



MICHIGAN STEELHEADERS THUMB CHAPTER

ISSUED QUARTERLY THROUGHOUT THE WATERSPORT COMMUNITIES OF MICHIGAN'S "THUMB"

President's Message

October, 2017

As we get ready to winterize and put away our boats now is a great time to review all our safety equipment for coast guard compliance. The most obvious is condition of life jackets. It is also a good time to perform all the maintenance we have put off to keep fishing. I would like to remind all members we have a coast guard auxiliary member / thumb Steelheaders member who will perform a safety inspection at no cost. He did mine recently and found my flares were about to expire and my spark arrestor could use a cleaning. Thanks Bill Loss for your inspection. Have a great winter and see you in spring

Bob Golochowicz

Winterizing checklist

- Fill fuel tanks and add stabilizer to gasoline
- Change oil and filter
- Change fuel filters/separators in engine(s)
- Check coolant level in freshwater-cooling system and add coolant if necessary
- Run antifreeze through raw-water-cooling system
- Make sure water strainers are filled with antifreeze
- Fog cylinders in gasoline engines
- Top up battery electrolyte level and put batteries on marine charger

9-27-17 fishing report

Last fishing session was Wed. morning September 27th out of Port Austin. Lake Trout were on fire at the break of day light in 150 feet of water till about 10am. We were running Pro King dodger's with Fire Tiger Spin N Glo's, and Moonshine Lures magnum yellow submarines off the riggers 5 feet off bottom. Magnum Kevorkian's on the divers were killing the walleye 90 back, all day but mornings were best for the gators. 10:30 am till 12:00pm was best for us with the silver fish. Yeck's Tangerine's on 3 and 5 color lead was what put all the steelhead in our boat. 2.3 was our speed and ended our day with 12 Lakers, 6 walleye, and 5 steelhead by the end of our session at noon.

Capt. Brandon Stanton

Upcoming Events

October 19th Regular meeting and swap meet @ 7:30
Uby Foxhunters

Want Big Walleyes in Port Austin during the Dog Days of August, then go Deep! Recently a couple from Deltona Beach Florida who were camped out at Port Crescent State Park in their RV had a desire to go out on the Big Water for some deep water trolling. After patiently waiting and pacing up and down the beach for 5 days for the wind to stop howling it was time to go. Heading out of the Harbor at Port Austin on Bay Fever II at 6 AM sharp to Walleye fish, the Sky was clear and the Water was flat! A quick run out to 135 feet of water and the lines were set. It didn't take long for the first rod to pop and it was game on! A nice Laker came aboard, then a minute later another rod popped, this time it was a Walleye, nearly as big as the Laker! For a few years now some of us have learned the Walleye don't just disappear from our area in the dog days of summer, they go deep and hang out with the Lake Trout. You can run your usual Dodger Program on the bottom at slower speeds for the Trout and use sliders or stackers with Worm Burners or any Medium to Small spoon that has good action at this slower speed for the Walleyes. If you have them to use, set a couple more riggers down around 65 to 80 feet with spoons too. You need to be ready for those Silver Bullet Steelhead out in this deep water on your Walleye intended baits also! Ten Lead with Offshore Planner boards with bigger Bladed Crawler Harnesses work great on these suspended Walleyes, and the 3 to 5

pound Lakers just love to gulp down those Harnesses too! I love to wait and see if everybody goes after that Ten Lead Rod the fifth time it goes, as they do the first time it has a fish on. After a couple hours and 7 fish in the box with a few auto-matic releases mixed in my crew said their arms were wore out so we headed in. We have it made here in Pure Michigan!

Mike and Lynne Lepeak DeBol from Florida show off their catch of their "First Time " trolling adventure on Lake Huron



M.S.S.F.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Todays Date:		Method of Payment: Check ___ Cash ___ Credit Card ___		Check Membership Type Below	
(check one) Visa ___ MC ___ CC Exp. Date: _____ 3-Digit Code _____				Renewal: _____	
Credit Card Number:				New Member: _____	
Membership Expiration Date:		Phone #:		Associate: _____ (Home Chapter required below)	
Members Name:				Other: _____	
Address:				Write in Home Chapter if Associate	
City, State, Zip				Membership Payment:	
e-mail Address:				Tribal Negotiations Fund	
Sponsored By:				Total:	

MSSFA State and Chapter Dues (yearly)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battle Creek \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Holland \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Traverse City \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flint River Valley \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Huron Valley \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> White River \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Haven \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Metro West \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> At Large Membership \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Rapids \$45.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> South Haven \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Membership \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Lakes Bay Region \$40.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> SW MI. (St. Joseph) \$45.00 | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Thumb \$40.00 | |
- Mail to: MSSFA
PO Box 408, Davisburg, MI 48350



Please take a look at your address block on the back of this newsletter. Just above your name is the date that your membership will expire. If your dues are coming up in the next quarter, please reduce our mailing cost by filling out the form below and sending it along with a check for \$40 to our membership chairman at:

Walter Godzwon
5827 Russell Road
Palms, MI 48465
810-404-5826

WHY BE A THUMB STEELHEADER?

Joining the Thumb Steelheaders is more than going to a monthly meeting and eating hotdogs. The speakers we bring in, educate our membership on the issues and sound scientific knowledge, used by our lake biologist, to manage our side of the great lakes. Many a time I have sat in meetings around the state, and listened to people who have learned and formed their opinions gleaned from their buddy on the bar seat next to them, they think they sound smart but what a dumb! We are truly blessed to have Ken Merckel lining up (threatening) our vast array of guests to come in for our meetings. I can honestly say the thumb steelheaders are one of the most properly informed chapters in the state!

We as Thumb Steelheaders played a huge part in getting Atlantic salmon planted in lower Lake Huron! When I was at the Lake Huron citizens advisory meeting up at Jay's in Clare a few years back, the DNR. rolled out their plan to introduce state raised atlantics to Lake Huron. Needless to say, when the plan put all these fish at points north of Tawas, the older Thumb Chapter Steelheaders went nuts! After a discussion that was hot enough to roast hot dogs on was over, the DNR stated, maybe we need to rethink this plan a little bit! As they say in the movies, the rest is history. The ports we suggested have proven to be the only viable and successful plant sites south of Lake Superior State University! So, when you catch your next Atlantic in the future down here, or up in Alpena, and you will, pat yourself on the back and say "**ya we did this**".

Dealing with politicians is truly an art form and a royal pain in the backside. Again, I tip my hat to Dr. Merckel and our state director Dennis Eade, as they work their magic on these people. One issue still fresh in my head is this micro-bead deal. After getting close many times, and finally coming to an agreement at the state level, only to have it circumvented by a few state businessmen and politicians who have total disregard for our environment, a decision was made to take this issue to the federal level. After a host of hearings and testimonies in

front of congress, including director Eade, a bill was crafted and signed into law. So finally, micro-beads are on the way out – or are they. I read a recent article giving sound scientific fact on how the micro-beads in our great lakes are still getting into our food chain. Studies were done on 12 different brands of bottled water, and guess what, 11 of them had those pesky micro-beads make it through the entire filtering and bottling process. Scientists are unsure what the effects of minute amounts of digested plastic in our bodies will have on us in the future. But rest assured it would have been much worse had the steelheaders and many other groups not put there foot down and said, 'enough is enough!' **'ya we did that'**

Being a Steelheader means you care about your community as well. Need proof? Head on over to Harbor Beach and Grindstone City marinas when we stage our annual Kevin Ramsey/Thumb Steelheaders 'Veteran's fishing event'. Held in the early part of June, this extravaganza involves platoons of happy vets on a fleet of coast guard escorted boats heading out to ply the lake for fish we lobbied for, grew in net pens or stood guard over as they were planted, along with what mother nature provides and now it's harvest time! Boy i truly understand how a successful farmer feels when the combine is emptying it's hopper into the truck, all the money invested, time, sweat and hard work is finally paying off! This year I could not help but get a lump in my throat when an older slightly bent over Korean vet came up to me with a tear in his eye and said "thank you", you Steelheaders are the first ones to do something nice for me because of my service! What could I say but "thanks, and thank you for the years of your life you gave up to serve"! He cracked a smile and quietly walked away. So I close with this final thought. As a Steelheader it's time to get your friends off the sidelines and join the Thumb Steelheaders with you, so they too can say. **"ya I helped do that"**.

Written by state rep. Steve Lepeak



Take a Kid Fishing!



October, 2017

THUMB
 Thumb Chapter
CHAPTER
 Michigan Steelheaders
 3150 Ruth Rd.
 Ruth, MI 48470
MICHIGAN
STEELHEADERS

Temp-Return Service Requested

Executive Committee Members as of January 1, 2017

- President**– Bob Golochowicz
- Vice President**– Scott Loss
- Recording Secretary**– Aaron Pfaff
- Treasurer**– Phil Allen
- State Rep**– Steve Lepeak
- Director**– Ken Merckel
- Director**– Walter Godzwon
- Director**– Scott Stanke
- Director**– Jerry Lawrence
- Director**– Brandon Stanton
- Director**– Kevin Ramsey

Committee Chairmen for 2017

- Newsletter**– Aaron Pfaff
- Net pens**– Jerry Lawrence
- Fish fry**–
- Pig Roast Raffle**– Bob Golochowicz
- Speaker Coordinator**– Ken Merckel
- Raffle Table**– Cherie & Steve Lepeak
- Vets Free fishing day**– Kevin Ramsey
- Pig Roast**– Kevin Ramsey
- Ladies Night**–
- Membership**– Walter Godzwon

Check Out Our Website!

Visit www.thumb.michigansteelheaders.org

Sign up for email delivery of this newsletter!

Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Ugly Fox Hunters Club on M-19, two miles south of M-142. Board of Directors meet @ 6:30 PM and Regular meeting comes to order @ 7:30

