

"THE ORIGINAL"

TEXAS CHAPTER

ANTIQUE OUTBOARD  
MOTOR CLUB, INC.

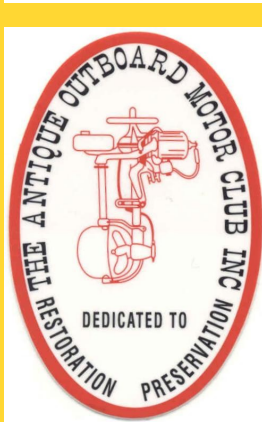
David R. Reinhartsen  
Founder



# Texas Chapter News

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 3

October 2025



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## Our Summer Issue Never Made It Into Print This Year

By Tom Oncken

If you have not already noticed, our June issue of Texas Chapter News did not get published this year. I would like to blame it on the fact that we no longer have a meet during the Summer months, but the real reason is that I am growing older and I am becoming less productive when it comes to typing on a computer. The neck surgery that I had several years ago continues to make my thumb and index finger on my right hand become numb. As a result, my typing skills are beginning to dwindle a great deal. Add to that fact that my mind is beginning to falter and I am having difficulty remembering how to create the new issues.

This completes my twelfth year as our newsletter editor and it is my third time to serve in this position since joining the Texas Chapter back in the late 1980's. Originally I assumed a position as a Texas Chapter newsletter editor shortly after joining the club and took over for our founder's wife who became very ill and passed away. Then in 1996, I helped John Hoyler publish our newsletter until he was no longer able to be located. He just seemed to disappear, so I took over for a year as we searched for a new editor. Owen Meredith took over.

This current term as newsletter editor came as a result of a member conning me into copying the information from the Texas Chapter web site so that those members without computers would be able to keep up with our activities. That member subsequently abandoned us and I began writing the newsletter again because nobody was working on the web site at that time. As a result, I stuck with the job at hand.

I am reluctant to say this, but I think my time to retire is coming very soon. This October 2025 issue is the last one to be created for the current year, and I believe I may be able to create a January 2026 issue to report on the 31st annual swap meet to be held by Louis Rothermel later this year; however, I think it will be the final issue of Texas Chapter News to be published by me.

Speaking of the Houston Swap Meet that has been sponsored by Louis Rothermel for the past 30 years, Texas Chapter bylaws call for an election of officers every two years and we will be holding that election on Saturday, November 8th, at Louis' 31st annual Houston Swap Meet following lunch. I personally hope that Adam Finn, Mark Betner, and Tony Robinson will run again; however, if anyone is interested in serving in an officer position, please contact Adam Finn so you can be included on the ballot.

Hopefully you have not forgotten about our Fall Wet Meet coming up on the weekend of October 24th through 26th. Feel free to bring friends and family members as well as your boats and old motors to show off. We look forward to seeing you all there.



# Wet Meet at Heart of Texas Lake Resort

By Tom Oncken

We held our annual Spring Wet Meet once again at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort. Although the meet was scheduled from April 25th through 27th, some members elected to come early. At last count, we had 26 individuals in attendance with some arriving as early as Wednesday.

I came with Louis and we left his office early on Friday at 10:00AM. Unfortunately, when we got as far as Sealy, the car engine began to run a little rough and the "check engine" light came on. Rather than take a chance, we turned around and traveled to Star Motor Cars to get the engine checked out. We were fortunate to obtain a loaner car and then proceeded on our way again. Since we left later than planned, we stopped in Spicewood for dinner. Later we discovered that our group had learned that the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Granite Shoals was having their buffet on that Friday evening, and approximately 16 of our members decided to go there for dinner.

Our local representative, Meatball Murray, told us that he had purchased a new property in Kingsland and invited us to go visit the location. As usual, he had a large shop area to store all of his toys. As expected, he had quite a few special vehicles, boats, outboard motors, and numerous other collectible items all around the place. We enjoyed our tour immensely.



Meatball taking a few of our guys on a tour of his new shop area full of his personal collections.



Mark Betner checking out Meatball's vintage truck. It is amazing because Meatball seems to have a different vintage vehicle at every meet.



First Lady Susie Finn, President Adam Finn, Vice President Mark Betner, Becky Samstag, Cindy Slator, with Sandy and Mark Lindhorst.

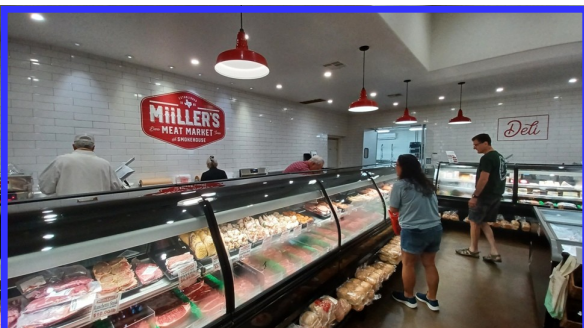
Everyone was ready to dig into their plates full of fried fish and other goodies at the Fraternal Order of Eagles buffet.



Saturday morning included our usual trip to Crazy Gals restaurant in Kingsland for breakfast. We were definitely not disappointed as the food and service was excellent as always.

For the most part, weather was very good for the weekend. Our group ran some boats, swapped and sold some parts and motors, and otherwise had a great time outdoors.





Adam Finn picking up the steaks for Saturday afternoon dinner from Miller's Meat Market in Llano. (Miller's is not misspelled. Check the sign on the back wall.)



In his youth, Joe McCauley raced boats in competition. So if you don't want to travel fast, you may not want to ride with Joe.



Dave and Becky Samstag about to take a run in their Johnson powered Starcraft.



If you wonder why we like the Heart of Texas Lake Resort, check out the docks and the view.

One of our favorite parts of this meet is the late Saturday afternoon dinner prepared by Chef Meatball. He brings his own equipment and grills fabulous steaks on his grill.



Excellent side dishes and desserts are provided by special ladies that come to the meet. Sarah Durda brought some Fettuccine Alfredo, Sandy Lindhorst brought some chocolate chip cookies, and several ladies helped in baking potatoes and preparing salads. Guys, it would not be as wonderful without the participation and time donated by these ladies.



Waiting for dinner to be served.

One last surprise happened before we all left the food court on Saturday night. Apparently it was John Slator's birthday celebration as well. Check out the cake provided.



Happy 86th Birthday to John Slator.

Well, that completes my report for this issue. I look forward to seeing you all at our final two meets for this year. So long for now.



**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 24-26, 2025**

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 good weather. 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 extend the weekend trip by arriving 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  
[Make Sure to Identify Yourself as a Member of The Antique Outboard Motor Club]

Meet Address: 408 Clen Oak Parkway, Burnet, TX 78611 / Website Address: heartoftexaslakeresorts.com

### **31st Annual Houston Swap Meet — November 7-9, 2025**

Louis Rothermel wishes to invite you to his 31st Annual Houston Swap Meet on the weekend of November 7th through 9th.

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 Bar-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 / Cell Phone: (713) 301-4010 / Home Phone: (713) 782-5478  
Meet Address: 5910 Star Lane, Houston, TX 77057-7118