



FISHIN' TALES

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

April Meeting

When:

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 7:30pm

Where:

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

Featured Guest Speaker :

Ray VanZytveld, Spring Fishing in St. Joe and Grand Haven; Targeting Big Fish

Other Happenings:

Tournament & Outing info., Tackle raffles, 50/50 raffle, Every member drawing

Up-To-Date Information on the DAS website at:

www.detroitsteelheaders.com

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Volume XXXX, Issue IV

April 2015

333 Best of the Best Back-to-Back Champion Speaks in April

Ray VanZytveld, Skipper of the Early Bird out of Grand Haven will be our guest speaker at the April Membership meeting. He is the only Back-to-Back 2 time Champion of the 333 Best of the Best and Overall Champion on the Tournament Trail. Ray fishes out of a 272 SportCraft and is a DreamWeaver Pro Staff speaker.

He will be talking about Spring fishing in St. Joe and Grand Haven and will focus on targeting Big Fish.

This will be just in time for our upcoming tournaments at these ports so you won't want to miss the information he will be presenting. See you at the meeting.

Boat Trolling Season Opens at Lexington

It was certainly a nice surprise to have 7 club boats show up for the Boat Trolling Season Opener at Lexington, but as it turns both the fishing and the weather could have been better.

Actually, it was pretty nice for the 6:30am start, the sun rising on fair skies with the winds light out of the west and the waves less than 1ft. The boats scattered from as far south as Lakeport State Park (about 8 miles) to north of Camp Cavell (about 5 miles) which is about halfway to Port Sanilac. They were also scattered in regards to depths from 17-20FOW to 35-40FOW and even out to 80-90FOW.

But the story was about the same everywhere, the fish were few and far between if you were lucky enough to even catch some as only 4 boats managed to catch fish.

Body baits, smaller spoons and even dodgers and spin-n-gloves were taking the fish. There didn't seem to be much of a pattern although baits with some green in them were doing the best.

However, about 9:30am as the weather guys were predicting, the wind switched around out of the north to northeast at 15-20 mph and it didn't take long for the lake to kick up with white caps and waves in the 3ø to 4ø range. Unless you were trolling with the waves, it made fishing rather uncomfortable and with surface temps in the low 40ø the air temperature became rather cold.

Port captain Dan Chisholm having one of the smaller more open boats called it quits early as he and his crew were getting bounced around pretty good. Other boats were radioing in about the uncomfortable conditions, so Tournament Co-Chairman Bob Feisel felt it was best to call the end of the tournament at

11:30am (Just long enough to make it a legal tournament). He did not receive any complaints about that decision. Because some boats might have a slow bouncy ride back to the harbor, he also decided to allow everyone until 1:00pm to get to the weigh-in line.

At the park just in-shore from the Marina, Port Captain Dan Chisholm and his three crewmates were preparing a delicious lunch of grilled Italian sausage, mixed peppers and onions, chili, chips, cookies and cold refreshments. It was another fine job by the Channing crew that the captains and crews enjoyed immensely.

The four boats that did the catching weighed in a total of 8 fish. Not exactly what you would call spectacular fishing but I believe everyone still had a good time. For 1st place,

Captain Tom Gorguze and the Bad Dog crew with 33.55 pts. edged out Skipper Blaise Pewinski and his crew with 30.65pts. The Saluki crew with Skipper John Meade managed 3rd place with 22.55 pts.

As a side note, we were sharing the harbor, facilities and the lake with 50 boats competing in the Spring Fling money tournament. With their 6:00am start and our 6:30am start plus the fact that they did not need to return to the harbor until 2:00pm, everything went pretty smooth there. The fishing was not much better for them either as 1-2 fish was about the average for the not quite half of them that caught fish.

Thanks to all the captains and crews for participating and we're looking forward to the next tournament at St. Joe on May 2 plus we be having another friendly fish-off with the Huron Valley Sportfishing Club.

Tight Lines and hope to see you on the water!

Complete Results and Photos on Pg. 5 **Bob Ksionzek**



The 'Bad Dog' Crew - 1st Place at Lexington

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Memberships *WELCOME!*

MIKE CORTIS	ANTHONY CORTIS			
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Re-Newed Memberships

ROBERT BUTKIEWICZ	DAVID HOPCROFT	DAVID MAYFIELD	GIL PIESCZAK	DARRELL SMITH
HERMANN CHRISTOPH	JAMES LORENZETTI	THOMAS OSENTOSKI	GARY RUPRICH	BRUCE TURNAGE

Memberships Expired

2 mo. Ago Last Reminder:	MARK GAZDA	TRAVIS WHITE	CARL VENTIMIGLIA	
1 Mo. Ago First Reminder:	DAN CHISHOLM	ANTHONY LEWIS	PAUL NIENALTOWSKI	ANNE SCHAMBIE
	CHARLES DENNING	GALEN HULL	ROB PINSKEY	MIKE SCHAMBIE
This Month:	GASPARE ARAGONA	CHIP DIAMOND	BOB JONES	GARY ROWOLDT
	RICHARD BARCH	TOM ECKERT	JIM LEGENZOFF	SHANE TAYLOR
	SCOTT BECKINGTON	STEPHEN GENOFF	TOM MOORES	JIM TOOHEY
	JEFF BUSTOS	JOHN GESING	RON PAL FAMILY	ALLAN VAN BROCKLIN
	NORM DAVIES	STEVEN HENKEL	ADAM PLANK	MIKE VERMEESCH

2015 DAS Membership Drive

Tuesday, April 28, 2015, our April membership meeting will be the last opportunity to take advantage of this year's membership incentive. 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.

You will receive a free tackle pack valued at \$35 with a fully paid new regular membership (\$35) or new senior membership (\$20). This would be a great time to get that friend you have been wanting to join to sign up.

You can also sign up on our website at www.detroitsteelheaders.com. You will receive your free tackle pack instantly if you sign up at the membership meeting. If you sign up online, you can collect your tackle pack at any following membership meeting. See Membership Chairman Jon Martens or his assistant Tom Theida at the meeting.



BOD Announces New Boat Trolling Tournament Fee!

Great News! As a result of the financially successful Wild Game Dinner, the Board of Directors has decided to lower the cost of the Boat tournament fees to \$10 per boat per tournament. There will be no optional Annual fee. Just simply \$10 per boat per tournament. Hopefully, this added member benefit will increase participation.

As of this time, this will only apply to the 2015 Boat Trolling season. The future successes of our

only fund raiser, the Wild Game Dinner, will decide whether this will remain in effect.

Keep in mind your involvement, participation and promotion of the Wild Game Dinner will help to insure that these low priced tournament fees will remain a benefit for all members in years to come.

Any questions contact Bob Ksionzek at 586-531-9198 or Bob Feisel at 248-765-2504.

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Hgts., MI 48311-1255

Membership Application

New Member - \$35 Yearly

Renewal - \$35 Yearly

Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly

Address Change only

Amt. Paid \$ _____

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



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Shows, Wild Game Dinner

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GASPARE ARAGONA

Meeting - PA System

248-656-8478

BOB FEISEL

Boat Trolling, Photography

248-765-2504

PAUL GJELDUM

Trophies

(586) 615-1928

BOB KSIONZEK

Newsletter Editor, Website, Boat Trolling

517-449-3036

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Coalition, Publicity

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Wild Game Dinner

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MARK WILLIAMS

Speakers & Education

810-395-8789

JIM ZANKE

Special People

586-489-2041

Assistants

LINDA BANBURY

Special People

MARY KARAKAS

Special People

St. Joe Tournament, Sat., May 2

On May 2, 2015 the DAS tournament crews will make their way to the beautiful port city of St. Joe to fish the salmon rich waters of Lake Michigan. This port has been a favorite of mine over the years, because the salmon fishery is usually found fairly close to shore.

This time of year salmon and trout seem to fill the waters from 10 to 70 feet of water to feed on bait fish that move into the warming waters close to shore. Areas to target for the fleet should include the mouth of the mighty St. Joe River where the warm river water meets the cooler lake water. Large salmon and trout like to use this stained water as structure to hide in the dirty water edges and ambush bait fish as they cruise by in the clear warming waters.

The Cook power plant located south of port a few miles has a warm water discharge that attracts plenty of hungry predators to the area. On your way down to the power plant you should watch for stained water close to shore in the area of the chalet houses and high banks. These areas produce a lot of fish over the years. I believe the key to success to fishing this port is finding pockets of warmer water than the rest of the lake has.

Tactics used by the Sea Hag over the years have been 3,5, and 7 color lead core on the boards, long lead lines set on down riggers, and dipsey divers with spin doctors and flies. One thing we all need to remember is this fishery all over the lake has been changing, and you should not rule out trolling close to bottom with a dodger and spin-n-glow for some of the most beautiful lake trout this lake has to offer.

Top baits in years past are Thin Fins, jointed Rapalas, Wiggle Warts and Hot-n-Tots off the boards on clear mono lines; and Blue Dolphin, Green Dolphin, Orange Crush, SOG Frog and Smurf spoons on the lead cores and riggers.

West Basin Marina will host our event this year and the skippers meeting should be at 5.30am with tourney to start at 6.30am. One thing about this port that we should all take warning, the river produces large fields of trash and junk that float down the system after the spring rains that flood the river. Watch out for logs, tires etc.

Lunch will be served by team Sea Hag after the weigh in, so bring a good appetite. We will also be once again having a friendly fish-off with the Huron Valley Sportfishing Club.

See You on the Water!
Blaise Pewinski 'Sea Hag'

GRAND HAVEN TOURNAMENT

Sat., May 16 and Sun., May 17, 2015 (2-day tournament)

Grand Haven Municipal Marina, 101 N. Harbor Dr., Grand Haven (616) 847-3478

Saturday: Skippers meeting at 5:00 am with tournament start at 6:00 am. Fish calls at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Pull lines by 1:00 pm with weigh-in at Municipal Marina on the hill at 2:00 pm.

Sunday: No skippers meeting on Sunday. Tournament will start at 6:00 am. We will do a radio check-in shortly after the 6 am start. (Monitor channel 72). There will be one fish call at 8:30 am. Pull lines by 11:00 am. Weigh-in at 12:00 pm.

Check the Detroit Area Steelheaders website (http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com/Port_Handouts/GrandHaven_Handout.pdf) for additional information on where to stay, local restaurants, marinas, and tactics to use while fishing Grand Haven.

Early spring in Grand Haven provides opportunities to fish for Coho, Kings, Steelhead, and Lake Trout. The shallow, warm, muddy plume of water from the Grand River, 10-40 ft deep, can be a good place to start. Watch for flocks of seagulls diving into the water. The gulls are feeding on large schools of baitfish, and it is very likely that you will find big predator fish there that are also enjoying an easy meal.

Going deeper, the Trenchö is a rocky flats area in 60-75 feet of water a few miles southwest of the piers. This can be a good area to target Chinook salmon and Lake Trout.

(Reminder: Lake Trout size limit is minimum 15", creel limit of 3 / person.)

There are lots of things to see and do in Grand Haven. The week-end of May 16-17 is when they have the annual Great Lakes kite festival at the state park beach on Lake Michigan. Watch for the spectacular kite display when you are near shore, just south of the piers. Looking forward to having a great fishing weekend!

Bob Feisel

2015 Boat Trolling Tournaments

Date	Port	Port Captain
April 18 (6:30am - 1:30pm)	Lexington	Dan Chisholm
May 2 (6:00am - 1:00pm) plus Fish Off vs. Huron Valley Sportfishing Club	St. Joseph	Blaise Pewinski
May 16 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Grand Haven	Bob Feisel
May 17 (6:00am - 11:00am)		
June 13 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Harbor Beach	Paul Gjeldum
July 18 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Muskegon	John Meade
August 1 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Olcott, NY	Jim Zanke
August 15 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Ludington	Joe Von Grabe
August 29 (6:00am - 1:00pm)	Manistee	Bob Paradise

Special People Outing

Save the Date

Saturday, June 6, 2015

Each year our Detroit Area Steelheaders organization hosts a group of "Special People" for a day of fun and fishing. What is this group of special people? It's a group of people young and not so young who face a physical or emotional challenge. They are men and women, children and adults who come together one day each year to spend a day with us having fun. "Special People Day" is a social outing with their friends where they spend the morning on Lake Erie catching fish. After fishing, lunch is provided under the big tent where our "Special People" socialize and show off their 'days catch'. The remainder of the event is filled with pictures, prizes, and fun.

Boats will launch from the Toledo Beach boat launch in the morning after the Captains meeting. Toledo Beach has allowed those boats participating to launch for free. Participants will join them at the boat launch. When they come in the participants will disembark the boats at the docks and will be shuttled to the picnic shelter while the boats are pulled from the water. Picnic will be held in one of the parks picnic shelters in the Day Use area. Captains can bring their boats on the trailers to the picnic area parking lot to park. We will have the picnic when all Boats and Crews arrive. For those wanting to spend the night, Toledo Beach has also OK'd one night's dockage for free

DAS sponsors this event as a way to give back to our community but its success comes from the experience of our members. Each person who helps out knows they are part of a worthwhile cause and the event is sustained because our members keep coming back.

This event has continued for over 30 years now and your help is needed to keep it going. The DAS needs captains, boats, ground crew helpers, and donations. If you can help in any way please call DAS "Special People" chair Mary Karakas, Linda Banbury or Anthony Lewis @ 517-'449-3036.

Platte River to Receive 800,000 Coho Salmon Stocking This Spring

The Michigan DNR recently stocked coho salmon in the Platte River near the Platte River State Fish Hatchery in Beulah (Benzie County), Michigan.

The Platte River is the birthplace of coho salmon in the Great Lakes, following the species' experimental introduction there in 1966 to control the alewife population and to create a sport fishery. Today, nearly 50 years later, the Platte River State Fish Hatchery is the only hatchery in Michigan that rears coho salmon. The hatchery also serves as the primary egg source for the Great Lakes.

Each year more than 1.5 million coho salmon are reared at the Platte River State Fish Hatchery. Approximately half of those fish are stocked each spring directly into the Platte River, which flows through the hatchery's grounds. For eight days over the course of the first two weeks in April, 100,000 fish are stocked each day. Prior to that, the coho salmon are intensively cared for at the hatchery for 18 months, the most critical life stage for the fish. When stocked, these fish are typically between 5 and 7 inches long and are just beginning to smolt.

The smolting process causes physiological changes in juvenile salmon, resulting in imprinting to their home stream. Following the smolting process, the juvenile coho salmon will migrate to Lake Michigan to spend the next 18 months growing and maturing. Once mature, usually by the fall of the following year, they will migrate back to their home stream, spawn and complete the life cycle.

Boat Sales Increase 8.5% in 2014

Led by four segments that topped 40,000 in sales, the recreational boating industry finished 2014 with moderate growth of 6% in the main powerboat segments and 8.5% industry wide. Aluminum fishing and pontoon boats, small to midsized fiberglass outboards and personal watercraft were the top categories as the industry sold 226,494 boats nationwide last year, 17,804 more than it sold the previous year, Statistical Surveys reported.

Sales of fiberglass outboards rose 10.1% for the year to 42,693 boats. Aluminum fishing boats gained 6.4% to 41,965 and aluminum pontoons rose 5.8% to 41,143. The industry enjoyed its third year in a row of sales that topped 200,000 as it continues its recovery from the Great Recession. Sales in 2013 were up 5.8% in the main segments and just 1.9% industry wide, finishing at 208,690, but the broader industry did better in 2014, in large part because of PWC sales, which climbed by 8,331, or 21.1%, to 47,864.

Walleye Outing on Detroit River Planned for April 25

Who is interested in a Walleye outing on the Detroit River? I'd like to organize a group to fish out of Wyandotte. The ramp is about 1 mile south from where Southfield Road hits Jefferson (Biddle). We can kick in \$20 for each boat and pay out the top three spots. The ramp will be busy but the line moves quickly. After launching, and on your return, they run people back and forth with a golf cart to speed up the process.

Let's meet near the Speedboat Bar off Jefferson at 6:00AM. We can get in the ramp line about the same time. Pull lines at 11:30AM and head back to the parking lot to weigh-in. We can warm up and grab a bite to eat at the Speedway before heading home.

Wyandotte is about the mid point of the Detroit River. Good quality launch site with 2 lane ramp and lots of parking. Facilities include restrooms, bait, some tackle, and limited sandwiches and sodas. You can clean your fish at the site. Hand-lining and Jigging are the two popular techniques this time of year. Immediate access to the river once

you leave the launch area. This is a great fishery and you don't need a big boat to feel safe. Let me know if you are attending. My number is 248 343-8397.

Wyandotte Ramp
711 Jefferson Ave (Biddle)
Wyandotte, MI 48192
(734) 284-6774

Fees: Launch fee is \$6.00 for your boat.
Directions: Easy to find. From I75 or I94 take Southfield Road south until you hit Jefferson. Make a right turn and the ramp will be on your left side 1.1 miles down Jefferson (Biddle). Turn left on St. Johns at the Speedboat Bar & Grille (there is a light at this intersection) and the ramp will be right in front of you. Jefferson is also called Biddle Ave in the Wyandotte area. Ramp is north of the city of Wyandotte.

Tom Gorguze
"Bad Dog"

Lexington Standings												4/18/2015					
Place	Boat Name	Skipper	# of Fish Weighed	Catch by Species & Weight								Best 8 Total Wgt.	Best 8 Total Pts.	Deduction Code	Points Deducted	Total Points	Place
1	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	3	L 8.50	L 5.50	S 4.55	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	18.55	33.55	NONE	0.00	33.55	1
2	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	2	K 10.35	L 10.30	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	20.65	30.65	NONE	0.00	30.65	2
3	Saluki	John Meade	2	L 8.30	S 4.25	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	12.55	22.55	NONE	0.00	22.55	3
4	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	1	L 9.35	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	9.35	14.35	NONE	0.00	14.35	4
5	Channing	Dan Chisolm	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	5
5	Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	6
6	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	7
-	-	-	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	0.00	20

	Boat Name	Species	Wgt.	Number Caught	7	Total Boats	
L A R G E S T	BIG FISH	Sea Hag	King	10.35			Deduction Code LEGEND LTSM = Late To Skipper's Mtg. LTWI = Late To Weigh-In 1NFC = No Answer 1 Fish Call 2NFC = No Answer 2 Fish Calls UCC = Unauthorized Crew Chg. DQ = Disqualified
		Sea Hag	King	10.35	1		
			Coho	0.00	0		
		Sea Hag	Lake Trout	10.30	5		
		Bad Dog	Steelhead	4.55	2		
			Brown	0.00	0		
			Atlantic	0.00	0		
		Pink	0.00	0			
				8			



2nd Place - 'Sea Hag' - Skipper Blaise Pewinski
Big Fish - 10.35lb. King



4th Place - 'Vicki's Seacret' - Skipper Bob Feisel

Upcoming 2015 DAS Key Dates

Tues., Apr. 28, 2015 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Sat., May 2, 2015 6:00am - 1:00pm	Boat Trolling Tournament St. Joseph
Tues., May 12, 2015 7:00pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Sat., May 16, 2015 6:00am - 1:00pm	Boat Trolling Tournament Grand Haven
Sat., May 17, 2015 6:00am - 11:00pm	
Tues., May 26, 2015 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center

2015 March Membership Meeting Facts

<u>Attendance:</u>	60
<u>Featured Speaker:</u>	Dan O'Keefe Michigan Sea Grant
<u>50/50 Raffle Winner:</u>	\$105 Jeff Bustos
<u>Every Member Draw:</u>	Dick Shirk - Not Present

DNR Asks Anglers to Report Tagged Walleye

The Michigan DNR is set to jaw tag nearly 3,000 walleyes in Saginaw Bay this spring. Anglers are asked to collect information on tagged fish they catch and to report it to the DNR.

The DNR has tagged more than 100,000 walleyes in that water body since 1981. Jaw tagging is part of a long-term research project to monitor survival and harvest rates and to learn about walleye movement. The program depends on anglers to report when they catch a tagged walleye, as well as the fish's length, weight (if known) and tag identification number. Once reported, anglers will receive a letter back detailing the history of their fish.

About 10% of the tags include a \$100 reward for reporting the tag. Each tag is stamped with a unique identifying number and a P.O. Box address. If an-

glers prefer, they can report their tagged walleyes online at www.michigandnr.com/taggedfish/. Anglers can keep the fish, of course, or release it if they prefer.

"This information is essential to measuring the health of the population," said David Fielder, a research biologist out of the DNR's Alpena Fisheries Research Station. "Besides ensuring the walleye fishery remains sustainable, we also annually estimate the population size with the aid of these tag reports."

The tagging operation occurs each spring on the Tittabawassee River when walleyes are in the river for spawning. They are collected with electrofishing boats that temporarily stun the fish, which are then tagged and released back into the river. After spawning, walleyes migrate back into Saginaw Bay. Some walleyes will migrate out of the bay and into other parts of Lake Huron.

BLAISE PEWINSKI
1475 BELLE RIVER
ALLENTON, MI 48002

Membership expires: 9999068



PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE
GREAT LAKES SPORTSFISHERY SINCE
1974
MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

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Org.
Place Stamp
Here