

SEVENTH ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will be hosting our seventh annual Sportsmen's Dinner on March 11. Mark your calendar!

This event sells out fast. Tom Moores is the contact person for Wild Game Dinner tickets. His cell phone is 248-866-0663.



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XXXXXXXXXXXX

2006 Boat Trolling Tournaments

Date/ Port (Port Captain)
5/6 St. Joseph (Al Wiechert)

5/20, 5/21 Grand Haven
2-day (Bob Jones)

6/3 South Haven (TBD)

6/16 Special People

6/24 Port Austin
Team Doubles (TBD)

7/22 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)

8/5 Ludington Ladies Day
(TBD)

8/12 Ludington (TBD)

8/26 Manistee (Bob Paradise)

9/9 Grand Haven II (Ron Pal)

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).

February 2006
Volume XXXII, Issue 2

www.detroitsteelheaders.org

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

Fishin' Tales



MEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGED TO February 21

The February regular member meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 21.

In February, Mark Bevans and Chris Nytko will be hauling in all the gear for an ice fishing clinic. Learn some of the secrets from some of the clubs best hard water fishermen.

The last Board of Directors meeting included appointing officers of the club for 2006. DAS officers for 2006 are as follows:

President: Jason Adam
Vice President: Bob Jones
Treasurer: Steve Hamilton
Secretary: Bob Feisel

As always, the general meeting takes place at 7:30 P.M. in the hall at 6177 Chicago Rd. (east of Mound Rd., North of 13 Mile Rd.)- Warren,

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.



2006 Key Dates

Member Meeting -Feb. 21

March 11 - Sportsman's
Game Dinner

Member meeting & Swap
Meet -Mar. 28



NEW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE TO START IN JANUARY NEW RULES FOR SIGNING UP A MEMEBER

The Detroit Area Steelheaders has announced a new membership drive, with an incentive for current members to sign up new members. Beginning in January 2006, any current Detroit Area Steelheader in

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MEETING NOTICE - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

good standing, who brings in a new, paid member into the club, will receive an automatic 6 month extension on their current membership. New members will still receive all the benefits of club membership, as well as their new member pack. A member will get an additional six month extension for EACH additional new, paid member they bring in.

To ensure you receive your extension, please escort your new member to the membership table during a general membership meeting and inform the membership committee that you brought the member in upon their sign-up. If you refer a member and you are not at the General Membership meeting with them, or they choose to sign up by mail, it is their responsibility to inform the membership committee of your referral. For an extension to be granted, the membership committee must be informed of the referral at the time of the new members payment.

This package will include; one DAS 30th 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.

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 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 7th annual Wild Game 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 to support worthy causes.

*Donations to various 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 \$28,000 has been donated since we came into existence as a sport fishing club.

This is our 31st year in existence as a sport fishing club, and we have great guest speakers lined up for upcoming meetings.

*Unparalleled camaraderie with fellow members at the Knights of Columbus hall in Warren.

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



Trojan Horse Battles Zebra Mussels

The zebra mussel is an invasive freshwater species that fouls

power-plant and industrial-plant water intakes and irrigation pipelines and annually causes billions of dollars in damage. The small bivalve now may have met its match with a Trojan horse strategy developed by University of Cambridge zoologist David C. Aldridge and his colleagues (Environ. Sci. Technol. 2006, 40, 975). Zebra mussels can be controlled by doses of chlorine, but that procedure has environmental drawbacks. Furthermore, mussels can sense chlorine and limit exposure by closing their valves for as long as three weeks. Aldridge and his colleagues realized that they needed to devise a way to get a toxic compound past the mussels' defenses. The team incorporated potassium chloride, which is deadly to zebra mussels but doesn't affect most other organisms, into small particles made up of vegetable oil, silica, and other materials. The mussels take in the particles, or "BioBullets," using their gills and transport them into their mouths. The particles rapidly dissolve in the stomach, releasing a lethal dose of potassium chloride.

Dual Battery Switch

There's an old song about the sounds of silence, but when your out in the big lake, and you turn the key, silence is the last thing you want to hear. This, I have learned from experience. A dual battery setup is, in my opinion, an essential piece of safety equipment for any vessel venturing out on the big water.

The most basic of setups involves little more than a second battery, a battery switch, an additional battery

tray, some wiring and connectors. All of these items are available at your local Marine Supply Shop, and installation shouldn't be too difficult for anyone with basic 12V DC electrical knowledge and minor mechanical skills. Total project cost, including an additional battery, should start at around \$125.00, a bargain when you compare it to a tow bill on the water, or worse.

Make sure to follow all manufactures instructions when installing and operating the switch. It is better to go bigger than smaller on your wiring. Use heavy duty crimp connectors and shrink wrap any connections you need to make. One last note, once your batteries are charged, operate with the switch on only one battery, so you have a fully charged spare if something goes wrong. For additional discussion, visit the Boat Rigging forum at www.detroitsteelheaders.org



Raw Water Wash-down.

The location will be changing for 2006. The new location is the American Polish Cultural Club located at 2975 E Maple, Troy MI 48083 (248)-689-3636

Tired of hanging over the side of the boat swinging a bucket into the sea to splash some water on the deck? Wish you could spray out the boat like you were hosing off the garage floor. The answer to your fish slime laden prayers is a Raw Water Wash-down System.

A basic Raw water wash-down system consists of a Thru-Hull fitting with shutoff, a raw water strainer, a pressure activated 12V wash-down pump, a water outlet, a switch, some hoses, fittings, and wiring. The water will travel from

the lake, through the through hull fitting, into a strainer then into a pump and out a hose through a standard garden sprayer. There are kits available or you can piece it together yourself. All of these parts should be readily available at your local boating supply store. Kits start at roughly \$100, but expect to spend a little more by the time you add wiring, connectors, switches, hoses, and fittings. The skill level required for installation will vary from boat to boat, depending on whether thru-hulls need to be added, and how accessible your bilge area is. Use extreme care when installing and sealing thru hull fittings, and use ONLY brass fittings and shutoffs at the waterline.

I have found that the wash-downs are most practical at the front of the cockpit, as you will usually be washing towards the stern. A wash-down system for cleaning the deck is most practical on Self Bailing cockpits, but a wash-down can still be beneficial for quick cleaning and hand washing on any vessel. A coiling hose can save space, and a plastic spray nozzle will avoid scratching up your fiberglass. For additional wash-down system discussion, visit the Boat Rigging forum at www.detroitsteelheaders.org. Now, get out there and swab thee deck...

News letter raffle report for January 2006

Happy New Year everyone. We are off to a quick start for the New Year, January has come and gone and Mr. Groundhog is promising us an early spring. (I don't know this for a fact, just wishful thinking on my part.)

I hope everyone had a great holiday and scored many new fishing items for their bag of tricks. Another way to add to that stash is by participating in the DAS Tackle Raffle and 50/50 drawings where we give away a fishing related item as a bonus prize. With the New Year

comes a new DAS President, Jason Adam and a new Vice President, yours truly. I will continue to handle the raffles along with the on going support of Dwayne Welder and Nick Amicone. I had a lot fun with it in 2005 and look forward to 2006. Please give Jason your full support. He is full of new ideas and a strong passion for making the club larger and stronger.

The raffle table had a wide array of prizes for the January meeting. We gave away a set of folding camper chairs, 2 ice fishing packs complete with bucket, scoop, lures and fishing rod. A high end ice rod, DAS sweat shirt and a pair of tip ups. I am sure there is ice somewhere!

\$95.00 was up for grabs in the 50/50 as well as an Okuma DX30 line counter reel was given away as the bonus.

Livonia resident and charter captain Jerry L. Lee had his name pulled as the recipient of the \$30.00 membership raffle. However, Jerry was not at the meeting so the \$30.00 goes back in the cookie jar where it will magically grow to \$40.00 for next month's raffle.

Thanks to Nick Amicone for collecting the funds for the tackle raffle and to Dwayne Welder for collecting the funds for the 50/50 raffle.

Please make a point of saying hello to your new president Jason Adam and share any ideas you might have to help us improve the Detroit Area Steelheaders. Remember to visit our website and keep in contact with other club members through the use of our message board.

Remember, you can't win if you don't play, and you can't play if you are not present for the meetings.

Sincerely,
Bob Jones