



# Fishin' Tales II

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Volume 3 Issue 5

May 2019

## May Membership Meeting

- **When:**
- Tuesday, May 28, 2019 7:30pm
- **Where:**
- American Polish Cultural Center  
NW corner, 15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- **Featuring**
- Swap Meet
- Boat Show
- Trolling Crawlers for Walleye—Ed Phaelig
- **Other Happenings:**
- Upcoming Angler of the Year Outings,
- SOTY Tournaments
- Tackle Raffles, 50/50 Raffle,
- Every Member Drawing,
- **DAS On the web-**
- [www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com) Post to the message board and check out the entire site.

## Index

- ◆ 2 Membership News
- ◆ 2 Tackle Matters
- ◆ 3 April Speaker
- ◆ 3 St Clair Outing
- ◆ 3 May Meeting
- ◆ 4 Stocking Report
- ◆ 4 Fin Clip contd
- ◆ 4 Algonac Outing
- ◆ 4 Special Friends
- ◆ 5 Harbor Beach
- ◆ 5 St. Joe
- ◆ 5 Grand Haven
- ◆ 6 AOTY



## Atlantic Salmon Fin clipping by Bob Ksionzek

On Monday, May 6, 2019 at 8:00 AM Rod Elnick and I met with Roger Greil, Aquatic Research Laboratory Manager at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie. We were there to help students fin clip the Atlantic salmon prior to being released into the St. Mary's River this June. If you recall Roger was at one of our membership meetings last year speaking about the Atlantic salmon program at LSSU. Our club has been donating a \$1500 annual Scholarship to students in the fisheries and biology programs at the university. Beginning last year, we also have been providing volunteers to help with fin clipping, thus our being there.

Roger gave us about a half-hour tour with some education on how the lab and program works. As you know Rod heads up the DAS Salmon-In-the-Classroom program and is currently working closely with 5 schools. The workings of the lab, although on a much larger scale, were familiar to Rod but I was amazed at how the rearing of the Atlantic salmon happens. I was very excited to be a part of this and was looking forward to helping out.



After the tour, Roger introduced us to Gary and Brad, the students we would be working with. We were both given an apron and latex glove for the left hand. As Rod and I are right handed, we would be holding the fish with our left hands for clipping and that hand would be spending much of the day in the 39 degree river water in the trays and buckets. Gary and Brad showed Rod and me how to do the fin-clipping. This was a very simple procedure using scissors to clip the right pectoral fin from each fish and placing them into the raceway from which the fish would be released. The fish were from 4 to 8 or 9 inches long.

It was Brad and Gary's job to capture and sedate fish into a 5 gallon bucket from a different raceway that Rod and I would net into a tray for fin clipping. They use a chemical called MS222 (Tricaine-S methane sulfonate) which sedates the fish for 5-10 minutes. This is enough time to fin clip a bucket full of fish.



We brought along a perch counter that Carl Ventimiglia purchased. Jim Zanke made some modifications by adding a plastic funnel inside and removing a return spring to make sure these smaller fish would trigger the counter. We only brought the one to try and if successful the club would donate more of these to assist in future fin clippings. Roger, Gary, and Brad were thrilled and thankful that we brought the counter. It worked out very well. They had been doing manual check counting (IIII) on sheets of paper and this made the counting much easier.

DAS Members Ray and Linda Banbury joined us about 9:30 am and the four of us with a short break for lunch spent the entire day until 3:30 fin clipping over 6,000 fish. We did take a short break about 10:45 am. Sharon Dorrity, Director of Constituent Relations of the LSSU Foundation stopped by to meet us. With LSSU photographer John Shibley on hand, we took the opportunity to get a photo with Rod & I handing Sharon & Roger the big photo-op check (and the actual \$1500 check) for this year's scholarship. Ray & Gary, on one side of us continued to fin clip while Linda & Brad were on the other side. This made for a great picture that captured it all.

Continued on page 4



# Detroit Area Steelheaders

Find us on: **facebook.**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**RENEWED MEMBERS**

**DUE NOW**

**1 MONTH PASSED**

NICOLAS AMICONE

JEFFERY BUSTOS

MARK CARLSON

NORM DAVIES

SHANE TAYLOR

HERMANN CHRISTOPH

TOM GORGUZE

JOEL PIATEK

HUNTER ENGEL

CHARLES DENNING

GARY GROSS

ROB PINSKEY

STEPHEN G. GENOFF

BILL KISER

2 MONTHS PASSED

GERALYN GASOWSKI

ROBERT M. JONES

PHILIP KISER

ANTHONY LEWIS

MIKE PARADISE

JAMES P. LEGENZOFF

ROBERT KSIONZEK

ED HILL

DICK SHIRK

GABE MCDUGALL

BRUCE TURNAGE

KURT NOFZ

**Membership special rate for guests attending AOTY and SOTY events.  
\$20 At the event for new members only. Pay in advance to count your score.**

**T-Shirt and Hat delivery reminder. If you placed an order for a t-shirt or hat, you can pick up your purchases at the May 28th membership meeting. If you phoned in an order, don't forget you will also be responsible for sales tax, as well as XXL and XXXL upcharges.**



**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.**  
P.O. Box 1255 Sterling Hgts., MI 48311-1255

**Outing & Tournament Special— \$20** Membership Application

New Member - \$35 Yearly       Renewal - \$35 Yearly

Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly       Address Change only

Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly (Electronic Newsletter)      Amt. Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME		DATE
ADDRESS		
CITY, STATE, ZIP	HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
BOAT NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS	

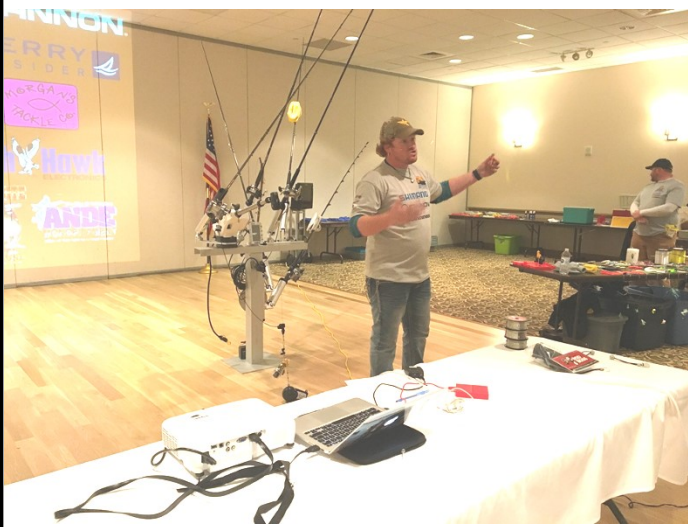


**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- BOB KSIONZEK**  
President  
Website, Boat Trolling  
586-531-9198
- TOM GORGUZE**  
Vice President  
Speakers & Education;  
Hats, Shirts & Jackets, Publicity  
Newsletter Publisher  
248-343-8397
- BOB PARADISE**  
River, Surf & Pier, AOTY  
586-781-2543
- BLAISE PEWINSKI**  
Shows, Wild Game Dinner, AOTY  
248-890-4517
- DAN CHISHOLM**  
Secretary  
Raffles, Elections  
586-530-9171
- ROD ELNICK**  
Treasurer  
Salmon-In-Classroom, Scholarships  
586-214-8812
- BOB FEISEL**  
Boat Trolling, Photography,  
Sportsman's Dinner  
248-765-2504
- KEN CIONE**  
248-227-1601
- BOB JONES**  
WGD Tickets, Scholarship  
734-751-1767
- JON MARTENS**  
Membership, Donations &  
Appropriations  
586-246-7880
- ANTHONY LEWIS**  
517-449-3036
- CARL VENTIMIGLIA**  
Wild Game Dinner  
586-615-7459
- JIM ZANKE**  
Special People, Shows, PA System  
586-489-2041
- TOM (TNT) THIEDA**  
Membership  
586 206-5902

- Assistants**  
**LINDA BANBURY**  
Special People
- MARY KARAKAS**  
Special People
- DON MIKROS**  
Newsletter Printer





Our April speaker was Hunter Engel from Best Chance Too Charters in Saugatuck, Michigan. Hunter represents the third generation of his family making their living on the lake. He was accompanied by his brother Zach and their presentation focused on southern Lake Michigan spring Salmon tactics. Early season presentations may vary somewhat from your summer program, but the key is still locating baitfish.

As the southern ports in Lake Michigan begin to warm up, some nice Kings and Lake Trout can be had along with the seasonal concentrations of Coho. Gold/orange and red/black Thin Fins on longlines continue to be favorite presentations when targeting Coho. Hunter pointed out that last year was an exceptional spring as big kings showed up in good numbers. This year it looks like big fish have returned, but it's not clear if the numbers will match last year. Many of the attendees were fortunate to leave with swag provided by the companies that sponsor the Best Chance team. In addition to all the raffle prizes they gave away, random members were also rewarded for insightful observations and questions. Thank you Hunter and Zach.

### St. Clair River Bottom Bouncing Outing

**When:** Saturday, June 15, 2019

**Where:** City of St. Clair Boat Harbor

Skippers Meeting: 5:30 a.m.

**Fishing Starts:** 6:00 a.m.

**Pull Lines:** 12:00 Noon

**Weigh In:** 1:00 (Must be in line by 1:00)

**Port Captains** Jim Paehlig (810) 887-9238 and Ed Paehlig (810) 305-4536

Like buying real estate the key to successful walleye fishing can be summed up in three words; location, location, location! Try shallow water early in the morning and on overcast days. Move out to deeper water on sunny days. Walleyes don't like bright, sunny days.

Try Trolling with the current, approximately 2.4 - 2.9 MPH, to keep the harness blade spinning. You don't want to go too fast that you cannot feel the bottom with your bouncer. On windy days, you can actually just drift, you will pick up enough speed to get their attention.

We use a 3 oz. Bottom Bouncer, and a double hook harness, approximately 36 inches long. We prefer, green on green, purple and pink, fluorescent orange and pearl harness colors. You don't need high dollar equipment. Just about any medium action spinning rod and reel with 10-12 pound line will do. We use our jigging rods with 10 pound braid. It helps you feel the bite.

Best tip to catch fish is holding your mouth just right, lol

Good luck to all! Jim and Ed Paehlig



### Anthony Lewis Retires from Fishing and Hunting !



Best wishes to DAS Board member Anthony Lewis and his lovely wife Jeanne.

Anthony took a day off from fishing to tie the knot on Saturday, May 18th in Rochester, Michigan.

Don't forget your old buddies Anthony!

### Boat Show and Swap Meet at May Meeting

We have several Captains presenting their fishing rigs and discussing their boat layouts. It's an opportunity to see various vessels and ask questions related to boat rigging. In addition to traditional big water and walleye rigs, we plan to have a fishing kayak on hand to cover what is quickly becoming a popular and affordable way to target multiple species.

You can clear out some of your old fishing gear, to make way for new stuff at the May meeting. Likewise, if you're looking to acquire some new gear, you can do that as well. In addition to the boat show we are hosting a swap meet at the May meeting. Bring some cash if your shopping, and bring your lightly used gear if you need cash. You never know what you'll find. There are always great deals to be had.



## Fin Clip

Continued

DAS Director Blaise Pewinski and Member Rob Pinskey spent the day on Thursday, May 9 helping 3 LSSU students to fin clip over 6800 fish to finish this year's stock for planting. The total count was some 19,000 fish that will be released into the St. Mary's River in June. The stock was a little down this here as there was a parasite in the river water that caused some mortality early on until the problem was resolved. Besides feeding, the remainder of time will be spent in acclimating the fish to the river water. The actual release is rather simple as they open a valve on a large pipe in each raceway and the fish and water are washed into the St. Mary's.



I personally enjoyed this experience and I am grateful to be able to help with this wonderful program at LSSU. As Roger Greil told us during lunch "Our goal is not to release Atlantic salmon but to educate and give the students a rewarding experience. The salmon are a benefit we receive." The Detroit Area Steelheaders will continue to support the LSSU Aquatics Research program with our scholarship and other donations. We are also looking forward to continue with the help during fin-clipping. It would be tremendous if we could provide additional volunteers in the future. If you have the time next year, consider giving up a day for this extremely worthwhile experience.

## Special Friends Outing June 8th

Our annual Special Friends event is scheduled on Saturday June 8th at Toledo Beach Marina on Lake Erie. Each year our Detroit Area Steelheaders organization hosts a group of "Special Friends" for a day of fun and fishing. This is a social outing where our Steelheaders donate our time entertaining people with special needs as our guests having fun fishing and picnicking on Lake Erie out of Toledo Beach Marina. After fishing, lunch is provided under the big tent where our "Special Friends" socialize and show off their 'days catch'. The remainder of the event is filled with pictures, prizes, and fun.



DAS sponsors this event as our effort to give back to our community, but its success comes from the experience of our members. Each person who helps knows

they are part of a worthwhile cause and the event is sustained because our members keep coming back. There will be a final opportunity at the May meeting for anyone interested in helping out to sign up.

This marks the 31st year club members and friends will gather for a day of fishing and fun. What makes this day extra special are the rewards all participants share. Boat captains, ground crew, our guests and their families look forward to this day each year. Boat captains will receive a \$50 gas card to help offset expenses. If you would like to assist, please reach out to Dan Chisholm at 586.530.9171 or Mary Karakas at 248.217.2962 if you can help in any way. We need your help to make this work. We are in need of additional boats and ground crew.

Dan Chisholm

## Summary of 2018 Salmon Stocking in Lake Michigan

A total of 9.44 million salmon were stocked into Lake Michigan in 2018, the lowest number stocked since 1972. The Fish and Wildlife Service stocked 96% of the lake trout while state agencies stocked all Pacific salmon (chinook & coho), brown trout, and rainbow trout.

**Lakewide salmon stocking, recent trends** Chinook salmon In 2018, 1.64 million were stocked, a 19% increase from 2017. Since 2014, the average number of Chinook salmon stocked has also been 1.64 million.

**Brown trout** 0.89 million were stocked in 2018, a 12% decrease from 2017. This also represents a 44% and 29% decrease from the recent 5-year mean in Wisconsin and Michigan waters, respectively.

**Lake trout** 2.52 million yearlings were stocked in 2018, a 9% decrease from 2017. Lake trout stockings were the lowest they have been since 2004.

**Rainbow trout** 1.98 million were stocked in 2018, a 7% increase from the recent 5-year mean in Wisconsin waters and a 33% increase from the recent 5-year mean in Michigan waters.

**Coho salmon** 2.41 million were stocked in 2018, a 9% decrease from the total stocked in 2017.

## Stiff Winds Greet Algonac Anglers

On April 27th a record 14 boats and 42 anglers participated in the annual Algonac walleye outing. The weather was cool and dry but 15 – 20 MPH winds made it difficult to keep lines vertical. While most participants struggled to catch fish, 14 anglers brought fish to the weigh-in. Steve Prout, Rob Pinskey, and Blaise Pewinski fished together and managed to weigh five each. Rumor has it they were spotted near St Clair fishing the Canadian side by the power plant. Steve weighed a 4.05 Walleye along with his 12.45lb five fish total, and walked away with a cool \$200 'Big Fish' prize. His total was also good for first place over all. Second place went to Rob Pinsky with an 11.20lb catch. Mark Paradise narrowly edged Blaise Pewinski out of third place with 10.35lbs.

If you've ever been to the Algonac outing you know fishing is only half the fun thanks to the club members who donate some of their choice Perch and Walleye fillets for the fish fry that follows the weigh-in. Special thanks to everyone who brought assorted sides and desserts, and Don Mikros who promises to share his recipe for the Mac 'n Cheese side dish in a future newsletter.







**Detroit Area Steelheaders**  
**P.O. Box 1255**  
**Sterling Hgts, MI 48311-1255**

Non-Profit  
 Org.  
 Place Stamp  
 Here

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

**MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

**PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT  
 LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974**

Membership Expires:



**2019 AOTY Leaderboard**

Event

Date	1/19/2019	2/4/2019	3/30/2019	4/13/2019	4/27/2019	6/15/2019	7/6/2019	9/14/2019	9/28/2019	10/26/2019	11/2/2019	12/7/2019	
Member	Mitchell's Bay	Bay City Saginaw	Steelhead Challenge	Oscoda Ausable	Algonac Walleye	St. Clair River	Linwood Beach	Sterling State Park	Platte River	Big Tom	Lakeshore Motel	Caseville Lake Trout	Best 2
Gaspere Aragona	2	5	1	2	6								3
Bob Paradise	1	3	6	4	10								4
Steve Prout	50	50	5	3	1								4
James Anderson	50	1	4	25	25								5
Mark Paradise	3	50	50	50	3								6
Blaise Pewinski	4	6	50	25	4								8
Tom Gorguze	5	25	25	25	7								12
Luke Paradise	7	50	50	50	11								18
Dan Chisholm	6	25	50	25	13								19

**Upcoming 2019 DAS Key Dates**

- Tue May 28, 2019      General Membership Meeting
- Tue June 11, 2019    BOD meeting
- Sat June 15, 2019    St Clair Outing
- Sat June 22, 2019    Board Of Directors Meeting
- Tue June 25, 2019    General Membership Meeting
- Sat July 6, 2019      Linwood Outing

**2019 April Membership Meeting Facts**

- Attendance:                      59
- Featured Guest:                Hunter Engel
- Featured Presentations:    Spring Salmon
- 50/50 Raffle Winner:        \$115 Brad Walton
- Every Member Draw:        Yaser Algharably (not present)