



ANNUAL ISSUE

FISHING TALES



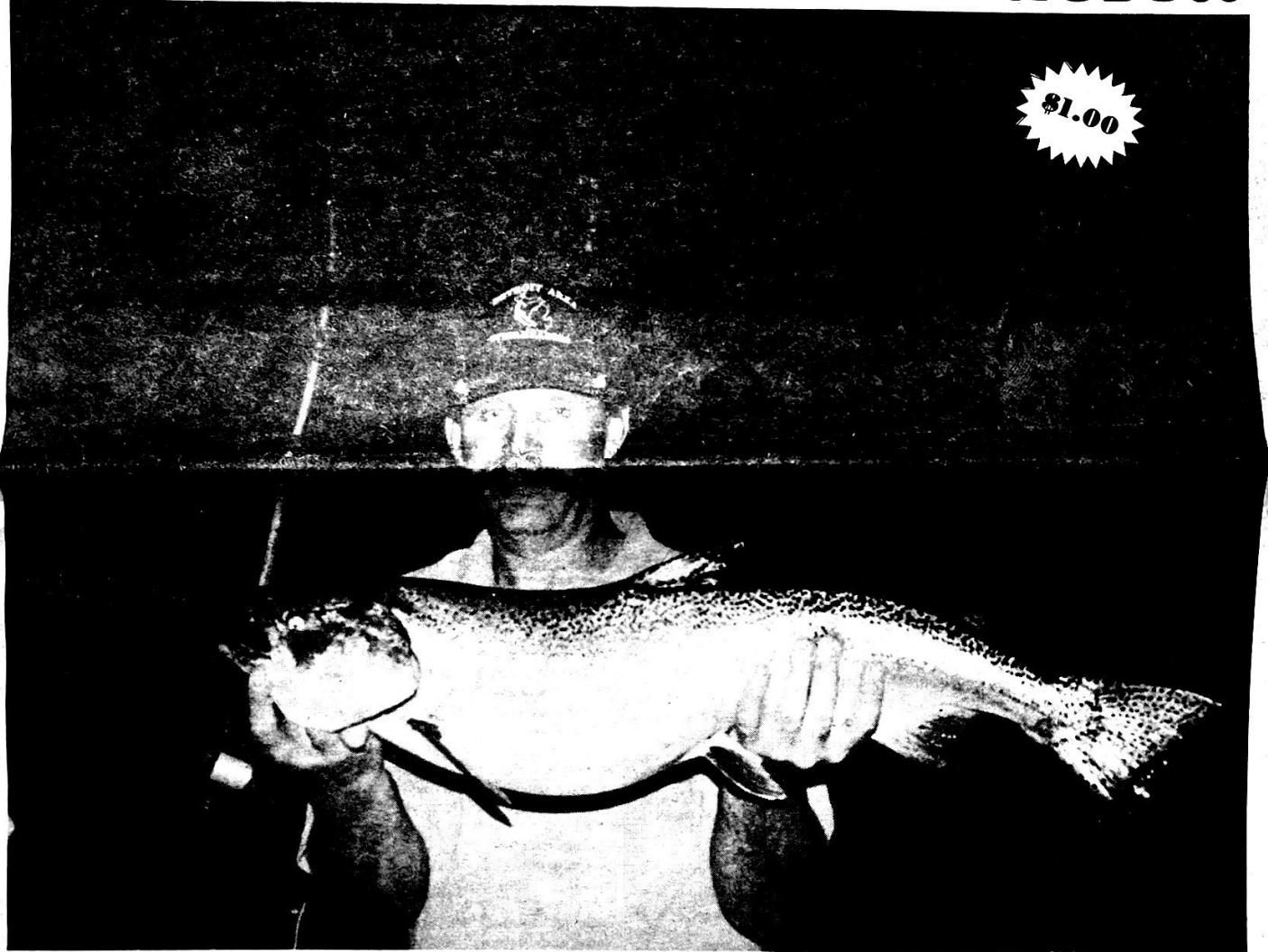
VOL. XV • No. 1

Published by the Detroit Area Steelheaders

1989 ANNUAL ISSUE

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"... 1988 was a good year, all in all"

Another year has come and gone . . . seems hard to believe. I can remember launching the boat like it was yesterday!

Fear not, another April isn't too far off!

I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight a few of the things that took place for Detroit Area Steelheaders in 1988.

January started my second year as president of the club—my, how time flies. Kicking off the new year always gets us all back in the swing of the boat and 'outdoors' shows. As always, the Pontiac Show was our first one. It seems as though everyone 'comes out of hibernation' for that one. It's really nice to bump into people that you haven't seen since before the boats got put away.

I'd like to thank all the club members who helped out. I know selling raffle tickets can get old quickly, but when you sandwich it around "talkin' fishin'," it's not too bad!

From the Silverdome, we moved on to the Detroit Boat Show at Cobo Hall. Our booth, nestled in nicely with our good friends from Suburban Marine, worked out well. The crowds down there were tough, but again everyone did a fine job promoting fishing, and our club.

Once the Detroit Boat Show is over, you know that spring, and our busy time, is upon us.

Our spring Dinner Dance was next on the agenda. Jim Lee did another fine job once again. More than 100 people showed up for what turned out to be the best dance yet. If you haven't attended one of these functions yet, mark February 11, 1989 on your calendar and plan on having a good time.

Next came Bass-O-Rama and Out-doorama. I really enjoy these two shows, mostly because we see more of the just regular fishermen. I'd like to thank all those who put in time at these two shows. It always seems that the same people work the same days at the same shows every year. I know there **JUST HAVE TO BE** a few more people who could give us a hand this year. Check the schedule on the next page, pick out an event that sounds interesting and volunteer to help by calling any of the Board members. Do your part—it's your club, after all!

Our own Spring Fishing Show at the Dearborn Civic Center just gets better each year. Many thanks to Dennis Holoway, Bob Ksionzek and Dave Even for all the leg work they put in filling the place with vendors, etc. As everyone knows, this show is our biggest project of

the year, and it requires the most manpower. Hats off to all those who showed up at 6:00 a.m. to help set things up. Again this year, we'll need all the help we can get. Come on down and spend a very enjoyable day. If you can't show up to work, at least come on down to learn, shop and have fun. And bring along a friend or two!

April came in with a bang! The fishing started out good and everyone was looking forward to our River Crab outing. Unfortunately, it didn't come out the way we planned it. As most of you know, our club won the 1987 tournament by a wide margin. Our friends at the Blue Water Sportfishing Association evened the score in 1988.

The River Crab is a very special tournament to me personally, as most of you know. Last year's 'Crab was the first time I had my "Silver Fox" out. Luck was with us as we won the individual trophy competition with a catch of 13 fish. I would gladly have gone back to 1987, though, when I didn't catch a fish but our club won the club competition.

I'll be in charge of this tournament for 1989, so I'd really like to see **EVERY-ONE** turn out for this one, scheduled for April 22. The \$5,000 first prize would really help the club do a lot more to help sportfishing in our Lakes. If you can only fish a few of the 1989 club tournaments, please make sure that the River Crab is one of them! Let's show those boys who the Detroit Area Steelheaders are again!!

As spring turned into summer, our boat trolling tournaments continued to be the highlights of each month. Dave Even and his group of port chairmen did a fantastic job of staging the various events. I won't go into the individual tournaments . . . Dave Even has a good tourney-by-tourney report elsewhere in this issue, as does 1988 Skipper of the Year winner Bob Mitchell, as he tells the 1988 tournament season story well from his perspective.

I will say that we could sure use some new blood in our tournaments in 1989. If you haven't tried fishing in one yet, you've really been missing out. I've never seen the tourney competitors so willing to help each other out. There's plenty of room for more competition in these fun events. Don't be bashful about trying—I'm sure all the 'old pros' will be happy to help anyone who asks.

My biggest regret is not being able to participate in more than one or two of the outings each year. I really miss all the good times I've had with all the guys on



JOHN ROBERTSON had a lot to say at a recent Detroit Area Steelheader meeting. the tournament trail over the years.

Oh, I almost forgot. Congratulations go to Bob Mitchell on being 1988 Skipper of the Year. Bob, what are you going to do with all those trophies?? Congratulations, also, to Al Schultz. Way to go!

As summer slipped into fall, we put the big boats away and started our assault on surf and river fishing. Doug Karakas did another fine job putting all the tournaments together.

Those guys have got me really pumped up on this "river rat" stuff now. This being my second season of trying, I can now truly say that "it doesn't get much better than . . . fighting steelhead in a river." I've had some memorable experiences in the few tournaments I've been able to make. My thanks to Benny and the Jets, and all the rest of the "rats." If you'd like to try this kind of fishing, give Doug a call. It's a great time, and it sure beats staying home on the weekends!

Another highlight of each year is our annual Christmas Party. It's really nice to see everyone bring their wives and kids for a change. I'd like to give a special thanks to Bob "Salmon Claus" Kring for making all the kids happy again. Bob, if the design business ever goes bad, you know you can always get a job for at least a few weeks! Anyway, you look good in red!!

I'm sure Jerry Zabel liked his little award. It seems Jerry was fishing a little 'high' and managed to catch a seagull. Welcome to the "Joe Bozotski Club," Jerry, and wear your trophy with pride!

I'd say 1988 was a good year, all in all. As a club, we've done very well. Thanks to all the people who help make the whole thing work. Sometimes it seems like a thankless job, but like everything else, someone has to do it!

It always gives me great satisfaction to see all the members show up for a meeting, our Spring Fishing Show, or our tournaments. If it weren't for the dedicated people in our club, I'd hate to see what would happen to sportfishing as we know it. It's people like you and me who band together to make our voices heard in places where it counts most.

We seem to be a little down in membership this year, as all clubs are. So, please, when it's time to renew your membership, just remember all the things your dues money pays for. Even though

we don't always see eye to eye with our state organization, they are making a good effort on reorganization. In fact, our own past Detroit Area Steelheader president Steve Hamilton was recently elected to the State board. Give 'em hell, Steve!

I would also like to give a special thanks to our Member of the Year for 1988, Dick Shirk. We really appreciate all the "hands on" help you gave us over the last 12 months, Dick. Also, my congratulations on being elected to our Board of Directors. I'm sure you'll do a fine job as boat trolling tournament chairman.

Another much-deserved thanks goes to Joel Garinger as the 1988 Director of the Year. Joel's been on the Board forever, and he does a great job as Editor of our magazine, Fishin' Tales. How the man finds the time every month is beyond me. I don't know how we'd ever replace him. Keep up the good work, Joel!



JERRY ZABEL was named a member of the "Joe Bozotski" Club in recognition of his singular feat of successfully casting for a seagull last summer. Way to go, Jerry!

Let's all hope 1989 brings us better fishing, good weather and good health. Just don't forget that when the Detroit Area Steelheaders do well, it benefits all who enjoy the great sport of salmon and steelhead fishing that we all love so well.

Fish on . . . gotta go!

—Capt. Mike Zelkowski
"Silver Fox"



JOEL GARINGER, Fishin' Tales Editor, receives the 1988 "Director of the Year" award at the annual Detroit Area Steelheader Christmas Party.

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SEMINARS, TOP SPEAKERS HIGHLIGHT ANNUAL FISHING SPECTACULAR!

Spring Fishing Show is set for March 19

One of the surest signs that winter is nearly over — the Detroit Area Steelheaders' annual **SPRING FISHING SHOW** — is almost here.

Mark your calendars! The date for this year's fishing extravaganza is **SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1989!!**

The show is being held again this year at the Dearborn Civic Center, off Michigan Avenue near Greenfield Road (see map below). The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with a \$3.00 donation for admission. Children under 12 (who attend with an adult) and senior citizens get in **FREE!** There's plenty of free parking.

As always, the show offers all fishermen the finest selection of tackle and the latest equipment at bargain prices, **PLUS** many "How to..." clinics to show you how to catch the elusive and highly prized Great Lakes steelhead and salmon.

Such well-known guest speakers as Ron Spittler of the D.N.R. Fisheries Division, Jim Bedford, outdoor writer and expert steelhead spinner specialist, John Reiland, holder of many night line world records, and Lanny Virdon, will reveal the tactics and tricks that make them among the most successful fishermen on the Great Lakes.

Their advice on the latest techniques will help you catch more salmon and trout! There will be seminars on river fishing,



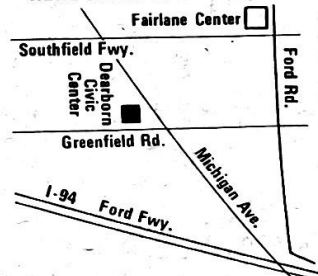
BOB KANAS, veteran Detroit Area Steelheader, offers the benefit of his fishing experience to interested spectators at last year's Spring Fishing Show.

surf fishing, and boat trolling. Other clinics scheduled include fly tying, rod building, and smoking fish. **THERE WON'T BE ANY WRESTLING BEARS OR "MACKINAC ISLAND FUDGE" AT THIS SHOW . . . JUST EVERYTHING TO DO WITH FISHING!!**

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FISHIN' TALES is published monthly by the DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS.

The views expressed in FISHIN' TALES are those of members and the Editor. The purpose of FISHIN' TALES is to inform members of events which affect the Sportfisherman. It is our intention to teach, inform and guide members to respect and appreciate the Great Lakes, rivers and land around us.

Material published in FISHIN' TALES may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given to the author, and to FISHIN' TALES as the original source of the material, and that at least one complete copy of the publication containing the reprint is sent to the Editor at the time of publication.

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Editor Joel Garinger

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- Bob Mitchell 828-8034
- Bill Shackleton 422-3386
- Dick Shirk 749-9493
- Mike Zelkowski 526-3236

The list of Officers and Committee assignments for 1989 will be published

Detroit Area Steelheaders History

The first organizational meeting (originally known) was held on October 16, 1974. Many hours of planning went into the project after a feasibility questionnaire to MSSFA members in the area indicated interest in the Chapter concept.

The MSSFA Board of Directors had encouraged two of their own, John Makela and Tom Schneider, to spearhead the move because of the membership possibilities in the vast metropolitan Detroit area. Two other Steelheaders, Ed Raquel and Joe Sizemore, jumped in, and as a committee of four, they founded the Detroit Area Chapter late one night in September, 1974.

Forty-one fishermen attended that

first gathering at the Northwood Inn. Discussions, elections, financial committees, and reading the by-laws. But most of the talk was about fishing, naturally! It was decided that the "First Annual Meeting" would be held on December 4, and that date would be the official beginning of the Chapter.

State officers attended that Annual Meeting, with Tom Mandigo, MSSFA president, the featured speaker. Fourteen directors were nominated and elected at this meeting, while paid membership grew to over 100.



THIS EARLIER VERSION of the Detroit Area Steelheader patch shows the club's original name.

Since then, the Detroit Area Steelheaders (our present name) have had monthly meetings for the members (now held on the last Tuesday of each month), and the club has grown to be the largest MSSFA Chapter in the state.

Annual Raffle has some great prizes!

The Detroit Area Steelheader Annual Raffle has some great prizes in 1989! First prize this year is a pair of Walker "Temp-Sense-Ready" electric downriggers with a retail value of \$800+, a prize any Steelheader, or would-be Steelheader, would love to win!! The Club wishes to thank Walker and Lakeside Tackle Shops for their help in obtaining this fine first prize.

Second prize is a Wille dual mast and dual planer board system worth \$250, and third prize is a pair of Riviera manual downriggers worth approximately \$200. There'll be additional prizes awarded, including a charter fishing trip and other fishing tackle!

Help YOUR club by participating in the Raffle, both as a buyer and as a SELLER of tickets. There'll be prizes awarded for ticket sales, along the lines of what we did with the Cooler Raffle last fall. So, we ask everyone in the club to help. Call Jim Lee at 839-8958 for tickets. **SUPPORT YOUR CLUB!!**

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Materials for publication should be submitted to:
JOEL GARINGER, Editor
839-8958, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081

SPECIAL NOTE: Dennis Holoway, Membership Chairman, requests that all dues money and membership renewal forms be sent **ONLY** to:

M.S.S.F.A.
P.O. Box 16320
Clarkston, Michigan 48016
Please **DO NOT** send your payment, etc. directly to the state.

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of month at 7:30 p.m. K. of C. Hall, 6177 Chicago Rd., Warren
JANUARY 31, 1989 • **FEBRUARY 28, 1989** • **MARCH 28, 1989**

SPECIAL STEELHEADER EVENTS

- PONTIAC BOAT SHOW (Silverdome) January 25-29
- DETROIT BOAT SHOW (Cobo Hall) February 4-12
- INTERNATIONAL FISHING SHOW (Cobo Hall) February 9-12
- STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) February 11
- OUTDOORAMA (State Fairgrounds) February 17-26
- STEELHEADER SPRING FISHING SHOW (Dearborn Civic Center) March 19
- ANNUAL RAFFLE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) April 25

RIVER TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

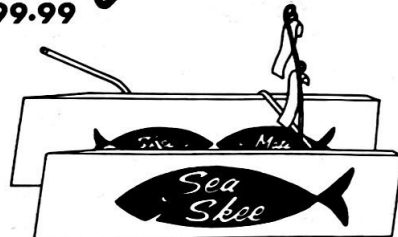
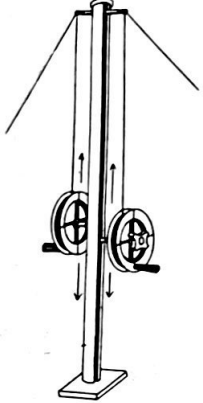
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| W.A.T.A. SUPER TOURNAMENT (Big Manistee River) | February 25 |
| DATE | CONTACT |
| April 22 | RIVER CRAB (St. Clair) Mike Zelkowski |
| April 29 | ST. JOSEPH Steve Banovic |
| May 20 | MUSKEGON (Sunday team doubles) Doug Karakas |
| June 3 | PORT AUSTIN Bob Ksionzek |
| June 17 | SPECIAL OLYMPICS Dennis Holoway/Dave Even |
| June 24 | OSCODA (Sunday team doubles) Bob Mitchell |
| July 22-23 | LOUDINGTON Gene Burbary |
| August 5 | MANISTEE (Ladies Day) Bill Shackleton |
| August 19-20 | ROGERS CITY Tim Graskewicz |
| September 2 | FRANKFORD Dan Redmond |

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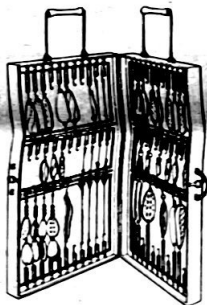
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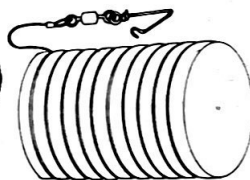


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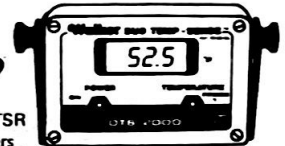
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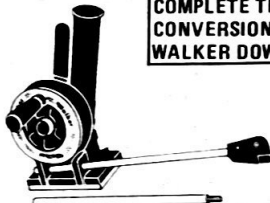
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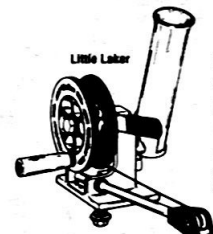
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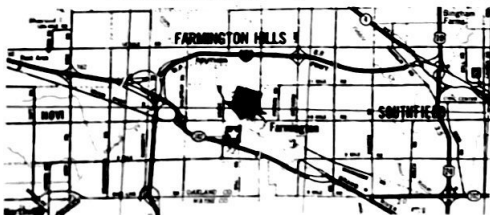


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30-pounds-plus: A dream come true!!

For the last 14 years, I've taken my vacation at Drummond Island in the Upper Peninsula during the first part of August. For the last five year, I've been hauling my salmon gear to Drummond, encouraged by stories of salmon—kings and pinks—just out of the Detour Lighthouse area. Last summer proved to be the best year yet, with at least one 20-pound-plus fish in the catch each day we fished for salmon.

On a Tuesday morning, we made the 14-mile run to the Lighthouse area and got into some hot action on white "Silver Streaks" with pink prism. Our first fish was in the 21- to 22-pound class, and we ended up losing our second hit with crushed hooks on the lure!

Ten minutes later, with a new hook installed, we lost our third strike, and when we retrieved the line, the hook was gone, with the ring still intact on the spoon!

We took two more fish, around 8-9 pounds each, all on that same lure, and then the fog began to roll in. The two Michigan State University students fishing with us didn't like the idea of fishing in fog in the same channel used by Great Lakes freighters, so we called it a morning and headed back to Drummond.

That same afternoon my wife Mary and I ran back down to the Lighthouse area. We set our lines as we neared our LORAN waypoint. As we reached the "00.000" reading, the same place where we took our morning fish, Mary yelled "Fish on!" I leaped to grab the rod, with line screaming off the reel... ah, music to the ear! About 20 minutes and another release later, the first fish was off the line.

"That's a beauty!" Mary said. "It's a no, but it sure was a good fish!" I replied.

We set lines again, and had time for a couple swallows of beer, then "POP!!" another hit on the original rod with the white "Silver Streak," 25 feet down. Again, I grabbed the rod, and this time I felt a great, strong head thrashing at the other end of the line!! "Yeah, it's a good one!!" I grunted as I fought back.

Four huge runs (one directly at the boat) and 55 minutes later, we were "up to the leader", and we had yet to see the monster! This mighty battle had not produced one jump or surface run!! Finally, it was net time, but Mary was hesitant with the 'bag'. "I don't want to lose it," she said.

I told her, "When his nose is up out of the water, get under it! NOW! NOW!! YAHOO... IT'S IN THE BAG!!!"

We both grabbed the net hoop and hauled the brute in to the bottom of the boat.



DOUG KARAKAS, ably assisted by his wife Mary, experienced the thrill of a fishing lifetime last August when he landed this 33-pound-plus monster king after a nearly one-hour-long battle in the waters off DeTour Lighthouse. Nice going, Doug!

"How big do you think it is, Doug?"
"Looks to be over 25 pounds to me!"

I cleared the hooks from his mouth, hoisted him off the deck, and put him in the cooler. As I looked at the fish in my 100-quart cooler, I realized that it was definitely way over 25 pounds!

We fished for another 45 minutes, then pulled lines and headed for home port at the "Yacht Haven" on Drummond. By the time we got in, it was nearly 9 o'clock, and everything was closed—no scales to be had to weigh my fish, not until 8 o'clock

the next morning. Needless to say, we departed bright and early the next morning. By 7:55 a.m. we were pulling our cooler out of a big walk-in cooler we had used the night before as the best available overnight storage for our prize catch.

At the first grocery store we tried, the scale went up to 26 pounds. We laid the fish out on it, and the scale flattened right out! Back the fish went into our cooler, and back we got into our truck for a quick drive to the next store. This was a United Parcel Service station with a 30-pound capacity scale—uncertified!

It was back on the road once again, this time to another grocery store that we were told had a large scale. We hefted our cooler back to the meat counter of Suene's Market, where the butcher was happy to weigh our catch. We flopped it onto the scale and the numbers started flashing. When it got to 30 pounds, 2

ounces the lighted dial went dark.

I asked, "What does it mean when the lights on the scale dial go out?" The counterwoman replied, "That tells me your fish is over the scale limit!"

"Is this the largest certified scale on the island?"

"Yup, but I do have a 600-pound meat scale that's not certified. My curiosity is getting the best of me. Let's try that one."

First, I weighed myself on the meat scale empty-handed, then I repeated the procedure while holding the fish. We

repeated the two readings, and the difference figured out at 31 pounds, 8 ounces; unofficially. This 'weigh-in' took place approximately 13 hours after the fish was taken from the lake. Since it's well-established that fish lose body weight when they're stored after catching and before weighing, I estimate conservatively that our fish lost somewhere between one and two pounds before we could get it weighed, making its likely weight at the time we landed it roughly 33 pounds!

This catch, whatever it actually weighed, represents the greatest thrill, the top highlight of all my fishing years since the introduction of the salmon fishery to the Great Lakes and my years as a member of the Detroit Area Steelheaders. I only hope that others in the club can enjoy a similar experience in 1989. Good fishing!

—Doug Karakas
"Capt'n Hook II"

News Update

Each year for the past several years, the Detroit Area Steelheaders have published a directory of club members and their boats. This guide includes some very useful information, and many skippers would not leave port without it. We would like to include EVERY boat and skipper in the club in this year's edition. Be sure to complete the registration form and turn it in to Dave Even or Bob Ksionzek by the deadline, the February meeting. Call Dave or Bob for more information.

The Detroit Area Steelheaders wish to thank Universal Mall for their kind donation of our new club display booth, which will be used at our club's appearances at various boat, fishing and outdoors shows. We encourage ALL club members to show their appreciation of this fine gift by patronizing the Mall's 100+ stores and services. Universal Mall is located at 12 Mile Road and Dequindre in Warren.

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will have a booth at the Professional Fishing Show, to be held at the Palace of Auburn Hills from March 30-April 2.

BOAT/U.S., the Boat Owner's Association of the United States, is offering Detroit Area Steelheaders the chance to join at one-half their regular price. The group, which has more than 250,000 members nationwide, provides many benefits to its members, and lobbies on behalf of recreational boating interests. For more information, call Beth Nicholas at 939-5050.



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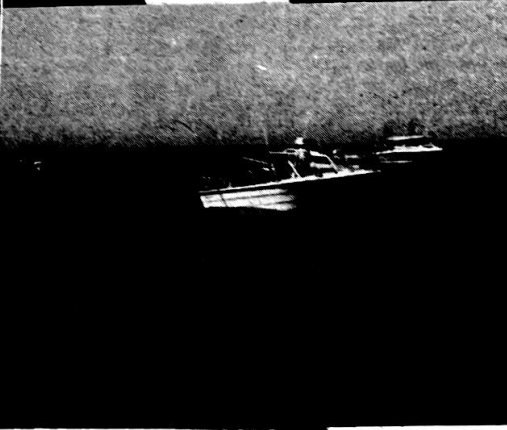
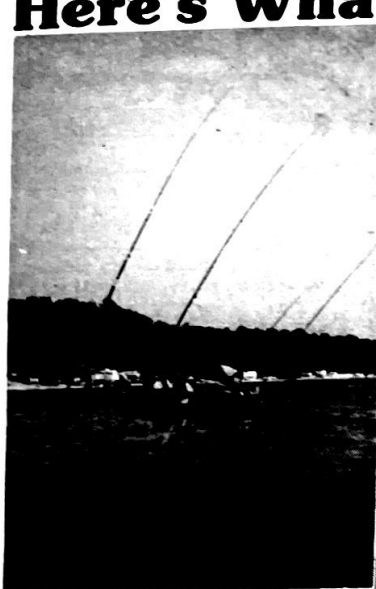
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Experienced sportfishermen often make strange discoveries while cleaning their catches! They find that the fish have gobbled all kinds of man-made objects that have fallen into the water. Key rings, false teeth, bottle tops, paper and plastic objects are just a few.

Many things that boaters casually toss overboard can be lethal to fish, especially items which resemble familiar foods. Filter tips from cigarettes can look temptingly like grubs. Crumpled bits of foil from candy wrappers become attention-getting reflectors of light as they flutter down through the

water. Wads of chewing gum look like fish eggs or other morsels.

Often a hungry fish will swallow any such item tossed overboard. As most of these objects are indigestible, they can harm or even kill a fish.

Also, as part of the sportfishing scene, it's a fact that litter from unconcerned boaters often helps to ruin the fishing grounds.

As the above examples so clearly show, littering by some pleasure boaters does happen, and it has all kinds of consequences. Be a boater who cares.

...Don't Litter!

Ten ways NOT to catch fish!

Since the day I caught my first salmon on the Great Lakes, I have spent many hours trying to become a better fisherman. As a member of the Detroit Area Steelheaders, I have listened to many experts lend their advice at monthly meetings, and I have talked to other members who have had tips to offer to improve my success. I also enjoy reading various magazines, looking for bits of information to help make my confrontations with the elusive salmon more rewarding.

During the boat trolling season, most of us have a limited amount of time to spend on the water because of obvious commitments. These other commitments preclude us from staying on top of the fish as many of the professional fishermen do. When time permits and we finally do get out on the lake, all of us are looking for a good day of fishing.

Throughout all my experiences, I have tried to avoid making over again those same mistakes which have kept fish from winding up in the bottom of my cooler. There is all kinds of advice on how, what, and where to catch fish.

The best advice that I can give anyone is to avoid common errors many fishermen make which limit their chances to succeed. This is especially important since fishing success overall has declined, and a big catch has become a rarity. The days of limit catches are gone for now, and hard fishing has become the rule.

Here is a list of ten good ways to NOT catch fish . . . I hope you can avoid them when you go fishing!

1) SAVE A FEW PENNIES ON TERMINAL TACKLE!!

Any decent-sized fish will straighten out a cheap swivel in quick order. This sort of tackle is **NO MATCH** for a big king.

2) DON'T LET THE FISH TELL YOU WHAT THEY WANT!!

How many times have you heard statements like these: "I will not run junk!" or "I always run just spoons." How foolish—let the fish tell you what they want, and then do your best to accommodate them.

3) PUT A FISH IN THE BOX AND TROLL OUT OF THE AREA WHILE LOOKING FOR MORE!!

Why leave a good area while looking for more? You have already found them! It's tough enough to find feeding fish—stick around until you're sure they have stopped feeding, or you're sure they have left the area.



AUTHOR DAVE EVEN is pictured here practicing what he preaches on a Ludington king as he properly nets this fish off the stern!

4) TURN OFF THE RADIO, OR DON'T LISTEN TO IT WHEN IT'S ON!!

Listening to the radio can save you a lot of guesswork. Channel 68 is not the only channel. Find out which channels the local charter fleet is using and then monitor those channels. Listen carefully, especially during the first hour of daylight. This is when they'll tell their peers which program is working for them.

5) "FISHING THE PACK" IS THE RULE RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION!!

not seem to be affected by heavy boat traffic—and this is only because they hug the bottom at 90-plus feet. More often than not, you are limiting your chances as heavy traffic scatters the fish and turns them off fast. Spend your time trying to find your own 'hot spot' instead of wasting time pounding someone else's.

6) SIT DOWN WHILE WAITING FOR THE FISH TO HIT!!

Stand ready, and pounce at the slightest twitch, as most fish are lost when the line is released. This is especially true at prime fishing times.

7) ALWAYS CHANGE YOUR LURES!!

Keep your lines in the water as much as possible. Change only one lure at a time. It's tough enough to catch fish with your lines *IN* the water!

8) BE SURE TO USE LAST YEAR'S FISHING LINE!!

This is the biggest mistake most fishermen make. Buy new line **EVERY** year—normal 'wear and tear' will catch up with old line. If there's a weak spot, a big king will find it!

9) NET THE FISH FROM EITHER SIDE OF THE BOAT!!

At all costs, try to avoid netting a fish from either side of the boat. If there is a cable down or other lines are in the water, an exhausted fish (especially a big, exhausted fish!) has a **VERY** high probability of swimming backward into a big, tangled mess, often releasing the fish. Bring the fish right up to the stern where you can control his head—and his destiny!

10) DO NOT ATTEND THE TOURNEY WEIGH-IN AFTER YOU JUST GOT SHUT OUT!!

Your best source of information is the club and the crews that were successful that day. Talk to them, find out what they did—you'll benefit the next time out!

I hope pointing out these commonly-made mistakes will improve your results in the new season.

TIGHT LINES!

—Dave Even



Dear Detroit Area Steelheaders:

I was very disappointed in the turnout of available boats in the club's summer Special Olympics fishing event last June.

Of the more than 125 boats registered in the club's Boat Directory, less than one and one-half dozen participated. Why this small number?

My personal opinion is that because there were no points to be earned toward the "Skipper of the Year" award, no trophies to be won, and



DETROIT AREA SKIPPERS Bill Rozek (2 Slippery) and Ron Koscielski (Flo-N-Sweet) enjoyed themselves at the club's Special Olympics outing!

award, no trophies to be won, and with the fish caught going to the kids, many decided it wasn't worth putting forth the effort when they (the skippers) weren't going to get anything out of it!

What about the feeling of satisfaction that comes from doing something for someone—especially a kid—who might not get an opportunity to fish otherwise?

I know not all of you skippers had to work last June 18. I'm sure with just a little more effort, you could make the Detroit Area Steelheaders' Special Olympics outing something **REALLY SPECIAL** next year!

—Wife of a June 1988 Participating Skipper



DENNIS HOLOWAY, Co-Chairman of last year's outing, had help from **Laura Komos**, special education teacher.

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"Kemo" wins 1988 "Skipper of the Year!"

Winning the 1988 "Skipper of the Year" award was a special accomplishment for me, and for the crew of "Kemo," in a year filled with ups and downs. We had good days and bad. We had some of the most exciting moments on the water that I have ever been a part of. However, the thrill of our victory was offset by the loss of one of our crew, Grandma.

Before reviewing our year, I would like to take the time to once again thank some of the Steelheaders who have, over the years, taught me what I know about fishing. These include Jerry Lee, Bob Kring, John Makela, and Gary Grey. I would also like to thank all the club members who have helped me with their tips. These include Bob Ksionzek, Dave Even, Ed Yankoski II, Joel Garinger, Dick Shirk, Mike Zelkowsky, Don Redmond, and others. Finally, while we call it "Skipper of the Year," no one could win it without their crew: Bob Gilbert, Leslie Gilbert, Jodi Gilbert, Linda Mitchell and, of course, Arlene Elliott... Grandma.

The 1988 season started out on a bad note for the "Kemo" crew. We placed 13th in the River Crab tourney, breaking a string of 19 consecutive Top Ten finishes. It was a pleasure to see Mike Zelkowsky win the overall River Crab contest, though it was disheartening to have the Club finish second.

At Benton Harbor, the second tourney, Fastracs and Draculas were our hot lures, as we finished second to Dave Even and "Teacher's Pet." Now we knew who the competition of '88 would be.

Next, we went to Muskegon, a new port. This was a real challenge, as we had never fished the port before. There was word of kings in deep water, but the fishing was really slow. The first fish report indicated that Dick Shirk had set down on a school. We tried the deep water, to no avail. As a last resort, we moved in to a shallower drop-off to try for lakereels. This proved to be a good move, as we found the lakereels there. We boated eight and copped another second place, this time behind Dick and "Lil' Scratch," who had a phenomenal day.

Ed Yankoski II owns Port Austin! He proved it again in 1988, crewing the "Outlaw" team to a win off the Grindstone reef. Chrome dodgers and green Spin-N-Glows were our best set-up. Other boats did really well with black spoons just off the bottom. Once again, Port Austin showed that it has BIG lakereels!

Oscoda is always one of the best stops on the tournament trail. Jan and Doug Fellows are great hosts, and Oscoda lakereels are nearly always co-operative. Early reports were that the best fishing was to the north and that was where the "pack" went. We did, too. However, the early fishing did not live up to ex-



BOB MITCHELL (c.) proudly accepts the 1988 "Skipper of the Year" trophy from outgoing Detroit Area Steelheader president Mike Zelkowsky, as Dave Even, 1988 Boat Trolling Tournament Chairman looks on.

A quick check of the log, and we keyed in a LORAN waypoint from two years before, a drop-off slightly south of Oscoda. It was another move that worked out well, as the fish started coming in the boat. The hot set-up this time was a chrome dodger and a pink Spin-N-Glow.

After the fish calls, we had a new worry. The rumor mill had it that Steve Banovic and "Exaggerator" had made a bold move, heading off across Lake Huron for Port Austin and bigger fish! The radio was calling for a storm to come in. Would Steve make it back, and would his move prove to be the right one?

At the weigh-in, both questions were answered. Steve was one of the first in line, and when he opened his cooler... big lakereels. We had yet another second-place finish to our credit!

Ludington has always been a favorite port of mine. It's the original jewel of the Gold Coast. The structure is terrific, and the fish are often large. In years past, we had always spent a week of vacation there. Unfortunately, Grandma took ill, and we had to cancel. She insisted that we go to the tournament, however, and so we did.

As had become the pattern for 1988, the fishing was reported to be hot and cold. After conferring with several club mates, we decided to try straight out on Saturday. This was where Dave Even had won the tournament in 1987. I swear that Dave said he was going there, too, but when we set down and looked around, there wasn't another boat within miles!

Where was Dave? He had gone north, off the brine well, surrounded by boats like "Sea Screw," "Finnlander," and "Dreamweaver." Well, you get the picture. Dave ripped a couple of 'hawgs' right away, and no one caught him. We fished the area straight out by ourselves. We did okay, ending up about fifth after the first day.

hold off Dave Even for the "Skipper of the Year" prize. Again, the early reports were not good. On Friday, the waves were so high you couldn't fish. I was particularly concerned because I had just picked up the boat and hadn't had time to test the new outdrive. Fortunately, by Saturday morning the waves had settled to next to nothing.

Our initial strategy was to fish the pier heads for an hour to try to hook a big king. We tried for the hour and never saw a fish caught. We decided to move out to the drop-off at about 90 feet. We set lines and immediately saw a fish taken. Forty minutes later, and we hadn't had a touch.

The radio was full of reports of offshore steelhead. What did we have to lose? So, off we went. We set lines and immediately had a release, on a slider 7' down! The fish was under 18" so we released it. We had another hit that got off. This must be the place! I looked up, and guess who? Dave Even was trolling right at us. We think too much alike!

It was time for the first fish call. We didn't have a fish, and other boats had three or four. We kept at it and boated our first legal fish at 10:00 a.m. We added two more by noon, but by 1:00 p.m., the fishing appeared to have turned off.

Many of the boats pulled lines and headed to shallower water to try to pick up a big king. We decided to stick it out in the deep water, a wise choice as it turned out. Between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., we boated five more steelhead! A silver Hot-N-Tot with red stripes was the hot lure.

The last fish was one I'll never forget. We were watching the glassy surface when I spotted the dorsal fin of a steelhead chasing something. I shouted, "He's got a lure!" But a quick check showed no abnormal rod action. I knew our flat line had to go right past him, so I told the crew to watch that pole.

SLAM!! He hit it on cue! It turned out to be the last fish boated by "Kemo" in 1988, the fish that won the tournament for us, the biggest steelhead caught in club tournaments in 1988, and the fish that won "Skipper of the Year" for us.

Yes, 1988 was a good year for the "Kemo" crew, especially with the exciting finish at Frankfort. It was also Grandma's last tournament, and I'm glad we won it for her. We're looking forward to 1989, and I know Dave's out to get us, and I know Steve and Don and a few others also have ideas... we hope to provide some competition!

—Bob Mitchell



"GRANDMA" ARLENE ELLIOTT, who passed away last summer, was usually on hand whenever "Kemo" took to the Lakes for a Detroit Area Steelheader tournament.

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1988 Skipper of the Year

(Final official standings)

Skipper	Boat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tot.	Skipper	Boat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tot.
1) BOB MITCHELL	Kemo	12	3	2	5	2	2	5	7	1	15	23) ROB PINSKEY	Anticipation	75	75	75	75	3	11	2	50	75	216
2) DAVE EVEN	Teacher's Pet	15	1	10	6	5	1	4	50	8	25	24) JOHN HEIKES	Our Dream Too	17	21	9	22	75	75	75	75	75	219
3) DICK SHIRK	Lil' Scratch	20	7	1	11	13	29	3	3	2	27	25) TED WARROW	Eagle	21	75	26	18	8	75	75	75	223	
4) DON REDMOND	Trena Dawn	3	11	5	8	4	10	8	16	5	33	26) GENE MUCZINSKI	Reel Thing	50	4	75	10	75	75	75	21	75	235
5) STEVE BANOVIC	Exaggerator	75	16	75	2	1	16	14	4	17	53	27) BOB PATYK	Renegade	50	22	75	75	7	14	75	75	75	236
6) DON ANTON	Happy Bare	75	24	4	4	75	17	7	10	12	54	28) BRUCE HAYWOOD	Katie-Did	10	2	75	75	75	75	75	1	75	238
7) AL SCHULTZ	Misery 3	16	8	8	50	75	9	75	6	13	60	29) DENIS HARPER	Lady's Choice	19	75	75	17	75	75	50	7	75	243
8) DOUG KARAKAS	Capt'n Hook II	6	12	15	75	12	24	75	23	16	84	30) SHERMAN MOSHER	Toledo Mad Dog	50	10	16	19	75	75	75	75	75	245
9) GENE BURBARY	Diamond Girl	25	19	75	13	75	13	15	17	75	102	31) DICK JACKSON	Voyageur	75	75	23	50	6	23	75	75	252	
10) JIMMY HARDRICK	My Dream	50	20	20	21	9	18	75	19	14	104	32) V. DERMYER/D. OLIVER	Irene	75	9	21	75	75	75	75	2	75	257
11) BILL SHACKLETON	Bounty Hunter	50	5	6	75	50	21	10	22	75	114	33) TOM O'REILLY	Amnesty	5	75	75	10	75	75	75	21	75	261
12) LARRY GAIOWNIK	Formulator	75	13	17	75	75	5	11	75	15	138	34) BOB KSIONZEK	Last Dime	50	75	75	75	75	1	75	11	287	
13) LES JUMP	Alice's Angler	9	15	22	75	75	22	50	12	75	140	35) LARRY WYNNE	Yen Yan	24	26	13	75	75	75	75	75	288	
14) JOHN CHWALIBOG	Little Big John	8	14	24	75	75	20	11	75	75	152	36) BILL ROZEK	2 Slippery	2	75	75	50	75	75	75	20	297	
15) JERRY ZABEL	Wish-Full	5	75	25	75	11	26	75	14	75	156	37) CHUCK HUXFORD	Chuzy II	50	75	75	9	75	75	75	18	75	302
16) TIM GRASKEWICZ	Petty Cash	75	75	11	75	75	4	12	50	9	161	38) GREG CLIFFORD	Outlaw	7	75	75	1	75	75	75	75	308	
17) BOB HERMAN	Nomad	11	17	75	12	75	75	50	4	75	169	39) MIKE TOMLIN	Contender	75	75	75	75	7	7	75	75	314	
18) R. HUEY/R. GLIME	Half R's	50	6	3	75	75	15	50	75	75	199*	40) MIKE ZELKOWSKI	Silver Fox	1	75	75	14	75	75	75	75	315	
19) DARWIN GREGG	Re-Turner	75	75	11	75	50	25	50	13	50	199*	41) ED PABISZ	Pole Bender	75	75	75	75	7	14	75	75	321	
20) BRIAN MITCHELL	The Natural	75	75	75	20	75	6	9	15	75	200	42) JIM SIMPSON	Mar-Lynn	75	18	75	10	75	75	75	75	328	
21) CHUCK SKIDMORE	King Fish II	50	75	7	75	10	12	50	75	75	204	43) BILL FLETCHER	Oldsquaw	23	75	12	75	75	75	75	75	335	
22) BLAISE PEWINSKI	Sea Hag	50	75	75	3	75	3	75	75	4	210	44) KEN ROGERS	Boston Whaler	75	23	75	75	75	75	75	50	373	

a) * Tiebreaker Boat Tournament Rules, Section IV, Scoring: Any tie in "Skipper of the Year" standings will be resolved by total weight of catches in like tournaments.

b) Standings determined by total of best six finishes.

c) Tournament identification key: 1 = River Crab 2 = Benton Harbor 3 = Muskegon 4 = Port Austin 5 = Oscoda
6 = Ludington 7 = Manistee 8 = Rogers City 9 = Frankfort

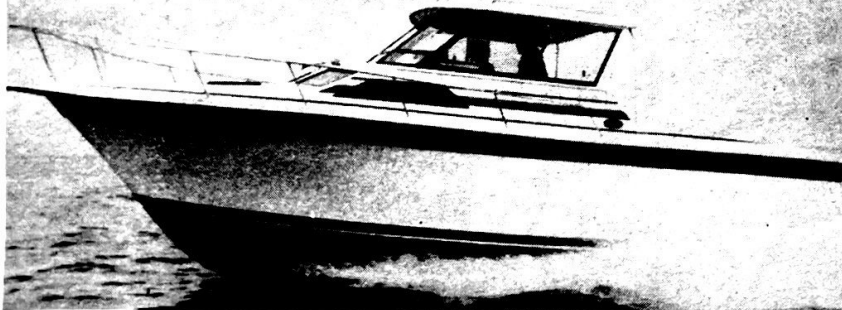
PREVIOUS "SKIPPER OF THE YEAR" WINNERS

Skipper	Boat	Skipper	Boat	Skipper	Boat
1976 JOHN MAKELA	SISU	1982 BRIAN GLASER	LEAST LIKELY	1977 GREG CLIFFORD	OUTLAW
1977 CHUCK CARTWRIGHT	TUNA BOAT	1983 GERRY CIURZENSKI	JAWBUSTER	1978 BOB MITCHELL	KEMO
1978 JERRY LEE	SEA SCREW	1984 BOB KANAS	LEAST LIKELY	1979 DON REDMOND	TRENA DAWN
1979 JERRY LEE	SEA SCREW	1985 DARRIN HARRIS	CANNONBALL	1980 DON REDMOND	TRENA DAWN
1980 JERRY LEE	SEA SCREW	1986 BOB MITCHELL	KEMO	1981 BILL ROZEK	2 SLIPPERY
1981 BOB KRING	DRIFTER	1987 GREG CLIFFORD	OUTLAW		

BIG FISH CAUGHT DURING THE 1988 BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENTS

Boat	Species	Weight
OUTLAW	LAKE TROUT	15 LBS., 03 OZS.
KEMO	STEELHEAD	11 LBS., 11 OZS.
TRENA DAWN	KING SALMON	25 LBS., 00 OZS.
TRENA DAWN	COHO SALMON	9 LBS., 08 OZS.
2 SLIPPERY	BROWN TROUT	8 LBS., 00 OZS.

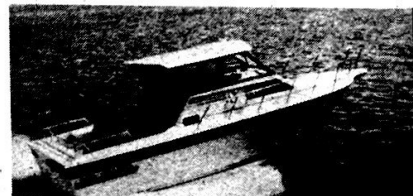
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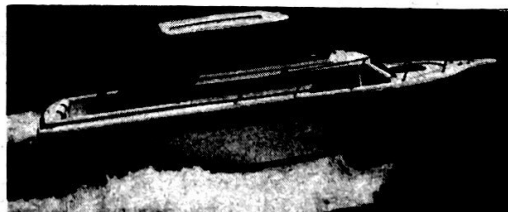
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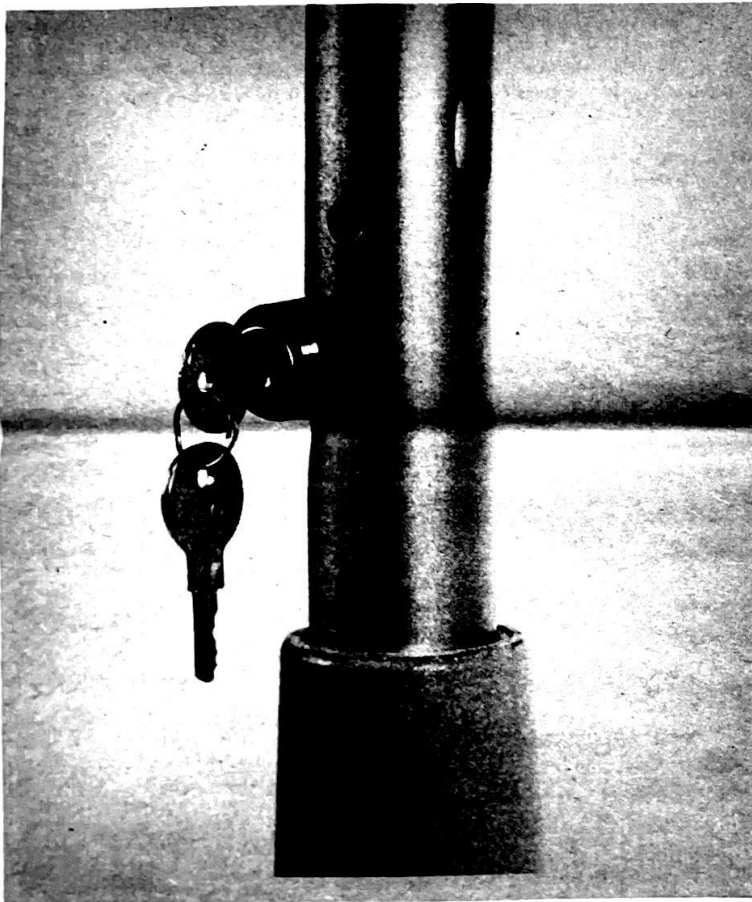
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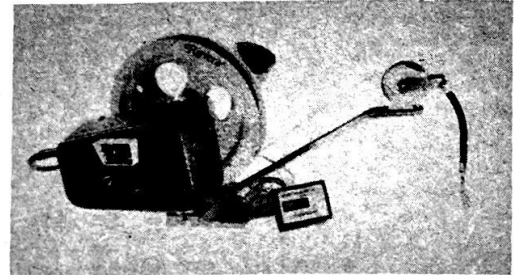
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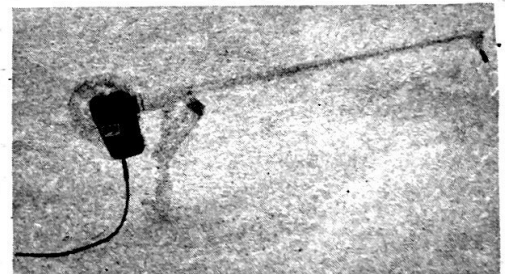
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It is largely upon this concept that Dr. Bambenek — psychiatrist, anthropologist, physician and fisherman — discovered and formulated his "Dr. Juice" species-specific, one-drop fish scents. Dr. Bambenek and his research are responsible for educating more fishermen about scent fishing and a fish's remarkable olfactory powers than anyone. He has made believers out of hard-core fishermen — pros and charter captains from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, the East Coast to the Pacific Northwest, and points beyond.

When I told my girlfriend, Marion, that I had a doctor's appointment to treat a bad case of fishing fever and asked her to come along, she was curious. Her curiosity grew as I explained that I had scheduled an interview with "Dr. Juice" at the Chicago Sportfishing Show.

"Oh my," she swooned, "what a romantic date — an evening of fish stories and 'trolling' aisles of rods, reels, boats, baits, and worse. What more could a girl want?," she winked.

Dr. Bambenek is a scientist first and a fisherman second. He approaches

lytically, romantically and every which way — an approach that is the foundation of his field research, his laboratory, and Dr. Juice Fish Scents.

"Dr. Juice" comes by his passion for fishing genetically. He grew up on the Mississippi, where his father was a commercial fisherman and trapper who made his own scents. Dr. Bambenek has spent a good part of his life fishing and studying fish and fishermen, from Lake Superior to South America.

As an American anthropologist in the jungles of Central America, he befriended a *shaman* (medicine man) and fisherman who gave him a whiff of the scent he used to lure fish. Right away, Dr. Bambenek's nose knew this was 'heavy-duty' stuff — serious scent if he ever smelled it! He was amazed as these primitive people applied their potions to strips of cloth and proceeded to catch enough fish to feed the entire village.

Back in his laboratory in Duluth, Minnesota, he analyzed these *shaman* scents and recreated their chemical compositions. Using what his father had taught him, what the medicine men used, and his own research, he formulated Dr. Juice One-Drop Fish Scent, a highly scientific concoction capable of triggering the reflex-strike response among fish.

THE FISH WENT FOR IT RIGHT AWAY, BUT FISHERMEN DIDN'T

At first, "Dr. Juice" caught a lot more fish than fishermen. "For years, people thought that fish couldn't smell," Dr. Bambenek told me. Fishermen were skeptics, calling scents a gimmick, and sales didn't exactly "limit out."

I was among the skeptics; a lot of hard-core fishermen were. I'd read the Dr. Juice ads in fishing magazines, as well as articles by outdoor writers Jerry Gibbs, Bud Meier, Bob Gilsvik and others who had followed "Dr. Juice" around the Great Lakes. His story and research fascinated me and had my curiosity, but not, as yet, my money!

BECOMING A BELIEVER: GETTING 'JUICED' ON ISLE ROYALE

I first met Dr. Greg Bambenek in July, 1986 on Isle Royale, my favorite fishing hole on this planet. He was on the island taping a television fishing show with Roland "Mr. Bass" Martin, but they weren't there for hawks, and neither were we. We were there for lunker lakera, brookies and rainbows, for which Isle Royale is famous.

A wilderness archipelago in northern Lake Superior, Isle Royale National Park lies 60 miles off Copper Harbor, located at the tip of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula, 20 miles off Grand Portage, Minnesota, and 25 miles off Thunder Bay, Ontario. The island is an outstanding trout fishery, and being so remote — accessible only by boat or seaplane — it gets very little fishing pressure.

For maps, and camping, fishing, rate, reservation or other information concerning Isle Royale, contact:

**Superintendent
Isle Royale National Park
Houghton, Michigan 49931**

"Dr. Juice" and his crew had caught and released all the lakera they needed for the show, and had tied up next to us in the Rock Harbor Marina.

I'd never used Dr. Juice before, or any other fishing scent, for that matter. Since the good doctor had given me a bottle of his Lake Trout Scent to test, I decided to give it a try. The next morning, we headed out of Tobin Harbor and started trolling between Scoville Point and Merritt's Lane near the northern tip of the island. To test the scent, we were running light surface lines with 'juiced' Rapalas from planer boards, and downrigging with 'un-juiced' silver Flutterspoons, cowbells and cut bait.

Our lines had been out about 20 minutes when the water boiled off our planer-board Rapalas, and we picked up six nice lakera on three consecutive double hits! Inside of an hour, we had eight lake trout weighing between 5 and 15 pounds in the box! By comparison, our downrigger line had produced only two fish.

Inconclusive evidence, you say? Perhaps. But consider this: summer lake trout are notorious bottom-feeders, hovering near deep ledges in 45°-52° F water. Six out of eight fish were hooked trolling in warmer (55° F) surface water!

What made the Juice produce such dividends on top while the lakera were on the bottom? Back at the marina Dr. Bambenek explained that the molecular diffusion of the Juice via currents and our crossover trolling pattern carried the positive odor ozone to the bottom, tickling the lakera's feeding fancy, and leading them to the surface, where they couldn't resist our Rapalas.

WHAT MAKES A PASSIVE FISH MAKE A PASS AT YOUR LURE?

Most fishermen don't care what makes a fish bite. The important thing is that they do. According to Greg Bambenek, fish are inactive most of the time, so the trick is to make them bite. As a fish swims, the water constantly washes through the front nostril, over the hyper-sensitive olfactory organ, and out the rear nostril, shooting food, fear and sex messages into the fish's brain. The concentrated combination of pheromones, kairomones and attractant amino acids in Dr. Juice scents stimulates primal biological urges in fish, and triggers striking behavior in even the most inactive fish.

The kairomones in Dr. Juice are a natural hormonal substance that reduces fear and wariness in predator fish, enticing them to strike the bait. These kairomones produce an odor zone around minnows, crayfish, insects and other forage food which attract large fish to eat.

A scientific blend of fear, sex and schooling pheromones also go into the mix. Fear pheromones are the scent given off by injured baitfish that act as a "dinner bell," attracting and exciting predators. Sex pheromones are natural scent messengers that elicit sexual excitement and trigger aggressive behavior in specific species of fish — hence, specific Dr. Juice scents for different species.

Schooling pheromones are the scents baitfish (alewives, smelt, et al.) use to home in on their school, and game fish use to find the schools. In low-light and low-visibility situations — dark or turbid water conditions — baitfish can't see each other, but they keep the school intact by smell. This schooling pheromone emits an odor zone that can also attract predator fish.

Attractant amino acids disguise the repellent L-Serine scent of human fingerprints, as well as gasoline, suntan lotion, beer, and other man-made repellents that spook fish faster than anything.

Most fishermen are aware of the negative effect L-Serine has on fish, and use everything under the sun to cover up their scent. They rub their lures and live bait with herring, shrimp, sausage, anise oil, bilgewater, soap, dish detergent... you name it! While most anything is less repellent to fish than L-Serine, alien odors may cause confusion and a hesitancy to strike. Unlike anise oil and soaps that merely mask human scent, Dr. Juice Hand & Lure Cleaner breaks apart the fish-repelling amino acid L-Serine left on lures by human fingerprints.

Another acute sense is a fish's lateral line. It starts behind the operculum (gill covering) and runs the length of the fish. It picks up low-frequency vibrations and has pores that communicate between the scales to a sensory nerve that goes directly into the brain. "It's a feeling-type of sense," Dr. Bambenek explained, "that enables the fish to pick up the direction of a lure giving off low-frequency pulsations, usually two to 20 cycles per second, below our ability to hear."

JUST HOW SENSITIVE IS THE OLFACTORY SYSTEM IN FISH?

Fish rely on scent, and can detect repellent substances from man at a dilution



SCOTT KANAS, Detroit Area Steelheader is a Pro Staff member for the Dr. Juice product line.

of one part per billion! Salmon have a highly developed sense of smell. Research has demonstrated that a human hand or bear paw dipped into a stream can cause migrating salmon climbing a fish ladder to stop in their 'tracks' 100 yards away.

Some researchers believe that migrating salmon and char smell their way home to spawn by following the scent of their young left by eggshells on spawning beds. Others claim that fish home in on the scent of their home-stream vegetation and organic materials.

Researchers in Norway have taken fish hundreds of miles from their home stream, and the fish followed their noses back through the ocean to their home river.

If there was an Olfactory Olympics, the American eel would win the gold. According to Dr. Bambenek, laboratory experiments show that the eel can detect alcohol at the incredible dilution of one drop in all of Lake Erie.

The American eel spawns in the Sargasso Sea near Cuba, makes its way through the Atlantic to the St. Lawrence River and the St. Lawrence Seaway, through the Great Lakes to Duluth and back again!

Next time you catch a fish, use your knife to lift the flap of skin between the nostrils, and take a peek. Under it, you'll see the olfactory organ. It looks like a little feather and is usually white in most fish. In a steelhead, it's dark purple.

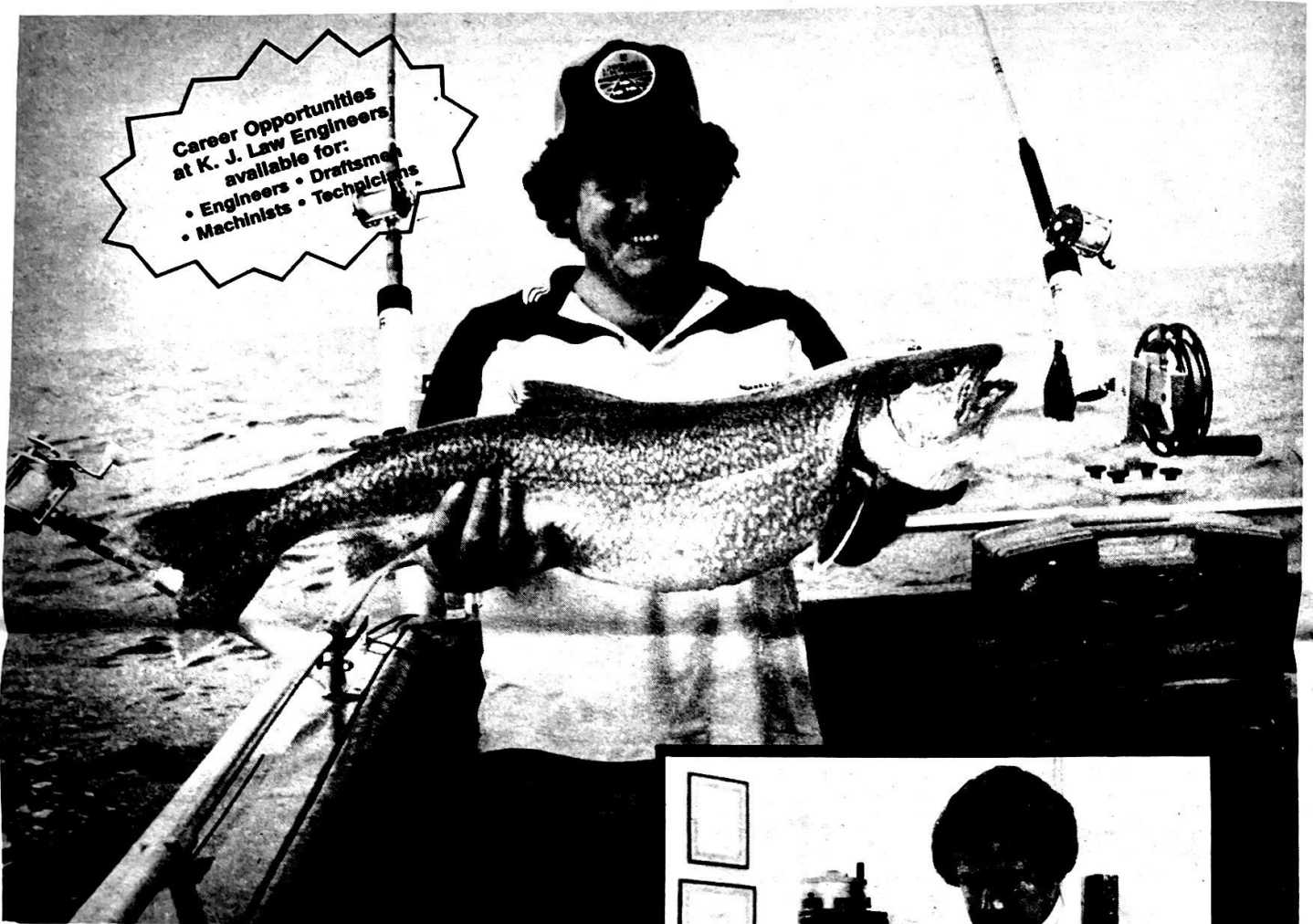
It's what makes fish smell 2,000 times better than fishermen. It's why American anglers spend millions on scents to beguile bass, bewitch walleye, tantalize trout, seduce salmon, court coho and romance rainbows. And it's why once-skeptical fishermen are now doctoring their Daredevils and 'juicing' their J-Plugs!

For more information on Dr. Juice One-Drop Fish Scents, write: Dr. Gregory Bambenek, Osmic Research, Inc., 5130 London Rd., Duluth, MN 55804; or Blue Fox Tackle Co., 645 N. Emerson, Cambridge, MN 55008.

—Jim Junttila

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Junttila's articles on fishing have appeared in various outdoor publications. We hope to enjoy his further contributions to Fishin' Tales in the future.

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Skamania from New Buffalo to St. Joseph

I love fishing for steelhead. I think steelhead are the most exciting fish coming out of the Great Lakes! They have always been "king of the river" to me, and the challenge has always been just trying to catch one!

Steelhead are sure pretty fish, whether in spring, summer or fall, and just having a steelhead "on" is a priceless experience because its jumps and leaps are like no other Great Lakes species, and its speed is unmatched!

The steelhead can be pursued quite easily by boat. The summer-run Skamania variety of steelhead are usually found congregating near river mouths, and trolling for them can be accomplished without burning up much fuel.

Steve Hamilton and I made a trip to New Buffalo this past summer. We planned to fish out of New Buffalo because it is close to the Indiana border and Michigan City, where the Skamania would be ready to run up Trail Creek. We also wanted to try New Buffalo because of a unique experience we had had there the previous year.

We were thinking about the time we stopped at New Buffalo in the summer of 1987 for one day's fishing on our way back home from a Wisconsin fishing trip (see *Fishin' Tales* 1988 Annual Issue). As it turned out, we got a big surprise on that day!

Most fishing reports in 1987 were very negative. Not many skippers were catching, or even locating, kings or cohos. The surprise we got was that we never did catch a Skamania that day out of New Buffalo. However,

in just two hours!

On that magical day, we were catching and releasing these fish at will! Our graph was showing fish from top to bottom, and it reached the point that we even thought that EVERY king and coho in Lake Michigan just might be located under Steve's boat, "Valhalla." In the light of all the reports of poor Great Lakes fishing circulating at that time in 1987, what we experienced just was not supposed to be happening!!

As you might imagine, we were very optimistic about our prospects at New Buffalo for our 1988 visit there.



THE AUTHOR shows off a beautiful 13-pound Skamania steelhead!



"MR. EXCITEMENT," also known as Steve Hamilton, displays his graceful technique while fighting an eager Skamania which took him 360° around, and on top of the boat!!

If we again didn't get into the Skamania, we figured that we might run into all the good king/coho action just as we did before.

Well, it was just not to be. Our optimism soon faded. After being on New Buffalo waters for one (and one-nice steelhead, but they were certainly hard to come by.

While talking to other fishermen in the area at the local tackle shop (Impatient II), we became convinced that St. Joseph might be a better place to try because, reportedly, fair numbers of steelhead were being taken there. We packed up everything and made the trip to 'St. Joe'. It turned out to be a good move.

On our first day out of 'St. Joe', we were just clearing the harbor with lines already set, about 200 yards from the pier heads and actually still in the river, when Steve yelled, "Fish on!"

When Steve has a fish on the end of his line, he is the most enthusiastic, excited fisherman I've ever fished with. In fact, I've decided to call him "Mr. Excitement" because of his intense enthusiasm.

Anyway, "Mr. Excitement" got the attention of every pier fisherman when he yelled "Fish on" and then landed and released a nice, twelve-pound Skamania. With everyone watching, it was a very good feeling!

For two days, we trolled close to the pier heads, just the way most skippers do when fishing for kings in late August. We would go north past the Benton Harbor park and then come back in 30 feet of water to a point about one mile south of the pier heads. We were together with about 50 other boats working this pattern repeatedly.

All the fish we caught came on both long and short leads (10' to 60') — it didn't seem to make much difference to the fish. Our depths ranged from high lines down to 27 feet, and our

trolling speed was on the fast side.

Color selection, it turned out, was important. The mouth of the St. Joseph River was being dredged, and this made the mud line very distinct and much wider and darker than usual. The steelhead we caught came on lure colors of gold and orange, gold and black, perch, and silver and black.

Most of the time we were lucky matching colors to the sun and the mud line. Once, however, we went a long time without a hit. A boat close to us landed a fish, so I asked them what they took it on and the color. When they replied that they were using a silver and black Rapala, Steve went right to work, changing one rod to the prescribed lure/color combination. Two minutes later, "Bingo!" It was "Fish on" once again!! This lure and color combo lasted a long time for us.

We took steelhead on Northport Nailers, Silver Streakers, Flutterchucks and Lucky Lures in addition to that J-11 Rapala during our 'St. Joe' fishing.

I enjoy fishing with light line. This technique adds a lot of excitement to catching fish trolling from a boat, especially when the fish being caught are Skamania steelhead. A few years back, I always used 20-pound test line with 8½-foot rods. I caught many steelhead with that set-up, but there was a slight drawback.

The Skamania caught on 20-pound test line would fight so hard that they would spend themselves in just a few minutes — usually a little more than five minutes. They would end up lying on their sides, belly up, ready to be dragged to the net. It was not all that satisfying. That doesn't happen anymore.

If you choose to go the light line route, be prepared for a battle of 15 to 20 minutes, and sometimes even longer. Good rod choices would be 9½- to 10½-footers, fairly limber and able to handle 4-pound to 6-pound test line. Good-quality reels with easy-to-work drags are a must.

Light line trolling actually reminds me of river fishing. When we get a fish on, we automatically bring rods in and lift the downriggers. Routinely, we put the motor in neutral, and if a particular fish is really "doing its thing," we shut the motor off. It becomes a battle with just the fisherman and the fish!

During our 3½-day trip, we caught and released 10 steelhead, while keeping six more for food. We also had five more on which we lost. Our largest was a 15½-pound beauty. We think most of these steelhead were the Skamania variety, but I will say it was difficult to be sure. Some had fin clips and some did not . . . but most gave us the kind of battle for which Skamania have become legendary!



OUR "360°" SKAMANIA proved no match for "Mr. Excitement"

Some of you may not know where Skamania steelhead come from and how they breed. I recall an incident once trolling out of Manistee with Bill Galvin and Chuck Gryzb that offers a good explanation.

A fisherman had landed a Skamania and was so impressed with his catch that he went on the radio to describe it to a friend fishing in the area. The successful skipper beautifully described the jumping and fighting abilities of his catch, its color, length, etc. Unfortunately, he went on to say, "The Skamania is a cross between a steelhead and a Chinook salmon."

Bill quickly grabbed our 'mike' and began giving this misinformed skipper a friendly dissertation on the subject of the origins of the Skamania. His comments went something like this:

"Skamania are summer steelhead that came to the Great Lakes from the West Coast. They were bred at the Washington state hatchery located on the Skamania River, hence the fish's name. It is NOT a cross between a steelhead and a Chinook salmon. Biologists determined that this strain of steelhead enters rivers in mid-summer and stays until spring spawning. Indiana got some Skamania eggs, and their biologists discovered that the new fish spawned in four and five years, producing many fish in the 20-pound class."

I'm still looking for my first 20-pounder—maybe in 1989! In any case, I'll certainly be back on the St. Joe about the same time, trying my luck!!

—Joel Garinger

Detroit Area Steelheaders are often "first-time lucky!"



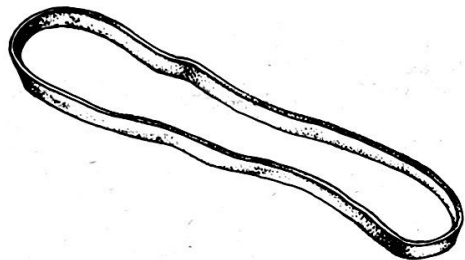
DON KULIKOWSKI landed these beauties crewing in a club tourney for the first time, aboard Dave Even's "Teacher's Pet" at Ludington.



LAURA BRIEST struggles to hoist this 24-lb. monster she caught while fishing aboard "Katie-Did" at Rogers City, her first time salmon fishing.

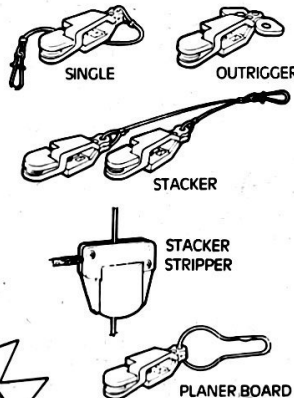


PAUL NOWAK was mighty pleased when he got this first surf steelhead while fishing at Singing Bridge on the Au Gres River.



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The only time it was visible to us was during a light, drizzling rain. When the rain stopped, the circle would disappear, and then reappear when the

rain started up again.

The diameter of this area of smooth water was about 30 feet. The place where this incident occurred was Vidal Bay, Manitoulin Island, North Channel in Lake Huron. There was a light rain falling with no wind, and the water depth where we were anchored was 28 feet.

Do you know what it is? Are you sure??

—Capt. Bruce Haywood
"Katie-Did"



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Dick Swan: Light Line Messiah!

For several years now, a quiet metamorphosis has been taking place on Michigan's trout streams. As the quality of the steelhead fishing has improved, the men fishing for them have tried to improve the quality of their fishing techniques.

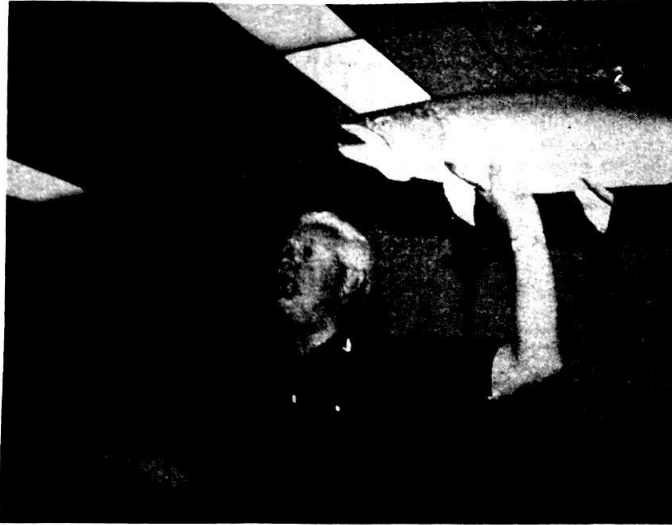
The number of fish taken is no longer as important as is getting the maximum fishing enjoyment from each one caught. With that in mind, many fishermen have, in fact, switched to light line fishing.

Back in the late 1960's and early 1970's, when I had just started fishing for steelhead, a big man in an orange hat was consistently catching fish. Using an unorthodox-looking long, limber rod, he was producing results that I just *HAD* to learn!

Very few men have the opportunities and skills necessary to institute change. This man in the orange hat revolutionized the entire concept of fishing for big trout in Michigan. Dick Swan, from Clare, has probably influenced more people's fishing style than any other man fishing in the state today.

What Dick accomplished was to not only help establish a fishing technique, but to influence the design of fishing equipment as well. When Dick first started trying out his ideas, he found that the fishing rods then available on the market just wouldn't allow the use of light line. This situation led him to build his own rods.

Not satisfied with his initial rod-building results, his next step was to talk tackle manufacturers into pro-



DICK SWAN, aptly named the "Light Line Messiah" by some, has become a true legend among steelhead and salmon fishermen in Michigan!

ducing rod blanks that would meet his specifications and requirements.

It was Dick's determination, plus his willingness to share his ideas, that is responsible for the number of long, limber rods that you see being employed on Michigan streams today.

There are several good reasons for fishing with light line. First is line visibility. As fishing pressure has increased

and water clarity has improved, the trout have become extremely wary. Heavier test line is more visible. To combat this, you must use lighter test line with its smaller diameter and reduced visibility. In order to fish light line, two- to six-pound test, you must employ a long, limber rod to enable you to pressure the fish without exceeding the breaking point of the line.

The next, and perhaps the most important, reason to use light line is that it enables you to get maximum excitement from your fishing. You'll hook more fish because of the less-visible line, and you'll test your own ability more with each fish you play.

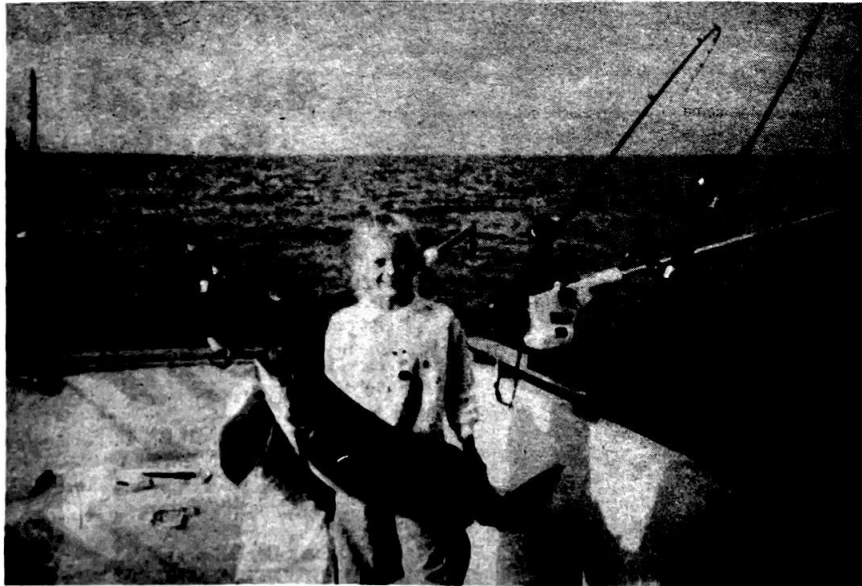
Dick not only claims that light line fishing is the best way to fish for trout AND salmon, he also proves it! He has taken a 13-pound, 5-ounce steelhead that is listed as a world record for two-pound test line, and has also landed a 14-pound, 8-ouncer that betters the established world record!!

Chinook salmon are supposed to be tackle-busters, but light line works for them as well. Dick has exceeded the world record for two-pound test line with a 28-pound king!

Dick has traveled all over the state fishing, and promoting his light line/long, limber rod techniques. I find his willingness to share his secrets interesting, informative, and most commendable, since Dick is one of the most knowledgeable Steelheaders in the state. I guess this is starting to sound like a tribute, and I guess maybe it should be. On behalf of myself and all fishermen who use his methods, I would like to thank Dick for being a "Light Line Messiah!" His conversion of my fishing techniques away from heavy lines and rods is responsible for my belief, one I'm sure all Steelheaders share, that "light line steelheading is the ultimate fishing sport!"

—Sam Grissom, Outdoor Writer

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Mitchell edges Even for '88 tourney honors!

Bob Mitchell (also known as "Mr. Consistency") delivered when the "Kemo" crew came through with the winning combination at the last boat trolling tournament of 1988 at Frankfort.

Somehow, Bob always seems to finish in the Top Ten, and last season was no exception, as he and "Kemo" ended up in the top five seven times! In fact, over the last three boat trolling tournament seasons, Bob and "Kemo" have been in the Top Ten in 25 of the 26 tournaments he entered! Bob won "Skipper of the Year" honors in 1986, finished a close second to Greg Clifford and "Outlaw" in 1987, and claimed top honors for the second time in 1988. It is a credit to Bob and his crew of "Kemo" that they can produce such great results so regularly. Congratulations, Bob and the "Kemo" crew!

EDITOR'S NOTE: For a review of the 1988 boat tourney season from Bob's perspective, see his article on Page Eight.

The 1988 boat trolling season began with enthusiasm when 47 Detroit Area Steelheader skippers showed up for the tenth annual Chuck Muer's River Crab tournament. Our club was the defending champion, our skippers having won the tournament in 1986 and 1987. There was \$5,000 first place money at stake, and our club was ready for a good fight! This "outside" tourney is a dual event, as we include it in our regular "Skipper of the Year" boat tournament schedule.

Things did not look too promising when the temperature dropped to the high 30's the night before the event, and things looked *REAL BAD* when thunderstorms and heavy rain arrived early on tournament morning. Skippers awoke to pouring rain and started at daylight, and many boats waited until 9 o'clock to start fishing. Fortunately, the weather settled down, and the contestants were able to complete the tourney.

Capt. Mike Zelkowski and his crew aboard "Silver Fox" enjoyed an outstanding day, despite the foul weather. The tourney was the maiden voyage for "Fox" . . . what a way to break in a new boat! Mike easily beat out all competitors in the club *AND* all other entrants in the River Crab! Other highlights included Jerry Zabel's 20-pound king, and Bill Shackleton's fine kite-flying skills! Our club didn't fare quite as well as Mike and "Silver Fox" did, finishing a distant second in the club portion of the tournament. I'm sure we'll all work even harder to redeem our title at the 1989 River Crab, and I hope to see ALL Detroit Area



"TEACHER'S PET" enjoyed an excellent boat trolling tournament season in 1988, as author Dave Even finished second in the final "Skipper of the Year" standings.

Steelheader boats there next April!

Our next outing found the locals moored in Benton Harbor for the annual spring trip to southern Lake Michigan. This is one of the best ports on the trolling schedule and, as always, expectations ran high. "Teacher's Pet" and yours truly managed to outdistance "Katie Did" and Bruce Haywood, and "Kemo" and Bob Mitchell by six pounds. All three of us fished within shouting distance of each other, and it all came down to total weight at the weigh-in.

Remember all those big kings everyone saw resting on the surface with their dorsal fins sticking out of the water? Too bad those contrary kings wouldn't hit a few lures! Larry Wynne and I came up with a win in the Doubles tournament there on Sunday.

The next event found our fleet fishing a new port for us, Muskegon. The fishing was good, and many crews found plenty of action. Dick Shirk and "Lil' Scratch" captured this tournament with a fine catch. Dick didn't have an opportunity to "pre-fish" Muskegon — he went out 'cold' on Saturday and still came out on top! It just goes to show that you don't always have to show up early at a tournament to be successful!

A good time was had by all, and we'll definitely be returning there in 1989. I'm sure Larry Gaiownik will return. Just don't let him out on the lake until he knows the difference between the pier heads of Grand Haven and the pier heads of Muskegon. I'll also remember that it

is more than a 20-minute ride from Whitehall to Muskegon, even though they're only 10 miles apart as the crow flies! Sorry, guys!

The spring fishing came to an end and the club made its annual trek to Port Austin, a predictable port for Detroit Area Steelheaders.

There are three predictable things about Port Austin, things you can always count on there. First, there'll be plenty of wind. Second, there'll be plenty of big lake trout. Third, Greg Clifford and his crew aboard "Outlaw" will win. Our club was not let down by Port Austin in 1988.

On Saturday, the wind arrived and the tournament was rescheduled for Sunday. The fishing was excellent, with the Top Ten boats all weighing in eight fish, and, as expected, "Outlaw" won again with its usual catch of eight monster-sized lake trout! It was close with plenty of competition for "Outlaw," especially from Steve Banovic and "Exaggerator." Oh, I forgot. There are now four things to count on at Port Austin—you can sleep anywhere you want, just don't sleep in the parking lot . . . right, Bill?

The tournament trail took us next on our annual trip to Oscoda. Our first attempt at holding the tourney was a big disappointment. The winds refused to co-operate, and after two consecutive days of 25-mile-per-hour winds, we had to reschedule this popular event.

The weather was more co-operative on the second try, giving us a calm lake. However, the fishing was not the greatest, and most crews had a difficult time. Steve Banovic and "Exaggerator" remembered how close they had come to winning at the Port Austin tournament, so they decided to make the 25-mile run across the lake. The long ride paid off when Steve took first place, with Bob Mitchell and "Kemo" a close second.

Jan and Doug Fellows of Fellows

Marina are always great hosts, and, at the picnic following the weigh-in, the club presented them with a plaque of recognition and appreciation for their help and hospitality over the years. One interesting sidelight to this event: Rob Pinskey of "Anticipation" managed to catch a 5-pound lake trout, which is no big deal . . . except it failed to make the 18-inch tournament length requirement!

Ludington was next on the schedule, and 29 skippers and crews attended this two-day event. On Saturday morning aboard "Teacher's Pet," we settled down early over a school of big kings. The action was fast for us, including a triple at first light! We kept it up all day and took a 13-point lead into Sunday morning, with Larry Gaiownik on "Formulator" and Brian Mitchell and "The Natural" close behind.

The fishing wasn't as good on Sunday, but Tim Graskewicz and "Petty Cash" came all the way up from 28th place after Saturday to take the second-day honors and finish in fourth place overall. Tim proved that, in a two-day tournament, anything can happen! "Teacher's Pet" and your reporter won the event, with Bob Mitchell and "Kemo" winding up second, and Blaise Pewinski and "Sea Hag" finishing third. It was unusual to see so little boat traffic at Ludington, and there was a definite shortage of kings. I hope what we experienced there in 1988 is not an indication of the future for Ludington.

Manistee was the next port on the list, and also our annual Ladies Day tournament. In past years, Ladies Day was


Continued on Page Twenty-three!



JAN AND DOUG FELLOWS, of Fellows Marina, have provided several years of first-rate hospitality to our club members during our annual tourney stop at Oscoda. This past summer, they were presented with a Detroit Area Steelheader Recognition Award for all their help over the years. Thanks, Doug and Jan . . . we'll see you again in 1989!


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Re-programming ourselves

First, I want to personally thank all members for recently electing me to the Board of Directors and the position of Boat Trolling Tournament Director for 1989. I can assure you that I will do my very best to make the tournaments as enjoyable and problem-free as possible.

Now, as we all know, the fishing program in two of our Great Lakes sure wasn't up to what we're accustomed to. But then, maybe we're spoiled. In the 1970's and early 1980's, it was the exception to come ashore after a day's fishing with less than a full cooler. What a great situation to be blessed with. We had good reasons for taking it for granted. I guess the 'heads of state' might have felt that way, also. It looks as though they adopted the old cliché that "if it isn't broke, don't fix it."

So now what do we do? Well, I think it's time we re-program ourselves. Instead of going off the deep end and listing our

boats and equipment for sale in the local newspaper, let's give our fishing program a chance to rebound.

If there are restrictions put on catch limits, so be it. If they establish a king salmon season, I think we can live with that. And what's so wrong with practicing catch-and-release methods? Do we really have to fill our coolers to the brim to feel that our trip out on the "big pond" was successful?

I know a lot of what I would call successful fishermen, some of them right here in our own club, who have never caught enough fish to even place in a tournament, but yet you still see them signing up for the next one. You don't necessarily measure a person's success by how full their cooler is.

I also think that, along with our re-programming ourselves, the obvious questions must still be addressed. These include doing something about the forage base, and increasing the plantings of our salmonids. It is at the point now that we cannot just "take a look at it" anymore. We **MUST** "act on it," and immediately would not be too soon!

Let's all work together to try to make the Detroit Area Steelheaders not only the largest M.S.S.F.A. chapter in Michigan, but the one about which you can say you're really proud to be a member!

With this kind of commitment, I can assure you we will be as solid as a cannonball hanging up off Port Austin on a hot July afternoon.

REMEMBER, THINK SPRING! ONLY 90 DAYS TO LAUNCH!!

—Dick Shirk

Where are the salmon???

Over the past two years, the question asked in this story's headline has been asked and answered over and over again by anyone who has experienced the lack of fishing action on the Great Lakes. All related businesses have noticed a big decline, and everyone involved is concerned that the once-great salmon fishery is in serious trouble.

Many reasons are given as the culprit for the poor fishing during the last two seasons. We've heard them all, and I don't want to waste your time rehashing them again. My main point is the lack of involvement by the fishermen who have enjoyed the good fishing times of past years. The decline in salmon fishing is a **SERIOUS** problem—and **NOW** is the time to become involved in solving it!

Times are tough, and the fishery needs your support now more than ever. It was easy to belong to the Steelheaders, or any other fishing organization when the fishing was going great, when big catches were very common, when things were booming. It was an exciting time, and it seemed as if each fishing season was better than the last.

It was fun going to the meetings, hearing about the great fishing everyone was experiencing. The boats and equipment became the finest anywhere, and the Great Lakes fishery was the envy of the rest of the country.

What happened to the salmon is not our fault, but what can we do to help return it to the glory days? Your support and involvement by belonging to a fishing organization is the first step in



IS IT THE START of a successful fishing trip, or the end of a disappointing day. You can decide!
the right direction.

The Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association (M.S.S.F.A.) was once an organization of over 7,000 members. It is now in danger of slipping below 5,000 members, and is experiencing financial problems. M.S.S.F.A. is the voice of the Great Lakes fishery, and now is not the time to abandon it. Your membership in the M.S.S.F.A. through your membership in a local chapter such as the Detroit Area Steelheaders, is very important to the fishery, and will help bring back the great fishing of the past. The fishery will survive only if we all band together and fight, so that what has happened to the fishery the past two seasons will never happen again.

Tight lines!

—Dave Even



DICK SHIRK (r.) accepts his '88 "Member of the Year" award from Mike Zalkowski.



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Ksionzek, Rogers step down from Board

The Detroit Area Steelheaders' Board of Directors will be missing two familiar faces for 1989. Outstanding members Bob Ksionzek and Ken Rogers have each 'retired' from the Board

after racking up six years of loyal, excellent service to our club as members of the Board.

Bob Ksionzek became a director in 1983, and for several years, he served as Boat Trolling Tournament Chairman. He brought these popular club events to an all-time high in 1985, when several of the tournaments boasted competitor fleets approaching 60 boats! These totals will probably not soon be equalled, given the current fishing conditions.

Bob has also been instrumental, at various times, in helping produce the club's annual Spring Fishing Show, the annual Dinner Dance, and the club newsletter, *Fishin' Tales*. In addition, it was Bob who first developed the very popular club Boat Directory, which is published each spring.

Ken Rogers also became a director in 1983, and soon became very active with *Fishin' Tales*, serving for several years as its Field Editor. In that capacity, he produced original material for our newsletter month after month. His writing has been recognized across Michigan as being some of the finest work being published. Among his outstanding articles were the Top Ten Skipper surveys, spotlight articles on Detroit Area Steelheader charter captains, and "How to . . ." articles on everything from doctoring lures to fishing etiquette to building trolling boards, and many others.

Ken has also helped in producing the annual Spring Fishing Show, and was al-



KEN ROGERS (r.), who recently stepped down from the Board, is shown here with **Dr. Howard Tanner**, former D.N.R. head. Ken has worked very hard, and creatively, on behalf of the Detroit Area Steelheaders.

most singlehandedly responsible for producing the club cookbook, "Cooking Fit For A King," which raised significant money for Dr. Howard Tanner's fisheries research at Michigan State University. Ken's tireless efforts have helped establish a meaningful liaison between our club and Dr. Tanner.

Both men have left their marks on our club, and their relentless hard work, determination, inspiration and influence will be missed. However, I'm pleased to report

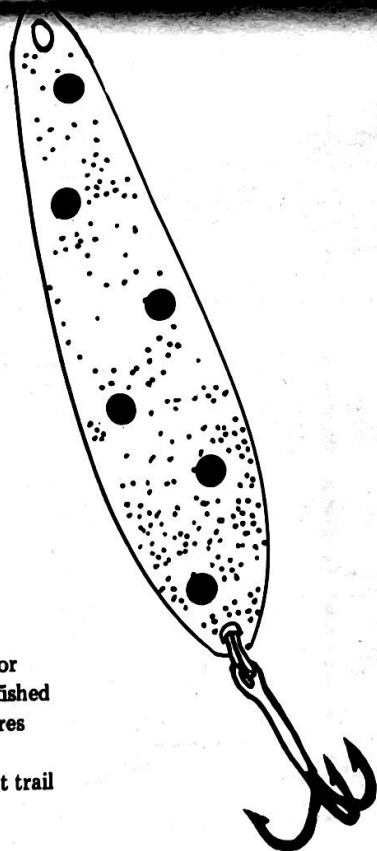
that both will still be around at our meetings, and will be fishing with us every chance they get. If you're just learning how to boat troll and you happen to come across Bob and "Last Dime" or Ken and "Boston Whaler," all you have to do is ask and they'll be glad to help you out.

Fellows, we all are proud to claim you both as Detroit Area Steelheaders still!

—Joel Garinger



BOB KSIONZEK, recently 'retired' Board member, was seen regularly "doing his thing" at Detroit Area Steelheader tournaments for several summers in his role as Boat Trolling Tournament Chairman.



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Detroit Steelheaders return to the Au Sable

December 3rd found a 20-man force of Detroit Area Steelheaders on hand at Oscoda, ready to seek their catch—"Mr. Steelhead . . . or Mrs. Steelhead!" There had been regular reports of steady catches of fish on the Au Sable River, not many limits, but usually one or two fish per day.

By 6:00 a.m., there was a crowd of fisherman gathered at Bob's Breakfast Hut. One could hear more than a few fish stories from last year's trip to the Au Sable, along with serious discussions of what sort of strategy might apply to this year's fishing.

A few club members were reporting some success from their Friday fishing, with several fish taken, but the big news of the morning was the story of high-steady water. The high water was due to construction on the Cook Dam's spillway. As a result, the Foote Dam was running full-tilt to lower the back-water lake above Foote Dam.

The high water, in combination with the strong winds that blew up, created tough fishing conditions for the majority of the fishermen. By late



YES, VIRGINIA, IT'S TRUE! There really were TWO 7-pound, 3-ounce steelhead weighed in at the Au Sable River tournament last December!! Contrary to rumor, Mike Zelkowski (left) and Bob Kanas DID catch identically sized fish to win their respective divisions in the tourney. As they say, one picture is worth 1000 words!

afternoon, not too many of the fishing crowd that normally fishes the river on the weekends were anywhere to be seen. Only fellow Detroit Area Steelheaders were to be found at the launch site at the 4:00 p.m. weigh-in.

The weigh-in behind the 'Dam Store' brought out the same story from most of the fishermen—no fish and few strikes! You notice I said "most fishermen." Bob Kanas came to the scale with a nice 7-pound, 3-ounce steelhead to take the Bank Division of the tournament. Mike Zelkowski took top honors in the Boat Division, also with a 7-pound, 3-ounce steelie.

Questions were raised to me about both men weighing in fish weighing EXACTLY the same. Okay, guys, let's see BOTH fish at the SAME TIME!! Yup! Two fish, all right. You're both off the hook this time, you Smurfs!!

We all hope the fishing will improve on the ol' Au Sable, and I'm pretty sure it will once the construction going on up the river is finished.

Good luck, and GOOD FISHING!

—Doug Karakas

Detroit Steelheaders fall short on Big Manistee

The Metro-West Chapter emerged as the new champions of the Manistee 3-Way Tournament, contested among the Detroit Area, Saginaw, and Metro-West Steelheaders.

Averaging 5 pounds, 2 ounces per man, Metro-West won handily over both the other groups. Saginaw managed a 2-pound, 1-ounce average per man, while Detroit tallied an average of 1 1/2 pounds per fisherman.

The total catch of all three clubs was only 13 fish, with a combined weight of 76 pounds, 10 ounces. This figure is sharply down from last year's mass total catch of approximately 125 pounds for this tournament. I guess we can say the fishing was off, but keep this in mind:



METRO-WEST'S Ron Kluett (l.) takes the "big" 3-Way trophy from Doug Karakas.

It's better than watching television!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders' individual contest resulted in Jerry Zabel emerging at the pinnacle of the 19-fisherman field. Jerry won with an 8-pound, 4-ounce female steelhead. Nice going, Jerry. Mike Lehto and Doug Karakas shared second place, with each weighing in 6-pound, 7-ounce steelheads. The other fish weighed in were a 5-pound, 11-ouncer by Ed Yankoski II, and a 5-pound, 8-ounce beauty taken by Jim Hardrick. All the fish in our tournament were entered in the Boat Division.

The weather for the event started out mild enough, but the grey, cloudy skies hinted that the weatherman's prediction of rain was likely to come true. Sure enough, by mid-day the rain began, on-and-off at first but becoming a light, steady rain for the balance of the day.

The weigh-in found a lot of cold, wet fishermen at "Fisherman's Headquarters," but by the time we got to dinner at 6:30, everyone's mood was much better and spirits were high.

The dinner itself was great, featuring one-pound t-bone steaks and a nice spread of salad bar goodies. We topped the evening off with a lot of fishing talk and good fellowship.

I hope even more Detroit Area Steelheaders join us next year for this fun event. Good luck, and GOOD FISHING!

—Doug Karakas



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS caught a few fish, but had a GREAT time anyway.

The Board of Directors of the Detroit Area Steelheaders extend condolences to Jim Hardrick & Family on the recent death of Jim's son William

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Things to Avoid While Fishing

- When the sun is low on the horizon, the shadow of your boat, yourself, even your fishing rod as you cast, often stretches far away from you and can be seen by fish. You can avoid this by fishing toward the sun during these early and late daylight hours.
- Noise travels far and fast in water. Dropping a fishing rod on the bottom of your boat, closing a tackle box loudly, standing up and kicking the side of the boat—these and other careless noise-making can and



do create sounds in the water, and those sounds will alert the fish to your presence.

Putting carpet inside your boat will help to deaden these unwanted noises, but the best remedy is to be aware of the potential for unusual sounds and make sure you avoid making them!

- Light-colored clothes are easily seen above the water by fish. Don't wear anything white. Fish in neutral-colored clothing such as gray, tan or light green.

Do I Need a Radio Operators License?

If your boat has a VHF radio, you need a Ship Radio Station License issued but the Federal Communication Commission (FCC). You don't need an operator's permit unless you plan to dock in a foreign port or are leaving a foreign port to dock in a U.S. port, in which case you must also have a Restricted Radiotelephone Operator's Permit (RP).

Use FCC Form 506 to apply for a ship station license. No test is required. The license term is for five years. You may not transfer this license to another person or boat. So, if you buy a used boat that is already equipped with a licensed VHF radio, you will still have to apply for a new ship station license.

Use FCC Form 753 to apply for an RP, if required. You must be at least 14 years old. There is no test required, and the RP is issued for your lifetime.

Forms can be obtained from your nearest FCC field office, or from the FCC Radio Bureau Licensing Division, P.O. Box 1040, Gettysburg, PA 17325, or call (717) 337-1212. Application processing time is approximately six to eight weeks. If you do not want to wait for the regular processing time, complete an FCC Form 506A and post it on board your boat. This temporary operating authority is valid for 90 days after you mail your regular application to the FCC.



JIM "JIMMY LEE" LEGENZOFF (l.), Cooler Raffle Co-chairman, presents the grand prize to a happy Jay Fannon. Jay, a Detroit Area Steelheader member, fishes out of Manistee. Congratulations, Jay!

WIND CHILL CHART

WIND IN MILES PER HOUR

CURRENT TEMPERATURE	WIND IN MILES PER HOUR								
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	
35	33	21	16	12	7	5	3	1	
30	27	16	11	3	0	-2	-4	-4	
25	21	9	1	-4	-7	-11	-13	-15	
20	16	2	-6	-9	-15	-18	-20	-22	
15	12	-2	-11	-17	-22	-26	-27	-29	
10	7	-9	-18	-24	-29	-33	-35	-36	
5	1	-15	-25	-32	-37	-41	-43	-45	
0	-6	-22	-33	-40	-45	-49	-52	-54	
-5	-11	-27	-40	-46	-52	-56	-60	-62	
-10	-15	-31	-45	-52	-58	-63	-67	-69	
-15	-20	-38	-51	-60	-67	-70	-72	-76	
-20	-26	-45	-60	-68	-75	-78	-83	-87	

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"THE 1988 BOAT TROLLING SEASON WAS A SUCCESS... AND MANY PEOPLE MADE THIS POSSIBLE..."

... (Continued from Page Seventeen)
held at Port Austin, but this year we decided to try Manistee in hopes of finding lots of big kings to provide the action for our ladies. No one was disappointed as the fishing was decent—and the fish were big. The fleet weighed in 15 kings which tipped the scales at more than 15 pounds, with six of those topping 20 pounds! Bob Ksionzek and his ladies aboard "Last Dime" took first place honors, and Rob Pinsky on "Anticipation" finished second. Jim Lee again took care of the picnic while everyone else was out fishing, and as always, Jim did an excellent job and everyone had a great time! We all owe Jim a big thanks: for making this annual event a big success. Well done, Jim!!

It was back to Lake Huron at mid-August, to Rogers City, where everyone was hoping for plenty of action. Pre-tournament reports were not the greatest — unfortunately, they were true! Thirty skippers found slow action, although the fish taken were big. Bruce Haywood and "Katie-Did" won, and Dan Oliver and "Irene" finished second. Our club did manage to win the annual fish-off between the Northeast and Detroit Area chapters. Incidentally, the Northeast club fishermen were great hosts to us, for which we all thank them.

I'm sure Don Redmond will never forget his "five-banger," and Bob Mitchell will not forget his loud (\$3,000!) "banger," either. I'm not so sure, though, that I'll ever learn how to catch fish at

Rogers City DURING the tourney!

The season finale at Frankfort was next, with the 1988 "Skipper of the Year" title on the line. Early fishing reports were favorable, and the tournament started there without a delay for the first time in three years. The steelhead were very co-operative out in deep water—everyone was reporting plenty of releases, but the steelhead were doing a good job of shaking the hooks. Bob Mitchell and "Kemo" took top honors in both the tournament and the "Skipper of the Year" standings, while Dick Shirk and "Lil' Scratch" ended up a close second in the tournament.

The boat trolling season was a success, in spite of all the poor fishing reports, and many people made this possible by helping out whenever needed. Specifically, all the Port Captains did an excellent job running their tournaments and making all the necessary arrangements beforehand. Bill Shackleton and Sandy Langer took care of the t-shirts, and Don Redmond made sure the scales were always at every port. Bob Mitchell and Kathy Burbary handled the official scoring, and Gene Burbary ran the Big Fish Pool.

Thanks, also, to Ray and Kevin for helping out, and my special thanks to **EVERYONE ELSE** who helped me out during the last two boat tournament seasons. I really appreciate your help, and I'm sorry if I forgot to mention you by name during that time. Most of all, I would like to thank my wife Ellen for putting up with me and helping out so many times.

TIGHT LINES!

—Dave Even

1988 Boat Tournament Chairman

Detroit Area Steelheaders know how to have fun !!

FIFTH ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 11 AT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will hold their fifth annual Dinner Dance on February 11, 1989 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren, the same place where the regular monthly meetings are held.

Last year's Dinner Dance was the best one so far, and a huge success. More people attended and had more fun than ever before! This year we hope to see even more Detroit Steelheaders and their families and friends on hand to help make the 1989 version of the Dinner Dance better than ever!!

Fellows, this occasion is the perfect time for all of us to repay our wives or girlfriends for all of the patience and understanding they have shown

us as we have avidly pursued our sport throughout the past year.

Once again, the dinner will be served "sit-down style," eliminating the need for everyone to stand in line to serve themselves. However, the very popular "all you can eat and drink" format remains unchanged! Music will be supplied by a well-known local disc jockey for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Again this year, we've got \$500-plus in prizes to give away to those attending.

The cost for this great evening of fun is a real bargain — \$40.00 per couple, or \$20.00 per person. For more information, please call Jim "Jimmy Lee" Legenzoff at 839-8958, or Bob Kring at 625-8397.

We hope to see **ALL OF YOU** there!!!



THE ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE is lots of fun for all, and highlights the long, dreary winter months for salmon and steelhead fishermen!

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Complete Package Price
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Includes Sea Nymph 19' Deep-V, 70 h.p. Evinrude or Johnson Electric Start Outboard Motor, Custom Matched 2200-lb. Trailer & Accessories, Walk-Thru Windshield, AM-FM Stereo Cassette, OMC System Matched Instrumentation, Lowrance X-4 Liquid Crystal Graph Fish Finder, Sport Fishing Top with Boot, Two Aerated Livewells

GLS175 GREAT LAKES SPECIAL PACKAGE



\$7,795

Complete Package Price
Plus freight, prep & rigging

Includes Sea Nymph 16' 7" Deep-V, 40 h.p. Evinrude or Johnson Electric Start Outboard Motor, Custom Matched 1500-lb. Trailer & Accessories, Walk-Thru Windshield, AM-FM Stereo Cassette, OMC System Matched Instrumentation, Lowrance X-4 Liquid Crystal Graph Fish Finder, Sport Fishing Top with Boot, Two Aerated Livewells

SS195 FISH-N-SKI PACKAGE



\$9,995

Complete Package Price
Plus freight, prep & rigging

Includes Sea Nymph 19' Deep-V, 70 h.p. Evinrude or Johnson Electric Start Outboard Motor, Custom Matched 2200-lb. Trailer & Accessories, Walk-Thru Windshield, AM-FM Stereo Cassette, OMC System Matched Instrumentation, Lowrance X-4 Liquid Crystal Graph Fish Finder, Run-about Top with Boot, Two Aerated Livewells

SS175 FISH-N-SKI PACKAGE



\$7,895

Complete Package Price
Plus freight, prep & rigging

Includes Sea Nymph 16' 7" Deep-V, 40 h.p. Evinrude or Johnson Electric Start Outboard Motor, Custom Matched 1500-lb. Trailer & Accessories, Walk-Thru Windshield, AM-FM Stereo Cassette, OMC System Matched Instrumentation, Lowrance X-4 Liquid Crystal Graph Fish Finder, Run-about Top with Boot, Two Aerated Livewells

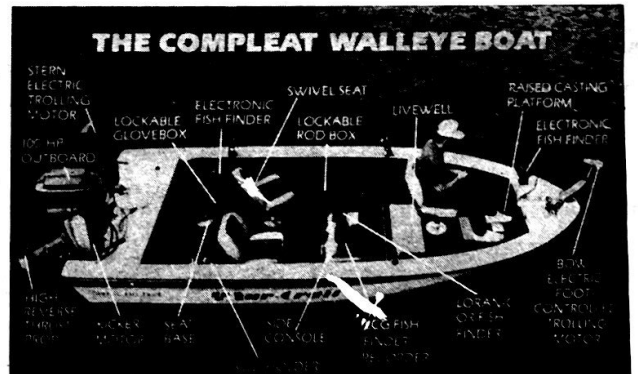
SC175 SIDEWINDER PACKAGE



\$6,995

Complete Package Price
Plus freight, prep & rigging

Includes Sea Nymph 16' 7" Deep-V, 30 h.p. Evinrude or Johnson Electric Start Outboard Motor, Custom Matched 1500-lb. Trailer & Accessories, Walk-Thru Windshield, AM-FM Stereo Cassette, OMC System Matched Instrumentation, Lowrance X-4 Liquid Crystal Graph Fish Finder, OMC Cobra 12V Trolling Motor, Extra-large Aerated Livewell



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