

AFA UPDATE

A PROJECT OF THE ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY

Issue 112

Odin's Day, April 18, 2007

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Please tell your friends about *AFA Update* and suggest they subscribe! They can do so by going to AFA_Bearclaw_subscribe@yahoo.com.

AFA UPDATE IS FOR EVERYONE! Not just AFA members and supporters...not even just for followers of native Germanic or native European religion! If you're interested in what we have to say, that's reason enough!

THE AFA UPDATE is an email version of articles, links and commentary appearing on the Asatru Update blog, at <http://asatruupdate.blogspot.com/>. You can visit that site daily if you like, or you can wait and we will put it all together and send it to you in email format. Or, you can subscribe to the blog and get updates as they are posted. Our goal is to get the information to the largest possible number of people, so whatever works for you is fine with us!

THE ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY

The AFA has been around since 1994, but its roots go all the way back to the first stirrings of the Germanic religious revival in the United States.

The mission of the AFA is *"to practice, promote, and further evolve the religion of Asatru, thus forging it into a powerful and effective tool for building a better world."* Note the active tone here: We want to make a difference!"

Since its founding, the AFA has sponsored countless gatherings, published successful newsletters, and been repeatedly quoted in the national and international media. The AFA has proposed new ideas, challenged the status quo, and generally pushed the boundaries of the possible.

We are a membership organization. If you agree with our Declaration of Purpose, join us! You can find a copy of this document by going to the AFA web site and clicking on "Join the AFA!" today!

Please visit our web site at <http://runestone.org>.

WHY GIVE YOUR MONEY TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE?

...when you can donate it to us? The AFA is a nonprofit religious organization, so your contributions are tax-deductible. You can remit by sending us a check or money order made payable to the Asatru Folk Assembly, or by going to our web site and finding the "Make a Donation" button on the left-hand side. You can even arrange payroll deductions if you like; email us for details!

APRIL 12, 2007

Living with the Land Wights - Part Two

Yesterday I described my campaign to save the land Sheila and I are renting from possible development after we move into our new home. I wrote how I leave gifts of oatmeal (and beer - often Guinness) for the land wights, and how I am working on the appearance and all-around tidiness of the place.

APRIL 11, 2007

Living with the Land Wights - Part One

As some of you know, Sheila and I are building a home on some acreage a few miles from where we are now renting, and we will be moving there in the near future. As we ready for the transition, I find myself already missing the place that has been our home for the last thirteen years or more. It consists of twenty-four acres of wooded sanity and privacy that happen to be seven minute's walk from a shopping center. Deer, owls, a bobcat, foxes, and many other animals make it their home. We've given countless blots here, and hosted Asatru events to include the Gathering of the Tribes back in 1999. We've buried our beloved pets here. I've lived on this land longer than any place in my life, with the exception of my boyhood home back in Texas.

I've worried that the landlord will develop these acres after we leave. It would be a shame to see this land paved and the wildlife driven away, so I've been working with the land wights - the intelligences or spirits of the land, the unseen beings who live here and guard the place - to keep that from happening. My goal is to strengthen these wights, giving them might and main so they can hold this home as their own.

In practical terms, this work takes several forms. I've been making weekly offerings to the land wights, in the form of big steaming bowls of oatmeal - which I'm told they like - laced with a generous gob of butter and a bit of half-and-half. (I presume that, even though they are Californian land wights, they don't worry about cardiovascular disease.) Also, I've started taking better care of the place by reseeding the patchy spots on the lawn, watering regularly, and generally cleaning up.

Tomorrow I'll make a post speculating on the mechanism and the effectiveness of these practices, but for now I'll just note that the place is really looking good. In some strictly non-logical way, I feel this land and the living things on it are somehow healthier than they were. I won't try to defend that feeling with science; I report it for what it may be worth and I will save my comments for later.

Suffice to say, I am happy with the way this is going - not just for the wights and the land, but also for the good it has done my spiritual life.

More on all this tomorrow!

OUR PEOPLE AND OUR CULTURE - LINKS

We are a people - Germanic people, part of the Greater Family of European peoples, following the ways of our ancestors.

Only when we realize we are a river will we stop drowning in puddles.

<http://observer.guardian.co.uk/world/story/0,,2057517,00.html> pagan statue

<http://observer.guardian.co.uk/print/0,,4025363-102285,00.html> black self-esteem

vdare.com/sailer/070415_diverse.htm Britain not diverse

FREEDOM AND ASATRU - LINKS

Our Western traditions of freedom under law derive overwhelmingly from the culture of Northern Europe. (Both words, "freedom" and "law," have Teutonic roots.) It is our task to maintain this gift from our ancestors. In Asatru, freedom is a religious issue!

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article1626768.ece?Submitted=true> rebels
agains id cards

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=447296&in_page_id=1770&in_a_source= govt lies on ID cards

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/mostread/s_502099.html guns

<http://renew.com/general76/tfface.htm> face scans

THE ENVIRONMENT AND ASATRU - LINKS

The Earth is our mother, called variously in our mythic lore Frigga, Nerthus, and Jord. As the most intelligent species on the planet, humans end up making many decisions for all the other forms of life that live here - so let us choose wisely.

<http://www.mlive.com/news/chronicle/index.ssf?/base/news-11/1175872510114680.xml&coll=8> bees

<http://news.independent.co.uk/environment/wildlife/article2449968.ece> bees

<http://planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/41282/story.htm> acidic oceans

http://www.treehugger.com/files/2007/04/how_japanese_mi.php prius hacking

<http://www.cleanmpg.com/>

<http://www.newsday.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-orangutan-video-games,0,108529.story?coll=sns-ap-nation-headlines> oranges

http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?chanId=sa013&articleID=DCA231BA-E7F2-99DF-3105874539B83ECB&modsrc=most_popular trees in the right places

<http://renew.com/general76/SHARK.HTM> sharks

<http://www.alternet.org/envirohealth/50494/> denier and big oil

IMPORTANT DATES

April 30 - Walburg. This Germanic Goddess safeguards the dead heroes who sleep in the burial mound, and harbors deeds yet to bear fruit. Pour a libation to the bold ones awaiting rebirth, and think on how your own acts will live after you.

Hail the Holy Ones!

Hail the AFA!

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UPDATES? He or she can subscribe by going to [AFA Bearclaw-
subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:AFA_Bearclaw-subscribe@yahogroups.com).

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