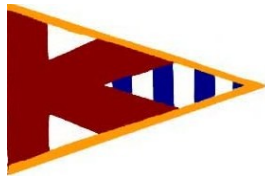


# The Pilot

## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



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### Commander's Message

Where is Spring? While I am disappointed that it's cold and snowy, I am not as mad as an Ohio prosecutor who has issued a death warrant for Puxnutawney Phil.

On 21 March, NOAA released a three-month U.S. Spring Outlook, forecasting above-average temperatures across much of the continental United States, including drought-stricken areas of Texas, the Southwest and the Great Plains. Spring promises little drought relief for most of these areas, as well as Florida, with below-average spring precipitation.

Fifty-one percent of the continental U.S. - primarily in the central and western regions - is in moderate to exceptional drought. River flooding is likely to be worse than last year across the country, with the most flood potential in North Dakota. For an interactive lake water site go to <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/now/wlevels/levels.html>



*KSPS Commander  
Lyndell R. Bleyer*

### Congratulations to our newest graduates:

John Anderson, Kim Brown, Jim White, and 2nd timers, Karen and Nils Strand just completed Engine Maintenance.

Our latest ABC graduates include Sylvia Ernst, Holly Krymis, Rita and Bob Bush.

All eight in our Young Boater's class also passed. After exams, we hand out their boating certificates in a little ceremony. Instead of having the young students mill around while they waited for their classmates to finish, our class coordinators set up a knot tying area in the hallway. Three KSPS volunteers helped students with their knots, while two other KSPS members scored exams.

Thanks to all who taught or helped with these classes: Dan L., Wally, Harold, Gail, Lois, Jim J., and Gary.

See page 2 for Next ABC Class dates

E-J.Ohler is well on his way to becoming a Vessel Examiner. He passed the exam, now he needs to perform 5 supervised Vessel Safety Checks.

We have a VSC day scheduled for June 8 at Gull Lake and two on June 29 in South Haven. Make plans to have your boat inspected.



**Download Charts** For those dreaming about that next boat trip you might take, many charts are now available for download. Visit:

[http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130128\\_freenauticalchartbooklets.html](http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2013/20130128_freenauticalchartbooklets.html)

Unfortunately the charts for July's Northern Michigan Inland Waterway trip are not currently available. (see page 3).



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

Friday & Saturday <b>April 5-6</b> <b>D9 Conference: Pontiac / Auburn Hills, MI</b> Age of Aquarius—Peace, Love and Boating Contest for best Tie Die outfit.	Tuesday - <b>9 April</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Jim Spurr: Wind and electricity / South Haven Maritime Museum's Fleet <b>Moonraker West</b> (former Hunt Club) 544 W Columbia BC (east of state police)	Tuesday - <b>14 May</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Capt. Bob McAlear: "Stars" of Saugatuck: Star of Saugatuck and the Keewatin <b>Brewsters</b> - 5315 Portage Rd, left at first light south of I-94
<b>Sat. - May 18</b> Kick off Safe Boating Week <b>Portage Family Fish Fair - Ramona Park</b> 8600 S. Sprinkle Rd (so of Zylman) 9 am to 1 pm Come help with activity and booth	Tuesday - <b>11 June</b> Time: 6:30 - 9 Executive Committee <b>Gull Lake View Golf Course</b> 7417 North 38th St M-89 at N 38th St (4 miles e of Richland)	Saturday <b>8 June</b> VSCs at Gull Lake Saturday <b>29 June</b> Time: 10am - 2 pm <b>Boats &amp; Brats—Vessel Safety Checks</b> Have your boat inspected at Black River Yacht Club or the public launch ramp.

### Spotlight on Education

Tell your friends, neighbors, relatives and slip mates

**ABC America's Boating Course - Portage/Kalamazoo**  
Next ABC class in Kalamazoo runs 4 nights-in-a-row **May 6 - 9** at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Class is 6-8 pm. Contact Wally. **ABC in Battle Creek** at Lakeview Middle School 300 S 28th St **Thurs. April 11 - May 16** (no class May 2) 7-9 pm Contact Nils.

**Seminars** are short 2 to 3 hour overviews of boating topics like weather, GPS, Anchoring, etc. Detailed descriptions of seminars at [www.ksp-usps.org](http://www.ksp-usps.org) under education. Contact Wally Corder 269-365-3398 if interested in a class or seminar.

The next seminar we would like to offer is Partner in Command. This class is great for spouses, children and friends of boaters, as well as those who want to train their passengers/crew on what to do if the skipper becomes disabled. Seminar is about 2.5 to 3 hours (depending on discussion & questions). Contact Wally Corder 269-365-3398 [wccorder@hotmail.com](mailto:wccorder@hotmail.com)

### Next Meeting - Tues. April 9

#### Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Social time 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7

Jim Spurr: Wind and electricity /  
South Haven Maritime Museum's Fleet  
Moonraker West 544 W Columbia, B.C.



**Sawyer - An uprooted tree floating in a river but held fast at one end. Often responsible for puncturing the hull.**

#### April Birthdays

01 Ron Voelker  
03 Dan Seng & Glenn Hahn  
04 Kathy Rose  
09 James White

#### May Birthdays

4 Kent Choate  
12 Judy Dorais  
14 Ron McPhee  
16 L. John Goes  
23 Dieter Valk  
26 Gary Bleyer  
26 John Penniman



If your birthday is missing, send month and day for your birthday to Lyn

## Basic Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives— Call contact for updates & to register

Course	When	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	April 11-May 6 2013	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	May 6-9 2013	Wally Corder	269-365-3398	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12 - 16): Kalamazoo	Feb 18-Mar 18 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	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
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 2013	How about you?	Could you mentor	or teach AP? Call Wally
Junior Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation (South Bend S&PS)	Jan 31 / 10 weeks	Harry Bailiff/J.Stevens	574-293-8888	bailh42@msn.com
Cruise Planning CP (Mon 6-8:30)	Mar 2015	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance (Wed 6-8 pm)	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

## SkyWarn Weather Observers



Become a weather spotter. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the **National Weather Service (NWS)**.

Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN® spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States.

Local weather observers are an essential part of the NWS forecast and warning program. The NWS relies on reports from local weather observers to gauge how severe a storm is, how much snow or rain has fallen, or how quickly our streams and creeks are rising. In addition, the NWS relies on a smaller group of volunteer observers, who on a daily basis, take temperature and precipitation measurements to monitor our climate.

The Storm and Snow spotter networks are open to anyone interested. The next training session is in **Battle Creek on Saturday March 30th / 10 am** at Lakeview Middle School auditorium, 300 S. 28th St and West Columbia BC. **Preregistration is recommended.**

<http://www.w8df.com/>

The training is about two hours. It is a great review for anyone who has taken the USPS weather class. The presentation includes spectacular footage of many different types of storms, including tornadoes. They teach about the different conditions that precede a storm, so you will know what to look for and how and what type of conditions to report to the NWS in Grand Rapids via an 800 number or via ham radio. There is no test. You will receive a booklet that will help you interpret these conditions. These observer programs are voluntary and the level of participation is up to you.

## Squadron Boat Trip July 1 and 2

According to the [Indian River Chamber of Commerce](#), Northern Michigan's Inland Waterway is a unique adventure sure to please any boating enthusiast. Whether you are looking for a leisurely excursion filled with wildlife and scenic beauty, or a more active journey with water skiing, tubing, swimming, fishing, or dining, the Inland Waterway is the perfect place for you.

The chain of lakes and rivers start in either Pickerel Lake or Crooked Lake and take you over 38 miles to Lake Huron through two locks, three large lakes, and three beautiful rivers.

A small group of KSPS boaters plan to make the trip on Monday and Tuesday, July 1 and 2. The waterway is quieter during the week than on weekends. (All are invited).

### **The Northern Michigan Inland Waterway:**

- Can handle boats up to 65 feet long (18 foot beam) with up to a 5 foot draft. Although, navigating the Crooked River in anything over 25 foot can be challenging..
- Route has two bridges along the way that do not open. Lincoln Ave Bridge has a vertical clearance of 20 feet and M-33 Highway Bridge has a vertical clearance of 16.7 feet. •Route is 38.2 miles long. •Route features two locks. Cheboygan River Lock and the Crooked River Lock.
- Longest distance between gas stops is 10 miles.
- At the waterway's north end, you're just 15 miles from Mackinac Island, 18 miles to the Mackinaw Bridge, 21 miles to the Les Cheneaux Islands, 60 miles to the North Channel, and 80 miles to the Soo Locks.

For those who do not have a trailered boat, we are considering renting a houseboat from Windjammer Marina that sleeps 6. The boat is 30' and has one large room. So we need 3 compatible couples. The cost of rental, lock fees, dock/slip fees, gas, food (3 days) would be about \$380 per person. If you are interested in going on the houseboat, contact Lyn Bleyer (269) 731-5601. If interested in bringing your own boat to join our fleet, contact Jim Johnston (269) 375-8441. If you want to spend the night in a motel, rather than aboard your boat, make a reservation in Cheboygan right away, as rooms are going fast.

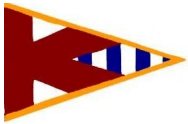
<http://www.fishweb.com/maps/inlandwater/index.html>



## Come to Woodstock



Did you miss the original Woodstock in August 1969? Travel back, as we turn our Hospitality room into that hippy haven on Friday night April 5 at the District 9 Spring Conference: **Peace, Love & Boats.**



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

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

**2013 KSPS Bridge Officers**

(please note new email for treasurer, put Attn Nils in subject line)

<b>Commander</b>	Cdr Lyn Bleyer, P	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
<b>Executive Officer</b>	vacant		
<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 Karen Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net

**Lake Michigan Paddle Water Trail**



Back in 1972, when we lived in Muskegon, Gary and his 16 year old cousin Mark, headed out the Muskegon Channel into Lake Michigan in an aluminum canoe. They were quickly stopped and turned back by a Sheriff's patrol, with

just a warning. Now a 1,600 mile Lake Michigan Water Trail exists for paddlers – kayak and canoe. The newly opened stretch from Chicago to New Buffalo is 75 miles. WMU associate professor, Dave Lemberg, is the coordinator for the Michigan segment.

**Weather and Amateur Radio Training**



Sat. March 30th / 10 am SKYWARN training class – become a weather observer. (details on page 3).  
 Lakeview Middle School auditorium, 300 S. 28th St and W Columbia BC.

Sat. May 4 / 10am-4pm Ham in a Day: Earn a Technician or General License.

More Details for both events at Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society. Advance registration form at: <http://www.w8df.com/>