

THE OFFICIAL MANDO MAGAZINE

# BATTLECRY

DECEMBER 2025

POST IMPERIAL MASTER

KELDABE TALK RADIO RELAUNCH!

TROOPERFEST 2025

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**Armor Tips,  
Interviews, Features  
on Members,  
Conventions, and so  
much more!**

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# FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings Vode!

The turkeys have been eaten, the tree is up, decorations have been brought down from the attic, and the silly season has officially begun.

I took a second to check my clan's event listing and found a few fun events to finish up the year. It is a busy time for everyone, but it can be quite fun to break out the kit and bring some joy to someone who might need a little Swarsy magic in their lives.

Beyond that, I challenge you to look around to see where you can be of help in your communities, whether in kit or out. Charitable organizations are always looking for volunteers, coats, clothing, non-perishable food, toys, money, or any number of other things to help those who are in real need.

I can tell you, from personal experience, that donations such as these are so needed and much appreciated by those that are helped. There was a time in my life when my family was struggling and didn't know where our next meal was coming from. Some good people in our neighborhood took notice and helped us to provide for our small family for a short time. Even though that was over 20 years ago, it is something that we have never forgotten and have constantly tried to pay forward as best we can.

If you don't know where to start and are in a position to help, you may consider donating to the Beskar'ta Foundation. Founded this year by Mandalore the Uniter, the foundation is designed to help members of the MMCC who are in emergency need. You can find more information on the website: [beskartafoundation.org](http://beskartafoundation.org).

Above all, remember, Family is More than Blood.

On behalf of our staff and writers here at BattleCry, we would like to wish you all a very happy and safe holiday!

We'll see you in 2026.

*Diz*

Editor, BattleCry Magazine

# THE POST IMPERIAL MASTER

By: Raymond "Scarif Mando" Gayleard (PRO)

Recently I had the pleasure of reaching out to the MMCC's very own CRL Director, Whytnie Shannon, for a conversation about the club's

## ***“...THE POST-IMPERIAL ERA EXPLODED IN POPULARITY... BUT NOT EVERYONE COULD COMFORTABLY WEAR FULL ARMOR KITS”***

newest and very exciting CRL, PI Master. Members across the whole club raced to start work on these new costumes. But what makes a Post Imperial Master kit? Where did it come from? For that, we turned to Whytnie who had plenty to say on the subject.

**BATTLECRY:** What inspired the creation of the PI Master CRL?

**WHYTNIE:** The PI Master CRL was born out of two things: evolution and accessibility. As the Post-Imperial era exploded in popularity thanks to The Mandalorian, we saw more and

more builders fall in love with the aesthetic — but not everyone could comfortably wear full armor kits. Our community includes costumers with medical and mobility needs, builders who travel frequently, folks who prefer soft-goods craftsmanship, and those who simply wanted a lighter build without sacrificing the Mandalorian silhouette.

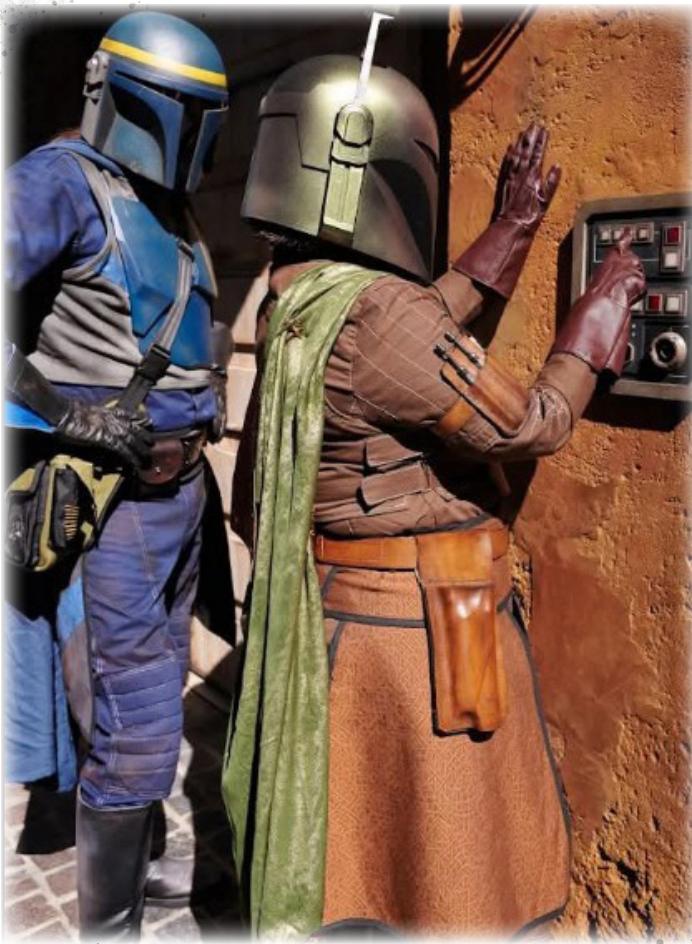
We also had a growing understanding that the PI era is deeply reference-driven — what we see on-screen

guides what we permit. As those references expanded, it became clear that there was space in-universe for a fabric-forward style that still felt unmistakably Mandalorian. Think: the Armorer.



So the PI Master CRL was inspired by a desire to expand accessibility, acknowledge real-world practicality, and create a style that centers soft-goods artistry while preserving the unmistakable PI visual language.

**BATTLECRY:** How did you go about creating the PI Master CRL?



**WHYTNIE:** The creation process was intentionally collaborative and reference-heavy. We started with canon.

We studied every soft-goods detail visible in The Mandalorian, Book of Boba Fett, and Ahsoka. We consulted real-world costumers.

Feedback from Mandos with medical needs was crucial. We listened to what worked, what didn't, and what would make long events, travel, and accessibility easier.

We identified the non-negotiables.

The Post-Imperial silhouette had to stay. Even with reduced armor, the kit needed to read as Mandalorian at a glance.

We built a soft-goods rule set from the ground up.

That meant:

canon-inspired styles

required top-stitching

clean tailoring

specific closures

integrated details across every piece

cape/poncho requirements

kama/battle skirt requirements

And so on.

Then we layered in the small but iconic armor elements: the chest and helmet— ensuring a PI identity without full armor.

Finally, we tested it with real approval teams to make sure the CRL was realistic, enforceable, and builder-friendly.

The result is the first MMCC soft-goods-forward Mandalorian style that still reads as “off the set.”

**BATTLECRY:** Did you have any challenges on this new frontier?

**WHYTNIE:** Absolutely — several.

1. Balance accessibility with the PI aesthetic. We wanted the kit to be comfortable and flexible without drifting into Jedi tabards, LARP gear, or festival wear. Walking that tightrope took very careful wording.

2. Defining craftsmanship standards.

Because soft goods carry the visual weight in this style, we had to define quality expectations without stifling creativity. One of the key directives from the Personnel Officer was a reminder of something we've seen historically: when armor is reduced, expectations for the soft parts naturally rise. So we had to ask ourselves — what truly elevates soft goods? And more importantly, how do we define those standards in a way that's clear, fair, and still leaves room for builders to express themselves?



### 3. Identifying visual language.

With fewer plates, we had to make sure what was allowed still clearly tied back to Bo-Katan, Paz, the Armorer, Axe Woves, the BOBF chest plates, etc. Maintaining that lineage was essential.

### 4. Ensuring the CRL could be approved consistently.

We built visual guides, consulted Ruus teams, wrote examples, and clarified grey areas so Approval Teams could apply the rules fairly and consistently.

**BATTLECRY:** What is your favorite thing about the PI Master CRL?

**WHYTNE:** My favorite part is the accessibility it brings to our community. Watching builders who once thought “armor isn’t for me” discover that they can be Mandalorians — and look absolutely incredible — is genuinely the most rewarding feeling. It’s just as inspiring to see people dive into sewing for the first time, build new skills, or finally have a place to showcase talents they’ve never gotten to spotlight before.

This style is welcoming, practical, beautiful, and unmistakably Mandalorian.

**BATTLECRY:** Is there anything we can look forward to in the future in regards to new CRLs? Anything you can tease?

**WHYTNE:**

First:

Keep a keen eye on Brigades — I’ve been working closely with the Brigadier and the Brigade Team to ensure that the Master style has a clear pathway for builders who want to go above and beyond. There are some very creative opportunities on the horizon.

Second:

Last year we rolled out the CRL visual guides. Keep an eye out for new guides in the new year and updated costumes. If you have advice or input, be sure to send it up through the Ruus’alore.

Finally:

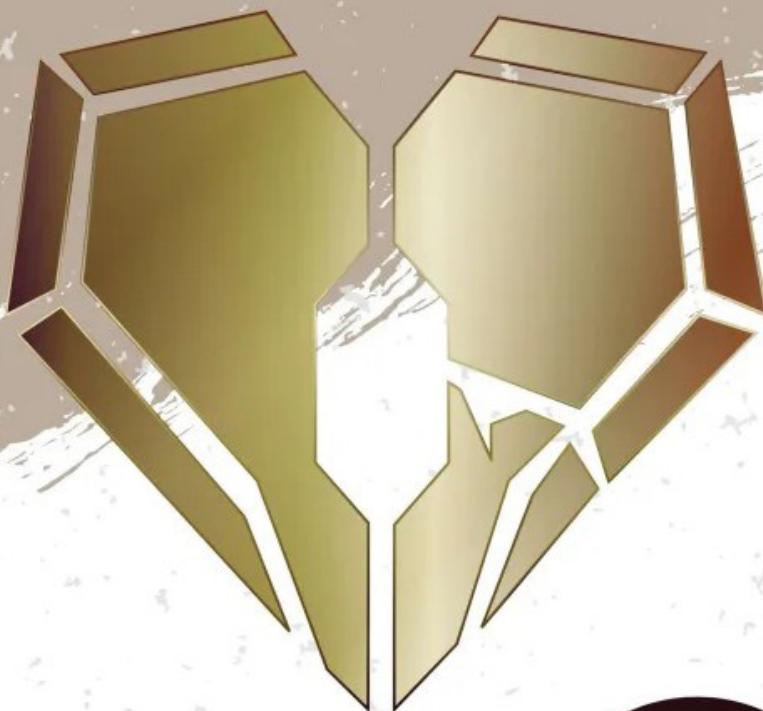
if it’s on-screen, we’re watching it if it’s new armor, we’re studying it and if it’s MMCC-friendly, we’re building a pathway for it



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# KELDABE TALK RADIO RELAUNCH!

By: Ben "Midge" Egloff

As we roll into December the talk of the town has been the much anticipated return of the MMCC's very own pod cast, Keldabe Talk Radio! The airwaves of Mandalore have been quiet, but they shall be no more as we roll into a brand new era of the podcast and there is so much more for you in store than just a simple audio podcast. I have heard about a slew of things rumored to be a part of the new incarnation of KTR, but to get the real scoop I turned to our very own Public

Relations Executive Officer JStolts who graciously carved out a few minutes from his busy schedule to answer a few questions.

**BATTLECRY:** introduce yourself and tell us a little bit about your years with the Mercs?

**JSTOLTS:** My name is Johnny Stoltenborg and I serve as the Ver'aler of the Protectors of Lothal, the PR XO for the MMCC, and the Team Lead for the Keldabe Talk Radio relaunch. I joined the Mando Mercs because I wanted to be part of something bigger, a community built on creativity, honor, and giving back.

After 3 years of making my kit, I became an official member in November 2023 and, pretty quickly, I was trusted with leadership as Ver'aler. I've always been a storyteller and a multimedia guy, so jumping into the PR side and helping bring KTR back to life felt natural. To me, Keldabe Talk Radio isn't just a podcast. It's a chance to highlight the builders, the warriors, and the everyday fans who keep the spirit of Mandalore alive. With more than a decade of experience in video production and storytelling, I'm excited to help create something that not only entertains but connects us.



This is our voice and our way, and I'm proud to be part of shaping it.

**BC:** What prompted the return of Keldabe Talk Radio and what can we look forward to from the reboot?

**JS:** Keldabe Talk Radio came back because the Mercs needed its voice again. Our club has grown so much in the last few years and we have incredible stories, builders, clans, and charity work happening all over the world. But there wasn't a central place where those stories could

be shared in a fun, engaging way. As PR XO, I kept seeing how hungry our



members were for connection. People wanted to hear from each other, learn from each other, and feel like part of something larger than just their own clan.

The return of Keldabe Talk Radio is about celebrating the heart of the Mando Mercs. It gives us a platform to lift up our members, highlight the creativity and passion across our global community, and keep everyone united through storytelling. In short, it was time for the Mercs to hear their own voice again.

I remember this clearly at MegaCon 2023. It was the first time I saw so many clans come together in one place, just talking, laughing, and sharing their stories and experiences. I'm not talking about mercs from just the state of Florida, we had members from Germany, from Ohio, from Maryland, and even had Mandalore himself, all together at MegaCon in Orlando, FL. Standing there, listening to mandos from all over the world, I realized something. Every clan and every individual Merc feels like family the moment you meet

them. Most of the time, we troop with our own clan mates, so you don't always get to hear the love, the struggles, and the amazing moments that other clans experience and everyone has a story worth telling. That feeling is exactly what I want Keldabe Talk Radio to capture. I want it to feel like a group of mandos sitting around a campfire, helmets off, sharing their stories with each other and why they put on the armor. That's the heart of the Mercs and the heart of KTR.

**BC:** Tell us a little bit about the cast?

**JS:** Currently the cast consists of me, Lomas Thowe, and Scarif Mando, the Public Relations Officer. Lomas has been with the MMCC since 2015 and has been an official member since 2016. A founding member of Kar'ta Beskar Clan where he was Alor'ad for seven years.

**BC:** Can you give us any insight into the topics that the show will focus on?

**JS:** Absolutely. The heart of Keldabe Talk Radio is storytelling, so every topic we cover will highlight the people, passion, and creativity behind the Mercs. We're focusing on things that bring the community together and give members a chance to share their voice.

You can expect episodes on:

- Builder spotlights, where members talk about their kits, techniques, and lessons learned.
- Clan features, shining a light on different clans around the world and what makes each one unique.
- Interviews and Episodes with Celebrities and influencers of the Global Star Wars Community at large
- Charity and troop stories, celebrating the moments that remind us why we do what we do.
- Behind the scenes looks at events, armor parties, and big conventions.
- Interviews with club leadership and long-time members who helped shape the MMCC.
- Fun community segments like mando mishaps, first troop stories, and the unforgettable moments that happen when you put on armor.

Overall, the show is designed to feel welcoming, inclusive, and real. It's everything that makes the Mercs special, brought straight to the listeners.

**BC:** How is Keldabe Talk Radio going to be used to further the mission of the MMCC and how will it be used to support the club's ongoing community endeavors?

**JS:** Keldabe Talk Radio is more than entertainment. It is a tool to strengthen the heartbeat of the MMCC. Our mission has always been about creativity, charity, and community, and KTR gives us a platform to amplify all three.

First, it supports our mission by telling the stories

behind our armor. When members hear builders, officers, and clans from around the world talk about their experiences, they feel more connected. That sense of unity makes our club stronger and keeps people engaged.

Second, KTR will highlight our charity work and community outreach. We'll be featuring episodes focused on hospital visits, fundraisers, troop highlights, and the impact our members make every day. When people hear these stories, it inspires them to get involved and reminds everyone why the Mercs matter. Finally, KTR gives us a consistent, positive way to communicate across the entire club. Whether it's updates from leadership, educational segments for new builders, or spotlights on major events, the podcast becomes a central place for information and inspiration.

In short, Keldabe Talk Radio helps carry our mission forward by connecting our members, celebrating our charity efforts, and giving every mando a voice in the story of the MMCC.

**BC:** How often will episodes be released and where can people go to listen, watch, and download?

**JS:** We're starting with one episode a month while we lock in our production rhythm and make sure everything runs smoothly. Once the team is in a solid groove, we're looking at moving to two episodes a month or a biweekly schedule. We want consistency and quality, so we're taking the time to build this the right way.

Keldabe Talk Radio will be available primarily on the official MMCC YouTube channel since we're producing the show in both video and audio formats. Episodes will also be available on Spotify, with more platforms to come as we continue to grow.

So keep an eye out. Whether you prefer watching, listening, or downloading on the go, KTR will be easy to find and even easier to enjoy.

*The first episode of the Keldabe Talk Radio relaunch is available on December 19th, 2025! Make sure to listen in and be a part of the start of something that will no doubt bring the club closer together.*

# SOCIAL SOCIETIES: THE GREY BRIGADE

By: Ben "Midge" Egloff

As another month turns, we too turn our attention here at BattleCry to another one of our social societies and this time we look toward the Grey Brigade. This wonderful society celebrates our elders, those who have been around since the beginning, as well as those who are earning a few grey hairs as they pass that over 40 mark. It is these folks that have helped shape the fandom into what it is, have kept the love of Star Wars strong, and passed that love down to new generations of people.

The current Keeper of the Grey Brigade is Lomas Thowe and I had the pleasure of chatting with him about the society, its members, its history, and even came away with a few stories from his membership.

**BATTLECRY:** Introduce yourself and give us a little bit of your history with the Mando Mercs?

**LOMAS THOWE:** My name is Lomas Thowe. I've been an official member of the MMCC since 2016 and along with having been the Alor'ad of Kar'ta Beskar Clan of Central Texas for a number of years, I am currently the South Central Regional Commander (Al'Verde), Keldabe Talk Radio (KTR) co-host, member of the Events Team (MercsCon). I am also the Greystest of the Grey - the Grey Brigade Keeper.

**BC:** Tell us about the founding of the Grey Brigade and tell us a little bit about its membership?

**LT:** The Grey Brigade and OT Guard is an MMCC social group for those over the age of 40. The OT Guard (original trilogy) are those Grey Brigade members who saw the first run of the original movies in theaters. It was originally founded by Zolar Kresh beck in July of 2016,

he stepped-down and I took over in March of 2019. In that time, we've gone from 63 OT and 6 "Over 40" members to 144 OT and 46 Over 40 members. That's a bunch of old people but like our motto says, "You gotta be good to get this old."

**BC:** Who can join join the Grey Brigade and in what capacity?

**LT:** As the club ages so do the members. Sure there will always be new members but those that stick around will eventually be able to join the Grey Brigade. All you have to do is be over 40 and you can join.

**BC:** Why do you feel that it is important to have a dedicated space for your membership?

**LT:** I believe this gives elder club members a space to discuss things relevant to them... and I don't just mean sharing what hurts today. I mean the camaraderie of sharing experiences that only come with being good enough to get this old.

**BC:** What does the Grey Brigade society pages provide for its membership that the forums at large do not?

**LT:** Being a Formal Society of Mandalore allows, among other things, for the Grey Brigade to have sub-topics. Along with our main board "Grey Brigade and the OT Guard" we have "The OT Guard - Stories from 1977" where OT members can tell their story of having seen the original movies in a theater; what the anticipation and atmosphere was like around this ground-breaking movie, and "Feelin' Grey - Recounting Your First Time" where members can tell the story of their introduction of Star Wars, whether its was through toys, a theater experience, or a tv series.

Not only was I able to get the low down on the Grey Brigade as a society, but Lomas put out the word to some of his members that we were looking to share stories from the old guard. As



we all very well know that all of our lives would have been dramatically different without this crazy Star Wars universe we have decided to immerse ourselves in and what we do now is all thanks to a vision and a movie that changed the perception of what science fiction could be to a wider audience.

From a personal perspective I know how much they affected me when I first saw them, using a beat up VCR and an old boat anchor of a CRT television. I have often wondered what it would have been like to see them for the first time on the big screen, without any foreknowledge of what was in store for me.

Really wanted to know about that experience and if they had memories of it, how the release of the movie rolled into the holiday season of 1977. Lomas, Cymorill, and Sith and Mando fan all had a few experiences they were willing to share.

#### **LOMAS THOWE:**

"I saw the original movie in theaters. Back then it was just called Star Wars. My father was a member of the Sci-Fi Book Club so obviously had an interest in that sort of movie (and westerns like all old people of the day). He and my mom took my older brother and me to the theater to see Star Wars on opening weekend in the "big" theater that we used to go to. Imagine, the lights go out and from the dark screen come the silent words "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...." Then that loud blast of music and the sudden appearance of the movie title logo shocked everyone to attention. As the logo faded away and the words of the backstory start to crawl up the screen, the exciting, bold, orchestra music told us we were in for an over-the-top adventure. Looking back at that moment of an impressionable 7 year old's early life brings a tear to this old man's eye that most people just won't understand."

#### **CYMRIL:**

"I was about 13 years old, and about to emigrate to the US. Interesting fact, I was always a space geek following the exploits of missions like Mariner (to Venus) and later Voyagers 1 and 2, but when I saw 'La Guerra de las Galaxias' in Spain, I realized I needed to devote my life to space exploration. Made me a totally weird child in Spain back then! When I grew up (although

some may say I never did), I studied Aerospace Engineering, and I have worked on the space program ever since."

#### **SITH AND MANDO FAN:**

"I grew up in a very fixed income household, but my parents always found a way to make Christmas special, and Santa always came. In fact, I believed much longer than most kids, just due to that fact! Now, I return that, and make sure I spread the magic of Christmas to kids of all ages.

But back to late 70's Christmas..... we would sit down with the Sears catalog and write down the items and part numbers we wanted. Of course when Star Wars came onto the scene, that catalog had dog-eared pages throughout. We definitely didn't get everything on our lists, but Santa would always bring some.

It was truly a very magical time of my childhood growing up. So when Star Wars came out in theaters, seeing movies wasn't something we did often, but my parents took us to see Star Wars at the Harford Mall..... best gift ever!"

As part of the society myself I constantly find myself reading through the posts there. It is a wonderful walk through the history of this fandom to scroll through the boards of the Grey Brigade. If you are "of an age" I would encourage you to head over to their society pages and join up if you haven't already. If you are still a youngin', there are a ton of fun stories that are more than worth reading.

# CHEWBACCA'S MEDAL

## DISPELLING THE CONTROVERSY

By: Mike "Diz Ge'tal" Porter

If you are a regular reader of BattleCry Magazine, you may remember that earlier this year, in the May Issue, I wrote an essay posing the question of whether or not Star Wars was science fiction. Well, I have to tell you, writing that essay was so much fun, that I've decided that it might be just as fun to tackle other parts of Star Wars history and lore in the form of some essays. I know, I like to write essays and that's weird. I get it.

This month, I thought that it would be interesting to explore the question of why Chewbacca didn't get a medal at the end of Star Wars: A New Hope.

### **"WHAT ABOUT CHEWY? SURELY THE REBELLION SAW HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE"**

Everybody remembers the scene. A fanfare sounds, soldiers and pilots of the Rebel Alliance, stand in formation as Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Chewbacca walk down an aisle between them toward a raised platform where Princess Leia and other dignitaries of the Alliance stand waiting. Among them we see the protocol droid, C-3PO, standing proudly and more shined up than he ever had been, and most likely, more than he ever would be again. Next to him, R2-D2, the astromech, repaired following a tie-fighter blaster shot to the noggin.

At a command from Chewy, the soldiers make a smart right (or left) face, as our three heroes



ascend some stone steps to a level just below princess Leia. A dignitary carrying a tray of some kind, makes his way to Leia, who takes from the tray a large and clearly heavy medal on a thick, olive drab, ribbon. She first presents one to Han Solo by carefully placing it around his neck. He winks at

her in a playful flirtation. She then places a medal around the neck of an eager Luke Skywalker, who was clearly nervous about the presentation. They bow, turn around, the crowd applauds, and the end credits roll.

And... What about Chewy? Surely the rebellion saw his contribution to the cause. He helped to save the rebellion from the evil Empire and their planet-killing super weapon, right?

You know, when I first saw the movie, as a narcissistic second grader, it never really occurred to me that Chewbacca was anything more than Han's furry pet. It really wasn't until 1980 and The Empire Strikes Back, that I realized that Chewbacca came from a proud, intelligent, sentient, race of warriors, and that he cared for Han quite deeply and considered the smuggler a part of his own family. It was also at about that time that I realized that Chewbacca totally got the shaft when it came to his medal.

As it turns out, I was a little late to the game

of condemning the Rebels for not recognizing Chewbacca at this award ceremony. In 1977 there was a small, public outcry in regards to Chewbacca and his award, and in a series of interviews, George Lucas did address the problem saying that, "Chewbacca wasn't given a medal because medals don't really mean much to Wookiees. They don't really put too much credence in them. They have different kinds of ceremonies. The Wookiee, Chewbacca, was in fact given a great prize and honor during a ceremony with his own people. The whole contingent from the Rebel Alliance went to Chewbacca's people and participated in a very large celebration. It was an honor for the entire Wookiee race."

Way to make up lore on the fly, there, George. No, to be fair, Star Wars is his story, and so it is his right to make it up as he wishes, and I do like the idea that all of the dignitaries from the Alliance would make their way to Kashyyyk for a special award ceremony that would have actually meant something to Chewy.

It appears, however, that the alliance did give Chewbacca a medal, perhaps as part of the ceremony on Kashyyyk. In 2015, Marvel Comics created a five issue miniseries: Star Wars: Chewbacca, written by Gerry Duggan and with artwork by Phil Noto. The story centers around Chewbacca and a young girl named Zarro, who was able to understand Wookiee. At the end of their adventures, Chewbacca gives Zarro a gift at their parting. That gift was a Rebel Alliance Medal, proving to the fans that he did, indeed, receive one at some point. Zarro, to her credit, refuses to take the medal, but finally relents when Chewbacca explains that he never wanted it in the first place.

Now, as satisfying as it may be to know that Chewbacca did receive his medal, I have to ask, why was it even necessary to have to create all this lore in the first place? Couldn't they have just given Chewy a stupid medal in the first movie and have been done with it? As it turns out, there are a couple of considerations that are a little more practical in the real world.

In an interview with an Australian news outlet, Peter Mayhew, who portrayed Chewbacca on

screen, said that the reason for Chewbacca not getting a medal was, as he said, "I think it was one of two reasons. One, they didn't have enough money to buy me a medal, or two, Carrie couldn't reach my neck, and it was probably too expensive to build a little step so that I could step down or she could step up and give me the medal."

So, let's take a look at Peter's theories. The first being that they just didn't have the money to make three medals. It's easy to see that when Carrie Fisher picks up the first of the medals, they are quite heavy. Something like that would not be inexpensive to craft.

Star Wars originally had a production budget of \$8 million (a very small budget, even for the mid 1970's). Scheduling problems, development of new technologies, weather, and the like, pushed the production over budget to \$11 million. It can be imagined that by the time they got to filming the final scene, Lucas was probably scraping for every last dollar that he could get from 20th Century Fox.

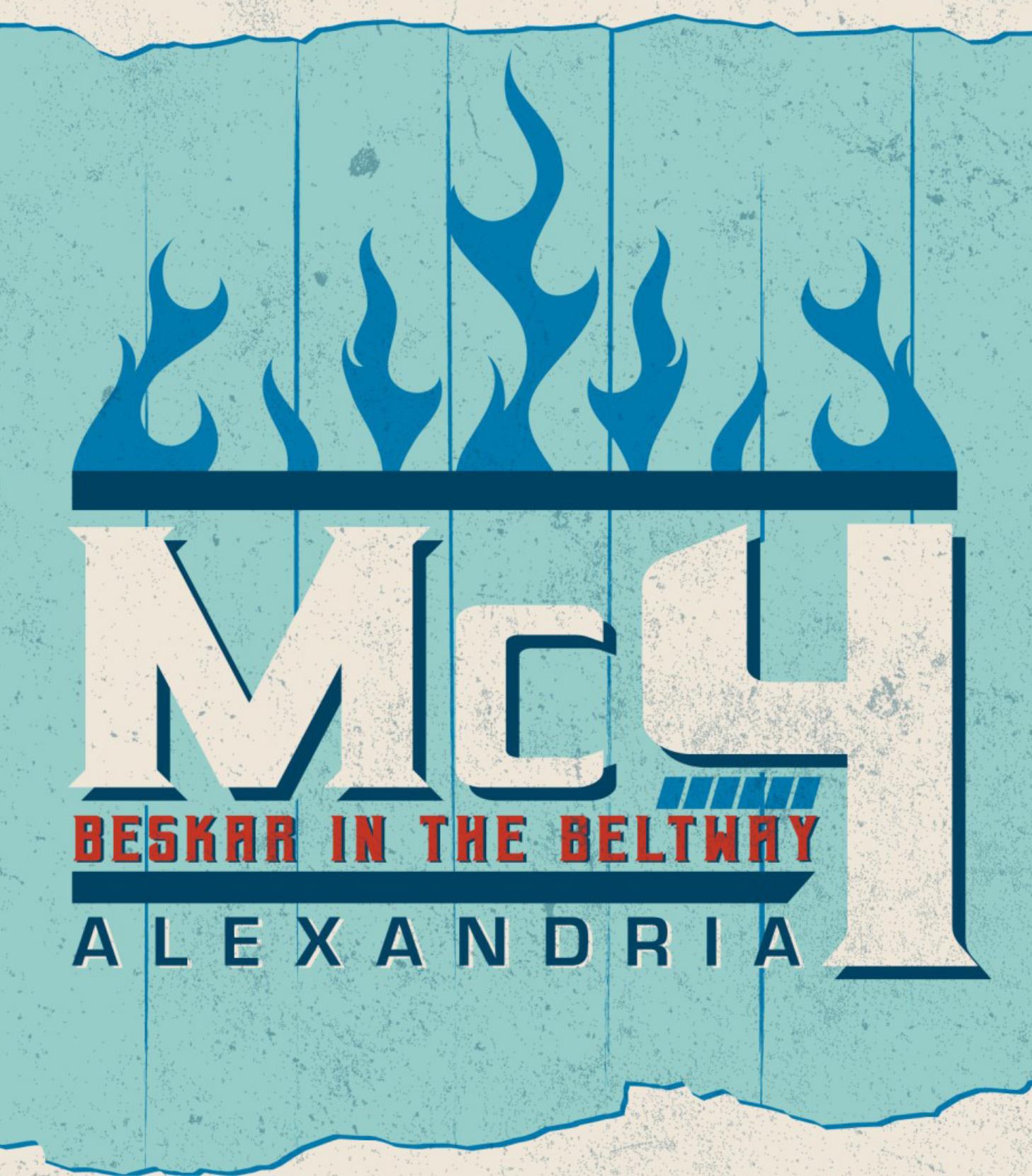


Peter Mayhew's second point is the one that I turn to when contemplating Chewbacca's medal. Carrie Fisher was quite short when compared to the rest of the cast, standing only 5 feet -1 inch tall. There are times throughout the original trilogy where it was obvious that the film makers endeavored to alter Carrie's height in order to bring her face into frame with the other actors. One of the most obvious is in *The Empire Strikes Back* where Leia and Han are walking through the tunnels on Hoth. They come to a place where they stop to argue, and Carrie steps up onto a platform (disguised as a panel of portable walkway) while Harrison Ford steps into a shallow hole, thus bringing their heights closer together. Movie magic like that works just fine when you are only trying to make up 3 or 4 inches, but Peter Mayhew towered over everyone at 7 feet - 3 inches in height. While apple boxes (small wooden boxes used in movie making) are not very expensive, it would have been quite cumbersome and hilariously obvious had they tried to make up 24 inches between Leia and Chewy so that Carrie could have placed the medal around Peter's neck. Thus, the lore



about the Wookiee aversion to medals was born.

I guess the point of this little exploration into the lore of Star Wars is to show that sometimes stories arise out of necessity, or by circumstances having to be overcome. But, rest assured, the canon is intact, and that Chewbacca was not "given the shaft" as fans of the franchise sometimes like to say. He was given an honor fitting for a Wookiee. George Lucas said so, so it must be true.



MMC

**BESKARR IN THE BELTWAY**

**ALEXANDRIA**

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

MMC 15

# TROOPERFEST 2025

By: Raymond "Scarif Mando" Gayleard (PRO)

Back in November I had the opportunity to attend TrooperFest 2025 in Orlando, Florida. The event coincided with my honeymoon trip to Galaxy's Edge. I was not sure exactly what to expect but from the few things I knew it looked like it would be a great time. TrooperFest is an event for 501st, Mando Mercs, Rebel Legion, The Dark Empire, Saber Guild, Droid Builders, and the Galactic Academy.

My wife and I checked into the event on a Friday just before the Scarif Tiki party. The tiki party was held on the second floor of the hotel. Right from the get go my mind went "I have a good feeling about this". Before us was an entry way into a big room. The entrance to the room had this amazing tiki statue with star wars helmets "carved" into it. The room was huge and the party was just taking off. DJElliot had an incredible swarzy mix. There was even a spread of food that was fantastic. The chicken sliders were my favorite. Shoretrooper helmets lined the front of the stage.

In a room off to the side a massive gathering of people were trading patches and coins. Meanwhile back in the main room club members were taking advantage of the dance floor.

The next night was the Couricanti Senatorial Feast. When we walked in the decorations had



changed. Now, life size battle droids seemed to guard every exit with destroyer droids guarding the stage. The time it must have taken to make them all amazed me. The dinner was delicious. Chicken, beef, potatoes, corn on the cob, it just kept going. Buffet style. They even had an



amazing violinist, Daniel Cortez, serenade us during dinner. When dinner began to wrap up, the event organizers played a video montage of club leaders who could not make it, wishing everyone the best. The first one being our very own Mandalore. The video then moved to stars from all across Star Wars media saying hi to everyone at TrooperFest, many of them expressing thanks for the work the clubs do.

Also during the night a young man and his mother who had been positively impacted by the work of the 501st came up on stage and told us about their story. Listening to their journey and knowing that we as the clubs effect change like this for so many, it was truly inspiring.

The night was about to conclude when the announcer got back on stage to read a text message from a star who he said "couldn't be there tonight". He then cut himself off and said



"oh, she is here?" And then introduced Ashley Eckstein! Ashley came out and walked up to the stage, giving hi-fives the whole way. Ashley then did an interview with the announcer

and at the end set up in the corner of the room to take photos with everyone. Just like night one, night two was a lot of fun.



The next morning was the much anticipated photoshoot in Galaxy's Edge Batuu. Titled "Breakfast with the Falcon". Unfortunately this was probably the only portion of TrooperFest I did not enjoy very much. There was a lot of conflicting information in regards to the entry and kit up for the event with things changing the morning of.

My wife and I had arrived at about 5:55am and ultimately kitted up outside the park. We walked in with the literal army of other club members through Hollywood studios and stopped at the Imperial

Walker outside of Star Tours for our first group photo. We would then travel from there to the tie echelon, then the falcon, and then the front of rise of the resistance for a total of 4 big group shots. At the

conclusion of the group photos we were told we had about ten minutes to take our own photos but we had to stay by the Rise of the Resistance ride entrance. (This area has the X-wing and A-wing fighter.)

I decided to use my limited time to try to herd the Mandalorians back together to get a group shot as many of them in a rush had dispersed to try to get those trading card photos. I was successful in getting the group shot but unfortunately it meant only getting a single selfie of my wife and I in the park in our armor. This is probably the only thing I would love to see improved upon in the future if TrooperFest plans on keeping it as part of the event. With this being the trial run of the new TrooperFest it is perfectly understandable that not everything would go perfectly.

And that is ok. Ultimately I was very happy at the weekend they had put together for us. The comradery was my absolute favorite thing about TrooperFest. I look forward to attending again in the future if even to at the very least attend the nightly get togethers.

I want to say a special thank you to everyone involved in the planning for this event and hope to see all for the next one!



# UNDER THE BUCKET

## MEET HIJACK OF MANDALORE

By: Mike "Diz Ge'tal" Porter

**BATTLECRY:** What's your earliest memory of Star Wars? What made you a fan?

**HIJACK:** My best friend at the time, Jared, and myself watched episode 1, and reenacted (Spoiler alert) Qui-Gons death while we were just playing around. I am not entirely sure when I became a fan. It could have been that moment or before, but in the grand scheme, almost my entire life. I probably officially became a fan when I became sentient as a child,ahaha.

**BC:** How did you discover the MMCC? What made you want to join?

**HIJACK:** I started my MMCC journey when I was looking for tips on how to create my own Mandalorian helmet. I was at a spot in my life where things were a bit rough (as it goes) and I needed to preoccupy my mind. I wasn't sure of some of the steps on where to get started making my helmet (that was the only part I was wanting to make at the time). Thank goodness I did, or I would have probably have had the helmet sized entirely wrong. As far as joining goes, Fitz (our RS at the time) just invited me into his home like we have been friends for ages. He showed his passion and love for the game that is armor building, and it sort of went from there. Just continued building armor and ended up a member.

**"THAT'S WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT... WE SACRIFICE FOR OTHERS TO GET A SMILE"**



**BC:** Building mando armor can be a challenge, what was your biggest challenge? How were you able to overcome it?

**HIJACK:** The time consumption to be completely honest. In regards to progress, I am a very visual person, so when you are sitting there, sanding (with a combination of being inexperienced), it can feel like you are going nowhere fast. So just keeping my head

down, and sanding away my life was the hardest part. On my original helmet, if you look close I actually OVERSANDED part of it, flattening out part of the top of my bucket. But can tell you one thing, it was a smoooooth bucket. I didn't really know much about the magic of filler primer, red spot putty, smoothing techniques, etc. All I knew was sand. All I did to overcome the sanding, was stuck to it and trusted the process. The process produced results and taught me a lot

**BC:** Do you have a favorite or most memorable troop? What made (or makes) it special?

**HJACK:** I remember a few of em but one troop was in Ogden Utah. To celebrate the holidays, Ogden does a winter parade with lit up floats and it has a surprising turnout for the weather. I must have shown up an hour early or something. With the weather a bit below freezing and not moving much, I can tell ya, it was COLD. We sat in the cold for about an hour (luckily I was prepared and was bundled beneath my kit), but it did not spare my fingers or my toes. Condensation was collecting on the inside of my visor and dripped. It was quite an experience. When the parade FINALLY started, we began walking and walked about a mile or so in the cold dark street. Through the visor, it got difficult to see the parade watchers on the sides at times. By the end, people were cold and uncomfortable, but all with smiles. That's what we are about in the MMCC, we sacrifice for others, to get a smile from someone, even if its a small one. The smiles definitely made it worth ited.

**BC:** What does "Family is more than blood" mean to you?

**KD:** Family is More than Blood. What a motto. I'll be honest, I don't live the golden standard of it and there is definitely room for

improvement. What it means to me, however is 2 main things: Belonging and Support. Being in the MMCC, you naturally create relationships (mainly friendships, but in some cases relationships). We belong to our clans and own a purpose which give us that sense of belonging. Support can come from anywhere between helping someone build a kit or just being there for them when someone is really paddling up shitz creek. Belonging and support goes hand and hand in the context of the club and I love that. Its something that people could use more in this crazy place we call Earth.

Do you have a story to tell? We would like to hear it! Please contact our editor at PR@mandalorianmercs.com or directly through the forums at mporter



# WELCOME NEW OFFICIAL MEMBERS

BattleCry would like to welcome our newest members from the month of October (OM#, Character Name, Forum Name, Clan). Please help us in making these new Vode feel welcome! Oya!

- 3329, Satine Kryze, redfielddesign, Firaxan  
Clan
- 3330, Tack, Tactical\_Jujube, Vhett Manda  
Clan
- 3331, Seri Naryc, AliCornetti, Murraan Clan
- 3332, Jama Cha'ru, BlackieChan0810,  
Batuu Clan
- 3333, Taiga Kando, Taiga Kando, Scarif Clan
- 3334, Peace Keeper, Troy, Firaxan Clan
- 3335, The Exile, The\_Exile, Rancor Clan
- 3336, A'den bal Gra'tua, aden\_bal\_gratua,  
Firaxan Clan
- 3337, A'rex Nor'ai, victorbravo, Ciry'Kurs Clan
- 3338, Seadu Duric, Seadu Duric, Murraan  
Clan
- 3339, Rai Lok, LandoMando, Manda'galaar  
Clan
- 3340, Kira Vosh, Dorda Brech, Kyrimorut Clan
- 3341, Bardan Jusik, jusikyle, Orar Galaar  
Clan
- 3342, cabur tor, Sebi, Dxun Wraithguard Clan
- 3343, Kaden Bes'laar, Kaden Corde, Talon  
Clan
- 3344, D'ann Sieval, D'ann Sieval, Ciry'Kurs  
Clan
- 3345, Solus Marev, Solus Marev, Teren Clan
- 3346, Ronhar Sheltav, Ryno9, Shonare  
Vhekadla Clan
- 3347, Vurel Dral, Vurel Dralshy'a, Shonare  
Vhekadla Clan
- 3348, Ely'sara, Elyse23, Sandhawk Clan
- 3349, Kira Voss, Trumpetchic, Drex1 Clan
- 3350, Armorer, nessieah, Kyrimorut Clan
- 3351, Buumeeno, WetOkole, Stronghold  
Hawaii

# WE WANT YOU



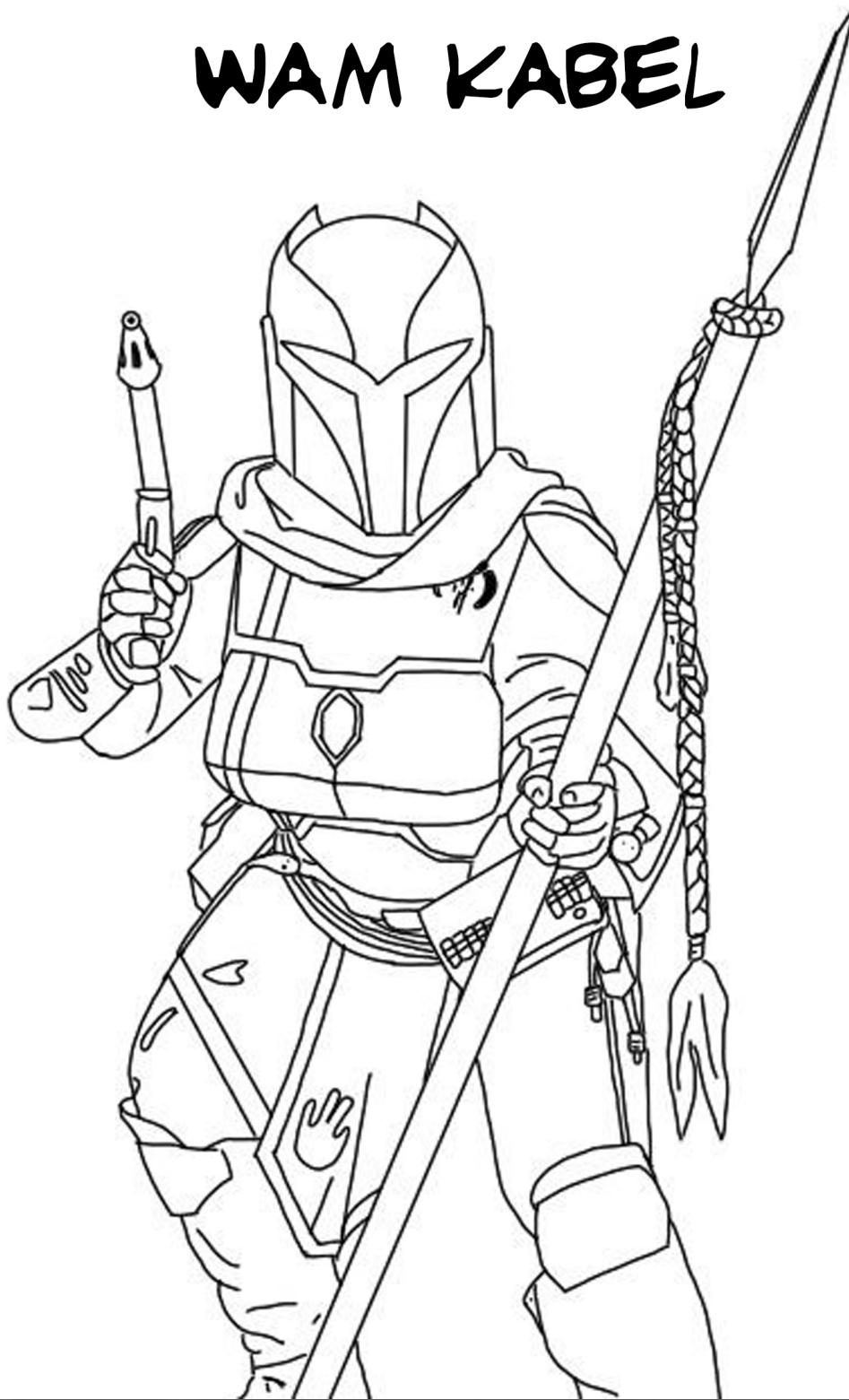
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# THE VERD'KA PAGES

## WAM KABEL



# Space Ships

E K X K K W B R D V X S X S C G S T A K X V H D N S D L B B  
L D A Z I O O X E W X W I N G X U Q C H L U J K I T R A G F  
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T V T Q M W S F I H E V N H S B P F D M R I K L S L A B R I  
I F H N C B L T S G A L X O Q K J E O S A B Z Y J C D D M L  
D H E A B F G L U J V M B D H Q F Y J C E P D Y A O N A P O  
L V R H B D M W B T V H M L E O E U A B B N T D L R O C Y Z  
L J S S O I I Y M L T M A E O K M H D V X N B O Y E U L X Z  
U S P Y C L N N W I S F X W R C U E Z Y I Z W U U W L G A S W  
F N R T D K Y A Q O L W T E S H K A O G W O I G I L H S L U  
V X I R E Z R B X N J L K T Y S E A Y N K I N I N I T S X A  
N S T H Y X O O J D S U E K F G Y A D Q E O G P G A M S M E  
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W P L E L R J D H K U S D F N O U R A C R N W T Y V Z U L J  
N E I L I W X I M A U F O D Y I C I I X K O U Z C V C X T W U  
A R G X C G H P Q H Z L F L J O U F L Q G R N O P X M T E B  
A S H T S K J L G T J V C L A Q U M K J U K V N K C H L S G  
Z T T A G C G O O M L D U M N R M S F C Y Z U E E A Y E Q M  
C A I X H I G M R A Z O R C R E S T J A Y S N H T R J Z N C  
X R N A D Z P A X D I G V U Z F I A E P L R E M E T M K C X  
B D T V G J P T Z H R S F W G X G O I M D C Y Z G E E N T H  
W E E A N C Y I X L U G G I W Y F F D L I I O D P Q Y D L S  
K S R Z X Q M C A H H Q O P F C K O B M E N O N T I K Y J V  
R T C B N I I C V B L J M D J K I C G Z H R X X N K A X F C  
M R E D K J U R I H B S E K R G M I B Z B U L F B O N X N X  
U O P G R M R U E G P O B R P M Z K S L A A Q J N D F D E Q  
I Y T D P R V I E Q Q W L M C N S M Q E Z K U Y N Y F F N Z  
K E O F I R E S P R A Y G U N S H I P S A G B E V S J O Q Q  
N R R J S O B E L X X R O T I E F I G H T E R F O O Z G A  
Z B B H X X E R G R I X U U L L E M Z M X N D K Y N E P L W

AETHERSPRITE LIGHT INTERCEPTOR		MILLENNIUM FALCON
NABOO DIPLOMATIC CRUISER		FIRESPRAY GUNSHIP
SUPER STAR DESTROYER		CORELLIAN VCX
REBEL BLOCKADE RUNNER		DREADNOUGHT
LAMBDA CLASS SHUTTLE		SOLAR SAILER
HAMMERHEAD CORVETTE		TIE FIGHTER
RAZOR CREST	HOME ONE	X WING
B WING	Y WING	

# THE BESKAR CHEF

## GINGERBREAD JEDI

### Ingredients:

3-1/2 cups All-Purpose Flour	1 Large Egg
1 tsp Baking Soda	1 tsp Vanilla Extract
1/2 tsp Salt	Royal Icing, Butter Cream Icing, or Whatever you like
1 Tbsp Ground Ginger	
1 Tbsp Ground Cinnamon	
1/2 tsp Ground Allspice	
1/2 tsp Ground Cloves	
10 Tbsp Unsalted Butter	
3/4 cup Brown Sugar (Packed)	
2/3 cup Unsulphured Molasses	

### Directions:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, allspice, and cloves. Set aside.
2. In a large bowl using a handheld mixer or stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the butter for 1 minute on medium speed until completely smooth and creamy. Add the brown sugar and molasses and beat on medium high speed until combined and creamy. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed. Next, beat in egg and vanilla on high speed for 2 full minutes. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed. The butter may separate
3. Add the flour mixture to the wet ingredients, and beat on low speed until combined. The cookie dough will be quite thick and slightly sticky. Divide dough in half and place each onto a large piece of plastic wrap. Wrap each up tightly and pat down to create a disc shape. Chill.
4. Preheat oven to 350°F (177°C). Line 2-3 large baking sheets with parchment paper
5. Remove chilled cookie dough from the refrigerator. Generously flour a work surface. Roll out disc until 1/4-inch thick. Cut into shapes. Place shapes 1 inch apart on prepared baking sheets.
6. Bake cookies for about 9-10 minutes, or more for crisp cookies.
7. When the bottom side is golden brown and crispy, carefully flip the sandwich over and continue to cook
8. Allow cookies to cool for 5 minutes on the cookie sheet. Transfer to cooling rack to cool completely. Once completely cool, decorate as desired.
9. Enjoy

Do you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share? Please contact us at [PR@mandalorianmercs.com](mailto:PR@mandalorianmercs.com) or by PM to our editor at importer on the forums.



## Space Ships

E K X K K W B R O V X S X S C G S T A K X V H D N S D B B  
 L D Z I O O X E W X W I N G X U Q C H L U J K I T R A G F  
 R N E Q M I R Y Z B D Q H X F Y Q T O M A O M C A S E M W F  
 T V T Q M W S F I E V N H S B P F D M R I K L S L A B R I  
 I F H N C B L T S G A L X Q Q K J E O S A B Z Y J E D D M L  
 D H E A B F G L U J V M B D H Q F Y J C E P D Y A D N A P O  
 L V R H B D M W B T V H M L E O U A B B N T D L R O C Y Z  
 L J S S O I I Y M T M A E O K M H D V X N B O Y E U L L X Z  
 U S P Y C L N W I S F X W R C U E Z Y I Z W U W L G A S W  
 F N R T D K Y A Q O L W T E S H C A O G W O I G I L H S L U  
 V X I R E Z B X N J L K T Y S E A Y N K I N I N I T S X A  
 N S T H Y X O O J D S U E K F G Y A D O E O G P G A M S M E  
 W U E K T Y Z O E K U F Y N O A G G D E Y J V N V N E H A Y  
 W P L E L R J D H K U S O F N O U R A C R N W T Y V Z U L J  
 N E I L I W X I M A U F O D Y I C I X K O U Z C V C X T W U  
 A R G X C G H P Q H Z L F L I O U F L Q G R N O P X M T E B  
 A S H T S K J L G T J V C L A Q U M K J U K V N K C H L S G  
 Z T T A G C G D O M L D U M N R M S F C Y Z U E F A Y E Q M  
 C A I X H I G M A R A Z O R C R E S T J A Y S N H T R J Z N C  
 X R N A D Z P A X D I G V U Z F I A E P L R E M E T M K C X  
 B D T V G J P T Z H R S F W G X G O I M D C Y Z G E E N T H  
 W E E A N C Y I X L U G G I W Y F F D L I I O D P Q Y D L S  
 K S R Z X Q M C A H H Q O P F C K O B M E N O N T I K Y J V  
 R T C B N I I C V B L J M D J K I C G Z H D X X N K A X F C  
 M R E D K J U R I I H B S E T R G M I B Z U L F B O N X X  
 U O P G R M R U E G P O B R P M Z K S L A A Q J N D F D E Q  
 I Y T D P R V I E Q Q W L M C N S M Q E Z K U Y N Y F F N Z  
 K E O F I T R E S P R A Y G U N S H I P S A G B E V S J O Q Q  
 N R R J S O B E L L X X R O C I E F I G H T E R F O O Z G A  
 Z B B H X X E B G R I X U U L E M Z M X N D K Y N E P L W

## WORDSEARCH ANSWERS

MandoTip: The Jetpack  
 Is Always Worth  
 The Cost.

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Do you have an idea for an article?  
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