



# Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

**April Meeting** 

**When:**  
Tuesday, April 30, 2013 7:30pm

**Where:**  
American Polish Cultural Center  
North West corner  
15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre

**Featured Speaker:**  
Capt. Dan Keating  
"The Basics to Consistent Catches"

**Other Happenings:**  
Boat Tournament info, River out-  
ing reports, Tackle raffles, 50/50  
raffle, Every member drawing

**Up-To-Date Information on  
the DAS website at:**  
[www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com)

Volume XXXVIII, Issue IV

April 2013

## Capt. Dan Keating Featured Speaker at April Meeting

Captain Dan Keating has been chasing big water salmon and trout for over 30 years as a charter captain and tournament angler. Dan is passionate about fishing and he freely shares his wealth of experience with others through highly informative seminars, books and video. He is the author of three books:

- Keating on Kings, Great Lakes Chinook Tactics Way Beyond The Basics
- Great Lakes Salmon & Trout Fishing, The Complete Troller's Guide and Angling Life
- A Fisherman Reflects on Success, Failure and the Ultimate Catch.

Dan has also produced two DVD's on salmon fishing the Great Lakes. Dan is Field Editor For Great Lakes Angler Magazine and his articles have appeared in over 20 periodicals. His specialty is in light line tactics.

Captain Dan Keating fishes from The Blue Hori-

zon, which is one of the newest charter boats in the fleet. It is a fast, stable, 32-foot Pursuit, and is rigged with state of the art equipment. He currently fishes out of North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor, IL. North Point Marina is located on the north side of Chicago. Dan fishes from April to October for all of the Trout and Salmon species in Lake Michigan. Seasonal fish that are targeted during specific months of the year can be found on his website for more detailed information.

Dan's featured topic is "The Basics to Consistent Catches". As is the case at all of our membership meetings, guests are welcomed, however all non-members will be asked for a \$10 donation.

To contact Captain Keating to book a chartered trip, please email him at [bluehorizon1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bluehorizon1@sbcglobal.net) or give him a call at (877) 783-2270. His website is found at: <http://www.bluehorizonsportfishing.net/>



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## St. Joe Salmon Trolling Bonanza ... Saturday, May 4, 2013

It's the time of year we have all been waiting for, the start of the DAS boat trolling tournaments. I hope all of you have prepared for another great year on the big water, I know I have!

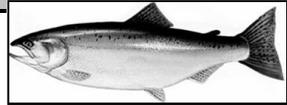
The St. Joe area of Lake Michigan has produced some of the finest salmon and trout fishing offered for spring boat trollers. The fish aren't always the biggest of the year but Kings are often caught in the 15 lbs. or larger size. They are probably some of the finest eating and fighting fish. Having spent the winter in the lower lake and waiting for the water to warm seems to send these fish in a feeding frenzy once the waters warm to 42 or 44 degrees. Great spots to find warm water off St. Joe would be the warm water discharge by Cook power plant and off the river mouth. Both areas hold nice schools of salmon and trout when the water warms.

Last year was a little different. We found the warmer water further out in the lake and a little deeper than usual, and the fish were snapping at everything. A few boats did well only fishing

lead core lines in 5, 7 and 10 color, while others had great bites on riggers, divers and cores. Many boats came in early with limit catches of large and small fish, the bigger fish seemed to bite later in the morning.

Lure selection this time of year all depends on water, cold water means body baits like jointed Rapalas, Bombers, Shad Raps, Hot-n-Tots. Warm water means spoons large and small or rotators and flies. Watch for floating bait fish to determine the size spoons to run or go to a fish cleaning station and see what size the bait is in their stomachs, it also helps to have charter captain friends in the business to get the hot bite information. Lure speed is very critical this time of year, cold water = slower speed; warm water = faster speed. Pay close attention to your speed when you fish in and out of the warm water discharge areas and fine tune to the fishes behavior in that area.

This year the DAS club will also be having a fish-off against the Huron See St. Joe on Pg. 2



**Membership News**

New Memberships

**WELCOME!**

**MIKE VERMEESCH**

Renewed Memberships

<b>HENRY BACZYNSKI</b>	<b>RON HUEY</b>	<b>TOM OSENTOSKI</b>
<b>ROBERT BUTKIEWICZ</b>	<b>JIM LEGENZOFF</b>	<b>GIL PIESCZAK</b>
<b>KEN CIONE</b>	<b>ANTHONY LEWIS</b>	<b>BRUCE TURNAGE</b>
<b>ANTONIO COSBEY</b>	<b>JOHN MEADE</b>	
<b>BRUCE HAYWOOD</b>	<b>TOM MOORES</b>	

Memberships Expired or Soon to be Expired

<b>GASPARE ARAGONA</b>	<b>GARY GROSS</b>	<b>WALT ROMANIUK</b>
<b>MARK &amp; COLLEEN BEVANS</b>	<b>DENNIS HOLOWAY</b>	<b>GARY ROWOLDT</b>
<b>JEFF BUSTOS</b>	<b>GALEN HULL</b>	<b>DICK SHIRK</b>
<b>MARK CARLSON</b>	<b>BOB JONES</b>	<b>DARRELL SMITH</b>
<b>DAN CHISHOLM</b>	<b>BOB KSIONZEK</b>	<b>ALLEN VAN BROCKLIN</b>
<b>ANGELO D'ANNA</b>	<b>LARRY LATRA</b>	<b>DWAYNE WELDER</b>
<b>MARK GAZDA</b>	<b>TED LEWICKI</b>	<b>AL WIECHERT</b>
<b>STEPHEN GENOFF</b>	<b>DAVID MAYFIELD</b>	<b>HOWARD YORK</b>
<b>JOHN GESING</b>	<b>NATHAN MUELER</b>	
<b>TOM GORGUZE</b>	<b>KURT NOFS</b>	



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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River, Surf & Pier Fishing  
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**586-615-7459**
- DAN CHISHOLM**  
Secretary  
Raffles, Special People, Elections  
**586-530-9171**
- STEVE HAMILTON**  
Treasurer  
Coalition, Donations & Appropriations  
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- GASPARE ARAGONA**  
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- ROD ELNICK**  
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**586-214-8812**
- BOB FEISEL**  
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**248-765-2504**
- TOM GORGUZE**  
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- BOB KSIONZEK**  
Newsletter Editor, Boat Trolling  
**586-531-9198**
- TOM MOORES**  
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- BLAISE PEWINSKI**  
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- JODY ROBINSON**  
Deputy Treasury,  
Salmon-In-The Classroom  
**248-922-1466**
- MARK WILLIAMS**  
Speakers & Education,  
Wild Game Dinner  
**810-395-8789**
- Assistants**
- PAUL GJELDUM**  
Trophies
- MARY KARAKAS**  
Special People
- Don Mikros**  
Photography

**DAS April Field Test Deal**



This month's test item is a pair of Big Al's Fish Flash Flashers. The "No Drag Flasher". No resistance- no drag. The Fish Flash is so unique, so versatile and so easy to use that it can be rigged in practically any configuration. Available in 3 sizes and 36 colors including 8 UV finishes and 9 colored plastic finishes. Be sure to come to the April meeting for your chance to field test these great flashers. Of course, you'll be able to keep them after writing your field test article for the newsletter.

**Carl Ventimiglia**  
"NITEMOVES"

**2013 T-SHIRTS**

They will be available for pick-up at April's general membership meeting. Only \$10 each. A limited supply of DAS hats are also available for \$15 each.

Tom Gorguze



**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.**

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

**Membership Application**

- New Member - \$25 Yearly
- Senior (65 & over)- \$10 Yearly
- Renewal - \$25 Yearly
- Address Change only
- Lifetime - \$150
- Amt. Paid \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 2013 Manistee Spring River Fish-Off

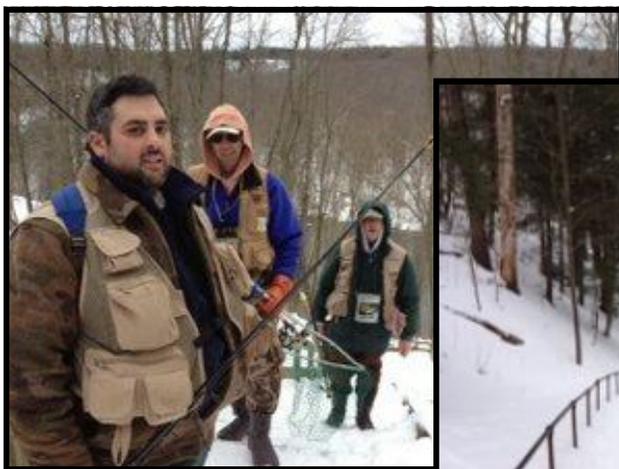
The DAS Fish Off against the Metro-West Steelheaders was a great success, with a good dinner afterwards. The DAS team consisted of Anthony Lewis, Carl Ventimiglia, Sr. and Jr. Gaspare Aragona, Bob Paradise, and Tom Gorguze. The plan was to fish the Big Manistee River (Suicide Bend ) in the morning and if the fish were not there we would pack up and try the piers. We all arrived at the river around 6:30 am (only car there). As we walked down the steps, which were ice and snow covered, we had high hopes.

The first hour was un-successful with only 1 fish on and off in 20 seconds. So, at 10:00 am we decided to head to the piers to see what was happening there. We also called Bad Dog, aka Tom Gorguze, who was fishing off his dock to see what was going on there. He told us he had seen a couple fish caught at the boat

launch, but he did not have a bite. So off to the south pier we went. There were 7 people on the south pier when we arrived which meant all the good spots were gone. Gaspare and I set up close to shore. Carl and Carl, and Anthony set up farther out. It was 11:30 by the time we all got are lines in the water. There was ice all over the pier, so extreme caution was used when setting up the fishing rods. The first hour nobody had a bite , but around 1:00pm some fish started showing up. By 3:30 we had 3 fish on the stringer and had 2 more bites.

At the farm where we weighed in the DAS came up short. The Metro-West Steelheaders had 5 fish to the DAS's 3. So for the first time, the plaque will go to Metro-West. Next time, I would like to see some more DAS members contributing to the tournament, so we could be a little more successful. WE had 6 members, Metro-West. had 15 members. However a good time and a great dinner was had by all.

**Bob Paradise**



St. Joe cont'd from Pg. 1 Valley Steelheaders, over the years it seems they have scheduled their St. Joe tournament the same time as us. So we invited them to a fish off.

West Basin Marina will be our headquarters as in years past. Be sure to make your reservations. Our skipper's meeting will be at 5:00am and the tournament will start at 6:00am. This has been changed from what was published earlier. Fish calls will be at 9:00am and 12:00pm. We will pull lines at 2:00pm and you must be in the weigh-in line by 3:00pm. Check the DAS website for more port information on the Tournaments page.

As far as the fish-off is concerned, each club will fish their own rules but we will weigh the Best 3 fish from each club's Top 5 boats for best total weight. The lunch details are also all worked out. Huron Valley would like to make beef loin sandwiches and the DAS club will supply the side dishes like macaroni salad, potato salad, baked beans, and coleslaw. They claim to have the best grill capable of cooking 8 beef loins to perfection, my mouth is starting to water already.

This should be a great opportunity to meet a bunch of fellow salmon trollers, which could even work out to sharing in other future events. Like Special People, a lot of their boats are docked at Toledo Beach marina in June and a few of their guys said they would be willing to take some of the special athletes. That would be great!

The Boat Trolling season is finally here and this should be a great way to start it. The fishing as we have seen in years past should be good. Hope to see a large turnout with all the regular DAS boats and a few new member boats at this tournament. Who knows, maybe with a little luck this will be one of the best tournaments of the year!

**Port Captain**  
**Blaise Pewinski**  
"SEA HAG"



## DAS Grand Haven Tournament 2013

**Dates:** Sat., May 18 and Sun., May 19, 2013  
(2-Day Tournament)

**Where:** Grand Haven Municipal Marina

We will have a skippers meeting on Saturday at 5:00 am and drop lines for tournament start at 6:00 am. Fish calls for Saturday are 9:00 am and noon. Pull lines by 2:00 pm with weigh-in at Municipal Marina on the hill at 3:00 pm

There is no skippers meeting on Sunday but tournament

start remains at 6:00 am. We will do a radio check-in on the water Sunday at 6:00 am with one fish call at 9:00 am, pull lines at noon and weigh-in at 1:00 pm.

Check the Detroit Steelheaders message board (Tournaments) for additional details where you will find tournament rules, information on where to stay, local restaurants, marinas, and tactics to use while fishing Grand Haven.

Besides fishing, the Grand Haven area is a very popular destination with clean beaches and a great downtown shopping/restaurant district just a block away making your trip fun for all.

The 256 mile long Grand River flows out a huge mud line into Lake Michigan. Seasonal fishing tactics for early spring often include trolling the heavily stained water outside the pier head. Early morning success can be found in shallow water trolling with planner boards and dipsey divers using Rapalas or Hot'n Tots. Go with darker colors in the early hours and brighten up as the day becomes brighter. Orange and gold and pearl and white are good combinations for this time of year.

I'm still mulling over what to serve at the weigh-in but I have some time to come up with something good. Bring your appetite and your best attitude. Let's have some fun at the clubs second tournament stop in 2013 at Grand Haven.

**Port Captain**  
**Dan Chisholm**  
"CHANNING"

## 2013 DAS Tournament Schedule

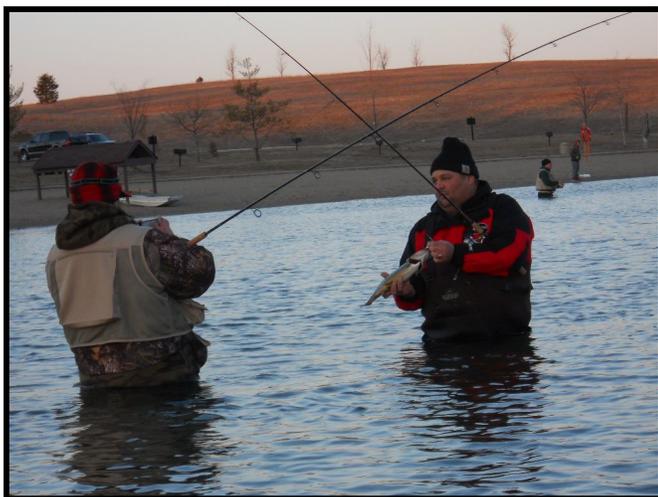
Date	Port	Port Captain
May 4 6:00am - 2:00pm	St. Joseph plus Fish-off with Huron Valley Sportfishing Club	Blaise Pewinski
May 18 6:00am - 2:00pm	Grand Haven	Dan Chisholm
May 19 6:00am - 12:00pm	<b>2-DAY</b>	
June 22 6:00am - 2:00pm	Olcott, NY	Bob Ksionzek
July 13 6:00am - 2:00pm	Erieau, ONT	Carl Ventimiglia Jr.
August 3 6:00am - 1:00pm	Ludington Ladies Day	Jody Robinson
August 10 6:00am - 2:00pm	Ludington II	Tom Gorguze
August 24 6:00am - 2:00pm	Manistee	Bob Paradise
Sept. 7 6:30am - 2:30pm	Frankfort	Joe Von Grabe

# First Time Island Lake Recreation Area Outing

We had a wonderful trout fishing outing at the Island Lake State Recreation area!

It was good friends, good food, and good fishing. 14 people attended. This is catch and release fishing only and most people caught a fish or two. The average size was 17-19 inches. Carl Ventimiglia caught so many he lost count. Mark Carlson caught an absolute bruiser! Most of the guys succeeded with Rapalalas, spoons, especially Kastmasters, and spinners. All different colors produced at one time or another. Our chef cooked up a storm of sloppy Joes, chips, and pie. It was great to have a hot lunch on such a cold day. All in all, it was a great outing.

**Anthony Lewis**  
DAS President





Michigan Department  
of Natural Resources



## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2, 2013

Contact: Todd Grischke, 517-373-1280 or Ed Golder, 517-335-3014

### **Stocking of Atlantic Salmon in Lake Huron and tributaries to occur this spring**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced plans to release approximately 100,000 Atlantic salmon into Lake Huron and two of its tributary streams this spring. Yearling Atlantic salmon will be stocked in the St. Mary's River, Au Sable River, Thunder Bay River and in the Lexington Harbor in southern Lake Huron in the coming days.

The DNR's Fisheries Division originally experimented with rearing and stocking Atlantic salmon from 1972 to 1982. These stockings resulted in only modest returns, and the program was essentially inactive until 1986. That year, Lake Superior State University (LSSU) began rearing and stocking Atlantic salmon into the St. Mary's River under a memorandum of agreement with the DNR. The fish are reared at the LSSU aquaculture laboratory, located directly on the St. Mary's River. The laboratory now serves as the sole source of Atlantic salmon eggs in Michigan and continues to offer recreational fishing opportunities on Lake Huron while providing LSSU students with educational experiences in fisheries research, culture and management.

In 2010, the DNR began experimental rearing of Atlantic salmon at its [Platte River State Fish Hatchery](#) near Beulah. After two years of working through disease problems and investing in equipment to control disease outbreaks, the production of Atlantic salmon yearlings in 2013 has been exceptional.

"This year's production of Atlantic salmon yearlings has gone according to plan, and we're pleased to report the fish are healthy and disease-free," said Ed Eisch, Northern Lower Peninsula Area Hatchery manager. "Fish production personnel have worked hard to raise these fish from eggs to healthy yearlings. The fish are starting to smolt and are ready to be stocked into a lake environment.

According to Todd Grischke, Lake Huron Basin coordinator, the stocking of these fish in Lake Huron represents the culmination of many years of planning and cooperation.

"Fisheries Division managers have been working with constituent organizations over the past 18 months to identify appropriate stocking locations for Atlantic salmon," said Grischke. "Many sites were proposed and evaluated according to things such as stream temperatures, public access and the ability for the DNR to evaluate returning adults. We also focused on those locations that would optimize the chances of success and provide stream, pier and open water fishing opportunities."

Atlantic salmon are one of several species of salmonids stocked in the Great Lakes, and are caught by anglers on both Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.

For more information, visit the [Atlantic salmon](#) section on the [Michigan Fish and How to Catch Them](#) section of the DNR website.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

## April 13, 2013 St. Clair River Walleye Jigging @ Tom Gorguze's

The weather was cold, windy and some rain. Yeah, just the way we like it! We met at the DNR Launch in Algonac. The ramps were loaded up with debris, and the water was a rich mud color. The strong winds were the decision maker for most of us, a "no way Jose" ! So, we all took a ride along the St. Clair River to Port Huron's Black River. Along the way Dan Chisholm, Don Mikros, Mark Stoziak, Bill Stanley, and Tom Gorguze noticed a touch of Blue water on the Canadian side and took to the water with no luck. We ended the day back at Tom's for a delightful and delicious Perch and Walleye lunch. The camaraderie was so worth it! We did have a good turnout. The group consisted of Tom Gorguze, Ed Horen, Don Mikros, Mark Stoziak, Bill Stanley, Dan Chisholm, Tom Thieda, Bob Paradise, Ken, Charlie, R.J.(Rich Janis), Dan Titus, Jon Martens and myself. Hopefully...better weather next year!

**Gaspare Aragona**

### Fish stocking creates numerous fishing opportunities throughout Michigan

The Department of Natural Resources is in the middle of the new fish stocking season. This spring, DNR fish-stocking trucks will be pulling up to lake and stream banks throughout the state to release prized cargo.

Fish stocking is used to restore, enhance and create new fishing opportunities in Michigan's inland lakes, streams and the Great Lakes. The DNR's Fisheries Division accomplishes this task by rearing fish at its six [fish production facilities](#) located throughout the state; cooperatively managing up to 50 rearing ponds and 12 Great Lakes net pen locations; and by maintaining a fleet of 17 [specialized fish stocking vehicles](#).

Over the course of the year, the DNR will stock roughly 19 million fish weighing nearly 370 tons, including eight species of trout and salmon and four coolwater species such as walleye and muskellunge. DNR fish-stocking vehicles will travel nearly 138,000 miles to stock more than 700 locations.

Michigan anglers have access to four Great lakes; 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline; more than 11,000 inland lakes; and more than 36,000 miles of rivers and streams. That puts residents and visitors no more than 10 minutes away from great angling opportunities and world-class fisheries.

Visit the DNR's fish stocking website at [www.michigandnr.com/fishstock](http://www.michigandnr.com/fishstock) for information on local fish-stocking locations.

## From the March Meeting

Photos Courtesy of Don Mikros



Dan O'Keefe from Michigan Sea Grant had an excellent presentation on the status of forage fish in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.



Member Jeff Bustos had some great information on walleye jigging.



President Anthony Lewis turns over the Manistee River Traveling Plaque to Mark Platt of the Metro-West Steelheaders.

**Upcoming 2013 DAS Key Dates**

Tues. April 30, 2013 7:30pm	<b>Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center</b>
Sat. May 4, 2013 6:00am - 2:00pm	<b>Boat Trolling Tournament St. Joseph</b>
Tues. May 14, 2013 7:00pm	<b>DAS BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center</b>
Sat. May 18, 2013 6:00am - 2:00pm	<b>Boat Trolling Tournament Grand Haven</b>
Sun. May 19, 2013 6:00am - 12:00pm	
Tues. May 28, 2013 7:30pm	<b>Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center</b>

**March Membership Meeting Facts**

Attendance: 60

Featured Speaker: Dan O'Keefe,  
Michigan Sea Grant  
Status of Lake Michigan &  
Lake Huron Forage Fish

50/50 Raffle Winner: Brian McKnight \$95

Every Member Drawing: James Mitchell  
(Not-Present)

**Make Sure Your Prepared for the Upcoming Boat Trolling Tournament Season**

If you haven't already done so, now's a good time to double check on things needing doing for the upcoming trolling season. This may seem like stating the obvious, but you'd be surprised!

- Make sure to re-spool all those trolling reels with fresh line. You don't want that big one to break off, do you?
- Take inventory of your tackle; spoons, plugs, flashers, flies, snap swivels, etc. Make sure you have what you think. Get what your lacking. No excuses for not having the right equipment.
- Sharpen all those hooks! This is a great thing to do while your watching some silly reality TV show!
- Get new batteries for your flash unit, flash lights, any electronic device that uses them. You certainly don't want to discover dead batteries at the St. Joseph tournament. Be sure those boat batteries are charged up and ready to go or replace if need be.
- Don't forget to buy your new fishing license and make sure your crew does the same.

**ANTHONY LEWIS  
8160 CONSTITUTION BLVD  
APT #3  
STERLING HGTS, MI 48313**

**Membership expires: 314**



**PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE  
GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR  
OVER 35 YEARS**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

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

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