

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



Monthly Newsletter for January 2017

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2017

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

Annual Show

Saturday June 10, 2017

Monthly Newsletter for January 2017

2017 Executive

Jim Qualtrough
 President

John Hambly
 1st vice president

Geoff Price
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
 Secretary/Treasurer

Tom Elliot
 Past President

Eric Clarke
 Program Chairman

Brendan Hogan
 Journal Editor

Norm White
 Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt
 Newsletter Editor & Media
 Officer

Dave Norman
 Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay
 Calendar Co-ordinator

Next meeting...

Sunday, 8 January, 2017

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



Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and were able to spend quality time with family and friends. We sure had a great time at our Christmas lunch with lots of food, treats and camaraderie. Congratulations to the winners of our annual awards. Each of them are role models and mentors to many of us. I look forward to getting started in January with our monthly meetings. We have an interesting line up of speakers. Every month we will also see a return of our OMSS friend Guy Elliott's segment highlighting interesting facts. As usual, we will have our club draw table, please look around and see what you can donate to the table to keep it interesting.

Thanks to Geoff Price who has stepped up and accepted the 2nd Vice President position. I appreciate all the hard work being done behind the scenes to make this club such a success. Please reach out to members that have not been out for a while and let them know that we encourage them to come back. Come on out and mingle with other collectors, painters, vendors and like-minded hobbyists.

Jim Qualtrough

OMSS Members visit Sir Arthur Currie Exhibit



L – R: OMSS members Jim Qualtrough, Richard Moore and Garry Robson looking over Charles Buchanan's statue of Sir Arthur Currie.

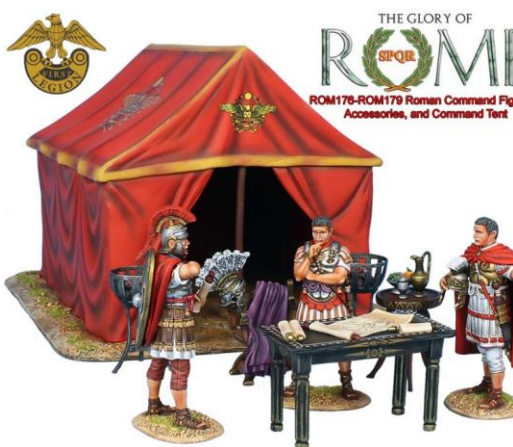
In early December several members of the OMSS travelled to the Peterborough Museum & Archives to see the Sir Arthur Currie exhibit that was on loan from Museum Strathroy-Caradoc. The exhibit featured many artifacts from Currie's youth and military career, supplemented by First World War artifacts from the Peterborough Museum & Archives' own collection. In particular was a photo of Currie as an Officer in the Gordon Highlanders of Canada. This unit was a militia regiment stationed in Victoria BC, but was disbanded as WWI began. It was eventually revived as the Canadian Scottish Regiment of the 16th Battalion. Another eye catching piece was a 16" statue of Currie. On closer inspection the group realized that it was created by former OMSS member Charles Buchanan. It was an impressive likeness of the general and anyone who remembers Charles's work can see that it displays some of his finest skills. Another piece of the collection was three small 1/72 battlefield dioramas, depicting several Mark IV tanks in action as well as Canadian and German troops. Other areas in the museum also had a few gems for militaria collectors as there were early Militia uniforms for the 57th Battalion (The Peterborough Rangers) and the Prince of Wales Dragoons. In another section we found a French Cuirass, lance and bugle, all brought back from Waterloo by Peter Robinson, a well known early Peterborough resident. There were some real treasures to see at the museum and it was well worth our time to make the trip to Peterborough.

Left: Statue of Sir Arthur Currie which was created by Charles Buchanan.



What's New in the Hobby – Marching in the New Year by Brendan Hogan

With the Holiday season behind us now, it's time to take a look at what toy soldiers have been released in the last month or so. First up is Tradition of London, who have produced a new series entitled the "American-Indian Wars." The series centres around the ill-fated battle between Lieutenant-Colonel George Armstrong Custer's 7th Cavalry Regiment and Sitting Bull's combined force of Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors near the Little Bighorn River in eastern Montana on 25-26 June 1876. Thus far, Tradition's new series consist of Sitting Bull, Custer, and three warriors charging on their ponies.



First Legion added to their "Glory of Rome" series this month by producing a Roman general and his staff discussing the conduct of the campaign. Also available are camp accessories and a command tent. These make useful additions to any collector who wishes to make a diorama or display of Roman camp life. The Rebel or Patriot ranks (depending on which side of the border you reside on) of First Legions' American War of Independence were bolstered this month with troopers of the 3rd Continental Light Dragoons. This regiment fought in many of the war's battles including Brandywine, Germantown, Guildford Court House, Cowpens and Eutaw Springs.

As always, King & Country has unveiled a plethora of new figures this month ranging from Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men in Sherwood forest to a commando of the Singapore Armed Forces Commando Formation on parade – and everything else in between! Standouts include Napoleon and his ADC's, figures from the classic British TV comedy, *Blackadder Goes Forth*, and Major Dick Winters – the commander of Easy Company, 506th PIR, 101st Airborne Division – soldiers who were made famous



by Stephen Ambrose's book *Band of Brothers*, which was later adapted into a TV series by HBO. Thomas Gunn Miniatures also released a number of figures from various eras, including Imperial Rome, the Great War, and the Second World War. TGM followed up last month's release of Canadian naval aviator Raymond Collishaw with a figure of Billy Bishop. Bishop was a Victoria Cross recipient and Canada's highest-scoring

First World War ace with 72 confirmed kills. Collectors who prefer bivouac or day-to-day displays/dioramas will be pleased to note that TGM has added a figure washing laundry to its previously released First World War “behind the lines” range of figures.

Finally, but certainly not least, Beau Geste has added more figures to its magnificent Delhi Durbar series. This particular batch of soldiers are

Cavalrymen from Bundi, a region in northwest India. They look resplendent in their traditional Indian dress and will be a welcome addition to any collector interested in the British Indian army.



JOURNAL ARTICLES **NEEDED**

Late last year, Brendan Hogan volunteered to take over as editor of the OMSS JOURNAL. Well here is your opportunity to help Brendan out. He needs articles for the Journal and he needs them from OMSS members. Whether it is a letter to the Editor, commenting on whatever you want to say with regards to the OMSS, a piece on your collection, or some place you have visited with military miniatures, this is your chance to contribute. You must sign your name to any comments you make, and you cannot submit pieces from other magazines. The JOURNAL is 100% original contents, from OMSS members. You can

Send your articles or comments by email or mail to:

Brendan Hogan

301 Fynamore Street (Apt # 318)

Oromocto, N.B.

E2V 0K3

Email: brendanhogan29@gmail.com

Phone: (613) 929-3757

Remember to downsize any photos you send and please send descriptions of what they are about.

You have a member who is willing to keep the Journal going but he needs your help to do so.

This Month in History

12/1/1900 - Canadian Patriotic Fund is established by Lord Minto to assist disabled soldiers and their dependents.

25/1/1900 - Militia Order No. 20 gives nursing sisters the rank and pay allowance of Lieutenants.

2/1/1940 - The awarding of Distinguished Flying Cross (each) to two Canadians serving in the Royal Air Force, Pilot-Officer S.R. Henderson and Wing-Commander J.F. Griffiths, is announced. They are the first Canadians to be decorated during the Second World War

Did You Know?



Winston Churchill always liked to dabble. He suggested during WWII, after being approached by Lord Mountbatten, that the Admiralty look into building convoy aircraft carriers out of a wood and ice mixture. Project Habakkuk was a plan to make carriers out of pykrete (a mixture of wood pulp and ice). The original idea had been thought up by Geoffrey Pyke who worked at Combined Operations Headquarters. A small prototype was constructed at Lake Louise Alberta but scuttled in 1943. Of interest was the construction was done by conscientious objectors which were against their rights and beliefs as they were exempt from contributing to the war effort.

On Parade 2017 Vendors Listing

Each month starting in January 2017 we will be publishing the names of vendors who have signed up and paid for their spot at 'ON PARADE' 2017. This gives those attending a chance to approach or contact these vendors prior to the show and

addition this section will indicate who plans on setting up on 9 June for room trading at Humber College.

Vendors

Tommy & Kirk Thompson – Vintage hollow cast William Britain Figures – (705) 252-0990 or Kirk (647) 500-7795.

John Brown – Vintage Toy Soldiers, home castings and Militaria – (905) 275-2446

SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS – W. Britain Ltd, John Jenkins Designs, Thomas Gunn Miniatures, Del Prado, Armies in Plastic, Pride of the Nation and More – (705) 939-1028 – **Room Trader.**

Bob Thompson – New (post 1967) sold out Britains toy soldiers, Plastic figures, Military Collectible Cards and Vintage metal & plastic figure sets - (613) 523-3103 – **Room Trader.**

CLUB MEMBER'S REPORT ON HUMBER COLLEGE ACCOMODATIONS by Dennis DeRusha

The rooms are Spartan but they are clean and comfortable. There are two separate bedrooms with a double bed in each with a small desk and bedside lamp. There is a kitchen with a full size fridge, standard size kitchen sink, a fair amount of cupboard space, an adequate micro wave oven, and a small table with two chairs. The bathroom has a large shower stall, a small sink and standard toilet. There is no TV or radio and no phone so you would need a cell phone.

We found the area to be rather quiet and relatively sound proof with one opening window placed very high on the wall. Beds aren't remade in the morning and the rooms not cleaned daily but again everything is very clean when checking in. There is a small food court but I am not aware of the hours that it is open. The parking is free on the weekends and I believe the cost for parking at other times is a reasonable \$7.00 per day, the cost for staying there at that time (June) were around \$80.00 plus tax but no extra room taxes so prevalent in the Toronto area. We highly recommend these accommodations and we will definitely be staying there for the show next June. A real plus is that students are in NOT residence at this time and that may explain why it is rather quiet. I trust that this info assists you but don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further help.

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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