

## JADE'S CHOIR

WHEN I SAW MARA JADE on the cover of *Insider* #47, I nearly went crazy—and I hadn't even opened the magazine yet! When I *did* read the article, first I thought, "It's about time they did something on Mara Jade (my favorite character)." Of course, the second thing I thought was, "Why wasn't it me?" In short, I absolutely loved that article! Thank you very much!

**MARJORIE HALLORAN**  
Sunnyvale, CA

*Thank you, Marjorie. The response to our Mara Jade issue was overwhelmingly positive—one reader even called it "just what I'd been waiting for." Here are two more letters that make it all worthwhile.*

*INSIDER #47 WAS SIMPLY FANTASTIC!* The articles were, as always, fantastic, but I thought the piece on Mara Jade was one of the best I've seen. I've been a Mara Jade fan since I first read Timothy Zahn's original trilogy, and it was a completely wonderful shock to see Mara Jade peeking out from my mail pile.

The pictures were beyond words! The closest I can come to describe them is phenomenal. The painting of Luke Skywalker and Mara Jade Skywalker [by Duncan Fegredo, from the comic *Union*] was priceless. I lie on my bedroom floor staring at it for 10 minutes, taking in every detail. The pictures in the Mara Jade article were fantastic—Shannon Baksa and the photographer did a great job.

I also enjoyed the infamous *Insider* #44 that people seem to be complaining about. There isn't a part of *Insider* that I don't love! You've expanded *Star Wars* for me in a way I never thought possible, and I look forward to every issue. The day I read a bad *Star Wars Insider* is the day the dark side wins!

**KARI HOLMAN** Libertyville, IL

I ABSOLUTELY LOVED *Insider* #47. Mara Jade is my favorite Expanded Universe character. When I pulled the magazine out of my mailbox, I saw her picture, and the name beside her, and a big smile spread across my face. What a wonderful cover! I have followed Mara Jade ever since *Heir to the Empire*. To finally have her on the cover of the *Insider* was so cool! I also enjoyed the interview with Peter Mayhew—yet another success.

**STEPHEN BUTTS** Wellston, OH

## WHY CHEWIE?

I HAVE BEEN A *STAR WARS* FAN  
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April 1, 2000  
Dear Dr. Reynolds  
We have just come back from our ultimate star wars adventure Road Trip. It is April, 8:15 am, we talked to the friendliest man on earth Ranger Callagan, who verified our pictures. The pictures enclosed are the location 'Artoo's Arroyo', located in Artists Palette. We were actually here last weekend, and were standing right by it and didn't know it. We did more research and just ran into our competition, who were very prepared, but a little too late. My sister, Dad, and I had a great time as star wars archeologists, where our motto was, "Try not to or do not, there is no try."

Sincerley,

# ROAD TRIP CONTEST WINNERS!

*Insider* readers rushed to California's Death Valley within days of the publication of *Insider* #48 and its *Star Wars* Road Trip contest to locate "Artoo's Arroyo," the canyon where the original *Star Wars* second unit crew filmed Artoo exploring before his abduction by the Jawas.

Two teams of fans found Artoo's Arroyo (with some help from friendliest-man-on-earth Ranger Charlie Callagan) on April 1, correctly locating the canyon in an area of Death Valley called Artist's Palette, and both teams postmarked their photos to the *Insider* on April 3, 2000. The lucky fans benefited by already living in California, close enough to make it quickly to Death Valley.

First prize (the secret treasure mentioned in *Insider* #48, including a *Star Wars* Celebration Podracing jacket and a bunch of autographed goodies) goes to the daughters-and-dad team of Dana, Jessica, and Art Keithly from Alta Loma, California. In her letter to the *Insider*, Dana (above) said they almost found Artoo's Arroyo the weekend before when they were "standing right by it and didn't know it," but returned

to triumph "as *Star Wars* archaeologists" a week later.

The Keithlys found Artoo's Arroyo just in time, since they were followed within minutes by Joe D'Angelo & Greg Perrine, friends from Sherman Oaks, California, who, as you can see below, dressed for the hunt. The duo also chronicled their journey in a fun, terrific video which, to their credit, acknowledged that someone had been there right before them. For their honesty and incredible *Star Wars* spirit, Joe and Greg are also getting a cut of the *Star Wars* Road Trip booty.

Finally, an honorable mention goes to a Southern California fan who calls himself "Kahunna," who went to Death Valley the following weekend with his friends Pete Genovese and Steve, Amy & Dana Cote. Although they weren't the first to find Artoo's Arroyo, the group did photograph the location from the exact same angle as seen in the movie, and Kahunna

posted the picture (along with the original shot from the movie and other pics from the road trip) on his Web site [www.aurrasing.net](http://www.aurrasing.net), creating the first fan page dedicated to the *Star Wars* Road Trip, which he called "the best *Star Wars* trip of my life."

But even though the contest has been won, the *Star Wars* Road Trip is only just beginning. The *Insider* has heard from numerous fans planning to make the journey this summer. If you take the trip—to Death Valley or especially to any of the other locations in the article, like Yuma or the Crescent City forests—we want to hear from you. Drop us a letter and send us your pictures, and we'll print as much as we can fit in future editions of *Rebel Rumblings*. Now hit the road!

