



Mid-Michigan Telegram



January 2008

Monthly Newsletter of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the
Michigan Steelheader & Salmon Fishermen's Association

*President's
Corner*

To the Executive Board and the Membership of U.A.W. Local 652: On behalf of the Board of directors and membership of the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders, I extend our sincere apologies for the disrespect shown to your hall by one of our guests at our December party. We are attempting to identify the vandal and are prepared to make restitution for the damages. We are extremely sorry this has happened and are already making changes to insure an incident like this doesn't occur again provided we are allowed to return.

Usually the end of the year has me looking back, this time I think I'll look the other way. 2008 promises to be a busy year. What with 8 fishing events, a river cleanup, picnic, Lugnuts game, sports show, and a swap meet... we will be busy.

The tournament committee has decided to hold most of the events with camping close by. I will run the Grand Haven outing from the State Park and of course Greg is doing Lake Erie from Sterling. Whitehall is a new port for me; Greg is planning this one using Trailway Campground (231-894-4903). The public launch is a short drive ... but for what I'm used to, it's a long run to the big lake. At the meeting Ryan was leaning toward Pancho's Pond for Ludington. I see my very efficient wife already has a note about Manistee and Twin Oaks.

Port Captains: If you are doing your event from a campground the information is needed **A.S.A.P.** so we can disseminate it to everyone to make plans. Phone Greg and/or email mmsteelheaders@yahoo.com.

It has been pointed out to me that I have a tendency to ONLY put things I'm concerned about on the agenda. Guilty! Starting with the Jan. board meeting anyone in the chapter with a concern can e-mail me at lhoort948@yahoo.com or call me. 517-243-1766. The board will review all items and finalize the agenda at the start of the meeting (during our "social time"). We will try this for 6 months and see how it works.

Tight Lines... Larry

**JANUARY
MEETING**

January 21, at Buddy's in the Holt Plaza – NE corner of Aurelius & Holt Roads. Usual 6 pm dinner/social hour & 7 pm meeting and we will have the optional (but popular) 50/50 and lure raffles.

Captain Denny Grinold from Oldgrin Charters in Grand Haven will be our speaker. He will be talking about fishing Grand Haven and giving us some great fishing tips. He'll also have any late breaking Legislative information. It should be a very good way to kick off our 2008 meetings.

Try sitting with someone you don't know at the meeting. What's better than meeting another angler? Just might be someone you go fishing with later on.

Do you need any new fishing gear? I know, stupid question! Contact fellow member **Wayne Wheeler** at **Fish Dog Co** and get 10% off by being a Mid Michigan Steelheader. Call Wayne at: **517-243-0539**. You're going to buy it somewhere... save some money and support a company that supports us!

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2008 MID MICHIGAN STEELHEADERS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| <u>Dates</u> | <u>Event/Location</u> | <u>Contact</u> |
|--------------------|--|---|
| January 18, 19, 20 | Newaygo River Outing | Steve Markucki (517) 646-8377 |
| February 16 & 17 | Swap Meet, Midway Best Western, Lansing | Larry Hoort, Gerri Hoort, Ryan Gilbert, Pat Quinn |
| April 11, 12, 13 | Lansing Boat and Fishing Show | Everyone!! |
| May 3 | St Joseph Lake Michigan outing | Ryan Gilbert (517) 505-2010 |
| May 17 | River clean up and fishing outing – Location TBD | TBD |
| May 24 | Grand Haven Lake Michigan outing | Larry Hoort (517) 243-1766 |
| June (date TBD) | Lansing Lugnuts Game | Jennifer Quinn |
| June 14 | Sterling State Park Lake Erie outing | Greg Blankstrom (517) 294-3003 |
| July 12 | Whitehall Lake Michigan outing | Greg Blankstrom (517) 294-3003 |
| July 27 | Summer Picnic | Gerri Hoort (517) 242-0190 |
| August 2 | Ludington Lake Michigan outing | Ryan Gilbert (517) 505-2010 |
| August 16 & 17 | Manistee Campout and outing | Larry & Gerri Hoort (517) 242-0190 |
| September 20 & 21 | Wellston stream, river & boat outing "Something For Everyone" | Doug Herbruck (517) 285-4497 |
| October 20th | Annual meeting to set next 2009 outings | |
| December 6 | 2008 Christmas Party | Gerri Hoort (517) 242-0190 |

November Meeting Summary

With Larry and Gerri on the way to Texas for Thanksgiving, Greg Blankstrom filled in at the meeting and kept everything on track.

Capt. Denny Higlemier was the speaker with a great presentation on Manistee fishing. The information about safely fishing around or avoiding the trap nets (your choice!) was invaluable – and where else could you have received such a presentation but at a Mid Michigan Steelheaders meeting. He also shared some of his proven techniques specific to the big lake and river around Manistee. Denny's charter service is Billie Sue Sport Fishing. If you want more great tips, you'll learn so much booking a trip.

It was a full meeting with Greg Blankstrom receiving an award from Pheasants Forever thanking him for providing a fishing trip to their fund raiser banquet last year.

We also had a short discussion about organizing a local kids fishing event on the Grand River in Lansing for this summer's DNR Free Fishing Weekend. Many thought this was a good idea. Contact Ryan Gilbert if interested in helping at the event or planning.

FREE!! Gander Mountain Seminars

Transtech will be sponsoring Lance Valentine's Walleye 101 seminars at the Lansing Gander Mountain FOR FREE. Below is the schedule.

- 2/21/08 The secret to catching more and bigger walleye
- 2/28/08 Walleye in rivers
- 3/6/08 Sonar: Basics and beyond
- 3/13/08 Walleye in the Weeds
- 3/20/08 GPS Advanced tips and tricks
- 3/27/08 Open Water Walleye

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Many of you are behind on your membership dues and if not brought current, will be deleted as active members. Your membership is extremely important in supporting Mid-Michigan Steelheaders and the MSSFA. I know many have put this on their "to do" list then it slips their mind. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.** Take 5 minutes and get current.

The expiring memberships list has been omitted from the newsletter for the past 3 months, but will resume in February. Most of you know when your membership is due - **call or email if you are not sure!** Gerri will be calling each due, past due, or deleted in 2007. Members I don't hear from I will be calling as a last effort before I delete.

Full dues are \$35 (\$25 MSSFA & \$10 chapter), \$10 chapter only, and \$5 for Junior memberships. **PLEASE bring your check** made out to Mid-Michigan Steelheaders to the January meeting or mail it to:

Gerri Hoort
Mid Michigan Steelheaders
P.O. Box 321
Sunfield, Mi. 48890

Swap Meet Update

Don't forget the Swap Meet on February 16 & 17 at the Midway Best Western. As a member of the Mid Michigan Chapter, you can rent an 8' table for only \$15; or member businesses can rent an 8'x8' space for \$50. Pricing for non member is higher (\$25 & \$75).

Anyone that is interested needs to act quickly. As of right now (January 4), we do still have a few spots remaining and they are going fast. Please let your friends know too - both for tables or to attend.

A flyer brochure was emailed a couple weeks ago to all members and it is page 7 of this newsletter too. Print up a few and post them around town to get the word out. We will have printed copies at the January 21 meeting too.

To sign up or to get more information, contact Gerri Hoort (517-242-0190), Pat Quinn (517-896-3495) or Ryan Gilbert (517-505-2010). We also need members to help at the event - selling/taking tickets, setup, tear down...

We had a problem at the Christmas Party. UAW Local 652 has been very generous to Mid-Michigan Steelheaders with donating their hall for our use for over 30 years. We have always respected their property in return, showing appreciation for all they do for our chapter.

This year some children trashed the lower men's bathroom. Scratching one stall and scratching in graffiti in the second stall. We need to find out who did this, so they can write a letter of apology to UAW 652 Union Hall. If we don't take care of this problem, our future use of the hall could be in jeopardy. So far, Gerri and Larry have not yet heard back from the parents and grandparents that were talked to in the days following the party.

It is believed that this occurred toward the end of the party. If you remember seeing any boys coming upstairs from the lower level, please contact Gerri ASAP so we can save our relationship with the Union Hall. We really need to solve this problem and only want the boy (or boys) to write a letter of apology. Please also ask your children or grandchildren if they saw anything.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

**Can You
HELP?**

December 1st Christmas Party

By Gerri Hoort

Despite the bad weather forecast (and flu bug) we had a nice turn out at the Christmas Party. I'm amazed at all the great food we always have at it, awesome cooks in our club. Of course, Ryan's salmon dip with crackers was the first dish to arrive (since he, Pat Quinn, Larry, Nate Tischer, John Dally, and Don Cunningham came early to lend a hand with setup). I started my night of eating with this awesome dip. At around 6:00 pm, everyone proceeded to enjoy Don Cunningham's famous fish-boil and the rest of the dishes, Don, Mark Redburn and Nate Tischer put on a very good boil that we always enjoy. As I went down the table taking a little of everything I spied my favorite-homemade mac and cheese (whoever made it, very good) and my plate was overflowing half way down the table. Never even got to my favorites (DESERTS) – should have started there! Raquel McJames blew everyone away with the specialty-decorated cake she made, with our logo, a stream, steelhead, bear, etc. it was awesome! Greg Blankstrom, Ron Hunt, Ryan Gilbert and Don Cunningham were very generous in sharing their salmon for the boil.

Everyone enjoyed the music provided by Jason, Brandi & Mary Atkins. Some enjoyed performing karaoke. Great job again, we really appreciate them providing us with music.

Jenny Quinn helped coach the many kids at the party to take part in the program, including teaching us how to shake our bootie (like Phil Bustos did at campout). We were blown away by Keith MacLannen's rendition of Here Comes Santa Clause. Mary Atkins then led the rest of the kids and everyone else at the party in a song. Santa came and the kids went to tell wishes. They all got a great t-shirt provided by the Nawrocki family (they make us all look great in chapter clothing) and a bag of candy. We really owe many thanks to our Santa, John Dally.

Bob Brace (Grand River Fly Shop) again tied awesome flies for the decoration in the wreaths which Pat & Jenny Quinn (and daughter Mary) helped make. Bob will be selling the glass bulbs w/ hand tied flies at the February 16-17 swap meet. Make sure to get some as tree decoration present for all your favorite fishermen for next year – they will be great gifts.

Members Jeff Bustos, Larry Hoort, Steve Dennis, Eugene Dokum, Ryan Gilbert, Greg Blankstrom, Mike Boedecker, Bill Earl, Ron Hunt, and Scott McJames enjoyed getting their prizes for meeting my membership challenge. And everyone went home with a door prize. Many, many thanks to Greg and Deb Blankstrom who donated a challenge prize and to Jeff Bustos for getting us two donations.

Eugene Dokum was very surprised to win the 50/50 (he told me he never wins ha ha).

Ryan got a tree donated for our lure raffle, which Pam Redburn was excited to win. Since most of the lures were for trolling she took what she wanted and then donated back the lures for others to win with more drawings..

Don Cunningham was very excited to win the raffle for a Pheasant Hunt that was very generously donated by Bill Earl. Thank you Bill, this raffle was exciting for our members and added \$310 to our treasury.

Many left early due to weather conditions, but those that stayed enjoyed karaoke and dancing.

Thanks to all that helped with clean up.

It was very nice to meet so many wives, kids and grandkids at the party, mark your calendar for Dec. 9, 2008—so you DON'T MISS next year's party.

Board Members

| | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| <i>President</i> | Larry Hoort | (517) 243-1766 |
| <i>Vice President</i> | Steve Markucki | (517) 646-9377 |
| <i>Membership</i> | Gerri Hoort | (517) 242-0190 |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Jenny Quinn | (517) 541-1015 |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Rick Travis | (517) 655-1086 |
| <i>State Director</i> | Ron Hunt | (517) 543-1334 |
| <i>Sport Show</i> | Gerri Hoort | (517) 242-0190 |
| <i>Chair Stream Outings</i> | Brian Bielecki | (517) 566-7199 |
| <i>Director - Communications</i> | Ryan Gilbert | (517) 505-2010 |
| <i>Director - Chair Boat Outings</i> | Greg Blankstrom | (517) 294-3003 |
| <i>Director</i> | Pat Quinn | (517) 896-3495 |
| <i>Director</i> | Don Cunningham | (517) 566-8262 |
| <i>50/50</i> | Pam Redburn | |
| <i>Photographer</i> | Pam Bieganski | (517) 223-1045 |

WINTER RIVER OUTING

January can be dreary, but this year Steve Markucki is hosting a Mid January outing at his place near Newago. The Muskegon River is always open below Croton, the White River is nearby, and ice fishing is available.

The outing will be January 18th, 19th, and 20th. For more information and directions contact Steve at either of these phone numbers:

Home: (517) 646-8377

Cell: (517) 898-5278

August Family Campout

This is our premiere outing of the year!!!! The 2008 dates are August 16 & 17 at Insta-Launch Campground in Manistee. You need to RSVP early!

The cost is only \$25 PER MEMBER (a membership is member, spouse, and minor children). Hot dogs, soda (7-up products), bottled water, smores, the Saturday fish-boil (each membership brings a dish to pass), and camping lots are all provided for the \$25. Many members do share lots. We have 2 community lots, where a campfire is going all of the time; a canopy is on 1 of these lots where members bring snacks to share and is central for the fish-boil.

RSVP with your \$25 now!!! Don't miss out on this awesome outing! Call Gerri at (517) 242-0190.

September 20 & 21 Outing

Doug Herbrucks "SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE" outing at Wellston is another outing you need to plan now for and RSVP. This outing includes wading (river, stream) and boat (river, big lake) fishing. Wellston has the best river and stream fishing.

When you call Twin Oaks Campground (877) 442-3102 to make your reservation, make sure you tell them you are with the Mid-Michigan Steelheader **club**.

Call Doug at (517) 285-4497 with any questions and to let him know you are going to attend.

Sponsor's Corner

The Businesses below give **us** (MID-MICHIGAN CHAPTER MEMBERS) Discounts. These are **IN ADDITION** To The State Association's "**IT PAYS TO BELONG**" Program.

- Bridge Street Pub, Dimondale (10% discount)
- H&H Auto Care (Art Higelmire)
- www.jandhproducts.com (John Ball)
- Slammer Boards (Chris & Ben Baker)
- Leo's Outpost (10% discount)
- M.Chance Orvis
- Grand River Bait & Tackle (10% discount, except Bait)
- Local Talent Karaoke & DJ Service (Mary & Jason Atkins) 517-484-7915
- Rive Rat Dog charters (Doug Buehler) on the Muskegon river, Manistee, and St. Joe rivers (<http://www.riverratdog.com/>)
- FishDogCo.Com – 10% off purchases – contact Wayne Wheeler (517) 243-0539

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**The Mid Michigan Steelheaders
are proud to present our**

1st Annual

SWAP MEET

FISHING - HUNTING - CAMPING

February 16 & 17, 2008 (Saturday & Sunday)

**At Lansing's Midway Best
Western Conference Center**

**7711 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, MI
(Just east of I96/69 on the west side of Lansing)**

Hours: Saturday 9 am - 7 pm; Sunday 10 am - 4 pm



- **FREE** admission to members of the Michigan Steelheaders Association (**ALL** Chapters)
- \$3 admission for non-members (**FREE** for kids 12 and under accompanied by an adult)
- Plenty of **FREE** Parking
- **Want to sell?**
 - ◆ \$25 for an 8' table for both days. Not enough stuff on your own? Go together with a friend!
 - ◆ \$75 for an 8' x 8' space for both days (business)
 - ◆ To reserve or get more information call Gerri (517-242-0190), Pat (517-896-3495), or Ryan (517-505-2010) or email mmsteelheaders@yahoo.com
- **Fishing seminars each afternoon – topics to be determined**
- **The Midway's North Pine restaurant will be open (Sat 7a-2p & 5p-10p, Sun 7a-10:30a) and each admission gets \$1 off on a meal at the restaurant**

Buy! Sell! Trade!

What's Inside???

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**Mid-Michigan
Steelheaders**

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