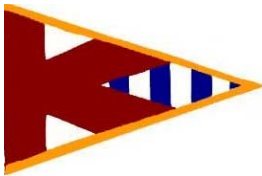


The Pilot

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



The December 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN, Commander

I am writing this message a week after we all celebrated the Thanksgiving Holiday—hopefully with friends and loved ones. This time of year provides me an opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron for allowing me to serve as your commander.

As commander, I am very thankful that our squadron is coming together to promote boating safety for the Southwestern Michigan area and is experiencing an awakened desire for self-education. While our small squadron does not itself have enough resources to finance all of the demands and desires of the Southwestern Michigan boating community, we have found creative ways to fund many of these needs, like our first annual Dinghy Poker Run.

I am thankful for the bridge and all the officers of our squadron. They are simply amazing—around 35% of our members are actively involved promoting safe boating. I am convinced that every one of them is the reason why the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron is as good as it is.

Nonetheless, we have the opportunity to achieve something great and it is possible through the help of our 65% less-active members. To create and maintain a safe boating community, we need volunteers to educate the public and ourselves.

With Thanksgiving Day behind us, many of us are looking forward to Christmas when we give and receive presents and share time with family and friends,



**Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN
The 2007 KSPS Commander**

old and new, keeping in touch with cards, telephone calls and e-mails. Please consider volunteering as a gift to your community and more importantly to your family and friends by helping keep the waterways safe for recreational boaters.

On behalf of Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron Bridge, I would like to wish you happiness for Christmas, and a peaceful and prosperous 2008.

Commander Bob, SN

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The ComNom Website!

Your squadron needs your help, so please take some time and tell us how you can help. It's easy! Just visit the following website and enter information about you, your interest at Squadron, District, and National levels.

<http://www.usps.org/national/comnom>

Boating is fun, and it is members like you who keep our organization the front-runner in education and promoting boating safety in a fun way. Officers at all levels are here to help you do what you want to do in our organization.



SEO's Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

The Education Department has been busy scheduling courses to help educate the general public on boating safety and improve our members' boating proficiency.

First, as part of our squadron's public service, we are offering Boat Smart classes in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo. The Battle Creek course will begin on 7 February 2008. If you want to help in delivering this course, please contact **P/C Nils Strand, AP**. **Lt Wally Corder, S**, will offer Boat Smart to general public in Kalamazoo. The Kalamazoo course will begin on 14 April 2008. Like Nils, Wally would appreciate your help in offering these courses and proctoring exams. Please contact them directly. Helping in Boat Smart courses is a great way to refresh your skills before the start of the 2008 boating season. Please pass information about this classes to acquaintances or family members who might be interested.

After a successful completion of the *Piloting* course, **Lt Jerry Hendrickson, JN** is offering an *Advanced Piloting* course. The Advanced

Piloting course continues to build coastal and inland navigation skills from the Piloting course, allowing the student to take on more challenging conditions – unfamiliar waters, limited visibility, and extended cruises. GPS is embraced as a primary navigation tool while adding radar, chartplotters, and other electronic navigation tools. As with Piloting, the course includes many in-class exercises, advancing the student's skills through hands-on practice and learning. The class begins on 14 January 2008.

Lt George Tyler, JN is pulling double-duty by offering *Sail II* and the *ARRL Amateur Radio*. *Sail II* begins on 10 January 2008 and *Amateur Radio* starts on 22 January. If you're interested in either of these two important courses, please contact George at gtn8kjd@tds.net or (269) 671-4560

If for the next boating season, you're planning a day-cruise or a year-long around the Great Loop, you should think about enrolling in *Cruise Planning*. This course will help you plan whatever voyage and adventures you have planned for 2008. **P/C Karen Strand, AP**, will offer this course, which starts on 27 March 2008.

KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

8 January 2008; 1830-2100 KSPS Annual Change of Watch Beacon Club, Portage Michigan	12 February 2008, 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting Program & location to be determined	19-24 February 2008 USPS Annual Meeting Dallas, Texas
1 March 2008 District 9 Council Doherty Hotel, Claire Michigan	11 March 2008; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting Location to be determined	4-6 April 2008 District 9 Conference Troy Marriott, Troy Michigan

Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	14 April 2008	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	7 February 2008	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
DNR Course: Kalamazoo	TBD	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lhw@core.com
Seamanship	TBD	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Piloting	TBD	George Gerpheide	269-375-4024	gsgerph@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	14 January 2008	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrewoods@charter.net
Junior Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation	Spring 2008	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Cruise Planning	27 March 2008	Karen Strand	269-964-6600	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance	TBD	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	TBD	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lhw@core.com
Marine Electronics	Spring 2008	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	hhladky@aol.com
Sail (Advanced)	10 January 2008	George Tyler	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	Spring 2008	Allen Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

The 2007 KSPS Bridge Officers

Commander	Stf/C Robert Landeros SN	269-501-2757 (mobile)	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Executive Officer	P/C Harold L. Hladky JN	269-969-0815 (home)	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Educational Officer	Lt/C W. Joseph Mills JN	269-375-4414 (home)	millsatty@tds.net
Administrative Officer	Lt/C William Soule P	269-544-0518 (home)	souleb@aol.com
Treasurer	P/C Nils Strand AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer S	269-731-5601 (home)	lyn.bleyer@wmich.edu

The Safety Corner

Lt Roger Todd, S

The Dangers of Carbon Monoxide

What is Carbon Monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It is produced when a carbon-based fuel such as gasoline, propane, charcoal, or oil burns. Sources on your boat may include engines, gas generators, cooking ranges, and space and water heaters.

Why is it so dangerous?

Carbon monoxide (CO) enters your bloodstream through the lungs, blocking the oxygen your body needs. Prolonged exposure to low concentrations or very quick exposure to high concentrations can kill you.

Early symptoms of CO poisoning include irritated eyes, headache, nausea, weakness, and dizziness. They are often confused with seasickness or intoxication, so those affected may not receive the medical attention they need.

Altitude, certain health-related problems, and age will increase the effects of CO. Persons who smoke or are exposed to high concentrations of cigarette smoke, consume alcohol, or have lung disorders or heart problems are particularly susceptible to an increase in the effects from CO. However, anyone can be affected. Another factor to consider is that physical exertion accelerates the rate at which the blood absorbs CO.

Emergency Treatment for CO Poisoning

CO poisoning or toxicity is a life-threatening emergency that requires immediate action. The following is a list of things that should be done if CO poisoning is suspected. Proceed with caution. The victim may be in an area of high CO concentration, which means you or others could be in danger from exposure to CO.

- Evaluate the situation and ventilate the area if possible.
- Evacuate the area and move affected person(s) to a fresh air environment.
- Observe the victim(s).
- Administer oxygen, if available.
- Contact medical help. If the victim is not breathing, perform rescue breathing or approved cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), as appropriate, until medical help arrives. Prompt action can mean the difference between life and death.
- Shut off potential sources of CO, if possible. Correct ventilation problems and/or repair exhaust problems as appropriate. Investigate the source of CO and take corrective action, such as evacuating and ventilating the area or shutting off the source of the CO, while at the same time evacuating and ventilating the area.

USPS Needs Your Input!

The Planning Committee is conducting a survey of members to get a better understanding of our perceptions about USPS and where we believe it should be going and what it might deemphasize. You can find the survey at:

<http://usps-bulletin.blogspot.com>

United States Power Squadrons®



Setting a course for boating fun and safety through education

boating. The USPS, already a leader in boating education, skill development and safety, breaks ground with this electronic news source.

The Compass, is a new electronic publication of the United States Power Squadrons. It is a pathfinder in the dynamic world of

Known for its premier magazine, The Ensign, USPS recognizes that some information can't wait and so designed Compass to fill the need. Published bimonthly, Compass will contain information vital to the boating public as well as USPS members.

Since 1914, USPS has been an innovator in preparing boaters to enjoy their time on the water. From the early days of steam engine maintenance, on-the-water drills and celestial navigation to the fuel-injected jet boats and GPS plotters of today, USPS has been a leader in boating education, skills and fun. And the changes keep coming

If you're not receiving the Compass and USPS has your current email address. Please change your spam filter so your email interface will accept email from ensign@hq.usps.org.



The US Power Squadrons®
Popeye & Olive Oyl
remind you to Be A Hero!
Around water, keep kids
in life jackets.



For information on US Power Squadrons boating courses or membership please call 1-888-FOR-USPS or visit our website at www.usps.org

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron – Notice of Annual Meeting

Tuesday, 8 January 2008

The Beacon Club, 5830 Portage Road, Portage, MI 49002

Slate of elected officers and committee candidates for 2008 nominated by the Nominating Committee:

Commander: Harold L. Hladky, JN

Executive Officer: William L. Soule, P

Educational Officer: W. Joseph Mills, JN

Administrative Officer: Robert D. Sheppard, S

Treasurer: Nils K. Strand, AP

Secretary: Lyndell R. Bleyer, S

Executive Committee:

Gary W. Bleyer, S
Phyllis A.R. Buskirk, P
Wally Corder, S
William T. Ditty, P
Chris J. Hansen, P
George L. Tyler, JN

Nominating Committee

Karen S. Strand, AP (2006-08)*
Robyn D.M. Levene, AP (2007-2009)*
Robert Landeros, SN (2008-2010)

Rules Committee

Allen V. Buskirk, SN (2006-08)*
Ris  Landeros, S (2006-08)*
Lois M. Whitmore, SN (2007-09)*

Auditing Committee

Judy A. Dorais, S (2006-08)*
J. Scott Levene, P (2006-08)*
Diane R. Hansen, JN (2008-2010)

Asst Educational Officer: Diane R. Hansen, JN

* Denotes members whose terms are continuing and are not on the ballot.

In accordance with Article 11, Section 11.1 of the Bylaws of the Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron, five active members in good standing may nominate a candidate by written petition, which they must file with the secretary at least 15 days before the date of election.

Lt/C Lyndell R. Bleyer, S
Secretary

Birthdays!

5 December

1/Lt J. Scott Levene, P

7 December

Verle H. Wiita, JN

8 December

1/Lt Rise' L. Landeros, S

11 December

Thomas Ray Gillentine, P

12 December

Lt David W. Tuls, AP

27 December

Glen H. Douglass, AP
Jerry J. Johnson



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Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S, Editor

Making boating safer and more fun!

We're on the web

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