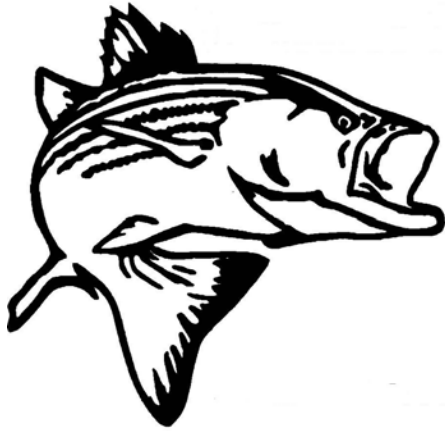


**Catch
the
Striper
Fever!**

T.S.B.A.



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

**November
2011**



***Member DeLynn Boshears caught this beauty on Norris Lake
this past August. See page three for more trophy shots from
his trip out with Gary Harris.***

Are You Good Enough?

Editor's Note: *This article was originally published in the July, 2006 TSBA newsletter. As this edition of the newsletter features professional anglers who excel at landing trophy fish, it seemed like an excellent time to reprint this article. Read on to learn about Professor Cox's sage advice for all anglers - beginners and experts alike.*

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 if you did start at an early age, 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 freshwater 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 to fish. There are also publications providing instruction on how to use a variety of 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.

Continued on page 13

Trophy Shots



Gary Harris, pictured below, submitted these photos of a fishing trip he made with DeLynn Boshears this past August. They were fishing the Cove Creek area on Norris Lake when they hit the jackpot. Gary says "we caught a 32 and a 30 pound fish along with several over 15 pounds all from the same school at a depth of 40 feet. It was a great day out on the water!"



The Striper Slayers



Striper Slayers is a fishing guide service operated by TSBA members Bud White, above left, and Mike Allen, above right. Many in the club will recognize Mike Allen as winner of TSBA's last tournament and second place winner in the tournament held back in April on Watts Bars Lake. Bud White is well known as an active member of TSBA and is currently serving as Secretary. Their business, which offers fishing trips all over East Tennessee, offers three different types of fishing opportunities: fishing lessons, guided fishing trips, and monster striper trips. Fishing year round, these two experts hook-up in excess of a thousand fish per year! Mike says, "this is a modest estimate; this past year we had several days when we would catch over a 100 fish in a single morning."

Conservation is a key component of their business. Fishing lessons include an educational component so that every angler is taught not only the basic "how-to" techniques but also measures to conserve the valuable striped/hybrid bass resource found in

East Tennessee. Bud and Mike believe that Tennessee hosts one of the best sport fisheries in the country. They want their clients to understand that responsible fishing is an important step in growing the trophy-sized fish every angler dreams about catching. Their commitment to conservation is also evident in the Monster Striper guided trip that they offer. This program, which is limited in availability, helps the angler target the "wall hangers" - a true monster striped bass. Plenty of guide services offer this type of service, but Mike and Bud practice strictly catch-and-release on all monster striper trips. Instead of taking that trophy fish home, they will provide their client with a DVD of their fishing trip. In addition, they can connect anglers with a local taxidermist who can create an accurate replica of their fish. What a great way to enjoy and protect the resource at the same time.

Bud White maintains a blog, www.monsterstriperguide.com, where he chronicles his adventures as a guide tracking down monster stripers and catfish. Besides posting pictures, Bud uses his blog to share information and tips he has learned over the years.

The following pages are a collection of photos taken by Mike and Bud over the past year. Additional photos and information can be found at www.striperlayers.com.



Striperslayers maintains three boats, each fully rigged with quality fishing gear.



Patience pays off for Bud White, above, who is holding one of the many monster stripers he caught this year. Pictured below is very satisfied client of Striperslayers.





Above, Mike Allen with another trophy catch. Pictured below on a much colder day is Jerry Gambrel, who caught this 43-pounder while fishing at the Kingston Stream Plant with Mike and Bud during the winter of 2011.





More great catches assisted by Striperslayers.

Minutes of the October, 2011 meeting

After the meal, TSBA President Erik Engebretsen introduced the October guest speaker, Bill Carson. Bill is the CEO of Nothing But Fish, a consulting service specializing in the outdoor industry. There was some discussion about the fishing trip they had been on, including details on the big striped bass brought to the boat. Bill Carson spoke of his love for the sport and his experience making the roundtrip drive in one day from Atlanta to fish and be a guest speaker for the TSBA meeting.

One important message Bill had to share with the group was how important it is to promote fishing and other wholesome activities to the younger generations.

Bill's main presentation was on the topic of how to tune the Lowrance HDS fishing and GPS units. He covered many of the features available on the Lowrance units such as Structure Scan; In-sight; Navionics; and Platinum. The transducer kilohertz of 50, 83, and 200 were discussed and Bill used a PowerPoint presentation to show examples.

There were a lot of questions from the club members and Bill was able to provide answers regarding specific set-ups. After a short break, the 50/50 drawing was won by Gary Reinitz.

Doug Steffe gave a short update on the commercial fishing proposal discussed at the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission meeting on October 13-14, 2011.

The meeting closed with club members sharing fishing reports for Cherokee, Norris, and Watts Bar Lakes from the past week.

— *Ezell Cox for Bud White*

Outlook for current fishing spots

CHEROKEE LAKE

Lake turnover is complete so the temperature is the same from top to bottom. The bait fish seek out the warmer water, so look for the sun-warmed banks and into deeper water after a cold night. The gulls will be arriving, and they will show where the best schools of baitfish are located. Top water breaks are common this time of year, so go prepared to cast into them. Looking for the large concentrations of bait fish and bait eating birds is a good way to find stripers/hybrids as well as looking for breaking fish on the surface. The premium locations are normally between Points 10 and 21.

NORRIS LAKE

With the changing of the seasons, stripers in this reservoir will be free to roam the entire lake at any depth. Look for the gulls and that will help you find large schools of baitfish. Looking for surface feeding fish may be the key to success in catching for December. The stripers have recovered from the stress of water conditions this past summer; it is feasible to catch-and-release with hopes of a good recovery. **The creel and size limits have changed on stripers starting on the first day of November. The new limit is set at a 36-inch minimum size and one fish per creel.**

WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

There will be some stripers still below the dams but they will scatter over most of the lake and into the major creeks, rivers, and coves where the large concentrations of baitfish are located. There may be some that start to show up around the steam plants by the month's end. **Watts Bar creel and size limits have changed on stripers starting on the first day of November. The new limit is set at a 36-inch minimum size and one fish per creel.**

— *Ezell Cox*

December Expectations

The temperature and dissolved oxygen levels will be nearly the same at all depths, allowing the stripers to be at any depth in the lake as they target the baitfish. Expect to find the temperature in the mid-40's unless influenced by springs or the discharge at steam plants. The baitfish will be in the warmest water they can find.

Smaller bait begins to work better as the water temperature falls below 50 degrees. Point or bottom fishing normally works well this month. The gulls will return for the winter and they can be a great help in locating the baitfish. The pleasure boaters will be gone from the water as cold weather starts, school starts back and hunting, football, basketball and other interests become active. This can be a very enjoyable time on the water. The schools of striper will be a little more difficult to locate with your fish finder as the stripers will be able to roam the entire water column, and use all of the lake from end to end.

The tailraces will continue to draw fish but they will scatter over much more of the lakes and rivers and into the creeks and large coves where the bait is abundant. Prepare to make your cold weather/cold water fishing trips safe and successful by planning well and telling someone where you are going and when you will be back.

— *Ezell Cox*

TSBA Renewals are due in January, please send a check (\$20) or bring to the November 21st meeting.

YOUR 2011 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

President:

Erik Engebretsen 404-683-0181
engebretsenerik@yahoo.com

Vice President:

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

Treasurer:

Doug Steffe
865-278-2363
865-335-3815

Secretary:

Bud White
423-234-0704

Asst. Treasurer:

Allan Franklin
865-805-3120

TSBA DIRECTORS

Todd Asher, Bill Ballou, Erik Engebretsen, Billy Davis, Cory Malabey, Eric Rauch, Keith Shannon, Bud White

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter Printing

& Distribution: Jim Blazier & Bill Ballou

Newsletter Editor;

Sherry Wehner
swehner9@gmail.com

Membership:

Doug Steffe
865-278-2363, 865-335-3815
dougsteffe@centurytel.net

Web Site

Keith Shannon
keith.shannon@gmail.com

Public Relations

Allan Franklin 865-694-8888
Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Kids' Fishing Day:

Allan Franklin 865-805-3120

Tournament Coordinator:

Allan Franklin 865-694-8888

Door Prizes:

[vacant]

Advisor:

Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

2011 TSBA Calendar

Please join us at TSBA meetings and events. Monthly meetings are held at the Flatwater Grill at 100 Melton Lake Peninsula in Oak Ridge, Tennessee (<http://theflatwatergrill.com>).

Nov 21 Monthly Meeting: dinner 6:00 p.m., meeting 7:00 p.m.
The Flatwater Grill in Oak Ridge
A presentation on The East TN Musky Fishery will be given by TSBA member Billy Davis and fishing partner Cody Daniels. Nominations for club officers and volunteers for club functions will be taken.

Dec There is no monthly meeting in December.

Are you Good Enough, continued from page 2

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, July 2006*

The TSBA web site has been rebuilt by Keith Shannon.
Access it at **www.TNStripedBass.com**, logging in with your real name to register and your own unique password.

FABRIC
Commercial Awnings
Residential Awnings
Retractable
Boat Enclosures
Party Tent Rentals

ALUMINUM
Awnings
Canopies
Gemini Letters

MIKE ALLEN
Owner



MOUNTAIN
AWNING & FENCE, LLC
Toll Free: 1-866-746-3686

Free Estimates

For All Your Paving Needs

B&C Asphalt Paving Co., Inc.

Wayne Beeler
Vice-President

Plant 423-626-1234

Residence 423-626-7951

Mobile 526-7161

LIVEWELL SYSTEMS, INC.

Custom Bait Tanks

Ron Vest
Owner

W: (864) 295-4206
H: (864) 269-2212

614 Old Pendleton Rd. • Easley, SC 29642
Makers of Super Bait Tanks II

B&B
STRAIGHT CREEK
BOAT DOCK



Full Service Dock
on Norris Lake
New Tazewell, TN

423-626-5826

Maynard & Delbert Brooks

Hickory Star
Marina
"Home of the Stripers"
865-992-5241
Full service marina
on Norris Lake
Near Maynardville TN

German Creek Boat Dock
On Cherokee Lake
In Bean Station, Tennessee

The Shad-Man
SHAD AVAILABLE
YEAR ROUND
ONLY \$3.00 PER
DOZEN
CALL 865-767-3350



TSBA 2011 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 163

Sharps Chapel, TN. 37866

Simplified Renewal Note: Membership renewals with no address or info revisions may send **just a \$20 check** with member's name, to the address above. Filling out the application is not required. 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 163
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866**



**November 21 , 2011: Monthly Meeting
Flatwater Grill
100 Melton Lake Drive, Oak Ridge
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.; meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

TSBA Renewals are due in January