



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 29th March 2017

MOG5 HQ JR MESS

Opening the Chair Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at 1930 hrs. Thank you was given to LS Fequet for bartending tonight. Special greetings were given to Chevy Ford and France Girard who are down from Ottawa for LCMM job on the new battery for Windsor. Sylvie gave a big thank you to Jim Ford for the JR Mess as it his hard work as JR PMC that made the renovations happen. Sylvie was on the FIDC committee at the time. Chevy had all the reports concerning the poor state of the mess and reports from the hospital concerning the rats (the four legged ones) that funds were made available immediately. The Chairman called the meeting up for a moment of silence for all sick and ailing brothers. A Special Remembrance was given to Brian Fisher, Cdr Retired, Age 75 of Bedford NS who passed away peacefully at home on 4 March 2017 after a courageous battle with cancer and Karen Mawdesley, wife of Geoff who passed away on the 12th March 2017 at Dartmouth General Hospital quickly from Cancer. May they ever be remembered for all their good deeds.

Attendance 13 members were in attendance: Art Boden, Cliff Boettcher, Terry Chatham, Jim “Chevy” Ford, Rob Fraser, France Girard, Greg Hallonquist, Iain Hughes, John Madison, Jim Northrup, Sylvain Rouillard, Boyd Thomas, and Peter Weis. **Regrets** were received from 14 members: Marc Aalbers, George Byzewski, Ron Cooper, Keith Estrabrooks, Ray Hunt, Brian Lapierre, Ken McMillan, John Meehan, Mark Osmond, Scotty Parsons, Lee Thompson, Brum Tovey, Willy Waugh and Tim “Slinger” Wood. The chairman made a special comment about Art Boden. It was very unusual that Art had missed last month’s meeting. This was the first time in years that Art had missed a meeting. Sylvie called Art right after the meeting and found out from Doreen, Art’s wife, that he just had cataract surgery that day and wasn’t allowed out afterwards. Doreen informed Sylvie that Art was very upset with her that he couldn’t come in for the meeting.

Minutes the 22nd February 2017 MGM minutes were distributed by email and copies were available tonight for review. There being no errors or omissions it was moved by Terry Chatham and seconded by Boyd Thomas that the minutes be accepted as distributed. Approved

Correspondence Tridents were received and distributed. 4 checks for dues were given to the Chairman to pass on to the Treasurer. 2 Applications with dues for membership were received. One from Victor “Mini” Miniotas and the other from Rob “Bats” Arbour. An update on contact information was received from Bill Medynski in Quebec and this was passed onto Brian Lapierre. An email was received from Brian Lapierre “Please pass on the fact that the 6th Submarine Squadron Book "Ambrosia and its Supplement" has been added to the Diesel Boats Forever section on Garry Weir's website www.forposterityssake.ca. It looks excellent and is a welcomed edition. I would think if we wanted to put it on our website we should only supply a link to Garry's website. That might be the easiest solution. If anybody wants a copy of it then please tell them to contact me at lapo48@gmail.com.” The secretary also received an email from George Byzewski concerning Paul Dube’s Celebration of Life Service. This will be covered by the Chair in his report. The secretary also had email concerning Cdr Brian Fisher’s funeral notice but could not print the entire notice out.

Secretary Trivia: The secretary reminded the meeting that on 7 Mar 2007 Joe Comeau’s burnt down ten years ago, many members remembered seeing the big greasy black smoke plume hovering over the North End of Halifax; many a tear was shed that day. Some people said that new construction has started on the lot perhaps Joes will be resurrected. The secretary took great care when he emailed this months’ MGM

agenda and Feb MGM minutes. Out the 148 members he emailed out of 260 listed on our website membership list 30 email addresses failed. The secretary has been in contact with Brian Lapierre in his project of updating the membership list. What the secretary proposes to do is forward his attendance list to all correct emails - noting the good email addresses in green, the failed ones in yellow and the white with no email information and ask the members for help. If they have any contact information of any former shipmates listed, they are to please forward it to the secretary and/or Brian Lapierre. Or they can ask these members to contact us directly by email, phone or send a letter to SAOC E mail box (SAOC(E) PO Box 91, Dartmouth, NS, B2Y 3Y2.).

Reports Chairman Sylvie reported he had contacted LT(N) Darrell Warner in Ottawa concerning the Battle of Atlantic Ceremony to be held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa on the 7 May 2017. They were trying to identify as many Battle of the Atlantic Veterans who will be the Ottawa area for this time to be Guests of Honour for this event. Unfortunately, there are no funds available to pay costs for a trip to Ottawa. This is only for veterans who will be in the Ottawa area for the 7 May. The deadline has passed for submissions. We have only one member who qualifies, Philip Wood but he is in frail condition. Mr Wood was part of the boarding party for the surrender of U 190 in 1945 off Newfoundland. We have not seen him in over two years ago, last at 2014 AGM. Buster knows Phil Wood quite well. John Madison informed us that Mr Wood still has the German Flag from U-190 and will donate it to SAOC when he passes. CFB Halifax Museum will not fly this flag for some reason. Terry Chatham will pass onto Sylvie Mr. Wood's contact information and he will contact him. The Chair informed the meeting he received an email from George Byzewski concerning the memorial service for Paul Dube. Paul's service will happen on April 29th @ 13:00 for 13:30 at the Elmsdale, RCL. Helen Dube wishes to have a "Submarine" themed "Crossing the Bar" Service followed by a reception. This had started with the passing of Keith Lavers. Dress will be SAOC Blazer, Medals and no beret. Friends of Paul are encouraged to get up after the ceremony and share some stories about Paul. The SAOC(E) Executive, Ron Cooper has taken on arrangement of the venue and catering @ \$700. Paul has donated his body to Dal for Medical Research. Helen Dube has been quite close with the submarine community with hosting the SAOC Summer BBQ at their place in Rawdon for past many years. Helen said her two most favourite times of the year are the SAOC Summer BBQ and Xmas Dinner/Dance. George Byzewski was and is very close friends to Helen and Paul. George did not want the funds to come from SAOC coffers as this could cause contention by setting a precedent. Therefore, George as a private member has floated the idea of "Crowdsourcing" internal to the SAOC so as to relieve the burden on Helen. Any amount will be gladly accepted. Helen cared for Paul at home for 13 years which exhausted all their savings and with Paul's death has incurred a substantial loss of income. 1/2 Paul's pension and survivor's CPP/OAS. As a token of our esteem for Paul and the man he was in and out of the Submarine Family that many of us would love to contribute to help defray the costs. Bazoo will act as OPI for accepting donations by E-transfers to: gbazoo@hotmail.com with the security question being, "Who is this donation for?" and the answer being "The Fossil". Those wishing to can send a cheque payable to the SAOC(E) with Paul Dube in the memo line. The address is: SAOC(E) PO Box 91, Dartmouth, NS, B2Y 3Y2. This was discussed at length by the members and all thought it was a great idea and Bazoo should send this email. The executive can donate \$50 on their own authority. Any funds collected over the cost of the service will be donated to Helen for her to do as she sees fit. We will have a good idea of how much money has been collected by our next meeting on the 26th April.

Vice Chair had nothing too much to say (Greg piped up put that on the plot) other than John Madison had brought up it was 45 years ago, tomorrow 30 March 1972 was Black Tot Day, the last day a TOT (Pusser Rum) was issued to the RCN. Jim remember getting out of class earlier and had gone to a couple ships to get a TOT before they were found out not to be ship's company. Several members attending tonight remembered that sad day. Sylvie had joined too late for this but remembers buying cigarettes two packs for a quarter. Jim Ford remembers putting the smoke eater in the JR Mess.

Health and Wellness The secretary informed the meeting from an email received from Buster Brown about the health of several members. Tex Ranger has been released and is home resting comfortably. Tex was in great spirits, lost 32 lbs. of fluid from his 'gut'. Irv Soapy Watson continues to undergo exams and give update when we get more information. Gerry Sigrist is at Camp Hill who's doing just fine but his eyesight has failed to quite an extent. Harry Suto whose vision has degraded but is looking good and

seemed happy being in Camp Hill. Sam Jennings is in Camp Hill as well. **Note** - A concern was raised about what information is put in the minutes concerning a member's health. Unless someone raises the point that personal health information should not be put in the minutes, the secretary and the chairman can only use their own good judgement as what is said during the meeting to be put in the minutes for distribution to SAOC members. Jim Northrup informed us that Cyril McDonald is out of the hospital after 113 days and 12 surgeries and is now at home recovering. He will be starting chemo therapy to fight his cancer. Jim stated that Cyril is out and about and has been running around at Kent and Canadian Tire.

Treasurer The secretary gave the treasurer's report for the last two months as the treasure had sent his regrets. The closing bank balance is now \$13,540.27 after debits and credits in as of 29th March 2017. Upcoming expenses are as follows 22nd June Onondaga 50th Dinner @ cost \$1,300; Summer BBQ @ cost \$1,000 for food and keg of beer; and 15 Dec Xmas Dinner Dance @ \$1,200. Sylvain gave an update from Ron Cooper about the costs for Paul Dube's "Crossing the Bar" Service at the Elmsdale, RCL venue and catering @ (\$700). A special toast will be given and with Lamb's Dark Navy Rum arranged with the RCL Bar. The Legion wanted to know if they should make this a reserved function and close the place for regular customers. After some discussion, it was decided that the Legion should remain open for all as some legion members may have known Paul as well.

Social The chairman reported for Brum Tovey that the summer BBQ is now slated for the 15th July due to rescheduling of the BBQ catering company. The concern about the Summer BBQ venue with the passing of Paul Dube will be resolved later when Bazoo is back from the States and has a chance to discuss this with Helen Dube. At the last meeting, John Meehan volunteered his place out in Chezzetcook as an alternative for the Summer BBQ.

New Business Already covered by in the Chairman's report concerning Paul Dube's Crossing the Bar Service and Crowd Sourcing funds with Bazoo.

Old Business **Web Site Membership Update** Brian Lapierre sent regrets for tonight's meeting. He has been working on getting the SAOC E Web site membership list updated but there was no report on this now.

AOB Chevy and France are staying at Juno Tower as it is handy to Dockyard for their LCMM job and the Bar is in the Building so they go down in slippers for a wet and not get cold; it's like being in their living room. John Madison proposed a toast to Black Tot day tomorrow. **Slops** Greg Hallonquist informed that he had no report to give other than sales are going well. He stated that he couldn't make last month's meeting as there had been a death in the family. Sylvain gave him our condolences.

50/50 The 50/50 of \$35 was won by Jim Ford. Chevy donated his winnings back to the SAOC E for the Paul Dube's Celebration of Life costs. Chevy made a comment about flat face, bottom feeding, scum sucking contractors, which Sylvie agreed with whole heartily as he is one.

Submariners Prayer was read by Iain Hughes

Adjournment There being no further business it was moved by John Madison seconded by Greg Hallonquist to adjourned the meeting at 2020 hrs. Carried.

The next MGM will be held at the MOG5 HQ SR Mess 26th April 2017 @ 1930 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B Fraser
SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard
SAOC (E) Chairman