



# THE MUSKY NEWS



## *Newsletter of the WinnebagoLand Musky Club May 2024*

### A Busy Spring for 2024

The **Annual Sportsman’s Rummage Sale** was held Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds. This is an annual fundraising event for our Club where we operate the food concession stand for the Alliance of Sportsman’s Clubs. Club member participation was excellent as usual, and we managed to make a net profit for the Club treasury. Thanks to all that worked the stand and helped plan this event. Your help was greatly appreciated. This event works out as well as a social outing in that there is a lot of interaction between everyone plus one can sneak away and look for much needed extra equipment from the rummage sale vendors. We all need more lures...



### Annual WinnebagoLand Musky Club Awards Banquet Wrap-up

This gala event included dinner catered by Eden Meats, several entertaining raffle tables and boards giving the attendees a chance to win many excellent prizes. In addition to the event, members donated food that was given to a local food pantry. Surprisingly, the attendance was lower than in previous years but nevertheless was enjoyed by everyone. Several members donated items located on the raffle tables and bait boards. Thanks also goes to the donors John Bartow (gun), Richard Feustel (TranX reel), Paul Klein (pheasant hunt), Scott Klapperich (lures), Bob Haase, Paul Klein, and Greg Stubbe (artistic items on silent auction table). These valuable donation’s revenue goes straight to the Club’s bottom-line.

Also, thanks to Beth Maeder, Amy Langlitz, John Bartow, Bonnie Mace and Paul Klein, makers of the homemade desserts. Thanks for those nice-looking award plaques, the work of Bob Haase. The Banquet Committee also deserves a thank you for their hard work.

### 2023 Annual Fishing Report - Award Winners

Big Fish Wisconsin -1st	Owen Ziemer	50"	Green Bay
Big Fish Wisconsin -2nd	Eric Larsen	46.5"	Green Bay
Big Fish Wisconsin -3rd	Eric Larsen	41.5"	Eau Pleine Reservoir
Big Fish Wisconsin Women	Amy Langlitz	36"	Catfish Lake
Big Fish Wisconsin Junior	Owen Ziemer	50"	Green Bay



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Big Fish National	1st	Terri Klapperich	50.25"	LOTW
Big Fish National	2nd	Scott Klapperich	48.25"	LOTW
Big Fish National Women		Terri Klapperich	50.25"	LOTW

### **BIG FISH BY MONTH FOR WISCONSIN**

May	Eric Larsen	46.5"	Green Bay	Bucktail
June	Luke Mueller	38.5"	Elkhart Lake	Bondy
July	Mike Mueller	40"	Elkhart Lake	Bondy
August	Tom Francis	40"	Cranberry Lake	Bucktail
September	Owen Ziemer	50"	Green Bay	ShadRap
October	Eric Larsen	41.5"	Eau Pleine Reservoir	Bucktail
November	Eric Larsen	38.5"	Eau Pleine Reservoir	Sucker

In 2023, the longest muskellunge caught was 50.25 inches. There were 47 fish registered. Most released Wisconsin Fish registered was by Eric Larsen with 7 muskies. Congratulations to all of you champions.

Thank you to Greg and Doris Rubin for handling our fish registration process and record keeping. The Rubins prepared an excellent written report for our Club including photos presented at the awards banquet. This was an ambitious contribution to our archives that they prepared. Hopefully all of you contribute to this project this coming season. It is so simple: Catch and release a qualifying 34 incher or more, take a photo and email the photo to Greg at: [winnebagomusky@gmail.com](mailto:winnebagomusky@gmail.com) along with the minimum detail of information (Name, date caught and released, length in inches to the 1/4", Body of water caught, and lure or bait used). If you need to mail your info, please send your data and photo to our PO Box 1735 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1735. It is very important that we all participate in this process.



## **MAY 1ST REGULAR MEETING OF THE WINNEBAGOLAND MUSKY CLUB**

The May 1st Meeting will have 2 speakers this month that will be discussing Fox Lake and our most recent ventures in stocking that body of water. Mark Baldock, Fisheries Technician from the Wisconsin DNR will be here along with Phil Hansen, Board Member of the Fox Lake Preservation Organization, Inc (FLPO). Both the DNR and the FLPO were instrumental in helping us implement the stocking plan last year that we participated. Our plan this year is to work with them again. Mr Hansen will personally address us regarding the FLPO's organization and what type of conservation projects that it supports.



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In reading their Articles of Incorporation we have discovered that this 501 (c)(3) has several purposes that are much in line with our goals regarding enhancement of water quality, the fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic values...for today and future generations.”

Mr. Baldock will address us as to appropriate studies that the fisheries department understands about Fox Lake. He will review the processes that the fishery technicians deal with and require in making decisions on granting stocking permits for Wisconsin Lakes. Last week, Jordan Weeks from the DNR addressed the Alliance Board regarding the issues the fisheries face in order stock fish. It was revealing, the complexity of it all. The basic ideas from this presentation were that the fisheries personnel really do want to stock fish .. Outside factors like political issues, the budgetary side, the environmental science side, and best expectations for good results from stocking, are all taken in to consideration. Mr. Baldock will discuss the processes that are being considered by the fisheries department. The fisheries are on our side and want to stock fish. We need this understanding to effectively work with our fisheries friends. Hopefully we have a good membership turnout for this interesting topic. Bring a guest.

## **THE ANNUAL BOAT RAFFLE IS ON!**

Our Club has tickets, and we are ready to sell to the public. This is the major fundraising project for our Club! Everyone’s participation is needed to make this successful. The boat this year is a **2024, 18 1/2’, and swing away Trailer, powered by a Mercury 115XL PRO XS Four Stroke**. There is something new and appealing to this raffle this year.



**The Grand Prize Winner can take the Boat or choose to take \$25,000.** This is a great option for the raffle ticket buyer that would rather have the cash instead of the boat.

As mentioned before, member participation in selling the raffle tickets is needed. This is an extremely easy raffle ticket to sell. All you have to do is ask people if they want to buy. When they see the Grand Prize picture of the boat or the Cash alternative for the Grand Prize for a price of 3 for \$10 or 1 for \$5. People like to buy raffle tickets with great prizes. You are offering people a nice raffle opportunity for a good cause. The Alliance has successfully been doing this for over 20 years. Our Club will get a percentage of our Club’s gross ticket sales. The amount we received last year was 66% in previous years we received as much as 75%. The profits go towards good things like stocking fish, providing veterans with great outdoor experiences, charitable contributions to the community. These things are not possible without this fundraiser. Please do your part,



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and sell a lot of these tickets. We may be calling on members to help in moving the boat to retailers helping us sell tickets in their establishments.

To get a supply of tickets and pictures of the boat call Dave Mace 920-960-4179 or come to the May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and get a supply of tickets and pictures.

### **FIRST OUTING OF THE SEASON MAY 10, 11, 12**

Our first outing for 2024 will be held May 10, 11, and 12 on both Little Green Lake and Fox Lake. We will gather for **Lunch at noon on Saturday at the Lakeview Inn** , N2905

WI-44, Markesan, WI. This restaurant sits on the East Shore of Little Green Lake right on Hwy 44. There is some dockage for your boat right there at the restaurant. Launching would be better at "The Landing on Little Green". This Landing and Bait shop is on the South end of the lake There is a fee but it has always been reasonable (W2138 Melmar Dr. Markesan, WI. We will have a brief "lake briefing" at our Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> regular Club meeting.



Remember that there is a coveted trophy involved with every outing. It's called the "First Musky of the Outing Trophy". The first MEMBER to catch and release a musky 34" or longer must call Jerry LaPine (920-517-0392) on your cell phone and leave a message about your catch (time, date, length and location). The first member to successfully register an outing fish will

have their name eternally etched on this everlasting trophy. A time stamped cell phone photo is also requested. Also, please call Jerry on or before Friday May 9th with your Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> lunch RSVP. This count helps the restaurant in setting up. Remember you may fish either Fox Lake or Little Green Lake, but lunch is on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> at Noon at Lakeview Inn on Little Green. Fishing starts at 6 am on Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> and ends at Noon Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>.

The cost of this outing is \$5.00/person to help defray the cost of lunch on Saturday. The Club will cover the rest of your lunch. The Club will not pay for any alcoholic beverages on a lunch order.







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## **Upcoming Club Dates**

May 10 – 12 First Outing of the Season

June 5<sup>th</sup> GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday, 7pm at Am Legion Hall

August 7<sup>th</sup> GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday, 7pm at Am Legion Hall

August 15-18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MUSKY OPEN, , Eagle River, Register early

October 2<sup>nd</sup> GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday, 7pm at Am Legion Hall

December 4<sup>th</sup> GENERAL MEETING - Wednesday, 7pm at Am Legion Hall - Election of officers

