



# SOUTHWESTER

The Southwest Chapter—Antique & Classic Boat Society newsletter serving Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

**Fall 2012**

## *The Bow*

*Well, its Fall...the time of year when Texans don't know whether to go water skiing or bring in the tender vegetation.*

*September and October were very busy for us Southwest Chapter members. The International ACBS show was in the middle of the September and October had both the Ride-N-Show on Lake Ray Hubbard (with our friends the WBA), and also the 30th annual Austin/Hill Country Show on Lake LBJ. Member Dave Parker launched his storied GarWood at the Hillcountry show. When taken all together, the three shows had many members participating. November followed, and I hope all of you had a safe and fullfilling Thanksgiving.*

*Currently, Robert Black (our didicated past-president) is working on a commerative bag for members to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Southwest Chapter of the ACBS. Di Johnson and Adam Finn are organizing our presentation in the 57th annual Houston Boat Show. In addition, Lisa Robinson is our 'go to person' on details for the 18th annual Keels and Wheels with Bob Fuller and Paul Merryman.*

*Enjoy the "Musings of a Canadian". I know I did.*

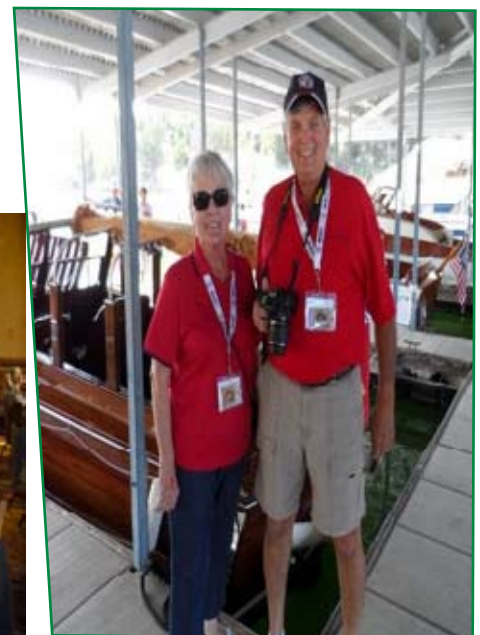
*On behalf of the board, we wish you a safe and invigorating holday season. Please give your classic a hug, and take her for a ride on one of these spectacular Fall days.*

*Bob Vanguilder*



# Table Rock Lake ACBS International Event

**Table Rock was a great show. There was a great representation from the Southwest Chapter. Brian Fielder, Scott Reichardt, Jim Frechette, Chuck Pool & his wife, Sheryl, David Kanally, & wife, Cheryl were there. Beautiful Boats were also in attendance!! Magnificent Show! David gave a symposium on the Yellow Jacket Boats. A little trivia...there are only 23 YJ boats in the ACBS, & there are hundreds of these boats out there otherwise.**

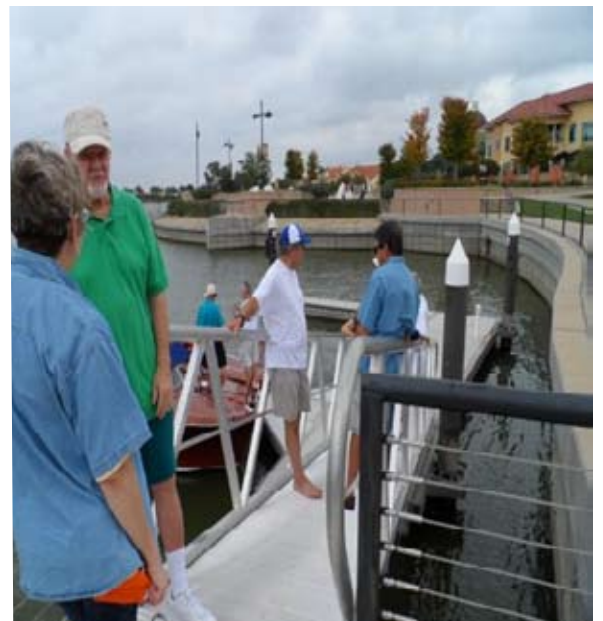






# Lake Ray Hubbard WBA Ride-N-Show

**Ride-n-Show – Great event! We had 10 boats & within those 10 boats, we had Chris Craft, Garwood, Shepherd, Cowell, Century, with a good representation of manufacturers of the 1930's - 1950's. It was very windy that day probably around 25-30 knots. Even the "Shepherd" got wet, which usually is a smooth, dry boat. The boats were pulled out that afternoon due to the approaching weather & the unknown. The next day, Sunday, the lake was beautiful! David put his boat back in the water & so did Ken Wiles. They had wonderful rides. Bill K. wanted to acknowledge David for all his hard work of putting the R-n-S together, the eating places & hospitality suite, etc. Thank you!! (Applause)**





# 30th annual Austin/Hillcountry Event

**This year's Hill Country Boating Event began with the Friday night dinner at Scott and Pam Reichardt's waterfront home in Horseshoe Bay. Although Saturday morning was in the 40s at the Sunrise Beach Marina, that didn't stop the northerners from taking their boats out! Lunch was served in the marina restaurant shortly after noon. On the big screen television, Texas somehow salvaged a win, to the cheers of many of the boaters in attendance not wearing maroon. Saturday dinner moved to the River City Grill in Marble Falls. Emcee Ed Ueckert recognized several attendees for their achievements or misadventures. Sunday was a brisk morning at Jim and Cindy Frechette's lake home. Fortunately it was warm inside as were the sweet rolls, and the hospitality on the docks were warm.**

















# Musings of a Canadian Contributor to Keels and Wheels



What do you think of when you hear the word “Texas?” Why, guns of course, and capital punishment, barbeques with huge sizzling steaks, hail insurance and Texas Toast. But not water. However, Texas is chock full of lakes and all but one, Lake Conroe, is man-made. Many are controlled by the Corps of Engineers and are used to supply water to the states’ cities and towns.

Where there are beautiful lakes there are beautiful antique boats and the keen interest in getting together and showing off. Such a gathering is Keels and Wheels in Seabrook, Texas on Clear Lake. To me this fabulous assembly of antique and classic boats and cars from around the country is by far the largest and most interesting of all I have attended.

Roughly five thousand visitors a day are deprived of \$35 at the gate but their reward is the privilege of viewing up close a remarkable collection of some ninety wooden craft from the smallest dinghy and kayak to a four-bedroom, sea-going cabin cruiser (owned by Dr. Jacob Deegan).

After a hiatus of three years, my son Jeff and I were invited back to the Clear Lake show and bring his 1926 Disappearing Propeller Boat “Sarah.” This eighteen-foot lapstrake was made of tidewater cypress from the lower Mississippi and manufactured in a little town a hundred miles north of Toronto, Canada named Port Carling. Sarah’s main feature other than her attractive canvass and brass top, is a universal joint on the propeller shaft which allows the propeller to come up into a waterproof housing amidships called a “device” even while the engine is still running. The movement up and down is controlled by a handle on the captain’s side of the device. On most models there is a unique brass and glass trap door to allow the removal of weeds or the changing of a propeller (providing the engine is stopped, of course). It is named “disappearing” not because the prop falls off, although that has happened occasionally, but because the fish can see it vanish up into the housing. There is also a protective bronze skeg in front of the propeller which shoves the whole unit up if it hits an underwater log or shoal while underway. This has saved many a propeller including ours.



**The Clear Lake Yacht Club in conjunction with the Southwest Chapter of the ACBS have been doing this for sixteen years and their incredibly smooth organization shows it. It is comforting to know there are many volunteers everywhere in smart blue tunics to help you in and out of the water. They keep a constant vigil twenty-fours a day to make sure the lines are tight (there can be a considerable tide here) and to provide pumping services (ours leaks a little).**

**A large tent was erected by the chapter for the exhibitors to relax and socialize in. President Lindy Robinson and his wife Lisa provide excellent food and drink “on the house.” This year’s specialty was venison sausage. The poor deer was shot by their sixteen year old daughter Elizabeth. (How fresh is that?) In addition, Lisa’s homemade cookies and brownies were to die for.**

**The original cabana had the additional luxury air conditioning and a bathroom but unfortunately it was literally blown away by Hurricane Ike in 2008. This dreadful storm destroyed other buildings as well as boats, some of which were sucked out of the water and scattered about the property. The beautiful clubhouse itself fortunately sustained little long-term damage.**

**You can easily gain weight here (I did). Exhibitors have the honour of being made temporary club members which means access to the bar and their prestigious dining room. On Friday evening the chapter hosted what Americans call “barbeque” which really was a wonderful meal of pulled pork and fixings. The main Saturday dinner was “Mexican” complete with a Mariachi band of plump Mexicans in appropriate costume. and held at the gorgeous seaside Somerset Estate.**

**The main speaker at the dinner was Tommy Holmes, the current president of the Century Boat Club and whose father was president of Century Boats. Tommy is quite the character and he recalled many hilarious events during his youth while growing up around that boat company.**

**Because our boat is so different from any other entrant, the organizers are perplexed as to what category it should be placed in. Generally it ends up under “special entry.” Bill Nalle, one of the organizers, had us docked up front and centre, which was great for me as it was close to the club’s washrooms. My comfortable seat is in the stern where I am protected by the shade of the boat’s canopy. As the boat is lower in the water I’m somewhat hidden except for children and the occasional dog while Jeff is up on the dock answering all the same old questions. This allows me to overhear the many humorous comments made by passersby. Quite a few think it is a steamboat owing to the large muffler, I suspect, or the shiny copper cooling jacket on top. Nobody believes it is only 3 horsepower. One woman thought the engine looked like the one she saw once on a sausage and ice-cream-making machine. The best however, was a young man overheard commenting knowingly to his girl that the boat was only “one of them imported Chinese junks.”**



The feature marque this year was Century Boats. They were celebrating the 50th anniversary of their "Sabre" model. A specially-struck coin honoring this anniversary was handed out to us at the Saturday dinner. There were many fine examples of this company's product, most of which seemed to be owned by Paul Merriman, the co-chairman of Keels and Wheels. My favorite was "Relic," the 1939 Century sedan owned by Mr. Paul Mason. It was exquisite from every perspective.

I can't end this report without mentioning the "wheels" portion of the show. There were over 200 antique and classic cars representing most of the known companies, all in immaculate condition from radiator to taillight. Each entry was carefully arranged in clusters around the property according to their manufacturers. We saw one of these beauties being lowered from a flatbed. It was so clean, you could have had your bacon and eggs off its oil pan. This year was the 100th anniversary of the Indianapolis 500 and on display were numerous magnificent antique powerhouses that have raced around the famous tracks across the country. No roll bars, no ejection seats; just driver, steering wheel, four tires and a massive engine.

Sadly, 4pm on Sunday came all too quickly and soon the same wonderful volunteers in their blue tunics arrived and with admirable dispatch organized the smooth movement of vehicles and trailers down to the launch site for the safe removal of all craft for the trip home. For Jeff and me, the next day will be spent on his Lake Grapevine to flush out the salt before it completely dissolves all the brass and copper.

Our thanks to all those wonderful people who helped make this such a memorable event. Jeff and I certainly hope we will be invited back again next year.





# **57th Annual Houston Boat Show**

## **Reliant Center**

### **January 4 – 13, 2013**



**The Southwest Chapter of ACBS cordially invites chapter members to once display boats at this world class boat show. We have also invited members of the Texas Chapter of the Antique Outboard Motor Club to join us in showing their outboard boats and motors. We have enough shared space for 15 boats and several clusters of motors.**



**This is a great way to further continued interest in our great hobby. As a fan of antique and classic boats, if you haven't experienced this show, you will be in for a treat. Our oasis of old woodies and motors is surrounded by dealers hawking over 4000 new plastic boats with motors that look like oversize parasitic transom snails. It is really great to see the expressions on the faces of hundreds of folks attending the show when they look at our stuff.**



**Our displays draw on deep memories and often spark conversations like, "My dad or granddad use to have this or that..." or "Do you remember...?" and more. We catch a lot of visitors who ask some of the most interesting questions and you get to be the "go-to" guy with your hobby experience and knowledge.**



**We would like for interested members to consider the following:**

- **First...come show your boats.**
- **Come and help with the set-up/takedown of our display (Thursday Jan 3rd (tba) and Sunday Jan 13th after 5 PM).**
- **If you are showing your boat we kindly need your help to man the display booth and answer questions. We need at least one person at the booth during the weekdays and two folks especially on the weekends.**
- **SW ACBS is also sponsoring the “Kids Build a Boat” at our display area on the weekend days of the show. This is a lot of fun and you are invited to help our builder team coach the kids working this project.**
- **Show entry for exhibiting booth workers is free, as is access to the Exhibitor VIP booth for complimentary weekend evening hors d’oeuvre. FYI, we have a limited roster for our club exhibitors so we can’t admit all our club members on “the freebie” en mass.**

**Show hours are:**

**Friday Jan 4, 1 PM to 8 PM**

**Saturday Jan 5, 10 AM to 8 PM**

**Sunday Jan 6, 11 AM to 8 PM**

**Mon to Fri, Jan 7-11, 1 PM to 8 PM**

**Saturday Jan 12, 10 AM to 8 PM**

**Sunday Jan 13, 11 AM to 5 PM**

**Di Johnson from SW ACBS and Adam Finn from the TX AOMC are helping to organize this event and are encouraging good participation from both club’s members. Please contact either:**

**Di @ 281-682-0968, email – dijohnson47@comcast.net or**

**Adam @ 713-823-4091, email – afinn59@sbcglobal.net .**

**This is all being done for fun to further interest in our great hobby.**

**Y’all come on down and bring your motors and boats. Hear?**

**Thanks for your support,**

**Di Johnson and Adam Finn**



## WhatNot



## The Sale Rack...

### 1960 Coronado Cruisette/Express.

Needs everything. Mostly complete. Probably hasn't been in the water in 25 years. 225hp Gray Marine. Rumor has it Century built one of these... M6056. I was told it was built for the Chicago Boat Show, then sold thru Link's Landing. All major parts appear to be Century (fly bridge windshield, control console). Although during my tenure (approximately 9 years), the boat has always been in locked, concrete floor dry storage, I would definitely recommend planning for the worst. And a Coronado resto is not for the timid! Comes with poor fitting but extremely nice Dorsey trailer.

14.4k....or offers

Also, **Marine 331cid Chrysler Hemi.** Fairly complete with mechanical trans and exhaust manifolds. Note: This is an early Hemi with the extended engine block. I know little about it.

Need money to buy truck.

Craig....713.446.1555. rancheroxl@yahoo.com



### 1972 Century Resorter for sale

Hello. I have a 1972 Century Resorter for sale, in Houston, TX.

This boat has been in my family since 1979, unfortunately, I just don't have the time or money for it right now. Rebuilt motor (2004), with under 25 hours on it

Has sat since 2007, needs new water pump. Seats re-done. Everything works.. Mostly all stock. Is a beautiful sounding/running machine in the water!!

Thank you for your interest!!

Jerry Krieg

713-545-4764

JerryKrieg@hotmail.com

Thanks! Jerry

