



ANNUAL ISSUE

FISHING TALES



VOL. XIX • No. 1

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1993 ANNUAL

Buzz Ramsey, Jim Bedford, Emil Dean and Craig Schaaf to headline Steelheaders Spring Fishing Show & Steelhead Expo!



BUZZ RAMSEY
Steelhead Expo Headliner!



JIM BEDFORD
Steelhead Expo Headliner!

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STEELHEADERS



MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!

"1992 was a very good year!" says Graskewicz

Nineteen ninety-two was a very good year for the Detroit Area Steelheaders!

During the year, we welcomed Dick Jackson and Don Redmond aboard as members of the Board of Directors, and, regrettably, said good-bye to club directors Bob Krings and Ed Wilczek. Bob is one of the founding members of our club, and his experience and contributions will be greatly missed.

January started out with our lake trout tournament on Higgins Lake and ended with Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) Chief of Fisheries as guest speaker at the January membership meeting. The month also saw the Detroit Area Steelheaders represented by our members at all the major boat/fishing shows in the Detroit area. Thanks to all those club members who volunteered their time to talk to the public about fishing, and the benefits of belonging to the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.

In February, the Steelheaders held our annual Dinner-Dance. This event was, once again, a major success due to the efforts of Doug and Mary Karakas, Bob and Linda Mitchell, Ed and Pat Wilczek, and many others. This fun social evening is an excellent opportunity for all club members to say thanks to their "First Mate" for all the weekends they were away fishing during the year. Incidentally, the 1993 Steelheader Dinner Dance will take place on February 13 (*details appear elsewhere in this issue*). Contact Doug Karakas or Bob Mitchell for tickets. We closed the month with George Richey as our featured speaker at the membership meeting. During that meeting, the Detroit Area Steelheaders presented George with a check for \$500 for the Benzie Area Fish Hatchery Program. Under this program, the Benzie Steelheaders are raising steelhead for release into the Benzie River system.

March proved to be an exceptional month for the club. We participated in the annual Wellston Area Tourist Association (W.A.T.A.) fishing tournament on the Manistee River, held our own annual Steelheader Fishing Show, and concluded the month with Captain Steve Jones as our meeting speaker.

While the W.A.T.A. tournament was not quite the success we expected, our fishing show certainly was. As always, the show featured a number of fine speakers, and fishing tackle (new and used) at unbelievable prices! The 1993 Detroit Area Steelheaders Fishing Show is expected to surpass ALL previous shows. We are moving the show site to the Waterford Civic Center, and our lineup of guest speakers is expected to include Buzz Ramsey, Dick Swan, and Emil Dean. Complete details about the 1993 show appear on the next page.

The highlight for us in April was the appearance of Dr. Howard Tanner, the father of Great Lakes salmon fishing, as our guest



DR. HOWARD TANNER, guest speaker at our April meeting, gladly accepted a \$500 check from the Detroit Area Steelheaders to help support his M.S.U. fisheries research.

speaker at the membership meeting. Dr. Tanner discussed the history of the salmon program in Michigan, and its prospects for the future. The Detroit Area Steelheaders took the occasion to donate \$500 to help support Dr. Tanner's fishery research at Michigan State University. Our club is discussing fund-raising alternatives with Dr. Tanner that would allow our club to sponsor a graduate student in fisheries research at M.S.U.

May kicked off the start of our 1992 Boat Trolling Tournament season with Chuck Muer's River Crab Salmon Stakes tournament. The season's first tourney brought us calm seas, bright skies, and a few big fish being caught. Without exception, this tournament has always drawn the largest number of participants from our club. The Detroit Area Steelheaders are major supporters of this charity fund-raiser, and the Board of Directors hopes to see EVERYONE there in 1993!

From the River Crab, the club visited eight other ports throughout Michigan (with a foray into New York). Overall, club tournament fishermen caught fewer fish per hour trolled in 1992 than in 1991. However, the prospects for 1993 are encouraging. This season should be the first one in which we expect to see the beneficial impact of increased fish stocking levels in both Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.

In June, the Detroit Area Steelheaders held their annual Special People fishing tournament on Lake Erie. Each year, in co-operation with the Monroe Intermediate School District, our club conducts a fishing outing for mentally and physically impaired children. We spend a day at the Toledo Beach Marina fishing for walleye, picnicking, and generally having a great time with a group of

Special People. The kids all received trophies donated by Little Bill's Trophies, Special People shirts from King Heart Productions, and autographed pictures of our 1992 Celebrity Chairman, Pete Stoyanovich of the National Football League's Miami Dolphins. The 1993 Special People outing will take place on June 20. I urge all club members to PLEASE consider participating in this very worthwhile event this year!

June was also the month for our annual Ladies Day tournament. The 1992 edition was held at Fellows Marina in Oscoda, and as has been the case for recent Ladies Days, Mother Nature didn't disappoint us — we had to cancel the Saturday fishing. Sunday, however, was gorgeous! Everyone had a grand time Saturday at the club picnic and later strolling through the "Art on the Beach" display in town. A special thanks goes to



CINDY WAKULSKI accepts her plaque emblematic of her selection as 1992 Detroit Area Steelheader "Member of the Year" from President Tim Graskewicz.

Larry Boyer for providing and cooking a delicious roast pig that everyone enjoyed. This year's Ladies Day tournament is tentatively set for June 26.

Mother Nature continued to wreak havoc on our summer tournament schedule after Ladies Day. I believe that one of the primary reasons for the decrease in fish caught was the terrible fishing conditions we encountered when we were able to get out of port. In fact, the final two tournaments of 1992 were eventually cancelled.

With the onset of fall, Doug Karakas and the River Rats began preparing for the 1992-93 river, pier and surf tournaments. There are still a number of exciting tournaments left on that schedule from now through spring (*see the Coming Events schedule elsewhere in this issue*), so pick one and get involved — I promise you'll enjoy yourself! There are

many experienced club members who are eager to 'show the ropes' to anyone interested in participating in a river tourney, etc.

In December, we had our annual Christmas Party meeting, featuring a visit from "Salmon" Claus, the popular "Cooler Full of Cheer" raffle, and elections for the Board of Directors for 1993. Awards were also presented for the "Top 15" skippers of 1992 and the biggest fish of the year, and the club said good-bye to Dave Even, stepping down after 10 years of service on the Board of Directors. Dave's contributions to the Board and the club were many over the years, and he will be missed. Thanks, Dave!

In the category of individual honors, "Skipper of the Year" for 1992 went to Bob Mitchell and "Kemo," an unprecedented fifth consecutive year that Bob and his crew have claimed that illustrious title. Congratulations, Bob!! There are many club members who are



GENE BURBARY thanked Tim and club members for the top 1992 Director award presented to him and his wife, Kathy Burbary, as joint "Directors of the Year"!

deserving of the title "Member of the Year," and for 1992, Cindy Wakulski was selected for that honor by the Board of Directors. Thanks for all your help, Cindy!

It was extremely difficult for me to choose the recipient of the "Director of the Year" award. Throughout 1992, our Board of Directors put out so much effort and worked so hard, they all seemed deserving of the honor. However, after much consideration, I concluded that Kathy and Gene Burbary were BOTH the most worthy, so for the first time we have co-honorees for "Director of the Year"! Kathy has done so much for our club, getting our club patches and hats, cooking at the Spring Fishing Show, handling club publicity, and more! Gene has helped in many ways, and his job as membership chairman has been a resounding success. Thanks and congratulations, Kathy and Gene!!

As 1992 ended, so did my term as president, so I want to thank everyone who helped make my job easier. I appreciate all the help I received from the Board of Directors, and I know the new president will continue to receive that outstanding support. I firmly believe that the Detroit Area Steelheaders is an exceptional organization, and with its members' backing, will continue to be the BEST FISHING CLUB IN MICHIGAN!!

— Tim Graskewicz, 1992 President



GEORGE RICHEY accepted a Detroit Area Steelheader \$500 donation for the Betzie River steelhead project of the Benzie Steelheaders. George spoke to the club at our February, 1992 membership meeting.



PETE STOYANOVICH (center, seated on ground) was a great Celebrity Chairman for the 1992 Special People outing, participating tirelessly with the Special People kids.

Detroit Area Steelheaders Spring Fishing Show & Steelhead Expo is set for March 13-14!

One of the surest signs that spring has arrived and winter has finally come to an end is nearly here — the Detroit Area Steelheaders' annual **SPRING FISHING SHOW & STEELHEAD EXPO!**

Mark your calendars! This year's fishing extravaganza dates are **SATURDAY, MARCH 13 AND SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 1993!!**

The show is being held this year at the Waterford Community Center, on

M-59 at Crescent Lake Road (see map below). Hours are 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Sunday, with a \$4.00 donation for admission. Senior Citizens pay \$2.00, and children under 12 with an adult get in **FREE!** There is ample convenient, free parking.

This show offers fishermen and fisherwomen the hottest new salmon and steelhead methods and techniques, the finest selection of tackle and the

latest equipment at bargain prices, **PLUS** many "How to..." clinics on how to catch the elusive, much sought-after Great Lakes steelhead and salmon.

There will be seminars on river fishing, surf fishing, and boat trolling by **Buzz Ramsey, Jim Bedford** and **Emil Dean**. Also, **Craig Schaaf** will speak on Euro-floats, a hot new bobber fishing method. Other show 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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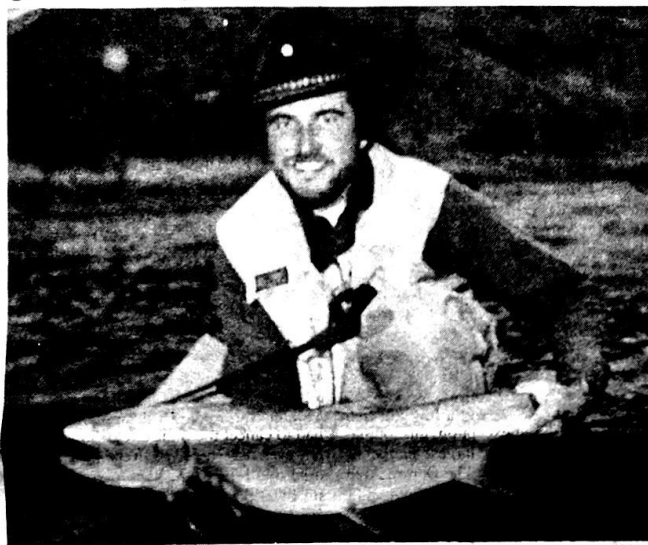
Buzz Ramsey's fishing clinics highlight Spring Fishing Show!

Buzz Ramsey, Director of Research for Luhr Jensen & Sons, Inc., will be presenting clinics on steelhead fishing at the Detroit Area Steelheaders Spring Fishing Show on March 13-14, 1993.

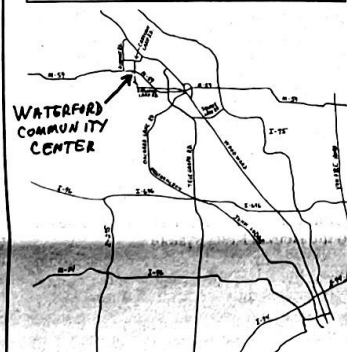
Buzz, a nationally acclaimed cold-water fishing authority, will share the methods, techniques, and master fishing tips he has perfected during his 25-year career as an avid fisherman. He currently holds an International Game Fish Association (I.G.F.A.) line class steelhead world record, a 30-pound, 5-ounce brute taken in November, 1984 from British Columbia's Thompson River.

Besides his fishing "duties," Buzz is responsible for developing and testing new lure products, and providing public 'How to' fishing education. He is a member of many fishing organizations, and the *Outdoor Writers of America*.

Over the years, you've probably enjoyed watching Buzz's fishing artistry and adventures on television fishing shows, so here's your chance to hear and see him in person! **DON'T MISS HIM!!**



Here's how to get to the **DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS SPRING FISHING SHOW & STEELHEAD EXPO:**



FISHIN' TALES is published monthly by the **DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.** Views expressed in it are those of the authors, and the Editor. Its purpose is to inform members of issues and events affecting sport fishermen, and to teach and guide the public to respect and appreciate our Great Lakes, rivers, other waters, and land.

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The list of Officers and Committee assignments for 1993 will be published in the next issue of *FISHIN' TALES*.

Submit all materials for publication to:

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COMING EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of month at 7:30 p.m. K. of C. Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren

JANUARY 26, 1993 FEBRUARY 23, 1993 MARCH 30, 1993

January Speaker — **DON CALHOUN, on Skamania**

February Speaker — **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

March Speaker — **TO BE ANNOUNCED**

SPECIAL STEELHEADER EVENTS

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL (quarterly meeting) Jan. 29-30

DETROIT BOAT & FISHING SHOW (Cobo Center) Jan. 30-Feb. 7

STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) February 13

PONTIAC BOAT SHOW (Silverdome) February 17-21

OUTDOORAMA (Novi Expo Center) February 26-March 7

PROFESSIONAL FISHING SHOW (The Palace) March 4-7

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER

SPRING FISHING SHOW (Waterford Community Center) **March 13-14**

WINTER FISHING SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
February 6	HIGGINS LAKE — Ice Fishing	Doug Karakas, 545-1181
March 6	MANISTEE RIVER (W.A.T.A.)	Doug Karakas, 545-1181

BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
April 24	ST. JOE/BENTON HARBOR	Mike Wakulski, 585-6307
May 1	RIVER CRAB (Lexington/Pt. Sanilac)	To Be Announced
May 15	HARBOR BEACH	To Be Announced
June 5	PORT AUSTIN (Team Doubles)	To Be Announced
June 19	SPECIAL PEOPLE DAY (Lk. Erie Walleye)	To Be Announced
June 26	OSCODA (Ladies Day)	To Be Announced
July 17	MANISTEE (Team Doubles)	To Be Announced
July 31-Aug. 1	PRESQUE ISLE (Two-day)	To Be Announced
August 21-22	LUDINGTON (Two-day)	To Be Announced
September 11	FRANKFORT	To Be Announced

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The **DEADLINE**
 for the **FEBRUARY ISSUE**
 of **FISHIN' TALES**
 is **JANUARY 26, 1993**

"Duct Tape" Salmon: Perseverance conquers adversity!

Last August 18-21 was one of those happy times when the our timing was right. The salmon and steelhead in Manistee were ready to take on a challenge, and as it turned out, the challenge was for us to figure out how to keep our lines in the water long enough for the fish to take a lure!

The end result of our efforts during those days included 27-, 22-, 19-, and 9-pound king salmon, four steelhead weighing from 4 pounds to 10 pounds, three coho salmon in the 7- to 9-pound range, and a 6-pound lake trout. On its face, this outcome may appear to be merely an average catch, especially to a long-time Steelheader, but as you read on, you'll come to understand why none of us who were there will be mad at the fishing gods for a long time.

First of all, we had an excellent boat, a 20-foot Boston Whaler, and a crew used to being on Lake Erie in rough water. I had been fishing with my office partner, Don Less, and his friend, Mike Anderszak, for walleye for many years but they had never been trolling for salmon. Dan's boat was set up for walleye fishing in Lake Erie, either drifting or trolling with planer boards, but it was never rigged for salmon trolling.

This trip provided a chance for Dan to use a pair of downriggers which had been given to him by a friend (who had received them in partial payment for a painting job!). They must have been the first pair of Riviera downriggers ever made in life. They had pins on a spring to hold their position, no clutch, no footage counter, 1-foot brittle fiberglass arms, nothing to keep the cable in the pulley, and 20 inches of cable released for each revolution. These ancient downriggers and some homemade rod holders were mounted to two pieces of board that Dan had bolted to his gunwales. We completed our set-up by purchasing some 10-pound cannonballs, and charting our calculations of how much cable was let out per crank turn.

I supplied the rods, reels, terminal tackle, and lures, and everyone kicked in a lot of enthusiasm when we arrived at the Cedar Street Marina in Manistee. My main fishing partner, Bob Butler, had arrived with his 13-year-old son Michael the night before, and we raised him on the radio before we got started. Bob told us the harbor and pier heads were packed with salmon and boats were taking fish with every lure known to man! That sounded fairly positive to us . . . !

Promptly after launching, I carefully set the lines on the downriggers. We started with two #3 silver bullet J-Plugs at 20 feet and 16 feet, 8 inches, 12 cranks and ten cranks down respectively. I stacked hammered chrome with green prism tape Silverstreaks four cranks above each cannonball.

On our first pass along the inside of the north pier head, a salmon gulped down one of our J-Plugs. Mike tried to avoid the other boats in the vicinity, I cleared the other lines,



MIKE LEHTO, MIKE ANDERSZAK AND DON LESS (left to right) admire Mike's 22-pounder taken off "the first downrigger ever made in life!"

and Captain Dan fought the first salmon ever hooked from his boat. After a ten-minute battle, I slipped the net under a beautiful 22-pound king salmon for him. The first Riviera downrigger ever made in life had actually gotten us a fish on our first pass! Dan and Mike thought this salmon trolling was great.

In the excitement of trying to get lines back down, one of the downrigger cables slipped out of its pulley, and the weight of the cannonball snapped one of the 1-foot fiberglass downrigger arms! At least we were able to retrieve the cannonball. Now we were down to one downrigger with three-plus days of fishing ahead of us. We kept fishing with one downrigger stacked with two lines and a Dipsey Diver, and a long line on the other side of the boat.

We caught an 8-pound coho a little way outside the pier heads on one of the hammered chrome with green prism tape Silverstreaks to finish off the first day. It seemed as though we were going to experience some hard fishing.

The next morning we were ready for a full day of 'salmonizing'! Overnight, we had come up with the idea of running the cable of the broken downrigger over a scrap block of wood attached to the frame of the downrigger with duct tape. Perhaps it wasn't the best solution possible, but it seemed the only one available to us under the circumstances. The broken downrigger was back in service, as long as the cable didn't cut too far into the wood.

Within 30 minutes the rod on the "duct tape" downrigger popped up. Mike grabbed the rod, but after a few minutes, that fish got off. Later that morning, in 95 to 100 feet of water, Dan got his first steelhead, about 20 feet down on that same J-Plug. On the way back in for lunch, Mike was driving the boat

a little fast, and the bouncing on the waves flipped a cannonball that had been placed in the splash well out of the boat. The cannonball snapped the cable, and the fiberglass arm of the "good" downrigger cracked with the grain. Fortunately, it didn't break. Now we were reduced to one crippled downrigger.

During the lunch break, we drove into town to see if we could find replacement parts for our broken downriggers. To our surprise, no one had any parts to repair the first downriggers ever made in life. We were left to our own ingenuity again. We had a spare cannonball, and some crimps and snaps from Dan's walleye handlining equipment. We rigged up another cannonball with that, taking the arm that broke off the first downrigger and splinting it as reinforcement to the second one with more duct tape. We finally got back to fishing with our two crippled downriggers. Later that same afternoon, Mike got a 9-pound Chinook that fought like a fish twice that size, and a lake trout.

As the sun began to set, we were about a half-mile southwest of the pier heads in about 35 feet of water. We had a #3 silver bullet J-Plug down about 20 feet on the downrigger with the wood block arm. Suddenly, the rod popped off and then started jerking back down. The reel drag screamed in an effort to keep some line on the reel! It was Dan's turn again and he struggled to get the rod out of its holder. He finally managed to extract the rod from the rod holder, and after we turned the boat toward the fish to gain some line, it came to the surface.

Dan shouted, "It looks like Jaws!" when the dorsal fin broke the surface. After about 20 minutes and a couple more drag-burning runs, I netted Dan's 27-pound, chrome-sided salmon. In ten years of salmon fishing, my largest salmon was a 26-pounder, and Dan beat that on his first salmon boat trolling trip! You sure know how to hurt a guy, Dan!!

That night, we got the fish cleaning assembly line going for our five fish, along with Bob and Mike Butler's five fish. As we worked, a guy and his wife, who evidently had been out that day on a charter, watched us cleaning our catches. I heard him say to his charter captain, "We should have been where they were." They would really have been crushed had they seen our broken-down, duct tape-patched pair of downriggers. Later on, we took a little juice and thoroughly enjoyed reliving our good fortune.

The next morning, the kings were thinning out but we were still able to land one 19-pound king near the pier heads on that hammered chrome with green prism tape Silverstreak. Mike really enjoyed tiring out that fish! On my turn on the rod, one of our coho came up. The duct tape was still holding. Each time, we had to gingerly lower the cable over the splintered arm so that it wouldn't break. And each time, we had to keep adjusting the cable so it didn't dig into the board too deeply and get jammed.

Bob and son Michael had to leave that day at lunchtime. They were glad they came to Manistee, especially after spending three fishless days at Oscoda. Mike got a good introduction to salmon trolling, because of the fishing action, and because of the easy-going fun he experienced as one of the guys. I'm sure he'll be back for more again this summer. We had a great time with them, and were sorry to see them go.

That afternoon, the fishing really died down near the pier heads, so we went out to 150 feet of water where we had heard people were catching steelhead. We lost one steelhead behind a yellowbird that we were watching jump a couple of times before we knew it was on. We did take another steelhead on the silver bullet J-Plug 49 feet down on the "splint arm" downrigger. Our last steelhead came on that same hammered chrome Silverstreak spoon 112 feet out on a Dipsey Diver.

By then, the waves were building to 6-7 feet. After taking up the cable on the "wooden block arm" downrigger with towel-wrapped hands very slowly so as not to dig into the wood and cause havoc, we carefully retrieved rest of the lines and called it a day. Not only were we "duct tape salmonizers," we had now become "duct tape Steelheaders!"

On Friday we only fished from 7:30-10:00 a.m. It seems Mike had to get home to get ready for his vacation! The waves were 4-6 feet that morning, but the fish gods smiled on us one last time, giving us one last steelhead, caught on a Dipsey Diver with that same old Silverstreak spoon.

The trip had to come to an end, but the memories never will. We had more fun and satisfaction with four rods and two "duct tape downriggers" than we likely ever will when Dan gets some sturdy rod holders and some real downriggers. Even then, when we get ready for that next salmon trip, you can be sure we'll pack a brand new roll of duct tape!

— Mike Lehto

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . .

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS PLACE SECOND IN THREE-WAY MANISTEE RIVER TOURNAMENT

A contingent of our Detroit Area Steelheader "River Rats" finished second in a three-way river tournament with the Saginaw and Metro-West Steelheaders late last fall. All three of our guys' fish were taken from boats. The Saginaw fishermen took their fish from the Little Manistee River, which was open for the tournament, along with the Big Manistee River. The tournament outcome was decided on the basis of total weight of fish caught by one club divided by the number of fishermen competing for that club.



JERRY SEARS (left) accepts the traveling trophy for his Saginaw club from John Anderson of Metro-West at the post-tourney dinner at the Wellston Inn.



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER competitors at the recent 3-way tournament on the Manistee River — FRONT ROW (left to right): Steve Hamilton, Mike Lehto, Ralph Boland; BACK ROW (left to right): Joel Garinger, Denny Davis, Doug Karakas, Jerry Zabel, Bob Wilmoth, Jim Hardrick, Gary Leinonen.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BONUS PROVES POPULAR

The Board of Directors would like to see every member attend every membership meeting, so it has devised an "attendance bonus" as a means of stimulating attendance. A bonus of \$30 is established, and at each meeting, one member's name is drawn. Any member present whose name is drawn wins the bonus. **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!** If the member whose name is drawn is not present, \$10 is added to the bonus for the next membership meeting the following month. Sometimes, the "pot" goes unclaimed for several months, resulting in a very healthy bonus for some lucky club member. Be sure to attend every membership meeting. You never know when your name will be drawn!



RON HARTMAN (left), a big winner in a recent attendance bonus drawing, claims his \$140 bonus from Veep Bob Gilbert.

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS

Beginning with the January membership meeting, the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council's newsletter, *Great Lakes Basin Report*, will be passed out at each membership meeting to any member who would like a copy. Since there is no cost to members, this qualifies as another "attendance bonus!"

NEW RAFFLE PRIZES OFFERED IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Two nets will be raffled off at the January membership meeting, and February's raffle features a Brinks smoker, along with the usual tackle packs. Dick Jackson, our Raffle chairman, has been doing an *OUTSTANDING* job since taking over the job, raising more money for the club from the raffles than ever before. **GREAT JOB, DICK!!!**

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Detroit Area Steelheaders to host Winter Quarterly Meeting of Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council on January 29-30

The Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc., with its historic intense interest and concern about the continuing well-being and perpetuation of sport fishing in general and salmon and trout fishing in particular, will host the Winter Quarterly Meeting of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council on January 29-30, 1993. In a spirit of camaraderie, the club is inviting all Great Lakes fishing club representatives and other interested parties to attend this important meeting.

Among the many issues to be considered at this meeting of the Elmhurst, Illinois-based organization will be a discussion of a most disturbing prospect, that *salmon and trout could eventually be eliminated from Great Lakes waters as part of a conscious fishery management plan!* Dan Thomas, president of the Council, has pointed out that fishing in general has become a political issue, and therefore, sportfishermen must become politically aware, astute and active to protect their sport.

Dan has made the startling statement that, looking a few years down the road, "there is a growing pressure being applied by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, the International Joint Commission, and the Environmental Protection Agency to re-establish lake trout as *THE* open water predator of the Great Lakes," even at the expense of state-managed salmon/trout stocking programs! He also points out that such major non-governmental environmental organizations as Great Lakes United, the Lake Michigan Federation, the Sierra Club, and the National Wildlife Federation, and all tribal agencies are now on record as opposing the continued plantings of hatchery-reared salmonids. By implication, all fish planting programs are now at risk.

Details of the meeting are listed below. We urge *ALL* interested club members and other sport fishermen and sport fishing clubs to attend this meeting of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council. For more information, call Bob Mitchell (Office: 558-6547, Residence: 828-8034).

— Joel Garinger, Editor

Meeting Sites: Van Dyke Park Motel, 31800 Van Dyke, Warren
St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Hall, 6177 Chicago Rd., Warren

Programs: Friday, at Van Dyke Park Motel

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — Charter Captains Think Tank

2:00-6:00 p.m. — Board of Directors meeting

7:00 p.m. — Reception and Speaker (To Be Announced)

Saturday at St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Hall

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. — Speaker (John Robertson, D.N.R.), business meeting, discussions on state tournament permit proposals, educational for-

the future of Great Lakes salmon, State and Committee reports, etc.

Accommodations: Van Dyke Park Motel, 31800 Van Dyke, Warren, (800) 321-1008
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Don't overlook safety when you launch and recover your boat!

The majority of fishermen trailer their boats to a launch site somewhere near where they will be fishing. Indeed, all Detroit Area Steelheaders tournaments are held at various ports that require all of us to hit the road with our trailer rigs simply in order to be ready for a weekend of fishing.

As we prepare for a fishing trip, we are mainly looking forward to all the fish we will catch and the excitement of filling the cooler, or landing the "Really Big One!"

We worry about how the weather conditions will be for our trip, and what the lake conditions will be while we're fishing. We make sure our tow vehicle is ready, the accommodations are all set, food and supplies are purchased, and all the tackle is ready. In other words, every detail has been addressed in our pre-trip planning. Almost

have your dock lines ready. Do this at the prep area so as not to delay others.

- Check that the drain plug is installed.
- Check for fuel leaks.
- Rehearse hand signals between driver and crew prior to entering the launch ramp.
- Inspect ramp depth to be sure that trailer wheels won't fall off the end of the ramp.
- Back down the ramp slowly, with someone assisting with directions.
- Take enough time so that the boat ends up in the water properly positioned.
- Prior to starting the engine, double-check for fuel leaks, and ensure that the engine compartment is properly ventilated.
- Make sure the engine is at its proper operating temperature before leaving the ramp/dock to avoid stalling.



JUST ONE FIRE CAN RUIN YOUR WHOLE DAY! Be careful at the launch/recovery ramp — fuel leaks or an unvented engine compartment can result in disaster.

We arrive at the launch site and any number of things begin to distract us from the task at hand. Perhaps there's a line of trailers and we're upset at having to wait. Maybe we've heard a good fishing report, and we're thinking about which lures to run, how deep we should be fishing, etc. Whatever the circumstances, we can easily forget that an embarrassing, dangerous and, yes, potentially deadly situation can occur if we don't pay close attention to properly launching our boat.

Many of us have probably witnessed (and perhaps experienced ourselves) some wild and crazy things at a launch site that could be avoided with a little common sense and coordination with the crew. A favorite spectator sport for some is to sit at a launch site and watch the excitement. Don't let yourself become the butt of jokes and wisecracks or worse, the victim of an accident.

Here are some tips that should help for a safe and successful launch.

BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD

- Prior to leaving home, make sure that the winch and safety chain are in proper working order, and that tires and wheel bearings are in good shape.
- Make certain that batteries are charged, and the engine is in running condition.

LAUNCHING

- At the launch site, remove tie downs and

- Remove and secure all dock lines.

After a successful day of fishing, it's time to put the boat back on the trailer. Just as in launching, don't be distracted and make sure the crew members understand their jobs.

Here are some helpful tips on effecting a successful recovery at the recovery ramp.

RECOVERING

- When approaching the dock, be aware of wind direction, and have crew and dock lines positioned appropriately.
- After docking, lift the outrive.
- Have the crew assist the driver in backing down the ramp to assure that the boat will line up with the trailer.
- Winch the boat onto the trailer and install the safety chain before pulling up the ramp.
- After pulling up the ramp slightly, make certain the boat is on the trailer properly. Make any needed corrections now.
- Proceed directly to the tie-down area. Don't linger at the launch/recovery ramp.
- Check all tie-downs, lights, tires, etc.
- Have a crew member double-check these items.

With a little thought and planning, having a safe launch and recovery of your boat should be no problem.

Safe boating to all in 1993!

— Bill Shackleton, "Net Profit"

D.N.R. Salmon Update

Chinook at Van Eitan weir are largest yet, although totals down

OSCODA — Despite the optimism of Tempotech Industries staff at the beginning of the salmon harvesting season, the preliminary 1992 Van Eitan weir capture total figure fell behind 1991 totals.

But 1992 could set a record for individual fish size. With final figures still pending, estimates of average salmon weight stood at 14.51 pounds. This is the heaviest average weight since the weir first began operations eight years ago.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) District Fisheries Biologist Dave Smith, who oversees weir operations, reports that a total of eight harvests were made from the weir during 1992, netting an estimated return of 7,193 Chinook for a total weight of 114,738.5 pounds.

For 1991, in six harvests, the weir generated 8,315 fish weighing 120,547 pounds. The record was set in 1984, with 26,390 salmon taken, weighing 336,248 pounds, at an average weight of 12.74 pounds.

The Van Eitan weir is operated by Tempotech, a Hart, Michigan-based firm under contract to the D.N.R.

For the past two years, the fish samples have been taken to Hart along with the totes from other weirs in the state, where a special team of D.N.R. staff weighed, measured and sorted the samples.

Smith said the 1992 figures are based on samplings done by himself and his staff, with the final results to come from Hart in the near future.

The first harvest was held on September 18, netting 1,462 fish with 32 mortalities (salmon which die in the holding pen). On September 18, the weir had its best return of the season, 1,953 salmon with three mortalities. There was enough fish in the pen four days later to hold the third harvest, generating 922 salmon and 12 mortalities. On September 29, 651 fish were crated, with the mortality number dropping to one.

October 5 saw 975 salmon harvested, followed by 845 the following day, and 780 more on October 10. No mortalities were recorded for these three harvests. The final harvest occurred on October 13, with 325 salmon shipped and 65 mortalities found when the tank was drained for the year.

Smith said that after the weir operation was shut down, large numbers of salmon were reported upstream at the dam. He speculated that there could have been one additional harvest, but noted that the season closure was forced by a pump breakdown.

Au Sable River salmon test negative for dreaded BKD

OSCODA — Although the season's harvest failed to set any records, information gleaned from salmon taken at the Van Eitan weir provided much more exciting news.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) District Fisheries Biologist Dave Smith reports that, of 75 fluid samples taken from weir-captured Chinook, none tested positive for bacterial kidney disease (BKD).

The dreaded virus is considered as great a threat to the Great Lakes salmon population as sea lamprey. Researchers have proven the disease is passed from salmon to salmon, infects salmon eggs, and have theorized that it can be spread from germs lingering in the water after a contaminated fish passes by. It also is carried by other species, including the steelhead, but seems to infect only salmon, for which it is fatal.

The absence of BKD in the Van Eitan weir fish is obviously good news and could also put Oscoda in the running for a new D.N.R. salmon egg collecting station.

Presently, Smith explained, the D.N.R. is obtaining salmon eggs for its hatchery from New York state salmon, which are considered to have the lowest incidence of BKD infection in the nation. However, that source is only good for two more years, and to keep the salmon planting program going, the D.N.R. must develop a new source for disease-free salmon egg. Lake Michigan fish are out, as BKD is too prevalent in that salmon population.

The D.N.R. was considering using Swan Creek near Rogers City as a future egg taking site. Recent findings from the harvesting weir there could rule that location out, as Swan Creek salmon have had a high incidence of clinical BKD signs.

An egg-taking station is like a mini-hatchery. Ideally it should have a holding facility for newly hatched fry, as well as one for older fish. It also will bring somewhat greater attention to the site area's fishery, always important to local area.


As did other biologists throughout the D.N.R. Great Lakes districts, Smith also collected water samples to aid in determining the incidence of BKD in the river system itself. This could be a critical factor in determining the final location for the new egg collecting station.

A Wolfe Lake Hatchery biologist has collected some of the Au Sable River salmon's disease-free eggs and is hatching them in an aquarium to see what develops.

REPORT

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Be prepared for repairs afloat

Have you ever been trolling miles offshore and had some equipment break which resulted in running fewer lines than you wished? Years of experience, some of it bad, have taught me a few lessons. One of them is to be prepared for on-water repairs of everything possible. I'm not talking about boats or motors, they're a separate topic. I am talking about downriggers, planer boards, masts, rods, reels, lures, electronics, etc.

As a beginning, every boat should have a basic tool box on board, containing several sizes of regular and Phillips screwdrivers, miscellaneous screws, nuts, bolts, washers, regular and needlenose pliers, a Crescent wrench or two, a spark plug ratchet, fuses, waterproof electrical tape, electrical wire, and plain wire. In addition, carry spare parts for your major equipment.

DOWNRIGGERS — Carry weights, releases, snaps and sleeves or terminators, cable, knobs, and boom-end swivels or other wearing parts. Once, I broke the small swivel that held the end pulley on my Big Jon downrigger. The plain wire in my tool box repaired it until I could buy a replacement. Now I carry spares.

PLANER BOARDS & MASTS — Keep extra releases, line and knobs on hand.

RODS & REELS — I find it best just to bring back-up rods and reels. If you don't, be prepared to replace a guide or re-cement a loose ferrule. It is a good idea to carry extra monofilament line in case you get spooled or, more likely, have some line abrasion.

LURES — Bring extra hooks, split rings,



STEVE admires an example of his favorite species, 'Mr. Steelhead'!

snaps, swivels, and lure tape.

ELECTRONICS — Start with fuses. In addition, it's always a good idea to keep your manuals on board. They have the answers to a lot of problems you may encounter.

These are just a few suggestions. Many other club members have had experiences which taught them to carry more or different equipment. All are encouraged to write their suggestions for future issues of *Fishin' Tales*.

— Steve Hamilton



STEVE HAMILTON brought his fully rigged boat to a membership meeting last August and discussed his light line techniques.

Motion sickness and what to do about it

Have you ever felt dizzy or nauseated while riding in a car, plane, train, bus or boat? If so, don't feel alone! There are thousands of people throughout the United States and around the world who have the same feelings as you have.

I am one of those people who has experienced that awful feeling. First comes the dizziness, followed by the yawning and swallowing, and finally the vomiting, all while trying to enjoy the competitive action

easily?" It was after that unhappy episode that I decided to investigate what I could do to prevent a repeat performance of the awful seasickness that had wiped me out.

After trying Dramamine, I talked to my family doctor and was able to get a prescription for Transderm Scop. This medication comes in the form of a patch, and contains the drug scopolamine, which can help prevent the nausea and vomiting caused by motion sickness. A single patch is placed



BOB GILBERT (left), our club Vice President, and Ron Huey provide Al Schultz with "blinders," and a plaque for a high finish at the Manistee tourney.

of a Detroit Area Steelheader fishing tournament behind the ear, delivering 0.5mg. of scopolamine directly through the skin into the blood stream. Each patch may be kept in place for up to three days.

It all started in 1985 when I became a regular crew member on my brother-in-law Bob Mitchell's boat, "Kemo." The fishing conditions during the season had been pretty good up until the Ludington tournament. Day One at Ludington started out with 4'-6" waves. I lasted about an hour before I turned green and started 'chumming'. An hour or so later, I was back on shore and sick for two days. At first I thought, "How can a 6-foot 1-inch, 210-pound guy get seasick so

There are possible side effects from the Transderm Scop patch, so be sure to discuss them with your doctor before you ask for a prescription.

I can tell you from first-hand experience over the past seven years that they do work. So if all other remedies fail, see your doctor about Transderm Scop.

— Bob Gilbert

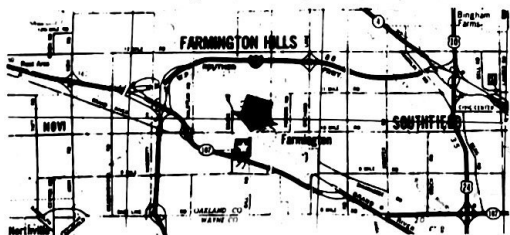
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Better tourney action seen for 1993

Now that the 1992 boat trolling tournament season has come and gone, we anxiously await better tourney times in 1993. Although our catches were down slightly and the weather just would not co-operate last season, we're all hoping that we can improve our numbers in 1993. Now, if we can just get a little help from Mother Nature . . .

Our first outing for the 1993 season will be the twin city ports of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor, on April 24. This area usually produces a good spring coho fishery, as well as some decent early steelhead and king action. Some good spots to try are off the Cook Nuclear Power Plant and Chalets, or you can take a shot up north off the clay banks.

One week later, we make our annual trek to participate on May 1 in the Chuck Muer's River Crab Salmon Stakes in the Lexington/Port Sanilac area. This tournament is a charitable event, so we urge ALL Detroit Area Steelheaders to participate.

May 15 will find our tournament fleet at the popular Lake Huron port of Harbor Beach. Good spring king action can usually be found off the structure both north and south of the pier heads.

Next, it's off to the reefs of Port Austin on



5TH PLACE, 1992: MIKE WAKULSKI and his "Wet Paint" crew.

June 5. There should be plenty of lakers at this port, with some kings thrown in for good measure. Don't forget the Team Doubles event on Sunday, June 6.

Our annual Special People Walleye Outing is set for June 19 on Lake Erie out of Toledo Beach Marina. All the skippers who take part in this tournament are winners — the rewards that come from seeing all the Special People crew members having such a great time are the highlight of this great event. I hope to see all of you at this one!

This year's Ladies Day outing takes us to Oscoda, on June 26. As always, we have lots of fun when the women get a chance to show off their angling as well as their culinary skills at the picnic afterwards. Don't miss it!

Next, we head back to Lake Michigan and the port of Manistee on July 17. This is one of our favorite ports, and the fleet turnout is usually one of the best. We will also have our second Team Doubles event of the season on Sunday of this weekend.

A new port for us this year will be Presque Isle. This port boasts a new marina, so it should be quite an experience for all of us. The hot spots should be south, off Rockport and the wreck. This will be a two-day event, scheduled for July 31 and August 1.

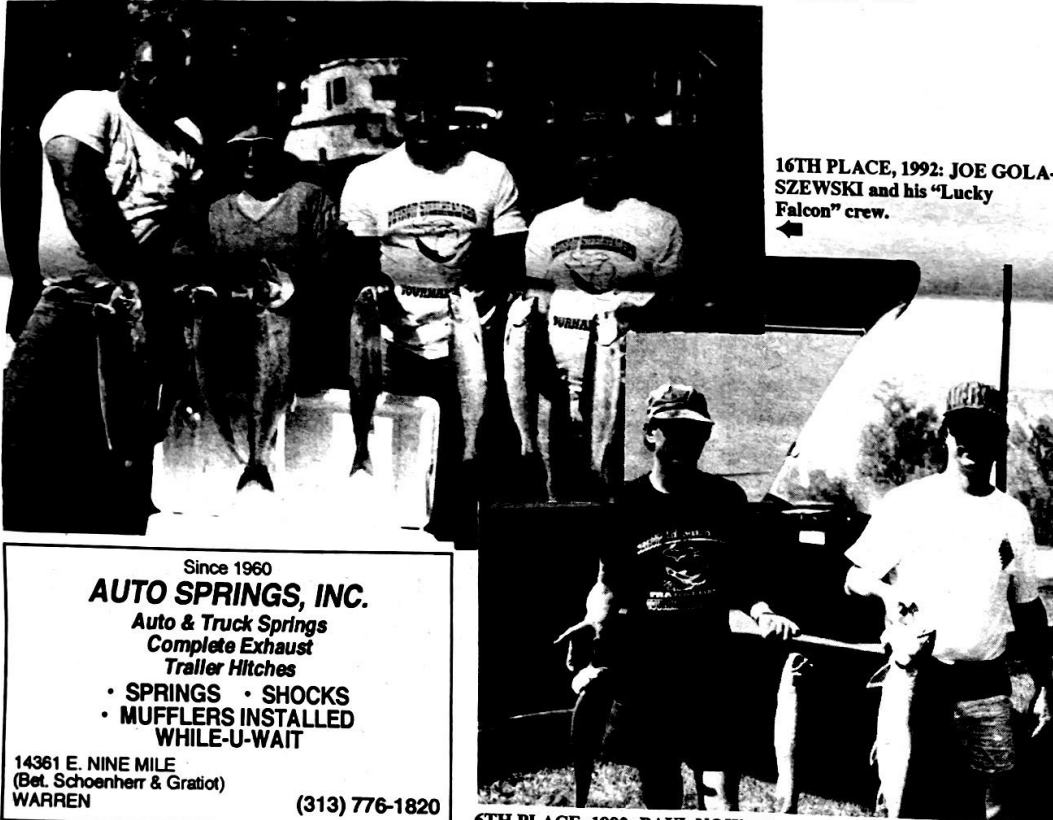
There's another two-day event following, at Ludington on August 21-22. Not only is the fishing great here, but the Saturday night barbecue on the beach is one not to miss!

The tournament season finale will take place on September 11 at Frankfort, our traditional final stop on the tournament trail. At this time of year, this port usually produces a mixed catch of steelhead, coho and kings. Trolling in the shadows of the scenic Sleeping Bear Dunes makes this a popular port with many skippers.

As you can see, we've got a great tournament line-up set for the 1993 Boat Trolling Tournament season. As we progress through the schedule, we'll have available information packets with maps, charts and contacts to assist you in making your tournament outings more enjoyable than ever. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming meetings and tournaments, especially all the new club members.

Keep a tight line, and here's wishing good fishin' to all of you!

— Mike Wakulski,
Boat Trolling Tournament Director



16TH PLACE, 1992: JOE GOLASZEWSKI and his "Lucky Falcon" crew.

6TH PLACE, 1992: PAUL NOWAK and his "A-Day-Late" crew.

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12TH PLACE, 1992: MILT KNAPP and his "Sandpiper" crew.

Great Lakes sport fishing tourneys are expected to be a hot issue during 1993

Here's something that promises to become a major policy issue during 1993: private sport fishing tournaments in the Great Lakes basin — open water as well as inland waters.

On November 18, 1992, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (W.D.N.R.) released its proposed tournament fishing permit system. The recommended system would regulate tournaments on all Wisconsin waters — offshore, streams, and inland lakes. Some of the proposed rules are more restrictive than others.

According to Ron Poff, Chief of Operations, Bureau of Fisheries Management, the W.D.N.R. "will ask the Natural Resources Board for authorization to conduct public hearings on the proposed system." Those hearings are scheduled to be held throughout the state of Wisconsin during the winter months.

Coincidentally (??), the Michigan Department of Natural Resources...



BOB MITCHELL (r.) accepts his 1992 "Skipper of the Year" plaque from President Tim Graskewicz at the December meeting. Bob took top honors in the annual competition for the fifth consecutive year. CONGRATULATIONS, BOB!

1992 "Skipper of the Year"

(FINAL STANDINGS)

PLACE/SKIPPER	BOAT	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Tot.
1) BOB MITCHELL	KEMO	23	2	1	8	3	13	3	30
2) DAVE EVEN	TEACHER'S PET	16	1	50	3	4	7	13	44
3) TOM MOORES	KARE FREE	8	8	50	9	11	11	6	53
4) DICK SHIRK	"LIL' SCRATCH	7	19	50	14	13	3	2	58
5) MIKE WAKULSKI	WET PAINT	21	7	2	10	5	16	26	61
6) PAUL NOWAK	A-DAY-LATE	12	17	75	6	8	10	16	69
7) BOB BUERO	MICKEY MOUSE CLUB	27	10	50	1	19	8	5	70
8) DON REDMOND	TRENA DAWN	34	6	14	17	12	21	11	81
9) BOB HERMAN	NOMAD	11	75	4	75	6	2	1	99
10) CHRIS NYTKO	AQUARIUS	1	11	50	20	10	17	75	109
11) HANK BACZYNSKI	SINSATI;ON	50	24	10	13	14	75	17	128
12) MILT KNAPP	SANDPIPER	14	18	12	50	75	9	27	130
13) WALT POHORLY	MAIN SQUEEZE	18	26	17	5	18	50	50	134
14) RON HARTMAN	MOLLY FRAIR	50	15	8	12	50	50	14	149
15) DICK JACKSON	VOYAGEUR	50	23	3	7	75	18	50	151
16) JOE GOLASZEWSKI	LUCKY FALCON	36	9	50	75	7	50	9	161
17) DOUG KARAKAS	CAPT. HOOK	17	20	50	15	50	50	25	177
18) KEN KUHAR	MARY K.	75	14	50	23	20	50	30	187
19) JIM HARDRICK	MY DREAM	50	30	50	50	6	4	190	
20) DARWIN GREGG	RETURNER	31	32	50	50	15	75	12	190
21) ED WILCZEK	PAT'S COMPETITION	50	13	18	50	9	50	75	190
22) LEON VAN EDEN	BULLHEAD	5	75	11	75	20	7	193	
23) DON ANTON	HAPPY BARE	75	5	75	11	75	4	24	194
24) GARY RUPRICH	RUPE	50	4	75	75	16	50	8	203
25) BILL SHACKLETON	NET PROFIT	50	28	75	75	17	14	23	207

Omit highest score 50 = See Rule IV-E 75 = See Rule IV-F
 A = River Crab E = Oscoda B = St. Joseph F = Manistec C = Harbor Beach G = Ludington D = Port Austin

Detroit Area Steelheaders "Top Five" Skippers 1976-1992

- 1992
- Bob Mitchell "Kemo"
 - Dave Even "Teacher's Pet"
 - Tom Moores "Kare Free"
 - Dick Shirk "Lil' Scratch"
 - Mike Wakulski "Wet Paint"
- 1991
- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
 - Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
 - Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
 - Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"
- 1990
- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
 - Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
 - Rob Pinskey, "Anticipation"
 - Mike Wakulski, "Wet Paint"
- 1989
- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"
 - Ron Huey, "Half R's"
 - Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"
 - Don Anton, "Happy Bare"
- 1988
- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
 - Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
 - Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
 - Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"
- 1987
- Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"
 - Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
 - Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"
 - Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
- 1986
- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
 - Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"
 - Chuck Wood, "Predator"
 - Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
 - Blaise Pewinski, "Sea Hag"
- 1985
- Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"
 - Joel Garinger, "Fishbusters"
 - Bruce Choinski, "Kneeknocker"
 - Tom Chojnowski, "Sea Con"
 - Ed McIntosh, "Sweet Lorraine"
- 1984
- Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"
 - Ed Choinski, "Kneeknocker"
 - Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"
 - Bob Ksionzek, "Last Dime"
 - Mike Zelkowski, "Elvira"
- 1983
- Gerry Ciurzenski, "Jawbuster"
 - Mike Boroniec, "Horsefly"
 - R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"
 - Bob Kozar, "Snowman"
 - Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"
- 1982
- Brian Glaser, "Least Likely"
 - Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"
 - Mike Curzenski, "Nooner"
 - Bob Kring, "Drifter"
 - R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"
- 1981
- Bob Kring, "Drifter"
 - Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"
 - Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"
 - Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
 - Jewell Harris, "Cannonball"
- 1980
- Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
 - Terry Cholette, "Fishing Fever"
 - Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"
 - Randy Cope, "Ouzo Too"
 - Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"
- 1979
- Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
 - Howard Mills, "Paramour"
 - Larry Atwell, "Cobra"
 - Jim Treadaway, "Okie Drifter"
 - Bob Kring, "Drifter"
- 1978
- Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
- Complete standings for 1978 are unavailable
- 1977
- Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"
 - John Makela, "Sisu"
 - Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"
 - Bob Kring, "Drifter"
 - Larry Atwell, "Cobra"
- 1976
- John Makela, "Sisu"
 - Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"
 - Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"
 - Paul Irvine (boat name unavailable)
 - Steve Hamilton, "Valhalla"



14TH PLACE, 1992: RON HARTMAN and his "Molly Frair" crew



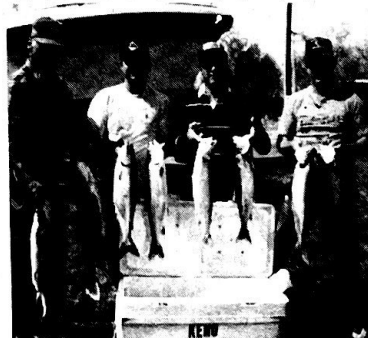
17TH PLACE, 1992: DOUG KARAKAS and his "Capt. Hook" crew

Thank You, "Kemo" Krew ...

5 IN A ROW!!

1992 CREW MEMBERS

- Bob Gilbert
- Leslie Gilbert
- Linda Mitchell
- Robbie Gilbert
- Jodi Gilbert
- Carrie Gilbert
- Jamie Gilbert
- Tim Bepler
- John Fair
- Glen Bergener



Bob Mitchell

Salmonids: The next endangered species!

This article is one of a series which appeared in the *Great Lakes Basin Report*, a publication of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council, dealing with the growing pressure being applied by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (G.L.F.C.), the International Joint Commission (I.J.C.), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.E.P.A.) to re-establish lake trout as THE open-water predator of the Great Lakes at the expense of state-managed salmon and trout stocking programs, and other issues. This article was originally published on December 15, 1992.

— Joel Garinger, Editor

THE U.S.E.P.A.'S EFFORT TO ENHANCE YELLOW JOURNALISM

The U.S.E.P.A. released its "National Study of Chemical Residues in Fish" on November 19, 1992 which, as expected, was picked up by all major wire services and television networks. This "hot item" has been massaged by the news-starved media and environmental groups until the American public is afraid to wet a line for fear their monofilament will dissolve from toxic contaminants.

The truth of the matter is that *NO NEW STUDIES WERE CONDUCTED*. Here are some facts about this 2-volume, 880-plus pages so-called "study."

- The material in question is at least five years old!
- Carp, sucker, catfish and bass accounted for 87% of the data nationwide.
- The average polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) detection for all fish samples was 1,890 parts per billion.
- The average DDE detection for all fish samples was 295 parts per billion.
- Ages and sex of the fish tested were not determined.
- Lengths and weights of the fish tested were not available to the researchers.
- Samples were collected from 50 states and shipped to the U.S.E.P.A.'s laboratory in Duluth, Minnesota in a manner not described.

In addition, the study is a "part of a response to a petition from the Environmental Defense Fund and the National Wildlife Federation in which U.S.E.P.A. committed to conducting an aquatic monitoring survey of the occurrence of chlorinated dioxins and furans."

I.J.C. FANS FLAMES OF EMOTIONAL RHETORIC

The cover the I.J.C.'s 6th Biennial Report found the following message:

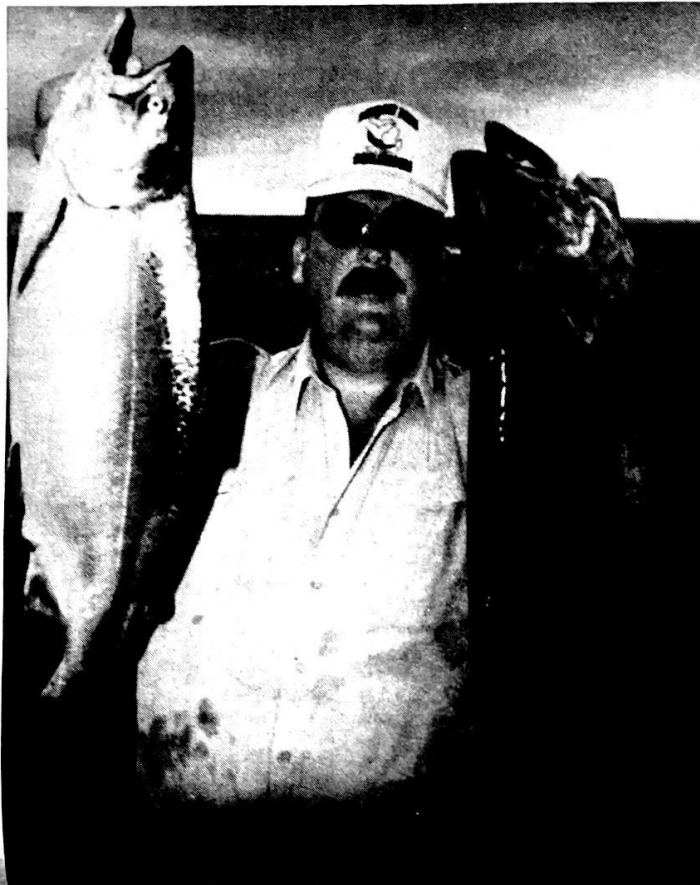
"Are humans and our environment in danger from persistent toxic substances now? Are future generations in danger? Based on a review of scientific studies and other recent information, we believe the answer to both questions is yes."

The above is the conclusion of the I.J.C.'s report to the United States and Canadian governments. They based this conclusion on a series of recent questionable epidemiological, wildlife and public health studies, conferences and reports. The I.J.C.'s report recommended that the use of chlorine and its various compounds be eliminated! Remember, this is the same august body which has called for the elimination of all fish plantings until the Great Lakes are cleaned up!

THE JACOBSON, JACOBSON HUMPHREY STUDY

Let's expose some more facts on how Big Government and environmental extremists work to dupe us.

The Jacobson, Jacobson, Humphrey Study (Jacobson), released in 1989, purported to show a direct correlation between problems



THESE "20-SOMETHING" SALMON, taken last year at Rogers City by Paul Leveck and each weighing more than 20 pounds, will not even exist in the Great Lakes in a few years if some bureaucrats have their way!

of pregnant women and their newborn babies and the ingestion of Lake Michigan fish. The Jacobson study attempted to show malformed, underweight, poorer memory, and smaller-headed babies.

However, the notoriety the Jacobson study gained comes from the scientific community at large and three studies refuting it. Dr. Nigel Paneth, director of epidemiology, Michigan State University; Dr. Genevieve M. Matanoski and Dr. Jacqueline Agnew, professors of epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University; and Dr. Beth C. Gladen and Dr. Walter J. Rogan of the epidemiology branch of the National Institute of Environmental Science, all agreed that the Jacobson study was greatly flawed.

Major areas of significant differences were found between the two study groups — the fish-eaters and the non-fish-eaters — in these categories.

- Pre-pregnancy weight.
- Alcohol use before and during pregnancy.
- Consumption of caffeine before and during pregnancy.
- Consumption of cold medicines during pregnancy.
- Smoking before and during pregnancy.

The scientific community by and large has disassociated and distanced itself from the Jacobson study. More importantly, no one has attempted another study like it, yet environmental extremists — uneducated and uninformed themselves — consider it gospel and still quote extensively from it.

THE CO₂ DEBATE

One of the key focuses of environmental extremists is the control of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. These emissions are blamed for the supposed rise in worldwide temperatures. They "trap" heat from the sun and prevent it from escaping into space. This creates a "greenhouse effect" that causes temperatures to rise, or so the story goes.

Money has been proposed as a solution. In most proposals, it would be extracted in the form of a tax on fossil fuels, which produce CO₂ when they are burned.

A January 1992 report by DRI/McGraw-Hill says the proposed carbon tax would result in the loss of 600,000 jobs in the United States alone. A report from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates such a tax would cost 700,000 jobs.

Without doubt, the level of CO₂ in the atmosphere has increased since the middle of this century. "If you take all the greenhouse gasses and express them in carbon dioxide equivalents, we've gone about halfway to a doubling of CO₂," says Robert Balling, a global warming expert with Arizona State University.

In addition, a nation Gallup survey of scientists showed that 60% believe average worldwide temperatures rose during the past century. This would seem to support the views of global warming advocates.

But among this 60% majority, less than 20% believe this rise in temperatures is the result of anything man has done. In fact, the evidence shows that most of the warming came prior to 1950 — before the great buildup of CO₂ took place.

Ironically, this is not the first global warming scare to occur in the United States. The previous one occurred in the 1930's, and sometime after that, there was a global cooling scare!

But if global warming is a reality, the earth should have warmed extensively over the past 100 years. Instead, the total temperature increase has been about one-half a degree Celsius — 0.5° C! As already noted, most of this increase took place before the big buildup of CO₂, which began after the middle of this century.

In the past decade or so, temperature increases have amounted to no more than hundredths of a degree. From 1979 to 1991

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (N.A.S.A.) scientist Roy Spenser and University of Alabama researcher John Christie detected a temperature rise of only 11/100ths of a degree Fahrenheit. At this present trend, we would see a rise of only one-half a degree Fahrenheit by the middle of the next century.

In his book on global warming, *The Heated Debate*, Arizona State's Balling asserts that "most of the warming that's been observed can be explained away by lots of other things other than the carbon dioxide buildup."

"Most of the warming that has occurred," Balling points out, "has occurred on the wrong places on the planet, at the wrong times of day, and in the wrong seasons, to be consistent with global warming (theories)."

Balling also notes that factors other than CO₂ are involved. "We're also increasing sulfur dioxide very quickly, and sulfur dioxide has a cooling effect," he added.

PCB AND PBB SCARES ARE FALSE ALARMS!

On July 26, 1991, *Science* magazine editor Phillip Abelson reported that just as the risks of dioxin have been drastically overstated in the past and need revision, the same thing should happen to the other (toxic risk) "bogeyman" — polychlorinated biphenyls, otherwise known as PCB's.

"When mentioned by the media... PCB's are described as cancer-causing chemicals. Many industrial workers were exposed to substantial amounts of PCB's during the 1950's, 1960's, and early 1970's. Some of those workers respired a total of 15 grams or more. But the industrial exposure led to no known cases of cancer," wrote Abelson.

Despite this total absence of harm, Abelson said "as much as \$100 billion could ultimately be spent trying to remove PCB's from the environment. Indeed, the U.S.E.P.A. has moved to tighten its regulatory stance on PCB's, often shutting down prospective urban building sites over minute concentrations, in the face of a major re-evaluation of its (PCB's) risks."

Yet the architect of this re-evaluation of PCB's is Dr. Renate Kimbrough, formerly U.S.E.P.A. director of Health and Risk Capabilities, which made PCB's one of the two most feared "toxic" compounds.

Kimbrough, also an expert in toxic substances at the Centers for Disease Control, first published her findings in 1987, in the *Annual Review of Pharmacology and Toxicology*, where she reviewed all of the human epidemiological evidence not only on PCB's, but also on polybrominated biphenyls (commonly known as PBB's), and concluded, "So far, no significant chronic health effects have been causally associated with exposure to PCB's or PBB's."

This evaluation will undoubtedly surprise Michigan residents who spent most the mid-1970's worrying about contamination of their milk and dairy product supply by PBB's which had been used in a flame retardant called Firemaster. Firemaster's manufacturer also made a cattle feed called Nutrimaster. In 1973, a few bags of Firemaster accidentally got sold as Nutrimaster, were mixed into animal feed, and ultimately wound up in the milk supply.

But, as Dr. Kimbrough reported in 1987, "Ten years after the Michigan residents were exposed, no clinical illness has been causally linked to PBB exposure in this group, although chloracne (treatable skin rash) was apparently noted in some workers who manufactured PBB."

Dr. Kimbrough found literally no epidemiological evidence from dozens of studies to suggest that even relatively high exposures of workers to these substances generated any

Continued on Page Eleven

Phony science threatens sport fishing, and more!!

...Continued from Page Ten
thing but "minor abnormalities not necessarily related to PCB exposure."

Yet even today, Michigan residents are being warned against eating fish from Lake Michigan because of allegedly raised levels of PCB's — which have not been produced for nearly two decades and which have NEVER been linked epidemiologically to significant human harm.

The PCB experience, as with dioxin, asbestos, Alar and countless other false alarms, demonstrates that billions are being spent (read: squandered, wasted, etc.) to rid substances from the environment whose actual exposure levels generate insignificant or non-existent risks.

SKY WARS

Environmental extremists say the ozone shield above us is under attack from man-made compounds, which could leave us open to bombardment from deadly rays. Their battle plan: use more costly compounds whose safety record is still in question.

"The Ozone Vanishes," one headline proclaimed. Others spoke of the "ozone hole" over President Bush's head, and the "ozone catastrophe."

These alarming reports came on the heels of, and as a result of, a February 3, 1992 press briefing staged by N.A.S.A. But only two weeks later, the ozone "threat" identified by N.A.S.A. in that briefing had dropped by 75%. Even more interesting is that N.A.S.A. didn't announce this drop until April 30 — two and one-half months later — when it staged another press briefing on the issue.

For environmental extremists, the February 3 briefing was fresh ammunition in the battle for sweeping, and costly, reforms. The driving force behind the environmental extremist movement is, more often than not, emotion rather than hard evidence.

Information released by N.A.S.A. during its February 3 press briefing was based on aircraft and satellite readings over North America. The focus of the briefing was a reading taken on January 20, 1992 which showed high concentrations in the atmosphere of a chemical called chlorine monoxide.

N.A.S.A. scientists told reporters they had found the highest levels of chlorine monoxide ever measured "in either polar region, during flights over eastern Canada and northern New England."

Now, note the pattern of distortion which followed that press briefing!

- Dr. James Anderson of Harvard, one of the principal scientists involved, said the chlorine monoxide levels were the highest ever observed "on any aircraft campaign."
- On February 4, 1992, the *Wall Street Journal* warned readers of the "... highest levels of chlorine monoxide ever recorded."
- On February 5, 1992, the *New York Times* spoke of the "... highest level of chlorine



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monoxide ... ever measured anywhere around the globe."

- On February 9, 1992, commenting in the *Washington Post*, then-Senator Al Gore talked about "... higher levels ... than they have ever recorded over Antarctica or anywhere else."

The panic generated by the N.A.S.A. press briefing helped then-Senator Gore ram an accelerated phase-out of CFC's (chlorofluorocarbons) through the United States Senate. The 96-0 vote in favor of the accelerated phase-out reflected the (ill-informed) concern of U.S. Senators.

In 1990, the global market for CFC's was an estimated \$1.8 billion. Alternative compounds will be three to five times more expensive, says Daniel McInnis in a report for the Competitive Enterprise Institute, and their safety is still in question.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Atmospheric ozone destruction is blamed on chlorine and chlorine compounds entering the atmosphere. News reports invariably refer to an "ozone hole," usually over the South Pole. Few people know that there is an active volcano near the South Pole, Mt. Erebus, which ejects into the atmosphere approximately 1,000 tons of chlorine per day, a vastly greater amount of chlorine than is generated by all man-made activities, and that Mt. Erebus has been erupting at the current level uninterruptedly for decades! Could this have anything to do with any ozone destruction that has been discovered in recent years? Joel Garinger, Editor)

MOTHER EARTH WORSHIPPERS

As we reported in an earlier article in this

series, the U.S.E.P.A. contracted for and subsequently approved for printing a paper authored by Hughes and Noss presenting a visionary argument for *ecosystem rights superior to inalienable human rights!*

Only a generation ago, the phrase "mother earth" was nothing more than a myth or fable from the past. But in our civilized society, with all its technological achievements, Mother Earth is rising to a new level of prominence she hasn't enjoyed since the glory days of paganism.

Today, her followers are spreading their message under the banner of concern for the environment, which is being combined with mysticism to bring about a return to ancient forms of nature worship.

But how, one might ask, could a pagan belief find such wide acceptance in the West? "Our time-tested filters for reality — Biblical truth and scientific facts — are being replaced by wishful speculation and personal opinions," writes Berit Kjos, author of the book *Under the Spell of Mother Earth*. "Today, anything is believable — true or no — if it feels right and supports your views."

Kjos' analysis is equally true where the theory of "global warming" — another key issue for environmental extremists — is concerned. Scientific facts simply fail to support the arguments that global warming is man-caused, and is (or will be) the terrible disaster that its supporters claim. But, at least for environmental extremists, it feels right and supports their views. After all, who could ignore a warning that global temperatures are going to rise substantially and create havoc throughout the world? Fearing they will be trapped inside an ever-heating greenhouse, people

tend to take notice of the "solutions" that environmental extremists are proposing to avert this alleged catastrophe.

Aided by powerful media allies, environmental extremists have managed to elevate global warming from theory to reality.

According to a recent Gallup poll, not all scientists involved in global climate research are so certain about global warming. In fact, 53% of those polled do not believe global warming — as defined by global warming advocates — has occurred. Another 30% are uncertain about global warming.

Yet, like "Chicken Littles" running here and there predicting imminent disaster, global warming advocates urge immediate action. In *Earth in the Balance*, Vice President-elect Al Gore says global warming is the most dangerous threat facing the environment. "We must act boldly, decisively, comprehensively, and quickly, even before we know every last detail about the crisis," wrote Gore.

Gore also asserted that rescuing the environment must become "the central organizing principle for civilization." Take a moment and consider what life would be like living in a society organized to Gore's liking.

SUMMARY

To the U.S.E.P.A. and the I.J.C., we say give the public indisputable, sound, incontrovertible evidence — evidence that will withstand the scrutiny of the scientific community. Don't roll over and play dead in confrontations with environmental extremists. If we have a sick lake, prove it. If an apple is tainted, prove it. If our milk spoiled, prove it. If fish are not safe to eat, prove it. If PCB's are bad at 0.5 ppm, or 0.3 ppm, prove it.

To our environmentally concerned neighbors we say check your facts, weigh your actions, and act responsibly.

To the sport fishing community, we say stay abreast of the issues that are critical to the well-being and economy of our local and regional communities. Get involved!

And finally, to whom it may concern: Failure to come to the table (of negotiations) is neither an excuse nor a reason for federal agencies, bureaucrats, or state biologists to attempt to torpedo the economy of the Great Lakes region. To do so is unconscionable.

Although this is the end of the series, we'll continue to monitor all fishery-related activities, and to present concise, current reports on them in the *Great Lakes Basin Report*. We encourage readers to continue to advise us of any activities of interest they may become aware of. A complete, edited document of the Salmonid series, including all references, is available on request. To receive a copy, send \$10.00 to: Great Lakes Basin Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 297, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

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State's stable steelhead streams set standard!!

Michigan's steelhead fishery is so good, many anglers come here from Washington, Oregon and California, the steelies' ancestral watersheds.

Sitting in his cramped office in what was the University of Michigan's original campus hospital, Dr. Paul Seelbach's pencil darts across a well-worn geological map of the state as he explains why Michigan has large numbers of steelhead and, in many rivers, fish that double the U.S. West Coast average of five pounds.

"These rivers are the state's crown jewels. There's nothing like them anywhere else in the world," Seelbach said as his pen traced the course of the White, Muskegon, Manistee, Little Manistee, Pere Marquette, Platte and Jordan rivers feeding Lake Michigan and the Au Sable feeding Lake Huron.

The Au Sable, Seelbach said, would be even more productive than the western Michigan streams but is blocked by dams that prevent steelhead from entering any but the lower section.

What makes the rivers so different is their stability. From spring highs to autumn lows, the streams that flow through the thick sand layers of the northern third of the Michigan "mitten" don't vary in depth by more than a foot or two.

Steelhead are rainbow trout that spend the first two years of their lives in their native streams and then head for big water. That originally meant the Pacific Ocean. It means the Great Lakes for the descendants of the fish that were transplanted to these waters 100 years ago.

Seelbach, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) steelhead expert, said nature hedges its bets by having the fish from a given year-class return for their first spawnings over several years. A few, mostly males, spawn after only a year in the big lakes. Their early return ensures that genes from their group will be passed on. A few wait as long as four years. Spawning strategy is a crapshoot, with the fish balancing their survival rate at sea against the availability of spawning water. In Michigan, the fish face much better odds.

Because the best spawning streams are so stable and big, and their survival rate in the Great Lakes system is four or five times higher than in the Pacific, there's no rush for steelhead to return. In fact, because so many

fish survive to compete for spawning areas and mates, there's a premium in being bigger and stronger.

And so, about 65 percent of the steelhead that return to spawn in Michigan streams are 5 years old, 29 inches long, and weigh 10 pounds — about twice as big as Pacific steelies.

"These fish have evolved in the Great Lakes," Seelbach stated. "They have been here over 100 years. These are now Michigan fish, or Great Lakes fish. The age at which fish mature and spawn is a function of the survival rate (in big water) and growth rate. The fish are balancing the cost of taking more time to grow more eggs against the increased death rate."

Many anglers believe the recently introduced Skamania steelhead grows faster than other strains, because so many of the Skamanias caught are 10 pounds or greater.

Seelbach smiled and said, "They're a strain that spends four years in the lake and are 6 years old before they return for their first spawning. They're bigger because they're older, not because they grow faster."

Seelbach believes the enormously increased angling pressure over the past five years has resulted in too many big steelhead being killed before they spawn. The result might be a sort of unnatural selection in which the average size of Lake Michigan steelhead decreases as anglers skim off fish that spend the longest time in the lakes, while those that spawn at 3 or 4 years old have a much higher chance of evading fish hooks.

"The survival rate from virgin spawning to repeat spawning dropped in half (from 40 percent to less than 20 percent), and the scum-line fishery was found," referring to the summer steelhead fishery which was discovered about five years ago far offshore in Lake Michigan.

"The first couple of years, they got a lot of fish over 20 pounds," he said. "And all of those huge fish were old. They had been swimming around out there without any pressure from fishermen. If the pressure keeps up, pretty soon we won't have many 10-pounders, but we'll have a lot of 4- to 5-pound fish. Pushing the steelhead population away from a rare and valuable evolutionary state like the one we have now is really dumb."

— Eric Sharp

Reprinted from the *Detroit Free Press*.



DAVE EVEN, past Detroit Area Steelheader president, skipper of "Teacher's Pet," and, for many years, one of our club's leading fishermen, caught this beautiful steelhead last summer at Ludington.

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Manistee, Michigan

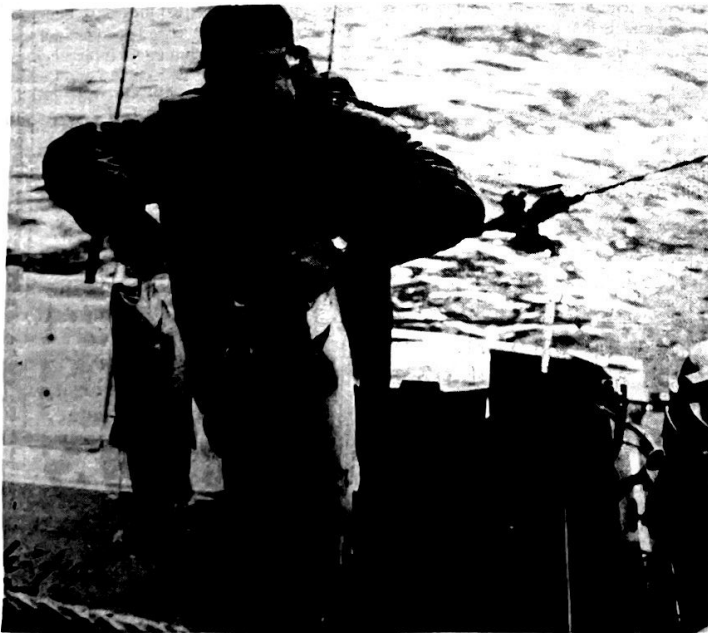
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JERRY ZABEL shows the camera a nice limit catch of steelhead taken last year on Manistee Lake. Jerry did very well that day, his most productive baits being orange Rapalas, Bombers, and dodgers with Glo Squids! Nice going, Jerry!!

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Tasty uses for your salmon, steelhead and lake trout!

Now that 1993 is here and we're only a few months away from the new fishing season, maybe you're wondering how to use the fish you caught in 1992 without resorting to giving them away to someone.

Many people are not equipped to barbecue during the winter months and some people don't like broiled fish. However, you can smoke it, or you can can it for future use. There are many ways to use home-canned salmon, steelhead and lake trout, just the same ways you use commercially canned tuna or salmon.

CANNING

To can salmon, steelhead and lake trout, use wide-mouth pint jars. These seem to work best. Inspect the jar rims for cracks or chips, wash and rinse thoroughly. Thaw the fish and cut into chunks sized to fit the jars. There's no need to remove any bones - they'll soften during the canning process. Pack the jars snugly to within 3/4"-1" from the top with the cut-up fish. Add 1/2 teaspoon kosher or pickling salt and 1 1/2 teaspoon ketchup to each jar. Wipe the jar lips off, place the lid on the jar and screw the rings on snugly. Process in a pressure cooker canner for 110 minutes at 10 pounds of pressure.

Now that you've canned your fish, here's a recipe for using some of that good stuff.

NOODLE CASSEROLE

- (use any salmon, lake trout, or steelhead)
- 2 1/2-3 cups cooked noodles
- 1 pint jar of canned fish
- 1 6-ounce can of cream of mushroom, cream of celery or cream of chicken soup thinned with 2/3-3/4 cup of milk



SKIPPER DON REDMOND and his "Trena Dawn" crew of Rob Pinskey, Chuck Ward and Leon Van Eden (L-r.), show off some candidates for the fish canner and fish smoker!

1/3 cup of frozen peas (optional)

Mix all ingredients together, put into casserole dish and level off the top of mixture. Sprinkle bread crumbs on top (I use Progresso Italian), and drizzle 1/2 stick melted margarine over the top. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown.

SMOKING

To smoke your fish, here's the brine recipe

that I used at last year's Detroit Area Steelheader Spring Fishing Show.

BRINE FOR SMOKED FISH

- 1 gallon of water
- 1 cup non-iodized salt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon lemon pepper
- 1/2-1 teaspoon Tabasco sauce

1 cup soy sauce
1 bay leaf
Maple syrup - for basting only
Mix all ingredients (except maple syrup); stir until dissolved. Brines should be mixed thoroughly in glass, crockery or plastic containers. Wooden or aluminum containers ARE NOT TO BE USED! Immerse fish flesh completely in the brine, and stir or rearrange in the brine solution occasionally. Keep brines as cool as possible. Chunks 1" thick or more need 8-12 hours (or overnight) in the brine. Filets (to 1/2" thick) require about 4 hours in the solution, and small whole fish or very thin pieces need about 2-4 hours in the brine.

After brining, give the fish a light rinse in cool water and allow it to air dry for about an hour before putting it into the smoker. You will notice a glossy look to the fish when it's dry. This is called "pellicle" and its formation on the surface of the flesh is important.

Smoke the fish using from 1 to 3 pans of wood chips - I use Chips-N-Chunks by Lühr Jensen in a Totem Smoker. I prefer to use a mixture of apple and alder chips, about half-and-half. Smoking will take anywhere from 2-12 hours, depending on the thickness of the flesh, and the degree of doneness you desire. You should baste the flesh about 2 hours into the smoking process. Check the flesh periodically to get the right degree of doneness.

The above method is adapted from the Lühr Jensen Smoking Book. You should try your own adaptations once you have a little experience. I hope article will help you make good use of all your salmon, steelhead and lake trout catches.

- Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"

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20	3.280
30	1.860

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Yes, we are the Detroit Area Steelheaders, but most of us are more than that. What I'm talking about is that we can't always be traveling 100+ miles to go fishing for salmon, steelhead or lake trout, but we still want to go fishing. I'm not talking about bass or pike fishing in inland lakes, because what I'm talking about is other ways we can fish in our Great Lakes fishing boats.

One fishery that immediately comes to mind is trolling for walleye in Lake Erie.

The basic technique is trolling crankbaits such as Hot-N-Tots and Wiggle Warts from planer boards. Most salmon boats are already equipped for this type of trolling. All one has to add are some lighter rods and smaller level-wind reels. This helps to avoid overpowering the fish too badly, and to be able to detect a fish on that doesn't trip the planer board release. For lures, one can get by with an assortment of gold, purple and some brightly colored examples of the aforementioned Hot-N-Tots and Wiggle Warts.

The season for this fishing starts as early as late April for some, and the fishing is usually good until mid-July. Launch ramps are located at Sterling State Park, Raisin River, Bolles Harbor, and Luna Pier. Anyone interested can learn the finer details from Bob Mitchell, Bill Shackleton, Les Jump, Tim Graskewicz, Don Redmond, myself, and numerous other boat owners in our club. The popularity of this fishing is also demonstrated by the great turnout of Detroit Area Steelheader skippers for our annual Special People Walleye Outing each summer. This great event, where club members take disabled kids fishing for the day for Lake Erie walleye, has gotten bigger and better each year, and is a real highlight of our season.

Another method of fishing for Lake Erie walleye is by casting Erie Dearies, Hot-N-Tot Pygmies, or any of the many weight-forward spinners, with a nightcrawler or leech attached. All you do is drift, cast into or across the wind, let the lure sink for a certain count, and make a slow and sometimes erratic (pauses, pumps, sweeps) retrieve. I prefer a 7-foot, medium-action graphite rod with a 6- or 8-lb. test line. When you catch a fish, remember which count you used, and



DON LESS stretches out to show off a typical Lake Erie walleye catch.

whether the strike came at the beginning, middle or end of your retrieve, so you can duplicate the approximate depth where you got the walleye. Set the hook at any difference in feel, such as what you get when the spinner stops vibrating, or any little 'tick', or if you feel slightly more drag. I find that this method makes walleye fishing more fun, because you're actually holding your rod when the fish hits, and you get a better battle with the lighter tackle and without the boat dragging the fish.

The prime season for this method is the same as for trolling, and can be done from the same ports. Some of the best spots for this type of walleye fishing can be found near Middle Sister and West Sister Islands. I've made multiple trips there from Grosse Ile, so I know those spots are within reach of the other ports listed above.

Lake Erie also can be an excellent place to fish for perch in the fall. October stands out as the best month to try this fishery. One good

method employs perch spreaders, snells with spinners on them, pencil-shaped or bell-shaped sinkers, and a good anchor with at least a 60-foot line. Bait your spreaders with minnows, let the rig sink to the bottom and then reel up so the rig is just off the bottom and you have a tight line. When you feel or see a twitch, set the hook.

With perch fishing, the main task is locating the fish. Good places to start looking for them are off the Raisin River, off Stony Point, in front of the Fermi II nuclear power plant, near the edges of the shipping channels, or by the Sputnik. Once you find the right spot, the catching is easy, and fun.

The delicious eating you get makes the time taken to clean the perch well worthwhile. They will average 7"-9" long, but on occasion you may get into some in the 10"-12" range, or even larger. If you hit a really hot spot, you can catch 100 or more in a couple of hours. Talk to Dick Shirk, Don Redmond, Doug Karakas, Les Jump, Bill

Shackleton, Jimmy Hardrick or many other club members about the details on this one.

Some members even make perch fishing an international adventure by traveling to Lake Simcoe near Toronto. All who have made the trek just rave about the perch fishing they experienced there. They say the local people don't even care to fish for them because they would rather catch whitefish.

I've mentioned just a few of the ways many Detroit Area Steelheaders use their big lake boats to broaden and enhance their fishing experience when they can't afford the time or money to go after salmon, steelhead or lake trout. Sadly, alternative fishing uses for our boats are also something to consider in light of the unresolved problems that our salmon, steelhead and lake trout fisheries are going through these days.

While we work to return those fisheries to their former glory, take some time to enjoy catching and eating some perch and walleye.

— Mike Lehto



AUTHOR MIKE LEHTO (back to camera) and Mike Anderszak are shown teaming up to catch the popular, tasty Lake Erie walleye last summer.

STEELHEADER PHOTO CONTEST - 1992

Congratulations to the top three photos entered in the 1992 Steelheader Photo Contest, shown here. They nicely capture the spirit and excitement of our sport! Thanks to everyone who entered a photo, and for those who didn't, get in on the fun and enter something in the 1993 Steelheader Photo Contest. You may be one of the next group of prize-winners!

The rules are simple. The photo should be of a fishing event or club-sponsored function. Write your name on the back of the photo, and turn it in to any Board of Directors member, or to me. Enter as many photos as you like. Good luck to all!!

— Les Jump, FISHIN' TALES Photographer



"SELF-PORTRAIT WITH SALMON"
1st: MIKE LEHTO (\$50 prize)



"MARK STOSIAK FISHING THE BETSIE RIVER"
2nd: MARK KUECKEN (\$25 prize)



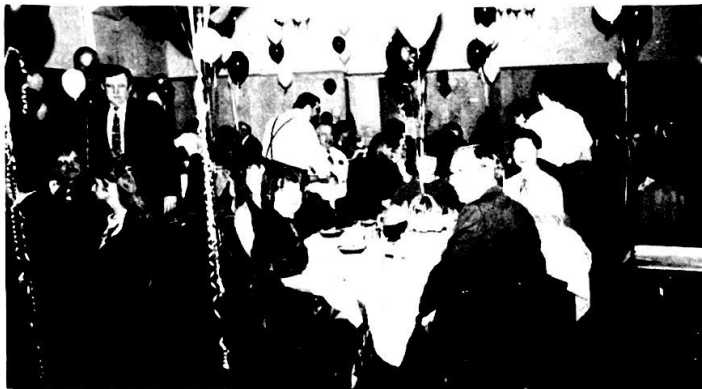
"TAKE A KID FISHING!"
3rd: ED McINTOSH (\$15 prize)

Detroit Area Steelheaders know how to have fun!!

Detroit Area Steelheader Dinner Dance Chairman Doug Karakas is hard at work getting an early start on our club's outstanding social event of the year, the annual Steelheader Dinner Dance.

Doug reports that an early start will enable him to do a better job of planning and preparing, so he is encouraging all club members to come to the bash and to make that decision **RIGHT NOW**, so accurate food and drink requirement estimates can be made.

This year, the Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday, February 13, 1993 at the St. Pius X Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren, the site of our monthly club meetings (see map below). The good food, drinks and music that have become fixtures of this popular affair will once again be featured. There have been some donations of prizes from businesses and companies, and more are needed. Homemade craft items would



THE ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE is always a fun occasion, with good food, music, and friends adding up to A GREAT TIME!!

also be welcome. Please call Doug if you can help out with this.

"Participation should not be limited to just Detroit Area Steelheader club members and their spouses," says Doug. "We would like to see the Dinner Dance continue to grow, with a big crowd and lots of non-club members attending. It's a great way for newcomers to get started enjoying the fun of being a Detroit Area Steelheader!"

Tickets for this gala event are \$25 per person or \$50 per couple, and that includes all you care to eat and drink, door prizes, great music, and a fun evening of socializing. Invite your friends and relatives, make your plans, mark your calendars, and be sure to get your tickets **NOW!**

If you have any questions about the Dinner Dance, wish to contribute a prize, or want to get your tickets, please call Doug Karakas at 545-1181.

Here's what Detroit Area Steelheaders are all about!

In 1993, the Detroit Area Steelheaders celebrate their nineteenth anniversary. In 1974, the M.S.S.F.A. Board of Directors had encouraged two of its own, John Makela and Tom Schneider, to start a chapter in the Detroit area. Joined by two other Steelheaders, Ed Raquel and Joe Sizemore, the resulting committee of four formed the Detroit Area Chapter late one night in September, 1974.

The first organizing meeting of the Detroit Area Chapter, M.S.S.F.A. (our club's original name) was held on October 16, 1974. Forty-one fishermen attended that first meeting, discussing elections, finances, committees, by-laws and, naturally, fishing. The first Annual Meeting was held on December 4, 1974, our official founding date. By the end of that first meeting, membership exceeded 100, 14 directors had been elected, and we

were well on our way!

Early in 1990, we disaffiliated from the M.S.S.F.A. to better pursue our goals of promoting, preserving and improving steelhead and salmon fishing in our state. We are now known as the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc., one of the largest independent fishing clubs in Michigan, and, we believe, **THE BEST!**

Formed as part of the mid-1970's salmon and steelhead fishing boom in Michigan, the organization continues its existence by working in many ways promoting and protecting Great Lakes sportfishing. Community involvement has always been an important aspect of our club activities. Over the years, we've been involved in such activities as:

- Taking handicapped children on fishing trips (our annual Special People outings).
- Raising money for fisheries research at



CHRIS & DIANE COFFEY shared duties staffing the Detroit Area Steelheader booth at one of 1992's boat and fishing shows. Members, don't forget to sign up for this year!

Michigan State University (including donating cash and equipment such as fish shockers, etc.).

- Donating money for fish cleaning stations, artificial fishing reef construction, etc.
- Contributing toward legal fees and expenses involved in the negotiating of Indian fishing rights and gill netting.
- Participating in various conservation projects such as the annual Rouge River clean-up.
- Helping to raise money for mental health and child abuse prevention charities through consistent heavy participation in the annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament.

As part of our club activities, we stage an extensive schedule of boat trolling, river and surf fishing tournaments, with the emphasis on sharing camaraderie, fishing knowledge and good times. We always include a Ladies

Day boat trolling event for great family fun, and we offer a member hot line (CREWS Hot Line) to match boat skippers with would-be crew members in the club, so all who wish to can share in the fishing fun.

Our Detroit Area Steelheader Spring Fishing Show annually draws thousands with great speakers (featured this year are Buzz Ramsey, Jim Bedford, Emil Dean and Craig Schaaf), tackle displays and sales, exhibits by various non-profit organizations, and informative fishing seminars by club members.

Our *Fishin' Tales* club newsletter is recognized as one of the finest in the state, and there are monthly meetings with great speakers, programs, and other activities.

With a current membership of about 250, we offer the best package of benefits available in a salmon/steelhead fishing organization. Come join us, and **JOIN THE FUN!!**



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS COME IN ALL AGES AND SIZES, but the fun we have is always large!

RENEWAL NOTICE

These memberships expire in January:
 R. J. Murray, Trenton
 Anthony P. Recchia, Detroit
 Curt Shackleton, Warren

These memberships expire in February:

- Donald S. Anton, Taylor
- Terry Cruice, Troy
- John A. Derkacz, Roseville
- Louis J. Doucet, Huntington Woods
- Tim Graskewicz, South Lyon
- Jerry Hankus, Warren
- Edward Horen, Warren
- Mark Kuecken, Madison Heights
- Lynn R. Lewis, Southfield
- Ronald Maschke, Westland
- William & Cyndi Melnke, St. Clair Shores
- Robert Novak, Troy
- Chris Nytko, Utica
- Chuck Skidmore, Warren
- Mark A. Stosiak, Warren
- James E. Sullivan, Eastpointe
- Tom Vekery, Mt. Clemens
- Richard Wroblewski, Warren
- Howard W. York, Madison Heights

Here's how to get to
DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER
 Monthly Membership Meetings



Membership Application

YOUR MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES *FISHIN' TALES*,
 THE DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL DUES:

- New memberships & renewals under age 65 \$ 25.00
- Renewals over age 65 \$ 10.00
- Lifetime membership \$150.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER (____) _____

Complete form and send with check or money order payable to:

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.
 P.O. BOX 1255
 STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48311-1255

Chinook salmon fishery may no longer be fixable!

It may be impossible to resuscitate the Great Lakes Chinook fishery. Even if all Chinook in the lakes infected with bacterial kidney disease (BKD) that has literally wiped out the once-thriving fishery could be eliminated — which they can't — there may be no way to bring the fishery back.

The disease may now be endemic to the lakes and their trout and salmon and, thus, impossible to eradicate. Research has found BKD in the waters of the lakes, and that coho salmon, lake trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout are benign carriers of the disease and can pass it on to Chinook salmon.

Some biologists and sportsmen have suggested that the disease can be overcome by not planting any Chinook for a few years. Theoretically, when the disease then disappears because there are no longer any carriers, a new strain of BKD-free Chinook could be introduced. This no longer appears to be an option. Even if plantings were stopped, BKD would remain in the system.

Biologists explain that Chinook cannot be purged from the lakes due to natural reproduction. No one knows how many Chinook come into the lakes as a result of natural spawning in rivers and streams, but the number is thought to be substantial. And they, too, carry the infection. Cursory genetic studies indicate that "wild" Chinook may be more resistant to BKD than hatchery fish. But research on this is still sketchy.

Chances of finding a strain of Chinook free of BKD which would not become infected from contact with other fish, and Great Lakes waters carrying the disease, is seen as ranging from improbable to impossible by state fishery officials. They note that West Coast Chinook are severely plagued by BKD. State officials are uncertain if harder strains of Chinook can be found in Alaska.

Cutting off Chinook plantings for several years and intensifying studies of wild Michigan Chinook to determine if their genetic superiority would ultimately overcome BKD

is one possibility. If the studies were positive, eggs from these fish would be used to restore the hatchery rearing program.

Regional fish chief John Schrouder points out that experiments are also continuing with antibiotics. Adult fish are injected at the weirs and held long enough for the medicine to work on their eggs. Some young Chinook salmon may be injected in the hatcheries to see if this will overcome BKD.

Raceways at the Wolf Lake hatchery, the primary Chinook producer, have been covered to prevent birds and small mammals from introducing diseases into the fish stocks.

In late spring 1993, the Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) expects to plant approximately 7,000,000 Chinook, about half from eggs taken at Michigan weirs and half from eggs taken in New York from Lake Ontario fish. The fish will be planted in late May or early June, according to Schrouder, to give them a chance to grow and become stronger before entering the lakes.

Chinook and coho salmon have been carriers of BKD since Day One, biologists say. The disease remained latent until 1987, when it flared up, killing hundreds of thousands of Chinook, but not other species.

The Lake Michigan Chinook fishery collapsed. In 1992, only 37,454 Chinook were recorded at ports surveyed in the creel census. That is down from 60,000 in 1991, and 400,000-plus before the onslaught of BKD.

The mystery remains. What stress triggered the disease into activity to suddenly decimate Chinook. There are many speculative answers, but none that scientists accept.

If the trigger mechanism could be discovered, isolated and eliminated, there is still no assurance that Chinook would revert to their former vitality. The disease would remain in the water and could be passed to Chinook by healthy trout and coho salmon, even though the disease is not impacting other fish.

Reprinted from the *Northwoods Call*, November 25, 1992.

Sea lampreys are getting back in the swim

ROGERS CITY — Sea lampreys — the scourge of salmon, lake trout and other game fish — are making a comeback in the Great Lakes, thanks in part to successful pollution cleanup efforts, scientists say.

Experts suspect that improved water quality in streams feeding the Great Lakes may have given the unwelcome fish vastly increased spawning areas.

"It means we're going to have to increase the number of areas we have targeted for lamprey control programs," said Hannibal Bolton, fisheries associate manager for the north-central office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Chicago.

"We're not seeing increase in areas where we have kept up lamprey treatment programs," he said. "The problem areas are new ones. As we clean up the water, the lampreys apparently move into places where they weren't able to spawn before."

The sea lamprey is one of 136 exotic species that have been recorded in the Great Lakes since 1810. But the 50 or so discovered since the opening 40 years ago of the St. Lawrence Seaway system, linking Lake Ontario with the Atlantic Ocean, are the most troublesome. Those include alewives, sea lampreys and zebra mussels.

The federal government is developing an Aquatic Nuisance Species Program designed to help eliminate, control and prevent the introduction of unwanted plants and animals nationwide.

Bob Peoples, who oversees the program for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said fish such as the alewife and sea lamprey were previously known only in Lake Ontario. They probably swam into the four upper Great Lakes after the Welland Canal created a pathway around Niagara Falls.

But international shipping has played a major role since then, allowing exotic species to "hitchhike" in ballast water carried by oceangoing vessels, Peoples said.

That's almost certainly how zebra mussels found their way into the Great Lakes from the waters of the Black Sea.

"They are a nuisance in Europe, but they seem to have limiting factors there that they don't have in the Great Lakes," Peoples said in a recent interview. "In Europe, the greatest concentrations have been measured at maybe 10,000 zebra mussels per square meter. In the Great Lakes, they have been found at densities of 100,000 per square meter."

Since December, all ships entering the Great Lakes from foreign waters are required by regulation to change their ballast water before entering the St. Lawrence Seaway.

That may help with unwanted foreign species, but it won't keep out intruders from other parts of the United States, said Jim Bredin, head of the Great Lakes office of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Enforcement of that rule (ballast exchange) is another problem, Bredin said. While most ships exchange ballast, he pointed out that there are not enough U.S. Coast Guard ships to guarantee that all ships comply.

Reprinted from the *Detroit News*.

Public comments asked on Aquatic Nuisance Species Program plan

Citizens have until February 3, 1993 to comment on the proposed Aquatic Nuisance Species Program plan, designed to deal with the growing problem of foreign, "exotic" species of plants and animals being introduced into the United States, either intentionally or inadvertently. Copies of the plan can be obtained by writing:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Management Assistance
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20240



CAPTAIN BOB KRING, longtime Detroit Area Steelheader, won this nifty hand-held LORAN unit at a recent club raffle.

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