

The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962
www.omss.ca



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Annual Show Chairman

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Newsletter Editor

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Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan
Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist
Ian Pearson

Monthly Newsletter for April 2022

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2022

Next meeting Sunday, May 15th
Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto
Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

May 15th
September 11th - October 16th - November 13th - December 11th

Annual Show

The show will be at the Legion. Sunday, June 12th, 2022.

OMSS Ottawa meetings will be resuming in person gatherings with continued Swap Meets by Zoom meetings every other month. Both are open to all OMSS members. For an invite and link or information, please contact Bob Thompson at thompson_robert@rogers.com.

Letter from the President



It was good to see the members who showed up for the April meeting. Turnout was down – I suspect weather as well as the increased incidence of COVID cases in Ontario even as we reopen society and the economy.

I want to thank John Hambly, for his insightful talk on making wooden bases for figures and dioramas. Many members know of John's work and of his ability to deliver a talk that keeps the audience engaged. And to thank him for the bases that he allowed members to select from. I think Scott D. tried to make up for some of the club raffles where he claims that his tickets aren't drawn.

We do need a speaker for May, and ones for the fall. Please feel free to contact anyone on the Executive. It really is appreciated that members are willing to share ideas, techniques, and views. They help us to get the club and the hobby going again as we emerge from the two years of the COVID pandemic and associated restrictions.

The plans for the "On Parade" show at the Legion are well in hand, although we also would like to get volunteers to help with table set-up (at 5 p.m. on Saturday), tear down (after the show ends at 4 p.m. on Sunday), and to help out with security and other matters. Contact Jim Qualtrough or Scott Dummitt if you can help.

We will be issuing final information for the show through the Newsletter and other communication, but I would also encourage members to come out to our May meeting, if you feel safe to do so – it is the last one before the show in June.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on May 15.

2022 SHOW NEWS – Sunday June 12th

The Executive reminds all display and competition participants that due to the very limited space of the Legion Hall; the maximum size of table will be 30” x 48” (2-1/2 feet x 4 feet). 2-1/2 feet x 2 feet options will be available for smaller displays. This is per person.

THERE WILL NO EXCEPTIONS so please plan your layout accordingly. Thanks.

Motels available with Discount for people attending ON PARADE 2022

We currently have two motels in the vicinity of this year’s ON PARADE at the Royal Canadian Legion at 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke, Ontario. You must mention to the booking agent that you are booking to attend the “OMSS show”. These rates are available to anyone attending our show regardless of whether they are OMSS members or not. Please pass this information on to anyone you might think is interested.

STAY INN – 560 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke, ON (Approximately 4 minutes to the Legion) is offering rooms with 1 King size bed at \$139.00 (plus tax) and 2 Queen Size beds at \$149.00 (plus tax). If Covid Restriction are over, there is a complimentary breakfast buffet. If still in effect there is a Grab-and-Go breakfast being offered. Phone: 1-888-445-4473 or visit their web site at: <https://www.stayinnsuites.ca/>. Check in is at 3 pm. Check-out is at 11 am the next day.

CANADA’S BEST VALUE INN – 650 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke, ON (Approximately 8 minutes to the Legion) is offering rooms with 1 Queen Size bed at \$120.00 (plus tax) and 2 Queen size beds at \$140.00 (plus tax). A Grab-and-Go Breakfast is offered to patrons. Phone: 1-888-525-8346 or visit their web site at: <https://www.canadabestvalueinntoronto.com/>. The set rate guarantee is in place till 3 days prior to the event June 8th, 2022.

TO HOLD THESE RATES NEED TO BOOK BY EARLY MAY!



Make Reusable Casting Molds with this Putty Recipe | Make:

Make your own reusable casting molds! Mix up a batch of DIY molding putty using ingredients from the hardware store and kitchen.

makezine.com

<https://makezine.com/2015/06/09/make-reusable-casting-molds-putty-recipe/>

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine continues here are some mark Felton videos of interest.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75o9EyrjvDY&list=RDCMUCfCKvREB11-fxyotS1ONgww&start_radio=1
Ukraine's Lost Strategic Bomber Fleet

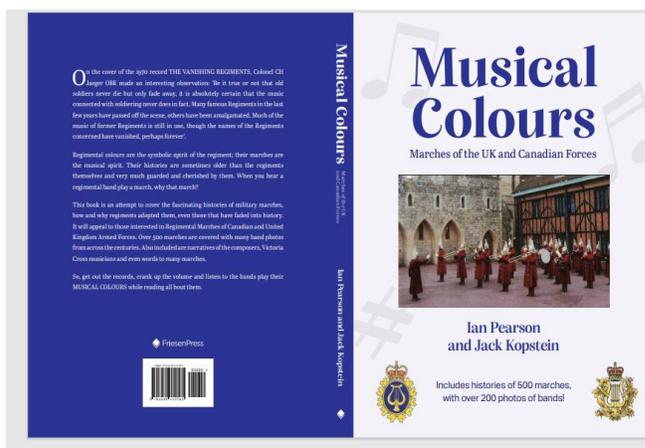
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDd8NFftuXI&list=RDCMUCfCKvREB11-fxyotS1ONgww&index=2>
WW2 Weapons Used in today's Ukraine War



John Hambly is shown above at our April 10th meeting. He took us through a “how to” building of wood bases for displaying model soldiers. John started with the “roots” of cutting the tree and the types of wood available. Then how to prepare the appropriate size, beveling, sanding, staining and varnishing techniques with the little tricks he has learned over the years. Although geared to making bases, his topic extended beyond to tips for other varieties of woodworking projects.

Thanks for putting it together.

Congratulations are due to OMSS Archivist and Chief Judge Ian Pearson who, with co-author Jack Kopstien, has just published *Musical Colours*, an invaluable resource for all lovers of military music. The book is available on [amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca) or [friesenpress.com](https://www.friesenpress.com). Note Ian has mentioned a revised version will be coming out in July.



What's New in the Hobby, March 2022

By Scott Dummitt

There is a plethora of new items this month and we are looking at some of the more extravagant, as well as Canadiana. First off, hot off the press, is BTSC's new Observation balloons. They represent the Great War era and there is a British as well as a German version. The balloon diameter measures 200 mm and the height is 500 mm. Each set comes with balloon & basket, three figures, cart with accessories and an acrylic display stand. Cost is approximately \$550.00 Cdn and there is a slight wait as the balloons are custom made.

Next in our line-up and a few new ancients sets being released from Thomas Gunn miniatures. First off there is a rather seductive Cleopatra (Egypt 006) lying nude on a Lion Skin. This figure is limited to a total of 120 castings and will sell for appx. \$95.00 Cdn. Also being introduced are Roman General Germanicus of which there are only 100 being produced at \$75.00 Cdn, and a set representing Thusnelda, a Germanic Chief's daughter and her Roman Guard.

There are 3 different versions of this set with the guard bearing different legion's shields. The two piece set is limited to 80/30/30, depending on what shield the guard carries and sells for \$140.00 Cdn each. Other new sets are a German mounted tribesman, French infantry in Indo-China and the first of the new Matilda tanks.



British Toy Soldier Company Observation Balloon Set



Roman General Germanicus and Thusnelda set produced by Thomas Gunn



**Royal Newfoundland Regiment of Fencible
Infantry, Drummer, 1812**



**Royal Newfoundland Regiment of Fencible Infantry,
Regimental Colour, 1812**

KRONPRINZ out of Spain in co-operation with SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS has released over a dozen new figures that tie in with our Canadian History. First off there are 7 new figures representing the Royal Newfoundland Regiment of Fencible Infantry 1812. The regiment served throughout the War of 1812 in primarily Upper Canada and at most major battles. Being introduced are both Colours, an Officer, NCO, Private, Drummer and Fife. In addition, there are 4 members of the Newfoundland Regiment (The Blue Puttee's) 1914 being introduced. New Drummers are being added to the De Watteville Regiment and 104th New Brunswick Regiment line. Lastly an Officer and Private are being introduced to represent the four different Canadian divisions that took part at Vimy Ridge in 1917. The pricing for all these figures will range between \$51.00 and \$58.00 Cdn



Officer, CEF, 4th Division, 1917



**Private, Newfoundland
Regiment (Blue Puttees)
1914**



Private, CEF, 1st Division, 1917



The IPS Heritagecon at Canadian Warplane Museum in Hamilton

by Jeff Duncan

This was a great show with at least 650 entries. There were over 900 in 2019 but only being greenlighted 3 weeks prior, it was a good show with a large crowd. The admission of \$16 got one into the show, museum and its gift shop, one of the largest dedicated to aircraft in Canada. The Lancaster and other aircraft were on display indoors.

There was a wonderful selection of first class entries and rows upon rows of vendors that came from Buffalo to Ottawa. Brand new kits with post-pandemic supply chain issues were top dollar prices between \$45-\$80 for 1:35 scale kits. There was still great value for pre-owned kits and non-business owner vendors just trying to go home with less stuff than they arrived with. Most vendors were not open to counter offers on the model pricing despite my efforts.

For my personal haul, most of the kits are 45 years old, mid 1970's made in Czechoslovakia and the Heller kits of the same vintage made in France. I like the commercial box artwork and each kit was between \$4-\$8.

The show was a bit shy on the boats/ships and almost non-existent figure categories. But it was a 9 out of 10 for the day, especially after two years of nothing folks! Looking forward to our OMSS show!

The Last Word of a Civilian Bureaucrat

Change of Command in Newsletter Editor

I have to relinquish the reins of the Newsletter effective September of 2022 due to myself being immersed into a new and demanding role at our church. Scott Milburn, who will be leading the revolution to overthrow our current (but hardworking and well respected) President Keith Ritchie in 2023, will be stepping into the role. He will become Primary Editor with myself remaining as Guest Editor.

I have enjoyed this role very much and thank you for your kind words these past two years (crickets...). I was also glad to be able to support the Club during the pandemic and the interactive challenges that we had to adjust to. I also learned some new formatting skills. Scott has begun training now and is off to a good start.

The newsletter is edited by Alex Monsour.

News items and notices can be submitted to artmons@rogers.com.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings. Note due to postal costs the Newsletter is limited to 6 pages maximum. Articles that cannot be accommodated will be forwarded to the Journal Editor.