



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of Monthly Meeting Wednesday 28th October 2015 MOG5 HQ JR's Mess



Opening

The Chair Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order at 1930 hrs. The Chair welcomed and thanked the members for such a good turnout and special thanks for LS Arseault for Bartending for tonight. Special recognition was given to Billy Venator, Norm Chouinard and Conrad Petrikowski for attending. A moment of silence was observed for sick and ailing members and special recognition was given on the passing of Jean "Peanut" Beniot who passed away suddenly this weekend at home

Attendance 25 members were in attendance Pierre Alarie, Art Bodden, Buster Brown, George Byzewski, Terry Chatham, John Clahane, Pierre Doutre, Keith Estabrooks, Rob Fraser, Greg Hallonquist, Gary Hopkins, James Miller, Jim Northrup, Scotty Parsons, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, Boyd Thomas, Brum Tovey, Soapy Watson, Willy Waugh, Mike Wigger, Peter Weis. Special Visitors Bill Venator and Norm Chouinard

Minutes were read by the secretary and approved as amended.

Correspondence: Tridents were received and place out for the membership. Application for membership and check was received from Robert Davidson which was passed to the Treasurer. The Secretary had sent a thank you letter in reply on the letter from Rimouski for their well wishes for our 50th Celebration on commissioning of HMCS Ojibwa.

Reports

Chairman: No report was submitted

Vice Chair: No report was submitted.

Health and Wellness: Keith Estabrooks reported that Wilfy Broyden is doing better has gone to Bulgaria for two week vacation and then would be vacationing in Florida for the winter. Shane Irvine is going for more chemo treatments. Update was given by secretary on Wade Berglund. Wade has had a set back and will take longer to recover than previously thought. *George brought to our attention that John Hughes former Coxn of HMCS Ojibwa two sons and Tony O'Hara's sister passed away in a car accident in Gaetzbrook NS recently.*

Slops: Greg Hallonquist passed on a report that slops is good shape and \$300 of material was sold at the pig roast and money will be passed on to the Treasurer.

Treasurer: Ron Cooper sent his regrets but sent his detailed financial report dated 28th October which was passed out to all members present showing a bank balance of \$14,677.58 after expenses and deposits. Note Ron is taking dancing lessons with the better half this evening.

Social: Brum Tovey reminded everyone that SAOC Dinner/Dance will be held at the Sackville Lions Club on the 18 Dec. Tickets will go on sale for 15 dollars each or 30 dollars for a couple.

Old Business: The Ojibwa 50th Commissioning was a great success and enjoyed by all members and their spouses. The Cake was cut by three members of the commissioning crew *Lucky Gordon, Hopyy Hopkins and Boyd Thomas. 50/50 and Door prizes were drawn in the SR mess after the meal.*

New Business

AGM: The AGM will be held on the 5 November in SR mess and dining room at 1300hrs. The meeting will be in the wardroom. This is a non election year. Dusty Miller our parliamentarian reminded the members that with any amendments to the constitution /by-laws must be submitted to the Secretary NLT than 30 days before the meeting in writing which is 5 Nov. Any other motions brought from the floor at meeting would be out of order. The ladies are invited as well as this will be a Pot Luck Luncheon. The chairman will confirm dates with the MOG5 HQ. The dress will be smart casual or SAOC Blazer negative medals.

History: George Lane sent a picture to the Chairman of crew photo of a surrendered German submarine crewed by RN sailors in Copenhagen after WWII (Dec 1945) which was being sailed to Latvia. Class identified by Uncle Smug Smith as Type 23 German Ocean going large submarine that was the basis of the "O" Boat and Whiskey class submarines. Photo was passed to Bazoo as our Historian.

Remembrance Day Wreath: The wreath will be laid at Point Pleasant Park by the Chairman. All members are encouraged to attend. Dress SAOC Blazer, with Medals and berets. Members are to meet at the Shakespeare by the Sea parking lot @ 1015hrs.

Parking will be tight so get there early. Other members will be attending the Bass River Ceremony at Peace Keeper Park. The wreath will have to be ordered at @ cost of \$74 from the Legion. Chairman is to contact Cliff Boettcher.

Jean (Peanut) Benoit – Passed away 25 Oct 2015 retiring three months ago after 35 years in the navy most in submarines. The chairman has contacted the family and they would like us to take part in his funeral ceremony. We will do the Crossing the Bar ceremony, similar to what was done for Keith Lavers with Jim Northrup and George Byzewski doing the speaking parts. The funeral will be held on the 31 Oct 1000 hrs at the Atlantic Funeral Homes, No 7 Hwy Dartmouth. Dress will be SAOC Blazer Medals negative berets.

AOB: George Byzewski reminded members of the two main Remembrance Day venues Bass River and Point Pleasant Park and their timings.

Memorial Chairs at RCNA Peregrine: George Byzewski brought the idea SAOC E of buying two chairs at RCNA Peregrine in memory of Keith Lavers and Jean Benoit. George has already contacted Joan Lavers and has her permission. We will buy the chair for Keith and inscribe a brass tally plaque for him as he was member for many years. Unfortunately Jean Beniot was not a member of SAOC despite serving most of his military career in submarines. Any submariner who retires is entitled to one year free membership. If we do this for one person we should do it for all. There were strong emotions on both sides due the circumstances of both individuals' deaths. Is the SAOC a Benevolent Club or Social Club? There is nothing in the By-Laws to cover death of members or other submariners. This should be raised on as an amendment. After lengthy discussion Chairman will contact the Beniot family and see what they want done.

Brum Tovey told a non politically correct joke to lighten then mood concerning ears, fanny bits and flowers.

Bazoo bought up the sending out the idea of the Spartan Pledge Web Site to members. This site's aim is to help Military personal suffering from mental trauma and help prevent our people from committing suicide in light of recent deaths of Lavers and Benoit. Peter Weis stated that the army has a program called Buddy Check. If have not seen or talked to someone for while give a call or go out for coffee to see how they are doing.

Keith Estabrooks told a story about Hoppy Hopkins and his truck. First time we have ever seen Hoppy stuck for words with no come back. Buddies in Boats.

Conrad Petrikowski had a problem with issue with Benny's situation. He was willing to pay for the plaque at RNCA out his own pocket. George wants the SAOC to pay for it. *TBD*.

Slinger Wood raised a complaint that he didn't get a return email from the secretary and has not been receiving emails. The secretary stated he could not remember if got his email or not but will check. (He sent and received over a couple hundred emails to confirm addresses) Note the secretary is still having problems with his email sever and has been able to upgrade his system yet.

Dusty Miller raised the point that the SAOC membership list is out of date with numerous members listed who have passed away. George stated that if we don't know how we can update the list. The chairman asked Dusty to send a list of departed members to Web master, and the Secretary. If any member hears that member has passed away let the secretary know.

Bazoo mentioned the Tex Ranger and Harry Suto can't get meetings due to health concerns. Other members should give them drives in if they unable to attend otherwise.

50/50 of 60 Dollars was won by Scotty Parsons

The Submariners' Prayer read by Brum Tovey

Adjournment There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2115hrs

Next meeting will the AGM to be held 5 Dec 2015 at MOG5 HQ SR Mess 1300hrs to be confirmed

Robert B Fraser

Respectfully submitted,

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC E Chairman