



Next meeting:

Sunday, October 27, 2013

Branch 210 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Rd. Toronto

Meeting starts at 1:00 pm Doors open 11:00 am

Founded 1962

2013 Executive

Scott Dummitt
President

Norman White
1st vice president

Gail Stone
2nd vice-president

Gary Lenius
Secretary/Treasurer

Guy Elliott
Past President

Eric Clarke
Program Chairman

Frank MacKay
Journal editor

Norman White
Annual Show Chairman

Meeting Dates

- 2013 -

January 20

February 3

March 3

April 14

May 26

June 23

October 27

November 10

December 8

Annual Show

Saturday September 7
2013

Chicago Show Report

The annual Chicago Toy Soldier Show held each September has long been the premier North American event for toy soldier collectors. Many of our members have been regular attendees over the years, but not as many made it down this year. Our own Jeff Duncan did take in the show and will give us a review of his impressions. And we can always count on Jeff to bring back some interesting and unusual items.

Any other members who visited the show are encouraged to bring out any of their acquisitions for show and tell.

Taking Care of Business

As per our constitution, October is the month we elect our executive officers for the year starting in January. There having been no stampede of office seekers (as usual) the current executive is proposing the following slate:

President	Norman White
1st Vice-President	Gail Stone
2nd Vice-President	tba
Secretary/Treasurer	Gary Lenius

We will be asking the member attending the meeting for a vote to approve this slate. We are fortunate in having two past presidents step forward to serve on the executive again. At time of publication a candidate for 2nd vice president hadn't been nailed down, so stay tuned.

November is Auction Time

At next month's meeting we will be holding our annual auction. This is your chance to thin out your collection or pick up something from one of your fellow members. We will follow our usual format— you must be a paid-up member to sell items, bidders must have a bidder number (\$1 fee) and there is a limit of 100 lots, first come first served. Don Ritchie has agreed to serve as our auctioneer once more. Hobby related items only please.

December Luncheon

Its time to start thinking about whether you will be attending the annual Christmas luncheon that will be held on the 8th of December. Price per person is \$5.00 and this includes a roast beef dinner, beverage and desert. Gail Stone and her family have once again kindly volunteered to cater our meal and we thank her kindly. In addition any additional desert donations by our members are always warmly welcomed. See Gail at the next meeting or two to reserve your tickets.

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 Scott Dummitt...*

Well this is the point in the OMSS President's term where he feels like things are starting to wind down. We had another successful "On Parade" last month, next month is our annual auction, and with our October meeting we are getting near the end of the current President's term, the final few months of the Past President's term on the Executive Committee, electing next year's Executive members and the introduction of a new 2nd Vice.

With the mention of the "Past President" I want to thank Guy Elliot for his dedication and hard work, not only for the past year, but for the past four years as he has been a "Rock" in guiding the OMSS over that period. Many members of our Executive are repeat members, meaning they have held office more than once and their experience and dedication is what keeps the wheels of bureaucracy in the OMSS Executive moving smoothly. I encourage all members to consider becoming part of the Executive sometime through their membership.

I believe that over the past two years, we have seen a bit of a resurgence in our Society. The advertisements for "On Parade" in *Esprit de Corps* and *Toy Soldier & Model Figure Magazine* have brought more attention to the OMSS, as well as the many articles written for *TS&MF* magazine by our members. Our participation at various Militaria Shows has also aided towards making our presence known to fellow collectors. The revamping of our web site so that it is more informative and up to date, once again is a great asset to the OMSS. Frank MacKay's work on the "JOURNAL" and the subsequent distribution

of that publication to our membership as well as other military miniature societies has shown that we have a membership that is willing to promote the hobby and aid others on projects that they are working on. Lastly the travelling of several of our members throughout the U.S. and UK to other toy soldier and military miniature society events has shown other societies that we are still going strong and are a leader in our hobby.

I was made aware by Ian Pearson that some societies in the U.S. are now encouraging their members to not only display Connoisseur figures, but toy soldier and action figures, something we have been doing for several years now. No other society has yet commissioned any of the big companies (W. Britain Ltd, or King & Country, etc.) to do a special figure for their membership as we did in 2012.

We have also seen an increase in our international membership as well as our domestic membership. The OMSS is not just a Toronto based club any longer, but a Society that has membership throughout Canada, the U.S. and UK. I was extremely pleased to see two members come up to "On Parade" this past September from the United States.

Lastly I believe that a big part of our continued success is in the members themselves. The fact that many are ready to help with parts, figures, advice with new members, and to pass on painting or construction tips, is a big reason why people come back year after year. It always seems that time goes by too quickly when I am at a meeting. I thank all of you for making this past year a memorable one for me and look forward to continuing my membership with the Ontario Model Soldier Society.

Over the last several months I have had members ask if we were planning on ordering Golf Shirts again. It has been a year since we did so and if there is enough interest we can certainly look into doing so again. The cost would be approximately \$25.00 to \$28.00 per shirt. Shirts requiring mailing would be an additional \$12.00. We will not hold shirts for people more than three months for pick-up. I am still currently holding a shirt for a member a year after he paid for it. If you can't pick up your shirt and you don't want to pay for mailing, make sure you can arrange to have someone pick it up for you. Any shirt still being held after three months will be sold "first come first" served at the meetings. There will not be any refunds offered. Any profit

from these sales will go to the OMSS. We are also looking to see if there is an interest in Shell Jackets as well. If you are interested please contact me at the October meeting or email me at gijoe@kos.net.

I would like to take this time to remind ALL vendors that the Address roster that the society sends around is for personal use only. It is not sent out for vendors and stores to use for advertising. If this continues we will have to quit putting email addresses on our roster list, which would be a shame. Please contact individuals personally if you would like to add them to your advertising. **DO NOT ASSUME.**

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.

Harold's Corner *Tidbits from Harold Morrison*

aitchrwm@bell.net



Allan Robinson, who has been a member of the OMSS since its early days, is going to try to get up for our October meeting. The significance of this note is that it will likely be the last time, we can greet one of our most talented members, a master in painting all categories of figures in varying scales and media. He is also a super water colorist. For health reasons, Allan will not be able to attend future meetings. He is coming in from Maple, Quebec and if you should wish to phone, write or e-mail him, all the details are in the membership roster. Among Allan's many good works are posters of Britains toy

soldiers, paper cutouts of Canadian militia and other military subjects.

Spencersmith Miniatures is a website on the Internet.

www.spencersmithminiatures.co.uk

This company specializes in a variety of makers of 20, 25 and 30 mm. figurines. No catalogue, (too many figurines!) but there is a contact point at the website so that you can query Peter about what is in stock.

Magazine Articles Wanted

Our friend and fellow society member **Stuart Hessney** is looking for people to tap into their literary skills, and special interest. As most of you know Stuart is the editor of *Toy Soldier & Model Figure* magazine, the largest selling toy soldier magazine in the world. It truly is an international magazine and submissions to the magazine come from collectors all over the world, and that's where we come in. I know we have people who know how to put together informative papers and so I am asking our many OMSS members to think about doing an article for TS&MF magazine.

Find a subject about your collection that you enjoy, put together an informative article on collecting, painting, and molding, take some HD Photos using a digital camera, and send it to Stuart at: toysoldiereditor@adelphia.net.

Remember to let Stuart know that you are a member of the OMSS and if your article is printed you will receive a free copy of TS&MF magazine.

Giant D-Day Re-enactment

Jeff Duncan passed this on this tip. It's not until next August, but you might want to figure it in your vacation plans for 2014. It's a large scale re-enactment of the D-Day landings and battle held each year in Conneaut, Ohio. It includes landing craft, planes, military vehicles, mock battles and an encampment. Conneaut is on the shore of Lake Erie just a little west of Erie, Pennsylvania, so it's a reasonable drive from Toronto.

Check out their website with all the details and pics from previous years www.ddayohio.us

Ajax Model Show Saturday Oct. 26

Our friends in the International Plastic Modeller's Society (IPMS) are once again holding their annual show and competition. Our society sponsors the figure award at this show and they usually get a nice group of figure entries. And of course the usual masses of planes, tanks ships and automobiles. Lots of great models to look at and vendors too. Worth a visit. Only \$2 admission. At J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, 1355 Harwood Ave. North in Ajax. 10 am to 4 pm.

Details at www.ipmstoronto.com/index.php/events/54-2013-10-26-ajax-33

Passages



Long time member **Eric Lowe** passed away on September 4th. He had been a member of the Society for 48 years. Although beset by health problems over the last years he didn't let them keep him away from the Society and he was an avid collector right up to the end. For many years Eric was a book dealer in our monthly flea market. Our sympathies go out to his family and friends.



We just recently learned that former member **Raghbir Dillon** passed away at the end of February. A member for about 15 years, he was a toy soldier dealer and for many years maintained a stall at the Harbourfront Antiques Market. He also sold at our annual shows.