

Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc. Volume 22, Issue 10

November-December 2012



Coordinator Jay Gitomer convenes the CPA annual meeting *photo by DJ Manalo*

CPA Annual Meeting Held November 4

The 2012 annual meeting of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc. was held on Sunday, November 4 at the Ellen Linson Aquatic Center in College Park, Maryland. Nearly 50 people attended, feasting on pizza, provided by the club, and home-made goodies by members. Coordinator Jay Gitomer brought the meeting to order and final paper ballots were added to the electronic voting tally provided by web masters Paula Hubbard and Steve Bethke (with help from outgoing web master Dave Biss). While the vote count was being finalized, Jay reviewed the CPA paddling year (see [trips report compiled by SC member Maywin Liu on p. 11](#)). Forty-seven trips and events were led by 29 leaders during 2012, an increase over 2011. However, CPA needs to broaden our trip leadership base since only 4 leaders (Marshall Woodruff, Ralph Heimlich, Jim Zawlocki, and Mike Cohn) led 65% of all trips, up from 56% for the top 4 in 2011.

Sue Stevens outlined changes in membership over the year (see [membership report on p. 4](#)). Highlights are that Paypal is increasingly the method of choice

for both new members and renewals, and that we are still losing a high percentage of first year members who fail to renew. Treasurer Rich Stevens gave a preliminary report on CPA's finances, showing a slight gain in net worth over last year (see [treasurer's report on p. 5](#)). These figures will change because several Piracies have not yet claimed their "booty" and we have an insurance bill due.

Logomeister Béla Máriássy reported on sales of [logo gear \(see p. 7\)](#), noting that he is reordering wicking shirts (5 sizes in 4 colors) since many people are starting to reorder shirts after the first batch. Reports on The Chesapeake Paddler (Ralph Heimlich and Mark Woodside) and on the Great CPA Lending Library (Carolyn Labbe) were also given.

Jay outlined what is known about events already scheduled for the 2013 season (see [tentative calendar on p. 10](#)). Suzanne Farace gave the date for SK101 and the nod to Steve Bethke and Paul Casto as assistants. Brian Blankinship announced that the 15th SK102 will be held at Lake Anna, and that he is seeking a co-organizer to which to pass leadership for this event after 2013.

The tabulating committee (Ed Hershon, Steve Bethke and Paul Bieri) announced the results of 102 ballots cast:

Coordinator: Ralph Heimlich

Secretary/Membership Chair: Sue Stevens

Treasurer: Rich Stevens

Steering Committee:

Paula Hubbard (reelected)

Catriona Miller (reelected)

Béla Máriássy (new but served previously)

Dave Isbell (new but served previously)

Jesse Aronson (first term)

Tom Heneghan (first term)



New CPA officers, (l to r) Paula Hubbard, Ralph Heimlich, Rich Stevens, Sue Stevens, Dave Isbell, Catriona Miller, Béla Máriássy, and Jesse Aronson. Tom Heneghan, inset. *Photo by DJ Manalo*

Jay thanked the outgoing SC members (Maywin Liu, Rob Pearlman, Rick Wiebush, Jen Bine) for their service to the club, and recognized all the Pirate captains present at the meeting and thanked them for a vital part in CPA's program. She then distributed "rockers" for Pirate captains, trip leaders, instructors, SC members and other volunteers in recognition of their service to CPA during 2012. The meeting adjourned for conversation, ice skating by those who wanted to partake, and to finish the rest of the food.

Thanks to Paul Bieri for arranging for the meeting room and Sue and Rich Stevens for obtaining the pizzas.

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.



Rusty Roesch at Jamestown tall ships anchorage photo by Ralph Heimlich

SCHEDULE FOR THE 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. Have an idea for an article, or is there information you would like to see in the newsletter? Email Ralph at news_editor@cpakayaker.com or call at 301-498-0722.

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.

Officers:

Coordinator—Ralph Heimlich, 301-498-0918, coordinator@cpakayaker.com

Membership, subscriptions—Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, c/o CPA, PO Box 341

Greenbelt, MD 20768, membership@cpakayaker.com

Secretary—Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641 secretary@cpakayaker.com

Treasurer—Rich Stevens, 703-527-4882, treasurer@cpakayaker.com

Steering Committee—steering_committee@cpakayaker.com

Paula Hubbard 407-619-2896

Catriona Miller 571-248-1619

Dave Isbell 410-267-0681

Jesse Aronson 703-534-4718

Tom Heneghan 703-216-9837

Béla Máriássy 410 266-4529

Webmaster/E-Mail List Administrators—Stephen Bethke and Paula Hubbard, webmaster@cpakayaker.com

Newsletter Team:

Managing Editor/Layout—Ralph Heimlich, 301-498-0722, news_editor@cpakayaker.com

Mailing and Distribution—Mark Woodside, 301-373-4561, news_distribution@cpakayaker.com

Pirate Groups:

Pier 7 Pirate Committee—Rich Stevens, 703-527-4882, Béla Máriássy, Jenny Welker-Plummer and Greg Welker, 301-249-4895, Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, Brent Cogswell, 410-381-0037, pirates_pier7@cpakayaker.com

Potomac Pirate King—Dick Rock, 703-780-6605 pirates_potomac@cpakayaker.com

Patuxent Pirate Queen—Jenny Plummer-Welker Pirate Captain, 410-535-2348/301-249-4895, pirates_patuxent@cpakayaker.com;

Georgetown Pirate King—Peter Harris; 703-408-7812, pirates_georgetown@cpakayaker.com.

Baltimore Pirate King—Dave Wilson, 443-562-6156, pirates_baltimore@cpakayaker.com

Occoquan Pirate King—Jeff Walaszek, 703-670-7712, Jim Zawlocki 703-378-7536 pirates_occoquan@cpakayaker.com

Sugarloaf Pirate King—Liz Marancik 301-221-0572, Rita Scherping 240-731-9987, pirates_sugarloaf@cpakayaker.com

Pirate Kings of the North—Bob Shakeshaft, 410-939-0269 pirates_north@cpakayaker.com

Pirates of the James—Mary Larson, 804-316-3432, Jon Phipard 804-334-3019 pirates_james@cpakayaker.com

Pirates of the Eastern Shore—Paula Hubbard, 407-619-2896 pirates_easternshore@cpakayaker.com

Pirates of the Lakes—Tom Hunt, 717-940-6572 pirates_lakes@cpakayaker.com

MEMBERSHIP: Subscription to the Chesapeake Paddler is included with membership.

NEW: Membership is now \$10, \$18, \$27, \$35, for 1, 2, 3, and 4 years. Send checks or changes of membership information to CPA, PO Box 341, Greenbelt, MD 20768. DO NOT send them to the newsletter editors.

The Chesapeake Paddler is published monthly, except Nov-Feb 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. The download link or file for the electronic version of this newsletter may not be posted or forwarded to non-members without the express consent of the Coordinator or Managing Editor

CPA Elections And You

Now you can breathe a sigh of relief—robocalls for CPA election campaigns will no longer be hammering your phones. A peaceful transition of power was assured as the democratic process of electing a new slate of CPA officers unfolded on November 4 at the CPA Annual Meeting in College Park. BTW, there was a national presidential election, too.

Many thanks are due to the outgoing officers, led by Coordinator Jay Gitomer and including SC members Jen Bine, Paula Hubbard, Maywin Liu, Catriona Miller, Rob Pearlman, Sue Stevens, Rich Stevens and Rick Wiebush. In their two-year run, Jay and her team worked successfully to insure pool sessions when Fairland Pool changed their policies toward paddlers, secured liability insurance for CPA activities for the first time, and developed a number of new activities, including Survivor, Paddle Clash, a cold water clinic featuring U.S. Coast Guard rescue swimmer Mario Vittone, and a boat and paddle repair workshop. Long-standing activities such as SK101, SK102, Gear Day, Trip Leader Training, the Holiday Party, the weekly Piracies and others continued and many trips were on the calendar, including a series of Beginner paddles to ease new paddlers into the sport. The outgoing crew continues a long tradition of active leadership and innovation that have kept the Chesapeake Paddlers Association such a great organization.

I, and the incoming Steering Committee, hope to build on this firm foundation over the 2013 season, if possible by broadening participation to reach out to more Piracies, encourage more members to step up as trip leaders, and bring in more members to participate in our many activities. CPA Piracies are spread over the entire Mid-Atlantic, ranging from Richmond to the [Susquehanna Lakes \(see p. 6\)](#). We are over 700 members strong, but it is nearly impossible for all of us to meet face-to-face in one place. Our largest activities have about 150 people participating, and 102 (14%) voted in the election. That will continue to be true, but we need to encourage members across the region to participate in their local Piracy and urge them to lead and participate in [trips in their local area \(see report on p. 11\)](#).

To that end, one of my focal areas will be expanded training opportunities for trip leaders. This is not an emphasis on developing individual skills, but a focus on navigation and weather knowledge, first aid and emergency management, trip administration, and on-water leadership skills for those intending to lead CPA trips that will benefit all of us. CPA does not certify leaders. Instead, we offer resources so that members who participate in club events and training reach a level of competence that empowers them to step up and lead. If you have been in the club several years and gone on a number of trips, consider stepping up to lead (I'll be in touch with you, count on it). If you feel a gap in your skills, check out the training offered this year and make a point to fill that gap. Is there a topic we're missing? Email or call me and let me know. If you want to lead a trip, I can pair you up with an experienced trip leader to help you get on your "training wheels". Read DJ Manalo's account of a [Thomas Point Light-house trip \(p. 8\)](#) he led as an example of doing it right as a beginning trip leader.



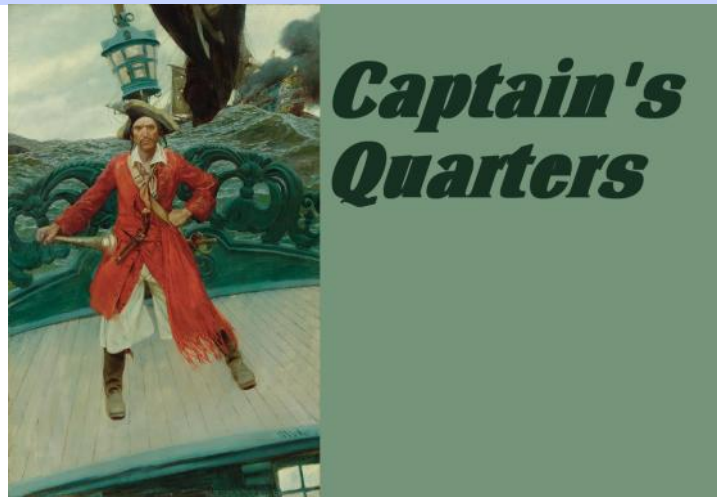
Photo by Beth Heimlich

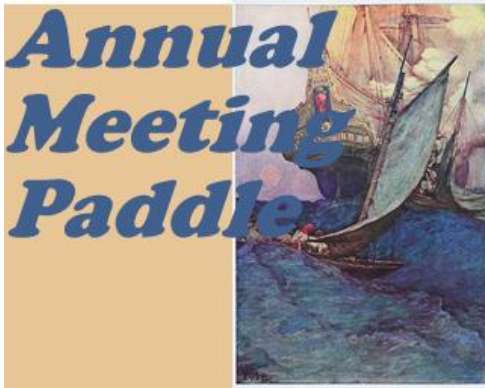
Leading a trip does not have to be the equivalent of an expedition to the North Pole. A beginner paddle on a protected water body is a great way to get your feet (and only your feet!) wet as a trip leader. One of the popular types of trip this year was paddles to a destination (to see lotus blossoms and a colonial mansion, to a historic park, or for nature photography. You may be able to combine paddling with another interest or activity that others would enjoy. We do a lot of car- and kayak-camping on our trips, but you could arrange to stay in a B&B or fancy hotel instead.

Even though the paddling "season" is now ending, NOW is the time to do some arm-chair traveling to plan trips for the coming season. We have two planning meetings in February (one in MD, one in VA) to map out the trips for 2013 season. You should be ready with your trip ideas at those meetings. Check the [tentative calendar on page 10](#), and keep checking the CPA calendar at <http://www.cpakayaker.com/paddle-now/calendar/> for the dates of the larger events so your planned trip doesn't conflict with them.

Thanks again to the outgoing officers, and welcome to the new leadership. See you all at the [CPA Holiday Party on December 1st \(see p. 7\)!](#)

Ralph Heimlich
Coordinator





Ralph Heimlich led 7 other CPA paddlers on a pleasant two-hour jaunt from Bladensburg Aquatic Park down the Anacostia River. For some unknown reason, participation in this year's paddle was entirely male (Tom Heneghan, Rusty Roesch, David Wilson, Tim Dole, Richard Shipley, and Michael Chesner). Under weak sunshine, we paddled into the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, then downriver past the National Arboretum to the backwater behind Kingman Island, in sight of RFK Stadium. A highlight of the paddle was a 1st year White-Winged Scoter duck, who may be an early migrant to the area.



Behind Kingman Island (Tom Heneghan, Michael Chesner and Richard Shipley photo by David Wilson)

Membership Report

By Sue Stevens

There are 704 members currently active in the club, a new high, and more than 3,400 members have ever joined during the club's

Year Joined	Active one year	Total	Percent 1 year only
1990	1	19	5%
1991	4	22	18%
1992	3	28	11%
1993	3	44	7%
1994	9	38	24%
1995	11	62	18%
1996	69	138	50%
1997	120	198	61%
1998	91	155	59%
1999	211	327	65%
2000	157	263	60%
2001	128	198	65%
2002	96	172	56%
2003	133	235	57%
2004	111	194	57%
2005	102	184	55%
2006	87	181	48%
2007	73	151	48%
2008	67	197	34%
2009	48	174	28%
2010	45	150	30%
2011	50	127	39%
2012	95	148	64%
	1714	3414	50%

lifetime. 162 new members joined in 2012 and 153 renewed. There are 9 life members.

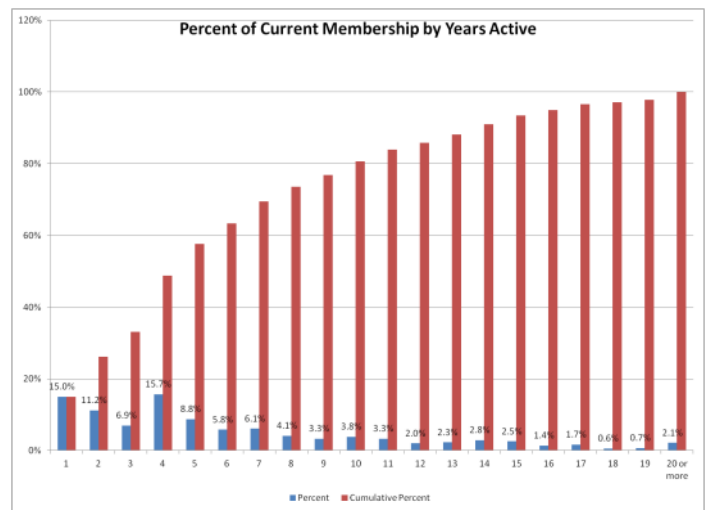
Out of 3,414 members who ever joined, 1,714 have joined for only 1 year (50%), but the percentage in each year-joined class has fallen from 66% in 2001 to 30% in 2010 (can't tell for 2011 or 2012 since they haven't had more than a year or two yet). The number joining in any year has also generally fallen from more than 300 in 1999 to 148 in 2012, but the members we do recruit are tending to stay in the club longer.



When looking at the current members (707 who were current as of October 1, 2012), overall we've retained 20.8 percent of those who have ever joined, ranging from 18 percent of those who joined in 1990 to 78 percent of those who

joined in 2009. 33.1 % of current members joined in the last three years, 51% have been members for 5 years or more, 19% have been members for 10 years or more, and 2% have been members for 20 years or more.

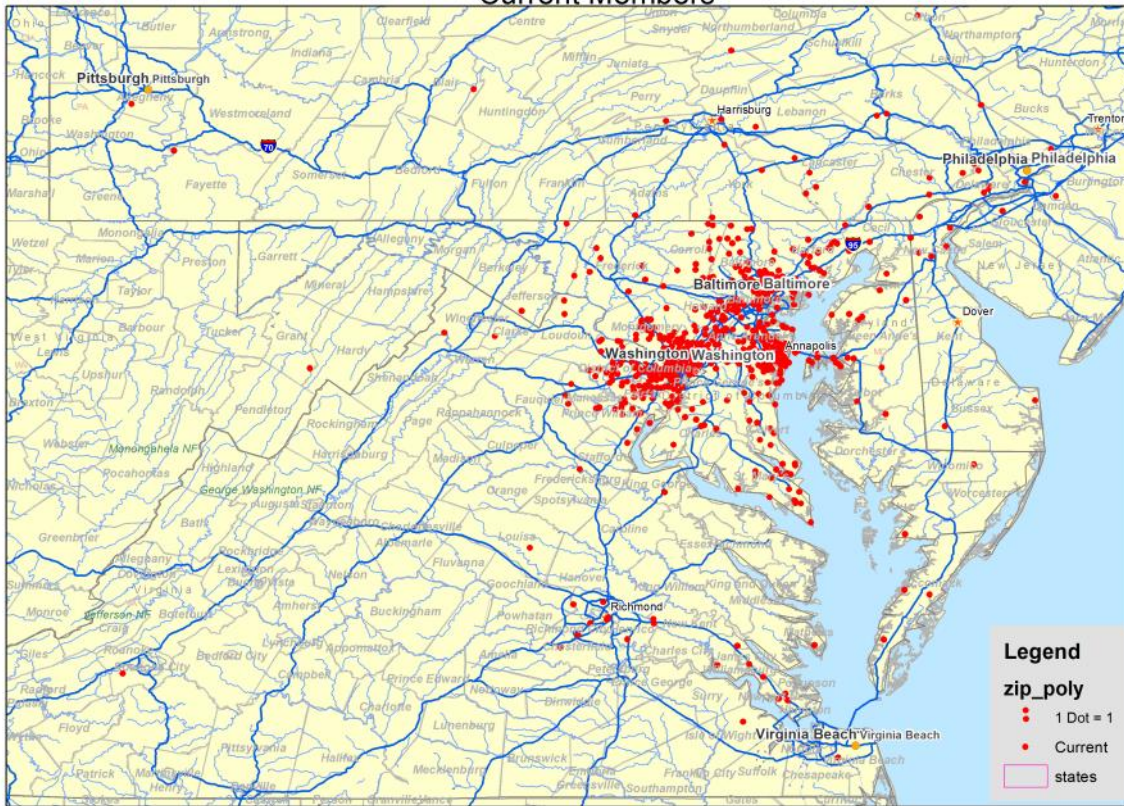
Each month, I send out emails to members whose memberships are lapsing asking them to renew. They will be reminded two more times. The percentage renewing memberships over 2010-2012 are 28%, 30% and 30%, with most renewals coming in April and May. Paypal is increasingly becoming the preferred method of joining and renewing. For new members, the percent using Paypal has averaged 77%. For renewals, Paypal users increased from 55% in 2010 to 71% in 2012.



Overall, two-thirds of the members who ever joined came from MD, about one-fifth from VA, 5% from DC and 10% from other places. This has changed over the years, with a bit more from MD and other places in recent years.

(Continued on page 5)

Members, Chesapeake Paddlers Association Current Members



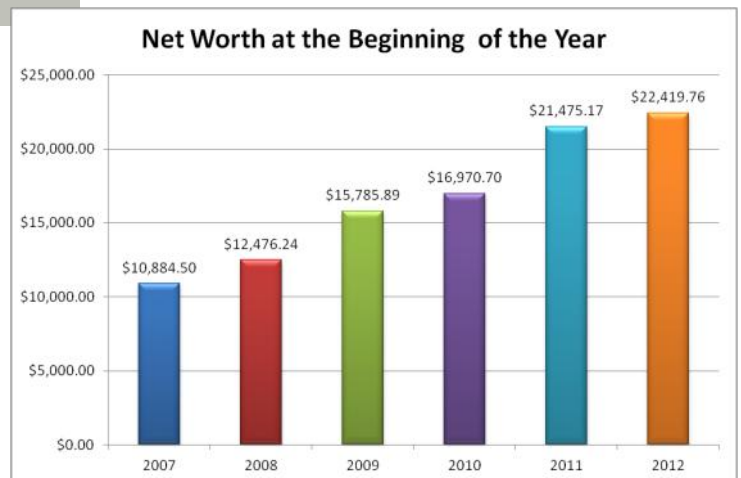
Treasurer's Report

By Rich Stevens

The Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc. continues to be in good financial shape. Our cash on hand increased by \$667.92 or approximately 2.45%, from \$27,250.07 to \$27,917.99. This amount includes \$27,914.45 in the CPA bank account and \$3.54 in the PayPal account. These figures are based on the figures from previous Annual Meeting, not annual figures. As predicted, we will probably experience a decrease from the previous year as none of the Piracies have received any of their annual stipends to date and we have an insurance payment coming up that was \$2,737.88 last year that is due in early December. We will

also have the Annual Meeting and holiday party expenses coming up. In addition there will be the usual expenses for the Newsletter, mailings, printing, etc. We have a considerable financial cushion at this point, but will have to monitor income and expenditures in the future and see where we are at the end of the year.

For 2012 we successfully sponsored a number of events for our members and the interested general public at large, including SK 101, SK 102, subsidies for the trip planning meetings, Boat & Paddle Work Day, Gear Day/Fall Out of Your Boat Day, and the purchase of rescue floats for on-water support events. We also covered the ongoing expenses of newsletter and other printing, as well as banking expenses. In addition, we covered the expense of a change in our corporate agent, as required by Maryland law. We are current in filing the necessary state and federal tax returns. Following this summary is a condensed listing of all of the account transactions for the calendar year and some financial charts. Some of this year's highlights are the following:



(Continued on page 6)

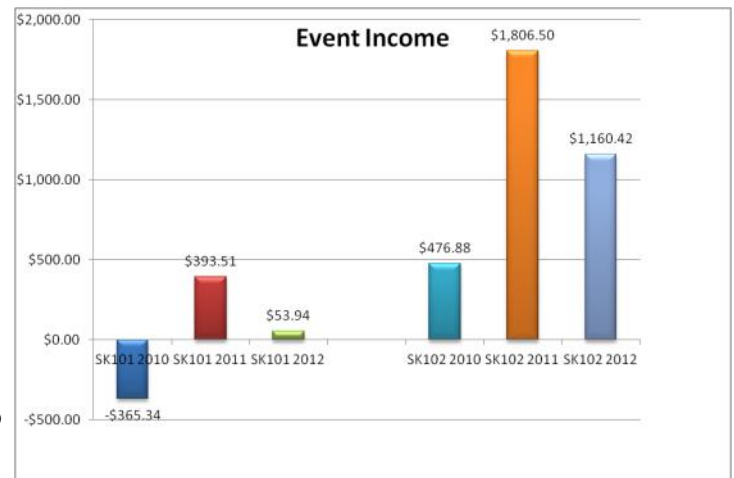
Treasurer's Report (Continued from page 5)

Beginning balance as of last year's Annual Meeting was \$27,250.07. The ending balance was \$27,917.99 as of 11/1/2012 for an increase of \$667.92 or 2.45% for the comparable period last year. Last year the increase was considerably larger, \$3,214.10 or 13.4% partially due to the final phase-in of the multi-year membership option.

Membership dues collected, \$5,505.89, \$1,826.00 by check or cash and \$3,679.89 net by PayPal. PayPal fees were \$236.42 for the year, which includes payments for SK101 as well as dues. In 2011 we collected \$5,530.70 in dues. Membership dues collected this year are essentially the same as last year, being only \$24.81 less.

SK101 income was \$2,370.00, \$825.00 by check, \$45.00 by cash, and \$1,500.00 gross by PayPal. Expenses for room rental and food were \$2,316.06. That left a net profit of approximately \$53.94, which takes into account PayPal fees. Last year there was a net profit of \$393.51. Another \$200.00 was paid 9/24/2012 for the room deposit for 2013, which is not included in this year's SK101 profit and loss report.

SK102 income was \$3,675.00. Expenses for food, port-a-johns, insurance, instructor gifts, etc. were \$2,514.58. Net profit was \$1,160.42. The previous year the net profit was \$1,806.50. The increase in expenses was primarily due to well water testing. Due to the profit generated, the organizers forgave \$315.00 in no-shows.



CPA Gear Day/Fall Out of Your Boat Day Expenses for the pavilion rental were \$50.00. Organized by Catriona Miller and Kristina McCoy with many other members helping, this was a free event for members and the public, sponsored by CPA.

Boat and Paddle Work Day was organized by Catriona Miller. Expenses for the pavilion rental were \$50.00 and \$75 was collected from participants, for a net profit of \$25.00.

General printing and mailing expenses, including post office box, printer supplies, the Newsletter, postage, stationary, membership cards and brochures was \$1,742.56. The Newsletter alone was \$949.50 or 54% of the total. Thanks to Ralph Heimlich and Mark Woodside for these tasks. Last year this was \$792.27. We received \$130.00 in ad revenue from the newsletter. Post Office box rental was \$144.00.

Logo gear was ably handled once again by Béla Mariassy. Expenses for mailing were \$15.65. Sales were \$1,492.65.

Bank Expenses were \$86.00 for checks and deposit slips.

Equipment Expenses were \$502.50 for rescue floats to be used in on-water events such as swim supports and demo days. Obtained by the efforts of Dave Biss.

Any questions please e-mail me at Treasurer@cpakayaker.com Note that the various charts have minor inconsistencies due to the fact that time periods vary from annual to periods between Annual Meetings. The Income and Spending report is generated by financial banking software and does not track PayPal income until it is transferred into the bank account.

New Pirates of "The Lakes"

By Tom Hunt



Susquehanna Lakes paddling photo by Tom Hunt

The Susquehanna River is the beginning of the Chesapeake Bay. Just a few miles north of Havre de Grace begin three successive hydro-electric dams which create the magnificent Conowingo Pond, the eight mile long Lake Aldred, and the popular Lake Clarke. Here there be Pirates!

We are a group of dedicated and enthusiastic paddlers from south central PA who share a passion for sea kayaking. As with many sea kayakers, we like to educate and motivate ourselves in becoming better and more self-sufficient paddlers. Our excursions are a mix of sightseeing and informal practice appropriate for beginner thru advanced kayakers.

Come join us on our inland waters for some great paddling, camaraderie, and outstanding scenery!!!

Go forth and ply the waters, me bucko's, Cap'n 'T' (aka Tom Hunt)
717-940-6572 pirates_lakes@cpakayaker.com



Florida Paddling Trips with Burnham Guides

Authors of the Florida Keys Paddling Atlas
 CPA members get a 10% discount; 20% if you bring your own sea kayak and camping gear

Travel Writers - Outdoor Guides

- Everglades Flamingo Trip: Jan. 31-Feb. 4
- Everglades Wilderness Waterway: Feb. 9-17
- **NEW: Great Calusa Blueway, Feb. 12-16: Includes Sanibel Island, the remote Cayo Costa, and Matlacha, home of the "fishing-est bridge in the world."**
- **5th Annual Key Largo to Key West (KL2KW): March 17-27. Join the exclusive short list of those who have made this bucket-list trip to the Southernmost Point.**

All trips are small group size, so don't delay! Visit www.BurnhamGuides.com for more trips and details. Call 305-240-0650 or email mary@burnhamguides.com to reserve your seat paddling in paradise!

Mary Burnham
 Travel Writer & Kayak Guide
mary@burnhamguides.com
 305-240-0650
www.BurnhamGuides.com
 Eastern Shore of VA kayaking: www.SouthEastExpeditions.com

Paid advertisement

CPA Holiday Party

The traditional CPA holiday party will be held on **Saturday, December 1 (7 PM)** at the home of Laurie Steele and Bob Pullman in Bowie. Wrap up a special item for the White Elephant gift exchange (anything with comedic value only), share your favorite pot-luck recipe with us all, toss back a few and tell paddling stories with your peers.



Aye...ye be invited fer some holiday spirits at the Annual CPA Holiday Party. Chart yer course fer the 1st of December (Saturday). We be a meeting at 1900 hours at coordinates: N-39 0' 31" by W-76 47' 38". There will be swashbuckling fun, grub, grog

Land Lubber translation: The CPA Holiday Party will be hosted by Laurie Steele and Bob Pullman. Make your way to their house at 8610 Ross Street, Bowie, MD 20720 on Saturday, December 1 at 7 p.m.

If your last name begins with:

- A-K** bring a casserole or entrée (nothing ALIVE please!)
- L-S** bring a dessert (cake, pie, cobbler, etc.)
- T-Z** bring a salad (green, fruit, jello, pasta, etc.) and some bread

To feed 4-6 people (trust me—we'll have plenty).

Laurie and Bob will supply a ham and non-alcoholic beverages, but you are welcome to bring your own beer, wine, or other beverage of choice (supplying booze to you lot would even break a pirate!!). We'll have a "white elephant" ("Shoveunder", "Chinese") gift exchange for those wishing to participate. Bring a wrapped "treasure" worth less than \$10 (check your Cracker Jacks boxes now). Regifting is an art form!

RSVP's would be appreciated by Wednesday, November 28 via email at yakerbob@yahoo.com. If there are any questions, please call or email.

Driving Directions: Enter 8610 Ross Street, Bowie, MD 20720 into Google Maps or your GPS: or From the north on MD-295 (BW Parkway): Head southwest on MD-295 S, Take the Powder Mill Rd exit toward Beltsville (0.3 mi), Turn left onto Powder Mill Rd (0.6 mi), Turn right onto Springfield Rd (2.5 mi), Turn left to stay on Springfield Rd (0.2 mi), Take the 1st left onto Duckettown Rd (0.9 mi), Turn right onto Ross St, Destination will be on the right (0.1 mi). From the south on MD-295 (BW Parkway): Head north on MD-295 N, Take the Powder Mill Rd exit toward Beltsville (0.3 mi), Turn right onto Powder Mill Rd(0.5 mi), Turn right onto Springfield Rd (2.5 mi), Turn left to stay on Springfield Rd (0.2 mi), Take the 1st left onto Duckettown Rd (0.9 mi), Turn right onto Ross St, Destination will be on the right (0.1 mi)

They're on the corner with a parking problem. Call 301-464-8204 if you're lost.



Logo Meister Béla Máriássy photo by DJ Manalo

CPA Logo Gear Report

Hats—Sales for the year were 26. The largest seller was easily the technical hats – 11. The khaki cotton sales were still popular, partially when the technical hats sold out at an event: 8 of the hunter bill and 6 of the navy bill.

Shirts—Logo shirts continue to sell well, up over

the prior year. People have begun to replace well-worn shirts. The smaller size shirts have been quite popular with women. Current inventory is 180 on hand, ordering now is geared to replenishing popular sizes / colors, while slowly using up the remaining sizes / colors.

Year	2012	2011	2010	2009
Sales	68	62	73	87

Béla Máriássy

Logo gear meister

Columbus Day Peer Paddle to Thomas Point Lighthouse

By DJ Manalo



Put-in site at Horn Point Rd, Annapolis, MD (Launch time: 09:45) photo by Marc Bernardo

While I've led many trips before on creeks and calmer rivers, this was my first open water peer paddle trip that I organized with experienced CPA'er Marla Aron, so extra effort was made towards planning and research. This included almost 2 years of building my kayaking skill sets, taking rescue courses at SK102, leading a CPA Beginner Series trip and finally acquiring much of the necessary safety equipment and gear for this type of paddle (1st aid kit, marine floatable handheld VHF, marine handheld GPS, tow rope, strobe lights, waterproof phone, backup storm paddle, serrated/utility knife, a rescue PFD and hi-vis drysuit.... *yeaAUo-Ouch!*). I even snuck in a rescue tube from swim supports. As you each know, sea kayaking is not just about feeling sore with swollen joints and muscles and butts, but, divide that all that gear by 18 months, plus add gas money, and you'll feel the serious pain, too.

For an early October day, Monday started off on a very cold snap. The morning air temps dipped into the low 40's (F), while water temps held steady at 68°F with mostly overcast skies. Still, the tides favored our mid-morning to mid-afternoon trip. High tide would be 11:13, and currents were predicted to present lower issues during the paddle to and over the shoals at TPL. It wasn't the most picturesque of weather days, but it was still 'favorable'.

Of note, the selected venue location (TPL) and prospective put-in sites were referenced for info, based on several trip reports on CPA: mostly by Ralph Heimlich, Rick Collins and Saki over the past few years. And while the waters were still relatively warm, the ['near-fatal' incident trip report](#) by "Popeye" last year had imprinted the issue of safety on our minds. Regardless, a handful of hearty and hardy kayaking souls arrived by 8:30 AM, as we warmed up early into our cold water gear; then prepared our boats for the 14 mile paddle from Horn Point Road in Annapolis to Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse on the Chesapeake.

Of the eight that had originally planned to go, five eventually were able to paddle: Marc B (CD Cyprus), Madeline T (WS Tempest 170), Mark F. (WS Tempest 165, Marla A. (CD Suka) and myself (WS Tempest 170). I was familiar with each of their paddling skill levels and knew that each were as prepared, as I was, for the trip. Three of us had paddled to TPL before (in summer), but each of us had been sea kayaking regularly at least once a week throughout this past season. Dave Wilson, who was unable to join us, instead accepted our Float Plan that included our proposed route plan and kayaker contact info. We told him that we expected to launch at 09:30, return by 14:00 pm, but no later than 15:00. We also agreed to follow up with each other, following our safe return.

It was also reassuring that we each had fully-charged marine VHF's, which we preset to Channel 69 and confirmed operation by radio checks. Predicted forecasts called for 8-10mph winds and 1ft chop during our float plan period from 9:30 to 1400. The 1st leg of our paddle was quite a ride! At launch, while conditions appeared to be "as predicted", if not better than I had hoped, the Chesapeake often ignores forecasts a bit. Approximately 1.5 - 2.0 miles out, conditions started to intensify a notch. Northerly winds steadily increased up to 10-12mph, as the wind fetched from the north down the bay creating rolling 1.5-2 foot waves rolling waves peaking near the mouth of the Severn.

At this point, Marc had paddled already paddled ahead of the pack by at least 300yds, staying close along the shoreline towards the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). I was still *"surfing and bracing"* along this point, frustrated by my kayak's tendency to turn into the wind and broadside to the waves. Worse, my hip pads, that I had recently readjusted, created an annoying pressure point that rubbed against my left hip and drysuit. I instructed Marc and the others by radio to turn into the CBF beach where we could take time to rest and reassess our float plan. We could opt to wait and see if conditions improved as forecast, or opt for an alternate route along the MD shoreline towards the South River and Thomas Point Park. We also assessed our comfort level for a crossing. Basically, it was 40:60 about crossing; and therefore we decided to paddle along the shoreline. However, if conditions appeared to improve, we would again reassess our float plan to cross, as we approached Thomas Point Park.



Reassessing conditions photo by DJ Manalo

As we prepared to launch, conditions did appear to improve, waves appeared calmer, winds appeared lighter and sunlight started to peak above TPL on the horizon. Was the original forecast hold true? After paddling less than half a mile, we took a break and Marla noted that we could take advantage of paddling E-SE at an angle to the mostly northerly winds towards TPL. We agreed to paddle close and should anyone feel it was too rough, we would all return together. So after collecting our thoughts, each paddler gave it a thumbs up and we paddled off. We made it to TPL at 12:30.

(Continued on page 9)

Columbus Day TPL Paddle (Continued from page 8)

After celebrating with relief that we made it there under these conditions, we proceeded to head back, basically a B line back to CBR for a needed lunch break. As it turned out, the forecasts for diminished winds mostly held, even though there was still mild chop across our beams. After lunch, we soon paddled back. Our muscles felt fatigued, but as Marc described it, we were still running on adrenaline, some on its fumes.

The rougher conditions seriously wore a few of us out, more than expected. Together with the sense of feeling wet and slightly cold (for those in a wetsuit/drytop combo), it was a relief to get back with a mostly serene paddle to Horn Point. shared that this was their most challenging, yet most exhilarating paddle to date; and we each felt comfortable paddling under these conditions, which were ideal for sea kayakers. I noticed that my hips and legs were less tense and less hyperreactive, than when I started the paddle. I actually enjoyed bobbing with the contours of waves, like riding a horse. :) So we all cheered when we finally made it back to Annapolis.



At Thomas Point Lighthouse photo by Marla Aron

Here's the final route:

The Follow up—We arrived at Horn Point at 15:15, or 75 minutes past originally planned and 15 minutes past, the latest time point that I conveyed to Dave. So upon everyone making landfall, I promptly texted Dave to confirm that we all arrived safely. Dave continued to follow up to make sure that we got back ok; he even emailed, but finally reached me by phone.

Did you notice that I didn't take very many pics? As an organizer, I grudgingly decided to 'pack it in', literally the camera was inside a dry bag and secured in the forward hatch, mostly inaccessible to avoid my intrinsic and addictive temptations to release that shutter button. The focus, of course, was not on the shot, but on the paddlers... at least this time. Regardless, it was quite a ride! The most challenging to date for me, personally. Sincere thanks to each of the TPL Peer Power Paddlers: Marla, Marc, Madeline and Mark, since I would never have paddled solo.

What better way to celebrate "Columbus Day"!



All the pics at TPL and on open water are credited to Marc Bernardo and Marla Aron. Here's a link to Marc's Facebook album page, including a few photos that I agreed to photo edit for him. https://www.facebook.com/media/set/set=a_4040210358027_159565_1064828304&type=1&l=3394ad0856.

I also posted their pics at Webshots:

<http://outdoors.webshots.com/album/583499596dHKtrs>



WE MADE IT!! 14 Miles,.. What'ta ride!" photo by DJ Manalo

Chesapeake Paddlers Association Tentative 2013 Calendar

Date	Title	Summary
12/1	CPA Holiday Party	Aye...ye be invited fer some holiday spirits at the Annual CPA Holiday Party, 7 PM
12/8	CPA Cold Water Safety Workshop	With Moulton Avery, Organized by Pirates of the James, Glen Allen, Va
2/10	Planning Meeting and Steering Committee Meeting (MD)	Come and discuss your 2013 Season paddle plans. At Ralph Heimlich's in Laurel, MD
2/23	Planning Meeting (VA)	Come and discuss your 2013 Season paddle plans. At Brian Blankinship and Kristina McCoy's in VA.
2/??	Cold Water Clinic	Learn about cold weather exposure and swim your cold weather gear under controlled conditions. Especially for potential trip leaders. Moulton Avery.
3/16	SK101 Intro to Seakayaking	Classroom intro to our sport. Suzanne Farace and Steve Bethke, Paul Casto registrar.
3/16	Greenland Paddle Workshop I	Cut your blank and carve your paddle. Gina Cicotello and Peter Henry.
3/??	Kayak Navigation, Winds, Waves and Currents	Learn how to do coastal navigation and negotiate natural hazards. Especially for potential trip leaders. Béla Máriássy
3/30	Greenland Paddle Workshop II	Cut your blank and carve your paddle. Gina Cicotello and Peter Henry.
4/6	Kayak and Paddle Workday	Truxton Park, 9am to 4 pm contact Catriona Miller.
4/6	Pax River Cleanup; Mason Neck River Cleanup	Come and give back to your favorite paddling area. Pax: Chip Walsh and Ralph Heimlich. Mason Neck: Jim Zawlocki
4/13	Occoquan River Cleanup	Come and give back to your favorite paddling area. Jim Zawlocki
4/26-28	15th Annual SK102 On-Water Skills Workshop	Come and learn from the best volunteers in the world. Brian Blankinship. Cat Miller Registrar.
5/??	First Aid and Emergency Management	Learn first aid skills in a kayak-specific context. Especially for potential trip leaders. Taught by American Red Cross experts Tom Heneghan and Paul Bieri.
6/15	Gear Day/Fall Out of Your Boat Day	Check out all the coolest gear people have/use/make, swap stuff, do a wet exit and paddle float reentry. Truxton Park, Annapolis, MD. Catriona Miller and Kristina McCoy.
6/21-23	SK203 On-Water Trip Leader Training	Learn rescues, trip leader skills while car camping. Westmoreland State Park, VA. Especially for potential trip leaders. Brian Blankinship and Rick Wiebush.

Remember to check details, trip leader/organizer and contact info at the CPA Web Page

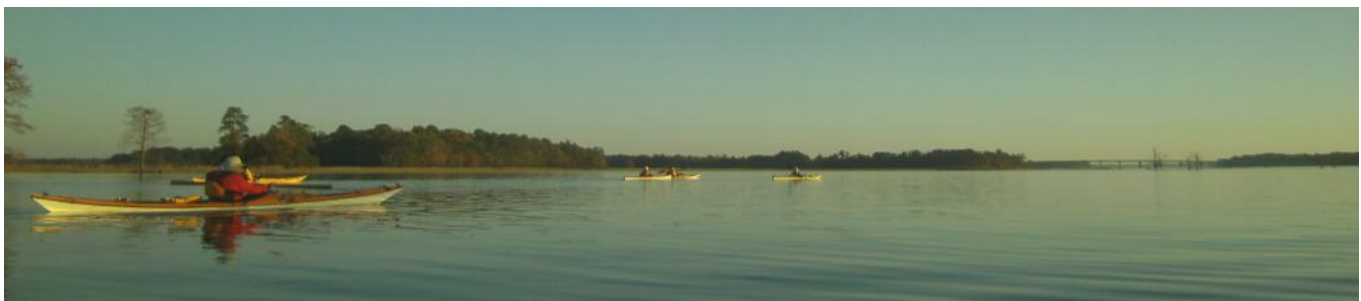
<http://www.cpakayaker.com/> and the calendar at <http://www.cpakayaker.com/index.php?page=calendar> for upcoming CPA events.



Dave Isbell's 1st Prize Winning "Harlot Red" skin-on-frame" canoe *photo by Dave Isbell*

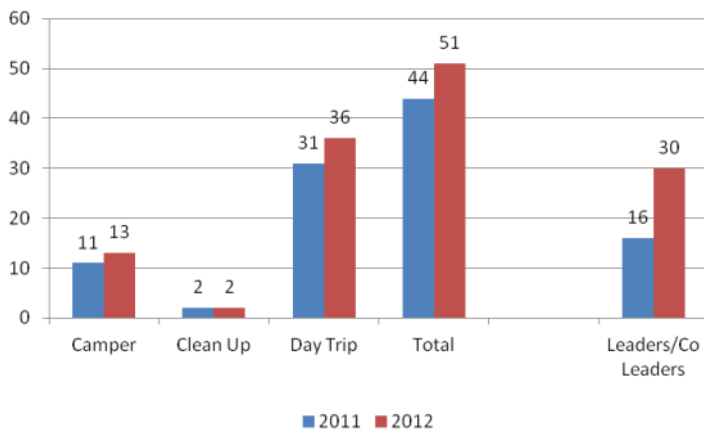
CPA Sweeps SOF Competition

October 6th at the 30th Annual Mid Atlantic Small Craft Festival at the maritime Museum in St. Michaels CPA member Dave Isbell had 3 craft entered in the judging, 2 qajaqs and a SOF canoe. His Harlot Lipstick Red canoe won the 1st place blue ribbon in the Paddling Class, and friends Claude and Lauren's perfectly restored 100 year old Chestnut canoe got second. Dave's SOF Greenland hunting kayak with all the hunting gear rigged on it also won the first place blue ribbon in the Traditional craft/Traditional building methods class. His SOF baidarka tied for 3rd in that traditional class with friend Mark Kaufman's baidarka. A skin on frame outrigger canoe won 2nd in that class. Dave is now building some more boats in his hunt for 3 blue ribbons next year. Perhaps a skin on frame Baltimore clipper would get their attention!



Chickahominy Sunset *photo by Ralph Heimlich*

CPA Trips 2011 and 2012



CPA Trips and Activities Report

By Maywin Liu

Fifty-one trips, run by 30 leaders and co-leaders, were offered from April to November including 13 camping trips ranging from 2-7 days, and 2 river clean ups, in addition to day trips. This is 7 more trips than in 2011, and 14 more leaders. 18 trips had co-leaders, indicating that some trip leadership training is occurring. 7 trips were cancelled. Trip participation totaled 527 (not mutually exclusive) and there were 954 participant-days.

Marshall Woodruff led the most with 12 trips while Ralph led 11 of which 6 were multi-day camping trips. The top 4 trip leaders (Marshall Woodruff, Ralph Heimlich, Mike Cohn and Sue Stevens) were responsible for 65% of the trips and 77% of the participants. In 2011, top trip leaders were Marshall, Ralph, Mike Cohn and Sue Stevens, who accounted for 57% of all trips, so trip leadership is concentrating, not broadening.

The 2012 trips covered the gamut of levels: 4 all levels, 2 novice, 11 beginners, 21 advanced beginners, and 9 intermediate. There were more Advanced Beginner than Beginner trips in 2012 than in 2011, despite the Beginner trip series.

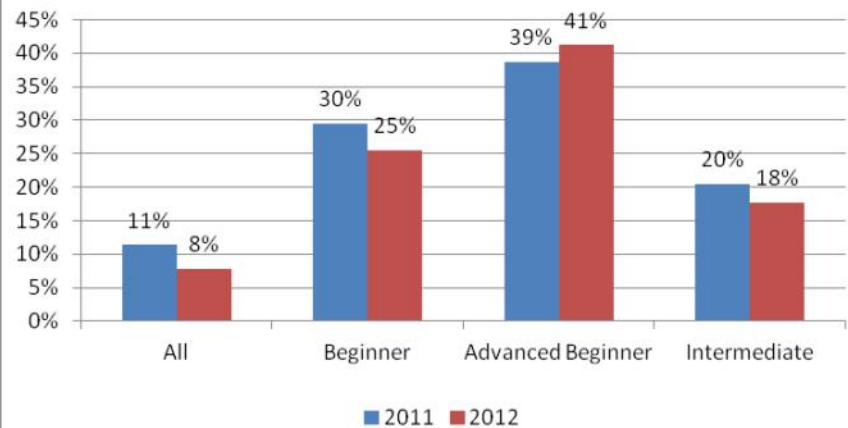
CPA began a Beginner's series of trips aimed at those new to kayaking or those who wanted to paddle at a more leisurely pace. Overall, these trips appeared to be well-received, with both novice trips very well attended at 11 for Jen and Brian's Fountainhead trip (this was following the derecho storm) and 9 signing up for the Annapolis trip prior to cancellation. Of the Beginner's series trips, one cancelled due to participants cancellation and one due to trip leader scheduling conflict.

The KIPP series continues to grow in popularity with a maximum of 32 participants; of those, 14 from 2012 and 1 from 2011 continued to the final. Camping trips were extremely popular with 4 with wait lists and nearly all full.

Other new trip features included trips launching from kayak rental sites (though no one took advantage of the rentals), and "destination" paddles, combining paddling and photography, a paddling/history tour, and a joint CPA JSSKA weekend trip. All of these were very well subscribed.

Pool Sessions—Not counted above are pool practice sessions. Fairlands Pool severely limited the use of their pools for kayakers this past season. Mike Hamilton and Bill Upton found two additional pools for CPA. Mike Hamilton acquired the use of the UMCP pool for 9 sessions (\$7 for 2 hrs). A total of 47 people took advantage of this new resource with 18-21 kayakers attending each session. In addition, free lessons were offered to the UMCP students with 5 very fortunate students taking advantage of instruction from professional instructors Alison Sigethy, Brian Blankinship, Rick Wiebush, and Jay Gitomer. Mike had over 15 volunteers offering to teach, both the students and fellow CPA members. Bill Upton obtained the Hall Aquatic Center for 2 sessions, with 6-7 people using the pool. The pool has a new manager this year. It is uncertain whether CPA will have access there again, but Mike is working on pool sessions at UMCP and Paul Diggins is coordinating Fairlands Pool sessions.

CPA Trips 2011 and 2012 by Difficulty Level



Rowing Machine For Sale

I thought some of your kayakers might be interested in an indoor rower. I have a Concept 2 Model D with PM3 rower rowed <600K meters. The reason I'm selling it is my wife and I both had back operations a few months ago. \$900 new, I'm asking \$300.

Perry
703-732-4942



On Kingman Lake near RFK Stadium, Annual Meeting Paddle *photo by David Wilson*

Inside our November-December 2012 issue:

- CPA Annual Meeting Held November 4
- Annual Meeting Paddle
- Press Gang (Membership) Report
- Treasurer's Report
- New Piracy: The Lakes Of Susquehanna
- CPA Holiday Party
- CPA Logo Gear Report
- CPA Tentative 2013 Calendar
- CPA Sweeps SOF Competition
- Columbus Day Thomas Point Peer Paddle
- CPA Trips and Pool Report

The Chesapeake Paddler

Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc.
PO Box 341
Greenbelt, MD 20768-0341

REMINDER: Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date. If you receive the newsletter electronically, you will receive an e-mail reminder prior to your membership expiring. If your CPA membership has expired, or will expire soon, please send in your dues. SEE BOX ON PAGE 2 FOR ADDRESS.