NEW TRADING CARDS
A look at the latest design.

REGIONAL COMMANDERS
What they do and what they are responsible for.

THE FORCE AWAKENS
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www.starwarscelebration.com
It is hard to believe that 9 years ago this month, MMCC was born.

In that time, I’ve had the privilege of seeing a small group of friends turn into a world-wide family. The amount of pride I have in all of our Clans and members around the world cannot be expressed in mere words.

Over the last few months, and continuing on until mid July, our European Clans have been extremely busy working on MMCC’s presence at Celebration London.

Not only have they been working feverishly and diligently, they also spearheaded a campaign to raise funds that will allow me to keep a promise made to them back in 2013 that I would come help out with the next European Celebration.

It’s very difficult to express how humbling that is, because I never came into MMCC expecting to receive.

I’ve only ever worked towards giving. One thing all members should realize, is that it is not “I” that makes the club great, as I am merely one man. It is you, the members, who make MMCC so great. Daily, you inspire me to continue doing what I do and working toward uniting Mandalorian fans around the world.

With that said, thank you for being part of the world-wide family that is MMCC.

OYA!

Tom Hutchens
Mandalore the Uniter
Members from Manda’galaar, Teren, and Haran’galaar all attended the event. The MMCC represented the club well with over 30 members from all 3 clans. Safety was paramount, and members even had to walk through multiple checkpoints just to walk down the street to reach the premiere site. Our members agree it was all worth it, however, with many admitting that the entire experience made them ‘emotional,’ ‘excited’ and ‘over-joyed.’

Lucasfilms and Disney had secured the entire 3 block area of Hollywood that housed the theaters used for the premiere: The El Capitan, Mann’s Chinese, and the Dolby Theaters, historic Hollywood icons. During the event, MMCC members waited in bleachers for the film’s stars to arrive. Once the actors appeared, the crowd went wild! Our members assure us that we were well represented, with the Mercs cheering loudly and chanting for the stars. A particularly memorable moment of the event was when each of the stars stopped at the MMCC bleachers area, posing for photos with our members in the background. Members were also treated to free offsite parking which, as any member who has attended a large event knows, made the premiere even more accessible to our members and even shuttled the fan club members to the event. After the movie, attendees had the opportunity to eat at several buffets and even build a mini commemorative astromech droid to take home in order to commemorate the evening.

Kaden Dha’Runi explains that it was of course extremely exciting to be near the cast, and that it was important to note that, other than the costumed characters, ‘the MMCC members were the only ones allowed to bring [their] helmets to the premiere, and [they] proudly showed off [their] buckets every chance [they] got.’ This was a wonderful PR opportunity too, as a crowd of screaming Mandalorians waving their buckets in the air sure got the press’s attention! Photos of the Mercs section made it in the Associated Press and was even featured in UK and French newspapers. Since then, thanks to the press and the continued efforts of our members who troop, attend cons, and are extremely welcoming and helpful to all of those who are interested in the Club, we’ve had a record increase in recruits and official members.

In the coming years, there will be many more opportunities for Mercs to attend premieres. When asked whether he had any advice for those who’d like to join for the next event, Kaden explained ‘the best advice I can give is to sit back and just go with it. Don’t worry about anything. Just let the experience wash over you and take it all in.’ From sharing the experience with the other members of the Mercs, to seeing the actors, to experiencing the energy of the crowd, to of course viewing the movie itself, the entire event offers a great deal of excitement and promises to be a once in a lifetime experience.
Mav Oya’la Clan was founded in 2009 by Tahl Taab and 5 other members in Pennsylvania, and tends to be split into the eastern and western portions of the state.

On the eastern side of the state, members average 2 troops per month. Their schedule is very active from March through July and then again for 2 months in September and October, and during these active months the members can troop up to 4 weekends in a month between their own clan events and joining clan brothers across the state line in New Jersey.

On the western side, the members’ biggest event is the Saint Patrick’s Day Parade in Pittsburgh.

The Mav Oya’la Clan sigil is derived from military sigils and depicts prominent Pennsylvania imagery including, the liberty Bell from Philadelphia, the Golden Triangle from Pittsburgh and the white diagonal line representing the Appalachian Mountains. The clan’s name, Mav Oya’la, is a Mandalorian phrase that means “Free Living” which was chosen to represent Pennsylvania’s prominent role in the founding of the United States.

This clan spans the entire state of Pennsylvania, but the membership is the most active in the major population centers on each side of the state.

Mav Oya’la is recruiting members throughout Pennsylvania. This small but mighty clan is looking for new members so if you’re in their territory they’re ready for you! Check out their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/MavoyalaClan to connect with them!
Kamas are not a required piece for any mandalorian but many people like the addition of them so in this tutorial I am going to show you how to make a very simple cost effective kama. All you need to do is hit up a few second hand stores or clearance racks in search of a full skirt. You want to look for something without a lining. Literally anything can be used for this - solid colors preferable. You do not even need a sewing machine!

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Scissors (cloth or very sharp).
- Lighter.
- Wire Brush (Easily found at Lowes or Home Depot and a good investment for cloth weathering).
- No Fray or similar product to keep the edges of fabric from fraying too much.
- Really that is it! Its that simple.

So for this tutorial I chose a twill brown skirt, which cost me $1.50. It is nice and heavy but has a good flow and had seams that made it easy to make into a two piece kama.

I am going to leave the side seams alone and the front and back ones I cut free on either side. I do not need all the fabric and when you cut from top to bottom you cut further in at the top so your bottom has a larger flare - your kamas flow better.

In the second picture I have cut it in two with the side seams intact. You do not need to undo the front and back seams (most skirts won’t have a front seam you can just cut it down the middle). When having to remove seams you can cut wide of them so you do not have to take the time to slowly undo stitching little by little.

The next few examples show progression of cutting and weathering. PLEASE be careful when using the lighter. Do it in small sections and always have water on hand and something to smother it with in case it gets out of hand. If you are underage please have a family member help you.

First you are going to want to get rid of the clean bottom, you will want to just randomly cut it, does not have to be perfect but this skirt was too long for what I wanted anyways. So I just jaggedly cut it and then from there, cut bits out of it going vertical so that it left a jagged look.

Then I scored the fabric with the edge of my knife - it not only creates a really convincing slit but wears down the fabric as well.

The next part that you see is using the no fray. We all like weathering but when your stuff continues to unravel it creates a mess and a headache. You can make a barrier with this NO FRAY or FRAY CHECK. Its a liquid that dries clear, it is nearly like nail polish.

This is our simple finished project, took me an hour and some change to make - including taking pictures for the blog. This costs was about 1.50 if you have everything already. If you need fray check and wire brush it will cost you about 10 dollars more. But the wire brush and no fray are something you want to have on hand, they are amazingly helpful and I can not say how much I love my wire brush, it takes some muscle for heavier fabrics but it really gives a nice look.
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Mandalorian Mercs Battle Cry 6
The Order of the Ori’ramikad is a special and unique group in the Mercs. The membership ranges from the long term leadership of the club, to new and rising members. They, as members, have diverse and wide ranging opinions of our club as it stands today and where it is going. The members of this select group are submitted by their peers for this honor and rarely have any clue that they have been nominated until they receive it.

The Order has gone through some significant changes over this year. Whilst many members have been awarded the club’s highest honour, many of our members wondered exactly what that meant to the members and to the club in general.

If the members of the Order are the highest award that the MMCC can award, what does it stand for? What does it mean to members?

This question was posed to the Council by some Order members and the Council had a think about that question. Based on discussion with some Order members, the Council felt that the Order members deserved a greater say and a closer tie to the Council. We follow up from our last issue to tell you how the Order now functions.

If something is common it loses its value. Instead of being awarded every month over the year, the number of nominees have been decreased to 6 members per year.

Members can nominate people whom they feel are worthy using the new form system.

The Order now have a private forum where they can talk about their concerns, arrange and discuss events and they are also given a say as to whom they believe should be forwarded onto the Council for final decision.

This means that Council has access to every Order of Ori’ramikad member’s opinion and experiences with potential Order Inductees. You could also say that their comments also help Council members come to a decision when it comes to voting time.

The Order is run by a voted Steward of the Order, who performs the day to day organisation of the forum and its various discussion topics and votes. They are voted in every year and they only be incumbent for 2 years running.

It is also has members of the Council there willing to talk face to face with the Order members. This personifies the wish of the club to be a meritocracy, those who work the hardest for the club get the biggest say.

If you have someone you feel should be a member of the Order of Ori’ramikad, make sure you send your nominations in giving clear reasons why you feel that the person you are voting for deserves to join this esteemed order.
Medics or “Docs” are the unsung heroes of the battlefield. We provide medical support to all the other Mercs in battle, from fixing the broken toe of that big ole Urban Assault guy who tripped over a destroyed speeder bike, to the Pilot who was shot down by Rebel scum and is near death. Medics run around the battlefield, often in lighter weight armor than all the other units in the area of operations, dodging blaster bolts and frag grenades to keep our fellow Mercs in the fight.

Medics carry Medical kits full of supplies like bacta injectors, wireless fibulators, field cauterizers, and plenty of stim packs for that extra needed push. Medics also have field scanners to triage the wounded, to make sure that that big ole Merc with the busted toe doesn’t get sent to a med station for a simple toe injury. Medics have to be fearless and a little bit crazy, laying in front of your patient like a shield in the middle of a firefight trying to not get shot while you’re patching up the fallen takes a special breed of Mandalorian.

I chose to gear my kit towards this Brigade profession for two reasons: 1) I spent several years of my life as a paramedic prior joining the military, and 2) as a patient laying on the ground bleeding from shrapnel wounds as my doc shielded me from further injury while he patched me up. This is my way of paying homage to those times and the good and bad memories associated with both.

For me, the process of becoming a Brigade approved Medic started shortly after becoming an official member of the Mercs. I poked around and asked a ton of questions of many of the different brigade members about the various units. Then I saw another Medic kit and fell in love with the thought of being a helper again. I planned out my upgrades based on the BRL’s and began to work on the tools needed for the position, taking my time to hit on the details and make sure that my kit would stand out and shine as a Medic.

Very recently, this happened at an event. A young one was asking why I wasn’t carrying a blaster like the other “Boba Fetts” when someone I assume was his brother pointed at my Medic emblem and sigil and said, “Look she is a medic that’s why.” That’s when I knew I had accomplished my goal to have my kit stand out in a crowd. And almost a week to the day after the event I was announced as the new Support Division Marshal, a position I couldn’t be prouder to take on.

If you think you have what it takes to care for your fellow Mandalorian in the worst of battlefield conditions? If so join the Medics Brigade today!
Regional Commanders

There are times in organizations such as ours, which has undergone significant growth in recent memory, when some members have a lack of understanding about what certain officers do. This article is going to help you understand the duties and jobs of the Regional Commanders.

The first thing that one should know about the regional Commanders is that the first three duties listed for them in the Bylaws are the following:

- Regional Commanders are responsible for timely communication between Command Council, and MMCC Clans/Squads within their respective regions.
- Regional Commanders are responsible for administering voting to the Clan/Squad Command staff for MMCC policy/bylaw changes.
- The Regional Conclave will serve as an advisory board of officers to the Command Council.

The Regional Commander position is one of the most important positions that exists within the Mandalorian Mercs, and is one that is often wrongly overlooked while trying to solve a problem. The Regional Commanders exist to serve as intermediaries between the Council Members, and the general membership, while at the same time helping the local clan leadership with important tasks such as reporting trooping information to the CAO, and troubleshooting problems that can arise, before most of the membership ever sees them. While this may not seem as cool or interesting as the “App Team, or Quartermaster,” this job is the glue that holds the organization together, and for that reason it is one of the most overlooked and underappreciated jobs that exists in the club.

Armed with this new information, when you as a member of the Mandalorian Mercs face a problem you should always turn to your local officers first, then to the Regional Commanders, then to the council. This isn’t just for the obvious reason of that if each of us 1000+ members all sent a PM to the council once a month, they would spend every waking minute of free time just responding to our requests. The Regional Commander is there because, like your local clan leadership is, they have been around for a long time and have institutional memory that is there for your own benefit. Whatever problem you might be facing the odds are high that they have seen it, or heard about another member having this problem, and they are there to help you if you will take the time to ask for help.
Come visit and be inspired by the Force of Imagination!

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.

You can arrange a tour with master collector and author Steve Sansweet, plan a birthday party, or organize a corporate event at Rancho Obi-Wan by emailing info@ranchoobiwan.org

Rancho Obi-Wan depends on generous public support and your contribution may be tax deductible. Become a member, tour the museum or simply donate.

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

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DEAR GABBY...
PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THE PRACTICAL WARRIOR

Well, here we are again. The Editor has a shortfall and guess who’s expected to fill a page? That’s right, yours truly!

It’s not like I’m even being paid for this, but here I am listening to you lot whimpering about your problems and expecting me to find a miracle to get you out of the pooodoo you’ve gotten yourselfed into.

Right, let’s get this over with quickly, shall we?

**Daddy issues!**

Dear Gabby,

My buir is way too overprotective. He keeps trying to come along on my bounties, which means nobody takes me seriously!

How can I tactfully remind him that he was the one who taught me how to use a flamethrower so I could hunt on my own?

Anon.

Shoot him, if he’s a true Mandalorian, he’ll understand.

**Spouse issues!**

Dear Gabby,

My rudiir (spouse) keeps pressuring me to take her on more of my bounty hunts, even though she can’t stay off the holonet long enough to help me take down the target. How do I tell her that she’s the reason I lost track of the last three hunts, yet not have her mad enough to take a bounty on MY head?

Anon.

Shoot her, if she’s a true Mandalorian, she’ll understand.

**Fashion issues!**

Dear Gabby,

All my fellow hunters have been doing their hair as a post hunt celebration. I was wondering what I could use to get in the celebratory spirit as attaching wookiee braids to ones lekku just doesn’t look right.

A fashion conscious Twi’lek.

Shoot them, if they’re true Mandalorians, they’ll understand.

---

Twinned with Tatooine.

Dear Gabby,

Why does everybody want to go back to Jakku?

Sincerely,
Totally Not a Stormtrooper

I don’t know, perhaps people enjoy the feeling of sand in their underwear?

The future is a strange place!

Aw so cute!

Dear Gabby,

I am a fierce warrior!

Yet, I’m having a hard time getting other Hunters to take me seriously all because I look like some cuddly black & white bear-type animal.

How can I get my comrades to see me as one of them? And also how can I get them to stop hugging me, I am not “squeezably adorable”.

Do you know what that kind of thing does to one’s reputation?!

Anon.

My best advice is to go full on Ewok with them. Trap them, tie them to a spit and eat them in honour of some gold deity. Credits make a good gold deity.

Once people hear you eat anyone who touches you, everything will sort itself out. But I’d have your kids first, no one dates a cannibal.
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

REBELSCUM.COM
STAR WARS COLLECTING NEWS
Florida’s Buurenaar Verda Clan is one of the largest in the Mercs and provides its members with an endless list of troop opportunities. While this is great for members who want to get out and bring the love of Star Wars to the community, it can also become problematic as the Clan often has more troops in a day than members to cover them.

One of the BVC’s veteran members has worked hard to develop a system for meeting the demand of so many events. Ace Mor’Dare has logged well over 50 troops and will most likely hit around 100 this year alone as he criss-crosses the state to make appearances at as many events as possible.

Ace explains that he is motivated and inspired to push himself hard because he is inspired by the many people he has met during his troops, especially the kids. “Their inner strength and perseverance inspire me and motivate me to keep going no matter what the obstacle. To look into a child’s eyes and for a moment see the world with that young wonder and love of life, even when some are facing the hardest fights of their lives, has a great impact on me and inspires me. Seeing them smile and knowing that I was a part of that, is one of the greatest feelings in the world, it is the ultimate bounty.”

While Ace will admit he loves the thrill of the hunt and it’s pretty exciting to rack up those numbers, he notes that his Clan mates also encourage him to get out and troop. “There are also my fellow clan members who consistently rise to the occasion and heed the call for a greater purpose than themselves, it is in those acts of selfless giving that I find further inspiration and I am grateful to be able to call all these inspirations family.”

Ace’s success comes from careful planning. He scours the boards looking for troops that are close to one another and within a reasonable timeframe. He does his best to schedule himself very carefully. He admits that it takes a lot of work to plan out, but he figures out the routes and timeframes in order to maximize his ability to volunteer. And he always extends the invitation to his fellow Mercs to come along for the ride.

One thing that’s important to keep in mind, however, is that there are some sacrifices and considerations that must be made when trying to accommodate so many troop requests. Ace explains that he’s had to work with both his Clan Administration, contacts from local sister organizations like the 501st and Rebel Legion, and also the event contacts too in order to organize his troop appearances.

Timing is critical and it’s vital that when you plan out multiple troops in one day that you stay exactly the right amount of time at each one. Through trial and error, Ace now works to plan his troops so that he can spend an appropriate amount of time at each one. This takes extra effort, but is well worth it to make sure that everyone involved in the event from participants to planner is happy with the Merc’s appearance.

Above all, Ace encourages all of our Official Members to get out there and troop! While we can all agree that we troop for different reasons, Ace’s take on trooping is pretty inspiring in itself.

“I take great pride in trooping because I believe that each of us can make a difference in the lives of others just by giving of ourselves with no expectation of a return. It’s good food for the soul. It is such an uplifting experience and addictive. I want to spread as much happiness as I can to as many as I can. This year I set a personal goal for myself and that was to reach 100 troops and I am almost there. In my mind that’s 100 chances to make someone’s day or life a little brighter just by giving up a little bit of my time, kitting up and playing Star Wars for some very grateful people. It doesn’t get much better than that!”
A New Year is here and with that we are excited to announce a brand new look for the MMCC official member trading cards! Your Art Team has been hard at work creating a new template that is a fresh design, while still featuring the important information we love to have on each card. They’re also rolling out a several new features that will make this round of cards a little more customizable by the member, allowing each Merc to get a bit creative.

The design itself has a nod to the previous round of cards (version II, designed by Arch and her team in 2013/2014) in the layout of information on the back. When a member requests their card design, they will still need to send along information about their character including name, species, era, planet of origin, etc. To help further brand the Clans, each member’s Clan emblem will now be prominently featured on the back of the card. Members will be able to able to select from a series of ten different colors to customize the kill stripes and chest diamond on the front and back of the card too, a new feature which previously was the Art Team’s choice.

In addition to the overall new design, one of the most exciting features of this round of cards will be the option to include multiple members on one card. In the past, the cards have only featured one member but now the Art Team has agreed to expand the scope to include duos, trios and even small groups. As long as all members pictured are official, this opens up some really exciting options for creativity among MMCC members. Got a good friend or an epic group pose from an event you’d like to remember? Make it into a card! Just be sure to follow the guidelines outlined in the instructions thread and style guide (mentioned below) to make sure the photos you submit will be appropriate for use.

So how can one go about getting their snazzy new cards? Instructions for photo requirements and information are listed in a special stickied thread in the official member section on the forums. Art and information can be sent directly to the Art Team’s card mailbox at artteam@mandalorianmercs.com. As the Art Team members are fabulous volunteers, and are also responsible for working on all of the patch, sticker, t-shirt, banner, coin and other miscellaneous requests that come in from every Clan, there will be about a two to three week turn-around time for each card design. Once members have their cards, they can have them printed through a vendor such as Got Print or VistaPrint. Either company does nice work and will help create awesome trading cards for members to distribute at troops. The official 2016 MMCC design template is ready for your use, members, so get out there and make some awesome trading cards!
Here we are a few months after the release of The Force Awakens and I am pretty sure that anyone who reads this specialist magazine will have seen the film right now.

I have to tell you, I was very excited by some of the events that occurred over the release of the film. Whilst it was marred by a terrorist attack in Paris and the consequential ban on all the costume groups holding weapons, it turned out to be a fantastic evening for a lot of our members.

As you will have read, some of our members were invited to the Premiere in LA, but it didn’t stop there, many members found themselves invited to screenings around the world. I feel that we were very much included in the celebration.

Speaking of which, Celebration London will be taking place in a few months’ time and we’re looking forward to the opportunity of showing how close the Euro clans are. To add a special moment to the event, our club figurehead, Tom Hutchens will also be joining the Euro crew to troop with those members.

I’ve been personally very busy with a lot of things, but rest assured, we have everything in hand and we’ll be able to report it to you when the dust has settled.

Next issue we’ll be announcing the winners of the Order of Ori’ramikad awards for 2015, which is exciting moment for 6 of our members. As a member of the Council, the OR (as we like to call them) are a lifeblood of this club and epitomise the values and ethics of the group. They are people who should be looked up to as role models and guides in the club.

Next year will be our 10th year as a club. Isn’t that exciting? Something we should all look forward to and see about celebrating. A lot of us call this club home or our family and it’s an honour to share the plaudits of what this club has achieved with you all.

Maybe we’ll do something special for our 10th year? Who knows?

Well, I think I will leave you on that speculation, thanks for reading, thanks for trooping and thanks for being a fan of Star Wars.

Oya!
TIP
Use something with a fine tip (e.g., a toothpick) to apply masking fluid. This will allow you to get fine detail weathering helping to prevent it from becoming blotchy. -Tracyn Ordo

TIP
When painting, try to be brand specific, so not to have any adverse chemical reactions when applying paints. -Uneek Top'El

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THE END CREDITS