Vol. 43, Issue 11 November 2026

MUSKIE INK

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

Prez Sez

I can't believe it, but we are down to the last two months of musky season here in southern Wisconsin. This year has flown by. I know I did not get out as much as I was planning to. but that is usually the case.
We have no more outings or major events in 2026, but don't worry, we are working hard getting things ready for 2027. We have a lot of new ideas that we are discussing to improve our events and hopefully increase participation. If you have any input on how we can adjust some of our outings and events, please let us know. We are always looking to make CCMI better.
I would like to take a minute to thank a few members who have helped out tremendously for many years. Bob Baumgartner, Greg Voss, and Paul Twardy are all giving up their positions to spend more time on the water (or with their families, hopefully both). They have made my job a lot easier and served the chapter incredibly well. They leave some big shoes to fill, and if you are interested in filling them, please let me know and I can fill you in on what is involved with being Treasurer, Secretary, and/or Stocking Chairperson. THANK YOU gentlemen!!!

Good luck this month!

Brian Falleck

Help NEEDED PLEASE!

CCMI is looking for a Secretary and Stocking Chairperson. The Secretary position is part of the Executive Committee and includes recording the minutes of Board meetings. The Stocking Chairperson works with the WDNR to acquire stocking permits and contacting fish farms to purchase fingerlings for the Madison Chain.
If you are interested in either of these crucial positions, please contact Brian Falleck.

2026 Event Calendar

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

November 10.....General Member Meeting, DNR talks Muskie stocking
December 8.....General Member Meeting, speaker tbd
January 12.....General Member Meeting, speaker tbd
February 9.....General Member Meeting, speaker tbd

Release Chair Report

Release Chair Report
Jeff Lyon CCMI Release Chair
ccmireleasechair@gmail.com

2026 CCMI Release Standings current as of October 29, 2026. At 10:15 AM

Only 32entries 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	30	431	40.19"	52.25"
Todd Berge	21	324	41.29"	49.00"
Kyle Kramer	15	268	43.87"	48.00"
Mitchell Limp	18	257	40.19"	50.25"
Tony Artymiuk	13	141	36.63"	43.75"
Mike Milia	8	131	42.09"	47.50"
Steve Reinstra	9	130	40.28"	54.75"
Garrett Lederman	8	122	41.09"	50.00"
Scottie Gordon	11	112	36.09"	42.50"
James Lawler	7	110	41.71"	46.00"
Allen Jenkins	6	76	38.46"	45.00"
Lee Bartolini	8	71	35.00"	37.00"
Brian Falleck	4	69	43.00"	44.00"
William N. Liegel	5	64	38.70"	42.50"
Kurt Brändli	5	64	38.65"	43.00"
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"
Ron Thompson	3	41	39.17"	44.50"

Mens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Scott Trimborn	3	36	38.00"	43.00"
John Cuta	3	35	37.50"	40.00"
Chris Emden	2	35	43.13"	46.50"
Jerry Georgeson	4	34	34.50"	35.00"
Fred J Schulze	3	34	36.83"	38.50"
Craig Wood	2	31	41.63"	47.00"
Winston Hopkins	3	28	35.00"	35.50"
Dan Moats	1	26	52.00"	52.00"
Paul M Twardy Sr	1	25	51.25"	51.25"
Shane Patterson	2	25	38.38"	41.25"
Shane Nesheim	2	22	36.75"	43.00"
Bryan Calcaterra	1	21	47.00"	47.00"
Devin Brown	2	21	36.45"	42.90"
Daniel Daley	2	19	35.50"	37.00"
Greg Voss	2	15	33.25"	35.50"
Matt Vike	1	15	40.50"	40.50"
Nick Pierick	1	15	41.00"	41.00"
Thomas Voeck	1	14	40.00"	40.00"
Brian Templeton	1	12	37.75"	37.75"
Steve Small	1	11	36.50"	36.50"
Tom Pollard	2	10	31.00"	32.00"

Mens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Ben Voeck	1	10	36.00"	36.00"
Scott Bjornson	1	8	34.00"	34.00"
Scott Gennrich	1	7	33.25"	33.25"
Mitchell Genz	1	6	32.00"	32.00”

Womens Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Lynda Lawler	4	53	39.13	47.00"
Karen Mcgaw	1	10	36.25	36.25"
Tara Jenkins	1	9	35.00"	35.00"

Mens Masters	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Jeff Lehr	31	412	39.10"	47.50"
Brad Nelson	23	331	40.22"	49.00"
Aaron Laking	12	210	43.35"	48.00"
Jeff Lyon	12	197	42.23"	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

Youth Divison	# of Fish	Pts	Avg.	Biggest
Devyn Hanson	15	162	36.52	45.50"
Cash Soma	4	76	45.06	49.25"



Wingra Parking Alert!

The City of Madison has changed its decades long policy of allowing anglers and other lake users parking in the Wingra parking lot. They are now enforcing a 3 hour limit to park in the lot. Tickets have been issued to anglers, kayak users and other park users. The city parking dept has told us to park on the street, not in the lot. They will not change this new policy.

Member Meeting Reminder and Speaker for November

Member meetings will now be on the 2nd TUESDAY of the month at Mekong, formerly the 5100. We have this secured from November-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!

Join us on November 10th to meet Kyle Olivencia, the Wisconsin DNR Senior Fisheries Biologist for Dane, Green and Rock counties. Kyle will introduce himself, share his background, and discuss his job duties throughout the year. He will also share a long-awaited update on the Madison Chain Musky surveys. During the musky portion of his talk, Kyle will explain how local fish size, growth, and population numbers compare to statewide benchmarks. Finally, he will look at whether these fish populations have changed over time, if they are meeting local goals, and the potential reasons behind these shifts

Lakefarm is OPEN!

After being closed for much of the summer, Lakefarm boat launch on Lake Waubesa is now OPEN. The bad news is, the piers will not be back in until next spring. Plan accordingly if you would like to use Lakefarm for some late season musky action.

Lures Needed

It's that time of the year again. CCMI is looking for your gently used fishing lures and gear. From November through February we will be collecting items for our Garage Sale at our monthly meetings. For every 3 items you donate you will get an entry into a drawing for a $50 or $100 Gift Card to Dorn Outdoor Pro Shop (you can only win one). Please see Brian Falleck at an upcoming meeting to donate. Thank you in advance for helping the chapter raise money to stock the Madison Chain.

Vilas County Outing Results!

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone that participated in the 2026 Vilas County Outing! I always look forward to this event because it gives me a chance to spend time with a great group of anglers. This year we had 48 anglers in the outing and 49 for the banquet dinner at the Rustic Roadhaus. It was a huge success and we would like to send a very special “thank you” to Kurt and Julie Potter! Kurt, Julie, and their staff did an excellent job serving our group and the food was fabulous!

The weather during the 2-day outing this year was very warm with winds on Saturday gusting to 30 mph. Friday’s colorful trees turned bare by Saturday night. Congratulations to all the successful anglers who caught fish this year. We had 18 fish registered by 14 anglers. Our 2026 Vilas County Outing winners are:

- First Place LAX Winner: Jason Mikula with a 45.5” fish!
- Second Place: Nick Holcomb with a very fat 45” fish!
- Third Place: Ron Thompson with a beautiful 44.5” Tiger!
- Smallest Musky: Paul Vilwok with a 23” fish!

A big “thank you” goes out to Jason Mikula for bringing up the awards for the banquet. Thank you to Brett and April Cook for bringing up the door prizes and for running the Super Raffle! I would also like to thank Jim at the Musky Shop for throwing in some jerseys for our raffle and for providing a discount on our door prizes! This year we were able to send $1910.00 back to the Club for stocking the Madison chain. Thanks to all who donated and won some nice prizes!

Save the Date(s):The 2027 Vilas County Outing will be held October 8-9, 2027. Details will be forthcoming.

Again, thanks to all of you for making the Vilas County Outing the Capital City Chapter’s best outing of the year!

Dale Anderson

Edward Jones
Soma Wealth Management



First Place LAX Winner, Jason Mikula



Jason Mikula with his 45.5” fish!



Ron Thompson with a beautiful 44.5” Tiger!

Rick LAX REPRODUCTIONS EST. 1964

Remember the Thrill!



Nick Holcomb with a very fat 45” fish!

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 infomation 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*
- Gottleib 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 Wachowiacz *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
- Trenda 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.*

Check Out Our Generous Sponsors





















To advertise with us, fill out our form at:
https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/advertisementpurchase/

Check Out Our Generous Sponsors

Big Guy Baits
www.BigGuyBaits.com

muskiebumper

LEADERS LURES
A Division of GS Specialties Inc.
Home of the 1000 Mile Trolling Leader

MUSKY INNOVATIONS LLC

Smity Bait
AND GUIDE SERVICE

KNIPEX®

CHASIN' 50'S
Tackle & Fly LLC
www.chasin50stackleflyllc.com

SLAMMER TACKLE COMPANY

Iggy BAITS co

To advertise with us, fill out our form at:
https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/advertisementpurchase/

Check Out Our Generous Sponsors

CHAOS TACKLE

TOOTH TAMER RODS™

BIG GAME TACKLE

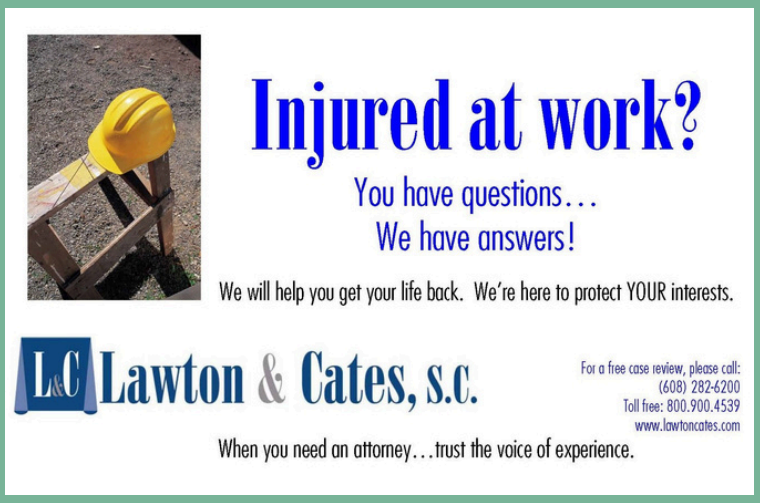
CUSTOM HANDCRAFTED FISHING LURES

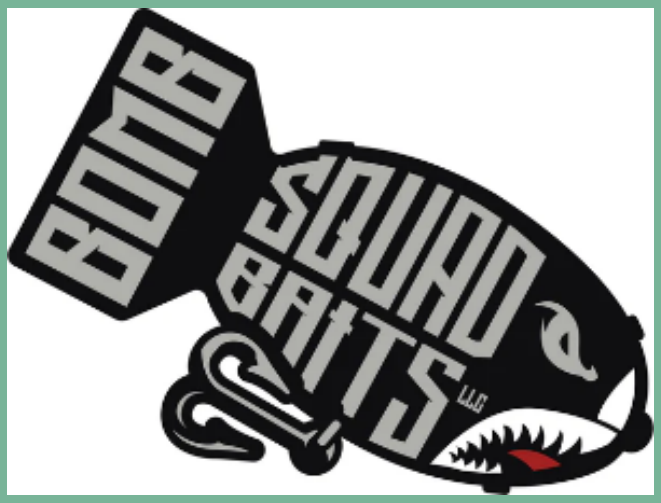
Musky Madness BAITS

man CAVE bait co.
Musky Subculture

Lee Lures
custom baits

To advertise with us, fill out our form at:
https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/advertisementpurchase/











To advertise with us, fill out our form at:
https://www.capitalcitymuskiesinc.org/advertisementpurchase/

Capital City Chapter of Muskies, Inc. Officers

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

VICE-PRESIDENT
Currently Vacant

CHAPTER REP. TO MUSKIES INC.
Winston Hopkins
(608) 577-3184
WinstonjHopkins@gmail.com

SECRETARY
Greg Voss
608-514-3897
mzkee52@gmail.com

TREASURER
Bob Baumgartner
(608) 320-6336
bbaumgartner4@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Submissions due by the 20th of each month to Todd Berge at:
todd.berge2@gmail.com
or
newsletter@capitalcitymuskiesinc.org

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS	TERM EXP
Brett Cook	**2027**
cookb@ixperts.com	
Dan Donovan	**2027**
djdonovan8206@gmail.com	
Scott Trimborn	**2027**
scotty.trimborn@wisc.edu	
Paul Twardy	**2027**
paulmarionpeter@gmail.com	
Todd Berge	**2026**
todd.berge2@gmail.com	
Joe Uselman	**2026**
uselman.joe@gmail.com	
Robbi Hron	**2026**
rhron@amfam.com	
Allen Jenkins	**2027**
jenk2ta@gmail.com	
Jeff Lyon	**2026**
rectlyon@gmail.com	
Mike Milia	**2026**
mikemilia@charter.net	
Keith Reopelle	**2026**
keithreopelle@gmail.com	
Brad Nelson	**2026**
bradp_nelson@yahoo.com	
Joe Uselman	**2026**
uselman.joe@gmail.com	