

The Chesapeake Paddler



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September 2003

Paddling Toward the Lights

by Barry D. Marsh

I've long been interested in lighthouses and lightships for their navigational importance and their varied architectural styles. Although electronic navigation has all but eliminated the need for lighthouses and the last of the lightships has been decommissioned, many light-

houses still stand as historic beacons on our coasts and far offshore, and many lighthouses and several lightships have gained new lives as maritime museums.

I began kayaking a few years ago to explore the wonders of the

Chesapeake Bay. By mid-2001 I realized my paddle trips had taken me near many of the lighthouses on the Bay. I soon joined the Chesapeake Chapter of the US Lighthouse Society and learned of the club's "40+3 Award," a patch awarded to members who had seen

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Solomons Lump, north of Smith Island, near Crisfield, Maryland

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all 40 lighthouses and three lightships in the CCUSLHS' geographic area—all of Maryland and Virginia, and part of southern Delaware. Most members of the "40+3 Club" have "seen the lights" from land and during boat trips, but as far as I could tell no one had ever paddled a kayak to all 40+3.

So, I decided to paddle to all 40+3—in my own "40+3 Chesapeake Lighthouses + Lightships by Kayak Quest"! To document my progress, I bought a Canon Elph Sport APS waterproof camera so friends could take pictures of me as I paddled as close as I safely could to each light. Since late 2001 I've paddled to many of the 40+3. Some of the lights are easy to reach, like the Lightship Chesapeake and Sevenfoot Knoll in Baltimore's Inner Harbor and shoreside lights at Concord Point, Ft. Washington, and Jones Point. Other lights that are a bit offshore are also fairly easy paddles—like Thomas Point Shoals, Sandy Point Shoal, Fishing Battery, and New Point Comfort. Starting with an October 2001 CPA trip I led along the Calvert Cliffs to the Cove Point Light, a number of trips let me check off most of the "easy" lights in the northern part of the Bay.

But the most challenging lights are those that either stand on caissons in the middle of the Bay, or although on land are tough to reach because they're far from

good launch sites. Some of the offshore caissons are as far as 3.5 miles from land, like Maryland's

Hooper Island, Point No Point, and Sharps Island, and Virginia's

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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.

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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

This month we have a review of a few paddling destinations. These were posts on the members list in case you didn't see them.

It's great to see so many paddlers on the water. There are lots of both official and unofficial trips and it is a pleasure to see so many new faces at our weekly paddles. If you have a suggestion for a trip, but don't feel you meet the trip leader requirements, put your suggestion on the

member list and see if someone will volunteer to lead it.

Speaking of volunteers, we have received most of the volunteer recognition "rockers." These are kayak shaped patches we will give to those who volunteer for the association this year such as instructors, safety boaters, steering committee members, pirate captains, and swim supporters. We expect to receive the trip leader rockers soon. The pirate captains will

have a selection of each to hand out.

The CPA logo tiles David Moore ordered are in. These hand painted ceramic tiles were on display at Lake Anna. If you are interested in one, I suggest you contact David. insert email address here

I hope to see you on the water.

Brian Blankinship

CALENDAR

Participants in CPA events must read and comply with the statement of CPA trip requirements and ratings on p. 11.

Please contact the trip leaders in advance, even if you are familiar with the area being paddled. They need to have contact information in case of changes. Also, there may be space limitations or other trip restrictions.

Note: As always, you can get the latest information about the CPA Calendar at our website: www.cpakayaker.com. Many of the non-CPA-sponsored events have websites with full information on them. Links to these sites are available on the CPA website calendar.

SEPTEMBER

Sep 5-7 (Fri-Sun) St. Clements Island kayak camp (*Advanced Beginner*). Bill Dodge (703-979-5837). ADC chart 23. This is the 6th year for this event. Most historical site in Maryland.

Sep 6 (Sat) The Broadcreek Blast (*All*) Laurel, Delaware

Sep 6 (Sat) Sassafras River (*Beginner*) Alan Avery. (410-956-3299)

Sep 12-14 (Fri-Sun) Janes Island (*Peer paddle*). Woody Woodard (703-335-8624). woodardr@bigfoot.com. Car/cabin camping and paddling at Jane's Island State Park on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Sep 13 (Sat) VA Beach Paddlefest (*All*)

Sep 20 (Sat) Baltimore Harbor (*Advanced Beginner*). Barry Marsh (410-728-4016).

Round trip from the Canton Waterfront Park to the Inner Harbor. 6 NM in protected water. Depending on boat traffic, water conditions, and paddler interest on the day of the trip, an additional Intermediate level Outer Harbor loop of up to 8 NM can be added after the Inner Harbor loop.

Sep 21 (Sun) Kent Island / Goodhands Creek (*Beginner*). Pam Avery. 410-263-0811.

Sep 26-28 (Fri-Sun) Fall Fun Fest, Elk Neck State Park (*All*). John Blackburn.

OCTOBER

Oct 3-5 (Fri-Sun) Delmarva Paddlers Retreat (*All*).

Oct 4 (Sat) St. Michaels Small craft Festival (*All*).

Oct 10-12 (Fri-Sun). Pokomoke River/Nassawango Creek (*Beginner*). Ralph Heimlich (301-498-0918). Fall foliage paddle on the beautiful Pokomoke and back up into the mysterious Nassawango Creek. **This is a command performance for those who accompanied me in August and decided we HAD to see the river with autumn leaves.**

Oct 11-12 (Sat-Sun). Patuxent River Appreciation Days (*All*). CPA Booth?

Oct 31 (Fri). Halloween Paddle and Party (*All*). Cyndi Janetzko, Dave Biss.

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Wolf Trap and Smith Point. Some land-based lights, like Pooles Island and Cape Charles, look like simple, short paddle trips, but may really take hours to paddle to. Of course there's no easy way to paddle to the Chesapeake Light Tower—14 miles into the Atlantic! Here are the tales of my kayak trips to a few of the lights:

Baltimore Harbor Approaches

On Memorial Day 2002 I met with four CPA friends—Maridale Jackson, John McKeever, Carlos Rodriguez, and Manuel Suarez—to paddle to the lights marking the and shells buried in the wetland mud. We 21 paddled about three miles down Dundee Creek to the mouth of the Gunpowder River and took a floating rest break at Carroll Point. Eleven paddlers decided to explore the backwater areas instead of joining the next part of the trip, which included four long open-water crossings. Ten of us continued across the Gunpowder to Rickett Point and headed into the Bay. We were soon in the rolling surf alongside Pooles Island Light. We paused for pictures and some rescue practice (Manuel did a wet exit for us), then headed back to the mainland. On the way we met up with the rest of our paddling group, and 12.5 miles after launching, we arrived back at the marina. Light #17 in my Quest completed!

Solomons Lump Lighthouse

Last October Dale Murphy planned a weekend trip for eight friends to Smith Island, where she'd rented an entire bed and breakfast in the town of Ewell. Instead of doing a 10-mile open-water paddle trip from Crisfield to the lighthouse north of Smith Island, we chartered a fishing boat, operated by the waterman who ran the B&B we'd reserved, to get our kayaks, gear, and ourselves from the mainland to Smith Island on Friday.

I'd just replaced my Perception Carolina with a new Impex Montauk (it'd been christened on

trips to the Sharps Island and Hooper Strait Lights in September), and I was anxious to try it out on a longer trip. On Saturday morning, as we prepared to launch from the Ewell dock, the Methodist minister of all three churches on Smith Island strolled by and introduced himself and mentioned he was a kayaker. I invited him to join us, and we rushed off to help him get his boat and gear. It was good we had "Pastor Rick" along—the nautical charts didn't show some of the passages through the inner marshes of the Martin National Wildlife Preserve—and Pastor Rick knew his local waters better than we did. Even

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Overfalls Lightship, Lewes, Delaware

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then we had a few false starts, paddling up several false ‘guts’—narrow passages only navigable when the tide was up—but Betty Aldrich found the right gut and we broke through the surf zone into 3’ waves on the windy northwest side of the island. Paddling for a few minutes through heavy seas, we entered calmer water near the top of the island, and for the first time spotted the Solomons Lump Lighthouse about a mile offshore. A quick dash brought us to the lighthouse, one of the loneliest and least accessible on the Bay. After a congratulatory bilge pump water fight (very welcome, given the heat and humidity of the day) and a picnic lunch ashore, we paddled through a flock of hundreds of Brown Pelicans, and

seven hours after launching completed our 14-mile circumnavigation of the island. Light #28 completed! As a bonus, on the drive home from Crisfield four of us took a side trip to Hooper Island to visit the only Maryland light I hadn’t yet paddled to. A quick 7-mile round trip later, I’d not only paddled to light #29 in my Quest, I’d also paddled to the last of the “MD 25+1”!

So far I’ve paddled to and had my picture taken at 30 of the lighthouses and two of the lightships—30+2—just over the three-quarters point! I’m often asked which have been the easiest and hardest lights to reach. The easiest was Overfalls Lightship, less than 100’ from the launch

ramp in Lewes, DE; the hardest was Point No Point, 2.5 miles out in seas that topped 3’ and winds up to 15 knots, done after we’d already paddled to Point Lookout at the start of what became a 17-mile trip. I’ve started to plan to paddle to the last 10 lighthouses and one lightship, mostly in the Hampton Roads area, and I should finish my Quest sometime in 2004. But to finish my Quest I first have to paddle to the Chesapeake Light Tower, 14 miles east of Virginia Beach. Sometime next year, when the weather and tides are just right and with a group of experienced paddlers and a chase boat alongside, I hope to complete my 40+3 Quest with a paddle trip to the Tower, looming on the distant horizon. But that’s another article.



Fishing Battery, on the Susquehanna Flats, south of Havre de Grace, Maryland

Shoreline Tour of the Patuxent River and St. Leonard Creek

This was the first Shoreline Tour, and perhaps the first CPA trip, with a press boat. Jesse Yeatman and Darwin Weigel of the Calvert Recorder paddled Jesse's canoe to cover the story. Darwin mentioned he gets out on the Patuxent on Thursday nights (the same night as the Patuxent Pirates), but on a sailboat instead of a kayak. Jesse's article and Darwin's photographs are reprinted here with permission.

The morning trip was approximately 4 miles, and the afternoon trip about 6 miles. The paddlers included: Luci Adams, Alan Avery, Sue Bauer, Bill Hunt, Caroline Labbe, Nelson Labbe, Craig Labbe, Becky Morehouse, Jenny Plummer-Welker, Barbara Southworth, Rich Stevens, Greg Welker, Belinda Urquiza, Kirsti Uunila, Darwin Weigel, Karen Yee, and Jesse Yeatman.

Jenny Plummer-Welker

Soaking up History from the Patuxent

By Jesse Yeatman, Staff Writer
The Calvert Recorder, 08/01/03

Nothing beats a leisurely paddle down the Patuxent River, unless if it's in conjunction with an informative tour along the shoreline of Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. The Chesapeake Paddlers Association joined with Kirsti Uunila, JPPM staff archaeologist, for a guided canoe and kayak tour of the extensive shoreline of the park. The 16-boat flotilla traveled a few miles down the Patuxent River and into St. Leonard Creek to learn about hotspots in Calvert County history. Most of the paddlers hailed from other areas

along Maryland and Virginia's waterways. They got their first look at Calvert waters during the tour, and seemed to be impressed.

Nelson Labbe, a kayaker from Springfield, Va., said he was excited to see the Patuxent River from the cockpit of his kayak. "I try to get out once a week," Labbe said. He is a member of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association. Labbe transitioned to sea kayaking from river kayaking about three years ago. River kayaks are short and sturdy, built for maneuverability during whitewater riding. A sea kayak is longer and thinner than a river kayak and built for speed and tracking. After the three-hour trip Labbe said he liked the ride and learned some interesting facts.



Kirsti Uunila, an archaeologist at JPPM, explained the history of the area



Kayakers explore the Patuxent shoreline along the park

Periodically the paddlers paused to listen to a history lesson by Uunila. “About 9,000 years ago the Patuxent River was a fast running freshwater stream,” Uunila said. The river probably much more narrow than today, as evident by a 1770s map drawn for a court case. The map listed various seventeenth and eighteenth century properties and traced a shoreline that has been gnawed at by the river. Further down the river, near the mouth of St. Leonard Creek, Uunila pointed out the site of the first execution in the Maryland colony. A man named John Dandy was put to death for the murder of his servant,

Henry Gouge, on Oct. 3, 1657. The sheriff of Calvert County at the time, James Veitch, carried out the execution on an island north of St. Leonard Creek. The Battle of St. Leonard Creek was fought

centuries ago during the War of 1812 just inside the creek. A very well known battle, the fight did happen on the way to the burning of Washington and the battle in Bladensburg.

Sukeek’s Cabin, an archaeology hotspot for the park, was a home belonging to an African American family. The site is considered to be the first free residence of Sukeek’s family. Although park staff has not determined if Sukeek’s daughter lived in the house, they have proved that her granddaughter lived there. In the 1920s, as many as 70 African American families lived on or near the water of the St. Leonard Creek peninsula. That number has changed dramatically since, although the road name, Mackall Road, still testifies to the former families of the land. “Then the meaning of waterfront changed,” Uunila said, “and there

are very few African American families on the water now.” Now oversized houses exist along most of the Calvert County waterfront.

Lead paddler Jenny Plummer-Welker showed the tourists where a sunken boat lies in St. Leonard Creek. Just inside the mouth in a small cove the “Dashaway” sleeps at the muddy bottom of the creek. Plummer-Welker said that as the oral tradition goes, the 1883 Chesapeake sailing vessel was abandoned by an African-American captain in the 1920s. The boat measures just over 50 feet in length and can be seen by keen observers on days when the water is clear.

The park hosts the paddle tour every year as part of its archeology education program. For more information about the Chesapeake Paddlers Association (CPA), call Jenny Plummer-Welker at 410-535-1600 x2333.

PADDLIN' PLACES

Compiled by Ralph Heimlich

This new feature is drawn from discussions on the CPA mail list. It focuses on places to paddle, as documented by list participants.

Martinak State Park

Location: At Choptank River, on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Route 313, near Denton. ACD Chesapeake Chart Book, p. 12.

Brian Blankenship: I really like Martinak. We held a couple Kids Kayak Camping trips there, and I've run several large camping events. The rangers are the tops. Camping is nice and well maintained. There's a free put-in at the park, but you have to drive from the campsite.

The ramp drops you onto a controlled creek with nice, gentle paddling and pleasant scenery. Minimal boat traffic, mostly canoes and trolling fishermen. This creek provides easy access to the Choptank.

Jenny Plummer-Welker: Martinak is my favorite Maryland State Park. The boat launch is on Watts Creek, which empties into the Choptank River. From the launch, you can go in three directions:

Following Watts Creek

At high tide you can paddle up Watts Creek and under the Route 313 Bridge. After the bridge, the creek splits.

Going North on the Choptank

From Watts Creek, it's about one mile up the Choptank to the center of Denton. There's a waterfront museum on the west side of the old bridge at Route 404 (not the new by-pass bridge). The museum (<http://www.riverheritage.org>) has two skipjacks on display. There's some motorboat and jetski traffic on

the Choptank, but the channel is marked... at least until Denton.

Going south on the Choptank

Going downriver, you'll pass the outlet of Williston Lake. On a high tide, you can go as far as the Route 16 Bridge and outlet from the lake.

Other notes

- Check with the rangers to see when the bass tournaments are and avoid those weekends, due to crowds at the boat launch.
- Explore Martinak State Park. There's a nature and fitness trail, and you can see the remains of a pugnacious (sailing vessel) that was excavated when the boat launch was constructed. The park is about 100 acres, and it abuts another large tract that's owned by a church camp.
- The best place to get sandwiches is Cindi's, a convenience store, just north of US 50 on MD 313 (the subs are HUGE). The best place to eat dinner is the Greensboro Diner (it's one of my grand-parents' regular spots). A little bit further, in the opposite direction, is the Suicide Restaurant—serves great seafood—near the Suicide Bridge, up river from Secretary, MD.

Circumnavigating Taylors Island

Location: Chesapeake Bay, on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Route 16 near Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. ADC Chesapeake Chart Book, p.6.

Ross Christman: I haven't paddled all the way around Taylors Island. I launched once at Beaverdam Creek, on Smithville Road, and paddled to

the bay. A map was enough to navigate.

I also launched from the beach next to the Route 16 Bridge, which goes to Taylors Island. I paddled from Slaughter Creek to Beaverdam Creek without any navigational problems. Just follow the strongest current. You can also visit James Island off the northern tip of Taylors Island.

Greg Hollingsworth: I've done this trip four or five times—it's one of my favorite longer trips, along with the Hooper Island chain just to the south.

While 20 miles does not seem that long, this trip has whipped me just about every time I've done it. I usually add James Island to the trip, which is to the north. That adds a little more distance.

Following the strongest current has generally worked for me. But there's a point on the southeastern side of the circuit where one branch of the flow takes you down to the Honga instead of out to the bay. Taking the wrong branch will add about 15 miles to your trip! A chart and compass should keep you on track through the area.

Currents and tides through the southern side of Slaughter Creek can be quite strong. Try to plan your trip so that you're going with the tide through these areas [Note: tidal difference with Baltimore is -3:05]. The route down to the Honga is another nice circumnavigation that's well worth doing.

Circumnavigating Eastern Neck Island National Wildlife Refuge

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Location: On the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland's Eastern Shore. Eastern Neck Road, south of Rock Hall. ADC Chesapeake Chart Book, p.4. *Ross Christman*: Reed Creek on Tilghman Neck, due east of Eastern Neck Island, has a nice launch site for kayaks, and there's adequate parking. From there you have a 1.5-mile open water crossing to get to Eastern Neck Island. On weekends the high-speed boat traffic is heavy in the Chester River.

Craig O'Donnell: There are several good put-ins south of Rock Hall, but you can shorten your drive by putting in at Queenstown and paddling across the mouth of the Chester River to Eastern Neck. But paddling from Queenstown to Eastern Neck can easily take an hour, and that's about how long it takes to drive the extra distance to Rock Hall. Also, the water at the mouth of the Chester can be rough.

Wendy Baker-Davis [who led the CPA trip on July 20]: Our 12-mile circumnavigation of Eastern Neck started and ended at Bogle's Wharf, which is the island's put-in. We saw scenic, unspoiled marshlands, many bald eagles, and other shore birds.

Nanjemoy Creek

Location: Off the Potomac River, on Maryland's Western Shore Route 425, off Route 6 near Tayloe. ADC Chesapeake Chart Book, p.22.

Joan Spinner: The upper part, from Route 6 south, passes through woods and marshes and ends at Friendship Landing. From there to the Potomac, Nanjemoy can be windy. Other days you pray for a breath of wind.

I love the upper part—it's really a treat. There are a few creeks off the

Nanjemoy: King's Creek, Hill Top Fork, and Burgess Creek. It's well worth several trips.

Nanjemoy Creek is a mixed bag with regard to boat traffic. Bass boats and other motorized things sometimes zip around. Stay on the south (shallow) side and you'll be fine most of the time. The only place I've ever worried about boat traffic is the crossing from King's Creek to Nanjemoy's west side. There, boats zip in from the Potomac.

Patuxent River

Location: Maryland's Western Shore. ADC Chesapeake Chart Book, pp.19-20.

Ralph Heimlich: There are multiple launch sites on the western Patuxent. Check out: <http://www.mdp.state.md.us/info/patuxpaddle/base.htm>. Click on the section you're interested in, and then click on the little launch symbol for information about a particular put-in.

Al Staats: Those in the 2003 Patuxent Sojourn used the King's Landing site, near Cocktown Creek. There's a one-lane paved driveway from the parking area to the launch. You can drop your boat by the water before you park your car.

The park closes at 8 PM, and they lock the gates. If you're paddling for the day, plan on returning no later than 7:30 PM.

There's a pool near the parking lot and some showers with very cold water. The charge is \$3. Use the pool; skip the showers!

Rich Stevens: The launch site on the east side of the Route 231 bridge is excellent. There's a wide beach, a

short carry to the water, a Port-A-John, and everything is free.

There are lots of nice creeks to explore in the area. Hunting Creek, to the north of Route 231, goes back for miles. The only launch site north of Route 231 is King's Landing Park. See:

<http://www.mdp.state.md.us/info/patuxpaddle/area7.htm>

NOTICE *Annual meeting*

The annual meeting of the club membership shall be held on the first Sunday in November, unless a different date has been designated by the Steering Committee and publicized to the members at least thirty days in advance. The time, location, and agenda of the annual meeting shall be chosen by the Steering Committee and must be announced to the members at least thirty days in advance. All members may vote at annual meetings. A report on the annual meeting shall be published in a timely manner through official club information sources such as the newsletter, listserv or website.

*From Section 6 of the CPA
Bylaws*

CPA Trip Requirements and Ratings

CPA 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 watertight 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 and events 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 necessary.)

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 group paddling skills.

Intermediate Paddlers: Participants are comfortable on longer trips (more than 10 miles), can maintain a steady pace for extended periods, are comfortable with open water crossings of 2+ miles, can handle a variety of water conditions, and have strong self- and group-rescue skills.

CLASSIFIEDS

Check your ad! 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:

Display advertising will be accepted that relates to the concerns and interests of our readers. Monthly rates for advertising are as follows:

Size	cost	width x depth (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, .bmp). 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 and accessories are printed for members

at no charge; non-members pay \$10 for 3 months.

FOR SALE

LL Bean Kayak/Canoe Trailer for 2 kayaks or 2 canoes. Never used but beginning to rust in my driveway. \$50. Tad Baldwin, 202-244-5502, tadbaldwin@starpower.net. (09/03)

Whitewater Kayak and Ducky.

Kayak: Prijon T-Canyon, spray-skirt, paddle, good condition, \$500. **Ducky:** Hyside Padillac II inflatable self-bailer, 1-2 man, premium foot pump, good condition \$450. Fred, 703-360-0670; leave message. (07/03)

Necky Arluk II. Kevlar/Carbon. 18'x22", white/white with teal trim. Includes carbon paddle, skirt, and cover. \$1,600. John McKeever, 202-874-3492 (w) or 410-695-1391 (h). john.mckeever@bep.treas.gov. (07/03)

Current Designs

Gulfstream. 1999, yellow over white. Fiber-glass with skeg, day hatch, 3 bulkheads, custom seat, upgraded bungies and deck lines. Good condition, no skeg problems. 16' 10" X 23.75". Great expedition or day trip boat. \$2000. Joan Spinner, 301-559-3345, JSpinner2@peoplepc.com. (07/03)

Weekly Pirates Paddling

We now have six pirate groups paddling every week! Join one!

Pirates at Pier 7

Wednesday nights, arrive 4-6 PM. Paddling, rolling, rescue practice, boat fitting, BBQs, and hanging out with other paddlers. PFDs required. Directions: Take US-50 west toward Annapolis. Exit onto MD-665. Exit onto MD-2 south, over the South River. Take first left after crossing the bridge. Follow road to Pier 7 Marina. Contact: Alan Avery, 410-856-3299 or pirates_pier7@cpakayker.com.

Note: Pier 7 kayak launching is free on Wednesdays only. All other times there is a \$5 launch fee, even if launching from the beach.



Pirates of the Potomac

Tuesday nights, 5 PM. Belle Haven Marina. \$3 launch fee. Seasonal passes \$45. Directions: From Alexandria, VA, take the Mt. Vernon Parkway 1.3 miles south of the Beltway, then left and straight into the marina. Contact: Dick Rock, 703-780-6605 or pirates_potomac@cpakayker.com. In case of inclement weather, call Belle Haven Marina, 703-768-0018 after 3:30 PM to confirm launch cancelled.

Pirates of the Patuxent

Thursday nights, arrive 5-6 PM. Free parking on the right, just north of the boardwalk across from Our Lady Star of the Sea Church. Contact: Don Polakovics, 301-866-0437 or pirates_patuxent@cpakayaker.com; or Jennifer Elmore, 301-862-2398 or pirates_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com.

Pirates of Georgetown

Thursday nights, 6:30 PM. Jack's Boats (202-337-9642), 3500 K Street, NW in the Georgetown area of Washington, DC under the Whitehurst Freeway. Plenty of parking. Rental kayaks available. Contact: David Moore, 301-445-3273 or pirates_georgetown@cpakayaker.com; website: <http://www.scienceapplications.com/pirates>.

Pirates of Baltimore (the roving Piracy!)

1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays at Canton Waterfront Park, 3001 Boston St., Baltimore; 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at Rocky Point Park, Essex, MD. Meet at 5:30 PM for paddling and skills practice and to meet other paddlers. PFDs, sprayskirts, and a waterproof light required. Contact Barry Marsh, 410-728-4016 or 703-837-3017.

Pirates of Algonkian (upper Potomac)

Tuesday nights, 6 PM until sunset. Paddlers from VA and MD paddle along the upper Potomac shores between Virginia and Maryland. We raid unsuspecting canoes and fishermen for food, drink, and catch-of-the-day. AAARRRRRG! We also portage and paddle down along the C&O Canal. We often explore Seneca Creek and elongated islands as well as practice skills, rescues, and rolling workshops. Two launch points: Algonkian Regional Park in Sterling, VA, and Riley's Lock in Potomac, MD. Contact: James Song, james.song@verizon.com or tsongus@yahoo.com or 703-375-4754.

Inside our September issue:

- *Paddling Toward the Lights*
 - *Shoreline Tour of Patuxent/
St. Leonard Creek*
 - *Paddlin' Places (new feature)*
- . . . and more!*

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***