

*Catch
The Striper
Fever!*

T.S.B.A.



*The
Tennessee
Striped Bass
Association Newsletter*

MAY
2003

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Striper Bowl 2003 Winner
Bob Leach



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NEWS!

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is initiating a new program that acknowledges outstanding catches of fish by anglers in Tennessee. The announcement of the new Tennessee Angler Recognition Program was made at the January meeting of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission. This new program is designed

not only to recognize anglers for their exceptional Sportfish accomplishments, it will also encourage catch and release of trophy fish as well, and it will provide the TWRA with information on large fish caught throughout the state.

Anglers of any age who meet or exceed qualifying lengths of the fish listed below, can apply. Once approved, an angler will receive a color reproduction of the species of fish that they caught on a certificate suitable for framing. The artwork depicting each species of fish has been provided by renowned wildlife artist Joseph R. Tomelleri. To qualify, the fish must have been caught on or after January 1, 2003; it must meet or exceed the minimum length; it must have been legally caught in Tennessee waters by sportfishing methods only (rod and reel or cane pole); the length of the fish must be verified by either a witness or a photograph. A \$5.00 processing fee, per application, must also be enclosed.

Brochures, which include a description of the program as well as a trophy fish application, will soon be available at most bait shops and license agents across the state. These brochures can also be picked up at all TWRA Regional offices. For further information about this program, call the Fish Management Division in Nashville at 615-781-6575.

Minimum Trophy Fish Lengths

Species Length (inches)

Largemouth Bass 22	Walleye 28
Spotted Bass 18	Muskellunge 40
Smallmouth Bass 20	Brook Trout 10
Striped Bass 40	Brown Trout 26
Cherokee Bass (Hybrid) 30	Rainbow Trout 24
White Bass 18	Lake Trout 28
Crappie (Black or White) 14	Channel Catfish 30
Bluegill 10	Blue Catfish 34
Redear Sunfish 11	Flathead Catfish 34
Rock Bass 10	Common Carp 34
Sauger 20	

Let's Eat.....

Plain Old Fried Striper Filets

Preparation of Fillets: Remove ALL the red meat. Cut into chunks and soak in a solution of cold water, one cup of white vinegar and salt. Soak for at least one hour. Rinse and drain.

Dip fish in an eggwash and roll in a mixture of;

1 cup flour

1 cup of cornmeal

salt and pepper to taste.

Fry in HOT oil until golden brown.....



Boiled Striped Bass

1 Ea Striper, six-pound

1/2 cup Shallots, chopped

1/2 cup Mushrooms, chopped

1 ea Lemon

1 cup Tomatoes, peeled, chopped

1 tsp Chives, chopped

1 tsp Parsley, chopped

1 Tbsp Butter

2 cups Wine, Dry White

2 Eggs Yolks

1 cup Cream Sauce

Fillet and skin the Striper. Cook it in wine in a hot oven in the juice of a lemon and a Tbsp of Butter for 15 minutes. Remove the fillets; reduce the cooking liquid by boiling, then add the chopped tomatoes and cook the works until done. Finally, add 1 cup Cream sauce, chopped parsley, chopped chives, and the two egg yolks. Cook, stirring until thick and creamy. Pour over the fillets and serve.

May Expectations

Water temperatures will continue to rise and the fish will be moving into the summertime areas. Deeper waters will be the areas of choice and downlines will more than likely be the most productive method. Deeper into the summer the mortality rate of the released fish will increase to an unacceptable level in the reservoirs. The boils will be the only acceptable place to attempt live release of any Striped Bass.

Fishing Hot Spots



Watts Bar & Melton Hill Steamplants

Current Rating:

Notes: A few small fish are being caught at the steamplant.

Location: Best from the steamplant up to Melton Hill Dam.

Cherokee Lake

Current Rating: Poor

Notes: Shad are in limited supply in all locations.

Location: Fish point 14 upstream to the steamplant.

Norris Lake

Current Rating: Fair but Improving.

Location: Point 19 to 27 on the Clinch. Point 11 to 14 on the Powell. The major creeks have also had some reported catches.

Check the website for "Current" Fishing conditions.

New Password:

The current password:

Username: "tsba"

Password: "club"

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

www.TNStripedBass.com

2003 TSBA Calendar

Attend TSBA sponsored tournaments & join us at the meetings.

April 28th: Monthly Meeting. MOUNTAIN LAKE LODGE at Mountain Lake Lodge on Norris Lake. Dinner: 6PM. Meeting: 7PM

May 25th Tournament on Norris
Call Allan Franklin for details 6948888

**Other Dates Will be added*

Letter From The "Prez"

Hello striper gals and guys.....

Well, the March meeting was a little better. We had several more in attendance. I want to thank Bob Leach for his talk about the TVA and lake draw downs.

We had the STRIPER BOWL on April 6th at Oak Grove Boat launch on Cherokee Lake. The trophy of GOLD is now in the hands of Bob Leach as he won the coveted prize with an 18.6 pound striper. Larry Achley won second place with his 10.8 pound striper and Ezell Cox won third with a 3 pound Hybrid.

Last year we had fifty members show up to fish the Striper Bowl. This year I was really disappointed when only 10 members showed up to fish the 2003 STRIPER BOWL. It's bad enough that no more showed up to fish it, but knowing that this is the way we raise money for the door prizes for the YOUTH TOURNAMENT and we had only 10 members concerned enough about the youth to come and fish in the tournament really burns me up.

I think that unless you were sick or have a really good reason for not being there, you should send the TSBA \$10 to go towards buying the door prizes for the youth tournament. I AM NOT KIDDING ABOUT THIS. I am hoping to see more involvement in club activities in the future. I can not run this club by myself or with the help of just 4 or 5 others.

Please don't be offended about what I have said, but do think about why we have our club. I do need all the help I can get. Thank You:

Your Striper Friend and Prez, Allan

Economics Effects of Lake Levels by Bob Leach....

On Tuesday March 18, 2003, I attended a meeting at Walters State Community College. Dr. Matt Murray, the associate director of the Business Research Institute for the University of Tennessee, presented the preliminary results of the \$150,000 TVA funded study to determine the economic impact of delaying the annual draw down on Boone, Cherokee, Douglas, Norris, South Holston, and Watauga Lakes. The present TVA policy is to start drawing down these lakes on August 1st. This policy has come under fire from many of the residents on these lakes. They want the TVA to delay the starting date as they claim it negatively impacts their property values and the entire area suffers a significant economic impact due to the lost jobs and reduced revenues. The purpose of this study was to determine the magnitude of the economic gain to the area and landowners if the draw down was delayed two months. This study did not take into account any effects of water quality, power generation, navigation, or flood control.

One of the techniques Dr. Murray and his researchers used was to conduct various surveys. The first was to randomly survey the people using the lakes and ask them a series of questions. The surveys were conducted at boat ramps, recreational areas, marinas, and campgrounds. Analyzing this data reveals several very interesting facts to me. First of all, I was surprised at the large number of non-residents using our reservoirs. 57.4% of the people using Lake Norris are non-residents. I find that astounding. I was even more surprised as to how little money our out-of-state users brought into the area. The net economic impact of the spending of the average non-resident user of Lake Norris is \$13 per day. If the draw down was delayed by two months, there would be an additional 275,608 non-resident visitor days on all of the six lakes. We were told that was 6 to 7 percent of the total. I would have guessed a much higher number. continued on next page.....

Finally, the economic impact on the state for a two month delay on the draw down was determined to be 1.89 million dollars. Again, that number was surprisingly low and disappointing to the landowners.

The next part of the study was to attempt to determine the effect on property values if the draw down was delayed. The first thing the researchers did was to send out surveys to 1000 landowners. One of the questions they were asked was their opinion as to how their property values would be affected. The average response was an increase of \$8,900 for Cherokee and \$18,000 for Douglas landowners. One thing that surprised the researchers was that only 11.9% of the 1000 Cherokee survey recipients responded to the survey. According to Matt Murray, he would expect a response in that area from a survey where the respondent had no significant interest. The Douglas response was higher, 20.8%. Another interesting thing was that for one of the lakes, the response was that their property values would go down!!! Figure that out.

Finally, the researchers used a statistical analysis to attempt to determine a relationship between the value of the property and its distance to the water. This had nothing to do with the delayed draw down. How much more are houses closer to the water worth? From that, they developed their own estimate as to the effect of a delayed draw down. This essentially meant that the house would be closer to the water for a longer period. Based upon this analysis they determined that the landowners assessment as to the increase in their property values was much higher than its actual worth. The study indicated that the average property value would be increased by \$1300 for Cherokee Lake property and \$2240 for Douglas Lake property.

Overall, the results of this professional survey did not give the lakeside property owners any ammunition in their quest to have the lakes maintained at summer levels for any longer than they are now. The economics are not there!!!!

Also, the study did not consider other things like water quality, power generation, flood control, or navigation.

TSBA Merchandise



Hats are gray w/ a Striper on the front & the letters TSBA in green. Adult T-shirts are gray or tan depending on availability in sizes w/ a Striper and Tennessee Striped Bass Association embroidered in green. Kids shirts are gray.. Sweatshirts are hunter green with TSBA in gray on front & Catch the Fever on the back with a Striper & fishing rod.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Hats Number of **Winter** T.S.B.A. Hats _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____

 Number of **Summer** T.S.B.A. Hats _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____

Kids Shirts

Number of Shirts (*kids size medium 10-12*) _____ X \$8.00 = \$ _____

 Number of Shirts (*kids size large 14-16*) _____ X \$8.00 = \$ _____

Adult Shirts

Number of Shirts (*adult size small*) _____ X \$12.00 = \$ _____

Number of Shirts (*adult size medium*) _____ X \$12.00 = \$ _____

Number of Shirts (*adult size large*) _____ X \$12.00 = \$ _____

Number of Shirts (*adult size xtra-large*) _____ X \$12.00 = \$ _____

Number of Shirts (*adult size 2X*) _____ X \$14.00 = \$ _____

Number of Shirts (*adult size 3X*) _____ X \$16.00 = \$ _____

Adult Sweatshirts

Number of *adult size medium* _____ X \$22.00 = \$ _____

Number of *adult size large* _____ X \$22.00 = \$ _____

Number of *adult size xtra-large* _____ X \$22.00 = \$ _____

Number of *adult size 2X* _____ X \$24.00 = \$ _____

\$5.00 to ship 1 to 2 items or \$8.00 3 or more items Shipping \$ _____

Order Total \$ _____

TSBA
Page

Make checks payable to the "TSBA". Do not send cash! Mail to:

TSBA Merchandise

4612 Woodbridge Lane Knoxville Tennessee 37921

2003 Striper Bowl

The 2003 Striper Bowl was held on Cherokee Lake Sunday April 6th. This was probably the most unusual striper bowl of all. First of all, the turnout was unexpectedly low as only 10 members participated as compared to 50 last year!!!! This was quite surprising to all of those who did show up and I am sure that it will be a topic of conversation at future TSBA meetings. The recent weather may have been partly responsible for the poor turnout as it was extremely difficult to obtain bait. The day before the tourney, I went out to Cherokee to catch some shad for the tournament. I visited all of my favorite places to catch bait. After five hours of net casting, I had the following - two monster 10" shad, three 5-6' shad, two 3' shad and two small Bluegills which I saved because I was desperate. I finally quit as it was getting dark, my arm was sore, and I knew I could get a few more nice sized shad from someone before the tourney started. When I arrived at the Oak Grove boat launch on the day of the tourney, I thought that they must have changed the launch location or the tournament date as there weren't very many vehicles there and was relieved when I saw the club president, Allan Franklin. I soon found out that there was no bait to borrow and as it turned out, I had better bait than most of the fisherman. With that, I headed off to my favorite spot for that time of year.

continued on page 7

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423-587-2200

Ask for the "TSBA Rate"

2003 Striper Bowl continued.....

My first rigging was actually quite comical. I used two planer boards and two bottles. On these I had the following baits; one 10" monster shad, which I didn't think would do any good on Cherokee, one nice-sized 5-6" shad, one 3-4" shad, and one bluegill. I wanted to save the other 5-6" shad until I marked a lot of stripers on my depth finder. Needless to say, I was not very confident. Shortly after I entered my second fishing hole, the line with the 10" shad went down hard and I knew I had a descent fish on due to the size of the bait it took. While I was fighting it, the line with the small 3-4" shad went down. I ignored it as it didn't even jerk off the planer board. The first fish was an 18lb 6oz striper which turned out to be the winning fish of the tournament. The second fish was a one pound smallmouth which quickly went back into the lake. When I got back to the weigh-in, I was surprised to find out that I had actually won the tournament. I assumed that someone would catch two stripers with a total exceeding the weight of the one fish but that was not the case.

Needless to say, I had a great time and sincerely hope that the attendance at future Striper Bowls increases significantly. It was fun just to visit with my peers and find out what they were doing.

Bob Leach .

Mountain Lake Marina and Campground

On Norris Lake

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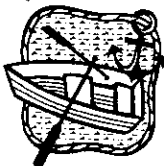
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HELP!

The TSBA needs articles and pictures for the newsletter.

Please e-mail them to:

Tom@TNStripedBass.com

**YOUR
PICTURE
HERE!**

"JPG" FORMAT PLEASE



The TSBA is a non-profit organization, 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.

The Tennessee Striped Bass Association
PO Box 962
Norris, Tennessee 37828

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Kids Tournament June 22nd
Details Next Newsletter!

Congratulations
Bob Leach
Striper Bowl 2003 Winner