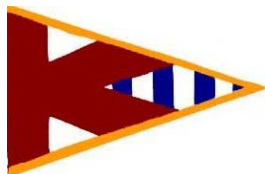


The Pilot

*Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron
a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®*



The April 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

P/C Harold Hladky, AP

Volunteers are the lifeblood of KSPS & USPS

The member-led activities of the Executive Department are the faces of the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron that the public sees. Every time members promote the squadron, help fellow boaters or teach classes, they exemplify safe boating to the community.

Last February, our squadron teamed with the Grand Rapids and Muskegon squadrons to promote boating safety courses to those attending the Grand Rapids Boat Show; and we're not stopping there. On 6-7 April, we're participating at the D&R Boat and Tackle Show and on 12 May we're going to be at Gull Lake Marine's - In the Water Show. These are important events that help introduce our squadron, as well as promote our efforts to educate the boating community and make the waterways safer. Volunteering is the life blood that keeps our squadron vital. Welcome a new safer boating season by volunteering to help at the D&R and Gull Lake events. Contact me for details.

Even though I'm serving as your Executive Officer, I'm continuing to chair our squadron's Cooperative Charting program. Cooperative Charting or Coop Charting is a program of civic service performed by the United States Power Squadrons in cooperation with the National Ocean Service,



P/C Harold Hladky, AP, your 2007 Executive Officer conducting a Vessel Safety Check aboard *White Star*, owned by 1st/L Scott & P/C Robyn Levene

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the US Department of Commerce (NOAA).

Coop Charting provides a variety of services in support of our nation's charting authority. USPS members supply information and corrections to nautical charts, small craft charts, Coast Pilot publications, depth surveys, tidal currents and related documents. Last year, USPS contributed an estimated

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Special inserts:

- Tentative agenda for the April membership meeting
- Westside Predicted Log Contest Form: 15-17 June 2007

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Hey, What Happen to the Commander's Message?

Nothing really, just a small change to provide you more information. Our Commander, Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN decided to change the "Commander's Message" to the "Message from the Bridge" to allow those reading *The Pilot* to learn more about the squadron and its activities.

This month, as well as in November, our Executive Officer, P/C Harold Hladky, AP will elaborate on opportunities available to you when you get involved. In May, our Secretary, Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S plans to provide a little squadron history. The June/July issue of *The Pilot* will feature our Treasurer, P/C Nils Strand, AP explaining how your generosity and planned giving to the squadron's educational funds and Diamond Task Force will ensure and promote safe boating in the years to come. Lt/C Bill Soule, P, our Administrative Officer, plans to report on the many squadron activities that will happen throughout the summer months. In the September issue, our Squadron Educational Officer, Lt/C Joe Mills, JN will highlight our educational opportunities and achievement. In October, our Commander will write about the USPS Governing Board, and in December, the Bridge plans something special for the members. Finally, in January 2007, our Commander will reflect on the squadron achievements during his watch.

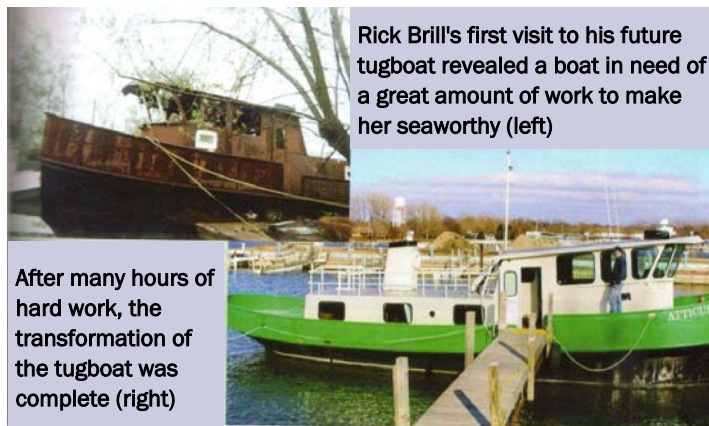
April General Membership Meeting: Refurbishing a Tug

10 April 2007; 1830 to 2100

The Battle Creek Hunt Club

RSVP: Lt/C Bill Soule, P: (269) 544-0518 or souleb@aol.com

It takes a special type of person to buy an old rusted hulk found lying on a beach behind a junk yard, but Rick Brill was that person. Come to the Battle Creek Hunt Club on 10 April and hear how his 3-year restoration efforts came out. Even more interesting are the adventures Rick Brill and his two sons experienced as they embarked upon their trip on the newly christened *Atticus Finch*. Starting on the far eastern end of Lake Eire, up around Mackinaw City and down the coast to St Joseph, Michigan, their trials included false starts, failed gauges, a broken radar, a Canadian war ship, and lots of rough water – and a loyal Cummins diesel. All in all, this should be quite a tale.



Rick Brill's first visit to his future tugboat revealed a boat in need of a great amount of work to make her seaworthy (left)

After many hours of hard work, the transformation of the tugboat was complete (right)

KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

10 April 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting The Hunt Club, Battle Creek, Michigan	8 May 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting Blackhawk Bar & Grill, Richland, Michigan	19-25 May 2007 National Safe Boating Week
12 June 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting TBD	15-17 June 2007 Westside Predicted Log Contest Yacht Basin Marine, Holland, Michigan	4 August 2007 United States Coast Guard Parade Grand Haven, Michigan
14 August 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting TBD	4-9 September 2007 USPS Fall Governing Board Norfolk, Virginia	11 September 2007; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting TBD

Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Kalamazoo	8 March 2007	Wally Corder	269-321-0751	wccorder@hotmail.com
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	12 April 2007	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Chart Smart	10 May 2007	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship	16 April 2007	Robyn Levene	269-372-1782	rbynlevene@aol.com
Piloting	Fall 2007	George Gerpheide	269-375-4024	gsgerph@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Spring 2008	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrowoods@sbcglobal.net
Junior Navigation	Fall 2008	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation	22 October 2007	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Cruise Planning	Spring 2008	Karen Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Engine Maintenance	Early March 2007	John Penniman	269-345-0275	education@ksp-s-usps.org
Instructor Development	7 February 2007	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	lwh@core.com
Marine Electronics	Spring 2008	Harold Hladky	269-969-0815	hhladky@aol.com
Sail	Fall 2007	George Tyler	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	Spring 2008	Allen Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

The 2007 KSPS Bridge Officers

Commander	Stf/C Robert Landeros SN	269-501-2757 (mobile)	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Executive Officer	P/C Harold L. Hladky AP	269-969-0815 (home)	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Educational Officer	Lt/C W. Joseph Mills JN	269-375-4414 (home)	millsatty@tds.net
Administrative Officer	Lt/C William Soule P	269-544-0518 (home)	souleb@aol.com
Treasurer	P/C Nils Strand AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer S	269-731-5601 (home)	lyn.bleyer@wmich.edu

Paddle wheeling down the Tenn-Tom

By Ray Shoemaker

Editor's note: This is part three of a four part article by KSPS member, Raymond Shoemaker, sharing his experience with Captain Rick Pohn, as they piloted a split wheel paddle wheel down the Tenn-Tom Waterway .



Our luck did not hold at the Tom Bevell lock (pictured to the left). We had to wait about an hour to get in. After leaving the lock we traveled to about mile 288 before stopping for the night.

On 2 May we headed toward the Gainesville lock at

mile 266.1. Our luck returned on getting right in. The White Cliffs at mile 248 are pictured upper right.

The next picture is of a boat called Slo-Poke. It passed us 3 times this day.

We went into the Demopolis Yacht Basin (mile 216.2) for the night, as we needed to get



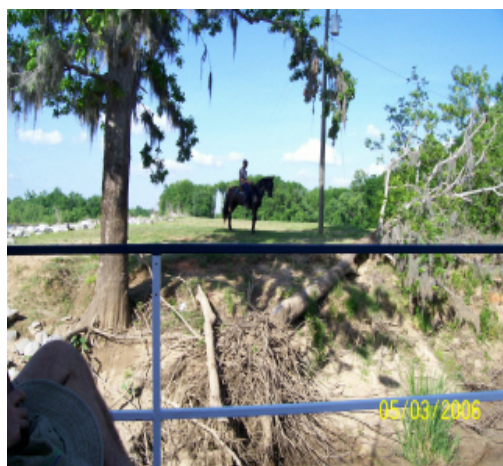
some heater elements for the hot water heater. It gave us an excuse to go to a restaurant for a good meal. We used the courtesy car to go get the heater elements, and when we returned to the marina, found that Slo-Poke had caught up with us again.



We were at about mile 210, when we encountered the "River of Fog". The fog was falling down to the river and it looked like flowing water. It was light and covered the entire width of the river for about half a mile.

We made it to Bashi Creek at mile 145. An hour later, Slo-Poke caught up with us and anchored across the river.

There is a park next to Bashi Creek, and we talked to the rider of this horse.



Birthdays!

1 April

Ronald J. Voelker

3 April

Glenn E. Hahn, N

11 April

P/C Allen V. Buskirk, SN

14 April

Donald J. Paulson, S

15 April

Brett B. Magnuson, P

20 April

Edward Harkness, P



Welcome New KSPS Members!

New members are the future of our squadron and without new members the future is too not bright. But, thanks to our *Boat Smart* chairmen, Lt Wally Corder, S and P/C Nils Strand, AP our future looks bright and vibrant!



At the February General Meeting Stf/C Robert Landeros, SN swore in five new KSPS members. They are, pictured from left to right: **Dennis Van Allsburg, Trish Smith, DJ. Parker, Pam Wright and Aaron Wright.**

Some of these new members are already getting involved by enrolling in *Engine Maintenance* and others plan to enroll in *Seamanship*. Their involvement energizes our squadron.

Three students from the recently concluded *Boat Smart* course in Battle Creek also want to learn more about boating and joined our squadron. They are **Glenn Lussier, Sandra Lussier and Ronald McPhee**. We look forward to your swearing-in during our April meeting at The Battle Creek Hunt Club.

Bridge Officer's Briefing from Page 1

\$15 to \$20 million of service value to the U.S. Government through our reporting program. In a time of continually decreasing NOAA budgets, this figure could increase as requests for our services grow.

USPS members act as field observers for NOAA. They are uniquely suited to this role because of the outstanding knowledge and training they receive through the USPS educational program. As the number of official NOAA observers decrease through budgetary reduction, USPS members report on many items that would otherwise go undetected and unreported. Many of these reports are of a critical nature requiring immediate distribution through the Coast Guard's broadcasted and published 'Local Notice To Mariners'.

Without these USPS observations, many hazards would go undetected until tragedy struck through a nautical mishap. Thus, USPS members save lives and property, as well as further boating safety through their efforts to improve the quality of our nation's charts. The Cooperative Charting Program is a highly successful, public service effort dedicated to the advancement of safety on the water for both the boating public and USPS members.

You can get involved in Cooperative Charting with a minimum of effort: just contact me. After that, you decide how much you want to get involved. However, I warn you to be careful; it can be a habit-forming, but fun activity!

Another face of your squadron is our Vessel Safety Check program. Besides providing boat owners with a compliance-oriented certifica-

tion examination, VSC offers a one-on-one educational opportunity for boaters. VSC Examiners have the opportunity and the responsibility to share their knowledge with boaters about the benefits and use of safety equipment, and the advantages of attending boating safety classes.

The VSC decal attests to the fact that a boat is in compliance with Federal and State requirements. The importance of the additional recommended equipment should be emphasized. A minimum requirement is just that – operations in potentially challenging waters or hazardous conditions may justify knowledge, skills, and additional safety equipment that far exceeds these minimum legal requirements.

Now is a great time to become a VSC Examiner! According to R/C Ronald LaPlante, SN, (Mount Clemens) chairman of the USPS Vessel Safety Check Committee, for every 20 vessel safety checks an examiner completes, the examiner's name will be entered in a drawing to win a berth on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Eagle this summer. This VSC Examiner could be someone from our squadron and it could be you! Begin by going to our website and visiting the VSC pages, which link to specific information on becoming an examiner.

USPS and KSPS are volunteer, public service organizations that promote boating safety and education, and the operative word is "volunteer." You too can be the face of the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron.

P/C Harold Hladky, AP



Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron
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Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S, Editor

Making boating safer and more fun!

We're on the web

<http://www.ksps-usps.org>



544 Columbia Ave W, Battle Creek MI 49015

**KALAMAZOO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
10 APRIL 2007**

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1830 | Socializing |
| 1900 | Call the Meeting to Order
Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance
Approval of the 13 March 2007 Minutes
Reports of Officers
Communications
Unfinished Business
New Business
Temporary Adjournment |
| 1915 | Dinner \$17.00 per person with cash bar
8 oz. Steak, Charbroiled Chicken or Fish
Each entrees includes: non-alcoholic drink, bake
potato, and breads |
| 1945 | Reconvene the Meeting
Announcements |
| 2000 | Refurbishing a Tug: The Restoration of <i>Atticus Finch</i>
Rick Brill |
| 2100 | Adjournment |

Please contact Lt/C Bill Soule, P and let him know that you plan to attend: (269) 544-0518 or souleb@aol.com

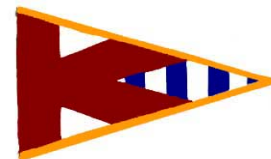
WEST SIDE PREDICTED LOG



U.S.P.S. District 9

Hosted by:

Kalamazoo Sail and Power Squadron



15-17 June 2007

Yacht Basin Marina
LAKE MACATAWA
HOLLAND, MI

Point of contact: LT Jerry Hendrickson

Ph 269-353-7243

E-mail jlh10acrewoods@sbcglobal.net

Entry Form

2007 PREDICTED LOG CONTEST

Skipper's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Home): _____ Phone (Mobile) _____ Phone (Work) _____

Boat Name: _____

Make: _____ Length: _____ Registration #: _____

I/We will need a slip for **Friday** _____ and/or for **Saturday** _____. Slip/foot cost to be determined.

_____ I/We would like to be an **OBSERVER** on a participating boat.

Registration Fee (Participating Boats): \$25.00 X _____ = \$ _____

Friday Night Potluck Bring a dish to share

Saturday Morning Bagels & coffee

Saturday Awards Dinner Pay at the door. Cost TBA

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Makes checks payable to KSPS

Send completed form and check to: Lt/Jerry Hendrickson; 7345 W "F" Avenue; Kalamazoo, MI 49009