



THE MERCS AT CEL AN ACTION PACKED EVENT



JULY 15-17, 2016
EXCEL LONDON EXHIBITION CENTRE
www.starwarscelebration.com

WELCOME

One of the things I am most proud of is that the MMCC is beyond politics.

While you see the world going a strange direction, the Mercs get closer as a group. The UK Vok'chi clan is still a proud part of Europe and, as will be seen, have worked hard with our European and Russian members to put on a brilliant interactive event in London.

I am also extremely honored that the Mercs in Europe asked for my presence, something that was made possible through a patch run and permission from the Mercs Council, as they all wanted to come too.

It is humbling to see how much my presence means to the membership, but whilst I am the figurehead of this club, I have to point out that I can only be that figurehead on the back of the hard work and dedication of our volunteers.

As this club grows we all need to learn to adapt and change to the challenges ahead, I feel that is my message going into CEL.

I also have to congratulate the hard work done by the Euro build team, while I haven't been able to be hands on, I have been able to monitor the work that's being done and I am excited to see it in person.

However, as this is the Vok'chi, I expect to be the butt of many jokes and I also know I am expected to give as good as I get.

I know there won't be a lack of camaraderie.

Tom Hutchens
Mandalore the Uniter

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Battle Cry has a UK English Editor but all US English contributions have not been changed. The Mercs are an International club where all cultures and languages are respected.

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Mandalorian Mercs Battle Cry 2



As the club grows, as does its presence around the world. Returning to London, Celebration Europe has returned with a bang. Following Mandalore's announcement that he would be attending and taking on the lessons learned at Celebration Anaheim the European clans have set to work on the MMCC booth.

Celebration is the pinnacle of the Star Wars costuming world every year. But as members of the Mandalorian Mercs have you ever thought about what goes into the planning for an event such as the one that we will be seeing in London this summer?

The planning for an event like this starts more than a year out from the event! It starts with the local clan setting a pace and a style with the input of the council and the leaders of the other nearby clans. The Build Team chooses a booth theme and then go about creating the props for the event. They start planning on how they will get them to the venue and get them set up. Each local clan gives as many props as they can to create a realistic experience for all of the convention goers. In preparation for London, Saz and Talos Kot have hosted regular build parties to get every item for the event built and every local Clan member has spent large chunks of their free time to help build the items that are needed.

This summer in London will be an experience unlike any of the others with the European clans each putting their own personal touch on the event and adding some of their local flavor and style to the props and sets. The clans have all contributed to the planning and the execution of the event and have built the schedule to match the biggest gathering of Mandalorians worldwide.

There will be many items given prime location in the area one of the featured items will be props paying homage to the Fallen Mercs Eternal, and the entire event will be capped off with a massive Mercs Dinner on Sunday of the con. This event will be a true showcase of the European clans and will raise the bar for what we as a club do at Celebration. Everyone who is going to Celebration London this summer is in for a real treat.











3 Mandalorian Mercs Battle Cry





Many members of the Mercs may have recently heard the name Haaranovor, however, just as many people may be unfamiliar with one of the newest clans in the Mercs! Formed in January out of what was once Naast Clan territory, Haaranovor Clan represents the entire state of Alabama.

Haaranovor's biggest event of the year is Magic City Con in Birmingham, Alabama. The proud members of this clan can be found trooping all year, but the clan's busiest time for events is the late spring and early fall months.

Haaranovor's name is the Mando'a word for "hidden or concealed." The name started off as something of an inside joke, since Haaranovor was once hidden inside Naast Clan. The Haaranovor Clan sigil was designed by one of their own Official Members, Soren Diederik, and was picked from a larger group of designs.

Haaranovor is recruiting members throughout the state of Alabama. While the clan may be new, their members are experienced, and would love to hear from you! Check out their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Haraanovorclan/ to reach out and connect with them!

IN THE WORKSHOWS YOU HOW IT'S DONE

Many Mercs are looking for that extra bit of decoration that makes them stand out of the crowd. Boba Fett had his Wookiee scalps and kill stripes and Mandalorians are written to be trophy collectors. So why not add some Jedi crystals as trophies on your kit? It's dead simple:



1) Buy Clear Quartz Points. [1lb for about \$15 to \$20 on eBay depending on origin of the quartz. Brazil has the best quality and ALWAYS CHECK THE REVIEWS!! Some sellers will sell glass chunks or quartz chunks which look horrible. The more you pay, the better the quality.]



2) Buy fast drying clear nail polish and pour out half the bottle into another container, if possible.

- 3) Replace the poured portion with food coloring of choice. Recap and shake vigorously. (Red needs to replace more than half the original content, otherwise it comes out pink. Also, mixing red and blue food coloring results in a grey color after the bottle either sits or the crystal dries)
- 4) Paint the crystals with the solution. Some colors, like red, require multiple coats on each side. Let dry overnight.
- 5) Use black Rub N Buff along the edges and bottoms of crystals. Fade the black upwards from bottom to create a "burned" appearance.
- 6) Once dry, use a MATTE clear coat spray over the whole crystal. Spray about 6" away from crystal to avoid dripping. Let dry overnight.

CONGRATS! You now have a burned lightsaber crystal!



The colors store for about a month before the chemicals react and make the dye chunky and splotchy. Yellow food coloring results in Orange crystals and is best to weather with COPPER Rub N Buff to make it stand out more. Black nail polish works great for a Dark Saber Crystal, using SILVER Rub N Buff as the 'weathering'.



Australia

Sandhawk Clan facebook.com/SandhawkClan

Brazil

South East - Vode An Clan facebook.com/vodeanbrasil

Canada

Alberta - Hett'ciri Clan facebook.com/HettciriClan Manitoba - Vhetin'Ade Clan facebook.com/VhetinAdeClan Quebec - Gaht Kyr'bes Clan facebook.com/quebecmandos

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Sometimes things go wrong, sometimes things break. Many of us have been through it and scrambled for some form of quick repair. Here is a quick checklist of the things experienced members hav found they cannot do without.

1. Sewing kit.

You might think it odd that we mention this first, but soft parts breaking have very few remedies except for the tried and trusted sewing kit. Always have a reel of cotton in your flightsuit colour as well as a basic black. Sewing kits can usually be found at your local department store.

2. Adhesives.

One of the big mistakes people make with adhesives is buying one brand. You need to ensure that you have a variety of solutions. Super glue and general adhesives (e.g. UHU) should always be in your kit box and, for specialist jobs, glues like 5 minute epoxy and E6000 (for overnight repairs). Whilst a hot glue gun can sort things pretty quickly, you should never rely on it as a permanent solution.

3. Tape.

Duct (Duck) tape and electrician's tape are the staple tapes that should be in your box, the amount of uses are numerous.

4. Cable ties.

Again, one you may find odd, but members have used cable ties creatively to solve many a problem in the past, until you realise you need one these should stay in your emergency kit.

5. Black cloth.

Sometimes people forget table coverings, having a spare cloth available in with your kit can relieve many a panic.

6. Silver pen or Rub N Buff.

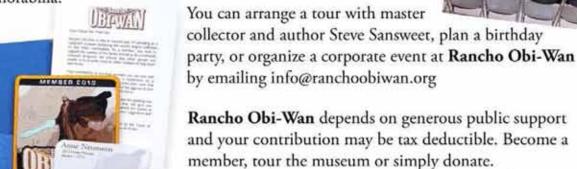
Sometimes armour can get damaged right back to the plastic and a bright bin colour will make your kit look odd. An old solution is to use a silver pen, however, I refer Rub N Buff, as, if applied with a brush, it can actually enhance the weathered look.

If you have an essential item, make sure you share it with our fellow members. The more prepared you are for issues, the less time you are down repairing them. There are many other things to mention, such as spare velcro, Sharpie pens and even a pad and some pencils, but talk amongst your clan mates and listen to their experiences to help you fill out your personal emergency kit.





Rancho Obi-Wan is a 9,000-square-foot non-profit museum located in Petaluma, California. Officially recognized by Guinness World Records in 2014, it houses the world's largest collection of Star Wars memorabilia.



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For more information, visit us at www.ranchoobiwan.org



PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE PRACTICAL WARRIOR

Yes, I know! Here I am again having to deal with your mundande ponderings on Mandalorian life. Talking of lives maybe you should get one?

Life should be simple as a Mando, you kill things and get the bounty. What is so hard to understand about that???

Let's see what you mouth breathers have got for this time...

Why is it...

Dear Gabby,

The Mandalorians are considered some of the greatest warriors the galaxy has ever known, how were they defeated by a group of pacifists during the Civil War on Mandalore?

Anon.

YOU SHUT YOUR DIRTY MOUTH!!!

Ahem! Geopolitical whatsitface shenanigans.

NEXT!

Wife problems.

Dear Gabby,

My wife keeps collecting weapons. Vibroknives, beskads, grenades, blasters, repeating blasters, she'd carry a capital ship turbolaser if she could.

It's gotten to the point where she can barely move for all the weapons strapped to her. How do I convince her to lighten her weapon load-out?

Concerned and Slightly Amused Husband.

Listen, hun. The worst thing you can ever do to a Mandalorian woman is point out she's too heavy. A loadout is very important for a woman of her calibre (pun intended).

In these cases I would say let it slow her down, get all the kills and let her decide for herself that she might be carrying excess baggage.

She probably already knows and she don't need no man telling her to lose the pounds!

Snaps a "z"

More wife problems!

Dear Gabby,

My wife and I are infiltration specialists, but she just repainted her kit a neon pink. We have a two-man job coming up soon, so how do I convince her to tone it down, yet not wind up sleeping on the couch?

Signed, Blinded by the Light

Sleep on the couch first, then tell her!

She won't help but be impressed with your pre planning.

Girlfriend problems!

Dear Gabby,

Long-time reader, first-time writer. As many of you know, my ship, Slave-1, is the perfect vessel for intergalactic bounty hunting.

The problem is that I just started dating a Twi-lek girl, and, well, the whole "slave" thing isn't going over well with her parents, given her species' history. What do I

Flustered and Fett Up.

Honey, I'm not touching that issue with a 12 foot Jawa prodstick!!!

Sad Mando

Dear Gabby,

Does the pain of ever losing someone ever go away? The pains and mistakes that keep playing in my mind of how they were pushed away while others died or marked as MIA on the field of battle. Will this battered Mando ever find peace again?

Anon.

No.



Launched on December 1st 2007, Keldabe Talk Radio discusses all things Mandalorian and Mandalorian Mercs related. With a dedicated team made up of Mercs members, the show airs once a month and is ready to tackle the hot topics regarding Star Wars.

FIND US ON THE MERCS







SCUM.COM STAR WARS COLLECTING NEWS

BATTLEVERSE

Color

They see us coming
They do not understand the colors of our armor
They hate us

They see us coming
They see the bright colors of our armor
They laugh at us

They see us coming
We teach them that black is for justice
They fear us

They see us coming
We teach them that gold is for vengeance
They run from us

They see us coming
They only understand the color for death
They die before us

Mandos learn that red is to honor your father Mandos know what green means Mandos understand the color of joy

Mandos see the armor colors and understand
Just because they can see us coming
Doesn't mean they can do anything about it

Sal

Val haa'tayli mhi olaro Val nu suvari sal be cuun beskar'gam Aruetiise or'parguu Mando'ade

Val haa'tayli Mando'ade olaro Val haa'tayli dralyc beskar'gam sale Aruetiise nuhuna sha Mando'ade

Val haa'tayli Mando'ade olaro Vi muun'baji ne'tra cuyi tor'sal Aruetiise chaaba Mando'ade

Val haa'tayli Mando'ade olaro
Vi muun'baji ve'vut cuyi gra'tua'sal
Aruetiise kakovidi teh Mando'ade

Val haa'tayli Mando'ade olaro Val suvari shi kyr'am'sal Aruetiise ash'amu teh Mando'ade

Mando'ade hibira ge'tal cuyi buir'ijaat'sal Mando'ade kar'tayli vorpan Mando'ade suvari shereshoy'sal

Mando'ade haa'tayli sal be beskar'gam bal suvari

Shi jorcu val haa'tayli Mando'ade olaro Nu sosol ti val lise nari

Ru'Der Marekar

ROAD TO OFFICIAL

Every recruit must face the challenge of submitting application photos and going through the approval process. While this can be exciting, it is an undertaking that can also be daunting. Recruits must of course spend time making sure everything on their kit is arranged properly, and many focus on this aspect of the experience. However, one of the most important elements of the application, and one that is often overlooked, is the photos themselves. The application photos are critical to showing the App Team Members the fine details of your kit from the fit of your flight suit to the spacing of your plates. But if your photos aren't clear enough you may be asked to resubmit an entirely new set. Dark colors and flights are especially susceptible to this problem, so in this issue we will discuss how to take excellent application photos.

Try to make sure that the background of your photos is clear too. We recommend standing in front of a blank wall, one that is white or light colored if possible, to take your photos. If that is not an option, or if you have a lot of "busy" furniture such as book cases or posters on the wall, consider hanging a white sheet up and standing in front of it for the photos.

Proper lighting is very important as well. Outdoor light works great, just be sure to take your photos in an area where you are not obscured by any outdoor elements such as plants. For indoor photos lighting can be tricky. MMCC recruit Skotah, currently building a kit, has multiple costumes approved with the 501st Legion and Rebel Legion and has assisted many others in applying. While helping Misha on a recent build, he revealed a great tip on how to get fantastic app photos. Skotah uses cheap clamp lights available at most stores like Wal Mart or Target. They're very affordable and easy to modify too. Making sure they have cool bulbs inside that will not heat up, he places a shower cap over the rim of the light and rubber bands it at the clamp. This creates an instant light diffuser and spot that is perfect to shine on your kit and showcase all the details, giving the App Team a clear view of your costume





FROM THE



You can't say being the PR Officer isn't interesting!

As Mandalore will have no doubt mentioned, the club is growing fast and we as members will have to adapt to the challenges created by this growth.

We were talking the other day about how for a few good years there were just 8 of us in the UK Vok'chi clan, a mere 2 years later there are nearly 50.

If that doesn't tell you how fast we are all growing, nothing will!

I am proud that I have played a part in this club's, no my club's growth. This is my club, your club and our club, we're the ones who have built it

to where it is and, in our 9th year, we're getting busier and much more in demand.

This all tends to culminate in a Celebration, or in this case 2 Celebrations one after the other, where people get to put faces to names and listen to the tone of a person they have only known in writing. I loved CE2, it really brought the European clans together. It is a shame that some of those friends made will not be able to share in CEL, but we will get the opportunity to welcome the Belgian clan and members of the Russian clan over, as well as some guy named Tom.

As for preparations; we broke the back of the work last week at Dominic's (Talos Kot). I have to give credit out where it's due: Dominic has been the lifeblood of the build team's plans. He has taken on a lot of the planning and build work himself, whilst I dealt with health and safety forms, risk assessments and other British red tape you have to go through to organise an event of this magnitude.

This time around we listened to you guys in the US and worked out what was a success and what could be improved and the overwhelming comment was that interactivity works and, whilst I don't want to spoil the surprise, even the seating area for resting is blended into a canon feel. So you're a part of the scene sitting around with your helmet off chatting.

I will mention our memorial to all of our lost members, as most of you know, we have built an R2 droid called R3M0 for the show. The reason behind this was that Remo's last event was CE2 and it felt wrong not to have him with us at CEL.

Building him was rather cathartic for me. Honestly, even having a symbol of him around makes me happy miss him rather than sad miss him.

Vok'chi means to share a drink with a friend, I hope to toast our departed by putting on a special event.

For those coming, I look forward to meeting you, for those that won't don't worry, there's an opportunity on the horizon in 2018 to look forward to.

Oya!

THE END CREDITS

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