



# MICHIGAN STEELHEAD AND SALMON FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

*Detroit Area Chapter*

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DECEMBER 1975

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Greetings:

There's too much happening in this chapter to miss a month without a newsletter. We were about to hang 'em up for the year but too many reminders.

The officers and directors are exuberant over the growing number in attendance at our meetings. Again the Oakland Rooms at the Hilton were overflowing with fishermen in November. Tom Schneider, our prez, came thru with one of his best ever presentations on stream fishing and the use of proper tackle, lures and equipment. Practice (at the meetings) must make perfect or maybe its because there was no mike this time. Anyway, I guess he knows what he's talking about because the following weekend he had a bunch of Steelhead on while fishing the Au Sable river. Bob Rutt, our Legal Committee, gave us an update on the suit regarding Indian fishing rights. Bob has offered to enter the case, U.S. vs. Michigan, on behalf of the MSSFA. Give 'em all kinds of hell counselor and if you need any help - the few chapter questionnaires returned indicate many of us willing and ready.

Our meeting this month will be on the 17th.....Troy-Hilton Inn, 15-Mile and Stephenson.....7:30 P.M. The chapter has rented the Gordon Ballroom, just east of the Oakland Rooms. Our guest speakers will be the state MSSFA executive committee including the officers. A big 'thanks' to our guests for the long trek over here, but especially for accepting our invitation to speak. Their talks are very informative and interesting, sometimes amusing, but always thought-provoking. These fishermen are busy, busy, busy directing this giant Steelheader organization and they'll satisfy your thirst for information about the important activities and issues the MSSFA is involved in.

This meeting is our second 'Annual'. As such you're invited to take your wife and introduce her to the chapter and our carryin'-on. Our speakers can do the job of explaining why you fish so much and why your involvement in the Steelheaders is so important to you. Each of the fairer ones will receive a free raffle ticket for a special drawing (surprise). We'll also have the tackle raffle, the one that pays for the accommodations each month. Let's impress our state leaders with a bunch of new members - bring along a friend, do some arm twisting and sign em up. If your membership is lapsing soon the annual meeting would be the time to renew. Each renewal and new members' name will be published in the new paper.

The Newsletter Committee will have met by this reading and decided to end this crummy letter format. Twelve chapter members will lay-out a paper that'll be the envy of any organization. The committee includes an editor, a cartoonist, artists, photographers, an ad man, ad salesmen, a lay out man, label suppliers, a typesetter and publisher. Everything, from film processing to printing, will be accomplished by a chapter member.

The new paper will be financed by advertising. Chapter members will get first choice to buy the inexpensive space. Since word of the publication was first announced in the newsletter some months ago, more than 50% of available space has been contracted for. The initial expense of this undertaking is starting up, getting it all together. Any new enterprise needs capital - we don't have a dime. You can help! The committee will conduct a fund raising raffle at the December meeting and urge you to take a chance on a couple jugs of spirits. The ad revenue will finance each succeeding issue. You'll be proud of your new newsletter and its circulation will be 800 copies for the first issue.

The chapter has had a successful year considering it was our first. We had a couple tournaments (at least six in '76), a research trip (at least four in '76), an outing in South Haven (hopefully another in '76). The DRIFT experience was rewarding even though the Salmon didn't run the Detroit River (and haven't yet). Our membership grew ten-fold, but still it's a drop in the bucket. Our voting record needs improvement and we're still waiting for the return of the 1976 questionnaire. If you didn't receive one or misplaced yours please pick one up at the meeting.

Chapter members will find the 1976 Ballot enclosed. Please vote to elect our Board of Directors and return within seven days. You can drop off your ballot at the next meeting however, or you can mail it. The results will be published in the newsletter or you can phone any officer or the editor for the outcome. The winning candidates will be notified by mail on or about the 20th of December. The nominating committee extends its thanks to those who submitted their names for a place on the ballot - and the club thanks them for volunteering their time and talent for all those committees.

'Tis the end of the year.....a time for thanks and a time for giving - especially giving thanks. Where do we start, who first?....everything is important within the chapter. Let's start with Norm Newman, under who's leadership in the MSSFA, started the chapter concept. And Tom Mandigo, current president, who expanded on the chapters where we now have six active and at least two more in planning. (South Haven, Detroit Area, Michiana, Southwestern Michigan, Mid Michigan & Saginaw Valley. Grand Rapids & Battle Creek). THANKS TO THE MSSFA FOR ITS EXISTANCE. From the Detroit Area Chapter: Thank you Dr. Wayne Tody and the DNR Fisheries Division, for something to catch. To the Feds, for the Lake Trout and the battle getting them - it was fun. Closer to home, many thanks to the officers who are always 'thinking' and 'doing'; to the executive committee for making the right decisions; to the board of directors who run the chapter; to Elton Luckritz for the tournaments and committee work; to Ed Raquel and Tom Schneider for DRIFT. Also thank Dave Gresham for the meetings. Thank you Don Goodwillie for the South Haven trip in May; also Harry Levitan, chapter director and fund raising chairman, for the obscenely successful tackle raffles - where did all those prizes come from? Most of them came from our chief benefactor, John Rusztowicz, Lake Products Co., manufacturer of Charger lures. Without his benevolence we'd be having our meetings in a barn or outdoors or none at all. We've raffled-off so much of his free products (rod handles, hook removers, a canoe paddle?, downrigger wire and grosses of lures) that we might be known as the 'Charger Brigade'. Thanks, John.

We owe the chapter boat skippers and Charter Captain Steelheaders a 'thanks' too - for the free fishing trips for our members. Let's thank the Chapter area tackle retailers for their Steelheader discounts and freebies: Acme, Belle Isle, Dunhams, Griswold, Lakeside, Livonia Tackle, Tackle Land, Tackle World..... Although many names and firms haven't been mentioned here we want them to know how much their contributions, time and thoughtfulness has assisted us in our achievements. Many thanks to all who helped.

Pinch 'em up again Steelheaders - the commercial boys are slithering toward Lansing. The netters are lobbying against a reasonable and fair ammendment up for consideration and vote at the state house. Naturally anything, reasonable and fair, or sensible or obvious, will bring out the 'big buck\$ and their persuasive agents buttonholing our congressmen and twisting arms to get votes despite logic. Of course they'll try to defeat anything that might take away from them something that never belonged to them in the first place.

The chapter DNR committee under Tom Schneider sez: all members should write to their congressman "in support of Ammdement Section 14A of Act #84 of the Public Acts of 1929". The ammendment reads " A person shall not take Lake Trout of Lake Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie & St. Clair, the connecting waters between those lakes, or to import, possess, transport, offer for sale or market any Lake Trout whether caught within or without this state except as provided in this section". The complete text of the section was not available at this writing. The address of your state senator and representative is available from the club.

Thissa & thata.....the Chapter's winter fishing contest will be on December 27th, a Saturday, on the Au Sable river near Oscoda. For more details see Elton Luckritz at the meeting, however, Elton would appreciate the entry and \$10.00 fee by December 13th. Mail to: 11210 Lorman, Sterling Heights, Mich. 48077. Cash prizes will be awarded the best three catches, the amount depends on the number of entries.....Since we're officially a year old this month many memberships are up for renewal. Remember, you must be a paid up member of the state MSSFA before joining the chapter.....are you receiving the 'FishLine' - state MSSFA newsletter, is everything spelled right, are you paid up? For prompt action send the info to the editor (chapter).....you're invited to send in articles, fishing reports, cartoons, photos, any fishing news or unusual experiences for our newsletter. Don't worry about grammar, drawings , etc..... Tom Schneider reports the Cass River in Frankenmuth is full of Salmon. Some of our members are having a field day - still nice and silver (Dec. 6-7)..... Don't forget to take your ballots and questionnaires to the meeting.

A Happy and Serene Holiday Season.

John Makela, Editor