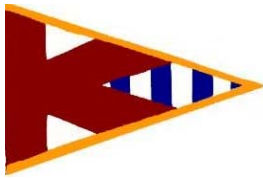


The Pilot

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



Commander's January 2007 Message

Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene AP



Robyn D.M. Levene AP
**The Fifty-third Commander of the
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**

Going into the future and a new year, I find myself sitting back and reflecting on this past year as your Commander. I keep saying to myself, we haven't done that much! So, I decided to start listing everything we have accomplished. You know what; WE have done a lot this past year!

The two most important communication instruments a squadron requires were redesigned with a little bit of tradition and a little bit of freshness. We can be very proud of these two instruments. Our monthly newsletter, "The Pilot" was delivered electronically to everyone who had computer access and it was also mailed to each family so every single member had an opportunity to have The Pilot in his or her hand. Our website is dynamic. It takes off where our "Pilot" ends. It is updated several times a month. If anyone has a question about courses, what's happening, history, and the list goes on; they can find the answers at KSPS-USPS.org. These two instruments exceed many other squadrons communication avenues. They are so wonderful; WE are looking and hoping for a National Award!

Speaking of awards, Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron received the R/C Donald C. Beran, N Educational Achievement Award. This is awarded by District 9 to the squadron with the highest percentage of elective courses completed in an educational year. Congratulations to everyone who helped KSPS earn this award.

We have increased our Advanced Grade courses this year. Seamanship has been offered independently to 6 new members, Piloting, Advance Piloting have been completed by 12 members. These 12 members are currently working on their JN course. This course has been revised nationally. KSPS is one of the few squadrons that have elected to teach the JN Beta course. We have one of the largest class sizes nationally.

Continued on Page 3

Special inserts:

- KSPS Change of Watch and Inaugural Ball; Saturday, 13 January 2006

Inside this issue:

SEO Update	2
Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives	2
KSPS, D/9 & USPS Activities and Meetings	2
2006 KSPS Bridge Officers	2
February General Meeting: The Voyage of <i>Great Expectations</i>	3
KSPS—Notice of Annual Meeting	4
January Birthdays	4

Caution: Under Construction!

In the next few weeks, you'll see several changes to the official KSPS website, but there are some changes you won't see. The ones you won't see improve the structure of the files, organization of photographs and images, and the general management of the folders. We're hoping that all hyperlinks work, as they should, but there might be some isolated problems. If you can help us find these possible problems, please contact Secretary-designate Lyndell Bleyer and volunteer to find them.

We should have the updated web site up and running on 14 Jan 2007 and you can find it at the same address, www.ksp-susps.org.

SEO Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Junior Navigation

JN students have completed the celestial navigation part of the course and many of them have completed their sights. By mid-January, the class will resume with the final topic, oceans currents.

Instructor Development

P/C Lois Whitmore, SN is offering the ID course and it will start on Thursday, 7 Feb 2007 at 19:00. 1st/Lt Chris Hansen, P and 1st/Lt Diane Hansen, AP have offered their home for this class: Thank you!



Lt/C Jerry Hendrickson, AP and Richard Walter, AP taking sights at Gull Lake

The Educational Department is investigating additional locations between Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. Galesburg or Comstock would be ideal, but their public schools charge rent for use (\$10-\$25 per hour). We are waiting to see if we can use the Comstock Township Hall. The Galesburg City Hall is another option, but it is available only to Galesburg City residents, so if a squadron member lives in Galesburg, let me know. I welcome ideas and suggestions from all members.

Engine Maintenance

Lt. John Penniman, JN will offer EM and it will begin in early March. There will be more de-

SEO Updated continued on Page 3

KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

13 Jan 07; 1830-2300 KSPS Change of Watch and Inaugural Ball Brook Lodge, Augusta, Michigan	16 Jan 1830-2100 Special KSPS Executive Meeting Main Street Pub, Gull Road	13 Feb 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting Main Street Pub, Gull Road
20-25 Feb 07 USPS Annual Meeting Jacksonville, Florida	3 Mar 07; 0900-1200 D/9 Spring Council Mount Clemens, Michigan	13 Mar 07; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting TBD
30 Mar to 1 Apr 07 D/9 Spring Conference Lansing, Michigan	10 Apr 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting TBD	8 May 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting TBD

Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

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	8 March 2006	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Seamanship	23 April 2007	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Piloting	Fall 2007	George Gerpheide	269-375-4024	gsgerph@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Spring 2008	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net
Junior Navigation	Fall 2008	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	Early March 2007	John Penniman	269-345-0275	
Instructor Development	7 February 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

Commander's Message from Page 1

Our community Basic Boating course has been one of the largest and most successful we have had in awhile. Two classes were held, one in Kalamazoo and one in Battle Creek. Ten students chose to become Active or Family Active members from these classes.

We have established a new fund for KSPS. This is a first for our squadron. *The Maynard Martin Educational Fund* is a special fund that individuals can make tax-deductible donations to in memory of someone, in honor of accomplishments or successes, or for a special event, anniversary, or birthday. These monies will be used for KSPS educational purposes only. Scholarships for courses, teaching equipment, or teaching needs are possible due to this fund. It is a wonderful way to enhance our squadron's mission and at the same time remembering individuals or events that have significant meaning to us. My personal hope is that this fund paves the way for future funds or estate planning ideas for our members, their families, and friends.

Safe Boating Week was honored by presenting Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek, and Schoolcraft with Proclamations. An article was published in the *Kalamazoo Gazette* featuring our Marine Electronics class receiving hands on demonstrations aboard "White Star". *Boston Whaler* magazine did a feature article on Children's Safety Afloat. Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron and District 9 were the featured groups. This was very exciting for me. Having a national publisher call for an interview and then write a complete article based on our interview is truly thrilling! Finishing up Safe Boating Week, KSPS participated in the D&R Boat Show. This was fun and truly a learning experience. More fisherman and hunters considered themselves as non-boaters, than those who view themselves as boaters. This is interesting food for thought.

During the United States Coast Guard Festival, KSPS had the honor of entertaining District 9 Commander Denise Samu, her husband Chuck, other District 9 Bridge members and members from other D9 squadrons on "White Star" at Anchorage Marina in Holland, MI. KSPS also was represented in the Coast Guard parade.

Two committees that are fun and really make you feel a sense of accomplishment are Vessel Safety Check (we inspected 40 vessels this year!) and Coop Charting. There were two outings executed this year. Members of Coop Charting meet early in the morning for breakfast, then head out to their designated search area, and proceed to locate geodetic survey marks.

As your commander, I had the privilege of representing KSPS at District 9 conferences and Council Meetings, the USPS National Annual Meeting and Governing Board Meeting. I also attended the Tri-District Conference in Phoenix, AZ. These privileges provided me the opportunity to interact with other squadron members, and district and national officers on a personal level. These opportunities affirmed that Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron is a leader in USPS, both District and Nationally.

This year has been a growing experience for me. When I started as your commander, I was committed in honoring my father by continuing his legacy in USPS. I also committed to "GO BACK TO THE FUTURE" to take the best of tradition, retro, and contemporary facets from all levels of our members and history. The summation of these, continue the legacy set by our charter members, it builds on their hard work and dedication, it helps us move forward with a proactive approach to KSPS and the future of this organization.

I am proud to be a second generation to USPS and specifically to KSPS and hope that one day my daughter may become a 3rd generation. I have learned to love this organization, what it stands for, the direction it is going and all the people involved in it, more then I thought possible. Yes, I am hooked!! I hope all of you get hooked too!!

Thank you for the opportunity to learn, to grow, and to lead this year as Commander of Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron. Thank you for your support, confidence, and belief in me.

With the very best regards to all of you,

Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene, AP



**February KSPS Meeting:
Great Expectations**

At the 13 Feb 2007 General Meeting 1st/Lt Jim Riordan will share what he and Trish Smith did on their summer vacation: A shakedown cruise onboard *Great Expectations*, a vessel built in China and that Jim had shipped to Boston.

SEO Updated continued on Page 3

tails in the February Pilot and on our website, www.ksp-usps.org.

Public Boating Courses

The USPS National Basic Public Education Committee (BPECom) will be phasing out *Boat Smart*, as we know it, but will offer it in a different form. The new form will have an 8-hour basic boating component and a 4-hour charting component. My long-range goal is to offer the complete 12-hour course in the fall with it ending by mid winter. In the spring, we would only offer the 8-hour basic boating component. Since the prerequisite for *Piloting* is either

Seamanship or *Chart Smart*, we should consider offering *Piloting* in the spring and *Seamanship* in the fall. These plans are long range and we welcome member comments.

Kudos to Lt Wally Corder, S, our *Boat Smart*—Kalamazoo chairman; due to his efforts, we added several new members.

We are considering eventually offering our basic Public Boating Courses at the same time and place as the DNR course so we can use common marketing efforts for both. We did not hold the DNR course last fall due to lack of interest.



New members, Susan and Daniel Livingston being sworn-in by Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene, AP

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron – Notice of Annual Meeting

Saturday, 13 January 2007

Brook Lodge, 6535 North Forty-second Avenue, Augusta, MI 29012

Slate of elected officers and committee candidates for 2007 nominated by the Nominating Committee:

Commander: Robert Landeros, SN

Executive Officer: Harold L. Hladky, AP

Educational Officer: W. Joseph Mills, JN

Administrative Officer: William L. Soule, P

Treasurer: Nils K. Strand, AP

Secretary: Lyndell R. Bleyer, S

Executive Committee:

Gary W. Bleyer, S

Phyllis A.R. Buskirk, P

Jerry Hendrickson, AP

James J. Riordan, AP

Karen S. Strand, AP

George L. Tyler, JN

Nominating Committee

Chris J. Hansen, P (2005-07)*

Karen S. Strand, AP (2006-08)*

Robyn D.M. Levene, AP (2007-09)

Rules Committee

Allen V. Buskirk, SN (2006-08)*

Risé Landeros, S (2006-08)*

Lois M. Whitmore, SN (2007-09)

Auditing Committee

Gail Hladky, AP (2005-2007)*

Judy A. Dorais, S (2006-08)*

J. Scott Levene, P (2006-08)*

Asst Educational Officer: Diane R. Hansen, AP

* 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 Diane R. Hansen, AP
Secretary

Birthdays!



8 January

Richard E. Rakow, AP

18 January

1/Lt James Riordan, AP

19 January

Aaron J. Wright

27 January

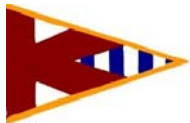
Jamie Corder

30 January

Beverly Love, P



The 2006 Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron Bridge: Thank you for taking us Back to the Future!



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

1175 Bunkerhill Drive
Kalamazoo MI 49009-9188

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>



Brook Lodge
Hotel & Conference Resort

6535 North Forty-Second Street, Augusta, Michigan 49012

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

2007 Change of Watch & Commander's Inaugural Ball

13 January 2007

18:30 — 23:00

1830-1930 Socializing

*1930-2030 Cdr Robyn D.M. Levene, AP
Commander's Annual Report
Discharging squadron officers
D/Lt/C Jerry Stephan, AP
Nominating Committee Report
Election of the 2007 Officers
Installation of the 2007 Bridge
Cdr-designate Robert Landeros, SN
Remarks*

2030-2130 Dinner

Entrée choices:

*Grilled New Zealand Lamb Chop,
Hand-cut Filet of Beef, or
Roasted Sterling Salmon*

2130-2300 Dancing and entertainment

\$50.00 per person

Cash bar

Uniform A with boutie or appropriate attire

Please RSVP by 5 January 2007

Lt/C Jerry Hendrickson, AP

Phone: 269-353-7243 or

E-Mail: jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net