

June Meeting

When:

Tuesday, June 28, 2016 7:30pm

• Where:

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

• Featured Guest Speaker:

Capt. Andy Gorske (Franks Great Outdoors) Saginaw Bay Walleye

Other Happenings:

Boat Trolling Tournament reports, Outing info., 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

Inside This Issue:

Membership News	2
Detroit Area Steelheaders is on Facebook	2
Tackle Matters	2
Board Of Directors Listing	2
Membership Application	2
DAS Port Austin Tournament	3
2016 Boat Trolling Tournaments	3
Harbor Beach Results & Pictures	4
DAS Sebewaing Walleye Outing Sat., July 9, 2016	5
EVERY MEMBER DRAWING NEWS!	5
June Great Lakes Basin Report News Fewer coho salmon likely to be stocked in 2016	5
Forage fish abundance continues to decline in Lake Michigan	
Lake Superior Chinook domi- nated by wild fish	
Fisheries propose Lake Michigan Chinook stocking reduction	6
Special People 2016 Photos	7
Salmon in the Classroom And Oakland Christian Schools	7
Upcoming 2015 DAS Key Dates	8
2015 October Membership Meeting Facts	8

Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume XXXXI, Issue VI

June 2016

Harbor Beach Great Turnout, Decent Fishing!



If you're gonna catch just one fish, make sure it's Big Fish like Denis Harper did at Harbor Beachan 11.7# Lake Trout good for a 130 beans!

Harbor Beach offered up another great fishing opportunity. Calm seas, light winds, and partly cloudy skies set the tone for some very pleasant fishing. Thirteen boats showed up for the tournament, one of our largest turn outs in quite a while. Most boats set up in 60 to 80 FOW. The majority of fish caught were in 60 to 160 FOW, throughout the entire water column. Eleven of the thirteen boats weighed fish. Blaise Pewinski on Sea Haig showed his lake trout fishing skills, netting 11 fish.

Vickiøs Secret wasnøt far behind with 7 fish. Denis Harper on Dianaøs Den muscled in the big fish of the day ó an 11.7 pounder!

Lunch was served at 2 occlock, just before weigh in. A nice hot meal of barbeque pulled pork or pulled chicken greeted the hungry Fisher-People, several significant others and a couple of children participated. Macaroni salad, fresh watermelon, potato chips, and cookies rounded out the meal. A special thanks to Charlie Denning for providing some magnificent cupcakes!

Harbor Beach was pleasant change of scenery from Lake Michigan. Located only a hundred miles North of our meeting place, the two hour drive made it possible to make it a one day trip. Those wanting to stay longer found reasonably priced accommodations nearby. The City Marina had plenty of slips with the launch conveniently located right there. This was my first experience fishing Harbor Beach, it certainly wongt be my last!

Jim Zanke Port Captain 'Hardtop & Tails

Special People 2016



June 11, 2016 - Special People Outing Toledo Beach Marina Lake Erie

On Saturday, June 11th, we had the 31st Special People Outing on Lake Erie at Toledo Beach Marina. At the morning Skippers' meeting, we knew it was not going to be a good day for fishing, the wind was blowing 15+ mph from the west, southwest and 2footer waves. It was decided to go ahead and fish and stay close to the shore.

At noon, all the skippers returned and, we did have some fish to clean. After that, we had lunch for our special guests, our skippers and the ground crew. Many thanks to all the boat skippers for coming out and making this event happen and put a smile on our special guests' faces. Special thanks to the ground crew Mary and Dog Karakas and to Linda and Ray Banbury.

More photos are inside on pg. 7 plus all of them are posted on our website in the Photo Gallery; http://detroitsteelheaders.com/gallery.html

Fishin' Tales Page 2

MEMBERSHIP NEWS		Currently:	149 Members		
New Memberships Welcome!					
CRAIG COLEMAN	DAN DIDOCHA	CHRIS LANSKY JR.	ANDY MONNICH		
Re-Newed Memberships					
MARK CARLSON	CLIFF HILL	KURT NOFZ	THOMAS OSENTOSKI	DARRELL SMITH	
Memberships Expired					
2 mo. Ago Last Reminder:	JEFF BUSTOS	ED HILL	GARY ROWOLDT		
	MIKE & ANTHONY CORTIS	JAMES LEGENZOFF	ALLAN VAN BROCKLIN		
I Mo. Ago First Reminder:	TOM GORGUZE	BOB KSIONZEK	DICK SHIRK	ANDY WILLETTS	
	GARY GROSS	PAUL NIENALTOWSKI	RAY VANZYTVELD		
This Month:	DON ANTON	KEN CIONE	MICHAEL GRANT	STEVE HAMILTON	



Tackle Matters

The June meeting topic is oCaptain Andy from Franks Great Outdoors speaking on Saginaw Bay Walleye fishingö. Iøm spending the week in Standish at the Outdoor Adventures Campground trying to get on the Bay for some Walleye but the weather is not being too cooperative. Igm writing this on Thursday morning and so far Iøve only gotten out once on Tuesday where I worked hard in a 1 ½ foot chop to come in with two nice big Walleye and countless Drum. Being alone in a small boat trying to troll against 18 mph winds in that chop is useless so I drifted crawler harnesses with the wind. My speed drifting was a little slow for Walleye but perfect for Drum so I had to put up with a lot of Drum for a couple of Walleye but they were both big fish. The good news is the Friday to Sunday prediction is warm, dry, and small wind so Iom looking forward to that. Anyway, I digress, Iøm supposed to be writing about the tackle raffle.

I stopped off at Franks Great Outdoors and spoke with the charter guys there to pick up the correct color, and style harnesses as well as good intel on where to go so Iøm all set once I can get back on the water. I also

picked up a few additional items that I thought club members would like to see on the raffle table. On the table this month along with the typical variety of spoons and fishing gear you will see the item pictured above. A FoodSaver Gamesaver Sport G200 vacuum sealing system to allow you to keep food fresh for a very long time. Fishermen, hunters, and household shoppers can use this to keep frozen food fresh.

Thank you all for supporting the raffles as well as you do. With your continued support we can keep the ball rolling with really good raffle prizes.

Dan Chisholm



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

Raffles, Ele 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

IIM ZANKE

586-489-2041

Assistants LINDA BANBURY

Special People

MARY KARAKAS Special People

DAS Port Austin Tournament

Saturday July 30, 2016

Marina:

44∞03

Phone: 989-738-8712

Off-season Phone: 989-856-4411 Radio Channel: 9,16

Dates Open:

Mid-May to Mid-September Transient and Seasonal Slips

Available

Saturday: Skippers meeting at 5:00 am near Marina Office with tournament start at 6:00 am. Fish calls are 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Pull lines by 1:00 pm. Be in weigh-in line at Lighthouse County Park Pavilion #1 by 2:30 pm



After a nearly 2 month hiatus, the DAS Boat Trolling Tournament season resumes at Port Austin on Saturday, July 30. This will be the first tournament at this port since 2009. Since then, the harbor, dockage, ramps and facilities have gone thru a multi-million dollar renovation. Unfortunately, the fish cleaning station that was there has been demolished and has not been replaced as of yet. The nearest cleaning station is in Harbor Beach, 25 miles to the southeast along M-25.

The lake trout fishing in the area remains top-notch with the best fishing found off the Grindstone Reef 4 to 6 miles to the NE of the Port Austin Lighthouse. Spin-n-glos behind dodgers are the baits of choice run within a couple of feet of bottom. Metallic green/red head, bright green/white head, white w/pink dots seem to be the best colors for the spin-n-glos but don't be afraid to try others. Hammered Chrome, Trash Can and White dodgers all work well in the '0' size. Although the best lake trout fishing is near the bottom, suspended fish can also be caught off downriggers set up 40' - 60' down. Dipseys set to run at various depths and 5 to 10 colors of lead off in-line planers can also pickup steelhead, Atlantic salmon and the very occasional Chinook. Check these lines often as pink salmon can go unnoticed and 'kill' them from catching anything else.

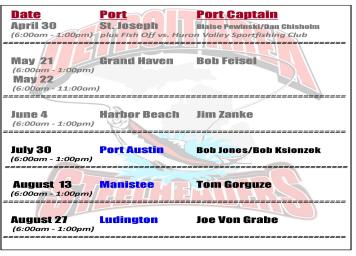
Words of Caution to those who have not fished here before, do not go between the Port Austin Light and land, stay well to the west and north of the light on your way to the Grindstone reef. There is a reef that connects shore to the lighthouse and many a boat has been caught on the rocks and needed to be rescued. Also, when fishing near the bottom at the Grindstone reef stay OFF the bottom. Cannon balls can be hung up on the rocks and create a hazardous situation that can pull a boat's transom below the water. Keep wire cutters at the back of the boat just in case a 'ball does get hung up.

As of print time, all the close parks and pavilions near the marina are reserved, so we have reserved Pavilion #1 at Lighthouse County Park for our weigh-in and lunch following the tournament. It is located about 9 miles to the southeast right off of M-25. However, we still are looking for a place close to Port Austin to have the weigh-in. The one good thing about Lighthouse park is it's on the way to Harbor Beach for cleaning fish afterwards.

For more info, see our website on the Tournaments & Events page or call Bob Ksionzek at 586-531-9198 Hope to see everyone there for a good turnout!



2016 Boat Trolling Tournaments



Page 4 Fishin' Tales





1st Place - "Sea Hag" - Skipper Blaise Pewinski



2nd Place - "Saluki" - Skipper John Meade



3rd Place - "Vicki's Seacret" - Skipper Bob Feisel



4th Place - ""Bobby's Toy" - Skipper Bob Jones

DAS Sebewaing Walleye Outing Sat., July 9, 2016

Walleye fishing at it's best. The area in the bay that will be productive this time of July should be the SLOT located 2 to 4 miles offshore. The Slot runs down the entire length of the east shore of Saginaw bay and depth ranges from 11 to 14 FOW, with Callahan reef on the west side of it. Further out in the bay, the area by the shipping channel is also a great producer in 19 to 25 FOW. All trolling applications work on the bay from crawler harnesses, hot n tots or spoons on lead core. Sebewaing Marina is only a few years old and will handle all boat sizes. After you leave the launch, it's a long straight run down the channel to 6 FOW, 2 miles at least. Stay in the channel all the way it's only 2 or 3 ft on the sides all the way out. The phone number for the Marina is 989-883-9024. They do have a full line of supplies in case you forget any. Let@s try to meet about 6:30 am in the Marina and fish until about 1:00 pm and meet back at the marina to measure our catches.

> See Ya There, Blaise 248 890 4517

EVERY MEMBER DRAWING NEWS!

The Board of Directors has revised the Every Member Drawing as follows:

ŏIf we have not awarded the \$100 to a member present at the monthly member meeting for three consecutive months, during the fourth month drawing we will continue to draw names until a present member so name is drawn and that member wins the \$100 Every member drawing.ö

Note: We have not drawn a winning name since January, therefore the Every Member Drawing will be awarded during the June membership meeting.

June Great Lakes Basin Report News

Fewer coho salmon likely to be stocked in 2016

The 2015 fall salmon runs at Michigan weirs did not produce enough fish for us to obtain all of the eggs necessary to stock our full complement of fish. We did receive additional Chinook salmon eggs from Wisconsin to reach our stocking target of 235,000 fish; however, we anticipate that coho salmon stocking will be less than our target of 300,000 fish. Due to the late season run and overall poor returns of adults, all of our coho salmon came from Wisconsin this year. An initial collection of eggs was transferred to Jake Wolf Memorial Hatchery in late October. The final group of fry was acquired in January. The hatchery projects stocking between 250,000 and 300,000 coho salmon, assuming good survival in the hatchery for the next two months. These salmon also will be smaller than usual because of the late start. Brown trout and rainbow trout will be stocked at the usual numbers (110,000 each). In 2015, we experimented with using a tube to stock fish below the surface of the water. The fish appeared less disoriented and remained deeper and away from predatory gulls. With a few modifications for 2016, we think this change in stocking method will improve survival of the newly stocked fish.

Forage fish abundance continues to decline in Lake Michigan

Forage fish assessments by the US Geological Survey indicate that the lakewide abundance of all forage fish continues to decline. These fish species are the primary food of Lake Michigan salmon, trout, and other sport fish. Alewife biomass (total weight) is at its lowest level since the bottom trawl survey began in 1973. The decline in forage fishes is corroborated by the USGS acoustic survey that also tracks newly hatched fish. Alewife and other forage fish may be found in high numbers in Illinois waters in spring, as reported by anglers and measured by DNR surveys, but the overall lower lakewide abundance of these fish has been causing them to be very patchy throughout the lake and often dispersed by mid-summer. Anglers should be concerned because low forage fish abundance doesnot bode well for future Chinook and coho salmon harvests. The Lake Michigan Committee (Great Lakes Fishery Commission) adopted a new Salmonid Strategy in 2013 that reduced the number of Chinook salmon stocked in the lake by 50% in an effort to bring the number of predators more in line with the available forage. In light of the continuing decline in forage, further changes to the stocking strategy may be required. In addition, the Lake Michigan Committee has formed a Native Planktivore Task Group to investigate rehabilitation strategies for native prey fishes such as cisco (lake herring) that are better adapted to the lake than alewife.

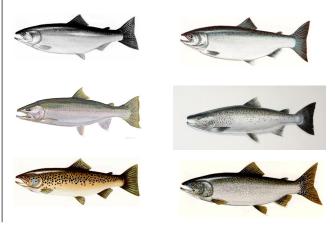
Lake Superior Chinook dominated by wild fish

Michiganøs Lake Superior Chinook salmon fishery is being fueled almost entirely from natural reproduction. More than 99% of the Lake Superior Chinook salmon caught are wild.

All 1.5 million Chinook salmon stocked in Lake Superior since 2012 have received adipose fin clips via the USFWSøs mass marking program, making it easy to distinguish which fish are wild or of hatchery origin.

An average of around 3,000 Chinook salmon is caught yearly by sport anglers in Lake Superior. This ranks this species as the third highest to be sustained by natural reproduction in this water body, following lake trout and coho salmon.

Assessments like this are important when evaluating stocking effectiveness and provide information needed to make proper management decisions. The DNR will continue to monitor Chinook salmon catch data to help ensure the long-term viability of this important species in the Lake Superior fishery. For more information: Michigan.gov/taggedfish \diamondsuit



Page 6 Fishin' Tales

Fisheries propose Lake Michigan Chinook stocking reduction

Changes in ecosystem and historic lows in forage abundances, suggest needed shift in fishery policies

Following extensive consultation with angler groups and other stakeholders, and more than three years of research and monitoring, the Lake Michigan Committee on June 13 proposed a lakewide reduction of 62% in Chinook salmon stocking into Lake Michigan in 2017.

The stocking reduction represents a commitment by fishery managers to maintain a quality and diversified Lake Michigan salmon and trout fishery in the face of a changing ecosystem and record low abundances of prey fish populations, including alewives. The Lake Michigan Committee comprises all state management agencies that border Lake Michigan and Michigan Tribal Governments signatory to the 1836 Treaty of Washington. Recommendations from the committee represent the consensus of all of its members.

The proposed 2017 stocking reduction comes four years after managers implemented a 50% lake-wide reduction in Chinook salmon stocking in 2013. Fisheries management agencies met several times with constituents in 2012 to decide on changes to the salmon management strategy which were then instituted in 2013. Increases in natural reproduction of Chinook, and declines in the abundance of alewives and overall productivity of the system have led to recent stocking changes to maintain the predator-prey balance in the lake.

Research by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state partners indicates that natural reproduction currently accounts for more

than 60% of all Chinook in Lake Michigan. With alewife (the key prey fish for Chinook salmon) populations at or near historic lows, the Lake Michigan Committee® proposed strategy is intended to preserve important salmon and trout angling opportunities in each state. Changes to the lake® food web, including the prevalence of invasive mussels, have complicated the equation by diminishing the amount of food available for alewives, which has contributed to the greatly diminished abundances of this key prey fish. Given the massive numbers of quagga mussels in Lake Michigan, prey fish are not expected to rebound any time soon to numbers that would support current stocking levels.

For 2017, Lake Michigan managers propose a total lake-wide stocking of 690,000 Chinook salmon, down from the current 1,800,000. The proposed reduction follows the 2013 stocking cuts, when state natural resource managers agreed to a decrease from previous levels of 3.3 million Chinook stocked each year.

Each Lake Michigan Committee member agency must still approve and implement the committee® recommendations. Each state agency will now work to discuss and implement changes in a manner most appropriate to their jurisdiction, and will collaborate with other Lake Michigan Committee members to assure a consistent Lake Michigan wide effort is implemented to balance predators and prey and sustain a quality salmon and trout fishery.

Under agreement among the agencies, Illinois would now stock 90,000 fish each year, Indiana would stock 45,000 fish, Michigan 200,000 and Wisconsin 355,000. The proposed 2017 stocking plan reflects past stocking performance and spring/summer angler success in catching Chinook from various stocking locations around the lake. In addition, the plan should include enough fish to ensure fall spawning runs at egg collection weirs and for stream, harbor and near shore anglers in each state. ²

<u>Salmon in the Classroom</u> <u>And Oakland Christian Schools</u>

We had another great Salmon release with Oakland Christian Schools on Tuesday, May 17th. The first bus load of 4th graders rolled into Yates Park at 9:00 am with the morning starting a bit cool. The students separated for the release station, the casting station, and the lure making station. As the students rotated through the stations, Principal Nickel assisted each students fish release in the river. He then joined each group on shore for a question an answer exercise of Salmon trivia. The bus had left and returned with a second 4th grade class at 10:00 am, switching with the earlier 9:00 class.

Teacher Pam Clark assisted me to keep things running smoothly. With eight mothers, our tank cleaning crew; Dan Didocha, Bob LaRowe, Paul Brown, and six Steelheaders, we were well supported.

After the students released their fish, the moms got their chance to do the same. The students enjoyed watching their moms walk out in the river and release fish. We also got the bus driver to release the last three salmon. Starting with 196 eggs, we released 181 smolts, a very good number. We wish to thank the teachers, Katy Engle and Pam Clark, Principal Gordon Nickel, the tank cleaning crew, and the moms. Also our fishing guides through the morning, thank you Mark Carlson, Steve Genoff, Dennis Harper, Chris Nytko, Bill Stanly and Jim Zanke. Additionally, Dreamweaver Lures aided our success with their donations of lure tape and blanks with which the students made up great creations.



Special People 2016 Photos (See them all at www.detroitsteelheaders.com/gallery)













Fishin' Tales Page 8

Upcoming 2016 DAS Key Dates

Tues., June 28, 2016

7:30pm

Membership Meeting

American Polish Cultural Center

Sat., July 9, 2016 6:30am - 1:00pm

Walleye Outing

Saginaw Bay - Sebewaing Marina

Tues., July 12, 2016

7:00pm

BOD Meeting

American Polish Cultural Center

Tues., July 26, 2016

7:30pm

Membership Meeting

American Polish Cultural Center

Sat., July 30, 2016

Boat Trolling Tournament 6:00am - 1:00pm Port Austin

Attendance: 45

Featured Speaker: **Andy Monnich**

> **MI DNR Conservation Officer** 1st DAS Scholarship Winner

50/50 Raffle Winner: \$88 - Don Jasmin

Every Member Draw: Terry McCafferty

Not Present

2016 May Membership Meeting Facts

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.

ROYAL OAK, MI 48067 200 N LAFAYETTE **TOM GORGUZE**

Membership expires: 516

www.detroitsteelheaders.com We're on the Web:

7/6I GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE

MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

Here Place Stamp .gnO Jihon-Profit