

News Letter - March 2019



“In an effort to more effectively manage the Beatty Saugeen River Fishery, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) wishes to encourage the natural migration and selection of rainbow trout to the headwaters without the influence of manually transferring rainbow trout.. See pg #6

MNR Suspends Adult Transfer for a 5 Year Study



We don't stop fishing because we get old. We get old because we stopped fishing.

Rodney Jones See Page # 18

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Adult Fish Transfer Suspended

Hey Karl,

I apologize for the delay in my response. Last we spoke I was too provide an overview of our Saugeen River steelhead monitoring program and how this relates to the adult transfer.

In an effort to more effectively manage the Beatty Saugeen River Fishery, MNRF wishes to encourage the natural migration and selection of rainbow trout to the headwaters without the influence of manually transferring rainbow trout. This approach is consistent with the Ontario Provincial Fish Strategy which provides objectives and tactics to conserve and manage fish populations and promote fishing. The first goal of this strategy is for healthy ecosystems that support self-sustaining native fish communities.

In order to achieve this goal, as set out in the Provincial Fish Strategy, ministry staff along with various dedicated partners have committed resources annually to the Saugeen River since 2008. Since 2014, assessments have been conducted throughout the Saugeen River including a rainbow trout telemetry study, Walkerton fishway improvements, Maple Hill step pool fishway construction, Maple Hill denil fishway passage study, Walkerton fish way passage study, Maple Hill denil smolt study, Maple Hill step pool modifications, and annual assessment of rainbow recruitment on the Beatty Saugeen. Because of these efforts and the subsequent proven passage rates of Saugeen River fishways the MNRF is undertaking a monitoring program on the Beatty to determine the returning success rate of the 150,000 yearling rainbows stocked by MNRF since 2012 as well as the ability of the Saugeen Rivers rainbow trout to naturally access the headwaters. For these reasons we require the adult transfer program to cease so an accurate assessment can be realized.

Proposed monitoring on the Beatty will consist of a variety of methods such as spring spawning/red surveys and late summer electrofishing assessment. The results of these surveys will allow us to prove or disprove natural migration success and recruitment of the Beatty Saugeen River.

MNRF has attended annual public meetings from 2012-2015 in which current results and updates were presented for Saugeen river assessment projects and adult rainbow trout transfers. As you will recall these annual meetings were hosted by the Lake Huron Fishing Club with attendance from representatives of the Ontario Steelheaders.

I believe there is an opportunity for members of the Ontario Steelheaders to become involved in the monitoring program and/or other fisheries-related stewardship activities that we are involved in. If you are interested in exploring these opportunities I suggest you contact Tracy Allison, Owen Sound Resource Management Supervisor at (or via email Tracy.allison@ontario.ca.) Tracy will be able to connect you with the appropriate MNRF staff in Owen Sound.

Sincerely,

Shawn Carey District Manager Midhurst District
Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry , 284 Nursery Rd Midhurst ON L0L 1X0

Presidents Report

Good day folks has been awhile since my last update. So here's what is on the go. We had our Elections last fall on our fall Derby day and for those of you who don't know the out come went as follows. We have two new Board members who are John Green as Fund Raising Director and Carlo Baldassarra as Merchandising Director, Madeline Walker is still our Membership Director, Sandra Moir is still Media Director, myself as President and Bob Pfaff is still Treasurer. The position of Derby Director was not up for election but has since been vacated by Kodey Buchanan, who has decided to step down in the pursuit of running a Tournament Steel Dreams which will have their first outing March 23rd of this year. We sent notification to all members to see if anyone was interested in stepping into the position. No-one came forward but Brian Zettler has offered to take the position so thank you to Brian for stepping up as Derby Director. A big thank you goes to all people who ran for positions during the Election. A big thank you has to go out to Madeline Walker and her group for taking on the task of setting up the Election and having it run as transparent as it did so thank you very much.

At the time of this writing the fin clipping at Kincardine has been completed and all that is left is approximately 15,000 at the Port Elgin hatchery which will be done Mar 2nd so thank you to all those who have helped out.

There are no projects currently scheduled other than the implanting of radio tags in some adult Steelhead which some of our members have been involved in. This is being done to track the adults to see if they are successfully migrating over the dams along their migration route. If anyone has any ideas on what the club could get involved in please come forward and let the OS know of your ideas.

We currently are in need of someone who can take over the maintenance and up grading of our Website. If you think you can help or know of someone who can, please contact myself or any Director of the OS.

In closing please feel free to contact any Board member with any questions or comments you may have. Communication is the only way we as a group can make sure we continue to keep the Saugeen moving in the right direction for you the members.

Karl Redin,
President,
president@steelheaders.ca
Cell. 519-771-1780

Email: kredin@tompkinsind.com





Where do the eggs collected go?

For example in the spring of 2017 members of the Ontario Steelheaders collected over 377,000 rainbow trout eggs for 3 different hatcheries

Distribution of the eggs went to:

- 147,380 for Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association
- 160,320 for Sydenham Sportsmen's Association
- 123,700 for The Lake Huron Fishing Club

LHFC will fertilize and rear the smolts over the next year. LHFC and the OS will release them following spring.

Support our Key Sponsors



Hammond
Power Solutions

<https://www.hammondpowersolutions.com/>



Get Involved

Member or not, here are a few ways you can do your part to show support. Please consider any of the ways below to help the efforts of the Ontario Steelheaders. Visit our website for more information: <http://www.steelheaders.ca>

Become a Member

We welcome you to join our growing membership. Help us make a significant impact on steelhead fisheries in Ontario, particularly the Saugeen River

See back page for member applications

Make a Donation

Give back to the Saugeen River you enjoyed as a child or actively fish today. Any donation amount is appreciated and proceeds go directly to the rehabilitation and hatchery processes

Use Denny's Dam Park

Our affordable vehicle parking and overnight camping fees go to fund the park and its expenses. Additional proceeds from the park are passed on to the Ontario Steelheaders towards rehabilitation and fishery efforts. Visit our website for more information.

Report Poaching & Harvesting

We have all seen people poaching and harvesting fish and eggs. This behavior is not only illegal but disrespectful to the volunteers over the years who have worked so hard to make the Saugeen River the great fishery it is. Do your part and report any signs of poaching or harvesting of rainbow trout or salmon

Submit Your Photos

Submit your photos to us and we will post them on the website and possibly used them in the newsletter.

Submit your photos using our website or email them to: photos@steelheaders.ca

Write an Article

If you are a member, and not able to make events to volunteer, consider writing a short article story once a year. The articles published in our news letter and website help us bring more awareness to our projects.

Sponsor an Event

Sponsor one of our events to promote your business. Egg collection, fish transfers, derbies and other events can all be sponsored to show your support for local conservation.

Contact: president@steelheaders.ca

Buy Steelheaders Gear

Members and non-members can purchase Ontario Steelheaders merchandise to show support. Watch for new and discounted merchandise, available at the park only.

Mike Hahn Shares MNR Opinion

I received this letter from the MNR and wanted to share it with all of you. I personally support almost any effort to use a Scientific approach with regards to hunting and fishing to see if Human interference is helping or hindering Mother Nature. We will find out one way or another in just a few short years. The letter reads as follows:

In an effort to more effectively manage the Beatty Saugeen River Fishery, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) wishes to encourage the natural migration and selection of rainbow trout to the headwaters without the influence of manually transferring rainbow trout. This approach is consistent with the *Ontario Provincial Fish Strategy* which provides objectives and tactics to conserve and manage fish populations and promote fishing. The first goal of this strategy is for healthy ecosystems that support self-sustaining fish communities.

In order to achieve this goal, as set out in the *Provincial Fish Strategy*, ministry staff along with various dedicated partners have committed resources annually to the Saugeen River since 2008. Since 2014, assessments have been conducted throughout the Saugeen River including a rainbow trout telemetry study, Walkerton fishway improvements, Maple Hill step pool fishway construction, Maple Hill denil fishway passage study, Walkerton fishway passage study, Maple Hill denil smolt study, Maple Hill step pool modifications, and annual assessment of rainbow recruitment on the Beatty Saugeen. Because of these efforts and the subsequent proven passage rates of Saugeen River fishways the MNR is undertaking a monitoring program on the Beatty to determine the returning success rate of the 150,000 yearling rainbows stocked by MNR since 2012 as well as the ability of the Saugeen Rivers rainbow trout to naturally access the headwaters. For these reasons we require the adult transfer program to cease so an accurate assessment can be realized.

Proposed multi-year monitoring on the Beatty by MNR staff will consist of a variety of methods such as; spring spawning/red surveys and late summer electrofishing assessment. **The results of these surveys will allow us to prove or disprove natural migration success and recruitment of the Beatty Saugeen River.** Upon completion, MNR will report on the results of our assessment of the Beatty Saugeen.

I would like to thank you for your interest in the Beatty/Saugeen Fishery. Further information on the MNR's management of provincial fisheries can be obtained from our website at www.ontario.ca/page/fisheries-ontario.

Jody Scheifley

BIOLOGIST | ONTARIO MINISTRY of NATURAL RESOURCES and FORESTRY | OWEN SOUND FIELD OFFICE

Kind Regards,

Michael Hahn, Vice President
Lake Huron Fishing Club

LHFC Update

We are just finishing the release of 57,000 yearling brown trout from the Kincardine Trout Hatchery. We had a good batch of browns again this year averaging 30 grams/fish. Once the brown trout releases are done the large finishing tanks will be scrubbed down and disinfected. The 60,000 five month old rainbows will then be moved to the large tanks to give them room to put on their winter growth spurt. There are also 12,300 fingerling rainbow trout to be moved to the Port Elgin Chinook Hatchery for the winter.



When all of this has been completed then we can begin the work of installing the 2 new finishing tanks in the Trout Hatchery. The Ontario Steelheaders were generous to provide the funds to purchase one of these new tanks. The new tank installations will give 20,000 liters of extra space for the rearing of our rainbows, resulting in even healthier fish. The target is to have the new tanks fully installed by the end of the year. Manual sorting of the rainbows will be done in January. Timing of the fin clipping of the rainbows is undecided at this time but may be delayed until the end of February.



Al Wilkinson
Kincardine Trout Hatchery
Manager (2016)

Email: fisheye@bvts.com

Teamwork in Action





Faith Scouts Clean Up

The weekend of Sept 16 – 18th – The 20th Faith Scouts have returned for the 3rd time in 5 years. This year was to concentrate on camp clean-up. On past visits, the 20th Faith Brant Scouts participated in wood/brush and trash removal at Denny's Dam park.

The camp is in good shape however; during Spring and Fall the park is busier, and trash can be more prevalent. The weather hindered a little but the kids persevered. The Ontario Steelheaders are grateful for their continued assistance in keeping the park tidy and we hope they enjoyed the weekend.

Over the years its not been all work for the scouts. They have toured the dam/fish ladder and visited the Lake Huron fish hatchery; these activities assist them in acquiring their 'Fish & Wildlife Badge.' They also have visited the Bruce County Museum in Southampton which was very interesting, went to the beach, some did fishing, explored the Saugeen rivers edge and had a good campfire.



(519)787-4359 <http://www.grandriveroutfitters.ca>

Hepworth Anglers Restoration Project



July 2018

The Hepworth Anglers Club has continued its Spring Creek Restoration Project in 2018 planting and maintaining trees. Green Feet Ecosystem Services, a company specializing in drone imaging and analysis have completed their first flyover of Spring Creek to do a Digital Surface Model. This drone surface is funded in part by Bruce Power, one of the Hepworth Club's partners in the Spring Creek restoration project. Major restoration work will begin in July including continuation of improving stream habitat and conducting biomass studies, which are used to measure and assess restoration work completed to date.

Regards,

Bill Nafziger,
Stream Improvement
Hepworth Anglers Club

November 2018

Currently the largest coho run to date are on the spawning areas of Spring Creek, with many cohos caught in the lower Sauble River by anglers this fall. Spring Creek is the only stream in the area with a natural reproducing population of coho salmon.

The Hepworth Anglers Club (HAC) thank Trillium Mutual Insurance for their \$2,000 contribution received from the ROOTS Community Fund, which will be used as part of their ongoing Spring Creek Restoration Project. These funds have been used to plant trees on both sides of Spring Creek acting as a buffer, protecting HAC's restoration work completed in the lower section of Spring Creek.

Spring Creek hosts a large natural reproducing migratory fishery consisting of chinook/coho salmon, rainbow/brown trout, and also adds a significant volume of high quality cold water to the Sauble River, enhancing the water quality in the river and Lake Huron.

Hepworth Anglers Cont'd

HAC's Spring Creek stewardship/restoration efforts supported by our neighbours, community partners and individuals, will ensure that these public benefits continue into the future. The HAC also appreciated Trillium Mutual' volunteer program, with their employee Steve Sherreff assisting with the bio mass studies conducted in Spring Creek. Bio mass studies are used to determine the success of the Hepworth Club's restoration efforts.

Shown below is HAC secretary Rick Rusk presenting a cheque to Heather Barnes, recipient of the tree project. Heather has removed eleven acres from cultivation on both sides of Spring Creek, signing an agreement with Grey Bruce Alternating Land Use Services (ALUS) and plans to plant additional trees in 2019 assisted by the HAC and Trillium Mutual Insurance.

Best regards,
Bill

Stream Improvement



(519)787-4359 <http://www.grandriveroutfitters.ca>

Bruce Power is teaming up with the Lake Huron Fishing Club

TIVERTON, ON – May 29, 2018

Bruce Power is teaming up with the Lake Huron Fishing Club, GSS Engineering and the Municipality of Brockton to restore fish habitat on the Saugeen River.

The groups will collaborate to remove the Truax Dam structure, located in Walkerton, to help rehabilitate the area to a more natural state. This will allow for the passage of migrating fish, while also improving water quality, and creating a healthier ecosystem to help fish thrive.

“We are very pleased to work with the Lake Huron Fishing Club and Bruce Power on this important environmental project,” said David Inglis, Mayor of Brockton. “Following the appropriate engineering studies, the partial removal of the dam will support fishing enthusiasts, and create a beautiful, natural public space that can be enjoyed by area residents and visitors, while ensuring ease of access for canoeists and kayakers.”

Bruce Power has provided funds to fully support the project, while the Lake Huron Fishing Club will work with GSS Engineering to carry out the dam removal.

“We are proud to be a part of the Truax Dam Removal Project, which will have important, long-term benefits to fish species in our area,” said James Scongack, Bruce Power’s Vice President, Corporate Affairs & Environment. “We recognize the importance of our natural surroundings and are committed to assisting in various community-driven environmental initiatives.”

The Truax Dam was originally built to supply water power for Walkerton’s first sawmill. The dam was reconstructed in 1919, and the structure is still in place today. The dam currently creates a barrier for fish species as they try to migrate and spawn upstream. As part of the plan, a portion of the dam will remain in place to serve as a pedestrian walkway over the water.

Work on the project is slated to begin in the summer of 2019.

Reproduced with Permission from Bruce Power



Lake Ontario Alewife

For Immediate Release

October 26, 2016

LAKE ONTARIO FISHERY AGENCIES ADJUST LAKEWIDE PREDATOR STOCKING TO PROMOTE ALEWIFE POPULATION RECOVERY Agencies seek to sustain diverse salmon and trout fishing opportunities into the future

Ann Arbor, MI—In response to conclusive evidence of two successive years of poor alewife reproduction, the Lake Ontario Committee (LOC) today announced stocking reductions in 2017 designed to maintain future recreational and economic benefits of Lake Ontario's sport fisheries. The stocking reductions, which are moderate in size, will help reduce predatory demand on alewife, with the objective of fostering a robust forage base for the future. Today's actions represent a consensus decision by the two-member LOC, composed of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF).

The stocking adjustments, which will commence in spring 2017, emphasize the LOCs shared commitment to the Lake Ontario Fish Community Objectives including restoring lake trout and sustaining Lake Ontario's world-class salmon and trout fishery, with Chinook salmon as the top predator in the lake. New York State and the Province of Ontario currently stock a combined 2.36 million Chinook salmon and more than one million lake trout each year into Lake Ontario. In addition, approximately 50% of the Chinook salmon in Lake Ontario are naturally reproduced or "wild" fish. Stocked and wild salmon are supporting a world class fishery which produces the largest trophy Chinook salmon in the Great Lakes. Maintaining sufficient alewife abundance to support the sport fishery is key to long term success, and these stocking reductions will help achieve that goal.

"New York State is committed to protecting the ecological, recreational, and economic benefits of Lake Ontario's sport fisheries. These reductions will help ensure that trout and salmon stocks are sustained for generations to come," said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. "By working with partners in Canada, this bi-national management effort used the most current science available to inform our plans. I applaud the work of DEC's biologists, the Lake Ontario Committee, and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission in carefully crafting this balanced plan."

Alewife are not native to the Great Lakes, and juvenile alewife cannot tolerate very cold water for long periods of time. The extremely long, cold winters of 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 resulted in poor survival of young alewife produced in those years. The LOC is concerned that the two years of poor alewife survival will result in too few adult alewife, starting in 2017, to sustain the large numbers of trout and salmon in the lake.

To help reduce predator demand on alewife in 2018 and 2019, the LOC has agreed to reduce Chinook salmon stocking in 2017 by 20%. Given that, on average, 50% of Lake Ontario's Chinook salmon are wild, this reduction effectively reduces Chinook salmon numbers added to the lake by only 10% in 2017.

Anglers should continue to regard Lake Ontario as a premier sport fishing destination and should not expect diminished fishing quality resulting from these reductions. Other factors, such as weather, significantly impact fishing success. For example, in 2008, Chinook salmon stocking was reduced by 42% due to an inability to meet egg collection targets, however, there was no measurable impact to sport fishing quality resulting from this reduction.

DEC and OMNRF held numerous meetings with organized angler groups and the public to explain their concerns with Lake Ontario's alewife population and discussed proposed management actions to address this issue. Stakeholders offered a wide variety of opinions and advice, ranging from more dramatic stocking reductions than those proposed to increasing stocking above bi-nationally approved limits. The Lake Ontario Committee considered all the public input and believes the current plan of action will help reduce predatory demand on alewife and promote alewife population recovery. Future management decisions, if required, will be based on fisheries survey data collected in 2017 and future years.

"The Province of Ontario is grateful to the many stakeholders and volunteers from both jurisdictions who have provided their opinions and suggestions in this process, and who continue to work with the management agencies towards our shared goal of maintaining this world class trout and salmon fishery," said Acting Director of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's Fish and Wildlife Services Branch, Dave Brown.

The Lake Ontario Committee will continue to monitor Lake Ontario's alewife population, predator growth rates, fish condition factors, and the effects of the 2017 stocking adjustments. This collaborative process represents the best available science to promote sustainable and diverse fisheries for Lake Ontario. The Lake Committee will continue to engage organized angler groups, tourism interests, and the public when future survey results become available. For more information, visit the Lake Ontario Committee online at www.glfc.org/lakecom/loc/lochome.php.

CONTACTS:

Marc Gaden, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, 734-669-3012

Andy Todd, Lake Ontario Committee Chairman, Ontario, 613-476-3255

Steve LaPan, New York State, 315-654-2147

More Great Sponsors



Members Lost



In July 2016, **Roger Lewis**. Roger was one of the hard working Ontario Steelheaders long time volunteers. He was also an important part of Steelheaders Park. We miss you Roger. God Bless.



Sadly we said goodbye in November 2016 to one of our long time members, "**Jimmy-Jim**" **Gray** after a short battle with cancer. Jimmy was a dedicated member of the Ontario Steelheaders; always eager to help. Jimmy, you will be greatly missed by many.



August 2017 Long time Steelheaders and friend, **Stan Batog**. Stan is remembered for his sense of humour and gentle nature – anyone who knew Stan would say, "he was a good man." We will miss him.



February 2017 **Rodney Jones**..

For more on Rod - See pages 18 & 19



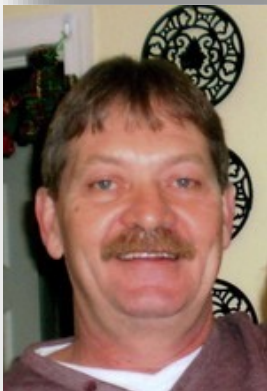
Jim Maxwell. Jim had been involved with the club and the Saugeen since 1979. “Rocky Saugeen Legend” Jim Maxwell was instrumental in constructing the future of Ontario Steelhead, Specks and Browns into the Rocky Saugeen.



June 2017 **Jocelyne Campbell** was a pioneer with respect to fishing the Saugeen as a woman. If it weren't for Jocelyne, there would not be as many women actively fishing this river – I certainly can say that is true for me, as it was Jocelyne who made me feel comfortable to stand there; elbow to elbow with several anglers. ~ Madeline



October 2018 **Jim Woodruff** -A familiar and friendly face on the river; with his Puma trailer in the parking lot spring and fall... Jim's Gone Fishing



January 2018 **Harold Curtis** - Former treasurer for Ontario Steelheaders and park patron.

News and Media Report

Web Videos



There is no doubt in my mind I made the right decision to volunteer as the News and Media Director for the Ontario Steelheaders. I photograph quite a bit associated derby award ceremonies and other activities in the park. Not all pictures are posted in the news letter, but I try to get as many as I can posted to the website and Facebook page.



Thank you to Heather Asmussen, for sharing pictures from the past with us; which were posted to our website. Look in the photo gallery and "Classic Era." If you have any pictures you would like to share, I'll take them. Always check the website and FB for the latest updates



It's been an education for me in many ways, working with individuals who are like minded and also with some opposed. I realize everyone has their own passions interests that represent the Ontario Steeleheaders. Each director or associate has their point of focus, be it membership, fund raising or merchandising; collectively we have establish a great balance of what Rodney would be very proud.

Regards,

Sandra Moir.
News and Media Director

Find us on  

<http://facebook.com/OntarioSteelheaders>

<http://twitter.com/ONSteelheaders>

AUTHORS WANTED

We have been relentless in our search for writers, columnists, photographers and editors. If you would like to cover a story, submit an article or get involved with the editing, commentary or publishing of this newsletter, please contact us at the address on the front cover, or e-mail us at news@ontariosteelheaders.ca. The future success of this newsletter depends on the input from its members. Please consider contributing.

Spring Derby to be held May 4th, 2019

Fall Derby to be held October 19, 2019

Ontario Steelheaders are hosting the annual spring and fall steelhead trout derby at the Denny's Dam Park located on the Saugeen River. Please join us for a great day of fishing, social event for members, families and friends who love to catch steelhead trout. Prizes are awarded for largest steelhead rainbow trout, important information updates and a cozy campfire afterwards. It will be a fun day spent fishing with family and friends.

Derby Details

Cost: \$10 per adult (juniors are free)

Derby Start Time: 7AM

Derby End Time: 5PM (subject to change)

** Registration and weigh ins will be at Brian Zettler' trailer. Presentation of trophies & raffle prizes will take place after dinner.

Prizes are awarded for :

- Heaviest Steelhead Trout (1st, 2nd and 3rd places)
- Juniors (under age 16)
- Live Trout Release (Derby director verifies length, girth and weight)

After the Derby

A huge BBQ is served at the Rod Jones Pavilion for derby entrants. Overnight camping and day use at Denny's Dam Park is available for participants and their families. Membership applications are also accepted at the ceremonies. Consider supporting the Ontario Steelheaders by grabbing some merchandise like t-shirts, hats, jackets and more. They make great gifts for family, friends and even yourself. Here is what you can expect after the derby comes to a close at 5PM .

- Awards
- Club Updates
- Guest Speakers
- Draw Prizes
- Winner Ceremony
- Prize Awards To Top Placing Entrants
- Campfire and Overnight Camping
- More Information

If you need more information, check the Denny's Dam Park page for directions, map; camping and parking information. Contact Brian Zettler should you care to donate prizes or need more detailed information.

Memorial Plaques

A Memorial Plaque was affixed to the main rafter centered in the Rod Jones Pavilion and then officially dedicated in 2015. The inscriptions are to remember people who have been a part of our park family in one way or another.

You may place a small memorial plaque of a family member, friend or acquaintance that you wish to add to the main plaque rafter. The park management together with the board of directors ask the standard for the mini plaques be no larger than 3 inches by 5 inches. The plaque is to be a black background with white lettering (lamicoid).

To proceed with this process, you can email: news@steelheaders.ca. We can then advise where to purchase.

Rodney Jones

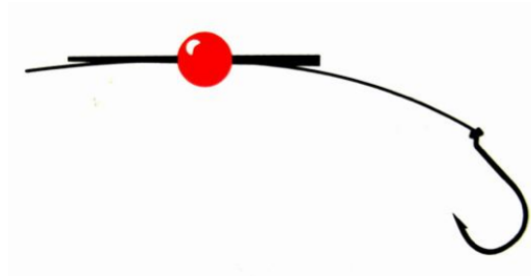


Rod was one of the original founding member of the OS established in 1977-78. He was involved in the creation of the up welling boxes on the Beatty Saugeen in 1979 the start of the improvement for the Saugeen River. He sat on the original meetings to establish the adult transfer program and the raising of our and LHFC yearlings. He saved Fisherman's Park on the Saugeen from closure by starting the camp ground that is there today in the name of the OS. Through all this Rod wanted nothing in return except to see the fishery grow to what is today. Rod and his core group of volunteers did much of this work and effort out of their own pockets again asking for nothing just wanting to create the fishery that we all enjoy today. For many years to come we'll speak of the adventures of Rod that most of us enjoyed with the man.

To pay tribute to Rod's outstanding commitment to the fisheries, the Ontario Steelheaders board of directors chose to create a scholarship in his memory. Funds for the Scholarship are raised through various actives throughout the park such as 50/50 draws. The scholarship is awarded on an annual basis to **Sir Sanford Flemming College**. Named "**The Rod Jones Memorial Award for Environmental Conservation.**"

The Rod Jones Memorial Award for Environmental Conservation went to two students studying in either Fish & Wildlife Technician, Ecosystem Management, Ecological Restoration or Aquaculture programs.

The recipient names are Alexa MacPherson & Luigi Richardson. Alexa is a 2018 grad of the Ecological Restoration program and Luigi is a 2018 grad of the Fish and Wildlife Technician program.



I don't fish to escape from life's little problems I fish to remind myself how little life's problems are.



(519)787-4359 <http://www.grandriveroutfitters.ca>

Denny's Dam Park Report

After an exceptionally long winter, we are all eager to begin enjoying the park amenities and spending time fishing the river for fresh steelhead. Once the flood waters recede, we will begin pulling in trailers to the park as they are accessible; there is quite a bit of snow still in the farm field. Additionally, there is significant ice jams in the park and we are going to need to have warm weather for an extended duration prior to being able to even consider opening the park this season.

This year, we will have another series of events going on at the park. Some of them include spring trout opener, spring derby, fall derby and more. Stay tuned to our website for updates on events held at the park.

I am having an important meeting for the resident campers of Denny's Dam Park to discuss upcoming changes. This will be held in the park at the Rod Jones' Pavilion on May 18, 2019 at 10:00 AM. Please make an effort to attend so that you can be assured that you are up-to-date with the most current news affecting your sites at the park. This will also be the time to discuss any issues, concerns or requests that any of the resident campers may have. If however, you don't feel comfortable talking in a crowd, please come to me directly to chat, or else contact me via my home phone at 1-519-651-8109.

You can find a map and more info about the park on our website:

<http://steelheaders.ca/dennys-dam-park>

Dave Monro
Park Manager
park@steelheaders.ca



Canada Day 150



Ken & Ron - Cornbeef & Cabbage Night Proceeds from a 50/50 draw are donated to The Royal Canadian Legion

Fund Raising Report

Spring is fast approaching and it wont be long before were all able to cast a line in the mighty Saugeen river.

The Ontario Steelheaders Exexecutive is casting a line out there too!!!

We are currently soliciting for Donations/Prizes for our Fundraising/Derby events that are just around the corner.

All funds raised through these events helps the Ontario Steelheaders meet their commitments, support their partnerships and support other like-minded organizations.

Please contact one of the following through the Ontario Steelheaders website should you or your company wish to make a donation.

John Green,
Director of Fundraising

or

Brian Zettler
Derby Director

2018 Fall Derby Results:

October 13 There were 123 adults and 4 Juniors registered to participate

1st Place: Jimmy's John – 10lbs 8 oz

2nd place: Ben Lam 8lbs 5 oz

3rd place: Gary Black 7lbs.13 oz

Live Release: Damian Z. – 25.5"

Junior Winner Ally Byrne 1 lb 1oz



2018 Spring Derby Results:

1st place: Eugene McConkey 9.2 lbs

2nd place: Jeff Lowe 8.18 lbs

3rd place: Paul Sabatino 7.4 lbs

Live release: Lance Crawford 32.25 inches.

Junior winner Rhett H. 4.7 lbs.



Derby Report

It's that time of year again fellow fisher people. Time to dust off the sticks and respool the reels. This years spring derby is May 4th 2019. Hope to see all the familiar faces as well as new faces for the Ontario Steelheaders annual spring derby. There will be BBQ and raffles following the derby in the pavilion as usual. Stay tuned for further updates. Tightlines all Brian Zettler

Ps....If anyone would like to donate any prizes for the spring derby you can get a hold of me at Bigbadbow@hotmail.com or see me at the park in April ...Thanks again

Brian Z

Thank you

The Derby Director's Position has changed a number of times over the last few years, mainly due to people moving.

Thank you to Scottie & Erika Redin, Ben Lam and Kodey Buchanan & Melissa for all you hard work in make the derbies a success.



Scottie



Erika



Ben



Kodey

Chantry Chinook Classic Salmon Derby 2019



Saturday July 27 To Sunday August 11, 2019

Phone: 519-353-8818 Fax: 519-832-4121

Email: info@chantrychinook.com

Tickets: Single \$35.00 Family \$80.00

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA PAYPAL

A small handling fee applies For PayPal Tickets.

Family entries are defined as parents or grandparents or guardians and dependent children 17 years of age and under. (2 Generations Only)

<https://www.chantrychinook.com/>



Smoked Rainbow Trout by Joe Bester

Dry brined with brown sugar, spice & salt.
Smoked with Alder or Maple wood.

Notes:

Times all vary depending on the thickness of your fillets. Thinner fillets will require less time in the brine and less time to smoke.

Do not leave fillets more than 8 hours in the brine or there is a good chance your fish will be overly salty.

Fresh and firm fleshed fillets will give you the best results.

Smoking meat is a craft. It is all about trial and error & personnel preference, but this should get you started on your journey to perfecting your own recipe. The optional ingredients I suggest are not necessary but will add a distinct flavour and are worth trying on a second batch.

INGREDIENTS

2 – 3 pounds of Rainbow Trout Fillets (skin on, bones removed)
6 cups Dark Brown Sugar
1 ½ cups Kosher Salt
1 teaspoons Ground Black Pepper
½ cup of Maple Syrup (optional)
1 Tablespoon garlic powder (optional)
1 tablespoon onion powder (optional)
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

Method:

- Lay fillet on cutting board skin down and score the flesh diagonally in opposite directions to give you 1" squares. Do NOT cut through skin! Cut only down to the skin. Lay flat in a glass baking dish, skin down.
- Combine all ingredients together (this is your brine) and rub on to completely & cover all exposed flesh. If you lift up on the bottom of the fillet you will be able to get the brine down into the fillet between the cuts.
- Cover with plastic wrap and place in a fridge. (6 – 8 hours). You will notice moisture being drawn from the fish as soon as the brine is put onto the flesh.
- Remove fish from brine. Note there will be a bunch of liquid in the dish. This is what has been drawn from the flesh and is normal.
- Rinse the fillets in cold water making sure you get any brine trapped between the flesh, and pat dry with paper towel.
- Place on a cooling rack skin down in front of a fan for 1 hour or until the flesh becomes tacky to the touch.
- While you are doing this start your smoker and get it up to a consistent 120F degrees.
- Nothing beats charcoal or wood in my opinion but any source of heat will work. Avoid strong scented wood such as cedar. The main thing is that you can control your temperature and you're not too close to the source of heat. Just add the wood chips right on to your charcoal. I prefer Alder Wood for smoke if I can get my hands on it but maple wood is also great. You want to keep adding enough wood chips to keep the smoke going. I usually mix 1/2 & 1/2 wet (soaked for 5 minutes in clean water) and dry chips together to prevent them from burning too quickly.
- When the fillets are tacky, place in the smoker skin down. (I only apply smoke for 2 hours maximum for the amount of smoke I prefer but it is up to your taste).
- Every hour increase your temperature by 20F degrees. Finish the fish of at 180F degrees.
- The fish needs to come up to a minimum internal temperature of 145 degrees.
- Eat warm or refrigerate wrapped in plastic for up to 3 days.
- Can be vacuum packed and frozen. I am not a big believer in freezing it but that is a personnel choice. Please, please practise conservation and enjoy.

Treasurers Report

Spring has finally arrived. What a nice change after the long, cold winter we all just struggled through, snow shovels in hand. I'm sure you are all getting antsy waiting for the fishing season that is coming. I wish you all fair weather and tight lines.

Thank you to the many who give of their time and effort to help maintain the fishery and keep our park in good order.

As of December 31, 2018 our bank balance is \$20,247.32 (\$5,000.00 of that total amount is on hold pending clearance).

Our various expenses over the course of 2018 consisted of contributions to the Lake Huron Fishing Club to aid in the support of the hatchery, Fin clipping at the Port Elgin Hatchery, Support of egg collection, smolt rearing and transfer and release, Annual riverside clean-up of the Saugeen and the surrounding regions, SVCA Lease, Insurance, Septic / Port-a-Potty rentals and maintenance, garbage disposal, property maintenance, Derby expenses, Merchandise costs, trailer transportation and storage fees, lawn cutting, and equipment supplies, election costs, etc., as well as, the Rodney Jones Scholarship fund. These total expenses for the year of 2018 equaled \$21,562.69.

The bulk of the funds received are obtained from park fees which does not fully cover our yearly costs and as such, we are dependent on fundraising promotions that aide in our overall costs. Additionally, our staple expenses increase on a yearly basis.

Bob Pfaff
Treasurer
treasurer@steelheaders.ca



2019 Fin Clipping

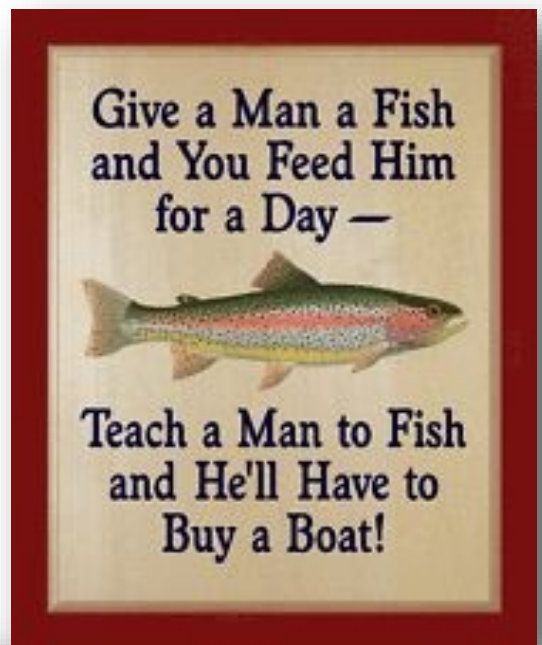
Merchandise Report

Hey everyone! It's great to be back as Merchandise Director and I am looking forward to the upcoming 2019 season. For those of you who may not realize this, 2019 is the Ontario Steelheaders' 40th year anniversary. I am working with various suppliers to acquire deals so that we can showcase this anniversary with some limited-edition commemorative merchandise. I am hoping to have this available for the Spring Derby on May 4, 2019.

We also carry hoodies that zip, along with short and long-sleeved Tee-shirts, track pants, ball caps and other swag. We have sizes ranging from M to 3XL. Custom orders are available and if you are looking for something special, please feel free to contact me. I will have merchandise available for purchase at the Spring derby on May 4, 2014.

Support your club by making a purchase and be proud to show off that you are an ONTARIO STEEL-HEADER!

Carlo Baldassarra
Merchandise Director
store@steelheaders.ca



HELP WANTED

Website Admin/Technologist

We currently are in need of someone who can take over the maintenance and up grading of our Website. If you think you can help or know of someone who can please contact myself or any Director of the OS.

Meet the Committee

President

Karl Redin -- president@steelheaders.ca

Membership Director

Madeline Walker -- membership@steelheaders.ca

News and Media Director

Sandra Moir -- news@steelheaders.ca

Secretary-Treasurer

Bob Pfaff -- treasurer@steelheaders.ca

Merchandise Director

Carlo Baldisaro -- store@steelheaders.ca

Fundraising Director

Johnny Green -- fundraising@steelheaders.ca

Derbies and Events Director

Brian Zettler -- derby@steelheaders.ca

Other Supporting Roles

Denny's Dam Park Manager

Dave Munro -- park@steelheaders.ca

Website Admin / Technologist

OPEN -- webmaster@steelheaders.ca

I'm just a few fishing rods away from being featured on an episode of "HOARDERS"



Membership Report

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the Fall election process, as well as, thank everyone who had the confidence to vote for me as continuing as your Membership Director. Our membership roster continues to grow and presently we are well over 180 members strong. Things have been relatively quiet over the winter but we are gearing up for the Spring/Opening season and expect to be quite busy over the ensuing months. We will be offering Membership renewals at the upcoming Spring Derby. The Ontario Steelheaders success is directly related to the strength of its membership, so I urge you all to continue to support our efforts by renewing your membership.

I want to express our thanks to all the members who continue to offer their services to volunteer and who are out there promoting the benefits of membership to others in hopes of soliciting new members – YOUR efforts are recognized and they DO make a difference.

I continue to view my role as Membership Director as being an interactive role. I have the responsibility to ensure that our members receive the information, handouts, memos, updates etc. that our directors prepare for us. I hate to sound like a broken record but.....

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE – MAKE SURE THAT I HAVE YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS AND ALL CONTACT INFORMATION. We have received returned mail and email's stating incorrect addresses and if I don't have your phone number, I have no way of making sure that you receive the information that we are disbursing. As such if you haven't been receiving any communications then you may want to check in with me to ensure that I have all your accurate information.

Why Join the Ontario Steelheaders?

By joining the Ontario Steelheaders you are joining a group of fishermen, woman and children who enjoy being around the rivers, lakes, streams, etc. and its fishery. By joining, you're also showing that you care enough about the fishery that you're willing to join a group of individuals that want to get as much as they can from what the fishery has to offer while maintaining its natural beauty and resource.

If there's one thing a Steelheader knows how to do equally as well, is that we know how to enjoy the fishery by knowing the latest techniques and tactics that constantly puts fish in the boat or on the bank under all conditions. It's well known that if you want to improve at something you need to surround yourself with people who are just as eager to learn, as well as, being involved with people who have the experience to show you how. Within the Ontario Steelheaders there are such people, people who are experts at salmon, steelhead, lake trout and even walleye and other game fish. Many Steelheaders are as comfortable on the river or stream as they are on the big lakes or small ponds, they don't just fish for salmon or trout, they fish for all species and enjoy being outdoors and on the water.

The Ontario Steelheaders have events such as derbies. Some of the other events include kid's fish outings, cook outs, volunteer day & seminars.

We stay on top of what's going on with potential laws concerning the fishery as well as what's being discussed inside the Ministry of Natural Resources. In fact, the Steelheaders have representatives and input on a number of Advisory Committees where we express the concerns and viewpoints of our Membership.

Joining the Ontario Steelheaders is simple and compared with many other organizations, still inexpensive for what you get. Feel free to contact someone from the Ontario Steelheaders and ask questions. If you have any questions on who to contact, start by contacting the Membership Office at membership@ontariosteelheaders.ca

Membership Structure

The Ontario Steelheaders membership is structured in the following way. The Ontario Steelheaders is a Not for Profit organization that is governed by its own Board of Directors and By-Laws. We plan and coordinate our own events. Membership fees vary depending on the type of membership being purchased. Please feel free to contact the Membership Director of the Ontario Steelheaders for help to join at membership@ontariosteelheaders.ca

Membership Types

Regular Membership This type covers an individual ranging in age from 16 to 65 years, for a period of 1 year unless specified otherwise. The person that joins is considered eligible to participate in any outings, events, etc., if they abide by the rules & regulations. \$25.00

3 Year Regular Membership – As described above but for an extended period of 3 years. \$60.00

Family Membership – This covers individuals who reside in the same dwelling including children up to the age of 16 years. \$30.00

Senior Membership - This covers individuals who are 65 years of age or older, for a period of 1 year. \$20.00

Junior Memberships - These types of memberships are offered to individuals less than 16 years of age, for a period of 1 year. \$10.00

Automatic Renewal - Any member who wishes to automatically renew their membership can do so through PayPal

I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support and I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead of us in the coming year. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions regarding your membership or club communications, and I would be only too happy to assist.

Madeline Walker

Membership Director
Ontario Steelheaders Inc.
membership@ontariosteelheaders.ca



The newest Steelheader—Chloe



Three Amigos

POACHERS BEWARE!

RiverWatch Program in effect

The Ontario Steelheaders are committed to protecting this fishery. Exceeding harvest limits, fishing in sanctuaries, and snagging are all illegal activities

Possession limit of Rainbow Trout on this river is 2 fish. (one for conservation license)

Poachers will be reported!
Protect your fishery - Report a violation
1-877-TIPS-MNR

C.F.I.P. 



P.O. BOX 604
BRANTFORD, ONTARIO N3T 5P9

Improving Access and Habitat for
Migratory Rainbow Trout.

Membership Application Form

New Membership ___ Renewal Membership ___ (Check one)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

I wish to opt out of receiving newsletters and other communications by mail (paper copy). I prefer to receive communications by E-mail only

Please Circle the Type of Membership Required Below:

List all Names for Family Membership	New	Renew
_____	___	___
_____	___	___
_____	___	___

NOTE: For Family Membership, all correspondence will be addressed to the person first named above.

I have enclosed a cheque/money order for \$ _____ with this membership application, payable to:

The Ontario Steelheaders
Box 604, Brantford, On.
N3T 5P9

Please allow 3 weeks from time of receipt of this application, for mailing of Membership Cards, crests and decals.

You can now renew your Membership by PayPal.

