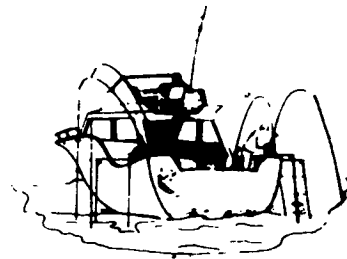




FISH TALES



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NOVEMBER 1993

"Cooler of Cheer" raffle is ready for December 14

The Detroit Area Steelheader annual "Cooler of Cheer" Raffle will take place at the Christmas Party/Meeting on December 14. Again this year, the winner will receive a 96-quart cooler, a big assortment of party snacks, and \$100 in cash. A chance to win all this costs only a buck per ticket!

As an incentive to sell tickets for the Raffle, anyone who sells \$100 in tickets will be entered into a drawing to win a one-year membership in the Detroit Area Steelheaders. You will receive one entry in the drawing for each \$100 of tickets sold.

Paul Schoenrade won the one-year membership offered in October. There will be two more such drawings, in November and December, with one-year memberships as prizes, so keep selling and get your name into those drawings!

Also, DAS members will receive one chance in a special drawing to give away a Normark 50-pound capacity electronic scale at the November meeting for each \$15 of cooler raffle tickets they sell. Jim Legenzoff won the hand-held radio raffled at the October meeting. Remember, you will receive one chance in the November raffle for EACH \$15 of tickets you sell, and your tickets from the October raffle are still good for the November drawing!

In addition to everything else, the top ticket-seller overall will win a \$100 gift certificate from Lakeside Tackle Shops!!

With the cancellation of the Spring Show for 1994, this "Cooler of Cheer" Raffle will probably be our biggest fund raiser of the year, and your club needs your support now in selling these Raffle tickets. Everyone should do their part!

Anyone needing additional tickets should contact Don Redmond at (313) 469-8344. Thanks to all for their help!!

Me and the GPS!

As most of the club members know, last spring the Detroit Area Steelheaders raffled off a hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS). There was one lucky winner – ME!

This instrument is terrific! The GPS is a precision electronic navigation aid (NAVAID). Learning how to use it became great fun. I put in way points around home, the office, K-Mart, Farmer Jack's, and the Total gas station.

The unit I won has all the features of your LORAN-C, plus alphanumeric fields – up to 6 letters or numbers for way points. Instead of having way point #27, just change it to Camp, K-Mart, Sptnik or Home, and you will never forget it. Some features of the

on board "Half R's" and keep it in my boat bag when I'm on another boat. It will give me my exact position (plus or minus 100 feet) anywhere on the face of the earth.

Since I'm running out of "prime" time, we decided to go out west in quest of the mighty Bull Elk. Anyone who has experienced sheer terror of being hopelessly lost in the wilds of Idaho at night while being only a mile or so from camp knows the value of a GPS. About three years ago, the Detroit Area Steelheaders had a drawing for a hand-held marine radio. There was one lucky winner – ME! Since my friend also has one, we planned to use them as Walkie-Talkies (illegal), but every pound is an anchor at 7,000-8,000 feet above sea level, so we left them at home.

Three of the four hunters in our party got elk licenses (can't be lucky all the time). In Wyoming the elk season starts a week before deer season, so I decided to fly out to Casper, Wyoming. If they had given me their latitude and longitude, I could have met them at base camp instead of the Casper airport. Unlike Idaho, getting lost is not a problem in this area of Wyoming, but I still recorded a camp way point and route to return. I also recorded where I shot my 4-point mule deer as Buck I, Robbie's as Buck II. Doe I, Doe II and Doe III were also recorded in the GPS (we had extra doe licenses). The area we were hunting had an elevation of about 7,000 feet above sea level, a fact confirmed by our topographic maps and my GPS.

On the way home, we stopped at Hole in the Wall to take pictures and place a way point. As we enjoyed the beauty of the area, it struck me that if the sheriff of the time had had a GPS, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid's history might be different.

The bottom line is that if you don't have a LORAN-C or are thinking of replacing an old LORAN unit, check out a GPS. They're great now, and will get better.

— "Lucky" Ron Huey
"Half R's"

P.S.: Buy lots of Detroit Area Steelheader raffle tickets. If you don't buy 'em, you can't win!



THE AUTHOR hefts a nice fish caught during one of last summer's tournaments.

GPS I use include:

- Altitude, date and time readings.
- Time of sunset and sunrise.
- Lists of 9 nearest way points within 100 miles.
- Map datum.
- Messages.
- Storing 10 routes of 20 way points (you can invert to find your way home).
- Navigating without a compass – just walk in a straight line and it will tell you your direction and speed.

I use the GPS as a backup for our LORAN

Catch and release – Boon or bane?

As a lifelong and passionate sportsman, I deplore competitive fishing. I am also bitterly opposed to the suggestion that anglers adopt a policy of catch-and-release. These practices will, I believe, prove fatal to the future of angling.

Times and customs are changing rapidly. In terms of sport, ten years ago seems an eternity. What we were doing then and may still be doing today is likely to be unacceptable tomorrow – that is, if we wish to retain our credibility as *sportsmen*. Unfortunately the meaning of “sport” is hopelessly blurred. As in general use by the media, “sport” covers not only field or “blood” sports, but athletics and competitive games as well. In my vocabulary, “sport” is clearly defined: it means *hunting* – whether with dogs, gun or rod. All other pursuits are *games*.

On those occasional bonanza days when fish are easy to catch, I stop fishing. This happened quite frequently in the days of plenty, 30 or 40 years ago, but, needless to say, it doesn't happen very often now.

In the name of conservation, a policy of catch-and-release has been suggested, and it is this that I deplore, not because I want to kill a lot of fish – I don't – but because, in the interests of angling, such a policy can only be self-defeating.

The ‘anti’ is an urticarial irritation, certainly, but it is the public vote that has the power to destroy the angler or, rather, to destroy his sport.

Fanciful? I don't think so.

Throughout Britain in various councils for this and committees for that, members opposed to field sports are ganging up against angling, as they have already done against hunting. Very soon they may be in a majority. And then . . . ?

Why give such people arguments that can only hurt angling? If I were an ‘anti’ I would be clapping my hands and following the catch-and-release crusade with glee. I would wait, silent in the wings, until the well-meaning but short-sighted anglers had pledged themselves and then strike.

If those members of various fishery associations that constitute the angling establishment continue with this crusade, that is what will happen. And when it does, they will have only themselves to blame. It will not concern me, for it will come after my time. But the thought of it concerns me, because everything I have written and filmed about angling has been done primarily to help younger people enjoy the freedom that I have enjoyed during my lifetime. All I am trying to do here is to ensure that they continue to have the chance of doing so.

I suggest that we look ahead and legislate with care, otherwise the ‘antis’ venom, which drip by drip is being injected into the innocent multitude, will (after dealing with hunting and shooting) be concentrated entirely on angling.

To act as a hunter (or sportsman) is one thing. To be a gamesman is entirely another. Well meant though it may be as a conservation measure, catch-and-release is very silly.

The only sensible form of conservation is abstinence – a self-imposed limit on one's catch. And to give them credit, a good many game anglers exercise this discipline, as I do myself.

Inspired by whatever motive, release as many fish as you wish, but don't *commit* yourself to doing so. *It*

is the policy of catch-and-release that leads to disaster, for it will strip away your credibility as hunters and your defense of hunting. You will no longer be sportsmen but rather gamesmen, and the hitherto neutral public will turn against you.

The days have gone when we can indulge our whims at the expense of the animals we hunt. If we persist in competitive fishing and establish catch-and-release fisheries – in other words treat animals as playthings – it will, I predict, ultimately result in the abolition of angling.

My argument has nothing to do with conservation. It is concerned with morality. As a *sport*, angling has a chance of survival. As a *game*, it is doomed.

— Hugh Falkus

A recent news item in the American Fisheries Society (AFS) publication, *Fisheries*, stated: “At a recent panel discussion during a convention of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, only one group, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), would openly admit to an anti-fishing platform . . . Rick Story, executive director of the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America (WLFA), cautions that fishers should not be lulled into complacency . . . One radical group calls sportfishing the biggest blood sport in Britain . . . In Germany, anti-fishing factions succeeded in passing a law that forbids the release of fish.” As AFS past president Carlos Fetterolf explained in a recent editorial, “Apparently their [‘artis’] philosophy is that fishing for food is okay, but catching fish for sport is wrong.”

We urge extreme caution on this issue. Editor
Reprinted from the *Great Lakes Basin Report*, October 15, 1993.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . .

CHRISTMAS MEETING IS SET FOR DECEMBER 14

The December meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14, and features Board of Director elections, awards presentations for “Skipper of the Year,” “Big Fish” contest, and the “Top 15,” and, of course, the annual visit of “Salmon” Claus! Plan to bring your entire family and friends!!

DINNER DANCE TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

Tickets for the 1994 Steelheaders Dinner Dance (February 12, 1994) remain on sale at \$50 per couple until January 1, 1994. After that, the price is \$60 per couple. Call Doug Karakas (545-1181) for your tickets.

ATTENDANCE PRIZE AGAIN GOES UNCLAIMED

For the third consecutive meeting, the Attendance Prize went unclaimed. Member Michael J. Tomlan's name was drawn at the October member meeting, but unfortunately, Mike wasn't present to claim the \$50 prize. Therefore, this month's prize is \$60! Be there – you must be present to win!

Coming Events

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of month at 7:30 p.m.

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

NOVEMBER 30, 1993 • DECEMBER 14, 1993 • JANUARY 25, 1994

PIERISURF & RIVER TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
December 4	AU SABLE RIVER	Doug Karakas, 545-1181
January 15	CLINTON RIVER	Doug Karakas, 545-1181
February 5	HIGGINS LAKE	Doug Karakas, 545-1181
March 5	W.A.T.A. (Tentative date)	Doug Karakas, 545-1181

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DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

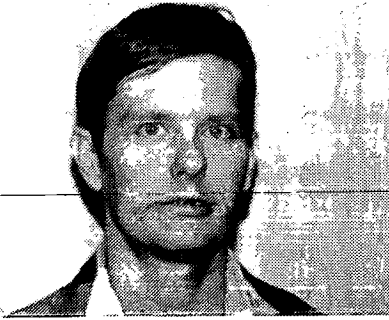
As in past years, ballots will be available *ONLY* to Detroit Area Steelheader members present at the Annual Meeting/Christmas Party, on Tuesday, December 14. There are six openings on our Board of Directors at this time, with a total of seven Steelheaders running for the seats. Ballots will be collected and counted during the meeting, and results announced near the end of the evening. We have a good field of candidates (see below) willing to stand up and help our club, so thanks to those who have chosen to run and good luck to all!

If you hadn't planned on attending this meeting, please think again. *ALL* members should plan to attend. Besides offering you a really fun evening with annual awards, "Salmon" Claus, etc., it's your chance to have real input into the future of your club. The seven outstanding fellow Detroit Area Steelheaders listed below are offering their time and talents to help better our club. How about doing your part by voting??? Please take the time to look them over, pick out your favorite candidates and show up on December 14 ready to cast an informed ballot for up to six candidates. We hope to see you all there!!

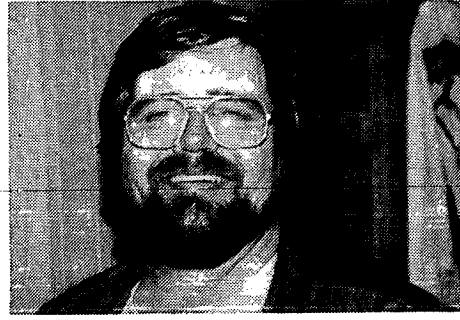
Election Candidates



LARRY BOYER — Has been a member for seven years, "will work at all Steelheader events."



ROBERT ELKING — Has "plenty of free time," would like to concentrate on two projects: "Promoting membership, especially to kids" and "achieving better representation for our club in Lansing."



DOUG KARAKAS — Member for many years, current board member and Vice President, chairman of River/Surf tournament, active boat troller, helps out with many club projects and activities.



BOB MITCHELL — Member for many years, current board member, past club president, works on many club activities, is a regular Boat Tournament competitor, won "Skipper of the Year" in 1986, 1988-1992.



PAUL NOWAK — Member for 6 1/2 years, active with club boat and river tournaments, "would like to help make the club better . . . I'm just a really nice guy!"



LEON VAN EDEN — Member for seven years, avid boat troller, works all shows, tries to help out at all club functions, would "strive to meet all objectives of the Detroit Area Steelheaders!"



ED WILCZEK — Member for 5 years, active boat troller, former board member, is concerned about "issues of the trout and salmon sport fishery."

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Two fishermen land one helluva halibut story!

UNALASKA, Alaska — Two water-soaked fishermen cracked a beer and traded high fives after heaving a 348-pound, 7-foot 1-inch halibut into their skiff.

"We were screaming and yelling, and knew we were going through something special," said Darryl Dossett, one of the heroic anglers.

Dossett and friend Rod Rushing had fished for about three hours on the morning of August 10 last summer before Rushing hooked the halibut near Priest Rock. He was using a jig and herring bait.

The fish peeled off approximately 400 yards of the 700 yards of line on Rushing's reel during its initial run and showed no signs of slowing down.

Dossett and Rushing chased the fish with their skiff, trying to get over it as it sought the depths. They both strapped on fighting belts to prevent the pole from digging into their skin as they took turns trying to pull it off the bottom.

"We were both shaking in our boots," Dossett said.

Using a fish sounder, Dossett tracked the depth and position of the fish as they prepared to harpoon the halibut once they were able to raise it to the surface. The harpoon's tip was fixed to a buoy by a 10-foot line.

As soon as it was hit, the halibut dove beneath the boat. The fish thrashed around on the surface, then dove deep, taking the buoy with it.



YOUNG JOHN MOORES shows off the catch of the day at this year's Lake Erie outing, a catfish that was not only the biggest catfish taken that day, but also the largest catfish caught at a boat tournament all season! Congratulations, John! Don't forget to tell "Salmon" Claus at the club Christmas Party exactly how you did it!

When it resurfaced, Dossett shot the halibut in the head with a .410 shotgun. Again the fish dove. Dossett and Rushing fought the fish for 45 minutes, shooting it in the head three more times before they were able to hoist it aboard their skiff.

"Halibut's like a 500-pound drunken sailor," said Dossett who has also fished marlin and other deep-sea fish.

"It's (halibut) is the funniest because it's so active. It fights like a maniac!"

Reprinted from **The Dutch Harbor Fisherman**.

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