



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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December 2000

Out of Town Events

December 2000

11/25-12/17

Holiday Boat Caroling

Admission: Free
Phone: 210-227-4262 x 102

Address: Riverwalk
Various youth, church, and civic groups will fill the air with Christmas carols, as they sing along the River Walk from river barges

1-17 Fiesta de las Luminarias

Admission: Free
Hour: dusk
Phone: 210-227-4262

Address: Riverwalk
Sand filled luminarias bags lighted with candles light up the sidewalks along the River Walk at dusk on the first three weekends in December.

10 Las Posadas

Hour: 6 pm
Phone: 210-224-6163
Address: Riverwalk

Presented by the Conservation Society, this 1 night candle-lit procession is led by children costumed as members of the Holy Family, the procession begins to search for an inn at the renowned La Mansion del Rio Hotel and concludes at the Arneson River Theater. The procession is joined by choirs, local residents, visitors, and thousands of spectators.

January 2001

12-15 2001 Fiesta de los Osos
Bears of the Old Pueblo
Tucson AZ
www.botop.com

March 2001

29-1 Texas Bear Round Up
Dallas Bears
www.DallasBears.org

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

Bears' Day Out – A Day At The Wimberly Market

When: Saturday,
December 2nd,
10:00 am

Where: Golden Corral
3607 South Lamar

As many of you know the ever-popular Bear Brunch on Bears' Day Out is under transition. In October we met at Waterloo Ice House and had some visiting members from Houston (Bert M and HuzBear) and San Antonio (Rick B). We decided to check out the Golden Corral as a possible eatery for a monthly brunch.

Last month, we ate at the City Café in Elgin on our way to the Fall Meeting of the Texas Conference of

Clubs @ Buzzard's Peak, the TCC campground outside Cameron.

Now we resume the hunt for a suitable bear bistro with brunch at the Golden Corral at 3607 S Lamar Blvd. It's the E side of Lamar 2 blocks N of Ben White. After brunch we will be off to invade the beautiful Texas Hill Country for a day at the Wimberly Market. You can get a map at brunch but we will try to carpool. The December Market is the last until next Spring. Chances are you'll find that perfect Holiday present for that Special Someone. The last time I went I found a huge bear who turned me

into putty in his massage chair. Now *that* would be some gift certificate to find stuffed in your stocking!

By the way, there are 2 Golden Corrals in Austin and one in Round Rock. The Austin locations are both easily accessible via I-35 (oxymoron) and are roughly equidistant from Hancock Center. If we like the Corral, we can meet at the location closest to the route we are taking on that particular BDO. If you have better suggestions, by all means come and make them. As in nearly all Club matters, simple majority vote of the members present decides the location.

– Annual Holiday Party – December 16th –

For the second year in a row, our gracious hosts, past vice president Marcus M and our current vice president, Ed B are treating the Club to a sumptuous smorgasbord of traditional and not-so-traditional Holiday delicacies. Better get yourself scrubbed up all squeaky clean and shiny, don your gay apparel, and don't forget your bear's appetite! Prospective

members are welcome; we'll have membership applications on hand!

This is the time to savor the Spirit of the Season in the company of bears! Come sit on Santa Bear's lap for a take-home "Polaroid Moment". This may well turn out to be the event of the year! This Holiday Party starts at 7pm.

Does anybody want to be Santa Bear? If so, you

know what to do!

Please RSVP to let Marcus and Ed know if you plan to attend. See the calendar page for directions. Parking is where you can find it. Please be mindful of the neighbors driveways. We will be providing all food and drink; no need to bring anything unless you want something really exotic.

Bears At The Movies – Potluck & Chinese Stocking Exchange

When: Saturday,
December 23rd
Starting at 7pm

Where: Ray & Frank's House
for the potluck

This event hinges on the success of the November movie potluck. If we do not have a good turnout this event will be cancelled. Please watch for

details to be announced as the date approaches.

The potluck will be held at the home of Ray K. and Frank M. at 7pm.

Bears Night Out — A Special Holiday Potluck

When: Thursday,
December 28th,
7:00 pm

Where: Bud & Laslo's House

What fun we had on our Caribbean cruise at Bahama Breeze for the October BNO! We enjoyed a good turnout and some tasty treats, and while we got scattered to small tables in

the same general area of the restaurant, we managed to have ourselves another satisfying bear meal. The atmosphere was not exactly conducive to discussion on the location for the December BNO, and many left before we could actually vote.

Because this BNO falls

during the Holidays, we are having a special Potluck on Thursday, December 28th at the home of Bud Mc and Laslo.

Bud is providing spiral-sliced ham, plates, cups and napkins. If you plan to attend please email the Club to find out what to bring.

We will be coordinating

appetizers, side dishes to go with the ham, deserts, breads, salads, soft drinks, ice, coffee and mixers. The party starts at 7pm, like any other BNO and ends at 10pm. Bud has offered his home for after-hours if anybody is interested.

Bear Bust—Featuring “A Holiday Toast” & “Santa’s Twisted Playhouse”

When: Sunday,
December 10th,
4:00 — 8:00 pm

Where: The Chain Drive
504 Willow Street
(512) 480-9017

Can one bear possibly get too much good cheer during the

holidays? In honor of the Season we host a Special “Holiday Toast” along with our usual 4 to 8 pm Bear Bust. Y’all crawl out of your dens early enough to come on out for a festive brunch, some sparkling punch and a contest to see (and hear!)

who comes up with the best Toast to the Season. Prizes for Funniest Toast, Wisest Toast, Most Poignant Toast, and Overall Best Toast! We will also present Santa’s playhouse where you can sit on Santa’s lap for a photo opportunity. Santa’s elf and

bear helpers will liven up the scene and create Holiday merriment and havoc!

The suggested costume for Santa’s Twisted Playhouse is red long john underwear with accessories.

Lots of Little Bear Bits...

Saturday Dec 9 Daddy Bear Contest at Mary’s *naturally!* For our travelling bears this sounds like a fun evening if you are in Houston. It falls on the monthly Houston Area Bears social weekend at their home bar but is hosted by the Texas Lone Star Bears. The bearhunt is on for “Mr Texas Lone Star Daddy Bear 2000”. Come back the next day, Sunday, December 10, for the HAB Sunday Social – or maybe wake up there??

TCC Fall Meeting. The day threatened rain on already swollen creeks and low-water crossings in Milam County, but Mike B and HOTB president Rafael J represented the Club at the Fall meeting of the Texas Conference of Clubs, held Nov. 4th at the TCC campground, Buzzard’s Peak. There were at least 10 member clubs answering roll call. No project was in the works for the weekend but plans are underway for much-requested improvement of the electrical supply to the camping areas.

TCC Annual Meeting. The TCC Annual (Winter) Meeting is set for Buzzard’s Peak on January 20, 1 pm as usual. It will be a regular activity weekend, which means overnight camping is free if you bring all your own gear and food and drink. It may be freezing cold, but the bunkhouse will be set up with propane heat, just in case.

Is anybody interested in being an official delegate of the HOTBears to the Texas Conference of Clubs? Send us an email!

Lone Star 14 — “A Masquerade Fantasy.” Well campers and party hardy boys, next Memorial Day weekend will see Lone Star 14 unfold under the guise of “A Masquerade Fantasy”. The HOTBears and the Bad Boys made a big impression with our co-hosted back-to-back cocktail parties at Lone Star 13 (the Bears’ debut!) Once again we have an opportunity to

host a cocktail party and this time they are also looking for clubs to host one of the meals during the weekend. Some of the meals are already reserved so we need to act while we can still have a selection.

If anyone is interested in this project, please email the Club. We need to submit a menu and an alternate menu, which will be coordinated by the Run. All the food will be bought by the Run and be ready to go onsite. All we’d have to do is cook and serve and clean up. Good PR if you can get it!

Just FYI Lone Star 15, Memorial Day weekend 2001, will be combined with the 15th Annual Run sponsored by the Firedancers of Dallas and will be called “Firestar 15”. The Bylaws of TCC were suspended so that the event can be called something other than “Lone Star”.

HOTB Bear Weekend at Buzzard’s Peak. The HOTBears have been toying with the idea of hosting a bear campout at Buzzard’s Peak. Now that we are a member club of TCC we are in the position of being able to choose a date and submit a landsite reservation application. If we decide to shoot for Spring 2001, we have to get our reservation to TCC in time for a vote at the Annual Meeting January 20. Every application requires an approval by majority vote of the clubs, therefore any date has to be approved at the Quarterly meeting preceding the proposed date. This represents a huge step for the Club. We need to know if the members are serious about having this kind of event. It will take a lot of organization, a lot of work and a lot of people making the commitment in order to have a successful “run” at Buzzard’s Peak or anywhere else.



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

Lobo
3204A Guadalupe
Austin, TX 78705

December Birthdays

Carl H.....5
Kirk S.....7
Randy B.....7
TJ R.....7
Phil N.....9
Rafael T.....9
Rick D.....11
Larry H.....14
Victor A.....14
Peter T.....16
Peter L.....18
Jose L.....21
Phillip R.....21
Andrew A.....26

A big Woof to each of you!

Reality Check from the Vice President

The following is a letter from Ed B, in response to a Board discussion about the HOTB Halloween Costume Party. Apparently the Club has not been diligent in working to keep partygoers in line with simple etiquette.

We are required, as a condition of our right to exist as a State-chartered organization, to "sponsor and promote social and recreational activities for its members". This does not include the right to get naked and have sex during a party! We are not naming names or pointing fingers here, we simply wish to remind all our members that all Club events are DIP, unless clearly stated otherwise.

A host may open his home to after-hours for the members at his own discretion, for a DOP party or *whatever*. What those who stay choose to do is of no concern to the Club, once the end-time for the Club event is passed and everybody who does not want to stay has a chance to make a polite exit. Because it reflects Board opinion, in lieu of an official statement from the president or the Board, we elect to share this open and frank letter. Please take it to heart in good

humor and take no personal offense.

FYI, in case you did not know, a **DIP** party is one where you keep your Dick Inside your Pants. A **DOP** party is where you may have your Dick Outside your Pants, if you are wearing any. Please understand that it is the Board's wish that there be No sex *during* Club parties, anywhere, ever.

I hate writing this. I am not Miss Manners, the Morals Police, a prude, or Julie, your cruise director on The Love Boat.

What I am is the vice president of the Heart of Texas Bears. It is not a hard job. Most of the time I smile and look good, but it also involves working with the other officers and the membership trying to find common ground and making the experience of being a Heart of Texas Bear an enjoyable one for us all.

I believe whatever consenting adults want to do sexually is their business. I believe that most men are dogs. And, I believe that a man's home is his castle.

Anyone care to guess where I'm going with this? I don't think it is my

responsibility to break up a spontaneous orgy in the home of someone who has agreed to open it to the Bears. I don't think I should have to remind anyone to respect a host's home and possessions. But, I will if asked to do so.

As members of the Bears we all need to remember one word: respect. Respect for each other and respect for the homes we are invited into.

From now on if any of you agree to open your homes for a Bear party and you have a problem with any inappropriate behavior, sexual or otherwise, please let the officers and the other members know. I don't think this should be or become an issue.

The Bear Club for me is one of friendship and being able to be open and honest. If anyone takes offense at being told how to behave (because they can't keep it in their pants) then they need to stay home and shit in their cages.

I am not a writer but I think everyone now knows where I stand on this.

Hugs, Ed

Pre-Millennium Potluck & Hot Tub / Hot Pool Gala

Saturday, December 30th

We had a grrreat turnout for the Pre-Millennium 2000 Potluck Pool Party (not to mention too much fun!) so we just have to go back and splash into the New Millenium *really*, at the home of Jamie R and Glenn S.

Last year's event was a replacement for our regular Bears' Night Out. It was by far the biggest BNO ever at over 50 in attendance! This

time everybody pitches in on food and drink (except bring your own booze) and the Club provides plates, flatware, napkins, and coffee.

Please email the Club for suggestions on what to bring bring. This will help insure a "rounded" menu with no excess or lack of anything.

Our hosts assure us both the pool and the hot tub will be heated up so you don't

need to be a Polar bear, even if it turns out to be a cold night! Bring your swimsuit (or not) and a big towel or bathrobe.

The fun begins with dinner at **7pm**, followed by swimming and luxuriating in the spa until **10pm**.

Jamie and Glenn are happy to host after-hours for you friskier bears who want to stay and play into the evening.

December

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 World AIDS Day Body Count – 6:30pm at Barton Springs Pool	2 Bears Day Out 10am at Golden Corral (South Lamar) then Wimberley Mrkt
3 Zilker Park Tree Lighting	4	5	6	7	8	9 CCMC “American Holiday” program (Dec 9 & 10)
10 Bear Bust with Santa & Holiday Toast Contest 4-8pm at the Chain Drive	11 Zilker Park Trail of Lights (Dec 10-23)	12	13	14	15	16 Annual Holiday Party 7pm, hosted by Marcus & Ed (please <i>RSVP</i>)
17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice	22 First Day Of Chanukah	23 Movie Potluck & Chinese Stocking Exchange 7pm at Ray & Frank’s house
24	25 Christmas Day	26 First Day Of Kwanzaa	27	28 Bears Night Out - Potluck 7pm at the home of Bud Mc.	29	30 Potluck and Pool Party 7pm, hosted by Glenn & Jamie
31 New Year’s Eve						

2000