

Musings & Minutes

Club Historian's Fred Hecklinger provides the following historical musings or meeting minutes transcribed during the Eastport Yacht Club's inaugural months.

A Concise History

As I suggested in the December 1999 *View from the Bridge*, that since the year 2000 will be the twentieth year of the existence of the EYC it is my intent to present a history of the EYC. This will be rather easy because I was there and I have all of the minutes from the early meetings of the Founders and I have many notes that I made at that time.

I believe that we can start with the fact that in October 1975 F. Michael Kaufman and Robert A. Ladd formed a partnership "Kaufman and Ladd" with the intent of securing a living by serving as navel architects and engineers. Both partners had considerable experience in this field and indeed they were quite successful in their endeavors and still are to this day although they are no longer in partnership but that is not the story that concerns us at this time.

What is important is that they had a substantial office at 222 Severn Avenue with various large tables on which they intended to create their designs.

There was a long substantial table down the middle of the main room and this table was perhaps 12' long and 5' wide. This table was quite high so that one could draw on it without bending over and there were several stools to go around the table. This table also served wonderfully well for eating lunch, when the time came, and what with various sailing types passing through town the table served extremely well as a bar when someone back from a trip would have a little jingle and bring in a case of beer or maybe they had been to St Barts and had some extra Mount Gay Rum.

By Friday evening a goodly crowd would have gathered and some kind soul would provide some cheese and crackers or pretzels and then the girls got wind of all this and this they got a competition going about who could make the best crab dip and whatever and then there were more contributions and these gatherings became the social event of the week in Eastport.

The number of persons present at any Friday evening were, I believe, never in excess of fifty but from 1975 to 1979 the total number of persons that had attended a Kaufman and Ladd Friday Night certainly exceeded one thousand and many of these, you must remember, were from away and many of these were from overseas.

When it came time for the Annapolis-Newport Race or the QYC Fall Series, there was no more room at Kaufman and Ladd and among the regulars there were eleven persons who selected themselves to form the steering committee for the creation of the EASTPORT YACHT CLUB. These persons are here listed alphabetically.

Robert Allen

Ross Glover

Michael Kaufman

Ivon Paulin

Gene Ambo

Jeffrey Goldring

Glenn D. Klakring

Tom Bell-Wright

John Crummey

Frederick E. Hecklinger

Robert A. Ladd

It is my intention starting in February 2000's *View from the Bridge* to present a brief biography of these persons and let it be known what they are doing now.

What is presented here was taken from the original minutes of the first meeting of the steering committee with no corrections.

EASTPORT YACHT CLUB

MEETING OF STEERING COMMITTEE

DATE: May 29, 1980

LOCATION: Office of Kaufman and Ladd, 222 Severn Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403

PURPOSE: To discuss the steps to establish a social club named Eastport Yacht Club

PRESENT: Robert Allen, Gene Ambo, John Crummey, Jeffrey Goldring, Frederick Hecklinger, Mike Kaufman, Glenn Klakring, Rob Ladd, Ivon Paulin, Tom Bell-Wright

ABSENT: Ross Glover

Meeting commenced at 1900

Mike Kaufman nominated temporary chairman of the Steering Committee. Approved by all.

The crab mallet approved as the official gavel. Approved by all.

Fred Hecklinger nominated Keeper of the Log (in spite of his poor abilities at the 3 R's). Approved by all.

Bob Allen nominated as Treasurer because he has a safe. Approved by all.

John Crummey and Glenn Kalkring nominated as Legal Counsel since they were not present at the moment. Approved by all.

A motion was made that after the membership is established, the membership will elect officers at the direction of the Steering Committee. Approved by all.

A motion was made to make the first action to be for Legal Counsel to have Eastport Yacht Club, Limited, chartered with the State of Maryland, U.S.A. Approved by all.

A motion was made to have a mailing address of:

c/o Kaufman & Ladd
222 Severn Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403

Approved by all.

A motion was made to use the banking services of Farmers National Bank, Annapolis, MD. Approved by all.

A motion was made to have all members of the Steering Committee present ideas for the basic objectives of the Eastport Yacht Club at the next meeting. Approved by all.

A motion was made to have all Steering Committee members who desire to present an idea for an EYC club burgee at the next meeting. All those who do not must refrain from making nasty comments of those who do. Approved by all.

A motion was made that the membership is to be individual and in male-female relationships if only one is a paying member that one only can discuss policy and vote, the other to be only a guest. Approved by all.

A motion was made to limit membership to human beings of 18 years or older. The membership committee will be unknown to the general membership at least in the formative procedures. Approved by all.

A motion was made to have terms of office of all officers to be limited to one year. Approved by all.

A motion was made to follow what are considered to be basic yacht club procedures as are considered standard in the USA at this time. Approved by all.

A motion was made that decisions of the Steering Committee shall pass with a majority of the eleven members, meaning six head. Approved by all.

A motion was made to have the next meeting at Kaufman & Ladd office at 1900 on 3 June 1980. All Steering Committee members to leave \$10.00 to establish treasury. Approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 2115 to Marmadukes.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick Hecklinger
Temporary Keeper of the Log

Here presented are the minutes of the second meeting of the steering committee with no corrections.

EASTPORT YACHT CLUB LIMITED

MEETING: June 5, 1980

LOCATION Kaufman and Ladd, Annapolis, Md.

All 11 members of the Steering Committee were present, although somewhat late.

Michael Kaufman presided as acting Chairman of the Steering Committee.

The idea of a tradition was presented by Fred Hecklinger: that the senior officer of the Eastport Yacht Club shall at the commencement of every business meeting open a bottle of Mount Gay. This idea was approved for the moment.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 1715.

Minutes read and approved.

The objectives for the Eastport Yacht Club were presented and discussed.

Various suggestions were put forth and presented to our legal counsel for consideration. Legal counsel will put it into suitable manner to be presented to the State for obtaining a Charter.

Burgee ideas were presented and one by Mr. Kaufman was approved. It is said to represent the draw of the Eastport Bridge. Colors have not been approved.

Dues of \$10.00 were collected by Robert Allen.

Legal counsel discussed by-laws. Legal counsel is to write by-laws and present at future meeting.

A motion was made to have a charter membership limited to individuals by the Steering Committee on July 17, 1980. Each Steering Committee member is to present a list of any members of suitable candidates of the type desired. Approval will be made at the meeting.

Approved by all after much discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 2100.

Next meeting to be June 10, 1980 at Kaufman and Ladd to discuss burgee, purpose, by-laws.

Ambo to provide the bottle.

It is not my intent to continue to present the complete minutes of steering committee meetings but the one for July 17, 1980 is brief and of interest.

It was on this evening that we reviewed the names that were presented by the individual steering committee members to determine who would be on the invitation list to be charter members. The total invited had to be limited to the number of persons who could be fit into the second floor of Marmaduke's which was 250 persons and that took some "paring" away at the list. You will notice that the meeting did not adjourn until after midnight. I do not recall if we visited Marmaduke's afterwards.

DATE: 17 July 1980

LOCATION: Office of Kaufman & Ladd

ABSENT: Ross Glover

Meeting commenced at 1930.

Minutes read.

A motion was made to accept the EYC burgee, white field with red border. Approved by all present.

This meeting was basically to select individuals to invite for membership to EYC. All members of the steering committee presented their nominations. Nominations listed on 3x5 cards.

Motion to have wives or lovers of steering committee members to be invited charter members. Approved by all.

Motion to discuss the tabled members individual names. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 2440.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Hecklinger
Keeper of the Log

During the summer and into the fall of 1980, the eleven members of the steering committee met as a group weekly and various sub-committees met at other times. Most of what was discussed and decided was rather routine as is to be expected and sometimes otherwise.

I see on **July 24, 1980** “Meeting commenced 2000. Cap thrown out the window.” This, of course, would refer to the Mount Gay Rum bottle cap. There was also that day discussion about colors of the borders of the EYC burgee, “The color of the border shall match the seal of the Mount Gay bottle.” Now everybody knows that the seal of the Mount Gay bottle today is sort of a purple color but in those days it was a nice red. I am glad that our burgee is not purple.

On **August 28, 1980**, “Motion was made to have the Charter Membership Meeting on 13 October, 1980, with cocktails starting at 7:30 PM, followed by the meeting at 8:30. Approved by all.” A Sunday evening was selected so as not to interfere too much with sailing.

On **September 23, 1980** at a steering committee meeting, “By secret ballot and general vote, the following officers were selected by the steering committee.” This slate of officers were to be presented to the charter members gathered at Marmadukes on October 13, 1980. These officers were to serve until the membership became so organized that they could vote in the officers in the standard manner.

Commodore	Michael Kaufman
Vice Commodore	Glenn Klakring
Rear Commodore	Ivon Paulin
Fleet Captain	Rob Ladd
Keeper of the Log	Tom Bell-Wright
Treasurer	Bob Allen
Past Commodore	Fred Hecklinger
Race Committee	Jeff Goldring
House Committee	Gene Ambo
Membership Chairman	John Crummey

A motion was then made and approved that nominations for charter membership be closed.

A brief biography of the eleven founders of the Eastport Yacht Club in alphabetical order.

Robert L. Allen; “Bob” Born in New Jersey, was an active sailor and was at Annapolis with Essex Credit Corp, Yacht Financing. He was then with Essex Credit at Newport Beach and now at Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he lives with Jan, his wife of 15 years and two children, at Cooper City. He is no longer a member of EYC.

Eugene Ambo; “Gene” Of Japanese parents but born and raised in Southern California and later to Chicago where he was in photography and very active in sailboat racing. He was and is

very active at ocean racing often as the navigator. Here at Annapolis, he for many years ran the Prestophoto on Forest Drive. Again living at Chicago, he is no longer a member of EYC.

Thomas Bell-Wright; “Tom” Born at Twickenham on the River Thames in England, he for many years served as professional in various racing and cruising yachts on both sides of the Atlantic and elsewhere. I happened to meet him in Trinidad in 1974 and we made a passage from there to St Thomas in a recreation of the 1851 schooner “AMERICA.” Having gained a degree in engineering here he now works at Dubai, U.A.I. on the Persian Gulf where he lives with his wife Karen and son Mikey and daughter Katie. he is a non resident member of EYC.

John Crummy; “John” An active sailor, he served for many years as a lawyer here at Annapolis. In perhaps 1990, he moved to Phoenix, Arizona where he is active as a lawyer and lives with his wife, of many years, Diana. John is no longer a member of EYC.

T. Ross Glover; “Roscoe” Born and raised in Australia where he was an active sailor, he arrived on our shores in the early 1970’s and was very active in ocean racing and was sailing in the SORC. He came north with me from Florida in “BANDIT” in 1972 and after more sailing he settled here and is a partner with Ivon Paulin in Oceana Ltd. a distributor of marine products. He is no longer active with the EYC but is a member of the AYC.

Jeffrey S. Goldring; “Jeff” Born on Long Island, NY, he from early on has been active in sailing and ocean racing and settled here and was employed in the sailing program at the US Naval Academy. He then went with the Naval Research Laboratory here at North Severn but that recently moved to the Philadelphia Navy Yard although he still resides here with his wife Carol and daughter Elizabeth. It was Jeff who organized the first Soloman’s Island Race and was the first race committee chairman. He is no longer active with the EYC.

Frederick E. Hecklinger; “Fred” Born at Baltimore, MD, has since age sixteen been able to support himself by “messin about in boats” and was for many years the professional in many ocean racing and cruising yachts and have been involved in the recreation of several historical vessels and is now considered as a marine surveyor. He has been based at Annapolis since 1960 and has been with wife Bobbie since 1975. Fred is an active member of the EYC and has served as “Historian” since he appointed himself while serving as “acting commodore” during the first meeting of the EYC in October, 1980.

F. Michael Kaufman; “Mike” Born at Philadelphia, PA, he early on got into boats through his father at Gibson Island. While quite young, he decided that he was going to become a naval architect and he did so and he still is with his own business Kaufman Design, Inc. Besides sailing yachts, he is busy with traditional power boat and commercial vessel designs. Mike was the chairman of the original steering committee at the meetings held at the offices of Kaufman and Ladd during 1980 and then served for two years as Commodore. He is married to Nancy and they are very active at the EYC.

Glenn D. Klakring; “Glenn” Born at Annapolis, he has always been active at sailing and somehow got to marry Mike Kaufman’s sister Lucy. As a lawyer, he was active here at Annapolis until he moved with Lucy over to Easton on the Eastern Shore. He is no longer a member of the EYC but is a member of the Tred Avon Yacht Club.

Robert A. Ladd; “Robb” Born at New York City, he learned, in part, to sail in the 1910 built NY50 “SPARTAN” on Long Island Sound and has since been active at ocean racing and cruising. He determined to become a naval architect and now has his own business Robb Ladd Yacht Design and is in partnership with Bill Storey in building the Oxford Express Motor Yacht. He was, of course, the other partner in Kaufman and Ladd where the original steering committee meetings took place in 1980. Robb and his wife Kelly very much continue to be active as a members of the EYC.

Ivon Paulin; “Ivon” Born at Royal Oak, Michigan, he was very active in sailing on the Great Lakes until he visited Annapolis in 1977 to buy a 35’ Olsen Yawl which he and his then wife Barbara took back to Michigan. The problem was, however, that they were so taken by the Chesapeake Bay that they left their home and moved here rather shortly thereafter. He soon got into a partnership with Ross Glover in Oceana as a distributor of marine products. Ivon is also the Government Programs Manager for Mustang Survival of Vancouver, BC. Ivon and his present wife Sue live at Annapolis and are very active with the EYC.

Now that I have introduced the eleven founders of the EYC, I will proceed with what really got the steering committee meetings going.

Mike Kaufman and I, and perhaps others, were taking some refreshments at The Chart House, during the **winter of 1980**, when he mentioned that the Maryland Capital Yacht Club had been organized as a front for the condominiums of that name that were developed at the foot of Chesapeake Avenue and would it not be a shame if some other developer would pick up the name Eastport Yacht Club and use it as a front for another condominium in Eastport. So we thought it best to get organized ourselves and secure the name Eastport Yacht Club and that is what we did. We asked some of the eleven founders and then others came forward when the talk spread along the waterfront and the first meeting was on May 29, 1980 and next month I will present the minutes of that first meeting.

There will certainly be other persons who have their own versions of the developments of the idea of the EYC and those persons are encouraged to present them. For Mike and me, however, “That’s our story and we’re sticken to it.”

EASTPORT YACHT CLUB

Minutes of the Charter Membership Meeting of the
Eastport Yacht Club held at Marmaduke’s Pub on

October 13th 1980

Meeting convened at 20.20.

PRESENT: All members of the Steering Committee and about 120 others.

Fred Hecklingor as Acting Past Commodore introduced the members of the Executive Committee.

Mike Kaufman delivered a speech, a transcript of which is attached hereto.

Questions were invited from the floor, and a few points clarified. Peter Clempnor suggested that a show of hands would show how much enthusiasm there was - and it did.

In response to discussion from the floor, the Executive Committee moved, voted and approved a motion that the Charter Membership be closed November 15th 1980.

Proposed Ivon; Seconded Glenn.

The meeting was closed at 21.15, and enrollment forms and fees were collected.

Nine members paid up to March 31st.

Thirty paid initiation fees.

Twenty-one enrolled, but have not paid.

Three applications were received from non-invitees.

Respectfully submitted

TOM BELL-WRIGHT K.O.T.L.

The following is the word-for-word address given on Oct. 13, 1980 by EYC's first commodore, Mike Kaufman. At this first official EYC meeting, Mike is inviting those in attendance to become Charter Members.

Thank you Fred, and good evening.

Our objective this evening is to inform you of the reason for, and the purpose of, the Eastport Yacht Club. The members of the Steering Committee have been meeting since May to establish the framework for this yacht club.

We hope to elicit your support in the form of membership and active participation.

The Eastport Yacht Club was formed to fulfill a need. That need as we perceive it is to establish a Club which provides its' membership with the benefits and amenities of a traditional yacht club, while at the same time encouraging innovation and spontaneity.

As we progress we hope that our club will become known as one with a special vitality and spirit, a club that is not afraid to entertain new ideas and programs which are beneficial to the sport that brings so much enjoyment to us all. . .

If we are to succeed in the formation and continued growth of the EYC we must have one thing, and that is an involved membership.

The foundation for that membership is gathered here tonight. You are the most important factor in the success of this Club.

We have tonight a group of people that we believe want something different, something fresh. If that is true, then what the club needs from you is your participation.

One of the goals of the Eastport Yacht Club is to become known as a club that is first and foremost responsive to its membership. We feel that the people selected for charter membership are conducive to the achievement of that goal. This is to be your club, waiting to respond to your ideas, reflecting your concept of what a yacht club should be.

One important item that any yacht club needs, regardless of it's concept, is money. The fee for charter members has been set at \$25.00. Annual resident membership dues have been set at \$100.00. First year dues for charter members from now to April 1, 1981, has been pro - rated so as to be \$25.00. Junior and non-resident dues have not be set. Regular members will be accepted at our first annual meeting in March 1981. Initiation fee for regular membership has been set at twice the annual membership fee.

For the many friends we have who pass through on a seasonal basis, we have set up a non-resident membership.

All proposed dues and assessments from this point on will be put before the membership for approval. We would, however, like to point out that we are actively pursuing a permanent home for the Eastport Yacht Club. When that facility is located it will require the financial support of the membership. As with any such major purchase, dues and assessments would be subject to the approval of the membership in accordance with the club by-laws.

We have no intention of pricing anyone out of the EYC . . . We must however face the reality of the cost of establishing a club of this type. While we have endeavored to keep the cost of charter membership as low as possible, this fee may not be indicative of future costs.

A club which is to continue to be vital and progressive must recognize and draw upon one of its' greatest assets - its youth. We want to encourage our younger members to be active in both racing and social functions. We look forward to their input and enthusiasm. We would like to see a junior sailing program responsive to the wishes of the junior sailors. They are the future of the Eastport Yacht Club. By promoting junior membership and participation we are insuring a continuous source of active and involved members.

The Club of course has plans to be very active in organized racing at every possible level. We are currently seeking affiliation with C B Y R A and hope to achieve provisional status by the end of this year.

The Eastport Yacht Club was first alternate in the Lloyd Phoenix Regatta. Unfortunately, all the primary clubs showed up. Next year with a little more preparation time, we hope to be a primary club. Given the caliber of sailors we have gathered tonight, we have the potential to win a great deal of silver under the Eastport Yacht Club Burgee.

In order to form this club, We need your dreams, your ideas, energy, enthusiasm, and your involvement. We need doers. We need you.

We would now like open the meeting to discussion from the floor. Any questions

CLOSING

One final word:

You all know some or all of the members of the steering committee. You know we have committed ourselves to our businesses and occupations and that we have a record of producing positive results. We have the same feeling of commitment to the formation of this club.

We know that you, people we have asked to be involved in forming what can be one of the best yacht clubs in the world, people we enjoy being with and sailing with, are the same people necessary to the formation of the Eastport Yacht Club.

This club cannot be formed by the committee here alone. We ask for your involvement and commitment. Please help up make the Eastport Yacht Club a continued reality.

If you have any further questions, the beer and the club officers are now on tap.

Eastport Yacht Club has officially opened its doors to membership. History has been made. History continues to be made.