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Baldrshof

Third Hof of the Asatru Folk Assembly

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Donate to the AFA

Words from the Alsherjargothi



2023 is off to an amazing start! We have been busy this month as this issue of the Runestone will show. We have progress on several exciting fronts and perhaps the most exciting for me, in January, was the event at Sigrheim. The picture is of us giving blot to lord Týr at the site of the hof we will build for him in the coming years.

If you are reading this and you have remained solitary, 2023 is your year to fix that and join in on all the amazing things we are accomplishing together. If you have non-member friends and family that should be sharing in the blessings and accomplishments of the AFA, what is holding them back from joining? Have you invited them? Let's

make this the year that more folk come home than ever before. Let's make 2023 the best year yet for our AFA!



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Words from Our Witan

Charming of the Plow



Charming of the Plow is one of my favorite holidays and blots. Being a farm kid raised on a dairy farm in the middle of nowhere North Dakota, February was always a hard month. I remember wearing 5 layers of clothing just to do chores and still being cold! Everything seemed so much more difficult in February. I was tired of winter by then. The snow was no longer welcome. The NoDak plains no longer looked pure and untouched, covered with sparkling snow and icy creeks. It just looked like a frozen tundra with a never-ending winter. At that age, I couldn't see ahead, only behind me. I didn't see the preparations we were making for the spring, I could only see the misery

of being out in the cold. I could only think of how long we had had to shovel snow, break ice, unbury equipment, and trek around the farm in 32 below temps. I didn't see the increasing in daylight, the beauty of the sunrise earlier every day, or the happiness the bellies of the heavily pregnant cows put on the faces of my family. I just saw work. I didn't see the prosperity. I didn't see the preparation to make sure our family would succeed another year.

Age brings appreciation, I suppose. I no longer just see a cold and barren, snow covered plain. Instead I see earth starting to awaken beneath it. February is no longer a miserable month of cold weather and endless chores. It is time to be industrious. It is time to prepare our tools with intention and care, to celebrate the end of winter rather than focusing on how hard it has been. It's a time to look forward, to plan, to prepare. It's a time of excitement rather than angst.

My family holds a blot to Gefjon at Charming of the Plow. We take the month of February to work hard for the big goals, to make our plans and prepare ourselves for the work spring will bring us. We take our inspiration from her as her story from *Gylfaginning I*:

King Gylfi ruled the land that men now call Sweden. It is told of him that he gave to a wandering woman, in return for her merry-making, a plow-land in his realm, as much as four oxen might turn up in a day and a night. But this woman was of the kin of the Æsir; she was named Gefjun. She took from the north, out of Jötunheim, four oxen which were the soils of a certain giant and, herself, and set them before the plow. And the plow cut so wide and so deep that it loosened up the land; and the oxen drew the land out into the sea and to the westward, and stopped in a certain sound. There Gefjun set the land, and gave it a name, calling it Selund. And from that time on, the spot whence the land had been torn up is water: it is now called the Lögr in Sweden; and bays lie in that lake even as the headlands in Selund. Thus says Bragi, the ancient skald:

Gefjun drew from Gylfi | gladly the wave-trove's free-hold,
Till from the running beasts | sweat reeked, to Denmark's increase;
The oxen bore, moreover, | eight eyes, gleaming brow-lights,
O'er the field's wide: booty, | and four heads in their plowing.

And again told in the *Ynglinga Saga*, Chapter 5:

There goes a great mountain barrier from north-east to south-west, which divides the Greater Swithiod from other kingdoms. South of this mountain ridge it is not far to Turkland, where Odin had great possessions. In those times the Roman chiefs went wide around in the world, subduing to themselves all people; and

on this account many chiefs fled from their domains. But Odin having foreknowledge, and magic-sight, knew that his posterity would come to settle and dwell in the northern half of the world. He therefore set his brothers Ve and Vilje over Asgaard; and he himself, with all the gods and a great many other people, wandered out, first westward to Gardarike, and then south to Saxland. He had many sons; and after having subdued an extensive kingdom in Saxland, he set his sons to rule the country. He himself went northwards to the sea, and took up his abode in an island which is called Odins in Fyen. Then he sent Gefion across the sound to the north to discover new countries; and she came to King Gylve, who gave her a ploughgate of land. Then she went to Jotunheim, and bore four sons to a giant, and transformed them into a yoke of oxen. She yoked them to a plough, and broke out the land into the ocean right opposite to Odins. This land was called Sealand, and there she afterwards settled and dwelt. Skjold, a son of Odin, married her, and they dwelt at Leidre. Where the ploughed land was is a lake or sea called Laage. In the Swedish land the fjords of Laage correspond to the nesses in Sealand. Brage the Old sings thus of it: --

"Gefion from Gylve drove away,
To add new land to Denmark's sway --
Blythe Gefion ploughing in the smoke
That steamed up from her oxen-yoke:
Four heads, eight forehead stars had they,
Bright gleaming, as she ploughed away;
Dragging new lands from the deep main
To join them to the sweet isle's plain."

Below is a simple blot, similar to the one my family will celebrate to honor the Goddess Gefjon, one of our Ásynjur.

Items Needed:

2 bowls

Sprig

Horn

Mead

Tools of Industriousness (Items that you use to support your family & folk)

Pour the mead into the horn and have the women bless the mead if present. Gather your folk, entering the space in a clockwise motion.

Welcome:

“Holy Æsir, mighty Gods and Goddesses of our Folk! We invite you to join us and witness our devotion!

Honored Ancestors, mothers and fathers as far back as time remembers! We ask you to join your sons and daughters in celebration!

Friendly vættir, spirits of this land and this place! We invite you to witness what we do today and to see our deeds!”

Holding the horn high, call on the Goddess Gefjon:

“Hail Gefjon!

Beguiler of Gylfi with merriment

Land-churner,

Giver,

Generous One,

Strong and industrious –

Hear the voices of your folk,

Receive our devotion!”

Gather the gifts of the Folk for Gefjon:

“Folk, place your hands over your hearts. Feel the heart beat beneath your fingers. Feel it’s strength, it’s steady-beat. From that strong and noble heart, gather your gifts for Gefjon. From your heart to your hand, and from your hand to the horn, give the best and brightest of yourself to her today.”

In a clockwise movement, gather the gifts of the folk into the horn of mead. Returning to the central altar, hold the horn above you head and offer them to Gefjon:

“Holy Gefjon!

This horn is heavy with the gifts of your folk,

The best and brightest of themselves that they have to give.

If you find these gifts worthy, accept them from us.

Hail Gefjon!”

Pour the contents of the horn into the bowl.

Fill the second bowl with the remaining mead and hold high above your head.

“Gefjon!

You have accepted our gifts, and we ask for your blessings in return.
Give us strength in the last holds of winter.
Inspire us to be industrious.
Remind of the victory ahead in times of struggle.”

At this time you will be blessing the tools, the Folk, and their hands.

Using the sprig and the blessed mead, sprinkle the tools with the blessings of Gefjon:

“Gefjon, we ask that you bless these tools.
Inspire us with your strength and devotion to task.
Remind us to be joyful in our work.
Let us see that victory our industriousness brings.”

Ask the folk to prepare themselves to receive the gifts of their goddess and if they choose, to hold their palms upward to have their hands blessed.
In a clockwise movement, bless the gathered folk with “The gifts of Gefjon”, asperging them with mead.
If the folk have palms upward to receive the hand blessing, bless each hand with mead using the Gebo rune, “May the hands of the folk be strong and industrious”.

Closing the Blot:

“Holy Gefjon,
We have given you our gifts,
Our devotion, and our worship.
We thank you for your gifts.
We thank the Aesir for their blessings,
The honored ancestors for their presence,
And vættir for their watchfulness.
This blot has ended.
May we depart as a family,
And with victorious intent.

Hail Gefjon!
Hail the Gods!
Hail the Folk!
Hail the AFA!”



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Words from Our Gothar

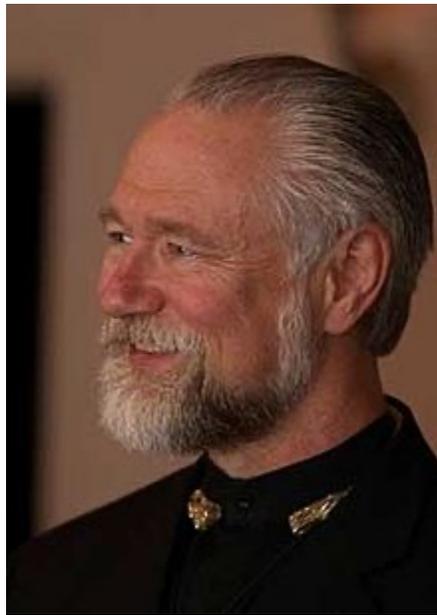
On the AFA Being Asatru's Spiritual Authority



There has been a bit of online drama lately regarding spiritual authority among Asatruar and people claiming to follow Asatru. This issue comes up every so often, and it will likely continue to do so.

However, I hope to squash some of that discourse here by offering you a few facts through this short article.

There is no spiritual authority in Asatru besides the Asatru Folk Assembly. Our founder, Stephen McNallen, was specifically inspired by the All-Father to revive Asatru and bring our Folk home. He was the first true Goði in many centuries, and served as the spiritual authority during his tenure as Alsherjargothi of the Asatru Folk Assembly and its precursors before that.



In 2015, Alsherjargothi McNallen's efforts through the AFA were further blessed by the Gods themselves when we purchased Newgrange Hall, which was later named Óðinshof. This was the first temple to our Gods in a thousand years, and still serves as a symbol of the Gods' favor towards us.

At the very first Midsummer at Óðinshof, the torch of spiritual authority was passed from Founder Stephen McNallen to Goði Matthew Flavel, who became our second Alsherjargothi. When that position was passed on, the authority and blessing of the Gods passed with it. This may seem like shaky logic by itself, but bear with me.



Since 2016, we have gained three more Hofs and the land that will hold Sigrheim. Not only did blessings from the Gods continue... they multiplied. Just as our Founder was chosen by the All-Father to lead Asatru, Alsherjargothi Flavel was chosen to continue that mission. Spiritual authority now flows from him, and anyone that he has ordained as a Goði or Gythia.

This authority lies with the Asatru Folk Assembly alone. Not the Norroena Society. Not the Odinic Rite. None of the universalist pretenders. The AFA alone carries the torch of Asatru into the future.



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Inner Conquest: Being the Stillness In the Eye of a Storm



Meditation is the tool of kings and conquerors. It is the foundation of a gentleman's "Sprezzatura" and a Lady's "Grace". In our modern times, we are bombarded with an overabundance of stimuli, information, and feedback that one can get lost & overwhelmed in the storm. Contempt for what does not serve us well, and scrutiny in accessing what does wins the day.

First, however you must be able to still yourself and be unmoved in the onslaught. Take a deep breath and let it out. Take another, and let it out slowly. Take a third only through your nose, and out slowly through your mouth. Then repeat this last step for as long as your concentration or time allows. With time this will become a reflex or instinct. Till then work on clearing the images in your head when your eyes are closed until you can

hold a blank slate. Learn to not just hear the rhythm of your breath as you relax, during your first few attempts, but work up to experiencing traveling across a room. Focus on becoming aware of the pulsing of your heart and learn to command it when it tries to run on you.

These are all exercises that build a foundation for steeled nerves, bridled & Tru strength, and decisive split-second decision-making. Your stress levels will drop, and your humility grow, or at least the perception of it will. You may also find yourself experiencing more time in a day, or realizing some fights aren't worth the effort, which can be put towards more prosperous endeavors. The clarity and precision with which you can foresee your friends and foes maneuvering in business or conflict can win you the day. Just a few fruits that may come to fruition when you began to master the skill of meditation and find strength in "Isa."

Standing on a foundation of steeled & tempered mind, you can begin the work of the Gods and create order from chaos, rather than being engulfed by it. When in a storm, possess it, and command it, by being the eye in the center of the storm. You have the divine spark to shape the world, use it.



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Cyclical Time and Our Lore: The Slaying of Ymir



In last month's edition of The Runestone, we discussed how we can view our Lore through the lens of Cyclical Time orientation. We saw the story of Ask and Embla, and how we can interpret the story with cyclical time in mind.

This month we'll discuss the slaying of Ymir, and how we can see that continue to unfold right before our eyes. It's important to understand that these are my views, UPG, as it were, and is subject to change as things play out in our time. It is my opinion that our Lore stories can have multiple meanings, some exoteric interpretation and some esoteric.

Out of Ymir's flesh was fashioned the earth, And the mountains were made from his bones; The sky from the frost-cold giant's skull, And the ocean out of his blood. -
Vafþrúðnismál, Poetic Edda, Bellows Translation

“Then Gangleri said, ‘I hear of great happenings. It was wondrous work and skillfully done, but how was the earth set in order?’ Then High answered: ‘It is circular around the edge and surrounding it lies the deep sea. On these ocean coasts, the sons of Bor gave land to the clans of the giants to live on. But further inland they built a fortress wall around the world to protect against the hostility of the giants. As material for the wall, they used the eyelashes of the giant Ymir and called this stronghold Midgard

[Middle Earth]. They took his brain, threw it up into the air, and from it they made the clouds.” Gylfaginning, Prose Edda

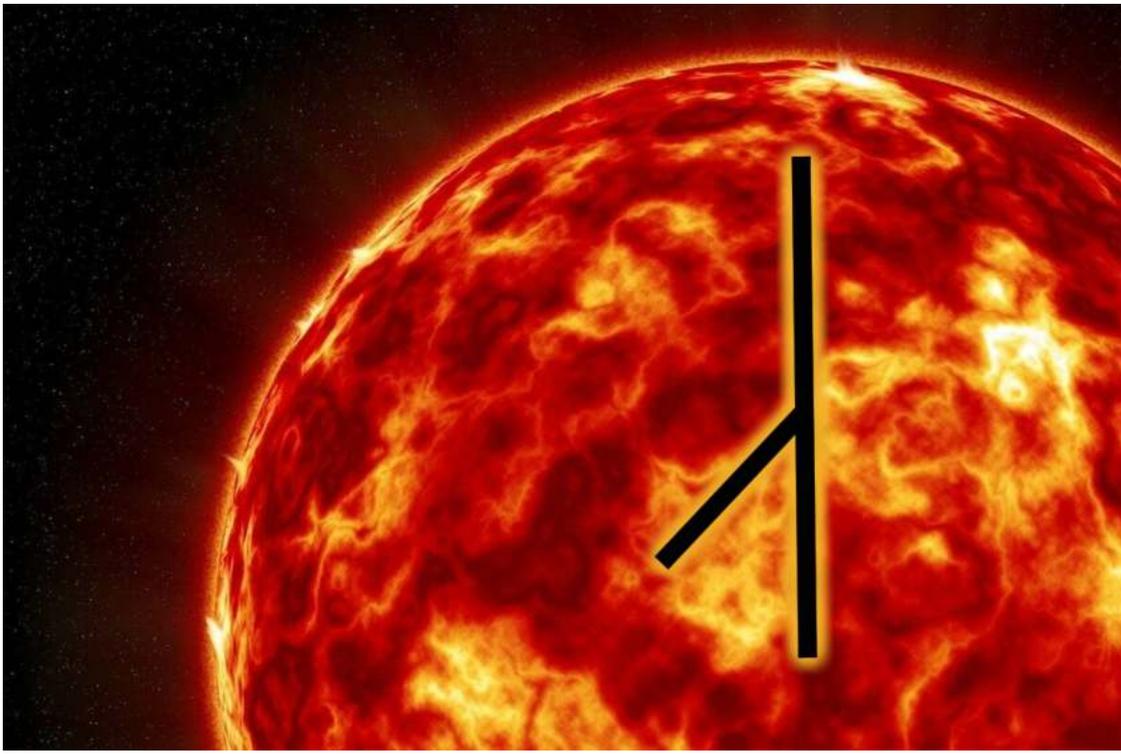
We can see that the earth was fashioned from the body of Ymir. Another way of viewing this passage exoterically, is that in our world, society began to take root. The establishment of order, both cosmically and here in Midgard. The creation story has parallels in our history as a people. As we discussed last month, the first generation of our Folk were given consciousness, sacrality, and goodly hue. Now the slaying of Ymir could represent our Folk putting things in order.

In Today’s Asatru, we can also find parallel circumstances. From our Lore, we understand the Ymir was what existed before. It was refashioned by Odin in his tripartite form to make the dwelling of man. We, as a church and as a folk, have refashioned places of worship and dedicated them to our Gods. Parkers Grove Methodist Church existed in Linden NC for over 100 years. The Asatru Folk Assembly purchased that property and the buildings and refashioned them towards the spiritual needs of our people. What existed before was not beneficial to our current needs. What exists now is akin to the body of what was, but repurposed, beneficial, and provides a sanctuary for our Gods, and their worship.

This is not, of course, the only example. We have repurposed 4 temples in total for the needs of Modern Asatruar. They are, Óðinshof, Brownsville CA, Þórshof, Linden, NC, Baldrshof, Murdoch, MN and finally Njörðshof, White Springs, FL. These are all examples of using that which was, into that which is in line with Cosmic Order, that which is beneficial.

It is my hope that you find this beneficial. Our lore should rarely be taken literally. But, there is truth in it. We can see it happening in front of our very eyes. Asatru is what we do. It isn’t just stories. The Asatru Folk Assembly has no peer in this regard. Our continued success is proof that we are on the right path with the blessings of our Gods.

How The Gods Interact with Us—My Experience

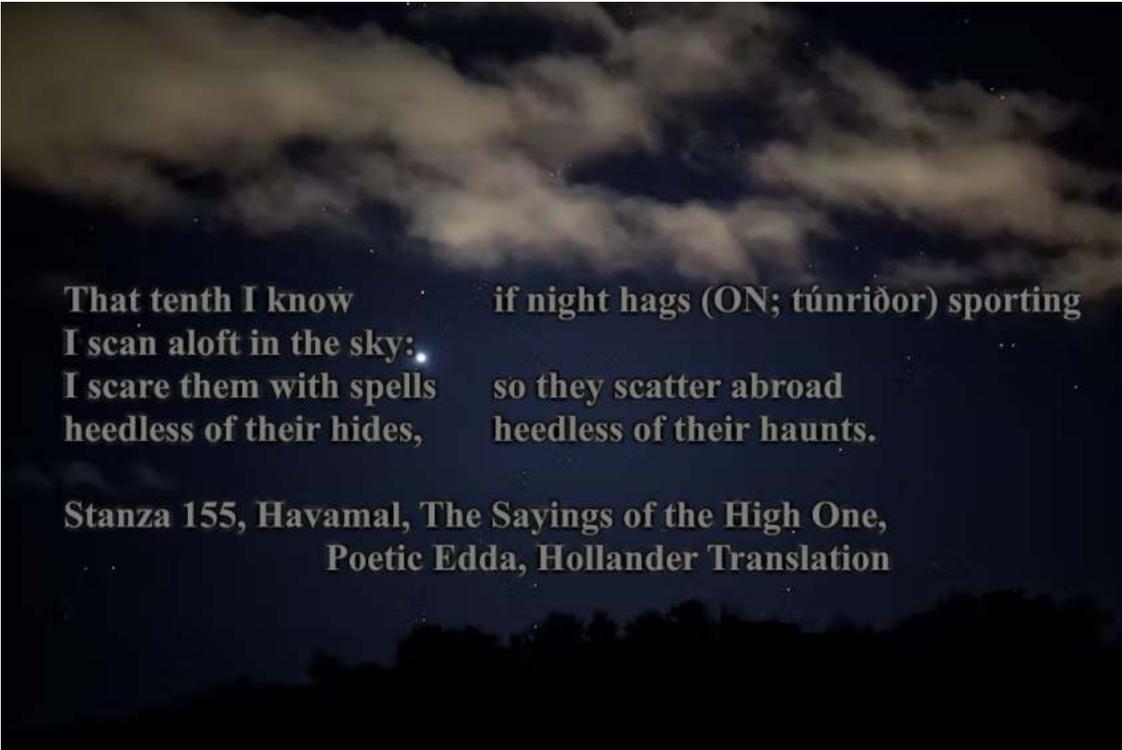


I found Asatru late in life, as many have. I found Asatru while I was in my 30's, around 2012. The road to my discovery of faith was a long one, and one that has been filled with learning experiences.

As a young man, I had fought with a phenomenon called night terrors. In South Carolina, it's commonly called *Riding the Hag*. Science calls it *sleep paralysis*. In Greek Lore, a succubus. My experience was not dissimilar to many others' experiences, it starts off with the feeling of a presence in the room. At some point, terror overcomes you, and you can't move. I can't scream, I can't do *anything*. It'll feel like someone is literally sitting on your chest, and breathing becomes a problem. It's something I dealt with all my life. I would often wake up screaming once the grip was loosened enough for me to shake myself awake.

At some point in 2013, I decided to give my devotion to the Gods of Europe. I remember where I was, I was standing beneath a tree on the property behind my house, a very large oak. I offered a drink to Odin himself, and promised to give my devotion and worship, and asked that he reveal himself in some way. And he did. I just didn't know it.

After I joined the Asatru Folk Assembly in 2018, I was having a conversation with a fellow AFA member about my experience with night terrors. And I had mentioned that they suddenly stopped in 2013. He got back with me a few days later after going through the *Havamal*. And he explained to me he had read through the Old Norse and found something unexpected.



That tenth I know if night hags (ON; túnriðor) sporting
I scan aloft in the sky:
I scare them with spells so they scatter abroad
heedless of their hides, heedless of their haunts.

Stanza 155, Havamal, The Sayings of the High One,
Poetic Edda, Hollander Translation

This portion of the Havamal is commonly referred to as the *Runatal*, as the *Havamal* is a collection of 3 poems which were combined in *The Codex Regius*. You'll recognize where the *Runatal* begins, as it begins with the story of Odin hanging upon the World Tree, and the runes are revealed to him in that state. The *Runatal* goes on to describe the 18 spells (correlating to the 18 runes revealed to him) that he knows, with the above tenth spell being among them. I shared my experience with our Alsherjargothi, and we discussed the Armanen rune that would relate to that passage from Havamal.

It is from the *Runatal* that Meister Von List drew inspiration for the Armanen Futhark, which were revealed to him while he suffered from temporary blindness. So, after having this discussion with Alsherjargothi, we started looking to *The Secret of the Runes*, by Guido Von List.

ar, sun, primal fire, ar-yans, nobles

*I use the tenth, when through the air
ghostly riding-women fly:
when I began that magic, they will fare
confused in form and effort.*

The "ar" the "urfyr" (primal fire, God) the "sun" the "light" will destroy spiritual as well as physical darkness, doubt, and uncertainty.

The Secret of the Runes, Guido Von List, Translated by Dr. Stephen Flowers

The book goes on to describe that the Ar rune is a glyph that represents the Eagle,

perhaps the eagle atop Yggdrasil. The primal fire is that divine spark that resides in all Aryans. It is that fire that is bellowed by the cosmic breath of Odin himself. The concluding line of text in *The Secret of the Runes* goes on to say "*Respect the primal fire!*"

It is my sincere belief that Odin used Ar to scatter to the winds my night hag terror. I believe that in every way. I have not experienced a single episode of night terrors since that day beneath that big, beautiful oak. I gave my reverent devotion to Him, and in turn, He gave this gift to me (and to my wife, as my night terrors obviously kept her up, and terrified her).

This was all the proof I needed to understand that the divine do in fact reveal themselves to us, in a very personal way. Perhaps Odin himself. It does not mean that we pray to Odin, and he will allow you to win the lottery. But, in a very real and tangible way, they can and do insert themselves into our lives.

How have the Gods or ancestors intervened in your lives? If you truly begin to have faith, real life faith, you might just find an experience like mine.

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!



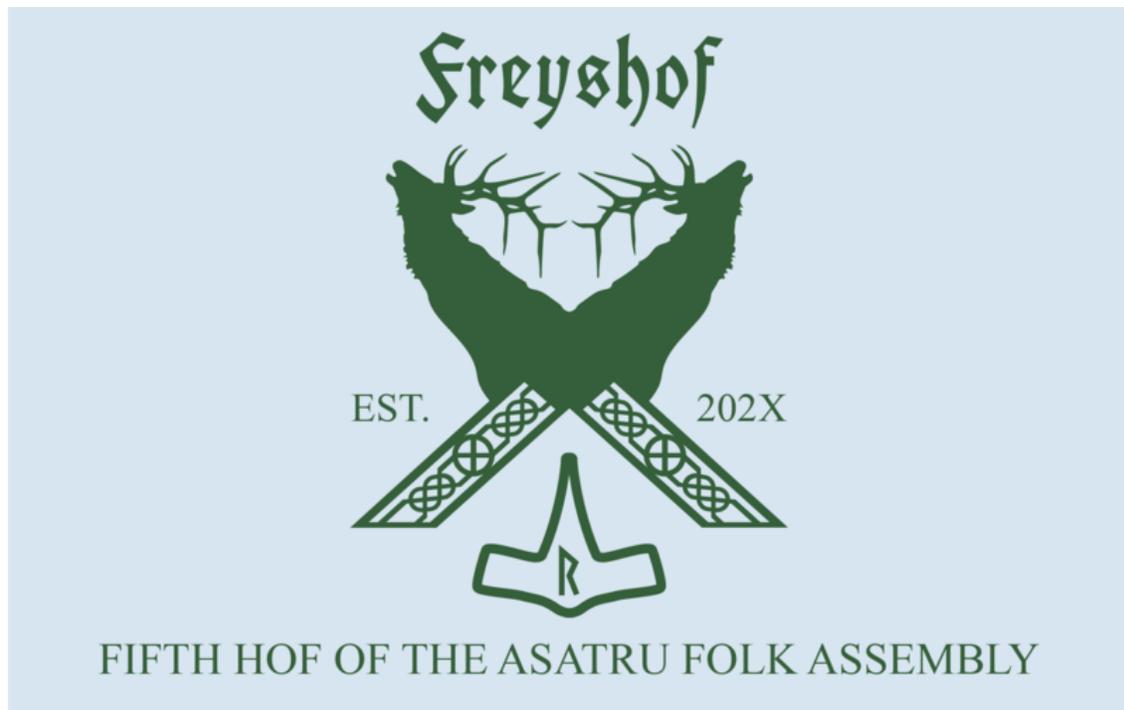
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The Quest for Freyshof

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

prosperity of men.”

– Gylfaginning



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

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

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

1. We need to pay off Njörðshof. (We have paid off 41.41% so far) If every member donated \$147 we would be able to pay this off today!
2. We need to raise our monthly donation average by 10%. (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 the patient and resolute. As we progress, I will keep you all updated on our progress!

Hail Freyr!

Matthew D. Flavel



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Sigrheim: Home of Victory



In January, we had the amazing experience of exploring the Home of Victory! This amazing land is more amazing than I had hoped or imagined. One thing we all noticed is just how expansive the property is. I have looked at this place for months on Google Earth and in pictures, but the feeling of space was so much different in person. The plan is to build the great hall on the flat land near the road and to build Týrshof up on the ridge top. We did an emotional blot to lord Týr on the site where his hof will be built.



I want to keep you all informed as progress occurs. Our first couple of steps are 1) We need to determine who the first pioneers moving to the Heim will be and to help those folks with their planning and developing. 2) We need to develop the roadway that cuts through the property and runs along our ridge line so that it can accommodate any necessary equipment and normal cars.



However far along we are or aren't, we will be hosting the first annual Sigrblot at Sigrheim this July, and we hope to see you all there!



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Victory Never Sleeps

The Asatru Folk Assembly Presents

Victory Never Sleeps!

Wednesdays at 6pm PST / 8pm EST

vk.com/asatrufolkassembly

entropystream.live/app/MattFlavel

youtube.com/e/AsatruFolkAssembly

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AFA Homeschool Program



Check out the Asatru Academy at AsatruAcademy.org

Hello parents and students, and all AFA members.

Our students have been working hard and we are halfway through the traditional school year! Ostara will be here before we know it and all the warmth of spring.

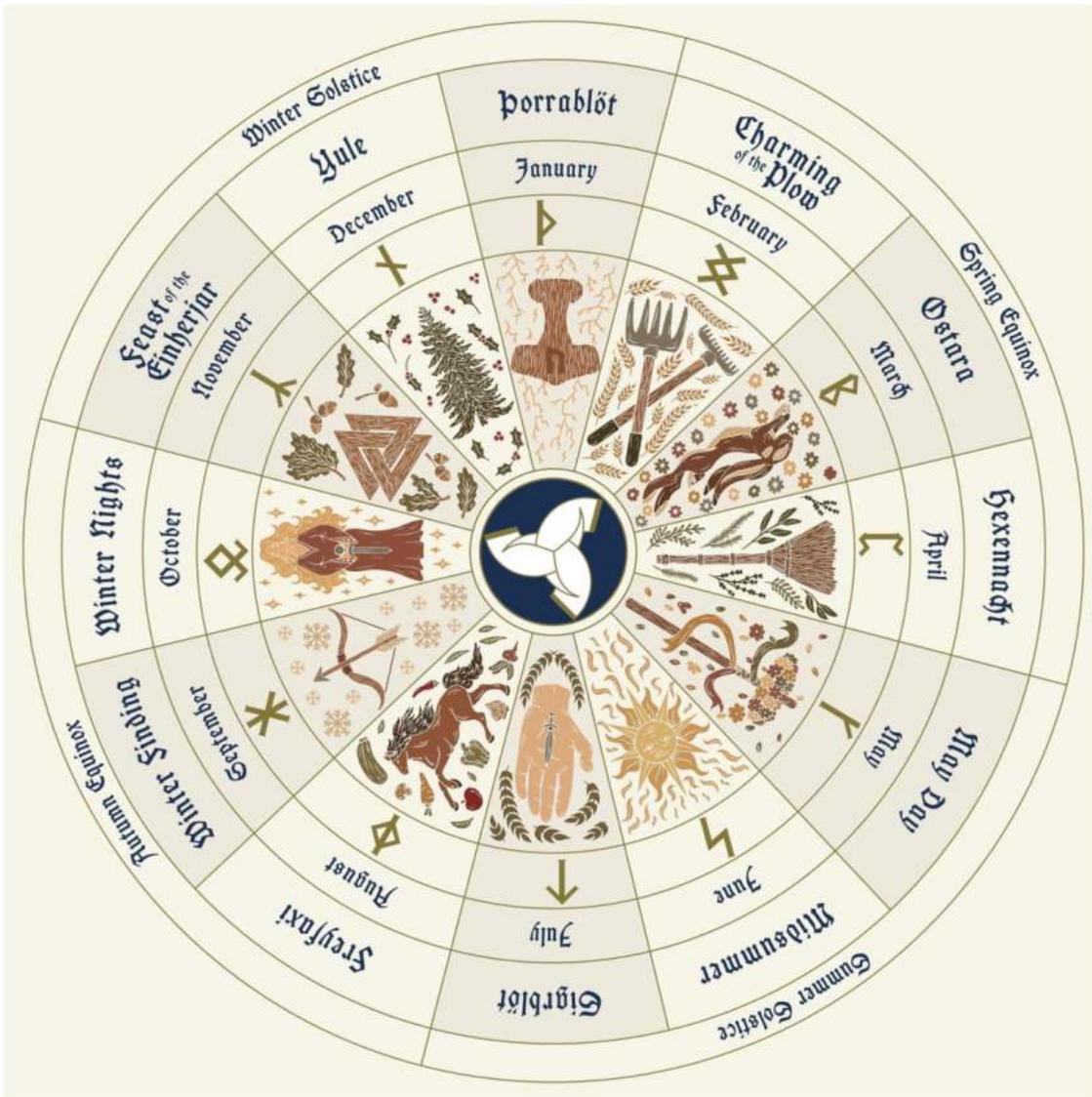
I want to remind our members that next school year, we will be enrolling kindergarten through second grade!

Look out next month, as we showcase some student projects right here in the Runestone!

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Remembrance and Holy Days



Calendar – Asatru Folk Assembly (runestone.org)

Date	Observance
January 9	Day of Remembrance for Raud the Strong
January 21	Þorrablót
February 9	Day of Remembrance for Eyvind Kinnrifi
February 18	Charming of the Plow
March 9	Day of Remembrance for Olvir of Egg
March 21 (observed on 18th)	Ostara
April 9	Day of Remembrance for Jarl Haakon
April 28 (observed on 15th)	Hexennacht
May 9	Day of Remembrance for Else Christensen
May 1 (observed on 20th)	May Day
June 9	Day of Remembrance for King Athanaric of the Goths
June 21 (observed on 17th)	Midsummer
July 9	Day of Remembrance for Alexander Rud Mills
July 15	Sigrblót
August 9	Day of Remembrance for King Radbod of Frisia
August 19	Freyfaxi
September 9	Day of Remembrance for Prince Hermann of the Cherusci
September 22 (observed on 16th)	Winter Finding
October 9	Day of Remembrance for Meister Guido von List
October 15	Birthday of Founder Stephen McNallen
October 21	Winter Nights
November 9	Day of Remembrance for Queen Sigríð of Sweden
November 11 (observed on 18th)	Feast of the Einherjar
December 9	Day of Remembrance for Egill Skallagrímsson
December 20	Mother's Night
December 20-31 (observed on 16th)	Yuletide

Day of Remembrance



Near to what could be considered the beginning of the Christian conversion of Norway, under King Olaf Tryggvason, there was a farmer of Noble stock who stood against the king and his attempts at conversion.

Eyvind (Pronounced Ivin) Kinnrifi was called to make plans against the upcoming invasion by his friend Harek of Thjotta, who had very recently returned home after himself refusing conversion to Christianity. Eyvind answered the call, and for the sake of haste, he traveled with only a small retinue of men. He was well welcomed by Harek, but shortly after his arrival Eyvind was ambushed.

Unbeknownst to Harek, he had been followed by some of Olaf Tryggvason's men. They forced Eyvind to Thronthjem, where Olaf attempted to convert Eyvind, first with offers of land and gold, and then with threats of torture and death. Unwilling to turn him back on his faith, Eyvind was eventually killed.

So what can we learn from this story?

On the 9th of February, as we stop to remember Eyvind Kinnrifi and his unwavering faith despite the consequences, take a moment to consider what in your own life is important to you. Have there ever been times in which you had to choose between keeping your faith and losing something else? A Job? A friend? Family?

Even in these times, when we are living with unparalleled freedom of choice, it can be difficult to choose faith over all else. It is sometimes easier to hide behind the idea of a pseudonym or to keep your faith hidden from those in our lives that should matter. Remember, when you think of Eyvind, what truly matters. Stand strong with and take pride in your Folk.

Hail, Eyvind Kinnrifi!



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Holiday

Charming of the Plow



Charming of the Plow is a ritual that takes place at the early beginning of the planting season. As the name implies the plow, or other tools used, are blessed and offerings are made to the Gods for a productive growing season. Traditionally, after blessing the plow, a ceremonial furrow was dug and then filled with cakes and other offerings. For our ancestors, this was a crucial time of year. Poor preparation often led to a poor harvest and a poor harvest led to starvation.

Asatru is the modern celebration of our ancestral heritage. Charming of the Plow symbolizes our willful penetration of the unyielding soil. It is with our own industriousness, our own will, that we create, that we change, that we provide. In the Asatru Folk Assembly, we often celebrate the Charming of the Plow by planting a tree.

Inflict your will on your world. As Asatruar, this is a time to “charm” the implements of your own productivity. Entreating the divine to bless your tools and your plans for the year is essential to starting things off right. Inviting the divine into our plans and intentions is a great way of making us aware of the sacrality that should be a part of all you do. The AFA encourages all Asatruar to be industrious in all that we do. Dream grand dreams. Make solid plans. DO big things. And after hard work, reap a bountiful harvest.

And what can you do to celebrate Charming of the Plow? Though most of us do not rely on growing our own food to survive, now is a good time to consider starting a small garden, or even just growing some herbs on the patio. Make a plan. Choose a small patch of yard and map out your garden beds. Bless the shovels and spades. Dig up the soil and begin fertilizing it with eggshells and coffee grinds. Prepare. If you cannot plant a small garden begin planning some project. Sew a quilt, built a chair, take an idea and make a plan, and then put that plan into action.

Inflict your will on your world.



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cm.erickson@runestone.org

Upcoming National Events



Order your tickets [HERE](#)

Ostara at Þórshof, an Asatru Folk Assembly national event, is scheduled for March 10 – 12 at our very own Þórshof!

There will be fun and games for the children, classes for the adults, and good memories to be made. We have an assortment of different activities for people of all ages in attendance. Classes to be held will cover a wide range of topics.



As always we will be having an auction of unique and one-of-a-kind Asatru-related items. All auction proceeds go to help fund these amazing events. We ask anyone who would like to donate to this great cause to please donate an item to the auction, or bring

your cash to bid! Anyone wanting to set up a vendor table at this event please feel free, all we ask is a donation of a substantial item to the auction.

Tickets are available at

<https://www.runestone.org/product/ostara/>



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 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



Artisans of the AFA
Support Our Folk



The Celtic Craftsman is a general craftsman by trade. He and his wife are growing a young family in the Midwest (USA). Together they raise chickens, garden, hike, and sing and dance at the local Irish pub. In puzzling out the True history of our people, studying their languages, and practicing their arts (culinary, musical, visual, etc.), our family hopes to keep the Fire of our Volk ablaze forever.

Handmade art to honor the ancestors and inspire the Volk. Our work examines Truth—perhaps the most fundamental of which: 1. We are a distinct People marked with a history of heroism, courage, exploration, and conquering. And 2. We have the duty and privilege to carry this torch into the future.

Blood and Honor! Hail the Volk!

Work can be found at: <https://t.me/celticcraftsman>

For serious inquiries, comment on our channel. We'll reach out via Private Message.



Folkbuilder Timothy Dumas
tdumas@runestone.org

Cooking for our Folk



Calling all Chefs

We are looking for recipes for a cookbook. We ask that the recipes were served to the folk at a Hof or moot. Please include where and when it was served.

cookbook@runestone.org

Cooking from the Heart. One of the first chefs I worked for told me that there are two main rules to cooking.

1. ALWAYS cook from the heart!
2. You must know the why of the rule before you can think about breaking it.

To this day, I still believe that number one is the most important; but two is the most valuable lesson. So, for example: why would you add flour to the mix when are you making Fried Potato balls? It doesn't add anything to the dish overall and in fact, it takes away flavor and disrupts texture. The reason is that what flour takes away: is moisture. It adds to the binder and liquid consumption.

So, what does this mean for the folk? Plan and simply don't take shortcuts. Whenever I pick up the knife and began cooking for the folk, I think of it as channeling the ancestors. Cooking reminds me of that age-old musing "I don't measure seasoning; I wait for the tap on the shoulder from the ancestors to tell me that's enough."

When you cook from the heart, people can tell. Don't cook out of spite or obligation. Cook for the folk because you want to! Find new recipes. Test them. Make them better. And when your heart tells you it is right...time to serve. If you have never made cookies from scratch...make them. Why not? Use the best ingredients you can afford

(don't take out a second mortgage for this) but be proud to feed the folk.

When the recipe is right and you feed the folk, please send the recipe to cookbook@runestone.org with details of when and where it was served (Hof/moot).



Folkbuilder Mike Joyner
mjoyner@runestone.org

Ladies' Mysteries Podcast

Ladies' Mysteries Podcast
February 19th @ 1:30 CST
Personal Practice:

Hosts
Witan Brandy Callahan
Gythia Anna Plourde
Guest Folkbuilder Mélisa Mills
Folkbuilder Christine Dumas
Folkbuilder Sara Ault

Contact cdumas@runestone.com for details

The graphic features a purple-to-pink gradient background with a crescent moon, stars, and a line-art illustration of a woman in a long dress sitting cross-legged with her hands raised in a gesture of prayer or magic. The text is written in a mix of white serif and cursive fonts.



Folkbuilder Christine Dumas
cdumas@runestone.org

AFA Sisters Chat

*AFA Sisters Sunday
Chat*

*Sunday 2/12
&
2/26*

*Contact Apprentice
Folkbuilder Ali
Clausen for details*

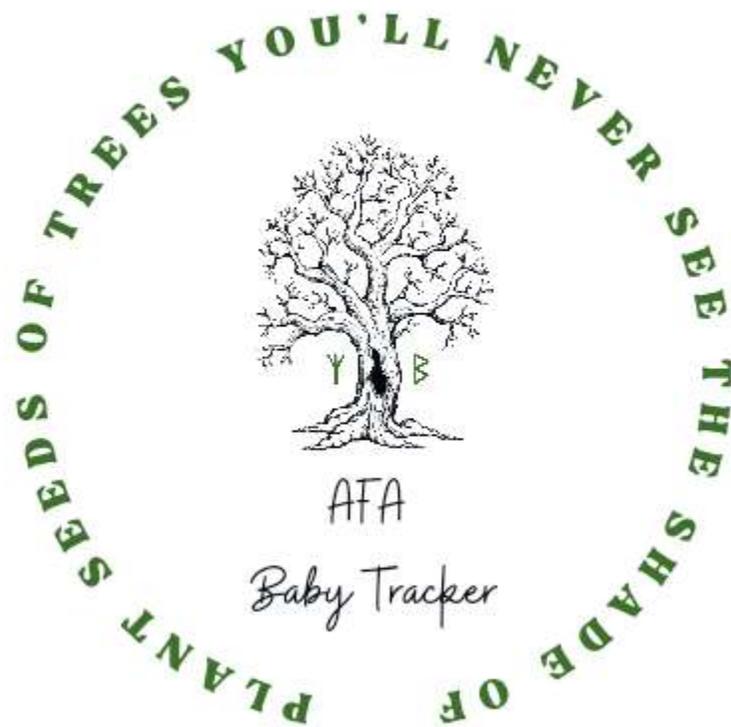
*Links will be posted
the night before*

*All AFA womenfolk
welcome*

Alison Clausen
Apprentice Folkbuilder
aclausen@runestone.org



Baby Tracker



To show the growth of our folk we present to you an ongoing baby tracker. We will be keeping track of how many children have been and are born within the AFA from 2022 and forward. The ongoing tracking is proof that we are building something sustainable for the future of our folk, which is a place for these children to grow up within and a place where they can feel proud of who they are!

Total babies born in 2022: 49

Total babies born in 2023: 3



Jessica Keller
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jkeller@runestone.org

AFA Prison Ministry



Greetings kinsfolk,

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.

If you have a loved one who is incarcerated or know of someone who is Folkish and will benefit from this ministry, please contact me at jault@runestone.org. Or if you'd like to donate to this ministry, you can donate to the AFA general fund on the Runestone website with an earmark "AFA Prison Ministry" in the comments section.



Folkbuilder James Ault
jault@runestone.org

Saga's Literature Project



Saga needs your stories!

Do you have thoughts throughout your day or your studies that you ponder about our Gods, Goddesses, Heroes, or our Faith?

Do you and your family or Kindred have ways you like to venerate the Gods that are special to your own traditions?

How do you celebrate our Holidays or Days of Remembrance?

Do you have advice for those who have finally come home and wish you could have it handy to give to them?

Are you enrolled in Asatru Academy or partake in Lore Study or the Virtue Recovery Group?

The Asatru Folk Assembly wishes to create booklets, brochures, and pamphlets to have on hand in our Hofs and with membership Assembly-wide to give out to anyone with curiosity, whether they are a member or not.

This will be key in our studies as experienced practitioners, and should serve as a more efficient way than directing those with questions to our websites alone.

Saga needs your help! Submit any ideas or write-ups you have on the topics listed above to me, Apprentice Folkbuilder Shane Duffy at sduffy@runestone.org!

Note: All submissions are subject to review from myself and up the chain of command to the Alsherjargothi himself.



Folkbuilder Shane Duffy
sduffy@runestone.org

Baldrshof

Ancestor Altar



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

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

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



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Food Pantry at Baldrshof



We hit double digit temps for this months' food pantry in a winter wonderland, at a whopping 14! We were honored to have served 22 families, supplying dry and canned goods, toiletries, snacks, and copious amounts of meat. We also were gifted a variety of Valentine's Day card packs for kiddos to bring to school! We have built an amazing network of large businesses, private donators, leadership, and Folk alike that make this such a success each month.

Hail the Doers!
Hail the Folk!
Hail the AFA!



Folkbuilder Ashley Mcstocker
amcstocker@runestone.org

Holiday at Baldrshof



January brought with it some of the coldest winter days our little slice of northern tundra have seen these last few months; It also brought some of the warmest of spirit.

As temperatures outside dropped to the negative and the wind blew away what little warmth could be found our Folk stood strong. United in Faith, we came together to honour the Gods and one another.

Thorrablót took place on a day that saw frigid temperatures outside, but warmth within the hall. Our food drive started things off in the right spirit of generosity and gifting that has lent so much to our Folk's honourable demeanor.

Despite the oppressive cold, we were able to feed over 23 families from the surrounding area. Thanks to the good work done by Folkbuilder McStocker many of the overfilled bags we gave out contained hams, turkey, and other good foods.

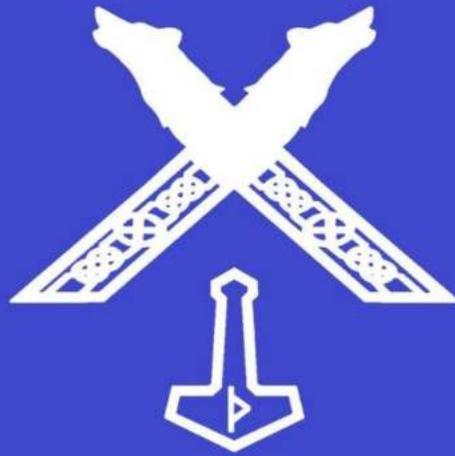
Then came Blót. To attempt to describe a Baldrshof blót here would always be insufficient, it simply must be shared in. I will say that it was stirring and the connection felt with the Gods during Blót is a powerful thing. To stand in that sanctuary while our community exchanges gifts with the community of the Gods is an experience quite unlike anything else.

Our next Blót will be Charming of the Plow, taking place February 18th. We hope to see you there!



Folkbuilder Cormag Àlainn
calainn@runestone.org

Upcoming Events at Baldrshof



Baldrshof Calendar

2023

January 21st
Thorrablot

May 20th
May Day

September 16th
Winter Finding

February 18th
Charming of
the Plow

June 16th - 18th
Midsummer

October 21st
Winternights

March 17th - 19th
Ostara

July 15th
Sigrblot

November 18th
Folksgiving &
Feast of the Einherjar

April 15th
Hexennacht

August 18th - 20th
Freyfaxi

December 15th - 17th
Yule



Charming of the Plow at Baldershof

Saturday, February 18th, 2023

10 am to 4 pm

Following our monthly Food Shelf Distribution

BaldersHof

Lords

Feb. 20 8pm



Illinois

Bringing in the New Year with Tradition



Hail from Illinois!

We kicked in the door for 2023 with a boom with our annual Thorrablót tradition. We continue to hone and evolve this as we go. Folkbuilder Jim Cummings will cover the exciting details about our Moot. All I have to report is that next year we will introduce more games to the competition, including wrestling and maybe Chess.



This month and the Thorrablót energy always reminds me to be ready to battle the elements and grapple with life in general. Within this cycle of seasons, we jump into the flux of dying and rising again every winter. We are given a chance to start again, many of us.



The family and I have big things coming this year. I can't wait to see many of you as it unfolds.

My wife and I will be attending Charming of the Plow and I can finally make a pilgrimage to the Temple of the Boatmen, Njördshof.

We then have a late February Moot coming up in Peoria IL.

Upcoming Events



Folkbuilder Shane Duffy
sduffy@runestone.org

Thorrablot in Illinois



Hrafanagud Kindred hosted our third annual celebration of Thorrablot on January 21st. This was our best attended Thorrablot yet with, if my count is correct, 35 members of the Folk joining us from four different states.

Despite calls from some to serve the traditional sheep's head, we opted for roast lamb and fish boil for the feast.

There were contests of strength for those who chose to participate - hammer throw and farmers carry. The winner in each category received a trophy that they keep until next year, when they must successfully defend it, or relinquish it to a new champion.

We also held a Blot to Thor and enjoyed a Sumbel.



Folkbuilder James Cummings

[jcummings@runestone.org](mailto:jcumings@runestone.org)

Upcoming Events

So. IL
Brew Pub Moot



6 PM

Saturday, Feb 18th
Murphysboro, IL

Contact Folkbuilder Nick Rice to RSVP
NRice@runestone.org



McDILL'S
IRISH PUB

FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH AT 7PM

CONTACT FOLKBUILDER NICK RICE
TO RSVP VIA NRICE@RUNESTONE.ORG

Sunday, April 16th at 5:30PM



AMERICAN PUB & GRILL

**Contact Folkbuilder Nick Rice
to RSVP via**

NRice@runestone.org



S T . L O U I S
SCOTTISH GAMES
AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL

We are excited to share!
the return of the
**St. Louis
Scottish Games**

Saturday, May 6, 2023

**Schroeder Park
359 Old Meramec Station Rd.,
Manchester, Missouri**

For more details visit:
www.stlouis-scottishgames.com

Contact Any of Us to RSVP:

Folkbuilder Nick Rice | NRice@Runestone.org

Folkbuilder Melisa Mills | MMills@Runestone.org

Apprentice Vic Palazzolo | VPalazzolo@Runestone.org

Folkbuilder Nicholas Rice

nrice@runestone.org

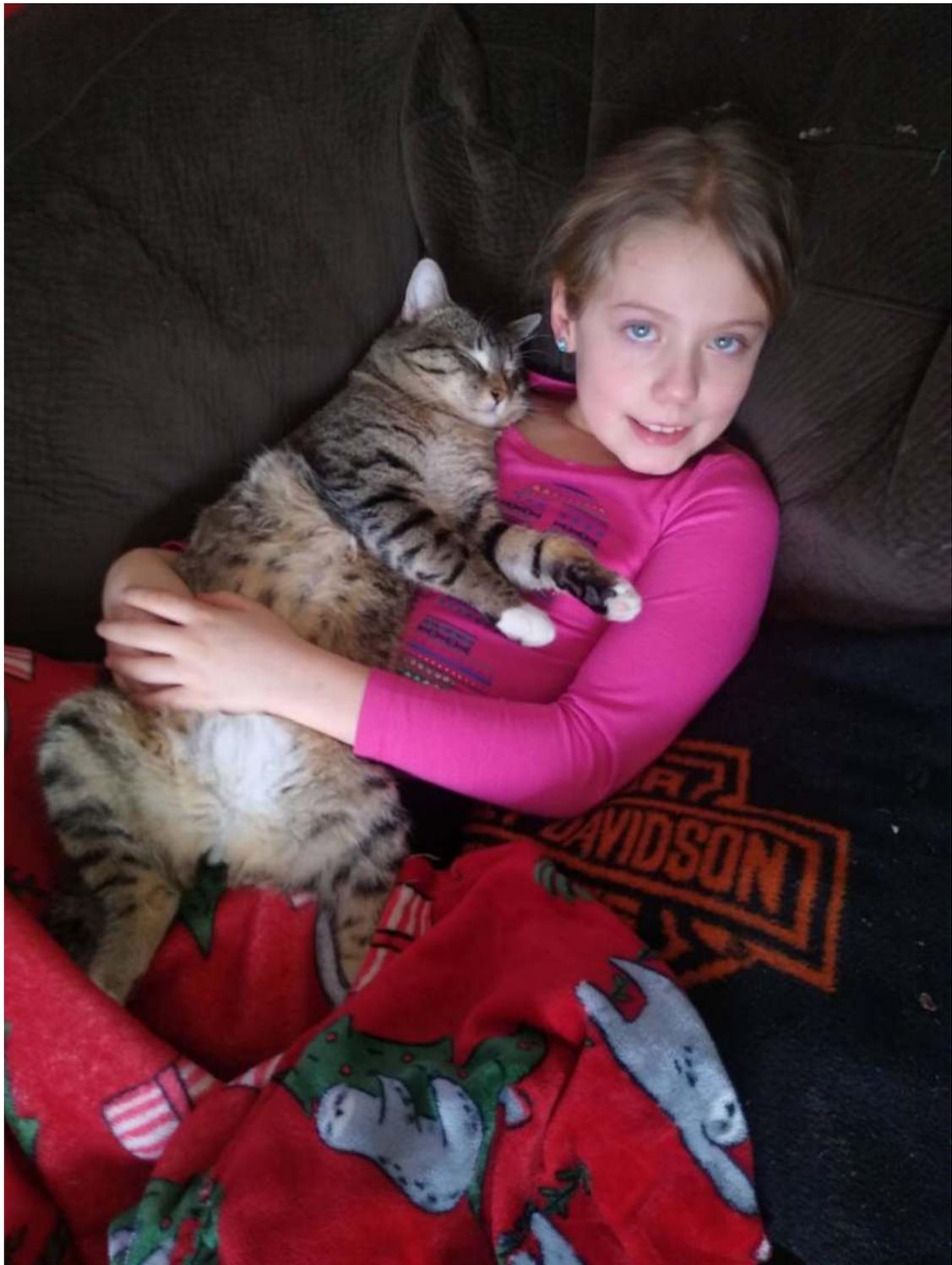


Minnesota

Greetings From the Frigid Up North



We had some frigid temps up North during January. Things are settled from the holidays and festivities of Yule and our newest member of the family has meddled in, just right. Bragi is living up to his name and serenading me awake at 5:30am with his sweet meows and chatter daily. Must have been breakfast time at the feral cat sanctuary I picked him up at. Quite the personality on that boy. My son, Odin, is in Kindergarten at the Asatru Academy, and he is a real wiz. I encourage others to utilize this resource if they are able. It has made what is expected clear and the staff are there whenever we had any questions. Hail the Asatru Academy!





Thorrablót at Baldrshof was a delight! I am always so grateful for the folk that make the time to come out to the Hof. New faces for the first time gazing at the Shining One and Witan Svan's mural in awe never gets old. Old faces heckling each other and trying to pull a fast one in the cubby hole of my truck never gets old either... Gallagher...



February gets me itching for Spring and the planting season. My son has an herb garden already and is anxious to plant the seeds for when summer comes. He thinks he's got a green thumb since he grew some watermelon last year and he is going to "make salsa with all the stuff I'm throwing in the ground this time." Keeps him busy and learning. My family is looking forward to Charming of the Plow. Gythia Callahan's blessings got my chainsaw through the season last year, all limbs intact. Don't forget to bring your garden or land mgmt. tools to the Hof and have them blessed this year!



Folkbuilder Jessie Shaffer
jshaffer@runestone.org

Warrior Ethos



January, a new year to grow braver and stronger. To fight for our families, our folk, and our gods. Let victory be the driving force in all that we do.

The Warrior Ethos states, "I will always place the mission first, I will never accept defeat, I will never quit, and I will never leave a fallen comrade." The Warrior Ethos is a set of principles by which every Soldier lives. In a broader sense, the Warrior Ethos is a way of life that applies to our personal and professional lives as well. It defines who we are and who we aspire to become. This does not apply only to those who serve in the armed forces. This applies to all of our folk, men and women alike, that fight to reverse the disintegration of our people, of our beliefs, keeping it in their hearts and showing it in their actions.

Hail Victory! Hail the Folk! Hail the Gods! Hail the AFA!!!



Folkbuilder Nathan Erlandson
nerlandson@runestone.org

MN Northern Blood



January was a busy month! Three weekends in a row of Folk-time. Northern Blood Kindred hosted two events this month. First, we had our monthly hiking event, which turned into a sledding event.



It was a beautiful day here in Bloomington, MN. Forty degrees in January is tropical for us here.



We closed the day with lunch at the local malt shop. I am very grateful for my Kindred!

Always nice spending time with your folk and gets me out of the house.



Thorrablót at Baldrshof was an amazing event and we blessed the Mjólnirs. As always the cooks did a bang up job again! I really had a great time and I swear that it just keeps getting better and better every time I go to the Hof.



The last event of the month was our Folkish Family Pizzamoot. Also April 8th is the second annual Wisconsin/Minnesota hike at Willow River state park Hudson, WI. Followed by lunch at the Polish Deli in Hudson. Hosted By Folkbuilders Sara Ault, Jessie Shaffer, and Jason Gallagher. Last year was a great event and Im looking forward to this. More events coming soon from Northern Blood.



Folkbuilder Jason Gallagher
jgallagher@runestone.org

Missouri

Your Friendly Neighborhood Apprentice Folkbuilder



Hi everyone! My name is Jordan Welch. I'm a stay-at-home mom to two handsome boys, and I've been very happily married for eight years. I live in Columbia, Missouri,

where I was born and raised. I left Christianity at the age of 13 and felt called to Paganism, although for years, I had no sense of direction. I had entered my Wiccan ‘vague worship of a god and goddess’ era. I found the Gods of our ancestors in 2018. It took me four years to find my place in the AFA, and I am so excited to be here. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me. I will always be here for my Folk.

Upcoming Events



**Park Moot in Columbia, MO
February 19th, 1-3 pm**

**Contact Apprentice Folkbuilder
Jordan Welch for more details**



Jordan Welch
Apprentice Folkbuilder
jwelch@runestone.org

Nebraska

Lighting the Fires



This year I have resolved myself to turn my home from a place of modern mindless consumption and self-indulgence to a place of creativity, learning, worship, and warmth. I have begun to invest heavily in learning new skills, putting old skills into action, and becoming a productive person.

I have also begun to involve the children in daily ritual and worship, creative activities, and storytelling. It is so important to teach them not only the virtues of our folk but ways to actively implement and integrate them into our daily lives. This not only teaches them practical virtues but has helped to strengthen my own. After all, "to teach is to learn twice."

My goal is not to isolate myself and my family in a bubble of rugged individualism and total self-reliance, but instead to become more skilled and valuable members of both our local community and the AFA. I don't think there's anything more important than to continue our growth and to nourish the sparks we find into large and healthy flames for generations to come.

Upcoming Events



Omaha Dinner Moot

February 26th, 2023

Contact Apprentice folkbuilders Ali and Cody Clausen to RSVP

More details to come soon

April 14-16

Hexennacht and Mayday Celebration!

- *Seidre workshop
- *Womens botanicals for ritual workshop
- *Mens masculinity workshop
- *maypole dancing!
- *Crowning of the May Queen!
- *Dancing, singing, and so much more!

In Eastern Nebraska just north of
Omaha details to come!



Alison Clausen
Apprentice Folkbuilder
aclausen@runestone.org

Enjoying the Sun in Nebraska



The Nebraska folk took advantage of an unusually warm day for a three-and-a-half-mile walk in the park! We got to get out, breathe in some fresh air, and really spend quality time together.



Afterward, we met up to grab some soda waters before heading over to the office supply store to print up paperwork to become a probationary kindred of the AFA. It was a wonderful day and we're so glad to be growing something great in Nebraska!



Cody Clausen
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cclausen@runestone.org

North Dakota

The Blessings of Wintertime in the North



Greetings from Baldrshof District! This past month we celebrated at Baldrshof with a miniature concert, Baldrshof now has its very own Drum Set! I had the pleasure of playing with a talented musician and the kids were absolutely enthralled. Next, we had some nasty weather issues and had to cancel my skiing moot plan, but luckily we were able to meet up with fellow members from our Midwest area. My Fiancée and I welcomed home a puppy in December and we brought him to meet the Baldrshof dog, Sága. We had pie, jalapeño poppers and some good laughs and stories told. Everyone made it home safe, and sound. I feel so fortunate to be a part of this family. Hail the shining one! Hail Baldr!



Christian Penner
Apprentice Folkbuilder
cspencer@runestone.org

Wisconsin

New Apprentice Folkbuilder Introduction



My name is Bruce Perron. I'm the new Apprentice Folkbuilder for Baldrshof District and I'm currently located in Solon Springs, Wisconsin. I've been Asatru for about the last 5 years and have been a member of the AFA since July 2022. My goal here, by applying for this position, is to create growth in the AFA for Northern Minnesota

and Wisconsin and to bring more of our people home. My plan is to do whatever it takes to achieve that growth moving forward. If any of you need anything, please feel free to reach out to me on MeWe or at bperron@runestone.org . I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Upcoming Events



Contact Apprentice Bruce Perron
to RSVP | BPerron@Runestone.org

Mar. 4 | 10AM
Eau Claire, WI

POLAR PLUNGE

Freezin' for a Reason



Bruce Perron
Apprentice Folkbuilder
bperron@runestone.org

Fun and Games in Wisconsin



This month was fun but sure flew by it seems.

First off super excited that Wisconsin welcomes Apprentice Folkbuilder Bruce Perron! Congratulations!

Our months Moot was also pretty exciting as we got to hang out with some wonderful people and a couple of new faces for an afternoon/evening of Retro Video and Board games.



We ate Pizza ,played Nintendo , Super Nintendo, Atari and Monopoly, Kirsten made us all some wonderful game themed snacks to go along as well! Check out the neat pictures! See you next month for Ice-skating w the Folk in Wisconsin's winter wonderland!

Upcoming Events



ICE SKATING MOOT!
FEBRUARY 26TH 2:00PM
THE PLAZA AT GATEWAY PARK ICE RINK
229 W WISCONSIN AVE
NEENAH, WI 54956

\$8 ADMISSION
\$5 SKATE RENTALS ARE AVAILABLE ON SITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
FOLKBUILDER JOSH RAPIN
JRAPIN@RUNESTONE.ORG



Folkbuilder Josh Rapin
jrapin@runestone.org

Winter Plunge for Charity



On January 28th, a few members from Wisconsin joined together to take part in the Winter Splash as Team AFA. It was a wonderful 14-degree day. As onlookers huddled together for warmth, Team AFA was announced and made its way down the runway while a Metallica song played. We did not hesitate as we got to the edge and immediately dove in. It was invigorating to say the least!



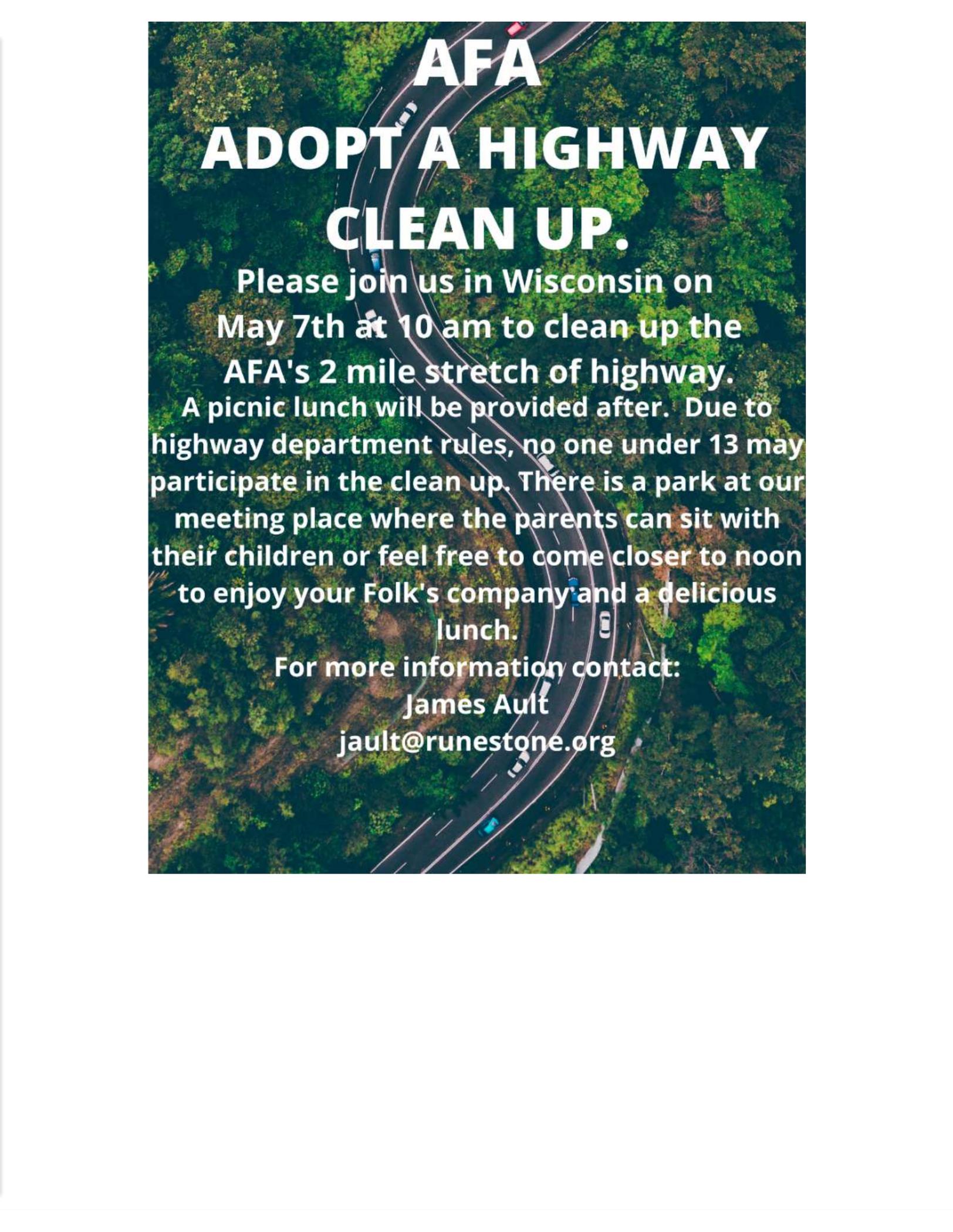
All proceeds from this event went to fund local special needs families. Huge thank you to Team AFA and those that came out just to watch the craziness!

Hail the Gods!

Hail the Folk!

Hail the AFA!

Upcoming Events

An aerial photograph of a two-lane asphalt highway that curves through a lush, green forest. Several cars are visible on the road, including a red car at the top, a blue car, and a white car. The text is overlaid on the image in white, bold, sans-serif font.

AFA ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN UP.

**Please join us in Wisconsin on
May 7th at 10 am to clean up the
AFA's 2 mile stretch of highway.**

**A picnic lunch will be provided after. Due to
highway department rules, no one under 13 may
participate in the clean up. There is a park at our
meeting place where the parents can sit with
their children or feel free to come closer to noon
to enjoy your Folk's company and a delicious
lunch.**

For more information contact:

James Ault

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THE AFA'S ANNUAL ELSEFEST.

MAY 26 - 28, 2023.

**A WEEKEND OF HONORING THE
FOLKMOTHER IN WISCONSIN.**

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

CONTACT

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Folkmother

Else Christensen

AFA ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN UP.

Please join us in Wisconsin on
September 10th at 10 am to clean up
the

AFA's 2 mile stretch of highway.

A picnic lunch will be provided after. Due to highway department rules, no one under 13 may participate in the clean up. There is a park at our meeting place where the parents can sit with their children or feel free to come closer to noon to enjoy your Folk's company and a delicious lunch.

For more information contact:

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Minnesota/Wisconsin Wotan on the Peaks Moot

Please join us for the 2nd annual
Minnesota/Wisconsin joint moot on
April 8th, 2023.

We will meet at 10 am at Willow
River State Park in Hudson, WI.
With lunch after at a Polish Deli in
Hudson.

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