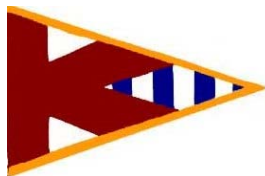


The Pilot

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



The November 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN, Squadron Educational Officer

As many of you no doubt know, the USPS continues to develop seminars on various nautical topics.

These seminars come with student materials and an instructor kit manual and are designed for a two to three-hour session, typically on a weekend. Their purpose is educational enrichment for members and to promote squadron membership; one does not have to be a squadron member to participate in a seminar.

The published seminars to date include: VHF & VHF/DSC Marine Radio, Using GPS, Onboard Weather Forecasting, How to Use a Chart, Boat Handling Under Power, and Sail Trim. Some of these subjects seem to represent basic material in our other courses. Others, such as Onboard Weather Forecasting, Boat Handling Under power and Sail Trim may be of special interest to members. We can debate whether you should be using these seminars to promote membership, but perhaps we should at least give a few of these a try for the benefit of our Squadron members.

A disadvantage of the seminars is that the materials are relatively expensive (\$20 each for student materials and an instructor kit) for only a few hours of instruction, although no doubt the material will remain useful as a resource.

More information is available at www.usps.org under the Educational Department Homepage. Also, de-



**Lt/C Joe Mills, JN
the 2007 Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron SEO**

scriptive information on each seminar can be found in the catalog.

If any member is interested in teaching or taking one of the seminars, please let me know. I will help set up a seminar and provide publicity if there is sufficient interest. I would like to try at least one to see how it goes and we can evaluate from there. I welcome comments

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

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It's Time to Start Thinking About Merit Mark Recommendations

When you serve on a committee, teach a course, or perform other significant service to the Squadron, Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN 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 2007, our commander must submit our squadron's recommendations. Therefore, it is time for all KSPS squadron officers to submit your recommendations to Commander Bob so KSPS and USPS can recognize our generous and unselfish members.

Safety Corner

Lt Roger Todd, S

Federal Requirements and Safety Tips for Recreational Boats

Safety and Survival Tips

Operator's Responsibilities

Your water fun depends on you, your equipment and other people who, like yourself, enjoy spending leisure time on, in or near the water. Let's take a look at your responsibilities:

- Make sure the boat is in top operating condition and that there are no tripping hazards. The boat should be free of fire hazards and have clean bilges
- Safety equipment, required by law, is on board, maintained in good condition, and you know how to properly use these devices.

- File a float plan with a relative or friend.
- Have a complete knowledge of the operation and handling characteristics of your boat.
- Know your position and know where you are going.
- Maintain a safe speed at all times to avoid collision.
- Keep an eye out for changing weather conditions, and act accordingly.
- Know and practice the Rules of the Road (Navigation Rules).
- Know and obey Federal and state regulations and waterway markers.
- Maintain a clear, unobstructed view forward at all times. "Scan" the water back and forth; avoid "tunnel" vision. Most boating collisions are caused by inattention.

You are the key to water safety!

KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

13 November 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting Gigi's, Kalamazoo Michigan	1 December 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS Christmas Party Beacon Club, Portage Michigan	11 December 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting Location to be determined
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	11 March 2008; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting Location to be determined

Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	11 October 2007	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	Spring 2008	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
DNR Course: Kalamazoo	10 September 2007	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lhw@core.com
Seamanship	TBD	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	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	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

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

November Membership Meeting: Toxicity in Lake Superior



13 November 2007; 1830 to 2100
Gigi's Causal Dining, Kalamazoo MI
RSVP: Lt/C Bill Soule, P:
(269) 544-0518 or souleb@aol.com

Melvin J. Visser is a Great Lakes product. Born in Grand Rapids, Mel went to Michigan Tech for a Chemical Engineering education and while there married into a commercial fishing family. He spent his professional career at The Upjohn Company, where he retired in 1995 as the V.P. for Environmental, Health and Safety. During his 36-year career, Mel stayed in touch with Lake Superior

stayed constant. Why? With Mel's understanding of the behavior of chemicals, this behavior was an impossibility. There had to be a continuing major source.

Mel volunteered in Michigan and U.S. EPA efforts to understand and clean the lakes, but this effort proved unsatisfying. Two trips were made to the Canadian High Arctic to plug into international research focused upon the surprising and devastating presence of PCBs and pesticides. Assimilating the Arctic research allowed an understanding of Lake Superior's bombardment by pesticides and PCBs from foreign sources. Surprisingly, Lake Superior was found to be the most toxic of the Great Lakes while our governments hid the toxicity. *Cold, Clear and Deadly*, the story of Mel's quest was published by MSU Press in May of 2006.

through canoe trips, hiking, boating, fishing and, in the later years, sailing its northern stretches.

An early retirement in 1995 left Mel with an unsolved dilemma. PCBs were banned in 1978, but their levels in Lake Superior dropped to 50% of their peak and then

SEO's Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Congratulations to Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron members **Lt/C Diane Hansen**, **1st/Lt Jerry Hendrickson**, **Lt Gail Hladky**, **P/C Harold L. Hladky**, **Richard Walter** and **Verle Wiita** for passing *Junior Navigation*. The class included **P/C Bruce Hummel**, from the South Bend Power Squadron. **Sft/C Robert Landeros**, SN also desires a special thanks for facilitating this course.

Kudos to **P/C Karen Strand**, AP for earning her Educational Proficiency Award. To earn this award, a member must complete a grade level of at least Advanced Piloting (AP) and three Elective Courses.

Additionally, **Bill Ditty** has passed Piloting (self study) and **Lt/C Lyn Bleyer** has passed Engine Maintenance!

Finally, the following Squadron members successfully completed the Instructor Recertification Seminar on and are eligible for renewal for four years of their instructor certification: **Phyllis Buskirk**, **George Gerpheide**, **Gail Hladky**, **Harold Hladky**, and **George Tyler**. Congratulations to them and to Lois Whitmore for leading the seminar.

New Port Captain!



Lt/C Bill Soule, P is now the South Haven Port Captain. As a Port Captain, Bill will stand ready to

provide advice and assistance to USPS members and non-members.

Bill will recommend mechanics, sailmakers, and repair yards in the South Haven area as well as local medical and dental facilities. He may also direct weary sailors and boaters to local restaurants and motels. Port Captains are usually familiar with the activities of local USPS squadrons, the U. S. Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

While Port Captains are under no obligation to provide more than friendly advice, they are persons who enjoy meeting people and serving their fellow sailors and boaters.

Still, their primary expertise lies in their knowledge of local waters and unmarked hazards to safe navigation. The objective is to provide information, reliable advice and comradeship. Their aim is to make fellow members feel they are welcome and have found a friend.

It is inevitable that word of the program will circulate through the boating public..... they are to project the image of being part of a fraternal organization devoted to boating safety. Persons

interested in USPS or the public Boating Course will be referred to their nearest squadron commander or squadron educational officer.

Knowledge, seamanship, service to others, friendship and fraternity- this has been the essence of the United States Power Squadrons since 1913. This is the Port Captain's Program. "

What's a COW?

COW stands for Change of Watch and it is the ceremonial installation of Bridge Officers and elected committee members. These volunteers will take the helm of a squadron until the next COW. The members that are nominated for you 2008 Bridge are listed on page 4.

Our next KSPS COW is planned for Saturday, 13 January 2007 at the Beacon Club in Portage Michigan.

Mark your calendars!

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron – Notice of Annual Meeting

Saturday, 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!

7 November

D.J. Parker, S

10 November

Roger D. Todd

15 November

Lt Jerry Hendrickson, JN

16 November

Eutiquio Crespo, AP

Stanley M. Wolk, S

20 November

Scott D. Hunter

27 November

Walter G. Lund, S



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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>