

Newsletter of the

ONTARIO MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Founded 1962

www.omss.ca

Edited by Gary Lenius

March 2010

Next Meeting:

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Start time 1:00 pm

Branch 210, Royal Canadian Legion
110 Jutland Road, Toronto

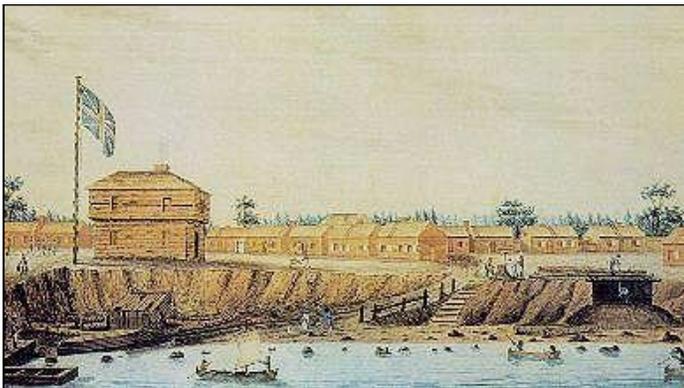
Doors open at 12:00 pm

Featured Speaker:

Kevin Habib

The Forts at York

This month we have a special guest speaker. Kevin Habib is a historian with the City of Toronto. His specialty is military history. He will be giving us a presentation on the history of the forts at Toronto. Fort York as we know it today is only one of the incarnations of the military posts that have defended "muddy York" throughout its history.



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John Murdock

1st Vice President

Jim Matresky

2nd Vice President

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Norm White

Journal Editor

Frank MacKay

Program Chairman

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Ian Pearson

Society Figure in Works

At the February meeting Frank MacKay brought an exciting new project to the executive: a figure of the Society's logo, the Queen's Ranger of the 1790's. Member Charles Buchanan, a professional sculptor, has offered to create a master figure for us at no cost. It would be in 75mm.

What Charles requires before he can begin work is exhaustively detailed references. Therefore, all members are requested to bring anything they may have on the Queen's Rangers in the 1700's to the March meeting: uniform views front and back, details of accoutrements, weapons details, photos, everything we can put together. Please make sure your material is identified with your name so it can eventually be returned. Frank MacKay will collect and collate the material and hopefully we can get this project rolling--it cannot begin until we have completed this initial phase.

Membership Dues Are... Due!

The new year means it's once again time to re-enlist. Many members have already paid up their 2010 dues but there are still a few outstanding. Same low price: \$35 a year. See Gary Lenius at the meeting or you can mail it to him at the address at the bottom of the last page of this newsletter.

Thanks to all the members who have renewed.

Coming Attractions

April... Sergeant Al Jenkins of the Toronto Police Mounted Unit.

Upcoming Meetings for 2010

March 21

April 18

May 16

Sat. June 12 — Annual Show

September 12

October 17

November 14

December 12

Masthead figures painted by Gary Lenius

Updating Our Constitution

Jim Matresky, our First Vice President, continues to work on the revision of the Constitution which is to be approved at the Annual Meeting in October. An electronic copy of draft #1 was sent to members in February. At our next meeting, Jim will have hard copies available for anyone who was not able to receive an electronic copy.

All suggestions for revision must be to Jim by the May OMSS meeting as they must be considered and possibly incorporated into the draft and presented to the Executive before the September meeting. We will then be able to publish the final draft to the membership so that it can be voted on at the October Annual Meeting.

Please contact Jim at jim.matresky@rogers.com or see Jim at the OMSS meeting if you have any questions or suggestions.

On a related note, we are sometimes asked if the Society is a charity. The answer is no. The OMSS is a not-for-profit corporation chartered in the province of Ontario. This is different than a registered charity.

Grist Required for Editor's Mill

Our intrepid Journal editor **Frank MacKay** (rhymes with high) is planning his next issue for May. But he can't do it without your support. He needs your articles, book and figure reviews, show reports, tips and techniques to fill the next issue. You don't have to be a professional writer, Frank will whip it into shape. Forward your contributions to Frank at frank_mackay@hotmail.com or see him at a meeting.

Link of the Month

At the February meeting **David Dorward** gave us an interesting presentation on his visit to the Mignot and Lucotte toy soldier factory in France. This month's links are to online catalogs of the figures of these companies. You can flip through the books and even zoom in on the many, many illustrations of the figures past and present of these two companies.

Lucotte catalog: www.lucotte.fr/en/catalogue

Mignot collection: issuu.com/cbgmignot/docs/livrecbg

MMSI Calendars

Following personnel please see **Frank MacKay** at the next meeting. Your MMSI calendars have arrived and are ready for pickup:

Mike Chrus, Les Eslary, John Murdock, Ian Pearson, Jim Qualtrough, Eric Lowe.

Our First Life Member

When we awarded **Carl McTaggart** a Life Membership in the Society at the end of 2008 it was referred to as the club's first life membership. Turns out that's not strictly true. In September 1982 it was announced that **Charles Faulkner** had been elected an "Honorary Life Member" of the Society by the Executive at its most recent meeting. The terminology was a bit different but the intent was the same. Charles was a founding member of the Society. He was the first Chairman of what then styled itself the Ontario Chapter of the British Model Soldier Society, later to become the OMSS.

Sadly, Charles passed away in November of 1982.

Thanks to Ian Pearson for jogging my memory on this.

Congrats to Grant Lawson

Hearty congratulations go out to **Grant Lawson**. He was absent from our February meeting because he was participating in the Heritage-Con show in Hamilton. This a modeling show put on by the local IPMS group (plastic modellers). Their competition includes classes for figures. Grant tied for first in the 54mm category and for best figure in show. Well done! Hopefully he will bring his winning entry out to show and tell.

Grant also did us proud by promoting the Society and our upcoming show at his vendor's table at the show.

Whole Lotta Shaking Going On

At a meeting a while back someone asked whether anyone knew of a machine that would shake up bottles of hobby paint prior to painting. **Jim Matresky** reports that such a device is indeed available. It's sold by the Squadron mail order house. It's called a "Hobby Paint Shaker" and is currently on sale for \$29.99 US. You can check it out through their website at www.squadron.com.

Vendors - Please Note

At the monthly meetings it's sometimes tough for people to get into the room because someone has set up a vendor table in front of the doorway. Please help us out by setting up at the other end of the room. We would like to keep the nearer end of the room for the check-in table, club draw, show and tell, etc. If in doubt consult a member of the executive before setting up your wares. Your cooperation is appreciated.

If you need extra tables there are usually folding tables stacked in the corridor at the east end of the building (i.e. to the right of the stage)

Still getting your newsletter by "snail mail"? Got email? You could be receiving your monthly newsletter via email. You'll get it faster and in full colour. You can read it on-screen or print it. Over half of your fellow members are on email distribution. The newsletter is sent as an attachment in Adobe Acrobat format. It's typically well under 500K so it won't overload your mailbox. We promise it's painless. To get on-line send an email to omss@bell.net.

Annual Show

The march to Fort York has begun... will you be ready?



The countdown has started. Over the next few issues we'll roll out the details and keep you posted on progress.

Saturday June 12, 2010 10 am to 4 pm
Fort York Historic Site

The OMSS will be holding its Annual Show and Competition at Fort York again this June.

Show Committee

Norm White is serving as show chairman this year. To back him up (so far) we have **Bren Furlong**, **Scott Dummitt** and **Gary Lenius**. We'll be looking for all our members to pitch in and help make the show a success.

If you have comments or ideas or would like to help out, don't hesitate to talk to Norm or any of the committee members.

Vendor Tables

We will be mailing out an information package to vendors in early April. The fee for a table will remain at \$45. If you haven't sold at a past show but would be interested please let us know.

Displays

Once again we're going to have lots of space to fill with displays and we're counting on the members to bring out interesting displays. Here's your chance to get some of your collection out of the boxes and show it off. It's not too soon to be working on those ideas. Closer to June we'll be asking members to commit to displays so we can reserve space for them.

Show promotion

To promote this year's show we are doing something a little different. We have had a postcard printed that we can use as a handout at shows, hobby shops, etc. It was designed by Gary Lenius. They will be available at the meeting, as well as some larger versions that can be used as posters.

We need the membership's help to get our promotional material out there where it will be seen by potential attendees. So if you can take a poster and postcards to your local hobby shop, library or other venue please help us out.



OMSS Blazer Crest

Some years ago the Society had blazer crests made. Former president Bryan Gibbins has one he doesn't need anymore and wonders if anyone would care to have it. Bryan is in Meaford and can be reached at 519-986-4823 or by email at brygib@rogers.com

Seeking Composition Figures

Hans Doring is looking for composition figures from such makers as Elastolin, Lineol and Hausser. You can contact Hans at 416-421-9951 in the evenings.

Shadow Boxes at Michael's

The Michael's chain of craft supply stores is currently offering a discount of 40% on their stock of shadow boxes. These come in a number of sizes and depths and could be useful for displaying model soldiers.

Carefree Moving to Oakville

Somebody passed me a card from Carefree Hobbies and Collectibles in Burlington a while back. Well it seems they're moving their store to Oakville (1029 Speers Road, Unit 8) with the grand opening Saturday April 10. As well as plastic models, paints, etc. they also carry dollhouse furniture and wooden boat kits. Website www.carefreehobbies.com

More bulletin board items on the next page...



Continued from previous page...

Queen's Own Rifles Band Book

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada are celebrating their 150th anniversary in 2010. As part of the celebration they have commissioned a book "THE BANDS OF THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA (1860-2010)" by Captain CD (Chick) McGregor. Our own Ian Pearson did the research for this book. The publication price is \$55. See the QOR website www.qor2010.com for ordering information.

Looking for Painted Figures

Stanley Kershman is interested in buying painted connoisseur figures and flats. You can contact him at stanley3211@hotmail.com or 613-726-2999.

Kits and Figures for Sale

John Hoffman, a former member now living in Fergus, is interested in selling off his unpainted figures, including quite a few Historex kits. He also has several 30 mm Napoleonic vignettes by "Under Two Flags" and 3 Waterloo dioramas that won awards at OMSS shows.

You can contact him at jhoffmann00@cogeco.ca or 519-787-1020.

Knotel Uniform Book

Frank MacKay has found a fellow in the U.S. who is selling the excellent Knotel book on uniforms for \$18 postage paid. "Uniforms of the World, Army, Navy and Air Force Uniforms 1700-1937" by Robert Knotel, Herbert Knotel and Herbert Sieg. Hardback with dust cover. Large format 10"x 7" with 483 pages. The address is russellsantegelo@yahoo.com

Source for A+B Putty

Another tip that comes from Frank MacKay. Apoxie Sculpt is a two part epoxy putty useful for figure sculpting, conversions, groundwork, etc. It is similar to the A+B putty long used by modelers. They have a local supplier, Sculpture Supply Canada, located in Etobicoke. Check out their website at www.sculpturesupply.com

If you know of an upcoming show that might interest our members, drop Gary a line.

Toronto Military Show Saturday March 27, 2010

Etobicoke Olympium, 590 Rathburn Rd 8:30 am to 2 pm
Buy, sell and trade military collectables including medals, badges, antique pistols and muskets, swords, flying gear and uniforms. Admission \$7. Free parking.

Miniature Figure Collectors of America Show and Mart May 7-8, 2010

The biggest connoisseur figure show this side of the pond. This year they are featuring a special exhibit of Bill Horan's work. At the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA. Show website www.mfcashow.com

TORCAN 2010 Saturday, May 29, 2010

CNIB Centre, 1929 Bayview Avenue, Toronto
The GTA's premier plastic modeling show, Torcan is jointly hosted by IPMS Toronto and Peel Scale Modellers. Armour, planes, ships and figures. For details see www.ipmstoronto.com

2010 Southern Ontario Military Muster August 13-14, 2010

The Canadian Transportation Museum and Heritage Village is holding a two-day military event. It will feature military vehicles on display and in action. There will also be re-enactors from WW2, WWI and War of 1812. There will be tactical demonstrations from section to platoon to joint attacks. Also militaria vendors and a flea market. Located at 6155 Arner Townline in Essex county (SE of Windsor) See www.militarymuster.org for details.

Looking out for each other

Know of a member who's been ill or in hospital? Let Gail Stone know so that we can send them the Society's best wishes. Contact Gail at 905-332-0653 or by email at gstone4@cogeco.ca