



DECEMBER 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:** Howard Berg (503)665-8008  
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Jeff Kirkman (503)266-1504  
**Secretary:** Colonel Thomas (503)666-5035

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**Directors:** Larry Palmer, Leslie Hinea,  
Larry Beaver  
**Membership:** Bill Beith (503)252-8278

**Classroom Fishtanks:** Mike Myrick  
**Sales:** Hal Blenn (503)491-5542  
**Newsletter:** Eric Neiwert (503)669-2058  
**Raffle Tickets:** Jay Burris

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

## Annual Auction .. with Pie!

The auction is always a fun social event that many look forward to all year long. The doors will open at 6:00 pm in the Sam Cox building at Glen Otto Park, with the bucket raffle (tickets are \$1 each) and silent auctions open for bidding. The oral auction will begin around 7:30.

This year, we are trying something new for refreshments – in place of the dinner we've held in previous years, which members had to buy a ticket for, the chapter will be treating everyone to dessert and coffee to enjoy while you bid till the deals are done.

We try to make sure that you have lots of great items to bid on, so bring your enthusiasm, your pocket book and your shopping list, and let's have some FUN (and help the chapter at the same time!) In addition to the bucket raffle and silent auction, we'll also have an oral auction featuring guided fishing trips, artwork, Mariner's tickets, Oregon Shakespeare Festival tickets and much more. And, every one who attends will get a door prize ticket and several chances to win.

You won't want to miss this event, so come on down to Glen Otto, enjoy some pie and good company, and be generous in your bidding – we are a good cause! See you there!

The Fine Print (there's always some of that):

We will be accepting cash and checks only this year.

## President's message

At our last club meeting on November 5th Kevin Price asked the club members if we were interested providing volunteers to build a small gravel boat trailer parking area near the present Dabney park boat ramp. I have asked Kevin for a timeline for this project and a volunteer job description.

At the meeting several of our members brought up problems with the Dabney park ramp location. Kevin said that the ramp was under the jurisdiction of the Oregon State Marine board. I contacted Trey Carsikadon who is a board member and is well known to the ANWS. Trey put me in contact with Wayne Shuyler Assistant Director/Boating facilities program manager for the Oregon State Marine board.

Wayne stated that several steps are required before any work can be done below ordinary high water level. The biggest hurdle will be obtaining a permit for a new ramp. This can take more than a year on waterways with listed species. Second they want to make sure that the new ramp location won't suffer the same fate as the old ramp and silt up, they want a hydrologist to look at the area. Then if these issues can be resolved, the Oregon Marine board and Oregon parks will need to work together for the funding to build a ramp.

Jack Glass suggested a temporary solution of digging out the up stream channel between the park and island to divert more water at the existing ramp. This idea didn't get a positive response, because here again you must have permits to dig in the river.

The Marine board and State parks want to work with us on this project and said that they will look for our help on the various phases. Wayne said that the state appreciated the work that the Rogue Chapter did on the permitting and layout of the Hog creek ramp.

Steve Dockins from Oregon State parks will be the coordinator and scheduler on the Dabney ramp. He said that he will review the site before Christmas.

Getting a new ramp make take longer than we would like; the important thing is that we started the ball rolling.

# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Raffle Tickets

The Association of the Northwest Steelheaders needs your support! Selling raffle tickets is one of our most important sources of funding. How many of you have been on a fish along? Did you learn something new at one of the meetings? Did you make a new friend or fishing buddy? Any one of these things is well worth the price of a book of raffle tickets.

I joined the Steelheaders because I wanted to donate my time, money, and efforts to an organization that supports fishing and is willing to take on some of the tough issues that face fish and fisherman. I am sure you did too. Now we have a chance to help a great organization keep working and fighting for a cause that is important to us all.

I thank everyone that have already purchased raffle tickets! I encourage everyone else to step up and buy some tickets. They will be for sale at the Chapter meeting or you can contact me if you cannot make it to the meeting.

REMINDER! Raffle ticket stubs must be turned in! Even if you have paid for the tickets the money cannot be turned in without the stubs

Sincerely,  
Jay Burris  
Sandy River Chapter  
Raffle Coordinator

## Commercials not happy with allocation for Spring Chinook

Commercial fishermen left a Vancouver, Wash., meeting room Monday embittered about their prospects for harvesting upriver Columbia/Snake spring chinook salmon next year.

The likely scenario is that the gill-net fleet will be allocated 30 percent of the allowed mainstem "impacts" on the upriver run as compared to 70 percent for sport fishers, according to a proposal developed by a panel of Oregon and Washington fish and wildlife commissioners and staff.

If the proposed strategy had been implemented this year, anglers could have hauled in more than 18,000 upriver spring chinook and the gill-netters 3,700 during the period before the run size forecast is updated. The first update is typically produced when fishery officials feel about half of the run has passed Bonneville Dam on their way upstream.

"With this decision I think you're going to put a lot of people out of work," Astoria, Ore.,'s Bruce Buckmaster told the panel.

The 2008 spring mainstem fishing recommendation will now be forwarded to the full Oregon and Washington fish and wildlife commis-

sions. A joint session is planned Dec. 11 to discuss the proposal. Each commission could then adopt the proposal as early as their December meetings.

A new bi-state advisory group was created at summer's end by the commissions in an attempt to settle early the often contentious apportioning of lower Columbia spring and summer chinook salmon harvests between sport and commercial interests. The panel's voting members are three Oregon and three Washington commissioners. Its goal was to develop a joint fishery management strategy.

The six commissioners decided that the highest priority in springtime is to give sport fishers a "high probability" of a season that is at least 45 days long, Oregon Commissioner Dan Edge told those gathered in Vancouver.

Non-tribal mainstem sport and commercial fishers are allowed a combined impact on the returning spring chinook that are bound for hatcheries and tributaries above Bonneville Dam, which is located 146 miles from the Columbia's mouth. In recent years the impact limit has been 2 percent. The limits are intended to control impacts on wild Snake River spring/summer and Upper Columbia spring chinook that are listed under the Endangered Species.



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# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Volunteer Hours Needed

It's very important for members to write down all your volunteer hours on the Volunteer hours form that comes in your newsletter each month. You can bring this form to the meeting and give it to the Bill Bieth the membership chairman or mail it to him at Po box 301263 Portland Oregon 97294-9263. These hours go to the association office and this is an important criteria we are evaluated as a club.

### Income Tax Bookkeeping



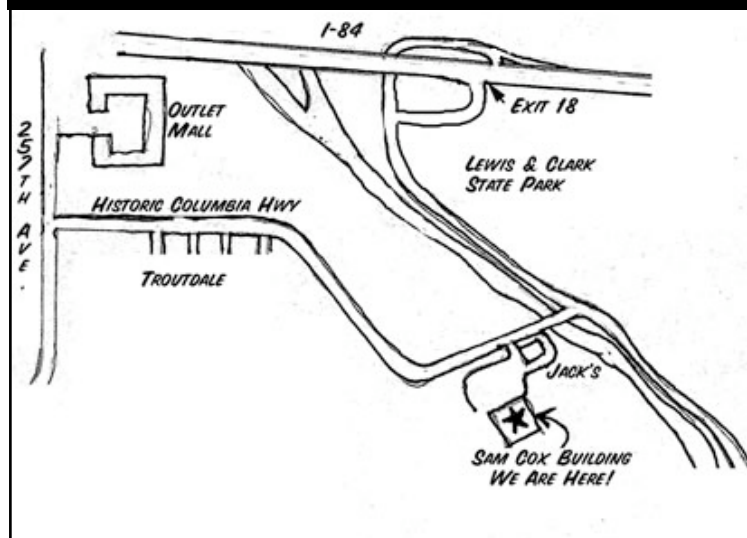
Bill Robins

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## Meeting Map



### Over 20 Years Full Time Fishing Guide



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# SANDY STEELHEADER CALENDAR

Date	Event
December 3	Annual Chapter Auction 6:00 pm Sam Cox Building Glen Otto Park Troutdale



# SANDY STEELHEADER



## JOIN THE ASSOCIATION OF NORTHWEST STEELHEADERS *today!*

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☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Contribution

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City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Sandy River Chapter Volunteer Hours Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

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Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Fill this form out and return it at a general meeting.

Please mark your time as beginning when you left your home until you returned home from the volunteer event.

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# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Fall Kokanee Fishing!

After my Wife & Kids had left town to visit family in Southern Oregon I called my Dad & Brother to arrange for some much needed time out on the water.

On the Sunday I met up with my Dad & Brother to fish for Kokanee in SW Washington. It had been almost a year since my brothers boat had been on the water and he had done some maintenance on the kicker and the engine. Unfortunately, the battery should have been charged for the main engine. So even though I had awoke at 5:30 am to go fishing we had to put the boat back on the trailer and head to town to buy a battery at the local NAPA.

Back to the lake we went. Better late than never we hit the water and motored across the lake. Once there we dropped our offerings of apex lures, wedding rings and white corn to the desired depth (45-70') and began to troll around. We were almost immediately into fish. The first 10 of our 15 fish limit came to us quickly and we had hopes of being off the water with full limits within another hour. Well it wasn't much after an hour went by and we had limited and we were on our way home. The best part of this trip is that the Kokanee were all between 12-16" in size with the largest weighing around 2.5-3lbs.

While on the boat still, I convinced my Dad that we needed to come again on Monday with my Kids who would be back in town that night. It really didn't take much convincing.

My Wife called me on her way back from Medford as we were heading back to Vancouver to clean our fish and feast on Razor Clams my Dad had brought for us. She asked me if I was going to take the Kids fishing on Monday (apparently they were reading my mind). I said yes I was and that the fishing had been so good I could almost guarantee that they would catch some fish. She assured the boys that while I would be taking them fishing that we would likely catch nothing as that is how fishing works.

In the morning before the Kids awoke I prepared by making hot cocoa, and packing a monster load of snacks. After getting them up and dressed in the clothes my loving wife had prepared for them we headed to the most important stop of the day for any child going fishing, Donut World. All of this preparation would pay off with happy snacking kids if the fishing was slow or Miles (my 5 year old) got bored.



Up to Washington with my boat we went. After launching and heading across the lake we set out the gear and began to troll with the same gear as the day before. Within two hours we had eleven 13-17" fish boated with a larger average than the previous day. My Kids being unable to be quite about our success starting asking every boat we passed how they were doing? In most cases the response was a between 0 and 3 fish. At one point we had two rods go down at the same time after the boys told a fishless boat we had eleven. We only got one to the boat but the other boat was in disbelief. Apparently it was our day to be lucky! My Dad & I had to talk with them to let them know it is not necessarily nice to brag about your success, this can be a hard lesson for a 5 and 10 year old to accept.

Nathaniel had a hard time reeling in the fish but had a good time trying. However, he is an expert at netting fish at this point. Miles had an easier time reeling in my Dad's rod setup with a steelhead rod and a line counter reel with a small trout diver. There were a few times we had fish hit on the three rods we had out but couldn't manage to get more than two of them in the short time they would stay on. Unfortunately, we had to leave the water before we could catch the last two fish for our limit. We kept losing fish on one of the rods and at the end of the day we realized the problem but it was too late. My Dad had forgotten to place a rubber snubber on his line and the hook kept tearing out of the kokanee's soft mouth.

It was a great day on the water that won't soon be forgotten. I am sure that my boys will remember the trip that allowed them to catch multiple large trout all the while spending the entire day with the Grandfather

The setup for my boat is remarkably similar to Eric Neiwert's. I have a couple of small downriggers weighted with 4lbs cannonballs and two trout casting rods with steelhead reels. My Dad brought his rod with a line counter and I loaned him a trout diver I have had for years.

I think one of the things that made a difference in our catch rate was that I re-tied all of the leaders to have two small Gamakatsu hooks. I found that most of the fish we were able to land had both hooks connected. On my Dad's initial setup he was getting fewer fish to the boat with a single hook, once we changed his lure to my pre-tied setup with two hooks his catch rate went up significantly.

If you plan on trying your luck for Kokanee next summer I would suggest that you get a couple of cheap downriggers for your boat. I noticed that the boats that got the fish mostly had them. Those just trolling lures behind the boat did a lot of trolling and not a lot of catching from my perspective.

*Return Service Requested*

*Portland OR 97294-9114*

*PO Box 301114*

STEELHEADERS

SANDY CHAPTER NW



Spring 2008  
Sandy River

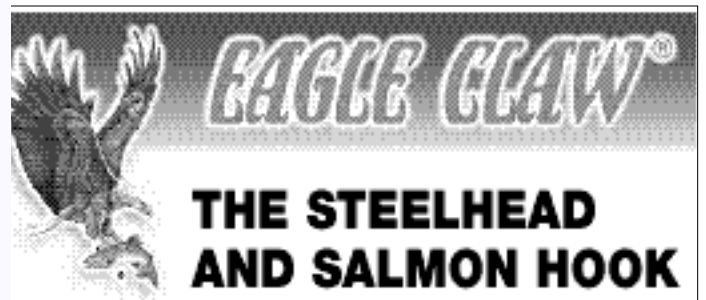
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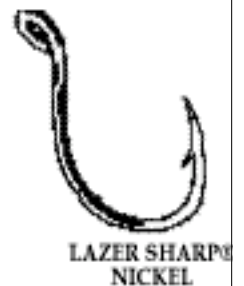
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