

### 2007 Key Dates

February 24 - Early Run Steelhead Tournament Wellston, MI

Feb. 27 - Member Meeting

March 10 - Sportsman's Game Dinner

Mar. 27 - Member Meeting (SWAP NIGHT)

April 24 - Member Meeting

May 29 - Member Meeting

### **DAS Web Site**

The DAS website is up and running.

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

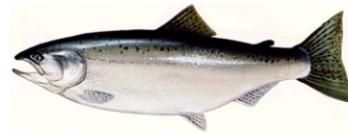
Be sure to sign up for the

message board so you can get and participate in sharing information.

You need to do this as here is where you will get important last minute, up to date information regarding the club.

Stay in touch with friends. Get insider information on where the fish are biting (or not). Ask for an opinion on a new tackle or electronics item before you spend the bucks. This is the place where it happens. Sign up today.

Home: (586) 786-0288 Pager: (586) 609-6208



### **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



Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
126  
Sterling  
Heights, Mi.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

February 2007  
Volume XXXIII, 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 27, 2007 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.

Our speaker for February is **Captain Mike Gnatkowski**. Mike heads Gnat's Charter Service and operates the **EQUALIZER** out of Ludington.

Mike has been a full-time Great Lakes charter captain for more than a decade and has guided anglers on Michigan rivers for nearly 20 years. Those that heard Mike at our Bass Pro day walked away with a lot of great information.

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).

### **ICE OUTING**

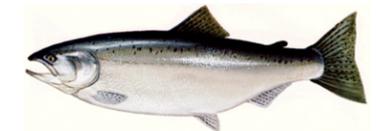
Chris Nytko is planning on having an ice outing on Saturday, **February 17th** at Metro Beach, as always behind the island.

### **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

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 prior to December 2005, or you are a brand new member signing up for the first time, you will receive a package valued at approximately \$30.00. This package will include; one DAS annual t-shirt, one DAS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary silver streak spoon, two Michigan Squids or Flies, a DAS fishing towel, 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. This incentive is another great reason to get a friend to join.

The members of our club are what make us successful, and without YOU and new members, it will be hard to reach our goals.

Tom Moores—Membership Director



## 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

### 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.

### BE SMART / BUY SMART

The show season is upon us and the only way we can satisfy our urge to fish, due to lack of ice, is to purchase something we need or think we need for the upcoming season. This is not a bad idea, but what direction do we go.

Do you buy on price or quality? The bottom line usually is the depth of one's wallet. However, I offer a bit of advice. If you buy the best you can afford, you can generally recover some money through resale when you decide to upgrade. If you buy cheap, there is no resale value or they break down under our harsh trolling conditions. This is especially true with rods and reels. Mark Williams

## \$500 CONSERVATION SCHOLARSHIP

On behalf of your Board of Directors it gives me great pleasure to announce the formation of the Detroit Area Steelheaders Conservation Scholarship. Nearly a year ago the Board started the process of putting together a small scholarship award for some lucky high school student choosing to go into the field of conservation. Be it Conservation Officer, Wildlife Biology, Oceanography or any other career benefiting our beloved waters or woods, we now have an avenue to help out a budding conservationist.

After several re-writes to get the particular language to the entire BOD's satisfaction we now have a document that allows a high school senior to apply for and earn a \$500 scholarship to the college of their choice. There are several requirements, but let me take a moment to outline the major factors. First and foremost the candidate must be furthering his or her education in the conservation field. Secondly the applicant must be sponsored or recommended by a member of the Detroit Area Steelheaders. Third the applicant must complete and submit an application by the specified date to be considered for the scholarship.

As a conservation organization, DAS could not think of a better way to insure that our outdoor heritage remains intact than giving to a deserving student that plans to make his or her life ambition a career in conservation services. Our club has made many donations to

worthwhile causes over the years. In this Director's opinion, helping a young person start down the road to a lifetime of protecting and improving our Woods, Waters, Fields and Streams is as worthy a cause as any organization could ever hope to be a part of. Respectfully Submitted, Nicholas Amicone

### GAS CARD Drawing

We will have a participation prize this year in our boat trolling tournaments. A gas card will be drawn randomly from skippers at the event. Two will be awarded if participation is over 14 boats.



### Eighth ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will be hosting our seventh annual Sportsmen's Dinner on March 10. 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.

## Early Run Steelhead Tournament Wellston, MI February 24, 2007

You must pre-register. \$8 registration fee. Fishing starts at 5 a.m. with weigh-in prior to 5 pm at Pappy's Bait & Tackle.

Awards ceremony at 7PM at the Norman Township Community Center, Seamen rd., Welston. Awards for the following:  
MENS BOAT 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Boat MENS 1st  
MENS BANK 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Bank MENS 1st  
WOMENS BOAT 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Boat Women's 1st  
WOMENS BANK 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Bank Women's 1st  
YOUTH BANK 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Boat Youth 1st  
YOUTH BOAT 1, 2, 3  
BIGGEST STRINGER  
Bank Youth 1st

### HEAVIEST BAG OF TRASH OFF THE RIVER WINS A SPECIAL PRIZE!

For more information call Rob at Pappy's (231) 848-4142 or contact The Historic Wellston Inn Trish Polcik P.O. Box 70 17204 Sixth Street Wellston, MI 49689 231-848-7400 Check out "steelhead tournament" on the web at [www.thewellstoninn.com](http://www.thewellstoninn.com)

## 2007 Boat Trolling Tournaments

2007 Tourney's and Port Captains as follows:

4/28 St. Joseph  
(Al Wiechert)

5/5 South Haven  
(Tim Robinson)

5/19, 5/20 Grand Haven  
2-day  
(Bob Jones)

6/9 Port Austin Team  
Doubles  
(Dave Linder)

6/23 Special People  
Outing - Lake Erie  
(Doug Karakas)

7/14 Manistee  
(Tom Gorguze)

8/4 Ludington Ladies  
Day  
(Mark Williams)

8/11 Ludington II  
(Ron Pal)

8/25 Manistee II  
(Bob Paradise)

9/8 Frankfort  
(Bob Fiesel)