

Fishin' Tales

June 2005
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June Meeting

The June regular member meeting will take place on June 28.

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,

Port Austin Tournament

We'll we finally had some great weather for an entire weekend. We pre-fished on Friday and found the Lake Trout a little tougher to come by than in past years. We started out about 6:30 a.m. north of the green can in about 80 feet of water and worked our way about six miles northeast to about 100 feet of water. We picked up only a couple of fish in a few hours. We pulled lines and ran straight west and set lines in 80 feet of water, about five miles west of the lighthouse. We picked up several more fish and at about 2:00 p.m. decided to call it a day. We ended up with six Lake Trout with most coming off core and a half lead core setups.

After getting our slip along the wall, we talked to Mary K and they had picked up several nice fish in the same area we fished in the afternoon. We then decided that we'd start off fishing that same area west of the harbor for the tournament the next morning. The lead core was our best setup and I wanted to fish away from the pack so we could run it.

At the Captain's Meeting along with a couple of late entries, we had 22 boats entered. The Flint Steelheaders and a UAW Local were also holding tournaments, so the harbor and launch area was busy.

At 6:00 a.m., the start of the tournament was announced. We started setting lines and before we could get them all set, the core and a half rod went and we had our first fish in the box. We ran spoons off the lead core, hootchies and flys off the dipseys, and dodgers and spin-n-glos off the riggers.

At the 9:00 a.m. fish call, Sea Hag checked in with six fish, and seven other boats with two each. This confirmed what we found the previous day, that the Lake Trout were tougher to find than in previous years. We had only checked in with two fish ourselves, and I was trying to decide whether we should stick it out in this spot or pull and run to where I knew Sea Hag would be. Tyger and Mary K were fishing the same area and were also finding the fish hard to come by. After a few minutes, I decided we

should pull and run. I started pulling in one of our lead core lines and turns out we were dragging a fish. I pulled another lead core line and it was also dragging a fish. Just then a rigger went and we boxed that fish. At this point I told the crew we'd stay here but we better check our lines more often. We checked our last lead core line and it also had a fish on. Just like that we had six fish in the box and things were looking up.

At the noon fish call, Sea Hag again had the most fish with ten, we had eight by then, Tyger seven, and three boats with four.

At the weigh in, 20 out of the 22 boats had fish. A total of 82 fish were weighed in, with 80 Lake Trout and 2 Kings. Sea Hag took top honors, with Tyger second, Sloppy Joe third, Aquarius II fourth, and Loki One fifth. The top three boats were the only ones to bring in at least eight fish. The Big Fish pool was split between Sea Hag and Loki One with both having 8.85# Lake Trout. Thanks to Blaise and his crew for putting on a great barbeque.

For team doubles on Sunday, there were nine boats entered making up five teams. We got off to a bit of a late start after deciding to have breakfast. We were teamed with Blue Star. This time we decided to fish northeast. We ran about six miles and started to set up. There were only a couple of boats around us and it turned out one of them was our partner, Blue Star. From the fish calls, it looked like, except for us and Vicki's Seacret, most boats were again struggling to find the fish. At the weigh-in, top honors went to the team of Blue Star and Sloppy Joe, with Vicki's

Seacret and No Limit a close second.

Joe von Grabe, "Sloppy Joe"



Frankfort Tournament 6/25

Detroit Area Steelheaders captains and crews are looking forward to fishing the Frankfort tournament on June 25, 2005.

The Captains meeting will be at 5:00 am at the pavilion by 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 pavilion.

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. 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.

Another 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 10-15 minutes you'll be there.

Further to the 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 very 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.

Special events: The "Summer Solstice Festival" is taking place on Saturday at the Elberta Waterfront Park (located on the south shore of Betsie Lake). There will be a fireworks show taking place on Saturday night. The Frankfort Municipal Marina is an excellent spot for viewing this fireworks show from your boat. Don't miss it!

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).

Marinas:

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

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).

Grand Haven Results

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 2005 trolling season. Nineteen boats made the trip to one of the nicest ports on the West side of the state.

This tournament presented us with some problems that we normally do not experience at this port prior to Memorial Day, lack of dock space. The Municipal Marina is going under a renovation that caused all the floating docks to be pulled from the water. The initial schedule was to replace the docks next year, but due to a extremely cold winter and problematic ice

flows this winter the project had to be moved up to this year. I was not made aware of this problem until after I wrote the previous article, thus I was unable to warn the members in time. I hope all faired well. It was obvious that it caused some boats not to attend as we would normally have well over twenty boats for this event.

Good news is that nineteen captains made it to the 5:00 AM meeting on Saturday. We had some new boats; Tail Walker captained by Ron Niemasz, his first tournament in his own boat, and the Lucky Strike captained by Ron Pal. Though not Ron's first tournament, he is new to the trolling tournaments this year.

A warm welcome to you and your teams. Remember, if there is something you are not sure of or do not know please ask. Sometimes us ole timers can assume things and forget that we have new boats that may not have all the needed information.

First fish call was 9:00 AM with most boats reporting 1 or 2 fish, but Almost Paradise reported 5. The 12:00 PM fish call made it clear that Almost Paradise and Outta Line were going to be the boats to beat.

Saturday brought all nineteen boats to the scale at the weigh-in. First place boat was Outta Line captained by Jason Adam, with Almost Paradise trailing by two tenths of a point. The big fish winner for Saturday was Outta -Line with a King that weighed 17.25 pounds.

The weigh-in was accompanied by meal of hot dogs, brats and chips. Thanks

to my first mate; Bob Ksionzek, captain of the Last Dime II for cooking and Bob Brumer helping with everything else that needed to be done.

Part two of the tournament started at 6:00 AM on Sunday, we had a roll call of boats at 6:30 AM with all but one boat reporting, and turns out he had to leave Saturday night due to a family commitment.

We had a 9:00 AM fish call with most boats reporting at least one fish. The weather on Sunday was a complete opposite of what we experienced on Saturday. We started to notice questionable weather around 9:45. A call to the weather reports mentioned that rain was possible but no threatening weather was in the area. By 10:15, that all changed with the first bolt of lightening spotted by most boats involved. When the first lightening bolt struck both of my dipsey rods went off at the same time. That was the cool.

We decided to call the tournament due to weather and have all boats return to port. Weigh-in schedule was revised to 11:30 AM. Most of the boats retuned to port with the exception of one boat. Apparently the boat suffered a broken radio antenna and did not hear the termination announcement. The sign in sheets have since been revised to include the skipper's cell phone number as an alternative means of reaching all boats. My crew and I stayed until the boat returned to port so we could be certain that there were no life threatening issues.

Final results are derived by taking the total points scored on Saturday and combining

Port Austin Photos



#1 - Sea Hag- Blaise Pewinski



#4 - Aquarius II- Chris Nytko



#5 - Loki One- Dave Roehr



#6 – Bobby's Toy – Bob Jones



#10 - The Brat- Ron Maschke



#2 – Tyger- Ty Voigt

Boat

Sea Hag
Tyger
Sloppy Joe
Aquarius II
Loki-One
Bobby's Toy
Silver
Addiction
Ladies Choice
Vicki's Seacret
Brat -The Brat
No Limit
Crusader
Blue Star II
Outta Line
Blue Horizon
Last Dime II
Tail Walker
Mary K
Bad Dog
Pat A Wac
Lucky Strike

Skipper

Blaise Pewinski
Ty Voigt
Joe Von Grabe
Chris Nytko
Dave Roehr
Bob Jones
Mark Williams
Denis Harper
Bob Feisel
Ron Maschke
Dave Linder
Mike Vigus
Stan Bilek
Jason Adam
Paul Gjeldum
Bob Ksionzek
Ron Niemasz
Ken Kuhar
Tom Gorguza
Jim Fitch
Ron Pal

Port Austin

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them with the points scored on Sunday. This brought Almost Paradise to first place with a score of 155.3 and Outta Line with a second place finish of 124.95 points. (I understand that some of the Outta Line crew was not as effective on Sunday as they were on Saturday.) Sundays big fish winner was No Limit, captained by Dave Linder with a king of 12.85 pounds.

The numbers:
Total number of fish caught: 129
Kings: 118
Coho: 6
Steelhead: 5

Largest King was 17.25 pounds by Outta Line
Largest Coho was 4.00 pounds by Bad Dog
Largest Steelhead was 4.60 pounds by Lil Scratch

All in all, Grand Haven I was a success. If you did not make this tournament please try to make Grand Haven II in September. You won't regret it.

News letter raffle report for May 2005

May brought us a different kind of meeting. Most of the meeting took place outside with a show & tell of three fish fighting machines. This hindered the proceeds of the raffles some what, but we still had some very satisfied customers; like the winners of the salmon net, fishing rod, camp chair and the handful of tackle packs that were given away. We even had a winner for the monthly membership raffle.

The 50/50 drawing made the winner \$70.00 richer.

Unfortunately I was outside packing my boat up and did not see the results of who won the money. It's always fun to mention the winner here so that if their significant other can make sure that they get their cut.

One of our newer members, captain of the rookie trolling tournament boat 'Lucky Strike' was the winner for this month's membership drawing, Ron picked up an easy \$60.00 for nothing more than being present at the meeting. Membership raffle for June will start at \$30.00.

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.

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

Keep watching the news letter and making the meetings for future enhancements to the raffles. Any input for improvements from members is always welcome. Please see me at the meetings or drop me a note on our message board.

Sincerely,
Bob Jones
"Bobby's Toy"
Raffle Chairman

Photo Contest

Detroit Area Steelheaders announces the 2005 Fishing Photo Contest. Photos taken this ice fishing season through the end of boat trolling season are eligible. Prizes include \$100, \$50, and \$20 Gift certificates, and framed prints of the winning photos. Complete rules and

information are available on the DAS website, or e-mail photocontest@detroitsteelheaders.org. A picture is worth a 1000 words (and maybe \$100), so keep your camera handy.

2005 Boat Trolling Tournaments

June 25 – Frankfort
Bob Fiesel

July 16 - BFQ

August 6 - Ludington Ladies Day
Bill Stanely

August 13 - Ludington
Mike Vigus

August 27 - Manistee
Bob Paradise

September 10 - Grand Haven
Chris Nytko

Trolling Director
Joe von Grabe "Sloppy Joe" 586-293-7688

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).

		<u>Grand Haven</u>	2005 Standings	Skipper of the Year	<u>Best 2</u>	
<u>BOAT</u>	<u>SKIPPER</u>		<u>BOAT</u>	<u>SKIPPER</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	
1	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	1	No Limit	Dave Linder	9
2	Outta Line	Jason Adam	2	Aquarius II	Chris Nytko	14
3	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza	3	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	16
4	E Fish N Sea	Doug Karakas	4	Outta Line	Jason Adam	16
5	Lil' Scratch	Dick Shirk	5	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	19
6	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	6	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	21
7	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	7	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	22
8	No Limit	Dave Linder	8	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza	22
9	Slapshot	Doug Batty	9	Mary K	Ken Kuhar	32
10	Aquarius II	Chris Nytko	10	Tail Walker	Ron Niemasz	33
11	In-Seine	Mark Bevans	11	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	51
12	Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	12	Tyger	Ty Voigt	52
13	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	13	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	53
14	Mary K	Ken Kuhar	14	Slapshot	Doug Batty	59
	Mickey Mouse			In-Seine	Mark Bevans	61
15	Club	Bob Buero	15	Crusader	Mike Vigus	62
16	Tail Walker	Ron Niemasz	16	Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	62
17	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	17	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	69
18	Dredge	Ed Hill	18	Pat A Wac	Jim Fitch	70
19	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	19	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	76

<u>Boat</u>	<u>Skipper</u>	<u>Port Austin</u>
Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	1
Tyger	Ty Voigt	2
Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	3
Aquarius II	Chris Nytko	4
Loki-One	Dave Roehr	5
Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	6
Silver Addiction	Mark Williams	7
Ladies Choice	Denis Harper	8
Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	9
Brat -The Brat	Ron Maschke	10
No Limit	Dave Linder	11
Crusader	Mike Vigus	12
Blue Star II	Stan Bilek	13
Outta Line	Jason Adam	14
Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	15
Last Dime II	Bob Ksionzek	16
Tail Walker	Ron Niemasz	17
Mary K	Ken Kuhar	18
Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza	19
Pat A Wac	Jim Fitch	20
Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	50

