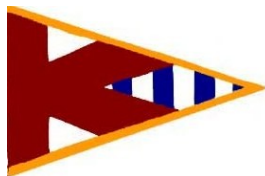


# The Pilot



## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®

### Commander's Message

January is our Change of Watch. Time to turn over the helm to a new commander. It's a good thing I had two years as Commander, since it took that long to accomplish many of the goals I set for myself and KSPS for year one. With the help of squadron members, during the past two years, we:

- 1) Got articles published about boating safety and KSPS in the Kalamazoo Gazette and the Battle Creek Shopper.
- 2) Put up safety signs at 5 boat launch ramps in SWMI.
- 3) Offered America's Boating Course (ABC-3) six times.
- 4) Offered the Boating Safety for Youth (DNR) three times.
- 5) Offered Instructor Recertification, Intro. to Charting, Seamanship, Cruise Planning, Engine Maintenance, Piloting, and a seminar on Rivers, Lakes and Locks.
- 6) Participated in community events - the Portage Family Fish Fair at Ramona Park (twice), and the Environmental Water Festival at Arcadia Creek (once) and walked with other District 9 members in the U.S. Coast Guard Parade (twice).
- 7) Had a table and handed out materials at the Battle Creek Boat Show.
- 8) Had enough KSPS members attend the D9 Fall and Spring Conferences to utilize all our votes.
- 9) KSPS members presented in Seminars at D9 Conferences.
- 10) Spoke about KSPS and safe boating at the Battle Creek Steel Headers meeting.
- 11) Held at least three social events each year,
- 12) Certified new Vessel Examiners, and performed at least 40 Vessel Safety Checks. And probably many other events that I have forgotten to list. With all that activity, we only managed to averaged 3 new members per year.



*Gary W. Bleyer*

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

Be sure to see the calendar and classes on page two for upcoming events.

#### Change of Watch - Slate of Candidates for 2012

##### BRIDGE OFFICERS

Cdr: Cdr Lyndell R. Bleyer, S  
 Exec: Lt/C Daniel L. Livingston, S  
 Educ: Lt/C Wally Corder, S  
 Admin: Lt/C Ronald S. Gustafson, S  
 Sec: Lt/C Lois M. Whitmore, SN  
 Treas: Lt/C Nils K. Strand, AP

##### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1/Lt Maurizio F. Galbreath (Mike)  
 1/Lt George Gerpheide, P  
 1/Lt Chris J. Hansen, P  
 P/C Harold L Hladky, JN  
 1/Lt James W. Johnston, S  
 P/C Karen S. Strand, AP

##### AUDITING COMMITTEE

Gail Hladky, JN (2011-2013)  
 Judy A. Dorais, S (2012-2014)  
 Susan L. Livingston, P (2012-2014)

##### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

P/C Harold L. Hladky, JN (2009-2012)  
 P/C William L. Soule, P (2010-2012)  
 \* P/C Gary W. Bleyer, S (2012-2014)

##### RULES COMMITTEE

George D. Gerpheide, AP (2010-2012)  
 Phyllis A. R. Buskirk, P (2011-2014)  
 George L. Tyler Jr., JN (2011-2014)

\* denotes new to committee

## Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings

<b>KSPS Annual Meeting &amp; Change of Watch</b> <b>Tue 10 Jan - Time: 6:00 - 9:00</b> Martels (formerly Black Swan) Parkview Hills between Oakland & Drake	<b>February General Mtg</b> USAF Brigadier Gen. Linda McTague, Ret'd <b>Tue. 14 February - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> The Hunt Club - 544 W Columbia Ave BC	<b>Executive Committee Mtg</b> <b>Tue 13 March - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> Kalamazoo Location: TBD
See dates below for ABC, Seminars, Engine Maintenance and Seamanship	<b>April General Mtg</b> Presentation to be announced <b>Tue. 13 March - Time: 6:30 - 9:00</b> Location: Gull Lake View Golf Club	<b>USPS 2012 Governing Board Meeting</b> 4 - 9 September 2012 Detroit Marriott Hotel Lots of pre-mtg activities/ volunteer opp.

### Learn More About Boating

**Piloting** - co-coordinated by George Gerpheide & Diane Hansen  
 Piloting runs 27 Oct. to 26 Jan. Exam due: 2 Feb.

**Engine Maintenance for Boaters** Contact Dan. Runs 11 Jan. thru 22 Feb. \$51 for members.

**Seamanship** begins 19 March 2012. Contact Karen.

**ABC America's Boating Course** The Kalamazoo ABC and **Boating Safety for Youth** classes are from 6 to 8 pm (note the earlier start time) Mondays February 27 to March 26-12 at Milwood Magnet School. ABC \$30, Youth \$5.

**Battle Creek ABC** runs Thurs. 22 March—26 April) at Lakeview Middle School in Battle Creek.

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

#### **New Seminar - Emergencies on Board**


Check out the seminars available on [www.usps.org](http://www.usps.org)  
 Most seminars cost \$25 for USPS members, and \$35 for non-members, but some are slightly higher.

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

**Next Meeting - Tues. 10 Jan**  
**Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**

Social time 6:00 pm, Diner at 7  
 Martels in Parkview Hills, Kalamazoo

Turn at light into Parkview Hills, you will  
 need to cross left over the boulevard into Martell's Sign is small



**May you keep at least half your  
 New Year's Resolutions**

#### *January Birthdays*

08 Richard Rakow  
 10 Gary Morton  
 19 Aaron Wright  
 30 Beverly Love  
 31 Ron Gustafson

#### *February Birthdays*

07 Ray Shoemaker  
 10 Sharon Mathewson  
 11 Jerry Love  
 13 Linda Mills



### 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)	19 March - 7 May	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting (Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm)	27 Oct - 2 Feb	George G & Diane H	269-375-4024	gunkholer1889@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Self study Feb-May	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

## Vote for your favorite USCG Video

**U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
United States  
Coast Guard**



23-December-2011 WASHINGTON — The U.S. Coast Guard announced Wednesday the release of its Top 10 video compilation for 2011, highlighting the year's most compelling cases from the work done every day by America's Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard also announced its 2011 Video of the Year contest in which the public is invited to vote for their favorite video. The contest began Thursday, with voting open through Jan. 13, 2012. Starting last Thursday, and continuing through Dec. 31, the Coast Guard's official blog, the Coast Guard Compass, will publish one of the Top 10 videos each day including commentary from a service member who participated in the mission.

Each day of the contest people may vote for their favorite videos by choosing "Like" on the Coast Guard's Facebook page or on the Coast Guard's **YouTube 2011 Videos of the Year** playlist.

"The service of Coast Guard men and women is often out of sight of the public occurring offshore, at night or at the height of a ferocious storm at sea, so we are proud to show citizens our Top 10 videos that represent this work," said Capt. Ron LaBrec, chief of Coast Guard public affairs. "We are part of the communities we serve throughout the country. The Coast Guard has the ability to deploy military capability, law enforcement authority and life-saving expertise whenever and wherever needed to safeguard our nation and its citizens."

The Top 10 video compilation includes:

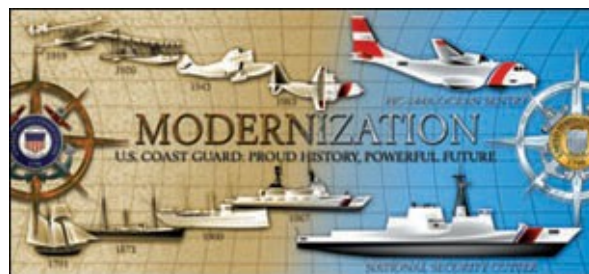
- The rescue of a man who was trapped on the rocks near the South Padre Island jetty, March 5 by a Coast Guard Air Station Houston helicopter crew.
- The rescue of a 77-year-old man and his dog from a disabled, adrift sailboat southwest of San Diego, March 2 by a helicopter crew from Air Station San Diego.
- Coast Guard Crewmembers assisting Moody Garden's Aquarium and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the release of eight endangered Kemp's Ridley and two Loggerhead turtles into the Gulf of Mexico, July 14.
- Crewmember training with Coast Guard Station Merrimack River, Mass., July 13.

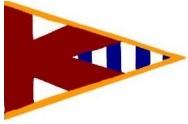
- The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Henry Blake maintaining aids to navigation in the Puget Sound area.
- The first Caribbean Sea interdiction of a cocaine smuggling, self-propelled, semi-submersible vessel by the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Mohawk Sept. 17.
- The rescue by an aircrew from Air Station Barbers Point of a pilot who had to ditch his Cessna airplane in the ocean 13 miles northeast of the Big Island, Hawaii, Oct. 7.
- The rescue of a family of four, including a six-month-old baby and a dog, from their disabled sailboat by Coast Guard and Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol crews, March 20.
- An Air Station Astoria rescue of an injured climber near the North Head Lighthouse outside Ilwaco, Wash., July 7.
- Helicopter familiarity training for law enforcement canines, conducted with various law enforcement agencies in Alameda, Calif., May 24.

Video of each case, as well as the Top 10 video compilation, is available for viewing and download from the [Coast Guard visual information site](#).

In 2011, the Coast Guard:

- Responded to more than 22,000 search and rescue cases and saved more than 4,300 lives.
- Screened more than 257,000 commercial vessels carrying 71 million crewmembers and passengers prior to arrival in U.S. ports.
- Investigated 4,650 marine casualties, including two marine boards of investigation.
- Seized more than 37,000 pounds of marijuana and more than 200,000 pounds of cocaine bound for the United States.
- Conducted more than 11,000 inspections on U.S. vessels and 9,000 port state control safety and environmental exams on foreign vessels.
- Interdicted more than 2,000 undocumented migrants attempting to illegally enter the United States from the sea.



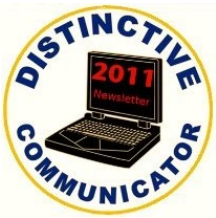


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**Boating is fun... We'll show you how!**



**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

**RSVP by Wednesday for COW**

If you want to attend the **KSPS Change of Watch** on Tuesday 10 Jan - Time: 6:00 - 9:00 Please RSVP by the Wednesday before COW. Either call Lyn (269) 731-5601 or email her at Bleyer@wmich.edu You do not need to pay or select your meal until that evening. **Cost:** \$27.46 pp (includes tax & gratuity)  
**Where:** Martels (formerly Black Swan) in Parkview Hills between Oakland & Drake - just north of I-94.  
**When:** Tuesday 10 January Cocktails 6, Dinner 7 pm

- A. Roasted Butternut Squash Ravioli
- B. Prime Rib
- C. Chicken Marsala: (sautéed chicken breast) or
- D: Grilled Salmon

B, C & D are served with whipped potatoes & vegetable.  
 Dessert is chocolate mousse.

**New Online VSC Recording System Begins Feb. 2012**

USPS will join the USCG Auxiliary in collecting more VSC data in our revised online reporting system. The reporting changes will begin immediately following the kick-off presentation during the Safety Committee meeting at the 2012 USPS Annual Meeting in Jacksonville. As is currently done, each local squadron VSC Chairperson will enter the VSC reports online.

Basically, both organizations want to gather information on the reasons boats or owners do not pass the VSC. Currently about 25% do not pass. That information will be used to target strategies that may help prevent accidents and deaths. A few additional categories have been added to the reporting system including paddle boats like canoes and kayaks.

— Bob Miller

File below may take several minutes to load.  
 READ MORE [usps.org/national/vsc/vscdataool.pdf](http://usps.org/national/vsc/vscdataool.pdf)