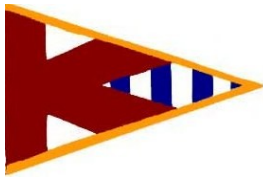


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



*Gary W. Bleyer*

### Commander's Message

Time has flown. It is time to pull boats out of the water (if you haven't already). Wasn't the first week of October just beautiful for boating or any outdoor activities. Unfortunately, fall is on the way.

It's also time to recruit and nominate the next round of leaders for the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron. I have been commander for two years. That's the limit set in our bylaws, which is just about right. You spend the first eight months learning what it is you have to do. Just when you get comfortable doing it, a year has ended.

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

The rest of the squadron, especially those who have been in leadership positions before, are great at helping and guiding you. I did not have a copy of Robert's Rules of Order, so whenever I forgot the sequence of calling for questions or a vote, someone would be there to gently remind me.

If you're thinking, I couldn't possibly get up in front of a bunch of people and speak, it's not really that hard and it's others that do most of the talking. My job at meetings was to keep us on topic and keep us moving along. Besides, I'm an easy show to follow. Remember how, twice, I asked a member to lead us in the National Anthem instead of the Pledge of Allegiance, or occasionally substitute a close sounding word for the one I intended. You all knew what I meant. So don't worry about how you'll do, just know that you're among friends and we need you to step up and volunteer. I'll share my secrets to success – have a written agenda, an administrative aide to help with the paperwork and a secretary that makes even the lamest statements sound wonderful in the minutes.

We have a class called **Operations Training** or **OT** which provides a more in-depth description of the duties of each office and our relationship to District and National. There is also a document called the **Operations Manual** that spells out responsibilities and protocol. If you take Operations Training or become an officer, you will receive a copy of the Operations Manual on a CD. If you want to look at the manual (warning it is a large file) you can find it on the web. You'll need certificate number. <http://www.usps.org/x/x.pl/x/x.cgi?natsec/officers.html> Click on **Operations Manual** which is the first item in the **blue** area under the search box. Don't let the size of the file scare you, the section on squadrons is small (maybe 20 pages), and the description for each officer or committee is usually less than a full page.

Don't wait for the Nominating Committee to contact you. Call Harold (274-1005) or Bill (370-2795) and tell them you would like to be on the Executive Committee, Bridge, Auditing or Rules Committee or nominate someone else.

## Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings

<b>Executive Committee Mtg</b> <b>Tue 11 October - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> The Hunt Club - 544 W Columbia Ave Battle Creek	<b>Piloting Class Begins</b> Thursday 27 October - Time: 6:30-8:30 10 chapters, with breaks for holidays, we should finish late Jan or early Feb.	<b>D9 Fall Conference</b> Fri and Sat 28 - 29 October 2011 Shanty Creek Ski & Golf Resort
<b>Meet and Greet ABC-3 Graduates</b> Monday 31 October Time: 6:30–8:30 Milwood Magnet School Kalamazoo	<b>General Mtg - Invasive Species</b> <b>Tue 8 November - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> Location TBD	<b>KSPS Holiday Party &amp; Toys for Tots</b> Fri 2 December Martels (formerly Black Swan) Parkview Hills

### Learn More About Boating

**Piloting** - will be co-coordinated by George Gerpheide and Diane Hansen Piloting begins 27 October. Prereq: Seamanship

**Engine Maintenance for Boaters** Contact Dan. Will start in Feb 2012, probably after Piloting ends. Seamanship after EM.

**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. Great for new members and officers.

**ABC America's Boating Course** The Kalamazoo ABC Boating classes are Mondays Oct 3–31 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Milwood Magnet School. The Battle Creek ABC and Boating for Youth in Kalamazoo will be offered late winter (March).

**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)

More detailed Course Descriptions are at [www.ksps-usps.org](http://www.ksps-usps.org)

**Next Meeting - Tues. 10 Oct**  
**Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**  
 Social time 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7  
 The Hunt Club 544 W Columbia Ave  
 Between Helmer Rd and Capital Ave  
 2 miles north of I-94 in Battle Creek.



**Missing Birthdays: John & Darlene Stange, Linda Tuls, John Roseboom, Larry Trent, Earl Paschke, Bob & Debbie Beck** Send Lyn just your name, month & day of birth

#### Oct. Birthdays

03 Robyn Levene  
 04 Dan Livingston  
 06 Laurel Henkel  
 08 Gail Morton  
 09 Winnie Meinert  
 11 Greta Douglass  
 25 Tom Henkel  
 28 Doug Mathewson  
 30 Craig Norrod  
 31 Harold Hladky



#### Nov. Birthdays

15 Jerry Hendrickson  
 16 Tique Crespo  
 16 Stan Wolk  
 22 Linda McTague

### 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 - Apr 2012	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	Oct 3-31 2012	Wally Corder	269-365-3398 (c)	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12–16): Kalamazoo	Apr - May 2012	Register via Com. Ed	269-337-0446	Lois 345-4521
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	May 2012	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship (Mon 7-9 pm/buffet 6pm)	Winter 2012	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting (Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm)	27 Oct 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)	Winter 2012	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	Spring 2012	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	dogwood17@charter.net
Marine Electronics	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-274-1995	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training (4-6 hrs/ no test)	Nov or Jan	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

## KSPS Offices and Committees

## KSPS Offices (continued)

Below is a quick overview of committees and leadership positions. We are an informal squadron. Uniforms are optional and not required.

**The Bridge** consists of the Commander, Executive Officer, Squadron Education Officer, Administrative Officer, Treasurer and Secretary. Our **bylaws** permit Assistants for each office. Currently we have an Assistant Squadron Education Officer or ASEO who both assists the SEO and can vote or act on the SEO's behalf if the SEO cannot be present.

All Bridge Officers are also able to have committees to help with the tasks that fall within their departments, rather than do those tasks themselves (like the website, newsletter, membership, course coordinators, etc.)

**The Executive Committee** consists of six members elected for a one year term, plus the Bridge officers and immediate Past Commander. While all KSPS members vote at General meetings (Jan, Feb, Apr, May, Sept & Nov), only the Bridge and Executive Officers vote at Executive Committee Meetings (Mar, Jun, Aug, Oct & Dec). Everyone is welcome to attend all meetings. Another difference between the General membership meetings and the Executive meetings is that we have a speaker at General meetings.

The Executive Committee conducts the business of the squadron as prescribed in our bylaws, as well as the directives coming from District 9 and the United States Power Squadrons. After reviewing information and discussion, the Executive Committee makes decisions and motions on behalf of the squadron.

**Commander CDR** (elected for a one year term, often serves 2 years) **The Commander** is responsible for overseeing the health and vibrancy of the squadron. The Cdr calls General and Executive meetings to order and leads these meetings in an unbiased and fair manner. While KSPS meetings are usually very amicable, the Cdr should be prepared to set time limits on individual speakers or establish a temporary or ad hoc committee to study an issue that requires more research. The Cdr is an ex-officio (non-voting) member of all squadron committees and often attends these meetings.

The Cdr appoints members to committees, except for Auditing, Nominating and Rules committees whose members are elected at the annual **Change of Watch** in January. The Cdr signs the certificates of students graduating from the ABC-3 course and attends the last class (with other KSPS members) to talk about benefits of membership in the squadron, as well as meet and greet potential members. The Cdr welcomes new members and swears them in with the USPS oath.

The Cdr and Bridge are encouraged to attend the Fall and Spring Council and Conference meetings. If not attending the national meeting, the Cdr may give the power of proxy vote to the District Commander.

**Executive Officer XO** (elected for a one year term, often serves 2 years) The Executive Officer acts on behalf of the Commander when the Commander is unable to attend meetings. The committees and responsibilities that are within the Executive Department are: Marketing/Public Relations, Boating Safety Officer and Vessel Safety Checks.

**Squadron Education Officer SEO** (elected for a one year term, often serves 3+ years) Maintains educational records, oversee USPS courses and seminars, works with course coordinators to establish dates for class offerings, approves instructors, encourages members to take classes and teach, works with the treasurer to establish class cost for members and nonmembers.

**Administrative Officer AO** (elected for a one year term, often serves 2 years) The committees and responsibilities that are within the Administrative Department are: Membership: (recruiting and retention), Arrangements for meetings (places, menus, etc.) Cruise & Rendezvous, and Social Activities.

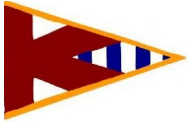
**Secretary** (elected for a one year term, often serves 3+ years) Takes minutes at monthly meetings, distributes minutes to members, sends meeting reminder notices, oversees: updating of member contact information, historical reports, website, monthly newsletter and publications. (We need an Assistant Historian)

**Treasurer** (elected for a one year term, often serves 3+ years) Works with finance committee to establish annual budget, maintains financial records, reimburses approved expenses.

**Auditing Committee** – Elected for 3 year term. Reviews the records of the treasurer, as of the last day of fiscal year and makes a report within 40 days to the Executive Committee as to the condition, accuracy and propriety of revenue and expenditures.

**Nominating Committee** – Elected for 3 year term. Usually the immediate 3 Past Commanders. This committee accepts recommendations of candidates for elected positions, actively recruits and presents a slate of candidates to the Executive Committee meeting no later than the second Tuesday of December.

**Rules Committee** – Elected for 3 year term. Reviews the Bylaws comparing them to changes at District and National level. Recommends changes to KSPS bylaws. View our **bylaws** (under Members only or at link below) [www.usps.org/national/rules/Squadron Bylaws.html](http://www.usps.org/national/rules/Squadron_Bylaws.html)



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



**2011 KSPS Bridge Officers** (please note new phone # for SEO)

<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	269-365-3398 (cell)	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

**New Operations Training Program**

The Nominating Committee (Harold Hladky & Bill Soule) are looking for continuing and new volunteers for KSPS committees and positions. Please say yes. A four hour **Operations Training** will be offered this fall or January. It provides you with a better understanding of the United States Power Squadrons at the national, district and local level. Along with the Operations Manual, OT provides members, officers and committees with guidance to run meetings and follow USPS protocol. The revised and updated Operations Training Program Manual is available on the USPS website at [Revised Operations Training Manual](#)

The new manual is presented in four different modules: The Organization, Squadron Committee Work, Squadron Bridge Officers and Navigating the USPS website. All modules must be covered to qualify for an OTP certificate of completion.

**Sunrise in St. Ignace - Bridge Walk 2011**

