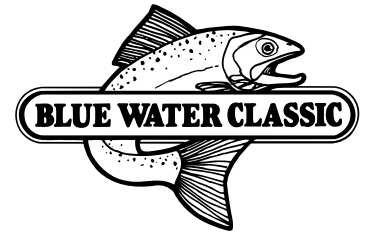




## Blue Water Sportfishing Association Newsletter



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - TUESDAY,  
 FEBRUARY 3, 7:00 AT MCMORRAN**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - WEDNESDAY,  
 FEBRUARY 11, 7:30 AT MCMORRAN**

### BIG FISH CONTEST

Here are the final standings for the Big Fish contest. If you have any questions or comments about the contest, please direct them to the Big Fish Chairman Bob Roskey at 987-7891.

#### ADULT DIVISION

##### King Salmon

1st Jim Frazer 28 lbs 8 oz

##### Coho Salmon

1st Jay Korneffel 12 lbs 6 oz  
 2nd Dave Rymar 8 lbs 7 oz

##### Steelhead

1st Al Gaulin 10.25 lbs  
 2nd Ed Loehnis 7 lbs 1 oz (27")  
 3rd Howard York 7 lbs 1 oz (26")

##### Brown Trout

1st Bill Rotondi 13 lbs 7 oz  
 2nd Jay Korneffel 12 lbs 1 oz  
 3rd Al Gaulin 10 lbs

##### Lake Trout

1st Dr. Rich Cooley 36 lbs 1 oz

##### Atlantic Salmon

1st Al Gaulin 3 lbs 1 oz

#### JUNIOR DIVISION

##### King Salmon

Blake Hutchinson 27 lbs 2 oz  
 Bradley Hieber 23 lbs  
 Trevor Phipps 22.22 lbs  
 Rebecca Jackson 20 lbs  
 John Decker 7 lbs 8 oz

##### Brown

Terra Phipps 13 lbs

##### Steelhead

Tyler Jackson 8 lbs 7 oz

##### Lake Trout

Billy Ogden 9 lb 6 oz



*Bradley Hieber - 23 lb King*



*Blake Hutchinson - 27 lbs 2 oz - King*

If you were one of the lucky anglers to be listed here, you need to attend the February general membership meeting to receive your trophy.



## FIXED SLIDER

This, I feel, is the best way to fix a slider to a downrigger rod. The equipment you need to do this is 2 snaps, whatever line you use for tying sliders, and a small offshore release. I learned this method from Mike Gnatkowski, a very good charter captain (Equalizer) out of Ludington.

1. Tie one of the snaps on. I use a palomar knot. I also usually use one half snap at one end and one with a swivel at the spoon end.
2. Cut the line so you have the length you want for the slider. I usually run 5 ft.
3. Thread the offshore release onto the line using one of its holes.
4. Tie the second snap on. You are ready to use it now.

Now this is how you rig it. Set up your downrigger rod how you normally do in its release. Drop it down, knowing how far above you want your fixed slider. I usually go 5-10 ft. Then with your lucky spoon on one of the snaps, attach the other snap around the downrigger line. Bring the offshore release to the snap and pinch the downrigger line in the offshore release. Toss the spoon out, making sure you have no tangles. Send the downrigger down to the desired depth that you want your mainline.

When a fish grasps the fixed slider, it will pop both the offshore release first and then mainline release. Actually, you get a better slider hookset when the fish pops the offshore release than running it free. When a fish grasps the mainline, it will pop the mainline release. And about half of the time someone will pull the offshore release too (do to the fish dragging it though the water). Otherwise, you have to pray that it does not tangle up. Usually it will not.

Tip #1. If you wish to change the lures while fishing, do not release the rod while it is still down below. That will tangle the fixed slider into the mainline. Instead, bring the downrigger up with the mainline still in its release.

Tip #2. I very rarely use fixed sliders.

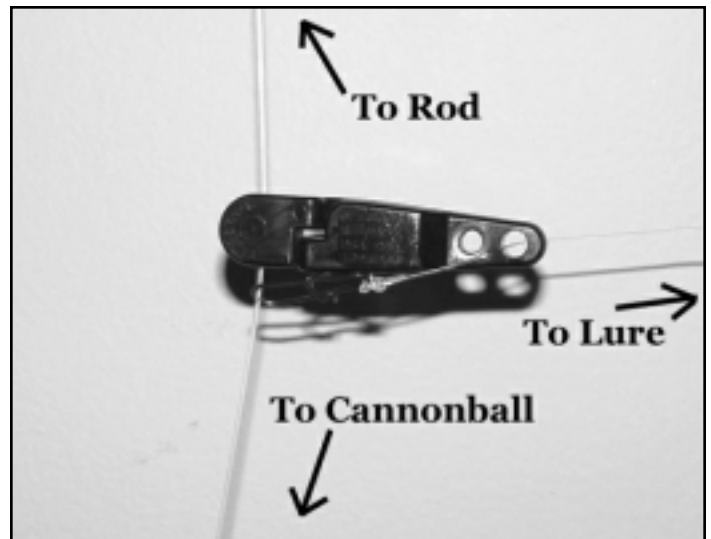
Tip #3. When I do begin to use them it is in the later summer months and in warm water, generally when setting riggers at or deeper than 70 feet.

Tip #4. There are other ways to do this too. I recommend the above one. You can also do this with rubberbands or an Elberta Clip. I don't like the rubberband method because if a fish takes the mainline, then you absolutely have to deal with the fixed slider when reeling in the fish. Most of the time when a fish takes the main line with the clip fixed slider, the offshore will release even though the fish in on the mainline. I can't comment on the Elberta Clip, because I have not

used it. I will say that if a fish bites the fixed slider when using one, it has to slide down your line to the mainline swivel, which in my mind could damage the line after a few fish.

I will bring one with me to the February general membership meeting, so if you have questions you can ask me them there.

*By Mike Rymar*



## IMPORTANT BOATING DATES

Feb. 7-15	Detroit Boat Show
Feb. 17-22	Grand Rapids Boat Show
March 3-7	Ford Field Boat & Fishing Show
March 11-14	Lansing Boat & Fishing Show
March 18-21	Novi Boat Show
March 25	Fishing Forever Banquet
April 24	Salmon Stakes
May 14-16	Classic Tournament
June 4-6	Sarnia Bay Marina Tournament

### ***Doghouse is For Sale***

26' 1987 Starcraft Islander Hardtop, V6 4.3 Mercruiser, 15HP Mercury kicker motor (long shaft) low hours, 4 - Big Jon Electric Downriggers, Bottomline Tournament HR, Planer boards and reels, and Dual Axle Roller Bed Trailer. Ready to fish! Asking \$16,000. Contact Bill at 810-650-9191.



## A NEW DESTINATION

*By Dave Weed, Member, BWSA*

This year Sandy and I tried a new fishing destination, Zihuatanejo, Mexico. It is a classic old Mexico town, located about 140 miles north of Acapulco, on the Pacific Ocean.

We fished 4 days with Captain Margaro Romero, aboard the Gaby, a 28' single engine cruiser.

The first day we had 6 sails on and landed 4. They required about a half hour each to land on 25 lb. tackle. Sandy also caught a 40 lb. dorado that turned sideways and made a good imitation of a 40 lb. bluegill! On day two, just as soon as we got out of the harbor, we had a strike on feather. It was a 5 lb. bonito. The mate immediately rigged the bonito through the eye sockets with a trolling bridle on the 80 lb. rig. We then slow trolled on out. About an hour later the 80 lb. rod doubled over. Two and a half hours later I landed a 200 lb. yellowfin tuna. Margaro had to borrow a "flying gaff" from another boat. This is a nasty looking set up – this bad boy is basically an 8 inch wide fish hook, tied on to 25 feet of half inch line with a detachable handle. When they get the fish to the boat they sink in the flying gaff and the fish is now fighting a deck cleat. From the excitement on the dock, this was a large fish by even their standards!! The following day, the town had a one day tuna tournament with the top prize of \$2,000.00. The winner weighed 59 lbs.

Day three – we're ready to go again – we landed 2 sails and a dorado of about 35 lbs. who came on board green and promptly rearranged the cockpit.

On day four we had a sail in the baits within 15 minutes and the engine quit. We limped in a half a mile at a time with a busted fuel pump. Next day we tried day four again! We had 21 strikes, landed 5 sails and released 4 alive.

All in all, it was fabulous fishing in a beautiful area with world class beaches, nice people, reasonable prices.

The expensive part of the trip is the air fare. The hotel was under \$60.00 a night, a beautiful beach front resort set in a hillside and Gaby can charter for a premium of \$225.00 per day. This young captain is the hottest guy in the port. If you get bored on a beach day, you can walk down the beach and watch the tourists and the crocodiles.



## BOATING ACCESS SITE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

State recreation officials have unveiled a new online resource to help recreational boaters more effectively plan trips on Michigan water. The website is: <http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/MRBIS/>

The Michigan Recreation Boating Information System provides users with the tools to find boat launches by specific criteria, by county, by body of water and by location. Detailed information is included for each of the 1,324 public launch sites, including fish stocking history, watercraft regulations, lake attributes, handicapper accessibility, use fees and water depths. Boaters also will be able to create, save and print lake contour maps for future review and planning and obtain driving directions to each launch site.

"This application was developed to meet the growing needs of the Michigan boating public and to provide the public with the information that is most valuable to them to increase their recreational experience," said Bill Boik, head of the Parks and Recreation Bureau's Boating Unit.

Michigan leads the nation with more than 1 million registered watercraft. Boaters enjoy more than 11,000 inland lakes, 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, and 3,000 miles of freshwater shoreline - more than any other state.

The MRBIS system is a joint effort between the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Information Technology's Center of Geographic Information.



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**Port Huron, Michigan**  
**48061-1337**

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## Salmon Pasta Salad

Yield: 6 servings

- 1 lb. salmon, poached and flaked
- 1 pkg. (12 oz.) uncooked mini lasagna noodles
- 1 cup thinly sliced carrots
- 1 tbs. olive oil
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced celery
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- 1/2 cup chopped green pepper
- 1/4 cup pine nuts, toasted
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup ranch dressing
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 medium tomato, seeded and chopped (1 cup)
- 1/2 cup sliced black olives

Make sure salmon is chilled for at least 2 hours. Prepare mimi lasagna as directed on package, adding carrots to boiling water during last minute of cooking time. Rinse pasta and carrots with cold water. Drain. Place in large mixing bowl or salad bowl. Add oil. Toss to coat. Add celery, onions, green pepper, salmon and pine nuts. Mix well.

In small mixing bowl, combine mayonnaise, ranch dressing, salt and pepper. Add mayonnaise mixture to pasta mixture, stirring gently to coat. Serve immediately or cover and chill until serving time. Top each serving evenly with tomatoes and olives.

*Recipe Compliments of Gayle Gaw  
Dea Lynn Charters*

## TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Winning captains and crew members of last years club tournaments picked up their trophies at last months general membership meeting. Congrats to these crews.

The 2004 club tournament schedule and rules will be handed out at the February General Membership Meeting. They also can be found on the club's website at: <http://www.bluewatersportfishing.net>

