



Newsletter of the

ONTARIO MODEL SOLDIER SOCIETY

Founded 1962
www.omss.ca
Edited by Gary Lenius



October 2010

Next meeting

Sunday, October 17, 2010

Start time 1:00 pm

Branch 210, Royal Canadian Legion
 110 Jutland Road, Toronto
 Doors open at 12:00 pm

Feature Presentation:

The Yanks are Coming !

The U.S. 21st Infantry in the War of 1812

Over the years we have had a number of speakers on topics concerning the War of 1812. All of them have looked at the War from the “home team” side of things, be it British or Upper Canadian.

This month we’re going to get a look from the “other side of the hill”. Our speaker will be a member of Treat’s Company of the 21st regiment of U.S. Infantry from the War of 1812. This is a Hamilton based re-enactment group that has participated in events around the area such as this past summer’s Battle of Longwoods near London.

So join us for a different perspective as we look at 1812 from the point of view of the fellows wearing the blue coats.



The 21st U.S. Infantry in action

Annual General Meeting

This meeting will be the Society’s Annual General Meeting for the year. See page 2 for details.

Upcoming Meetings

November 14

We will hold our annual auction at the November meeting. So start digging out those items you no longer need and turn them into some cash.

December 12

The December meeting will feature our annual Christmas luncheon. Gail Stone will be handling the catering for us once again. Tickets will be available at the October meeting, \$5.00 a plate. We will also be presenting membership pins to members who have reached milestones of 10, 20 and 25 years with the Society. Some other special things are planned so make sure and join us to finish the year off with a bang.

Frank MacKay has promised us a new issue of the Journal in time for this meeting.

<i>President</i> John Murdock	<i>Member at Large</i> Gail Stone
<i>1st Vice President</i> Jim Matresky	<i>Journal Editor</i> Frank MacKay
<i>2nd Vice President</i> Guy Elliott	<i>Program Chairman</i> Eric Clarke
<i>Treasurer</i> Gary Lenius	<i>Membership Chairman</i> Ian Pearson
<i>Past President</i> Norm White	

2010 Annual General Meeting

The October meeting will be our Annual General Meeting. We have a few items of club business to get through:

1. Approval of the amended constitution
2. Election of Officers for 2011
3. Financial Report

Amended Constitution and Bylaws

First vice-president Jim Matresky has been working on a much needed update to our constitution since early this year. It was last updated in 1988 and has not kept pace with the way the club has evolved.

Prior to Jim taking this on many members were not likely too aware of the constitution. Bringing it up to date was largely just some needed housekeeping. We are not making any radical changes, just bringing it up to date with current practices in running the Society. We have kept it pretty simple as we don't feel we need to get overly legalistic and want to give ourselves enough flexibility to adapt to circumstances.

A draft of a revised constitution and bylaws was circulated earlier in the year for discussion. Jim has consulted with many members and incorporated a lot of feedback in the final proposed version of the constitution and bylaws. The executive committee has reviewed it and is endorsing its adoption.

The final product is being sent to all the members in advance of the meeting. It will be put to a vote by the members attending the October meeting. If approved it will go into effect immediately.

Election of 2011 Officers

The new version of the constitution calls for the annual election of four officers, namely the president, first and second vice presidents and a secretary-treasurer. These are to be elected at the Annual General Meeting held in October, to take office for the following calendar year as of January 1st.

As no nominations have been brought forward we have followed our usual practice and the current executive has recruited a slate of candidates for the coming year. We have also been able to continue our custom of having our vice presidents move up a rank, with our first VP taking over as president and our second VP moving up to first.

The candidates are:

Jim Matresky for President

Guy Elliott for 1st Vice President

Paul Aitchison for 2nd Vice President

Gary Lenius for Secretary-Treasurer

The executive thanks these members for agreeing to serve and recommends that the members attending the meeting vote to approve the slate.

50th Anniversary Steering Committee

In 2012 the Society will celebrate its 50th anniversary. To coordinate special projects and events to mark this milestone year we have decided to set up a steering committee. Bren Furlong has agreed to chair this and he will be recruiting his committee members in the next while.

Your 2011 Executive Candidates



Jim Matresky
(President)



Guy Elliott
(1st Vice President)



Paul Aitchison
(2nd Vice President)



Gary Lenius
(Secretary-Treasurer)

Financial Report

Prepared by Gary Lenius, Treasurer

OMSS Financial Summary By Year

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (Proj)
<i>Income</i>					
Membership dues	\$5,595.00	\$5,310.00	\$5,045.00	\$4,645.00	\$4,270.00
<i>Paid up members</i>	168	158	149	137	126
Other income	\$1,786.88	\$1,339.72	\$1,430.44	\$1,849.69	\$825.84
<i>Total income</i>	\$7,381.88	\$6,649.72	\$6,475.44	\$6,494.69	\$5,095.84
<i>Expenses</i>					
Meetings	\$604.17	\$1,245.92	\$2,790.00	\$2,750.00	\$2,856.00
Administration	\$151.72	\$189.57	\$186.14	\$238.63	\$259.49
Promotion	\$82.10	\$180.66	\$416.45	\$463.00	\$448.07
Newsletter	\$577.50	\$721.24	\$694.76	\$657.19	\$654.53
Journal	\$432.32	\$1,200.80	\$724.59	\$682.00	\$1,348.85
Awards	\$192.79	\$183.33	\$49.92	\$37.26	\$40.00
Miscellaneous	\$69.45	\$66.12	\$200.00	\$0.08	\$0.00
<i>Total expenses</i>	\$2,110.05	\$3,787.64	\$5,061.86	\$4,828.16	\$5,606.94
Annual Show	\$879.62	\$604.66	\$464.42	-\$490.87	\$75.84
Net Surplus/Deficit	\$6,151.45	\$3,466.74	\$1,878.00	\$1,175.66	-\$435.26
Accumulated Surplus	\$23,551.28	\$27,018.02	\$28,896.02	\$30,071.68	\$29,636.42

We haven't had a financial report in some time so it seems an opportune time as we update the constitution and elect new officers for the new year.

The display above shows the progress of the Society's finances over the past few years. (The 2010 figures are a projection based on the first 9 months of the year and planned activities and expenditures.) The figures show yearly income and expenses. The profit (or deficit) on the Annual Show is also given. This nets out to an annual surplus or deficit figure. The line labeled "Accumulated Surplus" is essentially the Society's net worth, the surplus of income over expenses that has been accumulated over many years.

As you can see, the Society is pretty secure financially. Our accumulated surplus is just shy of \$30,000. This has been built up through hefty operating surpluses over the past few years. A number of factors contributed to this. Distributing over half of our monthly newsletters by email has been a major ongoing savings. The years we met at Branch 66 saved us a lot on monthly meeting costs. We haven't been able to get out our planned number of Journal

issues in some years—each missed issue saves us \$500 to \$600. And we have had a number of significant donations from members.

It starting to look as if our days of operating surpluses may be past. Membership is declining. Lower interest rates mean less income on our savings. Promotion has become a significant expense category, the bulk of this goes to maintain our club website. The HST has kicked in and of course postage rates go up yearly. We will produce 2 issues of the Journal this year (touch wood) and mailing them is expensive. At present I am projecting we will run a deficit this year for the first time in years.

However I do not feel that we will need to consider a dues increase for a few years yet. The accumulated surplus is far higher than it needs to be and I would like to see it reduced by the attrition of several years of operating deficits before raising the dues. The executive has also been talking about using some of the surplus for some special projects, such as things to celebrate our upcoming 50th anniversary year in 2012.



Jim Anderson's Figures

Many members will remember the late Jim Anderson as a skillful and prolific painter of figures. His work was featured at our annual competitions for years. His collection is now on sale at The Grenadier, Dave Zink's store in Port Perry. He's located at 269 Queen Street. Store website www.grenadiermilitaria.com

Looking for Painted Figures

Stanley Kershman is interested in buying painted connoisseur figures and flats. You can contact him at stanley3211@hotmail.com or 613-726-2999.

Kits and Figures for Sale

John Hoffman, a former member now living in Fergus, is interested in selling off his unpainted figures, including quite a few Historex kits. He also has several 30 mm Napoleonic vignettes by "Under Two Flags" and 3 Waterloo dioramas that won awards at OMSS shows.

You can contact him at jhoffmann00@cogeco.ca or 519-787-1020.

Seeking Composition Figures

Hans Doring is looking for composition figures from such makers as Elastolin, Lineol and Hausser. You can contact Hans at 416-421-9951 in the evenings.

Looking out for each other

Know of a member who's been ill or in hospital? Let Gail Stone know so that we can send them the Society's best wishes. Contact Gail at 905-332-0653 or by email at gstone4@cogeco.ca

Meeting Dates for 2011

January 9	September 11
February 13	October 16
March 20	November 13
April 10	December 11
May 15	
June 11 (Annual Show)	



If you know of an upcoming show that might interest our members, drop Gary a line.

MMSI Chicago Show Oct. 15-17, 2010

The other Chicago show, for connoisseur figures. At the Chicago Marriot in Schaumburg, IL See www.mmsichicago.com for details.

Toy Soldier Auction Sunday Oct. 24, 2010

At the Burlington Holiday Inn 3063 South Service Rd, Burlington. 150+ lots. Preview 11 am, sale starts at 1 pm. For details, lot listing and pictures see www.antiquetoys.ca

30th Ajax Plastic Model Contest Saturday October 30, 2010

A large show featuring all kinds of plastic models. It also features a figure category, which the OMSS sponsors. 10 am to 4 pm. Admission \$2. At the J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, 1355 Harwood Ave. North in Ajax. Registration info will be online at www.ipmstoronto.com after Oct. 1st. Contact Bernie Hengst email bernie-hengst@nexicom.net

2010 Hobby Show November 5-7, 2010

Large commercial hobby show with a wide variety of vendors. Includes the Great Canadian Game Show. At the International Centre, 6900 Airport Road in Mississauga. Friday 1-9 pm; Saturday 10am-9pm; Sunday 10am-6pm. Admission \$9.

Website www.thehobbyshow.com

Michigan Historical Collectors Show November 20-21, 2010

Toy soldier and militaria dealers and historical miniatures competition. At Madison Place in Madison Heights Michigan (north Detroit area). 9 to 4 Saturday, 10 to 3 Sunday admission \$6. www.michiganshow.com

Toronto Toy and Doll Collectors Show Sunday November 21, 2010

10 am to 4 pm at the International Centre (Hall 4) 6900 Airport Road, Mississauga. See www.antiquetoys.ca for details.

Moving? Send your change of address to: Gary Lenius 43 Saugeen Cres. Scarborough, Ont. M1K 3M8
or email: omss@bell.net Phone: 416 261-6494