



Newsletter of the

# ONTARIO MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Founded 1962

[www.omss.ca](http://www.omss.ca)

*Edited by Gary Lenius*



January 2011

*Next meeting*

**Sunday, January 9, 2011**

**Start time 1:00 pm**

Branch 210, Royal Canadian Legion  
110 Jutland Road, Toronto  
Doors open at 11:00 am

## Latest Issue of the Journal

Editor Frank MacKay had the latest issue of our Journal ready for the December meeting and it looks great. It was distributed to those attending. If you didn't make it to the meeting it will be available for pickup at this month's meeting. For those who can't make it out it will be mailed out shortly after the meeting.

## 2011 Membership Dues

It's a new year and that means it's time to pay those membership dues again. Our treasurer Gary Lenius will be glad to take your money at the meeting. The dues have been held to the same rates as the past few years:

The Regular membership rate is \$35 for the year.

Junior membership (16 and under) is \$20.

Family membership (2nd member at same mailing address) is \$20.

## Featured Speaker

**Ian Pearson**

on the

**History of the OMSS**



As it says on the masthead, the Ontario Model Soldier Society was founded in 1962. Many members may not know much more than that about our history. Ian Pearson has been our club archivist for several years now and he has been working on a book about the club's history.

At our next meeting Ian is going to give us a taste of what he has uncovered in his research.

## Meeting Dates for 2011

January 9	September 11
February 13	October 16
March 20	November 13
April 10	December 11
May 15	
June 11 (Annual Show)	

## 2011 Executive Committee

*President*  
Jim Matresky

*1st Vice President*  
Guy Elliott

*2nd Vice President*  
Paul Aitchison

*Secretary/Treasurer*  
Gary Lenius

*Past President*  
John Murdock

*Member at Large*  
Gail Stone

*Journal Editor*  
Frank MacKay

*Program Chairman*  
Eric Clarke

*Membership Chairman*  
Ian Pearson

*Show Chairman*  
Norm White

*50th Anniversary Chairman*  
Bren Furlong

## On the Masthead

To ring in the new year we thought it was a good time to refresh the newsletter's masthead with some different figures. On the right we have a figure of the Queen's Rangers of the 1790's. This is the Society's presentation figure awarded for service to the club. This particular example was painted by Mike Smolski. The figure on the left is a Newfoundland Fencible from the War of 1812. It was built from Airfix parts and painted by yours truly (Gary Lenius).

## President's Column

*From our incoming President Jim Matresky...*

Happy New Year to everyone! We certainly got the holiday season off to a fine start with our Christmas Luncheon. Thanks to Gail Stone and her helpers for a great time.

Congratulations to this year's award winners: Bruce Boyd received the Life Membership Award. Bruce and Carl McTaggart are the only two founding members of OMSS who still attend Society meetings. The Society Print Award was won by Ed Tansley. Ed has always welcomed members into his home to share his passion for the hobby and has donated well over \$3000.00 in merchandise to the OMSS over the past few years. The Society Figure Award, this year cast and painted by Don Ritchie, went to Ian Pearson for his service to the Society above and beyond the call of duty.

Finally, on behalf of all of the Executive and the Membership, I would like to thank John Murdock for a fine year thanks to his leadership as President.

Happy collecting, painting, selling, buying.... And have a great 2011.



## December Meeting

### Food, Fun and Honours

The weather forecast may have scared a few members off but the warnings turned out to be overblown and we had a great meeting to round out 2010.

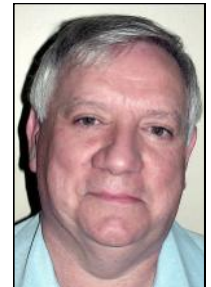
Gail Stone and her family team gave us a hearty meal as usual. We really appreciate the work that Gail and her crew put in to prepare everything, haul it all in and serve it up piping hot to a room full of hungry members.

Santa Claus couldn't make it but local helpers Jeff Duncan, Evelyn and John Brown stepped in for the big guy and made sure we had some nicely wrapped draw prizes to distribute. Thanks to those who donated goodies, including Gail Stone and Ed Tansley.

The climax of the meeting was the presentation of some special awards. We have been lax in the past few years in honoring those members who go the extra mile in supporting the Society. So we made it a special project this year to revive our special service awards.



**Bruce Boyd** was awarded a Life Membership in the Society. Bruce was a founding member of the OMSS back in 1962. He left the Society for a number of years but found his way back and has now been a member over 25 years in total.



**Ed Tansley** was awarded the Society Print. Ed has been a generous benefactor to the Society over a number of years.



**Ian Pearson** was awarded the Society Figure. Besides serving as club archivist and membership chairman over the past few years, Ian has also been a tireless promoter of the Society and our annual show. He has organized and manned displays at numerous events to give us a public presence.

Complete information on the Society's Service Awards and the criteria used in selecting members for them is given on page 3 of this newsletter.

The OMSS presidential kukri was on display. This is the club's official gavel, in the form of the traditional Gurkha knife as used by the Gurkha regiments of the British army, and a custom made wooden case. On the case are displayed the names of our past presidents. The case was recently refurbished and enlarged by member John Hambly. New president Jim Matresky will be seeing to bringing the kukri case up to date with all the past presidents' names.



Society awards and presidential kukri on display at the meeting

## Society Awards

The Society makes awards from time to time to members who have made outstanding contributions to the Society. This page describes the awards and the criteria for granting them.

### Awards Criteria

Awards are given to members who have given their time and effort for the benefit of the Society without any thought of personal gain or compensation. The types of service to the Society are listed below. This is certainly a comprehensive, but not a complete list of potential types of service.

- Chairman of Annual Show and Competition
- Major role in Annual Show and Competition
- Served on the Executive of the Society
- Main speaker at an OMSS meeting
- Represented the OMSS at other events, e.g., public displays, advertising the hobby
- Helped other members in developing skills and knowledge in the hobby
- Coordinated or helped with the Society Draw
- Served in an organizational capacity at Society meetings
- Edited the Journal
- Contributed to the Journal
- Provided positive input at Society meetings.
- Maintained the archives
- Coordinated programmes for OMSS meetings
- Provided outreach/publicity for OMSS
- Provided a special function at OMSS meetings, e.g., refreshments, Christmas luncheon, etc,
- Donated money or materials to the Society
- Sustained service over a number of years

### Society Print Award

The Society Print was first created in 1974. A Private of the Queen's Rangers was selected as the Society's logo. Peter Twist did the first rendering for position and stance of the figure. Jim Risk, another artist/member did the final rendering which became the official logo of OMSS. (Reproduced on page 4)

The Society Print was reproduced in beige stock and numbered from 1 to 200. This Award is presented for service to the hobby. Number 1 of 200 was presented to The Queen's York Rangers to commemorate our use of a figure of their Regiment. Only one Award may be won by any given member. More than one Award may be given in any particular year.

### Specific Criteria (See also "Awards Criteria")

The selected member must have a minimum of 10 years membership in OMSS and be an active member at the time of selection. The selected member may not have received a Presidential Print Award.

### Society Figure Award

The Society Figure Award was conceived by four past presidents of OMSS to honour "sustained, outstanding service to the Society above and beyond the call of duty." It consists of a replica of the Society's logo of a private of the Queen's Rangers and is painted by one of the Society's painters on a volunteer basis.

The 100mm figure was sculpted by master miniature maker Peter Twist, and cast by John Gauthier, who donated the Figure to the Society. The Society retains the rights to the moulds and the Figure.

This Award is considered to be the Society's highest and most prestigious Award. It is not mandatory to present the Award each year and there will be only one such Award in any given Society year. If two or more candidates are considered equally worthy, the candidate with the most seniority in OMSS will receive the Award first, with the other(s) receiving it in subsequent years.

### Specific Criteria (see also "Awards Criteria")

The selected member must have a minimum of 25 years membership in OMSS and be an active member at the time of selection.

#### Society Figure Recipients as of 2010:

Don Melhuish	Russ Davis
Peter Twist	Ted Kennedy
Jack Ashton	Hugh McLachlan
Alan Hynd	Evelyn & John Brown
Nick Darrow	Ian Pearson
Gary Lenius	

### Life Membership Award

The Life Membership Award was first created in 2009 by Gail Stone and Gary Lenius in order to honour the longstanding members of OMSS who have contributed to the "Purpose" of the Society as outlined in the Constitution. See also "Awards Criteria." The selected member will have membership fees waived for the duration of time in the Society. A maximum of one Award will be presented in any given year, but the Award need not be presented each year.

### Specific Criteria

The selected member must have a minimum of 35 years membership in OMSS (or be among the 5 or 10 most senior members?) and be an active member at the time of selection.

#### Life Membership Award Winners

1982	Charles Faulkner
2009	Carl McTaggart
2010	Bruce Boyd



### Looking for Painted Figures

Stanley Kershman is interested in buying painted connoisseur figures and flats. You can contact him at [stanley3211@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.



### Farewell Clayton Henderson

We're sorry to report that member Clayton Henderson passed away on December 5th at age 80. Clayton lived in Grimsby and was a member for 10 years, although he hadn't been out much in recent years. Clayton's son Larry was also a member for a few years. Our sympathies go out to all his family and friends.

### 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](mailto:gstone4@cogeco.ca)



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

### HeritageCon 5, Sunday March 13, 2011

Modelling show and competition for all types of models including figures. Real aircraft and vehicles on display. Hobby vendors and the museum gift shop. 9 am to 4 pm at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Hamilton, Ont. Admission is \$5, entry fee of \$2 per model. Further details at [www.ipmshamilton.ca](http://www.ipmshamilton.ca)

### Michigan Historical Collectors Show April 2-3, 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](http://www.michiganshow.com)



Society Presentation print based on the painting by Jim Risk (see page 3)