



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

Prez Sez

Happy Fall everyone! We are entering the home stretch of the 2026 musky season. This is a great time of year to get out and get that musky of a lifetime. I am heading up to Eagle Lake Ontario in a couple days and I'm hoping this is my year.

We are down to our last event of the year, the Vilas County Outing is coming up. It is always very well attended and I hope everyone that participates has a great time. One of these years I have to make my way up there.

As a reminder, our monthly General Membership meetings have moved to the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We have a great lineup of speakers and of course, great raffle prizes. I hope to see you at one soon.

Good Luck to everyone this fall, please send us your pictures so we can share them in this 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!

October 9.....Vilas County Outing
October 13.....General Member Meeting, speaker Bob Parteka
November 10.....General Member Meeting
December 8.....General Member Meeting

Release Chair Report

Release Chair Report

Jeff Lyon CCMI Release Chair
ccmireleasechair@gmail.com

2026 CCMI Release Standings current as of September 28, 2026. At 1:00 PM

Only 27 entries in the replica release contest so far in 2026. All entries must be submitted within 30 days of the catch! Remember to include the size of the fish, date caught, and lake you it caught on.

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	26	374	40.21"	52.25"
Kyle Kramer	15	268	43.87"	48.00"
Todd Berge	17	258	41.06"	49.00"
Mitchell Limp	17	245	40.32"	50.25"
Tony Artymiuk	13	141	36.63"	43.75"
Garrett Lederman	8	122	41.09"	50.00"
Steve Reinstra	7	108	41.25"	54.75"
Scottie Gordon	10	100	35.90"	42.50"
Allen Jenkins	6	76	38.46"	45.00"
Lee Bartolini	8	71	35.00"	37.00"
James Lawler	4	71	43.81"	46.00"
Brian Falleck	4	69	43.00"	44.00"
Kurt Brändli	5	64	38.65"	43.00"
Mike Milia	3	58	44.92"	47.50"
William N. Liegel	4	51	38.63"	42.50"
Tripp Soma	3	48	42.00"	43.00"
Joe Uselman	2	48	49.75"	52.00"
Pat Ewanowski	2	47	49.25"	54.00"
Justin Gasser	4	46	37.38"	44.00"
Geoffrey C Crandall	2	44	47.88"	48.00"
Ian Zuzunaga	3	44	40.67"	45.00"
Scott Trimborn	3	36	38.00"	43.00"

Mens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Dan Moats	1	26	52.00"	52.00"
Paul Twardy Sr	1	25	51.25"	51.25"
Fred J Schulze	2	24	37.50"	38.50"
Shane Nesheim	2	22	36.75"	43.00"
Craig Wood	1	21	47.00"	47.00"
Daniel Daley	2	19	35.50"	37.00"
Ron Thompson	1	17	42.50"	42.50"
Devin Brown	1	17	42.90"	42.90"
Greg Voss	2	15	33.25"	35.50"
Matt Vike	1	15	40.50"	40.50"
Nick Pierick	1	15	41.00"	41.00"
Shane Patterson	1	15	41.25"	41.25"
Thomas Voeck	1	14	40.00"	40.00"
Chris Emden	1	14	39.75"	39.75"
Brian Templeton	1	12	37.75"	37.75"
Steve Small	1	11	36.50"	36.50"
Tom Pollard	2	10	31.00"	32.00"
Ben Voeck	1	10	36.00"	36.00"
Jerry Georgeson	1	9	35.00"	35.00"
Scott Gennrich	1	7	33.25"	33.25"
Mitchell Genz	1	6	32.00"	32.00"

Mens Masters	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Jeff Lehr	29	381	38.97"	47.50"
Brad Nelson	20	282	39.91"	49.00"
Aaron Laking	10	182	44.03	48.00"
Jeff Lyon	11	175	41.70"	49.5"
Matthew DeVos	11	146	39.20"	48.00"
Matt Mc Cumber	9	142	41.50"	48.50"
Craig Eversoll	9	138	41.06	47.5
Jeff Hanson	4	103	51.38	52.5
Wilhelm Zeichert	4	40	36	43

Womens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Lynda Lawler	4	53	39.13	47.00"
Tara Jenkins	1	9	35.00"	35.00"

Youth Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Devyn Hanson	14	147	36.2	45.50"
Cash Soma	4	76	45.06	49.25"



Linda Lawler with a gorgeous 47"



Steve Reinstra with his trophy 54.75"!

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. 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!

Our speaker this month is Bob Parteka. He mainly guides Green Bay. Come on out and see how you might catch the next world record on this magical body of water!



MORE Help NEEDED!!!!

Capital City Muskies Inc is looking for a Treasurer. Bob has done an amazing job the past few years, but he has decided that it is about time to turn the books over to someone else. If you are interested, or would like to talk to Bob about the position, please let Brian Falleck know.

Stocking Report

On September 11th, Capital City Muskies Inc. members stocked over 1,300 muskies in our local lakes. These fingerlings averaged about 12 inches in length and looked extremely healthy. These fingerlings were acquired from Gollon Bait and Fish Farm in Dodge County. Lake Wingra received 111 fingerlings, Lake Monona received 163, and Lake Waubesa received 1,163 of these future trophies. Now, you might think that was a typo, that Monona only received 163. However, this stocking was supplemented by the DNR stocking 1,417 fingerlings into Lake Monona on September 25th. These fingerlings were hatched and raised in the State-run Governor Thompson Hatchery and were the Upper Chippewa Flowage strain. This achieves our 2026 stocking goal of reaching the maximum allowable fingerling stocking!

A BIG thank you to everyone who donated both time and money to CCMI to make this happen. Multiple members, especially Greg Voss have worked closely with the DNR to work around possible restraints and shortfalls. This would not have been successful without his hard work along with other members of CCMI. Great job Greg!



PIT Tag Challenge Report

The Thirteen Annual Gary Hoffman PIT Tag Challenge was held on September 26, 2026, on Lake Monona. The goal of the Outing is to catch as many muskies as possible to bolster data in the DNR Leech Lake Strain Vs. Wisconsin Strain study. Twenty Five anglers participated in the Outing this year including 4 youngsters. Unfortunately no muskies were caught during the hours of 7am to 3pm. Two young anglers reported 9 follows and no hits. Spinnerbaits seemed to get the muskies attention that day. Door prizes and pizza delivered by Glass Nickel rounded out the day. Next years outing will tentatively be held on September 25, 2027.

Steve Reinstra

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
- Karl Wilman 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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