

## Come to a meeting!

Our meetings are in Warren at the St Pius K of C. The K of C hall is located at 6177 Chicago Rd. between Van Dyke and Mound Rd where Thirteen Mile and Chicago Rd intersect. Our meetings are on the last Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the evening.



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



## 2006 Boat Trolling Tournaments

### Date/ Port (Port Captain)

- 5/20, 5/21 Grand Haven  
2-day (Bob Jones)
- 6/3 South Haven (Jason Adam)
- 6/17 Special People (Doug Karakas)
- 6/24 Port Austin Team Doubles (Blaise Pewinski)
- 7/22 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)
- 8/5 Ludington Ladies Day (Chris Nytko)
- 8/12 Ludington (Mark Bevens)
- 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).

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www.detroitsteelheaders.org

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

# Fishin' Tales



remember there is a 20" minimum on Lake Trout with a limit of three. Most boats are finding a spoon based spread to be most productive this time of year.

## 2006 Key Dates

- May 30 Member Meeting
- June 27 Member Meeting
- July 25 Member Meeting

## MAY 30 MEETING

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

## SOUTH HAVEN TOURNAMENT June 3

On Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Detroit Area Steelheaders will roll into South Haven, a new stop on the clubs tournament schedule this year. The captains meeting will be held at 5:00AM at the North Municipal Marina. Boats are allowed to head out immediately following the captains meeting, but must wait until 6:00 to set lines. "Fish Calls" will be on Channel 72 at 9:00AM and noon. Captains will pull lines at 2:00PM and be in the weigh in line back at the North Municipal Marina by 3:00PM.

If you plan to use the city's automated launch, remember exact change for the toll gate. It is \$7 and will accept bigger bills, but will not make change. There is a small tackle shop, porthole II, just up the street from the ramp if you need last minute supplies.

Though anglers in the area are primarily targeting Kings this time of year, a mixed bag of Lake Trout, Steelhead, Coho, and the occasional Brown Trout can be expected as well. Skippers need to

## TOURNAMENT RESULTS

### St Joseph Sat, May 6<sup>th</sup>

St Joseph was the first stop on the tournament trail and it sure was a great way to kick the trolling season off. The weather reports held true and the 12 boats left port to greet a picture perfect morning. The temperature was mild and the wind held at a moderate breeze which produced 1 to 2 foot waves.

The club caught many fish thanks to the pre-fishing and sharing of information at the captains meeting some of the boats that fished and shared information were Bobby's Toy, Almost Paradise and Vicki's Secret. Most fish came in 110 to 150 feet of water on a smorgasbord of colors and depths. All boats caught fish with Sloppy Joe taking first place with 103.65 and big fish went to Bobby's Toy for his landing of a 15.5# king.

Other notables were Pride and Joy, who fished their first tournament, Lucky Strike "Jay" who is back and fishier than ever and Billy B who fished on the west side for the first time. The West Basin Marina was shared by the Huron Valley Steelheaders who were also having a tournament, so it was not only

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 P.O. Box 1255  
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Non-Profit Org.  
 P.O. Box 1255

Sterling  
 Heights, Mi.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

great fishing; we also had the chance to make some new friends. By the looks of the coolers I believe we out fished them. See you at Grand Haven

## Lead Core Basics

Lead core was originally developed for targeting suspended Walleye and in more recent years adapted for Salmon fishing. It is said that lead core will catch fish when nothing else will. It's ideal when fishing conditions are tough, after a hard blow (wind), early in the season with colder water, and when it's sunny out. Some disadvantages with lead core are difficulties fishing in crowded conditions and the much larger turning radius required when steering the boat.

What makes lead core so effective? It puts the lure far away from the boat so as not to spook wary fish. It

covers a large area of water because the lure will rise on an outside turn and drop on an inside turn. The lure will constantly vary speed and its action during turns. Also, some feel the weight of the line itself helps keep constant pressure on the fish without ever giving any slack which ultimately leads to a higher ratio of fish landed. Another theory is that lead core has a hard time breaking through the denser water layer of a thermo cline and therefore has a tendency to run right at that thermo cline depth.

Lead core is made up of a strand of lead surrounded by a Dacron sheath. The sheath is a different color every ten yards. The strength of the line comes from the Dacron sheath and the sinking rate from the core of lead in the middle. The most common for salmon trolling is

27# test. There are many brands and sizes of lead line. Kerplunk by Cortland is recognized as the favored by most salmon fisherman because it has a slightly greater amount of lead per foot of line and therefore will run slightly deeper than other brands. The line usually comes in spools of 100yds. You can also buy double spools that are connected to allow up to 200yds in one continuous length.

Reels with large capacity are required to allow for the leader, the lead core line itself, and plenty of backing. Most experienced fisherman will use a super line for backing to allow for that extra margin for that monster fish. Most anglers feel that the following reels or ones with similar capacity are ideal: a Penn 320 for half core (50 yds.), a Penn 330 for full core (100yds) and a Penn 345 for up to a double core (200 yds.). I personally have been spooled a few times with a full core on a Penn 330 due to insufficient backing and recommend using reels with more capacity, like a Tekota 800 for a full core. Rods can be the same types used for dipsey divers with the length being your personal preference. One thing I do recommend is to use the same length and preferably the identical rods for all of your lead core set ups. I prefer a Shimano 8ft TDR 80-MBH2B. It's not too expensive, not too long and has plenty of backbone.

To set up a rod and reel with lead core you'll have to learn how to tie a blood knot and I would recommend you also learn how to tie a Willis knot. The blood knot can be used to tie mono to the lead line and should be used to tie mono to the super line backing. The Willis knot is ideal for attaching mono to lead core. I won't try to explain the knots here but feel free to ask me or any other member to show you how. A typical line combination for a full core on a Tekota 800 would be 1500 ft of 40# Ripcord backing, a 50 ft segment of 30# Ande mono,

300 ft of 27# Cortland lead core, and 50-75 ft of Momoi 20# mono for a leader. The super line for backing is to get maximum capacity and the mono segment is what is used to clip to the planer board releases. Periodically clip off 10ft or so of the leader and when you eventually get down to 20 ft or so, put a new segment of leader on.

The depth that the lead line will reach is somewhat speed dependent. Estimates are that 10 yds. of 27# lead line will reach a depth of app. 4ft. That means that a half core will run at about 20 ft. and a full core will run at about 40 ft.

You can use either the big boards or in line boards for running lead lines. If you use the big boards, you'll need heavy duty release clips to hold the extra weight. I use Offshore red clips for full cores and the black clips for half cores. The most popular in line board is probably the Church Walleye board. It does a good job of tracking out to the side in spite of the extra pull of the lead line. In most cases, the in-line planer board will not release, and you'll have to fight it to the boat to allow a crewmate to remove it. I place another clip on the line just behind the in-line board to prevent it from sliding down if it does happen to release. If you run more than one lead line on each side of the boat it is recommended that you run the longer (deeper) line closer to the boat. The theory is that if a fish hits the outside (higher) line, the fish will just slide over the top of the inside line with less risk of tangles. The fish may have other ideas though.

There are some additional tips that you may find useful. Don't attach the lead line to the planer board (Cont. on page 5)

release and don't let just part of the lead line out. The Dacron sheath wears easily and if it sits at the tip for any length of time, it will eventually break. With the lead line, snap swivels, lure etc., this could be an expensive lesson. Most fisherman feel the lead line is most effective when the knot, (lead to backing) is in the water. Lead lines are notorious for getting tangled and when they do, they're almost impossible to untangle. My motto is "cut and re-tie." Carry plenty of extra spools, you'll eventually use them. You Great Lakes Angler subscribers probably remember the "Secret Weapon Rig". This is running a small segment of lead core (2-3 colors), run usually off of your deepest set downrigger. The idea is that you get all of the advantages of the lead core but you get it much deeper.

You can run any lure off of lead line that you can run off or a downrigger. Spoons, body baits, J-plugs, dodgers or flashers, etc. Just remember, the lead line already has plenty of drag so spoons and body baits are much easier to reel back in. Lead core can be a pain to run but it works. Good luck. Joe, "Sloppy Joe"

## 2006 DAS Port Austin Tournament

The weekend of June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> is our annual Team Doubles Tournament. Saturday will be a normal tournament with results counting towards Skipper of the Year honors. Sunday will be our team doubles format matching up boats based on the previous day's results. The Team Doubles Tournament is strictly for fun and to promote camaraderie among the teams. The Thumb Area Offshore Challenge money tournament will also be held this same weekend. We've moved up our start time a half hour to accommodate both tournaments. Copies of the rules and entry forms will be available at our May monthly membership meeting. I can also e-mail you a copy if you like.

This port has typically been a Lake Trout port in the past and this year should be no exception. The fishing is normally excellent with most boats bringing in at least eight fish. The trick is to find fish that are slightly larger. If you set up for normal salmon fishing you'll probably catch a lot of Lake Trout but they'll tend to run on the smaller side. The teams that consistently finish at the top here will usually target Lake Trout. This usually means running junk, (dodgers or cowbells with spoons, spin & glows, or peanuts), and running deep and slow. If you try to keep lures tight to the bottom keep a pair of wire cutters handy. The shale bottom can easily snag your cannon ball.

Those not familiar with this port need to be aware of the shallow reef just east and south of the light house. Use extreme caution and stay west and north of the light house. **Do not go between the light house and shore.** If you plan on fishing this weekend or even this port in the future, make sure you pick up one of the port handouts available at the monthly membership meeting. It's full of information on motels, restaurants, etc. This is one of the ports where slip reservations can be made on the DNR website.

On Saturday, the Skippers meeting will be at the DNR Marina at 4:30 a.m. with the tournament start at 5:30 a.m. Fish calls will be on channel 72 at 9:00 a.m. and noon. Pull lines at 2:00 p.m. and be in the weigh-in line by 3:00 p.m. Make sure you let Blaise know at the weigh-in if you plan on fishing in the Team Doubles tournament on Sunday.

There will be no Skippers meeting for the Team Doubles tournament on Sunday. Tournament start is at 5:30 a.m. with only one fish call at 9:00 a.m. Pull lines at noon and be in the weigh-in line by 1:00 p.m.

If you have any questions you can contact either Port Captain Blaise Pewinski at home at (810)-395-4774 or cell 1(248)-890-4517, or Tournament Director Joe von Grabe at 586-945-4334 (cell). Hope to see you there. Joe von Grabe, "Sloppy Joe"

## Clinton River Steelhead

The Michigan Department of Natural resources released 22,265 steelhead trout into the river using a pipe connected to DNR truck that carries 3,500 gallons of water.

"Anytime we can get more fish into the river it's a good thing," said Coe, a 65-year-old retired computer software executive from Bloomfield Township. "And if the river is clear enough to support the fish it's a good indicator of the health of the river."

The DNR has released fish into the Clinton River since 1985. The fish released Wednesday average 5-8 inches long, having been raised for a year in a hatchery near Kalamazoo before they were trucked east and deposited into the river. They'll end up in Lake St. Clair, Lake Huron and Lake Erie. If things go according to plan, in two years they'll return to the river to spawn, said Jim Francis, senior fisheries biologist with the DNR.

By that time, they could be more than 20 inches long and several pounds heavier. The adult steelhead weighs up to 20 pounds and can reach about 3 feet long. The average adult is 9-10 pounds.

"They've got the reputation as being great fighters," Francis said. "What we're ultimately trying to do is create a fishery here."

There is evidence the DNR's efforts have been successful -- both in the number of fish caught and the number of anglers who use the river. In 1996 the DNR conducted a survey which showed 4,990 angler trips culminating in 1,796 fish caught in 21,263 hours of fishing. Last year the numbers had grown to 6,381 fishing trips; 4,243 fish were caught in 25,301 hours of fishing.

From Steve Pardo / The Detroit News

# St Joe Photos



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Sloppy Joe



5<sup>th</sup> Place Lucky Strike (Jay)



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bobby's Toy



Afterglow



3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Dredge



What hot dog?

## St. Joe Results

Following are the unofficial results of the 2006 St Joseph Tournament.

A total of 12 boats fished the tournament.  
All 12 boats weighed in fish.

The total number of fish caught was 125.

The breakdown by species was:

93 Kings  
5 Steelhead  
4 Coho  
23 Lake Trout

<b>St.-Joe</b>	<b>Standings:</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> Almost Paradise	0.00
11 <sup>th</sup> Vicki's Seacret	51.0
10 <sup>th</sup> Lucky Strike (Ron)	63.4
9 <sup>th</sup> Pride & Joy	70.9
8 <sup>th</sup> Thors Hammer	77.85
7 <sup>th</sup> Bad Dog	84.05
6 <sup>th</sup> Billy B	86.8
5 <sup>th</sup> Lucky Strike (Jay)	96.3
4 <sup>th</sup> No Limit	97.25
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dredge	102.45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Bobby's Toy	102.75
1 <sup>st</sup> Sloppy Joe	103.65

The big fish of the tournament was a 15.25 pound King caught by Bobby's Toy. They were also the winner of the \$55.00 Big Fish Pool.

## Salmon In The Classroom

The Detroit Area Steelheaders has made a donation for sponsorship of a Salmon In The Classroom project in the Sterling Heights High School. The Project will be led by science teacher Dawn Brodi. Salmon In The Classroom is a project that started in Oregon and Washington. It has since been adapted by several Michigan schools.

In this project, students will raise salmon in a special aquarium. Students receive about 500 eggs from a designated hatchery and care for "their" salmon while learning about life histories and habitat requirements. By becoming salmon stewards, these students are more aware of local waterways and more conscious of and knowledgeable about water quality issues. Students release the salmon as fry after studying the streams and creeks into which the fish will be released.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Detroit Kids Fishing Derby

A program to give young Detroit area kids a chance to experience the joy of fishing is being held Saturday, May 20 at Lake Francis in Palmer Park. This is in the South side of the park between Woodward and Third St. Boys and girls aged 7-14 are invited for fishing, fun, prizes and gifts.

The morning session has registration at 9am with derby time 10-11:30. The afternoon session has registration at noon with derby time of 1:00- 2:30pm. (Volunteers are needed. Assemble at 8:00am at Lake Frances.)

Your Detroit Area Steelheaders club is one of the major sponsors of the event. Its just one of the ways we all give back to the community.

## Lead Ban

Believe it or not! A bill to ban the use of lead sinkers and jig head is in committee in the Michigan legislature. The bill introduced by an Ann Arbor Rep. Chris Kolb calls for a \$1,000 fine and 60 days for possession of a lead sinker or jig. What's more the wording of the proposed bill suggests that sinkers and jigs aren't the only things that will be banned. The reference to "(iii) An item of fishing tackle, other than a jig or sinker, that contains any lead or lead compound." would seem to cover lead core line, dropper balls and even downrigger weights.

The bill is House Bill 5575 (2006). The Sponsors are Chris Kolb-(primary) and Kathleen Law, Steve Bieda, Alexander C Lipsey, Paula Zelenko and LaMar Lemmons III.

Specific language in the bill is:

Sec. 17402. (1) Beginning January 1, 2008, a person shall not sell, offer for sale, or offer for promotional purposes any lead fishing tackle in this state or for use in this state.

(2) Beginning January 1, 2009, a person shall not use any lead fishing tackle in the waters of the state.

Sec. 17403 (2) A person who violates this part is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 60 days or a fine of not more than \$1,000.00, or both, plus the costs of prosecution.

Discussions with several knowledgeable people including Eric Sharpe of the Detroit Free Press say this bill has a real chance of passing of sportsmen don't voice their objections.

Go to [www.house.michigan.gov](http://www.house.michigan.gov) for more information. Please contact your State Rep. and make your voice heard.

## Boat US

Don't forget to renew your Boat US membership!!! The Detroit Area Steelheaders is an affiliated club.

Let them know you are a member and give them the club's code when you sign up. The number is:

**GA 82750B**