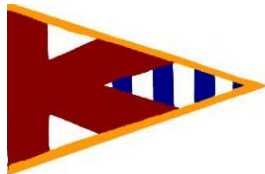


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



*KSPS Commander
Lyndell R. Bleyer*

Best wishes for a Happy Healthy and Prosperous New Year

2013 and my second year as Commander are coming to their ends. Many thanks to all the squadron members who made this year a success. We had 21 members earn a merit mark this year. That's almost a third of our 70 members, who volunteered above and beyond expectations to earn their merit mark. Some of our members live more than 25 miles from where we hold meetings and classes in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo or events in South Haven, and a few are snow birds who winter down south or are "live-aboards" who are gone all summer. Considering those obstacles, we have a pretty active squadron.

We had 21 students pass America's Boating Course and a dozen teens pass our Youth Boating Safety class. We are hoping for equally large classes this spring. We offered: the 9 week Weather (WX) and Engine Maintenance (EM) courses, one seminar on Sail Trim and one on Sextants. We had a dozen recertify to be instructors. We picked up four new members from USPS cyber space and one from a local ABC class and one who wanted to become a Vessel Examiner.

At the Portage Family Fish Fair, we did community outreach with safety tips for parents and children on how to properly fit a life jacket and lead a hands-on exercise in how to reach or throw, rather than go in the water to rescue a person.

Our seven Vessel Examiners performed 71 boat inspections. We added one new VE and recertified a former VE.

We had seven meetings with a presentation including: Alaska by Sea, Diving for Ship Wrecks, the Stars of Saugatuck, South Haven's Friends of Goodwill, Retrieval and Restoration of a WWII bomber, the squadron trip on the Northern Michigan Inland Waterway and a year ago - "2012: a Year-in-Review".

Please come to the Change of Watch on 14 January to help us celebrate the accomplishments of 2013 and look forward to 2014 with the election of our officers. Come honor those who have volunteered their time to make the Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron a source of boating knowledge and boating friendships.

I want to welcome incoming Administrative Officer E-J Ohler to the Bridge. Wally Corder is returning as Squadron Educational Officer, as is Diane Hansen, the Assistant SEO, Nils Strand will continue as Treasurer, and Karen Strand will serve another year as Secretary.

New to the Executive Committee is Jim White. Returning ExCom members are George Gerpheide, Harold Hladky, Gary Bleyer and George Tyler. Mike Galbreath will move from ExCom to Auditing, where he will join Gail Hladkly and Judy Dorais. Returning on the Rules Committee are our two George's and Phyllis Buskirk. And of course, with a drum roll. . . our new Commander. . . Jim Johnston. If you haven't been to a meeting in awhile (or ever), don't miss the COW - a great time to come and renew acquaintances or make new friends, see old class mates or put a face with that person who has been calling or emailing you about squadron events.

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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

Tuesday - January 14 2014

Change of Watch 6:15 pm

Be sure to arrive by 7pm for dinner
Beacon Club - 5830 Portage Rd
about 2 miles south of I-94
see page 4 for meal details and RSVP.
Everyone Welcome

Tuesday February 11: - Ross Richardson

The Wrecks of Sleeping Bear Point

Moonraker West - Everyone Welcome
544 W Columbia Ave, Battle Creek

Strictly Sail - Chicago

When: January 23-26, 2014

Where: Navy Pier, Festival Hall A&B,
600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago IL 60611
<http://www.strictlysailchicago.com/>

Cost varies	At Door / In Advance
Mon-Thur.	\$20 / \$14
Friday-Sunday	\$24 / \$19

Boats and Free hourly seminars open to everyone!

If you want to car pool or go as a group. . .
Call or Email Jim Johnston 375-8441

Grand Rapids Boat Show

When: February 19-23.
<http://showspan.com/GRB/>

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.kspusps.org>

Weather Class - 9 weeks began Thursday 10 Oct
Time 7-9 pm **Contact: George Tyler Jr. (269) 671-4560**

Seamanship (the first advanced grade class after ABC)
Offered beginning March or April 2014. 9 weeks.
Contact: Karen (269) 964-6690

America's Boating Course 2014
Take it as a refresher or encourage relatives, friends, and slipmates to take it. Materials \$35, additional family sharing materials only \$5 more.

ABC - Spring 2014 - Mar 3 - 31 2014 - (5 weeks)
Offered in Kalamazoo **Contact: Wally (269) 365-3398**
Time 6-8 pm. Milwood Magnet School

Boating Safety for Youth - Mar 3 - 31 2014 - (5 weeks)
Contact: Harold (269) 274-1995 Offered at the same time & location as adult ABC class in Kalamazoo, but in a separate classroom. Cost: \$5 Register at (269) 337-0446

ABC - Winter 2014 - Mar, Apr or May - (5 weeks)
Offered in Battle Creek at Lakeview Middle School.
Contact: Nils or Karen (269) 964-6690

Now and then, in our pursuit of happiness,
it's good to pause and just be happy.

Birthdays

January Birthdays

- 1 Gary Morton
- 8 Richard Rakow
- 12 Rita Bush
- 19 Aaron Wright
- 23 Julie Hakken
- 27 Larry Trent
- 29 Robert Bush
- 30 Beverly Love



February Birthdays

- 5 Linda Tuls
- 7 Ray Shoemaker
- 10 Sharon Mathewson
- 11 Jerry Love
- 11 James Johnston
- 13 Linda Mills
- 14 Ronald Sons
- 23 Janet Boyce
- 24 Brenda Ellis

New Years Resolutions from the USPS Marketing/ PR Committee

I'm an experienced boater: Resolutions you ask?
Remembering rules is really a task.
To set the record straight and clear the confusion,
Let me explain my New Year's resolutions.

I'll turn on my blower, when cruising at slow
'Cause CO is odorless and deadly, you know.
I'll check all my flares especially their date.
In an emergency, there's no time to wait.

I wear a life jacket when voyaging around,
in most fatalities, the victim is drowned.
I'll vow CPR to learn and more
When emergency's aboard, help's away on the shore

When pumping my fuel I'll surely take care
Flying is fun, but not blown in the air.
When setting my anchor, the it's 7 to 1
'Cause drifting on shoals is really no fun.

I'll monitor my fuel, the rule of thirds
Going to empty, is more than absurd.
I'll check the forecast and watch the sky
with rain you get wet, but with lightning you die.

I'll go into new waters; chart and GPS in hand
what looks tawny water, could actually be land.
There's navigational hazards, pilings, shoals as you
know.
And local charts could save you a tow.

With a man overboard, my engines I'll stop
And avoid lancing him with my razor sharp prop.
And I'll never use alcohol when I'm the skipper
For under the influence we become Jack the Ripper
I truly love cruising: avoid every mistake.
But there's times I forget my vessel's big wake.
In the spirit of the New Year I'll take time to pause.
Remembering the injuries that those waves could
cause

These are my resolutions along with explanations
a safer boater is my expectation.
I'll do things right and forget my remorse.
Everyone needs US Power Squadron courses.

Happy and Safe New Year

Greg Scotten gscotten@comcast.net

Merit Marks

The following members volunteered time to teach a class, proctor an exam, plan and staff events, serve on a committee or Bridge, or help promote safe boating and the squadron in some way.

	Taught or Proctored	Plan/ Staff Events	Bridge or Committee	Other	Merit Mark
Lyn Bleyer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gary Bleyer	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Phyllis Buskirk	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lance Conrad				Y	Y
Wally Corder	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tique Crespo	Y		Y		Y
Mike Galbreath		Y	Y		Y
Geo. Gerpheide	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chris Hansen	Y		Y	Y	Y
Diane Hansen	Y		Y	Y	Y
Gail Hladky	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Harold Hladky	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jim Johnston	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bob Landeros				Y	
Bill Soule		Y		Y	
Maris Soule		Y		Y	Y
Karen Strand	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nils Strand	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
George Tyler	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lois Whitmore	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y





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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)

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

Last Call for Change of Watch

Tuesday 14 January 2014, we have our squadron's Change of Watch. Come celebrate as Jim Johnston becomes our new commander. It begins at 6:15 with drinks and social time, sitting for dinner at 7 pm. The **Beacon Club** is allowing us to order off the menu at a cost lower than the usual four preset entrees. Meals will range from a smaller bistro plate \$12 and up (if you are now trying to watch your weight) to the usual more than you should eat at one sitting – with Seafood starting at \$21 and Meat Lovers starting at \$18.

Those attending the COW should RSVP to Karen Strand. However, you do not need to select your meal in advance, just let Karen know you are coming to set a place for you. (269) 964-6690 or karenstrand@sbcglobal.net

