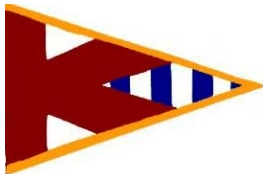


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



Commander's Message



Gary W. Bleyer

The KSPS Change of Watch happened on 11 January 2011. D/Lt/C and Executive Officer, Mary Ann Jensen, N from the Lansing Sail and Power Squadron was our District 9 representative. We were fortunate to have the next District Commander honor us with a visit and swear in our newly elected Bridge and Executive Committee.

When I accepted the nomination for Commander in 2010, I did not expect to be serving a second term in 2011. It is not a difficult job, as long as you have a good group of people serving along with you. I have been fortunate to have a great group of volunteers. Thank you.

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One of my goals for last year was to promote community awareness of the squadron and safe boating. We planned to create decals for everyone to display on their vehicle or boat. It just so happened that USPS redesigned the decal that it gives to ABC graduates. It's a nice looking decal, and with the addition of our website will do what we intended at a fraction of the cost of creating our own. Every member will receive a decal. When people ask about it, tell them about KSPS.

We need to seize every opportunity to let others know about the squadron and our classes. We will continue to distribute flyers at the Secretary of State, local marinas and marine supply stores, libraries, post offices and groceries. As well as, advertise at the Kalamazoo and Lakeview School's websites, our own website and the shopper.



Mary Ann Jensen

However, the best way to pass this information on, is person-to-person. Therefore, I am asking each one of you to tell at least five other persons about our ABC or America's Boating Course classes. That could be a friend, relative, slip mate or neighbor. If you see a boat parked in a yard, that person is a candidate. We have fliers for you to hand out with the dates and other details of ABC classes in March and April.

Another goal for 2011 is to make a personal contact to every member of the squadron, especially those who have not recently attended an event, meeting or class. By personal, I mean one-to-one; beyond newsletters, email or regular mail notices of events. I realize a few people keep up their membership just for the insurance, and others have given up boating, but maybe we can make them feel welcome by doing a little outreach. I would like to see our core group of 25 to 30 members, who regularly volunteer at events, on committees or who teach or take classes, expand to at least half our members—that means 10 to 15 more active members. Here's to a great 2011.

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

Wednesday - Sunday 16 - 20 February Grand Rapids Boat Show - Devos Place www.showspan.com	31 January - 5 February USPS Annual Meeting - Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, Disney World, Orlando, FL	Tue 8 Feb 2011 Time: 1830 - 2100 KSPS General Meeting Sports Forum - The Mills present: Cruising the Midi Canal in South France
Tue 8 Mar 2011 Time: 1830 - 2100 KSPS Executive Committee Meeting Michelle's Gull Rd, Kalamazoo MI	Fri eve - Sat 25-26 March D9 Spring Conference - Lansing MI Capital Times on Grand Waters	Tue 12 Apr 2011 Time: 1830 - 2100 KSPS General Meeting Sports Forum - presentation: TBD

Learn More About Boating

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.

Cruise Planning will be offered by Karen Strand Monday evenings beginning March 7, just after Engine Maintenance ends.

Navigating Rivers, Locks and Lakes is a new 4 hour seminar. Cost \$25. Call Wally if interested.

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

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

Next Meeting - Tues. 8 Feb
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron
 Social time 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7
 Sports Forum, 803 W. Mosel
 Between Douglas & N. Westnedge Ave
The Mills present France's Midi Canal



Our similarities bring us a common ground. Our differences allow us to be fascinated by each other.

Feb. Birthdays

07 Raymond Shoemaker
 10 Sharon Mathewson
 11 Jerry Love
 11 Jim Johnston
 13 Linda Mills
 23 Janet Boyce

Mar. Birthdays

02 Robert Landeros
 03 Lyn Bleyer
 07 Beth Walters
 08 Kari Strand
 13 Bob Boyce
 22 Don Delong
 26 Bill Soule

**A duck's quack does not echo,
 and no one knows why.**

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	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	May 5 - 19	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship SE (Mon 7-9 pm)	Fall	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting	Fall 2011	George G & Diane H	269-375-4024	
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 6:30-8:30)	7 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	lwh@core.com
Marine Electronics	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training (with CP or SE)	7 Mar 2011	Phyllis Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com
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

George Washington and Barbados

It's February and time to celebrate two of our presidents who were born this month. Here are some interesting facts we learned about our first president at a travelogue and verified on the web at several sites.

George Washington stayed on the island of Barbados for six weeks in 1751. Nineteen at the time, it was George Washington's only trip abroad. He was there with his half-brother, Lawrence, who had gone to the island for TB or tuberculosis treatment. The voyage from the Potomac to Barbados took six weeks. The island of Barbados is in the Atlantic, just east of the Caribbean chain of islands.

George contracted small pox in Barbados in November of 1751 and the illness, which lasted almost a month, left him with scarring and immunity from further attacks of the disease. Later, Washington faced outbreaks of smallpox among his soldiers in the French and Indian War in 1758 and among his slaves in Frederick County, Virginia. Smallpox became a matter of serious concern during the British occupation of Boston as British troops spread smallpox to American colonists and troops.

An inoculation for smallpox was in development by infecting healthy individuals with the pustules from infected persons. Washington's wife and slaves received the smallpox inoculation early on and most experienced mild cases of the disease. Later, Washington allowed the inoculation of new recruits, who recovered in about a month and were immune from further exposure. Source: www.mountvernon.org/

Barbados and our own Declaration of Independence. The colonists of Barbados established a House of Assembly in 1639. It was the third Parliamentary Democracy in the world. The American Declaration of Independence is very similar to the Barbadian Declaration of Independence drafted 150 years earlier (1651) when the island tried to gain its own Independence. Barbados had to wait until 1966 for this to happen. One of the signatories on the U.S. Declaration of Independence was a Barbadian, as was the printer. Source: <http://www.barbados.org/Parliament>



Flag of Barbados

Winter Boat Shows

27-30 January **Strictly Sail Boat Show** - Chicago/Navy Pier
 2-12 February **Detroit Boat Show** - Cobo Center, Detroit
 16-20 February **Grand Rapids Boat Show** - Devos Place



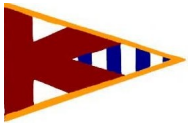
Meet your 2011 Bridge & Executive Committee



Bridge: Not pictured: Cdr Gary Bleyer
 AO Ron Gustafson, ASEO Diane Hansen, SEO Wally Corder,
 Sec. Lyn Bleyer, Treas. Nils Strand.



Executive Committee:
 Dan Livingston, Karen Strand, Harold Hladky, Chris Hansen,
 George Gerpheide. Not pictured: Maris Soule



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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			
Educational Officer	Lt/C Wally Corder, S	269-321-0751 (home)	wccorder@hotmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Ron Gustafson, S	269-372-3879 (home)	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

KSPS General Meeting

Joe and Linda Mills share their adventures on the Midi Canal in Southern France

Tue 8 Feb 2011 Time: 1830 - 2100 at the Sports Forum , 803 Mosel.

KSPS members Joe and Linda Mills will share their recent boat trip along the Midi Canal. The Canal du Midi is a 150 mile long canal in Southern France. It was built to serve as a shortcut between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. In the 17th century, it took a full month at sea to sail from Southern France (in the Atlantic) past the coast of Spain to Sète France in the Mediterranean Sea. Completed in May 1681, the canal has 91 locks which serve to ascend and descend a total of 620 feet. It has 328 structures, including bridges, dams and a tunnel. Maximum boat length: 98 feet, maximum beam 18 feet.

