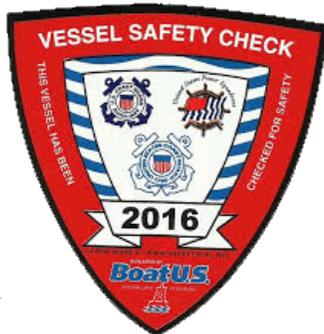




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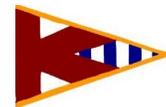
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Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

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



We had great weather and a great turnout for “VSCs, Boats and Brats”. On Saturday June 25, Kalamazoo and South Bend Sail & Power Squadrons co-hosted the event in South Haven open to all boaters.

I want to thank all those who volunteered their energy and time - from providing rides, helping set up, prepare or serve food, manning the Ship's Store, coordinating or providing Free Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs), acquiring food to advertising.- All roles were important. The 5 River Noir boat owners we inspected and Cat's Meow owner said, bring them flyers for next years event and they will put them on the their marina's bulletin boards.



KSPS Commander Gary W. Bleyer

KSPS's five Vessel Examiners did 31 Vessel Safety Checks, South Bend's two VE's completed 5 that we know of, maybe more.

E-J completed 8 inspections, Lyn and Gary each awarded VSC decals to 6 boats passing inspection. Lyn had an additional boat that did not pass due to out-dated flares.

Bill awarded decals to 4 boats that passed, is waiting on 2 owners to buy flares or the newly USCG approved electronic SOS distress signal (1 of Lyn's and 1 of his), and also has another two boats wanting inspection within the week.

Harold passed all 5 vessels that he inspected, and has another two lined up for next week.

Boats & Brats Volunteers included from KSPS: Angie & John, Phyllis, George G, Gail & Harold, Jim & Jerilyn, E-J, Maris & Bill, Karen, Lois & Vince.

From South Bend S&PS: Bob, Harry, Suzanne, grill-master John, Hazel & Jay.

Thanks to all !

You can still get your Free Vessel Safety Check, request a VSC at <http://safetyseal.net/GetVSC/> or call one of our Vessel Examiners (listed on pg 4).

Tips for a safe boating season:

Don't drink while boating and keep a good watch out for boaters who don't know the rules or are Boating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Drugs or Fatigue.

Always show visitors to your boat where the lifejackets are stored and have them try one on. They should also know where other safety equipment is like fire extinguishers and the marine radio.

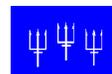
At least one other person on board should know how to stop and start the engine, use the marine radio (post name and description of boat & registration #, near radio). They should also know how to get GPS coordinates from helm or a phone app.

Kids on board should have a life jacket on, as well as at least one parent. The first instinct when a child falls over board is to jump in.

The Fourth of July is always a bad day for boating tragedies. Being a 3 day weekend will increase the risk.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July, and a great boating season.

Gary W. Bleyer
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 Jim/Jerilyn 375-8441

Monday July 4 The Fourth of July

Vessel Safety Checks (VSCs)

Free inspection of your boat's safety equipment at your dock or on your trailer . Available all summer long. Call any Vessel Examiner listed on page 4

Air Show & Hot Air Balloons - June 29 - July 4
Battle Creek Regional Airport

The Tall Ships are Coming

14-17 July - [Tall Ship Celebration](#) - Bay City, MI

KSPS Potluck at the Soule's in South Haven

Saturday July 30

Bring a dish to share / Details by email or reg. mail

D9 Picnic/Potluck In Muskegon Friday August 5

March with us in the **US Coast Guard Parade**

Saturday August 6 (be there by 10)

Parade steps off at 11 am

List of Grand Haven hotels/motels at

[Grand Haven area hotels](#)

The festival's web site is www.coastguardfest.org

For more information, contact Lyn Bleyer

KSPS Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday 9 August 6:30 pm

Location: Brewsters - 5830 Portage Rd by airport

Grand Traverse Bay Lobster or Steak Fest

19-20 Aug - Northport Municipal Marina

At Haserot Park, North of the marina

Use link to register before Aug 12—walk-ins get chicken

<http://www.usps.org/localusps/gtbay/lobsterreg2016.pdf>

KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday 13 September 6:30 pm

Location: Gull Lake View, 7417 North 38th St & M-89

The Bleyers present A Rhine Getaway—Part 2

Cologne Germany to Basel Switzerland

Educational Opportunities

If there is a class or seminar you would like to take **locally** contact SEO Jim Johnston (269) 375-8441 or BoaterJim@hotmail.com

Seminars are usually 2 to 3 hours long and can be completed in one evening, morning or afternoon. Listed below are a few of the seminars available.

Advanced Boat Handling	Man Over Board
Anchoring	Marine Radar
Basic Weather	Mariner's Compass
Boat Handling Under Power	Paddle Smart
Boating on Rivers, Lakes, & Locks	Partner in Command
Crossing Borders/Customs	Sail Trim and Tuning
Emergencies on Board	Trailerling
How to use a Chart	Using GPS
Knots, Bends and Hitches	Using VHF and VHF/DSC Radio

In Depth Classes

Seamanship builds on the foundation of knowledge in boat handling and maneuvering, boat operation, skipper's responsibilities, and boating techniques that will advance your boating enjoyment.

This course is normally completed in 16 hours via 8 two-hour sessions. Call SEO Jim (269)-375-8441 who will be scheduling this for summer or fall.

America's Boating Course (ABC)

will be offered again late winter/early spring:

You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream. C. S. Lewis

Happy Birthday

Birthday not listed? Please let Lyn know.

July Birthdays

- 4 Mary Sons
- 6 Thee Baltimore, Jr
- 6 George Tyler Jr
- 7 Chris Hansen
- 9 E-J Ohler
- 18 Courtney Moore
- 19 Phyllis Buskirk
- 28 Thee Baltimore, Sr.
- 29 Pamela Wright



August Birthdays

- 4 Ross Griffith
- 6 William Ditty
- 8 John Anderson
- 10 Wally Corder
- 13 Lois Whitmore
- 14 Linda Seng
- 24 Susan Livingston

Causes of Boat Fires by Boat US



Fire ranks number five among all boat losses, according to the marine insurance claims filed with BoatUS. Prevent fire aboard your boat by learning what they reveal about the top causes of boat fires:

Off-the-boat sources A quarter of the time, a BoatUS member's boat burns when something else goes up in flames—the boat next to theirs, the marina, their garage or even a neighbor's house. It's every boater's responsibility to prevent fires, but when all else fails, having a good boat insurance policy is key.

Engine electrical For boats older than 25 years, old wiring harnesses take a disproportionate chunk of the blame. A good electrical technician can put a new wiring harness together for you, as most boats of this age have relatively simple electrical systems.

DC electrical The most common cause of battery-related fires is faulty installation—reversing the positive and negative cables or misconnecting them in series (when they should be in parallel). So take a picture. Label the cables. Use red fingernail polish to mark the positive lug. Do everything to hook it up right the first time. Cover the positive terminal to prevent a short.

Batteries On older outboards, the most common cause of fires by far is the voltage regulator. At 10 years of age, failure rates on these important electrical components begin to climb. Once a regulator hits 15 years old, it's time to replace it

AC electrical Most AC electrical fires start between the shore power pedestal and the boat's shore power inlet. Inspect the shore power cord routinely (connector ends especially) and, for boats older than 10 years, inspect or replace the boat's shore power inlet. Look for scorch marks, fraying, etc.

Other An engine fire can start when an engine overheats due to a blocked raw-water intake or mangled impeller; the latter can result from a grounding or running in mucky waters. Be sure to check the engine compartment after getting underway and replace the impeller every other year. Keep clutter away from the stove. Do not leave an aerosol air horn in a dinghy or direct sunlight - it can explode.



Boating Etiquette

Boating, as a recreational sport, has been around for many, many decades. During this time many customs and traditions have been developed in addition to regulations and rules to help keep boaters safe and to make sharing the water more enjoyable.

The rules of the road were developed to prevent collision while you operate your vessel. Meeting another boat head-on, crossing its bow or overtaking are all spelled out in the Michigan Rules and Regulations. When overtaking a slower vessel in open water, do so with as much room as conditions allow and slow your speed, if necessary, to avoid rocking the other vessel.

Sometimes the boat being overtaken may need to slow its speed to allow the overtaking vessel to pass at a safe speed. If you are doing 8 knots, the passing boat can only slow to about 10 knots to still have enough speed difference to pass successfully. However, at that speed the overtaking vessel will create a strong wake. You may need to slow to 4 knots to allow the overtaking vessel to pass at a slower speed which allows for a much smaller wake.

When entering an anchorage or mooring area do so at a slow speed, others may be preparing or eating food or engaged in other activities that would be disturbed by wake.

The first boat in the anchorage has the right to determine the swing radius. Don't get too close to other anchored boats. The wind can change in a matter of minutes resulting in tangled anchor lines, and hulls or dinghies banging against each other.

Whether anchoring or spending time at the dock be aware of your noise and pollution level. BBQ smoke, engine exhaust and noise from your music or conversations should be quiet



enough not to disturb neighbors. Sound carries exceptionally well over water. Many boaters retire early for an early departure. Respect their right to sleep undisturbed. They'll return the favor by departing quietly.

To prevent trips and falls, keep your dock free of clutter, coil lines and stow gear.

When you pull in to the fuel dock, remember that others need to fuel also, so after completing your before and after fueling checklists, move to a guest slip if you need to visit the head or shop for supplies.



Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron
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Lyndell Bleyer, Editor
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 Richland MI 49083

(Return Service Requested)

Come for the Boating Education ...
Stay for the FriendsSM



2016 Bridge Officers - Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

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Educational Officer	SEO James W. Johnston, P	(269) 375-8441 (home)	BoaterJim@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Lt/C Jerilyn Johnston	(269) 375-8441 (home)	ATreasJerilyn@outlook.com
Secretary	P/C Lyn Bleyer, P	(269) 731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Member Involvement	P/C Karen Strand, AP	(269) 964-6690 (home)	swegian63@gmail.com
Nominating Chair	P/C Harold Hladky, JN	(269) 274-1995 (cell)	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Public Relations	1/Lt John Anderson, S	(269) 962-7754 (home)	painters4@comcast.net

USCG Recalls and Safety Alerts

An Orange Hand Smoke Distress Signal has been recalled due to risk of spontaneous combustion when dropped.

These smoke signals may be labeled and marked as "Polar MK 4" by NAMMO LIAB AB or as "IKAROS" by Hansen Pyrotech. There are approximately 2,790 signals with the potentially defect in the US market. Any signal manufactured after October 2013 must be properly disposed of.



Mustang Inflatable PFD MD2010 & MD2012

Snap hooks On Lifejackets
 Revere Models 198RT & 160RT



Mercury marine engine:
 2011 4 Stroke 40/50/60 HP
 Problem: Fuel bulb leaks. Remedy replace w/ new clamp.

More recalls at: <http://usps.org/index.php/newone-2>.

KSPS Vessel Examiners in SWMI

All examiners are USCG certified and trained on the latest safety equipment requirements.

Barry, Calhoun, Kalamazoo
 Gary or Lyn (269) 731-5601

Allegan, Van Buren,
 western Kalamazoo county
 E-J (269) 760-5862

South Haven, Saugatuck area
 Bill (269) 370-2795

Aug: Calhoun, Branch
 Harold (269) 274-1995

Aug: Battle Creek/Marshall
 Ken (269) 339-9013

Items checked include:

- Life Jackets/PFDs
- Proper placement of ID numbers & registration
- Fuel tanks, bilge
- Electrical systems
- Fire Extinguishers
- Lights for operating boat at night or in fog
- Sound producing & visual distress devices
- Requirements for marine sanitation
- Proper ventilation for engine spaces and enclosed fuel storage systems