



DETROIT AREA

STEELHEADERS

FISHIN' TALES

Vol. XXII * NO. 10

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Oct. 1997

DICK SWAN TO SPEAK

OCTOBER MEETING

Dick Swan is the scheduled speaker for the upcoming October general member meeting. Anyone who has seen Dick present will tell you its one you won't want to miss. Dick is the father of light line fishing having pioneered the noodle rod concept in Michigan. He'll make you a believer in fishing 2-4 lb test on long rods for steelhead and salmon in rivers and even in boats on the big lake.

COOLER OF CHEER!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders annual cooler of cheer raffle will again take place this Fall. The lucky winning ticket will be drawn at the annual Christmas meeting on Dec. 16. The lucky winner will receive **a 128 quart cooler full of cheer, a big assortment of party snacks and \$100 in cash;** a prize well worth the one buck investment.

As in the past, an incentive plan has been developed to encourage you to sell tickets for this raffle.

For the October membership meeting, for every \$15 of cooler ticket sales turned in by a member, you will receive one

chance at a **Winner's Choice Prize Package**. There are four prizes to choose from; a Daiwa spinning rod & reel, an AC electric fillet knife, a Normark 50# digital scale or a 4-cell Mag-lite Flashlight. You will have your name put in the drawing two times if you sell \$30 in tickets, 3 times for \$45.

Names will remain in the drawing for the November monthly meeting where a lucky member will win choice of one of the three remaining prizes. Finally, the overall top ticket seller will win a **Portable hand-held GPS unit**. (This is a great boat tool, so you may want to talk to your crew and pool your results.) Contact Ray Banbury - (810) 542-8007 or Rob Golaszewski (810) 778-0927 for additional tickets.

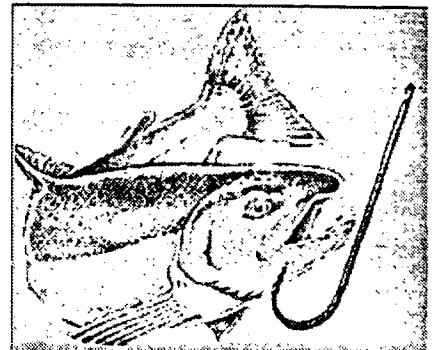
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEETING
DECEMBER 16 at our MEETING
PLACE 12 Mile & Rochester in
Royal Oak.....

DIRECTOR ELECTIONS COMING DECEMBER

The annual election for the Detroit Area STEELHEADERS Board of Directors will take place at the Christmas meeting. There are several openings for election expected this year.

This is a chance to help direct our club and to give back some of what you have gained by being a member.

Interested parties should contact President Redmond or any other board member at the October meeting. All you have to do is to fill out a short form stating your interests and how you can help; then get your picture taken. The candidate's info and photos will appear in the November issue of Fishin' Tales.



**RUN FOR A DIRECTOR
DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**

BIG "M" 3-WAY FISHOFF

The annual fish-off with Metro-West and Saginaw STEELHEADERS is set for November 3 on the Big Manistee and Little Manistee rivers.

The 1997 Edition of the Inter-club rivalry is the eleventh annual tournament pitting the skills of each club against the other two. The coveted prize is a traveling trophy and bragging rights for the coming year.

Doug Karakas will again head the tournament for the DAS. The winner will be decided on the basis of total weight of fish caught (with a limit of three fish per man) divided by the number of each club's fishermen.

The tentative fishing hours are from 6am until 4 p.m. with a weigh-in from 4:30 p.m. until 5pm at Fisherman's Headquarters. Check with Doug to confirm.

All Detroit Area STEELHEADERS are encouraged to participate.

You can sign up at the October meeting or at Fisherman's Headquarters in Wellston before the tourney. If you need more information call Doug at (810) 545-1181 or see him at the October meeting. This is a fabulous event; one that you won't want to miss. Beginners are especially

ATTENTION RIVER RATS

Winter tournament Schedules for 1996-97 River Rats. For information call River tournament chairman Doug Karakas at 545-1181

Nov. 3 Manistee River- 3 way

Dec. 6 Ausable River

Jan. Clinton River Clinic

Feb. Higgins Lake

--Ice Fishing

Mar. Manistee River

welcome; and we are hoping for a large turnout. Doug

Three Spine Stickleback a new threat?

"Three spine sticklebacks eat zooplankton, oligochaetes and chironomid midge larvae and mosquito larvae."

While not new to the Great Lakes, the two- to three- inch fish is showing up with more frequency, causing some anglers to scratch their heads when it appears in their smelt nets or on their fishing lines. So what is this fish and should we be worried about it?

Three spine sticklebacks are commonly found off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of North America. Opinion is split on how they got to the Upper Great Lakes, but biologists assume they entered through the St. Lawrence Seaway in the ballast water discharge of ocean-going ships, or that they traveled via natural migration through the Hudson Bay watershed. Since 1980 they

have spread to Lake Michigan and are now found in Lake Superior.

Minnesota Sea Grant Exotic Species Information Center Coordinator, Doug Jensen, remembers when threespine sticklebacks first appeared locally in LTV Steel's cooling water tanks in Taconite Harbor, MN, in 1994. "When I first confirmed the sighting, I was not very concerned. Based on the published literature, the species appeared to be of little threat," said Jensen. " Even after Dennis Pratt of the Wisconsin DNR reported that he found them in the Duluth-Superior harbor, we came to the same conclusion - 'so what?' Since then, I've become more concerned due to recent reports from southern Lake Michigan where the infestation has rapidly grown."

Jensen is hearing stories from anglers who shore fish there for yellow perch that paint a bleak picture. Anglers catch threespine sticklebacks and round gobies, but few yellow perch or native fishes.

"One time last year, 12 anglers fishing for five hours caught about 1,000 fish made up of just round gobies and threespine sticklebacks," said Jensen. "Anglers report these sticklebacks are so aggressive that they will attack a penny dropped into the water. Not even the aggressive goby goes after the penny. If this stickleback is that aggressive and becoming that abundant, perhaps there should be more concern and research devoted to them."

Little is known about its biology

or potential environmental impacts. Threespine sticklebacks are easy to identify, with three spines on the dorsal fin and large eyes. The first two spines are very pronounced, the third is much smaller. They inhabit shores of larger lakes. Shallow, sandy bottomed areas are their preferred habitat.

SELL!
COOLER OF CHEER TICKETS
WIN A GPS!
TICKETS \$1
DRAWING DEC. 16

In spring, the males construct an elaborate underwater nest from algae, sticks and plant fragments which resembles an oriole's nest. The nest is usually attached to emergent aquatic plants, but sometimes it is built on the bottom itself. After the female lays the eggs, the male guards them until they hatch and then watches over the fry until they disperse.

Threespine sticklebacks may compete with native sticklebacks for food. They eat zooplankton, oligochaetes and chironomid midge larvae and mosquito larvae.

To learn more about exotics visit the MN Sea Grant Field Guide To Exotic Species on the Great Lakes, or play an Exotics Species Slide Show from USEPA

CLEVELAND BUILDS REEF

Construction begins on fishing reefs to be made from stadium debris

About 15,000 tons of concrete debris from the demolished stadium will be used to build two artificial fishing reefs in Lake Erie.

Cleveland's Mayor Michael R. White and officials from the Cuyahoga County Port Authority and the Ohio Sea Grant Program participated in a ceremony Wednesday to mark the start of construction.

"The new artificial reefs, which are environmentally safe, will improve the ecology of Lake Erie with unlimited opportunities for offshore fishing for Cleveland citizens," said White.

The reefs will be built about one-half mile offshore and will be 600 feet long, up to 15 feet high and at least 15 feet underwater. They are expected to be completed by December of 1997.

Officials with the Ohio Sea Grant Program, a cooperative effort designed to enhance use, development and wise management of Lake Erie resources, has said that an artificial reef can attract as many as 60 times more fish than normally would be in the area. Such reefs provide hiding and spawning locations.

Jeff Reutter, director of the program, said Wednesday that the reefs will provide housing for smallmouth bass, yellow perch and walleye.

The stadium debris has been stored on lakefront docks. The structure was demolished last spring to make way for a stadium that will become the home in 1999 of a football

team to replace the Cleveland Browns.



WANT ADS

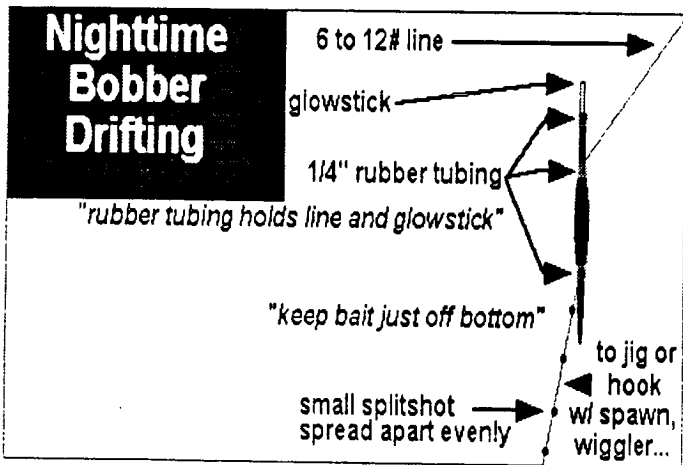
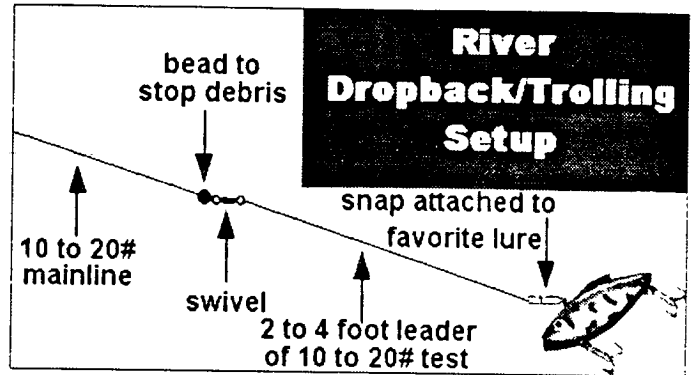
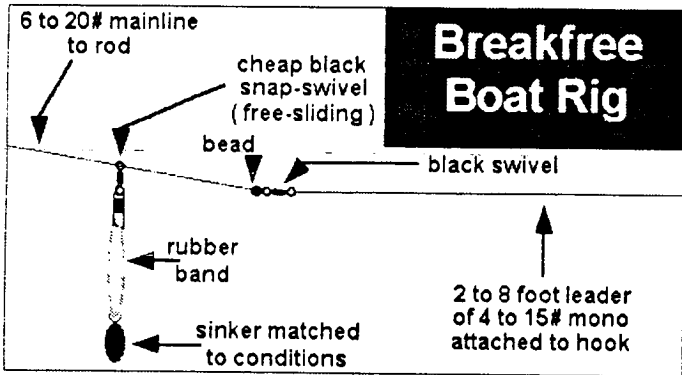
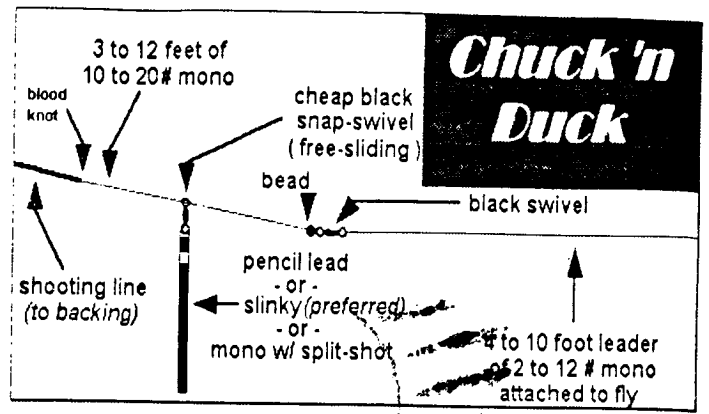
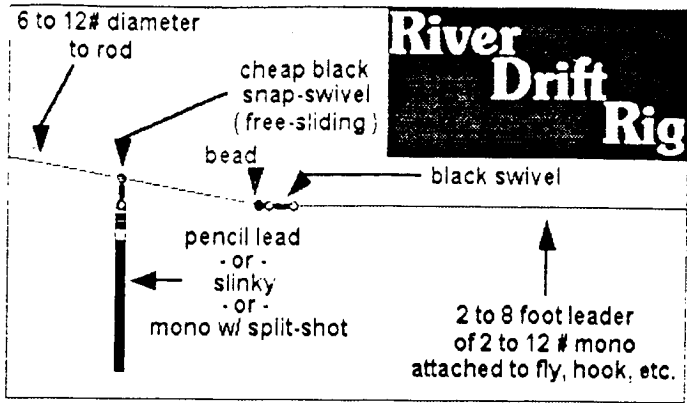
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9.9 hp Force outboard 1992 model \$700
Bill Shackleton (313) 422-3386

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5X8 trailer
Former Detroit Steelheader display hauler. Best offer
See Mark Luff at the meeting or call (810)585-4491

GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

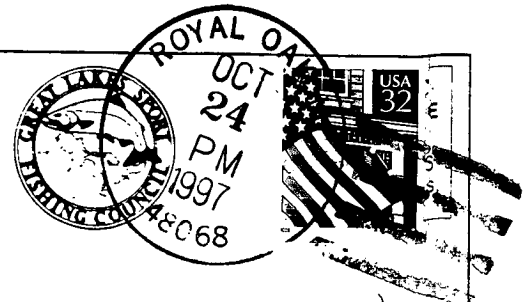


**salmon have been
stocked in the
Great Lakes since
the 1800s**



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Address Correction Requested



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MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!