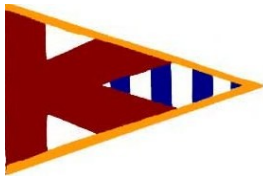


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



*Gary W. Bleyer*

### Commander's Message

Get prepared for boating season with a Free Vessel Safety Check at our Boats and Brats event. You can also call to schedule an appointment on another day - almost anywhere in Southwest Michigan or Northwest Indiana served by the Kalamazoo or South Bend Sail and Power Squadrons. Other fun events this summer include an Educational Cruise on the USCG Bristol Bay Wed 23 June (priority given to recent ABC graduates, instructors and those needing to brush up on Aids to Navigation), the Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven (parade on 6 August), and the Float Your Cardboard Boat event in Gross Ile 20 August. Contact info on page 2.

#### Inside this Issue

Commander's Message	1
Boats & Brats	1
Calendar: Meetings and Other Activities	2
Current Class Offerings	2
Introductory, Advanced & Elective Courses	2
Keeping your Boat Ship Shape	3
Fire Extinguishers	3
2011 KSPS Bridge Officers	4
Portage Fish Fair	4

[www.kspss-usps.org](http://www.kspss-usps.org)

### Boats and Brats - Free Vessel Safety Checks

A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is a voluntary inspection of a boat. The boat owner or operator is the only one to receive the results. The boat is checked for equipment required by the U.S. Coast Guard and State of Michigan, based on the length and type of boat. If the boat has all the required safety equipment, the boat owner will receive a VSC decal to display on the boat's windshield. It lets the Sheriff and Coast Guard know the boat has passed inspection.

The Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron KSPS and South Bend Sail & Power Squadron SBSPS are members of the United States Power Squadrons, a nonprofit organization devoted to improving boating safety through education. On Saturday, June 11 from 10 am - 3 pm, the two squadrons are co-hosting their annual VSC Boats and Brats event in South Haven, at the Black River Yacht Club, 280 Oak St (bottom of hill).

**Everyone is welcome.** Picnic optional. For a \$7 donation you get a brat with all the fixings, plus pickle, chips, cookies and pop or water. There will also be a nautical flea market. The VSC Boat inspection is FREE.

Boats to be inspected can be at any South Haven marina or on a trailer. Sign-up at the Black River Yacht Club or call to schedule an appointment (269) 377-2291, (574) 210-0916, (269) 209-1740, or (574) 903-3796. Indiana = (574) Michigan (269)



**Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings****Note: no meeting or newsletter in July.**

<b>Sat 11 June - Vessel Safety Checks Boats and Brats</b> - 10 am to 3 pm Black River Yacht Club bottom of Oak St, South Haven MI	<b>Tue 14 June - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Executive Committee Mtg</b> Gull Lake View Golf Club 7417 N 38th St, 5 miles E of Richland	<b>Fly your Flag on</b> Monday 30 May - Memorial Day Tuesday 14 June - Flag Day Monday 4 July - Independence Day
<b>Sat 6 August Time: 10 am</b> March in the <b>U.S. Coast Guard Parade</b> in Grand Haven MI - Wear white uniform or tan/khaki slacks/shorts & collared polo	<b>Sat 20 Aug - Noon to 5 pm / Food &amp; Fun D9 Float Your Boat / Cardboard Boat Race</b> Ford Yacht Club, Grosse Ile Lt/C Ian Holmes 734-558-5630	<b>D9 Fall Conference</b> Fri and Sat 28 - 29 October 2011 Shanty Creek MI

**Learn More About Boating**

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

**Engine Maintenance** will be offered Fall 2011. Contact Dan.

**Seamanship** will be offered winter of 2012. Contact Karen.

**Operations Training** — is great for new members and those wanting to serve on committees. It explains what the United States Power Squadrons is, what District 9 is and what local squadrons do. Offered with Seamanship or Cruise Planning.

**ABC America's Boating Course** and **Boating Safety for Youth** will be offered again next winter. . The Battle Creek ABC class is on Thursdays from 7 to 9 probably in March at Lakeview Middle. The Kalamazoo ABC and Youth Boating classes are Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm and will probably be in April at Milwood Magnet School. Check our website for summer DNR classes.

**Introduction to Charting** is offered after ABC in Battle Creek.

**Seminars:** Want to learn about GPS or VFH Marine radios? Check out the seminars available on [www.ksps-usps.org](http://www.ksps-usps.org)

**Next Meeting - Tues. 14 June  
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**

**Executive Committee**  
Social time 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7  
Gull Lake View Golf Club 7417 N 38th



**One of the strongest human instincts is  
to impart information.  
The second strongest is to resist it.**

**June Birthdays**

06 Dick Walter  
12 Maurizio Galbreath  
16 Bruce Dorais  
19 Maris Soule  
20 Susan Norrod  
24 James Henning  
25 Diana Goes  
26 Jane Chappell

**July Birthdays**

06 Bill Ditty  
06 George Tyler Jr  
07 Chris Hansen  
19 Phyllis Buskirk  
20 Betty Bledsoe  
29 Pamela Wright

**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 2012	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)	Mar 2013	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance (Wed 6:30-8:30)	Fall 2011	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)	Mar 2012	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

## Keep Your Boat Ship Shape

Source: [www.fire-extinguisher101.com/](http://www.fire-extinguisher101.com/)

Fire extinguishers are required on all boats with inboard engines, including PWCs, outboards greater than 26 feet & boats with enclosed living or fuel storage compartments.

Always read the instructions that come with the fire extinguisher beforehand and become familiarized with its parts. It is highly recommended by fire prevention experts that you get hands-on training before operating a fire extinguisher. Most local fire departments offer this service.

**Fire extinguisher maintenance** is important for boat safety. Inspect fire extinguishers at least once a month (more often in severe environments). Ensure that:

- The extinguisher is not blocked by equipment, coats or other objects that could interfere with access in an emergency.
- The pressure is at the recommended level. On extinguishers equipped with a gauge, the needle should be in the green zone - not too high and not too low.
- The nozzle or other parts are not hindered in any way.
- Verify the locking pin is intact and the tamper seal is unbroken.
- Examine the extinguisher for obvious physical damage, dents, corrosion, rust, leakage, or clogged nozzle.
- Wipe off any corrosive chemicals, oil, gunk etc. that may have deposited on the extinguisher.



Some manufacturers recommend inverting & gently tapping the bottom of your dry chemical extinguishers with palm monthly to prevent the powder from settling or packing.

Fire extinguishers should be pressure tested (a process called hydrostatic testing) after a number of years to ensure that the cylinder is safe to use. Consult your owner's manual, extinguisher label or the manufacturer to see when yours may need such testing.

If the extinguisher is damaged or needs recharging, replace it immediately!

**Kidde Recall** Kidde has issued a recall on some XL model fire extinguishers made in Mexico between October 2007 and April 2008. [www.kidde.com](http://www.kidde.com)

## Using A Fire Extinguisher - Home or Boat

Stop the engine. Cut off the fuel supply to the fire. If the microwave or oven is on fire - keep door closed. Unplug if electric, turn off alcohol or propane supply. Never put water on a **grease fire** it will splatter & spread. Instead carefully slide a lid over the pan. Turn off the burner, don't move the pan, and keep the lid on until the pan cools completely. Baking Soda may also be used to suffocate grease fires.

### Fire Extinguisher - PASS

**Pull the Pin** at the top of the extinguisher. The pin releases a locking mechanism and will allow you to discharge the extinguisher.

**Aim at the base of the fire**, not the flames. This is important - in order to put out the fire, you must extinguish the fuel. Keep hand away from spray.

**Squeeze the lever slowly**. This will release the extinguishing agent in the extinguisher. If the handle is released, the discharge will stop.

**Sweep from side to side**. Using a sweeping motion, move the fire extinguisher back and forth until the fire is completely out. Operate the extinguisher from a safe distance, several feet away, and then move towards the fire once it starts to diminish. Read instructions - various extinguishers recommend operating from different distances.

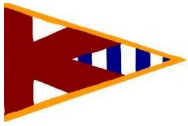
A typical fire extinguisher contains 10 seconds of extinguishing power. This could be less if it has already been partially discharged. Once the fire is out, don't walk away! Watch the area for a few minutes in case it re-ignites. Recharge the extinguisher immediately after use.

### Before deciding to fight a fire, be certain that:

- The fire is small and not spreading. A fire can double in size within two or three minutes.
- You have the proper extinguisher for what is burning.
- The fire won't block your exit if you can't control it. A good way to ensure this is to keep the exit at your back.
- You know your fire extinguisher works. Inspect extinguishers once a month.
- You are not at risk of inhaling smoke. Seven out of ten fire-related deaths occur from breathing poisonous gases produced by the fire. Any sort of fire will produce some amount of carbon monoxide, the most deadly gas produced by a fire. Materials such as wool, silk, nylon and some plastics can produce other highly toxic gases such as carbon dioxide, hydrogen cyanide, or hydrogen chloride. Beware - all of these can be fatal.

Smoke inhalation or exposure to fire itself can be life threatening. Get educated about CPR and burn treatment. Know how to use your fire extinguisher. There's not enough time to read instructions when a fire occurs.





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



### 2011 KSPS Bridge Officers

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

## Portage Family Fish Fair



The second annual Portage Family Fish Fair on Saturday 21 May had much better weather than last year. KSPS was invited back to host a children’s activity called “Ready, Set, Boat”. Using the outline of a 12’ boat, we have children select things they think they should have with them for a trip in a small boat. We talk about the parts of a boat, the importance of wearing PFD life jackets, letting someone know where you are and when you get back, and things that will make your day more fun and safe . . . Protecting yourself with a hat, sun screen, and sun glasses. How to make a bailer from a plastic milk jug. Bringing along an oar, anchor and line in case the engine quits, as well as Visual Distress Signals including a whistle and CD disk. The event was on Long Lake at Ramona Park, 8600 Sprinkle Road in Portage Michigan. Sponsor: Portage Parks Department