

"THE ORIGINAL"

TEXAS CHAPTER

ANTIQUA OUTBOARD MOTOR CLUB, INC.

David R. Reinhartsen
Founder



Texas Chapter News

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Wishing Everyone A Happy And Prosperous New Year For 2024

By Tom Oncken

I hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas season and hope the upcoming New Year will be especially good to you. 2023 ended on a positive note as we enjoyed our last two meets at Lake LBJ and at the Houston Swap Meet without any notable problems. Those events will be covered a little later.

I want to recognize three special individuals in our Texas Chapter as of year-end. Every two years, we re-elect existing officers or elect new officers to run our group. After lunch during our last meet held in Houston at Louis Rothermel's, I was honored with the opportunity to conduct the election of our officers. Adam Finn was nominated to again serve as our President, a position he has held since January 2012. Mark Betner volunteered last year to assume my position as Vice President, and was subsequently nominated to continue in that position. Also last year, Tony Robinson volunteered to assume the Secretary/Treasurer position when Chip Rathbun decided to retire, and as a result, Tony was nominated to continue serving in that position as well. Accordingly, after an official nomination, a second, and an official vote held by those members who were present, these three gentlemen were unanimously elected to serve as our officers from January 2024 through December 2025. I know they will serve us well.

Not to be overlooked, we also have two other positions which are appointed by the existing officers of our chapter. Of course, Newsletter Editor is one of those positions, but I get enough recognition every quarter when this publication is sent out. I would like to offer our thanks to long-time member,

Doug Samstag, who serves as the Texas Chapter Webmaster. I guarantee all of you that Doug's position is way more involved than mine. I am doing good to create this newsletter on my desktop computer. I do not see any way that I could handle the job that Doug is doing for us. I recently noticed that our web page has changed, and then I learned from Doug that it was replaced with a new version. Doug, I cannot thank you enough for your time spent on our website. I know it is way beyond my capabilities. Keep up the good work my friend!

As a quick follow-up to our elections, the next time you see any of the officers, you should shake their hands and tell them that you appreciate the work that they do for our Texas Chapter. They donate their personal time without receiving financial gain. Adam Finn has agreed to serve as our Texas Chapter President through the year 2025. That means that he will have served for 14 years at the end of his current term! And who knows? He may decide to run again.

We also must not forget some of the most important individuals in our group which include the following: Adam Finn's wife and First Lady of our chapter, Susie Finn; Mark Betner's wife, Ann Betner; and last, but never least, Tony Robinson's wife, Andrea Robinson. These ladies go beyond that which is necessary as they support their husbands' leadership roles in our chapter.

I wish to point out that there are many other wives who are supportive, helpful, and often provide desserts for our meets, but I have run out of room. Accept my thanks ladies!!

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Update To Our Texas Chapter Website

By Adam Finn

Long-time AOMCI member, Doug Samstag, has managed our chapter's website using a software called WordPress over the past several years. WordPress recently made a decision to no longer support the theme or architecture of our existing website, so we had no choice but to build a new website as a result. To keep the cost down, I was fortunate enough to convince my nephew to build a new website for us. Our new chapter website has the same address, **www.texaschapteraomci.com**, and essentially has the same information that the old one did with the exception that we now have a new link titled "Members Photos" that will contain photos

of member's antique motors and/or boats. Most of us like to look at photos of old motors and boats, so I encourage you to send a few of your favorite photos to Doug whose email is listed on our website as well as on the back page of this newsletter. Doug will post the photos on our website for all to view. The photos you now see are ones that I provided as a start. Also note that from time to time, Doug can change out the main background photo on the home page to keep a fresh look. I recommend that you all go online to take a look at our new website. Press on all the links or buttons that state "Read More" to discover how it all works.

Annual Fall Wet Meet At Lake LBJ

By Tom Oncken

Our last scheduled wet meet was held once again at the Valentine Lakeside Resort located in Kingsland, Texas. The official date was listed as October 13-15, 2023; however, several of our members enjoy the Lake LBJ area so much that they came early on Thursday the 12th. Those members included Adam and Susie Finn, Joe McCauley and Cornelia Kuffner, Dave and Becky Samstag, and Glenn, Lee, and Glenn II Seureau.

It is my understanding that a majority of those attending the meet on Friday night chose to visit the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Granite Shoals to partake in their scrumptious dinner buffet. I am definitely envious as I missed the usual fresh fried fish and numerous wonderful side items and the company of those members who participated.

The Valentine Lakeside Resort sign near the front entrance.



I personally was scheduled to come to this meet with Louis Rothermel; however, my father-in-law was severely injured and put in a hospital a few days before our meet. As a result I was not able to attend. So forgive me if I accidentally overlook something that occurred during this report.



The Friday night dinner held at The Fraternal Order of Eagles in Granite Shoals has become a traditional part of our meets at Lake LBJ.



One thing you can count on at the meets in Kingsland is that Meatball Murray will always show up in a special vehicle like this vintage late 1950's Chevy Apache pickup truck. Nice!!

Judging by all of the photos that I have seen, the weather was excellent at this meet. It is always a blessing to be able to play in our boats without rain or freezing weather. It appears that a lot of boating occurred on Friday and Saturday under mostly blue skies.

always, he grills the steaks to perfection and serves them directly off of the grill. Add some sides from Suzie Finn, along with some special desserts provided by Cindy Slator and Carmenza Hamilton, and the meal was more than fit for a king. Forgive me ladies if I overlooked anyone else who also assisted. I wish I had been there.



An excellent turnout for the Saturday evening meal.



Tom and Vanessa Felty in their nicely restored Carter Craft wooden boat. Check out their little fuzzy buddy in the back seat.



Al Smith's son, Levi, being trained in Tony Robinson's boat.



Becky Samstag, Cindy Slator, Sharon Schmitt, Dennis Schmitt, and Cornelia Kuffner.

Of course, one of the highlights of this particular meet is the Saturday evening meal prepared by "Chef" Meatball. Meatball (with some assistance from his wonderful partner, Carolyn Holton) goes out of his way to purchase perfect steaks from a meat market in nearby Llano, Texas. Then, as



James Waldrep in his beautiful wooden boat powered by a Mercury Mark 78.

Our 29th Annual Houston Swap Meet

By Tom Oncken



Louis Rothermel

Morten Lovstad, Leonard Sturm, and Mark Betner arrived early on Saturday to view some of the items displayed.



The weather was a real concern during this meet. Earlier in the week, the weatherman told us that it would be raining hard all weekend. When I left my home on Friday morning, it was raining all the way over to Louis' shop, but when I got within a block of the meet, the rain stopped. Our **Maker** must have been watching out for Louis because it only sprinkled for a few seconds on one or two occasions during the entire meet. Otherwise, the weather was surprisingly pleasant. Another strange thing occurred on Sunday. The meet was essentially over by 3:30PM on Sunday and Louis and I decided to shut it down and go home at 3:45PM. As I left and drove over to IH-59 near Louis' shop, the sky caved in and it poured down on me all the way home. What a mess!

Some of the outboards on display. Note the water puddles in the lot next door.



Attendance was pretty good overall. We had 15 individuals come on Friday to setup displays and visit for a while. Louis picked up some burgers from Pete's Finer Meats for our lunch.



This was a view from next to the barrel where we usually run our motors. You will notice that the tenant next door has left and the building has been destroyed in a fire. That lot served as our primary parking area for this meet.

On Saturday, we had a fairly large turnout of 39 in spite of the threat of rain. As is customary, we picked up our lunch from Pappas Bar-B-Q, and the food and sides were excellent as always. Cornelia Kuffner supplied dessert. We held a brief meeting as described on the front page and elected officers for the upcoming two-year term.



Charlie Hamilton and John Slator standing next to a "Barbie Pink" Neptune outboard motor. (Check out the roof in the background.)

I noticed something that I had never seen before at one of our Houston Swap Meets. Although the barrel was in place for any individual wanting

to run his or her outboard motors, nobody took the time to put water in the barrel or to run any motors at all. Since we only had 9 show up on Sunday, that may explain the empty barrel.



Despite the clouds overhead and the damp ground beneath his feet, David Coffey, Sr. made it to our meet on Saturday and appeared to be enjoying himself as he checked out some motors.



This is one of the more unusual motors at the meet. Have you ever seen a Champion Hot Rod before?



Luke and Dan Peoples with David Coffey, Jr. posing behind some neat old outboards.



David Coffee, Jr. photographed Leonard Sturm bringing in some candy corn for a snack,

I would like to offer my thanks to everyone who braved the horrible weather forecast and came to our 29th annual Houston Swap Meet. I know that Louis was pleased with its success and hopefully the 30th annual meet will come without so many barriers. We hope to see you all again soon!



Overall, we had a very nice turnout on Saturday. Nobody left disappointed.



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.

7th Annual Lipan Swap Meet — March 1-2, 2024

Tony and Andrea Robinson have once again volunteered to hold a swap meet at their home in Lipan, Texas. They live on the edge of town on 1.26 acres and have a nice shop area that is great for hosting a meet. There is also a large test tank for running outboards. The heart of this meet will be on Saturday, but individuals are welcome to arrive early on Friday to start the fun. There will be a catered lunch on Saturday for a reasonable fee per person. Tony has indicated that guests are more than welcome on Sunday; however, he will be attending church that morning. He also offers his camper to anyone wishing to use it, but you must call to reserve it.

Tony is passionate about our hobby and is excited about hosting his seventh annual swap meet. I encourage all of our members to bring something to sell and/or trade. Feel free to invite your friends. It is important that you RSVP if you plan to attend so that Tony can be properly prepared for everyone. We hope to see you all there!

Contact Information: Cell Number: [\(817\) 320-4278](tel:8173204278) / eMail Address: farmallm39@sbcglobal.net
Meet Address: [126 Sears Street; Lipan, TX 76462-2004](https://www.sears.com)

Spring Wet Meet at Valentine Lakeside Resort on Lake LBJ — April 19-21, 2024

As a result of the sale of the Heart of Texas Lake Resort, our bi-annual meets at Lake LBJ have returned to Kingsland, Texas just down the road from Heart of Texas. The Valentine Lakeside Resort is now owned by two very friendly ladies, Pat Muller and Susan Patten. There have been some recent concerns about the large infestation of weed growth around the docks at the Valentine Resort; however, according to Meatball Murray, the weed problem has been eliminated and we will once again have our Spring Wet Meet at Valentine Lakeside Resort. Valentine has 7 covered boat slips which are available to be reserved. Additional boats can be tied to the docks during the days, but must be returned to their trailers at night. If you have not already done so, it is recommended that you contact the Valentine Lakeside Resort immediately to confirm your cabin reservation if you are planning to attend this meet. We hope to see you all there!

Contact Information: Susan Patten — Valentine Lakeside Lodge Telephone Number: [\(325\) 388-4418](tel:3253884418)
Address: [814 Euel Moore Drive, Kingsland, TX 78639](https://www.valentinelakeside.com) / Website Address: valentinelakeside.com