

# The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962  
www.omss.ca



## 2023 Executive

Scott Milburn  
President

Andy Traverse  
1st vice president

Duncan Johnstone  
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius  
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Brendan Hogan  
Journal Editor

Scott Dummitt  
Annual Show Chairman

Scott Milburn  
Newsletter Editor

Dave Norman  
Facebook Page Manager

Frank MacKay  
Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan  
Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist  
Ian Pearson

## Newsletter for March 2023

### Next Toronto meeting Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

**OMSS Ottawa** meetings have resumed in person gatherings with continued monthly online meetings via Zoom which are open to all OMSS members. For an invite and link or more information, please contact Bob Thompson at [Thompson\\_robert@rogers.com](mailto:Thompson_robert@rogers.com).

### Toronto's March Speaker Montcalm's Mistake



This month's speaker is our 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Duncan Johnstone. He is a retired lawyer who after a diverse and lengthy career finished by serving with Legal Aid. He lives in Hamilton with his wife and cat and is an avid pre-WWII history buff with interests from ancient Greece to more modern times. He predominantly collects old and new plastic figures but also more recently produced metal figures.

Duncan will speak on the topic suggesting that Montcalm made both a strategic and tactical mistake by coming to fight when he did on the Plains of Abraham. He should have remained behind the walls. Regardless of the outcome of the battle, the conquest of Quebec was likely to follow within a year. We look forward to hearing him!

### Toronto Monthly Meetings for 2023

February 12  
March 12  
April 16  
May 14



September 17  
October 15  
November 19  
December 10



### Spare Parts Bin is BACK!



After a 2-year absence, the Club Spare Parts Box will again be available at every Toronto meeting. It contains a wealth of spare figure parts and modeling bits and pieces of every kind--and they all belong to YOU!

The rules are simple: if you take something and find it useful, replace it with something of equal value--if not now, then at the next meeting.



### President's Message – March 2023

The Toronto chapter's had another successful in person meeting in February. Thanks to the good weather, we saw an increased number of attendees and a few new faces.

It appeared members must have been cleaning out their attics and basements because there was a lot of tables full of model soldier related items for sale and a lot of happy faces walking around with packages stuffed under their arms.

Andy Traverse's presentation regarding his cultural tour of Zulu war sites had members asking great questions and were obviously enjoying his presentation. I believe the resumption of speakers has increased the quality of the monthly meetings thanks to the hard work of our programme director Mark Silverthorn.

We will continue with the 5 minute 'get to know a member' part of the meeting since the feedback has been positive. Thank you to February's speaker Mike Chrus who agreed to step into the spotlight and share a bit about himself that was both interesting and entertaining.

The Ottawa chapter held both in person and Zoom meetings in February with a good turnout at both events. It is nice to see that many Toronto members are participating in the virtual meetings. It is a great opportunity to discuss hobby related topics and have a few laughs thanks to the humorous cartoons and memes Bob Thompson finds on the internet. The Zoom meetings also offer the chance to buy or sell hobby related items at the swap meet portion of the meeting which then can be shipped between Ottawa and Toronto area members (or visa-versa) at no cost thanks to the volunteers of the OMSS Underground Railroad. I encourage everyone that can, attend these informative and lively online meetings. Of course, the Ottawa chapter welcomes any Toronto chapter members who happen to be in the Ottawa area to attend one of the Ottawa in-person meetings.

The executive committee has kicked off an initiative to increase the club's social media presence in an effort to spread the word about our hobby and attract new members. As a first step, the club has engaged a professional videographer to make and post a 15 minute YouTube video of our 'On Parade' Annual show. I hope this is only the first of potential opportunities to spread the word about the hobby and the OMSS.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in person at the next meeting or on Zoom.

### Welcome to our first member from 'Down Under'

The OMSS already has members from across Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. The club welcomes our latest new member who resides in Australia. Helen Bachaus is a former Warrant Officer in the Australian Army. Welcome aboard Helen!



## What's New in the Hobby – March 2023

by  
Scott Dummitt

This is the Chinese New Year and at this time most of the manufacturers have little new to offer. That said however I had seen a preview of BTSC's "Piping the Side" set a few months ago. Unfortunately, at that time the Royal Navy white Ensign was painted upside down. I was pleased however to see that this was corrected when the set was released. It is a wonderful little themed set that will also fit in with BTSC's Royal Navy route liners standing at present arms. The White Ensign is carried in this case by a rating. This is acceptable as it is not the Queen's or King's Colour. Non-commissioned members can be assigned to carry the Ensign which is similar to a



**"Piping the Side" set by The British Toy Soldier Company**

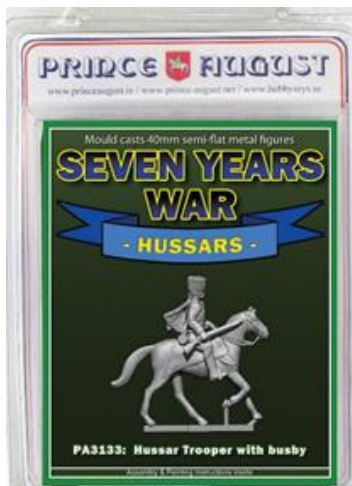
"Camp" flag for army units. The set also contains a Rating with a Bos'n Pipe, a Junior Officer and a Senior Officer. The four piece set sells for approximately \$110.00 Cdn. With a bit of added painting this set can also be easily made to represent the New Zealand and pre-unification Canadian Navy's. Unfortunately, our Australian comrades decided to use an American style legging instead of the half gaiter so it won't work for the RAN.

I haven't mentioned much about Prince August Miniatures over the last few years but they are still going strong and have released some new moulds for their Seven Years War series. Two of their most recent figure moulds are Hussar troopers from that conflict. These moulds are a semi-flat and are 40 mm figures. This series has been going strong for Prince August for over 50 years as I remember purchasing their Infantry set firing when I was in my late teens. Prince August Moulds are a great way to create large scale sets at an economical price and offer hobbyist hours of enjoyment. There are also moulds for various themes in the 54mm range, 25mm range, and various themed chess sets. You can find out more at their web site at: <https://shop.princeaugust.ie/>.

SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS is a Prince August dealer in Canada.



**Seven Years War Hussar Trooper  
with Fur Busby**



**Seven Years War Hussar Trooper  
with Mirliton**

## **ON PARADE 2023 UPDATE**

The Ontario Model Soldier Society is now accepting applications for vendor table space at ON PARADE 2023. Tables measure 8 feet by 2 ½ feet, with a maximum of 3 tables allowed. Tables will be allocated on the basis of 2022's attendance. We will no longer be giving a credit or refund to vendors that cancel their appearance within 72 hours before the show.

Make your cheques out to The Ontario Model Soldier Society and you can pay Gary Lenius our treasurer at the upcoming meetings or to ensure you get tables you can mail a cheque to:

OMSS ON PARADE 2023  
 C/O Gary Lenius  
 43 Saugeen Crescent  
 Scarborough, Ont.  
 M1K 3M8

There is still some room space available at the STAY INN in Etobicoke that has been set aside at a special price for those attending ON PARADE. You must phone the motel and ask for the OMSS rate when booking. Your credit card will not be charged until you actually stay at the motel. Rates are available for 10 and 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2023. The Stay Inn phone number is 416-259-7899.

**Canada's Largest Model Soldier Show**  
**ON PARADE 2023**  
 Sunday June 11, 2023      10 am to 3 pm  
 Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion  
 110 Jutland Road, Toronto



**Celebrating the 130th Anniversary of W. Britain**

Show details at [www.omss.ca](http://www.omss.ca)  
 Presented by the Ontario Model Soldier Society

## Sign courtesy of Ron Peraziana



Mark Silverthorn recently posted the following article on LinkedIn which has generated a lot of interest and enquiries about our annual show 'On Parade'.

***"Old lawyers never die. They just collect toy soldiers"***

Check it out for yourself;

[https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/old-lawyers-never-die-just-collect-toy-soldiers-mark-sil-verthorn/?trackingId=Id4%2BOa1nQYW4gg2cSRxYp](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/old-lawyers-never-die-just-collect-toy-soldiers-mark-silverthorn/?trackingId=Id4%2BOa1nQYW4gg2cSRxYp)

### **March 12, 1938 - Hitler invaded Austria**

The occupation of Hitler's homeland is known as Anschluss, which is the German word for annexation.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Heritagecon15**

Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> 2023

Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, Hamilton Ontario

[www.heritagecon.com](http://www.heritagecon.com)

Over 80 contest categories, special awards, amazing presentations by special guests, raffles, licensed restaurant on premises, gift shop and an impressive display of real aircraft.

***Bringing Together Great Models and Great History***



Scott asked me to fill in as guest editor for this issue. Nice to be back at the laptop for what is a fun task to do. In the past two days on vacation in Alberta, I have reconnected with two sets of friends who I have not seen in many years. They wanted to know all about my collections and were genuinely fascinated by the hobby. No toy soldier shops out here but looking forward to the next meeting! Alex.

The newsletter is edited by Scott Milburn.  
News items and notices can be submitted to [scottm33@live.ca](mailto:scottm33@live.ca).

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