



The official newsletter for the Capitol City Chapter of Muskies, Inc.

Prez Sez

We have arrived at my favorite month of the year. The days are definitely getting shorter, I'm just waiting for the cooler temps to get here.

This is also the month when our events start back up again. The Gary Hoffman Memorial PIT Tag Challenge is on the 26th followed by the Vilas County Outing next month. These are two very well attended events and I hope to see you there!

There is a slight change to our Monthly Membership Meetings. The September meeting will be on Tuesday, 9/15. And after that the meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Mekong will still be the location and they will still start at 7pm. As always, we will have great speakers and a raffle at the end of each meeting.

Lastly I would like to thank Tony Enger, I just returned from the LOTW Outing and it was a great time. Check out the full write up in this newsletter.

Good Luck to everyone this fall. Send us your pictures and we can make you famous in our newsletter and on social media.

Brian Falleck

Help NEEDED!!!!

CCMI is looking for a new Merchandise Chairperson. This position consists of keeping track of inventory, ordering merch when needed, and selling items at our monthly meetings. If anyone is interested, please reach out to Brian Falleck (bdfalleck@gmail.com) to get more information.

2026 Event Calendar



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

September 12.....	CCMI Fall Tournament
September 15.....	General Member Meeting
September 26.....	Gary Hoffman PIT Tag Challenge
October 9.....	Vilas County Outing
October 15.....	General Member Meeting
November 10.....	General Member Meeting

Release Chair Report

Release Chair Report

Jeff Lyon CCMI Release Chair

ccmireleasechair@gmail.com

2026 CCMI Release Standings current as of August 27, 2026, at 7:30 AM

Only 13 entries in the replica release contest so far in 2026. All entries must be submitted within 30 days of the catch!

Release Contest reminders for 2026

- All Release contest entries must be registered within 30 days of the catch.
- Lunker of the month the muskie must be 45" or longer to qualify.
 - o Lunker of the month entrants must be a member in good standing of the Capital City Chapter of Muskies, Inc. at the time of the catch.
 - o All Lunker of the Month entries must be entered in the Muskies Inc "Lunge Log" (www.muskiesinc.org).
 - o All Lunker of the Month entries, Members must register their catch within (30) days of the date of the catch.
 - o December catches must be registered no later than January 15th to be eligible for any CCMI contests.
- Replica Contest entries must be submitted to the Release chair within 30 days of the catch, and in December no later than January 15th.

CCMI Needs some Muskie Pictures, send in your catches!

Jeff

Mens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Eric R Olson	22	295	39.26"	49.25"
Todd Berge	13	203	41.50"	49.00"
Mitchell Limp	14	198	40.07"	50.25"
Kyle Kramer	10	174	43.40"	47.00"
Craig Eversoll	9	138	41.06"	47.50"
Garrett Lederman	7	109	41.46"	50.00"
Tony Artymiuk	9	94	36.19"	43.75"
Scottie Gordon	9	91	36.00"	42.50"
Brian Falleck	4	69	43.00"	44.00"
Mike Milia	3	58	44.92"	47.50"
Kurt Brändli	4	49	38.13"	43.00"
Lee Bartolini	5	46	35.30"	37.00"
Geoffrey C Crandall	2	44	47.88"	48.00"
Allen Jenkins	3	41	39.33"	45.00"
Scott Trimborn	3	36	38.00"	43.00"
James Lawler	2	33	42.50"	46.00"
Justin Gasser	2	30	40.75"	44.00"
Joe Uselman	1	26	52.00"	52.00"
Paul Twardy Sr	1	25	51.25"	51.25"
Shane Nesheim	2	22	36.75"	43.00"
Craig Wood	1	21	47.00"	47.00"
Ron Thompson	1	17	42.50"	42.50"

Mens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Greg Voss	2	15	33.25"	35.50"
Matt Vike	1	15	40.50"	40.50"
Thomas Voeck	1	14	40.00"	40.00"
Chris Emden	1	14	39.75"	39.75"
Brian Templeton	1	12	37.75"	37.75"
Tom Pollard	2	10	31.00"	32.00"
Scott Gennrich	1	7	33.25"	33.25"

Womens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Lynda Lawler	2	28	39.75"	41.75"
Tara Jenkins	1	9	35.00"	35.00"

Youth Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Devyn Hanson	9	108	37.75	45.50"
Cash Soma	4	76	45.06	49.25



Mens Masters	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Jeff Lehr	29	381	38.97"	47.50"
Brad Nelson	14	178	38.54"	48.50"
Jeff Lyon	11	175	41.70"	49.5"
Aaron Laking	8	148	44.28	48.00"
Craig Eversoll	9	138	41.06	47.5
Jeff Hanson	4	103	51.38	52.5
Wilhelm Zeichert	4	40	36	43
Matthew DeVos	4	40	35.92"	43.00"
Matt Mc Cumber	1	16	41.50"	41.50"



Paul Twardy with his LOTW Outing big fish, a tanker at 51.25!

General Member Meeting Change!

Member meetings will now be on the 2nd TUESDAY of the month at Mekong, formerly the 5100. We have this secured from September-May, EXCEPT this September, it will be on the 15th due to the Labor Day holiday. General member meeting attendance seems to be declining a bit. Please get a buddy and come on out. The Mekong has great drinks and EXCELLENT wings along with a full menu. We do our best to get excellent speakers along with always having great raffles. Hope to see more musky nuts there this fall/winter!

Stocking Update

In outdoors new in past few weeks from Musky Alliance President and Steve Heiting:

Wisconsin's fish hatchery crews plan to stock 98% of their muskie quota in 2026 after receiving approval for supplemental 13.10 funding from the state's Joint Finance Committee.

With this new funding, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said it now plans to stock 56,503 muskies in inland lakes. Earlier this year, Justine Hasz, the DNR's fisheries director, said the agency would have to cut muskie stocking by 70%, from a planned 57,520 muskies to 17,000."

So it looks very promising but no guarantees that CCMI will receive about 1,420 Great Lake Strain musky fingerlings stocked into Lake Monona about 11 inches long, free of charge to CCMI, some time this fall in addition the 1,410 CCMI purchased from Gollon this year.

Greg Voss
CCMI Stocking Chair

LOTW Outing Recap

This year there were 12 participants. The same size group as in 2025. The weather for the week was pretty darn good except for a couple of crazy blowing wind days and a rainy one! The group was still able to get out and put some fish in the boats!

This years group was able to get 12 for the week. The Big Fish size this year was put back in to the 50" range! CCMI President Brian Falleck was able to boat 4 fish for the week. He picked up a 44", 43.5", 43" and a 41.5" for 69 points. Dawn Enger boated a 43". Mick Olson got a 37" and Jerry Georgeson picked up a 35".

This years Big Fish Winner Award was given to Paul Twardy who was able to get an amazing 51.25" on day six of the outing! Congratulations to them all!

This years Outing Winner Award for Number of Muskies by points went to Tony Enger who boated four fish 48", 47.5", 41" and 39.5" for 72 points. Brian Falleck got second place with 69 points followed Dawn Enger, Mick Olson and Jerry Georgeson.

I want to thank all the those who took part in this year's outing. It was a great group to go with great weather. We all want to thank the staff at Mylies Place Resort especially Justin and Krista for the great week. The 2027 LOTW Outing has been booked and it will take place August 21st - 28th at Mylies Place Resort on Sabaskong Bay of Lake of the Woods. There may be a few opening for next year's outing. Please contact Tony Enger for details or to be put on a waiting list for future openings.

Thanks again to all of this year's participants making it a great outing. Looking forward to making next year's outing even better!!



The musky crew!



One of Tony Enger's four fish.



Paul & Tony with their awards.

13th Annual Gary Hoffman Memorial Pit-Tag Challenge Outing

The Capital City Muskies Inc Chapter is again hosting a "Gary Hoffman Pit-Tag Challenge" outing on Saturday September 26th 2026. This ONE-day event purpose is to catch pit-tagged muskies in Lake Monona. The catch information will be used to further enhance the Leech Lake vs Wisconsin strain muskie size study that has been ongoing since 2005. This outing is open to all including anglers from other muskie fishing clubs. Membership in CCMI is NOT required. Come and join us for this important and fun activity.

Date: Saturday September 26, 2026

Place: Olbrich Park at the Starweather Creek launch

(Near the softball diamond)

Time: 7:00am - 3:00pm

Outing Rules

Must comply with all WDNR regulations

Catch and release only and no transporting of fish

*Participants MUST receive outing and fish reporting information starting at 6:30 am in the Olbrich Park Softball Diamond lot.

Casting, trolling, and live bait are acceptable forms of fishing

Lake Monona is the only eligible lake

All muskies caught REGARDLESS OF SIZE must be scanned for pit-tags to be prize eligible (boats with scanners will be on the water).

Measurement of muskies on a bump board is required

A witness and a photograph of the fish is required for all entries

In case of a tie, the earliest muskie caught will be the tie breaker

Participants must complete and submit a "release of liability" form IF one has not been completed in 2026 for other Outings. The form is available on the CCMI website.

Lunch & Awards

Pizza from Glass Nickel will be provided around 4pm at Olbrich park softball diamond area with awards and door prizes afterwards. Awards will be presented for Longest, Second longest, and Third longest muskie caught by length in inches. In addition, a "Pit Tag Champion Award" will be presented to the Angler catching the longest Pit Tagged Muskie REGARDLESS OF SIZE.

*Suggest bringing a folding lawnchair as seating is limited at the Shelter area

Registration and Cost

On-line Registration at <https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/pit-tag-challenge/>. Alternatively, a paper registration form and fee can be sent to Steve Reinstra, 11509 N. Elm Rd, Edgerton, WI 53534. The outing cost is \$30.00 per person (\$35.00 for non-CCMI members).

For more information contact Steve Reinstra(mpd339r@charter.net) or 608-770-7131.

**Gary Hoffman Pit-Tag Challenge Outing
Registration Form**

Name_____

Address_____

Phone Number_____

City_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____

CCMI Member (Circle): Yes No

Mail To:

Steve Reinstra

11509 N. Elm St.

Edgerton WI 53534

Vilas County Outing: October 9th and 10th, 2026

The annual Vilas County Muskie 2-day Outing will be held Friday, October 9th and Saturday, October 10th, 2026. This is a friendly outing for CCMI members, family and friends. You do not have to be a CCMI member to participate.

All participants must submit a waiver of liability form in order to participate in the outing. Please print out the waiver of liability form at the CCMI website and submit it to Dale Anderson with your outing and/or banquet fee payment. Following is a link to the form.

<http://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/MI-RELEASE-OF-LIABILITY.pdf>

The outing banquet will be held at the Rustic Roadhaus, located at 5194 S, US Hwy 51, Manitowish Waters. There will be “fish stories” at the bar (cash bar) at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served around 7:00 p.m. Awards, Door Prizes and Raffles after the dinner. For additional information about the Rustic Roadhaus, including directions/location, visit their website at rusticroadhaus.com.

The dinner will be a choice of 3 entrees:

- Prime Rib (Queen Cut) with Baked Potato
- Grilled Shrimp Alfredo over Pasta
- BBQ Ribs with Baked Potato

All entrees include a side salad, bread, and dessert! The cost of the Outing AND Banquet is \$50 per person, inclusive of gratuity.

NEW THIS YEAR

The Vilas Outing will be limited to the first 50 anglers whose payment is received by Dale Anderson no later than October 1, 2026. Please don't hesitate to sign up, it's going to fill up fast. Any registrations/fees received after there are 50 anglers registered will be returned.

TOTAL COST: \$50 for the Outing Fee and Banquet Dinner.

CONTEST RULES:

Muskies caught from 7:00 a.m. Friday, October 9th, to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 10th, will be eligible for awards! There is no sign in. Report all muskies caught by 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 10th, to Dale Anderson at the Rustic Roadhaus. To be eligible for an award, a witness is required (an outing participant for all entries). **Photographs of fish caught are required with a digital device that shows date and time stamp of your catch.** This is a Catch and Release contest only! Artificial baits and Quick Set sucker rigs are allowed – no swallow hooks for suckers!

Participants must comply with all WDNR regulations. Gas motor trolling is allowed during this outing. Only muskies that are 30 inches or longer are eligible for an award, except for the “smallest” muskie category! Measure fish to the quarter-inch to help in a tie-breaker situation. Eligible waters are any body of water located within Vilas County, Wisconsin.

NEW THIS YEAR

The first place winner, (largest muskie by length) caught and registered will receive a free replica from Lax Taxidermy of their fish! This new replica offer for the Vilas County Outing has been generously donated by our sponsor, **Edward Jones Soma Wealth Management!**

Winners may only win in one category (with the exception of the LAX Replica that goes to the winner of the largest muskie by length)! If there is a tie in length, the first muskie caught based on the time and date stamp on the photo wins. Walnut Plaques will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place:

- 1) Largest muskie by length in inches
- 2) Second largest muskie by length in inches
- 3) Third largest muskie by length in inches
- 4) Smallest muskie by length in inches-gets a Muskie Base trophy

We will need all sign-up sheets and money no later than October 1st, 2026. Please mail your outing/banquet fee, meal choice form, and waiver of liability form to:

Dale Anderson
PO Box 384
Mercer WI 54547

If you have any questions concerning the outing, contact Dale Anderson at (608) 852-0245 (text or call).

Drawings will be held for door prizes for outing participants. We are also planning on doing a separate “Muskie Gear” Raffle again this year, with some great prizes! We hope you can join us for this FUN-tastic outing!



2026 Vilas County Muskie Outing Banquet

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

Rustic Roadhaus
Manitowish Waters, WI.
Phone: (715) 543-8500

Cocktails and Fish Stories: 5:30 p.m. Cash Bar

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

● \$50.00 per person for the Outing and the Banquet.

MENU SELECTIONS:

- Prime Rib (Salad, Baked Potato, Bread and Dessert)
- Grilled Shrimp Alfredo (Salad, Bread and Dessert)
- Full Rack of BBQ Ribs (Salad, Baked Potato, Bread and Dessert)

Please return this portion of the form to Dale Anderson with your payment no later than October 1st, 2026. Please make your check payable to Dale Anderson and mail to:

Dale Anderson, PO Box 384, Mercer, WI 54547.

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

Entrée Choice:

- ☐ Prime Rib
- ☐ Grilled Shrimp Alfredo
- ☐ Full Rack of BBQ Ribs

If more than one name is included on this banquet form, please write a number in the checkbox next to the entrée. For example, if there are two names on the form and one person wants prime rib and one person wants Shrimp Alfredo, you would write a “1” in each of those entrée boxes. If both persons would like prime rib, you would write a “2” in that entrée box. Thanks.

Please provide a cell phone number so that Dale can contact you if there are questions regarding your registration or meal choice!

Name and Cell #: _____

Name and Cell #: _____

Join the CCMI Mentoring Program

New Email Address: lbartolini0@gmail.com

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: lbartolini0@gmail.com, 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 using the information above.



A Big Thank You to 2025 and 2026 Donors

Many donors play a critical role in helping Capital City Muskies, Inc. (CCMI) meet our goals for improving the South-Central Wisconsin Muskie fisheries. These activities and projects include supplemental stocking of Muskie yearlings/fingerlings in Lakes Monona, Waubesa, and Wingra; supporting scientific research on the Madison Chain of Lakes fish populations; and sponsoring youth education and outreach activities.

Without the generous contributions of our donors, many of the projects and activities CCMI conducts each year would not be possible. We would like to thank the following donors who have made generous cash, services, and/or merchandise donations to CCMI in 2025 and 2026 to date:

- Palac Family Healing Waters Foundation 2025 & 2026
- Dennis Lytle 2025
- Don Hollatz 2025
- Dorn Outdoor Pro Shop 2025 & 2026
- Musky Fool Fly Fishing Company 2025 & 2026
- Chaos Tackle 2025 & 2026
- Spanky Baits 2025 & 2026
- Team Rhino Outdoors 2025 & 2026
- Suick Lure Manufacturing 2025
- Contributors to the CCMI Adopt-a-Muskie Program 2025 & 2026
- Leeann Soma – LeeLee Foundation 2025
- Gil Hamm Foundation - Muskies Inc. 2025 & 2026
- Hugh C. Becker Foundation - Twin Cities Chapter of Muskies, Inc. 2025 & 2026
- American Family Insurance on behalf of Robbie Hron 2025 & 2026
- Midwest Musky Club 2026
- Bill Suick 2025 & 2026
- Laurie Lewandowski 2026
- Pat Ewandowski 2026
- Jeff Hanson 2025 & 2026
- Gerard Hellenbrand 2025
- Gottlieb Brandli 2025
- Kurt Brandli 2025
- John Eversoll 2025 & 2026
- Scot Stewart 2025 & 2026
- Hiawatha Lodge and Resort, Eagle River, WI 2025 & 2026
- Barrymore Corporation 2025
- Jacob Jedryck 2025
- The Cisco Kids 2025
- Jeff Lyon 2025 & 2026
- Josh Lavik 2025
- Brian Falleck 2025
- Thomas Wachowiack 2025
- Darren Dempsey 2025
- Noah Humfeld 2025 & 2026
- Julie and Rick Rimkus 2025
- Paul Twardy 2026
- North Shore Lodge, Eagle Lake, Ontario 2026
- Steven Krause Memorial 2026
- Matt Frazer 2026
- Bryan Calcaterra 2025 & 2026
- Trena Fund 2026
- Troy Dixen 2026
- **PLEASE JOIN US IN APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT TO THE DONORS LISTED ABOVE.**
- Thanks to these generous donors, CCMI has successfully raised the required funds to supply the entire annual quota of Muskie fingerlings for stocking the Madison Lakes. Anyone who wishes to donate to CCMI can access the website at www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/donate/ or contact Bob Baumgartner, the CCMI Treasurer at bbaumgartner4@gmail.com or (608) 320-6336.
- CCMI is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, so donations may be tax deductible.

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