



# Fishin' Tales II

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume II Issue 4

April 2018

## April Membership Meeting

- **When:**  
Tuesday, April 24 2018 7:30pm
- **Where:**  
American Polish Cultural Center  
NW corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- **Featured Speaker:**  
Ms. Linda Bredernitz, Monroe Schools
- **Other Happenings:**
  - Upcoming Angler of the Year Outings,
  - Upcoming SOTY trolling events
  - Tackle Raffles, 50/50 Raffle,
  - Every Member Drawing,
- **DAS On the web-**  
[www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com) Post to the message board and check out the entire site.



## Why Fish Club Tournaments?

Those of you who fish our club tournaments regularly, or who've done so in the past, might think you don't need to read any further. You already know all the many benefits. But, there may be some you haven't thought of, or maybe there are some you just take for granted without thinking about them. Let's explore some of the many benefits of fishing in club tournaments.

### Attitude

When I started fishing the DAS tournaments regularly, I noticed a couple of things very quickly at the weigh-ins. First, no matter how difficult the fishing was, there were always some boats that brought in a nice catch. That told me that there was always a program that would work on that particular day. Secondly, I noticed the same Captains consistently brought in the heavy coolers. In my earlier days, if we weren't catching fish, we'll they're just not biting today. Now, I know better.

### Learning Curve

For the rookie Captains just starting out, or even those without boats looking to give salmon fishing a try, fishing in club tournaments is absolutely the best way to shorten the learning curve. Most of us learned through trial and error, attending seminars and even fishing on charters. That works, of course, but it takes a long time. Our club has many excellent experienced Captains who need crew members throughout the season. We've also got many experienced members who don't have a boat, and who are looking to hitch a ride. Our Crews Program linking up Captains with crew is an excellent way for the newer guys to shorten that learning curve. Even if you've got years of experience, the salmon fishery is evolving every year and it seems like lately at a faster pace. With changes in water depth, water clarity, forage base, and technology, etc. we've had to adapt. New methods and techniques have to constantly be added to stay productive.

### Variety, New Ports, Following the Best Fishing

Fishing a new port can be somewhat intimidating at times. Where are the best places to stay? Where is the launch ramp? What do you have to watch out for? The river at St Joseph or the light house at Port Austin are good examples. Our tournament schedule is planned to target the best ports at their optimum time. Also, our schedule evolves from year to year to include new ports.

### Planning

How many of you at the end of the fishing season have thought, "I didn't fish as much as I wanted to this year." "Next year, I'm going to fish more" Does this ring a bell? Is it the same thing year after year? Well, I think the problem is lack of planning. Do you often wait until a few days before a weekend, decide you'd like to go fishing, and then start trying to line up your crew? How many of these end up not materializing because your buddies could have gone if they would have only known a week or two earlier.

Deciding to fish some or most of the tournaments will make you line up your crew in advance, make your motel reservations, slip reservations, and encourage you to get your boat and gear ready. It helps gets my schedule lined up with the wife early. When you hand her the schedule early in the year, it doesn't seem so bad because it's so far off. When the time finally comes and she says, "You're going fishing again this weekend?" It's a lot easier when you can say, "It's on the schedule I gave you".

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**Detroit Area Steelheaders**

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**MEMBERSHIP NEWS** **Currently: 180 Members**

**NEW MEMBERS**

IMAD JANINEH  
ROGER PARADISE  
JOEL PIATEK

**RENEWED**

HENRY BACZYNSKI  
DANIEL CHISHOLM  
JOHN GESING  
ROBERT M. JONES  
ANTHONY LEWIS  
GILBERT L. PIESCZAK  
CARL VENTIMIGLIA

**DUE THIS MONTH**

LOU BACSIKIN  
JEFFREY BUSTOS  
JAMES CHAMBERLIN  
NORM DAVIES  
STEPHEN G. GENOFF  
JAMES P. LEGENZOFF  
DARRELL SMITH  
GARY WILLIAMS

**1 MONTH PAST**

HERMANN CHRISTOPH  
CHARLES DENNING

**EDWARD HILL**

SCOTT KUZNIA  
TIM PRATESHLER  
ANDREW STOCKTON  
BRUCE TURNAGE

**2 MONTHS PAST**

BRIAN BRENTON  
ROBERT COSTIN  
RON HUEY  
JON LOTARSKI  
RUTH A SMITH  
CHRISTOPHER A. TURAK



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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President

Website, Boat Trolling  
586-531-9198

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248-343-8397

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586-781-2543

**BLAISE PEWINSKI**

Shows, Wild Game Dinner, AOTY  
248-890-4517

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Raffles, Elections  
586-530-9171

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Raffles  
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WGD Tickets, Scholarship  
734-751-1767

**JON MARTENS**

Membership, Donations &  
Appropriations  
586-246-7880

**CHRIS NYTKO**

Website, Facebook  
586-588-4551

**CHRIS TURAK**

Newsletter  
586-979-4898

**CARL VENTIMIGLIA**

Wild Game Dinner  
586-615-7459

**JIM ZANKE**

Special People, Shows, PA System  
586-489-2041

**Tackle Matters**

As always the tackle raffle will not disappoint. The raffle masters have not revealed the cache of prizes for this months meeting. The surprise will be worth the wait.



**Spring Steelhead Challenge 2018**

We had 7 members and 1 guest fish the Spring Fish Off with Metro West. The fishing was ok for a few of the DAS nomads, but we had some issues.



Most the group fished suicide bend. Steve caught his limit fishing on the bank. Robbie almost had a limit, but lost the stringer when it slipped out of his hand. Gabe caught his limit fishing on Bear creek, but thought it was a big fish tournament. He brought 1 fish to the weigh in, and filleted the rest. Adam was the only one else to bring a fish to the scales. Metro West won the fish off. Thanks to the Metro West crew for a great dinner of brats, cheese burgers and mac and cheese.

**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.**  
P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Hgts., MI 48311-1255

Membership Application

- New Member - \$35 Yearly
- Renewal - \$35 Yearly
- Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly
- Address Change only
- Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly(Electronic Newsletter)

Amt. Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME		DATE	
ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP		HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
BOAT NAME		E-MAIL ADDRESS	

**Assistants**

**LINDA BANBURY**  
Special People

**MARY KARAKAS**  
Special People

**ADAM PLANK**  
AOTY

### LEXINGTON TOURNAMENT

**WHEN: Saturday April 21, 2018**

**WHERE: Lexington Municipal Marina Park adjacent to Marina**

**SKIPPERS MEETING: 5:30 a.m. - TOURNAMENT START: 6:30 a.m.**

**FISH CALLS: Channel 72 (9:00 a.m.) and (noon) - PULL LINES: 1:30 p.m.**

**WEIGH-IN: 2:30 p.m. (must be in line by) Park adjacent to Marina**

**PORT CAPTAIN: Dan Chisholm (Channing) 586-530-9171 Cell**

**REMINDERS: Lake Trout- Size 15" minimum, Creel 3.**

At the March meeting, DAS members Bob Ksionzek, Blaise Pewinski, and Paul Geldjum shared an overview on fishing the port of Lexington, Michigan. Lexington will be our first port in our Skipper of the Year competition and it is the closest port for most members. We are expecting a good turnout because of the short drive, and reports of improved fishing in southern Lake Huron. It won't be long before DAS skippers and crews are able to confirm the state of this fishery. Port Captain for this event is Dan Chisholm. If you have any questions, please give him a call.

### St. Joseph Tournament

**WHEN: Saturday May 5, 2018**

**WHERE: West Basin Marina**

**SKIPPERS MEETING: 5:00 a.m.**

**TOURNAMENT START: 6:00 a.m.**

**FISH CALLS: 9:00AM and 11:30AM Channel 72**

**PULL LINES: 1:00 p.m. WEIGH-IN: 2:00 p.m. (must be in line by) West Basin Marina**

**PORT CAPTAIN: Blaise Pewinski (Sea Hag) 248 890-4517 Cell**

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Bob Feisel (Vicki's Seacret) or Co -director Bob Ksionzek (Last Dime)**

**REMINDERS: Lake Trout- Size 15" minimum, Creel 3.**

Visit the DAS website for information on the St. Joseph area. Our tournament link will provide information on tournament rules, lodging, and where to eat. You can also use the crews/captains feature on the message board to assist captains fill up their crew, or for people who need to find a ride. When you call for lodging reservations ask if they provide a discount for Steelheaders tournaments. See you in St. Joe.

#### Boat Launch:

There are two boat ramps available up river from West Basin Marina. Most skippers use the DNR ramp on the north side of the river, then store their trailer in the lot by the marina. Follow the channel markers and hug the north side as you make your way down river. The center of the river is very shallow.

#### Local Bait Shops:

Tackle Haven, 741 Riverview Dr. at Gray St. (across from the DNR ramp), phone (269) 925-0341. Tackle Haven is a full line bait shop so if you need something they will have it.

Fishin Hole in St. Joseph, 1127 Main Street, Saint Joseph, MI 49085 Phone (269) 982-3474

**Club Tournaments**, continued from Page 1

#### Safety

If you've never had a problem on the water before, it's only a matter of time. For me, it's a great sense of security to know that there are club members out there to lend a hand, (or tow), if needed. And it's not just problems on the water but back at the marina or even on the road. It might be just forgetting to buy your cut bait the night before, for example.

#### Improved Catches

There's no question that there's a certain amount of competitiveness between the teams during our tournaments. There's also a lot of sharing of information on where the fish are at and what they're hitting that'll put more fish in your cooler. Many times, after struggling during the tournament itself, we've slammed them in the evening after finding out what the top finisher's program was.

#### Preparation for Money Tournaments

A number of our Captains enjoy fishing in some of the many big money tournaments throughout the Great Lakes. What better way to gage your abilities and to prepare for a money tournament than to fish in our club tournaments.

Whatever your motivation, club tournaments help us sharpen our skills. Our tournaments tend to be friendly and fun. The atmosphere is cordial, and friendships are formed. Perhaps the best reason to fish these events, is they get us out on the lake, and give us an opportunity to do something we love.

Joe VonGrabe  
'Sloppy Joe'

## TIPS 'n TRICKS

### First Aid Kit

No-one heads out for a day of fishing with plans of a medical emergency at sea, but when you find yourself miles offshore and trouble arrives, help is not necessarily just a phone call away. As the captain of the vessel, you are responsible for the safety of your crew, and should be prepared to handle urgent medical situations on the water. A properly stocked and easily locatable first aid kit is crucial to safety of your crew and yourself.

The majority of medical situations on the water involve cuts, hook removals, and burns, along with your occasional sea-sickness. Bandages in a variety of sizes, some waterproof medical tape, and some first aid cream along with tweezers and hemostats will take care of most incidents at sea, at least for the time being. Additional items can include gauze pads and rolls, cold-packs, various ointments and medications (aspirin, cough drops, and sea-sickness pills), cloth bandage rolls, and the list goes on. A first aid manual or guide located in the first aid kit can assist you or a crew member in performing and unfamiliar procedure. Remember that all of your medical knowledge and training may be useless if you are the one injured.



You can piece together your own kit or purchase one pre-assembled. Retail first aid kits are a good starting point but inspect them and add to them to ensure you have all the supplies you feel you could need in an emergency. I have found that army surplus stores and vendors specializing in army medical surplus at flea markets and trade shows are a great source of individual sterile medical supplies. A water proof box or bag is the best choice for a first aid kit. Whatever the kit is housed in, make certain that it is easily identifiable and accessible. The complete contents of your kit will vary by how far you venture from shore, and how self-sufficient you feel you need to be.

A quick briefing with any new crew prior to departure to discuss safety items such as life jacket, first aid kit and ditch bag location, and any medical conditions anyone aboard may have, should be a part of every boaters pre-trip ritual. You should also consider showing someone or everyone aboard basic boat operation and VFH radio controls, in the event you were to go overboard or become unconscious. There are inherent dangers that come along with a weekend on the water, especially when you add razor sharp hooks (I know all of you are sharpening your hooks) and braided wire screaming over your bare hand. Proper planning and few simple pre-flight steps can provide everyone involved with some piece of mind and keep a bad situation on the water from becoming worse.

Jason Adam  
'Outa Line''

### **Algonac Walleye Outing and Perch Fry, Saturday May 12**

You don't need a big boat to fish the St. Clair River. In fact, you don't even need a boat because the St. Clair River offers numerous locations to fish from the shore. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, DAS walleye anglers will hit the St. Clair River for the Algonac Spring outing. This outing has evolved into a club favorite and is followed by a perch fry at the North Channel home of Diann and Tom Gorguze. The captains meeting will be held 5:30 AM at the North Channel DNR launch (across from the Kroger). After a brief meeting boats can hit the river and fish until 12:00 noon. The weigh-in and fish fry is 1:00 PM at 2815 Pte. Tremble. Last year was a banner year for walleye in the St. Clair River, and the outlook is good for the future. Perch donations from your winter catch are welcome. If you would like to attend this event, please contact Tom Gorguze at 248 343-8397.



**April Speaker Linda Bredernitz Special People Coordinator**

Each year our Detroit Area Steelheaders organization hosts a group of "Special People" for a day of fun and fishing. What is this group of special people? It's a group of people young and not so young, who face a physical or emotional challenge. They are men and women, children and adults, who come together one day each year to spend a day with us having fun. "Special People Day" is a social outing with their friends where they spend the morning on Lake Erie catching fish. After fishing, lunch is provided under the big tent where our "Special People" socialize and show off their 'days catch'. The remainder of the event is filled with pictures, prizes, and fun. DAS sponsors this event as a way to give back to our community but its success comes from the experience of our members. Each person who helps knows they are part of a worthwhile cause and the event is sustained because our members keep coming back. Special mention also goes out to Toledo Beach Marina. They donate the use of the marina each year and provide free launch, boat slips, ice and other items to help make this event a success. We have scheduled Linda Bredernitz from the Monroe Intermediate School District as guest speaker for the April 24, 2018 member meeting. Linda works with our special guests throughout the year. Linda will join us to explain why what we do helps our guests, and how much it helps them. Please come out on April 24 and give her a listen.



**2018 Skipper of the Year Tournament Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Port Captain</u>
Sat. April 21	Lexington	Dan Chisholm
Sat. May 5	St. Joseph	Blaise Pewinski
Sat. May 19 & 20	Grand Haven	Jim Zanke
Sat. June 2	Harbor Beach	Joe Von Grabe
Sat. July 14	Holland	Chris Turak
Sat. August 4	Ludington	Bob Jones
Sat. August 11	Manistee	Tom Gorguze
Sat. August 25	Rogers City	Ken Cione

**Victorinox 12 inch Salmon Slicer**

Three lucky winners will be selected from a maximum of 100 tickets at our May meeting. Tickets are \$5 each and proceeds will be used to supplement our Special People event. If interested contact Don Jasman at an upcoming meeting.



**Small Details Can Make a Big Difference**

Our March Speaker was local guide and charter captain Joel Piatek. Captain Joel talked about spring walleye fishing in the 'D', and how he helps customers put fish in the box. Joel suggests, give yourself a chance by targeting water with good visibility. That doesn't necessarily mean gin clear water either. Joel prefers water with a slight green tint. Once he identifies where he wants to fish, he shared details he believes that make fisherman successful. From the gear to use, to the best way to rig baits, it's the little things that will help you out fish your buddies.

**A few volunteers needed**



Last fall, Roger Greil, the aquatic lab manager at Lake Superior State University spoke to our club about the schools Atlantic Salmon breeding program. The LSSU hatchery is recognized for its success in breeding this finicky species. Roger attributes much of the success of his program to the fact that he is able to utilize untreated river water to raise fish. The LSSU lab is located on the St. Mary's river in Soo Sault Marie, Michigan. As the temperature of the river water raises towards 40 degrees each spring, Roger prepares to release a fresh batch of fish. This year's class consists of approximately 33,000 fish.

Prior to their release, each fish undergoes the removal of one fin to assist in identification and tracking of their movements. Roger has openings for 4 -5 DAS volunteers to assist with this year's fin clipping. Based on current temperatures and historic weather trends, Roger estimates the St. Mary's river will hit the magic 40-degree target in the week of May 7 - 11. In addition to helping at the lab, there may also be an opportunity to wet a line. The St. Mary's has an annual spring steelhead run which normally peaks in late May. If you would like to volunteer, have a little flexibility on timing, contact Tom Gorguze at (248) 343-8397, and I'll get you in touch with Roger.



Most skippers focus on boat control as it relates to their line, Joel covered boat handling techniques to keep everyone's line vertical. Before he leaves the dock, Joel takes time to make sure customers know walleye basics, and how to keep their lures in the strike zone. For anyone who's time on the water is limited, it makes good sense to ensure that time will be productive.

## The 27th Annual Spring Brown Trout Tournament

Temperatures are on the rise and the shoreline ice is gone in Manistee. Fish are already being taken off the beaches & piers. This means it's time to start planning for the Lakeshore Motel's annual Spring Brown Trout Tourney. The Detroit Area Steelheaders hold this Angler of the Year outing in conjunction with the Lake Shore Motel's event. Last year's tournament was a grueling affair. Northwest winds up to 20+ knots kept all but the larger boats and crazier Captains off the big water and anglers were having a tough time finding Browns. There were a good number of kings along with a few steelhead and lake trout cruising the shoreline troughs. Dennis Kelly took home the win with a 4.62 lb Brown. The Lakeshore charges a \$30 per man entry fee to be eligible for their cash and gift prizes and attend the awards dinner at the Eastlake town hall.

The rules format will remain the same. *You will not be awarded prize money for any fish entered, but you will still have your pick from the prize table.* Monetary prizes are randomly raffled off at the end of the night and determined by the number of entries. The largest Brown Trout winner will be awarded a Championship Plaque, possession of the Lake Shore Cup for 1 year and will receive the first pick from the prize table. Runner-ups will be determined by the number and species of fish entered and will receive subsequent picks from the prize table.

### **Entry:**

**DAS anglers who do not wish to compete in the Lakeshore contest, or attend the awards dinner, may just enter the clubs \$5 big fish pool.**

The 2018 Brown Trout Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 28th in Manistee, Michigan. It costs \$30.00 to enter and must be paid in full by 10:00PM Friday, April 27th, 2018. You must enter in the lobby of the Lakeshore Motel. Payment must be in cash. Cash & merchandise prizes will be determined by the number of entries in each category. Monetary prizes will be raffled off at the end of the night, before the 50:50 drawing. You will not be awarded prize money for any fish entered, but you will receive a pick from the prize table. Awards banquet will be held at the East Lake Hall at 6:30PM

### **Rules:**

**AOTY points for this event will be based on the single largest Brown Trout by weight.**

1. You may start fishing at 5:30AM April 28th, 2018
2. You may fish anywhere in Michigan waters.
3. Only "Legal" fishing methods may be used. DNR Regulations Apply. (No Snagging!)
4. You must bring your fish to the weigh-in between 4:00PM & 4:30PM Saturday, April 28, 2018 at the Lake Shore Motel in Manistee, MI.
5. The largest Brown Trout by weight will win the tournament. A flip of the coin will serve as a tie-breaker.
6. The committee will handle all necessary decisions and they will be final.
7. You may enter only 1 (one) fish in each category: Brown Trout, Steelhead, Lake Trout and Salmon.
8. Anglers fishing from boats must enter everyone aboard. All rods must be attended by tournament participants.

The folks who put this event on are Paul Stewart, Bud Konczal & Darren Kirk.

Contact Paul at Lakeshore Motel for lodging & tournament info.

101 S. Lakeshore Drive

Manistee, MI 49660

231-723-2667

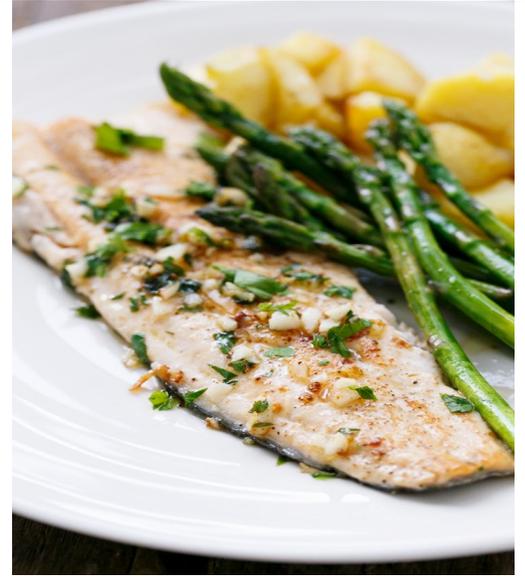
Looking forward to seeing you there.



## Chefs Table

- 2 skin-on trout filets
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- salt and pepper, to taste

## Pan Fried Trout With garlic lemon and parsley



Heat a non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Melt butter with olive oil until frothy. Cook trout filets, skin side down, for 2 minutes, then carefully flip with a thin wide spatula. Cook for another minute or until almost cooked through, then add garlic, parsley, and lemon juice and continue to cook for another minute or so until the fish is golden brown and the flesh flakes off easily with a fork. Transfer to serving plates and enjoy.

## Don't be stranded on the road, or on the lake

As a member of the Detroit Area Steelheaders you are invited to become a BoatU.S. member at a special 50% discounted rate. Basic membership plans start at \$15. The Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) has been looking after the interests of recreational boaters since its founding in 1966. They are the nation's largest organization of recreational boat owners, with over half a million dues-paying members. BoatU.S. provides diverse marine services for the recreational boater, insuring over 8 billion dollars' worth of boats, operating the largest on the water towing fleet — TowBoatUS, publish BoatUS Magazine and more.

BoatUS Members receive service from 600 TowBoatUS towboats servicing over 300 ports for on the water assistance. You can choose a membership that fits your boating needs. With the average cost of on water tows exceeding \$750 a membership can help avoid out of pocket expenses out on the water. On land, trailer towing is available as well. Up to 100 miles of towing service for the boat trailer and towing vehicle when the trailer or towing vehicle breaks down on the road while trailering the boat.

**Use group code number GA82750B when you visit BoatUS.com or call 800 395-2628 to sign up and learn details about specific plans.** Current members not receiving the discount should email membership@boatus.com

## SCR Fishing report:

Wednesday, March 27, 2018 on the St Clair River in Port Huron. The weather was not nearly as nice as was predicted but it was fishable so off we went. We started off on the CA side because the ice flows were heavier on the US side. Rich picked up two nice quick Lake Trout while jigging for Walleye. 90 minutes later we only had two decent Walleye so we headed back to US water. Bingo! That was the right thing to do. Before long we had 11 and started catch and release because we did not want to quit. We came in by 11:30 with a pretty nice catch.

Dan Chisholm



Detroit Area Steelheaders  
P.O. Box 1255  
Sterling Hgts, MI 48311-1255

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MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT  
LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Membership Expires:



**2018 Angler of the Year Leaderboard**

Member's Name	St. Lukes 1/27/18	Bay City 2/10/18	Manistee River 3/24/18	Brown Trout 4/28/18	Walleye Algonac 5/12/18	St Clair Whipping 6/16/18	Linwood Walleye 7/7/18	Sterling St Park 9/15/18	Platte Betsie PM 10/6/18	Big Tom 10/27/18	Lake Shore 11/3/18	Caseville Lake Trout 12/8/18	Total Points
Blaise Pewinski	5	4	0.5										9.5
Gaspere Aragona	0.5	5	0										5.5
Steve Prout	0	0	5										5
Bob Paradise	0.5	3	0.5										4
Gabe MacDougall	0	0	4										4
Jim Paehlig	4	0	0										4
Louie Balaze	3	0	0										3
Dan Chisholm	0.5	2	0										2.5
Paul Gjeldum	1	1	0										2
Don Mikros	0.5	0.5	0.5										1.5
Carl Ventimiglia	0	0.5	0										0.5
Dennis Harper	0	0.5	0										0.5
Kurt Nofz	0.5	0	0										0.5
Paul Nowak	0	0.5	0										0.5
Rabih Abdallah	0	0	0.5										0.5
Steve Genoff	0	0.5	0										0.5
Tom Gorguze	0.5	0	0										0.5

**Upcoming 2018 DAS Key Dates**

- Tue April 10, 2018 BOD Meeting
- Sat April 21, 2018 Lexington Trolling Tournament
- Tue April 24, 2018 General Membership Meeting
- Sat April 28, 2018 Brown Trout Outing
- Sat May 5, 2018 St. Joe Trolling Tournament
- Sat May 12, 2018 St. Cl. Rvr Outing (Algonac)

**2018 February Membership Meeting Facts**

- Attendance: 62
- Featured Guest: Capt. Joel Piatek
- Featured Presentations: Detroit River Walleye
- 50/50 Raffle Winner: Mark Carlson(\$110)
- Every Member Draw: Dave Roehr (\$100)