



# Fishin' Tales III

Volume 6 Issue 1

January, 2023



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

Get the Latest Event Updates Online

You can still check us out:  
On the Interweb

[www.detroitsteelheaders.com](http://www.detroitsteelheaders.com)

Post to the message board and check out the entire site.

On the Facebook

[www.facebook.com/detroitarea/steelheaders](https://www.facebook.com/detroitarea/steelheaders)

On the OFFICIAL GROUP PAGE

Check out the new Facebook group page where you can post at: [www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/)

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## The President's Year in Review

*This is my first year serving as DAS President. I joined the club in 2008 and have been serving on the board of directors since 2015. I would like to reflect on our achievements.*

*We have had seven successful boating tournaments this year. Only one, Harbor Beach, was cancelled due to weather. Twenty different captains participated, including six guest captains. We averaged eight boats per event.*

*Angler of the Year events were introduced about 2015. Member participation has been outstanding! A huge ambition of the club is member involvement. Twelve events were scheduled this year, averaging 20 plus anglers per event. Some 60 different anglers participated in the Angler Events.*

*Many members may not realize our financial donations to various organizations. We help support the Shelby Fishing Derby and the Auburn Hills Fishing derby. These are children's events promoting sport fishing and hopefully future anglers. Michigan Conservation Clubs and the Coalition to Protect Michigan Resources look out for the best interest of anglers and receive donations from DAS. The Steelheaders have also established a small scholarship fund with Lake Superior State University. This is awarded to an individual majoring in fisheries/preservation of the Great Lakes.*

*Our primary fund raiser is The Wild Game Dinner held every spring in March. This event funds The Steelheaders for the year! Money brought in from membership dues and events are not nearly enough to cover our expenses – hall rental, Christmas Party, insurance, etc. **The Wild Game Dinner is an event that all members should participate in! This year's Wild Game dinner is March 4, 2023 at the Polish Cultural Center – 15 Mile Rd. and Dequindre.***

*As the new year unfolds in front of us, I wish everyone health, happiness, and good fishing!*

*Jim Zanke – Detroit Area Steelheaders President*

**There will be 7 Boat Trolling tournaments this year:**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PORT</u>	<u>PORT CAPTAIN</u>	<u>TIMES</u>
MAY 6	ST JOE	JOE DELISI	6 AM – 1 PM
MAY 20-21	GRAND HAVEN	JIM ZANKE	6 AM – 1 PM (Saturday) 6 AM – 11 AM (Sunday)
JUNE 3	HARBOR BEACH	JOE VON GRABE	5:30 AM – 1 PM
JULY 8	PRESQUE ISLE	BLAISE PEWINSKI	5:30 AM - 1 PM
JULY 22	MANISTEE	SCOTT CAMPBELL	6 AM – 1 PM
AUGUST 5	LUDINGTON	FRED CHARTIER	6 AM – 1 PM
AUGUST 12	FRANKFORT	NATE CASE	6 AM – 1 PM

A Skipper's best 4 tournament scores will count towards the Skipper of the Year Award. The entry fee will be \$15 per person. The optional Big Fish bet remains at \$20 / boat and is divided into 3 separate pools: Big Salmon for \$10 per boat, Big Steelhead for \$5 per boat, and Big Lake Trout for \$5 per boat. All 3 pools must be entered to participate. Tournament entry fees and Big Fish bets will be collected at the weigh-in and lunch will be provided at the weigh-in.

There are no Skipper's meetings prior to the tournament. Skippers should register at least 3 days prior to the tournament. Entry forms are available on the DAS website: [detroitsteelheaders.com/2023-entry-form](http://detroitsteelheaders.com/2023-entry-form).

Tournament rules are posted on the DAS website: [detroitsteelheaders.com/2023-schedule](http://detroitsteelheaders.com/2023-schedule). For more information about our boat trolling tournaments contact Chairman Bob Feisel (248-765-2504).

We look forward to seeing you on the water!

### **2022 SKIPPER OF THE YEAR Summary**

**DAS Captains and crews enjoyed friendly competition and camaraderie at 7 trolling tournaments in 2022.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> place boat</u>
April 30	St Joseph	Vicki's Seacret
May 21-22	Grand Haven	Wonder
June 4	Pentwater	Bad Dog
July 9	Presque Isle	Lake Buzzard
July 23	Manistee	Kingfish
July 30	Ludington	Bobby's Toy
August 13	Frankfort	Bad Dog

Points earned at the tournaments are accumulated throughout the season to determine the winner of the annual Skipper of the Year award. This year's winner is Fred Chartier ("Lake Buzzard"), second place is Tom Gorguze ("Bad Dog"), and third place is Joe Delisi ("Wonder"). Congratulations to Fred Chartier for the win!! Skipper of the Year 2022!!

## 2023 Detroit Area Steelheaders Angler of the Year Event Schedule

Date	Location	Port Captain/Coordinator
January 21, 2023	Metro Beach (Perch)	Gaspere Aragona
January 28, 2023	Selfridge DNR Ramp (Perch)	Dan Chisholm
February 25, 2023	Mitchells Bay CA (Perch)	Bob Paradise
March 25, 2023	Manistee River (Steelhead)	Roger Paradise
April 22, 2023	AuSable River (Steelhead)	Gary Gross
May 13, 2023	St. Clair River Algonac (Walleye)	Tom Gorguze
June 10, 2023	St. Clair River St. Clair Harbor (Walleye)	Rob Pinsky
June 10/11, 2023*	Auburn Hills Kids Outing *This is not an Angler outing. Rather, it is a separate event that DAS supports. Membership is encouraged to attend and help out.	
July 15, 2023	Au Gres (Walleye)	Gary Gross
September 9, 2023	Lake St. Clair Harley Ensign Ramp (Perch)	Gaspere Aragona
September 30, 2023	Manistee River (Steelhead/Salmon)	J. Anderson/L.Gamblin
October 14, 2023	AuSable River (Steelhead/Salmon)	Gary Gross
October 28, 2023	Manistee River/Pier/Beach (Steelhead)	M. Wyrick/A. Kulpa
November 4, 2023	Manistee River/Pier/Surf (Steelhead)	Bob Paradise
December 9, 2023	Caseville River (Lake Trout)	Rob Pinsky

Due to rising costs, entry into any Angler of the Year (AOTY) event costs a mandatory \$15/person to cover the cost of the shore lunch during the competition weigh-in. That's an increase of \$5/person over previous years. There is also an **optional** \$10/person fee to enter the big fish competition. All State and local rules apply. All perch outings include an 8 inch minimum requirement to qualify at weigh-in.

**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.**  
**P.O. Box 297, Sterling Heights, MI. 48311-297**

- |  |  |                    |
|--|--|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member - \$35 Yearly                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal - \$35 Yearly | Amt. Paid \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 & over)- \$20 Yearly                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Address Change only   |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 16) - \$20 Yearly (Electronic Newsletter) |  |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special Event Rate (New Members Only)- \$20             |  |                    |

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Jim Zanke**  
 President  
 Donations, PA, Shows  
**586-489-2041**
- Bob Feisel**  
 Vice President  
 Boat trolling  
**248-765-2504**
- ROD ELNICK**  
 Treasurer  
 Salmon-In-Classroom, Scholarships  
**586-214-8812**
- James Anderson**  
 Secretary, AOTY  
**313-330-3680**
- TOM GORGUZE**  
 Speakers & Education;  
 Hats, Shirts & Jackets, Publicity  
 Newsletter  
**248-343-8397**
- BLAISE PEWINSKI**  
 AOTY, Speakers/Education, Shirts/  
 Hats  
**248-890-4517**
- Dan Chisholm**  
 Newsletter  
**586-530-9171**
- Nathan Case**  
 Boat trolling  
**248-730-2591**
- STEVE PROUT**  
 Membership, Publicity  
**810 923-1670**
- CARL VENTIMIGLIA**  
 Wild Game Dinner  
**586-615-7459**
- Bob Ksionzek**  
 Membership, web-site, newsletter  
**586-531-9198**
- Bob Paradise**  
 AOTY, River, Surf & Pier  
**586 457-4073**
- Anthony Lewis**  
**517-449-3036**
- Assistants**
- STEVE HAMITON**  
 Club Historian
- LINDA BANBURY**  
 Special People
- MARY KARAKAS**  
 Special People
- Mark Wyrick**  
 Raffles
- PAUL GJELDUM**  
 Awards
- CHRIS NYTKO**  
 Facebook
- Anna Kulpa**  
 Photography, Raffles

Our 2022 AOTY events all went great, we had very few issues with weather or any other delays. There was a total of 12 outings with good participation. The 1st event was an ice fishing outing at Metro beach where the best 5 perch took top honors. The 2nd outing was changed from Saginaw bay to Selfridge DNR. this also was weigh your best 5 perch. Next was a fish off with Metro west on the Manistee river water shed for steelhead. The 4th outing was also a steelhead tournament but on the AuSable river. We switched gears on our 5th and 6th outings to the St. Clair river for Walleye, jigging and trolling, weigh your best 5 Walleye. The 7th event was then switched to Saginaw bay for another Walleye outing. Our 8th outing was another perch tournament out of Selfridge DNR, again for your best 5 perch. Our 9th outing was a salmon tournament on the Manistee river water shed, weigh your best 3 salmon. The 10th and 11th outings were also on the Manistee river water shed. These were weigh your best 3 steelhead and we also had a fish off with the Metro West Steelheaders. The last, and most popular outing, was in Caseville seeking Lake Trout. A successful Caseville tournament ended our Angler season on a high note where everyone had fun.

This is just a summary of our AOTY season. All of the Angler of the Year outings include a shore lunch at the weigh-in site where we swap tales both big and small. For more details everyone should come and fish a couple of our events.

### Caseville AOTY Outing December 10, 2022

On Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> the Detroit Area Steelheaders were in Caseville for the last A.O.T.Y. event of the year. The weather was great! The sky was overcast, Temperatures in the mid 30s, with a 5-10 mph breeze from the E-ESE. Fishing, well it wasn't as good as we were hoping for. We had a great turnout with 38 participants. Nine of the anglers managed to catch a total of 12 Lake Trout.

#### Here are the results of the lucky anglers:

1st - Bob Paradise	2nd - Kevin Longley	3rd – Steve Zurawski
4th - James Anderson	5th - Mark Wyrick	6th – Jim Zanke
7th – Laurie Gamblin	8th - Nathan Case	9th - Gary Gross

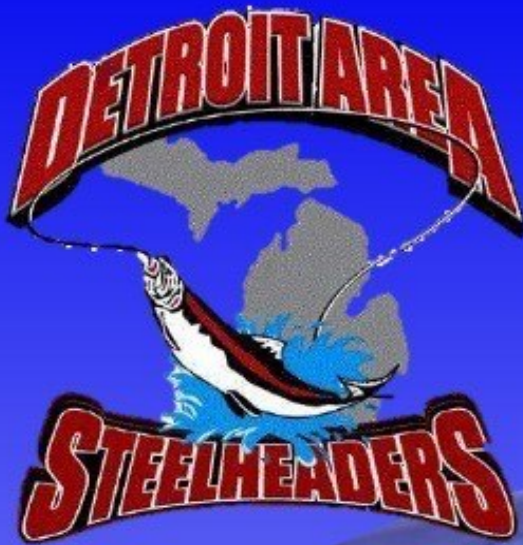
Big fish pool had a whopping 37 participants! The top 3 winners: 1st place - Bob Paradise \$185 - 2nd place - James Anderson \$111 3rd place - Mark Wyrick \$74

We all enjoyed pizza and salad for lunch at the clubhouse. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to Louie Balaze for arranging the clubhouse for us to use again this year! A good time was had by all!

I just wanted to also mention that beside the Lake Trout, there were a few other species of fish reeled in. Rob Pietrowski Sr. caught a 9 lb. Walleye (there were a few others caught also), Laurie caught a 8 lb. Pike, and Nate Case caught a 4 lb. Burbot.

We also had a couple of new members sign up at this event!

Thanks! And Tight Lines, Rob Pinsky.



# 23RD ANNUAL SPORTSMAN'S DINNER

Saturday March 4th, 2023 - Doors @5 Dinner @6

\$80 per person includes Beer & Soft Drinks

Email: [Cvvent@gmail.com](mailto:Cvvent@gmail.com) for Advanced Tickets.

Gun Raffles, Table Raffles, Meat Coolers,  
Fishing Charers, Hunting Trips, 50/50 and MORE!

MC: Billy Hoffman - Best Selling Outdoors Author  
and Headliner of the DadBod Comedy Tour

CATERING  
THANKS TO



GUN RAFFLES  
PROVIDED BY



TAXIDERMY  
SPONSOR



American Polish Cultural Center  
2975 E. Maple rd Troy MI, 48083



On Tuesday December 13, 2022 the Detroit Area Steelheaders held our annual meeting as required by our by-laws. While it is a required meeting it is really much more. It is a celebration of all of the activities of the past year. We elect the new board of directors and thank those directors who are stepping down. We present awards for Skipper of the Year and Angler of the Year. We present awards for big king salmon and big steelhead caught during the past year.

After the election and awards are completed the real fun begins as we introduce all the members children to Salmon-Clause! Salmon-Clause presents gifts to all the children. No gifts of coal, because there are no bad children.

Congratulations to Skipper of the Year award winners:

1st place—Fred Chartier “Lake Buzzard” (also SOTY biggest king, and lake trout 2022)

2nd place—Tom Gorguze “Bad Dog”

3rd place—Jos Delisi “Wonder”

Congratulations to Angler of the Year award winners:

1st place—Bob Paradise

2nd place—James Anderson

3rd place—Gaspere Aragona

AOTY big steelhead—Rabih Abdallah

### Pictures taken During the Annual Meeting (next few pages)



Fred Chartier SOTY 1st Place



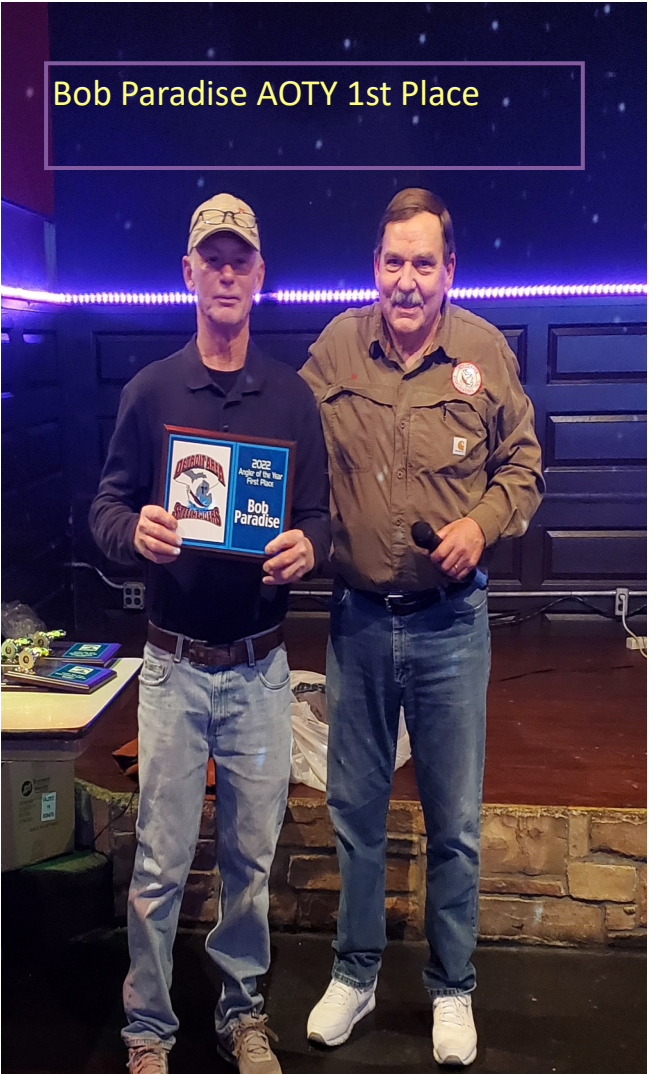
Tom Gorguze SOTY 2nd Place



Joe Delisi SOTY 3rd Place



Bob Paradise AOTY 1st Place







The DAS bids a fond farewell and thank you, to outgoing board of directors members Tom Gorguze and Steve Prout. Thank you for your service to the BOD and membership. Jim Zanke and Dan Chisholm were re-elected to serve on the new board of directors. We also welcome, and look forward to working with, incoming newly elected BOD members Rob Pinsky and Virginia Williams.

The 2023 BOD will convene in January to select officer positions (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary). At-Large board members will complete remaining committee assignments.

### Detroit Area Steelheader Meeting Dates and Location

As a general rule all membership meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month. There are instances where a holiday may cause an adjustment for that month. Indoor meetings during cold months begin at 7:30 pm. Meetings in the River Bends Park\* will begin at 7:30 in May but will begin earlier as we must adjust for earlier nightfall.

Membership Meeting Date	Time	Location	Speaker
January 31, 2023	7:30	Club 54 37722 Van Dyke Ave Sterling Hts. MI	Kurt Stracka, ice fishing demonstration
February 28, 2023	7:30	Club 54	Ryan Bulard, river Steelhead fishing demo.
March 28, 2023	7:30	Club 54	TBD
April 25, 2023	7:30	Club 54	Club Member Joe von Grabe
May 30, 2023	7:30	River Bends Park, 5700 22 Mil Rd Shelby Twp. MI.	National Weather Service (NWS) Kyle Klein/Bryan Tilley
June 27, 2023	7:30	River Bends Park	TBD
July 25, 2023	TBD*	River Bends Park	TBD
August 29, 2023	TBD	River Bends Park	TBD
September 26, 2023	7:30	Club 54	TBD
October 31, 2023	7:30	Club 54	TBD
November 28, 2023	7:30	Club 54	TBD
December 19, 2023	7:30	Club 54 Annual Mtg & Salmon Clause	Elections, awards, celebration

1. The Detroit Steelheaders mission is to “protect and promote the Great Lakes sport fishery”. We support our Michigan waterways and assist those governing bodies who are charged with the responsibility of sustaining them.
2. Membership is inexpensive! Twelve free monthly educational membership meetings where speakers address boating safety, boat maintenance, how-to seminars on all types of fishing. Great Lakes forecast on the condition of the Great Lakes for the coming year. Our members have ample time during meetings to network with friends and just enjoy comradery. We also hold voluntary 50:50 raffle and tackle raffle where you can go home with a nice door prize. Monthly newsletter is included in the cost of membership.
3. We support parochial and public education by funding and mentoring “Salmon in the Classroom” activities in separate schools.
4. We support continuing education by providing a renewable scholarship to Lake Superior State College for students enrolled in ecological programs.
5. We assist local communities by funding and mentoring local “Kids Fishing Derbies”.
6. We fish!
7. “Captain of the Year Award”. The Detroit Steelheaders schedule several club salmon fishing tournaments each year where points are awarded where participants earn points toward earning the “Captain of the Year” award.
8. “Angler of the Year Award”. Events are held year-round where members fish piers, rivers, and ice. Walleye events, Perch events, Lake trout events near and far.
9. Being on the water is safer when you fish with a group. If you get in trouble on the water there’s a better chance of someone being around who can help. It may save your life.
10. As part of a club you meet like-minded people who fish. This can lead to friendships and more opportunities to be on the water. We also have a “Crews Board” program where boat captains can request crew and others can ask for the opportunity to crew for someone.
11. We are a teaching club. Some of our members are very experienced and talented fishermen. We share that knowledge with other members to help them become better fishermen.

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:



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## Upcoming Dates

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| January 12/15 | Ultimate Fishing<br>Show Suburban Collection |
| January 17    | Board of Directors Mtg                       |
| January 21    | AOTY Event Metro Beach                       |
| January 28    | AOTY Event Selfridge                         |
| January 31    | Membership Mtg                               |

**“Seven Rules of Life, 1) Let it go, 2) Ignore them, 3) Give it time,  
4) Don’t compare, 5) Stay calm, 6) It’s on you, 7) Smile”**