

Newsletter of the

ONTARIO MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Founded 1962

www.omss.ca

Edited by Gary Lenius



March 2011

Next meeting

Sunday, March 20, 2011

Start time 1:00 pm

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

Featured Speaker

Charles Buchanan
on Sculpting

No, it isn't déjà vu. The program at our last meeting went a bit different than planned. **Grant Lawson** ended up giving us a presentation on the Queen's York Rangers in their modern incarnation as part of today's reserve forces. (He just happens to be their RSM.) He brought with him a re-enactor dressed in the uniform of the Queen's Rangers of the 1790's era. We had a lively discussion of potential poses for the Queens's Ranger figure we are looking at producing for our 50th anniversary.

As things worked out there wasn't time enough for **Charles Buchanan** to give his promised lecture on sculpting. However he has kindly agreed to return this month and we will give him the whole meeting. Having seen his large scale works in progress at our last few annual shows, we are looking forward to getting the benefit of his expertise.

Meeting Dates for 2011

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



Charles Buchanan gets some detail shots of the Queen's Ranger uniform at the February meeting.

This Month: Special Figure Sale

The club has been given a large quantity of merchandise by former member Mike Niederman. At this meeting we will be selling off figures and kits. **See page 3 for further details.**

Our New Vice-President: Scott Dummitt

The untimely passing of Paul Aitchison left a gap in our executive. As called for in our constitution, President Jim Matresky has appointed Scott Dummitt to serve out the remainder of Paul's term as 2nd vice president. Scott has been active in organizing promotion for our Annual Show over the last few years and will be familiar to many as a vendor at our meetings. Thanks to Scott to stepping forward.





President's Column

From our President Jim Matresky...

Our February meeting of OMSS was very well received by the membership as Grant Lawson gave an informative presentation on the history of the Queen's York Rangers. As part of his talk, Grant brought along a re-enactor who was dressed as a Queen's Ranger – the very same one that serves as the model for our Society Figure. Members had a great deal of fun asking him to take different poses as pictures were taken. Charles Buchanan, a fellow member of OMSS and a gifted sculptor, was also present to take photographs and to get a few ideas on how to sculpt the 75-80mm figure for the Society's 50th anniversary next year – more to come on this topic in the future.

Our sale of books and magazines donated to OMSS by Mike Niederman went extremely well – over \$400.00 was made for the Society. Thank you to John & Evelyn Brown, Jeff Duncan and Guy Elliott for all their hard work.

This month we will be selling the figures and kits which Mike Niederman has donated to OMSS. Bring your boxes and bags for your many treasures which I'm sure you will purchase. Thanks again to Mike Niederman for your very generous gift to OMSS. Remember, the regular Vendors are still invited to sell at the March meeting. Hopefully there will be enough business for everyone to be satisfied.

On the subject of our Vendors, I would like to say on behalf of the membership how much we appreciate you being at our meetings. We all look forward to the treasures that you tempt us with – you add a great dimension to our meetings.

Our Society has had another bequest, this time from the estate of Paul Aitchison. More details will follow on this as the estate is settled.

Until April, keep enjoying our great hobby, pastime, obsession..... and have a great month.

Show and Tell Table

Members are encouraged to bring out items for show and tell at our monthly meetings.

At the February meeting Grant Lawson brought out some figures from the collection of former member Norm Betts. In support of the day's topic Don Ritchie displayed a vignette of Queen's Rangers figures he had made from Historex conversions.



Stewart Saxe

We were sorry to hear that our long time member Stewart Saxe has suffered a stroke. He is currently recovering at Toronto Rehab and would be happy to get a visit from any old friends. Please call first (416-597-3030)



2011 Executive Committee

<i>President</i> Jim Matresky	<i>Member at Large</i> Gail Stone
<i>1st Vice President</i> Guy Elliott	<i>Journal Editor</i> Frank MacKay
<i>2nd Vice President</i> Scott Dummitt	<i>Program Chairman</i> Eric Clarke
<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> Gary Lenius	<i>Membership Chairman</i> Ian Pearson
<i>Past President</i> John Murdock	<i>Show Chairman</i> Norm White
	<i>50th Anniversary Chairman</i> Bren Furlong

Benefit for Slain Policeman's Family

Many of you will have heard or read about the recent death in the line of duty of Sgt. Ryan Russell of the Toronto police. Our printer has asked us to pass on the news that the Rotary Club is organizing a benefit to raise money for an education fund for the late officer's baby son. It will be Thursday, June 9 at the Class Act Dinner Theatre in Whitby. Tickets are \$65 and include dinner and show. The title of the show is "Who Maid Who?". For tickets and info contact Steve Dugal: 416-436-3203 email steve@sjdprint3.com

March Meeting: FIGURE SALE

Mike Niederman, a friend of the OMSS has donated a great deal of material to us to be sold - with the profits to go to the benefit of the OMSS. Last month we sold off the books and magazines, this month it will be figures and kits. This a huge collection of everything you can imagine or want! The attached photograph will show you just some of what will be available.

The sale is being run by **Evelyn and John Brown** (assisted by 'helper elves') and everything is priced to sell out on that day. Huge bargains galore!

There are lovely boxed sets of current Britains units in 60mm size with matte finish. There are dozens of boxed plastic kits in 1:32 and 1:35 and 1:72 scale. There are flats and 'Warhammer' and fantasy figures. There are kits of individual figures. There are tons of these. They come in metal and plastic and acrylic. They come in 54mm, 60mm, 80mm and 90mm. To name just a few makers, there are: Tradition (dozens of these!), All the Queen's Men, Verlinden, Imrie-Risley, Series 77, Alpha Images, Men at Arms, Frank Miniatures and a whole lot more. There are boxes and boxes and plastic bags and plastic bags of miscellaneous soldiers. There are Britains and New Britains and Britains 'Deetail' and anything and everything else. They may be home castings, home-cast painted figures, part sets, spare heads - well, you name it!

You just have to come and see all this. Remember, our object is to sell off all these figures to you on Sunday. Prices will be excellent. It's "first come, first serve" so get there early for best selection.

Our book sale last month was very successful. Sales were brisk and we took in just over \$400 for the Society.



OMSS Annual Show— Saturday June 11

It's coming up fast. We hope you're all busily working on your displays and competition entries. We have picked a theme for this year, the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War. So we hope to see lots of ACW figures and displays out this year.

We have done a postcard again (at left) to help promote this year's show. It was designed by **Gary Lenius** and we will have them at the meeting. We need help to get these out to hobby shops and other suitable spots where they will be seen. We also have some larger 8.5 by 11 in posters.

Vendor packages will be going out in a few weeks.

For the Annual Competition this year we have decided to simplify the mechanics for our entrants. We are going to dispense with the formal categories and just have one big competition. However we will still be giving awards for all the same type of entries as before, as quality warrants. Stay tuned for more on this.

The Society has been invited to participate in the Military Fair being held May 28th at the Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton (details on pg.4). **Gail Stone** will be coordinating our display at this show and she could use a few helpers.

Janet MacKay has confirmed that her and her IODE cohorts will once again be catering for us on show day.

Queries, ideas, volunteers—please contact our show chairman **Norm White** 416-285-5600 or email norman.white@utoronto.ca

The Ontario Model Soldier Society
ON PARADE 2011
 Canada's Largest Model Soldier Show

Saturday June 11, 2011
 10 am to 4 pm
 Historic Fort York
 Toronto

Massed displays of toy soldiers
 Miniature bands
 Connoisseur figures
 Dioramas, vehicles, artillery and more
 1/6 scale action figures
 Open competition

25+ vendor tables offering a wide variety of hobby products

This Year's Theme :
150th Anniversary of the American Civil War

Fort York Historic Site - 100 Garrison Road, Toronto Ontario M5V 3K9
 For maps and directions see the Fort York website www.fortnyork.ca

Admission to the show is included with regular Fort York admission
 (\$8 adult; \$4 senior or youth)

Show contact: Norman White 416-285-5600 or email omss@bell.net
 Show details at www.omss.ca

Figures by Conte Collectibles



Information Needed

Harold Morrison would like information on the Grand Trunk Canadian Militia uniforms of the 1860s. The militia included artillery, engineering and infantry. Any information would be deeply appreciated. Contact Harold at 416-269-3522 or email him at aitchrwm@istar.ca

Book for Sale

David Dorward has for sale one copy of the book Gabriel Dumont by George Woodcock, printed 1975. Hardcover, 256 pages. This book on Dumont, who was a leader of the Northwest Rebellion, is long out of print. The book contains some fine pictures of the leading figures from the rebellion, including of course, Dumont. \$27. Contact David at 905-584-5838 or dkdorward@sympatico.ca

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.

Looking for Mr. Fix-it

Hans Doring is also looking for someone who can do some repairs to composition figures for him. (See previous item for phone number.)

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.



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

London Toy Soldier & Miniature Show Saturday March 26, 2011

Sponsored by King and Country. At the Royal National Hotel, London England Show Hours: 10:00am-4:00pm

Website: www.thetoyshow.com

Michigan Historical Collectors Show April 2-3, 2011

This show has been cancelled.

70th Annual MFCA Show and Mart April 29 & 30, 2011

North America's largest connoisseur figure show. 10am to 3pm at the Valley Forge Convention Center, 1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406
Contact: Dennis Levy 856-665-8909
Website: www.mfca.com

Military Fair Saturday May 28, 2011

At the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton. 9 am to 4 pm. Military antiques, badges, uniforms, books and prints. Aircraft and vehicles on display. Living history groups.

Contact Richard Garcia 647-709-9733 richardgarcia@sympatico.ca See www.warplane.com for museum info and directions.

Archive Material Wanted

At the January meeting **Ian Pearson** gave us a very interesting slideshow on the history of the Society. He is doing a great job in collecting and organizing the Society's archives. He is especially looking for pictures from past Society meetings, displays and annual shows to fill out the record. See Ian at a meeting or email him at ivpear@idirect.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