

Tim Plevak hoisting this beautiful 53" October Minnesota GIANT winning the 2025 Out of State Division Award for Bill's Musky Club.

WINTER 2026

BILL'S MUSKY CLUB

WWW.BILLSMUSKYCLUB.COM

FOUNDER — Bill Hoeft
1914 - 1993



Bill's Musky Club
INC.

**HEADQUARTERS
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SCHOFIELD, WI 54476**

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715-573-9071

1st Vice President
Doug Chack
715-297-3351

2nd Vice President
Tim Loeffler
715-573-5794

Treasurer, Jacob Bartsch
715-218-0694

Secretary, Zadra Luedtke
715-302-4700

DIRECTORS

2025

Dale Ruechel
715-571-2032

Michael White
715-571-9008

2026

Kris Kubnick
715-573-3325

Curtis Luedtke
715-297-4974

2027

LaDonna Loeffler
715-573-5709

Tim Plevak
715-212-5922

Larry Slagoski
715-359-3687

President's REPORT

Greetings Bill's Musky Club members! I hope all of you enjoyed a blessed Christmas and happy New Year. By the time you receive this newsletter, you will be thinking of ways you can improve your musky catches this upcoming season in 2026. My advice is to become more involved with Bill's Musky Club, and ask a friend or family member to JOIN Bill's Musky Club. Chances are that you will catch more fish. I can tell you that it made a huge impact on my catches in the first year that I joined and it continues to make a difference every year.

By being a member of our club, you can now enter your catches electronically from our website (using Jot forms). You no longer have to mail them to our P.O. box. Your catches will be entered into our Fish Registration Data Base, and your accumulated catches will be recognized in our Summer Newsletter after the season (so no one will be stealing your secret spots).

Also, by being a member of our club, you can attend any of the free Bill's Musky Club Outings (7 total). You can fish alongside experienced anglers and share a free meal with them. Perhaps you might even win a free attendance prize (Elk River Rod) given away at the outing. By catching a nice musky that measures as one on the three best caught during the outing, you will also win a commemorative plaque and be recognized at our Annual Awards Banquet (Friday April 17, Dale's Weston Lanes).

Wow! Now you have contests, prizes, food, fish, and fun. What more motivation can you ask for? The fact is that all of our fishing outings, club events, and member activities are posted in our free newsletter, on our Facebook account, and on our club's Webpage (www.billsmuskyclub.com). They also contain pictures of fish we caught and proof of the fun enjoyed with other club members.

Holy cow! Does this sound too good to be true? Not really, the fact is that Bill's Musky Club has offered countless benefits and genuine camaraderie in its rich history (since 1964), making us one of the oldest musky clubs on the planet. Bill's Musky Club has also been a generous community service organization involved with many worthwhile activities. We have stocked countless fish in the area, donated scholarships to many high school and college students from local schools, helped the DNR with manpower and funding for special projects, participated in the Youth Heritage Days teaching outdoor skills and conservation, provided an annual Youth Outing (Bill Melanson Memorial Youth Outing) and helped with many special needs students from area schools enjoying picnics, fishing,

continued on next page



and boat rides, not to mention providing our youth members with thousands of dollars' worth of merchandise over the last 15 years at our Annual Awards Banquet through the Jim/Lance Wroblewski Youth Memorial Celebration (thank you Tiffany and Michael Brown). It's truly amazing to experience all of the heartwarming activities that our club offers from year to year.

What more can a member ask for? Well, let me tell you. We offer all of what we do for the annual membership cost of \$10 for adult, \$5 for kids (18 years old and under), \$15 for husband/wife, \$150 lifetime single, \$175 lifetime joint (husband/wife). It's been the same cost for over 50 years. It's truly the best deal in town! You can literally gift your neighbor, your friends, and your coworkers a Bill's Musky Club membership without breaking the bank. What a healthy and thoughtful gift! Think of all the possibilities...

Even better, we now make it easier for you to join the club by allowing you to pay electronically with your credit card from our secure website (thanks to Life Member Rick Eyre for his technical help with this). This is an amazing pay button that has helped us grow our club to over 500 members. Just think, with your help we can potentially return to the numbers of old when Bill's Musky Club enjoyed over 1000!

All of these club benefits might help you catch more muskies next year and become more involved with one of the oldest and most respected fishing clubs in the state of Wisconsin. You can even improve your skills by attending one of our six off-season Speaker Meetings (third Monday of the month) hosted at Dale's Weston Lanes by the club. This year's guest speaker lineup offers some of the best musky anglers in the industry. Don't miss out on a golden opportunity to get more involved, have more fun, and catch more fish with Bill's Musky Club this year. Please make it your New Year's resolution; it's still the best deal in town!

Jeff Micholic, President of Bill's Musky Club

TOP 10 BILL'S MUSKY CLUB MEMBER BENEFITS

1. PRICE
\$10 Regular Membership (\$5 Youth, \$15 Joint Husband/Wife) (\$150 Life Member, \$175 Husband/Wife Life Member)
2. FAMILY
Youth Scholarships (Wausau East HS, Wausau West HS, D.C. Everest HS, Mosinee HS)
Bill Melanson Memorial Youth Outing (Free Guided/Mentor trip, Free Bait, Free Meal)
Youth Programs (Sporting Heritage Youth Day, Jim/Lance Wroblewski Youth Memorial Celebration)
3. VALUE
2 Free Fittante Taxidermy Replica Season Awards
(Largest All Divisions Musky, Largest Junior Division Musky)
4. CAMARADARIE
Seven Free Member Outings (Free Lunch, Attendance Prize)
5. CONSERVATION
Local Musky Stocking, DNR Equipment, Habitat Restoration, PIT tags/readers
6. EDUCATION
Free Speaker Meetings—Top guides and Professionals (Dec. to May)
7. COMMUNITY
All Member Annual Banquet (\$25 Dinner, Raffles, Awards, Open to the public, \$10,000 worth of merchandise given away)
8. RECOGNITION
Member Fish Registration Awards (Junior, Women's, Men's, Master's, Wisconsin Largest, Out of State Largest, Largest All Divisions, Outing Awards)
9. COMMUNICATION
2 Free Newsletters (Winter, Summer), Facebook, Instagram, Web page (www.billsmuskyclub.com),
P.O. Box 476 Schofield, WI 54476
10. HISTORY (since 1964)
Freshwater Fish Hall of Fame angler Bill Hoeft founded Bill's Musky Club, one of the oldest musky clubs on the planet.

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2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 17** **Old Club Challenge vs Muskellunge Club of Wisconsin**
- Pewaukee Lake
 - Volunteer to help with Pewaukee Youth Outing on 5/16 (pre-fishing at noon)
 - Fishing hours Sunday 6am-1pm Meal (5/17), awards, and raffles to follow
- June 6** **Stump Trophy Challenge (South) vs 12 Apostles Musky Club**
- Lake DuBay, Stevens Point Flowage south to Biron Flowage Dam
 - Fishing hours Fishing hours 12:01am 6/6. to 4pm.
 - Bump Board Photo and details of catch.
 - 4:30pm Dinner and raffles at The Waters Pub and Pier
 - Club Members only
- June 12-14** **Spring Outing vs Dave's Musky Club at Lake Tomahawk Park, Lake Tomahawk, WI**
- Registration: June 13 @ 12:30pm
 - Fishing hours 12:01am 6/12 to 11:59am 6/14
 - All Vilas and Oneida County lakes open to fish
 - Saturday (June 13) lunch and raffles at Lake Tomahawk Park
 - If you fish on Sunday morning, email fish registration details to jmicholic55@gmail.com
 - Bill's Musky Club Outing Rules apply (Members Only). Attendance Prize
- Sept 25-27** **Fall Outing-Wisconsin River Challenge**
- Fishing hours 12:01am 9/25 to 11:59am 10/27
 - Fish Wisconsin River from the Merrill Dam south to Lake DuBay Dam
 - Catch and release only. No minimum size limit
 - Food, raffle, and attendance prize at Eagles Club, Wausau, WI 5:00pm 9/26
 - email fish registration details to jmicholic55@gmail.com
 - Members only. Bill's Musky Club Rules apply. Attendance Prize
- Sept 26** **Bill Melanson Memorial Youth Outing (Guides/mentors needed)**
- Fishing hours 12pm to 4:30 pm
 - Meet at 11:30 am to sign up at Eagles Club (or sign up online)
 - Youth Outing on Lake Wausau. Register fish by 5pm.
 - Catch and release only. No minimum size limit
 - Food, raffle, prizes, and attendance prize at Eagles Club, Wausau, WI 5:00pm
- Oct 10** **Wisconsin River Stump Trophy Challenge (North) vs 12 Apostles Musky Club**
- Fishing hours 8am-4pm. Fishable waters from Merrill Dam to Mosinee Dam.
All fish registered by 4:30pm at Eagles Club
 - Catch and release only. Average length of the three longest fish from each club determines the Stump Trophy winner
 - Food, raffles, camaraderie and attendance prize at Eagles Club, Wausau, WI @ 4:30pm
- Oct 23-24** **Old Club "Blue Nose" Outing vs Muskellunge Club of Wisconsin**
- Club Social (Oct 23) Time and Location TBA
 - Fishing hours 8am-3pm (Oct 24)
 - Fish Wisconsin River from Merrill Dam to Dubay Dam.
 - Average length of the three longest fish from each club determines the Old Club "Blue Nose" Trophy winner

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MUSKY CLUBS ALLIANCE OF WISCONSIN

Bill's Musky Club is a member of the Musky Clubs Alliance of Wisconsin. The Alliance is an organization to which 24 different musky clubs belong.

The purpose of the alliance is to provide an organizational framework in which the clubs can share information and work together to improve the musky fishery in Wisconsin.

The Alliance meets on the first Saturday in April and November in Stevens Point, usually at the Stevens Point Moose Lodge. Meeting usually start at 10:00 a.m. Their web site is: <http://www.muskyclubsalliance.org>.

If you have items that you would like the Musky Alliance of Wisconsin to discuss, please contact:

Larry Slagoski, Alliance President
larry@slagoski.com
715-359-3687

7201 Trotzer Lane, Weston, WI 54476

BILL'S MUSKY CLUB MASTERS

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Don Kempen
Gary Myshak
Bruce Bremer
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Bill McMahon
Phil Schweik
Rory Lesczynski

Elmer Jensen
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BILL'S MUSKY CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**Dale's Weston Lanes (5902 Schofield Ave,
Weston, WI 54476**



Banquet Doors open at 4:00 pm. • Dinner at 6:30 pm
Fish Awards, Attendance Prizes and Raffle to Follow
Banquet Tickets: \$30 (at door) for adults (advanced \$25 April 7, 2026), \$15 for
children under 12
Raffle Tickets \$5 each or 25 for \$100
Send below reservation form with payment by April 9th to: Bill's Musky Club, Inc.,
PO Box 476, Schofield, WI 54476

BMC Annual Banquet RSVP by April 7th

RESERVATION INFORMATION			
Name (Print Clearly):			
	Price	Quantity	Total
Banquet Ticket(s)	\$25.00 per adult before April 7 (includes tax) \$15 for age 12 and under		\$
Raffle Tickets	\$5 Each or 25 for \$100		\$
TOTAL			\$

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SPEAKER MEETING CALENDAR 2026

(THIRD MONDAY JANUARY THROUGH MAY)

January 19	Kurt Schultz
February 16	Mike Taake
March 16	Steve Heiting
April 20	Jeff Van Remortel
May 18	Lucas Koenig & Jake Thompson (DNR)

EXPO/BOAT RAFFLE TICKET SALE CALENDAR 2026

March 20-22	WI Musky Expo (Cedar Creek)
June 26-27	Wings Over Wausau
July 10-11	Taste N Glow Balloon Festival



Wausau Eagles Aerie & Auxiliary #251

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eaglesclub251@gmail.com



*Laura and James Yach proudly displaying Laura's
2025 Women's Award Winning musky caught on opening weekend.*



Grant Pollack proudly displays his award winning Bill Melanson Memorial Youth Tournament fish with his proud dad, Tom.



Tori Lepinski and Father Travis Lepinski proudly pictured with the 2025 Fittante Taxidermy Junior Division FREE Replica Award winning musky caught on Lake of the Woods, Ontario, Canada. The fish measured 44.5" and was caught on a Bucher Buck Buck Tail.

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Corey Carazalla hoisting the fish that won the coveted Stump Challenge Trophy back from 12 Apostles Musky Club. The fish measured 40.25," winning by a mere quarter inch.



This giant musky caught by long time member & military veteran, Darrell Fritz at a late night veteran event on Lake Vermilion, MN. The fish measured a whopping 51X25!" Thanks for your service, Darrell!!!



This beautiful 50" Ontario Musky caught by Lure Maker Timm Raddatz (TR Custom Lures) on his proto type surface bait available at the WI Musky Expo in March.

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