



Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

February Meeting



When:
Tuesday, February 26, 2013 7:30pm

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

Featured:
Brian Butts, Sea Flea Charters
Topic - Spring Fishing

Other Happenings:
Event reports, 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 XXXVIII, Issue II

February 2013

Capt. Brian Butts Talks About Spring Fishing at Feb. Meeting



Our guest speaker for the February Membership meeting will be Capt. Brian Butts of Sea Flea Charters out of Grand Haven, MI. As a full time licensed charter Captain from April to October, Brian has fished Lake Michigan for over 20 years and has fished most all ports from Michigan City, IN to Grand Traverse bay.

During the past 3 years Team Sea Flea has fished many of the Salmon tournaments with great success. They have 6 first place wins and have finished in the Top Five 11 times. Their latest wins were the Holland Salmon Slam, the Saugatuck Waypoint Tournament, the Big Jon Tri-Port Challenge and the Grand Haven Offshore Challenge.

To provide his customers with the ultimate fishing and boating experience, "Sea Flea" is a luxurious 31 ft. Tiara Open. This twin engine boat is large enough to comfortably and safely accommodate 6 people. It has all the latest safety equipment and state of the art electronic navigational and fishing gear: GPS, radar, auto-pilot, fish finders, temperature monitors, speed indicators and a VHF radio. He uses all the latest fishing poles, reels, downriggers, baits etc and everything is maintained in top condition.

Brian's topic will be Spring fishing. He will be sharing some of the secrets he has learned fishing out of Grand Haven. He will also discuss the equipment and techniques he uses. Don't miss the chance to take notes and put the techniques to use at this year's DAS Spring tournaments in St. Joe and Grand Haven.

For more charter information, you can call (616) 886-1306

Great Fun Had by the DAS Nomads on Mitchells Bay 2013

It was a great turn out for the DAS annual ice outing, with 14 hard core ice anglers searching the ice covered waters of Lake St. Clair for jumbo perch. The day was unbelievable..... sunny, hardly a windall the things we wanted for a great outing, except for one thing, dirty water! I think my morning coffee was clearer than the water most of us fished in. About 10 a.m. after many moves the Carl's Ventimiglia, Jr & Sr., found some clean water just off the shallow drop off, and started to catch some eater size perch. Not many but enough to get the interest of a bunch of us. Meanwhile, a few of boy's ventured over to a shallow area called Back Bay which is only 2 or 3 feet deep and had a bit of success with the same size perch.



At 1 p.m. all of us went to Carl's spot and had a blast, telling stories of past and future fishing adventures. While doing this Carl started catching a few perch and a bunch of us gathered around and watched. Before you know it he had 6 or 8 hole drilled around him and TNT was fishing in Carl's hole right with him. Nobody caught anything around him only TNT and Carl, mostly Carl. He gave all of us a good lesson on changing tactics to catch fish, by using a Slab Grabber spoon and tipping it with a minnow. By the end of the day Carl was named the DAS Ice fishing champion. Way to go Carl!

Hope to see everyone at the outing next year.

Blaise Pewinski



Membership News

New Memberships

CHARLES CABLE
DENNIS HAYDEN

Renewed Memberships

HERMAN CHRISTOPH
CHARLES DENNING

Memberships Expired or Soon to be Expired

MARK & COLLEEN BEVANS
BOB BUTKIEWICZ
DAN CHISHOLM
KEN CIONE
ANTONIO COSBEY
ANGELO D'ANNA
MARK GAZDA

WELCOME!

KEVIN GROSS
BRYAN McKNIGHT

BILL STANLEY **NANCY WOOD**
CARL VENTIMIGLIA SR.

BRUCE HAYWOOD **NATHAN MUELER**
RON HUEY **THOMAS OSENTOSKI**
GALEN HULL **BRUCE TURNAGE**
LARRY LATRA **DWAYNE WELDER**
TED LEWICKI **HOWARD YORK**
ANTHONY LEWIS
DAVID MAYFIELD

DAS February Field Test Deal



This months test item is from Sheffield brand steelhead floats in various sizes and materials. They sent us some of their soft floats, crystal floats, and balsa wood floats so make sure you are at the meeting to take advantage of this new club benefit. Just a reminder how the program works, you sign up if the product interests you and would be willing to write an article for our club newsletter. I will be randomly numbering the names of members who sign up and have someone pick a number depending how many names are on the sign up sheet. If your name is picked, the product is yours to test and keep if you write the article.

This is a test report I did, for a flashlight I purchased last fall. I wanted to give club members an idea or somewhat of a guideline for their reports. I am also looking for ideas for future products to test so please come see me at the meetings or give me a call if there is a product you would like to see available for testing.

FIELD TEST REPORT

Fenix E21LED Flashlights
Price \$32.99 @ Northwoods Wholesale Outlet,
Pinconning MI

I was looking for a bright flashlight like the Surefires, but that would last longer and run on regular batteries. This flashlight is very bright 170 lumens on high and 54 lumens on low. It runs on AA batteries lasting 2 ½ hours on high and 11 hours on low. This product impressed me very much, no longer needing to buy expensive lithium batteries alone was worth it. It is packaged with a wrist strap, extra push button cover, and extra o rings for water submersion up to 2 meters. This product is easy to use having a tactical rear on/off button, switching high to low is easy by turning the head ¼ turn. All this for under \$40.00 this flashlight cannot be beat. The brightness and distance of the beam this thing throws off is amazing. I had to buy another one because my wife stole the first one. It will be nice to use while tracking deer and not having to change out the batteries, or for setting up my salmon program in the dark.

Carl Ventimiglia
'Nitemoves'

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

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

Membership Application

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

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



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ANTHONY LEWIS**
President
River, Surf & Pier Fishing
517-449-3036
- CARL VENTIMIGLIA**
Vice-President
Wild Game Dinner
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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248-656-8478
- ROD ELNICK**
Salmon-In The Classroom, Scholarship
586-214-8812
- TOM GORGUZE**
Hats, Shirts & Jackets, Publicity
248-343-8397
- BOB JONES**
WGD Tickets
734-751-1767
- BOB KSIONZEK**
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586-531-9198
- TOM MOORES**
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- JODY ROBINSON**
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Salmon-In-The Classroom
248-922-1466
- CARL VENTIMIGLIA**
Wild Game Dinner, Raffles
586-615-7459
- MARK WILLIAMS**
Speakers & Education,
Wild Game Dinner
810-395-8789
- Assistants**
- PAUL GJELDUM**
Trophies
- MARY KARAKAS**
Special People
- Don Mikros**
Photography

Upcoming River, Surf & Pier Events

Clinton River Outing:

For questions, concerns, or more information, or to RSVP: contact Anthony Lewis at 517-449-3036 or ajleiw6@gmail.com

Date:

-Saturday, March 2nd

Starting Time:

-Meet at 6:30am at Yates Cider Mill Parking lot.
-If you arrive after 7am, the city will charge you \$5 to park.

Directions:

-Take M-59 to the *Dequindre Rd* Exit
-Take Dequindre North
-The park is on your left, just before 23 mile rd.
-1990 East Avon Road, Rochester, MI

Where to fish:

-See attached map:
-The best sections are from the bridge to the dam.
-If it is too crowded there, try walking south on the nature path.
The park extends over a mile downstream.

Hints:

-Try pink spawn.
-The Clinton is pretty shallow. Consider using less weight than you normally use.

Weigh in:

-11am at the picnic tables in front parking lot.

Lunch:

-Provided graciously by Don Mikros! Please RSVP

Manistee River, Surf, Pier:

For questions, concerns, or more information, contact Anthony Lewis at 517-449-3036 or ajleiw6@gmail.com

Date/Time/RSVP:

-Saturday, March 31st, however early you prefer.....
-RSVP to Anthony Lewis at 517-449-3036

Where to Fish:

-The Manistee river watershed, from the pier to the dam

Weigh in:

-5:30pm dinner with Metro West at the Cabin
- The Farm
10490 Yates Road
Copemish, Mi. 49625
-If you get lost, call the landline at 231-362-3646

Direction to Manistee:

-Take I 75 North to
-Take M-10 East to
-take M-155 West
-Take M-55 West to town

Where to fish:

-The pier
-The upper river by the dam
-Also see map for suggestions

Where to stay:

Days Inn Manistee

1462 Manistee St, Manistee, MI
(231) 723-8385 () · daysinn.com

Super 8 Manistee

220 Arthur St, Manistee, MI
(231) 398-8888 () · super8.com

Microtel Manistee

226 East Parkdale Avenue, Manistee, MI
(231) 398-0008 () · microtelinn.com

The Ramsdell Inn

399 River St, Manistee, MI
(231) 398-7901 () · ramsdellinn.net

Manistee Inn & Marina

378 River Street, Manistee, MI
(231) 723-4000 () · manisteeinn.com

Lake Shore Motel

101 Lakeshore Dr S, Manistee, MI
(231) 723-2667 () · lakeshoremotelmanistee.com

Little River Casino Resort

2700 Orchard Hwy, Manistee, MI
(231) 723-1535 () · lrcr.com

Manistee National Golf & Resort

4797 Grant Highway, Manistee, MI
(231) 398-0123 () · manisteenational.com

River Side Motel & Marina

520 Water Street, Manistee, MI
(231) 723-3554 ()



Island Lake State Park Trout Fish Fun!

For questions, concerns, or more information, contact Anthony Lewis at 517-449-3036 or ajleiw6@gmail.com

Date/Time/RSVP:

-Saturday, April 7th
-RSVP to Anthony Lewis at 517-449-3036 or ajleiw6@gmail.com

Where to Fish:

-Spring Mill Pond

Weigh in

-No Weigh in. This is a catch and release only outing.

Direction to Island Lake:

-Take I;96 West to Exit 151 to Kensington Rd
-Turn right to Kensington Rd and follow signs to Recreation area

Lunch graciously provided by Don Mikros!

Salmon Chowder

This creamy Salmon Chowder tastes as good as if served in a restaurant. The crumbled bacon on top adds extra crunch and flavor to the soup.



Ingredients

- 2 (8-ounce) salmon fillets
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 lb. red potatoes, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 (9-ounce) package frozen corn, thawed
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 6 thick-cut bacon slices, cooked and crumbled

Preparation

1. Sprinkle salmon with kosher salt and pepper; place on a foil-lined baking sheet. Bake at 400° for 15 minutes or until desired degree of doneness. Flake fish into 1/2-inch pieces; set aside.
2. Melt butter in a large Dutch oven over medium heat. Add onion and celery, and sauté 5 minutes or until tender. Add flour; stir until mixture is smooth. Cook, stirring constantly, 1 minute. Gradually whisk in chicken broth. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until thickened and bubbly. Stir in 1/2 teaspoon salt.
3. Add potato, reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes or until potato is tender. Stir in corn and half-and-half. Cook 6 minutes or until heated. Add cooked salmon, stirring gently to combine. Spoon into individual bowls; top with crumbled bacon.

Michigan Sea Grant YouTube Channel Features Presentations and Underwater Video from Southwestern Michigan



Whether you are looking for underwater video of salmon in local rivers, mini-documentaries on Michigan fish, or technical presentations on fisheries science and management, you will find something of interest on the Sea Grant channel.

Visit the [YouTube Channel](#)

(<http://umich.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=32e103c35bfc2a59e4be8f96&id=6ab3f5d49a&e=8686811175>)

The Detroit Area Steelheaders
Present The 14th Annual 2013

Sportsman's Wild Game Dinner

Saturday March 9, 2013 - Troy, MI

American Polish Cultural Center
NW Corner 15 Mile & Dequindre

Fundraiser Dinner to support
the protection and promotion
of fisheries in the
Great Lakes Region.



AGENDA

Reception, Doors Open 5:00 PM
Dinner Begins Promptly 6:00 PM
Sportsmen's Raffle Program follows

MENU

Last year's highly praised caterer
returns with at least five hot, wild
game entrees such as pheasant,
caribou, emu, elk, venison, etc.



Impressive Display of Taxidermy includes Deer, Caribou,
Bobcat, Waterfowl, and MUCH MORE!

Table Raffles, 50/50 Raffles, Gun Draws, and games.
Prizes include: Guns, Great Lakes Fishing Tackle, Tools,
(3) Flat Panel TV's - 32", 42" & 55", Framed Prints,
Outdoor Items, Sporting Tickets, and much more.

Tickets are \$50 per person for dinner including pop and
beer.

A cash bar will be provided for other cocktails.

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS
Promoting & Protecting our
Great Lakes sportfishery

2013 DAS Sportsmen's Dinner & Raffle Registration

Name: _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Number of Tickets _____ X \$50 = \$ _____ Total Paid

E-Mail for info: bjones@detroitsteelheaders.org

www.detroitsteelheaders.org

For Tickets, Send this form with your
check by Feb. 27, 2013 to:
Detroit Area Steelheaders
c/o Bob Jones
315 Eagle Way
South Lyon, MI 48178

For Info Call:
Bob Jones @ (734) 751-1767

2013 Boat Trolling Tournaments

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

Tale of a Tow... From Hell!

They say when it rains it pours. For a cloud free sunny day in July, it poured on me allot. In twelve years of towing my boat thousands of miles, I had never had a trailer tire blowout, or any trailer problem for that matter. My trailer tires had been replaced four years earlier, but due to slipping my boat far more than towing, they had very few miles on them. I had an unused spare of about the same vintage. I started this tow like I had so many times, performing my mental checklist, and got underway for my 250 mile trip across the state.

I was almost halfway there, when I heard the pop and felt the trailer sway. I was a couple hundred yards from an exit ramp and was able to get across a lane and off the freeway where I could safely change my tire. Some greasy hands, a few cuss words, and 45 minutes later, I was back on the road. After this incident, a stop for gas, and dinner, I was significantly behind schedule. It was almost 10PM and I was 35 miles from Ludington in a construction zone when I had a sense of déjà-vu. Again something wasn't right, and I pulled over to find my rear trailer tire on the opposite side completely shredded. 10PM on the side of the freeway with no spare seven hours into a four hour trip is an undesirable situation to say the least. Many phone calls, a few visits from the police, and a helpful tow truck driver, and two hours later, I was off to finish the last leg of my trip. Just about ten hours later, I pulled into Ludington where I opted to sleep in the Wal-Mart parking lot instead of launch the boat and risk continuing the days "lucky streak".

I learned a couple valuable lessons on this trip. One was that trailer tires have a very finite life. The weight of a boat and trailer resting on them through prolonged storage periods, and other factors, ruins most trailer tires far before mileage does. When they start falling apart, they all start falling apart. If your tires are more than a few years old, thoroughly examine them, and replace them all as necessary. Second is that odd size and high load rating size tires and rims are not readily available in an emergency, especially not in small west Michigan towns at 10PM on a weekend. I don't know if two spares is overkill, but that's how many I'll be carrying from now on. Lastly, the most glaring observation at the end of the day, and one that I'll implement every time I tow going forward, was the effectiveness of a small set of hazard folding triangles staggered a couple hundred yards behind the trailer along the shoulder. Over two hours of sitting on the side of US31, only a handful of vehicles didn't get over when approaching the scene. It was a obvious difference from the dozens of cars and trucks I see daily on the side of the road with traffic whizzing right past inches from them. The tow truck operator that eventually brought me my spare commented that he wished everyone used them. I know the orange collapsible hazard markers have a permanent place in my tow tool box.

A trailer tire blowout while towing, and the insuring repair on the roadside, is a stressful and dangerous situation. Try jacking your boat trailer and boat up in your driveway one time to insure your jack will fit under the trailer axle, and is capable of lifting both. Consider carrying a complete spare hub assembly. This can be a life saver in a pinch, and is usually about \$50. Making sure your rig and tools are capable of the task at hand can help make a bad situation better and get you back on the road safe and sound.

Jason Adam

Respectable Rod Holders

Like most aspects of Salmon Fishing, and life, you get what you pay for, good is rarely cheap, and in the end, doing it right the first time would have saved you a lot of headaches, work, and money along the way.

Without exception, a salmon trolling boat requires rod holders. There are dozens of styles and brands of rod holders on the market today. Many are not designed for, and shouldn't be used for salmon trolling. It's hard to pickup a low end salmon rod and reel combo for under a hundred dollars. Add some wire or lead-core line, and a hundred in tackle on the end, and when your "bargain" rod holder fails, not only did you lose your fish, but your rod holder, and a whole setup. Construction should be consideration number one when choosing rod holders. There's a massive amount of force when a 20lb king yanks on the end of a 10 foot rod with a wire dipsey on it. Most captains choose a quality heavy duty aluminum tube style rod holder or similar.

Second to durability is flexibility. Easy horizontal and vertical rod holder adjustments are essential to customizing a spread on a given day. It's not always practical for a specific rod or presentation to run in a specific rod holder. A well laid out system of adjustable rod holders offers the ability to run any combination of rods simultaneously without tangling. When planning your rod holder installation, you should consider multiple "spread" configurations for all the species you fish, and layout accordingly.

Last is how it integrates into your system. I have a single I/O, so I choose to run one long track down each gunnels of my boat, leaving the entire chute wide open for fighting and netting fish. I have two downriggers, each with two built in rod holders, and five adjustable tube rod holders on each gunnels. With this setup, I can easily run a nine or more rod spread, with the spacing I want, and still have spares to facilitate adjusting the rod positions during a battle or just to get rods out of the way. Most



rod holders can be bolted on individually, in pedestal based sets of two, three, and four, or in a modular track system. All bases and tracks should be thru bolted and sealed using stainless steel hardware and marine sealant. A side note, don't overlook forward rod holder for spare rod storage. I have rod holders on my arch, and my forward bow rails, to hold any and all rods not in the water at the time.

Good rod holders are not cheap, starting around seventy dollars, and installing a bunch adds up fast, but if you plan it right and take the plunge, you will have a reliable and functional system for the rest of your days on the water.

Jason Adam

Snyder Considers Emergency Measures for Low Lake Levels

By Chad Livengood
Detroit News Lansing Bureau

Grand Rapids — Gov. Rick Snyder said Friday his administration is developing plans to take "emergency" action to deal with Great Lakes harbors plagued by record-low water levels that threaten to keep large pleasure boats docked next summer.

With lake levels at their lowest point since the mid-1960s, Snyder said the specter of recreational and commercial fishing boats being unable to get in and out of harbors requires an "urgent or emergency kind of option." A likely option is dredging harbors, canals and waterways that connect to the lakes, some of which haven't been dredged in decades. "A lot of Michiganders don't realize that lake levels are extremely low," Snyder said at the Michigan Press Association conference in Grand Rapids. "It is critically important to tourism and other things in Michigan, in terms of normal business and commerce."

Snyder would not say Friday what his funding plan for dredging is or how much he believes needs to be spent immediately and in the long term. As the Snyder administration formulates its

plan — to be unveiled Feb. 7 as part of the governor's 2013-14 fiscal year budget presentation — legislation was introduced Thursday that could provide state funding for dredging harbors that serve recreational boats. House Bill 4106 would allow municipalities and harbor authorities to apply for funding through the \$500 million Natural Resource Trust Fund, which is normally used for buying state recreation and hunting land. Local governments would have to cover at least 10 percent of the dredging costs to get a grant.

Rep. Bob Genetski, the bill sponsor, said Lake Kalamazoo in his Allegan County district is dangerously low at the mouth of Lake Michigan. "Right now, if you've got a boat with a keel, you're not going to get up in the lake at all," said Genetski, R-Saugatuck. "You'd be scraping bottom, easily." Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, which sit at the same level, set record December lows last month and are on their way to an all-time January low. For the first 24 days of this month, their mean level was 576.03 feet, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which monitors water levels. The previous January low was 576.10 feet, set in 1965.

Those two lakes are significantly below typical marks, but lakes Superior, Erie, Ontario and St. Clair all trail their long-term averages after 2012 precipitation in the Great Lakes basin fell far below normal. "We're just keeping our fingers crossed for a bunch of snow — as much as I hate to say it," said Chris Button, owner of Rose Harbor along Woodchuck Creek south of Monroe.

The Natural Resources Trust Fund consists of mineral royalties the state collected from 1976 to 2011, when the revenue source was diverted to a fund for state parks. The fund is restricted to spending \$25 million to \$35 million in annual interest earnings on land acquisitions and recreational development projects, fund manager Steve DeBrabander said. Dredging harbors may not qualify for trust fund grants under constitutional guidelines, DeBrabander said. "I think it needs to be resolved whether dredging is development or maintenance," he said. "If it's maintenance, then it's not eligible under the Michigan Constitution."

House Speaker Jase Bolger, who also attended the Michigan Press Association convention, said he would favor tapping the Natural Resources Trust Fund for harbor dredging projects "instead of simply buying more land." Pete Beauregard Sr., owner of Algonac Harbor in Algonac, said Friday the state should create a low-interest loan program for private harbors to borrow money for dredging projects and fast-track the permit approval process, which normally takes three to six months.

"It would have to have the Gov. Snyder approach of let's get it done — don't let the bureaucracy kill it," said Beauregard, who is having his docks along the St. Clair River lowered 2 feet this spring to account for the lower water level.

Since calling for \$1.2 billion more in new revenue for roads and bridges in his State of the State address last week, Snyder has included harbors, freight rail and passenger rail as infrastructure projects that would benefit from the extra funds. Commercial harbors for freight and shipping canals are dredged by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Genetski said. This spring, the corps plans to dredge Grand Haven Harbor on Lake Michigan, according to the corps' Detroit district office.

Snyder also has made Great Lakes water management a top priority this year. He's planning a summit of Great Lakes governors and Canadian premiers in June on Mackinac Island to talk about the health of the lakes and combating invasive species like Asian carp.

"I think it's time to make a big deal over the Great Lakes," Snyder said Tuesday.

From The Detroit News:

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130126/METRO/301260352#ixzz2KYaCw2tR>



In this Nov. 16, 2012 photo, the white streaks on a steel break wall show the normal water level on Portage Lake at Onekama, Mich., which is connected by a channel to Lake Michigan.
(John Flesher / Associated Press)

Pictures from the Mitchell's Bay Ice Outing



Upcoming 2013 DAS Key Dates

Tues. Feb. 12, 2013 7:00pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Sat. Feb. 16, 2013 Sun. Feb. 17, 2013	Free Fishing Weekend
Tues. Feb. 26, 2013 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Sat. Mar. 2, 2013	DAS Clinton River Outing Yates Cider Mill

December Membership Meeting Facts

Attendance: 58

Featured: Mel Stackpoole, Great Lakes Charter
Training Instructor

Gaspare Aragona, Bob Paradise
Blaise Pewinski on Ice Fishing

50/50 Raffle Winner: \$103 Bob Ksionzek

Every Member Drawing: Don Anton, Not-Present

Lake Herring Stocked into Lake Ontario

Lake herring have been stocked into Irondequoit Bay on Lake Ontario, the New York DEC announced. Until the mid 1950s, the lake was home to a diverse group of whitefish that included as many as seven species. Only three species are known to remain, the lake whitefish, round whitefish and lake herring. The abundance and distribution of these species in the lake is now greatly reduced. DEC recently announced the first re-introduction of the bloater, a deep water form of whitefish, into Lake Ontario. Lake herring occupy and spawn in shallower water relative to the bloater, and spawn earlier.

Re-establishing self-sustaining populations of native whitefishes in Lake Ontario is the focus of cooperative efforts between DEC, the USGS, OMNR, USFWS, and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

Trout and salmon that feed primarily on invasive alewife can experience reproductive failure due to a vitamin B deficiency. Predators that feed on native species like lake herring and bloater are less likely to experience reproductive failure.

Lake herring were once an important prey fish in Lake Ontario, and supported important commercial fisheries that collapsed in the early 1950s largely due to over-harvest. Lake herring historically spawned in Irondequoit Bay, Sodus Bay, the Sandy Pond, and Chaumont Bay. Ongoing research has documented current lake herring spawning only in Chaumont Bay.

The juvenile lake herring that were stocked originated from eggs collected by DEC staff in Chaumont Bay during November and December 2011. Lake herring eggs were hatched and juveniles reared at the USGS Tunison Laboratory of Aquatic Sciences in Cortland, NY. Irondequoit Bay is adjacent to the Rochester Area of Concern (AOC), and is the focus of international efforts to restore habitats and human uses impacted by historic chemical contamination. □

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

Membership expires: 313



**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**

Non-Profit
Org.
Place Stamp
Here