



Monthly Meeting First Monday at Puleo's Grill, 110 Cedar Lane off Merchants Rd. at I - 75

TSBA web site <a href="http://tnstripedbass.com/">http://tnstripedbass.com/</a> for the latest news.

Join our Facebook group: TN Striped Bass Association

### TSBA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is our last newsletter for 2016. It's hard to believe that another year has come and gone. It's been a great one for my family. Our first grandson was born in May and we've had tons of fun with him. I'm really looking forward to the time when I can take him fishing with me. Of course, that will be a few years from now, but I'm already thinking about it. My wife and I just got back from a couple of weeks in south west Texas. We had a lot of fun seeing San Antonio & Big Bend, Guadalupe Mountains and Carlsbad Caverns National Parks. We even dropped in to see the aliens (from outer space) in Rosewell. I now understand why they say oil is king in Texas. While it was good to see that part of the country, I was really glad to get back home to green east Tennessee. We're really lucky to live here!

This has been another good year for TSBA. We've had several excellent speakers at our meetings, held a fun group fishing day on Cherokee and the annual fish fry turned out great. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make this year such a success.

TWRA recently released its proposed fishing regulation changes for 2017. I was contacted by Bart Carter (Region IV, Fisheries Program Manager) ahead of time to let our club know about one particular item. As you likely know, TWRA does not stock striped bass or hybrids in Douglas Reservoir. However, they are finding some hybrids in Douglas. In addition, they are finding that hybrids have been crossing with white bass in Douglas. This is causing some fisheries management problems in Douglas. As a result, the biologists recommended to the TWFC that in Douglas Lake, a combined limit of stripers, hybrids and white bass be set at the current limit for white bass, with no size limits on the stripers and hybrids. The purpose is to reduce the population of stripers and hybrids in Douglas. Bart called because he knows that we obviously have a strong interest in striper and hybrid regulations and didn't want this to be a surprise to us. The TWFC included this recommendation in its proposed regulations for 2017.

I contacted the members of our Board of Directors, recommending that TSBA go on record as supporting this proposal. The Directors responded favorably, so I sent the following to TWRA:

"The Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc. has reviewed your proposed regulations for 2017-18. Our Board of Directors fully supports those proposals. In particular, we support your proposal for Douglas Reservoir and agree that elimination of striped bass and hybrid striped bass from that water body is appropriate in order to maintain a robust white bass population. TSBA fully supports TWRA in its efforts to maintain strong, diverse fisheries throughout the state. We look forward to continuing our long-standing relationship with TWRA in the future. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these regulations."

As noted in last month's newsletter, we will elect several members to our Board of Directors at our November 7 meeting. We are always looking for new people to serve TSBA, so if you'd like to be considered for one of these positions or if you'd be willing to serve as an officer for 2017, please let me know. Also remember that we need to know

about the topics and speakers you'd like to have for our 2017 meetings. Contact Cory Malabey or Bill Ballou if you have ideas on this.

Our next meeting will be on Nov. 7th at Puleo's Grill (110 Cedar Ln, just east of the I-75 / Merchants Road exit). Dinner is at 6 pm and the meeting is at 7 pm. We will have an open forum on any striped bass/hybrid-related topic you'd like to discuss. So bring your questions and we'll have the experts to help make you next trip even more successful.

### **Creel and Size Limits**

#### CHEROKEE LAKE

<u>Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:</u> 2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit

### NORRIS LAKE Striped Bass

April 1–October 31: 2 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit

November 1-March 31:1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit

### WATTS BAR Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:

April 1–October 31: 2 per day in combination

November 1–March 31: 2 per day in combination, only one may be a striped bass. **Striped Bass:** 

April 1–October 31:15 inch minimum length limit. November 1– March 31:36 inch minimum length limit

**Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit

#### MELTON HILL

Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass: 2 per day in combination, including Clinch River upstream to Highway 61 bridge in Clinton. Striped Bass: 32–42 inch PLR; only one fish may be over 42 inches

Hybrid Striped Bass: 15 inch minimum length limit

Cover photo Mike Johnson

# Members Photos



Dennis Bryant



Mike Johnson

# Outlook for current fishing spots

#### CHEROKEE LAKE

Lake turnover takes place in October; stripers will be recovering from the stress of summer water conditions. Expect the fish to scatter to any part of the reservoir that holds the most bait and suitable water temperature. You may want to change ends of the lake and go way upstream during and after turnover happens. Watch for top water breaks again. Looking for the large concentrations of baitfish and bait-eating birds is a good way to find stripers/hybrids.

### NORRIS LAKE

With the changing seasons, stripers will be free to roam the entire lake at any depth as the lake turnover develops. This makes finding large schools of baitfish, or looking for surface feeding fish, the key to success in catching fish in the month of November. The stripers are no longer stressed so catch-and-release begins to be successful again as the thermocline disappears. The creel and size limits change on stripers as of the first day of November to 36 inch minimum size and one fish creel.

### **WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL**

There will be some stripers still below the dams but they will scatter over much of the lake into the major creeks, rivers, and coves where the large concentrations of baitfish are located. There may be some that start to show up around the steam plants by month end. Watts Bar creel and size limits change on stripers as of the first day of November to 36 inch minimum size and one fish creel.

# Members Photos



Matt with another nice fish



### **Members Photos**



Charlie Book









## 2016 Meeting links

January Speaker: Ezell Cox Topic: Winter fishing tips

https://youtu.be/u70F-rTdoOw

February Speaker: Keith Shannon Topic: Keeping bait alive

https://youtu.be/UemqyFIN7Vs

<u>March</u> Speaker: Eric Burnett Topic: Outboard motor maintenance

April Speaker: Allan Franklin Topic: How to throw a cast net,

Catching bait.

May Speaker: Ken Cutsinger Topic: Ken will discuss his role as a

TWRA Game Warden and mounting a trophy fish. https://

youtu.be/3udxTWis9wU

<u>June</u> Speaker: Fuzzy Lambert Topic: Humminbird demonstration

https://youtu.be/sdPNpTGRlyc

August Speaker: Mike Smith Topic: TWRA fish stocking program

https://youtu.be/uHKXouttWlk

### YOUR 2016 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

**President:** Vice President:

Eric Rauch 865-223-9788 David Powell

erauch01@gmail.com

Treasurer: Secretary:

Art Muchow Keith Shannon

### **TSBA DIRECTORS**

Bill Ballou, Jim Blazer, Steve Nichols, Cory Malabey, David Powell, Eric Rauch, Allan Franklin

### **TSBA STAFF**

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**Sponsor Coordinator:** Justin Rose

**Co-op Supplies and** Justin Rose & Steve Nichols

**Raffle Prizes:** 

**Advisors:** Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Allan Franklin 865-694-8888

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### TSBA 2016 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			
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Enclose a check for \$20.00 Mail to: TSBA 2954 Lake Forest Circle Talbott, TN. 37877

**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 2954 Lake Forest Circle Talbott, Tn. 37877

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Association

GET HOOKED!