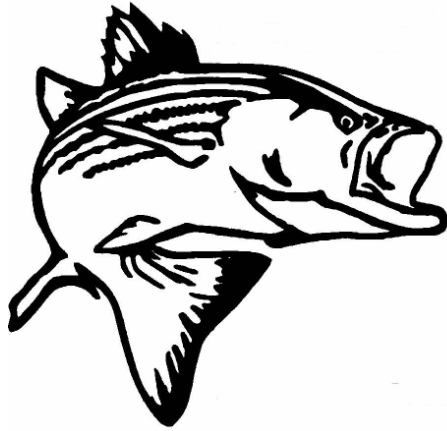


**Catch
The
Striper
Fever!**

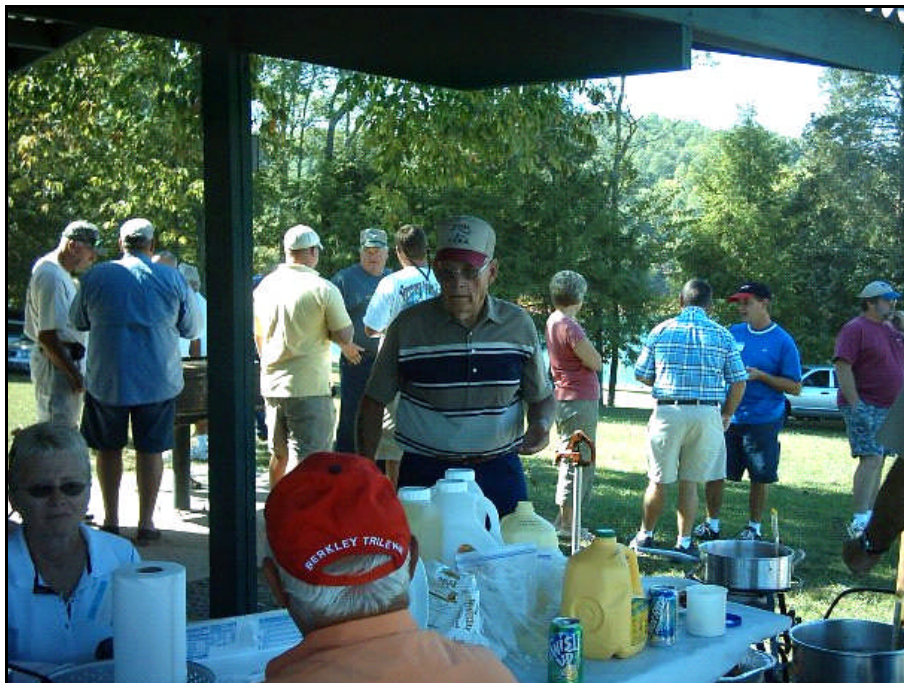
T.S.B.A.



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

**October
2007**

THE BEGINNING OF FISH FRY DAY



President's Letter

I would like to thank all of you who got to attend the Fish Fry. I think it was one of the best that I have attended so far. I got to meet some new members, and I would like to welcome all of you to the TSBA. I hope that you will find the club to be a great asset to you as you fish this area and meet and make new friends. It was good to see everyone enjoying the cast-net lessons and competition. For those new to striper fishing, the first part is to master the cast-net. After mastering the net throwing, you then move on to the next task of finding bait to catch. Then you have to learn to keep them alive and healthy to catch fish. I can remember my first few attempts at catching bait, and it was a little discouraging to say the least. But don't get discouraged and quit, because you will get better and better as time goes by. If you are having too much trouble, pick up the phone and call one of the officers or staff whose phone numbers are in the newsletter. Someone will be glad to help you out. If you are new to striper fishing or a seasoned veteran, you can still find a treasure chest of information in the club newsletter or by attending club meetings or, better still, by going fishing with someone. If you are new to striper fishing, by all means try to fish with a couple of different people before going out to buy a lot of new equipment. It's better to see what actually works before going out and spending a lot of money on things designed more to catch fishermen than fish. I must have

asked Ezell a million questions, so I'm thankful that he was patient and willing to put up with all the aggravation. You will need to see what kind of fishing interests you most before jumping in with both feet. One example is when purchasing a new rod, the one that I use when river fishing is not the best rod for fishing down lines on a reservoir.

As I said above, I want to welcome you to the club and encourage you to be as active as you can and get as much from it as possible.

I want to also remind everyone that at our next club meeting, we will be taking nominations for the 2008 officers. I hope you can attend, and I hope that you have an interest in being an active participant of the club. The nominations will be taken at the October meeting, and the actual election will take place at the November meeting.

Next month's newsletter will have more fish fry pictures.

Good Fishing,

John Seiber
TSBA President

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

Fish Fry Cast Net Throwing Contest

Men's

First Place: Sammy Robinette
 Second Place: Doug Cheek
 Third Place: Dirk Dial
 Honorable Mention: Todd Asher
 Bill Ballou
 Dwayne Clark
 Billy Davis
 David Garland
 Kyle Rutherford
 Doug Steffe

Women's & Youth

First Place: Janine Johnson
 Second Place: Josh Garland
 Third Place: Shane Houk
 Honorable Mention: Alex Cheek



Ezell Cox
 Sammy Robinette
 Doug Cheek
 Dirk Dial

Ezell Cox
 Janine Johnson
 Josh Garland
 Shane Houk



Drought

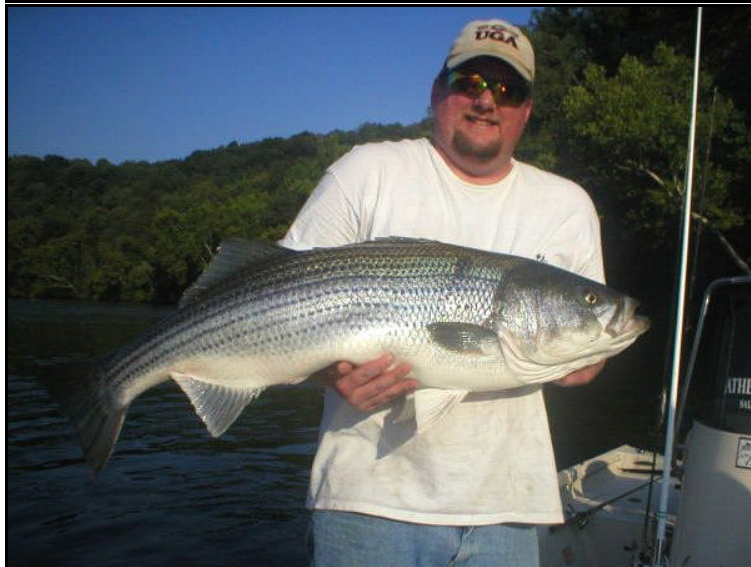
We are all aware of the fact that East Tennessee has been suffering from a severe drought for quite some time now. While the effect on the local farmers is quite obvious, some of you might not realize that the drought has had a significant impact on the striped bass fishing in the local reservoirs as well. First of all, the water level on many of the reservoirs has been 10 to 20 feet below normal all year!!! The spring rains never came close to filling Cherokee. The result is that many of your favorite, can't-miss spots aren't holding stripers this year. With the large drop in the water level, whatever attracted the stripers to that particular spot in the previous years doesn't look the same to them now. They moved to other areas of the reservoir where the structure, at the reduced water level, and the water quality are more to their liking. Basically, wherever you have been successful in the past doesn't mean they'll be there this year. The problem is more complex than just blaming it on the water level. Norris reservoir did not have the extreme drop in its water level as Cherokee did. Its water level was much closer to normal for most of the season. However, many veteran anglers who fish it on a regular basis say that it's not behaving as it has in the past. There's been a definite lack of consistency in areas that are normally quite dependable. You catch a bunch one day and then nothing the next. They attribute this to the way the water has been released from the dam. Even though many of the reservoirs are at abnormally low levels, enough water must still be released overall to maintain the downstream fisheries and to provide enough water for navigation for large vessels. As you know, stripers have stringent water quality requirements; and they have to adjust when nature surprises us all with abnormal weather. While the stripers' abnormal patterns this year have been frustrating at times, it's all part of the "Cat & Mouse" game that we play each time we go out fishing for our favorite quarry - the striped bass.

Bob Leach



Erik Engebretsen and Friends - August, 2007





Fishing Hot Spots



Cherokee Lake: Good

Top water action is often good, so keep something to cast handy. Stripers can migrate to any part of the lake with the temperature and oxygen comfortable everywhere, so look for large concentrations of bait fish, gulls, or breaking fish. Normally, the best area to look is from Point #20 downstream to the dam.

Norris Lake: Good

Remember to check the fishing regulations on Norris starting November 1 because it is your responsibility to stay legal on quantity and size harvested (1 fish, 36 inches). Look around mid lake and in the large coves.

To review T.W.R.A. data on dissolved oxygen, go to www.TNStripedBass.com. Click on the link: TWRA Region 4, Water Quality.

Tailrace and Downstream: Good

It may be a little harder to find the stripers, so look where you find a large quantity of bait fish including at the steam plants.

November Expectations

The lake turnover is complete and with no thermocline. Top water action is common, and catch and release is almost always successful. The water temperature is normally around the mid 50 degree F. range with cooler water in the shallow coves. Stripers often run up in the larger coves to feed on the abundant bait fish that are usually there. Sometimes as early as November the gulls start to show where to fish by diving on the shad that stripers cause to come to the surface when they feed. Tailrace fishing will begin to slow, and the steam plants may start to attract the bait fish if the weather is cold enough and the steam plant discharge is warm.

**October 15th Meeting
Speaker: Bill Ballou
Rod Building and Repair
Nominations for Officers and Directors
at Shoney's, Hwy. 61 - Norris/Clinton Exit**

**November 19th Meeting
Speaker: Wes Adams
Election for Officers and Directors
at Shoney's, Hwy. 61 - Norris/Clinton Exit**

STRIPER NOSTALGIA CORNER

FALL STRIPERS

Contrary to what one might think, the fall season doesn't always bring the best in fishing. This is especially true when one is lake fishing for striped bass.

On the surface, stripers and fall would seem to go together like ham and eggs. Fall brings with it the cooling of the lake waters, brisk breezes, and the colors of the season. Being on the lake at this time of year "feels" like the fish ought to bite at every cast. And it's true that fishing for most other species, bass and crappie for instance, picks up considerably when cold fronts finally drive out the heat of summer. But, as striped bass fishermen have found, the fall months very often find the lower end of lakes like Norris devoid of stripers.

A look at catch rates taken from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's Norris creel records indicates the fewest striped bass caught per hour during the months of September, October, November, and March. The reason is simple: a tremendous number of stripers head for the headwaters of rivers and creeks during those months. Likewise, there is a corresponding lack of response from those fishing for stripers on the lower end of the lake; most merely put in their hours fishing in the same locations that produced fish a month earlier and fail to follow the fish.

For the knowledgeable striper fisherman, though, following the fall "migration" can be well worth the trouble. In recent weeks, there have been stripers of over 30 and 40 pounds taken from the upper sections of the lake by a relatively small number of fishermen.

Pull out your Norris map. Here's where to go for November stripers.

On the Clinch side of Norris Lake, concentrate on the section above Island F. The farther up you go, though, the better your luck will be. The best Clinch striper catches have come from the section between Williams Creek (10 miles above 33 Bridge) and point 32 (20 miles above 33 Bridge).

On the Powell, the Blue Springs to Point 17 section has produced fish. Like the Clinch, the farther up, the better.

Some of the Powell stripers have weighed 30, 38, and 42 pounds, and have come from water no more than 20 feet deep.

The upper half of Cove Creek continues to hold its resident school of stripers. Check out the stretch between Cove Norris and Cove Lake Dam.

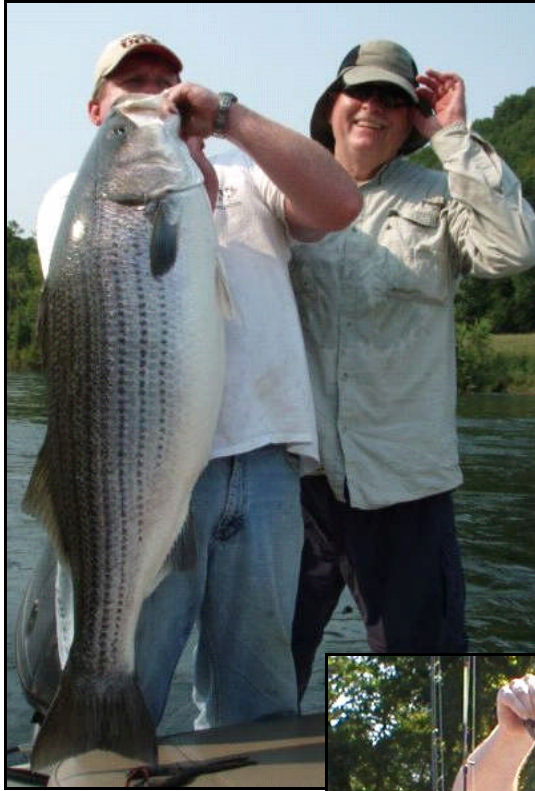
Before you decide on a location to fish, a bit of touring will pay off. Finding schools of bait fish is critical; no forage, no stripers. Turn on your fish locator and scout the area before wetting a hook. Those who stay on the lake every day know just where to go; the rest of us may have to travel many miles staring into the locator screen. Don't ignore the many small, running streams that enter the lake. TWRA cove rotenone studies have shown large concentrations of gizzard shad lying deep in the channels of inconsequential-looking streams. A look at deep holes near the mouths of such streams often reveals stripers and other game fish.

Unlike years past, a ride up the river sections (above point 15 on the Powell and above point 31 on the Clinch) at this time of year had the boater riding through many miles of surface-schooling shad. It amazed me that I could drive a boat through such dense concentrations of baitfish without killing thousands of them. Striped bass swimming upstream into these sections fell into a smorgasbord. Likewise, largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass could be seen sloshing through the baitfish. But, since the drought of the late-80's, the wall-to-wall shad concentrations have dwindled to a mere pittance. On my half-dozen trips up the Powell during the past month, for instance, I found one concentration of baitfish worth mentioning, and it was only a few hundred yards long. If you're determined to fish the river sections, be prepared for a long ride and hours of searching for suitable concentrations of forage fish.

Or you could wait for the stripers' return to the lower end of Norris. The best months of the year for Norris stripers are in the cold of winter, during the months of December, January, and February.

Paul H. Shaw, October 30, 1994

Erik Engebretsen and Friends - August, 2007
(continued)



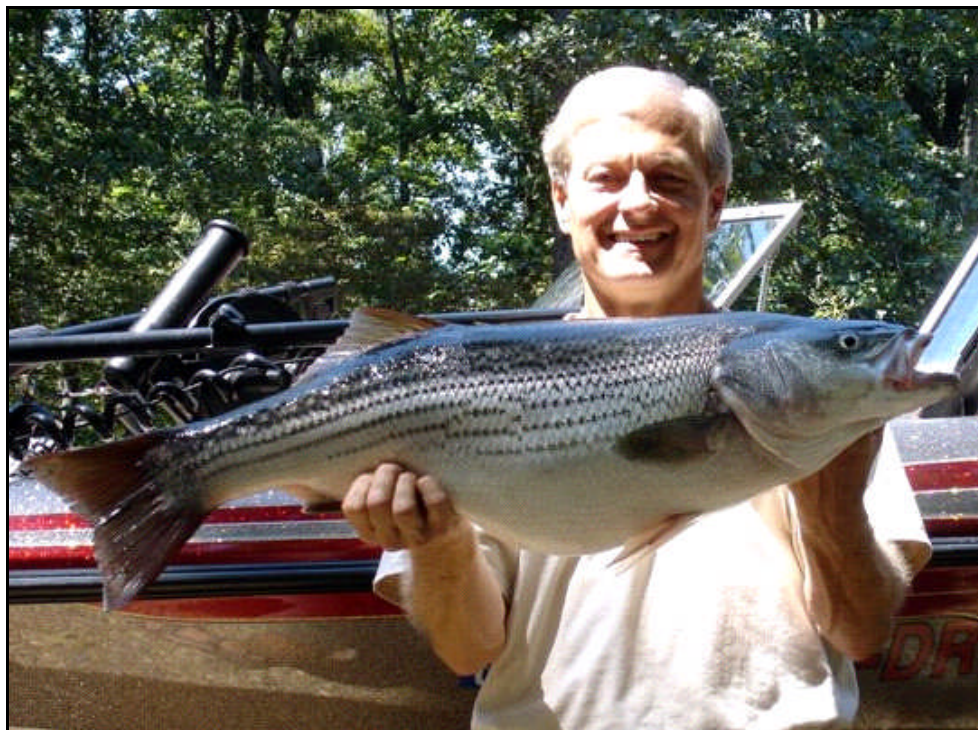
QUESTION OF THE MONTH

We had a wonderful day for the annual TSBA Fish Fry. The weather, food and fellowship were all outstanding. I counted 82 members and guests on the sign-in sheets. Most people did not realize that the Question Of The Month (actually their place of residence) was part of signing in. We had very good attendance from out of state members and guests which included FL, GA, KY, OH, NC, and VA.

Attendees listed the following residences:

Tazewell	11
New Tazewell	10
Knoxville	10
Sharps Chapel	10
Speedwell	9
Jefferson City	3
Louisville	3
Maynardville	3
LaFollette	2
Clinton	2
Norris	2
Andersonville	1
Loudon	1
Straw Plains	1
Knox Co, KY	2
Corbin, KY	2
Loyall, KY	2
Orlando, FL	1
Dawsonville, GA	1
McDonough, GA	1
Albemarle, NC	2
Cincinnati, OH	2
Abingdon, VA	1

Jim Blazier



Eric Rauch - Norris Lake
September 4, 2007



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

Vice President:

Eric Rauch 865-494-0304
ewrauch@bellsouth.net

Treasurer:

Janine Johnson

Secretary:

Ezell Cox

TSBA DIRECTORS

Wes Adams, Ezell Cox, Billy Davis, Allan Franklin,
Janine Johnson, Chet Moore, John Seiber

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter: Janine Johnson Janine@tennstribedbass.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

Kids' Fishing Day: Allan Franklin 865-805-3120

Door Prizes: Chet Moore

Tournament Coordinators: Ezell Cox, Allan Franklin

Merchandising: John Seiber 865-945-3716

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Cabins
*Lodge *Gas



Ezell Cox and Janine Johnson
Norris Lake - September 17, 2007



Tal &
Hunter
Jones

Norris Lake

Sept. 3,
2007

2007 TSBA Calendar

Please attend TSBA events and join us at the meetings.
Monthly meetings will be held at Shoney's Restaurant, 2405 Andersonville Highway. Get off I-75 at Exit 122 (Hwy. 61 - Clinton/Norris), head east. Shoney's will be on the left.

- October 15 Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM
 - Nominations for Directors and Officers
- November 19 Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM
 - Election of Directors and Officers
- December 17 Board of Directors Meeting
 - Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7PM



Reid Tong - September 8, 2007



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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: "striper" Password: "club"

T.S.B.A. 2008 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 2008 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**



**October 15th Meeting
Speaker: Bill Ballou
Rod Building and Repair
Nominations for Officers and Directors**