

# Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Volume 17, Issue 2

March 2007

## New Yakers Convene in Frozen February

By Yvonne Thayer

A frozen West River wasn't about to stop the demo portion of the recent *SK101: Introduction to Sea Kayaking* workshop. To the class's delight, Cyndi Janetzko, clad in wet suit and paddle jacket, simply rolled her boat over on the icy ground and executed a flawless paddle-float re-entry. A few yards away, Dave Isbell wowed the crowd with his skin-on frame boats, one complete with a harpoon, spear and harpoon line. Overall by the end, CPA garnered some enthusiastic new members (see Welcome on [page 4](#)).

80 people turned out for SK101, held at West River Center, Annapolis, on a crisp, sunny Saturday in February. The day-long class featured talks, displays and written materials on kayak history and construction, paddles, gear and safety, and destinations. Maps, kayak cooking and paddling videos and books were also on display. SK101 is the precursor to SK102, the on-water kayaking skills weekend at Lake Anna, Virginia, in April.

Home Port for SK101 new Yakers :

- 51 from Maryland
- 10 from Virginia
- 4 from Pennsylvania
- 2 from Delaware
- 1 from West Virginia
- 2 from unknown parts



Dave Isbell and two skin boats photos by Gina Cicatello and Greg Welker

The program opened with the history of kayaking, interpreted by Dave Isbell. Flanked by two skin-on-frame boats, designed and built in the old Inuit style, but with modern materials, Dave explained how kayaks provided food and survival for centuries. Greg Welker followed with a concise, illustrated discussion of boat construction and characteristics. He noted the wide variety of materials and shapes, listing their pros and cons, and provided a sea kayak shopping comparison guide. On display outside were a dozen boats: a rec boat, two fold-up boats, plastic, fiberglass and Kevlar boats, skin boats, wood boats and a surf ski.

Brian Blankinship brought out a sampling of his 20 or so paddles, from his first \$40 metal paddle to his \$400-plus carbon fiber wing paddle. He walked the class through paddle size, shape, weight, construction and accessories, demonstrating paddling angles, feathering and the joys of

owning multiple paddles. He concluded with some specific tips for buying a paddle.



Brian Blankinship with paddles photo by Greg Welker

Cyndi Janetzko and Kingsley Chan led the gear and safety class. They explained and demonstrated a wide variety of clothing,

PFDs, gear and safety equipment appropriate for different weather and kayaking conditions. Kingsley modeled summer kayaking clothes and Cyndi the latest in fall wear—a wetsuit topped with a semi-dry top. Later Dave Biss suited up in a bright yellow dry suit and black neoprene hood, and was duly



Cyndi, Dave and Greg boat showing photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker

(Continued on page 9)

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**SCHEDULE FOR 2007 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         |
|------------|---------------------------|
| April 2007 | March 15, 2007            |
| May 2007   | April 15, 2007 (Tax Day!) |
| June 2007  | May 15, 2007              |

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](mailto: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:**

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**Pirate Queen of the North**—Wendy Baker-Davis, 717-293-1086, [pirates\\_north@cpakayaker.com](mailto: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,

2007 is shaping up to be another wonderful year on the water with the CPA. At the two early season trip planning meetings, many trips were added to the calendar representing lots of different styles of paddling. There are trips for everyone, and there are sure to be some perfect for you. Let me mention just a few.

There are day trips for the lazy, hazy days of summer. Join other paddlers for a night paddle in Calvert County, a camp-over at Westmoreland Park, or a leisurely trip on Piscataway Creek. Returning once again, early in the season, is one of the club's all-time favorite events; the exciting, blood pumping SK102. Sign up early to get great instruction on the warm waters of Lake Anna. 2007 will

also be the second season for two other great series events. The first is the CPA Race Series. There will be fast, as well as simply fun, races for all styles of paddlers. For the long distance paddler, the Kent Island Paddle Series returns to provide the opportunity to build up distance goals. For those looking for a slightly milder adventure, there will be more "quiet water" trips suitable for recreational paddlers. Look for all of these on the CPA calendar at <http://www.cpakayaker.com/events.html>.

All of the great trips, great friends, and great fun are brought to you courtesy of club volunteers who want to share these events. Every year, many of the same trip leaders volunteer to lead trips, which are recurring favorites. What the club now needs are new volunteers who want to learn the ropes of being a trip leader, and who have the desire to create new trips for the club.

So what does being a trip leader entail? The main role of the trip leader is to ensure that events are well organized and safe. CPA suggests that trip leaders bring, or borrow, four main skill sets to paddling events:

- First, trip leaders need planning skills. You need to be able to plan the route, identify bailout points, identify hazards and simply know when not to go.
- Next, you need paddling skills for the group's safety – proficiency in rescues, towing, and navigating all fall into this category.
- Third, CPA provides group trips, so trip leaders need group management skills. Good communication is the backbone of group management. Leaders need to articulate the goals of the trip, hold pre-trip briefings, manage differing paces and keep groups together.
- Lastly, good trip leaders are also good at the details and have good administrative skills. They screen paddlers to ensure that expectations are accurate, that safety gear is available, and that waivers are signed and collected.



In the past, a few CPA trip leaders came together to create [a list of these features](#). This describes the skill sets that an ideal paddling trip leader may possess. I encourage you to peruse this list, but please don't feel overwhelmed.

While all of this can seem daunting at first, most of these skills are not difficult and you have probably acquired them already during your paddling experience. Add in a little common sense and practice and you'll be on your way. To provide that practice, CPA has, in previous years, held a formal Trip Leaders class, during which experienced leaders talk about ways to safely plan and carry out a paddling event.

This year, we are starting something new - a mentoring program. We would like to see members new to trip leading team with another experienced member to plan and organize a paddling trip. The objective is to give new hands the chance to gain experience at a leader and organizer, but with a helper backing you up.

It would be a great thing to see new faces this year, not only on CPA trips, but also organizing new ones too. If you are interested in finding a partner to lead a trip with, talk to any of the CPA steering committee members or any of the leaders who have been involved in leading the many trips you already see on the calendar.

So whether your goal this year is to enhance your trip leading skills or to just paddle more, I hope to see you on the water this spring.

Dave Biss



## Hullo to the New Crew!!

We want to wish a hearty welcome to our newest CPA members who have joined this last month – including our 36 new friends. Look for them soon at your nearest Piracy!

Jean Frazier Baltimore  
 Tara & Brian Laverty – Herndon  
 Pam Marquette – Downingtown, PA  
 Joel DeShong – Hedgesville WV  
 Rich Smucker - Lusby  
 Andy & Kim Toth – Baltimore  
 Ryan Scofield – Baltimore  
 Isaiah Allen – Hyattsville  
 Meredith Carter – Fairfax  
 Bruce LaMartin – Severna Park  
 Carolyn Bakeney- Annapolis  
 Paul Bieri- College Park  
 Rick & Sue Podolin- Annapolis  
 Mary Greene – Fairfax  
 George Hewitt – Stafford

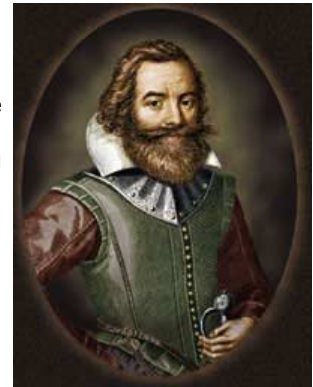
Steve Gardiner – Fredericksburg  
 Martha Haines – McLean  
 Keith DeShong- Hedgesville, WV  
 Mary Ellen Steveling- Lusby  
 Enrique Mahecha – Woodbridge  
 Krista McKim- Baltimore  
 Gerard & Helen Brennan- Churchton  
 Stephen & Brenda Burzenski- Annapolis  
 Alan Cohen – Catonsville  
 Richard Spear- Baltimore  
 Lori Yates- Grasonsville  
 Jill Dorosz- Columbia  
 Hunter Alfriend – Severna Park  
 Rick Dicken- Edgewater  
 Keith & Lorraine Haggard – Conowingo

The November 2006 envelope of membership info feared lost arrived safely in mid-February, so everyone's info is up to date. For anyone now receiving a print version of the newsletter that would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, please drop me an email note. Our downloadable editions are colorful, very timely, and save money and paper. It's the best way to find out what's happening!

Sue Bauer  
 Membership Secretary

## John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

In December 2006 the U.S. House and Senate passed the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail Designation Act to establish America's first National Historic Water Trail along the routes explored by Captain John Smith in the early 1600's. The John Smith Trail joins sixteen existing National Historic Trails, including the Lewis and Clark Trail and the Pony Express Trail. Spanning the waters of Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia, the John Smith Trail will be the very first National Historic Trail whose route is completely water-based. The Trail will open up a wealth of educational, conservation and heritage tourism opportunities for the entire region. Long sought by a group of more than 100 regional non-profit organizations including the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Conservation Fund, the Issak Walton League, the Maryland Waterman's Association and Sultana Projects.



In 2007, Sultana Projects will undertake a 121-day authentic reenactment of Smith's 1608 Chesapeake voyage that will introduce millions of people to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail. A crew of modern-day explorers, historians, naturalists and educators will retrace Captain John Smith's incredible 1608 expedition in a 28-foot reproduction of Smith's shallop. Living much as Smith and his men did 400 years ago, the shallop and her crew will voyage to the headwaters of almost every tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. At more than 20 points along the route, the shallop and her crew will stop for public exhibitions so that people from all around the region can learn about this important episode in the history of the Chesapeake. On August 4-5, you can commemorate Smith's first encounter with the Patuxents and see the shallop at Jefferson Patterson Park in St. Leonard. Enjoy living history, dancers and drummers, a recreated Indian Village, traditional arts, and skilled demonstrations. For more information about this and other events on the John Smith Trail, go to: <http://www.johnsmith400.org/>

And visit [www.friendsofthejohnsmithtrail.org](http://www.friendsofthejohnsmithtrail.org)

The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office received \$500,000 in 2006 to develop a prototype Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy. It is hoped that the prototype will serve as the first in an interactive system of buoys that will be placed throughout the Bay as part of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail. The buoy will provide observations in support of the educational and interactive components relayed around the world via the internet and will have many other recreational, commercial, and maritime applications. NOAA plans to unveil the concept buoy and the educational programming during the Jamestown 400th anniversary commemoration in 2007. Potential buoy locations are Jamestown, Potomac Junction, off Bodkin Point near the mouth of the Patapsco River and Baltimore Harbor, Stingray Point, Nanticoke and in the Potomac (upstream). NOAA has positioned [a buoy in Annapolis Harbor](#) that provides a sneak preview of CBIBS' capabilities. The buoy reports real-time water quality and weather observations via wireless technology. Response to the demonstration has been overwhelmingly positive with local users requesting that the buoy remain in place indefinitely.

Joseph Stewart

## Some Short Winter Trip Reports

**Sassafras River/Duffy's Creek/Hen Creek, January 8**—Three Pirates of the North braved the 70 degree temps! and 40 degree water and explored the upper Sassafras, Duffy's Creek and Hen Creek. It was a phenomenal day for wildlife—we saw at least 5 mature bald eagles soaring and sitting in trees, immature and mature red-tailed hawks floating on the breeze, loads of deer, jumpin' catfish, a kingfisher, Great Blue Herons, assorted Turkey vultures and wood ducks. The little creeks kept us sheltered from the wind that picked up as the day wore on, creating small whitecaps on the river. We checked out the currently unoccupied Blue Heron rookery across the river from Fox Hole Landing, where we put in. We estimated there were at least 50+ nests visible in the trees. I definitely would like to go back when it is occupied. Hen creek was an unexpected pleasure—I'd forgotten about the 6 ft high x 20 ft long beaver dam that blocks the upper end of the creek. More bald eagles and deer here. We got surfed a little on the ride back to the put-in. I had a few minutes of feeling a little hot in my dry suit with "thick skin" IR tops and bottoms underneath, and wool socks—usually in a sunny spot on the sheltered creeks but once out in the wind, and in the chop, and at the rest stop I was happy to be wearing it. I had a near encounter with some of the wildlife on the drive home. Three deer decided to trot across the road right in front of me—luckily my brakes work great as well as the brakes of the woman behind me. I'm used to seeing deer up in the woods of Pennsylvucky but wasn't prepared for them in daylight out in the middle of open land in Maryland. Thanks to Kim Palmer and Bob Shakeshaft for the company.

Wendy Baker Davis

**Global Warming on the Pax, January 6 and February 5**—I'm fond of paddling the Patuxent around Bowie (well, all of it, really, but this is about the Bowie piece). I sometimes call this "mudholing," because after working around the strainers I usually look like I've been wallowing in a mud hole. So I was looking forward to paddling here when the normally muddy banks would be frozen. I think I was a day too early. The banks were firm but not yet solidly frozen. But it was a nice day to paddle, with sunshine, blue sky, and an air temp in the thirties. The Bowie Gauge showed a flow of 250cfs, around 5.3 on the gauge. At this level, the bridge under Route 50 showed about 20 inches of the foundation.

I paddled up to the double-log blockage just upstream from Route 50. Somebody has been cutting on the river-left side of the trees. I seem to remember both the trees spanning from bank to bank, but only the upstream tree currently blocks the whole river. The thick end of downstream tree now seems to be resting somewhere underwater, so it only blocks the river-left. Heading upriver, you can float over the sunken side of the downstream trunk, work your boat between the logs towards the river-left bank, and if I was in a short boat or there was a few inches more water, I think I could have gotten around the upstream tree. I ended up getting out on the log and pulling across.



Jim Dwyer and Queen Anne's Bridge photo by Chip Walsh

The next riverwide blockage is only another hundred yards or so upstream. A little less water and I could have limboed under. There is a third blockage just downstream from where the river splits around an island. I pulled over on river-left, but on the way back found I could float around far to river right. I paused by one significant, but not total, blockage and trimmed branches on river-right to enhance a small opening there. There was a fourth blockage just downstream from where the river splits into several channels that on the upstream trip run off to the left. This was a garden variety step-on-the-logs and pull across.

I'd been out about two hours by the time I crossed the fourth blockage and got to the braided channels. Though I thought I recognized one of the channels, I also thought when Jim and I were here a month ago we had, on the way up, stuck to the channels on our far right. The rightmost channel here failed me. and I needed to double back. I was out of time, so once I got turned around I continued back downstream to the take out.

My back had been bothering me for the last few weeks, so I've been off the water since mid-January. It felt so good to dig the paddle into the water and feel the glide of the boat. While perhaps a bit windy, it was a beautiful day to be on the river. Noise from nearby, busy highways, aside, I'm always impressed by the wild character of the river in this stretch. Having been out of action for a few weeks, my outing reminded me of how lucky I am to get so much pleasure from this relatively simple pastime. Pictures at <http://home.comcast.net/~chipCanoe/Jan07/Govs-Bridge-Rd-Jan6-2007.htm> and [http://home.comcast.net/~chip2006/PaxGB/Patux\\_at\\_Governors\\_Bridge\\_020307.html](http://home.comcast.net/~chip2006/PaxGB/Patux_at_Governors_Bridge_020307.html)

Chip Walsh

**Baltimore Harbor and a New Dry Suit, February 4**—Todd Angerhofer and I paddled Baltimore's Inner Harbor today. This was my first attempt at cold water paddling. About two weeks ago I received a new Kokatat GMER dry suit. I was somewhat nervous since I have never paddled in cold water before and despite the fact that I had the dry suit, it has also been four months since I have been in the water with my boat. The air temperature was around 30 degrees, the water temperature around 33. We met at

(Continued on page 9)



Bill Gallagher explains the importance of PFD to eager recreational kayakers photo by P. M. Woodside

## St. Mary's County Great Mills Pool Kayak Training Session

Roughly 3 percent of CPA's entire membership resides in St. Mary's County. Membership is low in contrast to regional kayaking the County offers to paddlers of all skill levels. St. Mary's hosts numerous tranquil streams, sections of three rivers and part of the Chesapeake Bay. Yet, when paddling there it is common to see kayaks lying on shore in the yards of the fortunate water front landowners.

This untapped resource of recreational paddlers brought six strangers together who convinced the County's Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Mr. Gary Reed, and Pool Manager, Adam Zalesky to provide limited kayak access to the County's Great Mills Pool. This ad-hoc committee started out with numerous emails followed by scheduled meetings leading to a trial pool session with kayaks for the benefit of the life guards. Kayak

pool sessions were offered Sunday evenings from 6-9 PM for 8 Sunday evenings starting in December. Weather issues such as high wind and ice, staffing issues or low turnout cut the actual sessions down to 2. The sole instructor for basic kayak training was ACA-trained CPA member Bill Gallagher.

Bill screened kayakers and grouped into those with advanced paddling skills and those desiring to learn how to do a wet exit. The students mostly consisted of novices eager to experience a wet exit and recovery with a paddle float assist. Bill viewed the experience as a huge success based on the smiles and comments.

Discussions are now ongoing to gain access to the larger indoor pool at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. The vast majority of county CPA membership has access to the base. Non-DOD members could be permitted access once final arrangements are established.



Bill is explains the paddle float re-entry procedure photo by P. M. Woodside

## 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.

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>

## March

- 3(Sat)** **Eastern Neck Winter 07 Paddle:** The beginning of our five paddles for the Eastern Neck Paddles Series **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202) 345-0606.
- 17(Sat)** **Patuxent Roughnecks Volunteer Cleanup:** Non-CPA Event. The Patuxent Roughnecks volunteer work crew invites you to the season kickoff survey trip for work clearing the Patuxent. **Skill Level:** All **Organizer(s):** [Lauren@paxriverkeeper.org](mailto:Lauren@paxriverkeeper.org) 301-249-8200x6
- 18(Sun)** **Greenland Paddle Carving Workshop:** As of January 19th, all the spots are filled in this class for those who require a cedar blank. If you already have your own blank, then you are still welcome. Contact Gina to let her know if you have a blank and are interested in coming to the event. **Organizer(s):** Led by Gina Cicotello (240) 305-0922.
- 24(Sat)** **Patuxent River Clean-up Effort:** Non-CPA Event. A clean up effort scheduled for the Patuxent River Watershed. **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Lauren Webster at the RiverKeeper 301-249-8200x6.
- 23-26(Fri-Sun)** **Jersey Paddlesport:** Non CPA Event: Once again, one of the best Paddlesport events and gear sales. **Web Site:** <http://www.jersey paddler.com/Paddlesport/index.html> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Jersey Paddler.

## April

- 7(Sat)** **Kent Island Paddle No. 1:** This is a paddle geared towards someone who wants to practice and get in shape over the next several months in preparation for a distance paddle at Kent Island. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202-345-0606.
- 14(Sat)** **Cherry Blossom Paddle and Jack's Boathouse Work Party:** Come down to Jack's Boathouse and help with some cleanup along the docks, then paddle down to the Georgetown waterfront to view the Cherry Blossoms from the waterside. **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Todd Angerhofer 202.722.1385.
- 20-22(Fri-Sun)** **East Coast Canoe & Kayak Festival:** Non-CPA Event: Immerse yourself in a full weekend of the history, technique, hands-on experience and FUN of canoeing and kayaking. The 16th annual festival will include lectures, on-water classes and demonstrations directed to the novice as well as the experienced paddler. **Web Site:** <http://www.ccprc.com/index.asp?NID=472> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission 843-795-4FUN (4386).
- 20(Fri)** **Wicomoco Shores:** A day paddle on Allen's Fresh Web Site: <http://www.co.saint-marys.md.us/recreate/facilities/publiclandings.asp> **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Mark Woodside 301 373-4561.
- 27-29(Fri-Sun)** **9th Annual SK102: MEMBERS ONLY** The event is geared towards the new paddler and includes free lessons in strokes, bracing, rescues, rolling, and more. (This event is **FULL**) **Skill Level:** First Timer Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Brian Blankinship.

## May

- 4-6(Fri-Sun)** **Assateague Island Camper:** Kayak Kamper at one of Assateague's remote backcountry sites. We will car camp friday night, and paddle out to the remote site for Saturday night, returning on Sunday. **Web Site:** <http://troop424.freesevers.com/Assateague%20Island%20Paddle,%202006/index.html> **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Ralph Heimlich 301-498-0918 (leave a message).
- 5(Sat)** **Kent Island Paddle No. 2:** This is a paddle geared towards someone who wants to practice and get in shape over the next several months in preparation for a distance paddle at Kent Island. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff 202-345-0606.
- 11-12(Fri-Sat)** **CLC OkoumeFest:** Non-CPA Event, Chesapeake Light Craft Demo Days. **Web Site:** <http://www.clcboats.com/okoumestock/index.php> **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Chesapeake Light Craft.

Continued

- 12(Sat)** **Smithsonian Environmental Research Paddle:** We will launch our boats at the Reed Education Center. We will paddle up to the head of Muddy Creek, paddle to the sandy beach of Canninghouse Bay, and visit the Rhode's islands. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Paul Fofonoff 410-867-7971.
- 12(Sat)** **McIntosh Run:** Quiet Water Paddlers Welcomed A beginners paddle on McIntosh Run, MD. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Mark Woodside (301) 373-4561.
- 12-15(Sat-Tues)** **Virginia Barrier Islands Camper:** Camping at the Virginia Barrier Islands, with Day Trips on the water. Possibly an overnigher trip will be planned for this time as well. More information to follow. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Greg Welker.
- 19(Sat)** **REI's Paddle Demo Days, Pohick Bay Regional Park:** Non-CPA Event. REI is having their Paddling Demo Days on Saturday and Sunday of this weekend. Go try out some boats! **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Maryland REI Customer Service 301-982-9681, Virginia REI Customer Service 703-379-9400.
- 19-20(Sat-Sun)** **Dragon Boat Races:** Non-CPA Event. For those of you who live near the Potomac River and want an excuse to get on the water to watch others in an exciting boat race, here it is. **Skill Level:** Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Washington D.C. Dragonboat Festival 2007.
- 19-20(Sat-Sun)** **Patuxent River Overnighter:** Patuxent River Overnighter Camping Trip. More information to follow. **Skill Level:** Intermediate Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Don Polakovics (301) 866-0437.
- 20(Sun)** **REI's Paddle Demo Days:** Non-CPA Event. REI is having their Paddling Demo Days on Saturday and Sunday of this weekend. Go try out some boats! **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Maryland REI Customer Service 301-982-9681, Virginia REI Customer Service 703-379-9400.
- 20(Sun)** **Eastern Neck - Second Trip:** The second of our five paddles for the Eastern Neck Paddles Series. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Marshall Woodruff (202) 345-0606.
- 26(Sat)** **CPA Race Series - Race One:** This is the first of three race events this series provided by the CPA. This event will be at Jack's Boathouse in Georgetown. A 3 mile and a 6 mile race will be held. More information will follow. **Skill Level:** All Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Cyndi Janetzko (703) 241-0036, Brian Blankinship.
- 28(Mon)** **Colonial Farm to Pomonkey:** Day Paddle. Colonial Farm in Md to Pomonkey and back. more information to follow. **Skill Level:** Advanced Beginner Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Led by Mike Cohn.
- 30(Wed)** **Rich Stevens Birthday:** Rich Steven is 29 today, again. Send him your best wishes, and tell him to go paddling! **Skill Level:** Advanced Paddlers, **Organizer(s):** Sue Bauer

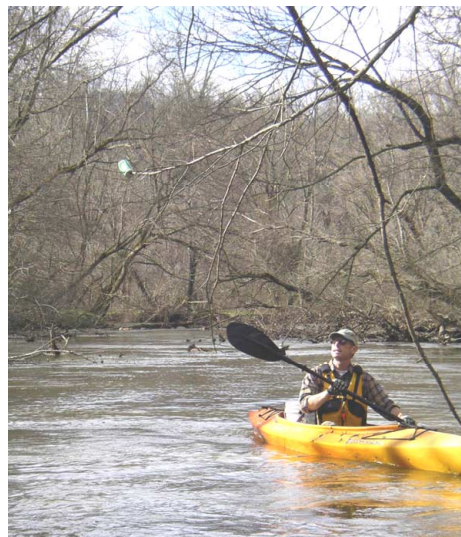
## Advance Planning

June

2 Non-CPA Event: 14th Annual Potomac River Swim Support, Cheryl Wagner



Yvonne, Brian, Cyndi, Dave and Kingsley at SK101 photo by Gina Cicotello



Jim Dwyer on the Pax photo by Chip Walsh  
Pax River Keeper will have a trash clean up on this stretch on April 14  
see <http://www.cleanpatuxent.org/>



(Continued from page 1)

burped by Cyndi (not his mother). She continued, discussing weather and marine radios, navigation aides, tow ropes, GPS systems, emergency equipment, lights and flares. The group stared amazed as she and Kingsley emptied bag after bag of clothing and gear, stacking it on two tables. By the time Cyndi brought out an emergency bag with a space blanket, waterproof matches, fog horn and power bar, they looked positively green. We told them this was a good reason why we like going on CPA trips: someone has prepared the trip and brought all the right gear.

After a lunch of chicken fajitas and chocolate chip cookies, Dave Biss and Marshall Woodruff told the new yakers where to go—paddling. Working from a Chesapeake Bay and Susquehanna River map provided to every participant, they described the range of paddling locations and conditions in the area, and recalled some of their favorite paddles. Marshall waxed eloquent about clouds of tundra swans massed around Eastern Neck NWR, his favorite venue.



Cyndi Janetzko, Dave Biss, and Kingsley Chan photo by Greg Welker



Marshall Woodruff and Dave Biss Tell Paddlers Where to Go photo by Greg Welker

The group was enthusiastic, full of questions and very complimentary about the CPA and its mission to promote safe, fun paddling in the region. Many took pictures and several suggested the class be videotaped for future use. We didn't paddle due to the solid state of the West River, but we did eat. All in all, a good day. Special thanks to our presenters, to co-organizer and site manager Brian Blankinship, to Gina Cicotello for handling registration, to Jenny Plummer-Welker for handling publicity, to Ralph Heimlich, Dave Biss and Cyndi Janetzko for putting the packets together, and all those who helped make it a success.

For a participant's view of SK101, see John Pescatore's blog at [http://security.typepad.com/internet\\_security\\_be\\_care/2007/02/a\\_lot\\_of\\_money\\_.html](http://security.typepad.com/internet_security_be_care/2007/02/a_lot_of_money_.html)

CPA also received kudos from REI's Board and VP for Public Affairs. REI, EMS and Springriver helped us publicize SK101.

### (Continued from page 5) Short Winter Trip Reports, Continued

Ft. Armistad Park around 10:00 AM, but due to the small craft advisory that was posted for the Bay, we chose to switch put-ins and drove the the Canton Water Park off Boston Street.

We put in and headed towards the Light Street Pavilion. The winds, despite the small craft advisory, were not too bad. There was some ice build up in several of the marinas but none on the open water of the Harbor. We headed into Fells Point, at the docks at Broadway, where a few people were walking around. We headed back out to the Harbor and continued our paddling towards the pavillions. While we were next to the pier where the U.S.S. Constellation is moored, Todd overheard a young woman speaking Russian. Todd responded back in Russian and had a pleasant conversation with this woman and her grandfather totally in Russian. It seems that the Grandfather is visiting the U.S. from Moscow. This guy comes halfway around the world and there is this guy in a kayak speaking Russian to him. Small world. From the pavillions, we paddled over towards the Maryland Science Center. Then headed over towards Tide Point (so named because that is where they used to make Tide detergent).



Todd Angerhofer on Baltimore Harbor photo by Ed Hershon

From there we headed back to the Canton Water Park and took out. We paddled 5.71 miles in 2 hours. The link to my pictures is <http://www.fotomat.com/home/EDHERSHON/GW6YJBGFFG5S.EZP>



Yvonne Thayer answering questions at SK101 *Photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker*

## Inside our March 2007 issue:

- **SK101: New Yakers Convene in Frozen February**
- **New CPA Members**
- **John Smith Water Trail**
- **St. Mary's County Great Mills Pool Training**
- **Short Winter Trip Reports**
- **2007 Calendar**

### **The Chesapeake Paddler**

Chesapeake Paddlers Association  
PO Box 341  
Greenbelt, MD 20768

REMINDER: Please check your mailing label or the email you were sent 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.