

"THE ORIGINAL"

TEXAS CHAPTER

ANTIQUÉ OUTBOARD
MOTOR CLUB, INC.

David R. Reinhartsen
Founder



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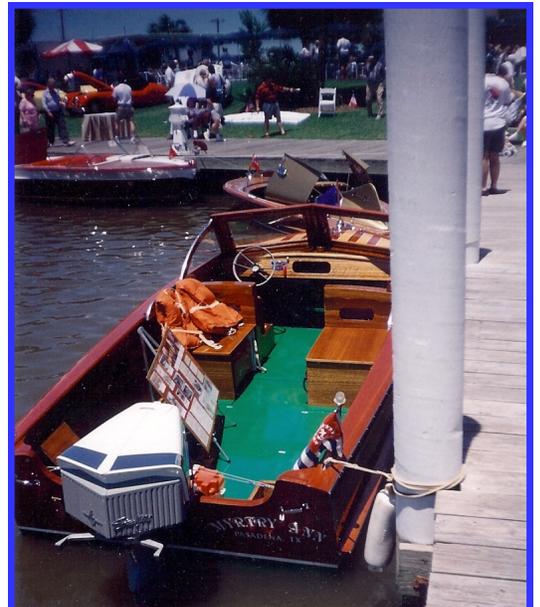
By Tom Oncken

As you may recall in my last issue of Texas Chapter News, I stated that I was only going to create one more issue. Thirteen years ago, Di Johnson convinced me to copy his website articles and publish them in this newsletter so that our few members who were without computers would be able to follow our chapter's movements. Shortly after that, Di Johnson quit doing our web page and I had to begin writing a newsletter from scratch, printing issues for those few members who required them, and then mailing those issues out. With that in mind, I wish to offer my apologies to those special members for quitting on them. It is really nothing personal, so please forgive me for bailing out on you.

As I have reached my seventies, I now have constant panic attacks as I try to keep up with our home, staying of top of doctor's appointments for me, my wife, and my permanently disabled daughter, as well as anything else that comes up. Worrying about being late with newsletters has been adding to the stress, so that is why I am discontinuing as the editor and publisher of Texas Chapter News. Preparing for trips to meets has become an issue also, so I may not be attending as many as I did in the past. It's hell when you get old!

Back in the late 1980's when I was starting one of the first wooden boat clubs in the State of Texas, I was convinced by Louis Rothermel to join AOMCI and its Texas Chapter. I would never have guessed how special this group of individuals would turn out to be. Over time I felt as if I had been adopted by a new family and I will never regret bonding with these wonderful people.

Many of the people in the boat club who owned large wooden inboard Chris-Crafts and the like with inboard engines began to refer to the antique outboard boats as "stink pots". I quickly lost interest and stopped renewing my membership in the boat club.



Our family fishing boat as displayed in the Keels and Wheels Boat Show in Clear Lake in 1998. This was the last time the boat was in the water. It now sits quietly in my garage.

I would like to give a very hearty "thanks" to all members in the AOMCI and our Texas Chapter for all of the great times, assistance with working on the old motors, and just being a part of a special family in my lifetime over the past 36 years. I wish there was enough space to thank every member individually, but it would take another issue to cover all those. My thanks also to all the special ladies who always attended meets. So, here is where I say "so long, farewell, and goodbye" until we meet again. Tom

Two Members Have Passed Away

By Tom Oncken

By now, most of you know that my least favorite part of this newsletter position has been when I must report the passing of an additional member of our Texas Chapter. Unfortunately, this time I am paying tribute to two of our former members.

Edgar Alan Morris, III



Edgar Alan Morris, III was actually known as "Alan" Morris to our members of the Texas Chapter. He was born December 21, 1954 and passed away on November 6, 2025 at the age of 70. Alan

was originally from Texarkana, Arkansas prior to his family moving to Austin, Texas in 1956. Alan grew up in South Austin near Barton Springs. Apparently, Alan was addicted to the great outdoors as he was a fisherman and he enjoyed camping and boating. Alan worked on many boats with his father, Jerry, and his son, Taylor. I am sure that Alan will be missed by many of his friends and family.

Jerry Ray Lindamood



Jerry Lindamood was born on April 18, 1948 and passed away on November 2, 2025 at the age of 77. Jerry called Malakoff, Texas his home and he spent a great deal of time fishing, camping, and hunting in the pastures directly behind his

home. After he retired from military service in Vietnam as a helicopter crew chief and several subsequent paying jobs, Jerry began building wooden boats reviving the "Lindy Boats" as his father and uncle did 50 years earlier. His work was well awarded when he achieved a "Best In Class" trophy at the 2013 Keels and Wheels Concours d'Elegance boat show in Houston, Texas. Obviously, he also became addicted to the old outboard motors and became affiliated with our Texas Chapter as a result. He too will be missed by family and friends. Regretfully, our membership is slowly dwindling away.

Wet Meet at Heart of Texas Lake Resort

By Tom Oncken with Assistance from Adam Finn

We held another very successful wet meet last October at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort. Although the weather acted somewhat strange, we had a very large turnout and members started arriving as early as Wednesday, October 22nd, with most staying around until Sunday morning. At my last count, we had 33 Texas Chapter members in attendance, 2 additional AOMCI members from out-of-state, and an unrelated group of 7 who brought a 1958 23 foot Lone Star boat powered by two 1961 Johnson 75hp motors.

Susan and Adam Finn arrived on Wednesday. As they were checking into their condo, Adam was approached by an unknown gentleman who told Adam that he bet that Adam was a member of the AOMCI. As it turned out, Roger and Marilyn Melugin from Kentucky decided to come to our meet on Wednesday and Thursday. Apparently, Roger knew the Slaters and Samstags very well. It's nice to see that we receive visitors from other states at our meets. I hope that Roger and his wife will consider coming again someday.



An awesome 23 foot aluminum 1958 Lone Star boat powered by 1961 Johnson 75HP outboards.

According to Adam Finn, the weather was very nice from Wednesday thru Friday; however, it rained very hard on Friday and Saturday nights. Fortunately, most of the time during the last two days, skies were cloudy and there were some wind gusts, but for the most part, we were able to have fun in the boats. When the weather tried to threaten us, we simply sat under the awnings at the condos or went inside for a while.



Tony and Andrea Robinson taking a ride in their Evinrude powered Steury boat.

Apparently, the skies were blue and the water was smooth on Wednesday. As a result, the few who came early had a blast running up and down the Colorado and Llano rivers. That evening, Adam and Susan Finn, Mark Betner, Roger and Marilyn Melugin, and Dave and Becky Samstag took a trip into Marble Falls to have dinner at the Blue Bonnet Café.



Tim and Priscilla Mica taking Mark and Sandy Lindhorst for a ride in their beautifully restored 1971 aluminum Starcraft powered by a vintage 50HP Evinrude Lark.

Morten Lovstad brought a friend, DeLayne Etheridge, to this meet. These two gentlemen spent a good part of Friday and Saturday going out in their boat as shown below to do some fishing. Unfortunately, nobody told me if they actually caught any fish.



Did you have any luck gentlemen???

At the end of the day on Thursday, 16 individuals went to Alfredo's Mexican Restaurant in Kingsland for dinner. After filling up, everyone went back to Heart of Texas to sit, visit, and digest.

Boating during the day on Friday was great. The weather was still decent and water was fairly smooth. The weather forecast for Friday night was for two to three inches of rain. So, everyone took their boats out of the water for fears that bilge pumps, or lack thereof, could lead to some boats filling up. Once everyone put their boats on their trailers, it was time to travel to Bill's Burgers in Burnet, Texas. On the trip back to Heart of Texas, the skies opened up and it rained "cats and dogs". As usual, Louis and I went to Opie's BBQ on our way to the meet on Friday afternoon.



Adam Finn taking Dave Samstag and John and Cindy Slator out in his Johnson powered Glastron boat.

Saturday's weather was very unusual for this meet. One minute the skies were blue, and the next minute they were blackened. Then it would get windy and then clear up again. While it never poured down during the day on Saturday, it acted like the sky could fall in at any minute. Needless to say, most of our members boats sat out in the parking lot at Heart of Texas. Even a lot of the items that had been brought for sale or swap remained inside vehicles. (Continued on Page 4)



From left to right: Mark and Sandy Lindhorst, John and Cindy Slator, Dave Samstag, Marilyn and Roger Melugin, and Adam Finn.

Unlike past years, we did something different for our Saturday night feast. In prior years, "Chef Meatball" would pick up prime steaks in Llano and he would barbecue them to perfection. Then we would gather under the pavilion between the condos and eat baked potatoes and numerous other specially prepared items with the steaks.

This year, Meatball invited all of us over to his new residence near the Llano River in Kingsland. He has a large building next to his trailer and it is full of outboard memorabilia. We had 33 people come to dinner and Meatball made some great homemade chili. Local Spanish ladies in Kingsland made homemade pork and chicken tamales. We had onions, cheese, and Pico de Gallo sauce for the tamales. Susan Finn and Becky Samstag made some fabulous cornbread and appetizers. Cindy Slator made her famous cherry cobbler, and vanilla ice cream was provided as a side for the cobbler if so desired. Charlie Hamilton's wife, Carmenza, made her awesome "Tres Leches" cake. You can believe me when I say nobody left hungry on Saturday night. As a matter of fact, I cannot remember anyone wanting to leave.



View of Meatball's shop from the front.

After the dinner, Adam Finn conducted a brief meeting to discuss the current election of Texas Chapter officers, the upcoming Houston Swap Meet at Louis Rothermel's shop in November 2025, the upcoming swap meet at Tony and Andrea Robinson's home in Lipan, Texas in March of 2026, and the spring wet meet at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort in April 2026.

We would like to thank Meatball Murray and his partner, Carolyn Holton, for hosting this excellent dinner. A great time was obviously had by all.

In closing, Sunday morning everyone packed up quickly and headed home. We hope everyone will make the effort to attend the spring wet meet at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort in April.



View of Meatball's shop showing front entry doors.



Here is a shot of 31 individuals at the dinner. Morten Lovstad's friend, DeLayne Etheridge, is missing. Andrea Robinson is the photographer.



One of Meatball's numerous toys.

Louis Rothermel's Annual Swap Meet

By Tom Oncken

For our final event of 2025, Louis Rothermel held his 31st annual Houston Swap Meet on the weekend of November 7th through 9th. As is usual, the meet was a great success and many of our Texas Chapter family made the effort to attend and brought interesting stuff to show and sell, and in some cases, to give away.

As is customary, the meet began at 9:00AM on Friday morning and participation was somewhat light. That is not really a problem since Friday is the day for setting up displays and antique outboards. Nine members arrived throughout the morning to join me and Louis in the physical setup of the area. Louis provided the usual coffee and donuts as the event started up. Louis took a trip around noon to Pete's Finer Meats to pickup scrumptious hamburgers for lunch.

the front keel between the dash and the front bench seat. Actually the boat was being given away and Rob wanted to keep his trailer. The boat was adopted by one of Louis' neighbors, Travis Clifton, and the trailer went back home with Rob on Saturday afternoon. The motor was claimed by David Coffee, Jr.



Rob Muir's 1955 Whirlwind Runabout.



Weather was excellent this year. Check out the blue sky as we began setting up on Friday.



Note the sign on Rob Muir's boat and the big smile on the face of David Coffee, Jr. with his newly acquired Sea King 12HP Buccaneer.



Tony Robinson arrived on Friday with a truck full of old outboards that attracted a lot of interest.

Louis and I stayed until about 6:00PM on Friday afternoon and then locked up everything for the night.

The main part of the meet started at 9:00AM on Saturday morning. As usual, coffee, doughnuts, and drinks were provided for our attendees.

One of the more unusual items to show up on Friday was a wooden boat brought by Rob Muir. As you may discover in the following photos, the boat was in rough condition. It had a hole through



Glenn Seureau, John Slator, and Tony Robinson checking out some of the motors that were displayed.

We had a good turnout of about 30 members throughout the day on Saturday and weather was excellent as opposed to last year when it looked as if it would begin raining any moment. Skies were blue and the temperatures were very nice.

Unlike last year when the test barrel for running some old outboards was never even filled with water by the end of the day on Sunday, several members began to run their old treasures this year throughout the day on Saturday.

Kent Peters, Adam Finn, Glenn Seureau, and Clinton Russell behind Adam Finn's pristine like-new 5.5HP Oliver Challenger



As you will notice in the above photograph, Al Smith and his son, Levi, were looking out the door of Louis' shop as Tony Robinson began to run his vintage Evinrude outboard in the test tank. If you look carefully at little Levi, he was apparently not overly impressed with the two-cycle smoke from Tony's outboard. Levi appears to be holding his nose. Oh no! It's a "Stick Pot"!

Adam Finn's 1955 Model J Oliver Challenger 5.5HP. This is not restored, but is in original as-found condition. Decals and paint are original. It has only been cleaned. It is beautiful!!



Clinton Russell, David Coffee, Jr., David Coffee, Sr., Al Smith, and Levi Smith checking out some of the items displayed for sale.



I am guessing that these two small dogs are "hunting dogs" based on the four items in this young lady's hands. I did not get to see these in person; however, they appear to be a few small caliber rifles and a shotgun.



David Coffee, Jr. and Tony Robinson attempting to get a vintage Evinrude to start-up.

Sunday morning began at 9:00AM with the usual donuts and coffee provided by Louis. We had a somewhat light turnout and nobody specifically came to work on motors as in past years. Glenn Seureau and I spent the morning with Louis. Bruce Henderson came by to pickup his 10HP Mercury KG-7 outboard that he had left over night. Darren Baird brought a vintage Johnson Seahorse by to ask questions of those who could help. Otherwise, the total in attendance on Sunday was only five this year. Needless to say, we were able to go home shortly after our lunch of leftover barbecue this year. Regardless, it was still a very nice and successful meet overall. We offer our thanks to all who attended. We hope that Louis decides to host a 32nd Annual Houston Swap Meet. Watch for updates.



Morten Lovstad and Mark Betner standing next to a vintage Evinrude Lightwin 3HP.



Glenn Seureau visits with Darren Baird about his nice Johnson Sea Horse outboard.

As is customary on Saturdays at this meet, Louis and I went to Pappas Barbecue to pickup lunch for our group. The menu included beef brisket, sausage, beans, potato salad, some bread, and various hot peppers and onions. Each person was asked to provide \$10 to cover their portion of the meal. An ice chest full of various soft drinks and water was also available for lunch as well as the entire meet. Since it is an all-you-can-eat buffet, nobody left hungry.

The attendance began to dwindle shortly after the feast and by 3:30PM on Saturday afternoon, everyone had departed (see photo below).



Glenn Seureau sitting in the shade with Louis Rothermel as the meet draws to an end.



Tom Oncken taking a break before fighting the Houston traffic back to Pasadena.



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.

9th Annual Lipan Swap Meet — March 6-7, 2026

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.

Granbury, Texas is 18 miles from Tony's home and is a quaint destination town. Granbury has numerous restaurants, a town square, breweries, wineries, a marina on Lake Granbury, an opera theater house, and a railroad museum just to name a few things. You could easily stay a night in Granbury, have some fun, and then go to Tony's meet.

Tony is passionate about our hobby and is excited about hosting this 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: Tony's Cell Number: [\(817\) 320-4278](tel:8173204278) / eMail Address: farmallm39@sbcglobal.net
Meet Address: [126 Sears Street; Lipan, TX 76462-200](https://www.google.com/maps/place/126+Sears+Street,+Lipan,TX+76462-200)

Spring Wet Meet at the Heart of Texas Lake Resort — April 24-26, 2026

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 Wednesday. 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](tel:5124203330)
[Make Sure to Identify Yourself as a Member of The Antique Outboard Motor Club, Inc. for a special discount.]

Meet Address: [408 Clen Oak Parkway, Burnet, TX 78611](https://www.google.com/maps/place/408+Clen+Oak+Parkway,+Burnet,TX+78611) / Website Address: heartoftexaslakeresorts.com