

Chesapeake Paddler



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January/February 2005

Full Moon Over Glass: A Night Paddle To Remember

By Rob Castle



The Chesapeake Paddlers Association's Pirate groups generally hang up their booties when Daylight Savings Time ends. While there are still quite a few members who will paddle right on through the remainder of the fall season and into winter, the regular meetings and paddles come to an end. The Pirates of Pier 7 typically practice the "paddle to eat" ritual every Wednesday.

One week before the dreaded end of Pirates season, a few of us sat around the picnic tables

thinking of some ways to extend our paddling activities. We decided that we would reverse the mantra of paddle then eat, and that the first end-of-season outing would be a night paddle. The announcements were posted on the CPA Forum and on the email list.

I was initially uneasy knowing that eating before paddling could be considered heresy by many. But then I reasoned that we were Pirates, and Pirates don't need no stinkin' mantra! With that small hurdle cleared, I planned to show

up at the appointed hour, eat first and paddle as the day slowly turned to night.

On the day of the night paddle, I had to work a little later than usual. That was okay because the object was to arrive close to sundown. It was a liberating feeling not having to worry about making it back to the launch before all the food was devoured. I pulled up to the launch area at Pier 7 and was greeted by...one person. I recognized two other vehicles and saw that their owners had already launched and were nowhere in sight. We debated briefly whether we would go paddling or not, but by 6:15 pm we were on the water and stroking toward the mouth of the South River.

As we launched, the full moon—huge and orange—was clearing the eastern horizon through a thin veil of low clouds. There was only a hint of wind stirring and the river was almost still as a pond. We spotted only a scattering of boats that appeared to be trolling the deeper water of the river, oblivious to our passing. We discussed our paddle plan briefly and decided that we would just paddle ahead until we felt like turning back. We

CLASSIFIEDS

Ads dated 3 months before the date of this issue will be pulled unless a new request is received by the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. And if it has sold...tell us!

Advertising Rates:

We accept display advertising that relates to the interest of our readers.

Monthly rates are as follows:

Size cost wide x deep (col)
 1/8 page \$20 2.4" x 3.5" (1)
 1/4 page \$32 4.9" x 4.7" (2)
 1/2 page \$50 7.5" x 4.7" (3)
 Full page \$80 7.5" x 9.75" (3)

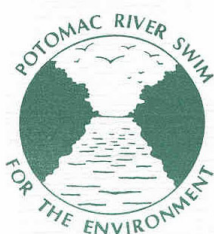
A 5% discount will be given for ads supplied as electronic files in acceptable formats (i.e. .tif, .gif, .jpeg, bit-map). Email or call for more information and for 10-month discount. See advertising contact in masthead.

Public service announcement and personal ads to sell kayaks/accessories are printed at no charge; non-members pay \$10 for 3 months.

FOR SALE: Top of the Line Current Design Caribou S. 17 ft 10 in. x 21 3/4 in. Kevlar, only 46 lbs. Skeg - my "guest" boat. Used 50 hours in 3 years. Like new. List \$3,100. Paid \$2,750. Sell \$1,850. Vincent Gerardi 410-810-2999 (11/04)

FOR SALE: The best kayak car, 1987 Volvo 240DL, miles 120k, 4 door, excellent condition, \$3,000 OBO. Call Julie 410-626-0241 (11/04)

SAVE THIS DATE:
 Saturday, June 4, 2005
 Potomac Swim Support
 Details coming soon

**SCHEDULE FOR 2005 CHESAPEAKE PADDLER**

Chesapeake Paddler is published 10 times a year, with combination issues in November/December and January/February. The deadline for submitting copy is usually the 15th of the preceding month as follows:

Issue	Deadline for Copy
March 2005	February 15, 2005
April 2005	March 15, 2005
May 2005	April 15, 2005

Have an idea for an article, or is there information you would like to see in the newsletter? Email Danielle at news_editor@cpakayaker.com or call her at 703-208-0812.

THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLERS ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association is to provide a way for people to enjoy sea kayaking within the Chesapeake Bay area and to promote safe sea kayaking practices through educating the local sea kayaking community and the interested public.

Steering Committee:

Coordinator—Barry Marsh, 410-728-4016, coordinator@cpakayaker.com

Membership, subscriptions—Steve Lindeman, 410-827-7871, PO Box 341, Greenbelt, MD 20768, membership@cpakayaker.com

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Treasurer—John Blackburn, 301-587-7142, treasurer@cpakayaker.com

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Potomac Pirate King—Dick Rock, 703-780-6605

Patuxent Pirate King—Dan Wells, 410-414-2660, pirates_patuxent@cpakayaker.com;

Don Polakovics, 301-866-0437, pirates_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com

Georgetown Pirate Queens—Cyndi Janetzko, 703-276-2728; Dave Biss, 703-276-2728; David Moore, 301-445-3273; pirates_georgetown@cpakayaker.com

Baltimore Pirate King—Bob Huber, 410-335-0994, bobhuber@comcast.net

Algonkian Pirate King—James Song, 703-375-4754, pirates_algonkian@cpakayaker.com

MEMBERSHIP: Subscription to the Chesapeake Paddler is included with membership. Membership is \$10/year or \$20/2 years. Send checks or changes of membership information to CPA, PO Box 341, Greenbelt, MD 20768. DO NOT send them to the newsletter editors.

DEADLINES: Closing date for articles, trip reports, information and advertisements is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. The editors retain the right to edit or not to print any submitted material. See advertising information in the Classifieds section.

The Chesapeake Paddler is published monthly, approximately March–December and may be reprinted whole or in part if credit is given to this newsletter and any identified author (unless an article is specifically copyrighted), and a courtesy copy is sent to the Managing Editor.

Coordinator's Column

Happy New Year!

2005 will be another great year for the CPA. We'll start the new year with two Trip/Event Planning Meetings—one at my home in Baltimore, Maryland on January 22nd and one at Dave Biss and Cyndi Janetzko's home in Falls Church, Virginia on February 19th (see page 4 for details). We'll hold a Steering Committee meeting before the Maryland Trip/Event Meeting.

Everyone is encouraged to come to the meetings to meet other paddlers and to help chart the CPA's course. We'll discuss trips and events we'd like to hold in 2005, then get them listed on the CPA calendar. Please start thinking about trips and events you'd like to organize, lead or volunteer to help with. I hope to see you at the meetings.

2005 will see the return of many CPA favorites, like SK102 at Lake Anna (May 13-15), the weekly Piracies and the Bay Swim support, plus tons of new trips and events.

We're planning a new "Skills for Safe Trips" class (March 26) and a swim support class. We'll open the CPA Store so you can pay your dues and order CPA logo gear online.

We'll add new members and increase awareness of the CPA, our fun activities, and safe paddling around the Bay and beyond. There are still a few paddlers out there who don't yet know all we have to offer!

I'd like to thank everyone for your management of and participation in CPA trips and events as planners, leaders, volunteers

and paddlers. Special thanks to everyone working behind-the-scenes to make the club and our events run so smoothly. As it always has, the CPA will continue to rely on our members and to offer great paddling and skills training opportunities for everyone.

Feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or questions. I look forward to working and paddling with you in 2005!

Happy, safe and warm paddlin', and see ya on the water!

Barry Marsh
CPA Coordinator, 2005

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had no real deadline to keep. As we traveled down the river toward the Chesapeake Bay, we chatted about various topics, but every few minutes one of us would comment on the absolute perfect conditions and the awesome beauty of this night. Paddling at night, especially under a rising full moon, one sees things much differently. Along the way, we could see the unmistakable white forms of a small flock of swans floating quietly in the night and reflecting the brilliant glow of the moon. We passed a

large raft of ducks sitting on the water's surface, seemingly oblivious to our presence. I think we both had the feeling of being invisible to the world around us.

After about an hour-and-a-half of paddling, we had reached the vicinity of Mayo Beach at the headlands of the South River. It was time for a short break; we picked a spot on the sandy beach in between two of the rock formations. After about 10 minutes, we were again in our boats to head back up river.

We paddled steadily, talking to each other and drinking in this most amazing experience. By 9:00 pm, we had reached the Pier 7 marina and glided silently up to the beach. As we each stepped out of our boats and walked up to our cars, my paddling partner said, "I sure am glad we did this." I could only reply, "Yeah, I am too."

It was truly a night paddle to remember.

Steering Committee & Maryland 2005 Trip/Event Planning Meeting

Everyone is invited to this meeting at Barry's house in Baltimore on Saturday, January 22, 2005. We will hold a similar Trip/Event Planning Meeting at Cyndi and Dave's Yak Shak in Falls Church, VA on Saturday, February 19th.

We'll start with a Steering Committee (SC) Meeting at 9:00 am where you can help your elected officers chart our club's course for the year ahead. All members are welcome to attend and participate in planning and policy—the CPA is your club and we'd love to have your help! Among the topics we'll discuss will be events like the new Paddling with Partners class and swim support training, membership, finances, the website, forums, listserve, the CPA Store and logo gear.

After the SC Meeting, we'll hold the CPA's first 2005 Trip/Event Planning Meeting at 10:30. If you want to talk about trips and events you'd like to see on the CPA calendar or propose a trip that you wish to lead or help organize, please join us at this meeting. Trips and events will be listed on the website and newsletter calendars after the meeting. If you've never led a trip, this meeting is a great opportunity to find out more about leading. If you are already a trip leader and would like help organizing or leading a trip, this is a great opportunity to meet up with other members.

I'll have coffee, tea, juice, fruit and breakfast snacks and would appreciate if you could bring

something along to share with others. Baltimore's historic Mount Vernon neighborhood is full of restaurants, cafes, shops and museums, so you can have fun exploring after the meetings!

Directions to Barry's House

828 Park Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

From the South (DC/Annapolis/NoVA Areas): Take the Baltimore-Washington Parkway/Rt. 295 North to Baltimore. Just past Orioles Park at Camden Yard, the B.W. Parkway makes a right-then-left zigzag and becomes Paca St. From there follow Paca north for 0.8 miles, turn right at a light onto Druid Hill Ave./Centre St. Turn left onto Park Ave. at the 3rd light. Follow Park north 2-3/4 blocks to 828 Park Ave. 828 Park Ave. is a free-standing, 4-story brick row home on the left, a quarter-block before the light at Reed St. Park anywhere on the street; the parking meters need to be fed on weekdays only. Doorbell #3 will ring me.

From the North: Take I-83 south, exit at Maryland Ave. Turn left at the light at the end of the ramp onto Maryland Ave. Follow Maryland south about five blocks; it'll make a right-then-left zigzag and become Cathedral St. From the zigzag follow Cathedral south 2 or 3 blocks and turn right onto Madison St. Follow Madison west one block, turn right onto Park Ave. Follow Park Ave. north about 3/4 of a block to 828 Park Ave. —a free-

standing, 4-story brick row home on the left, a quarter-block before the light at Reed St. Park anywhere on the street; the parking meters need to be fed on weekdays only. Doorbell #3 will ring me.

Be careful if you get turned around near my place. Most of the streets are one way (including Park Ave., which runs north only). Look at a map, or call me at 410-728-4016 for directions and I'll talk you in.

Directions to Cyndi and Dave's

6668 Barrett Road
Falls Church, Virginia 22042

From the 495 Capital Beltway: Take the Route 50 exit East towards Arlington. Travel approximately 2 miles, and turn right onto Annandale Road. Travel about 100 yards and turn left onto Barrett Road. Our house is almost at the end of the road on the left. Park anywhere available along the street.

From Route 50/D.C.: Get onto Route 50 after passing through Washington D.C. or Alexandria. Travel West on Route 50 towards Fairfax/Falls Church. After passing through Arlington, you will pass the Seven Corners Shopping Plaza on your left. Travel up the next hill and down again, less than a mile. At the bottom of the hill, turn left onto Annandale Road. Travel about 100 yards and turn left onto Barrett Road. Our house is almost at the end of the road on the left. Park anywhere available along the street.

Chesapeake Paddler Profile



Barry Marsh, CPA Coordinator

I've been kayaking for about four years, plus a lot of canoeing and kayaking with my family and in the Boy Scouts when I was a kid. My first kayak, which I used mostly for birding, was a Folbot Aleut. My next kayak was a Perception Carolina 14.9 and my current kayak is an Impex Montauk. I'm already thinking about my next two boats, including building a wooden kayak.

I joined the CPA in 2001 and have participated in dozens of trips and events. I've still not finished my quest to paddle to

all 43 lighthouses and lightships in the Chesapeake Bay area - 32 down, 11 to go!

My favorite local paddling place is Calvert Cliffs in southern Maryland, with the open Bay on one side, towering cliffs on the other and fossil shark teeth on the beaches. Further from home, I've recently enjoyed weeklong paddling trips with friends amid beautiful scenery in Maine and South Carolina.

The best advice I ever got about paddling was that when shopping for a new kayak, you should thoroughly test-paddle all your options. Then, choose the boat that feels best for you.

My most embarrassing kayaking moment happened while practicing lazy, leaned s-turns on absolutely flat, glass-calm water in my newest kayak a few years ago. I leaned a bit too far, and in full view of a half-dozen friends, unexpectedly went right over. At least I was able to regain a bit of my dignity by demonstrating my cowboy re-entry!

Off the water, I'm a contractor working with the Navy's Marine Mammal Program. I enjoy birding, hiking, cooking and camping.

2005 CPA Pool Sessions*

Saturdays, now through spring at the Fairland Aquatic Center, Burtonsville, Maryland
4-5:50 pm and 5:50-7:45 pm; \$7 per person. Pay at FAC.

Required:

1. Boats and gear clear of leaves, mud, grass.
2. A reservation; please email Joan at Jspinner2@peoplepc.com (preferred) or call 301-559-3345 by the Thursday before the session. Leave a message and the following information:
 - a. your name and phone number
 - c. date of session
 - d. time slot
 - e. number and type of boats (WW or sea kayak)

You will receive a reservation number. If you do not receive a reservation number, you do NOT have a

reservation. Reservations will not be accepted more than 2 weeks in advance.

Directions: Take your best route to I-95 between Baltimore and Washington. Exit at MD-198 West. Turn left at 2nd light, Old Gunpowder Road. The pool is about a half mile down on the right. Enter through the patio.

*These are open sessions, not lessons. You must bring your own boat and gear. In case of inclement weather, call the center to see if it is open: 301-206-2359.

CPA Trip Requirements and Ratings

All trips are organized by and for members of the club. When you participate, please remember that trip leaders are “hosts”, not professional guides, but you must be willing to follow their instructions. They are neither necessarily trained in first aid or CPR, nor do they always carry first aid equipment or safety devices for your use.

You, and you alone, are responsible for your personal safety.

Trip leaders will pre-screen all participants for skills, equipment and willingness to abide by club rules and policies. If you wish to join a trip, you must contact the leader in advance.

REQUIREMENTS

Equipment: While on the water, all paddlers must wear PFDs, spray skirts

and clothes appropriate to the water temperature. Boats must have water-tight bulkheads or flotation devices to prevent the kayak from swamping when capsized. All paddlers must have—and know how to use—a pump, paddle float and whistle. On the day of the trip, leaders may refuse to admit participants for noncompliance with any of these requirements, so if you are not sure, discuss it with the leader in advance!

Waivers: All participants in CPA-sponsored trips must sign legal release forms each time before setting out on the water. Only one release per season is needed for regularly scheduled events (e.g., the weekly activities of the “pirates”). The legal release absolves all participating CPA members from legal liability for the injury or death of a fellow participant.

RATINGS:

First Timers: Participants have never paddled before. No prior skills needed.

Beginners: Participants have paddled some, taken classes, or have been on short (up to 4-mile) trips and can do a wet exit and paddle float re-entry.

Advanced Beginners: Participants have been on longer trips (up to 10 miles, full-day outings), have some experience with varying conditions such as winds and waves and have good rescue and groups paddling skills.

Intermediate Paddlers: Participants are comfortable with open-water crossings of 2+ miles, can handle a variety of water conditions and have strong self- and group-rescue skills.

Calendar

Participants in CPA events must read and comply with the statement of CPA trips requirements and ratings. Please contact the trip leaders in advance, even if you are familiar with the area being paddled. They need contact information in case of changes, and there may be space limitations or other trip restrictions.

The latest information about CPA trips is at www.cpakayaker.com.

January	22 (Sat) Steering Committee & MD Trip Planning Meeting (All) Barry Marsh (410) 728-4016
February	19 (Sat) VA Trip Planning Meeting (All) Dave Biss and Cyndi Janetzko (703) 241- 0036
May	13-15 (Fri-Sun) 7th Annual SK102 Skills Clinic (All) Brian Blankinship (410) 867-1051 22 (Sun) Patapsco Swim Support (Advanced Beginners) Barry Marsh (410) 728-4016 29 (Sun) Rocky Gorge Memorial Weekend Paddle (Beginner) David Moore (301) 445-3273

Chesapeake Paddlers Association (CPA) presents

Skills for Safe Trips

March 26, 2005

Come join a panel of CPA members to discuss Skills for Safe Trips. This class offers a great opportunity to refine one's safety awareness prior to and during a kayaking excursion in preparation for the 2005 season. The class is open to all interested kayakers, from newcomers to experienced paddlers. A panel group will entertain questions addressing everything from solo paddling, paddling pairs, and peer paddling to expert paddling.

WHAT: Skills for Safe Trips

Presentation Topics:

- Accountability; assessment of one's personal skills vs. the group - how to express concerns and back out gracefully. When to raise situational awareness.
- Assessment; required skills for a trip, weather conditions, emergency places to land, group dynamics - point and sweep - group cohesion
- Leadership; consensus building to leadership versus "take charge" leadership
- Chart reading

Time Permitting: On-water demonstration and round table panel discussion addressing solo paddling, paddling as a pair, peer paddling and expert paddling

WHEN: Saturday, March 26, 2005 Check-in begins at 8:00 am. Presentations from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

WHERE: West River Center 5100 Chalk Point Road, West River, Maryland (410) 867-0991 or (800) 922-6795

From Baltimore and Annapolis

Take I-97 South to Rt. 50 East. Go approximately 1/4 mile to Rt. 665 (Aris T. Allen Blvd.). Follow Rt. 665 to Rt. 2 South (Solomons Island Rd.). After crossing the South River Bridge, turn left at the fifth traffic light (Rt. 214). At the second light, turn right onto Rt. 468 (Muddy Creek Rd.). Follow Rt. 468 for 8 miles. Turn left onto Chalk Point Road. (Landmarks at this intersection include an Amoco station and Paceway convenience store). Follow Chalk Point Road for 1 mile, turn left into the West River Center.

From Washington

Take Rt. 4 to Rt. 258. Follow signs toward Deale. Proceed on Rt. 258 - go straight at intersection of Rt. 258 and Rt. 2. Rt. 258 will end at Rt. 256. Turn left. Rt. 256 will end at Rt. 468. There will be a Sunoco station directly in front of you. Turn left again. Proceed on Rt. 468 for approx. 100 yards. Turn right onto Chalk Point Rd. (between the Amoco station and Oakland UMC). Follow Chalk Point Road for 1 mile, turn left into the West River Center.

COST: \$20.00. Includes a light lunch, snacks and an information packet.

Because of limited seating, all participants must pre-register. Registration and payment is due by March 11. Questions? Please contact Mark Woodside at (301) 373-4561 or pmwoodside@yahoo.com.

Please complete the form below, make your check out to the Chesapeake Paddlers Association and mail to:
Chesapeake Paddlers Association, P.O. Box 341, Greenbelt, Maryland 20768

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Inside our January/February issue:

- **Full Moon over Glass: A Night Paddle to Remember**
- **CPA Trip/Event Planning Meetings**
- **Skills for Safe Trips Announcement**

The Chesapeake Paddler
Chesapeake Paddlers Association
PO Box 341
Greenbelt, MD 20768

REMINDER: Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date. If your CPA membership has expired, or will expire soon, please send in your dues. SEE BOX ON PAGE 2 FOR ADDRESS.