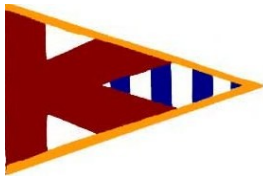


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



Gary W. Bleyer

Commander's Message

We had a great time at the D9 Spring Conference. Many friends visited our hospitality room. There was a nice selection of seminars on Saturday morning from which to choose.

At the D9 business meeting, KSPS won an award for our newsletter, an award for our website, an award for 100% of our members contributing \$1 to the USPS educational fund for the 24th year, and the DIR award for "Doing It Right".

USPS recognizes that sometimes a squadron can do many things right and still struggle with declining membership and public boating course attendance. KSPS was one of only 63 squadrons scoring high enough to be awarded the 2010 DIR

The Doing It Right award is an evaluation of the squadron based on a checklist of things national USPS feels squadrons should be doing to recruit and retain members, promote the squadron locally, like participation at local events such as boat shows and fairs, as well as the number of ABC and other classes taught.

Inside this Issue

Commander's Message 1

April Presentation 1

Calendar: Meetings and Other Activities 2

Current Class Offerings 2

Introductory, Advanced & Elective Courses 2

Weather Forecasting 3

Learned at Conference 3

Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes 3

2011 KSPS Bridge Officers 4

State Sticker Boat Ramp 4

www.ksp-s-usps.org

April Presentation - Roaming the Great Lakes

KSPS member Don DeLong will share his trip by sailboat from Port Huron, up and around the Bruce Peninsula, across to Lake Huron, through the North Channel and onto Mackinaw. After purchasing the Aluva, Don spent the first few years in the Monroe and Toledo Bay areas, while learning the nuances of his boat, taking advantage of KSPS classes and planning his trip.

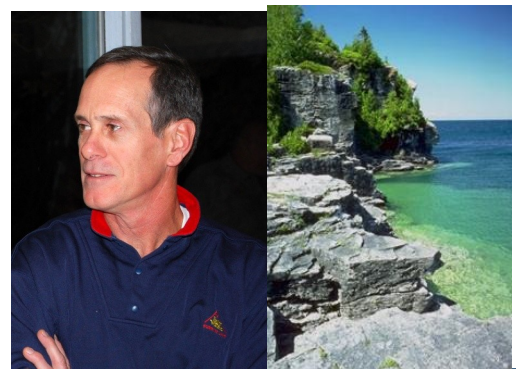
He had three friends who were sailors join him for different legs of the trip. The presentation will be a combination of video taken during the trip and still photos.

When: **Tuesday April 12**

Social Time 6:30, Dinner at 7

Where: Gull Lake View Golf Club
7417 N 38th St, 6 miles east of Richland.

RSVP Lyn 731-5601 or
Bleyer@wmich.edu



Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings

Tue 12 April 2011 Time: 6:30 - 9:00 KSPS General Meeting Social time at 6:30, Dinner at 7 See bottom of page 1 for details	Sat 30 April Time: 10 to 12 Rivers, Lakes & Locks Seminar Members \$16 /non-members \$25 Preregistration required: Wally 321-0751	Tue 10 May 2011 Time: 6:30 - 9:00 KSPS General Meeting Michelle's 4010 Gull Rd, Kalamazoo MI The Tuls - Great Loop Experience
Sat 21 May Time: 9:30 am - 1:30 pm Portage Family Fish Fair Ramona Park 8600 S. Sprinkle Rd.	Sat 11 June - Vessel Safety Checks Boats and Brats - 9 am to 3 pm Black River Yacht Club bottom of Oak St, South Haven MI	Tue 14 June - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Executive Committee Mtg Gull Lake View Golf Club 7417 N 38th St, 6 miles E of Richland

Learn More About Boating

Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes is a new 2 hour seminar. Member cost \$16 / nonmember \$25. Preregistration required: Wally 321-0751 Saturday 30 April Time 10 to noon at Wally's

ABC America's Boating Course and **Boating Safety for Youth** will be offered late winter /early spring. Tell your friends, family, neighbors and slip mates. The Battle Creek ABC runs Thursdays from 24 March through 28 April at Lakeview Middle School. The Kalamazoo ABC and Youth Boating classes run Mondays 11 April through 9 May at Milwood Magnet School.

Introduction to Charting will be Thursdays May 5-19 in B.C.

Piloting - will be co-coordinated by George Gerpheide and Diane Hansen mid to late fall.

Congrats to our recent **Engine Maintenance** graduates: Ron Gustafson, Jim Johnston, Phil Livingston and Linda McTague

Contact coordinators listed below if you are interested in any of these excellent courses.

Next Meeting - Tues. 12 April Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron Roaming the Great Lakes

Social time 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7
Gull Lake View Golf Club
7417 N 38th St, 6 miles E of Richland **RSVP Lyn 731-5601**



**Coming together is a beginning,
staying together is progress
and working together is success.**

April Birthdays

01 Ron Voelker
03 Glenn Hahn
03 Dan Seng
14 Don Paulson
15 Patricia Smith
29 Harriette Griffith



May Birthdays

04 Kent Choate
12 Judy Dorais
15 Ron McPhee
16 John Goes
26 Gary Bleyer
26 John Penniman

Basic Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives— Call contact for updates & to register

Course	Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	Mar 24 - Apr 28	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	Apr 11 - May 9	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12-16): Kalamazoo	Apr 11 - May 9	Register via Com. Ed	269-337-0446	Lois 345-4521
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	May 5 - 19	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship SE (Mon 7-9 pm)	Winter	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting	Fall 2011	George G & Diane H	269-375-4024	gunkholer1889@yahoo.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 CP (Mon 6-8:30)	7-28 Mar 2011	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance (Wed 6:30-8:30)	12 Jan - 23 Feb	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	Winter 2011	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	dogwood17@charter.net
Marine Electronics	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-274-1995	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training (with CP or SE)	7-28 Mar 2011	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Sail & Advanced Sail	TBD Spring	George Tyler, Jr.	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	TBD Fall	H. Hladky & G. Tyler	269-375-2586	Harold H. or George Tyler, Jr

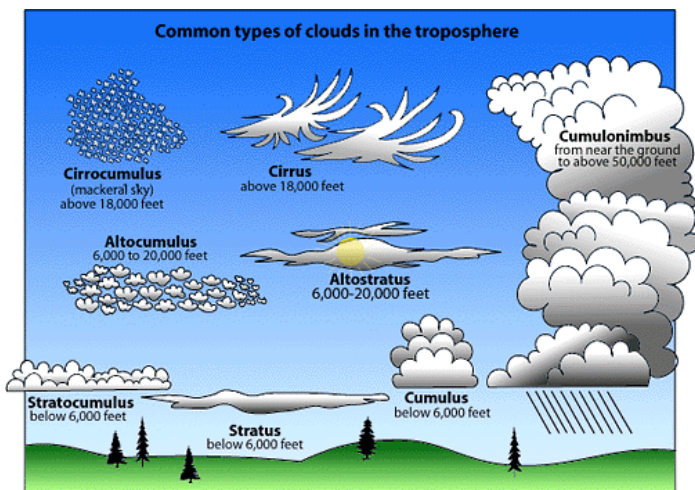
BE YOUR OWN WEATHER FORECASTER

Published by the Marketing/ PR Committee
United States Power Squadrons®
Contact: Greg Scotten gscotten@comcast.net

Lately it seems that our news and attention has been focused on natural disasters. With cold snaps and high winds, we boaters have to rely on weather forecasts more than ever.

When we are on the water and vulnerable to changing weather conditions, an understanding of a few weather basics may be helpful in making decisions that affect our safety and that of our crew.

A front is simply the line of demarcation between differing air masses. We know that warm air rises and cold air sinks. So, as cold air moves in, it pushes under the warm air, creating a cold front and is an indicator of rapidly approaching stormy weather. As the warm air rises, the cold air rushes in more rapidly and we have thickening dark clouds, high winds and heavy rain with lightning. As any front passes, there is a wind shift. When a warm front moves in, it brings stable weather. The rising warm air brings higher, lighter, clouds, sometimes with light rain.



Blue skies with high wispy clouds (Cirrus) formed of ice crystals are indicators of fair weather. Middle clouds (Alto Cumulus) are small puffs of water vapor that look like popcorn or herds of sheep in the sky. They occur in stable weather conditions but are usually forecasters of unstable weather to come.

The big white puffy clouds (Cumulus) contain water vapor and usually indicate fair weather. However, in hot summer air, they can change rapidly and grow vertically and form an anvil shaped top. This is a severe thunderhead and a forerunner of violent storms. Note that as an anvil forms on a thunderhead, the direction the anvil points is the direction of movement of the storm. Low level dark clouds (Nimbostratus) that cover most of the sky can usually be associated with potential thunderstorms and lots of rain.

With a little basic knowledge, a vigilant boater can watch the sky and anticipate weather conditions that may lead him or her to enjoy the day on the water or to beat a hasty retreat to a safe haven. To learn more take our Weather course.

Things Learned In Lansing

While I can't share everything learned in two days at the March 25-26 District 9 Conference, here are a few items.

Fires: Pull pin, squeeze handle, aim/sweep at base of fire.

From Membership Seminar:

Life is nothing without friendships / Friendships help maintain membership. Develop a mentor program to keep new members involved.

What makes people happy? A sense of belonging, duty and responsibility. Ask people to do something for KSPS. Encourage non-boat owners to crew for you. Take a non-boater or non-boat-owner on your boat at least once this summer. For KSPS name recognition: offer a boat ride or a brunch cruise as a prize at a community auction.

At a community fair or your own event have people try on life vests, and talk about our squadron and classes.

Put up flyers at that ice cream place where boaters stop.

Create a Message Board with info about what a sail and power squadron is and how you're having fun with photos. To get flyers distributed at Middle Schools, go through the school, or contact a parks and recreation department.

May 21-27 is Boating Safety Week

June 12 - Flag Day - Fly your Ensign and talk about KSPS.

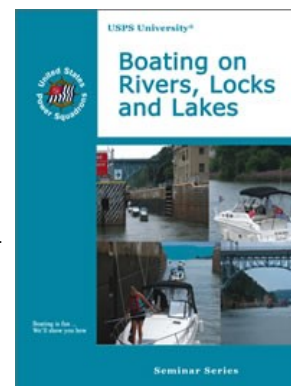
2012 Spring D9 - Bay City Double Tree/ Host: Dearborn

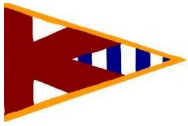
Theme: from the year your squadron was founded (1948) select a movie, musical, cartoon or play as the theme for your hospitality room. There will be prizes for best room.

2 Hour Seminar

Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes - a new USPS seminar. Saturday 30 April Time: 10 to noon at Wally's Member cost \$16 / nonmember \$25. Preregistration required by Apr 11: Call Wally 321-0751

This seminar deals with such varied topics as: special navigation rules for rivers, the Western Rivers System of buoys and marks, "reading" a river, river currents, jetties and wing dams, the intricacies of locking through, and communicating with lock masters and draw bridge operators.





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

Lyndell Bleyer, Editor
6553 N 37th St
Richland MI 49083

bleyer@wmich.edu

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



2011 KSPS Bridge Officers

Commander	Cdr Gary W. Bleyer, S	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Executive Officer	vacant		
Educational Officer	Lt/C Wally Corder, S	269-321-0751 (home)	wccorder@hotmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Ron Gustafson, S	269-567-0452 (cell)	ronaldga@sbcglobal.net
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



Sticker Good for State Boat Launch Ramps

When you register with the Secretary of State to get license tags for 2011, you have the option of getting an annual Recreation Passport for an additional \$10. The Recreation Passport replaces the state park sticker to get you into all state parks, state recreation areas and state boat launches. This does not include: local, county, municipal, or metropolitan parks or recreation areas, nor does it cover daily camping fees.

When you buy your \$10 Recreation Passport, your money goes to preserve and protect trails as well as historic and cultural sites in state parks. The Recreation Passport gets you into all 98 state parks and **1,000 boat launches**.

D9 Spring and Fall Conference Schedule

The dates and locations for the next few District 9 Conferences were announced Saturday. Volunteers are needed.
 2011 Fall - No Host - District 9 will probably coordinate
 2012 Spring - Bay City @ Double Tree / Host: Dearborn
 2012 Fall - St. Clair Shores
 2013 Spring - Grosse Pointe
 2013 Fall - Birmingham
 Fall of 2012 the USPS Governing Board will hold their meeting in Detroit. Greeters are needed for all days.
 Four tours will be offered Wed - Fri. There will be a Basket or Ticket Auction and MoTown entertainment dinner.