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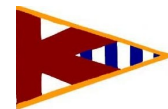
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Fishing boat Katakolo, Greece



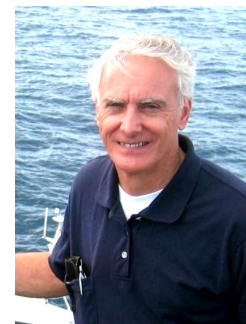
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

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



Our America's Boating Course held at Portage Central High School began on April 10. All members are welcome to come meet the students after the exam on the last night of class on Monday May 8 from 7 to 9 pm. We will offer graduating students the option of 6 months free trial membership. We have 8 adults and 3 teens in the class. We need to encourage them to come to at least one meeting and at least one event this summer.

Our next meeting is Tuesday May 9 at Gull Lake View Golf Club, 7417 North 38th St, just south of Gull Lake and M-89. It's just 5 miles east of Richland. Sandra Pyne will share her experiences Navigating the Great Loop. Everyone welcome.



KSPS Commander Gary W. Bleyer

Our Vessel Examiners are ready to do your FREE Vessel Safety Check at your dock, in your driveway or on your trailer.

The inspection includes all the safety equipment required by the USCG for your size and type of boat.

Items checked include:

- PFDs - Personal Flotation Devices
- Proper placement of Hull ID numbers
- Required safety equipment for your boat's length, type and use
- Proper ventilation for engine spaces & enclosed fuel systems
- Fire extinguishers
- Electrical systems
- Visual Distress Signals
- Lights for operating at night or in fog
- Sound producing devices
- Marine sanitation devices

Vessel Examiners: to set up an appointment, call the Vessel Examiner closest to where you keep your boat. All 269 area.

Or **Get a VSC** at www.usps.org
 Barry, Calhoun, or Kalamazoo Counties
 Lyn or Gary 731-5601
 Allegan, Van Buren, Kalamazoo Counties
 E-J. 760-5862

South Haven/Saugatuck: Bill 370-2795
 Van Buren St Park, Calhoun County
 Harold 274-1995 (VEs: Lyn will have decals available at the May 9 KSPS mtg.)

We kick off **Safe Boating Month** on Saturday May 20, with the **Portage Family Fish Fair** at Ramona Park, 8600 S. Sprinkle Rd, Portage MI.

Set up is at 9, training at 9:30, between 10 and 11:30 am +/- 300 kids and their parents show up. The event is over by noon. We can always use more volunteers. Call Lyn or me at 731-5601 or Jim and Jerilyn at 375-8331 for details.

Mark your calendar for Boats and Brats on Saturday 24 June. Brats and all the fixings are from 11 am -1 pm
 Vessel Safety Checks 9:30 am – 3 pm
 Black River Yacht Club, bottom of Oak St, South Haven MI.

We can use Volunteers: a cashier, brat grillers, food servers, set-up and clean-up. If you can't volunteer, but are going to be in South Haven, please come by, say hello, have some brats and schedule your Free Vessel Safety check.

Remember during early season boating always check the weather. Sudden Cold Water Immersion can induce rapid, uncontrolled breathing, cardiac arrest, and other conditions, which can result in drowning. Always wearing a PFD will help you survive.



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

America's Boating Course—ABC

Final Exam: May 8 from 7-9 pm

ABC at Portage Central High, 8107 Mustang Dr.

Portage ABC students, be sure to give instructor your date of birth soon, it's needed so Jim can print your state boater education ID card BEFORE final night.

Free Vessel Safety Checks @ your dock or driveway

Call any of our Vessel Examiners (listed on page 1)

May Is Membership Renewal Month

for over half our members !!!

If you do not want to pay dues to USPS online, print off your invoice or include your certificate number.

Family dues \$144, Single Member \$95, Teens \$12
1st yr only-add \$20 USPS joining fee: F=\$164,S=\$115,T=\$12

KSPS General Meeting

Tuesday May 9

Sandra Pyne: Navigating the Great Loop

Social Time: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7pm Presentation 8 pm
order off the menu \$8-\$26

** Gull Lake View Golf Club **

7417 North 38th St & M-89

5 miles east of Richland MI and north of Augusta

Portage Family Fish Fair

Saturday May 20 / 9:30-Noon

Ramona Park, 8600 Sprinkle Rd south of Zylman

KSPS Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday 13 June /

Social Time: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7pm

** Gull Lake View Golf Club **

7417 North 38th St & M-89

Boats, Brats and Vessel Safety Checks

Sat. June 24 / Brats 11 am - 1 pm

Vessel Safety Checks 9:30am - 3pm

Black River Yacht Club, Oak St, South Haven MI

No meeting in July

Watch for KSPS potluck & boat outing in South Haven

Fri. 4 August District 9 Potluck - Muskegon

Sat. 5 August - USCG Parade - Grand Haven MI

Educational Opportunities

Call SEO Jim (269-) 375-8441 if you are interested in seminars or classes.

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) is offered each year in late winter/early spring in Battle Creek and Portage. The course is required for those born after 1996 who want to operate a boat with a motor greater than 6 hp and for those born after 1978 to operate a Personal Watercraft (PWC).

The course is great for beginners, and also as review for seasoned boaters. (see calendar to left for dates)

I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning to sail my ship.
(And have taken the USPS weather course.)

Louisa May Alcott

Happy Birthday

Birthday not listed? Please let Lyn know.

April Birthdays

- 1 Ron Voelker
- 1 Paul Walker
- 3 Glenn Hahn
- 3 Dan Seng
- 5 Joh Killian
- 9 Jim White / Harry Bailiff
- 13 D/Cdr Janet Klumpp
- 29 Shirley Van Rhee
- 29 Harriette Griffith
- 30 Peyton Reshnet
- 30 Kasey Reshnet



May Birthdays

- 4 Ken Choate
- 12 Judy Dorais
- 14 Ron McPhee
- 16 L. John Goes
- 26 Gary Bleyer
- 28 Bret Simonton

unknown month & day

- Leon Dershem, Tom O'Neill
- Sandy Pyne, Donna Schumann
- A few current students

Be Prepared for Storms while Boating

National Weather Service

Safe Boating Weather Tips

The weather. . . It can be both friend and foe. Calm winds and seas make for enjoyable power boating, waterskiing, and fishing. A fresh breeze and a light chop provide an invigorating sailing or wind surfing experience. But the sudden emergence of dark clouds, shifting and gusty winds, torrential downpours and lightning can turn a day's pleasure into a nightmare of distress. Here are some tips on how to keep your pleasure and safety to a maximum.



Plan for boating fun. . . Several days ahead of time start listening for the National Weather Service extended 5-day outlook on NOAA Weather Radio, AM/FM radio, and TV. The outlooks give general information to help you decide whether or not to continue making plans.

Before Setting Out. . . Pay close attention to the TV weathercast and listen to detailed marine weather forecasts on NOAA Weather Radio. Take note of small boat cautionary statements, Small Craft Advisories, or Gale or Storm Warnings in the forecasts. The Advisories and Warnings (see definitions) alert mariners to higher winds and waves either occurring now or forecast to occur up to 24 hours from now. Advisories and Warnings for conditions expected later give mariners time to take action to protect life and property.

While on the water, stay alert. . .

- Check NOAA Weather Radio for latest warnings and forecasts.
- Watch for signs of approaching storms:
- Dark, threatening clouds that may foretell a squall or thunderstorm
- A steady increase in wind or waves
- Lightning flashes and/or thunder
- Note any sudden change in wind direction (flags on shore)
- An increase in wind opposite in direction to a strong current may lead to steep waves capable of broaching a boat.
- Heavy static on your AM radio may be an indication of nearby thunderstorm activity.
- If a thunderstorm is approaching, head for shore if possible. Get out of boat and away from the water. Find shelter immediately.
- If a thunderstorm catches you while out in the lake, remember that gusty winds and lightning pose a threat to safety.
- Put on your personal flotation device and prepare for rough seas. Stay below deck if possible.

Definitions

Small Craft Advisory: Observed or forecast winds of 18 to 33 knots. Small Craft Advisories may also be issued for hazardous sea conditions or lower wind speeds that may affect small craft operations. Issued up to 12 hours ahead of conditions

Gale Warning: * Observed or forecast winds of 34 to 47 knots.

Storm Warning:* Observed or forecast winds of 48 knots or greater.

Preparing for Disasters at Home Are You Ready? National Weather Service

Being prepared for storms and other disasters helps you and your family survive and get through what could be several days before power and other services are restored.

Preparedness includes:

- Get informed about hazards and emergencies that may affect your region, you and your family.
- Develop an emergency plan.
- Collect and assemble disaster and emergency supplies.
- Learn where to seek shelter from all types of hazards.
- Identify the community warning systems and evacuation routes.
- Include in your plan required information from community and school plans.
- Learn what to do for specific hazards.
- Practice and maintain your plan.

You may have to leave your home and seek shelter elsewhere. Have an evacuation or go bag ready. Keep a full tank of gas. Coordinate/communicate with family members. Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides protection, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and a hat or cap. Unplug electrical equipment, such as radios and televisions, and small appliances, such as toasters and microwaves. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.

Be alert for washed-out roads and bridges.

Do not drive into flooded areas.

Resources: <http://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide>
www.redcross.org/pubs/dspubs/cde.html
www.nws.noaa.gov/education.html



Memorial Service for

Joanne E. VanAmeijden

Saturday, May 27, 2017 11:00 AM

Bethany Lutheran Church

1101 S. Madison St.

Ludington, MI 49431

Luncheon immediately following at the church.

Memorial Contributions

USPS Educational Fund

attn: Ellen Barbour

United States Power Squadron

PO Box 30423

Raleigh NC 27622

Jan 10 1942

Feb 8 2017



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

Lyndell Bleyer, Editor
6553 N 37th St
Richland MI 49083

(Return Service Requested)

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



Submarine - Kotor, Montenegro

2017 Bridge Officers - Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

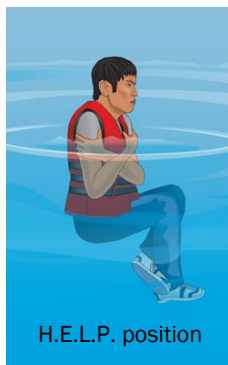
Commander	Cdr Gary W. Bleyer, P	(269) 731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Educational Officer	SEO James W. Johnston, P	(269) 375-8441 (home)	JimWJ@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Lt/C Jerilyn Johnston	(269) 375-8441 (home)	ATreasJerilyn@outlook.com
Secretary	P/C Lyn Bleyer, P	(269) 731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
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

Hypothermia

Immersion in water speeds the loss of body heat and can lead to hypothermia. Hypothermia is the abnormal lowering of internal body temperature. If your boat capsizes it will likely float on or just below the surface.

Outboard powered vessels built after 1978 are designed to support you even if full of water or capsized. To reduce the effects of hypothermia get in or on the boat. Try to get as much of your body out of the water as possible.

If you can't get in the boat, a PFD will enable you to keep your head out of the water. This is very important because about 50% of body heat loss is from the head.



H.E.L.P. position

In situations where you must enter cold water, here are a few things to do:

- Wear a PFD.
- Button up your clothing.
- Cover your head if possible and enter the water slowly.
- If you must jump, cover mouth and hold nose first.
- Keep your head out of the water if at all possible.
- Assume the Heat Escape Lessening Posture (H.E.L.P.)

It may be possible to revive a drowning victim who has been under very cold water for considerable time and shows no signs of life. Numerous documented cases exist where victims have been resuscitated with no apparent harmful effects after long immersions. Start CPR immediately and get the victim to a hospital as quickly as possible. Sources: ARC. ABC & DNR Safe Boating Classes