



Submariners Association of Canada (East)



Minutes of Monthly Meeting Wednesday 30 March 2016 MOG5 HQ JR's Mess

Opening

The Chair Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order at 1930 hrs without his gavel, which had mysteriously disappeared. He reassured whoever had taken it that it was an excellent working gavel, having previously conducted a "Gavel Check" and it had checked correct. The Chair welcomed and thanked the members for coming out tonight. The Chair gave special thanks to LS Harding for Bartending tonight and welcomed Bob Davidson who just joined SAOC (E) from SAOC (C). Buster shared a story about Bob when he was the first that picked a distress call from a Super Constellation Aircraft that crashed off Ireland when he was serving onboard HMCS Bonaventure in the 1960s. He was also part of the commissioning crew for HMCS OJIBWA. A moment of silence was held for the following members who have passed away recently: Bruce "Wiggy" Bennett (Life member) on 27 Feb 16; Paul Gornell Bramwell age 89 (Life member) 28 Feb 16; Les "Downtown" Brown (Sonar Op) in Pomona Beach Florida 28th Feb 16 from a series of heart attacks; Bryan "Ginger" Ormsby SAOC (W) passed away after a long illness at the age 73, Gilles Lucien who commissioned Ojibwa, and LCdr (Ret'd) Jack Alexander died suddenly of a heart attack last Sunday. Jack served in RN Boats in the 1960s, was a member of the commissioning crew of ONONDAGA and was XO of OJIBWA in 1969/70. May they rest in peace and be remembered for their good deeds.

Attendance .

18 members were in attendance: Pierre Alarie, Art Bodden, Buster Brown, Bob Davidson, John Clahane, Rob Fraser, LS Harding, Greg Hallonquist, Brian Lapierre, John Madison, Jim Northrup, Mark Osmond, Mark Pallard, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, Soapy Watson, Tim "Slinger" Woods, and Peter Weis. **Regrets** were received from 10 members: Terry Chatham, George Byzewski, Gary Hopkins (all at the Pig Roast SC) Ron Cooper (dancing) Keith Estabrooks (Florida), Scotty Parsons (Nfld/work), Ian Mitchell, Dusty Miller Sr, Wade Berglund and Brum Tovey (Montreal).

Minutes

The 24th Feb MGM minutes were distributed via email posted on the Web site and copies were laid out prior to meeting. They were read by all prior to meeting. There being no errors or omissions they were approved as distributed.

Correspondence:

Tridents were picked up and will be distributed

Reports:

Chairman: **Retirements:** Gord Malcolm retired 18th Mar after 34 years in the navy. He has found a job in the Ottawa area his Depart with Dignity TBA. A couple stories were shared about Gordie especially the HP air valve and the requirement of first bleeding off the HP air before

removing the bolts. PO1 Mark (Dusty) Miller is retiring 6 May after serving 32 years Dusty's Depart with Dignity will happen 22 April at MOG HQ SR mess 1130. The chair will be present to present him with a year's membership to SAOC. The chair made a comment about Dusty being confident and opinionated but was a sailor that put a lot of work and efforts into improving the quality of life in the submarine community. Slinger Wood commented that CPO1 Jim "Chevy" Ford is retiring in Ottawa. Chevy starts his terminal leave 8 May. Jim has got a job with NETE in Ottawa. Comments were made about all his work as the JR PMC he made in renovating the JR mess and getting 100k from the base for it. As soon as it was formally opened by the Admiral he was promoted and told he couldn't drink there unless formally invited in. **Funeral** The chair attended the Celebration of Life for Paul Gornell Bramwell at Mattatall Funeral Home on Portland St Dartmouth with several members. He had sailed with Dusty Sr on A boats and was part of the 1st Black Draft. He was also a survivor of the Kootenay Explosion. Talking to several legion members present he was part of a group called the PBLC (Pot Bellied Liars Club). The chair met both daughters and suggested that we read the Submariner's prayer copies were passed out and all read the prayer.

Treasurer:

Ron Cooper gave his regrets for the evening as he was out taking dancing lessons with the wife. The Chairman gave his report for him. His detailed monthly financial report dated 30 Mar 2016 showing a bank balance of "\$14,816.76" after expenses and deposits. The chair passed on that the work on the Commemorative Coin for Crossing the Bar Ceremony was ongoing. The Chair explained to members who had not been present at the last couple meetings that this coin is being developed as part of the Crossing the Bar ceremony as an option instead of \$50 charity donation or flowers at the funeral.

Vice Chair: Is at home and recovering. He sends his regrets and has no report to submit.

Slops:

Greg Hallonquist stated the slops are doing alright. Greg is in complete agreement from last MGM minutes that we have a sale of slow moving items 25% to 50% off at the Annual Summer BBQ. We have to sell some of \$6000 in stock so we can get new items in like Ball Caps and jumpers. Shit was being chucked at Ski who was asking for "food full" . If Ski was still sailing he would go on a carrot food diet.

Health and Wellness:

The Chair gave an update on Shane Irvine. Shane is at home. He can't go out as his immune system is low and has to minimize the chance of catching any bug that is out there. John Madison reports that Shane can go out for coffee and make it down to the end of his driveway. He can't get out for more than a couple hours for a time before getting too tired. Shane is sick and tired of being sick and tired. He still has cancer and has more appointments with his cancer doctor. Slinger Woods reported that when Shane sent his email out in Jan it was posted on Face Book in UK and there was a lot response from people and submariners he had met over there. It was said none had ever seen an email like this before. Brain Lapierre reported that Paul Renner had a Heart Attack in Jan but there was no damage to his heart.

Social: Brum Tovey gave his regrets but he had no changes to the social events from last month's report.

New Business

The Battle of Atlantic will take place Sunday 1st of May Point Pleasant Park and Bass River. We are just being proactive in reminding members of when and where to meet and to order wreaths for both venues from Somme Branch Legion. Members will meet at Shakespeare by the Sea theatre at 1015. Members are reminded to get there early as parking is at premium.

AOB The chair made special welcome to David Keith who will give a presentation on Alzheimer disease and the type of resources we can expect in NS. Buster Brown introduced his brother in law David Keith. David was awarded his honorary submariner's card in the early 70s. David has a family situation with his wife who has diagnosed from early onset dementia. His wife is only 60 years old. This is not an old person disease; even people as young as 40 years are being affected. Everyone knows someone who has some form of this disease. There are over 17k in NS alone. Alzheimer Society is the biggest supporter in NS. Keith's wife just got her Master's degree ten years ago and five years ago she started to find she couldn't write and some difficulty finding some words. That is when she was diagnosed. There is no cure for this disease. There is a lot of research being conducted especially in NS. The doctor says the only things that can help are exercise and social interaction. There are fund raising walks "Walk for Memories" in Halifax, Wolfville and Sydney NS. They have a British Bull Dog Bubby who was part of one walk but he decided that it was too far to go. The Fund raising has now adopted him as their mascot on the Face Book page and the Keith's are the Poster family for Alzheimer Society in NS. They have organized a team and hope to raise \$8K this year. David gave out some handouts and news letters to members present. Any questions he would be happy to answer and he will be on 95.7 radio tomorrow afternoon. The Chair thanked David for taking the time and effort in talking to us about this subject and delivering such a well-researched topic.

Greg Hallonquist moved that \$500 be donated to Alzheimer Society fund raising on behalf of SAOC seconded by Peter Weis. Motion carried. Buster reminded us SAOC past donations to other charity organizations and relief funds in the past years via 50/50 draws at the Metro Center.

Brian Lapierre stated there is a Web site called PosteritySake.ca by Garry Weir. Garry Weir severed in navy and now lives in Winnipeg. There is a spot for every ship that ever sailed in the RCN. Brian contributed 1200 obituaries to this site. These are posted to each ship these men served on. Any documents or JPEG pictures can posted to this site ie Okanagan's collision with Grey Rover. This is a lasting reminder or archive of past sailors of the RCN.

Marc Osmond stated that at the last meeting he had offered help to the secretary in sending out emails with a group Gmail account. It is called *brothersinboats* Gmail. He sent Gmail to active SAOC members asking for permission to accept this email forwarder. Only 50% accepted this forwarded email. The other members thought it was spam and deleted it. Therefore the secretary and he will have to send normal email out to everyone to accept this Gmail account.

Bob Davidson stated that he's very happy to be here tonight amongst friends and shipmates. He would have been here last year when he moved back from Ontario last May but due to health concerns he couldn't before now. He will share some of the stories and antics that he got in past years. Buster volunteered a story about Bob's baby sitter in Chatham. Details are to follow later.

50/50 Sylvain Rouillard won the 50/50 of \$50 dollars tonight. Note Jim Northrup filled in for Brum as the ticket seller tonight.

The Chair brought to our attention that a friend of Jim Northrup's son is starting fund raising for his Grade 12 gradation trip for his High School to go Vimy Ridge Memorial next year for the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge in WW I. A Vimy Ridge Pin is being sold for five dollars. More information will be passed at the next MGM. Brian Lapierre retold a story of when he was at Juno Beach on Easter Sunday two years ago he ran into Canadian High school students and teachers. He saw a logo on their jackets saying Lethbridge High School. He asked if there knew a Shannon Clark his niece who is a teacher at this High School. He sent his entire pictures from Juno Beach to the High School. It is surprising how small the world is.

The Submariners' Prayer was read by Bob Davidson after the secretary got the framed prayer from the SAOC display case. The chair made a challenge that any of members who are up to it can memorize the prayer and say it instead of just reading it a the next MGM.

Adjournment

There being no further business it was moved by Jim Northrup seconded by Tim Woods that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. Pierre "Minky" Alarie was the **rotter** who had hidden the gavel but gave it back to the chair so he could formally adjourn the meeting. Although the Chair begged to pay the ransom, our friendly 'Nabber' refused. No ransom was paid. The meeting adjourned at 2030 hrs

Next Monthly General Meeting will be held 27 April 2016 at MOG5 HQ SR Mess 1930

Robert B Fraser

Respectfully submitted,

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC E Chairman