



MICHIGAN STEELHEADERS THUMB CHAPTER

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

President's Message

April, 2021

4/5/2021

Wound Tight Wheelhouse

As we look ahead into spring of 2021, we are excited to share the news of great upcoming events and speakers. With each gathering this year, we will need to proceed under the guidance of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to do our best at protecting those in our group and our guests. Considering this we ask that if you are not feeling well or showing symptoms of COVID-19, please do not attend these gatherings until you have been symptom-free for 3 consecutive days. If you are planning to attend an event or meeting but have not been informed of the current guidelines/requirements set for the event, please plan to wear a mask and social distance unless directed otherwise upon arrival.

We will begin this year's event list with the Can2Can Fishing Tournament. We are adjusting the tournament format to align with the DNR's statement below:

According to the Michigan DNR's website on FAQs, "FISHING TOURNAMENTS ARE ALLOWED WITH RESTRICTIONS. Social gatherings or organized events – including fishing tournaments – are permitted, consistent with the MDHHS Gatherings and Face Mask Order. With respect to tournaments, "outdoor" settings could include check-in areas, weigh stations and other gathering points; "indoor" settings and venues could include enclosed picnic facilities or tents with attached sides. Face masks are required. (Updated Jan. 4, 2021)"

We plan to hold the Captain's Meeting on Friday April 30th at the HB Waterworks Park Pavilion (by the Municipal Marina) and will extend the check-in period over a longer time to avoid a large group. We plan to invite only one person from each fishing team to receive the tournament packet and rules. The Thumb Steelheaders will need to get volunteers to check coolers before and after the fishing period, and those interested please contact Membership Director Walter Godzwon @ (810) 404-5826 for more details. Any other questions, please reach out to Ben Milo @ (248) 221-0120.

On May 20th @ 7:00 PM we will be hosting well known author and Charter Captain Lance Valentine who will be giving us great insight into his 8 steps for catching fish and also teach us how to better utilize our electronics when on the water. Lance has spent his career educating fisherman throughout the Michigan and Ohio areas and we are very excited to learn from his presentation! Please encourage others to join you (especially our youth) and remember that we will be wearing masks and social distancing. The presentation will be held at the Uby Foxhunters Club where we will allow capacity up to 200 people per the Health Department's guidelines for the facility. There will be no cost for entry and no food served at this meeting. Let's all try to bring a friend or family member that would be a great addition to our membership roll and introduce them to Walter Godzwon for help with signing them up. Make sure to enter your name as the reference on their signup to be entered to win a prize at the end of the year! Thank you to Dan Gonzales for lining this up!

Kevin Ramsey, President

2021 – A New Focus on Our Youth

Fellow Steelheaders,

It seems like only yesterday that we were walking out from our 2019 October meeting and out of nowhere COVID-19 ran through the US like wildfire in March of 2020. We canceled most of our meetings and events in 2020 and many of us have been involved with isolations and quarantines. Some of our members were able to retreat to the great outdoors and take advantage of what our natural resources have to offer, and I believe this was an excellent tool to keep morale high. As we begin our spring fishing season in 2021, I would like all who are able to gather up those children and grandchildren and get them outside. There has been a serious shift from in-person to online schooling and screen time has increased drastically. Depression has spiked across the US and our youth needs us now more than ever. For those of you who have been stuck in Zoom meetings all year, you realize how easily this can put you in a rut so imagine what our children are going through mentally. In 2021, I challenge you all to make a change and I challenge you all to make a difference in our youth. Get them outdoors and teach them the life skills and lessons that are now missing in society, for these are not only our loved ones we are talking about here, but the future of this great Nation!

Kevin Ramsey, President

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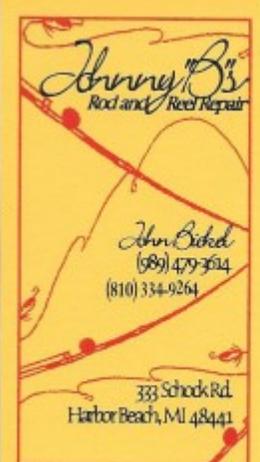


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April, 2021



Temp-Return Service Requested

Executive Committee Members as of January 1, 2021

- President**– Kevin Ramsey
- Vice President**– Bill Loss
- Recording Secretary**– Aaron Pfaff
- Treasurer**– Phil Allen
- State Rep**– Ken Merckel
- Director**– Brandon Stanton Expires 12/31/2020
- Director**– Neal Stanley Expires 12/31/2020
- Director**– Rodney McLean Expires 12/31/2020
- Director**– Dan Gonzales Expires 12/31/2020
- Director**– Walter Godzwon Expires 12/31/2021
- Director**– John Bickel Expires 12/31/2021
- Director**– Fred Grzesiak Expires 12/31/2021
- Director**– Scott Stanke Expires 12/31/2021

Committee Chairmen for 2021

- Newsletter**– Aaron Pfaff
- Postcards**– Aaron Pfaff
- Avian predator control**- Walter Godzwon
- Fish fry**– Rodney McLean
- Pig Roast Raffle**–
- Speaker Coordinator**– Ken Merckel / Brandon Stanton
- Raffle Table**–
- Vets Fishing day**– Kevin Ramsey
- Pig Roast**– Phil Allen
- Ladies Night**– Kevin Ramsey
- 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

