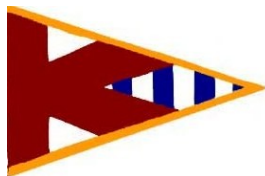


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



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www.ksps-usps.org

Commander's Message

What a hot, steamy summer. Kalamazoo has had a record 6 days over 100° so far this summer, and 27 days over 90° and we still have all of August. Instead of heading for Lake Michigan, Gary and I have been cutting firewood.

The Road Commission is widening our street. We got permission from 3 of our neighbors to take wood from 16 trees, in 10 days. Only three more trees to cut and haul home, then split it all.



Thanks to all who renewed their membership with Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron. Your renewal helps USPS, D9 and KSPS continue to provide classes, do community outreach and make boating safer for us and the public.

Unfortunately, we had 11 persons who did not renew their membership. Five of those were very active members in the past, who no longer have a boat or resigned due to health or the economy. We do have 3 potential Cyber members who we need to convert to KSPS members (2 from Battle Creek, 1 Kzoo).

We had a great turn out for Boats and Brats. Over 60 brats were consumed and KSPS completed 29 Vessel Safety Checks. Michigan passed a new law that prevents peace officers from boarding a boat that displays the current year Vessel Safety Check decal, unless there is an obvious boating violation or suspicion of criminal activity. The law takes effect 1 November 2012.

An article in the Great Lakes Scuttlebutt reported problems with surprise inspection boarding in the Detroit / Lake Erie area, where dealer's taking potential customers out on demo rides were boarded, by armed officers, often frightening the customers. One person reported being boarded twice in the same day and others several times per season.

It's still not too late to get your Vessel Safety Check. Besides reducing your chances of being boarded and having to pay a hefty fine, you will have the peace of mind of knowing your boat is properly equipped. VSCs are voluntary inspections. We go over all required equipment for your size/ type of boat and give you a checklist. Call any of the seven Vessel Examiners listed to schedule a Vessel Safety Check.

All numbers are 269 area codes.

Lyn or Gary Bleyer - 731-5601 / Bob Boyce - 967-1199
 Lance Conrad - 762-8348 / Harold Hladky - 274-8348
 Dan Livingston, 781-2328 / Nils K. Strand - 964-6690



*KSPS Commander
Lyndell R. Bleyer*

KSPS	Members
Life	5
Paid	63
New	1
Total	69

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

US Coast Guard Parade in Grand Haven Saturday 4 August / Come march in the parade with other District 9 squadrons Picnic on Friday night in Holland.	August Executive Committee Mtg Tue. 14 August- Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Gull Lake View Golf Course 7417 North 38th St (at M-89)	USPS 2012 Governing Board Meeting 4 - 9 September 2012 Detroit Renaissance Marriott Hotel Lots of pre-mtg activities/volunteer opp.
Tuesday - 11 September Time: 6:30 - 9 General Meeting with John Anderson: Fort Custer Military & Historical Museum Gull Lake View Golf Course, 7417 N 38th	Tuesday - 9 October Time: 6:30 - 9 Executive Committee Meeting Brewsters - 5315 Portage Rd, left at first light south of I-94	D9 Fall Conference Oct 26-27 Best Western—Sterling Heights Theme: Islands of Paradise Details and registration form at D9 web.

Current & Upcoming Classes

A **New 2012 law** requires persons born after June 1996 to pass a boating education class and carry the certificate on board to operate a boat motor greater than 12 hp. This year it's everyone age 16, by 2020, it's everyone 24 and younger.

To operate a PWC, persons born after 1978 must carry the boating certificate. No one under 16 may operate alone. ABC and the DNR class both qualify.

ABC America's Boating Course

Next ABC class in Kalamazoo runs 5 Mondays beginning on October 1st at Milwood Magnet School on Konkel. However, if you know someone who wants to learn now, have them go to www.usps.org where they can study online for \$39.95, then take the test proctored by KSPS. They need to call Wally a few weeks before they want to take the test, so the exam can be ordered.

Seminars are short 3 to 4 hour overviews of boating topics like weather, GPS, Anchoring, etc. Detailed descriptions of seminars at www.kspusps.org under education. Contact Wally Corder 269-365-3398 if interested in a class or seminar.

Next Meeting - Tues. Aug 14

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Social time 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7
Gull Lake View Golf - N 38th St @ M-89

Note: N 37th St is closed, take N 38th.

No guest speaker. Everyone is welcome.

We will brain storm ideas for increasing and retaining members.



**It is difficult to bring people to goodness with lessons,
but it is easy to do so by example
author unknown**

August Birthdays

04 Ross Griffith
04 Joan Gustafson
06 Bill Ditty
10 Wally Corder
13 Lois Whitmore
14 Linda Seng
24 Sue Livingston



September Birthdays

11 Richard Hebert
11 Joe Mills
21 Nils Strand
23 George Gerpeide
26 Becky Ditty
26 Diane Hansen
27 Karen Strand

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 2013	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	Oct 1-29 2012	Wally Corder	269-365-3398	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12 - 16): Kalamazoo	Feb 2013	Register via Com. Ed	269-337-0446	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
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)	TBD	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 2013	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	TBD	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)	TBD	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

WHAT IS A SMALL CRAFT WARNING?

By Lt. Bill Hempel - Published by the Marketing/ PR Committee/ United States Power Squadrons®

It may surprise you to know that small craft warnings have nothing to do with the size of your boat. It is simply a description of weather conditions in coastal and near-shore waters that may result in high winds and severe sea/wave conditions for a sustained period of time. It may further surprise you to know that the conditions calling for a small craft warning are not universal, but are different for six separate geographical areas.

In northern areas these warnings may be issued on a totally calm day as an advisory for sea or lake ice. I live in the Southern Region where a small craft advisory is defined as "sustained winds of 20 to 30 knots, and /or forecast seas seven feet or greater that are expected to sustain for more than two hours".

When a boater hears a TV or NOAA broadcast with this warning, he should immediately tune to NOAA or an internet site, to obtain additional data on the impending conditions. Since there is no legal definition of a "small craft", it is up to the Captain to decide on the degree of hazard that exists and take into consideration his experience and the type and size of his boat.

When these warnings occur, it is a good idea to stay off the water. Not only do wind and wave conditions present a potential danger, they are also a factor that could turn a simple situation on a calm day into something dangerous. Engine problems, loss of power steering, out of gas, medical emergencies and many other every day issues become much more serious when one is battling 25 knot winds and three foot waves on local waters, or seven foot waves off shore.

Further, in the presence of fronts, more severe weather conditions may ratchet up rather quickly. So you need to be alert and listen to all advisories and be ready to take precautionary action. Check the weather forecast before leaving shore, always monitor NOAA, and keep your eyes on the skies when out on the water.

Remember that it is always best to err on the safe side. So when small craft warnings are issued, do not over-estimate your skills as a captain or your boat's ability to ride out a storm. It is amazing how small your boat seems when there is bad weather on the horizon.

Learn more about weather and warnings, as well as how to deal with adverse conditions by taking the United States Power Squadrons'® America's Boating Course, 3rd Edition, the Weather Course or one of the two excellent three hour seminars on the subject.

As Power Squadron members remind us: "Boating is fun... We'll Show you how!"

More on Vessel Safety Checks



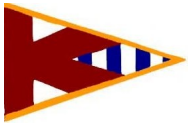
Photo Courtesy Senior Chief Tom Rau / Coast Guard Auxiliary, Freda Herman, instructs a couple on the importance of a fully charged fire extinguisher during a vessel safety check.

While Coast Guard Auxiliary and squadron members who have been trained to be Vessel Examiners perform voluntary Vessel Safety Checks without risk of fine or tickets for boaters, we've been hearing some incredible stories about people who got fined by Sheriff or Coast Guard for not having items that are only on the recommended list. For example, a person in a dinghy with an outboard was mistakenly given a fine for not having a fire extinguisher, which is only required on vessels with enclosed gas tanks, double bottom hulls not completely sealed and inboard or I/O engines and PWCs. Another person received a fine for not having a bucket for bailing (again - only a recommended, not required item). So advise boaters to keep the VSC check list on board, as the reverse side of the boat owner's copy has the requirements clearly defined. Schedule your Vessel Safety Check today.

The **Governing Board Meeting** for USPS will be held in Detroit this September 4 - 9 September at the Detroit Renaissance Marriott Hotel. During the event, Tall Ships will be in port and there will be re-enactments of the War of 1812. For details, go to the www.USPS.org website.

The **D9 Fall Conference** will be in Sterling Heights on Friday evening October 26 and all day Saturday October 27. While Saturday morning workshop details are still being worked out, the conference is a great way to socialize with other squadrons and learn. There is a copy of the registration form on the District 9 website http://d9-usps.org/files/2012_D9_Fall_Conference.pdf

If you don't have a fast internet connection and want a copy of the conference registration form contact Lyn Bleyer. 731-5601



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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)

Commander	Cdr Lyn Bleyer, P	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Executive Officer	Lt/C Dan Livingston, P	269-781-2328 (home)	autodan@yahoo.com
Educational Officer	Lt/C Wally Corder, P	269-365-3398 (cell)	wccorder@hotmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Jim Johnston, P	269-375-8441 (home)	jimwj@hotmail.com
Treasurer	P/C Nils Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	P/C Lois Whitmore, SN	269-345-4521 (home)	dogwood17@charter.net

Mich boatmaker has 13 chances to medal

By Jack Doles - WOOD-TV8

Canada, Great Britain, France, Croatia, Brazil, Germany, Sweden, New Zealand, Greece, Denmark, Norway, Ireland and Poland.

These 13 countries competing in the Star Class boat races at the London Olympics will use a P-Star boat built in Richland, Michigan by Jon VanderMolen.

When the sailboats hit the water off the southern coast of England, Richland boat builder Jon VanderMolen will be watching with a great deal of interest. His company, North American Sailing Center, built 13 of the 16 competing boats.

US Coast Guard Festival in Grand Haven

2012 DATES: July 27 to August 5 - Festival Website

Mark your calendar for July 27 to August 5. Every day is filled with activities, events, and attractions for all ages. Many activities are free, and you will find plenty of fun and choices from Kids Day to the Street Dance and Cruise-In Car Show, to carnival rides, picnics, Grand Parade, and ship tours.

Represent KSPS, D9 and USPS by marching in the parade on Saturday 4 August at 11:45 am. We line up by 10:00 am.. District Bridge and Commanders: Uniform D or E. Members and Commanders without uniform D or E: Khaki pants/shorts with team shirt.

D9 is hosting a picnic on Friday evening in Tunnel Park, 66 Lakeshore Drive, Holland. \$6 per car. If you want to attend the picnic, you must RSVP Bill Stano 586-495-9735 wstano@comcast.net

Details on Picnic at SailAngle. Parade Route Map