



# THE MUSKY NEWS



*Newsletter of the WinnebagoLand Musky Club*  
*April 2025*

Dues  
are due

## FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> was our last regular meeting. Our guest speaker was Austin Wiggerman who owns AW Guide Service. His presentation was very interesting and informative. Austin also donated a ½ day guide trip which was raffled off at the Club's award banquet. Austin is a full-time musky guide in WI, Illinois and Minnesota. You can check him out on his website [austinwiggernanguideservice.godaddysites.com](http://austinwiggernanguideservice.godaddysites.com) and 815-575-3468



## Sportsman Rummage Sale Summary

The sportsman's rummage sale on March 1st was once again successful and we had great helpers at the concession stand. Thanks to all those who pitched in.

## 2025 Awards Banquet Summary

The WinnebagoLand Musky Club Awards Banquet was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the Fond du Lac American Legion. We enjoyed good conversation, a great meal by Eden Catering, cool prizes and fun times. Thanks to all those who made it a great night. Special thanks to those who donated baskets and other items for the raffle. The Club would like to personally thank Richard Feustel who generously donated a Lake Michigan Charter fishing trip.

Award winners included:

- **Largest Musky of the Year WI** - Owen Ziemer 48.25"  
Owen also had the largest musky in May (41") and August.
- **Second Largest Musky of the Year WI** - Eric Larsen at 44.5". Eric also had the largest musky in July at 35" and November at 40". Eric also had the most released muskies in 2024.
- **Third Largest Musky of the Year WI** - Jeff Kliefoth at 44".





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- **Largest Musky National Award** - Greg Stubbe at 46.5", Greg also won the second largest musky national award.
- **Largest Musky of the Year, Women's Division** - Beth Maeder at 37".
- **Largest Musky Youth Division** Camdon Watson at 41".
- **Largest Musky in June** - Luke Mueller at 37.5"
- **Largest Musky in September** - was Lance Ziemer at 35.5"
- **Largest Musky in October** - Bob Larsen at 40.5"

Special thanks to Greg Rubin for his efforts on the musky report details and to Bob Haase for making up the award plaques.

**NEXT MEETING**—Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm American Legion Building  
Program is pending, watch for more details on post card and Facebook.

Reminder, the new Facebook page is [WinnebagoLand Musky Club/FDL](https://www.facebook.com/WinnebagolandMuskyClub/FDL).

We have new Club apparel that will soon be available. Amy Strom will be at the May meeting with samples and will be able to assist you in orders if you wish. A flier will be emailed to you and you will also be able to see the items on the Club Facebook page and website. Stay tuned for more info.

We will have new hats and decals available for purchase at the May meeting as well.

## **April 5<sup>th</sup> Alliance Meeting Information**



*Mr Dan Oele, Musky Team Co Leader, from the WIDNR Fisheries Dept visited with the Alliance attendants at the recent April 5th meeting He had a general discussion and answered questions regarding stocking and procedures. Dan presented the DNR's 2024 Muskellunge Stocking Totals for 2024. Copies will be available at our May 5th meeting. He also expressed his desire to increase communication between the Alliance and the DNR with regard to our mutual needs and wants.*

- *The DNR fisheries biologists for the waters you are interested in should be your starting point for clubs interested in either private stocking or DNR stocking. Your local biologist can "score" a lake for stocking and strain eligibility. There are strict rules for the stocking of eligible strains in each body of water. The DNR is sticking to their guns on musky genetics in issuing musky stocking permits! It is not easy to find available stock for the eligible strains.*
- *Dan informed us that the fisheries "Musky Books" new edition has been gathering professional data over the last few years and the new research book/pamphlets will be available soon.(Maybe after June 1). Many research facts and findings found in this book will be helpful when considering stocking and getting the most bang for our stocking bucks.*



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- *There are important differences between the way clubs can provide funding for specific stocking plans. This can be discussed in more detail at our May meeting.*
- *The Alliance donated \$75,000 to the WI DNR Fisheries Bureau for rearing and stocking in the northern third of the state.*
- *Much discussion was had regarding forward facing sonar. The Alliance will not allow its use in the National Tournament in August in Eagle River. Don't panic, you don't have to remove the device from your boat, you just can't use it on your honor. See the rules and registration which we will have at our May 7<sup>th</sup> Club meeting.*
- **A RULE NOT TOTALLY KNOWN** and now we do. *Permits or registration is required for outings and tournaments . We will have rules available at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting. As this is interpreted, our typical outings will require registration. This rule came out in 2024.*

### **STOCKING NOTES**

*The Fox Lake Preservation Organization (FLPO) and the WinnebagoLand Musky Club are planning on stocking about 200 muskies in Fox Lake. This will be our third year of stocking 200 fingerlings (10-11"). The actual event when the fish will be delivered will be sometime this October 2025. We will need 3 boats with 2 or 3 large coolers, a proper size scooping net (trout net size) to transfer fish, and at least 2 people per boat. Someone for photo ops is always appreciated. This is a great project and partnership with the FLPO, a good conservation group.*

*We are also looking at the possibilities of stocking Elkhart Lake this year as well. Further discussion will be on the agenda for the upcoming May 7<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting.*

### **BOAT RAFFLE**

*We are now selling tickets for the 2025 Musky Alliance Boat Raffle. You can receive tickets to sell at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting or contact Dave Mace 920-960-4179 or Jeff Kliefloth 920-948-7488.*

*This project is the main fundraiser for this Club and the Alliance. If you want this Club to remain a viable entity this must be successful. Success is defined by the sales results. Everyone must do their part in selling these raffle tickets. Your efforts to personally sell these tickets will allow us to keep doing good things like stocking fish, making donations to worthwhile organizations, supporting natural resource projects and research, scholarships to UWSP natural resource students, club operation expenses, etc. Ask yourself how many tickets did you sell last year of the \$9,000 that was sold and how many will you sell this year. **We also need manpower to sell tickets May 2 , May 3, June 9, June 10, July 18 , and July 19.** Call or text Dave Mace at 920-960-4179 to volunteer.*



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### **FIRST OUTING of 2025**



Little Green Lake and Fox Lake on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> will be the lakes to fish for the 1<sup>st</sup> Outing of 2025 for the WMC. Outing fishing will be allowed the entire weekend, May 16-18 (register as soon as you catch your musky) with May 17<sup>th</sup> being the Club get together day. We will gather at **Lakeview Inn** N2905 WI-44, Markesan on the **southeast shore of Little Green Lake for our lunch/get together at noon**. Please RSVP to Jerry by noon May 12<sup>th</sup>, call or text (920-517-0392) or email (jmtlapine@gmail.com). Your RSVP is needed to help Lakeview Inn in holding our room. Attendees are asked to pay \$5.00 at Lakeview Inn to help defray the cost of the lunch. We suggest you launch at "The Landing" on Little Green (W2120 Melmar Dr Markesan). If you fish Fox Lake there are 2 boat Launches, one in the City of Fox Lake (Clausen Riverside Park) and the Town Park launch off Blackhawk Trail on the north end of the lake.

*... the quest for the coveted Cup in 2025 begins...*

### **DUES are Due**

As a reminder, 2025-2026 dues are due. No raise in dues, \$20 single and \$25 for a family, adults and children under 18. Over 18-year-old "children" must have a separate paid membership.

Our mailing address is:  
WinnebagoLand Musky Club  
PO Box 1735  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

