



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 26 July 2017

MOG5 HQ JR MESS



Opening the Chair Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order (open-up for dive) at 1930 hrs. The Chairman thanked everyone for the excellent turn out for this meeting on this beautiful evening. Glad that we didn't cancel this meeting. Sylvie stated that he got Dusty Miller's point of having proper MGM instead of short 5-minute ones in conjunction with other events where nothing is accomplished. It was good to see you all. Everyone groaned and we said it was good to see him too. An all around good group hug was had by all! Thank you was given to LS Jeff Harding for bartending tonight. Be generous to the bartender. Note the bartender joined the SAOC last year. It would be good to get some young blood into our ranks and maybe he can attract some of his shipmates. Just ensure that they know CPR! The Chairman called the meeting up for a moment of silence for all sick and departed members. Mike Hurford Cdr Ret passed away on the 9th of July in New Glasgow NS. He served in submarines in the 70s and when he unsuccessfully attempted Perisher, went on to a successful career in the surface world. May he ever be remembered for his good deeds.

Attendance 29 members were in attendance: Mark Aalbers, Rob Bray, Art Boden, Cliff Boettcher, George Byzewski, Terry Chatham, Ron Cooper, Bob Davidson, Keith Estabrooks, Rob Fraser, Jim Gordon, John Gullion, Jeff Harding, Bert Houde, Ray Hunt, Wynn Jones, Brian Lapierre, Charlie Lonsdale, John Madison, John Meehan, James Dusty Miller Snr, Marc Osmond, Jim Northrup, Marc Pallard, Sylvain Rouillard, John Smith, Boyd Thomas, Brum Tovey and Willy Waugh.

Regrets were received from 13 members: Buster Brown, Jon Carpenter, John Clahane, Don Courcy, Greg Hallonquist, Geoff Mawdesley, Ken McMillan, Dave Russell, Conard Petrikowski, Lee Thompson, Soapy Watson, Peter Weis and Phil Wood.

Bazoo informed us that Geoff Mawdesley wrote a very well written article concerning the passing of his wife from cancer. Brian Lapierre will get a digital copy from the Chronical Herald and have it distributed to interested parties.

The secretary and George Byzewski informed the meeting that Don Courcy sent his regrets as he was unable to attend the meeting because he was taking care of his ailing wife.

Minutes the 28th June 2017 MGM minutes were distributed by email and no hard copies were available tonight for review. Since most people read them digitally, it was discussed that from now on only one half dozen hard copies will be available at the meetings for those that don't have a computer. Terry Chatham volunteered to bring them. As no one picked up any errors or omissions the minutes were approved as distributed.

Correspondence Tridents were received and distributed. Check from Don Courcy for \$100 for dues was passed to the Treasurer.

A CD was received from SAOC West Past President Paul Hansen containing the Dolphin March. The Chair stated that he will make copies to be passed out at the next MGM. Ray Hunt was asked by the Chair to speak on this subject: Ray restated the information on the Dolphin March which he had passed to us at last month's meeting. Ray stated that the composer, PO2 Robin Jutras, a musician of The Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy, should be made an Honorary Submariner for her excellent work in writing this march and lasting contribution to the Submarine Service and our Association, and that all three SAOCs should agree to this. It was moved by Ray Hunt and 2nd by Dusty Miller that the chairman write a letter to SAOC Central and SAOC West Coast branches recommending this. **Carried.** The chair asked the bartender to play the Dolphin March for the meeting, which he did later during the meeting. It was appreciated by all. Sylvie will give a few copies to Bazoo tomorrow, one to be given to Charlie Lonsdale before he returns to UK. We will also see if we can get this posted on our website.

Reports Chairman attended the Summer BBQ but did not want to say any more than that for fear of taking away Brum's thunder. He further stated that Social would go before the Treasurer's Report. Sylvie stated that he had read Ray Hunt's book "A Simple Sailor" and found it extremely well written and very interesting and full of adventures. Two pages were missing. Brian Lapierre stated that these pages would be uploaded shortly to <http://forposterityssake.ca/RCN-DOCS/SIMPLE-SAILOR.htm>. It is a wonderful book with 147 written pages with another 27 with pictures. Sylvie stated that Ray wanted to become a submariner after reading a book called "One of Our Submarines" and read this too; another excellent book describing a fine submariner's experiences and perspective. Once the book is updated by Brian Lapierre, Bazoo will send the link to the site to everyone.

Vice Chair Nothing to report.

Secretary passed on two DVDs of his Power Point Presentation 'A Pictorial History of Canadian Submarines' to the Chair to take up to the SAOC Central AGM/BBQ in Rimouski. One from his original presentation in 2014 for the 100th Submarine Anniversary and an updated one from this week with corrections and additions. These additions were to highlight the WW2 Submarine Service and the First Wave of RCN Submarine volunteers, which was a result of gaining additional information from Dave Perkins' book "the Canadian Submarine Service in Review". The original plan in 1960 by the Navy was to buy 6 submarines for the east coast and three for the west. There were two classes in the running: The USN Barbel-Class would have cost 22 million a boat and the "O" boats from the RN cost only 11 million each. Due to spending cuts by the Liberal government we went for the cheaper deal and only got 3 Oberons. "O" boats were based on the type 21 "U" Boat.

Health and Wellness John Meehan asked how Luc Rollin was doing. Brian Lapierre reported that Luc Rollin is not well but can get around with his wheel chair. He still would appreciate phone calls from shipmates. His phone number is 902-835-4947. Luc lives in Hammonds Plains. Brian is organizing an Electrical branch function in Sept. He is trying to have two functions a year.

Bob Davidson stated that he just had a bad patch and had to go to Emergency yesterday. He stated that his health is failing. He stated that he will try to attend all future meeting if able and gave his regrets that he could not make the summer BBQ. Bob looks forward to coming to the meetings and seeing all his old comrades. He wanted to apologize but everyone stated that no apology was necessary! A round of applause was given to Bob!

Brian Lapierre reported that a group of 6 SAOC East members (himself, Lucky Gordon, Buster Brown, Nasty Carrier, George Byzewski and Ernie Marcoux) on the 8th July went to Paul and Serena Renner's Celebration of Life in Newton NB. The family was deeply touched by the attendance of Paul's old shipmates. Afterward they attended a BBQ at Paul and Serena's house in Sussex NB. Brian has pictures and video of the event which he will process shortly. Brian stated that Paul was an excellent submariner and mentor to all and will be missed. The family was surprised at the turnout of the submariners as they had no idea that they were coming.

Keith Estabrooks reported that he saw Jerry Sigrist and Harry Suto at Camp Hill recently. He stated that they would like to see fellow submariners at the Pub Days at Camp Hill which happen every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-3 pm when the tavern is open and have a beer with them.

John "Doc" Smith report that an old comrade, Jerry Conway, was on TV the other day commenting on all the whale entanglements and death of one the whale rescue members. Jerry now lives in Campobello NB. Brian Lapierre commented that on his Okanagan web page shows Jerry for the last Rum issue. Jerry is supposed to be coming to Halifax in October and hopefully will make our MGM.

Willy Waugh reported that Jerry Sigrist and Harry Suto were with a bunch of vets that were bussed out to the Elmsdale Legion. Willy also informed us that Harry Suto and Charlie Lonsdale had sailed on the HTP (Hydrogen Peroxide Powered) Submarines together. Ron Cooper and John Meehan informed us that each legion supports this outing once a year to give a treat to the Camp Hill Vets or they go to Camp Hill to visit. Sam Jennings also attended this outing. The Norwegian Vet who was in the news last year was there as well and Ron had a good talk with him.

Brian Cooper attended the summer BBQ and just had a tumour removed from his neck but is recovering.

Slops Greg Hallonquist gave his regrets therefore no report on slops

Social Sylvie changed the agenda so Brum Tovey could go next in order that Ron would not steal all his thunder and to hear his joke. This one was about 3 Submarine Chief Tiffs, 3 young Officers and train tickets. They were all travelling to London from Portsmouth for a meeting and back. The wardroom observed that the Chiefs had bought only one ticket and when the ticket collector came around the chiefs hid in the toilet and passed only one ticket out to get punched. On the way back the officers decided to copy the chiefs by buying only one ticket while the chiefs didn't buy any. When the ticket collector came around the officers hid in the toilet and then one chief banged on the toilet door and said tickets please. The officers passed out their ticket and the chiefs stole it and ran to the next compartment and hid in that toilet. So, the wardroom failed to copy the sly old chiefs. Brum stated that the Summer BBQ was an enormous success with 65 people attending and thanked everyone who came. Unfortunately, the BBQ was only planned for 45 people. BBQ chef Jack was devastated and apologized for running out of food. He did a wonderful job and the food was excellent. When Brum went to pick up the beer keg left at Helen's place on Sunday, Charlie Lonsdale had proved it empty. Brum informed that Jack will plan for 70 people attending next year's BBQ. Brum hopes that this attendance will pass on to the Xmas dance. The Xmas Dinner/Dance is still on for the 15th December at the Lion's Club in Sackville. We had 60 attend last year. Brum reminded everyone this is open to family and friends. Brum informed us that he has touched base with the Lion's Club and the DJ and they are looking forward to seeing us.

Treasurer Ron Cooper gave his detailed financial report as of 26 July 2017. The closing bank balance is now \$12,772.41 after debits and credits. Ron gave a detailed tally of all expenses for Summer BBQ @ cost \$800 for food and \$363.08 for the keg of beer and wine; and 15 Dec Xmas Dinner Dance @ \$1,200. The cost will be subsidized by tickets sales at \$20 a couple to cover wine and door prizes. Once outstanding checks from the Annual Summer BBQ are cashed this will leave @ \$11,636.33 in the SAOC account.

Old Business Rimouski SAOC Central AGM/BBQ and 50th Anniversary of HMCS Onondaga

Commissioning Sylvie reported that he has more details on SAOC Central AGM/BBQ and 50th Anniversary of HMCS Onondaga Commissioning at Rimouski. Sylvie will be sending an email with all details, locations, timing and dress for all events. Members are encouraged to wear SAOC Blazers (no medals) or smart casual for the Meet and Greet on Friday as the Mayor of Rimouski may be giving a Civic Recognition of the ONONDAGA. Cost for the BBQ meal will be \$25 per head. No cost for the meeting! The dress for the BBQ will be tiddly (tasteful) Pirate Rig, just no pusser socks or underwear. The main events will happen at Hanger 14 at the Pointe-au-Père Museum. There will be a cost bar. If you are going please fill in the registration form on SAOC Central Web Site to confirm your attendance. Approximately 20 members have indicated that they would be attending.

SAOC East Membership Brian Lapierre reported on the membership list on who is active and paid up after consulting with Ron Cooper. Brian Lapierre has the updated contact information for 153 members. We have 43 life members, 50 paid up for 2017 and 50 paid for 2016. We have 32 who have not paid, some since 2010. Brian will pass the file to the Chairman who will have Ted Hirtle update our website membership list. IAW with our bylaws, anyone who has not paid their annual dues by the end of 2017 will be deemed to have resigned and their name will be removed from the membership list. We do not collect money for dues in arrears. This will be an ever-evolving list. Sylvie stated that this will be looked at once a year. As our bank balance is slowly dwindling, down to about \$11k from \$14k, we need to get dues in to support our future functions. Sylvie will call the outstanding members individually and see if they are interested in remaining members of SAOC East.

Brian restated his information from last month's MGM concerning Mr. Barry Dickson, a Royal Fleet Auxiliary sailor. Once Mr. Dickson is finished with his research he will send Brian a link to his web site concerning the Grey Rover. Brian supplied the pictures, the audio clip, the sequence of names as per the audio clip and final approval. Brian stated that he is in the planning stages for the 45th Anniversary of the OKANAGAN's Big Crunch, next year. Here is the link to a video of the Grey Rover and Okanagan

events of 28th July 1973, 07:43: <http://bit.ly/2u0HxGG>

Groton Pig Roast Terry Chatham stated all six rooms he had booked in Groton for the Sub Vets are taken.

USS Pittsburgh visiting Halifax in Aug Sylvain has been in contact with their Chief Engineer Senior Chief Dom Grimaldi. Their Port Visit to Halifax has been canceled in Aug due to mechanical issues with the sub. The CO still wants to visit Halifax as a port of call, perhaps in the fall. More information to follow.

No New Business

AOB MGM in New JR Mess Ron Cooper had put forward the idea that we have a MGM at the new JR Mess in Tribute Tower at last month's MGM. He still has to investigate the cost. After discussion, it was decided that until the parking situation has been resolved after the demolition of the old Fleet Club, we should hold off booking the facility until then, perhaps Sept/Oct.

Ron stated that after two functions this year and the Xmas dance coming up we need to generate funds to support our organization. He suggested that we look at doing what we did in 2014 for the 100th Submarine Anniversary by selling calendars and rum. Rob Fraser stated that as one of the editors for the calendar he will investigate that. Bazoo said he would make a call to Iron Works Distillery in Lunenburg about the rum but he would not be the one running with the project like last time.

Charlie Lonsdale stated he was pleased to be here as he has made the yearly trip for the last 20 years. He had come specially to visit his good friend Paul Dube. Even with Paul's passing he will try to continue to come over even though he is only 81 years young to visit with all his friends here. He will be going with the boys down to Groton to the US Sub Vets Pig Roast to pass the glasses for the moose milk.

Brum Tovey informed us that the submariner's table at the Elmsdale legion should be ready NLT than 11th Nov. Brum asked if Homeless people get Knock Knock jokes.

Rob Fraser reported that Willy Waugh had written down the lyrics to "Nobody Washes in a Submarine" and had it given to him at the Summer BBQ. He had written it down and sent it out to all members with emails. Willy stated this ditty came from the time he sailed on RN "S" boats in the First Wave RCN Volunteers for submarines.

50/50 The 50/50 of \$70 was won by Marc Osmond

Submariners Prayer was read by Charlie Lonsdale

Adjournment There being no further business it was moved by Terry Chatham and seconded by Bert Houde to adjourn the meeting at 20:50hrs. Carried.

The next MGM will be held at the MOG5 HQ SR Mess 30th July 2017 @ 1930 hrs.

The Dolphin March was played for the members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B Fraser

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman