

Prez Sez

We are down to the final two months of musky season in Wisconsin. I think this is a great time to get out on the water. The lakes are far less crowded and the muskies are hungry. I hope everyone will have a chance to get out and enjoy our great musky fishery here in Madison this fall.

We have been busy stocking muskies into the Madison chain the past couple weeks. This can only be done with the help of our members. By attending meetings, participating in outings and events, buying raffle tickets, and donating your time you are helping the musky population in Madison. The various committees we have in our organization work very hard behind the scenes so that all our events and activities go smoothly. From our Youth Tournament, to the Muskie School, stocking, and everything else we do throughout the year. We are always looking for more members to join our Board of Directors to help out with these events. We have a few vacancies and elections are held at our December monthly meeting, we would love to have you join us. If you are interested, please contact me and I can fill you in on the details.

We have some great speakers lined up and I hope to see you at one of our upcoming meetings. Don't forget about our big events next spring. Planning for The Muskie School and April Fundraiser are well underway and I think everyone will be impressed with what we have in store.

Good Luck the rest of the year!

Brian Falleck

-This is not a good time to go fishing.....said no one, ever.

November General Meeting

November 13, 7:00 PM

Doors open at 6:30 PM

Bowl-A-Vard Lanes

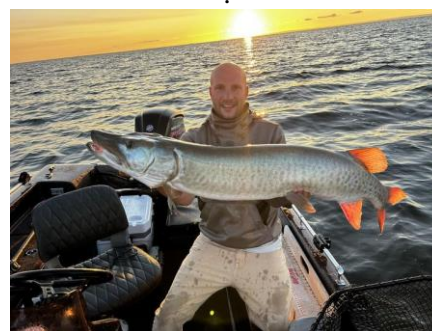
2121 E Springs Dr
Madison, WI 53704

Come join the fun in talking muskie fishing, sharing fish stories, and meeting new muskie anglers.

Meetings are open to all, bring your family and friends!

Guest Speakers:

Shawn Josephson & Ryan Knapp



2023 Event Calendar

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	

2024 Event Calendar

January 8	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
February 12	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
March 23	21 st Intermediate & Advanced Muskie School
April 6	Annual Fundraiser & Fishing Seminar, featuring Jeremy Smith
April 19-20.....	Iowa Hawg Hunt
May 11	Madison Chain Outing
June 8	Wisconsin Youth Muskie Championship
June 21-22.....	Bill Wood Memorial Outing
August 17-24.....	Lake of the Woods Outing
September 7	PIT Tag Challenge
October 5.....	Fall Muskie Tournament
October 11-12	Vilas County Outing

Upcoming Executive Board Elections

At the November General Meeting, elections will be held for the executive board positions. This includes: President, Vice President, Chapter Representative to Muskies Inc, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in running for a position, please contact current CCMI President, Brian Falleck.

Upcoming At-large Board of Directors Elections

At The December General meeting, elections will be held for directors whose terms end in 2023 and for open director positions. If you are interested in running for a board member position, contact any current CCMI board member for more information or questions.

New CCMI Newsletter Editor

Brett Cook has been the Capital City Muskie Ink newsletter editor and webmaster since January 2016. Brett will continue to be the CCMI webmaster, but has taken on the role of raffle coordinator for our chapter. With this new responsibility, someone was needed to take over the newsletter. Nathan Jandl has agreed to take over and will be the new CCMI Newsletter Editor.

Nathan Jandl joined the CCMI board in 2021. He has lived in Madison for 15 years and has been chasing muskies for nearly that long, focusing on rivers as well as lakes throughout the state. Though he has fished with conventional tackle since childhood, for the last decade or so he has spent a great deal of time with a fly rod in his hands. In November of 2022, he beat his previous personal best (a 50"er from Green Bay on a Spanky Baits bucktail) with a 52.5" fish from the Madison Chain on a fly rod--the direct result of successful stocking efforts! When he's not fishing, Nathan works as Associate Director of Sustainability at UW-Madison and brings additional experience in editing and communications to this new role at CCMI.

CCMI Release Report

Chris Smith – Release Chairman

Strategies for the Upcoming Cold Trend

As the leaves change color and the air turns crisp, muskie fishing in the Madison Chain of Lakes takes on a new dimension. The change in weather and water temperatures breaking through 50 degrees Fahrenheit signals a shift in muskie behavior and location, offering unique challenges and opportunities for members.

The numbers so far....

The 2023 release season has been a good one for Capital City Muskies Inc., with 744 muskies released year to date. While this number is slightly lower than the 829 muskies released in 2022, it still represents a significant achievement for our community. The Madison Chain has continued to provide excellent fishing opportunities. Monona, in particular, has been a hotspot for big muskies, with increasing chances of 50-inch plus muskies released over the past few years.

Weather Changes and Muskie Behavior

As we move into the colder months and water temperatures drop below 50 degrees, muskies become less active and move to deeper waters.

They tend towards the most stable water temperature, often found in the deeper areas of the lake. I would try the warm water discharge pipes along the Terrance.

Muskies are well-established in transition areas, utilizing vertical structure and focusing on forage with high-fat content bait, which seems to trend toward white color choices.

A few Strategies for Rapid Water Temperature Drops - With the upcoming cold trend, here are some strategies to consider:

1. **Focus on Transition Areas:** As water temperatures drop, muskies move to transition areas with sharp vertical points, shorelines, walls, and warm discharge pipes. Throwing on top of bait cribs is also a good idea.
2. **Use the Right Bait:** Muskies feed and focus on forage with high-fat content during the fall season. Using bait like suckers and white plastic is popular.
3. **Fish Deeper:** As muskies move to deeper waters, add weights to your dive and rise baits to get them down at least 15 feet, and bring them up slowly if you get deep hookups.
4. **Slow Down Your Retrieval:** In colder water temperatures, muskies become less active. Slowing your retrieval can make your bait more appealing to these less active muskies.

In closing, adjust your strategies and enjoy the fall weather as the holidays draw near. Keep your hooks sharp, and we will see you on the water!

Reproduction Contest Update

Submitting your entry for the reproduction contest just got easier. A web form was created to allow you to enter your details and picture and send it right to the release chair. You can get to the web form from the CCMI member contest page or using this link: [CCMI Replica Contest Entry Form – Capital City Muskies Inc](#)

Just as a reminder, the reproduction contest is for any muskie caught 45” or longer is eligible to be entered in the reproduction contest. Along with being entered in the Lunge Log within 30 days of the catch, a picture of the fish (or a witness statement) must be submitted to the Release Coordinator. The chapter awards payment for an artistic reproduction (graphite replicas, custom paintings, etc.) for one fish caught in Wisconsin and one fish caught outside of Wisconsin.

All Contest Rules and Information available online: [CCMI Member Contests – Capital City Muskies Inc](#)

RESORT STAY GIVEAWAY

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WIN A FREE WEEK-LONG RESORT STAY FOR YOU AND A GUEST AT EITHER TREELAND RESORT IN NORTHERN WISCONSIN OR ACORN HILL RESORT IN MINNESOTA?

SIMPLY JOIN MUSKIES, INC. OR RENEW YOUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP AND YOU WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN!

YOU WILL RECEIVE ONE ENTRY FOR EACH YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP!

- 1 YEAR MEMBERSHIP = 1 ENTRY
- 2 YEAR MEMBERSHIP = 2 ENTRIES
- 3 YEAR MEMBERSHIP = 3 ENTRIES

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE WILL RANDOMLY SELECT TWO WINNERS ON NOVEMBER 15, 2023.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

* EACH WINNER WILL HAVE 24 HOURS TO ACCEPT OR DECLINE THE NON-TRANSFERABLE RESORT STAY. WINNER WILL RECEIVE A 1099 FOR PRIZE VALUE.

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ONE



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Release Standings

<u>Men's Division</u>	<u>Muskies</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Avg Len</u>
Thomas Lyon	38	564	40.6
Brian Skaife	26	445	43.0
Dan Moats	19	423	48.1
Wilhelm Zeichert	20	346	43.3
Adam Bergendahl	20	311	41.5
Jamie Wersland	18	273	41.1
Kyle Kramer	18	263	40.6
Rob Mackesey	23	247	36.7
Shawn Honeyager	16	233	40.4
M. J. Johnson	16	217	39.4
Jeff Lehr	18	215	37.8
Bob Harris	15	176	37.5
Lee Bartolini	13	172	39.1
William Suick	10	159	41.8
Mark D McCumber	10	157	41.3
Todd Berge	11	156	40.1
Tom Penniston	8	156	45.3
Eric R Olson	11	145	39.1
Steve Reinstra	10	140	39.8
Jeff Walker	8	124	41.5
Jerry Georgeson	9	123	39.6
Brian Wienski	7	123	43.6
Luke Will	8	102	38.6
Garrett Lederman	7	99	40.1
Craig Eversoll	5	97	45.3
Steve Soma	5	85	43.0
James Wagner	4	78	45.5
Kurt Brändli	6	78	38.8
Mitchell Genz	5	78	41.6
Rowan Stamm	5	63	38.6
Paul Kirkegaard	4	61	41.1
Marshall Mueller	5	59	37.7
Fred J Schulze	5	59	37.4
Kevin L Wegner	5	52	36.4
Pat Ewanowski	3	50	42.5
Mike Beam	3	49	42.2
John Cuta	3	48	42.0
Brett Cook	3	48	41.5
Matt Firestein	2	48	50.0
Winston J Hopkins	4	45	36.9
Luke Lagomasino	4	45	37.3
James Lawler	3	42	40.0
Tripp Soma	4	42	36.5
Michael Roehl	3	40	39.4
Michael Losenegger	2	39	45.6
Bob Baumgartner	3	39	38.8
Geoffrey C Crandall	3	38	38.6
Ryan Roeming	3	38	38.3
Bryan Calcaterra	3	38	38.7
Greg Voss	4	37	35.0

Craig Wood	2	27	39.0
Jake Schinderle	1	24	49.5
Jim A Olson	1	23	49.0
Nathan Jandl	2	23	37.3
Eli Landas	1	22	47.5
Kurt Southworth	1	22	48.0
Corey Iversen	1	22	47.8
Daniel Donovan	2	21	36.5
Joe Uselman	1	21	46.5
Scott Trimborn	2	19	35.3
Jeff Pomplun	2	19	35.5
Nick Pierick	1	19	45.0
Matt Vike	1	18	43.5
Fred Hodd	2	18	35.1
Jim Eller	1	18	43.5
Josh Bruckert	1	15	41.0
Justin Regan	1	14	40.0
Jeff Hellenbrand	1	14	40.0
Chris Clark	1	14	40.0
Shane Nesheim	2	13	32.6
Joseph Hansen	1	12	37.5
Justin Drinkwater	1	12	37.8
Steve Krause	1	11	36.5
Mike Milia	1	10	35.5
Brian Falleck	1	8	33.8
Jeremiah Oakley	1	6	31.5
William N. Liegel	1	6	32.0
Mike Roosa	1	4	30.0

<u>Master's Division</u>	<u>Muskies</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Avg Len</u>
Jeff M Hanson	97	1272	39.0
Brad P Nelson	36	541	41.0
Aaron Laking	22	378	43.1
Jeff Lyon	20	310	41.4
Matt Mc Cumber	14	182	38.8
Matthew DeVos	13	170	38.8
Dustin Loveland	8	108	39.5
Matthew Hill	1	18	44.0
Troy Schoonover	1	8	33.5

<u>Junior's Division</u>	<u>Muskies</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Avg Len</u>
Devyn Hanson	17	219	38.62
Jackson Harris	10	84	34.4
Jeffrey Falleck	3	49	42.00
Alek Southworth	5	95	44.8

<u>Women's Division</u>	<u>Muskies</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Avg Len</u>
Angela Thoreson	2	43	47.3
Pam Mc Cumber	1	14	39.5
Karen Phillips	1	9	34.5

CCMI Lunge Log Contest

Jeff Lyon

Cap Cities Muskies Inc. is very excited to announce a brand new contest this fishing season. We know we have a big chapter of fishy folks catching muskies all over musky country and we want to continue to grow the membership of our awesome club.

So, for the year of 2023, we are launching a brand new contest. The rules are really simple. All you have to do is be a Capital Cities Member, follow our Facebook or Instagram Account, AND log a fish in the Muskies Inc. Lunge Log. We have an incredible list of prizes that will be offered. Each lunge log entry counts for one entry into the contest. You can enter as many fish as you catch. You can only win one prize pack. Prizes will be drawn randomly at the annual awards banquet next year. You do not need to be present to win.

Here are some of the awesome prizes you can win!

- **Full Day Guide Trip with Noah Humfeld**, CCMI member and Owner of Madison Area Guide Service. Value of \$500.
- **Full Day Guide Trip with Robbie Jarnigo** - Today's Angler and Versatile Angling Guide Service. Value of \$425.
- **Lee's Lure Lure Pack** - 1 Flap Tail, 1 Boilermaker and 2 Ninjas! Estimated value of \$215
- **2 Hours of Humminbird On the Water Training with Adam Walton from Pike Pole** (in your boat) + **\$50 Musky Shop** Gift Card. Value of \$175.
- **Full Day Guide Trip with Dave Burgenske** of Madtown Musky Guide Service + \$50 D&S Bait & Tackle Gift Card + 3 \$20 reel repairs with Badfish Creek Reel Repair. Estimated Value of \$500.
- **Prize Pack from Dorn Outdoors** - Assorted Musky Baits - Spanky Baits Pugsly, Muskie Train Diesel Crank, \$20 live bait card, and Shimano Rod Straps. Estimated Value of \$115



@CapCityMuskies

If you want your catch posted on CCMI social media, send your photos to socialmedia@capitalcitymuckiesinc.org

Planned 2023 Stocking and Unplanned Stocking Accomplished

Greg Voss

CCMI Secretary & Stocking Chair

About 500 Leech Lake Strain (LLS) musky fingerlings were stocked into Lake Monona September 27th as planned. These fingerlings were purchased by Capital City Muskies Inc (CCMI) from Minnesota Muskie Farm (MMF) as has occurred regularly since 1998.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Team Supervisor for 9 counties including Dane County, David Rowe, provided a WDNR boat with an aerated holding tub to disperse these fingerlings away from the boat launch and into the edges of adjacent weed beds. No "floaters" or "bird predations" were observed. CCMI members Bob Baumgartner, Steve Soma, Scott Trimborn, and Greg Voss assisted. At least a half dozen other folks were present to observe. These observers were invited to our open monthly member meetings and to join CCMI if not already members.



These LLS fingerlings were not PIT Tagged or Tissue Sampled for genetic analysis. The WDNR intends to scan any muskies encountered in the future within their annual fyke net surveys or other studies. If any of those muskies do not have a PIT Tag they will be PIT Tagged and logged into the WDNR database. One idea is that less handling at the stocking site for fingerlings may increase their survival rate. Another effort beginning in the WDNR is to obtain musky tissue samples for genetic analysis. Our former 3 county WDNR Fisheries Biologist Dan Oele has accepted a WDNR promotion as a statewide data coordinator with the WDNR Fisheries Division.

Funds for these LLS fingerlings came from CCMI member participation and support in many of our chapter's activities plus several generous donations from sponsors, promoters, or members.

In addition to the Leech Lake Strain, Over 900 musky fingerlings from Gollon Bait & Fish Farm in Dodgeville were also stocked by CCMI into Lake Monona on September 20th in an unplanned event. For several recent years the WDNR musky stocking plans for the Madison lakes included 1,100 fingerlings (plus our 500 LLS) into Lake Monona, 1,000 fingerlings into Lake Waubesa, and 100 fingerlings into Lake Wingra. The last year this was fully accomplished by the WDNR was 2021. In 2020 the WDNR did not have any WDNR hatchery fingerlings to stock because of the pandemic impact. For 2022 and 2023 the WDNR's plan was to raise Great Lakes Strain (GLS) fingerlings in their Wild Rose Fish Hatchery for the Madison Chain lakes and all of southern Wisconsin Universal Acceptor lakes. In 2022 the WDNR ran into a sawning issue involving crazy weather, and in 2023 a virus of unknown origin appeared in the GLS fingerlings from the Wild Rose WDNR Hatchery. Zero musky fingerlings from WDNR Hatcheries were stocked into the Madison Chain in 2022 or 2023 despite CCMI meetings with WDNR Fisheries supervisors and a CCMI visit to the Wild Rose Fish Hatchery.



There were no other musky fingerlings available for the Madison Chain of Lakes in 2022 or 2023 from the other two WDNR musky hatcheries (Spooner or Woodruff). The CCMI Board Executive Committee chose to purchase these 900 fingerlings from Gollon to help maintain the 2023 year class numbers so that you may have a better chance at catching a 37-42 inch musky in the Madison Chain over the next ten years. For a complete history of CCMI stocking efforts check out our CCMI website under " Fisheries" for our stocking history since 1986! THANK YOU to everyone who maintains their Muskies Inc membership, attends our second Monday of the month member meetings, buys raffle tickets or CCMI merchandise, attends our spring Musky School or Spring Fundraiser events, adopts-a- musky, files for

grant money, or donates funds to CCMI. Your financial support helps CCMI do what it can to maintain the Madison Chain of Lakes as a World Class musky fishery for you.



It seems like a solid strategy to continue to plan on LLS fingerling stocking if available each year until the WDNR can demonstrate a consistent annual supply of GLS or other strains of WDNR Hatchery musky fingerlings for the Madison Chain. Other options being considered include a "standing order" with Gollon annually for 500 fingerlings WI Strain in addition to the 500 LLS fingerlings from MMF "just in case" WDNR hatcheries fail again to have fingerlings for the Madison Chain each year. There is no guarantee that Gollon will have musky fingerlings available if we wait until September or October to order them. One caution remains that any stocking must be approved by the WDNR with a stocking permit. Another option could be to lobby the WDNR Hatchery Division lead folks directly about alternative plans for Madison Chain musky stocking if their plans for one hatchery like Wild Rose does not pan out.

THANK YOU - MADISON MUSKIES FOREVER!

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4th Annual CCMI Fall Muskie Tournament Results

On October 7th we held our 4th Annual CCMI Fall Muskie Tournament. As usual, there was a pretty strong breeze, but definitely not as bad as previous years. 16 teams competed and three muskies were caught. CCMI member Luke Will caught a 46 inch muskie right away and held on to the lead for the rest of the day.

Thank you to everyone who participated and to our sponsor Chaos Tackle. We raised almost \$1000 for CCMI. We will be using that money to continue to improve the musky fishery in Madison. Mark your calendars for October 6th, 2024 for our 5th annual tournament.



- 1st Place - Luke Will & Hunter Will - 46"
- 2nd Place - Randall Frie & Austin Markved - 42.5"
- 3rd Place - Ryan Roeming & Luke Lagomasino - 40.25"



Vilas County Outing Report

*Dale and Colette Anderson
October 13 and 14, 2023*

The Anderson's would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone that participated in the outing! We always look forward to this event because it gives us a chance to spend time with a great group of folks! We had 40 people in the outing and 43 for the Banquet dinner this year, which was held at The Rustic Roadhaus. It was a huge success and we send a very special thank you to Kurt Potter! Kurt and his staff did an excellent job serving our group and the food was fabulous! We also want to thank Kurt for the generous donation for our super raffle.

The weather during the 2-day outing this year was typical of early Fall in Northern Wisconsin. Many of the trees were still holding leaves which made for great scenery and the Muskies were eating!

Congratulations to all outing participants! We had some nice muskies caught again this year – a total of 20 fish were registered by 15 anglers. **Our 2023 Vilas County Outing winners are:**

First Place: Greg Leatherberry with a 47.50" Tiger!
Second Place: Jerry Georgeson with a 45.25" Tiger!
Third Place: John Cuta with a 45" inch fish.
Smallest Muskie: Corey Schalow with a 21.25 incher!



We were super excited that our headlining Musky Crooner, **Geoff Crandall**, was able to perform for us this year with his songs and the Harry Carey impressions done by MJ Johnson, all good stuff!

A big thank you goes out to Chase Mikula for bringing up the awards and to Brett and April Cook for bringing the door prizes and running our Super Raffle. We were able to send \$1410.00 back to the Club from our raffle once again.

A big thank you to everyone who donated prizes for our outing. Jim at Sportsman's Repair Shop, Dan at Townline Sports, Scott at Turtle River Trading Post, Christa at Flambeau

Flowage Sports Shop and Tyler Wolff from Turtle River tackle. With the cost of everything going up we couldn't provide the quality of prizes without your help.

Mark your calendars! The 2023 Vilas County Outing will be held on October 11-12, 2024! Details will be forthcoming. Kurt at the Rustic has already invited our group to return to the Roadhaus next year.

Again, thanks to all of you for making this outing such a "FUN-tastic" time!



Capital City Chapter of Muskies Inc. Chapter Officers

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president@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org

VICE-PRESIDENT

Chris Smith
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Chapter Representative to M.I.

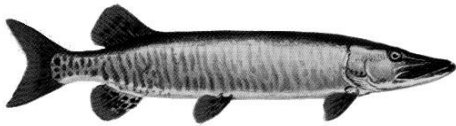
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Nathan Jandl
newsletter@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org

At- Large Directors

	Term Exp
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TJ Weisensel t.j.weisensel@gmail.com	2023
Todd Berge boogerb2@yahoo.com	2023

Vacancy (4)

Past Presidents

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Gil Nimm	Steve Budnik
Kevin Wegner	Gary Greene
Brian Walsh	Fred Bachmann
Kevin Black	Norm Vike
Craig Eversoll	Geoff Crandall *
Steve Reinstra *	Jim Olson
Lee Bartolini *	Luke Vike *
Winston Hopkins +	+ Immediate Past President
	* Past President with Voting Rights

Capital City Chapter, Muskies, Inc.
P.O. Box 8862
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

