

**Catch
The
Striper
Fever!**

T.S.B.A.



**Tennessee
Striped Bass
Association,
Inc.
Newsletter**

**April
2006**

***StriperBowl
Sunday, April 30***

***Who will go home this
year with the
traveling trophy?***

President's Letter

Good Days and Bad Days

Some days we get to go fishing, and some days we get to go fishing and catching. We all like fishing and catching best, but I guess everybody has a shutout day from time to time. I try to get something positive from every fishing trip, and usually I can do just that. Right about now someone is asking, "How can you call a day positive when you didn't catch a fish or get a bite for that matter?" Even though you don't catch a fish on a certain trip doesn't mean that you can't learn something while you are there. If you are observant and take a few notes (keep a journal), you can begin to see what works and what doesn't work. I like to document each trip with information like water temp., weather, moon phase, time of day, time of moon rise, moonset, sunrise, sunset, water clarity, and, of course, what time of day the fish were caught. In regards to the weather, I like to record if a front has just past, is approaching, or whatever. This is kind of like taking notes while in class; it helps you remember the details and gives you some valuable data to refer back to. Also, don't be afraid to ask questions. There are many, many years of fishing experience in our fishing club, and a lot of this knowledge will be shared if you just ask. I guess to sum it up, each time I hook up the boat and head out, I'm attending striper school. Whether catching or just fishing, I can still be acquiring valuable knowledge for a future trip. When you can put it all together (fishing, catching, and learning), you can have a fabulous day.

Striper Bowl

Don't forget to make plans to attend the "StriperBowl" on April 30. I'm sure you will enjoy the tournament and the good fellowship. The proceeds from the tournament will be used for purchasing prizes for the Kids Fishing Day to be held on June 10. Who knows, you could be the one to take home the "StriperBowl Trophy" this year. If you cannot attend but would like to help with the "Kids Day," you can make a donation or volunteer to help in some other way. All the details for the "StriperBowl" are in this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

Good Fishin'
John Seiber

StriperBowl

Sunday, April 30

**First Safe Light at Oak Grove
on Cherokee Lake**

Registration 1/2 hour before with mandatory
meeting 10 minutes prior to start
\$16.00 Entry Fee

Weigh-in, Cake, & Refreshments
at 11:00 a.m.

Proceeds go to support the Kids Fishing Day

The StriperBowl is a tournament where we use the money generated from the tournament to fund the Kids Fishing Day outing each year.

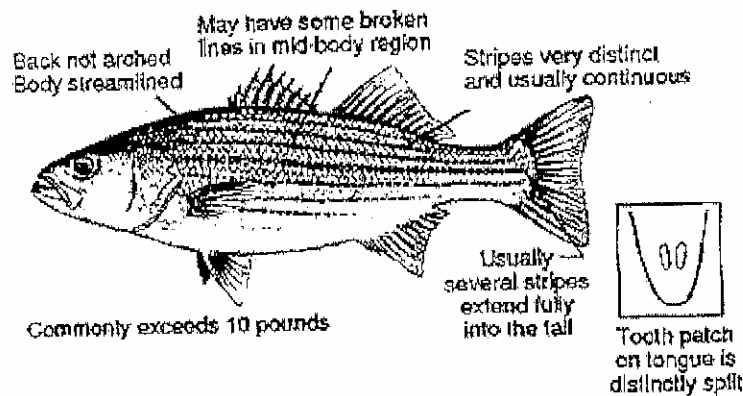
Only a member can win the big gold trophy with names engraved on it. Keep it for one year until the next StriperBowl and then bring it back to defend it. We take the money and buy door prizes for all the Kids that come out and fish in the Kids Fishing Day fun tournament.

*If you're interested in having fun,
please attend the StriperBowl.*

STRIPED BASS

(*Morone saxatilis*)

STRIPED BASS (Striper or Rockfish)



Common names - striper, rockfish, rock, linesides.

Description - The striper is the largest member of the temperate bass family. Body coloration is olive-green to blue-gray on the back with silvery to brassy sides and white on the belly. It is easily recognized by the seven or eight prominent black uninterrupted horizontal stripes along the sides. The stripes are often interrupted or broken and are usually absent on young fish of less than six inches. The striper is longer and sleeker and has a larger head than its close and similar looking relative, the white bass, which rarely exceeds three pounds.

Subspecies - There are no recognized subspecies.

Range - The striper on the Atlantic Coast has a range from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, N.Y. to the St. Johns River in northern Florida and in the Gulf of Mexico from western Florida to Louisiana.

Habitat - The species has been widely introduced in numerous lakes, rivers and impoundments throughout the world. Stripers prefer relatively clear water with a good supply of open-water baitfish. Their preferred water temperature range is 65 to 70 degrees.

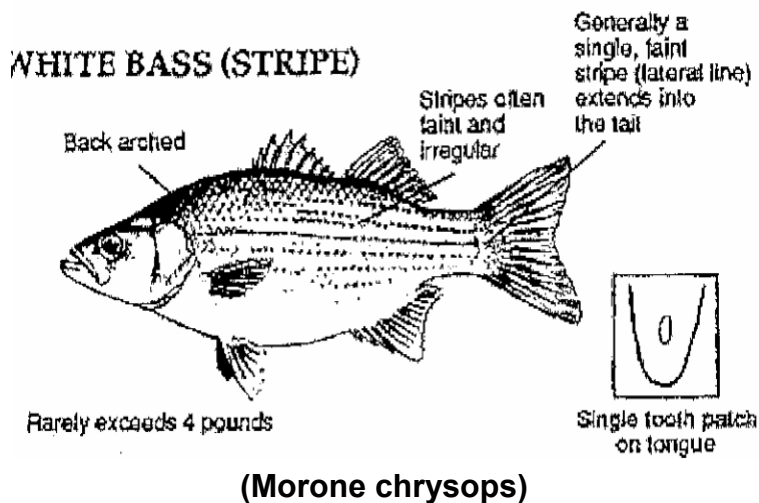
Spawning Habits - Spawns in March, April and May when water temperatures reach 60 to 68 degrees. Stripers are river spawners that broadcast millions of eggs in the water currents without affording any protection or parental care. During spawning, seven or eight smaller males surround a single, large female and bump her to swifter currents at the water surface. At ovulation, ripe eggs are discharged and scattered in the water as males release sperm.

Fertilized eggs must be carried by river currents until hatching (about 48 hours) to avoid suffocation. Fry and fingerlings spend most of their time in lower rivers and estuaries. Freshwater populations have been maintained by stocking fingerlings, and, despite, initial difficulties in hatchery procedures for obtaining females with freely flowing eggs, a modern technique of inducing ovulation with the use of a hormone has been successful.

Feeding Habits - Stripers are voracious feeders and consume any kind of small fish and a variety of invertebrates. Preferred foods for adults mainly consist of gizzard and threadfin shad, golden shiners and minnows. Younger fish prefer to feed on amphipods and mayflies. Very small stripers feed on zooplankton. Like other temperate bass, they move in schools, and all members of the school tend to feed at the same time. Heaviest feeding is in early morning and in evening, but they feed sporadically throughout the day, especially when skies are overcast. Feeding slows when water temperatures drop below 50 degrees but does not stop completely.

Age and Growth - Sexual maturity occurs at about two years of age for male stripers and at four years of age for females. They can reach a size of 10 to 12 inches the first year.

WHITE BASS



(Continued next page)

Common Names - stripe, silver bass, striper, sand bass, barfish.

Description - The white bass looks similar to a shortened version of its larger relative, the striped bass. It is silvery-white overall with five to eight horizontal dusky black stripes along the sides. Stripes below the lateral line are faint and often broken in an irregular pattern. It differs most noticeably in being shorter and stockier with a smaller head, and the dorsal fins are set closer together. The white bass has a deep body, strongly arched behind head - deepest between dorsal fins.

Subspecies - There are no recognized subspecies.

Range - General boundaries are the St. Lawrence River in the east, Lake Winnipeg in the north, the Rio Grande in the west, and northwest Florida and Louisiana in the south. It has been stocked within and outside its natural range.

Habitat - White bass are found in large lakes and streams connected to major river systems and in rivers with moderate current. They prefer clear water with a temperature range of 65 to 75 degrees. Man-made impoundments have greatly favored the white bass, but the species is one that can become overabundant and stunt.

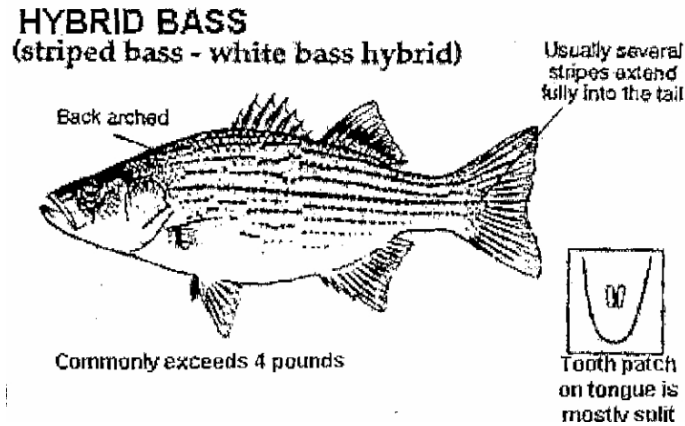
Spawning Habits - Male white bass migrate upstream in large schools to a dam or other barrier in early spring, followed shortly by schools of females. Spawning occurs in moving water over gravel shoals or a hard bottom. Large females may lay as many as half a million adhesive eggs that stick to rocks and gravel. If no water current is present, white bass have been known to spawn on wind-swept, sandy beaches. After spawning, they abandon their eggs and provide no parental care. Fry hatch in only two to three days.

Feeding Habits - White bass are primarily piscivorous. Fry feed on zooplankton first and within a few weeks larger crustaceans and insects are eaten. Larger fish prefer to feed on minnows and thrive on open-water baitfish like gizzard and threadfin shad. Like the striper, white bass move in schools and feed most heavily around dawn or dusk.

Age and Growth - Although white bass may live up to 10 years, few live beyond three to four years. Females grow slightly faster and probably live longer than males. The average size is one pound with fish over two pounds considered large.

HYBRID BASS

(*M. chrysops* x *M. saxatilis*)



Common Names - Striped bass hybrid, wiper, whiterock, sunshine, palmetto bass.

Description - The hybrid bass is a hybrid produced by crossing a female white bass with a male striped bass. Hybrids closely resemble both striped bass and white bass making identification difficult, particularly for young fish. When comparing adult fish, the hybrid has a deep body and an arched back similar to the white bass. Hybrids can often be distinguished by broken or irregular stripes on the front half of body and straight lines on the rear half of body. A mid-body break in line pattern occasionally occurs.

Subspecies - There are no recognized subspecies.

Habitat - Hybrids appear to prefer areas within lakes and rivers similar to striped bass and white bass. Older hybrid bass require cooler water during summer months.

Spawning Habits - Hybrids do not reproduce naturally. They are hatchery-produced.

Feeding Habits - Like stripers, hybrids are voracious feeders and consume any kind of small fish including threadfin and gizzard shad. Young fish also feed on mayflies and crustaceans. Hybrids also travel and feed in schools with peak activity in the early morning or evening.

Age and Growth - Hybrids are probably best known for their rapid growth. They have attained weights of six to seven pounds by three years of age.

Fishing Hot Spots



Cherokee Lake - Good

Some stripers weighing up to 20 pounds can be caught, but they are not nearly as abundant as the hybrids. Hybrids eight to ten pounds are common. The best fishing is from Point 24 downstream in most of the large coves and creeks that have abundant bait. Fish shallow and do not neglect the banks. Night fishing is great when the alewife is spawning late this month. This is the best month to catch fish on artificial lures.

Norris Lake - Fair

Do not expect to catch a large fish on Norris like in past years, but fish weighing as much as 20 pounds from the stocking in 1999 can be caught. Top water action is at its best this month. Most fish will be in the upper one-half of the lake, in and around the large coves. Fish the shallow, rocky banks and points. Outriggers are very good fishing tools.

Watts Bar Lake/Melton Hill Lake - Good

The steam plant in Kingston will still hold some fish, but expect to catch more fish. They may be larger upstream to the discharge at the dams.

May Expectations

The stripers will be in the headwaters of the rivers and in the major feeder creeks for the spawn. Temperature of the water will dictate when the stripers are most of the time. If the rivers or shallow water exceeds 70 degrees F., the fish will seek out cooler thermal refuge. The gulls and other fish-eating birds are always a good clue that stripers are also there to feed on the same bait fish. The stripers can be at any depth that it chooses, but most will be caught on or near the surface close to the rough, rocky banks and points. Side planer boards or any outriggers work great. It is important to know thermoclines start to develop in slow-moving water this month. Top water action is good in May, and survival of released fish is also great.

The TSBA web site offers up-to-date fishin' reports to all TSBA members. Visit the web at: www.TNStripedBass.com

The current password is:

Username: _____ Password: _____



Emery Spence

Tarpon

March 8, 2006



Scott Copeland
"Skeeter" (top)
Also, Kenny
& Sam Hilton

Fishing Outer
Banks, NC
Feb. 15-16





Randy
Boger

Fishing
Oregon
Inlet

Brian and Brandon
Davis with Ezell Cox

Fishing Cherokee
Sunday, March 19

Looks like Scruffy
is holding the fish!



B&B Straight Creek Boat Dock

B&B Straight Creek Boat Dock is located on beautiful Norris Reservoir near New Tazewell. This full-service facility includes a snack bar and a convenience store that offers a complete line of fishing and camping necessities including propane, bait, gas, ice, etc. They have covered slips for all sizes of boats from Jon boats up to pontoons. They also rent fishing boats and they have a fleet of some of the finest pontoon boats on Norris for rent by the hour, day or for extended periods of time. These come complete with the following amenities: 50 HP four-stroke motors, 9' Bimini top, Depth Finder and Fish Locator, Light Pods with Docking Lights & Dual Horn, Aerated Live Well, 29 Gallon Built-in Fuel Tank with Gauge, Sleeper Bench Seats, Vinyl Floor, Built-in Swim Ladder. The rates are quite reasonable: 24 hours - \$150, 3-Days - \$350 and a 5-Day rental is only \$550. These prices do not include gas and oil.

To get to the B&B Straight Creek Boat Dock, proceed south out of New Tazewell on Highway 33. Turn left on Lone Mountain Road and after one mile turn right onto Straight Creek Dock Road and proceed to the dock. For further information, Call either Maynard or Delbert Brooks at 423-626-5826 or go to their website at www.straightcreekdock.com. Their address is:

B&B Straight Creek Boat Dock
775 Straight Creek Dock Road
New Tazewell, TN 37825

Please support these fine folks. They have an excellent full-service facility strategically located on Norris Lake. They know this part of Norris and they can help put you onto some striped bass.





S & S Striper Fishing Guide Service

Phone: (423) 626-2855

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Mobile 526-7161
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KIDS' FISHING DAY

**Date Changed Sat., June 10, 3:00 p.m.
at Cherokee Dam**

The Kids' Fishing Day has been changed to June 10 beginning with food and prizes at 3:00 p.m. It will be easier for the kids and for catching bait.

There are different ways you can support our kids. Volunteer to be a boat captain. Fish in the StriperBowl; proceeds go to Kids Day prizes. Make donations of prizes or money.

Donations may be sent to:

TSBA Kids Fishing Day
P. O. Box 24442
Knoxville, TN 37933

Questions: Call Allan Franklin 865-805-3120

Super 8 Motel

2430 E. Andrew Johnson Hwy.
Morristown, TN 37814



(423) 586-8880
<http://www.super8.com>

See you along the way.

Reservations: 1-800-800-8000

Hickory Star Marina

*"Home of the
Stripers"*

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**Full service marina
on Norris Lake
Near Maynardville TN**

YOUR 2006 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF

President:

John Seiber 865-945-3716
JSeiber@tennstripedbass.com

Vice President:

Eric Rauch 865-494-0304
ewrauch@bellsouth.net

Treasurer:

Janine Johnson

Secretary:

Dave Johnson

TSBA DIRECTORS

Wes Adams, Ed Baker, Ezell Cox, Billy Davis,
Allan Franklin, Chet Moore, John Seiber

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter: Janine Johnson Janine@tennstripedbass.com

Web Site: John Seiber 865-945-3716

Public Relations: Allan Franklin 865-694-8888

Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Sponsor Coordinator: Eric Rauch 865-494-0304

Tournament

Coordinator: Billy Davis 865-300-0392

Kids' Fishing Day: Allan Franklin 865-805-3120

Door Prizes: Dave Johnson Dave@tennstripedbass.com

Merchandising: Kept In Stitches 865-379-8278
Email at clsbull1@aol.com



Lighthouse Marina

STEVE PEMBERTON
(865) 494-8138

Interstate 75, Exit 128
1604 Norris Freeway
Norris, TN 37826

Norris Dam Marina
P.O. Box 1587
Norris, TN 37828-1587

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Minutes of the March Meeting

Dave Bishop, the man who brought stripers to Tennessee, was our guest speaker. He talked about the history of striped bass. A summary of his presentation will be available in a future newsletter.

There was a TSBA Director Meeting held in March. Discussions were as follows:

The tournament and campout previously scheduled for June 10 has been cancelled.

The Kids Fishing Day has been changed to June 10 starting at 3:00 p.m. at Cherokee Dam.

TSBA will host a tournament in September out of Lighthouse Marina (Norris Dam Marina). Proceeds will go to the Disabled Sportsmen of America.

National Striped Bass Association future relations: The TSBA Directors recommend that we be open and friendly but not be in partnership with NSBA. We are open to work with them. Members of TSBA are encouraged to join NSBA or participate in NSBA tournaments.

TSBA will write a letter of support for the striped bass fishery in Arkansas.

If you have any suggestions for the Norris Lake Advisory Committee, please let Allan Franklin or Ezell Cox know. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery in Clinton.

Dave Johnson, TSBA Secretary



**B&B
STRAIGHT CREEK
BOAT DOCK**

***Full Service Dock
on Norris Lake
New Tazewell, TN***

423-626-5826

Maynard & Delbert Brooks

**April Speaker:
Dave Johnson
on
Fishing Line**

2006 TSBA Calendar

Please attend TSBA events and join us at the meetings.

Monthly meetings will be held at Shoney's Restaurant, 5420 Clinton Highway. Get off I-75 at Exit 108, head west for about one mile. Turn right onto Clinton Hwy. Shoney's will be on the right.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| April 17: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM |
| April 22: | Open Fishing |
| April 29: | Open Fishing |
| April 30: | StriperBowl - Cherokee |
| May 15: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery |
| May 20: | Open Fishing |
| May 27: | Tournament - Cherokee |
| June 10: | Kids' Fishing Day |
| June 19: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM |
| June 24: | Open Fishing |
| July 8: | Tournament - Fort Loudoun |
| July 17: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM |
| July 22: | Family Day/Open Fishing |
| August 21: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM |
| August 26: | Open Fishing |
| September 9: | Annual TSBA Fish Fry & Reunion |
| September 16: | Open Fishing |
| September: | Tournament for Disabled Sportsmen of America |
| October 16: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Officer and Director Nominations |
| October 21: | Open Fishing |
| November 11: | Tournament - Cherokee |
| November 20: | Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Election of Officers and Directors |
| November 25: | Open Fishing |
| December 18: | Board of Directors Meeting, Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM |

Cherokee Tournament Results for March 11

1st Place: Earl Marshall (25 lb. 3 oz.)
2nd Place: Ezell Cox (20 lb. 10 oz.)
3rd Place: John Seiber (19 lb. 13 oz.)
4th Place: Reid Tong (18 lb. 4 oz.)
5th Place: Mike Engebretsen (13 lb. 9 oz.)
6th Place: Don Carmack (13 lb. 8 oz.)

There were a total of 18 anglers. These weights are for two fish. Here is a picture of the winner!



Question of the Month

Besides stripers, what do you fish for?

Answers varied from "Is there any other fish?" to "just about any fish that swims." But the answer that was most notable was made by Pat Kneiss. Her answer was "I fish for fun!" For that answer, she was awarded a replica of a South American Striper. Great answer, Pat!

T.S.B.A. 2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

As a member: *You'll receive a monthly newsletter.

* You'll help support Striped Bass Fisheries & Wildlife Agencies.

* You'll be informed of new regulations & information that affect Striper fishing.

* You'll develop a network of "Striper friends".

* You'll learn new methods to improve your Striped Bass fishing effectiveness.

* You'll be able to call officers for fishing reports.

* You'll be able to attend monthly meetings with informative programs.

* You'll have access to all areas of the TSBA web page.

Is this a renewal ____ or a New Membership ____

Your Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(_____) _____ # of minor children in family _____

E-Mail address _____

Referred By: _____

I have read and agree to abide by and be bound by the Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc. (TSBA) Bylaws*.

* A copy of the Bylaws can be found on the TSBA website at www.TNStripedBass.com or at the offices of the corporation.

(Signature)

(Date)

Enclose a check for \$20.00

Mail to: Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc

P.O. Box 24442

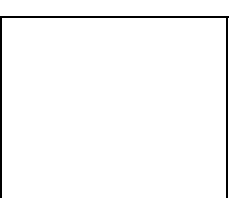
Knoxville TN 37933

Note: All members must sign and submit this membership application with the 2006 dues. Yearly dues are due in January each year. New members that sign up in Oct., Nov., or Dec. will get credit for the remainder of that year and the following year.



The TSBA is a non-profit corporation that supports TWRA & its Striped Bass & Cherokee Bass programs. We come together to provide a unified voice for the Striped Bass & the Cherokee Bass programs in the State of Tennessee. We educate the public & share our knowledge with fellow Striped Bass anglers.

**Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 24442
Knoxville, TN 37933**



**May 15 - Monthly Meeting at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery
Speaker: Mike Smith, TWRA
Pizza & Drinks**