

THE OFFICIAL MANDO MAGAZINE

# BATTLECRY

**FEBRUARY 2025**

**STATE OF THE MMCC**

**FINDING THE MANDO WITHIN**

**THE KELDABE KISS**

The Mando Mercs™ is a worldwide Star Wars costuming organization comprised of and operated by Star Wars fans and volunteers. It is the elite Mandalorian costuming organization but it is not affiliated with or endorsed by Lucasfilm Ltd. Star Wars, its characters, costumes, and all associated items are the intellectual property of Lucasfilm. © 2020 Lucasfilm Ltd. & ™ All rights reserved. Used under authorization.

# CONTENTS

3. FROM THE EDITOR
4. STATE OF THE MMCC ADDRESS FROM MANDALORE
6. MEET THE NEW RALLY MASTER - AN INTERVIEW WITH DIPOLLEY
8. WORLD RARE DISEASE DAY - FEBRUARY 28, 2025
10. LETTER TO THE EDITOR – FINDING THE MANDO WITHIN
12. THE KELDABE KISS - MANDO CULTURE FOR VALENTINES DAY
14. THE ROAD TO MEGACON - ONE GALAXY, ONE GOAL
16. VERD'IKA PAGES
18. THE BESKAR CHEF - GREEN BEAN BOUNTIES

# CREDITS

## EDITORIAL

Raymond “Scarif Mando” Gayleard (PRO)  
Mike “Diz Ge’tal” Porter

## STAFF WRITERS

Wayne “Get’al Ruus” Marper  
Alex “Katra Dromaar” Maciel

## CONTRIBUTORS

Tom “Mandalore the Uniter” Hutchens  
Krayin Gooss  
Jenga  
Simon “Tak’ur” Spencer (Beskar Chef)  
Kronan Ket’waii (Coloring Page)

## COVER PHOTO

Val Torsa by minorudigitalmedia\_cos

## ISSUE PHOTOS

Mandalore the Uniter (Page 4)  
dipolley, courtesy of the staff page (Page 6)  
Photos courtesy of Krayin Gooss (pages 10 & 11)  
Photos courtesy of the MMCC, et al (pages 12 & 13)  
Photos courtesy of Daxar Arkada & Batuu Clan (pages 14 & 15)  
Special Note: Page 14 features Vivien Lyra Blair who played Young Leia Organa in Kenobi, special thanks to her.

# FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings Vode,

Clan elections are wrapping up. Congratulations to all of those who were chosen to lead all your respective clans. Serving in those very important rolls is such a huge responsibility. So, help support your new clan officers, and cut them some slack when things don't go as planned, because, sometimes they won't. We've received some great letters in from the membership of the MMCC and we will be featuring those as we get them in future issues. I invite you to tell us your stories. I mean, I can tell you stuff about the Krayt Clan all day long, but that would get a little boring for you, as well as for me. The MMCC has clans all over the world, and we would like to know what you and your clans are up to. Why did you want to join the MMCC? Why did you run as a clan officer? What has been your best troop? What was your first troop? What is your local Con and how is your Clan preparing for it?

Let us know!

Send us an email ([PR@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:PR@mandalorianmercs.com)) or message me on the forums at [mporter](https://www.mporter.com).

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

# STATE OF THE MMCC

## ADDRESS FROM MANDALORE

BY: TOM "MANDALORE THE UNITER" HUTCHENS

Greetings Mando Mercs members, foundlings, and friends,

I'd like to start this letter by personally thanking each one of you for a great 2024!

This past year saw MMCC rise above both global and organizational challenges to break several of the records we set in 2023. It goes without saying that you, the members, are the reason that MMCC is the greatest Mandalorian costume



club in the world. You set the bar higher each year in events attended, charity funds raised, and volunteer hours given. 2023 also saw the most new Official Members approved in a year, but enough talk... lets see the numbers:

### Membership

New Official Members in 2024 = 217  
Official Members with additional Kits = 54  
Official Members returned to Active Duty = 69

### Events

Invasions = 1500  
Educational = 136  
Family = 50

### Charity

Total funds raised (direct & Indirect) = \$1,231,709.00  
Hours devoted to charity = 15,110  
Charity events = 583

These are fantastic numbers that you, the members, have achieved. 2025 is our eighteenth year as

an organization. Think about that for a moment; eighteen years. In that time we have paved the way for Mandalorian fandom, Mandalorian costumes, and Mandalorians in STAR WARS™ media. That is something nobody can take away from MMCC, and it's because of your dedication that it's even possible. People often ask me if I thought the club would become what it has, and my answer is always the same; I knew it would be a cool thing that people would enjoy, but I never in my wildest dreams knew it would become the great thing that it has.

We've done so much good around the world together, and that is something each of you need to remember. The times we live in are tumultuous. When I close my eyes I sometimes wonder if I'm becoming my father, thinking that the best years are behind me. Then I think about how MMCC has done things that have changed people's lives, even things that have changed the world, and that brings me peace of mind. We've faced some of the world's biggest challenges and conquered them together. We'll be faced with more challenges, and we'll conquer them together. If you feel beaten or at your lowest, remember that your clan is there for you, and that I am there for you. No official member is unknown to me, our journey together begins when you submit your application to become an official member. From that point onward we walk Our Way together, and my door is always open to you.

MMCC's Administrative Cabinet has been working on many great projects at the end of 2024, and have many planned for 2025. MercsCon3 was a resounding success, with over a hundred members in attendance and Brendan Wayne as our special guest for Saturday. It's always humbling to see so many members in one place, at one time. Our new Livery Supply Depot opens on January 15th and is tied directly to your forum account and club membership. Supply and Tech teams have worked extremely hard to put together a streamlined experience, and we're looking forward to members being able to celebrate the MMCC culture through livery. "Out of The Shadows" has been launched as our 2025 theme for art, core livery, and social media. Education teams are working on new officer training, membership guides, and costume training/tutorials that are unmatched in our cosplay/costuming space. These are just a few of the Cabinet's initiatives in 2025, and I'm very pleased to see all the great things they're working on come to fruition.

In closing, I want to take a moment and impress upon each of you to remember your fellow member. We may not be a biological family, but we share a familial bond as MMCC members. Practice the Codex of Honor, remember Our Way, because it is each other who we should look to for fellowship and support. The world may feel bleak at times, but MMCC has never been stronger than it is right now. Be proud, hold your helmet high and say "This is Our Way!" because we forged it together. Our fandom, our culture, is rising to its peak because of what we have accomplished. Nobody can take that away from you, from us. Now let us march into 2025 together, our eighteenth year, holding the MMCC banner high for the world to see!

In strength, honor, and love,

Tom Hutchens,  
"Mandalore the Uniter"

# MEET THE NEW RALLY MASTER

## AN INTERVIEW WITH DIPOLLEY

BY: WAYNE "GET'AL RUUS" MARPER

On a lazy Sunday afternoon, somewhere near Denver, Colorado the silence is broken. The phone rings and a strange bearded guy with a British accent speaks...

"Hi David!"

This Month, Battlecry sat down with the MMCC's new Rally Master "dipolley" or David, for a chat.

Falling into the catchment of Colorado, south central region and Cerar clan, David became an OM in July 2023, though even as a foundling was well involved with the clan and was known locally for hosting great Armour Parties etc.

Not having had the opportunity to stand for office in clan, when the Rally Master position became available, he naturally rose to the challenge, stepping officially into the role in early December 2024 and his new role puts him at the forefront and in charge of events and their organisation.

Working closely with both the Alor and Mandalore the Uniter, the position of Rally Master includes such responsibilities as Mercs Con and Star Wars Celebration. He is also looking at ways in which he can improve upon club wide morale both in person and online, and is currently workshopping some ideas along these lines.

His day job sets him in prime position for the new role too, as the owner of an automotive PR & Marketing firm, covering event management, there is a large crossover between his ordinary and his Mando Jobs. If you get the opportunity to chat with him, he has some cool stories!

It's no secret that these roles often stand on the shoulders of giants, and so dipolley is in the process of building and revamping the team to an elevated experience level, working in harmony with the PR Officer.



Most of us have a favourite moment and most memorable troop. David is no different.

His kit cleared on the same morning of the Denver fan Expo, so he rode the high for the whole event!! He also loves attending the Denver Pride Parade, which he actually attended as his first event as a foundling with the MMCC, learning the handling role pretty quickly and shares with us that the whole event is full of “energy & love”. He saw it as a good chance to learn just how long (and hot) yet exhilarating it can be. Good handlers are important at 95°F!

We asked him “what keeps you mandoing”

“People, Vode, everyone from UM’s through the ranks, having people help with builds and watch the recruits pick up new skills, and of course fan experiences, especially seeing how much the kids love it!”

Battlecry would like to thank David, once again for taking the time to speak to us and we have no doubt that he will rise to the challenges before him!

Oya!

# WORLD RARE DISEASE DAY

## FEBRUARY 28, 2025

BY: JENGA

February 28th is World Rare Disease Day. The MMCC is raising awareness by not only observing the day, but by spreading information. The MMCC Diversity Team put together the following:

In the Mandalorian way, we believe that strength comes from unity and community. Today, we stand in solidarity with those navigating life with rare diseases and their families. Much like the Mandalorian clans who protect and uplift one another, we honor the resilience, courage, and determination of those affected by rare diseases.

There are over 300 million people worldwide living with a rare disease, many of whom face challenges in accessing proper diagnoses, treatment, and care. World Rare Disease Day is a reminder that every individual's health journey matters, and together, we can raise awareness, support advocacy, and encourage progress in healthcare.

This is the way to care, to uplift, and to fight for better futures.

Learn more and join the movement at [rarediseaseday.org](https://rarediseaseday.org) or by supporting organizations like the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD).





# PATH OF THE WARMASTER

STARTING IN 2023, MMCC INITIATED THE "PATH OF THE WARMASTER" FUNDRAISER TO RAISE FUNDS FROM MEMBERS TO HELP FUND THE FOLLOWING MEMBER AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS:

## MMCC MEMBER SUPPORT FUND

MMCC supporting members affected by major emergencies.

## MMCC MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

MMCC supporting members' journey towards higher education in the fields of art and education.

## MMCC FOUNDLING FORGE

MMCC supporting foundlings working on Official Membership who are limited by access to resources.



Contributions to the fundraiser is open to ALL membership levels of MMCC. A valid MMCC forum account is required for Supply Depot access. Contributions may be made in \$10 increments, or as the full \$40 contribution amount.

**VISIT THE SUPPLY DEPOT TO MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!**

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## FINDING THE MANDO WITHIN

BY: KRAYIN GOOSS

In 1977, my parents took me to see Star Wars at the movies, and it was SO amazing seeing it. We were on a fixed income, so going out to a theatre was something we didn't do often, but we did go to this. I remember sitting on the floor waiting to get into the theatre. I had my first 2 action figures before we saw the movie, my first was R2, and he is still my favorite character to this day. My next was Darth Vader, so this was the start of my journey. My cousins had all the characters and vehicles, so we'd spend hours each weekend playing at a Galaxy far far away. I slowly collected more figures and playsets, so now I could create my own adventures at home, which was very important to me, as I was bullied and picked on during my youth. I was raised to never fight back, just walk away.... This sadly got me beat up and bullied in school. I hated going to school, so when I got home, I would rush through home work, just to play and leave the real world for a Galaxy where I wasn't bullied. My Star Wars collection was my escape from reality, and honestly allowed me time not to think about the next day. I would draw the Star Wars logo on my notebooks, I never wanted to be away from that Galaxy. As I grew older, and playing with them was no longer what I did, I read the books and put them out on display, so my safety was still around me. In the summer between middle school and high school, I taught myself how to defend myself as there was no way I was going through 4 more years of that hell.

The same bullies still tried the same things, except they were met with a different me, I fought back. Shortly after, the word got out, and I was left alone to enjoy life. As I got older, I still collected anything Star Wars, but always felt like I needed something more, so then I found the 501st Legion, and thought how cool it would be to join, so we went to a Star Wars night at Ripken Stadium, and that's when I met the Mandalorian Mercs! Custom armor, and Mandalorians! We started talking to one of the handlers, who would go on to be more of an influence to me then she would ever know.

I went home that night, joined the forums, and started reading everything I could find. I knew this is what I wanted to do! My wife actually wanted to build one too, and she loved the look of Arctic Mandos, so I started thinking that would be cool to have a husband and wife Arctic team. So I was building both kits until hers stalled, and I put all my efforts into my kit. I had frustrations and setbacks, but I'm so proud of my kit, I'm actually now working towards Brigades with him.

When I put on that armor, I become Krayin Gooss. People look to me as a Mandalorian, not someone in a costume. I love giving memories to people, and they have no idea how they touch me as well. Being asked to sign my trading card for the first time was such a highlight, glad I had a bucket on for sure! I've



also seen grown adults break down when they see their childhood heros and villians in person. I can now take what got me through the roughest time of my life, and give back this same magic, but as a living breathing character And to create an original character who is now recognized by LFL acknowledged group..... nothing compares to that. Star Wars has brought me full circle, from only seeing them on a big screen, to helping me escape reality, to bringing the same magic to people of all ages.

That's why Star Wars is so special and important to me. Then when my wife and I met Nikki (Prini Nibal / Current North East Regional Commander), and talked to her at the armor party, then following her WIP, I was amazed. When I handled for her at Cecil Con, and watched her go from Nikki and transform into her Mando....a different walk, attitude, everything. I was in awe! Then I realized that after a few troops, Krayin had developed his own attitude as well. Now as soon as the bucket goes on, Krayin comes out. I was nervous, scared, excited, all of the emotions on my first troop and as soon as I walked out..... I felt so natural and just enjoying every second. Now I troop as many events as I can.

-Krayin Gooss, Kyrimorut Clan

Do you have a story to tell? What made you want to be a Mando? We'd like to hear it. Contact us at [pr@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:pr@mandalorianmercs.com) or by PM to our editor at mporter on the forums.



# THE KELDABE KISS

## MANDO CULTURE FOR VALENTINES DAY

BY: MIKE "DIZ GE'TAL" PORTER

We've all seen it, two Mandos, their helmets pressed together at the forehead in some kind of a kiss, of sorts. What we are seeing is called the Keldabe Kiss, or in Mando'a, the "mirshmure'cya."

In honor of February, the month of Valentine's day, I give you the history of the Keldabe Kiss.

Originating in the novel Order 66, by Karen Travis (a part of the Republic Commandos series), the "Kiss" started out as an offensive strike called the "Kov'nyn," designed to injure an unarmored opponent by headbutting them in the face while wearing a helmet.

The first cinematic use of the kov'nyn occurred in Episode 2 - Attack of the Clones when Jango head-butts Kenobe while fighting on Kamino. I know, it was so fast that you probably missed it.

While the "Kiss" started out as an offensive move designed to flatten the nose of an opponent in armored combat, over time, the Kov'nyn became the Mirshmure'cya or the, so called, Keldabe Kiss in honor of the Mandalorian Capital City. It was typically used between couples as a substitute for an actual kiss while wearing a helmet. It



is my belief that

the Keldabe Kiss may have been used as a show of affection between family members as well. The only evidence I have for this occurs in Episode 2 - Attack of the Clones, after the Jedi Master Mace Windu beheads Jango Fett, Boba Fett is seen lifting his father's helmet to his forehead as a final farewell to his Dad.

I don't remember any "romantic" uses of the Keldabe Kiss in film or television, (if you know of any, please let us know), but at any rate, the Keldabe Kiss seems to be well known among the membership of the MMCC, and so, I give you, from all around the interwebs of the MMCC, the Keldabe Kiss.

Happy Valentine's Day!



# THE ROAD TO MEGACON

## ONE GALAXY, ONE GOAL



BY: MIKE "DIZ GE'TAL" PORTER

As the winter starts to turn to spring, the thoughts of the Clans start to turn to Conventions. I think that I'm safe in saying that the highlight of our year, for many of us, is trooping at conventions. It is there that we raise money for various charities, talk to prospective recruits, mingle with the larger Star Wars community, and we get to show off our kits.

This month, we were able to chat with Daxar Arkada, the Alor'ad of Batuu Clan about their involvement in MegaCon, one of the largest Conventions in the United States.

**BATTLECRY:** Being in the west, I'm really don't know much about MegaCon. I've heard the name, but really don't know much more than that. What can you tell me about it?

**DAXAR:** MegaCon, short for Mega Convention, is a large speculative fiction convention that caters to the comic book, sci-fi, anime, fantasy, RPG, and gaming communities, often occurring in spring at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. The convention is the largest fan convention event in the Southern United States and second largest in North America with an attendance of 190,000 and generating an economic impact of 205 million in 2024

**BATTLECRY:** What is your clan's involvement at MegaCon?

**DAXAR:** Our clan, as Batuu and formerly as BVC, has been involved with Megacon for almost two decades. What started as a small 10x10 table/booth has slowly over time grown to a space of 100x110. We started with just showcasing our individual club, and progressed to teaming up with the other major clubs over time to create the space you see today. Through all of those yearly iterations, FanExpo



staff took notice how we slowly brought more atmosphere and drew crowd attention, not only through our costumes, but also props.

As a result, they now closely partner with us as a group to provide us with space, support systems, accommodations, and advertising; as we have become a major draw for guests to the con.

**BATTLECRY:** Are you teaming up with other Star Wars costuming groups to create a Star Wars experience or is your clan all on its own?

**DAXAR:** The team up, initially between the MMCC, 501st Legion, and the Rebel Legion, was born out of guest comments who kept referring to the general area that our booths were in as the “Star Wars section.” Their vision of a

cohesive atmosphere inspired us to set aside differences, embrace our similarities, and produce an experience worthy of our guests’ desires. 2021 was the first year we debuted this new approach, and it has steadily grown in success and size since then.

Today, all “power 7” clubs participate, each bringing their particular strengths and contributions to the general theme of the combined booth space.

**BATTLECRY:** Is there a theme to your booth?

**DAXAR:** The theme of the booth is a “generic” outer world Star Wars town, in the vein of Mos Eisley or Mos Espa. This allows us to give guests an interactive experience they can walk through and participate with all of their senses. Each club produces set pieces to fit that theme, that when combined, makes you feel like you just walked on to the set of a Star Wars movie or tv show.

Additionally, we add our “cast” of players to populate the booth and make it feel lived in, by having our members participate in their approved kits. Roles, walking paths, and locations are assigned to increase our guests suspension of disbelief.

Handlers are encouraged to dress as generic Star Wars citizens so that everyone feels in theme and can get a change to participate.

Even our information tables are themed; the cantina bar where everyone congregates!

**BATTLECRY:** Is there a charity that you will be promoting or collecting donations for?

**DAXAR:** Our donations end up going to “Give Kids the World.” They are our local charity, whom we have had collective participation with for many years.

Do you want to tell us about your local Con? We want to know. Email us at [PR@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:PR@mandalorianmercs.com) or PM our Editor at [mporter](#) on the forums.



# VERD'IKA PAGES

## COLORING PAGE

E

O

M

M



# WORD SEARCH

## MANDO WHO'S WHO

AAGUYTZSYMMMEBYASNSA  
ETRMANDALORETHEGREAT  
FZAOLQDINDJARINSWNHN  
UWWTZAGMJANGOFETTYUK  
BANUAHEMLKSYJJINJQLRV  
KSNZGROJHSABINEWRENB  
ZMAPVCRBOKATANKRYZEK  
TFSTCJBEGYNFUIFJAXUO  
OHYVIVYBVUXOTNMQDDPS  
KAEGCNKQOILSCQWLOFAK  
KXPAPBEQABZIWYXONEZA  
TEIRRODKCLASOTKPANVR  
JWVSUMBXRJRFLVITINIE  
FOLAWUOAPYRIEAUSKRZE  
GVAXLYNRQGZBCTIGRASV  
NEAOZGBKERNECHTCYULE  
ZSHNARGUVRJRBRWRZHAS  
ZTXNAUTORDEBJUPREFAC  
PREVIZSLASMPPAWDEPZX  
BOVFIFUBWYJWLEJKGNV

Mandalore the Great

Tarre Vizsla

Sabine Wren

Koska Reeves

Din Djarin

Gar Saxon

Satine Kryze

Alrich Wren

Jango Fett

Boba Fett

Axe Woves

Bo-Katan Kryze

Adonai Kryze

Pre Vizsla

The Armorer

Paz Vizsla

Fenn Rau

Do you have an idea for our Verd'ika Pages? We want to know!  
Email us at [PR@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:PR@mandalorianmercs.com) or PM our editor at mporter on the forums.

# THE BESKAR CHEF

Got a recipe you'd like to share? Send it to [PR@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:PR@mandalorianmercs.com)

## GREEN BEAN BOUNTIES

### INGREDIENTS

3 cans whole green beans, drained  
1 pound bacon, cut in half  
½ cup butter, melted  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 tsp garlic salt

### METHOD

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish. Wrap 7 green beans with bacon and place in prepared dish. Repeat, using all the green beans and bacon. Combine butter with brown sugar. Pour over green bean bundles and sprinkle with garlic salt. Cover with foil and bake for 45 minutes. Remove from oven and serve hot.

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!

## Word Search Answer Key

AAGUYTZSYMMMEBYASNSA  
ETRMANDALORETHEGREAT  
FZAOLQDINDJARINSWNHN  
UWWTZAGMJANGOFETTYUK  
BANUAHEMLKSYJINJQLRV  
KSNZGROJHSABINEWRENB  
ZMAPVCRBOKATANKRYZEK  
TFSTCJBEGYNFUIFJAXUO  
OHYVIVYBVUXOTNMQDDPS  
KAEGCNKQOILSCQWLOFAK  
KXPAPBEQABZIWYXONEZA  
TEIRRODKCLASOTKPANVR  
JWVSUMBXRJRFLVITINIE  
FOLAWUOAPYRIEAUSKRZE  
GVAXLYNRQGGZBCTIGRASV  
NEAOZGBKERNECHTCYULE  
ZSHNARGUVRJRBRWRZHAS  
ZTXNAUTORDEBJUPREFAC  
PREVIZSLASMPPAWDEPZX  
BOVFI FUBWYJWLEJKGN AV

"A lone wolf may be strong, but it takes a pack to survive the winter."  
- 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](mailto:pr@mandalorianmercs.com) or by PM to mporter



# You Can Do It!



Join Today At

[MandalorianMercs.com](http://MandalorianMercs.com)