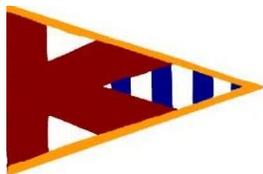


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



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Hope you had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend with family or friends. We celebrated two birthdays last weekend and had loads of good food and friendship on Saturday and Monday.

The tornado sirens went off Tuesday night at 23:15. However, we can only hear them on the first Saturday of the month, if we are outside and the wind is calm when they are tested.

Everyone should have a weather radio at home and on their boat. Ours went off three times that night. We went straight from thunderstorm warning to tornado warning, as both the weather service and TV weather staff spotted rotation aloft. Luckily, the rotation stayed aloft and the storm moved through our area quickly. Average warning is only 13 minutes.

It's been 50 years since the F5 tornado in Michigan (1956). The Hudsonville-Standale tornado killed 18 and injured 340. On 13 May 1980, an F3 tornado struck downtown Kalamazoo, Michigan, killing 5 people and injuring 79. Severe weather can happen in Michigan. Everyone should have a plan, and a place to take shelter, away from windows, in an interior room or basement. Take the weather seminar so you know the basics, or take the full 20 hour weather course.

I am declaring this month — **“Take a Friend or Child Boating”**. Introduce them to the lure of the water. Whether you just go for a short ride or spend time fishing, you will both enjoy the shared experience of boating.

Be sure to acquaint them with the rules of boating before you head out. Show them where the life jackets are, and show them how to put one on.



*KSPS Commander
Lyndell R. Bleyer*



They should also know where all the safety items are and how they can help.

Actually, we are offering the 2.5 hour seminar— **Partner in Command**, which is *Suddenly in Command* for the new boat owner. This seminar is perfect for preparing those who go boating with you. This seminar is also perfect for that neighbor or friend with a new boat.

The seminar is only 2.5 hours long, (may be longer if there are lots of questions). Seminar is designed to provide essential information that a person should know to assist a skipper in the safe operation of a recreational boat.

Included in the seminar are actions in response to emergencies. Cost: \$30 We will schedule a date based on best time for the group. Call Wally if interested (269) 365-3398

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

<p>Saturday 8 June 10 am - 2pm Vessel Safety Checks - VSCs at Gull Lake Have your boat inspected for FREE. Takes about 20 minutes.</p>	<p>22 June - Classic Boat Show and Small Craft Festival, 10 am to 4 pm South Haven Maritime Museum. www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org</p>	<p>Mon - Tue July 1-2 Come explore the Northern Michigan Inland Waterway from Petosky to Cheboygan and back. Contact Jim (269) 375-8441</p>
<p>Tuesday - 11 June Time: 6:30 - 9 Executive Committee Gull Lake View Golf Course 7417 North 38th St M-89 at N 38th St (4 miles E of Richland)</p>	<p>Saturday 29 June Time: 10am - 2 pm Boats & Brats—Vessel Safety Checks Have your boat inspected at Black River Yacht Club or the public launch ramp.</p>	<p>August - date to be determined Picnic at Soules in South Haven Celebrating membership renewal</p>

Spotlight on Education

Tell your friends, neighbors, relatives and slip mates

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 under education. if interested in a class or seminar, Contact Wally Corder (269) 365-3398 We need 2 weeks lead time to order materials.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS: The next seminar we will 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 to have a safe voyage. It includes what to do if the skipper becomes disabled.

Seminar is about 2.5 to 3 hours (depending on discussion & questions). Wally (269) 365-3398

Instructor Recertification Thursday 12 Sept. 12 7-9 pm at Wally's. Recertification is a 4 hour course required by volunteers who teach public courses.

Next Meeting - Tues. 11 June

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Tues **11 June** Social time 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7

Gull Lake View Golf Course (address in calendar)

We will have a Woodstock - 1969 theme
 Wear tie-dye, bell bottoms or hippie garb.



June Birthdays

- 6 Richard Walter
- 12 Maurizio Galbreath
- 13 Ross Elliott
- 16 Bruce Dorais
- 18 Holly Krymis
- 19 Maris Soule
- 20 Susan Norrod
- 22 Laura Elliott
- 23 Bill Tassie
- 24 James Henning
- 25 Diana Goes
- 26 Jane Chappell



July Birthdays

- 6 George Tyler Jr.
- 7 Chris Hansen
- 9 E-J Ohler
- 19 Phyllis Buskirk
- 23 Bob McNally
- 25 Denny Segar
- 27 Kyle Brown
- 29 Pamela Wright

Special Events

Remember: No meeting, no newsletter in July



Saturday June 8 Five KSPS Vessel Examiners will be at Prairieville Twp Park ramp at the north end of Gull Lake to conduct Free Vessel Safety Checks from 9 am to 2 pm.

A law passed last year prevents Peace Officers from boarding boats for random inspection, unless there is a

visible violation (like OUI or lack of life jackets or erratic behavior). But this only applies to boats that have the current year Vessel Safety Decal displayed. Avoid a fine. Get your VSC early this season. Come to one of these events or go to USPS.org and click on I want a Vessel Exam, then put in the zip code closest to where you boat.

BOATS and BRATS - Saturday 29 June 10 am - 3 pm South Haven. South Bend and Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadrons host this joint event.

Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs) will be available at both the city municipal ramp on Dunkley, (turn north just before the draw bridge, follow Dunkley to end) and at the Black River Yacht Club or at any location in South Haven that day.

Brats will only be available at the Black River Yacht Club, bottom of Oak St. VSCs are free. Brats and all the fixings are available for a donation of \$7 to cover costs. These are Johnsonville brats on a delicious bun, all the condiments, plus baked beans, pickle, chips, cookies and beverage. This event is rain or shine. Let's hope for NO rain.



Our Brains and Boating



Detroit Power Squadron
Educational Officer/Lt/C
Margaret Schneider, JN
Phone 586-243-8797

schneiderm@dteenergy.com

We've heard plenty about the dangers of distracted driving - disastrous results have occurred while people were driving and texting or talking on the phone. Well, it should come as no surprise that distracted boating is no less dangerous. After all, some of us are piloting a vessel at high speed, and some of us are operating on an angle with a big sail blocking much of our view. None of us have the luxury of having the other vessels in lanes - other boats can appear from any direction, and it only takes a short period of inattention to find ourselves in a dangerous situation.

Many of you will say, "I don't use my phone out on the water, this doesn't apply to me". We as boaters, however, have lots of other shiny toys to distract us. We have instruments for depth, speed, and wind, GPS/chart plotter, radar, radio, AIS, autopilot, and engine gauges. It is deceptively easy to get so caught up in looking at all the screens, dials, and indicators that you forget to actually look where you are going. While you are busy punching buttons on the chart plotter to try and figure out how to create a new route, it is easy to miss the small fishing boat that is drifting into your path. While you are fussing with the autopilot trying to remember how to make it steer by the wind, it is easy to miss the other sailboat that has tacked, and is now barreling toward you on a starboard tack.

All of these whiz bang gadgets give us access to a remarkable amount of information that can make us safer, and make boating easier, but only if we know how to use them properly. They can free us to pay more attention to what's going on around us, or they can suck us in and cause us to lose track of the outside world.

So, take the time to read the manual at home, play with your toys while at the dock, and take a seminar to learn how to make the best use of your gadgets - in other words, educate yourself! And if you find that there is some new toy that you cannot resist playing with - that is taking your eyes off the water - post a lookout, or better yet, put someone else in charge altogether. As they used to say in Hill Street Blues, "Hey, let's be careful out there".

Class of 2013

We had so many students take America's Boating Course this Spring, that I will have to redo the KSPS Roster. In the meantime, I am providing a list of their names and email so we can stay in touch and be sure to invite them to events. Respect privacy ! Do not use email for non-squadron purposes.

E262843 Richard A. Brown Rbrown6221@aol.com

E262853 Jeanette L. Brown Jbrown6221@aol.com

E262848 Kyle D. Brown viper14306@gmail.com

E260042 Robert Bush rjbush11@aol.com

E260041 Rita Bush rbushrn@aol.com

E262850 Ross Elliott Relliott@mei.net

E262844 Laura A. Elliott Lelliott@mei.net

E262849 Brenda R. Ellis cessnaellis@aol.com

E260044 Sylvia Ernst sylvia.ernst@rocketmail.com

E260043 Holly Krymis hkrymis@gmail.com

E262851 Megan N. LaBerteaux mbrown416@att.net

E262845 Michael LaBerteaux hpoirot1414@yahoo.com

E262854 Gary Lett goirishnow@yahoo.com

E262855 Eric Lewis gentlemenonenow@live.com

E262034 James Maceroni jj92403@gmail.com

E262856 Bob McNally (no email)

E262852 Mary F. Purchase purchasem@hotmail.com

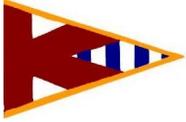
E262846 Denny Segar murdock725@aol.com

E262847 Mindy S. Segar mililac125@yahoo.com

E262857 Ivan S. Wilson iswilson1949@gmail.com

When you see someone new at a meeting or event, be sure to say hello, and make them feel welcome.





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Lyndell Bleyer, Editor
 6553 N 37th St
 Richland MI 49083

bleyer@wmich.edu

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

2013 KSPS Bridge Officers

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

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

Membership Renewal Time

Please consider renewing. Both KSPS and USPS have lots to offer. The classes developed by USPS and taught locally by KSPS volunteers are first rate. Most advanced grade courses are 20 hours or more, while the elective classes can be 16 or more hours. If you don't have that much time, consider one of many 2 to 3 hour seminars.

There are also many great discounts and offers available through USPS in the Member Benefits section of the website. These include boating related discounts from marine supply outfits, as well as discounts on car rental, hotel stays, prescription drugs, and even pet insurance.

Check out the benefits at
http://www.usps.org/national/admin_dept/membenefits.htm



We also try to bring in speakers on a range of topics interesting to boaters and schedule events through out the year to provide you with ways to stay in touch with old friends and meet new ones.

Pictured : New member, Jim White, is sworn in at May's meeting. He already passed Engine Maintenance.