



Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume XXXX, Issue XI

November 2015

November Meeting

- **When:**
Tuesday, November 24, 2015
7:30pm
- **Where:**
American Polish Cultural Center
NW corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- **Featured Guest Speaker:**
Jim Baker, MI DNR Unit Supervisor
Saginaw Bay - "Walleye & Perch
Populations"
- **Other Happenings:**
River, Surf & Pier Tournament/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 web-
site for the most up-to-date club
news and information



Once Again, DAS Anglers Prevail Versus Metro-West

Metro-West has many more people show up but DAS manages to catch plenty of fish!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders started fishing at 6:30 am; arriving to the pier by 4:00ish to get a "good" spot. There were six of us. Blaise Pewinski, Adam Plank, Tom Thieda, Dan Whitmill, Gaspare Aragona, and Bob Paradise, plus Robbie and his son. Fishing conditions were rough with a strong 25mph+ west wind. We decided to fish the north pier, the weeds were brutal. We ended up with a



lots of tangles and plenty of lost tackle. The pier outing was also to be against the Metro West Steelheaders and there was also a tournament going on at the Lake Shore Hotel. We fished till 4:30pm, went to the motel and weighed our fish. After the small weigh in, we went to join Metro West at Rainbow Bend on the Manistee River. Metro West had about 25 people with 3-5 fish, the DAS had 6-8 people with 15-20 fish. We

left the Rainbow Bend park area with the traveling trophy and went to the small ceremony and dinner at Lakeshore Motel. We had a good dinner and waited till the all the awards were passed out. Dave Roehr met us there also. He was fishing on the south pier not realizing we were on the north pier.

In the Lakeshore Motel event, Bob Paradise took a 5th place and Tom Thieda took a 6th place. Over all just about everyone caught fish and had a great time.

Annually, this is a great event and it would be nice to have more people in attendance. The fishing is really laid back and the camaraderie is great. We hope to see some new faces out on the river in the future.

Tom Theida

DNR Holds the Line on 2016 King Salmon Stockings

Posted on November 9, 2015 by Howard Meyerson

Grand Rapids, MI ó Lake Michigan will be stocked with 1.7 million chinook salmon in 2016, the same number as the past few years. Lake fish managers plan to hold the course rather than cut stocking in light of a dismal 2015 chinook salmon fishery.

õIn April, I was ready to go to the (Great Lakes Fishery Commission) Lake Committee and recommend reducing it,õ explained Jay Wesley, Michigan DNR's Lake Michigan Basin Coordinator. õWe weren't seeing a big rebound in prey (alewives) and the advisors didn't want to see the fishery collapse. Working with the committee through the summer we started to see wild recruitment was way down too. Then the lake warmed



Lake Michigan Salmon Anglers trolling for Salmon off the Port of Muskegon this past spring
Photo by Howard Meyerson

up and people started seeing alewives near shore. We grew confident that a

Stockings (Cont'd on Pg.5)

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS**Currently: 149 Members****New Memberships Welcome!****Re-Newed Memberships**

JOSE D. ANGELES	JOEL GARINGER	DENNIS HOLOWAY	GEORGE VIDUSIC	
CHARLES EDDY	ROGER HINCHCLIFF	JOHN MEADE		

Memberships Expired

2 mo. Ago Last Reminder:	LYNN MARTIN			
1 Mo. Ago First Reminder:	DAVID CHRISTENSON	BOB FEISEL	MIKE LOLLI	CARL VENTIMIGLIA
	ROD ELNICK	FRED HYNICK	DAN TITUS & FAMILY	TY VOIGT
This Month:	DAN WHITMILL			

**Tackle Matters**

This month's featured items are pictured above. A Shimano Charter Special 2000 LD reel and an Eagle Claw 7' 6' med/light trolling/downrigger rod. Note that these two are not a matched set. Both are big water tackle that will be useful items to work into your existing fishing arsenal and will be considered one raffle prize. When I head up to Standish next week I will be stopping at Northwood's to look for non-fishing items (hunting equipment or apparel) to add to the table in order to mix things up and keep it interesting for everyone. Good luck this month and thank you for supporting the clubs raffles.

Please let me know your ideas on what type of stuff you would like to see on the tackle raffle table.

Dan Chisholm

DAS 2015-2016 Fall/Winter River, Surf, Pier & Ice Fishing Tournaments/Outings

Sat., Dec. 12, 2015

Caseville Lake Trout River Outing

Sat., Jan. 30, 2016

Mitchell's Bay Perch Ice Fishing Outing

Sat., Feb. 20, 2016Lake Erie Walleye Ice Fishing Outing
(Ohio Waters)**For More Information,**

contact **Bob Paradise (586) 457-4073** or
Blaise Pewinski (248) 890-4517

DON'T MISS THE DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

The Board of Directors of the Detroit Area Steelheaders urge all Members AND their families to plan on attending the annual Christmas party/meeting on Tuesday, December 15 at the American Polish Cultural Center. Festivities begin at 7:30pm.

Highlights include presentation of the "Skipper of the Year" awards and the Big Fish trophies, plus elections for the Board of Directors for next year.

There will also be a door prize drawing featuring smoked hams and turkeys from Country Smokehouse in Almont, along with bottles of your favorite holiday cheer! Every member and their spouse (our by-laws state the spouses are members too) will receive a ballot for the directors elections and a raffle ticket for the door prize drawing. We will also have a 50/50 drawing in which tickets can be purchased for \$1 each or 7 for \$5 and our "Every Member" Drawing where a member who is in attendance and their name is drawn will win \$100

However, the big moment of the evening will featuring the traditional appearance of "Salmon Claus" who will have gifts for all the kids on hand.

It promises to be a fun-filled evening so we hope to see all DAS members and their families there.

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****BLAISE PEWINSKI**

President

Shows, Wild Game Dinner
248-890-4517**TOM GORGUZE**

Vice-President

Hats, Shirts & Jackets
248-343-8397**DAN CHISHOLM**

Secretary

Raffles, Elections
586-530-9171**ROD ELNICK**

Treasurer

Salmon-In-Classroom, Scholarships
586-214-8812**BOB FEISEL**

Boat Trolling, Photography

248-765-2504**PAUL GJELDUM**

Trophies

(586) 615-1928**BOB JONES**

WGD Tickets

734-751-1767**BOB KSIONZEK**

Newsletter Editor, Website, Boat Trolling

586-531-9198**ANTHONY LEWIS**

Coalition, Publicity

517-449-3036**JON MARTENS**

Membership, Donations

586-246-7880**BOB PARADISE**

River, Surf & Pier

586-781-2543**TOM THEIDA**

Co-Membership, Meeting PA Sys.

586-206-5902**CARL VENTIMIGLIA**

Wild Game Dinner

586-615-7459**MARK WILLIAMS**

Speakers & Education

810-395-8789**JIM ZANKE**

Special People

586-489-2041**Assistants****LINDA BANBURY**

Special People

MARY KARAKAS

Special People

DAS Board of Directors Election

DAS By-Laws call for Board of Directors election at the annual meeting each year. This year's annual meeting will occur on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at our normal meeting location American Polish Cultural Center (APCC) located on 15 Mile Road at Dequindre.



Any dues paying member or officer can place a nomination. A nomination should be submitted at least 20 days (November 25) before the election. It should be in writing and signed. If you wish to become involved in the operation of the DAS you are welcome to run for election to the Board of Directors (BOD). New people bring new ideas, different perspective, and enthusiasm. Your club needs you. Please consider placing yourself in nomination for a club BOD position.

To submit a name for this year's ballot:

Mail it - email it - or write it up and give it to me at any membership meeting. Include the person's name and contact information. Have the nominated person sign it so we all know he/she is willing to serve if elected.

Dan Chisholm
47833 Mallard Dr.
Chesterfield, MI. 48047 - 586-949-4215 - dan.chisholm223@gmail.com

The officers of the club consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These four officer positions are selected from among the at-large members during the first board meeting each year. At large board members are elected for a three year term and are assigned or volunteer to serve on one of the ten "standing committees":

Fund Raising
Publicity
Speakers and Education
Membership
Newsletter
Boat Tournaments
River Tournaments
Shows
Political Action (Coalition)
Special Events

The board meets at 7:00 pm at the APCC two Tuesday's prior to the general membership meeting each Month. Food and beverages are provided. The board does not meet in August so there are 11 board meetings each year.

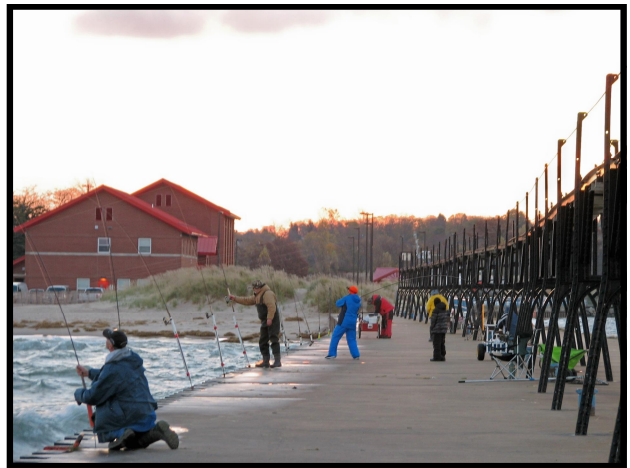
Nomination for the 2016 Detroit Steelheaders Board of Directors

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



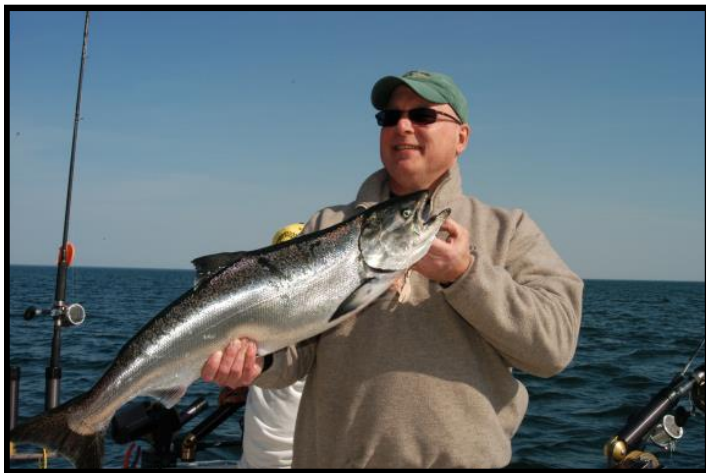
**Manistee Photos
Nov. 7, 2015**



Stockings (Cont'd from Pg.1)

spawning event was shaping up and convinced ourselves to hold the line.

“This season probably has the lowest (chinook) catch rates we’ve seen. There were days it was good, but it would disappear just as fast. And the (fall) river runs have been very poor throughout the lake – maybe a little better from Muskegon south – but well below average.”



Anglers Still Catch Chinooks on Lake Michigan, but They are Fewer in Number and Smaller in Size These Days
Photo by Howard

Three years of cuts

The 2016 stocking decision comes three years following a decision by Lake Michigan fishery managers to cut chinook stocking by 50 percent lakewide, starting in 2013. The idea was to conserve the dwindling alewife population. The catch and forage base would be monitored for three years before deciding if further cuts were needed.

At the start of the 2015 fishing season, Wesley thought cuts were imminent. He said the Lake Michigan salmon population was down as far as it would go, about 75 percent below the peak in 2012. The decline, he says, is the result of the lakewide stocking cut and a decline in wild fish being caught, which dropped from 60 to 40 percent of the catch.

Dennis Eade, executive director for the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen’s Association supports the state’s decision to hold the line.



State Fisheries Managers Say Today’s Smaller Salmon Fishery is More in Balance with Food Available for Them to Eat.
Photo: Howard Meyerson

His group once strongly urged the Michigan DNR to eliminate chinook stocking in an effort to preserve alewives. They feared the fishery would

crash as it did in Lake Huron when alewives disappeared. Eade said he is encouraged to learn the 2015 alewife year-class looks good on Lake Michigan.

“I think it’s a wise move to keep stocking at 2015 levels so there are some fish out there,” Eade noted. “At one point I did advocate no

planting at all. I was being dramatic; it was a wake-up call. I am still very worried and some of my members are too. We love to target silver fish and don’t find the same gratification catching lake trout. Because of that I see the potential for a drop in sport fisher’s numbers. And that is an incredible threat.”

Salmon swim all over the lake

Hatchery-raised chinook salmon have coded wire tags embedded in their snouts. They have clipped adipose fins so anglers can distinguish them from wild fish and turn the heads in for data collection. The collected wire tags tell researchers where and when the fish were stocked. That combined with knowing where they were caught provides insight about chinook salmon behavior.

For instance, 88.6 percent of chinooks stocked in Lake Huron in 2014 were recovered in Lake Michigan, according to data collected by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which handles the mass marking assessments. Only .3 percent of the Lake Michigan stocked salmon turned up in Lake Huron.

Wisconsin stocked salmon show up more

Chuck Bronte, an FWS senior biologist at the Green Bay National Fish and Wildlife Conservation office, presented an update to members of the Lake Michigan Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee at its September meeting in Grand Haven. Coded wire tag data, he said, showed Wisconsin-stocked fish showed up more frequently in the lakewide fishery than those stocked in Michigan waters. Anglers fishing at southern Lake Michigan ports caught Wisconsin-stocked salmon and some stocked at Manistee while northern Michigan anglers caught Wisconsin-stocked salmon and those stocked at southern ports.

Michigan now stocks Lake Michigan with 560,000 chinooks annually. Wisconsin stocks 724,000 and Indiana and Illinois stock 200,000 and 230,000 respectively. Why Wisconsin fish fared better is still a matter of conjecture.

“It may be their early life survival is higher,” Wesley surmised. “Chinooks leave rivers (in spring as young smolts) and feed along the beach in shallow water at first. But our (Michigan) waters are cold so nothing has started; there is no zooplankton or small fish. On the other side, because of the west wind, they can at least eat terrestrial insects and maybe enough to survive.”

Other coded tag findings show that Michigan anglers catch Wisconsin-stocked salmon while Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan anglers catch wild salmon from Michigan – where most are produced.

Why Michigan’s wild salmon are caught more frequently the state’s hatchery salmon may be a matter of timing, Wesley said. Hatchery salmon are stocked when they are ready to smolt. They are reared in controlled conditions where schedules are not flexible. They may grow and develop faster than wild fish.

“They grow according to temperature and when they are ready to go, they are ready to go,” Wesley said.

Wild salmon, by contrast, may be slower to develop. They too grow based on temperature and smolt when they are ready, but they may smolt later in the season when lake conditions may be more conducive to survival.

Upcoming 2015 DAS Key Dates

Tues., Nov. 24, 2015 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Tues., Dec. 8, 2015 7:00pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Sat., Dec. 12, 2015	Lake Trout River Outing Caseville
Tues., Dec. 15, 2015 7:30pm	Membership Meeting/Xmas Party American Polish Cultural Center

2015 October Membership Meeting Facts

<u>Attendance:</u>	57
<u>Featured Speaker:</u>	Bob Paradise & Tom Theida Pier & Surf Fishing
<u>Also Featured:</u>	Pot Luck Snack Night
<u>50/50 Raffle Winner:</u>	\$110 - Richard Janis
<u>Every Member Draw:</u>	Dave Linder (Not Present)

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/)

(<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)

(<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)

(<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.

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

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MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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