

Tennessee Striped Bass Association

Get Hooked !

January 2015



Monthly Meeting Third TUESDAY at
Puleo's Grill 110 Cedar Lane off
Merchants Rd. at I - 75

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

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TSBA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is the time of the year when we often give thanks for all that has been given to us. In that regard I want to thank all of our speakers for the time and energy that they put into their presentations last year. I'm sure that all of you who attended our meetings or watched them on U-Tube feel that way too. I also want to thank those of you who served our club as Board members; officers and other functions such as membership; tournaments; web site management; producing and distributing our newsletter; and making the fish fry a success. We couldn't have had the year we did without your help.

As we launch into 2015 I also want to recognize several individuals who have stepped forward to assist the club in new roles. Eddie Dills and Larry Nowell will be our Tournament Coordinators; Ron Gabler will Sponsor Coordinator and Chairman of the Board of Directors; last, but certainly not least, Bob Biscay is now our Newsletter Publisher. Several others have agreed to continue to serve in the rolls they had last year. Thanks to them for their continued efforts on our behalf.

When the Board of Directors met in December, we discussed several issues of importance to the club.

- Of critical importance, we were able to fill all of the positions that support the club.
- It was decided to move our meetings to the 3rd Tuesday at Puleo's.
- We initiated development of our program schedule for the year. However, if there are subjects that you would like to see covered, please let us know as we still have a few slots to fill.
- Our Treasurer, Larry Nowell, gave us a financial report showing that we have \$10,768 in our checking account. We are financially in great shape.
- We asked David Powell to develop a new web site for our review in March. The objective is to make it easier to use and post pictures on for everyone.
- One key item we decided to work on is attracting new members. That is essential to our long-term success. One step we decided to take was to have a booth at the East TN Fishing show in mid-January. We'll report on the success of that effort at the next meeting.

Our last tourney in 2014 was out of Hickory Star on Norris on Dec. 20. It was a pretty cold morning and only two of the boats successfully landed stripers. However, all of us had fun. We will award our 2014 tourney champs at the January meeting.

The TSBA is a non profit corporation that Supports TWRA and its Striped Bass/Cherokee Bass programs. We come together to provide A unified voice for the Striped Bass/ Cherokee Bass programs in the state of Tennessee. We Educate the public and share our knowledge With fellow Striped Bass anglers.

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 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*

Members Photos



Dennis Bryant



John Vincenzo

Tournament Dec 20 Norris Lake



Larry Scott with John V and Steve Nichols



2014 Tournament Standings

	Name	04/26/14	06/21/14	08/23/14	10/25/14	12/20/14	TOTALS
1	John Vincenzo	100+5	100+5	100+5	100+5	95+5	520
2	Eddie Dills	95+5	85+5	95+5	90+5	100+5	490
3	Larry Nowell	5	90+5	90+5	95+5	100+5	400
4	Steve Nichols	85+5	85+5	5	95+5	95+5	385
5	Ron Whilden	0	95+5	95+5	85+5	0	290
6	Charlie Book	95+5	0	0	100+5	0	205
7	Terry Davis	100+5	80+5	0	0	0	190
8	Bob Biscay	0	0	80+5	0	100+5	190
9	Ron Gabler	80+5	0	0	90+5	5	185
10	Gary Bayless	80+5	90+5	0	0	5	185
11	Greg Yazel	90+5	75+5	0	0	0	175
12	Craig Thibodeaux	5	100+5	0	0	0	110
13	Dennis Bryant	5	0	100+5	0	0	110
14	John May	5	90+5	5	0	5	110
15	Eric Rauch	5	95+5	0	0	5	110
16	Dan Mobley	100+5	0	0	0	0	105
17	Todd Kilby	95+5	0	0	0	0	100
18	Larry Scott	0	0	0	0	95+5	100
19	Frank Landers	90+5	0	0	0	0	95
20	Chet Moore	0	0	90+5	0	0	95
21	Ed Halsen	85+5	0	0	0	0	90
22	Justin Rose	0	0	85+5	0	0	90
23	Allan Franklin	0	0	80+5	0	5	90
24	Tim Blanton	0	80+5	0	0	0	85
25	Jennifer Davis	0	75+5	0	0	0	80
26	Steve Sutton	0	0	0	0	5	5

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

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.

Striped Bass: 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.

Our next TSBA meeting will be held on TUESDAY, Jan. 20 at Puleo's Grill (110 Cedar Ln, Knoxville – just east of the Merchant's Rd exit off of I-75). We will have two speakers: David Powell will discuss large, home tanks for keeping bait and Mel Cook will discuss boat bait tanks (including the ones that he is now making). Please join us in the large meeting room at Puleo's for dinner at 6:00. The meeting will start at 7:00. Hope to see you there.

United States Coast Guard Safety

Many folks spend time on the water for enjoyment and relaxation. Subsequently, our Tennessee waterways see more vessel traffic each year. With the increase of recreational boating, the focus has become boating safety. The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in Eastern Tennessee is committed to helping those who use motor, sailing or personal water craft learn safety procedures that will save lives, prevent accidents and even help reduce the cost of your boater's insurance. Some examples of the Coast Guard Auxiliary public service include life jacket loaner programs that allow boaters to temporarily borrow life jackets free of charge for their guests, boating safety classes that can reduce the cost of your yearly boat insurance and vessel inspections by a certified inspector (without cost to you) to ensure your vessel meets all the equipment and safety requirements. Vessels meeting those requirements will receive a USCG safety inspection decal that will be displayed on the owner's watercraft. Our classes begin in February and will end in October 2015.

Classes can be accessed by going to our website at:

<http://www.flotilla-12-2-tellico-village.blogspot.com/>

Mike Colacone Flotilla Staff Officer for Public Education

YOUR 2015 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

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erauch01@gmail.com

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Larry Nowell 865-898-9273
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Secretary:

Keith Shannon
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TSBA DIRECTORS

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

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Website:

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Adv. Sponsor Coord.:

Ron Gabler

Tournament Coord.:

Eddie Dills and Larry Nowell

Co-op Supplies and Raffle Prizes:

Greg Dee
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

November Meeting Link

<http://youtu.be/xgBq9X-4Erl>

Speaker : Chet Moore

Topic : Fishing The Boils

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/xu7grlvruIg>

Speaker: Mike Smith

Topic: Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery

October Meeting Link

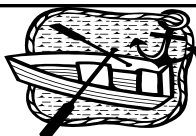
http://youtu.be/xFa1_1xMauk

Speaker: Ezell Cox

Topic: When, Where & How to Fish for Stripers

We appreciate our Sponsors

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Knoxville, TN 37939

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

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Clinton, TN 37716

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**Full service marina
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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-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, Inc
P.O. Box 163
Sharps Chapel, TN. 37866

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