

The Pilot

*Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron
a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*



Commander's September 2006 Message

Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene AP



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As I am sitting here in the Big Apple, I can't help but feel the energy of this city. It only makes sense that the Fall 2006 USPS Governing Board meeting was held here.

The transfusion of energy has been exemplified through the camaraderie of USPS members from all over the US, the semi-

nars designed to improve our squadron. Besides attending these seminars and the USPS Governing Board, I was able to reconnect with past KSPS, now associate, members Louise and Lyle Rea, Gene and Shirley Van Rhee; with District 28 Commander (Phoenix SPS) Bill Johnson, his wife Connie, and Willy Burgeson and Marilyn Prigge of the Phoenix Sail and Power Squadron (PSPS). I have a special connection with Cdr Johnson since it was my Dad who introduced him to USPS. I also recall attending a PSPS Christmas at Willy's home with Laura when she was an infant.

Of course, D/9 made an incredible appearance as well. The D/9 Bridge was well represented and many members from individual squadrons attended. Stf/C Robert Landeros,

SN and I represented Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron. Truly, an opportunity all members would benefit by attending. So, set your goals to attend the next national meeting in Jacksonville, Florida in February 2007 or the next Governing Board Meeting. National meetings are known to be motivational and informative. They present the latest issues, changes, and future projections for USPS.

Something is being done right. USPS has created an environment of integrity, knowledge, and civil duty to the public. As members of D/9 and local squadrons marched in the Coast Guard Parade in Grand Haven this sense surrounded USPS. The audience stood,

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Special inserts:

- 16 September 2006 KSPS General meeting and Nautical Auction and Westside Fall Gathering.
- D/9 Fall Council information, 23 September 2006
- D/9 Fall Conference information, 27-29 October 2006

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It's Merit Mark Time!

When you contribute your time and effort to your squadron, you're eligible to earn a Merit Mark. This means that when you actively serve on a committee, teach a course, organize or run a squadron event, or perform other significant service to the Squadron, Cdr Robyn Levene, AP will recommend you to the USPS Chief Commander for a Merit Mark.

A Merit Mark is a coveted award; it is largely the only official recognition members receive for their efforts. Only one merit mark may be awarded in a year to a member, no matter how

extensive the contribution, and when squadron members earn twenty-five Merit Marks, they become *Life Members* and they are no longer required to pay dues! Our squadron has eight Life Members: Harry Harvey, Leon Dershem, George Tyler, Allen Buskirk, Phillip Faustman, James Bobb, Bob Boyce, and Dan Chappell.

By 15 November 2006, a squadron commander must submit our squadron's recommendations. Therefore, it is time for all KSPS squadron officers to submit your recommendations to Cdr Levene so KSPS and USPS can recognize our generous and unselfish members.

SEO Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Your SEO has conferred with a number of class chairs about our course with an objective on systemizing our course offerings. An emerging consensus is a minimum class size of 4 to 5. Expecting instructors to teach less than this number may be asking too much. Independent study may be a viable option if there is not enough interest for a formal class.

Another concern is offering too many classes at once. This puts a strain on our educational resources, instructors and participants. Finally, we need to promote courses both from the top down (through the Pilot and announcements at meetings) and bottom up (class chairs and bridge officers making personal calls to prospective candidates.) To do this we need an easily accessible database of members showing the courses they have taken, which have been requested.



KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

16 Sep 06; 1600-2000 KSPS General Meeting South Haven, Michigan	23 Sep 06 D/9 Council Meeting Grosse Pointe Yacht Club	10 Oct 06; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting
27-29 Oct 06 D/9 Fall Conference The Westin Southfield Detroit	14 Nov 06; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting	9 Dec 06; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting The Beacon Club, Kalamazoo
12 Dec 06; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting	13 Jan 07; 1830-2300 KSPS Change of Watch and Inaugural Ball	13 Feb 04; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting

Scheduled Public, Advanced Grade & Elective Courses

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	Spring 07	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	5 October 2006	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Seamanship	Independently Arranged	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Piloting	Fall 20807	George Gerpheide	269-375-4024	gsgerph@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Spring 2008	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net
Junior Navigation	23 October 2006	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation	22 October 2007	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Cruise Planning	Spring 2008	Karen Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Engine Maintenance	TBD	John Penniman	269-345-0275	
Instructor Development	Spring 2007	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Marine Electronics	Spring 2008	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	hhladky@aol.com
Sail	Fall 2007	George Tyler	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	January 2007	Allan Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

2006 KSPS Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene AP	269-372-1782 (home)	rbynlevene@aol.com
Executive Officer	Stf/C Robert Landeros SN	269-501-2757 (mobile)	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Educational Officer	Lt/C W. Joseph Mills JN	269-375-4414 (home)	millsatty@tds.net
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Jerry Hendrickson AP	269-353-7243 (home)	jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Lt/C Nils Strand AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	Lt/C Diane Hansen AP	269-345-3702 (home)	gunkholer1889@netzero.net

USNSCS Grayfox

Now that summer is winding down and thoughts are turning to fall, here are the details for the Cooperative Charting Cruise on the USNSCS Grayfox scheduled for 16 September 2006.

Boarding will begin at 0900 at Bishop Park in Wyandotte. The cruise will run from 1000-



1400 with lunch provided onboard. Estimated arrival back at the dock will be 1400.

For anyone who will be joining us, there are a few items you might want to consider bringing: lawn or bag chair, binoculars, sunscreen and/or hat and coat depending on the weather, handheld GPS and any special beverages you might wish to consume; coffee, water and lemonade will be provided.

This cruise is a great way for members of our squadrons to learn about cooperative charting and have the opportunity to meet people from around our district. The Cooperative Charting Program of the United States Power Squadrons is conducted in

close coordination with the Marine Chart Division, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The program is a major public service of USPS. If you would like more information on cooperative charting, go to the National web page at

<http://www.usps.org/national/coch/index.htm>.

Because of a drawing at the Port Huron Change of Watch and Commander's Ball, Flint and Wyandotte Squadrons will have 26 spaces each for the cruise. There are four spaces per squadron available for the rest of District 9.

Please let know if you are able to attend. You can make your reservation directly with David Brookes at d2brooks@comcast.net.

Continuation of Commander's September 2006 Message: From Page 1

clapped, and cheered D/9 members as they marched by. This feeling of pride was only matched by the National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance and cruising by the Statute of Liberty in New York Harbor.

We truly had a marvelous time this year in Grand Haven. Thursday night kicked off the weekend with a dinner cruise on the Holland Princess followed by an evening of socializing abroad "White Star". Friday was dinner at Gert and Frank Baldwin's home overlooking Lake Michigan. What a beautiful setting! Of course, Saturday morning was decorating the float and

marching in the Coast Guard parade. Fireworks followed in the evening. Scott and I were proud and pleased we were able to entertain D/9 Commander Denise Samu, her husband Chuck and other D/9 Bridge Officers and Squadron Commanders on "White Star" during the fireworks display.

There is one thing for sure; wherever you are in the U.S., you are never alone when you are a member of the United States Power Squadron. Squadrons in every U.S. state and Canada are there with open arms to meet whatever needs you may have.



Birthdays!

1 September

Richard Fry, P

6 September

Denise Stump

11 September

Richard Hebert, AP

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

21 September

P/C Nils Strand, AP

22 September

Kim Hodges, P

23 September

1st/Lt George Gerpheide, AP

26 September

Lt/C Diane Hansen, AP

27 September

P/C Karen Strand, AP

30 September

Lt Carole Snyder, P

StarCalc: An E-Star Finder

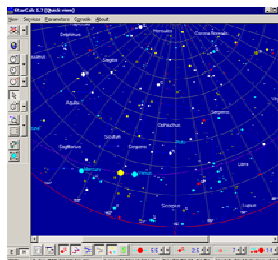
Lt/C Robert B. Small, AP from the Jacksonville (Florida) Sail and Power Squadron located StarCalc, a computer program that will bring a planetarium onto your computer monitor. The program is a creation of Alexander E. Zavalishin. StarCalc shows a picture of the sky at any time of the day or night from any location in the world at any time, and provides an alternative to the "Star Finder" plastic circular slide rule used in the JN and N courses.

Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN used StarCalc when he took his JN and N sights. He found it very helpful to have a printed image of the sky with a clear diagram of the celestial targets of op-

portunity. You can download StarCalc, at no cost at <http://www.relex.ru/~zalex/main.htm>

While not necessary, StarCalc will be helpful for all of you planning to tackle the new *Junior Navigation* course.

Stf/C Landeros will offer the new JN course. It starts on Monday, 23 October 2006, and runs for 10-12 weeks. It will be held at I.H.S. Distributing, 1800 Douglas Avenues, Kalamazoo, Michigan.



The Continuing Voyage of *Great Expectations*

Editor's note: As reported last month, KS&PS 1st/Lt Jim Riordan, AP and Trish Smith are cruising New England coastal waters on-board "Great Expectations," a vessel built in China and then shipped to Boston. The following is a summary of their continuing adventure.

On 31 July, a bottle of champagne christened "Great Expectation." However, according to Trish, they decided to drink the champagne, rather than break it on the bow.

On 2 August, Jim and Trish left on a 6-hour cruise to Scituate, MA. Three whales travelled along with them part of the way! Scituate is Jim's hometown, and his brother and sister still live there, enabling Jim and Trish to spend time with them.

After a three day visit with siblings, Jim and Trish motored to Onset, MA in Buzzards Bay. Again, this was about a 6-hour cruise. They visited and dined with one of Jim's college buddies.



1st/Lt Jim Riordan, AP piloting *Great Expectations* (Photograph by Trish Smith)

On 8 August, they headed back to Portsmouth, NH to get the rest of the things finished on the boat before heading out again to Maine and Nova Scotia. They don't plan to return to Portsmouth until 1 October.

Trish reports she's experiencing and learning to live with sea spray, "When we get to port we need to hose down the boat with fresh water because it has a slight coating of sea salt. And so do I! I have found the new perfect mousse for my hair. Just sit topside and by the end of the cruise, it will stay in any hair-do I comb it into. Of course, I'm not saying that it's attractive."

According to Jim and Trish, "Great Expectations cruises very well, is very comfortable and feels safe on the ocean." Trish added, "Jim has been doing most of the piloting, and I've been mastering the bumpers and lines. Next I will be piloting and docking, but first, I need to understand the tides and currents of the rivers and inlets."



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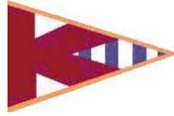
pilot.editor@ksps-usps.org

Stf/C Robert Landeros SN, Editor
Lt Lyndell Bleyer, S, Assistant Editor

Making boating safer and more fun!

We're on the web

<http://www.ksps-usps.org>



NAUTICAL AUCTION AND
WEST SIDE
FALL GATHERING



When: Saturday 16 Sept 2006 time 1600hrs

Where: WOODLAND HARBOR
525 KENTUCKY AVENUE
SOUTH HAVEN, M I

Who: Hosted by the Kalamazoo S&PS with participation by Muskegon, Grand Rapids, St Joseph and South Bend and Sable Point Sail and Power Squadrons.

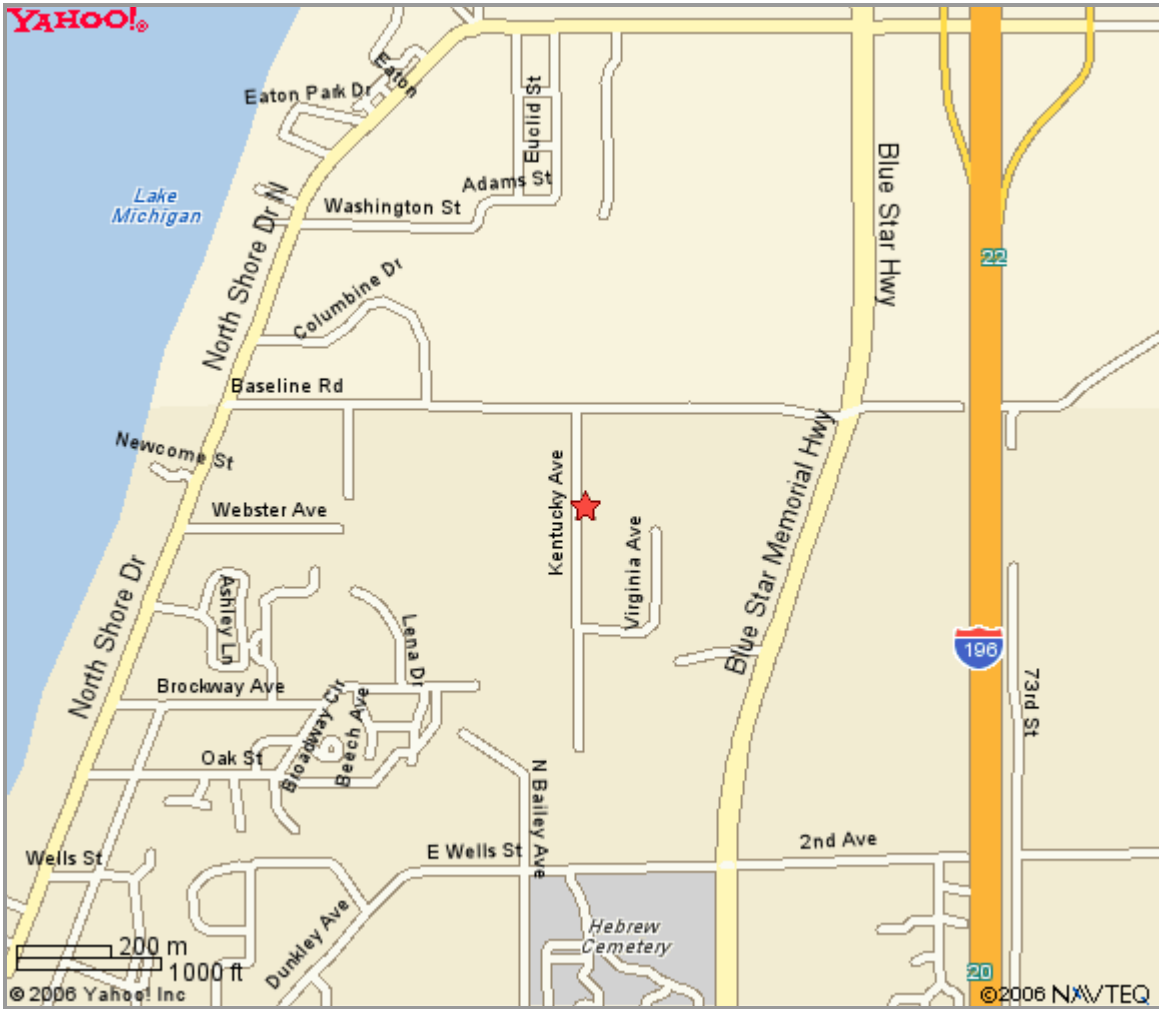
Food: Sloppy Joes, Potato Salad, Chips, Desert and Drinks available. Donations will be accepted for the food.

Bring all your unused nautical items or homemade dessert specialties and we will auction off to the highest bidder.

This will be a great fall event and lots of fun with many of our Power Squadron Friends!

Please RSVP by 9 September.
Any Questions call Lt/C Jerry Hendrickson
Ph 269-353-7243 or
E-Mail jlh10acrewoods@sbc.globel.net

DIRECTIONS TO 525 KENTUCKY AVENUE



Kentucky Avenue is .3 miles after turning onto
Baseline Road from Blue Star Highway



Come Join the Fun.....D9 Council Meeting Events

Saturday, 23 September

*Continental Breakfast
0830 - 0930
get a little energy before
the meeting!*

\$7.00

*Lunch – great Taco Bar including
beverage & dessert
1230 - 1330*

\$17.00

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club
(valet parking)
788 Lake Shore Rd,
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236

1400 – 1600 – approximately 2 hours.

*Tour the home of Edsel & Eleanor Ford – a
beautiful home on the shores of Lake St Clair
with history and character. Definitely one of a
kind and a special historical mark in the area.*



NOTE: Please remember the Yacht Club does not charge us a meeting room fee. Your support by attending the breakfast & lunch is appreciated. Thank you!

Name(s) _____

Your preferred contact phone number: _____

Number for: Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Will attend tour _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Check made payable to: Grosse Pointe Power Squadron
RSVP by Monday, 18 September.

Mail reservation form & check to: D/Lt Janet Curle, SN;
39852 Southpointe Ave; Harrison Twp, MI 48045
(586)783-0189



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Welcome from your hosts for the D/9 Fall Conference, the Detroit Power Squadron

Rank _____ Last Name _____ First Name _____ Grade _____ Certificate # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Squadron _____

Is this your first time at a D/9 Conference? Yes _____ No _____

MEALS

By October 20

Social Lunch	_____ @ \$39	*6 Hour Tour, Shopping, & Lunch (The Best of Detroit - Where the Old Meets New)
Business Lunch	_____ @ \$20	Buffet w/2 meat selections
Dinner Dance	_____ @ \$45	Buffet dinner & Square Dancing (plus round dancing)

Total Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____ (No Credit Cards Please)

Please make checks payable to: Detroit Power Squadron and mail to:
P/C Donald Howitt, AP 34651 Lakewood St Chesterfield, MI 48047
(586) 725-8009 E-Mail dhowitt@comcast.net

UNIFORM OF THE DAY: Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F
(or USPS Blazer or Appropriate Attire)
Dinner Dance: Appropriate HARVEST HAPPENING Attire
(bib overalls or jeans or square dance clothing or surprise us)

All registration requests must be received on this form by October 20, 2006. Registration requests after October 12, 2006 will be taken on a space available basis. (Please make Westin Hotel reservations on the separate reservation form and mail directly to Westin 1500 Town Center, Southfield, MI 48075)

*A beautiful Tour Bus will leave the hotel at 0900 for an exciting adventure around Detroit. Your tour guides, Dara Brooks and Joyce Strey, will inform you of the sights and history as you travel along the way. There is limited space (40) so be sure to get your reservations in early so that you don't miss out.

HARVEST HAPPENING



USPS D/9
FALL CONFERENCE
HOSTED BY

DETROIT POWER SQUADRON
CELEBRATING THEIR
90TH ANNIVERSARY

Harvest yourself an advanced grade

Reservation Request Form For:

DETROIT POWER SQUADRON - OCTOBER 27-29, 2006

Group Room Rate: **\$84.00** plus tax per room per night

Cut Off Date: October 12, 2006

PLEASE NOTE: Reservation request must be received in our office by the above date in order to guarantee the group rate. Request received after the above date will be subject to availability and the group rate is not guaranteed. All reservation requests must be accompanied by a first night room deposit, or guaranteed by a major credit card. Rooms will not be reserved unless secured by one of the above methods.

Check-In Time is after 3:00PM ***** Check-Out Time is Noon

GUESTROOM PREFERENCE (Subject to Availability)

If more than one room is requested, please enclose a list of names and addresses, indicating which guests share rooms. You will receive a confirmation letter within 7 business days at the address you provide to us. If you would like your confirmation letter faxed to you instead, please list the appropriate fax number in the space provided below.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN YOUR GUESTROOM: _____

of Rooms

Smoking Preference (Mark with an X)

_____ Standard Room - 2 Beds

_____ Non-Smoking

_____ Standard Room - King Bed

_____ Smoking

Special Requests (Mark with an X) _____ Handicap Accessible _____ Hearing Impaired

GUEST INFORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

ARRIVAL DAY/DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DAY/DATE _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP DATE: _____

NAME OF CARD HOLDER: _____

OR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED IN THE AMOUNT OF: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

WESTIN HOTEL
1500 TOWN CENTER
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48075

Phone 248-827-4000 (ask for US Power Squadron
or 1-800-937-8461 in order to get the group rate)
Fax 248-827-4002