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*Inside this Issue*

<b>Commander's Message</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Fall get togethers</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Calendar: Events</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Educational Opportunities</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>An Unexpected Adventure</b>	<b>3</b>

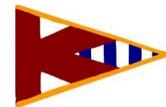
<b>2016 KSPS Bridge Officers</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Step Back in Time</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>KSPS Vessel Examiners</b>	<b>4</b>

Pastels in Cologne Germany



## *Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron*

*a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*



Hard to believe it is September already. Only a few more weeks of boating here in Michigan. To help you get ready, our Squadron Education Officer or SEO Jim Johnston is making arrangements for a seminar on Winterizing Your Boat. This seminar will cover what should be done if you hire a marina to winterize for you, Even if you hire someone else there are winterization steps that need to be taken by the boat owner. This seminar will cover what the professionals usually do and do not do, as well as tips for those who winterize their own boats. The seminar will be in South Haven. Date yet to be determined. If you are interested, please put your name on the list 375-8441.



**KSPS Commander Gary W. Bleyer**

Our next squadron meeting is Tuesday September 13. Social time at 6:30, Dinner at 7, Presentation at 8 pm. Location: Gull Lake View, 7417 North 38th St & M-89 (4 miles east of Richland) The Bleyers will present: Part 2 of their Rhine Getaway: Köln Germany to Basel Switzerland. Come join us.

A big event every October is the District 9 Fall Conference. This year it will be October 28-29 at the Grand Rapids Airport Double Tree Hotel. Mark it on you calendar now! Details on the Saturday morning seminars should be available soon. The location was selected to celebrate Grand Rapids 75th anniversary as a squadron. The Saturday evening dinner entertainment features The Murder Mystery Co.

Fall is also the time when we seek volunteers to serve as officers on the Bridge and Executive Committee for 2017.

Our current bridge officers and a few others are listed on page 4. While it has been our honor to serve, we are always looking for new leadership and fresh ideas to help carry our squadron forward in a time where nationally, many organizations are challenged to maintain the interest of their members.

Here is a brief description of the role and responsibility of these positions, presented so that you might consider volunteering to take a turn. You will have as much support and mentoring as you desire from those who have previously served.

The **Executive Committee** handles the business of the squadron. This committee usually consists of the bridge officers (commander, executive, educational and administrative officers, secretary, and treasurer), and three or more members-at-large elected by the membership.

**Squadron Commander:** If you've never served as commander or only served 1 or 2 years, consider taking the helm. You will have the support and guidance of past commanders, a bridge and the executive committee. Presides over meetings, oversees squadron responsibilities.  
**Secretary:** Takes minutes at meetings, notifies members of meetings and upcoming events.

**Treasurer:** Keeps track of squadron funds, writes checks for approved expenses, reports on status of squadron income and expenses.

*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

### 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

5 September - Labor Day

### KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday 13 September 6:30 pm  
Location: Gull Lake View, 7417 North 38th St & M-89  
The Bleyers present: Rhine Getaway – Part 2  
Cologne Germany to Basel Switzerland

### KSPS Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday 11 October 6:30 pm  
Location: Brewsters - 5830 Portage Rd by AZO airport  
Presentation on Wolfe's Marine

### District 9 Fall Conference - Airport Double Tree

Celebrating Grand Rapids 75th Anniversary  
Friday Hospitality Night October 27  
Saturday Seminars, D9 Meeting, Mystery Murder Dinner

### KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday 8 November 6:30 pm  
Location: Moonraker, W. Columbia, Battle Creek  
Presentation - Peru Debut: Come hear Jim & Jerilyn Johnston's adventures in Peru

### Holiday Party at Martells

Friday Dec. 2 - Need 25 members & guests minimum  
Please RSVP Jim or Jerilyn 345-8441

### KSPS Executive Committee Meeting

Tues 13 December  
Location: Brewsters - 5830 Portage Rd by AZO airport  
Finalize Nominations for Bridge & Exec. Committee

### Change of Watch at The Beacon Club

Tues 10 January  
Election of Bridge and Executive Committee

## Educational Opportunities

**Wintering Seminar** Do it yourself or pay someone else. Do you know what marina staff do to winterize your boat? There are still things you should do to prepare your boat for winter storage that staff will not do, **Call SEO Jim (269-) 375-8441** for date and time. Seminar will be in South Haven.

**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	Trailing
How to use a Chart	Using GPS
Knots, Bends and Hitches	Using VHF and VHF/DSC Radio

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

### In Depth Classes

#### America's Boating Course (ABC)

will be offered again late winter/early spring:

Your Mom is a travel agent for guilt trips.  
Dave Ramsey

## Happy Birthday

Birthday not listed? Please let Lyn know.

### September Birthdays

- 5 Gail Hladky
- 10 David Huling
- 10 Sydonie White
- 11 Richard Hebert
- 11 W. Joseph Mills
- 23 George Gerpheide
- 26 Becky Ditty
- 26 Diane Hansen
- 27 Karen Strand
- 30 Carole Snyder



### October Birthdays

- 1 Bob Sheppard
- 3 Robyn Levene
- 4 Dan Livingston
- 8 Gail Morton
- 11 Greta Douglass
- 11 Karin Lund
- 12 Jeffrey Michael
- 26 Jason Assink
- 28 Doug Mathewson
- 30 Craig Norrod
- 31 Christi Assink

## An Unexpected Adventure

by P/C Jim Johnston and current KSPS SEO

Our annual potluck and big boat event turned out to be more exciting than expected, even surpassing Nil's expert steering recovery when his ship's wheel came off in his hands.



Our 2016 outing was on Dan Johnston's 1984, 47 Ft. Bertram which had recently completed a total diesel engine rebuild. Having made the journey from Muskegon to South Haven without incident, the port engine turbo, an official Detroit diesel remanufactured product, decided to over-heat and fail, causing a minor fire, some smoke damage to the engine compartment, a lasting memory for the participants, and a reaffirmation of the quality and necessity of our ABC boating safety course.

It is hardly conceivable that this emergency occurred because all systems had been checked and approved by inspectors such as the State Fire Marshall, and expert mechanics. In rebuilding the diesels no questionable parts had been used. When assessing the damage later that day, the rebuild mechanic simply shook his head and said, "you/we did everything right. This should not have happened." But it did, and could have had a far different ending if safe boating practices had not been followed.

First, Dan chose to stay near shore for this first outing, not going far beyond the channel's mouth into Lake Michigan and staying within range of immediate help, in case of difficulties. Even though the boat had passed all inspections and had several hours run-in time, caution was the wiser choice.

Secondly, the Bertram had just passed its Vessel Safety Check, Dan's final prerequisite to assure safety for his passengers and boat. Indeed, as we left port, the PFD's were checked and made readily available.



A few short minutes after we left the mouth of the Black River, the exhaust of the port engine changed color, exhibiting the grey and black smoke that was so familiar with the old engines. Dan throttled back and tried different engine speeds to

assess the performance. He slowed and turned back toward South Haven. At slow speed, we didn't see any smoke, so he tried running the engines up again. Now instead of just smoke in the exhaust, the smoke was also pouring out of a port side vent just above the gunwale. More smoke from the port side and an engine fire indicator light came on, so he shut off the port engine and headed back on just the starboard engine. Later we learned a turbine had failed, allowing oil to run down onto the exhaust manifold, and to the engine room floor/deck.

All on board knew not to open the hatches for a visual inspection, as that would only allow fresh oxygen for the fire. It appeared the combustion was not hot enough to engage the automatic fire suppression system in the engine room. Dan called 911, identified his vessel, the situation, and to which marina and slip he was motoring towards. The 911 operator assured help was on the way.

Kudos to Dan who was able to bring in a smoking boat with only one operating engine, and make a perfect docking. Thanks to P/C Bill Soule who was by his side observing and offering advice throughout the incident. It was also helpful having a knowledgeable group of eight passengers who could take necessary safety measures without having to divide his attention.

When the boat docked, the passengers quickly departed and the firemen came aboard, with a fire hose. They cautiously opened the engine hatch and quickly snuffed the fire. They had no critical comments about what had transpired or how the situation had been handled.



Port Engine covered in soot

The "take-aways" from this experience are several.

- 1) Even with the most careful planning, problems still may occur; the turbine already had six hours of successful run-in prior to our outing.
- 2) Knowledge and preparation kept the passengers

safe with minimal damage to the boat. 3) This was the third "quality" rebuilt part needing replacement in the engine restoration project. Remanufacturers should be held to higher standards with the rebuilt products they sell, since theirs may be the only source for engine parts no longer manufactured. 4) Some nice options, now appearing on boats with hatches difficult or impractical to open are an engine room monitoring camera, and a secondary engine room fire extinguisher manually operated from the helm.

Although the story could have ended much differently, the above factors and careful entry and fire suppression by the firemen caused no damage to the Bertram. Smoke damage was minimal and Dan was able to sleep on his boat that night. The Bertram is named "Knot in Vein", which once again reminds its owner to extend yet a little more patience as systems settle in and prove themselves. Surveying the activity in front of him, Dan smiled and observed wryly, " I should have named it 'Cinder'. How can one miss such excitement! Join us for our next boating event. We'll keep you posted.



New Turbine about to be replaced



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

Lyndell Bleyer, Editor  
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(Return Service Requested)

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

## 2016 Bridge Officers - Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Commander	Cdr Gary W. Bleyer, P	(269) 731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
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

### Step Back in Time

On August 27, 1856, Abraham Lincoln visited Kalamazoo from Illinois. He was invited to speak at a political rally in what is now Bronson Park. At the time he was clean shaven and not accompanied by his wife Mary Todd.

It was his only trip to the state of Michigan. While a plaque commemorates the historic event, a committee is working to create a bronze statue for the park. Lyn and Gary attended a 160th anniversary event this August 27.

Pictured: Fred and Bonnie Priebe  
[www.KalamazooLincolnProject.org](http://www.KalamazooLincolnProject.org)



### 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

Calhoun, Branch, Kalamazoo  
 Harold (269) 274-1995

Elsewhere put in boat zipcode at  
<http://safetyseal.net/GetVSC/>

#### Items checked include:

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