

# Chesapeake Paddler



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## Clear the Decks! and Get Ready for Action

by Tom Noffsinger

There's an old naval expression, "Clear the Decks," that urges seamen to stow gear, leave the deck of the ship and prepare for battle. That same mentality applies to sea kayakers, particularly as you start paddling in rougher conditions. You're not preparing for exchanging cannon fire, but if you have lots of gear on your deck, you may be in for a different kind of battle altogether.

I'm a big advocate of having as little gear on the deck of my boat as possible when on an open water paddle, or even when teaching or leading trips on flat water. The reasons are simple – safety and efficiency. The more items I have on my deck, the more there is to get in the way.

Bilge pumps, paddle floats, deck bags, water bottles, camera cases and all the other stuff that some paddlers carry on their deck can snag lines when towing, get in the way of having someone climb on the back deck for a rescue or may snag a PFD during a layback roll. The biggest issue seems to be interference with t-rescues, specifically people trying to get up on their back decks. Frequently when I see people practicing t-rescues, they either:

- cannot get up on the deck at all due to the clutter or,
- they remove the items and hold them in their hands while trying to get up on the back deck (!) or,
- they remove the items and throw them into the cockpit, only to have to remove them again in order for the paddler to re-enter the cockpit or,
- if they do get up on the cluttered rear deck, they have a hard time sliding their bodies around to get into the cockpit because a PFD strap gets caught on the pump, or something else is digging into their chest or side.

If you ever have to do a t-rescue in a serious situation, you do not want any extra steps or have gear flying around (whether you are the swimmer or the rescuer).

Things like pumps and paddle floats also are the first to go when waves start breaking over the bow or when someone capsizes.

When things get dicey, that's when you need to focus more attention on the water, bracing, your paddling buddies, and effectively maneuvering the boat. The last thing you want distracting you is having to chase down gear that has washed off the deck.



Clean deck (top) versus cluttered deck



Paddle float stored securely behind seat

With a little planning, you can keep your deck very clear. On an open water crossing, I may have a chart (in a chart case clipped to the deck line and under the bungee), a contact tow securely fastened to the deck line, and a spare paddle under the bungees in the stern. That's it. Everything else can be strategically placed, so it's there when you need it, and out of the way when you don't.

Pumps, sponges and paddle floats can be stored securely along side or behind the seat (see photo), or under your deck. You may need to fashion a mini-cell "holder" and glue it to the underside of your deck (see photo), cut down the pump height, or rig some bungee in a zigzag under the deck, but you can get it all there. After all, the only time you'll need those items is likely when the spray skirt is already off the boat.

*(Continued on page 6)*

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Dave Isbell guarding the kayaks on the bayside of Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, near Virginia Beach  
photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker



Jesse Aronson, Greg Welker, Steven Jahncke, and Ralph Heimlich looking for wildlife on the ocean side of the refuge  
photo by Jenny Plummer-Welker

## SCHEDULE FOR THE 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. Have an idea for an article, or is there information you would like to see in the newsletter? Email Jenny at [news\\_editor@cpakayaker.com](mailto:news_editor@cpakayaker.com) or call 301-249-4895.

## THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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## Trips and Trip Leaders

Now that the weather is finally warming up (after the three feet of snow that fell on the Adirondack's Whiteface Mountain on Memorial Day!), the paddling season is in full swing. Many of you have been out on the water at Piracies during the week, and at day trips on the Potomac, Sassafras, Bohemia, Piscataway Creek, Mobjack Bay, Patapsco, and Kent Island. There were lots of campers, too, on Assateague, the Tuckahoe, Janes Island, Smith Island, and the Chickahominy River. Finally, CPA paddlers supported our kayaking community at demo days on Spa Creek and Matapeake Beach, and swim supports on the Occoquan and Columbia. That's a lot of activity, just in the month of May!

The key to all that activity is leadership, specifically the many CPA trip leaders who step up to organize activities and do the very real work of making arrangements, screening participants, and making sure everyone is well-prepared and safe on the water. Preparation for trip leadership is equal parts motivation, training and experience. At least part of the motivation is a desire to give back to a club that gives much to participants, and in part a desire to fashion the trips you'd really like to go on. The training often falls to those long-time CPA leaders who have done so much to make CPA what it is today.

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, the combined Gear Day/Fall Out of Your Boat Day was held at Truxtun Park, Annapolis. Catriona Miller organized the Gear Day portion, where CPA paddlers showed off (and swapped) their coolest boats, gear and DIY projects. Kristina McCoy organized the "Fall Out of Your Boat" portion, which focused on our newest members by encouraging them to practice wet exit and reentry skills in the warm waters of Spa Creek under watchful eyes of experienced CPA paddlers. Remember, it is not IF you capsize, but WHEN, and you are best prepared for it by practicing where you can get helpful pointers and coaching.

In June, Brian Blankinship is once again organizing a full weekend of trip leader training at Westmoreland State Park in Virginia. While Brian hasn't been training trip leaders as long as he's been organizing SK102 (15 years!), he has put considerable effort into grooming the next crop of CPA trip leaders over the years. This year's training includes a mix of classroom work, on-water exercises and informal time to pass on lessons learned. It draws heavily on the skills of other seasoned leaders such as Rick Wiebush and Paula Hubbard.

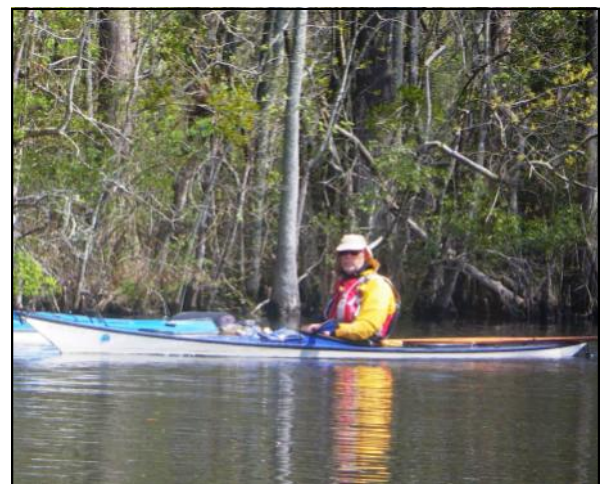
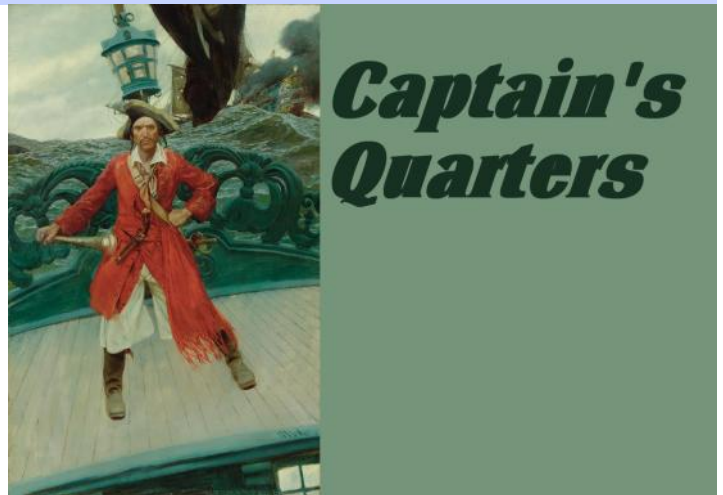
In July, Suzanne Farace and Tom Heneghan are offering a weekend kayak camping "practice run" on the Upper Potomac, on a "mysterious" island whose existence is known only to the few. Participants will negotiate running rock ledges and bushwhacking for a tent site, and may be taught the virtues of S'mores and "hippo" paddling, as well as more basic skills of Leave-No-Trace camping.

Also in July, Jenny Plummer-Welker and Greg Welker have organized a course in kayak camping trip leadership that draws on their many days spent on the water and under the stars. The course includes a weeknight classroom session and a weekend of practical experience on the Patuxent Water Trail, including a sumptuous pot-luck feast.

Your opportunities to learn the fine art of CPA trip leading aren't limited to these formal ones. Pay attention to how things are done on any of the many day trips and campers on the calendar for the remainder of the season. You will begin to build that fund of experience that serves as a living text book for all trip leaders. While most CPA trip leaders make it look easy, there is a lot going on before the trip, and while you are on the water. Ask your trip leader about it—they're happy to share and welcome your interest.

Most of all, NOW is the time to get out and get on the water at any of the many events on the calendar. When you look back on these Summer days through Winter's icy window panes, you'll be sorry if you didn't.

**Ralph Heimlich**  
Coordinator



**Ralph Heimlich kayaking on the Northwest River,**  
April 2013  
*photo by Greg Welker*

## CPA Paddler Profile ~ Mike Hamilton

Interview by Rick Wiebush



Mike Hamilton at this year's SK 102 at Lake Anna  
photo by Catriona Miller

**Name:** Mike Hamilton

**Lives in:** Sykesville, Carroll County, Maryland

**Real job:** Urban Biologist/Entomologist with the dormitory system at the University of Maryland, College Park

**Member of a Piracy?** I suppose I am a member of Pirates of Baltimore, although I rarely get to meet up after work. It's hard to paddle during the week.

**Paddling Buddies:** My favorite paddling buddy is my wife, Cindy. Also spent some time with 27-ish Kent Island Practice Paddle (KIPP) paddlers, Eric Dougherty and Paul Diggins in 2012.

**Number years paddling:** 16-ish

**How did you get involved in sea kayaking?** We rented sit-on-top kayaks at Lake Habib in Rocky Gap State Park in the 90's and liked it. A friend then gave me a tour with Atlantic Kayak for my birthday; we paddled at Piscataway Park upstream. I think Patrick Holmes was the guide. That led to classes, a guide job and eventually to instructing.

**How did you learn to sea kayak?** I took a LOT of formal classes with a lot of very good coaches. The first classes were ACA L2 and L3 at Atlantic Kayak at Pis-

cataway, Maryland. Then came the BCU 3 star and 4 star training and assessments with visiting European coaches. I went to BCU weeks in Tybee, Georgia. Dale Williams, Mark Schoon and Axel Schoevers were big influences and helped me become a BCU Coach 2. I took my L3 Instructor IDW/ICE and traditional endorsement from Ray Killen in New Jersey. Ray got me started with skin boats and paddle carving. Delmarva Paddlers Retreats helped me refine the Greenland maneuvers (thanks to Cheri Perry, Dan Segal, and Dave Sides). I mentioned a lot of names but that is how to learn to sea kayak - work with lots of good paddlers; everyone taught me something. Remember to take quality instruction and then... pay it forward!!!

**Boat usually paddled:** Depends. I use a Valley Argonaut (17'8" x 22.5", yellow over white, fiberglass) for open water paddling, a Betsie Bay Aral (18'x20.5", natural wooden deck over white fiberglassed wooden hull) for gunk-holing with Cindy (that sounds crude!) - we explore the nooks and crannies at Liberty Reservoir, and a Greenland-style skin on frame qajaq (16'6"x20", brown, nylon skin) for my Greenland rolling skill progression. I probably use all kayaks equally.

**Type paddle used:** 50:50, Greenland and Euro. I prefer a Greenland paddle for its versatility but keep in practice with a Euro blade to teach skills to Euro-bladed students.

**Do you do any other type of paddling besides sea kayaking?** No, but I have built a few skin-on-frame qajaqs and carved a few paddles. While these are land-based activities, they certainly help me understand how design affects performance, how qajaqs were traditionally made and gives me an appreciation of how this technology has evolved over the last thousand years or so.

**Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities?** Day hikes, yoga (does lawn-mowing and splitting firewood count?)

**How often do you paddle in summer?** 1-2 times per week

**Do any winter paddling?** Yes. Have joined in on Kippburrz / Eastern Neck trips with Marshall Woodruff and company and day paddles at Liberty until the passes expire on December 31. I'm also known to paddle destinations during winter (Florida Keys and Gulf Coast, Hilton Head and Edisto, South Carolina, Tybee Island, Georgia (which is not technically winter paddling, but rather paddling during winter). Don't forget pool sessions!

**Go to pool sessions?** Yes. Fairlands Aquatic Center, College Park. I also roll in my pool, which is a challenge at 11 feet wide.

**Favorite local paddling location within 1-2 hours of your house:** Liberty Reservoir (it's the closest at seven miles), Rocky Point/Hart-Miller, Triadelphia/Rocky Gorge Reservoir is on the way home from work.

**Favorite non-local location:** Definitely a tie between Florida Keys and Tybee Island, Georgia.

**Best paddling trip/experience ever and why?** A tie between Rick Wiebush's Tangier /Smith Island trip and primitive camping on Little Tybee Island, Georgia. When you kayak-camp, you develop a deeper understanding / synergy / appreciation of your kayak. The same thing happens within your paddling group. Plus, it's hard to beat crab cakes on the beach or paddling over alligators in a narrow salt marsh channel.

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## CPA Paddler Profile ~ Katie O'Meara

Interview by Rick Wiebush

**Name:** Katie O'Meara

**Lives in:** Baltimore City, Maryland

**Real job:** Faculty member at Maryland Institute College of Art

**Member of a Piracy?** No

**Paddling Buddies:** Kippers (Kent Island Practice Paddlers), Kippburz and Mary Lou from Canton Kayak Club (CKC) out of Island View Café in Essex, Maryland

Number years paddling: 2 years

**How did you get involved in sea kayaking?** I sea kayaked for the first time in August of 2010. I was vacationing in Maine and did a two or three hour paddle with an outfit on Mt. Desert Island. Once that baby surfed a bit I was hooked!

**How did you learn to sea kayak?** I wanted to learn more and set up a lesson with the Canton Kayak Club at Island View that October. Once I learned they had a dock out at Island View, I joined CKC, paddled out of there as often as I could, enjoyed it a lot, and made several paddling friends. Soon I became frustrated that I wasn't learning faster. I booked a few half-day lessons but I needed a more consistent environment to learn in, and knew that without a spray skirt or other essential gear I wouldn't be advancing. So I bought my own boat and started joining CPA paddles. My first was a Kippburz in January, 2011, and I have been paddling with the KIPP ever since. This year, after a full year with the KIPP group, I circumnavigated Kent Island (34 miles) with Paula Hubbard. In addition to these and other CPA camping paddles, last year I took a Cross Currents surf class, did a lot of pool sessions, and went to SK102 and the Delmarva weekend. I'm always looking for intensive learning opportunities. I hope to attend Kiptopeke and other special events to continue to advance my paddling skills.

**Boat usually paddled:** P+H Scorpio LV, blue, 16'8"

**Type paddle used:** Aleut/Greenland

**Do you do any other type of paddling besides sea kayaking?** I don't really do any other paddle sports. I did a canoe weekend with Jay Gitomer on the Batso (New Jersey Pinelands) and would be interested to try it again, I'm still in the honeymoon phase with kayaking, however.

**Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities?** Summer: biking, hiking, travel. Hiking around archaeology sites measuring or drawing features, heading to Oman to measure towers that are 4500 years old!

**How often do you paddle in summer?** 2-4 times per week, longer paddles on the weekend

**Do any winter paddling?** YES! I joined the KIPPburz series in January last year. Winter paddling is great!

**Go to pool sessions?** I spent a number of Saturdays at University of Maryland last winter (2012), but now that I can paddle outdoors year-round and I'm less nervous about overturning on energetic water, I chose to spend my winter paddle days outside rather than poolside!

**Favorite local paddling location:** Kent Island area and Essex, Maryland so far, eager to explore Blackwater Wilderness Area and Jane's Island on the Eastern Shore.

**Favorite non-local location:** Still working on some travel paddling. So far, away from home, I've paddled just a bit in Maine—hope to expand this significantly in the next year or two!

**Best paddling trip/experience ever and why?** Maybe my longest... since I love to paddle, the best in this case is the longest. I did the KIPP circumnavigation last year and it was great— all 11 hours 17 minutes, 34 miles. The first leg into a headwind from Kent Narrows to Love Point, rounding the point with following seas to Kent Point, then about an hour of ultimate calm, then crazy winds again. Beautiful day for it, and excellent mentor, Paula Hubbard kept us on track to optimize currents for each leg of the journey.

**Scariest/most dangerous trip/experience and why?** Hmmm. We see a lot of weather with the KIPP series. I guess for me the scariest, though, was my first. It was a peer paddle, my first paddle with my own kayak, and it was cold. As I've learned over the course of this year, I was with a lot of supportive, experienced paddlers who shepherd when needed! The surf session in Ocean City, New Jersey as a hurricane worked its way north was intense, but we were close to shore and had a lot of experienced paddlers nearby, so that was a somewhat controlled fright.

**Bucket list trips:** Arctic when I'm ready, San Juans, Alaska, South America....

**Any formal training or ACA/BCU certifications:** Workshops when I can, no certifications yet.

**Three things you like most about paddling?** Being so close to the water, and the sense of maneuverability you have in the kayak.



Katie O'Meara

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Water bottles can be stored in the day hatch, or better yet, use a hydration bladder on your PFD or stored behind the seat with the tube running up through your skirt tunnel. Hydration bladders let you drink more often without stopping to fuss with a water bottle, and in the case of a PFD-mounted option, you have water even if you don't have your boat for some reason.

Snacks go in a PFD pocket, along with your radio and camera. If your pocket isn't big enough, consider clipping the radio to your PFD, similarly to how you might clip it to a belt (make sure the antenna won't put your eye out!). Having the radio on your person is much better than watching this critical rescue device sink if you go over or float away if you get separated from your kayak.

For me, extra paddles go on the stern, under the bungees, with the power face facing up. I know the arguments of keeping them on the front deck (e.g., easier to reach). I've had paddles come loose from there too many times in the surf, but it has happened rarely



Mini cell foam pump holder under deck

when I've stowed them on the stern deck. There are devices (leggings, extra bungee loops) that help keep them more secure on the front deck, but that's more complication in my mind. I've never had to recover a split paddle and roll up, and I'd argue that if I'm good enough to pull out half a paddle, get it oriented and roll up with it, I can probably practice enough to recover it just as well from the stern as from the bow.

The exception to this rear deck preference is if I have a Greenland paddle—because of its length, I can put far more of it under the multiple bungees on the front deck and it is more secure there.

The next time you go paddling, give your boat a once-over before you launch and look for ways to de-clutter your deck, rather than adding to it. This can be a great conversation with your paddling partners, too – talk about how and where you store your gear. Instead of talking about the cool new piece of kit, brag about where you store it out of the way!

Paddle safe and paddle often.

*Tom Noffsinger is an ACA L4 Open Water Instructor, a BCU 5 star aspirant and lives in Chesapeake, Virginia. He teaches at a variety of symposia and excels at helping paddlers take their skills to the next level. Tom's favorite areas to paddle include Anglesey, Wales, the Triangle off the coast of Tybee Island, Georgia, and Nova Scotia. Tom writes a blog, online at <http://kayaktom.com/>.*

### Reviewer Comments

**Brian Blankinship:** Tom is an experienced sea kayaker who plays in rough water a lot. When kayak surfing consider anything on the deck lost. I changed brands of pumps in order to get one that would fit behind the seat of my kayaks, where I have always stored my paddle float and stirrup. One additional suggestion: "Dummy cord" all your gear so you are not the "dummy" that loses your stuff. I tie a short line from my deck compass to my deck line (saved me from failing BCU 4 Star where equipment loss was an automatic failure). I use inexpensive plastic carabineers to clip my pump, paddle float, stirrup, and other gear to the seat strap inside my boat. That keeps the rescue "yard sale" to a minimum. I also dummy cord my hat and sunglasses to my PFD with the same type carabineer so I have them after I roll.

**Paula Hubbard:** I'm 100% in agreement with Tom's Clear the Deck approach. Having a lot of gear on the deck only gets in the way, especially when doing rescues or reentries. Gear on the back decks can interfere with the paddler climbing in, and gear on the front deck makes it harder to empty and stabilize the boat and may even interfere with your strokes. It's also important to have key safety items such as a VHF radio or signaling devices securely attached to you and not to your boat in the unfortunate event that you are separated from your kayak. One additional comment: When securing gear in the cockpit, it should be secured so that you can get to it when needed, but in such a way that it won't fall out during a T rescue. Loose gear is a hazard no matter where it comes from.

([Continued](#) from page 4) **CPA Paddler Profile ~ Mike Hamilton**

**Scariest/most dangerous trip/experience and why?** Paddling around Bahia-Honda in the Florida Keys. I'm in a sweet Betsie Bay Kayak and Cindy is paddling a rented sit-on-top. I thought that she was going to kill me for making her do that...I guess that we should have switched. Alligators, sharks and surf I can handle – angry wives are way too dangerous.

**Bucket list trips:** Baja Mexico; Anglesey, Wales; and Chesapeake Bay from Elk Neck to Kiptopeke

**Any formal training or ACA/BCU certifications:** ACA L3 Coastal Kayak Instructor, BCU 4 star skill award (old system), BCU Coach 2 (inactive). Teaching others helped me learn a ton about kayaking and people.

**Three things you like most about paddling?** Independence, exploration, exercise.

**What do you like about CPA?** I have met some outstanding people in the group. There's something special about the bond between kayakers, and CPA creates opportunities to form that bond with a lot of people. I also like the general attitude about safety held by the majority of club members.

**One thing other people find interesting about you:** One thing??? I also play (at) Mandolin (Bluegrass mostly), enjoy casual birding and bugging (is that a word?), read books aloud with Cindy-then see the movie, read the cliff notes and discuss (nerds!). I hold a Bachelor's degree in Entomology and a Master's degree in avian neurophysiology – but I think I forgot all of it! Now I focus more on finding balance and happiness in life rather than seeking its secrets. It's all good.

## Chesapeake Paddlers Association Tentative 2013 Calendar

Date	Title	Summary
6/21 to 23/13	SK203 On-Water Leadership Training	Brian Blankinship, 443-994-7990, brian@baykayaking.com
6/22/13	Potomac River from Marshall Hall to Pomonkey	Paddle the Potomac River and to the bitter end of Pomonkey Creek. Mike Cohn, 301-283-2391, mdcohn@verizon.net, Linda Witkin, lwitkin@verizon.net
6/22/13	Full Moon Summer Solstice Paddle (Potomac River)	Mellow paddle to enjoy the full moon around Roosevelt and Columbia Islands. Tom Heneghan, 571-969-1866, tom@theneghan.com, Suzanne Farace, 410-446-5991, sfarace@verizon.net
7/4-7/13	Pocomoke River Car Camper	Camp and Paddle the Pocomoke and tributaries. This trip is currently FULL, but we are accepting people on a wait list. Suzanne Farace, 410-446-5991, sfarace@verizon.net, Steven Jahncke, sejank@aol.com
7/6/13	EN-2 Eastern Neck Camping Paddle	Paddle and camp in the vicinity of Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. Marshall Woodruff, 202-345-0606, marshall.woodruff@gmail.com
7/13/13	Maryland Swim for Life Swim Support NON-CPA EVENT	Distance of 1 to 5 miles swim near Chestertown, MD. Rob Jeter, rtjeter@gmail.com, Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, susiegreenthumb@verizon.net, Rich Stevens, rstevens15@verizon.net
7/13/13	Kent Island Practice Paddle Series (KIPP)	This series will have six practice paddles once a month, from April thru September. Marshall Woodruff, 202-345-0606, marshall.woodruff@gmail.com
7/13/13	Chester River/Langford Creek	Advanced beginner paddle on Chester River/Langford Creek. Greg Welker and Jenny Plummer-Welker, 301-249-4895, gdwelker@verizon.net, plummer_welker@verizon.net
7/14/13	Mattawoman Creek	Paddle scenic Mattawoman Creek. Greg Welker and Jenny Plummer-Welker, 301-249-4895, gdwelker@verizon.net, plummer_welker@verizon.net
7/20-21/13	Practice Kayak Kamper (Upper Potomac)	Try out camping from your kayak for one night, combined with an easy paddle each day. Suzanne Farace, 410-446-5991, sfarace@verizon.net, Tom Heneghan, Tom@theneghan.com
7/20/13	Royal Oak & Miles River	Day paddle near St Michaels. Rich & Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, rstevens15@verizon.net, susiegreenthumb@verizon.net
7/27/13	Mobjack Marathon Series ~ 20 mile paddle	A series of monthly skill and endurance building group practice paddles in Mobjack Bay and the surrounding waters. Mary Larson, 804-316-3432, larsonfamily3@gmail.com
7/27 & 28/13	Kayak Camping Trip Leader Training	A two part class consisting of an evening of indoor instruction and discussion followed by a two day weekend kayak camping trip. Greg Welker, Jenny Plummer-Welker and Ralph Heimlich. CLASS FULL.
7/28/13	Iron Girl Practice Swim - Triathlon- NON CPA EVENT	Kayak swimmer support for Iron Girl Practice swim Triathlon, Centennial Lake, Howard Co, Md. Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, susiegreenthumb@verizon.net, http://www.tricolumbia.org/events
8/3/13	St. Georges Island to St. Mary and Return	Watch the finishers of the Governor's Cup Race as we Paddle from St. Georges Island up the St. Mary's River and return. Mike Cohn, 301-283-2391, mdcohn@verizon.net
8/3/13	Cape Henlopen Dolphin Paddle	Paddle around Cape Henlopen to look for dolphin and experience the open ocean.. Paula M. Hubbard, 410-778-4935, paula@md-kayaker.com
8/3/13	Beginner Paddle Series -Tridelphia Lake	Beginners/intermediate paddle on Tridelphia Lake, Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, susiegreenthumb@verizon.net
8/9-13/13	Patuxent Kayak Kamper Out and Back	Paddle and camp along the Patuxent River. Ralph Heimlich, 301-498-0918 leave a message, heimlichfamily@comcast.net
8/10/13	Kent Island Practice Paddle Series (KIPP)	This series will have six practice paddles once a month, from April thru September. Marshall Woodruff, 202-345-0606, marshall.woodruff@gmail.com
8/10/13	Mallows Bay to Chicamuxen	Paddle Mallows Bay to a secluded creek and to Chicamuxen Bay and return. Greg Welker and Jenny Plummer-Welker, 301-249-4895, gdwelker@verizon.net, plummer_welker@verizon.net
8/11/13	West and Rhode River Paddle	Beat the dog days of summer on these two rivers south of Annapolis. 10-12 miles with breaks and lunch on several sandy beaches! Dorothy Guy, 410-744-6057, dmgy13@aol.com, Jenny Welker-Plummer and Greg Welker
8/17/13	Beginner Series - Turner Creek Lotus tour	Beginner paddle trip to view native lotus blooming in the coves on the Sassafra. Sue Stevens, 410-531-5641, susiegreenthumb@verizon.net

Visit the CPA Web page, <http://www.cpakayaker.com/>, for more events, details and trip leader/organizer contact information.  
For a full listing of upcoming Club events, visit the CPA Calendar, <http://www.cpakayaker.com/index.php?page=calendar>.

*(Continued from page 5)* CPA Paddler Profile ~ Katie O'Meara

**What do you like about CPA?** A lot of people, a lot of paddles. A whole range of experiences to participate in, and a lot of sharing, teaching and supportive paddle companions nearby.

**One thing other people find interesting about you:** I like to get out, on the water and in the world. I travel whenever I can and have been able to enjoy some great opportunities with students, friends and colleagues, mostly by doing some sort of archaeology field work during my summers off. I would like to add paddling to these adventures out in the world—maybe this year I'll paddle on Lake Titicaca!

### CPA Classifieds

**Kayak for sale.** Eddyline Equinox kayak, 14' long, 2011 model bought new, minimal use, showroom condition, includes Eddyline Swift 2-piece carbon fiber lightweight paddle, many accessories. \$1,250 complete. See [www.eddyline.com](http://www.eddyline.com) for fine details of this first class kayak. Located in Richmond, VA. Contact: [mcdonough.jim@comcast.net](mailto:mcdonough.jim@comcast.net) or phone (804) 795-5402.

**Kayak Storage.** Storing your kayak outdoors? Were you worried about it during the Derecho last summer? Would you like to store it indoors and protected from the weather? The Pier 7 Pirates have indoor kayak storage spaces available at our weekly paddling site on the South River. Attend Pier 7 Wednesdays without having to load and unload your boat each week! With the location conveniently located near US-50, you can pick up your boat on the way to Eastern Shore paddling trips. Reserve now for the summer paddling season. The storage space is indoors, secure, climate controlled, with 24/7 access and free launching from the sand beach on Wednesday nights. Rates are \$30/month for a six month lease (rent for the warm paddling season, rent for winter storage, or both) or \$30/month if you need shorter term storage. Please contact Greg Welker at [gdwelker@verizon.net](mailto:gdwelker@verizon.net) or 301-249-4895 if interested.



Steven Jahncke (second from left) organized a CPA car camp and paddle trip in Virginia. The group explored the upper, middle and lower sections of the Chickahominy River.

*photo by Greg Welker*

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- [CPA Classifieds](#)

### **The Chesapeake Paddler**

Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 341

Greenbelt, MD 20768-0341

REMINDER: Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date. If you receive the newsletter electronically, you will receive an e-mail reminder prior to your membership expiring; please notify the Secretary for changes to your email address. If your CPA membership has expired, or will expire soon, please send in your dues. SEE BOX ON PAGE 2 FOR ADDRESS.