

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



Monthly Newsletter for February 2020

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2020

12 January 2020 - 9 February 2020 – 8 March 2020
 5 April 2020 - 3 May 2020 – 13 September 2020
 18 October 2020– 22 November 2020 - 13 December 2020

Annual Show

Saturday June 13, 2020

Month Newsletter for February 2020

2020 Executive

Keith Ritchie
 President

Scott Millburn
 1st vice president

Vacant
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
 Secretary/Treasurer

Lorne Farr
 Past President

Vacant
 Program Chairman

Vacant
 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, 9 February 2020

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

Letter from the President



It is February already. I made it through the first meeting without getting impeached. (Maybe it is only guys named Donald and born in June 1946 that that happens to recently. We may know one of those.). Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate for the February meeting, and for all of the rest of the year. We had a low turnout, of over twenty members. However, with the winter weather that hit to the west, north and east of Toronto and the GTA, this was understandable – safety first. Nevertheless, we had an engaging meeting. I talked about a new segment that I would like to introduce, to allow Guy Elliot to relax a bit more, and to invite others to step up and give a talk about some hobby or history item that they have discovered and that might be of interest to, and educational for, all members. I have (naturally), called it Guy's (or Guys') Talk, since hopefully some guy (or woman) – or Guy himself – will give this talk. Doesn't have to be every meeting. I will give the inaugural talk at the February meeting regarding a soldier who fought at the Battle of Shiloh who I have researched a bit.

A small but very engaging crowd for Andy Traverse's talk on the making of the film Zulu, and a very well delivered sequel by Andy to last year's presentation. He is so knowledgeable about this, and his stories about the actors, the production, the filming locations, and issues with the studios, the South African government, censorship and the Zulus was well appreciated and generated a lot of questions. I want to thank Andy again for getting us off to a successful start.

On a related note, I see that W Britain has indicated that 4 new Zulu figures are now in stock. Maybe one day, Britain's will have more Zulu warriors than there were in the movie!

... Continued on page Two

President's Message continued from Page One

In addition to my short talk, the main presenter this month will be a friend of Frank MacKay, Ron Dixon, on 3D printing. Ron has been a guest presenter at the club in the past. I, for one, am looking forward to this talk.

A call out to all members to let us, on the Executive and other positions, know of your ideas. And of course, we invite you to also step forward where you can contribute, in presentations, or other capacities. And a reminder, per my first message and also delivered in the January meeting, that we have current and upcoming vacancies. And we will also need volunteers to help out at the Annual Show in various capacities.

Hopefully, the weather will cooperate for February, and Scott can give an update for the plans for the June Annual Show at Humber College.

I hope to see you all at the February meeting.

OMSS President Keith Ritchie

February Guest Speaker

Many members will remember our guest speaker Ron Dixon who gave an extremely interesting talk on resin casting for modellers last year. It was one of the best presentations we've had in a long time and proved very informative and helpful to many. At the February 9 meeting Frank MacKay has persuaded him to return and give a presentation on 3D printing for modellers. This miraculous new innovation is commonly regarded as the wave of the future and is used industrially to design and manufacture model soldiers, busts and model parts by manufacturers in China. Someday every home may own one as a common appliance and you may be designing your own figures. Be sure to attend on February 9 and see the future of modeling with the guidance of an expert!

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 copyright law we cannot reproduce any published article without permission of the publication in question

AS OF JUNE 2020 I WILL BE STEPPING DOWN FROM DOING THE NEWSLETTER. WE STILL HAVE HAD NO ONE OFFER TO TAKE OVER WHICH MAY RESULT IN NO FUTURE MONTHLY PUBLICATION!

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/

What's New in the Hobby? February 2020 by Scott Dummitt

Looking at the various items released in late January/early February, there seems to be a little something different for everyone.

King & Country has released four highly animated native Americans in their "Real West" series. Included in the foursome is *Sitting Bull*, *Kicking Bear*,



Yellow Knife, and *American Flag*. The price on these are a bit breathtaking as well as they sell for approximately \$165.80 each. K&C has also released a new M113 APC, tank riders and APC Crew in its Vietnam series. The APC is specially interesting considering the fact that the Canadian Forces used this vehicle as well for many years. The APC sells for approximately \$358.60 while the 2-man crew set goes for around \$110.00, the single crewman is \$56.00 Cdn and the USMC tank riders sell for \$166.00 Cdn.

John Jenkins has finally released a British officer to go with its 62nd Regiment of Foot figures as they



battle the rebellious colonials at Saratoga. Also included with the new JJD releases is a Mohawk Chief, very similar to their long sold out colonial militia. The British officer will sell for appx. \$56.50 Cdn while the Mohawk Chief will be \$59.00.

William Britain Ltd. has just announced the arrival of four new Zulu warriors in their Anglo-Zulu War series. These include: 20198 - Zulu Defending with Spear uDloko Regiment, 20197 - Zulu Attacking with Ax, 20196 - Zulu Attacking Low with Spear uThulwana Regiment, and 20195 - Zulu Thrusting with Spear uThulwana Regiment. Each of these figures will sell for appx. \$53.00 Cdn.

Lastly if you are a fan of the Pacific War, Thomas Gunn Club has released two new Japanese Infantrymen firing. One figure standing has a cloth cap while the kneeling soldier is wearing a netted helmet. Both have Japanese battle flags adorning their rifle stocks.



ON PARADE 2020 VENDORS

Each month starting in January 2020 we will be publishing the names of vendors who have signed up and paid for their spot at 'ON PARADE' 2020. 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 12 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 2020 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.gijoeCanada.com – (705) 939-1028 – Email: gijoe@kos.net - Room Trader

Ed Tansley – Ducal Toy Soldiers, Queen Victoria Miniatures, Gord Dumbleton figures, Norm Cuthbert figures, Old & New Britains, Marlborough and more. – (416) 695-0609 – Email: edtansley@hotmail.com.

Dennis DeRusha – Assorted Toy Soldier, Vehicles, etc - 613-592-5692 – Email: kanatad2@rogers.com

Henry Chow – Vintage (pre-1967) William Britain Limited hollow cast, Ceremonial Series, Current Britains – (416) 250-6631- Email: toysoldier.chow@gmail.com

James Cook – Variety of Toy Soldiers, mostly consisting of King & Country – (905) 205-4636 Email: carolandjim48@hotmail.com

ON PARADE 2020 UPDATE

First off I would like to remind people that our show has been moved from the Gymnasium at Humber College to the Entrepreneur Building (G-Building) on the other side of the campus. The main parking lot will still be used for parking on the Friday and Saturday, with Saturday being Free parking. It is approximately a 6 minute walk from the parking lot to the G-Building. There will be a drop off area for Vendors/Displayers on the Friday and set-up will begin as soon as we have the rooms set up on the Friday as we have the main floor rented for the day.

This year we have a block of 20 rooms put aside for us at the Humber Accommodations. Once again you can book your room using the portal posted on the OMSS web site under Annual Show. This portal should be available in early February and will probably be shut down in April. The rooms are appx. \$92.00 (tax included) per night and there are two rooms with double beds in each room, so you can split your costs with a friend or bring some company. Each room has a bathroom with shower, a microwave, table and chairs and a full size fridge. If you don't get your room before the portal is shut down, then you can still book at Humber using Expedia, however you may not be on the same floor as the rest of the ON PARADE members.

We hope to once again organize a group dinner at the Albatros Pub on Lakeshore for the Friday night. Last year we found that the food was good, reasonably priced and we had 22 people show up. We try and book for approximately 6:30 so that people can get back for the Room Trading on Friday.

Our after show "Meet & Greet" has proven to be a popular way to get together and unwind after the show on Saturday. We had 34 people attend last year and everyone had a great time. You have a choice of either a beef burger or a chicken breast with your meal, plus salad, corn, buns, desert brownies, and cold drinks, plus there is a cash bar which is open until 10 pm at reasonable prices. In addition we have lots of door prizes, three of which we have already received from Thomas Gunn Club. Price for the meal is \$20.00.

A CAPITAL REPORT (from the OMSS Ottawa Chapter)

by Bob Thompson

JANUARY 2020 OTTAWA CHAPTER MEETING ... Tuesday January 28

The evening had a full agenda, a large number of participants, and some great presentations.

Club Business – Included among the updates on various active OMSS Ottawa Chapter projects were:

- **Ottawa Chapter 'Library'** - We've agreed that no one member has the room to set up and house the entire library ... so we are going to get individual members to volunteer to "adopt" and administer a specific part of the collection. (*For example, I volunteered to be the custodian of the Britain's catalogues, and the "Standard" magazine collection.*)
- **2020 OMSS Membership Renewals** – So far we've received 2020 membership payments from 16 Ottawa members, and I'll be mailing the cheques off to the OMSS Treasurer.
- **"Battle of Chrysler's Farm in Miniature" Project** – A Facebook Group has been set up for online communication about the project ... find and join the group on Facebook at "The Battle of Chrysler's Farm in Miniature". (*We had a discussion about "Chrysler's vs Crysler's" ... we may change it!*)
- **The "Green Army Men Painting Challenge" Project** ... (*see the related newsletter article*)

What's New – A Discussion of Current hobby news – What's New, upcoming shows, and reports on recent hobby related shows, and collections.

Presentations - We had 4 presentations at the January meeting ... (*and for a change none given by me!*) First, Juan Lopez gave an interesting presentation on how to make cloth flags in any scale. Next, Tom Wright showed us another animated video of Star Wars 4"? figures on the big screen TV. Next came Francois Brisebois who gave us a review of the movie 1917. Finally George Lamb (*our resident orator*) read us his excellent paper titled "Why Join"...an accounting of what the OMSS is all about.

"Show & Tell" - The topic for this month's "Show & Tell" was "Winter". As usual we had a number of interesting presentations and stories on and off theme. However we were a bit "sparse" on the Winter theme. (*Although we did have some relevant Winter entries, Doug Cope brought out a white goat, claiming it was winter related, ... and we had a 1/6 figure of "Captain Winters" in full summer dress ..from Band of Brothers.*)

Juan Lopez brought out his newest creation ... a 1/6 figure of a Norwegian WW2 infantryman. The entire uniform, helmet, and weapon was built from scratch ... there are no commercial equivalents available.

The chosen Show & Tell theme for the February meeting is "Black History Month".

After adjournment of the meeting, there was the usual flurry of buying, selling, trading, and conversations!

Visiting the "Capital Region"?

Why not join us for one of the OMSS Ottawa Chapter Meetings?

Contact Bob Thompson 613-291-1638 or Email: thompson_robert@rogers.com for further info.

The OMSS Ottawa Chapter meets on the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the private back room of the Barley Mow Restaurant (ok ... it's really a Pub) ... at 1541 Merivale Road (corner of Capilano Drive).



Above: The cover page photo for the new Facebook Group

Right: Scratch built 1/6 scale WW2 Norwegian infantryman by Juan Lopez



The “Green Army Men Painting Challenge” Project – by Bob Thompson

As a motivational project for the Ottawa OMSS members we’ve started this “Challenge”.

Everybody who wants to participate receives an identical bag containing 8 “Green Army Men” in various poses. Each participant will have several months to “complete” their 8 figure set. There are no other ground rules ... the figures can be painted, modified, or placed in a diorama setting, as long as all 8 figures are in the ‘completed’ product.

At the April Ottawa meeting participants will bring in their “completed” set of 8 Green Army Men, and we will have an anonymous vote by all present to determine the “winner”. Francois Brisebois has donated a prize for the chosen one.



Photo Caption:

The base set of 8 Green Army Men to be “completed” for the challenge.