

The  
**Ontario  
 Model  
 Soldier  
 Society**  
 Founded 1962  
 www.omss.ca



## Monthly Newsletter for January 2021

### Monthly Meeting Dates for 2021

All meetings are cancelled until further notice.

### Annual Show

To be determined

### Monthly Newsletter for January 2021

#### 2021 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

OMSS Ottawa Chapter hosts a zoom meeting on the last Tuesday of the month from 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm or later. This is open to all OMSS members.

For an invite, please contact Bob Thompson at [Thompson\\_robert@rogers.com](mailto:Thompson_robert@rogers.com). He will send you the link needed to join the meeting.

### Letter from the President



Welcome to 2021, everyone! Looking back at 2020, it was quite the year for all of us. I thought 2020 would be the “perfect vision” year, but it was more like a “virtual” year, as we experienced lockdowns, self-isolation, and embracing technologies to an extent that we never imagined. Looking back at my first President’s Message from January 2020, I closed by saying “Let us “soldier on” in 2020.” I didn’t realize how prophetic those words might be for the year that was.

With COVID-19 cases still high and even increasing, and with a provincial lockdown in Ontario, 2021 starts off as a continuation of 2020. However, there is hope, with two vaccines approved and distribution underway.

We will continue with current procedures for 2021 until we know that it will be safe enough for us to resume in-person gatherings. Based on the government vaccine rollout plans, I recognize that many members will probably be higher priority to receive one due to age and other factors. We will continue to monitor when case rates are lower, lockdowns lifted, and the Legion can re-open. This will also affect what decisions need to be made regarding the On Parade show in June.

In the meantime, we will continue communications with the monthly Newsletter and the Journal on a quarterly basis until we can resume normal in-person meetings. I suspect that will be at least September and hopefully before the end of 2021.

I encourage all to interface with other members via email, Zoom, telephone, socially distanced visits, etc., and to contribute to the Newsletter and the Journal. Most of all, stay safe and healthy, and remind yourself that we will get through this. And don’t socially distance yourself from your toy soldiers. They don’t count towards household size limits.

## Membership Dues

As communicated in the October newsletter, **membership dues have been waived for 2021**. This will also apply to new members who join for 2021. This provides an opportunity for a recruitment drive. Let your friends know and give them the opportunity to discover the benefits of membership in the OMSS.

If you have already sent in a dues payment for 2021 it has been credited to 2022.

## Welcoming New Members

We have picked up a number of new recruits to the Society over the past few months.

Donald (Dan) Anthony from Orillia

Egor Evsikov of Orleans

Gerald Dee of Rochester NY

David Smith of Regina Saskatchewan

Joe Demarco of Neptune NJ

Welcome to the club. We look forward to meeting you in person when we are able to have meetings and the Annual Show again.

## Quartermaster Store

Art Rostel of Union, New Jersey is looking for four soft plastic pedestal figures that he believes were sold in Canada as part of a Marx Ft. Apache set. In particular: Davy Crockett, Daniel Boone, Kit Carson and General Custer figures in the soft plastic. He would like to see if someone could help him with finding these or selling them to him if you have them.

Contact information: [arostel@yahoo.com](mailto:arostel@yahoo.com) Telephone: 908-687-1091

## Inquiring Minds (We get queries)

**Painting to the Sound of the Guns:** “I am trying to find out the colour of Canadian Artillery gun barrels c1890. Can someone enlighten me please?”

Thank you, Rod Allison from little old New Zealand.“ Email: [flightydog@gmail.com](mailto:flightydog@gmail.com)

**Ken Lewis:** A few longer-serving members may remember caster Ken Lewis. David Tozer of Port Rowan Ont. is looking for current contact information for him. If you can help please contact David at [service@mtrservicescorp.com](mailto:service@mtrservicescorp.com) (905)570-4101

## What's New in the Hobby – January 2021 By Scott J. Dummitt

2020 has been a rough year around the world and this month it seems that it has finally hit the military miniature producers. I have only heard from two of my production manufacturers. However, I have also found out something of interest regarding one of our own members.

On Christmas day it is a tradition in my family to listen to the Queen's Message on the TV. Her message of Peace and Family to the Commonwealth has been a part of my family as long as I can remember. With this in mind, I was interested to see King & Country release several new figures, including Her Majesty, in their ceremonial



series depicting the annual march back from Horse Guards during the Trooping of the Colours. Other figures include the Prince of Wales (Charles), the Duke of Cambridge (William) and a mounted Parade Commander (Colonel of the Coldstream Guards). Another Royal family just released depicts Czar Nicholas II & Tsarevich Alexei in ceremonial uniforms. For those who collect Napoleonic figure a magnificent collection of Italian Grenadiers of the Guard is now being offered as well.

The British Toy Soldier Company has just announced an extensive collection of Victorian era Royal Navy matelots in the traditional blue uniform and wearing Sennet Hats (straw brimmed). A new landing launch with six figures and a metal deck gun has also been added to this new line. Joining the Royal Marine "Siege of Gibraltar" set is a rather elegant commanding officer and an Ensign with King's Colours. The new Royal Marine officers will soon be joined by a Bos'n Sergeant and Drummer.

William Britain Ltd has just released three more Native Warriors along with US Continental Soldiers to the Clash of Empire series. Joining the Napoleonic figures of the Nassau Regiment are the Regimental Colours, Commanding Officer and a Drummer. The new German 88mm AA Gun and crew are now available along with German and American winter clad troops.



In addition, the "Dirty Shirt Blue" depicting US military units in the 1870s & 1880's have been released along with some of the US military figures depicting the War of 1812.

Long time OMSS member and toy soldier maker Ron Hutchinson was featured in the latest edition of Toy Soldier & Model Miniature magazine (issue 250). Unfortunately, there is no paper edition of the latest magazine, a victim of Covid-19. If you are subscriber, you will find this edition through an online connection.

**Photos: Top Right – Queen Elizabeth II on Burmese  
Middle Left – Regimental colours of the Nassau Regt.  
Bottom Right – Officers of the Royal Marines c. 1790s**



## Holiday Season Photos



The above 1/6 figures are part of Club Member's, Israel's collection. All those depicted have Jewish heritage and very appropriately are celebrating Hanukkah.



Jeff Duncan shared the following of the OMSS on guard protecting Santa Claus.

For those who have visited Jeff Duncan's, you will be familiar with his French and Indian War diorama started in 2013. For the New Year, he has begun to dismantle it but attached is a youtube link to view it.

The Fort is made of multiple sets of Lincoln Logs and the buildings are converted bird houses from Michaels. The figures number around 190 and are made up of OMSS member Ron Hutchinson's, Britains (almost all via Scott), Tradition, Leddy & Slack (Mineola NY), Mignot (France), Spirit of the Empire, Authenticast, Soldiers of the Queen and several cottage manufacturers.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCXPqm\\_Jk4&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCXPqm_Jk4&t=7s)

The transportation system continues in 2021. If you are moving about Ontario and are able to carry model soldiers with you please let

Jeff Duncan at [heidihogardens@rogers.com](mailto:heidihogardens@rogers.com),

or

Bob Thompson at [Thompson\\_robert@rogers.com](mailto:Thompson_robert@rogers.com)

or the Newsletter Editor know.

Note this is a delivery service only in lieu of the Canada Post mailing service. There are no financial transactions undertaken by the carriers.

## O.U.R

### OMSS Underground Railroad



Our Motto: "It's Not Insured & We Have No Schedule"

### Worth Watching

Here are some more Mark Felton historical snippet videos available on youtube.

Ardennes Alamo 1944 - Last Stand at Clervaux Castle.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyCo3aQsS8>

Last Luftwaffe Dogfights 8 May 1945. The last German plane in WW2 to shoot down an Allied plane ended up in Canada!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lp0rL5h4ikM>

Kill the Kaiser! The Daring Mission to Assassinate Germany's Emperor Lead by a Canadian June 2, 1918  
A 27 year old Canadian Major Chester Duffus lead 12 RAF planes on a secret mission to get the Kaiser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zccw1FjqnDg>

### The Last Word of a Civilian Bureaucrat

My quest for a new display cabinet may be fulfilled in the next few months. Ikea released a mid-size wide Milsbo in late November. Thin metal frame and lots of glass. A trip to the Burlington store on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and we discovered the two left identified in stock on the website was false. We now await the restock (while balancing the lockdown). My wife liked it so much she agreed to two of them provided we get rid of a tall thin one that limits display layout anyways. Deal! 2021 may be off to a good start after all. Happy New Year!

**The newsletter is edited by Alex Monsour.**

**News items and notices can be submitted to [artmons@rogers.com](mailto: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.**

**Articles submitted must be original as due to copyright law we cannot reproduce any published article without permission of the publication in question.**