



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Tuesday 05 August 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 18:33. He greeted all and those connected via Zoom. You can get your own drinks tonight. He asked that if you go to the Bar please sign in. We would like to welcome Gerald McGovern to the meeting. He is here because he is joining SAOC East

Attendance. 21 members & 3 were connected via Zoom. Those attending were Doug Birch, George Byzewski, Jeff Cameron, Terry Chatham, John Clahane, William Cleal, Robert Clements, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Keith Estabrooks, Robbie Fraser, Brian Lapierre, Andy Lovasi, Gerry McGovern, John Meehan, Marc Pallard, Scotty Parsons, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, Kevin Stephens & Nigel Walsworth. 3 connected via Zoom were Sherm Embree, Shaun MacDougall, & Mike Sylvain. Regrets received from Jim Gordon, Gord Hamilton, Jim Harris, Marc Osmond, Taff Jones, Brum Tovey, Gilles Poirier & Willy Waugh.

President – I 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, Charlie Lonsdale, Gilles Poirier, Rob Braye, Lloyd Dyck, Joe Haddock, Jim Gordon, Rodney Lake & Bill Medynski are all dealing with issues. If anyone knows of a member or submariner with health issues please let the Secretary know.

The Secretary called Lloyd Dyck. He sounded good and is making progress.

The Secretary heard from the daughter of Rob Gray. A Celebration of Life will be held for Rob Gray on Monday the 18 August 2025 from 1300-1600 at the Officers Mess in RA Park. Sylvain Rouillard will carry out the "Crossing of the Bar" Ceremony at the family's request.

John (Jack) Goodman passed away on the 16 July 2025. Served in HMCS Rainbow (CC)

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 03 June 2025 MGM minutes were distributed by email. 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.

Report from SAOC(W) that they are having a hard time filling Executive rolls in their Association. Everyone is getting older and time moves forward. No one is stepping up to the plate to fill the rolls.

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. Again the Secretary wrote a report for the Summer edition and forwarded it to Valerie.

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. We had a busy July. We held our AGM at MOG5. Our first one held there in about 5 years. It went very well. A little hiccup with gate entry but that was resolved. Our summer BBQ went very well. Thanks to John & June Meehan. A total of 63 Members & guests attended. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped making it a success.

Vice President. Welcome everyone. He is sorry he missed the AGM & BBQ but was in Laval Quebec with his son participating in the Francophone games.

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 now has the Slops items with his picture list until a Slops Chairman steps forward.

Welcome to Gerry McGovern who attended this meeting and is joining SAOC(E).

The Secretary would like to thank MS Chris Assancao who obtained an AC unit and got it installed at the Rainbow Gate. It was a hot day in July. Thanks Chris.

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 presented the following.

Financial Report for 05 August 2025.

18 Jul 25 – Closing Balance - \$16,160.34.

29 Jul 25 – Cheque #199 to Brian Cooper for \$523.88 for expenses for AGM & BBQ.

01 Aug 25 - RBC Fee \$3.75, Monthly Fee.

05 Aug 25 – Deposit of \$1,303.50. Dues \$832.00, Slops \$114.00, Rum Raffle \$145.00, Andy Lovasi Raffle \$110.00, 50/50 \$102.50.

05 Aug 25 – Closing Balance - \$16,936.21.

We need to have in the minutes who had signing authority. This was discussed at the Executive Meeting and Ron Cooper has been directed to discuss with the bank to finalize this issue.

Buster Brown would be proud.

Social. Brian Cooper gave his report for the AGM & BBQ. Pizza was delivered to the Rainbow Gate for the AGM. We got a good price for Pizza. The Total for the AGM & BBQ was \$523.88. The next Beer Call is slated for the 22 October at the Seamus David Pub in Dartmouth Crossing. The bottle of 110th Anniversary Rum raffled off was won by George O'Keefe and the plaque donated by Andy Lovasi was won by Jim Harris. A Christmas function around the middle of December.

Slops. Claude Gendron has resigned and turned over inventory to the Secretary and has all the items, Picture catalogue with prices.

We do not have any Minature Double Dolphins. The cost of getting them made through Emblazon would be outrageous. Cost would be \$30.00 to \$40.00 each. Not acceptable.

Membership The latest Statistics for our Membership is as follows:

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 = 53

Regular Membership to date = 89

Total Members = Total 142

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

Thanks to Kevin Stephens in joining the Association. Welcome Kevin.

Marc Osmond upgraded from Regular Member to Life Member.

Luc Rollin upgraded from Regular Member to Life Member.

We have no outstanding Members owing dues for 2025.

29 July 2025 – \$1,303.50 was E-Transferred to the Treasurer from the Secretary for dues, slops, raffles & 50/50 money 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. The President has the By-Laws ready printed. They will be processed as required.

Ojibwa Work Period – Money that SAOC East donated \$200.00 for the Ojibwa Work Period which will be carried in September.

Back in the spring there was talk of someone producing a Coin for the Ojibwa 60th. However I have never heard anymore about this project which was supposed to be done by Central.

The Ojibwa Rum is still on sale at Compass. We need to sell all of this Rum. BUY! BUY! BUY!

Rum Project 2025 for the 60 Anniversary of HMCS Ojibwa.

An email was received from Miranda Parker of Compass Distillers with the draft label they have designed. The label looks good, and the membership will vote on accepting it and to proceed. The only change I see is that SS72 has been added to below the graphic for an Oberon.

Again the date for sales to begin will be on 15 July and will run until sold out. Final date yet to be determined but a date of 15 August has been selected so far.

Posters will be done up to send to the other Associations and members. The code will be Ojibwa72.

1. Price per bottle is \$48.00 taxes included. Agreed upon at the meeting that SAOC East will receive back \$2.00 for every bottle sold.
2. The production is handled by Compass Distillers, all NSLC concerns are also handled by Compass.
3. Order online with a code and you get the preferred price. Compass also does ship for a minimal price. More details to follow.
4. The designated Promo Code for this Project will be Ojibwa72



New Business. 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.

The Secretary mentioned about that perhaps the Association could donate to a worthy cause. This has come about due to so many of our members suffering from various afflictions. A suggestion was made by a member to keep it a local donation. That seems to be the general consensus versus Terry Fox Fund or Canadian Cancer Society.

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.



A few weeks ago, MS Chris Assuncao approached the Secretary about the Association. At the AGM I gave him some membership forms. He seems to have some good ideas. He would like to have SAOC East appoint a Junior Board Member position on the Executive who is a Serving Submariner. The Secretary will send a video link made by Chris for those who wish to view it. Please give the Secretary your thoughts. For those interested we have 33 Members in the Association who have or are serving in Victoria Class. I am hoping to see Chris at the September Meeting. In discussion with him I asked him how he made out with his Membership Forms. His response was "not very good". He said it could be a hard sell and wanted more than a "piece of pizza". I told him that they have to tell us what they expect from the Association. The same they were all invited to the BBQ, none showed up. Discussions to be continued.

Around the Room. Scotty mentioned that the Submarine Gala was successful. Good to see those who attended. Sylvain brought up the issue about the website. In order to host the website with the two other Associations it costs \$502.17 per year split 3 ways. Our share is currently \$167.39. Central has stated that they are not doing anything with their website so will be opting out in 2026. So East and West will be taking care of it. SAOC East would pay one half of the bill. Ted Hirtle did our website and has now turned it over to Andy Lovasi. A meeting will be held on the 6th of August with West, Central and East designated people on the Zoom. Gerry McGovern was welcomed to the Association. The Secretary would like to thank Andy Lovasi for the burning project for John Meehan. People going to Port Burwell as we know is Ron Cooper, Terry Chatham, George Byzewski & Gary Hopkins.

50/50 Draw. Won by Jeff Cameron. \$50.00 to winner which he donated \$30.00 back, \$50.00 to SAOC.

Submariners Prayer. Was read by Jeff Cameron.

Adjournment. There being no further business, it was moved by Robbie Fraser and seconded by John Meehan to adjourn the meeting at 1938 hrs. **Carried.**

The next Monthly Meeting will be held on Tuesday 02 September 2025 at 1830 at Somme Branch Legion.

Pizza tonight downstairs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Parsons	Brian Lapierre
President	Secretary
	