



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 25 October 2017

Tribute Tower Bonnie Maggie Meeting Room

CFB Halifax Stadacona JR Mess



Opening The chairman, Sylvain Rouillard, thanked MS Rebecca Charlesworth, PMC of CFB Halifax JR Mess and Fleet MS, for giving us a tour of the New JR facility of Tribute Tower. A round of applause was given to her by the members. We saw the new bar Slackers, Mr. Macs (the entertainment/dance room), the Front Desk and a sample accommodation room for JRs on the 12th floor. They will be able to house 300 junior rates. This is a significant improvement over “A” Block and the old Fleet Club. The new parking lot where the old Fleet Club was should be open next week.

The Chairman brought the meeting to order (open-up for dive) at 1933 hrs.

Attendance 23 members were in attendance: Mark Aalbers, Buster Brown, Cliff Boettcher, Ron Butchart, George Byzewski, Terry Chatham, John Clahane, Bill Cleal, Jerry Conway, Ron Cooper, Rob Fraser, Greg Hallonquist, Bert Houde, Brian Lapierre, Geoff Mawdesley, John Meehan, James “Dusty” Miller Snr, Jim Northrup, Sylvain Rouillard, Boyd Thomas, Brum Tovey, Willy Waugh and Peter Weis

Regrets & Health and Wellness Regrets were received from 12 members: Rob Arbour, Bob Davidson, Zeke Brower-Berkoven, Sherm Embree, Ray Hunt, Ken McMillan, Marc Osmond, Conrad Petrikowski, Jerry Sigrist, Lee Thompson, Soapy Watson and Phil Webster.

James Dusty Miller Snr was feeling poorly last month with health concerns but could attend this evening. The chairman stated it was good to see him at tonight’s meeting.

Geoff Mawdesley informed us that Mark Lawrence had passed away at Dartmouth General Hospital two days ago. No other details on his funeral were available at the time, but we found out later that it had been held on 25th Oct at 10:00.

Brian Lapierre introduced Jerry Conway to the meeting. Jerry is from Campobello Island NB. Jerry had sailed on HMCS Ojibwa and commissioned the Okanagan. He retired from the navy after six years then worked as a city policeman in Halifax for the next few years. He then joined DFO and later moved to New Brunswick where he got involved with rescuing whales from entanglements. He is in town attending the 22nd Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals (1700 people) concerning marine mammal issues such as fishing gear entanglements and ship strikes. Fishermen and ship owners are not very happy with the new restrictions put in place. He treasures the six years he spent as a submariner. He spent most of his time on Okanagan where got himself in hell of a lot of trouble with Buster Brown. Jerry is a life member and he has his card. The chair remarked we should bring back these cards for life members.

Charlie MacDonald had passed away recently up in Ottawa. His Wake was held on the 15 October at the Tubman Funeral Home in Ottawa. He was a great Engineering Officer and several members remember sailing with him on HMCS Windsor and at SSTG.

Buster Brown was going to bring Jerry Sigrist but didn’t know how the tours would work out.

Correspondence No correspondence in/out. The Chairman will write a formal letter thanking MS Charlesworth for giving us the tour of Tribute Tower and a copy will be sent to her supervisor.

Reports

Chairman The chairman reported that he had done a recce of Tribute Tower on behalf of Ron Cooper to get parking and directions. It opened his eyes on far the Navy has come and how much more leeway the

JRs now have. Ron Cooper remarked that if they ever get the galley working we could have a function here.

Vice Chair Nothing to report.

Treasurer Ron Cooper submitted a corrected financial copy of his 27 September report. Ron then gave his detailed financial report as of 25 October 2017 (See attached report). The closing bank balance is now \$12,378.45. The cost of 15 Dec Xmas Dinner Dance will be @ \$1,200.

Secretary Nothing to report.

Slops Greg Hallonquist is looking the having the SAOC crest put on toques and a sample jacket plus the SAOC Shirts at \$40 ea. The cost will be \$55 for jackets and \$5 extra for your name plus tax. He is looking at cost of @ \$70. He will have a sample jacket for our next meeting. He cannot find the old-style fleeces vests that George had brought to him. Greg has looked at the modern style, but they are of inferior quality. Greg will put sample pictures of the new items up on Facebook. Greg will only be taking pre-orders. Greg wanted to know if the SAOC crest should say "Nova Scotia", as in the crest on the shirts that was presented to some members by Charlie Lonsdale as gifts at the annual Summer BBQ. If we keep the Submariners Association of Canada crest as-is the other branches can order them from Greg. After much discussion, it was decided that a motion was not needed and we are to keep the SAOC crest without modification as Submariners Association of Canada and that it should not say Nova Scotia or East.

Social: Brum Tovey reminded everyone the Xmas Dinner/Dance is still on for the 15th December at the Lion's Club in Sackville. Brum is taking a list of names; 25 members already have stated that they will attend with their better halves. We are looking for at least 60 people to attend. Tickets will be available for sale and pick up at the AGM on the 2 Dec. The cost is \$20 a person or \$40 per couple. There will be 50/50 and DJ. The more people that attend, the more it will reduce our costs. Brum showed us one of the three submarine decanters with two shot glasses which will be up as door prizes.

Brum told two jokes. The first was a young boy was expelled from school and his father asked him why. He said that it was because of a math problem. The teacher had asked him what was 2×3 . He said six. The father said that is right. The Teacher then asked him what was 3×2 . The father exclaimed, "What the fuck was the difference?" The son exclaimed: "That's what I said!" Second joke. A man was working in a pickle factory for a lot of years. One day he confessed to his wife that he has a terrible urge to stick his penis in the pickle slicer. His wife says he should see a therapist to get over it. A few weeks later he comes home absolutely ashen. The wife asks Bill what the problem is. The husband said you remember a couple weeks ago I said I wanted to put my penis in the pickle slicer. The wife gasps and asks what has happened. The husband said I got fired. The wife asked what happened with the pickle slicer. She got fired too.

Old Business

New Common SAOC Constitution The Chairman asked again if anyone found any glaring problems with the new constitution. Terry Chatham questioned the use of the word Branch in the new constitution. He stated this word had been removed from our standalone constitution years ago. The Chair explained he understood why this was done, that we are a stand-alone association. However, since we might adopt a common constitution, we three organizations would need to be called some type of entity to define us as part of a bigger organization, such as Branch or Chapter or Division. In drafting this, it was agreed that we use the word Branch as the best solution. We will become the East, West and Central branches of the Submariners' Association of Canada. We will still call ourselves SAOC (E), without the word branch in the title. We are autonomous branches governed by our own by-laws and are financially independent but share the same name, crest, goals, and purposes and meet with fellowship with other submariners. If the members do not like this proposal, they can vote it down at the AGM. Buster Brown explained we had tried to have a common constitution years ago with the others, but this could not be agreed to in 2000.

There was supposed to be a representative from each branch to liaise with each other. This idea of a common constitution had been restarted by the West Coast Chairman Paul Cumberland three years ago and now brought up again by Lloyd Barnes, President of SAOC (W). The chairman stated that he received proposed changes to this document from Buster Brown. He will contact the other presidents to discuss those change suggestions and see if they also have change requests brought forward by their members, and then if any changes are made he will present an updated version to the AGM. If not, we will vote on adopting a common constitution, using the current Common Constitution Draft 3, pending the SAOC(W) vote at their AGM in Feb 2018 and the ratification of a final document. The chairman stated the version may not be perfect but can be corrected later when any and all change requests have been received by all three branches. Ron Cooper recommended that the chairman resend the proposed common constitution to all members again prior to the AGM. The chairman will do this through the secretary. Dusty Miller reminded us that any amendments to the By-Laws must be submitted in writing prior to the 31 October to the secretary with the reasons justifying why. Dusty apologized that he could not hear very well tonight as he had forgotten his hearing aids this evening. Buster Brown asked if the executive would submit written reports to the AGM or go by the Agenda as we have been doing in the past few years. Dusty Miller stated that he thinks that a committee be formed to look at redoing the constitution and take as long as required. Dusty Miller also stated that too much time was spent in debating the SAOC name tonight and compared this to several other organizations i.e. RCL, Masons etc.

New Business

11 Nov Remembrance Day Ceremony Point Pleasant Park The Chairman along with Past SAOC Chairman Buster Brown will be laying a wreath at Point Pleasant Park Halifax Memorial on behalf of SAOC. All members are encouraged to attend or attend Remembrance Day ceremonies in their local area. Bazoo stated that a bus would be laid on by CFB Halifax Transport section to transfer veterans from the Point Pleasant Park Parking lot to the cenotaph. The chairman and Bazoo will confirm this and get back to Dusty Miller to allay his concerns.

AGM / Potluck The Annual General Meeting will be held on the 2nd Dec MOG5 SR Mess at 13:00 for 13:30. After the AGM a potluck dinner will be held with your better halves.

AOB

Brum Tovey reminded everyone again the Xmas Dinner/Dance is still on for the 15th December at the Lion's Club in Sackville and will have the tickets for sale at the AGM.

George Byzewski reminded the meeting that Sue Jones, wife of Wynn Jones, had her funeral this morning at 1100 am which was attended by 15 members of the association. The Chairman called the meeting up for a moment of silence for Sue Jones plus we remembered Charlie MacDonald and Mark Lawrence who had passed recently and other departed as well. May they all be remembered for their good deeds.

Marc Aalbers presented SAOC (E) with a framed print of an "O" Boat, no 41/100, by Marc Magee. Marc started his career in the navy in 1976 as sonarman and went straight to the ONONDAGA for workups. Marc finished up his military career as a combat engineer. We will try to have it displayed at MOG5 HQ Sr mess after the Chairman confers with the SR Mess President Shane Applin to get approval. As requested by Marc Aalbers this will remain as part of our SAOC artifacts and not part of MOG 5 HQ mess. Ron Cooper asked if we have a list of what we have at MOG5 HQ. Ron stated SAOC (C) has gotten permission from HMCS CARLETON to display submarine artifacts in a display case. We will have to do a muster of our two display cases in the MOG5 HQ to have a record of what SAOC has there.

Brian Lapierre showed a picture of the headstone for Paul and Serena Renner. He received an email from Paul Renner's daughter Michelle showing the submariner qualification badge. Brian will send a copy to Bazoo who will promulgate it out for all to enjoy. Michelle sent a couple more pictures to Brian Lapierre showing pictures of HMCS Iroquois in Liverpool, NS. They are removing pieces of steel from the hull for non-destructive testing for improvements in building future navy ships.

Jerry Conway enjoyed being here this evening and hopes it will not be as long before he gets to come back to enjoy another meeting with us. Anyone who comes to Campobello Island Jerry will be more than happy to entertain them and promises to try not to get into too much trouble. Note they have no RCMP officers based on the island and takes them over an hour to get there from the mainland. Note they do not have a pub but there is one in nearby Maine run by an American Submarine Vet. It is respectable. Bazoo stated we should make a visit.

Minutes the 27 Sept 2017 MGM minutes were distributed by email and a few hard copies were available tonight for review. The secretary had made the correction to minutes as sent to him by Brian Lapierre. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

Dusty Miller asked if the Tribute Tower will be our future meeting place once it gets fully operational. The chair stated that this was a one-off case to get a tour of the facility. We will continue to have our meetings at MOG5 HQ, alternating between the JRs and SRs messes until they tear down building D-165 in the dockyard. This meeting at Tribute Tower was organized by Ron Cooper. A big hand of applause was given to Ron for organizing this.

Submariners Prayer was read by Jerry Conway

50/50 The 50/50 of \$75 was won by Peter Weis who gave the money back to SAOC fund

Adjournment There being no further business it was moved by Bert Houde and seconded by Bill Cleal to adjourn the meeting at 20:40 hrs. Carried.

Jerry Conway put 100 dollars on the bar to be used at the AGM. This money was given to the treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B Fraser
SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard
SAOC (E) Chairman