

"THE ORIGINAL"

TEXAS CHAPTER

ANTIQUA OUTBOARD
MOTOR CLUB, INC.

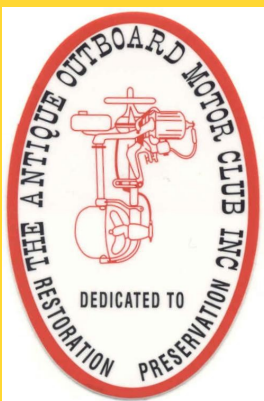
David R. Reinhartsen
Founder



Texas Chapter News

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Unpleasant News 1
In April 2024

Spring Wet Meet 2
In Kingsland, TX

Upcoming Events 4

Unpleasant News in April 2024

By Tom Oncken

You may be wondering what happened in April 2024 to cause me to begin the title of this issue of our newsletter as "Unpleasant News". After a phenomenal start in 2024 at Tony Robinson's meet in March, we hoped for continued success at our upcoming meets as well. As you will soon discover, we did not get our wish in April.

Our second meet of 2024 was scheduled to be held at The Valentine Lakeside Resort in Kingsland, TX on the weekend of April 19th through 21st. Weather forecasts prior to our meet had been fairly good and the weather was predicted to be blue skies and fairly reasonable temperatures with low humidity. Then, a day or so before our meet, weather forecasters began describing a bad frontal zone moving into the Kingsland area that would make for a dreary and wet weekend for the entire three day period. For once, the forecasters had it right as there was no sunshine during the entire meet. In fact, we had to cross our fingers so we could make a few runs on the lake with our boats and vintage outboards without getting drenched.

Once again, I came to the meet with Louis Rothermel. When we arrived on Friday afternoon, we discovered a notice on the office door to call a phone number to sign in for our room. Louis had reserved Cabin #1 months before the meet and had paid the appropriate deposit, but he was told that the cabin had been given to someone else not related to our group. Then he was told that we were being given a trailer on the other side of the resort in place of the cabin. As we walked up to the trailer, there were some loose chickens running all over the place. There was massive chicken poop all over

the sidewalk. We had to step carefully to avoid stepping in their disgusting droppings.

We placed our stuff in the trailer and then walked all the way back to the other side to say hello to some of our members who had moved into the other cabins near Cabin #1. That is when we learned that our Texas Chapter President, Adam Finn, and his wife, First Lady Susie Finn, were not going to make it to this meet. It seems that Adam had loaded his car and connected his boat to his vehicle as he prepared for leaving on Thursday morning to make the trip. Then, approximately 30 minutes before departing, Susie received a telephone call notifying her that her father had just passed away. Needless to say, the boat was disconnected and the stuff was removed from the car as Adam and Susie had other more important things to take care of at that point. Susie, please accept our condolences for the loss of a special family member. We all missed you and Adam at the meet very much. It just was not the same without you there.

Adam contacted our Vice President, Mark Betner, and asked him to take charge of the Lake LBJ Meet. My compliments to Mark for performing as the last minute backup and doing such a great job. In all my years as an officer, I cannot recall ever having to take over an event as quickly as Mark did, and Mark made it look very easy.

Mark received a pleasant surprise this month as he appeared on the cover of the July 2024 issue of The Antique Outboarder displaying some of the items he brought to the April meet. Hopefully, pleasant things will continue for the remainder of this year.

Spring Wet Meet In Kingsland, Texas

By Tom Oncken

As stated on the front page, this meet was not living up to the usual enjoyment levels as in our past meets in Kingsland that we have twice each year. Although Louis and I were shafted with poor accommodations and the subpar weather threatened often, several additional things occurred that affected our meet on Lake LBJ.

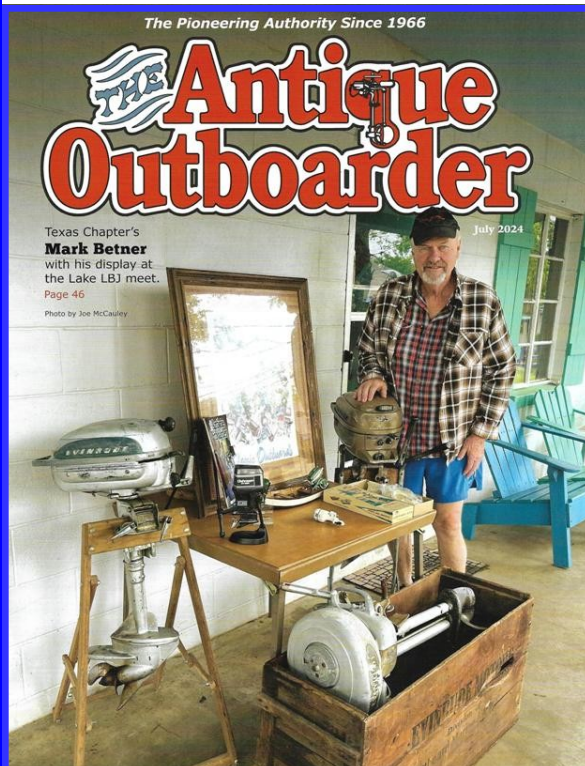
Just before leaving for the meet, we learned that the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Granite Shoals discontinued their fantastic buffet dinners on Friday evenings. That really was not a critical problem for me and Louis because we ate dinner at Opie's Barbeque in Spicewood on the way to Kingsland. The downside of this is we did not get to spend some incredible time with our friends on Friday night as we have done in the past.

Another surprise occurred after learning that Adam and Suzie would not make it to this meet. We learned that "Meatball" Murray and Carolyn Holton would not be in attendance either. They were required to go out of town for that weekend and we lost our favorite "Chef Meatball" and his wonderful and valuable assistant, Carolyn. Our Saturday night dinner was just not the same.

time member, Joe McCauley, who takes it upon himself to prepare recurring articles of our meets which he sends to AOMCI to be published in our club magazine. Joe does this work on his own volition and is not an officer required to do this work. He is an extraordinary individual who strives to keep our Texas Chapter recognized in The Antique Outboarder. He also supplies many of the photographs sent in and his photo of Mark Betner standing beside his fantastic display at the meet is outstanding. Please keep up the great work, Joe, and give our thanks to your partner, Cornelia Kuffner, for providing wonderful desserts at many meets as well as attending the meets with you. You two are very special to us.

You will have to forgive me if I overlook anything that happened after Saturday at noon. Staying in a broken down trailer that was very noisy as rain pounded on it Friday night while we tried to get some sleep convinced me and Louis to leave the meet early on Saturday and head back home to the Houston area. Joe, I am pleased that your article in The Antique Outboarder arrived before I completed this newsletter. I was able to borrow some of your news and photos. I cannot thank you enough.

Mark Betner showing off some of his collection. The items were displayed on a covered porch in front of the cabins.



Now after looking at the cover of the July 2024 issue of The Antique Outboarder shown above, we all need to send a special "Thanks" to long-



Dave Samstag got a chance to run his Starcraft boat powered by its 1968 Johnson 55HP outboard in spite of the threatening weather.

Apparently the rain held back on Saturday and Sunday allowing our members an opportunity to run their boats on the water.

Unlike past Lake LBJ meets, colder air and threat of rain kept our members from sitting outside at tables near their cabins. Of course, our special "Chef" was not there to barbeque steaks either, so our group had to go to a Kingsland rental hall discovered by Cindy Slator and Becky Samstag.



This alternate dinner location served its purpose well as individuals shown enjoyed a nice meal in a warmer and drier climate.

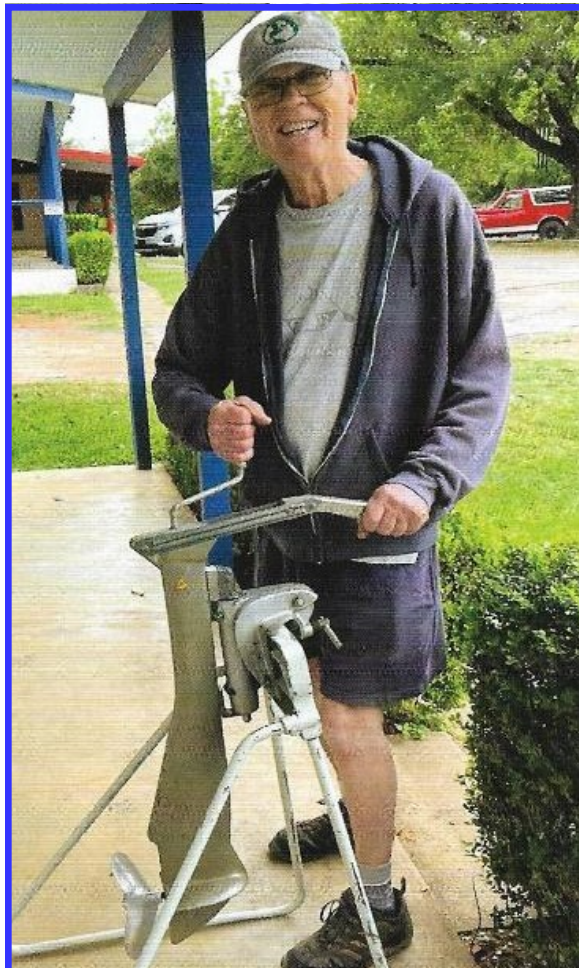
Attendance was somewhat light as compared to prior years, but some locally purchased barbecue along with Cindy Slator's cherry pie and a "Tres Leaches" cake prepared by Carmenza Hamilton made the Saturday evening meal a winner.

That completes my report of this last meet to ever be held at the Valentine Lakeside Dump. If you have not heard about it yet, The Heart of Texas Lake Resort remarkably is still in business. Our next fall wet meet is set for the Heart of Texas which is a far better place to play with our boats and antique outboard motors. Details about the Heart of Texas meet are provided on the back page of this newsletter if you need to confirm that you have a reservation in place. Personally, I look forward to going back to a superior venue for our next meet. See you there.



Mark Betner successfully ran his Alumacraft boat powered by its Johnson 40HP.

Glenn and Lee Seureau and their son, Glenn Jr., brought their boat to the meet, but the motor kept dying. Joe McCauley got the motor running for them (Joe also knows how to repair our motors).



John Slator is showing off a very unusual hand-cranked outboard. Nice find, John!



Joe McCauley helping Glenn Seureau and Glenn Seureau, Jr. prepare their 1978 Johnson 85HP so they can take their 1961 Pacifica for a run.



SINCE 1966
"The Original" Texas Chapter,
Antique Outboard Motor Club, Inc.
David R. Reinhartsen, Founder

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Upcoming Events

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The following dates are scheduled as of this printing and we hope there will not be any reason to change them; however, we may have to make unexpected changes as time progresses. If you have any questions about any given event, be sure to call and confirm before making any trip. We do not foresee any changes at this time, but it is always better to be safe than sorry. Thanks.

Fall Wet Meet at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort — October 25-27, 2024

It will soon be time for our Fall wet meet at Heart of Texas Lake Resort and we all have our fingers crossed hoping for better weather than we had in the Spring. This wet meet has proven to be great for running your boats and outboards. There are cabins, condos, campsites, and a very nice launch ramp with plenty of docking slips for our boats. Some members like to arrive early on Thursday. We will have our usual picnic style lunch on Saturday night at the pavilion between the condos. If you have not done so, we recommend that you make your reservations soon because Heart of Texas Lake Resort is one of the more desirable locations for outdoor gatherings and they fill up quickly.

Contact Information: BJ or Cassie — Telephone Number: [\(512\) 420-3330](tel:5124203330)
[Make Sure to Identify Yourself as a Member of The Antique Outboard Motor Club]

Meet Address: [408 Clen Oak Parkway, Burnet, TX 78611](http://408ClenOakParkwayBurnetTX78611) / Website Address: heartoftexaslakeresorts.com

30th Annual Houston Swap Meet — November 8-10, 2024

Louis Rothermel wishes to invite you to his 30th Annual Houston Swap Meet on the weekend of November 8th through 10th.

Friday is usually the day of arrival and most individuals will show up throughout the day. Some selling and trading usually occurs, but the majority of the activity will fall on Saturday. We open at 9:00AM and Louis will provide coffee, soft drinks, and donuts on Friday morning. Lunch is usually handled by ordering burgers. We normally wrap things up by 6:00PM.

Saturday is the heart of the meet and we will start at 9:00AM. Louis will provide the usual coffee, soft drinks, and donuts. We usually order in lunch by 1:00PM from Pappas Barbecue for a \$10 per person fee for all you can eat. Throughout the day, we will be visiting, buying, selling, etc. Although you are encouraged to bring some motors for display, please help spice up the meet by bringing a motor or motors that you no longer want and any parts that you would like to share with other members. We will probably end the Saturday activity at 6:00PM.

Sunday is a work on motors day. Bring your motors if you want to clean them up or get advice on how to repair them. We will open again at 9:00AM with beverages and donuts and we will stay until 6:00PM if necessary, Lunch will probably be leftover B-B-Q. If you have never attended this meet, you do not know what you are missing. We hope to see you all there!

Contact Info: Louis Rothermel - Office Phone: [\(713\) 783-6301](tel:7137836301) / Cell Phone: [\(713\) 301-4010](tel:7133014010) / Home Phone: [\(713\) 782-5478](tel:7137825478)
Meet Address: [5910 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057-7118](http://5910StarLaneHoustonTX770577118)