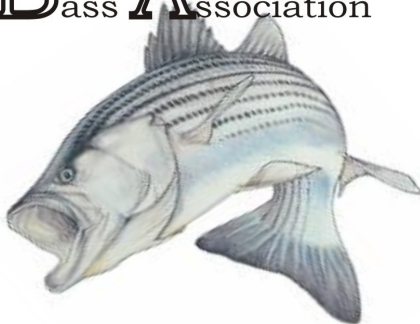


Tennessee Striped Bass Association

Get Hooked !



Spring 2018



Monthly Meeting First Monday at Puleo's Grill,

110 Cedar Lane off Merchants Rd. at I - 75

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

Join our Facebook group [Tennessee Striped Bass Association](#)

April Meeting

Highlights From April's Speaker

Keith Shannon presented a discussion on bait keeping best practices. Tips for keeping your bait as frisky as possible are as follows:

- Shad caught in cool water are typically hardier than shad caught in warm water.
- The water in the bait tank should be no more than 10 degrees cooler than the water from which the shad are caught.
- Be gentle to your shad. Minimize handling to minimize slime and scale loss.
- Small, frequent water changes, especially for the first hour or so after the bait is caught, minimize toxic ammonia build up.
- Add salt to the water at a rate of 1 cup per 20 to 30 gallons of water. Don't use salt that contains potassium chloride or iron staining inhibitors. The cheapest salt at the big box stores works fine.
- Add baking soda at a rate 1-2 tablespoons per 20 gallons of water.
- Keep the lid on your bait tank open when possible. This allows carbon dioxide to escape.
- Ammonia locking chemicals are effective at preventing ammonia build up when keeping bait overnight or longer. Use them at 10 times the suggested dosage.
- Supplemental oxygen is effective when the water is hot or the tank is overloaded. Remember to run the pump and aerator while running the oxygen.
- Don't overload your tank. Fewer frisky baits are better than a lot of stressed sickly baits. A good rule of thumb is one medium sized shad per gallon of water. In very warm water 1/2 a shad per gallon is best.
- Your shad will die if your pump dies. Cover your pump's intake with screen to keep scales and debris out of it. Carry an extra pump just in case.

Fishing Reports: Due to the cool weather, heavy rains and increased water flow, fish are a bit behind schedule moving upstream this year. However, as the duration of daylight increases and water temperatures warm into the mid 50's, many striped and hybrid bass move upstream to prepare for a largely unsuccessful spawn.

Cherokee Lake - Fish are being caught a few miles upstream of the 25E bridge.

Norris Lake - Good catches have been reported in the headwaters of the Clinch and other tributaries.

Watts Bar - Many fish are still in the main lake but fishing has been improving on the Tennessee and Clinch Rivers upstream of Kingston.



October 6th. Club Fish Fry (no regular club meeting)
Fish Fry will be at Grainger County Park, October 6th.

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

Another successful outing with Ezell Cox. Norris lake
April 2018, Way up the Clinch river side.



Club Meeting: Speakers for 2018

January 1st. The 1st. Monday falls on New Years Day. No meeting

February 5th. Eric Burnett– Boat Maintenance

March 5th. James Everett– TVA. River Forecast Center

April 2nd. Keith Shannon, Alan Franklin and David Powell- discussion on finding, catching, and keeping live bait

May 7th. Bill Ballou– Reel Maintenance

June 4th. Captain Chadwick Ferrell- Fishing the boils and tailrace tips and tricks

July 2nd. Fuzzy Lambert- Humminbird/ Minn Kota Electronics and trolling motors

August 6th. TWRA Mike Smith- Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery discussion on striper stocking

September 3rd. Meeting falls on Labor Day. Meeting to be determined?

October 6th. Club Fish Fry (no regular club meeting) Fish Fry will be at Grainger County Park, October 6th.

November 5th. Jay Girardot– Umbrella rigs when and how.

December 3rd. Board of Directors meeting (no regular club meeting)

Norris lake 4-2018



Dale Morris with friends up the Powell side



Fishing below Watts Bar April 2018



Steve and James Pierce fishing the boils



Nice fish JP. You should get it mounted 😊



April Expectations

Expect to find the temperature climbing into the high 60's and even low 70's in the protected, stained water. The baitfish will seek out the warmest water they can find and the stripers will follow them to feed. A brown algae bloom on the surface coupled with sun-warmed, stained, shallow water where the gulls and herons are feeding can be a great help in locating the baitfish. Brown algae blooms, which are often misidentified as lake turnover or even spilled oil on the surface, are a great attractant for the shad. Try to spot the blooms on the surface. The striper will be where the bait is most abundant. Artificial baits can be very productive this time of year. You may want to try JIGGING, CASTING, or TROLLING. Umbrella rigs have become a favorite method the last several years. Be aware of the new hazards floating on top of the water as the lakes begin to rise. Large live bait is working well again and normally easy to catch this time of year. Put the out-riggers (planer boards) back in the boat. You'll need them to get the bait into the shallow water without spooking the fish and also to cover a much larger area.

Ezell Cox

New Members List: Welcome to the club guys

Robert Metz - Harrison, Oh

Frank Zimmerman - Stow, Oh

James Rigney - LaFollette, Tn

Michael Carter - Knoxville, Tn

Michael High - Knoxville, Tn

Lawrence Douglass - Crossville, Tn

Joseph Campbell - Russell Springs, Ky

Jason (Chris) Stansberry - Seymour, Tn

Stuart Bilbrey - Jacksboro, Tn

Melvin Brook - Lily, Ky

Robert Fuller - Charleston, Wv

Rob Trenkamp - Hamilton, Oh

Jacob (Jake) Plasters - Gallipolis, Oh

Josh Treadway - Rockford Tn

Columbus Whaley - Sevierville, Tn

John Galliher - Norwood, NC

Dale Zimmerman- Talbot, Tn.

Clay Haselton - Kingsport, Tn

Jim Wallace - Knoxville, Tn

John Vincenzo - Knoxville, Tn

Tommy White - Sevierville, Tn

Sam Lanning - Rogersville, Tn

Jacob Lanning - Rogersville, Tn

David Maurer -Guilford IN

Gary Conley - Chapmanville WV

Tracy Templeton - Dandridge, Tn

Brian Oaks - Maynardville, Tn

Darrell Owen - Mooresburg, Tn

Harvey Perricone - LaFollette, Tn

Dan Hall - Loudon, TN

Larry Owens -Tazewell, Tn.

Richard Brogan - Loveland, Oh.

Kenny Witt -Maryville, Tn.

Jamey Loy -Knoxville, Tn.

Christopher Owens - Tablott, Tn.

Hot Spots

CHEROKEE LAKE

Catch and release works great until summer with cool temperatures & good dissolved oxygen at all depths. Look for the gulls to find the bait and fish. Top water action is often good, so keep something to cast handy. Stripers/hybrids can migrate to any part of the lake with the temperature and oxygen comfortable everywhere, so look for large concentrations of bait fish, herons, gulls, or breaking fish. Some of the best action is often in the deep open waters on the lower half of the lake where the water temperature is most stable attracting the bait fish schools. Artificial and small lively bait do well in the coldest water of winter.

NORRIS LAKE

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on NORRIS November 1ST until April 1st. Best fishing can be found mid-lake and downstream around the large coves & creeks in open water with bait fish abundant. Top water action can be good early mornings & late evenings so take something to cast. The bite can be fast and over quickly in the coldest part of winter. Artificial and small lively bait do well in the coldest water of winter. Catch and release is very successful now.

WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on Watts Bar November 1ST until April 1st. Look for the gulls. Look for the stripers in front of the major coves or where you find the most bait fish and bait eating birds. The steam plant's warmed water attracts bait that attracts game fish. Catch and release works great. The fish in Watts Bar & lower Clinch Watts Bar have contamination warnings so should not be harvested.

Ezell Cox

YOUR 2018 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

President: Keith Shannon

Vice President: Steve Nichols

Treasurer: Art Muchow

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

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Membership: Art Muchow arthurmuchow@yahoo.com

Web Administrator: Bob Biscay tennstripedbass@gmail.com

Sponsor Coordinator: Justin Rose

Advisors: Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Allan Franklin 865-805-3120

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 renewing for 2018. TSBA can provide newsletters for our sponsors to distribute. Thanks!



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TSBA 2018 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.

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

2954 Lake Forest Circle

Talbott, TN. 37877

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.

Tennessee Striped Bass Association
2954 Lake Forest Circle
Talbot, Tn. 37877

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