



Weekly Letter from the ASPO
President Kjell Aleklett
Week 42, October 15-21

Part of my time as professor in physics at Uppsala University is devoted to teaching and this week was the final week with students studying on my Energy Technology course. My final lecture was about energy recourses, two hours on Peak Oil, Peak Gas, Peak Coal and Peak CO₂. Being between the ages of 20 and 25 the students realize that these issues will be a part of their future, and this reality can be quite depressing. On the other hand they will graduate with a Masters degree in Engineering with Energy Systems as their main subject. To cheer them up I pointed out that this is in fact a great opportunity for them because a transformation in our energy systems is clearly required with subsequent business opportunities arising and that it is possible that they may be the new heroes.

We then turned to a discussion of what is really important for us as human beings and food on the table turns out to be consistently the number one priority, followed by comfortable shelter and finally the fact that we all need someone to love. Yes, these things have always been the most important issues for we humans and whatever else we do is just “killing the time in between”. In the future we need to find ways to kill this time that do not include using enormous amounts of fossil fuels. I also think that we need to reevaluate the value of food to society and the work done by the farmers who make it possible for us to put food on our tables.

Part of the last week has been devoted to preparations for the ASPO-China conference that I will be attending next week. On October 27 ASPO-China will officially exist.

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My fall agenda can be found at: www.peakoil.net