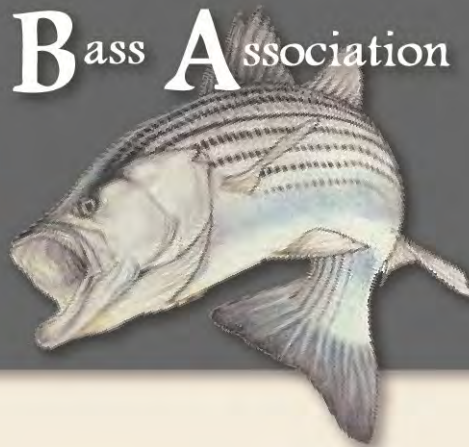


Tennessee Striped Bass Association

GET HOOKED!
May 2014



Charlie Book

Letter from the Prez

As many of you know, I'm what many would call a "recreational fisherman." That is, I have a lot going on and as a result I may go for several weeks between fishing trips. Then I'll go hard at it for a bit before another (expletive deleted) priority gets in the way. Each time I get back out on the water I seriously question how anything could have been so important that it kept me off the water for so long. I am working at getting my priorities straight so that this doesn't continue to happen. I'm sure I'm not the only one who periodically finds himself in this situation. Perhaps we need to establish a support group of TSBA members to ensure that none of us get caught in this trap!

Several of our members participated in the TSBA tournament in April on Norris. Everyone had a good time in spite of the early morning fog and the smallmouth bass that kept taking our bait. I know that people enjoyed having the opportunity to fish with someone new. I fished with Larry Nowell for the first time. I'm sure it won't be the last time either. While we didn't end up "in the money," we had a great morning.

Special thanks goes to Steve Nichols and John Vincenzo for their leadership in setting up the tourneys for us this year. I also want to thank Mel Cooke who provided bait for everyone who needed it for the tourney. That was extremely generous and made life for many of us much easier, especially considering the weather preceding the event. I encourage everyone who can to fish in the next tourney in June.

At our April meeting we decided to continue to meet at the Mandarin House Chinese Buffet, which is located at 314 Merchants Drive in Knoxville. The dinner was good and the meeting room was very spacious. **Our next meeting is at 7 pm on May 19. If possible, try to join us for dinner at 6 pm. Our speakers will be Bill Carson and Fuzzy Lambert, who will talk about Humminbird and Minn Kota products.** This will be a very informative meeting. If you have questions about using any of these products, I'm sure they can help get you on the right track. Hope to see you there.

— *Eric Rauch, TSBA President*

TSBA Tournament Results

Congratulations to all participants in our first tournament held on April 26 on Norris Lake.

The winning captains are as follows:

John Vincenzo 1st place

Eddie Dills 2nd place

Greg Yazel 3rd place

Steve Nichols 4th place

Gary Bayless 5th place

Here are the point totals for our first tournament:

1 John Vincenzo 100 +5 = 105

Terry Davis 100 +5 = 105

Dan Mobly 100 +5 = 105

2 Eddie Dills 95 +5 = 100

Charlie Book 95 +5 = 100

3 Greg Yazel 90 +5 = 95

Frank Landers 90 +5 = 95

4 Steve Nichols 85 +5 = 90

Ed Halsen 85 +5 = 90

5 Gary Bayless 80 +5 = 85

Ron Gabler 80 +5 = 85

6 Eric Rauch +5 = 5

Larry Nowell +5 = 5

6 Dennis Bryant +5 = 5

Craig Thibodeaux +5 = 5

John May +5 = 5

Remember: all participants received 5 points for each event and if a tie in the points race at the end of season, largest fish caught during the season will determine winners.

TSBA 2014 Tournaments

~~1st Event: April 26 at Norris Lake *Hickory Star Marina*~~

2nd Event: June 21 at Cherokee Lake

3rd Event: August 23 at Watts Bar Lake

4th Event: October 25 at Cherokee Lake

5th Event: December 20 at Norris Lake (TSBA Championship)

TSBA Members' Photo Page



Dick Brogan



Larry & Patty Nowell

***Got some bent pole action you would like to brag about?
Send your pics to jeneddie@comcast.net
and we'll feature you in an upcoming newsletter.***

Fishing Regulations

LOOK FOR THE NEW REGULATIONS FOR 2014 FISHING SEASON ON UMBRELLA RIGS

New fishing licenses are required to fish starting each March 1st. It is each fisherman's responsibility to know the rules and stay legal. NO FISHING ZONE runs July 15th until September 15th on Cherokee Lake. Changes are normal in the management of our fishing each year, and those changes become effective on March 1st. Each body of water may have exceptions you need to be aware of before exposing yourself to a fine. There are some seasonal striped bass CREEL AND SIZE limit changes that take place April 1st and November 1st. Go online to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at www.tnwildlife.org or pick up a 2014 Fishing Regulations book at sporting stores or TWRA offices. Wearing life preservers are required below the dams and a good habit anytime on the water for personal safety.

— *Ezell Cox*

Hot Spots

CHEROKEE LAKE

Migration to the headwaters & major creek feeds for staging & pre-spawn begins with the warming of inflow waters March, April & May. The shallow sun-warmed flats begin to hold bait fish where a planner board works wonderfully. Some of the stripers / hybrids remain on the lower end of Cherokee but the water temperature takes longer to warm except in the back of the major creeks & shallow flats. Top water action is often good, so keep something to cast handy. Look for large concentrations of bait fish, herons, gulls, or breaking fish. Catch and release will continue to work great until the first of summer around July.

NORRIS LAKE

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on NORRIS November 1ST until April 1st. The inflow rivers & creeks warm much faster than the deep water channels so a migration to headwaters starts as the water warms. The striper migration to the headwaters & major creek feeds begin for the spring spawn that takes place in early May. Some stripers can still be found mid-lake and downstream around the large coves & creeks often moving onto the shallow sun-warmed flats where the bait is located. A good side planer works great pulled over them. Top water action can be good early mornings & late evenings so take something to cast. Catch and release is very successful now until mid July.

Hot Spots

WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on Watts Bar November 1ST until April 1st. Look for the stripers in front of the major coves or where you find the most bait fish and bait-eating birds. The steam plants warmed water attracts bait that attracts game fish well into April, but then as the shallow flats and coves begin to warm, the stripers will also move with them. As the upstream lakes begin to fill to summer operating levels and flow resumes at the dams, the fishing also improves in the tailrace. Catch and release works great. The fish in Watts Bar & lower Clinch Watts Bar have contamination warnings so should not be harvested.

— *Ezell Cox*

SAFETY SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST PRIORITY WHEN FISHING AS THE WATER IS USED MUCH MORE IN WARM WATER MONTHS.

BE AWARE OF FLOATING HAZARDS AS THE WATER RISES TO SUMMER OPERATING LEVELS.

Fishing Pre-Spawn Stripers

Nighttime action is outstanding in May and most of June. Top water action is common as the stripers continue to add pre-spawn weight. Moving upstream into warmer, shallower water inflows may help where the pre-spawn & migration for the spawn develops. As the different species of shad spawn begins, the striper / hybrid will be there to feed. First gizzard spawns start with water temperature reaching 60 degrees in the stained, shallow flats. Alewife & threadfin just a little later - mostly nighttime on rocky banks or floating debris. Stripers / hybrids begin to look for cooler thermal refuge as the temperature exceeds 70 degrees. Catch & release is very successful this time of year.

A great way to find the right places to look for fish is from past history. Look at the last few years of information available on fishing websites, articles, pictures, and magazines. Many times the best clue is to find the largest baitfish concentrations that will seek out the warmest most stable temperatures with nutrient rich water that is normally murky.

— *Ezell Cox*

A-Plus Construction, LLC

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YOUR 2014 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

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Keith Shannon
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Cory Malabey, Larry Nowell, David Powell (Board Chairman),
Eric Rauch, Doug Steffe

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Raffle Prizes:**

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greg@kingdomlandscapes.com

Advisors:

Ezell Cox 423-626-9547
Allan Franklin 865-694-8888

2014 Meeting Links

January Meeting Link

<http://youtu.be/iczS2iiVIA>

Speaker: Bill Ballou

Topic: Maintaining Fishing Reels

February Meeting Link

<http://youtu.be/eltyqHoDT4w>

Speaker: Clay Cunningham

Topic: Using Artificial Lures

March Meeting Link

<http://youtu.be/9USRSC0JA-4>

Speaker: Jim Negus, TWRA Biologist

Topic: Water Quality and Dissolved Oxygen Levels at Norris Lake

April Meeting Link

<http://youtu.be/O0AeRxk3Ugk>

Speaker: Stephen Scott

Topic: Using Lake Erie Big Water Planer Board Techniques



TSBA May Meeting
Monday, May 19 at 7 p.m.

Mandarin House Chinese Buffet
314 Merchants Drive, Knoxville

We have a private room reserved. Join us at 6 p.m. for dinner.

Humminbird and Minn Kota products
will be presented by **Bill Carson** and **Fuzzy Lambert**.

Free Estimates

For All Your Paving Needs

B&C Asphalt Paving Co., Inc.

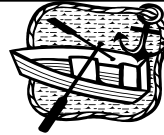
Wayne Beeler
Vice-President

Plant 423-626-1234

Residence 423-626-7951

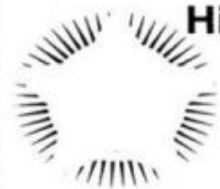
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TSBA 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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.

Your Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Referred By: _____

Please provide an e-mail address to receive the monthly newsletter:

E-Mail address _____

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 163

Sharps Chapel, TN 37866

Simplified Renewal Note: Returning members with no changes to their contact information are not required to fill out the application. Just send a \$20 check to the address above. Be sure to include the member's name on the check. When you send in your check, please provide TSBA with an email address where we can send your club newsletter. 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.

Tennessee
Striped
Bass
Association

GET HOOKED!

The TSBA is a non-profit corporation that supports TWRA and its Striped Bass and 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 and share our knowledge with fellow Striped Bass anglers.

Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 163
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866



TSBA Monthly Meeting
Monday, May 19, 2014
7 p.m.