

The Pilot

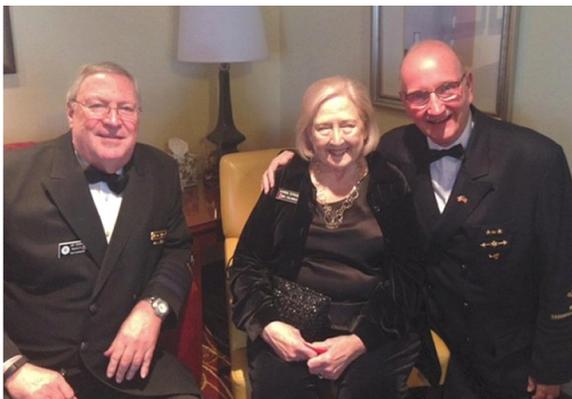


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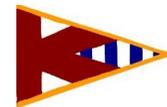
Below: Saturday night at the Fall District 9 Conference. Photo: H. Stevens



or Harold if you have questions about what's involved for the positions of Commander, Administrative Officer, Treasurer or Secretary.
 ← Left: P/DC Jay Stevens, P/C Karen Strand and Canadian PS Chief Cdr. Joe Gatfield.

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the **United States Power Squadrons®**



**KSPS Commander
Jim Johnston**

As a life-long Michigander, I think of October as the exit month for the final dregs of summer, and November as the doorway to winter. Both months experience significant changes from the start to the end of their designated periods.

The "toys" parked in driveways in October are fast disappearing as all magically find a sheltered place for the winter. Barns, garages, sheds, and commercial storage facilities are once again becoming stuffed repositories for next year's summer fun. This gives boaters time to sit and relax, swap stories around the table, and plan for another year's fun.

At our squadron's table for November at Moonraker West, Lyn, Gary Bleyer and Karen Strand will bring us news of the proceed-

ings of District 9's Fall Conference. KSPS received District 9's first place award for Member Acquisition. This is a milestone reached for the first time in our squadron's 67 year history. Probably due to adding our Sea Scouts = 5 apprentice members, 3 parents, plus 14 ABC trial members.

Also at our November 10 meeting, our sailors - the Hansens and the Mills, will regale us with tales of their boating adventures in **SCOTLAND**.

KSPS is in the process of planning for a new year. Next year's meeting dates and locations will be presented at our November meeting. We will soon be receiving forms from national requesting the makeup of our bridge for 2016.

Consider serving as a Bridge Officer, Executive Committee or other committee member in 2016. Contact Lyn, Gary, Jim

If you are thinking that you are not an important part of KSPS's ongoing operations, think again! Our time commitment is very minimal for most activities, which often incorporate some form of squadron fellowship. You are important to us!

Preparations are in progress for our Holiday Party on Friday, December 4, and our Change of Watch on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. Both will be held at the Beacon Club this year. These are our "big fires" around which we will gather. Please reserve these dates and plan to attend.



Stay warm.



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. Questions: Lyn (269) 731-5601 or Cdr Jim 375-8441

Daylight Savings Time ends November 1

Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour

KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday 10 Nov

Social Time: 6:30, Dinner 7, Meeting 8
The Hansens and the Mills present

BOATING IN SCOTLAND

Location: Moonraker - Battle Creek
544 W Columbia Ave, between La Vista and Capital

Happy Thanksgiving

Thursday 26 November

Holiday Party at the Beacon Club

Mark your calendar. RSVP to Jim Johnston. Details later.

Friday 4 December 2015

Social Time: 6:30, Dinner 7, Meeting 8

KSPS Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday 8 Dec - 6:30 / Brewster's

Social Time: 6:30, Dinner 7, Meeting 8

Location: Brewsters (near Kal. airport)
5315 Portage Rd, Kalamazoo
left at first light south of I-94

Change of Watch at the Beacon Club

Mark your calendar. RSVP to Jim Johnston. Details later.

Tuesday 12 January 2016

Social Time: 6:30, Dinner 7, Meeting 8

13-21 Feb - Orlando USPS Conference.

Cruise following conference

KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday 14 February

Location: Moonraker - Battle Creek

Spring Conference 8-10 April 2016.

Detroit is hosting to celebrate 100 Anniversary
Double Tree at Ford Rd and I-94 in Southfield

America's Boating Course

Late winter, early spring

Education Highlights

At the Fall District 9 Conference, we heard about lots of changes coming down from the United States Power Squadrons.

America's Boating Course

- USPS had 840 people take ABC online last year.

ABC exam is going online. . . persons taking ABC online will no longer need to meet with a local squadron to take a proctored ABC exam.

Other Changes:

USPS is changing the navigation software included with ABC, Piloting and other courses from RosePoint to CPN.

USPS is considering changing names of courses to make them more appealing. Example: Boat Handling instead of Seamanship.

USPS is developing 18 educational videos by 2017.

Hoping to expand webinars to 6 topics, which will be available online for up to one year after you pay for it.

In a survey of USPS online students . . .

85% of online students surveyed said they'd like to take courses in a classroom.

65% want on-the-water training.

Students want short videos on specific topics, like YouTube, instead of 12 week long courses.

Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that's why it is found as an ingredient in some medicines.

Lt/C Frank Muylaert, SN - Dearborn Sail & Power

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthday not listed? Please let Lyn know.

November Birthdays

- 1 Angie Anderson
- 5 Chris Lawler
- 7 Will Rayner
- 15 Jerry Hendrickson
- 16 Tique Crespo
- 18 Madeline Rayner
- 22 Linda McTague



December Birthdays

- 5 Scott Levene
- 7 Verle Wiita
- 8 Rise' Landeros
- 12 Dave Tuls
- 27 Glen Douglass
- 27 Sid Durham
- 27 Jerry Johnson
- 28 Todd Rayner
- 31 Dave Regula

SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

This past weekend there was a local news story about a 36-foot sailboat that had run aground in a nearby pass. As I read the story and watched the accompanying video taken from a sheriff's department helicopter, all I could think of is, "What were those sailors thinking!" The two sailors had been rescued by County Deputies and the U.S. Coast Guard. Their sailboat that was taking on water and being pummeled by heavy surf.

The weather at the time of the rescue was reported as 4-8 foot seas with 30 MPH winds and temperatures in the low 50 degrees. Even the weather station at my house noted wind gusts at 40 miles-per-hour. For several days, the National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service (NWS) had been issuing a small craft advisory.

A small craft advisory is issued by the NWS in coastal areas when winds have reached, or are expected to be reached within twelve hours, a speed slightly less than gale force, between 25 and 38 knots. The advisory strongly suggests that wind and wave action will be hazardous to small craft. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating in smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in these waters.

Any vessel that would be adversely affected by weather conditions as described by a small craft advisory should be considered a small craft. There is also small craft exercise caution advisory which covers conditions less severe than an advisory.

The Coast Guard and the Coast Guard Auxiliary want to remind boaters to always check the weather before leaving the dock. Weather can deteriorate quickly putting boaters in harm's way. The Coast Guard also reminds remind boaters to carry a VHF-FM marine radio. In the event of an emergency, contact the Coast Guard on channel 16.

If these sailors had made a "May Day" call with their exact position when they first realized they were in distress, every boater who heard the distress call, including the Coast Guard, would have been alerted. They had a marine radio onboard, but it was disabled from water entering the boat. A backup hand held radio would have been very helpful. Cellular phones often lose their signal and run out of batteries after a day on the water. They are helpful but not reliable in an emergency.

Additional recommended emergency safety equipment includes an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon,

flares, signal mirror and whistle attached to the life jackets. A ditch bag specifically stocked with additional safety equipment such as an air horn, hand held marine radio, some snack items and bottled water would have improved the distressed boater's survival had he been stranded for a longer period of time.

For more information about boating safety visit the U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division website at: www.uscgboating.org/ and take a United States Power Squadrons boating course. To learn confident and safe boating contact your local unit of the United States Power Squadrons® or the national website at www.USPS.org.

Its members always send the invitation . . .
"Come for the Boating Education...Stay for the Friends."
Be safe out there and I'll see you on the water.

Dave Nielsen, Feature Writer
Public Relations Committee
United States Power Squadrons®

SHIP'S STORE

The KSPS Ship's Store has many items for sale. We still have a few T-shirts in Navy with white lettering that says Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron and gives the GPS coordinates for Kalamazoo. Only \$5

From our donated items locker—Two sets of rain wear. Tops and pants. These are nylon with waterproof rubber backing. These cost almost \$100 new. On sale now for a donation of \$15 each. Size L and XL. yellow
Other items include anchors, lines and winches.
If interested call Lois Whitmore. (269) 345-4521

Other Items

Two places where we held ABC classes, now want to charge a high fee each week. If you know of a location in which we can hold classes, such as a community center, school, conference room at a mall or business, please call Jim Johnston (269) 375-8441

Have a speaker or topic that you'd like to have at our monthly meeting? Call Jim Johnston with your idea.



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**Come for the Boating Education ...
Stay for the Friends SM**



Graphic courtesy of Source: DogoNews.com

2015 Bridge Officers - Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

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Thanksgiving

The Thanksgiving tradition dates all the way back to 1621, when the pilgrims celebrated their first harvest with a feast that lasted for three days. While most people are aware of that, very few know that the holiday was once celebrated several times a year or that Thanksgiving as we know it today, is possible thanks to 19th century writer, Sarah Hale.

Though best known for the nursery rhyme "Mary had a little lamb", it is her 20-year crusade that led President Abraham Lincoln to make a proclamation on October 3rd, 1863, declaring the last Thursday of November, as a "Day of Thanksgiving" for the entire United States of America. So as you devour your turkey later this month, be sure to remember those who made this holiday possible!

Source: DogoNews.com

Cyber Security Awareness Tips

Antivirus: Make sure you have anti-virus software installed on your computer and phones and that it is automatically updating. Keep in mind that no anti-virus software can catch all malware, so it is important to use common sense and be wary of any messages that seem odd or suspicious, even if it from someone you know. Sometimes hackers capture the address book and send malware to everyone on a person's email list without them knowing it.

Protect Your Social Media Accounts: Bad guys are targeting your social media (like Facebook, Twitter, etc). One of the most effective ways you can protect them is with a unique, strong password called a passphrase. Use a mix of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. Enable two-step verification (if your social media site offers it)