



Fishin' Tales

PROTECTING AND PROMOTING THE GREAT LAKES SPORTFISHERY FOR OVER 35 YEARS

September Meeting

- **When:**
Tuesday, September 27, 2011
7:30pm
- **Where:**
American Polish Cultural Center
Northwest corner,
15 Mile Rd. & Dequindre
- **Featured:**
Ray Dubiel from Michigan Marine
Gear on Boat Winterization
- **Other Happenings:**
Manistee Boat Tourney reports,
River, Surf & Pier previews, Fish-
ing reports, Tackle raffles, 75-25
Drawing & more
- **Up-To-Date Information on
the DAS website at:**
www.detroitsteelheaders.com

Volume XXXVI, Issue IX

September 2011

Manistee Tournaments - Nice Ending for the Season

Manistee I, Saturday, August 27, 2011

The August 27, 2011 Manistee tournament started out with one foot seas and mild weather. Most of the boats started on the shelf with hopes of hitting the big schools of salmon. Almost Paradise started 3 miles south in 90' of water with flashers and flies on all of our lines. We did not have a hit the first hour and continued a south troll hoping to get something going. As the sun started to rise the rods started going. The dipsey rods set 220' back were taking all of the hits the first hour after sunrise.

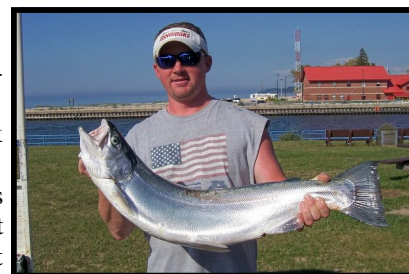
At the 9:00 fish call we had 10 bites and 7 fish in the box. Sea Hag had 8 fish, the rest of the boats had between 0 and 4 fish. As we trolled south the northwest winds started to build from 1-2's to 2-4's.

See **Manistee I** on Pg. 2

Manistee II, Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011

Nine boats participated in the last event on our 2011 trolling schedule. Two weeks before we fished

Manistee and experienced good luck getting into lots of adult kings, but this time would be different.



Mark Paradise and a dandy 16.2 lb. steelie caught aboard his dad, Bob's boat, "Almost Paradise"

The boats that pre-fished on Friday were greeted by great weather and cold water. The

See **Manistee II** on Pg. 2

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Salmon in the Classroom comes to Armada Middle School

Armada Middle School is proud to announce that the Detroit Area Steelheaders is sponsoring our school for Salmon in the Classroom. They have graciously donated the funds for the start-up and maintenance of this DNR supported program.

Salmon in the Classroom is an exciting program that teaches students about our state's freshwater resources through interactive, hands-on learning.

This instrumental learning experience allows students the opportunity to raise, care for and maintain the salmon in their classroom from fall until spring. The program culminates at the end of the school year with the release of the young fish in a local watershed that feeds one of the Great Lakes.



This program has been in Michigan schools for more than a decade. In recent years, the popularity of the program has skyrocketed. Last year, more than 100 Michigan schools were involved.

For many students, participation in the program provides a truly motivational experience. To watch life unfold before their eyes, to guide the growth and health of developing fish, and later release those fish into a natural, quality habitat can be a life changing experience for some.

The members of the Detroit Area Steelheaders have also volunteered to come into our classrooms to help educate students on marine life and our environment. We look forward to an amazing year observing the life cycle of the salmon and partnering with the Steelheaders.

Manistee I from Pg. 1

At the 12:00 fish call, the bite seemed to slow down but we did manage to pick up 7 more fish for a total of 14. Sea Hag had 9, Vicki's Seacret and Bad Dog had 5 and 6. As the waves continued building everyone but Vicki's Seacret decided to head in around 1:00. The ride back in was tough going at 10 miles per hour into the north west wind and took us 1 hour to run 7 miles.

The weigh in went great with Sloppy Joes, sweet corn, and homemade desserts. Thanks Deb for the great meal! Even though two boats did not catch any fish, everyone had a great time. Thanks to all who participated and made for the great camaraderie.

Bob Paradise
"Almost Paradise"

See Complete Results and Photos on Pg.4

Manistee II from Pg. 1

week before we arrived in Manistee north-easterly winds brought near shore water temps down to a chilling 41 degrees at the pier heads. The cold water had pushed most of the remaining four year old fish into the rivers. Fishing was slow on the shelf but a surface temp break of almost 20 degrees had

set up about 10 miles offshore. After a slow start Friday morning, Blaise Pewinski and his crew aboard the Sea Hag were first to pull lines and head out to warmer water in search of fish. That decision paid off as they found good numbers of fish and managed to land a dandy 21.7 pound steelhead on Friday.

Saturday morning Almost Paradise and Sea Hag ran straight out to deep water while most the other boats tried their luck on the shelf and near the pier heads. At the 9:00 AM fish call it was apparent that move paid off as Blaise reported eight fish. Dan Chisholm aboard Channing set-up in 70' of water off the 'onion' and had a solid grasp on second place after landing seven fish early on. Almost Paradise managed three in 400 feet of water while Loki One and Vicki's Secret each had two fish.

Most boats either pulled lines and ran out deep or trolled their way out to warmer water after the first fish call. At noon Blaise reported 18 fish. Almost Paradise and Channing had eight fish. The Bad Dog had four fish. Bobby's Toy, Loki One, Vicki's Secret, and Lucky Strike were all tied with three fish each.

The weigh in was held at the Lion's pavilion and all the participating boats weighed fish.

See **Manistee II** on Pg. 5

Membership NewsRenewed Memberships**Bruce Tufford****Jim Zanke**Memberships Expiring In September**Michael Kay****Lynn Martin****John Tonz****John Krawczyk****DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS, INC.****Annual Membership Fee**☐ New Member — \$25.00☐ Renewal — \$25.00☐ Lifetime \$ _____☐ Senior Over 65 — \$10.00☐ Address Change

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Channing Hates Saturdays

My crew and I often discuss our Saturday curse. Every tournament over the last few years we leave home with enough time to pre-fish the tournament port on Friday. Some tournaments we arrive Thursday night and get all day Friday while other times we arrive with enough time to fish Friday afternoon and evening. Our theory is, pre-fishing Friday gives us some ideas as to what type of program we should run on Saturday morning when the tournament begins. What we have learned from all that is this: "It doesn't matter what we do on Friday because Saturday is not going to go well for Channing".

It's no secret that we're not the best boat out there but we are getting better each year and our Friday record is pretty good this season. We always catch enough fish on Friday to get us excited about breaking the curse this Saturday. We entered the Manistee 1 tournament August 27 with the vision of a breakthrough win. Double headers and big fish were going to be the order of the day.

We arrived in Manistee on Thursday evening and Friday morning we set the boat up and went out on Lake Michigan for our Friday adventure. The water was a little bit bumpy so I decided we would run only 5 rods and do our best to avoid tangles. We had only three lines set when our Starboard copper picked up our first fish. We landed a 9 pound King on a blue meat rig. Not a trophy by any estimation but not a bad start either. It took another hour before our next strike and that came on a meat rig off of a full core straight out the back of the boat. This was a bigger fish, not a 20 pounder but bigger than our first fish. Regrettably we tried to rush him and he broke off right behind the boat so we were 1 for 2. That was the end of our action for the next four hours. It was so bad we began to think maybe our Saturday curse could end because we were breaking the pattern of doing well on Friday while stinking up the lake on Saturday. With nothing going on we decided to go in for an early dinner and see what we could do in the evening.

When we got back out for the evening we trolled the same five lines. Two riggers with J-plugs, a copper on each side with meat rigs, and a full lead core with a meat rig straight out the back. It took the better part of an hour for the Starboard copper to attract a hit. The same blue meat rig had picked up another King. The guys in the back of the boat were not excited and they thought this was a small fish unable to put up much of a fight. This King followed the line in for about 50 yards and then decided he would take over from here. In no time he was back out there 100 yards and taking line whenever he wanted it. After rushing and losing a nice fish earlier in the day we decided to let this guy take his time. Slow and

easy got it done and we landed a Channing personal best 24 pound King. That was the end of our action because we wanted to get in early enough to get some rest for the 0500 captains meeting the next morning. As we worked our way back into port we tried to figure what all this meant for our chances on the accursed Saturday morning tournament. Truth is we didn't know what to think, we'll just get out there early Saturday and see what comes our way.

Well Saturday morning hit like a wrecking ball. We were not even at the captains meeting when one of my crew tells me he is not feeling well but is up to giving it a try. To make things worse the wind is up a little bit from Friday with the prediction of a good blow by mid-day. Nothing to do but go out there and do our best and see what happens. Well a mind blowing mother of all tangles happened. Somehow my two outboard coppers came together and I didn't notice it as first. While they are merrily braiding themselves together I'm feeding the full core out the back to join them in a merry mess. Just as I realize what has happened the next thing I hear is my crewman heaving over the side. It was a typical Saturday after all. The wind is building, I've got the mother of all tangles, the only experienced crewman is heaving over the side, and my other crewman has never fished for Salmon before. That was enough for me. We pulled the tangled mess into the back of the boat and headed for port. Did I mention Channing hates Saturday? We were back in port before 0800.

Sunday is a different story. We decide to try it again but only fish for two or three hours and head home. The wind is down some so we run the same program with five lines but this time we place meat rigs on everything. We just got everything set up when we picked up a Lake Trout on a copper line. Yep, same blue meat rig. This guy was 10 pounds plus. Then things shut down again so I started calling people. Thor's Hammer is catching fish out in deeper water so we head out to 250/300 feet to see what we can do. I find Al out there and we set up. Next thing is Almost Paradise tells me to get my riggers down to 85 feet so we set our riggers at 85 feet and 95 feet. Within 40 minutes we have landed two Kings in the 12 to 14 pound range and one 19 pound King all off our riggers that we just dropped down. That's four fish good for 55 pounds in a little more than an hour and a half, did I mention Channing hates Saturday?

Dan Chisholm
"Channing"



Manistee I Standings

8/27/2011

Place	Boat Name	Skipper	# of Fish Weighed	Catch by Species & Weight								Best 8 Total Wgt.	Best 8 Total Pts.	Deduction Code	Points Deducted	Total Points	Place
1	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	8	K 22.00	K 18.95	K 17.90	K 17.35	K 14.20	K 14.05	K 11.95	K 11.65	128.05	168.05	NONE	0.00	168.05	1
2	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	7	K 21.05	K 19.05	K 15.65	K 15.20	K 13.95	K 13.45	K 13.00	-----	111.35	146.35	NONE	0.00	146.35	2
3	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	8	K 19.85	K 16.95	K 15.55	K 13.45	K 11.80	C 7.40	C 7.20	C 7.00	99.20	139.20	NONE	0.00	139.20	3
4	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	5	K 20.65	K 15.65	K 15.25	K 12.95	K 3.40	-----	-----	-----	67.90	92.90	NONE	0.00	92.90	4
5	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	5	K 20.70	K 14.80	K 13.85	C 7.85	C 5.90	-----	-----	-----	63.10	88.10	LTWI	2.00	86.10	5
6	Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	3	K 12.45	C 6.40	C 5.30	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	24.15	39.15	NONE	0.00	39.15	6
7	Blue Horizon	Paul Geldum	3	K 11.95	C 6.50	C 5.70	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	24.15	39.15	LTWI	2.00	37.15	7
8	Channing	Dan Chisolm	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	8
9	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	0	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	0.00	0.00	NONE	0.00	1.00	9

	Boat Name	Species	Wgt.	Number Caught
BIG FISH L A R G E S T	Almost Paradise	King	22.00	
	Almost Paradise	King	22.00	38
	Almost Paradise	Coho	8.90	11
		Lake Trout	0.00	0
		Steelhead	0.00	0
		Brown	0.00	0
		Atlantic	0.00	0
		Pink	0.00	0
				49

9 Total Boats

Deduction Code LEGEND

LTSM = Late To Skipper's Mtg.
 LTWI = Late To Weigh-In
 1NFC = No Answer 1 Fish Call
 2NFC = No Answer 2 Fish Calls
 UCC = Unauthorized Crew Chg.
 DQ = Disqualified

333 Entries					Entry Data							
Boat Name	Skipper	Entered	3 Fish Wgt.	Species	Wgt.	OA	Species	Wgt.	OA	Species	Wgt.	OA
Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	Y	58.30	K	22.00	A	K	18.95	A	K	17.35	A
Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	Y	51.55	-	15.25	-	-	15.65	A	-	20.65	A
Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	Y	52.35	-	19.85	A	-	16.95	-	-	15.55	-
Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	Y	24.15	-	5.30	-	-	6.40	-	-	12.45	-
Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	Y	55.30	-	19.05	A	-	21.05	-	-	15.20	-

333 Results				
Place	Boat Name	Skipper	3 Fish Wgt.	Prize
1st	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	58.30	\$0

50%

Manistee I Photos



1st Place - "Almost Paradise"



2nd Place - "Vicki's Seacret"



3rd Place - "Sea Hag"



4th Place - "Bobby's Toy"

More Manistee I Photos



5th Place - "Bad Dog"



Ed Horen with 22 lb. King - Big Fish caught on "Almost Paradise"

Overall 333 Results											
Boat Name	Skipper's Name	1st Fish Wgt.	Species	Port	2nd Fish Wgt.	Species	Port	3rd Fish Wgt.	Species	Port	Total Wgt.
Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	26.35	King	Ludington II	15.65	King	Manistee I	20.65	King	Manistee I	62.65
Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	22.00	King	Manistee I	18.95	King	Manistee I	17.35	King	Manistee I	58.30
Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	19.35	King	Ludington II	17.10	King	Ludington II	19.05	King	Manistee I	55.50
Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	19.85	King	Manistee I	16.95	King	Manistee I	15.55	King	Manistee I	52.35

Cormorant Numbers Decreasing in Michigan, Great Lakes

On Thu, 9/15/11, Dettloff, Mary (DNR) <DETTLOFFMI@MICHIGAN.GOV> wrote:

The number of cormorant nests in Michigan has been decreasing since population reduction actions were implemented in 2004, the Department of Natural Resources announced today.

Cormorants, which were increasing in numbers throughout the 1980s and 1990s, have been blamed for declining sport fisheries in a number of areas. The breeding population in Michigan stabilized in the late 1990s and early 2000s at around 30,000 nests. Since 2004, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services Division has been oiling eggs at nesting sites and removing adults from the population to meet goals set by the DNR.

Additional management activities have also been performed by Tribal natural resource agencies to address concerns related to cormorant impacts to commercial and sport fisheries, as well as alleviating potential conflicts with other species of nesting birds and reduce damage to native plants.

Comprehensive statewide counts from 2007 and 2009 document a 38 percent decrease in breeding cormorants in Michigan, a drop from 29,509 nests in 2007 to 18,200 nests in 2009. The scheduled 2011 breeding cormorant count is underway, and a final count will be available in the fall.

Dr. Francesca Cuthbert of the University of Minnesota, who coordinates the count throughout the U.S. Great Lakes Region, has noted further decreases on breeding colonies in Michigan.

"Preliminary indications are that the final estimate for 2011 will be lower than that for 2009. This trend has been reported by other Michigan researchers and staff from USDA - Wildlife Services," Cuthbert noted. This mirrors the trend seen at breeding sites where USDA - Wildlife Services conducts population reduction activities; from 2007 through 2010, the nest count at these sites decreased by 37 percent, from 23,345 nests in 2007 to 14,685 nests in 2010.

Population control methods have not been the only contributor to declining cormorant numbers. Food web changes including reductions in alewives and the invasion of the round goby have altered the food supply for cormorants. Declines in aquaculture farms and conversion to dry-land operations in the southern United States have removed valuable wintering habitat, and cormorant culling operations at southern aquaculture facilities reduced the number of birds surviving the winter to return to Michigan.

The cumulative effect has been to drive cormorant numbers down to the point where the statewide management goal of 5,000-12,500 nests may soon be reached.

"The DNR's management goal seeks to balance the desires of stakeholders with the Department's responsibility to manage for healthy populations of fish and wildlife. We don't want to designate the double-crested cormorant as an endangered species due to declining numbers, but we also want to ensure that recreational fishing opportunities are protected," said Russ Mason, DNR Wildlife Division chief.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.

Manistee II Photos



1st Place - "Almost Paradise"



2nd Place - "Sea Hag"



3rd Place - "Channing"



4th Place - "Vicki's Seacret"



5th Place - "Big MaMa"



7th Place - "Bad Dog"



8th Place - "Bobby's Toy"



Jason Jones shows off 18.3 lb. King tied for Big Fish with "Almost Paradise"

Manistee II from Pg. 1

Almost Paradise managed to find some larger fish and won first place bringing 11 fish to the scale. Sea Hag had a second place finish and a great creel with 18 fish. Channing finished in third place with eight fish. Vicki's Secret finished in fourth. Big Mama in fifth place, Loki One in sixth place, Bad Dog in seventh place, Bobby's Toy in eighth place and Luck Strike in ninth place.

The fish out deep were mostly younger Kings with a mix of Steelhead and Coho. Blaise reported that all his fish came from a small area that he worked all day. Spoons and shallow lead cores were his best set-ups. Bob Paradise had success on spoons and meat rigs 25' to 60' down. They say

necessity is the mother of invention and that proved to be the case for Bob and his crew. After running out of cut bait, Bob replaced a meat head with a Mirage fly behind teasers to land a couple nice fish, including his big Steelie. Bob Jones and Bob Paradise split the big fish prize money with a pair of 18.3 pounders.

**Tom Gorguze
"Bad Dog"**

Manistee II Standings																	9/10/2011				
Place	Boat Name	Skipper	# of Fish Weighed	Catch by Species & Weight											Best 8 Total Wgt.	Best 8 Total Pts.	Deduction Code	Points Deducted	Total Points	Place	
1	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	8	K 18.30	S 16.20	K 10.95	K 9.60	K 9.05	K 9.00	S 8.40	S 7.60	89.10	129.10	NONE	0.00	129.10	1				
2	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	8	L 13.55	K 12.70	K 10.00	S 9.90	C 9.00	C 9.00	K 8.95	K 7.45	80.55	120.55	NONE	0.00	120.55	2				
3	Channing	Dan Chisolm	8	K 9.00	K 8.90	K 8.80	K 8.60	K 8.60	K 8.10	K 7.75	K 7.25	67.00	107.00	NONE	0.00	107.00	3				
4	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	6	K 17.75	K 13.80	K 10.35	K 8.95	K 5.95	S 5.10	-----	-----	61.90	91.90	NONE	0.00	91.90	4				
5	Big Ma Ma	Don Mikros	5	K 11.45	K 10.85	C 10.40	K 9.60	S 8.15	-----	-----	-----	50.45	75.45	NONE	0.00	75.45	5				
6	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	4	K 17.25	K 15.45	K 9.85	L 4.40	-----	-----	-----	-----	46.95	66.95	NONE	0.00	66.95	6				
7	Bad Dog	Tom Gorquze	5	K 9.90	K 8.65	S 8.40	K 8.35	S 4.95	-----	-----	-----	40.25	65.25	NONE	0.00	65.25	7				
8	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	5	K 18.30	K 6.10	K 4.55	K 4.20	L 4.05	-----	-----	-----	37.20	62.20	NONE	0.00	62.20	8				
9	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	4	K 8.15	K 7.50	L 4.35	K 2.20	-----	-----	-----	-----	22.20	42.20	LTSM1	15.00	32.20	9				

	Boat Name	Species	Wgt.	Number Caught
BIG FISH	Almost Paradise	King	18.30	
	Bobby's Toy	King	18.30	
	Almost Paradise	King	18.30	42
	Big Ma Ma	Coho	10.40	2
	Sea Hag	Lake Trout	13.55	4
	Almost Paradise	Steelhead	16.20	10
		Brown	0.00	0
LARGEST		Atlantic	0.00	0
		Pink	0.00	0
				58

9 Total Boats

Deduction Code LEGEND

LTSM = Late To Skipper's Mtg.
 LTW = Late To Weigh-In
 1NFC = No Answer 1 Fish Call
 2NFC = No Answer 2 Fish Calls
 UCC = Unauthorized Crew Chg.
 DQ = Disqualified

Skipper of the Year Standings 2011

FINAL

Best 5

	Boat Name	Skipper Name	St. Joe	Grand Haven	Olcott NY	Pentwater	Ladies Day	Ludington II	Manistee I	Manistee II	Total Points	Best 6	Best 7	Best 8	Best 9
1	Bad Dog	Tom Gorguze	3	75	2	1	2	1	5	7	9	14	21	96	96
2	Almost Paradise	Bob Paradise	7	1	75	75	3	3	1	1	9	16	91	166	166
3	Sea Hag	Blaise Pewinski	2	3	75	3	1	5	3	2	11	14	19	94	94
4	Vicki's Seacret	Bob Feisel	1	6	75	6	50	8	2	4	19	27	77	152	152
5	Bobby's Toy	Bob Jones	4	7	4	75	75	6	4	8	25	33	108	183	183
6	Channing	Dan Chisolm	8	10	6	7	75	75	50	3	34	84	159	234	234
7	Blue Horizon	Paul Gjeldum	6	2	1	75	75	75	7	75	91	166	241	316	316
8	Sloppy Joe	Joe Von Grabe	75	50	3	5	50	4	75	75	112	187	262	337	337
9	Thor's Hammer	Al Wiechert	50	75	75	75	4	7	6	75	142	217	292	367	367
10	Loki-One	Dave Roehr	50	9	75	4	75	75	75	6	144	219	294	369	369
11	Hardtop & Tails	Jim Zanke	5	8	7	75	75	75	75	75	170	245	320	395	395
12	Nite Moves	Carl Ventimiglia	50	4	75	75	75	2	75	75	206	281	356	431	431
13	Lucky Strike	Ron Pal	75	75	5	75	75	75	50	9	214	289	364	439	439
14	Mickey Mouse Club	Bob Buero	75	50	75	2	75	75	75	75	277	352	427	502	502
15	Big Ma Ma	Don Mikros	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	5	305	380	455	530	530
16	Miss Dipsey	Jody Robinson	75	5	75	75	75	75	75	75	305	380	455	530	530

	Weight	Species	Boat Name
Big Fish	26.35	King	Bobby's Toy
Largest Of Each Species	26.35	King	Bobby's Toy
	10.40	Coho	Big Ma Ma
	13.55	Lake Trout	Sea Hag
	16.20	Steelhead	Almost Paradise
	0.00	Brown	
	3.30	Atlantic	Bad Dog
	0.00	Pink	

	St. Joe	Grand Haven	Olcott NY	Pentwater	Ladies Day	Ludington II	Manistee I	Manistee II	Year
Number of Boats	11	12	7	7	6	8	9	9	69
Number Caught	Kings	10	41	28	10	18	38	42	225
	Cohos	0	0	3	3	3	12	11	34
	Lake Trout	3	1	0	7	1	5	0	21
	Steelhead	0	8	1	2	1	0	10	23
	Browns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Atlantics	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Pinks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	13	50	33	22	23	56	49	304

Upcoming 2011 DAS Key Dates

September 27, 2011 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
October 11, 2011 7:00pm	BOD Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
October 22, 2011	Surf Fishing Outing Singing Bridge, Lake Huron
October 25, 2011 7:30pm	Membership Meeting American Polish Cultural Center
November 5, 2011	Fish-Off w/Metro-West Manistee River, Lake, Surf & Pier

ROBERT M. JONES
315 EAGLE WAY
S LYON, MI 48178

Membership expires: 412

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