

2007 Key Dates

July 31– Member Meeting
 8/4 Ludington Ladies Day (Mark Williams)
 8/11 Ludington II (Ron Pal)
 8/25 Manistee II (Bob Paradise)
 9/8 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)
 August 28– Member Meeting
 September 25– Member Meeting
 Oct. 30– Member Meeting
 Nov. 27– Member Meeting

LUD II Results

14 boats participated and weighed in fish. A total of 165 fish were caught; 150 were Kings, 6 Coho, 6 Steelhead and 3 Lake Trout.

14th Lucky Strike	78.90
13th Five O'Clock	118.45
12th Outta Line	120.05
11th No Limit	127.15
10th Vicki's Seacret	130.25
9th Thors Hammer	131.60
8th Aquarius II	132.40
7th Bobby's Toy	134.70
6th Sloppy Joe	138.05
5th Bad Dog	141.65
4th Blue Star	142.85
3rd Silver Addiction	147.00
2nd Almost Paradise	147.50
1st Pride & Joy	156.25

The Big Fish was a 16.70# King caught by Blue Star.

Fore sale: 19 ft Starcraft, 140hp IO, Merc outdrive, VHF radio, fish finder, 2 elec. downriggers, 2 10lb weights, 8 rod holders, convertible top, \$3500 OBO
 810-667-2052

Check Your Label

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; P.O. Box 1255, Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255.

Fishin' Tales



can head out to your fishing area (no shotgun start). Fishing will start at 6:30 AM, with fish calls at 9:30 and 12:30. Fishing will end at 2:30 and you must be at the weigh-in by 3:30. The weigh-in will be held adjacent to the municipal boat launch. Remember to notify the port captain Bob Feisel (Vicki's Seacret) when you return to the harbor.

August Meeting

The next Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. club meeting takes place on Tuesday August 28, 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.

In addition, the meeting will have upcoming tournament information and recent tournament results, fishing reports, raffles, and short technical presentations where time allows. Hope to see you there.....Jason

Up to date club information can be also found on the DAS web site at www.detroitsteelheaders.org.

Frankfort Tournament: Sept. 8

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will have their final trolling tournament of the 2007 season at Frankfort on September 8th. The pre-tournament Captains meeting will be held on Saturday at 5:30 AM at the Municipal Marina. After the meeting, you

A mixed catch of Salmon, Steelhead, and Lake Trout is typical in the Frankfort area. Mature four-year-old Kings will probably be staging close to port this time of the year. They will add a lot of points to your score and will be an important part of your catch. Watch your fish finder as you are leaving the harbor. Sometimes you will find schools near the pierheads. The presence of charter boats close to port is another good sign that the Kings are in the area. Downriggers and divers with J-plugs, flashers, or spoons will be effective. Two, three, and 5 color leadcore will work in shallow waters, but be careful with the long lines if you are fishing in a pack of boats.

Lake Michigan has a lot of structure here. Deep water up to 500 feet can be found within 5 miles from shore. A productive area is the "bank", a steep dropoff between Frankfort and the Point Betsie Lighthouse. To get to the bank, head NW from the pierhead and in a short while you'll be there.

Further north is the Platte Bay. Here there is a shallow ridge that

August, 2007
 Volume XXXIII, Issue 8

www.detroitsteelheaders.org

Inside this Issue

- 1 August Meeting
Frankfort Tournament
- 2 Sloppy Joe Whopper
- 3 Manistee Results
Ludington II Results
- 4 Pictures
- 5
- 6 Skipper Standings
- 7 Manistee Weir
Ludington Ladies results
- 8 Key Dates
Ludington II Results

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



Place Stamp
 Here
 Sterling
 Heights, Mi.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

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

runs north from the Platte River mouth. The ridge separates deeper waters, up to 200 ft deep, in the east and west sides of the Bay. The structure in this area can be a good place to catch Lake Trout along the bottom.

Popular fishing locations also include the Herring Hole, a deep pocket of water that is close to the shoreline. To get to the Herring Hole, head South from the pierheads for about 3 miles. The Herring Hole can be very productive for Kings, especially during the early morning bite. Sometimes the fish will scatter after the sun comes up, so be prepared to move on to a different location if the bite falls off.

Last year our Frankfort tournament was held in July. There were very few fish at the Herring Hole then, and boats that started the day there missed out on the active early-morning bite that occurred in other areas. Boats that went straight out and north caught a lot of fish in the first couple hours.

Frankfort is known for having a good steelhead fishery. Watch for temperature breaks, slicks, or scum lines, and be prepared to fish lures close to the surface (top 30 feet). Body baits and spoons pulled behind planers work well. Half-core rigs can also work well for shallow fish. Look for fish on both sides of the temp break.

Orange and red are popular lure colors for steelhead. Remember that faster trolling speeds, 3-4 mph, can be effective when targeting steelies.

For your last-minute tackle purchases, the Frankfort Tackle Box (231-352-7673) is conveniently located directly across the street from the launch ramp. The store hours are from 6 am - 7 pm.

Frankfort is in one of the most scenic areas of the lower peninsula. To the north is the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, and the Platte River. There are excellent campgrounds at the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park (1-800-365-CAMP). Camping is also available just a few miles east of Frankfort at the Betsie River Campsite (231-352-9535).

NOTE Frankfort area Lake Trout regulations: The **MAXIMUM** size limit for Lake Trout is 23 inches, **EXCEPT**, one fish in the daily possession limit of three may be 34 inches or greater.

For additional information, contact port captain Bob Feisel (Home: 248-357-1089, Cell: 248-765-2504) or the DAS tournament director Joe von Grabe (Home: 586-293-7688, Cell: 586-945-4334).

Marinas:
Frankfort Municipal 231-352-9051
Jacobson 231-352-9131
Betsie Bay 231-352-2628
Mitchell 231-352-4400
East Shore 231-352-7511

Sloppy Joe's Whopper
Saturday evening we fished off of the point in 165 to 200 fow. With just two of us in the boat, we ended up 9 for 12 fishing from 5:00 to about 7:30. We were trying to fish four rods and never could get all four down. It was nice to be able to go in early and beat the rush at the cleaning station.

Sunday morning we started right in the same spot and didn't have a touch the first half hour. I went in shallower to 120 fow and three rods went at the same time. The one the big fish came on was on a rigger 70 down. The rod released and just went straight down with line coming off about the same speed as we were trolling. It acted just like it snagged bottom and for a second that's what I thought happened.

It showed between 26# and 28# on the Berkley digital scale but it was difficult to tell in the rough water. Back at the dock it showed just over 26#. It goes to show how accurate those scales are. It was 26# 10 oz at Captain Chuck's

It came on a Green Bubble Reel Flasher with 3-fly rig using red label whole herring. I probably would have kept it for the wall if my wife wasn't around to influence me. That fish is probably more of a trophy now days than a 30# fish was 10 years ago. I ended up giving it away to some guys at the fish cleaning station as we didn't have any room for it.

DNR installs fish barrier on Little Manistee

JOE BOOMGAARD – LUDINGTON DAILY NEWS STRONACH TWP. — The Department of Natural Resources' egg-take weir on the Little Manistee River was a hive of activity Thursday. In fact, the place was buzzing, much to the chagrin of Fisheries Biologist Mark Tonello.

Tonello — who was helping out fellow DNR members Scott Heintzelman, fisheries technician supervisor, and Eric Askam, fisheries technician, to install the low-head dam and fish blockage grates at the facility — was stung right between the eyes by an ornery yellow jacket that had taken up residence in a nest on the weir's metal structure.

But the flying nuisances were only a minor cause for concern for the crew. Their mission was to install the fish barrier on the Little Manistee River. The weir blocks the upstream migration of all migratory fish that run the river in the fall. It is usually installed in the middle of August to allow a few Chinooks to enter the river while still blocking most of the annual run.

The crew first used an electric winch to lower the metal grates into the river and secured a piece of chain-link fencing between the grates and the weir itself to prevent fish from jumping over the grates. Then they lowered steel "boards" down into the water below the grates to create a low-head dam. The area between the boards and the grates funnels the fish toward the raceway and eventually into the holding pond. The grates must be cleaned of logs and debris at least once per week, Heintzelman said.

The fish stack up below the weir and go through a raceway into cement or dirt holding ponds, where they sit until they are ready to spawn. Once ripe, the fish are corralled into the weir building where the eggs and milt are harvested. The fish are then taken by a contractor hired by the DNR.

The river serves as the bloodstock for most of the salmon grown in the state's hatcheries and released into rivers and ports across the state before eventually growing in the Great Lakes, where they form a multi-million-dollar sport fishery.

Once the salmon arrive in the next few weeks, according to Tonello, they are allowed to age and reach sexual maturity before the eggs are harvested, usually toward the middle to end of September.

Unusually low water levels resulting from a drier than normal summer could delay salmon from entering the river at its shallow, sandy mouth at the southern end of Manistee Lake.

"Water could be a problem," Heintzelman said. "It might take a while to get them up here."

Tonello said if the warm weather continues, the salmon in Manistee Lake could be affected by warmer water temperatures.

"The fish will eventually come, but the low water doesn't help," Tonello said. "We'll probably lose a few, but they'll come in."

The crew had to perform only minor maintenance on the nearly 40-year-old facility.

According to Tonello, salmon are running smaller this year, like last year. A 20-pound Chinook is a rare fish, he told the Daily News for a previous report.

In 2006, the DNR harvested 12,772 Chinooks and 238 cohos at the weir, while they allowed 417 steelhead and 56 brown trout to pass upstream.

This year, only Chinooks will be harvested. Little Manistee cohos, most of which are naturally reproduced, will be allowed to pass to the upper river and given a chance to spawn, according to a prior decision made by the Lake Michigan Basin Team. The move is intended to create a late fall sport fishery in addition to the river's famed fall steelhead run.

The area within 300 feet of the weir is closed to fishing at all times. The river from the weir to the mouth is closed from Sept. 1 to Nov. 14. The southern end of Manistee Lake — from the squared red post east of the DNR access ramp southwest to the squared red post on the southern end of the Packaging Corporation of America plant — closes to fishing on Sept. 6 through Oct. 15 or whenever the DNR has harvested its quota of eggs. The entire river closes to fishing on Jan 1.

2007 Ludington Ladies Tournament

Below are the unofficial results. A total of 9 boats competed. All 9 boats weighed in fish. Total number of fish caught was 50. Of these 44 were Kings, 1 was a Coho, 4 were Steelhead and 1 was alike Trout.

9th Bobby's Toy	22.80
8th Vickie's Seacret	40.85
7th Hawkeye	46.90
6th Sloppy Joe	48.65
5th Pride & Joy	83.20
4th Silver Addiction	99.55
3rd Bad Dog	107.60
2nd Thors Hammer	111.20
1st Almost Paradise	136.65

The Big Fish pool winner was a15.85# King, caught by Thors Hammer.



LUDINGTON 2007

(Manistee) The majority of our fish came on John King meat rigs, both the large size and the smaller BTI flashers, 3-fly and 2-fly teasers, using herring strips. Other fish were caught on spoons (mag Michael Jackson, regular Wonderbread), J-plug (size 4, silver bullet w/red head), and white Spin Doctor / green fly rig. Kings were biting 40-100 ft down, on dipseys, a full core, and riggers. Just about everything was working for Kings except the half-core. The one steelhead we caught was

on the half core with Wonderbread spoon. 'Vicki's Seacret' recently added 2 more Walker downriggers to the arsenal, and this was my first time fishing with 4 riggers. What a difference! Don't have to deal with setting stackers anymore. It makes everything a lot easier. So our spread was the 4 riggers, 2 dipseys, 2 full core, and 1 half core. Kudos to my experienced crew, Tom Thieda and Dan Whitmill, for knowing how to run everything so I could relax a bit and enjoy things too.

Congratulations to Bob for weighing an amazing box of fish. A total of 66 fish were weighed, most of which were Kings. The \$50 big fish pool was awarded for a 17.15 lb. King caught on Thors Hammer. The third place boat Sloppy Joe, was the winner of the \$50 gas card. Results for the top ten boats are as follows.

10th No Limit	19.35
9 th Dredge	25.80
8th Bobby's Toy	58.45
7th Thors Hammer	87.30
6th Pride & Joy	100.85
5th Bad Dog	101.40
4th Silver Addiction	111.80
3rd Sloppy Joe	115.25
2nd Almost Paradise	120.70
1st Vicki's Seacret	132.75

MANISTEE - DAS TROLLING RECAP

After bad weather forced a one day delay, we had 11 boats participate in the first Manistee trolling tournament of the season. Some boats did manage to get out Saturday evening to scout the area after the winds let up. On Sunday ten boats weighed fish. This year fisherman in Manistee must contend with trap nets placed by commercial fishing operations. When we fished, there were 17 nets placed in clusters along the shelf between Manistee and Big Sable Pointe. On Sunday most boats fished straight out, or a little North of the harbor, to fish net free areas.

Bob Feisel, Captain of Vicki's Seacret took top honors with eight fish that averaged more than 11.5 lbs. After managing only one fish while pre-fishing, Bob worked an area adjacent to one of the nets and filed this report.

"On Sunday, I decided to fish in the vicinity of one of the nets in the area. We stayed at least half a mile away from the net to avoid hang-ups, and trolled east - west from 90 fow to 200 fow, back and forth. Trolling speed was 2.0 - 2.5 (on the GPS). We caught a fish on our first pass through and

circled back. We caught another fish so we stayed in that area all day and kept catching! ("Don't leave fish to find fish") What a riot. Best fishing day ever for me. We just got lucky to be in an area where the fish were hanging around. We caught 14 fish, but had to release 4 kings because we had already filled our limit of 9. All of the kings were in the 10-15 pound range, carbon copies. Didn't find any Lakers and just the one steely. (Cont. on page 6)

Ludington II Fishing Tournament

I don't think that words can describe the fun and companionship that the club experienced at Ludington on this tournament. Every boat that entered caught fish, most of the boats were already into port before fishing came to an end and what a lunch we had at the weigh-in. We tied our season high participation rate, 14 boats, and more kings were landed than at any tournament so far this season. Even if your boat is a rowboat you should try and make this outing the next fishing season, should you not have a boat then try and contact a regular trolling tournament captain and see if he/she has room on their boat so that you can at least get in on the action.

The weather was perfect and the waves were only 1 to 2 footers, you couldn't have asked for any nicer day. Once

again it was the "Pride and Joy" craft coming from behind; they only had six fish at the 12 pm fish call, to pull out another win this season. Tim and Jody Robinson have really come on strong this year and may be in the running for Captain of the Year honors. Blue Star came in with the big fish, a 16.7 lbs. king, just edging out the Thor's Hammer's fish that weighed in at 16.6 lbs, and that means that the Blue Star captain will pocket \$70 as all boats entered the big fish pool. Pride and Joy struck again as Jody put a \$50 gas card into her pocket and that leaves me wondering if Tim and Jody should buy a lottery ticket for the Mega Millions jackpot. Don't forget to view the pictures of the tourney on our Detroit Area Steelheaders web site.

A very special thanks to my wife Nancy and granddaughters Miranda & Claire for putting on a really great lunch. I'm sure that their efforts were well appreciated. Also there is one person that works every tournament and I feel that he should get a pat on the back for a job well done and that's Joe Von Grabe, the tournament director. I hope to see everyone and hopefully more of our club's members at next year's event.

Ron Pal – Lucky Strike

2007 Standings

BOAT	SKIPPER	17-Aug	Best 5 POINTS	St Joseph	South Haven	Grand Haven	Port Austin	Manistee I	Ludington Ladies	Ludington II
Almost										
1 Paradise	Bob Paradise		8	1	3	2	75	2	1	2
2 Sloppy Joe	Joe von Grabe		13	4	4	1	1	3	6	6
3 Pride & Joy	Tim Robinson		17	7	1	6	4	6	5	1
Silver										
4 Addiction	Mark Williams		18	5	75	9	2	4	4	3
5 Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel		20	2	75	4	5	1	8	10
Thor's										
6 Hammer	Al Wiechert		29	8	75	3	13	7	2	9
7 Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones		32	50	2	8	7	8	9	7
8 No Limit	Dave Linder		32	3	75	5	3	10	75	11
9 Loki-One	Dave Roehr		156	10	75	10	11	50	75	75
10 Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza		163	75	75	75	75	5	3	5
11 Blue Star II	Stan Bilek		239	75	75	75	10	75	75	4
12 Lucky Strike	Ron Pal		248	9	75	75	75	75	75	14
13 Molly Friar	Ron Hartman		284	75	75	50	9	75	75	75
14 Billy B	Bill Bollenberg		306	6	75	75	75	75	75	75
15 Tyger	Ty Voigt		306	75	75	75	6	75	75	75
16 E Fish N Sea	Doug Karakas		307	75	75	7	75	75	75	75
17 Hawkeye	Larry Walter		307	75	75	75	75	75	7	75
18 Lady's Choice	Denis Harper		308	75	75	75	8	75	75	75
19 Aquarius II	Chris Nytko		308	75	75	75	75	75	75	8
20 Dredge	Ed Hill		309	75	75	75	75	9	75	75
21 Jim's Grady	Jim Zanke		311	75	75	11	75	75	75	75
22 Outta Line	Jason Adam		312	75	75	75	75	75	75	12
23 Temporary Fix	Mike Nitzh		312	75	75	75	12	75	75	75
24 5 O'Clock	Bill Curzenski		313	75	75	75	75	75	75	13
25 TNT	Tom Thieda		314	75	75	75	14	75	75	75