The Wolf Calendar

Standard Werewolf Lunisolar Calendar

History

The calendar was originally stand-alone from any solar calendars, and had complicated intercalary systems to balance the months against the seasons, but during integration with human settlements, the systems got mangled almost beyond recognition. Every region had a wildly different version of things, meanwhile humans were standardizing the Julian and later Gregorian calendars.

Eventually, in the mid 1700s, a standard committee was formed almost exclusively for the calendar. The names used for each month could vary, but the rules of the system would be very simple and hinge on whatever accepted solar calendar humans were using at the time. It took until the mid 1800s for this to be mostly standard across all regions, save for outliers in the southern hemisphere (where there are no known native werewolf breeds, only packs that traveled).

Native American werewolves generally used the same calendars as the human tribes in their area, and just like those native humans, rather forcibly adopted the European wolf calendar.

Rules

The year consists of 12 lunar months, each being 29-30 days. Each day begins at sunrise (usually 6 AM is used for ease), and each month starts the morning following the full moon.

The first full moon of October marks the beginning of the year (following the Gaulish tradition from which the calendar originates). Twelve lunar months is only 348-360 days, so the days between the 12th full moon and the 1st of the new year are assigned to the "lost" month, called Quimone.

Current practice aligns the new year with the Gregorian calendar.

Names

The original twelve names, plus the lost month, come to us in this version from the 2nd century Gaulish calendar found in Coligy, France. They are:

- Samonios
- Dumannios
- Riuros
- Anagantio

- Ogronnios
- Cutios
- Giamonios
- Simvisonnious
- Equos
- Elembivios
- Edrinios
- Cantlos
- Quimonios

The modern versions used in America have shifted with linguistic shift and simple mispronunciation, but they've changed remarkably little in such a long time. They are:

- Samone
- Dumann
- Riu
- Anaganti
- Agrono
- Cutio
- Giamone
- Simvisone
- Equos
- Elembi
- Edrino
- Cantilo
- Quimone

Here is an approximate guide to the pronunciations:

- sah-MOWN
- du-MAHN
- RI-u
- ah-nah-GAHN-ti
- ah-GRO-no
- ku-TI-o
- jee-ah-MOWN
- sim-vis-SOWN
- EH-kwoss
- eh-LEM-bi
- eh-DREE-no
- CAN-tih-lo
- kih-MOWN

Holidays

There are a lot of holidays, at least two per month, in the average werewolf's calendar. However, many of these are just local legendary tales or celebrations of events only relevant to one or a few packs. There are only six major holidays celebrated by everyone.

- New Years – The day following the first full moon in October marks the beginning of a new wolf year. Ample supply is left over from the recent harvest festival, so there's often plentiful feasting. New Years Eve is a full moon hunt, so by dinner on New Years Day, everyone is quite content to sit and enjoy a solemn dinner, where thanks are given for the good in the past year and prayers are offered for good in the upcoming year.
- Winter Solstice – Solstice celebrations have fallen out of favor for most of western society, but wolves still celebrate. Usually it falls in the month of Riu. The holiday is held indoors, and is one of the few times that werewolves typically withhold from frequent shifting. It's a somber celebration of the humanity that keeps them from being simple animals, even during the

longest night. In the rare cases that the solstice falls on a full moon, the holiday will be celebrated the day after.

- Wakening Day – On the new moon of Cutio, parents tell an old European legend about werewolves, that humans who had frozen in the woods over the long, dark winter crawled out from under the melting snow in spring as wolves, as if they had only been hibernating. Although few believe that to be the true origin of werewolves, it seems to have taken their fancy many centuries ago, and now the beginning of spring is celebrated as the world "waking up" from under the snow. It's also a mark that it's about time to start brushing away that shedding winter coat.
- Sowing Day – On the first of Giamone, a special edible plant is sown from seed. Which plant is sown is often just a matter of that pack's tradition, and ideally, the seed will come from last years Sowing Day plant. Taking care of this single seedling will be of the utmost importance, and in the hands of the pack's best gardener, because it's symbolic of the strength of the crops grown throughout the year. Although modern werewolves are rarely farmers like their ancestors, the symbolism is taken to apply to reaping the rewards of anything sown that season. The Sowing Day plant's fruit will be made a central dish during the feast of the Harvest Festival.
- Summer Solstice – Although the dog days of summer can be cruel on wolves, with their thick coats meant to withstand colder climes, they still put it upon themselves to arrange a celebration for the longest days, too. Since this usually falls during summer break for the kids, it's become common to celebrate by having the whole pack go out as a family to a festival, event, or even just an amusement park.
- Harvest Festival – The new moon of Cantilo is the Harvest Festival. Given how many packs have at least one garden, often a focal point of community activity, the modern times haven't done much to diminish the importance of the harvest. It's the biggest feast of the year, usually involves a hunt later in the evening, and is a time to start cleaning up for the winter. It sometimes takes on the same energy as spring cleaning.