

1999 Annual



FISHING TALES



VOL. XXV • No. 1

Published by the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.

1999 ANNUAL

**Make 1999
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you finally
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Area
Steelheaders!!**



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MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!

Redmond says 1998 was good for the D.A.S.

Nineteen ninety-eight was good for the Detroit Area Steelheaders, with good fishing, good meetings and guest speakers, good activities, and many good times with friends.

In January, our guest speaker was John Hunter, who gave an interesting talk about the many different techniques of river fishing for Steelhead and Salmon.

In February, we held our annual Dinner Dance, one of our club's primary social events of the year. The Dinner Dance had a magical theme, with a magician in attendance. Once again, it was a major success due to the efforts of Doug and Mary Karakas, Bob Mitchell and many other helpers. This year's Dinner Dance will take place on Saturday, February 13. This social event is an excellent opportunity for club members to enjoy an evening of fun, excitement and fellowship.

February's guest speaker was George Richey, who spoke on the proper presentation of doggers with squids and flies. George also had a slide program for us on different color combinations which have worked well for him in the past.

February is also the month we begin our participation at the major sport and fishing shows, where members represent our club to the public. Many thanks to all of our members who volunteer their time to inform the general public about Salmon and Steelhead fishing, and the benefits of belonging to the Detroit Area Steelheaders.

Another fun social event was our club's Las Vegas Night. Mary Karakas and Ed Wilczek put a ton of effort into organizing the entire evening, and, with the help of about 25 other Steelheaders, it turned out to be a first-class night of fun and a success for the club.

The speaker at our March meeting was Dan Thomas, president of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council. Dan spoke on the efforts of the Council to protect and improve the fishing in all of the Great Lakes.



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADER PRESIDENT DON REDMOND (r.) happily accepts his award as 1998 "Skipper of the Year" from Boat Trolling Tournament chairman Chris Nytko, who, incidentally, finished second to Don in the year-long championship series!

April saw the launching of another season of Boat Trolling Tournaments, at Lexington on April 25, where Ken Kuhar took top skipper honors. Fishing was extremely slow for this time of year.

Captain Chuck (Ed Stell) was our guest speaker at the April meeting. Ed's presentation covered the different ways to run lead core line and the proper ways to use it. He also talked about all the new baits and electronics coming out in the future.

Our next tournament took place on May 2, with our club participating in the Chuck Muer's River Crab Salmon Stakes tournament. This event proved to be an excellent one for the Detroit Area Steelheaders, as our club finally broke a losing streak against our friends in the Blue Water Sport Fishing Association to claim the \$5,000 first prize! Our club ended up with a total catch of 352.32 pounds, compared to

Blue Water's total catch of 316.13 pounds. This great tournament has raised nearly \$1,000,000 for charities since its inception in 1985 by the late Chuck Muer, and our club is delighted to participate. Dave Even claimed the top position in our club's portion of the River Crab.

After a long absence from our tournament schedule, we next travelled back to the Lake Michigan port of Grand Haven, on May 16, where Boat Tournament Chairman Chris Nytko took the top spot with a very nice catch.

Next up on our schedule was Port Austin, on May 30. Don Redmond took top honors there on Saturday with a catch of 17 fish. A Team Doubles day was also on the schedule for Sunday, but, unfortunately, bad weather forced us to cancel this popular event.

Two weeks later, on June 13, we journeyed to Lake Erie for Walleye at our annual Special People Outing. For this very rewarding event, a total of 22 Detroit Area Steelheader skippers and their crews treated 43 physically challenged guests to a day of walleye fishing, complete with a cook-out, trophy awards, and gift packs with a lot of fun surprises.

June also featured our annual Ladies Day tournament at Oscoda on June 27. Mother Nature and the Fish Fairy again greeted this event with great weather. Paul Schoenrade and his ladies crew took first place with a nice catch of eight fish.

State Representative David Jaye was our guest speaker in June. He spoke on the various pieces of legislation dealing with fishing and hunting matters then under discussion in the State Legislature.

Our July meeting speaker was Captain Pete Ruboyancians, who spoke on the different techniques of fishing the currents off the Bath House and The Point at the great port of Ludington. Our club presented Pete with a check for \$250 to the Ludington Charter Boat Association to help with costs in running the Net Pen

project on the Sable River.

On August 1, we got back on the tournament trail with an event at Presque Isle on northern Lake Michigan, where Dick Shirk pulled out a nice win.

Two weeks later, we were in Ludington. Most of the boats concentrated their efforts around the Bath House and north to The Point. Paul Schoenrade emerged with his second win of the season, using a strategy of fishing shallow waters in that area.

August 29 was our last tournament of the season, at the port of Manistee. Dick Shirk claimed his second win of 1998, and Ron Hartman caught the largest King Salmon of the year with a nice 28-pounder.

In August, the club also donated \$200 to the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council to help that worthwhile organization with its expenses.

At the September meeting, long-time Detroit Area Steelheader Steve Hamilton gave an outstanding program on river fishing.

Our October guest speaker was Jim Bedford, who offered an excellent slide presentation, and also discussed spinner fishing for Salmon and Steelhead in the river.

University of Michigan graduate student David Swank was the speaker at the November meeting. He gave a slide show and talk on the Steelhead smolt studies being conducted on rivers in western Michigan by the University.

December brought our annual Christmas party meeting and awards night. "Salmon" Claus made his much-anticipated appearance with his goodie bag for all the little boy and girl Steelheaders. We held our election that night, as well, welcoming two new members, Mark Stosiak and Linda Obarzanek, to the Board of Directors, and saying "Thank you" to outgoing Directors Dave Roehr and Bob Gilbert.

The winner of the popular "Cooler Full of Cheer" raffle was April Van Eden. Foremost among individual award winners was Don Redmond, winner of 1998 "Skipper of the Year" honors, and Fred Hynick, named "Member of the Year."

After much consideration, the Board of Directors was happy to name dual "Director of the Year" awards to Ed Wilczek and Larry Boyer. Ed, club secretary, sets up our show schedule and the club web page. He is an avid fisherman, and works on many other club projects. Larry works on fund raising, is in charge of T-shirts, and works on the Special People Outing, the shows, and on many other projects. Congratulations, Ed and Larry!

All in all, 1998 was a busy, fun-filled fishing year for the Detroit Area Steelheaders, and we are all looking forward to an even better year in 1999, which is also the twenty-fifth anniversary year for our club!

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who was helpful during my tenure as President of the Detroit Area Steelheaders during the last two years.

- Don Redmond, President
Detroit Area Steelheaders

16th Annual Pontiac Silverdome


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ALL BOATERS ARE WELCOME:
POWER, SAIL & PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

ADULT BOATING COURSE: At Grosse Pointe North High School in the cafeteria, beginning Monday, March 22, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.

Call the G.P.P.S. Information Line: (313) 885-5005

Detroit Area Steelheaders celebrating 25 years in 1999!

In 1999, the Detroit Area Steelheaders Inc. begins its twenty-fifth year of existence. In 1974, the M.S.S.F.A. Board of Directors 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 completed the formation of 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 dissolved our affiliation with 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 to promote and protect Great Lakes sport fishing. 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 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.
- 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.
- Participating in various conservation projects.

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



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS know that fishing's more fun when you catch fish, and **THEY KNOW HOW TO CATCH 'EM!**

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

Our monthly *Fishin' Tales* club newsletter is widely recognized as one of the finest in the state, and there are monthly meetings with great speakers, programs, and other activities. Meetings usually are held the last Tuesday each month.

With a current club membership of more than 200, we believe that we offer prospective members the best package of benefits available in a Salmon/Steelhead fishing organization. Come and join us, and **GET IN ON ALL THE FUN!!**

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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FISHIN' TALES STAFF

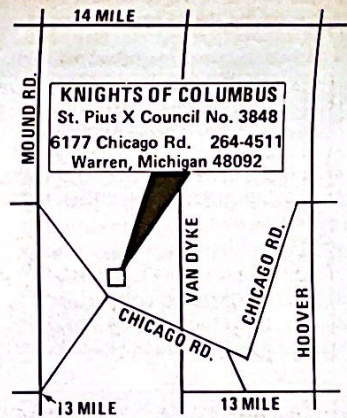
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 Committee assignments for 1999 will be published in the next issue of *FISHIN' TALES*.

Submit all materials for publication to:
BOB MITCHELL, Editor
 6466 Parkview
 Troy, Michigan 48098

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



COMING EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of month at 7:30 p.m. K. of C. Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren
JANUARY 26, 1999 • FEBRUARY 23, 1999 • MARCH 30, 1999

SPECIAL STEELHEADER EVENTS

- DETROIT BOAT SHOW** (Cobo Hall) February 6-14
DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS ANNUAL DINNER DANCE (K. of C. Hall, Warren) February 13
PONTIAC BOAT & FISHING SHOW (Silverdome) February 17-21
OUTDOORAMA (Novi Expo Center) February 26-March 7
PROFESSIONAL FISHING SHOW (The Palace) March 4-7
NOVI BOAT SHOW (Novi Expo Center) March 18-22
STEELHEADER SWAP MEET * March 30
 * (Held in conjunction with March Membership Meeting at K. of C. Hall, Warren)

WINTER FISHING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
February 6	HIGGINS LAKE — Ice Fishing	Doug Karakas, (248) 545-1181

BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENTS

DATE	EVENT	PORT CAPTAIN
April 17	LEXINGTON	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159
April 24	RIVER CRAB (Lexington/Pt. Sanilac)	Chris Nytko (810) 254-7426
May 15	GRAND HAVEN	Paul Colone, (248) 547-0004
June 5	PORT AUSTIN (Team Doubles)	Ron Hartman, (248) 542-4873
June 12	SPECIAL PEOPLE OUTING (Lake Erie)	Dick Shirk, (810) 749-9493
June 26	OSCODA (Ladies Day)	Doug Karakas, (248) 545-1181
July 17	LAKE ERIE (Walleye Outing)	To Be Announced
July 31	PRESQUE ISLE	Mark Stosiak, (810) 777-9833
August 14	LUDINGTON	Bob Mitchell, (248) 828-8034
August 28	MANISTEE	Paul Schoenrade & Ty Voigt, (810) 773-6477
Sept. 11	HARBOR BEACH	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159

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

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Complete form and send with check or money order payable to:
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Detroit Area Steelheaders on the World Wide Web

<http://www.great-lakes.org/mi/detroitsteelheaders/>

That's the URL (address) of the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. club Web site on the Internet. In March, 1998, with the help of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council (G.L.S.F.C.), our Web page was posted for the entire world to see. With the Internet growing by an estimated 65,000 people daily, the benefits of having a club Web site are obvious.

Our club is about fishing, whether it's done from boats, while wearing waders in a river, casting from a pier or the shoreline. If you want to learn how to catch Trout, Salmon and other gamefish, the resources available from our membership are almost limitless. The Internet represents yet another resource to use as a teaching tool.

While our site currently is mostly an "about us" page, future plans will make it into a site where the viewer can see how to rig a Great Lakes fishing boat, view a club message board, find recipes such as for smoked fish, and view a photo gallery of recent Detroit Area Steelheaders tournaments. And that's not all - the possibilities are virtually endless.

Last May I joined the staff of the G.L.S.F.C. as their Webmaster. As such, I browse through countless pages dealing with the subject of fishing. Think of any species of fish and I've probably viewed a number of Web sites about it. When it comes to fishing, there's no limit to the information that's available to the angling public on the World Wide Web.

If you are new to this "www" stuff, let me give you a few pointers on how to tap into the Internet's vast database of information. You'll find numerous search engines on the Web. These include, but are not limited to, America

On Line's (A.O.L.) *Netfind* at <http://www.aol.com/>, *Excite* at <http://www.excite.com/> and *Lycos* at <http://www.lycos.com/>. In the box, type in whatever you might be looking for, such as fishing, for instance. Somewhere in the search results, you'll see how many documents the search engine finds. The A.O.L. search engine found 241,732 documents with the just the word "fishing." The more specific you make your search, the better. Try entering "Lake Michigan Steelhead AND launchramps." You can spend a lot of time browsing all the sites you'll find.

How does this all help make you a better fisherman? I believe that the more information you have available to you, the greater your chances of success. Personally, I'm always checking the message boards for current reports. I also add reports when I have a successful trip - it's good sportsmanship! I also check weather forecasts, Coast Guard notices, current lake conditions including temperature charts and area information, motels, restaurants, etc. I call area tackle shops for reports. I try to use every tool I can to gather information to increase the odds in my favor for a successful trip. My computer has become as valuable to me as my LORAN-C, GPS and fish finder are out on the water.

Here are some URL's you can use to find some of the same Internet resources that I use.

* <http://www.great-lakes.org/>

The Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council's main page is a great place to start. This site branches out with links to a wealth of information from state message boards to charter boat listings and sport shows. It's well worth a look.

* <http://www.mucc.org/>

This is the Michigan United Conservation

Clubs' (M.U.C.C.) Web site. According to their statement, "The M.U.C.C. has been in the vanguard of efforts to protect Michigan's outdoor heritage and promote the right of all citizens to enjoy Michigan's outdoors."

* <http://www.great-lakes.org/cgi-bin/message.cgi?state=mi>

This is a great message board. You can find up-to-the-minute information posted by your fellow fishermen and fisherwomen. Want information on the other Great Lakes states? Simply change the URL ending "mi" to "mn" (Minnesota), "wi" (Wisconsin), "il" (Illinois), "in" (Indiana), "oh" (Ohio), "pa" (Pennsylvania), or "ny" (New York).

* <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/cw/cwdata/lct/glsea.gif>

Here you'll find a temperature chart of the Great Lakes. As we all know, there are times when finding the right water temperature can make all the difference.

* <http://www.inetmi.com/mi/>

This page has links to anything to do with Michigan: local and state governments, online newspapers, outdoor resources, and more.

* <http://www.nws.fsu.edu/buoy/>

From this main page, you can link to any of the Great Lakes. Then just click on any buoy and get current lake conditions.

* http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/www/fish/html/weekly_report.htm

You can get weekly fishing reports from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources at this Web site.

* http://www.great-lakes.org/fish_mi.html

I decided to add another G.L.S.F.C. page

because of the links this page contains. Among these are the D.N.R. Harbor Guide, Weather links, "how to" information, map resources, and much more.

* <http://www.gtii.com/fish.frames.htm>

This is a good Web site with more of that informational resource stuff I keep talking about. Looking for a good used boat? How about a Bed and Breakfast? And there's more!

* <http://www.erieaumarina.com/index.html>

Thanks to Detroit Area Steelheader member Dick Shirk for letting me know about this site URL. If you fish Erieau, Ontario, or if you wish to learn more about fishing that area, check out this page. It has links to up-to-the-minute weather conditions, and area fishing reports, lodging, services, etc. This Web site is very well done!

* <http://www.catchmorefish.com/>

This home page of Wolverine Tackle, makers of Silver Streak lures, offers color charts, nicknames, and other useful information.

You may also want to join a few news groups. News groups are basically message boards, and can be accessed via your e-mail and Internet Service Provider (ISP) server.

I hope you find this information useful in planning your outings for 1999. As we head toward the new millennium and the year 2000, more and more people will discover the potential that the Internet has to be a teaching tool, no matter what the subject is. We just happen to like learning about fishing and the great outdoors - and that does compute!

- Ed Wilczek, "Steelie Ed"
Sed970@ameritech.net



Detroit Area Steelheaders "Top Five" Skippers (1976-1998)



1998	1997	1996	1995
1) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	1) Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	1) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
2) Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	2) Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	2) Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	2) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
3) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	3) Paul Colone, "The Kidd"	3) Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	3) Daniel Dima, "Taz"
4) Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	4) Bob Buero, "Mickey Mouse"	4) Paul Nowak, "Nothin' But Fun"	4) Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"
5) Paul Schoenrade, "Eagle III"	5) Jimmy Hardrick, "My Dream"	5) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	5) Dave Roehr, "Floating Holiday"
1994	1993	1992	1991
1) Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	1) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
2) Jimmy Hardrick, "My Dream"	2) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	2) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	2) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
3) Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	3) Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	3) Tom Moores, "Karefree"	3) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
4) Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"	4) Leon Van Eden, "Bullhead"	4) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	4) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
5) Paul Schoenrade, "Eagle Two"	5) Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	5) Mike Wakulski, "Wet Paint"	5) Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"
1990	1989	1988	1987
1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"
2) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	2) Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"	2) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	2) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
3) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	3) Ron Huey, "Half R's"	3) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	3) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
4) Rob Pinskey, "Anticipation"	4) Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"	4) Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	4) Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"
5) Mike Wakulski, "Wet Paint"	5) Don Anton, "Happy Bare"	5) Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"	5) Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
1986	1985	1984	1983
1) Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"	1) Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"	1) Gerry Ciurzenski, "Jawbuster"
2) Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"	2) Joel Garinger, "Fishbusters"	2) Ed Choinski, "Kneeknocker"	2) Mike Boroniec, "Horsefly"
3) Chuck Wood, "Predator"	3) Bruce Choinski, "Kneeknocker"	3) Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"	3) R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"
4) Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	4) Tom Chojnowski, "Sea Con"	4) Bob Ksionzek, "Last Dime"	4) Bob Kozar, "Snowman"
5) Blaise Pewinski, "Sea Hag"	5) Ed McIntosh, "Sweet Lorraine"	5) Mike Zelkowski, "Elvira"	5) Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"
1982	1981	1980	1979
1) Brian Glaser, "Least Likely"	1) Bob Kring, "Drifter"	1) Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	1) Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
2) Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"	2) Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"	2) Terry Cholette, "Fishing Fever"	2) Howard Mills, "Paramour"
3) Mike Curzenski, "Nooner"	3) Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"	3) Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"	3) Larry Atwell, "Cobra"
4) Bob Kring, "Drifter"	4) Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	4) Randy Cope, "Ouzo Too"	4) Jim Treadaway, "Okie Drifter"
5) R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"	5) Jewell Harris, "Cannonball"	5) Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"	5) Bob Kring, "Drifter"
1978	1977	1976	
1) Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	1) Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"	1) John Makela, "Sisu"	
	2) John Makela, "Sisu"	2) Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"	
	3) Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"	3) Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"	
	4) Bob Kring, "Drifter"	4) Paul Irvine (boat name unavailable)	
	5) Larry Atwell, "Cobra"	5) Steve Hamilton, "Valhalla"	

First place finishers
are annual
"Skipper of the Year"
award winners

Boating safety: How to be prepared on the water

I begin this narrative of being prepared on the water with a little backtracking to the woods of northern Michigan. Last November, I was out in the woods trying to do my part to make the state a safer place to live by helping rid the great outdoors of those bloodthirsty bucks that rampage the outback and scare little children with their needle-sharp horns.

I started down a well-traveled dirt road, and where I was going to park sat a red pickup truck and two hunters getting ready to head into the woods. I went about 3/4 of a mile further, and found another spot to park my truck. Walking back a few yards on the main road, I found an old abandoned road that was almost invisible. I set my compass, because I've walked too many of these paths to know that they may disappear only a few yards into the woods.

About a half-mile down that path, I came upon a clearing with lots of oak trees, open spaces for clear shooting, and, about 25 yards off the path, a set of trees and bushes for concealment. I set myself up and prepared for an afternoon's hunt.

About an hour or so went by, and to my surprise, the two hunters I had seen earlier in the day passed about 150 yards in front of me, from left to right. They disappeared for about 15 minutes and then appeared again, walking in the woods about that same 150 yards in front of me, this time passing from right to left.

As they say, it was like *deja vu* all over again when, about 30 minutes later, the same two reappeared. This time, one disappeared into the brush, and I watched for the better part of a half hour as the other one made a large circle from in front of me over to right. I hoped I had seen the last of them for the day after this, but it was not to be. Thirty minutes later, the guy off to my right came thrashing through the woods like a moose in heat, and spotted me in my blind.

"Sorry to bother you, but I'm lost and can't find my way to the road," he said. "Can you tell me the way out?"

In keeping with my image as a great fellow, salt of the earth and the backbone of America, I told him to look under his feet, where he would see a path that would take him out to the road. He thanked me, and off he went, with only enough noise to spook deer in the next county.

With only about 45 minutes left before dark, I was hoping for some quiet for the rest of the evening. But with just me against the world, and all too often the world winning, that was just not going to happen. A mere 15 minutes behind his friend, the guy who had earlier disappeared into the brush came crashing through the woods at full tilt and in a panic until he saw me and came over to me.

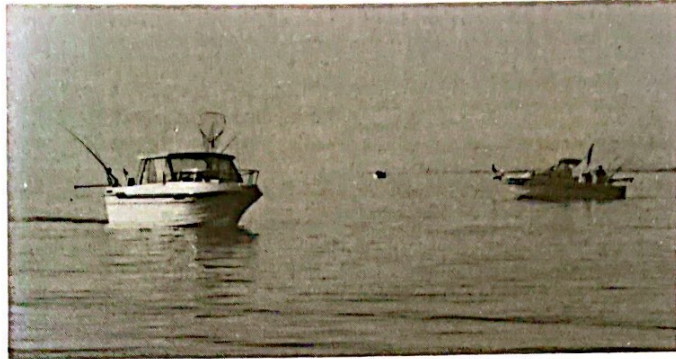
"Hey, man, I can't find my way out of the woods. Can you tell me how to get out of here?" he asked, panting heavily.

I knew my evening of hunting was over, so I told him to follow me out. On the way, I asked him if he had a compass, and he told me that both he and his friend had left their compasses back at their motel. He wondered in passing if his friend had found his way out, and I told him that I had directed him out, too. He thanked me, but the final insult of the episode came when, after reaching the road, I had to tell my lost new "friend" the way back to his own truck!

Now, by this time, you may be asking with this little tale has to do with the waters of the Great Lakes. Well, the obvious answer to that question is that the two hunters of whom I spoke were not prepared to go into the woods that afternoon. The biggest mistake you can make is to go into the woods, or out on the water, without being ready for anything that may happen to you. So, the next question to ask is, "Are you prepared to have a safe trip the next time you go out onto the Great Lakes?"

Let's talk about some of the things to do before you even leave the shore.

Is your equipment in good working order? Has your outboard or engine been looked at to find out if it's in tip-top shape for the year ahead? A lot of people think that because it was



running last year, it's going to run great this year. Tell that to the guy with his thumb out, trying to hitch a ride three miles back to shore!

How about we talk about the legal stuff? Do you have the correct number of life vests for every person on board, smaller vests for any kids aboard, and by the way, how old are the vests on your boat? I can tell you right now that if the vests were bought back when your dad bought his first boat in the 1960's, you may be able to use them to hold up fishing lures. But you, my friend . . . if you fall in the water, you're going to be swimming with the fishes!

Speaking of life jackets, do you have some type of cushion, or better yet, a life ring that's got some kind of rope tied to it. If someone falls off your boat, do you have something better to throw them before they go down for the last time besides eight or ten empty beer cans?

Another must to have on board your boat is a lifeline. One of our members came up with a great way to deliver a line to a person in the water up to 100 feet away.

Get a one-gallon milk jug and 100 feet of 3/8 polypropylene anchor rope (the kind that floats). Cut a small 'X' in the bottom of the jug, and push the rope into the spout of the jug and out the bottom. Pull about 3'-4" of rope out the bottom and tie a loop about 4" in diameter at the end. Pull the loop snug up to the bottom of the jug, and then push the rest of the rope into the spout of the jug. Once you have all the rope inside, put another 'X' hole through the cap of the jug, pull another 3'-4" of the open end of rope through the hole in the cap, tie another 4"-loop at that end and snug it up to the cap. Tuck all the loose rope into the jug, screw the cap onto the jug, and you're done!

To use it is simple. Take the loop at the top of the jug and place the loop over your wrist. Unscrew the top, grab the jug handle and give the whole thing a toss. The weight of the rope in the jug will carry the jug nearly the entire 100'. After you've made it, give it a try once or twice so you know how to use it. When any new people come on board, show them how to use it. The next one in the water could be you!

Speaking of rope, do you have a tow rope on board? In the last ten years, we've pulled about five boats off the lakes, and only one of those boats in distress had a tow rope on board. If a good citizen stops to help you, and you don't have a tow rope and he doesn't have a tow rope, you may have to wait until the lake freezes over so you can walk to shore.

Here's a question for you. How old is your fire extinguisher? Most new extinguishers will last you about three years, tops. But go ahead. Check out your extinguisher by turning it on its side. Does it feel as though there's a big, solid glob of Malt-O-Meal inside? Or is there a more liquid feel to the contents (as there should be) when you tip it over? A properly functioning fire extinguisher is some of the cheapest insurance you can buy. Oh, by the way, nowhere in the law does it describe two plastic water buckets as fire extinguishers.

Adequate lights for your boat are something else that you must have, for the times you leave before daybreak or stay out on the lake past sunset. But you say, "Oh, I never go out on the water after dark." Well I guess you've never

seen a boat broken down on the water, either. If you're broken down at night, and the boat bearing down on you doesn't have radar, and you don't have lights, well . . . I hope you can swim.

Another thing you may want to invest in is one of those big lights that puts out so much power that you could get a tan from the beam. You can use it to signal your distress to someone, or at least, with all that light in his eyes, the guy who's about to run you over with his boat may slow down because he thinks he's about to be picked up by space aliens!

Other things that are necessary if you are to be properly prepared out on the water include a first aid kit to take care of any small cuts or dings, and a tool kit with all kinds of tools you may need to fix your boat, outboard, or engine. In addition, an assortment of small electrical parts and mechanical parts that can be taken off and put back on while out on the water just might save you a hefty towing bill.

Among the biggest items on our list of things to have with you while out on the Great Lakes is a marine radio or a Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) plotter. In that context, I've been asked this question a few times: "If you had only enough money for one or the other, which one would you buy?" As it happens, there is a good argument for each. If you get a GPS plotter, then you'll know exactly where you are on the lake at all times, and if you know where you are, you certainly can find your way back to where you started. As true as that is, if you're four miles out on the lake with no radio and taking on water, the only thing a GPS is going to tell you is where you are sinking.

If you are going to be plying one of the big Lakes, a VHF marine radio is an absolute must. First, you can use your radio to call your friends who are also on the water to find out where and how the fish are hitting. But, most important, if you look down and see that your feet are getting wet, your VHF radio may be the only thing you have that will help you see to it that your hair is not the next thing to get waterlogged. A VHF radio is the only lifeline you have to the outside world, and if you are five miles out with an emergency, the Great Lakes can be as heartless as a tax collector's soul. In an emergency without a VHF radio, you may as well be a thousand miles away, because it could take as much time as it would take to travel that distance before you get the help you need.

There are other things you need to have, check, or do before you head out on the water. It could be pretty helpful in certain emergencies to have flares and/or a flare gun. Be sure to check expiration dates on the flares every year. Check your anchor and anchor rope. Be sure you have a compass (don't leave port without it!), and a lake chart for every port you leave and enter - you wouldn't try to find your way around the streets of Detroit with a map of Kalamazoo, would you?

But perhaps the most important thing you can have while out on the big Lakes is something you need long before you ever leave shore. Before you even smell the odor of a ten-day-old dead fish on a boat launch ramp, you need a U.S. Coast Guard (or Coast Guard-approved) boating safety course.

The best money you can ever spend is on

education, and what better way to spend that money on an education that could save your life and the lives of your family and friends. We're only talking about a few nights out of your life, and a few dollars. How much is your family worth to you, or how much are you worth to your family? Take that safe boating course with your wife, kids (if they are old enough), and your fishing buddies, too. You cannot have too many good sailors on one boat. (Editor's Note: There is an excellent boating safety course advertised in this issue.)

There's one more thing to think about before going out on the water (here comes the pitch!). Do you think that you would be safer on one of the big Lakes by yourself or with two or three or 25 boats, all looking to help keep you out of trouble. I am referring, of course, to the Detroit Area Steelheaders and our tournaments, outings, joint fishing trips, etc.

Along with safer boat trips, we also like to try to help you catch more fish out on the big Lakes, and keep you up to date on all the things that are going on that are of interest and concern to the fishermen and fisherwomen of Michigan.

We have monthly club meetings (usually the last Tuesday of the month) with knowledgeable guest speakers like charter captains, pro fishermen, Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.) spokesmen, Coast Guard representatives, and others to talk to us and answer our questions about fish, fishing, boats, boating safety, and a lot more.

We have a monthly magazine called *Fishin' Tales* that covers the latest tournaments and results, coming events for all club activities, fishing news, and lots of fishing tips and techniques. It carries articles from club members, and stories from all over the Great Lakes to keep you informed.

We have eight or nine boat tournaments each year, from Lake Erie to Rogers City, and from St. Joseph to Frankfort. If you are a 'River Rat', we have six or seven river events in the fall and winter, and if that's not enough, most other weekends (and some weekdays, too!) you can find two or three club members who are going to one fishing hole or another.

This article has come a long way, from the backwoods of northern Michigan to bobbing around on one of the big Lakes of our state. But I hope it has encouraged you to put a little forethought and preparation into your fishing and boating this year. Add in some Coast Guard training and a membership in the Detroit Area Steelheaders, and you've got a formula that should deliver many weekends full of SAFE fun and excitement fishing and boating on the Great Lakes and elsewhere.

See you on the water!

- Ray Banbury

CREWS Hot Line

NEED A CREW?

Looking for crew members to fish with you in Detroit Area Steelheader Boat Trolling Tournaments?

WANT TO CREW?

Want to fish in Detroit Area Steelheader Boat Trolling Tournaments but don't have a boat?

Call the Crews Hot Line to match up with a Skipper looking for crew members, or to get crew members for your boat during the 1997 season.

TO SIGN UP, CONTACT —

LARRY BOYER: (313) 495-1342

DOUG KARAKAS: (248) 545-1181

LEON VAN EDEN: (810) 293-1261

CREWS HOT LINE is a service for Detroit Area Steelheader members

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING NEWS

MICHIGAN SPORT FISH CITED AS HEALTHY CHOICE

Eating Michigan sport fish is a healthy choice. There is an abundance of evidence in the scientific literature to document the health benefits of fish consumption.

The Michigan Environmental Science Board says that the benefits associated with fish consumption by adults may outweigh the risk associated with chemical contaminants in Great Lakes fish. You can get the benefits of eating fish by wisely choosing safer types of fish, safer places to catch fish, safer ways to prepare fish, and moderation in how often you eat fish and how much you eat.

Among the health benefits of eating fish are these points:

- Fish are highly nutritious, and a good source of protein that is low in saturated fat. Fish contain similar nutrients as meat but without the saturated fat. In fact, fish comes as a healthy balance of monounsaturated, polyunsaturated, and saturated oils. Many fish, including Pike, Perch, Walleye, Bass, and Sunfish are actually very low in fat.
- Lake Trout, Whitefish, and to an extent, Salmon contain generous amounts of a unique, beneficial oil called omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid, which lowers triglyceride and cholesterol in blood.
- Fish contain many valuable vitamins and minerals, and are leaner than most animal sources of protein. Eaten regularly, fish oils can prevent hardening of the arteries and, therefore, heart disease. The American Heart Association recommends eating two to three fish meals per week. In many people, fish oils may also lessen arthritic pain.
- From a nutritional standpoint, fish are categorized as high fat or low fat. High fat fish such as Salmon have 11 grams of fat per 3.5-ounce cooked serving. Lower fat fish include Flounder, Perch, and Pike, and have 1-2 grams of fat per 3.5-ounce cooked serving.
- Some studies have also shown that eating fish regularly can reduce mildly elevated blood pressure, enhance the therapeutic action of antihypertensive drugs, and benefit both smokers and non-smokers suffering certain lung diseases.

From the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council Web Site.

ANGLERS AND BOATERS WIN LORAN-C REPRIEVE

LORAN-C, the popular radio navigation system targeted for shutdown in 2000, has been given a reprieve until at least 2008.

A feasibility report conducted by Booz-Allen & Hamilton for the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.) estimated it would cost the million-plus civilian LORAN-C users nearly \$700 million to buy new navigational systems.

The study, which has been presented to Congress, found it would cost D.O.T. \$100 million to terminate the LORAN-C system by 2000.

Discussion on eliminating LORAN-C in favor of the newer and increasingly popular Global Positioning System (GPS) have been going on since 1994. The proposal to drop it in 2000 created an uproar, and 94% of the 2,300 public comments the Coast Guard received were from people opposing the shutdown.

A big boost for the defendants (State of Minnesota, Landowners, and Counties) is the several *amicus curiae*, or friend of the court, briefs filed which support the position that the 1837 Treaty privilege does not continue to exist. Two other organizations, the Citizens Equal Rights Alliance and the Pacific Legal Foundation, each submitted a brief.

Their principal argument is that LORAN-C, operated by the Coast Guard since 1970, and GPS complement one another as back-up systems. Civilian GPS users have long complained

about the deliberate jamming of the civilian signal by the U.S. military, although this degradation, known as "selective availability," has been targeted for elimination by 2006.

The Booz-Allen study found that keeping LORAN-C until 2015 would cost the government \$473,000,000 for technical upgrades and \$27,000,000 more in operation and maintenance expenses. It also recommends that the Federal Aviation Administration (F.A.A.) assume a bigger share of the costs, since at least 80,000 general aviation pilots use LORAN-C. That would relieve the Coast Guard of some of the financial burden of continuing LORAN-C. From the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council Web Site.

WHIRLING DISEASE HITS RAINBOW TROUT HARD IN SEVERAL WESTERN STATES

Rainbow Trout are becoming harder and harder to catch in the west. A parasite is wiping out the trout in Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. The parasite is carried by a worm and causes whirling disease, which makes fingerling trout spin in circles until they die. The parasite was brought into the United States around 1950 in fish from Europe, and eventually worked its way from east to west as fishermen stocked streams with their favorite sport fish. Whirling disease kills between 90 percent and 100 percent of hatchlings it infects. From the Detroit News, January 18, 1999.

Continued on Page Eight . . .

SALMON SMOKING

This recipe for smoking Salmon has been a favorite of club members over the years. It will make enough to smoke about 10 pounds of fish.

BRINE INGREDIENTS

- 1 quart Water
- 2 cups Brown Sugar
- 1 cup Kosher Curing Salt
- 1 cup Rock Salt
- 1/4 tsp. Pepper
- 2 capsfull Lemon Juice
- 2 Bay Leaves
- 5 shakes Onion Salt
- 5 shakes Garlic Salt

NOTE: Be sure to mix these ingredients in a crock, or a glass or Tupperware container ONLY.

BRINING METHOD

Place the fish in a crock, or Tupperware or glass container skin side up and cover with brine. Place something on top of the pieces of fish to hold them down under the surface of the brine (do NOT use anything made out of metal!). Cure the fish in the brine for five to six hours. Thoroughly rinse each piece of fish separately in cold water, and then air on paper toweling for one hour with the skin side down. At this time, plug in your smoker to pre-heat it. The fish will get a tacky glaze on the outside of the flesh when it is ready to place into the smoker.

SMOKING METHOD

Arrange the fish pieces on racks skin side down, with thick pieces on the bottom racks and thinner ones toward the top of the smoker. The pieces should not touch each other. Do not oil the racks. Smoke the fish for five to six hours. Place one pan of apple wood chips in the smoker every 90 minutes. Use a total of three pans of wood only. Chill the fish to room temperature before placing in refrigerator or freezer.

- Roger Rice

1998 "SKIPPER OF THE YEAR" Final Standings - Best 5 of 8

PLACE/SKIPPER	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Total
1) DON REDMOND	4	3	2	1	75	75	2	9	12
2) CHRIS NYTKO	9	4	1	3	4	5	7	17	17
3) DICK SHIRK	2	25	12	16	2	1	20	1	18
4) ROBERT GOLASZEWSKI	8	5	75	5	8	3	6	2	21
5) PAUL SCHOENRADE	18	24	9	15	1	9	1	3	23
6) KEN KUJAR	1	22	11	7	12	2	10	4	24
7) BOB BUERO	50	15	75	2	75	6	5	10	38
8) MARK STOSIAK	14	7	4	50	5	15	18	12	42
9) STAN BILEK	5	18	15	19	10	75	8	6	44
10) HOWARD YORK	15	50	5	13	3	12	14	18	45
11) PAUL COLONE	13	8	13	75	9	13	9	75	52
12) RON HARTMAN	15	19	8	21	11	15	75	7	56*
13) TY VOIGT	50	50	6	13	7	16	19	14	56*
14) DARWIN GREGG	11	50	75	75	15	7	11	16	60
15) DAVE ROEHR	16	14	10	18	75	75	22	75	80
16) DOUG KARAKAS	50	75	16	10	13	75	75	15	104
17) ED MORRIS	19	12	7	8	75	75	75	75	121
18) JIMMY HARDRICK	75	50	75	4	75	8	17	50	129
19) TOM MOORES	75	50	14	75	75	75	3	5	147*
20) GARY RUPRICH	50	50	75	20	14	75	13	50	147*
21) RON HUEY	3	10	75	75	75	75	50	13	151
22) WALT POHORILY	10	13	75	75	75	14	75	75	187
23) MARK RANDLEY	75	75	50	17	6	75	75	75	223
24) ROB PINSKEY	75	2	75	6	75	75	75	75	233
25) ED HILL	50	75	75	23	75	75	12	75	235
26) LOUIS MOORE	6	9	75	75	75	75	75	75	240
27) JIM FITCH	75	11	75	12	75	75	75	75	248*
28) JOE VON GRABE	7	16	75	75	75	75	75	75	248*
29) DON ANTON	75	75	75	75	75	75	16	8	249
30) DANIEL DIMA	75	75	75	75	75	75	21	11	257
31) BILL HOFFMAN	75	17	75	22	75	75	75	75	264
32) RICH HEHN	21	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	296
33) RON MASCHKE	75	50	75	50	75	75	50	75	300
34) DAVE EVEN	75	1	75	75	75	75	75	75	301
35) GASPER RANDAZZO	75	75	3	75	75	75	75	75	303
36) BOB MITCHELL	75	75	75	75	75	75	4	75	304*
37) TIM GRASKEWICZ	75	75	75	75	75	4	75	75	304*
38) GARY SMEDGES	75	6	75	75	75	75	75	75	306
39) HANK BACZYNSKI	75	75	75	8	75	75	75	75	308
40) DENIS HARPER	75	75	75	75	75	10	75	75	310
41) RICHARD KITTLE	75	75	75	75	75	11	75	75	311*
42) PAUL NIENALTOWSKI	75	75	75	11	75	75	75	75	311*
43) RON BUGAJ	75	75	75	75	16	75	75	75	316
44) MARK BRUDLEY	17	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	317
45) JOEL GARINGER	20	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	320*
46) VERN FAHRENKRUG	75	20	75	75	75	75	75	75	320*
47) STEVE HAMILTON	75	21	75	75	75	75	75	75	321
48) BOB KSIONZEK	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
49) DON LEE	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
50) KAN CLONE	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
51) LES JUMP	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
52) BRUCE BEACH	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
53) WARREN RENANDO	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
54) BOB ZDANIO	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350*
55) BOB BRESLER	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	375*
56) DWAYNE WELDER	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	375*
57) FRED KAUL	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	375*

* TIE-BREAKER: Rule III, Section G 50 = See Rule IV-E 75 = See Rule IV-F
 A = Lexington B = River Crab C = Grand Haven D = Port Austin E = Oscoda
 F = Presque Isle G = Ludington H = Manistee

1998 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Tournament	King Salmon	Lake Trout	Steelhead	Brown Trout	Coho Salmon	Total Catch
RIVER CRAB						352.32 lbs. total catch
LEXINGTON	28	0	3	0	1	32
GRAND HAVEN	31	27	3	0	1	62
PORT AUSTIN	23	178	3	0	0	204
OSCODA	14	72	2	0	0	88
PRESQUE ISLE	47	20	0	0	0	67
LUDINGTON	48	5	5	1	10	69
MANISTEE	45	5	2	1	12	65
1998 TOTALS*	236	307	18	2	24	587

*Totals for seven tournaments, excluding River Crab tourney

The DEADLINE for the FEBRUARY ISSUE of FISHIN' TALES is JANUARY 26, 1999

Getting started fishing the Great Lakes for Salmon & Trout

You just went on your first Great Lakes Salmon charter or you helped crew a buddy's boat. Now the fishing bug has bitten, and you find yourself thinking, "I want to fish for Salmon on my own boat!" The very next thought you have is, "What tackle do I need?"

Fishing for Salmon and Trout on the Great Lakes requires specialized equipment. Sure, you can catch a Salmon on Bass or Walleye gear, but sooner or later you'll go toe to toe with a big King, and you'll have your first tackle lesson.

Buy good stuff! If you just go out and buy the cheapest equipment you can find, it will cost you more in the long run. Find out what the "right stuff" is and buy it. You'll be better off.

RODS & REELS

Let's start with rods and reels. For Salmon, Lake Trout and Steelhead on the Big Lakes, you need big equipment. Most Steelheaders use rods that are about 8' 6" in length. Buy four to six graphite rods from a reputable manufacturer. The rod action should be light to medium. My personal favorite is a Shakespeare Ugly Stick, but they will cost about \$50 each. You can buy adequate rods for about half that price, and you may even find some on clearance for around \$20.

Buy good reels. A big King can easily steal all your line if you are using a cheap reel, burning up the reel drag in the process. Good reels will probably cost about \$50 each. I'd suggest the Daiwa #47H, Shimano #GT2000, or Penn #GTi320. Cheaper reels are often hard on your line, too. A lot of guys buy Penn #209's, but those have a bad habit of allowing the line to get between the spool and the frame, cutting it in the process.

It's better to buy a quality used reel than to buy a cheap new one. Buy cheap reels and when you finally decide you want good ones (and you will decide that eventually!), your cheap ones will be worthless. Buy good reels and if you decide you want to go back to bluegill fishing, someone will buy them from you. In the end, good reels are the least costly.

LINE

Use fresh line. I spool new line every year. This might be considered overkill, but line is cheap in the overall scheme of things. Buy a bulk spool of name-brand line: Stren, Berkley Trilene XT, Ande, or Silver Thread. Most guys will use 20-pound test line. I'll occasionally go to 17-pound test.



SKIPPER BOB MITCHELL and his "Kemo" crew are a familiar sight at Detroit Area Steelheader tournaments. Pictured here with Bob are Christy and Linda Mitchell and Leslie and Carrie Gilbert.

Try 30-pound Trilene Solar on Dipsey Divers. It makes it really easy to see exactly where your lines are. For the past year I have also been using the new Spectra braided lines (i.e., Spider Wire) on my Dipseys. They are 50-pound to 75-pound test with the diameter of 20-pound to 25-pound test monofilament. I really like them for Dipseys, which are much easier to trip with the no-stretch Spectra. However, some guys don't like them.

LURES

Guys waste more of their money buying lures than anything else. Lots of fishermen have tackle boxes stuffed full of "secret" lures that were used once and have been rusting ever since. Don't buy cheap lures. They'll end up sitting in your tackle box. It is better to spend \$3 per spoon on proven lures than to spend \$1.50 on a spoon you use once.

SPOONS

Spoons are the most versatile lures. I have great confidence in several manufacturers of spoons. I'd recommend Silver Streaks, NK 47's, or Northport Nailers. Pro spoons are favored by a number of Steelheaders. The Silver Streaks and NK's are silver-plated, which

is important, especially if you're fishing deep. Silver reflects blue light better than chrome, and blue light penetrates deeper than other colors.

Spoons run best at a specific speed. Different brands often run best at different speeds. For that reason, it is best to stick with one or two brands and buy a variety of colors, rather than mixing and matching brands. Otherwise, you will be fishing one brand of spoon running at its optimum speed, while another brand will not be running at its optimum speed.

As for colors, I'd suggest silver-plated spoons accented with greens and/or yellows as the first choice. Be sure to include reds or oranges if you plan to target Steelhead. A couple of blacks with red tape and white or pearl should round out your selections. Also, when you go fishing, take the time to walk the docks and see which colors are hanging from poles on the top boats.

PLUGS

The next group of lures to consider is plugs. These are used mainly in the spring, when fishing shallow. If you have walleye baits such as Rapalas, they will suffice. If not, I'd suggest getting a selection of Long A Bombers. You never know which colors will turn out to be hot

on a given day, but chartreuse, pearl, Wonderbread (white with multi-colored dots), and gold with an orange back are good starters. Remove the front hook and they will snag less on the bottom. Hot-N-Tots are also good choices, especially in magnams or regular sizes in silver plate or gold plate.

For the fall, you may want to try some J-Plugs. They haven't been that popular lately, but they do work in August and September for big Kings. I'd suggest chrome #4 Silver Bullets, gold plate, or lime green. For fishing the pier heads, I prefer a black J-Plug or two. Keep your eyes open. You can often find J-Plugs for \$2 when they used to cost \$5. I have faith in J-Plugs because they are used by West Coast commercial fishermen. They still work!

FISHING "JUNK"

The last category of equipment is what I call "junk." These are lures and attractors you will need for mid-summer Lake Trout fishing, and for Kings when they are really deep: 80'-100'. There are a number of specialized rigs, but, in my opinion, the Number One rig is the dodger and squid combination. My first choice is the Luhr Jensen chrome fluted dodger in the "0" size. White dodgers with pearl tape are also good. The Number One squid is Richey's Michigan Glow Squid. That combo will work 90% of the time. You can buy lots of other colors of dodgers and squids, but I bet you will run that setup most of the time.

Another lure to get to run behind dodgers for Lake Trout is the Spin-N-Glow. Get the big ones in chartreuse/red, white with dots, or green chrome. Last, cow bells sometimes out-produce dodgers. I like the real big ones (J & N's) trolled at a speed of 1 knot.

You will still need other miscellaneous items. Buy quality swivel snaps. Don't try to save 50 cents on swivels and end up losing \$10 worth of lures. Buy various-sized rubber core sinkers to use with flat lines. Be sure to check each sinker to make sure it doesn't have a sharp edge that will cut or nick your line. Get a couple of Dipsey Divers; I prefer the big ones. They will add to your ability to run more lines and sometimes they are the hot setup.

This list should help you to get started. Be sure to talk to other guys in our club. Ask them to point out their personal "hot" colors. Then get ready, because that big King is ready to take you on!

- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"

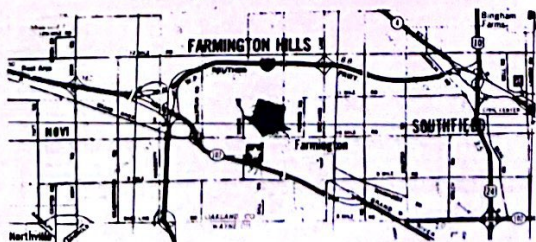
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GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING NEWS (cont.)

... Continued from Page Six

FALL STORMS WRECK REPEAT OF LAKE TROUT STUDY

Fall storms appear to have terminated the first stage of a repetitive experiment to determine if Lake Trout reproduction can be spurred in Lake Michigan.

One hundred bundles of about 2,000,000 Lake Trout eggs were planted on a large reef about eight miles off Charlevoix, historically a natural Lake Trout spawning site. Fall storms are thought to have churned the bundles from the rocks, with some of them reportedly already washed ashore.

The eggs were sandwiched between Astroturf and anchored on the reef, which historical data reveals produced thousands of wild Lake Trout before gill nets and Lamprey finished them off.

Earlier studies had failed to show that researchers had succeeded in producing naturally reproducing Lake Trout that returned to the reefs sown with eggs.

Despite planting millions of Lake Trout since the early 1960's, there is no evidence of sustained natural reproduction in Lake Michigan, according to lead researcher Dick Schorffhaar.

Natural Lake Trout reproduction in Grand Traverse Bay disappeared when gill nets were re-introduced by tribal fishermen.

Self-sustaining natural Lake Trout reproduction is well-documented in Lake Superior and Lake Huron.

Last fall's storm-battered study may be ongoing, with the reef to be seeded with more eggs over the next two to three years.

Researchers will then look to see if unmarked adults return to the reef and reproduce. All hatchery fish are fin-clipped or tagged.

Female Lake Trout do not mature until they are six or seven years old, so the study could

last up to 15 years.

Veteran researchers consider the study repetitive and wasteful. They have long contended that Lake Trout cannot recover in the presence of gill netting.

From the North Woods Call, December 2, 1998.

GREAT LAKES FISH GRANT PROPOSALS UNDER REVIEW

Members of the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust expect to review about 100 requests for grants to fund angler access and fisheries population enhancement by early spring.

Trust administrator Jack Bails, a former Department of Natural Resources deputy director, expects the grant requests to total well over \$1,000,000. He is unsure how much Trust board members will authorize spending when it makes its grant decisions in April or May.

The Trust, with a total value estimated as high as \$172,000,000, was established as part of the settlement over operation of the Ludington Pumped Storage Generating Plant by Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison.

That value, Bails points out, includes the value of fish saved under new plant operating rules, lands the utilities turned over to the Trust, and access improvements the companies made at their facilities. The Trust is now selling seven of those properties.

Depending on the return on investments the Trust is making with money from the utilities, Bails estimates the Trust will eventually make between \$50,000,000 and \$100,000,000 in grants to enhance Great Lakes fisheries.

All of the grant money will be spent by the year 2019, Bails adds.

In addition to access and fish population enhancement, the Trust makes grants for research, education, and habitats.

Bails expects the Trust board to vote on grant requests about once a year.

Organizations represented on the Trust board include the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Grand Traverse, Manistee and Petoskey Indian Tribes.

The Trust is administered by Public Sector Consultants. For more information, write Jack Bails at 600 W. St. Joseph, Suite 10, Lansing, MI 48933, or telephone (517) 484-4954.

Fish within the limits!

You're having the day you've always dreamed of, with fish biting so fast you and your crew can't keep all the lines in the water. You've kept your limit and the day has just started.

At this point, what should you do? Quit and do something else? Go in, leave the fish on shore and come back out to catch more? Keep catching and putting them in the box, or try to hide fish on the boat? Keep catching them and release them?

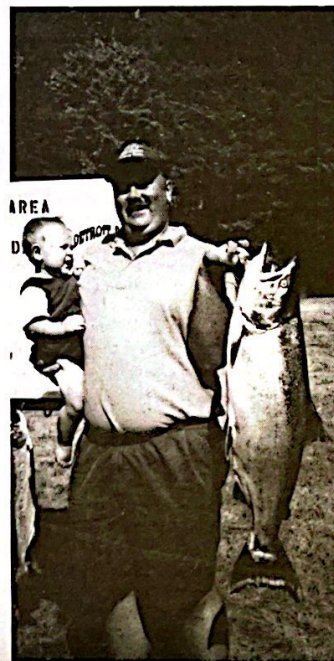
Legally, there is only the first choice: to quit for the day. Catch and release is not legal if there already is a daily limit catch on the boat. Releasing fish should have started before the daily limit was killed. Going in and coming back out would most likely prevent you from getting a ticket, but you would still be exceeding the daily limit.

Daily fish catch limits are set by the Department of Natural Resources to protect the resource and spread the "total allowable catch" among all anglers. If anglers keep more than the limit, rationalizing that it's okay because they won't be able to fish the next day, or they haven't caught any in a while, or they haven't exceeded the limit before, then they are stealing fish from everyone else.

If very many people did this, then the resource would suffer. Most people don't believe our fisheries resources are unlimited. They know that if too many fish are killed, we all suffer. That's why we have Conservation Officers to check limits and help people remember to not succumb to temptation on their day of dreams.

Please respect the resource, and teach others to do so.

- Steve Hamilton



DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS come in all ages and sizes, and SO DO THE FISH!

Looking ahead to a great boat trolling tournament season in 1999!

A successful 1998 season is over, and we are once again looking ahead to a new year of boat trolling tournaments in 1999.

The top 15 skippers of last year met in early December to discuss the 1999 boat trolling tournament schedule and rules, and it looks as though we will have an outstanding tourney lineup for next season.

The 1999 tournament series gets underway with an early start, in Lexington on April 17. We hope this event will serve as a warm-up tournament for a successful defense of our 1998 club championship at the Chuck Muer River Crab Salmon Stakes, which takes place the following week, on April 24, in the same waters. This "preview" tourney certainly seemed to help our 1998 River Crab results!

The River Crab tourney usually has the greatest participation by club members of all boat trolling tournaments, and we hope to see another huge turnout of Detroit Area Steelheader skippers and crews for this very important 1999 tournament. This event helps a good cause, with proceeds going to various charities dealing with child abuse/neglect programs throughout Michigan.

Following the River Crab, the tournament trail will take us on May 15 to Lake Michigan and Grand Haven, a port which provided us with some fairly good fishing last year.

Then it's back to Port Austin for the weekend of June 5. Saturday will see our regular individual boat tourney, followed on Sunday by the always-popular Team Doubles event.

For the past several years, Port Austin has proved to be one of the best for Lake Trout, but you may also want to keep some baits up high for the King Salmon and Steelhead caught in the area by many of our members fishing this tournament in years past.

The Special People Outing for 1999 will take place on June 12, out of the Toledo



CHRIS NYTKO enjoyed some fine fishing action during our 1998 tournaments.

Beach Marina on Lake Erie. Every year, this non-tournament event provides a real fun day out on the water for a great group of very Special People. This outing deserves 100% participation from our Detroit Area Steelheader members, and I hope everyone will take part in this special event this year.

The popular annual Ladies Day tournament will be held on June 26 at Oscoda. This tourney is always popular with our ladies, who get to show off not only their fishing skills but also their culinary abilities as well. This is one event you sure don't want to miss!

On July 17, we will have a Walleye outing, this time on Lake Erie. This non-tournament event is likely to provide us with some great Walleye fishing action.

Late July will take us to Presque Isle for a

July 31 tournament, which, if 1998 was any guide, should again produce some excellent fishing for our boats.

August 14 will find us at what has probably become our Detroit Area Steelheaders' favorite port, Ludington. We can usually count on some exciting fishing here at this time of year, with hot action usually being found at The Project to the south, or north toward the Bath House or The Point.

The fleet next travels to the popular western Michigan port of Manistee, on August 28. This port provides a nice variety of fish, such as Lakers, Brown Trout, Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and BIG King Salmon. The best areas to try for some good fishing are south off Gurney Creek, off the clay banks, and off the pier heads.

The final tournament of 1999 will be at

Harbor Beach, on September 11. This port is always good for Salmon action close to home, with the occasional Brown Trout and Steelhead taken there at that time of year.

Before the start of the season, there will be information packets available for each event, containing maps, charts and contacts to assist you in making your fishing outings more successful and enjoyable. Let's all plan for maximum participation to help make the 1999 season our best one so far for all Detroit Area Steelheader skippers and their crew members.

May you all enjoy a safe and successful fishing season. Good luck to all, and I'll see you on the lake in 1999!

- Chris Nytko
Boat Trolling Chairman

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The Lampreys of Michigan: An Overview

If you ever have waded in a Michigan stream, you probably stepped on a number of fish without even knowing it. Not the finny kind like Brook Trout or Smallmouth Bass, but Lampreys in their larval stage burrowed into the stream bottom.

Lampreys belong to an ancient family of "jawless fishes" that first existed more than 250 million years ago - long before the dinosaurs. Most people are aware of the infamous Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*), which almost single-handedly destroyed the Lake Trout in the Great Lakes.

But this parasitic invader is not the only Lamprey species found in Michigan lakes and streams. The Chestnut Lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon castaneus*), Silver Lamprey (*I. unicuspis*), Northern Brook Lamprey (*I. fossor*), and American Brook Lamprey (*Lampetra appendix*) all are native to Michigan.

Though classified as a fish, Lampreys certainly do not resemble most other fish. They also are often confused with Eels and incorrectly called "Lamprey Eels." The true Eel has a hinged jaw, a skeleton made of bone, and paired fins on the sides of its body. Lampreys lack paired fins, have a skeleton made of cartilage and, as adults, have a suction cup mouth containing circular rows of teeth. A single nostril is located on top of the head in front of the eyes. Seven pairs of gill pores are located behind the eyes. A long single or double dorsal fin extends from the mid-body to the tail.

All Lampreys of the Northern Hemisphere belong to the family *Petromyzontidae*, which means "stone suckers." About half the 19 species in North America are non-parasitic. According to Dr. Carl L. Hubbs, a former curator of fishes at the University of Michigan who founded the Institute for Fisheries Research in Ann Arbor in 1930, the two non-parasitic species of Brook Lampreys likely evolved from parasitic forms. Modern Brook Lampreys have fewer and smaller teeth than the other species, which Hubbs believed was the result of biological degeneration, and which suggests that Brook Lamprey once were probably parasitic.

Lampreys also are unique among fishes because they have a complex life cycle that includes a larval stage followed by a metamorphosis into the adult form. All Lampreys spawn in the spring on shallow gravel beds in freshwater streams. A male builds the nest by using its suction mouth to move the stones to form a horseshoe-shaped pit. A female attaches its mouth to a rock at the upstream end of the pit while the male attaches to her and they both shake violently. The male discharges sperm as the female deposits eggs into the nest. Both adults die soon after spawning.

The eggs hatch in about two weeks, and the larvae will remain in the nest until they are about a half-inch long. The blind larvae then leave the nest and burrow into sandy or silty areas of the stream bottom, where they feed on bacteria and organic particles filtered from the

stream water. Once the larvae reach about five inches in length, which may take from three to seven or more years depending on stream temperature and food supply, some will metamorphose into adults. This change occurs during July and August when the juveniles will develop eyes and a suction cup mouth. Its body color also will change from brown to silvery blue. After metamorphosis, parasitic Lampreys migrate to the sea or a freshwater lake.

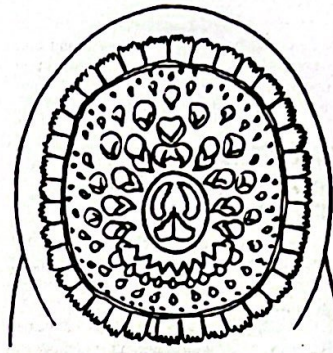
Parasitic adult Lampreys will live for about 12 to 20 months, feeding on fish before entering a stream to spawn and die. A parasitic Lamprey attaches to a fish with its suction cup mouth, rasps through the flesh with its horny teeth and feeds on the blood. An anticoagulant is secreted into the wound to increase blood flow. When gorged, a Lamprey may release its hold and search for another host.

Non-parasitic species of Lampreys do not feed after metamorphosing into adults because their digestive tract degenerates into a non-functional strand of tissue. They remain in the stream substrate over winter, and then spawn and die in the spring.

Sea Lampreys probably entered Lake Ontario in the 1800's through the Erie Canal. Niagara Falls posed a natural barrier to the migration of Sea Lampreys into the other Great Lakes, but eventually it was bypassed with construction of the Welland Canal. Sea Lampreys were first found in Lake Erie in 1921, and by 1938 had spread throughout the upper Great Lakes. Sea Lampreys in the Great Lakes acted more like predators than parasites because their hosts were much smaller than the swordfish and sharks they would feed upon in the Atlantic Ocean.

During its 12 to 20 months as an adult, these voracious predators, up to 20 inches long, will kill up to 40 pounds of fish in the Great Lakes. As a result, Sea Lampreys caused major damage to populations of Lake Trout, Whitefish, Burbot and Chubs in the 1940's and 1950's. The Sea Lamprey's rapid colonization of the Great Lakes was probably due to its large size and massive egg production. The females, which are slightly larger than the males, can contain more than 64,000 eggs.

Beginning in the late 1950's, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission tried many methods to control the Sea Lamprey. The most successful method has been the use of the selective chemical TFM to treat streams and poison larvae before they metamorphose and migrate into the lakes. Of the 5,350 streams that flow into the Great Lakes, approximately 450 have been inhabited by Sea Lampreys. Of that



THE BUSINESS END of the universally despised Sea Lamprey.

number, the 180 which produce the most adults have been regularly treated on a three- to five-year cycle. Between 40 and 70 streams are treated each year. Unfortunately, the St. Marys River, the Great Lakes' biggest Lamprey nursery, was considered to be too large for successful treatment.

These factors led the Commission to sponsor new research on other methods of Sea Lamprey control. Recent innovations, including trapping, sterilization and release of males, and a new granular bottom-release formulation of lampricide, offer new hope that cost-effective Sea Lamprey control on the St. Marys River is finally within reach.

Two other parasitic Lampreys, the Chestnut Lamprey and Silver Lamprey, are found in Michigan. Both differ from the Sea Lamprey in appearance by having a single, continuous dorsal fin with a slight notch, rather than two distinct dorsal fins. Both species are much smaller than the Sea Lamprey, reaching an adult length of about nine and twelve inches respectively. The larvae of the Chestnut and Silver Lampreys are indistinguishable, but the adults differ in the shape of the teeth in the suction cup mouth. The circumoral (inner ring) teeth of the Chestnut Lamprey are bicuspid (two points), while those of the Silver Lamprey are unicuspoid (one point). Chestnut Lampreys are only found on the west side of state in Lake Michigan tributaries, whereas Silver Lampreys are found in the larger rivers flowing into Lake Huron and Lake Superior, and will migrate into the Great Lakes.

Although both species feed on the blood of fish, they are less likely to kill their hosts than Sea Lampreys. Chestnut Lampreys are abundant in some of Michigan's best Trout streams,

including the Manistee, Betsie and Big Sable rivers, but do not seem to affect fishing success. Because these species are endemic to the Great Lakes, and evolved with the native fishes, they are able to coexist with them.

Neither of the Brook Lampreys in Michigan pose a threat to fish populations because they lack a parasitic stage in their life cycle. The American Brook Lamprey is abundant and widely distributed in clear, unpolluted spring-fed streams with stable bottoms. Larvae of the American Brook Lamprey are difficult to separate from those of the Sea Lamprey because both have a double dorsal fin. However, adult American Brook Lampreys are small, being only about five inches long and no wider than your little finger. Unlike other Lampreys, the American Brook Lamprey may engage in communal spawning with 20 to 40 individuals in a single large nest.

The Northern Brook Lamprey, the other non-parasitic Lamprey in Michigan, is closely related to the Chestnut and Silver Lamprey. Found in warmer temperature streams than other species, the larvae appear identical to those of the Chestnut and Silver Lamprey. The adults are similar in size to the American Brook Lamprey, but have only a single, continuous dorsal fin. This Lamprey is most frequently found in parts of the Pine, Au Sable, Pere Marquette, and Thunder Bay rivers that drain from lakes, swamps, marshes, and ponds.

As a group, Lampreys are repulsive to many people. The adults, although considered ugly and dangerous by many, do not attack humans, and only the three parasitic (Sea Lamprey, Chestnut Lamprey and Silver Lamprey) species attack fish. And of these, only the Sea Lamprey is a threat to fish populations. Neither of the two native parasitic Lampreys cause substantial damage to populations of sportfish in Michigan waters.

But it should be noted that the extensive program to manage the Sea Lamprey and restore the Great Lakes fishery is necessary only because the Sea Lamprey is an outsider that is not native to the Great Lakes system. The larvae of all five species, although very abundant in Michigan streams, are rarely seen and do not adversely affect the stream community.

Ironically, the four native Lamprey species, although possibly the most abundant fish in many Michigan streams, would have remained almost unknown if the Sea Lamprey had not found a way around Niagara Falls.

- Sidney B. Morkert

Reprinted from Michigan Natural Resources, July/August 1998.



SEA LAMPREY: *Petromyzon marinus* Linnaeus

DIPSY DIVER TIPS

If you troll on the Big Lakes and are not fishing Dipsy Divers, YOU ARE ONLY CATCHING 50 PERCENT of what you could be catching!! Here are some tips for using Dipsy Divers that you may find useful:

- Three feet of line for one foot of depth on setting three. For example, 150 feet of line equals 50 feet deep. This is a very general rule.
- Line counter reels make running Dipsy Divers much easier. If you are forgetful, try resetting the line counter after setting a Dipsy. After a fish hits, let the Dipsy back out to zero.
- Use a braided main line. This makes releasing the diver much easier. Thirty-pound test Spiderwire or 20-pound test Fireline are good, but Spiderwire will dig into guides and spinning reels. Remember, thinner diameter lines will get deeper.
- Use a long, stiff rod - 10' rods made spe-

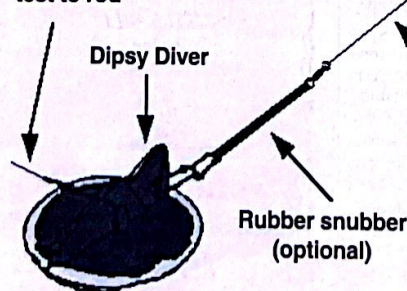
cifically for Dipsys are great.

- Don't go too light - 20-pound minimum.
- Use the Dipsy's dial on the back correctly. It is made to be read facing the boat's bow.
- Keep Dipsy Diver rods away from down-

riggers - try them a few feet from the stern where the downriggers are located.

- Place rods low to the water. Placing the rods almost parallel to the water leaves less line above the water for fish to tangle.

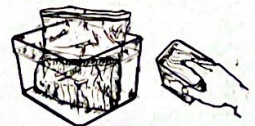
Minimum 20# test to rod



Dipsy Diver Setup

Freezing Fish Fillets

When freezing your catch, package the fish to minimize exposure of flesh to air. Use a vacuum sealer machine, but if you don't own one, try this method: Place fish in a Ziploc-type freezer bag, leaving the top open. Dip or dunk bagged fish in a bucket of water, which forces out all the air, then close the bag. Another method is to freeze the fish in a heavy plastic bag or small container filled with water.



From Salt Water Sportsman, February 1996.

Where are the fish? An expert reveals his secrets!

There's an old saying that "90% of the fish are in 10% of the water." There is also another saying: "The most important element in catching fish is that you have to be over the fish." Easy enough. But, where are the fish? How do I find them? That is the \$64,000 question!

There are a number of aspects that have to be considered when you are trying to find the fish. First is the season. In general, salmon tend to be in the southern ends of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron in the spring, having migrated there over the winter. Through the summer, they move offshore and to the north. Eventually they reach their spawning rivers.

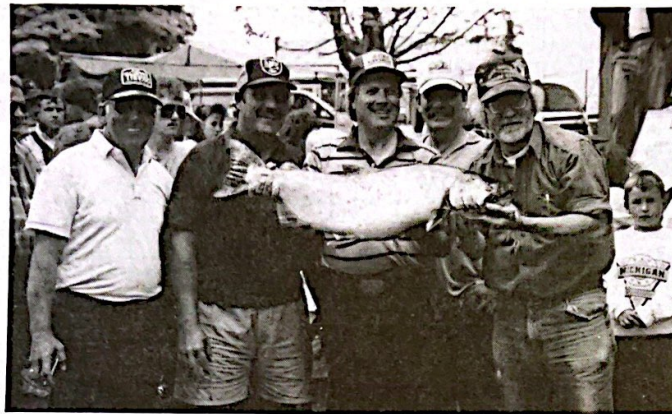
About ten years ago, salmon just disappeared as far as fishermen were concerned. Everyone switched over to lakers and awaited the return of the salmon in late July. At that time we concentrated our efforts near shore.

The tough fishing of the past five years has caused fishermen to venture far off shore, initially to target steelhead along the thermal bars. What we found out is that the salmon are also in deep water, and it is possible to catch them there, too.

In late July, the salmon start to mature and the urge to spawn becomes a whisper in their minds. However, the salmon don't just show up off the mouths of the rivers. This phenomenon occurs because the fish were originally from the ocean. If a salmon were to immediately move from the salt water of the ocean into the fresh water of a river flowing into the sea, it would die. They school in the mixture of salt and fresh water found at river mouths, slowly getting used to the fresh water.

As they acclimatize to the fresh water, salmon undergo a transformation. They often turn dark in color as they form a protective mucous covering on their bodies. Only after the transformation is complete do the salmon enter and run up the river to spawn. When found in the Great Lakes, salmon behave the same way as they do in the ocean. No one told them they weren't in salt water!

Temperature is also a key factor in finding the salmon. In the spring, it is usually the warmest water that holds the fish. As the lakes warm up from the mid-30's into the 40's, there are pockets of water to be found that are warmer than the surrounding water. These may be near shore, at the mouth of a river or creek, or at the discharge of a power plant. Regardless of where they're found, these warm water pockets hold bait fish, and salmon anxious to feed on them.



AUTHOR BOB MITCHELL proudly hefts a 29-pound money tournament winner taken at Rogers City. Joining Bob in the post-tourney celebration are crew members (l-r) Dick Shirk, Dave Even, Ray Even and George Richey.

As previously noted, when the waters warm, the fish move north and offshore. Good places to look are thermal bars where the surface water changes temperature by a couple of degrees. The best are where you find a narrow band of 54° F water on the surface. Often this band will exhibit a "scum line" that makes finding it easier. In early summer, this thermal bar may be five to 30 miles off shore. The fishing there can be great and is usually quite shallow, the upper 25 feet or so. Steelhead are also present in great numbers. Eventually, the warm water from one side meets the other side of the lake and the bar disappears.

Once the salmon return to shallower water (less than 200' deep), temperature can still play an active role in finding the fish. Again, 54° F is the key. That's the temperature at which water undergoes physical changes in density. This causes it to layer, with colder water below, warmer above, and a rapid change in temperature over a band of from 5'-20' thick. Find this band with a temperature probe and you have a major key in trying to locate fish. The fish may be above or below the band, but the odds are that they, and the bait fish they feed on, will be near it. One trusty old standby tactic is to find the depth of water that is 54° F, add 15 feet to the depth and start fishing there. It's amazing how often that works.

For lake trout, the rule is to find where 48°

F water intersects with the bottom and start fishing there. These tips are not guarantees by any means, just good starting points.

Salmon are eating machines. If you want to find weighty people, go to a buffet. If you want to find weighty kings, go to their 'snack bar': schools of bait fish. You will sometimes find schools of bait fish where there are no salmon. You will almost never find salmon where there are no bait fish. If you graph bait fish, it's worth looking around some more. If the buffet is bare, the people leave. When the 'snack bar' is empty, so do the salmon.

As we come to know more about salmon, it is becoming increasingly apparent that they relate to structure on the bottom, and also to water currents. Think about the great salmon ports on Lake Michigan and Lake Huron and you will notice a common factor with all of them: structure. The Point at Ludington, the

Herring Hole at Frankfort, the area around the Nordmar wreck off Rockport, the Grindstone Reef. All these areas have tremendous structure, and they consistently hold fish because of their structure. Structure is the key to finding salmon.

Another kind of structure or break is the current. Currents are still one of the mysteries of salmon fishing. We do know that they are important in determining where salmon are, but there is much still to learn. At this point, I can only say that if you find a deep current, check it out. Also, be very careful how you fish it. Remember, if you are fishing in the same direction as a deep current, you need to go faster to ensure that your baits are running at optimum speed. If you fish against it, slow down. The angle of your cables will provide a clue to speed and current.

Of course, there are other ways to find fish. There is the "bait shop report" method. Some are good, some aren't. One of the best sources of information is from guys fishing for a living, the charter boats. They generally fish every day and follow the schools. Their information and/or presence is a positive sign. Just be courteous and stay out of their way. You are fishing the fish they led you to, not "your" fish. Also, be sure to stay wide of them, as they often have less ability to maneuver, and frequently run long lines. Last time I checked, there was plenty of lake out there for us all.

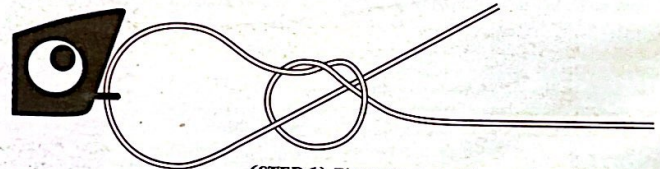
Lastly, the radio can be a good source of information. Don't become a 'radio runner', picking up your lines and running every time someone catches a fish. Often you will get there after the action stops anyway. But if you are not catching fish and several other boats are reporting good action not far away from you, don't just keep on doing what you're doing. Go there!

There is no surefire way to catch fish all the time. But get over the fish and your odds will improve in finding that 10% we're all after.

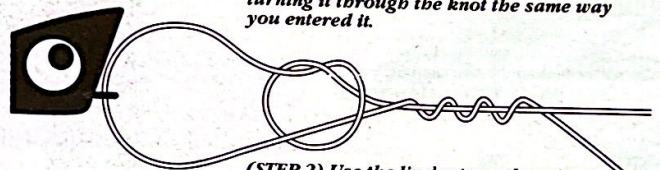
Good fishing!

— Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"

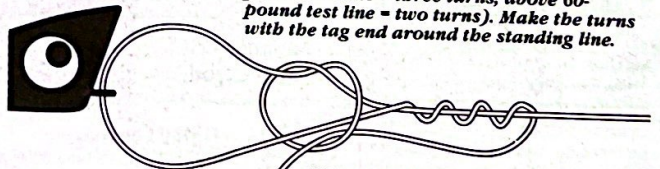
Tying A Non-Slip Mono-Loop Knot



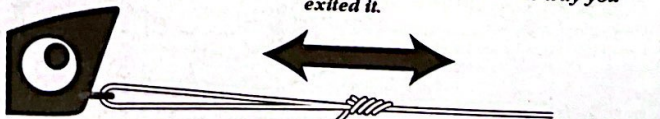
(STEP 1) First, tie a simple overhand knot. Then, bring the tag end through the book eye and back through the overband knot, re-turning it through the knot the same way you entered it.



(STEP 2) Use the line's strength rating to determine the number of turns you will make (6- to 8-pound test line = seven turns, 8- to 12-pound test line = five turns, 15- to 40-pound test line = four turns, 50- to 60-pound test line = three turns, above 60-pound test line = two turns). Make the turns with the tag end around the standing line.



(STEP 3) Bring the tag end back through the knot the same way you exited it.



(STEP 4) Gently pull the tag end until the knot forms. Now, pull both the tag end and standing line to make the connection tight.

Curing Eggs for River and Surf Fishing

RECIPE #1 (Loose Eggs)

1 quart of loose Salmon or Steelhead eggs
1 cup of salt
1 cup of brown sugar
1 quart of water

Add eggs to salt, sugar and water solution. Let stand for five to seven hours. Drain well, store in the refrigerator. Eggs last up to eight months.

RECIPE #2 (Loose Eggs)

2 cups of ripe single eggs
2 tablespoons of phosphoric acid
2 1/2 cups of water
Anise oil or cod liver oil

Mix phosphoric acid and water in a quart jar. Add eggs. Continually check for firmness using a hook. Once the eggs have reached the desired texture, remove the eggs from the solution and bathe in cold tap water. Store in baby bottle jars. Add scent as desired.

RECIPE #3 (Loose Eggs)

1 cup of loose spawn
2 pints of water
4 tablespoons of formaldehyde
1/2 cup of brown sugar

Mix solution of formaldehyde, water and brown sugar in a glass jar. Add eggs and let stand for 30 minutes. Drain and store eggs in small plastic containers. Shelf life in the refrigerator is three weeks, longer if frozen.

RECIPE #4 (Skein)

Pre-ripened Trout or Salmon skeins
2 cups of borax
1 cup of cherry Jell-O

With a sharp knife, carefully cut down the center of the skeins to the membrane. Try to cut as few eggs as possible. Lay the skeins egg-side down on a paper towel, wrap in newspaper, and store in the refrigerator for 12 hours. Remove eggs. Cut into chunk size, pack and dry again for additional two hours. Blend mixture of Jell-O and borax, and dust chunks completely with the it. Divide chunks and bag in Ziploc bags. Remove air. Store in refrigerator or freezer.

RECIPE #5 (Skein)

Trout or Salmon skeins
1/2 cup of water
1/2 cup of pickling salt
1/2 cup of brown sugar

Rinse skeins in water. Pat dry, wrap in paper toweling. Store in refrigerator for eight hours. Mix solution of water, salt and sugar, and soak eggs in it for one hour. Remove eggs from solution and roll in borax. Let sit for six hours. Cut chunks to desired size and place in glass jars. Each layer of eggs should be separated by a layer of borax. Eggs will last up to two years.

— Darryl Choronzey

Reprinted from Ontario Fisherman, February-March 1994.

Detroit Area Steelheaders know how to have fun!!

ATTENTION ALL DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, SPOUSES, SIGNIFICANT OTHERS, FRIENDS AND RELATIVES! Get ready to really enjoy yourselves and have a great time at the annual Detroit Area Steelheaders Dinner Dance!!

This year's edition of one of our most enjoyable club activities will take place on Saturday, February 13, 1999 at the K. of C. Hall, St. Pius X Council No. 3848, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren, the site of our monthly club meetings (please refer to the map on Page Three). In addition to great music, we will again be featuring the good food and drinks that have become fixtures of this highly popular affair.

Dinner Dance Chairperson Mary Karakas is currently hard at work preparing for our club's top social event of the year. There have already been some donations of prizes from businesses and companies, but more are needed, so please call Mary, her husband Doug, or Bob Mitchell if you can help.

Mary encourages all club members to come to the bash and to make that decision



THE ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE is always a fun occasion, with good food, music, and friends adding up to A GREAT TIME! Each year, those who attend really enjoy themselves, so COME AND JOIN IN THE FESTIVITIES!!

RIGHT NOW, so accurate food and drink requirement estimates can be made. "Participation shouldn't be limited to just Detroit Area Steelheader club members and their spouses," says Mary. "We'd like to see the Steelheaders Dinner Dance continue to grow as it has in recent years, with a big crowd and lots of non-club members attending. It's a great way for newcomers to start enjoying the fun of being a Detroit Area Steelheader."

Tickets for this gala event are only \$60 per couple, and that includes all you care to eat and drink, a chance at the door prize, raffles for the guys and for the gals (many gals win in the guys raffle, too!), great music, and a fun evening of socializing. If you purchase a table for 8, you'll receive a special prize worth at least \$20, so invite your friends and relatives, make your plans, mark your calendars, and get your tickets NOW!

If you have any questions about the Dinner Dance, would like to contribute a door prize, or want to order your Dinner Dance tickets, please call Mary Karakas at (248) 545-1181.

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS HAVE GREAT MEMORIES TO ENJOY . . . !



Annual Pontiac Silverdome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show returns February 17-21

Michigan's largest Boat, Sport and Fishing show returns to the Pontiac Silverdome February 17-21, 1999. A Michigan tradition, the Silverdome show attracts visitors from the Detroit metropolitan area, and from as far away as Flint, Lansing, Saginaw, Bay City and Ontario. Outdoor enthusiasts make the annual trek to Pontiac to buy a boat, shop for tackle, and enjoy all the attractions of this fun show.

Boats, boats, and more boats remains the focus of this outstanding exhibition. On the main floor, over 400 of the latest boat models crowd the Silverdome. Boats of all types, including runabouts, deck boats, performance bass and walleye rigs, aluminum fishing boats, pontoons, ski boats, Great Lakes trollers, and cuddies will be on display. The region's leading dealers will go head-to-head with each other to offer customers the best selection and bargains of the year. As you might expect, on-the-spot financing will be available at the show to make boat purchasing convenient, and to ensure prompt delivery of your new toy!

There will be a special appearance by the Women of Watersports, sponsored by Malibu Boats. These champion water skiers will hold workshops on Saturday and Sunday near the Skiers Pier display.

Upstairs at the 'Dome, anglers will be treated to the largest selection of fishing tackle ever offered at this "Super Show!" K-Mart will make sport show history with a K-Mart/B.A.S.S. tackle display, the largest single retail booth ever presented at a Michigan sport show. You'll find a host of all-new items ranging from crank baits, spinner baits, rods, reels, electronics, and tackle boxes to hooks, sinkers, rigging components, and much more!

In addition to the K-Mart/B.A.S.S. display, dozens of other major retailers and manufacturers will be on hand, selling everything from anchors to sunglasses. A few of the "must visit" booths include Best Chance Charters and Insta-Launch featuring Great Lakes trolling gear, Captain Steve Jones' Professional Fishing Center with Musky, Bass and Walleye tackle, Wolverine Tackle offering the popular Silver Streak spoons, Gander Mountain with a host of fishing equipment, K & E Tackle featuring soft plastics, jigs, and other tackle, Bud Erhardt offering custom fishing rods, and many others.

The Silverdome's popular Fishing Academy is back this year with more educational seminars presenting the nation's leading anglers than ever before. The Academy features three different stages, the Skool Outdoors Bass Tub, the K-Mart/B.A.S.S. Pro Stage, and the Silverdome Pro Stage with a special attraction: Bass & Walleye "Panels of the Pros" hosted by Bob Garner on Friday and Saturday.

The K-Mart/B.A.S.S. Pro Stage is an incredible new feature at the Silverdome. Some of the nation's leading fishing authorities will be on hand during the show, courtesy of K-Mart. The schedule kicks off on Wednesday, February 17 with Shaw Grigsby, Jr., the sight and finesse fishing expert. Also, speaking on Wednesday and Thursday, Ron Franklin and Mike Dyess, hosts of ESPN's *Sportsman's Challenge* series, will speak on bass fishing.

On Thursday and Friday evenings, fishing legend Babe Winkleman of the *Good Fishing*

television series will be on stage, while Friday and Saturday will see saltwater specialist and television host Dan Hernandez take to the stage. Angelo and Reno Viola, hosts of Canada's top-rated television show, *Fishin' Canada*, will speak on Saturday and Sunday. Finally, on Sunday Spence Petros of *North American Fisherman* magazine will be speaking on two subjects: "Smallmouth Bass" and "Hot New Patterns for Panfish."

Skool Outdoors Bass Tub staff will present educational seminars, lure demonstrations, and other presentations on a combined display and seminar stage with a 50-foot aquarium.

The Silverdome Pro Stage features some of Michigan's best-known, most respected anglers. Notables such as Dan Donarski, Editor of *Michigan Hunting & Fishing* magazine, Mark Romanack, author and walleye fishing pro, Mark Martin, walleye pro, Captain Mike Gnatkowski and Captain Dave Engel, Great Lakes charter captains, musky guides Steve Jones and Don Miller, Ron Peterson, host of *Angler's Diary* television show, and many others will conduct informative seminars on virtually every Michigan game fish.

Boats, fishing tackle, and seminars are the headliners at the Silverdome show, but there are many other things to see and do. Outfitters Expo is the perfect place to book a fishing charter, schedule a fly-in fishing vacation, or plan that dream vacation at a northern lodge. The leading guides, booking agents, charter captains, and lodge owners from across Michigan, Canada and the United States will be on hand to you plan your next outdoor expedition.

The most sensational feature of this year's Silverdome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show undoubtedly is Delilah Wallenda and her "sky-walk" across the Silverdome arena each evening at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Wallenda, of the world-famous *Flying Wallendas*, will be duplicating a feat her grandfather performed 25 years ago.

The Rubbermaid/B.A.S.S. Casting Kids competition is one of many free activities for kids to enjoy. Competitions take place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Winners will be invited to participate in the state finals at the Lansing Center Sportfishing, Boat & Travel Show on Sunday, March 15, 1999. The Trout Pond offers kids the chance to catch a tagged fish and win a special prize!

Other free family activities include fly casting demonstrations and instruction, a "Virtual Fishing Tournament" presented by the Michigan Charter Boat Association, and a unique display courtesy of the National Lure Collectors Club. Show visitors are encouraged to bring in antique tackle for a free appraisal.

The Pontiac Silverdome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show happens only once a year, so don't miss a minute of the fun! Running from Wednesday, February 17 through Sunday, February 21, 1999, admission is \$6.50 for adults, and \$3.00 for children ages 6-14 years old. Kids age 5 and under are admitted free.

Show hours are from 3:00-9:30 p.m. February 17 and 18, 11:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m. on February 19, 10:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m. on February 20, and 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. on February 21.

I hope to see you all at the show!

— Mark Romanack

The Detroit Area Steelheaders really GIVE!

Our club, the Detroit Area Steelheaders (D.A.S.) has contributed to numerous worthwhile causes which serve our stated organizational goal of promoting and protecting Great Lakes Salmon and Trout fishing. The following list of our donations over the years may overlook some, but the overall impact is that Detroit Area Steelheaders really give!

- August 1977 - Aquascope Depthfinder. Donated to D.N.R. Fisheries, S.E. Michigan.
- 1977 - Reworking fish ladder on Huron River at Flat Rock. D.A.S. paid the costs for the D.N.R. Fisheries, S.E. Michigan.
- From 1978 through 1984, we had no funds left to donate after operations.
- June 1985 - \$500 Grant. To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- 1985 - \$250 Legal Debt. Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association (M.S.S.F.A.).
- October 1985 - \$500 Grant. To Sanilac Steelheaders for Lexington Fish Cleaning Station.
- April 1986 - \$250 Legal Debt. Paid as a member club of the M.S.S.F.A.
- July 1987 - \$200 Legal Debt. Paid as a member club of the M.S.S.F.A.
- 1987 - Backpack Fish Shocker. Donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- September 1987 - \$800 Grant. Proceeds from Detroit Area Steelheader cookbook donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- October 1988 - \$600 Legal Debt. Paid as a member club of the M.S.S.F.A.
- September 1989 - \$500 Legal Debt. Paid as a member club of the M.S.S.F.A.
- September 1990 - \$1,000 Grant. To Bluewater Sport Fishing Association for reef construction.
- September 1990 - Two Riviera Downriggers. Donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- December 1990 - \$155 Grant. To N.E. Michigan Steelheaders to fight Hammond Bay gill nets.
- March 1991 - \$100 Grant. To N.E. Michigan Steelheaders to fight Hammond

Bay gill nets.

- February 1992 - \$500 Grant. To the Benzie County Fish Hatchery.
 - April 1992 - \$500 Grant. To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
 - May 1993 - \$250 Grant. To the Benzie County Fish Hatchery.
 - June 1993 - \$500 Grant. To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
 - March 1994 - \$400 Grant. To Michigan State University Betsie River Project.
 - March 1995 - \$100 Grant. To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
 - July 1995 - \$250 Grant. To the Bluewater Sport Fishing Association for Sarnia, Ontario Hatchery.
 - September 1995 - \$500 Grant. To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
 - November 1995 - \$500 Grant. To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
 - September 1996 - \$100 Grant. To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
 - October 1996 - \$250 Grant. To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
 - April 1997 - \$300 Grant. To the Manistee County Sportfishing Association for the Orsini Hatchery.
 - December 1997 - \$200 Grant. To the Ludington Area Charter Boat Association for their net pen project.
 - December 1997 - \$250 Grant. To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
 - July 1998 - \$250 Grant. To the Ludington Area Charter Boat Association for their net pen project.
 - August 1998 - \$200 Grant. To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
 - December 1998 - \$3000 Grant. To the city of Port Sanilac for a new fish cleaning station.
- D.A.S. donations and grants to date total NEARLY \$15,000!!! We can all feel good about being Detroit Area Steelheaders because we meet our stated purpose to help the fishery!
- Steve Hamilton

A word about the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council...

In 1992, the Detroit Area Steelheaders became affiliated with the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council (G.L.S.F.C.).

A grass roots organization, the G.L.S.F.C. seeks to preserve, perpetuate and improve sport fishing in the Great Lakes, provide a clearinghouse for the exchange of information, and act for member clubs before units of government, and public and private organizations.

Representing a major interest in the natural and stocked resources of the Great Lakes states (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin) and the province of Ontario, Canada, the Council is a confederation of organizations

and individuals who share a concern about the present and future of sport fishing, our natural resources, stocking programs, wetlands, habitat, and the ecosystem in which we live. To that end, it encourages the protection and enhancement of our resources by all users, and strives to search out the truth on the

many issues confronting us.

Established in 1973, the G.L.S.F.C. has a combined membership of over 325,000 family anglers, and is run by its member clubs for its members. It addresses a wide range of issues, including:

- State & federal fish stocking programs
- New or revised fishing regulations
- Outlook reports on the forage base and the sport fishery in general
- Environmental problems and initiatives
- Illegal trafficking in game fish
- Tourism enhancement
- Economic impacts
- Exotics of the Great Lakes region
- Scientific research and

- what it means to anglers
- Proposed legislation and rules
- Commercial or sport fishing abuses

In short, the Council works to inform us on all pertinent subjects so we can inform others on matters that affect them. You can find them at: www.great-lakes.org.



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