



# Trout Talk

The Voice of the  
Grand Rapids Steelheaders

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ISSUE #403                      JANUARY 2008  
PUBLISHER/EDITOR: DAVE NOWICKI  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: GINNY NOWICKI

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GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER MEETING – MONDAY JANUARY 28, 2008 – 7:30 PM  
SOCIAL HOUR 6:30 – 7:30 PM

## JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM

### AWARDS NIGHT

THE JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM IS THE AWARDING OF THE CHAPTERS FISHING AND HUNTING AWARDS. THE TROPHIES AND CASH AWARDS FOR THE YEARLY FISH CONTEST, BIG LAKE CONTEST, SMALL FRY CONTEST, SPRING AND FALL RIVER CONTESTS, AND THE BUCK CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED.

THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN ARE RECEIVING AWARDS IN THE SMALL FRY CONTEST- D.J. TAYLOR, BLAKE HENDRICK, ZACK STREK, CHRISTIAN MERDZINSKI.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING AWARDS IN THE YEARLY FISH CONTEST- JOHN EDWARDS, MIKE WOOD, GARY HARVEY, NANCY WOOD, MIKE HARVEY, SALLY WILSON, STEVE HEINTZELMAN, KRIS GUILLES, BILL NEWELL, DICK GROMKO, BOB STREK, LENNY KURELLO, JON HENDRICK, PAUL SKRZYCKI, WARREN GALINSKI, GARY PERDEW, JOHN SCHLEINZ, NORM TOW, JON HENDRICK, BOB ANTZAK, AL DAVIS.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING AWARDS IN THE BIG LAKE CONTEST- HENRY SLUIS, STEVE WIERSMA, LARRY STAUFFER.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING AWARDS IN THE SPRING AND FALL RIVER CONTESTS- RON LARSEN, MIKE HARVEY, SHANE ADAMS, BILL NEWELL.

BUCK CONTEST PARTICIPANTS REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR DEER RACKS.

IF YOUR NAME IS LISTED, PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND THE MEETING, OR HAVE SOMEONE PICK UP YOUR AWARD. SOCIAL HOUR IS FROM 6:30 PM TO 7:30 PM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND LITE LUNCH. THE MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM. BRING YOUR UNUSED FISHING TACKLE TO SELL AT THE SWAP TABLE. *BRING YOUR FAMILY, FISHING BUDDIES, SIGNUP A NEW MEMBER. SEE YOU ON MONDAY JANUARY 28, 2008.*

#### NOTE:

IF YOU NEED A MEMBERSHIP CARD, ATTEND A MEMBERSHIP MEETING OR SEND A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE TO THE CHAPTER POST OFFICE BOX LISTED IN THIS ISSUE. IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP TO DATE YOUR CARD WILL BE SENT TO YOU.

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT -----DAVE NOWICKI -----616-532-7727  
VICE PRESIDENT-----STEVE HEINTZELMAN-616-791-7009  
V.P./TREASURER ----BOB STREK-----616-453-3109  
SECRETARY -----BOB WINKELS -----616-361-9732

**DIRECTORS**

DAVID ANDERSON-----PROGRAMS-----616-791-7049  
BOB ANTZAK -----YR.FISH CONTEST---616-895-6874  
AL DAVIS-----CLOTHING-----616-363-3564  
CHRIS EDWARDS-----MEMBERSHIP-----616-863-6943  
DICK GROMKO -----MEETING PREP.-----616-455-1336  
KRIS GUILLES-----MUCC,GRANTS-----616-677-3442  
MIKE HARVEY-----RIVER CONTESTS-----616-890-7662  
BUD POTTS-----SALMON IN SCHOOLS---616-453-5812

**ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

BRIAN BOOMSMA-----RAFFLES-----616-538-4494  
BILL NEWELL-----MEETING GREETER---616-897-6949

**SPECIAL CHAPTER FUNCTIONS**

FISHING PARTNERS----STEVE HEINTZELMAN-616-791-7009  
MEMBER BENEFITS-----RENEE DAVIS-----616-363-3564  
NET PENS-----MIKE HARVEY-----616-890-7662  
NEWSLETTER-----DAVE NOWICKI-----616-532-7727  
PAST PRESIDENT-----TONY NIKODEMSKI---616-363-7833  
SPRING SHOW-----DAVE NOWICKI-----616-532-7727  
STATE DIR.-----CHRIS EDWARDS-----616-863-6943

**GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS FOUNDATION**

PRESIDENT/MARKETING-NORM VANSICKLE---616-532-5845  
V.P./SEC/TREASURE---VIKKI GUILLES-----616-677-3442  
DIRECTOR-----TOM BEREZA-----616-784-0490  
DIRECTOR-----MARTIN KUKS-----616-784-3068  
DIRECTOR-----HENRY ZEMAN-----616-453-1554

**CHAPTER MEETINGS**

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH, AUGUST THRU JUNE. SOCIAL HOUR 6:30-7:30 PM. THE MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 PM. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30 PM. MEMBER CONCERNS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO A BOARD MEMBER FOR DISCUSSION AT A BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS. ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT DIAMOND AVENUE HALL, 435 DIAMOND AVENUE N.E. DIAMOND AVENUE IS THREE BLOCKS WEST OF FULLER AVENUE, OFF MICHIGAN STREET. GO NORTH ON DIAMOND ONE BLOCK.

**EDITORS NOTE**

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION THAT YOU WOULD LIKE PUBLISHED IN THE "TROUT TALK", SEND IT TO US BY THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH THAT YOU WOULD LIKE IT PUBLISHED. SEND YOUR INFORMATION TO DAVE NOWICKI, 2471 ANCIENT S.W., WYOMING, MICHIGAN, 49519 OR CALL 616-532-7727, OR E-MAIL polander@hotmail.com  
THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER OF THE MICHIGAN STEELHEAD AND SALMON FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION. THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EACH MONTH AND IS PROVIDED FREE TO ALL CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER. ADVERTISEMENTS FOR TRAVEL, INSURANCE & CREDIT CARD (FINANCIAL) AGENCIES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. ALL CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE COPYRIGHT BY THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER. PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO ALL MSSFA CHAPTERS FOR THE USE OF ALL EDITORIAL MATERIALS CONTAINED IN THIS PUBLICATION. ALL GRAPHIC AND PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES ARE SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF THE ARTIST OR PHOTOGRAPHER.

**ATTENTION**

CHECK THE FIRST LINE OF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL ON THIS NEWSLETTER. IF IT IS DATED BEFORE THIS MONTH AND YEAR, YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED. IF YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED, YOU ARE NO LONGER AN ACTIVE MEMBER, AND CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN CHAPTER EVENTS THAT REQUIRE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE USE THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BELOW TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. IF YOU DON'T NEED TO USE THE APPLICATION AT THIS TIME, MAYBE A FISHING BUDDY OF YOURS CAN. REMEMBER THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

MICHIGAN STEELHEADERS  
GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER  
P.O. BOX 1474  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI. 49501

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \$30.00

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
AREA CODE \_\_\_\_\_

NEW MEMBER	RENEWAL
\$30.00	\$30.00
SENIOR RENEWAL	NEW SENIOR
\$20.00	\$30.00

REFERRED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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COULD BE ADVERTISING IN THIS FISHERPERSONS/BOATERS NEWSLETTER FOR THE FOLLOWING RATES:

BUSINESS CARD -	\$8/MONTH	\$80/YEAR
1/4 PAGE	- \$15/MONTH	\$150/YEAR
1/2 PAGE	- \$20/MONTH	\$200/YEAR
FULL PAGE	- \$35/MONTH	\$350/YEAR

WE PUBLISH 11 ISSUES EACH YEAR

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING, PLEASE CONTACT:

DAVE NOWICKI  
2471 ANCIENT S.W.  
WYOMING, MI. 49519  
PHONE: 616-532-7727

E-MAIL: polander@hotmail.com

VISIT US AT: mssfa.com GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER

## 2008 ULTIMATE SPORT & RV SHOW INFORMATION

THE INFORMATION IN THIS ARTICLE IS A REFRESHER FOR THE MEMBERSHIPS HELP WITH THE SPORT SHOW.

THE ULTIMATE SPORT & RV SHOW IS MARCH 13-16, 2008 AT DEVOS PLACE. THIS SHOW IS **OUR CHAPTERS ONLY FUNDRAISER FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR**. HELP FROM OUR **ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP** MAKES THIS PROJECT A GREAT FUNDRAISER. FOR THOSE THAT ARE NEW TO THE CHAPTER, AND THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS FOR YEARS, I WILL TRY TO EXPLAIN HOW YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESS.

THIS MONTH AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING WE WILL HAVE DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR MEMBERS TO SELL TO THE SHOW. WE HAVE ADULT AND CHILDRENS TICKETS. A PORTION OF EACH TICKET THAT YOU SELL GOES DIRECTLY TO OUR CHAPTER. THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO MAKE MONEY FOR YOUR CHAPTER. ADULT TICKETS ARE \$9.00 AT THE DOOR. OUR ADULT TICKETS ARE \$7.00. CHILD TICKETS (AGES 6-14) ARE \$4.00 AT THE DOOR. OUR CHILD TICKETS ARE \$3.00. CHILDREN 5 AND UNDER ARE FREE. THESE TICKETS ARE GOOD EVERYDAY OF THE SHOW. THEY DO NOT HAVE TO BE EXCHANGED AT THE BOX OFFICE. NO WAITING IN LINE TO GET IN. YOU CAN SELL THESE TICKETS AT WORK, TO FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, STRANGERS, ETC. THEY ARE VERY EASY TO SELL, IF THE BUYER REALIZES THEY ARE SAVING \$2.00 ON EACH ADULT TICKET. THE TICKETS ARE IN GROUPS OF 10, PLUS AN EXTRA TICKET THAT YOU CAN KEEP OR SELL AND KEEP \$7.00 IF YOU SELL THE 10 TICKETS. WHEN YOU TURN IN THE ENVELOPE THAT YOU RECEIVED THE TICKETS IN, WITH THE MONEY FOR 10 TICKETS, THE ENVELOPE WILL BE PUT INTO A DRAWING FOR A \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE. THERE WILL BE FOUR WINNERS. THE DRAWING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING. IF YOU NEED TICKETS/POSTERS CONTACT DAVE NOWICKI 616-532-7727 OR BOB STREK 616-453-3109.

THE NEXT PART OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SHOW IS PROVIDING SECURITY AT THE DOORS, AND GIVING INFORMATION AT AN INFORMATION BOOTH. THERE ARE DAILY CHAIRMEN FOR EACH DAY THAT HANDLE SCHEDULING. THE CHAIRMAN ARE, THURSDAY IRV BYXBE 616-678-4780 CO-CHAIRMAN DICK GROMKO 455-1336, FRIDAY/SATURDAY BOB STREK 616-453-3109. SUNDAY NORM VAN SICKLE 532-5845. THERE WILL BE SIGN UP SHEETS AT THE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS TO SIGN UP TO WORK. SIGN UP EARLY TO GET THE HOURS YOU WANT.

THE CHAPTER DOES THE FISH CLEANING FOR THE TROUT POND AT THE SHOW. THE CHAIRMAN IS PRESTON KUKS 451-3603, CO-CHAIRMAN JOHN BALL 887-1634. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO KNOW HOW TO CLEAN FISH, AS THERE ARE SEVERAL AREAS IN THE FISH CLEANING BOOTH THAT DO NOT REQUIRE CLEANING. HOWEVER ANYONE WITH FISH CLEANING SKILLS IS ASKED TO HELP CLEAN. THERE WILL BE FOOD AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS THAT WORK AT THE SHOW. RENEE DAVIS IS THE CHAIRLADY FOR THE KITCHEN. IF YOU CAN HELP IN THE KITCHEN OR WOULD LIKE TO DONATE A DISH OF FOOD CONTACT RENEE AT 363-3564. AGAIN THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE A FISH CONTEST FOR THE ENTIRE SHOW. ANYONE THAT BRINGS IN A FRESHLY CAUGHT FISH (NOT FROM THE TROUT POND) WILL BE ENTERED INTO A CONTEST FOR THE LARGEST FISH. IF YOU ARE FISHING THE RIVER, JUST BRING YOUR FISH TO THE EXHIBITORS ENTRANCE AT DEVOS PLACE AND TELL THEM YOU ARE TAKING IT TO THE STEELHEADERS FISH CLEANING BOOTH. SIGN UP SHEETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO SIGN UP TO WORK.

WE ALSO HAVE A MEMBERSHIP BOOTH. IN THE BOOTH WE SELL MEMBERSHIPS, RAFFLE TICKETS, RENEW MEMBERSHIPS, BUILD AND SELL SPINNERS, TYE SPAWN SACKS, INFORM POTENTIAL MEMBERS ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS PROGRAM, AND EXPLAIN WHAT THE CLUB IS ALL ABOUT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN THIS AREA CONTACT DAVE NOWICKI OR BOB STREK AT THE ABOVE NUMBERS.

WE ALSO SELL ~~RAFFLE TICKETS~~ AT THE SHOW. STEVE HEINTZELMAN 616-791-7009 IS THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE RAFFLE TICKET SALES. TICKETS ARE ~~\$1.00 EACH OR 7 FOR \$5.00~~ AND ARE ONLY SOLD AT THE SHOW. PRIZES ARE- A CHARTER FISHING TRIP, 2 NASCAR TICKETS TO THE JUNE 15, 2008 RACE, \$150 CASH. THE GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADER FOUNDATION (A DIVISION OF OUR CHAPTER) ALSO IS SELLING TICKETS FOR A NEW 2008 CHEVY TRUCK. TICKETS ARE \$50 EACH. WE ALSO NEED YOUR HELP SELLING THESE TICKETS.

GENERAL INFORMATION - WHEN YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO WORK AT THE SHOW, YOUR PARKING, ADMISSION TO THE SHOW, AND CHAPTER SUPPLIED REFRESHMENTS ARE ALL SUPPLIED TO YOU AT NO COST. YOU MUST HAVE A SCHEDULED TIME AND PLACE TO WORK FOR THE CHAPTER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS. WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT DEVOS PLACE, USE THE EXHIBITORS ENTRANCE, A BADGE WILL BE THERE. YOU MAY NEED TO SHOW I.D. YOU MUST SIGN IN AT THE MEMBERSHIP BOOTH WHEN YOU ARRIVE, AND SIGN OUT WHEN YOU LEAVE. BRING YOUR DATED PARKING LOT RECEIPT TO THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND GET YOUR PARKING PAID FOR.

A DAILY MEMBERSHIP DRAWING IS HELD FOR SECURITY/INFORMATION BOOTHS, MEMBERSHIP BOOTH/RAFFLE TICKET SELLERS, FISH CLEANING/KITCHEN WORKERS. FOR EACH HOUR THAT A MEMBER WORKS IN AN AREA FOR THE CHAPTER, THEIR NAME IS PUT INTO A DRAWING FOR THAT AREA FOR A YEARLY MEMBERSHIP (STATE AND CHAPTER). YOU CAN ONLY WIN ONE MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR. IF YOUR NAME IS DRAWN FOR A SECOND TIME YOU WILL BE ISSUED A GIFT CERTIFICATE TO A LOCAL SPORT SHOP. THIS IS ONLY AT THE SHOW DRAWING. AT THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING A GRAND PRIZE DRAWING WILL BE HELD FOR EACH AREA.

WHERE CAN YOU GO TO GET ALL THIS AT NO COST? -PLUS YOU ARE HELPING **YOUR CHAPTER ONE TIME A YEAR**. SELL TICKETS, SIGN UP TO WORK, OR IF YOU ARE CALLED BY ONE OF THE CHAIRMEN, PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP. YOU WILL GET FREE ADMISSION TO THE ENTIRE SHOW, FREE PARKING, FREE REFRESHMENTS AND FOOD, PLUS MEET YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS IN YOUR CHAPTER, AND HELPING SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTER.

REMEMBER - SELL AS MANY DISCOUNT TICKETS AS YOU CAN, HELP WITH SECURITY. INFORMATION BOOTH, MEMBERSHIP BOOTH, RAFFLE TICKET SELLERS, FISH CLEANING, KITCHEN. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING THIS SHOW.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT DAVE NOWICKI 616-532-7727, OR BOB STREK 616-453-3109.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS.

JOHN DECKER                      DAVID ELLIOTT                      GUY WATROUS  
STEPHANIE WOOD                MICHAEL WOOD

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRED IN OCTOBER 2007:

PAUL ANTOZAK                      TOM BAKER                      CHAD FOLKEMA  
DAVID HERTEL                      DOUG KOOL                      ROD WEBB  
DOUG VAN PROOYER                JIM WILDS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRED IN NOVEMBER 2007

MONTY BYINGTON                  JOHN CRAMBLET                  REX WALTON  
BILL ISENBERG

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED IN DECEMBER 2007:

RONALD LARSEN

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE THIS MONTH:

JOHN GARDNER                      MIKE HERRICK                      LARRY MAREK  
STEVE PHILLIPS                      ANDRIS SALKLA                      RON SCHWAB  
HENRY SLUIS III                      NORM TOW

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE IN FEBRUARY 2008:

ANDY BLYSTRA                      STEVE DENNIS                      MIKE GROMKO  
WARREN GALINSKI                  RUGG HARRINGTON                  MATT WING  
PAUL SKRZYCKI

**IF YOU DO NOT RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP YOU  
WILL NOT RECEIVE A MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER! RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
ON TIME!**

## ATTENTION

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**BEST PRICES GUARANTEED!**

## THE YEAR LONG SMALL FRY FISHING CONTEST

FOR ALL BOYS AND GIRLS UP TO 15 YEARS OLD WHO'S PARENTS/RELATIVES/GUARDIANS ARE SIGNED UP WITH BOB ANTZAK IN THE YEAR LONG FISHING CONTEST. THESE SMALL FRY'S ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER FISH OF ALL SPECIES CAUGHT ON THE BIG LAKE, INLAND LAKES, AND ANY RIVERS.

RULES ARE:

- 1) PARENTS/RELATIVES/GUARDIANS MUST BE SIGNED UP IN THE YEAR LONG BIG LAKE AND RIVER CONTEST WITH BOB ANTZAK. CALL BOB TO ENTER AT 616-895-6874 OR SEE HIM AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS. THE CONTEST RUNS FROM DECEMBER 1, CURRENT YEAR TO NOVEMBER 30 FOLLOWING YEAR. COST IS \$5.00 PER FAMILY.
- 2) ALL FISH MUST BE WEIGHED TO ENTER. ANY SPECIES OF FISH CAUGHT CAN BE ENTERED.
- 3) ON A POSTCARD OR CARD PLEASE TELL US WHEN AND WHERE THE FISH WAS CAUGHT, INCLUDE PHOTO IF YOU HAVE ONE, AND MOST IMPORTANT HOW MUCH IT WEIGHED. PARENTS/RELATIVES/GUARDIANS MUST SIGN POST CARD OR CARD.
- 4) ALL SMALL FRY ENTRY'S NAMES WILL BE POSTED IN THE TROUT TALK NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH.
- 5) PRIZE TROPHY'S FOR THE LARGEST FISH AND 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE LARGEST FISH IN ALL CATEGORIES WINS TROPHY AT THE JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING. ALL ENTRIES, WIN OR LOSE WILL RECEIVE A PARTICIPANT RIBBON. PHOTOS ARE AN OPTION BUT I HEARD TO TELL THE EDITOR OF TROUT TALK SAYS DON'T BE SURPRISED IF YOU SEE YOUR PICTURE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TROUT TALK WITH YOUR CATCH.
- 6) SEND ALL ENTRIES AND PHOTOS TO

AL DAVIS  
1950 GRAND RIVER DRIVE  
ADA, MI. 49301  
616-363-3564

## 2007 SMALL FRY FISH CONTEST FINAL RESULTS

STEELHEAD	D.J. TAYLOR	12-06
	BLAKE HENDRICK	07-09
	BLAKE HENDRICK	07-00
CHINOOK	ZACK STREK	15.00
	D.J. TAYLOR	11-06
BROWN TROUT	BLAKE HENDRICK	18 INCHES
WALLEYE	CHRISTIAN MERDZINSKI	26 INCHES
	BLAKE HENDRICK	20 INCHES
RAINBOW TROUT	BLAKE HENDRICK	16 INCHES
SHEEPHEAD	ZACK STREK	09.00

THE 2008 CONTEST BEGINS DECEMBER 1, 2007. PLEASE SEND ALL YOUR ENTRIES TO AL DAVIS AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

## FISHING PARTNERS

THE CHAPTER HAS AS FISHING PARTNERS PROGRAM, TO GET MEMBERS TO FISH WITH OTHER MEMBERS, AND TO HELP NEW MEMBERS GET INVOLVED WITH THE CHAPTER. TO GET STARTED IN THE PROGRAM WE NEED YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER AND THE TIMES THAT YOUR ARE AVAILABLE TO FISH. DO YOU HAVE A BOAT? NEED A PARTNER FOR THE RIVER, LAKE, ETC, NEED A CREW MEMBER FOR YOUR BOAT, NEED A MEMBER TO FISH A CHAPTER OUTING, TEACH NEW MEMBERS HOW TO CATCH STEELHEAD AND SALMON, ABLE TO TAKE OTHER MEMBERS OUT FISHING. CONTACT STEVE HEINTZELMAN AT 616-791-7009. STEVE WILL PUT MEMBERS TOGETHER SO THEY CAN LEARN NEW TECHNIQUES AND MEET OTHER CHAPTER MEMBERS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT STEVE AT THE ABOVE PHONE NUMBER.

### FREE MEMBERSHIPS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE WON FREE MEMBERSHIPS IN THE PAST YEAR BY ATTENDING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS OR WORKING AT THE SPORT SHOW.

JANUARY 2007	PRESTON KUKS
FEBRUARY 2007	JOHN STAUFFER
SPORT SHOW 2007	GARY MOORE, BOB FIEBIG, RICK LEWIS, BOB BLASKIS, BOB SCHULTZ, SUZI MERDZINSKI, CHRIS EDWARDS, BUD POTTS, JIM LARSEN, TONY NIKODEMSKI, JOE MAKI, JOHN BALL
MARCH 2007	DAVE VANMALE
APRIL 2007	DAVE HARDING
MAY 2007	GARY HARVEY
JUNE 2007	ANDY WISNIEWSKI
AUGUST 2007	BOB WINKELS
SEPTEMBER 2007	JEFF KEIZER
OCTOBER 2007	GERALD BOELEMA
NOVEMBER 2007	PHIL BOLEK

ATTEND THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS, INCREASE YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A MEMBERSHIP.

## 2007 YEARLY CHAPTER FISH CONTEST FINAL RESULTS

### BIG LAKE

STEELHEAD -	BILL NEWELL	11-07
	DICK GROMKO	10-01
	JOHN EDWARDS	08-08 T
	MIKE WOOD	08-04 T
BROWN TROUT -	GARY HARVEY	11-10 T \$30
	LENNY KURELLO	09-12
	MIKE WOOD	06-00
LAKE TROUT -	NANCY WOOD	12-04 T \$50
	MIKE HARVEY	09-03 T \$20
	STEVE PHILLIPS	08-00
COHO -	SALLY WILSON	08-14 T \$50
	STEVE HEINTZELMAN	08-09 T \$30
	KRIS GUILLES	08-01 \$20
	NANCY WOOD	07-02
CHINOOK -	BILL NEWELL	21-03 T \$50
	DICK GROMKO	18-04 T \$30
	NANCY WOOD	18-02
	STEVE HEINTZELMAN	18-02
	BOB STREK	18-00 \$20
WALLEYE -	LENNY KURELLO	11-02 T \$50
	JON HENDRICK	06-08 T \$30

### RIVER

STEELHEAD -	MIKE HARVEY	11-06 T \$50
	BILL NEWELL	10-05 T \$30
	MIKE WOOD	09-03 \$20
BROWN TROUT -	PAUL SKRZYCKI	03-07 T
LAKE TROUT -	NO ENTRY	
COHO -	WARREN GALINSKI	02-04 T \$50
CHINOOK -	GARY PERDEW	15-09 T \$50
	JOHN SCHLEINZ	15-08 T \$30
	NORM TOW	14-07 \$20
WALLEYE -	JON HENDRICK	05-15 T \$50
	BOB ANTZAK	04-02 T \$30
	AL DAVIS	01-12 \$20

T= TROPHY \$= CASH AWARD

TO ENTER THE 2008 CONTEST CONTACT BOB ANTZAK AT 616-895-6874. THE ENTRY FEE IS \$5.00 FOR BOTH DIVISIONS AND INCLUDES THE ENTIRE FAMILY. SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO BOB AT 10377 WHITEWOOD DR. WEST OLIVE, MI. 49460. REMEMBER TO ENTER EVERY FISH YOU CATCH, IT MAY BE A BIG WINNER.

**Evinrude  
Johnson.**

 **YAMAHA**

**Vans Sport Center, Inc.**

1855 Alpine Ave., N.W.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504  
Ph. (616) 364-0666

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

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## NOTICE

THE COMPANIES THAT PARTICIPATE WITH OUR "IT PAY'S TO BELONG PROGRAM WILL NOW BE LISTED IN THE STATE NEWSPAPER, "THE GREAT LAKES SPORT FISHING NEWS". THIS IS DUE TO THE LENGTH OF COMPANIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

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## SICK BAY

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY MEMBERS THAT ARE IN SICK BAY, OR HAVE PASSED AWAY, PLEASE CONTACT DAVE NOWICKI AT 616-532-7727. THE FOLLOWING MEMBER IS IN SICK BAY: JERRY AVERY. THE FOLLOWING MEMBER PASSED AWAY IN DECEMBER 2007, GARY BOLHOUSE. PLEASE KEEP THESE MEMBERS IN YOUR PRAYERS.

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## GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS BUCK CONTEST

THE CONTEST WILL RUN FROM 10-1-07 THRU 1-1-08 AND WILL CONSIST OF TWO DIVISIONS, BOW AND GUN. ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS. ENTRY FEE IS \$5.00 PER DIVISION, PER DIVISION AND MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE SHOOTING THE DEER. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE LEGAL BUCKS TAKEN IN COMPLIANCE WITH DNR RULES. AFTER TAKING YOUR BUCK, CONTACT YOUR CHAIRMAN TO GET THER RACK SCORED. SCORING WILL BE AD FOLLOWS: 1 PT. PER INCH OF OUTSIDE BEAM DIMENSION TO THE NEAREST 1/8 INCH AND 1 PT. PER EACH ANTLER POING (1" LG). CASH AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN IN EACH DIVISION AS FOLLOWS. BIGGEST RACK 50%, 2<sup>ND</sup> BIGGEST RACK 30%, SMALLEST RACK 20%. AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN AT THE JANUARY AWARDS MEETING. ENTRY FEE CAN BE PAID AT THE MEETING OR MAILED TO THE CHAIRMAN: DAVE VAN MALE, 2577 ELMWOOD DRIVE, PIERSON MI. 49339. PHONE 616-636-4642. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS. GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY HUNTING.

### BUCK CONTEST BOW DIVISION

7 PT	RON LARSEN	22 TOTAL
8 PT	AL DAVIS	21 TOTAL
8 PT	NORM VANSICKLE	18 4/8 TOTAL

### GUN DIVISION

8 PT	NORM VAN SICKLE	24 6/8 TOTAL
8 PT	BOB STREK	23 3/8 TOTAL
3 PT	AL DAVIS	10 TOTAL
3 PT	CHRIS EDWARDS	9 1/8 TOTAL

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## MEMBERS CLASSIFIED

ALL CURRENT MEMBERS MAY ADVERTISE IN THIS NEWSLETTER IN THE FORM OF CLASSIFIED ADS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY AT NO COST. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO MEMBERS WHO OWN BUSINESSES AND WISH TO ADVERTISE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE BUSINESS. THE AD WILL RUN FOR 6 MONTHS. PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR IF THE ITEM IS SOLD BEFORE 6 MONTHS.

WANTED: OUTBOARD MOTOR, 6 OR 7.5 HP. 2 OR 4 CYCLE, CALL MART 616-784-3068 12/07

FOR SALE: 2003 22FT. WELLCRAFT COASTAL WITH 200 HP YAMAHA HPDI WITH 6 HP HIGH THRUST KICKER AND LOWRANCE FISH FINDER. IT HAS THE COCKPIT CURTAINS, THAT ATTACH TO THE TOP. IT ALSO HAS A HEAD AND SLEEPS 2. 4 ELECTRIC DOWNRIGGERS, 4 BURTS ROD HOLDERS, \$28,500.00. STEVE -616-617-8092. 1/08

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## POINTS FOR PROFIT

SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS FROM THE LISTED BUSINESS AND TURN THEM IN AT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS. HAVE YOUR FRIENDS SAVE THEIR RECEIPTS ALSO. THE MORE RECEIPTS THE MORE THE FOUNDATION BENEFITS FROM THIS PROGRAM. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT NORM VAN SICKLE AT 616-532-5845 OR SEE HIM AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### NOMINATIONS

THERE ARE FOUR, THREE YEAR POSITIONS OPEN ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR NEXT YEAR. TO SERVE ON THE BOARD YOU MUST BE ABLE TO ATTEND ALL BOARD MEETINGS AND TAKE CHARGE OF A COMMITTEE OR EVENT. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE NOMINATED FOR THE BOARD CONTACT CHRIS EDWARDS AT 616-863-6943 AND HE WILL PUT YOUR NAME IN NOMINATION. NOMINATIONS ARE BRIAN BOOMSMA, BILL NEWELL, DAVE ANDERSON, STEVE HEINTZELMAN, IRV BYXBE, VIKKI GUILLES, RENEE DAVIS, JOHN STAUFER, JIM LARSEN, JOHN GARDNER. CHRIS CAN ALSO BE CONTACTED AT THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS. THE ELECTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FEBRUARY 2008 MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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## SALMON FISHING SEMINAR

CAPTAIN DAN KEATING IS GOING TO CONDUCT A SALMON FISHING SEMINAR AT COVENANT LIFE CHURCH IN GRAND HAVEN. THE DATE IS JANUARY 26, 2008. TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT CLC FOR \$15 AND INCLUDES A SIMPLE DINNER BEFORE THE SEMINAR. FOR ADDITIONAL INFO CONTACT [ssabatino@ghclc.org](mailto:ssabatino@ghclc.org). THE ADDRESS IS COVENANT LIFE CHURCH, 101 COLUMBUS AVE, GRAND HAVEN, MI. 49417. PHONE 616-847-2540.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 7, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT DAVE NOWICKI, BOB STREK, STEVE HEINTZELMAN, DICK GROMKO, CHRIS EDWARDS, BILL NEWELL, BRIAN BOOMSMA, KRIS GUILLES, BOB ANTZAK, BUD POTTS, ABSENT EXCUSED DAVE ANDERSON, TONY NIKODEMSKI, AL DAVIS. ABSENT MIKE HARVEY. MEMBERS PRESENT VIKKI GUILLES, DAVE VAN MALE, IRV BYXBE, NORM VAN SICKLE, JOHN GARDNER, RENEE DAVIS.

1. DAVE NOWICKI CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:30 PM.
2. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SUPPORTED TO ACCEPT THE SECRETARY'S REPORT AS PRINTED IN THE NEWSLETTER.
3. THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS REVIEWED AND APPROVED. THE PROPOSED BUDGET WAS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED AND IT ALSO WAS APPROVED.
4. BOB ANTZAK GAVE ON OUTLINE OF THE YEAR LONG FISH CONTEST.
5. STEVE HEINTZELMAN REPORTED ON RAFFLES AND PRIZES.
6. BOB STREK WILL HEAD UP THE NET PEN PROJECT FOR THE CHAPTER. ANYONE WISHING TO HELP CONTACT BOB STREK.
7. KRIS GUILLES REPORTED ENROLLMENT UPDATES ARE DUE IN AUGUST.
8. CHRIS EDWARDS REPORTED ON MEMBERSHIP.
9. BUD POTTS GAVE A REPORT ON THE SALMON IN SCHOOLS PROJECT.
10. STEVE HEINTZELMAN REPORTED THAT THE FISHING PARTNERS PROGRAM IS GOING WELL.
11. SAMPLES OF CHAPTER CLOTHING WILL BECOME AVAILABLE.
12. A REPORT FROM THE GRSF WAS GIVEN BY NORM VANSICKLE AND VIKKI GUILLES. THE RV SHOW IS NEXT WEEK, TICKETS FOR THE TRUCK RAFFLE ARE READY TO SELL, THE WILL BE A RELEASE IN THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS ON JANUARY 16.
13. A CORMORANT CONTROL UP DATE WAS GIVEN BY CHRIS EDWARDS.
14. THE SWAP MEET SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 29 WAS DISCUSSED.
15. DAVE VAN MALE UPDATED ON THE BUCK CONTEST.
16. THE BOARD DISCUSSED THE CHRISTMAS PARTY. PLENTY OF FOOD, GIFTS AND FUN.
17. NORM VAN SICKLE REPORTED THAT THE LURE TREE RAFFLE IS DWINDLING.
18. CHRIS EDWARDS REPORTED ON THE ICE FISHING OUTING THAT IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 9 AT REEDS LAKE.
19. THE STATE MEETING AND PRESIDENTS MEETING IS JANUARY 19 AT 10:00 AT MUCC IN LANSING.
20. BOB STREK AND BILL NEWELL WILL CHAIR THE SPRING RIVER CONTEST ON APRIL 5.
21. DAVE NOWICKI REPLACED THE IRRITATING MICROPHONE FOR THE CHAPTER PA SYSTEM.
22. PRIZES FOR THE CHAPTER RAFFLE AT THE SPORT SHOW HAVE BEEN SECURED.
23. A MOTION WAS MADE AND SUPPORTED TO INCREASE MILEAGE TO \$.45 PER MILE AND THE MOTION PASSED.
24. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:15.

VIKKI GUILLES, ACTING SECRETARY

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## flatfish

1. Any of a number of species of saltwater bottom fish characterized by a horizontal swimming posture. 2. Any fish left in the path of a beach buggy.

### GRSF TRUCK RAFFLE

THE GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADER FOUNDATION IS HAVING A RAFFLE ON A NEW 2008 CHEVY TRUCK. THERE ARE ONLY 800 TICKETS TO BE SOLD. TICKETS COST \$50 EACH, AND ARE AVAILABLE FROM NORM VAN SICKLE, VIKKI GUILLES. THEY WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE CAMPER AND RV SHOW AT DEVOS PLACE IN JANUARY. THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT THE SPORT, FISHING AND TRAVEL SHOW IN MARCH. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SELL TICKETS CONTACT NORM OR VIKKI.

### CHAPTER ICE FISHING OUTING

THE CHAPTERS ICE FISHING OUTING IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP CONTACT CHRIS EDWARDS AT 616-863-6943 OR SEE HIM AT THE JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

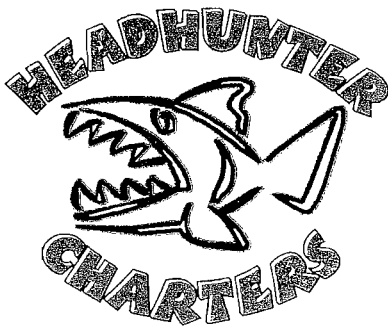
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# GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- JANUARY** 28 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM/SOCIAL HOUR 6:30 PM - DIAMOND HALL
- FEBRUARY** 4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 7:30 PM DIAMOND HALL  
9 ICE FISHING OUTING 7:00 AM  
25 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM/SOCIAL HOUR 6:30 PM - DIAMOND HALL
- MARCH** 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 7:30 PM DIAMOND HALL  
13-16 SPORT, FISHING, AND RV SHOW - DEVOS PLACE  
13-15 SPORT, FISHING AND RV SHOW FISHING CONTEST  
29 CHAPTER AUCTION  
31 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM/SOCIAL HOUR 6:30 PM - DIAMOND HALL
- APRIL** 5 SPRING RIVER CONTEST 6:00 AM, GRAND, ROGUE, MUSKEGON RIVERS  
7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 7:30 PM DIAMOND HALL  
21 REGION II MEETING 7:00 PM AT SOUTH HAVEN  
28 MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7:30 PM/SOCIAL HOUR 6:30 PM - DIAMOND HALL
- 

## STEELHEADERS CHAPTER ICE FISHING CONTEST RULES

1. DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 2008.
  2. ICE FISHING SITE TO BE SELECTED BY CONTEST CHAIRMAN. REEDS LAKE, GRAND RAPIDS.
  3. PAID TO DATE MEMBERS ONLY.
  4. STARTING TIME 7:00 AM. FINISH AT 1:00 PM. CONTEST ENDS.
  5. WEIGH-IN NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM SHARP.
  6. ENTRY FEE \$2.00 (NON-REFUNDABLE).
  7. PRE-REGISTRATION REQUESTED BY 9:00 PM FEBRUARY 7, 2008. CONTACT CHRIS EDWARDS 616-863-6943, OR AT THE JANUARY 2008 MEMBERSHIP MEETING.
  8. CATCH MUST BE PERCH/WALLEYE OR ANY SPECIES.
  9. LEGAL LIMIT ONLY.
  10. ALL FISH MUST BE OF LEGAL SIZE.
  11. ALL FISH MUST BE LEGALLY CAUGHT.
  12. TWO RODS PER PERSON.
  13. ALL PERCH ENTERED WILL BE JUDGED BY LENGTH OR WEIGHT OF ALL.
  14. WALLEYES ENTERED WILL BE JUDGED BY LENGTH OR WEIGHT.
  15. WEIGH-IN SITE SELECTED BY CONTEST CHAIRMAN. CONTACT CHRIS EDWARDS 616-863-6943.
  16. CASH PRIZE FOR FIRST AND SECOND PLACES.
  17. PRIZE AWARDS: A. PERCH BLUEGIL  
B. COMBO SPECKLE BASS  
C. PERCH  
D. PIKE  
E. WALLEYE
  18. FISH CAUGHT WILL BE WEIGHED FOR TOTAL OF CATCH, AS THE GUIDE TO COME UP WITH WINNER.
- 



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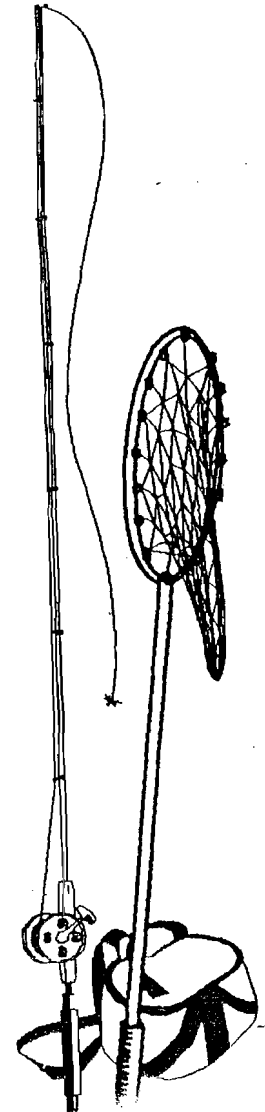
**GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS  
2007 FINANCIAL RESULTS**

**REVENUE**

GRAND RAPIDS MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$ 900.00
DONATIONS	\$ 713.72
SPORTS SHOW	\$ 16,563.57
ADVERTISING	\$ 440.00
50/50 RAFFLE	\$ 616.00
CHAPTER CLOTHES	\$ 50.00
CONTEST/OUTINGS	\$ 442.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 19,725.29</b>

**EXPENSES**

NEWSLETTER	\$ 3,587.04
MEETINGS	\$ 4,569.84
CHAPTER CLOTHES	\$ 152.64
SPORTS SHOW	\$ 7,105.02
CONTEST/OUTINGS	\$ 2,263.75
CHRISTMAS PARTY/PICNIC	\$ 859.57
STATE LIC. & FEES	\$ 20.00
POSTAL CHARGES	\$ 835.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 88.19
MUCC FEES	\$ 270.00
MILEAGE	\$ 175.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 19,926.05</b>
<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>\$ (200.76)</b>
<b>DECEMBER 31, 2007 CHECK BOOK BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 4,693.60</b>



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## YEARLY CHAPTER FISH CONTEST RULES

1. THE GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER FISH CONTEST IS DIVIDED INTO TWO SEPARATE CONTESTS, BIG LAKE AND RIVER. YOU WILL BE COMPETING AGAINST FISH CAUGHT FROM THE SAME WATER THAT YOU FISH. HARBOR LAKES (MUSKEGON, MANISTEE, ETC.) ARE TO BE CONSIDERED BIG LAKE WATERS.
2. THE CHAPTER FISH CONTEST WILL RUN FROM DECEMBER 1, TO NOVEMBER 30, OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR.
3. ALL FISH CAUGHT MUST BE LEGALLY CAUGHT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FISHING REGULATIONS. NO FOUL HOOKED FISH ALLOWED.
4. ALL FISH ENTERED IN THE CONTEST MUST BE CAUGHT BY THE ENTRANT, AND MAILED OR HANDED INTO THE CONTEST CHAIRMAN, WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF BEING CAUGHT.
5. ONLY GRAND RAPIDS STEELHEADERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER THE CONTEST.
6. ALL LAKE CONTEST FISH ENTERED MUST BE CAUGHT FROM A BOAT LEAVING AND RETURNING TO A MICHIGAN PORT ON THE SAME DAY. ALL RIVER CONTEST FISH MUST BE CAUGHT IN MICHIGAN WATERS.
7. FISH SPECIES IN THE CONTEST WILL BE: LAKE TROUT, STEELHEAD, BROWN TROUT, COHO SALMON, CHINOOK SALMON, AND WALLEYE.
8. TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE FIRST AND SECOND PLACE FINISHERS IN EACH CATEGORY IN BOTH CONTESTS.
9. NO MORE THAN (1) ONE TROPHY, AND (1) ONE CASH PRIZE PER PERSON WILL BE AWARDED IN EACH CONTEST.
10. CASH PRIZES WILL ALSO BE AWARDED FOR THE HEAVIEST TROUT, HEAVIEST SALMON, CHINOOK AND COHO, AND HEAVIEST WALLEYE IN EACH CONTEST.

<u>TROUT</u>	<u>SALMON CHINOOK</u>	<u>SALMON COHO</u>	<u>WALLEYE</u>
1 <sup>ST</sup> - \$50.00	1 <sup>ST</sup> - \$50.00	1 <sup>ST</sup> - \$50.00	1 <sup>ST</sup> - \$50.00
2 <sup>ND</sup> - \$30.00	2 <sup>ND</sup> - \$30.00	2 <sup>ND</sup> - \$30.00	2 <sup>ND</sup> - \$30.00
3 <sup>RD</sup> - \$20.00	3 <sup>RD</sup> - \$20.00	3 <sup>RD</sup> - \$20.00	3 <sup>RD</sup> - \$20.00

11. A PRE-REGISTRATION FEE OF \$5.00 PER FAMILY IS REQUIRED. THIS IS PAYABLE AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OR BY MAIL. YOUR CONTEST BEGINS UPON RECEIPT OF THE ENTRY FEE.
12. AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF THE LEADERS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER. WINNERS WILL BE PRESENTED THEIR TROPHIES AT THE JANUARY MEETING.
13. ALL FISH ENTERED WILL BE JUDGED BY WEIGHT ONLY.
14. TO ENTER A FISH: FILL IN THE ENTRY FORM. IF POSSIBLE TAKE ANOTHER STEELHEADER (WITNESS) AND GO TO A CERTIFIED SCALE, (BAIT/MEAT MARKET) FOR WEIGH-IN. PORTABLE SCALES ARE NOT ALLOWED. IF YOU CANNOT GET A STEELHEADER TO WITNESS THE WEIGH-IN, TAKE THE FORM AND FISH TO HIS HOUSE AND HAVE HIM SIGN THE FORM. FILL OUT THE FORM SO HE CAN IDENTIFY THE SPECIES. DO NOT SEND IN AN INCOMPLETE ENTRY FORM.
15. MAIL ENTRY TO: BOB ANTZAK - 10377 WHITEWOOD DR. - WEST OLIVE, MI. 49460

### OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER STEELHEADERS YEARLY FISH CONTEST

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIES ENTERED \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE CAUGHT \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION CAUGHT \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE CAUGHT \_\_\_\_\_

WEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

WEIGHED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
STEELHEADER WITNESS \_\_\_\_\_

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THIS IS A TRUE STATEMENT.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## DNR brings new life to trout-stocking

*01/04/08 Michael Eckert*

No need to thank me.

Just think about me a few springs from now when you hook a feisty brown trout while trolling the shallows of lower Lake Huron. You'll be able to do that because of the one that got away.

The summer I first began learning fly-fishing - I'm not finished learning yet - I was wading the Sturgeon River one evening near Wolverine. It was a nice night, perfect weather, enough breeze to blow away the mosquitoes, and the fish were biting. The sun had been down for a while, it was so dark I couldn't see my hands in front of my face, and I was fishing streamers by feel.

As I went to pick up the line for another cast, there was, just a few feet from me, a noise like someone had just pulled the drain plug for the river, a splash like a 12-year-old's cannonball and a mighty tug on my muddler minnow.

I did what I could, but it's hard to remember - and apply - everything I knew about landing a fish and treating a heart attack. Simultaneously. In the dark.

There was just enough moon, so when the fish jumped a second time I could see it was as big around as a 3-pound coffee can. Before I could suffer a second heart attack, he was off and gone.

I suspect offspring of that fish - as big as a football and mean as Godzilla - is coming to a waterway near you.

The brown trout we catch in Lake Huron and many other Michigan lakes and rivers are put there by the Department of Natural Resources. In 2007, the DNR hatched and planted more than 1.1 million brown trout at more than 370 locations in some 58 counties.

It has been doing that for years, relying on three strains of brown trout. A strain is a group of fish that is genetically distinct from other groups within the same species.

The trouble with hatchery-bred fish is they also are inbred fish. They eventually become genetically inferior, weaker and more susceptible to disease and other environmental harm.

On the West Coast, federal judges have blocked the stocking of hatchery-bred fish for fear they would breed with hardier wild salmon and weaken the species.

In Michigan, at least one of the strains the DNR has relied on is running out of steam. Survival rates for the strain have been declining.

So fisheries biologists went shopping for a new strain of brown trout for their hatcheries.

In November, biologists collected more than 1,200 browns from the Sturgeon River. They're in the process of turning them into the parents of the brown trout the agency will be stocking around the state five or six years from now.

Don't say I didn't warn you.

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