

2000 Annual



# FISHING TALES

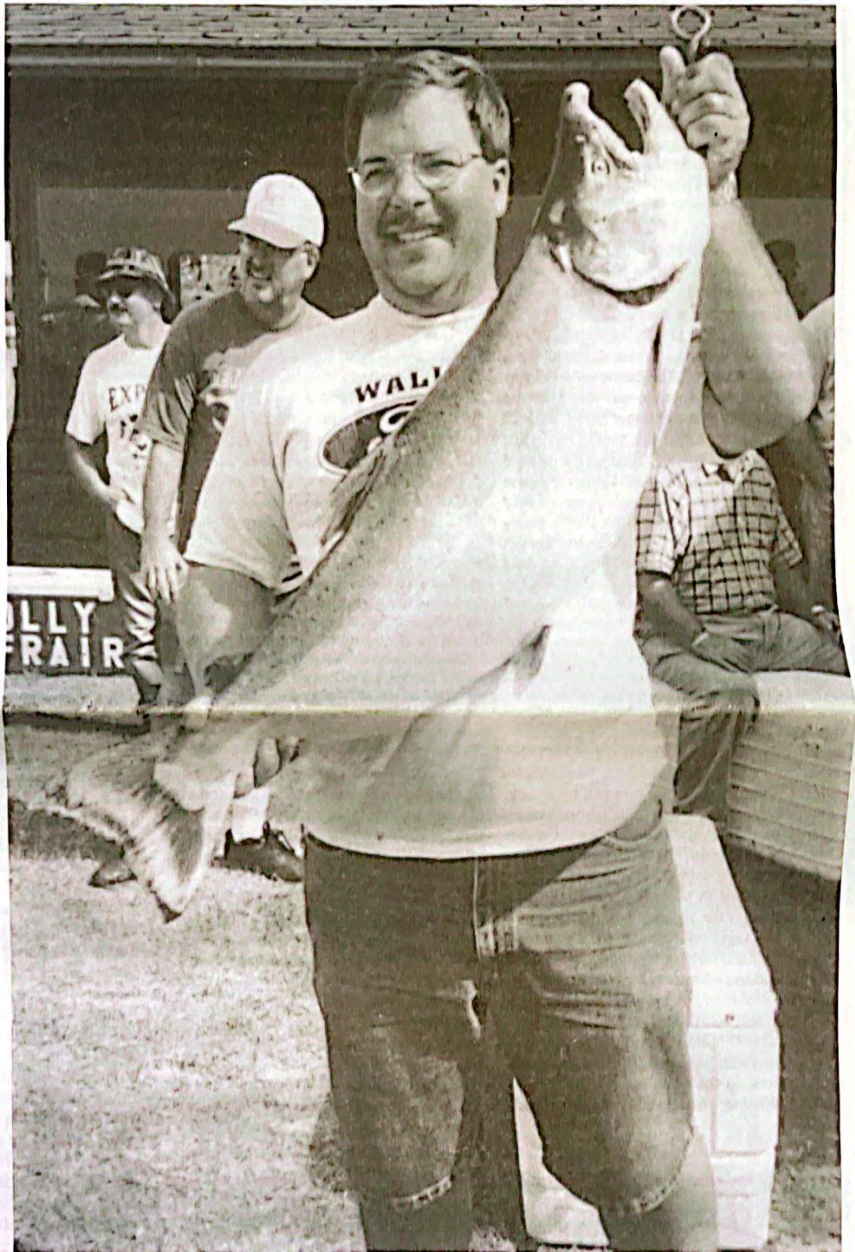


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2000 ANNUAL

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**MEETING NOTICE — PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!**

# President says 1999 was year he'll remember

The year 1999 was a year that I'll long remember. Not only did the members of this club re-elect me to another term as a member of the Board of Directors, but also the Board, for better or worse, elected me President of the Detroit Area Steelheaders. To triple the honor, I held the helm of our club through its twenty-fifth year. If you had half as much fun in 1999 as I did, then you had a great year, too!

January started out on a sour note when our scheduled guest speaker, Dennis Bidigare, broke his leg and was unable to speak at the general membership meeting. But thanks to some of the best fishermen in the club - Rob Golaszewski, Bob Mitchell, Chris Nytko, Don Redmond, Paul Schoenrade and Steve Hamilton, we had a lively talk on river and boat trolling techniques. After the talk, the guys invited members to pick their brains with a lively question-and-answer period. I want to thank all those skippers for jumping in at the last minute and pulling my butt out of the fire at my first meeting as president.

If you missed the Dinner Dance in February... shame on you. As in the past, this club put on a blast of a party. The theme for 1999 was Polish, and with food to die for, a roving accordion player at the dinner tables, a dance troupe of just the cutest kids, and all this in just the first two hours... well, you get the picture! Make sure you have the 2000 Dinner Dance at the top of your list - you won't regret it! I hear that Mary Karakas has a 1950's-1960's theme for 2000, and if you were there for the last 1950's-1960's theme Dinner Dance a few years ago, you know this is a must-attend. We had an outstanding time then, and you will this year!

We had a very busy February meeting. Justin Westmiller of the U.S. Coast Guard presented such topics as drinking and driving a boat, ice fishing safety, and more. Ted Lewicki spoke about an advanced Salmon fishing class he was sponsoring, taught by Captain Ron Levitan, and Mike Steffis from Big Jon discussed techniques and secrets for better fishing. Finally, Rob Hellser of the Blue Water Sport Fishing Association dropped by to talk about the upcoming River Crab Salmon Stakes charity tournament in April. Whew! It was a fast-paced night with lots of information delivered. I hope you were there.

March came in like a lion and stayed like that right into the membership meeting. We started the night with a swap meet featuring tackle, rods and reels, downriggers, GPS units, marine radios and more being bought and sold. Our speaker for the night was D.N.R. fishery biologist Jory Johna. She gave an outstanding talk on the D.N.R. strategy of reduced fish plants for 1999. She also discussed Steelhead populations in the Manistee and Muskegon rivers. Whether you agreed or disagreed with



TY VOIGT (L) poses for the camera with President Ray Banbury after receiving the Detroit Area Steelheader "Member of the Year" plaque last year. Ty was voted the award by the Board of Directors in recognition of all his work on behalf of the club during 1999.

the D.N.R. on plantings, everyone found her presentation very interesting and informative. We also had our first raffle. Raffle chairman Paul Colone put together a mighty tasty raffle prize of a gas barbecue grill, grilling utensils, cooking mitts and over \$100 worth of steaks. All I wanted to know was when's dinner?

If you listened to the weatherman the weekend of April 17, you missed some great fishing at Lexington, our first boat trolling tournament of the year. Even with the dire predictions of rain and high winds, 17 skippers made the early morning pre-fishing meeting, and by day's end, most of them caught fish. Paul Schoenrade and "Eagle II" took the early lead for "Skipper of the Year" with a nice catch of eight coho.

We enjoyed a visit from old friend Dave Even, a past president of the Detroit Area Steelheaders and winner of the 1998 River Crab, at our April meeting. Dave offered some time-tested advice on fishing the southern Lake Huron area and, specifically, the River Crab tournament. He also talked about the care, equipment, and techniques needed for the use of lead core line. Dave spent his summer vacation in 1998 working as the first mate on a charter boat, picking up a vast amount of fishing knowledge.

The River Crab tourney in late April was our second outing of the year and, to put it mildly, we took it on the chin. When it was all over, our club was on the losing end of the day's activities. The one bright spot was Captain Rob Pinskey and his winning 4.10-pound Brown Trout, and Doug Karakas with the biggest Coho of the day, a 3 1/4-pounder. There's always next year, I guess.

Our only outing in May was at Grand Haven, a port that has become very popular in the

last two years that we've been going there. With a great marina right in town, all kinds of things to see and do within walking distance, and good fishing to boot, this is a "Don't-Miss" port. Mark Stosiak and "Tomorrow's Dream" was the big winner of this one, with a striking winning catch of 79.01 points of Lake Michigan fish. Nice work, Mark and crew! Ed Hill and "Dredge," and Bob Jones and "Bobby's Toy" finished second and third, respectively.

The May membership meeting saw a video presentation, a great film about Steelhead fishing on the Manistee River produced by Dick Swan (who paid us a visit in October). The winner of that great barbecue raffle prize turned out to be Sue Koch, and when's the party??

June is the busiest month on our fishing calendar. First we headed for the tip of Thumb and Port Austin. Top finishers there included Joe Von Grabe and "Sloppy Joe" in third, Bob Ksionzek and "Last Dime" in second. Long-time member Joe Golaszewski and his crew aboard "My Treasure" took the top nod with a grade of 114.05 points. Great fishing, boys! The second day at Port Austin featured Team Doubles action, with the combo of "Blue Star" and "Mary K" taking the top spot with an impressive total of 146 points to round out a great fishing weekend.

The following week, the fleet headed for Lake Erie and our "Special People" Walleye Outing. To the 22 skippers and crews who lent their time, expertise and boats for this event, we say thanks. The 35 physically challenged people who fished with us went back to their schools talking about the Detroit Area Steelheaders. With the Walleye fishing, cookout afterward, trophy awards for everybody, and gift packs with plenty of fun for everyone, this event leaves a warm spot all our hearts long into the following winter. Would you like to take part in this very worthwhile event? Please consider volunteering your boat to take a new friend out for a morning's fishing. If you are without a

boat, you can crew, or work on shore putting the post-fishing party together so everyone has a great time. Please talk to any Board member, or to the man who does the lion's share of the work, Dick Shirk. We'll get you all set up!

Before I go on, I've got to tell you that our club was honored by the Monroe County Intermediate School District with its "Organization of the Year" award for 1999 for our "Special People" Outing. This award, presented at a banquet given by the Monroe Council for Exceptional Children, is a salute to our club that we can all take pride in, knowing our work is so well-received. The physically challenged people we take out on the annual trips might not otherwise experience the thrill and excitement of catching a fish on one of the Big Lakes. Hats off to you, Steelheaders!

Our next stop on the tournament road was Oscoda, and Ladies Day. The weather was great and the seas were just right, so everyone had a good time. When the scores were tallied, "Mary K" with overly exuberant crew members Adele Kuhar and Linda Banbury took third place, and "Lil' Scratch" and crew member Sandy Pabisz finished second. "Aquarius II" and her crew of Vickie, Margaret and Jenny Nytko, and Annette Younessi recorded the top catch of the day. This is one of our most popular events of the year, so if you can only attend a few, this should be one of them. And congratulations go to all the ladies who participated.

A big thanks goes to Doug Karakas for bringing his boat "Capt'n Hook II" to the June membership meeting, giving old and new members alike a look at how he sets up his boat for the various ports we fish. This kind of look at how someone else rigs his boat and fishes for various species will always give you a new perspective on how to achieve your goal of better fishing. A special award was presented to Board member Larry Boyer for his outstanding work for the "Special People" Outing. The hard work, and expense, that Larry and his dad Bob put forth for this event was above and beyond the call of duty. A hearty thank you and congratulations is in order for a job well-done!

Our July fishing outing schedule was light. We went back to Lake Erie for a Walleye outing, a non-tournament to give non-vacationing Steelheaders a chance to get together, do a little fishing, and have a little fun with family and friends.

The next event on the docket was the Presque Isle tournament. With hopes high for a great fishing weekend, about 20 boats made the trip upstate only to have a blow-out with high winds and seas. We've had very good luck with weather the last few years, but this time the Fish Fairy played a trick on us, and we had to go home empty-handed. When asked, Port Captain Mark Stosiak said, "For sure next year." Isn't he the one who said "For sure this year?"

The July membership meeting featured Captain Judy Ogen as guest speaker. A first-rate captain, Judy gave a fascinating talk on

Continued on Page Ten...

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# Detroit Area Steelheaders start second 25 years in 2000!

In 1999, the Detroit Area Steelheaders Inc. concluded its twenty-fifth year of existence. In 1974, the M.S.S.F.A. Board of Directors encouraged two of its own, John Makela and Tom Schneider, to start a chapter in the Detroit area. Joined by two other Steelheaders, Ed Raquel and Joe Sizemore, the resulting committee of four completed the formation of the Detroit Area Chapter late one night in September, 1974.

The first organizing meeting of the Detroit Area Chapter, M.S.S.F.A. (our club's original name) was held on October 16, 1974. Forty-one fishermen attended that first meeting, discussing elections, finances, committees, by-laws and, naturally, fishing. The first Annual Meeting was held on December 4, 1974, our official founding date. By the end of that first meeting, membership exceeded 100, 14 directors had been elected, and we were well on our way!

Early in 1990, we dissolved our affiliation with the M.S.S.F.A. to better pursue our goals of promoting, preserving and improving Steelhead and Salmon fishing in our state. We are now known as the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc., one of the largest independent fishing clubs in Michigan, and, we believe, **THE BEST!**

Formed as part of the mid-1970's Salmon and Steelhead fishing boom in Michigan, the organization continues its existence by working in many ways to promote and protect Great Lakes sport fishing. Community involvement has always been an important aspect of our club activities. Over the years, we've been involved in such activities as:

- Taking handicapped children on fishing trips (our annual Special People outings).
- Raising money for fisheries research at Michigan State University (including donating cash and equipment such as fish shockers, etc.).
- Donating money for fish cleaning stations, artificial fishing reef construction, etc.
- Contributing toward legal fees and expenses involved in the negotiating of Indian fishing rights and gill netting.
- Helping to raise money for mental health and child abuse prevention charities through consistent heavy participation in the annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament.
- Participating in various conservation projects.

As part of our club activities, we stage an extensive schedule of boat trolling, river and surf fishing tournaments, with the emphasis on sharing fishing knowledge, camaraderie and good times. We always include a Ladies Day boat trolling



**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS** know that fishing's more fun when you catch fish, and **THEY KNOW HOW TO CATCH 'EM!**

event for great family fun, and we offer a member hot line (the CREWS Hot Line) to match up boat skippers with would-be crew members in the club, so all who wish to can have the opportunity to share in the fishing fun.

Our monthly *Fishin' Tales* club newsletter is widely recognized as one of the finest in the state, and there are monthly meetings with great speakers, programs, and other activities. Meetings are usually held the last Tuesday each month.

With a current club membership of more than 200, we believe that we offer prospective members the best package of benefits available in a Salmon/Steelhead fishing organization. Come and join us in 2000, and **GET IN ON ALL THE FUN!!**

*FISHIN' TALES* is published monthly by the **DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.** Views expressed in it are those of the authors, and the Editor. Its purpose is to inform members of issues and events affecting sport fishermen, and to teach and guide the public to respect and appreciate our Great Lakes, rivers, other waters, and land.

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 Editor ..... **BOB MITCHELL**  
 Field Editor ..... **JOEL GARINGER**  
 Photographer ..... **CHRIS NYTKO**  
 Advertising ..... **BOB MITCHELL**

**DIRECTORS**  
 Linda Banbury ..... (248) 542-8007  
 Ray Banbury (President) ..... (248) 542-8007  
 Stan Bilek ..... (248) 828-4159  
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 Mary Karakas ..... (248) 545-1181  
 Ken Kuhar ..... (810) 949-4365  
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 Tom Moores ..... (248) 634-5789  
 Chris Nytko ..... (810) 786-0288  
 Don Redmond ..... (810) 469-8344  
 Dick Shirk ..... (810) 749-9493  
 Mark Stosiak ..... (810) 777-9833  
 Ed Wilczek (Secretary) ..... (810) 757-7365  
 Committee assignments for 2000 will be published in the next issue of *FISHIN' TALES*.

Submit all materials for publication to:  
**BOB MITCHELL, Editor**  
 6466 Parkview  
 Troy, Michigan 48098

**Here's how to get to DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS Monthly Membership Meetings**



## COMING EVENTS

### MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. K. of C. Hall, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren  
**JANUARY 25, 2000 • FEBRUARY 29, 2000 • MARCH 28, 2000**

### SPECIAL STEELHEADER EVENTS

- PONTIAC BOAT & FISHING SHOW** (Silverdome) **February 2-6**  
**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS ANNUAL DINNER DANCE** (St. Pius X K. of C. Hall, Warren) **February 12**  
**M.U.C.C. OUTDOORAMA** (Novi Expo Center) **February 25-March 5**  
**GREATER DETROIT SPORTFISHING & TRAVEL SHOW** (The Palace) **March 2-5**  
**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS SPORTSMAN'S DINNER** (Bishop Murray K. of C. Hall, Warren) **March 18**  
**STEELHEADER SWAP MEET \*** **March 28**  
 \* (Held in conjunction with March Membership Meeting at K. of C. Hall, Warren)

### BOAT TROLLING TOURNAMENTS

DATE	EVENT	PORT CAPTAIN
April 29	RIVER CRAB (Lexington/Pt. Sanilac)	Chris Nytko (810) 786-0288
May 6	ST. JOSEPH	Ken Kuhar, (810) 949-4365
May 20	GRAND HAVEN	Stan Bilek, (248) 828-4159
June 3	PORT AUSTIN (Team Doubles)	Ron Hartman, (248) 542-4873
June 17	SPECIAL PEOPLE OUTING (Lake Erie)	Dick Shirk, (810) 749-9493
June 24	HARRISVILLE (Ladies Day)	Doug Karakas, (248) 545-1181
July 29	ROGERS CITY	Joe Von Grabe, (810) 293-7688
August 12	LUDINGTON	Bob Mitchell, (248) 828-8034
August 26	MANISTEE	Mark Stosiak, (810) 777-9833
Sept 9	HARBOR	Ed Wilczek, (810) 757-7365

## Membership Application

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### ANNUAL DUES:

- New memberships & renewals under age 65 ..... \$ 25.00
- Renewals over age 65 ..... \$ 10.00
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# Detroit Area Steelheaders really GIVE!

During the first 25 years of its existence, our club, the Detroit Area Steelheaders, has contributed to numerous worthwhile causes which we believe serve our stated organizational goal of promoting and protecting Great Lakes Salmon and Trout fishing.

The following list of donations made by our club through the years may overlook some, but the overall impact is that Detroit Area Steelheaders really give!

- **August 1977 - Aquascope Depthfinder.** Donated to the Michigan D.N.R. Fisheries, Southeast Michigan.
- **1977 - Reworking fish ladder on Huron River at Flat Rock.** Detroit Area Steelheaders paid the costs for the D.N.R. Fisheries, Southeast Michigan.
- NOTE: From 1978 through 1984, the club had no funds left to donate after operations.**
- **June 1985 - \$500 Grant.** To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- **1985 - \$250 Legal Debt.** Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association.
- **October 1985 - \$500 Grant.** To Sanilac Steelheaders for Lexington Fish Cleaning Station.
- **April 1986 - \$250 Legal Debt.** Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association.
- **July 1987 - \$200 Legal Debt.** Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association.
- **1987 - Backpack Fish Shocker.** Donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- **September 1987 - \$800 Grant.** Proceeds from Detroit Area Steelheader cookbook

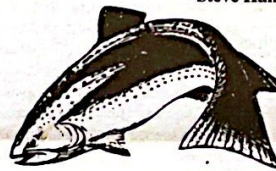
donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.

- **October 1988 - \$600 Legal Debt.** Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association.
- **September 1989 - \$500 Legal Debt.** Paid as a member club of the Michigan Salmon & Steelhead Fisherman's Association.
- **September 1990 - \$1,000 Grant.** To Blue Water Sport Fishing Association for reef construction.
- **September 1990 - Two Riviera Downriggers.** Donated to Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- **December 1990 - \$155 Grant.** To Northeast Michigan Steelheaders to fight Hammond Bay gill nets.
- **March 1991 - \$100 Grant.** To Northeast Michigan Steelheaders to fight Hammond Bay gill nets.
- **February 1992 - \$500 Grant.** To the Benzie County Fish Hatchery.
- **April 1992 - \$500 Grant.** To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- **May 1993 - \$250 Grant.** To the Benzie County Fish Hatchery.
- **June 1993 - \$500 Grant.** To Michigan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.
- **March 1994 - \$400 Grant.** To Michigan State University Betsie River Project.
- **March 1995 - \$100 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
- **July 1995 - \$250 Grant.** To the Blue Water Sport Fishing Association for Sarnia, Ontario Hatchery.
- **September 1995 - \$500 Grant.** To Michi-

gan State University Great Lakes Fisheries Research.

- **November 1995 - \$500 Grant.** To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
  - **September 1996 - \$100 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
  - **October 1996 - \$250 Grant.** To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
  - **April 1997 - \$300 Grant.** To the Manistee County Sportfishing Association for the Orsini Hatchery.
  - **December 1997 - \$200 Grant.** To the Ludington Area Charter Boat Association for their net pen project.
  - **December 1997 - \$250 Grant.** To the Grand Traverse Area Sportfishing Association to fight gill nets.
  - **July 1998 - \$250 Grant.** To the Ludington Area Charter Boat Association for their net pen project.
  - **August 1998 - \$200 Grant.** To the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council.
  - **December 1999 - \$3000 Grant.** To city of Port Sanilac for a new fish cleaning station.
- Detroit Area Steelheaders donations and grants to date total NEARLY \$15,000!!! We can all feel good about being Detroit Area Steelheaders because we are meeting our stated purpose to help the fishery!

— Steve Hamilton



# Fish within the limits!

You're having the day you've always dreamed of, with fish biting so fast you and your crew can't keep all the lines in the water. You've kept your limit and the day has just started.

At this point, what should you do? Quit and do something else? Go in, leave the fish on shore and come back out to catch more? Keep catching and putting them in the box, or try to hide fish on the boat? Keep catching them and release them?

Legally, there is only the first choice: to quit for the day. Catch and release is not legal if there already is a daily limit catch on the boat. Releasing fish should have started before the daily limit was killed. Going in and coming back out would most likely prevent you from getting a ticket, but you would still be exceeding the daily limit.

Daily fish catch limits are set by the Department of Natural Resources to protect the resource and spread the "total allowable catch" among all anglers. If anglers keep more than the limit, rationalizing that it's okay because they won't be able to fish the next day, or they haven't caught any in a while, or they haven't exceeded the limit before, then they are stealing fish from everyone else.

If very many people did this, then the resource would suffer. Most people don't believe our fisheries resources are unlimited. They know that if too many fish are killed, we all suffer. That's why we have Conservation Officers to check limits and help people remember to not succumb to temptation on their day of dreams.

Please respect the resource, and teach others to do so.

— Steve Hamilton

# Looking ahead to a great boat trolling tournament season in 2000!

With the completion of a successful 1999 boat trolling tournament season, the outlook for 2000 carries great promise.

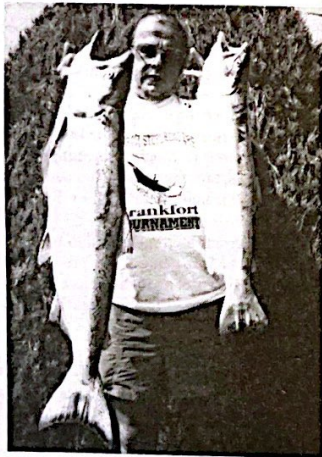
Early last December, the current top 15 Detroit Area Steelheader skippers gathered for a meeting to discuss possible changes to boat trolling rules and to set up the boat trolling tournament schedule for the forthcoming season.

The first tournament of 2000 will be the annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity tournament, held on April 29 on the lower portion of Lake Huron, and the St. Clair River. Not only does this tournament help a good cause, but the prize to club which weighs in the largest catch sure can come in handy. The River Crab tourney traditionally has featured the greatest participation by our club members, and we certainly hope to see another great turnout of Detroit Area Steelheaders at this year's event.

The second stop of the year will be at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor on the weekend of May 6. Although Coho Salmon are the main targets here at this time of year, the chance for some early spring Kings and Steelhead make this an especially exciting event. The warm water discharge off the Cook Nuclear Power Plant will usually hold fish. Also try the junk cars and chalets to the south, or north toward the clay banks.

Following St. Joseph, we will stay on the south end of Lake Michigan at the port of Grand Haven on May 20. This port has provided us with some fairly good fishing the last couple of seasons.

After Grand Haven, we return to Lake Huron to always-dependable Port Austin for the weekend of June 3. Saturday will be our regular individual boat tourney, followed on Sunday by the always-popular Team Doubles event. For the past several years, Port Austin



CHRISNYTKO enjoyed some fine fishing action during our club tournaments.

has proved to be one of the best for Lake Trout, but you can also target for King Salmon, and some Steelhead have been caught in the area by some of our club members in the past.

Our annual "Special People" Walleye Outing is scheduled for June 17 on Lake Erie, at Toledo Beach Marina. All our skippers are winners at this tourney... the rewards for this event come from seeing all the "special people" having such a great time!

For 2000, our highly popular Ladies Day tournament will be held at a new port for us, the town of Harrisville on Lake Huron on June 24. During the past couple of years, I have been receiving good fishing reports from this port, which also features a great new marina and other facilities.

If you like big Kings, you will not want to

miss our tournament at Rogers City on July 29. You can expect to find some really large King Salmon off Adams Point south, and Forty Mile Point north, of Rogers City.

Next, it's back to Lake Michigan and the port of Ludington on August 12. Last year, the fishing at Ludington was superb, with plenty of hot action found between the Bath House and the Lighthouse.

Late August will find us back in western Michigan, at Manistee on August 26. This port usually delivers a nice variety of fish, and, occasionally, a record-sized Coho Salmon! The best areas are south off Gurney's Creek, off the clay banks, and all the way along the 90-foot ledge.

The final event of our "Y2K" Boat Trolling Tournament season will take place on Septem-

ber 9 at Harbor Beach. We decided to return to this port for some fall-run King Salmon action. You may also find some Brown Trout and Steelhead at that time of the year there.

There will be information packets available for each event, containing maps, charts and contacts to assist you in making your fishing outings more successful and enjoyable. I hope all of you will be able to participate to help make the 2000 season our best one for all Detroit Area Steelheader skippers and their crew members.

I wish you all a safe and successful fishing season. Good luck to all our members, and I hope to see you on the Great Lakes of Michigan in 2000.

— Chris Nytko  
Boat Trolling Chairman

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# Battered Great Lakes set stage for Salmon fishery

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Dr. Howard Tanner, regarded as the "father" of the Great Lakes Salmon fishery, is a former Director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (D.N.R.), fisheries chief, and professor at Michigan State University. This column is reprinted from the *North Woods Call*, December 15, 1999, and was distributed by the Conservation News Service.

By Dr. Howard Tanner

The Great Lakes emerged from beneath the retreating glaciers of the last Ice Age less than 15,000 years ago. As the ice retreated, various species of fish began to arrive. Most of the 160 species we consider native to the Great Lakes came via the Mississippi River system, while about 20 percent arrived from streams tributary to the Atlantic Ocean.

For centuries, sparse populations of native people harvested fish for personal consumption without affecting their abundance. Their fishing efforts were limited to using fragile, primitive nets and canoes.

Following the War of 1812, a tide of European settlers arrived. Many had long-established traditions of commercial fishing, using large, sturdy boats and efficient, durable nets. They fished for the market, with the means to preserve fish and ship them great distances.

Boats increased in size. First steam, then gasoline and diesel replaced arm and wind power. Steel replaced wood. Nets became more sophisticated as nylon, then monofilament, replaced cotton.

In less than 100 years, unrestricted fishing threatened the destruction of once-stable fish populations.

Over-harvesting was only one factor that contributed to decline of the fish populations. European settlers quickly stripped the land of forests. Wetlands were drained and filled. Dams kept fish from spawning habitat in most streams. Industrial and urban pollution became a factor.

With settlement came canals. In 1828, the Welland Canal opened the upper four Great Lakes to the ocean, bringing the American eel, alewife and infamous sea lamprey to our freshwater seas. Other non-native species were deliberately introduced, including carp, Rainbow and Brown Trout, and smelt. By 1940, Pacific Salmon had been introduced 35 times without success. These "exotic" species all played a part in collapse of the whole community of Great Lakes fishes.

The commercial harvest peaked in the 1890's, steadily declining after that. The eruption of sea lamprey in the 1940's and 1950's doomed already greatly suppressed Whitefish, Lake Trout and burbot.

Without Lake Trout predation to keep them in check, alewife numbers rocketed. By 1966, alewives made up 95 percent, by weight, of the fish in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. They overwhelmed most surviving perch.

In the relatively short span of less than 150 years, rapacious, unrestricted commercial fishing, non-native species and habitat deteriora-



THESE HAPPY DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS would surely like to offer a hearty "Thank you" to Dr. Howard Tanner for his brilliant vision in

tion had doomed a fish community that had thrived for aeons.

Commercial fishermen, with few exceptions, were "on the beach," with little left to fish for. The sport fishery had virtually disappeared.

But there were signs that recovery was possible. The emerging science of fisheries began to unlock the formula on which to base good fisheries management. International co-operation developed with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Control of the sea lamprey was being attempted. Most promising of all the factors was the burgeoning understanding of nature and the magnitude of past mistakes.

The changes necessary to restore the vitality of the Great Lakes fishery were at hand.

It would take bold innovation and rebuilding almost from scratch. But the science and resources were on the threshold. Finding the dollars, will, and political climate to meld them together was the challenge.

Experiments with chemical lamprey treatment succeeded. A new Lake Trout hatchery along the Jordan River could produce millions of young fish for restocking.

However, a clash developed in the formative stage of implementing this strategy. Federal officials in the U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries based in Ann Arbor had - due to default on the part of the states - been calling the shots on Great Lakes fish management for decades. Under its jurisdiction, the resource was managed as a commercial fishery. These officials pressed to maintain their control. Their vision was to "turn back the clock," using native species exclusively, meaning Lake Trout.

While Michigan fisheries officials sanctioned restoring Lake Trout, they had a broader vision, and exerted their authority over the 41 percent of Great Lakes waters within the state's borders. They foresaw a thriving sport fishery benefiting far more people than a return to a fishery dominated by nets.

This required money and control. The Legislature bought into the plan and, for the first time, required Great Lakes fishermen to buy fishing licenses. When the smoke cleared, the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries had vanished. Michigan biologists were now in command. The gill nets that had ravaged the lakes were being phased out.

In October 1964, we learned that Oregon and surplus Coho Salmon eggs. We pounced, obtaining 1,000,000 eggs.

We calculated that the alewives that had overwhelmed the lakes were just the thing to feed ravenous young Salmon. We saw this as a 'one-two punch,' bringing alewives under control, while at the same time producing the most exciting freshwater sport fishery in the world.

In the early spring of 1966, our hatcheries had 650,000 five- to seven-inch Coho ready for stocking. A half-million went into the Platte River and Bear Creek, Lake Michigan tributaries. Another 150,000 went into Lake Superior's Big Huron River.

By the late summer of 1967, anglers were coming ashore with the biggest fish they had ever creeled. In 1968, the even-larger Chinook, or King Salmon, were added to the mix. The die-offs of alewives that had closed beaches were becoming a memory.

The ledgers still chronicle it as the most dramatic 'coup' in fisheries history.

The other Great Lakes states followed Michigan's lead in making sport fishing their top priority, introducing Salmon and Brown and Rainbow Trout on top of recovering Lake Trout populations. As a result, according to estimates, the Great Lakes sport fishery now contributes \$4-6 billion per year to the economy.

Another bonus is that the resurgent fishery stimulated public support for clean water, and habitat restoration and protection.

## SALMON SMOKING

This recipe has been a favorite of club members over the years. It will make enough to smoke about 10 pounds of fish.

### BRINE INGREDIENTS

- 1 quart Water
- 2 cups Brown Sugar
- 1 cup Kosher Curing Salt
- 1 cup Rock Salt
- 1/4 tsp. Pepper
- 2 capsful Lemon Juice
- 2 Bay Leaves
- 5 shakes Onion Salt
- 5 shakes Garlic Salt

**NOTE:** Be sure to mix these ingredients in a crock, or a glass or Tupperware container ONLY.

### BRINING METHOD

Place the fish in a crock, or Tupperware or glass container skin side up and cover with brine. Place something on top of the pieces of fish to hold them down under the surface of the brine (do NOT use anything made out of metal!). Cure the fish in the brine for five to six hours. Thoroughly rinse each piece of fish separately in cold water, and then air on paper toweling for one hour with the skin side down. At this time, plug in your smoker to pre-heat it. The fish will get a tacky glaze on the outside of the flesh when it is ready to place into the smoker.

### SMOKING METHOD

Arrange the fish pieces on racks skin side down, with thick pieces on the bottom racks and thinner ones toward the top of the smoker. The pieces should not touch each other. Do not oil the racks. Smoke the fish for five to six hours. Place one pan of apple wood chips in the smoker every 90 minutes. Use a total of three pans of wood only. Chill the fish to room temperature before placing in refrigerator or freezer.

- Roger Rice

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for the  
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FISHIN' TALES  
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CREWS HOT LINE is a service for Detroit Area Steelheader members

# Getting started fishing the Great Lakes for Salmon & Trout

You just went on your first Great Lakes Salmon charter or you helped crew a buddy's boat. Now the fishing bug has bitten, and you find yourself thinking, "I want to fish for Salmon on my own boat!" The very next thought you have is, "What tackle do I need?"

Fishing for Salmon and Trout on the Great Lakes requires specialized equipment. Sure, you can catch a Salmon on Bass or Walleye gear, but sooner or later you'll go toe to fin with a big King, and you'll have your first tackle lesson.

Buy good stuff! If you just go out and buy the cheapest equipment you can find, it will cost you more in the long run. Find out what the "right stuff" is and buy it. You'll be better off.

## RODS & REELS

Let's start with rods and reels. For Salmon, Lake Trout and Steelhead on the Big Lakes, you need big equipment. Most Steelheaders use rods that are about 8'6" in length. Buy four to six graphite rods from a reputable manufacturer. The rod action should be light to medium. My personal favorite is a Shakespeare Ugly Stick, but they will cost about \$50 each. You can buy adequate rods for about half that price, and you may even find some on clearance for around \$20.

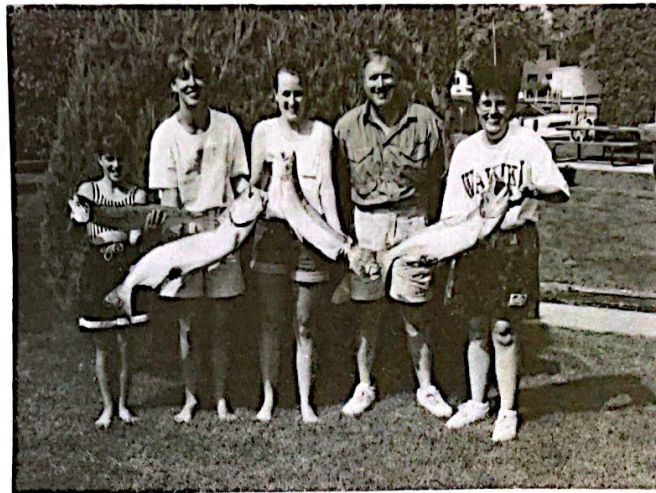
Buy good reels. A big King can easily steal all your line if you are using a cheap reel, burning up the reel drag in the process. Good reels will probably cost about \$50 each. I'd suggest the Daiwa #47H, Daiwa #47LC line counter, Shimano #GT2000, or Penn #GTI320. Cheaper reels are often hard on your line, too. Lots of guys buy Penn #209's, but those have a bad habit of allowing the line to get between the spool and frame, cutting it in the process.

It's better to buy a quality used reel than to buy a cheap new one. Buy cheap reels and when you finally decide you want good ones (and you will decide that eventually!), your cheap ones will be worthless. Buy good reels and if you decide you want to go back to bluegill fishing, someone will buy them from you. In the end, good reels are the least costly.

## LINE

Use fresh line. I spool new line every year. This might be considered overkill, but line is cheap in the overall scheme of things. Buy a bulk spool of name-brand line: Stren, Berkley Trilene XT, Ande, or Silver Thread. Most guys will use 20-pound test line. I'll occasionally go to 17-pound test.

Try 30-pound Trilene Solar on Dipsy Divers. It makes it really easy to see exactly where your



**SKIPPER BOB MITCHELL** and his "Kemo" crew are a familiar sight at Detroit Area Steelheader tournaments. Pictured here with Bob are Christy and Linda Mitchell and Leslie and Carrie Gilbert.

lines are. For the past year I have also been using the new Spectra braided lines (i.e., Spider Wire) on my Dipsys. They are 50-pound to 75-pound test with the diameter of 20-pound to 25-pound test monofilament. I really like them for Dipsys, which are much easier to trip with the no-stretch Spectra. However, some guys don't like them. I'm really interested in testing the new fluorocarbon lines for leader material. Stay tuned!

## LURES

Guys waste more of their money buying lures than anything else. Lots of fishermen have tackle boxes stuffed full of "secret" lures that were used once and have been rusting ever since. Don't buy cheap lures. They'll end up sitting in your tackle box. It is better to spend \$3 per spoon on proven lures than to spend \$1.50 on a spoon you use once.

## SPOONS

Spoons are the most versatile lures. I have great confidence in several manufacturers of spoons. I'd recommend Silver Streaks, NK 47's, or Northport Nailers. Pro spoons are favored by a number of Steelheaders. The Silver Streaks and NK's are silver-plated, which is important, especially if you're fishing deep. Silver reflects blue light better than chrome,

and blue light penetrates deeper than other colors.

Spoons run best at a specific speed. Different brands often run best at different speeds. For that reason, it is best to stick with one or two brands and buy a variety of colors, rather than mixing and matching brands. Otherwise, you will be fishing one brand of spoon running at its optimum speed, while another brand will not be running at its optimum speed.

As for colors, I'd suggest silver-plated spoons accented with greens and/or yellows as the first choice. Be sure to include reds or oranges if you plan to target Steelhead. A couple of blacks with red tape and white or pearl should round out your selections. Also, when you go fishing, take the time to walk the docks and see which colors are hanging from poles on the top boats.

## PLUGS

The next group of lures to consider is plugs. These are used mainly in the spring, when fishing shallow. If you have walleye baits such as Rapalas, they will suffice. If not, I'd suggest getting a selection of Long A Bombers. You never know which colors will turn out to be hot on a given day, but chartreuse, pearl, Wonderbread (white with multi-colored dots), and gold with an orange back are good starters. Remove the front hook and they will snag less

on the bottom. Hot-N-Tots are also good choices, especially in magnums or regular sizes in silver plate or gold plate.

For the fall, you may want to try some J-Plugs. They haven't been that popular lately, but they do work in August and September for big Kings. I'd suggest chrome #4 Silver Bullets, gold plate, or lime green. For fishing the pier heads, I prefer a black J-Plug or two. Keep your eyes open. You can often find J-Plugs for \$2 when they used to cost \$5. I have faith in J-Plugs because they are used by West Coast commercial fishermen. They still work!

## FISHING "JUNK"

The last category of equipment is what I call "junk." These are lures and attractors you will need for mid-summer Lake Trout fishing, and for Kings when they are really deep: 80'-100'. There are a number of specialized rigs, but, in my opinion, the Number One rig is the dodger and squid combination. My first choice is the Luhr Jensen chrome fluted dodger in the "0" size. White dodgers with pearl tape are also good. The Number One squid is Richey's Michigan Glow Squid. That combo will work 90% of the time. You can buy lots of other colors of dodgers and squids, but I bet you will run that setup most of the time.

Another lure to get to run behind dodgers for Lake Trout is the Spin-N-Glow. Get the big ones in chartreuse/red, white with dots, or green chrome. Last, cow bells sometimes out-produce dodgers. I like the real big ones (J & N's) trolled at a speed of 1 knot.

You will still need other miscellaneous items. Buy quality swivel snaps. Don't try to save 50 cents on swivels and end up losing \$10 worth of lures. Buy various-sized rubber core sinkers to use with flat lines. Be sure to check each sinker to make sure it doesn't have a sharp edge that will cut or nick your line.

Buy several in-line side planer boards. My favorites are the Offshore Side-Planers, but many guys use Yellow Birds. These are great in the spring, or offshore for Steelhead. Buy a pair of Luhr Jensen Dipsy Divers; I prefer the big size with rings. Run them off to the side set on 1/2, or 2. They will add to your ability to run more lines and sometimes they will prove to be the hot setup.

This list should help you to get started. Be sure to talk to other guys in our club. Ask them to point out their personal "hot" colors. Then get ready, because that big King is ready to take you on!

- Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"

## 1999 BIG FISH STANDINGS

### KING SALMON

SKIPPER	BOAT	WEIGHT	TOURNAMENT
1) Doug Karakas	"Capt'n Hook II"	27 lbs, 6 oz.	Manistee
2) Mary Karakas	"Capt'n Hook II"	24 lbs, 7 oz.	Manistee
3) Ron Huey	"Half R's"	22 lbs., 14 oz.	Ludington

### COHO SALMON

SKIPPER	BOAT	WEIGHT	TOURNAMENT
1) Dave Staniczewski	"Eagle III"	29 lbs, 1 oz.	Manistee
2) Dick Shirk	"Lil' Scratch"	19 lbs, 10 oz.	Ludington
3) Ron Huey	"Half R's"	14 lbs., 10 oz.	Ludington

### STEELHEAD

SKIPPER	BOAT	WEIGHT	TOURNAMENT
1) Denis Harper	River Tournament	13 lbs, 9 oz.	Manistee
2) Rob Pinsky	"Anticipation"	10 lbs, 12 oz.	River Crab
3) Bob Buero	"Mickey Mouse Club"	10 lbs., 4 oz.	Manistee

### LAKE TROUT

SKIPPER	BOAT	WEIGHT	TOURNAMENT
1) Dave Schatzberg	"Rolling And Trolling"	18 lbs, 0 oz.	Port Austin
2) Darwin Gregg	"Returner"	15 lbs, 8 oz.	Port Austin
3) Bob Ksionzek	"Last Dime"	14 lbs., 7 oz.	Port Austin

### BROWN TROUT

SKIPPER	BOAT	WEIGHT	TOURNAMENT
1) Bob Jones	"Bobby's Toy"	12 lbs, 4 oz.	Grand Haven
2) Tom Moores	"Kare Free"	6 lbs, 15 oz.	Ludington
3) Stan Bilek	"Blue Star"	6 lbs., 8 oz.	Ludington

## Biggest fish of first 25 years are impressive

Over the past 25 years, the Detroit Area Steelheaders have caught a lot of fish in tournaments on and around the Great Lakes. They have also caught a lot of BIG FISH! In checking the records of official club tournaments, we compiled a list of the biggest fish of the past.

Of particular interest is the Coho Salmon category. The 13-pound, 14-ounce Coho caught by Leslie Gilbert aboard Bob Mitchell's "Kemo" in 1992 was the biggest one caught in the state of Michigan that year. Impressive as that feat was, however, our nomination for the top fish caught in the first 25 years of our club's history has to be a Coho Salmon caught by Dave Staniczewski last year, fishing aboard Paul Schoenrade's "Eagle III" at Manistee on August 28. This monster, pictured on the cover of this issue, tipped the scale at 29 pounds, 1 ounce, and is one of the heaviest Cohos ever caught! Listed below are the top three fish by species, year caught, and skipper.

-Steve Hamilton

### KING SALMON

1) Terry Cholette	30 lbs., 12 oz.	1980
2) Ron Hartman	28 lbs., 5 oz.	1989
3) Tom Moores	27 lbs., 4 oz.	1993

### COHO SALMON

1) Paul Schoenrade	29 lbs., 1 oz.	1999
2) Dick Shirk	19 lbs., 10 oz.	1999
3) Ron Huey	14 lbs., 10 oz.	1999

### STEELHEAD

1) Ron Huey	16 lbs., 4 oz.	1993
2) Mike Boroniec	15 lbs., 14 oz.	1984
3) Bob Mitchell	15 lbs., 8 oz.	1991

### LAKE TROUT

1) Paul Colone	20 lbs., 2 oz.	1997
2) Bob Mitchell	19 lbs., 0 oz.	1994
3) Doug Mondt	18 lbs., 6 oz.	1996

### BROWN TROUT

1) Gary Gray	13 lbs., 14 oz.	1981
2) Gene Muczinski	12 lbs., 9 oz.	1986
3) Bob Jones	12 lbs., 4 oz.	1999

**Viewpoint**

**Top Detroit Area Steelheader anglers of first 25 years**

One look at the list of past "Skipper of the Year" winners (see Page Eight) and it's obvious our club has produced a long list of accomplished fishermen. So, picking the best of our first 25 years is a tough assignment, since so many skippers deserve recognition for their accomplishments.

It has often been said that the Detroit Area Steelheaders have the best fishermen in the state. In my opinion, that is because we don't have a home port. We fish all over the state as we follow the fish around. That means to be a successful fisherman, you have to be diversified, catching Kings, Cohos, Lakers or Steelhead as the situation dictates, and you have to know techniques that will be successful spring, summer or fall. One of the best statements I have ever heard on the subject came from Captain Jerry Lee, who said "Consistency is what is needed to be a top skipper. Just about anyone can catch fish some of the time." That said, here's my list of Detroit Area Steelheader fishing all-stars of our first 25 years.

**• Best Skipper: Jerry Lee, skipper of "Sea Screw."** Jerry was a three-time "Skipper of the Year" winner (1978-1980), and would no doubt have won even more times had he not turned pro. He is one of the best-known skippers on the Great Lakes, having been in many cable television shows, magazine articles, and newspaper reports. Jerry was the skipper that later award winners patterned themselves after, including Bob Mitchell and Dave Even. He represents Lowrance, and continues to be a top placer in money tournaments all over the Great Lakes. In addition, Jerry is a top Walleye charter captain and river fisherman.

**• Most Dominant Team: "Least Likely" - Bob Kanas, Ed Yankoski, Brian Glaser.** In 1984, this crew won every tournament scheduled - not just the overall. I said first in every tournament! That accomplishment takes tremendous skill and just a little bit of luck. Incidentally, they did it without a super big boat or exotic equipment. They relied on great "fish sense" and knowing what to do when. There is even a color of Spin-In-Glow lures named for them, the Least Likely (metallic) Green, for their dominance at Port Austin. I doubt this record will ever be equalled. It just takes too many stars in perfect alignment.

**• Most Consistent Team: "Kemo" - Bob Mitchell and Bob Gilbert.** This team dominated tournaments from 1986-1992, winning seven "Skipper of the Year" titles in that span including a record five consecutive awards. Dave Even, 1995 "Skipper of the Year," summed it up: "They never screwed up."

**• Best River Fisherman: Ed Yankoski.** Some people swear that Ed has gills. Whatever the case, this guy can flat out catch fish in a river! Ed dominated river tournaments in the both '80's and '90's. Spinners, bobbers, nightcrawlers, spawn . . . Ed did it all. He was also a crew member of the "Least Likely" crew above.

**• Best Light Liner: Steve Hamilton.** Steve has placed high in many tournaments, usually fishing only two rods with light line. He shuts down when he hooks up and "enjoys the fight." Steve proves you don't have to have a big boat and run lots of rods to have fun and be competitive.

**• Best Father/Son Combo: Joe Golaszewski and son Rob.** Joe was "Skipper of the Year" in 1994, and Rob won in 1997. It would be hard to say which is the best fisherman, so I'll just give the nod to Joe out of respect for elders. This pair is proof positive that fishing is a family sport, and if you want your kids to grow up right, take them fishing. By the way, watch out for Rob's son in 15-20 years.

**• First Skipper: John Makela, "Sisu."** The first year of recorded tournaments was 1976, and the winner that year was John Makela. He was a great teacher to future skippers and a great guy. Other 1976 notables include runner-up Murrel Blackburn and third place finisher Chuck Cartwright of Silver Streak fame.

**• Closest Finish: 1999, Stan Bilek and Chris Nytko.** Many times, the "Skipper of the Year" contest has been tight, but none tighter than last year, which ended in the first tie in history.

- Editor

**1999 "SKIPPER OF THE YEAR" Final Standings - Best 5 of 9**

PLACE & SKIPPER	BOAT	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	Total
1) MARK STOSIAK	"Tomorrow's Dream"	2	9	1	19	16	50	75	7	2	21
1) STAN BILEK	"Blue Star"	7	7	10	5	4	50	1	17	4	21
3) CHRIS NYTKO	"Aquarius II"	11	50	6	7	1	50	6	10	6	26
4) DICK SHIRK	"Lil' Scratch"	8	13	4	10	2	50	7	6	50	27
5) PAUL SCHOENRADE	"Eagle III"	1	50	12	14	13	50	9	3	7	32
6) BOB BUERO	"Mickey Mouse Club"	10	3	8	20	5	50	75	9	10	35
7) KEN KUJAR	"Mary K"	6	4	50	22	3	50	14	14	18	41
8) DOUG KARAKAS	"Capt'n Hook II"	75	16	13	11	50	50	75	2	1	43
9) ROBERT GOLASZEWSKI	"Lucky Falcon"	50	50	5	13	7	50	2	75	17	44
10) HOWARD YORK	"Golden Oldie"	5	75	7	21	17	50	8	13	12	45
11) JOE VON GRABE	"Sloppy Joe"	13	50	50	3	75	50	13	15	8	52
12) RON HARTMAN	"Molly Frair"	50	50	11	11	9	75	15	12	11	54
13) ED HILL	"Dredge"	50	19	3	23	10	75	50	16	16	64
14) DAVE EVEN	"Teacher's Pet"	12	10	75	75	6	75	11	50	75	89
15) DARWIN GREGG	"Returner"	9	50	50	6	20	50	50	50	9	94
16) DAVE ROEHR	"Loki One"	3	17	50	15	11	75	75	75	75	96
17) JOE GOLASZEWSKI	"My Treasure"	75	50	75	1	15	75	75	75	3	144
18) TOM MOORES	"Kare Free"	75	5	75	75	75	75	5	4	75	164
19) CHUCK NUTTING	"Just Once"	75	50	9	18	75	75	75	75	14	166
20) TY VOIGT	"Tyger"	75	75	50	17	75	50	50	18	75	185
21) ED WILCZEK	"Steelie Ed"	75	12	75	50	12	50	75	75	75	199
22) RON MASCHKE	"The Brat"	75	75	50	50	19	75	75	75	15	209
23) ROB PINSKEY	"Anticipation"	75	14	75	4	75	50	75	75	75	218
24) DON ANTON	"Happy Bare"	75	50	75	75	75	75	12	8	75	220
25) CAPT. RON HUEY	"Half R's"	75	50	75	75	75	75	3	19	75	222
26) BOB JONES	"Bobby's Toy"	4	75	2	75	75	75	75	75	75	231
27) LARRY WALTER	"Hawkeye"	75	75	75	75	8	75	75	75	5	238
28) PAUL COLONE	"The Kidd"	75	11	75	75	75	75	75	5	75	241
29) MIKE LEHTO	"Capias"	75	15	75	75	75	75	10	75	75	250
30) GARY RUPRICH	"Rupe"	75	50	75	75	75	75	4	50	75	254
31) GREG ZACCARDELLI	"Nauti-Buoy"	75	50	75	75	75	50	75	75	13	263
32) DICK JACKSON	"Voyageur"	75	75	75	75	14	50	75	50	75	264
33) DAVE SCHATZBERG	"Rolling 'N Trolling"	75	75	50	16	75	75	75	75	50	266
34) GASPHER RANDAZZO	"Nothing But Trouble"	75	1	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	276
35) DENIS HARPER	"Lady's Choice"	75	75	75	8	75	75	75	75	50	283
36) DANIEL DIMA	"Taz"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	1	75	301
37) LOU BACSIKIN	"Crews Inn"	75	2	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	302
37) BOB KSIONZEK	"Last Dime"	75	75	75	2	75	75	75	75	75	302
39) WARREN RENANDO	"Greyhound"	75	6	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	306
40) DON REDMOND	"Trena Dawn"	75	8	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	308
41) HANK BACZYNSKI	"Sinsation"	75	75	75	9	75	75	75	75	75	309
42) DAVE PRUDHOMME	"Trout About"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	11	75	311
43) RICK VANDER MEIDEN	"Reel Work"	75	75	14	75	75	75	75	75	75	314
44) LEON VAN EDEN	"Bullhead"	75	75	75	75	18	75	75	75	75	318
44) MARK BRADLEY	"Marken' Fish"	75	18	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	318
46) RICHARD KITTLE	"Spoda B"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	19	319
47) WALT POHORILY	"Main Squeeze"	50	75	75	75	75	50	75	75	75	325
48) DANNY COLOMBE	"Atlantis"	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	75	75	350
48) LES JUMP	"Alice's Angler"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) BILL HOFFMAN	"Steelie"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) GILBERT PIESCZAK	"Blue Angler"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) BOB LONG	"Grandpa's Stock"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) BRUCE TUFFORD	"Reel Easy"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) JOEL GARINGER	"Fishbusters"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) RON KOSCIELSKI	"Flo 'N Sweet"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) GREG MCCANN	"Three Hour Tour"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) VERN FAHRENKRUG	"Hot Dog"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) BOB MITCHELL	"Kemo"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	75	350
48) KEN CIONE	"Trapshooter"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) LARRY SEIB	-	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) ROB PRATCSHLER	"Long Haul"	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	75	75	350
48) RICHARD WONG	"Lucky Drag-On"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) ROBERT BRESLER	"Oh Father"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	350
48) DALE LUFF	"One More"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) JIM FITCH	"Pat-A-Wac"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) GEORGE DANIELS	"Reel Expression"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) ROB TAYLOR	"Shiloh/Red October"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) RICHARD GRIX	"Susan B"	75	50	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	350
48) LYNN MARTIN	"Twin Lynns"	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	50	350

A = Lexington B = River Crab C = Grand Haven D = Port Austin E = Oscoda F = Presque Isle G = Ludington H = Manistee J = Harbor Beach

**1999 TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

Tournament & Date	King Salmon	Lake Trout	Brown Trout	Steel-head	Coho Salmon	Total Catch	Total Boats	Avg. Fish /Boat	Total Hrs. Fished	Total Hrs. /Fish
LEXINGTON (4-17-99)	25	0	0	0	14	39	17	2.29	136	3.483
GRAND HAVEN (5-15-99)	34	5	0	2	1	42	21	2.00	168	4.000
PORT AUSTIN (6-5-99)	10	167	2	0	0	179	26	6.88	208	1.167
OSCODA (6-26-99)	16	36	5	0	0	57	21	2.71	168	2.950
LUDINGTON (8-14-99)	36	1	2	2	21	62	20	3.10	160	2.583
MANISTEE (8-28-99)	53	4	7	3	28	95	24	3.96	192	2.017
HARBOR BEACH (9-11-99)	50	0	5	2	4	61	24	2.54	192	3.150
<b>1999 TOTALS</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>1224</b>	<b>2.764</b>

NOTE: Above totals are for seven tournaments, excluding the River Crab (figures not available) and Presque Isle (cancelled due to weather) tournaments

# Detroit Area Steelheaders "Top Five" Skippers

1976-1999

(1st place finishers are annual "Skipper of the Year" award winners)



1999	1998	1997	1996
1) .. Mark Stosiak, "Tomorrow's Dream"	1) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	1) ..... Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	1) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
1) ..... Stan Bilek, "Blue Star"	2) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	2) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	2) .... Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"
3) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	3) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	3) ..... Paul Colone, "The Kidd"	3) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"
4) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	4) ..... Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	4) ..... Bob Buero, "Mickey Mouse"	4) ..... Paul Nowak, "Nothin' But Fun"
5) ..... Paul Schoenrade, "Eagle III"	5) ..... Paul Schoenrade, "Eagle III"	5) ..... Jimmy Hardrick, "My Dream"	5) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
1995	1994	1993	1992
1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) ..... Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	1) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
2) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	2) ..... Jimmy Hardrick, "My Dream"	2) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	2) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
3) ..... Daniel Dima, "Taz"	3) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	3) ..... Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	3) ..... Tom Moores, "Karefree"
4) .... Rob Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	4) ..... Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"	4) ..... Leon Van Eden, "Bullhead"	4) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
5) ..... Dave Roehr, "Floating Holiday"	5) ..... Paul Schoenrade, "Eagle Two"	5) ..... Chris Nytko, "Aquarius II"	5) ..... Mike Wakulski, "Wet Paint"
1991	1990	1989	1988
1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"
2) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	2) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	2) ..... Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"	2) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"
3) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	3) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	3) ..... Ron Huey, "Half R's"	3) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"
4) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	4) ..... Rob Pinskey, "Anticipation"	4) ..... Ron Hartman, "Molly Frair"	4) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"
5) ..... Joe Golaszewski, "Lucky Falcon"	5) ..... Mike Wakulski, "Wet Paint"	5) ..... Don Anton, "Happy Bare"	5) ..... Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"
1987	1986	1985	1984
1) ..... Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"	1) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	1) ..... Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"	1) ..... Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"
2) ..... Bob Mitchell, "Kemo"	2) ..... Greg Clifford, "Outlaw"	2) ..... Joel Garinger, "Fishbusters"	2) ..... Ed Choinski, "Kneeknocker"
3) ..... Don Redmond, "Trena Dawn"	3) ..... Chuck Wood, "Predator"	3) ..... Bruce Choinski, "Kneeknocker"	3) ..... Darrin Harris, "Cannonball"
4) ..... Steve Banovic, "Exaggerator"	4) ..... Dave Even, "Teacher's Pet"	4) ..... Tom Chojnowski, "Sea Con"	4) ..... Bob Ksionzek, "Last Dime"
5) ..... Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"	5) ..... Blaise Pewinski, "Sea Hag"	5) ..... Ed McIntosh, "Sweet Lorraine"	5) ..... Mike Zelkowski, "Elvira"
1983	1982	1981	1980
1) ..... Gerry Ciurzenski, "Jawbuster"	1) ..... Brian Glaser, "Least Likely"	1) ..... Bob Kring, "Drifter"	1) ..... Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"
2) ..... Mike Boronic, "Horsefly"	2) ..... Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"	2) ..... Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"	2) ..... Terry Cholette, "Fishing Fever"
3) ..... R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"	3) ..... Mike Curzenski, "Nooner"	3) ..... Bob Kanas, "Least Likely"	3) ..... Toby Lampi, "Jessie III"
4) ..... Bob Kozar, "Snowman"	4) ..... Bob Kring, "Drifter"	4) ..... Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	4) ..... Randy Cope, "Ouzo Too"
5) ..... Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"	5) ..... R. J. Branham, "Seahawk"	5) ..... Jewell Harris, "Cannonball"	5) ..... Ed Yankoski II, "Least Likely"
1979	1978	1977	1976
1) ..... Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	1) ..... Jerry Lee, "Sea Screw"	1) ..... Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"	1) ..... John Makela, "Sisu"
2) ..... Howard Mills, "Paramour"		2) ..... John Makela, "Sisu"	2) ..... Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"
3) ..... Larry Atwell, "Cobra"		3) ..... Murrell Blackburn, "Fish'n 5"	3) ..... Chuck Cartwright, "Tuna Boat"
4) ..... Jim Treadaway, "Okie Drifter"		4) ..... Bob Kring, "Drifter"	4) ... Paul Irvine (boat name unavailable)
5) ..... Bob Kring, "Drifter"		5) ..... Larry Atwell, "Cobra"	5) ..... Steve Hamilton, "Valhalla"

Complete standings  
for 1978  
are  
unavailable

## Detroit Area Steelheaders on the World Wide Web

<http://www.great-lakes.org/mi/detroitsteelheaders/>

That's the URL (address) of the Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. club Web site on the Internet. In March, 1998, with the help of the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council (G.L.S.F.C.), our Web page was posted for the entire world to see. With the Internet growing by an estimated 65,000 people daily, the benefits of having a club Web site are obvious.

Our club is about fishing, whether it's done from boats, while wearing waders in a river, casting from a pier or the shoreline. If you want to learn how to catch Trout, Salmon and other gamefish, the resources available from our membership are almost limitless. The Internet represents yet another resource to use as a teaching tool.

While our site currently is mostly an "about us" page, future plans will make it into a site where the viewer can see how to rig a Great Lakes fishing boat, view a club message board, find recipes such as for smoked fish, and view a photo gallery of recent Detroit Area Steelheaders tournaments. And that's not all—the possibilities are virtually endless.

Last May I joined the staff of the G.L.S.F.C. as their Webmaster. As such, I browse through countless pages dealing with the subject of fishing. Think of any species of fish and I've probably viewed a number of Web sites about it. When it comes to fishing, there's no limit to the information that's available to the angling public on the World Wide Web.

If you are new to this 'www' stuff, let me give you a few pointers on how to tap into the Internet's vast database of information. You'll find numerous search engines on the Web. These include, but are not limited to, America

On Line's (A.O.L.) Netfind at <http://www.aol.com/>, Excite at <http://www.excite.com/> and Lycos at <http://www.lycos.com/>. In the box, type in whatever you might be looking for, such as fishing, for instance. Somewhere in the search results, you'll see how many documents the search engine finds. The A.O.L. search engine found 241,732 documents with the just the word "fishing." The more specific you make your search, the better. Try entering "Lake Michigan Steelhead AND launchramps." You can spend a lot of time browsing all the sites you'll find.

How does this all help make you a better fisherman? I believe that the more information you have available to you, the greater your chances of success. Personally, I'm always checking the message boards for current reports. I also add reports when I have a successful trip—it's good sportsmanship! I also check weather forecasts, Coast Guard notices, current lake conditions including temperature charts and area information, motels, restaurants, etc. I call area tackle shops for reports. I try to use every tool I can to gather information to increase the odds in my favor for a successful trip. My computer has become as valuable to me as my LORAN-C, GPS and fish finder are out on the water.

Here are some URL's you can use to find some of the same Internet resources that I use.

\* <http://www.great-lakes.org/>

The Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council's main page is a great place to start. This site branches out with links to a wealth of information from state message boards to charter boat listings and sport shows. It's well worth a look.

\* <http://www.mucc.org/>

This is the Michigan United Conservation

Clubs' (M.U.C.C.) Web site. According to their statement, "The M.U.C.C. has been in the vanguard of efforts to protect Michigan's outdoor heritage and promote the right of all citizens to enjoy Michigan's outdoors."

\* <http://www.great-lakes.org/cgi-bin/message.cgi?state=mi>

This is a great message board. You can find up-to-the-minute information posted by your fellow fishermen and fisherwomen. Want information on the other Great Lakes states? Simply change the URL ending "mi" to "mn" (Minnesota), "wi" (Wisconsin), "il" (Illinois), "in" (Indiana), "oh" (Ohio), "pa" (Pennsylvania), or "ny" (New York).

\* <http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/cw/cwdata/lct/glsea.gif>

Here you'll find a temperature chart of the Great Lakes. As we all know, there are times when finding the right water temperature can make all the difference.

\* <http://www.lnetmi.com/mi/>

This page has links to anything to do with Michigan: local and state governments, online newspapers, outdoor resources, and more.

\* <http://www.nws.fsu.edu/buoy/>

From this main page, you can link to any of the Great Lakes. Then just click on any buoy and get current lake conditions.

\* [http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/fish/html/weekly\\_report.htm](http://www.dnr.state.mi.us/fish/html/weekly_report.htm)

You can get weekly fishing reports from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources at this Web site.

\* [http://www.great-lakes.org/fish\\_mi.html](http://www.great-lakes.org/fish_mi.html)

I decided to add another G.L.S.F.C. page

because of the links this page contains. Among these are the D.N.R. Harbor Guide, Weather links, "how to" information, map resources, and much more.

\* <http://www.gtii.com/fish.frames.htm>

This is a good Web site with more of that informational resource stuff I keep talking about. Looking for a good used boat? How about a Bed and Breakfast? And there's more!

\* <http://www.erieaumarina.com/index.html>

Thanks to Detroit Area Steelheader member Dick Shirk for letting me know about this site URL. If you fish Erieau, Ontario, or if you wish to learn more about fishing that area, check out this page. It has links to up-to-the-minute weather conditions, and area fishing reports, lodging, services, etc. This Web site is very well done!

\* <http://www.catchmorefish.com/>

This home page of Wolverine Tackle, makers of Silver Streak lures, offers color charts, nicknames, and other useful information.

You may also want to join a few news groups. News groups are basically message boards, and can be accessed via your e-mail and Internet Service Provider (ISP) server.

I hope you find this information useful in planning your outings for 1999. As we head toward the new millennium and the year 2000, more and more people will discover the potential that the Internet has to be a teaching tool, no matter what the subject is. We just happen to like learning about fishing and the great outdoors — and that does compute!

— Ed Wilczek, "Steelie Ed"  
Sed970@ameritech.net



## Last Ice: A good alternative for fishermen as winter winds down

In December of 1998, I had a total knee replacement. It was long overdue, but I had been putting it off to keep from interfering with the fishing season.

After daily exercise therapy, I fished with Zane Grey for "Giant Nova Scotia Tuna" and with Ernest Schwiebert at the Firehole River. I trolled southeast Alaska for Coho Salmon during the commercial season with Ron Rau. I still had enough time to accompany Russell J. Coles to Florida, and watch Teddy Roosevelt harpoon a manna.

The next best thing to fishing is reading about it or listening to a good true story about fishing. Somehow, I find the written word a little more accurate. The weeks went by as fast as days, and it was February. By this time, the pain of cabin fever was greater than the pain in my leg.

Unbeknownst to my orthopedic surgeon, and to the dismay of my physical therapist, I decided to go ice fishing at Crystal Lake in Benzie County. It's not fly fishing for Tarpon or Permit, but it does fill a need.

For those of you who have never fished for smelt through the ice, let me say it's a great experience. I have a portable ice shanty large enough for two. There were four of us on this trip, so I rented another shanty already set up on the ice.

There is not much public access on Crystal Lake, but on the north and south sides close to shore, you will find cities of shanties set up. The best action lasts from 5-6 p.m. to about midnight. Because of wind late in the season, the ice is often not snow-covered. Even worse, sometimes a thin layer of water is covering large areas of the ice. Water-covered ice has a coefficient of friction so low it makes WD-40 seem like tar! Ice creepers or cleats are a must!!

I think most shanties are equipped similarly to the one we rented. Inside, there was a propane lamp that kept it so warm the door had to be left ajar.

Two speed reels were mounted to the ceiling. The sprocket reels would let out two feet of two-pound or four-pound test line per revolution. The lines had two #12 or #14 long shank hooks with six-inch leaders attaching them to the main line. A small weight (approximately 1/2 ounce) was set one foot below the hooks, and a small slip bobber above the hooks.

My son, Niles, put a light down about 12-15 feet as an attractor, and using our fish finder we found the smelt about 24 feet down in 51 feet of water. We used small pinhead minnows as bait. Count 12 revolutions as the reel turns and put a rubber band across the sprockets. That way, the line will return to the same depth again after being brought up.

When the slip bobber moves to one side of the hole in the ice, you have a fish on. Often, two smelt are on at the same time. Catches of 100-150 smelt per night are not uncommon. Incidentally, the smelt in Crystal Lake are about the biggest I have ever caught.

These smelt are free of PCB's and Hg, and taste delicious. With a few smelt for bait, we went fishing for Lake Trout the next morning. They were found at the bottom, in 140-160 feet of water. Using tip-ups, we caught one 18-inch Lake Trout, and one nine-pounder.

We also caught six burbot, one of which weighed about eight pounds (a Master Angler burbot if five pounds and up). Cleaned properly, these bottom-feeders are great table fare. While we were fishing, one of the locals near us caught a 23-pound Lake Trout. This fish was an exception - most Lake Trout from Crystal Lake are from two to three pounds, a good eating size.

Last ice is an option worth considering as your thoughts wander toward spring and the return of warm-weather fishing.

-Ron Huey, "Half R's"

## Scientists foresee victory over lamprey

Victory over sea lamprey?

Never, scientists have said for years. Best that could be expected, they have said since way back in the 1950's, is that the critters could be "controlled" through repeated chemical treatments of their spawning streams.

Now, however, they see a newly discovered tool as actually beating the blood-sucking saltwater invaders that devastate fish populations.

What is this new "wonder weapon" in the war on the sea lamprey? Amazingly, the lamprey's own hormones!

Scientists have discovered that sea lamprey hormones emit an odor that the lamprey use to find each other and to identify spawning streams. Mature female and male lamprey discharge different scents. Immature larval lamprey still in spawning streams also have a unique scent that draws mature lamprey back to the stream.

Researchers at the University of Minnesota,

and elsewhere, are using these hormones to develop chemicals which will duplicate the different scents, according to Jim Johnson, Michigan's lead Lake Huron fisheries researcher.

It may take up to ten years to develop the synthetic chemicals and produce enough of them to put them in wide use, he says.

They will be used to attract lamprey into traps, and into streams unsuitable for reproduction. Johnson calls it the "final blow" for sea lamprey in the Great Lakes.

He, and other biologists, are also hailing the success of efforts to bring St. Mary's River lamprey under control. Until 1998, control measures were either futile or deemed too costly to use.

Without effective control measures, St. Mary's River lamprey were expected to ultimately doom Lake Michigan and Lake Huron sport and commercial fisheries.

From 1993 through 1996, researchers

sampled 12,000 sites in the river to identify about 500 acres of lamprey spawning hot spots. In 1998 and 1999, a granular chemical was deposited on those dozens of sites, resulting in a 45 percent reduction of lamprey in the entire river system.

Meanwhile, thousands of male lamprey were being trapped and sterilized. It is now estimated that there are 4.7 sterile males for every fertile male.

This expensive combination of chemical treatments and sterile male releases is expected to produce an expected 85 percent reduction in sea lamprey in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan by 2015.

By then, chemists will likely have found the key to producing artificial hormone odors that may, indeed, strike that "final blow" and write the final chapter on the battle against the sea lamprey in the Great Lakes. Reprinted from the *North Woods Call*, December 15, 1999.



SEA LAMPREY: *Petromyzon marinus* Linnaeus

## Watch out for these summer hazards

Boaters on the Great Lakes should be aware of some potential hazards. These include lightning, commercial fishing nets, and - even in summer - hypothermia.

**Lightning** - Lightning usually strikes the tallest object in an area, and a boat on the water is asking for trouble. The most important safety rule about lightning is simple: Get off the water immediately! If you are caught on the water, stay as low as you can in the middle of the boat and don't touch any metal parts, or electronic equipment attached to an antenna.

**Fishing Buoys** - Nearshore waters are the most common place boaters tangle with commercial fishing nets. Many are set with two buoys on a line perpendicular to shore. The buoy closest to shore will have two flags, and the one furthest out will have only one. Because it isn't often possible to see both buoys, boaters should pass on the shore side of a two-flag buoy and the sea side of a one-flag buoy.

**Hypothermia** - During July and August, hypothermia may be the last thing on your mind. But even July water temperatures in the Great Lakes are low enough to be life-threatening in as little as 30 minutes. Water temperatures lower than 80° F. can cause quick reductions in body temperatures. Surface temperatures in the Great Lakes can be much colder. Mean temperatures in July range from 43° F. in Lake Superior to 72° F. in Lake Erie. From the *Great Lakes Basin Report*, July 1999.

## Some common fishing terms "defined"

The following "definitions" of some common fishing terms came straight from (you guessed it!) the Internet. Read and enjoy! -Editor

**CATCH AND RELEASE** - A conservation motion that occurs most often just before the local Conservation Officer pulls over a boat that has caught over the limit.

**HOOK** - 1) A curved piece of metal used to catch fish. 2) A clever advertisement to entice a fisherman to spend his life savings on a new rod and reel. 3) The punch administered by said fisherman's wife after he spends their life savings. (See also: *Right Hook, Left Hook*).

**LINE** - Something you give your co-workers when they ask you on Monday how your fishing went over the past weekend.

**LURE** - An object that is semi-enticing to fish, but which will drive an angler into such a frenzy that he will charge his credit card to the limit before exiting the tackle shop.

**REEL** - A weighted object that causes a rod to sink quickly when dropped overboard.

**ROD** - An attractively painted length of fiberglass that keeps an angler from ever

getting too close to a fish.

**SCHOOL** - A grouping in which fish are taught to avoid your \$29.99 lures and hold out for Spam instead.

**TACKLE** - What your last catch did to you as you reeled him in, but just before he wrestled free and jumped back overboard.

**TACKLE BOX** - A box shaped alarmingly like your comprehensive first aid kit. However, a tackle box contains many sharp objects, so that when you reach into the wrong box blindly to get a Band-Aid, you soon find that you need more than one.

**TEST** - 1) The amount of strength a fishing line affords and angler when fighting fish in a specific weight range. 2) A measure of your creativity in blaming "that damn line" for once again causing you to lose the fish.

- Submitted by: judib@kktv.com

This piece appeared on the following site: <http://www.oraclehumor.com>

For a free subscription, send a message to: oracle-humor-subscribe@lyris.oraclehumor.com

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## DIPSY DIVER TIPS

If you troll on the Big Lakes and are not fishing Dipsy Divers, YOU ARE ONLY CATCHING 50 PERCENT of what you could be catching!! Here are some tips for using Dipsy Divers that you may find useful:

- Three feet of line for one foot of depth on setting three. For example, 150 feet of line equals 50 feet deep. This is a very general rule.
- Line counter reels make running Dipsy Divers much easier. If you are forgetful, try resetting the line counter after setting a Dipsy. After a fish hits, let the Dipsy back out to zero.
- Use a braided main line. This makes releasing the diver much easier. Thirty-pound test Spiderwire or 20-pound test Fireline are good, but Spiderwire will dig into guides and spinning reels. Remember, thinner diameter lines will get deeper.
- Use a long, stiff rod - 10' rods made spe-

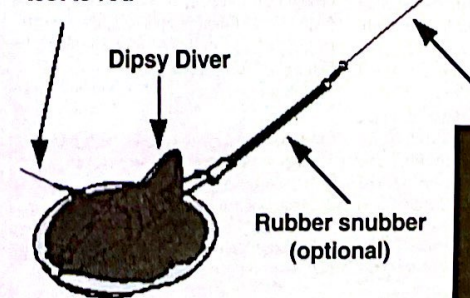
cifically for Dipsys are great.

- Don't go too light - 20-pound minimum.
- Use the Dipsy's dial on the back correctly. It is made to be read facing the boat's bow.
- Keep Dipsy Diver rods away from down-

riggers - try them a few feet from the stern where the downriggers are located.

- Place rods low to the water. Placing the rods almost parallel to the water leaves less line above the water for fish to tangle.

Minimum 20# test to rod



4' to 10' leader of 20# to 30# test to snap swivel and lure

Dipsy Diver Setup

# Some helpful fishing tips from "Captain Chuck"

## USE JET DIVERS AND MINI DIVERS FOR MORE DEPTH

Trolling behind side planers (Tru-Tracs, Roach Walleye Boards, etc.) is very effective. However, unlike Steelhead, Salmon are often a little deeper. Lead will get you down, but a Big Jon Mini Diver or Luhr Jensen Jet Diver is a better approach, giving the bait more action. The Jet Diver also gives you varying depths based on the size you use: 20 feet, 30 feet, etc. The Jet Diver floats up when you slow down, making the lure appear to be escaping. Both of these can be rigged in line.

Another technique with the Jet Diver is to put a release such as an Off Shore Red (strongest they make) on the Jet Diver and clip it to the line. Thus, the Diver can be further from the bait, and is un-clipped as you land the fish.

## GET THE LEAD OUT . . .

Lead core line is like the Energizer Bunny - it just keeps working. With boat-shy Kings, if you can keep it out of the track of the boat, so much the better! Fish it from an outrigger, or pull it behind an in-line planer board. However, not all boards are created equal.

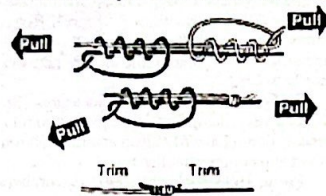
The two best for getting lead core to the side are the Off Shore and the Gary Roach Walleye, and the latter is tops. It has an adjustable keel and tracks like a shot. After you get a hit, however, the board has a long way to slide (100 yards+), and lead core line, being what it is, can be damaged by this repeated sliding and fighting monster fish at the same time.

If you use a rubber band or clip-type release at the back end to hold the board in place after it's been released, you can avoid the problem. The fish hits and pulls free of the main release so the board is no longer pulling to the side. The second release on the back holds the board in place, keeping it from sliding down the line. When the board reaches the boat, un-clip or pop the rubber band, take the board off and land your fish. Best of all,

you're fighting clean with nothing else on the line.

## JOINING LEAD CORE TO MONOFILAMENT

This is a very strong, useful knot for joining lead core to monofilament backing or leader. It's important to take the lead out, leaving only the cover to work with. Tie the knot as close as possible to where the lead ends. This gives you a smoother, but still strong knot. Use a drop of knot glue as you tighten it; this adds strength to the knot and keeps the lead core from unraveling.



## DODGERS AND SQUIDS CATCH FISH!!!!

Dodgers and squids are hot fish-catching machines in the summer. You can work them over a wide range of speeds and get them deep, where the BIG boys hang out, if you know how.

The traditional approach to dodger fishing is to fish them off 'riggers with a 10- to 15-foot lead. Boat speed should be slow (under 2.0 knots, generally), so the dodger just rocks back and forth to give the squid, fly or Spin-N-Glo some action. Too fast and they spin, making a mess. Some dodgers are more speed-tolerant - Advance Tackle's Side Kick for one. Unfortunately, fishing this way forces you to go to an all-dodger program, or at least to baits or spoons that work at slow speeds. *There is a better way!*

As you increase your lead to the dodger, you can increase speed without spinning. The dodger will rock and also swing wide. If you try this off 'riggers, you have to set it at a depth not even close to other downriggers or the dodger will

EAT your other lines and you will end up with the MOTHER of all tangles. The answer is the Big Jon Jetison release. Fish the dodger combo using a lead drop rig. Using a lead of 30 to 40 feet, you can still run spoons and plugs at normal speeds while the dodger works like crazy catching BIG TUNA nowhere near your other stuff.

**Rigger Tips** - The length of the lead to the squid is not all that critical when fishing them the lead drop way. Off 'riggers, it's generally recommended that the lead be 1 1/2 times the length of the dodger used. Fishing a lead drop is usually done with a diver rod and counter reel. Reels spooled with Fireline or Spiderwire will give better performance (depth), but you do need a 40-foot leader for the drop release.

As a rule of thumb, with 20-pound test monofilament, if you have 200 feet of line out with one-pound, you'll be somewhere around 70 or 80 feet down. A GMT40T+ will help you know where you actually are. A good idea is to start at around 150 feet back and keep going back in 25-foot increments until you start getting hits or get over 300 feet out. When that happens, bring it in, re-rig and start over. Using 1 1/2-pound balls will get you deeper faster, so its a good way to run two rods, one using a 1-pound and the other using a 1 1/2-pound ball.

**Colors** - Dodgers and squids/flyes come in as many colors as creative lure companies can come up with. As a rule, white (pearl) with either a patch of glow or pink fish scale is the number one choice for Kings and Lakers. Number two is chartreuse with a pink fish scale patch. The top choice of squids is 'kermit', a green glow squid. However, other squid and dodger colors work well, including lasers, black, green, etc. The triple skirt glows made by Richey at times are very productive. Coho Salmon like the brighter painted dodgers (clown, orange or silver), and seem to eat flies made of Mylar or tinsel a little more than squids. Lakers are often suckers for a chrome dodger with a peanut or Spin-N-Glo. Green, clown, white with pink dots are some of the

best colors. Don't lock yourself into one rig; be creative. For example, recently I heard of a boat that just killed the Salmon using a silver dodger with a green metallic fly.

## SUMMER FISHING IDEAS

Summer means fishing deep and going after Lake Trout. Downriggers will accurately place you where you see fish or mark the thermocline, but on calm days, they don't give the lure a lot of action, plus the boat spooks the fish. Back and away is the key to success. The two best ways to get more movement and lead away from the boat are with divers and lead drops. If you fish a diver with the new, thin, no-stretch lines, you can get down 80 or 90 feet and still trip the diver. Fishing one-pound lead weights that drop off when you get a hit is another effective approach. The Big Jon Jetison release does an outstanding job. Experienced fishermen know how much line to let out to get to the desired depth. If you haven't a clue, or just want to be sure, there's a small, inexpensive (\$79) unit, the GMT40T+, that tells you the depth of your diver or lead ball, and the temperature.

## GO GLOW . . . !

Baits with glow tape are fish-catching machines! You should always have few down in the morning, or when the sky is overcast. A glow bait properly charged will last 15 to 20 minutes. Glow tape picks up and stores energy from light and then releases it as light. What goes in comes out. To get the most out of your glow baits, you need to charge them up. The lower the light level, the longer time they need to be exposed. Your best bet is a portable flash attachment from a camera. One touch of the button and you get a maximum charge every time. If you don't want to risk exposing your flash attachment to the elements, Luhr Jensen makes an inexpensive unit (\$20) that does the job. It's ten times more effective than a flashlight.

Reprinted from <http://www.capt-chuck.com/tip.html>

...Continued from Page Two

## PRESIDENT BANBURY LOOKS BACK AT 1999

boat management, and the methods she uses fishing dodger/squid combos. Even some old-timers raised and eyebrow or two when she described the technique she uses for most of the summer. Judy must be doing something right; the boat fished on in the 1999 Blue Water Classic, took first place.

August fishing activities started in Ludington, with 20 boats making the tow. The only question was if the weather was going to let us get out. With a fabulous lightning display on Thursday and high winds on Friday, not too many boats braved the Lake before tournament day. On Saturday morning, the weather turned great and so did the fishing, with a lot of nice-sized fish. When the day was done, Ron Huey and "Half R's" (with a Big Fish-winning 22.14 King and a Master Angler Coho of 15 pounds for good measure!) took third, and Rob Golaszewski and "Lucky Falcon" finished second. But the best fisherman for the weekend was Stan Bilek and "Blue Star" with an overall score of 122.05. Great work, gentlemen!

August is the best time to fish for BIG FISH on the west side of the state, and that's just what we did, traveling to Manistee late in the month. Once again, weather was a question mark, but the 23 boats making the trip were rewarded with sunny skies and a great fishing day. Paul Schoenrade and "Eagle III" finished third, Doug and Mary Karakas and "Capt'n Hook II" claimed second place, and Daniel Dima and "Taz" came out on top. Good work, TAZ! Before leaving Manistee, I must mention Dave Staniczewski aboard "Eagle III" and his near-Michigan state record Coho Salmon of 29 pounds, 1 ounce (pictured on the cover). This beautiful fish missed the record by only 24 ounces, and Dave did a great job landing the

considerable Big Boy. Congratulations, Dave, on a job well-done!

Doug Karakas gave a fine talk on pier fishing and all that goes with it at the August meeting. Doug brought in all kinds of gear and lures to explain the different aspects of pier fishing, and revealed some interesting "tricks of the trade" to help enhance our success.

September saw the fleet at Harbor Beach for the boat trolling tournament wrap-up. Despite fairly high winds, our club skippers came through to make it a good day of fishing. Fishing action ran the gamut, with J-Plugs, dodgers and squids, and magnum spoons doing a nice job on various Kings, Coho and Steelhead. Joe Golaszewski and "My Treasure" took third, while Mark Stosiak and his crew from "Tomorrow's Dream" finished second. I'm happy to report that top honors (and a first-time victory) went to old buddy Doug Karakas and "Capt'n Hook II." With Admiral Mary Karakas on board, 'Hook won the day with a score of 115.13 points. Congratulations, guys, on a long-overdue win.

The September meeting featured another visit from Doug Karakas, this time to talk a little bit about surf fishing. Doug once again brought all kinds of tackle, rods, and equipment that surf fishermen use, and spoke about techniques and strategies for a successful day fishing the surf on one of the Big Lakes.

Salmon fishing legend Dick Swan was the guest speaker in October, offering an open forum for the evening on any fishing subject. The conversation ranged from river, surf and boat trolling fishing, to politics in Lansing and the tribal netting controversy. It was a great evening, and even if you didn't agree with everything Dick said, you did learn a lot. Too bad for you if you missed it.

We had our first river tournament of the season in early November, a three-way event

with the Saginaw-Bay City-Midland Steelheaders and Metro West joining us on the Manistee River. The Detroit Area Steelheaders prevailed in this one, with Yours Truly weighing in the third-place fish, a 7.12-pound Steelhead, and Steve Hamilton grabbing the number two spot with a very nice 10.10 Steelie. When the fat lady sang at the end of the day, Denis Harper took the top spot with a beautiful 13.9-pound tail walker. Incidentally, this fish turned out to be the largest Steelhead caught during a club event in 1999. It's nice to see a river fish get a Big Fish award not and again. Great work, Denis.

The November meeting saw Officer Jim Frye from the Oakland County Sheriff Marine Division stop by to talk about ice safety and ice rescue, including what to do if you fall through the ice, how to get out, tools you can use to get out, etc. Officer Frye made the point that one of the best pieces of safety equipment you can take out on the ice, or your boat for that matter, is a cellular telephone. In many instances, the quicker you can get help the better chance you have to survive, and a cell phone is quick!

Our December meeting is the best of the year, when the one and only 'Salmon Claus' pays his annual visit to the Steelheaders. All the youngsters get to sit on the Jolly Elf's lap and receive a bag of goodies. Unfortunately, Salmon Claus had to hand out quite a few lumps of coal to some of the bigger kids (who own boats!), but that's a story that we won't go into!!

Our Board of Directors election was held, and I would like to welcome new Director Stan Bilek. Stan fills the seat left by the retirement from the Board of long-time member Leon Van Eden, who has served our club well for many years. His position will be a tough one to fill. Thanks for a great job, Leon!

The annual Cooler of Cheer raffle was won by one of our own, member Joe Von Grabe -

and the party is at Joe's place!

Individual awards are another highlight of the December meeting. The 'Joe Pozkie' award went to Jay Hoch. Jay was working aboard "Capt'n Hook II" one morning when he managed to place all the downriggers backwards in their racks, and then was able to put all the Yellow Birds into the water out the wrong sides of the boat. Didn't have a clue about what was wrong...! Detroit Area Steelheader "Member of the Year" was Ty Voigt, recognizing all his hard work on behalf of the club.

There was a hard-fought battle for the "Skipper of the Year" award that came right down to the last tournament of the year. When all was said and done, this prestigious award went to Mark Stosiak and "Tomorrow's Dream" AND Stan Bilek and "Blue Star," the first-ever tie. Congratulations, Mark and Stan!

The final award of this happy evening was the "Director of the Year," and the Board of Directors was proud to present it to Doug Karakas. Doug worked tirelessly, making presentations to the members at nearly half our monthly membership meetings in 1999, and worked with individual members on other occasions. He took time from his job to attend meetings of the Great Lakes Advisory Committee in Lansing, and he single-handedly runs all the river fishing tournaments during the winter. He is an indispensable member of our club, and we are happy to recognize him for all his work for the club. Congratulations, Doug!

Finally, thanks to everyone for all the help they gave me in 1999. The work you did made it one of the most enjoyable years I've ever enjoyed in the club. I know that the success of our 25th year in 1999 will be the foundation of an even better club in 2000, and beyond. Again, thanks to all of you - I'll see you on the water.

- Ray Banbury, President  
Detroit Area Steelheaders

# Detroit Area Steelheaders know how to have fun!!

ATTENTION ALL DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, SPOUSES, SIGNIFICANT OTHERS, FRIENDS AND RELATIVES! Get ready to really enjoy yourselves and have a great time at the annual Detroit Area Steelheaders Dinner Dance!!

This year's edition of one of our most enjoyable club activities will take place on Saturday, February 12, 2000 at the K. of C. Hall, St. Pius X Council No. 3848, 6177 Chicago Road, Warren, the site of our monthly club meetings (see the map on Page Three). In addition to great music, we will again be featuring the good food and drinks that have become fixtures of this highly popular affair.

The 2000 Dinner Dance features a 1950's/1960's theme with several celebrity guests on hand, repeated by popular demand! Get your dancing shoes and theme outfits ready for a great, energetic evening. There will be a sit-down dinner followed by dancing, and we'll have the usual variety of raffle items. The last Dinner Dance with this theme sold out, so don't delay - get those tickets today!

This has been a fun-filled event in the past,



THE ANNUAL STEELHEADER DINNER DANCE is always a fun occasion, with good food, music, and friends adding up to A GREAT TIME! Each year, those who attend really enjoy themselves, so COME AND JOIN IN THE FESTIVITIES!!

and if for some reason you haven't yet decided to participate, just ask someone who has been there in the past. I guarantee they'll tell you that it's a great time that you don't want to miss out on.

Tickets for this gala event are only \$70 per couple, and when you consider that they include food, an open bar, dancing, and a chance at the door prize, this is a real bargain. If you purchase a table for 8, you'll receive a special prize worth at least \$20! For tickets, please see Mary or Doug Karakas, call them at (248) 545-1181, or e-mail them at [dasdinnerdance@aol.com](mailto:dasdinnerdance@aol.com).

As in the past, there will be raffles for the guys and for the gals (although many gals win in the guys raffle, too!), but we still need prize donations. Prizes do not have to be fishing-oriented - we've had crafts, services, and many other useful things that make terrific prizes donated in the past. If you can contribute, please see Doug, or Bob Mitchell.

Invite your friends and relatives, make your plans, mark your calendars, and get your tickets NOW!

# DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS FOUND LOTS OF FISH & FUN IN 1999!!

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing & Travel Show**  
**March 2 - 5**  
**Palace of Auburn Hills**

Michigan's #1 Sport Show brings you the best line-up of Local and National Seminar Experts!

**Bottom Line Electronics Representative Mike Dubois**  
 March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

**"Always Tye for the Millstream" 1998 NARA "Queen" Pro-Am Winner Gary Parsons**  
 March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

**1998 P.W.T. Champion "Jumbo" Jugging on the Detroit River" Ted Takamaki**  
 March 3<sup>rd</sup>

**SEE ALL NEWEST "GAD" WIVES AND GATTA BOUQUET!**

**In-Fisherman**  
 Direct Canada, March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Editor of In-Fisherman Magazine with the latest techniques for "Primary Canadian Fishing Patterns"

**Dunhan's**  
 Dunhan's Sports Equipment February 27  
 American Company of Rods & Reels  
 The complete sports outfit

**GET YOUR 2000 LICENSES & STAMPS AT THE SHOW**

**Palace of Auburn Hills**  
 1400 West 14th Street  
 Auburn Hills, MI 48321  
 248/349-8800

# St. Mary's River charter was interesting and enjoyable !

Detroit Area Steelheader member Don Redmond accepted an invitation from a guide at the M.U.C.C. Outdoorama Show in February 1998 to fish the St. Mary's River at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario that September. After returning from that trip, he showed me photographic evidence of his success. I was quite impressed with what I saw.

After coaxing him for some time, Don finally agreed to let me tag along with him the next time he made another visit up there. With plans made to go up there at the end of summer, we left on Labor Day last year. I met Don at his home around six o'clock in the morning, and after loading everything we would need into my pickup, we set out on our much-anticipated trip to the Soo.

Now, anyone who travels I-75 north knows that you just can't go past the Birch Run exit without paying a visit to Tony's. Needless to say, my fuel economy dropped off considerably due to the extra weight of me and my partner that we were now hauling! Anyway, after about seven hours traveling time, and sharing the Mackinac Bridge with about 100,000 Labor Day bridge walkers, we reached our motel in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

We had plenty of time to relax, since we didn't have to meet our guide until four o'clock the next morning, so we decided to run over to Whitefish Point. Very interesting place to visit, with a lot of history to be had. Also, there's a great museum. For those who haven't been there, it's worth the trip. Take the lake shore drive - it's really nice.

After a very short night of sleep, we met our captain John Yukich, also known as "The Nighthawk," at a restaurant on the Canadian side at the appointed hour, and then went on to John's home on the St. Mary's River. He keeps his boat docked right behind his house. It's an 18-foot Sea Nymph equipped with a 60-horsepower outboard, four electric downriggers, an



THE AUTHOR hefts one of a limit catch of "monster Kings" taken during an enjoyable St. Mary's River charter last September.

electric trolling motor, and the usual electronics. After arriving at the boat, I have to admit I was just a little uneasy about the conditions.

On top of the blackness of the early morning hour, we had a heavy lay of fog, so with approximately 12 miles of river to run, I just knew we were in for an interesting trip. Our destination was the mouth of the Garden River on the north end of Sugar Island.

Well, the predictable did happen. We got sidetracked into a bay somewhere, and John just could not figure out where we were. After about an hour of trying to find our way out, he decided to wait until daybreak, at which time we finally re-grouped, got out of there, and were back on our way to our honey hole.

Peculiar as it may seem, John has a GPS unit on board, but he told us he's run the St. Mary's River so often by memory that he had never had

to use a waypoint route plan. So the GPS unit was useless to us this time. I was amazed that he got as far as he did in view of conditions. Unfortunately, we had to delay our plan for some nighttime chugging for Salmon, so we immediately went to Phase II: downrigger trolling using a mixture of J-Plugs and spoons. The new Glo Ghost J-Plug in #4 size, and the Green Dolphin mag spoon worked very well.

We were seven for ten by three o'clock when John suggested we go in, get some rest, and have dinner. After an outstanding meal with the captain at his home, we threw our stuff into the boat and he took us down to the Power Plant near the Soo Locks to try our luck at some nighttime chugging.

John's system consisted of putting down the electric trolling motor to keep us moving at about 0.5-1.0 miles per hour. Using a 4-ounce

sinker on a 1-foot drop four feet above a Glow Bomber Long "A" on an 8-foot downrigger rod, we would let the rig drop back until we would feel bottom and then just work it forward and back. We trolled until about 11 o'clock that night, and hooked up with about five fish, although we were only able to put one in the boat. About this time, we decided that if we were going to survive the next day's action we had better head back to the motel and get ourselves some zzzzzzz's.

After another short night of sleep, we were at Captain John's house at 4 o'clock to make that 12-mile run. Happily, there was no fog this time, and we were soon at the ol' fishing hole as originally planned with trolling motor down, sounding bottom with rods in hand.

By daybreak, we had five monsters in the box and five more still swimming with either a ripped lip or one of our baits stuck in it. Remember, these fish were all up this river preparing to spawn. It's been rumored that at this stage in their lives these fish won't hit a lure. Ha!!

After dawn, we again switched over to standard trolling methods using downriggers, J-Plugs and spoons. We finished out the morning's fishing with a limit catch of Kings that would not allow us to close the lid on the fish box. Sizes on our catch ranged from the high teens to the mid-20's!

This was an enjoyable and interesting trip, everything I expected and then some. I would recommend it to all. Anyone interested in using our same guide can reach him at (705) 759-7967. He will also probably be at Outdoorama again this year (February 25-March 5).

So, if you boat trollers want something a little different from the "big boat, big water" method, you just might want to give this a try. Who knows, you might like it!

I'll hope to be seeing you out on the water this year!!

- Dick Shirk, "Lil' Scratch"

## USEFUL NEWS FOR STEELHEADERS

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . .

### SPORTSMAN'S DINNER SET FOR MARCH 18

The Board of Directors of the Detroit Area Steelheaders has announced plans for a Steelheader Sportsman's Dinner. The evening will offer a fine meal (including dessert, beer and soft drinks), some nice door prizes, a huge raffle of outdoor equipment including fishing tackle, guns and gear, and some great camaraderie with fellow lovers of the great outdoors.

The menu will feature such delicious and unusual entrees as caribou, elk, pheasant, venison, buffalo, and a Seafood Alfredo.

Because of the expected turnout, this fun evening will take place at Bishop William F. Murray Knights of Columbus Hall #3257, 22040 Ryan Road, Warren on March 18, 2000. The hall is located two blocks north of Toepfer (81/2 Mile Road) on the east side of Ryan. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m., with the meal to begin at around 6:00. Tickets are only \$30, and may be obtained from any Board member. Space is limited, so get yours early. For more information, call Mary Karakas at (248) 545-1181, or Linda Banbury at (248) 542-8007.

### WEST MICHIGAN COAST GUARD STATION

#### FOR SALE



SET UP FOR SALMON OR WALLEYE FISHING

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE LISTED

When visiting or fishing the west coast of our great state of Michigan, you just might have the need to call the U.S. Coast Guard station near your location, either on your cellular telephone or using a public phone. Either cut out or copy the following list and keep it with you for future reference.

St Joseph .....	(616) 983-6114
Grand Haven .....	(616) 850-2553
Muskegon .....	(231) 759-8581
Ludington .....	(231) 843-9088
Manistee .....	(231) 723-7412
Frankfort .....	(231) 352-9151

### NEW PEST INFESTS MICHIGAN WATERS

Most of you have at one time or another run into a little bundle of joy on the Big Lakes called a water flea. Well, great day in the morning, there is another one of these critters on the water. The *Cercopagis pengoi*, better known as the fishhook flea, is another introduced exotic species we can all do without.

A relative of the not-very-popular spiny water flea that most fishermen on the Great Lakes have been annoyed by at one time or

another has just been found off Waukegan, Illinois. This flea has been in Lake Ontario for a few years, but it only showed up in Lake Michigan early last year, in Grand Traverse Bay. The flea has small hooks, or barbs, on its tail that give it its nickname. The hooks make it hard for small fish to feed on the buggers, so as a result it has no know predators. This means the flea can multiply very rapidly, negatively affecting the lower levels of the food chain. With the flea feeding on aquatic organisms known as zooplankton, it competes for the same food source as small fish. With less food for smaller fish . . . fewer small fish. And with fewer small fish . . . well, you get the picture.

But is the outlook all bad? In a word . . . yes. There is little or nothing we can do to stop the spread of these little vermin. In fact the fellow out for a day of fishing on the lake will, in all likelihood, add to the problem when he takes up his lines and heads for another lake the following weekend. Dead fleas or the husks of dead fleas can contain the eggs of this pest, and if there is any of this debris left on his fishing lines, contamination can occur. The eggs remain viable in what's called a "resting state" and survive dried or even frozen. Our fisherman drops a line in the water the next week in another lake, releasing the eggs, and the flea "comes back to life" like a bad science fiction film monster. But an even better fisherman, or at least one that works at it harder, can spread this critter even faster. I'm referring to the fisherman with feathers. Just have a bird land in infected waters . . . fly to another lake . . . and instant expansion!

I wish that this story had a happy ending. All we can do is to keep you up to date on this pest and hope that at some time in the future we don't have to bring a 25-pound Steelhead in by grabbing the line and pulling it hand over hand.

- Ray Banbury

### What is the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council?

Your dues and donations to the Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council (G.L.S.F.C.) help your organization promote sport fishing, conservation efforts, boating safety, and dissemination of information in the Great Lakes region. Your financial and moral support also helps Council programs such as information-gathering and reporting through the pages of *Great Lakes Basin Report*, meetings, conferences, and our award-winning website.



Through our worldwide outreach efforts via the Internet's World Wide Web, the Council promotes your tournaments, sport shows, and other club activities.

Simply put, membership means increased political support for local and state organizations, and adds solvency and political strength to the Council.

If you don't see information about *YOUR* group in the pages of *Great Lakes Basin Report*, find out if your group is sending a newsletter and/or otherwise providing information directly to the Report editor.

Include complete details about your activities and events, and try to send the information as much in advance as possible.

Be sure to include the name, telephone number and e-mail address of the appropriate individual to contact should more information be needed.