

# Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Volume 15, Issue 6

July 2005

## July 4th Fireworks Paddle

Photos by Marcus Koenen

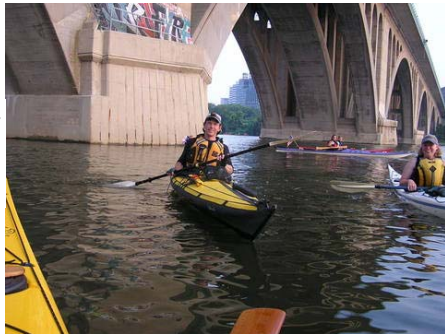
What a great night for a paddle on the Potomac! CPA members—and dozens of others in search of a unique place to watch the fireworks—enjoyed a potluck barbeque and then launched from Jack's Boathouse in Georgetown. Yvonne Thayer did a wonderful job organizing the event, which also included a decorated boat contest.

*Decorated boat contest*



*Yvonne Thayer*

*Peter*



*Marcus gets pumped for the paddle*



*Decorated boat winner*



*Best view in town!*

**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**

1995 Klepper Quattro Tandem Folding Kayak. Olive Green top. Great condition. Used only few times and kept indoors. Moving out of town for a long-term assignment. Price: \$3,000 or negotiable. Boat is located in Arlington, VA. Contact John McNamara at 540-729-2121 or at [dmacusaf@comcast.net](mailto:dmacusaf@comcast.net)

Kevlar Double "Explorer" by Northwest Kayaks, good as new, emerald green over white. 18' x 6", approx. 72 lbs. \$1,895. Fred Von Karls 410-974-1600

## **WANTED: Chesapeake Paddler Newsletter Editor**

Volunteer, work with a great group of people, learn about kayaking & use your writing and editing skills.

For more information, call Danielle: 703-517-6073

**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
August 2005	July 15, 2005
September 2005	August 15, 2005
October 2005	September 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](mailto:news_editor@cpakayaker.com) or call her at 703-517-6073.

**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](mailto:coordinator@cpakayaker.com)

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**Mailing and Distribution**—Rob and Jackie Castle, [news\\_distribution@cpakayaker.com](mailto:news_distribution@cpakayaker.com)

**Pirate Groups:**

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**Potomac Pirate King**—Dick Rock, 703-780-6605 [pirates\\_potomac@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_potomac@cpakayaker.com)

**Patuxent Pirate King**—Dan Wells, 410-414-2660, [pirates\\_patuxent@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_patuxent@cpakayaker.com); Don Polakovics, 301-866-0437, [pirates\\_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com)

**Georgetown Pirate Committee**—Cyndi Janetzko, 703-241-0036; Dave Biss, 703-241-0036; David Moore, 301-445-3273; [pirates\\_georgetown@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_georgetown@cpakayaker.com)

**Baltimore Pirate King**—Bob Huber, 410-335-0994, [pirates\\_baltimore@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_baltimore@cpakayaker.com)

**Algonkian Pirate King**—Jeff Walaszek, 703-670-7712, [pirates\\_algonkian@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_algonkian@cpakayaker.com)

**Sugarloaf Pirate Queen**—Deb McKenzie, 240-601-1440, [pirates\\_sugarloaf@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_sugarloaf@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*

## Coordinator's Column

By Barry Marsh

Ahoy!

Summer's here! Time to have even more fun on the water - and time to make sure we're protecting ourselves from the hot, sunny weather!

While paddling at the Chesapeake Bay Swim, the Komen Paddle for the Cure, and the Baltimore Harbor CPA trip in late June, I noticed many different approaches to sun protection and hydration. Some paddlers dressed like ninjas, covered head-to-toe in long sleeve black outfits with only their faces and fingers exposed, while others dressed in tee shirts and shorts. Most - but not all - wore hats, and most - but not all - wore sunscreen. Some paddlers drank from water or sport drink bottles stowed under their deck bungies, while others use hydration packs like Camelbak and Platypus; some sipped, while others gulped.

With the hot summer months finally here, we all need to make sure we're considering the weather conditions when paddling. Unfortunately, too many times I've seen paddlers dressed inadequately to protect themselves from the sun, ending up after paddle trips with complexions more suitable for steamed crabs than for humans. I've seen a few paddlers in the dizzy,

initial stages of dehydration because they didn't bring enough water along.

The CPA has no formal policy regarding the type of clothing to be worn for CPA events, stating only that paddlers must wear "clothes appropriate to the water temperature." Decisions about what to wear are generally left to the paddler. CPA Trip Leaders may suggest or even require certain types of clothing, and should let potential participants know before the trip or event that certain requirements apply (and that paddlers can be turned away for not having the proper gear).

For me, "clothes appropriate to the water temperature" is really "clothes appropriate to the conditions" - water and air temperatures, cloud cover (or lack thereof), wind, and insects. In the summer months my "appropriate" paddling wardrobe consists of a synthetic-fabric shirt (long or short sleeve) and shorts, water shoes, polarized sunglasses (securely bungied to my head), a wide-brimmed hat or ball cap, PFD, and sprayskirt, plus plenty of waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen, which I'll reapply at least once during the day.

When it's hot out we need to keep hydrating to replace fluids we're losing. During the summer months, especially on days as hot as it was on the Baltimore Harbor trip, hydration for me consists of one or more 70 oz. Camelbak UnBottles, filled with cold water (before leaving home I fill them with trays of ice cubes and top them off with ice water), secured under the bungies on my kayak's foredeck. I take frequent sips, usually going through at least one Camelbak per daytrip. Some people drink more and some drink less, and some prefer sport drinks over water, but the important thing is to keep replacing what you're losing.

So put on your paddling outfit, grab your hat and sunglasses, fill up your water bottles, slather on the sunscreen, and get out there and have fun!

See ya on the water,

Barry  
2005 CPA Coordinator





## Marylanders Get New Kayak/Canoe Access

By Rob Castle

The CPA has a long standing policy whereby we remain neutral on issues that are politically charged. However, when it comes to matters of increasing and improving public access by kayak and canoe to the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, there are a few of us that will speak out.

Ten years ago, the members of Davis family were forced to make a decision as to the disposition of the 80 acre farm they had operated since the 1930s. Surrounded by the ever increasing populations of the Annapolis and Edgewater areas, they turned to others for advice. They decided that whatever the outcome, they wanted something that would be a lasting reminder of days gone by and their wonderful lives on Homeport Farm. It was decided that, in addition to a small upscale residential housing enclave, they would donate 25 acres to Anne Arundel County as a passive-use park. The park would include an area for public access by "human-powered" boats (canoes/kayaks) to the waters of Church Creek, along which the farm lies.

The mile-long creek joins the South River on its northern side not far below the MD Route 2 (Solomon's Island Road) bridge and almost directly across the river from the home base of the Pirates of Pier 7.



*Dennis Callahan, Director of Recreation and Parks, presents a proclamation to two members of the Davis family.*

Well, after numerous appeals and battles with virtually every conceivable entity that has any relationship with this area, the Davis' ultimately prevailed and on May 31, 2005 a formal dedication was held on the grounds of the Homeport Farm. Alan Avery and I were invited to attend the brief ceremony that took place just above the site of the public access launch. During the gathering we took the opportunity to meet the County Officials and State Delegates that would be responsible for the development of this access site and offer whatever assistance we could from a paddler's perspective in "polishing" this gem.

Alan had testified at one of the public hearings on behalf of the woeful state of public access for kayakers and canoeists in Anne Arundel County. In researching for his testimony, Alan and I had discovered that the county, with over 500 miles

of shoreline, had but a single public access site specifically designated for our small craft.

Being my first visit (from the land side that is) to this serenely beautiful place, I can really appreciate the gift the Davis' have bestowed upon us.

In speaking with County Director of Recreation and Parks, Dennis Callahan, I was told that it is their goal to facilitate canoe and kayak launching as soon as possible, perhaps within the next several weeks. Other features of the Homeport Farm Park will be hiking and nature study areas, and perhaps some picnic facilities, although these additions are slated for the longer term.



*View Upstream from the Launch Site*

## Product Test: Back-up Self Rescue Device

By Mike Vandamm

The Backup™ self-rescue device provides an effective means of righting a capsized kayak for a paddler who is unable to roll up. The device, which is contained in a cylindrical plastic housing approximately 8 ½" long by 2 ¾" in diameter, is designed to be strapped to deck rigging and has a grab handle at one end that is attached to a flotation bag that automatically inflates from an attached cylinder of CO<sub>2</sub> gas when pulled free of the housing. The paddler can rest on the inflated bag, which has over 80 lbs of buoyancy and provides a firm, rounded pillow rising several inches out of the water. A light push on the float is all that is required to return the paddler to an upright posture.

The Backup has an oral inflation/deflation tube and a strap on one side so that it can be used as a paddle float. When tested in mild conditions, I found the Backup to be a very effective paddle float. However, since highly buoyant paddle floats can be difficult to manage in strong winds, I suggest releasing much of the gas from the Backup before using it for that purpose on a windy day.

The Backup is available directly from the manufacturer, Roll-aid Safety, Inc., of Vancouver, BC ([www.Roll-aid.com](http://www.Roll-aid.com)) for US\$137.00, plus \$12 for shipping. Extra 68 gram CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges are \$12.50 from Roll-Aid, and are also available from local boating supply stores.



*Mike tests the Backup*

*Photos by Dave Biss*

## Weekly Pirates Paddling

For more details, check out the CPA website and user forums at [www.cpakayaker.com](http://www.cpakayaker.com)

### 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 the first left after crossing the bridge. Follow road to Pier 7 Marina. Contact: Alan Avery, 410-856-3299 or [pirates\\_pier7@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_pier7@cpakayaker.com).

*Note: Pier 7 kayak launching is free on Wednesday only. All other times there is a \$10 launch fee per kayak if launching from the beach.*

### Pirates of the Potomac

Wednesday nights, 5 PM. Belle Haven Marina. \$3 launch fee. Seasonal passes \$45. Directions: From Alexandria, VA, take the Mount 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@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_potomac@cpakayaker.com). In case of inclement weather, call Bellhaven Marina at 703-768-0018 after 3:30 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: Dan Wells, 410-414-2660 or [pirates\\_patuxent@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_patuxent@cpakayaker.com); (alternate) Don Polakovics, 301-866-0437, [pirates\\_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_patuxent2@cpakayaker.com)

### Pirates of Georgetown

Thursday nights, arrive between 6-6:30 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, Dave Biss 703-241-0036 or Cyndi Janetzko 703-241-0036. Or on the web at [pirates\\_georgetown@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_georgetown@cpakayaker.com); <http://www.jacksboathouse.com/POG>

### Pirates of Sugarloaf

Tuesday nights, arrive 5:15 PM. Recreational paddling at Black Hill Regional Park in Germantown, Maryland. Daily permit fee of \$5 paid at boat ramp; seasonal permit is \$55. Contact Deb McKenzie, 240-601-1440, [pirates\\_sugarloaf@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_sugarloaf@cpakayaker.com)

### 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 Bob Huber, (410) 335-0994 or [pirates\\_baltimore@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_baltimore@cpakayaker.com).

### Pirates of Algonkian (upper Potomac)

Wednesday evenings, 6:00 PM until sunset. Upper Potomac and the various Northern Virginia Regional Parks. Our primary launch points will be Algonkian Regional Park and Fountainhead Regional Park. Other occasional launch sites will include Bull Run Marina, Occoquan Regional Park, Pohick Bay Regional Park ... and maybe even Mason Neck. Check out the Algonkian Pirates Discussion Forum for current info and plans. Contact: Jeff Walaszek, 703-670-7712, [pirates\\_algonkian@cpakayaker.com](mailto:pirates_algonkian@cpakayaker.com)



## 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](http://www.cpakayaker.com).

July	<b>4 (Mon) July 4th Paddle and Picnic</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Yvonne Thayer (202) 537-1435
	<b>8 (Fri) New Point Comfort Car Camper</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Bill Dodge (703) 979-5837
	<b>9 (Sat) Miles River Day Paddle</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Rich Stevens (703) 527-4882
	<b>10 (Sun) Safety and Rescues</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Dave Biss & Cyndi Janetzko (703) 241-0036
	<b>16 (Sat) Rec Boat Safety Training</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Ralph Heimlich
	<b>17 (Sun) Fountainhead to Bull Run</b> ( <i>Advanced Beginner</i> ) Tina Ray (571) 213-4634
	<b>23 (Sat) Dundee Creek &amp; Gunpowder River</b> ( <i>Intermediate</i> ) Barry Marsh (410) 728-4016
August	<b>24 (Sat) Triadelphia Reservoir Day Paddle</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Rich Stevens (703) 527-4882
	<b>31 (Sun) Pohick to Pomonkey</b> ( <i>Advanced Beginner</i> ) Tina Ray (571) 213-4634
	<b>7 (Sun) Tuckahoe River Day Trip</b> ( <i>Advanced Beginner</i> ) Lucy Mitchell (410) 604-3139
September	<b>13 (Sat) Rocky Gorge Perseid Meteor Paddle and Barbecue</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Ralph Heimlich (301) 498-0918
	<b>21 (Sun) Havre de Grace/Susquehanna Flats</b> ( <i>Intermediate</i> ) Barry Marsh (410) 728-4016
	<b>3-10 (Sat-Sat) Second Annual Adirondacks Paddling Week</b> ( <i>All</i> ) David Moore, (301) 445-3273
	<b>17-18 (Sat-Sun) St. Clements Island Kayak Camper</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Bill Dodge (70) 979-5837
	<b>23-25 (Fri-Sun) Elk Neck Car Camper</b> ( <i>Beginner</i> ) Ralph Heimlich (301) 498-0918



*July 4 CPA Paddle and Picnic*

## **Inside our July 2005 issue:**

- **4th of July Fireworks Paddle**
- **Marylanders Get New Kayak/Canoe Access**
- **Product Test: Backup Self Rescue Device**

### **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.