

## 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)

- 6/17 Special People (Doug Karakas)
- 6/24 Port Austin Team Doubles (Blaise Pewinski)
- 7/22 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)
- 8/5 Ludington Ladies Day (Tom Gorguze)
- 8/12 Ludington (Mark Bevans)
- 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).

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



Non-Profit Org.  
P.O. Box 1255

Sterling  
Heights, Mi.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

June 2006  
Volume XXXII, Issue 6

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

## Inside this Issue

- 1 June 27 Meeting  
South Haven Tournament  
Frankfort Tournament
- 2 Port Austin Tournament  
Grand Haven Tournament
- 3 Standings
- 4 South Haven Pictures
- 5 Laker Techniques
- 6 Meetings  
Tournament Dates

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

# Fishin' Tales



## June 27 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 RESULTS

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006, the Detroit Area Steelheaders made their way to a new port, South Haven, for the third trolling tournament of the year. Many of the club boats made their way down to pre-fish on Friday, and from the looks of things, tough fishing was in store. By days end Friday, many boats caught between four and ten fish, but most were under 4 pounds.

There was a 5:00 Captains meeting and ten boats had showed up. The fleet headed out west and set lines at 6:00. From the action on my boat and talk on the radio, or rather the lack of either, it was apparent that fishing was slow. The biggest news of the morning was that the Dredge crew decided to wake up and join the hunt.

The first "fish-call" at 9:00 had the "No Limit" boat leading with three fish, Bobby's Toy, Lucky Strike, and Vicki's Secret with two, and the other seven boats with one or no fish. The noon "fish-call" showed only ten more fish caught from the

pack. Bobby's Toy and Silver Addiction both had four fish, No Limit and Lucky Strike each had three, and the rest followed.

We pulled lines at 2:00 and headed in. All boats checked in at the pier-heads and made it to the weigh in line on time. Since I had little to do but cook sausages and hot dogs for the crews, I stood back and fed the crowd and watched the weigh in.

In the end, nine boats weighed in a total of 30 fish, 26 being kings. Silver Addiction beat out the Lucky Strike crew for first place by a tenth of a pound, with 43.55 points. Ron Pal and the Lucky Strike Crew did win the "big fish" pool, with a 10.75 pounder. Kudos to Ron for donating the \$45.00 winnings back to the Detroit Area Steelheaders Special People Outing.

## Frankfort Tournament

Detroit Area Steelheaders captains and crews are heading north for the Frankfort tournament on July 22, 2006.

A mixed catch of Salmon, Steelhead, and Lake Trout is typical in the Frankfort area. 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 drop-off between Frankfort and the Point Betsie Lighthouse. To get to the bank, head NNW from the pier head and in a short while you'll be there.

Popular fishing locations 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 pier heads 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.

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

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 until you find out where they are hiding. 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).

The Captains meeting will be at 5:00 am Saturday at the Frankfort Municipal Marina, on the north shore of Betsie Lake. Fishing is scheduled to start at 6 am, with fish-calls at 9 and noon. Pull lines at 2:00, and be in line by 3:00 for the weigh-in at the picnic shelter at the Municipal Marina.

\*\*\*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

#### 2006 Key Dates

June 27 Member Meeting

July 25 Member Meeting

August 29 Member Meeting

Sept. 26 Member Meeting

### 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 were available at our May monthly membership meeting. I can also e-mail you a copy if you like. Joe von Grabe (Home: 586-293-7688, Cell: 586-945-4334).

### Grand Haven Tournament #1 is history.

The Detroit Area Steelheaders made their annual trek to the beautiful port of Grand Haven for our first 2-day tournament of the 2006 trolling season. Thirteen boats made the trip to one of the nicest ports on the Westside of the state. Many boats, me included had high expectations for Grand Haven after coming off such an awesome tournament like we had in St Joe where many boats experienced limit catches or close to it. However, as well all know, we never know what Mother Nature can dish out over a two week period. As it was, there were many storms and a lot of rain during the off time. This inclement weather took its toll on the fishing,

A few boats pre-fished Friday, but many had a very limited success. Many of the fish were scattered and small. Bobby's Toy decided to go South on Friday, we fished in close, 45 to 60 FOW and found good concentrations of bait fish. However, the fishing was slow. By 11:00 AM the seas were building to over 4 feet and we were 6 miles south so we decided to call it a morning with hopes of getting out in the evening.

Well, this happened to be the same Friday night that the Pistons were facing elimination by Cleveland, thus my crew opted to go to dinner and watch the game instead of going out and battling the big water again. We met Vicki's Seacret and Lucky Strike for dinner and the game. The game was awesome with the Piston's getting the win. Some boats did go out but no one seemed to score big, some boats tried out deep but had limited results.

All thirteen boats were represented at the 5:00 AM captains meeting on Saturday. First fish call was 9:00 AM with most boats reporting 0 or 1 fish, but Almost Paradise and Bad Dog reported 4. The 12:00 PM fish call made it clear that Almost Paradise and Bad Dog were going to be the boats to beat.

The top boats fished in close around the pier heads early and moved out to hunt fish in the deeper water as the morning wore on. Bobby's Toy decided to keep working the shallow water until second fish call. Many boats picked up one or two more fish, but Almost Paradise and Bad Dog found some fish and were reporting good boxes. I got on the radio and received some info from Bad Dog so we picked up lines and made a 5 mile run in the 3 footers. Buy the time we hit the deep water up North we only had an hour to fish. My crew had all lines set within a few minuets and we landed a small king right away. However it just wasn't to be for us this weekend, for we only boated one more king before it was time to pull lines.

Saturday brought eleven of the thirteen boats to the scale at the weigh-in. first place boat was Almost Paradise captained by Bob Paradise with Bad Dog, captained by Tom Gorguze trailing by almost 24 points. The big fish winner for

Saturday was Vicki's Seacret with a King that weighed 16.3 pounds.

The weigh-in was accompanied by meal of sirloin burgers, brats, potato salad and chips. Thanks to my crew; Bob Ksionzek, captain of the Last Dime II for cooking, Bob Brumer, Rod Elgnick and Todd Ridley for helping with everything else that needed to be done.

Part two of the tournament was to start at 6:00 AM on Sunday but was called by our tournament director Joe von Grabe due to a small craft advisory being broadcast on the weather channel. A few boats discussed trying it anyways (non-club sanctioned) with a few boats leaving port, got to the pier heads and turned back. I know of two boats that decided to go out but they only lasted a couple of hours and had no fish.

Final results were derived by taking the total points scored on Saturday this brought Almost Paradise to first place with a score of 98.65 and Bad Dog with a second place finish of 74.74 points. The \$65.00 Big Fish Pool winner was Vicki's Seacret, with a 16.3 # King.

### LAKER TECHNIQUES

The mid summer tournaments on Lake Huron will focus on lake trout. As such, skippers will want to be ready to target these fish.



Lake trout fishing at Port Austin is very different from Lake Michigan or even at Oscoda. While the basic fish is the same, the difference is in bottom structure resulting in the need for differing techniques.

First, let's review some of the aspects that will remain the same. Lake Trout fishing is generally SLOW trolling. A trolling speed of 1.2 to 1.6 knots should be about right. You

may need to use a sea anchor or a couple buckets dragged alongside to slow your boat to these speeds.

Given the time of year, the lakers will probably be in deep, cold water; about 80-90 feet of water where the temperature should be 46 to 52 degrees. Most big lakers will be right on the bottom.

Lakers like structure. Find a drop-off or a hole and you will find fish. Often, the fleet will key you in to where the best fishing is likely to be. Lakers don't generally move a lot from one day to the next.

Running "Junk" will be the choice for terminal tackle. Most skippers will run dodgers, rotators (hootchies) or cowbells. Chrome, white, chartreuse dodgers and silver cowbells are standard fare. P-nuts, wobble glows, Spin-n-gloves and squids or cut bait tend to be the choice. Colors can vary but, try metallic green, white, chartreuse, pink, purple. Glow is often a key.

At Port Austin you will want to run the lures very tight to the balls to keep them out of the rocks. Have someone standing by each downrigger ready to raise the ball if it touches bottom. Otherwise, you will lose everything. The basic technique is to lower the ball until it touches bottom. Then crank it up two feet. If it doesn't touch again in five minutes lower it until it touches and crank it up two feet.

Some lakers will come on clean spoons; especially if they are run alongside junk. Test your spoons to see which ones run well at the slow trolling speeds. ET's or Silver streaks are good choices.

While trolling, try not to make sharp turns or you will tangle lines that are set deep. Try to troll in an "S" pattern. Lakers like to follow a bait and often a sudden change in speed or direction will trigger a strike.

Good luck and good fishing  
.....El-lin Charters

**2006 Standings**

<u>BOAT</u>	<u>SKIPPER</u>	<u>Best 2</u> <u>POINTS</u>	<u>St</u> <u>Joseph</u>	<u>Grand</u> <u>Haven</u>	<u>South</u> <u>Haven</u>
1 Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	4	75	3	1
2 Sloppy Joe	Joe von Grabe	5	1	9	4
3 Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	7	2	8	5
4 Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	7	8	4	3
5 Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza	9	7	2	75
6 No Limit	Dave Linder	10	4	6	6
7 Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	12	10	50	2
8 Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	12	11	5	7
9 Billy B	Bill Bollenberg	15	6	75	9
10 Pride & Joy	Tim Robinson	17	9	75	8
11 Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	51	50	1	75
12 Dredge	Ed Hill	53	3	75	50
13 Lucky Strike	Jay Hoch	80	5	75	75
14 Loki-One	Dave Roehr	82	75	7	75
15 Reel Allure	Bill Stanley	85	75	10	75
16 Mickey Mouse	Bob Buero	86	75	11	75
17 E Fish N Sea	Doug Karakas	125	75	50	75
18 Outta Line	Jason Adam	125	75	75	50

Below are the unofficial results of the 2006 Grand Haven 1 Tournament.

Sunday day two was cancelled due to weather.

13 boats total  
11 boats weighed in fish.  
Total number of fish 52  
43 Kings  
1 Steelhead  
4 Coho  
4 Lake Trout

Lucky Strike and E Fish N Sea did not weigh fish.

11th Mickey Mouse	25.1
10th Reel Allure	33.65
9th Sloppy Joe	36.4
8th Bobby's Toy	37.0
7th Loki One	40.4
6th No Limit	44.45
5th Vicki's Seacret	49.7
4th Thors Hammer	57.05
3rd Silver Addiction	73.25
2nd Bad Dog	74.74
1st Almost Paradise	98.65

Big Fish 16.3 # King, Vicki's Seacret, also \$65.00 Big Fish Pool winner.

Below are the unofficial results of the 2006 South Haven Tournament.

11 boats total  
9 boats weighed in fish.  
Total number of fish 30  
26 Kings  
1 Steelhead  
1 Coho  
1 Lake Trout

Outta Line & Dredge did not weigh fish.

9th Billy B	8.00
8th Pride & Joy	9.65
7th Vicki's Seacret	30.60
6th No Limit	32.95
5th Bobby's Toy	34.75
4th Sloppy Joe	38.25
3rd Thors Hammer	38.30
2nd Lucky Strike	43.45
1st Silver Addiction	43.55

Big Fish 10.75 # King

Lucky Strike, also \$45.00 Big Fish Pool winner. Thanks to the Luckey Strike crew for donating the Big Fish Pool winnings to the Special People outing.

Joe, "Sloppy Joe"



# SOUTH HAVEN



Silver Addiction - 1<sup>st</sup>



The "Boys"



Lucky Strike - 2<sup>nd</sup>



Vickies Secret - 7<sup>th</sup>



Thors Hammer - 3<sup>rd</sup>



Beer & Brats



Bobby's Toy - 5<sup>th</sup>



Weigh-in Time