



# Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

**April Meeting**

- When: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 7:30pm
- Where: American Polish Cultural Center Northwest corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- Featured : Capt. C. J. Baker speaking on Lake Erie Walleye Fishing
- Other Happenings: 2011 Boat Trolling update, River Fishing reports, Tackle raffles, 75-25 Drawing & more
- Up-To-Date Information on the DAS website at: [www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com)

Volume XXXVI, Issue 1V April 2011

## Capt. C. J. Baker is Our Featured Speaker for April

Capt. C.J. Baker will be speaking on Lake Erie Walleye fishing at the April Membership Meeting. He has over 20 years of experience fishing the Great Lakes. He operates Puddle Jumper Charters, which offers full and half day charters out of Ludington and Monroe as well as Huron, Ohio. He is a Member of the Michigan Charter Boat Association, Silver Streak Lures Pro Staff and the Michigan



Salmon and Steelheaders Association

If you want to sharpen up your skills for Lake Erie's fabulous Walleye fishing, come listen to what Capt. C.J. has to offer. He might also provide some great insight for the upcoming Special People Outing in June.

For more information, you can contact him at (734)544-8094 or (734)904-0386 or visit [www.puddlejumpercharters.com](http://www.puddlejumpercharters.com)

## Miss the March Meeting?

Well that makes it a Three Peat! Three very informative meetings with great guest speakers in a row.

President Bob Jones opened the meeting at 7:45pm with 57 members and guests in attendance. He touched briefly on the outstanding success of the Wild Game Dinner and the good time that was had by all who attended before he introduced Capt. Jerry Lee of Jerry's Sportfishing Charters. Jerry offered a wealth of info from his over 35 years of experience plowing the Great Lakes. His talk was not only pertinent to the upcoming St. Joseph tournament but in fishing Lake Michigan as a whole. Jerry stressed the importance of presentation and "reading" the water not to mention D.O.T., direction of troll. He also touched on the many techniques involved including downriggers, dipsey divers, lead-core and copper rigs and the appropriate baits to run and how to run them. Those in attendance came away with a tremendous amount of knowledge. Thanks to Capt. Jerry for the excellent presentation!

After about a 15 minute break, Pres. Jones introduced Jerry Zabel for his report on the Spring Fish-Off against the Metro-West Steelheaders. Hint: The DAS boys kept the travelling Plaque!. (See article in the next column and photos on Pg. 4 for more details). Following Jerry, Bob Ksionzek filled the Club in on the upcoming Boat trolling Tournament season and discussed the changes

**Inside this issue:**

March Meeting (Cont'd from Pg. 1)	2
Membership News	2
2011 Boat Trolling Schedule	2
Board Of Directors Listing	2
DAS Opening Day 2011 St. Joseph Tournament	3
Spring Fish-Off Photos	4
Algonac Outing	5
Extinct fish strain found off Leelanau	5
A Subtle Benefit of Belonging to the DAS	6
2010 Financial Summary	7
Special People Day Outing	7
2011 DAS Key Dates	8

See March Meeting on Pg. 2

## Spring Fish-Off

The Plaque comes back for another year!

The Spring Fish-Off between DAS & Metro-West was held on Sat, March 26, 2011. The weather was very cold, but that didn't stop members of DAS & Metro-West from getting out on the "Big Manistee" to find Steelhead Trout for their respective clubs.

At the end of the day, DAS had 7 fish for 11 fisherman, and M-W had 2 fish for 6 fisherman. DAS gets to keep the trophy for one more year!!



Mark Davis, of Metro-West Steelheaders presents the plaque to DAS's Jerry Zabel

Fishing for DAS was Bob Paradise w/1, Gaspar Aragona w/2, Tom Theida w/1, Don Mikros w/1, Ed Horen, Don Anton, Guest Jack

Sir, Mark Stosiak & Ron Clewett Jr. w/2, Doug Karakas & Ron Clewett Sr.

After the weigh-in, a spaghetti & meat ball, garlic toast, salad & desert was enjoyed by all, along with the usual conversation & cajoling, so everybody had a great time!!

**Jerry Zabel**, River, Surf & Pier Chairman

See Photos from the Spring Fish-Off on Pg. 4

March Meeting from Pg. 1

in pricing. The individual entry fee for a tournament is now \$30 and the Annual Entry which allows a skipper and crew to fish all 8 upcoming tournaments has been raised to \$150. Still quite the bargain! Be sure to check out Our website on the Tournaments page for more information.

Dan Chisholm then took the floor to talk about the upcoming Special People Outing and what has changed. (See article on Pg. 7) Mary Karakas and Linda Banbury also offered their input as they are co-chairing the event. Dan could not stress enough how more than ever they need boats for this event. If you would like to make the day special for one or more of the "Special People" give

Dan a call at 586-530-9171.

Before beginning the raffles, President Jones took some fishing reports from the floor. The March tackle raffles featured big water salmon nets, rod and reel combos as well the usual great tackle packs. In the 75/25 drawings, Dennis Harper, with a big booming "Fish-On" captured \$75 1st prize and I apologize for missing the name of the person who won the \$37 2nd prize.

In the Every Member Drawing, I referred to Bob Paradise as 'Mr. Lucky' for winning at the February meeting however for March, I present "Mr. Unlucky" Jason Adam who was not in attendance to claim the \$100 prize as his name was pulled. Just another reason not to miss Our membership meetings.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOB JONES**  
President  
WGD Tickets  
**734-751-1767**

**BOB FEISEL**  
Vice-President  
Boat Trolling, Photography  
**248-357-1089**

**DAN CHISHOLM**  
Secretary  
Raffles, Special People,  
Elections  
**586-530-9171**

**STEVE HAMILTON**  
Treasurer  
Coalition, Donations  
**313-881-3871**

**JASON ADAM**  
Website, Wild Game Dinner  
**248-755-3345**

**TOM GORGUZE**  
Hats, Shirts & Jackets  
Wild Game Dinner  
**248-343-8397**

**ED HOREN**  
Shows  
**586-574-2125**

**BOB KSIONZEK**  
Newsletter Editor, Boat  
Trolling, Photography  
**586-752-5545**

**ANTHONY LEWIS**  
River, Surf & Pier Fishing,  
Raffles  
**586-752-5545**

**TOM MOORES**  
Membership, Scholarship  
Wild Game Dinner  
**248-634-5789**

**BLAISE PEWINSKI**  
Special People, Special  
Events  
**810-395-4774**

**MARK WILLIAMS**  
Speakers & Education  
**810-395-8789**

**JERRY ZABEL**  
River, Surf & Pier Fishing



**Membership News**

New Memberships

**JUSTIN HERBERT**  
**RONALD NIEMASZ**

Welcome New Members!

Renewed Memberships

**HENRY BACZYNSKI**  
**ROBERT BUTKIEWICZ**  
**DANIEL CHISHOLM**  
**JOHN GESING**  
**RON HUEY**

**GALEN HULL**  
**JAMES P. LEGENZOFF**  
**ANTHONY LEWIS**  
**MICHAEL LOLLI**

**THOMAS OSENTOSKI**  
**GILBERT L. PIESCZAK**  
**WALTER ROMANIUK**  
**WAYNE WELDER**

Memberships Expired in March or Expiring in April or May

**NICHOLAS AMICONE**  
**GASPARE ARAGONA**  
**RON CLEWETT**  
**JIM FITCH**  
**DENNIS HOLOWAY**  
**ROBERT M. JONES**  
**RICHARD KITTLE**

**BOB KSIONZEK**  
**RICHARD LAAKSONEN**  
**GEORGE LEONARD**  
**DAVID MAYFIELD**  
**TOM MOORES**  
**RONALD PAL**  
**DAVID PRUDHOMME**

**GARY D. RUPRICH**  
**DICK SHIRK**  
**BRUCE TUFFORD**  
**ALLAN VAN BROCKLIN**  
**AL WIECHERT**  
**GEORGE ZAKER**

**2011 DAS Boat Trolling Tournament Schedule**

Date	Port		Port Captain	Phone no.
4/30/2011	St. Joseph		Dan Chisholm	586-530-9171
5/21/2011 & 5/22/2011	Grand Haven	333	Ron Pal	586-598-7239
6/11/2011	Olcott, NY		Bob Ksionzek	586-531-9198
7/9/2011	Pentwater		Joe Von Grabe	586-293-7688
8/6/2011	Ludington Ladies Day		Jody Robinson	248-736-1737
8/13/2011	Ludington II	333	Al Wiechert	248-435-4013
8/26/2011	Manistee I	333	Bob Paradise	586-457-4073
9/10/2011	Manistee II		Tom Gorguze	248-343-8397

## Detroit Area Steelheaders Opening Day 2011

### St. Joseph, Michigan



**Channel:** 42° 06' 58" N  
86° 29' 44" W  
**Marina:** 42° 06' 46" N  
86° 29' 03" W  
**Phone:** (269) 983-5432  
**Harbor Master on duty: Full Time**  
**Hours:** 7am - 7pm  
**Off-Season Phone:** (269) 983-8795

**WHEN:** Saturday April 30, 2011

**WHERE:** West Basin Marina

**SKIPPERS MEETING:** 5:30 a.m.

**TOURNAMENT START:** 6:30 a.m.

**FISH CALLS:** Channel 72

9:00 a.m. and noon

**PULL LINES:** 2:00 p.m.

**WEIGH-IN:** 3:00 p.m. (must be in line by)

West Basin Marina

**PORT CAPTAIN:** Dan Chisholm (Channing)

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Bob Feisel or Bob Ksionzek

**REMINDERS:** Lake Trout- Size 20" minimum, Creel 3.

St. Joseph is a port known for its spring Salmon and Trout fishing. Good catches of Coho and Kings are not uncommon with some large Steelhead mixed into the catch. Last year most boat's started their fishing in 60 FOW using regular sized Silver Streaks. Fish were caught on Blue and Green Dolphins, Michael Jackson, Double Orange Crush, Snowman, and Hot Lobster set in the top 35 FOW. Flashers and flies and cut-bait also brought home some fish.

Slip Reservation: West Basin Marina is not open until May 1. No reservations can be made until then, however slips should be available. You can contact the office upon your arrival.

Visit the DAS website for information on the St. Joseph area. Our tournament link will provide information on tournament rules, lodging, and where to eat. You can also use the crews/captains feature to assist captains fill up their crew or for people who need to find a ride.

#### Boat Launch:

Municipal ramp on St. Joseph Island is on the South side of the river and has the largest parking area and several docks. If you use this ramp cross the river immediately and hug the north side as you make your way down river. The center of the river is very shallow along that stretch.

DNR ramp is on the North side just across from the Municipal ramp. It's a good place to launch but does not have as many docks. Stay tight to the North shore after launching to avoid the shallows.

#### Local Bait Shops:

Tackle Haven 741 Riverview Dr. at Gray St., Benton Harbor 49027 - 269-925-0341.

Fishin Hole 1127 Main St., St. Joseph 49085 – 269-982-3474

#### Last Year's Results:

On May 1, 2010 - 8 boats weighed in 57 fish for a total of 472 pounds (only the top 8 fish count for weigh-in). Last year's winner was Bob Paradise on "Almost Paradise" with an 8 fish total of 141.25 pounds. Big Fish winner was "Bobby's Toy" with a 15.20 pound King.

Hope to see you in St. Joe on April 30

**Dan Chisholm**

Photos from the Spring Fish-Off



Bob Paradise and Gaspare Aragona Showing off the Harvest!



The Boys Lined up at the Dam



A Close-up of the Harvest



The Long Walk up the "Luge" to the Parking Lot



Gaspare Workin' for Those Fish



Gaspare is All Smiles Showing Off the Catch!

## Algonac, Michigan Outing

**When:** Saturday April 16, 2011

**Where:** Saint Clair River, North Channel and connecting waters

**What:** A fun outing in a new area. Fish species is dependent on what is around. Salmon typically are present this time of year. This is a great opportunity to get in an early shakedown cruise. Those new to fishing this area will also enjoy that these are sheltered waters and waves are typically less than one foot (except for the occasional wake from a passing pleasure boat or freighter). You don't need a big Salmon rig to navigate the river either; many people fish this area from small open tiller boats. Anchor, Goose, Fisher and Muscamoot Bays off Lake St. Clair are also accessible from the North and Middle Channels.

**Skippers Meeting:** 7:00 AM, North Channel DNR boat ramp

**Start Time:** Immediately following Skippers Meeting

**Fish Call:** 10:00 AM, VHF Channel 72, May be necessary to conduct with cell phones.

**Fish Fry/Weigh-In:** 1:00 PM - Informal weigh-in at 2815 Pte. Tremble (2 blocks south of ramp)

**Port Captain:** Tom Gorguze (Bad Dog) 248 343-8397 cell

**Directions to the Ramp:** From I-94 take the 23 Mile Road/New Baltimore exit# 243. Go right on 23 Mile Road and follow it 18 ½ miles. 23 Mile becomes M-29 and changes names several times as it winds around Anchor Bay and follows along the North Channel heading into Algonac. The North Channel ramp is about ½ mile past the Harsens Island ferry. It is on the right just past Nook Road and across the street from Kroger's.

**Directions to Weigh-in:** 2815 Pte. Tremble. From the ramp turn left on M-29. M-29 is Pte. Tremble road. Don't go far, my cottage is about a dozen houses from the ramp. It's across the street from the Dentist office and Bank of America. There is plenty of parking for cars, but not boats or trailers. So...If you have a boat and/or trailer, leave it at the ramp or park it at the bank after 2:00 (when they close).

### 'Extinct' fish strain found off Leelanau

Reprinted from the March issue of the Great Lakes Basin Report

A native Great Lakes fish long thought to be extinct appears to be making a comeback in Grand Traverse Bay — and people may be eating it, believing it is whitefish. A strain of lake herring more commonly seen in the last century in Lake Superior is now thriving in local waters, according to fisheries research biologist Randy Claramunt of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources research station in Charlevoix.

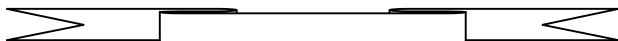
The strain of lake herring once thought to be extinct is part of the salmonid cisco family of fishes native to the Great Lakes. Claramunt said the species had been declared extinct in the 1960s. In the 1990s, however, anecdotal evidence began to emerge that some of the fish might be frequenting Grand Traverse Bay in the waters off Leelanau County.

—Fishermen who were targeting salmon in Grand Traverse Bay would occasionally find these fish that

looked a lot like whitefish — but not quite, according to Claramunt. —Then, these fish started showing up occasionally in commercial nets.

It wasn't until the early 2000s, Claramunt said, that biologists confirmed the presence of the lost lake herring — and found a spawning population of them on the shoals of East Grand Traverse Bay. —To the average person it might look identical to whitefish — so I'm sure people are eating them; and we've seen some for sale as whitefish through the commercial fishery, Claramunt said.

But the particular strain of lake herring now making a comeback differs from whitefish in some important respects. Its mouth is more pointed because it feeds higher in the water column than the whitefish, which feeds on the bottom and has a mouth designed to do so. The lake herring is also more slender and has smaller fins than a whitefish.



## A Subtle Benefit Of Belonging to the DAS

As I begin to get Silver Addiction prepped for the up coming big lake trolling season, I make a list of everything that must be done before I launch her in St. Joe on April 28th. Yes, there are several lists, a maintenance list, a gear list a supply list and of course a cleaning list. Being a charter boat though, I have found that my safety list has gotten quite large. All of the paperwork that I need to carry, needed to be put in a safe dry spot. When I was going through it, I noticed a list of names and numbers, which my wife had laminated. It was a club directory and a directory of fellow charter captains. This was very useful information.

Believe it or not I consider this list of names and numbers to be just as important as what is in the tackle box. This is the list of important Network contacts that I rely on to get the most up to date information of that particular port. Maybe they are local contacts or just club contacts that fish that port a lot, either way, they will have valuable information that will make my fishing trip more successful. This is how charter captains are able to go from port to port and be successful. It is because of the network of fellow captains and friends. We as a club have our own network that needs to be taken advantage of.

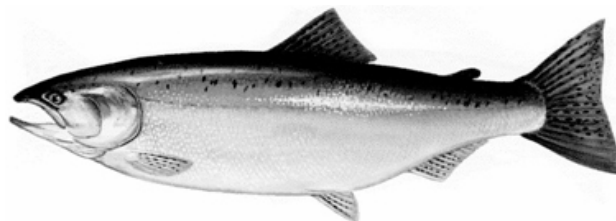
When I joined the club back in 2001, Rob Pinskey was the only person I knew. He introduced me to the club and his circle of fishing friends. Granted, I was a bit overwhelmed at first to see just how successful the DAS fisherman had been at different ports. I had been out of salmon fishing for 18 years and was just getting back in and Rob had told me how great a resource the club was to him. Rob was right on the money with that statement. I met Dick Shirk at Gander Mountain standing in front of the Silver Streak display thinking what do I need to buy, and he lent his advice. I don't think my wife has forgiven him for that, seeing as what it has led to! Today, Dick is a valuable crew member, and is still teaching me today.

Blaise Pewinski is another DAS member that took the time down at the Special People outing a few years ago to give me his secrets at catching Lakers at Port Austin. We spent the better part of the night, until the Fish Fly Hatch started, talking about all the techniques he found to be successful. Blaise has continued to share with me Salmon techniques and subtle hints that are found to be invaluable. I have seen all of these guys do the same thing with club members, and hopefully have been able to help them as much as they helped me.

Now let's look at the entire list of top notch Charter Captains that have spoken at our club the last few years. Have you taken them up on their offer to call and ask them questions when visiting their ports? Jerry Lee, Dave Even, Shane Ruboyanes, Brian Butts, Willis Kerridge, Richard Laaksonen, and others have all said to stop by and they would be happy to help us out. Have you done that? I know I did and still do. That was how I meet Dave Even. Through Dick Shirk, but I asked if I could crew for Dave or just ride along to learn more from a seasoned charter captain. Dave was nice enough to allow me to, along with the fact that I crewed for free, but I saw first hand just how much the charter captains talk and help each other out. Yes, there are clicks, just like everything else in the world, but for the most part they just want to help each other catch fish, which makes the port look even better.

Simply put, the fishing network of the DAS stretches a lot farther than the current members of the club. Use it to its fullest potential, and you will be surprised at just how much your fishing improves!

**Captain Mark Williams, "Silver Addiction" 586-747-6477**



**FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 2010**

**Detroit Area Steelheaders  
"Special People Day" Outing**

**Saturday June 4, 2011**

**Sterling State Park  
2800 State Park Road  
Monroe, MI 48162**

**(734) 289-2715**

**REVENUE**

GAME DINNER	\$48,958
RAFFLES	1,992
DUES	1,850
SUPER SALMON	
CLINIC	1,807
TOURNAMENTS	1,500
MERCHANDISE	
SALES	790
MISC	253
	-----
	\$57,150

**EXPENSE**

GAME DINNER	\$32,025
DONATIONS & SPEC PEOPLE	5,796
MEMBERSHIP	4,470
NEWSLETTER	3,604
TOURN/ TROPHIES	3,289
SUPER SALMON	
CLINIC	2,766
RAFFLES	1,835
DIRECTOR MTGS	1,382
MISC	698
MERCHANDISE	687
INSURANCE	549
COALI- TION:GLSFC,	545
	-----
	\$57,646

**CASH FLOW FOR YEAR WAS (\$496)**

**Note the game dinner funds most of our activities. If we did not have it and made no donations we would have lost \$11,633, and probably have to close the club. We have our expenses audited by an independent CPA.**

**I am available at all meetings to answer any questions regarding our finances.**

**Steve Hamilton, Treasurer**

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 State Park boat launch in the morning after the Captains meeting. Participants will join them at the boat launch. When they come in the participants will de-board 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, **Sterling State Park** has camping.

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 persons **Mary Karakas, Linda Banbury** or **Dan Chisholm @ 586-530-9171.**

Did you know that your mailing label includes the date your membership expires? The month and year your membership expires is above your name. If it's marked yellow, your membership may be close to expiring. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150.

See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to:  
**Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1255**

Upcoming 2011 DAS Key Dates

April 26, 2011 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
April 30, 2011 6:30am - 2:30pm	Boat Trolling Tournament St. Joseph (P.C. Dan Chisholm)
May 17, 2011 7:00pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
May 21-22, 2011 6:00am - 2:00pm	Boat Trolling Tournament Grand Haven (P.C. Ron Pal)
May 31, 2011 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
June 4, 2011 8:00am - 12:00pm	Special People Outing Sterling State Park Monroe, MI
June 11, 2011 6:00am - 2:00pm	Boat Trolling Tournament Olcott, NY (P.C. Bob Ksionzek)
June 28, 2011 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center

**ROBERT M. JONES  
315 EAGLE WAY  
S LYON, MI 48178**

**Membership expires: 411**



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

**MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

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

Non-Profit  
Org.  
Place Stamp  
Here