

Tennessee Striped Bass Association

Get Hooked !



May/June 2019



James Pierce

Monthly Meeting every first Monday:

Puleo's Grill, 110 Cedar Lane off Merchants Rd. at I - 75

TSBA web site <http://tnstripedbass.com/> for the latest news.

Submit news items to tsba.newsletter@gmail.com

Join us on Facebook [Tennessee Striped Bass Association](#)

April 2019 Meeting

Catching and Keeping Bait - Keith Shannon

A shad's metabolism and stress level rise dramatically when caught and handled. Some responses to stress include; loss of slime and scales, increased oxygen demand, increased ammonia production, increased carbon dioxide production and loss of salts. All of these phenomena are worse at high temperatures and with more bait in the tank.

Our goal is to minimize these reactions to stress by maintaining optimum water quality in our bait tanks. The most important factors that determine the health of your bait are dissolved oxygen, carbon dioxide, ammonia, salt balance and Ph. The goals are to remove carbon dioxide and ammonia, and add oxygen and salt while maintaining the proper Ph.

The Basics

- More water volume is always better. Buy the largest tank that safely fits in your boat.
- Use cool water BUT not more than 10 degrees cooler than the water in which the bait was caught. Cool water holds more oxygen than warm water.
- 1 medium shad per gallon of water in 70° water.
- Be gentle to your bait. Don't empty your cast net on the floor of the boat.
- Try to catch bait from the cleanest, coolest water.

Carbon Dioxide

Carbon dioxide is produced by fish as they breathe. Carbon dioxide is very soluble in water and causes the Ph of the water to decrease. When the water changes Ph quickly, the bait can't regulate the Ph its blood. This interferes with the bait's ability to absorb oxygen from the water. The solution: agitate and aerate the water in the bait tank to remove carbon dioxide from the water (a process called degassing). In addition, keep the lid of the tank open to prevent carbon dioxide build up.

Ammonia

Fish excrete ammonia through their gills and in urine and poop. Ammonia is extremely soluble in water and is highly toxic to fish. Most ammonia is excreted in the first hour or so after the bait is caught. Unfortunately, ammonia does not degas easily like carbon dioxide. Fortunately, ammonia is less toxic to fish at lower Ph so a little bit of carbon dioxide is actually helpful. There are two ways to manage ammonia buildup. First, ammonia can be removed by small (less than 25%), frequent (every 20-30 minutes for the first couple hours) water changes. The second way to deal with ammonia is with ammonia-locking chemicals. Use the chemicals at ten times the suggested quantity since shad produce a lot of ammonia very quickly.

Oxygen

Fish absorb oxygen from the water through their gills. Cold water holds more oxygen than warm water. Commercially available bait tanks equipped with aerators do a satisfactory job oxygenating the water as long as the tank is not overloaded or too hot. Supplemental oxy-

gen provided with a tank, regulator and diffuser set-up is beneficial in hot weather or with a heavily loaded tank. BUT you must run the pump as well to degas carbon dioxide. Check your tank frequently to make sure the pump is working and the aerator is not clogged.

Salts

All vertebrates' bodies are about 0.9% salts. Salts control many physiological functions in a process called osmoregulation. When bait is caught, stress causes it to lose salts from its body (kind of like how we sweat). Excessive salt loss can cause cardiac arrest and affects the Ph of the bait's blood. Additionally, fish expend approximately 30% of their energy maintaining the salt balance in their bodies. Salts added to the bait tank water compensate for the salt lost due to stress and slow the bait's metabolism. Add one cup of water softener salt and one tablespoon of baking soda per 30 gallons of water.

Upcoming Boating Classes & Inspections

Commander Boneau of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary sent the following notices to TSBA after our March meeting. It would be worthwhile to have one of these inspections performed on your boat. Remember that they are looking for ways to improve boating safety in our area and are not there to issue violation notices or fines.



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Tellico Lake
Boating Classes
2019 class schedule

All classes will be held at the Tellico Village Yacht Club in the top floor meeting room unless otherwise indicated located at:
 100 Sequoyah Rd.
 Loudon, TN 37774

Thurs. 5/30	* Now in Command	1-4 pm
Tues. 6/11	X Personal Watercraft	1-3 pm
Tu. 6/25 & Th. 6/27	GPS For Tennessee Boaters	1-4 pm each day
Tues. 8/13	* Now in Command	1-4 pm
Tu. 9/17 & Th. 9/19	About Boating Safely	1-5 pm each day
Thurs. 10/10	Cold Water Boating	1-4 pm

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND RESERVATIONS
 Call: Carolyn McDermott@ 865-458-1959 / email: carmactn@charter.net or
 Mike Colacone @ 352-804-8257 / email: Mc195@aol.com

Norris Lake -- 2019 Vessel Safety Check Schedule

Boat owners are invited to bring their boat to any location for a free Vessel Safety Check

DATE	DAY	LOCATION	TIME
MAY 28th	TUES.	Sunset Bay	Memorial Day Wkend 11:00 AM until 2:30 PM
JUNE 01 st	SAT.	Twin Cove Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JUNE 08 th	SAT.	Whitman Hollow	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JUNE 15 th	SAT.	Flat Hollow	Fathers Day Wkend 10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JUNE 22 nd	SAT.	Springs Dock	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JUNE 28 th	FRI	Mountain Lake Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 pm
JUNE 29 th	SAT.	Shanghai Marina	4th of July Wkend 10 :30 AM until 2:00 PM
JULY 06 th	SAT.	Norris Dam Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JULY 12 th	FRI	Indian River	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JULY 13 th	SAT.	Sequoyah Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JULY 20 th	SAT.	Stardust Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
JULY 27 th	SAT.	Norris Landing Marina	11:00 AM until 2:30 PM
AUG. 03 rd	SAT.	Beach Island Resort Marina	11:00 AM until 2:30 PM
AUG. 10 th	SAT.	Sugar Hollow Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
AUG. 17 th	SAT.	Shanghai Marina	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM
AUG. 24 th	SAT.	Springs Dock	10:30 AM until 2:00 PM



2019 USCG AUXILIARY FREE VESSEL SAFETY CHECK SCHEDULE

All boaters may go to any location for a Free Vessel Safety Check

Please RSVP by calling [865-964-5558](tel:865-964-5558) to avoid long waiting times

April 20 – Sat	Tanasi Docks Tellico Village Yacht Club	10 AM - 12 NOON 2 PM - 4 PM
April 27 – Sat	Kahite Docks Tellico Village Yacht Club	10 AM - 12 NOON 2 PM - 4 PM
May 4 – Sat	Tellico Village Yacht Club Kahite Docks	10 AM - 12 NOON 2 PM - 4 PM
May 11 – Sat	Rarity Bay Rock Point & Bay View Docks	10AM - 1 PM
May 18 – Sat	Tellico Harbor Marina Sequoyah Landing Marina	9 AM - 12 NOON 1 PM - 4 PM
May 25 – Sat	Fort Loudon Marina Wind River Marina	9 AM - 12 NOON 1 PM - 4 PM
June 1 – Sat	Tellico Village Chatuga Dock	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 7 – Fri	Tellico Village Docks A, B, & C	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 8 – Sat	Tellico Village Docks D & E	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 14 – Fri	Tellico Village Docks F & G	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 15 – Sat	Tellico Village Docks H & I	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 21 – Fri	Tellico Village Docks K, L, M, & N	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 22 – Sat	Tellico Village Docks Q & R	9 AM - 12 NOON
June 29 – Sat	Tellico Village Docks S & T	9 AM - 12 NOON



Steve Nichols



Live bait makes all the difference

A good fishing trip always starts with a search for live bait. Allan Franklin, former president of the TSBA, is recognized as one of the best in the area at using a cast net to secure the best bait. It is his expertise at throwing a cast net that separates Allan from a lot of other fishermen. Fortunately, Allan is always willing to share his knowledge and has a long standing record of helping club members master the art of throwing a cast net. He traditionally gives a demonstration at the annual fish fry and frequently provides hands-on instruction to TSBA members in the restaurant parking lot at the monthly meetings.

Jim Blazier, vice-president of the TSBA, wanted to take things one step further by creating a photographic tutorial to provide educational outreach to even more TSBA members. "The reason that I asked Allan to pose for the casting tutorial is that I think this is the first time we have had an article showing the actual mechanics of throwing the net. This is very important to new striper fishermen and I think Allan's method is better than most I have seen on the web," Jim explains.

Like most other fishermen that you will see on the water, Allan is equipped with all the best gear. He has the \$500 aerated and insulated bait tank, extra batteries, pump and hoses (for water transfer) and an assortment of chemicals to keep the tank's water in great condition. He also has cast nets with different sized mesh and will pick the proper net to use based on the size of shad he is trying to catch. Allan has all the right equipment necessary to keep live bait in good condition. But the best equipment in the world won't be of much value if you

Allan Franklin

can see shad flipping on the surface. For example, if Allan is fishing below Melton Hill Dam he will leave the cooler 60 degree water in the river in search of warmer 80 degree water like Pawpaw Creek where the shad are feeding on zooplankton.

The following steps are a summary of Allan's cast net throwing method with critical steps shown in the pictures. Steps shown below are for right handed throwers.



STEP 1:

Inspect the net and remove all tangles so that the net hangs freely. Then loop the line in your right hand and with the same hand grab the top of the net.

Step 2:

Hold your right arm straight to



Step Three:

Fold the upper portion of the net in half and grasp the entire net in your right hand as shown above.



Step Four:

With your left hand, grasp the net about 10 inches above the bottom and fan out approximately half the weights, being sure the net is not tangled.



Step Five:

Place the section of net that is being held in your left hand over the middle and index finger of your



Step Six:

Reach down with your left hand and pick up the lower portion of the lead line as shown in the picture above.



Step Seven:

Hold your right arm straight out to the side and your left hand near your chin. It may help if you aim your left shoulder toward your target.



Step Eight (a):

Be sure to hold your right arm straight and turn at the waist. Your feet should stay in the same position but rotate slightly toward the target.



**Step Eight
(b):**

**Another
view of the
correct pos-
ture when
throwing
the net.**



**Step Nine:
Another nice spread!**

Creel and Size limits

CHEROKEE LAKE

Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:

2 per day in combination, 15 inch minimum length limit

NORRIS LAKE

Striped Bass

April 1–October 31: 2 per day, 15 inch minimum length limit

November 1–March 31: 1 per day, 36 inch minimum length limit

WATTS BAR

Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:

April 1–October 31: 2 per day in combination

November 1–March 31: 2 per day in combination, only one may be a striped bass.

Striped Bass:

April 1–October 31: 15 inch minimum length limit.

November 1–March 31: 36 inch minimum length limit

Hybrid Striped Bass:

15 inch minimum length limit

MELTON HILL

Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:

2 per day in combination, including Clinch River upstream to Highway 61 bridge in Clinton. 15 inch minimum length limit

Striped Bass:

32–42 inch PLR; only one fish may be over 42 inches

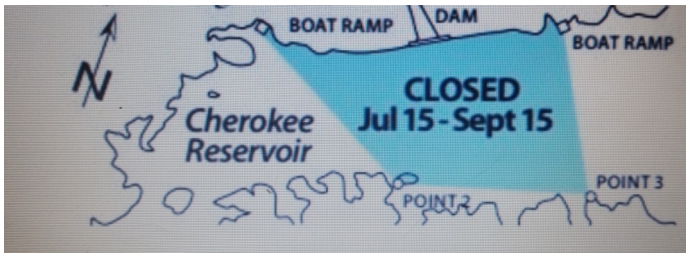
Outlook for current fishing spots

July Expectations

The migration downstream toward the dam has started in the reservoirs. The stripers will be a little easier to locate as the temperature in the coves and creeks pushes them into the deeper, cooler main channel. The thermocline will continue to get deeper with the fish staying just below it, and surface feeding in the reservoirs is over until October. A good topographical map now becomes a great fishing tool. The tailraces will continue to improve. They will be a good place to find some action while also still allowing successful catch and release in the hot summer. Working the "boils" will become very effective in July. It is your life and money, so remember to wear your life jacket at the dams. It is also the law.

Cherokee Lake - Good

Stripers will not go back well in July. Catch your limit and quit. Released fish will not survive for the most part. 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 no fishing zone is in effect again starting July 15. The humps and islands near the dam up to Point #21 normally become excellent.



Norris Lake - Fair

Best fishing is from Point #26 on the Clinch and Point #14 on the Powell to the dam. Most of the stripers will move into the main channel out of the shallow warm coves. Down lines and downriggers work well over marked fish.

Below Ft Loudon & Melton Hill Dams - Good & Improving

The law is you must wear your life jacket in these dangerous waters. 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.

— Ezell Cox



Mark your calendars for the first Mondays & make a point to join us for our monthly meetings.

Other events may be added if interest is shown. Get involved and participate in TSBA to make sure it reflects what is important to you!

June 3rd - OPEN

June 8th - TWRA Kids Day at Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery (meet 8am)

July 1st - OPEN pending Michael Jones with ORNL

August 5th - Mike Smith TWRA stocking report

September 2nd - OPEN (Labor Day)

October 7th - usually TSBA Fish Fry

November 4th - Captain Jay Girardot on u-rigs and artificial bait

December 2nd - BOD meeting

Don't Forget to Renew

Renewing is easy! New address is below:

Enclose a check for \$20.00

Mail to: TSBA

P.O. Box 7303

Simplified Renewal Note: Returning members with no changes to their contact information are not required to fill out the application. Just send a \$20 check to the address above. Be sure to include the member's name on the check. When you send in your check, please provide TSBA with an email address where we can send your club newsletter. 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.

YOUR 2019 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

President: Keith Shannon **Vice President:** Steve Nichols

Treasurer: Eric Rauch **Secretary:** Eric Rauch

Board Chairman: Allan Franklin

TSBA DIRECTORS

Bill Ballou, Jim Blazier, Steve Nichols, Cory Malabey, David Powell,
Eric Rauch, Allan Franklin, Bob Biscay, Hal Basdekis

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter Printing: Jim Blazier, Bill Ballou

Distribution: Jim's email jblazier@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Beth Willis tsba.newsletter@gmail.com

Membership: Art Muchow arthurmuchow@yahoo.com

Web Administrator: Bob Biscay tennstripedbass@gmail.com

Facebook Coordinator: Allan Franklin/Steve Nichols

Sponsor Coordinator: Justin Rose

Public Relations: Ezell Cox

Advisors: Ezell Cox/Allan Franklin

TSBA Sponsors

TSBA appreciates all the support we get from our sponsors. If you would like to see your business listed in our newsletter please consider adding or renewing for 2019. TSBA can provide newsletters for our sponsors to distribute. Thanks!



102 Cross Park Drive
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Hours: Mon-Sat 8 am - 8 pm, Sun 9 am - 7 pm
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Melton Hill Dam

Important Reminder !

2019 Membership Dues are due

If you haven't already renewed your TSBA membership, now is the time!

TSBA 2019 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

As a member, you will:

- * Receive a monthly newsletter.
- * Help support Striped Bass Fisheries & Wildlife Agencies.
- * Be informed of new regulations & information that affect striper fishing.
- * Develop a network of "striper friends."
- * Learn new methods to improve your striped bass fishing effectiveness.
- * Be able to call officers for fishing reports.
- * Be able to attend monthly meetings with informative programs.
- * Have access to all areas of the TSBA web page.

Your Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(____) _____ # of minor children in family _____

Referred By: _____

Please provide an e-mail address to receive the monthly newsletter:

E-Mail address _____

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: TSBA

P.O. Box 7303

Knoxville, TN 37921

Simplified Renewal Note: Returning members with no changes to their contact information are not required to fill out the application. Just send a \$20 check to the address above. Be sure to include the member's name on the check. When you send in your check, please provide TSBA with an email address where we can send your club newsletter. 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.

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