

**Catch
The
Striper
Fever!**

TSBA.



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

**July
2006**

Kids Fishing Day
More Pictures Inside



President's Letter

Hooked on Circles ?

During the spring and summer of this year, I have had my share of lost fish. It has been something like, put bait in water, fish hits, bait dies, and fish swims away. I have tried J-Hooks and Circle-Hooks and had the same results. So to say the least, I was not for or against either at this point. Although I didn't, I was even tempted to try treble hooks, and I even have some in my tackle box. Then after fishing several times with a friend who uses only circle hooks, I began to have a little more success. I will have to admit that I was somewhat reserved at first, because I had tried them in the past and had caught a few fish and had missed a few. But after getting some instruction on how to **NOT** set the hook, and how to hook the bait properly, I began to have a better hookup ratio. I would like to note, however, that not all circle hooks are created equal. I have tried the "Circle-Sea" hooks made by Eagle Claw, and I have tried the "Octopus" circle hooks as well. The Circle-Sea has a straight shank on the back, and the Octopus has a bend near the eye of the hook. I was told that the Octopus style would be more likely to deep hook a fish, than the Circle-Sea with the straight shank. Well, I had already bought them and decided to give them a try to see for myself. My first fish with that hook was hooked deep, and the hook could not be removed. So far all the fish on the Circle-Sea has been hooked in the lip, resulting in little to no injury to the fish.

I know that most of us have our preferences as to what type of hook, line, type of fishing, and so on, but don't be afraid to try something different. It could be that the thing that you have been skeptical of or afraid to try might just be something that you will actually enjoy. I am expecting my shipment from Cabelas today that has my big box of new circle hooks.

Know the Law

It seems that, every now and then, you hear someone talking about getting a citation for something that they didn't know was illegal. Sometimes people get into situations that they thought were safe, only to have an accident or a close call. I talk to people fishing on Melton Hill Lake who say that they have no idea that there is a protected size limit on striped bass there. A couple years ago, a fellow had an article written and put in the local newspaper that described his fish with weight and length. The unfortunate fisherman found out later that his fish was not legal to harvest. He was issued a citation and found out the hard way about Melton Hill's slot limit. It is our responsibility to know the laws concerning safe boating and the regulations for the fish that we are fishing for. Don't just take someone's word for it; you need to look it up for yourself. The TSBA website has a link to the current fishing regulations that are posted on the TWRA website. Don't find out the hard way and try to plead ignorance to the law, because that usually doesn't work. Another thing that stands out in my mind is the practice of people getting out of their boat to stand on the concrete wing wall on Melton Hill Dam. You can see people doing it all the time, and probably most of them don't know that it is illegal. But if the police officer there wishes, he can write you a citation.

If you read an article describing a fishing or boating technique, be sure to check it out before you try it. It may have a regulation prohibiting it, or it may just be a dangerous practice. One lake may have a different size or creel limit from another lake. Again read the statewide regulations, and then read the exceptions to statewide concerning the body of water that you intend to fish.

Be safe and be legal.
I hope to see you on the water soon,

John Seiber

2006 YOUTH STRIPER TOURNAMENT AND KIDS DAY

Hello everyone, I just want to thank everyone that had a part in this year's YOUTH STRIPER TOURNAMENT AND KIDS DAY. If you donated money, door prizes, your time, fished in the StriperBowl, or helped out in any way, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. If not for you all, then it would not be possible for us to do all we do for these kids.

Now with that said, we had 20 kids this year that came out to go fishing and play. There were several that went swimming and played in the water before we started eating and giving out door prizes. Not all the kids caught fish, but from the look on their faces, the full bellies from the peanut butter and jelly and bologna sandwiches, and all the great door prizes, I think everyone had a great time.

I think changing the time from early in the morning to later in the afternoon was a huge success, so I believe we will stick with the afternoon time next year. Once again, thank you all for all you did to make this year's Kids Day a great success.

Your striper friend Allan Franklin





Boat
Captains



More Pics from Kids Fishing Day!





Fishing Hot Spots



Cherokee Lake: Hit and Miss Daily

The best fishing will be near the NO FISHING ZONE at the dam. Hybrids can often be caught in shallow water and successfully released in water that exceeds 80 degrees F. Look around all the little islands near the dam that hold baitfish.

Norris Lake: Good

Most of the big stripers will be near the dam. Point #9 downstream and in Big Creek and Cove Creek.

To review the dissolved oxygen level data, go to www.TNStripedBass.com. Click on "TWRA Region 4." Then click on "Water Quality."

Below Fort Loudoun & Melton Hill Dams: Good

August is normally the best month of the year to fish the tailrace. Remember, if the bottom doesn't grab your bait occasionally, you are not fishing deep enough.

Any Cold Water:

Good where stripers have access.

Investigate some of these and other rivers:

Cumberland - Caney Fork - Clinch - Little Tennessee.

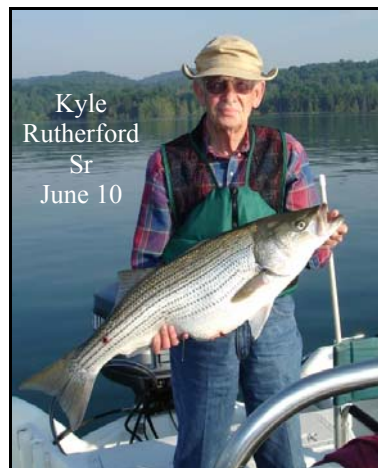
August Expectations

The larger stripers will be seeking the coolest refuge that is available. Stripers in the larger reservoirs will still have some of last winter's cold water stored at depth and hopefully enough dissolved oxygen to survive. The stripers will move out of the shallow warm coves to the main channel or deep coves near the dam. A good topographical map and fish finder are great fishing tools. Look for unusual humps, bends, and drop-offs on the old river channel below the thermocline. The fishing can be good at night to avoid an unpleasant day trip that has storms, pleasure boaters, and heat. August is a catch and kill month except at some tailraces with a temperature of less than 70 degrees F. It also has some of the best tailrace fishing of the entire year. Wear a good life jacket while fishing tailraces.

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"



May 27 Cherokee Tournament Results

The three top finishers were:

Ezell Cox: 22.6 lbs.

Dennis Bryant: 17.4 lbs.

Erik Engebretsen: 14.6 lbs.



Ezell
Cox
&
Scruffy



Dennis
Bryant



Erik
Engebretsen



Paul
Lawson

ARE YOU GOOD ENOUGH?

If you look around at the people around you doing their normal everyday family, work, and play activities, it becomes obvious that some are better than others at whatever they do. Some become so much better than the rest of us that they are considered experts and professionals in the area of their expertise. It is easy to see a little envy and desire to be as accomplished as those experts and professionals as they perform at the top of their league. If you are over the age of 12 and have not already started your training and planning to be the next Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods, or Richard Petty, you are too late. Even then you have started at an early age, and the luck of the genetics you inherited from your parents may give you a ho-hum performance.

Striper fishing is one of those hobbies that does not require a lifetime of training or a special genetic inheritance. Everyone does not have to be the well-known, recognized name in fishing to enjoy the sport. Most of us would rather keep it as a hobby, not work. You do not even have to catch fish every time you go to enjoy the trip, but it does add to the excitement.

The best way to add to the excitement of catching more fish is to research and study your target species so you can catch more. The availability of information is no longer a problem since fresh water striper fishing has been around for more than 40 years. Monthly publications that target the upcoming season on some of the best known rivers and lakes tell you where and when. There are often publications of the many how-to methods, like downriggers, outriggers, lead core, casting, trolling, artificial bait, cut bait, and live bait. Information from websites and fishing boards can tell you where you should have been today so you can be there tomorrow. Most of the experienced fishermen enjoy helping and showing someone the methods and places just to watch the smiles.

If you are just starting to fish for stripers, you should try to fish with as many different people as you can that have some history in the sport, even if it means you need to hire a guide. This can save you money and show the different places, equipment, and styles that work.

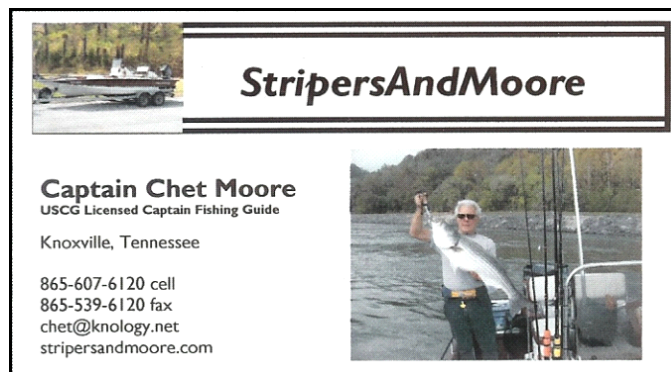
Some golf enthusiast made a comment to a great golfer about how good he was, and the great golfer said, "The more I practice, the better I get." The same is true in most pursuits of becoming better with your family, hobby, or work. It all comes down to the question of ARE YOU GOOD ENOUGH TO ENJOY YOUR ADVENTURES IN LIFE?

Ezell Cox

Stripers and 'Moore' Fishing Guide Service

Tennessee has some of the very best striper fishing in the country most any time of the year. The state record is a mammoth 65 lb. 6 oz: caught in the waters we fish on a regular basis. Come fish with us. You may be the next record holder.

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For more information or to book a trip visit our web site www.stripersandmoore.com or contact Chet Moore:
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Aaron
&
Kenny
Mowery

June 3



Remember

July 22
Open Fishing & Family Day

Anderson County Park on Norris Lake

Fishing 6:00 a.m.

Meet back at the pavilion for lunch at 11:30 or 12:00



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YOUR 2006 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF

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Door Prizes: Dave Johnson Dave@tennstribedbass.com

Merchandising: Kept In Stitches 865-379-8278
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Minutes of the June Meeting

Allan Franklin thanked everyone for helping to make the Kids Day a success. There were plenty of door prizes and food. Every child received a pair of binoculars. All 20 kids were winners.

Allan gave a presentation on how to fish below a dam. You need a good, stiff rod to get the fish in fast - 40 lb. test to the swivel, 25 lb. test from the swivel to the hook. Use a wide gap hook - Gamakatsu Octopus. Going bigger in size with the hook to get around the lip works better. Save a considerable amount of money using old lead from a damaged/destroyed shad net. Most important, be a courteous boater. Don't run over other boats on your ride back up to the dam.

Allan will be contacting Ken Cutsinger to be the guest speaker at the August meeting.

*Dave Johnson
TSBA Secretary*

Question of the Month

How old are your boat trailer tires?

Answer: The time frame was from two weeks to five years.

It is important for you to maintain your tires. Low miles but many years does not make a safe tire. In our case, our tires had low miles but one tire blew out from dry rot when on Interstate 40. When you are inspecting and checking your tires, it is also a good idea to repack your wheel bearings. If you have grease coming out of your back seal, when your hot axle bearings are backed into the cold water, the cold water is sucked into the bearing. If the seal doesn't work for outgoing, it will also not work with incoming, and the cold water will damage your bearings. When you replace your tires, make certain they are boat trailer tires and not just any old tire you put on.

2006 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.

July 17:	Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery - Pizza & Drinks
July 22:	Family Day/Open Fishing
August 21:	Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM
August 26:	Open Fishing
September 9:	Annual TSBA Fish Fry & Reunion
September 16:	Open Fishing
September:	Tournament for Disabled Sportsmen of America
October 16:	Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Officer and Director Nominations
October 21:	Open Fishing
November 11:	Tournament - Cherokee
November 20:	Monthly Meeting - Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM Election of Officers and Directors
November 25:	Open Fishing
December 18:	Board of Directors Meeting, Dinner: 6 PM Meeting 7 PM

Monthly Meeting - July 17

Speakers:

**Mike Smith, TWRA (update on striper
stocking)**

& Dave Bishop (early striper day pictures)

Location changed to

Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery

Please Join Us for Pizza & Drinks @ 6:00 p.m.



Ted Kramer
"Yank"
20 lb. +
June 8
Cherokee Lake

Gary Reinitz
May 24



Mike Leach
10 lb. Hybrid
Cherokee Lake



Jim Orrick
June 2
18 lb.
Cherokee



T.S.B.A. 2006 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 2006 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**



Get Ready - Make Your Plans !!!

**Annual TSBA Fish Fry & Reunion
September 9
Anderson County Park on Norris Lake**