

# Sou<sup>A</sup>Wester

*The Southwest Chapter-Antique & Classic Boat Society  
serving Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.*

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# A message from your Southwest Chapter President

Greetings,

The spring boating season is upon us. The Sunnyland Chapter is preparing for their annual Boat Festival at Lake Dora in central Florida. This is definitely an event worth attending if you have not had the opportunity yet.

Our Lake Conroe Rendezvous is coming up on April 14th. If you need information, let me know.

The Keels & Wheels show is scheduled for May 4-5. Put your registration in soon. There will most likely be a dinner on Thursday evening prior to Keels & Wheels. Craig or Lisa will be putting something out on that as the date approaches. Also at Keels, on Sunday afternoon after our Chapter meeting, we will have a toast to those we have lost during this past year. We always need volunteers on Friday to help with the launching and placement of boats, and again on Sunday to help with the loading out process. If you are not bringing a boat to display but would still like to volunteer, please let me know.

Our LBJ Show will be at the Horseshoe Bay Resort on October 5th.

Both the Wooden Boat Club of North Texas and the Heartland Chapter ACBS have events on their spring calendars. You can check their respective websites for schedules.

The International ACBS Show will be at Gull Lake, Brainerd, Minnesota September 8-15. You can check the ACBS website for more information.

We look forward to seeing you on the water.

Lindy Robinson







Well, the original plan for this spot was to cover a Central Florida event that occurs every mid-**February....The Wine and BBQ Cruise organized by the** Sunnyland Chapter. This year, however, the weather gods had a different idea. It was a very well attended event with zero boats. Cold, stormy, and pouring rain. As the docks were empty, I dug into my zip drive archives for some special Keels and Wheels photos to show.

*Behind the Wheel.* Many of these came from 10-15 years ago, an ill-fated calendar project I had contemplated. I hope you enjoy. And ... See ya at Lake Conroe and Keels and Wheels!!!!  
Craig



**Centurys....flamboyant, flashy, and fast! The** chariots of Kings and Queens, if you believed **their 50's and 60's advertising. Just imagine sitting** on the sculptured buckets and mashing the throttle of the big block Ford/Buick/Chrysler and hearing those secondaries roar!!!!







*Industrial design as art*







*Outboards ... their simplicity is art in itself. Just imagine piloting your date to a picnic.*







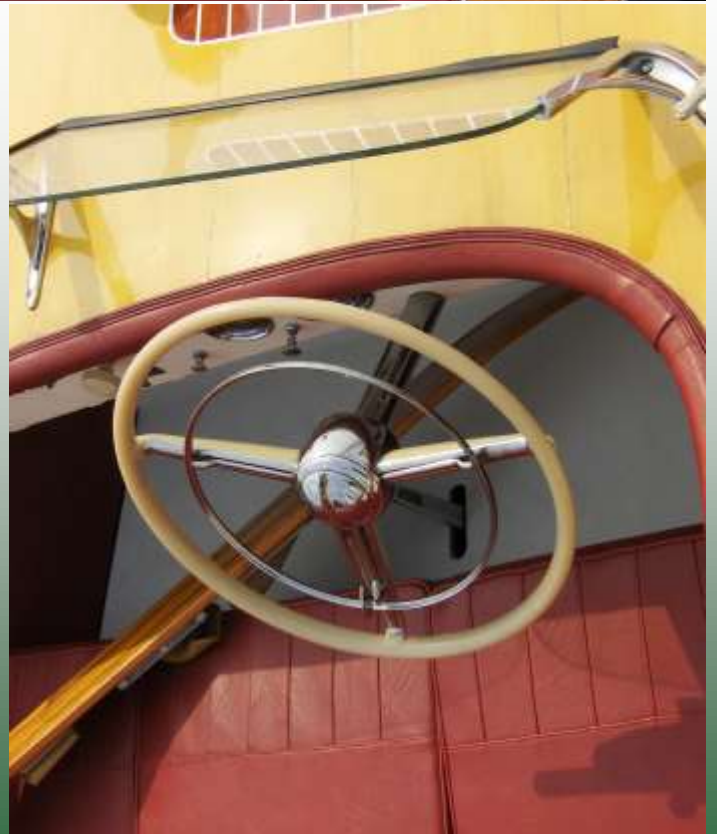




Chris Craft, the mover and shaker in the industry through the sixties. They defined the market. Their vessels were both productionized and elegant.











Some independents. Custom built, home built, smaller production builders. Each glamorous to a fault. And sail and rowing sculls are not exempt!











***Lake Conroe  
Rendezvous!  
April 13th-14th.  
Come early and  
stay late. Host  
hotel The Landing  
@ 7 Coves. Contact  
board member  
for details***



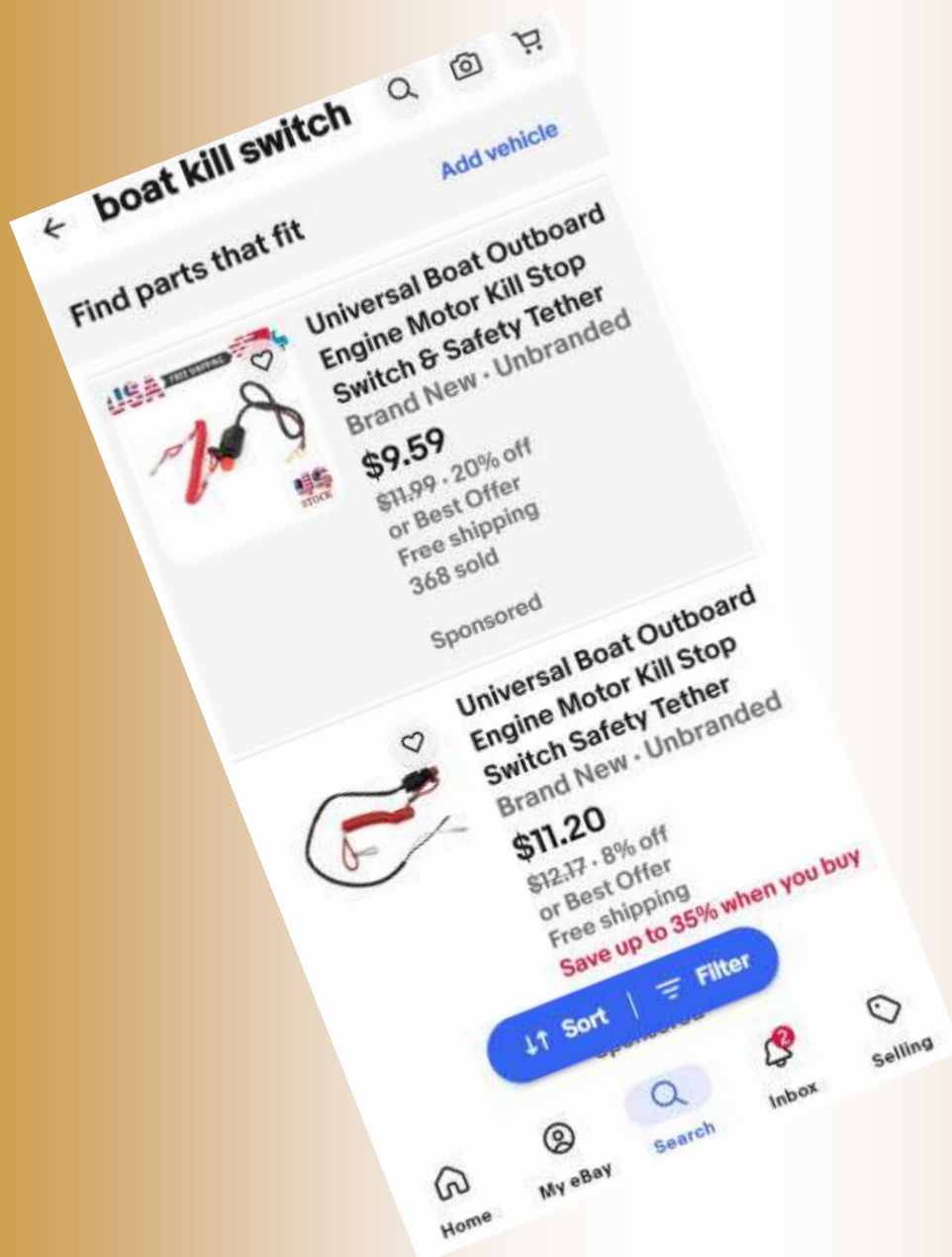
# Southwest's Safety Corner

*A cable, a tether, a reason to be better. An argument for a kill switch*

This past week, I witnessed a guy returning to his home in an older pontoon, about twenty feet with a mid -one hundreds horsepower Yamaha. He was coming in too fast. Just before I yelled, he slowed somewhat. He was now below my **“yell threshold.” I was working on the engines in the BossaNova, doing preventative maintenance.** He went by my boathouse, under the pedestrian bridge, and stopped to talk to fellow pontooners waiting to leave under the bridge, as the passageway is only 12 feet wide.

I could no longer see the captain, but could see the boat. All of the sudden, I heard the wail of the mighty Yamaha. It veered to starboard, crashing into the bank and golf cart trail. The Yamaha, still straining its guts at WOT, propelled the aluminum craft then to port—within my line of sight it was heading to homes and boathouses filled with boats. I waited and waited and then heard the crash, now just out of my line of sight. I knew the guy only in a casual way as he walks his dog by my singlewide on a regular basis. Apparently no one was hurt, and no boats were destroyed, but this got me to thinking.

**As a “mature boat owner” I’m not as steady on my feet as I**



## Safety

once was. Sometimes I fall. It would be easy to grab the wrong part of the controls on the way down to the floor.

Do I know exactly what happened? No, I do not. I did speak to both individuals **involved, and the Captain said he was fine. I didn't have the guts to conduct an** inquisition.

I do, however, see how this unfortunate scenario could play out with me.

It might be time for some of us to consider a kill switch. These are only required for the newest of boats built after January 2020 and below 26 feet, but can be retrofitted to all. However, not all of us want to be tethered so close **to the dash of the boat...or tethered at all. There's times** when we may need to set the anchor out, or retrieve a line. Maybe we need to be able to step away, yet still be protected if we fall in the water or on deck.

### What to do? Fell Marine's MOB+ and ACR's OLAS

Guardian systems replace the tether with an electronic fob on our wrist and a paired receiver on the dash. Either system allows multiple fobs (captain and passengers) and can manually be activated or automatically activated by immersion. Even a pet could have one attached to their **life vest. If the "captain" fob is activated, the engine shuts off. If the "passenger" fob is activated, coordinates and** notification are sent to the captain. There are other companies that also offer wireless tethering in addition to these two.

There are good videos on Youtube, and comprehensive articles online with BoatUS and others. Three such articles are

[Wwww.soundingonline.com/gear/on-the-leash](http://www.soundingonline.com/gear/on-the-leash)

And

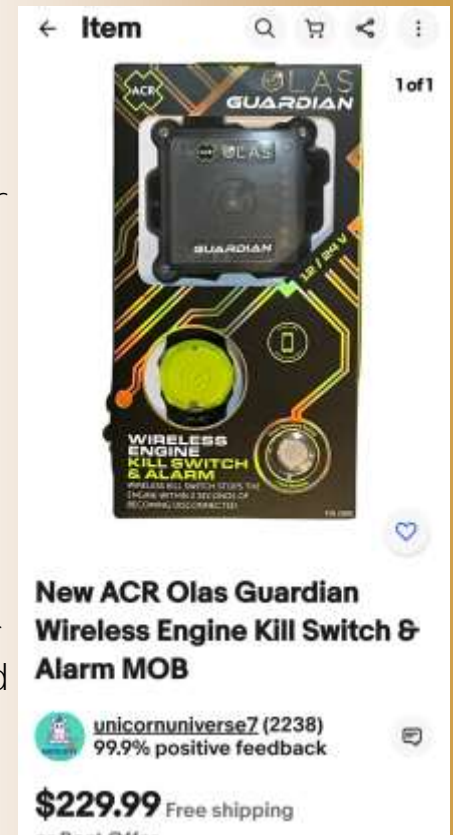
[Wwww.westmarine.com/west-advisor/Virtual-Kill-Switch.html](http://www.westmarine.com/west-advisor/Virtual-Kill-Switch.html)

And

[Wwww.thehulltruth.com/boating-forum/1151668-wireless-kill-switch-options-fell-vs-acr.html](http://www.thehulltruth.com/boating-forum/1151668-wireless-kill-switch-options-fell-vs-acr.html)

### It might be time for me to look...

*Craig (with help from Lisa Robinson)*







***Keels & Wheels!  
Lakewood Yacht  
Club, May 3rd-5th  
Early Bird Cruise  
to dinner May  
2nd!***

# Upcoming Events

March 21-24, 2024

Sunnyland boat Festival

Tavares, Florida

*April 12-14, 2024*

Lake Conroe Rendevous.

The Landing, Lake Conroe

*May 2-5, 2024*

Keels and Wheels

Lakewood Yacht Club, Seabrook, Texas

*September 8-15th, 2024*

ACBS Annual Meeting/International Show

Gull Lake, MiN

*October, 4th-6th 2024,*

Lake LBJ Hillcountry Ride n Show

Horseshoe Bay, Texas

*As always, please confirm with a board member. These are tentative dates, especially those furthest away.*

## The Board:

President	Lindy Robinson
Vice President	Brian Fielder
Treasurer	Robert Macaluso
Secretary	Robert Black
NewsLetter Ed	Craig Stanfield

## Directors:

Ray Balsam  
Trey Bull  
David Kanally  
Steve McCune  
Dave Person  
Clay Thompson

## Data:

Members  
Current 72  
fb followers 991  
ig followers 188

*For individual contact information, go to*

**Southwest-acbs.org**

*For detailed information and vision of the Antique and Classic*

*Boat Society, go to* **ACBS.org.**

**We're also on Facebook as**

**ACBS Southwest Chapter - Vintage Boating**

## Musings from the editor...

*Roses are red,  
violets blue  
my boats need work  
So I'm running low on content to do*

*Anyone some pics?  
With a caption I can savor  
I depend on you guys  
For the flavor.*

*I warn you now  
**If you don't contribute a carol**  
I may resort to writing  
About my own peril*

*Nobody wants to hear  
My peeling varnish or fading gelcoat  
They want to hear stories  
More interesting folks wrote*

*By the way  
I'm running out of rhymes  
The words are hard to flow  
Unlike beer with...limes*