

Volume 40, Issue 5 May 2023

### **Prez Sez**

Hooray!! Musky Season is upon us!! It is time to put all the new gear and knowledge that you acquired over the winter to use.

CCMI did a spring stocking of yearling muskies in Lake Monona last month. It is not often that we can get yearlings, but thanks to our Stocking Chairperson Greg Voss working with the WDNR we released over 500 muskies with an average length of almost 13 inches! The best part about this is that these fish will not count towards our "quota" for 2023. We will still do our regular fall stocking. These yearlings are to make up for the past couple years of not reaching our stocking goal of .5 muskies per acre.

I hope everyone had a chance to check out the 2022 stats in the latest MUSKIE magazine, Capital City Muskies Inc did quite well last year with the 2nd most muskies caught by a chapter. I feel a lot of pride when I see our members in the top ten of the divisions. I know I had very little to do with the success of our chapter or the individuals that did so well, but it is great to see Chapter 8 on the leaderboard. Let's get out there and catch (and register) some muskies and try to make it into the number one spot!

Good luck to everyone this season. I am looking forward to another great year. By great, I'm referring to all the frustration, despair, and disappointment that has been the norm for me lately. I still love getting out on the water with friends and family to try and catch these awesome fish. Hope to see you on the water soon!

Brian Falleck

-The "H" in Muskellunge is for "Happiness".

### **May General Meeting**

May 8, 2023: 7:00PM

Bowl-A-Vard Lanes, Madison, WI

Our speaker for the May 8th meeting will be Austin Wiggerman of Austin Wiggerman Guide Service LLC. He guides the waters of Northern Illinois, Southern Wisconsin and Minnesota. He has fished muskies for over 10 years in a wide range of places and this year is his third year guiding muskies full time. His presentations will include "Catching Less Fish in the Figure 8" and "Putting Things Where They Are Not Meant To Be" He was kind enough to offer a 1/2 day guided trip for us to put into our Super Raffle. So please come out to Bowl-A-Vard and gain some musky knowledge, hear some big fish stories, and have a chance to win some great raffle prizes!



## **2023 Event Calendar**

May 8	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
Guest Speaker: Austin Wiggerman of Austin Wiggerman Guide Service	e LLC
June 3	<u>Kleeba Challenge</u>
June 12	On the Water Meeting @ Goodland Park
June 24	
June 23-24	Bill Wood Memorial Outing
August 14	
August 19-26	Lake of the Woods Outing
September 9	Pit Tag Challenge
September 11	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
Guest Speaker: Chris Taurisano of T-Bone Guide Service	
October 7	
October 9	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
Guest Speaker: Darragh Cutter of Cutter Services	
October 13-14	
November 13	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
Guest Speaker: Shawn Josephson & Ryan Knapp	
December 11	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
Guest Speaker: Michael Hanson - Namekagon Area Guide Service	









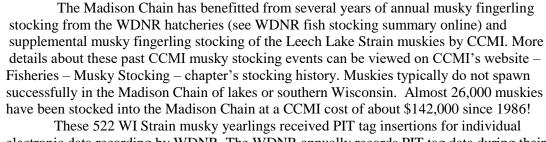
## **Special Spring Stocking Success**

Greg Voss, Stocking Chair

On Wednesday morning, April 5, 2023 at the Olin Park Boat Launch a joint CCMI/WDNR/Gollon Bait & Fish Farm stocking of 521 yearlings (hatched spring 2022) Wisconsin Strain muskies was a success. This was an extraordinary spring stocking event! This extra spring effort was made to help avoid missing an entire year class (2022) of muskies stocked into the Madison Chain of lakes. The WDNR's planned 2022 fall stocking of about 2,700 Great Lakes Strain fingerlings (spawned spring 2022) into the Madison Chain of lakes did not occur due to issues at the WDNR Wild Rose Hatchery.



Thanks to donors, business supporters, musky adopters, and CCMI members, CCMI was able to stock Wisconsin Strain musky yearlings from Gollon Bait & Fish Farm in Dodgeville who successfully overwintered them in their outdoor ponds. Yearling muskies are rarely available for purchase due to facility constraints, feeding costs, or heating costs. Yearling muskies usually have a higher survival rate than fingerlings. The yearlings stocked this spring averaged 12.72 inches long with a median size of 12.7 inches long. The largest were 15.3 inches long. That average length is longer than any average length stocked by CCMI in the past ten years!





These 522 WI Strain musky yearlings received PIT tag insertions for individual electronic data recording by WDNR. The WDNR annually records PIT tag data during their spring Fyke Net surveys. About 20 CCMI members also carry PIT tag readers for additional musky angler data input. Tissue samples were also collected from the caudal fins at this stocking event for genetic studies at the University of Wisconsin's Fisheries Program in

Stevens Point, WI. The research data from this April 2023 musky yearling group could offer interesting comparisons for the future of musky fishing in the Madison Chain.

A handful of CCMI members were present to volunteer in this stocking process including Noah Humfeld, Dan Donovan, Paul Twardy, Greg Voss, Danny Borak, and Tommy Wiznerowicz. Danny and Tommy brought their 5 children, spouses and dog to make it a family event! If you go to YouTube channel "Madison Angling " you can view an entertaining 11 minute video titled "STOCKING MUSKIES IN MADISON !! – SHOP TALK" about this event and see our fisheries-research-youth priorities in action! As of 4/17/23 there were already over 800 views of that YouTube video. Thank you to everyone who volunteers at any CCMI event or provides funds in any way for CCMI musky in the Madison Chain. We have an extraordinary musky fishery in the Madison Chain that many say is "World Class". We strive to do our best to keep it that way into the future.





MADISON MUSKIES FOREVER!

## **Larry Kleeba Chapter Challunge**

June 3 and 4, 2023

The <u>2023 Kleeba/Chapter Challunge</u>, hosted by the Capital City Chapter of Muskies, Inc. (CCMI), is scheduled for June 3 and 4, 2023 on Madison chain of lakes (Lake Monona, Waubesa and connecting waters), Wisconsin. This event is intended to be a fun and friendly contest between Muskies, Inc. chapters. Awards will be presented to the winning chapter team.

<u>Teams:</u> Chapters of Muskies, Inc. may enter any number of anglers and a team can have up to four anglers per boat. At least one angler per boat should attend the rules meeting held on Face Book live on Friday night June 2<sup>nd</sup>. CCMI, needs to know the approximate number of anglers who will be participating by May 25th to plan for food and meeting space. Participants can register and sign a release of liability form online at: <a href="https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/">https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/</a>. We hope each local M.I. chapter can field at least 1-2 anglers.



- There will be a rule meeting on Friday evening hosted by President Brian Falleck on Facebook live. The Facebook live link we be sent to registered teams prior to the event. During this meeting, any additional questions will be answered.
- Fishing hours will be Saturday at 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. followed by a catered meal at the Bowl-A-Vard lanes (2121 E Springs Dr, Madison, WI 53704) with happy hour starting at 6 and dinner at 7.
- Fishing will continue Sunday from 6 a.m. until noon with awards starting at 1p.m. at the Olin Park boat launch. This is Wisconsin's free fishing weekend so no need for a fishing license.

#### **Fish Registration:**

- All fish caught on Saturday must be registered by 5 p.m. and fish caught on Sunday must be registered by 12:30 p.m.
- A picture of the fish on a bump board or similar measuring device is required and submitted to Winston Hopkins at winstonjhopkins@gmail.com or by phone 608-577-3184.
- Muskies must be caught on legal sport fishing tackle (hook & line) in strict compliance with all local and state fishing regulations.
- This is a total catch and release tournament. Live bait and trolling are allowed, but only one line per angler.
- The Kleeba/Chapter Challunge is, by definition, a WDNR tournament. Therefore, each boat in the contest must be marked. Participants will be mailed a CCMI decal that should be displayed during tournament hours on the side of your boat motor.

<u>Contest Waters</u>: Lake Monona and Waubesa, including upper Mud Bay and the Yahara River which connects these two lakes.

<u>Determination of Winners</u>: To qualify as a legal fish for purposes of this contest, muskies caught must be a minimum of 30". All fish must be released. Points awarded are based on 4 points for each release and 1 point for each inch over 30 inches. Any measurement of 1/2" or longer will be rounded up and any measurement below the ½ inch will be rounded down. The team with the most points wins (any tie will be resolved by time of first catch of the winning team). Remember, this is intended to be a fun and friendly competition between chapters.

## 39th Bill Wood Memorial / Lake Winter Outing

June 23-24, 2023

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual Bill Wood Memorial Lake Winter Outing will be held on Saturday June 23 & 24, 2023. This year we will start at 7:00 a.m. on Friday (6/23/2023) continuing until Saturday (6-24-2023) at 5:00pm. Even though Bill Wood is no longer with us, our memories of the good times we had at this outing with him, Swede, Bob Patterson, Don Borchert, George Radl, and others, still live on.

## Come on up for a good time!

**<u>Rules:</u>** Muskies must be caught between 7:00 a.m. on Friday 6/23/23 and 5:00 p.m. Saturday 6/24/2023. It's catch & release only (no transport).

Muskies caught by use of power trolling or live bait are eligible for an award. Any lake, creek or river in Sawyer County is eligible.

All WDNR and health regulations must be complied with.

A witness and a photograph are required for all eligible entries.

The (optional) outing contest fee is \$10 per person (To be eligible for the contest please pay John or Sue Eversoll or Geoff Crandall prior to the start of the outing).

All eligible muskies must be measured to the  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, Muskies 30" or longer are eligible for the longest or second longest award. In case of a tie the – first fish caught wins.

Participants must fill out the liability release form.

Winners may win only one category. Awards will be available for the following categories.

- Longest Muskie (Trophy Winner)
  - Second Longest Muskie



Awards Banquet – Dinner will be provided for \$20 per person. Please pay by Friday June 16<sup>th</sup>. That way the catering staff will have a correct headcount one week in advance to ensure our group gets plenty to eat. Saturday night we'll have dinner and the awards ceremony at Julies Trailside Tavern & Grill 5992 W. Old Highway 70, Winter, WI. Questions - please contact Geoff Crandall (608-219-0164 or <a href="mailto:crandall@msbnrg.com">crandall@msbnrg.com</a>) or John or Sue Eversoll (815-858-3753 or <a href="mailto:sjevers57@sandprairie.net">sjevers57@sandprairie.net</a>). Lodging information: Tuscobia @ 715-266-6401, Stroud's Motel @ 715-266-6621, or Rustic Inn @ 715-266-3060 or (Winter Nights) used to be - Farazwego cabins (by the Gas Station, 5220 N County Rd. W) Winter, WI 715-266-2002.

NAME	Telephone/Text	Email	
NAME	Telephone/Text	Email	

TOTAL - \$\_\_\_\_ Contest Eligibility: \$10 contest per person and dinner is \$20 per person. Total for the contest is \$10 and dinner is \$20 for a total of \$30 per person. Please register and provide the fees by <u>June 16, 2023</u>. No cash awards will be given.

Fill out form (make check payable to Geoff Crandall or John or Sue Eversoll). Please include phone/text number/email (in case of cancellation).

Mail registration & check to:

Geoff Crandall 5306 Jonquil Ct Middleton, WI 53562

or

Sue or John Eversoll 107 N Hickory St Elizabeth, IL 61028

## **Youth Muskie Championship Of Wisconsin**

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Lake Waubesa 7am – 12pm

- Friendly tournament. We do give out prizes and trophies, but the idea is to simply have a good time fishing.
- FREE to all youth age 18 and under.
- Prizes for all participants
- O Tournament Headquarters will take place at Goodland Park boat launch
- Adults may accompany youth in the boat. We encourage participants (or their parents) to bring their boat. Otherwise, we will do our best to match you with a boat.
- Put on by Capital City Chapter of Muskies Inc. (CCMI)



# Come out for a day of fun, and to support youth fishing, and the great sport of chasing those big Muskies!

To register and for more details: <a href="www.CapitalCityMuskiesInc.org">www.CapitalCityMuskiesInc.org</a> or contact Robbi Hron at 608-469-1518

## **CCMI Mentoring Program**

Lee Bartolini

The Capital City Chapter of Muskies, Inc. conducts a mentoring program for its members. If requested, an experienced club member will help or assist (or mentor) another member in developing specific fishing skills or acquiring knowledge about a particular topic or body of water. These informal associations have been very successful in the past in helping members learn more about muskie angling, as well as helping newer members meet some of the more knowledgeable muskie anglers in the club.

If you need or want assistance in some aspect of muskie angling, contact Lee Bartolini by email: Lbartolini8475@charter.net, or by phone: (608) 293-4108, and he will try to match you up with a mentor to assist you. Assistance may be requested in a general area (I would like to know more about Lake Monona.) or a specific area (I would like to learn how to make my own leaders.)

CCMI members who are willing to be a mentor, who are willing to help or assist another club member in some aspect of muskie fishing, are invited to let Lee know of their interest. If you would like to be a mentor and help another CCMI member, contact Lee at the phone number or email address above.

## **Musky Daze Tournament**



Muskies Matter Inc is holding their annual Musky Daze Tournament on Castle Rock June 10-11th. This is their big fundraiser that allows them to stock muskies in Castle Rock Lake. If you are interested in this event check out their Facebook page for more details:

Link to Tournament Rules

Link to Registration Form



## **OCTOBER 7, 2023**

# 4th Annual CCMI Fall Musky Tournament

## **Madison Chain of Lakes**



1st Place \$5000
2nd Place \$1500
3rd Place \$1000
4th Place \$500
Based on a full field of 100 boats
Rules and Registration at
capitalcitymuskiesinc.org





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## Peace of spirit. or a free case review, please call:

For a free case review, please call: (608) 282-6200 www.lawtoncates.com





Since 1986, your Capital City Chapter of Muskie Inc has stocked 22000 fingerlings in our Madison lakes. In 2005, we started stocking the Leech Lake strain exclusively. The cost for this project has been approximately \$120000 over the years. Having a world class Muskie fishery in our backyard has led to many memories for our musky fishing community. Lake Wingra, Monona and Waubesa each year continue to produce nice fish with reports of some real giants caught and released. Our club has had wonderful financial support from not only our members but also muskie enthusiasts across the country. Without this support, long term efforts to continue replenishing our resource would not be possible.

In 2021, CCMI initiated the Adopt-a-Muskie program to help these ongoing efforts.

## **How You Can Help**

- Adopt a Muskie for \$20 or adopt 6 for \$100.
- You will receive a bucktail blade keychain with our CCMI logo and pit tag number of your fish. (These will be distributed after the stocking in October.)
- Every year the DNR provides us (CCMI) a list of all the angler captured fish that had their pit tag scan.
- If the fish you adopted gets scanned... you win. (must be CCMI member to win, You can only win once in each category))
  - $\circ$  30"- 34 7/8 = \$20 payout
  - $\circ$  35" 39 7/8 = \$30 payout
  - 0 40'' 447/8 = \$50 payout
  - $\circ$  45" 49 7/8 = \$100 payout
  - $\circ$  50"+ = \$250 payout
- All proceeds are put directly towards Muskie stocking on the Madison Chain of Lakes.

Let's keep the future of Muskie fishing strong for years to come!





## **Capital City Chapter of Muskies Inc. Chapter Officers**

### **PRESIDENT**

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president@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org

### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Chris Smith 608-294-7722 chrmsmith@icloud.com

### **Chapter Representative to M.I.**

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Winston Hopkins + + Immediate Past President \* Past President with Voting Rights



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