



Newsletter of the

ONTARIO MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Founded 1962

www.omss.ca

Edited by Gary Lenius

April 2010

Next Meeting:

Sunday, April 18, 2010

Start time 1:00 pm

Branch 210, Royal Canadian Legion
110 Jutland Road, Toronto

Doors open at 12:00 pm



Featured Speaker:

Sergeant Al Jenkins Toronto Police Mounted Unit

Our guest speaker for this month is Sergeant Al Jenkins of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Mounted Unit.

Al Jenkins joined the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force in October 1986. Since that

time he has, as he states, worked in uniform, "old clothes", the gang enforcement unit, bicycle patrol, motorcycles, foot patrol and the detective office. In 2006 Al moved to the Mounted Unit where he supervises, under the watchful eye of a Staff Sergeant and Staff Inspector, a 40-member unit. You might even say that with the move Al's career took a "step-up".

The Toronto Police Mounted Unit dates back to 1886 where it started with two mounts. That now numbers 27 mounts and 5 remounts (horses in training). The unit's

<i>President</i> John Murdock	<i>Past President</i> Norm White
<i>1st Vice President</i> Jim Matresky	<i>Journal Editor</i> Frank MacKay
<i>2nd Vice President</i> Guy Elliott	<i>Program Chairman</i> Eric Clarke
<i>Treasurer</i> Gary Lenius	<i>Membership Chairman</i> Ian Pearson

main mandate is crowd control, but they also perform ceremonial duties as well as regular policing duties. The unit's station house is located on the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition in the old horse palace.

The OMSS is pleased to welcome Sergeant Jenkins as our guest speaker and look forward to his lecture on the Toronto Police Mounted Unit.

Toy Soldier Auction on May 1st

Steve Rollason tipped us to a major auction of Britains and other toy soldiers that's coming up.

Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA are conducting the auction on May 1st in Pittsburgh. There are over 650 lots, primarily Britains but also including Courtenay, Imperial, Marlborough and Sentry Box figures.

The auction catalogue can be viewed online at www.oldsoldierauctions.com/10883_catalog.pdf

Correspondents Wanted

Our intrepid Journal editor **Frank MacKay** (rhymes with pie) 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.

Outgoing President Honored

At the March meeting **Norm White** was presented with the Society print to thank him for serving as OMSS president for 2009.

Upcoming Meetings for 2010

May 16	
Sat. June 12 — Annual Show	
September 12	November 14
October 17	December 12

Masthead figures painted by Gary Lenius

Wanted: Marching Accordion Band



A collector has contacted us looking for someone to make him a marching accordion band. He supplied the above photo. (According to the file name this shot was taken at the Port Perry Orange Parade.)

If you're interested contact Graham Kernchan at kernohan29@rogers.com

Link of the Month

www.britishflatfigures.org.uk

This month's link is the website of the British Flat Figure Society. I've always been partial to the charm of flat figures and this site has an extensive gallery of photos submitted by their members. Among these are figures by our own member **Oleg Sokruto** and former president **Bryan Gibbins**. Enjoy and maybe it will inspire you to try painting a flat one of these days.

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)

Annual Show

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.

Celebrating the Navy

2010 is the centenary of the Canadian Navy. We'd like to celebrate this theme at the show and are looking for suitable displays.

Show Committee

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

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

An information package has been mailed out to vendors. 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

A show poster and postcard have been prepared and will be available at the meeting. 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.

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.

OMSS Annual Competition

To help members plan their entries for the competition here are the rules and classes.

Basic Rules

1. Entries will be accepted between 8:00 am and 12:00 pm. Late entries will not be judged.
2. There is no fee for competition entry.
3. An entry card must be completed for each figure entered and displayed with it. The entrant may choose to enter a number of figures as a group, in which case only one card need be completed.
4. Entrants are responsible for setting up their own figures within the areas set aside for the appropriate category. Display materials such as cloth backdrops may be used. The Show committee reserves the right to limit the amount of space used.
5. All figures entered by an individual in the Open Competition (Class 1, 2 or 3) must be displayed together in the same class.
6. Entrants may choose to include in their display figures that are not entered in the competition. Entry cards for such figures should be marked "Not in Competition".
7. Entries that have previously won an award at an O.M.S.S. Annual Competition are ineligible.
8. Unless otherwise specified, entries must be the work and property of the entrant.
9. Bases are recommended but not mandatory.
10. Questions concerning eligibility are the sole responsibility of the Committee. The Committee reserves the right to bar entries it feels are not suitable for public display.
11. All reasonable precautions will be taken to protect entries while on display. However the O.M.S.S. cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage.



Classes and Awards

Each of the classes in the open competition and the theme categories is numbered below. This is the number you enter on your entry card in the "Class" box.

The Open Competition

The competition is divided into three skill levels:

1. **Basic**
2. **General**
3. **Advanced**

The entrant selects the class that he is comfortable in. The competition is open as far as subject matter, figure size or historical period go. An entrant must enter all his figures in the same level. The judges will award gold, silver and bronze trophies in each of these levels.

Theme Categories

There are also several classes for special subjects. Gold, silver and bronze awards can be awarded in each class.

4. Hardware Class

Artillery, vehicles, aircraft, ships, etc. with or without figures.

5. Toy Soldier Award

Best group of figures painted (by the entrant) in the traditional "toy soldier" style.

6. H.G. Wells Award

For the best turned-out group of figures organized for wargaming (minimum 10 figures).

7. Junior Award

Open to entrants under 17 years of age.

8. Collector's Trophy

Best display of figures judged as a collection. Judged for interest, theme and presentation. This is the only class in which you may enter figures that you did not paint yourself.

In the Open and Theme categories the number of trophies awarded is not fixed. It is left to the discretion of the judges to make awards based upon the quality of the entries.

General Awards

All entries are also eligible for the following general awards:

Journal Award

Best entry in any class by a female entrant. Sponsored by the OMSS Journal.

Club's Choice

Best of Show as voted by the OMSS members in attendance at the show.

Wellington Cup

Best of Show as selected by the judges.



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.

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.

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

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

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

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.

29th Annual Chicago Toy Soldier Show September 23 - 26, 2010

The big one. 200+ dealers and manufacturers. The formal show is on the Sunday (26th) but room trading starts Thursday. At the Hyatt Regency Woodfield Schaumburg, Illinois

Website: www.toysoldiershow.com

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