The Ontario Model Soldier Society



50th Anniversary Year 1962 - 2012

2012 Executive

Guy Elliott President

Scott Dummitt Ist vice president

Norman White 2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius Secretary/Treasurer

> Jim Matresky Past President

Gail Stone Member at Large

Eric Clarke Program Chairman

> Frank MacKay Journal editor

Ian Pearson Membership Chairman

Norman White Annual Show Chairman

Scott Dummitt 50th Anniversary Chairman

2012 Meeting Dates

January 8
February 12
March 11
April 15
May 6
June 10
October 14
November 18
December 9

Annual Show Saturday September 8

Monthly Newsletter for October 2012

Next meeting:

Sunday, October 14, 2012

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

Featured Speaker:

Constable Terry Russel Of the RCMP

Our guest speaker for the October meeting will be Constable Terry Russel of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Constable Russel spent much of his career working diplomatic security and has some interesting stories.



Constable Russel (on right) with Deputy Commissioner Steve Graham

Last November Constable Russel was presented with the RCMP Foundation's Golden Spur Award. The award recognizes the tremendous community service of Cst. Russel through his many volunteer activities in both his personal time and in his capacity as RCMP Public Community Relations officer in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

Constable Russel will be wearing his red serge as a special treat for us.

How about some RCMP figures for the Show and Tell table?

OMSS Executive Elections

The October meeting is the Society's Annual General Meeting, when we hold elections for officers for the coming year (to take office in January). We would normally publish the proposed slate of officers in this newsletter, but this year is a bit different.

Here is what our Constitution says:

The Nomination Committee of the Executive will present a proposed slate to the Executive for approval at the September Executive Meeting.

At the October Annual Meeting, the members of OMSS will approve this slate of officers, or if there are other nominations from the floor, a vote shall be held, hopefully by a show of hands. If a secret ballot is required for any reason, the Executive should be prepared with ballots.

With this unusual 50th. Anniversary year there was no September meeting – Executive or otherwise. There is a slate of candidates (President, Ist. Vice President, 2nd. Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer) but this will go to the Executive for approval at their October meeting and then brought forward for members at the October Annual Meeting. It is inappropriate to list those candidates' names until that time. Thanks for your understanding.

The newsletter is edited by Gary Lenius. News items and notices can be submitted at omss@bell.net or 416-261-6494.

OMSS website: www.omss.ca



President's Column

From our President Guy Elliott...

September 8, 2012: what a day! In the morning it was raining and overcast and generally ugly and Norm White was too ill to be there. It looked to be a disaster. But what a turnaround! The rain stopped, Norm's pre-Show prepa-

rations allowed those of us who took over to have a smooth-running Show, all sorts of hobbyists and tourists showed up (as many as on a sunny day), we had more member displays than in the last several years arrive and we were absolutely swamped with items for the competition. It turned out to be the very largest and very best Show we have had in at least the last decade since I became an member.

After the Show I spoke to all of the vendors. They were all happy and all said: "We'll be back next year". Indeed, two first-time visitors said they would like to book tables for next year as vendors.

And the 50th. Anniversary Dinner in the evening was also a smash hit. The room was full, the food and the music were excellent, the speeches were informative, humorous and brief. We had three special guests that night and all three have made specific mention to me of how impressed they were with the Show, Dinner and our Society.

The list of people for me to thank is just too long for here. But let me say this one thanks: to all the members. You knew how important this day was and you all responded magnificently. Well done.

Free Books (Guy Elliott)

Back about 1990 when I was teaching secondary school History my Board of Education decided to modernize all its school libraries by making the books able to be scanned and this involved putting a metal strip in each book. They decided however that the cost was so high they would only do newer books. They decided that all books published before, I think it was 1970, should be removed from the shelves, marked 'discarded 'boxed up and – are you ready for this? – incinerated! That meant hundreds of History books just destroyed. I argued and argued with the Administration but to no avail.

But just before the books were to be taken away the History teachers did a rescue. I said to them; "Take whatever you'd like home. "Then we gave out history books to any students that wanted them. Eventually they all found good homes. I took the military history books and I have read almost all of them. But now I have no room.

I will bring these 60 –70 books to the meeting and lay them out marked: 'Free Books'. They will be laid out by I0:45 and it is first-come, first-served. Perhaps after you have read what you take you will swap them with other members and all these books will be put to far better use than being burned!

Book Sale - Boyd Estate

At the October meeting, Frank MacKay will be bringing four large boxes containing the military library of our late comrade Bruce Boyd. As arranged with his daughter, these books will be sold to OMSS members at \$1 each, the proceeds going to fund a donation to the Parkinson's Society in Bruce's name. John and Ev Brown have volunteered to administer the sale, and all members are urged to buy at least one book. Even if you don't want any of them, a \$1 donation in memory of one of our founding members would be much appreciated. This is the last thing we will be able to do for our friend.



OMSS Commemorative Figures Are Here

As previously announced, to celebrate our 50th anniversary year the Society commissioned a limited edition figure of the Queen's Rangers from William Britain. Britain's did a great job on them and they are nicely boxed with a special certificate. They arrived just in time for the Annual Show and we issued them to the members attending. Each member in good standing will receive one of these figures. They will also be issued to new members and a few will be reserved for presentations.

See Gary Lenius at the meeting to pick up your figure if you didn't pick it up at the show. We will have them at the next few meetings for pickup.

A limited number of extra figures are available through two of our vendors: Scott Dummitt and Henry Chow. The figures retail for \$32.00 each plus tax. Check with the individual retailers for offered discounts on the Anniversary figure and bring your membership card.



Harold's Corner

News items from Harold Morrison

Dave Purton sends his regrets for not being able to attend our 50th anniversary meeting. Death of a friend was the factor.

Dave says he has 30 milk crates full of

castings and he would sell them at \$1 each. He has hundreds of moulds and if a figure is ordered from a specific mould the cost would be \$2 each.

His specialty is Napoleonics and Victorian but the list also contains The American Revolutionary War, Romans, the French-Indian wars in New France and Delhi Durban figures including six different elephants.

He inherited many moulds from Roman Philippe of Ann Arbor, Michigan, who died six years ago. (Aside: Mr. Philippe had 200,000 soldiers. Can anyone in our club top that?)

Dave says he is unlikely to visit Toronto in the near future, but if perhaps enough members were interested we could provide him with gas money and accommodation.

Dave's e-mail address is: dpurton@cogeco.ca

Annual Competition Trophies

We had a larger than expected crop of award winners at this year's Annual Competition last month. We didn't have quite enough trophies on hand at the fort and so we still owe trophies to few entrants.

Gary Lenius will have the outstanding awards at the meeting, so see him to pick up any trophies you're owed.

OMSS 50th Anniversary Wine Glasses

We have approximately 25 special OMSS 50th Anniversary Wine Glasses for sale at \$5.00 each. These were created for our Anniversary Dinner and will be available at the meetings until we are sold out. The OMSS 50th Anniversary Logo is etched into each 13 ounce glass. Ask Jim Qualtrough or Scott Dummitt for more info.



Link of the Month

www.etsy.com/listing/108449743/pattern-for-tiger-1-tank-panzer?

Got a knitter among your near and dear who's always looking for gift ideas? Here's a great little project for them - Panzer slippers.

Thanks to Frank MacKay for this tip.

Coming Up:

November

Our annual auction.

December

Annual Christmas luncheon and social.

Still waiting for your postman to brave hail, sleet and snow to deliver your paper copy of the monthly newsletter? Let us send it to you by email. Avoid postal delays. Read the newsletter online in full colour by email. No more paper cuts! We send it out as an Adobe PDF file, a compressed format that won't swamp your mailbox or take ages to download. Send an email to omss@bell.net to get yourself on the email distribution list.

Your editor (the guy who has to stuff envelopes every month) will thank you.



Seeking Kit from Melhuish Sale

James Hamilton is looking for a kit that was part of the sale of Don Melhuish's estate at the April meeting. It's a plastic kit of a large scale (8 inch?) US Marine or Army Infantryman from World War 2 that was in a plastic bag. If you could bear to part with it please contact James at 416 621 8977 or hhamilton@bell.net

Royal Marine Band for Sale *Price Reduced*

Mike Pidgeon has a 30 piece Royal Marine Band for sale (with boxes). Made by "All The Queen's Men". Price: \$200.00, O.B.O. Pictures available on request.

Contact Mike Pidgeon, 905-478-4724

Email: mpidgeon@rogers.com

Airborne!

Dragon Models British Airborne "Red Devils" Arnhem 1944 model, original box with great graphics, 1/16 Warrior Series, unbuilt, parts still in original plastic bags inside box, \$10 & great read hardcover book, Sgt. Don Malarkey with Bob Welch, Easy Company Soldier, "The Legendary Battles of a Sergeant from WWW2's "Band of Brothers" \$10. These are plus shipping if you want them mailed. Contact David Dorward at 905-584-5838 or dkdorward@sympatico.ca

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. Hans is also looking for someone who can do some repairs to composition figures for him.

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.



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

Canada's Greatest Toy Show - Sun. Oct. 21

Presented by the Canadian Toy Collectors' Society. 9 am to 3 pm at the Etobicoke Olympium 590 Rathburn Rd. Admission \$10 (\$8 seniors). Free parking.

See ctcs.org/show.htm for more info including a coupon for \$1 off admission.

Ajax Plastic Model Contest - Sat. Oct. 27

Annual model show put on by the local IPMS groups. 10 am to 4 pm, \$2 admission. At the J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, 1355 Harwood Ave. N. Ajax. Our club sponsors the Best Figure award at this show. For more info see www.ipmstoronto.com

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

Albert LaBelle

A blast from the past... **Robin Ward** is looking for any historical material related to Albert LaBelle and his shop. Copies of any news articles, obituary, etc. would be appreciated. You can contact him at 905-836-2271 or swardn225@rogers.com