

The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962

www.omss.ca



2023 Executive

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1st vice president

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Scott Milburn
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Frank MacKay
Calendar Co-ordinator

Jeff Duncan
Club Table & Donations

OMSS Archivist
Ian Pearson

Newsletter for April 2023

Next Toronto meeting Sunday, April 16th, 2023

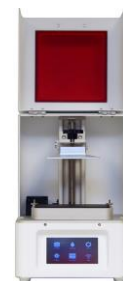
Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion 110 Jutland Road Toronto

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

OMSS Ottawa meetings have resumed in person gatherings with continued monthly online meetings via Zoom which are open to all OMSS members. For an invite and link or more information, please contact Bob Thompson at Thompson_robert@rogers.com.

Toronto's April Speaker 3D Printing

Ron Dixon is making a return visit to share an update regarding the advancements in 3-D printing since he last visited us and introduced members to the amazing possibilities of 3-D printing. Ron's presentation this month will focus on recent advancements in 3-D printing thanks to the rapid progress with the technology and the limitless things you can print with a 3-D printer using liquid resin.



Payment for vendor tables is due NOW! Please be aware that there is a limited number of tables available and we cannot guarantee a table if you have not paid. Table prices go up \$10.00 per table on the 1st of May.

To reserve a table, fill out the form at: <https://www.omss.ca/docs/Show/Vendor-info-and-booking-form.pdf>.

We don't want to disappoint any of our vendors who have supported the club show year after year, so book now.

The same arrangements for the show set-up as last year is being continued with floor set-up at 6 pm on Saturday June 10. Vendors and those who wish to put competition or display pieces will be allowed to start setting up their tables once the show tables are set-up. Everyone must be out of the Legion by 9 pm. Vendors will be able to set-up at 7 am on Sunday June 11. We ask that you park at the Day Care centre next to the Legion or on the street once you unload your vehicle. Thank you all for your co-operation.

Make cheques out to The Ontario Model Soldier Society and you can pay Gary Lenius in person at the upcoming meeting or mail to;

OMSS ON Parade
43 Saugeen Crescent
Scarborough, Ont.
M1K3M8



President's Message – April 2023

As warmer weather and longer days quickly approach, the OMSS continues to recover from the events of the last few years with improved participation in our meetings.

Both the Toronto and Ottawa chapters were quite active in March. Toronto had a successful in person meeting with an interesting and thought provoking presentation by Duncan Johnstone on what he referred to as “Montcalm’s Mistake”. Vendor sales continued to be brisk with armfuls of purchases happily going out the door. Jeff Duncan had another successful afternoon of fundraising for the club at the club table thanks to recent donations. Of course preparation work for the society’s annual ‘On Parade’ show continues to ramp up. The Ottawa chapter was also busy with both an in person meeting and virtual meeting with the interesting ‘show and tell topic’ of “the Crusades” with many Toronto members joining in on the virtual session.

With the approach of better weather, militaria and collectors shows are making a comeback. Keep an ear open for locations and dates and we will share any information the club receives with the members. It was good news for many of us to hear that Hobby Bunker Inc. has picked up the baton so that the popular and long running Chicago Toy Soldier Show will continue. It has been renamed the “Chicagoland Toy Soldier Show” and will be held at a different hotel, the Marriott Schaumburg on September 24, 2023.

An article later in the newsletter about OMSS member Scott Paget’s YouTube channel and this month’s Toronto speaker on 3-D printing demonstrates the future direction and opportunities for our hobby. Thanks to technological advancements, we have better tools and paints, 3-D printing to make anything from a missing part or accoutrement to a complete soldier (in incredible detail) and multiple social media platforms to connect and share our hobby with others.

Keep working on your ‘On Parade’ pieces and dioramas. Time is running out, Sunday June 11, 2023 will be here before you know it. If you are a vendor, reserve your table now. Too many people wait until the last minute and every year, demand for tables always exceeds what is available.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in person at the next meeting or on Zoom.



Jim Cook receives his 20 year pin



Alex Monsour receives his 10 year pin

Help get the word out about On Parade 2023

Remember to pick up some show flyers from Gary to share with your friends or post on the bulletin board in your local hobby store or club (with permission of the facility course).

What's New in the Hobby April 2023 By Scott Dummitt

This month we look at King & Country's blue jacket flag sets that include a "48 Star" national colour and a U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flagbearer. The Stars & Stripes displayed represent the US Colours before Alaska and Hawaii were added to the flag, while the USN Infantry Battalion flag design of a navy blue, fouled anchor on a white diamond on top of a navy blue field

that dates back to the mid-late 19th century. This flag was eventually replaced with a new design in 1959. The new flag bearers sell for approximately \$76.00 Cdn each. Another interesting piece that K&C has introduced this month is Baron Otto Von Bismarck. Born in 1815 Bismarck was an outstanding politician and state leader. He was credited with gathering the German states together to form Germany and played a prominent role in the rise of Germany's pre-World War military rise. This figure is now available and will sell for approximately \$68.00 Cdn. William Britain Limited recently released the first



King & Country USN Flag Bearers with "48 Star" National Colour and USN Infantry Battalion Flag

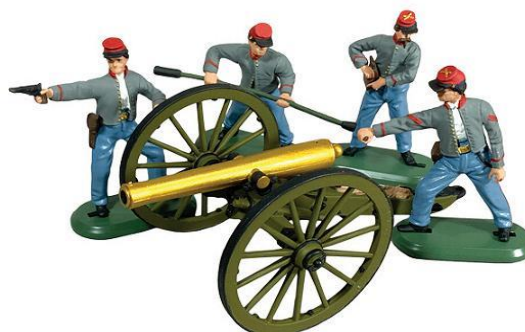
of its 'Super Deetail' line of US Civil War artillery sets. This is the first new tooling by the company for plastic sets in over 50 years. Makes you feel old doesn't it. There are four different sets available: they include a 12 pounder with Union gun crew or Confederate gun crew, plus a 3 inch Ordnance rifle cannon with a Union gun crew or Confederate gun crew dressed in Butternut. There are four figures to the set. There is also included in each box a sheet of additional flags and guidons. You can personalize your troops with these handsome flags. Detailed yet simple instructions for application of replacement flags are supplied. The new sets will sell for approximately \$72.00 Cdn.



K&C's New Otto Von Bismarck Figure



Union 3 inch Ordnance Rifle cannon w/ crew



Confederate 12 pounder cannon with

SOCIAL MEDIA & TOY SOLDIERS by Scott Paget



In the past year I started a YouTube channel called, 'Scott's Soldiers'. The videos were initially private and not available to the public as I didn't really see any point in going public. But with the encouragement of my wife (producer of the videos) and fellow Ottawa OMSS members Dennis D & Bob T, I took a risk and went public last July. As I was creating these videos I noticed that there is a lot of content on YouTube - pick any topic you can imagine! But, you can probably count on your fingers and toes how many channels are devoted to our hobby.

The Covid pandemic re-shaped how we engage each other and pushed us to spend more time online for work, staying connected and a place to go for entertainment. As a result, it's necessary to increase our online footprint in order to maintain a connection with not only existing OMSS members but to connect with others who have an interest in this hobby. We are not alone in this challenge, the BMSS and other organizations are also coming to the same realization.

We have taken great strides in conducting virtual zoom meetings, creating the OMSS Facebook page and keeping the OMSS website fresh and relevant. How many of our members have a Facebook, Twitter or Instagram account but are not members of the OMSS Facebook? Take a look at what is being sold today by your fellow OMSS members on the Facebook page or what activities are coming up. Like it or not, social media is an efficient and effective way to communicate and share with like-minded persons who share a passion for this hobby.

Think of YouTube as the largest magazine or newspaper ever published with lots of news articles, features, opinions, photos and videos, recipes, product reviews, etc. For toy soldiers, there are some historical pieces, but there are also other collectors who show painting of figures, their own collections, manufacturers promoting their products i.e. Britain's and K&C, and videos of the London or Chicago toy soldier shows (i.e. Scott's Soldiers Episode 15).

So, almost a year later what have I learned from my YouTube journey? Well, there are almost no barriers to joining this application. You simply provide a valid email address and you're permitted to comment on episodes or create your own channel. If you simply want to watch videos, you don't have to join and you can pick and choose what you want to see.



Scott's Soldiers Episode 31



Scott's Soldiers Episode 15

SOCIAL MEDIA & TOY SOLDIERS by Scott Paget *(conclusion)*

If you do 'join' YouTube, overtime it's algorithm starts to recommend videos (aka content) to you - it 'learns' what your interests are and searches its database for similar content, i.e. toy soldiers, home repairs, fly fishing in Scotland, microbreweries, TFSA investing, whatever you might be interested in or curious about. And, if you like what you see, you can subscribe to a specific channel and get alerts when new episodes are made available.

When I do my own videos, the focus is on my own collection and personal experiences. Picking a topic isn't hard for me, it's the production which takes the time and effort. Sometime ago I was asked how I became interested in this hobby and how I collected. Episode 24: Strategies for Collecting was the result; it was supposed to be a filler between bigger videos I was working on but it's my largest viewer response ever, over 600 views and over 15% of my subscribers. I think the number of viewers gives a positive signal to the hobby (and the OMSS). I have viewers from Canada, USA, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand - no surprises English language countries. But I have also have viewers from France, Russia, Greece, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Italy, South Korea, Spain, and Uruguay! They are viewing my channel at all hours of the day and night, likely a reflection of time zones.



Scott's Soldiers Episode 24



Scott's Soldiers Episode 23

My point is that YouTube tells me I have a global audience of toy soldier enthusiasts who are online looking for content, and maybe a society like the OMSS. These people are using social media to find more about this hobby and their interests. We need look for ways to expand our reach. Age & technology should not be an impediment, most of us are all online. We are using apps to contact, transfer money, purchase and share. We have to start linking our social media footprints and create new ones. The OMSS website has to have a link to the Facebook page and vice versa. The society also needs to have Twitter and Instagram accounts to enable members who have their own accounts to post images of figures or events like figure painting, competitions, etc. onto these media. There is no cost to these other than a little time and effort.

Well, that's what I've learned on my journey through social media and YouTube. It's not intimidating, and it's the future of our hobby.

Worth Watching: New France / Seven Years War Documentary

Thanks to Brendan Hogan for sharing this link to a great documentary made in 1997 about the battle of 1745 and the siege and fall of Louisbourg. [Louisbourg under Siege](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYv7BRrOtqw&t=1459s)

If the link doesn't work, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AYv7BRrOtqw&t=1459s>

HeritageCon makes a comeback

Jeff Duncan and many other club members attended the International Plastic Modellers Society show at the Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton on March 26th and reports Heritagecon was clearly a major hit this year, most likely partially thanks to pent up demand. The organizers announced they had a record of over 1000 competition entries and a record number of attendees. So many people attended that at mid-morning they could not let about 200 people into the show as it was at maximum fire code capacity. The facility is about 109,000 sq ft in size so you can just imagine the crowd! Jeff counted 44 eight foot tables of models competing in over 86 categories with at least 3 other OMSS members entering pieces in the competition and taking home some hardware.



*A special thanks goes out to **Frank Mackay** who put out a stack of over 100 "On Parade" handouts at HertiageCon20 that were eagerly gobbled up by show attendees. It shows there is interest in our hobby, we just need to get the word out there!*

QUARTERMASTERS STORES

Frank MacKay is seeking instruction sheets and colour guides for the following Historex mounted kits:

#805 Prussian Silesian Hussar	#3OH019 Saxony Light Horse
#3H005 Brunswick Hussar	Hussard (1813-15)

They will be copied and returned to you at the very next meeting with grateful thanks.
Contact Frank at frank_mackay@hotmail.com

Upcoming Hobby related events

ON PARADE – June 10, 2023 – for info visit www.OMSS.CA
TORCAN – May 27, 2023 – for info visit: www.TorcanModelShow.com
Chicagoland Toy Soldier Show – Sept 24, 2023 – info coming.



Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment

Quote of Jim Rohn

The newsletter is edited by Scott Milburn.
News items and notices can be submitted to scottm33@live.ca.

Articles must be submitted no later than 14 days before monthly meetings. Due to postal costs the newsletter is limited to 6 pages maximum. Articles that cannot be accommodated will be forwarded to the Journal Editor.