LNSC ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

I would like to offer a big welcome to the new President, Ron Schneider and our new Vice President, Ron Burk.

Ron Schneider is no stranger to the fishing industry. He is one of the founders of the LNSC and served our club well over the years. He has held many seminars and taught courses on how to catch fish. Ron was also a fishing guide for 20 years. When he talks about how & where to catch fish, he knows what he is talking about. Ron also has an in-house fishing equipment and rod building store.

The other Ron (Ron Burk) is the one that has been sending out our dissolved oxygen reports. He is only asked to do 2 locations. However, you may have noticed, he usually sends out reports in other locations as well. Ron is the kind of person that gives 110 percent. He is no stranger to the computer or the internet. His kind of dedication and skills are a huge asset to our club.

The LNSC has served its members, the community as well as the fishing industry. Our members carry a strong voice that is heard on fish management, stocking and fishing regulations. We do make a difference.

As for me, I feel truly honored to have served as President of the Lake Norfork Striper Club for the past 4 years. I have made a bunch of new friends in this club. The enthusiasm that I get from club members is contagious. Not just at the meetings but on the water, tournaments or even meeting members at the store.

I have been involved with the LNSC for over 9 years and will continue to be involved for many years to come. Like I said, it has been an honor to serve.

John Gerard, Past President

See President’s Message on page 3
APRIL TOURNAMENT

It was a cloudy day and the wind was pretty good. It had been blowing well for the last week, but we had a great turn out for fishing. There were 21 people signed up.

A big congratulations goes out to Deanne Casimer for winning the April tournament with a fish of 8 pounds 6 oz. It was caught on live bait in 101 Cove, 12 ft deep over 40 ft. on a balloon. Fish were all caught at Cranfield, Robinson flat, crystal cove, and 6A.

Taking 2nd was Jack Engesetter with a fish weighing in at 8 lb. 1 oz. Jim Shaffer was 3rd with his fish weighing 7 lb. 15 oz. Jack and Jim were fishing together and they were trolling flicker shads. We had a tie for 4th place with Mike Devors and Jim Schill. Both had a fish weighing 6 lb. 14 oz. They will split 4th and 5th place points which is 4 points for 4th and 2 points for 5th giving each of them 3 points. I caught the 6th place spot with my fish weighing in at 6 lb. 12 oz.

Larry Devors was the rod and reel drawing winner.

I would again like to thank everyone for supporting our tournaments and to those that helped at the weigh-in. The next tournament is May 18th and 19th. This is a two-day tournament and the fee will be $10.00 with a big fish option for an additional $5.00. Remember that if you choose to be in the big fish pot, everyone in your boat also needs to be in the big fish pot.

Thank you, Moose West, Tournament Director

See more Tournament Pictures on Page 3
More Tournament Pictures

Michael Devors - 4th Place
Jim Schill - 5th Place
Raffle Prize Winner Larry Devors
1st place Deanne receive her winnings

President’s Message

“Thank you all for allowing me to serve.

I want to thank John Gerard for all his loyal service thru the years, and his warm enthusiasm. Stay close John.

I’m also grateful for all of those who have worked at all the many things that help keep this club active and vibrant thru the years; And to those who continue in the all various jobs this year, thank you for your service. I look forward to working with you.

While I am thanking, a big thank you to East Side Baptist Church and its members for providing this great meeting place.” Blessings to all, Ron Schneider
**2018 LNSC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

**MAY 18 & 19 (FRI & SAT) 5:30AM FRI - 10:00AM SAT**
Live bait or Artificial baits are both allowable for this tournament. Entry fee is $10 per contestant for the tournament and an additional $5 each for the OPTIONAL big fish weighed for the tournament. The single biggest fish pays 100% of all big fish entry fees. Each contestant in any boat that has a big fish contestant must also pay the big fish entry fee. **TWO WEIGH-INS AT HENDERSON CAMPGROUND LAUNCH RAMP; FRIDAY – 10:00AM, & SATURDAY – 10:00 AM** Contestants may weigh up to 3 fish at ANY weigh-in time but no more than a total of three fish for the tournament. When the three-fish limit is reached, there will be no culling allowed. Total weight for up to three fish weighed will determine the winners.

**JUNE 14 THURSDAY 5:15AM - 10:00AM**
Weigh in at Quarry Park Launch Ramp. **Artificial baits ONLY** allowable for this tournament.

**JULY 12 THURSDAY 5:15AM - 10:00AM**
Weigh in at Quarry Park Launch Ramp. **Artificial baits ONLY** allowable for this tournament.

**AUGUST 16 THURSDAY 5:45AM - 10:00AM**
Weigh in at Quarry Park Launch Ramp. **Artificial baits ONLY** allowable for this tournament.

**SEPTEMBER 14 & 15 (FRI & SAT) 6:00AM FRI - 10:00AM SAT**
Live bait or Artificial baits are both allowable for this tournament. Entry fee is $10 per contestant for the tournament and an additional $5 each for the OPTIONAL big fish weighed for the tournament. The single biggest fish pays 100% of all big fish entry fees. Each contestant in any boat that has a big fish contestant must also pay the big fish entry fee. **TWO WEIGH-INS AT QUARRY PARK LAUNCH RAMP; FRIDAY – 10:00AM, & SATURDAY – 10:00 AM** Contestants may weigh up to 3 fish at ANY weigh-in time but no more than a total of three fish for the tournament. When the three-fish limit is reached, there will be no culling allowed. Total weight for up to three fish weighed will determine the winners.

**OCTOBER 6 SATURDAY 6:30 AM - 12:00 PM**
Weigh-in at Henderson Campground Launch Ramp. Live bait or Artificial baits are both allowable for this tournament. Entry fee is $5.00 per contestant.

**REMEMBER, YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND UPCOMING TOURNAMENT DATES AND THE LNSC TOURNAMENT RULES ON OUR WEBSITE AT:**
www.norforkstripers.org.
1. LNSC tournaments will be confined to the boundaries of Lake Norfork.

2. All USCG, AGFC, and MDOC rules and regulations must be followed.

3. Anyone breaking the tournament rules as set by the tournament committee will be disqualified and ineligible for tournaments for 1 year.

4. Only LNSC family members and children 18 years old and under (and/or still in High School) may fish club tournaments. Children must be registered and pay the same entry fee as adults. Children compete as equals with adults and are eligible for the same prizes.

5. Starting times will be posted for each tournament on the tournament schedule. You may be on the water 30 min. before official starting time but you may not have a line in the water until the starting time.

6. A minimum of 10 entrants are needed to hold a tournament. In the event, there are fewer than 10 entrants, the event will be cancelled. In the event a tournament is cancelled; all attempts will be made to hold it one week later if we meet the 10-entrant minimum.

7. For all tournaments, Stripers & Hybrids are treated equally, i.e. 20 in. min. length.

8. Entry fee for all one-day tournaments will be $5 per person. The entry fee for the two-day tournaments will be $10 per person.

9. The payback at all tournaments will be 100% of the entry money: 50% for 1st place, 30% for 2nd place, 20% for 3rd place. Payout will only be for the places awarded. If no fish are weighed-in (in any category), the entry fee for that category will go to LNSC treasury to help defray the cost of the drawing prize which is awarded regardless of weigh-in results. (No fish weighed in all moneys will go to the LNSC treasury.)

10. The prize drawing will be held at the weigh in. Registered and paid-up entrants must be present at the weigh in to get a ticket for the drawing.

11. All entrants MUST register with the tournament director no later than 5:00 p.m. of the evening before each tournament, either by-mail, phone call, or in person.

12. If you register, you must pay even if you end up not fishing. Entrants MUST pay by the time of the weigh-in. If entry fees are not paid promptly, entrant will be ineligible to fish future tournaments until after delinquent payment is made. NO REFUNDS except for a cancelled tournament. All pre-paid entries for cancelled tournaments will be returned or credited toward the next scheduled tournament, your choice.
13. There will be a Point System to determine the "Angler of the Year". It is as follows:

- 10 points for entering tournament.
- 1 point for each ounce of your total fish weight. Applies only to your largest fish in the single day tournaments. In 2-day tournaments, points will be awarded for up to a maximum of 3 fish total.
- Points will be awarded per placing in the top 5 for each tournament: 10 points for 1st place; 8 points for 2nd place; 6 points for 3rd place; 4 points for 4th place; and 2 points for 5th place.

14. All contestants **MUST BE** in the buoy area to let me know if you have a fish by tournament end time.

15. Tournament committee would prefer/suggest that all contestants wear life jackets and attach kill switch when the main motor is running (not fishing) and/or when used to troll.

Rules, dates, and weigh-in locations may be subject to change by the tournament committee if needed. Check the tournament schedule and message board for more information.

**Decision of the Tournament Director is final. If a storm approaches, play it safe and get to shelter. Use your own judgment.**

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR - Forrest (Moose) West**

*email: moosew@centurytel.net*  
*Phone: 870/847-4088*

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**Member Input Wanted**

The LNSC board & Newsletter Editor would like to get more input from members on many areas that should be of interest to all, such as:

1. Speakers or topics for meetings. Please offer your suggestions.
2. Articles or items of interest for the newsletter. What would you like to see?
3. Club Raffle….any suggestions?

Please email comments or suggestions to John at stripermail@gmail.com, or to Vern Berry at ozarkloafer@yahoo.com.
**LNSC NEW FISHING REPORT INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

Your submitted fishing reports have been a very important feature of club membership. They are greatly appreciated by all. Thanks to all anglers who have, and continue to share this valuable information.

For 2018 the program will change and be even better for all participants. Details are as follow:

A quarterly special drawing will be held for each reporting period. **Drawing prize:** A choice of new Rod & Reel or $75 Pre-Paid Visa Card.

**Reporting Periods are:**

A. January 1 to April 20\(^{th}\). Drawing at April 23\(^{rd}\) meeting.
B. April 21 to June 22\(^{nd}\). Drawing at the June 25\(^{th}\) meeting.
C. June 23\(^{rd}\) to Sept. 22\(^{nd}\). Drawing at the Sept. 24\(^{th}\) meeting.
D. Sept 23 to Dec. 6\(^{th}\). Drawing at the Christmas party.

Participants do NOT have to be present to win.

**PROGRAM RULES:**

1. 15 maximum reports eligible per period. (more appreciated).
2. Report date must be no later than one day after fishing date.
3. Area fished
4. Water depth where fish were hooked
5. Depth fish were at when hooked
6. Catch kept or released
7. Fishing method (bait, trolling, spooning, etc.)
8. Bait/lure used
9. Time of day & general lake conditions.
10. Your Name.
11. Pictures optional –Always appreciated by members. (pictures of lures also appreciated.

**Note:** Only the angler submitting the report shall be credited with the report. Reports when no fish are caught also count and are greatly appreciated.
Spring is coming, I promise!. The weather is still playing games with us, and the fishing seems to be effected for a day or so after each frontal system. In between systems the fishing gets good and people catch all species for a couple of days. Then the cycle begins again. Over the last week many fish were caught including striped bass, hybrid bass, white bass, walleye, crappie, spotted bass and largemouth bass.

Striped bass, hybrid bass and white bass fishing has had its ups and downs over the last week. The fish are chasing the shad and the shad are continuing to move. One day you find them in the backs of coves in 15 - 20 feet of water and the next day they are on main lake points or large flats in 20 - 35 feet of water. Vertical jigging or casting out a spoon has been the best method of catching many fish. The hardest part is finding their current feeding location. I have a 4 mile stretch that my guests have been fishing over the last week with some great results and other times a very tough time. They have typically been found on the shallow side of the cove or lake not the bluff line side. Casting out a 5 inch swim bait has also been picking up some nice stripers. There are a few stripers that are feeding in close to the sunken buck brush. If things happen as prior years, we will soon see schools of stripers up close to the brush feeding early and late in the day. This is what I am hoping will happen, the sooner the better.

It appears that over the last couple of days, largemouth and spotted bass fishing has gotten really good. Baitfish have moved into the sunken buck brush and the bass have followed suit. Plastics and hard baits are both working. Unweighted flukes or bass assassins cast into the brush with slight twitches have made the bass go crazy. They are right inside of the brush so once you get hammered you will have a fun time getting the fish out. Lots of 14 - 17 inch fish have been caught and released with lots of smiles on the fisherman's face. Try out a jerk bait doing the similar routine. Find an opening in the brush and cast in a Zara spook and walk the dog out of the brush and watch the bass erupt on your bait. It will not be long until the smallies start to get real active.

Walleye fishing has also been good. They are inside of the brush, same as the bass, or right at the outside edge of the brush. A 5 inch swim bait has been working well with a 1/4 - 3/8 ounce jig head. Cast the swim bait to the edge of the brush and let it sink a little, then retrieve the bait slowly back to the boat. Early morning and right before sunset are two great times to catch walleye close to shore. Casting out a suspending jerk bait at sunset to a little after dark will also produce some nice fish. Make sure when you are retrieving the jerk bait you do it slowly with barely making a wiggle with bait.

The lake is currently on the rise after a slight rain a few days ago. We are currently sitting at 561.70 ft. above sea level with sporadic power generation though out the day. The surface water temperature is around 58 degrees on the main lake and close to 60 degrees back in the creeks and coves. The main lake is clearing nicely, but still slightly stained. You can see your bait at least 8 - 10 feet down. Some of the creeks and coves are stained, but are clearing.

Happy Fishing & see you on the lake, Lou           (report as of April 24th)

Watch for Lou’s reports on his website at hummingbird-hideaway.com
Alabama Rig Regulations For the State of Missouri

The Alabama, umbrella and similar rigs may be fished in Missouri so long as they use only three lures or baits. The remaining attachment points can include similar baits so long as their hooks have been removed or other hook-less attractors such as spinner blades are used. This rig is intended to be fished using a rod and reel.

The Alabama rigs we have seen have more than three wires and attachment points. These rigs may be used but only with up to three hooks. (Each bait or lure counts as a hook.) The additional wires and attachment points can be used. However, whatever is attached may not include a hook. You may also clip the extra wires and attachment points off or not use them at all.
Identification of Striper, Wiper, White Bass, and White Perch

Similar appearances, varying length and creel limits, and the recent appearance of the aquatic nuisance species, the white perch, make proper identification of the striped bass, striped bass hybrid (or wiper), white bass, and white perch very important for Kansas anglers. White perch have become established in Cheney and Wilson reservoir and Kingman State Fishing Lake. White perch are capable of out competing native fish for food and space. Therefore, anglers are prohibited from moving white perch from one body of water to another. The following information will aid in the identification by providing distinguishing characteristics of each species. Individuals in a species and differing water conditions may impact the ease of identification and close examination may be needed. There is no daily creel limit on white bass or white perch. Creel limits on wipers and striped bass is 2/day statewide, check your regs for combined/aggregate limits at some lakes.

**STRIPED BASS**
- Common to reach and exceed 20 pounds
- Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches
- Slender bodied, less than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WIPER**
- May exceed 16 pounds
- Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches
- Deep bodied, more than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WHITE BASS**
- Seldom exceeds 3 pounds
- Back of tongue has ONE tooth patch
- Deep bodied, more than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WHITE PERCH**
- Seldom exceeds 1 pound
- Deep bodied, deepest part just in front of or at the beginning of the spiny dorsal fin
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins connected, both fins pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected
- No distinct stripes

Artwork by Joseph R. Tomelleri
Lake Norfork Striper Club
Membership Application

Applicant’s Name ____________________________ Email ____________________________
Mailing Address ______________________________________________________________
Home Ph. ________________________  Cell Ph. ___________________________________

New Membership $20 - $25 Family - Include with Application. * Annual Renewals are $15 per member and $20 per family.

Membership includes full access to the LNSC website and message board. Members also receive our monthly newsletter via e-mail. The message board and newsletters bring tournament results, club news and continual updates on fishing and water conditions.
LAKE NORFORK STRIPER CLUB
115 Excaliber Pl.
Mountain Home, AR. 72653

APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER
www.norforkstripers.org

Next Meeting
Monday, June 25th - 7pm at the Eastside Baptist Church

NO MAY MEETING - MEMORIAL DAY

***** SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS *****