



Founded 1962
www.omss.ca

2015 Executive

Gail Stone
President

Tom Elliot
1st vice president

Jim Qualtrough
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Norman White
Past President

Scott Dummitt
Past-it President

Eric Clarke
Program Chairman

Frank MacKay
Journal editor

Tom Elliot
Annual Show Chairman

Meeting Dates

- 2015 -
January 11
February 8
March 8
April 12
June 14
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 13

Annual Show
Saturday May 2
2015

Monthly Newsletter for January 2015

Next meeting:

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Rd. Toronto

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

Join us for our first meeting of 2015. As of time of publication the program hadn't been confirmed but we're sure to have something that's sure to inform and entertain you.

Special Book Sale at this Meeting — Details Page 2

Highlights of our December Meeting

We had our traditional Christmas lunch on December 14. As usual Gail Stone and her assistants (Kim and Mike Stone) served up a sumptuous repast. Thanks for all your hard work and only \$5 plate! We had lots of contributions to the dessert table, so thanks to all those who brought goodies.

The December meeting is when we traditionally recognize those who have gone the extra mile to support the club over many years. This year we honoured:

Bren Furlong with the Society presentation figure (The Queen's Ranger). Bren, a former president, served as head of our Show Committee for many years and was instrumental in getting us established at Fort York.

Phil Andrews was awarded the Society print. Phil has been a tireless volunteer, spoken at meetings, served as one of our competition judges for some years now and also paints our presentation figures for us. Phil couldn't be at the meeting but we'll catch up with him this month.

Peter Nash was awarded a Life Membership in the Society. One of our longest-serving members, Peter has long been a key fixture in the club.

Thanks to Jim Matresky for organizing our awards committees this year.

Norm White's last duty as outgoing president was to select the winner of the Bryan Gibbins award for the year, the member who best demonstrated the spirit of the Society. Norm picked **Gail Stone**, who's coming in for her second term as president and is always pitching in in all the club's activities. Well-deserved.

2015 Membership Dues—Same Low Price

Membership fees for 2015 are now due. Gary Lenius will be glad to take your money at the meeting.

We have held the dues to the same level again this year: \$35 for Regular membership; \$20 for Junior or Family members.

2015 Meeting Dates have been added to the masthead on the left.

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 president Gail Stone

Wow 2015 is here and this year I will have been a member for 20 years. I am excited about being president for my second term and I have a great executive to back me up.

I hope everyone is thinking about what they can do to make our annual show bigger and better than ever.

If anyone has suggestions about anything they would like

to see done at our meetings please come and talk to me. I would like to reinstate "Spot the Error", so if anyone could help me out with that it would be great.

Also I would like to have someone take over the Coffee and donuts even just for this year.

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year from the OMSS Executive.

See you on the 11th

Gail gstone4@cogeco.ca 905-332-0653

Special Book Sale at Meeting

Jeff Duncan reports...

FYI, I have packed and moved about 10 banker boxes of books that were donated to our club from the estate of an older friend of mine that passed away last year. His name was Steve Revell and lived in Erin Ontario. He was a history teacher at the Mayfield Secondary School in Caledon and was in the profession for 30 years. Donna his wife wanted the books to go to those who would appreciate them. Steve was an avid rail road modeler as well and appreciated the military dioramas and enjoyment of history and modeling our club represented when he would come over to visit my place and look at my displays etc.

I will be bringing some of the books to the Christmas lunch but due to size limitations of the tables on the "bar" side I will be bringing just a few.

In January I will not be having the "draw" but concentrating on a massive Book Sale instead. The books are not old library discards but a fantastic array of almost exclusively WW2 German/Allies and related materials with a good sprinkling of other military topics.

100% of the proceeds are to go to the Club.

Links for A Cold Winter's Night

I've accumulated a bit of a backlog of interesting links sent to me by our members. So while I have some space here I thought I would pass them on. Enjoy!

Video of the 2014 West Coast Toy Soldier Show

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsyaGv82PCU>

Video of the history of British toy soldiers, a lecture from the UK's National Army Museum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQnylc3ywp4>

National Geographic article on World War I underground trench art:

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2014/08/ww1-underground/hadingham-text>

The War Amps of Canada have a channel on Youtube that features Canadian Army newsreels from the Second World War:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/warampsofcanada>

TV Ontario Programs on the First World War

A number of documentary programs recently broadcast on TVO can be viewed online at their website for the next few months:

Ten part series on the First World War

<http://tvo.org/video/202173/first-world-war-ep-1-arms>

Program on Canada's 20,000 Missing WWI Dead

<http://tvo.org/video/209244/missing>

Program on Sir Arthur Currie hosted by Doug Christie

<http://tvo.org/video/209245/arthur-currie-master-war>

Your tax dollars at work and well worth watching.

Thanks to all the contributors and keep them coming.



Harold's Corner

Tidbits from Harold Morrison

aitchrwm@bell.net

Paul Gross (Canada's own) directed and starred in the WWI film, *Paaschendaale*. He has directed another film, *'Hyena Road'* with three main characters and their 'takes' on the Afghanistan War. Gross plays the lead role. The film will be released in the autumn of this year, according to previews at Cineplex. If I know Gross, there'll be Canadian content.

Memo to Gross: How about two more films: One about RAF/RCAF ace Buzz Beurling and the other about Canada's Corvette Navy?

Flipping through the pages of the January issue of *Toy Soldier and Model Figurine* magazine, I found the smiling faces of Don and Keith Ritchie, our OMSS father and son duo. Turning the page, I find Jeff Duncan pointing out that famous village idiot band. They were attending the autumn 2014 opening of the Toy Soldier Museum Open House. Apologies to other members who may have been there, and whom I did not mention.

When toy or model soldiers are being cast, it's time to get the lead out. Right? No. Check with Scott Dummitt who also sells pewter. The problem with pewter is that it looks so good, you hesitate to paint the figurine! I have a pewter figure of a Norman knight which I have meant to paint, but--

Getting back to Scott, he displays many of the figurines he has for sale. His newest line is 'Queen Victoria's Toy Sol-

diers' mainly made by James R. Shakley.

Speaking of James, in the last 30 years he has painted more than 80,000 figurines. I have been a churl for not 'writing him up' but will do so, and that's my promise to Frank MacKay. Jim was not a founding member of OMSS, but he was an early member.

Canada's History magazine has published 'Canada's Great War Album, Our Memories of the First World War.' Published by Harper Collins, it is available at Indigo/Chapters. (Honest guys, I swear on a stack of Ospreys I do not get any kickback for the promo.)

Some of our members may wonder about seeing 'The Imitation Game' about Alan Turing, the mathematical genius who cracked the German's 'unbreakable' Enigma code with a device called the Turing machine, a.k.a. computer. Highly recommended! Some excellent re-mastered clips of WW2 newsreels, too.

Years ago in Ottawa, a collector showed me that he made a figurine from epoxy glue. I stifled a laugh. I no longer laugh at the epoxy concept of figurines.

I liked the idea of an 'empty table' for members who have passed away. I thought, with fondness, of Gordon Dumbleton, Carl McTaggart, Eric Lowe and regretfully of other faces I remember, but can't recall the names. They gave the OMSS purpose and 'soul.'

New Tradition Dealer

'SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS' is proud to announce that it will now be carrying TRADITION OF LONDON figures in its store.

TRADITION OF LONDON has been a producer of top of the line Toy Soldier figures and basic kits for many years and it is a wonderful line to add to our already large selection. If we don't have what you want we will be able to add it to our order list.

These fine casting can be painted up in the traditional toy soldier style as well as connoisseur style.

The line features figures from the Jacobite Rebellion, Seven Years War, American Revolution, Napoleonic Wars, Zulu, Indian Army, WWI and modern times.

Contact Scott Dummitt at gijoe@kos.net for more information.

Website www.gijoeCanada.com



OMSS On Parade 2015

We have signed our contract with Fort York for our 2015 Annual Show, which will be held **Saturday May 2nd**. **Scott Dummitt** and **Gary Lenius** have designed our show postcard and flyer and we will have these at the meeting so we can start getting them out to hobby shops and other sites.

The 2015 Show theme will be the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, which should be fertile ground for displays and competition figures. But, of course, you're not limited to the theme when it comes to subject and period. Start painting!

Vendor tables will be the same price as last year: \$50 for an eight foot table. The vendor info package and booking form are posted on our Society website www.omss.ca

Passings

Sadly we don't always hear right away when old friends pass away.

Stewart Saxe died on November 23. Stewart was a long-time member, although we hadn't seen him for a few years due to health issues. In his day he was a major Britains collector and expert. He also did legal work for the Society.

Thanks to David Dorward for passing this info on to us.

Looking for a Painter

We received a query from a retired RCAF type named Bob Connell. He is building a diorama of the battle of Fort York and is looking for someone who can paint his plastic figures in a toy soldier finish.

If interested you can contact him at bobconnell@rogers.com

OMSS Journal

Frank MacKay delivered a new issue of the Journal and it's another great one. If you didn't get it or weren't at the December meeting be sure to pick up your copy from Gary Lenius this Sunday.

Frank reports that the cupboard is bare as far as new content goes so he is appealing once again for contributions from the members. Articles, book and figure reviews, show reports, letters to the editor, etc.... All are needed to fill up the next issue.

You can send him your input at frank_mackay@hotmail.com

— UPCOMING SHOWS —

Florida Toy Soldier, Action Figure, Toy And Collectibles Show, January 25, 2015

Something for the snowbirds (got to be warmer than here). 9am to 3 pm at The Scottish Rites Masonic Hall, 2000 North D Street, Lake Worth, Florida 33460

www.southfloridatoysoldier.com

Atlanta Model Figure Show, Feb 13-15, 2015

Major connoisseur figure show.

Atlanta Marriott Century Center. 2000 Century Boulevard N, Atlanta, GA 30345

www.atlantafigures.org/show-information.html

HeritageCon 2015, March 22, 2015

Model show and competition put on by the IPMS Hamilton group. 9 am to 4 pm, \$7 admission. At the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Hamilton.

www.ipmshamilton.ca

Gettysburg Toy Soldier Show, April 26, 2015

10 am to 3 pm. \$6 admission. At the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, 2634 Emmitsburg Road, Gettysburg PA.

www.toysoldiershowpromo.com/annual_gettysburg_show

On Parade 2015, May 2, 2015

Our own annual show.

Other Collectible Shows

Check out www.collectorshows.ca for some other locally hosted toy, train, and nostalgia shows.

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

On Facebook?

Make sure and check out our Facebook group maintained by Dave Norman.

www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/