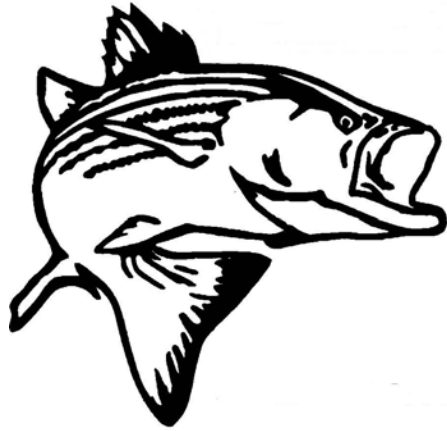


**Catch
the
Striper
Fever!**

T.S.B.A.



**Tennessee
Striped Bass
Association,
Inc.
Newsletter**

**July
2011**



***Todd Asher landed this 44-inch beauty this past month.
See pages 10 and 11 for more trophy shots from Todd's
adventures operating a fishing guide service.***

President's Letter

Hello everyone,

I hope that you are having a great summer and that you are able to get out and catch some fish! I know work has been in the way of my fishing lately, but I hope to rectify that soon.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the fish fry in September. If you have never attended this annual even, then you have missed out on a great time and great food! I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

We still need to schedule guest speakers for some of the upcoming monthly meetings in 2011. If anyone has an idea for a topic or would like to suggest a guest speaker, please let me know.

We are always looking for pictures to include in our monthly publication. If you have any photographs that you would like to share with the club, please send them to me and I will include them in the newsletter.

Take care,

— Erik Engebretsen



Important Reminder

TSBA has made a change in the time for the monthly meetings. We will now meet for dinner at 6:00 p.m. The monthly meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the June 2011 meeting

The TSBA continues to have an active membership base that is growing in size. We not only had a near-record number of 50 members in attendance at the June meeting, but also welcomed five new members into our ranks.

Doug Steffe opened the meeting by introducing our guest speaker, Captain Clay Cunningham. Clay is a fulltime striper guide on Lake Lanier, Georgia and specializes in artificial bait and tackle.

Clay showed members the hottest new artificial baits and explained how and when to use them. During his presentation he passed some lures through the crowd for closer examination. As members enjoyed checking out the baits, Clay answered their questions. Check out Clay's bait and tackle at www.fishingpharmacy.com/.

Doug Steffe asked members what topics they would like to cover at future meetings. Some ideas mentioned included topics such as bait tanks, cast nets, graphs and fishing.

Allan Franklin informed members that TSBA sponsored the club's last Kids Day event this past June. The decision to cancel this annual event was made based on the declining participation we have had for this event. One member suggested that we replace the Kids Day event with a wounded warrior type event for soldiers that have been wounded in combat. Great Idea!!



TSBA members took advantage of the opportunity to purchase some of the lures and tackle showcased by Captain Clay during his presentation.

Allan Franklin and Todd Asher covered the details for the upcoming club tournament on Watts Bar Lake July 9, 2011.

Reminders:

Dinner at future meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

The annual fish fry will be held on Saturday, September 24. TSBA needs volunteers to help with the event. Contact Doug Steffe.

Please contribute pictures, stories and any other information you think members might find of interest to the TSBA newsletter. Contact Jim Blazier.

Contact other members when you find good deals on tackle and fishing supplies. Buying in bulk will save members money.

Thanks to all TSBA members and to Captain Clay Cunningham for his presentation.



Allan Franklin gave a cast net throwing demonstration outside the Flatwater Grill after the meeting.

— **Bud White, Secretary**

The TSBA web site has been rebuilt by Keith Shannon. Access it at **www.TNStripedBass.com**, logging in with your real name to register and your own unique password.

Outlook for current fishing spots

CHEROKEE LAKE

The larger stripers may start to struggle from accumulated stress during this time of the year. This makes their ability to survive a catch and release experience questionable in late summer. Hybrids, however, are more tolerant of summer's warm water conditions. These fish can often be caught in schools located in shallow water then released normally without experiencing increased mortality rates. The bait-eating birds will help indicate where the striper/hybrids are going to be at the all-you-can-eat buffet. The NO FISHING ZONE is in effect again starting July 15 until September 15. The humps and islands near the NO FISHING ZONE up to point #12 should be excellent.

NORRIS LAKE

The best fishing can be found around 10 miles upstream of Norris dam in the lower Clinch and Powell Rivers, including Big Creek and Cove Creek. Most of the stripers have moved out of the shallow, warm coves and into the main channel where they can be found with fish finders below the thermocline. Down lines and downriggers work well over marked fish.

WATTS BAR & MELTON HILL

Many of the stripers have moved upstream to the discharge at the dams. If you plan to fish here, remember to **WEAR YOUR LIFE JACKET**. Put your sinker and hook close to the bottom with plans to lose a few for the most catches. Pulling side planer boards down the banks can also catch fish for miles downstream. The stripers can be stressed if the flow is low enough to allow the water temperature to rise above 70 degrees. Use heavy line with a very quick release to keep from killing the fish.

FISHING REGULATIONS

It is each fisherman's responsibility to know the rules and stay legal. The restricted fishing area begins July 15th on Cherokee Lake. Go on line to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency at www.tnwildlife.org or pick up a 2011 Fishing Regulations book at sporting stores or TWRA offices.

— *Ezell Cox*

August Expectations

Stripers have migrated downstream to cooler water found below the thermocline in tributary reservoirs. The fish will remain here until the lake turns over in October. This will make locating schools of stripers with your fish finder a little easier as the fish congregate in the deeper, cooler water of the main channel. The thermocline depth will continue to drop, with the fish staying just below it. Surface feeding in the reservoirs is over until October. A good topographical map now becomes a great fishing tool.

Remember that fishing is often better when the dams are generating. The tailraces will continue to improve. They will be a good place to find some action while still allowing successful catch and release in the hot summer. Working the “boils” will become very effective in August. It is your life and money, so remember to wear your life jacket at the dams. It is also the law.

— Ezell Cox



“It’s too BIG TO PICK UP! Let me get a photo of you with this fish so we can get it back in the water,” said Kyle Rutherford, Sr., as he snapped a shot of his son, Kyle Rutherford, Jr. holding the 44-inch striper he caught on Watts Bar Lake. Kyle Sr. has now earned his Tennessee Angler Recognition Program certificate at the young age of 85 years old.



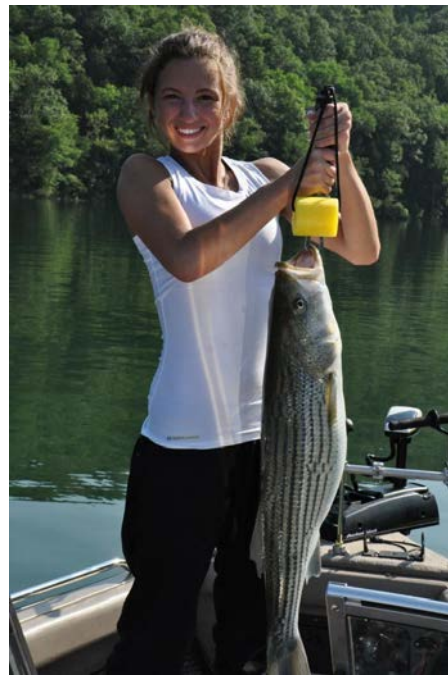
Member Cory Malabey took his son Devon, above left, and Devon's friend Grant Jacobs, above right, out fishing just below Melton Hill Dam. The boys caught these fish using big gizzards on a bobber and planer boards. This was Grant's first striper.

Members Terry and Gary Reinitz wish to thank Ezell Cox and Sammy Robinett for all their great advice on how to catch stripers. Gary, pictured left, caught this big striper on Norris Lake using a bluegill as bait. His catch weighed 27 pounds and was 39 inches long. This was Gary's first time catching a striper on his own.



Dave Studzinski, a longtime TSBA member who lives in Ohio, sent this group of photos in to share with the club. Dave, who usually spends his vacation time fishing on Norris Lake, recently made it to his first TSBA meeting where he hired member Billy Davis, who operates a fishing guide service (www.tnmuskies.org), to give him a river fishing lesson. Dave is pictured left with a nice striper he caught on his trip out with Billy.

Like many anglers, Dave enjoys being on the lake and introducing new people to the sport of striper fishing. He recently had the opportunity to assist 83 year old Morgan Hamlin, below left, and his granddaughter Jillian, below right, in landing their very first stripers. They found these 12 and 16 pound fish in the Davis Creek area.





Ezell Cox recently took new TSBA member Larry Nowell, pictured above and below, to Cherokee Lake for some striper/hybrid fishing. The fishermen were on the water by sunrise and fished until midmorning. Ezell practices what he preaches: he tracked down the bait-eating birds to find lots of stripers and hybrids. The end result was a great day spent out on the water.





Professional fishing guide Todd Asher submitted these trophy shots to share with fellow TSBA members. You may recall Todd's name from an article that was featured in last month's newsletter in which Jim Farmer described going on a fishing trip guided by Todd.





Its hard to not get jealous looking at this trio of double-headers!

TSBA would like to thank Todd for taking the time to send in this awesome collection of trophy shots.

Be sure to check out Todd's website at www.shadnastyfishing.com to view even more trophy shots landed by his friends and clients.



YOUR 2011 TSBA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND STAFF

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Tournament Coordinator:

Allan Franklin	865-694-8888
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Door Prizes:

[vacant]

Advisor:

Ezell Cox	423-626-9547
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2011 TSBA Calendar

Please join us at TSBA meetings and events. Monthly meetings are held at the Flatwater Grill at 100 Melton Lake Peninsula in Oak Ridge, Tennessee (<http://theflatwatergrill.com>).

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Jul 18 | Monthly Meeting; dinner 6:00 p.m., meeting 7:00 p.m.
The Flatwater Grill in Oak Ridge.
Topic: Striper stocking, TWRA Hatchery Manager Mike Smith |
| Aug 15 | Monthly Meeting; dinner 6:00 p.m., meeting 7:00 p.m.
The Flatwater Grill in Oak Ridge.
Topic: Artificial Baits and Fishing Tackle, speaker TBA |
| Sep 24 | Annual Fish Fry: reunion starts 2 p.m., dinner 4 p.m.
Grainger County Park |
| Oct 17 | Monthly Meeting; dinner 6:00 p.m., meeting 7:00 p.m.
The Flatwater Grill in Oak Ridge. |

Monthly Meeting Details

TSBA's monthly meeting will be held in a private room at the Flatwater Grill restaurant in Oak Ridge. This room is best entered through the side door near the railroad bridge. Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m. The dinner is a special buffet that owner Dean Russell is organizing for us. The cost is \$15, which includes a drink and gratuity. Please note that payment is cash or check only.

Our guest speaker this month will be Mike Smith, Manager of the TWRA Eagle Bend Fish Hatchery in Clinton, TN. This hatchery produces the striped bass used in the stocking program for several TWRA Region 4 lakes. Mike will speak about the number of striped bass stocked in these lakes so far this year.

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TSBA 2011 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.

Is this a renewal ____ or a New Membership ____

Your Name_____

Spouse's Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(_____)_____ # of minor children in family _____

E-Mail address _____

Referred By: _____

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: Membership renewals with no address or info revisions may send **just a \$20 check** with member's name, to the address above. Filling out the application is not required. 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.



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

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



**July 18, 2011: Monthly Meeting
Flatwater Grill
100 Melton Lake Drive, Oak Ridge
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.; meeting at 7:00 p.m.**