

Fishin' Tales

December 2005
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www.detroitsteelheaders.com

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



Christmas Meeting December 20

The Christmas meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 20, 2005. This is a very special meeting where all family members (wives and all the little Steelheaders) are encouraged to attend. As always, the 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, Michigan.



Special Christmas activities will take place focusing on the entire family and acknowledgment of accomplishments of various members during the year.

The highlight of the night is the anticipated appearance

of **Salmon Claus**. Mr. Claus always shows up with a special gift for all the little Steelheaders attending the meeting. (Bring your camera)

Other activities for the night include presentations of the "Member of the Year" and "Director of the Year" and the drawing for the Cooler of Cheer. The lucky winner will receive a **100-quart cooler full of cheer, a big assortment of party snacks and \$100 in cash.**

The overall top ticket seller for the cooler raffle will win a \$100 gift certificate.

If you need a last minute Christmas gift for a Skipper or Crew Mate, be sure to see Ty Voigt or Bill Stanley and get information on the very cool, new **club jackets** and windbreakers at the meeting.

November Raffle Report

If you missed the November membership meeting then missed an awesome raffle and very informative meeting. The speaker for the night was my very own neighbor Jim Francis, fisheries biologist for the Michigan DNR. Jim



put on a great presentation on the Clinton River. As for the raffle we gave away a wide array of prizes which included three turkeys to get us all in the mighty holiday spirit.

The raffle table saw such goodies as four tackle packs, sweatshirt, knife set and Big Jon ice bags. A Diawa line counter reel was raffled off as the bonus prize of the 50/50 raffle.

New member Mike Nitzh was the lucky winner of the \$82.00 50/50 prize money, with Steve Pal, crew member of the Lucky Strike fishing team won the reel. Congratulations to both of you.

Fellow South Lyon resident Steve Spiegel had his name pulled as the recipient of the \$30.00 membership raffle. However, Steve 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 attending the December Christmas meeting as it promises to be something special, expect an

appearance by Salmon Clause and some awesome items to be raffled off as well.

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 - "Bobby's Toy"
Raffle Chairman

'06 Boat Tournaments

The following is our 2006 schedule and Port Captains:

<p><u>2006 Boat Trolling Tournaments</u></p> <p>2006 Tourney's and Port Captains as follows:</p> <p>5/6 St. Joseph (Al Wiechert)</p> <p>5/20, 5/21 Grand Haven 2-day (Bob Jones)</p> <p>6/3 South Haven (TBD)</p> <p>6/24 Port Austin Team Doubles (TBD)</p> <p>7/22 Frankfort (Bob Fiesel)</p> <p>8/5 Ludington Ladies Day (TBD)</p> <p>8/12 Ludington (TBD)</p> <p>8/26 Manistee (Bob Paradise)</p> <p>9/9 Grand Haven II (Ron Pal)</p>
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If you are interested in being a Port Captain for one of the tournaments, please contact me. We will not count Salmon Stakes towards Captain of the Year but we kept the weekend open in case members want to fish it.

The Big Fish Quest is scheduled for July 15th and 16th in Port Austin. It's not part of our regular members boat trolling tournament schedule. It's more of a special event.

We will also still do our Special People outing sometime in mid-June. Thanks, Joe von Grabe, "Sloppy Joe"



<p><u>2005/06 Key Dates</u></p> <p>Dec. 20 - Christmas Meeting & Party</p> <p>Jan. 31 - Member Meeting</p> <p>Jan. 13-16 Ultimate Fishing Show - Novi</p> <p>Feb. 28 - Member Meeting</p> <p>March 11 - Sportsman's</p>
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SEVENTH ANNUAL SPORTSMEN'S DINNER

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

The location will be changing for 2006. The new location is the Polish American Polish Cultural Club located at 2975 E Maple Troy MI 48083 248.689.3636

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

Chinook Plantings

The latest word on Salmon plantings for 2006 is that the states and the Michigan DNR have agreed to cut back on stocking levels.

The major concerns have been the virtual collapse of the fishery in Lake Huron and the decreasing size of Lake Michigan Chinook salmon.



It is hypothesized that the major cause of these two situations is an over abundance of top of the chain prey fish (mostly Chinooks) in the two lakes. The overabundance is attributed to too much greater natural reproduction levels than previously thought. It is further theorized that all these adult salmon have really pounded the alewife population.

To bring Lake Huron into balance the proposal is to reduce stocking by 50%. To bring Lake Michigan into balance the proposal is for a lake-wide reduction of 25%. Due to the fact that the majority of the natural reproduction in Lake Michigan comes from Michigan rivers, Michigan DNR has agreed to reduce their stocking levels by 30%.

What will this mean for 2006 boat trollers? Probably not much as fish stocked in 2006 won't really be of catch able size (3 & 4 year olds) for several years.

Lake Huron is not expected to rebound for several years. The only good news coming out of Lake Huron is for Lake Trout. Natural reproduction is increasing. Lamprey predation is decreasing. Lake Trout will eat gobies.

The DNR will closely watch Lake Michigan populations to see if the smaller size trend continues or eventually reverses. Their chief goal is simply to avoid a Lake Huron situation.

River & Ice Outings

A Lake St. Clair Ice Outing is being kicked around for January. A Higgins Lake Ice Outing is may be scheduled for February.

Stay tuned to the meetings or the web site for further information and confirmation the ice is safe.

DAS Web Site

The DAS website is up and running. www.detroitsteelheaders.org

Be sure to sign up for the message board so you can get and participate in sharing information.

You need to do this as here is where you will get important last minute, up to date information regarding the club.

Stay in touch with friends. Get insider information on where the fish are biting (or not). Ask for an opinion on a new tackle or electronics item before you spend the bucks. This is the place where it happens. Sign up today.



Ultimate Fishing Show

There is a new fishing show planned for January 13-16 at the new Rock Financial Expo Center in Novi. Watch for more details from Bill Stanley.



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, you are expired (no; just your membership!) Don't be disqualified from a tournament because you forgot to re-up.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE – PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to the club post office box 1255 listed below. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150. How about a lifetime for a Christmas Gift?

Final Thoughts

On behalf of the Board of Directors, let me take this space to say we've had another great year and in fact another great decade as we close our 31th year with the Detroit Area Steelheaders. Have a great holiday season, spend time



with your family and friends. Be safe, respectful and may God Bless you and your family.



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