

## Paddler Profile: Edward Santelmann

*Interview by Bob Browning*

**Lives in:** Annapolis, Maryland

**Real job:** Retired, produced technical animated films mostly for the Defense Department

**Do you regularly attend a Piracy?** Yes, Pirates of Arundell

**Number of years paddling:** 10

**How did you get involved in sea kayaking?** Always thought kayaking was cool, had a chance to attend an orientation in Easton that included a paddle. Then took an L.L. Bean class in Annapolis (Bean did it 10 years ago) and we were only 2 students, so I had full instruction for the entire day. Went out and bought a 16ft Tsunami.

**What boats do you paddle?** Both Current Designs: 17 ½-foot Solstice GT, light green over white, and 15-foot Vision, white over white.

**Rudder or skeg?** Both have rudders.

**Type paddle used:** Euro. About once a year, use a self-made Greenland.

**Do you do any other type of paddling besides sea kayaking?** Just love doing kayak support for long distance swims and triathlons.

**Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities?** Sold my sailboat last year after sailing all over the Chesapeake for 46 years.

**How often on average do you paddle between May and October?** Probably about 1.75 times a week.



*Photo/April Childress*

**Do any winter paddling?** Only in Florida and South Carolina.

**Favorite local paddling location?** Nanjemoy Creek...always restful and plenty of eagles.

**Favorite CPA trip you've ever been on and why:** That's a tough one, all CPA paddles have been great, probably the Upper Choptank.

**Coolest paddling trip you've ever been on anywhere and why?** The Ace Basin in South Carolina. After the spring rains, the blackwater streams would overflow their banks and you could actually paddle through the woods. Lots of fun when going downstream. Love seeing alligators; it's a mutual respect thing.

**Scariest/most dangerous trip/experience and why?** Never had one. I've always had huge respect for the bay and water and never challenged the weather. I've

never signed up for a trip with CPA in the bay (only did Thomas Point once).

**Three things you like most about paddling?** Just being out there with other people. I can't get over how welcoming everyone is and how readily people share their knowledge, making me a better kayaker.

**One unusual, non-paddling thing other people find interesting about you?** Volunteer at the Model Guild at Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michael's. I developed a class in carving a half-hull boat model which is held twice a year....Everybody who has taken the class has gone home proud and happy with a beautiful wall hanging....Join us if you want to learn the skill. ♦

*Do you know a paddler who would make an interesting profile?  
Contact Bob Browning at:*

## Chesapeake Paddlers Association - Introduction to Sea Kayaking

**Saturday, March 10, 2018, 8:30am-4pm**

West River Center, 5100 Chalk Point Road, West River, MD 20778

For Preregistration and to learn more visit [http://cpa\\_sk101\\_2018.eventbee.com](http://cpa_sk101_2018.eventbee.com)

**\$30 fee per person** includes a light breakfast and lunch. Program includes 12 featured instructors and 14 two-minute highlights from some of the area's top kayakers. Registrations must be received by March 1, 2018. Questions can be directed to Rick Leader at [rleader@goeaston.net](mailto:rleader@goeaston.net) or 410-310-6541

**Kayak Design and Selection • Paddle Types and Pointers on the all-important Forward Stroke • Kayaking Gear • Kayaking Safety • Going on a CPA trip**

**• Places to Paddle • Transporting and Storing Your Kayak**

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**Preregistration Required**