Words from the Alsherjargothi

NEW YEAR'S REVOLUTIONS

No, that's not a typo in the title. Anyone can make a New Year's resolution, but what we need is a New Year's revolution—a spiritual revolution, a revolution in thought, a new religious paradigm that will sweep through the soul of our Folk to transform us...and to change the world.
Goddesses for some forty-five years, and I will be faithful to them for the rest of my life. But it has never been my ambition to merely practice our faith, to be one more quaint and colorful but ultimately impotent tiny religious cult. Asatru must emerge as a revolutionary belief that will shatter the dominant paradigms now controlling this planet. We stand for the recovery of the collective soul of our people and for the extension of our people infinitely into the future. We stand for freedom and for identity. We stand for the very principle of Life!

This challenge is an immense one, but it is at the same time joyous, exciting, and heavy with opportunities. We have already begun! As they say, “the past is prologue” and now it is time to begin a new and exciting chapter in the history of our Folk.

You have a part to play in this adventure. When you make your New Year’s resolutions, resolve to put your efforts toward our revolution! The Asatru Folk Assembly needs you...and many, many more like you! Volunteer, spread the word, take part! Join with your AFA-kin and walk with us as we make this historic journey. Talk to the Folkbuilder for your region â€“ or just write to me and say, "Steve, I want to make a difference for Asatru and for our Folk. What can I do?"

Let’s create the spiritual revolution that will change the world and lead our Folk toward a high destiny!

May the coming year bless you and your kin, with the gifts of victory, luck, and wisdom!

Stephen A. McNallen
Alsherjargothi, AFA

---

A "Hail!" to Some Outstanding Donors to the NewGrange Hof Fund

The AFA's acquisition of Newgrange Hof was one of the greatest accomplishments of the
books â€“ and we want to give special recognition to some of the individuals who made it happen! We appreciate each and every dollar donated â€“ and in keeping with the promise we made to all donors of $250 or more, we are printing their names here, in the pages of The Voice. Some are not listed here at their own request â€“ and if we have missed anyone, we urge them to please contact us for inclusion at a later date!

On behalf of the Asatru Folk Assembly, I am proud to list these names:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lord &amp; Lady of the Hall Donors</th>
<th>Karl Donors (continued)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan Didur</td>
<td>Kay Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Erickson and Diane Schachterle</td>
<td>Victor Steffans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kyle Reinhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blaine Qualls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Great Plains supporters (auction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Northwest supporters (auction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jarl Donors</td>
<td>Piotr Wozniak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen and Doug Carlson</td>
<td>Knute Allmendinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steve Ingle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folkwarder Donors</td>
<td>William Ibison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Lakey</td>
<td>Clayton Satchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philip Koch</td>
<td>Ross W Bruce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Mattson</td>
<td>Irminfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Burleson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clifford Erickson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Knapp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Pate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzanne Withhaus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Baluses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Johnson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Harlan and Rachel Reinhard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karl Donors</td>
<td>Founding Donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Frank</td>
<td>Pamela Stutrud Groth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Tauscher</td>
<td>Lars Irensson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christin Archer</td>
<td>Marc MacLeod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Ross</td>
<td>David Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Salix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brian Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Gilchrist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henrik Palmgren</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AFA's First Mothers' Night at NewGrange Hof

Our first Mothers™ Night at Newgrange Hof was a memorable one. People began arriving around noon, and food, drink, Yule decorations and miscellaneous supplies began stacking up in the kitchen and dining area. Marc had brought the tree, and Jennifer and Maddy had it up on the stage and were placing ornaments on it with all the careful eyes of artists creating a masterpiece. I holed up in the office, signing copies of my book to be sent to Hof donors, and Linda packaged them up.

More and more people trickled in, and someone put Celtic Yule music on the sound
laughter filled the building from one end to the other. I started my presentation in the mid-afternoon, examining Asatru-related themes in common holiday movies like "It's a Wonderful Life" (which illustrates the weavings of Wyrd) and "A Christmas Carol" (illustrating the Germanic concept of time). Discussion in groups followed as we talked about our Yuletide memories, and thought about how we wanted to shape the next year with our will.

Dinner was next, provided by the talented hands of Sheila, Jessica, and many others. It was amazing! Plentiful and tasty, stacked high on platters and plates, it ensured that no one went hungry. We prepared the traditional plate for the ancestors, of course, and I blessed the meal before we lined up.

Afterwards, with a fire roaring in the outdoor ritual area, we gave blot to speed the sun along, and to share in the mystery of the unconquered sun. The straw sunwheel burned brightly, illuminating the shadows and warming our hearts with the dancing flames. Mead flew from the evergreen sprig to give us blessings.

Back inside, we ate desserts that devastated our diets as we enjoyed each other's company late into the night. Children opened presents, laughter and hugs and a speeding toy truck underlining the excitement.

The next morning it was breakfast at 0830, blessed by Sheila and washed down with plenty of coffee, some of which mysteriously had become contaminated with Irish cream. More conversation and relaxation, then clean-up tasks, and lingering departure. It was all pretty wonderful.

Hail the Gods!
Hail the AFA!
Family Safety Program: Extremes

Note from the Alsherjargothi: The AFA Family Safety Program protects individual AFA members and families by (1) providing the information they need to survive emergencies and disasters of all kinds, and by (2) organizing material help in such events. Our goal is to be able to respond to threatened AFA members everywhere in case of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, fires, civil unrest, and other extreme situations. We urge you to read the articles by Jim Erickson, who heads this function of the AFA, in each issue of The Voice â€“ and to contact your Folkbuilder and the AFA if you become a victim in need of help.

Extreme Desert

Youâ€™re driving through the Mojave Desert. Itâ€™s 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Youâ€™re hours away from your destination and you run out of gas. What do you do to survive while waiting to get rescued?

1. Finding water:

Your first priority should be to find water to prevent dehydration. Use these supplies to dig for water in dry riverbeds, collect rain fall, or create a solar still to produce drinkable water through condensation:
â€¢ Shovel or entrenching tool
â€¢ Some type of covering (tarp, garbage bags, etc.)
â€¢ Fixed blade knife
â€¢ Metal container or receptacle

2. Signaling for help:
desert where there is plenty of intense sunlight. During the day, aim any reflective surface you can find to signal for help:
- Aluminum foil
- Your car’s side or rearview mirrors
- Compact mirror

3. Playing with fire:

In extreme heat, the last thing you want to do is break a sweat building a roaring fire. But fire can help protect you against predators and provide heat for cooking. Your best chance at survival is to build a fire before nightfall. Some items you should pack to start a quick fire include:
- 9-volt battery
- Steel wool
- Jumper cables
- Graphite pencil
- Cardboard

Good to know: To create a spark to start a fire, simply touch the steel wool to both 9V battery terminals and the steel wool will ignite due to the electrical current. You can also connect your jumper cables to an exposed graphite pencil and connect the other end of the cables to your car battery to start a fire. The cardboard will act as a secondary tinder to intensify the flame.

4. Shelter:

Temperatures in the desert can drop below freezing at night, so it’s crucial that you find shelter for warmth, protection from the elements and predators and an overall good night’s sleep. If you’re traveling solo, here’s what you’ll need to make a quick and safe shelter:
- Your car
- Sleeping bag
- Backpack
Extreme Cold

You and your pals are on a moose hunting trip in Alaska. It’s the middle of November and the temperature of the day is a high of 26 degrees Fahrenheit. The trip was a success, but as it’s time to head home, your car won’t start. The battery has died. What do you do?

1. Signaling for help:

With a dead car battery, you can’t use your headlights to signal for distress and you can’t charge your cellphone to call for help. Prepare for the unexpected and make sure you have these items in your car if you experience an emergency in an extremely cold climate:
- LED flashlight
- Your firearm (use with extreme caution!)
- Shiny/reflective objects

2. Playing with fire:

While cold, wet climates aren’t ideal for making fire, it is still possible to build one even in the most frigid temperatures. To prevent hypothermia and to create smoke signals to alert for help, you can use these items to build a fire:
- Cotton balls
- Petroleum jelly
- Butane lighter
- Binoculars

Good to know: Cotton balls soaked in petroleum jelly are a perfect fire starter for an emergency. Pack the soaked cotton balls in a tin case, and when emergency strikes, use your lighter to ignite the material. If you don’t have a lighter, you can use your binoculars with the heat from the sun to ignite the cotton balls or other tinder.

3. Finding water:
may be an abundance of potentially drinkable water, do not attempt to eat snow. It does not hydrate the body and can actually increase your risk of hypothermia. While you can use your breath to melt the snow or ice, you can also use these items to build a fire and collect the water:
- Natural sunlight
- A pair of eye glasses
- Container or bottle (aluminum, stainless steel or tin)

Good to know: Hold your eye glasses up at an angle between the sunlight and amount of snow you wish to melt. Focus the glasses until you see a small beam or dot. This bending of light from the sun through the glasses will create heat to melt the snow. Use a container to hold the water and drink. This method can also be used to start a fire, just replace the snow with tinder.

4. Shelter:

Alaskan temperatures can drop well below freezing, especially at night or in the winter months. In addition to fire, you will need shelter to stay warm and protect yourself against inclement weather and dangerous animals. Here’s what you’ll need for warm emergency shelter:
- Your car
- Extra winter clothing
- Blankets/sleeping bag
- Hand warmer

**Extreme Wilderness**

You decide to take your family on one last camping trip of the year. To add a little excitement and adventure, you choose to take the unbeaten path. As you’re driving, you notice your car begins to jerk and sputter and isn’t accelerating like it should. You have a failed fuel pump that will require professional attention. And on top of that, you’re lost and you can’t get any cell phone reception. What do you do?
Woods and forests can have high, dense trees that can make it difficult for aircraft to see you from above. You will need to find alternative methods to alert for help. Be sure to pack these supplies for added visibility:

- Industrial grade light stick
- Camera lens
- Chocolate
- Soda can

Good to know: To increase the shine and reflectivity of an ordinary soda can, simply rub chocolate on the bottom of the can until it disappears for a polished finish. Use the can as you would any other reflective object (like a camera lens) during the daytime to signal for help.

2. Playing with fire:

Fire is essential for any outdoor survival situation. The good news is you won’t have to bother rubbing two sticks together or fashioning a bow drill. When packing your car to go camping, don’t forget to bring these crucial items:

- Steel striker kit
- Waterproof match kit
- Fire starter tool
- Processed potato or tortilla chips

3. Finding water:

You can survive weeks without food, but you most likely won’t survive more than three days without water. Here are some items you should pack in order to collect, drink and purify wild water.

- Bottle/container
- Portable water filter
- Iodine tablets to treat water

4. Shelter:
wilderness. Bear in mind that building a decent shelter takes time and energy, so the less energy you use to build shelter, the better. Your car may not work as the temperature may be too hot or humid. Here are some alternative items you could use to protect yourself:

- Tarp
- Poncho
- Garbage bags
- Reflective rope
- Mylar blanket

**Survival Must-Haves**

For the ultimate car emergency survival kit, here is a list of survival must-haves that are perfect for any climate or environment:

- Multipurpose utility tool (Swiss army knife)
- Shovel (foldable or collapsible)
- Waterproof matches
- First aid kit
- Car repair kit
- Tarp
- Cordage/rope
- Duct tape
- Batteries (all sizes)
- Container/bottle
- Flashlight
- Bottles of water
- Snacks, protein bars or fruit: Doritos and other processed snacks make for an excellent food source and tinder

**Honorable mentions:**

- Glow sticks: great for nighttime illumination and no batteries required
- Tampons: to pack a bleeding wound or as fire tinder
- Ziploc bag: great to waterproof cellphones or flashlights
Salt tablets: when used correctly, they can restore lost electrolytes from sweating
Siphon tube: to collect gas or oil to use as a fire starter
Needle and thread: great for sewing together torn clothes, rips in shelter coverings and sealing wounds

This guide is not all inclusive. There are hundreds of other creative emergency survival items you could include in your kit for when a crisis strikes. Use everything you have at your disposal, especially any items you might normally keep in your car for quick repairs like a jack and tire iron, wrench, pliers, windshield scraper and work gloves.

Always do your research before venturing out into the wild. Knowing how to survive in a specific environment will increase your chances of making it out alive. Reach out to local park rangers or professional survival guides to additional tips and tricks.

Also, consider packing your NRA Endorsed Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+) card. This emergency medical and travel assistance program steps in with more than 20 medical and travel assistance benefits. However, this coverage does not replace calls to 9-1-1. It acts as a backup plan if you are hospitalized and require additional medical or travel services such as transportation to a different hospital or help replacing a lost passport.

“Learn a new skill every week” — Jim and Sara the Corgi

Learn more about this program and how it has benefitted NRA members across the country.

Circle of Eir - A Call to Healing
would like to be in the AFA Circle of Eir Facebook group or if you would just like to submit the name of someone who needs healing, please let me know at patriciahall@runestone.org. The next healing ritual, which is jointly done by AFA members from both the States and Europe, will be performed on Thursday, January 14, at midnight EST/USA.

Runepebble

Runepebble: An AFA e-publication for Asatru families!

We hope you enjoy the January/February issue. The next issue focuses on Waterways & the Ocean: Why were the oceans important to our ancestors? To us today? Enjoy a look at the waterways of the world, their magical and everyday species, folklore, and more. If you or a child you know is interested in contributing to the next issue, we are happy to accept submissions of all kinds, including artwork, stories, poetry, folktales, songs/sheet music, crafts, activities, recipes, educational articles, and more. If you would like to
Clergy Report

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

AFA Folk Services

AFA Folk Services is intended to provide modest, one-time monetary grants to Asatru Folk Assembly (AFA) members in dire need of basic services. We have helped members bury family members and pay medical bills â€“ sometimes with direct assistance, but also by supporting and publicizing their crowdfunding campaigns on "Go Fund Me" and the like.

It is also to be a source for referrals and information to help members get help beyond what the AFA can directly provide â€“ e.g., pointers to appropriate government services, and information about money management and/or financial counseling. For more information about Folk Services, send a private message to the Folk Services page on Facebook.

https://www.facebook.com/Asatru-Folk-Assembly-Folk-Services-737289939688176/?fref=ts

Editor’s note: Helping fellow AFA members takes place at more levels than just that of the national organization via Folk Services; see the report on the Texas Mothers' Night in this issue.
The Asatru Folk Assembly has been a regular at the Nevada County Toy Run for years, come rain or shine! We sell sandwiches, coffee and other goodies to the hundreds of bikers who ride in from all over northern California - and we have an assortment of
Nicer yet, it brings in money! We made enough in a couple of hours of frantic sales to pay a month’s mortgage on our NewGrange Hof, or to cover a number of the AFA’s ongoing expenses.

Hail the Gods!
Hail the Asatru Folk Assembly!

Stephen McNallen

Folkbuilders
from Matt Flavel, Folkbuilder Coordinator

I am proud to announce that the AFA is starting 2016 with two new Apprentice Folkbuilders! Eric Brunhoeber (left above) and Cody Mower (right) have stepped up and are hitting the ground running in the South. Eric has taken over the AFA Deep South region and is off to a fantastic start. You all will recognize Cody from his hard work as the
Alfrothul Yule

David Wolfheart reports on the Alfrothul folkish yule 2015: Alfrothul kindred members celebrated Yule with a Yule blot, fire ritual, meditation, stadhagaldr and Wotan blot.
Yule on the Last Frontier
from Eric Whisman
Yule began on Sundown at 3:41 p.m. with the folk all over Alaska lighting candles for Sunna. The folk then gathered at the Den in Palmer, AK, for a powerful blot performed by Steven Morrell with drums and a great Julbukk, offered as thanks for all that had been given in the past year and as a gift for Sunna to strengthen her on her journey. The Julbukk was consumed by the great fire. With kin gathered from all over the Great State, from Kenai to Anchorage to Palmer, we had a mighty feast and glorious sumbel, followed by a vigil for Sunna in her darkest time.

When the sun rose, we held a blot, burned the sunwheel, offered apples to the fire and hung edible ornaments for the animals of the land. All this was followed by a grand breakfast for those gathered there.

As the folk returned home, Sunna was high in the sky and our kin were charged by the might of the sun and the greatness of the folk that gathered.
On December 20, AFA members, friends and supporters gathered at Bastrop State Park, near Austin. The event was coordinated by Johnny and Jennifer Alexander, and the location they had chosen was perfect.

A large contingent of us from the Fort Worth area arrived the evening before and shared the Sam Houston cabin, a sturdy rock and timber building that had been erected by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935, and it was aptly named in that it looked a lot like a cabin that the Raven would have called home! Minus the hot water and mini fridge, of course.

Many members and supporters had chipped in to rent the Refectory, also built by the CCC in 1935. It was a great hall of wood and stone, in a style one person referred to as Anglo-Saxon-Texan â€“ an apt description, for when Johnny Alexander's delicious roast pork came out of the oven, Beowulf and Bowie both would have felt at home.

We were treated to an insightful and informative talk by Megan Keith on Holda/Perchta, shared in an inspired sumbel, were treated to a discussion of mead and modern brewing techniques (with copious mead tasting, strictly for educational purposes) by Clyde Hays, shared in a wonderful feast, and capped the evening off with a wreath-burning lead by Michelle Olson.

Even as our thoughts turned inward when contemplating the turning of the wheel and the
an AFA family who had fallen on hard times, to ensure that their young children had gifts under the family Yule tree. Items were donated by Clyde Hays, Doug Sorensen, Shawn Young, and Berk Harbin. We were able to raise over $200 and the family was totally unaware, as they had not solicited any help. Thanks to everyone who contributed and to everyone who bid on items, and especially to Berk Harbin of Woden's Folk Kindred who made sure that everything arrived at the family's home on time.

Special thanks go to Johnny and Jennifer Alexander for hosting and organizing. We often get together in the Dallas/Ft Worth area, and don't get to see our friends in the southern part of the state often enough. It was a glad time and a great way to begin the Yuletide, and the camaraderie and fellowship were felt by all. Bastrop state park is a beautiful and enchanting place, in spite of the ravages of fire and flood that it had sustained in recent years, and plans to return there have already begun.

Hail the AFA!
Hail the Folk!

Northern Plains Yule
from Blaine Qualls, Folkbuilder
Here in the Northern Plains we just continue to grow both in quantity and quality. This year's Yule celebration was one of our largest to date: we had nearly 30 adults and 9 children in attendance. People came from Minnesota, South Dakota, and of course North Dakota. Friday afternoon saw people begin arriving and getting settled in to their cabins. Later there was much merriment as the horns were passed and new acquaintances became friends. Saturday dawned bright and full of promise as more true Folk arrived. A rousing Balder blot was performed. Group pictures were taken, then it was on to a feast of truly epic proportions, over 40 pounds of ham with all the trimmings...... I can honestly say not one person left that feast hungry. Our mead judges picked AFA member Shannon Liebold's mead as the best overall; competition was fierce and some very good meads were presented, but his was the final winner.

The afternoon saw Shannon give us a very educational presentation on bushcraft skills. I walked away with a new perspective on such things and I think we all learned at least a few things. Our auction was well attended with some very unique items and also some truly superb bidding. As always a portion of the proceeds goes back to AFA headquarters with the remainder being used to fund our next event. Saturday night also saw a sumbel that was very emotion filled; new bonds were definitely made as the horn went around. Later the mead flowed as many homemade meads were brought out to be enjoyed, and enjoyed they were well into the night.

Sunday saw the inevitable packing and saying of goodbyes, but not before we all gathered for a Wayfarer's blot to send everyone off safely. I performed this ceremony in the cold morning air seeing everyone off in good spirits. I am always amazed at what can be accomplished by a few dedicated folk... just a few short years ago the Dakotas were nearly a dead zone for Asatru activity; now we are quickly becoming a beacon to those in
News from the Midwest
from Patricia Hall, Folkbuilder

REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALL

I hope you have all had a wonderful Yule season and I wish you the happiest of New Years! Our next Midwest conference call will be at 8:30 p.m. EST/7:30 p.m. CST on Thursday, January 14. We have a new year and chance for new opportunities for the Midwest! I look forward to hearing you there! Please note we have moved to a new conference call system. The call number is 712-775-7031 Participant Code is: 868138477 Call is optional.

AFA Midwest has its own FaceBook group! The FaceBook link is https://www.facebook.com/groups/871639299583668/
Please request an add! This is for AFA members only. It will be a place to post conference call info, gatherings, and other goings on in the AFA as well as for discussion. Also if you have not friended me on Facebook, please feel free to do so. My Facebook link is https://www.facebook.com/patrice.l.hall.92

News from the Upper South
from Patricia Hall, Interim Folkbuilder

REGIONAL CONFERENCE CALL

I hope you have all had a wonderful Yule season and I wish you the happiest of New Years! There has not been an Upper South call for a while but that is about to change! Our first Upper South conference call of 2016 will be at 8:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday
hearing you there! The call number is 712-775-7031  Participant Code is: 868138477
Call is optional.

AFA Upper South has its own FaceBook group! The FaceBook link is
https://www.facebook.com/groups/370833816453543/ Please request an add! This is
for AFA members only. It will be a place to post conference call info, gatherings, and
other goings on in the AFA as well as for discussion. Also if you have not friended me on
Facebook, please feel free to do so. My Facebook link is
https://www.facebook.com/patricia.l.hall.92

News from the Northeast
from Clifford Erickson, Folkbuilder
Svinfylkin Yule in Pennsylvania

On Mothersâ€™ Night Eve, the Svinfylkin of Pennsylvania hosted many friends to begin the Yuletide. Bill McNamara, an AFA member and Lord of the Hearthstone Theod, led a group discussion on luck as it was understood by our ancestors. The discussion was healthy and informative, and Bill was well prepared on the topic matter. Blot to Odin was led by Gothi Xander. When a beautiful wooden Sleipnir was given to Odin and placed in the ritual fire, it carried with it two saddle bags containing personal offerings from the folk. Blot was followed by feasting, with amazing roasted pork loin, scalloped potatoes, and the best from-scratch cheesecake this Folkbuilder (Cliff) has ever tasted. The night finished with a lively sumbel, including toasts at the reserved seats for guests of honor Odin and Frigga to start each round. The Svinfylkin hold energetic rituals and extended the utmost hospitality to their Yule guests.

AFA Yule in Lansdale Pennsylvania

AFA Folkbuilder Clifford Erickson hosted a Yule faining on December 26th at his home. Nearly twenty AFA members and friends from the tri-state area attended. Personal offerings from the folk, food offerings from the feast, and Yuletide offerings from Cliff's home â€“ a wreath from last Yule, last Yule's fir tree, and a charred bit of last year's Yule log â€“ were blessed and given to Odin. The folk each in turn placed a part of last year's Yule tree into the offering fire. A charred bit from this offering has been kept for re-igniting the Yule fire next year. The faining was followed by feasting on sauerkraut & pork, mashed potatoes, chicken pot pie and more. Sumbel was held after the feast with good and hale words spoken. The rest of the night was spent enjoying the company of
Skylands Asatru Fellowship, from Joe Bloch

December was a busy month for the Skylands Asatru Fellowship, based in northwest New Jersey. We held classes, made offerings to the landvaettir, celebrated Mothers’ Night, and visited our Heathen friends and neighbors as they celebrated Yule. In organizational news, we are now an official nonprofit corporation in the state of New Jersey, and are filing our official request for 501(c)3 recognition with the IRS.

Skylands Asatru Fellowship is pleased to continue our series of open events and gatherings. As we head into our second year of operation, here are our upcoming events for January, 2016:

Yule Celebration. Saturday, January 2, 2016, 1:00 p.m. Stanhope, NJ
New Moon Offering to the Landvaettir. Saturday, January 9, 7:00 p.m. Stanhope, NJ
Asatru 101: Cosmology. Sunday, January 10, 6:30 p.m. Stanhope, NJ
Asatru 101: Ritual Theory and Practice. Sunday, January 24, 6:30 p.m. Stanhope, NJ

AFA Northeast Conference Call

Patricia Hall and Clifford Erickson, the AFA’s Northeast Region Folkbuilders, host a monthly conference call open to all members to discuss news and updates for the Northeast Region. Our next Northeast conference call will be at 8:00 p.m. EST on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. We look forward to hearing you there! Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580  Access Code: 174-424

Upcoming Events for 2016

Eostre at Newgrange, Brownsville, CA - March 19-20
Ostara in the South, Fortsen 4-H Center, Hampton, GA - April 1-3
Midsummer at Newgrange, Brownsville, CA - June 17-20