



FISHIN' TALKS

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LAKE TROUT ISSUE

PORT AUSTIN TOURNAMENT

The weekend of June 3rd will see the Detroit Area Steelheaders fishing out of Port Austin.

Lake Trout will probably be the prime catch. Try N/E of the lighthouse (about 5 - 7 miles) in 75 to 100' of water. Staying as close to bottom as possible will get you some lakers. Good baits include P-nuts, Spin-n-gloves, or Wobble glows with cowbells or chrome dodgers. Anything in green or chartruse should produce. The key to lakers is a s-l-o-w presentation.

If you are going to bounce bottom, consider using breakoff weights to save your cannonballs and downriggers (better yet don't bounce bottom) Dodger / squid setups run 5'-10' off bottom may also get some kings.

If you've never fished at Port Austin, 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 skippers meeting will take place at 5am on Saturday next to the DNR launch ramp. Starting time is 6 am. Fish calls at 9 and 12 with lines pulled at 2 pm. and weigh-in at 3pm.

We will have a team doubles tournament on Sunday for skippers who are staying over. Team assignments (first on Saturday

paired with last, second with next to last, etc.) will be made at the weigh-in on Saturday. Good luck to everyone. See you at the docks. Ron Hartman - Molly Frair (810) 542-4873 (home) (810) 433-0545 (work 6-12 pm.)

LADIES DAY JUNE 24 OSCODA FELLOWS MARINA TO HOST

The annual Ladies Day tournament is rapidly approaching and it's payback time as the guys will have to do the work while the Ladies reel in the fish.

So, start getting those muscles into shape and get ready to head up US 23 to Fellows Marina at that great port of Oscoda.

Historically Lake Trout dominated the catch, but, don't be surprised if, as in the past two years, a few kings show up to make things interesting. You have to be prepared to fish either.

For those who haven't participated in our ladies day tournament, the rules are that men may only set lines and net the fish. Ladies must handle the poles after hookup. (And, we don't want to see any girls sporting beards or mustaches.)

As in the past, we ask that cooks bring a dish to pass at our annual potluck dinner after the weigh-in, which is definitely one of the

highlights of the year. Just a friendly reminder, please keep the potato salad on ice (and separate from the fish) while out on the lake.

The activities for June 24 will begin at 5:00 am with the skippers meeting at Fellows; a 6:00 start at the pier heads and fish calls at 9 & 12. Please pull lines at 2:00 PM and be in the weigh-in line by 3:00. The potluck will start when the weigh-in is completed or 3pm if there is a cancellation of fishing.

So, get those cow bells polished, the dipsey divers dusted off, put the drain plug in. Its time to go fishing! Dave Even - Teachers Pet

LAKE TROUT FISHING

The next two tournaments will likely focus on lake trout. As such, skippers will want to be ready to target these fish. Lake trout fishing at Port Austin can be very different from that at Oscoda. While the basic fish is the same, the differences in bottom structure result in differing techniques. Port Austin is a rocky reef that loves to eat cannon balls and lures. Oscoda has a mud bottom that you can actually drag baits along.

First, lets review some of the aspects that will remain the same. Lake Trout fishing is generally SLOW trolling. There's an old joke that goes "You pull alongside a boat that is catching fish and then you go half that speed." In reality, a trolling speed of 1.2 to 1.6 knots

should be about right. You may need to use a sea anchor or a couple buckets dragged alongside to slow your boat to these speeds; but, you must find a way to slow down. Lakers, especially big lakers like slow lures.

Given the time of year, the lakers will probably be in about 80-90 feet of water where the temperature should be 48 to 52 degrees. Most will be right on the bottom. At Port Austin, many boats will fish the reef off Grindstone City about 6 miles East of the lighthouse. There is good laker fishing all along the coast.

At Oscoda, the best laker fishing has been near the drop-off East of the harbor. You can't miss it as the bottom will quickly drop from 80 to 100'. Regardless, the fleet will key you in to where the best fishing is. Lakers don't generally move the way cohos will. If they were in a spot yesterday, they will likely still be there.

"Junk" will be the choice for terminal tackle. Most skippers will run dodgers or cowbells for lakers. Chrome, white, chartreuse dodgers and chrome cowbells are the standard fare. Cowbells come in a variety of shapes. Big J&N blades or willow blades are good choices. Behind the dodgers and cowbells skippers will be running a number of different lures; P-nuts, wobble glows, Spin-n-glows and squids. Colors can vary but try green, metallic green, white, chartreuse, pink, purple.

Some lakers will come on clean spoons; especially if they are run alongside junk. Test your spoons to see which ones run well at the slow trolling speeds. Silver streaks for one are a good choice. The lakers will tell you which color to

run, but be prepared with green, black, silver, white. Stackers and sliders can be used except with cowbells which will cut them off once they slide down to the main lures.

At Oscoda, a local charterboat favorite is to run a crank bait such as a small Hot-N-Tot behind a large Williams Wobbler used as an attractor. Purple has been the hot color. Another technique has been to run a weight such as a bait walker in front of a dodger to insure that it runs on the bottom. Don't try either technique at Port Austin as the reef will eat it up in a minute.

At Port Austin you will want to run the lures very tight to the balls to keep them out of the rocks. Have someone standing by each downrigger ready to raise the ball if it touches bottom. Otherwise, you will lose one. (You may lose one anyway. The reef is hungry!) At Oscoda, you can run the lures further back and that generally helps; provided they don't tangle.

While trolling, try not to make sharp turns or you will tangle your lines. Do try to troll in an "S" pattern. If the waves are up, don't try to troll into the waves. Troll through the area you want and then pick everything up and run back to the start. It's better to do this and insure that your baits are running right than to troll for an hour with tangled baits.

MUSKIE CHARTER RAFFLE

Raffle tickets for the Muskie Charter trip for 4 are on sale up to the drawing at the May 30 meeting. The drawing will take place at 9pm. If you need tickets or have questions call Paul Nowak at (810) 294-3842.

LUNA PIER

WALLEYE OUTING 6/17

On June 17, the Detroit Area Steelheaders will take advantage of one of the world's best walleye fisheries when we have our first walleye outing at Luna Pier Harbor Club. Luna Pier Harbor Club is located at exit 6 off I-75, seven miles south of Monroe. It's a full service facility with launch ramps, dockage, party store, restrooms, showers, camping area and picnic facilities.

Fishing should be excellent for trollers with planer boards and for drifters casting Erie Dearies. One of the keys for looking for fish this time of year is to look for stained water (not muddy, not clear). The next most important variable is the depth your bait is running. Experiment with different lead lengths off your planer boards and repeat what takes fish. (start with 30-70' back, but could be up to 120') Popular baits are Wiggle Warts, Hot-N-Tots, Deep Jr. Thundersticks, and Deep Thundersticks, although most crankbaits will work. Predominant colors are metallics like gold, silver or copper and bright colors like fire tiger, perch, chartreuse and orange. Small spoons and night crawler harnesses (spinners) also work.

Fishing hours are from 7 am until noon with a Big Fish Pool weigh-in at 1 pm. A limited number of boat slips, overnight camping and Ohio licenses are available at the marina. Hope to see you there. More details will be available at the May meeting. Mike Lehto - (810) 478-9746

DIPSEYS / ONE POUNDERS?

Here is a little tip on how to be more consistent with Dipseys or

one pound droppers.

The next time the fishing has slacked off and you are just out for a boat ride, find out just how far down those drop weights are.

Move into shallow water starting at about 50 ft. Remove all tackle and add a dipsey or one pound ball and let the line out till the dipsey or ball taps the bottom. Record the amount of line either by counting bars or by using a 47H line counter (this is where these reels come in handy). Continue this process recording the various depths at which the weight hits bottom and line and disey setting that is needed. It is also a good idea to vary speeds at each depth and record the extra line that is needed at higher speeds.

Keep record of this information onboard and the next time you are trying put that extra rod into the exact strike zone, it just might make the difference.

Dave Even; Field Editor

TOP 10 BOATS
ST. JOE/BENTON HARBOR
BOAT SKIPPER

1	Lucky Falcon	Bob Golaszewski
2	Mary K	Ken Kuhar
3	My Dream	Jim Hardrick
4	Blue Star	Stan Bilek
5	Floating Holiday	Dave Roehr
6	Kemo	Bob Mitchell
7	Trena Dawn	Don Redmond
8	Cap't Hook	Doug Karakas
9	Taz	Daniel Dima
10	Sinsation	Hank Baczynski

RIVER CRAB RESULTS

Blue Water Prevails Again.
The River Crab Salmon Stakes held on Saturday, April 29th went off under the best weather in years. Unfortunately, the fish were scattered and turned off by the heavy rains on Wednesday and

heavy winds on Thursday and Friday.

This year, an all time record of 182 boats were registered to fish in the tournament; 68 boats weighed in fish.

The club prize of \$5,000 again went to Bluewater Sportfishing. They had 73 boats enetered, with 36 weighing in fish. This compares with the Dtroit Area Steelheaders 54 boats with 27 weighing in fish. Total poundage for Bluewater - 579.75 versus 441.90 for DAS.

We had two club boats take big fish prizes. Bob Buero won \$250 with a 3.85 Coho and Ken Kuhar won \$250 with a 8.95 Brown Trout.

Since we did not win the \$5,000 there will be only one \$100 prize drwing at the May membership meeting. All boats who weighed a fish qualify for this drawing.

I wish to thank all the skippers and their crew who participated in this worth-while charity event.
Don Redmond Trena Dawn

RIVER CRAB RESULTS

	SKIPPER	WEIGHT
1	Greg Clifford	37.60
2	Dave Even	37.15
3	Bob Mitchell	36.20
4	Rob Pinsky	31.25
5	Don Redmond	29.15
6	Don Anton	27.65
7	Larry raynor	26.65
8	Mike Lehto	25.25
9	Bob Golaszewski	20.80
10	Chris Nytko	18.00
11	Tom Moores	16.30
12	Walt Pohorily	14.50
13	Mike Wakulski	13.50
14	Dave Roehr	13.25
15	Ken Kuhar	13.15
16	Paul Schoenrade	13.10
17	Ed Pabisz	11.40
18	Rod Elnick	9.60
19	Bob Buero	9.30
20	Paul Nowak	8.50
21	Bob Segraves	7.25
22	Ron Huey	5.00
23	Richard Grix	4.40
24	Warren Renando	4.35
25	Lynn Martin	4.15
26	Joe Golaszewski	2.70
27	Dick Shirk	1.90

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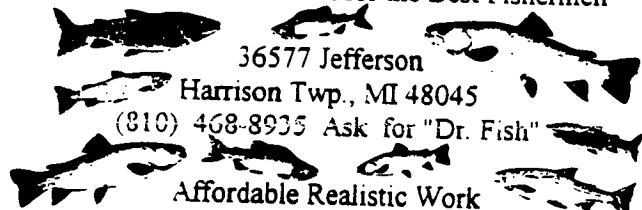
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MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!