

The  
**Ontario  
Model  
Soldier  
Society**

Founded 1962  
www.omss.ca



## Monthly Newsletter for September 2016

Next meeting...

**Sunday, 11 September, 2016**

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto  
Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

## Monthly Newsletter for September 2016

### 2016 Executive

Tom Elliot  
President

Jim Qualtrough  
1st vice president

John Hambly  
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius  
Secretary/Treasurer

Gail Stone  
Past President

Eric Clarke  
Program Chairman

Frank MacKay  
Journal editor

Norm White  
Annual Show Chairman

### Meeting Dates

- 2016 -  
January 17  
February 7  
March 13  
April 10  
June 12  
September 11  
October 16  
November 13  
December 11

### Annual Show

Saturday June 10, 2017



### *Letter from the President*

I hope it has been warm enough for everyone and you have had a busy and productive summer, travelling, collecting and visiting family and friends. I had an opportunity to go to the east coast on a family visit and I discovered the Parks Canada museum and historic site for the battle of Restigouche. The museum documents and displays artifacts explaining the last English French naval battle in North

America. I will have more on that another time.

I hope everyone is enjoying our monthly news letter which has been expanding and developing under the guidance of Editor Scott Dummitt.

A special note of thanks to Scott Dummitt for all his work in securing our new venue for On Parade June 10 - 2017. Scott's efforts will greatly benefit the OMSS and present new and exciting opportunities to for every member of the club to participate and grow with the club.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting.

***Tom***

### ON PARADE 2017

New Location, New Date, New Format, "On Parade" 2017 should be our best show yet. Even while our show was in progress this year at Fort York's Visitor Centre, negotiations were underway for an entirely new venue. Next year's Show & Competition will be held at the Lakeshore Blvd campus of Humber College. What does that mean, well how about a chance to revive the event and hopefully attract more visitors, vendors and even manufacturers.

'On Parade' 2017 will be moved from early May, where the weather is any body's guess, and the City of Toronto likes to do major road clean-ups, to the 10<sup>th</sup> of June. Humber has assured us that they will mark this as our show weekend for as long as we like.

This means the show will not be competing with any of the major US shows and even gives us a chance to entice some of the US based manufacturers to come to Canada. We have contacted William Britain Limited and Del Prado and both have expressed interest in coming to the show next year.

The show itself will be set up in the Humber Gymnasium. This offers more space and better lighting than our locations at Fort York, as it is a double gymnasium. Washroom facilities are located within the gym and there is a loading door for vendors and displayers to unload their wares at the loading ramp. It also provides easier access for our tables to arrive through. Just off the gym is a small courtyard where people can take a break or have a picnic if they wish.

The new part of the show will be something we have borrowed from the Chicago Show, Room Trading. This is made possible by using the accommodation facilities available through Humber College. A two room suite, with a double bed and desk in each room, plus a small kitchenette and separate bathroom, will cost those staying overnight as little as \$79.00. The college will set aside a section for those attending the OMSS show so that everyone is in the same area. Booking accommodations will be available in early February 2017. This will be possible by going to the OMSS web site and under "ANNUAL SHOW" you will find a link to the Humber College Accommodations. You

can also check this web site out for what restrictions are in place and what the rooms look like. In addition if you want to come to Toronto a few days early, or stay a few extra days, you can still get the OMSS rate. We have already toured the facilities and although rather Spartan, they were quite clean and worthwhile considering staying in town for. Room trading itself will take place between 6 pm and 8:30 pm on the Friday (9 June) evening before the show. We advise vendors that wish to participate that they make a small sign to hang on their door. We ask all participants to stick strictly to the hours as there will be others in the area that may not wish to be disturbed. While there is no phone service in the room, bring your cell phones, there is also internet service available but you will have to provide a cable to plug your lap tops into the wall unit, or you can purchase one from the Security Desk at Humber.

Sadly we will not be able to have the Imperial Daughters of the Empire snack booth at our show any longer, we tried but were told that due to legal reasons this would not be possible, there are however an abundance of eating facilities at Humber, including Pizza Pizza, Mr. Sub, Tim Hortons, and more. If you don't like what they have to offer, there are lots of restaurants immediately off campus.

A thorn in the side for vendors and participants for years has been no local bank machines at the Fort. Well that is no longer a problem as there is an ATM machine in the main lobby at Humber.

You will no longer have to book a shuttle bus to get from the parking lot to the show as Humber College has plenty of parking at the facility. In fact if you are staying overnight throughout the week daily parking is only \$7.00 (half day is \$4.00) and Saturday & Sunday is FREE! Parking must be paid for at the Humber College Security Desk or you are subject to a ticket. The TTC stops right in front of the college and there is a GO TRANSIT train station just a short distance away at Long Branch. This is perfect for people coming in from as far away as Oshawa or Hamilton.

The show admission price will no longer be \$9.00, which went directly to the Fort, but will be substantially reduced. There will also be a special Family price of \$5.00 (2 Adults & 2 Children, 12 & under). Vendors will receive free admission with the payment of a table. If a vendor has more than one table, his helper(s) will receive free admission for the number of tables' purchased. For example 2 tables – 2 people, 3 tables – 3 people. Any additional help will be required to pay for an admission fee, i.e. 2 tables and 4 vendors (two receive free admission; the other two would pay general admission). There will be no acceptations. Everyone else will be subject to a general admission price of only \$3.00 per adult. We are also introducing an early floor rights admission on the Saturday morning. This means the only ones allowed in at 8 am will be vendors, participants setting up large displays and those that are



**Humber College (Lakeshore Blvd Campus)**

working the show. Early Admission, at \$10.00 per person, will start at 9:00 am while General admission starts at 10:00 am. While the OMSS is a non-profit society, the money brought in by admission prices goes towards paying for the venue, the tables, and other related matters to the show. This helps keep our membership dues down.

Questions can be directed towards Show Chairman Norm White or to Scott Dummitt. In addition we will be releasing more information throughout the year in the news letter and at our monthly meetings.

Yes 2017 should be our best Show & Competition yet. Take time to mark it on your calendar and pass the word around.

### **Toy Soldier & Model Figure Magazine – OMSS Issue**

Members who pre-ordered the ON PARADE 2016 issue of TS&MF are reminded to please pick their copies up from Scott Dummitt at the September meeting. Once again we have received a great spread in this prominent magazine and there are lots of photos of members, and their collections.

TS&MF has just changed their format with ISSUE 219 as the magazine is now being printed in the USA. It has now become a bi-monthly magazine and the price has increased by \$1.50 Cdn.

### **Quarter Master Stores**

**Shamus Wade – Nostalgia Figures** - I have finished checking my Nostalgia cabinet and will be bringing a dozen or so new sets. Among the several 3 figures for \$45.00 are the Uganda Rifles in battle dress i.e. leopard skin skirts but the officer is carrying an umbrella! A \$50 Canadian set is Mohawk Cadets 1902. An interesting one is the five figures (\$75) of the Veterans of the Indian Mutiny at the 1903 Delhi Durbar. The old chaps are in mufti wearing their medals and, oh yes carrying their canes. Of the larger sets are the colourful uniforms of the Jamaica Volunteers. These were done in 1974 by Jan and Frank Scroby of Blenheim figures fame but after production the moulds were broken.

*Frank Barrett*

**Clearance Sale!** – Ian Pearson has several Aircraft prints at \$25.00 each that he will be bringing to the September meeting. In addition he has odds & ends of Britains figures, Books, Car Models, Plastic Kits and a 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale kit of a WWII Corvette at \$75.00.

**Old Hollowcast Britains for Sale** – Carol Ramm of Toronto contacted the OMSS during the Summer asking if we would know anyone interested in purchasing some old Britain Ltd figures. They are all hollow cast figures; however her Father had glued many of them to lead plate bases. If you are interested contact Carol at carolramm@yahoo.ca

**NOTE: We ask that meeting vendors please refrain from putting notices in this section as this is designed for those members that are trying to sell off a few items.**

### **This Month in History**

**1940** – General George Marshal is sworn in as Chief of Staff of the US Army

**1944** – King George VI promotes General Bernard Montgomery “Monty” to Field Marshall

**1945** - Japan Surrenders to the Allies, ending World War II (US date).

**The newsletter is edited by Scott Dummitt.**

**News items and notices can be submitted to [gijoe@kos.net](mailto: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 copy write law we cannot reproduce any published article without permission of the publication in question.**



## What's New in the Hobby

By Brendan Hogan

Although I'm sure many OMSS members have been enjoying their summer off, the major toy soldier manufacturers have been releasing new products at a feverish rate. Throughout the summer, King & Country has maintained its monthly release schedule and has produced some excellent new toy soldiers. Amongst the highlights from the summer are Robin Hood and his Merry Men, Pontifical Swiss Guards, a United States Navy Vought F4U Corsair with naval aviators and flight deck crew, and early-war Imperial Japanese Army soldiers and a Type 95 Ha-Go Light Tank. This final batch of releases should be of particular interest to Canadian collectors, since K&C intends to produce Canadians defending Hong Kong. I have contacted K&C to request that they manufacture Brigadier J.K. Lawson, commander of Canadian troops in Hong Kong, and Company Sergeant Major J.R. Osborn, Canada's first Victoria Cross recipient during the Second World War.



K&C's new F4U Corsair with pilots and flight deck crew



K&C's Japanese soldier fighting with a British, Canadian, or Australian soldier

To commemorate the centennial of the Battle of the Somme, Tradition of London has rereleased a set of four "Tommies," a sergeant, and an officer going over the top. With minor modifications or a little bit of imagination, these troops could be used to represent the soldiers of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at Beaumont-Hamel on 1 July 1916 or troops from the Canadian Corps, who fought on the Somme during the later battles from September until November 1916.



Left: TGM – Forthcoming Roman Centurion

Centre: Tradition of London's British infantry going over the top during the Battle of the Somme

Right: JJD's Native American boy watching lacrosse game



the French & Indian War and produced a couple of naval guns to defend fortresses or arm bateaux and some more John Jenkins Designs has also been busy and produced a number of neat figures. Amongst my favourites are two large ten-figure sets from the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion. Included in these sets are a number of clansmen and British infantry. Besides dealing with rebellious Scots, JJD's has tackled naval guns to defend fortresses or arm bateaux and some more American provincial regiments. Canadian collectors might be interested in JJD's new series of lacrosse players. These sets would fit in nicely with

other figures previously released by JJD from the French & Indian War and the War of 1812.



**JJD's Naval Gun**

First Legion and Thomas Gunn Miniatures have also been releasing some excellent product over the summer months. Fans of the History Channel's "Vikings" or BBC Two's "The Last Kingdom" should take a look at FL's new Vikings series. It looks very well done! FL has also produced a large M-48A3 Patton Tank and a few American infantrymen for its Vietnam War series. TGM FL has continued to expand its Second World War series with aircraft, German Fallschirmjager, and Australians in tropical uniforms. A number of legionaries joined the legion to bolster the ranks of TGM's brilliant Roman series. A recent Facebook post from TGM offered collectors a sneak peak of a forthcoming centurion. Finally, things remain quiet from William Britains. However, collectors should have their new summer catalogue by the time this article goes to print.

## **Spot the error**

Some members will remember Albert Carter who would bring a figure with a flaw and challenge us to Spot the error. To start a new year for the club I will be bringing a figure but please note:

1. There is no prize if you spot the mistake.

2. You DEFINETLY do not get to keep the figure.

*Frank Barrett*

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Highest Military Award in the Commonwealth is the Victoria Cross. Canada, New Zealand and Australia all have their own versions of the Victoria Cross. To date only the New Zealand version has been awarded, which was in 2007 for an action in 2004. Only one Victoria Cross has been awarded for bravery in Canada, which was to 20 year old Private Timothy O'Hea, who was a member of the 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own). The Irish soldier was serving with the British Army in Danville, Quebec on June 9, 1866, when a railway car containing 2000 pounds of ammunition caught fire. He quickly took charge, opened the locked railcar, and single headedly brought the fire under control.

There have been 94 Canadians awarded the Victoria Cross, the first being Alexander Roberts Dunn for actions at Balaclava during the Crimean War. William Edward Hall, a Canadian serving in the Royal Navy, was the first man of colour to receive the award for actions at Lucknow, India. Robert Hampton Gray is currently the last Canadian to be awarded the medal (posthumously) for sinking a Japanese destroyer at Honshu, Japan, while Private Ernst Alvia "Smokey" Smith was the last surviving Canadian to be awarded the medal for action against two German tanks and two self propelled guns at the River Savio in Italy.

## **Up Coming Events!**

**Heart of the South Toy Soldier Show** – Sat. Sept. 10 - Annandale VFD Community Centre, Annandale VA – Contact: Ed Gries (201) 342-6475 for more information

**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago Toy Soldier Show** – Sun, Sept. 25 – Hyatt Regency Woodfield, 1800 East Golf Road, Schaumburg, Ill. USA – Website: [www.chicagotoysoldiershow.com](http://www.chicagotoysoldiershow.com)

**Peterborough Militaria Show** – Sat. Oct. 15 – Peterborough Armoury, Peterborough, Ontario. Looking for OMSS members to exhibit. Contact Scott Dummitt (705) 939-1028 or [gijoe@kos.net](mailto:gijoe@kos.net) for more info.

**34<sup>th</sup> Annual East Coast Toy Soldier Show & Sale** – Sun. Oct 30 – Rothman Centre, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hackensack NJ – [www.eastcoasttoysoldiershow.com](http://www.eastcoasttoysoldiershow.com).

Collectible Shows - Check out [www.collectorshows.ca](http://www.collectorshows.ca) for some other locally hosted toy, train, and nostalgia shows.

## **On Facebook?**

**Make sure and check out our Facebook group maintained by Dave Norman. Lots of interesting postings. [www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/577999975631964/)**