



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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SEPTEMBER 2005

From the Desk of the President



The joke between Steve Rison and myself is "The Gay Agenda". We were having drinks and he was telling me about how exhausting it was getting ready for a party and he had two parties to go to and a play to see and then there was Bears Night Out. I had to remind him of the starving children in China and I had very little pity for him and his social calendar. But it made me realize I am not my parents, they were people who at dusk would close the blinds, draw the curtains and set in front of a television until The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson would end. They never entertained, seldom went out and were boring. The same could be said about people in front of the computer night after night, looking for love? A friend? They usually have "love to take long walks on the beach" and a reference to

"Drama" in their profiles. They are looking to "hook up" but not connect.

Don't get me wrong, I met my partner on-line and I have made some good friends over the years and I think Bear411 is one of the best things on the internet, but for me there is nothing like meeting people in a social setting. You have to have balance.

This is one of the reasons I am so pro Bear Club and I hope people who join are getting some of the same experiences. I enjoy going to a party and throwing one, I have a great time at TBRU and Bear Watch, and I can not say enough about Buzzard's Peak and camping. I feel when all is said and done the only thing that really matters is our memories and shared memories are even better.

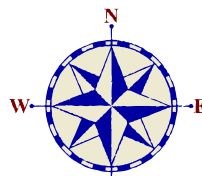
I want to thank Gary and Denny for opening their home and I hope that the Tubin' will become an annual event. We had great fun connecting with the San Antonio Bears and I

look forward to our two Clubs doing more things together.

Thanks to Steve and his co-hosts Jack and Mike for a great Dive-In Movie night.

This month we are going to try some new things and push more Bears to join the HOT Bear Yahoo group. Jack will share his computer skills with us "Techno-peasants" and walk you through the process. And there is going to be a big surprise at our next Bear Bust at the Chain Drive, the theme "Happy Campers". We are also working on membership packages and hopefully those will be ready to review at the Bear Bust. Anyone interested in being a "Buddy Bear" please contact me. This will involve being a buddy for a new member, invite them to a couple of events and answer questions they may have about the group and to make them feel more welcomed. Friendly, outgoing Bears only.

Hugs,
Ed Burleson



Sponsors

The HOT Bears are grateful for the continuing support of the following people and companies. In consideration of their long-time contributions, please support those who support us.

TapeLenders

TapeLenders Video — Outlines

1114 West 5th Street (78703)

(512) 472-0844

www.TapeLenders.com

10% discount with HOT Bear membership card (Sale & Leather Chest items excluded)

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Inside TapeLenders

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11506 Boulder Lane (78726)

512-219-5858 office

amykrause@austin.rr.com

WoofWax.com

Donnie Anderson

254-557-1334



September Birthday Bears

Michael C.9/7	Thom Jones 9/19
Marcus Montemayor ..9/11	Leonard Schlueter 9/21
Karl Gahley.....9/12	Jack Landers 9/26
Allan Dyer9/12	Bob B. 9/27
Bud McMullen.....9/12	Don Tyler..... 9/28
Steve Glaser.....9/14	Mike Hall..... 9/29
Kirk Lammert9/15	

H.O.T.

BEAR BEER BUST

The Happy Campers



Food by The Central Texas boys of leather

Sunday Sept. 11 4-8 pm

Door Prizes
50 cent Draft

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 3

Bears Day Out breakfast at 10am at **Trudy's North Star Restaurant & Bar**, 8820 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78757, (512) 454-1474. Join us at Trudy's for their great breakfast buffet!

Sunday, September 11

Monthly Bear Beer Bust at the Chain Drive (504 Willow Drive, Austin, TX 78701) from 4pm — 8pm. Join the Bears at our home bar for **\$0.50** draft beer. Come on down and end your weekend enjoying the afternoon with your Bear Brothers.

Friday, September 16

Bear Bar Crawl. Join the Bears for an evening at 'Bout Time (9601 IH-35 N, Austin, TX 78753). They have a free buffet starting at 6pm and Happy Hour runs though 8pm. 'Bout Time is a "neighborhood bar" located on IH-35 just north of Rundberg. Come out and relax with the Bears after a long, hard work week!

Saturday, September 17

Bear Movie Night! Join us at **The Blue Buddha Lounge** for the movie *Kung Fu Hustle*. It's BYOB and set-ups will be provided. Bring an Asian dish or order Chinese take-out when you get there! Mickey and John are co-hosting this potluck movie night at Marcus and Ed's house. The fun starts at 7pm.

Wednesday, September 21

Bear Coffee. For a change of pace, join some of your Bear friends for coffee this Wednesday, September 21 at 7pm ("bear time"). We'll be meeting at **Spider House**, (2908 Fruth St., Austin, TX 78705) which is located just north of the campus area in Central Austin and offers a wide selection of food and drinks in a unique Austin atmosphere. Make mine a double (espresso, that is).

September 22 — 25

The Bears of San Antonio are hosting their 3rd annual trek to South Padre Island. The host hotel is the Upper Deck and the overflow hotel is the Budget Host. Join them for fun and games around the hotel and on the beach. For more information go to www.BearsOfSanAntonio.net.

Thursday, September 29

Bears Night Out dinner this month is at the new **Whole Foods** downtown (525 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78703) at 5th and Lamar. They have several different prepared food areas, with a big selection for hungry bears. Plus, the dessert selections are **not** to be missed! See you at the main entrance at 7pm.

September 30 — October 8

aGLIFF. The 18th annual Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival will be held at the Arbor Theatre from the 30th through October 8th. With a large and diverse selection of films and shorts, there

is something for everyone. Some of our favorite HOT Bear "Dive-In" movies were first shown at the film festival. Visit www.aGLIFF.org for details.

Saturday, October 1

Bears Day Out breakfast at 10am at **Trudy's North Star Restaurant & Bar**, 8820 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78757, (512) 454-1474. Join us at Trudy's for their great breakfast buffet!

October 7 — 9

Back to the Woods... A HOT Bears run at Buzzards' Peak. The HOT Bears will be hosting a run at the TCC Landsite at Buzzards' Peak near Cameron, Texas. Three days and two nights camping under the stars with Bears in the woods. \$65 per person — \$110 cash at the gate. All food, drink, entertainment, and a run pin included. Don't have a tent or trailer? No problem. Stay in the bunkhouse. For more information, please email: bttw@HeartOfTexasBears.org

October 7 — 9

The Leather Knights of Dallas are hosting a run called Camelot XII. This three day run is a fundraiser and will be held at the Dallas Eagle and Club Dallas. There will be shows, games, food, and lots of fun in the three day schedule. Visit www.L LeatherKnights.org for more information. For an application contact info@HeartOfTexasBears.org.

Sign up now!



There is still room!

—
Join us for
"Back to the Woods"

—
A weekend of fun

—
www.HeartOfTexasBears.org/bttw

Signing Up for and Using the HOTBears Yahoo! Group

Hi there Bears! This is Jack Landers, one of the co-moderators of the HOTBears Yahoo! Group. This article is intended to help you through the process of joining the HOTBears Yahoo! Group. If you're already a member, then post a message! ☺

The HOTBears Yahoo! Group is simply a discussion forum set up for the Heart of Texas Bears. It's a way for our members to interact and share ideas "off the calendar" or informally. The messages are still available at the group, so look through them and see how people have used the list. Some have simply talked about things, others have invited their fellow bears to an outing they have decided to spearhead. It's a great way to keep in touch with your fellow HOT Bear members.

Setting Up a Yahoo! ID

If you already have a Yahoo! ID, then skip this section and go to the "Join The HOTBears Yahoo! Group with your Yahoo! ID" section to join the group.

Register for a Yahoo ID: First, go to groups.yahoo.com. At the top, under sign in, it says "New User?" and there's a link beside it that says "Sign Up". Click the "Sign Up" link and fill in the following information:

Create Your Yahoo! ID: First Name, Last Name, Preferred Content (US, other countries) and Gender. These are pretty self-explanatory. Just fill them in.

Yahoo! ID: This is your sign-in name for Yahoo! Groups, and will show beside any messages you post. Remember this name.

Password & Re-type password: This is the password you will use to sign-in to Yahoo Groups. Remember this password.

Yahoo! Mail: Uncheck this box if you don't want another email address.

If You Forget Your Password...: In this section, you will provide your Security Question and answer, your birthday and zip/postal code along with an alternate email address. Yahoo uses this information if you have forgotten your password, and they need to reset and/or email your password to you.

Note that the "alternate email address" also becomes your primary email address for this account. Use the email address where you want your HOTBears Yahoo! Group messages sent. This must be a valid active account. When you have signed up, Yahoo will send an email there that you will need to read and respond to in order to complete your registration. The response is clicking on a link in the email, that will bring you to the Yahoo web pages and validate your account.

Customizing Yahoo!: All the items in this section are optional. Fill them in if you like.

Verify Your Registration: Here you will see a graphic with a word, and the letters will be distorted. Read the word in the graphic as best you can, and type it in the box. This feature is used to prevent automated programs from using this page.

Read the terms of service, then click the "I Agree" button to create an account. If there have been any problems (The Yahoo ID is not available, etc), then correct the errors and try again. When you are successful, you will see a confirmation page. Print this for your records.

When you are finished, go check your email account, and respond to the message from Yahoo (click on the link in the email to validate your account).

Next, sign in to your account, and find the "My Account" link (usually next to the "Sign Out" link). Be sure to check the settings for your account, and especially the "Edit Your Marketing Preferences" under the "Member Information" section. This is where you can **uncheck** all the notices you've been automatically subscribed to when you signed up for your Yahoo ID.

Join the HOTBears Yahoo! Group with your Yahoo! ID

Go to this page to join the group: groups.yahoo.com/group/HOTBears/join

Note that this is an "Age Restricted Area" of Yahoo Groups. You may need to click on an "I Accept" button to acknowledge you are over 18 years of age. Once you are there, you'll have to fill out the following sections:

Yahoo! Profile: Choose the profile you will use for this group. If you have just joined, or have only one profile, then that one will be selected. You may also add a new profile here.

Email Address: Choose the email address you will use for this group. If you have just joined, or have only one email address defined, then it will be selected. You may also add a new email address here. This is the email address that will receive emails, digests and special notices to the group.

Comment To Owner: This section will appear if you are signing up, but not responding to an invitation to join the group (more on that later). In this section, please tell us your First and Last name, and the email address you provided when you joined the Heart Of Texas Bears (not the Yahoo! Group, the club). What we're looking for here is enough information to validate that you are a current member of the Heart Of Texas Bears. Additional identifying information will be appreciated. We must have enough information about you to verify your HOT Bears membership. If we cannot identify you as a current member of the HOT Bears, then we will send you an email (from CommBear@HeartOfTexasBears.org) to ask for additional information. If you are not a current member of the HOT Bears, then you will be denied membership in the HOTBears Yahoo! Group.

Message Delivery: Here is where you choose how your messages will be delivered. When you choose "Individual email", then each email posted to the group will be reflected to your email address. When you choose "Daily Digest", then a digest of messages will be sent periodically to your email. If you choose "Special notices", then only special notices will be sent to your email address. Finally, if you choose "No Email", then no messages will be sent to your email address. Instead, you will have to go to the web page for the group (groups.yahoo.com/group/HOTBears) to read the messages that have been posted.

Message Format: This is where you choose the format of the email you receive from the group. If you choose "Do not convert to HTML", then no conversion is done on your email before it is sent to you. If you choose "Convert to HTML", then the messages are formatted like a web page with color and

(Continued on page 5)

HOTBears Yahoo! Group...

(Continued from page 4)

graphics before they are sent to you.

Word Verification: Here you will see a graphic with a word, and the letters will be distorted. Read the word in the graphic as best you can, and type it in the box. This feature is used to prevent automated programs from using this page.

Click on the "Join" button, and you will be queued for approval to join. The moderators will approve you as soon as they can, and you will receive a confirmation email.

Join the HOTBears Yahoo! Group without a Yahoo! ID

If you wish to subscribe without setting up a Yahoo! ID, then you may send an email to **HOTBears-subscribe@yahoogroups.com** (include the hyphen in the address). In the email, please include your first and last name, and the email address you provided when you joined the HOT Bears. This will allow the moderators to verify that you are a current member of the Heart Of Texas Bears and approve your subscription. (See "Comment To Owner", above)

Note that when you subscribe in this mode (without a Yahoo! ID), you will not be able to select digest or use the group web features. Yahoo! Groups web features include:

- Message management — easily control the frequency of email messages you receive.
- Membership management — easily join or leave groups, all in one place.

- More — get access to message archives, photos, files, calendars, polls and more.

Note that if you use this e-mail subscription method, you will be queued for approval to join. The moderators will approve you as soon as they can.

Join the HOTBears Yahoo! Group using an invitation

Finally, you may have been sent an invitation to join the group via email from the moderator of the HOTBears Group (for example, when you join the HOT Bears for the first time). Just follow the instructions on the invitation to join using your Yahoo! ID. If you don't already have a Yahoo! ID, you'll be given an opportunity to create one. Since you are pre-approved by the invitation, you become a member of the group immediately. The invitation expires in seven days.

If you have any problems joining the new HOTBears Yahoo! Group, then please contact the moderator of the group at **CommBear@HeartOfTexasBears.org**. The Communications Bears and HOTBears Yahoo! Group moderators will do their best to assist!

We certainly hope you will join the discussion among your fellow HOT Bears and look forward to reading your contributions.

— Jack



The View from Buzzards' Peak

Back to the Woods Deadline!

Hey men! You have only a short time to register for Heart of Texas Bears- Back to the Woods (October 7-9). In order to have as many HOT Bear Members at the run, I am extending, to members only, the early registration date to September 23. After that, the fee jumps to \$110 cash only at the gate. Remember- this is for H.O.T. Bear members only. At the time of this writing, we are 60% full and applications are coming in on a regular basis. The cut off is 100 men (but there can be exceptions, so don't give up).

News from Buzzards Peak

There was a quarterly Texas Conference of Clubs board meeting in July. I attended as the HOT Bears delegate and was required to vote on several key issues concerning management of the land and fees imposed on permanent campers. There was also the introduction of the new bylaws that will simplify decision making. As you might know, the TCC is made up of almost 20 clubs from around Texas, as well as 30 plus independent members.

It takes a lot to keep this all volunteer organization going. There is an elected board comprised of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. There are also elected

positions for Land Management.

Land management plays a major part in the running of the conference. Its decisions govern the use of the land and its also has responsibility to manage the resources that make the runs so comfortable (water, electricity, buildings, etc). The conference has been around for 23 years and will continue into the future only with the involvement of the various clubs who are members like the HOT Bears.

It is with this in mind that a decision was made to use "A Gathering of Clubs" as the theme for **LONE STAR** the most important run of the year as far as Texas Conference of Clubs is concerned. It is through this Memorial Day weekend campout that the majority of the money is raised to keep the campground going. To encourage as many clubs to participate as possible, it has been decided that there will be a \$20 discount to anyone who is a member of the conference. That include YOU- members of H.O.T. Bears. So, your annual \$25 membership is now worth a substantial discount at one of the best runs of the year. It's a great weekend and is the "Cadillac" of the runs.

Back to the Woods is going to be a blast! I encourage you all to attend and return for Lone Star on Memorial Day in 2006.

—Peter (BTTW@HeartOfTexasBears.org)



Heart Of Texas Bears Back to the Woods '05

Run Application and Agreement



HOTB- Back to the Woods camp out will be held at the Texas Conference of Clubs (TCC) landsite at Buzzards' Peak from October 7-9, 2005. The landsite is located near Cameron, Texas and is convenient to Austin, San Antonio,

Dallas, and Houston. Facilities include showers, toilets, walk in cooler, ice machine, kitchen, and a pole barn. All facilities and many campsites are handicap accessible.

This is an outdoor, camping event. We expect that all attendees treat the land with respect. Littering and/or causing harm to wildlife will not be tolerated. We expect that you will keep a clean campsite and leave the land as good or better than it was when you arrived.

The entire weekend is provided by volunteers. Treat your servers and hosts accordingly. Jump in and help out if you see something that requires it. Your help will be appreciated and remembered.

For medical emergencies, there will be an on-site EMT. For severe cases, there is a good hospital 15 min away.

Basic fee includes a campsite, meals on Friday evening, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning, entertainment, and a run pin.

Please note that the road into the landsite is not paved and larger RVs will have limited maneuverability.

We attempt to limit attendance to 100 people.

All sites and facilities are provided on a first come, first serve basis at the time of check in.

Official check in starts at Noon on Friday. If you would like to arrive earlier, please call to make arrangements.

By signing this application, you certify that you are at least 21 years of age, and agree not to bring any pets, firearms, explosives or illegal substances of any kind whatsoever on to the Texas Conference of Clubs premises. You agree to comply with all applicable laws of the various governmental agencies during "HOTB- Back to the Woods", and while on the premises. You also agree to be solely responsible for any and all personal property whatsoever that you bring to "HOTB-Back to the Woods". You agree to hold blameless the Texas Conference of Clubs and Heart of Texas Bears, their officers and members, their member clubs, a member of a member club, independent or commercial members, from any and all liability in the event of your accidental injury or death while on the premises.

Questions? e-mail: BTTW@HeartOfTexasBears.org

phone: Peter @ 512-996-9347

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

Base Run Fees:

- ___ \$65 if received by September 7
- ___ \$85 if received by September 23
- ___ \$110 after September 23 or at the gate

Options (available on a first come first serve basis)

- ___ \$15 Bunkhouse accommodations (advance notice required)
- ___ \$10 Electrical hook-up
- ___ \$35 RV Electrical hook-up (limited areas)

Total Enclosed:

\$

For the purposes of book keeping, please fill out one application per person and enclose separate checks for each participant. Make checks payable to HOTB-Back to the Woods, mail to:

HOTB- Back to the Woods
Post Office Box 684391
Austin, Texas 78768-4391

There is a \$25 fee for returned checks. All fees must be paid in advance before entry is permitted. This outdoor event will be held rain or shine. Except in the unlikely instance of event cancellation, all fees are non-refundable- but are transferable to another attendee with written permission.

Admission to this event is contingent upon acceptance of this application by HOTB who reserves the right to accept or reject any application solely at its discretion. Violation of any of the provisions in this agreement shall constitute grounds for immediate expulsion from the TCC grounds.

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Email (for confirmation)

Club Affiliation

Expected Arrival Time

I will be staying in (circle one):

Tent Bunkhouse Camper (Size _____)

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions as stated in this application.

Signature/Date



A proud member of the
Texas Conference of Clubs
texasconferenceofclubs.com

September

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
View the latest calendar information for this month and future months at the online calendar on the HOT Bears web site				1	2	3 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast Trudy's North Star, 8820 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78757 512.454.1474
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9 TCC Cowtown Leathermen – Cowsilla Queen Of The Stockyard	10 TCC Cowtown Leathermen – Cowsilla Queen Of The Stockyard
11 TCC Cowtown Leathermen – Cowsilla Queen Of The Stockyard 4-8p: Bear Bust The Chain Drive 504 Willow Street Austin, TX 78701 512.480.9017	12	13	14	15	16 6p: Bear Bar Crawl 'Bout Time Happy Hour 2-8pm 9601 IH-35 N. Austin, TX 78753 512.832.5339	17 7p: Dive-In Movie at The Blue Buddha Lounge
18	19	20	21 7p: Bears Coffee Spider House 2908 Fruth St. Austin, TX 78705 512.480.9562	22 Bears to the Coast	23 Bears to the Coast TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout	24 Bears to the Coast TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout
25 Bears to the Coast TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout	26	27	28	29 7p: Bears Night Out at Whole Foods Market Downtown 525 N. Lamar Austin, 78703. 512.476.1206	30 aGLIFF 2005	1 aGLIFF 2005

2005