

The Runestone: Voice of the Asatru Folk Assembly




Njörðshof
Fourth Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

<http://www.njordshof.org/>


July 2024


Runestone.org


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Words from the Alsherjargothi



Sól is high in the summer sky and AFA activity is in full swing!

Midsummer at Óðinshof was amazing as usual. This year we had the pleasure of having our dear friends and esteemed colleagues, Witan Cliff and Gyðja Catie Erickson attend, along with their two children. The Ericksons are one of the many couples and families that have been built from within the AFA and it continues to be a special pleasure to watch them grow and prosper. It was great to have the Ericksons get to spend a few days with us after the event as well.

Also, in attendance at Midsummer, for his very first time at Óðinshof, was Folkbuilder Nick Rice. Nick spent the entire weekend helping out, as he spends most of his days. I can't express just how much we appreciate all his hard work for us and for our Æsir.

For over a decade I have heard folks talk about getting a bus to drive scattered members to a Hof for events This year it happened! Many talk about it but Folkbuilder Tyler Heinlein IS about it. Tyler drove himself, his family, 2 apprentice Folkbuilders, and others from the Pacific Northwest down to Midsummer and it was great to have them all in attendance.

Huge thanks to the stellar crew at Óðinshof for making this event such a great success.

Events like this are such a huge part of what we do, and we want you all to be a part of things! That said, come on out to Sigrblót at Sigrheim!

We are building the dream in Jackson County, Tennessee, and we want to see you all there July 19-21. Sigrheim is an amazing property and will become the home to many of us (the Flavels included), as well as Týrshof and the AFA capital in the years to come. I am looking forward to sharing a special time with amazing people and we would love to count you among them!

Together, we manifest Victory!



Matthew D. Flavel
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Words from our Witan

Ásatrú is Your Family's Birthright, Too!



“Asatru is the religion with homework”

“You have to earn your hammer”

“The Gods call who they will”

These three statements can all be misleading.

It is of course good to study history, to study our lore in the Eddas and Sagas and Folklore, to study the runes, language, and all the other things that help to inform our

faith.

It is of course good to act in a way that is noble, brave, kind, and righteous.

It is of course up to the Gods to do as they will, and we can't presume to understand all of their motives, or even any of them.

However, none of these are the defining characteristics of our faith and religion...

Ásatrú means "Belief in the Gods" or more literally "Troth to the Æsir". It is a holy faith in the Æsir. This is faith not only in the sense of "belief" but also in the sense of "trust" or "loyalty". When you say to someone "I have faith in you" it means more than "I believe you exist", it means "I believe you will do right" or "I believe you will succeed".

We know our Ancestors are alive today inside us, our family lines are a river of blood and sweat, of failure and success. Our Ancestors are our direct, physical link to the Aesir. The Æsir are the most ancient blood Ancestors of our Folk. We are, or will be, that same link for our descendants and all their progeny. As you go through life, remember that your reputation belongs to all of us, and especially to your descendants.

The Æsir created the world and gave us life, wit, and vigor. Every Blót we make to the Aesir is a return on this first gift, made from the world created for us by the Æsir. An imperative of our faith is to continue this Gift Cycle perpetually. We should always be mindful that the Æsir started the Gift Cycle and our Ancestors -Ásatrú and otherwise-maintained this Gift Cycle through the successful lives they led. Our existence is proof of this success. Our children's prosperity and faith are proof of our success.

The job of the Goðar of the Asatru Folk Assembly is to represent our Folk to the Æsir when we make Blót. We speak on behalf of the Folk to the Gods. Our Gods are real, they are alive, they exert their will in our world, and they can see us. When a Goði or Gyðia gives a gift, an offering, to the Gods that gift is always in reciprocation for gifts the Gods already have given us. It is made of the gifts they have given us, and it is made by the gifts they have given us. It is a thank-you, and we hope that in giving it that the Gods choose to continue the Gift Cycle with the Folk that the Gods started at the beginning of our world. The Goði or Gyðia is there to receive the gift on behalf of the Folk and to distribute those blessings. This Gift Cycle is the basis of our faith and our Gods and Goddesses are divine, and so piety is not optional even if we cannot be perfectly pious.

In these mixed-up times it is important to remember not only that it is okay to be white, but also that we owe to our descendants the same sturdy roots from which we ourselves have grown. We Ásatrúar are on the side of nature, we are on the side of family, we are on the side of order, we are on the side of light, and we are on the side of life. Live Ásatrú openly every moment. Practice Ásatrú in the light of day. Be a Folkbuilder every day and in every interaction that you have.

How do we do this? Most importantly, build up the Gift Cycle.

Regularly attend Blót offered by our Goðar, and make gifts to the Gods, to the Ancestors, and to the Vættir at home. When you make a gift to the Gods, don't show up as a beggar. Instead, show them what you have done with the world and how you have improved it. Show them your worth, but let them determine if you are worthy.

Remember your place, and remember that these are Gods.

When you make a gift to your Ancestors that you knew in life, speak to them as you did in life. Give them a gift that is personal and relevant to your relationship to them. I have given my Grandfather Hawaiian pizza because I know he liked this in life. Pick a favorite food or beverage, or make something that you use to do together, or any number of other things than maintain that same relationship that existed in life. Let them know how you are doing and what you might need help with.

When you make a gift to more ancient Ancestors whom you didn't know in life, demonstrate a knowledge of them. Documenting your family tree through genealogy is a great way to do this, and when you reach a branch that you cannot trace any further learn the history and way of life of the nation and ethnicity that the branch folds back into. Build a common frame of reference and again let them know your struggles and victories and where some help would be appreciated.

Landvættir (or Land wights) and Húsvættir (or house wights) can be a little bit trickier to interact with since the kinship relationship is not present like it is with the Gods and Ancestors, but there is a shared interest in maintaining Miðgarð in a healthy and orderly way. Make it clear that is who you are to them, a man or woman whose presence in a place will be for good, and for the order that the Æsir established. This will go a long way with Vættir of varying temperaments and varying experiences with people. Don't ask for anything beyond goodwill from the Vættir.

The second most important thing is to build your fame, your reputation.

Building our fame with our Living Folk makes us an example that others want to

emulate, that because of you they want to be Ásatrú. We should be known as “the good neighbor” or the “the good man” as much as we are known as “The Ásatrú Man” or “my Ásatrú neighbor”.

It is okay to be angry at Christianity, but remember that Christian Folk are still our Folk, and they need our help! We need to remind them who they really are.

The collapse of European religious institutions over the past century has led to disintegration of the family unit, to rampant homosexuality, to addiction of all variety, to laziness and unaccountability. But it is also an opportunity. Our Folk would likely not have been ready to return to faith in our Gods had Christianity not faltered as the dominant European religion. Our Christian Folk are not wrong, they have been wronged. They are not the first to wake up, so we need to rouse them. The same is true for those who are halfway there by leaving Christianity but are stuck in some atheistic or secular worldview. We may be in a Wolf Age, but we're also in an age of opportunity which needs spiritual heroes! Some of those heroes are undiscovered in this room right now.

Þórr's reputation among the Jötuns matters. Your reputation among non-Folk matters too! Our faith can be misunderstood easily enough by peoples who do not have informed experience with it. We need to make sure that our reputations are impeccable and that as Aryans, we are the race that all others look up to. We are noble, strong, and just. We are also generous and kind. We respect all living things.

Aryan means noble and we must hold ourselves to a very high standard.

What else can we do?

Volunteer. Be willing to do the work that is necessary rather than the work that is glorious. Know that none of us is the ideal we aspire to but do your best anyway.

Perfect and permanent are imaginary but try for them anyway. But don't wait for perfect to be ready to begin. Be willing to make mistakes and to start now.

“Ásatrú is the religion with homework”

Yes, do your homework.

“You have to earn your hammer”

Yes, prove you are honorable.

“The Gods call who they will”

Yes, listen to the call of our Gods.

But always remember that Ásatrú is the birthright of every single one of our Folk, even if they need to be reminded about that birthright. Appreciate the magic and beauty of our Folk and of the Æsir. Don't settle for less, offer the same to your kin. Ásatrú is their birthright, too.

Bring them home!



Witan Clifford Erickson
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Words from our Gothar

Folk Futhark - Part Five



Eihwaz -

This rune's stave, although familiar, is not the one used in the Elder Futhark. It is borrowed from the Younger Futhark, but retains its meaning. This is the rune of transition, of closing a book, of death. All of these meanings can be gleaned from viewing this rune as a man, or as Odin, hanging upside down. That hanged man could be a corpse, or it could be the All-Father sacrificing his lower to his Higher Self to take

up the runes. In divination, this rune is often viewed as the end of something. It is not always a negative rune, but it's certainly one that carries a bit of weight.



Perthro -

This rune's stave is unchanged from its Elder Futhark counterpart. Many people view this as the rune of the "lot cup", or of luck. However, this is an oversimplification. Perthro is placed between the death rune and the life rune for a reason: it is the womb. Where Eihwaz is an end of a chapter, Perthro is the beginnings of the next chapter. Where Eihwaz is the hanged man, Perthro is the fertile womb ready to bring new life into Midgard. It is potential energy, much like Fehu, but more "alive", for lack of a better word.



Algiz -

One of the most recognizable of our Folk's symbols, this stave is unchanged throughout all of the rune rows. This is the rune of light and life, of connection to the Æsir here on Midgard, of being centered and grounded in both the sacred and the profane. The symbol most closely resembles a man or woman with their arms outstretched towards the heavens, as if they are hailing our Æsir in ritual. This is not a coincidence! The symbol can also be viewed as the gifts of Odin, Vili, & Vé being poured into this new

life. Its placement after Perthro is also not a coincidence! Algiz is life and connection and actualization, energy manifest in right action. In divination, this rune is only ever seen as positive. It could mean a new chapter of one's life has begun, or that something or someone will be born into your world, or that you should continue to connect with the Æsir.



Gothi Trent East
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The Folk Remember



Farrin LaSan
Y 11/18/1980 - 6/19/2024 †

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!

Ásatrú Trúlgmál



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

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Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

Hail the Æsir!



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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 \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org/freyshof-fund)

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 \$84,063 on our remaining loan.
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 15.51%.
 - 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

The Hard Work to Prep for Sigrblót



A huge shout out goes to Witan Dan Young, Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea, and members, Steven and Riley, for joining me out at Sigrheim last weekend for a sweltering weekend of solid work. Fences are continuing to come down, grass is getting mowed, brush keeps getting cleared, and the gravestones are beginning to be restored.



We've a bit more to do in preparations for Sigrblót (tickets at <https://store.runestone.org/product/sigrblot-at-sigrheim/>) coming up in just two short weeks, but we'll be ready to welcome our Folk back to Sigheim once again. Hope to see you there!

Support the Home of Victory



Help Sigrheim get stocked
and ready for our Folk!

Donate Supplies
from our
wishlist ✨
amazon

Thank You!

CLICK HERE

A Folksiving Dedicated to Victory





Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Victory Never Sleeps



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](#).



TEES, TANKS, SWEATERS!

MUGS! HATS! STICKERS!

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



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AFA Asatru Academy

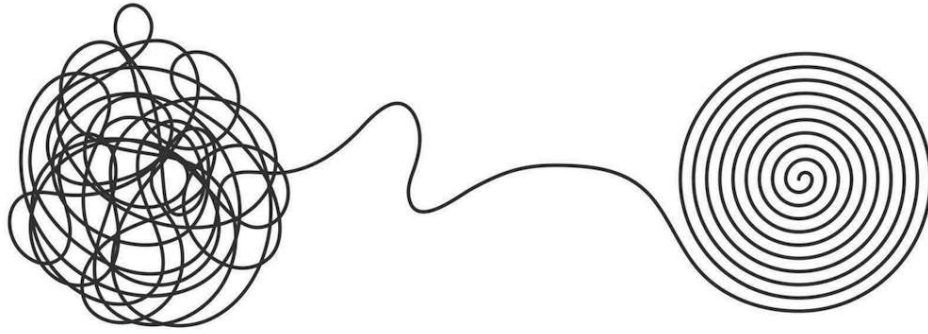


Check out the Asatru Academy at AsatruAcademy.org



We've got merch over at the [Runestone Store](https://RunestoneStore.com)! Go check it out!

Order vs. Chaos



Greetings parents and students. If the heading of this article didn't tip you off, I want to talk about order vs chaos.

We have decided that the upcoming school year 2024/2025, our theme will be order vs chaos. What does this mean for our younger students? Well, while our older students can certainly dive into the metaphysical and cosmic aspects of this concept, our younger students can and will learn to discern the obvious benefits of an ordered life and surroundings, vs a chaotic and unordered life. For example: most of the cartoons and children's programs that our kids watch have a clear theme of the hero fighting a villain. Often this takes form of the villain representing chaos, a rebellion against rules and society. The hero puts things in order. Children thrive on routine and tend to not do as well in a disordered lifestyle, and this is a perfect opportunity to teach them, in terms they can understand, about the very large Aryan principle of order vs chaos. Even seemingly small things, like waiting in line, rather than a disordered push to the front with no clear line. This can be used as a teaching moment.

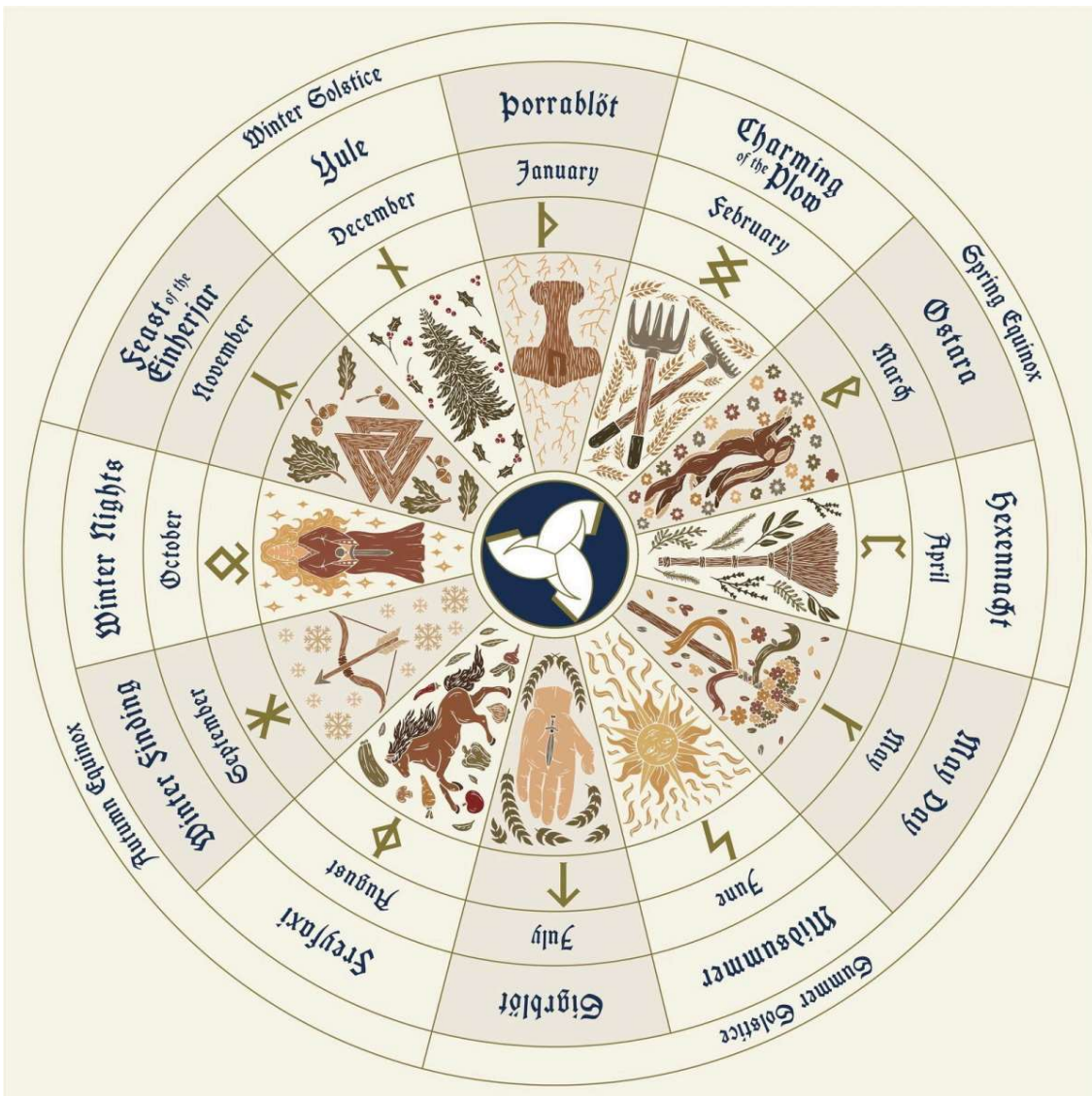
So, our theme for the upcoming academic year will be *order vs chaos*. How will you recognize this is in everyday life? How can we as students and responsible young Aryan boys and girls showcase order and put it to work in our lives? All this will be explored this upcoming year!

We look forward to seeing you all this fall. As a reminder, we will be enrolling K-6th over the course of this summer, to start the school year in September.

Goði Rob Stamm
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Remembrance & Holy Days



[Calendar – Asatru Folk Assembly \(runestone.org\)](https://runestone.org)

2024

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 20	Porrablót
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 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
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

July



Asatru Holidays - July 2024 - Beinteinsson | Rud Mills | Sigrblót

Days of Remembrance

Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson | July 4th



Y July 4, 1924 - December 23, 1993 A

Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson was born July 4, 1924, and lived as a sheep farmer in Borgarfjörður, a fjord in the west of Iceland. Sveinbjörn was an early practitioner and leader of modern Ásatrú. Sveinbjörn and fellow Ásatrúar founded the Ásatrúarfélagið (Ásatrú Fellowship) on the First Day of Summer 1972 (April 18) and Sveinbjörn was named Allsherjargoði.

Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn then led the push for the Ásatrúarfélagið to be recognized by the Icelandic government. When Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn collected the appropriate paperwork from the Minister of the Icelandic Ministry of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs, he received vague answers from the minister who did not take him seriously. When Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn was exiting the ministry building, a thunderbolt caused a major power outage in Reykjavík which left the ministry building and the minister in the dark. Hail Þórr!

After submitting the required paperwork, Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn still faced opposition. The strongest opposition came from the Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland, the head of the state church of Iceland. The bishop took the position that “polytheistic religious organizations founded [in Iceland] would therefore not be

protected by the [Icelandic] constitution”. The bishop also criticized Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn and the Ásatrúarfélagið for not naming a head of their religion, for not having a set written doctrine, and for not having a house of worship. There were also critics in Iceland who agreed with the bishop that polytheism was illegal in Iceland and that “Christ is enough”. However, Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn’s arguments prevailed and in May of 1973 the Ásatrú Fellowship was recognized as a church by the government and with this was given legal standing to perform weddings, was given a share in church taxes.

In August of the same year, Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn led the first legal public Ásatrú Blót since the year 1000 when the Allthing had forbidden Blót and declared Iceland a Christian nation. Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn went on to lead the Ásatrúarfélagið for twenty more years until he returned to his ancestors during Yuletide of 1993.

Sveinbjörn was also a published poet of several books of Rímur, Icelandic rhymes. He recorded verses of his own and of the Poetic Edda Hávamál, Völuspá, and Sigrdrífumál.

In its early days, the Ásatrúarfélagið was notably Folkish and took ethical positions consistent with Ásatrú. For example in 1975 the Ásatrúarfélagið opposed abortion on the basis that the movement to legalize abortion is “traced to international movements opposed to the Nordic nations and in particular to the Nordic race”. The Ásatrúarfélagið has unfortunately failed to maintain the ideals of Ásatrú that the Asatru Folk Assembly continues to promote today, but Allsherjargoði Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson of the Ásatrúarfélagið remains a hero of our Folk who heard the call of the Æsir at a time when very few did.

Hail Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson!

Alexander Rud Mills | July 9th



Y July 15, 1885 - April 8, 1964 h

Alexander Rud Mills was born in Forth, Tasmania, and lived from 1885-1964. He was the guiding light for the foundations of Ásatrú in Australia.

In 1933 Rud Mills began writing books about our faith and in 1936 he founded the Anglecyn Church of Odin. Mills was able to build a solid Ásatrú community, but during the turbulent times of the Second World war, Rud Mills was bitterly persecuted by his government, and the community that he built suppressed. With no evidence

against him of illegal activity, Alexander Rud Mills was imprisoned. It was nearly a decade before Mills was released and despite all of his efforts, he was unable to revive his church to its former glory.

All was not lost, however. Alexander Rud Mills's many publications and his passion lived on and inspired a new generation. In the 1970s a group of Ásatrú students at the University of Melbourne campaigned to have Ásatrú recognized as a formal religion in Australia, hoping to be able to protect the faith from the same persecution that Mills suffered. It took almost two decades, but by the early '90s, Ásatrú was granted religious status in Australia. Alexander Rud Mills's vision also, notably, inspired Else Christensen, who was a leading voice of Ásatrú in North America.

So, what can we learn from this story?

Alexander Rud Mills didn't live to see the culmination of all of his hard work. When he died Ásatrú was still a repressed faith in his homeland. Even without reward and recognition, he worked until his death, to try and revive the ancient folkway. And he did succeed. Could he have ever imagined how far-reaching his influence would be while he lived? Despite being imprisoned and persecuted for his beliefs, Alexander continued. Even without knowing that his hard work would bear fruit, he continued. He didn't give up in the face of a thankless, and dauntless task. He didn't let his ego, or his own self-importance, stop him from doing what he believed he needed to do. There were no rewards. There were no praises. There was nothing in it for him except the knowledge and the belief that he was doing the right thing for his folk.

Take from this story the need to remember that the bigger picture, even when we can't see it, is so much more important than just ourselves. We do what we are doing for our children and for their children so that when we are gone, they have a foundation strong enough to hold them up and help them build better and stronger.

Alexander Rud Mills is the dedicated hero of Þórshof. For more information and a deeper dive into the life and acts of this Australian hero, check out [Thorshof.com](https://thorshof.com).

Holiday

Sigrblót | July 20th



Sigrblót literally means ‘Victory Blót’ and was celebrated by our ancestors in the early summer months. On the one hand, our ancestors were celebrating their victory over the harsh winter. Life had won. On the other hand, our ancestors performed blot to ask for victory. With the warm weather and the completion of the planting time the men often turned their minds to the duty of man. War. Practically speaking, summer was the better time to organize new campaigns and to set sail.

In our modern times, the vast majority of us are not familiar with war in a personal way. We do, however, all have our struggles. Sigrblót is a time to refocus. It is the time we can use to reorganize our priorities, to figure out the steps we need to take in order to reach our ultimate goals, and to break free from those that we struggle with.

One great way to celebrate Sigrblót is to offer a meal or some other item that you spent time making in thanks for the victory of life. Another option is to sacrifice a bladed weapon to the fire. A nice knife, for example, the blade dulled in battle so that it cannot be used against you (this is symbolic, of course), offered to the fire is a great way to ask our Gods for victory during the coming winter.

A gift for a gift.

Upcoming National Event

Sigrblót at Sigrheim | July 19th-21st



The second Sigrblót at the Home of Victory!

And no other place is it more righteous to celebrate the Victory Sacrifice!

This is time we come together to honor both the summer and to make offering to the Æsir in hopes of their blessing for that which we are striving forth to conquer or acquire for us and our Folk! In times now passed, our Folk would be asking for the Æsir's blessings in battles and raids! And we ask now at this time for them to accept what we have to offer that he may lend his strength to see us victorious in our current endeavors!

Blóts! Feasting! Sumbel! An auction with one-of-a-kind items!

Camping is available on-site (bring your own tents and gear), and there are hotels within 20-30 mins of Sigrheim as well. Some AirB&B's in the area too. You are welcome to come early, stay late, and spend as much time on the land as you'd like. It's open to any of our member Folk!

Notice: this is undeveloped land. We will have Port-a-potties and will make sure drinking water is readily available. However, it is imperative that you plan accordingly.

There will be a couple large event tents to gather in. But no other public structures.

Please wear appropriate footwear and be prepared for a hike through the woods and up the ridge if you plan on participating in Blót. If you have any physical restrictions, this particular part of the weekend may cause a challenge or an inability to participate on that particular event. If you have off-road vehicles such as 4-runners, ATV's, etc., they would be a most welcome addition to the weekend and could mean the ability to get those who are otherwise restricted, up the ridge and safely back down again.

Bug spray, sunscreen, coolers, water, snacks, tents, blankets, appropriate clothing and footwear is advised.

If you have any questions about the land, area, or event, please reach out to Folkbuilder Nick Rice at nrice@runestone.org.

Get your tickets [HERE!](#)



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Freyfaxi at Baldrshof | August 16th-18th



Join the gathered Folk for Freyfaxi at Baldrshof 2024!

This weekend will include:

- * 9 total meals
- * Daily Fika
- * 5 Blots
- * High Sumbl
- * Daily Dedications and Devotions
- * Ceremonies of the Folk
- * Discussions, Workshops, and Classes
- * Men's and Women's Spiritual Groups
- * Tournaments and Games!
- * Crafter's Tables
- * Auction
- * Children's Activities

Freyfaxi is Baldrshof's yearly showcase event and serves as the primary fundraiser for operation and support of the Hof.

Contact any member of Baldrshof Leadership for accommodation recommendations or questions about travel arrangements.

Children's Tickets are FREE, however please include a ticket for each child in order to

properly prepare for meals and children's activities!

All non-member guests must be pre-approved with proper background checks to ensure the safety of our folk and children. Please contact leadership for more details.

Get your tickets [HERE!](#)



Witan Brandy Fassett
bfassett@runestone.org

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.

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

A Thanks to Folk Services



I wanted to personally thank all who've helped by giving me a hand up with recent life issues I've faced. A special thanks is owed to Apprentice Folkbuilder Ron Boardman, and Mandy Flavel. Ron convinced me to let Folk Services come through for me in a very difficult time. My faith in the Aesir and Tru Folk has not wavered. Humbling as it

may be, we can let go of excessive pride, asking for help sometimes, not try just to stand alone, like I usually do. The Frith shown to me was unprecedented and gave me a lot of hope. I've donated to Folk Services before and will soon be able to begin paying forward even greater than I received. Thanks once again to the Folk and their generosity.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the AFA!

— Don Ricardo Jr, member

If you'd like to help our Folk in need, please consider donating to [Folk Services](#).

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...

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

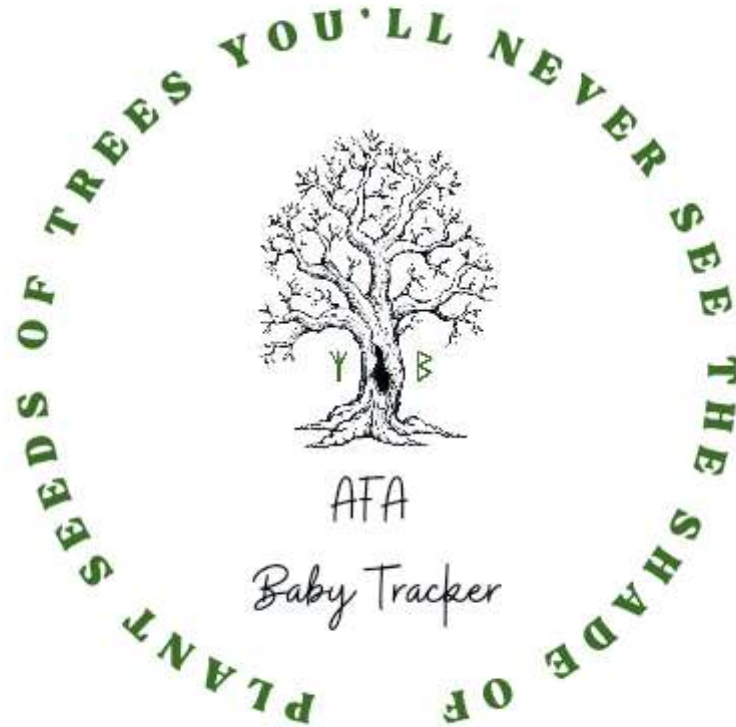
By the example of our Folkmother, Else Christensen, we will also be going into prisons as we are able to. Some of our Gothar and other leadership, will be going into the prisons to hold study groups, lead blot, and encourage continued growth in the folk inside.

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.

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: 16

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 via 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

A graphic for "Sisters Sunday Chats" on a dark brown background. The title "SISTERS SUNDAY CHATS" is written in a light pink, arched font at the top. Below the title is a central illustration of a strawberry plant with green leaves, white flowers, and red strawberries, tied with a red ribbon. To the left of the strawberry plant is a white cat with yellow stripes, curled up and sleeping, with a purple flower and green leaves behind it.

Second and fourth Sunday of the month
10 am central
Contact Folkbuilder Ali Clausen
and
Apprentice Hope White for details



AFA Reading Challenge Meetings



1/9/24	Link will be posted on MeWe the weekend before the meeting	7/9/24
2/13/24		8/13/24
3/12/24		9/10/24
4/9/24		10/8/24
5/14/24		11/12/24
6/11/24		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 me with any questions you might have — aplourde@runestone.org

I hope to see you there!

**Lore Study with
Gothi Jason Plourde**
Join us every Monday night

at

8:00 pm EST

7:00 pm CST

6:00 pm MST

5:00 pm PST

4:00 pm AKST

**Each study begins with trivia questions
from VNS and the previous week's
reading. A winner is announced monthly.**

**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 Teams Meetings
for folks over fifty

July 2024

Tuesdays 7/9 & 7/23
5:00 PT, 6:00 MT, 7:00 CT, 8:00 ET

Fridays 7/12 & 7/26
2:00 PT, 3:00 MT, 4:00 CT, 5:00 ET

Enjoying the peace of summer, with a good book in hand.
Contact Gythia Sheila McNallen, sheila@runestone.org

Just for Fun



Again, Folkbuilder Chris McDowell, Apprentice Folkbuilder Hope White, and Apprentice Folkbuilder Brodie Sutherland took the lead! Hail Word Search Victory!

Victory Word Search

Have fun finding all the words and send proof to press@runestone.org!

M F U N F T V M D B T K
I T U X G S L O V E D D
Q V B E Z A I X L H P B
F R C A L U H P A N E J
P T S T D H U D P U S A
L C F L T O O M K S Z C
F F Y F L W E P D I V A
I F I P J E W J G N C A
K Q K Z C S L S R L H G
E C T E A L G B D I W J
C X P E G W I L L E A I
F N J P G P O K V Z B R
H A W V I L T H E B X M
Z G R D R A Z M U S V L
Q W E D W G K E L O L B
P F R V O X N Q B T A K
P G C E S C T U I P X O
Z V S H S G A C B A K G
H I O A R I E Y H Z M H
D A C W M E Z W X S N O
X I T I P P A B Z K
Z E L O L I C Z W C
D M Z R O O O Q
S Y F F Y W N L
G O A T S I
Z P X L A W
C E B L
Y E S Z

SIGRBLOT	VICTORY	CHAMPION
BATTLES	GOALS	HAIL
SOWILO	ACHIEVEMENT	PERSEVERANCE
PEACE		

Hope you enjoy the July Word Search. As always, the first members to complete the search and submit proof to press@runestone.org will get a shout-out in next month's Runestone! Þórshof and Njörðshof, come on and join the fun!



In June, our youth started their summer reading logs. Congratulations Russell on reading the most books!

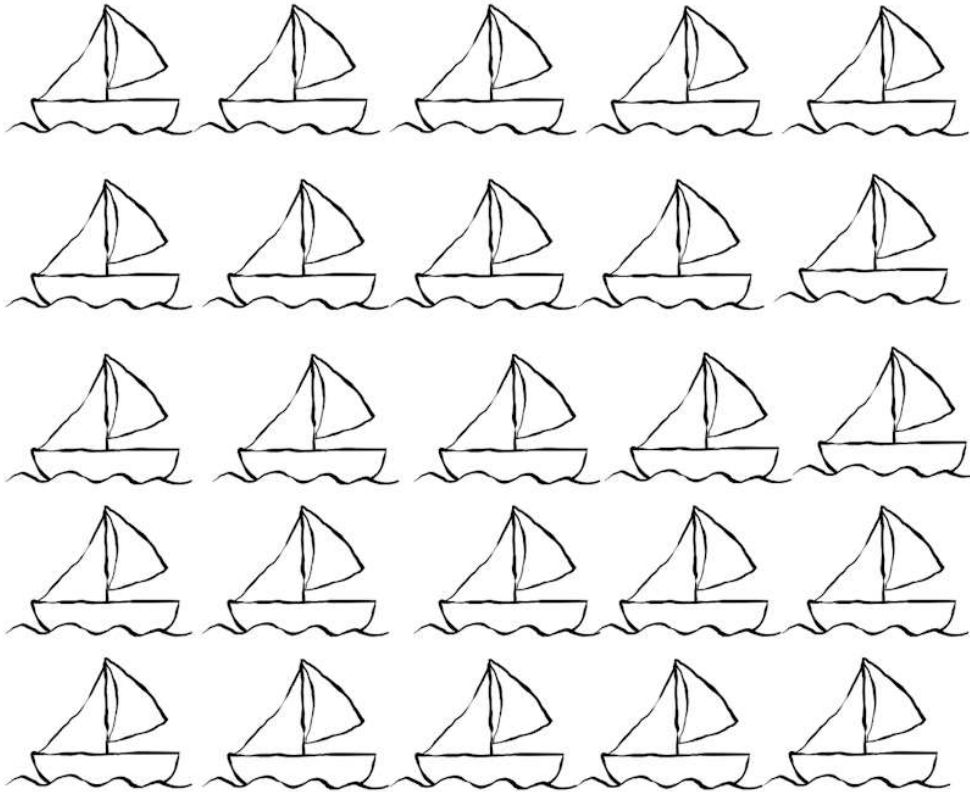


And a huge shoutout to Folkbuilder Nick Rice for helping Russell achieve his goal by reading *Thor Is My Friend* to him during the weekend of Midsummer. Thank you!

Name _____ Age _____

JULY READING LOG

Color 1 sailboat for every 10 minutes you read this month (or 1 for each book someone reads to you if you're a pre-reader). Send to press@runestone.org!



My favorite book was: _____

How many minutes/books I read: _____

Here's a reading log to help track that reading in July! Who will read the most? Remember to send it in to press@runestone.org no later than August 3rd.

Folkbuilder Olivia Sutherland
osutherland@runestone.org



Genealogy and Kinship Charts

Join the AFA Genealogy group on MeWe!



Send yours to sheila@runestone.org to get included in our next **AFA KINSHIP CHART**

Deadline: 7/31/24

See how closely you're related to other AFA members. 75 people so far, and counting!



Gythia Sheila McNallen
sheila@runestone.org

Calling All Folk Photographers

Took some awesome pics at a moot or event? Were you at the Hof recently?



We'd love to see 'em. Send to Photos@Runestone.org



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Store Spotlight



One of the values espoused by the AFA is Physical Excellence. Well, not only are you gonna be able to feel good, but we're gonna make sure you look good too. Check out our new throwback gym merch!



THROWBACK Sale Ends w/ the Summertide

**Throwback Gym Merch has arrived.
Tanks! Shorts! Duffel bags! Shirts! Hoodies!
Available now at Runestone.org/Store**

[Runestone.org/Store](https://runestone.org/Store)

Hop on over and get some fast, as we're only stocking through the summer.



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Njörðshof

Food Pantry at Njörðshof





The food pantry at Njörðshof was a great success feeding 67 families. We were blessed with 300lbs of cantaloupe and an assortment of other fresh food. We began collecting pet food for our new partner Feeding Pets of the Homeless and with the help of another collection point in Lake City plant to start distributing to the needy at Sigrblót.



Gothi Lane Ashby
lashby@runestone.org

Midsummer at Njörðshof



Sól attended brightly in Floriday for the holy rites to our Shining God; sending her blessings to those who gathered before her gaze.

We had a delicious lunch put together by the lovely ladies of Njörðshof. Our bellies full, Goði Trent East performed a powerful Blót to the bright god Baldr. We left the vey having felt the nobility within us emboldened by the most handsome, cheerful, and gracious of the Ás called down to us by sacral words of Goði East. Beneaths the blazing sun we lit the sunwheel and contemplated how we would manifest the cheer and graciousness of Baldr in our lived.



After Blót it was my distinct honor to perform the Baby Naming rite to welcome the lovely daughter of Henry and Ita Oliver to our Folk. Henry and Ita will make great parents; their love for little Lucy fills the room.

Hail Lucy Hedy Oliver!

As we cleaned the Hof before leaving everyone was able to say their heartfelt goodbyes, usually two and three times because we hate parting, but we left knowing we were blessed by the Holy Ás and Ásynjur, confident we will achieve our goals.

Hail Baldr!

Hail the Folk!

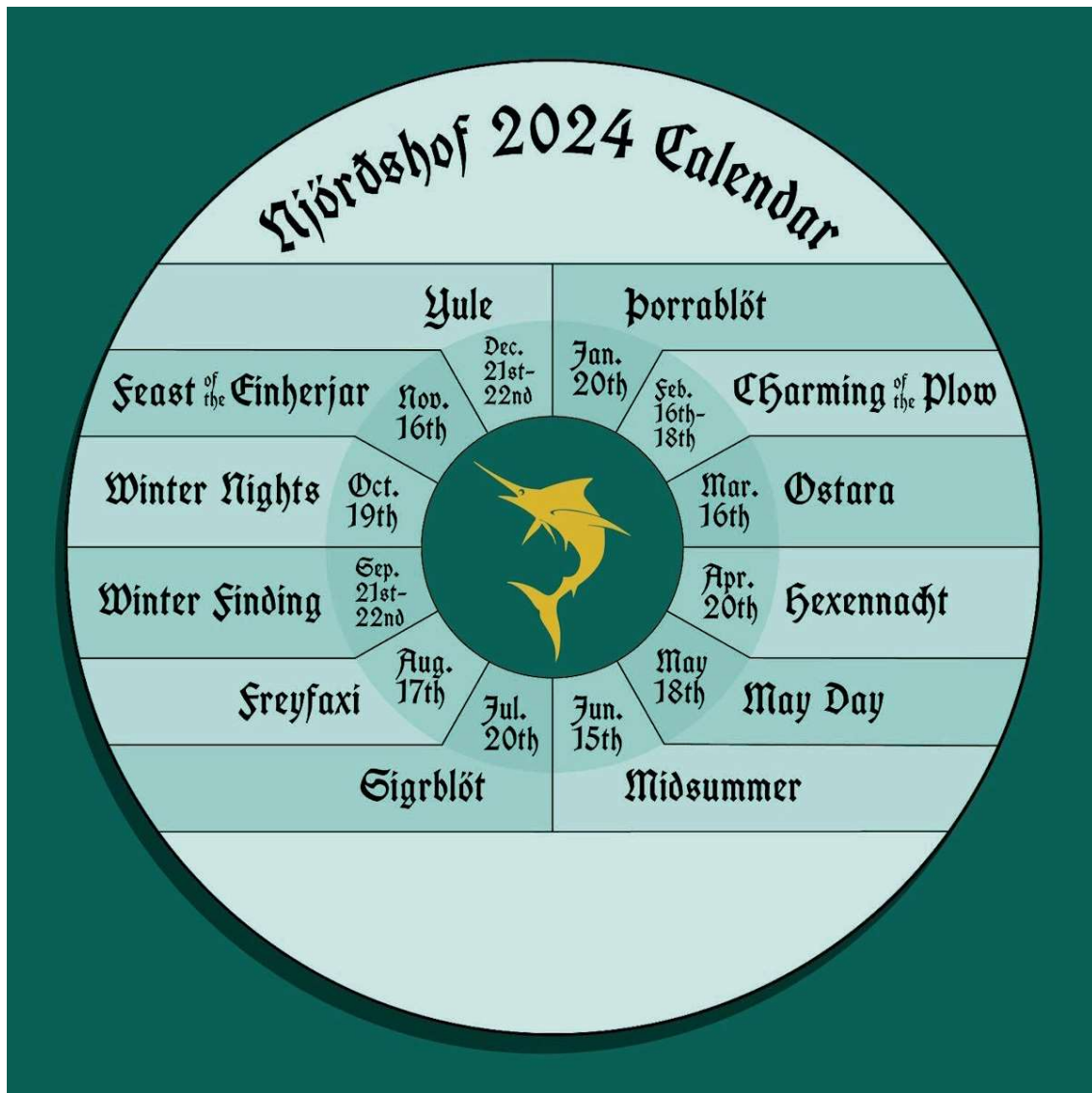
Hail the AFA!

Gothi Lane Ashby

lashby@runestone.org



Upcoming Events at Njörðshof





Exciting news! We're going to have a bake sale fundraiser during Winter Finding in September! Due to the unique challenges that we face in the Njörðshof kitchen (it's the size of a postage stamp!), we came up with the idea of utilizing roasters. We have a goal of buying three, plus foil liners (to use during multi-day events), which is about \$400.

We have a lot of culinary talent, and we know we can put together an awesome

selection of goods! Cookies, brownies, pies, breads, pickles, jams, candies... whatever your specialty is that you would like to donate, please reach out!

Alabama

Alabama Midsummer



Our Alabama Midsummer Festival was held at a new site this year. Over the past few months, we prepared two fields adjacent to a farm owned by one of our members, with one field serving as our social and camping area and the other as our ritual space. This was our most ambitious gathering to date, with three pavilion tents, a generator, and even a port-a-potty for the ladies. We had a total of 23 attendees, including 13 who spent the night. We had many kids present, who had a great time exploring the woods.



Saturday started with a barbecue lunch and a lot of conversation as the attendees – many of whom were new to organized Ásatrú – got to know each other. Dinner followed – hand-cut ribeyes cooked on the grill, something that is becoming a tradition in our group. After dinner we gathered in our sacred space for a powerful blot to Týr right as day gave way to night. The night ended with a lively Sumbel and much merry-making by those of us who stayed up into the wee hours.





There were fewer of us when the sun came up, but those who camped out enjoyed a delicious breakfast of farm eggs, bacon, and Conecuh sausage. The festival ended with a morning blot to Freyja led by Apprentice Folkbuilder Laura Morris. All in all, our festival was our most successful event yet, and we are confident it will set the bar for all our upcoming gatherings.

Upcoming Events



Laura Morris
Apprentice Folkbuilder
lmorris@runestone.org



Arkansas

Arkansas Meet-Up



We all met up earlier this month at my home. I set up a pool for all the children to swim in and a member brought snacks for them to eat on. While the children swim, we sat around outside talking. Later we had dinner together. It was a good day.

Lake Moot



A couple of ladies here in Arkansas met up at the lake and hung out. It was the best thing to do on this really hot summer day.

Upcoming Events



Tabitha Owens
Apprentice Folkbuilder
towens@runestone.org

Arkansas Zoo



We started this month off by getting together with Heather and her 3 children and hitting the zoo. We had a fun filled day of riding the train and getting to see the animals and Celine brought homemade peanut butter cookies.



Next week Scotty went and hung out with the Women Folk. Speaking of women Folk, Clistie got to spend some time with her husband, but is now free to start coming to things again. We look forward to building a strong community for the women of Arkansas and to have many activities for them.

Mississippi Moot



I decided to go see what the Mississippi members were up too. Celine and I took off to the bottom east corner of the state. The landscape transformed into flat lands and the temperature grew the deeper we went. It is very empty in the that part of the state. When we arrived, we were met by Christina and Steve, where we went into a small Mexican restaurant. After the meal, we went for a walk to the middle of the town and stood under a gazebo. The heat was intense. For those who have not been to this part of the country, it feels as though you are going to melt into the sidewalk. After talking for a bit, we decided to meet again in the fall once it's cooler.

Upcoming Events

JOIN US SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH



Little Rock Arkansas

LUNCH MOOT

Contact Folkbuilder
Jesse Parton or
Apprentice Tabi Owens
for details



Folkbuilder Jesse Parton
jparton@runestone.org

Florida

Sushi Moot



It's always nice to get together with a large group of the Folk. It's even better when you get to enjoy each other's company and have delicious sushi. We were all very excited about the big meal and the chance to spend a few hours together in Frith. We rated this food 10/10, and the company was even better. Hail the Folk!



Folkbuilder Tracy Adler
tadler@runestone.org

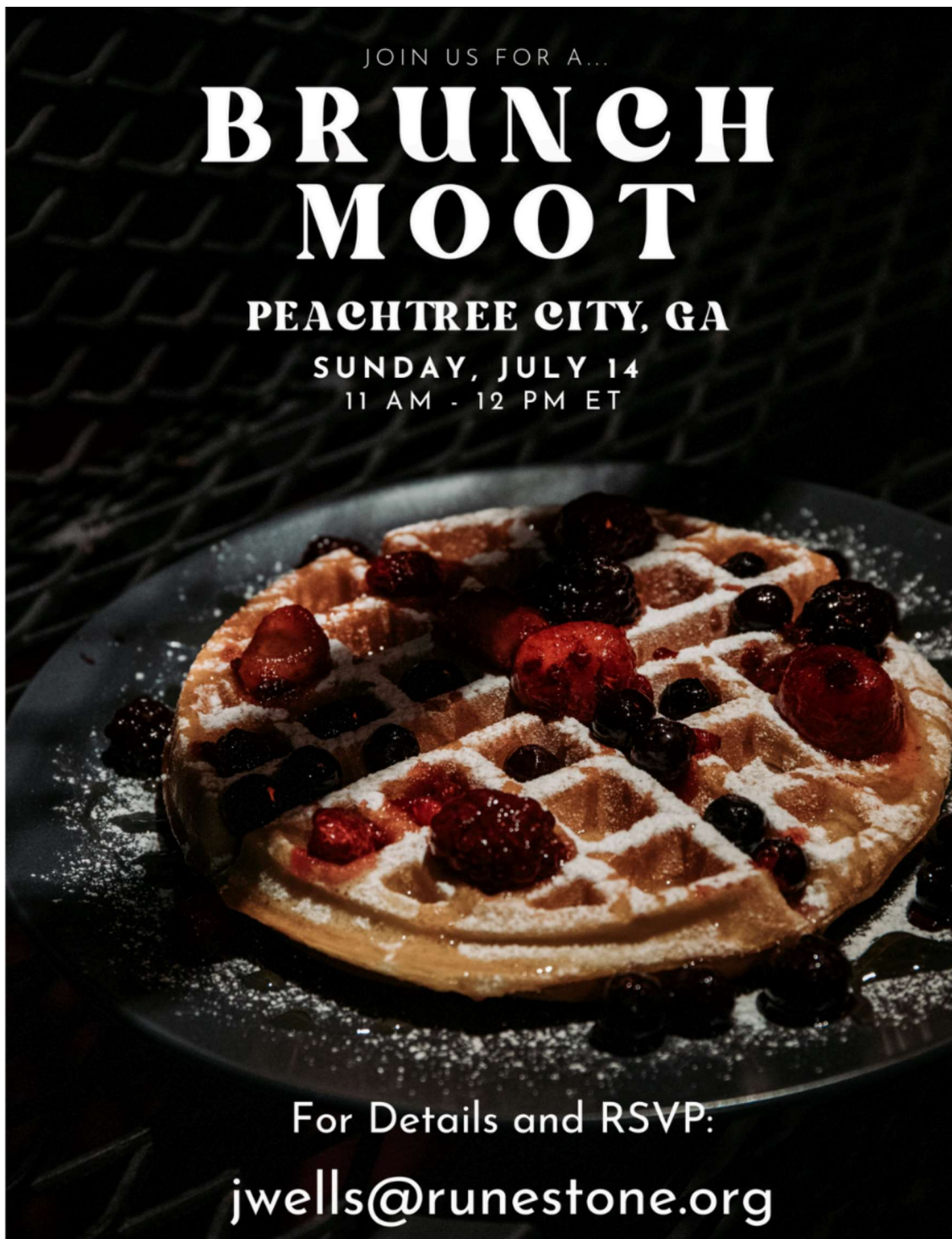
Georgia

Atlanta History Center Moot



For my moot in June, I had the pleasure of visiting the Atlanta History Center, which has an extensive Civil War exhibit, along with a historic farmhouse and mansion gardens that showcased the development of the state. It was also a nice connection to my very first moot at Brown's Mill Battlefield, expanding on the history showcased there.

Upcoming Events



Coming up on July 14th, I will be hosting a brunch in Peachtree City, Georgia. The restaurant has some of the best grits I've ever had (excluding the Joyners!). You really won't want to miss it, so I hope to see you there!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



Folkbuilder Jordan Wells
jwells@runestone.org

Mississippi

Upcoming Events




Join us in
Leland Mississippi
Saturday July 27nd
For a Lunch moot

Contact Folkbuilder
Jesse Parton for
details



Oklahoma

Upcoming Events



JOIN US
SATURDAY

OKLAHOMA CITY
OKLAHOMA

Lunch Moot

JULY 13TH

CONTACT FOLKBUILDER
JESSE PARTON FOR
DETAILS

Texas

Happy Midsummer!



As we begin the second leg of the year, I want to share my best advice for completing your goals. Whatever they are small or large, the key for me has always been to establish a pace that is not overwhelming and setting periodic checks. For example, in the pursuit of studies I set weekly goals which require between 10 to 20 hours of my time.

Every week I check myself to keep myself accountable. For smaller goals, you might set daily or biweekly goals. A useful paradigm way to setup your tasks with this kind of task keeping is called Agile, within this paradigm there are many variations you can use.

The important thing is not to overwhelm yourself. Keep goals doable and realistic. Don't get frustrated if you miss your goal, just add it back to the next iteration.

Upcoming Events



**JOIN US IN
FLOWER MOUND
TEXAS SATURDAY JULY
20TH FOR A LUNCH
MOOT**

**CONTACT FOLKBUILDER JESSE PARTON
OR APPRENTICE FOLKBUILDER PATRICK
WYNNE FOR DETAILS**



Patrick Wynne
Apprentice Folkbuilder
pwynne@runestone.org



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