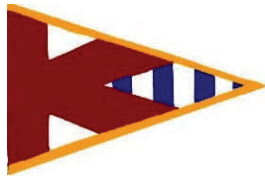


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron



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### Abandoned Boats Piling Up

by Thomas J. Morrissey - Michigan State University's Capital News Service

Desperate boat owners who find themselves caught between a bad economy and expensive storage and scrapping costs are turning to desperate measures to dispose of unwanted vessels. "In this economy, people are doing all kinds of things," said Donald Schmidt, owner of Michigan Marine Salvage Inc., in Harrison Township. "They'll stow it in the fall and never come back for it. They'll give the marine owners bogus phone numbers."



Another business owner agreed there's a growing problem with abandoned boats. "I got calls on three of them last year," said Terry Kiersey, of Traverse Dockside Marine in Traverse City. Part of the problem is that, unlike old cars that almost always have at least some value to a scrap yard, old boats can be expensive to scrap, partly due to special environmental rules, Schmidt said. "In most cases, you have to strip the fuel tanks before they'll take them," he said. Scrapping fees can range anywhere from \$80 to several thousand dollars, based on a boat's size. Marinas eventually may claim an abandoned boat after a period of no response from its owner, and then try to sell it to recoup some of the storage bill, he said. Often, though, left-behind boats are in such poor shape that no buyers can be found, so the marina is then stuck with them. Concerns about abandonment led some marinas to refuse to store older boats, Schmidt said. Michigan appears to have been spared another aspect of boat abandonment that's affecting other states: Some owners simply let their boats drift away or even sink them. "We've had no huge problem with that," said Kiersey. He credited Michigan's strictly enforced registration rules and the experience and knowledge of its boaters. Most boats have identification numbers engraved in at least two out-of-the-way spots, said Kiersey, and "Most real boaters know that they will not get away with scuttling a boat. And if they can prove you scuttled it, you're in trouble big-time," Schmidt said.

### Interesting Water Facts

Almost half (45.1%) of the 12,383 mile coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska (5,580).



Alaska 5,580 mi of coast + 1,539 mi border.

Alaska overlaid on mainland US

The Amazon rain forest produces more than 20% the world's oxygen supply. The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than one hundred miles at sea off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean.



The volume of water in the Amazon river is greater than the next eight largest rivers in the world combined and three times the flow of all rivers in the United States.

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

<b>Tues 9 June 2009 Time: 1830 - 2100</b> KSPS Executive Committee Meeting Brewsters (269) 344-0600 5135 Portage Rd, Kalamazoo MI South of I-94 near Kalamazoo Airport	<b>19 – 21 June</b> Westside Predicted Log Contest Hosted by Grand Rapids GRS&PS Grand Haven Marina See article on page 3 for details	<b>Sat 18 or 25 July Time: 1030 - 1700</b> KSPS & South Bend host PICNIC (noon–3) & Vessel Safety Check Black River Yacht Club South Haven MI
<b>Sat 1 August 2009</b> Coast Guard Festival and Parade Grand Haven, Michigan	<b>8-13 Sept</b> USPS Governing Board Kansas City, MO	<b>23-25 Oct</b> D9 Fall Conference Sterling Heights Host: Mt Clemens

### What are Vessel Safety Checks



Vessel Safety Checks minimize the loss of life, personal injury, property damage and environmental impact while maximizing the safe use and enjoyment of U.S. waterways by recreational boaters. The Vessel Safety Check process is one of "prevention through education, outreach and volunteer compliance" helping recreational boaters to gain a respect for the boating environment.

The VSC Program also helps to achieve voluntary compliance with federal and state recreational boating safety laws, particularly with regard to the carriage of safety equipment while raising boater awareness about safety and environmental issues through voluntary contact by a Vessel Examiner (VE). VE discussions with recreational boaters are designed to motivate maintaining and operating their boats in a safe manner, taking boating safety courses to increase their knowledge and skills in boating, and promoting safe boating.

### Vessel Safety Examiners Needed

We are looking for KSPS members who would like to promote Safe Boating by becoming Vessel Examiners. Any USPS member who is at least 18 years old may become a VE by:

- 1) attending a training session or studying online,
- 2) passing a proctored open-book test, and
- 3) performing five VSCs under the supervision of a certified Vessel Examiner (either USPS or USCGA).

The open-book test may also be taken online at <http://safetyseal.net/usps-ve-test.htm>. A VE will retain certification by performing five VSCs per year. Additional information on VE certification and other responsibilities is in the Vessel Safety Check Manual.

Bob Boyce will be conducting a class in Saugatuck. We are hoping to conduct Vessel Safety Checks the 3rd or 4th Saturday of July. If you are interested please contact

Bob Boyce at: (H) 269 979-1199 Cell: 269-967-7919 or  
 Dan Livingston at: (H) 269 781-2328 (B) 517 796-8540  
 Email: [autodan@yahoo.com](mailto:autodan@yahoo.com)

## Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	Winter 2010	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	Fall 2009	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12–16): Kalamazoo	Fall 2009	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	Spring 2010	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship	Late Fall 2009	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting	Fall 2009	Bill Ditty	269-323-3143	cgdiver@juno.com
Advanced Piloting	TBD	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrewoods@charter.net
Junior Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Cruise Planning	March 2010	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance	Fall 2009 (Wed)	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	TBD	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Marine Electronics	Fall 2010	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training	TBD	Phyllis Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com
Sail & Advanced Sail	Fall 2010	George Tyler, Jr.	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	2011	H. Hladky & G. Tyler	269-375-2586	Harold or George

# Westside Predicted Log



The predicted log is a contest in which you attempt to predict your time for each of three coordinates or legs of a set course, without the benefit of a speedometer, watch or GPS. You can only use a compass and a tach.

This year's predicted log will be hosted by the Grand Rapids Sail and Power Squadron.

**Dates: 19 - 21 June**

Berthing Location: Grand Haven Marina, Grand Haven MI

### Schedule of Events

#### Fri: 19 June

1200 - 2000 Arrival (8 slips have been reserved) \*

1700 - ??? Fellowship - Please bring a dish to pass - BYOB

#### Sat: 20 June

- 0900 - 1000 Coffee and Donuts
- 0930 Skippers' meeting
- 1030 Observers' meeting
- 1230 Turn in Predicted Log
- 1530 Contest Finish Time
- 1800 - 1900 Happy Hour at Porto Bello
- 1900 Dinner and Awards



#### Sun: 21 June

Departure prior to noon

\* slips reserved by GR Sail & Power Squadron

Contact Ron Redder to reserve a slip for event.

Slip fee payable on arrival.

Also, complete entry form and send with \$25 entry fee to:

Chairperson: P/C Ronald J. Redder, AP



### KSPS 60th Anniversary Shirts

A special shirt to commemorate our 60th anniversary. In the center of the graphic is Lat 42° 17' N, Lo 85° 35' W. Shirts \$10  
Caps with KSPS logo \$15. Order from Karen Strand.  
269-964-6690



**2009 ENTRY FORM \$25**

### WESTSIDE PREDICTED LOG

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone      Evening Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Boat                      Length

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

### Crew for Predicted Log

Please call Ron with your boat length and slip needs right away so he can reserve additional slips if needed.

P/C Ronald J. Redder, AP

4439 Eastern Ave SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49508

Work (616) 532-1606      Email: rjredder@msn.com  
Home (616) 301-8987  
Cell (616) 446-3953



### Next Meeting - Tues. 9 June 2009

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Executive Meeting  
Social 6:30 pm, mtg at 7  
Brewsters (269) 344-0600  
5135 Portage Rd, Kalamazoo MI  
Between I-94 & airport



### May Birthdays

- May 4  
Kent Choate
- May 12  
Judy Dorais
- May 14  
Ron McPhee
- May 16  
L. John Goes
- May 23  
Dieter Valk
- May 26  
Gary Bleyer
- John Pennimann

### Birthdays



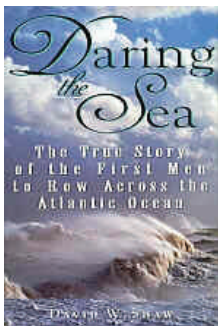
### June Birthdays

- June 16  
Bruce J. Dorais
- June 19  
Maris A. Soule
- June 20  
Susan Y. Norrod
- June 24  
James C. Henning
- June 25  
Diana W. Goes
- June 26  
Jane Chappell

## The 2009 KSPS Bridge Officers

<b>Commander</b>	Lt/C William Soule, P	269-544-0518 (home)	souleb@aol.com
<b>Executive Officer</b>	Lt/C Daniel L. Livingston, S	269-781-2328 (home)	autodan@yahoo.com
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Lt/C Wally Corder, S	269-321-0751 (home)	wccorder@hotmail.com
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	Lt/C Roger Todd, P	269-945-5211 (home)	robertodd@core.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

### Book Review - Daring the Sea



by Carol Standish

In 1896, two young Norwegian immigrants rowed from New York City to England in an 18 foot open skiff. They set a record of 55 days. Author, David Shaw, an avid waterman himself, accompanies the intrepid George Harbo and Frank Samuelsen every stroke of the way in Daring the Sea (Carol Publishing Group, 1998; 224pp; \$19.95).

The fictionalized account is based on a log book written during the crossing by George Harbo, and an expanded log dictated by Harbo shortly before his death in 1908. Shaw did extensive research, tracking down Harbo's and Samuelsen's families in the United States and Norway — interviewing members in person and by phone.

### Kidde Recall

This recall involves the Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers with model numbers FX340SC, FX340H, FX340GW, XL5MR, FX210R, FX340SC-2, FX210W, XL2.5TCZ-4, E-340-3 and with manufacture dates between October 2007 and April 2008 (\$35). "Kidde" and the model number can be found on the label on the front of the extinguisher. The year is on the bottom. If your extinguisher matches the year and model #, contact Kidde (888) 345-4407 or [www.Kidde.com](http://www.Kidde.com) to determine if you have a recalled extinguisher.

### Future Newsletters

#### Save KSPS Money

If you are receiving the Pilot by regular mail, help us save postage and printing by sending your email to Lyn at: [Bleyer@wmich.edu](mailto:Bleyer@wmich.edu).

#### Submit an Article

Please submit Pilot articles by the 2nd Tuesday of the month for consideration in next issue.

#### Spot an error

or have information that needs updating? Please send corrections to Lyn Bleyer at [Bleyer@wmich.edu](mailto:Bleyer@wmich.edu) or mail to the return address below fold.



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

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

Check out the KSPS website, many changes were made.

<http://www.ksp-susps.org>