

Catch
The
Striper
Fever!

T.S.B.A.



*Tennessee
Striped Bass
Association,
Inc.
Newsletter*

**May
2005**

Kids' Fishing Day

June 19

*Donations for Kids' Fishing Day
are welcome.*

President's Letter



Club Meetings:

I want to say thanks to all the TSBA members that are taking part in the club meetings. We have really been having some fun and informative meetings lately. If you have not been able to attend, you are really missing out. We are learning a lot from some of the best striper fishermen around, and it is not just the newer members who are benefiting. If you look around the room at some of the more experienced anglers, you can catch a glimpse of "Wow! I didn't know that" in someone's expression.

Some of the topics covered so far include the operation of striper tubes and catching, keeping, and presenting live bait. The latest presentation on trolling tactics covering lots of different equipment including but not limited to downriggers and umbrella rigs was great. If you haven't been to a meeting lately you have missed out on some great information. So make plans to attend the next meeting, and you may just learn something that helps you catch more fish.

Our meeting on May 16th will be held at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery in Clinton, TN. This is always a very popular meeting. Not only will you hear a great presentation by Mike Smith, but you will enjoy free pizza and soft drinks. We will take a tour of the hatchery and see the tanks with all the little stripers.

In June the monthly meeting will be moved back to Shoney's on Clinton Highway in Knoxville.

| | |
|---|---|
|  | StripersAndMoore |
| Chet Moore Fishing Guide Extraordinary Knoxville, TN. 37909 865-607-6120 cell 865-539-6120 fax chet@knology.net stripersandmoore.com |  |

President's Letter - Page 2

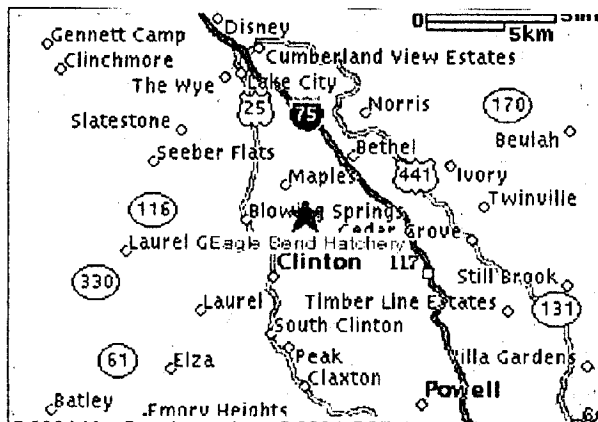
Mailing List:

Some of you received an email from me a few days ago. I have been compiling an email list of TSBA members, to try and improve our communications. It is not intended to cover you up with junk mail, and it will not be used for that. It will be used as a tool to get information to our members quickly. I'm sure that our tournament director, Bob Leach, will be writing to you, explaining some things that we are looking at doing different in regards to our tournaments - like not committing to a certain launch site a week or month in advance. We can make announcements late in the week for things taking place on the weekend, such as tournament launch times and launch sites. In addition to the mailing list, watch the website fishing reports and calendar for information that is important to the club. If you did not get a test email from me and would like to be on the list, just email me jseiber@tennstripedbass.com and I will add you to this list.

And be sure to take a camera fishing with you. I would like to get your picture on the website with a big fish.

John Seiber

Map to Eagle
Bend Fish
Hatchery



2005 Tournament Trail

April 16th tournament - The second TSBA tournament of 2005 was held on Cherokee Lake. A total of 17 anglers launched from the Oak Grove boat ramp at first safe light. Everything went quite well except that the stripers weren't all that hungry. The top three finishers were: Bill Ballou - 17/03, Bill Cate - 07/03, and Bob Leach at 06/11 pounds. Both Bill Cate and I want to thank Ezell for releasing a steeper just under 8 pounds that would have placed second. He assumed, as I did, that the weights for the top finishers would be well into the high teens based upon the fish that were being caught prior to the tournament. You never really know about steeper fishing. Just a few days before the tournament, Rocky Hollow was red hot, but only one fish was caught there during our event. The results of this and previous TSBA tournaments prompted me to explore ways to improve the numbers of fish being caught during our outings. We have developed several ideas to pursue before the next event.

The overall leaders for the "TSBA Angler of the Year" award are as follows: Wes Adams - 25/11, Bill Ballou - 17/03, Mark Beggs - 14/02, Bobby Hall - 13/12, and Charlie Beggs - 12/03.

May 21 - The next TSBA tournament will be on Cherokee on May 21. By then, most stripers will have migrated farther downstream so we will probably be launching at the Grainger County Park, but we are going to officially announce the launch location and time closer to the event date in an attempt to select the location closest to where we think most members will be fishing. Also, we will probably make this an afternoon outing as this would overcome most of the concerns for those who do not live close to Cherokee. We sincerely would appreciate any input from you as we want to make these tournaments as good as we can so we can all have a good time with our buddies.

Bob Leach

Cumberland River Excursion

As you know, the first of two excursions to the Cumberland River is scheduled for the weekend of June 10 -12. You need to make your reservations now as the only motel in Carthage will fill up rapidly as this is prime time on these waters. Call Larry at the Budget Motel in Carthage at 615--735-1300 and reserve your room. Be sure and tell him that you are with the TSBA. Singles are \$38.50 and doubles are 48.50. This motel is perfectly located and really set up for striper fishermen. You can back your rig up to your door and run an electric cord under the door to charge your batteries. If you went last year, you know how much fun everyone had and you do have a chance at a real trophy. The directions to the motel are in the April newsletter. As an added bonus, you will get to see many of your out-of state buddies.

What a difference a day makes

As most of you know, the NSBA had a tournament on Cherokee the weekend of April 23rd. The week before the tournament Bill Cate asked me to go out with him to find some good spots for him to fish during this tournament. We found two great spots that we knew couldn't miss. Two days before the tournament we caught and released 17 fish at one of the spots and we could have caught many more. The second spot was almost as good. Furthermore, no one else was fishing there!! When Bill asked me to join him and Larry Atchley in the tournament, I got excited as I absolutely knew that we would do very well. How could we miss. Unfortunately, the weather changed drastically just before the tournament, and there were no stripers in either of our "Couldn't Miss" hot spots. We caught a few small hybrids and that was it. In our defense, the weather was horrible. This was just a reminder to me that there are no guarantees in hunting or fishing and there are definitely no sure things. I guess it wouldn't be as much fun if things always went as we planned them.

Bob Leach

Fishing Hot Spots



Cherokee Lake: Good

Point #1 at the dam upstream to Point #21 above the 25E bridge. Hybrids are more tolerant of the warm water and can often be caught in schools in shallow water. They can also be released normally without mortality. The humps in the middle of the lake near the dam usually become excellent.

Norris Lake: Fair

33 Bridge downstream to Point #19 on the Clinch side. Below Point #14 at Blue Springs downstream to Point #11 below Springs Dock on the Powell side. Look on the inside bends of the river and in front of the major coves with creek feeds.

Below Fort Loudon & Melton Hill Dams: Good & Improving

Many of the stripers will go upstream to the discharge at the dams. Put your sinker and hook close to the bottom with plans to lose a few for the most catches. Pulling side planer boards down the banks can also catch fish for miles downstream.

Monthly Meeting - May 16

Mike (Stump) Smith, TWRA presents Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery Tour in Clinton - Pizza will be served at 6:00 p.m. Mike is one of the most knowledgeable people around here on Striped Bass. He will have brood fish and babies for everybody to see.

Monthly Meeting - June 20

Allan Franklin presents
"Strategies and Tactics for Fishing the Bulls"

Annual Allan Franklin Kids' Fishing Day Event

Sunday, June 19

6:30-9:30 a.m.

Launch at Cherokee Dam off Hwy. 92

Lots of fun and prizes!!!

***** Please pre-register so
trophies may be ordered.**

**Call Allan Franklin at 865-805-3120
no later than June 10.**

Many members have asked if there is a way to donate to this cause to help purchase prizes for the kids. If you would like to help fund the Kids' Fishing Day, you can give prizes to Allan Franklin or mail a donation to:

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

We wish to thank all the members who have helped with this event over the years. With your help, we have been able to give the kids some nice fishing equipment. Thanks.

Minutes of the April Meeting

It was fun for me to do the presentation this month on trolling tactics - planer boards, downriggers, and umbrella rigs. There are certain times of the year when downriggers work better than live bait. Make sure to check the fishing regulations for use of umbrella rigs. In Tennessee, you may only use one single hook on the entire umbrella rig.

Allan Franklin attended the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force meeting in Nashville. The task force is forming now and asking our club to identify potential nuisances and bring information back. It is unlawful to possess blueback herring in the State of Tennessee. In order to be sure, only place gizzard shad or yellowtails in your bait tank. The next task force meeting will be in July.

Kids' Fishing Day has been changed to June 19, 2005.

The Norris Lake Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery on May 10. Ezell Cox and Eric Rauch will be the official TSBA representatives at that meeting.

Dave Johnson
TSBA Secretary

Reminder: Take a camera with you when you go fishing, and send your pictures to Janine @TennStripedBass.com

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Letter from the Secretary

COURTESY

A polite favor or act.

1. Take the time to prepare your boat before backing onto the launch ramp. When finished fishing and you've pulled your boat out, drive far enough away so as not to block someone else's turn-around space. This is called boat ramp COURTESY.
2. It is not proper to buzz a jet ski or any other boat on the water. It also is unlawful. Give the other watercraft room or just slow down as a COURTESY.
3. There are several guides in our club and their help and valuable fishing information such as Fishing Hot Spot Tips are deeply appreciated. So as an act of COURTESY, when you see one of them on the lake, don't park next to them, they may have a client, and your lack of COURTESY will not be appreciated. The lakes and rivers are here for all of us to use and enjoy, so please show common COURTESY when fishing.

By Dave Johnson

Question of the Month

Question: What brand fish hook do you use?

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|----|
| Answer: | Gamakatsu | 11 |
| | Eagle Claw | 7 |
| | Anything | 3 |
| | Eagle Claw Style 43 | 1 |

Fishing Adventures with Captain David Blind

Our not yet famous captain had set his sites on the trophy of a lifetime and dropped his rig into Melton Hill Lake. He had heard the stories of record breaking fish at the steam plant, and he headed upstream from the ramp hoping that this evening's fishing would be something special. Captain Blind could not have known just how special the night would be. Our hero had it all planned out. He left his VHF radio at home thinking that this narrow little lake would present no problem. If the big motor failed, he would just troll to the shore and get some help. If that were not possible, he would just use his trusty flare gun to signal for help. I mean how many of the other guys in the club are prepared with a flare gun?

Upstream at thirty miles per hour dreams of the big one clouded his mind and eclipsed all other thoughts, including caution and concentration. I mean he says to himself, I've been offshore in this rig and tamed large reservoirs like Kerr, Norris, and Cherokee. This small waterway is a "no-brainer" even in the dark. Even a "Blind Man" (this is his official call sign on the radio) could make this trip. It's 6:45 p.m. and all is well.

Oops! The large V-bottom comes to a smooth slow stop. You know immediately that it's not rock or sand but that slick goeey muck. Relieved that the bottom of the boat was not hurt our master boatman planned his extrication from the mud bar. Trying both reverse and forward gears to no avail Capt. Blind decides to go overboard. Oh no I've sucked my shoes off, both of them. Finding a long log and using it as a pry bar he succeeds in mangling the speedometer apparatus, but the boat is immovable. Thirty mph of momentum has put the boat a long way from deep

water. Now it starts to rain. Then it pours, and it blows, and lightening puts on a spectacular show. Discovering that the rain gear is not on board does not help. The thunder comes at the same time you see the flash and our fearless hero is transformed into humble and the defeated.

BREAKER 1-9, BREAKER 1-9, anyone got a copy, this is the "Blind Man." Boy, it sure is a good thing I have my CB radio, Dave consoles himself. 10-4 good buddy, the trucker responds. The truck driver calls the county sheriff's office and they in turn notify the Anderson County Rescue Squad. Sit and wait, cold and wet.

9:30 p.m. The Blind Man hears the purr of an underpowered flat bottom boat and fires his flare gun. Shouldn't have angled that into the wind like that, he thinks as the flare starts to drift back toward the boat. A fire in the boat would be all I need tonight. The God of the winds decided to have pity on the poor sap and the flare does narrowly miss the boat. The rescue squad tries with no luck to pull the boat off with their 14 ft. Jon and its 25 ponies. They do take Dave to shore and get his hypothermia under control.

Back at the house warm in bed thinking of his wonderful craft still stuck in the mud he tries to think of a way to tell his story and retain some sense of dignity. Well Dave I'll give you one suggestion. Don't tell me next time. I'll blab it all over the country. I did hear that they got your boat off the bar at 4:30 a.m. when the big boat was available. I guess they had to help another world class skipper in trouble on a little Tennessee Lake.

By "Dr. D" Mel Donesky

(Reprinted from 1998 when Dr. D. was TSBA President.)

Mountain Lake Marina & Campground

The Mountain Lake Marina & Campground is strategically located on beautiful Norris lake just 4.5 miles from I-75 exit 128. Mountain Lake is a full-service RV resort and marina with many amenities as shown on their website. Also, it was voted Tennessee's "Campground of the Year" for 2003 - 2004.

2005 Summertime Activities

Starting in June and running through August, there will be a **Happy Hour** from 6 to 8 PM on Friday and Saturday nights - This means \$1 beer, free popcorn and music. Double D Band every other Saturday night.

Other activities are listed below:

| | |
|------|---|
| May | Saturday 21st - Annual Employee/Customer Appreciation Event |
| June | Saturday 18th - Mardi Gras |
| July | Saturday 30th - Luau |

Paddle Boat Races to be scheduled.

Mountain Lake marina owners, Miles and Jan Owens, have 80'x16' houseboats for rent. These boats are fully-loaded, and they can be rented by the week, Monday-Thursday or for the weekend which is Friday through Sunday. Each boat has 6 private bedrooms, 2 full baths, a leather sleeper sofa, big screen TV, VCR, DVD, Play Station 2, GameCube, satellite radio, CD player, party top Flybridge, 6 person hot tub, tubular slide, marine radio, fully-equipped kitchen, smoothie maker, central A/C & heat, full-size dryer, 2 electric grills and patio furniture.

Call at 865-426-6510 or toll-free at 877-MTN-CAMP or go on-line at www.mountainlaketennessee.com for more information on their excellent Marina. You can also send them an E-mail at mtnlaketrn@aol.com. Please support these nice folks and their excellent facility.



**Cherokee
Tourney
Group**

April 15



**Cherokee
Tourney
Winner**

**Bill
Ballou**

**17 lb.
3 oz.**

**Dennis
Bryant**

April 4
29 lb. 2 oz.

Cherokee



June Expectations

The reservoir stripers have finished the spawn run and continue to move slowly downstream as the thermocline gets deeper. Top water action is in the early morning or not at all, but a good fish finder will start showing the schools of stripers that are deep enough not to shy away from the boat. The confluence of the major creeks and old river channel near mid lake are good target areas. The large, shallow flats that transition quickly to deep water are also excellent places for stripers to hold. The stripers normally feed aggressively after the spawn is complete. Catch and release starts to become questionable this month; however, in the tailrace and rivers below dams you will be able to release successfully during most of the early summer. The stripers will continue to migrate to the tailrace discharge the entire month of June and should be great by month end.

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: "bait"

Password: "tank"

Super 8 Motel

2430 E. Andrew Johnson Hwy.
Morristown, TN 37814



(423) 586-8880

<http://www.super8.com>

See you along the way.

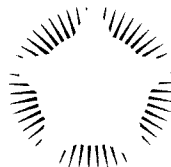
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YOUR 2005 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF

President:

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

Vice President:

Felix Taylor 865-981-2827
Felix@tennstripedbass.com

Treasurer:

Janine Johnson

Secretary:

Dave Johnson

TSBA DIRECTORS

Ves Adams, Ed Baker, Ezell Cox, Allan Franklin,
Kevin Mason, 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: | Bob Leach | 865-471-1365 |
| Kids' Fishing Day: | Allan Franklin | 865-805-3120 |
| Cumberland | | |
| River Trips: | Bob Leach | 865-471-1365 |
| | Felix Taylor | 865-981-2827 |
| Door Prizes: | Bill Cate | 865-933-9431 |
| Merchandising: | Kept In Stitches | 865-981-2827 |



Lighthouse Marina

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Norris, TN 37828

Norris Dam Marina
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Norris, TN 37828-1587

Mountain Lake Marina and Campground

On Norris Lake
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Letter from the Vice President

The Future By Felix Taylor

The future of our sport and everything else on the Earth will be in the hands of our children. It is important that we teach them respect for fishing by being examples of respect. When fishing with kids, the time spent together is vastly more important than how many fish are caught and how big.

Kids have much shorter attention spans and higher energy levels. They will not be happy sitting still very long with little activity. Young minds are like sponges, and they will soak up everything taught them, good or bad.

A lot of my time fishing is done with my children or is done around my children's other activities. This puts a lot of limits on what I can do and how long I can stay doing it. The rewards are great though. There is nothing better than the smile on a kids face when fish come to the boat. Doesn't matter if it's bait in the net, a 1/2 pound crappie, or a big striper.

I think it's important to involve kids in planning for a trip. Talk about what they would like to do. Get out a map and teach them how to read it. Show them how to prepare the boat and gear you will use. Let them drive the boat when possible. Teach them the "rules of the road" and boating as well as fishing courtesy. My Dad was too busy to take me fishing. He would take me along to work, and I enjoyed that time with him. All I know about fishing I have learned as an adult. Somehow I think I would have learned more if he had taken me fishing when I was a kid.



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2005 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.

- May 16:** Monthly Meeting & Tour at Fish Hatchery in Clinton
Speaker: Mike (Stump) Smith, TWRA
Pizza & Drinks - 6:00 PM
- May 21:** Tournament on Cherokee
- June 10-12:** Cumberland River Trip
- June 19:** Kids Fishing Day-Cherokee
- June 20:** Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
- June 26:** Open Fishing on Cherokee
- July 9:** Open Fishing on Cherokee
- July 18:** Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
- July 23:** Open Fishing on Melton Hill
- July 29-31:** Cumberland River Trip
- August 15:** Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
- August 20:** Tournament on Melton Hill
- September 10:** TSBA Fish Fry & Reunion (Monthly Meeting)
- September 17:** Open Fishing on Cherokee
- October 17:** Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
- October 22:** Open Fishing on Cherokee
- November 12:** Open Fishing on Norris
- November 21:** Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
- December 19:** Board of Directors Meeting - 6 PM

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Pager 1-888-271-1195

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 \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Kept In Stitches". Do not send cash!

Mail to: **TSBA Merchandise**

T.S.B.A. 2005 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 2005 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 21
Tournament on Cherokee
June 10-12
Cumberland River Trip**

