

Tennessee Striped Bass Association

GET HOOKED!

February 2014



*Steve Nichols and John Vincenzo,
with a double on Norris Lake*

Letter from the Prez

At our last meeting Bill Ballou showed us how to maintain our fishing reels. This is the perfect time to do that since we've been having so much cold weather this winter. It's also the best time to get our boat maintenance performed so that they run smoothly the rest of the year.

Clay Cunningham will be our speaker at the February meeting. Clay is a well-known striper guide and spends much of his time on Georgia's Lake Lanier. The focus of his talk will be on using artificial lures for striper fishing. This technique can be a valuable addition to your fishing repertoire, so come and see what Clay has to offer.

We're still going to have lots of cold and windy days until spring finally arrives, so remember to be careful while on the water. Under these conditions, small mistakes can be compounded into serious problems very quickly.

Our next meeting will be held at Austin's at 7 pm on February 17. Please join us for dinner at 6 pm if possible.

— Eric Rauch, TSBA President

Video from our January meeting can be viewed at:
<http://youtu.be/iczS2iiVIA>.

TSBA February Meeting
Monday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Austin's Steak and Homestyle Buffet
900 Merchant's Drive, Knoxville

We have a private room reserved.
Come early and have dinner.

Topic: Artificial Baits
Presenter: Clay Cunningham



Eddie Dills

Fishing Regulations

LOOK FOR THE NEW REGULATIONS FOR 2014 FISHING SEASON ON UMBRELLA RIGS

New fishing licenses are required to fish starting each March 1st. It is each fisherman's responsibility to know the rules and stay legal. NO FISHING ZONE runs July 15th until September 15th on Cherokee Lake. Changes are normal in the management of our fishing each year, and those changes become effective on March 1st. Each body of water may have exceptions you need to be aware of before exposing yourself to a fine. There are some seasonal striped bass CREEL AND SIZE limit changes that take place April 1st and November 1st. Go online to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at www.tnwildlife.org or pick up a 2014 Fishing Regulations book at sporting stores or TWRA offices. Wearing life preservers are required below the dams and a good habit anytime on the water for personal safety.

— *Ezell Cox*



Tom Payne

Fishing Pre-Spawn Stripers

Top water action is common as the stripers continue to add pre-spawn weight. The gulls can be much less effective to help locate feeding fish if there is remaining winter threadfin kill around. Moving upstream into warmer, shallower water inflows may help where the pre-spawn & migration for the spawn develops. The gulls will be less effective with the threadfin winter kill that begins & ends February & March. As the different species of shad spawn begins, the striper / hybrid will be there to feed. First gizzard spawns start with water temperature reaching 60 degrees in the stained, shallow flats. Alewife & threadfin just a little later - mostly nighttime on rocky banks or floating debris. Catch & release is very successful this time of year.

A great way to find the right places to look for fish is from past history. Look at the last few years of information available on fishing websites, articles, pictures, and magazines. Many times the best clue is to find the largest baitfish concentrations that will seek out the warmest most stable temperatures with nutrient rich water that is normally murky.

— *Ezell Cox*



Ezell Cox

Hot Spots

CHEROKEE LAKE

New Tennessee fishing license required March 1st. Catch and release works great until the first of summer with cool temperatures & good dissolved oxygen at all depths. The winter shad kill is well underway until mid March, so the gulls will be less effective in finding striped fish willing to feed until the dead and dying start to disappear. The bite can be very slow unless fish can be found away from the threadfin kill. 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. Although many of the stripers / hybrids remain on the lower end of Cherokee, the water temperature takes longer to warm except in the back of the major creek inflows. The shallow sun warmed flats begin to hold bait fish where a planer board works wonderful. The migration to the headwaters for staging & pre-spawn starts with the warming inflow water.



Hot Spots

NORRIS LAKE

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on NORRIS November 1ST until April 1st. New Tennessee fishing license required March 1st. The winter threadfin shad kill is well underway until mid March, so the gulls will be less effective in finding striped fish willing to feed until the dead and dying start to disappear. Some stripers can be found mid-lake and downstream around the large coves & creeks often moving onto the shallow sun warmed flats where the bait is located. A good side planer works great pulled over them. The inflow rivers & creeks warm much faster than the deep water channels so a migration to headwaters starts as the water warms. Top water action can be good early mornings & late evenings, so take something to cast. Catch and release is very successful now until mid July.

WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

SIZE (36 INCH) AND CREEL LIMIT (ONE) in effect on Watts Bar November 1ST until April 1st. New Tennessee fishing license required March 1st. Look for the stripers in front of the major coves or where you find the most bait fish and bait-eating birds. The steam plants warmed water attracts bait that attracts game fish. February, March, & early April are the premium big fish months at the steam plants if the river flow is low and the discharge temperature is high. Catch and release works great. The fish in Watts Bar & lower Clinch Watts Bar have contamination warnings so should not be harvested.

— *Ezell Cox*

TSBA Members' Photo Pages



Terry Davis



Jennifer Davis

Would you like to see your fishing pictures in our newsletter?
Send them to jeneddie@comcast.net.



Jay Girardot



Ezell Cox



Doug Steffe



Wayne Beeler



Mike Davis

A-Plus Construction, LLC

Commercial/Residential Contractors

David Powell

407 Forest Park Blvd
Knoxville, TN 37919
P.O. Box 11106
Knoxville, TN 37939

Office: 865-633-5533
Cell: 865-643-3283
Fax: 865-588-9330
Email: david@a-plusconstruction.net



102 Cross Park Drive
(Located on HWY 61, across from Anderson Co. High School.)
Clinton, TN 37716
Hours: Mon-Sat 8 am - 8 pm, Sun 9 am - 7 pm
Pick-Up Trucks Welcomed

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

YOUR 2014 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

President:

Eric Rauch 865-223-9788
erauch01@gmail.com

Vice President:

Eddie Dills 865-296-3743
jeneddie@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Bud White
423-754-0541

Secretary:

Keith Shannon
keith.shannon@gmail.com

TSBA DIRECTORS

Bill Ballou, Jim Blazier, Greg Dee, Eddie Dills, Ron Gabler,
Cory Malabey, Larry Nowell, David Powell (Board Chairman),
Eric Rauch, Doug Steffe

TSBA STAFF

Newsletter Printing & Distribution:

Jim Blazier & Bill Ballou
Jim's email (jblazier@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editors:

Eddie & Jenifer Dills
jeneddie@comcast.net

Membership:

Doug Steffe
dougsteffe@centurytel.net

Web Site:

Terry Reinitz and Bud White

Adv. Sponsor Coord.:

Gary Reinitz 856-278-1046

Tournament Coord.:

Bud White 423-754-0541

Co-op Supplies and Raffle Prizes:

Greg Dee
greg@kingdomlandscapes.com

Advisors:

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

2013 Meeting Links

February Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qNz56Jq2VIQ&feature=youtu.be>

Speaker: Todd Asher

Topic: Skipjack Catching and Keeping

March Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAi3OyUgEyQ>

Speaker: Tom Blackburn

Topic: Trolling for Striper

April Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWjsmfzX2Jg&feature=youtu.be>

Speaker: Keith Shannon

Topic: Catching and Keeping Bait

May Meeting Link

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_-syAvk...e=youtu.be

Speaker: Mike Smith

Topic: Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery

June Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/IMO_JjqbIZA

Speaker: Alan Colette

Topic: Artificial Baits

July Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXVpvEsv5mY&feature=youtu.be>

Speaker: Mike Smith

Topic: TWRA Striper Stocking Summary

August Meeting

Speaker: Jim Farmer of [Cast Away Bait & Tackle](#) Topic: Trolling for Stripers

For more information on what was discussed, please check out his blog post at <http://castawayblog.com/2012/06/17/crib-notes-for-striper-trolling/>.

October Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpDiqAxQm6o&feature=youtu.be>

November Meeting Link

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWfWs-4X1qY&feature=youtu.be>

Free Estimates

For All Your Paving Needs

B&C Asphalt Paving Co., Inc.

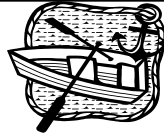
Wayne Beeler
Vice-President

Plant 423-626-1234

Residence 423-626-7951

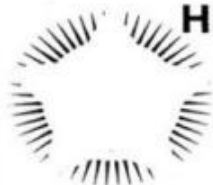
Mobile 526-7161

B&B STRAIGHT CREEK BOAT DOCK



***Full Service Dock
on Norris Lake
New Tazewell, TN***

423-626-5826



Hickory Star

Marina

"Home of the Stripers"

865-992-5241

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

TSBA 2014 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: Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc

P.O. Box 163

Sharps Chapel, TN 37866

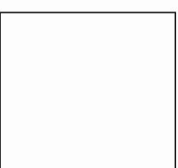
Simplified Renewal Note: Returning members with no changes to their contact information are not required to fill out the application. Just send a \$20 check to the address above. Be sure to include the member's name on the check. When you send in your check, please provide TSBA with an email address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

GET HOOKED!

The TSBA is a non-profit corporation that supports TWRA and its Striped Bass and 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 and share our knowledge with fellow Striped Bass anglers.

Tennessee Striped Bass Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 163
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866



TSBA Monthly Meeting
Monday, February 17, 2014
7:00 p.m.