



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 30 May 2018

MOG5 HQ SR Mess



Opening The Chairman, Sylvain Rouillard brought the meeting to order (open-up for dive) at 1930 hrs. Sylvain thanked the bartender Jamie Lewis for supporting us. Please be generous to the bartender. The Chairman called the meeting up for a moment of silence for all sick and departed members.

Attendance 33 members were in attendance: Marc Aalbers, Art Bodden, Cliff Boettcher, Buster Brown, Ron Butchart, George Byzewski, Jon Carpenter, Terry Chatham, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Keith Estrabrooks, Rob Fraser, Claude Gendron, Jim Gordon, Greg Hallonquist, Iain Hughes, Bert Houde, Ray Hunt, Taff Jones, Brian Lapierre, John Madison, Steve McLellan, John Meehan, Jim Northrup, Marc Osmond, Marc Pallard, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, John Smith, Steve St-Amant, Boyd Thomas, Willy Waugh, and Tim Wood.

Regrets & Health and Wellness Regrets were received from 15 members: Rob Braye, John Clahane, Bob Davidson, Larry Hickey, James “Dusty” Miller Snr, Ken McMillan, Phil Rody, Scotty Parsons, Jerry Sigrist, Harry Suto, Lee Thompson, Brum Tovey, Soapy Watson, Phil Webster and Peter Weis. Buster Brown informed the meeting he will try to get Jerry Sigrist to the 50th Anniversary Dinner but might need some assistance. Brian Lapierre stated that Vivian daughter of Sam Jennings will represent Sam at the Okanagan 50th dinner as Sam cannot attend due to health issues. Buster will be in touch with Harry Suto to see if he can make the dinner. Bob Davidson called the secretary this afternoon explaining he was not up to make the meeting tonight due to health concerns. Buster will call Bob tomorrow.

Minutes the 25th April 2018 MGM minutes were distributed by email and a few hard copies were available tonight for review. The chairman moved that the minutes be accepted as dist 2nd Marc Osmond. There being no errors or omissions the minutes were **approved** as distributed.

Correspondence Tridents were received and were handed out. One check from Keith Nesbit was received for Okanagan 50th anniversary. No correspondence out.

Reports Chairman The Chairman reported that his Cuban vacation was excellent. Sylvain Rouillard informed us that he had received four copies of Ray Hunt’s Book “A Simple Sailor” from the West Coast’s Paul Hansen and they have been handed out to the people who had ordered them. Sylvain said it is an awesome read. If enough people are interested a second run could be produced by Paul Hanson easily or members can go on line to our website or to www.forposterityssake.ca to read an electronic copy. The “HMCS Ojibwa” print by Marc Magee that Mark Aalbers had donated to SAOC E last October in Tribute Tower was finally mounted on our wall in the MOG5 HQ SR mess, after lengthy directions from 30 different people to Sylvie. The chairman had a pamphlet dated 1969-1970 on HMS Neptune, Clyde Submarine Base he had received from Lee Thompson. There was lots of interest from the members as most had visited the RN Submarine base in Faslane over the years. Brian Lapierre was asked to scan it and he will do it and put it on our website. The chairman stated that he received an email from Keith Nesbit that he will attend the Okanagan 50th Anniversary Dinner with his wife and the wife of Brian Fisher.

Vice Chair Jim Northrup requested that we all should check on old shipmates if you have not heard from them in a while. Jim had a recent experience from one friend he had not heard from and he had fallen though the cracks but he got to him in time.

Secretary Rob Fraser thanked Brian Lapierre for filling as SAOC Secretary last month while he was away down south in Cuba. Rob said if Brian wanted the job he would be more than happy to turn everything over to him.

Treasurer Ron Cooper gave the financial report for 31 May 2018. The closing bank balance is now \$12,103.68 after expenses and credits in. The report gave the projected cost of 2018 events. Approximate

cost: HMCS Okanagan 50th 22 June @ \$1,100; SAOC E Summer BBQ at Dube's @ \$1,000; and 14 Dec Xmas Dinner Dance @\$1,100. Bill for the BAO Wreath and PO Box yearly Rental were received.

Social Ron Cooper gave the Social report on Brum Tovey's behalf as Brum is in England. The summer BBQ at the Dube's is slated for the 14th July starting at 1300 hrs. An email will be sent with directions, map and timing in the near future by Bazoo. It will also be posted to the Submariners Facebook page and the SAOC E website by Bazoo. The 50th Anniversary of the Commissioning of HMCS Okanagan celebration for 22nd June: Doors open at 1800. Please note that DND Family days are starting on that day and parking may be an issue. More to follow. There will be 50/50 tickets and door prizes from slops. Ticket sales are well under way with over 60 people sending requests to attend with money. Ron Cooper and Brian Lapierre expressed concern if we have enough space to accommodate all the requests as we are going to use both dinning rooms. Greg Hallonquist stated we have to put our food request into MOG5 galley at least two weeks prior to the function. If you are going to attend pass your names to Brian Lapierre tonight. Sylvain will get together with John Meehan after the meeting to plan a better seating setup as at last year's Onondaga's dinner things were a little cramped. The Xmas Dinner is still slated for the 14th December at the Sackville Lions Club. Buster Brown asked if we would be having a guest speaker for the Okanagan's 50th dinner. It was decided to let anyone who wanted to get up and relate dits from their time on Okanagan. Buster stated we should invite a reporter from the Trident newspaper to attend. Buster will contact the editor Virginia and see if this is doable. It was agreed that this is a promising idea. Ron Cooper passed on the joke that was given to him by Brum but not for the minutes. Everyone had a good laugh.

Slops Greg Hallonquist said slops are doing well. Steve St-Amant has the Skimmer Puke Gash Can T-shirts M-XXL (\$16 ea.) as a fund raiser for Valor Place. This is similar to Ronald McDonald House for veterans and families who are undergoing medical treatment like chemo therapy. Steve St-Amant will be donating @ \$600 on SAOC behalf and he will top it up to \$1000. Greg asked if we would be using slops for door prizes for the 50th Dinner. The answer was yes. Greg was pulling Sylvie's chain on the cost of the pins that he had ordered. It was agreed on Option "B" is preferred choice for the Submariner bumper stickers. The more ordered the better price will be received. Greg thanked everyone for their support. Greg will not order any more shirts until he has more orders from people. The salesman informed Greg that he can get two of some items from Golden Silk Screening in Lakeside if required. The SAOC C are no longer doing slops. Sylvie will find out who is handling slops for SAOC W; he did: Chris Parkes is the Slops rep for SAOC W.

Membership Review Brian Lapierre reported there are 50 Life Members, 70 Members paid for 2018 and beyond and 36 members who have not paid dues for 2017. Slinger Wood asked how much is for a life time membership. There is formula on the SAOC E web page to calculate this. Send an email to Brian if interested in the answer.

Old Business BAO Sunday Jim Northrup reported that BAO Sunday went well it was pleasant weather. He and Buster laid the wreath on SAOC E behalf. There was a good turnout by the members at Point Pleasant and at Peregrine RCNA branch. Brian Lapierre reported that someone had defaced the Bonaventure Monument with stickers which had to be scraped off. There are still plaques to be remounted and new ones to be installed once the names have been finalized by the rededication. Brian Lapierre reported that on the march back from the BAO Cenotaph the parade stopped at the Bonaventure Anchor Monument to lay wreaths. The rededication of the Monument will happen on the 23rd Oct 2019 for the 50th anniversary of the explosion on HMCS Kootenay where 9 sailors were lost.

Four members of SAOC E (Ron Cooper, Brum Tovey, Willy Waugh and Taft Jones) went out on HMCS Halifax instead of HMCS Sackville for Commitment of Ashes to Sea off Point Pleasant for BAO especially for Pierre Doutre. Pierre's son Jerry is the Coxn for the Halifax. There were 25 sets of ashes committed to the sea.

50th Anniversary of the Commissioning of HMCS Okanagan Dinner for 22nd June was covered under social. We could get items from the museum and photos to set up a table to display Okanagan artifacts.

Bazoo suggested that we get people to stand up during the meal and relate some dits for entertainment. Buster suggested that we have an MC to get people to stand up and relate tall tales. Buster will bring in the first Okanagan's ship jacket from the sixties. There was a lot of discussion over the spinning of dits and when and where this should happen. We will see how it goes on the day of the races.

SAOC E Summer BBQ had previously been discussed under social. It will be held at the Dube's in Rawdon on the 14 July starting at 1300 hrs.

Stadacona Navy Museum Submarine Display Jim Northrup reported that he had visited the Navy Museum in Stad with Brian Lapierre again and talked with Guy Godin. They went down to D-40 in dockyard to see what other submarine material is in storage but it is in disarray. Jim is asking all who are interested in setting up our own submarine room should come to a meeting on the 5 June at 0900 hrs at the Navy Museum to come up with a plan. Brian Lapierre will send an email and post it on Facebook. Approximately eight members expressed interest in helping. Steve St-Amant has a lot of expertise on setting up museum displays. Steve was the Intelligence Command Historian and started the Intelligence Command Museum in Kingston Ontario. He had several interesting discussions with the Director of the Canadian War Museum. The key is to come up with ten items that would convey your story to the public. So, give it a good think and let's come up with a list of the 10 items that would most convey who we are and what we do.

New Business

AOB Steve St-Amant asked why there was no Submarine Monument or Cairn on the East Coast for the Oberons as there is on the West Coast for the 100th anniversary which has all the names of the West Coast submarines, even the Victoria class. Buster stated there had been a move to get an O Boat for Alderney Landing, but it fell through due to lack of commitment from the city and the navy. George and Terry had gone out west for the dedication of the Submarine Cairn in Naden, but this had all been organised by the SAOC W. Steve St-Amant expressed his concern that we are missing the names of three O Boats which were an important part of Canadian Submarine History. Several people explained that there had been no interest by the East Navy leadership in recent years to spend any money towards any monuments for the navy for the 100th anniversary of the Navy in 2010 or the Submarine 100th in 2014 as they had higher priorities on where to spend money. We need support from us and leadership to get a brass plaque done up and mounted somewhere.

Willy Waugh told us about the Joggings Legion about the display for Vimy Ridge. Willy also brought up a lot submarine pictures from his collection and Brum's to displayed in the legion. The legion was very pleased. The Joggings Legion is next to River Herbert, near Amherst.

Steve St-Amant informed us that we are almost to 1000 members on the Submarine Facebook page. Steve is vetting the new members with four questions: When did you qualify, what submarines did you serve on, are you a family member and what are your interests in the Canadian submarine service is. Steve said we do get some flakes trying to join. Steve asked everyone to answer the questions if not they will be deleted.

Keith Estrabrooks stated that he will not be able to attend the summer BBQ in July. Keith is going in for a full life refit.

Slinger Wood wished to pass on respects from Chris Jones, a former Radio lady. Chris has had a tough time recently with his wife and then his mother-in law passing away.

Taff Jones will be going over to UK with Brum Tovey for Old comrades annual meeting. Taff asked if there is an update of the operational status of the four U Boats now as there a lot of former RN submariners who sailed on them. **Submarine Update** Jamie Lewis informed us that three boats are alongside on the west coast. HMCS Chicoutimi is back from far east deployment to Japan and is due to come to east coast early next year for a refit. Currently HMCS Windsor is on deployment in the Mediterranean and will be back in late June with a change of command next week with Drew Matheson is

taking over from Peter Chu. Windsor will be doing some training till Oct then will go on the lift for a year. Victoria will be ramped for early next year and Corner Brook is in refit on the West Coast. No dates can be given as there is security concern as Jim Northrup can attest to.

Conrad Petrikowski proudly informed us that his son has just graduated from the St Jean Recruit school and is in CFB Borden in PAT platoon awaiting training as a Navy Supply Tech.

Brian Lapierre stated that if there is anyone wanting to pay for the 50th Anniversary Okanagan Dinner he is taking money after the meeting.

Bazoo informed us that he had just been talking to Charlie Lonsdale in Manchester. Charlie is chopping at the bit to come over for our Summer BBQ in July and the USN Pig Roast in Groton. It will be a shorter visit this time as we are all getting older.

Claude Gendron expressed his feelings to the meeting in his usual good nature way: “May the fleas of 1000 camels...” Some things never change!

Mark Pallard informed us that he dropped off some books and magazines (Military Journal, Janes Weekly, Maritime Engineering Journal from the Engineering School for anyone who is interested. As they were going to be recycled.

Terry Chatham informed us that he has booked 7 rooms in Groton for the first weekend in August for the USN Submariners Pig Roast. If you intend on going and want a room to get a hold of him sooner than later as it is first come first served. Terry informed the meeting that when he first saw the cairn on the west coast it only had Rainbow and Grilse on the plaque and a brief description of what they did was be a clockward mouse for the skimmers. This was redone by West Coast dockyard for the 100th Submarine Anniversary in 2014, which added the Victoria class submarines sponsored by SAOC W and championed by Capt (N) Luc Cassivi.

Jim Northrup informed us the Sub Force Chief is still Dave “Cuddles” Bryson but Andy “Radar” Mouton will be replacing him.

John Madison said he knows some stone masons who could build a submarine cairn for us. All we need would the brass plaque and place for the monument. This will be discussed in more detail at the Tuesday meeting at the Navy Museum.

Steve St-Amant stated that he had changed the dolphins on the t-shirts from American to Canadian. Contrary to popular belief, it is not Steve’s shit eating grin on the dolphin. \$16 for cotton and \$19 for the dry fit.

50/50 The 50/50 of \$80 was won by Brian Lapierre. The chairman thanked Iain Hughes for selling the 50/50 tickets in Brum’s absence.

Submariners Prayer was read by Steve McLellan.

Adjournment There being no further business, it was moved by Steve McLellan and seconded by Tim Wood to adjourn the meeting at 20:45 hrs. Carried.

Next MGM will be held at the MOG5 HQ SR mess on the 27th June 2018 at 1930 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B Fraser

SAOC (E) Secretary

Sylvain Rouillard

SAOC (E) Chairman