

The Ontario Model Soldier Society

Founded 1962
www.omss.ca



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Program Chair

Jim Qualtrough
Annual Show Chair

Tom Wright
Technical Committee Chair

Scott Milburn
Past President

Newsletter for May 2024

Next Toronto chapter meeting

Sunday, May 12th, 2024

Branch 643 Royal Canadian Legion, 110 Jutland Road, Etobicoke

Doors open at 11:00 am, **meeting starts at 12:30pm**

This month's presentation will be "The history of cadets in Canada"
by guest speaker Scott Milburn

A painting workshop is being run from 11am-Noon hosted by Jim Qualtrough

Next Ottawa chapter meeting

Tuesday May 28, 2024 @ 7pm

at The Barley Mow, 1541 Merivale Road.

The Show and Tell topic will be announced later



Next OMSS Virtual meeting

Tuesday May 21, 2024 @ 7pm

Virtual meetings are open to all OMSS and BMSS members.

Contact Bob Thompson at Thompson_robert@rogers.com
for an email invitation to the next meeting or more details.



OMSS members are cordially invited to attend

British Model Soldier Society's

Monthly Virtual meeting

Friday May 17, 2024 @ 7pm GMT

(that's 2pm for most of us in Ontario)

for those interested in attending;

Contact James Opie of the BMSS at jamesopie@yahoo.co.uk for an email invitation to the meeting or more details.



Become an OMSS Zoom host!

The OMSS is looking for a few more Zoom Hosts.
Why not help out from time to time and learn a new skill?
Learn how to setup get-togethers with the OMSS and
with friends and family near and far.

To discuss contact Tom Wright, the OMSS
Tech chair at twright240@gmail.com





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I begin by thanking all those members that attended Stuart Hessney's first class presentation at the April OMSS meeting. The turnout was respectable, and the event was well supported by the usual vendors who seemed to do well in terms of sales. It is very likely that a new website will be developed for the OMSS with Mark Silverthorn working hard with his ideas. David Dorward has volunteered to push through with the final phase of the Anniversary book in terms of publication. Tom Wright chaired the first Technical Committee meeting and will soon be able to present the membership with a progress report.

Otherwise, I would say it is all quiet on the western front except that our meetings will be a little quieter for a while, as we have lost another longtime member, Ed Tansley, who recently passed away. I look forward to a healthy attendance at our May meeting. Remember, On Parade is getting closer.

A Letter to the Editor

When we arrived at the Legion for our April 14th meeting, we noticed that there was a young Army Cadet at the door to the games room. Upon asking the cadet told us that their unit was doing "Tag Day" for the cadets.

I never was a member of any of the cadet units when growing up in Newmarket as they didn't have any cadets there in the 1960s, however I did go through the Scouts Canada club, starting off as a Cub way back when. I also remember how hard it was to approach adults on "Apple Day" back then when we would stand outside of stores throughout the town selling apples in an attempt to raise funds for our organization.

So I talked with the Cadet instructor about how I felt strongly about supporting such organizations and how it was nice to see that there were kids that enjoyed what they were doing and representing our youth in a positive manner. For those of you that didn't see it, the Instructor had several cadets bring the 6 foot tables we use for our vendors and "show and tell" in from the games room to our meeting area so that our members didn't have to struggle with them. In appreciation I asked if I could bring one of their tag boxes into the meeting and I in my usual boisterous manner asked our members to purchase tags. The response was very positive and I believe that in the few minutes at the end of the meeting we raised around \$50 for the Toronto Scottish Cadet unit. Many members had also purchased tags when they first arrived.

The Cadet Instructors were quite appreciative of our clubs efforts and I just thought that I would pass this on to all of you that contributed.

Submitted by Scott Dummitt



Passages

We are saddened to advise members of the passing of another long time member in April.

Ed Tansley

Ed had been a member since 1991 and had many friends in the Society. For many years he generously donated most of the gifts for the draws at our Christmas get-togethers. Ed's smile will be missed by all.



What's New in the Hobby – May 2024

By Scott Dummitt

Chinese New Year's is long over, and production of new figures seems to be in full swing once again. Some really interesting products have been announced and will be available coming up over the next few months.

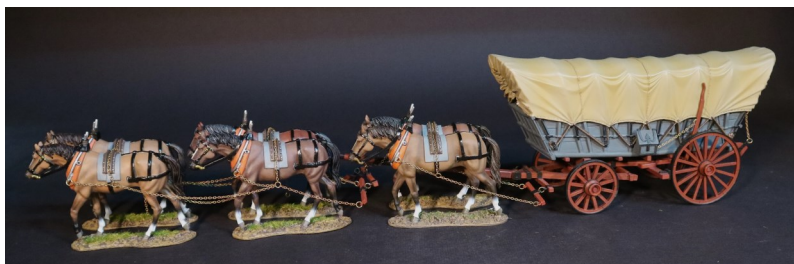
Just announced by John Jenkins Designs are a series of carts and limbers that fit in with the western expansion in North America and the various conflicts from the Seven Years (French & Indian) war up to and including the War of 1812.

First on the list is a Conestoga Wagon, which can be pulled by either a team of horses or oxen. The Conestoga Wagon is a specific design of heavy covered wagon

that was used extensively during the late eighteenth century and the nineteenth century in the eastern United States and Canada. It was large enough to transport loads up to six tons, and was drawn by horses, mules, or oxen. A second smaller covered wagon has also been announced as well.

Jenkins also plans to release an 18th Century artillery limber that can be used to haul your French & Indian War, American Revolution or War of 1812 Artillery pieces. If you missed out on purchasing the artillery don't worry as he is going to release a British 6 pdr artillery piece later this year as well. The limber is designed to be pulled by either a team of oxen or horses. No Pricing has been announced on these items as of yet.

Other great news from Jenkins is he has confirmed that the Colours of the Queen's Rangers as well as another officer will be upcoming in the future and he has brought back several of the "Mountain Man" figures including Jeremiah Potts, Chief Sitting Bull, 2 Women Wrapped in blankets and Monsieur "Le DUKE".



John Jenkins Design's new Conestoga Wagon (also known as a Prairie Schooner) can be pulled either by Horse Teams or Oxen Teams. The wagon will be sold separately as well as the horses and oxen.



John Jenkins Design's smaller wagon (above) which also comes with a cover can be pulled by Oxen or horse, both of which are sold separately. Right: The new 18th Century limber is designed to be pulled by a team of horses or oxen. The 6 pdr gun will be available later this year and will be a separate item.



What's New for May, conclusion

William Britain Limited has a couple of new French & Indian War figures coming out in late May that will be interesting. They are both based on Artist Don Troiani's stunning prints, that can also be purchase through William Britain Limited. The first is of a Roger's Rangers Private, c. 1758. Captain Robert Rogers's first formed the Ranger is 1755, consisting of 32 men. Their success against the French and their native allies saw the unit grow to 14 companies, of which three were Native Americans, by 1758. The Rangers were stood down in 1761 when the war was officially over with France, however Rogers and a small number of volunteers participated in the reinforcement of Fort Detroit during Pontiac's Rebellion in 1763.

The second figure is that of a French Fusilier Regiment Berry, c. 1758. In 1757 the French Government sent two under strength battalions of the Regiment Berry to North America where they were landed at Quebec. The regiment saw its first real battle in the defence of Fort Carillon against a superior British force in 1758. Britain's new figure depicts a Fusilier of the regiment. He wears the typical dress of French Infantry during the 18th century consisting of a natural white wool coat, vest, and knee breeches worn with high linen gaiters on service. France established one of the first large standing armies in Europe and, largely for economic reasons, chose white wool for the uniforms of their large army. Regimental distinctions for the various regiments were in the form of colored cuffs, col-



William Britain Ltd's Roger's Ranger Private



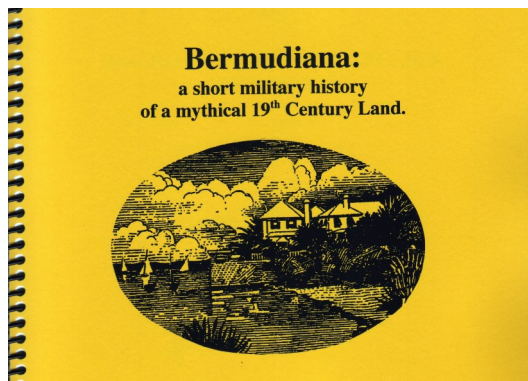
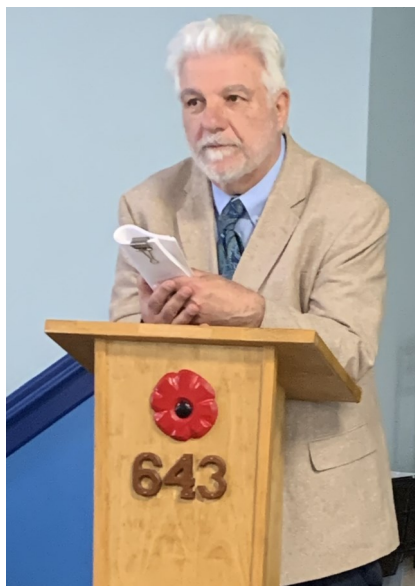
William Britain Ltd's French Fusilier Regiment de Berry

Now for a little obvious self promotion. SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS along with Tradition of London will be revealing a new Ceremonial set depicting the Royal Company of Archers at this year's ON PARADE. The set will consist of an Officer wearing the traditional Scottish flat bonnet, and he will be joined by 5 Archers with their bows at rest. If you had watched the Royal Funeral for Queen Elizabeth II in Edinburgh, you will have seen a half company strength honour guard lined up at the front of Saint Giles Cathedral when the monarch was taken up the Royal Mile to lay in rest. Tradition also plans on releasing a set with the Captain General of the unit wearing the bicorne headdress and it will have two arches at rest and two with drawn bows.

Lastly, in case you haven't heard, SCOTT J. DUMMITT PRESENTS' retail store will be open for an open house on the 16th June, 12 noon until 5 pm, the day after our show. Refreshments and sandwiches will be served.

Toronto's March Speaker

We were privileged to have Stuart Hessney, editor of Toy Soldier Collector & Historical Figures Magazine (and proud member of the OMSS) weave an entertaining and delightful true story of how he became the proud owner of a custom made collection of offbeat toy soldiers created and painted by Harold Pestana, the author of a whimsical story about the mythical land of Bermudiana.



More new OMSS videos are available on YouTube!

Coming soon to YouTube; Stuart Hessney's Toronto presentation



For the latest hobby and club news and information;
Follow the Ontario Model Soldier Society on Facebook



Connect with others that are interested in model soldier collecting
Go to LinkedIn and type "Ontario Model Soldiers Society" in the search bar

OMSS Ottawa Chapter Report for April 2024

Submitted by Tom Wright

Well folks here we are,

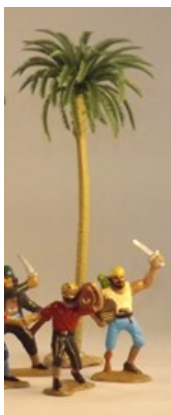
The April OMSS Zoom Meeting was held on the 16th. We had our favourite cottage fabricator, Andrew, from the UK with us. He was saying that he was up to his ears in orders for Fort Henry guards. Eric Shaw described what happened at Stewart's talk about the gentleman who wrote a book about a mythical island with its own army, for which he even developed a line of toy soldiers. Eric won the first copy of the book to be raffled off!

The Zoom show and tell topic was props. Bob Thompson gave a broad perspective on this topic, indicating that props are not just for vignettes and dioramas, but they are essential elements for any successful presentation. They can be as simple as a coloured cloth upon which to place your figures, or a stand to hold your presentation books at the ideal angle. Mark Silverthorn should be putting out a Youtube of this presentation in the near future.

Andrew showed how printed backdrops can make a world of difference. Also he is very fond of model/toy palm trees as background props. Alex Monsour showed us some of his props including some beautiful columns, which would make legionnaires proud. Gary showed us an ice bucket drum that makes a great prop, and Eric Shaw showed some realistic looking model props.

On to in-person meetings in Ottawa, we held our April one on the 30th. The main shows discussed were the Military Hobby Show to be held June 2nd, and Bob and Morley's Mega Toy Soldier and Militaria Warehouse sale, to be held May 4th and 5th. Many of the Ottawa chapter members will have a table at both. We also discussed the possibility of having an OMSS Ottawa club table at the Military Hobby show.

The in-person show and tell topic was the Elizabethan age. For this Kelly Hayes brought out a figure of Queen Elizabeth the 1st made by Richard Courtenay's firm, renowned for the sculpting and historical accuracy of its figures. Scott Paget also brought out a figure of Queen Elizabeth 1st, made by Tradition; these were two very fine miniatures. Doug also brought a figurine of an elephant in whose name just happened to be E... yes you guessed it. Our next in-person meeting should be on May 28th.



Upcoming Event in the Ottawa area

(drop by and visit the OMSS booth)

9th Annual

Military Hobby Show

June 2, 2024 10am-4pm

Major E.J.G. Holland VC Armoury
2100 Walkley Road, Ottawa

Visit [www.http://osbassociation.ca/](http://osbassociation.ca/) for more details

The event is a fundraiser with proceeds going to support the activities of the 33 Service Battalion Association