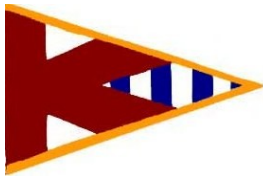


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



Commander's Corner – 86th Port Huron to Mackinac Race



Gary W. Bleyer

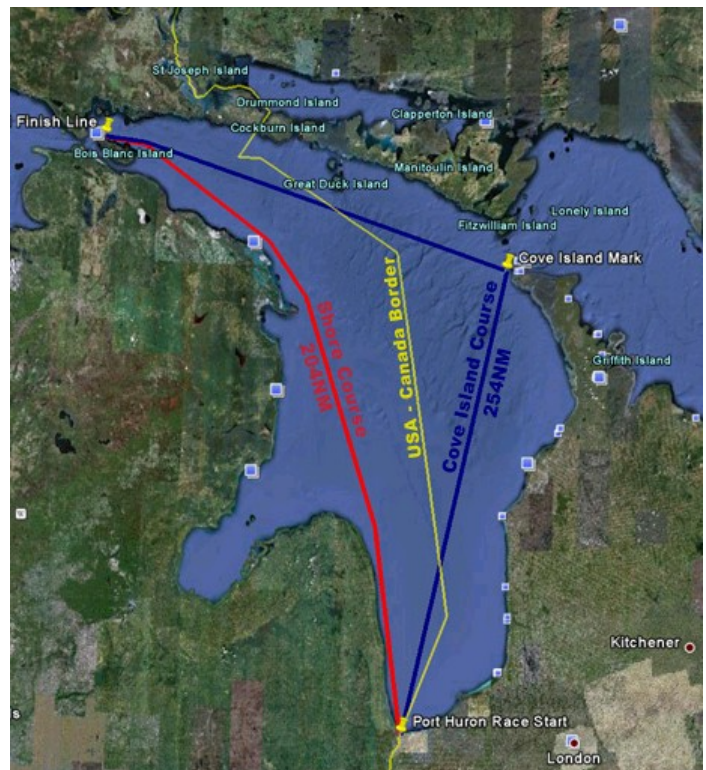
Lyn and I traveled to Michigan's eastside Friday July 16 to see the sailboats preparing for the 86th running of the Port Huron to Mackinac race which took place July 17-19. Thanks to the Port Huron Sail and Power Squadron for their hospitality and invitation to an open house at their river view office.

A total of 206 sailboats in 22 classes raced in the 2010 Pure Michigan Bayview Mackinac Race that started under blue skies and a light 12 knot breeze. The last boats left the starting line in a rainstorm and 20-knot winds.

Approximately 2,500 sailors, crewing boats from 28 to 86 feet, set sail on two separate courses from Port Huron to Mackinac Island.

The first class of boats crossed the starting line at 1130 Saturday with a new class starting every 10 minutes until the largest class of 12 boats (52 to 86') started at 1350. The larger, faster boats finished the race early Monday July 19.

Some 101 sail boats followed the Thunder Bay course that hugs the Michigan coastline before sailing west to Mackinac. At 252 statute miles, the shore course is nearly 50 miles shorter than the Cove Island.



According to the Detroit Free Press, no one has ever died in the Port Huron to Mackinac race, but that doesn't mean there haven't been plenty of dangerous moments on Lake Huron. In past years, Gordon Lightfoot's boat, the *Golden Goose*, was struck by lightning. A sailor from *Night Train* fell overboard and got tangled in the lines and sail. *Burden IV* caught fire. *Monkey Face* nearly capsized. In 1926, only four of the 12 boats that started the first race finished because of storms.

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Calendar: KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities, Events and Meetings

US Coast Guard Festival—Grand Haven Sat. 7 August Parade Details on page 3 — Upcoming Events	Tue 10 Aug 2010 Time: 1830 - 2100 KSPS Executive Committee Meeting Location: Lux Café, 2587 Capital Ave SW Battle Creek (just north of I-94)	Thurs—Sat. August 19-22 Michigan City Boat Show 200 Heisman Harbor Rd
Fri—Sun 13-15 Aug / D-9 Rendezvous East Tawas State Dock Contact MikeBurkhart1@yahoo.com or (810) 691-0345	Tue 8 Sept 2010 Time: 1830 - 2100 KSPS General Meeting Sports Forum	22-24 Oct Fall Conference Perrysburg, Maumee, Toledo Ohio D9 & D29 Joint Conf—Famous Pairs

Member Renewal Status

KSPS has 74 members. We lost 4 members to non-renewal.

Name:	Joined:	From:
Thomas Aye	1991	Portage
Richard Hebert	1999	Gull Lake
Jim Riordan	2000	Augusta (on the Great Loop)
Roger Todd	2006	Hastings

We gained three new members this year from ABC - America's Boating Courses and one potential USPS cyber member.

Name:	Joined:	From:
Betty Bledsoe	May 2010	Portage
Jim Johnston	May 2010	Portage
Linda McTeague	June 2010	Battle Creek
Sidney Durham	pending	Hickory Corners/Richland

Summer and Fall Classes

Learn More About Boating Increase your knowledge or take a class as a refresher. Is there a class you want to take? Contact the class coordinator listed below and let them know. We hold classes when there are 5 or more persons interested in a course. Help change some "To Be Determined" into dates. Coordinators: please send dates to Lyn for next Pilot.

Next Meeting - Tues. 10 Aug.

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Social 6:30 pm, meeting at 7
 Lux Café, 2587 Capital Ave SW
 Battle Creek (just north of I-94)



After hearing two eye witness accounts of the same accident, you begin to wonder about history.

August Birthdays

04 Ross Griffith
 06 Bill Ditty
 10 Wally Corder
 13 Lois Whitmore
 24 Sue Livingston

Sept. Birthdays

11 Joe Mills
 21 Nils Strand
 23 George Gerpheide
 26 Becky Ditty
 26 Diane Hansen
 27 Karen Strand
 30 Carole Snyder

Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives— Call contact for exact dates

Course	Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	Feb - Mar	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
ABC Battle Creek offered again	Apr - May	Nils Strand	"	"
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	Oct, Apr	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12—16): Kalamazoo	Oct, June	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	May	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship (Mon 7—9 pm)	Fall 2010	Karen Strand	269- 964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting	Fall 2010	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	TBD—2010/11	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance (Wed 6:30-8:30)	Winter 2011	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	TBD	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Marine Electronics	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training	TBD	Phyllis Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com
Sail & Advanced Sail	TBD	George Tyler, Jr.	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	TBD	H. Hladky & G. Tyler	269-375-2586	Harold H. or George Tyler

Upcoming Events

The next two events are part of the Coast Guard Festival

Friday 6 August Join members from throughout District 9 for a picnic at P/D/C Gert and D/Lt Frank Baldwin's home on Lake Michigan. Festivities start at 1800 (6pm).

Food provided; BYO Beverages. Need a map? Call/Email Lyn
Location: 10333 Lakeshore Drive, West Olive, MI 49460.

Sat. 7 August USCG Parade in Grand Haven We line up at 10 am on Grant Ave, parade starts at 11:45. If you do not have uniform D or E, please wear Khaki pants or shorts and a solid color or squadron shirt and name tag.

Immediately following the Grand Parade, join D9 members for Chicken Bar-B-Q at the Charles A. Conklin American Legion Post 28. The Post has offered a room in their building for our use. Cost is \$7 per plate for adults and \$4 for children.

RSVP as soon as possible, but no later than Sunday 1 August.
D/Lt/C Jensen 517.349.4935 or email jensene@msu.edu

Friday, Aug. 13, 2010 through Sunday, Aug 15, 2010 D/9 Trailer & All Boat Rendezvous – East Tawas State Dock

(near US 23 and M-55 on Lake Huron)

Wine & Dessert party: \$15 per person, \$10 children under 12

Reservations for Friday and Saturday's wine & cheese parties and Saturday's dessert party need to be made by August 10

with the Burkhardt's at 810-938-7103
or mikeburkhardt1@yahoo.com

Island Cruise



**\$39 pp. 4 hour cruise to Charity Island.
Saturday August 14**

Cruise by the historic Alabaster Loading Dock built in 1929 that is owned and operated by the U.S. Gypsum Company. Upon arrival on Big Charity Island, enjoy the 7-minute walk under the thick hardwood forest canopy to the Lighthouse and Light Keeper's home. Bring a lunch or buy a box lunch when you purchase your ticket. While on Charity Island, you will be able to see the rare endangered and Federally protected "Pitcher's Thistle".

Morning Departure: 11 am - Returns 3 p.m.

Afternoon Departure: 3:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Minimum 16 people required - call to put your name on reservation list: 1- 989- 254- 7710

USPS Governing Board Meeting 1–4 Sept 2010

Bellevue, Washington www.usps.org If you plan to go, let Gary know so he can appoint you as a KSPS delegate.

Fall council meeting - tentatively planned for 9/18/2010 in the Mt Clemens area. More details to come.

D9 Fall Conference 22 - 24 October - combined event with D29 in Perrysburg, OH. Friday night theme: Famous Pairs – like Sonny and Cher, Abbott and Costello, George and Gracie, Tracy and Hepburn, Bogie and Hepburn, Franks and Beans. More details to follow.

Right Whale, Wrong Place



Photo: July 21, 2010 Cape Town, South Africa. A southern right whale breached and landed on a sailboat off the coast of Cape Town, South Africa on Sunday. The whale broke the mast and then swam away, leaving bits of skin and blubber behind. The boat's occupants were uninjured and motored home. Credit: European Press Photo Agency

86th Port Huron to Mackinac Race Continued

The Cove Island course -- the one for larger and faster boats -- crosses the deepest part of Lake Huron (depth 750 feet). The combination of the lake's depth and size can create mountainous waves and treacherous winds.

According to 2010 Race Chairman Tom Burlison, "Possibly the only reason no one has ever died is because the Mackinac fleet is a collection of some of the most experienced sailors around. They are the top 10-15% of sailors in the Great Lakes."

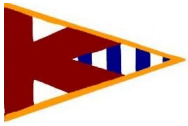
For only the second time ever, sailing fans in Michigan and around the world were able to monitor the historic race via the michigan.org web site with GPS or Global Positioning System tracking technology. GPS devices were placed on all participating race boats. Some

one million page views per day were expected.

Sources:
www.Michigan.org,
Detroit Free Press
and Times Herald.



Photo: Times Herald



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

The 2010 KSPS Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Gary W. Bleyer, S	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Executive Officer	Lt/C Daniel L. Livingston, S	269-781-2328 (home)	autodan@yahoo.com
Educational Officer	Lt/C Wally Corder, S	269-321-0751 (home)	wccorder@hotmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Roger Todd, P	269-945-5211 (home)	inbox full
Treasurer	P/C Nils Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu

Sailors as Positive Role Models for Children with Parents in Prison

NEWSCHANNEL 3 - Kalamazoo
 A West Michigan grandmother turns to the lake to help make waves in the futures of kids in need. Angie Joy teamed up with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program to take 10 kids sailing on Gull Lake.
 Angie says she found out more than 1,200 kids in Calhoun County have a parent behind bars. The idea was a very personal one; her grandson's son's father and two uncles are in jail.

Angie said, "My fear is that if things keep going the way they are, these children will see a very limited number of options for their lives." She wanted to give them some positive role models.
 On a Monday afternoon in July, a few skippers agreed to take children out to introduce them to boating and to build self esteem. Angie hopes to expand the project and reach out to even more kids. Want to participate? Sail and Power boaters needed. Call Angie Joy (269) 986-1629.



This article also appeared in the Battle Creek Shopper and Battle Creek Enquirer