

THE SOCIETY OF GUNGNIR

Odin's Warrior Tribe is accepting applications for membership in The Society of Gungnir. The Society is named after Odin's spear, which was forged by the dwarves who were the sons of Ivaldi. When Odin throws Gungnir it will never miss its target. Upon Gungnir were inscribed many magical runes and on Gungnir were sworn the mightiest of unbreakable oaths. The Society of Gungnir serves as an extension of Odin's Warrior Tribe for those military heathens, and a select few of martial spirit, who want to be part of the Tribe and support the Tribe's mission. It is an international military heathen brotherhood. The current Commander of The Society of Gungnir is the Chieftain of Odin's Warrior Tribe. Also, at this time we are joining all our members initially through the Society of Gungnir – even in the core area – so it is the pathway to full Tribe membership.

Qualifications: Membership in the Society is open to men and women who are heathens and who are serving, or have honorably served, in the military forces of the United States and/or allied and friendly countries. The Society is also open to law enforcement and first responders, mountain rescue, and similar. The Society also allows for a few exceptional and distinguished heathens who have a martial/warrior spirit, but lack a formal military background, and can bring some unique value to the Society. If in doubt, whether you qualify, please contact us at odinswarriortribe@protonmail.com. Applicants to the Society must also have read the Poetic Edda, the Prose Edda, and at least two other books on heathenry or dealing with heathens. This is the minimum. The Tribe now has a continuing education program that will help many progress further in their studies. If you need book recommendations, please ask. One of these could also be one of the Icelandic sagas or the epic poem Beowulf – your choice. This qualification is the minimum necessary to provide a baseline in understanding of our faith and its virtues. Applicants are disqualified from applying if they have received any type of military discharge except for honorable (or for medical reasons), been found guilty of a felony in court, or displayed cowardice in the line of duty. Anyone who engages in Stolen Valor will be rejected immediately as an applicant.

In rare cases, applicants can belong to other heathen or Asatru groups, but they must advise us of which they belong to and their role in them and the Tribal Council will decide whether to allow this. Applicants must not be oathed to another heathen kindred or they must be released from their oaths.

Applicants are evaluated on factors that include among others, their character, deeds/accomplishments, ability to fit in, adherence to Tribe virtues and values, knowledge of traditional heathenry, and potential contribution to the Tribe and Society of Gungnir. Understanding and following our virtues and values is extremely important. We follow Department of Defense E.O. guidelines and do not discriminate.

Membership Process:

Step One: Applicants for the Society must first supply the biographic information requested below on a separate piece of paper, including details and proof of military service (law enforcement or first responder), discharge if applicable, a recent photograph, a statement that they are a heathen (Asatru), and a statement of why they want to join The Society of Gungnir. Please also list any special skills or interests that might be relevant to heathenry, the Society, and the Tribe. For example, archery, mead making, Old Norse or German language, historical fencing, martial arts, or fighting techniques, firearms training, musical and/or artistic talents, blacksmithing, sailing (especially important), etc. Also certify that you have read the two Eddas and name the other two books you have read on heathenry or

heathen subjects. You must also certify that you have been following Odin's Warrior Tribe social media on FB, Instagram, and/or You Tube for at least one month. This is to ensure that the applicant has a good understanding of what we stand for. You must read and understand the Tribe virtues and values on the About Us page of the website and be committed to a life and lifestyle that follows them.

Step Two: Applications will be reviewed and a member of the Tribal Council who will open a dialogue with the applicant and may request additional information and have a telephone call. Those who make it through step two will advance.

Step Three: The Applicant will be called on the phone by a Tribe member and that can also result in face-to-face meetings and/or zoom calls. This is part of a process – like “hang around” geared to determine if the applicant really is suited for the Tribe, understands what a Tribe is (we are not group, club, or kindred, or organization – we are a Tribe) and vice versa. If that goes well, they will be asked to make themselves available for an interview with one of the Tribal Council via Zoom, Skype, Facetime, or FB messenger. Applicants will be asked about their understanding of the Tribe's Virtues and Values. See the website About Us page. This process is designed to identify those persons who will fit in with the Tribe. Those applicants whose interviews are deemed positive will pass to step four.

Step Four: The Tribal Council and Chieftain will vote on the applicant whether they will be offered membership in the Society.

Step Five: Applicants will be notified of the decision of the Chieftain and Council. Those selected will be named Varrin (pledges) or Varnar (in the plural) will advance to Step Six.

Step Six: Accepted Varrin (the same name is used with those who seek to join the tribe) will pay the annual dues of \$58.00 -they can also be paid by monthly installment. The dues are subject to change. The price supports operation of the Tribe and business expenses, website, legal, insurance, and other fees. We are a 501 c 3 nonprofit, and the annual dues will be deductible to the extent allowed by US law – please check with a tax advisor.

*All new applicants are accepted on a probationary basis for a period of circa nine months.

Members of the Society of Gungnir may purchase coins and any other member-only items offered from time to time in our Tribal store. <https://www.odinswarriortribe.com/shop>

Step Seven: The Varnar (pledges) who have been voted into The Society of Gungnir will need to swear an oath. Details of the oath will be provided to applicants prior to step six to ensure they have no concerns. The oath is also customized to some degree as the individual proclaims their deeds, accomplishments, and/or ancestry. The oath will be conducted on Zoom, Skype, Facetime, or FB Messenger unless a personal face to face arrangement can be organized. The person taking the oath should have an appropriate bladed weapon or an oath ring upon which to swear their oath. Again, all new accepted applicants are probationary. Once that status ends, new members generally retake the oath in person at a formal Tribe gathering.

Members of The Tribe and Society of Gungnir have their own closed FB Group for communication with Tribal leadership and each other. We also have other encrypted communication. All members are welcome to come to all tribal gatherings. They will also be linked up with other Society members in their area. The Tribe Leadership will work to organize major gatherings of the Society in the US and

potentially overseas in places where there are clusters of Society members. We have had small gatherings in Iceland, Norway, and Germany.

Society members who move into the core tribal area in Virginia or nearby or travel regularly to gatherings may apply or be asked to become members of the Tribe after personally meeting tribal members. They also may retain a dual status as a member of the Society if they join the Tribe if they desire.

Applicants will submit their information to the following email address:

odinswarriortribe@protonmail.com

DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ON FACEBOOK OR POST ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION IN THIS GROUP!

Here are the details of what to submit for applicants in a resume format:

Full name

Date and Place of Birth

Address and Country

Email address

Telephone Number with country code if applicable

Name of Military Service and Country of Service

Branch of Service, Units of Service, and general dates of service

Military status: Whether active duty, veteran, or retired.

Type of discharge, if applicable.

Statement that you have never been convicted of a felony.

Recent photograph

Official Proof of military service: This could be for US military DD 214 or copy of orders. Any social security numbers, personal and/or military identification numbers should be covered or erased. For foreign military, a copy of document showing you served with any personal numbers covered.

If not military, then proof of law enforcement or first responder service.

Statement that the applicant is a heathen.

Statement of reasons for wanting to join The Society of Gungnir. You can also comment on what you hope to offer the Tribe.

Family situation: Married, Single, Divorced and whether you have children.

Certification that the applicant has read the Poetic Edda and the Prose Edda as well as two other books/works about heathenry or from the heathen era. Please name these works.

List of Special Skills, such as blacksmithing, martial arts, historical combat, archery, German or Old Norse language, mead making, and writing. This is extremely important along with knowledge for anyone applying as a distinguished heathen.

Names of any other Religious, Asatru, or Heathen Organizations/Kindreds to which you belong and whether you have oathed to any or have a leadership role.

Statement that you have been following Tribe social media for at least one month.