



Bear Briefs



April 2001

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

HEART OF TEXAS BEARS—FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Spring in the Hill Country, I wish I were a poet. I would write poems about waking to thunderstorms, the endless fields of native plants and the colors. I would tell of my inner struggles to either lie around in the sun all day like a fat dog or channel Joan Crawford and dig up everything in the garden, "Tina, bring me the axe!"

These poems would read like country songs. They would be filled with Texas pride and I would remember the Alamo. I would be straight shooting and eat more chicken fried steak. Wait, this has already been done.

A big thanks to all the HOT Bears that made our Third Anniversary Weekend a HUGE success. I would like to see this event become

our Bear Run with more activities for the HOT Bears and our out-of-town guests. I spoke with three Houston Bears at the Bear Bust and they had quite a time finding a hotel room because of SXSW. I am open to suggestions or ideas about setting up a database of members who are willing to host a Bear or two in their home.

One problem that has been brought to my attention is that at Chuy's and a couple of our Bear Day and Night Out functions, we have come up short on the check at the end of the meal. Most restaurants put our meals on one ticket and will automatically add a fifteen to twenty percent gratuity. Please remember to include this in the price of your meal. I have a Tip Table I will bring,

if you disagree with tipping or the included gratuity you will need to discuss it with the manager of the restaurant.

Anyone who has traveled in Europe isn't shocked at this tipping suggestion. In France and many other countries in Europe, the gratuity is already part of the meal's cost and tipping beyond that is not customary. Remember that at restaurants, the wait staff is usually paid less than minimum wage.

We have received several great ideas for future events. A game night and bowling are just two. It looks like we are gearing up for a great Summer here in Austin.

Hugs,
Ed

HOT BEAR WINNERS AT THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Teddy Bear: Ed B
Care Bear: Scott C
Motel 6 Bear: Rafael J
Volunteer Bear: Gary R
Mr. HOTBear: James P
Fuzzy-Wuzzy Bear: Lucci B
Nair Bear: Robert L
Beary-Nice Couple: Marcus and Ed
Drama Bear: Greg O



Photo Courtesy of
Greg Havican.

FROM THE DESK OF THE HOTB SECRETARY—GARRETH H.

The HOT Bears would not be where we are today without some extra help from some certain people in the club. Many of them sacrificed time and volunteered many hours to not only get the club started, but to keep it going. These people range from incorporation of the club to past officers to Bear Briefs editors/publishers. The current board recognizes all the hard work and many

hours of labor it takes to keep the club up and running, and we felt like it was time for us, as a club, to stand back and just say thank you to these people. We certainly would not be here today without all the work these people have put into the HOTBears.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to: Carl F, James B, Jeff M, David S, Rafael J, Thad G, Aldo W, Scott C, Leonard

S, Marcus M, Mike H. Roy C and Jim M received certificates also for all the hard work and many hours of service to the club this year. Please thank these people when you see them because they all need to hear how much we appreciate them and know what they have done for the HOTBs.

Garreth H.
Secretary, HOTBs



Bear Briefs

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Marcus M receives his Certificate of Appreciation at the HOT Bears' Third Anniversary Party from Jim M.
Photo Courtesy of Greg Havican.



April Events

BEAR BOWLING—APRIL 4TH

Join the HOT Bears out for a fun evening of bowling at Dart Bowl at 7 pm. Dart Bowl is located at

5700 Grover in Austin. You don't want to miss kicking off April with a Bang! Even if you don't

bowl, come along a cheer your fellow HOT Bears as they attempt to show Bears can bowl!

BEAR BREAKFAST—APRIL 7TH

Hoover's, 2002 Manor Road. This is a great way to start your weekend. For those of you that have not done Bear Breakfast, we meet at ten, eat and usually plan a trip out and about

Austin. Last month we were rained out of our day trip to The Lady Bird Johnson Wild Flower Center. If it is a nice day, let's plan to try it once again. The Center planted over 2000

pounds of wild flower seed last fall. The Lady Bird Johnson Wild Flower Center is located at 4801 La Crosse Ave.



ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTION—APRIL 8TH

It's time again to elect the officers of the HOT Bears. This year, Jeff M and Greg O will be hosting this very important event. Remember, it's your club and this is your chance to help guide it. The meeting starts at 2 pm.

GOSPEL FEST—APRIL 15TH

The annual Easter Gospel Fest at the Rainbow Cattle Company. Entitled "Saints and Sinners", the show features the Austin Baptist Women and is shaping up to be an exciting fund-raising extravaganza benefiting the HIV Wellness Center. The pre-show begins at 8:30 and the Austin Baptist Women take the stage at 9. More details will follow on the web site and Telebear.

BEAR PUB CRAWL—APRIL 18TH

This month, the HOT Bears invade the Rainbow Cattle Company on Wednesday night for our monthly Bear Pub Crawl. We meet at 7 and Wednesday night is KARAOKE NIGHT! This is your chance to show your musical skills, so join us!

TEXAS LONE STAR BEARS ANNIVERSARY—APRIL 21ST

The Texas Lone Star Bears have invited us to attend their anniversary party in San Antonio. The event begins at 6 pm with an informal dinner at Casey's Bar-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma (at Hwy 281). At 8, the party continues at The Copa S.A., 119 El Mio with a Mr. Texas Lone Star Bear 2001 contest. Yes, there will be a sash, trophy and prizes. A raffle with prizes benefiting the American Foundation for AIDS Research and a silent auction. An after contest celebration will be at The Annex, 330 San Pedro, at the corner of West Euclid.

BEARS NIGHT OUT—APRIL 26TH

This month, the HOT Bears will be trying out the "Mexican Martini" at Trudy's, 8800 No Burnet at 7 pm. This hallmark experience is a margarita shaken and served in a martini glass complete with olives. You are allowed only two a night.

EYORE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY—APRIL 28TH

Eeyore's 38th Annual Birthday Party at Pease Park between West MLK and West 15th on North Lamar. Eeyore's Birthday Party is a fundraiser to benefit non-profit groups in Austin. No Parking will be available at the park. Please take the bus, ride a bike or walk. Look for commemorative Eeyore cups and T-shirts.

Sponsors

The HOT Bears are grateful for the continuing support of the following people and companies. Please support those who support us.

Leather Chest

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Austin, TX
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Phil Nelson

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Dr. Chocolate

4001 N Lamar Blvd, Suite 500
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(512) 454-0555
www.DrChocolateOnline.com

The Summit House

Bed & Breakfast
1204 Summit Street
Austin, TX 78741-1158
(512) 445-5304
<http://summit.home.texas.net/>

Chain Drive

504 Willow Street
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 480-9017

Lobo

3204A Guadalupe
Austin, TX 78705

BEARTHDAYS AND NEW MEMBEARS

Wish the following HOT Bears a Happy Birthday this month!

Bubba B.....April 2
Claude G.....April 3
James P.....April 6
Paul B.....April 29

We now have 107 HOT Bears! Please welcome our newest members Rodney L, Mick Q and Karl G. We had three renewals for the month March, Ray A, Randy B and Mike B.

Several Membears have paid for Anniversary shirts and have not picked them up yet. Please send an email to the HOT Bears Secretary (Garreth H) and he will try and get these shirts to you at the next HOTB event you plan to attend. We also have several shirts left in each size, but they are going fast. There are few tank tops left, but the Bruno Caps and caps with the HOTB Patch are still available as well as club pins. Let us be your headquarters for Bear Wear.

OUT-OF-TOWN EVENTS

Thu, April 12, 2001 Bear and Big Men Meeting Bearcelona 2001 (Barcelona, Spain)

Thu, April 19th, 2001 Spring Thaw 2001 (Seattle, Washington) For information and registration forms: e-mail wbeats@scn.org or write: Northwest Bears 1122 East Pike Street, PMB 802, Seattle, WA 98122-3934

Fri, April 20, 2001 Gen-X Bears 2001 Gathering (New York City)

Fri, April 27, 2001 Out Of Hibernation 7 (Indianapolis, IN)

Fri, April 27, 2001 Bear Weekend Camp Out (Cactus Canyon Campground, MO)

See www.resourcesforbears.com for more information

BEAR BITS...

Texas Council of Clubs Update—TCC is having a fund raiser for the bunkhouse renovation. Donations of twenty dollars for boards will get our name in a pot to refund your money for Lonestar 14. Send donation checks to Harold Pryor, 25 CR228C, Cameron, Texas 76520. The LVL PWA campout is coming up and for those of you that don't know what this is about, it is a campout for persons living with AIDS. As an individual you can sponsor one or more LVL PWA Campers, The sponsors who attend the campouts make a \$25 contribution to help cover food and beverage costs. The sponsor can bring one or more campers with them. Sponsors are like Big Brothers or Sisters and

are responsible for arranging transportation, providing camping equipment, assisting in setting up tents, packing up when it is over, and transportation back home. If you are not a camper and do not know of anyone who could benefit from a trip like this, yet you want to contribute, please send your contribution to PWA Holiday Charities, PO Box 66849, Houston, Texas 77266—6849. Please note that it is for the PWA Campout. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Registration will be closed when the quota of 100 PWAs and sponsor representatives has been reached. For this campout, applications must be postmarked no later than May 4, 2001.

Chain Drive Turns 15—Our home bar, The Chain Drive is celebrating 15 years in business with a 15 day celebration beginning April 10th and concluding on the actual anniversary of April 24th. Most of us know that a software company is planning to build on the Chain Drive's current site. The company has purchased the option to buy the property and has until May to decide whether or not to buy. Even if they purchase the property, they might not begin immediate construction. With Austin's economy, no one knows what will really happen. Until then, PARTY ON! Congratulations to Donald and the fine staff of Chain Drive.

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 TBRU, Dallas	2	3	4 Bear Bowling, 7 pm @ Dart Bowl, 5700 Grover, Austin	5	6	7 Bear Breakfast @ Hoover's, 2002 Manor Rd, Austin
8 Annual Meeting & Election, 2 pm @ Jeff M's and Greg O's Bear Bust, 4-8 pm The Chain Drive	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Gospel Fest @ The Rainbow Cattle Co.	16	17	18 Bear Pub Crawl @ The Rainbow Cattle Co.	19	20	21 Texas Lone Star Bears Anniversary San Antonio
22	23	24	25	26 BNO Trudy's, 8800 No Burnet 7 pm	27	28 Eeyore's 38 th Annual Birthday Party
29	30					

2001