



Next meeting:

Sunday, February 12, 2012

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Rd. Toronto

Meeting starts at 1:00 pm Doors open 11:00 am

**50th Anniversary Year
1962 - 2012**

2012 Executive

Guy Elliott
President

Scott Dummitt
1st vice president

Norman White
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Matresky
Past President

Gail Stone
Member at Large

Eric Clarke
Program Chairman

Frank MacKay
Journal editor

Ian Pearson
Membership Chairman

Norman White
Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt
50th Anniversary Chairman

2012 Meeting Dates

January 8
February 12
March 11
April 15
May 6
June 10
October 14
November 18
December 9

Annual Show
Saturday September 8



Featured Speaker:

Dr. Gerald Collette
on
Medical Care
in the U.S. Civil War



Dr. Collette spoke to our meeting last May on the U.S. Civil War. He is a very knowledgeable Civil War buff and re-enactor and we all enjoyed his talk. This month he returns to talk about a particular interest of his, namely medical care as practiced on and off the battlefield during the War Between the States.

Dr. Collette was scheduled to give this presentation at last October's meeting but had to cancel as he broke his arm. (A case of "Physician, heal thyself" perhaps?) One hopes that he didn't have to resort to 1860's remedies and will show up with all limbs intact.

We look forward to an interesting talk.

2012 Membership Dues

With the beginning of a new year it's time for us all to renew our memberships again. Treasurer **Gary Lenius** will gleefully take your money and issue you with a membership card for 2012. Same low price: 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.

Show and Tell

Last issue I put in a plug for the Show and Tell table at the meetings and was happy to see a good turnout of items at the meeting. Thanks to **John Hambly, Grant Lawson, Werner Schroth** and **Jeff Duncan** for bringing things out (and anyone I missed). Keep them coming, the members enjoy it.

How about some medical figures this month?

The newsletter is edited by Gary Lenius.

News items and notices can be submitted at omss@bell.net or 416-261-6494.

OMSS website: www.omss.ca



President's Column

From our President Guy Elliott...

Unexpected Things.

Back in December I realized (for the first time) that I would be writing a brief monthly piece for the Newsletter that Gary puts out so well for us each month. I thought: " Okay, January will be the new President's Opening Remarks, February will be all about the woes of winter . . . " What winter? As I compose this on February 1, it is seven degrees outside, the grass is bare of snow and there seems to be no winter at all. I came to Toronto in 1959 and this seems to be the least snow and mildest winter I can remember.

I never dreamed that as President I would be getting phone calls at home about the OMSS. Yet I've had a num-

ber of them – and all have been pleasant experiences – not a complaint in the group. (No, this is not me inviting complaints! Save those for Scott Dummitt next year when he is President. This year I'm only doing compliments.) One of those calls was from an ex-member who is returning to the Society this month and bringing a friend. We had a long and warm conversation. I don't know him but many of you will: Bill Trimby. Please make the two of them welcome and introduce them to me if you can. Thanks.

We have a wonderful guest speaker this month. He and a friend had a display at our show at Fort York in June and their table was next to my display. We had conversations all through the day and the conversations were enlightening and entertaining. I won't say more here (that's for others to do), but this is going to be a real treat!

See you on February 12.

Mark that date...

Saturday September 8, 2012 the OMSS Annual Show celebrating the Society's 50th Anniversary

Farewell to Don Melhuish

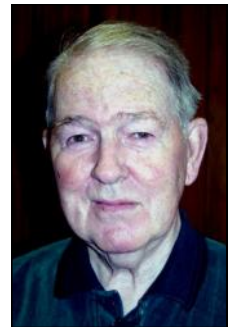
It is our sad duty to report the passing of Don Melhuish.

Don passed away peacefully, on Thursday February 2, 2012 at his home in Georgetown. He was in his 84th year.

At Don's request there will be no services. Cremation has taken place. In memory, contributions to the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be appreciated.

As the long-time members will be aware, Don was a pillar of the Society for more than 30 years. He served as an organizer and workhorse for the Society in many capacities. He served on the executive for many years, including a term as president. He was involved in everything from the Journal, to speaking at many meetings, organizing club displays at the CNE for many years, our presidential and presentation prints, to the Annual show and competition. Those who have been around the club for some time know that we would not have the Society we have today without the efforts of Don. He loved the Society and had great ambitions for it.

We extend our deepest sympathies to all of Don's friends and family.



Thanking our 2011 President

As is our tradition, at the January meeting our outgoing 2011 president **Jim Matresky** was presented with a special print of the Queen's Ranger to show our appreciation for his term. 2012 president **Guy Elliott** made the presentation. Jim's term was a very successful one for the Society and we hope to continue to benefit from his advice for a while to come.

This is just one of the Society traditions that we owe to Don Melhuish. He got the prints produced for us (at no cost to the Society) and looked after framing them for us for many years. Recently he passed on care of them to Gary Lenius.

50th Anniversary Pins

Frank MacKay took on the project of getting pins made for us to mark the Society's 50th anniversary year. It's just one of several anniversary projects in the works. The pins are in and we'll have them at the meeting. They will be issued as members pay their 2012 membership dues.



Harold's Corner - News items from Harold Morrison

A new member is Richard Evans. His English parents' travels were interrupted en route home at which time his mother gave birth in Toronto, then took him back to the Mother country. If you have questions about mediaeval history, Richard might have some of the answers. He was a professor of mediaeval studies at Cambridge university. His military experience includes being a piper in the Essex Scottish Regiment and a captain in the 21st territorial SAS regiment. He has resided in Canada for many years, now calling Toronto home.

There's a rumour going around club that Julius Vesz, Pipesmith, on the main floor of the Fairmont Royal York Hotel is no longer selling toy and model soldiers. Julius is active in military miniatures and will extend a warm welcome to club members who would like to survey and buy something from his stock which covers the uniforms and armour of centuries of different warriors. Many of his soldiers are cast and painted by Queen Victoria's miniatures, many of which are produced by club member James Shakley.

Also in the toy and model soldier business, on a much smaller scale, is the store, Army Outfitters at 1695 Avenue Road. The store is run by Dave Hiorth who has a wide selection of uniforms, books and militaria. He sells Osprey books at lower prices than book stores. Army Outfitters has a web site and of course, is in the Toronto phone book.

To "soldiers for sale" I should have added the store Sabre and Dragoon, 1945 Gerrard St. E., The store is run by George McCartney who has acquired more toy and model soldiers lately. Also, he buys them too.

Some our members who collect Dimestores figures may be unaware that there is a reproduction of figurines and parts run by Ron W. Eccles.

Address: Eccles Bros., Ltd., 5875 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA 52601, USA

e-mail: ecclesbros@aol.com

Speaking of figurines and parts, a wide range of Britains figurines and cavalry are available from London Bridge Collector's Toys. Address: 165 Third St., Emmaus, PA 18049 U.S.A.

The company's castings are clean and flash free. Ah! Centrifugal casting.

Thanks Harold, keep 'em coming.

OMSS on TV

We got some great exposure on Peterborough TV thanks to **Don Ritchie** and **Scott Dummitt**. CHEX TV filmed an extensive segment on location at Don's house near Peterborough. You can watch it by following this link:

www.chextv.com/Watch/NW530/12-01-05/The_5_O_clock_Show_-_Thursday_Jan_5_2012.aspx

You need to watch the whole program as there are four segments spread through the broadcast. Many shots of Don's collection are featured. That's Don's grandson Connor who steals the show!



Link of the Month: The Canadian Militia, The Early Years

www.archive.org/details/canadianmilitia00chamuoft

Harold Morrison suggested this one. It's a book titled "The Canadian Militia : a history of the origin and development of the Force" written by Captain Ernest J. Chambers. It has been imaged and you can read it in your browser (or download it). Published in 1907 in covers the origins and development of the Canadian militia from the days of New France onward to the early years of the 20th century. Lots of interesting stuff on the early days of Canadian regiments.

Still waiting for your postman to brave hail, sleet and snow to deliver your paper copy of the monthly newsletter? Let us send it to you by email. Avoid postal delays. Read the newsletter online in full colour by email. No more paper cuts! We send it out as an Adobe PDF file, a compressed format that won't swamp your mailbox or take ages to download.

Send an email to omss@bell.net to get yourself on the email distribution list.

Your editor (the guy who has to stuff envelopes every month) will thank you.



Royal Marine Band for Sale

Mike Pidgeon has a 30 piece Royal Marine Band for sale (with boxes). Made by "All The Queen's Men". Price: \$300.00, O.B.O. Pictures available on request.

Contact Mike Pidgeon, 905-478-4724

Email: mpidgeon@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. Hans is also looking for someone who can do some repairs to composition figures for him.

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.

Collections for Sale

A number of folks have contacted the Society for help in selling collections:

Andrea Risk has a number of figures, painted and unpainted that belonged to her late father, former member Jim Risk. There are also some military books. Contact her at jimmar3@sympatico.ca

Paul Alexander has a number of 1950's Britains sets to sell including a Landau, Coronation Coach, Royal Horse Artillery and Humber Staff Car sets. You can contact him at 416-453-3143.

Don Jordan is looking to sell a collection that includes Britains, Marlborough, Tradition, East of India and King & Country sets. His email is inferno@execulink.com

Mary Moss in Ottawa has recently asked if anyone in our organization would be interested in purchasing her late Husband's collection. He had figures from the following manufacturers: Corgi, King and Country, Stadden, and other miniature soldiers. WWI, WWII German. Mary can be contacted at memoss@rogers.com



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

HeritageCon 6 Sunday Feb 12, 2012

Model show to be held at the Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton. 9am to 4pm. Admission is \$5. For details visit www.ipmshamilton.ca

WellCoME XV Saturday, April 14, 2012

Wellington Country Modellers Exhibition at Bishop MacDonnell Catholic High School 200 Clair Road West, Guelph, Ont. \$7 admission. All types of models including several figure categories. Detailed flyer available at www.thesprue.com

Buffcon 29 Sunday April 15, 2012

Presented by the Niagara Frontier Chapter of the International Plastic Modelers Society. At the Knights of Columbus Club 2735 Union Rd. Cheektowaga (Buffalo) NY. All types of models including figure categories. Admission \$6. Check www.ipmsniagarafontier.com for details.

Can/Am Con 10 Saturday April 21, 2012

International Scale Model Contest presented by IPMS Champlain Valley. At the Holiday Inn 412 Route 3 Plattsburgh New York. Includes figure categories.

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

Dave Browne

Frank MacKay reports that former OMSS president Dave Browne suffered a heart attack last month but is doing well. Dave is the owner of Hornet Hobbies on O'Connor Drive (which remains open).

Moving? Send your change of address to: Gary Lenius 43 Saugeen Cres. Scarborough, Ont. M1K 3M8
or email: omss@bell.net Phone: 416 261-6494