Tennessee Striped Bass Association

# **GET HOOKED!**November 2014



Medal of Honor Recipient **Tommy Norris** 

### **Letter from the Prez**

One of the critical elements in making an organization like TSBA successful is having members willing to help out with the various functions of the club. Over the years we've had lots of people volunteer to do this for the benefit of TSBA. We currently are calling on our members to do this again. We will need a newsletter editor starting with the January newsletter. Our current editor, Eddie Dills, has volunteered to help with the transition. This function is critical for our communications. Please contact Eddie if you'd like to have more information on this. We also need someone to assume the sponsor coordinator function. I did this for a couple of years soon after I joined TSBA. It doesn't take much time, but is still important to our sponsors and club finances.

Our next tourney is scheduled out of Hickory Star on Norris on Dec. 20. Even if you haven't been able to participate in any other events this year, try to join the group for this one. They are always fun and a good way to get to know other members.

When I first joined TSBA many years ago, the first member to invite me to go fishing was Capt. Chet Moore. I learned several things from Chet on that trip about fishing the boils. Chet will be our speaker at the November meeting. He will speak about fishing the boils below Melton Hill and Ft. Loudon Dams. If you're new to that aspect of striper fishing, this would be a great way to learn and make your adventures in those waters much safer and more successful. Join us at the Mandarin House for dinner at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m.

We will have our annual TSBA Board of Directors meeting in December, rather than a general membership meeting. The date of the meeting will be announced shortly. Of course everyone is welcome to attend. We will meet at the Mandarin House with the same schedule as our regular meetings. If you are interested in serving on the Board or being an officer, please contact any current Board member. We will elect new Board Members at our November meeting.

— Eric Rauch, TSBA President

## **Members' Photos**



Georgia Bryant and her sisters, Jackie & Millie, fishing with Dennis Bryant



Joan & Marty, fishing with Allan Franklin

## Fishing with a Medal of Honor Recipient

Many members of the club signed up to take a Medal of Honor Recipient fishing. We were on standby September 10 through September 13. A lot of effort was put in by convention volunteers to make these activities available to the Recipients. A driver brought them to Cherokee and waited until they were done with the 3 hour fishing excursion.

On Tuesday I received a call that a Navy Seal wanted to fish. I had doctor and dentist appointments in West Knoxville and was unable to make the fishing date. It hurt to say NO! I was afraid I would regret that for a long time.

Hal Basdekis and I went out Tuesday evening and caught bait, just in case! I had called and talked to every striper fisherperson on Cherokee to help in case a lot of MOH Recipients wanted to striper fish. Many club members were ready to go if needed.

That evening I got a call for Wednesday at 7 a.m. I recruited Hal to help and we picked up Tommy and Theresa Norris at the Cherokee Dam launch ramp. Since the No Fish Zone was still in effect, we started trolling with downriggers in the Mossy Creek area. We picked up two small stripers and two medium hybrids. We had time to talk about his experiences, and I shared mine with him. Between bites, we tied some knots. I hope they enjoyed the experience as much as Hal and I did. It was truly an honor!

Here is a link to Tom Norris' interview.

www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_detailpage&v=gS57YKGHDKc

— Larry Nowell, "Striper Ace"





## **TSBA Oct. 25 Tournament**



1st Place: John Vincenzo & Charlie Book



2nd Place: Steve Nichols & Larry Nowell



3rd Place: Randy Jackson, Eddie Dills, & Ron Gabler



Tournament Participants

## **2014 Tournament Standings**

#	Name	Apr. 26	Jun. 21	Aug. 23	Oct. 25	Dec. 20	TOTALS
1	John Vincenzo	100 +5	100+5	100+5	100+5		420
2	Eddie Dills	95 +5	85+5	95+5	90+5		385
3	Larry Nowell	+5	90+5	90+5	95+5		295
4	Ron Whilden	0	95+5	95+5	85+5		290
5	Steve Nichols	85 +5	85+5	5	95+5		285
6	Charlie Book	95 +5	0	0	100+5		205
7	Terry Davis	100 +5	80+5	0	0		190
8	Ron Gabler	80 +5	0	0	90+5		185
9	Gary Bayless	80 +5	90+5	0			180
10	Greg Yazel	90 +5	75+5	0			175
	Craig Thibodeaux	+5	100+5	0			110
	Dennis Bryant	+5	0	100+5			110
	Dan Mobly	100 +5	0	0			105
	John May	+5	90+5	5			105
	Eric Rauch	+5	95+5	0			105
	Frank Landers	90 +5	0	0			100
	Todd Kilby	95+5	0	0			100
	Chet Moore	0	0	90+5			95
	Ed Halsen	85 +5	0	0			90
	Justin Rose	0	0	0	85+5		90
	Allan Franklin	0	0	0	80+5		85
	Bob Bisque	0	0	0	80+5		85
	Tim Blanton	0	80+5	0			85
	Jennifer Davis	0	75+5	0			80

## **TSBA 2014 Tournaments**

1st Event: April 26 at Norris Lake Hickory Star Marina

2nd Event: June 21 at Cherokee Lake

**3rd Event: August 23 at Watts Bar Lake** 

4th Event: October 25 at Cherokee Lake

5th Event: December 20 at Norris Lake (TSBA Championship)

## **Hot Spots**

#### CHEROKEE LAKE

NO FISHING ZONE RUNS JULY 15—SEPTEMBER 15 IN FRONT OF THE DAM. The seasonal migration away from the summer thermal trap is complete as the striper have scattered into the coves & upstream looking for bait. The turnover & mixing is complete. The water quality remained good enough this summer for great survival of the larger stripers. Catch and Release is optional. Top water activity can be noticed on the calm mornings. The largest concentration of bait happens in the upper end of the reservoir and the back of major coves & creeks, then starts the migration to the main channel. The gulls have arrived & other bait eating birds will help find the game fish.

#### NORRIS LAKE

Water quality remained great all summer, so survival was excellent. Lake turnover & mixing is complete, so migration of the stripers from deep water around the lower portion (dam end) of the lake allowed them to scatter & search for bait. Bait can be seen on the surface along with breaking game fish feeding in it. Stripers can be found around the most abundant bait in the headwaters of major creeks, coves, and rivers. Good Catch and Release practice now becomes optional. The gulls are back to help find the fish. The size and creel limits changed on November 1.

#### WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

Look for the stripers in front of the major coves or where you find the most bait fish and bait-eating birds. Catch and Release works good in the cool water months. The fish in Watts Bar & lower Clinch Watts Bar have contamination warnings so should not be harvested

— Ezell Cox

## **Creel and Size Limits**

#### CHEROKEE LAKE

<u>Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:</u> 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**

<u>Striped Bass or Hybrid Striped Bass:</u> 2 per day in combination, including Clinch River upstream to Highway 61 bridge in Clinton.

<u>Striped Bass:</u> 32–42 inch Protected Length Range (PLR); only one fish may be over 42 inches

**Hybrid Striped Bass:** 15 inch minimum length limit

## Fishing Cool Months For Stripers

The change in season is very welcome by fishermen. Some of the reasons are cool, stable, comfortable temperatures to enjoy the foliage getting ready for winter, reduced boat traffic as school starts and football and hunting season begins, Catch & Release becomes optional, and the return of the helpful gulls for locating schools of striper that often feed on the surface.

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 bait fish concentrations that will seek out the warmest most stable temperatures with nutrient rich water that is normally murky.

— Ezell Cox

SAFETY SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST PRIORITY WHEN FISHING AS THE WATER IS USED MUCH LESS IN COOL WATER MONTHS.

BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS PRESENTED EACH SEASON AND STAY PREPARED.



TSBA Monthly Meeting Monday, November 17 at 7 p.m.

Mandarin House Chinese Buffet 314 Merchants Drive, Knoxville

We have a private room reserved. Join us at 6 p.m. for dinner.

Our speaker will be Capt. Chet Moore. "Fishing the Boils"

## Fishing Regulations

New fishing licenses are required to fish starting each March 1. It is each fisherman's responsibility to know the rules and stay legal. NO FISHING ZONE runs July 15 until September 15 on Cherokee Lake. Changes are normal in the management of our fishing each year, and those changes become effective on March 1. 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 1 and November 1. Go online to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at <a href="https://www.tnwildlife.org">www.tnwildlife.org</a> 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

#### A-Plus Construction, LLC

Commercial/Residential Contractors

#### David Powell

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

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#### **YOUR 2014 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF**

President: Vice President:

Eric Rauch 865-223-9788 Eddie Dills 865-296-3743 erauch01@gmail.com jeneddie@comcast.net

Treasurer: Secretary:

Larry Nowell 865-898-9273 Keith Shannon

larrynowell@gmail.com 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** Jim Blazier & Bill Ballou

& Distribution: Jim's email (jblazier@comcast.net)

**Newsletter Editors:** Eddie & Jenifer Dills

jeneddie@comcast.net

**Membership:** Doug Steffe

dougsteffe@centurytel.net

Website: Terry Reinitz

**Adv. Sponsor Coord.:** position open

**Tournament Coord.:** Steve Nichols & John Vincenzo

**Co-op Supplies and** Greg Dee

**Raffle Prizes:** greg@kingdomlandscapes.com

**Advisors:** Ezell Cox 423-626-9547

Allan Franklin 865-694-8888

#### 2014 Meeting Links

January Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/iczS2iiVIIA

Speaker: Bill Ballou

Topic: Maintaining Fishing Reels

February Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/eltyqHoDT4w

Speaker: Clay Cunningham Topic: Using Artificial Lures

March Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/9USRSC0JA-4

Speaker: Jim Negus, TWRA Biologist

Topic: Water Quality and Dissolved Oxygen Levels at Norris Lake

April Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/O0AeRxk3Ugk

Speaker: Stephen Scott

Topic: Using Lake Erie Big Water Planer Board Techniques

May Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/vcnx9-rdpBc

Speaker: Bill Carson and Fuzzy Lambert Topic: Humminbird and MinnKota products

June Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/6TTv844Q gk

Speaker: Allen Franklin

Topic: Secrets of Catching Bait

July Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/GOsq7xMfxb4

Speaker: Keith Shannon

Topic: Techniques for Keeping Bait Healthy

August Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/xu7grlvrulg

Speaker: Mike Smith

Topic: Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery

October Meeting Link

http://youtu.be/xFa1\_1xMauk

Speaker: Ezell Cox

Topic: When, Where & How to Fish for Stripers

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Hours: Mon-Sat 8 am - 8 pm, Sun 9 am - 7 pm Pick-Up Trucks Welcomed



#### TSBA 2015 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-n	nail address to receive th	e monthly newsletter:				
E-Mail address						
Association, Inc. (TSBA)	•	by the Tennessee Striped Bass claws can be found on the TSBA he corporation.				
(Signature)	<del></del>	(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.



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.

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

TSBA Monthly Meeting Monday, November 17, 2014 7 p.m.