



SOUTHWESTER

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Welcome to Y2K

I tried hard not to broach this subject since I figured that every twist on Y2K had been done to death leaving everyone numb. From the Y2K computer bug to "THE SALE OF THE MILLENNIUM" and yes, even naming a boat show "Turn of the Century". I figured y'all had heard all of this stuff you could stand, but... we would be remiss if we did not at least glance over our shoulder at what amounts to a century of motor boating.

From the moment that someone fastened a "one lugger" single cylinder motor into a row boat our hobby began a whole new era. Prior to this innovation, known as the internal combustion engine, pleasure boating was limited to the skilled sailor or the physically able oarsmen. With the addition of an engine the "golden age of boating" beckoned a whole new group of people to challenge the open water.

Consider the changes our hobby has undergone from design to manufacturing. The speed demons of the past used enormous 1200 horsepower engines to power a boat though the water to reach such speeds as 40 miles per hour. Innovative designers soon figured out that it is better for the boat to rise out of the water and before long speed records on the water were being set faster than on land. Hard working entrepreneurs like Chris Smith and Gar Wood developed manufacturing methods that made mass marketing of what started out as a rich man's sport, affordable for the masses.

Yes we have much to reflect on with the beginning of this new millennium. The heritage that we as "power boaters" display is a century old as compared to the sailboat and rowboat heritage for which this may be their 5th millennium celebration. Whatever your choice of power, whatever the actual age of your boat, we all can be proud of the history that surrounds our craft. I know what we do as a hobby is important when I see an elderly gentleman stare at my boat. I can see it in his eyes that he is remembering back to a moment of youth... in those summer days gone by.

It's arrived.....

No, not the new millennium, but the long awaited, much touted Club Logo. Yes, after months of deliberation and frustration our club has a logo to identify ourselves with. As you can see in the background we settled on an art deco design of the easily recognized runabout. With this new logo in place we will begin offering club logo shirts, hats and window decals. We have already had pins made of this design that we now offer to our membership. The pins are antique bronze and are about 1 1/8 inch tall by 7/8 wide and look great on a hat or your shirt. The pins will be available at future shows and gatherings so if you want to save shipping costs you can buy one then for the low price of five dollars. To order by mail send a check for five dollars plus two dollars for shipping to SWCACBS c/o Judy Dorfinger, 805 S. Shaver, Pasadena TX 77506. The proceeds will help support club activities.

4th ANNUAL CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE A HUGE SUCCESS

by Bob Macaluso

1-2 May 1999 The Southwest Chapter in conjunction with the largest Yacht Club in the Houston, TX area (Lakewood Yacht Club) recently hosted the 4th Annual Concours d'Elegance Classic Car and Boat Show known as "Wooden Keels and Classic Wheels."

This charity fund raiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a world class event featuring a wide variety of the finest classic automobiles as well as an incredible in the water display of restored vintage wooden boats. This year was no exception. With over 193 fine automobiles and 59 boats, the show was a smashing success; raising over \$20,000 for Cystic Fibrosis. On display among the vintage wooden boats was PT-309, the only remaining combat experienced World War II PT boat in existence. The 78 foot PT boat, bristling with guns and torpedoes, was named after singer Frank Sinatra. To add a