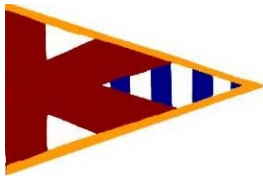


The Pilot

Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

a unit of the United States Power Squadrons®



Commander's Message

Our Change of Watch on 10 January was well attended. We had 21 of our 77 current KSPS members and four guests. Two guests were from the Dearborn Sail and Power Squadron- District Executive Officer Linda LaLonde and her husband Jerry. Two other guests, Jeff and Ann Ross - friends of Phyllis Buskirk and George Gerpheide - became members that night.

For the third year in a row, we were fortunate to have the District 9 Executive Officer (who will become District Cdr in March) swear in our new bridge and other elected officers. I'd say that was a very successful COW.



Lyndell R. Bleyer

My goals for 2012 will only be accomplished if KSPS members step up and help. Together, we will revisit the list of recommendations from USPS on increasing new members and engaging current members and use a survey to learn your priorities.

Feeling a little disconnected from KSPS? Gary and I got involved because other members asked us to come to an event or participate in an activity. But the thing that really hooked us was taking classes. You develop a sense of camaraderie with both your fellow classmates and instructors. You get to know them. So, if you haven't taken a class in awhile, take one. If you don't like tests, you don't have to take the exam, but you'll still learn a lot and will enjoy the company and wisdom of others. If you've taken a lot of classes or just have water-smarts from years of boating, please consider teaching one night of class or a seminar.

I would like everyone to take a look at the roster and see who lives near you. In an effort to increase attendance at meetings, classes and other events, as well as, be *green by car pooling*, I would like you to offer a ride to or accept a ride from a KSPS member for at least one event in 2012.

Be sure to see the calendar and classes on page two for more upcoming events.

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www.ksp-s-usps.org

February Speaker

Brigadier Gen (Ret) Linda McTague served in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard for 28 years as a pilot and Maintenance Officer flying VIP transport and trainer aircraft.

She retired as the Commander of the District of Columbia - Air National Guard. She will speak about her experiences in aviation and the military.

Come alone (as many of us do) or bring a spouse or friend. It's Valentine's Day !
Tue. 14 February - Time: 6:30 - 9:00

6:30 social / 7 dinner followed by speaker
Where: Hunt Club - 544 W Columbia Ave BC
Order off the menu.

China improves GPS

China is now one step closer to becoming the top economic and military superpower in the world: its Beidou global positioning system is fully operational.

Beidou eliminates China's dependency on the American GPS system. It means China would be able to launch an attack or move their forces around the world without U.S. interference. Right now, the US can deactivate its GPS so that enemy armies can not use GPS in certain areas. By 2020, Beidou will cover the entire world with 35 satellites - with greater accuracy than the U.S. GPS system.

Calendar: KSPS Activities, Events and Meetings

February General Mtg Brigadier Gen. Linda McTague, Ret'd Tue. 14 February - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 The Hunt Club - 544 W Columbia Ave BC	Executive Committee Mtg Tue 13 March - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Kalamazoo Location: TBD	D9 Spring Conference - Goes Hollywood Fri evening - Sat March 23 - 24 Double Tree Hotel, Bay City MI Register soon !
See dates below for Classes & Seminars. next up ABC, Youth and Seamanship	April General Mtg Presentation to be announced Tue. 13 March - Time: 6:30 - 9:00 Location: Gull Lake View Golf Club ?	USPS 2012 Governing Board Meeting 4 - 9 September 2012 Detroit Marriott Hotel Lots of pre-mtg activities/volunteer opp.

Learn More About Boating

ABC America's Boating Course

The Kalamazoo ABC and **Boating Safety for Youth** classes are from 6 to 8 pm (note the earlier start time) Mondays February 27 to March 26 at Milwood Magnet School.
 ABC \$30, Youth \$5.

Battle Creek ABC runs Thurs. 22 March—26 April at Lakeview Middle School in Battle Creek.
Introduction to Charting is offered after ABC in Battle Creek.

Seamanship begins 19 March 2012. Contact Karen.

New Seminar - Emergencies on Board

Check out the seminars available on www.usps.org
 Most seminars cost \$25 for USPS members, and \$35 for non-members, but some are slightly higher.

Piloting - co-coordinated by George Gerpheide & Diane Hansen
 Piloting runs 27 Oct. to 26 Jan. Exam due: 26 Jan. 2012

Engine Maintenance for Boaters Offered Winter 2013

More detailed Course Descriptions are at www.ksps-usps.org

Next Meeting - Tues. 14 Feb Kalamazoo Sail & Power Squadron

Social time 6:30 pm, Diner at 7
 At The Hunt Club, 544 W Columbia Ave
 Battle Creek, MI

Speaker: Brigadier General, Retired - Linda McTague



A Retiree's Winter Thoughts

**The Retiree's spouse asked, "Whatcha doin today?"
 "Nothing." "You did that yesterday."
 "I'm not finished".**

February Birthdays

07 Ray Shoemaker
 10 Sharon Mathewson
 11 Jerry Love
 13 Linda Mills

March Birthdays

02 Robert Landeros
 03 Lyn Bleyer
 07 Beth Walter
 22 Don DeLong
 26 Bill Soule

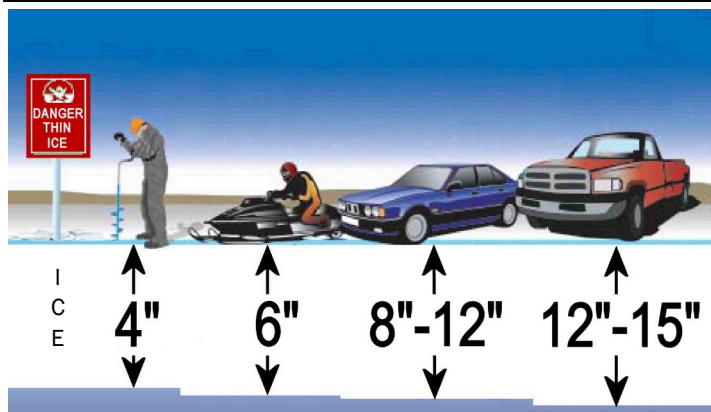


If your birthday is not in the roster, please send just the month and day to Lyn

Basic Courses, Advanced Grade Courses & Electives— Call contact for updates & to register

Course	Date	Contact Person	Telephone	e-mail address
America's Boating Course: Battle Creek	22 Mar - 26 Apr	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
America's Boating Course: Kalamazoo	27 Feb - 26 Mar	Wally Corder	269-365-3398 (c)	wccorder@hotmail.com
DNR Course (age 12 - 16): Kalamazoo	27 Feb - 26 Mar	Register via Com. Ed	269-337-0446	Lois 345-4521 or Hladky
Intro. To Charting: Battle Creek	after ABC in BC	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Seamanship (Mon 7-9 pm/buffet 6pm)	19 March - 7 May	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Piloting (Thursdays 6:30-8:30 pm)	27 Oct - 26 Jan	George G & Diane H	269-375-4024	gunkholer1889@yahoo.com
Advanced Piloting	Self study Feb-May	Jerry Hendrickson	269-353-7243	jlh10acrewoods@charter.net
Junior Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Navigation	TBD	Robert Landeros	269-501-2757	robert.landeros@sbcglobal.net
Cruise Planning CP (Mon 6-8:30)	Mar 2013	Karen Strand	269-964-6690	karenstrand@sbcglobal.net
Engine Maintenance (Wed 6:30-8:30)	Winter 2012	Dan Livingston	269-781-2328	autodan@yahoo.com
Instructor Development	Spring 2012	Lois Whitmore	269-345-4521	dogwood17@charter.net
Marine Electronics	TBD	Harold Hladky	269-274-1995	harold.hladky@wmich.edu
Operations Training (4-6 hrs/ no test)	Nov or Jan	Nils Strand	269-964-6690	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Sail & Advanced Sail	TBD Spring	George Tyler, Jr.	269-671-4560	gtn8kjd@tds.net
Weather	TBD Fall	H. Hladky & G. Tyler	269-375-2586	Harold H. or George Tyler, Jr

Be Safe on Ice



Graphic from North Dakota Dept. of Fish and Game

Four inches of ice will generally hold an average-sized person on foot. While the graphic indicates a six inch minimum for snowmobiles in North Dakota, where they have less freeze/thaw cycles, In Southwest Michigan, snowmobiles and ORVs need at least eight inches of solid, consistently thick clear ice. Vehicles weighing about one ton such as cars, pickups or SUVs should be parked at least 50 feet apart and moved every two hours to prevent sinking. It's not a bad idea to make a hole next to the car. If water starts to overflow the top of the hole, the ice is sinking and it's time to move the vehicle!

Cold water kills quickly! Surprisingly, cold water is defined as any water temperature less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The fact that air temperatures might be far above freezing is irrelevant when people unexpectedly fall in the water.

What if I fall in? Source: North Dakota Fish & Game
<http://gf.nd.gov/education/ice-brochure.html>

Try not to panic. Try to fall so your body hits the ice horizontally, as if you were going to lay down on it. If you have time, try to lean forward as you fall, so you can see exactly where the ice is and control how you hit it. You might hit your head if you fall backwards.

Turn toward the direction you came.

The safest place to pull yourself back up is the last place you stepped before you went through the ice.

Place your hands & arms on the unbroken surface of the ice.

Work your way up by kicking your feet.

Use your ice picks to assist in pulling yourself onto the ice.

Once you are lying on the ice, roll away from the weak or broken ice, don't attempt to stand up.

If there is a shanty near-by, go there for help and to warm-up.



To rescue another person

CALL 911 - most likely they will need hypothermia treatment.

DO NOT RUN out to assist the victim. You can go from rescuer to victim in a short second.

REACH the victim with a long pole, board, rope, blanket, scarf, jacket or jumper cables.

THROW the victim a life jacket, empty water jug, or other buoyant object.

LAYDOWN on the ice (it will be more likely to support you).

Build a HUMAN CHAIN in which rescuers lie on the ice with each person grasping the feet of the person in front. Once the victim is out of the hole and on ice, roll away from the weak or broken ice, do not attempt to stand up.

First Column and above primarily: North Dakota Fish and Game
<http://gf.nd.gov/education/ice-brochure.html>

Ice Safety Tips from the MI Dept. of Natural Resources

Never venture onto the ice alone or without telling your plans to a responsible adult. Call them when you return to shore.

Avoid standing or walking in areas with a group of people. Avoid crossing frozen bodies of water in a single file.

Any time you are on the ice and have not personally checked the thickness consider yourself in harm's way. Check the thickness of the ice with an ice spud before venturing onto the ice.

Always wear a life jacket when on the frozen surface of a lake or river. (but not inside a vehicle you drive onto the ice).

Never Drive a car or truck on the ice. If you do, keep window open to enable your escape.

Carry a pair of ice picks. These are designed for a self rescue and are two handles with a nail device in one end attached to each other by a length of rope.

Carry a quality whistle in the pocket of the outer-most garment or better yet attach with cord near collar of jacket.

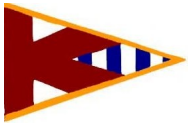
Look for large cracks or depressions in the ice.

Learn and practice rescue techniques by using ropes, boats, ladders. Carry nylon rope in a clear plastic pail.

Ice does not form with uniform thickness on any body of water. Underwater springs or currents can wear thin spots on any body of water.

Clear ice is the strongest. Ice formed by melted and refrozen snow appears milky, is very porous and very weak. Ice covered by snow should always be presumed unsafe.

Four inches of ice will generally hold an average-sized person on foot. Snowmobiles and ORVs need at least eight inches of solid, consistently thick ice. Michigan.gov/DNR

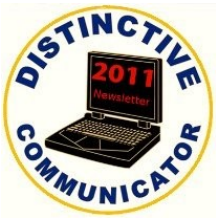


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Boating is fun... We'll show you how!



2012 KSPS Bridge Officers (please note new phone # for SEO and email for secretary)

Commander	Cdr Lyn Bleyer, S	269-731-5601 (home)	bleyer@wmich.edu
Executive Officer	Lt/C Dan Livingston, S	269-781-2328 (home)	autodan@yahoo.com
Educational Officer	Lt/C Wally Corder, S	269-365-3398 (cell)	wccorder@hotmail.com
Administrative Officer	Lt/C Ron Gustafson, S	269-567-0452 (cell)	ronaldga@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	P/C Nils Strand, AP	269-964-6690 (home)	nils.strand@gsa.gov
Secretary	P/C Lois Whitmore, SN	269-345-4521 (home)	dogwood17@charter.net

Roster Being Updated for 2012	Piloting Class Wraps Up
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The squadron roster is being updated. Please review the information under your name and send any changes, especially email, phone or address to Lyn at BLeyer@wmich.edu or (269) 721-5601.

While you're looking at your information, also review the classes you've taken (think about taking another class or if you've taken most of the classes we offer, call one of the class coordinators listed at the bottom of page two and offer to teach one night of class. It will make a big difference! And it will help you earn your Merit Mark for 2012.

Also look at the list of people who serve on committees, lists of highest advance grade courses completed and make sure your name is where it should appear. We plan to print the 2012 roster right after we add new members from ABC classes.

Deep appreciation is expressed to George Gerpheide and Diane Hansen for coordinating the Piloting class that wrapped up when class members handed in their open-book take-home exams on Thursday 26 January.

If George and Diane had not stepped up and offered this class, many of us on the Bridge and Executive Committee would continue to have just an S after our names (for Seamanship).

Our thanks also to Chris Hansen, who, along with Diane, agreed to open their home for our class. They turned their living room into a classroom and kept the driveway and walkways clear of ice and snow, plus hosted two potluck dinners. Many thanks from:

Lyn & Gary Bleyer, Wally Corder, Don DeLong, Marti Fritz, Ron Gustafson, Jim Johnston, and Dan Livingston. Sue Livingston added to our class while she self-studied Advanced Piloting.