



Next meeting:

Sunday, February 9, 2014

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Rd. Toronto

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

Founded 1962
www.omss.ca

2014 Executive

Norman White
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Gail Stone
1st vice president

Tom Elliot
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Scott Dummitt
Past President

Eric Clarke
Program Chairman

Frank MacKay
Journal editor

Tom Elliot
Annual Show Chairman

Meeting Dates

- 2014 -

January 12

February 9

March 9

April 13

June 22

September 14

October 19

November 16

December 14

Annual Show
Saturday May 3
2014



Featured Guest Speaker

Carl Mills

Canadian Airmen (and Women) in Korea

Our guest speaker for this meeting is Canadian aviation history buff and author Carl Mills. Besides serving in the RCAF Auxiliary and Air Reserve he was a long time member of the 400 Squadron Historical Society.

His topic is one he has been researching for some time, namely the role of Canada's air force and its personnel during the Korean conflict. Should be very interesting.

Carl is also an avid modeler. His specialty is aviation dioramas in 1/72 scale. He had a couple entered in

our competition at the show in September. You can watch a short video showing several of his dioramas at vimeo.com/37719926

Membership Dues for 2014

Dues for 2014 are now payable. Gary Lenius will be glad to take your money at the meeting.

We have held our dues to the same low price: \$35 a year. (\$20 for the second member in a household or for juniors 16 and under)

Thanks to all those who have sent their money in. A reminder notice will be going out shortly to the laggards.

Annual Show News... See Page 2

The newsletter is edited by Gary Lenius.

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



President's Column

From the pen of our prez Norm White

As I look out my window at the snowy scene in my backyard, I hope all my fellow OMSS members are coping with this bitter winter by staying indoors and polishing up their model soldiers for display or putting the finishing touches to their competition entry. Our annual show and competition is less than 80 days away, and will be upon us before we know it.

Your executive is working hard to provide an interesting program for this year's events. We would welcome input and suggestions from our members on our monthly meeting program format. If you have any suggestions for speakers, or would like to volunteer to do a presentation, please approach myself, or any executive member, and let them know.

For those of you who were not the January meeting, you missed a brilliant extemporary talk by our own Don

Ritchie on many aspects of the hobby! Don shared some of his vast experience, on collecting toy soldiers, advice about auctions, and many tips on casting and painting toy soldiers and military bands. The length and number of questions from the floor, after his talk, was a clear indication of the member's appreciation of this presentation, Thanks again Don, for letting yourself be put on the spot at the last minute!

Frank Mackay, our able and long suffering editor has produced the latest "Journal", and it is, as always, a thing of beauty. Our members can be justifiably proud of this publication, and know that it is avidly read by hobbyists in many different countries. The input from our members is necessary, however, if this enviable publication is to continue. Frank solicits articles, anecdotes, pictures for future editions.

I hope to see all of you this Sunday in spite of the less than perfect weather.

Norm

OMSS Journal

As Norm mentioned in his column we have just published a new issue of the Journal with coverage of last year's show. Gary will have copies available at the meeting for those who didn't pick it up last time. It will be mailed out to those who can't make the meetings, so keep the snow off your mailbox.

Journal editor **Frank MacKay** is very proud of the fact the all the content in our Journal comes from within the Society. We don't just reprint articles from other publications as some other journals do. But to keep this up he needs a steady stream of contributions from you, the members. He's looking for all kinds of content related to our shared interests. That includes book or figure reviews, letters to the editor, technique tips. Do a write-up on a show or shop, museum or historical site you have visited. Tell the story of a modeling project you just completed. Share a topic you have researched. Give us your take on trends in the hobby or what you'd like to see. We all have something to share with our fellow members.

You don't have to be a professional writer; Frank will take your raw material and polish it up for you.

You can send your contributions to Frank by email at frank_mackay@hotmail.com or see him at a meeting.

Eugene Lelievre

Tom Abler passed on a bit of news that some of us may have missed (I know I did). One of the world's premier military artists passed away last November at the age of 104. His work will be familiar to anyone who ever bought a Historex kit. See www.eugenelelievre.com

Annual Show Countdown

The show is fast approaching; here's the latest news.

Vendor tables will be \$50 this year. We have had to raise our price to help cover increased costs at Fort York. Registration information will be available at the meeting and will be sent out to past vendors shortly. (It will also be on our website.)

Show posters (8.5" x 11") and postcards will be available at the meeting. We need your help to get these out to suitable locations such as hobby shops. The last page of this newsletter can be printed as a flyer if you are unable to get to the meeting.

It being 2014 our theme this year is the 100th anniversary of the First World War. The theme is just a suggestion, displays and entries from any period are welcome.

If you are planning to bring a display for the show or competition we need to know what your space requirements are so that we can plan our table layout. (Anything bigger than 2 feet square) Let Show chairman **Tom Elliot** know what you will need. 905-542-2393 tel-liot45@hotmail.com

Battle of the Atlantic Place Project

Phil Andrews passed on a link to a video on the design for this project. The intent is to permanently house HMCS Sackville, the last of 269 Flower Class Corvettes that served in World War II.

See www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcyXWAEK2b0

— ON OFFER —

Books from Werner Schroth Estate

Bryan Gibbins is selling some of Werner's books on behalf of his family.

Vols 1 & 2 Funken Lace Wars, Vols 1 & 2 Napoleonic Wars, mint condition, \$40 for either set.

Funken WW1 & WW2 . \$20 the set

If anyone is looking for books on flats and history there are also some available, some in German. There will be more items to come.

Contact Bryan at brygib@rogers.com

Books for Sale

David Dorward is looking to sell

Eat Your Weakest Man, Inside the Canadian Airborne Regiment, by Rui Amaral, \$20

Winged Stallion, Fighting and Training with the First Airborne, Michael Packe, \$10

dkdorward@sympatico.ca 905-584-5838

— UPCOMING SHOWS —

HeritageCon 2014

IPMS Hamilton is holding their 8th annual show Sunday March 9 at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. 9 am to 4 pm Admission \$7.

See www.ipmshamilton.ca for details.

Peterborough Show

The Hastings & Prince Edward Regiment Militaria Show will be held at the Peterborough Armouries on 27th September 2014. Show time is from 9 am to 2pm. This show offers a wide variety of militaria, prints, club tables and more. We are looking for members who are willing to help set up a display at the show as we have done for the last two years. Interested members can contact Scott Dummitt at (705) 939-1028 or scottjd@sympatico.ca.

Harold's Corner

Tidbits from Harold Morrison

aitchrwm@bell.net



Some of our members will remember Alex Sim, a Scot resident in Brompton, North Yorkshire. Alex attended two OMSS annual competitions, walking away with awards both times. I still have his award-winning French Army band of 1914 plus many figurines of Great Britain and the the Empire. He served more than 20 years in the Royal Signals, and a subsequent 20 years with the North Yorkshire police. About three years ago, he suffered from cancer and was given a short time to live. A tough Scot, even when faced with the diagnosis of death in June last year, he soldiered on. My wife Tipling and I visited him last August. He continually smoked and proudly displayed his box of salt as he didn't get enough from the local meal service. I told him a joke. He smiled politely, saying he told me that joke many years ago. (He did.) In leaving, I said, "I guess this is the last time we'll be seeing each other." He nodded. A few minutes After I left, I rang his doorbell. "Thought you'd never see me again," I said. He smiled. I had left my cell-phone at his place. He died January 12, with his daughter and son at his side. Alex was 79. He smoked a cigarette, had a drink, took a nap and slipped away, ever the good soldier making a good retreat. His biography is in a back issue of TS*MF magazine.

Along with the spate of books on The First World War, 100th anniversary magazines are making an appearance. I counted three at Indigo. The one I bought was the First World War, An Illustrated History, published by Britain at War Magazine. The 130-page publication is well illustrated. I saw many pictures I haven't seen before. There's the sad statistic about 346 British soldiers and persons under army authority who were executed for cowardice and desertion.. This was in the days before Post Traumatic Shock Disorder. One sad photo is a statue based on 17-year-old Private Herbert Burden shot for desertion. The statue is in the Shot at Dawn Memorial for the British soldier who were executed. It is at Airewas, Staffordshire.

A company called Military Mode Publishing is publishing a five volume set covering the uniforms and equipment of the British soldier in WWI. I haven't seen this one yet but the first volume is out. The website is www.militarymodepublishing.com.

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. 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.

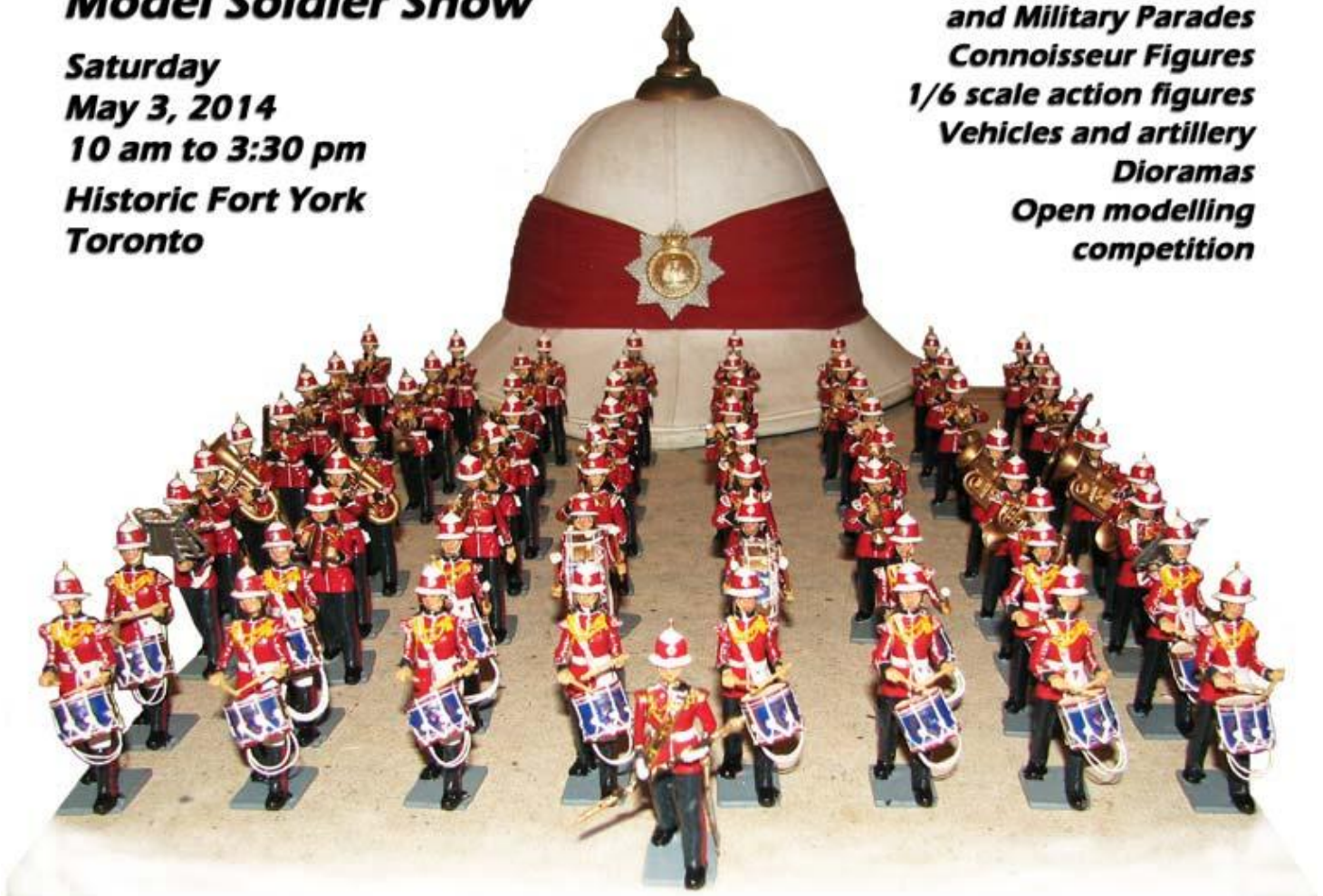
The Ontario Model Soldier Society
presents

ON PARADE 2014

**Canada's Largest
Model Soldier Show**

**Saturday
May 3, 2014
10 am to 3:30 pm
Historic Fort York
Toronto**

**Massed displays of
Toy Soldiers, Bands
and Military Parades
Connoisseur Figures
1/6 scale action figures
Vehicles and artillery
Dioramas
Open modelling
competition**



Band of the Royal Canadian Regiment by Don Ritchie

25+ vendor tables offering a wide variety of hobby products

**Admission to the show is included with regular Fort York admission
(\$9.00 adult; \$5.50 senior or youth)**

**Fort York Historic Site - 250 Fort York Blvd., Toronto Ontario M5V 3K9
For maps and directions see the Fort York website www.fortyork.ca**

Show contact: Tom Elliot 905-542-2393 or email omss@bell.net

Show details at www.omss.ca