

Tuesday 3 December 2024 OMSS OTTAWA NOVEMBER MEETING

OIC: Bob T

Photos: Alan M

Minutes: Doug C



List of Attendees:

Tom Wright, Francois Brisebois, Terry Hoskin, Michael Canivet, Doug Cope, Juan Lopez, Steve Hammond, Bob Thompson, Morley Verdier, Brendan Hogan, Dennis DeRusha, Kelly Hayes, Scott Paget, Sylvain Allaire, Mark Hilash, Allan Macdonald, Rob Kelly, Steve Alexander, John Shrives, Bill Brown, Eduardo from Montreal, Julian Bomford, Rebecca and Randy - *[our largest gathering to date]*

INTRODUCTIONS

New Attendee introduction:

Bill B attended for his father who is a collector,

Eduardo from Montreal collects Black Watch plus French and Indian war figures

OMSS CLUB BUSINESS & SPECIAL PROJECT UPDATES

OMSS Executive Update – Scott P

- **OMSS History Book** – Last chance – fabled book is \$40 – books must be ordered by 2 January 2025
- **Annual OMSS membership dues** - \$40 – **Bob T** collects for Ottawa group submission
- **OMSS Annual General Meeting** – members received proxy by email for 5 December deadline

OMSS Zoom Meetings – **Bob T** confirms that help still needed to run Zoom – enough said

Ottawa Chapter Meetings – **Bob T** confirms that help still needed to organize OMSS Ottawa Meetings

- **Scott P** completed 1 year term as Ottawa Rep to OMSS Executive – **Steve A** agrees to be new Rep
- **Meeting Hosts** – **Julian B** will host late January meeting and **Steve H** will host the February meeting
- **Future Ottawa Meeting dates** – there will not be another meeting in December,
The next meeting will be **Tuesday, 28 January 2025**

OMSS Ottawa Special Projects – **Bob T** will investigate how to set up and run an Online auction

OMSS Ottawa Membership List – **Doug C** will add new members and send the updated list to members

OMSS Technical Capacities – **Tom W** has stepped down as **OMSS Technical Committee Chair**
– volunteer needed to fill this role

WHAT'S NEW – CURRENT NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & SHOWS

- The latest issue #119 of **Toy Soldier Collector** magazine has an article on the last OMSS 'On Parade' show – [See A below]

HOBBY NEWS, COLLECTIONS FOR SALE

- **Michael C** from former **Toy Soldier Market** – he reports that his stocks are diminishing but he still has a lot for sale.
- **Scott P - YouTube** – his latest # 68 is titled 'Replica Metal Soldiers'
<https://www.youtube.com/@scottssoldiers2375>
Scott P is headed back to the UK in the near future and will bring the **Jacob the Goose** and Christmas special figures for those who have ordered and paid **Andrew Stevenson**, Leverton, Lincolnshire, PE22 0AW TEL:(+44) 07405 099200 - HQ@replicametalsoldiers.co.uk
- **Don Ritchie Collection on site sale** – 10 December in Peterborough area contact **Jim Qualtrough** for details at charkin1@sympatico.ca 416-543-0873
There are 10 large cabinets full of his figures mostly British and Canadian military; molds for sale; books; also some dioramas and scenery. There are **Frontline** and **King and Country** figures
[See B and C below]
- **Jim Matresky downsizing collection** – Much has been sold
- There may be some medieval miniatures still available contact **Steve A** for details
- **Britain's collection in Aylmer** – **Rebecca and Randy** attended meeting.
Rebecca is acting as a sales agent for her uncle and selling mainly 1980s and 1990s Britain's sets that are in good shape. See **Bob T** for contact details



- **Toy Soldiers' Club Quebec City is closing** - David is buying Toy Soldiers' Club assets – will be Online only
[See D Below]
- **Alan M** reports that the following are soldier collections are for sale in Ottawa area - contact **Alan M** for details
 - **Craig Scott** is moving – and has items for sale
 - There is a collection of Dinky toys for sale in Gatineau – all military vehicles plus aircraft – the owner is reported to want \$4000 for the entire collection

UPCOMING SHOWS & EVENTS:

- **OMSS Annual General Meeting/Christmas Luncheon/December Toronto Meeting** - Sunday 15 December
- **OMSS Zoom Meeting** - Tuesday 17 December – Show & Tell Topic is “Christmas”
- **Ottawa Nostalgia Show** – 16 March 2025
- **Prescott 2nd Annual Model Train Show** – 12 April 2025 -
- **Alymer Hobby Show** – rescheduled from January to 26 and 27 of April 2025 – few details
- **OMSS - On Parade** – Toronto – 7 June 2025

EVENT REPORTS:

East Coast Toy Soldier Show – Fairleigh Dickinson University's Rothman Center, Hackensack, New Jersey. [see E Below]

NETSS Toy Soldier Show and Sale Burlington, MA 6 OCTOBER 2024 - **Hobby Bunker** sponsor
– **Eduardo** attended – report on next Zoom meeting [See F Below]

OMSS Auction /November Toronto Meeting - Sunday 3 November – reported to have been a good event

OMSS Ottawa October Meeting – 5 November 2024 – 17 Attendees – see **Bob T** for minutes

OMSS 19 November Zoom Meeting – 9 attendees (4 Ottawa, 4 Toronto, 1 Montreal)

- Show & Tell topic had 3 parts: 1. Show us your Oldest figure 2. What got you started in Toy Soldiers?
- 3. Show us your most precious toy soldier item (most valuable, most rare, most nostalgic)

PRESENTATIONS

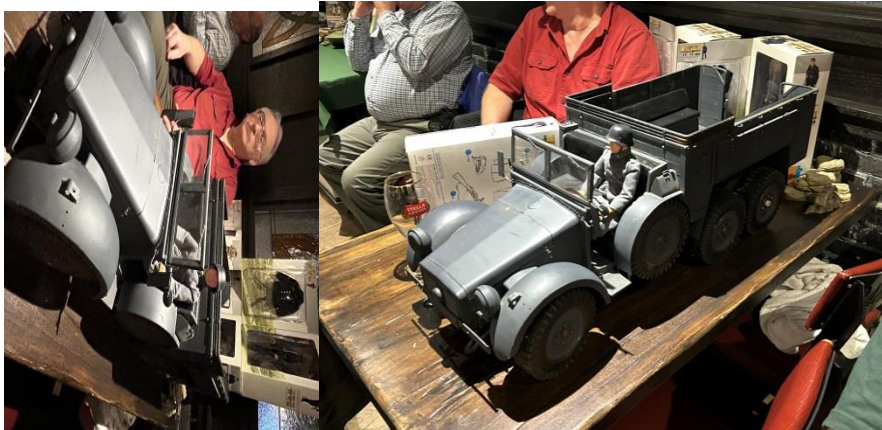
Topic for this month was “**80th Anniversary of the 1944 Battle of the Scheldt**”
Mark H gave a brief description of the battle – [See G Below]

Mark H – a model of a Buffalo landing craft – [See H Below] – also 2 x 1/6 scale Royal Marine Commandos



Steve H – 2 x 1/6 scale Kriegsmarine figures in boxes

- 1/6 scale Canadian WWII Calgary Regiment figure
- 1/6 scale German WWII Krupp Protze made of wood and metal [See J Below]



Kelly H – a Britain's figure from 1899 – a Bren Gun Carrier [See K Below]
and a 1/6 scale Canadian 1944 uniform figure

Terry H – an RCMP figure on a Harley motorcycle – manufacturer unknown



Michael C – Thomas Gunn [See L Below] plus King and Country [See C Below] figures

- Thomas Gunn German motorcycle and trailer
- K and C WW1 and WWII guns - Armoured car plus 2 trucks - North American Indian figures



Francois B – despite a power failure in sunny Gatineau he managed to find a few sets in the dark

- Sets of WW1 and WW2 figures
 - a Soldiers of the World Lewis gun set
 - A set of pilots including Billy Bishop
 - British infantry in light brown uniforms



Doug C – a Britain's Bren Gun Carrier with 4 figures – one extra added for effect



[sorry I forgot to dust it off]

Rob K – Book “9 April 1944”

- 1/100 scale canon
- A scratch built canon and a small truck



Morley V – a photo of the Royal Scots Greys

- Arches from packing material
 - o He is soon to do a slide show on the components of the Mulberry harbours

Steve A – winter scenes with many figures and trees plus horse drawn sleds and framed pictures



Bob T – a news flash – for the first time he brought dick all to the meeting – we were shocked



MEETING ADJOURNMENT FINAL POST

Upcoming OMSS Meeting Dates:

- 15 December – Next OMSS Toronto Meeting
- 17 December OMSS Zoom Meeting – Tuesday – Show & Tell Topic is “Christmas”
- 28 January 2025 - OMSS Ottawa Monthly Meeting
By a narrow vote the topic is *The Battle of the Ardennes*,
also known as the Battle of the Bulge, of WWII
 - Runner up was *WWII personalities* – maybe next time

Meeting Adjourned

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
SEE YOU IN THE NEW YEAR**

ADDITIONS

A] Toy Soldier Collector & Historical Figures Magazine

<http://www.toysoldiercollector.com/index.php?ORGN=32&START=1>

Toy Soldier Collector and Historical Figures is the **world's premiere magazine** for all types of aficionados. It is the only print magazine that delivers an engaging blend of features about history with a hobby spin, collecting, and how-to projects from creating dioramas to building and painting model figures combined with in-depth hobby news and reviews of the latest products to march out into the marketplace. We recently celebrated our milestone one hundredth edition, plus the magazine has undergone a stylish makeover to become bigger and better than ever with an unparalleled one hundred pages for readers' enjoyment..

TSC&HF works with the world's leading toy soldier manufacturers as well as smaller producers from across the United Kingdom, Europe, North America and farther afield to bring readers exclusive features showcasing the very best that the hobby has to offer. To achieve a lively and interesting mix of hobby coverage with breadth and depth, our team of expert reviewers, historians, collectors and modellers from around the world explore military and civilian topics ranging from ancient history to modern-day armies, navies and air forces. We spotlight the traditional 54mm/60mm metal and plastics toy soldier markets. We also delve into everything from 28mm war gaming figures to model figure kits in all scales..

To find out how Toy Soldier Collector & Historical Figures can help grow your business and or interested in stocking the magazine please contact Tom Foxon, Sales and Marketing Director, - tom@guidelinepublications.co.uk Tel: +44 (0) 7540153368

For North American subscription and trade enquiries please contact **Tom Foxon**
- tom@guidelinepublicationsusa.com

B] Frontline Figures

<https://www.frontline-figures.com/>

FRONTLINE FIGURES, a Hong Kong based and registered company was founded and is run by two English professional architectural model makers, is well known worldwide as a producer of first class toy figures of the highest quality and detail, which for the first ten years of its existence had the majority of its output absorbed into the American collecting scene.

Started in 1983, FRONTLINE FIGURES is the result of an intense interest by the two partners, **Gerard Prime and Howard Swales** in all things connected with the historic influences, and design of military uniforms, insignia, vehicles and equipment. **All FRONTLINE FIGURES are 54mm high or 1/32rd scale.** This is the standard scale for "toy soldiers"

C] King and Country

<https://www.kingandcountry.com/1/>

KING & COUNTRY was founded in 1983 in Hong Kong by two expatriate Scots, Andy C. Neilson and Laura McAllister Johnson. Andy, a former Royal Marine Commando had been interested in and collecting toy soldiers since a young boy. Laura provided the solid business background and support for the company.

From humble beginnings, **KING & COUNTRY** has developed into one of the world's major designers and producers of all-metal, hand-painted 1:30 scale military and civilian miniatures.

In addition to their metal miniatures figurines, the company has also produced an amazing and expanding range of scale model buildings, fighting vehicles, ships and aircraft, from a wide selection of wood, metal, polystone, resins and other mixed media. From their headquarters in Hong Kong, they oversee every stage of design, development and production in mainland China. They also take part in trade fairs and collector shows in Europe, the U.S. and Australia.

D] Toy Soldiers' Club

<https://www.toysoldiersclub.com/>

Shipping toy soldiers around the world since 1997

Born out of an interest in military history, the pleasure of collecting and in order to share his passions, the Toy Soldiers' Club was founded in 1997. Our business vision is based on developing relationships with collectors in order to guarantee quality service with each interaction. From these relationships, our experts will then be able to guide you to the best choices and help you assemble your miniature army.

The toy soldier figures available at Toy Soldiers' Club are made by two of the largest manufacturers in this domain: King & Country and John Jenkins Designs. We keep in stock a wide selection of miniature in 1:32 (50mm) and 1:30 (54mm) scales.

Located within the fortified district of Old Québec, our store contains museum-quality dioramas covering various time periods from 1260 BC to 1975. If you like military history as much as our team does, a visit to Quebec is worth a detour. Our team will be happy to serve you.

CONTACT PHONE: 1-888-339-2109 EMAIL: info@toysoldiersclub.com

E] East Coast Toy Soldier Show

<https://eastcoasttoysoldiersshow.com/wp/news/about>

[note: there is no mention of a 2024 show on this web site]

Our first **East Coast Toy Soldier Show** was held on Sunday, November 13, 1983, in **Schuetzen Park, North Bergen, NJ**. The hall was dark, cramped and smelled like an old German Beer Garden, but somehow the vendors who reserved 120 tables for our first show, loved it. And so did collectors. Incredibly over 900 collectors squeezed into the narrow aisles and made our first show an overwhelming success.

That's when we moved the show to our current location at **Fairleigh Dickinson University's Rothman Center, in Hackensack**. Being over 40,000 sq. ft. all on one level, with easy access to NYC and major highways, has made the Rothman Center a great place for all our shows.

We began at FDU with close to 300 vendor tables and reached a peak in the mid-1990s of 360 tables, then I believe the advent of the Internet with the novelty and ease of buying and selling toy soldiers on-line, and our bad economy slowed things down for a while.

Our last few shows have seen an increase in the amount of vendors/exhibitors exhibiting as well as an increase in visitors. The show has evolved, too. While it still is a Toy Soldier Show, we've seen an increase in Antique Toy vendors participating.

From humble beginnings, thirty years later, The Annual East Coast Toy Soldier Show & Sale has grown to be the largest and best attended Toy Soldier Show on the East Coast.

We hope to see you at the show this year. If you have any questions regarding the show, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at – bill@vintagecastings.com

F] NETSS Toy Soldier Show and Sale Burlington, MA and the Hobby Bunker

<https://www.hobbybunker.com/about>

Come join us Sunday the 6th of October 2024 for the North East Toy Soldier Society's Toy Soldier Show, at the **Hilton Garden Inn, 5 Wheeler Road, Burlington, MA 01803, Massachusetts, USA**.

We Incorporated **Hobby Bunker, Inc.** in 1997 and opened our doors to the public in 1998. We are now celebrating 20 plus years and counting. We thank all of you who helped us grow into a friendly and successful hobby source for all to enjoy. Our goal is to offer you the widest array of toy soldiers and hobby items at the most competitive prices. If you cannot find what you are looking for in our store or on our website, we will do our very best to locate the product(s) or help point you in the right direction. Our owner and president, Matthew Murphy, has been around toy soldiers, model kits and gaming nearly his entire life. He has also been collecting toy soldiers, building models and dioramas and playing wargames for many years. He has a great passion for toy soldiers and history and he and his full-time staff are always happy to meet and help anyone from beginner to seasoned hobby enthusiast.

We currently have almost 17,000 products listed on our website. We also have thousands of other hobby, gaming and rare items available in our store and available for special order by request. We have over 6,000 square feet of retail space open for shopping 7 days a week. We also offer nearly 2,000 square feet of gaming tables available during business hours. In addition, we have several thousand feet of warehouse space filled with goodies to fill your orders. The store is located at 103 Albion Street, Wakefield, MA 01880.

G] The Battle of the Scheldt in World War from 2 October to 8 November 1944

– from Wikipedia

The Battle of the Scheldt in World War II was a series of military operations to open up the Scheldt river between Antwerp and the North Sea for shipping, so that Antwerp's port could be used to supply the Allies in north-west Europe. The operations were carried out by the First Canadian Army, with assistance from Polish and British units which had been attached. The action was under the acting command of the First Canadian's Lieutenant-General Guy Simonds. The battle took place in the vicinity of the Scheldt river in northern Belgium and southwestern Netherlands from 2 October to 8 November 1944.

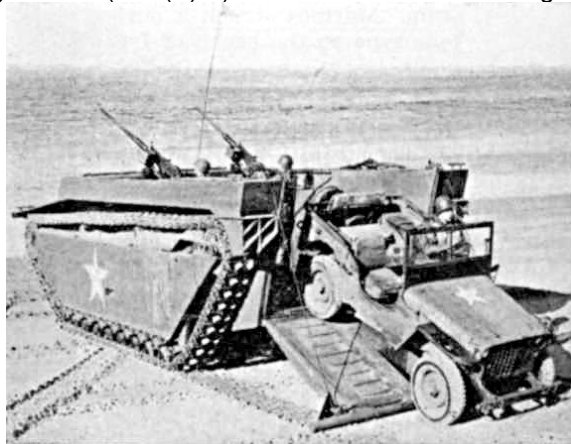
The Canadians had been delayed, and the need to clear the Scheldt had not yet been addressed, due to Allied decisions up to that point to focus instead on Arnhem (Operation Market Garden), Boulogne (Operation Wellhit), Calais (Operation Undergo) and Dunkirk. By the time the Canadians were sent into the Battle of the Scheldt, the Wehrmacht defenders had been reinforced. The Germans staged an effective delaying action during which they flooded land areas in the Scheldt estuary and slowed the Allied advance. After five weeks of difficult fighting, the Canadian First Army, at a cost of 20,873 Allied casualties (6,367 of them Canadian), was successful in clearing the Scheldt after numerous amphibious assaults, obstacle crossings and costly assaults over open ground.

Once the German defenders were no longer a threat, it took another three weeks to de-mine the harbours; the first convoy carrying Allied supplies could not unload in Antwerp until 29 November 1944. Once Antwerp was opened, it allowed 2.5 million tons of supplies to arrive at that port between November 1944 and April 1945, which were critical to the successful Allied advance into Germany in 1945.

H] Buffalo Landing Craft WWII – from Wikipedia

The Amphibious Vehicle, Tracked (LVT) is an amphibious warfare vehicle and amphibious landing craft, introduced by the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps. (The USN and USMC use "L" to designate Amphibious vessels, also called "L class".) The United States Army, **Canadian Army and British Army** used several LVT models during World War II, and referred to those vehicles as "Landing Vehicle, Tracked." Originally intended solely as cargo carriers for ship to shore operations, they evolved into assault troop and fire support vehicles.

As early as January 1940, Roebbling had prepared preliminary sketches of an LVT with a gun turret to provide fire support to the landing waves. The concept languished until June 1941, when USMC recommended development of an LVT armed with a 37mm gun and three machine guns and armored against 0.50 (12.7mm) machine gun fire. Development was slow and ultimately involved a complete redesign of the LVT, **the LVT-2 Buffalo**. Armored versions were introduced as well as fire support versions, dubbed Amtanks, which were fitted with turrets from Stuart series light tanks (LVT(A)-1) and howitzer motor carriage M8s (LVT(A)-4).



J] The WWII Krupp Protze

from Wikipedia

Krupp Protze. The Krupp Protze (lit. limber, officially L 2 H 43 and L 2 H 143) was a six-wheeled 6x4 German truck and artillery tractor produced between 1934 and 1941 and heavily used in World War II. It was powered by a 4-cylinder, 55 hp or, from 1936, 60 hp Krupp M 304 petrol engine.



K] The Universal Carrier, - from Wikipedia

The **Universal Carrier** a development of the earlier **Bren Gun Carrier** from its light machine gun armament, was one of a family of light armoured tracked vehicles built by Vickers-Armstrongs and other companies.

The first carriers – the **Bren Gun Carrier** and the **Scout Carrier** which had specific roles – entered service before the war, but a single improved design that could replace these, the **Universal**, was introduced in 1940. The vehicle was used widely by British Commonwealth forces during the Second World War. Universal Carriers were usually used for transporting personnel and equipment, mostly support weapons, or as machine gun platforms.



Canadian versions of the Universal Carrier



Windsor carrier, Overloon Museum

"Carrier, Universal No.3"

Mk.I (certain differences, otherwise similar to British model)

Mk.II (certain differences, otherwise similar to British model)

Mk.II

Carrier, 2-pdr Equipped

Canadian modification of Mark I* and II* to mount 2-pdr gun. 213 used for training

Wasp Mk II

Canadian version of the Wasp flamethrower variant.

Windsor Carrier

Canadian development with a longer chassis extended by 76 cm (30 in) and additional wheel in aft bogie.

L] Thomas Gunn Miniatures

<https://www.jumpthegunn.co.uk/>



Thomas Gunn, All our figures are precision crafted hand painted limited editions. Proudly formed in 2009 we have established ourselves a niche in the market place for the discerning collector. Since our inception Gunn Miniatures has expanded from its initial range of WW2 Germans to now cover American, British and Soviet figures from that period with much more in the pipeline. At the same time we have launched a Napoleonic, WW1 and an aircraft range.

We only manufacture 100- 200 pieces of our figures and only a few aircraft are made on each production run. Therefore the piece you purchase will be one of only a limited number in the world. Our offerings usually sell very quickly and you can therefore be assured of owning a collectors piece that should appreciate over time. We are extremely proud of our products and put a huge amount of thought and research into each range as its released. Join our 'Gunn Club' and be the first to know about our new figures/airplanes released each month as they appear. We send out a newsletter every month with all our new releases. Joining the Gunn Club gives you a life time discount on our products. We also launch competitions for Gunn Club members for a chance to win some great prizes.

All our current stock is shown under the 'Shop' page on our website and should you be unsure of how to order online, simply drop us an email on info@jumpthegunn.co.uk or call 0044 203 314 0090 for a price quote. All past aircraft productions can be seen in the 'Sold Out' part of the website for easy reference and cataloguing of your collection. We look forward to many more years of serving the collecting community and welcome you onboard as a friend and fellow collector. **The Team @ Jump The Gunn**

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