

# Meeting Minutes

## OMSS OTTAWA - Tuesday 25 March 2025

OIC – *Alan M*

Minute Man – *Doug C*

Photographer – *Alan M*

### List of Attendees:

Kelly Hayes, Doug Cope, Michael Canivet, Tom Wright, Alan MacDonald, Morley Verdier, Bob Thompson, Sylvain Allaire, Juan Lopez, Solez Lopez, Mark Hilash, Scott Paget, John Shrives

## INTRODUCTIONS

New Attendee introductions? none

How are our other 'regulars' doing? No news

Our Show & Tell topic for this meeting is "Tanks & Armoured Vehicles"

## OMSS CLUB BUSINESS & SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES

**OMSS Executive Update** – **Steve A**, our rep, was not at the meeting so no news.

**OMSS Zoom Meetings** – **Bob T** still needs help – nothing new to report

**OMSS On Parade** – 7 June 2025 – a number of members indicated that they plan to attend – early days  
– **Bob T** has volunteered to check local accommodations about reserving a block of rooms.

**Ottawa Chapter** – Volunteers still needed to help organize OMSS Ottawa Meetings

- More meeting hosts needed – no one volunteered - Thanks to OMSS HQ we have a \$35 Tim's gift card. Current plan is to use it to buy snacks for those who attend **Spring Trunk Sale**

**OMSS Ottawa Special Projects** – 4 potential projects:

1. The mini show concept - **Dave Waddell** – still no Dave and still no plans
2. **Juan T** plans a summer Open House at his home in Ottawa South in July or August
3. OMSS auction – **Stanley Kershman** will organize a live auction at Barley Mow and will be auctioneer  
As yet no date is set for the auction.
4. Spring Trunk Sale? – likely in May or June but still no definite plan

**OMSS Ottawa Membership List** – **Doug C** had nothing new to report

**OMSS Technical Capacities** – OMSS Toronto & the Ottawa Chapter are both still looking for a volunteer computer-literate member. Example of need – we currently have no one to run photos on TV screen at the bar

## WHAT'S NEW? – ANNOUNCEMENTS, & SHOWS

### HOBBY NEWS, COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

- **Michael C** from former **Toy Soldier Market** – nothing new to report

- **Scott's Soldiers** on YouTube – **Scott P** says he has several new videos almost ready to post  
<https://www.youtube.com/@scottssoldiers2375/videos>

- **Replica Miniatures from England** – contrary to previous erroneous reports [ by **Bob T** ] **Scott P** is NOT the North American sales agent for Replica. **Bob T** reports that **Andrew** says that the prototype of the **Jacob the Goose set** has the soldier in blue pants but subsequently the pants are white. How much is **Scott P's** unique blue pant prototype now worth you may ask?

- **U.S. Boycott - Buy Canadian** – **Bob T** was ready to dismiss this as a non-issue but found during his last Zoom call that many support a boycott and others do not plan to visit the USA or to buy soldiers from a company in the USA. Will anyone local go to the Chicago soldier show? **Doug C** wishes to apologize to those members he incorrectly identified as 'affluent' in last month's minutes and who insist they are not.

- **Other News –**

**Kelly H** has a contact with about 50 **Mignot** figures for sale – contact **Kelly H [See A Below]**

**Bob T** reports on 2 collections for sale – contact **Bob T** for more details

1] a collector in Toronto has 20 sets of **Tradition** Napoleonic foot soldiers for sale – he wants approximately \$1100 for the lot and only wants to sell all as a single lot. **Bob T** asks if others are interested in forming a group to buy?

2] In Kingston **Dan HASELL**, as reported last meeting, has 2 pages of items for sale. One lot consists of diecast Solido, Corgi and Dinky vehicles and the other of fairly recent Britain's and Ducal metal soldier sets. Some are Britain's limited series sets. He wants to sell all as a lot.

## **UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:**

- **Prescott 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Model Train Show** – Saturday **12 April** - **Doug C & John S** will be vendors
- **OMSS Toronto 13 April Meeting** –
- **BMSS April Zoom Meeting** – April 18
- **BMSS Annual Show** - Saturday 26th April 2025 in Reading
- **OMSS 15 April Zoom Meeting** - Show and tell topic is “Medieval Knights”
- **Ottawa Military Heritage Show** – Nepean Sportsplex – **Saturday 26 April** - **Michael C, Bob T & Steve A** vendors
- **Aylmer Hobby Show – 26 and 27 April** – in a shopping mall – note conflict with show above –  
**Juan L** of OMSS Ottawa will be an exhibitor
- **OMSS Ottawa Monthly Meeting** – Tuesday 29 April
- **Cangames** (Gaming Convention) - May 16-18 – Ottawa Curling Club – **Bob T & Morley V** are vendors  
Mostly 1 inch war games figures – but there will be some toy soldiers
- **OMSS On Parade** – Toronto – 7 June
- **Military Hobby Show** – Walkley Road Armoury – Tentative Date: Sunday June 15 – official announcement will be made on 26 April. Service Battalion wants help to organize, **Mark H, Bob T** and **Morley V** already involved and **Juan L** will shadow. **Bob T** suggests that next year it become an de facto Toy Soldier show and that OMSS Ottawa organize a prize for best display.
- **Chicagoland Toy Soldier Show** – 28 September – *Replica Miniatures* will be there. Who will boycott?
- **Ottawa Nostalgia Show** – 19 October

## **EVENT REPORTS:**

- **OMSS Ottawa 25 February Meeting** – 16 attended - Show & Tell topic was “Civilians “ – many civilians and civilian vehicles on display – see minutes attached to the March meeting announcement
- **March OMSS Toronto Meeting** – Guest speaker **Andy Traverse's** report on his battlefield tours was postponed to the April Meeting – no one from Ottawa attended.
- **BMSS Zoom Meeting** – Friday 7 March – Show & Tell Topic was ‘Civilians’. **Scott P** was on line
- **Ottawa Nostalgia Show 16 March** was well attended, **Doug C** reports good sales – he sold some soldiers
- **OMSS March 18 Zoom Meeting** – Show & Tell topic was “Military Music” – 12 attendees ( 5 Ottawa, 4 Toronto, 1 Montreal, 2 England) – **Andrew** of Replica and his father were on line and the father produced a tub of old soldiers from under his bed - mostly bands
- **International Toy Soldier Club (Replica Miniatures) – March 22 Monthly Club Call** –  
**Bob T** reports that there were Canadians, Brits, Americans and one guy from Andorra on the line. This was the second meeting.
- **Geeked Out Show?** – Nepean Sportsplex - March 22 & 23 – No one from OMSS attended. Mainly pop culture and **War Hammer** – **[See B Below]**
- **613 Flea Market** – Lansdowne Park - specific scheduled Saturdays – **Michael C** was a vendor at last event.
  - **McHaffie Flea Market** – **Kelly H** reports on – he has a stall every Sunday **[See C Below]**  
Also contact **Kelly H** re a person with pre-1935 **John Hill** figures – **[See D Below]**
  - **Nostalgia Warehouse Ottawa** at 233 C Armstrong St, Ottawa noted by several members. **[See E Below]**

# Show & Tell Presentations – topic “Tanks and Armoured Vehicles”

**Morley V** – was re-giving some of **Stanley K’s** magazines from last week



**Scott P** – the ex-OMSS executive had a Britain’s WWI tank – [**See H Below**]



**A HECO** armoured car – [**See F Below**]



- And a **Hireart** Italian Ansaldo L3/33 tankette armoured car set [**See G Below**]



**Solez L** – presented the 2 tank models that she made, painted and mounted on stands



**Doug C** – claimed that ‘tanks’ had not be clearly delineated as a topic so he brought a military tank, a gasoline tanker and soldiers pushing a water tank.

- The Dinky 152a light tank



- The Corgi T 620 Supertest gasoline tanker **[See M Below]**



- The Britain’s Rourke’s Drift water detail



**John S** – brought a M 42 anti-aircraft vehicle that he liberated from his grandson [See J Below]



**Alan M** – brought out a host of tanks including: King Tiger, Dinky Centurion, Corgi Tiger tank, Solido Tiger in camouflage paint for France, a 692 Dinky Leopard tank with a gun that fires, 696 Dinky Leopard AA armoured vehicle, a New Ray battery-powered Sherman tank, a Russian armoured car, and a French Renault F 17 from King and Country



**Mark H** – had a 1/35 scale Sherman tank plus a 1/32 scale as well, a 1/32 scale landing vehicle plus a Solido 1/43 Sherman plus a Grant tank – [watch the 1943 movie **Sahara** that features an M3 Lee tank]



**Michael C** – had a number of King and Country Boxer Rebellion figures for sale



**Kelly H** – was operating a large, by-wire motorized tank possibly by REMCO [See K Below]  
Also 1/32 and 1/40 Bradley Fighting Vehicles  
Erwin Rommel's book, a European village and a D-Day kit



**Bob T** – 3 Sherman tanks 1/32 scale one motorized, larger one is a **Firefly** 1/32 [See L Below]  
1/35 Grant tanks by *Forces of Valor*, 1/43 Solido Grant and a 60 mm King and Country Sherman  
- 2 books – “Brockville Rifles” and a Lady Butler book of war paintings  
- 2 French WWII figures and several aluminum figures  
- A **Spirit of the Empire** early RCMP band in a brown box, the next S of E sets were in red boxes and finally they were in wood boxes. **Spirit of the Empire** was a small home based business that originally started in Napanee, Ontario. [Few details on this company are available one line]  
Also an RCMP band by Labelle Toy Soldier shop in Toronto and a bag of 100 Dolls of All Nations figures



## MEETING ADJOURNMENT LAST POST

Voting For April Meeting Show & Tell Topic: And the winner is - "NAVY"

## Upcoming OMSS Meeting Dates:

- 13 April OMSS Toronto Meeting – Sunday 13 April
- 15 April OMSS Zoom Meeting - Tuesday April 15 – Show & Tell Topic is "Medieval Knights"
- 29 April OMSS Ottawa Monthly Meeting - Tuesday 29 April – Show & Tell Topic is "NAVY"

## Meeting Adjourned

# ADDITIONS

## **A] CBG Mignot**

from Google and <https://www.cbgmignot.com/>

The CBG Mignot workshop has perpetuated, since 1825, the great tradition of toy soldiers, a remarkable know-how. Soldiers, firefighters, circus artists, riders of the Black Frame, characters from the crèche... Their collection has more than 12 subjects. Founded in 1825 in Paris and established in Saumur since 1994, CBG Mignot has perpetuated the great tradition of toy soldiers for almost two hundred years. The fundamentally artisanal nature of this production means that none of the figurines is similar to another, that each of them is, in some way, an original. This customization of each figurine does not detract from historical accuracy.

CBG Mignot, is now located in Saumur, France, is a renowned maker of artisanal toy soldiers, with a focus on historical accuracy and a tradition spanning nearly two centuries, although their production of figures ended with World War I. Despite the artisanal nature of their production, Mignot is known for its commitment to historical accuracy, ensuring that their figures reflect the uniforms and equipment of the period they represent. While their production ended with World War I, Mignot's collection includes figures from ancient times, including depictions of the Battle of Waterloo and scenes from the Revolutionary and Civil wars in the United States, as well as figures representing Asia, the Near East, and Africa.

Although Mignot's production continued until the 1960s, the figures themselves ended with World War I.

## **B] Warhammer 40,000**

– from Wikipedia



Warhammer 40,000 (sometimes colloquially shortened as Warhammer 40K, WH40K or simply 40k) is a miniature war game produced by Games Workshop. It is the most popular miniature wargame in the world, and is particularly popular in the United Kingdom. The first edition of the rulebook was published in September 1987, and the tenth and current edition was released in June 2023.





## C] McHaffie Flea Market

<https://www.facebook.com/mchaffiefleamarket/about>

5070 County Rd. 31, Morrisburg, ON, Canada, K0C 1X0



## D] John Hill & Company

From Wikipedia

John Hill & Company or **Johillco** was a British toy company specialising in the manufacture of hollow cast metal and later plastic toy soldiers becoming second to W. Britain in popularity. It is unknown where the name of John Hill came from.

John Hill & Co was started in 1898 by a former employee of W. Britain named Mr F. H Wood. In contrast to Britains, Johillco was the first British hollow cast figure company to sell their figures individually leading to competition from Britains who later began to sell individual figures and figures painted less ornately to be sold in variety stores like the F. W. Woolworth Company.

Johillco also manufactured Coronation and other souvenir items. The firm's original factory was located at 2-22 Britannia Row, Islington, London but the factory was bombed during World War II. In August 1946 the company reopened under new management in Plumbe Street Burnley. Also after World War II, Johillco's chief figure designer Wilfred Cherrington in conjunction with a Mr Leaver started his own company called Cherilea.

In their book *The Art of the Toy Soldier*, the authors note that due to the cheapness of the figures and the individuality of their poses, Johillco figures were found more in working-class homes than the expensive Britains that came in boxes of rigid identical poses. The authors also noted the company probably used a variety of sculptors leading to various grades of quality of Johillco figures, that the authors call "the good, the bad, and the ugly".

In addition to toy soldiers and cowboys and Indians, Johillco made many figures of knights and a movie tie-in set of figures from MGM's *Quo Vadis* (1951 film) as well as spacemen. Johillco was slow to realise the effect of production in plastic. From 1956 they began making plastic figures in their hollow cast moulds under the name of Hilco but the company ceased in early 1960s.

## E] Nostalgia Warehouse Ottawa <https://www.facebook.com/nostalgiawarehouseottawa/>



Open Wednesdays to Sundays 12-5pm (closed Mondays and Tuesdays). Come on down to 233C Armstrong Street for Ottawa's most interesting assortment of antiques, vintage, retro and oddities. Items for all tastes and collections. Games, toys, comics, records/vinyl, countless collectibles, Lego and so much more.



## F] Heco Miniatures <https://ca.fabtintoys.com/heco/>

'Heco Modèles' was created in 1979 by Hervé Colombet. The company was installed in a room in the centre town of Saint Etienne, France. 21 years old, Hervé was passionate about the models and he had only one idea, to manufacture his own models. The success of its first realization, the 'Bugatti 73A', sold with 300 assembled specimens, encouraged him to continue in this way. During the first years when he manufactured mainly of the 'Bugatti' and 'Rolls Royce', he learned how to control all the various techniques necessary to the realization of reduced models.

## G] Hiriart toy soldiers <https://ca.fabtintoys.com/hiriart/>

Soldiers and white metal figures in the old toy soldier style. The company was founded in Uruguay by Jaime Hiriart in the 1960s and is now run by his son Guillermo Hiriart from his apartment in Montevideo. Guillermo does the sculpting, casting, and assembly and two employees do the paint job. <https://forum.treefrogtreasures.com/threads/hiriart-world-war-ii-hungarian-l3-33-tankett.42956/>

Hungary purchased **Italian Ansaldo L3/33 tankettes** prior to the start of World War II. When they employed them during Operation Barbarossa, they found them to be totally out-dated and inadequate even against the lightest Soviet tanks and therefore used them only for a short period of time.

## H] British Tanks in WWI

From Wikipedia

**British heavy tanks** were a series of related armoured fighting vehicles developed by the UK during the First World War. The Mark I was the world's first tank, a tracked, armed, and armoured vehicle, to enter combat. The name "tank" was initially a code name to maintain secrecy and disguise its true purpose. The tank was developed in 1915 to break the stalemate of trench warfare. It could survive the machine gun and small-arms fire in "no man's land", travel over difficult terrain, crush barbed wire, and cross trenches to assault fortified enemy positions with powerful armament. Tanks also carried supplies and troops.

The Mark I entered service in August 1916, and was first used in action on the morning of 15 September 1916 during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, part of the Somme Offensive. With the exception of the few interim Mark II and Mark III tanks, it was followed by the largely similar Mark IV, which first saw combat in June 1917. The Mark IV was used en masse, about 460 tanks, at the Battle of Cambrai in November 1917. The Mark V, with a much improved transmission, entered service in mid-1918. More than two thousand British heavy tanks were produced. Manufacture was discontinued at the end of the war.



## J] M42 40 mm self-propelled anti-aircraft gun



The M42 40 mm self-propelled anti-aircraft gun, or "Duster," is an American armored light air-defense gun built for the United States Army from 1952 until December 1960, in service until 1988. Production of this vehicle was performed by the tank division of the General Motors Corporation. It used components from the M41 light tank and was constructed of all-welded steel.

A total of 3,700 M42s were built. The vehicle has a crew of six and weighs 22,500 kg (49,500 lb) fully loaded. Maximum speed is 45 mph (72 km/h) with a range of 100 miles (160 km). Armament consists of fully automatic twin 40 mm M2A1 Bofors, with a rate of fire of 2×120 rounds per minute (rpm) enabling nearly 85 seconds of fire time before running out of ammo, and either a .30 caliber Browning M1919A4 or 7.62mm M60 machine gun. The 500 hp, six-cylinder, Continental (or Lycoming Engines), air-cooled, gasoline engine is located in the rear of the vehicle. It was driven by a cross-drive, two-speed Allison transmission. Although the M42 Duster was initially designed for an anti-aircraft role, it proved to be effective against unarmored ground forces in the Vietnam War, primarily against standard Infantry.

## K] Remco Industries Inc. from Wikipedia



Founders Isaac "Ike" Heller and Saul Robbins

Was an American toy company. Founded in 1949, it is known for toys integrating technology and innovation from their inception. The company's slogan in its early TV commercials was, "Every Boy Wants a Remco Toy...And So Do Girls!" In 1997, Jakks Pacific acquired Remco and AHI's Child Guidance from Azrak-Hamway. Under Jakks Pacific, the brand was absorbed into its other products.

## L] Sherman Firefly from Wikipedia

The **Sherman Firefly** was a medium tank used by the United Kingdom and some armoured formations of other Allies in the Second World War. It was based on the US M4 Sherman but was fitted with the more powerful British 76.2 mm (3.00 in) calibre 17-pounder anti-tank gun as its main weapon. Conceived as a stopgap until future British tank designs came into service, the Sherman Firefly became the most common vehicle mounting the 17-pounder in the war.



## M] Supertest Petroleum from Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supertest\\_Petroleum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supertest_Petroleum)



**Supertest Petroleum Limited** was a Canadian petroleum company that operated from 1923 to 1973. Its head office was in London, Ontario.