



FISHING TALES



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MAY 1999

Special People Outing set for June 12

This year's Special People outing is set for June 12 on Lake Erie, when we take some very Special People out for a day of Walleye catching.

The day's activities will take place at Toledo Beach Marina, and once again, Marina management is supporting us with facilities for the post-fishing picnic, and boat dockage.

This event has become a very special day in the lives of these Special People from the Monroe County and Canton Township schools, thanks to the efforts of Detroit Area Steelheader members who have provided boats, served as crew members, and worked on shore preparing for the picnic and other activities.

Last year, we provided an exciting day for approximately 43 people, and I believe this year there will be at least that many or more wishing to participate, so we'll need 25 to 30 boats or more to accommodate everyone. The number of free boat slips is limited and will be assigned first-come, first-serve Friday evening.

Crew assignments will be made Saturday at about 7:30 a.m. at our tent headquarters near the marina bath house, with the picnic and



THE ANNUAL SPECIAL PEOPLE OUTING is one of the real highlights of our year!

awards beginning there around noon. If you can help, either as skipper, or boat or shore crew, contact me at the May meeting, or call me.

If you have never participated in this event before, you've been missing out on one of the greatest joys of the year, especially when one

of the little ones comes up to you at the end of the day and gives you a big hug and says thank you for a special day in their life! Please join us.

- Dick Shirk
(810) 777-8900 (day)
(810) 749-9493 (eve.)

LEXINGTON KICKS OFF TOURNEY SEASON



EAGLE III CLAIMED FIRST PLACE in the first Detroit Area Steelheader boat tournament of 1999. Skipper Paul Schoenrade and crew members Ed Morris and Jim Bell led the way with this decent catch. *See Page Three for more on Lexington.*

CREWS Hot Line

NEED A CREW?

Looking for crew members to fish with you in Detroit Area Steelheader Boat Trolling Tournaments?

WANT TO CREW?

Want to fish in Detroit Area Steelheader Boat Trolling Tournaments but don't have a boat?

Call the Crews Hot Line to match up with a Skipper looking for crew members, or to get crew members for your boat during the 1999 season. Contact:

LARRY BOYER: (313) 495-1342
DOUG KARAKAS: (248) 545-1181
LEON VAN EDEN: (810) 293-1261

For Your Information . . .

DETROIT STEELHEADERS RETURNING TO GRAND HAVEN

Everything is set. We're going back to the port of Grand Haven, on the west side of the state on Lake Michigan, on May 15 for a tournament. I am especially excited about this tourney trip because of the quality of fishing there the last three years, particularly in the spring and fall.

Over the past two springs, the fishing has been red hot, with May being the hottest. Furthermore, the port of Grand Haven has led the way for most King Salmon taken two years in a row! I squawked when a tournament for this port was mentioned, and right after that, I was elected Port Captain.

I don't know what the program will be at Grand Haven, but we should know more by tourney time. If not, we're all 'Big Water' vets, so figuring out the program should not be a problem.

Grand Haven itself is a vacation destination for people from all across Michigan. It offers a ton of things to do for everyone! The downtown area is beautiful, full of shops, restaurants, and bars. The musical fountain will be in operation starting on our scheduled tournament date, Saturday, May 15 at approximately 9:30 p.m. at the Waterfront Stadium. The Great Lakes Sport Kite Championships will also be taking place the same weekend. There are plenty of accommodations around town, including hotels, motels, campgrounds, and lots of marinas.

I have some fond memories, although blurred, of Grand Haven and frequenting the Tip-A-Few, the Kirby Grill, and the Rosebud Tavern to enjoy an adult beverage or two.

The state-run Grand Haven Marina is located on the Grand River, two blocks from downtown and a short walk from Chinook Pier. According to friends, the Marina probably will not be full at this time of year, but you may want to call ahead to reserve your slip at (616) 847-3478. Contact the Grand Haven Chamber of Commerce at (800) 303-4096 for a complete listing of all the services available in the area. Please contact me direct if you need a map to the launch, Marina and park, or other tournament details.

Do some research, check the reports, visit the web sites, and get ready for some great fishing. We Detroit Area Steelheaders are going to rock and roll doing the Salmon Dance Boogie in Grand Haven on May 15!

- Paul Colone, "The Kidd"
(248) 547-0004

PORT AUSTIN TEAM DOUBLES TOURNAMENT IS SET FOR JUNE 5-6

The weekend of May 30 will find the Detroit Area Steelheaders fishing out of Port Austin. Lake Trout are likely to be the prime catch. Try northeast of the Lighthouse (about 5-7 miles) in 75'-100' of water. Staying as close to the bottom as possible will get you some Lakers. Good baits include P-Nuts, Spin-N-Glows, or Wobble-Glows with cowbells or chrome dodgers. Anything in green or chartreuse should produce for you. The key is a s-l-o-w presentation. If you are going to bounce the bottom, consider using break-off weights to save your cannonballs and downriggers. Better yet, don't bounce the bottom.

Dodger/squid setups run 5'-10' off the bottom may also get some Kings. Speaking of Kings, keep your ears open. Some years there are lots of Kings in the area. If the Kings are there, they can be the fish to target, at least at first light. Look for them straight out of port in deep water, or by the "Junk Pile." Spoons will be the presentation of choice.

If you've never fished at Port Austin before, be sure to follow the green cans out past the lighthouse before heading east. **DO NOT** cut between the lighthouse and shore; the lighthouse marks a reef that extends all the way to shore.

The Saturday Skippers Meeting will take place at 5:00 a.m. next to the D.N.R. launch ramp, with a 6:00 a.m. start. There will be Fish Calls at 9:00 a.m. and noon, with lines pulled at 2:00 p.m. for a 3:00 p.m. weigh-in.

There will be a Team Doubles tourney on Sunday for skippers who are staying over. Team assignments (first place on Saturday

paired with last, second place with next-to-last, etc.) will be made at the weigh-in on Saturday. Good luck to everyone — I'll see you at the docks.

- Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"
(248) 542-4873 (home)

DON'T FORGET THE STEELHEADER SPRING RAFFLE!

The Board of Directors has announced a Spring Raffle for 1999.

The grand prize is a Weber Spirit 500LX Series Gas Barbecue. In addition to the Weber, the lucky winning ticket holder will receive a BBQ apron, hot mitten, cooking utensils and \$100 worth of steaks to inaugurate the new rig on your deck or patio. It's a great prize package!

Raffle tickets are only \$5 each, with a total of 500 tickets printed. The drawing will be at the general meeting on May 25. You can obtain tickets from directors, or Raffle Chairman Paul Colone at (248) 547-0004.

BOARD REINSTATES ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST FOR MEMBERS

The Board of Directors has voted to reestablish a Photo Contest for 1999 for Detroit Area Steelheaders. A popular club event offered in several prior years, the annual Photo Contest provided members with the opportunity to explore and show off their creative prowess with a camera.

Complete details and rules for the 1999 Photo Contest will be published in an upcoming issue of **Fishin' Tales**. In the meantime, members should be sure to pack their cameras and plenty of film for their future fishing outings and start shooting!

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

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

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

MAY 25, 1999

JUNE 29, 1999

JULY 27, 1999

BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	PORT CAPTAIN
May 15	GRAND HAVEN	Paul Colone, (248) 547-0004
June 5	PORT AUSTIN (Team Doubles)	Ron Hartman, (248) 542-4873
June 12	SPECIAL PEOPLE OUTING (Lake Erie)	Dick Shirk, (810) 749-9493
June 26	OSCODA (Ladies Day)	Doug Karakas, (248) 545-1181
July 17	LAKE ERIE (Walleye Outing)	To Be Announced
July 31	PRESQUE ISLE	Mark Stosiak, (810) 777-9833
Aug. 14	LUDINGTON	Bob Mitchell, (248) 828-8034
Aug. 28	MANISTEE	Paul Schoenrade & Ty Voigt, (810) 773-6477
Sept. 12	HARBOR BEACH	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159

GREAT WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS SEASON OPENER AT LEXINGTON

Last year, there was *El Niño*. This year, it's *La Niña*. Despite all of the bad news about extremely low water levels in Lake Huron, our 1999 Lexington boat trolling tournament began without any problems.

The starting time was moved back to 6:30 a.m. to give skippers a little more daylight on their way out of port. All pre-tournament weather predictions were proven wrong. As the day progressed, it turned out to be one of the most gorgeous days on the water.

At the 9:30 a.m. Fish Call, the top boats were reporting just a few fish, with the boats fishing toward the north the least productive. By late morning, nearly everybody had moved to waters south of the port. The noon Fish Call featured reports of much better results.

All in all, I think everybody enjoyed this unexpectedly nice day. Out of a total fleet of 17 boats, 13 weighed in fish, with "Eagle III" taking first place, followed by "Tomorrow's Dream" in second place and "Floating Holiday" in third. New Detroit Area Steelheader member Bob Jones and "Bobby's Toy" claimed top honors in the Big Fish contest with a 13.09 King Salmon.

I hope you enjoy the wonderful spring weather . . . see you all at Grand Haven.

— Stan Bilek

LEXINGTON

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

(April 17, 1999 — 17 boats entered)

BOAT/SKIPPER	PTS.
1) EAGLE III (Paul Schoenrade)	55.00
2) TOMORROW'S DREAM (Mark Stosiak)	46.08
3) FLOATING HOLIDAY (Dave Roehr)	41.11
4) BOBBY'S TOY (Bob Jones)	40.01
5) GOLDEN OLDIE (Howard York)	33.00
6) MARY K (Kenneth Kuhar)	32.02
7) BLUE STAR (Stanley Bilek)	31.02
8) LIL' SCRATCH (Dick Shirk)	30.09
9) RETURNER (Darwin Gregg)	29.12
10) MICKEY MOUSE CLUB (B. Buero)	28.01
11) AQUARIUS II (Chris Nytko)	26.08
12) TEACHER'S PET (Dave Even)	24.07
13) SLOPPY JOE (Joe Von Grabe)	15.06
MAIN SQUEEZE (Walt Pohorily)	0.00
MOLLY FRAIR (Ron Hartman)	0.00
DREDGE (Edward Hill)	0.00
LUCKY FALCON (R. Golaszewski)	0.00

BIG FISH WINNERS

- 1) BOB JONES ("Bobby's Toy")
King Salmon 13 lbs., 9 oz.
- 2) HOWARD YORK ("Golden Oldie")
King Salmon 13 lbs., 7 oz.
- 3) KENNETH KUCHAR ("Mary K")
King Salmon 12 lbs., 14 oz.



2nd Place: "TOMORROW'S DREAM" with Mark Stosiak, John Sullivan and John Holmes.



3rd Place: "FLOATING HOLIDAY" with Dave Roehr, Doug Karakas, Deni, Jeff, and David Know.



4th Place: "BOBBY'S TOY" with Bob Jones, Bob Brummer and Joe Jones.



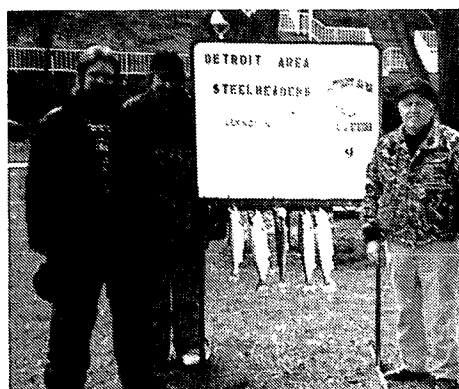
5th Place: "GOLDEN OLDIE" with Howard York and Shawn Burns.



7th Place: "BLUE STAR" with Stanley Bilek and Jan Piwowicz.



8th Place: "LIL' SCRATCH" with Dick Shirk, Eddie Pabisz and Chris Schwark.



9th Place: "RETURNER" with Darwin Gregg, Wade Gregg and Blaise Pewinski.



10th Place: "MICKEY MOUSE" with Bob Buero and Nicholas Buero.

Gill net restraint may be added bonus from enhanced St. Mary's lamprey kill

A helicopter crew may score a double knock-out in the St. Mary's River this summer. According to Lake Huron fisheries leader Jim Johnson, the 2,000-acre lamprey attack should:

- Reduce lamprey predation on Lake Trout in northern Lake Michigan and Lake Huron by 40%-50% "almost immediately."
- Enhance chances of a resource-based tribal netting agreement by the 2000.

If lamprey take a knockout hit, natural reproduction of Lake Trout should follow if tribal gill nets are withdrawn, giving netters incentive to agree to restraint, Johnson explains.

An experimental lamprey treatment on 200 acres of the St. Mary's River last summer was so successful that officials have decided to treat the entire remaining 2,000 acres of primary spawning habitat this year. Initially, the treatments were to be spread over five years so that they could be "fine-tuned."

That isn't necessary according to Johnson. Follow-up sampling of the areas treated last year convinced officials that the process is "deadly effective."

Over several years, researchers isolated the major lamprey spawning habitat and pinpointed it with GPS (Global Positioning System) map-

ping. They also tested using granular Bayer to target the submerged spawning beds where immature lamprey live in the muddy bottom.

Another key element was charting currents and developing a strategy to calculate how far upstream to release the sand-based chemical so it landed precisely on the beds.

Prior to last summer's release from the chopper, the target areas were dug up and the number of lamprey determined. Follow-up dredging revealed that the chemical hit the targets and devastated the lamprey.

The chemical strike is coupled with release of sterilized male lamprey to curb future spawning. Last year a record 17,000 sterile males were released in the river. Johnson expects even more this, and following, summers.

The males are trapped as far away as Lake Ontario and sterilized at the Hammond Bay lamprey research station.

With this ongoing effort, Johnson predicts lamprey predation will be cut 75% by the year 2010 in the north end of the Lakes.

The St. Mary's River is the biggest producer of lamprey, putting out 200,000 to 300,000 lamprey per year.

The critters have been controlled, not elimi-

nated, in the rest of the Lakes by treating their spawning streams with the liquid chemical TFM, and with barriers. TFM cannot be used in the St. Mary's due to cost, complexity, and size. This new program will be ongoing.

Controlling lamprey in the St. Mary's River is considered critical to Lake Trout recovery because the best Trout spawning reefs are in the northern part of the Lakes. State fisheries surveys have documented the virtual obliteration of Lake Trout by gill nets.

Federal and state fisheries officials and the tribes have declared their goal is a self-sustaining Lake Trout population. Biologists point out commercial fisheries and spawning Trout populations are compatible if trap nets (which allow live release of non-target fish) are used.

President Clinton has asked Congress for a \$1,000,000 boost in the U.S.'s share of lamprey control budget, to \$9,353,000. Canada has also stated that it will increase its funding. Governor Engler has budgeted \$1,000,000 per year for the task, and has challenged other Great Lakes states to follow suit.

It is estimated that each lamprey control dollar spent generates \$17 in economic return. Reprinted from the North Woods Call, March 10, 1999.



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

14 MILE

13 MILE

13 MILE

MOUND RD.

VAN DYKE

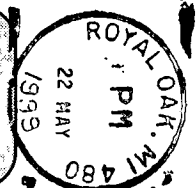
CHICAGO RD.

CHICAGO RD.

HOOVER

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
St. Pius X Council No. 3848
6177 Chicago Rd. 264-4511
Warren, Michigan 48092

**The DEADLINE for the
June issue of FISHIN' TALES is
May 25, 1999**



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

Address Correction Requested

**DETROIT AREA
STEELHEADERS**

MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!