

The  
**Ontario  
 Model  
 Soldier  
 Society**  
 Founded 1962  
 www.omss.ca



## Monthly Newsletter for March 2020

### Monthly Meeting Dates for 2020

12 January 2020 - 9 February 2020 – 8 March 2020  
 5 April 2020 - 3 May 2020 – 13 September 2020  
 18 October 2020– 22 November 2020 - 13 December 2020

### Annual Show

Saturday June 13, 2020

### Month Newsletter for March 2020

#### 2020 Executive

Keith Ritchie  
 President

Scott Millburn  
 1st vice president

Andy Traverse  
 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius  
 Secretary/Treasurer

Lorne Farr  
 Past President

Vacant  
 Program Chairman

Vacant  
 Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt  
 Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt  
 Newsletter Editor/ Media  
 Officer

Dave Norman  
 Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay  
 Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan  
 Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist  
 Ian Pearson

Next meeting...

**Sunday, March 8, 2020**

Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto  
 Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

### Letter from the President



By the time of the meeting we will be just over three months away from the annual show. I hope that everyone is working towards that. Our show is a continuing success because of the format, the displays shown, both quality and variety, and the hard work put in by everyone. I am sure that we will hear more at the meeting.

We had a good turnout and a very good presentation on 3D-printing. It is certainly a topic that I am interested in and I learned a lot. There were very many – and very on-topic questions, and a lot of useful information. We are going to do something different for the March meeting, and have a Show Night (afternoon?), a format that I understand has been used before. We want to get more participation from all members, and so we are going to ask you to come prepared to talk about your favorite historical or war movie, Bring a prop or two – the DVD or Blu-ray (or even the old VHS, if you still have it), and maybe a soldier. We won't be showing the movie, but would invite you to speak for no more than five minutes on the movie. Some questions: What is your favorite movie of the genre, and what is it – the scenery, specific actors, dialogue, etc. that makes you feel this way. Has this movie influenced your toy soldier collection or displays, and, if so, in what way?

I know that I will be participating, but you will have to come to the meeting to find out my favorite and why. Jeff Duncan will moderate, and also bring some goodies.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting in March.

**Keith Ritchie – OMSS President**



“Can't wait for OMSS  
 Movie Day”

### **2020 OMSS Calendar Corrections**

The Calendar Committee reminds you to take notice of the following inaccuracies in the 2020 calendar:

- The HeritageCon Model Contest in Hamilton is on Sunday 29 March, *not* March 22.
- The IPMS TorCan show is on Saturday October 24, *not* May 24.

Our apologies, but these dates had been confirmed and were then changed after press time. Please make corrections on your calendars.

*Frank MacKay*

### **In Memorial of:**

During the last year we have lost several long time members of the OMSS, they will all be missed. Over the last two months, we have lost two members who have had a long tenure with our club. Their absence will affect us all in one way or another.



#### **Leslie A. Eslary**

Les passed away on the 2 January 2020. He has been a member of the OMSS since 2005. Over the years Les's large scale dioramas won several "Club Choice" awards at our annual show & competition. In addition to his being a member of the OMSS, he was also an avid collector of militaria and an original member of the Canadian Society of Military Medals and Insignia. Les entered Royal Roads Military College in 1962, finishing his degree at RMC in Kingston in 1966 where he graduated with honours. He also attended McMaster University where he received a Masters Degree in History. Lieutenant Eslary served with the Royal Canadian Regiment until his career in the military was cut short by an injury received while doing a parachute drop.



#### **Richard "Dick" Kenneth Malott (Major retired) CD**

Dick, as his friends referred to him passed away early in February 2020 after battling cancer. He has been a long time OMSS member, joining back in 1997. For many years Dick was the man to go to in Ontario if you wanted to purchase William Britain Limited products. He was a constant attendee of the militaria and toy shows held in the Ottawa area. Besides his interest in toy soldiers Dick was one of the foremost expert Philatelist (stamp collectors) in Canada. His military background started with him flying as a navigator in Lancaster aircraft with the 404 Maritime Reconnaissance Squadron. His career took him to England, Sardinia, the United States, and Vietnam besides his Canadian Postings. After retiring from the RCAF in 1974, he took on the position of Chief Curator of Collections at the Canadian War Museum. His work with the Royal Canadian Legion led to his receiving numerous awards including the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers.

## **ON PARADE 2020 VENDORS**

Each month starting in January 2020 we will be publishing the names of vendors who have signed up and paid for their spot at 'ON PARADE' 2020. This gives those attending a chance to approach or contact these vendors prior to the show and make arrangements for picking up certain items. In addition this section will indicate who plans on setting up on 12 June for room trading at Humber College. Room trading will take place between 6 pm & 8:30 pm. Want to be included in the list? Just print off the 2020 vendor's form on the OMSS web site and get your cheque into Gary Lenius as soon as possible.

### **Vendors**

**John Brown** - Vintage Toy Soldiers, home castings and Militaria – (905) 275-2446 – Email: [johnev@sympatico.ca](mailto:johnev@sympatico.ca).

**SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS** - W. Britain Ltd, John Jenkins Designs, Thomas Gunn Miniatures, Del Prado, Armies in Plastic, Pride of the Nation and More. [www.gijocanada.com](http://www.gijocanada.com) – (705) 939-1028 – Email: [gijoe@kos.net](mailto:gijoe@kos.net) - Room Trader

**Ed Tansley** - Ducal Toy Soldiers, Queen Victoria Miniatures, Gord Dumbleton figures, Norm Cuthbert figures, Old & New Britains, Marlborough and more. – (416) 695-0609 – Email: [edtansley@hotmail.com](mailto:edtansley@hotmail.com).

**Dennis DeRusha** - Assorted Toy Soldier, Vehicles, etc – (613) 592-5692 – Email: [kanatad2@rogers.com](mailto:kanatad2@rogers.com)

**Henry Chow** - Vintage (pre-1967) William Britain Limited hollow cast, Ceremonial Series, Current Britains – (416) 250-6631- Email: [toysoldier.chow@gmail.com](mailto:toysoldier.chow@gmail.com)

**James Cook** - Variety of Toy Soldiers, mostly consisting of King & Country – (905) 205-4636 Email: [carolandjim48@hotmail.com](mailto:carolandjim48@hotmail.com)

**John Hoffmann** - HISTOREX Kits, NCO Nemrod Resin Kits, 30 mm Napoleonic Flats, 90 mm Poste Militaire Figures, Airfix and more. (519) 787-1020 Email: [jhoffmann00@cogeco.ca](mailto:jhoffmann00@cogeco.ca)

**P & G Historical Military Books (Ron Peraziana)** – Everything you need to find information on warfare, from ancients to modern campaigns and much more – (905)-574-1890 Email: [ronperz@rogers.com](mailto:ronperz@rogers.com)

**Al Wright** – Stock and Custom made 1/6th action figures and equipment sets – (416) 406-4369 – Email: [heshman@rogers.com](mailto:heshman@rogers.com)

**Andrew Laschuk** – 1/6<sup>th</sup> Scale Toys and Figures – (519) 728-9379 – Email: [crusader@bell.net](mailto:crusader@bell.net)

**Toy Soldiers Club** – King & Country, John Jenkins Designs and First Legion. – 1-888-339-2109 [www.toysoldiersclub.com](http://www.toysoldiersclub.com)

**Tommy & Kirk Thompson** – Vintage hollow cast William Britain Figures – (705) 252-0990 or Kirk (647) 500-7795.

**Morely Verdier** - Plastic and metal figures, plastic models, books, magazines – (613) 612-4896 – Email: [morleyverdier@xplornet.com](mailto:morleyverdier@xplornet.com).

**Dan Sneyd** – 1/72 Plastics, Die Cast, Artillery, W. Britain Ltd. – (519) 371-7487 – Email: [dsneyd57@gmail.com](mailto:dsneyd57@gmail.com)

**Steve Aubie** – Custom made figure and diorama bases for all needs – Email: [wmdcanada126@gmail.com](mailto:wmdcanada126@gmail.com)

**Andy Traverse** – Variety of Toy Soldiers – (905) 627-0213 – Email: [andytraverse123@gmail.com](mailto:andytraverse123@gmail.com)

**ON PARADE 2020 Vendors List continued**

**'The Unsportsman Collectibles' (Bob Thompson)** – New (post 1967) sold out Britain's toy soldiers, Plastic figures, Military Collectible Cards and Vintage metal & plastic figure sets - **(613) 523-3103** – **Email:** [thompson\\_robert@rogers.com](mailto:thompson_robert@rogers.com) - **Room Trader.**

**Toy Soldier Toronto – Grant Lawson** - Del Prado, Thomas Gunn, Blackhawk and more – **(289) 259-3984** – **Email:** [glawson.can@gmail.com](mailto:glawson.can@gmail.com) – **Web site:** [www.toysoldiertoronto.com](http://www.toysoldiertoronto.com)

**WE ARE DOWN TO OUR LAST 3 VENDOR TABLES AVAILABLE!**

**Kudos to the Ottawa Chapter !**

A recent comment regarding the Ottawa OMSS Chapter's Toy Soldier painting contest: *"...I still think that the dollar store soldier painting contest in the Ottawa chapter is a brilliant idea and should be extended to the whole club as a challenge at the annual show. Maybe Bob Thomson could come down to explain it. We could fund the purchase and issue of the same kind of soldiers; it would only cost a couple of bucks. It would also be a feather in the Ottawa Chapter's hat to know that we pay attention to them. Let them run it and judge it. As little skill is involved, I think it would appeal to many."*

Frank MacKay – OMSS Calendar Editor

**ON PARADE 2020 INFORMATION**

If you are planning on staying over at Humber College during ON PARADE, remember you only have until the 13<sup>th</sup> March to book your room through the OMSS web site. After that you will have to go through Expedia.ca to book a room if they have any available and you may or may not be in the same area as the other attendees. We have a block of 20 rooms this year at a cost of only \$92.36 (tax included) per night. So far we have only had a disappointing two reservations placed. Time is running out to get in on this deal so don't PROCRASTINATE!

Display and Competition area sizes have been limited to 4 ft by 2 ½ ft this year due to space limitation in the new building. We want to be able to offer everyone a chance to show off their stuff. Remember this is the clubs time to shine. We want to make a good impression.

Vendors, if you haven't booked your tables your opportunity is shrinking fast. At this time we only have four guaranteed tables left. Remember your tables are not booked until Gary receives payment.

Set-up time for this year's show will be a little earlier. Once we have the room's set-up on the Friday, and vendors have picked up their registration packages, you can set up. There is only drop-off space available on the Friday, no permanent parking. Drop your wares off and park in the main parking lot as in previous years. Saturday's set-up is still tentative as we do not have access to the building until 8 am, however we are working on getting in an hour earlier. Please be patient and courteous to the volunteers and listen to what they say when setting up.

We are now on the Toronto Events web site, however please spread the word. Gary Lenius has flyers available for people to drop off or give to others.

We now have 9 door prizes from Tradition of London and Thomas Gunn for our "Meet & Greet" dinner Britains has also told us they will be contributing as well. Don't miss out, contact Gary Lenius for tickets

**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**

**Congratulations and a Big Thank you!**

Our new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is long time member Andy Traverse. In addition Alex Monsour has agreed to become our next Newsletter Editor starting in September this year. The membership owes a vote of thanks to both these men for stepping up to fill these positions. Remember we are still looking for a Speaker Co-ordinator and a new JOURNAL Editor.



## Whats New in the Hobby!

By Scott J. Dummitt

This month I am going to go a little different way with the article and introduce a fairly new company on the military miniature scene, TEAM MINIATURES. I was first contacted by this company approximately a year ago, but wanted to see what it was going to produce before I decided to become their first Canadian retailer. Thank you also to Alex Monsour for bringing them to my attention. Team Miniatures are produced in the same factory as the early King & Country figures were produced, so they do have some experience.



They have a limited range of figures so far but their finished product is of a high quality. So far they have released the Grenadiers of the French Imperial Guard at Waterloo, the legion troops and Chinese combatants of the Boxer Rebellion 1900, the combatants of the Russo-Japanese War of 1904, Legionnaires and Gladiators of Rome, Mongols and Saracens at Ain Jalut, Plains Land Indians and just introduced this week, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Boer War. Each figure or set comes in a hard cardboard box, similar to the latest style used by Thomas Gunn Club. Most figures are also limited in production. The price range is approximately \$56.00 to \$74.50 Cdn, depending on the detailing of the figure. It will be interesting to see how they expand their range in the next few years. Visit their web site at: [www.teamminiatures.com](http://www.teamminiatures.com)

### *Peking 1900*



John Jenkins Designs has release the next two Mohawk Warriors in their “Drums along the Mohawk” series. The original prototypes were shown to make up a wonderful scene depicting James Fenimore Coopers’ characters from “The Last of the Mohicans” Hawkeye, Chingachgook and his son Uncas. These are selling for appx. \$59.00 Cdn and bring all sorts of ideas for displaying them to mind when you see them. JJD has also announced that he will be adding Norman Knights to his releases which will go well with the Saxon series he has already brought out. For all you Scots out there, JJD has also just released a mounted Charles Stuart (bonnie Prince Charlie) to add to their Culloden series.



## **FEBRUARY 2020 OTTAWA CHAPTER MEETING ... Tuesday February 25**

The evening once again had a packed agenda, about 15 participants ... with fun for all.

### **Club Business**

– Included among the updates on various active OMSS Ottawa Chapter projects were:

- **Ottawa Chapter 'Library'** - We've started the process of documenting the "library" by transferring 2 large boxes of magazines to John Shrives (he says his wife will do the work). Although the basis of the library will be from Dick Malott's donation of his magazine collection to the club, and number of additional donations have been made. Michael Canivet of the Toy Soldier Market donated a number of older King & Country sales brochures to be added to the library.
- **Ottawa Chapter Contact List** – The list was distributed to all present
- **2020 OMSS Membership Renewals** – In addition to last month's 2020 membership payments from 16 Ottawa members, I'll be mailing cheques off to the OMSS Treasurer for 2 more memberships.
- **"Battle of Chrysler's Farm in Miniature" Project** – New photos of War of 1812 toy soldiers from Armies in Plastic, painted by Gilles Bertrand, will be added next week to the Facebook Group.
- **The "Green Army Men Painting Challenge" Project** - Results to be displayed and a "winner" voted at the April Meeting
- **OMSS On Parade 2020** – Posters were distributed, deadlines and participation by Ottawa Chapter members was discussed.
- **"What I am Looking For" List** – the recent updated list was distributed to all present.
- **OMSS Raison D'etre** – in an effort to come up with a single sentence rationale for our OMSS activities, member Francois Brisebois came up with this:

*"Learning and sharing information on military history through passion and interest in collecting miniature toy soldiers and model figures."*

(We also read out the more thorough, but longer, official statements from the OMSS website and OMSS information brochure.)

**What's New – A Discussion of Current hobby news** – What's New, upcoming shows, and reports on recent hobby related shows, and collections.

**Dick Malott's Toy Soldier Collection** - A list of Dick Malott's personal display collection items for sale was distributed at the meeting. The prices (established before Dick's passing) include the full retail price (as dictated by Dick), and a reduced sale price for OMSS members. Although a number of items have sold, I can forward an electronic list to anyone who wants it. The items are sold on a first come - first served basis. The remainder of the items will be brought out for sale to On Parade in June. The collection is really quite small and consists almost entirely of modern Britains figures and sets from the First Gear era.

**Presentations** – Although there were no formal presentations, there was a great deal of discussion about future meeting presentations. It was agreed to start a new monthly feature where one person talks for a maximum of 10 minutes about their personal collecting experiences, and their collection. Kelly Hayes agreed to start the ball rolling at the March meeting.

We also had a good time using voting boxes and poker chips to determine priorities for future 15 minute presentation topics. From among the 12 topics voted on, the top 5 most wanted presentations were: "Repairs and Restoration" (19 points), "Moulding & Casting" (18 points), "Simple Diorama Display Techniques" (12 Points), "Evaluating Miniatures", and "How To Make Any Terrain of Structures With Styrofoam" (11 points each).

**"Show & Tell"** - The topic for this month's "Show & Tell" was "Black History". Although I couldn't come up with much aside from a slightly racist Black Jazz Band by Bob Horning, a number of participants did bring out some interesting pieces, with some great stories. (Kelly Hayes brought out a 1/6 scale 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment BLACK Watch highlander, but did manage to redeem himself with a good story about it.)

The chosen Show & Tell theme for the March meeting is "Irish".

### **Upcoming Ottawa Shows**

March 15 - Nostalgia Show – Nepean Sportsplex

April 25 – Ottawa Military Heritage Show (Militaria) – Nepean Sportsplex

(This show normally has about 4 dealers selling toy soldiers).

**Visiting the "Capital Region"?** - Why not join us for one of the OMSS Ottawa Chapter Meetings?

Contact Bob Thompson 613-291-1638 or Email: [thompson\\_robert@rogers.com](mailto:thompson_robert@rogers.com) for further info.