



Crane Chatter

Three Cranes Grove, ADF

Volume 1 Issue 3



A Short History of Three Cranes Grove, ADF

By Michael J Dangler, Senior Druid

What is it that one can write about the history of a Grove that has been around for only 2 and a half years? At the time of this writing, the Grove has done a handful of public rituals (20, exactly), a little bit of community service, and grown a some from the original crew to encompass more varied and interesting members that have added to the Grove in their own unique ways.

Three Cranes Grove, ADF, began rather humbly. I (Michael J Dangler), the Grove Organizer, had been attending and participating in rites with the ADF Grove in Dayton, The 6th Night Grove, ADF. Over a few months from about April of 2002 through June 2002,

I chatted with shop owners, various Pagans, friends, and my Grovemates in 6th Night. Finally, in June, I decided that there really was a need for a Grove to be founded in Columbus.

In mid-May, I managed to contact one of the other two ADF members in Columbus, Joe. The other ADF member never responded to email or written mail, and so Joe and I set a time to meet, figuring that it was on them to either start a Grove, or abandon the idea entirely.

Three Cranes Protogrove, ADF, really began in the Cup o' Joe coffee shop in the Lennox Shopping Plaza on May 31, 2002, at about 5:30 PM when Joe and I shook hands. We sat and talked for about an hour, and laid the most basic groundwork

for the Grove. The Grove would have a Continental Celtic focus until either a) we got tired of it, or b) the Grove decided to go another direction, whichever came first. We also figured that we weren't starting this Grove for any reason other than to show right worship to the Gods, so it didn't matter if no one but the two of us ever showed up. That meeting opened a lot of doors for the future of the Grove.

On June 1, 2002, I officially submitted a Grove Organizer's Survey to ADF's Grove Organizer's Committee, but it was lacking one thing: a Protogrove name. We hadn't really discussed this the night

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Mark Your Calendars: [Check www.threecranes.org](http://www.threecranes.org) for Updates & Details

Rituals:

Sunday, June 19—Summer "Soulstice" social at 2 p.m./rite at 3 p.m. at Blacklick Woods Metropark, Ash Grove Picnic Area

Sunday, July 31-Lughnasadh — social 5:30/rite at 6:30 p.m.; Battelle-Darby Metropark-Shagbark reservable area,

Sunday, October 30—Samhain—date & time tba

Saturday, December 17—Saturnalia—date & time tba

Business Meetings:

Fourth Thursday of each month—Columbus Metropolitan Library, downtown (3rd floor meeting room)

Liturgy Meetings:

Third Thursday of each month—rotating locations

Community Service:

Clinton-Como Park Cleanup (dates/time tba)

Select Festivals & Events:

June 24-26—Comfest: Goodale Park, Columbus (TCG has a booth this year!)

August 26-28- Summerland (ADF festival) at Camp Clifton near Yellow Spring, Ohio)

September 3-5 (Labor Day weekend): PCCO Summerset at Camp Crooked Lake, Mt. Gilead, Ohio

September 15-18-FallFest & Druid Gathering at Ridley Creek State Park (near Philadelphia)

Grove History (cont'd)

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before when they had gotten together, and I didn't want to just name the Grove something that I was interested in, so he fired off an email to Joe to get more input.

The next day, over email, Joe and I discussed a few names for the Grove, and settled on Three Cranes Protogrove, ADF, as the official name of the forming Protogrove. The other two final options were "Woodcutter's Protogrove, ADF" and "Willow Crane Protogrove, ADF". Notice the theme?

Three Cranes Protogrove, ADF, was officially approved on June 26, 2002. This left Joe and I saying, "Okay, what now?"

We decided not to hold a rite for Lughnassadh because we didn't think we could get it together in time. We set their first rite for Autumnal Equinox, September 22, 2002, and determined that the rite would be a private one for invited guests only. Both Joe and I invited people to the rite, and we were hoping for a small turnout, as we had never worked together in a ritual before.

We got our wish, though, and the total turnout for Three Cranes' first rite was two people: Joe and I. Undeterred,

though, Joe and I were true to their word, and held a full ritual, complete with rather elaborate sacrifices for two people. The gatekeeper was raven; the patrons of the rite were Teutates and Brigantia; and parts were assigned just before the rite.

At that rite, we declared our purpose with the Grove with an inception statement:

We have come together today for the inception of Three Cranes Protogrove, ADF, and to join together in worshiping and praising the Shining Ones.

A Protogrove needs to be nurtured as it grows. It needs an influx of new ideas, a creative flow that will soak its roots and keep it strong and firm. It needs leadership to show it the heights it may attain, and dedicated gardeners to tend it and guide it to its destination. It needs the sunlight of enlightened minds to warm it and to synthesize energy and vigor. It needs faith in the Gods and Goddesses to grow straight and true.

If the flow of ideas grows stagnant, or the leadership and sunlight fail, the trees will not grow, but will wither and die. Without faith in the Gods and Goddesses, our work is in vain, for it is Their hands which guide our work. This Grove is our

responsibility, for we have planted it. We must not fail it, for it will never fail us.

During that rite, mistakes were made. Names were mispronounced. We laughed at each other, and joked about our own unpreparedness. We swore that we would always have flashlights in the ritual kit, and we do to this day.

There was a general feeling that things had been done right, and the omens agreed. There was an amusing discussion about whether or not the Ancestors could get trichinosis from underdone pork, and we figured that they could not—but we could. Since then, all pork is well done for rituals and potlucks.

After that rite, we thought we were ready to do this in front of other people. We moved on to public announcements and public rites, but this rite formed the foundation of our Grove. Today, we bring in between 15 and 30 people at most rites, and we continue to grow. We've come a long way since that first rite. Our worship has, too.

Look for more installments of our history in future issues of Crane Chatter!



Cranes On The March....

By Jim Dillard

Three Cranes Grove is proud to have participated in the Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure. The grove added six to the 26,000 some participants who ran or made the 5k trek through downtown Columbus.

2005 marked the 13th running of the event to help raise money and awareness for the fight against breast cancer. The Columbus race is part of the largest series of races in the



Cranes Meander for the Cure

*Front Row: Judi, Jenni
Back Row: Misty, Mike, Lees & Anna*

world. The races are held in over 100 different cities, with over 1.5 million participants annually.

For more information on the Race for the Cure or The Susan B. Komen Foundation please visit www.komencolumbus.org or call them at 614.297.8155.

Hail to Mike, Jenni, Judi, Lees, Missy and Anna for their time and energy toward this worthwhile cause!

Three Cranes Clean UP! Clinton-Como Park

By Jim Dillard

Sunday May 15th the grove once again grabbed trash bags and gloves for the quarterly Como Park clean up.



Anne and the Mysterious K

the tree line near the river; Jenni and

Carmen headed through the middle of the park, and I walked the tree line on the East side of the park. The park was in great shape with very little to pick up.



Jenni emerging from the rough

jumps and turns. I could just imagine doing some 360's or table tops off the jumps...well in my younger days... Anna tried to jump them but the effect just isn't the same.

The park was alive with people and dogs everywhere, but either we are keeping up on it or ... *GASP*... maybe people are cleaning up after themselves.



Carmen (Sitting By the Dock of the Bay)

It was a bright sun shiny day, with just a hint on the morning dew still lingering on the tall blades of grass. Mike, Anne and Kevin took off along

We all ventured into the woods and along the river to find that some kids had built some amazing bike trails with

Ritual Omens: Beltaine

1. Have our sacrifices been accepted?

[The Sun Came Out]



2. What do the Gods offer us in return?

Dagaz



3. What further needs do the Gods have of us?

Jera



Dear Hoodoo Answer Ladies:

Send your questions on life, love, and spirituality to the Hoodoo Answer Ladies at three-cranes@threecranes.org.

Questions will be addressed in the next issue of *Crane Chatter*.

Dawn

Dawn awakens in the east,
To begin another day.
Purple haze fills the sky
As sunlight paints the way.

The cold of the morning
Rides in on the wind;
Night settles in the west,
As the morning star descends.

Mother Earth awakens
And shines her morning dew.
Father Sun sends his love,
As the sky returns to blue.

- Jim Dillard

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Three Cranes Grove, ADF

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What is ADF?

(from <http://www.adf.org/about/what-is-adf.html>)

The Irish words, pronounced "arn ree-ocht fane", mean "Our Own Druidism", and that's just what Ár nDraiocht Fein is - a completely independent tradition of Neopagan Druidism. Like our sisters and brothers in the other Neopagan movements, we're polytheistic Nature worshipers, attempting to revive the best aspects of the Paleopagan faiths of our ancestors within a modern scientific, artistic, ecological, and holistic context. Like our predecessors and namesakes the Druids, we're people who believe in excellence - physically, intellectually, artistically, and spiritually.

We're researching and expanding sound modern scholarship about the ancient Celts and other Indo-European peoples,

in order to reconstruct what the Old Religions of Europe really were. We're working on the development of genuine artistic skills in composition and presentation. We're designing and performing competent magical and religious



ceremonies to change ourselves and the world we live in. We're adapting the polytheologies and customs of both the Indo-European Paleopagans and the Neopagan traditions that have been created over the last fifty years. We're creating a nonsexist, nonracist, organic,

and open religion to practice as a way of life and to hand on to our grandchildren. We're integrating ecological awareness, alternative healing arts, and psychic development into our daily activities. Together, we're sparking the next major phase in the evolution of Neopaganism and planting seeds for generations to come.

ADF was started by P.E.I. (Isaac) Bonewits, known in the Neopagan community as an author (*Real Magic*, *The Druid Chronicles Evolved*, *Authentic Thaumaturgy*), editor, teacher, polytheologist, activist, priest and bard. He has been a Neopagan Druid for nearly twenty years and has dedicated his life to reviving Druidism as a modern, healthy, "Third Wave" religion capable of protecting and preserving Mother Nature and all Her children.