

CPA Paddler Profile

By Rick Wiebush

Name: Rebecca (Becky) Martin

Lives in: Stone Ridge, VA

Real job: Retired

Member of a Piracy? Not at this time but plan to join the **Pirates of Algonkian**

Paddling Buddies: Lisa Streckfuss, Sonja Pyle, Dennis Green, and various KIPPERS, Bill and Mary Burnham- Burnham Guides.

Number years paddling: 4 years

How did you get involved in kayaking? It was part of a hiking meetup and they offered kayaking...so I tried it and liked it!

How did you learn to sea kayak? I kayak with various meetups groups and became interested in kayaking. I took a guided trip with Mary and Bill Burnham in Florida and that was my first experience with sea kayaking on open water. Then I was hooked!!!!

Any formal training or ACA/BCU certifications: I have taken various classes through meetups and various instructors but do not hold any certifications.

Boat usually paddled: Current Design Gulf Stream - approx. 17 ft

Type paddle used: bent shaft carbon fiber paddle

Do you do any other type of paddling besides sea kayaking? I have tried both and enjoy them!

Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities: I hike with the PATC hikers every Wednesday and bike with friends.

How often do you paddle in summer? as often as possible - at least 3 times a week.

Do any winter paddling? Absolutely!!! I have a dry suit and wet suit as well as go to Florida every year to paddle.

Go to pool sessions? If yes, where? I have attended many pool sessions with Rick Wiebush, Potomac Paddle Sports, Rockville and Alexandria pools.

Favorite local paddling location: I go anywhere.... So many places... too hard to choose. I go to Fountainhead reservoir but also Columbia Island

Favorite non-local location: Kent Island

Best paddling trip/experience ever and why: My favorite paddle was in Portugal paddling the Douro River- Douro Kayak Expeditions. It was fabulous paddling the river and going through the 5 large locks. The countryside was beautiful, the trip was very authentic... not touristy. We ate the food, met many of the locals and were invited to stay in their homes and villages. I stomped grapes, ate figs and loved the area.

Scariest/most dangerous trip/experience and why: I think we have all had a rough day(s) on the water... It is a beautiful thing... water ---but it can rear its ugly head and all of a sudden you can't keep your boat straight or level. It has happened to me in Florida, South Carolina, British Columbia and on the Eastern shore. The conditions change and you have to keep calm and paddle to safety. It is part of the experience, which is why it is so important to get training and practice... practice... practice.

Bucket list trip: circumnavigate Manhattan - I am waiting to hear if I get in for August 22, 2015

Three things you like most about paddling? I enjoy going places not often seen by others, the nature and wild life and sharing the experience with friends.

What do you like about CPA? I have met very experienced paddlers and have learned from them. I was part of the KIPPERS last year and circumnavigated Kent Island- Marshall Woodruff did a fantastic job of preparing us for the voyage.

One thing other people find interesting about you: I have two children and have 5 grand children. I spend part of my time watching my three grandbabies that live near me. They bring joy to my life. Right now we hike but I can't wait to get them in a kayak!!!!



SK102 - 2015 by Catriona Miller