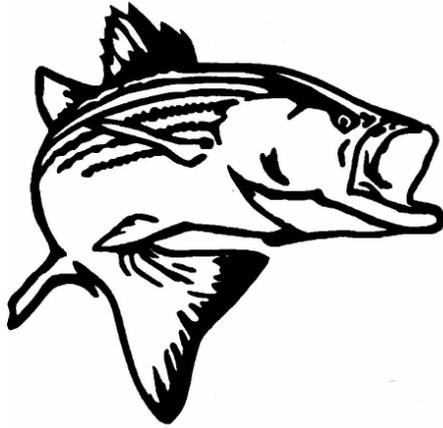


**Catch
The
Striper
Fever!**

T.S.B.A.



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

**February
2007**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**March 24
Disabled Sportsman Tournament**

**April 7-8
Hickory Star Tournament**

**April 28
StriperBowl at Cherokee Dam**

**June 9
Kids' Fishing Day**

**September 29
TSBA Fish Fry**

President's Letter

Hi Everyone,

By the time everyone receives their newsletter, there will be about a month until daylight savings time begins. I don't know about you, but I can hardly wait. At that time of year the days are getting longer, and the clock is set forward so we have more time after work to go and harass some fish. I am fortunate to have a place of employment that will allow me to bring my boat to work with me. After work it's about 30 minutes to a good spot, where the bait is thick and the stripers have put on the feedbag. If I have a good evening, the boat stays behind the truck (I can't seem to get enough) for the next day. The only bad thing is that the grass will be beginning to grow, and there will be little time to take care of that kind of thing. "So many fish and so little time!" I'm sure that many of you are like me and have developed a bad case of spring fever by now. The only cure that I know of that will help at all is to put on the winter clothes and go fishing. The time is more limited now but hang in there, the days are getting longer.

I would also like to appeal to all who can to participate in the Disabled Sportsmen of America benefit tournament. We had a very low turnout for this event last September, and we're hoping for a very successful event this time around. All the proceeds will go to the Disabled Sportsmen of America organization to sponsor hunting and fishing trips for disabled or terminally ill persons. This event will be held on Saturday March 24th. The launch site has not been determined yet, but most likely the tournament will be held on Cherokee Lake. Keep an eye on the club's website (TNStripedBass.com) for details to be posted. If you cannot be there, maybe you would like to donate to this very good cause. With everyone's participation, the TSBA can help put a smile on someone's face by making a dream come true.

John Seiber
TSBA President

Awards for the 2006 tournament winners will be presented at the February meeting. The winners are Jason Hoffmeister, Earl Marshall, Dennis Bryant, Ezell Cox, and Allan Franklin.

Striper Nostalgia Corner

Reprinted from the Norris Lake Striper Club Publication, March 1991

Here's a riddle. What takes up 17 cubic feet of space, causes my boat to list 30 degrees to port, knocks 15 miles per hour off my top end, and grows by 10 pounds a week? You say you have the same monster in your boat?

Of course, any Striper fisherman worth his weight in egg sinkers knows that I'm talking about my tackle boxes. Seems that every time I get in on a fishing conversation, someone describes a new lure, jig, plug, or other "hot" item that Stripers and I can't resist!

My favorite hangout is the sporting goods section of any store. Who can resist that amazing new 8 inch "Sure Gulp Wonder Minnow" or the "Neon Super Strobe Night Bobbers?" How about the 6 ounce "Deep Diving Wobble Carp" or the "Uncle Fester's Shad-flavored Lake Snake?"

Never mind that I've spent all my kid's college money on all this neat stuff, the satisfaction of having the right secret weapons for any Striper fishing situation makes it all worth while. So what if I never use any of the 480 pounds of assorted sure-fire Hawg Snatchers, so what if the Stripers would probably laugh themselves into the "bends" at my "so potent they ought to be illegal" lures.

Hey - I can always get a bigger boat if it gets too crowded. Anyone know of a nice used 35 footer with lots of closet space?

Go ahead, laugh, but someday when the salvage price of surplus tackle hits 20 cents a pound, I'll be sipping Margaritas in the Bahamas.

(I wonder what kind of tackle they use down there?)

By Vic Siri (1947-1991)

(Vic was instrumental in establishing our newsletter in 1991.)

Janine's Fish Fry Recipes

Deep Fried Striper

Cut striper fillets into 1 to 1 1/2 inch pieces.

Dip fish in batter consisting of 2 cups Aunt Jemima Original Pancake Mix, 1 1/4 cups milk, 1/4 cup beer, 2 eggs.

Deep fry at 360 degrees in canola oil or corn oil.

Baked Striper

Cut striper fillets into 1 to 1 1/2 inch pieces.

Place in baking dish with butter and lemon pepper. (I only use the lemon pepper from Fresh Market that comes in the small plastic bags.)

Sprinkle very lightly with Zatarain's Seasoned Fish-Fri Mix just to give it a taste.

Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes.

Tartar Sauce

Mix Miracle Whip with Sweet Salad Cubes.

*These recipes are very easy and very good.
Try them for yourself!*

MEMBER PROFILES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

So everyone can learn a little about each other, I would like to encourage all of the members to send me a short profile of yourself listing (for example) name, city of residence, age, married or single, children, type of work or skills, a short story of how you got into striper fishing or an interesting experience of a striper you caught or lost, and a picture.

*Thank you.
Janine Johnson*

Send to:
TSBA
P. O. Box 24442
Knoxville, TN 37933

You may also send your pictures and/or profiles by email to:
JSeiber@tennstripedbass.com

Boating Law Reminders

It is unlawful to ride on seatbacks, gunwales, transoms, or pedestal seats while above an idle speed.

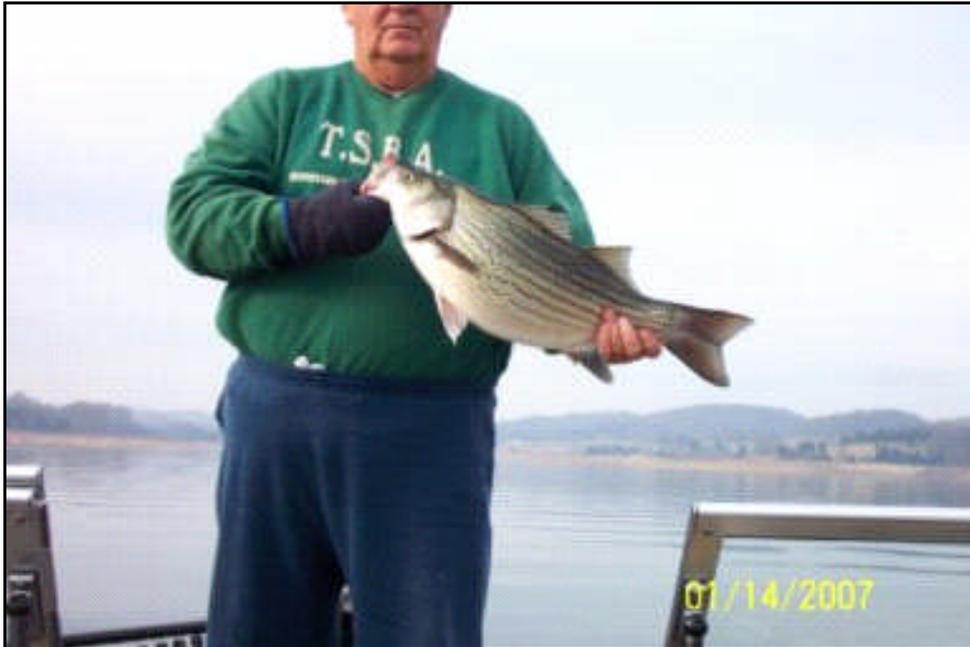
A U. S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device must be worn by each person on board vessels being operated within specifically marked areas below any dam.

Unless otherwise marked, all vessels operating within 300 feet of a commercial boat dock must do so at a slow wake speed regardless of whether or not the area is marked by buoys. "No wake" is defined as a vessel traveling at or below idle speed, or at such speed that the boat or its wake (waves) is not sufficient to cause possible injury or damage to other persons, boats, or property.

Source: <http://www.state.tn.us/twra/boat001.html>



**James Orrick
January 26, 2007**



Fishing Hot Spots



Cherokee Lake

The downstream end of the lake will have good fishing from Point 19 to the dam. Look for surface breaks and feeding gulls. Large schools at times can be found in very shallow water. Live bait is easy to catch in most of the warm coves. The Fort Patrick Henry steam plant will be good all month.

Norris Lake

The Hickory Star area and upstream will be good. The sunny side of the shallow banks will catch some top water fish in the afternoon. Spring Dock near Point 11 and upstream on the Powell River side will be good. Look for the warm water that attracts bait fish. Pull a planer board close to the bank.

Watts Bar Lake/Melton Hill Lake

The steam plants at Kingston and Melton Hill will have the most predictable catches. The contrast in water temperature will dictate how good the fishing is.

Fishing Regulations

New fishing licenses are required to fish starting March 1. It is each fisherman's responsibility to know the rules and stay legal. Changes are normal in the management of our fishing each year, and those changes become effective on March 1. Each river or lake may have exceptions you need to be aware of before exposing yourself to a fine. Go on line to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at www.tnwildlife.org or pick up a 2007 Fishing Regulations book at sporting stores or TWRA offices.

March Expectations

New fishing licenses are required to fish in March. March is a transition month for the prespawn stripers. Early month, the stripers roam the deep open water in large schools feeding on small bait. The winter pattern in the early month cold water of about 45 degrees F. may change to upper 50 degrees F. by month end in the shallow sun-warmed longer days. Migration into the shallow incoming rivers and major feeder creeks will develop around the large concentrations of bait fish. The gulls are still worth watching; also look for herons feeding on the sun-warmed shallow flats. Much larger baits start to work well pulled behind planer boards along the bank. Most fish will be caught in the top 20 feet, and the surface action can be good. The steam plants will continue to attract stripers.

On Norris Lake, the creel and size limits change from 1 fish with a 36- inch minimum size limit to 2 fish at 15-inch size limit starting April 1.

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: "fish" Password: "hook"

Winter Stripers

As these fishing tips are being put on paper, the temperature is 10 degrees and expected to be very cool for the next week. Then we have a full moon on Ground Hog Day in February. Steam plant fishing is as good as you can expect it to be near the discharge area for the next month. Also find the warmest water in the reservoirs or just find the gulls. The bait fish are attracted to the warm water so the game fish will be there to eat. The larger the contrast and the contrast area from the rest of the water system, the better the fishing will be.

Gulls are the best fish finder there is in the cold water months. They are better than Lowrance, Humminbird, or Garmin because they make a living at it. For those that are not already aware of it, the stripers and gulls work together as they have for many eons. Having fished for fresh water stripers for the past 30 or more years, many of us have noticed a transition from no gulls to abundant. I will speculate that, as the dams created large reservoirs and waterways with bait fish, the migrating gulls started to find the opportunity to use the stripers feeding to feed themselves as they did in the oceans. The warmest water available is where the

forage fish will be found and so will the stripers and gulls. Many days the bait will stay deep enough that the gulls cannot dive enough to feed until the stripers decide to feed. That is when you will see them sitting on the water or bank with their scouts out looking for the stripers to push the bait to the surface. The gulls then talk in the language they understand, and from all directions they converge into a small area in a hover and dive over the stripers and bait. Most of us fishing for the striper have also learned some of the gull language, and you will hear the roar of all the outboard motors within sight headed to the same spot at top speed when the gulls start to dive. The fishermen become much more aggressive as the number of fishermen chasing the gulls increases. The aggressive fishermen will often run right into the middle of the school of fish for a single cast that may catch a fish and scare the school away before anyone else gets there. It seems that stripers are the most sensitive to noise and motion in the cold months. The correct way to approach is slow down and stay a full cast distance away from the diving gulls. It may be time to pull out the popcorn and keep the gulls diving so much of the time that the aggressive fishermen decide they are no longer going to the boat that is throwing food to the gulls. Then you can put your bait out and troll without getting run over.

Ezell Cox

Hickory Star Marina & Campground

This month we are highlighting the Hickory Star Marina, strategically located on beautiful Norris Reservoir, just four miles West of Maynardville on Route 144. Hickory Star really is a complete facility with a full-service marina, motel, campground, full-service restaurant, and rental cabins. At Hickory Star, there is always something new and exciting to do at this beautiful facility.

Marina - If it's fishing or any water sport, you will find everything that you need at the Hickory Star Marina. Whether it's houseboating, canoeing, water skiing, or fishing, this marina is well equipped to provide you with endless fun in the sun. You can launch your own boat at their ramp or take advantage of their professional guide service.

Motel - After a long day on Norris, why fuss with loading your boat and making the long drive home. Instead, park your boat at the dock and walk to your air-conditioned room at the Hickory Star motel. This would make a great getaway for you and your significant other to spend a little quality time together while you still get to fish in the early morning and at dusk.

Restaurant - Hey! You really owe it to yourself to visit the Nordstrom's Galley at Hickory Star. They are open April 15 through September 1 from 4 PM to 10 PM from Thursday through Saturday and from 1 to 9 on Sunday. This place is first-class and it has everything from sandwiches to steaks.

Campground & Cabins - If you are interested in camping, they have everything you need - rustic & new cabins, camper hookups, and tent sites and their fees are quite reasonable.

Please call 800-235-6866 (toll-free) or 865-992-5241, email them at fishnorris@aol.com or go online to www.hickorystarmarina.com to get more information or make a reservation. These are really nice, fisherman-friendly folks, and you will have a great time during your stay at Hickory Star.



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Kyle Rutherford - January, 2007



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YOUR 2007 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:

Ezell Cox

TSBA DIRECTORS

Wes Adams, Ezell Cox, Billy Davis, Allan Franklin,
Janine Johnson, Chet Moore, John Seiber

TSBA STAFF

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Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Sponsor Coordinator: Eric Rauch 865-494-0304

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

Door Prizes: Chet Moore

Tournament Coordinators: Ezell Cox, Allan Franklin

Merchandising: John Seiber 865-945-3716

February Speaker:
Chet Moore

March Speaker:
Ken Cutsinger,
TWRA Officer

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Minutes of the January Meeting

Ezell Cox passed out an old striper cycle chart made from records of his fishing on Norris more than 10 years ago. Some of the information is out of date due to some changes like the introduction of alewife and a higher lake level elevation T.V.A. maintains. Gulls are another factor that has continued to develop from none to abundant in the winter. The chart shows factors like monthly average surface temperature, thermocline depth, spawn periods, lake turnover time, where, when, and how to fish Norris. The presentation continued about what kind of bait to use, what size, and where and how to get and keep it through the changing seasons of the year. "Match the hatch" was the message intended to say feed the stripers what they are eating.

Pointers: 1. Shiners are more active than shad in cold water below 50 degrees. 2. Except using shiners in the winter, the best quality bait can be found below Douglas Dam the whole year. 3. The ideal temperature for stripers to be feeding is 47 to 67 degrees. 4. Most stripers are caught within the first two minutes of placing the bait in the water. 5. Cooler water holds more oxygen for your bait. Don't change the water temperature more than seven degrees.

After a break Chet Moore did the drawing for the door prizes, and the 50-50. He then presented and explained a new fishing tool to everyone. The Directional Planner Board is a small inexpensive outrigger that can go out 45 degrees from the boat and, with the flip of the fishing line, pulling it will reverse to the opposite side of the boat pulling it. No right and left needed.

John Seiber then asked for fishing reports. Norris and Cherokee had some good reports where the gulls diving showed where the stripers were feeding. The report from below the dams was poor with much effort and no catches.

There was then talk about the Kingston steam plant tournament to be held February 3, 2007 and the Disabled Sportsman Tournament scheduled for March 24.

Ezell Cox, TSBA Secretary

2007 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.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| February 19 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM |
| March 19 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM |
| March 24 | Disabled Sportsman Tournament |
| April 7-8 | Hickory Star Tournament |
| April 16 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM |
| April 28 | StriperBowl at Cherokee Dam |
| May | Norris Lake Advisory Committee Meeting |
| May 21 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery |
| June 9 | Kids' Fishing Day |
| June 18 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM |
| July 16 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery |
| August 20 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM |
| September 29 | TSBA Fish Fry |
| October 15 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM - Nominations for Directors and Officers |
| November 19 | Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM - Election of Directors and Officers |
| December 17 | Board of Directors Meeting - Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7PM |

Note: Open fishing days may be on the Saturdays after the meetings as planned during the monthly meetings.

JANUARY 2007
QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT BRAND OF BAIT TANK DO YOU CURRENTLY USE?

IF YOU BOUGHT A NEW TANK, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

BlueWater, Bubba, CreekBank, Grayline, Masterflow, Ron Vest, Homemade or other.

A total of 24 members answered the questions with the following results:

Current:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ron Vest (Super Bait Tank) | 8 |
| Homemade | 6 |
| Livewell | 4 |
| Baker | 2 |
| BlueWater | 2 |
| CreekBank | 1 |
| Grayline | 1 |

Next Tank Would Be:

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Ron Vest | 11 |
| BlueWater | 8 |
| CreekBank | 2 |
| Grayline | 1 |
| Homemade | 1 |
| Livewell | 1 |

Everyone currently using a "name brand" tank said their next tank would be the same brand but possibly a different size.

Jim Blazier

T.S.B.A. 2007 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 2007 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 TW/RA & 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**



In order to be sure to receive your March newsletter, please see that your membership dues for 2007 are paid. Thank you.