

THE OFFICIAL MANDO MAGAZINE

BATTLECRY

MAY 2024



FIVE THINGS

MEET OUR PRO

FAMILY IS MORE THAN BLOOD

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FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings Vode,

Oh my goodness it's nice outside! At least here in the Mountain West.

This last few weeks I've been contemplating the Mando saying, "Family is more than blood," and what it really means, not only in the context of the Galaxy far, far away, but for us in this galaxy.

In the context of Star Wars, Mandalorians would take in "foundlings" and teach them how to walk the way of the Mand'alor. Those foundlings were made family, even if they were of a different species.

One of the things that attracted me to the MMCC was the sense of family, especially in my home clan. As a recruit, I was welcomed in, helped, greeted warmly any time I took a handler shift at a troop. I was family even though I wasn't official yet.

Today, I watched a commercial for iPhone, filled with members of the MMCC, and while the commercial was informative and funny, I was left looking at the screen and thinking "Those are my people, that is my family." I know that I can go anywhere in the world and be part of that MMCC family and be welcomed as a vod. A member of the family.

It's a truly special thing.

Mike "Diz Ge'tal" Porter
Editor, BattleCry Magazine

WELCOME TO BATTLECRY

MEET OUR NEW STAFFWRITER

BY ALEX "KATRA DROMAAR" MACIEL

I'm sombraptor, or Katra Dromaar if you prefer! I've been an OM since 2018, as part of Kyrimorut Clan. Star Wars lore, especially Expanded Universe material, has been a hyperfixation of mine for a long time, and my obsession goes to the point where I've become the resident "Lo-remaster" for our clan. At every Armor Party we have, people are directed to me with questions in regards to the timeline, Canon vs Legends, the Mando'a language, etc. I'm honored to now be part of the PR team! Oya!



DO YOU WANT TO BE ON THE COVER OF BATTLECRY?

WE NEED YOU!

Have you ever wanted to be featured on the cover of BattleCry Magazine?

Well, we need your photos!

If you are an Official Member and your Kit is up to date with the CRL's, Kit up and get some pictures taken because we want to see your lovely buy'ce on future issues.

Follow the QR code to the photo submission form on the MMCC Forums and submit your pictures today!



MERCSCON

FIVE THINGS

BY MIKE "DIZ GE'TAL" PORTER

What to pack... what to pack?

When packing for a trip there's always the questions, what do I need to bring? What should I leave at home? I could use this, but do I have room in my suitcase? I can not forget to bring this!

Well, here are 5 things that you might want to remember to bring with you to MercsCon.

1. RACING SHIRT OR CLAN T-SHIRT

Seriously! You really want to rep your clan!



2. TRADING CARDS

Always fun to trade and helps you to remember the vode that you ran into at MercsCon



3. YOUR BUY'CE (BUCKET)

The helmet pic is a standard whenever mandos get together. It's a thing... right?

(Photo courtesy of JediHunter Cosplay via MandoMercs Facebook page)

4. SWAG (CLAN PATCHES, COINS, & PINS)

Who doesn't want more patches? Someone out there has a patch that you want, but can't get anymore, and you probably have a patch that they want.



5. A CAMERA OR PHONE CAMERA

Do I need to explain this one? I didn't think so.

PR TEAM NEWS

MEET OUR NEW PRO

WAYNE "GET'AL RUUS" MARPER

PHOTO: SCARIF MANDO

Acing it like a PRO

A short time ago in a galaxy not so far away, Battlecry sat down for a chat with the MMCC's Public Relations Officer (PRO), Scarif Mando. Hailing from Maryland, Ray is an extremely proud member of the Kyrimorut Clan, covering both Maryland and Delaware.

For those members that haven't had any interaction with Ray, he took on the Role of PRO back in October '23 and has had to hit the ground running but his journey to the top was not an easy one.

Joining the Mercs back in 2017 he started building along with his Dad before disaster struck. In 2018, he was subject to house fire, consuming everything including all of the hard work that had gone into the kits. Shortly after, another personal blow struck as when his father who was more like a close friend at this stage in life was diagnosed with cancer and losing his battle. It's hard to imagine as an outsider how one has the fortitude and resilience to get up and dust off, but the man is a testament to endurance and perseverance. Take a moment dear readers, if you'll allow me the liberty, to raise a glass to the man that raised a warrior among us.

I asked Ray directly, even though I thought he'd covered it off, "What kept you here?" The answer was succinct. His Clan and by extension, the club were there for him when he needed it most. Indeed he freely admits that he spends more time with "his mandos" than with blood family, literally 5 days a week. The Clan are lucky enough to have a work space where they can all meet, hang out, and build together and they regularly socialise with their favourite often being "nipping out for ice cream."

Every role within the MMCC has its own Terms of Reference. Documents which can be referred to whereby specific roles and responsibilities can be laid out on paper, but the role of PRO is more than a few lines of text on a page.

Ray is more than happy to run in an open and transparent manner. His amiable nature and general good dudedness exudes and just make him, in the writer's opinion at least, an ideal personality for this position.

Taking on the branding an image of the MMCC and how it presents to not only our current members, but to the outside world and prospective members alike.

Post covid, it's been said time and time again, but apathy was at an all time high, and he made it his mission to re-engage the club and by sharing the unique viewpoints of various clans through the Social media platforms, he wants to ensure that the recognition for our members turning out, assisting with charities, and doing all the good thing that this club does is recognised accordingly. He specifically views this role as an opportunity to give back to the MMCC and its members. Jokingly he added that his role is overseeing the "Mercs Propaganda Machine."

Before taking on the role, Ray would spend time sharing and creating social media content of other MMCC mercs using his personal accounts, naturally he progressed to join the PR team and a good amount of his ideas were pushed through. When the PRO position became available, however, he didn't automatically throw his hat into the ring because he was unsure if his seemingly short tenure in the club might go against him, and not being one to chase titles. When he attended NYC con, he was asked directly by some shadowy helmeted figures why he hadn't put his name forward? Giving the reasons above, he was told time doesn't matter, your actions speak volumes so after much self reflection and deliberation he submitted the application and the rest, as they say, is history.

Upon donning the new hat, he wanted to try a new approach to PR. the team in place were doing a stellar job, but with people having work and other such commitments both MMCC and otherwise, he decided to engage with the team, find out where people sat and recruit accordingly. One handy trick he used in building his more streamlined team was to reach out to those OM's who already had an amazing social media presence and basically say to them, "hey, do you fancy doing what you're already doing for us?" It worked.

But being PRO isn't all smiles and rainbows. Of course, with social media come the gremlins and trolls. Ray has implemented a system within the team to attempt to combat the negativity and show the club for what it is, FREAKING AWESOME!

If you ask almost anyone in the club, they'll have a most memorable troop, and our Scarif Mando is no different. He loves, like most of us, to attend large events and troop alongside an army of Mandalorians, but his most memorable troop was in fact a single event.

A mom of a young lad, 4 years old in fact, had had a troubled past and reached out to Kyrimorut Clan because he thought that being a Mando made him strong and wanted to meet some "Real Mandalorians". The Clan of course extended an invitation for the young man to a local troop. Ray himself happened to have a very small helmet that could be worked on, so he worked night and day to get it finished, and when they arrived, he seated him in the throne and presented him with his very own Buy'ce. Apparently he was so attached to it, he wouldn't even take it off to eat. This is the way!

We asked Ray if he could offer any insights into future projects, but he remained tight lipped, only adding that "there's a lot in the pipeline, but if you liked the Winter RUmble and Mercs Madness, watch this space!"

To end the call, Scarif Mando Imparted some of his own wisdom to pass onto the membership.

"Be unrelenting. Stand strong, take care of business and if you want to step up, go for it. But above all else, Be unrelenting".



FAMILY IS MORE THAN BLOOD

A LOOK BEHIND THE MMCC : PART 1

KELSEY “VERA TENAU” BURCHAM

PHOTO: KRAYT CLAN BY KEYAROSCURO

Embarking into the realm of the Mando Mercs Costume Club (MMCC) is much like stepping into a different galaxy, where the concepts of community, camaraderie, and service are no longer restricted by the traditional view of “family”. This club, filled to the brim with shared enthusiasm, empathy, and assistance, carries the philosophy that family is indeed more than blood.

The pulsating life force of this unconventional “family” is evident in our armor parties; vibrant gatherings that not only serve as a venue for costume building, but also stand as a time for members and recruits alike to bond. Veteran members guide recruits in crafting their armor, lending their experience to the sometimes daunting process. One of the greatest feelings a recruit can have is getting their armor approved; it being a symbol of shared identity, unity and belonging. These parties enable that process, and build the deep bond found among MMCC members – a bond nurtured by a shared love for the Star Wars universe and a desire to help others in doing what they love.



However, the MMCC’s sense of kinship is not confined to the borders of armor construction or parties. The humanitarian strides, such as the relief efforts for Hurricane Ian victims, serve as stark illustrations of the club’s dedication to service. When faced with one of the most daunting natural disasters someone can face, the MMCC

rallied as a beacon of resilience, amplifying their core values, and demonstrating their commitment to support their broader community during such a trying time. Members and recruits alike delivered supplies and offered hope to those around them, while those farther away contributed what they were able to.

A further embodiment of the club’s familial bonds is the MMCC’s Member Support Fund. This initiative provides for members in need, underlining the shared empathy and compassion ingrained in the club’s fabric. A recent patch drive, spearheaded by Mandalore the Uniter, showed the strength of these bonds as orders poured in. This year the MMCC has also launched “Path of the Warmaster”, which offers drawings and encourages members to donate to the support of members. By bolstering the Support Fund, this endeavor ensures that no club member- no family member- would ever face hardship alone.

As the MMCC ventures into the coming months, BattleCry will probe deeper into this unique familial narrative through a series of member interviews. This opportunity allows members to share how the club

has made an impression on them, further solidifying that the MMCC family is a rich tapestry woven from diverse threads of individual experiences. These accounts will serve as a testament to the strength and unity within the MMCC community and further outline the club's guiding philosophy: "Family is more than blood."

In conclusion, the MMCC signifies more than a mere costume club; it represents shared passions, kindness, and unwavering support. It is a testament to the fact that families can be found in the most unexpected places, bound together by shared interests, empathy, and an unyielding commitment to stand by each other. The MMCC personifies the extraordinary power of a united community, truly embodying the notion that family is, in the end, much more than blood.



THE MORE YOU KNOW SYMBOLS AND SIGILS

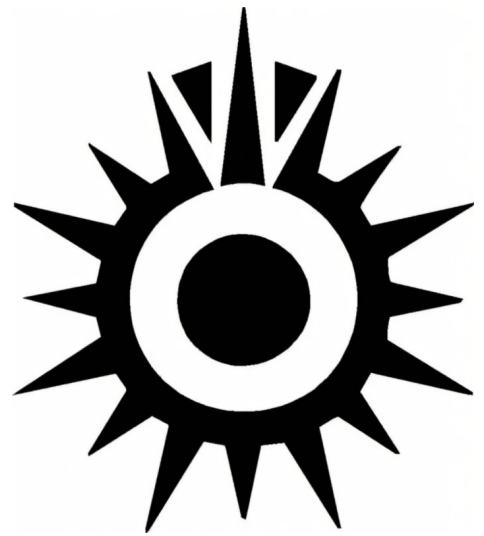
BY MIKE "DIZ GE'TAL" PORTER

PHOTO: JAXSON DREV

So there you are, watching your favorite Star Wars movie on a random Thursday night, and you notice a really cool symbol on a flag, or on a ship, or in any number of places. Star Wars movies are all filled with background detail, and everything you see (it would seem) has a meaning.

Well, after pausing your movie and getting a screenshot or copying the symbol down on the back of an envelope, you do some research and find out from your favorite fan wiki that it's the company logo for one of the galaxy's many crime syndicates, or maybe the symbol is that of a Mandalorian house or faction that, up until now, you have never heard of. But it looks awesome and you start to think that this symbol would look great on your kit, but will the club allow you to put this new symbol on your armor? That's only one of the many questions that you need to ask yourself.

There are hundreds of symbols and sigils used throughout the Star Wars galaxy, most of which are free game for you to paint onto your kit, but there are quite a few that are reserved for special purposes, like brigade membership, and there are some that are just not allowed at all.



Symbols and Sigils can be a valuable addition to your kit. They can help you to form a backstory for your character. They can tell other mandos who your character works for, and thus, where your allegiances lie. Are you a smuggler for the Huts or an enforcer for Crimson Dawn? Do you fight for the Rebellion, or does the Empire pay more? Maybe you're a medic who will help anyone in need.

I remember when I was putting my kit together, our clan Ruus'alor had suggested that before I started to plan a paint scheme, that I should come up with some kind of a back story, and an explanation for every paint chip and scratch that I would be putting into the armor. In the real world I'm one of those people who are uncomfortable with breaking the rules. I don't like getting into trouble, and so, I tend to play it safe in my day to day life. So, I decided that Diz Ge'tal, my mando character, likes to play on the shady side of the law. That he would be a bounty hunter and a thumb breaker for one of the galaxy's top crime syndicates, Black Sun. I had to do some research to see if Black Sun had a sigil, of course they do, and after consulting with our clan Ruus'alor I was told that it was allowed and was able to add it to my shoulder plate.

The lesson here is, before you go and slap any old symbol on your armor, you need to check with your



local ruus'alor team to make sure that the symbol you've chosen is on the approved list or that you are in a position to use that particular symbol (in the case of sigils used by Clans or the Brigades).

Some rules of thumb for you when adding Symbols to your armor.

The Mythosaur Skull symbol is allowed for all members of the Mando Mercs. Some members like to create their own variation of the Mythosaur Skull, or use one that they have seen in Star Wars source materials (Movies, comic books, television shows, etc.), those variations need to be approved through the Ruus or through the App Team.

Clan Sigils are only for approved OM's in their home clan. Please be respectful to those who have completed the application process, and do not add any clan sigil to your kit prior to approval. Brigade symbols are only for approved Brigade members. Please give the same respect to those who have completed that difficult process, as well.

If you see a symbol in any of the Star Wars source material, the flags on Moz's castle for instance, check with your local Ruus'alor before slapping it on your armor. They can consult the approved list and give you approval before you break out the paint.

THE BESKAR CHEF

Got a recipe you'd like to share? Send it to PR@mandalorianmercs.com

FRIED MON CAL CALAMARI

INGREDIENTS

- 2 lbs. of Cleaned Squid
- 1 1/2 Cups of Unbleached All Purpose Flour
- 1 1/2 Teaspoons of Paprika
- 1 1/2 Teaspoons of Cayenne Pepper
- 1/2 Teaspoon of Sea Salt
- 1/2 Teaspoon of Freshly Ground Black Pepper

METHOD

Slice the squid tubes into rings.

Combine flour, paprika, cayenne pepper, salt, black pepper and squid into a ziploc bag and toss.

Take the squid out of the bag and shake off the excess.

Deep fry for thirty to forty seconds or until golden brown.

Drain on paper towels. and salt to taste. Enjoy with lemon wedges and cocktail sauce.

Thanks to Tak'ur of Vok'Chi Clan for this excellent recipe!

Got a recipe you'd like to share with us? Get in touch!

"There's no port like home port"

- Mandalore the Uniter



GET IN TOUCH

Got something you want to tell the club about? Got an interesting new build in progress or been to an amazing troop or event?

We want to hear about it!

Send your feature to pr@mandalorianmercs.com or by PM to mporter

