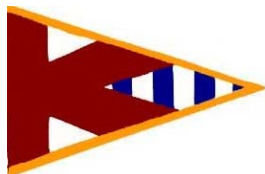


# The Pilot

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



## The May 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

Lt/C Lyndell R. Bleyer, S



Lt/C Lyndell R. Bleyer, S  
the 2007 Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron Secretary at  
the Intercoastal Waterway, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

yachts under Upton's command went to their rescue, towing disabled craft to port. No losses were reported." That fall, the Boston Yacht Club, officially established the Power Boat Division. In 1913, the name was changed to "Power Squadron" and the club-within-a-club was officially recognized. For more details of early history, including the important role USPS played in providing training for the Navy in WWI and WWII, visit:

[www.usps.org/national/historian/uspshistory.html](http://www.usps.org/national/historian/uspshistory.html)

The "Local Squadron Charter" for what is now the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron was signed on 14 June 1948. The group held a rendezvous a month later on 17 July 1948, at Wright's Boat Landing on Lake Macatawa in Holland and proceeded to the Lake Michigan home of Cecil Blashill where a formal presentation was made by D/9 Cdr Richard Weber, JN. While 12 out of 13 signed the charter using their full names, it is believed that they all preferred to be called by just first and middle initials, rather than their given names. Four of the 13 charter members served as commanders.

The letter of invitation to the charter presentation stated... "the group will go to the Big Top for luncheon after which, time, weather and inclination will

Continued on Page 4

### Special inserts:

- Tentative agenda for the May membership meeting
- Westside Predicted Log Contest Form: 15-17 June 2007

### Inside this issue:

The May 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing	1
P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP is Moving-on Up to District	1
May Membership Meeting: Lyn & Gary Bleyer's Tiger Cruise	2
Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives	2
KSPS, D/9 & USPS Activities and Meetings	2
The 2007 KSPS Bridge Officers	2
Paddle wheeling down the Tenn-Tom (Part IV)	3
SEO's Update	3
Predicted Log Contest!	3
May 2007 Birthdays	4

### Some interesting Tidbits about KSPS History

According to the USPS website, "the first power squadron was established by Roger Upton in 1912 as an unofficial Power Boat Division of the primarily sailing Boston Yacht Club. During the summer of 1912, twenty Power Boat Division vessels were invited to go with forty windjammers on the annual Boston Yacht Club cruise to Portland, Maine. During the cruise a screeching nor'wester blew up. Many of the sailing yachts were dismantled or otherwise disabled. The power

## P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP is Moving-on Up to District



Our P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP is the newly elected D/9 assistant secretary. As assistant-secretary, Robyn will hold the rank of district first lieutenant (D/1st/Lt). She will assist the secretary in carrying out his duty. In the absence or incapacity of the secretary, Robyn will act in the secretary's stead, including voting at any meeting.

The last KSPS member to hold this position was Stf/C Lyle Rea, SN. Lyle is now a member of the Peace River Power Squadron (Florida) and an associate member of our squadron. Lyle was commander of the Kalamazoo Power Squadron in 1997 and district commander of D/9 in 2002.

## May General Membership Meeting: Lyn & Gary Bleyer's Tiger Cruise



**8 May 2007; 1830 to 2100**  
**Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan**  
**RSVP: Lt/C Bill Soule, P: (269) 544-0518 or souleb@aol.com**

KSPS members Gary and Lyn Bleyer will share their adventure of a Tiger Cruise aboard the USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG-49), a Navy frigate. They joined the ship on the last leg of a six month counter-narco-terrorism deployment. Boarding in Port Everglades, near Miami, they traveled the 450 mile length of Florida to The Bradley's homeport near Jacksonville.

Activities included Seahawk helicopter flights and tours of the bridge, engineering, operations and weapons magazines. One of many highlights was a live-fire demonstration of the big 76 mm gun, and the 20 mm Close-In-Weapon System. Both Gary and Lyn qualified as Tiger Surface Warfare Specialists.

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

<b>7 May 2007; 1900-2100</b> Proclamation of Safe Boating Week Mayor H.J McKinney, City of Kalamazoo	<b>8 May 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS General Meeting Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan	<b>15 May 2007; 1900-2100</b> Proclamation of Safe Boating Week Mayor J.K. Godfrey, City of Battle Creek
<b>19-25 May 2007</b> National Safe Boating Week	<b>22 May 2007; 1900-2100</b> Proclamation of Safe Boating Week Mayor P.J Strazdas, City of Portage	<b>12 June 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS Executive Meeting Gigi's, Gull Road, Kalamazoo, Michigan
<b>15-17 June 2007</b> Westside Predicted Log Contest Yacht Basin Marine, Holland, Michigan	<b>4 August 2007</b> United States Coast Guard Parade Grand Haven, Michigan	<b>14 August 2007; 1830-2100</b> KSPS Executive Meeting The Sport Forum, Kalamazoo, Michigan

## Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	TBD	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	jlh10acrowoods@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	Ongoing	John Penniman	269-345-0275	education@ksps-usps.org
Instructor Development	TBD	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	Allen 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 the final part of an article by KSPS member, Raymond Shoemaker, sharing his experience with Captain Rick Pohn, as they piloted a split wheel paddle wheel down the Tenn-Tom Waterway .*

Day 8, May 4th we were off and running again. We had some current with us and actually got the Barbara Ann up to 6.2 MPH for a while.

We went to our last lock at Coffeerville (mile 116.6). Slo-Poke who had been playing leap-frog with for the past several days, passed us about an hour before we got to Coffeerville, and that was the last that we saw of him.

At mile 89.8 the Jackson Railroad Bridge had to open for us go get under.

We continued on to mile 79.7 and anchored across the river from what use to be Lady's Landing.



As we approached the I-65 Bridge (about mile 20.75), in the winding channel we met a tow.



At about mile 13.5 is the "14" mile railroad bridge. This is a swing bridge, and we were lucky that no trains were expected so it opened for us as soon as we came in sight.

We anchored in Big Bayou at about mile 9.7 Friday night. We arrived as the low tide was just finishing, so we did not get much speed reduction

due to it. This was an early night for us, and we needed the extra rest.

Saturday morning we started out at about an hour before the low tide, hoping that it would give us some extra speed, but if it did, it was very minimal.

Mobile: This building is either being repaired or built, but I don't know which.



An old Bally Casino boat we saw sitting along side the river.



This freighter passed us in the shipping channel. The wind was blowing out of the east and we had to stay on the red side of the channel to keep the wind from blowing us into shallow water. Not a normal

way to pass, but the "two whistle" passing was approved by the freighter.

About three miles after the freighter passed we turned east to get to Eastern Shore Marina, where the owner was waiting for us.

Rick and I had some very long days, but the experience was worth every minute of it. Given the chance, I would do it again.



## SEO's Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Congratulations to **Dan Livingston** and **Sue Livingston** for passing *Seamanship*.

Kudos has to go **P/C Lois Whitmore, SN** for teaching Instructor Development, and to all our new certified instructors: **Gary Bleyer, Lynn Bleyer, Chris Hansen, Diane Hansen, Bill Ditty, Wally Corder** and **Joseph Mills**. What's most remarkable is that all seven students had perfect exam scores!

*Chapman Award.* The deadline for submitting to District a nominee for the Charles F. Chapman award is 15 June 2007. This is the most prestigious award recognizing teaching excellence and the five national awardees come from the district nominee. An eligible nominee must be an active mem-

ber and active teacher during the past year in a local Squadron. The nominee needs five testimonial letters from active members. These letters of recommendation (two pages in length) should cite examples of the type of teaching that makes the nominee outstanding. The focus should be on what makes the nominee an excellent and special teacher. Candidates who were nominated in the past and did not receive the award may (and perhaps should) be nominated again.

We might be pressed for time to make a nomination for this year. Nevertheless, we can also think about the process for next and future years. If you have a suggested nominee, please let me know.

## Predicted Log Contest!



Do you know your boat? If your answer is yes, no or I don't; you should participate at a Predicted Log Contest (PLC) to see if you really do or to learn more about your boat.

PLC is a competition to predict accurately the time required to cover a course using only your ship's compass and tachometer, and a chart.

This year KSPS will host the Westside PLC on 15-17 June at Lake Macatawa. More information is available in the special insert of The Pilot, or you can contract 1/Lt Jerry Hendrickson, (269) 353-7243 or by e-mail at [jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net).

### Bridge Officer's Briefing from Page 1

govern activities." The letter also included a line that stated, "The ladies are most welcome".

Women were allowed to take classes, but not be members in their own name until 1983. Lois Whitmore was the first Kalamazoo woman and the 577th in the nation to receive a Women's Certificate in 1967. By 1974, she completed the required courses and electives needed to earn an Education Achievement Award. Lois also became a Senior Navigator, passing all courses offered. In 1983, Robyn Levene was the first woman to join the Kalamazoo squadron as a full member in her own right after holding a women's certificate since 1977.

The gold border around our burgee reflects that we have been chartered for at least 50 years. In 2008, we will be entering our 60th or diamond jubilee year. We have had 54 commanders, 48 men and 6 women. The first male commander was E. L. Ludvigsen. The first female commander was Shirley Van Rhee in 1993, followed in 1994 by Lois Whitmore.

Originally, the majority of squadron members lived in Kalamazoo County. Now, we have members from the counties of Barry, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, St Joseph and Van Buren. We have KSPS members as far away as Livingston TX, Fulton MS, and Shalimar FL. Michigan counties with the highest membership in KSPS are:

Kalamazoo County with 72, Calhoun County with 28, and Barry County with 4 members. The cities or mailing addresses with the highest number of members are:

46 Kalamazoo  
23 Battle Creek  
14 Portage  
6 Augusta  
5 Richland  
5 Marshall  
2 Hastings

This suggests that we might want to focus some recruitment outreach efforts on Barry County - especially Delton, Hickory Corners, Hastings, and Gull Lake, as well as, eastern Allegan and Van Buren Counties.

*Lt/C Lyndell R. Bleyer, S*

### Birthdays!



4 May

**Kent W. Choate, AP**

5 May

**Eric A. Magnuson**

12 May

**1/Lt Judy A. Dorais, S**

14 May

**Ronald McPhee**

16 May

**John Goes, S**

17 May

**Stephan Lewis, AP**

23 May

**Dieter Valk**

26 May

**Lt John Penniman, JN**

**1/Lt Gary Bleyer, S**



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Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S, Editor

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

# BLACKHAWK



## BAR & GRILL

8940 North 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (Intersection of M-43 & M-89), Richland, Michigan 49083

### KALAMAZOO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 8 MAY 2007

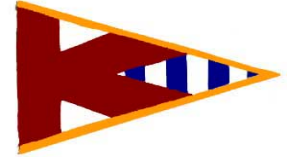
1830	Socializing
1900	Call the Meeting to Order Invocation Pledge of Allegiance Approval of the 10 April 2007 Minutes Reports of Officers Communications Unfinished Business New Business Temporary Adjournment
1915	Dinner will be ordered from the menu
1945	Lyn & Gary Bleyer's Tiger Cruise aboard USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG-49), a Navy frigate
2045	Reconvene the Meeting Announcements
2100	Adjournment

Please contact Lt/C Bill Soule, P and let him know that you plan to attend: (269) 544-0518 or souleb@aol.com

# WEST SIDE PREDICTED LOG



## U.S.P.S. District 9



**Hosted by:**  
**Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron**

### 15-17 June 2007

## Yacht Basin Marina **LAKE MACATAWA** **HOLLAND, MI**

Point of contact: 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jerry Hendrickson, AP  
Ph (269) 353-7243  
E-mail [jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Entry Form 2007 PREDICTED LOG CONTEST

Skipper's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration #: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (Participating Boats): \$15.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Awards Dinner \$ X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Makes checks payable to KSPS**

*Send completed form and check to: 1<sup>st</sup>/Lt Jerry Hendrickson; 7345 West F Avenue; Kalamazoo, MI 49009*

