



SOUTHWESTER

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

Winter 2011/2012

The Bow

President's Message

The boating season is upon us and early this year. Di Johnson and Adam Finn organized the wood boat display at the Houston Boat Show again this year. It featured the Kids Build Boats Program with the help of John Platou.

We are looking forward to the Keels and Wheels Boat Show the first weekend in May. This year's show will feature the Chris Craft Capri and will include dinners on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night. We will also be sponsoring the ACBS Quarterly Spring Meeting.

The show is still looking for more boats to display. Registration forms are available at www.keels-wheels.com. We also need volunteers. We need people to help place boats and stands on Friday and reload boats on trailers on Sunday afternoon. Contact Robert Black, blackd@earthlink.net, 713-974-7919. We will also need judges on Saturday morning. Contact me at bobtrane@ix.netcom.com, 214-957-3692.

We need everyone to get involved!!

**Bob Van Guilder
ACBS Southwest Chapter President**



First Hybrid Boat Appears in Austin show

To the surprise of all SWACBS members, Robert Macaluso entered his 1953 Chris Craft Rocket as the first hybrid in the October 2011 Austin ACBS Boat Show.

Was it the first marine combination gas/electric power plant? Not really. Was it a flex fuel power plant that could accept any number of fuel combinations from 100% gasoline up to a 15% ethanol fuel blend? Wrong again. Rather it was a halfway move to bridge the gap between the true inboard purist and the outboard aficionado. Read on...

Deadlines are good as they make things happen. Also, necessity is the mother of all invention. In this case, Captain Macaluso had done some drive train maintenance on his Rocket in preparation for the show. At the completion of his work, he discovered that his fuel tank was contaminated with sludge and varnish from some old fuel. Inline fuel filters were stopping after about 15 minutes of engine operation so he had to make a choice. Does he buy a case of filters and change them every 15 minutes ... or does he seek out another solution? There was not enough time to remove the tank and have it cleaned.





Well, good old American ingenuity prevailed when he realized (in a dream, btw) he had just purchased a polyethylene fuel tank for his outboard that was new, clean, and portable. Alas, the solution was both at hand and in time to make it to the show in Austin.

However, at only 6 gallons, some enroute stops were demanded by the thirsty Hercules KLC. With several other fuel cans on board, the stops were not particularly troublesome and he and his crew were soon back into the competition for the Friday poker run and day cruise.

In recognition of his ingenuity , the other skippers presented him with the “911 Award,” which is the follow-on award to the previous SWACBS “Crooked Crankshaft Award” retired by former member Wayne Meyers. The new award is in the form of an ornamented paddle for use in future maritime activities.

In response to the award, Captain Macaluso said that “While this is not exactly what I had expected, I take comfort in knowing that the next time I am caught up a creek....I know it will not be without a paddle.”



Tolken expected to be at Keels and Wheels!

The beautiful early twentieth century Tolken is expected at the 2012 Concours. Fresh out of a restoration from Peter Breen Antique and Classic Boat Company. Be sure to put this stunning vessel on your “do not miss” list. She was originally built for the partner of Alexander Graham Bell (remember land line phones???)





Seen at the Houston New Boat Show This past January at Reliant Center

Thanks to Di Johnson and his many supporters and the Outboard Club providing manpower and displays.









Spring BOD meeting....

A couple photos documenting the February 18th board of directors meeting at Lakewood Yacht Club. The photographer, Robert Black, never quite seems to get his mug shot in !



Planning Calendar

Southwest Chapter...for up-to-date info, holler at a board member or check the web....

www.southwest-acbs.org

January 6-15, 2012 Houston - Reliant New Boat Show

February 18, 2012. Board of Directors Meeting, Lakewood YC

May 4-6, 2012 Keels and Wheels, Lakewood YC, Seabrook

Early October tentative WBA Ride-N-Show Lake Ray Hubbard

Late October tentative Hill Country/fall membership meeting Lake LBJ