

The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962
www.omss.ca



2022 Executive
Keith Ritchie
President

Scott Milburn
1st vice president

Andy Traverse
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Lorne Farr
Past President

Vacant
Program Chairman

Brendan Hogan
Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt
Annual Show Chairman

Alex Monsour
Newsletter Editor

Dave Norman
Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay
Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan
Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist
Ian Pearson

Monthly Newsletter for March 2022

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2022

Next meeting Sunday, April 10th
Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto
Meeting starts at 1:00 pm. Doors open 11:00 am

April 10th - May 15th
September 11th - October 16th - November 13th - December 11th

Annual Show

The show will be at the Legion. Sunday, June 12th, 2022.

OMSS Ottawa meetings is resuming in person gatherings with continued Swap Meets by Zoom meetings every other month. Both are open to all OMSS members. For an invite and link, please contact Bob Thompson at thompson_robert@rogers.com.

Letter from the President



Another successful in-person meeting in March! It was a good turnout for the March meeting, with the reappearance of some members that we haven't seen in a while. I appreciate that members are respecting the Legion's policies and are concerned for the health and safety of other members.

I also appreciate that members are stepping up to talk and to deliver presentations. We need to re-energize ourselves, the Club and the hobby. Many thanks to the two Scotts (Scott Dummitt on his presentation, ably assisted by Scott Milburn's AV expertise on the laptop.) We have more presentations coming up but will need other presenters in May and the fall.

Plans for On Parade are proceeding apace, but we will need members to volunteer for Security and other activities. Please contact Jim and others on the Show planning, or the Executive. And get working on your displays, for competition or just for show – you have had over two years to work on displays.

My appreciation to the rest of the Executive and other key members, and really to all members. I write this on the eve of the second anniversary of the declaration of the State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic. As we are re-opening now, I am proud of how the OMSS has kept going through the past two years. Kudos to all of the members that have helped out. And it puts us in a good position to pick up where we left off in early March – 2020.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on April 10.

2022 SHOW NEWS – Sunday June 12th

The Executive reminds all display and competition participants that due to the very limited space of the Legion Hall; the maximum size of table will be 30" x 48" (2-1/2 feet x 4 feet). 2-1/2 feet x 2 feet options will be available for smaller displays. This is per person.

THERE WILL NO EXCEPTIONS so please plan your layout accordingly.

Thanks.

Motels available with Discount for people attending ON PARADE 2022

We currently have two motels in the vicinity of this year's ON PARADE at the Royal Canadian Legion at 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke, Ontario. You must mention to the booking agent that you are booking to attend the "**OMSS show**". These rates are available to anyone attending our show regardless of whether they are OMSS members or not. Please pass this information on to anyone you might think is interested.

STAY INN – 560 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke, ON (Approximately 4 minutes to the Legion) is offering rooms with 1 King size bed at \$129.00 (plus tax) and 2 Queen Size beds at \$139.00 (plus tax). If Covid Restriction are over, there is a complimentary breakfast buffet. If still in effect there is a Grab-and-Go breakfast being offered. Phone: 1-888-445-4473 or visit their web site at:

<https://www.stayinnsuites.ca/>. Check in is at 3 pm. Check-out is at 11 am the next day.

CANADA'S BEST VALUE INN – 650 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke, ON (Approximately 8 minutes to the Legion) is offering rooms with 1 Queen Size bed at \$120.00 (plus tax) and 2 Queen size beds at \$140.00 (plus tax). A Grab-and-Go Breakfast is offered to patrons. Phone: 1-888-525-8346 or visit their web site at: <https://www.canadasbestvalueinntoronto.com/>. The set rate guarantee is in place till 3 days prior to the event June 8th, 2022.

Jeff Duncan's Reflections on the March meeting.

We had about 25-30 OMSS members out for our March in person meeting. Lots of vendor action with a vast array of different toy soldiers, kits, militaria, books, and related items on offer. The Club table had one our best months ever (pre or [post] Covid) selling donations from our members bringing in \$405.

Scott Dummitt had an excellent presentation with lots of photos on "Research". A how and where to find information on uniforms and terrain. Postcards, cigarette cards, magazines, record album covers, brochures/programmes, photographs and the internet were some of the areas reviewed. An enjoyable time as this was the first formal presentation since February 2020 when we did the history movie themed topic. Lots of good conversation solving the world's problems and having fun with our hobby.

Quartermaster Store

I am 89 years of age & live in a Condo apartment near Eglinton & the Don Valley Parkway. I have just over 800 model soldiers. There are some Marlboroughs, Blenheims, two sets by Gord Dumbleton, a number I bought in Russia, a number of Britain's etc. I would like to find someone that would work with me to move these models. I would be open to discussing a consignment or commission arrangement. I have sold some at Around the Block, but they take 40%. Doug Hicks. I can be contacted at 416-444-2940.

Catherine Betts has a large framed print of the Charge of the Light Brigade that she no longer has room for. She can be contacted at cbetts@nb.sympatico.ca

Member Michael Vanzieleghem offers the following. He can be reached at 613-384-8040 or email neerdoell@gmail.com.

Tamiya 1/16th scale M1A2 Display Model - Box opened, aluminum gun barrel, metal chassis carefully and evenly spray painted with Tamiya metal primer white but work stopped there. All sprues still in bags. Everything still in box. Retail at Great Hobbies for \$499 Cdn if you can find one. Asking \$200. Very heavy large box. Pick up only at Bath, Ontario.



Dragon Action Figure with 8.8cm Raketenwerfer 43 artillery piece - Original Box \$50 Cdn
Ship at buyers cost or pick up at Bath Ontario.

First Legion: 1/30 Scale – Only 100 sets made. Not all survived global shipping.

TER004 Plancenot European Wall

TER005 Plancenot European Village House 1

TER006 Plancenot European Village House 2

Roofs removable. Beautiful set. Perfect Condition.

Set was originally priced at \$550.00 USD. Selling for \$500 Cdn

Cannot ship as too likely to sustain damage and too heavy. Pick-up only in Bath, ON.



Quartermaster Store Cont'd

A very compact hospital scene from WWII. All K&C pieces except the rather rare Figarti Medical Tent. Tent is in perfect condition, all lines still intact, never broken or repaired. Asking \$500.



Also looking for Spitfire MK.IX Model: RAF042 by K & C. Johnnie Johnson's plane. I am open to trades. Michael Vanzielegem



The answers to Ian Pearson's question of what is going on:

The gun in the photo is a 105 mm pack howitzer, and its 'tractor'. It has just been lifted by helicopter or dropped by parachute to that location. It is now being unpacked for action. Yours, Bill Wyatt, ex gunner.

To answer your query in the February newsletter, the gun and Land Rover have just been delivered by parachute. The whole platform gets pulled out of the back of the plane by a small drag chute, and then the static line will deploy the main parachute to ensure it lands safely on the ground. In this case, the vehicle and gun have been rigged together on a single platform. The gunners (airborne gunners) would jump separately and then move to collect their guns, vehicles, and ammunition on the drop zone.

Cheers, Brendan

UBIQUE! (The motto of the Royal Canadian Artillery which means "Everywhere").

What's New in the Hobby by Scott Dummitt Will Return Next Month

Some Mark Felton History Videos for Inspiration

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VExSb_rZ1WU

Graf Zeppelin - The Forgotten German Aircraft Carrier

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OqeHW8lqqI>

Hitler's Navy in Allied Service 1945-51

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v13WPpeYyK0>

Incredibly Rare WW2 Canadian Ram Tank Wreck Located

On March 11th, **Alan Wright** passed away. He had served in the Armed Forces including time in Cyprus as a UN peacekeeper as well with NATO in Europe. As a civilian, he completed his career working at Canada Post. He was known to the Club as a vendor at our shows of 1/6 figures with a special interest in military vehicles, history and tanks.

<https://www.guelphtoday.com/obituaries/wright-alan-christopher>

HeritageCon – report by Gary Lenius

Model shows are making a comeback. I made it out to HeritageCon in Hamilton on March 27th. This is an IPMS plastic model show, the largest hobby show in the GTA region since the demise of the Ajax show. Held at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum this was their first show since 2019. They drew a good-sized crowd. The flea market was large and very busy. There weren't quite as many models on the tables as at previous shows. They apparently had some teething troubles with the online registration system they were trying out. However there was some very nice work in evidence. A few OMSS members were in attendance including Frank MacKay, Jeff Duncan and Ian Pearson. Jeff was scoring some rare airplane kits. Frank showed the flag with an entry in the competition.



“March” is named for the Roman god of war, Mars. This was the time of year to resume military campaigns that had been interrupted by winter. So time to make sure your soldiers are getting ready for battle in 2022.

History Moments:

March 5, 1946

The "Iron Curtain" speech was delivered by Winston Churchill at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. Churchill used the term to describe the boundary in Europe between free countries of the West and nations of Eastern Europe under Soviet Russia's control.

March 21, 1918

During World War I, the Second Battle of the Somme began as German General Erich von Ludendorff launched an all-out drive to win the war. The battle began with a five-hour artillery barrage followed by a rush of German troops. The offensive lasted until April 6th and resulted in the Germans gaining about 35 miles of territory. Allied and German casualty figures for both battles approached 500,000.

March 11, 1858

The Indian Mutiny ended after 10 months of hostilities. Indian sepoy had mutinied believing rifle cartridges had been lubricated in animal fat.

The Last Word of a Civilian Bureaucrat

Some may recall last March I photographed and wrote about new display cabinets I got from Ikea. Lots of glass and space to lay out soldiers. In a wishful thinking moment to perhaps get one more, I checked out their website recently. Discontinued! Less than one year. I protested to Ikea. They responded they might bring back a modified version at some point in the future. They manufactured a great piece of furniture that would provide a dream cabinet for any toy soldier collector. And they have shattered that dream. OK. Just mine. Temptation avoided...

The newsletter is edited by Alex Monsour.

News items and notices can be submitted to artmons@rogers.com.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings. Note due to postal costs the Newsletter is limited to 6 pages maximum. Articles that cannot be accommodated will be forwarded to the Journal Editor.