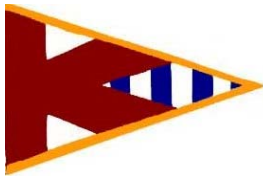


# The Pilot

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



**Special inserts:**

- KSPS General Membership Meeting Notice: 13 February 2007
- Golden Opportunities Await Attendees of D/9 Spring Conference: 30 March-1 April 2007

**Inside this issue:**

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- KSPS, D/9 & USPS Activities and Meetings 2
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- February 2007 Birthdays 3
- The Red & Green Socks 4

## February 2007 Bridge Officer's Briefing

**Cdr Robert Landeros, SN**

Members of the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron, you have honored me by giving me the privilege to serve as your fifty-fourth commander. I pledge to you that under my watch, we shall lay the foundation for our squadron's 60th anniversary, which occurs next year. In British parlance, a Diamond Jubilee is a celebration held to mark a 60th anniversary; therefore, I shall refer to 2008 as our Diamond Jubilee Year.

As we progress to our Diamond Jubilee Year, there are several initiatives and goals that I believe will strengthen our squadron. First, I am happy to inform you that I have worked with the P/C Nils Strand, AP and the Finance Committee to establish the "Diamond Task Force." The purpose of the Diamond Task Force is to facilitate our squadron's future viability and provide leadership development for our squadron's future commanders.

Our future commanders and officers will come from our current and future members. Our membership has averaged 100 members for the last few years with approximately 30 percent of members taking leadership roles in our squadron. Accordingly, an important goal of our squadron is to increase membership and membership involvement. I have asked P/C Karen Strand, AP and P/C Robyn Levene, AP to initiate a Membership Drive that will coincide with Spring 2007 Boat Smart courses. I have also asked Robyn to enhance Seamanship, the traditional first course taken by new members to include Operations Training so new members will learn how they can contribute to the future of the USPS and the KSPS; therefore, Robyn will work very closely with 1st/Lt Phyllis Buskirk, P. Additionally, before June 2007, Robyn will offer a Leadership Development course aimed at members and their families: the goal is to introduce members' children and grandchil-



**Cdr Robert Landeros, SN  
The Fifty-fourth Commander of the  
Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron**

dren to USPS while learning the leadership skills that they may use throughout their lives.

I have also asked the Planning Committee to determine if our squadron's year should mirror the district's calendar. There are

**Continued on Page 3**

## What's KSPS or USPS Up To Today, This Week, Next Month...?

Every month, the second page of The Pilot lists classes, events and activities planned by KSPS, D/9 and USPS for the next few months. However, if you visit your website, you can find more detailed information for the entire year. The website address is:

[www.ksp-s-usps.org](http://www.ksp-s-usps.org)

The navigation bar on the left will link you to the calendar. Once you're at the calendar, you have the option to set your own reminders that will be sent to your e-mail address. We hope that you use this additional benefit that is available to all KSPS members.

February 2007							
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	15	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	1	2	3	

## February General Meeting: The Voyage of *Great Expectations*



On Tuesday, 13 February 2007, the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron will hold its General Membership Meeting. The Main Street Pub, near the corner of Gull Road and north Sprinkle Road will be the site of the meeting. The location was chosen because it is more accessible to our members living in Battle Creek.

At the meeting, your officers will report on their activities to make boating safer and fun for all. After the General Meeting, 1st/Lt Jim Riordan, AP will recount his adventures onboard *Great Expectation*, a 42ft trawler that was built in China and shipped to Boston where Jim and

Trish Smith took delivery in mid-July. The shakedown cruise of *Great Expectation* started in Boston. They then made their way up the Atlantic coastline to Maine and back to Portsmouth, NH where the boat is spending the winter. A voyage of 800 miles, which Jim says, was "a good shakedown cruise".

If you plan to attend, please contact Lt/C Bill Soule, P 269-554-0518 or souleb@aol.com



## KSPS, D-9 & USPS Activities and Meetings

13 Feb 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting Main Street Pub, Gull Rd & N. Sprinkle Ave	20-25 Feb 07 USPS Annual Meeting Jacksonville, Florida	3 Mar 07; 0900-1200 D/9 Spring Council Mount Clemens, Michigan
13 Mar 07; 1830-2100 KSPS Executive Meeting TBD	30 Mar to 1 Apr 07 D/9 Spring Conference Lansing, Michigan	10 Apr 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting TBD
8 May 07; 1830-2100 KSPS General Meeting TBD	19-25 May 2007 National Safe Boating Week	12 June 2007 KSPS Executive Meeting TBD

## Public Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives

Course	Start Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
Boat Smart: Battle Creek	1 February 07	Nils Strand	269-964-6600	nils.strand@gsa.gov
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	jlh10acrewoods@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@kspusps.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	Allan Buskirk	269-375-2586	andiamo91@cs.com

## 2006 KSPS Bridge Officers

<b>Commander</b>	Stf/C Robert Landeros SN	269-501-2757 (mobile)	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
<b>Executive Officer</b>	P/C Harold L. Hladky AP	269-969-0815 (home)	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
<b>Educational Officer</b>	Lt/C W. Joseph Mills JN	269-375-4414 (home)	millsatty@tds.net
<b>Administrative Officer</b>	Lt/C William Soule P	269-554-0518 (home)	souleb@aol.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	P/C Nils Strand AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
<b>Secretary</b>	Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer S	269-731-5601 (home)	lyn.bleyer@wich.edu

## Paddle wheeling down the Tenn-Tom

By Ray Shoemaker

*Editor's note: This is part one 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 Tennessee-Tombigbee or Tenn-Tom Waterway. The waterway starts at Yellow Creek (corner of Mississippi Tennessee and Alabama) and ends at Demopolis AL. Ten days and 455 miles later Ray's journey ended at Fairhope/Mobile AL.*

As I told some of you last spring, I was going to take a paddle wheeler from the Lee Spry Boat yard, just south of Yellow Creek TN. down the Ten-Tom waterway to Fairhope (Mobile) AL. The



boat name is Barbara Ann. It is a split wheel paddle wheeler. It is a very neat boat, and will be a great live-aboard when some re-wires the 110V system.

The engine is a caterpillar diesel. It drives two hydraulic pumps, one for each paddle. There is also an Onan 15KW generator to power the boat when at sea.



On Thursday, April 27th, at about 5:30 AM we left the boat yard (mile marker 447 on the Tombigbee waterway). It was still dark and after the first mile, we encountered dense fog. Using the radar, we slowly continued past a tow that was sitting alongside the channel. It took about an hour to get through the fog.

At about 11 AM we started to enter Bay Springs Lake (mile marker 420). We heard a growl from the port gearbox. Using the cell phone, we called the boat yard and ask them to meet us at Bay Springs Marina. It was about a half hour drive for the mechanics, while it took us another 45 minutes to get there.

Continued on Page 4

## Birthdays!

7 February

**Raymond J. Shoemaker**

10 February

**Sharon Marie Mathewson, AP**

11 February

**Jerry B. Love, P**

13 February

**Linda R. Mills, S**

21 February

**Edward B. Smith**

22 February

**Janice Brown, S**



## Commander's Message from Page 1

several advantages to this change. First, new bridges would have an easier transition since their watches will begin in late spring or early summer. Furthermore, this change would have our squadron's year runs more closely with the USPS educational year. I have asked the Planning Committee to report its findings and recommendation to the membership at the February 2007 Business Meeting.

I have also asked the Rules Committee to update our bylaws so they align with the Model Squadron Bylaws, and to change our squadron year in the bylaws if so recommended by the Planning Committee. I have instructed the Rules Committee to open lines of communications with Stf/C William I. Neef, SN of the USPS Committee on Rules to insure that our updated bylaws are presented to the KSPS Executive Committee for its consideration at its March 2007 meeting. The Rules Committee will then present the updated Bylaws to the membership at the April 2007 General Meeting and membership will vote on the updated Bylaws at the May 2007 General Meeting. I understand this is an aggressive schedule, but by using electronic communication with the USPS Committee on Rules, I believe it is feasible.

As your fifty-fourth commander, I have the benefit of the experience and initiatives of all past commanders. I have learned much from all those past commanders that I have met. For the last year, I served as the executive officer on the bridge of P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP, and I want to thank her for her leadership and providing the underpinning that we may build upon under my watch. Her perspective and counsel will be invaluable to the 2007 Bridge. Robyn is truly a legacy that took our squadron "Back to the Future."

I am certain the 2007 Bridge will keep moving to a bright future because of their experience, their perspectives and interests. For example, we are very fortunate to have P/C Harold Hladky, AP as our Executive Officer. The executive officer is responsible for the squadron's external affairs. As a past commander, I am certain Harold's experience will provide the leadership and direction for our squadron's growth and development.

Education of the general public and of our members is an important aspect of KSPS. Under the continued leadership of Lt/C Joe Mills, JN, I know we shall achieve our mission to make boating safer and fun for all.

We are also fortunate to have Lt/C Bill Soule, P as our Administrative Officer. Bill brings a wealth of experience; he has been a School Board Trustee and Secretary of the Boat Yard Basin Association. I look forward to his fresh perspective and his advice and counsel.

Lt/C Lyndell Bleyer, S moves up from assistant secretary to Secretary. Lyn brings the experience of assuring a proper and effective flow of communication to all squadron members, which is an important component of member involvement.

P/C Nils Strand, AP brings consistency to the position of Treasurer. He will be instrumental in assuring the success of the Diamond Task Force initiative, which will help facilitate our squadron's future commanders and assure the viability of squadron.

I profoundly believe that there is on this horizon *A New Dawn* for our squadron as we approach our Diamond Jubilee and, beyond.

Ready to serve you,

**Commander Bob, SN**

## Paddle wheeling down the Tenn-Tom (Continued from Page 3)



After taking the gearbox off and looking inside, we determined that the pinion gears and the planetary gears were striped. The owner was called and advised of the problem. He asked if it was possible to continue on until he could get new gears or a new gearbox.

Knowing that we would be slowed down from our fast pace of 5 MPH, we said yes. The gearbox was taken off the shaft and the hydraulic pump was lashed to the deck, thus making the port wheel freewheeling.

With this done we left Bay Springs Marina and headed for Whitten lock (mile marker 4.12). The first of 13 locks we would have to go through. We called the lock and received the green light for immediate entry.

We continued on with the one paddle pushing us (at 4.5 to 5.0 MPH), and at the Montgomery lock (mile marker 407) we were



again given the green light for immediate entry. Continuing on to about mile 400, we anchored about 100 yards off the entrance to Murphee's marina. The boat's owner requested that we anchor out every night. Up to this point the depth finder was working fine. However the next morning, it quit working. As of this time, we still do not know what happened to it. The adventure continues in the next *Pilot*.

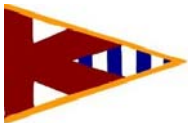
## The Red & Green Socks

P/C Robyn D.M. Levene, AP

How did the Red and Green Socks get stated? According to P/C Phil Faustman, SN, it was Yip Verdries and Al Whitmore's idea in the 1970s.

It was my privilege as out going commander to reinstate the Red and Green Socks as the "Rules of the Road" award. This perpetual award will be awarded each year to a member who unintentionally disregards one of those rules.

Scott Levene is the recipient for 2006. If you get a chance, corner Scott and he'll be thrilled (maybe) to share his story. Beware; YOU might be the 2007 recipient of this auspicious award.



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

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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>



5462 Gull Road (Near the Corner of Gull Road and North Sprinkle Avenue)  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49048

**KALAMAZOO SAIL & POWER SQUADRON  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
13 FEBRUARY 2007**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1830 | Socializing   |
| 1900 | Call the Meeting to Order<br>Innovation<br>Pledge of Allegiance<br>Approval of 16 January 2007 Minutes<br>Reports of Officers<br>Communications<br>Unfinished Business<br>New Business<br>Temporary Adjournment |
| 1915 | Dinner \$19.50 per person with cash bar<br>London Broil, Broiled Whitefish or Vegetable Stir-Fry<br>Each entrees includes: soda, ice tea or coffee, salad<br>and chef's choice of dessert                       |
| 1945 | Reconvene the Meeting<br>Announcements  |
| 2000 | The Shakedown Cruise of <i>Great Expectations</i><br>1 <sup>st</sup> /Lt Jim Riordan, AP  |
| 2100 | Adjournment   |

Please contact Lt/C Bill Soule, P and let him know that you plan to attend: (269) 554-0518 or souleb@aol.com



**62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GRAND RAPIDS BOAT SHOW  
at De Vos Place ~ Grand Rapids, Michigan**

This year, the Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron is cooperating with the Grand Rapids Power Squadron to staff an information booth at Grand Rapids Boat Show.

GRPS plans to have at least one person there at all times and KSPS agreed to provide one or two members at any time. Hours & Days are :

1500 to 2130, Wednesday, 14 February

1500 to 2130, Thursday, 15 February

1100 to 2130, Friday, 16 February

1000 to 2130 Saturday, 17 Saturday

1100 to 1800 Sunday, 18 Saturday

Please call or Email P/C Harold Hladky if you can assist in this activity, plus be able to see the show for free. We are still working on obtaining Boat Show passes.

Additionally, KSPS needs a Boat Show chair for the balance of the year, and if your interested in making these kinds of arrangements, please contact our Executive Officer, P/C Harold Hladky

Email [harold.hladky@wmich.edu](mailto:harold.hladky@wmich.edu) or [hhladky@aol.com](mailto:hhladky@aol.com)

Telephone nights 269-969-0815

Telephone days 269-276-3513

## Golden Opportunities Await Attendees of D/9 Spring Conference 30 March to 1 April 2007

The Headliners will be out in force for the D/9 Spring Conference to be held in Lansing, MI.

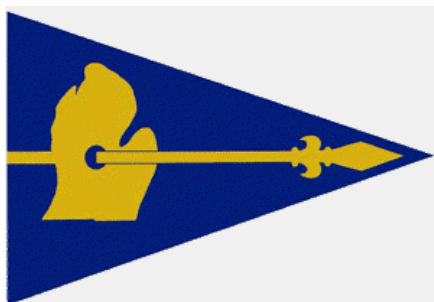
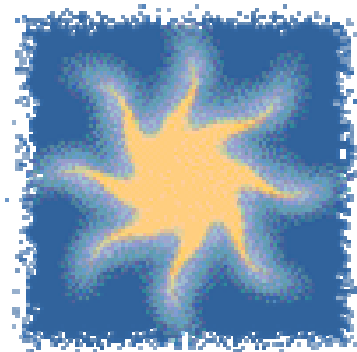
### What opportunities await you?

**Friday Night** – Celebrate Lansing Power Squadron's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Friday night. It's the traditional hospitality night with the various squadron's hosting their rooms and bringing good cheer and fellowship to all! Lansing will be featuring golden treats to celebrate our anniversary.

**Saturday** - Along with the great seminars and business sessions the D/9 Board is planning for you, Lansing has some extras to partake in.

Special Event: Simulated Fire Training

This hands-on instruction program will be held in the Atrium on Saturday morning in ½ hour increments. Sponsored by Vanguard Fire & Security Systems, Inc. this training simulates four fire scenarios which the participant practices fighting. Participants will learn the proper methods of fire extinguisher use as it relates to watercraft and other incidents. Participants will receive a course completion certificate on the spot which meets the requirements of OSHA for interior incipient fire training. All conference attendees are encouraged to participate; sign up sheets will be available in the Lansing Hospitality Suite Friday night.



**Ship's Store:** Start saving your pennies to pick up the many goodies which will be available at the Ship's Store on Saturday. Located across from the registration desk, there will be a wide variety of USPS items that are perfect for the spring and summer boating season. Don't leave home without your checkbook!

**Saturday Social Luncheon** - The Saturday Social Luncheon will be featuring a Craft Workshop after lunch. A card crafting class will be

taught by the certified instructors from Michael's Crafts. Take home five (5) completed cards with envelopes suitable for gift giving or mailing. Be creative and enjoy the satisfaction of your own handiwork. Can't make lunch but want to participate in the Craft Workshop? No problem, we have a special fee for workshop attendees only.



**Saturday Evening** – Continue looking for opportunities by trying your luck at Casino Night! The casino will “open for business” after dinner with each participant receiving free chips for the evening. No money passes hands but there will be lots of good-natured card playing, roulette spinning and dice rolling going on. When you get tired, sit down and listen to our Lounge Siren as she croons her way throughout the evening.

Hurry to make your reservations now. Call Holiday Inn South at 517-694-8123 to make your room reservations. Conference Registration is included in the *Interlaker*. Don't miss out on your Golden Opportunity!

# 2007 D/9 SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

## Golden Opportunities

with Lansing Power Squadron

MARCH 30 - APRIL 1, 2007



Attention: All registration requests must be received, on this form, by March 18, 2007. Registration requests received after 18 March will be taken on a space available basis.

Uniform of the Day:

Seminars & Business Lunch: Uniform F  
(or USPS Blazer or Appropriate Attire)  
Dinner: Appropriate Casino Night Attire

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Certificate #</u>	<u>Squadron</u>	<u>First Time Attendee?</u>	
						<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
(1) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(2) _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
(W) \_\_\_\_\_

MEALS

NOTE: An additional surcharge of \$5.00 will apply for any meal reservations made on the day of the conference (if meals are available)

Business Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @\$20 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Social Lunch/Craft Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ @\$36 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Lunch Only @\$20, Workshop Only @\$20)

Dinner/Casino Night \_\_\_\_\_ @\$45 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Meal/Dietary Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (No Credit Cards)

Make checks payable to: Lansing Power Squadron

Mail checks and this form to:

P/C David C. Thompson, AP  
1513 Downing St  
Haslett, MI 48840

Hotel Reservations/Room Rates:

\$84.00 per double occupancy per night  
Call *Holiday Inn South* to reserve room  
6820 S. Cedar St. Lansing, MI 48911  
(517) 694-8123