

After the feast come the closing libations which are the same as the opening ones, only in reverse order:

Sponde Immortal Olympians, we thank you for joining our host.

Sponde Athena Phratria, who gives us wisdom and courage to ensure our family's continued prosperity and safety

Sponde Zeus Phratris, ever watchful, who binds us together as a community and protects us.

Sponde, Hestia guardian of hearth's fire, yours is always the first and the last.

Closing:

After the closing libations, all participants help clean the festival area so that it is the same as when they arrived.

After the clean up when every one is ready to leave, the Herald will lead us in saying:

"Be brave for all good things have come to pass

Members of Hyperborean Demos

Michael T. Bean Victory White

Kamala Mark Byer

You may contact Hyperborean Demos in the following ways:

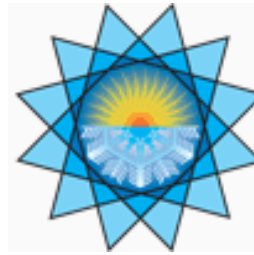
At our website: www.hyperborean-demos.com

Or at Hellenion's site: www.hellenion.org

By emailing us at Victory.white@hyperborean-demos.com

Or Nightcloud_kleshya@yahoo.com

Or by telephone: 612-280-4323



Hyperborean Demos

Presents an Apaturia Festival

Welcome to our Apaturia festival. Apaturia was historically a three-day celebration not set on a particular date: the dates of the festival were determined by the Athenian clans or family associations, (phratries). This annual festival brings together the scattered and diverse members of the families to honor family Gods - especially Zeus Phratris and Athena Phratria - and to mark changes in the lives of the families through birth, coming of age and marriage.

The ritual took place over four days which included:

Dorpiá - Suppers, a feast to welcome the members of the family

Anarrhusis - Sacrificing, the day offerings were made

Koureotis - Day of Youths, to mark adulthood and reintroduce the individual to the family as an adult

Epibda - the Following, is an unofficial fourth day that could be termed the morning after - apparently the third-day celebrations usually resulted in quite a hangover.

Date: 10/2/2005

Time: 12:00 noon

Our Ritual Today

Because we unfortunately don't have three days for Pagan Pride Day, today's ritual will touch on all three days (but that fourth day will be up to you on your own time!).

Today's ritual will consist of:

- Purification of People
- Purification of the Temenos (ritual space) and Lighting of the Hearth Fire
- Opening libations to Hestia, Zeus Phratrios, and Athena Phratria
- The Welcoming Feast
- Offerings/Sacrifices by the Community
- Our thanks to the Community for sharing with us
- The Celebratory Feast

Purification of People

After everyone has entered the Temenos, (sacred area), the Water Bearer will bring the khernips, (lustral water) [spring water mixed with sea salt] As you wash your hands say:

Far off, Far off, even to the Profane. This will command all negative things to leave the area.

After drying your hands you will be given a cup to drink from, for the libations. (if you have your own you may of course use it, there will be 8 so take small sips!)

Purification of the Temenos and Lighting the Hearth Fire.

The Priest/Priestess will ask for silence during these two parts.



Opening Libations

The libation bearers will bring water to fill everyone's cups. If you have your own drink it may be used as well. After everyone has a full cup, the Herald will lead us in the libation, everyone repeats what he says and then pours a small amount out, then takes a sip:

Sponde, Hestia, guardian of hearth's fire, Yours is always the first and the last.

Sponde, Zeus Phratrios, ever watchful, who binds us together as a community and protects us.

Sponde Athena Phratria, who gives us wisdom and courage to ensure our family's continued prosperity and safety.

Sponde Immortal Olympians, Come join our host.

This will be followed by:

- *The Welcoming Feast*
- *Offerings/Sacrifices by the Community*
- *Thanking the Community*
- *The Celebratory Feast*

Closing Libations: