

Tennessee Striped Bass Association

Get Hooked !

April 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

Spring is finally here and, like you, I'm really ready for it. After the ice and snow this winter, it will be great to have warmer mornings and clear skies. Be sure that you've completed the necessary maintenance on your boat and trailer, especially if they have been sitting most of the winter. Don't forget the wheel bearings and tires when you roll out the boat on the trailer. It's no fun to be stranded by the side of the road with your boat behind the truck.

Jay Girardot talked to us at our March meeting about umbrella rigs. It was a very interesting presentation. If you're interested in that topic and couldn't come to the meeting, the presentation is available on our forum. By the way, you'll be pleased to know that David Powell is working to improve our forum. If you have ideas for enhancement or are having problems using it, contact David. We all appreciate his willingness to help us make this more useful to our membership.

As I mentioned in my last letter, Bob Biscay is now our Newsletter Editor. In order for Bob to produce a quality product, our members need to provide him pictures and articles. In an effort to get more articles submitted, our Board has decided to hold a contest for the May thru August newsletters. The members at the meeting which immediately follows publication of each month's newsletter will get to vote on the article that they liked best. The winner will receive \$50. If this increases the number of quality articles being submitted, we will consider extending the contests beyond August. So, start writing and get your articles to Bob.

You should now have your new fishing license. If not, it's time to head to the TWRA web site or your nearest sporting goods store.

Larry Nowell and Eddie Dills will be coordinating our tournaments this year. The first one will be coming up on April 25th out of Hickory Star Boat Dock on Norris. Like last year, we will have cash prizes for the top 3 places overall at the end of the season. These are a lot of fun and a great way to get to know other members. Try to join us for as many as possible.

Our next meeting will be at Puleo's Grill (110 Cedar Ln, just east of the I-75/Merchants Rd. exit) on April 21, with dinner at 6 pm and the meeting at 7 pm. Our speaker will be Keith Shannon and he will talk about keeping bait alive. Keith is very good at this and will share his techniques with us.

TSBA Fishing Tournament 2015

Coordinators: Eddie Dills 865 296 3743

Larry Nowell 865 898 9273

April 25 Hickory Star on Norris Lake

May 23 Grainger County Park, Cherokee Lake

July 25 Watts Bar

Sept 19 Cherokee Lake

Nov 21 Norris Lake

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FAIR WEATHER FISHERMAN

OK I admit it; I am a fair weather fisherman. I used to go fishing almost every weekend but that was before I had 4-5 weeks vacation and could even take vacation in four-hour increments. But now that I am retired I can really pick my times and weather conditions. Winter is not my favorite time of year. If I didn't have family commitments I would probably spend January and February in Florida, or maybe even farther south. A recent trip with our travel friends Jimmy and Pat Welch reinforced this opinion.

Debbie and I had the pleasure of spending several days in central Florida with the Welch family and their friends. Jimmy told me his friend Larry was an avid fisherman and would "put us on the fish". Larry did say that he could not take us to the lake where we could catch the 2# crappie due to wind conditions. But we would go to a phosphate pit that had been reclaimed as a state park. Sand mounds and trees that would shelter us from the wind surrounded this lake.

Larry said he would pick us up at the motel at 5 a.m. and treat us to breakfast. He was there on time and told us the biscuits were already cooked and waiting for us. It was a short trip to his house and the smell of homemade biscuits was enough to wake us up even before we started on the coffee. Larry got busy and cooked the sausage, eggs and gravy as well as any short order cook. This fishing trip was definitely starting off well even if I did have to wake up so early.

Larry had the rods set up with a bell sinker on the bottom and two small gold hooks spaced about 8-10" apart above the sinker. I thought the minnows we were using were too small until the crappie started biting.

I got to listen to several fishing and hunting stories during the day and enjoy some great fellowship. I did learn a new fishing term, at least new to me, that I will share. Larry told me to check my hooks frequently to make sure that I "was not fishing on credit" which meant an empty hook. He said there were a lot of critters in this water that would steal your bait. We also saw a small gator in the weeds while we were fishing. Larry said the big gators would not be a problem until the water got warmer.

But one thing most of the locals were very cautious about was the buzzards. If you could not park close to the road it was a good practice to cover the truck or car with a tarp to prevent the buzzards from eating wiper blades and window gaskets. They were crazy about rubber products!!!

We caught a bunch of good crappie and most of them were a little over a pound. It would have been nice to catch some of those two-pound crappie but the waves were just too big on that lake. I know the typical TSBA fishing reports and pictures are about big fish but this time the fellowship was more important than the size of the fish. Jim Blazier



Members Photos



YOUR 2015 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

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Keith Shannon
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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

2015 Meeting links

January Ezell Cox and Mel Cook Topic Bait Tanks

<http://youtu.be/HG9x7CWEQ-Y>

March Jay Girardot and Doug Steffe Topic Umbrella Rigs

<http://youtu.be/hJpt-ZCNBNY>



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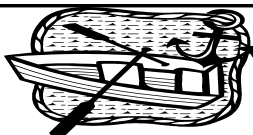
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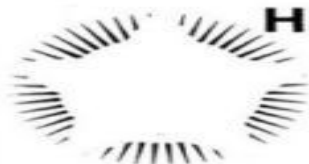
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As a member:

- *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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