



## Submariners Association of Canada (East)

### Minutes of Monthly Meeting Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016 MOG5 HQ SR's Mess



**Opening** The Chair, Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order at 1935 hrs. The Chair welcomed and thanked the members for the good turnout and welcomed back the snowbirds. The chair thanked Shane Applin for bartending. A moment of silence was held for sick and departed brethren. Several members brought to our attention sick and ailing brethren, which will be covered in health and wellness. May they rest in peace and be remembered for their good deeds.

**Attendance:** 26 members were in attendance: Shane Applin, Art Bodden, Buster Brown, George Byzewski, Ron Cooper, Terry Chatham, Bob Davidson, Keith Estabrooks, Rob Fraser, Jim Gordon, Larry Hickey, Greg Hallonquist, Gary Hopkins, Brian Lapierre, John Madison, John Meehan, Dusty Miller Sr, Jim Northrup, Mark Osmond, Scotty Parsons, Sylvain Rouillard, John Smith, Brum Tovey, Soapy Watson, Willy Waugh and Peter Weis. **Regrets** were received from 3 members: Shane Irvine, Wade Berglund and Conrad Petrikowski.

**Minutes** The 30<sup>th</sup> Mar MGM minutes were distributed via email and copies were laid out prior to meeting. They were read by all prior to meeting. The minutes were approved as amended

**Correspondence:** Tridents were picked up and distributed. BAO Parade order from CFB Halifax was received and summarized. 3 dues checks and one bill \$205.85 for annual rental of SAOC PO Box at Main Dartmouth Post Office were received and given to the Treasurer for action.

**Reports: Chairman: Retirements:** Reported on PO1 Mark (Dusty) Miller Depart with Dignity after 32 years which happened 22 April at MOG HQ SR mess. There was an excellent turnout of "O" and "Vic" submariners with six members of SAOC attending. The highlight was the email from Steve "The Virg" Virgin. The chair presented Dusty with a year's membership to SAOC, and although he is a member, encouraged him to take an active part and make a contribution to our group. The chair commented that although Dusty could be opinionated and hard headed at times, he followed through with the courage of his convictions, seeing good ideas through to fruition to improve the quality of 'work-life' for his shipmates and the submarine community as a whole. Jim Northrup carried on the brief, stating that the party lasted till 3 am in the morning and ended at the Lower Deck. Chevy Ford came down from Ottawa for the ceremony and led the pack. Some members had a quick dit on their experiences with Marc. Joe McDonald did an excellent job as MC and kept it short and sweet. CPO1 Jim "Chevy" Ford is retiring in Ottawa. Jim's Depart with Dignity ceremony will be held at NDHQ SR Rates Mess in Downtown Ottawa starting 1130hrs on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. Jim Northrup stated that he will be flying up to Ottawa for this event. Dusty was going as well.

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

**Secretary:** Informed the members that with Marc Osmond's help had started a gmail account named *brothersinboats*. Marc Osmond sent a Gmail to active SAOC members asking for permission to accept this email forwarder. When you receive this email from 'brothersinboats', please follow the instructions; it will put your email address in the distribution list and allow us to forward communication to you. This is so you can receive email for minutes and notices. For those that do not receive emails from us or that our correspondence ends up in your 'SPAM' folder, please contact us, we will help sort it out. Also, we received an email from a collector looking for cloth crests from the "O" Boats. Greg Hallonquist says he has a contact who may have some available. If you have extra cloth crests of 'O' boats, please contact me.

**Health and Wellness:** The Chair gave an update on Shane Irvine. Shane is at home and doing better. He has seen his doctors and they are pleased with his progress. He is off oxygen in the house but still has concerns when he ventures outside. Shane still has cancer but he will not let the reaper get him before his time. There is a detailed email on Shane's condition which will be distributed. John Smith stated Shane had seen his Oncologist today and he is happy with progress. Addendum 6 May '16: Shane is in the Dartmouth General. He is weak and being looked after. More to come. Jim Northrup gave some news about Cyril McDonald: He is back in hospital again with another obstruction in the bowel. They will put an NG tube in to give the bowel some relief for 48 hours. The bowel is very dilated and they are concerned about perforation. If it doesn't clear in 48 hours he will be in the o.r. for another surgery. Thoughts and prayers from everyone would be appreciated. Ray Hunt has been in QEII for six weeks but we have no details. Brian Fisher is undergoing chemo therapy. He wants no emails and no visitors at this time. A get well card will be sent to him by the secretary on behalf of SAOC. We received news on Pierre Doutre, however since then he has passed away after complication of a triple bypass surgery. A funeral and remembrance of life for Pierre was held in Lantz Christ Church and the Legion. Willy Waugh stated John Rogers who is 87 and was part of Ojibwa's commission crew is still not in good health and Fred Childs wife has passed away a month and half ago.

**Slops:** There is interest in new items such as Ball Caps and windbreakers. Greg will get a price quote for new ball caps with design featuring all three O boat crests as it is their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries at the May meeting. Cost for ball caps will be @\$15.

**Treasurer:** Ron Cooper gave his detailed monthly financial report dated 30 April 2016 showing a bank balance of "\$14,979.26" after expenses and deposits. There was a typo in the March financial statement. The closing balance should have read \$14913.01 not \$14,913.76.

**Social:** Brum Tovey stated that the Rum Raffle tonight has raised \$250 to be donated to ALS. The 50/50 is \$150 when George pays him his \$5. The Summer BBQ at Dubes 16<sup>th</sup> July and the Xmas function 18<sup>th</sup> Dec are still on please make notes on your calendar. There will be a 50/50 at BBQ. Part of it will be given to Helen Dube to donate to her local church.

**Old Business** Ron Cooper stated that there had been no movement on the SAOC Commemorative Coin for Crossing the Bar Ceremony. 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. Others stated that a British shilling could be used while others stated that is a British coin and we should use a Canadian coin. Some members expressed their opinion that this coin is not needed as younger family members have no interest in such keep sakes. This discussion went back and forth till it was decided to table this till next meeting when we have more information on cost @\$10-\$20 ea and design. The main thing is that we have to respect the family's wishes, however we can offer them this option.

The chair presented the \$500 donation check to Buster Brown for him be present to Alzheimer Society fund raising on behalf of SAOC. The Alzheimer Society fundraising walk is happening on 1 May at 1300 hrs starting from the Cunard Center.

**New Business** The chair has made a Donation of \$50 dollars towards a tombstone for Bruce "Wiggy" Bennet Life SAOC member who passed away in March. A condolence card was passed around to members for their signatures especially for the members who knew and sailed with Wiggy. John Meehan and Buster Brown stated that the family can apply to a service officer of Royal Canadian Legion ie last Post Fund for financial assistance for funeral costs up to \$14k if they cannot afford a tombstone. The chair will deliver both check and card to Sandra Bennet, Wiggy's wife in Halifax.

Les “Downtown” Brown Celebration of Life Ceremony will be held at Point Pleasant Park Summer House 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 11:45 RSVP to [topaz23@eastlink.ca](mailto:topaz23@eastlink.ca) if you wish to attend. We reminisced on how he got his ‘Downtown’ nickname. Several members said they would attend the ceremony.

The Battle of Atlantic will take place Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> of May Point Pleasant Park. Members are to meet at Shakespeare by the Sea theatre at around 1000hrs. Members are reminded to get there early as parking is at premium. Sylvie got a bigger wreath for the ceremony from Somme Branch Legion, with a larger ribbon so that SAOC could be spelled out. Cliff Boettcher sent a picture with the SAOC spelled out, however he had to abbreviate a word; it spelled “Submariners Ass of Canada.” The picture was passed around. Everyone had a great laugh over this. It was pointed out from several members that they will not be going to Bass River this year but will be attending BAO at Point Pleasant Park instead. So there will be no SAOC representation at Bass River.

**AOB** Brum told a very old joke about buying cars in Russia which supposedly takes 10 years. A good laugh was had by all. Hoppy had his hand up but we couldn’t see it as it was behind Buster’s nose. He commented on this ball cap he was presented at US submarine vets at the Pig Roast SC. Chooch had no stories from Charleston for some reason. Bazoo stated Peregrine had purchased two chairs in memory of Keith Lavers and Peanut Benoit. Instead of the name plates being affixed to the chairs they will be mounted on a Remembrance Board at the club. This has been paid for by SAOC. The Chair asked if there will be a dedication ceremony. This will be investigated. We all were amazed that Bazoo didn’t have more to say. Bazoo decided that he wanted to help the secretary in keeping the minutes under four pages. Bazoo stated that the Bass River is whole day event and there was no recognition or wreaths available at the last two times that they had attended. George said he and Terry will attend BAO Dinner put on by Peregrine on Friday and represent SAOC well. Willy Waugh explained the origin Bass River Peace Keeper’s and the memorials that have been dedicated. It stated by several members that it is well worth to see.

**50/50** John Madison won the 50/50 of \$75 dollars tonight.

**Pony Moore’s Rum Raffle** \$250 was raised for the ALS. The bottle was won by the Chair Sylvain Rouillard.

**The Submariners’ Prayer** was read by Brum Tovey since no one had met the chair’s challenge of memorizing the prayer.

**Adjournment** There being no further business it was moved by John Meehan seconded by Brian Lapierre that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2050 hrs

**Next Monthly General Meeting will be held 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at MOG5 HQ JR Mess 1930**

Robert B Fraser

Respectfully submitted,

SAOC (E) Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC E Chairman