



Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

April Meeting

- When:**
Tuesday, April 27, 2010 7:30pm
- Where:**
American Polish Cultural Center
Northwest corner,
15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- Featured Speaker :**
Pete Butchko—State Director
USDA Wildlife Services
Cormorant Program Update
- Other Happenings:**
Lexington boat tournament
Results, River tournament news,
Tackle raffles, 75-25 Drawing &
more
- Up-To-Date Information on
the DAS website at:**
www.detroitsteelheaders.com

Volume XXXV, Issue 4

April 2010

Free Youth Fishing License!

The Detroit Area Steelheaders proudly support the Fisheries Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources through the purchase of voluntary youth fishing licenses. Every Michigan fishing license sold generates matching revenue as provided by the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, which is more commonly referred to as the Dingle-Johnson Act.

The purchase of every Michigan fishing license generates between six to eight dollars in federal funds that support Michigan's fisheries programs. Apportioned funds returned to qualifying states are used for; implementing and maintaining fish restoration programs, expanding public access for recreational boating, pay up to 75 percent of the costs of aquatic resource education and

outreach programs, and of constructing, renovating, or maintaining pump-out stations and waste reception facilities.

In 2009, the Detroit Area Steelheaders purchased nearly 100 youth licenses for young fishermen. A two dollar fishing license is voluntary for children less than 17 years old and allows each child their own possession limit. More importantly, we believe it promotes stewardship for our fisheries resource in our children. In 2010 we will continue to support the fishery through the purchase of licenses for young fishermen. Included inside is the application which can be returned (along with a stamped self addressed envelope) for your children and/or a young sportsman who would like their own Michigan Fishing License.

Inside this issue:

March Meeting (Cont'd from pg.1)	2
Membership News	2
Lexington Tournament	2
2010 Boat Trolling Schedule	2
River, Surf & Pier Outings	3
River, Surf & Pier Pictures	3
Voluntary Youth Fishing License Ap-	4
More Pictures	4
Lexington Tournament (Cont'd from pg. 2)	5
St. Joseph Tournament	5
2010 DAS Key	6

If you missed the March meeting

President Mark Williams opened the meeting at 7:45 with 55 persons in attendance. He promptly informed everyone that the 2010 Wild Game Dinner was yet another success with over 400 persons attending. This being the Club's sole fundraiser, it probably safe to say that we should be in great financial shape for the upcoming year. That's to all who pitched in to help and especially, Vice-President Bob Mitchell who chaired the event and for his excellent job emceeding the evening's dinner and raffles.

Mark then turned the floor over to our featured guest speaker, Capt. Jerry Lee for his presentation on Spring Trolling tactics. Jerry started out fishing with our Club, what was then the Detroit Chapter of The Michigan Salmon and Steelhead Fisherman's Association about 35 years ago. He was Skip-

per of the Year in 1978, 1979 and 1980. He has been a very successful charter captain for the last 25 plus years and his experienced came through in his presentation.

Jerry feels that consistency, presentation, speed and Direction of Troll (D.O.T.) are the key ingredients to spring salmon and trout trolling (and summer and fall trolling too.) He gave us a fact filled, tip-filled hour and 15 minute presentation that ended with a Q& A session that was thoroughly enjoyed by those in attendance. Thanks to Jerry for an excellent, well done evening.

After the break, Mark introduced Bruce Tufford, who is heading up this year's Special People Outing on June 12. Bruce was asking for additional skippers to participate to make this year's event the biggest and

See [March Meeting](#) on Page 2

March Meeting cont'd from Page 1

best so far. Be sure to hook up with Bruce at 248-821-2036 if your interested.

Then it was Bob Ksionzek's turn to present the info for the upcoming 1st tournament of the 2010 Boat Trolling season at Lexington on Saturday, April 24th. The good news there was that beside the early season salmon, steelhead and browns that are available, they would be complimented by the fact that this year the Lake Huron Lake Trout season from Lexington to Harrisville opened on January 1st and Lakers would also be in the mix. See the following article for more information.

Anthony Lewis followed with an update on the three River tournaments that were held. (See article on Page 3) Tom Gorguze also reminded everyone that the DAS would be participating in this year's Voluntary Youth fishing license program. (See the article on Page 1 and find the application inside this newsletter)

The meeting wrapped up with the usual excellent tackle raffles and our 75/25 drawing. Dennis Holoway won the \$96 1st prize and Jim Zanke won the \$48 2nd prize. Unfortunately Fred Hynick wasn't in attendance and could not claim his \$100 bill in the Every Member drawing.

Membership News

New Membership

Capt. Richard Laaksonen

New Life Time Membership

Tim & Jody Robinson

Renewed Memberships

Nic Amicone	John Gesing
Gaspere Aragona	Mike Lehto
Henry Baczynski	George Leonard
Daniel Chisholm	Anthony Lewis
Ron Connors	Michael Lolli
Jim Fitch	Gilbert Piesczak
Mark Gazda	Allan Van Brocklin

Expired or Near Expired Memberships

Bob Brumer	Dennis Holoway
Merv Champine	Bob Ksionzek
Robert Ewart	Jay Labban
Jack Herron	Tmothy Waidelich

**Lexington Tournament
Saturday, April 24, 2010**

Wow! winter is finally over and I can't wait to get back on the tournament trail with my DAS friends. The day will start with a skip-pers meeting at 5:30 am, held by the rest-rooms in the municipal dock area. Fishing will start at 6:30 am and finish at 2:30 pm. with weigh to follow at 3:30 pm. in the city park. Lake Huron should produce some nice catches of Kings, Coho and a few Steelhead this time of year. Also, this year Lake trout season from Lexington to Harrisville on Lake Huron opened on Jan. 1 and

2010 Boat Trolling Schedule

See **Lexington** on Page 5

Port	Date	Port Captain
Lexington	April 24	Blaise Pewinski
St. Joseph	May 1	Dan Chisholm
Grand Haven 2-Day (333)	May 22-23	Bob Feisel
Pentwater	June 26	Al Weichert
Manistee I	July 10	Tom Gorguze
Ludington Ladies Day	August 7	Mark Williams
Ludington II 2-Day (333) Team Doubles Day 1	August 14-15	Ron Pal
Manistee II (333)	August 28	Bob Paradise
Onokama	September 11	Jody Robinson

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BLAISE PEWINSKI
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BRUCE TUFFORD
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248-821-2036

River, Surf and Pier Outings

We have had great spring season with outings on the Huron, Clinton, and Manistee!

3/6 Huron River: Five club members met for breakfast at Kate's café in Flat Rock. It was a beautiful, warm, bluebird day. It was wonderful weather to be out in, but not to fish in. Between the five of us, one beautiful chromer was caught in lower Huron.

3/20: Clinton River: Gasper, Bob Paradise, and Anthony Lewis fished the Clinton by the dam. Another group fished south of Dequindre. It was a freezing day morning. Gasper hooked a nice steelie, but didn't land it. We had a great time, but no fish to weight.

3/26: Manistee. We had a wonderful trip and fish off against the Metro West Steelheaders! We were nervous about our prospects against Metro West since they brought 22 people on the trip and we only had five. In retrospect, we had nothing to worry about.

Members Bob Paradise and Anthony Lewis fished Tippy Dam. Jerry Zabel, Dan Whitmill, and Ed Horn fished mid-river in Jerry's river boat, the Wish Full. Jerry's team scored with two nice steelies pulling plugs. The fishing was decent, but tough at Tippy. Most people didn't catch anything, but like always, Bob Paradise came through and caught two nice ones bobber fishing. I fished all day next to Bob and copied his tactics as best I could, but alas, didn't get bite all day.

We were nervous when we headed to the weight at the Metro West Farm. With their overwhelming number advantage, we thought they would kick our butts. However, we had Bob and Jerry, and they really came through. Metro West had one fish to our four. We had a great meal and fellowship with Metro West after the weight in. The Metro West River Chair remarked: "Bob Paradise can catch steelhead out of a mud puddle". Enough said.

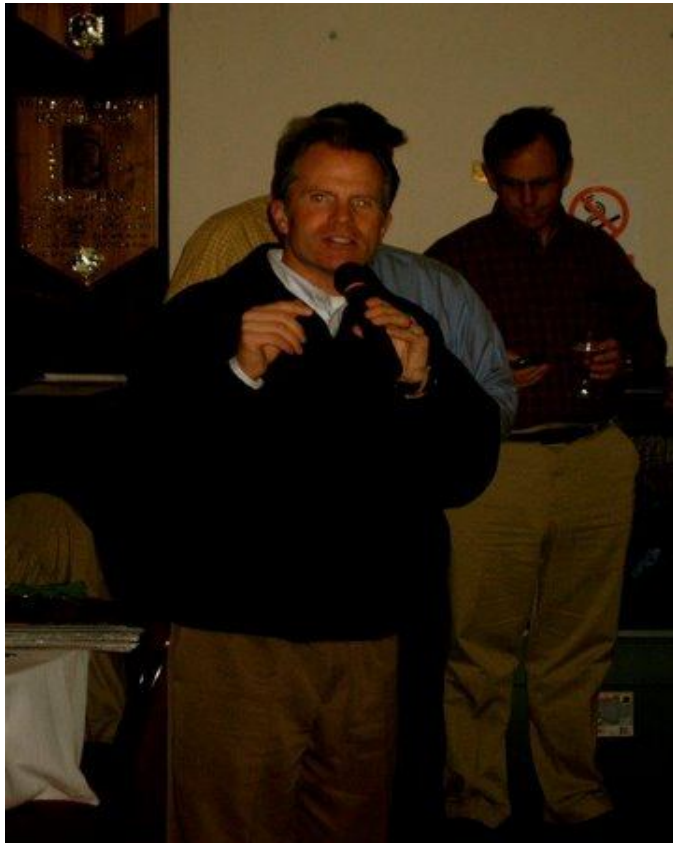
Anthony Lewis
River, Surf, and Pier Chairman.

Various Pictures from The Spring DAS River, Surf and Pier Outings



Voluntary Youth Fishing License Application (for up to 2 Applicants)

First Name		Middle Initial	Last Name	
Street Address			Sport Card Number (if applicable)	
City			State	Zip Code
Telephone		Height	Weight	Gender
First Name		Middle Initial	Last Name	
Street Address			Sport Card Number (if applicable)	
City			State	Zip Code
Telephone		Height	Weight	Gender



Attorney General Mike Cox addressing the Wild Game Dinner on the Asian carp problem



The 2010 DAS Great Lakes Fisheries Scholarship winner Philip Ganz

Lexington cont'd from Page 2

there will be some of those available to add to the day's catch. Most of the fishing should be in 30 FOW or less. Places to key on should be the many creek mouths that flow in this area. Lakeport state park to the south and the clay banks all the way to Port Sanilac north will produce this time of year. Try to find the warmest water and fish the edges of dirty water where fish will be feeding on Smelt on their annual spawning run.

Fishing techniques used on my boat, "SEA HAG" this time of year would be to deploy 5 rods on large tethered planer boards and 4 rods set shallow on downriggers with long leads. Early in the morning we like to start in 10 FOW in hopes of finding fish still feeding on the smelt that moved in to spawn during the night. Planer board rods are set from 40 to 100 feet behind the boat. Likely baits would be Rapala J 11 or 13 in orange or yellow mixed in with Long A bombers or Rebels in fire tiger, blue/silver, purple/ black, or the Dot pattern. The same would be run on the riggers only set from 0 to 5 feet maybe with a few spoons in the mix. Experiment with lure size keeping in mind the Emerald Shiner hatch the last 3 years has been outstanding. As the morning goes on move to deeper water and set your riggers deeper.

A helpful thing to do for your body baits so they look and track proper is the use of size 2 coast lock snaps with no swivel or tie direct with a loop knot for a better presentation. Another trick is to half hitch a rubber band on your planer board or rigger lines at the release, this way after landing that 15 pound king, you know exactly where to reset your bait and repeat the same pattern over and over.

Let's make this a fun first tournament for 2010 and pass any good info while on the lake. Remember we are all friends looking to have fun catching fish and some day you might need a little help while on the pond!

Blaise Pewinski

St. Joseph Tournament

WHEN: Saturday May 1st, 2010

WHERE: West Basin Marina

SKIPPERS MEETING: 5:00 a.m.

TOURNAMENT START: 6:00 a.m.

FISH CALLS: 9:00 a.m. and noon Channel 72

PULL LINES: 2:00 p.m.

WEIGH-IN: 3:00 p.m. (must be in line by)

West Basin Marina

PORT CAPTAIN: Dan Chisholm (Channing)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Bob Feisel (Vicki's Seacret) or Co-director Bob Ksionzek (Last Dime)

REMINDERS: Lake Trout- Size 20" minimum, Creel 3.

Slip Reservation: West Basin Marina is available for reser-

ervations on May 1. You can register online for a boat slip at <http://www.midnrreservations.com> or call (800)447-2757. Saturday May 1 is the first day the Marina is officially open and weather permitting they list a full line of services (fuel, water, electricity, restrooms/showers, and fish cleaning station). West Basin is nearing completion of a major renovation project and as of March 17 they still believe everything will be completed by May 1. Look for a new lounge with big screen TV, a new office and store, along with two new slips for thirty foot boats.

Visit the DAS website for information on the St. Joseph area. Our tournament link will provide information on tournament rules, lodging, and where to eat. You can also use the crews/captains feature to assist captains fill up their crew or for people who need to find a ride. When you call for lodging reservations ask if they provide a discount for Steelheaders tournaments.

Boat Launch: There are two boat ramps available up river from West Basin Marina. The Municipal ramp is on the South side of the river and has the largest parking area. If you use this ramp cross the river immediately and hug the north side as you make your way down river. The center of the river is very shallow along that stretch. The DNR ramp is on the North side just across from the Municipal ramp. It's a good place to launch but the parking area is not real big and stay tight to the North shore after launching to avoid the shallows.

Regardless of where you launch, be alert as you approach the railroad trestle on your way to West Basin Marina. If you have your antenna and rods raised it could be a problem if the trestle closes.

Local Bait Shop: Tackle Haven 741 Riverview Dr. at Gray St. (very close to the DNR ramp), phone number 269-925-0341. I don't know how Tackle Haven prices compare but it is a full line bait shop so if you need something you will not be disappointed.

Last Year's Results:

On May 2, 2009 - 7 boats weighed in 49 fish for a total of 450 pounds. The fish weighed in were 46 Kings, 2 Coho, and 1 Steelhead. Silver Addiction was the winner with a total weight of 94 pounds.

Notes from the February membership meeting: Richard Laksonen from "Finweaver II"

Early spring fishing in the Michigan City/St. Joe area.
Colors - Orange - reds- yellow - green
Body baits or spoons on boards 75 feet back
Don't ignore top 25 feet of water column

Hope to see you in St. Joe on May 1

Dan Chisholm

2010 DAS Key Dates

April 24, 2010 6:00am - 2:00pm	1st Boat Trolling Tournament Lexington, MI
April 27, 2010 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
May 11, 2010 7:30pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
May 22-23, 2010	Boat Trolling Tournament Grand Haven (Two-Day)
May 25, 2010 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center

CHECK YOUR LABEL

Did you know that your mailing label includes the date your membership expires? The month and year your membership expires is below your name. If it's marked yellow, your membership may be close to expiring. Don't be disqualified from a tournament because you forgot to re-up. Regular memberships are still \$25, Senior \$10 and Lifetime \$150. See Tom Moores at the regular meeting or send your check to:

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



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