



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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TeleBear: (512) 473-3815

July 2000

Out of Town Events

July 2000

21-23 Bear Bash
Valinor Farm, Pa.
MetroBears, New York
metrobears@metrobears.org

28-30 Bear Trap VI
Raleigh, NC
Carolina Bear Lodge
www.carolinabears.com

August 2000

4-6 Bears in the Park
Harrisburg, Pa.
Susquehanna Valley Bears
sybears@sybears.com

4-6 Teddy Bear Picnic
Toronto, Ontario, CA
Bear Buddies Toronto
pomdbears@direct.com

4-7 Bears in the Keys 6
Key West, Florida
www.BearsInTheKeys.com

4-7 FurFest 2000
Fredericton,
New Brunswick, Canada
East Coast Bears

11-13 Bears in the Woods
Santa Cruz, California
South Bay Bears
info@southbaybears.org

11-13 Sun Bears Weekend 2000
San Diego, California
Bears San Diego
bearssd@bearssd.org

18-20 Motown Bear Cruise
Detroit, Michigan
Motor City Bears
www.MotorCityBears.com

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July Quarterly General Membership Meeting

When: Sunday,
July 9th,
1:00 pm
Where: Austin History Center
O'Henry Room
9th and Lavaca

The next HOT Bear Quarterly Membership Meeting will be at our regular location at the Austin History Center. The meeting will be in the O'Henry room, starting at 1pm.

The HOT Bears will be inaugurating the new officers that were elected at the April meeting. Past and ongoing club business will be discussed, as well as plans for the upcoming year.

The quarterly meetings are your best opportunity to have direct input with the

officers about your ideas and concerns about the running of the club.

We need your participation to keep the HOT Bears a fresh and lively organization. Show your support by attending this important event.

Bears Well Represented At Gay Pride

The HOT Bears manned a table in June for Austin's Gay Pride event. As an Austin club, we were proud and glad to be seen among all the other local gay organizations our town has to offer. The rental fee for our space was a donation to the Allen Calkin fund

through LGRL.

We had a good number of visitors to our table, several picking up brochures and applications. It probably helped that we were next to tables for NLA Austin and LOBO, but I think it was due to the fine representation by our

club (it got kinda cozy for an hour during the cloudburst).

Thanks to Jon M-C, James P., Garreth H., Marcus M., Ed B., Jeff D., Karl L., Leonard S., Rafael J., Scott C., and all the bears who volunteered on a hot summer day.

What's a Bear? (Part 2)

Way back in 1997 Steve Kluth (sek@i1.net) posted a humorous follow-up to a message on the Bears Mailing List entitled, "What's a Bear?". Here is a copy of that posting, printed with permission. This is part 2 of his posting.

Country bear (Ursus nashvillia) - Often confused with *ursus butchus*. This bear invariably drives a pickup truck. Always wears a cowboy hat or ballcap. Also owns more boots than Imelda Marcos had shoes. Takes great pride in his roots

and usually has traditional values. This bear does not give his love easily, but when he does it is worth it. Can often be found in straight dance halls, teaching everyone the latest line dance. Hard-to-spot in the

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August 2000

24-28 **AYISTOS 2000**
Istanbul, Turkey
Bears of Turkey
ayistos@ayilar.net

September 2000

15-17 **Bearadise**
Oklahoma City, OK
Red Earth Bears
www.RedEarthBears.org

22-24 **Virgin Fur**
Cincinnati, OH
River Bears Cincinnati
riverbears@members.
gayweb.com

October 2000

6-8 **OctobearFest 2000**
Denver, Colorado
Front Range Bears
www.FrontRangeBears.com

19-23 **Bear Bust 2000**
Orlando, Florida
Bears of Central Florida
www.bocf.com

For more events, see:
www.resourcesforbears.com/
BEARCAL/

July Birthday Bears

- 7/4 Mack R.
- 7/9 Larry N.
- 7/19 Frank C.
- 7/22 Toshio N.
- 7/26 Shawn F.
- 7/26 Jeremy M.

A big Woof to each of you!

Bears Night Out

When: Thursday,
July 27th,
7:00 pm
Where: China Star
6134 Highway 290
East (between I-35
and Cameron Road)
(512) 706-4545

After going Italian in June, the HOT Bears are going Chinese this month.

China Star serves a large variety of Chinese dishes at reasonable prices.

China Star is located on Highway 290 East, between I-35 and Cameron Road. From I-35, turn east on 290 (away from Highland Mall).

Take the U-turn at Cameron Road, heading back towards I-35. China Star is on the right.



Hot Bear Member Wins Mr. Lonestar Contest

The HOT Bears and the Bad Boys made a good showing for Austin at the TCC Lonestar 13 campout over Memorial Day Weekend. Our joint cocktail party Friday night was a big success, judging by the large number of campers we attracted.

One of our members entered and won the Mr. Lonestar leather contest on Sunday evening. Kirk L. was shocked to learn he will be wearing the Mr. Lonestar sash for the next year.



He promises to show it off in the near future at one of our HOT Bear events (now, if we can only get him to do it in the same outfit he wore on stage! WOOF!).

Look for photos of Lonestar 13 and Kirk in our showcase soon.

Bears at the Movies

When: Saturday,
July 22th,
Around 7:00 pm
Where: Call TeleBear or
check the web

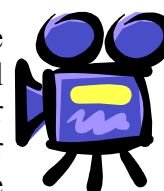
Movie & Theater to be announced. Due to low attendance when

we have had this event in the middle of the week, we are trying something different for July.

Let's try meeting for a late afternoon matinee on Saturday,

July 22nd.

Be sure to call Telebear or check our web page for movie selection and location.



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crowd, but his steps and kicks are just a little more sharp than the rest. Usually mates for long periods.

Geek bear (Ursus techno) - Easily the most comfortable with today's gadgets, the geek bear knows more science than Bill Nye. Handy to know and befriend, as this bear can reassemble computer net-

works, put together stereos, and hang track lighting. Usually ultra-functional, his den may still use concrete blocks and plywood for shelving. Young geek bears are often not very social, since many grew up with few friends. Therefore, ursus techno often has a more difficult time dealing with the bear within than any other bear, even the

rugged bear. Young geeks are often found in bars by themselves, drinking a cola or mixed drink and wearing a uniform of tee shirt, jeans and sneakers. Trusting to a fault, they tend to be idealists. Will give you the shirt off his back if you ask. Good bear to mate with, but make sure to keep him away from strangers who might take

advantage of him.

Faerie bear (Ursus naturalus) - This rare bear looks more out of place than any other bear found in cities. But that's because he's most comfortable in nature. Would prefer never to need clothing. His hair and beard are usually unkempt because he likes it that way. Unusu-

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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.

Leather Chest
6th off San Jacinto
Austin, TX
(512) 478-2261

Phil Nelson
Registered Massage Therapist
(512) 416-0402

Dr. Chocolate
4001 N Lamar Blvd, Suite 500
Austin, TX 78756
(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

July Bear Bust

When: Sunday,
July 9th,
4:00 - 8:00 pm
Where: The Chain Drive

Our monthly Bear Bust falls on July 9th this month. Come on down to the Chain Drive to cool off with \$1.00 draft beer in the

company of the HOT Bears. We will be filling in as bartenders at the back bar this month.

The 50/50 raffle is your opportunity to win some quick cash, and have some fun watching bears get measured (or

getting measured yourself).

As usual, the CD will be serving food hot off the grill. Take a break from the weekend chores and join us for an afternoon.

Steve And Ron's Summer Splash Pool Party

Cool down with the HOT Bears at Steve and Ron's Summer Splash Pool Party on Saturday, July 15th.

Bears and friends of bears will start gathering at Grayrock South at 2pm, and will end when all the bears have gone home, hopefully well past midnight. So come

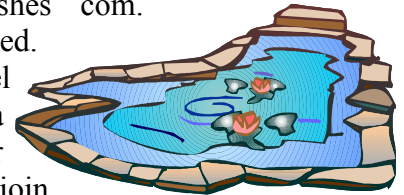
early or come late, just come.

K e g b e e r , hamburgers, hot dogs, and sodas will be provided. Contributions and/or pot luck dishes are always appreciated.

Bring a towel and either a swimsuit or your birthday suit, and join us for some festive

summer fun, fur and frolic!

For directions or more information, call Steve or Ron or e-mail then at barebears@aol.com.



ally loving and giving. Rarely possessive. Tend to dislike authority and often do not deal well with captivity. Often found in packs with other faerie bears in isolated, rural areas. If you run across a pack in a rural area, don't be afraid. They'll be more than happy to welcome you into their circle.

Muscle bear (Ursus maximus) - Unlike most bears, for whom a few added pounds are just more to love, this bear wants his body to be sculpted. For him, it is important for his body to be in great shape. Often the strongest bears around. He also eats more healthy and shuns the diet of other bears. Vain ones can be trapped with mirrors into which they will stare at themselves for

hours. But most muscle bears are just into looking good because it's what feels good to them. Rarely found with other bears. Usually very quiet. Often mate for long periods with other muscle bears.

Mother bear (Ursus mammadus) - Affectionately known as mom bears, these bears are unusually loving and giving. Usually keep a better stocked larder than other bears. If you ail, these bears will take care of you. Also good when you just need someone to talk to. Rarely found single, since other bears fall in love with them easily. This is by no means a complete compendium of bear varieties. New bear varieties are still being discovered. Also, cross-

breeding has produced numerous combinations of bear mutts. However, bear mutts are often better than pedigrees and more interesting.

Remember: Not all bears can survive in captivity. Some bears will seem fine, but sneak out to interstate rest stops and adult book stores when you are not around and return to their cages before you get home. Others prefer mutual captivity. Find out from your bear if he must occasionally heed the call of the wild before you take him in. Nasty bearfights have occurred to those who have disregarded this warning.

(Still more to come next month)

July Bears Day Out & First Saturday Brunch

When: Saturday,
June 3rd,
10:00 am

Where: Hoover's Cooking
2002 Manor Road
(512) 479-5006



Our First Saturday Brunch has started to rival our BNO in attendance. The June brunch saw 18 bears enjoying each others company and a hearty breakfast.

Afterwards, some of us went down to the Pecan Street Festival; others ran off to the movies to see Gladiator. As this will be a holiday weekend, we will leave it up to those attending

the July brunch to choose amongst the many activities happening that weekend.

Have a great Fourth of July!

Bear Decadence 2000

Just a short note to let you know that the New Orleans Bear & Bear Trapper Social Club will once again be having its Annual Bear Run, "Bear Decadence 2000" during Southern Decadence weekend (Sept. 1-4).

The cost of the Run

package is \$50 (until July 30th, then it increases to \$65). The Run Package gets you a Run shirt, Run Pin, and entry into all Run events, which include (so far) four cocktail parties, a Beer Bust, catered Dinner & "Sire Ursus of Decadence"

contest, the infamous Arctophile Party, Club and Vendor Day, a catered Breakfast and participation in the parade.

If any of your members might be interested in attending, they can e-mail me at stormybehr@aol.com

and I'll be more than happy to give them more info, or answer any questions that they might have!

Hope to see lotsa your Bears here!

Reece Price,
(President NOBBTSC)

Bearly Brief Book Reviews (by Jon M-C.)

It's been hard to find anything good to read so far this year. Out of 9 since January, I have only 1 to recommend. And I wanted to talk briefly about 2 awful one that were especially frustrating since chunks of them were excellent.

War Boy by Kief Hillsbery (Harper Collins Publishers)

This is nothing but another wannabe gen-x novel with a gay subtheme; anybody who matters is young and extraordinarily muscular. Most of *War Boy's* first 2/3s seems like a overdone attempt to say "Look! Gay guys can be butch counter-culture sk8boarders too!" That gay men can be as masculine

as straight men is not news to most of us. Who is impressed with swaggering skinheads whose affects say "I'm gay! Can you believe somebody as buff as me is gay?" Characters are one dimensional and overwrought at the same time. One of the more interesting details, Radboy's deafness, is oddly underdeveloped, making me wonder why it was included in his characterization at all.

The God in Flight by Laura Argiri (Random House)

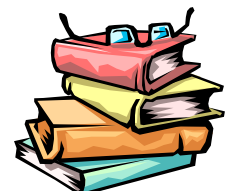
If you like Harlequin romances and Gordon Merrick novels, you might like this one. Melodrama, dark stormy nights, and histrionics are its

underpinnings. What's extra frustrating to me is that Simion's story of growing up a prodigy, threatening the tenuous sensibilities of his fundamentalist, alcoholic father, was interesting and promised more. That promise dies a slow, ugly death when he, Simion, ends up running into Doriskos's arms as they were eternally destined to do. I've seen flavored-coffee commercials that were less sappy and sentimental.

The Celibate by Michael Arditti (Soho Press)

It's hard to talk about what this impressive book is about without immediately giving the wrong impression. The

central action is of an unnamed seminarian-narrator's search for the narrow, unforgiving God in his head. Once he begins to address his gayness, he finds instead something bigger and truer. He finds a state of grace, to put it in religious terms, but other ways of saying it are "self actualization," "nirvana," or maybe "universal connectedness." Mercifully, this is not a book about religion; it's more about escaping the limits of religion to find something more genuine.



July

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 Bears Day Out & 1 st Sat. Brunch 10am Hoovers 2002 Manor Rd
2	3	4 Independence Day!	5	6	7	8
9 Membership Meeting – 1pm Austin History Ctr Bear Bust 4-8pm – Chain Drive	10	11	12	13	14 Bastille Day	15 Steve & Ron’s Summer Splash Pool Party – 2pm until ?
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Bears @ the Movies – Sat. Matinee – Time & Theater TBA
23	24	25	26	27 Bears Night Out – 7pm China Star 6134 E. Hwy 290 (near I-35 & Highland Mall)	28	29
30	31					

2000