

AFA UPDATE

A PROJECT OF THE ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY

Issue 67

Odin's Day, May 11, 2005

Contact email: info@runestone.com

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THE FINAL FARING OF ELSE CHRISTENSEN

It is with sadness that I must announce the death of Else Christensen, one of the pioneers of our Folkway's revival. She died on Odin's Day, May 4, at 9:30 PM.

Else was born in 1913 in Denmark, and later moved to Canada. She lived for several years in Crystal River, Florida, but eventually returned to British Columbia, where she died.

Else formed the Odinist Fellowship in the early 1970's and directed its various activities until her resignation only a few days before her death. Her life is a one long and faithful saga of dedication to our Gods and our Folk - a life lived with purpose and calm resolve, steady in the winds of adversity, loyal to the Pole Star that guides us. She was True.

Her cremation service will take place at 7 PM tonight, May 11, in Parksville, British Columbia. Heimgest of the Odinic Rite will officiate.

We ask that readers of *AFA Update* pause a moment to remember her and her seminal contributions to the rebirth of our Faith and Folk.

Fare the road well, Else!

STAYING BUSY!

Recent days have seen a frenzy of activity, most of it relevant to the progress of the AFA but much of it hard to easily categorize. So what have Steve and Sheila been doing? The last week has seen a very important AFA Board of Directors meeting...consulting with a public relations professional on taking our message to a wider audience...meeting with Asatruar in the Reno area, to include Stefn Thorsman of the Troth...visiting a prison

kindred...refining the structure of the AFA...setting up the AFA members list and establishing protocol for moderating it...all on top of regular jobs, feeding the cat, and washing the dishes!

The pace has been frantic, but we are laying the foundation for an organization that, with your help, will make a difference. Onward and upward!

AFA MEMBERS GROUP FORMED

We've formed a Yahoo group exclusively for AFA members, with the idea of making it easier for AFAers to give input and suggestions regarding our organization's operations and progress. The group started off as a way to communicate quickly with members, but now we've added moderators and will be making the group interactive within the next few days. This way, members can provide real-time input on how the AFA can do its job better.

AFA membership information can be downloaded directly from the AFA website, <http://www.runestone.org>. In lieu of that, we will gladly send an application packet by regular mail.

NORWEGIAN WOLF SITUATION

Here's Kimberley's latest update on the crisis with the highly endangered Norwegian wolves:

"The latest I've found about the wolf situation is not good.

"The hunt has had the result we expected. The latest report from the Scandinavian wolf Project, Scandulv, claims that only the 'Julussa' pack now has a breeding couple fit to breed this Spring. Scandulv's research suggests that there are no free-roaming wolf pairs that are capable of breeding either. The other pack, Gråfjell, not initially targeted for the hunt (but which the alpha female was 'mistakenly' killed during the hunt), still exists but it is believed there are no other females able to produce pups. At least the pack hasn't dispersed as I had feared. Petter Wabakken (the researcher I have been trying to get a hold of, but not gotten a response from as yet) said in Aftenposten that he expects the Julussa pack to breed this year, 'but we can never be certain. We may have a year with no breeding.'"

I will be consulting with Kimberley in the next few days to see what action we can take that might affect things.

CONTACT WITH NORWEGIAN ASATRU GROUPS WANTED!

If any of our readers have personal contact with the Asatru groups in Norway, please drop us a line to help facilitate coordination of the wolf project, and establishing cooperation in general!

RUNE AND LORE CLASSES

The AFA sponsors twice-monthly classes on the runes and on Eddic lore in the Sacramento area. Anyone interested in attending can contact us at afa@lanset.com.

DONATIONS!

The Asatru Folk Assembly is a 501 c (3) religious organization, and donations to it are tax-deductible.

ODIN LIVES!

The groundbreaking radio program Odin Lives! is broadcast every Thursday night at 8 PM Eastern Time on a frequency of 7.415 MHz. This broadcast is repeated the next Tuesday morning at 12:15 AM on the same frequency. You can learn more by going to their web site at <http://www.odinlives.org>.

IMPORTANT DATES

June 9 - Day of Remembrance for Sigurd the Volsung. No Germanic hero outshines Sigmund's noble son. His courage and nobility won him fame shining through the centuries. Recall his glory by listening to Wagner's Ring operas, or by doing something noble, or by slaying one of your own private dragons.

June 21 - Midsummer. This is the sun's moment of greatest glory, and the time of longest daylight. After today, the sun's decline begins. Decorate your house with sunwheels. Build a bonfire, or if that's not possible, burn a candle in her honor.

July 9 - Day of Remembrance for Unn the Deep Minded. Unn was a strong-willed matriarch who established dynasties in the Orkneys, Faroes, and Iceland. Do something to make your own family line stronger and more permanent. Recall the deep-minded women of your clan today.

Hail the AFA!

Stephen A. McNallen
Asatru Folk Assembly

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Please refer him or her to AFA_Bearclaw-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE at <http://www.runestone.org>.