

The FALO Chronicle

2007

Penned by Falana WyvernStryke

20 January 2007 - Drunken Cat Tavern (Sadosed & Thistle's)

A small, but comfortable, gathering of clan-kin descend on the Drunken Cat for the first time.

Sometime during the day, a letter appears at the bar from the Druids who had previously warned the clan that they were creating too powerful a magical focus and that a backlash was inevitable. This new letter states that they (the Druids) are meeting with Brother Bart (who is on-route to their abode even now) as a representative of the clan since he, and not the elders, is keeper of their previous missive. The elders, and the clan in general, appear unconcerned and seem to feel that the Druids are a bit arrogant to insinuate that the clan may be responsible for some of the trouble spreading throughout E'Atara.

Loquitor and Kyara express concern over internal unrest in Crystalmyst... unrest that centers around the magical kingdom returning to E'Atara and being in close proximity to humans. A group of purist elves are pushing for isolationism, believing that there should be no interaction with outsiders, and particularly with non-elven outsiders. Both Loquitor and Kyara fear that this conflict, if it continues, could cause irreparable damage to the kingdom.

Thistle holds a dessert contest and struggles valiantly to determine a winner, sampling the entries repeatedly so as not to make a tasty... er hasty... decision:

First prize goes to Rodin Rae for her chocolate and raspberry cake.

Second prize—Rahne for her peppermint bark depiction of Ruins at DeWhittimere (delightfully reminiscent of Stonehenge).

Third prize—Caitlin for her black and white cookies.

Fourth prize—E'ile for her chocolate chip cookies.

As expected, all of the desserts were thoroughly enjoyed (perhaps a few before the judging, even).

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The clan meets and the elders address the gathered with the following:

Discussion and decisions about the FALO emblem is postponed (primarily due to the holidays) until February when the council expects to have more information.

Kyara hopes to address mentor topics over the next few months and indicates that the primary role of a mentor should be to get an application to a prospective, help the prospective fill it out, and return it to the elders.

It is decided that FALO will not have a table at ICON XXVI in March; however, Khallil is still collecting security recruits, and Galatyne is planning to coordinate a few panels.

17 February 2007 - Hunt's End Inn (Caitlin & Medva's)

Another small gather, with bitter temperatures. A snow and ice storm a few days earlier impedes travel for those living far from the inn.

A number of gypsies attend, visiting from their nearby camp. They bring with them a selection of potions, the effects of which are unknown. They succeed in getting several people to try them, though the effects seem to have been “conveniently” forgotten.

Sadosed is extremely happy and almost unSadosed-like this day, and it has nothing to do with one of those potions. As a matter of fact, he is only too willing to explain why. He has received a letter from Maeve's family postponing their marriage indefinitely and granting Sadosed a sum of coin along with half-ownership of the Drunken Cat Tavern in payment for “hardships endured.” The other half-owner of the Drunken Cat is Thistle Roundbottom.

Lorelei becomes possessed by an unsettling being while staring into the flame of a candle. No harm came to anyone, but the being had a decidedly malevolent feel and seemed to be observing the clan through Lorelei for a short time.

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The clan meets. The details of the meeting are not recorded in the court chronicle.

31 March 2007 - Aerie Shadow Mountain Hold (Willow & Ellam's)

Pleasant weather marks the first gather of the spring. There are a lot of fairies about, or at least they seem to be everywhere.

Shani asks everyone to participate in a ritual to bring Firesmith back. Ki-Rin and Angelica each conduct their own rituals at the same time, to augment the magic. The efforts are successful, and Firesmith is brought back in good health. He does protest, however, as he was in the midst of important training.

Firesmith explains that the staff he obtained at the Cullyport Carrot Carnival in the fall was indeed responsible for his disappearance and that the staff belonged to an evil wizard. He ended up in a spirit realm, between the world of the living and that of the dead. There, he encountered a benevolent spirit who became his mentor and from whose training he was recalled.

Later in the evening, Ellam and Falana notice odd flickering lights in the woods. Moments later a growling malevolent creature appears in the same spot from which Firesmith had emerged from the spirit realm. Ellam and Loquitor each confront the creature only to be knocked to the ground by the its power. Stalzer feels drained by the creature and warns everyone else not to touch it.

The thing attempts to force its way into Shadow Mountain Hold, but is thwarted when it encounters Galatyne. The creature is unable to withstand the paladin light and collapses. Firesmith stabs it with a dragon's tooth, and its life drains away. The body is carried outside, where it disintegrates into a swarm of insects. Firesmith identifies the creature as a soul-eating wizard, the same that owned the staff, who sought to kill him.

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The clan meets. Some members suggest revising the by-laws. The discussion is tabled and it is requested that members forward any suggestions for by-law changes to the clan scribe (Rinka Tur).

28 April 2007 - Fealinne an Emandu (Clianna & Madbainn Dubbr's)

Sabine continues her studies with Loristarthamae to learn how to Sing the fea colbauth, or “speaking-portal,” so she can communicate with Nestadren without the dangers of traveling to Snowdrop.

Rodin Rae brings the sad news that Shadesong, long absent from the clan, has drowned in a shipwreck. A moment of silence is observed at the clan meeting.

Brother Bart describes feeling a drain on his connection with the Great Tree. Kiriannin and Galatyne mention noticing similar disturbances, with Galatyne specifically noting a gathering darkness that he cannot pinpoint. He and Stalzer decide to travel by ship around the southern tip of E'atara to determine if the diffuse feeling of “darkness” grows weaker or stronger during the journey and hopefully gaining a sense of its source. Khallil, having an adverse reaction to the disturbance, has taken respite in Ravenhilt, and Angelica later sends Emberon to Ravenhilt as well, as the sprite's earth magic is suffering also.

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The clan meets. Members are reminded that the Springfest response date is fast approaching. The registration deadline is May 19, 2007. Several members have volunteered to store the Springfest totes after Springfest. Anyone else wishing to help should contact Granarinth, our Quartermaster.

The possibility of a business gather is discussed. The elders announce that Sabine will step down as Gather Reeve, and Kyara will step down as Elder and Character Development Reeve at High Summer. Volunteers to fill the Reeve positions may contact the Council of Elders.

Willow's dance workshop/showcase is May 26 in Poughkeepsie. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Willow.

Shadesong leaves the clan.

9-10 June 2007 - Springfest XX, Nooteeming

Early morning clouds offer a hint of rain, but the day proves sunny and warm, with a pleasant breeze, and 101 travelers journey to FALO's 20th Springfest, the 5th at Nooteeming. Eight of those present at Springfest XX were present at Springfest I, and a handful of former members & guests from years past are in attendance as well. We have nearly two dozen new guests attending their first Springfest.

This year's Wayward Games are not a team event, but prove to be great fun. The game of “Ogres are Stupid – Throw Rocks at Them” is particularly well-received, and may be brought to gathers in the future.

As always, the tourneys bring forth skilled participants from throughout the lands. This year's champions are:

Sensekihirosune of Clan Yama Kaminari wins the weapons tourney against Dmitri Vladescu of Wolfgaard (Weapons Champion 2005 & 2006)

Loquitor Braethen (Archery Champion 2000-2003) wins the archery tourney for the 5th time and approaches Starshadow's record of 6

Lady Laura wins the light archery tourney

The Quest to recover the golden statue for a pilgrim is completed by four worthy individuals rising to the challenges of the brigands:

Wisdom Test – Rahne Whitebriar

Agility Test – Saba

Patience Test – Amnesia

Strength Test – Li Erin of the Order of the Roc

The pilgrim presents gifts to the victors for their efforts in returning the statue to him.

The evening entertainment offers warm memories of the beginnings of the clan, as one might expect on such a special anniversary. Firesmith receives his Welcomestone, the first given at a Springfest in 10 years. The clan now stands at 31 members: 18 full fey, 4 half-fey, and 9 human.

16 Jun 2007 - Clan Conclave at Crescentwood Tavern (Loquitor & Sabine's).

About half the clan is present for the conclave, a meeting to discuss various topics concerning FALO operations. The agenda includes the membership process, gathers, by-laws, & Springfest. Time does not permit the latter two topics to be specifically discussed, though they are brought up tangentially in the first two topics.

Members present are offered the opportunity to summarize what FALO means to them at the beginning of the meeting. Those present agree that roleplaying (defined as both dramatic storyline developments ("big roleplays") as well as consistent portrayal of the character ("being in-character")) is an important aspect of what FALO is, as is creativity and camaraderie/friendship/sense of family.

The gather topic includes discussion of having "not-a-gather", not in character FALO events such as workshops, as well as FALO sponsorship of outside events.

No decisions are made, but it is hoped that the lines of communication have been (re-)opened. There may be other conclaves in the future to maintain this communication.

Joe (Sadosed) announces that he & Allison (Thistle) are expecting their first child in January.

27 Jul - 12 Aug 2007 - Pennsic 36, Slippery Rock, PA.

29 Sep 2007 - The Wander On Inn (Kballil & E'ile's).

Gorgeous weather greets the clan's return to the Wander On Inn.

Sadosed presents tokens to Rinka, Vohdun, and Ki-Rin in personal appreciation for their valiant efforts at Pennsic; other tokens will be presented when next he sees those individuals.

Sadosed and Vohdun recount the tale of the recovery of Vohdun's axe, and of the discovery of a dangerous dragon cult that seeks to awaken/revive the spirit of a dragon beneath E'atara.

Brother Bart and others report continuing unexplained drains on their earth-magic.

hOOt tells of being drugged and kidnapped by Ghost and Raum, who then used hOOt's money to pay for the scheme-at-hand. hOOt is displeased for obvious reasons. Rinka is displeased because hOOt was looking after her inn when he was kidnapped, so she lost profits after hOOt was kidnapped, which means she is unable to afford to man her ship and will lose further profit. Rodin Rae is displeased because she is Rinka's partner in the ship's ventures and therefore also loses profit.

It is announced that the date and location of Springfest XXI is as-yet undetermined. The new website and message board are announced.

E'ile is announced as the new Gather Reeve. Galatyne is announced as the new Webmaster.

20 Oct 2007 - Crescentwood Tavern (Loquitor & Sabine's).

Springfest XXI will take place on June 7, 2008 at Camp Bullowa in Stony Point, NY.

Rinka Tur is announced as elder.

Vohdun receives his Welcomestone.

17 Nov 2007 - Fealinne an Emandu (Clianna & Madbainn Dubbr's).

A chilly day greets the clan.

Raum arrives looking a bit worse for wear; when Ghost arrives, it is known why. After following their map (which had something to do with them kidnapping hOOt), they had an encounter with a demon, in which Ghost would have died except for Raum's intervention. As a result of the encounter, Ghost has been made human. Raum feels badly that he was unable to keep his friend from harm; Ghost is grateful that he survived. There is talk of returning to see what the demon was guarding.

Vohdun & party return from their scouting mission to an island to the east. Most of the party was captured by cultists, except for Alfrieda who was in the wild areas seeking information from the animals. The party manages to escape their captors and flee the island... inadvertently leaving Alfrieda behind in their haste. She manages to get back to the mainland with the help of some sea creatures. Some of those attempting to infiltrate the dragon cult also make it to the gather. Falana has little to report, as she is not able to move among the cultists without notice – since she has a wyvern companion, the priests consider her an important 'convert'. Her 'special' status allows her to leave the compound briefly -- most converts, like Kitta, are unable to leave so soon after arriving. Galatyne tells of apparent magics being used by the priests to sway the people, and how they are somehow attempting to create a deity. He is expected to bring other 'converts' to the fold on his return. Fiona and Medva volunteer to accompany him. Everyone bids the group to take care in their dealings with the cult.

Late in the evening, Rinka begins speaking to Falana in an un-Rinka-like manner – being instead in the manner of Makei. Makei claims to have knowledge of where the dragon cult is located. For what seems a very long time, no one else seems to realize that there's a problem, despite Falana's subtle attempts to get their attention without Makei realizing it. Falana recalls Rinka showing off a pretty necklace and Rodin Rae telling Rinka that she should be very careful with putting on jewelry that "calls" to her. When she asks Makei about it, he laughs and says it wasn't difficult to get her to put it on. Makei gives the name of an abandoned temple that no one has heard of before as the location of the dragon cult, and then leaves Rinka as a gesture of his 'good faith'. Rinka has no recollection of anything Makei said.

An informal betting pool has risen around predictions of when the child of Thistle and Sadosed (affectionately called "mini-Sadosed") will be born.

Kyara announces that ChilDra is due to give birth in March.

202 days to SF XXI!

Alfrieda and Medva receive their Welcomestones.

29 Nov 2007

Gavin Patrick ("mini-Sadosed") is born five weeks early, on his mother's birthday. Mother and son are both well.

