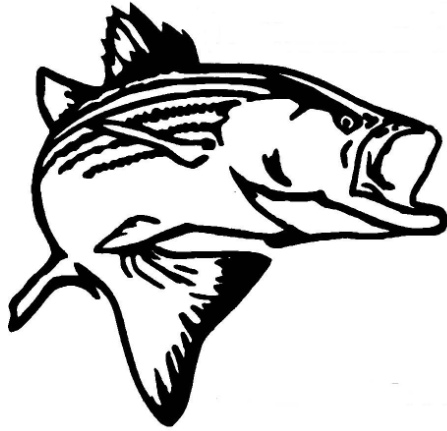


**Catch
The
Striper
Fever!**

T.S.B.A.



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

**May
2008**

Kids' Fishing Day

**Saturday, June 7
Fun Starts at 3:00 p.m.**

Launch at Cherokee Dam

Party at Pavilion

President's Letter

A few weeks ago I accepted an invitation from Doug Steffe to fish with him on the upper Powell arm on Norris Reservoir. That is a portion of Norris I'd never been on, mainly because it was a bit of a trip from my house and I didn't know anything much about it. However, I've wanted to go up there for quite some time. It turned out to be a great trip, even though that morning we were only mildly successful in the "catching" department. This was the first time that Doug and I had fished together, but I'm sure we'll have many more trips in the future.

This is what I really like about being a member of TSBA - making new friends, seeing new places on area reservoirs, and seeing how different people fish under various conditions. I've been lucky to have had the opportunity to fish with several of our members since joining TSBA four years ago. I even anchored my boat and jumped in with Tom Elmore one day for a while when we ran into each other above 33 Bridge.

I know many people go fishing with their close friends pretty much all of the time and fully understand that. While it entails a little risk, consider asking someone else to join you occasionally. You'll likely learn something from them and may just make a new friend as well. I've yet to have someone in the club say that they didn't want to go fishing, even if we had to work a bit to find a time that worked for both of us.

I seem to learn something new about striper fishing every time I go out on the water, even if it's just what NOT to do. But that's OK, too. Fishing with new people has helped me cut my learning curve considerably, since everyone I've gone out with has been happy to share their knowledge. Hopefully, I've even provided them a little useful insight from time to time. So, get out on the water with new and old friends this spring and have fun.

Eric Rauch
TSBA President



Barbara Samar (Hoss' Wife)
First Fish, 10 lb., Below Melton Hill Dam, April, 2008



Doug Steffe - 33 lbs. - Melton Hill Lake - Released
Camera was on a timer sitting on a 5-gallon bucket.

2008 StriperBowl

The 9th Annual TSBA StriperBowl was held Saturday, April 26, on Norris reservoir and Janine Johnson won the event with a total, two-fish weight of 24 pounds and 5 ounces. Therefore, her name will be added to the coveted, traveling trophy which she will be able to display to her friends until next year's StriperBowl. A total of 15 anglers participated in this year's event and five of them weighed in fish as shown below. Other members caught stripers, but they did not weigh them in as they were not in contention for either the Big Fish money or the trophy.

<u>Name</u>	<u>First Fish</u>	<u>Second Fish</u>	<u>Total</u>
Janine Johnson	16 lb 12 oz	7 lb 9 oz	24 lb 5 oz
Gary Harris	12 lb 8 oz	10 lb 9 oz	23 lb 1 oz
Adam Bryant	13 lb 11 oz	7 lb 3 oz	20 lb 14 oz
Doug Steffe	13 lb 11 oz		13 lb 11 oz
Bob Rhea	9 lb 8 oz		9 lb 8 oz

For 2008, the StriperBowl was changed to an afternoon event on Norris and the launch and weigh-in site was the free boat ramp just North of the 33 bridge. The starting time was 3 PM with a weigh-in at 8:30 PM. While most participants launched from this site, Janine and her fishing partner, Bob Leach, trailered to another location where they have had some recent success. They had identified a total of three different spots in this general area to try. At first, things weren't going very well as it was a couple of hours into the tournament before their first line went down. Things got real exciting as this fish refused to get close to the boat. When it finally showed itself, they just held their breath hoping that it would not get off. Finally, the almost 17 pound striper was safely in the boat and in the livewell. Both Janine and Bob were glad that Janine entered the voluntary "Big Fish" contest as they were fairly sure this fish would win based upon what they had been catching in the last few weeks. The task at hand now was to catch a second striper and try for the trophy. This appeared bleak at first as it was approaching 7 PM, and they had to leave by 7:30 PM to get back to the weigh-in site before the 8:30 deadline. They brought in their lines and went to their last spot. Before their first bottle was hardly away from the boat, it went down and a seven-pound/nine-ounce striper was landed by Janine. Fortunately for her, the total weight of 24 pounds and 5 ounces was enough to edge out Gary Harris by slightly over one pound.

Overall, the 2008 StriperBowl was a success. Everyone had a good time, and a significant amount of money was raised for the Kid's Day event on June 7. Hopefully, next year more members will take part in this event as they watch to see if Janine can defend herself and win for a second time.



2008 StriperBowl Group

Allan Franklin passes traveling trophy to Janine Johnson

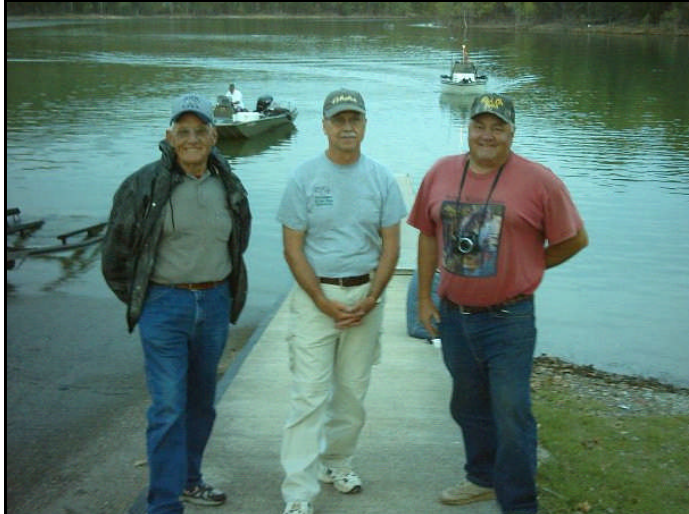


More StriperBowl Pictures
Gary Harris 2nd Place, Adam Bryant 3rd Place,
Doug Steffe, Bob Rhea





Tournament
Coordinator,
Erik
Engebretsen



Tom Elmore,
Bob Leach,
Ezell Cox



Kyle & Elaine
Rutherford,
John Mosca

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 Loudoun & 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.

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.

May 19th Speaker
Mike Smith, TWRA
at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery
Pizza & Drinks at 6:00 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From I-75 north of Knoxville, take Exit 122, TN 61, Norris-Clinton. Turn west (left if from I-75 North) onto TN 61 towards Clinton. Go about 3.8 miles and take the first left after crossing the large bridge over the Clinch River. This road is not well marked - watch for the TWRA Hatchery and Wildlife Observation Area signs. If you go through a stoplight after crossing the river, you have gone too far. Shortly after turning off of TN 61, you will arrive at the hatchery gate on the right (coordinates N 36.1210°, W 84.1153°).

**ANNUAL ALLAN FRANKLIN
KIDS' FISHING DAY
EVENT**

**Sat., June 7, 3:00 p.m.
at Cherokee Dam**

Well folks..... the Youth Striper Fishing Day is almost here. The fun and fishing will be on Saturday, June 7, at 3 p.m. at the Cherokee Dam launch ramp. Please meet at the Pavilion beside the launch ramp near the swimming area for great food. Immediately after, we will draw for great door prizes and all of the kids will be given their trophies for their participation. We will hit the water between 5 and 6 p.m. for some good ole fishing and fun with the kids. Please come and enjoy the afternoon with us and bring all those kids. **Please call me at 865-805-3120 by May 15 and register the kids you are bringing so I can make sure there are plenty of trophies to go around.** Thanks to all for all of your support. Always remember..... the kids are our future and the future of our sport. I look forward to the 2008 Youth Striper Fishing Day.

See you there,
Allan Franklin

Very Important: The "TSBA Kids' Release Form" on the next page must be completed by the parents and given to Allan Franklin prior to or upon arrival at the Kids' Fishing Day event.

All children 12 years of age and younger are required to wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket while on the open deck of a recreational boat except when anchored, moored, or aground. It must be the appropriate size and in good condition.

TSBA Kid's Release Form

By signing below, I do hereby voluntarily release and forever discharge the Tennessee Striped Bass Association, hereinafter called the TSBA, its officers and all of its members from any and all liability claims, demands, actions or rights of action, which are related to, arise out of, or are in any way connected with my participation (or my children) in any event sponsored by the TSBA, including specifically but not limited to, the negligent acts or omissions of TSBA members, for any and all injury, death, illness or disease and/or damage to me, my children, or my property.

I further agree to hold harmless and indemnify the TSBA, its officers and its members and all other persons or entities for any such injury, death, illness, disease, property damage or expenses arising from or connected with my participation (or my children) in any event sponsored by the TSBA. I agree that, if TSBA or any of its officers or members is forced to defend any action, lawsuit, or litigation by me, my children, my executors or my heirs, on my behalf, my heirs or executors and I agree to pay their costs and attorney fees if they successfully defend such action, lawsuit or litigation.

I further agree not to sue, assert or otherwise maintain any claim against TSBA, its officers or any of its members and all other persons or entities, for any injury, death, illness or disease, or damage to my property, arising from or connected with my participation (or my children) in any TSBA activity or event.

In signing this document, I fully recognize that, if anyone is hurt or property is damaged while I or my children are engaged in these activities, I will have no right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against the TSBA, its officers or any of its members, even if they or any of them negligently caused the bodily injury or property damage.

I understand that this is the entire agreement between me, my children, and the TSBA, its officers and all of its members and that it cannot be modified or changed in any way by the representations or statements of any TSBA member or agent of TSBA or by me.

My signature below indicates that I have read the entire document, I understand it completely, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Names of Children _____

Funding Fisheries Programs

The TWRA is unquestionably the most important government agency to our club. Without their efforts, we would not have a striped/hybrid bass fishery in East Tennessee. Probably the most important issues with them are where do they get the money required to run their operations and what is the best way to use these funds to maximize their efforts in providing the sportsmen in the state with first-class fishing opportunities. These issues are addressed in an article in the 2008 Tennessee Fishing Guide written by Bill Reeves – Chief of Fisheries Management. The following is a brief summary of the information provided in this article.

Funding – The funding for all of the TWRA fisheries programs comes primarily from two sources. The first, and obvious one, is from the sale of licenses. This is forecasted to generate around \$2.1 million in 2008 for fisheries programs. The second major source of funding is from the Federal Aid in Sport Fishing Restoration Act first passed in 1950 and greatly expanded in 1984. Taxes are collected on a variety of sport fishing equipment and these dollars are refunded to the states based on a land area/license sales formula. The federal dollars must be matched by the states on a 75:25 ratio. When combined with Tennessee license dollars for fisheries (approximately \$2.1 million) the total budget exceeds \$8.5 million.

Expenditures – Here's how the \$8.5 million will be spent:

Reservoirs (27%) – This includes sampling, habitat improvement and creel surveys

Hatchery (26%) – Money to raise the numerous varieties of fish stocked in Tennessee

Hatchery Improvements (14%) – Repair, expand and construct new hatcheries

Streams (11%) – Monitoring and management of streams and river fisheries

Community Lakes (6%) – Agency lakes, pond owner support, kids fishing events

Land Acquisition (5%) – Provide public access. Purchase land for hatchery expansion

Fish Acquisition (2%) – Purchase trout & catfish from private hatcheries

Research (2%) – Support the state's fisheries scientist to better manage resources

Bob Leach

Minutes of the April Meeting

Eric Rauch opened the meeting by presenting Wes Adams with his award for winning the 2007 Kingston Tournament. Billy Davis gave a presentation on river fishing and started by asking everyone that fishes the rivers to please catch and release. He then told how to target these fish. In the tailrace, flow is preferred but fish can be caught without it. Temperature range that is best is 50 to 70 degrees. Weather also influences the bite. Incoming fronts when the pressure is dropping is best, and high pressure after the front passes is bad for catching fish (Bluebird sky). Live bait choice is put on a 7/0 hook with 80 pound test braid with a fluorocarbon leader. 1. Skipjack 2. Rainbow Shad 3. Gizzard Shad are bait favorites. Tossing or pitching baits into areas that could hold stripers is effective like outside bends in the river, shoals, back side of islands, blown down trees, rocks, and the like that create current breaks. Billy likes to go with the current when pulling bait on planer boards and balloons. When an area with fish is found, he may anchor and put out live and cut bait. Fishing at night is effective. Billy Davis has a web site on Musky fishing you may want to visit: Tnmuskies.org. After the break, a door prizes drawing was held, then a 50/50 drawing was done. A discussion to confirm the StriperBowl times, place, and weigh-in followed. Money from the StriperBowl will go for prizes for the Kids' Fishing Day. Kids under 18 years of age can participate. Check the rules for life jackets that must be worn by kids when in the boats. TSBA Fish Fry date had to be changed due to changes in the Tennessee Football schedule that conflicted. Check the TSBA calendar of events for new date. Norris fishing reports are good from Hickory Star to the Clinch River. Fishing below Melton Hill also is good. Vinyl Cutter Sign Supply @ 917 Dinwiddie St. Knoxville, TN. 865-523-0304 has the Cracked Ice that Tim Adrian suggested putting on planer boards.

Ezell Cox
TSBA Secretary

TSBA Fish Fry

Date Changed to September 6, 2008



**B&B
STRAIGHT CREEK
BOAT DOCK**

***Full Service Dock
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New Tazewell, TN***

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**Hickory Star
Marina**

*"Home of the
Stripers"*

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**Full service marina
on Norris Lake
Near Maynardville TN**

YOUR 2008 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF

President:

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

Vice President:

Jim Blazier 865-694-8014
jblazier@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Janine Johnson

Secretary:

Ezell Cox

Assistant Treasurer:

Allan Franklin

TSBA DIRECTORS

Wes Adams, Billy Davis, Erik Engebretsen,
Janine Johnson, Chet Moore, Eric Rauch, John Seiber

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter: Janine Johnson Janine@tennstripedbass.com

Membership: Janine Johnson Janine@tennstripedbass.com

Web Site: John Seiber 865-945-3716
JSeiber@tennstripedbass.com

Public Relations: Allan Franklin 865-694-8888
Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Sponsor Coordinator: Doug Steffe 865-278-2363; 865-335-3815

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

Door Prizes: Billy Davis 865-300-0392

Tournament Coordinators: Erik Engebretsen, Allan Franklin
404-683-0181, 865-694-8888

Merchandising: John Seiber 865-945-3716

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT BOAT DO YOU FISH FROM?

We had 17 responses at the meeting and 9 from the Fishing Reports web site. Thank you for contributing and I will try to post future questions in a timely manner so we can continue to get responses from members that are unable to attend the meeting.

I don't know of any better way to list the responses than to post them as they were written down without doing any particular grouping or analysis.

<u>BRAND</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>AL/FG</u>
Alumacraft	16-4	Deep V	AL
Bumble Bee	20	V-Hull	FG
Astroglass	15	Tri Hull	FG
Monark	14	V-Hull	AL
Ranger	18	V-Hull	FG
Lowe	18	Mod V	AL
Crestliner	18	Mod	AL
Polar Kraft	18	Mod V	AL
Polar	17	Bay Tunnel	FG
Alumacraft	20	V-Hull	AL
SeaArk	18	Flat Bottom	AL
Alumacraft	16	Mod	AL
Astroglass	15	Tri-Hull	FG
Lowe	15	Jon	AL
Starcraft	18-6	Mod V	AL
Polar Kraft	17	Flat Bottom	AL
Whaler	17	Light V	FG
Sea Pro	21-6	Bay	FG
Lund	19-9	Deep V	AL
Fisher	17-5	Deep V	AL
Wellcraft	21	Deep V	FG
Lowe	16	Tunnel	AL
Sea Ark	20-7	Tunnel	AL
River Pro	17-6	Sport Jet	AL
Lowe	16-5	Deep V	AL
Cape Horn	17	Mod V	FG

As you can see, TSBA members use many different boats. The most important thing is that all of these different boat configurations are used for the same purpose - to have fun.

Jim Blazier

I would like to get suggestions from TSBA members for future questions. You can send suggestions for future questions to jblazier@comcast.net.

2008 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.

May 19	Monthly Meeting, Pizza & Drinks 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery
June 3	Norris Lake Advisory Committee Meeting
June 7	Kids' Fishing Day, Pavilion at Cherokee Dam 3:00 p.m. (under 18 years old)
June 16	Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM
July 21	Monthly Meeting, Pizza & Drinks 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery
August 18	Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM
September 6	TSBA Fish Fry - Anderson County Park-Norris Lake
October 20	Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM - Nominations for Directors and Officers
November 17	Monthly Meeting, Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM - Election of Directors and Officers
December 15	Board of Directors Meeting - Dinner 6 PM, Meeting 7PM

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: "fish"

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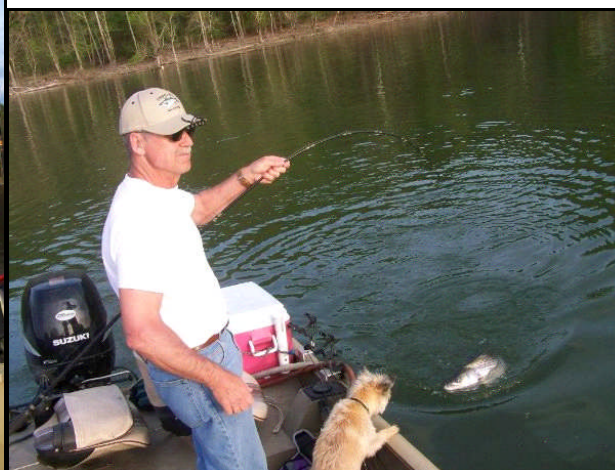
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Ezell Cox, Bob Leach, and Easy



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**



Fish Fry Date Is Changed to September 6.