



FISHIN' TALES



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April 1994

RIVER CRAB APRIL 30

DAS OUT TO RETAIN CROWN

REMINDER, DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS; the Chuck Muer River Crab Salmon Stakes is coming on April 30.

This is a Boat Trolling Tournament that counts in our schedule towards determining "Skipper of the Year" award. It is also a tournament where we as a club will be competing for the 1st prize of \$5,000 for the most total weight. It is very important to our annual budget that we add this money to our treasury. Many of our club functions and our ability to make more contributions to worthy causes are directly affected by winning this prize.

The Blue Water Clinic, Blue Water sport fishing Assoc. and the C. A. Muer Corporation (River Crab Restaurant) co-sponsors donate proceeds to the Blue Waters Clinic's McKinnon Family Center and other child abuse/neglect programs throughout Michigan.

The Detroit Area Steelheaders will also have a special

drawing at our May membership meeting. If the club wins the \$5,000 we will draw (5) \$100 prizes from a list of boats who weighed in at least one fish in the tournament. We will draw (1) \$100 prize if we don't win the club prize. Therefore, a single small fish could mean the difference between the club winning and you winning a \$100. All fish must be 18 inches to count (Overall length, not just 18" to the fork) Please weight in any 18" fish you catch. Lake trout will not be eligible as lake trout season will not yet be open. In addition, the sponsors of the tournament will pay \$100 for any fin clipped Chinook weighed in.

A \$10 ticket includes your individual entry fee, a raffle ticket where first prize is a trip for two aboard the River Queen Steamboat cruising the mighty Mississippi for 3 days and 3 nights. Second prize is a trip for two to Toronto for 3 days and two nights. There are three other great prizes, too. Dinner tickets are available for an additional \$12 per person.

So, benefit the charities, and give our club a chance at the \$5,000 club prize. The April 26 general meeting will be the last chance to sign up... or call Don Redmond at (810) 469-8344 for information on mail in entries.

REMEMBER, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS WITH YOU AT THE WEIGH-IN TO ENTER FISH!!!! IF YOUR MAILING LABEL HAS A YELLOW MARK ON IT. BE SURE TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP; ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE FISHING FOR THE CLUB IN THE RIVERCRAB !!!!!

WATA RIVER TOURNEY

Hard winters make for hard fishing! March 5th was the date of the annual WATA (Weston Area Tourist Assoc.) tournament. This year brought out almost a record turn out for tournament day-- 172 fisherpeople.

The day was almost perfect; cool but not too cool, no wind, no rain, sunny mid-day. NICE DAY! Just one thing missing. A river full of fish. "Hey!.....March 5th and where are all the fish?" The bottom

end of the river still had a lot of ice in it and the piers and harbors were packed with ice. The fish just weren't in yet. The hard winter had frozen up the Big Manistee from High Bridge down. This ice stayed there for weeks this year. It pushed the river out of its banks and had ice 2 feet up the trees in the low laying flats surrounding the river. So, how tough was the fishing? How about 172 entries with only **23** fish weighed in. Real Tough!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders had five people show up and between them they caught one fish. **Jim Hardrick came in with an 11 lb. 9 oz. male steelhead.** It was a beauty with a nice double red strip on its side. This fish not only won first in our club tournament but also first in the WATA Boat division. PLUS, it also was enough to win the Chapter Trophy for our club. GREAT JOB JIMMY!

The evenings festivities at the Deerhorn were crowded & smokey as usual, but, the door prizes made it worth while. Ralph won a beer sign and I won a hat. Scott and Linda O. were big winners with a chair, reel and spool of line. We all had fun! "RIVER RAT"--Doug Karakas.

LAS VEGAS A SUCCESS

The Las Vegas Night was a huge success for the club.

Chairwomen, Mary Karakas put a ton of effort into organizing the entire event. She deserves a GIANT at-a-girl! With the help of about 35 Steelheaders, the night turned out first class. The final financial details are yet to be worked out and presented to the Board, but there is no question that it was a financial success. The hall was crowded the entire night and everyone seemed to be having great fun. Based on this success, its a certainty that the club will do it again. When we do, please volunteer to help or at least show up and enjoy the fun. You won't regret it!

DETROIT STEELHEADERS DONATE MONEY TO MSU RESEARCH

At the March board meeting, the Directors voted to send \$400 to MSU to help fund a fisheries project on the Betsy River. The specific project relates to sampling wild versus hatchery steelhead. Dr. Howard Tanner brought the project to our attention and asked if we would be interested. As usual, the DAS was quick to say yes! and thus work to preserve the future of the fishery.

BENTON HARBOR/ST JOE TOURNEY MAY 14.

This port is often a great producer of fish in the early Spring. Coho salmon will probably make up the

majority of the catch, but its not unusual to hear of fishermen catching a "grand slam" from these waters.

You can count on good fishing within a mile of shore in the early morning. River mouths that offer warm water current and the warm water discharges from the nuclear power plant both attract the trout and salmon.

The fishing will probably be best in the top 20 feet of water where the water warms first. It would be to your advantage to run planer boards or "yellow birds". Try trolling in an "s" pattern to locate the bait fish and the warmer water the trout and salmon will be near. Also keep an eye out for diving sea gulls as they can help in locating bait fish.

As for lure selection, I would start with body baits that resemble minnows in silver and chrome finishes. Try using small spoons as Spring salmon and trout are more prone to slam a small spoon than a large one. Most important, make sure that all of your hooks are sharp.

For some local information and fishing conditions, you can call:

TACKLE HAVEN (616) 925-0341
or MOLLHAGENS MARINA at (616) 983-3851. Don't forget to check your trailers. Have a safe trip and we'll see you

at the Captains meeting. We'll have more information at the next general meeting. Walt Pohorily

HARBOR BEACH TOURNEY SET FOR MAY 21

Once again, the waters of Harbor Beach will focus on some nice Kings, but also be prepared to target lakers around Port Hope, North of Harbor Beach. The 5:00 a.m. skippers' meeting will be held near the marina office on Saturday, May 21st. All boats, please answer fish calls at 9am and 12 noon. Lines will be pulled at 2 p.m. and you and your catch of the day need to be in the weigh-in line by 3:00 p.m.

For those of you who have never fished at Harbor Beach, be careful as there are reefs extending far out into the lake. If you have a loran or GPS (and you should) make certain to plot a lot of waypoints that will keep you in safe water. Remember, that the shore line is curved in this area and a straight line course will take you near shore or possibly aground. Take a banana shaped course to get to most points. Also, watch your depth finder and keep at least 20 feet of water under your boat as these reefs come up very quickly.

I will be your port captain for this tournament and I hope to

have information regarding patterns and locations at the April meeting.

Come to Harbor Beach for good fishin' and fun! Chris Nytko-Aquarius II

FISHIN' TALES is published monthly by THE DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.

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MAY MEETING

Dan Chimilak is expected to be our speaker in May. Don't miss this meeting for results and money drawings for the Rivercrab, too.



RIVER CRAB

16th ANNUAL

SALMON STAKES

TOURNAMENT

coordinated by the

BLUE WATER SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION



APRIL 30, 1994

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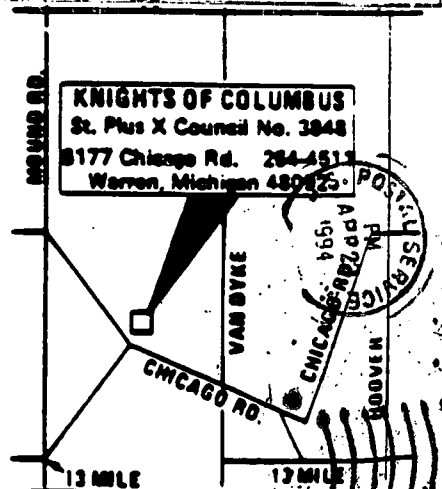
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MEETING NOTICE - PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!

