



Newsletter for November 2024

The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962



Brig. Gen. Darrell Dean (Ret'd)
Honorary President

2024 Executive

Andy Traverse
President

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1st Vice-President

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2nd Vice-President

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Ottawa Chapter Chair

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Silverthorn
Social Media and
Program Chair

Jim Qualtrough
Annual Show Chair

Tom Wright
Technical Committee Chair

Scott Milburn
Past President

Next Toronto chapter meeting

Sunday, November 3rd, 2024

Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion, 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke
Doors open at 11:00 am, **meeting starts at 12:30pm**

This meeting is club members annual auction.
The Annual General Meeting has been rescheduled to December 15.



Next Ottawa chapter meeting Tuesday November 26, 2024 @ 7pm

at The Barley Mow, 1541 Merivale Road.
The meeting topic is the Battle of the Scheldt



Next OMSS Virtual meeting

Tuesday November 19, 2024 @ 7pm

Virtual meetings are open to all OMSS and BMSS members.
The meeting topic will be announced at a later date:

contact Bob Thompson at Thompson_robort@rogers.com
for an email invitation to the next meeting or more details



British Model Soldier Society's Monthly Virtual meeting Friday November 1, 2024 @ 7pm GMT

(that's 2pm for most of us in Ontario)

for those interested in attending;

Contact James Opie at jamesopie@yahoo.co.uk



Toronto Chapter Annual Christmas Luncheon

Toronto chapter will be holding their annual Christmas luncheon
on **Sunday December 15, 2024 at Noon** at the Legion.

As in previous years, we will be ordering Swiss Chalet and the
Legion bar will be open for cold refreshments.

The cost is \$25.00 per meal and Gary will collecting payment at
the November meeting. If you are unable to attend the November meeting, you
can send a cheque to; OMSS 43 Saugeen Cres, Scarborough M1K 3M8 or etrans-
fer to omss@bell.net

The club will provide coffee and tea at no charge. Members are encouraged to
bring a dessert item to share amongst fellow club members at the luncheon.



President's Message

Last month I participated in a European WW2 historical tour titled "The Air War in Europe". This involved the exploits of Bomber Command with visits to the Dam Busters' objectives, Colditz Castle, Stalag Luft III, Dresden, Berlin, Hanover, numerous War Cemeteries with the final destination being Guy Gibson's grave.

In 2023, my tours involved Operation Overlord and the Normandy Campaign plus the Peninsular War.

Earlier this year I visited the battlefield at the Little Big Horn. Each and every tour has helped me understand the reality and scope of the true events that are associated with my toy soldier dioramas. So, if the opportunity arises and is affordable, visit historical sites associated with any aspect of toy soldier collecting, procrastination will not serve you well, unless you prefer the armchair.

On the matter of business, the OMSS Annual General Meeting has been postponed and will now take place on Sunday December 15 2024 and Christmas lunch will follow. With the onerous requirements concerning compliance under the new Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA), the delay in preparing all the documentation to the members has caused the postponement.

With the change associated with the AGM, there will be more time available for members to focus on the OMSS Annual Auction on 3 November 2024. This event is expected as always to be a hit as the quality of the lots offered for sale has dramatically improved during the past few years. Consider this auction as a way to dispose of those unwanted sets which will become another member's treasure.

I hope to see as many members as possible on 3 November.

Andy Traverse, OMSS President

Passages

We have learned that former OMSS member and Past President Ian Alderton passed away at his home in England from a sudden illness in February. He returned to England after working in Canada for some years and was a member of The Truro Modelers and the BMSS. Our condolences to his family and friends.



Reminder — Order Your OMSS Anniversary Book before it is too late!

As announced last month, we are ready to publish 60 Years of Getting the Lead Out! A History of the Ontario Model Soldier Society 1962-2022 by Ian Pearson.

We are publishing this on a subscription basis. Each copy will be numbered and copies will be limited to paid up subscribers. This is strictly a not for profit venture to ensure the history of our society is not lost.

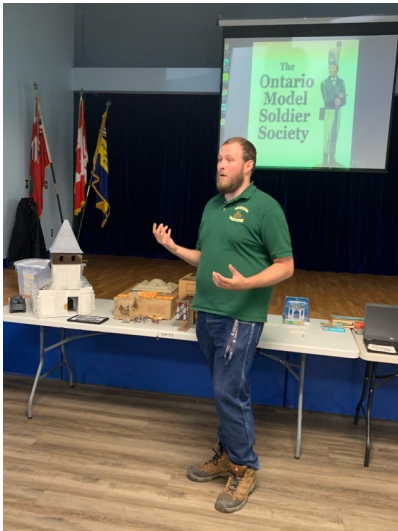
To order a copy, submit a deposit of \$40 to Gary Lenius, our long suffering Treasurer, at gary_lenius@sympatico.ca via e transfer, or cash, indicating it is for the OMSS history book, or at an OMSS meeting prior to **January 2, 2025**, which is a "hard" cutoff date for orders so we can get the final printing numbers to the printers. Please indicate if you would prefer a soft cover or hard cover version. This option may not be available; it depends on publishing costs and the number of copies ordered.

Please note that this is being published at cost, and depending on the number of orders, the cost may be more or less than the \$40 indicated, which is simply a "guestimate". If the cost is more, we will charge you for the difference, if less, we will refund the difference. Please note that we are not in a position to accept order cancellations and there are no refunds for cancelled orders. Postage is also extra if you are unable to pick up the book at an upcoming OMSS meeting or show.

Toronto Chapter's October Meeting



Toronto's meeting was well attended with all the available tables filled with items for sale prior to the start of the regular meeting and the speakers presentation.



Andrew Dobbins, owner of Dobbies Hobbies made a very interesting and engaging presentation regarding the Winter War between Finland and the Soviet Union. Andrew presented a thorough history of the battles as well as showing captivating photos of his tour of the battle sites.



Russian 44th Division Memorial



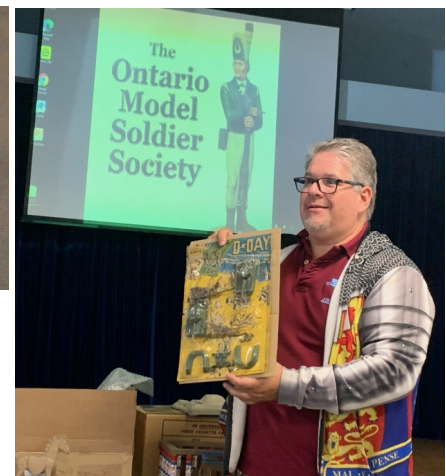
We also had a large number of great show and tell items showing members latest acquisitions and projects



Mark Silverthorn's custom 3-D printed castle by Dobbies Hobbies



An example of what can be done with 3-d printing from Dobbies Hobbies



Victor R was very excited to show off a very hard to find Airfix D-Day set he has been searching for decades

Ottawa Chapter's October Meeting

Contributed by Brendan Hogan



Due to scheduling conflicts with the Barley Mow, the Ottawa chapter of the OMSS met on 1 October 2024 for its September meeting. This was the chapter's first official meeting back from the summer holidays (members of the Ottawa chapter still met during July and August but for "informal" meetings only).

After Bob T. welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order, we learned that the mother of one of our OMSS members – Morley V. – has had recent health issues. The attendees expressed our deepest sympathies for Morley and his family.

Since Scott P. was absent (or AWOL?), Bob briefed the Ottawa chapter on developments from the executive including the forthcoming book, AGM, and elections for the positions of the executive.

Bob then informed everyone that the Ottawa Military Hobby Show is in jeopardy and unless there are significant changes to the number of people assisting with its planning and conduct, it is unlikely to occur again.

Steve A. gave us an update on his experience at the 2024 Chicagoland Toy Soldier Show and his acquisitions and vendor experience.

After swiftly moving through other Ottawa chapter business and getting everyone excited for the upcoming Militaria Show on 26 October at the Nepean Sportsplex, we were treated to some excellent presentations. Without a specific theme, an eclectic mix was on display. Included in the presentations were boxed Timpo British guards, Courtenay knights, King & Country Ancient Greeks, Crusaders, and First World War, Marx 1/12th Canadian Second World War infantry, miscellaneous 54mm gloss figures, a 3' tall Beefeater or Yeoman Warder, books, a large 12-pounder Napoleon gun (my favourite!) and model kits.

You never know who you will run into.



Keith Ritchie met up recently with two of our U.S. OMSS members, Stuart Hessney and Norm Cuthbert at the ChicagoLand 2024 Show.



What's New in the Hobby – November 2024

By Scott Dummitt

The Seven Years War was truly one of the first World Wars with campaigns being fought in Europe, North America and India. It is the last mentioned campaign that John Jenkins Designs has recently turned to. Jenkins has recently released its newest figure in this series, a British Ensign carrying the King's Colour to go with the Ensign carrying the Regimental colour released last month. The Battle of Wandewash was a pivotal confrontation between the French under the command of The Comte de Lally, and the British Sir Eyre Coote. It was the decisive battle in the Anglo French struggle in southern India during the Seven Years War. The Ensign sells for approximately \$97.00 Cdn. Other figures from both combatants will be release in the future.



The 84th (Coote's) Regiment, THE BATTLE OF WANDEWASH, 22nd JANUARY 1760, by John Jenkins

The British Toy Soldier Company has introduced an interesting addition to their lineup of the Royal Funeral held for Queen Elizabeth II. Added to their "Principal Mourners" (HMK12) set is a selection of Military Officers representing the four British Services. Listed as the "Queen's Equerries" (HMK26) this set consists of 14 figures dressed in the Ceremonial uniforms of the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force. The gloss figure set sells in Canada for approximately \$431.00. It should be noted that under the new ownership BTSC sets have all increased in price.

William Britain Limited has released two new series of American Revolution figures depicting the French Royal Deux-Ponts Regiment and the Hessian Regiment Von Donop. The eight new figures join the already released figures at the firing position. The new sets include a variety of poses including: "Make Ready", "Reaching for Cartridge", "Standing Alert", "Standing Tearing Cartridge", "Standing Tearing Cartridge" and "Standing Defending" positions. The new figures retail for \$71.50 Cdn.

The latest edition of Toy Soldier Collector & Historical Figures: Issue 119, features this year's "ON PARADE 2024". There are a variety of photos showing displays, vendors and competition pieces. The magazine retails for \$19.00 Cdn.



William Britain Limited's Hessian Regiment Von Donop and French Royal Deux-Ponts Regiment





Club Auction on Sunday November 3, 2024 at 12:30

It's time again for the club's annual auction.

This is a great opportunity for members to buy and sell model soldiers for their collections.

The details on how to sell or buy at the auction can be found in the separate document emailed with this newsletter.

Auction Tips

From Frank Mackay

It is an honour to have again been appointed as auctioneer for our annual auction on November 3rd. It's a great chance to stock up on presents before Christmas (they're for yourself of course, but a present is a present, the concept is there).

Perhaps I might relay some tips gleaned from previous experience:

-Arrive early, pay your registration and get your paddle (members only may sell or bid).

-Fill out your seller's form completely. We need your seller/bidder number or there can be no sale. If there is a reserve price (the starting bid or the absolute minimum price you will accept to part with the item), make sure it is clearly noted. Waiting for you to correctly fill out the form in the middle of the sale wastes time and is inconsiderate.

- We try to give every item a little sales pitch to increase interest before it goes to auction. Pack your seller's form with as much detailed background information as you can to help us. (Rarity, estimated value, original retail price, provenance—anything that will help to pique interest and help to raise the bidding).

-Don't overprice things. You're in a room full of experts and they're looking for a bargain. If you start off lower, you'll be surprised how high the bidding can go.

Lastly, I would urge all participants to donate something for the benefit of the club. It doesn't have to be anything big, a single figure kit or some reference books perhaps. If we can sell that for \$5, it goes into the club's treasury and you'll get it back anyway.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all and dropping the hammer on some incredible items.



the last word

"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow."

~ Albert Einstein

The newsletter is edited by Scott Milburn.

News items, notices and upcoming events can be submitted to scottm33@live.ca.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings.

Jacob the Goose of the Coldstream Guards

by Andrew Stevenson, OMSS and BMSS member

I want to share with you a story that some may already know of a Coldstream Guard posted to the Citadel at Quebec and his guardian goose named Jacob. The story is said to take place in 1840, during a cold night guarding the ramparts of Quebec. A sentry of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Regiment of Foot Guards (Coldstream Guards) was alerted by Jacob of evil-minded men set on killing the guardsman. Jacob's alarm thwarted the attack and in recognition of his courage, Jacob was awarded a gold gorget by the regiment and adopted as its mascot (rather than being served up as an entree at some future dinner). In 1842, Jacob was brought back to England with the regiment where his service ended in 1846, and his remains (or at least his neck & head) immortalized in the Guards Museum, Wellington Barracks, London, England.



For the British Army Version of the story go to; <https://www.forcesnews.com/heritage/army-history/dead-famous-goose-saved-christmascoldstream-guards-canada>

A unique offer limited to OMSS members only



I was asked by a few OMSS members to see if I could make a figure depicting this event. As such, I have created a limited run of 20, offered exclusively to OMSS members at my cost. The set comes with a sentry box backdrop, and is numbered signed and certificated.. The set is priced at £25 plus postage and will be posted from Canada via Scott Paget.

If you are interested you can pre order your OMSS Jacob the Goose. Email HQ@replicametalsoldiers.co.uk and put **OMSS Special** in the subject line