

# KALAMAZOO SAIL AND POWER SQUADRON



## PILOT



***A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons® Sail and Power Boating, District 9***

**Volume 76, Issue 22**

**JANUARY 2006**



### ***Commander's Message*** ***Karen S. Strand, P***

*Reflecting on the past and the memories that come forth, Change of Watch (COW) time is a bittersweet time for me. I've been honored to be your Commander for the last two years. An occurrence that has not happened since 1958.*

*I've learned so much about USPS, KSPS, its hierarchy, history, and educational commitment. What I have significantly learned is that the triangle is not just a symbol on a piece of paper but a logo that has a nationwide mission of education, civil service and fraternity.*

*What I have learned is that our squadron has long-time members who have given unyieldingly of their time, energy, and talent in teaching classes and planning boating events.*

*What I have learned is that USPS and KSPS have become part of my extended family who share good times and bad; who encourage members to achieve; who comfort others; who believe in education and who laugh and cry.*

*The fraternal side of that triangle is the strongest – the glue that provides the bond among people. It's the strongest part of the triangle and the most cherished, because FRIENDSHIPS made along the way are more cherished and remembered than learning about a DR or a FIX.*

*If you can remember my FIRST Commander's message entitled "Center of Effort," the balance of effort that is required to sail a vessel in a straight course so that it will reach*

*its destination. Well, with the balance of effort of all our members, we've been on a designated course of positive achievement with various awards as well as an increase in Merit Marks (MM) granted to our squadron.*

*Although we've had successes, we still need to improve in membership, safety boating classes, and vessel safety checks. Keeping KSPS viable and in a positive direction is a SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. Keeping KSPS viable is EVERYONE'S job.*

*Yes, COW time is a bittersweet time for me. I might wake up in the morning and not think about what I have to do next for KSPS – but I doubt it. This is my final message to you as your Commander. Your future responsibilities are to plot your course, to watch out for hidden shoals and to support your new Commander and her Bridge.*

*Thank you KSPS members for your support and confidence; for the opportunity to serve and for the memories. Let me repeat the toast Phyllis gave as our Christmas greeting this year.*

*Here's to the tall ships,  
Here's to the small ships,  
Here's to all the ships at sea.  
But the best ships are friendships,  
Here's to you and me*

**Chaplain's Corner**  
**Phyllis Buskirk, P**

*New Grace*

*How speak of this wonder of whiteness?  
It falls on the world like a prayer  
With softness, yet crystalline splendor  
Sun and stars seek reflection there.  
Of beauty that shelters and covers  
All things that were ugly and grim  
And comes as a true benediction:  
New grace imparted by Him.*

*by Helen E. Burrell*

***IN RECOVERY***

**Craig Norrod is at home in Battle Creek and his health is improving. He still cannot have visitors but cards and phone calls are welcome.**

**Dan Chappell is recovering from a recent stay in the hospital.**

**Joanne Van Ameyden is recovering from recent surgery.**

**Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers.**

***JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!!***

James Joseph Riordan, P: 18 January  
P/Lt/C Jamie Ann Corder: 27 January  
Beverly A. Love, P: 30 January

**Happy birthday everyone!!!**

***ADDRESS CHANGE***

**Winifred Meinert  
5749 Stadium Drive, Apt 133  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009**

**Phone: 269-353-3705**

## **Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron Executive Committee Minutes**

**13 December 2005**

The meeting was called to order by Cdr Karen Strand at 1920 at the Sports Forum. The invocation was offered by Chaplain Phyllis Buskirk, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Twelve members (a quorum) and 1 guest signed in.

The minutes of the 08 November meeting were approved as published in the Pilot. Lt/Cdr Nils Strand presented the Treasurer's report for November. Ads in the Pilot and members' support of the Booster List have brought in more income. Expenses for our D-9 Fall Conference Hospitality Room were below budget because Sable Point and South Bend joined us again and shared the costs. The meeting was recessed for dinner.

The meeting resumed with the SEO report. R. Landeros distributed lists and calendars with the KS&PS course offering schedule as of 13 December. Plan to take a course and teach where needed. Some incoming officers need Operations Training.

Announcements Cdr Strand reported that D-9 Past Cdr Michael Rachuk's Mother died and that Sable Point member Joanne Van Ameyden is facing breast cancer surgery. The Chaplain reported that Craig Norrod is out of the hospital and his condition is improving. The Treasurer will send \$50 to the USPS Educational Fund (EF) in December in memory of KS&PS members Donald Warren, Charles Dircken & Robert Menz as decided at an earlier meeting.

It was noted that the slate of officers listed in the Pilot will be voted upon at our next meeting, the Change of Watch (COW) at the Beacon Club, in January.

### **Old Business**

Fall 2008 D-9 Conference No new SOP for reserving hotel space has been received. Jerry Hendrickson awaits more information before pursuing arrangements with the Radisson Hotel. Nils suggested and the group strongly agreed that after the COW, Cdr K. Strand (then immediate Past Cdr should serve as our Fall 2008 Conference Chairman. She plans to ask R. Snyder to serve as her consultant.

Members are to send address and email address changes to the Pilot Editor [painters4@triton.net](mailto:painters4@triton.net).

Cdr Strand reported that our revised KS&PS Member Handbook is close to completion. L. Whitmore and P. Buskirk have been asked to review it. Also, the new DVD for member recruiting has been further revised. It is now ten minutes long. Cdr K. Strand will bring it for viewing and evaluation.

Other The squadron received an order form for a case (12 books) of the USPS cookbooks for \$231 to be used for resale to members and friends at our meetings. General consensus was that we would not submit an order.

**New Business** Relating to the 2006 Budget to be presented for approval at the next meeting, Jerry Hendrickson moved and Gail Hladky seconded an increase in the amount designated for the Pilot Editor from \$100 per month to \$125 per month. Motion approved. The 2006 Pilot budget also includes an income increase of \$1,000 from advertisements. **Members were advised to start procuring 10 Kalamazoo area firms' business card information for ads for \$100 each for 2006.**

**VHQAB** Lt/Cdr Nils Strand made a USPS Voluntary Headquarters Anniversary Billing (VHQAB) presentation. Our Treasurer entered into this voluntary arrangement along with those of most of the other squadrons in D-9. **KS&PS members will hereafter pay their annual dues by check or credit card or online directly to USPS Headquarters.** HQ will invoice, collect and distribute dues from members at their renewal time. Current members will be billed on April 30 (for their June 1 anniversary date). After June 1, 2006, **new** members' anniversary dates will be the month they join. USPS will send directly to our KS&PS bank account local portions of the dues. Life members wishing to make Squadron contributions should continue to make those directly to our KS&P Squadron Treasurer. The Squadron Treasurer will need to make an additional payment to USPS to cover all Life members' Educational Fund Contributions. The KS&P Squadron Treasurer will have on-line access to the USPS renewal status of local members. USPS will send a Second notice if needed and/or Non Renewals will be asked to rejoin by USPS. Please direct any questions to N. Strand who has copies of his report available.

**Goal Setting for 2006** Increase membership; recruit younger members; increase membership involvement; keep education courses strong; increase the number of certified instructors; a 5% increase in Vessel Safety checks by setting up VSC sign-up booths at Lake Michigan shoreline craft shows; increase attendance at general meetings (schedule interesting programs); reinstate a calling committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2120.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis A.R. Buskirk, Secretary Pro Tem

## Here are Your Courses!

*Lt/C Robert Landeros, SN  
Squadron Educational Officer*

In the midst of the falling snow and temperatures, your squadron educational chairpersons have been scheduling courses and lining up instructors. The following are some of the advanced grade and elective courses you can take during the next twelve months:



<b>Course</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Course Facilitator</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>e-mail address</b>
Seamanship	15-May-06	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Advanced Piloting	2-Feb-06	Robert Landeros	269-372-3430	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Junior Navigation	31-May-06	Maynard Martin	269-342-2412	maynardrm@aol.com
Navigation	3-Jan-07	Maynard Martin	269-342-2412	maynardrm@aol.com
Marine Electronics 102	23-Jan-06	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Marine Electronics 103	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Cruise Planning	12-Apr-06	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov

Please get in touch with the Course Facilitator for more details, and to reserve your seat!

As you might note, ME102 is the next scheduled *Marine Electronic* module. The three *Marine Electronics* modules (ME101, ME102 and ME103) are standalone, but you need to complete all three modules to have them count towards your Educational Proficiency or Educational Achievement. Nevertheless, you could enroll in ME102 to learn about marine radio communications, and ME103 to learn what those display screens on your boat's console actually do. P/C Harold Hladky plans to hold ME103 on the water so you can get first-hand experience with RADAR, LORAN-C, GPS Navigation, Electronic Charting, and Computer-Assisted Navigation (CAN).

On 2 February, you'll have the opportunity to enroll in *Advanced Piloting*: an all-new course that continues to build coastal and inland navigation skills learned in *Piloting*. This course will include many in-class exercises, advancing your skills through hands-on practice and learning. Additionally the course embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while adding radar, chart plotters, and other electronic navigation tools. I spoke to the manager and the staff at the new *West Marine* store in South Haven and they have agreed to demonstrate many of these tools to our members during the AP course.

In April, Cmdr Karen Strand, P will offer *Cruise Planning*. This non-modular course has one final exam, and helps members who plan a one-day cruise or an extended voyage. I'm also hoping that in the next few months we'll schedule *Sailing 101 & 102, Engine Maintenance 101 & 102* and *Instructor Development*.

Like you, I'm looking forward to these courses and the opportunity of learning!

### **Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron (2005-06)**

**Boating Courses (\$25.00/\$10.00 2nd family member sharing course materials)**

#### **Boat Smart, Mercy Pavilion Battle Creek**

- Monday, 10 Apr 06                      Monday, 1 May 06
- Monday, 17 Apr 06                     Monday, 8 May 06
- Monday, 24 Apr 06

#### **Boat Smart, Milwood Middle School, Kalamazoo**

- Thursday, 13 Apr 06                    Thursday, 4 May 06
- Thursday, 20 Apr 06                   Thursday, 11 May 06
- Thursday, 27 Apr 06                   Advanced Grade Courses

#### **Piloting (\$50.00/\$10.00 2<sup>nd</sup> family member sharing course materials)**

- Thursday, 8 Dec 05                    Thursday, 26 Jan 06

#### **Advanced Piloting (\$50.00/\$35.00 without Weekend Navigator/\$10.00 2<sup>nd</sup> family member sharing course materials)**

- Thursday, 2 Feb 06                    Thursday, 9 Mar 06
- Thursday, 9 Feb 06                    Thursday, 16 Mar 06
- Thursday, 16 Feb 06                   Thursday, 23 Mar 06
- Thursday, 23 Feb 06                   Thursday, 30 Mar 06
- Thursday, 2 Mar 06                    Thursday, 6 Apr 06

#### **Seamanship (\$30.00/\$10.00 2<sup>nd</sup> family member sharing course materials)**

- Thursday, 2 Feb 06                    Thursday, 9 Mar 06
- Thursday, 9 Feb 06                    Thursday, 16 Mar 06
- Thursday, 16 Feb 06                   Thursday, 23 Mar 06
- Thursday, 23 Feb 06                   Thursday, 30 Mar 06
- Thursday, 2 Mar 06                    Thursday, 6 Apr 06
- 

#### **Elective Courses**

#### **Cruise Planning (\$35.00 /\$10.00 2<sup>nd</sup> family member sharing course materials)**

- Thursday, 13 Apr 06                   Thursday, 4 May 06
- Thursday, 20 Apr 06                   Thursday, 11 May 06
- Thursday, 27 Apr 06

**January 2006**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4 USPS Annual Meeting	5 Piloting resumes; USPS Annual Meeting	6 USPS Annual Meeting	7 USPS Annual Meeting	8 USPS Annual Meeting
9	10 KSPS Change of Watch	11 Chicago Boat Show	12 Piloting; Chicago Boat Show	13 Chicago Boat Show	14 Chicago Boat Show	15 Chicago Boat Show
16	17	18	19 Piloting	20	21	22
23 Marine Electronics 102 starts	24	25	26 Piloting	27	28	29
30 Marine Electronics 102	31					

***CLICKING ON THE INTERNET***  
**Page 1 of 3 Submitted by George Tyler**

**22 Ways to Screw Up Your Engine**

By David Seidman  
 June 2004

**Ignorance Isn't Bliss, It's Expensive.**

Think you know how to keep your engine going? Well, you might. You probably filter the fuel, change the oil, and make sure the cooling water is flowing. And of course you've read the engine manual. Or have you? I'm betting there are lots of things you've missed in that little bible, and that once you got past Page 7, you only looked at the pictures. Too bad, because even though you think you know what you're doing, you might be screwing up your engine by doing dumb things such as...

**Economic Indicators** Ignore an idiot light or warning buzzer once it comes on and risk a whopping repair bill. But sunlight can overwhelm LED or low-watt bulbs in indicators, making them hard to see. Solution? Provide shade, or move them. Even better are

warning buzzers. But can you hear yours over the engine, stereo, and wind? At high speeds, noise levels can be in the 95+ dB-A range (like standing in a New York City subway station). Can your audible alarm top that? To be sure, install a Screamer 110 dB-A sounder for \$8 ([www.kitsrus.com](http://www.kitsrus.com)). But keep in mind that by the time a warning goes off, the problem has already occurred. We like items such as Caterpillar's in-line water flow sensor that triggers an alarm when cooling water slows-well before overheating begins.

**In Hot Water** Install your thermostat backward so the heat-sensing part is located on the wrong side. This is a surefire way to guarantee your engine overheats. It's such an easy mistake, even the pros do it.

**You Never Listen to Me** Turn a deaf ear to your boat. A sound that imitates a squealing pig probably means a belt is loose. A metallic tapping that keeps time with engine rpm means your valves, lifters, or rocker arms are in trouble. Grinding and grating metal could mean a water pump bearing is shot. If your exhaust gets louder and has a higher pitch, there's probably less cooling water running through it-check the water pump. The cacophony is music to a mechanic's banker.

**Don't Look Down** Disregard engine gauges at your own expense. Airplane pilots are taught to regularly scan their gauges. They start at one side of the panel and pan slowly across, looking at everything, and then pan back the other way. With only a few gauges on a boat, this pan and scan shouldn't be a big deal. Some owners turn their gauges so the needles point up, to high noon, when running normal. It looks odd, but it's easier to recognize when a change occurs.

**Antifreeze Meltdown** Use straight antifreeze instead of topping off your sealed cooling system with a mixture of antifreeze and water. More is better, right? Wrong! The closer the mixture in your cooling system gets to pure antifreeze, the hotter the engine will run. Undiluted antifreeze boils at a higher temperature (about 230 degrees Fahrenheit) than water (212 degrees Fahrenheit). It therefore retains more heat, allowing the engine to run hotter or even overheat.

**Turn Up Your Nose** Smell the fresh sea air and ignore the engine room's funk. A healthy engine has a distinctive odor. Take a whiff and remember it. Then when an odorous messenger shows up, you'll know something's wrong. The acrid stench of burnt rubber could come from a dry-running water pump impeller (look for a clogged water intake), not enough cooling water reaching the exhaust, a slipping V-belt, or a failed coupler in the stern drive. A hint of burnt oil might mean the engine was run hard, or if it's a strong odor, there's an oil leak dripping on the hot engine. A cloying sweet aroma indicates leaking antifreeze. And a smell like burnt hair could be an electrical short.

## ***Change of Watch*** **Gail Hladky, AP**

Once again it's time for our Change of Watch. Our officers, who have worked so hard for us, have earned a rest from their activities on our behalf. Yet, almost all of them will continue to serve (with us) on the behalf of safe boating. They'll teach, jump in as substitutes for absent officers, hold another position, give vessel safety checks, etc. This is their last night serving in their current capacity. Take the time to attend this meeting, vote for your new officers, even if there is only one person running for each elected office. Serve, (try growing as I am) by teaching a class session, chairing a class, taking a class, auditing a class, vessel safety checking, joining or leading a cruise or in some other capacity in our very worthwhile organization.

What will happen at the Change of Watch meeting?

Our commander will take the time to thank those whose help she has relied on. We'll elect the new officers. A district officer will attend and swear in the new bridge. Our district officers are good people and would enjoy visiting with any of us, especially about boating, KSPS or the USPS. We'll review the proposed budget and our new commanders goals for the coming year. It's generally a fun meeting with many serious notes and a good meal shared with good boating friends.

Who will be there?

Your bridge and their spouses, possibly their families and friends, the executive committee, some of the members who teach classes and you, we hope. If you've become friendly with a member or a potential member in one of your classes (basic or advanced) take the time to call and see if they're coming. They may be hesitating to come because they "don't know anyone". Let's face it, it does take time to become comfortable with new people, so - you make the first move.

Excuses ...I have to go home early, I'm not hungry and don't want to eat, I really can't afford it--- If you have to go home at 9 p.m. and the meeting hasn't ended just excuse yourself (to your neighbors) get up and leave, don't stay so long you'll be sorry you came. Yes, it is an interruption, but we really are delighted you could come and enjoy seeing you even if it is for just a short time. No, you don't have to order dinner if you don't want it, there will be enough other members who will eat so the restaurant won't be unhappy with us. Have an appetizer, a drink, a cup of coffee, a pop or just a glass of water, sit and visit with us while we eat.

Where is the Beacon Club?

It is south of the Kalamazoo airport entrance and across the street at 5830 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, MI. The parking is behind the "club".

**Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron  
Farewell and Thank You to the Outgoing 2005 Bridge**

Commander, Karen S. Strand, P  
Executive Officer, Robyn D. M. Levene, P  
Education Officer, Robert Landeros, SN  
Admin Officer, Vince Peckens  
Treasurer, Nils K. Strand, AP  
Secretary, Janice Brown, S

Executive Committee

Phyllis A. R. Buskirk, P  
Edward Harkness, P  
Gail Hladky, AP  
Maynard Martin  
George Tyler, JN  
Jerry L. Hendrickson, AP  
and  
Angela Anderson  
Ray Shoemaker

**2006 GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS AND  
LOCATION SCHEDULE**

**Social Time 1830 Meeting Time 1900**

10 Jan 06  
**Change of Watch**  
Beacon Club  
5830 Portage Road  
Kalamazoo, MI

2 FEB 06  
**Advanced Piloting,**  
TBA, Kalamazoo; 10-week course

*CHANGE OF WATCH*  
*BEACON CLUB, 5830 Portage Road*  
*KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN*  
*10 January 2006*

Please send your reservation form for the Change of Watch with entrée selection to Cdr Karen Strand at 215 Dogwood Trail, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017 or call (269) 964-6690 or call Nils at (269) 961-7339

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Selection: \_\_\_\_\_ \$26.00  
(Includes tax and gratuity)

*MENU*

LAKE SUPERIOR WHITE FISH  
BROILED AND SERVED WITH LEMON AND BUTTER

PRIME RIB  
HAND CUT SLOW ROASTED AND SERVED WITH  
HORSERADISH CREAM SAUCE

ENTRÉES INCLUDE HOUSE SALAD, BAKED POTATO,  
ROLLS AND CHOICE OF COFFEE OR TEA

CHICKEN CAN BE ORDERED INDIVIDUALLY

**Please RSVP by 7 January 2006**

Make checks payable to KSPS  
Checks will also be accepted at the dinner

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with their advertisements. Many thanks to our advertisers!

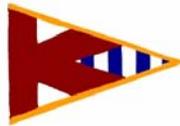
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We support the United States Power Squadrons® and the Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron in their dedication to Safe Boating through Education!

**Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron  
215 Dogwood Trail  
Battle Creek, MI 49017  
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*PILOT*



*Distinction In Journalism  
United States Power Squadron*

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SQUADRON**

**A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®  
Sail and Power Boating**