

## AFA UPDATE

### A PROJECT OF THE ASATRU FOLK ASSEMBLY

Issue 37

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(Next issue: April 7)

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## TYR #2

The long-awaited second issue of Tyr arrived at our house just a few days ago. It's 413 pages long and contains a music CD, so I don't think anyone will complain that they're not getting enough content!

But it's not just the amount of material crammed between the covers - the quality continues to be outstanding. Here is a list of the main articles:

- Alain de Benoist's essay "A Four Letter Word"
- an extensive interview with Alain de Benoist
- Phil Quadrio on the organic vs. the mechanistic world-view
- Nigel Pennick's essay "Heathen Holy Places"
- John Matthews' essay "The Giants of Albion"
- Markus Wolff on Ludwig Fahrenkrog
- Charlie Krafft on Romanian philosophical currents (Eliade, Emil Cioran, etc.)
- Annabel Lee on "The Choosers of the Slain: Valkyrie and Fravarti"
- Michael Moynihan on the legend of Wayland the Smith
- Dr. Peter Bahn on "The Friedrich Hielscher Legend"
- Joscelyn Godwin on the musical theories of Herman Wirth
- Julius Evola on the "Doctrine of Combat and Victory"
- Stephen McNallen's article "Three Decades of the Asatru Revival in America"

...as well as interviews with Austrian "technosophical" musicians Allerseelen and other personalities in the cultural scene.

Readers of the AFA Update will find my article to be a critical, painfully honest, yet optimistic overview of all I've learned while playing my own role in the resurrection of Asatru in Vinland.

Tyr is an outstanding achievement, covering not just Germanic religion but the cultural and philosophical underpinning to the traditional European worldview.

To order, send \$22 for postpaid delivery in the United States or \$30 for foreign airmail. If you live in Georgia, add 7% sales tax. Make orders payable to Ultra, PO Box 11736, Atlanta, GA 30355.

## THE ODIN BROTHERHOOD

The AFA is proud to announce that we will be carrying Dr. Mark Mirabello's book, *The Odin Brotherhood*. Our mention of this fascinating work in the last AFA Update got a lot of attention and we quickly exhausted the supply of books the author was kind enough to donate to us.

We hate turning people away empty-handed - especially people who care enough to buy from us. Therefore, we're going to have copies of *The Odin Brotherhood* in hand just as quickly as we can get them. All you folks who were disappointed, be of good cheer! If you haven't already ordered elsewhere, we can take care of you!

## EOSTRE IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Saturday, March 20, the AFA held an especially successful Eostre celebration. Ed and Joan Broneske were the driving forces behind it, and what started out to be a small, intimate gathering quickly turned into a large, intimate gathering!

A local park, green with new growth and offering fine views of the California foothills, provided the backdrop for our event. The weather was perfect as 40 or more Asatruar and friends arrived. We had a good mix of ages, and lots of new faces.

Joan and Ed held blot, I led the opening rite and the sumbel, and Diane blessed the food. Though the gathering was essentially non-alcoholic, Dave's mead served wonderfully well as an offering to Eostre and to fill the sumbel horn.

Until this year, we've referred to the Saxon Goddess of the dawn and springtime as, Ostara, the other main variant of her name. Somehow, it seemed like a good idea to use the version more familiar to non-Asatruar, and to begin reclaiming this bit of our linguistic and spiritual heritage.

We will be doing more open events in the future. Let us know if you'd like to be on the information list for these!

## SOME THINGS WE BELIEVE

Reproduced below is the text of a handout we used at the Eostre gathering. It is meant to be an introduction to the AFA, aimed at people who are not familiar with our beliefs. We wanted something light on theology and cosmology, but heavy on basic principles. Perhaps you will find portions of it useful in discussions with others.

The AFA honors the European Folkway as it was known to the Norse and Germanic peoples. These tribes spread all across the continent, from central Europe to Scandinavia and the British Isles, into southern Europe, and still farther afield.

Some of our key principles are these:

The world is good. Prosperity is good. Life is good, and we should live it with joy and enthusiasm.

We are free to shape our lives to the extent allowed by our skill, courage, and might. There is no predestination, no fatalism, no limitations imposed by the will of any external deity.

We do not need salvation. All we need is the freedom to face our destiny with courage and honor.

We are connected to all our ancestors. They are a part of us. We in turn will be a part of our descendants.

We are also linked to all our living kin - to our families and to every man and woman rooted in the tribes of Europe. They are our "greater family."

We are connected to Nature and subject to its laws. The Holy Powers often express themselves in Nature's beauty and might.

We believe that morality does not depend on commandments, but rather springs from the dignity and honor of the high-minded man and woman.

We do not fear the Holy Powers, or consider ourselves their slaves. On the contrary, we share community and fellowship with the Divine. The Holy Powers encourage us to grow and advance to higher levels.

We honor the Holy Powers under the names given them by our Germanic/Norse ancestors.

We practice The Folkway by honoring the turning of the seasons...the ancestors...the Divine...and ourselves - in everyday life.

#### IMPORTANT DATES

April 9 - Day of Remembrance for Jarl Hakon of Norway. Hakon restored the worship of our Gods after they had been suppressed by Christian kings. Recall Hakon's virtue by vigorously exercising your guarantees under the Bill of Rights.

April 15 - Sumarsdag/Sigrblot. This was the first day of summer in the Icelandic calendar. It falls on the Thursday between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of April, about the same time of year as the annual sacrifice to Odin for success in the upcoming raiding season. Welcome the warm months, and make an offering to the Father of Victory for triumph in your personal struggles!

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.

May 1 - From the gloom of Walburg we enter the sunshine of May Day. Think on Freya, take a walk in the forest or send flowers to a friend. Make love outdoors.

Hail the Holy Ones!

Hail the AFA!

Stephen A. McNallen  
Drighten, Asatru Folk Assembly

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE at <http://www.runestone.org>.  
Next update April 7th!