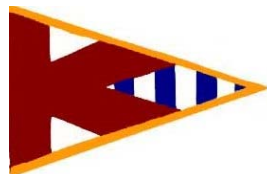


# The Pilot

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

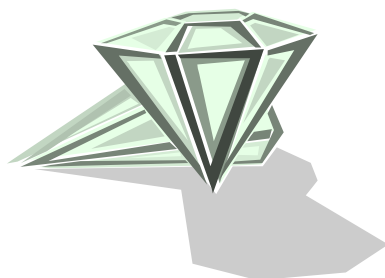


## The June 2008 Bridge Officer's Briefing

**Harold L. Hladky, JN, Commander**

*A Special Invitation to the Fall D/9 Conference from the KSPS for a Weekend of Education, Entertainment and Elegance.*

Join the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary Diamond Jubilee Celebration at the District 9 Fall 2008 Conference Friday 31 October, Saturday 1 November, Sunday 2 November.



The conference will take place at the newly renovated McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek. Since all the furniture and carpeting will be new, McCamly is offering three adjoining conference rooms to have our hospitality event.



**Harold Hladky, JN**  
The 2008 KSPS Commander

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Insert: D/9 Fall Conference Registration form

It will be a **Taste of D/9**. Squadrons will set up food stations or "ports" around the perimeter. Each squadron is being encouraged to select a decade as their theme. Tables and seating in the center of the room will provide an area to mingle and socialize. Jazz musician, Dennis Glander will provide ambiance.

John Kretschmer, author of "At the Mercy of the Sea", "Flirting with Mermaids", Cape Horn to Starboard", and "Used Boat Notebook", as well as a regular contributor to **Sailing** magazine will be a speaker at the conference. Whether you are a power boater, avid sailor or just getting started, you will find Kretschmer a dynamic and interesting presenter. In twenty years of



**John Kretschmer**  
Author and Special Conference Guest

delivering sailboats to far-flung destinations, including 16 trans-Atlantic and two trans-Pacific crossings, Kretschmer has had innumerable adventures, both humorous and terrifying.

Social Luncheon Activity – Create jewelry or keepsakes. Instruction and materials by the Bead Shop – most items \$5 to \$10. Ship's Store will have nautical and other items, plus seasonal clothes, as well as many holiday gift ideas, so bring your gift list and checkbook.

Begin Saturday night Dining with Dulcimers – Ruby Trout or Sirloin. The banquet will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor with a panoramic view of the city. Saturday evening's entertainment will be Western Michigan University's Gold Company, featuring pianist Martyn Coston. In keeping with our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme, the Gold Company's musicians and vocalist will entertain with selections from six decades. Remember the Fox Trot, Lindy, Hop and Twist? Bring your dance or saddle shoes. Pick a costume from your favorite decade.

*Cdr Harold L. Hladky, JN*

## Cannonballs

It was necessary to keep a good supply of cannon balls near the cannon on old war ships, but how to prevent them from rolling about the deck was the problem. The best storage method devised was to stack them as a square-based pyramid, with one ball on top, resting on four, resting on nine, which rested on a base of sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon.

There was only one problem – how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding/rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations, called a Monkey. They soon learned that if this plate were made of iron, the iron cannon balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make Brass Monkeys. Few landlubbers realize that brass shrinks much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey. And all this time, you thought that was a vulgar expression, didn't you?



## 2008 USPS Governing Board

The USPS Governing Board Meeting in Detroit 2-7 Sep 2008 has many activities and side trips.

Group trips include Detroit Institute of Arts,

Henry Ford Museum, Ford Rouge Assembly Plant Tour, Greenfield Village, Princess Riverboat Cruise, Eclectic Tour of Detroit, Highlander Seas Tour - a 154 foot gaff-rigged schooner, and GM Renaissance Center Tour. The social luncheon is at an antique dealer. Don't wait, reservations must be post marked by 12 August, which is less than 8 weeks away. A more detailed description of these activities is at <http://www.gb2008detroit.com> and a registration form can be found at: [www.usps.org/php/reservations](http://www.usps.org/php/reservations)



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

<b>10 June 2008, 1830-2100</b> Executive Committee Meeting Sports Forum, 803 Mosel, Kalamazoo	<b>13-15 June 2008</b> Westside Predicted Log Contest Grand Haven Michigan	<b>26 July 2008</b> KSPS Annual Dinghy Poker Run South Haven, Michigan
<b>1-3 August 2008</b> Coast Guard Festival and Parade Grand Haven, Michigan	<b>12 August 2008, 1830-2100</b> Executive Committee Meeting South Haven, MI	<b>2-7 September 2008</b> USPS Governing Board Detroit, Michigan

## Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	TBD	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	TBD	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
DNR Course: Kalamazoo	TBD	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lhw@core.com
Seamanship	Fall 2008	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Piloting	TBD	Bill Ditty	269-323-3143	cgdiver@jouno.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	Fall 2008	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	hhladky@aol.com
Sail (Advanced)	10 January 2008	George Tyler	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	Fall 2008	Allen Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

## The 2008 KSPS Bridge Officers

<b>Commander</b>	P/C Harold L. Hladky, JN	269-969-0815 (home)	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
<b>Executive Officer</b>	Lt/C William Soule, P	269-544-0518 (home)	souleb@aol.com
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Lt/C W. Joseph Mills, JN	269-375-4414 (home)	millsatty@tds.net
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	Lt/C Robert D. Sheppard, P	269-323-0231 (home)	sheppard-r@sbcglobal.net
<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

## SEO's Update

Lt/C Joe Mills, JN

Next fall we plan to offer Seamanship, Marine Electronics and Weather, as well as America's Boating Course (formerly Boat Smart) in Kalamazoo. Other classes will be offered if there is sufficient interest. If you would like to take these or any boating class, you should contact the coordinator listed in the section below.

## Safe Guard Your Gas



With regular gas near \$4 and much higher at marinas, sheriff departments are receiving an increased number of complaints about gas being stolen from boats. If you have a portable tank, remove it from your boat or dinghy when not in use. If that is not possible, install a chain and lock to deter

theft. If you have a larger boat invest \$15 to \$20 for a good locking gas cap. A radio set on a talk station and run off a 45 watt solar charger can also help deter theft.

## June Safety Corner

Lt Roger Todd, S  
Squadron Safety Officer

### New Hailing Frequencies ~

We are all getting our boats in the water this time of year so the following is a good reminder:

GREAT LAKES - Recreational boaters will have a new hailing frequency all to themselves as the new marine hailing channel comes online. The new marine hailing frequency, channel 9, is now fully implemented on the Great Lakes.

Traditionally marine VHF channel 16 has been used for all hailing and distress calls for both recreational boater and commercial vessels. Use of channel 9 by recreational boaters will free up channel 16 to handle only marine distress and emergency calls. The changes were driven by extreme congestion on channel 16, a condition that could cause a distress call to go unheard.

Channel 9 will not be monitored by the Coast Guard or commercial vessels, making it suitable only for recreational boaters. Commercial vessels will continue to use channel 16 for hailing and distress.

In case of emergencies, recreational boaters should immediately contact the Coast Guard on the marine distress channel, channel 16, for help.

The Coast Guard will make Marine Advisory and Urgent Marine Infor-



## PDFs Do Save Lives...

... but only when you wear them.

The Safe Boating Council asked boaters to send them stories about how PDFs saved their lives. They got such an overwhelming response, that they plan to put them together in a book.



Four of the stories appear on their website, including one about a 12 year old who nearly drowned when her ill-fitted life vest got stuck over her raised arms after she hit the water while skiing. In almost every story, the unexpected happened and only those who were wearing their PDFs survived. To read these stories visit:

<http://www.boatingsidekicks.com/sbjacket/sbtjmain.htm>

The home page fore the council is at:  
<http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org/>



P/C Dan Chappell is recuperating from back surgery after a fall. Leaving hospital and moving to rehabilitation June 3. Cards welcome.

mation Broadcasts on both channel 9, the new hailing channel, and channel 16. This change may allow the Coast Guard faster response times to MAYDAY calls and other emergency radio requests that are often muted by unnecessary channel 16-radio traffic.

The success of channel 9 as the new hailing frequency hinges on the cooperation of Great Lakes mariners. Recreational boaters are asked to help make our waterways safer by using channel 9 for hailing and leaving channel 16 clear for distress calls.

Safe Boating Is No Accident

## With Deepest Appreciations...



It is indeed with deepest appreciation that Linda and I, in behalf of our family and ourselves, wish to thank all of you who have done so much to help us deal with the recent death of our son, Paul. Your kind words, your hugs, your notes and cards, your personal presence at the visitations and the funeral service, and by all means, your prayers — all these have done so much to sustain us and uplift us in this very difficult time. And we do thank you from the bottoms of our hearts!

With deepest appreciation... *Linda and Dan Seng*

## ***Be vigilant on the water, especially on nice days***

Boating deaths in Michigan reached a 5 year high last year in 2007, according to the Michigan Association of Insurance Agents. The report said 35 Michigan boaters were killed last year. That was up from 29 in 2006, though down from the 38 deaths reported in 2002. Wearing a life jacket is one of the most effective ways to reduce the number of boating deaths. It is too late to find and put on a PDF after a collision has thrown passengers into the water. Only 10 of the 35 boaters who died last year were known to be wearing a PFD.

Boating accidents dropped slightly in 2007 to 193, compared to 198 reported in 2005. The highest number of accidents occurred during the best boating weather on Saturday afternoons in



July. The most common cause of boating accidents were collisions between vessels. There were 54 reported collisions last year, followed by 27 reported incidents of boaters falling overboard and 14 capsizing. It is suspected that many more accidents occurred, but were not reported.

The association said alcohol use remains a problem. It recommends waiting until you are back at the dock before starting happy hour.

Michigan ranks third after Florida and California in the number of registered boats. Michigan had 944,138 registered boats in 2005, down from 1,003,947 in 2005.

*Kalamazoo Gazette*, Monday May 26, 2008



Former member James D. Bobb, Jr passed away on May 22. He served as the Squadron Commander in 1984. Memorials may be directed to the Humane Society or Hospice Care of Southwest Michigan.

## ***Birthdays!***

*6 June*

***Richard F. Walter, JN***

*16 June*

***Bruce J. Dorais, S***

*19 June*

***Maris A. Soule, P***

*24 June*

***James C. Henning, SN***

*25 June*

***Diana W. Goes***

*26 June*

***P/C Jane Chappell, S***

*30 June*

***Susan Y. Norrod, S***



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

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Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S, Editor

***Boating is fun... We'll show you how!***

We're on the web

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

**2008 D/9 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM  
Friday 31 OCTOBER – Sunday 2 NOVEMBER 2008**

**KSPS 60th Diamond Jubilee**



Registration requests received after 10 October will be accepted on a space available basis.

**Uniform of the Day: Friday evening hospitality rooms – Casual or Vintage Costumes**  
**Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F (or USPS Blazer or Appropriate Attire)**  
**Dinner: Vintage Costumes of the 1940's, 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, 00's or Dressy Casual**

✂-----

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Grade	Certificate #	Squadron
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Rank	Last Name	First Name	Grade	Certificate #	Squadron
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Address	City	St	Zip code
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Phone (H)	Phone (W)	Email
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<b>First Time Conference Attendee?</b> ___ Yes  <b>Want email notification of special seminars?</b> ___ Yes
--

**MEALS** Friday night hospitality rooms offer Hors d'oeuvres and other food (enough to satisfy).  
 Breakfast on your own - Starbuck's (opens 7 am) J.W. Barleycorn's (opens 6:30 am).

**Lunch** Saturday 1 Nov Soup De'jour, Turkey wrap with potato salad, beverage and dessert  
 # attending social lunch\* \_\_\_\_\_ # attending business lunch \_\_\_\_\_ # Vegetarian lunch \_\_\_\_\_  
 \* social lunch activity ~ create jewelry and keepsakes via The Bead Shop

**Dinner** Saturday 1 Nov  
**Choice:** Roasted Ruby Trout # \_\_\_\_\_ Roasted Garlic Marinated Sirloin # \_\_\_\_\_  
**Special Dietary Requests #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Vegetarian Dinner #** \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\* Add a surcharge of \$5.00 for any meal reservations made *after 10 October 2008*.

	Post marked by 10 Oct	<i>after 10 Oct</i>
Total # of lunches _____	@ \$25.00 = _____	@ \$30.00 = _____
Total # of dinners _____	@ \$47.00 = _____	@ \$52.00 = _____

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b><u>Meals only – Mail check and this form to:</u></b></p> <p>KSPS or Kalamazoo Sail &amp; Power Squadron          Lyn Bleyer          6553 N 37<sup>th</sup> St          Richland, MI 49083          (269) 731-5601</p>	<p><b><u>Hotel Reservations/Room Rates:</u></b></p> <p>Mention D/9 conference to get special rate of \$99 per double occupancy per night.          *** <i>Must book room by 10 October.</i> ***          Call McCamly Plaza to reserve your room          50 Capital Ave, SW Battle Creek MI 49017          (269) 963-7050 (888) 622-2659</p>
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