



# SOUTHWESTER

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

Late Fall  
2013

## *The Vice-President's Message*

### **Season's Greetings,**

**As we all get into the Spirit of the Holiday Season and the constant changing of the weather, we can be thankful that we live in the south. Even though the weather can change from week to week or even day to day, we can celebrate that we still have good days to go boating; while the northern states must put their toys away for the winter.**



**Most of us will spend the following months enjoying time with family and getting ready for the boating season ahead. We can anticipate the joy we will share once we gather to exhibit and show off our babies. With a busy schedule of events for 2014, we can look forward to a strong showing of our fleet during the upcoming events.**

**As we reflect back on the events of 2013, it is easy to think of a few of the highlights and special moments.**

### ***Keels and Wheels***

**Keels and Wheels brought us low water at the ramp on arrival Friday, postponing launching of boats waiting for high tide. We were excited to witness the resurrection of Dave Parker's 1947 Garwood "My Fair Lady". Congratulations on his first place win.**

### **Rockwall Ride-N-Show**

**We had low water at the docks, rain and heavy thunderstorms, but we had great support from the city and an equally great turn out of boats. Everyone was excited about the much anticipated big event and long awaited showing of Jim and Rhonda Wolfe's 1959 Century Coronado "Selah".**

### **Austin Hill Country Boat Show**

**Who could complain about the awesome weather for the Saturday show, with a tremendous turn out of boats and members? We had the debut of Kerry Price's freshly restored 1946 Chris Craft "True Grit". If you were not there, you missed the exhibition of the quality of a wood boat, as David and Cheryl towed in a disabled plastic boat. Lake LBJ is always a great time, with a delicious dinner and wonderful fellowship at Scott and Pam Reichardt's on Friday night. Even though the weather was a bit on the chilly side with a dense fog for the Sunday morning run to Jim and Cindy Frechette's home, the rewards were hot coffee and donuts.**

**As we look forward to the events for the best 2014 boating shows and season, the SW chapter of the ACBS officers and directors would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy HOLIDAY SEASON.**

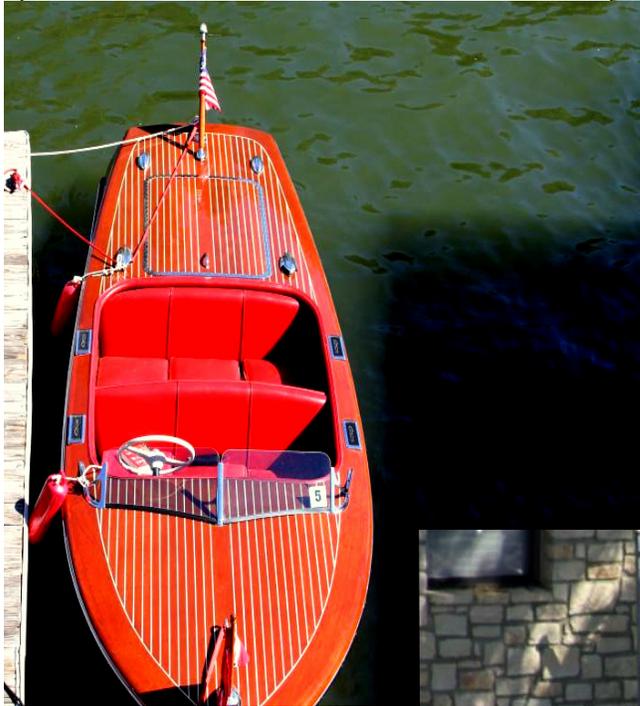
**Here are some of the events scheduled for 2014:**

<b>Houston Boat Show</b>	<b>Jan. 3-12</b>
<b>SWC-ACBS board meeting</b>	<b>tba</b>
<b>Cajun Classique River Cruise</b>	<b>April 7-13</b>
<b>Keels &amp; Wheels Concours</b>	<b>May 2-4</b>
<b>North Texas WBA Ride-N-Show</b>	<b>Sept. 26-28</b>
<b>Lake LBJ Classic Boating</b>	<b>Oct. 17-19</b>

**By the way, you'll note the Vice President is writing the President's Message this quarter. This is due to Bob's hectic schedule these days.**

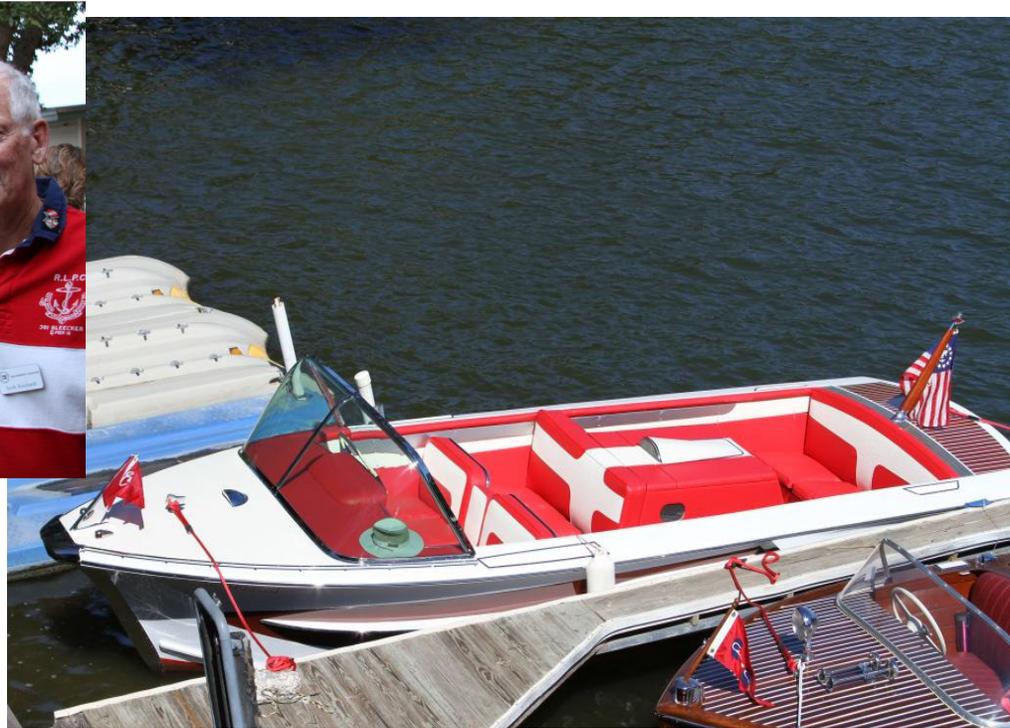
**Safe travels,  
Brian Fielder**





# LBJ scenes...

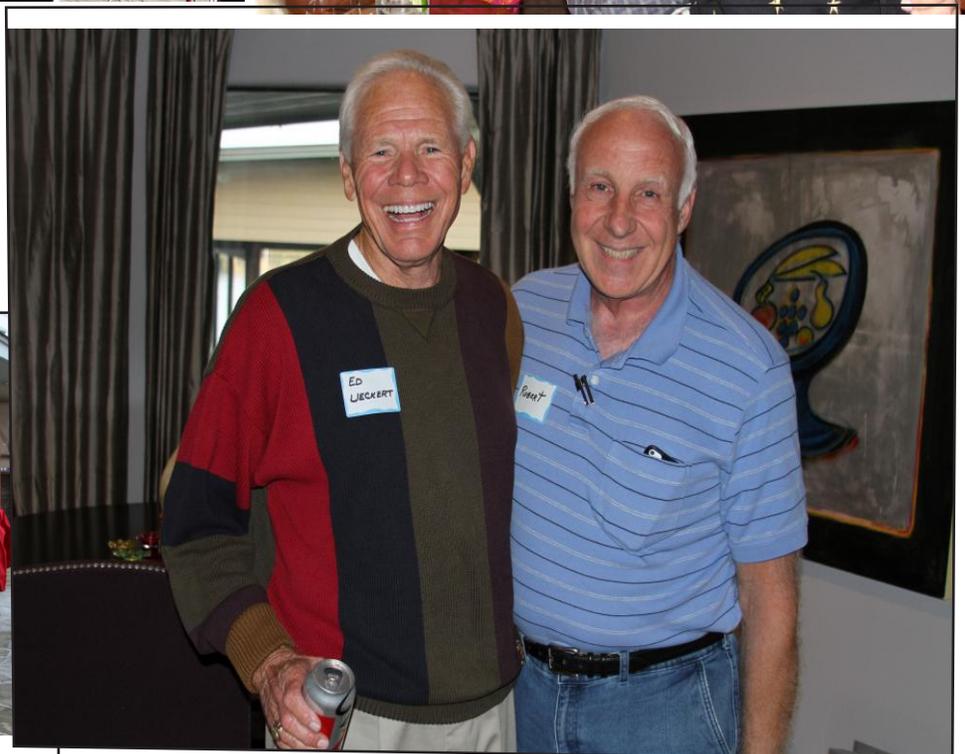




# Lake LBJ...



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**LBJ**

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# IN DEFENSE OF BILGES

*And so, from hour to hour, we ripe and ripe  
And then, from hour to hour, we rot and rot  
And thereby hangs a tale.*

The Bard must have owned a classic wooden boat if one has a bit of imagination. Our boats come out of restoration, “ripe and ripe”, to then “rot and rot”. No modern day mycologist could have scarcely said it better.

Living in the deep South we are constantly aware of this silent cause of death to our wooden craft. The advent of “5200 bottoms”, cold molded construction and modern day coatings have been truly miraculous in putting off this day of reckoning.

The existence of rot depends upon the presence of proper fungus spores, adequate moisture and susceptible types of wood. Oddly enough, complete immersion or one hundred percent humidity actually inhibits rot. When the wood moisture content exceeds thirty percent or the relative humidity exceeds eighty five percent then the fungus spores will replicate and rot becomes a problem.

The term “dry rot” is the the appearance of rot with no apparent source of moisture. The species of fungi responsible for this phenomenon has the facility to transport moisture over considerable distances into areas of no apparent sources of moisture. It is *Serpula lacrymans* (Latin: the “weeping snake”), a common species of fungus which has this pernicious ability.

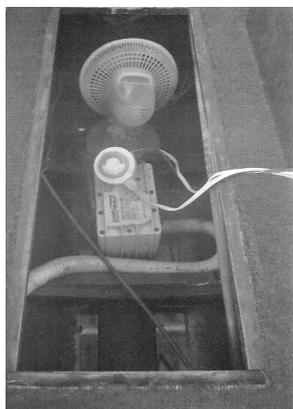
Unventilated “crawl spaces” in buildings are well known harbors of rot and therein lies one problem in our frequently unventilated, tarp covered boats which are usually suspended in boat houses over water. Let’s be practical; leaving an unattended, uncovered boat in Southern climes is an invitation for all sorts of detritus and uninvited varmints to inhabit one’s bilges.

**The attached photos show several methods which I have found to be effective keeping my boat clean and sweet smelling.**



**A linear split in the boat cover with closure snaps and Velcro edges will allow the boat to be covered during winter storage for replacement of humidity which prevents plank warping.**

**The ventilation split in the cover is bridged with ordinary flexible vinyl screening for summertime storage.**



**Next, a discount store plastic fan on a house hold timer will reduce the heat and humidity during the warm hours of the day. Lastly, a couple of**

**handfuls of granular copper sulfate in the bilge will help sterilize any remaining garden spots for fungi. Copper is close enough on the periodic charts to commonly used boat hardware to not be a problem – except for galvanized parts.**

**While I do not pretend to be an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of wood rot I can say confidently that the above suggestions have been successful in avoiding this problem in my '67 Century for over twenty years.**

**Wayne Elliott**



more  
LBJ





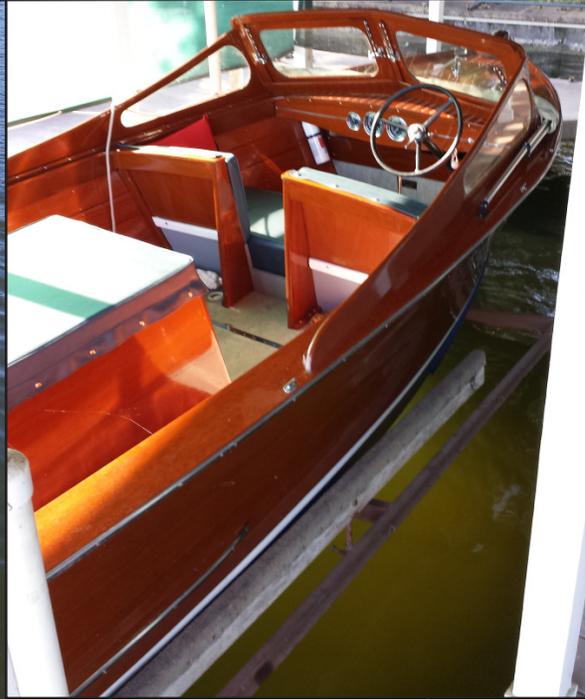
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**even more**



no mas!



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