



Þórshof
Second Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

www.thorshof.com

June 2025

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Words from the Allsherjargoði

Njörðshof



is paid off in full!

The amazing news of May was the full payoff of our Njörðshof loan! Over recent weeks and months, we have been blessed by an outpouring of generosity as the finish line came into view. At the end of May, a new member in Oregon, Matthew Bean, made the single largest donation the AFA has ever received. Matthew Bean donated \$41,480 completely paying off the Hof as well as generous donations to Óðinshof and our South African efforts. It is truly amazing to see all the wonderful things we are able to achieve with the generosity and commitment of our AFA family alongside the bountiful blessings of the Æsir. Thank you to each and every one of you who has given of

themselves to make this happen.

Hail the Givers!

Hail Matthew Bean!

Hail Njörðr!

The effort to get Freyshof has hit the ground running. Stay tuned for updates.

Event season is upon us! I am looking forward to seeing all of you at Miðsumar at Óðinshof, Sigrblót at Sigrheim, and Freyfaxi at Baldrshof. If you can make any of these, I would strongly urge you to make the effort, make the journey, and worship with your Folk in the might of this summer. If you can make it to all 3, even better! Now is an amazing time to be Ásatrú, let's make the most of it!

Hail the Æsir!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Announcements, News, & Noteworthy

5/17/25 - Weston Erdman was named in front of his Gods and Folk at Baldrshof.

5/17/25 - Carl Howard Vachon was named in front of his Gods and Folk at Njörðshof.



Matthew D. Flavel

Allsherjargoði, Asatru Folk Assembly

mattflavel@runestone.org

Words from our Goðar

Declaration of Purpose VIII



VIII. The exploration of the universe, in keeping with the Faustian instinct of our kind

We are a wide-faring Folk. Óðinn is a wanderer, and those who follow our Gods have typically been horizon-seekers. The longship has been replaced by the spaceship and the electron microscope, but the spirit of exploration remains the same. Our love of freedom and our craving for frontiers are undoubtedly connected. Stagnation brings on complacency, and complacency is death.

We would not be the advanced race that we are had our forebearers not been so adept at exploration and incorporating the latest technology of their time. Lord Óðinn is the epitome of our nature to seek new horizons and push beyond what we thought possible. Without that inherent nature, we as a race would still be barely clinging on to our existence just as you see in many other races around Miðgarðr, where their only means of survival comes from others stepping in to hold their hand. It is paramount that we continue to seek new opportunities and sights, new frontiers and capabilities. Not all races are equal; if that were the case, we would all be adept explorers and there would be no need to bring other races along, riding on our coattails as they contribute very little if anything to human advancement. Look around at other indigenous peoples around the world and you will see how stagnation, complacency, and a lack of the Wanderer's spirit has left them far behind in the human experience, begging and grasping for others to carry them along or they would indeed cease to exist. Keep striving to improve yourself and your Folk, pushing perceived and imposed boundaries to seek new opportunities and environments.



Goði Nathan Erlandson
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Working on a Better You



Working on a better you. It is always hard to work on yourself to get you whipped back in shape spiritually, physically, and mentally. So, as we strive to be a better people, we must also strive to fix the broken inside ourselves.

We must always have our Gods, our Ancestors, and out Folk in mind. We must never get complacent. If we do, things will fall apart around us. We must be healthy in a physical way to be able to stay strong.

We are the chariot of the blood of all those who came before us. Be worthy.

Self-care is essential to the soul. In Ásatrú, we celebrate strength, beauty, and victory. This requires self-care. As women, we are predisposed to care for everyone around us. Our husbands, children, our friends, but we far too oftentimes overlook our own needs.

We are taught that this is selfishness. What a sad way to view this. We are given one chance to live this life; it is up to us to seize this life and live it in a way that brings glory to our ancestors and sets an example for our children. Both are watching.



Gyðja Heather Young
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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

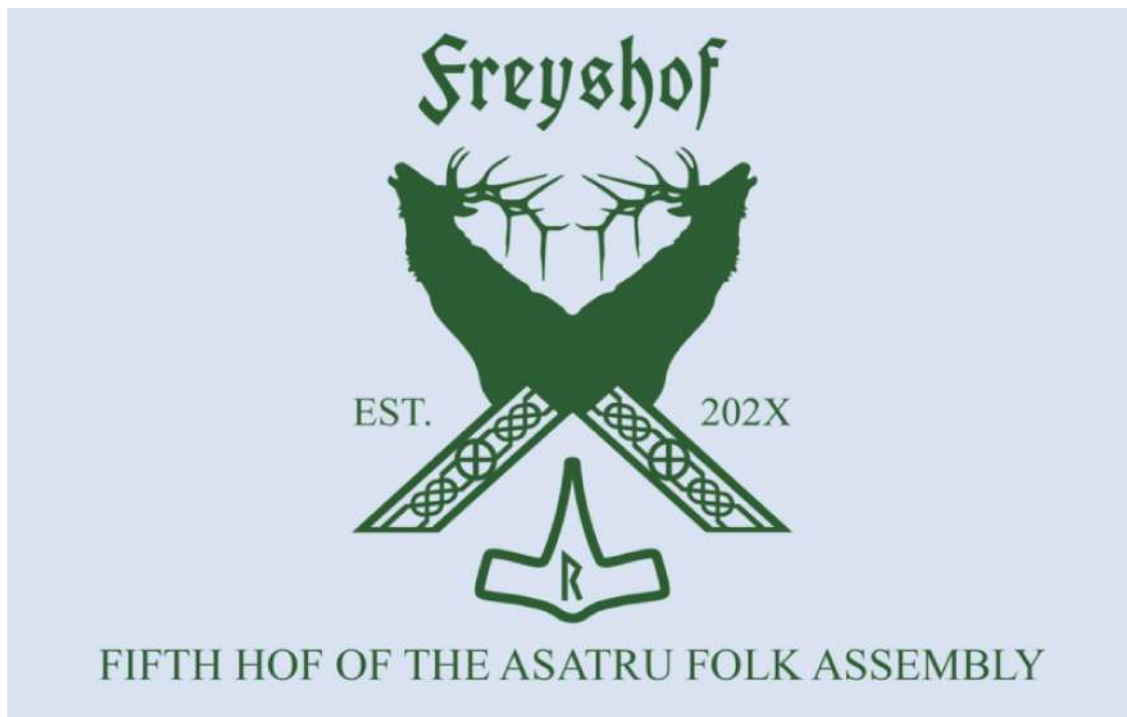
Allsherjargoði, Asatru Folk Assembly

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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/FreyshofFund)

This sacred quest is making great progress! 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. NJÖRÐSHOF IS NOW COMPLETELY PAID OFF!
2. CURRENT AVERAGE MONTHLY DONATIONS LOOK GOOD!
3. We need to locate a suitable property (we have already begun scouting).
4. We need to find lenders.



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

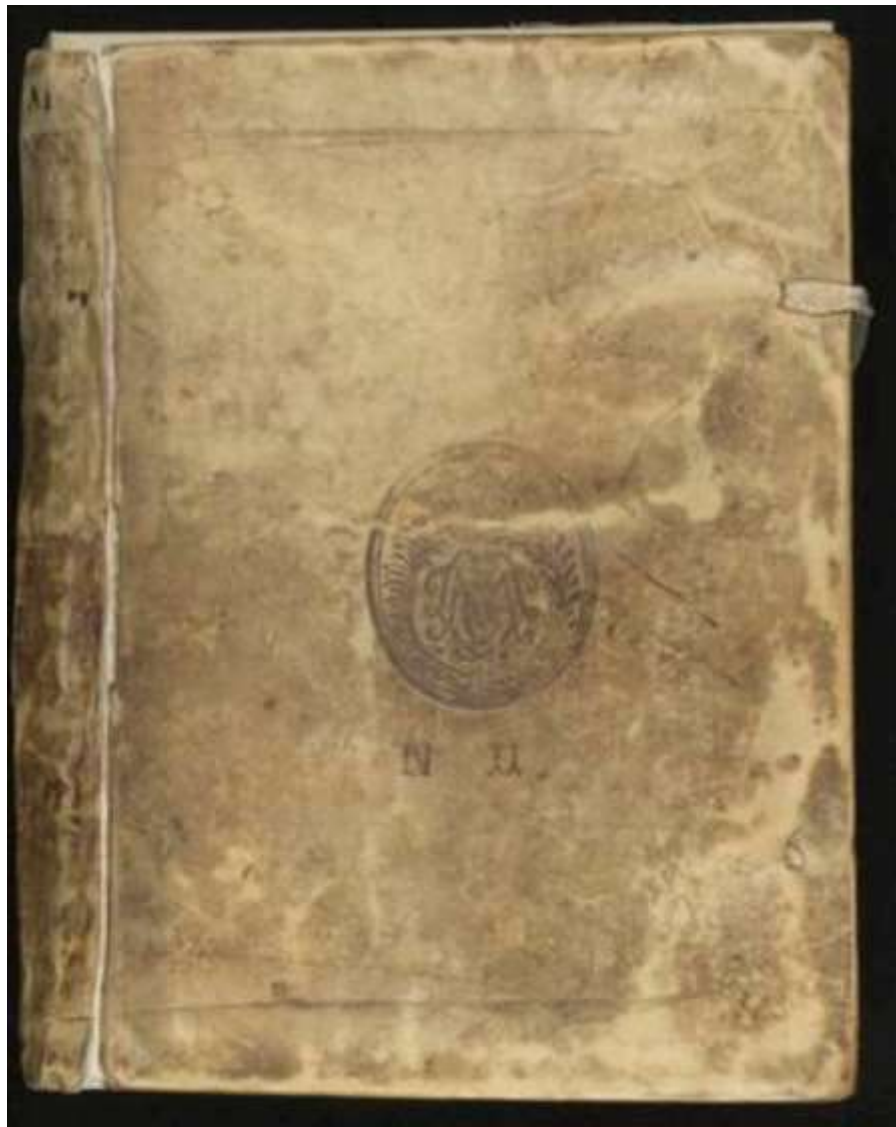
*Blótferð to Uppsala University's Library;
An Asatru Folk Assembly Library?*



Uppsala University Library (Uppsala Universitet Bibliotek)
Carolina Rediviva [name of the building]
Address: Dag Hammarskjölds Väg 1, 752 37 Uppsala, Sweden
(Photo Credit: Uppsalas Museer web site (Uppsala's Museums))

Long ago, my instincts and heritage led me to visit Scandinavia and Germany. During one trip, I traveled to the City of Uppsala, just north of Stockholm, Sweden. Ásatrúar traveled long distances to visit the religious center at Gamla Uppsala (translation “Old Uppsala”). The AFA has a term for these journeys: Blótferðs. (A rough translation of Blótferð from Goði Trent East is a “sacrificial journey.”)

The Library at Uppsala University was founded in 1620 by Sweden’s King Gustavus Adolphus. He also donated the first manuscripts and books. The library has been collecting written works from all over the world and in many languages for more than 400 years, including numerous books and manuscripts in Old Norse and other Scandinavian languages.

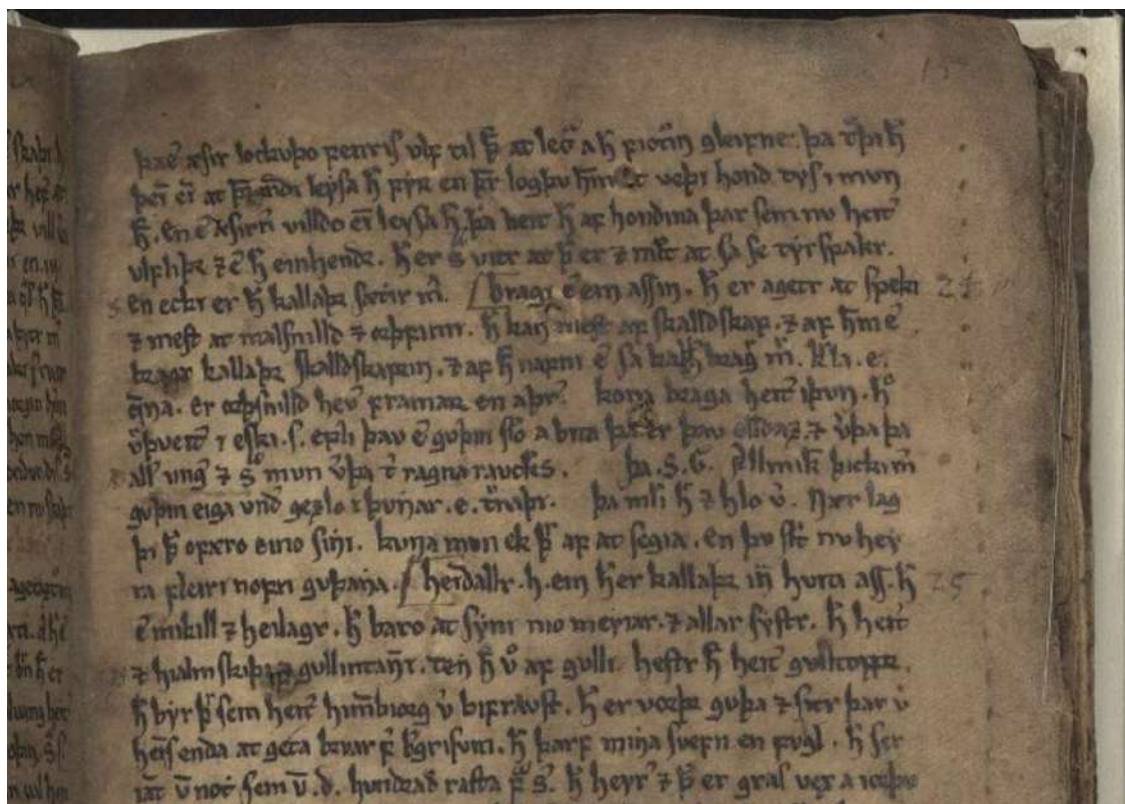


The well-worn cover of The Uppsala Edda
(Photo Credit: ALVIN, a Digital Cultural Heritage for Sweden)

Entering the Library’s exhibition halls, to my surprise, I saw *The Uppsala Edda*, an Icelandic manuscript from approximately 1300 C.E. This manuscript is most likely a

copy of Snorre Sturleson's (Snorri Sturlason) *Edda*, also known as *The Younger Eddas*, *The Prose Edda*, or *The Prosaic Edda*. But this particular copy at the library is identified as "*The Uppsala Edda*."

I can't find words for the thrill of seeing this original manuscript, nor words for the feeling of standing three or four feet from this centuries-old, handwritten book, kept in its glass case. This book has been viewed by thousands and will continue to inspire and enlighten those who see it in the future.



An enlarged portion of page 15 of The Uppsala Edda.
(Photo Credit: ALVIN, a Digital Cultural Heritage for Sweden)

The Uppsala Edda manuscript was donated to Uppsala University in 1669. You can find images of the original manuscript by using the Uppsala University Library's website, and the on-line tool called Alvin (Digital Cultural Heritage). Look for the pages titled "DG 11 - Uppsala-Edda," two examples of which are provided in this article.

During this visit years ago, I had not yet Come Home to Ásatrú. Therefore, the importance of going to Gamla Uppsala, the former religious and political center, was not forefront in my mind. I hope someday to make a Blótferð to Sweden to visit Gamla Uppsala! I hope all the Folk can visit this important site.



A view of a portion of Sigrheim's vast land area, including the bronze statutes of Founder and former Allsherjargoði Stephen McNallen and Hofgyðja Sheila McNallen.
(Photo Credit: The author (2024))

What would be the modern equivalent of Gamla Uppsala? Sigrheim in the future. According to the AFA's [Sigrheim Fund](#) web page, Sigrheim means "Home of Victory." The AFA's current vision includes (at least) an AFA neighborhood of members' residences, a magnificent Hof to Týr, guest lodging, and a common meeting/cooking/dining area. (There are also forested hills and a cemetery.) "This land will serve as the corporate and ecclesiastical headquarters for the Asatru Folk Assembly." The [Sigrheim Fund](#) web page also states, "As this dream grows, we also envision facilities to do homeschooling, summer camps, community craft fairs, and athletic training."

Consider how powerful it would be for the AFA, if we had our own beloved library, to be built as part of Sigrheim. Why there? If Uppsala was the cultural center for our Ásatrú ancestors, Sigrheim will be Ásatrú's cultural and religious center in North America. This library would exist primarily for the security of preserving our history and for serving the AFA worldwide, either when they visit in person or remotely.

Please note: An AFA Library at Sigrheim is **not** currently any AFA initiative. The library idea is just from my musings, as a devoted and long-time AFA member.

The Sigrheim Library could be a repository for the books and manuscripts of the AFA Goðar -- both those works they have written and those they have collected over their lives. In addition, artifacts and objects that tell our history, our story, would be preserved for our children and future generations to explore their heritage. It would include an Ásatrú Academy Library for our youth. This library would not just be for the kindergarten through twelfth-grade books for Ásatrú Academy students, but also contain many resources for our adult members. Members could donate their Ásatrú books, but also books not related to Ásatrú or our heritage, textbooks, and so on, that could be useful for the Sigrheim community and visitors to have for religious purposes or even academic or career development. This library could hold books that are no longer in print and/or are not digitized, and the original versions of history books that have in the last few decades been written or rewritten to be “politically correct.”

Especially important is saving history books about the Ethnic European Folk printed or written before they have been revised and skewed by “Progressive” Left “historians.”

In sum, the AFA Library could be a place for future Ásatrú scholars to do research on Ásatrú and our Ethnic European Folk’s heritage, among other topics. The library would be protected by our Folk living at, or near, the Sigrheim property. It would be a sanctuary of knowledge and wisdom for the future growth of Ásatrú.

Again, an AFA Library at Sigrheim is not any present AFA initiative or currently envisioned by AFA Leadership; the library is just my suggestion as a member.

Regardless, please consider donating to the Sigrheim Fund to help build out the other Sigrheim facilities and infrastructure, and perhaps for the library.

As just my suggestion, please also consider donating money, books, and artifacts for a potential AFA Library. Please hold off with any donations of books, artifacts, and objects that tell our history, until the AFA has a place to put your items (unless permission granted by the Goðar). For example, I have bequeathed a substantial portion of my extensive book collection to the AFA for the Library. (Allsherjargoði Matt Flavel gave me an approving nod for that idea.) In my personal view, anything you can do to help create this library resource will benefit the AFA.

Hail Snorre Sturleson and all those unnamed Goðar, Loremasters, and Folk through the centuries who passed the Lore down!

Hail the AFA Hof Historians and Librarians!

Hail the AFA Ásatrú Academy!

— Bill, member, Óðinshof District

(Acknowledgements: The author very much appreciates the willingness of Brodie and Olivia Sutherland to facilitate his bequest of books and Ásatrú items to the AFA. Also, the author is very grateful for the suggestions regarding editing of this article from AFA Óðinshof District members Robert and Katie, who are librarians and English teachers.)

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



June 14th

230pm

Midsummer at Sigrheim

Sigrblót at
Sigrheim

July
25-27

Tickets at
<https://store.runestone.org/product/sigrblot>



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

Victory Never Sleeps



Victory Never Sleeps is a weekly podcast airing Wednesdays at 8pm Central. It is produced by the Asatru Folk Assembly, hosted by Allsherjargoði Matthew Flavel, and features weekly special guests speaking on spiritual topics pertaining to our Folk. 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 Ásatrú Folk.

Æsir. Virtues. Runes. Beliefs.

Doctrine. Cosmology. Literature.

Holidays. Heroes. 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, Odysee, VK, Rumble, and Twitch. Audio versions drop on Apple

Podcasts, Spotify, iHeart Radio, and Amazon Music no later than the Friday after the live show.

Check out the full playlist of 150+ shows with 100's of hours of previous recordings on our [YouTube](#).



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AFA Ásatrú Academy



Check out the Ásatrú Academy at AsatruAcademy.org

Keeping Busy for the Summer

“Our highest endeavor must be to develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives.

The need for imagination, a sense of truth, and a feeling of responsibility—these three forces are the very nerve of education.”



-Rudolf Steiner

For many families, June heralds the end of the school year. There are some that choose to implement year-round schooling, but most of us are familiar with the concept of a “summer break.” Routines are often looser and bedtimes later. There is time to reflect and relax before the planning for the next season of education begins. You may find, however, that it will keep everyone happier and healthier if you do not completely drop the reins of structure and sleep. Neglecting circadian rhythms and patterns can lead to a much harder time later in the summer.

Last month, we discussed the importance of rhythms. The next philosophical nugget to delve into is Inner Work. Once rhythm, structure, and sleep are prioritized, the parent can focus on Inner Work. Perhaps the “break” this summer is a time for reflection and spending more time cultivating the Spiritual state within the parent.

There are many methods and paths with inner work.

Thinking
Feeling
Willing



Here we come to the spiritual environment of the early childhood setting: the thoughts, attitudes, and imaginations living in the adult who cares for the children. This invisible realm that lies behind the outer actions of the teacher has a profound influence on the child's development. The spiritual environment includes recognition of the child as a threefold being – of body, soul and spirit – on a path of evolutionary development through repeated earth lives. This recognition provides a foundation for the daily activities in the kindergarten, and for the relationship between adult and child. In addition to the questions we have already pondered above, we may ask:

- How is the adult actively engaged in inner development as an early childhood educator, and as a human being?
- How is she cultivating a relationship to the children on a spiritual basis?
- Does she strive to approach her work in such a way that the children in her care are not burdened by unresolved issues in her personal life?
- Do goodness and moral uprightness stream from the being of the teacher? Is her inner and outer activity in coherence with healthy social and ethical values? Is she striving to be an example worthy of the children's imitation?
- Does the educator...love the earth, and the world into which the children are incarnating?
- How does she see her relationship to the past, the present, and the future of our human journey?

This is the very challenging realm of self-knowledge and the activity of the individual ego of the adult – a realm where it is difficult to be objective in our observations. Yet ultimately it is this realm that may affect the development of the children most profoundly. It is not merely our outer activity that affects the developing child; it is what lies behind and is expressed through this outer activity. Ultimately the most profound influence on the child is who we are as human beings – and who and how we are becoming.

— Susan Howard

The Essentials of Waldorf Early Childhood Education



Rachel Kinsler
Homeschool Coach, Ásatrú Academy
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Schools Out!



Warm greetings to all our students and families! We come to the end of another school year. The whole church is very proud of you and cheers on your progress! I'm very proud of each and every one you!

As a reminder to our families and members, we enroll for the Academy on a year-round basis. If your child still attends public or private school, you are still encouraged to enroll and take advantage of our religious studies and activities. We will be offering kindergarten through 7th grade this fall.

As a reminder to our parents that are required to keep a portfolio of studies, now is a good time to make sure everything is logged and in order.

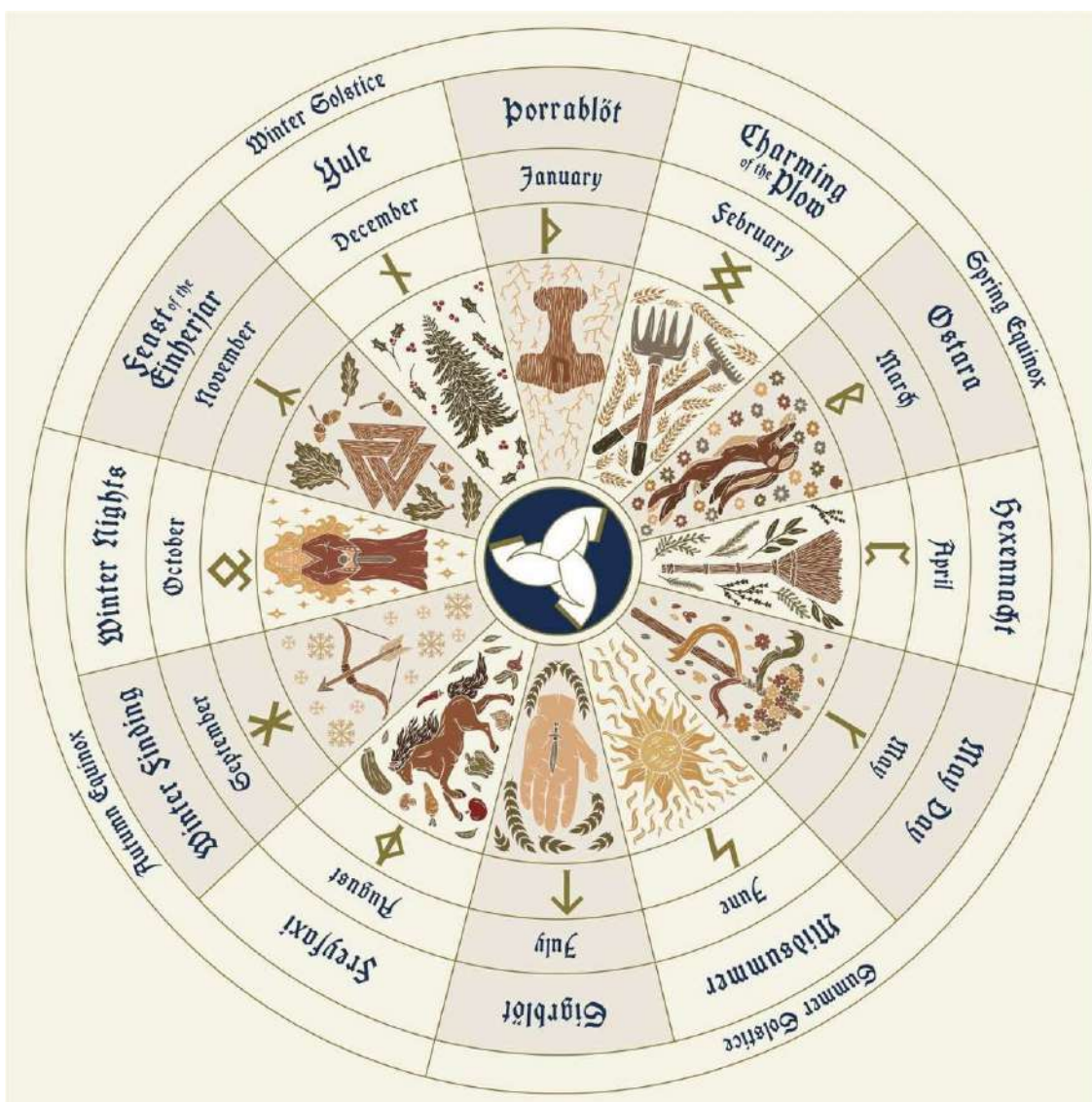
During the summer months of "off" time, please check in on the runestone. The Academy will use this space to offer up some fun summertime Ásatrú activity ideas, and I will occasionally post a small religious lesson.

Thank you again to all our hard-working students and families. We had a great year, and every year gets better!

Goði Rob Stamm
Dean, Ásatrú Academy
rstamm@runestone.org



Remembrance & Holy Days



[Holy Days | Asatru Folk Assembly](#)

> January 9 - Goði Rauður the Strong <

- > January 18 - King Blót-Sveinn of Sweden <
 - > January 18 - Þorablót <
- > February 1 - King Eanfrith of Bernicia <
 - > February 9 - Eyvind Kinnrifi <
 - > February 15 - Dísapíng <
 - > March 9 - Goði Ölvir of Egg <
- > March 20 - Austr (observed on March 15) <
 - > April 9 - Jarl Hákon Sigurðarson <
 - > April 10 - John Yeowell "Stubba" <
- > April 30 - Nornanótt (observed on April 19) <
 - > May 1 - Sumarmál (observed on May 17) <
 - > May 22 - John Gibbs-Bailey "Hoskuld" <
 - > June 9 - King Athanaric of the Visigoths <
- > June 20 - Miðsumar (observed on June 21) <
 - > July 4 - Sveinbjörn Beinteinsson <
 - > July 15 - Alexander Rud Mills <
 - > July 19 - Sigrblót <
 - > August 1 - King Osric of Deira <
 - > August 9 - King Radbod of Frisia <
 - > August 16 - Freyfaxi <
- > September 9 - Prince Hermann of the Cherusci <
 - > September 12 - Else Christensen <
- > September 22 - Haustblót (observed on September 20) <
 - > October 4 - Goði Þorsteinn Guðjónsson <
 - > October 5 - Meister Guido von List <
- > October 15 - Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen <
 - > October 18 - Vetrnætr <
 - > November 9 - Queen Sigríðr of Sweden <
- > November 11 - Einherjablót (observed on November 15) <
 - > December 9 - Egill Skallagrímsson <
- > December 20-31 - Jól (observed on December 20) <

June



Asatru Holidays - June 2025 - King Athanaric | Miðsumar
https://youtu.be/-Z64T_jCn68

Day of Remembrance

King Athanaric of the Visigoths | June 9th



381 𐌰

Born sometime in the mid-4th century CE, Athanaric led the Visigoths as their king from 369 until his death in 381. We know next to nothing about his early life, or about his life outside of his deeds defending Ásatrú and his people. His 12 years as king were mired by conflict, both with the Christian Romans as well as Visigoths who wanted to see the Æsir forgotten among their Folk.

The early years of Athanaric's reign was spent preserving the Gothic culture and Folksoul by stamping out the foreign faith of Christianity wherever it took root among his people. He correctly surmised that the advent of Christianity would be detrimental to his people, as well as an insult to the Æsir. He was resolute in his opposition to the foreign faith and the soul sickness it would carry for his people, going so far as to punish those who willingly severed their troth with the Æsir.

Initially during this time, Athanaric was allied with another Visigothic ruler named Fritigern, and they fought bravely against the Roman Empire together. After converting

to Christianity, however, Fritigern turned on King Athanaric and started the Gothic Civil War. Athanaric won every battle he had with Fritigern and his army of traitorous Christian Visigoths, even after Fritigern received aid from Emperor Valens of Rome. Once the Visigoths who remained true to the Æsir had won the unfortunate war against their kin, however, the infamous Huns invaded from the east.

Upon this invasion, Fritigern and his fellow Christians were allowed to take refuge with the Romans, while the Ásatrú Visigoths were left to fend for themselves. They were outmanned and weakened in the aftermath of their war with Fritigern and the Christian Goths, leaving them no means of standing a chance against the relentless Huns.

Athanaric and his Folk were forced out of their lands and into the Carpathians. He and his people were received by Theodosius I in Constantinople, and signed a treaty of friendship with the eastern Roman Empire.

King Athanaric was an energetic and dauntless sovereign of the Visigoths, loyal to his Gods and his Folk until the very end. Not only did he hold his own loyalty to the Æsir, but he strove with all his might to keep his whole Folk in troth with our Gods. Let us honor King Athanaric not only by raising a glass or horn in his name, but also by living Ásatrú proudly! Let us stand tall, walk proudly, and remain resolute in the face of all that would seek to separate us from the holy Æsir!

Hail King Athanaric!

Holiday

Miðsumar | June 20th (Observed June 21st)



For us, Miðsumar is considered the official beginning of summer, but for our ancestors, who only recognized two seasons (winter and summer), Miðsumar was the middle of the season. The common factor between our ancestor's celebration and ours is the Summer Solstice. On Miðsumar, we celebrate the longest day of the year and the shortest night. The dark and cold of winter is firmly past and the days are full of vitality and life.

But first, we celebrate. The best-known symbol of Miðsumar is the bonfire. In Europe, bonfires are still lit and burn the whole night through. Men and women gather to celebrate the warm days and the successful planting season by dancing around the bonfire. Many people focus on love and fertility during the summer solstice, with Folk traditions that include picking wildflowers and putting them under one's pillow to dream of the person they will marry. Couples often jump over the fire during Miðsumar to be blessed by the Æsir and the Ancestors.

The planting season is finished. The hard work that began with the blessing of the tools at Dísaping and the planting of the seeds after Austrar has been finished. Now we tend to the growing crops and revel in the beauty of life. We can take a momentary break from the difficulties of life to embrace that which makes the hard work worth the effort.

As the revelry comes to an end, however, we must take the time to remember that the days will now begin to shorten once again. Winter will come and our hard work is not

yet done.

Upcoming National Event

Midsummer at Óðinshof | June 27th – 29th



Get your tickets [HERE](#)

Come and tread the hallowed Hall of the High One! Come celebrate Midsummer at Óðinshof from June 27th-29th!

Midsummer is the premier event of the year at Óðinshof! We have pulled out all the stops this year to bring you great speakers! Bountiful feasts! And as always, you can expect to feel the very heartbeat of the Asatru Folk Assembly when you walk the

grounds, step inside the ritual circle of and enter the Hall of Óðinn! There is no better place to gather with your Folk and celebrate Midsummer this year! Come home to the heart of the Asatru Folk Assembly for a Midsummer you won't forget!

Don't wait! Get registered today!

Members, take advantage of our Early Bird Special! Don't wait and have to pay more at the door!

You're invited to Midsummer, Óðinshof's signature event of the year! Please join your Folk from across all the districts as we celebrate and honor our Gods and Goddesses at the very First Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly. This weekend will be a summer "spiritual retreat" for all our Folk coming from near and far. It will be filled with inspirational rituals, scrumptious and hearty meals, healing music, warm sunshine, laughter, motivating conversations, and fun activities for all ages!

- Camping onsite at Óðinshof is free and includes the use of outdoor hot showers.
 - Additional lodging options in the greater Brownsville area also be available.
- Guests (non-members) must be approved prior to the event.
 - Please contact any of the Folkbuilders in advance to assist with this process.



Since 2016, AFA leaders and members have come to Midsummer at Óðinshof for three days of spiritual enlightenment and personal interaction. We offer the same thing to you this year with rituals and ceremonies, insightful talks, outdoor fun and games, children's activities for all ages, live music, and much more. A highlight is the annual auction to fund our Óðinshof renovations. Vendors are welcome as well.

As an AFA national event, this is our main fundraiser of the year. Your ticket guarantees delicious meals and the option to camp for free. Our spacious piece of land has camping sites with showers, plus room for RVs and trailers.

This is Year 30 since the AFA received official religious-status in California, and ten years since we purchased this fine old building. As much as anything, it will be a time to celebrate this milestone – First Hof in 1000 years! Every event is unique, but 2025 will be remembered forever!

We make every effort to keep this affordable with ticket prices the same as 2024!

Send us your questions. We can help you with lodging options and transportation to-and-from the regional airports. Would you like to have a special family-rite performed such as a wedding or baby-naming? Reach out to me or any of our local Folkbuilders.

Óðinshof, 8408 La Porte Road (PO Box 124), Brownsville, CA 95919

Get your tickets [HERE](#)



Gyðja Sheila McNallen

sheila@runestone.org

Sigrblót at Sigrheim | July 25th – 27th

Sigrblót at Sigrheim

July
25-27

Tickets at
<https://store.rune-stone.org/product/sigrblot>

Get your tickets [HERE](#)

The third 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 in some of the cities around Sigrheim as well. 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!

Get your tickets [HERE](#)



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Freyfaxi at Baldrshof | August 22nd – 24th



Get your tickets [HERE](#)

Join the gathered Folk for Freyfaxi at Baldrshof 2025!

Friday, August 22nd through Sunday August 24th, 2025

This weekend will include:

- 9 total meals
- Daily Fika
- 5 Blótar
- High Sumbl
- Daily Dedications and Devotions
- Ceremonies of the Folk
- Discussions, Workshops, and Classes
- Men's and Women's Spiritual Groups
- Tournaments and Games
- Ice Bucket Challenge
- 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.

Get your tickets [HERE](#)



Witan Brandy Fassett
bfassett@runestone.org

Winter Nights XIV | October 10th – 12th



Get your tickets [HERE](#)

This long-running AFA festival is dedicated to our ancestral mothers, the Disir. Started in 2012, the Asatru Folk Assembly's Winter Nights festival was hosted at a beloved camp in Pennsylvania for its first decade. This year, for the second time, Winter Nights XIV will be held from October 10th – 12th, in Cheshire County, New Hampshire. 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!

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.

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.

Member Family – Weekend: \$135

Member – Weekend: \$90

Member – Day pass: \$45

Guest – Weekend: \$120

Guest – Day pass: \$60

Child – Weekend: Free

Child – Day pass: Free

Playlist of previous events > <https://tinyurl.com/AFAWinterNights>

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

Get your tickets [HERE](#)



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@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 since 2020 and has been a resounding success! The Ladies of the AFA have knitted, crocheted, and sewn beautiful baby blankets for over 120 of our littlest folk, with more on the way. They've been delivered everywhere from Alaska to Florida to California to Sweden!

If you are a member of the AFA who is expecting a baby, please let your Folkbuilder

know so that 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, and we will get you in touch with the right people. It's so rewarding to see your handicraft being loved by our precious wee-Folk!

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! Thank you!



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

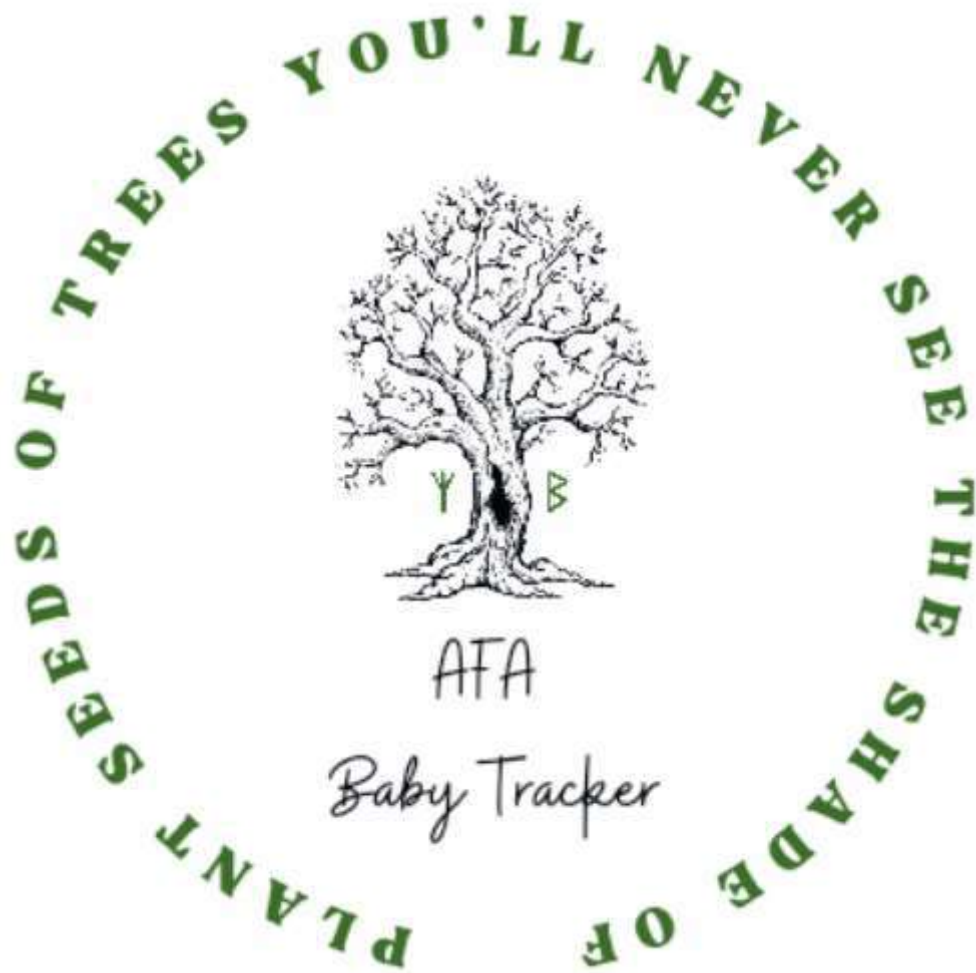
By the example of our Folkmother, Else Christensen, we will also be going into prisons as we are able to. Some of our Gothar and other leadership, will be going into the prisons to hold study groups, lead blot, and encourage continued growth in the folk inside.

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.

Baby Tracker



To show the growth of our Folk we present to you an ongoing baby tracker. We have been keeping track of how many children have been and are born within the AFA from 2022 and onwards. 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 2025: 13

Online Events and Meetings

SISTERS SUNDAY CHATS



Second and fourth Sunday of the month
10 am central

FOR MORE INFO: BFASSETT@RUNESTONE.ORG

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**



AFA Eldri Moots *on Teams*

*A social group for members
age 50 and above.*

A place to share memories,
ideas, experiences,
and the joys of life ~
in caring conversation.

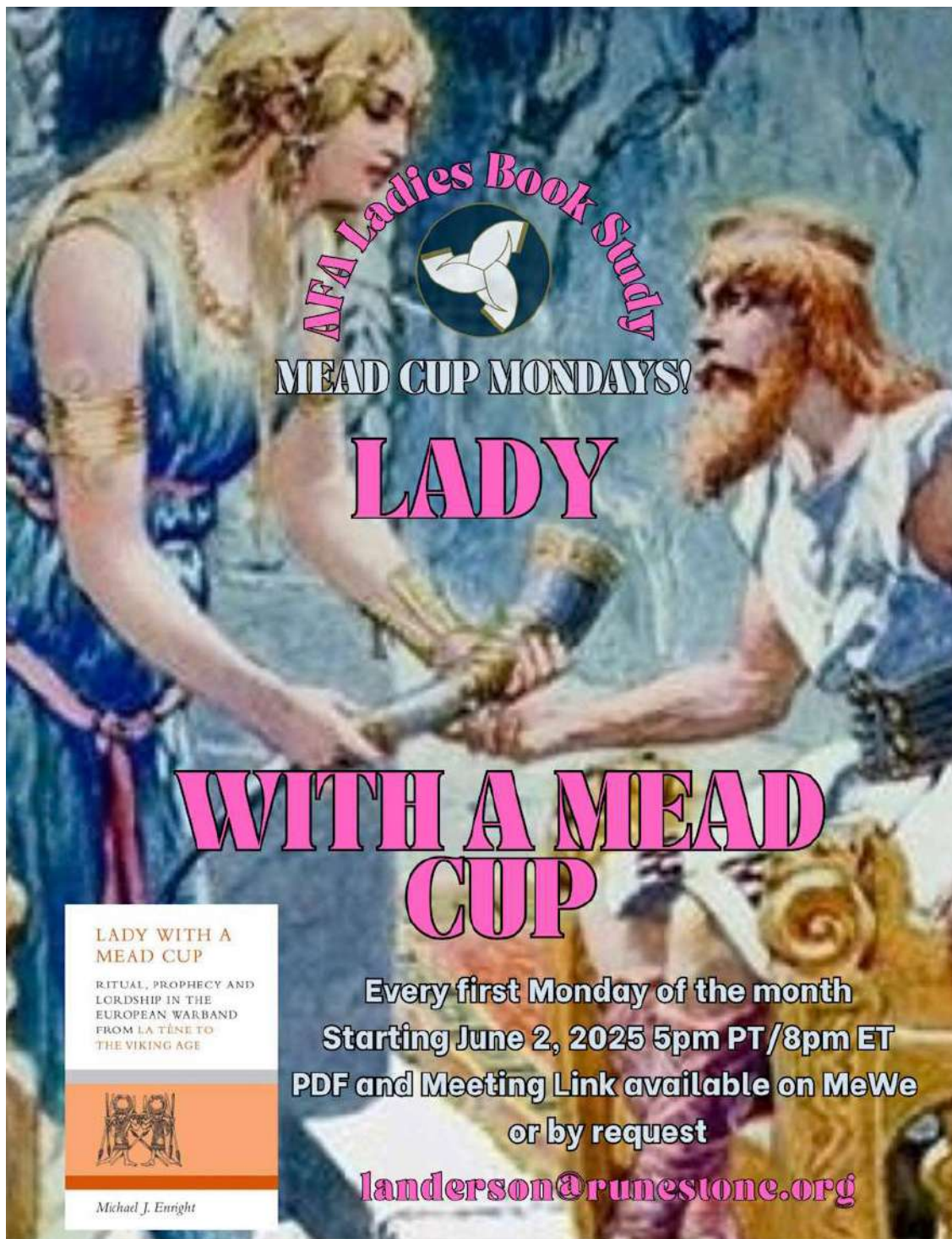
Tuesdays:
5:00 PT, 6:00 MT, 7:00 CT, 8:00 ET

June 10th, June 24th

Hosted by Gythia Sheila McNallen

Copy/paste link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc289cn8>





AFA Ladies Book Study

MEAD CUP MONDAYS!

LADY

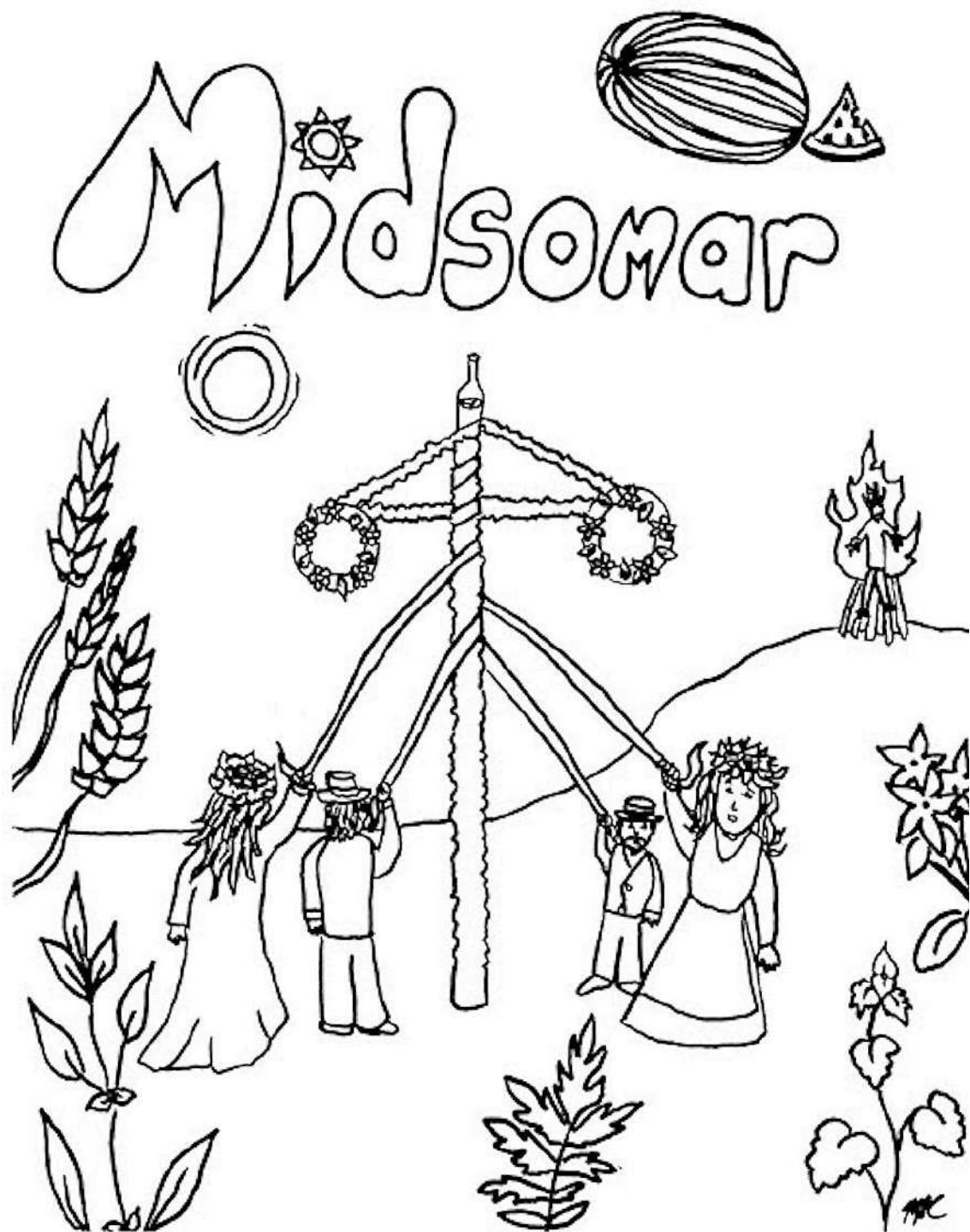
WITH A MEAD CUP

LADY WITH A MEAD CUP
RITUAL, PROPHECY AND LORDSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN WARBAND FROM LA TÈNE TO THE VIKING AGE

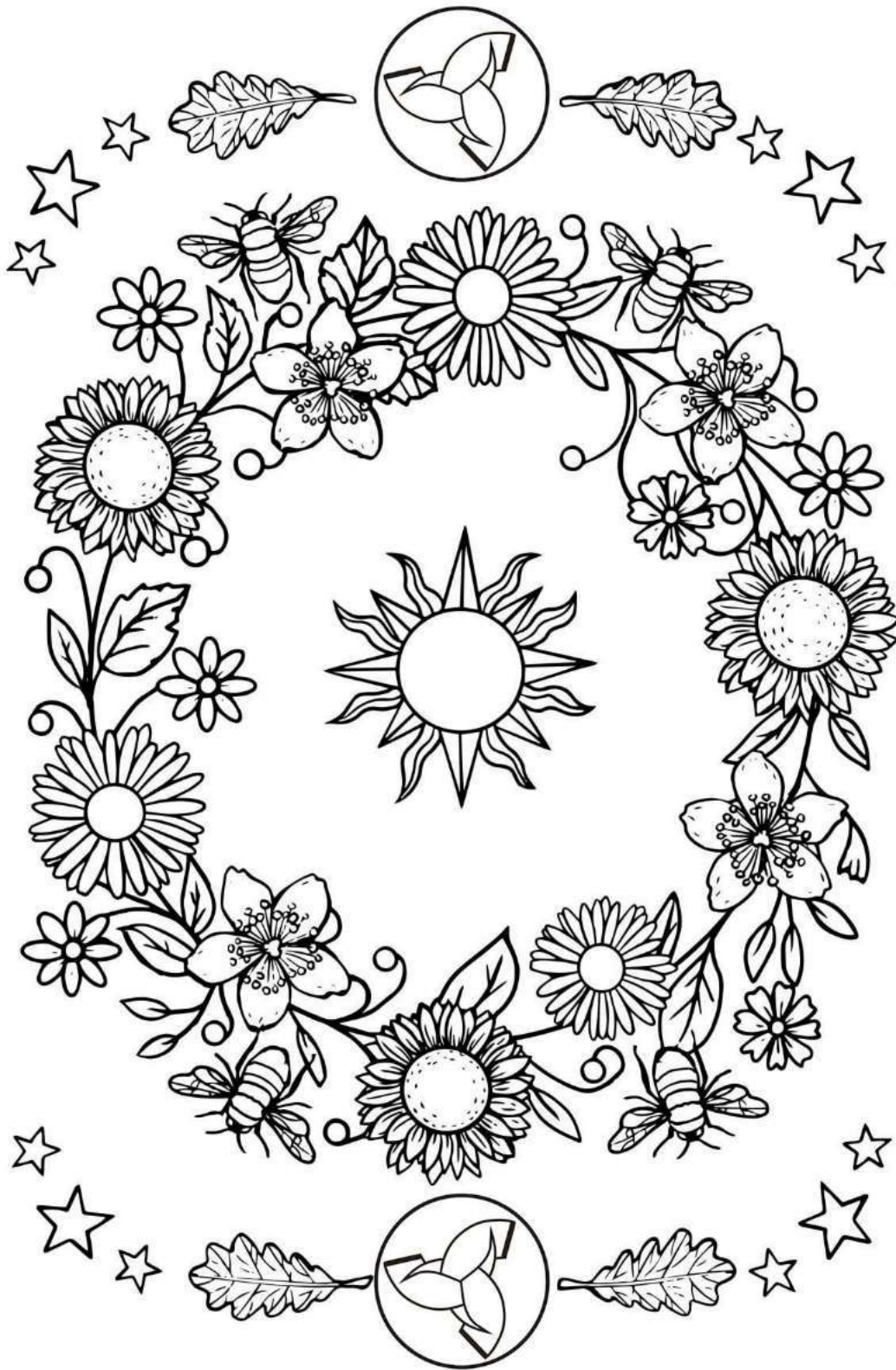
Every first Monday of the month
Starting June 2, 2025 5pm PT/8pm ET
PDF and Meeting Link available on MeWe
or by request
landerson@runestone.org



Just for Fun



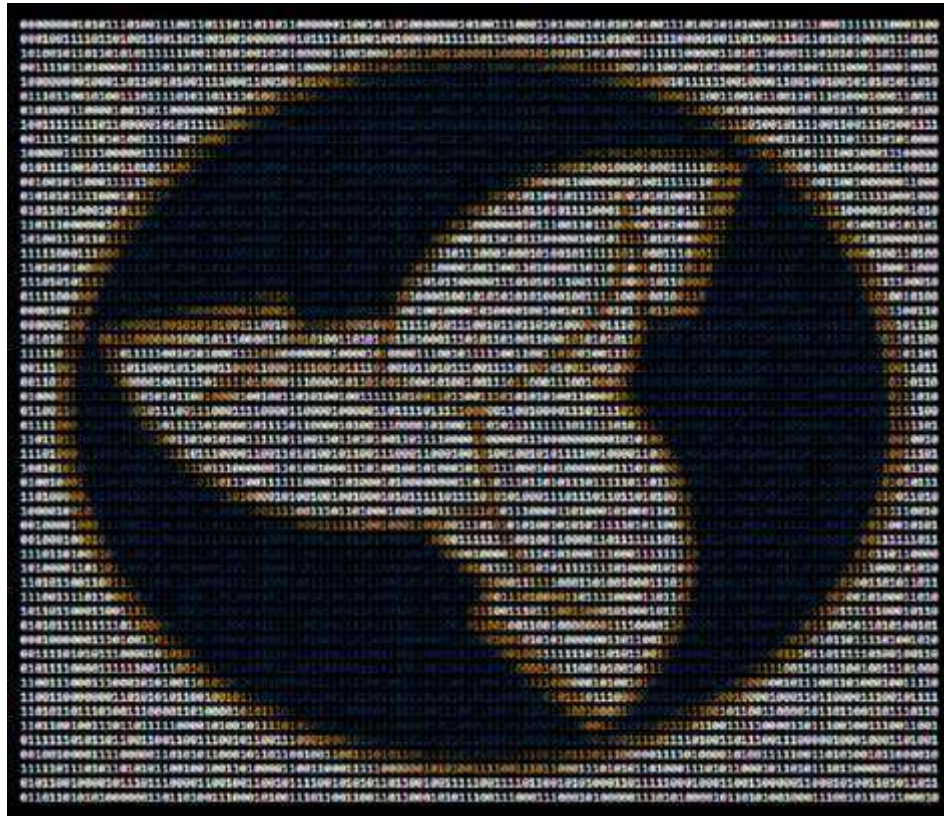
Have an amazing Miðsumar!



Feel free to send your colored creations to press@runestone.org for a shout-out in the next issue!

AFA STEMCELS

*Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
Community Education and Learning Service*



Have you ever considered a career in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics (STEM)? STEM positions have great work-life balance, high compensation, job security, and can be done remotely.

The goal of STEMCELS is to help AFA members learn the skills needed for technical positions and help them find gainful employment using our professional network.

We currently have mentors in General Software Engineering, Data Engineering, and Embedded Engineering, including some with Silicon Valley experience. We are holding information sessions to help you decide if any of these disciplines are right for you. The sessions include:

- Possible career paths
- Necessary skills and mindset
- What a typical workday looks like

The next session is on Friday, June 20, 2025, 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM. If this interests you or if you're interested in becoming a mentor, please send an email to stemcels@runestone.org.



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

AFA Fundraising



Hello and Happy Miðsumar! This month we are doing Thirty Days of Consistency, and I am so ecstatic to see the participation this month! You all rock! Keep it up!

In July, to celebrate and honor our Victory God, we are doing a "Sigr Challenge." Each category represents a different fundraiser. Choose your faction, Strength (Baldrshof Steeple), Endurance (Folk Services Fund), or Distance (South Africa Fund) and compete for the top spot. The way this will be measured depends on your faction.

- For Strength, figure out your starting weight, ability to do 10 reps but not easily. From there work on improving your strength. On July 30th do your 10 reps and see what your ending weight is, again you should be able to complete them, but not easily! This will be broken down into a percentage and the highest improvement percentage wise will be crowned victorious!
- For Endurance, we will do a baseline percent improvement, whether it's running, elliptical, stair stepper, mountain biking, you name it, whatever allows you to track distance and time. Pick your medium for tracking and give it your all to get your best time and distance on July 1st (or close to it) work on improvement all month and then take a photo on July 30th with your ending time. Most improvement for time it takes to go your baseline distance will be the Victor!
- For Distance, we will do this just like the walk-a-thon but it's an individual basis instead of a Hof v Hof basis.

There will also be a "most improved" winner in each category, and we'll announce the winners on VNS as always.

Entry for this event is 20\$ same rules apply, donations can be done up until the 30th to give time to calculate. Go to [runestone.org](https://store.runestone.org/product/fundraiser-entry/) or click the link below!

<https://store.runestone.org/product/fundraiser-entry/>

Good luck and happy improving!



Folkbuilder Sierra Chapman

schapman@runestone.org

Calling All Folk Photographers



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

Pórshof

Food Pantry at Pórshof



At Pórshof during Sumarmál, we conducted our monthly Food Pantry. This month, we fed 25 families in the Linden area. Allow us at Pórshof to thank Folkbuilder Sierra Chapman for helping us find a new food donor, our changes were well-received.

This month, we met a member of the Parker family, a Linden family that donated the

very land that Þórshof stands upon. Our holy Vé was originally called Parker's Grove Methodist Church. And this Sumarmál, we had the pleasure to repay that family by helping one of their descendants.

Deeds are Iron.



Witan Daniel Young

dyoung@runestone.org

Sumarmál at Þórshof



This month, members came together at Þórshof to celebrate Sumarmál with a full day of activities and fellowship. We began the day by opening our monthly food bank, where we were able to provide support to twenty-one families of the community in need. This ongoing effort is a cornerstone of our commitment to our community. Following the food bank, we gathered for a short class led by Witan Herul, who spoke about some of the lesser-known goddesses in of our faith.



Next, we moved into the Hof for Blót, honouring the Gods and Galdring as we exchanged gifts. Afterwards, we stepped outside to enjoy one of the most iconic Sumarmál traditions - dancing around the Maypole. The colorful ribbons and dancing brought smiles to everyone's faces, from our most senior Witan to brand new members. Dinner followed, and as always, it was a delicious and satisfying meal shared among friends and Folk. We then listened to Witan Young speak about the importance of letting go and releasing old habits and emotional baggage in order to grow. As the evening came to a close, we returned home feeling uplifted and grateful.



It was another successful and memorable Sumarmál celebration at Þórshof, filled with spiritual growth, learning, tradition, and community.



Folkbuilder Robert Shotwell
rshotwell@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Þórshof

Þórshof



Midsummer at Þórshof



June 21st



Monthly Members' Meetings

Pörshof - North

Monthly Members' Meeting

2nd Thursday of the Month at 730pm Eastern



Links Emailed and Posted to MeWe
Contact any Folkbuilder for assistance

Þórshof

Monthly Members' Meeting

Last Tuesday of the Month at 8pm Eastern



**Links Emailed and Posted to MeWe
Contact any Folkbuilder for assistance**

Support Þórshof



The District Poetry Corner

De Start of De Season



Spring has sprung and now summer strides
up to our area, all alive and eager.
The flowers are flashing their fancy colors,
and little buds burst in verdian blasts.
The dandelions pop up all over the place, prominently
lounging in luxury on every lawn: little
buttons of gold on a great green dress.
The sky is clear and cloudless, clean
except for stray streaks soaring far
above everything around on Earth.
What a pretty period to be placed in.



Chris Savich
Apprentice Folkbuilder
csavich@runestone.org

Uti Vår Hage



Uti Vår Hage
Folkvisa
By Hugo Lutteman

Uti vår hage där växa blå bär.
Kom hjärtans fröjd
Vill du mig något, så träffas vi där!
Kom liljor och aquileja,
Kom rosor och salvia,
Kom ljuva krusmynta, kom hjärtans fröjd!

Fagra små blommor där bjuda till dans.
Kom hjärtans fröjd
Vill du, så binder jag åt dig en krans!
Kom liljor och aquileja,
Kom rosor och salvia,
Kom ljuva krusmynta, kom hjärtans fröjd!

Kransen den sätter jag sen i ditt hår,
Kom hjärtans fröjd
Solen den dalar men hoppet uppgår!
Kom liljor och aquileja,
Kom rosor och salvia,
Kom ljuva krusmynta, kom hjärtans fröjd!

Uti vår hage finns blommor och bär,
Kom hjärtans fröjd
Men utav alla du kärast mig är!
Kom liljor och aquileja,
Kom rosor och salvia,
Kom ljuva krusmynta, kom hjärtans fröjd!

Out in our Meadow
Swedish Folksong
Arranged by Hugo Lutteman

Out in our meadow, blueberries grow.
Come, heart's delight!
If you seek me, then meet me there.
Come lilies and columbine,
Come roses and sage,
Come sweet spearmint, come heart's delight!

Fair little flowers there invite us to dance.
Come, heart's delight!
If you want, I will weave you a crown of flowers.
Come lilies and columbine,
Come roses and sage,
Come sweet spearmint, come heart's delight!

The crown I will place in your hair.
Come, heart's delight!
The sun, it sinks, but hope rises.
Come lilies and columbine,
Come roses and sage,
Come sweet spearmint, come heart's delight!

Out in our meadow there are flowers and berries.
Come, heart's delight!
But of them all, you are the dearest to me.
Come lilies and columbine,
Come roses and sage,
Come sweet spearmint, come heart's delight!



Erik Lugnet
Apprentice Folkbuilder
elugnet@runestone.org

Of Oars and Office Lights



When summer called our Folk to sail,
With shield and axe, they'd ride the gale.
To seek their fate on distant shore,
For honour, kin, and something more.

Today no sail cuts ocean wide,
But engines hum and doors slide.
We trade our steel for suit and pen,
Yet still we strive like those old men.

They fought for fame with sword and flame,

We rise each dawn to do the same—
To earn our place, to feed and shield
The ones we love, our home, our field.

Their raids were storms of fire and fear,
Ours pass in hours, day by year.
Yet both are fought with steadfast soul,
Each burden borne, each quiet goal.

So, though the desk replaces deck,
And ties now hang where furs once fleck,
The honour stands, both old and new—
To fight for those we hold most true.



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice
nrice@runestone.org

Deleware

Upcoming Events

Hike Moot

18074 Redden Forest Dr
Georgetown, DE 19947
United States

June 7th at 12:00
Contact Francis
302-278-2418

Europe

European Book Study

Hávamál

First Sunday of the month

18:00-19:00 CET

via
Teams

Contact elugnet@runestone.org

Erik Lugnet

Apprentice Folkbuilder

elugnet@runestone.org



Indiana

Oikophilia



Oikophilia is the love that one has for their own surroundings, home, and culture. It is the natural baseline for all humans in history, including the majority of humans who are alive today. It is more common to see children and old folk desiring the pleasures of home, but as children go through the natural oikophobic stages of adolescence, they slowly become warped and influenced by liberal society which erodes their oikophilia away until they no longer know their own identity and are no longer proud of their own heritage. Among healthy humans, oikophilia is the driving creative force that allows for a Folk to remain strong, healthy, and independent. Oikophilia is the feeling a man feels when he returns home to a loving family after a long journey away. This is the virtuous

ideal that was given to all humans at birth in the loving embrace of their kin - this is the summer rain, the winter snows, the green fields, the warm hearth, the laughing voices, and the smiling faces of family.

Oikophilia is the foundation of a household, nation, or culture. It is the lifeblood that allows a folk group to sustain itself with wholesome, life-affirming, positive affirmation and perseverance. This love goes deeper than any mineshaft, higher than any skyscraper, and farther than the deepest space satellite. Everything we have done in history comes from a primordial foundation of oikophilia which started back in the Stone Age when we first began to gather in tribes and households. This oikophilia is the reason we accomplished every great deed from taming the hound to hunt the neanderthal, to the horse who pulls our chariots, to ships for crossing the great seas, to cars for driving across the wide lands, to planes for soaring in the cloudy kingdoms above, to the rocket ship and our tremendous forays into the void expanse of space. Our abiding love for our Folk is what has allowed us to create such prosperous nations throughout history, and it is the reason our cultures are so rich and teeming with life-affirming tales of virtue and love.

Without oikophilia, we become houseless. Embrace the household! And remember that after long journeys, a warm fire and friendly faces can do much to cure earthly woes.

He needs warmth and food, the one who has just come in. The long journey over the mountains has left him cold and fatigued. Good hospitality will do him well.

— *Hávamál*, stanza 3



Aidan McMillan
Apprentice Folkbuilder
amcmillan@runestone.org

Upcoming Events

Midsummer Celebration!

June 28, 2025 Rushville, IN

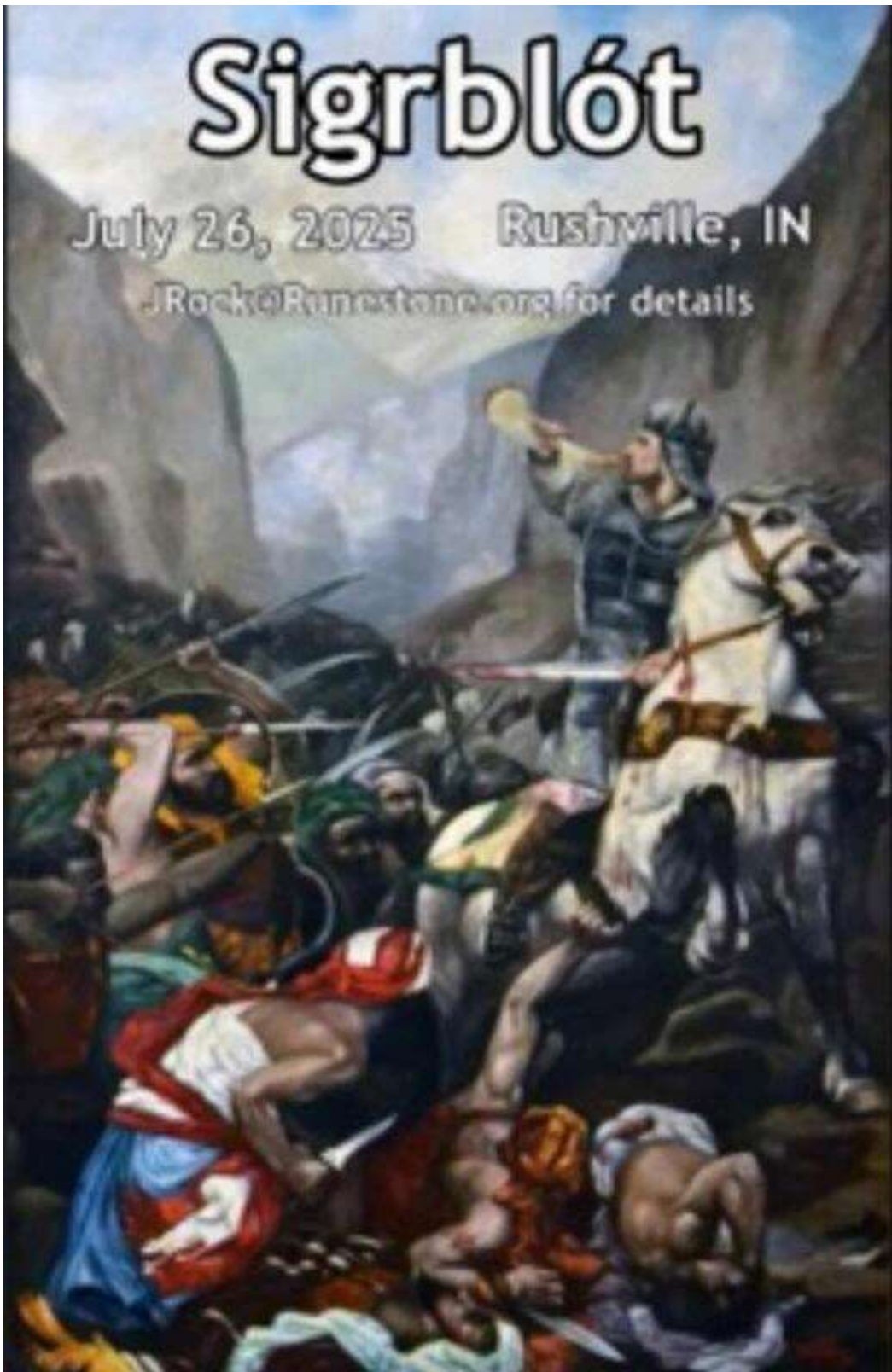
JRock@Runestone.org for details



Sigrblót

July 26, 2025 Rushville, IN

JRock@Runestone.org for details



Goði Jonathan Rock

jrock@runestone.org



Maine

Maine Lunch Moot



The 31st of May saw an AFA Moot in Portland, Maine. A few of us joined Frith, food and possibly a pint on a dreary grey Saturday afternoon. It was a last-minute decision to gather and I, as well as the others, were glad we did so.

Snug in the pub, we talked and laughed and kept the grey at bay. Two hours whizzed by and before we knew it, we had to all wend our ways home.

While it doesn't sound like much, it was a perfectly fun day and plans to do it again are underway. As it will be on the longer not shorter side of planning, we expect to easily fill that long table when next we meet. I certainly look forward to the next trip Down East!



Folkbuilder Ronald Boardman

rboardman@runestone.org

Michigan

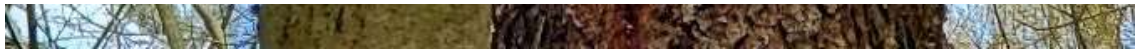
A Lakeshore Blót



Friends and Folk,

2025's May Moot was small, but a success. It was on the shores of an inlet of Lake Michigan. I had hoped that we could go swimming, but no such luck was had; the sun was shining but not at sufficient strength to make the lake swimmable. So, we grilled some hotdogs and chatted instead. We held Blót to Lord Baldr at the lakeshore and gave the libation to the lakewights. Then we went on a lovely hike through the hills nearby. We had hoped to see the bald eagle that nests in a tall tree in those hills, but she was not present. We did see this cool tree with a hole in it.





Hail the Gods, hail the Folk, hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events



Chris Savich
Apprentice Folkbuilder
csavich@runestone.org

New Hampshire

NH Sumarmál



After a week's postponement due to seemingly near continuous rain, New Hampshire AFA Folk were able to gather for the holiday of Sumarmál, or May Day.

As usual, the chips and dips and charcuterie were laid out as the Folk began their arrival and as it is usual, there is no need to talk about that. No need to tell of the Frith shared and laughs heard as that is also usual.



Soon enough though, all who aimed to be here were here and off us men went into the woodline to hoist up the pre-cut Maypole onto our shoulders and parade it back to the yard. All the while we avoided spongey and wet ground from the rain. In effect, the wild beam from the outergarð was taken into our innersgarð to become the Maypole.

Once in the yard, we decorated it with ribbons and a topper. Those ribbons and that topper has seen many Maypoles over the years. Into the ground it went and in a moment that Maypole was raised high with ribbons fluttering.



A call to the Æsir was made inviting them see us honour them in the old tradition and then all grabbed a ribbon. I played my concertina, and we were off! Around and around the Folk twisted and plaited the ribbon while I played and played. The little ones got guidance though I am not sure to what effect. The laughter outpaced the steps at first, but then steps outpaced the laughter as the ribbon ran short and we finished up the ritual Maypole.



We gave three cheers, hip hip hooray, to the great Gods of Ásgarð. Each cheer was louder than the last and then it was ended. We carried on the old tradition and showed honour in joy to the Æsir.



Feast of pulled pork and mac n cheese followed which itself was followed by a fire in Lily's flower garden, Wytch Haven. Music, more laughs, and more fire rounded out Sumarmál and that was the end of May Day!

Upcoming Events



Folkbuilder Ronald Boardman
rboardman@runestone.org

North Carolina

Memorial Day



In the month of May, Ásatrúar from all over the Asatru Folk Assembly gather together to celebrate the fertility of the land and our people, and to usher in the summer. Ladies in sundresses don flower crowns and dance the maypole alongside their men while music plays and children laugh. May is often fondly remembered as one of the most cherished months because of the warmth it brings, the flowers that blossom, and the company we enjoy.

May holds another holiday however; in the latter part of the month, we somberly remember our fallen friends, brothers, and comrades. Relegated to another 3- or 4-day weekend in the minds of many Americans, Memorial Day seems to have lost its edge over time, but the Folk remember. The endless wars in the middle east and the poor political decisions that found us involved with several wars in the last century have put a bad taste in the mouths of many people, and has even affected the patriotism of those Folk. As Ásatrúar, we understand that every generation of Aryan men have seen war, and that we have always produced the finest warriors on the planet.



This Memorial Day, we celebrate the heart of the warrior and the willing sacrifices they have always made. We honor their courage, zeal, honor, loyalty, and dedication to a higher purpose and standard. We honor the brotherhood that unites men who face danger and death, and we mourn our brothers who didn't make it back. We tell stories and laugh at old jokes, remembering smiling faces and the pure joy that we only know in the prime of our lives.



Regardless of the cause for which they fought or whatever lie a politician sold, these men were dear friends, beloved sons, loving husbands and doting fathers. At some

point, they walked out of their home with a bag on their shoulder, and they never came home. There was a last kiss, a final word, a knowing glance, a final touch. Remember them on Memorial Day, but every other day as well. Speak their names and tell their stories. As we approach the Einherjablót in November, a proper Ásatrú holiday, be thinking about these men, and if you don't know any fallen soldiers, change that. Volunteer some time at a Veteran's Cemetery or spend some time at a local heritage museum. Tell your children about what it means to be honorable and brave, and to believe in a cause or to love your people so strongly that you would offer your life on that altar.

Hail the Heroes!



Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea

tbethea@runestone.org

Ohio

Upcoming Events

MIDSUMAR (MIDSUMMER) OHIO

**SAT JUNE 21ST HARTVILLE, OH
BLÓT, SUMBL, POTLUCK**

**JDROTOS@RUNESTONE.ORG
MMELILLO@RUNESTONE.ORG**



Folkbuilder Michael Melillo

mmelillo@runestone.org

Ohio Mayday



A beautiful day in Ohio, fine weather, fine food, and company to beat the band. It's been a couple months since we got a notable crowd together, but it was a wonderful gathering in Ohio this past month. The children had squirt guns, bubbles and other implements of fun, while the adults had great conversations, and interactions I revel in. It was a day clearly marking our goal which is Frith among our Folk. What truly matters is connection and I was honored to facilitate such things on that day. BBQ fare was enjoyed, a lovely Blót officiated by our own Gyðja Catie Erickson, and my personal favorite ritual, Sumbl, had some new members in attendance. Not to forget the Maypole, always fun.



Anyone is always welcome, and my door is open to all of you. A lovely gift of stained glass was gifted to me which will be treasured and all there exuded a genuine nature. I kindly thank you all for your visit and look forward to hosting all who sit fit to pass my threshold. I thank you all for your company, genuinity, and willingness to be a part if something so beautiful and important. Until next month, Hail the Gods, Hail the Folk, and Hail the Ancestors.

Folkbuilder Joe Drotos

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Pennsylvania

Eastern Pennsylvania May Day Picnic



On the 3rd of May, some of the Folk in Pennsylvania came together at the State Park of Rickett's Glen to celebrate a Sumarmál Picnic. Sumarmál is also known as May Day and is the celebration of the start of Summer.

Most of you already know some of the major traditions of the day, including a fire and a Maypole! Seeing as we were in a State Park, we could not put up a Maypole, but we

did have a homemade Maypole centerpiece to hold the spot and when it was time to Blót, we did have open fire in one of the BBQ pits.



So what did we do? Well, once a few people made it down from New Hampshire to join the Pennsylvania Folk, we gathered at the rented pavilion and laid out a fruit and cheese board. A member's daughter did a fine job in presentation with it. While sampling the cheeses and crackers, chips and dips, as well as nuts and fruits, some caught up with each other while other played cornhole. Fortunately, the pavilion was large enough to accommodate that as the weather was cool and threatening rain...but it held off!



Plenty of laughs and stories were shared but we made sure Blót was held as that was the reason for the day!

A fire was lit in the pit and once healthy, we processed a short way with a hallowing song on the leader's lips from the pavilion to the fire and held Blót. We honoured all the Æsir, of course, but made special gifting to Freyja. Jill skillfully carried the mead-filled horn around for Heart, Hand, and Horn while afterwards Shannon graciously asperged the gathered AFA Folk with the hallowed mead and then I gifted it to the Æsir by wassailing the mead into the rich earth.



The rite over, we said the AFA Meal Prayer then picnicked on sandwiches and shared fellowship again until it was time to wend our way home. In the meantime, though, we sang a song or two, played a concertina and guitar, and all around enjoyed a good time.

It was an excellent Sumarmál and I am happy to have made the May Day celebration in Pennsylvania!



Folkbuilder Ronald Boardman

rboardman@runestone.org

Western Pennsylvania Updates



Please join us in Erie County, Pennsylvania for the following events. All of these events (if not already at our home) include an invitation to our home afterward for a cook out, Sumbl, and bon fire after!

Upcoming Events



Miðsumar Blot, June 28, 12pm to 9pm
Erickson Home, Erie County, Pennsylvania



Beach Moot, July 12, 12pm to 9pm
Presque Isle, Pennsylvania



Witan Clifford Erickson
cerickson@runestone.org

Upcoming Events

Midsommarfest 2025

Philadelphia, PA

Saturday, June 21st

4:00 pm

RSVP to JillieStorm@yahoo.com



Russia

Museum Moot



The Konstantin Vasiliev Museum is of great value to me due to the fact that it contains artworks from the Saga of the Völsungs and paintings depicting the All-Father Óðinn. My wife and I immersed ourselves both in the world of ancient Rus and in the world of Germanic sagas and stories. We really liked the paintings and the story of the artist Konstantin. I recommend it to everyone to visit!

Upcoming Events



Alexander Hagen
Apprentice Folkbuilder
ahagen@runestone.org

Sweden

Enjoy Summer, and seek Victory!



Summer! How we have been waiting for your arrival. And what an incredible start to it we are having, as we have paid off Njörðshof! Hail Matthew Bean for his incredibly generous donation!

For all the good things that we all have going for us, it is still easy to slip into a foul mood. The world is tempting us at every corner, inviting us into despair. Inviting us into bitter helplessness. We have the power to say no to that.

Say no to blackpills. Say no to doomporn. Instead, say YES to being noble. Say YES to being proud. Say YES to being great. Say YES, to being Aryan!

Being Aryan, is seeking victory in life. Be a victor, not a victim.

So, remember: We are blessed by our Gods. Our Ancestors are watching over us. Our living Folk are with us. Riches are to be had, and Hofs are waiting to be built! Let this be a summer of attainment, of Victory!

Upcoming Events



Remembrance

Dinner

King Athanaric

9th of June

Norrbotten, Sweden



Midsummer

15th of June

Norrbotten, Sweden



Erik Lugnet
Apprentice Folkbuilder
elugnet@runestone.org



Tennessee

An East Tennessee Sumarmál



Another year, another wonderful Sumarmál put on by the Appalachian Hearth Kindred and hosted by Rachel Kinsler.

The afternoon started with the men putting up the Maypole and participating in feats of strength.



While the men were outside, the ladies had a good discussion about the importance of the feminine energy Lady Freyja brings, and how it compliments and works alongside Frigg.



Folkbuilder Tyler Bethea led a Blót, after which the Maypole was danced with all the usual laughter and confusion that that event always seems to bring.



After a hearty potluck dinner, everyone gathered around the fire for Sumbl.



There were several new people in attendance this year, as well as old friends. There was plenty of laughter and food conversation, and Frithweaving. Rachel Kinsler and her amazing family hosted yet another memorable Moot!



Annika Peterson
Apprentice Folkbuilder
apeterson@runestone.org

Upcoming Events

**Day of
Remembrance
Dinner Moot**



**9th of Every Month
630pm | Cookeville, TN**

RSDP to nrice@runestone.org



Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

Virginia

Apprentice Folkbuilder Introduction



Hello! I am Annika Peterson, and I am excited for the opportunity to be an Apprentice Folkbuilder in the Þórshof district. I live in central Virginia although I am originally from northern New York state, and I have been a member of the AFA for just over a year.

I look forward to serving the Folk in whatever way I can.

Upcoming Event



Annika Peterson
Apprentice Folkbuilder
apeterson@runestone.org



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