

January Membership Meeting

- When:
- Tuesday, January 31, 2017 7:30pm
- Where:

American Polish Cultural Center NW corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre

- Featured:
- Free Pizza Night!
- **Featured Speaker:**

Bill Foster - Outstanding River & Pier Fisherman, 6 Time Winner Lakeshore Fall Steelhead Tournament

- "Beginner to Expert Steelhead Fishing Techniques"
- Other Happenings:
- Upcoming Ice Fishing Outings, Tackle Raffles, 50/50 Raffle, Every Member Drawing
- DAS website: www.detroitsteelheaders.com
- Be sure to check out

The DAS Message Board on the website for the most up-to-date club news and information

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PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume XXXXII, Issue I

January 2017

A Letter from Our President



I remember the first time I witnessed coho salmon run the Bear Creek in Petoskey, Michigan. I was a child standing on a bridge with my father, watching an army of fisherman wading in the river below. The scene was chaotic with fisherman lining the river attempting to harvest the massive silver fish. These were some of the first salmon planted in the great lakes returning to spawn.

My introduction to salmon fishing would come many years later. I was hooked on fishing the first time I landed a big King. I had a couple friends with salmon boats on

Lake Michigan and would jump at the chance anytime I was invited to go. When I started rigging a boat of my own, I joined the Steelheaders to shorten the learning curve. It didnøt take long before I started putting fish in the cooler.

The Detroit Area Steelheaders is a club comprised of sportsmen that share common interests and goals. We are a teaching club, dedicated to protecting, and promoting the Great Lakes sport fishery. Our membership is as diverse as the types of fishing we enjoy. I joined the club to become a better salmon fisherman. For me, fishing has evolved into a passion. These days I derive as much pleasure introducing others to the sport, as I enjoy catching fish.

There is no such thing as a bad day of fishing. It doesn't matter if it's someone's first fish, their biggest, or day when the action was slow, few activities Letter (Cont'd on Page 8)



Great Turnout For Caseville Outing, Sat. Dec. 3

Despite reports that the water was still too warm and only a few lake trout were being caught, a great turnout of 30 DAS anglers showed up for this annual event at the Mouth of the Pigeon River in Caseville near the tip of Michiganøs Thumb.

A stiff breeze blowing pretty much straight up river greeted us as we all staked our spots in the dark at about 7:00am. Nice thing here is you can park your truck right up close to your fishing spot and jump back in it if you need to warm up for a bit. Although it was cold early on, mainly because of the west wind at about 12 knots, as it got light out it wasnot too bad as long as you were dressed properly.



Fishinø started off pretty slow, with cast after cast producing no results but finally about 9:00am, Ty Voigt hooked and landed a nice Lake Trout on a 2/5 oz. dark green/silver hammered Little Cleo spoon and about 45 minutes later managed to catch another Laker on the same spoon. Naturally, everyone casting switched over to something green/silver after this. Carl Ventimiglias son Carl landed a nice Trout. Don Jasman landed a pair about 15 minutes apart. Shortly afterwards, Scott Groesbeck, Mark Carlson & Todd Ridley all caught Lake Trout. A few Trout were lost also in this span of time. Initially, we were scheduled to fish until 12:30 but because of the increased activity event coordinator Blaise

Check Out Some of the Pictures from Caseville on Pages 14 & 15

Caseville (Cont'd on Page 12)

Fishin' Tales Page 2

MEMBERSHIP NEW	S	Currently:	155 Members	
New Memberships Welco	ome!			
	BEN CECE	JOHN COOMBS	SCOTT GROESBECK	
Re-Newed Memberships				
	GASPARE ARAGONA			
Memberships Expired				
2 mo. Ago Last Reminder:	JOSE D. ANGELES	RICK COUGHLIN	LANE SMITH	CHRIS TURAK
	DAVID CHRISTENSON	ROD ELNICK	DAN TITUS & FAMILY	CARL VENTIMIGLIA
I Mo. Ago First Reminder:	BOB DYSON	FRED HYNICK	DAN WHITMILL	
This Month:	JASON JONES	TED LEWICKI	GARY RUPRICH	





2016 Detroit Steelheaders Raffle Report

Our raffles held during our monthly membership meetings are intended to be a member benefit where the club members have fun with the opportunity to win a nice prize or two. They are not a fund raiser but rather a õfunö raiser. The board of directors gives me a free hand with the tackle raffle as-long-as I break even or dongt lose a lot of money doing it. The tricky part of breaking even on the raffles is the \$100 member drawing that is awarded to one member if your name is drawn and you are in attendance. That \$100 comes out of the raffle money and I

never know each month if that will be paid out or not. With that in mind I think things worked out pretty well in 2016. We paid the \$100 to a member present at the meeting 5 times this year out of 12 monthly meetings. Thatøs pretty good as far as Iøm concerned.

You have probably noticed our raffles have changed a bit over the last few months. The board asked me to spice up the prize table by putting things on the raffle table that have more value. In years past I would place 8 prizes on the table at a value of around \$180. Now I place 8 prizes out with a value more like \$280 to \$310. I donot always make expenses doing that so we changed the 75:25 drawing to be a true 50:50. That helps cover the cost of the nicer prizes.

This years annual meeting held December 13 we gave out door prizes instead of tackle prizes. There was no cost to members for their door prize ticket but the 50:50 tickets were sold at the usual rate of \$5 for 7 tickets. The members obviously liked that because we collected \$568 from the 50:50. The club gave back \$400 of that to 4 lucky winners of \$100 each. We also paid out the \$100 member prize so our total profit from the 50:50 was \$68.

I want to thank everyone for being a good sport and supporting the raffles. Obviously without member support we wongt have them. Please let me know if there are items you would like to see on the raffle table but keep in mind if I put too many high cost items in the raffle I will not be able to sell enough tickets to break even

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC. P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Hgts., MI 48311-1255 Membership Application Renewal - \$35 Yearly New Member - \$35 Yearly Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly Address Change only Amt. Paid \$ NAME DATE ADDRESS CELL PHONE CITY, STATE ZIP HOME PHONE BOAT NAME E-MAIL ADDRESS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TOM GORGUZE

President

Speakers & Education; Hats, Shirts & Jackets, Publicity

248-343-8397 **BLAISE PEWINSKI**

Vice-President

Shows, Wild Game Dinner. Meeting PA

248-890-4517

DAN CHISHOLM

Secretary

586-530-9171

ROD ELNICK

Treasurer

Salmon-In-Classroom, Scholarships

586-214-8812

BOB FEISEL

Boat Trolling, Photography, Sportsmanc Dinner 248-765-2504

PAUL GJELDUM

(586) 615-1928

RICH JANIS

586-215-6264

BOB JONES

WGD Tickets, Scholarship, Newsletter 734-751-1767

BOB KSIONZEK

Newsletter Editor, Website, Boat Trolling 586-531-9198

ANTHONY LEWIS

Coalition

517-449-3036

JON MARTENS

Membership, Donations &

586-246-7880

CHRIS NYTKO

586-588-4551

BOB PARADISE

586-781-2543

TOM THEIDA

River. Surf & Pier, Membership 586-206-5902

CHRIS TURAK

586-979-4898

CARL VENTIMIGLIA

586-615-7459

JIM ZANKE

586-489-2041

<u>Assistants</u> **LINDA BANBURY**

Special People

MARY KARAKAS

Special People

CLUB NEWS

2017 DAS Membership Drive

With the New Year and the fishing shows upon us, the DAS is offering discounted memberships; \$25 for a new regular membership (\$35 normal cost) or \$10 for a new senior membership(\$20 normal cost).

This offer will be available only at the Ultimate Fishing Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace held January 12th thru the 15th, 2017. To qualify as a new membership, you must not have been a member of the DAS for a minimum of one year prior to your signing up.

The membership applications will be available at the Ultimate Fishing Show.

FALL-WINTER RIVER, SURF & PIER TOURNAMENT/OUTING SCHEDULE

Sat., Oct. 22 Manistee Outing

Manistee River Shed

Sat.. Nov. 5 @Manistee

Lakeshore Motel Tournament

Sat.. Nov. 12 **@Ludington**

Michael's Bar & Grill Tournament

Sat.. Dec. 3 @Caseville

Lake Trout Outing

2017

Sat., Jan. 21 Mitchell's Bay

Perch Ice Fishing Outing

Contact: Blaise Pewinski (248) 890-4517

Higgin's Lake Sat.. Feb. 11

Lake Trout Ice Fishing Outing

2017 DAS Boat Trolling

Co-Trolling Tournament Director Bob Ksionzek's house and setup the schedule for the DAS 2017 Tournaments. In attendance were Co-Tournament Directors Bob Feisel & Bob Ksionzek, Blaise Pewinski, Ty Voigt, Joe Von Grabe, Tom Gorguze, Bob Jones, Chris Turak, Paul Gjeldum, Don Jasman, Charlie Denning and Jim Zanke. After about 2 hours discussion, the following was decided:

The 2017 DAS Boat Trolling Tournament (BTT) schedule will consist of 7 events with the best 4 scores of those counting toward Skipper of the Year. The skipper with the least amount of points for 4 events will receive the DAS Skipper of the Year jacket and trophy at the Annual Christmas meeting in December 2017.

Tournament fees remain at \$10 per tournament and there is no annual fee discount. A New Big Fish pool structure will have (3) separate pools available - \$10 per boat for Big King, \$5 per boat for Big Steelhead and \$5 per boat for Big Lake Trout. You have to enter all three pools to participate. The largest fish in each pool wins the entire amount entered for that pool. In the event that no fish is entered in any particular pool, a winner will be drawn from the names entered in that pool. Complete up-to-date information is currently available on the Website Tournaments page.

2017 **Boat Trolling** fournaments

Date

April 22

Port Sanilac

Port Captain Dan Chisholm

(6:30am - 1:30pm)

May 6

St. Joseph

Blaise Pewinski

(6:0<mark>0am - 1:00</mark>pm) plus Fish Off vs. Huron Valley Sportfishing Club??

May 20

(6:00am - 1:00pm)

Grand Haven

Jim Zanke

May 21

(6:00am - 11:00am)

June 3

Harbor Beach

Paul Gjeldum

(6:00am - 1:00pm)

July 29

Holland

(6:00am - 1:00pm)

August 12 Ludington

(6:00am - 1:00pm)

August 26

Manistee

Bob Paradise

(6:00am - 1:00pm) plus Fish Off vs. Flint River Valley Steelheaders

The Boat Trolling Committee met on Thursday, November 10 at

3 Boat Trolling Outings Planned

In addition to the 2017 Boat Trolling Tournaments (See page 3), the Trolling Committee has planned 3 outings to compliment that schedule. These outings do not count towards Skipper of the Year. The outings are as follows:

Sat.. April 8

Walleye Outing

Location T.B.D

Organizer Tom Gorguze

Sat.. July 8

Walleye Outing

Linwood

Organizer Don Jasman

Saginaw Bay

Perch Outing

Sat. Sept. 23 Sterling State Park Lake Erie

Organizer T.B.D.

More information will be published on the website as it becomes available next year.

Page 4 Fishin' Tales

Why Should I Join the Detroit Area Steelheaders?

• The Detroit Steelheaders mission is to oprotect and promote the Great Lakes sport fisheryo. We support our Michigan waterways and assist those governing bodies who are charged with the responsibility of sustaining them.

- Membership is inexpensive! Twelve free monthly educational membership meetings where speakers address boating safety, boat maintenance, how-to seminars on all types of fishing. Great Lakes forecast on the condition of the Great Lakes for the coming year. Our members have ample time during meetings to network with friends and just enjoy camaraderie. We also hold voluntary 50:50 raffle and tackle raffle where you can go home with a nice door prize. A Monthly newsletter is included in the cost of membership.
- We support parochial and public education by funding and mentoring õSalmon in the Classroomö activities in four separate schools.
- We support continuing education by providing a renewable scholarship to Lake Superior State College for students enrolled in ecological programs.
- We assist local communities by funding and mentoring local õKids Fishing Derbiesö.
- We host an annual õSpecial People Dayö where we take people with special needs out on the lake for a fun fishing experience. The fishing is followed by an awards presentation and picnic.
- We fish!

Plus All of the items below and more!

õCaptain of the Year Awardö. The Detroit Steelheaders schedule several club salmon fishing tournaments each year where points are awarded where participants earn points toward earning the õCaptain of the Yearö award.

õAngler of the Year Awardö. Events are held year-round where members fish piers, rivers, and ice. Walleye events, Perch events, Lake trout events near and far.

Being on the water is safer when you fish with a group. If you get in trouble on the water thereøs a better chance of someone being around who can help. It may save your life.

As part of a club you meet like-minded people who fish. This can lead to friendships and more opportunities to be on the water. We also have a ocrews Boardo program where boat captains can request crew and others can ask for the opportunity to crew for someone.

We are a teaching club. Some of our members are very experienced and talented fishermen. We share that knowledge with other members to help them become better fishermen.

Detroit Area Steelheaders Giving Exceeds \$90,000!

For 42 years the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. has contributed to numerous worthwhile causes which we believe serve our stated organizational goal of promoting and protecting Great Lakes sport fishing. Thanks to our members and contributors who have helped us raise funds to make these donations.

The following list of donations made in recent years may overlook some, but the overall impact is that the Detroit Area Steelheaders give!

- June, 2016 \$3000. To establish (3) \$1000 Fishery-related Scholarships at Lake Superior State University for the next 3 years.
- June, 2016 \$500. To help fund the Farmington Optimist's Breakfast Club Project F-I-S-H program
- May, 2016 \$1000. To fund our own Special People fishing outing.
- May, 2016 \$500. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- May, July, October, November, December 2016 \$2155. To continue funding Salmon in the Classroom projects at Oakland Christian K-12, Ladywood High & Pine Knob Elementary schools and fund a new Salmon in the Classroom project at Kennedy Middle school.
- **April, 2016 \$1000**. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2016 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- March, 2016 \$250. To the Boy Scouts / Cub Scouts of America
 February, 2016 \$2,500. To the Michigan DNR's Salmon Ambassadors Program
- January, 2016 \$150. For Membership and Support of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council
- May, 2015 \$500. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- April, 2015 \$2,050. To the Michigan DNR's Salmon Ambassadors Program
- April, 2015 \$750. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2015 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- **April, 2015 \$500**. To help fund the Farmington Optimist's Breakfast Club Project F-I-S-H program
- January, September, November, 2015 \$1254. To continue funding Salmon in the Classroom projects at Oakland Christian and Lady wood High schools and fund a new Salmon in the Classroom project at Pine Knob school.
- July, 2014 \$500. To fund a \$500 college scholarship.
- July, 2014 \$250. To MUCC to help fund their operations.
- July, 2014 \$250. To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- July, 2014 \$250. To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- June, 2014 \$813. To fund our own Special People fishing outing.
- May, 2014 \$400. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- **April Oct, 2014 \$1,231**. To continue funding Salmon in the Classroom projects.
- March, 2014 \$1,000. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2014 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- **September-December, 2013 \$485.** To continue funding a Salmon in the Classroom project at Andersonville Elementary School .
- June, 2013 \$584. To fund our own Special People fishing outing.May, 2013 \$1,000. To pay for 50 rods and reels for the Salvation Army Outdoors program.
- May, 2013 \$277. To pay for a bus to take students to release the salmon from their Salmon in the Classroom project at Anderson-ville Elementary School.
- April, 2013 \$400. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.

- April, 2013 \$800. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2013 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- **April, 2013 \$105.** To continue funding a Salmon in the Classroom project at Oakland Christian School.
- **December, 2012 \$622.** To fund a Salmon in the Classroom project at Andersonville Elementary School.
- **December, 2012 \$984.** To fund a Salmon in the Classroom project at Oakland Christian School.
- **August, 2012 \$500.** To fund a \$500 college scholarship for an approved student studying for an outdoors/conservation related degree.
- June, 2012 \$740. To fund our own Special People fishing outing.
- **June, 2012 \$500.** To fund a \$500 college scholarship for an approved student studying for an outdoors/conservation related degree.
- June, 2012 \$250. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- January, 2012 \$250. To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- January, 2012 \$1,000. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2012 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- **January, 2012 \$400.** To the Armada Middle School for a Salmon in the Classroom project.
- October, 2011 \$2,000. To the Ludington Area Charterboat Association to fund operations of their salmon rearing net pens.
- August, 2011 \$1,200. To the Armada Middle School for a Salmon in the Classroom project.
- July, 2011 \$250. To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- May, 2011 \$250. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- January, 2011 \$800. To the Youth Development Commission for their 2009 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- **November, 2010 \$500.** To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- June, 2010 \$1,000. To fund two \$500 college scholarships for two deserving students studying for an outdoors/conservation related degree.
- June, 2010 \$1,000. To the Ludington Area Charterboat Association to fund operations of their salmon rearing net pens.
- June, 2010 \$234. Donation of Voluntary Youth Licenses to help DNR revenue.
- May, 2010 \$250. To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- April, 2010 \$250. To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- January, 2010 \$1,000. To Michigan State University to fund a scholarship for a deserving student studying for an outdoors/ conservation related degree.
- **January, 2010 \$1,000.** To the Youth Development Commission for their 2010 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- October, 2009 \$2,500. To the Ludington Area Charterboat Association to fund the replacement of their salmon rearing net pens.
- October, 2009 \$1,000. To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- October, 2009 \$200 Donation to the Big Ten Bass Fishing Tournament.
- **September-October, 2009 \$222.** Donation of Voluntary Youth Licenses to help DNR revenue.
- June, 2009 \$1,703. To fund our own Special People fishing outing.May, 2009 \$2,000. To fund two \$1,000 college scholarships for two deserving students studying for an outdoors/conservation related
- degree.

 May, 2009 \$1,795. To the City of Ludington for a Memorial Bench at the City Marina.

.....AND SO MUCH MORE!

(Please see www.detroitsteelheaders.com for complete listing)

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<u>Salmon in the Classroom</u> Report Log

By Rodney Elnick

November 12, 2016

This year, Kennedy Middle School in St Clare Shores, is our DNR approved new school. They are located near Jefferson on Masonic Blvd. Their tank has been setup and running the two week period recommended to allow the tank to settle. Two 7th grade science teachers will be attending the DNR class at Wolf Lake Hatchery on the 16th, returning home with their 150 Salmon eggs.



Our schools from last year are also set up and running, Ladywood H.S. in Livonia, Oakland Christian in Auburn Hills, and Pine Knob Elementary in Clarkston. The students are very excited as well as the teachers. Every day, the students check the tanks when arriving at school, to see if the eggs are there yet. These schools will get their eggs on Nov. 18th.



This year, the DNR has reduced the classroom egg count down to 150 from 200. Their reasoning was that their

recommended tank size could not support 200 fish. Many schools did have problems maintaining a healthy water chemistry. Cleanliness and chemistry may be the two biggest issues.

December 30, 2016

At Kennedy, on this Friday, all the Salmon fry were swimming in the column, meaning all over the tank. The teacher and seven students showed up from their vacation to do a water chemistry check. This past Monday the students tried a pinch of food but there were no interested fish. Today however, perhaps a third of the fry showed an active interest. A close examination showed only a small protrusion of the stomach on some of the fry.



At the other schools, Salmon fry were not as advanced. We think the eggs given to the new schools at Wolf Lake Hatchery were fertilized earlier. All the schools are already thinking about the release date and subsequent activities. Dreamweaver Lure Co. of Ludington plays a part in those activities. They supply spoon blanks and lure tape for the students to create their own custom lures for ¿Dadø to try out, which the students create as part of release day activities. Their creations are quite interesting and fishable.



2016 DAS Skipper of the Year & Big Fish









	Skipper of the Year Standings 2016					FINAL Best 4					
	Boat Name	Skipper Name	St. Joe	Grand Haven	Harbor Beach	Port Austin	Manistee	Ludington	Total Points	Best 5	Best
1	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	4	3	4	1	3	6	11	15	21
	Saluki	John Meade	5	2	2	75	4	5	13	18	93
	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	1	75	1	2	11	50	15	65	14
4	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	3	1	3	75	8	50	15	65	14
5	Piece of Cake	Charles Denning	7	6	5	75	75	75	93	168	24
6	Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	8	7	11	75	75	75	101	176	25
7	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	75	5	50	50	10	75	115	190	26
8	Channing	Dan Chisholm	50	4	9	75	75	4	67	142	2
9	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	75	75	6	75	2	75	158	233	30
10	Aquarius II	Chris Nytko	75	75	7	4	75	75	161	236	3.
11	Tyger	Ty Voigt	75	75	75	3	9	2	89	164	23
12	Diana's Den	Denis Harper	75	75	10	5	75	75	165	240	3.
13	Just Wastin' Time	Don Jasmin	75	75	50	75	12	3	140	215	29
14	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	75	75	75	75	1	75	226	301	37
15	Silver Addiction	Capt. Mark Williams	2	75	75	75	75	75	227	302	37
16	Lake Buzzard IV	Fred Chartier	75	75	75	75	5	1	156	231	30
17	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	6	75	75	75	75	75	231	306	38
18	Trapshooter	Ken Cione	75	75	75	75	6	75	231	306	38
19	Moonshot	Brad Walton	75	75	75	75	7	75	232	307	38
20	Money Tree	Chuck Eddy	75	75	8	75	75	75	233	308	38
	Six Pack	Chris Turak	9	75	75	75	75	75	234	309	38



		St. Joe	Grand Haven	Harbor Beach	Port Austin	Manistee	Ludington	Total For Year
	No. of Boats	10	7	13	6	12	8	56
Number Caught	Kings	2	7	0	1	40	12	62
	Cohos	30	43	0	2	4	0	79
	Lake Trout	30	2	49	6	0	1	88
	Steelhead	4	4	0	4	0	0	12
	Browns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Atlantics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Pinks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Totals	66	56	49	13	44	13	241

Species Wgt. (lbs.)		Boat Name	Port	
	26.55	Tyger	Ludington	
	8.45	Lake Buzzard IV	Manistee	
	15.70	Blue Horizon	St. Joe	
	7.55	Saluki	Grand Haven	
	0.00			
	0.00			
Pink	0.00			

Page 8 Fishin' Tales

Letter (Cont'd from Page I)

are as rewarding. The joy of fishing is its own reward.

When you join a fishing club you do more than hone your skills. You add your voice to others working to protect our fisheries for future generations. Whether it's through organized outings and tournaments, the promotion of educational programs, or assisting lawmakers who regulate the resource, joining a club is a way to give back.

Our monthly membership meetings are held in Troy, Michigan the last Tuesday of each month. At meetings, guest speakers address issues such as boating safety and maintenance, Charter Captains and guides present seminars on all types of fishing, biologists and conservation groups keep us up to date on the condition of the Great Lakes, tackle manufacturers share the latest techniques and equipment. If you join a local fishing club, you are bound to meet like minded sportsmen. Meetings are open to the public so please feel free to stop by and come fishing with us.

Tight Lines, Tom Gorguze, President Detroit Area Steelheaders 248 343-8397

New Fishin' Tales Editor in February

Hi Detroit Steelheaders! My name is Christopher Turak. I am currently on the DAS Board of Directors and I will be taking over editing your Fishinø Tales newsletter.

I plan to change things up and by change, I mean have photos of the month and recipe of the month. I will also be posting lots of info on fishing, and how it's been from the month before prior to an upcoming tournament

Anyone who would love to publish something in the newsletter can just send it my way to christurak@yahoo.com, The look of the newsletter will be more fun. I will try to grab your attention with lots of cool stuff. I hope you enjoy it!



Southern Lake Michigan Regional Fisheries Workshop

This workshop will focus on the latest results from 2016 research and monitoring efforts. Michigan Sea Grant and South Haven Steelheaders are co-hosting this event. There is no cost to attend.

WHEN: Thursday, April 20, 2017, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

WHERE: South Haven Moose Lodge,

1025 Wells St.,

South Haven, MI 49090 ♦



2016 Detroit Area Steelheaders Board Of Directors Official Election Results

Date: December 13, 2016

Location: American Polish Cultural Center

Occasion: Annual meeting & Board of Directors election

Ballots: 77 member ballots

Three-year term beginning January 2017

Results:

Candidate	Votes	Term Expiration
Jon Martens	77	December 2019
Bob Jones	70	December 2019
Tom Theida	70	December 2019
Bob Ksionzek	67	December 2019
Jim Zanke	63	December 2019
Don Jasman	55	December 2019

2017 Michigan Winter

Free Fishing Weekend: Feb 18-19

As part of these weekends, all fishing license fees are waived for two days with residents and out-of-state visitors allowed to enjoy fishing on both inland and Great Lakesø waters for all species of fish during their respective open seasons. All other regulations still apply.

To encourage involvement in Free Fishing Weekends, organized activities are often offered in communities across the state. These activities are coordinated by non-profit groups, schools, parks (local/state), businesses and others. Will you be joining them and planning a 2017 Winter Free Fishing Weekend event? If you would like to plan an event, check out www.michigan.gov/freefishing for information and resources to help! On the site you@l find two toolkits; one focused on planning and the other on promoting your event.

Once your event is coordinated, please register it as an official 2017 Winter Free Fishing Weekend activity online. Upon doing so you will be contacted about receiving a packet of materials from the DNR to use during your event. Please join this year¢s efforts to help get more people out fishing. We welcome you to become a part of the tradition that is the annual Free Fishing Weekends ô a time to get together and have some fishing fun! \$\displace\$



November Meeting Photos





December Meeting Photos







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DAS Skipper's Honor Roll Since 1990

DAS SKI	ipper s Honor Koll Sin	ce 1990
2016 1. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 2. John Meade Saluki 3. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag	2007 1. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 2. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 3. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 4. Tim Robinson Pride N Joy 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret	1998 1. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 4. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 5. Paul Schoenrade Eagle III
2015 1. John Meade Saluki 2. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 3. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy Dan Chisho;m Channing 5. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag	2006 1. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 2. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 3. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 4. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 5. Dave Linder No Limit	1997 1. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Paul Colone The Kidd 4. Bob Buero Mickey Mouse Club 5. Jimmy Hardrick My Dream
2014 1. Paul Gjeldum Blue Horizon 2. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 3. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 4. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 5. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe	2005 1. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 2. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 3. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 4. Dave Linder No Limit 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret	1996 1. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 2. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Paul Nowak Nothin' But Fun 5. Don Redmond Trena Dawn
2013 1. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 2. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 5. Blue Horizon Paul Gjeldum	2004 1. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Mike Vigus Crusader 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret	1995 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 3. Daniel Dima Taz 4. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 5. Dave Roehr Floating Holiday
2012 1. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 2. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 3. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 4. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 5. Miss Dipsey Jody Robinson	2003 1. Bill Dunk Free Bird 2. Mike Vigus Crusader 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 5. Mark Bevans In-Seine	1994 1. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 2. Jimmy Hardrick My Dream 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Ron Hartman Molly Frair 5. Paul Schoenrade Eagle Two
2011 1. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 2. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 3. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 4. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 5. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy	2002 1. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 2. Doug Karakas Capt'n Hook 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Bill Dunk Free Bird 5. Mark Bevans In-Seine	1993 1. Dave Even Teacher's Pet 2. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 3. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 4. Leon Van Eden Bull Head 5. Chris Nytko Aquarius II
2010 1. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 2. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 3. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 4. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 5. E-Fish-N-Sea Doug Karakas	2001 1. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Mike Vigus Crusader 5. Doug Karakas Capt'n Hook	1992 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teacher's Pet 3. Tom Moores Karefree 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Mike Wakulski Wet Paint
2009 1. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 2. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 3. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 4. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret	2000 1. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 2. Stan Bilek Blue Star 3. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Bill Nutting Just Once	1991 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teacher's Pet 3. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon
1. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 2. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 3. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 4. Dave Linder No Limit 5. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy	1999 1. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 2. Stan Bilek Blue Star 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch Paul Schoenrade Eagle III	1990 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teacher's Pet 3. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 4. Rob Pinski Anticipation Mike Wakulski Wet Paint

Complete Skipper of the Year listings going back to 1978 are available on the Wall of Fame pages of the DAS Website

What will the Lake Michigan Salmon Stocking Cut Mean for Michigan Anglers?

Mass marking of Chinook salmon sheds new light on the relative importance of Chinook salmon stocked in Michigan.

Posted on October 27, 2016 by Dan O'Keefe, Michigan State University Extension, Michigan Sea Grant

Mass-marking allowed scientists to determine the origin of Chinook salmon caught by Michigan anglers. Numbers do not indicate patterns in survival. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service image, Kornis et al. 2016.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the modern Great Lakes salmon stocking program. When coho and Chinook

Origin of Chinook salmon caught by open-water anglers in Michigan waters of Lake Michigan (April-September of 2014-2015)

Origin (stocking location or wild recruitment)

Wisconsin Michigan Illinois

Indiana Lake Huron Wild

Fifty years later we are struggling to adapt to the influence of new invaders, particularly quagga mussels and round gobies. Fishery managers also must adapt to the rising importance of natural reproduction, which now accounts for the majority of Chinook salmon in Lake Michigan. On top of that, the experience of Lake Huroncs alewife/salmon collapse in 2004 serves as a constant reminder that stocking too many Chinook salmon on top of wild fish can lead to disaster for coastal communities.

salmon were first planted in the Great Lakes the results were spectacular. A nuisance invader (the alewife) became the prey of choice for

salmon and fueled the birth of a world-class sport fishery.

With this in mind, state and tribal agencies of the <u>Lake Michigan Committee</u> decided to reduce the number of salmon and trout stocked in Lake Michigan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources recently announced its <u>plan</u> to reduce Chinook salmon stocking by 230,000 (in addition to reducing lake trout by 270,000 and cutting coho salmon stocking by 96,000).

Public reaction to Chinook salmon cuts in Michigan has been mixed, with a narrow margin of support from groups like the Lake Michigan Citizence Fishery Advisory Committee and Michigan Steelheaders (MSSFA) and opposition from Michigan Charter Boat Association and the newlyformed Great Lakes Salmon Initiative. What will the decision really mean for anglers?

Michigan stocking sites contribute little to Chinook catches

According to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services Great Lakes Fish Tag and Recovery Laboratory, only 7% of Chinook salmon caught in Michigan waters during the open-water fishery (April . September, 2014 . 2015) were stocked in Michigan waters of Lake Michigan (see figure). Roughly 7 out of 10 Chinook salmon caught in Michigan waters of Lake Michigan were wild, and Wisconsin and Lake Huron plants contributed more than local stocking efforts.

For Michigan anglers, this means that Michigan DNRc 46% reduction in Chinook salmon stocking absolutely will not cause a 46% reduction in open water Chinook catches. After all, the vast majority of fish being caught by Michigan anglers are not Michigan-stocked fish (see factsheet for full details and results for other states).

Fewer stocked salmon does not necessarily mean fewer salmon in the lake

According to the Michigan and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, about 6.8 million untagged/un-fin-clipped Chinook salmon smolts recruited to the population in Lake Michigan in 2012. While they believe that most of these unmarked fish were from wild, natural reproduction in Lake Michigan tributaries some did come from natural reproduction in Lake Huron tributaries and other sources. A small number of unmarked Chinook salmon smolts came from Salmon in the Classroom stockings (<10,000 unmarked fish) and from private hatchery stockings in Ontario waters of Lake Huron (214,352 unmarked fish). Even if all of these unmarked stocked fish migrated into Lake Michigan, the estimate of wild smolts recruiting to Lake Michigan in 2012 would be in the neighborhood of 6.6 million.

In 2013, wild reproduction fell dramatically to around 1.4 million smolts. Reasons are not entirely clear but, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, may have been related to low water levels and warm water temperatures during the fall spawning migration that produced those smolts. Other possible reasons include low survival due to an abnormally cold and prolonged winter, slow growth and high mortality of young salmon after hatching, and/or low numbers of alewife to feed on once young Chinook salmon entered Lake Michigan.

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Stocking Cuts (Cont'd from Page 11)

One way or another, natural reproduction was dismal in 2013 and remained below average in 2014 (2.9 million smolts). The poor fishing many Michigan anglers experienced in 2015 and 2016 was due, in part, to these weak wild year-classes.

The overwhelming influence of natural reproduction

Back in the early days, fishery managers could control the number of Chinook salmon in Lake Michigan through stocking. If states stocked 2 million Chinooks, then that was it - nothing more to account for, no more mouths to feed.

Now fishery managers have much less control over Chinook salmon numbers. Lake Michigan stocking (from all states) is being reduced from 1.80 million in 2016 to 1.35 million Chinook salmon smolts in 2017. Wild spawning salmon produce around 4.5 million smolts on average, but this wild production can range from 1.4 million smolts to over 6.6 million smolts. This is a lot of variation!

To put stocking into perspective, the total number of Chinook smolts (stocked + wild) produced in 2017 is expected to be around 5.85 million based on an average year of natural reproduction. However, if natural reproduction is poor this could be as low as 2.75 million. If natural reproduction is high, which is a distinct possibility, we could have upwards of 7.95 million smolts entering Lake Michigan in 2017. In short, the impact of the stocking cut amounts to very little in comparison to this tremendous variation in wild fish.

For anglers, the bottom line is that there is good reason to expect the number of Chinook salmon in Lake Michigan to increase or remain steady despite the recent stocking reduction. If salmon numbers do dramatically increase, as they might due to natural reproduction, the result could be a permanent collapse of alewife and salmon.

If natural reproduction remains near recent lows, the worst-case scenario for anglers would be a slight reduction in the number of salmon over the short term. In reality, this worst-case scenario would also be the best-case scenario in terms of ensuring the long term viability of the salmon fishery because it would provide a better chance of alewife recovery.

For better or worse, the future will be determined in large part by wild fish.

<u>Michigan Sea Grant</u> helps to foster economic growth and protect Michigan coastal, Great Lakes resources through education, research and outreach. A collaborative effort of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University and its <u>MSU Extension</u>, Michigan Sea Grant is part of the <u>NOAA-National Sea Grant</u> network of 33 university-based programs.

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Caseville (Cont'd, from Page I)

stopped.

Pewinski decided to make it until 1:00. Of course, once this decision was made, the action

At 1:00 pm, everyone made the short drive over to the Caseville Resort & Marina clubhouse, where every one enjoyed the hearty hot lunch prepared by Blaise, delicious Elk Stew and Sloppy Joe® which was especially good after spending the entire morning out in the cold fishing. There were also chips, pretzels, cookies and other snacks as well as cold bottled water and soft drinks. Nice job on the lunch, Blaise! And Thanks to Blaise® buddy, Lewis Blaze for letting us use the warm and comfortable facilities at the clubhouse.

Once everyone was fed, those that had an entry for the Big Fish Pool gathered on the grass outside to weigh their fish. There were 19 people entered at \$5 per person but only 5 had fish to weigh. Those that had fish but didnøt enter the Pool were probably feeling a sorry. The fish were very similar in size so naturally it would come down to ounces separating the entries. Ty Voigtøs Lake Trout weighed in at 8 lbs. 14 ozs. on my hand held Field & Stream scale. Don Jasman had a Laker that went 8 lbs. 15 ozs. But ultimately, a 9 lb. 1 oz. Lake Trout caught by Todd Ridley took home the \$95. Congratulations, Todd!

Well, this was truly a wonderful event and a great way to spend a Saturday morning in December. Everyone really enjoyed themselves, fish or no fish. If you havenot done this before, keep next yearos outing in mind. Iom sure you wonot be disappointed!

Bob Ksionzek



Check Out Some of the Pictures from Caseville on Pages 14 & 15

Special People Outing Saturday, June 10, 2017



Each year the Detroit Area Steelheaders host a day of fishing and fun for a group of Special People. What is the group of Special People? It is a group of people young and not so young that face physical or emotional challenges. It is a group of men,

women, and young people that come together each year for the opportunity to get out on the water and fish. Whether catching silver bass, walleye, or even Sheephead, it provides an occasion for a boat ride, enjoy a little sunshine and hopefully catch a few fish. Something most of us take for granted.

The festivities begin with a short captaing meeting under the big tent at Toledo Beach Marina. Our guests usually arrive shortly before 8am. After, the guests meet their captain for the day and we head out for a fishing adventure. Typically, we fish from 8am until noon. Returning to the tent, each boat gets to show off its catch! Pictures of both the crews and the entire group are taken at this time. While a nice lunch is served, volunteers clean and package the walleye for our guests. Typically the event ends in early afternoon. Toledo Beach Marina is located a couple miles just south of Monroe. They have an excellent launch ramp and offer transient slips. In support of DAS and the Special People Outing, Toledo Beach Marina has graciously extended the use of their launch and one night of dockage. Skippers can obtain additional nights if desired. There is plenty of parking for trailers close to the launch ramp. It is about an hour and ten minutesø drive time from our meeting location. You can drive down the morning of the event and launch your boat, or come down early and spend some personal time fishing Lake Erie. Comfort Inn is nearby and usually offers a ofishermanos rateo. Knights Inn is located off of exit 15. It is a little less expensive, but has limited parking. Boats and trailers are limited.



Fishing Lake Erie for walleye offers a range of options. I personally run small spoons behind Jet Divers trolling. Drift fishing is an option. Mini disk divers, bottom bouncers, crawler harnesses are some of the methods used. From Toledo Beach Marina, a

short run to the Dumping Grounds is right outside the harbor, or a run up into Breast Bay. Lake Erie offers a wide range of fishing options.

This year especially, the Steelheaders are taking on greater responsibilities in this event. More volunteers are needed to set up tables and chairs, clean up, and general support. Also, from our membership, we are in need of captains and boats. Boats need to be large enough to accommodate one guest, possibly two. The more captains that volunteer their boats and services will allow us to invite a larger group of guests. Participating in this event will

leave a lasting impression that will make you glad that you participated! Donations are always welcome in support this event. If you have any questions or concerns about participating; you can contact Dan Chisholm @ 586-530-9171, Rich Janis @ 586-215-6264, or Jim Zanke @ 586-489-2041. We would be happy to assist you. We will pass around the sign-up sheet at the January Membership Meeting.

Jim Zanke

DAS Annual Big Fish						
Year	Species	Wgt. In Lbs.	Boat Name	Caught By	Tournament	
2016	King	26.55	Tyger	Joe Von Grabe	Ludington	
2015	King	17.95	Bobby's Toy	Bob Ksionzek	Ludington	
2014	King	22.9	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	Manistee	
2013	King	28.65	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	Manistee	
2012	King	29.45	Bobby's Toy	Tim Robinson	Olcott, NY	
2011	King	26.35	Bobby's Toy	Bob Ksionzek	Ludington II	
2010	King	19	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	Ludington II	
2009	King	20.45	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	Manistee	
2008	King	18.6	Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	Manistee II	
2007	King	17.15	Thor's Hammer	Al Weichert	Manistee I	
2006	King	22.1	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	Ludington Ladies Day	
2005	King	19.45	Hawkeye	Larry Walter	Ludington Ladies Day	
2004	King	22.05	Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	Ludington I	
2003	King	26.3	The Office	Duane Dean	Manistee	
2002	King	23.63	Rupe	Gary Ruprich	Manistee	
2001	King	28.07	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	Manistee	
2000	King	27.44	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	Manistee	
1999	Coho	29.06	Eagle III	Dave Staniczewski	Manistee	
1998	King	28.69	Molly Frair	Ron Hartman	Manistee	
1997	King	24.44	My Dream	Jim Hardrick	Manistee	
1996	King	26.44	Trena Dawn	Joel Garinger	Ludington	
1995	King	27.06	Fish-N-Tails	Doug Fellows	Manistee	
1994	King	26.12	Main Squeeze	Walt Pohorily	Rogers City	
1993	King	27.25	Karefree	Tom Moores	Presque Isle	
1992	King	25.5	Eagle II	Paul Schoenrade	Lexington	
1991	King	25.5	Kemo	Bob Mitchell	Ludington	
1990	King	26.14	Misery III	Al Schultz	Rogers City	
1989	King	28.5	Molly Frair	Ron Hartman	Rogers City	
1988	King	25	Trena Dawn	Don Redmond	Rogers City	
1987	King	22.19	Cap't Hook	Doug Karakas	Rogers City	
1986	King	22.11	Nuf-4-Me	Art Dennis	Ludington	
1985	King	23.5	More-N-Likely	Bob Kanas	Harbor Beach	
1984	King	25.5	Kneeknocker	Ed Choinski	Ludington	
1983	King	26.38	Sea Esta	Bill Achtenburg	Ludington	
1982	King	25.69	Sea Esta	Bill Achtenburg	Ludington	
1981	King	28	Valhalla	Steve Hamilton	Ludington	
1980	King	30.12	Fishing Fever	Terry Cholette	Ludington	
1979	King	26.13	Drifter	Bob Kring	Unknown	
1978	King	25.8	Valhalla	Steve Hamilton	Pentwater	

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CASEV

LE OUTING



Ty Voigt fighting the 1st lake Trout while Carl Ventimiglia Waits to Put the Net on it.





Another Group Casting looking Upriver on the Pigeon







Scott Groesbeck About to Weigh his Fish





CASEV L E OUTING









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Upcoming 2017 DAS Key Dates

Thu. Jan. 12, 2017 Ultimate Fishing Show
Thru Suburban Collection Showplace

Sun. Jan. 15, 2017

Tue. Jan. 17, 2017 BOD Meeting

7:00 pm American Polish Cultural Center

Sat., Jan. 21, 2017 Perch Ice Fishing Outing

Mitchellos Bay, Ontario

Tue. Jan. 31, 2017 Membership Meeting

7:30 pm American Polish Cultural Center

Sat., Feb. 11, 2017 Lake Trout Ice Fishing Outing

Higgings Lake

2016 December Membership Meeting Facts

Attendance: 120 Adults & Children

Featured Guest: Salmon Clause

Featured Presentations: Skipper of The Year Award

Big Fish Awards

Member of the Year Award Director of the Year Award

50/50 Raffle Winner: \$100 Bob Feisel

\$100 Joe Jones \$100 Don Mikros

\$100 Don Mikros \$100 Dennis Harper

Every Member Draw: \$100 Jeff Bustos

Enjoy These Other Newsletters and Reports

Here are some links to other newsletters and reports:

Woods-N-Water News

(http://www.woods-n-waternews.com/)

(Press the CTRL key + click on the link to open the link)

Basin Report Newsletters

(http://www.great-lakes.org/basinreports/basinreports.html) (Press the CTRL key + click on the link to open the link)

Published by the Great Lakes Sportfishing Council

Metro-West Steelheaders Newsletters

(http://www.metroweststeelheaders.org/newsletters.php)

(Press the CTRL key + click on the link to open the link)

Newsletters of the Metro-West Steelheaders, a Chapter of the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishing Association (MSSFA). From this page of their website you can also link to newsletters published by other chapters of MSSFA.

What's Really Going On with Salmon in Lake Michigan

(https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MIDNR/bulletins/164c3e2) (Press the CTRL key + click on the link to open the link)

