

The Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of The Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc.

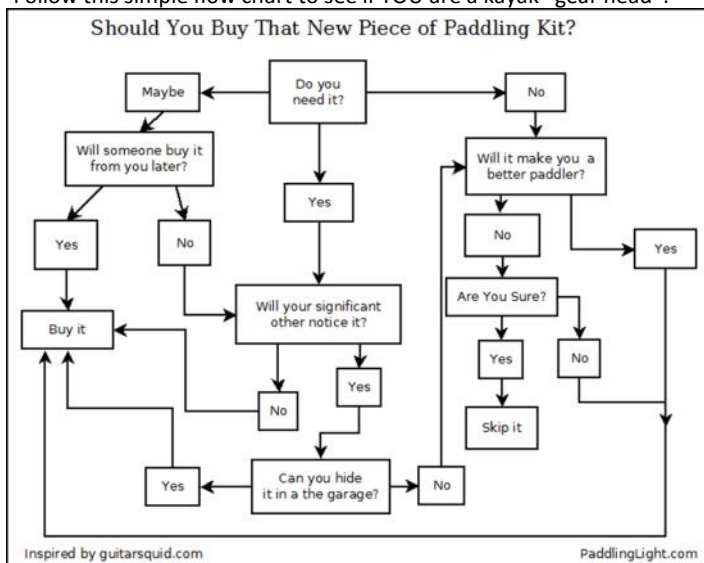
Volume 26 Issue V

June 2016

CPA Gear Day and Fall-Out-of-Your-Boat Day

National Park Service 100th Birthday Paddle

Follow this simple flow chart to see if YOU are a kayak "gear head":



Now that you KNOW you are a kayak "gear head", how do you find some cool new gear to lust after? Come to the CPA Gear Day at Truxtun Park on **SUNDAY, JUNE 5**. The park has a nice, sand launching beach, restrooms, grassy areas under shade trees and in the sun for watching the festivities and your kayaking displays, and a Picnic Pavilion which CPA has reserved for our use. The pavilion has charcoal grills and picnic tables, and will hold all who would show in the event of rain.

A **potluck style lunch** is planned with CPA providing paper plates, utensils, charcoal, hamburger and hotdogs. A potluck food assignment will follow once we have a count of people attending. **PLEASE RSVP** (jallen657258@comcast.net) so we can plan for the appropriate lunch supplies.

Did we mention **GEAR???** There will be a **gear swap area** for people interested in selling or buying used gear and kayaks. Come and show off YOUR cool stuff, and see what everybody else has (that YOU, poor amateur, **DON'T** have! (yet))

Volunteers are needed for any of the following: Displays of kayaks and gear, such as different types of kayaks, paddle making, safety gear, the well-equipped pfd, kayak outfitting, charts and navigation, kayak camping, etc.

FALL-OUT-OF-YOUR-BOAT: If you are too new to sea kayaking to be consumed by gear lust, this is a great time to learn wet exits, rescues, and basic kayaking skills. Recently, a lot of people have found the heel-hook paddle float self-rescue and assisted rescue to be easier than the standard method. Maybe you missed SK102 this year and you really want to join some CPA trips that require these skills. Maybe

By Ralph Heimlich

Back in March, Greg Welker and I met with Joel Dunn, President of the Chesapeake Conservancy, on a couple of topics. During the meeting, Joel mentioned that he wanted to help commemorate the 100th Birthday of the National Park Service and thought that spelling out "100" in kayaks would be a cool idea. I think Joel originally thought he needed 100 kayaks until Greg gave him some ideas about formations that would use considerably fewer boats.

Fast forward to May 7. Jody Couser, the Conservancy's lead person, had arranged with Sandy Point State Park to get us free entry, laid on a drone pilot to take the aerial photo and had a caterer to feed our hungry mob when we got off the water. I enlisted 30 paddlers and arm-twisted three of my more reliable paddlers to be the "Numeral Captains". We hit the park's Small Craft Beach about 8 AM on a sultry, overcast morning. The weather forecast, against all expectations, was relatively windless and didn't threaten an immediate downpour. After forming up by Numeral, we launched and paddled down toward the Bay Bridge, gathering just out from the jetty guarding the entrance to the park marina.

We formed up with the One's in column abreast and each of the two zeros as stars with bows together. Unfortunately, the expected slack current at 9:15 AM didn't materialize, probably because of the many days of rain up on the Susquehanna and the wind that had pushed the Bay waters up to Havre De Grace. Time after time we would just get formed up before we drifted down on the bridge and had to break and reform. The drone got a few pictures, but eventually we paddled back up to the beach (against at least a knot of current) and formed up one last time just off the beach.

The resulting shot (see attached), with a little Photoshop magic, will be one of thousands of tributes to the National Park Service's 100 years of stewardship, but one with a definite Chesapeake Bay flavor with the iconic Bay Bridge rising in the background. 📸



Photo by Mid-Atlantic Aerial Photography for National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office, & Chesapeake Conservancy with gratitude to the Chesapeake Paddlers Association.

[Continued p. 7; Gear](#)

THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The mission of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association is to provide a way for people to enjoy sea kayaking within the Chesapeake Bay area and to promote safe sea kayaking practices through educating the local sea kayaking community and the interested public.

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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. Ads dated three 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!

THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLER

The Chesapeake Paddler is published 10 times a year, with combination issues in Nov/Dec and Jan/Feb. The deadline for submitting copy is the 15th of the preceding month. Have an idea for an article, or is there information you would like to see in the newsletter?

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News From the CPA Coordinator - Ralph Heimlich

Trips, Events and Peer Paddles

Some of the terminology CPA uses in describing different paddling opportunities may be confusing to a newcomer. I'm going to try to explain some of them in this column, although there may be disagreement from some on my definitions.

Trips—When a club member organizes and leads an officially-sanctioned CPA trip, it is posted on the calendar (<http://www.cpakayaker.com/paddle-now/calendar/>), rated based on the trip leader's assessment of conditions (<http://www.cpakayaker.com/paddle-now/trip-ratings/>), requires a waiver of liability and follows all CPA safety protocols. These trips are covered under CPA's liability insurance terms and the requirements ensure that there will be little controversy in the event of an accident or incident. Trips can include day paddles, car and kayak campers, training and endurance series like KIPP, races organized by CPA, and the week-night Piracies. The waiver reporting process also allows me to record the number and participation in trips and events.

Events—Regularly scheduled events organized under the auspices of CPA include training such as SK101, SK102 and Trip Leader Training (SK203), workshops and exercises such as the Greenland Paddle workshop, Boat and Paddle Work day, Gear Day/Fall-Out of Your Boat Day, and the Annual Meeting. Generally, only the on-water portions of these events require a liability waiver and are subject to CPA safety protocol, again to meet the requirements of our liability insurance coverage.

Non-CPA Events—As a service to our members and the kayaking community, we list a number of Non-CPA events on our calendar such as swim supports, races, paddles for causes, and demo days by outfitters or boat manufacturers. I am regularly besieged by requests to co-sponsor or co-organize many of these events and to provide safety kayakers for them. As a general policy, CPA refrains from co-hosting events. This is partly because we become jointly liable for any incidents occurring during the events, even though we may not exercise much control over the way the event is organized and run, but also because most of these are not very closely aligned with our mission as sea kayaking club. The distinction was not very important before we started getting liability insurance coverage, but with coverage, we become more of a target for suits in the event of an accident. While not willing to co-sponsor such events, we are more than happy to list them on the calendar and promote them to our members through the Forum and our Facebook page when asked.

Peer Paddles—CPA members coordinate amongst themselves for all kinds of paddles, from casual day paddles to complex multi-day excursions far from home. These are likely far and away the most numerous paddles CPA members take part in, even though they are not reported or recorded anywhere. CPA's role in these paddles is mostly in



Ralph Heimlich

photo by Mike Fernandez

introducing members to like-minded people with which they can arrange paddles. Peer paddles aren't covered by our insurance, and don't have any obligation to follow CPA safety protocols, although we hope that they are adopted by peer groups when they paddle together, mostly because they work to get everyone back alive. Generally, trips outside the Bay area are usually organized as peer paddles rather than sanctioned CPA trips, but there are exceptions (Loons of the ADK, for example).

Do you have to be a CPA member to participate in CPA trips and events? With some exceptions (e.g., SK102), you don't have to join CPA to go on CPA trips, and we encourage newcomers to try us. We think they'll like what they see on our trips, from the people and the places to the way we do business (safely). Of course, if we see the same shining face on trip after trip, we will raise the inevitable question about why they are too cheap to join up. After all, CPA is about the best deal in the paddling world, at least in my humble opinion.☺



Bay Bridge from Sandy Point - 100 year

Photo by Ralph Heimlich

Paddler Profile: Aht Viravaidya

by Bob Browning

Lives in: Baltimore, MD

Real job: Curriculum developer for a Thai school

Do you regularly attend a Piracy? I go to Pirates of Baltimore from time to time. When I started paddling I went to then Pier 7 and Pirates of Georgetown a lot. It was a lot of fun. I hope to return and visit other pirates too.

Number of years paddling: 5 years

How did you get involved in sea kayaking? I always wanted to paddle, because I wasn't allowed to do so when I was young. Bangkok, my hometown was surrounded by water and filled with small craft everywhere. I ran across the Watersedge meetup. I joined them and learned about CPA and I joined CPA too. I was introduced to all kinds of paddles, leisure on calm water, lively water on South river, Chesapeake bay, Andirondacks, many creeks throughout Maryland, Delaware and Virginia.

What boats do you paddle? NDK Romany LV/ 16'/ purple, Impex Force Cat 3/ 17'/ blue, North Shore Atlantic LV/ 15'11"/ red

Rudder or skeg? All have skegs

Type paddle used: Celtic 650 (Euro)

Do you do any other type of paddling besides sea kayaking? I have a BCU 2* certificate in both canoe and kayak. If I had unlimited time and resources, I would like to canoe, SUP as well as kayak.

Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities Just walk my dog daily.

How often on average do you paddle between May and October? I try to go at least once per week. There are many weeks I don't paddle and there are weeks I get to paddle three times.

Do any winter paddling? Kipburrrz and meetups.

Favorite local paddling location: Circumnavigation of Wye Island, Eastern Neck, KIP, to Thomas Lighthouse, Rocky Gorge, etc.

Favorite CPA trip you've ever been on and why: My first trip was with Ralph, paddling to St. Clements; it was a challenge because I hadn't paddled any "lively" water before, nor done any crossing, but it was okay because everyone was cool and Ralph made crepes for us on the island. His camping trips are also very relaxed and fun. I get to see things I haven't seen. Suzanne's and Saki's trips are also very memorable. I get to see spectacular nature as well as learning local history. I think practically all CPA trips are wonderful. I wish there were two or three trips to choose from per week.

Coolest paddling trip you've ever been on anywhere and why? Paddle to Fishers Island with Nigel Dennis and Eila Wilkinson. It was windy and rough, but they took time to talk to me, told me what to do in handling the situation, asked how I was doing, etc. Eila took me into the tide race for the first time. It was tense, fun and exciting, all at the same time. On the way back, I was with Nigel, the rest of the group was with Eila. They didn't catch up with us. I got to work on rolling in rough water one on one with Nigel while we waited for the rest of the group. It was a mighty good day!

Scariest/most dangerous trip/experience and why? It was the CPA trip to Tangier, or actually the trip from Tangier, because it was stormy we took the ferry there. The waves that day were the biggest I have seen and I wasn't sure what I committed myself to do. After the comfortable night and fine dining we had to depart Tangier. We dodged the storms for two days. I could hardly make



Aht Viravaidya

photo by Archee Jan Bloch

any distance and had to be towed for the first time! Moreover after we landed I got stuck in the mud, really stuck so that Jim Z had to help me out. It was an adventurous safe trip that I will never forget. Thanks Brian, Jim, Cat, Gina and Peter.

Future bucket list trips: Baja, Anglesey, Nova Scotia, Tybee, Florida, etc.

Three things you like most about paddling? Friendship, nature, and being happy with myself.

What do you like about CPA? Its core members and its core programs like KIP, SK102, SK101, SK203, etc. I have become a better paddler from paddling with them. They have introduced me to awesome places to paddle, education on paddling, leadership, navigation, etc. I am impressed how they get things done and work together to promote paddling. I am still learning from them every day.

One unusual, non-paddling thing other people find interesting about you ? I love classical music and I go to concerts everywhere from New York to Washington. 🎵



Aht Viravaidya

Photo by Archee Jan Bloch

We would like to know about you! Contact Bob Browning if you are interested in a being featured in the Paddler Profile or if you know of someone else he can contact. Contact Bob at: BBBrowning43@verizon.net

Patuxent River Monday Paddle

By Ralph Heimlich

On May 9, I was joined by 10 hardy Monday paddlers for a jaunt down a secluded and historic waterway in the middle Patuxent River. Queen Anne Canoe Launch is a facility of the Patuxent River Park (MNCCP and Jug Bay) located adjacent to the 4H Center off Queen Anne Road, just south of the intersection of Rts 301 and 214 near Bowie, Maryland. The launch is gated, but you call the Jug Bay HQ to get the access code.



Dock launch at Queen Annes (Ed Santlemann, Jay Perry, and Mark Taylor) photo by Ralph Heimlich

The sky was cloudy, and the weather damp, but relatively rainless when we gathered at the parking area above the landing. Recent rains had made the steep road down to the floating dock launch muddy, so we all opted to unload at the parking area and carry boats down to the dock. The current was running briskly as we launched into the muddy brown river with much assistance holding boats as the paddler got in the saddle and skirted up. Launching were Jim Allen, Jay Perry, Gib Hoshall, Nancy Eichert, and Ed Santelmann. Long-time CPA member Mark Taylor joined us for the first time in a while, and Florida member John Garon joined us on his way north to his Maine house. Linda Delaney decided the current was a bit swifter than she wanted to deal with, but wished us luck.

We initially paddled upstream against the current, but were soon blocked by blow downs and shallowing waters over the gravel bars. It is hard for modern eyes to believe that Queen Anne was once the official port of embarkation on the Patuxent River, one of several designated tobacco inspection and warehousing ports on the Bay. Poor agricultural practices and resulting massive silting damaged the deep Patuxent River here and the last ship was loaded about 1790. Today, the narrow stream is overhung with dense, green vegetation, and the only commerce is carried on by Prothonotary Warblers, beavers, and soaring Ospreys.

We paddled with the current downstream past floodplain islands that benefit early each Spring from the efforts of the Pax Cleanup. Muddy, water-logged landscapes near the river mean that the nearest houses are far away on firmer land, leaving the river's edge mostly undeveloped, save for a few fishing camp shelters and chairs. We passed Rattlesnake Island, and went down past our intended lunch stop at Wooten's Landing to an area just below Spyglass Island where what is now known as Back Channel, once the main channel, is only a narrow tree-choked isthmus from what is now the main run of the river. During the War of 1812, Commodore Joshua Barney's fleet of oared gunboats were bottled up by the British fleet under Admiral Sir George Cockburn until Barney fired his gunboats and trundled their cannon overland to take part as artillery in the Battle of Bladensburg.

Wooten's Landing has a floating dock setup similar to the one at Queen Anne Canoe Launch, but the floats need to be adjusted to bring the dock surface closer to the water for kayak landing. I've contacted the Parks and Rec and they promise to make the adjustment. We mostly chose the mud-

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Pine Barren Paddles

By Mike Fernandez

The idea for this trip came from a conversation with Marla Aron on one of Ralph's Potomac Passage Paddles, in which she indicated the New Jersey Pine Barrens had been on her list of paddling destinations to get to. Being that the Pines are practically in my back yard and they were where I learned to paddle as a youth, I offered to put together a trip. As this was my first experience leading a CPA trip, Marla was a tremendous asset in helping co-ordinate the event.

Our group started arriving at Godfrey Bridge campground on Thursday evening, with the early arrivals enjoying a pleasant evening of solitude with the pine trees and whippoorwills to keep us company. We all remarked on a seeming abundance of airplanes and helicopters passing overhead; I later learned that there was an air show at Joint Base MDL (the new name for the Fort Dix/McGuire/Lakehurst complex) located a short distance north of us that weekend; they may have been flying in for the event, as there was minimal air traffic observed after Thursday evening.

Early forecasts for the area all had a chance of thunderstorms Friday and Saturday. Although Friday dawned to a cloudy sky, the rain held off until we got on the water for our shorter paddle on the Wading River around noon. Our paddle from Hawkens Bridge to Evans Bridge was accompanied by off and on light showers, and the forecast thunderstorms never materialized. The shuttle, while short, was mostly over sand roads that characterize the Pines – I hope no one became too nervous with my wild careening down these roads!



Marla Aron

Photo by Mike Fernandez

With everyone finally arriving late on Friday, we had another relaxed evening around the campfire. The skies began to clear, and Saturday dawned bright and sunny. Our full group paddled the Oswego River from Oswego Lake to Harrisville Lake. This was a longer and more varied paddle, starting with a crossing of Oswego Lake and a portage over the dam before setting off down-river. About mid-way through the paddle there is a broad, braided section where the river flows through what had been a mill-pond for Martha Furnace, a long-gone bog iron works and village of which practically nothing remains. The river narrows again below Martha before opening onto Harrisville Lake; this proved to be a challenging paddle for me in a canoe as the winds began to pick up late in the day. Saturday evening some of us had dinner about a half hour away in Hammonton, the nearest town of any consequence, while others stayed in camp. A quick moving cold front threatened rain, but delivered little more than showers.

Sunday dawned sunny, breezy, and markedly cooler. Some opted for a short paddle upriver from Oswego Lake, while others checked out the goings-on at Batsto State Park. Batsto is the headquarters for Wharton State Forest, and is a restored iron and glass manufacturing village dating to before the American Revolution.

Speaking for myself, it was a great experience planning my first CPA event. It was my first time camping in the Pine in many, MANY years. Although we did not have the wildflower display I was hoping for due to a cold, late

[Continued on p. 6; Pine](#)

Kayak Sail Gathering

By Greg Welker

Most people just paddle their kayaks. Some of us sail them. There is a group of kayak sailors on the east coast who add tall masts (12-16 feet), sails (28-100+ square feet), leeboards and outriggers to their boats and sail them. This group, known as the Sail Angels, had their spring gathering the first week of May at Tall Pines campground on Virginia's eastern shore. There were 17 people in attendance. We sailed, ate well, and coped with a bunch of rain.

Many of you may have seen sails advertised for kayaks that let you sail downwind, in the direction the wind is blowing. The sails we use do more than just go downwind. They are able to go upwind as well as many sailboats, and can reach speeds in excess of 16 knots. Sailing kayaks and canoes of this type use outriggers, usually inflatable, to allow the use of taller masts and larger main sails and jibs. There are even some spinnakers in use. Many of us use the Balogh Sail Design Sail and Outrigger System (BSD) (www.balogsailsdesigns.com), while others use similar systems by Folbot, or a combination of commercial and custom made components. The boats use rudders, and if you are seriously into sailing you will switch out your normal kayak rudder for a balanced rudder with a larger surface area to help steer when sailing.

The best boats for sailing are those with significant rocker for maneuverability and large bow volumes to keep from submerging on downwind sailing runs. Whitewater kayaks converted to sailing are like acrobatic biplanes, turning quickly with lots of sail power for their size. While the whitewater boats can turn circles around the sailing sea kayaks, the hard shell sea kayaks are faster in a straight line, especially sailing across the direction of the wind. As with sailboats, the more sail you add the faster you go. Some kayaks, especially two person folding or hard shell kayaks, increase sail area by adding additional masts and sails. Schooner rigs with two masts are common, and we had a three masted schooner at the gathering this year. Others of us increase sail area by adding sails in front of the main sail, called jibs or spinnakers. These can get a bit too exciting on high wind days, so we tend to use them only when we have light winds. When the wind

really picks up, the kayaks decrease sail area by "reefing", or shortening the sails.

Like other sailors, kayak sailors tend to sleep in, since early mornings usually have light winds. The group at the gathering had a number of leisurely group breakfasts, from waffles to pancakes to potlucks. Sailing was usually from mid to late morning until early evening. Several times during the week we patronized the local restaurants. This is a group that enjoys local color, and hole in the wall breakfast and dinner joints are highly prized.

During the week we installed a new BSD system on a CPA member's Looksha (he had to turn away while we drilled the mast hole in his boat's deck), and we had him out on the water for his first sailing lessons in one of the schooners. This brings the number of kayak sailors I know of in the CPA membership area to eight.

The fall gathering will be in October at Cedar Island, North Carolina. Camping or house rental options are available. If you don't have a sail rig, there are some rigged boats that can be borrowed during the week. Feel free to contact me if you are interested in learning more or attending. ☺



Some of the Boats on the Beach

Photo by Greg Welker

[Patuxent: continued from p. 5](#)

dy shoreline to get out for lunch, cut short by the beginning of a more serious rain. Wootens Landing Wetland Park is an Anne Arundel County park with a parking area off Sands Road and easy access (by cart) from the parking area.

On the paddle back upriver, we were fortunate to see something plummet from the trees to the bank. Looking closer, we saw a downy Barred Owl owlet peering intently back at us through the undergrowth. Apparently unsteady on his new wings, he fell down from his perch, none the worse for wear.



Owlet by Ralph Heimlich

Loading up, we concluded another in the series of Monday paddles listed on the CPA calendar. Formerly known as the Gunkhole Paddles, this series accommodates the retired, or merely flexibly-scheduled paddlers. We often coordinate them with campers, staying over an extra day to paddle in the more remote parts of the Bay. Paddling on Mondays is a real treat as there are few other users competing for parking or space on the water. If you can be free on a Monday, check the calendar and come join us. ☺

[Pine: continued from p. 5](#)

spring, it was good to get back and hear the whippoorwills; their evening calls in the Pines are to me are what the loons are to the North Woods. I hope everyone enjoyed it... y'all come back now!

IF YOU GO...

The Pine Barrens are a unique part of New Jersey; except for the lack of rocks or scrub palms, you would think you were in the North Woods or deepest Florida! But you are a short hour from major metropolitan areas, and summer weekends can see bank-to-bank paddlers coating the waterways and clogging the campgrounds. Off-season or mid-week is definitely the time to go. We saw only one other group on Saturday, which gave a little taste of how crazy it can get!

Four major paddle trails traverse the southern Pine Barrens in Wharton State Forest – the Mullica, Batsto, Wading, and Oswego. The Mullica and Batsto are long enough to have paddle-in campsites on them, but all can be done as day trips. Shuttles for the Oswego and Wading are mercifully short, no more than 15 minutes one-way, whereas the Mullica and Batsto can take a good hour to set up. There are four inexpensive primitive campgrounds accessible by car that have outhouses and a hand pump for water, or there are full-service campgrounds at Atsion and Bass River. All can be reserved thru the Reserve America website that so many state parks now use. A [map](#), provided by [Bel Haven Paddlesports](#), provides a good overview of the area. Bel Haven can also provide shuttle service should you need it. ☺

Chesapeake Paddlers Association 2016 Calendar

Date	Title	Summary
6/3-4	Potomac River Swim Support	Kayaker's support their swimmer across 7.5 miles of the mouth of the Potomac
6/4	Kent Island Paddle #3	Practice for endurance to circumnavigate Kent Island
6/4	Macintosh Run & Winery to Abells Wharf, Breton Bay	Macintosh Creek in St. Mary's County
6/5	CPA Gear Day and Fall Out of your Boat Day	Gear Swap; lunch; paddle
6/6	Magothy River Paddle	Paddle the upper and middle sections of the Magothy River
6/11	Patuxent River - Jug Bay	Paddle the Patuxent river through scenic Jug Bay area.
6/11	Beginner Kayak Paddle at Kent Island	Beginner Paddle along the protected creeks on Kent Island. Visit Mt. Calvert.
6/12	Cuckhold and Mill Creek Exploration	This is a 6-8 nm paddle, exploring Cuckhold an Mill Creeks (Patuxent River)
6/13	St Inigoes State Forest Beaches from St. Georges Island Causeway Ramp	Paddle across the mouth of the St. Mary's River to pristine beaches in Southern MD.
6/18	Beginners Skills Practice	Practice skills discussed at SK101 and SK 102.
6/18	Wye Island Circumnavigation	Fourteen mile paddle around Wye Island.
6/19	Mallows Bay Meander	Paddle the Ghost Fleet.
6/20	Tilghman Island or Popular Island	Circumnavigate Tilghman Island or paddle out to Popular Island.
6/23	Thomas Point Lighthouse (& back)	Paddle to the lighthouse.
6/24-26	Belle Isle Car Camper	
6/25	Otter Creek	Six mile, advanced beginner paddle near Edgewood, MD.
6/25	Kayak to Thomas Point Lighthouse	Lighthouse and back - big trip!
6/25-26	Upper Potomac Kayak Camper	An overnight trip for those looking to learn more about kayak camping.
6/27	Great Wicomico river	Addle most of the Great Wicomico River in Virginia.

* Non CPA Event

[Gear: continued from p. 1](#)

you're one of the lucky ones that made it this year, and you want to polish what you learned or you're ready to learn more. Maybe you're an experienced kayaker, but you're so good that you hardly ever capsized to actually use these rescue skills. Maybe you're one of our experts who wants to help your fellow paddlers master these skills. Come and join us! There will be plenty of one-on-one opportunities for those who want it. The water will (FINALLY) be warm and you will actually WANT to get WET!! If you have boats that you would be willing to let people try it would be great if you would bring them. At the end, a group will likely go for a paddle on Spa Creek.

And of course it is simply fine to just show up, paddle, and hang out! You don't need a boat!

Festivities run from 9 AM to 4 PM. Let us know if you are coming and what you'll be bringing to show off and for the rest of us to EAT (WE Paddle to EAT). General RSVP to Jim Allen (jallen657258@comcast.net), On-water volunteers and students to Bill Smith (madriver33@gmail.com) ☺



Gear Day 2015

photos by Jim Allen



On the Oswego (Pine Barren)

Photo by Mike Fernandez

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Hey – Would you be interested in going on some casual short distance peer paddles - on the weekdays after work or on weekend day trips? We might even get organized enough to become a piracy! If you are interested in leisurely peer – paddle trips and seeking local launches on the Eastern Shore area with local kayakers - just to let me know - please drop an email to : Joyce at joyfitz@verizon.net

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.