

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



Monthly Newsletter for 10 February 2019

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2019

13 January 2019 - 10 February 2019 – 10 March 2019
 14 April 2019 - 5 May 2019 – 8 September 2019
 6 October 2019– 17 November 2019 - 8 December 2019

Annual Show

Saturday June 15, 2019

Month Newsletter for February 2019

2019 Executive

Lorne Farr
 President

Keith Ritchie
 1st vice president

Scott Millburn
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
 Secretary/Treasurer

John Hambly
 Past President

Vacant
 Program Chairman

Brendan Hogan
 Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt
 Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt
 Newsletter Editor/ Media
 Officer

Dave Norman
 Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay
 Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan
 Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist
 Ian Pearson

Next meeting...

Sunday, 10 February, 2019

Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto
 Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

Letter from the President



We held our first meeting of year on January 13, 2019. A thank you to Frank MacKay and his team for producing the 2019 OMSS calendar, which was distributed at the December meeting. Frank spoke at the January meeting on the need for both photographers and volunteers to help with the 2020 calendars. Frank indicated most of the photos used in the 2019 calendar came from Keith Ritchie, so there is a need for more photographers. Frank will be organizing a meeting of those interested in working on the 2020 calendar, in the spring. Guy Elliot gave us an interesting presentation on how the 18th century treaties between England and France affected the French speaking Acadians living in what is now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Scott Dummitt presented a hands-on demonstration of casting model soldiers using Prince August molds. Scott used to make (or still produces) a commercial line of model soldiers. He described and showed the casting process from the heating of the pewter metal, the preparation of the molds, to the opening of the molds. Based on this demonstration, the casting process produces a good soldier figure. He also gave us information on how he modifies the figures to produce soldiers with the uniforms of the regiment that he wants.

Keith Ritchie is scheduled to speak at the February meeting on weathering painting techniques.

The OMSS is looking for a Program Director to coordinate the speakers at the

President's Message continued from page 1

monthly meetings. Anyone interested in the position can speak to me or one of the members of the Executive.

Phil Andrews and Ian Pearson, our OMSS judges at the On Parade show, are looking for members who are interested in becoming show judges. Phil and Ian will provide the volunteers with training on the art of judging. Anyone interested in becoming a judge can speak to Phil or Ian.

Have a happy Family Day

OMSS President Lorne Farr

ON PARADE 2019 VENDORS

Each month starting in January 2019 we will be publishing the names of vendors who have signed up and paid for their spot at 'ON PARADE' 2019. This gives those attending a chance to approach or contact these vendors prior to the show and make arrangements for picking up certain items. In addition this section will indicate who plans on setting up on 14 June for room trading at Humber College. Room trading will take place between 6 pm & 8:30 pm. Want to be included in the list? Just print off the 2019 vendor's form on the OMSS web site and get your cheque into Gary Lenius as soon as possible.

Vendors

John Brown – Vintage Toy Soldiers, home castings and Militaria – (905) 275-2446 – Email: johnev@sympatico.ca.

SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS – W. Britain Ltd, John Jenkins Designs, Thomas Gunn Miniatures, Del Prado, Armies in Plastic, Pride of the Nation and More. www.gjoeccanada.com – (705) 939-1028 – Email: gjoe@kos.net - Room Trader

Ed Tansley – Ducal Toy Soldiers, Queen Victoria's, MARS, Old & New W. Britain Ltd, Fusilier, and various other productions. – (416) 695-0609 – Email: edtansley@hotmail.com

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

Andy Traverse – Toy soldiers plus "bits and pieces that might appeal to collectors" – (905)-869-8701 – Email: andytraverse123@gmail.com

NOTE: Vendors planning on bringing in extra display shelves or floor displays MUST have protective floor padding underneath these items. No Padding, No displays!

JOURNAL ARTICLES – "JOURNAL" Editor Brendan Hogan has pointed out that he needs at least three more articles to publish a SPRING edition of the publication. If you have something to add to our society publication send it to Brendan at: brendanhogan29@gmail.com. We are also looking for advertisers as well.



In Memory of Frank Ellis

Frank passed away suddenly at his home on Friday, January 18 at the age of 88. Survived by his wife Mary (nee McGinty). Loving father of Colleen Ellis-Turco (Alex) and Tom Ellis (Jennifer) and dear uncle to his fond niece Maryann and nephew Peter.

Frank was a teacher for the MSSB until retirement, and an active member of St. Ann's Catholic Church in Ancaster. He was a member of the Third Order of St. Francis. Frank was a proud veteran of the Royal Canadian Regiment and served during the Korean War, he was also a long time member of the Ontario Model Soldier Society, and a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 163.

He sang in choirs, loved good music and will be cheerfully remembered for his spontaneous sense of humour. Frank was a kind and caring person and will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

OMSS Quarter Master Stores



WWII 1/43 Scale Armoured Vehicles for Sale – Three die-cast vehicles, including crews, featuring a Humber Armoured Car, U.S. M20 Armoured Car and U.S. Half-Track A.A. (quad 50 calibre machine guns). Asking price is \$35.00 each for the Humber and M20 and \$45.00 for the Half-Track. Shipping is extra. If you are interested please contact Guy Elliott at 416-444-9054 or email: sandy-guy@sympatico.ca.



CANADA REMEMBERS COLLECTOR PLATES

This limited edition set of 10 plates illustrating the three services, merchant marine, campaigns and units was created by David Craig. Certificates are not available with this set. All plates are in very good condition with original boxes and plate hangars. This was a \$400 value when first purchase. I would like \$250.00 for complete collection. If interested contact Scott Dummitt at (705) 939-1028 or email gijoe@kos.net.



What's New in the Hobby? – February 2019

by Brendan Hogan

The major toy soldier companies have been busy starting off the New Year. There're quite a few items that made an appearance this month, and I'll highlight my four favourites. From Thomas Gunn Miniatures (TGM) is the Super Snipe staff car (GB011A, GB011B, GB011C, GB011D). Used extensively by senior officers in Europe and the

Desert, this car comes painted in olive drab or tan. With the "Monty" figure, the car comes to \$146 CAD and without \$127 CAD. If interested get your orders in soon. TGM had produced only 50 of each vehicle! John Jenkins Designs (JJD) has a number of exciting releases this month. My personal favourites are the RAF fighter pilot (RAF-01D) and the set of First Nations women making moccasins (RSF-34 Moccasin Maintenance). The Native women, in particular, are a useful set. They can be used in dioramas ranging



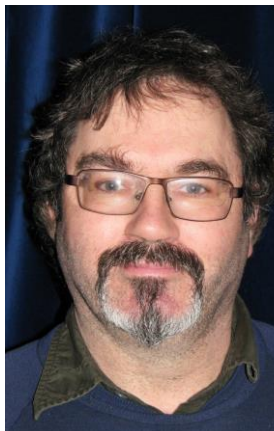
from the first European explorers to the War of 1812 and would make a particularly nice addition to



Lacrosse series that JJD has made. The pilot costs \$54 CAD and the moccasin makers \$108 CAD. As always, King & Country has put out a number of excellent figures. One of the more storied is Gunny John Canley (VN035). Marine Gunnery Sgt. John Canley served multiple tours in South Vietnam between 1965 and 1970. In January 1968, he was part of the USMC forces sent into Hue to help recapture the city and relieve the beleaguered American and South Vietnamese troops. On numerous occasions, despite being wounded himself, 'Gunny' Canley ran across fire-swept terrain to rescue wounded Marines, took command of his company for three days after its officers had been killed or wounded. He led a number of assaults on enemy bunkers and defences often exposing him to direct enemy fire. For his heroism

he received the Navy Cross, which was recently upgraded to the Medal of Honor when in 2018 President Donald J. Trump presented John Canley with his medal.





February Meeting Lecturer – Keith Ritchie

Keith Ritchie has been with the OMSS for several years, but has a much longer history in modelling, going back to plastic models in the 70s and early 80s (it's the Ritchie genes). A break from the hobby ended when I got into 1/6 figures in 1999, largely taken by Dragon's figures. I became quite involved and was a moderator and Dragon on its 1/6 figure and model line from 2005 to 2013. This got me back into modelling, and I have gone back to smaller scales – 1/35, 64mm and 60mm in plastic and metal. A statistician by background, I worked first in telecom for Bell Canada, but have been at the Ontario Energy Board for nearly 20 years. (And back in my University days, I worked as a (civilian) statistical programmer at the Canadian Forces Personnel Applied Research Unit (attached to CFB Toronto at the time) during 6 Co-op work terms (2 years) from 1978 to 1981.)

My discussion is on weathering - how to get a more realistic look of something that is used and/or exposed to the elements. This is not only for vehicles, but also applies to equipment, helmets, weapons (especially in the 1/6 scale), but also background equipment – fences, wells, walls, barrels – and bases – streets and sidewalks in town, and rural settings. Back in the 1970s, I largely did this primarily by dry-brushing. However, in the early 2000s, some companies came out with weathering pastels – some for models but others for model railroading. Paints have also improved and multiplied in colours and textures – washes, gritty terrain, etc., from various manufacturers. Diorama workshops I have attended with Britains have helped me learn techniques, and I have experimented to gain more skills. I will talk about paints, techniques (dry-brushing and washes), and resources for weathering, with examples from 1/6 and smaller scales.

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.
Articles submitted must be original as due to copy write law we cannot reproduce any
published article without permission of the publication in question**

On Facebook?

Make sure and check out our Facebook group maintained by Dave Norman. There are lots of interesting postings. www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/

William Britain Limited: A Company Ahead of it's Time?

If you're a fan of the PBS "Victoria on Masterpiece" series you may have noticed in Episode 26 that one of the Queen's Ladies in Waiting had a box of toy soldiers to give to her son as a gift. The soldiers in reference were a set of Scots Guards made by William Britain Limited. The year in question however was 1848 and Britains wasn't around until 1893. What was also observed were the figures used were from the William Britain Ceremonial series, which wasn't introduced until the 1970's.

THE CAPITAL NEWS - (from the OMSS Ottawa Chapter)

By Bob Thompson

First, thanks go out to Ottawa member Michel Caron who organized our first club information/display table at the January 12-13 Aylmer Hobby Show.

Our January 22 meeting saw our largest turnout to date, with 17 enthusiastic hobbyists.

We had a look at the first series of proposed designs for a rollup banner stand to promote the OMSS Ottawa Chapter. After some discussion there was no consensus of what figures should be on the banner, but it was agreed that a "Queen's Ranger" should be prominent as it is the iconic, signature figure for the OMSS.

Following a discussion of upcoming shows, and a report from the Aylmer Hobby Show, it was time for our rotating "Show & Tell" presentations. This month's topic was "scale", and there were a number of presentations regarding various hobby scales. Doug Cope had an interesting display of model railroad track sizes. The concept of 'scale' versus 'proportion' versus 'track gauge' was discussed.

The next meeting of OMSS Ottawa is Tuesday February 26. The Show & Tell theme is "War Heroes".

Visiting the "Capital Region"? Why not join us for one of the Ottawa Branch's meetings. Contact Bob Thompson 613-523-3103 or Email: thompson_robert@rogers.com for meeting dates and timings.



ON PARADE 2019 "Meet & Greet" Dinner & Bar

We are once again encouraging OMSS members and non members to join us at our end of show "Meet & Greet" gathering after the annual show at Humber on the 15th June, 2019. Last year we had 29 people attend the event and from what we heard everyone enjoyed themselves. The dinner features a choice of Chicken Breast or Beef 'n' Lob, Ice Tea, and desert, all for \$20.00 if you buy your ticket before the show, \$22.50 at the door. There will be a pay as you go bar, open until 10 pm and both William Britain Limited and John Jenkins Designs have contributed figures for door prizes. If you plan on staying overnight at Humber College, it's a great way to unwind after the show without rushing out to look for a restraint. See Gary Lenius or Scott Dummitt to purchase your tickets* for the event.

Accommodations at Humber College will once again be available to attendees of the show for the 14th and 15th of June, 2019. You must book online for your rooms, however if you have trouble booking online contact Humber College Accommodations Monday to Friday, between 8 am and 4 pm at 1-888-548-6327. Tell them you would like to be placed in the OMSS Show room area. A two bedroom suite with double beds, bathroom with shower, Kitchenette with microwave and full fridge is approximately: \$80 + HST per night (Max occupancy: 4)