

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

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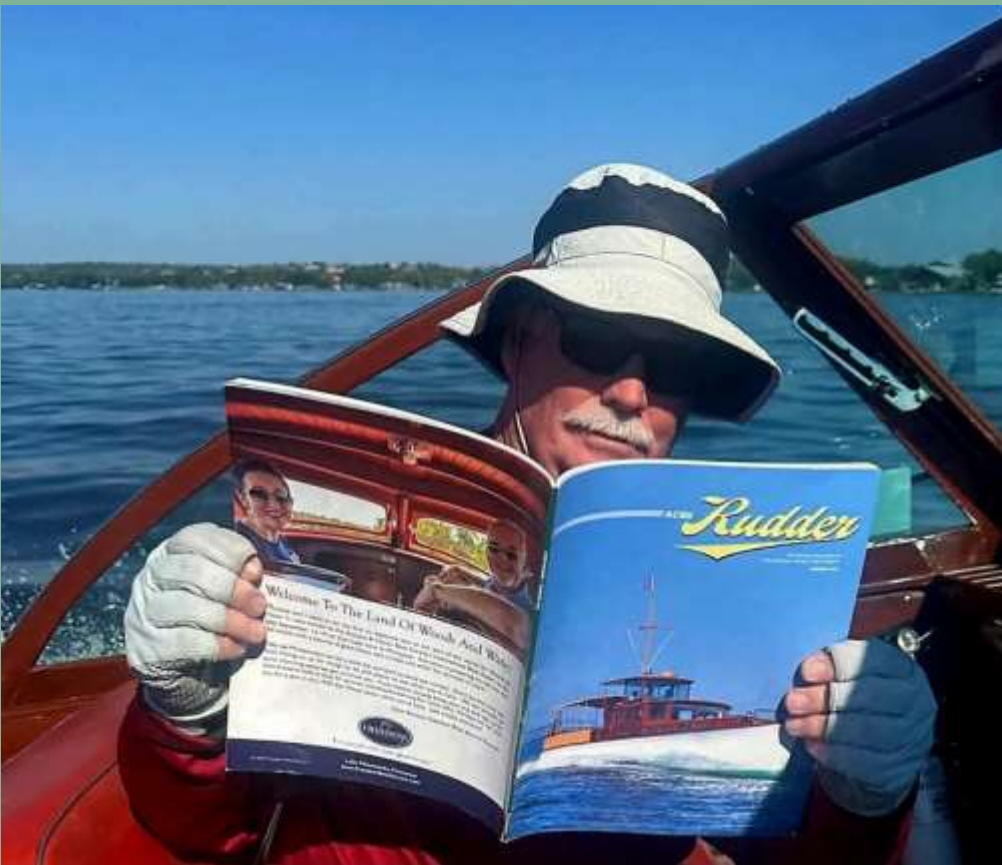


A message from your Southwest Chapter President,

Greetings Southwest Chapter Members,

The fall boating season for 2024 is now behind us. Many thanks to those who participated in the Lake LBJ Show and Rendezvous in October. We had about 15 boats and 30 people participate. **The weather was perfect for running up the lake. Having LBJ's Glastron there was a special treat.**

Lisa and I went to the International ACBS Show Gull Lake, Mn. in September which was a great success. The 2025 show is scheduled for September 15-21 in Clayton, NY. ACBS is celebrating its 50th anniversary so it should be an awesome show. Start your planning now. If you need more information or have questions, give me a call.



Lisa and I stopped by Grand Lake, OK on our way home from Minnesota for a Heartland Chapter Show. We visited with a number of our friends from the Heartland Chapter and made several new friends while there.

The next SW Chapter event will be the Lake Conroe Rendezvous in April. Details will be coming out sometime in January. We will let you know when registration is open.

The Keels & Wheels Show will be May 3-4 here in

Seabrook. Registration for exhibitors will be up and running on the website in early January. **I will send out word when it is working. This year's theme is "Texas Made Boats" so please plan to bring your Glastrons, Yellow Jackets, Holmes, Hiltons, and Lone Stars.**

The LBJ Show next year will be in October.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in April and May.

Lindy Robinson

The 2025 Lake LBJ Rendezvous,

with photos thanks to Lisa Robinson! There was dinner on Thursday, a Colorado River cruise Friday, socializing Friday and Saturday nights, and a show on Saturday at the Horseshoe Bay Resort. A great time by all who attended!





Classic glass and vintage wood **were in attendance... inboard and outboard, and inboard/outboard. Boats weren't the only things to celebrate, as friendships and birthdays were also done up in style**



LBJ

Yes, this is the original Glastron (built on hwy 183 at the Glastron plant back in the day) that President Johnson used to outrun the secret service in their Donzi 16s! Motivation? A 409 cubic inch Chevrolet marinized by MerCruiser. Don Arronow used this combo in the original offshore Formula 233 raceboat.













left
A great view
over the long
deck of a big
Sportsman.

right
Artistic li-
cense on an
early mahog-
any boat.

below
Two
generations
enjoying the
day.





Southwest's Safety Corner

A huge thank you to BoatUS for allowing us to use this article in the newsletter! Well written and timely, they have much for us to learn in both this article and their regular magazine. Please support them as they do us. The link to the article is

<https://www.boatus.com/expert-advice/expert-advice-archive/2024/october/11-hot-tips-to-enjoy-cold-weather>

There are many great reasons for spending time on the water during the off season, but doing so safely requires extra precautions

Ahhh! The summer blast furnace has finally eased to air as crisp as a fresh-picked apple, while the leaves turn fiery hues and flocks of migrating birds point toward warmer climes. This time of year somehow seems so much more vibrant when viewed from a boat.

Whether you're squeezing in one last outing before closing things up for the season, want to chase some different fish species, or you live in a region that doesn't freeze solid, extending your boating season may bring delights that fair-weather boaters miss. The promise of tranquility from having the waters mostly to yourself is always a big draw.



Many off-season boaters enjoy the promise of having the water all to themselves, perfect for leaf peeping. Photo: Getty Images

But boating in shoulder- or off-seasons requires extra precautions. A good rule of thumb for knowing when you need additional safeguards is to add together the air and water temps. If that number is less than 100, follow these measures to keep you and your crew safe. (For paddlesports or other activities where you're more likely to get wet, use 120 as your guideline.)

1. Wear a life jacket.

Lenny swears by his float coat when the temps drop. Photo: Lenny Rudow

Sure, we always recommend wearing a life jacket while boating. But donning one in cooler weather has additional benefits. Not only will it provide an extra layer for warmth, but it may save your life if you fall overboard, keeping you afloat as your body deals with the shock of cold water and helping maintain core heat as you wait for assistance. With fewer boats on the water, rescue may take longer than during high season.



If you're on the water a lot in cold weather, consider investing in a U.S. Coast Guard-approved float coat (and maybe even floatation bib pants) instead of your regular life jacket. Inside the traditional-looking winter parka outer shell is a layer of closed-cell foam insulation to keep you floating and delay the onset of hypothermia if submersed in water. Lenny Rudow, BoatU.S. Magazine's fishing editor, who boats most of the year in Maryland, is a big fan. "My warmest winter coat is my float coat, hands down."

Safety-Winter Boating

BoatU.S. Foundation's director of boating safety Ted Sensenbrenner also offers this important reminder: If you regularly wear [inflatable life jackets](#), remember, most manufacturers don't recommend using them in temperatures 40 F and colder. They provide less buoyancy and inflate more slowly as temps approach freezing. Always check manufacturer recommendations for each specific model.

2. Dress properly.

As our planet experiences warming temperatures, it's becoming more common to have unexpected short-sleeve weather in late fall or early spring. But don't be fooled: [Hypothermia](#) is a serious concern once water temps drop below 70 F.

You may have heard the saying, "Dress for the water temperature, not the air temperature." While you might be tempted to wear your favorite cotton Jimmy Buffett tee when ambient temps are mild, it's critical to dress in layers – with that top layer being a life jacket or float coat. Sensenbrenner adds that wearing brightly colored outer clothing can make you easier to spot in the water if rescue is required.

Speaking of layers, your base layer should be made from a synthetic material or merino wool. Cotton isn't a good choice because, once wet, it stops providing insulation and pulls heat away from the body, rapidly lowering your body temperature. Also, cotton takes much longer to dry than clothing made with comparably weighted synthetic fabrics.

If you're planning to do any paddlesports or other activities like dinghy sailing and windsurfing where the likelihood of falling in is especially great, a wetsuit or dry suit is critical.

To keep those fingers nimble, "Don't settle for cheap gloves," advises Rudow, who says anglers need fingerless gloves to feel the bite and use the reel. "You can spend \$10 on a cheap pair and your hands will still freeze. But if you spend \$75 on a good pair, you'll not only get fold-over mitts you can wear while driving the boat then fold out of the way to fish or turn a dial on your electronics, but they'll also be waterproof and last several seasons."

He also suggests investing in a good pair of insulated deck boots. "You want waterproof, but unlined boots get frigid fast."

And avoid layering socks, as doing so will change the fit and make your feet colder by eliminating the air pocket inside the shoe, which is what keeps your toes toasty.

Sensenbrenner recommends bringing an extra set of clothing on the boat, stored in a dry bag, "so you have something to change into if your clothes get wet."

Dressing in layers is key. Waterproof, convertible mittens are a must-have for winter fishing. Photo: Lenny Rudow



Safety-Winter Boating

The BoatU.S. Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is an innovative leader that aims to reduce boating accidents and fatalities, increase stewardship of waterways, and keep boating a safe and enjoyable pastime. It accomplishes this with educational outreach directly to boaters through its many programs including nationwide life jacket loaner locations, on-water powerboat training, abandoned and derelict vessel removal grants, and EPIRB and PLB rentals. The Foundation is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization primarily funded through grants and individual donations. Visit BoatUS.org to learn more.

TIP: Even though it's not beach weather, it's still important to wear sunscreen. The ozone layer is at its thinnest this time of year, and UV rays easily reflect off the water and light-colored decks. Wearing a balaclava or neck gaiter and even ski goggles will help to prevent windburn.

3. Add a few space blankets to your first-aid kit.

Mylar foil emergency blankets are lightweight, inexpensive, and take up very little room aboard, but they can be life-savers. The metalized plastic traps body heat, and they're also waterproof and wind-proof. These can come in handy if your trip has an unplanned delay and the temps drop while you're waiting for help.

4. Check your communication options.

While the beauty of this time of year is fewer boaters on the water, that's also a downside if you have an emergency or breakdown. Make sure your VHF radio works, and if it has DSC, be sure you've programmed in your unique MMSI number, which will transmit your information to emergency responders at the touch of a button. (Visit BoatUS.com/MMSI to request a number – a free benefit for BoatU.S. members!)

As a backup, Sensenbrenner suggests adding a Personal Locator Beacon, or PLB, to your equipment for each passenger. This reasonably priced device, the size of a small handheld VHF, can be attached to your life jacket or to your person and used to summon help.

5. Charge your batteries.

Cold temperatures can reduce battery capacity, causing them to drain faster than usual. Before you head out, make sure your marine batteries are fully charged. The same goes for any critical accessories, like a handheld VHF or cellphone. This is especially important if you rely on your cellphone or other smart device for navigation or emergency communications. Carry a portable power bank and appropriate cables as a backup.

Rudow suggests dropping a battery-powered hand warmer in one pocket and keeping your phone in that pocket to help keep it juiced up.

And make sure your BoatU.S. Towing Membership is active (BoatUS.com/Towing) in case your boat's battery needs a jump to get you home.

6. Inspect — and use — navigation lights and sound-producing devices.

Nav lights are required equipment after dark and in reduced visibility. Fog is more prevalent this time of year, and daylight fades quickly, especially if you're delayed due to a breakdown, weather, or other unexpected event. Before you head out, make sure your lights work, and remember to use them in the correct configuration for your vessel.

7. Check the marine forecast.

Conditions on the water can be very different from the weather you're experiencing at home, even if the locations are in close proximity. The combination of strong winds and sea surface cooling creates instabilities that lead to stronger currents and waves in the fall and winter – great for surfers, but not so much for boaters.

If you fall overboard

- **Catch your breath. It's common to experience a gasp reflex when hitting very cold water, causing hyperventilation and even water inhalation.**
- **Don't panic. Conserve as much energy as possible.**
- **Remove heavy boots or shoes that impede your ability to tread water or weigh you down. Assume the H.E.L.P. position to conserve body heat. Cross your arms across your chest and draw your knees up as though hugging yourself.**
- **If the boat capsizes, remain with the boat (or anything that floats, like a throw cushion, cooler, or even a piece of debris), if possible. It's much easier to spot a larger object in the water than a single person.**
- **Plan ahead. Have a secure way to reboard, and know how to use it. Remember that cold water may cause you to lose dexterity in hands and feet, making self-rescue more difficult. Once rescued, do not apply heat to extremities, which could cause cardiac arrest. — S.W.**

8. Bring snacks & drinks.

The colder you are, the more calories you'll burn to stay warm. Keep some nosh on board to help boost your energy, especially as air temps get lower or you're outside longer. It's also important to stay hydrated. You may not feel as thirsty as in warm weather, but you're still losing fluids. Having some food and nonalcoholic beverages (warm or cold) available will also come in handy if you find yourself waiting for assistance.



Fog is more common in colder weather, so make sure you can be seen and heard when visibility is reduced. Photo: Dan Armitage

9. Be careful with heaters.

Portable electric heaters may work well to provide extra warmth in a house or office but need to be used with extreme caution aboard a boat. Standard household models are top-heavy and can fall over easily. There are portable heaters made for use in boats that are low-profile with a wide base so they cannot easily fall over. Open-flame heaters must never be left unattended, and that includes while sleeping.

Sensenbrenner reminds boaters that carbon monoxide poisoning is a potentially deadly concern when using some types of heaters. If you're using any type of heater aboard, make sure you read, understand, and follow all manufacturer recommendations and cautions for use.

10. Tell someone where you're going.

Filing a float plan or simply telling a trusted friend or family member where you are headed and when you expect to be home is always an excellent idea no matter when you boat. But it might be even more critical when temps have dropped, daylight is short, and hypothermia can set in quickly. Remember, too, to let that person know when you're back.

Cold-weather boating isn't everyone's cup of tea, so those who do venture out may be more likely to do so solo. If your boat has an engine cutoff switch (ECOS), consider going wireless. A [virtual tether](#) allows the skipper to move freely around the boat and will shut off the engine within seconds of a break in the connection between the transmitter and receiver.

Some systems like ACR's OLAS Tag (acrartex.com) connect to an app to track crew members, too. If a guest or pet wearing a linked transmitter goes overboard, the mobile device will sound an alarm, log GPS data, and clearly direct the crew to the location where the MOB occurred. In addition, the app offers solo mode, which, when activated, will automatically text GPS coordinates to an emergency contact from your phone in the event you get separated from your boat.

11. Call ahead.

If you may need services like fuel, water, or pumpouts, be sure to check hours and availability before you go. Some businesses may be winterized or on off-season schedules.

Author

Stacey Nedrow-Wigmore

Stacey is an award-winning marine journalist and photographer who, as BoatUS Magazine's managing editor, handles some of the national publication's most complex features, as well as keeping it on time, accurate, clear, and timely. Stacey also manages the magazine's active website and social-media engagement, and is part of the BoatUS video team, helping to produce more than 30 how-to videos a year. Stacey recalls that one of her earliest memories in life includes being hung by her ankles in the engine compartment of her family's 1963 Egg Harbor, helping with repair work and searching for lost items. Her love of boats may only be matched by her love of horses; she spent 20 years writing, editing, and photographing for equestrian magazines and books — including Practical Horseman

Pictures posted to our Facebook account for
International Vintage Boating Day
...August 19th. Enjoy!





Some asleep
Some enjoyed
Some being
fluffed.





Vintage Day



Vintage Day









Upcoming Events

*March 20-23, 2025

Sunnyland Boat Festival

Tavares, Florida

*April 2025 tbt

Lake Conroe Rendezvous

Conroe, Texas

*May 1-4, 2025

Keels & Wheels Concours

Seabrook, Texas

*August 8-10, 2024

Heartland Classics 2024 Beaver Lake

Rodgers, AR

*September 15,-21 2025

ACBS Annual Meeting/International

Show celebrating 50 years!

Clayton, NY

*September 2025 tbt

Heartland Classics Mahogany&Chrome

Grand Lake, Ok

*October 2025, tbt

Lake LBJ Hillcountry Ride n Show

Horseshoe Bay, Texas

*October 2025 tbt

WBA Cruisin' Lake Lewisville

Lewisville, Texas

*October 18-19, 2025

Wooden Boat Festival

Madisonville, LA

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

The Board:

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Vice President	Brian Fielder
Treasurer	Robert Macaluso
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NewsLetter Ed	Craig Stanfield

Directors:

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David Kanally
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Data:

Members
Current 76
fb members 1000+
ig followers 198

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 proud
Its been a tumultuous
Black cloud*

*There were hurricanes
Hither and yon
And May's straight wind
I wasn't too fond*

*The debris have been sent to
Landfills far and wide
And the final storm
After Thanksgiving seems to hide.*

*So please forgive
The lack of continuity
Newsletters back on a roll
And that's {hopefully} not ambiguity*

*A big thank you
BoatUS I am doting
As they allowed us to use
Their Winter Boating.*

Craig