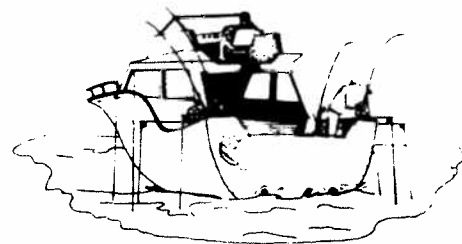


# FISHING TALES



DETROIT AREA CHAPTER

MICHIGAN STEELHEAD AND SALMON FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED BY THE DETROIT AREA CHAPTER

VOLUME 2

NUMBER 7

OCTOBER, 1977

## OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our October Membership Meeting will be held at Bonnie Brook Country Club, Tuesday, October 25th at 7:30 P.M. The guest speaker will be George Dahl (or his representative), Chief of Law Enforcement DNR. After the speech, questions will be answered from the meeting floor. Jim Bedford will talk about river spinner fishing techniques, and will explain how to make spinner baits. Andy Pelt, Executive Director MSSFA, will give a talk on what the organization has accomplished in the last year, and the direction of the future. As with all our speakers, Andy will answer questions from the floor or any questions you may wish to ask on an individual basis.

Trophies will be presented to the winners at Oscoda, the results of the Tawas Bay Boat Tournament and the Whitney Drain Surf Tournament will be announced. Registration for the Big Manistee River Tournament and Saginaw Semi-Grudge Match will be accepted. The "Swap Shop" will be available for those who wish to use it. We'll have our tackle raffle with our usual super prizes, Luhr Jensen, Charger, Acme Tackle, etc.

Hope to see you there - bring a friend.



## "SKIPPER OF THE YEAR" CHUCK CARTWRIGHT



Chuck, Captain of the "Tuna Boat" and a member of the Luhr Jensen Research Team scored 36 points across 7 tournaments to win the skipper of the year award. Congratulations to Chuck and his various crew members on a fine job.

## TOP TEN SKIPPERS OF THE YEAR

SKIPPER	BOAT	POINTS
1. Chuck Cartwright	Tuna Boat	36
2. John Makela	Sisu	32
3. Murrell Blackburn	Fish'n 5	31
4. Bob Kring	Drifter	30
5. Larry Atwell	Cobra	27
6. Jerry Lee	Sea Screw	23
7. Don Wainio	Flying Finn	22
8. Clay Garrett	Blue Mist	22
9. Jim Treadaway	Okie Drifter	20
10. John Schubert	Easy Money	17

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\*\*\*\*\*

The views expressed in this paper are those of the Chapter Members and the Editor. The purpose of this paper is to inform the Chapter Members of events which affect the Sportsfishermen. It is our intention to teach, inform and guide the members to respect and appreciate the Great Lakes, Rivers and Land around them.

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**1977 MEETING SCHEDULE**

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
Bonnie Brook Country Club  
October 25  
November 29

**COMING EVENTS**

October 25 Membership Meeting  
November 12 2nd Annual Detroit-Saginaw River Tournament  
November 29 Membership Meeting

**RIVER TOURNAMENTS**

November 12 Tippy Dam  
Contact Lance Hinatsu  
979-9226

**LADIES DAY TOURNAMENT**

The second annual Ladies Day Tournament was held on September 17, 1977 at Oscoda. The turnout of 28 boats was larger than first expected. Gary Gray, Editor of our Chapter Newsletter "Fishin Tales" handled all of the registrations as well as the picnic lunch, dinner and trophy presentation that followed at the Oscoda Yacht Club.

The day began with participant ribbons given to the ladies, with high expectations of good fishing under cloud-covered skies. With a starting time of 7:00 A.M., most of the boats chose to fish the pier heads first, before going to deeper water. J-plugs seemed to be the most popular lure run from the surface down about 7 or 8 feet deep. Action was seen almost immediately, but only a few fish got into the box. (The blame for the lost fish rested not on the ladies, but on the fish themselves for not hitting the lure hard enough to set the hook.) As the day progressed, not too many fish were landed.

The weigh-in at 1:00 P.M. was held at Fellows Marina. It didn't take long for the ladies to put their fine catches of Kings on the scales, only to surprise themselves with the weight of some of their fish.

Immediately following the weigh-in, the picnic was held at the beautiful Oscoda Yacht Club. That evening everybody

returned to enjoy a fine dinner and the ladies of the top ten boats received their trophies. "Congratulations, Gary". The effort you put forth made the Ladies Day Tournament one of the Club's most successful events that will long be remembered by those who participated.

Don White (Treasurer)

**STANDINGS OF**

**"LADIES DAY" TOURNAMENT, OSCODA**

BOAT	Points
1. Cobra .....	120 3/4
2. Sisu .....	94 1/2
3. Bib "O" .....	75 1/2
4. The Boat .....	62 1/4
5. Okie Drifter .....	44
6. The Fisherman Too .....	37 1/2
7. Noonan .....	37
8. Polish Pride .....	35 1/4
9. Fish'n 5 .....	34
10. Alabratrose .....	33 1/4



The ladies proved that they too can battle the "King" beast of the Great Lakes, as they display this fine catch of

Chinook salmon. It was a day to remember for many of the ladies, as most of these fish weighed over 20 lbs.

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## "DETROIT AREA CHAPTER CHALLENGED TO RIVER TOURNEY"

It has come to the attention of the Saginaw Valley Steelheader's Chapter that the Detroit Chapter wants to have a fishing tournament. After last year's humiliating defeat, we thought your chapter went into hiding.

We have heard rumors that your chapter has spent many hours practicing (much to the dismay of your children) fishing in their children's wading pools. It won't help

you because there aren't any fish in the pools. We guess you were just practicing coming up empty hooked. The problem may be that you are using the wrong bait. Fish seem to like live bait, not painted bobbers.

If your chapter can muster enough stouthearted fishermen (?) to accept this challenge, meet us up to Tippy Dam. Remember the losing chapter (yours) has to buy the beer and present the traveling trophy at the winner's (us) regular meeting.

If you wish to enter this tournament, send your letter of acknowledgment to Mike Szafirowski, 2328 Witters Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48602.



It will soon be election time again for the Detroit Area Chapter. Nine Directors will be elected at the annual meeting in December. There will be three Directors elected for 3-year terms, three directors elected for 2-year terms, and three directors elected for a one-year term.

These Directors are the life blood of the organization. They decide the direction the Chapter takes and see to it that the Chapter lives and grows and does not sputter and die. It is very important that you, as a member, take an active part in this democratic process by voting.

New thoughts and ideas are necessary for growth. If you would like to be instrumental in deciding what road we take, run for one of the Directorships. No experience is necessary; just be willing to devote a little time to your Chapter. Call or see me, Elton Luckritz, and I will see that your name is placed on the ballot.

## "CHALLENGE ACCEPTED"

To Whom It May Concern:

The "Detroit Area's Finest" are in receipt of your seemingly scurrilous challenge to a river tournament on the Big Manistee on November 12, 1977. Obviously, the spirit of the challenge is accepted. However, the vehicle of the challenge - the despicable, innuendo laden, ill worded, semi-epistle we received is repudiated.

Being the genteel, excellent sportsmen which we are, the self indulgent, insipid, malicious and egotistically written insults contained in said challenge have filled us with dismay. To reply to any of the remarks made about or alluding to the angling persuasions and/or philosophies of our steelheaders would only give credence to your insults - which we can not do - We Would Never Stoop So Low!

Gentlemen (and I use the word with hesitation), retire to your dens, chambers, caves (whichever applies), uncrate your "Swannus Maximus and Noodleus Sticks", gather up your spools of tournament 2 improved spider web, sneak off in the gloom of the night playing in the mud gathering the caddis crustaceans of the

swamps, stay in excellent health and, if your membership can manage to haul their decrepit bodies "down the hill", we will commence at the time specified in your letter.

Yea, and we say unto you that drift baits (combined with our superior angling techniques) will be your downfall —

The Membership Meeting you must concern yourself with is scheduled for November 29. So you can start making your plans to be there to present the traveling trophy to the chapter where it just belongs — DETROIT.

## REPORT VIOLATOR ON HOTLINE

True sportsmen and other citizens concerned about false hunting violators can do something about it, says the Dept. of Natural Resources.

If you can't contact your local conservation office promptly report a violation to the DNR toll-free hotline, day or night. The phone number is 1-800-292-7800.

If possible, provide a description of cars, hunting license numbers or other pertinent information. You do not have to give your name when calling.

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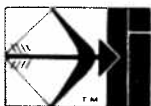
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John Makela, President of our Chapter and Captain of the "Sisu" placed 2nd with a 9 lb. Coho.



Clay Garrett, Captain of the "Blue Mist" holding the largest fish of the tournament, a 13 lb. King.

# The Cook's Corner

- 1/2 teaspoon crumbled thyme leaves
- 1-1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 can (1 pound) salmon
- 2 tablespoons sherry (optional)

 Heat oil in heavy 3- to 4-quart kettle or Dutch oven. Add next 3 ingredients and sauté, stirring, 5 minutes. Add 3 cups water and next 5 ingredients. Bring to boil and simmer, covered, 20 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. Add salmon, broken in chunks, and the salmon liquid. Add sherry and heat. Makes about 2 quarts.

## SALMON-TOMATO SOUP

- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1/2 green pepper, finely chopped
- 3 cups peeled potatoes in 1/2" dice
- 2 bouillon cubes
- 1 can (1 pound) tomatoes

## TAWAS BAY TOURNAMENT RESULTS

### CAPTAIN

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| 1. Clay Garrett  | Blue Mist    |
| 2. John Makela   | Sisu         |
| 3. Jim Treadaway | Okie Drifter |
| 4. Don While     | Last Chance  |
| 5. Jerry Lee     | Sea Screw    |

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A census taken on Lake St. Clair, showed that charterboats have taken more Muskies on the "Believer" than any other bait.

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- 2nd Place ..... Brown Trout
- 2nd Place ..... Coho

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Jim Treadaway (left) along with his wife Betty and friend Bill Mesler placed 3rd with a 6 lb. King. (Oct. Tawas Tournament)



Don White (left), his son Jeff and Bob Ksionzek had the most of the action Sunday but only managed to land this 5 lb. King for 4th Place. (October 2nd Tawas Bay Tournament)

## WHITNEY DRAIN SURF TOURNAMENT



Dick Swan (left) and Bob Lindberg (right) display the only fish landed during Whitney Drain Surf Tournament, (2) 7 lb. Brown and (1) 3 lb. Steelhead.

On the day of the Tournament (Saturday (10/8) the weather didn't cooperate and on Sunday (10/9) the fish didn't cooperate. Saturday morning brought waves of over 4 feet and winds of the east/northeast gusting to 30-40 knots and a parking lot frustrated and disappointed fishermen. The Tournament was postponed to Sunday.

Sunday morning brought fishing pressure on the drain likes of which I have never seen in five years. The drain from bridge to the surf was arm to arm fishermen, on both sides, and the surf fishing line spread out for at least a half a mile. The fish were there but would not cooperate. The results after a full day of hard fishing were as follows: First Place, Dick Swan 7½ lb. brown; Second Place Bob Lindberg, 3 lb. Coho (6¾ lb. Brown not entered).

On the positive side, it was rewarding to see boat, river/s fishermen and even members who haven't done much of either communicating, exchanging ideas and, more importantly, getting to know each other on a one-to-one basis. I feel the more this we do the stronger our Chapter will become.

On Saturday night when most of us were fishing in the surf the Browns ran up the drain. Many of the fish almost beached themselves in the shallow water in front of the drain. Boys and men grabbed or netted these floundering fish and threw them up on the bank and took them to their vehicles. A crowd gathered, caught up in the frenzy of the spectacle.

Steve Hamilton saw what was happening and went into the crowd and protested. Virtually alone, Steve took on the crowd and threatened to turn in anyone he saw illegally taking fish. Tempers flared and a confrontation nearly occurred - Our C.O. showed up and the situation settled. Steve identified the vehicles in which the fish had been placed. The offending parties were ticketed and the fish were confiscated. Steve offered to sign the complaint but the C.O.'s said it was not necessary.

This is an example of positive action that we must take if we want to make those who would "abuse and not use" our natural resources, aware we will support our words with action.

On behalf of the Officers, Directors and Members of our Chapter, I thank Steve for his highly commendable action in this situation — He saved a lot of fish — so that we may try to catch them another day. Steve has given us all a reminder of what we're all about and an excellent example to follow.

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## FOOTE DAM -- "HOT DAMN!"

The night of our board of directors meeting of Trout Unlimited, Midland Chapter, Bob Phillip of Scientific Anglers told us of an event one of his employees witnessed at Foote Dam.

A C.O. ticketed a guy for selling snag hooks to snaggers along the shoreline at Foote. The disgruntled panhandler headed for the parking lot and proceeded to smash windows in the C.O.'s auto. The C.O. reached the car later - got on the radio and within minutes the parking lot was wall-to-wall with Bears-D.N.R.-Super Troopers and County Mounties. They sealed off the parking lot and proceeded to shake down parked cars - ticketed VIOLATORS - (97 in one hour) and two Troopers took to the road and ticketed the long lines of illegally parked cars. In talking to the C.O. Later in Desi's, the C.O. related that they will go back to the dam in a few minutes and "DO IT AGAIN" until they "run out of tickets or people". To most stream fishermen law enforcement is the number one concern and it is reported events like this one that put a mile-wide smile on our faces. A HUGE pat-on-the-back to the Oscoda Area Law Enforcement Personnel.

To those of you that feel indifferent, or do not oppose snagging - try this. Pick out a warm sunny day - put your wife and children in the car and drive up to Foote Dam. Pull in about 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. and park at the entrance to the parking lot. Walk together (hand in hand) the full length of the lot. . . .turn around and walk back to your car (don't even concern yourself with what's going on at the water's edge), then put in writing - the feelings that went thru your bodies - and send them to Gary for him to publish in "FISHIN TALES" for all members to read - and yes - even John Scott and other D.N.R. Law Makers!

Dick Swan



## COLD WATER SURVIVAL TIPS COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

Editor's Note: This story was prepared by David "Mac" Frimodig, DNR Region I Information Officer, Marquette

With the salmon and lake trout moving into the shallows, fishing fever sometimes overrules commonsense among small boat operators on the Great Lakes. Seemingly unmindful of pending storms or the limitations of their crafts, many fishermen are concerned only with the fishing but, each fall, a certain number of them wind up swimming instead.

Water temperatures have plummeted since summer, survival time has decreased accordingly and those who find themselves in the water are faced with some difficult odds. The predicted survival time following immersion in 50° F water (Lake Superior frequently has colder fall temperatures) is about 2½-3 hours, but this will vary depending on body size and extra fat. However, sudden immersion in bitter water quickly increases the heart rate and blood pressure, occasionally causing death from heart attacks or ruptured blood vessels. . . .particularly when older people are involved.

Hypothermia is the culprit behind most cold-water deaths, for once the body temperature drops to a point where vital organs can no longer function (usually about 85°F), the victim loses consciousness and dies of heart failure. Any action which slows down the cooling rate can mean the difference between being alive or dead when rescue boats arrive. The following suggestions, if followed, will measurably increase the survival rate.

1. Unless shore is nearby, stay still! The average person in a life jacket cools 35% faster when swimming than when remaining motionless and tests conducted in 50°F water showed that the average person can swim less than a mile before hypothermia incapacitates him. When life jackets are not worn and treading water is

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FISH TIPS



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necessary to keep afloat, tests show the cooling rate is 34% faster than while holding still in a life jacket. In addition, certain types of life jackets give much more protection against the cold than others and fall fishermen would do well to investigate the insulating capabilities of all styles and brands.

2. The head, sides of the chest and groin are parts of the body which have the highest rate of heat loss but certain floating positions can help retain body heat and increase the predicted survival time as much as 50%. The individual position simply involves holding the inner sides of the arms tight against the chest and raising the thighs as high as possible to protect the

groin. If two or three people are in the water, they should cling to one another keeping their chests together -as tightly as possible.

3. Once rescued, a victim of hypothermia should be warmed externally with hot water bottles, hot tubs or electric blankets and internally with hot beverages. . . .but not alcohol! In fact, a person who is "under the influence" before being immersed in cold water will experience a 20% higher cooling rate than his sober partner.

Although these suggestions could help you to survive a fall dunking, the best solution of all is to stay in the boat. . . .anybody with common sense and an eye to the weather can do it!

**THE KINGS ARE IN:** The time of the year is here. The Kings are in. Time to put away the light equipment and light line. Bring out the heavier gear, and sharpen those salmon lures. The Kings are in .... check your equipment and boats..... *SAFE BOATING !!*

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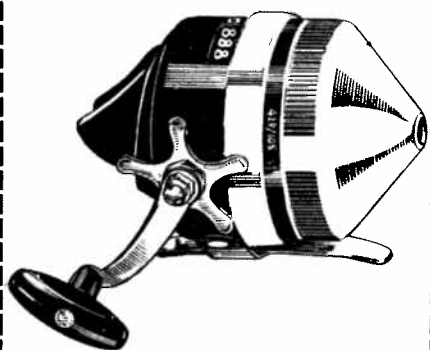
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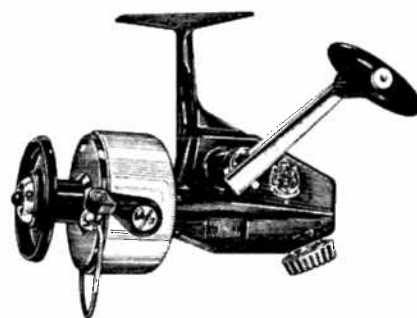
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Mr. Bob Lindberg  
Secretary Detroit Area Chap-  
ter

Dear Bob,

Thank you very much for the  
Steelheaders' offer of  
assistance in reworking the  
old fish ladder on the Huron  
River at Flat Rock.

We have completed a  
general cleanup of the ladder,  
replaced all wooden "gates"  
(blocking water flow through  
the old - unworkable -  
passageways at the base of  
each step), and cut a slice of  
concrete out of the first step  
in order to pass more water  
and fish through the ladder.  
My crew did the work, as we  
were on private property doing  
a sometimes risky job, but I  
appreciate your offer of  
physical assistance too.

Enclosed are three bills  
which were incurred on the  
project:

1. Michigan Rental Service - \$113.96 for a cement cutting saw, blades, and a bosch hammer.
2. Braver Lumber - \$72.39 for lumber to re-seal the old passageways.
3. Flat Rock Hardware - \$4.45 for hacksaw blades to cut re-rods.

We very much appreciate  
you paying these bills. They  
amount to much less than the  
\$1500 offered, but the job, for  
now and perhaps next year, is  
done. We will monitor the  
fishery and ladder use again  
this fall as we have in the past.

One way the remainder of  
the fund might be spent would

be to support an engineering  
study of the Flat Rock dam to  
determine feasibility and  
costs, etc. of a new ladder on  
the mainstream side of the  
dam. You might want to wait  
and see how the "refined" lad-  
der works out first. At any rate,  
I will keep in touch with you  
on the matter.

Again, thank you for helping  
us out and for the tremendous  
support the Steelheaders have  
expressed toward better  
fishing in this area.

Sincerely,  
**Ronald J. Spitzer**  
District Fisheries Biologist

**Don't Change Your Address  
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