

### 2008 Key Dates

February 24 Early Run  
Steelhead Tournament  
Wellston, MI

Feb. 26 - Member Meeting

March 8 - Sportsman's Game  
Dinner

Mar. 25 - Member Meeting

### **March is Swap Meet**

The March regular member meeting will feature the **annual swap meet** for members. If you have rods, reels, lures, or other tackle you don't need, turn it into cash at the meeting. If you need something,

check out the tables. Show up early (doors open at 7:00 p.m.) for the best selection or to set up.



### **NINETH ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S DINNER**

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will be hosting our seventh annual Sportsmen's Dinner on March 8. Mark your calendar!

The location is the American Polish Cultural Club located at 2975 E Maple Troy MI 48083

This event sells out fast. Tom Moores is the contact person

for Wild Game Dinner tickets. His cell phone is 248-866-0663

### **Check Your Label**

Did you know that your mailing label includes the date your membership expires? The month and year your membership expires is below your name. If it's marked yellow, your membership may be close to expiring. Don't be disqualified from a tournament because you forgot to re-up. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150.

See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to the club post office box (1255 in Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255).



Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1255  
Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255



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MEETING NOTICE - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

February 2008  
Volume XXXIV, Issue 2

[www.detroitsteelheaders.org](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.org)

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Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1255  
Sterling Heights, Mi.  
48311-1255

# Fishin' Tales



### **February Meeting**

The next Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. club meeting takes place on Tuesday February 24, 2008 at 7:30 P.M. in the hall at 6177 Chicago Rd. (east of Mound Rd., North of 13 Mile Rd.)- Warren, Michigan. Our meetings are always open to the public.

Join us at the next meeting. Up to date club information can be also found on the DAS web site at [www.detroitsteelheaders.org](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.org).

### **Did You Miss January's Meeting?**

President Jason Adam called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. First on the agenda, He announced that there would be a special election held to make a couple of changes in our by-laws: 1. Eliminate the term limit for club president. 2. Rewording certain areas of the by-laws to fall under MUCC's guidelines for charitable gaming. The official changes are inserted in this newsletter as a separate sheet and will be voted upon at the February membership meeting.

Jason reminded everyone of the Bass Pro Workshop on Salmon and Trout fishing being presented by the Detroit Area Steelheaders on Sat, Feb. 8.

Jason mentioned that Wild Game Dinner ticket sales were on the slow side. Being that this is the Club's largest fundraiser, he urged the membership to do whatever they could to help stimulate the sales of tickets. Also, he said donations for raffle prizes were needed. See Jason or one of the other directors about this.

The President told the group he was returning as President and welcomed the new officers: Mark Williams as the new Vice-President, Joe Von Grabe as the new Secretary and Steve Hamilton returning as Treasurer.

Mark Williams will also be serving as the new Boat Trolling chairman. Jason also made it known that the Club would be putting together a Boat Trolling Directory. This returns after a couple of years hiatus. This is a laminated listing of Club boats and skippers with other valuable information. Sign-up forms were available at the meeting and are also included in this newsletter. Please return these forms by mail or at the February membership meeting to Bob Ksionzek. The directories will be available at the April meeting for a small fee which will cover the costs of printing and laminating.

Jason then introduced January's Guest speaker, Capt. Steve Dennis of Fish Bone Charters.

Steve gave a very informative one hour presentation on Ludington fishing. If you weren't very familiar with how to fish Ludington, Steve offered some extremely helpful ideas. Even the experienced Ludington skippers learned a few things. Thanks again to Capt. Steve.

In a non-fishing related item, Club member Jodi Robinson got up and asked for signature support on her petitions opposing House bill #4405 which would allow a possibility of parole after 10 years for individuals under the age of 18 who have been sentenced to terms of 10 years or more, including Life sentences and Life sentences without parole.

Jerry Zabel, a new director and Chairmen of the River and Surf events, spoke briefly about the 9th Annual Early Run Steelheaders tournament slated for Saturday, February 23 on the Manistee River. For River and Surf event info, you can see Jerry at one of the meetings or call him at 248-350-8024 or 248-495-5914.

Jason then opened up the floor as usual for a variety of fishing reports.

Because of some unresolved issues with our Charitable Gaming Licenses, the tackle raffle and 50-50 raffle were not held. Those should be back in full swing for next

month's meeting. The Every Member drawing for \$100 was won by Capt. Mark Stosiak. All members are eligible for this drawing at each month's meeting but you need to be present to win.

### **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

The new membership drive is on with an incentive for any new member to sign up. If your membership has expired prior to December 2006, 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.

### **PREPARING FOR YOUR FISHING SEASON**

February and Fishing. For the Great Lakes Salmon fisherman, the only thing that these two have in common is that they both start with the letter F. However, February is the perfect month to get organized for the up coming Big Lakes trolling season.

While sorting through tackle, it is important to take inventory and make note of things that need to be replaced or replenished. Make sure you have plenty of what you want or need, that way when you are wandering around the fishing shows and decide to make a purchase, you can

honestly justify the purchase to yourself or your spouse, if that it is necessary.

While taking inventory and organizing the tackle, take the extra time to inspect swivels, split rings, sharpen hooks on baits and replace them as necessary. Inspect guides on rods, line on reels and drags. If your reels require professional attention, this is the time that you should take them to the shop. Most reel repair shops can get you in and out quickly this time of the year so one is not scrambling come April.

With your tackle inspected, replenished and organized, turn your attention to organizing your boat. Make a list of all the safety items that need to be checked, such as fire extinguishers, flares, life jackets etc. These items should be recharged or replaced as directed. If you have access to your boat, the inventory of these items can be accomplished; if not at least you will be ready when the weather breaks. Safety items are the most often overlooked when preparing for the big water season, but there definitely the most important.

Make use of this time. It is more valuable to the up coming fishing season than you may think! Mark Williams



### **Top Ten Reasons To Participate In The 2008 Trolling Tournaments**

**10. The opportunity to spend the day, or maybe a whole weekend, doing what you love to do.**

Trolling around a Great Lakes port catching salmon and trout. You don't have to fish all the tournaments. Pick out one or a few of your favorite ports. Like you needed an excuse to go fishing.

**9. Learn a few more tips to help you catch those sometimes elusive fish.**

The skippers and crews who fish the tournaments have a lot of combined experience and knowledge of what it takes to catch salmon and trout. And they are not afraid to share that knowledge with anyone who wants to learn.

**8. A chance for the family to getaway and enjoy this beautiful State of ours.**

This may be the perfect situation to take your wife and kids or your wife and another couple on a weekend trip where they can catch a few fish, have a great time and, more importantly, share that experience. This is true for any tournament weekend but especially Ladies Day where the men do all the work. They set the rods, net the fish and drive the boat. The Ladies have all the fun catching the fish.

In addition, the tournaments are on Saturday, which leaves Friday afternoon and Sunday to see and do what these port

towns and the surrounding areas have to offer. The ride to and from any given port can be enjoyable and offer some great sight seeing in itself.

**7. It's not necessarily as expensive as you think.**

Maybe you can't afford to take the family every weekend. Sure it gets costly, but finding other willing club members to be part of your crew and sharing those costs will certainly help make it more affordable.

**6. Compete for Skipper of the Year honors.**

Okay, you like a little friendly competition. You put together a crew of reliable, fish-savvy guys and fish 5 or more of the tournaments. Try your best to finish as high as possible in the standings at each tournament and wind up as Skipper of the Year. You get **all** the braggin' rights. This can be a difficult task. Consistency is the name of the game. But you and your crew are up to the challenge.

**5. Listen to a charter captain tell you where, what and how to fish.**

New this year, on Friday nights before the tournaments, the Club has arranged to have a local charter captain for the particular port speak to the skippers and crews about what's been happening in the area, where the fish are being caught and what's being used. This is a pretty cool idea and should be a tremendous help for all those Club members that will be fishing the tournaments.

**4. Win the Big Fish Pool.**

The Big Fish pool is a real simple concept. Each skipper throws \$5 into the pool. (Strictly voluntary) The largest fish

weighed-in for the tournament earns all the money in the pool for that skipper. (Assuming that skipper was entered.) The more boats entered obviously the larger the pot. On a 2 day tournament, there is a separate pool each day. Not bad, eh?

**3. Enjoy a cheap lunch.**

This probably got your attention. Included in the entry fee is lunch for the skipper and crew. Past tournaments have included hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, pizza, cole slaw, potato salad and plenty of cold drinks. Each port captain makes sure there something a little different for each tournament. Ladies' Day usually features a pig roast and a variety of side dishes provided by the participating boats.

**2. Free gas (YES!)**

At each tournament, every participating skipper's name is thrown in a hat. With up to 15 boats participating, 2 names are drawn. Each of those skippers receives a \$50 gas card. If there are more than 15 boats, 3 names are drawn. With gas at the price it is, this can definitely help make participation a little more affordable.

**1. Make new friends and share your love of the sport with them.**

Enough can't be said for all the great friends you'll make and the good times that are had at the tournaments. Sharing those fishing tips, fishing stories and a few laughs is what it's all about.

Surely one or more of these reasons should be enough to get you interested in making a few or all of the tournaments. If so, see Mark Williams at an upcoming meeting or give him a call at 810-395-8789 or 586-531-2763