

"THE ORIGINAL"

TEXAS CHAPTER

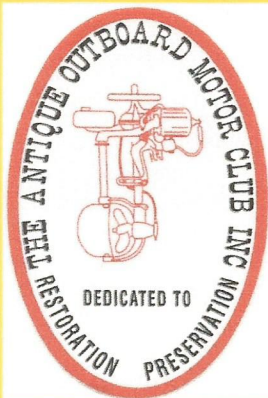
ANTIQUA OUTBOARD
MOTOR CLUB, INC.



Texas Chapter News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2016



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Heartfelt
Thanks to the
Texas Chapter 1

61st Annual
Houston
International
Boat, Sport &
Travel Show 2

Annual Conroe
Wet/Swap Meet
in Willis, TX 6

You Found
What In Your
Outboard
Motor? - The
Sequel 8

Coming Events 10

Thank You Texas Chapter!

From Tom Oncken

I am taking advantage of my position as newsletter editor and publisher to let everyone know that the cat is out of the bag. For our Texas Chapter members, this will be no surprise to you, but I need to set this up so that readers from outside our group will understand what has happened to me.

Many years ago, I had made a decision that upon retirement, I was going to find the time and money to make a trip to one of the premier meets in the northern United States. So, I added the Tomahawk National to my bucket list. Unfortunately, over the past ten years, my immediate family has suffered a run of bad luck, medically and in business, which had pretty much erased my dream of traveling to Tomahawk and seeing their immense showing of boats, motors, and parts.

End of story, right? Well, . . .no. Apparently when I visited with our Founder, Dave Reinhartsen, about his historic trip to the 50th Anniversary Meet at Tomahawk last summer, I had mentioned my disappointment that I could not attend that meet, and told him that I had written off my dream of ever attending a Tomahawk meet.

Without my knowledge, Dave Reinhartsen contacted Louis Rothermel earlier this year and suggested that Louis contact the members of the Texas Chapter to see if anyone would be willing to contribute to the purchase of airline tickets, car rental, and hotel expense so that they could send me to Tomahawk this coming summer.

Louis enlisted help from John Graf, and the two of them sent out letters to the entire Texas Chapter membership with the sole exception of my son, Mike. They did not want their plan to slip out to me, and I was

absolutely oblivious to what was going on.

One Saturday in late February, I went over to Louis' shop to do some bead-blasting on Mike's trailer wheels. Louis and John took me aside and told me what they had been up to, and that donations were arriving in the mail daily. I was overwhelmed and at a complete loss for words. (For those of you who know me well, you are aware I am never short on words . . . until now.) What a wonderful thing for the Texas Chapter to do for me! John presented me with an itinerary for a week long trip with flight plans, car rental information, and an offer to stay at his home near Tomahawk. I was stunned. (I still am!)

On Friday, March 4th, Louis and John picked me up and took me to the Monument Inn Restaurant near the San Jacinto Monument and bought me a lunch fit for a king. As we completed the meal, Louis pulled out a check payable to me for the Tomahawk trip. The total collected was \$3,000! This is undoubtedly the most phenomenal thing that anyone has ever done for me!! I wish to thank Dave Reinhartsen, Louis Rothermel, John Graf, and all contributors for this fabulous surprise! I promise to represent our Texas Chapter well this summer. I cannot express how excited I am and I promise to document this trip in a future newsletter. **Thank You Texas Chapter! You will always be #1 to me.**



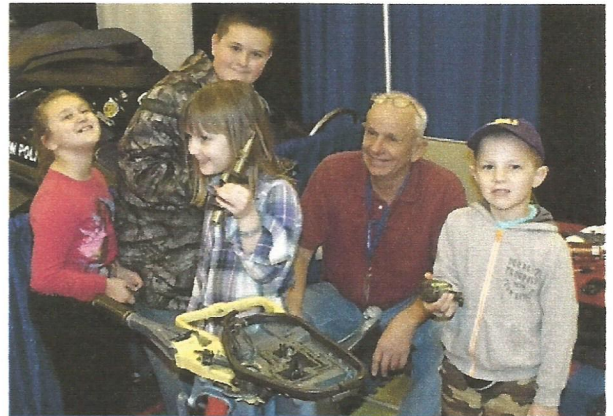
61st Annual Houston International Boat, Sport & Travel Show

By Di Johnson

Once again, the Texas Chapter of the Antique Outboard Motor Club, Inc. (AOMCI) joined with the Southwest Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society (ACBS) to co-exhibit boats and motors at the huge annual Houston International Boat, Sport & Travel Show held at the NRG Center (formerly Reliant Center). This is a huge show - over 1100 new "for sale" boats were there accompanied by all kinds of outdoor gear, RVs, campers and "what all".

called "Kids-Build-a-Boat" has proven to be a great crowd pleaser over the last five shows.

In addition, we again co-sponsored "Kids-Build-a-Motor". A well-cleaned up 5hp Evinrude kicker was completely disassembled and reassembled

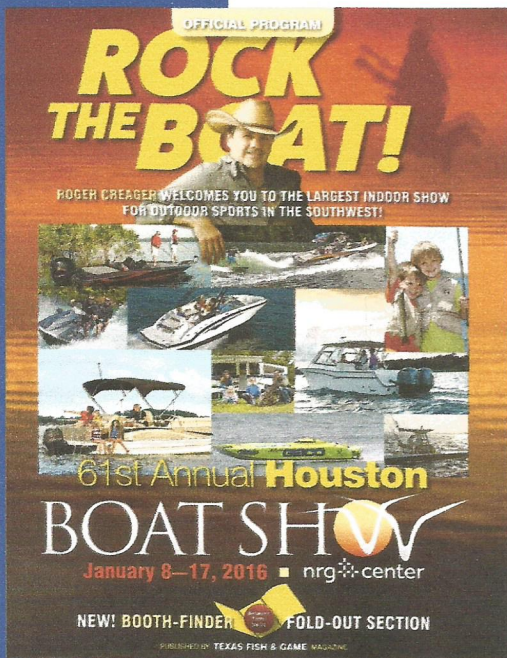


John Plato showing the kids how it's done. The young lady is showing off a crankshaft!

at least four times by kids under the supervision of John Platou. Kids clustered around the motor and many had a turn to pull the power head off, handle what a piston feels like, and feel how gears mesh together. Kids really like this project. Some kids did not want to do anything else at the show.

We launched a new feature with the kids this year, "Kids-Paint-a-Boat"! During the show, kids sectioned off the hull of one of our prams into random designs and painted in the patterns with primary tempura colors. When they were done, the whole hull was covered in cool little splotches of creativity. During the entire Houston boat show, our features were the only kids' activities free of charge to families. Spanning two weekends, we logged almost 300 youthful boat and motor builders and painters. Free raffle type tickets were given to each kid. At the end of the show, we had a drawing and drew the winning ticket holder, who won the wooden dinghy for keeps.

This year's lobby exhibit was organized by Di Johnson and Adam Finn. Dedicated club members have been displaying at this show since 1987. Tom Oncken was on hand with his nostalgic photos and brochures and took us down



The theme of the 61st show was, "Rock the Boat!". Considering that most rock and roll music worth listening to came from the same 50's and 60's as our vintage boats and motors, I would say we really rocked the joint. By popular acclaim, the most appealing and crowd pleasing boats and motors were indeed our oldies. We wowed the crowds again in the main lobby area of the NRG Center where folks had to pass by us to enter the show.

All our exhibitors pulled some display booth duty during the 10-day show that spanned two weekends (except for the January 9th Saturday of infamy for which the boat show was closed to allow the Houston Texans to show up for a disastrous play-off game). During these sessions, we were asked every imaginable question about old boats and motors making our experiences really fun. After all these years, folks stop by our booth telling us of treasures stored in their barns and garages. We seek to help them fix up or find new homes for motors and boats and especially encourage them to join us in our hobby clubs.

John Platou and Alan Bischof led our organizations' other most visited feature. Supported by chapter members and interested volunteers, we again sponsored the construction of an 8' wooden pram-style dinghy with all the final assembly work done by kids attending the show. This event

memory lane to the first show (where all the boats had to temporarily exit the show to empty gas tanks to please the Fire Marshal). Among our boats, two impeccable inboards anchored the front and center spots of our display:

- First time displayer, Walt Thompson from Volente, Texas, brought his beautiful 1953 Chris-Craft 19' Racing Runabout named "Ghost" powered by its original 158hp "MBL" engine. This was one sleek lady—very nice! (See following photo.)



- Bob Germany brought his newly acquired 1948 19' Higgins Deluxe Runabout named "Freedom". What a head-turner this is with its red trimmed white hull and bright mahogany transom! (See following photo.)



We had a variety of outboard boats with motors on display:

- After a few years absence, Ray Balsam returned to the show with his 1964 Helton powered by matching 1964 Johnson 75hp. This rig gets better looking each time I see it. Could it be that Ray has more free time since retiring? (See photo below.)



- Darryl Hurst showed his 1963 15' Proske with 1964 Johnson 60hp Super Sea Horse. The Proske is indeed a Houston-built wooden boat and Darryl did a beautiful job on its restoration.



Darryl Hurst with his Proske outboard runabout with 60hp Johnson.

- John Platou presented his 1960 16' Cruisers, Inc. powered by its 1960 75hp Evinrude Starlite. John completely rebuilt the keel and hull of this boat as evidenced by a big pickle jar of the 4000+ bronze machine screws he replaced in the process.

- Bob Macaluso's 1957 16' Crosby Capri powered by a 1963 Evinrude 40hp Lark was impressive. This boat is a hybrid with a gorgeous wood deck over a beautifully restored white fiberglass hull.



Bob Macaluso's Crosby Capri.

- Di Johnson had on hand his 1957 golden Feather Craft Vagabond II powered by a 1958 Mercury Mark 58 45hp. This is the sexiest aluminum runabout of all times with that curvy, barrelback tumblehome transom.



Di Johnson standing proudly next to his Feather Craft.

- Ellery Andrew brought his 1955 Helton 14' runabout powered by a 1957 Johnson 35hp. Ellery also displayed his unique creativity in making fun stuff for his grandkids with his 42"

Master craftsman, Knut Bulow (on left), with his self-built Kenosha canoe. Morten Lovstad (on the right) was admiring the work

boat wagon complete with deck seams.

- Knut Bulow once again showed off his superb boatbuilding craftsmanship via his 18' self-built Kenosha canoe. What a beauty!



- Another first timer, Paul Johnson brought his restored 1941 Skaneateles Boat Company, Hydro-Lite 8' cedar strip constructed dinghy powered by a 1939 Johnson model LT-39 Light Twin 5hp. This is really a rare boat to be seen this far away from the Finger Lakes region of New York.

Paul Johnson showing his cedar strip dinghy with 5hp Johnson Light Twin



If you are old enough, you may understand why this motor is referred to as a "Mae West" Waterwitch

- Two youthful boat builders proudly displayed their prowess (with a little help from Grandpa John Platou):

- Youngster Jack Toole of Walden, Texas showed his 8' owner-built Minimost constructed from plans in a 1978 Science & Mechanics magazine. This boat is powered by a modified 1959 Evinrude 3hp masquerading as a 175 HP Mercury Black Max (see photo below on the right).



- Ty Bayless of Kingwood, Texas displayed his 8' owner-built dinghy powered by his 1963 Johnson 3hp (see above photo to the left). This is the pattern boat for "Kids-Build-a-Boat".

We had a great turnout of free-standing outboards on display this year.

- If we gave out an award for enthusiasm, it would go to fired-up member Jerry Ball, who brought his beautifully restored 1958 Johnson 18hp. Jerry got some expert aid from Tom Oncken on that baby, but he also brought his self-restored 1935 Minn-Kota electric trolling motor which was rescued by Jerry as a \$5 basket-case refugee of a metal scrap dealer.
- Another first-timer to this show is Morten Lovstad (below), of the Woodlands, Texas who brought his 1929 Super Elto Lightweight Model 309 3.5hp folding motor. This motor is very original and quite an attention-getter.



- Mark Betner rounded out the show one more time with his vintage Johnson collection. Mark's motors were wrapped around a featured corner of our display, and included the entire 1957 Johnson lineup of the Holiday Bronze (red) motors, specifically the 3hp, 5.5hp, 7.5hp, 10hp, 18hp, and 35hp.
- Adam Finn brought a couple of his favorite fine specimens of his collection including his 1958 Johnson Model AD-12 7.5hp Sea Horse and his 1960 Sea King 3hp, which was the same model and year as Adam's first motor.
- Di Johnson returned with his three childhood motors on display; an Elgin 2½hp, Johnson TD-20 5hp, and Mercury KG-4 Rocket 7½hp complete with his dad's photos of smilin' Di using each motor on Keuka Lake, New York. (See following photo.)



- Tom Oncken wowed us with his awesome little kicker collection (see below) including:
 - 1937 Evinrude Model 4201 "Scout" 0.9hp
 - 1940 Evinrude Model 4353 "Sportwin" 3.3hp
 - 1925 Johnson Model A-25 "Light Twin" 2.0hp
 - 1949 Martin "20" Single 2 1/3hp
 - 1938 Kissel Waterwitch "Mae West" Model 571.10 Single 2.5hp
 - 1939 Sea King Model "WK" Thor 2.0hp



- John Plato once again displayed his entire lineup of 1960 Evinrude outboards including the 3hp Ducktwin, 3hp Lightwin, 5.5hp Fisherman, 10hp Sportwin, 18hp Fastwin, 40hp Big Twin, 40hp Lark, and 75hp Starlite on his boat.
- Wrapping up the free-standing motors on display was Paul Johnson's very original 1955 Wizard Super 5. You do not see many of these in this fine condition.



Paul Johnson's nice 1955 Wizard Super 5 Outboard

Well, that ends another successful display of antique and classic boats and outboard motors. This 2016 exhibit marks the 30th consecutive joint appearance of the Southwest Chapter of



This view of our exhibit shows the immense size of the exhibit space we have received for the past few years. We are not charged for the exhibit space or the railings.

the Antique & Classic Boat Society and the Texas Chapter of the Antique Outboard Motor Club, Inc. We must be doing something right since the Boating Trades Association of Metropolitan Houston (BTA) continues inviting us back. We offer our sincere "Thanks" to the BTA and hope to see you all there again next year.



John Plato - Kids-Paint-a-Boat

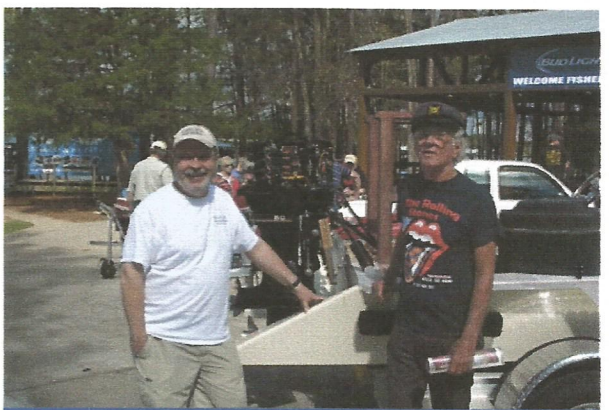
Alan Bischof - Kids-Build-a-Boat

Lake Conroe Swap Meet - March 12, 2016

Thanks to David Coffey, Sr. and his family, the Texas Chapter started off its 2016 outboarding season with another successful meet. For the second straight year, the local weather was somewhat disagreeable with us. The weather during the meet was actually great with blue skies and cool winds; however, the massive rains that fell earlier in the week forced Lake Conroe officials to close the lake to motorized boating traffic as the lake level had risen by a little over two feet. Apparently the water had

risen so quickly, that a massive amount of debris got swept off of the banks and was floating just below the surface of the water, and officials were concerned that motorized boats could be severely damaged thereby creating a risk that someone could be injured if motoring across the lake. So, our annual wet/swap meet simply became a swap meet.

Despite the boating restrictions, we had a nice turnout of members. David Coffey, Sr. and wife, Sylvia, David Coffey, Jr., and Tony Rodrigues hosted the meet. Others in attendance included: Jerry Ball, Mark Betner, Adam Finn, John Graf, Rich Kairis, Captain Gary Keeney, Morten Lovstad, Bob Macaluso, Tom Oncken, Dan Peoples and his baby son, Luke, Dennis and Sharon Schmitt, Peter Schultz, John and Cindy Slator, and Royce Strickland.



Morten Lovstad showing off his creation to Captain Gary Keeney.

Adam Finn had sent out an emergency email notice the day before the meet notifying members of the boating restriction, but he still invited members to bring boats anyway if they wanted to display them. We had two members who brought unique boats to show at this meet.

Morten Lovstad brought a boat that he was in the process of building from scratch. Beginning with a Hank Bravo drawing of a Tango 15 skiff, Morten did extensive modification to his boat including elongation of the craft, making longer sponsons, a wider transom, and cutting its sheer line down. It is really a unique boat made of 3/8" Okumi marine grade plywood using a stitch and glue method. All joints are sealed with 6oz fiber-

glass and West System epoxy. It is a flats poling skiff with a vented pocket tunnel and is powered by a 50hp Mercury inline 4 cylinder outboard mounted on a jack plate. It also carries a 9 gallon fuel tank under the front deck. We hope to see this beauty run someday soon at a future meet (if weather permits).

Dennis and Sharon Schmitt brought along another cute little boat (see below). It is a 7½' foot fiberglass twin hull boat made in Wooster, Ohio in 1970. Disney commissioned to have 500 of these miniature boats manufactured for their theme park. They were eventually all sold off



The Stow-A-Way Marina pavilion continues to be a great gathering place.

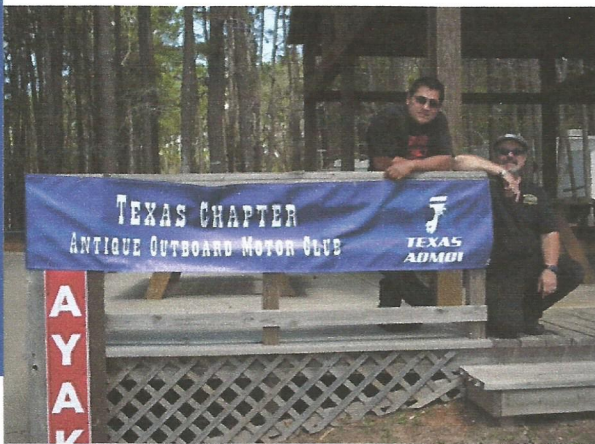


risen so quickly, that a massive amount of debris got swept off of the banks and was floating just below the surface of the water, and officials were concerned that motorized boats could be severely damaged thereby creating a risk that someone could be injured if motoring across the lake. So, our annual wet/swap meet simply became a swap meet.

Despite the boating restrictions, we had a nice turnout of members. David Coffey, Sr. and wife, Sylvia, David Coffey, Jr., and Tony Rodrigues hosted the meet. Others in attendance included: Jerry Ball, Mark Betner, Adam Finn, John Graf, Rich Kairis, Captain Gary Keeney, Morten Lovstad, Bob Macaluso, Tom Oncken, Dan Peoples and his baby son, Luke, Dennis and Sharon Schmitt, Peter Schultz, John and Cindy Slator, and Royce Strickland.

Adam Finn had sent out an emergency email notice the day before the meet notifying mem-

Two of our hosts: David Coffey, Jr. and his father, David Coffey, Sr.



and only a handful of them still exist today. It is powered by a 1951 Mercury KG-7 Super 10 Hurricane. Although the boat was not launched, Dennis backed it down the launch ramp and showed us how well the little outboard would run. She kicked up some serious water! Too bad we did not get to see it scoot across the lake.

As usual, it looked like a herd of cattle running to the feed truck as John and Cindy Slator drove up to the pavilion. John brought a lot of motors and parts with him, as was evident with his poor little truck hunkered down in the back. The good news was that John did not have to take back very

Morten Lovstad and Peter Schultz searching for treasure in the back of John's pickup truck



much of the stuff that he brought with him. Although other members brought a few motors to show and/or sell, needless to say, John was the clear star of the show this weekend. Thanks for bringing all the great toys, John!

We welcomed a new member this weekend as Royce Strickland attended his first ever outboard motor meet. If I recall correctly, he sold a 1958 Johnson 5½hp and had another similar sized 1957 Evinrude offered for sale. He made a few purchases from John's stockpile and met a lot of different folks. I hope you enjoyed the visit, Royce, and we hope to see you at another meet someday.

Jerry Ball displayed a nice 1958 Evinrude Ducktwin 3hp that he had recently purchased. Jerry went through the carburetor, cleaned off all of the grease and grime, and had the motor repainted. He installed new decals on the motor and clear-coated them. It is really a very nice little motor. It is amazing that he found a Ducktwin so quickly because they are generally very difficult to locate.

David Coffey, Sr. (who is somewhat of a chef) provided a very nice lunch for a paltry \$5.00 donation per person. David does not just slap a weenie on a Mrs. Baird's bun. He takes his food preparation to another level. Rather than just plain old hot dogs, David provided foot long dogs from the nearest Costco and sausage links rather than standard hot dogs. Members could take one or more of the gourmet buns that David provided,

then could pick his or her choice of foot long dog or sausage that David expertly grilled, and then head for the condiments which included several types of mustard, ketchup, chili, cheese, finely chopped fresh onions, pickles, and peppers. Other sides included potato salad, potato chips, and Fritos. Fresh oranges were available as a topper. Of course, you had your choice of bottled water and assorted cold drinks to wash it all down. If you left hungry, it was your own fault. It was obvious that David had spent quite a bit of time preparing for our lunch. Thanks David! It was fantastic as always!

Tom Oncken had bought along a McCulloch-built Wizard that he could not give away throughout the day. The motor was stuck and the Wizard hood had been replaced with a standard McCulloch hood. The good news is that Tom did not have to take the motor back home with him.

As the meet was coming to an end, Tom tried to convince a couple of local



fellows who were having their lunch in the pavilion to take the motor off of his hands. After they learned that it was stuck, they recommended that Tom drop by a junk shop just up the street and donate it to them. About that time, Rich Kairis drove up as almost everyone had left for the day and asked what Tom was going to do with the old McCulloch. Rich decided it would be a good parts motor for some of his other projects and he graciously took it off Tom's hands at no charge. It was hard to tell who was smiling the most.

We wish to thank the Stow-A-Way Marina for allowing us to have our meet at their pavilion again this year. It is really nice to have restrooms close by and a convenience store where we can purchase extra drinks or goodies. Fortunately for the marina, lake officials indicated that the lake would probably be reopened to normal traffic on Monday morning. That was especially good news considering that Spring Break began on the day of our meet.

Once again, we would like to thank David Coffey, Sr. and his family for hosting this wonderful meet. We all hope they decide to do it again next year.

Unfortunately for Tom Oncken, Luke Peoples was the only person interested in Tom's old motor. Dan Peoples was infecting his son with our antique outboard hobby.

You Found What In Your Outboard Motor?? - - The Sequel

By Tom Oncken

In the late 1990s, my son Mike and I visited a fellow in Santa Fe, Texas and purchased a cherished old outboard motor that turned out to be more trouble than it was worth. Actually, the motor was no trouble at all, but the three passengers that were hiding inside the outboard were a royal pain to deal with. To make a long story short, the motor had three rats nested inside the cowlings, and before we knew it, two rats moved into my Chevy Blazer and a third rat escaped into my garage. It took a week to catch and dispose of all of the unwanted visitors.

I wrote an article to describe our plight and to warn others to examine outboards carefully before loading them into their enclosed vehicles or storing them inside their attached garages. The article first appeared in the October 1996 issue of *The Antique Outboarder*, and I reprinted it later in our October 2014 issue of *Texas Chapter News*. I figured that nobody could make this stuff up, and that I would probably never hear another story like this again. Boy, was I wrong! Here is the sequel to my original story.

My neighbor who lives across the street, Jerry Ball, has been bitten by the old outboard collecting bug. Since joining AOMCI in November of

2015, his collection has recently grown to a total of eight motors. His newest acquisition acquired on March 4th is a 1956-57 Wizard Super 10 built by Mercury. Jerry has grown in his knowledge of old outboard motors and he has learned how to bargain appropriately for them. He paid a whole \$20 for his newest toy.

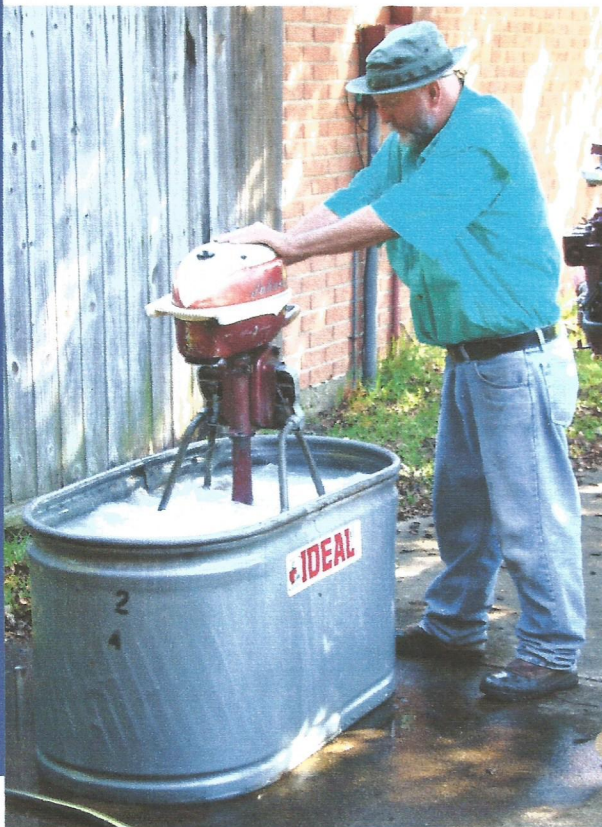
When Jerry bought the Wizard, the owner took him back to an old shed where it had been stored for a long time (a red flag should be waving at this point). The motor appeared to be complete and was not stuck, so Jerry decided to buy the motor and negotiated an excellent price for it. He quickly loaded his new prize into the bed of his pickup truck and headed home.



While all this was occurring, Louis Rothermel and John Graf had picked me up to take me to a local restaurant to discuss some important outboarding business (see story on page 1). While we were gone, my daughter, who had stayed at home, said she had heard some commotion out in front of our house. She looked out her bedroom window which faces the street (and Jerry's house) and saw Jerry frantically running around in his driveway. She said that he appeared to be excited about something as she watched him run from one side of his driveway to the other and then to the street and back to his garage, but she never could figure out what Jerry was doing. (In retrospect, I wish I had a video of what she saw. It would have been priceless!)

Upon returning from our lunch, Jerry flagged us down to show us his newest outboard and to show us what he had found inside his motor. He had a large burlap bag with a cord tied around the top. He ever so carefully untied the bag and allowed us to peak down into it. There was a 3+

Jerry running his 1957 Johnson JW 3hp outboard. This was one of Jerry's earliest purchases that he obtained at the Houston meet in November 2014.



foot long nasty looking snake in that bag, and it was not happy. Jerry explained that he had decided to wash off his new motor and removed the top clamshell hood so he could see the condition of the powerhead. As he lifted the hood, he noticed a lump on top of the block of the engine; however, he did not immediately recognize it as a problem. It turned out to be a snake coiled up on top of the block. It had been very cold the night before, and the snake was not moving nearly as quick as Jerry was at that point.

Not knowing whether or not the snake was poisonous, Jerry and I decided to kill the snake. We could not chance letting it loose in our residential neighborhood with all of the small children and



pets nearby. Later, after spending some time looking on the internet, I identified the snake as a Texas Rat Snake. It is harmless; however, it definitely can increase blood pressure and a chance of a heart attack for older people like me and Jerry.



In closing, the moral of this story is that anyone buying an old outboard motor that has been sitting unmolested for a while (especially in an old shed or barn) should take some time to carefully look for unwanted visitors inside. It pays to be careful and examine your new purchase before you place it inside your SUV, car trunk, or in your household garage. Take it from me, hunting for critters in your car or garage is no fun. It is always better to be safe than sorry.



Sometimes when you kill a snake, its nerves continue to operate the body. Notice that the left end of the snake was moving up toward Jerry's right hand. Surprise, Jerry!! Boy, Jerry can move faster than I thought.



This photo is of a living Texas Rat Snake that I found on the internet. Imagine how it felt to see this when first lifting up the hood. OMG!!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Albert Snell sends his greetings and has sent me the 2016 racing schedule for the National Boat Racing Association. I am including it as a separate page for those Texas Chapter members who may like to attend a race or two this year.

Albert has also informed me of a Willis "Comet" racing runabout in my area. I will be contacting new owner, Dodie Miller, to get a scoop on this boat previously owned by Albert. I intend to publish a future article about it later this year. Please watch for it!

Tom Oncken



SINCE 1966
"The Original" Texas Chapter
Antique Outboard Motor Club, Inc.

Texas Chapter News
c/o Tom Oncken, Editor
1415 Dorsetshire Drive
Pasadena, Texas 77504-3234

(281) 487-5305 Home
(713) 819-0713 Cell
[Please leave a message - I screen all calls]



Texas Chapter Officers:

Adam Finn, President
(713) 664-1248 Home
(713) 823-4091 Cell

Tom Oncken, Vice President
(281) 487-5305 Home
(713) 819-0713 Cell

Chip Rathbun, Secretary/Treasurer
(469) 549-1879 Home
(972) 999-7586 Cell

Upcoming Events for 2016

Texas AOMCI Fall Wet Meet on Lake LBJ — April 8-10, 2016

Most members will arrive on Friday and have dinner in one of the local restaurants. (A few will actually arrive on Thursday to get off to an early start.) We plan on having boat cruises and a picnic style dinner on Saturday evening. Longhorn Resort is located on the water with comfortable cabins with kitchens. There is plenty of dock space and slips. For reservations contact Longhorn Resort at (325) 388-4343. Longhorn Resort's address is 151 Melodie Lane, Kingsland, TX 78639. Their web site is www.longhornresort.com

Annual Lake Catherine Wet Meet in Hot Springs, Arkansas — May 11-15, 2016

This wet meet is one of our favorites. You have to experience the picturesque beauty and steep canyons that surround this serene lake in Hot Springs, Arkansas. This is a great boating event to "exercise" your boat and motor. Come and enjoy the incredible natural beauty of this area and spend some fun time with other club members. While here, do not forget to avail yourselves of a side trip to "downtown" Hot Springs and experience the original health bath attraction of the area. The state park cabins are very well appointed, very nice and quite comfortable. Don't wait too long to make your reservations for a cabin. Cabins rent from \$87.00 to \$107.00 per night. There is a 30 day cabin cancellation policy requirement at the state park to avoid being charged for one night's stay. To make reservations, please call the state park at (800) 264-2422 or email lakecatherine@arkansas.com. We have 12 cabins reserved and the reservation expires April 1, 2016. After that date, if you have not made a reservation, there may be no cabins available since the remaining cabins will be offered to the public on a first-come, first-served basis after April 1st. The park's address is 1200 Catherine Park Road, Hot Springs, AR 71913.

Lake Houston Wet/Swap Meet — June 11, 2016

The 5th annual summer meet will be held on Saturday from 8:00AM until 5:00PM. This one-day boating/sell/swap meet is on Lake Houston, a 14,000 acre reservoir and a mere 20 minute drive from downtown Houston. The meet is held on the southeastern side of the lake at the Indian Shores Community Center. This facility is a lake-lodge style center resting on 1.5 acres of beautiful waterfront. Some of the features of this location include an air conditioned clubhouse (with indoor restrooms), easy slope, double wide boat ramp, picnic tables, and shady trees. A long pier and adjacent bulkheads provide for docking, but be sure to bring extra bumpers or cushions to protect your boat. This event has turned into a great relaxing family meet. Lots of kids came last year and found many playmates. We will have a "Kids Fix a Motor Clinic" for youngsters to turn that first wrench. For lunch, we will be grilling up some great hot dogs with all the fixin's for a nominal cost per person. John Platou and Jeff Workman live on the lake and will lead us on a boat parade. Make sure you have the normal state-required safety gear on your boats along with your registration card as we invite City of Houston Police Lake Patrol to lunch. If coming from out of town, contact Best Western Plus at (281) 852-5665 if you want reservations. For GPS, the address to Indian Shores Community Clubhouse is 20731 Appaloosa, Crosby, TX 77532. Contact Adam Finn to let him know the number in your party coming for the lunch, and call John Platou at (832) 473-8928 if you have any other questions.

National Boat Racing Association

2016 NBRA Racing Schedule

05/19 - 05/22	Tunks, LA	Kick-Off Race of the Season - Tunks Cypress Inn is a Restaurant on Kincaid Lake 10 Miles West of Alexandria on LA Highway 28 West
06/04 - 06/07	Rockaway Beach, MO	
06/11 - 06/12	Clarksville, AR	
06/25 - 06/26	Grove, OK	
07/09 - 07/10	Pineville, LA	Short Course Nationals (10K tow) Back on Lake Buhlow! This Should Be a Good One!
07/23 - 07/24	Centralia, IL	
08/12 - 08/14	Claremore, OK	Long Course Nationals (8K tow)
09/03 - 09/04	Jacksboro, TX	Getting Better Every Year - Check it Out!
09/17 - 09/18	Jacksonville, IL	(6K tow)

Outboard Racing at its Best!!

Albert K. Snell

(409) 384-2938