

# Fishin' Tales

July 2005  
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### July Meeting

The July regular member meeting will take place on July 26. The featured speaker will be former DAS President and current Charter Captain, Dave Even.

Dave will give the membership an overview of current fishing conditions and techniques for Ludington. With the two Ludington tournaments in August, this will be a fact filled presentation you won't want to miss.

As always, the general meeting takes place at 7:30 P.M. in the hall at 6177 Chicago Rd. (east of Mound Rd., North of 13 Mile Rd.)-Warren,

### June 25 Frankfort Tournament

#### Results:

Several boats had arrived at Frankfort before Saturday's tournament, hoping to pre-fish on Friday and locate good fishing spots. But, nature did not cooperate. The winds were blowing hard from the SW all day Friday and six-foot waves kept the boats at the docks. The winds finally calmed down around 7 PM allowing a few boats to go out

in fishable 3-4 foot waves, just in time for thunderstorms that rolled though area and shut down the evening excursion. Captains that had the opportunity to fish earlier in the week had reported fair results, with a lot of small Kings and some steelhead in the mix.

On Saturday morning we awoke to find calm winds and clear skies. There were sixteen boats registered at the 5 AM captains meeting. On Lake Michigan the water was calm, the breezes were gentle, and the temperature was very comfortable (unlike the 90+ heat wave that was blasting Detroit that day).

In spite of the beautiful weather, the fishing proved to be difficult for most teams. By the 9 AM fish call "Outta Line" was having an outstanding morning, reporting in with seven fish. "Bad Dog" and "Bobby's Toy" both had four fish, and the rest of the fleet had two or less. A lot of small Kings were being returned to the lake (look for an improved King harvest in two more years).

At the noon fish call, "Outta Line" reported nine fish, and "Bad Dog" was close behind with six. Here are the official results from the 3 PM weigh-in:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Outta Line	119.9
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bad Dog	83.7
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lil Scratch	64
4 <sup>th</sup>	Thors Hammer	56.2
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sloppy Joe	55.9
6 <sup>th</sup>	Vicki's Seacret	50.7

7 <sup>th</sup> Bobby's Toy	50.6
8 <sup>th</sup> Sea Hag	48.5
9 <sup>th</sup> No Limit	45.6
10 <sup>th</sup> Aquarius II	37.4
11 <sup>th</sup> Slapshot	36
12 <sup>th</sup> Pat-a-Wac	14.95
13 <sup>th</sup> Blue Horizon	14.7

Sixteen boats participated in the event. Thirteen boats weighed fish.

Total number of fish =	59
43	Kings
11	Steelhead
2	Coho
2	Lake Trout
1	Brown Trout

Outta Line won the \$75 Big Fish prize with a nice 16.70 pound King.

At the weigh-in everyone enjoyed pizza and salad, while a live band provided entertainment at the pavilion. ☺ Those that stayed in Frankfort on Saturday night also enjoyed a beautiful sunset and a fireworks show over Betsie Lake.

Bob Feisle – Vicki's Seacret

### Manistee Tourny Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>

Out 8<sup>th</sup> tournament this year will be held at the port of Manistee. This is a favorite port of many of our Captain's as evidenced by the excellent turnout every year. Maybe it's the variety of fish available or the chance to get that trophy of a lifetime. This port routinely produces master angler entries and this is the perfect time of year to catch that one for the wall. Remember the "Monster Coho", caught here a few years back. With over a million fish planted here annually, there's plenty to go around for everyone. August fishing in Manistee brings mostly large kings and with Cohoes and steelhead mixed in. Two years

ago saw some of the largest catches of any of our club tournaments in a lot of years.

Depending on the weather conditions, one of the favorite areas to work is the shelf or ledge that's about two to three miles out and runs south all the way to Big Sable Point and north to Frankfort. Often, fish can be found off of this shelf in 70 – 300 feet of water. Some of the landmarks in this direction are Gurney Creek and Three Bears. With the recent change to a 20 mile radius from the harbor, you can fish off of Big Sable point along with the boats out of Ludington. Sometimes the big kings will be staging off of the river mouth or just north off the Green Onion in as shallow as thirty to forty feet of water. If finding the big kings becomes tuff, you can always find steelhead and three year old kings straight out in deeper water. A north-south troll usually is best early in the morning and often an east-west troll works best later in the day.

Make sure you have plenty of cable on your downriggers because the fish may be very deep. Use heavy duty terminal tackle. Last year, I bent three swivels on large kings, and snapped off two wire dipsies. Green seems to be the color of choice. Spindoctors (white with green flies) work well, hoochies, j-plugs, and cut bait also works well this time of year.

The Skipper's meeting will be at 5:00 a.m. Saturday morning at the K of C Pavilion just west of the DNR ramp, with a 6:00 a.m. tournament start. Remember we no longer do shotgun starts. You can run out to your spot after the Captain's meeting but don't begin setting lines until 6:00 a.m. when the tournament start is announced on channel 72. Fish calls will be at 9:00 a.m. and noon. Pull lines at 2:00 and be at the weigh-in by 3:30 p.m. The weigh-in will also be at the K of C Pavilion. Pop and hot dogs will be available during the weigh-in ceremonies.

Good luck to everyone and see you there.

-Bob Paradise, "Almost Paradise" 586-457-4073

### 2005 Ludington Tournaments August 6<sup>th</sup> & August 13th

The next two tournaments coming up on our schedule will be back to back at Ludington. The first one is our annual **Ladies Day Tournament** and will be held on **August 6<sup>th</sup>**. For this tournament, the guys can set lines and net the fish but only the ladies can fight the fish. Once again we will have a Pig Roast as well as each crew bringing a dish to pass during the weigh-in ceremonies. This port has been a favorite of the ladies the past few years because of the opportunity to get into some nice kings. Of course coho and steelhead are also abundant in the area but kings are what'll get you in the top ten in the standings. The following weekend we'll go back to our regular tournament format. There will be hot dogs and pop at the weigh-in.

This port, more than probably any other, warrants checking out the previous week's weather and surface temps. Water temps will dictate where the fish will be located. A north blow for several days prior will tend to push cold water around Sable Point to the north and make the better fishing toward the south. Under normal conditions, most boats will be working the drop off that runs from about 8 miles straight out northeast towards Sable Point. The closer you get to Sable Point the more boats you'll find so it'll be difficult to run lead core. Sometimes the fish will be in close to shore off the Bathhouse or even right in front of the pier heads. (Continued on page 5)



***Skipper of the Year Standings***

2005 Standings

		<u>Best 3</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>Grand</u>	<u>Port</u>	<u>Frank</u>	
<u>BOAT</u>	<u>SKIPPER</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>Joe</u>	<u>Stakes</u>	<u>Haven</u>	<u>Austin</u>	<u>fort</u>
1	Outta Line	17	50	50	2	14	1
2	No Limit	18	75	1	8	11	9
3	Vicki's Seacret	22	75	50	7	9	6
4	Aquarius II	24	75	50	10	4	10
5	Bad Dog	24	75	50	3	19	2
6	Bobby's Toy	26	75	75	13	6	7
7	Blue Horizon	34	50	75	6	15	13
8	Sloppy Joe	58	75	50	75	3	5
9	Thor's Hammer	66	75	50	12	75	4
10	Slapshot	70	75	50	9	75	11
11	Loki-One	72	75	50	17	5	75
12	Pat-a-Wac	82	75	50	75	20	12
13	Lil' Scratch	83	75	75	5	75	3
14	Sea Hag	84	75	75	75	1	8
15	Mary K	107	75	75	14	18	75
16	Tail Walker	108	75	75	16	17	75
17	Lucky Strike	119	75	50	19	50	75
18	Almost Paradise	126	75	50	1	75	75
19	Tyger	127	75	50	75	2	75
20	In-Seine	136	75	50	11	75	75

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>2005 Standings</u>	<u>Frankfort - June 25</u>	<u>Points</u>
	<u>BOAT</u>	<u>SKIPPER</u>	
1	Outta Line	Jason Adam	119.9
2	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguza	83.7
3	Lil' Scratch	Dick Shirk	64
4	Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	56.2
5	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	55.9
6	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	50.7
7	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	50.6
8	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	48.5
9	No Limit	Dave Linder	45.6
10	Aquarius II	Chris Nytko	37.4
11	Slapshot	Doug Batty	36
12	Pat-a-Wac	Jim Fitch	14.95
13	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	14.7



The Project just south of the pier heads has also traditionally been an area that holds fish.

There are many trap nets in this area so watch for the markers and stay clear. The best way to avoid them completely is to get their positions off of the Ludington Charter Boat Association website and load these positions into your GPS unit. Even with these precautions, we became tangled in one just north of The Point last year and lost several cannon balls along with other equipment.

**Keep wire cutter handy.**

The Skipper's meetings will be at 5:00 a.m. both Saturdays at the Municipal Marina. The tournament starts will be at 6:00 a.m. Remember we no longer do shotgun starts. You can run out to your spot after the Captain's meeting but don't begin setting lines until 6:00 a.m. when the tournament start is announced on channel 72. Fish calls will be at 9:00 a.m. and noon for both weekends. For the Ladies Day Tournament we'll pull lines at 1:00 p.m., and you must be in the weigh-in line at 2:30. For the regular tournament the following week pull lines at 2:00 and be at the weigh-in by 3:30 p.m. The weigh-in for both weeks will be at Peter Copeyan Park which is just off Washington Street a few miles south of town.

Good luck to everyone and see you there.

Joe von Grabe, "Sloppy Joe"  
586-293-7688 (home)  
586-945-9334 (cell)



**Raffle report for June**

The June membership meeting was well attended.

We had a good amount of participants in the tackle raffle and 50/50 drawing. The club raffled off a fire extinguisher, binoculars, scale and pliers set, flasher box and a couple of tackle packs to round off the prizes. The tackle raffle seemed to have been well received given the amount of tickets sold per member in attendance.

The 50/50 drawing made our very own club director, and 50/50 seller, Dwayne Welder \$85.00 richer. Well done Dwayne.

Ted Lewicki of Ortonville had his name pulled as the recipient of the \$30.00 membership raffle. However, Ted was not at the June meeting so the \$30.00 goes back in the cookie jar where it will magically grow to \$40.00 for the July raffle.

Thank you to Mike Vigus for collecting the funds for the tackle raffle, Nick was busy with the Big Fish Quest registrations and to Dwayne Welder for collecting the funds for the 50/50 raffle. Last, but certainly not least, special thank you to our tackle raffle ticket puller Melody Gjeldum, daughter of Paul Gjeldum whom captains the Blue Horizon fishing team. She did a great job despite the pressure dad was applying for her to pull his ticket.

It has come time for me to start replenishing the stock for our tackle raffles. I would very much like to hear from the membership on what kind of prizes are preferred. Please drop me a note on our club message board, email me at [bjones@detroitsteelheaders.org](mailto:bjones@detroitsteelheaders.org) or contact me at the membership meeting.

Remember, you can't win if you don't play, and you can't play if you are not present for the meetings. Sincerely, Bob Jones "Bobby's Toy" Raffle Chairman

**Special People**

The Special People outing this year took place on Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>. We had great weather that was a real plus for our Special Guests. We had a total of 30 Special persons with only 13 of our boats attending this yearly Special outing. The Friday set up of the tent, tables and chairs and the co-ordination of the boats at Toledo Beach Marina went smooth with the help of Bill Shackleton.

Saturday morning our Special Guests and the last couple of boats checked in and we all headed out fishing. The ground crew also kicked into action with the preparation of the gift bags, food, tables and chairs. Noontime came, we quit fishing and headed for the docks with our catches. The picnic was ready and we had plenty of food and cold beverages with ice cream for dessert for all.

A special Thank You to Erin Ryan for all her work getting all of the food and beverages and ice cream from the vendors she has contact with at Krogers; and for getting it all down to Monroe. She sure took a lot of pressure off of me. My wife said that this was the smoothest year for the ground crew to date.

**Thank You** to all of the captains and crew persons and the ground crew that made this event a success. Doug Karakas - Chairman

### Photo Contest

Detroit Area Steelheaders announces the 2005 Fishing Photo Contest. Photos taken this ice fishing season through the end of boat trolling season are eligible. Prizes include \$100, \$50, and \$20 Gift certificates, and framed prints of the winning photos. Complete rules and information are available on the DAS website, or e-mail [photocontest@detroitsteelheaders.org](mailto:photocontest@detroitsteelheaders.org). A picture is worth a 1000 words (and maybe \$100), so keep your camera handy.

**2005 Boat Trolling Tournaments**

**August 6 - Ludington Ladies Day**  
Bill Stanely

**August 13 - Ludington**  
Mike Vigus

**August 27 - Manistee**  
Bob Paradise

**September 10 - Grand Haven**  
Chris Nytko

**Trolling Director**  
Joe von Grabe "Sloppy Joe" 586-293-7688

### 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 the club post office box (1255 in Sterling Heights Mi. 48311-1255).

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



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