

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



Monthly Newsletter for March 2021

Monthly Meeting Dates for 2021

All meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Annual Show

We will not be holding a show in 2021. Our next show will be held in June 2022.

Monthly Newsletter for March 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. He will send you the link needed to join the meeting.

Letter from the President



It is now a full year since we last met in person as a club. We are keeping in touch – through the Newsletters, the Journal, through emails, phone calls, Zoom, and through safe social distancing.

Things are looking more positive, as we slowly emerge from winter. We continue to monitor things. As mentioned last time, I do not see meeting again as a club until sometime in the fall. Stay tuned.

I call on all members to think about the club. The OMSS will turn sixty in 2022, and so it is now time for the members to think about how we should celebrate our longevity, including through the challenge of the pandemic. Some members have started some thinking on this, and I invite ideas (practical ones) from all.

That the OMSS is approaching this significant anniversary is a recognition of past members and current. I hope that we can honour all.

I hope that OMSS members and their families and friends are staying healthy and safe. Even while there is hope emerging with vaccinations ramping up, the coronavirus is still a real threat. And it is just one risk.

I hope all members are staying safe. At the same time, I will now be a bit more personal, and will say that my thoughts and prayers are with Don Ritchie and his family. I do hope for the best. Don has been a key personage and contributor to the OMSS and to the toy soldier hobby generally. But he has also been a key figure in other areas, as a friend to all of us – and as my older brother – and as a son, husband, father and grandfather. I am sure that all OMSS members will share my thoughts and hope for the best for Don and his family.

The Quartermaster Store

Mr. Ralph Kimmich in the USA who owns a large collection of toy soldiers and has written articles on toy soldiers for "Old Toy Soldier" Magazine and others would like to purchase the following Trophy Miniatures of Wales

Napoleonic Hussars:

The following is my list of figures needed to complete my collection.

I've included the set # as listed in the Trophy catalogue.

2nd Hussars: Â H3 - Trumpeter, H4 - Sapper

5th Hussars: Â H8 - Trumpeter

9th Hussars: Â H13 - Trumpeter, H15 - Sapper

13th Hussars: Â H8 - Trumpeter

If anyone has any of these for sale, please contact Ralph at ralph.kimmich@gmail.com

NOWIKOFF sculptures, Fine Art & Design is based in Germany. He has contacted the club to advise of his products which included both mold and figures.

www.nowikoff.de



TALES FROM THE COVID COURIER – By Bob Thompson

This photo is of the "prettiest" of the 28 "packages" I delivered on the latest February Ottawa – Toronto – Ottawa run on the O.U.R. (OMSS Underground Railroad). I define a single "package" as a collection of items moving from one member to another. The size of packages ranged from a single envelope to oversize Banker boxes full of toy soldier items. (My car was very full!)

A breakdown of the pickups and deliveries revealed 8 packages moving from Ottawa to Toronto members, 4 packages between Toronto members, and 15 packages moving from Toronto to Ottawa. This involved 7 OMSS Ottawa members and 8 Toronto area members.

(In case you are feeling sorry for me, I must admit that 6 packages from Ottawa to Toronto members were my own outgoing goods, and 6 packages moving from Toronto members to Ottawa were destined for my collection!)

Official looking parcel moving from Jeff Duncan to Mark Hilash along the OMSS Underground Railroad.



What's New in the Hobby – March 2021

By Scott Dummitt

This month I was excited to see Thomas Gunn's new General Bonaparte figure as it covers the early part of Napoleon's career in the 1790s. Some of the future French Emperor's greatest victories were won during the Italian campaign. He was only 26 years old at the time. This brightly coloured version comes with Napoleon in the uniform of a General of the French Revolutionary Army with his brilliantly red cloak partially flowing and partially wrapped around him. It sells for appx. \$72.00 Cdn. Another interesting grouping of figures Gunn released this month is a patrol of US Marines dressed for winter weather in Korea, 1950. The four figures available include two riflemen, a Thompson MIAI Machine Gunner and an Officer. Korea is a seldom covered conflict in our hobby so there are quite unique. These figures, along with a squad of WWII Waffen SS figures retail for around \$60.00 Cdn each. They are already sold out at Thomas Gunn's web site.



The British Toy Soldier Company has just released several new sets to add on to their Gibraltar Regiment series. This includes two Colour Guard sets, one in Ceremonial Whites and the other in Khaki. The sets sell for appx. \$100.00 Cdn. They have also announced a 1/30th scale version of the USS San Pablo, as in the Hollywood movie, The Sand Pebbles, starring Steve McQueen, Sir Richard Attenborough and Candice Bergen. The model measures 76cm in length, 23cm wide and 61cm in overall height. Primarily of wooden construction with accessories and fittings in woods, metal and resin. 95% of the parts are scratch built in-house by The British Toy Soldier Company, with the remaining parts sourced from UK suppliers making the model entirely UK made.



A CAPITAL REPORT (from the OMSS Ottawa Chapter)

by Bob Thompson

OTTAWA CHAPTER MEETINGS

– November 2020 to February 2021 2020

It's been a while since our last Ottawa Chapter report in the November OMSS Newsletter. Since then we have been continuing with our monthly Zoom and Facebook Meetings, as well as Zoom and Facebook Swap Meets every two months.

ZOOM MEETINGS

Our latest February 23 Zoom Meeting had 22 participants, with 10 from the Toronto area. We encourage further participation from our Toronto area members. At the February meeting, I introduced a series of minor changes to the flow of our Zoom meetings to be more efficient with our time. Details have been posted with the meeting minutes on our OMSS Ottawa Facebook pages.

FACEBOOK MEETINGS (on "OMSS Ottawa" Facebook pages)

Our Facebook "Meetings" are an opportunity for me to post the detailed minutes of the agenda items discussed at the Zoom Meeting. Also, photos shown at the Zoom Meeting are posted on our OMSS Ottawa Facebook pages. Our Facebook is also used to post photos of items for sale that did not sell on our Zoom Swap Meets.

Check out the 'OMSS Ottawa' Facebook Group. There's lots of photos and good info to be seen. There are also postings of toy soldier related items for sale. We encourage everyone to use the OMSS Ottawa Facebook pages to post pictures of their favourite collection items, news items, as well as any toy soldier related items they might have for sale.

SHOW & TELL

Each month we vote on a thematic "Show & Tell" topic for the following month. We encourage participants to show some of their Toy Soldier related items on the chosen theme, but we welcome all Show & Tell items on any theme. Recent Show & Tell topics have been: "Remembrance" for November; "Covid Acquisitions" or "Holidays" for December; "Highlanders" for January; and "Non Combat Arms" or "Red Army Day" for February. Our upcoming March Show & Tell theme is "Last Stands".

PRESENTATIONS

We have been running a monthly presentation series we call "My Personal Views on Collecting" where members give a short presentation (10 minutes?) on their collecting activities. Our first presentation was in October with Alex Monsour; followed in December by Egor Evsikov, and in January by Andy Traverse. In addition, at our December meeting I hosted a discussion on "Evaluating Miniatures".

At our January meeting Eric Shaw gave an extended Show & Tell presentation on "Highlanders" which featured lots of great tips about staging figures and model photography.

At the February meeting we discussed preliminary planning for our first OMSS Ottawa physical gatherings in the coming months.

We are also introducing a new 5 minute "Using Technology" segment at the end of our March Zoom Meeting. The first topic will be "Showing Photos on Zoom".

And Keith Ritchie is planning to give a presentation on "How to Make Any Terrain or Structures With Styrofoam".

ZOOM & FACEBOOK AUCTIONS/SWAP MEETS

Our first Swap Meet in September was so successful that we have been hosting Swap Meets every two months (September, November, and January).

Our next virtual swap meets will be held Tuesday March 23 on Zoom, followed by a Facebook Swap Meet Wednesday March 24.

We encourage everyone to join in the fun by selling and buying on the swap meets. There are no buyer or seller fees involved, only direct interactions between the buyer and seller. I'll be sending further information on how to participate in the virtual swap meets via an email to the OMSS Ottawa distribution list, and posts on both the OMSS Ottawa and OMSS Facebook pages.

Show and Tell Themes from the Ottawa Zoom Meetings



Clockwise:

- a) Highlanders
- b) Sudan staging
- c) Sudan staging
- d) 1/6 Bomber Crew on Coffee Break

The Last Word of a Civilian Bureaucrat

Ooo. Pretty...



The newsletter is edited by Alex Monsour.

News items and notices can be submitted to 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.