



FISHING TALES



For Your Information . . .

FRANKFORT TOURNAMENT FIRST SINCE 1994

FRANKFORT (July 28) The Detroit Area Steelheaders fleet will return to Frankfort the weekend of July 28. This is a beautiful area with fabulous fishing, and Frankfort is a charming town with shops and restaurants within walking distance of the marina. For a fantastic view of Lake Michigan and the town of Frankfort below, take a trip up the hill in nearby Elberta. Follow the road along the south side of Betsie Lake, and watch for the entrance on the left (all you'll see is a road with a steep grade, that's it!). It's well worth your time!! The Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore park is within easy driving distance on M-22. There are campgrounds in the area (Benzonia), and motels and bed and breakfast accommodations.

At that time of year, Frankfort should provide good action for Chinook, Steelhead, Coho, and even a few Brown Trout. Keep an ear tuned to the marine radio for reports on what's catching fish. Typical summer tactics of downrigger fishing, Dipsy Divers, lead core, and possibly dodger squid/fly combinations may work. Action may be great in 100 feet, or 600 feet, or anywhere in between. Advance scouting and local information should help. The tournament will start at 6:00 a.m., with Fish Calls at 10:00 a.m. and noon, lines pulled at 2:00 p.m. and in the weigh-in line by 3:00 p.m. Be sure to attend the 5:00 a.m. Skippers meeting for any late changes. For more information, contact Mark Bevens, (810) 779-3189.

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LUDINGTON PROMISES "FAST AND FURIOUS" ACTION IN MID-AUGUST

LUDINGTON (August 11) Those who have fished Ludington over the years know that the fishing can be fast and furious in mid-August. The bag is usually mixed, with big Kings, Cohos, Lakers, Steelhead, Browns, and even Atlantics making up the catch in prior years. Early reports for the area have been great! Kings over 20 pounds were fairly common the first part of July . . . and they have been eating for the past five weeks!!

The skippers' meeting on Saturday will be held at 5:00 a.m. at the Ludington Municipal Marina. Start time is scheduled for 6:00 a.m., with Fish Calls at 9:00 a.m. and noon. We will pull lines at 2:00 p.m., with the weigh-in at 3:00 p.m. at Peter Copian Park off Washington Street, the same place we've used in past years.

One definition of a Steelheader is someone who is prepared with a variety of rigs to confront changing fishing conditions, and that will certainly be the case at Ludington. One rig to have ready here is the dodger and squid combination. White, yellow, or chrome dodgers are generally the preferred colors, with a glow squid, black squid, or green squid trailing the dodger by about 18 inches,

Another top choice is spoons. These can be very effective, especially early in the morning. The new hot spot is the "dolphin" Silver Streak. Other colors to try are orange and gold, "monkey puke," and the purple "Kevorkian." A top local favorite spoon is the M & M. This is a Northport Nailer in chartreuse with green tape. Dipsy Divers produce bonus fish, often Cohos, Steelhead or Browns.

Depths are determined by the thermocline, but expect 80'-100' depths if the weather has been stable, and if conditions have been changing, you could find 45° F on the surface!

Ludington is known as a port with great structure. The most popular places to fish are north off the Bath House at the state park, or onward to "The Point," easily seen near the lighthouse. There are drop-offs and deep holes here. Don't be afraid to try straight out from port, or south off the Project, a pumped storage facility better known for spring fishing, and for grinding up fish.

Also, when trolling, be sure to watch for the presence of deep currents. You may think you are trolling at two knots, but your lures could either be dead in the water or going at four knots, depending on the direction of the current. You will know if there is a current present by watching your cannonball wires. If they look as though they are swayed back more (or less) than normal, there is probably a current affecting them.

The main thing is, be prepared for BIG

Kings. Double check all your terminal tackle. You don't want to lose a chance at a 30+-pounder because you neglected to check a knot or a swivel, or you were using old line. Good luck!

- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"

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BIG STEELHEAD SHOULD HIGHLIGHT MANISTEE TOURNAMENT ACTION

MANISTEE (August 25) — One of our favorite ports on the western side of the state is Manistee. Fishing from this port has much to offer - Steelhead, Brown Trout, Chinook Salmon, Lake Trout, and Coho Salmon.

The waters off Manistee usually will provide some very nice Steelhead action. If you can locate a school, you're in for a real treat. Steelhead are normally found within the top 20 feet of water. If you do find them, full-size planer boards will put the maximum number of lines in the water to help you catch the most fish. Steelhead are the true acrobats of the Great Lakes, and I guarantee you'll have some fun if you can find them!

Big King Salmon are usually abundant in late August here. Try some J-Plugs off your downriggers. Stagger the difference every five feet. Keep your leads short - the J-Plugs really dart around. The third clay bank may produce some nice Coho Salmon. Try stingers here - green tips work well. From there to Gurney Creek, look for some Brown Trout action.

Incidentally, two years ago at this port, "Eagle III" boated a 29-pound Coho Salmon, and big fish are being reported there again this year, according to early local reports!

Fish Calls will take place at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, using Channel 72. Keep an eye on the clock so you can answer your call when it's time. If you can't hear them, please try to have someone relay for you.

The weigh-in will get started at 3:00 p.m. at the K. of C. Pavilion near the middle pier head near the launch ramps. You must be in the weigh-in line by 4:00 p.m. Following the weigh-in, there will be the traditional post-tournament cookout. Please call me if you have any questions. Hope to "catch" you in Manistee.

- Mark Stosiak, "Tomorrow's Dream"
(810) 777-9833 (Residence)

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Top Port Austin Tournament Finishers



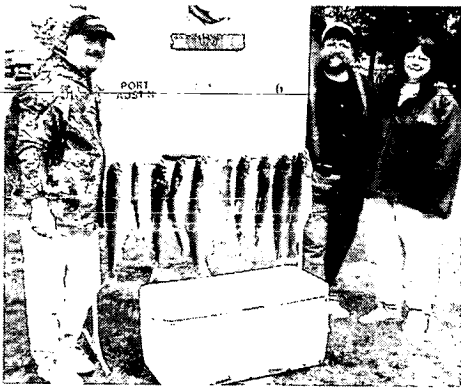
1st Place: "TOMORROW'S DREAM" with Skipper Mark Stosiak and crew.



4th Place: "AQUARIUS II" with Skipper Chris Nytko and crew.



5th Place: "TRENA DAWN" with Skipper Don Redmond and crew.



6th Place: "CAPT'N HOOK II" with Skipper Doug Karakas and crew.



7th Place: "ANTICIPATION" with Skipper Rob Pinsky and crew.



10th Place: "KARE FREE" with Skipper Tom Moores and crew.



1st Place, Big Fish Pool: "DESTINY" with Skipper Mark Williams.



3rd Place, Big Fish Pool: "TRENA DAWN" with Skipper Don Redmond.

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ROGERS CITY HOSTS 2001 TROLLING WRAP-UP

ROGERS CITY (September 8) — The last trolling event of 2001 will find our fleet at Rogers City, seeking late-summer King Salmon action. If you like BIG Kings, this will be the place to be! Fish will be staging just off Swan Bay and some will already have run up river. The action should be good from Rogers City to Adams Point, in 25'-100' of water.

Spoons and dodger-fly combinations should do well, but this is the time to break out J-Plugs. Don't be afraid to try Bombers and similar body baits in the shallows. The biggest fish ever taken on my boat was a 29-pound King, using a Bomber in 15' of water at Rogers City.

The "Last Chance" tournament also takes place at Rogers City this weekend (details in the port handout). We've moved our weigh-in time back, so you'll be able to fish both events if you like. Our Skippers meeting will be at 5:00 a.m., with the tourney start at 6:00 a.m., Fish Calls at 9:00 a.m. and noon, and lines pulled at 2:00 p.m. You must be at the weigh-in by 4:00 p.m. Good luck to all — see you there!

— Joe Von Grabe, "Sloppy Joe"
(810) 293-7688 (Res.)

PORT AUSTIN TOURNAMENT

(June 2, 2001)

1) TOMORROW'S DREAM (M. Stosiak)	99.13
2) MY TREASURE (Joe Golaszewski)	99.12
3) CRUSADER (Mike Vigus)	98.05
4) AQUARIUS II (Chris Nytko)	97.03
5) TRENA DAWN (Don Redmond)	95.15
6) CAPT'N HOOK II (Doug Karakas)	93.07
7) ANTICIPATION (Rob Pinsky)	92.11
8) LAST DIME II (Bob Ksionzek)	91.15
9) MARY K (Kenneth Kuhar)	90.06
10) KARE FREE (Tom Moores)	89.15
11) LIL' SCRATCH (Dick Shirk)	89.02
12) MY DREAM (Jimmy Hardrick)	88.07
13) DESTINY (Mark Williams)	86.06
14) SPODA B (Richard Kittle)	86.05
15) MICKY MOUSE CLUB (Bob Buero)	85.13

16) COWABUNGA (Chris Schwark)	85.06
16) SLOPPY JOE (Joe Von Grabe)	85.06
18) SEA HAG (Blaise Pewinski)	82.08
19) TYGER (Ty Voigt)	78.14
20) THE BRAT (Ron Maschke)	76.03
21) SILHOUETTE	71.11
22) LOKI ONE (Dave Roehr)	61.03
23) BOBBY'S TOY (Bob Jones)	50.13
23) IN-SEINE (Mark Bevans)	50.13
25) TRIP-N-DIPSY (Dean Meyers)	30.10
26) BLUE STAR (Stanley Bilek)	29.07
27) MOLLY FRAIR (Ron Hartman)	19.06
28) THE DREDGE (Ed Hill)	18.02
50) FIJI (Mike Walrath)	—
50) TIM'S TOY (Tim Waidelich)	—

238 Total Fish Caught

228 Lake Trout • 8 King Salmon • 2 Steelhead

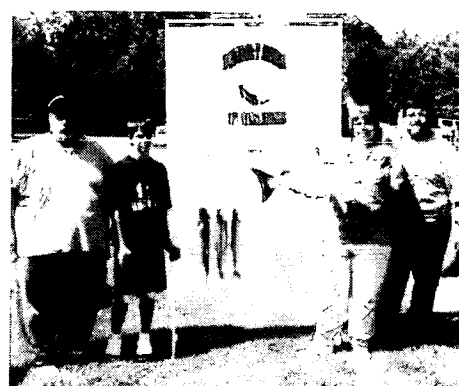
Top Harrisville Tournament Finishers



1st Place: "SLOPPY JOE" with Skipper Joe Von Grabe and crew.



2nd Place: "CRUSADER" with Skipper Mike Vigus and crew.



3rd Place: "CAPT'N HOOK II" with Skipper Doug Karakas and crew.



4th Place: "TRIP-N-DIPSY" with Skipper Dean Meyers and crew.



5th Place: "TYGER" with Skipper Ty Voigt and crew.



6th Place: "COWABUNGA" with Skipper Chris Schwark and crew.

HARRISVILLE TOURNAMENT

(May 19-20, 2001)

BOAT/SKIPPER	PTS.
1) SLOPPY JOE (Joe Von Grabe)	72.15
2) CRUSADER (Mike Vigus)	57.14
3) CAPT'N HOOK II (Doug Karakas)	49.09
4) TRIP-N-DIPSY (Dean Meyers)	48.06
5) TYGER (Ty Voigt)	47.01
6) COWABUNGA (Chris Schwark)	41.03
7) MOLLY FRAIR (Ron Hartman)	38.04
8) MICKEY MOUSE CLUB (Bob Buero)	38.03
9) LOKI ONE (Dave Roehr)	29.01
10) MAIN SQUEEZE (Walt Pohorily)	28.07
11) BOBBY'S TOY (Bob Jones)	22.08
12) TOMORROW'S DREAM (M. Stosiak)	18.02
13) BLUE STAR (Stanley Bilek)	9.08
14) Boat Name Unavailable (Jason Adams)	-0-

52 Total Fish Caught

37 Lake Trout • 7 King Salmon • 8 Steelhead

BIG FISH POOL

- 1) "Capt'n Hook II" King Salmon, 19.02 pounds
- 2) "Mickey Mouse Club" King Salmon, 16.04 pounds
- 3) Mike Vigus, "Crusader" .. King Salmon, 8.00 pounds

CREWS Hot Line

NEED A CREW? WANT TO CREW?

Call the Crews Hot Line to match up with a Skipper, or get a crew for your boat. Call:

JOE VON GRABE: (810) 293-7688

DOUG KARAKAS: (248) 545-1181

STAN BILEK: (810) 244-4090

The DEADLINE for the AUGUST ISSUE of FISHIN' TALES is JULY 31, 2001

2001 "SKIPPER OF THE YEAR"

(Standings through June 23, 2001 - Best 3)

PLACE/SKIPPER	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	Total
1) MARK STOSIAK	50	2	2	1	12					5
2) CHRIS NYTKO	27	4	1	4	75					9
3) JOE VON GRABE	14	3	6	17	1					10
3) MIKE VIGUS	6	11	5	3	2					10
5) DOUG KARAKAS	50	6	75	6	3					15
6) DEAN MEYERS	11	1	16	25	4					16
7) BOB JONES	8	7	18	23	11					26
8) DAVE ROEHR	75	5	13	22	9					27
8) BOB BUERO	9	10	75	15	8					27
10) STAN BILEK	3	12	19	26	13					28
11) CHRIS SCHWARK	50	75	9	16	6					31
12) RON HARTMAN	31	16	15	27	7					38
13) MARK BEVANS	50	8	7	24	75					39
14) KEN KUCHAR	32	14	17	9	75					40
15) ED HILL	18	9	10	28	75					47
16) BILL NUTTING	13	15	21	75	75					49
17) DICK SHIRK	50	75	8	11	75					69
18) RON MASCHKE	50	75	4	20	75					74
19) JIMMY HARDRICK	50	13	75	12	75					75
20) TOM MOORES	1	75	75	10	75					86

50 = See Rule IV-E

75 = See Rule IV-F

A = River Crab B = St. Joseph C = Grand Haven D = Port Austin E = Harrisville
 F = Frankfort G = Ludington H = Manistee J = Rogers City

Tournament Tips

Attention to detail is very important to becoming a successful tournament fisherman. Knowing exactly where your lures are running is one detail you need to know for success.

Learn the depths at which your lures are running. This is fairly simple to do with a downrigger, more complicated with a Dipsy Diver or one-pound ball. The key is to figure it out for your boat and your equipment. Try this the next time you are fishing in an area with a sand or mud bottom. Lake Michigan fits the bill . . . Port Austin does not!

Simply troll in 50 feet of water at a set speed, say 2.0. Let a cannonball out until it just touches bottom. Record how many feet of cable it takes to be at 50 feet at 2.0. Next, speed up to 2.4. How many more feet do you have to let out to maintain contact? You may also want to try other speeds, and depths of, say, 60' or 70'. These will give you a good idea of what it takes. You may be surprised at what you learn.

Next, pull back to 2.0. Let out a Dipsy Diver until it starts to bump bottom. You can tell by watching the tip of the rod. How many feet of line for a Dipsy set at 2 in 50' moving at 2.0? Increase speed to 2.4. How many feet? Check different settings on the Dipsy, different speeds, spoon versus dodger, etc. Use the same technique to give you a good idea of where your 1-pound droppers are running. Try a half-pound, too.

Calibrating your boat and equipment will pay off in the future. A hot Dipsy can lead to a hot downrigger or dropper. Take the time to calibrate your equipment the next time the fishing is slow. Who knows, maybe you will even catch that bonus fish while you are doing it. Good Fishing!

- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"

Don't forget the Photo Contest!



DETROIT STEELHEADER MIKE LEHTO and 'friend' are the subjects in one of the early entries in the 2001 Photo Contest. Don't miss out - make your photographs now!

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m.

K. of C. Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren

JULY 31, 2001

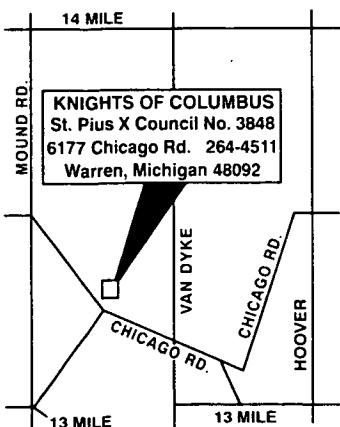
AUGUST 28, 2001

SEPTEMBER 25, 2001

BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	PORT CAPTAIN
July 28	FRANKFORT	Mark Bevens, (810) 779-3189
Aug. 11	LUDINGTON	Bob Mitchell, (248) 828-8034
Aug. 25	MANISTEE	Dick Jackson, (248) 698-1798
Sept. 8	ROGERS CITY	Joe Von Grabe, (810) 293-7688

Here's how to get to
**DETROIT AREA
STEELHEADER
Monthly Membership
Meetings**



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

Address Correction Requested



POST OFFICE
AUG
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**DETROIT AREA
STEELHEADERS**

MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!

