear the field, so you can see what needs to be done. Clearing the field can also be clearing your life from the things that are no longer useful or has been outgrown. Burn them from your life so you can rise stronger from the ashes. Remember the lessons you learned and hold onto the experience.

Hail the Æsir! Hail the Folk! Hail the AFA!
Hail Victory!!!

Upcoming Events

Winter Nights North Iowa McDowell Residence

Saturday, October 12
Starting at Noon

Blót, Fire, Food, Sleepover

Contact/RSVP with Folkbuilder Chris McDowell
cmcdowell@runestone.org



Folksgiving In Iowa McDowell Residence



Saturday Nov. 23
Arrive at 12pm
Food at 2pm

Contact/RSVP with Folkbuilders Chris McDowell and Ali Clausen
cmcdowell@runestone.org aclausen@runestone.org

Yule

December 28th - 29th

McDowell Residence
North Iowa



Contact Folkbuilder Chris McDowell-
cmcdowell@runestone.org or Ali Clausen-
aclausen@runestone.org for more info and RSVP



Folkbuilder Christopher McDowell
cmcdowell@runestone.org

Minnesota

Septemberific





This has been a wonderful month filled with Folk-filled Frith and family. Two of my brood had birthdays this month, so there was merriment throughout.



We have been keeping up on our firearm and bow handling safety and skills, as well. It's great inspiring and feeding their curiosities. There's never a dull moment.



We were able to get together with my Kindred sister Corrie and her family for a great day at a Midwest prairie fest. After a corny, bounce house, cotton candy, and car show filled afternoon; we went back to her house for a delicious meal after. It was such a great day!



Fall leaves are starting to turn and that means more bonfires in our backyard. My favorite season has arrived and Winter Nights and the thinning of the veil is just around the corner. Hail the Disir and hail the ancestors!



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Folk and Family in Minnesota



September went really fast and Fall is officially here! Northern Blood Kindred hosted our Folkish Family monthly kids crafting day on September 22nd. This is one of my favorite events and the next one is being planned and a date will be set soon. We are also planning our 9th Annual Folkish Family Yule celebration for December.



Congratulations to Ray (Brandon) Erdman and his new wife Julia. Thank you for the honor of performing your wedding.

Senior Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher
jgallagher@runestone.org



Missouri

Ullr Blöt in Branson Missouri



Three of us took off from Arkansas to Missouri. On the way there we met up in Harrison for a Blöt as they couldn't make it to Missouri. Charles headed up from Northern Arkansas to meet us in Branson with a member that lives there. The five of us had a Blöt out in a park.



We had many adventures including going to the Butterfly Palace, which the ladies liked so much, we had to circle back and go a second time. After much fun we headed back down into Arkansas.



Folkbuilder Jesse Parton
jparton@runestone.org

Nebraska

Grith



Grith, as a concept, is both foreign and familiar in the modern world. The way our Ancestors understood Frith would today be summed up best as decency and civility. As modern Ásatrúar, we have developed an understanding and practice of Frith, but often overlook Grith and its application within the hall.

The word Grith comes from the Old English griþ and before that, the Old Norse grið, meaning home or domicile. Grith can be understood as the unspoken, unwritten rules governing the hosting of outsiders in one's home or hall. Like Frith, Grith can be translated as peace, but there is far more nuance than that. Grith is a conditional, temporary peace enforced by crown or church. It can be thought of as a temporary asylum for diplomatic or religious reasons. Although it most often applies to outsiders, Grith is not simply an 'us vs them', Innangarðr versus Útgarðr phenomenon. Grith is differentiated from Frith by its conditionality and time constraint.

Grith was extended by our Ancestors to those who came to court. Even at war, they would not be attacked or killed in the hall if they were to abide by their constraints. It was also extended to those visiting for religious reasons. Goðar from enemy kingdoms would be given passage to attend the Þing. Grith was also extended in cases of feud and strife at court. Those in conflict with one another would not be permitted at court unless they agreed to abide by the conditions of their Grith.

In modern Ásatrú, Grith is lesser known. We see examples of it within the AFA, but we

often do not know to call it that. Any time we give community members a tour of the Hof, invite non-member guests to events, have coffee with community leaders, or allow journalists to interview our leaders, we are extending Grith to them. They are outsiders who we allow into our sanctuary so long as they respect our Hof and abide by the Law of the Hall.

Examples of Grith can be found throughout our Lore. The most notable example of this is the Grith between the Æsir and Vanir at the end of the first war. The fighting was ceased and the Vanir were given safe passage to and sanctuary in the court of the Æsir while negotiating the terms of lasting Frith and peace.

Although much of the nuance of Grith has been forgotten by our people, understanding the concept and application of both Frith and Grith are essential for Ásatrúar. It is even more vital for those Ásatrúar who lead the Folk since we are the ones who enforce them. We also see examples of Grith being extended in cases where members of the church have violated the Law of the Hall and damaged Frith, but not so severely that they need to be removed. These members are given conditions to abide by in order to repair the damage they have done. These restrictions are placed onto these members based on their circumstance and enforced by the Goðar, who will also remove them when they deem it fit. We do not outlaw Folk unless the damage done is so severe that it cannot be repaired. Understanding and extending Grith in these circumstances allows the member to repair Frith and reputation while also maintaining connection to the Divine.

Upcoming Events

Winter Nights
Potluck

OCTOBER 27TH, 2024

3PM

LINCOLN, NE

RSVP: CONTACT
FOLKBUILDER ALI CLAUSEN
ACLAUSEN@RUNESTONE.ORG



Folkbuilder Alison Clausen
aclausen@runestone.org

North Dakota

Upcoming Events

A night sky with the Milky Way galaxy visible, arching over a dark, forested landscape. The foreground shows rolling hills covered in trees with some autumn foliage. The sky is filled with stars and the bright band of the Milky Way.

Winternights

New England, North Dakota

Saturday

October 26th

Contact Witan Brandy for details



Witan Brandy Fassett
bfassett@runestone.org

South Dakota

Upcoming Events



Apple Picking Moot
Harrisburg, SD

Hosted by Member Kevin
Renberg
RSVP with any Folkbuilder

Saturday, October 19th
10am

Runestone.org



THE 4TH ANNUAL
**FEAST
OF THE
EINHERJAR**
NOVEMBER 8TH-10TH
RUNESTONE.ORG



Gothi Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@runestone.org

Wisconsin

Think Bigger Than Yourself



Declaration of Purpose #1

*The practice, promotion, development, and dissemination of the religion of
Ásatrú*

Ásatrú is an ancestral religion, one passed down to us from our forebears and thus tailored to our unique makeup. Our Æsir and our religion have shaped our spirit, individually and as a whole. By our WILL, we not only survive, but thrive, and continue our upward evolution in the direction of the Infinite. Modern Ásatrú is a reconstructed version of our ancestral practice, adapted to the context of our lives today, but our practice is filled with the spirit of our gods and our ancestors. Today's challenges differ from those that confronted our ancestors but still require the same code of honor and nobility that molded our forebears' souls. The Asatru Folk Assembly practices Ásatrú in the here-and-now, that our People may realize their unique spiritual and cultural legacy.

This declaration brings to mind a purposeful morning rune pull I had a while back. For five straight days, I pulled the rune, Othala. While meditating on it, the same thing kept coming to mind. Our culture and heritage cannot be sold. Do we know what riches we own that are a part of us? As future ancestors, is our life reflective of what we want future generations to know us for and emulate? Courage, truth, honor, fidelity, hospitality, discipline, industriousness, self-reliance, and perseverance. Strive for living a life that not only honors your ancestors but imparts wisdom to your descendants. Moving ever forward. We are part of a very long line of noble people. As we live Ásatrú, the connection strengthens. Ásatrú is unique to us as we live it today. By the example we are showing to the world and more importantly to the next generation of our Folk that connection will not be broken.

Ásatrú does not mean belief in the Æsir. It means Troth with the Æsir. It means loyalty to the Æsir. Ásatrú isn't about what you think or what you believe. It's about how those thoughts and beliefs affect your actions. Actually DOING is so much harder than thinking. This is what the AFA does and continues to do for our Folk. As we share our experiences for the Folk to see, they see the relationship the AFA has built with the Æsir and how the Æsir have blessed the AFA because of it. The AFA is truly Ásatrú.

Hail the Æsir!

Hail the Ancestors!

Hail the Folk!

Upcoming Events



**Wisconsin
Hiking Moot**

October 26th

We will meet at

2pm at

High Cliff

State Park.

Hiking then Blot.

For more information

contact:

sault@runestone.org



**Wisconsin Hiking Moot
November 23rd
at 2 pm CST**

Walla Hi County Park
(Site of recent Big Foot sighting)

Hiking then Blot

**For more information contact
Folkbuilder Sara Ault
sault@runestone.org**



Folkbuilder Sara Ault
sault@runestone.org



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