

# Maritime Republic of Eastport

## General Membership Meeting

January 28, 2002

### Minutes

#### 1. Call to Order, Introwduckshuns

Premier Chris Kellogg

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Carrol's Creek Restaurant. Some 25-30 people attended (sign-in sheet attached) and each introduced himself or herself.

#### 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting (October 2001)

Minutes were not read as the previous notetaker was not present.

#### 3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Clarence Goldberg

A formal treasurer's report was not presented as the treasurer was not present. However, Premier Kellogg reported that MRE has \$1865 in the MRE account and \$2200 in the Tug of War account. Tug funds are kept separate as the Tug is a self-supporting activity.

#### 4. Final Results of Tug 2001!

Premier Chris Kellogg

Premier Kellogg presented a one-page Profit & Loss accounting of Tug of War 2001 (attached). Grand total income was \$35,648.98; Grand total Outflow was \$16,074.57; Net, therefore, was \$19,574.41. The Net takes into account amounts not yet paid including an estimated \$400 for sales tax, the second \$500 payment for the event videotape (due to the vendor upon completion), and \$1,116.06 due the City of Annapolis for police work during the Tug. MRE has petitioned the City to forgive the \$1,116.06 and we hope that will take place.

MRE held \$1,000 in reserve as seed money for Tug 2002, and because the MRE treasury was in good shape in 2001, MRE donated \$1,425.59 from the MRE general fund to the Tug. This brought the grand total of funds donated to charity to \$20,000. A more detailed, three-page accounting is available from the Treasurer.

A citizen asked if any charity would be shortchanged if MRE does have to pay the City for police work after all. Premier Kellogg replied that no charity would be shortchanged because there is still money in the Tug account to cover this.

Thank you letters were passed around from two of the benefiting charities: United Cerebral Palsy of Southern Maryland and American Red Cross of Central Maryland. Premier Kellogg said he has received other thank you letters and phone calls. It was a bad year for local charities, he said, so they are especially grateful to MRE for the donations. There was applause for MRE's good deed and for Mike Raab's leadership in Tug 2001 (during a time when he was especially busy with a big project at work). Mike was not present due to catching a bad cold during the Polar Plunge into the Bay on January 26. Photos of his exploits were passed around.

**5. New Site of the Official MRE Warehouse!**

**Premier Chris Kellogg**

There was comment and amusement as to the fact that *The Capital* sent a photographer to cover moving the MRE “Warehouse” (aka shed) from the old home of Love & Action on Fourth Street on December 29. New occupants of the property asked that it be moved. Mary Felter of *The Capital* has taken over chronicling local, neighborhood news and will continue to follow and report on MRE events. She is on the citizens’ mailing list.

The MRE “Warehouse” (aka shed) has been moved to The Dark Side, to Love & Action’s new home in West Annapolis. It is most generous of Love & Action to allow us to keep it there for only \$25 per month. The MRE “Warehouse” (aka shed) was donated by Clarence Goldberg. All present were “sworn to secrecy” as to the location and contents of the MRE “Warehouse”(aka shed).

**6. MRE’s 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**Premier Chris Kellogg**

The actual birthday was January 25, 1998. The idea for MRE, said Kevin Brooks, was hatched at Marmaduke’s in 1997.

In discussing this we went back to the Tug of War. Motion: Elvia Thompson moved and Brooke Perkins seconded a motion to follow up on Josh Cohen’s suggestion that MRE make the target amount of donated funds from next year’s Tug \$21,403 (...as in the zip code)...or any multiple thereof (per Tim Kennedy). Motion passed on a voice vote.

**7. Bridge Run and Dog Day Afternoon 2002**

**Liz West & Cindy Fletcher Holden**

Neither Cindy (bridge run) nor Liz (doggie events) were present so no details were available. A date needs to be set for this event. Joe Shafran said he believes the run across the bridge has been picked up by the running magazines as the world’s shortest sanctioned run and that the magazines think it will be on the third Saturday in March (March 16). Premier Kellogg asked him to confirm this before a date is set.

There was concern about not holding the event on the same day as the Green Beer Races through Eastport. The Green Beer Races are traditionally on Sunday, however, and the MRE event on Saturday. After discussion, however, it appeared to be a good idea to have the MRE event on the same weekend as the Green Beer Races as we could have great fun spoofing the Races. Marsha Kellogg called Ruth Chris’ Steak House to see if a date for the Green Beer Races has been set. It has not.

**8. Nominating Committee for MRE 2002-2003 Officers & Board Members**

Premier Kellogg announced the make-up of the Committee:

- Laura Gumula, Chair     [willieg@annapolis.net](mailto:willieg@annapolis.net)
- Kevin Brooks            [rkbrooks@aol.com](mailto:rkbrooks@aol.com)
- Mike Raab                [raabdog@msn.com](mailto:raabdog@msn.com)
- Judy Buddensick        [judybudd01@msn.com](mailto:judybudd01@msn.com)
- Bob Taylor               [TAIrobert@aol.com](mailto:TAIrobert@aol.com)
- Elvia Thompson         [elvia@stellarpresentations.com](mailto:elvia@stellarpresentations.com)
- Josh Cohen                [josh@maryland.com](mailto:josh@maryland.com)

He added that the new MRE administration will take office on April 1 and urged everyone to contact the committee members to express their interest or opinions about the new board and officers. Premier

Kellogg also said that anyone may attend the committee's meetings. The first one will be on February 12. He added that in the past nominating committees' slates have been accepted by the citizens.

**9. Presenting the Tug 2002 Chairpersons! Ready to Rock n' Roll!**

Premier Kellogg introduced Jane Cox, who will co-chair the Tug with Chris Earls, who was not present. Chris will take the lead roll, as project management is his field. Premier Kellogg added that Pam and Jim Finlay, owners of Sean Donlon's restaurant, will lead the Annapolis Defense in the Tug of War this year. He predicted that MRE's signature event would likely be "more rivalrous" this year because of it.

The date of Nov. 2 was not confirmed because we want to make sure Nov. 2 does not fall on the date of a Navy football home game. The Tug date will be on the Web soon. (Note: Checking later we found that there is no Navy football on Nov. 2, so that will be the Tug 2002 date.)

Premier Kellogg encouraged everyone to help Jane and Chris.

**10. Other Announcements or Old Business**

None

**11. New MRE Business**

**a. Let's Change Our Letterhead**

Premier Kellogg said an anonymous citizen suggested that all of MRE's materials read "Eastport, Maryland 21403" rather than "Annapolis, Maryland 21403." He said he has been doing this for over a year and that the Postal Service has no problem with this. Kevin Brooks added that all Them Eastport Oyster Boys' materials read "Maritime Republic of Eastport, Maryland 21403" and that there has been no problem with this.

Motion: Someone moved that MRE go ahead with this, and Jane Cox seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Joking and discussion followed that a press release be issued to this effect and that MRE ought to design a stamp or Easter Seal-type stamps as fund-raisers. Illustrator Jim Hunt was asked if he would consider designing these. He said he would. This issue is likely to be brought up again later.

Tim Kennedy said that if the political/emotional climate is right, MRE ought to issue "War Bonds" as fund-raisers before the Tug. This issue is likely to be brought up again later. Premier Kellogg added that events in the world did not make it appropriate to use "Slaughter Across the Water" last year, but that the slogan would be resurrected this year if appropriate.

Elvia Thompson suggested that MRE have its own microbrew. Kevin Brooks said that some thought had been given some time ago to an Otter Creek variety to be entitled "East Porter." Dick Franyo said his bar (Boatyard Bar & Grill) is the distributor's best customer and that he would follow up on this. Tim Kennedy said it is possible to print our own labels for a beer such as this.

Premier Kellogg said this is just the "fresh zaniness" MRE needs.

Brooke Perkins said MRE ought to bring back the MRE Passports as fund-raisers in conjunction with the Eastport Business Association, since MRE was established as a way to help Eastport

businesses. The passports contained discount coupons for businesses in Eastport. This issue is likely to be brought up again later.

Nancy Crane asked if the Ball and the Reenactment would take place this year. Premier Kellogg said no, that these events did not get together this year.

**b. Sovereign Motorcars' Idea: Official MRE Tree**

Premier Kellogg said the new owners of Eastport Shell (now Sovereign Motorcars), Chris Lore and Pat Senatro, have suggested that MRE buy a living Christmas tree to be planted permanently on the corner of their property. They would care for it during the year, and MRE would decorate it for the holidays, thus eliminating the need to buy a tree every year.

Rick Kennedy volunteered to look into obtaining a living tree for this. He said its planting would be a good excuse for a party.

Motion: Chris Kellogg moved and Nancy Crane seconded that MRE obtain and plant a Christmas tree on Sovereign Motorcars property. Motion passed on voice vote.

It was suggested that Rick approach Homestead Gardens for a tree at no cost and Premier Kellogg suggested that this happen before spring.

**c. Bring Back the Eastport Parade!**

Dick Franyo suggested that MRE consider putting on a zany parade in the summer. He said he would be willing to fund the cost of City police work for this. Brooke Perkins added that before MRE, before EBA, this event was held around May Day. He said there were Vespas doing wheelies in the parade. It was also held in conjunction with the Spring Fling at one point.

Dick and Brooke will talk with Doug Lambourne, who was the "founding father" of the first parades, to see what can be done. Nancy Crane added that the date should be set so that it does not interfere with Eastport-a-Rockin.' Premier Kellogg said it would be great if the parade would end at the elementary school with a BBQ put together by the Boatyard Bar & Grill. Dick Franyo (Boatyard's owner) said ok.

**d. Eastport-located Christmas in April House**

Brooke Perkins explained that Christmas in April (projects to rehabilitate/repair homes of elderly, low-income, disabled people) would be working on a house in Eastport on the last Sunday in April (April 27). It costs \$3000 to sponsor a house. Professionals are hired to oversee and direct the work of the volunteers. Brooke said the Eastport Civic Association is interested in helping but that it cannot afford the entire \$3000. Brooke is asking MRE to help financially and with volunteers. He will also approach the Eastport Business Association. He said they can also raise money via Build-a-Thon pledges. No decision was made on this.

**e. Other New Business**

Elvia Thompson asked if there is interest among MRE runners to run the Governor's Bay Bridge race as an MRE unit on April 28. She said it would fun to have a group carry the MRE flag across the bridge and run in some sort of funny MRE cadence. No decision was made on this.

Elvia Thompson asked if the “Whitebread” race could be brought back with the arrival of the Volvo Ocean Race boats in April. When the race was the Whitbred, MRE held a one-hour fun race called the “Whitebread” to humorously commemorate the Whitbred. Cindy Fletcher Holden ran this. Elvia suggested that an inflatable dinghy race would be easier to run than a small sailboat regatta. There was discussion of asking the Volvo crews to participate and decorating the dinghies in the décor of each of the ocean racing boats. No decision was made on this, but Kevin Brooks suggested Elvia contact Jeff Holland (public relations person for the Volvo boats’ stay in Annapolis) and follow up on this idea.

Kevin Brooks said MRE should thank Dean Johnson and Tom Roskelly for their support of MRE over the years with a plaque or something. Premier Kellogg said that Bob Slaff had recommended and MRE citizens approved giving former Mayor Johnson one of Cindy’s prints. It is framed and ready for presentation. A memento is needed for Tom. Kevin will follow up on this with the help of the Executive Committee.

## **12. The Long-Awaited Martimus Red Windloc Jacket Drawing!**

A number of chances to win the \$198 jacket were sold. The winning number belonged to Elvia Thompson.

Premier Kellogg said Bags by Mimi is going out of business as the owners are going cruising. The business is for sale, and, due to that, there is availability of Mimi’s 3000 sq.ft. of space at the Spa Creek docks, consisting of about half office space and half warehouse space.

There being no more business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Schedule of upcoming meetings is below. All will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Carrol’s Creek unless otherwise noted.

Meetings: February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15.

Somewhat Respectfully Submitted,  
by Elvia H. Thompson