

Volume 41, Issue 2

Prez Sez

I recently returned from the Chicago Muskie Expo. It was a great show, as always. I was able to chat it up with musky anglers from all over the country, book a guided trip for my son and I, and buy some of the latest and greatest baits. I think this is going to be my year!! For those of you keeping track, this is the fifth year in a row that I have said that and so far, I'm 0-4.

If you were not able to visit the CCMI booth at the Chicago Expo, you have a few more opportunities. We will be at the Milwaukee, Madison, and Wausau shows. Stop by and say Hi!

Last month we held our annual budget meeting. Currently the chapter is in good shape financially; however, due to unforeseen circumstances (hot weather during egg collection and a virus), the past two years the WDNR has not been able to provide any fingerlings to stock in the Madison Chain. In order to keep our local lakes a great musky fishery, CCMI has budgeted enough money to stock muskies at half a fish/acre, which is the goal set by the WDNR. By doing this, it will create a deficit for CCMI in 2024.

So this year, our primary focus is on fundraising. Keep an eye out for some new things coming from the Adopt-A-Musky program and some other fantastic events we have coming up this year. You can help by simply attending our meetings, outings and events. Every raffle ticket or merchandise item you purchase helps us achieve our goal of stocking 2600 musky fingerlings into the February 2024

### **February General Meeting**

February 19, 7:00 PM Doors open at 6:00 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 Speaker: Doug Wegner



Madison Chain. I hope to see you at one of the expos or one of our upcoming events.

### Brian Falleck

- Don't forget to get your boat something nice for Valentine's Day!

Help us ensure a healthy population of muskies in the Madison Chain. Scan the QR code below or visit <u>our website</u> to Adopt-a-Muskie!





### 2024 Event Calendar

NOTE: Some dates have changed. Please double-check and mark your calendar!

February 16-18	Milwaukee Muskie Expo
February 19	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard: Doug Wegner
February 23-25	Wisconsin Fishing Expo
March 11	CCMI Awards Ceremony
March 23	21 <sup>st</sup> Intermediate & Advanced Muskie School
April 6	Annual Fundraiser & Fishing Seminar, featuring Jeremy Smith
April 19-20	Iowa Hawg Hunt
May 11	Madison Chain Outing
May 13	General Member Meeting @ Bowl-A-Vard
June 15	Wisconsin Youth Muskie Championship
June 21-22	Bill Wood / Lake Winter 40th Memorial Outing
August 17-24	Lake of the Woods Outing
September 21	PIT Tag Challenge
October 5	Fall Muskie Tournament
October 11-12	Vilas County Outing

## **CCMI Release Report**

Chris Smith – Release Chairman

### Greetings Cap City!

February is an exciting time for us, as we gear up for the annual awards and data presentation in March. This event recognizes the great year of releases and crowns some new champions by engraving their names on plaques and trophies. It's a time to celebrate our shared passion for Muskie fishing and acknowledge the exceptional catches of the past year.

Looking back the last 20 years according to Muskies Inc., there has been a significant increase in the number of 50-inch Muskies caught and released. Since 1997, more than 95% of these big fish have been released. In 2014 and 2015, the release rate for Muskellunge  $\geq$ 50" was 100%. This continues to show that good handling practices and logging releases continues to be our biggest advocate to promote and grow the sport.

Remember, the off-season is also a great time to learn something new. Attend Muskie expos, sit in on seminars, and brush up on your skills. Let's continue to support our fisheries by ensuring conservation for future generations by staying active in club events and community restocking activities.

Keep your hooks sharp and we will soon be on the water. Chris

## What About the Garage Sale?

Have you been wondering if we are still having our Annual Garage Sale at the Wisconsin Fishing Expo? We are! So why haven't we been asking for lure donations? It is because we have so many lures from Denny Leitl and we (Brian) doesn't have room for any more! Please stop by our booth at the expo and check out some of the great items we have for sale. Thanks to everyone who has asked about donating lures.

Also: please hang on to those "rarely used" lures for the next time around; we will be accepting lures for the 2025 Garage Sale late next year.





### Register at muskieschool.com or use the QR code in the graphic above

#### SESSION #1 - 9:00 AM

- A) Poolside Lure Demonstration (Michael Hanson)
- B) What Do Muskies See And React To (Steve Worrall)
- C) Hands On Rod Building (Al Hutchison) (*limit 6 students*)
- D) Vilas County Muskies (Jerry Georgeson)
- E) Muskie Fishing Basics (Duffy Kopf)
- F) Muskies On The Fly Beginners (Dan Small)
- G) Reel Knowledge For Maintenance and Repair (Cory
- Steil) (Limit 4 students)
- H) Filming Muskie Fishing Made Easy (Brian Skaife)
- I) Kayak Muskie Fishing (Nicole King)
- J) Living On The Edge (Steve Herbeck)
- K) Terminal Tackle tips And Tactics (John Bette)

### <u>SESSION #2 – 10:35 AM</u>

- A) Women In Muskie Fishing (Amanda Wilson)
- B) **Poolside Lure Demonstration Tips & Techniques** (Craig Eversoll & Leif Spilde)
- C) Muskies On The Fly Advanced (Dan Donovan)
- D) Hands On Rod Building (Al Hutchison) (Limit 6 students)
- E) Making Wood Muskie Lures (John Eversoll)
- F) River Muskies (Phil Schweik)

G) Real Time Sonar Explained – Mega Live/Live Scope (Greg Fitch)

H) Reel Knowledge For Maintenance and Repair (Cory Steil) (*Limit 4 students*)

I) An In-Depth Look At Waukesha County Muskies (Colin Schlicht)

J) New Trends in Metro Muskie Fishing (Noah Humfeld) K) Turtle Flambeau/Mercer Area Lakes (Bobby Orr) SESSION #3 -1:00 PM

A) Madison Chain Muskies (Craig Eversoll & Leif Spilde)
B) Poolside Lure Demonstration (Brian Skaife & Vince DeMarte)

C) Hands On Rod Building (Al Hutchison) (Limit 6 students)D) Row Trolling Tips and Tactics (Geoff Crandall & Steve Reinstra)

E) Catching Muskies With Live Bait A to Z (Jerry Georgeson)

- F) Making Spinnerbaits & Bucktails (Scot Stewart)
- G) Reel Knowledge For Maintenance and Repair (Cory Steil) (*Limit 4 students*)
- H) Maximize Your Time On The Water (Michael Hanson) I) Off Beat Canadian Shield Muskie Tips And Tactics (Steve Herbeck)
- J) Preparing To Fish New Muskie Water (Steve Worrall)
- K) Green Bay Muskies (Capt. Kevin Pischke)



## 19th Annual "Iowa Hawg Hunt"

### Friday, April 19 (7:00am) until Saturday, April 20 (5:00pm)

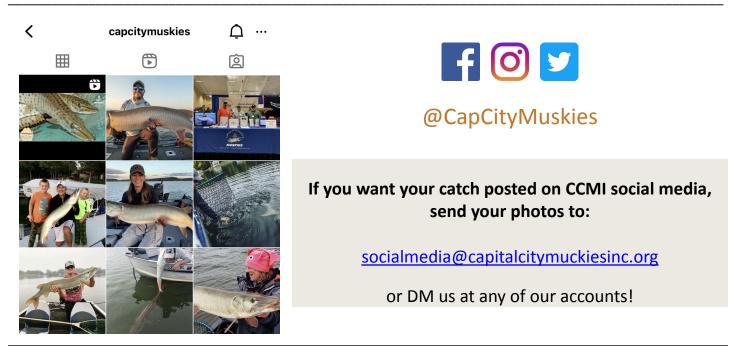
You are invited to the 19<sup>TH</sup> "Iowa Hawg Hunt" to be held at <u>Pleasant Creek Recreation Area</u> and Lake MacBride, located near Cedar Rapids, Iowa. There will be an *optional* friendly **non-cash** fish contest - \$10 per person (see below for details). This event is open to the public.

Lodging is available at the Urbana Inn (319-443-8888; contact Jessica and request the \$69/room muskie outing rate) or the Sleep Inn in North Liberty, Iowa (319-665-2700). Questions? Contact Geoff Crandall at crandall@msbnrg.com or call/text (608) 219-0164.

**Rules:** Eligible fish must be caught between 7:00 a.m. on Friday 4/19/2024 through <u>5:00 p.m.</u> on Saturday 4/20/2024. Participants must sign and provide the waiver of liability (available on CCMI website <u>www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org</u>) A witness (another outing participant is o.k.) and a photo is required. *Fish entries including photos must be submitted to Geoff Crandall at or before 5:15 p.m. on Saturday 4/20/2024 at (608-219-0164-text) or email (crandall@msbnrg.com).* Eligible waters include the Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area and Lake MacBride. To be eligible you must comply with all IDNR and County health regulations. Catch & release only, trolling, and live bait is permitted, no transporting of muskies and fish are to be measured to the ¼ inch. 30" muskies or longer are eligible to be entered into the contest. To be eligible for the **non-cash** prizes your fee must be *paid & received prior to the 4/19/2024 start of the outing*.

The winners will be acknowledged for: 1) Longest Muskie and 2) Second Longest Muskie. (Winners may win in only one category). The results will be announced @ <u>7:30 p.m. (4/20/2024) at the Urbana Inn Community</u> room and Pizza and Soda Pop will be provided. (NO CASH AWARDS OR PAYOUTS WILL BE MADE).

**Contest Eligibility:** \$10 for the optional contest. If participating in the contest, fees must be received **prior to the start of the 4/19/2024 outing** by Geoff Crandall @ 5306 Jonquil Ct. Middleton, WI 53562 (phone/text 608-219-0164 if you have questions) or Sue or John Eversoll at 107 N Hickory St Elizabeth, IL 61028.





## 38<sup>th</sup> Muskie

## Seminar/Fundraiser



Saturday, April 6, 2024

Bowl-A-Vard Lanes - 2121 E Springs Dr - Madison, WI 53704

# Jeremy Smith



## Win Rods, Reels, Lures & More from Today's Top Manufacturers

Doors Open @ 9:00 AM/1<sup>st</sup> Raffle @ 10:00 AM/Seminar Starts @ 11:00 AM\* Members \$35/Person Non-Members \$40/Person Youth (13-17) \$20/Each 12 & Younger FREE \*Lunch Included and Cash Bar\*

Purchase Advanced Raffle Tickets w/ Registration \*\$25 Receives \$35 in Tickets\* \*\$50 Receives \$75 in Tickets\* Automatically Entered to Win a Rod/Reel Combo with Registration Raffle Tickets Also Available for Purchase at Seminar



\*Online Registration Only\* www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org Scan the QR code at left or visit our website above to register All Net Proceeds to Benefit Capital City Muskies Inc

## It's Expo Season!

The Muskie Expos are here! If you are attending any of the upcoming expos and would like to join our president in the CCMI booth please let us know. We will have a booth in Milwaukee, Madison, and Wausau. We are especially in need of volunteers at the Wisconsin Fishing Expo in Madison, February 23rd-25th. We will be selling raffle tickets for the Recon boat and holding our Garage Sale, both of which provide much needed income for the chapter. Thank you in advance to anyone who can help out.









To advertise with us, fill out our form at: <u>https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/ad-sponsorship/</u>

## **Bill Wood Memorial / Lake Winter 40th Outing**

The 40<sup>th</sup> annual Bill Wood Memorial/Lake Winter Outing will be held on **Friday June 21 & Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup>**, **2024.** 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, Ron Wolters, Gene Edwards, and others, live on.

**2024 Rules:** Muskies must be caught between 7:00 a.m. on Friday 6/21/21 and 5:00 p.m. Saturday 6/22/2024. This is a catch & release only outing (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 was 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 ¼ 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

### In 2023 anglers were awarded for the following caught & released Muskie.

- Longest Muskie (Jim Lawler 43" on Chippewa Flowage)
- Second Longest (Lee Bartolini 37.5" on Black Dan Lake)
  - Honorable Mention (Karen Phillips 34.5")

We had problems finding lodging near Winter last year so make your reservations early.

### Come on up for a good time!

Awards Banquet – Dinner will be provided for \$22 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 crandall@msbnrg.com) or John or Sue Eversoll (815-858-3753 or sjevers57@sandprairie.net). 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 \$22 per person. Total for the contest is \$10 and dinner is \$22 for a total of <u>\$32 per person</u>. Please register and provide the fees by <u>June 16, 2024</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 completed registration form & check to: Geoff Crandall 5306 Jonquil Ct Middleton, WI 53562 or Sue or John Eversoll 107 N Hickory St Elizabeth, IL 61028

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

PRESIDENT Brian Falleck 608-212-7941 president@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org

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

Chapter Representative to M.I. Winston Hopkins (608) 577-3184 <u>WinstonjHopkins@gmail.com</u>

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR Submissions due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to Nathan Jandl at: <u>newsletter@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org</u>

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