

Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Volume 16, Issue 6

July 2006

Matthews County, Virginia—Paddling Paradise

By Ralph Heimlich



New Point Campground by moonlight *photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker*

After a leisurely breakfast and a scan of the weather radio, the group decided to paddle the peaceful Piankatank River, which joins the Bay just south of the Rappahanock's mouth. We launched from the Berkley Island ramp on the north side of the river, just west of the Route 3 bridge, and paddled upstream for about 5 miles to the old Freeport ferry landing. What Greg remembered as an old country store is now a laid-back marina. We landed and had our pic-a-nic under shady trees at picnic tables, under the watchful eyes of a beggar cocker spaniel. We relaunched just as a sailing regatta was getting underway, but managed to avoid becoming part of the race.

Saturday night saw us returning to the restaurant our early-comers had scoped out on Thursday. On the very first Matthews County trip, Bill, Dick Rock, Mark Taylor and I had checked out the restaurant in this stately old Southern mansion only to scare up a gaggle of Red Hat Ladies in their purple dresses posing for pictures. The place has been reincarnated as the Pelican Cove Bistro, an Italian/seafood restaurant of great promise. Definitely a keeper!

Sunday dawned early for some of our paddlers (Jenny, Greg, and Ron Barnett) who mounted a dawn patrol in the direction of Winter Harbor. Dan Hoke, Jennifer Bine, and Bob Pullman also opted for an early start, heading south to New Point Comfort Light, as did Mike Cohn and Linda Witken. The rest

Once again, Bill Dodge led a band of stalwarts South to the paddler-friendly waters of Matthews County, Virginia, nestled between the Rappahanock and the York on Virginia's Western Shore. Bill, Woody, and Ron Barnett got a jump on things by driving down on Thursday. They paddled the quieter waters of the Milford Haven and White's Creek, part of the Matthews County Blueway that is giving this area the reputation of a paddler's paradise. The rest of us filtered in throughout Friday as our schedules permitted, with the latest comers arriving from North Carolina (Debbie Hoffbeck) and Glen Rock, PA (Bob Pullman).

One of the things that makes Matthews County nice is the variety of restaurants in town. Friday night we revisited a long-time favorite, the South Wind Café, to find some changes had been made. South Wind is now an upscale pizzeria featuring boutique beers and very delicious local combo pizzas named after the points of interest. The verdict was positive, and we expect to consume many gourmet pizzas at this local stop.



Put-in on the Piankatank River *photo by Ron Barnett*

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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.

Vince Gerardi is selling off his remaining kayaks and some gear:

—Kevlar Current Designs Caribou sea kayak, 1997, 45 lbs, very good condition, with new spray skirt, \$100 compass, dust cover, pump. **SOLD**

—Kevlar Current Designs Squamish sea kayak, 2004, like new condition, used less than 8 hours, dust cover, spray skirt, pump, list \$3,300 **SOLD**

—Werner paddles: 3 Little Dip-pers, list \$240 each, **SOLD**

—Farmer john wetsuit to fit male 39 chest, 5' 6" **SOLD**

—Kokatat Gortex drytop, long-sleeve, used about 3 hours, \$300 new, **SOLD**

You can contact Vince at 410-810-2999. The boats and gear are available for viewing/paddling at his home in Chestertown, MD. Vince will be 94 in August, so wish him a Happy Birthday!

SCHEDULE FOR 2006 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 2006	July 15, 2006
September 2006	August 15, 2006
October 2006	September 15, 2006

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.

Steering Committee:

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

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Pirate Queen of the North—Wendy Baker-Davis, 717-293-1086, pirates_north@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, 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.

Admiral's Walk



Ahoy, Paddlers!

Yarr, seems all ye sea-dogs longs t' live th' Pirate life! CPA members have recently shown interest in launching five new CPA Piracies, near Richmond, VA; Wye Island, MD; Columbia, MD; Quantico, VA; and in the upper reaches of the Potomac near the MD/WV border. There's been a lot of CPA Listserve and Forum traffic about forming Piracies in these areas, and I wanted to get some info and a few thoughts down on paper (and computer monitor) for everyone.

The CPA has a few guidelines and requirements for a regularly-meeting paddling group to call itself a CPA Piracy. To make it easy for kayakers to paddle with a Piracy, we'd like each Piracy to establish one or more regular launch sites, and to set the day of the week and time they meet. Several Piracies have multiple meeting locations, informing their members of where they'll be via the CPA Listserve, Forums, and brochure. Once a Piracy is established, we can add it to the CPA website (including meeting day, time, location(s), driving directions, and Pirate Captain contact info), create a new Forum, and add the Piracy to the newsletter and brochure.

Paddlers need to have the CPA-required gear and clothing; in the evening hours, they also need to have a white light. Paddlers need to sign a CPA Seasonal Waiver (available on the website and from the Pirate Captain) the first time each year they paddle with a Piracy; the Pirate Captain should keep a file containing the Waivers for his/her Piracy.

Piracies are encouraged to advertise outside the CPA community to find new members. Here are some ideas:

- Hand CPA brochures to paddlers you meet on the water and at launch sites (I always carry a bunch of brochures in my car and in a dry bag, and have even stuck them under the windshield wipers of unoccupied vehicles sporting kayak racks);
- Post CPA brochures and homemade posters (perhaps with tear-offs indicating Pirate Captain name, phone number, and email, and the CPA URL) at launch sites, outdoor gear and paddle sport retailers, community centers, and even your office employee bulletin board;
- Place notices in local papers; and
- Invite members of other outdoor sport groups to Piracy events.

The CPA brochure is on our website, www.cpakayaker.com/downloads/CPABrochure2006.pdf; you can also request copies from Steering Committee members, or directly to Ralph Heimlich for printing.

Once kayakers start to attend weekly Pirate paddles, please encourage them to join the CPA. For their \$10 a year, they get our great newsletter and a CPA patch (if they sign up to receive the newsletter online), and can attend members-only events like SK102.

Here's the contact info for members involved with each of the potential Piracies. Please get in touch if you're interested in helping them launch a Piracy and want to paddle with them:

- **Pirates of Richmond:** Ellen Stefaniak, 804-305-1673 / 1es@earthlink.net (Richmond, VA)
- **Pirates of Wye Island:** Damon Hostetter, 410-827-6596 / dhostett@goeaston.net (Wye Island, MD)
- **Pirates of the Reservoirs:** Mitch Grunes, grunes@yahoo.com or Ralph Heimlich, heimlichfamily@comcast.net (Columbia, MD)
- **Pirates of...uhm...'the Shores of Tripoli':** Ken Swingle, 703-330-9172 / ken@swingle.net (Quantico, VA)
- **Pirates of North Potomac:** Bob Cianflone, bcianflone@yahoo.com (Shepherdstown, WV / Brunswick, MD)

Perhaps soon each of these members will launch their CPA Piracies, and we'll award them the coveted "PIRATE CAPTAIN" CPA patch rocker, proudly worn by but a few select CPA members! Contact me if you have any questions about launching a new Piracy.

Arrr! Happy paddlin', ye scarrvy dogs, an' I'll see ye on th' water!

Barry
CPA Coordinator



Island Hopping in the Chesapeake Bay

By Susanita Hicks

Sometimes I come back from a trip and I'm just glad to be home. Maybe the weather was bad or the trip dynamics didn't work out. Or I didn't click with my travel companions. And other times I come home and can't stop thinking about all the cool things we saw and did. Our trip June 20 was the latter. It was the perfect trip, with perfect weather, and perfect companions. Special thanks to Rick who invited the four of us to scout this trip out with him. Rick Wiebush is a kayak instructor for Kayaktraining.com. He and Mike Aronoff will be offering this trip as a paid adventure through REI later in the summer, but you get to read about it here.

We met Friday morning at 9:15 at the dock in Crisfield, Maryland, drove all the cars to the take-out point at Saxis, and drove back to Crisfield in one car. Then, we took the ferry from Crisfield to [Smith Island](#) with the kayaks. From Smith Island we paddled south through mostly protected waters to [Tangier](#). We spent the night in [Hilda Crockett's](#) B&B on Tangier Island, and on Saturday kayaked from Tangier to Watts Island, then camped on a remote, uninhabited island. Sunday, we paddled from the island to the takeout at Saxis, stopping at various islands along the way.

We had two Bob's on the trip, which was going to be confusing so we decided one of the Bob's needed a new name. Bob Huber, from Baltimore, had done a [70 mile race](#) the previous weekend so we dubbed him Uber Bob. We unloaded the kayaks and gear onto the dock and left Bob Knill to guard our gear while Uber Bob, Gina Cicotella, Rick and I drove the cars to Saxis.



The ferry from Crisfield to Smith Island costs \$10 per person and \$10 per kayak. We loaded the kayaks on the roof of the ferry. The ferry ride from Crisfield to Smith Island was short and uneventful. We applied sunscreen lotion and bug spray and watched the weather. The ferry stopped at the town of Ewell on Smith Island around 1:15. We unloaded the kayaks and looked around for a place to launch. The best launch spot we could find was a small drop off the main road with no beach and plenty of rocks. But first ... crab cakes. My food supply was stocked with energy bars, dried fruit and peanut butter crackers. There were two restaurants at the dock. We all agreed that a crab cake sandwich would be the perfect way to start the trip. The energy bars could be saved for later. We launched from Smith around 3:00.

The trip from Smith Island to Tangier was approximately 11.5 nautical miles. The first part was uneventful, although it's always good to be out on the water. I was still focused on my speed and racing so I would ask Rick what we were aiming for on the horizon then try to race to it. We paddled south through the main part of the island and came out to a small chain of sandbar type islands filled with ... birds. Hundreds of them. Startled by the presence of us strange intruders they exited the sandbars in droves, filling the sky above us and around us, just like a scene out of a Hitchcock movie. Gina got a really cool shot of me in my kayak surrounded by birds. She has a Pentax Optio with a zoom.



After the birds we had about a 2 hour paddle till we reached Tangier. So we stopped on a sandbar to snack and stretch our legs. Once we were back in the boats and left the area with the sandbars the waves picked up a little but still the weather was much better than the forecast. We reached Tangier about 6:30. We unloaded some clothes and toiletries from the kayaks and left the rest of the gear with the boats. It was around 7:30 before we made it to the B&B. Hilda Crockett's B&B was only a short walk up the road, and the Crockett's were actually looking for us. We were quickly ushered to our rooms and told to meet in the dining room for dinner in about half an hour. Gina and I took the more feminine looking room and Rick, Uber Bob and Bob took the other room. Two beds in each room. I'm not sure how the three guys negotiated their sleeping arrangements, but I gave Gina the double bed and I took the single.

I was expecting the B&B to drag out a few leftovers for our dinner. Oh was I wrong! She laid out a feast. There were crabcakes, ham, potato salad, coleslaw, corn pudding, homemade bread, pound cake, green beans and more. It had been a long day. We were tired and famished. We left some food on the table. But not much. After dinner someone brought out some wine and the group went for a walk around the island.

Saturday morning we paddled out of Tangier around 11 am. The first part of the trip was still protected by a sandbar on the right, so the waves were small. After we passed the sandbar the waves got more interesting, up to 2 feet. It was about a 4 mile crossing to Watts Island. My initial thought was to race over and wait for the others. I was still thinking speed and racing. So I started paddling hard. I hadn't gotten very far when Uber Bob sped up beside me. He gave me a kind lecture about the dangers of doing an open water crossing alone and suggested I stick with the group. It was a good move. I slowed down and let the group catch up. Occasionally I would do a few sprints just to see how my speed was in the Mirage but I didn't let myself get too far ahead.



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(Continued from page 1) **Matthews County Paddling**



New Point Comfort Light and "Hurricane Bill"
photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker

of us (Bill, Joan, Dick and I) had a leisurely breakfast and broke camp. Joined at the last minute by the dawn patrol, we also headed south to New Point Comfort. We had a delightful paddle, gamming with the early crowd, circumnavigated the Light and landed for lunch at the sandspit just north of the abandoned lighthouse. After lunch, we paddled back, taking the opportunity to surf whenever we could along the way back.



Wolf Trap from Bethel Beach photo by Robert Woodard



Wolf Trap light photo by Robert Woodard

While all these various paddles took place, Woody snuck out and pulled off a coup by paddling out to the Wolf Trap light, some 3-4 miles off shore from the Bethel Beach Natural Area. The Wolf Trap is now inhabited by a "landlubber" owner since it's sale to the highest bidder as the Coast Guard pulled out. Imagine what a great paddling clubhouse that could make for a Piracy!!

All in all, Matthews County once again proved to be a paddlers paradise. Check it out, next time you have a yen to get away to white sandy beaches and inviting waters.



Captain's Quarters

If ever there was a Forward Stroke Guru, it's Dave Shames. Starting on dry land with a detailed discussion of the types, uses and proper positioning for a good, effective forward stroke, the group of ten paddlers then ventured to the water to "practice makes not-so-perfect". In addition to sharing his wealth of knowledge of the elements of the Forward Stroke and proper body positioning, each paddler was video taped in action on the water. The evening ended with a video playback and critique accompanied by good eats in the parking lot. We're lucky to have such talent among us and Dave's offered to provide other instruction on other strokes and paddling techniques through the season.

Thanks to Natali, Nigel, Susan (the Pennsylvania State Champion) and James Higgins for coming out and joining in on the fun.

Deb McKenzie
Pirate Queen
Pirates of Sugar Loaf

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(Continued from page 4) **Island Hopping**



We had an early lunch on Watts then headed out to the other island where we would camp for the night. The uninhabited island was nothing but a large sandbar with a few trees and shrubs. No birds or other animal life was visible. Unless you count biting flies. Gina and Bob went for a walk around the island while Uber Bob and Rick went back out kayaking. I settled down in my kayak on the beach and just enjoyed the sound of the waves lapping against the shore. Later Gina and Bob came back and we sat on the kayaks. Gina covered herself in sand to escape the biting flies and Bob scanned his GPS for signs of our island. According to the GPS we were still in the water! Since no one had claimed this island Bob stuck his greenland paddle in the sand and put out a flag. The island was now ours! Later we all set up our tents and started meal preparations.

Saturday was also Rick's birthday. After dinner we made a small campfire, broke open Gina's bottle of scotch and presented Rick with a gift. A loud tie-died t-shirt from Tangier and a hat. Gina also had an apple cobbler in a bag that she passed around. The fire didn't last long and neither did the scotch. We stayed up for a while telling stories, none of which I remember, but all of which were very funny (or maybe it was the scotch). Pretty soon people were drifting back to their tents for the evening. I fell asleep pretty fast.

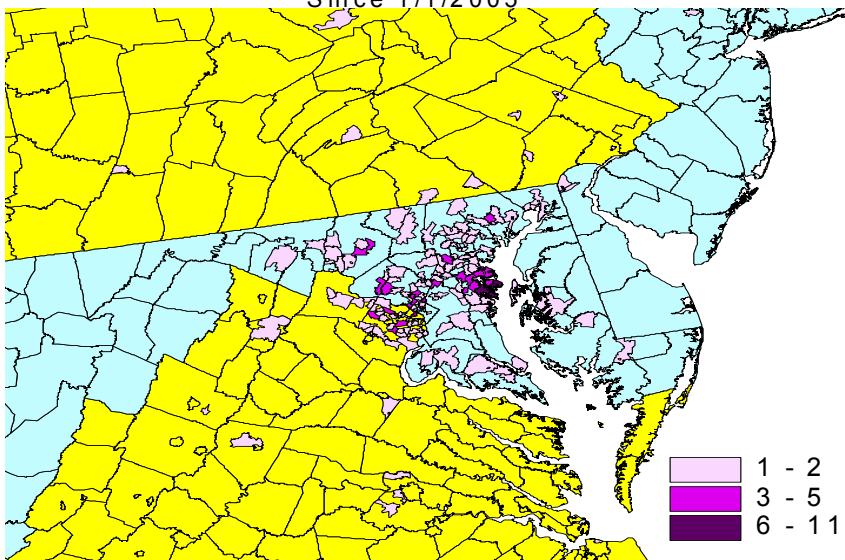
Rick must be an early riser because he was up long before anyone else. Gina was probably the last to get up. But when she did she was greeted by a chorus of "Good morning, Sunshine." Gina is our sunshine girl, and the sun was shining. It was to be another perfect day. We left our unnamed island around 9:30. We had an 11 mile paddle to the take-out at Saxis. For the first part of the trip the wind was almost dead calm and the water was flat. We stopped on Half-moon island for about 30 minutes to snack and stretch our legs, but most of the day was spent paddling. The wind started to pick up later and so did the waves. I pinched a nerve in my wrist so I decided to switch from the wing paddle to the greenland paddle. It made the return trip a lot easier on my arms but I never made it much over 4.5 mph unless I was surfing.



We made it to the take-out at Saxis around 1:30. It took us another hour or so to get organized and load the cars. Uber Bob and Bob surprised us all by quickly changing into clean dry clothes. Gina and I were still wearing the same paddling clothes we started out in two days ago. Some people have higher standards of cleanliness I guess. Rick still had his car back in Crisfield so I drove him back and the others followed. We ended the trip with a farewell seafood dinner in Crisfield.

Thanks to everyone for a truly memorable weekend. And especially thanks to Rick for putting it all together and inviting us along. [Editor's Note: This is from Susanita's web site at http://susanita.typepad.com/susanita/2006/06/island_hopping_.html And all pictures are from there.]

Location of New CPA Members Added Since 1/1/2005



I recently analyzed where are newest members are coming from to help decide where we might put on another edition of SK-101, the beginner course in seakayaking.

The results are by ZIP Code, summarized by State here

State	Number	Percent
Not identified	3	1.0%
DC	15	4.9%
DE	2	0.7%
MD	192	62.5%
NC	3	1.0%
NJ	3	1.0%
NY	3	1.0%
OR	1	0.3%
PA	10	3.3%
VA	74	24.1%
WV	1	0.3%
Grand Total	307	100.0%

There are 501 current members.

Ralph Heimlich
Pirate GIS Coordinator

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 <http://www.cpakayaker.com/events.html>

July

22-23(Sat-Sun) Eastern Neck Island Paddle and Camp: Here is the opportunity to see Eastern Neck Island during the summer Season. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner. **Organizer:** Marshall Woodruff 202.345.0606.

29(Sat) Kent Island Paddle Training: This is a paddle in preparation for the long distance paddle around the island. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202.345.0606.

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Third CPA Race Results



On July 15th, the Third CPA Race was held again at the West River Center, in West River, MD. Sixteen racers participated with a huge variety of differing boats. The weather was perfect, although the jelly fish were lurking in the depth below. Everyone had a wonderful time. We ran two races at the same time, a 5 mile race and a 10 mile race. The five mile race was the same layout as the 2nd race held a few weeks ago. The ten mile race was two loops of the course. The course took the paddlers past Galesville, out of the West River, just to the mouth of the Rhode River, and back again. Stephen Petrie wrote a participant's-eye report posted at <http://www.cpakayaker.com/forums/viewtopic.php?t=1591>. Full results at http://www.chesapeakekayakco.com/CPARaces/results_2006/results2006.htm.

Now, you all might be tired out from such effort in these races..... Even so, I am hearing rumors that there may be yet another CPA sponsored race sometime in October! Watch the CPA "Performance Paddling" Forum for any future posting on this. Until then, get on the water and practice!

Notice the Father and Son Team in the Background

August

- 12(Sat)** **Manhattan Island Circumnavigation : Non-CPA Event**--Join the Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club on New York for their Annual Manhattan Island Circumnavigation. Web Site: <http://www.yprc.org/> **Skill Level:** Intermediate Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Jerry Blackstone.
- 19(Sat)** **Nanjemoy Creek Day Paddle:**Join us for a day paddle on Nanjemoy Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River in MD. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Dan Hoke.
- 26(Sat)** **Breton Bay At Leonardtown**--We will explore Breton Bay, which has great bird watching. The waters here are shallow, so conditions will be safe and protected for beginner paddlers. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Mark Woodside.
- 26(Sat)** **Kent Island Paddle Training:**This is a paddle in preparation for the long distance paddle around the island. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202.345.0606.

September

- 2-9(Sat-Sat)** **3rd Annual Adirondacks Paddling Week:**Come paddle in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York. Lakes galore suitable for all levels of paddling will be explored. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Dave Moore.
- 9-10(Sat-Sun)** **9th Annual St. Clements Island Kayak Kamper:**Kayak Kamping with launch from Colton Point. **Web Site:** <http://troop424.freeservers.com/St.%20Clements%20Island%20Trip/index.html> **Skill Level:** Intermediate Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Bill Dodge 703-979-5837.
- 9-10(Sat-Sun)** **Eastern Neck Fall Camper:** Join us for another Camping Weekend at Eastern Neck Island, and see everything in Fall Spectacular Colors. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner **Organizer:** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202.345.0606.
- 16(Sat)** **Wye Island Race :** Non-CPA Event--The Annual Wye Island Race & Regatta **Web Site:** <http://www.annapolisrowingclub.com/wyeisland.htm#> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by See Link Details.
- 19 (Tue)** **Talk Like A Pirate Day :** Non CPA Event--Practice up now me Mateys fo' the day is a commin'. **Web Site:** <http://www.talklikeapirate.com/piratehome.html> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by A Lilly-Livered Landlubber!.
- 23(Sat)** **Kent Island Circumnavigation:** This is not a paddle for those who are faint at heart. This will be a day paddle all the way around Kent Island. This date is tentative. Scheduling will be based upon weather and tides. **Skill Level:** Intermediate **Organizer:**Led by Marshall Woodruff 202.345.0606.
- 24(Sun)** **Fountainhead Regional Park:**Join us for a day paddle on the Occoquan Reservoir. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Jennifer Bine 703.533.2436.
- 29-Oct 1 (Fri-Sun)** **Elk Neck Car Camper:**This is the third annual Elk Neck camping trip. **Web Site:** <http://troop424.freeservers.com/Elk%20Neck%20Car%20Camper/> **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Ralph Heimlich 301-498-0918 and leave a message.

October

- 6(Fri)** **Hunter's Moon Paddle:** Join us for an evening paddle celebrating the Hunter's Moon. Target launch time from Jonas Green Park is 6:30pm. Apres paddle bite to eat at Cantlers. **Skill Level:** Beginner **Organizer:** Led by Chip Walsh.
- 6(Fri)** **Full Moon Paddle - Black Hills Park:**Join some of the Pirates of Sugarloaf for an evening paddle and picnic. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers. **Organizer(s):** Led by Deb McKenzie.
- 6-8(Fri-Sat)** **Delmarva Retreat : Non-CPA Event**--Join other Greenland paddlers to learn skills, see events, and talk about the latest issues. **Web Site:** <http://www.sendthemtogreenland.org/delmarva/index.html> **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by Ed Zachowski.
- 26(Thu)** **PoG 4th Annual Halloween Paddle Party:**Join us again at Jack's Boathouse in Georgetown for another scary Halloween Paddle Party. We will dress up in our scariest costumes and paddle down towards the Georgetown Waterfront. After our paddle, we will feast and drink to the end of the season. **Web Site:** <http://www.PiratesofGTown.com> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers **Organizer(s):** Led by David Biss 703.241.0036, Cyndi Janetzko 703.241.0036.

(Continued from page 5) **Captain's Quarters**

I received this request from the organizer of a women's triathlon to be held on August 27th. They are in need of some swim support kayakers. Many of the women in this event are novices, and they can really use some help on the lake. I have a race of my own that day, and unfortunately will be unable to help, but please contact Rob if you can give some support. He promised to take care of any kayakers with food, drink, and shirts.

Bob Huber
Pirate King
Pirates of Baltimore

The Iron Girl Columbia Women's Triathlon is the first of its kind in the region in some 15 years.

Race Date: Sunday, August 27

Place: Centennial Lake , Ellicott City /Columbia, MD, The Lake is a 55 acre clean, stream-fed, man made body of water

Race Start Time: 07:00 AM

Race Distance: 0.6 mile swim-17.5 mile bike-3.2 mile run

Entries: 1600, in a 10 wave start at 5 minute intervals

I would welcome 10 or so kayakers to be both escorts and support. This event will feature half or more novice women, so open water swimming is a challenge for them. I would use the kayakers at each buoy point so the women can see them and, if need be, stop and hold on.

I also hold a large event in May each year, The Columbia Triathlon at Centennial Lake with 1700 triathletes, but the swim is 1500 m or 0.93 miles. I could use some assistance there as well if that is possible.

Of course any and all of your team would get race shirts and food and drink

Contact: Rob Vigorito , Race Director
The RYKA Iron Girl Columbia Women's Triathlon
www.tricolumbia.org
410-964-1246 (Tri Office)
443-980-8433 cell

Behind This Door: Before (left) and after (right) pictures of the door to the Pier 7 Piracy's lair (and boat and beer storage area!). The replacement was accomplished by a team of Captains (no Indians volunteered) on July 15. One of the two photos reflects well on the photographer (AKA J. W-P).



Pax River Wallpaper Paddle: The train of thundershowers running parallel to the river did little to relieve the heat or the humidity. It was one of the those: "do I really want to do this?" days. The smart people stayed home. NOAA weather radio gave up trying to report individual thunderstorms and just reported thunderstorms likely throughout the listening area. With that I took a local paddle around the launch area....upstream and into the Solomon's Recreational Annex Marina, then to Point Patience, cross to Myrtle Point, into Little Kingston, through the canal, out Kingston.....downstream to the NAS boundary etc. etc. etc. (Can you name the movie where these words (etc.) were famously spoken?) Two images of note....the first was the concentration of jelly fish near Point Patience. The current must have lumped them all together. The image would have made a great wall paper pattern. The second was the Great Blue in the canal that sat on a bridge railing and almost let me pass underneath. These guys are starting to get pretty tame....or he was planning to take a dump on me and lost his nerve. Oh yeah, paddled out to a jet skier drifting in the middle of the river trying to fix the thing. (Probably all I could have done for him was to use the VHF.....maybe could have towed him ashore.) It was his first time on the water, and for some reason he could only turn left and go straight. That gave him enough capability to get ashore himself, so I landed, packed up and called it an evening. Great weather for sit-on-tops!

Dan Polakovics
Pirate King
Pirates of the Patuxent

Inside our July 2006 issue:

- **Matthews County—Paddling Paradise**
- **Island Hopping in the Chesapeake**
- **Captain's Quarters**
- **Third CPA Race Results**
- **Where New Paddlers Come From**
- **July/August/September/October Events**



Going Away Party for Jackie and Rob Castle, Pier 7 Pirates photo by Greg Welker (cell phone camera)

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.