



**LAKE NORFORK STRIPER CLUB**

# **NEWSLETTER**

[www.norforkstripers.org](http://www.norforkstripers.org)

JUNE 2014

## **JUNE TOURNAMENT RESULTS**



**First Place**

Ron Teter

7 lb. 15 oz. Striper



**Second Place**

Larry Devors

5 lb. 13 oz.  
Hybrid



**3rd Place**

Johnny Harrison

5 lb. 12 oz.  
Striper



**Rod & Reel  
Drawing  
Winner**

Ron Teter

**SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE JUNE TOURNAMENT NEWS!**

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### WATER QUALITY REP.

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## 2014 LNSC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

**July 17** - Th. 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – Quarry ramp – artificial bait only – heaviest one fish wins – points for 1 fish only per person. Weigh in time; 9:45 to 10:00 a.m.

**August 14** -Th. 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – Quarry ramp – artificial bait only – heaviest one fish wins – points for 1 fish only per person. Weigh in time; 9:45 to 10:00a.m.

**September 12 &13** - 6:30 Fri. to 10:00 Sat. Weigh-ins will be at Quarry ramp. Entry fee for this 2 day tournament will be \$10.00. Live or artificial baits may be used. There will be 3 weigh in times; Fri. at 11:30 to 12:00 noon, Fri. 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., and Sat. 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This is a 3 fish total weight event. You may weigh a max. of 3 fish. You may fish thru the night (if you want to). Points for up to 3 only. Also there will be a side pot for the heaviest fish. The fee is \$5.00 per person and if one person in the boat enters, all persons in the boat must enter. 100% payback to 1 place only.

**October 9** - TH. 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon – Panther Bay – artificial bait only –heaviest one fish wins –points for 1 fish per person. Weigh in time: 10:45 to 11:00am.

**To Register for Tournaments, contact:**

Tournament Director – Jim Wencker

Phone (520) 260-0290 E-Mail: [gp\\_wen@suddenlink.net](mailto:gp_wen@suddenlink.net)

Sign-up sheet will also be at monthly meetings

NOTE: Tournament times and locations may change due to conditions or other unforeseen events. Continue to watch the newsletters, website and message board for updates and/or changes.

Remember to wear your life jackets  
and use your Kill Switches

## JUNE 12, 2014 TOURNAMENT NEWS

The tournament trail results for this year are a mixed bag. There is good news and not so good news. The good news is that so far this year, 41 of our members have taken part in our monthly tournaments and eight of them were first timers *this month*. The not so good news is that only six of the 41 participants have weighed a legal fish.

Fourteen fish have been weighed in with a total weight of 66 pounds for an average of 4½ pounds each. The largest so far is the 7lb. 15oz. first place fish caught by Ron TETER *this month*. *The seven fish weighed this month* are most weighed in at any of this years tournaments. As you can see, we are showing some improving success as the season progresses. Hopefully, this trend will continue for the next few months, and it *should* continue as water and weather conditions improve.

The most recent Oxygen/Temperature readings taken by Bob NORTH at the Hwy. 62 bridge in the middle part of the lake indicate that water quality is *not* an issue yet which means that the Stripers *COULD* be most anywhere in the lake. I have heard some very good reports of large stripers last week from the Cranfield area, some of which have 'spooled' experienced fishermen!

The **GOOD NEWS** for you and me is that there is still time to climb up the leader board to be in contention for Fisherman of the Year. So sign up for the **July 17 Tournament** now!

Tight lines and good fishin' to you. See you on the lake!

Jim Wencker, Tournament Director

### *From the Message Board*

For me, this has been a challenging year on the lake with a lot of hit and miss type of fishing. Stripers seem to be scattered and for the most part not feeding in their traditional feeding grounds. However, the weather and weather fronts have been challenging as well. (Sometimes having an excuse is helpful).

As we move into summer weather patterns, the fishing and traditional feeding patterns should return to normal.

As for me, any time on the water is a blessing and I plan to have a great summer of catching.

John Gerard  
LNSC Message Board

NOTE: This message was written, by John, prior to club elections.

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

Thanks much for your vote of confidence. I have been with the club for almost 5 years and it has been a joy to be a member.

Most of my fishing experience in the past has been in Minnesota, Wisconsin & Canada. Fishing Lake Norfolk is challenging. So, I offer my thanks to the many club members that helped make my fishing experience a good one. In the year 2011 I was honored with the award of fishermen of the year. I know that the same help I received will be there for you. If you have any ideas that you think will be helpful for the club, fishing or meetings. Please share them.



We are in the summer fishing season and the water temperature on the surface and several feet below is warmer than the adult stripers can tolerate. We need to be responsible and help maintain the fishing resources that we are blessed to have on this lake. So, be mindful of the fact that most adult stripers when caught and released will die before they can reach cooler water. There are a lot of big fish in the lake. However, if you release a 5 or 6# striper, it may look like it is swimming ok but it will probably end up dead on the bottom. I recommend that if you catch 3 stripers 20" or larger that you keep them, be happy with your catch and be done fishing stripers for the day. If you did not land that trophy fish, you can go back for your trophy another day. If we all do this, fishing will be better for us all. In the meantime enjoy your catch of the day. Good eating!

Again thank you for your vote of confidence.  
John Gerard

## **LNSC ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

John Gerard was elected as our new LNSC President at the June meeting. We are very pleased that John has stepped forward to provide leadership in the upcoming year.

Along with John, officers re-elected were: Jim Wencker, Vice President, Roy Rush, Secretary, and Vern Berry, Treasurer. Joining the officers on the Board of Directors are: Eddie Haughton, Facilities Coordinator, Bob North, Water Quality Representative, Jim Shaffer, Sergeant at Arms and newly appointed Ron Teter, Message Board Master. The Board is pleased to have Ron back on the board. He handled the message board for years in the past and we welcome his help and expertise.



## CAPTAIN RON'S FISHING REPORT

At the June striper club meeting I gave a presentation on how and where I am catching stripers right now. Several people were unable to attend so I will attempt to recap here.

First I will tell you my go to baits. 1) Skinny Dipper in the Sexy Shad color. This is a 5" swim bait I put on a H 1/4 oz. 4/0 BLN hook. 2) Berkley PowerBait 4,5 or 6" Pearl Red Eye Pogy Swimmin' Shad. 3) Bink's one oz. white many shad spoon. 4) Bone color Zara spook. These four are my must have baits however I also use some other baits for trolling and they are 1) chartreuse and white hyper striper stump jumper jig with a four or six inch glitter chartreuse tail. 2) Walleye Bandit. 3) Reef Runner. 4) Razor Minnow. I might add that it is a good idea to put stronger hooks on the Razor Minnow especially and I also like to put a better hook on the spoon. I like a Mustad size 4 Triple Grip Wide Gap Treble. I have found that I don't lose nearly as many fish with this hook on the spoon. May consider using stronger O rings as well.



Right now I am mainly trolling the Sexy Shad and the Pogy. I am putting Pogys on an umbrella rig and trolling 250' on my line counter behind the boat between 2.2 and 2.4 mph. The line counter loses accuracy as the spool size gets smaller so I am not really 250' back but I am over 200' back. On the other side I troll a single Sexy Shad. I let out about 80' of line then attach a 3 or 4 oz. clip on weight and then let out another 120' or so. You can troll these baits faster if you are using downriggers to keep the bait 30' down. I will probably start to add more weight myself as the stripers go deeper. If the bite picks up quite a bit I will change to a single Pogy instead of the umbrella rig, more fun that way. During the summer months I often launch at the Quarry ramp and immediately start trolling around the swim beach buoys, caught many a striper right there. Then I will troll the buoy line toward the opposite side, already I am marking fish in the middle of the lake. I will troll into the first cove by the buoy line as long as I am in deeper water(60'+). Then I will troll along the long point that goes way out in front of the dam, have to be careful water is shallow, many a rig lost on that point, round the point and troll into Koso Bay. If I was allowed to only fish one place on the lake, it would be Koso Bay. If, while trolling, I run into schooling fish I will immediately reel in my lines and drop the Bink's spoon. Will probably hook up while reeling in the lines. As long as I can stay on fish I will continue to spoon for them. And as the summer progresses and the fish are schooled up pretty good, I won't even troll, I will just look for the schooling fish and spoon for them. Other times, I will leave Quarry ramp and turn left towards the marina then proceed straight across the lake towards Koso Point, then into Sally Hand Cove, then across the lake toward Marker 1, loop around and back towards where I started. July seems to be a good time for stripers in Sally Hand Cove. During this summer period also look for stripers in other lower lake, deep creeks, especially where there are deep water bends in the creek. Shoal Creek, George's Cove, Diamond Bay, Frog Pond, etc.. I also like to troll the bluff line from Marker two towards the lower lake, that is deep water and stripers seem to use that as a highway. The cove behind Hudson Point is another good deep water spot. As long as the oxygen level is good in a large part of the lake the stripers continuously move and you have to look for them. Just because I don't see them one place today doesn't mean they won't be there tomorrow. Often times in the summer they stay out deep until they feel like feeding and then they move into the deep water coves. Unlike early spring when the stripers are shallow, the deep water filters out the sun and you can catch stripers at anytime day or night.

Captain Ron continued on page 6

So much depends on the oxygen in the water. If there is good oxygen at all depths, the stripers will be 30' and deeper, but often, as the summer progresses the oxygen begins to disappear and drives the stripers deeper and deeper. That is when I will have to put down riggers on to get my baits down to the stripers and I will also probably start trolling the jig and stick baits. Just remember, when trolling the deep diving stick baits, to account for how deep they run. Seems to me that when the oxygen gets low the stripers will sit on the bottom and are hard to see on your fish finder. Most of the stripers will be on the deep flats especially from the mouth of Koso Bay to Koso Point and out in front of Koso Point. Unless you are really good at controlling your trolling depth, the Bink's spoon works best. If the oxygen is poor and you do choose to troll, you will literally have to bounce the lure off the bottom, it can be done.

Hoping this helps and that the lake maintains good oxygen this year. See you on the water, Ron

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## TOURNAMENTS: WHY?

**WHY?** While trying to get to sleep prior to our June 12 tournament, my mind was wandering, as it has been known to do more often these days, why does the club hold Striper Fishing Tournaments? The longer I pondered the significance of this question, the clearer the answer projected itself in my mind and what it means to me.

**F** is for **FUN!** Tournaments may be serious to some but they must primarily be FUN!

**L** is for **LEARNING!** I sure want to learn how to become more proficient at catching Stripers. The best way that I can think of is to get a large number of boats and Striper anglers on the same body of water at the same time, under the same conditions, and bring them all together at the same place and time. This is a good time to compare notes, lies, stories, experience, and to see who is catching what, where they are on the lake, how deep, what method is working, what lures seem most effective NOW, and what time the Stripers are most active, etc.

**W** is for **WINNING (or WISHING)**. To encourage more participation, throw in a little COMPETITION with prizes! So that the playing field is somewhat level, we offer a really nice prize just for participating, no fish required! This is an encouragement for the less experienced fishermen to show up at the weigh in and thereby learn by witnessing the various equipment, lures, etc. on display and asking questions or just listening to the banter among friends. We try to keep the entry fee minimal (\$5) so as not to be an impediment to anyone joining in on the festivities. The rod and reel combo drawing is always a highlight as those with an empty creel still have a chance to go home with a big smile and equipment that they can use next time they go Striper fishing.

After contemplating this scenario I noticed a familiar anachronism – **FLW** - that has some sway in the fishing world. Who would have thought that it might also relate to Striper fishing?









# LAKE NORFORK STRIPER CLUB

115 Excaliber Pl.  
Mountain Home, AR 72653

JUNE 2014  
NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting  
JULY 28TH  
7pm  
Eastside Baptist Church

[www.norforkstripers.org](http://www.norforkstripers.org)

TO:

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