

The
Ontario
Model
Soldier
Society



50th Anniversary Year
1962 - 2012

2012 Executive

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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

Monthly Newsletter for April 2012

Next meeting:

Sunday, April 15, 2012

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Rd. Toronto

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



Featured Speaker:

Steve Bailey
on
Canada's
Aboriginal Warriors

Steve Bailey is one of our newest members. We'll all get a chance to get better acquainted with him as he will be our featured speaker at this month's meeting.

Mr. Bailey has long been interested in the period of the French and Indian Wars. He has published a novel "The Gauntlet Runner" set during that conflict.

His topic for the meeting will be the native Canadian warriors who were the first Canadian fighting force

For more on Mr. Bailey and his novel check out his website
thegauntletrunner1754.com



Sale of Don Melhuish Collection

At the April meeting there will be a special sale of Don's huge collection of finished and partly finished figures along with his modeling tools and many different articles of militaria from badges to weapons and lots of books. This is for the benefit of Don's family so let the moths out of those wallets. Bren Furlong will be coordinating this.

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...

Joining the Executive two years ago has been an 'eye-opener' for me, especially now that I'm President. I used to come to meetings, have a good time, chat with people, learn from our guest speakers and go home. Not now. Now I'm aware of how much goes on out of sight for our benefit. There are groups of people working away behind the scenes all the time. I'm not going to list them all - It would take up too much space. But some of these include the nine members of the three Awards Committees (Life Membership, Society Figure, Society Print) who meet in person, by phone and e-mail to select these recipients. You will see the results of their efforts at the December luncheon. Then there seven members of the Annual Show Competition Judging Committee. They have been working away

for more than a year to try and improve the experience for those folks who enter the Competition. They produced a working paper last year, Ian Pearson and Phil Andrews as judges have been educating themselves to improve the Competition and the Committee is still working on improvements as I write this note. You will soon hear and read some of their plans for the 2012 Show. And most current of all, on Monday, April 2, I went to get our mail at home and there was a letter from the OMSS. My first ever! In it were all the details of the 50th Anniversary Dinner and a form to return with a cheque - which I did that day. Even as President I was surprised to receive that letter. There is another group at work behind the scenes beavering away on our behalf. As I look out the window here at home, I can see all the tulips blooming. You will understand that view is what caused me to think about all the invisible, underground growth at work at the OMSS. Enough with the analogy. See you on the 15th. Cheers!

Mark that date...

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



OMSS 50th Anniversary Figure

Britain's has sent us photos of the painted master figure for our limited edition Queen's Ranger figure. It was painted by Dave Youngquist of the Michigan Toy Soldier Company. They are now ramping up production and we should have our figures in time for the Annual Show in September.

All members in good standing will be getting one of these exclusive figures. (A good reason to make sure your membership dues are up to date!)

OMSS 50th Anniversary Dinner

A letter recently went out to all members with details on the dinner and an order form for dinner tickets. Orders have already started to come in so if you plan to attend to sooner you get your order in the better as we are limited to a seating of 100.

50th Anniversary Pins

The commemorative pins for the Society's 50th anniversary have now been mailed out to all the members in good standing. If you haven't received yours check that your dues are up to date. A couple of people have asked about purchasing an extra pin. We do have a few extras so see Gary Lenius if interested. The cost is \$5.



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.



Harold's Corner - News items from Harold Morrison

For reasons of health, Shirley and Robin Ward have not been appearing at recent OMSS meetings. They would like to advise our membership that they are still selling toy and model soldiers, diecast vehicles, aircraft and a variety of hard-to-get accessory items for diecast toys. Their company is known as "I Had One of Those" and can be reached by e-mail at swardn225@rogers.com.

Telephone: 1-905-836-2271, address 211 Forsyth rd., Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 7Y2.

Within Ebay, they sell under the ID "jorestef."

With the warmer weather, they might attend future meetings. but cannot haul in the boxes for a vendor's table.



John Tunstall Bands: News from Scott Dummitt

When I was visiting London in 1983 I came upon a shop called "John Tunstall's Soldiers' Soldiers". The proprietor John Tunstall had a very large selection of metal figures representing British and Commonwealth units from 1880 to 1914. Of course in many cases the same dress uniforms are worn today for ceremonial occasions. John's figures were designed by Andrew Rose. I purchased two 16 piece band sets from John at that time, plus many more blank figures so as to make my own RCN band, PPCLI band, 48th Highlander brass band and RCAF pipe band. John closed his shop in the 90s and moved to Italy.

Recently I discovered that he was still selling off his stock from the 1980s and so I have brought in a selection of 8 and 16 piece bands. These sets are not as nicely painted as the recent William Britain Limited bands however they offer an wide variety of seldom seen brass bands. The price per set ranges from \$135.00 to \$280.00. Unfortunately these are the last of what he had in the individual regiments.

Currently stock is as follows: 1. Rifle Regiment Brass Band, 2. 48th Highlanders of Canada Brass Band, 3. Dragoon Regiment Brass Band, 4. Lancer Regiment Brass Band, 5. Corps of Drums Royal Marines, 6. British/Commonwealth Foreign Service (Wolseley Helmet) Brass Band, 7. British/Commonwealth Home Service Helmet - standing - Brass Band, 8. Scots Gray Brass Band, and 9. Royal Navy Brass Band.

I have all these sets on my web site at www.gjoeacanada.com - Military Miniatures - Miscellaneous. I will have some of the set at the next meeting as well. These sets are approximately 30 years old and in the original boxes, but there is some fading of the paint."

Link of the Month: Diamond Jubilee Uniforms

www.telegraph.co.uk/news/picturegalleries/royalty/9160149/The-Queens-Diamond-Jubilee-ceremonial-military-uniforms-are-unveiled.html?frame=2174486

As the British Army prepares for the celebration of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee this year they recently unveiled their ceremonial uniforms. Follow the link to view a photo album published by U.K. newspaper The Telegraph. Thanks to Frank MacKay for this link.

On a related note, did you know that Canadian regiments once mounted guard at Buckingham Palace? I recently came across some interesting footage of the Toronto Scottish practicing to take over guard duties at Buck House in 1940. Check it out at www.britishpathe.com/video/canadians-take-over



Seeking Grant's Royal Scot

Frank MacKay is looking for figure No. 2 in the series put out some years ago by the William Grant's Scotch Whiskey company. Preferably in the original packaging. If you have one to spare contact him at frank_mackay@hotmail.com



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.



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.

Ottawa Military Heritage Show Sat. April 28, 2012

Regional show featuring medals, bokk, badges and other militaria. 9 am to 3 pm at the Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave. Nepean.

MFCA Show May 18-19, 2012

Miniature Figure Collectors of America show and mart, the granddaddy of North American connoisseur figure shows. At the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA See www.mfcashow.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

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