

The
**Ontario
 Model
 Soldier
 Society**
 Founded 1962
 www.omss.ca



Monthly Newsletter for December



Monthly Meeting Dates for 2017

8 January 2017 - 12 February 2017 – 12 March 2017
 9 April 2017 - 7 May 2017 - 10 September 2017
 15 October 2017 - 5 November 2017 - 10 December 2017

Annual Show & Competition – 10 June 2017

Monthly Newsletter for December 2016

2016 Executive

Tom Elliot
 President

Jim Qualtrough
 1st vice president

John Hambly
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
 Secretary/Treasurer

Gail Stone
 Past President

Eric Clarke
 Program Chairman

Frank MacKay
 Journal editor

Norm White
 Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt
 Newsletter Editor & Media
 Officer

Dave Norman
 Facebook Page Manager

Jim Matresky
 Awards Co-ordinator

Next meeting...

Sunday, 11 December, 2016 – Christmas Luncheon

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto
 Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am and meeting is in the
 front Club Room!

Letter from the President

This is my final Presidents message for the year. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe Happy New Year.

It has been an honour to be President of The Ontario Model soldier Society this past year.

Thank you to all the members of the executive for your support over the past year and in particular thanks to Jim Qualtrough who has helped me and the club in so many ways.



I would like to recognize and thank the many volunteers not on the executive who contribute so much to the success of the club. Scott Dummitt in particular as editor of the news letter and for securing our new venue and for all his advice and support over the past year.

Thanks to the many volunteers who made our auction a lot of fun and a great success raising \$120.00 through 7 lots for the club.

I am looking forward to 2017 it will be an exciting year with lots of opportunities to participate and grow with the club. The Legion has advised that our meeting location is secure for the next year.

It's time to start planning and working on projects to participate in ON PARADE 2017 on June 10th with Norm White our show chairman.

Thank you for a wonderful year.

Tom Elliot

What's New in the Hobby – Happy Holidays to One and All

by Brendan Hogan

With the Holiday season approaching, I've elected to focus on Christmas and winter related toy soldier



K&C's new Christmas releases grouped together in a merry little vignette

village Christmas tree. To remind collectors of the true meaning of Christmas, K&C has also added a stable, shepherds, a goat herder, and Jesus with John the Carpenter in his shop to the "Life of Jesus" series.

Next up is Beau Geste, who has produced a pair of First World War pack mules carrying supplies being led by a British infantryman wearing his goatskin jerkin. Although the British army developed a highly sophisticated logistics system to sustain its operations in France and Flanders, supplies often had to be carried by pack mules into the forward areas due to damage to logistical infrastructure by shelling or extremely muddy conditions. Interestingly, the goatskin jerkin was preferred by the soldiers in cold weather over the



Beau Geste's 428B - Pack Mules carrying supplies for Winter British Infantry, WWI

greatcoat, since the coat's long tails often became heavily coated with mud from the trenches. With minor adaption or slight imagination, this Tommy could easily be turned into a soldier from the Canadian Corps.

Although not holiday related per se, I would be remiss if I didn't inform OMSS collectors about Thomas Gunn Miniatures' new First World War figure of Raymond Collishaw. He was a distinguished Canadian fighter pilot, squadron leader, and commanding officer who served in the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) and later the Royal Air Force. Collishaw was the highest scoring RNAS flying ace and the second highest scoring Canadian pilot of the First World War. He was noted as a great leader in the air, leading many of his own formations into battle. As a member of the RAF during the Second World War, he commanded No. 204 Group (which later became the Desert Air Force) in North Africa. Collishaw left the service highly decorated at the rank of Air Vice Marshal. TGM depicts him, all bundled up, preparing to climb into his aircraft. Collectors

sets for this month's edition of "Whats new in the Hobby". King & Country leads the way with a plethora of seasonal releases. First up are three figures from Charles Dickens's classic "A Christmas Carol". K&C has produced Ebenezer Scrooge as well as the ghosts of Jacob Marley and Christmas Present. K&C has also released a set of Santa and his elves, Snowman family and a Dickens



TGM's GW073B Raymond
Collishaw

should note that this figure is limited to 100 pieces. Interestingly enough, John Jenkins Designs released Collishaw's Sopwith Triplane N533 "C" "Black Maria", 10 Naval Squadron last month.

If you haven't seen them yet, William Britain Limited released a series of coffee mugs that make perfect Christmas gifts. There are scenes depicting the US Civil War, the Pontiac Rebellion (Bush Run), WWII and the Vikings, and all are produced using Britain figures. My favourite however is based on a WWI British slogan, "Keep Calm and Collect Toy Soldiers", now what collector can resist that?

That's it for this month. I'd like to wish all OMSS members and Their families a Happy Holidays And best wishes for 2017.



OMSS Annual Dues

It's that time of year again, you know. No I'm not talking about looking for Christmas gifts, I mean that time where you get your cheques into Gary Lenius for your annual OMSS dues.

10 newsletters, a calendar, and the Journal, plus 9 meetings and our annual show all for \$35.00 a year, \$20.00 to Junior members. Now that's a deal!

If you can't pay at the December meeting then how about sending your cheque or money order to:

OMSS

43 Saugeen Crescent
Scarborough, Ont.
M1K 3M8

**Make cheques or money
orders payable to the
Ontario Model Soldier
Society**

Quartermaster Stores

Moulds for Sale! - After many years of creating miniature armies, Dave Purton has decided to sell off his moulds and casting machine. The moulds consists of: Napoleonics, Indian, British Raj, artillery, elephants, camels, U.S. Civil War, English Civil War, civilians, cavalry, etc. There is also a spin caster available. For further information contact Dave Purton at dpurton@cogeco.ca or phone: (519) 948 – 6081.

Britains 2nd Quality Figure Collection for Sale – Jeff Duncan reports that Mary Shields, a family friend, is looking to sell off a collection of late pre-war/early post war William Britain Limited 2nd Quality Painting figures. There are approximately 250 + figures, in addition to hundreds of home cast circa 1940/50s slush figures. The Britains figures consist mainly of Guards Regiments, Line Infantry and Highlanders, condition rated as mainly Fair condition. Jeff is willing to help with the transition of the sale if you are interested. Jeff's phone number is: (519) 856-6134. Mary's phone number is (519) 938-2578.

2017 OMSS Calendars

Please take note that the 2017 OMSS Calendar will be available at the December meeting. If you don't plan on making the meeting you can arrange for a friend to pick it up, or pick it up in January. Members outside the province will have their calendar mailed to them.

A Message from President Elect Jim Qualtrough

Merry Christmas Everybody!!!

I wish all our members and their extended families a very happy holiday season. I thank you for the opportunity to be your President for the next year. I sure have a lot to compete with considering the other President Elect south of our border. He might be a little more famous and a lot more outspoken than me but, I will do my best for you.

I want to thank the hard work of our current President Tom Elliott. Tom has a calm, cool and collected manner about him. That demeanour came in handy this year when we had to make some big decisions regarding the annual show. His leadership was apparent when we pulled off a successful show at Old Fort York and although attendance was down, we were able to make a go of it. We have since changed locations for 2017 and Tom was a big part of the site inspection and planning for the switch to Humber College. So, Thank You Tom for a great job as President.

Have to give a shout out to other hard workers going the extra mile for the club like Gary Lenius. He is the man that does 'everything'. I have had the pleasure of working with Gary and we have been successful in setting up our bank account on line with much easier access for reporting. Also, Jeff Duncan continues to lug all the Club 'stuff' around every month and runs the draw table. This is outstanding effort and brings some hard earned revenue to the coffers as well as the annual club table at the show and club entries at the annual auction. Great job Jeff. Norm White pulled through for us again and ran the Annual Show at Fort York and is leading the team again with the capable assistance of Scott Dummitt for next year's show. Scott also does our monthly newsletter which is a main point of contact for all members of the club. These are huge commitments on their time and energy and we need to thank them for their service to our club. Others include Frank MacKay with the mammoth tasks of the Journal and annual calendar. Eric Clarke organized our monthly speakers and Ian Pearson is our club historian. David Norman has been monitoring the online Facebook chat group. Lastly thank you to our new Journal Editor, Brendan Hogan, for volunteering to take over from Frank. As you can see, there is a lot of work going on for OMSS and I am proud to be a member.

Thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 210 for continuing our contract for the past year and carrying on with us for the next season as well. Special thanks to Comrade Kevin MacLean for consistently being there every meeting.

I ask each of you to be safe this holiday season. Please reach out to members who have not been around our monthly gatherings for a while and give them our heartfelt best wishes.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Jim Qualtrough

This Month in History

December 11, 1941 - A major turning point in World War II occurred as Japan's Axis partners, Italy and Germany, both declared war on the United States. The U.S. Congress immediately declared war on them. President Roosevelt then made the defeat of Hitler the top priority, devoting nearly 90 percent of U.S. military resources to the war in Europe.

December 15, 1964 - Canada adopted a new national flag featuring a red maple leaf on a white background.



of Red & White flags showing our Veterans that they are not forgotten.

“We will Remember Them!”

Membership Increase

At the November meeting we had two more people join the society. They are Tracy Morrison and Marc Content. Tracy is the daughter of long time member Harold Morrison, and is a new member. Marc, who resides in Scarborough, is returning to the OMSS after an absence of 15 years. Prior to that he had been a member for 10 years.

OMSS Membership Milestones

Each December we recognize members who have been with us for a significant number of years by awarding our membership pins. This year we will celebrate four members who have completed 10 years of membership and so have earned our Bronze Pin. They are Scott Dummitt, Jim Qualtrough, Doug Turner and William Wyatt. Also this year we congratulate two members who have reached 25 years of membership with our Gold Pin, William Ko and Bruce Sundstrom. Their pins will be presented at the December meeting.

Celebrating Our Veterans

This November the Society once again supported Sunnybrook Veterans Centre’s “Raise a Flag” event. This is an annual fund raising event in which donors purchase a flag for Remembrance Day. On the morning of November 11th the lawns in front of Sunnybrook’s Veterans wing are a sea



The newsletter is edited by Scott Dummitt.
News items and notices can be submitted to gijoe@kos.net or 705-939-1028
Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings
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