

Hail & Horn Gathering

Welcome to HHG 2023! The Folk spoke their will at the 2022 Rede Moot, and we have listened. After reflection and discussion among organizers, considering the many years pre-COVID and the ones that followed, we have made the following changes. As always, we will hear from the Folk at the upcoming Rede Moot to decide what should stay and what should go from this list of changes.

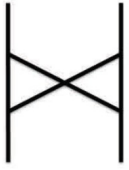
Scheduling: The event is planned for Thursday June 29 to Sunday July 2, 2023. Thursday afternoon will have pole carving and tour of the knoll prior to the usual evening Welcome Fire and Skald open mic, freshen up your voices and instruments. Friday, verify your program for workshops in the evening prior to esoteric. Saturday more dedicated fun to Tyr-focused programming and Húsel feast on Saturday. Sunday morning will feature two workshops before breaking for swim and a meal prior to the Rede Moot in the afternoon. Fire on Sunday for those staying onto Monday for the Gleaning.

The Glorious Monday 'Gleaning': With the meaning of "collecting gradually and bit by bit, not letting anything go to waste" we hope that people will join us in affirming the principle that many hands make light work. Given that the statutory holiday of Canada Day falls on the Monday, you are invited to stay an extra day to show communal compassion by helping with the cleanup. In gratitude for your kindness, Chantal & Auz will prepare a feast of 'leftovers and more' to honour those of us who join in this Glorious Gleaning with helping and cleaning. And of course, a fire will be held on Sunday night. Note that regular camping rates apply for Sunday night.

Chamberlain (New Volunteer Position): Growing is good, but it also brings complications. As such, problems have cropped up with the seating arrangements of our ever growing family of faith. Sometimes it feels a bit like "duck, duck, goose"! To solve this issue, a volunteer has come forward to be our first ever Chamberlain! They will handle the logistics of proper hospitality, and lessen the stress of our guests figuring out seating and banners, etc. Newcomers and single folk will be assigned a seat at the High Table, as is our custom, and the Chamberlain will also ensure that servers have a space to sit and feast. Individuals, families and kindreds will be guided to discussing their needs and desires in terms of feasting table space with the Chamberlain so everyone feels it fully when we say "You Are Welcome Here."

Kvasir and Iðunn: In 2022, we used a smaller horn for the Byrele to carry at Symbel, making the job easier and more inclusive for those who cannot carry the grand horn named 'Fiðdrifa'. This year, we will have a second horn and second Byrele to carry a horn of non-alcoholic beverage. The horn of switchel or shrub will be called the 'Iðunn horn' and the horn of mead or ale will be called the 'Kvasir horn'. The choice will be yours alone. Both beverages are imbued with the mystical power of fermentation ('ALU'). This is another inclusivity step so those who do not imbibe are not made to feel as they are not participating or are being singled out. We respect all people's choices as to partake or not.

Drawing Lots and Designating Doughty: We came up with the notion of Doughty as a way to recognize contributions of individuals to the community, as well as to have a group of trusted people that newcomers can consult. Part of the cost of registration thus went to the purchase of silver arm bands to honour outstanding contributions to our communities and to serve as their personal oath rings. As the size of the gathering grew with new Folk every year, it becomes increasingly challenging to know of the



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deeds of our people, spread from Manitoba to Quebec City and even beyond our border. Over time, we've tried various ways of voting (the Witan, then the Doughty, then the Folk votes and Doughty chooses among those). To reflect the Rede Moots and input over the years, to maintain equity and inclusivity, build community and ensure frith, the Witan are introducing a new way of celebrating the Folk.

We will let the Gods choose for us those who should be recognized and encouraged, by drawing two names from the list of attendees (minus the Witan), age 18+, including volunteers, staff and guests. The two draws will occur during the Húsel Feast by a child in attendance and will represent the will of the current and upcoming deities. For 2023 they will be:

1. "Tyr has chosen you!" The cost of HHG 2023 will be returned to the person whose name is selected. They will receive the full fee, regardless of being staff, guest or even pre-registered with discount.
2. "The Gods have chosen you before we've even chosen the next God/dess to honour!" The person chosen will have free adult entrance to HHG 2024. This gift may be passed on to another, for whatever reason (the person cannot attend, they know someone who can't afford it, they want to invite someone who hasn't come, etc.) They simply need to tell who will receive their free entrance to MA, before the start of HHG 2024.

For both draws, the value is equal to a full entrance for one adult (not including any other amenities such as trailer space, hydro, pre-, post-HHG, etc.).

Any questions? Contact MA (ravensknoll@rogers.com) or Chantal (<https://www.facebook.com/chantal.layoun.1> or yountal@hotmail.com)