

**SAOC (East) MINUTES - MONTHLY MEETING 31 January 2007**  
**JUNIOR RATES MESS, MOGS**

**1930:** Meeting called to order there being 32 members. In attendance were: Pierre Alarie; Art Bodden; "Buster" Brown; George Byzewski; Terry Chatham; John Clahane; "Dan" Daly; Pierre Doutre; Keith Estabrooks; Don Hood; Phil Wood; Brian Smith; Steve Jenner; Taff Jones; Bill Kamermans; Brian Lapierre; John Madison; Bert Houde; John Meehan; Dusty Miller; Chuck Forrest; "Pony" Moore; Mike Wigger; "Tex" Ranger; Brian Cooper; Cary Ann Stewart "Brum Tovey; "Soapy" Watson; Willie Waugh; Cliff Killam; Scott Parsons & Geoff Canon (Guest) + 1 unknown signature.

**The Chairman** welcomed members, stated his pleasure at seeing a few faces we hadn't seen for a while: Chuck Forrest; Dan Daly; Brian Cooper; Phil Wood; Bert Houde; Don Hood & Cliff Killam. Reminded members to write their names on the attendance list & don't forget the bartender. Members were then invited to rise for A Moment's Silence with thoughts attributed to: soldiers overseas; our comrades who have crossed the bar; George Wilson Green; Barrow member Peter W (Dinger ) Bell; John Rigby; J.H. (John)Shousmith; P.D.C. (Peter) Bennett; A(Bob) Shaw; W.H. (Bill Douglass; William Wallas (Darkie); members or loved ones suffering from various afflictions: Paul Dube & John (Ted) Drake.

**Minutes of October Meeting:** Chairman asked: were there any errors or omissions? There being none Proposed by: "Dusty" Miller; Seconded by Bill Kamermans that minutes are accepted as tabled. Motion Carried.

**Correspondence: In:** Numerous Christmas Cards from: Andy Verdi Chairman Submarine Coxswain Assoc; Doug Hutchinson RCNA; Ron Griffiths President CAVUNP; Captain and Crew HMCS CORNER BROOK; LCDR Murray and Stad Band; J. Brown U.S. SUBVETS (WW2); member Sharky Ward & Captain and Crew HMCS WINDSOR. Letter in from Australian SAOC of a Plaque unveiling to commemorate submariners & submarines that have served in Australia on Sept.30 2007 to take place at HMAS PENGUIN, cost \$65.00. Follow-up letter from the RCN Centenary Committee.

**Out:** Thinking of you card – John (Ted) Drake  
Sympathy Card – Barrow Branch for Peter (Dinger) Bell

**Reports:**

**Chairman:** Commented on the work of the new Executive for 2007 and summarized the January Executive Mtg. Expressed appreciation of the outgoing Health/Wellness Slops rep. Appealed for a volunteer editor for the Newsletter. Reminded members- renewal of 2007 Membership dues.

**Vice Chairman:** Nothing to report

**Treasurer:** Apologized for not having a statement ready, he was having difficulty preparing it (software problems). Reported however that the Operating Account was at approximately \$5200.00

**Secretary:** Nothing further to report.

**Health & Wellness/Slops:** George Byzewski has now taken over from Bill Kamermans and gave an update on Paul Dube.

**Social:** Annual Wine & Cheese will be held in the JR Mess this year on Feb. 09<sup>th</sup> 2007. Cost \$10.00/person. Open to guests. Please contact Keith at (902) 866-1609 by Feb. 06<sup>th</sup> 2007. Bar open 1800 for 1900.

**Old Business:**

**Museum:** A letter received by Brum Tovey regarding removal of artefacts from Okanagan has been approved by DCELL indicating that such work excludes the assistance of SAOC members as civilians. FMF riggers are backed up in their workload and work parties will be promulgated by Brum as events unfold.

**Top Student Award:** The Chairman received, via e-mail, the motion put forth by SAOC (Central) at their AGM in August of 2006. Briefly the motion states that SAOC East take custodianship of the award and both Central and West would support East in absorbing the costs of engraving in the region of \$30.00

- \$40.00 per annum. The Chairman has since asked Central to forward a formal proposal in writing that would be presented to the membership for a vote.

### **New Business:**

**Volunteers:** Secretary appealed for volunteers to sell 50/50 tickets at the upcoming Halifax Mooseheads Hockey game to be held on February 04, 2007. He required 15 – 20 people to make this happen. The proceeds from this undertaking would amount to \$500.00. Scott Parsons suggested that we should donate it to a worthwhile charity on behalf of SAOC (East). If successful, the executive would consider a list of charities and then present it to the membership for a vote. **Secretary Note:** *11 members came forward at the meeting and 4 more had volunteered since. The event was a success*

**Disability:** The Chairman stated that he was in receipt of a copy of Australia's Centre for Military & Veterans' Health (CMVH) detailed report on Occupational Hygiene inherent in R.A.N. Oberon class submarines. Much like our Australian counterparts, he pointed out how many of our members and submariners in general are, and have experienced physical difficulties and over the years, several proving fatal as a result at a relatively young age. In seeking assistance and/or compensation, it appears from the report's recommendations that Veterans Affairs Canada would similarly require a "bench-mark" such as Australia has established in order to affirm that the cause of illness or disability may be attributed to service in Canadian Oberons. . . . as well as earlier and present classes of submarines. Given the detailed content of the report the Chairman then stated that as it identically relates to exposure in Canadian submarines, the matter cannot be ignored. Therefore and in keeping with the objectives of our Constitution, it is vital that we pursue it through various channels with the appropriate authorities. Brian Cooper has volunteered to assist the Chairman in order to seek help from various resources in staffing the report.

**A.O.B. :** **Dusty Miller** talked of some issues that had been given to him by our Web Guy, Ted Hirtle, namely our guest book. He was wondering if people who sign in could be acknowledged and anyone looking for people could get a reply. Brian Cooper suggested that an automatic return be put in effect so that a reply would be generated back to the sender. Also the executive pictures must be updated on the Web Sight and a copy of the two boats COR & WSR in the basin. It can be reproduced from the Chronicle Herald at a price of \$25.00.

**Steve Jenner** stated that he compiling a history of the R.N.'s 7<sup>th</sup> Submarine Squadron in Singapore and had several pictures he would be willing to share with anyone interested.

**Phil Wood** also said he had pictures from the original OBERON (1940's) and would also share. The Chairman suggested they be donated for use in the museum. In response, the Chairman informed that he had received a binder of rare photographs from Ottawa for our archives of all Canadian submarines that have seen service in Canada since from 1915.

**50/50:** The sum of \$ 56.50 won by John Clahane who graciously bought a round of drinks for the members.

**A Submariners Prayer:** Was then eloquently led by Phil Wood.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion made by Tex Ranger; seconded by Brian Smith. Motion Carried.

**Next meetings: Executive: 21 February 2007 at 1500**

**Venue: C&PO's Mess, Stadacona.**

**28 February 2007 at 1930**

**Venue; MOG5 S.R.'s Mess**