

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears HEART OF TEXAS BEARS—FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I want to thank Rick Davis for the passionate speech he delivered at our quarterly meeting held in January. Rick had noticed I included my last name in the January Bear Briefs. Rick spoke to us of the importance of this simple act, the message it sends to our community and how as a proud gay man he also wants his last name published when we refer to him. After September 11th I thought of what if Mark Bingham had been a HOT Bear member and after his heroic courage on UA flight 93 we would refer to him as Mark "B"?

After Rick spoke, a few negative "concerns" were voiced and I am ashamed that my initial response was asking Rick if he would head up a committee to study this issue. What a middle of the road jerk I had become.

It hit me that we were letting a very few dictate policy so I polled the HOT Bear members in attendance and the majority wants their last name published in the newsletter. Please contact the HOT Bear secretary—Garreth Hunter—if you do not want your name published.

In closing, I want to thank Jeff Maki for his friendship and for all the hard work he put into getting this Club off the ground when it was reformed. I wish him and Greg only the best in California and in all this life has to offer.

Hugs,

Ed Burleson

BEARS DAY OUT-2 FEBRUARY

Austin Diner, 10 a.m. 5408 Burnet Road Still in the same location, Laura's Bluebonnet Kitchen is now called the Austin Diner. There was some confusion last month because they finally put the new sign up. It seems that the eatery changed hands over a year ago but no matter what they want to call it, it is still one of the best and favorite foraging spots for the HOT Bears.

BEAR BUST-10 FEBRUARY

Chain Drive 504 Willow, 4-8 p.m. Meet up with old friends, make a few new ones or find that special Valentine during the monthly HOT Bear Bust. Get a dollar draft from one of our own HOT Beartenders and remember the Chain Drive has drink specials seven days a week.

DIM SUM SUNDAY-17 FEBRUARY

Tien Hong, 11 a.m. 8301 Burnet Road With the large turnout we had when the Dallas Bears were in town

several HOT Bears have asked that we make Sunday Dim Sum a regular event. Tien Hong fills up fast on Sunday morning and after your meal you will understand why. Voted one of the best Chinese restaurants in Austin.

HOT BEAR CRAWL-22 FEBRUARY

'Bout Time, 7 p.m. 9601 North IH-35 For all of our Bear crawling, 'Bout Time has become a once a month standard for the HOT Bears. The only gay bar in North Austin, you never know what to expect or whom you will see. Last month, it was this cute cub from Alaska and two hunks passing through from Houston.

BEARS NIGHT OUT-28 FEBRUARY

Katz's Deli & Bar, 7 p.m. 618 West 6th Street Join the HOT Bears for some of the best eating in Austin. "Katz's Never Kloses!" and is a great place to people watch and check out the art on the walls. Afterwards, maybe a \$3 Long Island at MoMo's upstairs.

BEAR BITS

2nd Wednesday of every month, 7-9 p.m. at the Rainbow Cattle Co.— The Austin Gay, Lesbian Leather Social. They will try to have a demonstration at each monthly social as a way to get folks to interact together.

12 Feb, 7:30 p.m. at the Dobie Theater—Premier of *The Fluffer*, directed by Richard Glatzer and Wash West. Tickets are \$8 for aGLIFF members and \$10 to the public. 14-17 Feb, Let Us Entertain You Weekend—Houston.

15-18 Feb, International Bear Rendezvous 2002. Registration is now closed.

16 Feb, 8 p.m.—Starbucks at La Frontera Shopping Center in Round Rock will offer featured poets and poetry open mic on Saturday nights.

22-24 Feb—TCC Activity Week-end.

BEARTHDAYS AND NEW MEMBEARS

Wish the following HOT Bears a Happy Birthday this month!

Kevin P2/7	
Richard G2/9	
Tom P2/1	1
Karl L	2
Jay R	4
Thomas J	
Aldo W	5
Jeff D	1
Tim R	3
John Cowart	3
Robert C2/2	6

We have three new members this month. Please welcome Tim B, Christopher T and Paul T! This brings our member count to 123 members!





Bear Briefs

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February 2002

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Groundhog Day, BDO 10 am
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Bear Bust 4-8 pm Chain Drive	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16
17 Dim Sum 11 am Tien Hong	18 President's Day	19	20	21	22 Bear Crawl 7 pm 'Bout Time	23
24	25	26	27	28 BNO 7 pm Katz's Deli		