



Next meeting:

Sunday, March, 2011

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

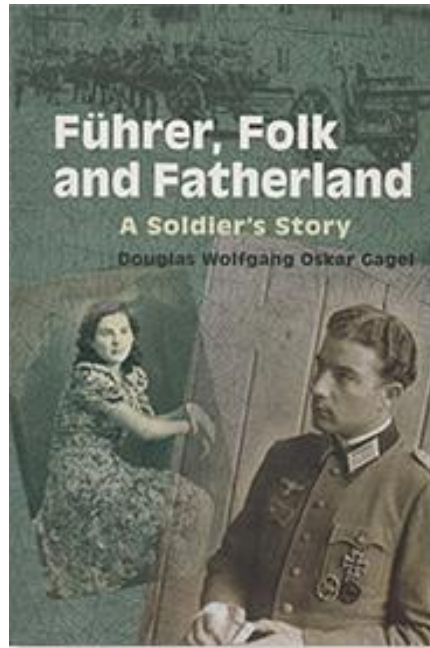
Norman White
Annual Show Chairman

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:

Douglas Gagel
on
A Soldier's Story

For our March meeting we have a treat, a view from "the other side of the hill" as they used to say. Douglas Gagel has published a book on his father's service in the Second World War. Titled "Führer, Folk and Fatherland" it details his service in the German Wehrmacht. Albin Gagel started his compulsory military service in 1939. He saw action from the heady days of Blitzkrieg to the horrors of the Eastern Front.

Join us for different perspective on history.

Special Sales at March Meeting

We will have some special items for sale at the meeting. See Page 2 for details.

The Journal is Out

Our long awaited Journal was published in time for the last meeting and it's another great issue. Kudos to editor **Frank MacKay**. For those who didn't pick their copy up at the meeting they are being mailed out to you.

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.

For your convenience a reminder with return envelope is going out with this month's newsletter (by separate mailing if you get the newsletter by email).

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...

Last month I mused whether winter would come at all this year. Last night on the television news they were warning that what was coming was: "The worst snow storm of the winter!"

Then they switched to scenes of snow-plows and salter trucks all lined up to head out into the storm to save us. No snow fell after all – again. Just rain and cold. That got me thinking about 'dire warnings' in general. They are popular and exciting just because they promise something vastly horrible and we can shake and moan at fate.

Well, no, not always. In connection with another OMSS matter, Gary Lenius sent me a copy of a document (one of many he has on file) that is titled: 'Membership Service Summary by Years.' In other words our members listed by how long they have been in the OMSS. It is interesting reading. I hear a number of sad comments at our meetings about the inevitable decline of the OMSS as our

members age. Well, like the dire warnings of 'The Worst Snow Storm!' above, they turn out to be vastly over-dramatized. Let me pass on some numbers to you from that Service Summary. About 40 % of all the members have eleven years or less in the OMSS. We have had 61 new members in the last ten years – and that's counting only those who have joined and stayed and are still members. Of that number, 30 joined in the last five years and 15 in the last two years. And let me add a caveat – those numbers are as of April 12, 2011! We've had a good number join since then. That's not as exciting as 'dire predictions' but something more positive, if prosaic.

Last month we handed out our wonderful '50th Anniversary Pins'. The brains and talent behind this was Frank Mackay. If you weren't there to get your pin, be sure to get them this month. Gary Lenius will have them available. May I suggest that it would be a nice thing if we all wore them to the meetings - this year at least? And while I'm on the topic, could you please also wear your name tags? There are far too many of you I only know by face and not name. Please, help out your poor President.

See you in March.

Mark that date...

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

Carl McTaggart Donates Figures to OMSS

Carl McTaggart, one of the founding members of our Society, had decided to do some house cleaning and has donated a number of figures to the Society to sell at our March meeting. All proceeds will go to OMSS. Carl decided that in order to properly display his remaining figures, he needed some space and the removal of these unwanted figures and books will give him that much needed room.

Some time ago Carl received a few boxes of supplies and figures from Mrs. Demmery, after Keith died, and Carl has also donated those figures with the consent of Mrs. Demmery.

There are a number of free items; all other treasures have been marked with a price, but we think that Evelyn and John Brown, who are conducting the sale at the March meeting, will accept any reasonable offer.

Any items that are left after the sale will go to Jeff Duncan for the OMSS draw at future meetings. Any items deemed as not suitable for the draw will be free for the taking after the meeting on Sunday.

We are not looking to make a lot of money from this sale. As Carl says, he would just like people in the Society to have a chance to enjoy the stuff. Come early and enjoy!

Sale of Don Mehuish Figures

Bren Furlong will be bringing about 50 of the late Don Melhuish's figures down to the March meeting. These are being sold for the benefit of the family. There are both finished and unfinished figures.

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.

William Britain Limited OMSS 50th Anniversary Figure

As you all know by now the OMSS has commissioned William Britain Limited to produce a limited edition figure to help celebrate our Golden Anniversary year. The figure is that of a Queen's Ranger (1st American Regiment) light infantryman circa 1778. This figure was chosen, as it is our Society's logo. The 54mm matte finished figure is limited to a production of only 350 figures and all members who have paid up their dues, or are life-long members, will receive a figure this year. This is the first Loyalist Regiment figure produced by William Britain Ltd. in their American Revolution series. Britain retailers Henry Chow and Scott Dummitt will have a limited number of these figures for sale as well, in case you would like to purchase extra figures.

We have received photos of the completed figure sculpture (by Ken Osen) and the OMSS Executive Committee was very pleased with the work and has given Britain's the go-ahead. The target date is to have them in time for the Annual Show in September of 2012.



OMSS 50th Anniversary Dinner

The OMSS 50th Anniversary Dinner will be held on the 8th of September 2012, the evening of the Annual Show at the Blue Barracks in historic Fort York. We will have a military piper to kick off the evening and a string trio to provide music during dinner. As a guest speaker we will have Mr. Richard Walker, General Manager of William Britain Limited. As this is a special event for the society, we ask that you dress appropriately. Black tie is not mandatory, but we do encourage members and former members of the military to wear mess dress if they have it.

Attendees will have a choice of roast beef, chicken or vegetarian for their entrée. The price of each dinner ticket is \$50.00 per person (\$100.00 per couple). As we have discussed before this is a subsidized price, with the Society picking up the balance of the actual cost. For those members who wish to include a second guest or more, the dinner price is \$75.00 for each additional person. Wine will be served with the meal.

Grant Lawson is hoping to have the Queen's York Rangers Warrant Officer's & Sergeant's Mess open for those interested in a pre-dinner drink, or who would like to see the mess. The WO'S & Sgt.'s Mess is located in the Fort York Armoury in front of historic Fort York. Parking for the dinner will be in the Fort York parking lot located west of the fort's front gate.

A formal invitation will be sent out to all members in April with full details. It will include a return form on which you can indicate your meal preferences when you book your tickets. Payment will be required to reserve your tickets. We have a maximum capacity of 100 so respond early.



50th Anniversary Pins

We have had a special pin created to celebrate our 50th anniversary. **Frank MacKay** took on this project for us and the results are gorgeous. Each member in good standing for 2012 will receive one. We started issuing them at the last meeting. See Gary Lenius at the meeting if you didn't get yours. We will be mailing them out to members who can't make it out to pick them up.

A War of 1812 Minute

Members on email will remember a recent query from a filmmaker looking to borrow some War of 1812 figures for a project. Well, turns out it was for a contest being run by FYICanada.ca. They have challenged young filmmakers to produce their own heritage minutes related to the War of 1812. Six have already been entered. **Scott Dummit** responded to the query and lent some of his figures to Randy Brown who created a video of General Roger Sheaffe planning the victory at Queenston Heights.

You can view it at http://fyicanada.ca/war_of_1812.do;jsessionid=4AD62D6D4789AD2DB3175884AF1DDF1E.tomcat1

Link of the Month: "The German"

<http://player.vimeo.com/video/31202906?autoplay=1>

A couple of people sent me this. It's a short film dramatizing air combat between the RAF and Luftwaffe. I believe the aerial scenes are computer generated but they're done so well it's hard to tell. I won't give away the surprise ending.



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: \$250.00, 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 Britain's 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 Britain's, 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.

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

Address Roster

An updated address roster was recently sent out by email. Several members responded with updates so a revised edition is going out shortly.

If you're not on email Gary will have some printed copies available at the meeting.

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