



# SOUTHWESTER

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

**Spring 2011**

## *The Bow*

Presidents Message:  
April 2011

Dear Chapter Members & Friends,

We had a good showing at the Houston boat Show in January thanks to Robert Macaluso, Di Johnson, John Plato, and all the members who generously brought out their boats to display.



Di Johnson helps his Granddaughter Sadie build the pram

As most of you already know, the Keels & Wheels Show at Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook is coming up on April 30th and May 1st. I hope to see you all there.

John Plato will be supervising a kids boat building project again this year at Keels and Wheels, so bring the youngsters and let them have a good time. We will also be raffling off a canoe at the show. It is a beautiful 18 foot cedar strip home built canoe (check out the photo below) that has been lovingly restored and generously donated to the chapter by Robert Macaluso. The raffle tickets will be \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20, and the drawing will be held at the show on Sunday afternoon.

Please check the chapters website for a schedule of Boat Shows and Chapter Rendevous for the remainder of the year. Our next event after Keels and Wheels will be at White Rock Lake in late June.

Best Regards,

Lindy Robinson,  
President – Southwest Chapter ACBS  
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# Antique & Classic Boat Society (ACBS) Exhibit in the 2011 Houston Boat show

by Di Johnson

In Houston, in January, while the northern cities were digging out from a heavy snowy winter, the Southwest Chapter of ACBS was comfortably tucked into the huge Houston Boat Show held at the Reliant Center. For y'all that may not know, that's right next to the Astrodome. Over 1000 new boats were there, but most appealing to the crowd were our oldies. This year's exhibit was organized by Dion (Di) Johnson and Adam Finn, who did a fine job. They succeeded in collecting a very good display of vintage inboards including excellent examples from Chris-Craft, Higgins, and Century. This year is the 100th anniversary of the Century Boat Company and we have seen no finer example of a Century than Steve Dewire's impeccably restored 1966 20' Arabian. Another beautiful Century on display was Ellery Andrew's 1956 18' Resorter. Ellery also brought the smallest boat, a beautiful 42" cradle pram he hand-crafted for his granddaughter. Chris Craft was well represented by Mike Friesel's flawless 1946 16' Special Runabout restoration, Fred Burban's 1948 17' Deluxe Runabout "Burban and Water" and Dale Lipps 1959 18' Continental. Adding variety and there aren't too many left, was Bob Germany's 1956 Higgins Sport Speedster.



Bob Germany and 56 Higgins



Tom Oncken and 1931  
Indian Silver Arrow



Bob Macaluso's Yellow Jacket



Bruce Miller's 2002 Aristocraft



Adam Finn (L) and Di



Dale Lipps '59 CC Continental



Steve Dewire's 1966 Arabian

Many of our chapter members are also outboard fans so we invited the Texas Chapter of the Antique Outboard Motor Club to join us and enhance our display with outboard powered boats and some vintage free-standing outboard motors:

**Robert Macaluso:** 1957 15' Yellow Jacket Catalina /1959 Mark 58A

**John Graf:** 12' Tomahawk Spirit Deluxe/Martin 200

**Ron Stein:** 1951 Chris-Craft kit boat/1956 Mark 25

**Don & Dianne Wilson:** 14' Yellow Jacket Fury/1959 Mark 58A

**Ed Slominski:** 1948 Thompson TVT/1956 Mark 30

**Bruce Miller:** 2002 14' Aristo-Craft Torpedo/1959 Johnson 35HP

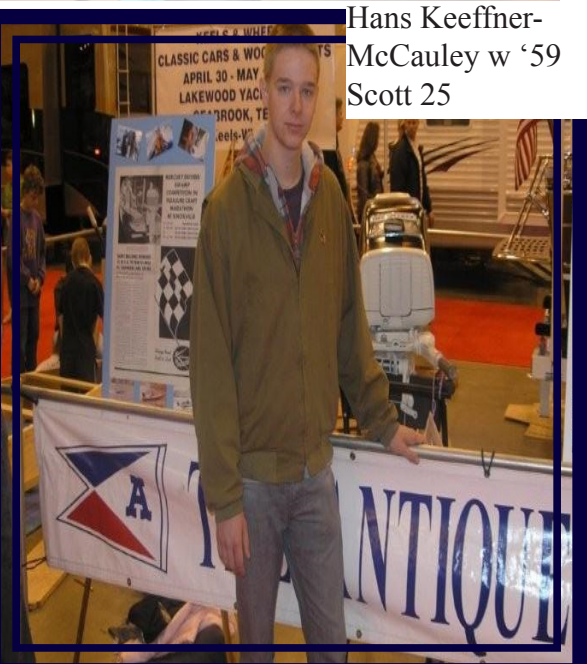
**Di Johnson:** 1972 8' Glen-L Hydrol 1952 Merc KG-4

**Ellery Andrew:** 1952 14' Helton/1957 Johnson 35



**John Platou operated our booth's most visited feature. The Southwest Chapter sponsored an 8' wooden pram boat-building project with the assembly work done by kids attending the show. Eleven year old Hunter Sacky, of Cypress, TX, one of the 144 kid builders, won the actual boat in a drawing at the end of the show. Now we have to find Hunter a good classic 3 hp motor to run on his boat!**

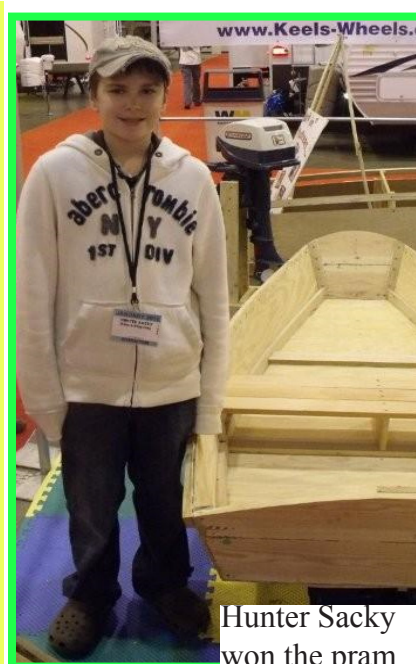
Hans Keeffner-  
McCauley w '59  
Scott 25



Kids teaching kids



Hunter Sacky  
won the pram







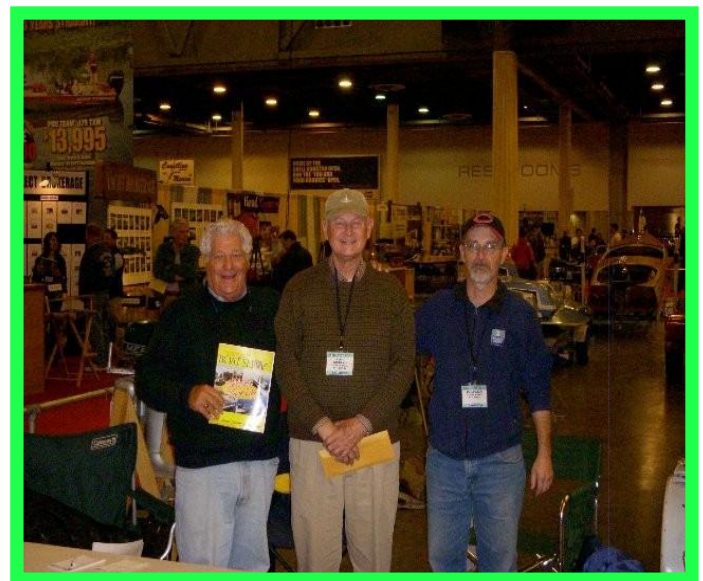
Di Johnson's Glen-L Hydro



Di Johnson's Childhood Motors



Don Wilson's Yellow Jacket



Ellery Andrew's 56 Resorter



Ellery Andrew's 1952 Helton





Ellery Andrew's cradle pram



Fred Burban's '48 CC Deluxe Run-about

**Free standing outboards were also on display. John Platou displayed his nearly complete line of 1960 Evinrudes, leaving home only his 75 hp V-4.**

**John Graf, with his display of Martins, attracted viewers and questions by polishing props, including racing props for the Martins and a KG-9. Our observation is that folks attending this show are most attracted by some sort of on-going activity by our club members like John 'getting his brass on'.**

**Speaking of well-polished, Tom Oncken's 1931 Indian Silver Arrow and Louis Rothermel's 1946 Evinrude Speeditwin were outstanding restorations.**

**Attracting more than a little interest, sixty-three year old Di Johnson had his three childhood motors (Elgin 2½, Johnson 5hp (TD-20) and Mercury KE-4) complete with his dad's photos of him using each motor. There was also Bruce Miller's preservation quality 1957 Johnson 18, as well as his Chris Craft Challenger 5 hp. Don Wilson had on hand two of the motors in his 1955 Johnson collection, the 3 and 5 ½. A rare 1959 Scott 25, restored by Hans Küffner-McCauley and Joe McCauley, along with Joe's 1958-60 N.O.A. racing photos and a Mercury racing poster from 1959 completed the display.**

**However, hang onto your starter ropes, the static display that grabbed the attention of most passers-by was a hand built cedar-strip homemade Kenosha canoe by Knut Bulow.**



John Graf Polishing Props



Knut Bulow's Kenosha Canoe





John Graf w Tomahawk and Martins



John Platou coaches kids boatbuilding



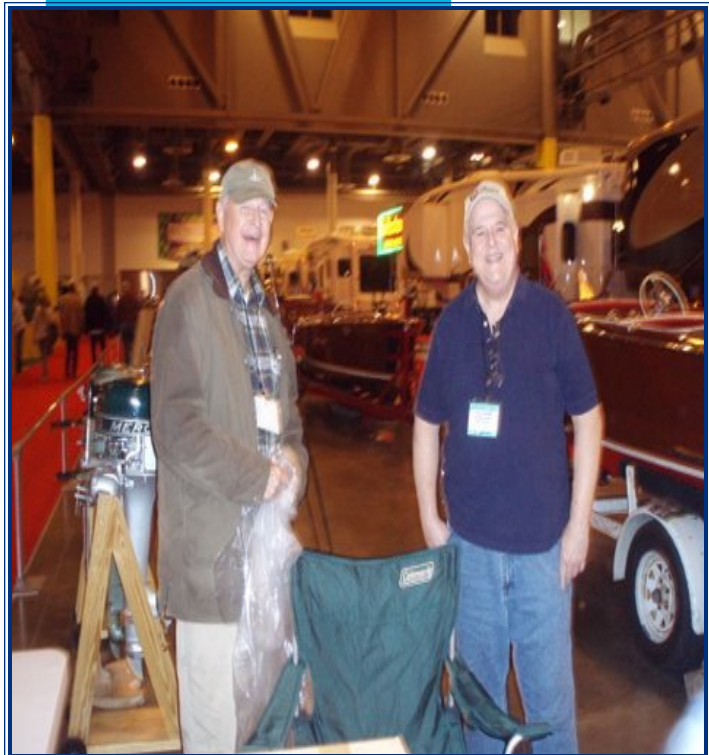
John Platou shows kids how it is done



Louis Rothermel's 1946 Speeditwin



Mike Friesel's CC Special Runabout



Ron Stein, Louis Rothermel, Ed Slominski



**This beautiful canoe will be  
raffled off at Keels & Wheels!**

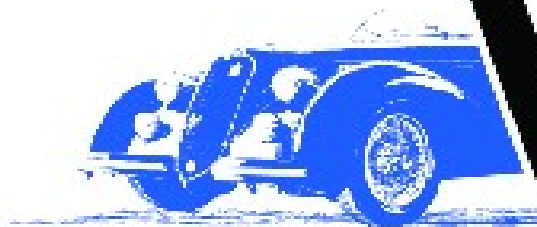


*The 16th annual*  
**KEELS & WHEELS**

*is on the horizon*

APRIL 30 – MAY 1, 2011

**K**  
**eels**  
**W**  
**heels**



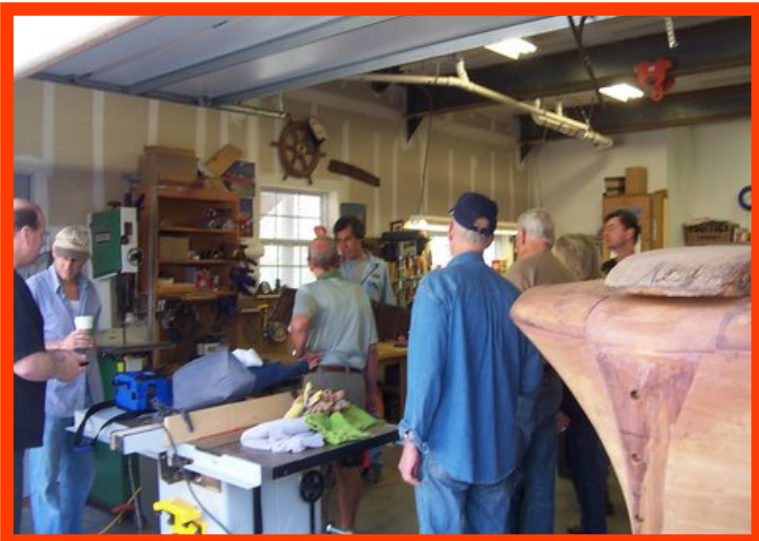
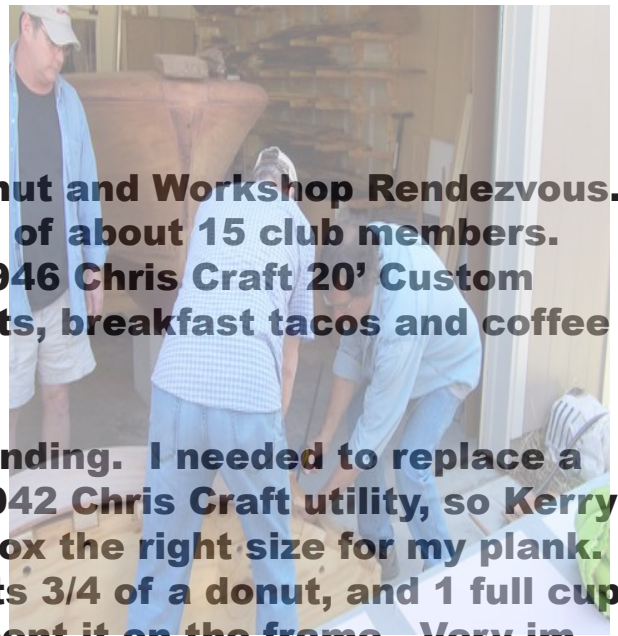


# Workshop Tour

By Jim Frechette

**Saturday March 12 was our inaugural Donut and Workshop Rendezvous. Kerry Price hosted at his shop for a group of about 15 club members. He was well along on a restoration of a 1946 Chris Craft 20' Custom when the lot of us and our promised donuts, breakfast tacos and coffee arrived.**

**First up was a demonstration of steam bending. I needed to replace a transom plank on my current project, a 1942 Chris Craft utility, so Kerry had a bending form and created a steambox the right size for my plank. After steaming the plank for 1/2 hour (thats 3/4 of a donut, and 1 full cup of coffee), we pulled it from the box and bent it on the frame. Very impressive!**







**Next, I demonstrated how to repair scratches on a hullside. Using a stained and varnished board - with imitation dock rash, I filled the scratch with FamoWood, sanded, then stained and varnished. The varnish was then sanded with paper - working up to 2000 grit - and finally buffing to a shiny finish leaving the scratch nearly undetectable.**

**Chuck Webb then demonstrated the fine points of tool sharpening with a chisel and a plane blade. He loves tools (and has attended more than a few courses at WoodenBoat School) and really knows how to get a fine edge on the tools. Several of the attendees had a great time practicing plane techniques on Kerry's mahogany. Until you have used a well prepared tool, you have no idea what a difference it can make to your project.**

**There was lots of good discussion on several other topics and I think I can safely say a good time was had by all. We hope to have another workshop next fall ... maybe in Dallas or Houston for our members in those areas.**

