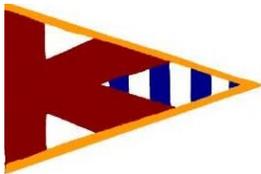


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



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[www.kspusps.org](http://www.kspusps.org)

### Commander's Message

With this unseasonably warm weather, some boaters are asking their marinas to get their boats in the water now. Who would have thought that the Michigan boating season would begin on St. Paddy's day instead of Memorial Day weekend.

To help get you ready, Dan Livingston is going to share some information on marine fuels at our 10 April meeting at the Hunt Club, including the harmful effects of ethanol in marine gasoline and water in marine diesel fuel.

We are looking at potential sites in South Haven for the Sail Trim seminar. Sail Trim provides sailors with the knowledge to get the most out of their sails from tuning rigging to understanding wind flow, sail twist and tensioning.

In addition to **Vessel Safety Checks** at Boats & Brats, we will be adding the ramp at the municipal marina in South Haven on 23 June (turn right on Dunkley, just east of drawbridge). We are seeking permission to do VSCs on Gull Lake (Prairieville Twp) and Austin Lake in Portage. Prairieville not only endorsed having VSCs at Gull Lake, but also offered free space to teach the youth boating course and will recruit the students. KSPS will have a booth at the Portage Family Fish Fair at Ramona Park, Sat. 19 May. **D9 Spring Summary** Just got back from the D9 Spring Conference in Bay City. We had a lot of fun on Friday night with each squadron doing a film theme from the year they were founded. On Saturday, we learned about DB2000, Implementing the new agreement between USPS and the USCG Auxiliary, Michigan Lighthouses, Anchoring, Navigating the USPS website and Membership Strategies.

The **6 month free trial** membership is still in effect, and this year, SEO's can offer it to very experienced boaters without them having to complete ABC. Less experienced boaters still need to pass ABC. Each new trial member should be assigned a KSPS **mentor** who calls them up, personally invites them to meetings and events, and is willing to find answers they may have about boating, the squadron or USPS. It might also be beneficial to match a new member with a mentor that has similar interests and/or match a young professional with someone who has years of experience in that profession. **Email isn't good enough for brand new members - person to person is best.** Recruiting younger members, for some squadrons, means people in their 50's.

While all squadron members should be able to give a 1 minute spiel, everyone may not be comfortable selling a stranger on the virtues of KSPS. The D9 Membership Team wants us to identify a few "closers". People who can really sell the squadron and get someone new to give it a try. You can follow-up over coffee or by phone.

I need a few volunteers - some to be phone buddies or mentors and some to be closers. . . And all KSPS members should develop the one minute talk, or as the D9 Membership Team likes to call it the "elevator" or "person-behind-you-in-line" speech. An enthusiastic description of USPS and/or KSPS that peaks someone's interest and entices them to take a class, come to a meeting or join.



*KSPS Commander  
Lyndell R. Bleyer*

**Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings (mark your personal calendar)**

<b>April General Mtg</b> Dan Livingston - Marine Fuels <b>Tue. - 10 April Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> The Hunt Club, 544 W Columbia BC	<b>May General Mtg</b> Dr John Childs—Mackinaw Ice Breaker <b>Tue. 08 May - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> Gull Lake View Golf, 7417 N 38th & M-89	<b>June Executive Committee Mtg</b> Tue. 12 June - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Focus on Membership Strategies Location: Brewsters - 5315 Portage Rd.
See dates below for Classes & Seminars.	<b>09 June VSC</b> Gull Lake - Prairieview Park <b>23 June VSC</b> South Haven Launch Ramp Boats & Brats at Black River Yacht Club, 280 Oak St, South Haven	<b>USPS 2012 Governing Board Meeting</b> 4 - 9 September 2012 Detroit Renaissance Marriott Hotel Lots of pre-mtg activities/volunteer opp.

**Learn More About Boating**

**ABC America's Boating Course**

**Battle Creek ABC** runs Thurs. 22 March - 26 April at Lakeview Middle School in Battle Creek (Columbia & 30th St) . \$35

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

**Seamanship** will be offered after Charting ends. Contact Karen.

**Seminars** Most seminars cost \$25 for USPS members, and \$35 for non-members, but some are slightly higher. Since KSPS has to order and pay for seminar materials. Students will be asked to pay in advance for seminars. Dates and locations are being arranged and will be announced shortly. We are hoping to offer:  
**Sail Trim Seminar** to be offered in South Haven - George Tyler  
**GPS** - Global Positioning for charting and navigation  
 Being prepared and how to handle **Emergencies on Board**

Contact Wally Corder if interested so he can order sufficient guides. 269-365-3398 Detailed descriptions [www.ksp-usps.org](http://www.ksp-usps.org)

**Next Meeting - Tues. 10 April**  
**Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**  
 Social time 6:30 pm, Diner at 7  
 Come learn why you don't want ethanol fuel in your marine engine and more.  
 Presenter: Dan Livingston



**Happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory.**  
**Albert Schweitzer**

**April Birthdays**

- 01 Ronald J. Voelker
- 03 Glenn E. Hahn
- 10 Dan L. Seng
- 14 Donald J. Paulson
- 29 Harriette Griffith



**May Birthdays**

- 04 Kent Choate
- 12 Judy Dorais
- 15 Ron McPhee
- 16 L. 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	22 Mar - 26 Apr	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	27 Feb - 26 Mar	Wally Corder	269-365-3398 (c)	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12 - 16): Kalamazoo	27 Feb - 26 Mar	Register via Com. Ed	269-337-0446	Lois 345-4521 or Hladky
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	after ABC in BC	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship (Mon 7-9 pm/buffet 6pm)	8 weeks	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting (Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm)	27 Oct - 26 Jan	George G & Diane H	269-375-4024	gunkholer1889@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Self study 2012		How about you?	Could you teach AP? Call Wally
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
<b>Operations Training</b> (4-6 hrs)	Spring 2012	Wally Corder	269-365-3398	wccorder@hotmail.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, Jr

## Boats and Waterways had important role in the War of 1812

The *War of 1812* was the focus of this year's *Living History Show* in Kalamazoo (next show March 16-17, 2013). People dress in period costume and tell history as if they were eye witness to the events. It makes a much more lasting impression than when 1812 was covered in 4th or 5th grade. In addition to the presentations, there are three huge rooms filled with people selling clothing, artifacts and replicas from 1890 and earlier. Great fun to browse.

In the early 1800's, waterways and boats were crucial to the movement of goods and supplies. Britain was involved in a war with Napoleon, so they boarded U.S. merchant ships and took American sailors, whom England said were British citizens with an obligation to fulfill military service (Impressment).

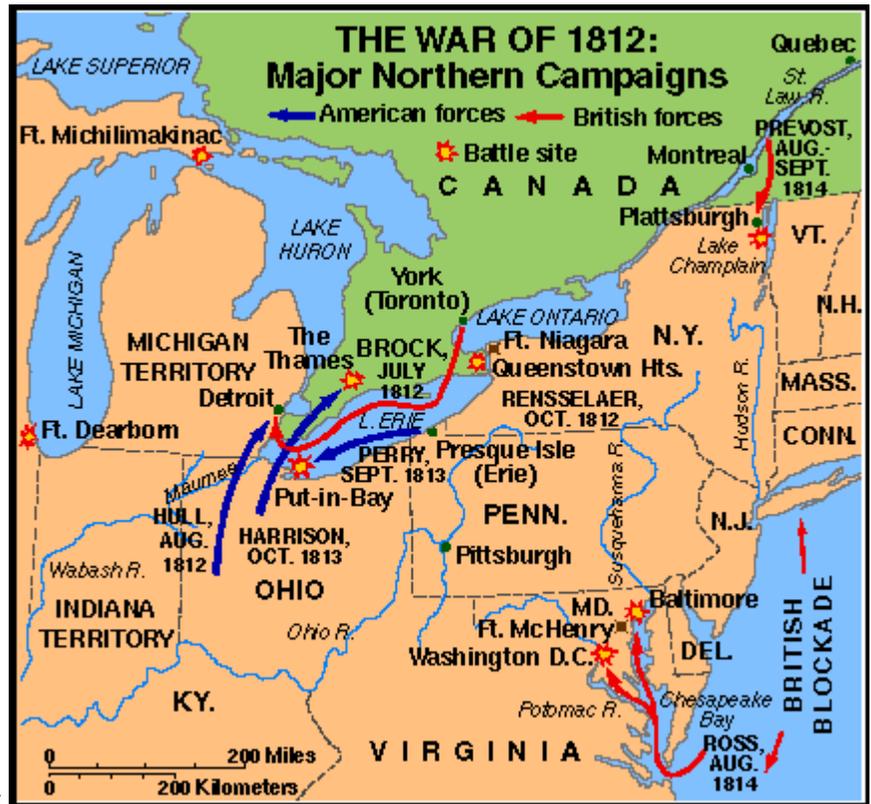
However, the people in the Northwest Territories of Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois were more concerned with the British control of Lake Erie, preventing the settlers from trading goods. Over 15 Native American and First Nation tribes from Canada including Shawnee, Iroquois, Ottawa, Pottawatomie, and Wyandot fought on the British side. Siding with the Americans were only the Choctaw, Cherokee and Creek allies.

The British domination of the waterways made it difficult for the Americans to supply their forts at Detroit, Mackinaw, Wayne and Chicago (Chicago was actually called Fort Dearborn in the 1800s). In 1794, the village of Sandwich or Petite Côte (Little Coast) was founded where Windsor now stands.

After the narrow victory at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811 by William Henry Harrison's forces, the U.S. Congress declared war on Great Britain in July 1812.

Unprepared for war and poorly led, American land forces suffer humiliating defeats. Michilimackinac and Detroit fell within a month. Massacres occurred at River Raisin and Dearborn; when American militia who had surrendered were killed, rather than taken prisoner. Fort Wayne was under siege. The British even burned Washington DC. Into this maelstrom again stepped Harrison, appointed Brigadier General in August, 1812.

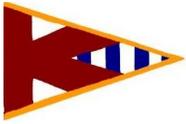
Fort Meigs, located near Perrysburg Ohio became the turning point in the war in the Northwest Territories. Fort Meigs is a nationally accredited museum that features a reconstructed War of 1812 fort that is the largest in the country (10 acres, 1 mile perimeter) [www.fortmeigs.org](http://www.fortmeigs.org)



Map source: [www.thinkquest.org/](http://www.thinkquest.org/)

While named the *War of 1812*, it ended after the battles of New Orleans (1815) and Baltimore (1814), the latter battle inspired the lyrics of our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner". When the war finally turned in the favor of the new Americas, it produced a sense of euphoria - a "second war of independence" against Britain. Canada also emerged from the war with a heightened sense of national solidarity, having repelled multiple American invasions across the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway. The bicentennial of 1812 will be celebrated in Detroit this fall. There will be tall ships and the USPS Governing Board meeting will be 4 - 9 September 2012 at the Detroit Renaissance Marriott. Book your hotel now, as rooms will be scarce.



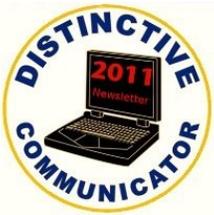


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**Boating is fun... We'll show you how!**



**2012 KSPS Bridge Officers** (please note new phone # for SEO and email for secretary)

<b>Commander</b>	Cdr Lyn Bleyer, P	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
<b>Executive Officer</b>	Lt/C Dan Livingston, P	269-781-2328 (home)	autodan@yahoo.com
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Lt/C Wally Corder, P	269-365-3398 (cell)	wccorder@hotmail.com
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	Lt/C Ron Gustafson, P	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>	P/C Lois Whitmore, SN	269-345-4521 (home)	dogwood17@charter.net

Other suggestions from the D9 Membership meeting	Suggestions for 1 Minute - 3 Foot Spiel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rather than spending the summer at your slip, fight high fuel costs by inviting another couple to share the cost for a day on the water. Someone new to boating would be great.</li> <li>• Remember that Port Captains love to help visiting boaters, whether they are visiting the area by boat, car or RV.</li> <li>• Not everyone can make the once a month Tuesday night meeting. Consider a monthly get together over coffee - am, noon or evening. Consider get together for everyone who boats out of Muskegon, Grand Haven, or Holland. . . could be just KSPS or other squads too.</li> <li>• Contact other organizations with similar interests and invite them to meetings and events - boating clubs, fishing groups, etc.</li> <li>• Put ABC class notice and meeting dates on Craig's List.</li> <li>• 3 foot rule. . . Anyone within 3 feet is eligible for your 1 minute enthusiastic spiel about KSPS. See next column for what to say.</li> </ul>	<p>I belong to the Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron, we are a group of people with a love of boating. We are a social and educational group. Our classes start with ABC - America's Boating Course, an 8 hour basic boating course. Our classes can take you all the way to ocean and celestial navigation. We also have 2 to 4 hour seminars on topics from Anchoring to Weather.</p> <p>We are one of 22 squadrons in Michigan, and one of over 4,000 in the United States Power Squadrons. Our local squadron started in 1948, the national began in 1914.</p> <p>You don't have to own a yacht to belong. Some members have kayaks or canoes, others have fishing boats, sailboats or cabin cruisers, and a few have no boat at all.</p> <p>Some of us joined for the classes, the lower boat insurance and other member benefits. Most of us are in it for the friends we make. Our next meeting is. . . Our website is... <a href="http://www.kspusps.org">www.kspusps.org</a></p>