



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Tuesday 01 April 2025 at
Somme Branch Legion &
Via ZOOM Conference Meeting



The Monthly Meeting of SAOC(E) was held at the Somme Branch Legion, Dartmouth and via Zoom. Emails had been sent out and a posting made on Facebook Group to inform everyone that the meeting would commence at 1830 Halifax time so members could attend or connect.

Opening. The President, Scotty Parsons brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at about 18:34. He greeted all and those connected via Zoom. You can get your own drinks tonight.

Attendance. 16 members & 8 were connected via Zoom. Those attending were Doug Birch, Ron Butchart, Wayne Buzzard, Jeff Cameron, Keith Estabrooks, Robbie Fraser, Greg Hallonquist, Wynn Jones, Brian Lapierre, Matt Larkin, Marc Pallard, Scotty Parsons, Richard Patterson, Boyd Thomas, Nigel Walsworth & Tim Wood. 8 connected via Zoom were Cliff Boettcher, Claude Gendron, Shaun MacDougall, John Meehan, Ian Mitchell, Jim Northrup, George Roach & Mike Sylvain. Regrets received from Pete Braun, Terry Chatham, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Sherm Embree, Gord Hamilton, Jim Harris, Andy Lovasi, Marc Osmond, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, & Willy Waugh.

President. The President would like to welcome everybody to the meeting.

Health and Wellness. A moment of Silence was held to honour fallen and ailing brothers. Our thoughts and prayers to everyone.

Luc Rollin, Willie Waugh, Gary Hopkins, Jon Carpenter, Brian Lapierre, Gilles Poirier, Rob Braye, Lloyd Dyck, Brian Cooper, Joe Haddock, Jake Allen, Jim Gordon & Bill Medynski are all dealing with issues. Susan Hallonquist wife of member Greg Hallonquist is not well. Our thoughts to everyone.

Glenn Steen passed away on 11 January 2018. He served in RN Submarines from 1955-1964. His death information was recently found and added to posterityssake.ca.

David Caldwell passed away on 10 March 2025. He served in all three Oberons. His death information has been added to posterityssake.ca

There will be a Celebration of Life for Ronald (Alvin) Carrier on 03 May 2025 in Riverview, N.B. It is hoped that a few members will journey to attend the Celebration of Life for Alvin.

I was contacted by Neil Lake, a friend of the family of the late Robert "Dolly" Gray. They would like SAOC(E) to conduct a "Crossing of the Bar" Ceremony. No details as yet but probably will be held in June at RA Park here in Halifax.

For those who have passed away the Secretary does up their Obituary Profile and they are posted on www.forposterityssake.ca. They are also sent to Barrie Downer in the UK and they end up in the Barrow Newsletter as well.

Minutes. The 04 March 2025 MGM minutes were distributed by email. The minutes have been adopted. They have been adopted as read & distributed at the MGM. The minutes for the AGM will be adopted at next years AGM.

Correspondence In. Emails received from various Submarine Organizations Newsletters. They have been forwarded to the Membership for Info.

Received an Email from Valerie Braunschweig about the new type of Newsletter. It is called "Run Silent". It is a shortened version now. She wants articles and dits to be published in the Newsletter. Her email is valerieanddick@telus.net.

Correspondence Out Nothing sent out other than letters to members who do not have email. Emails sent out for any correspondence received. Brian continues to write a quarterly report that he sends to Valerie for the West Coast Newsletter.

Letters were mailed out to members who do not have email.

The Secretary has a good contact in the UK. Barrie Downer sends me the latest edition from the Barrow Association. All Obituaries are sent to Barrie Downer so they can be published in the Barrow newsletter.

President. Thanks for everyone attending. He will not be able to attend the Victoria Class BSQ Ceremony on 02 April 2025. Jim Northrup will fill in to present the Certificates & Top Student Award.

Vice President. Nothing to report.

Secretary. Brian Lapierre is recording the meeting and will transcribe it. Effective on the 21 April 2021 our mailing address is **73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**. Most everyone pays their dues with E-Transfers. Please note this and also the address has been changed on the website for the mailing address. Brian stated that his dialogue with the Submarine Force has been good in trying to establish a good working relationship for obtaining information on the Submarine Force and on serving members. Ted Hirtle continues to support the Website and is making progress on it. There are still a few issues that have to be resolved with the website. Sylvain Rouillard is supporting Ted in this process. Ted is having issues with his health. With respect to the website this needs to be addressed.

The feeling at this time is that the Somme Branch Legion has treated us well and we will continue to hold our meetings here.

The Secretary continues to send out letters to those who do not have email.

The Secretary stated that he had sent emails to SAOC(W) and Central Presidents & Slops Chairman about us having Blazer and Beret Badges with absolutely no response from either.

Treasurer. Ron Cooper was no present for the meeting.
He did report that he will give two reports at the next meeting.
Our balance for this meeting was \$16,543.50.

The Secretary still has \$1049.00 in an envelope at home. Will pass to Treasurer for next monthly meeting.

We need to have in the minutes who had signing authority. They would be the President (Scott Parsons), Vice President (Jeff Cameron), Treasurer (Ron Cooper), Secretary (Brian Lapierre) & Entertainment Chairman (Brian Cooper).

The Association would like to congratulate Life Member Peter Wilkins on receiving the Kings Coronation Medal. Well done, Peter.

Buster Brown would be proud.

Social. Brian Cooper is absent. There is still a plan to have our Beer Call on the 15th of April at the Seamus David Pub at 1300. The Secretary will do up a poster and send it out.
The new Pizza fund started in November's meeting covered 90% of the costs so that is going well.

Slops. Claude Gendron is going to check with a supplier in getting perhaps Golf Shirts or T Shirts in the cost and

amount. Perhaps even hats. We should have some in stock.

Membership The latest Statistics for our Membership is as follows:

An email has been out on 08 April 2025 on the informing Members who had not paid for 2025 that their dues are due. Only two members are outstanding.

The Secretary has posted a notice on the Facebook Group canvassing for new members.

The latest Statistics for our Membership is as follows:

Life Members = 49

Regular Membership to date = 88

Total Members = Total 137

Welcome to New Life Member Guy Desrocher

Welcome to New Life Member Troy Musseau

Welcome to New Regular Member Matt Larkin

Welcome to New Regular Member Robert Bergeron

We now have four serving submariners in our Association. Matt Larkin, Reggie Simmons, Anton Carter & John Dunn.

01 April 2025 – No money was sent to Ron Cooper for dues & slops received.

Send Dues via E-Transfer to: lapo48@gmail.com

Send Dues via Canada Post to: **Submariners Association of Canada East, C/O 73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**

All members are reminded that if your dues are up to date then you will not receive any emails about not having paid your dues.

SAOC Central is preparing for their AGM in August of 2025. It will be held on 22 to 24th. Ojibwa Museum has obtained Sea Cans containers which they hope to have in place and have a Grand Opening of displayed items. The 60th Anniversary of Ojibwa is in September 2025.

Old Business. Scotty is still working on the By-Laws. Once our monthly meeting day has been finalized then the By-Laws will be amended to reflect the change.

Rum Project 2025 for the 60 Anniversary of HMCS Ojibwa.

HMCS Ojibwa will celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Commissioning in September 2025. If there is interest perhaps, we could do another Rum Project to Honour her. I thought we would seek out a different distiller for this project. It is in the early stages but want to bring it to the Membership's attention and get a feel for it and see if we want to. Comments are that the Rum produced by Iron Works for the 100th Anniversary was better tasting than the Rum produced by Compass Distillers for the 110th Anniversary. If there is interest, then a committee should be formed to pursue this Project. Interested parties should come forward. We would have the rum available no later than 15 June 2025 to get it sold and be available for the Central AGM in August at Ojibwa.

The Secretary has sent emails to Compass Distillers and Iron Works. We sort of got the brush off from Iron Works and Compass Distillers said to contact them the 2nd week of April.

New Business. I have been in contact with Andy Lovasi. As you know Andy does his Wood burning projects while it is not snowing or raining when he is in Florida over the winter. He is working on a project for the BBQ event in 2025 and has completed the project for the Somme Branch Legion and will bring it to the May Meeting.

In SAOC(E) one of the items that keeps us focused is Anniversary dates of significance. One of these dates is the 60th Anniversary of HMCS Ojibwa on 23 September 2025.

Details have not been confirmed for The Battle of the Atlantic on 04 May 2025 at Point Pleasant Park.

Central is planning on getting a coin made for Ojibwa's 60th. I sent a picture to Pierre Bouchard as they were looking for a picture of Ojibwa Commissioning.

Scotty Parsons is going to an event on 02 April 2025 at Babcock who are having an event for Keith "Red" Lavers. They have invited the family and members of Babcock to attend. Scotty will give a report during May's meeting.

Blazer & Beret Badges. The remaining Blazer & Beret badges have been turned over to Claude for Slops inventory. Brian has 13 Blazer & 12 Beret Badges if someone orders he can fill the order. The Blazer Badge is now on sale for \$23.00 and the Beret Badge is now on sale for \$17.00. This includes Shipping and Handling. The Secretary is still being contacted about sales.



Around the Room. Richard Patterson mentioned that he had breast cancer and had an operation to remove it. So be advised that Breast Cancer is not just for women. Nigel Walsworth mentioned about the Ojibwa 60th and Central's AGM. Not has been received from Central as far as information or invitation. Taft Jones mentioned about Bob Evans (Life Member). He sees him once a week but is having some health issues. Keith Estabrooks mentioned that down at the bar at Somme Branch they would like us to sign in. Matt Larkin joined submarines in 2009. Served in Victoria Class. The Escape Tower, Snr Rates Mess is being renovated, and the Museum will be returning on loan some of the items. He served in Windsor, Corner Brook, Sea Training. He had an experience where he served in the USS Hampton. He flew to Dead Horse Bay, Alaska, onto a bush plane for two hours, land on the ice then onto a helicopter for another hour. Two submarines were punched through the ice. His bag made it. They then dove for two and half weeks to the North Pole, surfaced through the ice, smoking stogies, hitting golf balls, drinking Coors Light. Dove back down back through the Bering Strait. They were supposed to stop in Victoria but didn't and he got off in San Diego for five days. A great trip. John Meehan mentioned that they are happy to host the BBQ but John said he would need help setting up for the 19th of July. With the AGM being held on the 18th. Brian Lapierre mentioned about Ojibwa's maintenance period in June and we should look at donating some money during the May Meeting. Brian also has some labels from the 110th Anniversary Rum for your bar. Jeff Cameron mentioned that the Submarine get together will be held from 1 to 4pm on Saturday in back room of Somme Branch Legion.

50/50 Draw. Won by Keith Estabrooks. \$38.00 to winner, \$37.00 to SAOC.

Submariners Prayer. Was read by Keith Estabrooks.

Adjournment. There being no further business, it was moved by Robbie Fraser and seconded by Wayne Buzzard to adjourn the meeting at 1936 hrs. **Carried.**

The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Somme Branch Legion on Tuesday 6 May 2025 at 1830.

Pizza tonight downstairs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Parsons President 	Brian Lapierre Secretary 
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