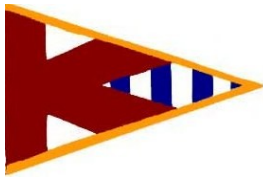


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



### Inside this Issue

Commander's Message	1
D9 Fall Conference	1
Congrats: New Retirees	1
Calendar: Events and Meetings	2
Classes	2
Merit Marks Due	3
Winterizing Tips	3
2011 KSPS Bridge Officers	4
Updating Roster	4
Nominating Committee	4

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

### Commander's Message

Leaves are beginning to turn here in Southwest Michigan and many have either pulled their boats from the water for the season or are hoping for a few more nice days. The **D9 Fall Conference** is less than a month away (**26-28 Oct**). We are contemplating decorations for the Friday night "Shores of Paradise" and the Saturday night "Islands" themes. The hotel has an indoor waterpark open from 9 am until 10 pm, so if you have kids or grandkids, bring them along. D9 Kids Crew available —contact Linda Lumpkin at 586-218-9255 by 5 Oct. It features a zero-entry ADA compliant swimming pool with full time lifeguards on duty, three story waterslide, lazy river, vortex, bubble seats and geysers, two large whirlpools, indoor running track, locker rooms with saunas, fitness center, video game arcade, and poolside snack bar.

Don't forget to register for the optional Saturday luncheon and/or dinner. Form is on the D9 website at [http://d9-usps.org/files/2012\\_D9\\_Fall\\_Conference.pdf](http://d9-usps.org/files/2012_D9_Fall_Conference.pdf) When booking a hotel room if you plan to stay over Friday or Saturday nights, be sure to mention USPS D9 Conference to get the special per night price of \$89-99. The Best Western Sterling Inn, Toll Free: (800) 953-1400 · Phone: (586) 979-1400 · Fax: (586) 979-7962 / Email: [Reservations@SterlingInn.com](mailto:Reservations@SterlingInn.com) **Directions:** Take I-94 East to North I-75 to East 696. Go North on Van Dyke Avenue 4 Miles to 15 Mile Road. Best Western Sterling Inn is located at 34911 Van Dyke Ave. on the Southwest corner of Van Dyke Avenue and 15 Mile Road.

### Two KSPS members retire

On Thursday, July 19, the Battle Creek Shopper ran this photo of Senior Health Partners Director Linda Grap, giving Jane Chappell a retirement gift during her party at Burnham Brook Center. Jane, an RN, has been providing health care to patients for 58 years.

Jane regularly teaches the first aid and health components for KSPS classes.

Also this summer, Nils Strand retired from the Federal Center in Battle Creek. Nils is our treasurer and teaches ABC in Battle Creek. Congratulations to both.



*KSPS Commander  
Lyndell R. Bleyer*



Photo and article by Shelly Sulser, Battle Creek Shopper

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

Tuesday - <b>9 October</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Executive Committee Meeting Brewsters - 5315 Portage Rd, left at first light south of I-94	<b>D9 Fall Conference Oct 26-27</b> Best Western - Sterling Heights Theme: Islands - Shores of Paradise <b>Details</b> and registration form at D9 web.	Tuesday - <b>13 November</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Chris & Diane: Hanson's Adventures Moonraker West (formerly the Hunt Club) 544 W Columbia BC (east of state police)
Friday - <b>7 December</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Annual KSPS Holiday Party Martells 3501 Greenleaf in Parkview Hills between Oakland & Drake	Tuesday - <b>11 December</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Executive Committee Moonraker West (formerly the Hunt Club) 544 W Columbia BC (east of state police)	Tuesday - <b>8 January</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Annual Meeting & Change of Watch The Beacon Club 5830 Portage Rd (southwest of airport)

### 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. The ABC and the DNR classes both qualify.

**ABC America's Boating Course** Starts Monday Oct 1  
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](http://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](http://www.kspusps.org) under education. Contact Wally Corder 269-365-3398 if interested in a class or seminar.

**Next Meeting - Tues. Oct 9**  
**Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**  
Social time 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7  
Brewsters - 5315 Portage Rd.  
Just north of the Kalamazoo Airport  
and just south of I-94 / hope to see you



A journey of 500 miles begins with  
a good set of navigation charts

### October Birthdays

01 Bob Sheppard	30 Craig Norrod
04 Dan Livingston	31 Harold Hladky
06 Laurel Henkel	
08 Gail Morton	
09 Winifred Meinert	
11 Greeta Douglass	
25 Tom Henkel	
29 Doug Mathewson	



### November Birthdays

15 Jerry Hendrickson
16 Tiquio Crespo
16 Stanley 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 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

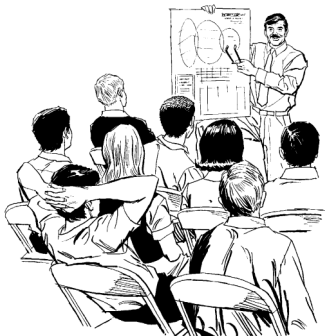
## Merit Marks are due by 31 October

A "merit mark" (MM) is awarded by the USPS chief commander for substantial personal effort in furthering the interest, programs and objectives of USPS, its districts and squadrons. It is a coveted award; it is by and large the only official recognition members receive for their efforts. While you can only earn one merit mark per year, those who started young and acquire 25 merit marks earn "Life Member" status, which eliminates their yearly dues.

Many of us joined too late in life to be members for 25 years, but we can still earn Merit Marks.

Our Merit Mark Committee - Tique Crespo, Karen and Nils Strand, review your lists and submit them to USPS, who has the final decision. Turn your list into Nils Strand, either by mail to 215 Dogwood Trl., Battle Creek 49017-5221 or by email to karenstrand@sbcglobal.net

Your list should include 1) your name, 2) brief description of activity, and 3) approximate date and hours. The following are examples of activities that count. I have included dates in parenthesis to help you get started.



Teaching two sessions of ABC or the state approved DNR class for kids (Wally or Harold's class: Feb 27 to Mar 26, Nils' class: Mar 22 - Apr 26, Wally fall ABC Oct 1-29) Mentoring, proctoring exams (4 sessions), teaching other classes or seminars also count. Volunteering at

squadron events such as the Portage Family Fish Fair (May 19), Greater Galesburg Parade (Jun 16). Nat'l Wear Your PFD photo event (May 19), Gull Lake VSC Day (Jun 9), Boats & Brats VSC day (23 Jun), VSC MM minimum = 10. USCG Parade (Aug 4), USPS Gov Brd (Sep 4-9), D9 Spring or Fall Conferences, writing articles, doing a presentation. Serving on a KSPS or D9 committee, serving as an Executive or Bridge Officer. If you are not sure what counts, ask Karen, Nils, Tique or any member of the KSPS Bridge. See <http://www.usps.org/newpublic2/meritmarks/criteria.pdf>



## Rules Committee revises Bylaws

Our Rules Committee, Phyllis Buskirk, George Gerpheide and George Tyler, Jr. have been busy this past spring and summer. It has been quite a while since we revised our squadron's bylaws. The committee began by reviewing the "standards" for bylaws at the USPS website and comparing that to ours.

National has realized that smaller squadrons need to be more flexible to allow those willing to volunteer to serve more than one consecutive term and reduced the number of required committees, activities and reports. Some of those no longer required duties are marked "reserved", so they can be added back if the squadron grows and wishes to take on more responsibility.

The Rules Committee first presented its findings and recommendations at the August Executive Committee meeting, and again at the September General Meeting, where the new KSPS Bylaws were approved with the only change being one comma to add clarity to a sentence. Thank you Phyllis, George and George for a job well done.

## Winterizing Tips by Fred Spiegelberg

**Topside & Deck Rigging** Examine your sailboat's standing rigging for wear on shrouds, blocks and tackle. Repair or replace as needed. Safety lines can fray and railing stanchions can come loose, so carefully inspect and repair as needed.

**Exterior finish** Check gel coat and paint for cracks and wear. Check caulking around hatches and portholes. Clean and, if needed, wax the boat's topside and hull. Wax lasts longer in cool weather.

**Mechanical equipment** If you don't use your anchor regularly, the heavy oil in the anchor winch gear box can break down in the summer heat. Changing the gear box oil helps ensure that your winch won't be frozen when you need it.

**Safety equipment** Check the expiration dates and overall condition of all safety equipment, including flares and fire extinguishers. Examine all personal flotation devices for damage and wear. Discard and replace worn or damaged life jackets. Replace old charts with up-to-date versions.

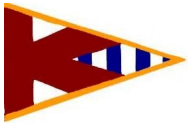
**Bottom paint and zincs** Examine bottom paint and sacrificial zincs after hauling.

**Water tanks** Clean and sanitize your boat's water tank according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

**Oil** Once broken in, most boat engines get about 200 hours or one year on an oil change. Fall is a good time to change the oil, because dirty oil can corrode your engine if left sitting in the sump all winter.

**Final reminders** While changing the oil, clean the engine room, check batteries for corrosion, and examine belts, filters, pumps and other small but important pieces of equipment that are often overlooked until they fail.





*Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron*  
*a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*

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



**2012 KSPS Bridge Officers** (please note new email for treasurer)

<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 Jim Johnston, P	269-375-8441 (home)	jimwj@hotmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	P/C Nils Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
<b>Secretary</b>	P/C Lois Whitmore, SN	269-345-4521 (home)	dogwood17@charter.net

**Calling for Roster Updates**

It's been a while since we distributed a printed copy of the KSPS roster. We are in the process of updating and need any changes you would like included. If you have a new email, phone number or postal address - those are critical to keeping you in the loop. We also like listing the name of your boat, sail, power or paddle and whether you trailer or have a favorite home port. Please send updated information to:  
 Bleyer@wmich.edu  
 or call Lyn at (269) 731-5601.

Here is an update to note in the roster you currently have: Since Nils has retired, his work email is no longer valid. Email Attn: Nils at karenstrand@sbcglobal.net His home phone remains the same, but his cell is now (269) 967-3821

**Nominating Committee needs you**

The KSPS Nominating Committee (Harold, Bill and Gary) is looking for people willing to serve as an elected member for the Rules, Auditing, Nominating or Executive Committees or as a Bridge Officer. Be pro-active, call or email Harold if you currently serve and are willing to renew your term, or if you are interested in getting involved.

Committee members help make the decisions that guide our squadron. Committee recommendations are often accepted as presented at Executive and General meetings.

If you're not sure what a committee does look in the Operations Manual or ask a current committee member (roster). It's a great way to get to know other squadron members. Email: Harold.Hladky@wmich.edu or (269) 274-1995