



Fishin" Tales III

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHERY SINCE 1974

DAS monthly membership meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month.

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April 26 Membership Meeting Recap

Our featured speaker for the April 26, 2022 Membership Meeting in Club 54 was Captain Ed Rutherford from Trout Scout Charters. Ed did a masterful job of leading the members through the recent history of Great Lakes Salmon fishing while at the same time offering tips on how successful charter boat captains consistently attain acceptable catches on the Great Lakes. Thank you Ed, for an enjoyable evening.

May 31, 2022 Membership Meeting at Club 54

We are pleased to announce the May member meeting speaker will be Tony Radjovich, President of the Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources (CPMR). Tony is also a Charter Captain of Reeling Leeland Charters.

Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources Mission Statement

The CPMR is serious about protecting sport fishing on the Great Lakes, its tributaries, inland lakes, and waterways. Our mission is to work with the US Government, Tribes, and the State of Michigan as an "Amicus Curiae" in the Federal court case governing Tribal fishing rights in the 1836 Treaty areas. DAS has a serious interest in this topic. Come out and listen.

Results, AuSable River Angler of the Year Outing April 23

James Anderson was the first place winner, good for one AOTY point, with his two Steelhead (9.16# and 8.45#). John Neef earned two AOTY points with his two Steelhead (10.91# and 6.07#). Big fish award went to John Neef with his 10.91# Steelhead while James Anderson took big fish second and third with his 9.16# and 8.45# Steelhead. A total of twelve DAS anglers competed on what started out with a rainy day but turned out to be pretty pleasant overall. The weigh-in was completed with a shore lunch enjoyed by all at the AuSable Inn.

St. Joseph SOTY Tournament April 30, 2022

Once again, Mother Nature pulled a fast on us this weekend! There were strong winds (20mph plus) from the East/ South East. We initially had 10 boats signed up for the St. Joe tournament. Two captains backed out, saying that the weather forecasts were too ugly. However, due to the high bluff's in the area, if you fished within the first mile of shore waves were no more than 1 ft.

We were joined by the Metro West Steelheaders for the weigh-in and lunch at 2 pm. Each club kept there own score cards and there was no competition between the two groups. All DAS boats brought fish to the weigh in. Not bad considering the circumstances.

Top boat for the day was "Vicki's Seacret" followed by "Equalizer" and "Lake Buzzard". A 13.75 lb. King caught on "Vicki's Seacret" was Big Salmon and good for \$80 cash! A Lake Trout weighing 8.1 lbs. caught aboard "Lake Buzzard" took home the Big Laker honors and \$40. Since no steelhead were weighed-in, 8 numbers were thrown in a pot and lucky Jim Zanke, skipper of "Hardtop & Tails" has his number drawn to win the \$40 for Big Steelie.

19 total fish were caught, the meal from Harding's was outstanding and everyone still managed to have a good time and enjoyed the camaraderie! Hopefully, at Grand Haven, Mother Nature will be a little kinder and the fishing will be better. See you there!

Port Captain, Joe Delisi

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Special Event Rate (New Members Only)- \$20

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

May 21/22 Skipper of the Year Grand Haven two day tournament

Grand Haven May 21st & 22nd

Grand Haven is the only two day tournament the Detroit Area Steelheaders have. The two-day tournament is accumulative, so if the fish don't cooperate on Saturday, Sunday affords a second chance. We fish Saturday 6am to 1pm and Sunday from 6am to 11am. Luncheon is served on Saturday only. There are two independent big fish pools, one for Saturday and one for Sunday. The Kings and Coho generally cooperate with good catches! Last year we had seven boats participate.

Grand Haven is an active small town with plenty of restaurants and lodging. Downtown offers some small restaurants and bars. Some chain restaurants are located outside the downtown area. There is a Meijer's on the south end of town. Our mid-May tournament usually coincides with a beachfront kite flying event held there, so it is recommended to reserve rooms early. Airbnb and Vrbo also offer houses to rent in the area. The municipal marina is one of the most up to date facilities. It features floating docks, cleaning station, and modern amenities, including Wi-Fi. Reservations are available on the Michigan DNR website.

We no longer have a 5am Captain's Meeting. **All registration is done online.** The Big Fish pool is a check box on the registration form and is voluntary. Both fees will be collected on Saturday. The registration form can be found at the DAS web site under the SOTY menu. Bob Ksionzek has made this incredibly easy to use. No downloading, just open the form, fill it out, and hit the submit button. **PLEASE REGISTER NO LATER THAN THE THURSDAY BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT.** The earlier, the better. This is not an iron clad contract; you can cancel by phone or email to the port captain or tournament director -Bob Feisel. From a personal perspective, early registration is not only courteous, but gives the port captain a more accurate number for lunch. This is very important to me, as I plan and buy the ingredients for a good , hot lunch ahead of time. Thanks.

Jim Zanke – port captain – Grand Haven

2022 TROLLING TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>PORT</u> | <u>START TIME</u> | <u>PORT CAPTAIN</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| APRIL 30 | ST JOSEPH | 6:30 | JOE DELISI |
| MAY 21-22 | GRAND HAVEN (2-DAY) | 6:00 | JIM ZANKE |
| JUNE 4 | PENTWATER HARBOR | 5:30 | PAUL GJELDUM |
| JUNE 18 | BEACH | 5:30 | JOE VON GRABE |
| JULY 9 | PRESQUE ISLE | 5:30 | BLAISE PEWINSKI |
| JULY 23 | MANISTEE | 6:00 | NATHAN CASE |
| JULY 30 | LUDINGTON | 6:00 | FRED CHARTIER |
| AUGUST 13 | FRANKFORT | 6:00 | TOM GORGUZE |

June 18, 2022 Skipper of the Year Tournament Harbor Beach

Harbor Beach

June 18th the Detroit Area Steelheaders fleet will be fishing out of Harbor Beach. To finish with the top boats in this tournament you'll need to target Lake Trout.

The traditional method of targeting the bigger Lake Trout is to go low and slow. The normal tactic for this is to station a crew member at each corner and constantly adjust the downrigger depths to tap the bottom. You don't want to drag bottom, especially further north toward Port Austin as the shale bottom tends to snag cannon balls. It's always a good idea to have a set of wire cutters handy in case you get hung up. On the riggers, try Spin-N-Glos behind cow bells or a dodger. My favorite setup is a Chartreuse and Lime Spin-n-Glo with white wings behind a Tin Can dodger. Lead length should be about one and a half times the dodger length or about 22". Wire line dipseys run close to bottom also work well.

At our March membership meeting, guest speaker Captain Paul Nienaltowski of Team Mermaid Fishing Charters out of Port Austin talked about the improving Steelhead and Coho fishery in lower Lake Huron. He also mentioned that more recently the Lake Trout can be caught using magnum sized spoons about five feet off of the bottom trolling at speeds around 3 mph. He also runs free sliders to target Steelhead and Cohos. At last year's tournament, there were several Cohos weighed in.

Two years ago, many Pink Salmon were caught and with their two-year life cycle, they should be around this time as well. Although they won't be big enough to count towards your tournament results, they are known to be great table fare. Check your lines often as you could be dragging one without knowing. I always say, "You can't catch a big fish if there's already a little one on your line". Areas to fish are anywhere from 60 - 120 fow either north, south or straight out from the Harbor. My experience has been at this time of the year, the better fishing will be north of the harbor. With the 20 mile radius from pier heads limit, you could fish all the way north off of Light House Park or east of Grindstone City. Last year the best fishing seemed to be off of Port Hope which is about 7 miles north.

We no longer have Skippers Meetings. You need to register online on the DAS website. You can leave the pier heads at any time with the tournament start on the honor system. Setting lines at 5:30 a.m. with fish calls at 9:00 and 11:00. We'll have a roll call about an hour after tournament start to confirm which boats are on the water. Pull lines by 12:30 p.m. with the weigh-in at 1:30 p.m. at the Municipal Marina. The minimum size for Lake Trout is 15 inches with a creel limit of 3. Hope to see you there. Good Luck.

Joe von Grabe
"Sloppy Joe"
586-945-4334

Grand Haven SOTY Tournament Recap May 21/22

A Grand Weekend in Grand Haven!

Seven boats participated in the only two day tournament on our schedule. Although the weather wasn't perfect it was quite fishable. Saturday the water wasn't too rough, but intervals of rain spanned the morning. At noon, it was decided to call the tournament early due to a threatening thunderstorm approaching, and the rained followed. Sunday was much dryer, but the wind picked up and shifted to the North. All seven boats managed to fish through it!

Probably the best news of the tournament was that all seven boats caught fish both days! After the first day of the tournament, Hardtop and Tails was in first place. On the second day, Hardtop and Tails netted a 17.4 pound king, but it wasn't enough to clinch first place! Wonder came in first place, followed by Lake Buzzard and Hardtop and Tails in third place.

The rain seemed to pick up Saturday as we readied for lunch and weigh in. Fortunately, the parking lot has a canopied area for the farmer's market. We backed our pick up trucks in and tail gated our lunch. Tacos and Mexican rice made up the menu, with nachos as an option. All the fixings were provided, soft and hard shells, tortilla chips, cheese, onion, lettuce, jalapenos, and of course – hot sauce!

As port captain, I was happy to provide a nice hot lunch and I am looking forward to the next tournament.

Jim Zanke

2022 DAS SOTY PENTWATER TOURNAMENT

WHEN: Saturday June 4, 2022

WHERE: Pentwater Municipal Marina 231-869-7028

TOURNAMENT START: 5:30 a.m. (Honor System Start)

Roll Call will be taken by Port Captain within 1 hour after start

FISH CALLS: Channel 72 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. PULL LINES: 12:30 p.m.

Lunch/weigh-in: 1:30 p.m. (must be in line by) Pentwater Municipal Marina

PORT CAPTAIN: Paul Gjeldum (Blue Horizon) 586-615-1928 Cell

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Bob Feisel (Vicki's Seacret) 248-765-2504 Cell

ENTRY FEE: \$20 Entry Forms available @ DAS SOTY-Entry Form

BIG FISH POOL(Optional): \$20 \$10 towards BIG SALMON - \$5 towards BIG STEELHEAD - \$5 towards BIG LAKE TROUT

Salmon-in-the-Classroom (SIC) Update

DAS Salmon-in-the-Classroom ambassador Rodney Elnick reports that salmon releases are successful and ongoing. On Friday, April 22, (126) salmon were released by Oakland Christian at Riverside Park in Auburn Hills. That represents an 85% success rate. Following that, on April 29, (132) salmon were released by Pine Knob, also from Riverside Park in Auburn Hills. That represents an 87% success rate.

Coming attractions:

Independence Elementary plans on releasing their salmon on Monday, May 16 at Dodge Park.

The DNR lottery system has awarded Pine Knob, two, Lamprey for observation. They will receive the Lamprey on May 10 and the children will be able to observe the Lamprey in the same tank the salmon were raised in.

The picture below shows some of the Oakland Christian students displaying their skills at salmon spoon creation where they use their imagination to prepare salmon spoons that will attract strikes.



Detroit Area Steelheaders
P.O. Box 297
Sterling Heights, MI. 48311-297

Place Stamp
Here

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

MEETING NOTICE—PLEASE DO NOT DELAY

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT
LAKES SPORTFISHERY SINCE 1974

Membership Expires:



Upcoming Dates

- May 17 BOD Meeting
- May 21/22 SOTY Grand Haven
- May 31 Membership Meeting Club 54
- June 4 SOTY Pentwater
- June 11 AOTY St Clair River Walleye
- June 18 SOTY Harbor Beach
- July 9 AOTY Presque Isle

Stanislaw Lee said that, "each snowflake in an avalanche pleads, not guilty".