



Next meeting:

Sunday, March 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
President

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

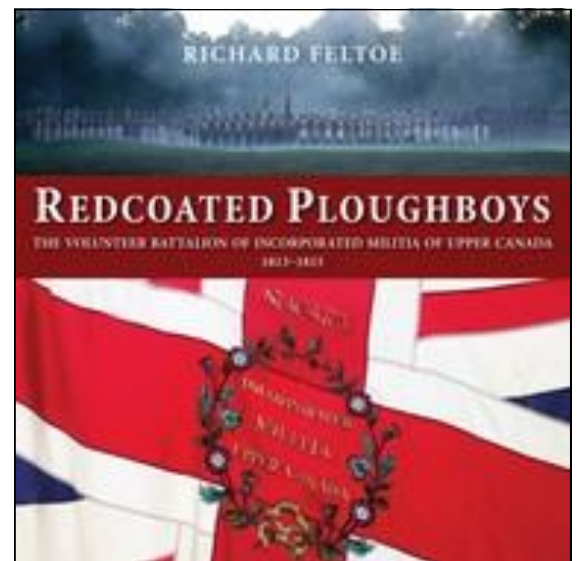
December 14

Annual Show
Saturday May 3
2014

Featured Guest Speaker

Richard Feltoe

**The Volunteer Battalion of the Incorporated Militia of Upper
Canada in the War of 1812**



For our March meeting we have invited Richard Feltoe to be our featured speaker. Hailing originally from Newcastle-upon-Tyne in northern England, Richard is the curator and corporate archivist for the Redpath Sugar Museum. He has long been active as a living history reenactor, re-creating the life of a Canadian militia soldier from the War of 1812. He has published a series of books on the War of 1812 including one entitled "Redcoated Ploughboys" documenting this month's subject, the Volunteer Battalion of the Incorporated Militia of Upper Canada. Richard is also a former member of the Society and has spoken at our meetings in the past. So we look forward to another interesting talk from him.

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.

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

Greetings fellow OMSS Members! This cold weather is perfect for staying indoors and reading the military history books that I received for Christmas. Worthy of note is "The War That Ended Peace" by M. MacMillan, describing in detail how events from 1900 onwards led to the outbreak of the great war. Also a good read was "One Day in August" by D. O'Keefe with some new insights into the Dieppe raid. My favourite though was a book simply entitled "The Charge" by Mark Adkin. This was the most insightful book into the charge of the light brigade and the importance of Sevastopol in the Crimean war that I have ever read. In light of today's news from the Crimea, the historical aspect is enlightening.

We have some interesting topics lined up for our future meetings. Many of you may recall seeing Richard Feltoe at our annual show at Fort York last year. He has written several books on the war of 1812. Richard is part of our spring program, as is our own Guy Elliot, who will give an instructive talk on metal casting.

Two of our OMSS members have kindly volunteered to take on standing, non executive positions in the society.

Jim Matresky is going to be our Co ordinator for awards. Jim will seek out committee members for our 3 annual OMSS awards, and expedite them, providing a list of candidates to the executive. Thank you Jim for taking on this challenging role!

Scott Dummitt has volunteered to be our Public Relations Officer and Media Spokesperson. I am sure that this will be a great asset to the profile of our club! Thank you, Scott.

Plans for our annual show are well underway, and we have already begun advertising it. We will also be putting an ad in the Toronto Star this year, the first time ever. I urge all members to pick up show posters or postcards, and help to distribute them to any appropriate locations.

I would like to remind all members attending the show that they **MUST** pay for admission to the fort. Vendors will be excepted as the society will pay their admission to the fort from the revenue from their table. Fort York has been an excellent venue for our annual show, and we wish to preserve an amicable relationship with them. Perhaps their new interpretive centre will be open by May!

I will bring the books I talked about to the meeting on March ninth for show and tell.

...Norm

Russ Davis



We regret to report that long-time member Russ Davis passed away on March 1st. Russ was a former president and was a tireless worker and organizer for the Society for many years going back to the 1970's. When his career took him to Winnipeg for a few years he helped start the Manitoba Model Soldier Society. He worked on our Annual Show committee and for years was the auctioneer for our annual club auction. We hadn't seen Russ for some years due to health and family issues but he is fondly remembered by the "old hands" of the Society.

OMSS Members Contribute to New Del Prado Figures

Del Prado Limited have recently released two new figures in their collection that OMSS members played a major role in deciding. **Grant Lawson** had talked with Gianluca Latini, owner of Del Prado USA, about adding a new figure to their growing "British Colonial Wars" series. In January this year Del Prado released a Winston Churchill, dressed as he would have been seen at Ondurman in 1898. The figure depicts a young Lieutenant Churchill in khakis, tropical sun helmet and carrying a sword in a care-

free manner. Grant deserves some credit for suggesting this unique figure.

The second figure that was influenced by OMSS member **Scott Dummitt** depicts British "War of 1812" hero, Major General Isaac Brock, 1812. What makes this figure unique is Scott had explained to Gianluca that unless the figure was done with the Tecumseh sash, it would look like any other British general from the Napoleonic Wars. The Shawnee Indian Chief Tecumseh had given the Indian woven sash to Brock when they had first met at Fort Malden in 1812. It was at this time the native chief exclaimed to an accompanying companion when Brock told his officers that he would take the war to the Americans at Detroit, "This is a Man". Sadly Brock was killed at Queenston Heights in October 1812 while rallying his troops in a counter attack. He was wearing the Tecumseh sash at that time and it can now be seen at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa along with the tunic he was wearing at that time. Scott is currently working with Del Prado again in an attempt to see a figure of the Shawnee Chief, Tecumseh, produced.

Del Prado has recently started packaging its figures similarly to the William Britain Limited bubble pack and their prices have risen a bit, but they still offer a nice product for the price. Ask either Scott or Grant at the next meeting about these and many other Del Prado figures.

(See next page for photos of the two figures.)



New Del Prado figures of Sir Isaac Brock and Winston Churchill.

Annual Show Countdown

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

Scott Dummitt has been in touch with W. Britain and Borgfeldt Canada and both firms will be participating in this year's show and displaying some of their product lines. We look forward to meeting new Britain's head Ken Osen.

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.)

We have had interest from 2 or 3 people with large collections they are looking to sell. So there should be lots of interesting stuff on offer in the vendor area. We will also as usual have our club sale table run by Jeff Duncan.

Advertising has been arranged in Toy Soldier and Model Figure magazine and also Esprit De Corps. We will also be putting a small ad in the Toronto Star this year.

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.

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 Tom Elliot know what you will need.

Catering will once again be provided by Janet MacKay and her crew from the IODE. Good eats right at the show.

Show chairman: **Tom Elliot** 905-542-2393

email: telliot45@hotmail.com

Harold's Corner

Tidbits from Harold Morrison

aitchrwm@bell.net



While looking at a model railroader's layout, I was intrigued by his rock/cliff structures. How did he do them? He used aluminum foil, glue, wrinkling or scoring for natural effects and then painting. If you try this, make sure it is a heavy gauge aluminum foil.

Speaking of model railroaders, George's Trains, formerly on Mount Pleasant Rd., Toronto, decamped some months ago to Markham. There's a wide range of special paints they sell in the store, such as rust, dust, grime and others which can be used to enhance a vehicle or soldier. Not sure if they still carry 1:32nd buildings, but here's the location: George's Trains, 550 Alden Rd., unit #101, Markham. 905-470-6200, website georgestrains.com

Speaking of dioramas, for a long time I saved the Gillette plastic Excel Sensor razor blade holders. Finally, I gave up and recycled them. Still, Jim Shakley had a suggestion: For an indoor diorama, these holders would be to 1:32 scale for bookshelves.

Toothpaste tubes, with the malleable metal content, used to be a good source for conversions to packs, flags, epaulettes and other add-ons to a figure. Now, the tubes are made of a plastic material, but still, you can cut up the material which is not as good as metallic, but can be useful.

A superbly-crafted 1:32 figure of a "fantassin francais 1914," in kepi head-dress has been produced by Metal Modeles, 2 place du 8 mai, 83440 Seillans, France. Website: metal-modeles.com. I keep suggesting to Armies in Plastic that they should produce French infantry with kedis in 1914 uniforms, but no luck so far.

Most of our members who have relatives who have served in Canada's army. If you can think of anecdote a relative told you, write it by pen, pencil, typewriter or e-mail and send it to Frank Mackay, our Journal editor. Without re-telling, many of these stories will be lost. Or if you have paper documentation, send them to the National Archives, Ottawa. An archivist there told me that most of the material forwarded is by senior officers. He was delighted by receipt of documentation about a Queen's Own Rifleman, killed in action. The papers were from the CO, the regimental padre, the King, the Minister of Defence and the official notice of death. The padre reported that German POWs showed the Canadians where he was buried. The soldier was Elmer Atkinson, who had previously been wounded and returned to active duty.

'SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS' new retailer for Thomas Gunn Miniatures and John Jenkins Designs

Expanding his line of matte finished figures, Scott has now brought in two new lines of figures from well known manufacturers. Thomas Gunn Miniatures makes very limited editions of no more than 200 castings, which may be painted in two different versions. This line consists of Zulu Wars, WWI & WWII, Napoleonic, Naughty 40's, French Foreign Legion and a new line of French & Indian War. The prices are slightly more than William Britain Limited, but still less than most King & Country.

John Jenkins Designs figures, like Thomas Gunn Miniatures, are 1/30th (60mm) figures and usually consist of two runs, however they may also only do limited edition figures as well. These matte finished figures are popular with Canadians and Americans as they mostly depict conflicts of our past history, including French & Indian War,

War of 1812, and World War I and World War II. They also include Napoleonic Wars, Spanish Civil War, and the Sudan. Jenkins also produces several different types of aircraft, tanks and armoured cars. Jenkins lived for a time in Richmond Hill, Ontario, and it is obvious that our history has had some influence on his product making.

Both John Jenkins and Thomas Gunn figure go well together, so what may be missing from one manufacturer can be added to from the other. In additions these figures will also fit in with the King & Country figures. Scott will custom order items from these two manufactures if he doesn't have them in stock and they are still available. What he does have in stock can be found on his web site at www.gijocanada.com. All prices indicated on this Canadian based business are always in Canadian dollars.

— 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 WWI & 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.

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