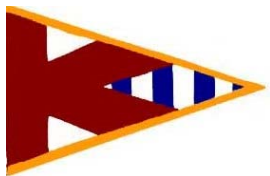


# The Pilot



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

## The March 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

**Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN**

My head is spinning! I just returned from a whirlwind trip to the USPS 2007 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida, and now I'm getting ready to attend the D/9 Council meeting in Mount Clemens. Then, at the end of the month, I'm attending the D/9 Conference in Lansing. While I've attended these meetings before, I've never had the privilege of attending them as your squadron's commander.

The Annual Meeting was the first meeting of the 2007 Governing Board, the board of directors of USPS. At this meeting, USPS acknowledges squadrons and members for achievements in the preceding year. The USPS Information Technology Committee recognized our squadron with the prestigious USPS Website Excellence Award. To achieve this award, a squadron's website must go "far beyond the minimum requirements and provide the information in an especially organized, informa-

tive and artistic manner that encourages visitors to view all of the information available and be inspired to make contact for additional information."

The D/9 Council will convene on Saturday morning, 3 March in Mount Clemens to conduct business of the district before the spring D/9 Conference. Squadron commanders and district officers traditionally attend the Council, but everyone is welcomed and it's an opportunity to see the your district's leadership in action.

Then on 30 March through 1 April, the Lansing Power Squadron will host the D/9 Conference. On Friday, 30 March, Squadron Educational Officers will meet to discuss USPS educational developments. In the evening, there is an opportunity to visit the hospitality suites organized by many squadrons in the district. This year our squadron is co-hosting a hospitality suite with the South Bend Power Squadron and the



**Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN  
The Fifty-fourth Commander of the  
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**

Sable Point Sail & Power Squadron. According to our Executive Officer P/C Harold Hladky, AP and our Hospitality Room Committee, we're planning to honor the Lansing Power Squadron by "Going Back to 1957" and challenging visitors to recall events

**Continued on Page 3**

### Special inserts:

- 13 March 2007 Executive Committee meeting agenda
- Golden Opportunities Await Attendees of D/9 Spring Conference: 30 March-1 April 2007
- Roster update and correction form

### Inside this issue:

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## KSPS, GRPS & MPS Team-up for the Grand Rapids Boat Show



**P/C Harold Hladky, AP and 1st/Lt Gail Hladky, AP (in blue denim KSPS shirts) with members from the Grand Rapids Power Squadron**

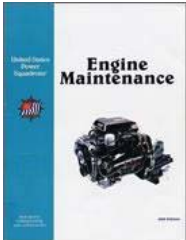
In February, the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron teamed with the Grand Rapids Power Squadron and the Muskegon Power Squadron to promote USPS and safe boating at the 62nd Grand Rapids Boat Show. The KSPS members making up the tri-squadron team were: Lt Deb Singer, P; 1st/Lt Jim Riordan, AP; P/C Harold Hladky, AP; 1st/Lt Gail Hladky, AP; 1st/Lt Jerry Hendrickson, AP; P/C Robyn Levene, AP; Lt Wally Corder, S; 1st/Lt Gary Bleyer, S; and Lt/C Lyn Bleyer, S. Their efforts introduced KSPS to Kalamazoo and Battle Creek residents attending the Boat Show.

The Grand Rapids Boat Show is Michigan's longest-running boat show, and the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron is proud to be a part of it and we look forward to being there next year too!

## SEO Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Lt John Penniman, JN is offering *Engine Maintenance* (EM). The course will start on Thursday, 8 March 2007 at the VFW Red Arrow Post 1527, 1920 East Kilgore Service Road, Portage MI 49002, and it will run from 1900-2100. The class will also meet at a engine maintenance shop for some hands-on experience.



The EM course is intended to help all recreational boaters. The course is made up of two modules and covers inboards, stern drives, and outboard engines. Even if you've completed EM before, these modules are well worth taking as they introduce new material and provide greater information on all subjects.

## Time to Update the KSPS Roster

This year, the Roster Committee plans to have an updated KSPS roster to you by 15 April; just in time for the 2007 boating season!

The Committee plans numerous changes to make the roster more user-friendly when cruising or looking up a KSPS member. While the Committee will design and format the roster, they need your help to assure your information is up-to-date. They want to include your latest e-mail addresses, boat names, homeports, mobile phone number, etc.



You can help by letting P/C Robyn Levene, AP know of any changes. You may contact her at (269) 372-1782, rbynlevene@aol.com, or by completing the roster insert sheet and mail it to her at 5093 Shallow Ave, Kalamazoo MI 49009.

## KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

<b>3 March 2007; 0900-1200</b> D/9 Spring Council Mount Clemens, Michigan	<b>7 March 2007; 1130-1300</b> D/9 Fall Conference Planning Meeting McCamy Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan	<b>13 March 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS Executive Meeting Brewster's Junction, Portage, Michigan
<b>30 March to 1 April 2007</b> D/9 Spring Conference Lansing, Michigan	<b>10 April 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS General Meeting The Hunt Club, Battle Creek, Michigan	<b>8 May 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS General Meeting Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan
<b>19-25 May 2007</b> National Safe Boating Week	<b>12 June 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS Executive Meeting TBD	<b>4 August 2007</b> United States Coast Guard Parade Grand Haven, Michigan

## Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	1 February 07	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	8 March 2007	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	12 April 2007	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Chart Smart	10 May 2007	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship	16 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	8 March 2007	John Penniman	269-345-0275	education@ksps-usps.org
Instructor Development	14 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	Spring 2008	Allan Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

## The 2007 KSPS Bridge Officers

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

## Paddle wheeling down the Tenn-Tom

By Ray Shoemaker

*Editor's note: This is part two of a four part article by KSPS member, Raymond Shoemaker, sharing his experience with Captain Rick Pohn, as they piloted a split wheel paddle wheel down the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. The waterway starts at Yellow Creek (corner of Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama) and ends at Demopolis, AL. Ten days and 455 miles later Ray's journey ended at Fairhope/Mobile, AL.*

Barbara Ann is an 85 ft long, 24 ft wide split paddle wheel boat that we were taking down the Tenn-Tom for its owner.

Day 3, we headed for Rankin lock at mile 398.4 and were given the green light for immediate entry. We then made for Midway Marine, as we needed a few things that Rick (Capt. Rick Pohn), and I had on



our boats at Midway (mile 393.5). I think that every one who was in the marina that Friday came to look at the boat and take a tour through it.

While the tours were going on, I got my ladder from the Shoebox and climbed on the roof of Barbara Ann to set the TV mast up and connected it.

The boat yard had forgotten to put it back up when they installed the radar. I got my safety belt and climbed the mast for the anchor light to find out why we could not raise the flag. I found that the pulley on top was broken and the halyard was also no good. I made a list of parts needed so that we could fix it later.

We headed for the next three locks - Fulton lock (mile 391), Smithville lock (mile 376.3), and Amory lock (mile 371.1). Our luck was still with us, as we got right in.

We anchored just short of the Aberdeen lock (mile 357.5). The next



morning (Saturday 29th) just as dawn was breaking, we called the lock and headed in, continuing our good luck and timing at the locks. We headed for the Columbus Marina, just short of the Columbus lock (mile 334.7)

The owner told us that he had a new gearbox for the port wheel and had shipped it to the Columbus marina.

Unfortunately, the only gearbox that he could get was geared at half the ratio of the original, but figured that it would be better than none.

By the time it was installed and we had gone into town for some of the parts that we needed, it was too late to take off, and the weather for Sunday the 30th was for heavy rain, so we stayed at Columbus until Monday morning. We got the parts to fix the flag assembly, and I climbed the mast again to install them, figuring it would be easier to do it there than to wait until we were underway. It did rain all day Sunday.

On Monday (1 May) we again took off at dawn. (Our typical day started about 4 AM and we would stop about 6:30 PM). Our luck held on the Columbus lock and we were off and running.

Just outside the Tom Beville Lock, at mile 307, the Snagboat Montgomery, a paddle wheel, sits as a tourist attraction. Beginning in 1926 crews of the Montgomery used her derrick and grapple to remove snags and debris from the river until her retirement in 1982.



### Bridge Officer's Briefing from Page 1

that occurred 50 years ago when USPS chartered the Lansing Power Squadron.

On Saturday morning, 31 March, D/9 has scheduled workshops to help squadron officers fulfill their duties. These workshops are open to all USPS members, so if you have a desire to help your squadron you should attend. There is no cost to go to these workshops other than a Saturday morning and a trip to Lansing. Following the workshops, members may attend the business luncheon and non-members may attend the social luncheon. After lunch, the D/9 Annual meeting will convene. Besides officers annual reports, the 2006 Bridge will be dismissed and 2007 Bridge will be then be installed. This year the D/9 Bridge will include a new assistant secretary, our own P/C Robyn D.M Levene, AP. In this position, she will be a fixture at future D/9 Councils and Conferences assuring they run

smoothly. Additionally, this position is a training ground for other District Bridge positions: Congratulations Robyn!

In the evening, Lansing Power Squadron plans a fun-filled Casino Night. There is more information on the Conference in a special insert in *The Pilot*.

Like many of you, I joined KSPS to promote boating safety. While we're doing a very good job, we can always do better. One way we can improve is by attending the D/9 Conference in Lansing. There you can learn instructional methods and techniques from other D/9 members that teach courses you teach or that you desire to teach. Additionally, you can gain knowledge from other squadron officers that hold or held the same position you hold or aspire to hold. You can also meet D/9 members that have motored or sailed waterways you've dreamed about exploring. They'll all be there!

Attending a D/9 Conference is fabulous opportunity to make new friends that share your desire to promote boating safety and to make boating more fun. Attending a conference close to home is a good way to start!

If these are not enough reasons to attend the D/9 Conference, I have one more. In 2008, KSPS is hosting the Fall D/9 Conference. Just like the Lansing Power Squadron is hoping there is good attendance, we're going to be hoping the same thing. Good attendance at our conference will only happen if we do our part and support other squadrons by attending their conferences.

I trust that I'll see you in Lansing,

Commander Bob, SN



## ***The KSPS Sparkle Will Illuminate the Fall 2008 D/9 Conference***

In 2008, KSPS is going to sparkle and shine not only because it's our Diamond Jubilee Year, but because we're also hosting the Fall D/9 Conference. P/C Karen Strand, AP has been working closely with the staff of the newly renovated McCamly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek to assure that the brilliant KSPS sparkle radiates throughout D/9.

This event will only be a success if all KSPS members step aboard and offer their help. If you would like to contribute to the success and make your squadron sparkle and shine, please contact Karen at 269-964-6690 or P/C Nils Strand, AP at 269-961-7339 or by e-mail: [nils.strand@gsa.gov](mailto:nils.strand@gsa.gov).



To kick-off your involvement, Karen has scheduled a luncheon meeting with Jennifer Williamson, McCamly Plaza Hotel Coordinator to brainstorm ideas and to give us a tour of the hotel. Mark your calendar, Wednesday, 7 March 2007 at 11:30 for the luncheon, and please let Karen or Nils that you're going to attend.



## **Birthdays!**

*2 March*

***Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN***

*3 March*

***Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S***

*7 March*

***Beth Walter***

*8 March*

***Kari Kristin Strand***

*10 March*

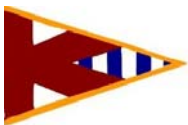
***Daniel Huling***

*21 March*

***Nicholas Hunter***

*26 March*

***Lt/C William Soule, P***



*Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron  
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1175 Bunkerhill Drive  
Kalamazoo MI 49009-9188

[pilot.editor@ksps-usps.org](mailto:pilot.editor@ksps-usps.org)

Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S, Editor

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**13 March 2007**  
**Executive Meeting**  
**Tentative Agenda**

- Call the meeting to order: Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN (1900)
- Invocation: 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Phyllis A.R. Buskirk, P
- Pledge of Allegiance: 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jerry Hendrickson, AP
- Determine a quorum: Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S
- Approval of the 13 March 2007 agenda
- Approval of 13 February 2007 minutes of the General Membership Meeting
- Reports of officers and their committees
  - Executive Officer: P/C Harold Hladky, AP
    - Report on KSPS Grand Rapids Boat Show and future plans
    - Status of Bridge Officer's Meeting for the April 2007 issue of *The Pilot*
    - Status of Cooperative Charting plans
    - P/C Robyn Levene, AP, report of the USPS Annual Meeting
    - Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN, report of the D/9 Council
    - P/C Robyn Levene, AP, status of 2007 D/9 Fall Conference Hospitality Suite
    - 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jerry Hendrickson, AP, status of the 2007 Westside Predicted Log Contest
    - P/C Karen Strand, AP, status of the 2008 D/9 Fall Conference planning
    - P/C Robyn Levene, AP, report on holding a Texas Hold' em Tournament
  - Educational Officer: Lt/C Joe Mills, JN
    - Status of Public Boating Courses
      - Battle Creek: Completed on 1 March
      - Kalamazoo: Started on 8 March
      - Battle Creek: To start on 12 April
    - Status of Advanced Grade Courses
      - Status of Junior Navigation
      - Seamanship/Operations Training: To start on 16 April

- Status of Elective Courses
    - Status of Instructor Development
    - Status of Engine Maintenance
- Administrative Officer: Lt/C Bill Soule, P
  - 10 April General meeting, The Battle Creek Hunt Club on Columbia Avenue; Presentation: Rick Brill's adventures of refurbishing a tugboat
  - 8 May General meeting, Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan
  - Plans for future meetings
- Treasurer: P/C Nils Strand, AP
- Secretary: Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S
- Planning Committee: P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP
  - Submission of a written report on the suggestion to change the KSPS year to align with the D/9 Year and USPS Educational Year
- Rules Committee: P/C Allen V. Buskirk, SN
  - Presentation of the updated KSPS Bylaws
- Dinner Recess (1930)
- Reconvene the meeting (2000)
- Communications
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
  - Appointment of a task force to spearhead squadron activities for National Safe Boating Week: 20-26 May 2007
- Announcements
- Adjournment (2030)

## Golden Opportunities Await Attendees of D/9 Spring Conference 30 March to 1 April 2007

The Headliners will be out in force for the D/9 Spring Conference to be held in Lansing, MI.

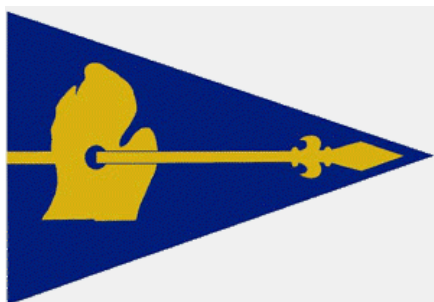
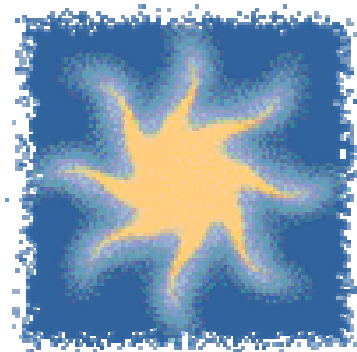
### What opportunities await you?

**Friday Night** – Celebrate Lansing Power Squadron's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Friday night. It's the traditional hospitality night with the various squadron's hosting their rooms and bringing good cheer and fellowship to all! Lansing will be featuring golden treats to celebrate our anniversary.

**Saturday** - Along with the great seminars and business sessions the D/9 Board is planning for you, Lansing has some extras to partake in.

Special Event: Simulated Fire Training

This hands-on instruction program will be held in the Atrium on Saturday morning in ½ hour increments. Sponsored by Vanguard Fire & Security Systems, Inc. this training simulates four fire scenarios which the participant practices fighting. Participants will learn the proper methods of fire extinguisher use as it relates to watercraft and other incidents. Participants will receive a course completion certificate on the spot which meets the requirements of OSHA for interior incipient fire training. All conference attendees are encouraged to participate; sign up sheets will be available in the Lansing Hospitality Suite Friday night.



**Ship's Store:** Start saving your pennies to pick up the many goodies which will be available at the Ship's Store on Saturday. Located across from the registration desk, there will be a wide variety of USPS items that are perfect for the spring and summer boating season. Don't leave home without your checkbook!

**Saturday Social Luncheon** - The Saturday Social Luncheon will be featuring a Craft Workshop after lunch. A card crafting class will be

taught by the certified instructors from Michael's Crafts. Take home five (5) completed cards with envelopes suitable for gift giving or mailing. Be creative and enjoy the satisfaction of your own handiwork. Can't make lunch but want to participate in the Craft Workshop? No problem, we have a special fee for workshop attendees only.



**Saturday Evening** – Continue looking for opportunities by trying your luck at Casino Night! The casino will “open for business” after dinner with each participant receiving free chips for the evening. No money passes hands but there will be lots of good-natured card playing, roulette spinning and dice rolling going on. When you get tired, sit down and listen to our Lounge Siren as she croons her way throughout the evening.

Hurry to make your reservations now. Call Holiday Inn South at 517-694-8123 to make your room reservations. Conference Registration is included in the *Interlaker*. Don't miss out on your Golden Opportunity!

# 2007 D/9 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

## Golden Opportunities

with Lansing Power Squadron

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1, 2007



Attention: All registration requests must be received, on this form, by March 18, 2007. Registration requests received after 18 March will be taken on a space available basis.

Uniform of the Day:

Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F  
(or USPS Blazer or Appropriate Attire)  
Dinner: Appropriate Casino Night Attire

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Certificate #</u>	<u>Squadron</u>	<u>First Time Attendee?</u>	
						<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
(1) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
(W) \_\_\_\_\_

MEALS

NOTE: An additional surcharge of \$5.00 will apply for any meal reservations made on the day of the conference (if meals are available)

Business Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @\$20 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Social Lunch/Craft Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ @\$36 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Lunch Only @\$20, Workshop Only @\$20)

Dinner/Casino Night \_\_\_\_\_ @\$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Meal/Dietary Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (No Credit Cards)

Make checks payable to: Lansing Power Squadron

Mail checks and this form to:

P/C David C. Thompson, AP  
1513 Downing St  
Haslett, MI 48840

Hotel Reservations/Room Rates:

\$84.00 per double occupancy per night  
Call *Holiday Inn South* to reserve room  
6820 S. Cedar St. Lansing, MI 48911  
(517) 694-8123



# Let's Update the Roster

This year, the **Roster Committee** plans to have an updated KSPS roster to you by 15 April: just in time for the 2007 boating season!

The Committee plans numerous changes to make the roster more user-friendly when cruising or looking up a KSPS member. While the Committee will design and format the roster, they need your help to assure your information is up-to-date.

*The Pilot* that will be mailed to you will have your specific information in our records. Line-by-line, the information is:

Line 1: Rank, Name, Grade (Spouse's name)

Line 2: Permanent Address (you may also provide a summer address)

Line 3: Home phone, Business phone, Cell phone and e-mail address

Line 4: Certification number, Certificate date, Merit marks earned (USPS Provided)

Line 5: Boat name; Homeport and location

Please make any corrections and updates (e.g., latest e-mail addresses, boat names, homeports, mobile phone number), and forward them to

P/C Robyn Levene, AP  
5093 Shallow Avenue  
Kalamazoo MI 49009

You may also call her (269) 372-1782 or e-mail her [rbynlevene@aol.com](mailto:rbynlevene@aol.com) with your corrections or updates.