



FEBRUARY 2008



# SANDY STEELHEADER NEWSLETTER

Published by the Sandy Chapter of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders.

Meetings are monthly the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the Sam Cox building in Glen Otto park 1106 E. Columbia River Hwy in Troutdale OR

**President:** Rex McIntire (503)720-7958  
**Vice President:** Jeff Stoeger (503)282-4830  
**Secretary:** Karen Kaiser (503)550-8844  
**Treasurer:** Mike Myrick (503)281-6438

**Directors:** Colonel Thomas, Tim Brockhoff,  
Dana Wood, Jeff Kirkman, Bill Beith  
**Membership:** Howard Berg (503)665-8008  
**Classroom Fishtanks:** Mike Myrick

**Recreational Activities:** Jeff Stoeger  
**Sales:** Roger Beal (503)695-6410  
**Newsletter:** Eric Neiwert (503)669-2058  
**Raffle Tickets:** Mike Myrick

Our Website: <http://www.sandysteelheaders.org>

## Ray's Frost Bite Follies

This years frost bite follies will have a very special meaning for a lot of us who have fished this event over the past years. We re-named this event after Ray Hinea who passed away last year after a long battle with cancer. He was a long time member who was very active in our chapter, and worked very hard to make it one of the best chapters around. Ray and five other members from this chapter about 11 or 12 years ago decided to head out for a trip on the Sandy only to have it snow with a little freezing rain to throw into the mix. After that trip they decided that they would



make this an annual event and name it, Frost bite follies. The officers and directors decided that we would re-name in his honor. We had a few good names, but we decided that we would let his wife Leslie decide on the name and she decided to keep it simple and picked the new name for the follies as Ray's Frost Bite Follies. This year's follies will be held on March 1st. If you plan on attending this event you must be a current member or a new member of the Sandy Chapter and you need to contact Jeff Stoeger ASAP. His phone number is 503-704-7920 and his email is [mjstoeger@msn.com](mailto:mjstoeger@msn.com). There is a small fee for lunch, which is \$5.00. When you sign up for this event you will be responsible for paying for the lunch. If you called me or email me that you are planning on attending, you have made the commitment to this

event there are no refunds for backing out at the last minute for this event, and if you don't show up you're still responsible for the cost of the lunch. The lunch will still go on as planned if the river blows out, for lunch is being prepared by two of the best cooks in town. Joli Ritchie and Kathryn Isrealson have committed to cooking our lunch. Also this is the only time that we could get the camp for this event. The deadline for notifying Jeff Stoeger is February 22nd. If we don't have enough boats for this event, we will do the drawing of names from the hat. So if you have a boat please sign up and help us out so every one will have a chance to participate in this year's event. Notification, on who you are fishing with, will be done on February 22nd or 23rd with phones going out in the early evening.

## ANWS Annual Banquet and Auction

This year's annual banquet and auction will be held on April 12th at the Holiday Inn at the Airport. This is located just off 82nd and Columbia Blvd in their convention center. The chapter has bought three tables this year and we will have tickets for sale. These tables should be prime tables this year. The dinner will start at 6:00 pm and the doors open to the public at 4:30 pm for the silent auction tables. You must register to participate in the oral auction and silent auction to get your bid number for the night. It's a fun filled night and lots of great items to bid on. If you would like to buy a ticket for this event please contact Mike Myrick at the next general meeting or call him at 503-281-6438.

# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Nominating Officers

Association and Chapter Bi-Laws call for chapter officer elections to be held during the regularly scheduled general membership meeting in April of each year, following the chapter president's call for members wishing to serve on a nominating committee. Elections must be held for President or Co-Presidents, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Officers may decide to continue to serve another term, however, the positions must be put up for election. The president's call was made during the January and February meetings, with no member giving notification of their willingness to serve. Therefore, a slate of nominees will be presented to the membership at the March meeting, at which time nominations can also be made from the floor. Any member being currently paid up with dues is eligible to run for office or nominate another member who has given his permission to be nominated. If you are interested in nominating or running for election, please contact Jeff Stoeger (503-282-4830) or Rex McIntire (503-720-7958).

## Boat Raffle Sales

For the third year in a row, Bruce Belles, owner of Clackacraft Drift Boats has generously donated a 16 foot guides model drift boat to the Northwest Steelheaders to raffle. Art Isrealson has been the driving force in selling the boat raffle tickets. The tickets are \$6.00 each or two for \$10.00. With only a total of 3,000 tickets available for sale, the odds of winning are greater than at nearly any other raffle. If you have not purchased your boat raffle tickets please see Art or Mike Myrick at the next meeting. You may also call Art at 503-666-2599 or Mike at 503-281-6438 to make arrangements to purchase them. The drawing for the boat will be at the Association Banquet and Auction on April 12th.

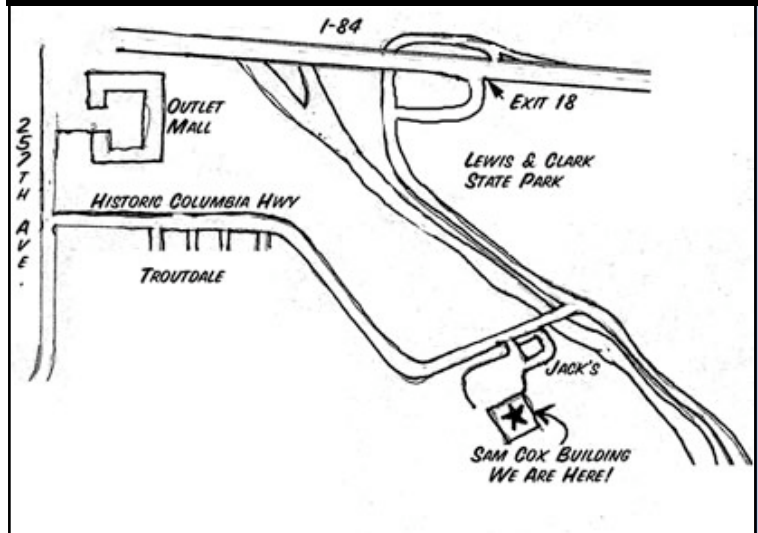
Art, with the help of Bill Beith and Larry Beaver sold raffle tickets for the Clackacraft Drift at both the Boat Show and the Sportsmen's Show. At the 10 day Boat Show in January they sold 758 raffle tickets bringing in \$3941.00. They did even better at the Sportsmen's Show that ended February 10th even though it was only a five day show. They sold 879 raffles tickets bringing in \$4527.00 to the Association. Art will be selling more boat raffle tickets at various locations such as The Sportsman's Warehouse, Joes and Fisherman's Marine. If you would like to help him sell them, or if you would like to sell some on your own, please contact Art.



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## Meeting Map





# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Income Tax Bookkeeping



Bill Robins

(503)281-0919

3825 NE Hancock Suite GL-B Portland OR 97212

## SPORTSMAN'S SHOW

This year's edition of the Northwest Sportsmen's Show, held February 6-10 at the ER Center, is now history. As usual with this event, there were enough exhibits to keep one busy for a full day. The Association of Northwest Steelheaders booth had a steady stream of visitors, although the numbers were down from previous years. Our mission was to inform the public about the ANWS, our major "Wins" for sportsfishing, our goals for the future, to generate new memberships and to sell raffle tickets for the Clackacraft drift boat and the "North to Alaska" trip. This year the booth sported a new message, designed by Executive Director, Norm Ritchie, revolving around the 48 year history of the Association, headlining the major accomplishments and "Wins" we have seen. Once again, the booth included a working school hatch tank, full of 1 ½ year old Spring Chinook Salmon. The tank was supplied and installed by the McLoughlin Chapter and the fish were from a batch of 200,000 that were released last week in the Sandy River.

This year's sales of the Alaska raffle tickets at the show was down substantially from past years, the total being 1158. We do not yet have a breakdown of sales by chapter for the entire campaign, I will announce next month the number of tickets sold by our chapter. We did a one day ticket sale and at Sportsman's Warehouse, with Art Israelson, Jeff Stoeger and Mike Myrick, while Ed Fast conducted a clinic. Larry Beaver and Howard Berg sold tickets at the Gresham, Jo's store on a number of occasions and, on one of those, they were helped by Hal Blenn on sales while Jeff Stoeger and Ed Fast conducted a clinic.

Chapter members working the show were; Norm and Joli Ritchie, Mike Housley, Jeff Stoeger, Bob Lane, Eric Koellnere, Mike Myrick, John Burrell, Howard Anderson, Rex McIntire, Art Noyes, Karen Kaiser and Bob James. Art Israelson, Bill Beith and Larry Beaver sold drift boat tickets at the Clackacraft Boat booth. I want to thank each and every one of you for your efforts, and apologize if I left anyone's name off the list.

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# SANDY STEELHEADER CALENDAR

Date	Event
March 1	Ray's Frost Bite Follies
March 5	General Meeting at Glenn Otto Park 7:00 pm speaker TBA
March 12	Sandy River Clean up 8:00 - 10:00 am
March 12	Association Banquet and Auction 4:30 - 10:00 pm

# SANDY STEELHEADER



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## Board meeting minutes

1/29/08 Colonel Thomas, Secretary

Meeting location: Stark Street Pizza

Members present: Bill Beith, Jeff Kirkman, Mike Myrick, Howard Berg, Jeff Stoeger, Dana Wood, Rex McIntire and Colonel Thomas

Old business: ticket sales, tickets need to be turned in ASAP

New business: association meeting this coming Saturday - Rex, Mike are attending. Speaker for next meeting is Ed Purdy - if anyone has ideas/interests for speakers, please contact a board member

STEPP - Larry Palmer has volunteered to be the chapter rep

Sandy River fishing boundary - markers are to be placed indicating upper limit, timeline for this is not known chapter website - Mike and Jeff are working on this with plans to discuss with Eric, situation seems to be in hand but is not yet settled

RFBF - follies will be 3/1 with lunch served in the lodge but prepared by the chapter, \$5 fee, important to sign up by February 15 as boat/seat assignments need to be made, event is scheduled rain or shine

newsletter - there have been some problems getting newsletter to members and articles for it, Jeff is going to

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if booked by members or their referrals**

speak to Eric, members are encouraged to contribute, but we have been lax and need to get handle on newsletter

election of officers - it was determined that a ballot would be presented to the members attending the March meeting. *continued on page 6*

## SANDY STEELHEADER

## Valentine's Day advice for the lovestruck anglin' man

byX – F&HN Editor's note: For the sake of the author's health, marriage and, most importantly, boat, we're keeping his identity a secret.

So there you are, incorrigible fishing addict, about to be married. Or you've been married a few years and you realize your fishing time has been swiftly curtailed by Mrs. Cold Heart. What to do?

Maybe you thought this wouldn't happen. Maybe you had it in your head that you could have a satisfying, trouble-free domestic life, and still get plenty of fishing in. But it hasn't worked out that way, has it?

Yes, marriage can be wonderful and romantic. But for the sake of your fishing career, let's look at marriage for what it really is: a contract, a cut-and-dried agreement between two people. If you don't think so, go to the Yellow Pages, look up "Attorney," and see how many are listed under "Romance" and "Love" and "Happy Family Life" versus how many are listed under "Divorce."

As in any good contract, the best way to avoid misunderstandings is to talk out all the tough parts ahead of time; where you want to live, how you want to live, whether to have a dog or a cat, how many kids, that sort of thing. More importantly, if you expect to fish when, where and for as long as you want when you're married, you'd better include fishing in that discussion.

I learned all this from my father. He was smart enough to make certain to establish things right off the bat regarding his fishing habit. He told my mother, "No matter what, when it's time to go fishing, I'm going fishing."

And to underscore his point, for their honeymoon he took her to Lake Eufaula in Alabama to fish for crappie, because, well, it was time to go fishing.

They don't make 'em like my Dad any more, and that's a shame. I can't think of a better way to spend a honeymoon, frankly, although I'm sure a fraction of prospective brides might disagree.

How can you protect your fishing interests in a marriage? Consider these tips from my old man and some of my fishing buddies:

First of all, try to be realistic. Is she really worth marrying if it means less time on the water? This is an important point. Think hard about it. Really. Most bachelors I know who fish whenever they want seem pretty darn happy about it. What would you rather have in your garage: a minivan with a baby seat in it or a brand new 24-foot jet sled with a 150-horse Yamaha?

If you have convinced yourself that she's worth it, then make a strong statement right up front. Spend more money on her wedding ring than you do on your first boat. This will make you appear magnanimous, generous and in love. More importantly, though, it will give you the ultimate leverage for every argument that comes up later about how much money it takes to properly maintain and upgrade that boat ("But honey, I spent more on your ring than I did on the boat," at which point she melts. You win).

That sets up the next tip, which is to spend more on your second boat than you do on your first house. After you've been married a few years, the boat is where you may want to spend most of your time, so you might as well get a nice one.

Next, as my dad the master did, take her fishing on your honeymoon, and on every major anniversary. There's no better way to get your point across about how important fishing is to you. I took my wife to Mexico for our honeymoon. Sure, we danced, we ate out, we sunbathed by the pool. But we also went deep-sea fishing, shore fishing, punt boat fishing, fly fishing and hand net fishing. I fished her so hard she's never wanted to go fishing again.

Which brings me to the next point: Don't take her fishing. It only means endless prattling, questions about stuff you don't want to talk about while you're fishing, and sharing something sacred and special with a non-angler.

But what if she likes to fish as much as you do? Marry her on the spot! Move to the mountains, buy a resort business, open a guide service. You've reached nirvana without all the stuff you usually have to go through to get there. Lucky you!

Another important point is be sure to bring some fish home. Yes, catch and release is important, but coming home empty-handed all the time is no way to cultivate her respect for your ability to hunt and gather.

She might occasionally drag you out the door to go shopping. This used to be worse than being mauled by a bear on your favorite salmon river. Well, take heart. A lot of sporting goods stores jammed with fishing tackle are located near malls nowadays. Drop her off at JC Penney or Nordstrom or some other hellish place, then park over by the nearest tackle shop and mosey on in. After a few hours go back to get her if you can remember where you left her.

Continued Next Page.....



# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Valentine's Day continued

Here's a sage bit of advice: Don't bring your fishing buddies home unannounced for dinner after a day of fishing and an evening of fellowship and heavy elbow-lifting. Something bad will happen to ruin the perfect day you've just had. Go to a steakhouse instead, get some grub then go home without your buds.

Trust me on this.

If you carry a cell phone on the boat, expect her to call. That's what women do. They call. She's wanting to be reassured that you are where you said you'd be, doing what you said you would be doing, with the fishing buddy you said you'd be doing it with. Worse, she may even call you to tell you it's time to come home. This is incredibly wretched, especially in front of your friends, who will make whip-snapping motions at you while you're on the phone. Very unfortunate.

For safety's sake, it's good to have a cell phone on the boat. But get yourself a VHF marine radio instead, and make a habit of leaving the cell phone on the kitchen counter when you leave for fishing in the morning, so she can't call you, and she knows you don't have it. "Damn!" you say when you get home, "I forgot it again."

Lastly, if it all goes to hell and you're thinking about divorce, think again. Almost every time a man gets divorced, the first thing to go in order to pay the attorneys (yours and hers) will be your boat. No matter how bad the marriage may be, it's better to stay married for the of the boat, unless you're wanting to get rid of it in order to get a better boat later on - in which case, you may as well get a new wife too.

## Sandy River Clean Up March 12

We have scheduled a river clean up for April 12th from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. We plan to meet at Glen Otto Park and then split up into two groups. One group will clean Glen Otto and another group will go up to Dabney Park and clean there. We would like to finish up cleaning the parks by 10:00 am because the Association is having their Annual Banquet and Auction that night and some of us are helping out at this event also. So if you haven't signed up yet, and you would like to help out give me a call at 503-704-7920 or sign up at the next general meeting or email at [mjstoeger@msn.com](mailto:mjstoeger@msn.com) Thanks, Jeff Stoeger





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## board minutes continued

Much discussion regarding paying a stipend to the chapter secretary. Also discussed were the fishing skills of the present secretary. It was originally thought that he had last hooked a steelhead in winter of 1998, but Bill and Jeff mentioned that they had each handed off to him so it was decided unanimously that he has probably never hooked a steelhead on his own.

## Boat Show and Sale

Planning also is ongoing for the Oregon Marine Trade Assn. Spring Boat Show & Sale. This event will occur March 14-16, at the ER Center, and the Northwest Steelheaders have been offered a great opportunity, cost free, to promote the organization and raise much needed funds. The OMTA has donated a 10' x 50' booth space for us to use for a fishing, hunting and general outdoor gear swap meet as a fundraiser, as well as showcasing the Clackacraft drift boat and sell raffle tickets for same. Clinics and seminars will be scheduled. A second feature of the show will be the "Ultimate Boat Challenge". This feature will create a display that will celebrate the most technically advanced, state-of-the-art boats available; boats that reflect the very highest standards of construction, finish, styling, accessories and rigging. This event will receive massive advertising and promotional exposure, inviting manufacturers, vendors and individuals to enter a competition with boats that qualify as "Ultimate Boats", showcasing new or special accessories, safety items, power & drive units, storage ideas, etc. At present, there are 14 categories. Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be distributed to chapters soon. If you have any questions contact Mike Myrick at: 502-281-6438 or [mcmifishandivote@msn.com](mailto:mcmifishandivote@msn.com)

# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Oregon Spring Salmon Allocation Meeting Results

SALEM, Ore.—After more than six hours of testimony by sport and commercial fishers before the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, the Commission set the management objectives for the 2008 Columbia River spring chinook fishery. By unanimous vote, the commission set the objectives as follows:

- Allow recreational fishing from I-5 Bridge upstream to Bonneville Dam six- days-per-week through April 30
- Allow recreational fishing from Bonneville to McNary Dam seven-days-per-week from March 16-May 10
- Allow commercial fishers to harvest approximately 6,000 upriver spring chinook from I-5 Bridge upstream to Beacon Rock
- Open commercial Select Area fisheries from mid-February through mid-June;
- Allow recreational Willamette River fishing seven-days-per-week

The Commission also expressed strong support for a recently begun stakeholder process that brings together commercial and sport fishermen to find common ground on Columbia River spring chinook management.

“We have great hope and are not giving up on the search for common ground,” said Chair Marla Rae.

Testimony took most of the day and commissioners deliberated for another 90 minutes before making a decision. “This was an extremely tough issue and we listened intently to a number of passionate people,” said Dan Edge, the vice-chair for the Commission.

“In the end, I believe we set realistic objectives that respect the conservation of the salmon while allowing harvest opportunity for healthy, hatchery stocks.”

Because previous allocation guidelines expired Dec. 31, speculation had increased among the sport and commercial fishers on whether spring chinook salmon catch ratios would change.

One quarter of the commercial fishery objective will be set aside as a buffer prior to May 1 of which only a portion can be used to meet sport fishery objectives.

“Given the dynamic between the two returns, we’ve outlined a fishery that will meet hatchery broodstock needs in the Willamette River and give robust sport fishing opportunities in the Willamette and Columbia rivers,” said Steve Williams, Columbia River Program Administrator.

“We want to continue to work with the sport and commercial fishing industry to create a stable and sustainable fishery,” he added.

The 2008 spring Chinook seasons for sport and commercial fisheries will be set at the joint state hearing of Washington and Oregon fishery managers at 10 a.m., Feb. 15 at the Water Resource Education Center located at 4600 SE Columbia Way in Vancouver, Wash.

## Sandy River Fishing Report from ODFW

Fishing for steelhead continues to stay in the fair to good range on the Sandy from Cedar Creek all the way to the mouth. Boat anglers in the lower river continue to report good fishing and catch in the lower river between Dabney and Lewis and Clark parks. Angler success up from Oxbow Park slowed over the past few weeks, but persistent anglers familiar with usual holding areas for fish in the middle river are getting into some fish.

The Sandy fish are now a later returning stock versus what anglers were used to a few years ago. This is a result of the wild broodstock program initiated under the current Sandy River fish management plan. The current wild brood-

stock hatchery steelhead will primarily return February through April. With this years run appearing to be healthy early, we are hoping for a good return throughout late winter and into spring.

The Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted new sport-fishing regulations for the Sandy River which move the fishing deadline (or boundary) upstream to the mouth of the Salmon River (near Brightwood) began Jan. 1, 2008. There are reports of a few wild fish being caught and released in the newly opened section of river above Marmot Dam. There are few hatchery winter steelhead available above Cedar Creek, but there is some opportunity for catch and release of wild fish for those interested in a more remote angling experience. All current fishing regulations in the lower river apply to the newly extended area.

This provides an additional seven miles of fishing opportunity in an area that was historically popular among anglers before 1999 regulations closed the area. The changes are the result of the removal of Marmot Dam, which made the current angling deadline of “200 feet below the dam” obsolete.

The changes at the old Marmot Dam site and the movement of material have the potential to affect conditions downstream of that area. The entire section of river near the dam removal site is a hazardous construction zone with no public entrance allowed at this time. Access to the PGE property at the previous site of Marmot Dam is still closed to all public access.

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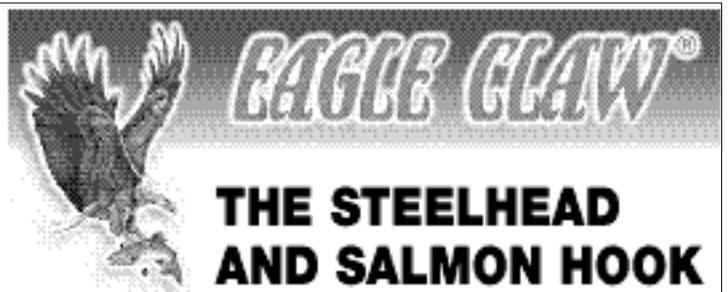
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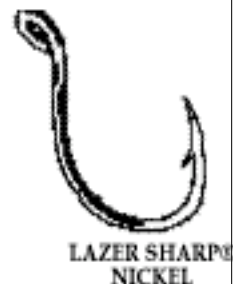
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