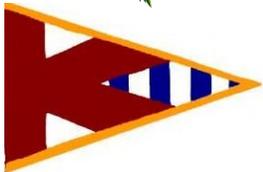


# The Pilot



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

**Inside this Issue**

<b>Commander's Message</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Calendar: Events</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>KSPS Classes/Seminars</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>New Shipwrecks Found in Northern Lake Mich.</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>USPS, Sea Scouts and KSPS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2014 KSPS Bridge Officers</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Jacksonville 2015</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Nominations (cont'd)</b>	<b>4</b>



## Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

*a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*

At the December meeting, we will open the floor to nominations for Bridge, Executive, Auditing, Rules and Nominating Committee positions. As you know, there are decisions to be made and squadron, district or national tasks that need to be completed to keep our squadron running smoothly and to meet the expectations set forth by the United States Power Squadrons, our parent organization.

Here are brief descriptions of the positions. A more detailed description can be found at <http://www.usps.org/national/om/pdfs/opsman05.pdf> or by asking any of the officers who have served before. It is important to have members take on these leadership roles. Many of the duties of each bridge officer are supported by other members who assist with planning and

carrying out tasks that fall under each officer or department.

The Commander (Cdr) oversees the business of the squadron, facilitates squadron meetings and has a voting seat on the District Council (which meets twice a year right before the District Conference business meeting). Recently, the commander has served for two years in a row. I will serve my 2nd year in 2015.

The **Squadron Educational Officer (SEO)** is very important, as one of the three sides of the USPS triangle is education. The SEO encourages members to take classes, appoints and interacts with course coordinators, and oversees the paperwork required by national for course registration and exams. The SEO typically serves for 3 years. Wally Corder has been our SEO for 5 years and is ready to pass the torch to someone new. Wally will work with the new SEO to acquaint them with the process. SEO details at <http://www.usps.org/national/om/pdfs/opsman06.pdf>

The **Executive Officer (XO)** oversees vessel safety checks and public relations. The **Administrative Officer (AO)** oversees membership, recruitment and retention, as well as activities. The AO helps set the speakers, events and meeting places.



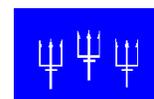
**KSPS Commander  
Jim Johnston**

The **Treasurer (Treas)** manages the budget, keeping track of revenue and expenses. Squadron Property and the Ship's Store fall under the Treas area. Nils Strand is willing to continue as Treasurer.

The **Secretary (Sec)** takes and distributes minutes of the meetings, oversees communication with members, the public, district and national. The Roster, telephone tree, newsletter editor and historian fall under the secretary's watch. Lyn will continue as newsletter/web editor.

The **Executive Committee (ExCom)** consists of up to six elected officers, who along with the bridge, are the only ones who vote at Executive Committee meetings. All members (except Apprentice) vote at the General Meetings. The ExCom acts as a board of directors and advises the commander on most aspects of squadron activities, including expenditures. The ExCom also approves nominations for membership, associate membership, honorary membership and for transfers into the squadron.

(continued on page 4)



*Jim Johnston*  
**KSPS Commander**

**Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings**

**(mark your personal calendar or post on fridge or mirror)**

At General meetings speaker / presentation follows dinner. Executive Committee: - business meeting after dinner. Order off the menu (range \$8 - \$26). Prices higher at conference, COW, and holiday party. RSVP required at these last three. Be sure to check this month's location. RSVP if indicated. RSVP not needed at Brewsters, Gull Lake View or Moonraker. Questions: call Lyn (269) 731-5601 or Jim 375-8441

~~~~~  
**Friday 5 December 2014**

**6:30 pm - approx. \$25 per person + cash bar**

**KSPS Holiday Dinner**

Salmon, Prime Rib, Ravioli, or Penne Pasta w/ Chicken

**RSVP—Jim J. (269) 375-8441**

**jimwj@hotmail.com**

**Martell's in Parkview Hills**

**3501 Greenleaf Blvd**

**Oakland Drive Exit, north of I-94**

**right or east on Whites/Parkview**

**Turn into Parkview Hills**

**Optional - bring a gift for Toys for Tots**

~~~~~  
**Tues 9 December / 6:30 social time, 7 dinner**

**Executive Committee Meeting - Everyone Welcome**

**Accepting Nominations for Change of Watch**

**Moonraker West, 544 W Columbia Ave, Battle Creek**

~~~~~  
**Friday 12 December 2014**

**Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio**

**Holiday Party at Old China Buffet**

**2580 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek (N of I-94)**

**Chinese, Seafood, Sushi, Thai, Vegetarian, Vegan**

**\$8.99 per person**

~~~~~  
**Tues 13 January / 6:30 social time, 7 dinner**

**about \$25 per person + cash bar**

**KSPS Change of Watch**

**Election of 2015 Bridge & Officers**

**Beacon Club**

**5830 Portage Rd**

**about 2 miles south of I-94**

**about a mile south of airport**

**RSVP—Karen Strand— (269) 964-6690**

***Spotlight on Education***

Tell your friends, neighbors, relatives and slip mates Contact Wally Corder (269) 365-3398 We need to order course materials at least 2 weeks before class. For more detailed course content description visit our website at <http://www.ksps-usps.org>

Although the classroom versions of our USPS seminars are the most beneficial, USPS and BoatUS are offering 1) Weather for Boaters: Forecasting Winds and Storms 2) Partner in Command, and 3) Boating on Rivers, Locks and Lakes - online for \$49 each. For details. Go to [www.usps.org/e\\_stuff/seminars.htm](http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/seminars.htm)

[www.americasboatingcourse.com/seminars.cfm](http://www.americasboatingcourse.com/seminars.cfm)

**Offered LOCALLY:**

**Knots, Bends and Hitches** - a 2 hour seminar a hands-on "learn how to tie knots" program geared to a wide range of audiences. Instructor: Joe Mills. Contact Joe 375-4414 (eve) or Wally Corder 269-365-3398 Date: TBD



**America's Boating Course 2015** Materials \$35, additional family sharing materials only \$10 more. Next ABC classes are planned for late winter/early spring in both Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. 5 week course.

**Marine Electronics** offered fall 2015 - if there are at least 5 students. ME 101: Boat Electrical Systems, ME 102: Marine Radio Communications, and ME 103: Marine Electronics for Navigation. 9 weeks each. Take one or take all 3 Marine Electronics courses. Potential location: Ross Twp Hall, just south of Gull Lake. Date: TBD Contact: Gary or Lyn Bleyer 731-5601

**A sincere apology is a good way to have the last word.**

**Birthdays**

**Birthday not listed? Please let Lyn know.**

***December Birthdays***

- 5 J. Scott Levene
- 7 Verle Wiita
- 8 Rise' Landeros
- 8 Gary Lett
- 12 Dave Tuls
- 27 Glen Douglass
- 27 Sid Durham
- 27 Jerry Johnson



***January Birthdays***

- 12 Rita Bush
- 19 Aaron Wright
- 30 Beverly Love

## New Shipwrecks Found in Northern Lake Michigan



Ross Richardson, a diver and author who lives near Grand Haven, MI, was looking for undiscovered wrecks and found a group of them around the

Island of Skillagalee, between Beaver Island and Cross Village. A reef system about 4 ft. under the water was responsible for many of the wrecks. Winter storms, ice, and waves then moved them to deeper water over the years.

Ross believes that one of the boats he found is the side-wheel steamer, *A. D. Patchin*, a 226 foot - long wooden vessel that grounded in September 1850. The crew escaped but weather thwarted attempts to refloat the vessel. This incident resulted in the lighthouse being built on the Island of Skillagalee.

Another of the four wrecks near this site might be the *Julia Dean*, a 150 ft. brig (a two-masted, square-rigged ship with an additional gaff sail on the mainmast). In 1855, her captain blamed Beaver Island pirates for the ship's sinking.

During his dives this past summer, Ross kept a record of each discovery using a GoPro camera attached to a pole. The technique was successfully developed by a South African diver. The Lake Michigan videos have now been posted on YouTube.

Ross, has been a presenter at our squadron meetings, and will be back next spring. Be sure to come and hear about these and other discoveries in Lake Michigan. Skillagalee Island is located in northeast Lake Michigan.



The photo is courtesy of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association.

## USPS, Sea Scouts and KSPS



Photo courtesy of Boy Scouts of America / Sea Scouts

The United States Power Squadron and Boy Scouts of America (BSA) have been working together for decades to help foster the development of Sea Scouts. Local power squadrons assist Sea Scouts by offering the classes and hands-on boating experience needed by scouts to advance in rank. Some squadrons go even further by sponsoring a Sea Scout Ship.

Skipper (scout leader) Paul Walker has approached KSPS to establish a cooperative relationship between his group the Marshall "Sea Scout Ship" and our squadron (Ship is a local unit of Sea Scouts). Details of this proposed collaboration will be presented for approval at the December Executive Committee meeting. Under this arrangement, KSPS would offer educational assistance through presentation of ABC, seminars and other USPS courses as needed by the Sea Scouts to advance in rank (Seamanship, Sailing, Introduction to Navigation and Charts section of ABC, Cruise Planning, etc.).

On a voluntary basis, KSPS members could provide on-the-water opportunities for the Sea Scouts. No KSPS member is obligated to invite scouts to crew on their boats. The Marshall Sea Scouts currently have five boys who range in age from 13 to 16. Sea Scouts may be male or female. The maximum troop number for our local Sea Scout Ship would probably be twelve.

According to the USPS Operations Manual, Apprentice/Sea Scout membership is \$12 annually and extends from age 12 to end of the dues year of the person's 23rd birthday. Apprentice/Sea Scout members receive The Ensign.

KSPS is not "sponsoring a Ship" since that has been accomplished through the Marshall United Methodist Church. The scouts will join KSPS as apprentice members and participate in our meetings and activities as is appropriate for that designation. The scouts will also be available to assist in boating and civic activities of the squadron, as appropriate to KSPS and Scouting. Two certified adults with BSA ID are needed for all scout classes and activities. Only those squadron members who teach or work with Sea Scouts or their Ship will need to follow procedures that result in a BSA background check to obtain a Boy Scouts of America BSA ID.



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

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**Come for the Boating Education ...**  
**Stay for the Friends <sup>SM</sup>**



Page 4

## 2014 KSPS Bridge Officers (please note email for treasurer, put Attn Nils in subject line)

<b>Commander</b>	Cdr James W. Johnston, P	269-375-8441 (home)	jimwj@hotmail.com
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Lt/C Wally Corder, P	269-365-3398 (cell)	wccorder@hotmail.com
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	Lt/C E-J Ohler	269-343-2567 W /760-5862	ej@wilsonbrinker.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	P/C Nils Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	swegian63@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	P/C Karen Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	swegian63@gmail.com

### USPS 101st Annual Meeting in Jacksonville 2015

Join us as we start our 101st year in Jacksonville, Florida, at our Annual Meeting, 18-25 Jan., at the Hyatt Jacksonville Riverfront. Go to the National Meetings Committee website for details, including newsletters and the latest agenda. Hotel Discount cutoff deadlines are 14 Dec., and rooms sell out quickly, so book now! Email: Bob Holub rHolub@optonline.net <http://www.usps.org/php/reservations/meetings.php>

Can't travel to Florida, then reserve April 24-25 for the District 9 Spring Conference. There is a hot tub in every sleeping room.

Looking for an unusual gift? Find something nautical at the USPS Ship's Store <http://store.shopusps.org/>

### Nominations (continued)

Three other committees have elected positions. These are Auditing, Bylaws and Nominating Committees.

**Auditing** typically meets late winter/spring to review KSPS revenue and expenditure reports and documentation. The **Bylaws** Committee meets as needed to review changes in District or National bylaws to ensure KSPS is in sync. Last time bylaws had to be revised was 2012. The **Nominating** Committee meets several times every year (late summer through fall) reviewing openings for the upcoming Change of Watch. This committee welcomes nominations from members and attempts to match member skills with duties of each position. Please consider helping the squadron by serving in one of these bridge or committee positions.