



FISHING TALES



VOL. XXIV • No. 5

Published by the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc.

MAY 1998

Detroit Area Steelheaders wins 1998 River Crab Salmon Stakes!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders put forth a terrific team effort to win the 20th annual River Crab Salmon Stakes. The charity tournament is conducted to benefit the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic, along with other programs serving troubled children, adults, and families throughout Michigan.

Forty-two Detroit Area Steelheader boats hit the water on Saturday, May 2, with most leaving from Sanilac Harbor. Fog had been a real problem fishing on Friday and only a few boats had ventured out to fish. Of those which did, most found the fishing slow. However, three skippers, Paul Colone, Rob Pinskey, and Bob Ksionzek, found fish in deeper water, 55'-80'. The surface water temperatures in that area were above 50° F, about 3°-4° F *higher* than inshore. The willingness of these captains to share their information proved to be a real key to the overall success of our club.

The final tally was 352.32 pounds of total catch for the Detroit Area Steelheaders compared to a total catch of 316.13 pounds for the Blue Water Sport Fishing Association.



1st Place: "TEACHER'S PET" with Bob Mitchell, Bill Shackleton, Dan Kulikowski, and Dave Even.

RIVER CRAB RESULTS (May 2, 1998)

SKIPPER	CATCH	SKIPPER	CATCH
1) Dave Even	43.72 lbs.	22) Ken Kuhar	3.28 lbs.
2) Rob Pinskey	33.58 lbs.	23) Richard Grix	2.88 lbs.
3) Don Redmond	30.08 lbs.	24) Paul Schoenrade	1.96 lbs.
4) Chris Nytko	27.04 lbs.	25) Dick Shirk	1.92 lbs.
5) Rob Golaszewski	23.48 lbs.	26) Bruce Beach	— 0 —
6) Gary Smedes	22.20 lbs.	26) Ken Cione	— 0 —
7) Mark Stosiak	18.97 lbs.	26) George Daniels	— 0 —
8) Paul Colone	17.04 lbs.	26) Darwin Gregg	— 0 —
9) Louis Moore	16.44 lbs.	26) Rick Hehn	— 0 —
10) Ron Huey	15.18 lbs.	26) Les Jump	— 0 —
11) Jim Fitch	13.58 lbs.	26) Ron Koscielski	— 0 —
12) Ed Morris	11.66 lbs.	26) Bob Ksionzek	— 0 —
13) Walt Pohorily	11.46 lbs.	26) Don Lee	— 0 —
14) Dave Roehr	9.82 lbs.	26) Lynn Martin	— 0 —
15) Bob Buero	8.70 lbs.	26) Ronald Maschke	— 0 —
16) Joachim Von Grabe	8.62 lbs.	26) Tom Moores	— 0 —
17) Bill Hoffman	7.94 lbs.	26) Gary Ruprich	— 0 —
18) Stan Bilek	7.48 lbs.	26) Larry Seib	— 0 —
19) Ron Hartman	6.52 lbs.	26) Ty Voigt	— 0 —
20) Vernon Fahrenkrug	4.40 lbs.	26) Howard York	— 0 —
21) Steve Hamilton	4.38 lbs.	26) Bob Zdanio	— 0 —

A number of boats, including Captain Dave Even on "Teacher's Pet," motored to Friday's hot spots Saturday morning. The crew of 'Pet' monitored water temperatures on the way out and noticed that the warmer water had moved in from where it had been reported to be on Friday. They quickly changed course to get back to the warmer water, now located in the 55' range. A quick check of temps at depth showed the warmer water was in a layer in the top 25 feet of water. Setting lines in this depth range produced immediate "Fish On!" action!

Most of the fish were King Salmon in the 5-10 pound class, with a few Steelhead and Lakers mixed in. Spoons on downriggers and Dipsy Divers seemed to be the most productive set-up. Some fish were taken on Yellow Birds and body baits such as long A Bombers. A color pattern was hard to identify, but the "Teacher's Pet" crew seemed to have some luck with spoons with white backs, as opposed to the standard silver fare.

Once again, the relevant information was

Continued on Page Two . . . /

/. . . Continued from Page One

passed along to other club members, and a number of club boats ended up in the right area in the thick of the action.

At the weigh-in, it was close. Catch rates were definitely down from prior years, and the size of the fish caught was also down. The big King Salmon in the tourney (worth a plaque and \$250) was 11 1/2 pounds, and the big Brown Trout was 8 1/2 pounds, both taken by Detroit Area Steelheaders. Our club's final victory margin ended up at a mere 36.19 pounds!

I want to give a special thanks to all the skippers who came to the weigh-in with only one fish. Had you not shown up, we may not have won. Dave Even of "Teacher's Pet" won the Super Skipper award by recording the best catch of the more than 100 boats entered in the tournament. Dave's eight-fish catch easily outdistanced all the Blue Water boys!

The victory earned our club the \$5,000 first prize, and, as a result, there will be a drawing for five \$100 prizes for all skippers who weighed in any fish. In addition, the Board of Directors has already voted to donate \$2,000 of the winnings to the new Sanilac fish cleaning station. Congratulations to everyone who participated - you all did our club proud!!



DAVE EVEN won the Super Skipper award at this year's River Crab Salmon Stakes.

For Your Information . . .

PORT AUSTIN TEAM DOUBLES TOURNAMENT IS SET FOR MAY 30-31 WEEKEND

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)

SPECIAL PEOPLE WALLEYE OUTING ON SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 13

This year's Special People outing will be held on June 13 on Lake Erie. In this event, Detroit Area Steelheaders will be taking some very special people out for a day of Walleye catching.

Once again, as in past years, Toledo Beach Marina will be host for this outing. Marina management is generously supporting our event by furnishing the facilities for the post-fishing picnic, as well as supplying dockage for our boats.

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

Last year, we were able to accommodate approximately 30 people, and I would think that this year there will be at least that many or more Special People who would love to participate, so we will need at least 25 to 30 boats to cover everyone.

There will be a limited number of boat slips, available on a "first come, first served" basis Friday evening, June 12. Crew assignments will be made at 7:30 a.m. Saturday at the marina bath house, with the picnic and awards beginning around noon at the same location. If you can help out, either as a skipper, crew member, or shore help, please contact me at the May membership meeting, or call me at the telephone numbers listed below.

If you have never participated in this event before, you've been missing out on one of the greatest joys of the year. 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, you'll know that you've had a special day in your life! I hope to see you all there.

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

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

(Last Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m. • American Legion Hall, 1815 Rochester Road, Royal Oak)

MAY 26, 1998 • JUNE 30, 1998 • JULY 28, 1998

BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	PORT CAPTAIN
May 30	PORT AUSTIN (Team Doubles)	Ron Hartman, (248) 542-4873
June 13	SPECIAL PEOPLE OUTING (Lake Erie)	Dick Shirk, (810) 749-9493
June 27	OSCODA (Ladies Day)	Doug Karakas, (248) 545-1181
July 25	PORT AUSTIN (Walleye Outing)	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159
Aug. 1	PRESQUE ISLE	Mark Stosiak, (810) 777-9833
Aug. 15	LUDINGTON	Bob Mitchell, (248) 828-8034
Aug. 29	MANISTEE	Paul Schoenrade, (810) 773-6477
Sept. 12	HARBOR BEACH (Make-up, if needed)	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159

Lexington opens Boat season

Throughout the later part of last winter, *El Niño* brought unseasonably warm temperatures to our part of the country. This warming effect brought on an early spring fishing season for a lot of anglers. So, on Saturday, April 25, the Detroit Area Steelheaders began the 1998 boat trolling tournament season at Lexington with high hopes.

Unfortunately, *El Niño* did not keep the warm temperatures going for us. We encountered cold temperatures, with north-northeast winds blowing steadily, and as a result, the fishing was extremely slow for most boats.

At the 9 o'clock Fish Call, the top boats were reporting catches of only a couple of fish each. The noon Fish Call sounded a bit better, with reports of a few more fish caught. When all was said and done, our day on Lake Huron was still better than being at work.

"Mary K" and Skipper Ken Kuhar won this inaugural '98 tourney, followed by Dick Shirk and "Lil' Scratch" in second place, and "Half R's" and Ron Huey in third. Congratulations to Ken and his crew, and to all who participated. We hope to see you all at many of our club tournaments this season!

LEXINGTON TOURNAMENT RESULTS - APRIL 25, 1998

BOAT/SKIPPER	CATCH (by species & weight)	PTS.
1) MARY K (Ken Kuhar)	K10.00, K9.11, K4.14	39.09
2) LIL' SCRATCH (Dick Shirk)	K10.15, K9.07	30.06
3) HALF R'S (Ron Huey)	K5.03, K3.08, S2.07	26.02
4) TRENA DAWN (Don Redmond)	K8.09, K6.03	24.12
5) BLUE STAR (Stan Bilek)	K8.04, S3.15	22.03
6) JOKER (Lou Moore)	K7.11, K5.02	21.15
7) SLOPPY JOE (Joe von Grabe)	K6.01, K5.02	21.03
8) LUCKY FALCON (Robert Golaszewski)	K7.13, C2.02	19.15
9) AQUARIUS II (Chris Nytko)	S4.05, K3.13	18.02
10) MAIN SQUEEZE (Walt Pohorily)	K11.12	16.12
11) RETURNER (Darwin Gregg)	K10.02	15.02
12) GOLDEN OLDIE (Howard York)	K10.01	15.01
13) THE KIDD (Paul Colone)	K9.10	14.10
14) TOMORROW'S DREAM (Mark Stosiak)	K9.02	14.02
15) MOLLY FRAIR (Ron Hartman)	K8.10	13.10
16) FLOATING HOLIDAY (Dave Roehr)	K8.07	13.07
17) EASY (Mark Bradley)	K8.05	13.05
18) EAGLE III (Paul Schoenrade)	K7.10	12.10
19) JACK IN THE BOX (De Morris)	K3.04	8.04
20) FISHBUSTERS (Joel Garinger)	K2.14	7.14
21) IN THE NEY (Rick Hehn)	K2.07	7.07

No Catch Reported: CAPT'N HOOK (Doug Karakas), DREDGE (Ed Hill), MICKEY MOUSE CLUB (Bob Buero), RUPE (Gary Ruprich), TYGER (Ty Voigt), WRANGLER (Warren Renando)
C = COHO SALMON K = KING SALMON S = STEELHEAD

LEXINGTON BIG FISH WINNERS

SKIPPER/BOAT	CATCH (by species & weight)
1) WALT POHORILY (Main Squeeze)	11-pound, 12-ounce King Salmon
2) HOWARD YORK (Golden Oldie)	10-pound, 1-ounce King Salmon
3) KEN KUCHAR (Mary K)	10-pound King Salmon



1st Place: "MARY K" with Ken Kuhar, Scotty Obarzanik and Mike Perusich.

Lake Michigan delivers new state record Brown Trout

There's another early indicator (in addition to our club's great win at the River Crab Salmon Stakes last month!) that the 1998 Salmon and Trout fishing season could be a dandy: Michigan can boast a new state record Brown Trout. The 34.72-pound, 37.4-inch monster was caught April 23 in Lake Michigan off Manistee by 69-year-old Burton Reed.

Reed's trophy catch is the third record-breaking Brown Trout for Lake Michigan reported in less than a year.

Fishing with his 14-year-old arthritic dog in a leaky 14-foot aluminum boat, Mr. Reed stated he took his record-setting fish on a "#7 orange floating Rapala with two rusty hooks, 10-pound-test line, and a 30-year-old Mitchell 300 spinning reel."

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) District 6 Supervisor Tom Rosich confirmed the catch, and stated that the DNR is having the fish mounted for Reed. A replica mount is also being prepared for the DNR's fish collection, used for 'show-and-tell' presentations, etc.

The largest fish coming out of Great Lakes waters to date is still the 47.13-pound Chinook Salmon taken in the Salmon River in Oswego County, New York in 1991.

This noteworthy fishing feat goes to show that you don't need \$40,000 worth of equipment to go fishing and land a bragging-size record fish. Congratulations, Burton Reed, the Detroit Area Steelheaders salute you!!

From Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council Website, May 7, 1998.

WANT ADS

FOR SALE - 1992 Force 9.9 horsepower motor, \$550.

Call Bill Shackleton: (734) 422-3386

The **DEADLINE** for the
 June issue
 of
FISHIN' TALES
 is
May 26, 1998

Leadcore line unraveled – Part 1

As many successful captains know, trolling leadcore line with no additional weight other than the length of the line is an outstanding fish-taking technique for Salmon, Steelhead, and Walleye. How and why leadcore works is often the topic of conversation when anglers compare notes.

This past summer, two of the most frequently asked questions at our shop were, "Is there any difference other than strength in the various line classes?" and "How far down does a given amount of leadcore line go?" I got numerous theories when I asked around. So I decided to go directly to the source, Cortland, the manufacturer of Kerplunk leadcore.

Cortland uses two lead inserts, one for their 14# test, and a larger diameter for 18#-60#. This means that, except for 14#, the weight of the lead remains the same for all line strengths.

The weight of the line (core and case) is measured in grains per 10-foot section:

- 14# @ 46 grains
- 18# @ 110 grains
- 27# @ 114 grains
- 36# @ 118 grains
- 45# @ 124 grains
- 60# @ 131 grains

The minor differences in total weight seen here are attributable solely to the weight of the casing (stronger, thicker, heavier).

One (1) ounce equals 437.5 grains. Therefore, 10 feet of 36# test line weighs approximately 1/4 ounce. For you trivia buffs, a grain is an old English standard said to be the average weight of a "grain" of wheat taken from the center of the head.

What does all this mean to you, the leadcore

line angler? You should select the **minimum strength** line you feel comfortable with (generally 18#-36#), and it won't have any impact on **maximum depth**. Keep in mind that stronger line, besides being more expensive, is thicker. Thicker line uses up reel capacity, thus limiting the total amount of line you can spool. You need at least 100 yards of leadcore line, 30 to 40 feet of leader, and 50 yards or more of backing.

According to Cortland, extensive testing by charter captains in the Pacific Northwest has led (no pun intended!) to the following rule of thumb. For 18# test line and greater, at trolling speeds of 0.5 to 1.8 miles per hour, with a monofilament leader ten feet long, and a lightweight spoon, the line goes down one foot for every six feet let out. Put another way, the line drops five feet per color (Kerplunk

changes color every 10 yards.

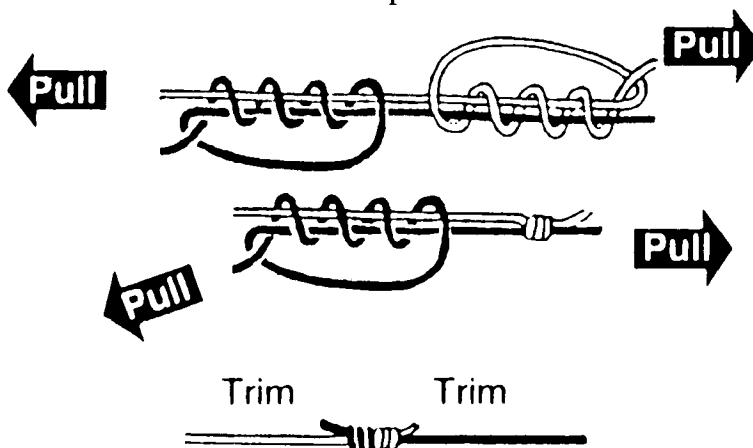
As in every trolling situation, water resistance increases with length, and eventually, additional line does not give you any additional depth. It is reasonable to assume a 100 yards of leadcore line takes you 40 to 45 feet down, and three colors of "bird-core" (a leadcore line segment used in place of a lead weight for added depth behind a side planer) puts you 15 feet down.

According to Gudebrod, another manufacturer of leadcore line, after 25 feet of depth, the thermocline affects the sink rate due to increases in water density. Gudebrod suggests that the following depths will be achieved at the following rates: three colors 15 feet down, five colors 25 feet down, 8 colors 30 feet down, and 9 colors 35 feet down.

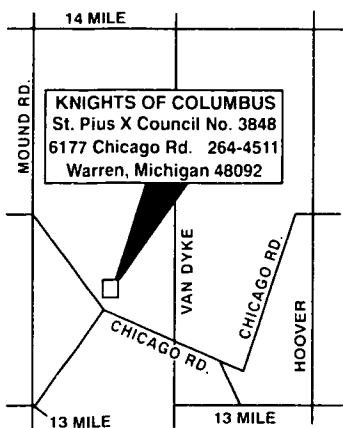
- Captain Ed Stell, Ludington

DOUBLE UNI-KNOT

The Double Uni-Knot is an excellent knot for joining together two sections of leader or line. With the super braid lines, double to line before tying, or make an additional four or five wraps.



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



MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!