



September 2010

Next meeting

Sunday, September 12, 2010

Start time 1:00 pm

Branch 210, Royal Canadian Legion
110 Jutland Road, Toronto
Doors open at 12:00 pm

Upcoming Meetings

October 17

The October meeting will be our Annual General Meeting. Holding this in October is one of the changes we are making to the Club's constitution. First vice-president Jim Matresky has been working on a much needed update to our constitution since early this year. It was last updated in 1988 and has not kept pace with the way the club has evolved. Jim has consulted with many members and incorporated a lot of feedback in a new version of the constitution and bylaws. We will be voting on the update at the meeting. (The new version will be sent to all members prior to the meeting.)

Another change we are making to the club's operations is to hold our election of officers in October for the next calendar year. I.e. the officers elected this October will take office in January. The proposed slate of officers will be published ahead of time. We are always looking for new blood to join the executive and help keep the club going. If you'd be interested in joining the executive, as an officer or other role, please speak to a member of the executive.

To round out our business meeting Treasurer Gary Lenius will be giving a financial report.

November 14

We will hold our annual auction at the November meeting. So start digging out those items you no longer need and turn them into some cash.

December 12

The December meeting will feature our annual Christmas luncheon. Gail Stone will be handling the catering for us once again. Tickets will be available at the October meeting, \$5.00 a plate. We will also be presenting membership pins to members who have reached milestones of 10, 20 and 25 years with the Society. Some other special things are planned so make sure and join us to finish the year off with a bang.

Featured Speaker:

Scott Dummitt

Our speaker for the September meeting is one of our newer members, but also one of our most active and enthusiastic ones.

Scott Dummitt joined the Society in 2007 and has pitched right in to help out with our annual shows, handling publicity and liaising with Britains and other sponsors. A retired member of the Royal Canadian Navy, Scott now runs a hobby store and website and you've probably seen his wares at our meetings or the June show. (See page 3 for some pictures of Scott's new shop.)



President
John Murdock

1st Vice President
Jim Matresky

2nd Vice President
Guy Elliott

Treasurer
Gary Lenius

Past President
Norm White

Member at Large
Gail Stone

Journal Editor
Frank MacKay

Program Chairman
Eric Clarke

Membership Chairman
Ian Pearson

Farewell to Old Friends

Sadly this summer it was time to say goodbye to two old comrades who will be remembered by many of the members.

Robert Fairburn

Bob Fairburn passed away on August 4 in Toronto Grace Hospital. He had been a member of the Society for 35 years. Bob was a World War II vet with the 48th Highlanders and was a long-time member of Legion Branch 210 (our home base). He had been a prolific caster and painter for many years and participated in many Annual Competitions.



Keith Demmery

On July 28 Keith Demmery passed away at his home in London. He'd been battling cancer since the previous fall. Keith was a member for 38 years and had been a vendor at many Annual Shows.



Tommy Thompson has sent along a tribute to Keith:

In Memory of Keith Demmery December 23, 1939 - July 28, 2010

In the late 1980's I met a gold mine. A fellow with a wealth of knowledge about my hobby, collecting toy soldiers. I was a new member of the Ontario Model Soldier Society when I met Keith Demmery. Not only did he have a hobby store, "Pinocchio's" in London he also helped people sell their collections. This is where our friendship began. Keith had a great knowledge of many makes of figures and vehicles and was always willing to offer his guidance. My collection grew thanks to Keith and other members of the OMSS. I often visited his store until he closed it and then I visited his home.

Keith always went to Chicago in September for the large toy soldier show. He asked me several times to go with him and finally one year we made up a group of five and attended the show. We all had a great time and found lots of treasures. We talked many times about doing it again but each year other things got in the way and Keith and Louise would attend the show with other OMSS members.

Keith, you were a truly great friend and helped me in many, many ways. You were a gentle man and a real gentleman. I will miss you very much.

Rest in peace dear friend.

Tommy Thompson

On Parade 2010 Another Successful Show

Our Annual Show held in June at Fort York was another successful one. We had a bit of wet weather but not enough to put a damper on things. Turnout was good and we had a record number of vendor tables. There were lots of impressive displays and some nice pieces in the competition. All who participated enjoyed themselves.

Kudos to Show Chairman Norm White and all who helped to make the show happen. He had lots of support from a number of members including Bren Furlong, Scott Dummitt, Ian Pearson, Paul Aitchison, Jim Matresky, Don Melhuish, Gail Stone and Gary Lenius. Thanks to Janet MacKay and her IODE crew for keeping us fed and lubricated.

Thanks to Jeff Duncan for organizing and manning the club sale table in the vendor area. Jeff reports that we took in \$372, a new record. Thanks also to all the members who donated items to the table, as well as Britains who gave us several sets of figures.

Thanks to Scott Dummitt we once again got great coverage of the show in Toy Soldier and Model Figure Magazine. (The September issue #148, excerpt at right.) Editor Stuart Hessney (who's a member) gave us a five page spread in full colour. Scott wrote the article and it features show photos from Scott, Ian Pearson, Heidi Duncan Keith Ritchie, Antoine Th  berge and Gary Lenius. Scott will have issues for sale at the meeting.

OMSS ON PARADE
Scott J. Dummitt covers all the action at the annual hobby show and competition mustered at Fort York in Toronto

Despite the fact that it rained off and on all day Saturday, June 12, On Parade 2010 was another great success.

Members of the Ontario Model Soldier Society (OMSS) started setting up for its 48th annual show and competition Friday, June 11, at Canada's historic Fort York in downtown Toronto. As usual, we answered questions from fort visitors as we set up tables and started assembling displays.

Show Chairman Norm White had announced in March that the show would have "A Salute to the Navy" theme

South African "Woven Quater" by Sharon Buchanan. (Photo by Gary Lenius)

since Canada's Navy is celebrating 100 years of service this year. Prior to 1910, Canadians served in the British Royal Navy as it still provided security on the ocean for the young Dominion. It was a great coincidence that after I had set up a HMCS Naden (base establishment) band from the 1960s and naval headgear display Friday, a couple visiting from Australia had a chat with me. It turned out that both were former members of the Royal Australian Navy, and that the gentleman had been a snare drummer in a RAN band. The weekend was off to a good start.

CANADIAN NAVY TRIBUTES
The theme was noticeable everywhere on the show day as there were dozens of well thought out naval displays.

Jim Qualtrough's "Royal Canadian Navy 100th Anniversary" included a magnificent display of materials on divisions on the stern of his fantasy battleship. While most of his figures were dressed in the traditional navy blue rig of the RCN, I was

Garrison soldier Pvt. Mike Fosselle of the 8th Regiment of Foot (The King's Regiment) leaves a steady guard at Waterloo Fort York's entrance. (Photo by Andrew Dummitt)

Great Lakes of Humber & Sergeant Major proudly waves off to the sunset where a Canadian LAF and two modern Canadian Infantrymen in Afghanistan. (Photo by Scott J. Dummitt)

"The Canadian Navy Centennial Bases & Colour Presentation" by Scott J. Dummitt. (Photo by Gary Lenius)

"West India Regiment 1800" by Len Ebbey. (Photo by Gary Lenius)



A Visit to "Scott J Dummitt Presents" in Baieboro

At the beginning of the summer member Scott Dummitt opened a shop next to his home in Baieboro. A few weeks ago I was in the area and dropped by for a visit.

Scott already had an online store (www.gijocanada.com) but wanted to set up a "bricks and mortar" store as well. So he has converted a small outbuilding on his property in Baieboro to house and showcase his stock. As you can see from the pictures, it's small but well organized and there's lots to browse through. Scott's has largely specialized in the large 1/6 scale figures but has been branching out into toy soldiers such as Britains and Oryon and plastic figures in various scales. (You can see what he carries by browsing the website.)



Baieboro is a quiet little crossroads village north of Port Hope. Scott reports that there's a bakery in town that serves up some great treats. A few members have made the trip up over the summer and he'd love to see more. So stop by for a look-see and a friendly chat.

The shop is located at 1754 Carmel Line in Baieboro - east of Toronto, south of Peterborough. Take the 401 east to Port Hope, go north on County Road 28 to Baieboro then hang a left onto Carmel Line and the shop is about 100 yards ahead. The shop is open Friday through Monday from 10 am to 5 pm. Closed Tuesday through Thursday.



Link of the Month

Military Miniature Society of Illinois

www.mmsichicago.com

This month's link has been selected to inspire our connoisseur painters. The OMSS has had a long relationship with the MMSI club in Chicago. In past years when we had more active painters a sizable contingent used to travel to their shows each October. It was and is one of the top shows for connoisseur figures in North America.

There is some nice photo coverage of the last few MMSI shows. Scroll to the bottom of the main page to see the links. There are also links to several articles on modeling topics that are worth reading. Enjoy.

More Sad News

A number of the members will remember former member and past OMSS president **Dave Browne**, owner of Hornet Hobbies in East York. I just learned that Dave's wife Sherry passed away on September 6 in Princess Margaret Hospital after a battle with cancer. She was only 49. The death notice can be viewed at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestar/obituary.aspx?n=sherry-lyn-browne-begley&pid=145168258>

Welcome Justin Thornton

You may notice a new face around the monthly meetings. He's Justin Thornton, our newest member. Justin is Peter Nash's grandson. Make him welcome.





Jim Anderson's Figures

Many members will remember the late Jim Anderson as a skillful and prolific painter of figures. His work was featured at our annual competitions for years. His collection is now on sale at The Grenadier, Dave Zink's store in Port Perry. He's located at 269 Queen Street. Store website www.grenadiermilitaria.com

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.

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 519-538-0386 or by email at brygib@rogers.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

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

30th 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

MMSI Chicago Show Oct. 15-17, 2010

The other Chicago show, for connoisseur figures. At the Chicago Marriot in Schaumburg, IL See www.mmsichicago.com for details.

Toy Soldier Auction Sunday Oct. 24, 2010

At the Burlington Holiday Inn 3063 South Service Rd, Burlington. 150+ lots. Preview 11 am, sale starts at 1 pm. For details, lot listing and pictures see www.antiquetoys.ca

30th Ajax Plastic Model Contest Saturday October 30, 2010

A large show featuring all kinds of plastic models. It also features a figure category, which the OMSS sponsors. 10 am to 4 pm. Admission \$2. At the J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, 1355 Harwood Ave. North in Ajax. Registration info will be online at www.ipmstoronto.com after Oct. 1st. Contact Bernie Hengst email bernie-hengst@nexicom.net

Michigan Historical Collectors Show November 20-21, 2010

Toy soldier and militaria dealers and historical miniatures competition. At Madison Place in Madison Heights Michigan (north Detroit area). 9 to 4 Saturday, 10 to 3 Sunday admission \$6. www.michiganshow.com

Toronto Toy and Doll Collectors Show Sunday November 21, 2010

10 am to 4 pm at the International Centre (Hall 4) 6900 Airport Road, Mississauga. See www.antiquetoys.ca for details.