



Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

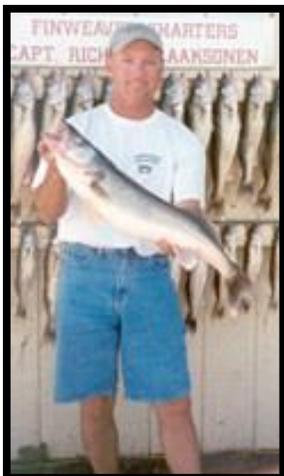
January Meeting

- When:**
Tuesday, December 26, 2010
7:30pm
- Where:**
American Polish Cultural Center
Northwest corner,
15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- Featured Speaker :**
Capt. Bill Bale - "Successful
Copper Fishing Techniques"
- Other Happenings:**
Boat Trolling Schedule, Tackle
raffles, 75-25 Drawing & more
- Up-To-Date Information on
the DAS website at:**
www.detroitsteelheaders.org

Volume XXXV, Issue 1

Annual January 2010

Capt. Richard Laaksonen to talk in February



Continuing with the great line-up of speakers that President Mark Williams has put together for the beginning of 2010, Capt. Richard Laaksonen is our featured guest speaker for the February Membership meeting. He operates the

"FinWeaver II", one of four boats in the FinPower Charters fleet. They offer salmon and trout charters out of Michigan City, IN, St. Joseph, MI and Ludington, MI as well as walleye charters on Lake Erie.

Richard will be speaking on the subject of Trolling Basics for Changing Conditions including Weather, Wind and Season. For more information regarding Lake Michigan or Lake Erie charter trips, you can visit www.finpowercharters.com or call (231) 843-6634

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Happy New Year!

Mark Williams Repeats as Skipper of the Year!

For the second year in a row, our current club president, Mark Williams managed to capture the Skipper of the Year award. Mark and his "Silver Addiction II" crew fished in just 6 of the 9 tournaments this past year. They came up with a pretty impressive (4) 1st place finishes and (2) 4th place trophies for the season. He also had (4) 1st place finishes in the 2008 trolling season.

His regular crew consists of Dick Shirk, George "Ray" Leonard and Walt Romaniuk. Among those who

also crewed on the "Silver Addiction" this past season were Don Anton, Bob



Mark Williams accepts the 2009 "Skipper of the Year" award from Tournament Co-Chairman Bob Ksionzek

Mitchell and Rob Pinskey. In addition, Mark had a very formidable crew of 7 young ladies who took 1st place at the Ludington Ladies Day tournament.

Among Mark's other accomplishments this year, were taking Big Fish Honors at the Pentwater, Ladies Day and Ludington II tournaments. Mark also took the "Triple Crown" award for the best overall score in the club's inaugural "333" competition. Congratulations to Mark & his crew on a very successful tournament season!

10 Reasons to Join DAS

Including New Membership Drive for 2010

The Detroit Area Steelheaders has announced a new membership drive starting in January, with an incentive for any new member to sign up. If your membership has expired in 2009, or you are a brand new member signing up for the first time, you will receive a package, FREE, valued at approximately \$30.00. This package will include; Assorted Steelhead and Salmon Fishing Tackle, including Dreamweaver spin doctors and spoons, two DAS decals for your boat or truck, a DAS patch for your jacket or vest, and Michigan maps and brochures. This is with a paid \$25.00 one year membership, or a \$150.00 lifetime membership, paid by the April meeting. Not only is this incentive a great reason to join, but here are some of the other reasons why fishermen all over the state, and beyond are joining the DAS.

*The Detroit Area Steelheaders Inc. provides you with a means of being heard on issues affecting our fisheries.

*You receive 12 monthly issues of "FISHIN' TALES" newsletter, as well as access to the DAS website. Both have been praised for the information they contain.

*Organized events all year long, including boat trolling, river fishing, pier/surf fishing, and ice fishing tournaments, and seminars, held all over the state.

*Social events such as the 11th annual Sportsman Dinner and a special Christmas meeting with Salmon Claus for the kids.

*Participation in public service events such as the Special People Walleye outing.

*The DAS annual scholarship to help fund college students that are majoring in conservation, wildlife, fisheries or some other related field of study.

*Donations to M.S.U. research on fisheries, and donations to various Sport Fishing Organizations to support hatcheries or net pens, as well as lawyer fees to help protect our fishing rights all over the state. In all more than \$51,000 has been donated since

we came into existence as a sport fishing club.

*This is our 36th year in existence as a sport fishing club, and we have great guest speakers lined up for upcoming meetings. Some would include, representatives of the Michigan DNR, state fisheries biologist, and charter captains, who would all give us timely information, and share their passions, as well as their special areas of expertise. Also, question and answer sessions are held at most of our monthly meetings, with the top skippers of our fishing tournaments.

*Camaraderie with your fellow members at our new meeting location. This year we will have the meetings at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy. Our meetings will still be on the last Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 in the evening.

*You can fill out the application for membership that is in the newsletter, and drop it in the mail, to our PO Box, or better yet bring it to one of our monthly meetings, and join in on the fun of great fishing ahead. We will also have a booth at the major fishing shows. Look forward to meeting you at one of the shows, or better yet at one of our monthly meetings. The members of our club are what make us successful, and without YOU, it will be hard to reach our goals.

See you at the next meeting.

Tom Moores—Membership Director



Bob Ksionzek accepts the 2009 Director of the Year Award from Pres. Mark Williams

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BLAISE PEWINSKI

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BRUCE TUFFORD

A Letter from Our President



With the boat tucked away for its long winters nap, my thoughts turn to the up coming year. Time to start making the, "To Do" List to make the boat ready for the Big Lake Trolling season. In doing so I started to think of all the events that took place to lose that bait, screw up that rigger, or break that pole holder. All in all I found it was things that happen when you spend enough time on the big water, tackle will be lost and things will break. At best we hope to stay even. After all we have all heard in the financial and business world that if we can stay even we are doing well these days. I started to apply this reasoning when looking back at what DAS did as a club this past year, and came up with some interesting facts.

As 2009 started, I was asked to become president of DAS. I will have to say I took the position with great reluctance. Jason Adam and Bob Mitchell are quite the sales people, as they convinced me that it would be a good thing for the club, and that they would help as much as possible, and they did. In fact, I want to let all members know that the entire Board of Directors did, and do a great job to make sure DAS is successful organization. Thank You Gentleman!

The question is what makes DAS a successful organization? I found the answer to be in several areas. First, did we grow as an organization in membership? In order to answer this I will quote my crew members when they are faced with a question, "well YES and No". While we did add some new members, we also lost some, but the net was that we stayed even. Did we have a successful fundraiser in the wild game dinner? YES we did, in fact we raised more money than last year and the economy was worse. Did we have good club participation in fishing in events? YES we did. While trolling tournaments stayed basically flat in the number of boats that participated in events, the river surf and pier events had an increase in participation. Finally, was the club able to stay true to its mission statement of promoting the great lakes fishery? A very definite, YES. The club gave out to various organizations that promoted youth fishing, Hatcheries and two scholarships, The club also started its first youth license program, to help promote good stewards of our natural resources, and help raise funds for our DNR fisheries. So when we take the above information into consideration, we can say that we have had a very positive year.

Looking to the coming year, we have our first ever Super Salmon Clinic that is to help educate our club members and help grow our club membership. Hopefully the members we gain will be active, in all areas and help grow our events. We have lined up first rate speakers, for our monthly membership meetings, that will give us real time information on the current techniques used to catch Mr. King Salmon. These speakers will only add to all of our knowledge and make us all better fishermen and women, making the time spent at our meetings that much more valuable.

Our Wild Game Dinner is once again shaping up to be a tremendous event, and we hope that all members will attend and help in some way, shape or form. We need tickets sold, donations gathered, and help to set up. As everyone knows, this is our only fundraiser and we all need all to pitch in to make it a continued success.

Finally, I would just like to close by saying that when I became a member of DAS, I joined to gain knowledge of the current Great Lakes Fishery, and to meet people that share that same passion. I know DAS has done everything that I had hoped it would do for me. It has made me a better fisherman and has made me many friends. I think if everyone could look at the club with the idea of what can I get out of the club and use it as an informational resource, you would find that the knowledge that the members have is tremendous. All you have to do is ask, and apply that information.

Thanks for making my first year as President a good one and I look forward to seeing you on the water and on the tournament trail!

Mark Williams



Bob Paradise accepts the 2009 Member of the Year award from Pres. Mark Williams

GLSFC Retrospective 2009

The Detroit Area Steelheaders is a member of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council. The role of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council is stated as: To inform and educate anglers, boaters and the general public about natural resource conservation and enhancement. Promote, protect and conserve our aquatic resources; manage against over-harvesting at the commercial and recreational level; clean air and clean water; prevent the spread of unintentional introductions of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species (exotics); promote safe boating practices; and represent the sport fishing community before divisions of government. The majority of the credit for the effort of the Council goes to its President; Dan Thomas. Dan serves as the editor of the Great Lakes Basin Report and web master of the web site at www.great-lakes.org. There is no other place to get the quality and in depth coverage provided by the Council. To understand the value of the information provided, you only have to look back at 2009 issues of the Great Lakes Basin Report.

In February, the GLBR reported "Environmental Protection Agency predicting more invasive species" The EPA had released a final report entitled, "Predicting Future Introductions of Nonindigenous Species to the Great Lakes." This report predicted the spread of aquatic nonindigenous species into the Great Lakes to help resource managers focus monitoring activities on particular species at the most vulnerable U.S. Great Lakes ports. The report also demonstrated the use of a habitat suitability model and ballast water discharge data to predict invasion potential.

In March the headline was: "NOAA posts Draft Mgmt Plan for Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary". NOAA was soliciting public comment on the draft management plan and the draft environmental assessment plan for Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Without The GLSFC most people would not have been aware of this request.

On a good note, it was reported that \$740 million goes to states for fish and wildlife projects. Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced that more than \$740.9 million will be distributed to the fish and wildlife agencies of the 50 states, commonwealths, the District of Columbia, and territories to fund fish and wildlife conservation, boater access to public waters, and hunter and aquatic education.

In March Dan attended the Lake Committee meetings hosted by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and held in Ypsilanti, MI. From these meetings came a series of fabulous highlight reports summarizing the voluminous data presented at these meetings.

The April report featured the "Status of Lake Michigan Salmon":

- Michigan DNR Weir returns dropped to 16,907 fish; the second lowest return in the time series
- Weight of age-3 Chinooks increased at Strawberry Creek weir and from creel samples from 2007 levels
- Recruitment of naturally-produced Chinook salmon smolts has increased to 53%
- Alewife biomass from the bottom trawl was the lowest value (8.1 kt) in the time series (1985-2008)
- In contrast, alewife biomass from acoustic surveys was the highest value (58.8 kt) in the time series (2001 – 2008);
- Results indicate that the abundance of young alewives is very high.
- Bottom trawl survey indicates the biomass of large alewife has declined substantially
- However recruitment and survival of young alewife appeared to be above expectations
- Less than 0.5% of the weir-returning Chinook salmon showed any sign of disease in 2008

Unfortunately, the status of Lake Huron was upbeat for walleye but remained very dire for salmon. "The collapse of alewives in 2004 precipitated pronounced change in harvest trends and fishing behavior for the Lake Huron recreational fishery. Since 2003, walleyes have replaced salmonids as the leading species harvested in Michigan waters, even at Main Basin ports, which had traditionally been the focus of the salmonids fishery."

Lake Ontario was positive for salmon:

- The 2008 charter catch rate of Chinook salmon was the 6th highest in the data series. The six highest Chinook salmon catch rates occurred during the six most recent years (2003-2008).
- Charter catch rate for rainbow trout was the highest on record (104.6% higher than 2003-2007 average), with improvements across the season and all regions of the lake. Total trout and salmon catch (127,799 fish) and harvest (79,159 fish) were dominated by Chinook salmon (43.6% and 44.9%, respectively) and rainbow trout (26.7% and 24.9%, respectively).

Retrospective from Page 4

• Brown trout catch rates in the east were above average for most of the season (April-September), resulting in the highest estimated seasonal catch rate for that area in the 24 years surveyed.

In July, we were warned that the Clean Water Restoration Act spelled trouble for Anglers, Hunters, All Outdoorsmen. At first glance, the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA) (Bill SB787) appears to advance the interests of American hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts, given the connection between wildlife and water quality. In reality, the CWRA would threaten these interests. Senate Bill 787 as written and continuing through the legislative process of Congress could prove to be a nightmare in the regulation process of building fishing piers, intensifying the regulatory microscope for angling activi-

ties while trout-wading a stream, boating due to incidental discharges, or charter fishing state waters.

In October, we learned that the Obama proposal for Oceans/Great Lakes ignores recreational fishing. This past June, President Obama created the Inter-agency Ocean Policy Task Force. The Task Force, led by the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), was charged with developing a national policy and implementation strategy for conserving and managing the United States ocean territory and the Great Lakes. The policy will govern ocean and Great Lakes resource management and coordinate efforts among countless federal, state and local agencies. Without recreational angler input, decisions made under this national oceans policy could be used to unnecessarily close saltwater and freshwater recreational fishing areas. Also, policies beneficial to oceans might be detrimental to the Great Lakes.

In November we were informed of the possibility that the Asian Carp may have breached the Electronic Barrier. Multiple Carp DNA samplings have been found in multiple locations North and East, near O'Brien Lock. During a press conference call held November 20, it was confirmed that multiple samples of carp DNA have been found substantially north and east of the existing carp barrier, and in another water body that has a direct connection to Lake Michigan. Subsequent updates revealed that rotenone was used in a section of the river to kill all fish.

As I said at the beginning of this article, other than the GLSFC, there is no other realistic way to get this quality information. Also, many of the concerns listed above have not been resolved. To stay abreast of these concerns and efforts, go to www.great-lakes.org or follow upcoming issues of the Great Lakes Basin Report.

DAS BIG FISH OF THE YEAR 1978-2009

Year	Species	Wgt. In Lbs.	Boat Name	Caught By	Tournament
2009	King	20.45	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	Manistee
2008	King	18.60	Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	Manistee II
2007	King	17.15	Thor's Hammer	Al Weichert	Manistee I
2006	King	22.10	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	Ludington Ladies Day
2005	King	19.45	Hawkeye	Larry Walter	Ludington Ladies Day
2004	King	22.05	Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	Ludington I
2003	King	26.30	The Office	Duane Dean	Manistee
2002	King	23.63	Gary Ruprich	Rupe	Manistee
2001	King	28.07	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	Manistee
2000	King	27.44	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	Manistee
1999	Coho	29.06	Eagle III	Dave Staniczewski	Manistee
1998	King	28.69	Molly Frair	Ron Hartman	Manistee
1997	King	24.44	My Dream	Jim Hardrick	Manistee
1996	King	26.44	Trena Dawn	Joel Garinger	Ludington
1995	King	27.06	Fish-N-Tails	Doug Fellows	Manistee
1994	King	26.12	Main Squeeze	Walt Pohorily	Rogers City
1993	King	27.25	Karefree	Tom Moores	Presque Isle
1992	King	25.50	Eagle II	Paul Schoenrade	Lexington
1991	King	25.50	Kemo	Bob Mitchell	Ludington
1990	King	26.14	Misery III	Al Schultz	Rogers City
1989	King	28.50	Molly Frair	Ron Hartman	Rogers City
1988	King	25.00	Trena Dawn	Don Redmond	Rogers City
1987	King	22.19	Cap't Hook	Doug Karakas	Rogers City
1986	King	22.11	Nuf-4-Me	Art Dennis	Ludington
1985	King	23.50	More-N-Likely	Bob Kanas	Harbor Beach
1984	King	25.50	Kneeknocker	Ed Choinski	Ludington
1983	King	26.38	Sea Esta	Bill Achtenburg	Ludington
1982	King	25.69	Sea Esta	Bill Achtenburg	Ludington
1981	King	28.00	Valhalla	Steve Hamilton	Ludington
1980	King	30.12	Fishing Fever	Terry Cholette	Ludington
1979	King	26.13	Drifter	Bob Kring	Unknown
1978	King	25.80	Valhalla	Steve Hamilton	Unknown

The DAS: A Brief History

The Detroit Area Steelheaders (DAS) was originally organized as a chapter of the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishing Association (MSSFA). Tom Schneider, John Makela, Ed Raquel and Joe Sizemore, as a committee of four, founded the club in September, 1974. The first organizational meeting was held on October 16, 1974. Forty one people attended that first gathering at the Northwood Inn. It was decided that the first 'annual meeting' would be held on December 4, 1974, and that date would be the official beginning of the chapter.

DAS quickly became the largest of all MSSFA chapters. It was DAS' Super Spring Show that all other chapter shows were modeled after. The DAS started the first research trips on the Great Lakes, introduced river tournaments, and held salmon and steelhead river fishing clinics to teach the proper techniques in catching river run fish. This had never been done before.

In January, 1990, due to conflicts with MSSFA 96% of the members voted to withdraw DAS from MSSFA and be an independent organization. Our official name became the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. a Michigan non-profit corporation.

Our official corporate purpose is: "To teach, inform, and guide the public to respect and appreciate the Great Lakes, rivers, and land around us. To promote and protect the fisheries resources therein."

Board of Director Election Results

The Board of Director elections were held at the December 15 Christmas meeting. The vote results are as follows:

Anthony Lewis	51
Blaise Pewinski	51
Jason Adam	49
Mark Williams	49
Bruce Tufford	49
Ed Horen	45

Each of these positions are for 3 year terms. Jason Adam and Mark Williams are returning to the BOD. Anthony Lewis, Blaise Pewinski, Bruce Tufford and Ed Horen are new. The Board meets on the 3rd from the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, MI. Congratulations to All!

DAS Presidents

Name	Years Served
Tom Schneider	1975 1976
John Makela	1977
Elton Luckritz	1978
Tom Schneider	1979
Gary Gray	1980 1981
Steve Hamilton	1982 1983
Tom Schrinel	1984
Bob Mitchell	1985 1986
Mike Zelkowski	1987 1988
Dave Even	1989 1990
Tim Graskewicz	1991 1992
Bob Gilbert	1993 1994
Doug Karakas	1995 1996
Don Redmond	1997 1998
Ray Banbury	1999 2000
Doug Karakas	2001
Ed Wilczek	2002 2003
Mark Bevans	2004 2005
Jason Adam	2006 2007 2008
Mark Williams	2009

The Detroit Area Steelheaders
Present The 11th Annual 2010

Sportsman's Wild Game Dinner

Saturday March 13, 2010 - Troy, MI
held at the beautiful
American Polish Cultural Center

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

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, 60" Big Screen TV, 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.

Non-smoking and smoking areas.

Dining tables seat ten, and may be reserved with your advance payment

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.

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS Promoting & Protecting our Great Lakes sportfishery

2010 DAS Sportsmen's Dinner & Raffle Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

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

E-Mail for info: jvongrabe@detroitsteelheaders.org

For Info Call: Joe @ (586) 293-7888 or Tom @ (248) 634-6789

www.detroitsteelheaders.org

Detroit Area Steelheaders Giving Tops \$51,000

For 35 years the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. has contributed to numerous worthwhile causes which we believe serve our stated organizational goal of promoting and protecting Great Lakes Sportfishing. Thanks to our members and contributors who have helped us raise funds to make these donations.

The following list of donations made since January 2000 may overlook some, but the overall impact is that the Detroit Area Steelheaders give!

- October, 2009 - \$2,500.** To the Ludington Area Charterboat Association to fund the replacement of their salmon rearing net pens.
- October, 2009 - \$1,000.** To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- October, 2009 - \$200** Donation to the Big Ten Bass Fishing Tournament.
- September-October, 2009 - \$222.** Donation of Voluntary Youth Licenses to help DNR revenue.
- June, 2009 - \$1,703.** To fund our own Special People fishing outing.
- May, 2009 - \$2,000.** To fund two \$1,000 college scholarships for two deserving students studying for an outdoors/conservation related degree.
- May, 2009 - \$1,795.** To the City of Ludington for a Memorial Bench at the City Marina.
- February, 2009 - \$250.** To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- January, 2009 - \$1,000.** To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- January, 2009 - \$500.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- January, 2009 - \$1,000.** To the Youth Development Commission for their 2009 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- October, 2008 - \$1,640.** Lake Superior State University Aquatics Research Lab for their fish cam.
- March, 2008 - \$1,000.** To Project FISH for their teaching projects.
- March, 2008 - \$200.** To Shelby Township Parks & Recreation for their kids fishing derby.
- January, 2008 - \$1,000.** To the Youth Development Commission for their 2008 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- December, 2007 - \$1,000.** To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- November, 2007 - \$250.** To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- October, 2007 - \$500.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- September, 2007 - \$250.** To the Sporting Lands Alliance to help with their operations.
- September, 2007 - \$500.** To fund a college scholarship for a deserving student studying for an outdoors/conservation related degree.
- September, 2007 - \$150.** To Fish Pointe Wildlife Association to help with their operations.

- June, 2007 - \$698.** To fund our own Special People fishing outing.
- February, 2007 - \$1,000 Grant.** To the Youth Development Commission for their 2007 Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby.
- November, 2006 - \$1,000 Grant.** To the Michigan Wildlife Service department of the USDA to help fund cormorant control/research.
- June, 2006 - \$5,000 Grant.** To "The Coalition to Protect Michigan's Resources" (formerly the Michigan Fisheries Resource Conservation Coalition) to help fund their Indian inland fishing negotiations within the Federal court directives.
- April, 2006 - \$1,000 Grant.** To Sterling Heights High School to initiate a "Salmon in the Classroom" program.
- January, 2006 - \$1,000 Grant.** To the Detroit Area Kids Fishing Derby for their 2006 derby.
- November, 2005 - \$1,000 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- November, 2005 - \$500 Grant.** To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- February, 2005 - \$250 Grant.** To the Clinton River Watershed Council for their Clinton River projects.
- December, 2004 - \$800 Grant.** To the Grand Rapids Steelheaders Foundation, Inc. for their Willow Tree Trout Farm community fishing project.
- October, 2004 - \$250 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council Carp Barrier fund for the Chicago River.
- July, 2004 - \$1,000 Grant.** To Project FISH for their teaching projects.
- July, 2004 - \$250 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their operations.
- January, 2004 - \$2,500 Grant.** To the Manistee County Sport Fishing Association for their Orsini Hatchery operations.
- November, 2003 - \$700 Grant.** To the Southwest Michigan Steelheaders for their St. Joseph River net pen operation.
- June, 2003 - \$250 Grant** to the Michigan Charterboat Association's scholarship fund.
- June, 2003 - \$250 Grant.** To the City of Port Sanilac for their fish cleaning station operations.
- September, 2002 - \$250 Grant.** To the Blue Water Anglers for their Sarnia hatchery operations.
- July, 2002 - \$250 Grant.** To the Manistee County Sport Fishing Association for their Manistee River net pen operations.
- June, 2002 - \$250 Grant.** To the Grand Haven Steelheaders for their Grand River net pen operations.
- January, 2002 - \$200 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Association to help fund operations.
- September, 2001 - \$250 Grant.** To the Michigan Fisheries Resource Conservation Coalition to help pay their expenses of the netting agreement negotiations.
- July, 2001 - \$100 Grant.** To the city of Port Austin for operating expenses of their fish cleaning station.
- March, 2001 - \$100 Grant.** To the Hammond Bay Anglers Association for supporting efforts with the Michigan Fisheries Resource Conservation Coalition and the netting agreement.
- December, 2000 - \$300 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council for their 2001 annual meeting expenses.
- January, 2000 - \$3,000 Grant.** To the City of Port Sanilac for a new fish cleaning station.

Skipper of the Year Standings 2009

FINAL

Best 5

	Boat Name	Skipper Name	Lexington	St. Joe	Grand Haven I	Port Austin	Pentwater	Ladies Day	Ludington II	Manistee	Grand Haven II	Total Points	Best 6	Best 7	Best 8	Best 9
1	Silver Addition	Mark Williams	75	1	1	75	4	1	1	4	75	8	12	87	162	237
2	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	2	3	75	1	1	4	2	75	75	9	13	88	163	238
3	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	1	4	3	4	9	50	50	3	6	15	21	30	80	130
4	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	50	2	75	75	7	2	3	2	75	16	66	141	216	291
5	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	3	5	7	6	5	5	5	1	4	18	23	28	34	41
6	Miss Dipsey	Jody Robinson	75	75	6	2	75	6	4	6	5	23	29	104	179	254
7	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	50	6	4	75	6	3	6	5	75	24	30	80	155	230
8	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	75	75	2	3	2	75	50	7	75	64	139	214	289	364
9	Thor's Hammer	Al Weichert	50	75	8	75	3	75	7	9	1	28	78	153	228	303
10	Channing	Dan Chisolm	5	7	75	75	8	75	50	75	75	145	220	295	370	445
11	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	50	75	10	5	75	75	75	50	75	190	265	340	415	490
12	Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	4	75	11	75	75	75	75	75	75	240	315	390	465	540
13	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	75	75	9	75	75	50	75	8	75	217	292	367	442	517
14	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	75	75	5	75	75	75	75	75	2	232	307	382	457	532
15	E-Fish-N-Sea	Doug Karakas	75	75	12	75	75	75	75	75	3	240	315	390	465	540
16	Aquarius	Chris Nytko	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350	425	500	575	650
17	Billy B	Bill Bollenberg	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350	425	500	575	650

	Weight	Species	Boat Name
Largest Of Each Species	20.45	King	Almost Paradise
	20.45	King	Almost Paradise
	10.10	Coho	Bad Dog
	15.35	Lake Trout	E-Fish-N-Sea
	10.60	Steelhead	Vicki's Seacret
	13.85	Brown	Thor's Hammer
	0.00	Atlantic	
0.00	Pink		

	Lexington	St. Joe	Grand Haven	Port Austin	Pentwater	Ladies Day	Ludington II	Manistee	Grand Haven II	Year	
Number of Boats	11	7	12	6	9	8	10	10	6		
Number Caught	Kings	6	51	120	2	11	33	32	49	5	309
	Cohos	0	15	1	0	1	1	4	1	3	26
	Lake Trout	0	1	9	42	5	0	0	1	5	63
	Steelhead	1	3	0	1	6	0	1	0	20	32
	Browns	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Atlantics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Pinks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
											431

Skipper of the Year Photos



1st Place - "Silver Addition II" - Mark Williams



2nd Place - "Sea Hag" - Blaise Pewinski



3rd Place - "Bobby's Toy" - Bob Jones



4th Place - "Almost Paradise" - Bob Paradise

More Skipper of the Year Photos



5th Place - "Vicki's Seacret" - Bob Feisel



6th Place - "Miss Dipsey" - Jody Robinson



7th Place - "Bad Dog" - Tom Gorguze



8th Place - "Sloppy Joe" - Joe Von Grabe

2010 Boat Trolling Schedule

The Boat Trolling Committee met on Tuesday, January 5 and hammered out the upcoming trolling schedule for the 2010 season. We can only hope that weather will not be such a major factor as it was for both the 2008 and 2009 trolling seasons.

Port	Date	Port Captain
Lexington	April 24	Blaise Pewinski
St. Joseph	May 1	Dan Chisholm
Grand Haven 2-Day (333)	May 22-23	Bob Feisel
Pentwater	June 26	Al Weichert
Manistee I	July 10	Tom Gorguze
Ludington Ladies Day	August 7	Mark Williams
Ludington II 2-Day (333) Team Doubles Day 1	August 14-15	Ron Pal
Manistee II (333)	August 28	Bob Paradise
Onekama	September 11	Jody Robinson



9th Place - "Thor's Hammer" - Al Weichert

It was decided that there would be plaques for the Top Five boats only at each tournament. There will still be awards for the Top Ten Skippers of the Year. There were some minor rule changes made at the meeting and also some changes to the Team Doubles format and 333 format. These will be explained in next month's Fishin' Tales.

Some Data from the 2009 "Bobby's Toy" Fishing Log

2009 was the first year that I got serious about keeping a fish log of our catches aboard "Bobby's Toy". I compiled these logs into Excel and discovered a wealth of information. Maybe it means something, maybe not. I think it will take a couple or three years worth the data to see what value it brings but I already have drawn some conclusions that might help me make more informed decisions next year. I am always told that it is all about the details. This is what separates the boys from the men.

Our fish stats for 2009 are based on log entries for 17 trips and are as follows:

We had 117 fish on and boated 92 of them for a total of 729 pounds of fish. These 92 fish were comprised of:

- ⇒ 62 Kings,
- ⇒ 12 Lakers,
- ⇒ 10 Coho,
- ⇒ 3 Steelhead,
- ⇒ 2 Browns
- ⇒ 3 Whitefish.

The top five most productive trolling speeds based on my Fish Hawk 840 were as follows:

- 2.4 mph, 15 fish
- 2.5 mph, 14 fish
- 2.3 mph, 10 fish
- 2.2 mph, 10 fish
- 2.6 mph, 9 fish

Presentations:

The hottest device was downrigger number one bringing in 20 fish for a total of 165 pounds of fish.

The best device for overall weight per fish was the full super copper rig netting a 12.7 pound per fish average. This fact is pretty significant when you consider that the average weight for the 92 fish caught was 7.9 pounds.

Spoons have been the bait of choice for Bobby's Toy for many years. My spoon program improved tremendously over the last couple of years since I went to dedicated spoon rods running 12 pound Ande line,

SG47LC Diawa reels on seven foot Ugly Stick rods. This idea was taken from Dan Keating's book Keating on Kings. I believe, as does Dan, that it has more to do with the action of the spoon due to the lighter line than it does with fish being line shy.

Silver Streak spoons most of which were the magnum size were the number one bait taking 57 of our 92 fish. I also run Moonshine spoons which gave us the best weight per fish at 11 pounds per fish average. The Silver Streaks averaged 7.8 pounds per fish.

The top producing Silver Streak was the double orange crush in magnum size netting 22 fish closely followed by the mag NBK which took a total of 16 fish.

The big fish spoon was the Moonshine Flounder Pounder in mag size with an 11 pound weight average per fish.

Our largest fish caught this season was on a special blue streak Silver Streak. It was good for an 18 pound king taken in Ludington on a super copper rig set straight down the chute

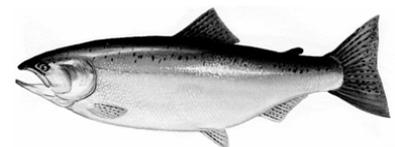
Our best port this year was Grand Haven in mid May where we had a total of 34 fish on, losing 10 of them over a three day period. We fished 19 hours over the three days giving us a total of 214 pounds of fish for a 1.2 fish per hour average.

We put in approx 106 hours of fishing time over the course of the 17 logged trips giving us a 0.9 average of fish per hour on the water. Considering all the obstacles this year that is not a bad average.

We took 43 of our 92 fish during the tournaments for a total of 361.1 pounds and 576.1 points.

That's all the stats that I wish to share at the moment. 2009 was a tough year for catching as the weather was windy and the water rough for most trips. I believe the log has identified strong areas for us as well as shown me some areas in which we need to improve.

Bob Jones
"Bobby's Toy"



DAS Skipper's Honor Roll

<p>1976</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Makela Sisu 2. Murrell Blackburn Fish'n 5 3. Chuck Cartwright Tuna Boat 4. Paul Irvine Yellow Jacket 5. Steve Hamilton Valhalla 	<p>1987</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greg Clifford Outlaw 2. Bob Mitchell Kemo 3. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 4. Steve Banovic Exaggerator 5. Dick Shirk, Lil Scratch 	<p>1998</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 4. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 5. Paul Schoenrade Eagle III
<p>1977</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chuck Cartwright Tuna Boat 2. John Makela Sisu 3. Murrell Blackburn Tuna Boat 4. Bob Kring Drifter 5. Larry Atwell Cobra 	<p>1988</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teachers Pet 3. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 4. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 5. Steve Banovic Exaggerator 	<p>1999</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 2. Stan Bilek Blue Star 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Paul Schoenrade Eagle III
<p>1978</p> <p>1. Jerry Lee Sea Screw</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Complete Standings For 1978 are unavailable</p>	<p>1989</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Steve Banovic Exaggerator 3. Ron Huey Half R's 4. Ron Hartman Molly Frair 5. Don Anton Happy Bare 	<p>2000</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 2. Stan Bilek Blue Star 3. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Bill Nutting Just Once
<p>1979</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jerry Lee Sea Screw 2. Howard Mills Paramour 3. Larry Atwell Cobra 4. Jim Treadaway Okie Drifter 5. Bob Kring Drifter 	<p>1990</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teachers Pet 3. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 4. Rob Pinski Anticipation 5. Mike Wakulski Wet Paint 	<p>2001</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark Stosiak Tomorrow's Dream 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Mike Vigus Crusader 5. Doug Karakas Capt'n Hook
<p>1980</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jerry Lee Sea Screw 2. Terry Cholette Fishin' Fever 3. Toby Lampi Jessie III 4. Randy Cope Ouzo Too 5. Ed Yankowski II Least Likely 	<p>1991</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teachers Pet 3. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 	<p>2002</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 2. Doug Karakas Capt'n Hook 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Bill Dunk Free Bird 5. Mark Bevans In-Seine
<p>1981</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Kring Drifter 2. Toby Lampi Jessie III 3. Bob Kanas Least Likely 4. Jerry Lee Sea Screw 5. Jewell Harris Cannonball 	<p>1992</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Dave Even Teacher's Pet 3. Tom Moores Karefree 4. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 5. Mike Wakulski Wet Paint 	<p>2003</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bill Dunk Free Bird 2. Mike Vigus Crusader 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 5. Mark Bevans In-Seine
<p>1982</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brian Glaser Least Likely 2. Toby Lampi Jessie III 3. Mike Curzenski Noonon 4. Bob Kring Drifter 5. R.J. Branham Seahawk 	<p>1993</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dave Even Teachers Pet 2. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 3. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 4. Leon Van Eden Bull Head 5. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 	<p>2004</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 4. Mike Vigus Crusader 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret
<p>1983</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gerry Ciurzenski Jawbuster 2. Mike Boroniec Horsefly 3. R.J. Branham Seahawk 4. Bob Kozar Snowman 5. Ed Yankowski II Least Likely 	<p>1994</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joe Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 2. Jimmy Hardrick My Dream 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Ron Hartman Molly Frair 5. Paul Schoenrade Eagle Two 	<p>2005</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 2. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 3. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 4. Dave Linder No Limit 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret
<p>1984</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bon Kanas Least Likely 2. Ed Choinski Kneeknocker 3. Darrin Harris Cannonball 3. Bob Ksionzek Last Dime 3. Mike Zelkowski Elvira 	<p>1995</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 3. Daniel Dima Taz 4. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 5. Dave Roehr Floating Holiday 	<p>2006</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 2. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 3. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 4. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy 5. Dave Linder No Limit
<p>1985</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Darrin Harris Cannonball 2. Joel Garinger Fishbusters 3. Bruce Choinski Kneeknocker 4. Tom Chojnowski Sea Con 5. Ed McIntosh Sweet Lorraine 	<p>1996</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dick Shirk Lil' Scratch 2. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 3. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 4. Paul Nowak Nothin' But Fun 5. Don Redmond Trena Dawn 	<p>2007</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Paradise Almost Paradise 2. Joe Von Grabe Sloppy Joe 3. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 4. Tim Robinson Pride N Joy 5. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret
<p>1986</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob Mitchell Kemo 2. Greg Clifford Outlaw 3. Chuck Wood Predator 4. Dave Even Teachers Pet 5. Blaise Pewinski Sea Hag 	<p>1997</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rob Golaszewski Lucky Falcon 2. Chris Nytko Aquarius II 3. Paul Colone The Kidd 4. Bob Buero Mickey Mouse Club 5. Jimmy Hardrick My Dream 	<p>2008</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark Williams Silver Addiction 2. Tom Gorguze Bad Dog 3. Bob Feisel Vicki's Seacret 4. Dave Linder No Limit 5. Bob Jones Bobby's Toy

2010 DAS Key Dates

Jan. 13, 2010 7:00pm	Board of Director's Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Jan. 26, 2010 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Feb. 10, 2010 7:00pm	Board of Director's Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
Feb. 20, 2010 8:00am - 4:00pm	Super Salmon Clinic American Polish Cultural Center
Feb. 23, 2010 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center

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