



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

P.O. Box 684391, Austin TX 78768-4391

e-mail: INFO@HEARTOFTEXASBEARS.ORG

web: WWW.HEARTOFTEXASBEARS.ORG

FEBRUARY 2004

From The President's Desk

One of the things I like best about this time of year is knowing the colder weather is almost behind us. Another is gathering information and planning for all of the events open to our members in the spring and early summer months. There are a number of events that foster opportunities to socialize with other members of our organization here in Austin and in nearby cities hosting events. Locally just around the corner for us is our anniversary dinner and the preparations for that very successful event, Also on the horizon is the annual TOGA party. Let's not forget TBRU-Dallas and LUEY-Houston which have always proven to be fun weekends. Last years success in Austin's Pride parade coupled with the great time we had in Dallas participating in the Pride Festival there have a few of us thinking about adding the Houston Pride parade to our list of annual events. If you need more information on any of the events please contact one of the officers. We will endeavor to note the dates on

our calendar well in advance to assist you in planning which events you want to participate.

Some of you may know that Bill Bohrer has stepped forward to become our new Webmaster. I along with the Executive Board, Jack Landers and Mike Hall (who assumed responsibilities in the absence of a Webmaster) want to welcome, thank and offer our assistance however possible in helping Bill with his new duties.

I know that Steve Rison, our Vice President has contributed to the newsletter this month via our new Bear Growl column. In doing so he has entitled his writing Batter's Up. Personally I had wanted to expand upon this theme and would like to offer the following for consideration. I realize that some of our members may not for any number of reasons feel comfortable hosting one of our regularly scheduled monthly events. What I would like for our members to think about is the possibility of co-hosting and event. What I

mean by this is that if you would like to host an event but you are uncomfortable with hosting at your own residence that you let one of the officers know and we might be able to arrange a co host whereby you assume the responsibility for hosting in another members home. I think that if we had more sharing of the monthly gatherings perhaps some other members might want to participate.

In closing I would like to thank Bud McMullen for hosting what I hope will be a delicious and fun event. If you haven't read your upcoming notices, Bud is hosting a desert contest at his home on February 14th. Bring your favorite home made desert along with the recipe. You might win the Southwest Airlines ticket that Bud has offered to the best desert creator.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the many planned events this month.

Tom Bolt,
President

Valentine's Dessert Contest – Win an airline ticket!

For those Bears looking for something different on our calendar, this just may be the "ticket!" Bud McMullen is hosting a homemade dessert party/contest on Saturday, February 14th at his home starting at 7:00 p.m. This party

is open to members and guests *but* only current dues-paying members can qualify to win a Southwest Airlines ticket to any place Southwest flies in the United States. All desserts must be homemade and Bud requests, that in order for it to

be a truly deserving contest, at least 15 entries will be judged by three member judges. So, get out your cookbooks, your pots and pans and bring your favorite Valentine's dessert and join the fun.

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 Austin

TapeLenders Video – Outlines
1114 West 5th Street (78703)
(512) 472-0844
www.TapeLendersAustin.com
10% discount on all items with
HOT Bear membership card

The Leather Chest

Inside TapeLenders
1114 W. 5th St. (78703)

Phil Nelson

Registered Massage Therapist
(512) 301-3376

Dr. Chocolate

1715 West 35th Street (78703)
Directly across from Capra & Cavelli
(512) 454-0555
www.Dr-Chocolate.com

The Summit House

Bed & Breakfast
1204 Summit Street (78741)
(512) 445-5304
summit.home.texas.net

Chain Drive

504 Willow Street (78701)
(512) 480-9017

Lobo

3204A Guadalupe (78705)

Amy Krause

Mortgages Direct
Mortgage Consultant
11506 Boulder Lane (78726)
512-219-5858 office
amykrause@austin.rr.com



Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, February 7

Bears Day Out breakfast at 10am. This month we are again having breakfast at the **Luby's** at 8176 North MoPac Expressway, 78759 (MoPac at Steck Ave).

Sunday, February 8

Monthly Bear Beer Bust at the Chain Drive (504 Willow Drive) from 4pm — 8pm. Join the Bears at our home bar for \$.50 draft beer. We need at least two volunteers to help out during a couple of shifts.

Saturday, February 14

Happy Valentine's Day! Join us for a dessert contest at Bud McMullen's house starting at 7pm. Bring a homemade dessert. Prize (free airline ticket!) to the best dessert. More details in the article on page one.

Saturday, February 21

Bears Movie Night at Leonard Schlueter's house. Bring some food and a movie to share. The fun starts at 7pm.

Thursday, February 26

Bears Night Out dinner will be central this month. We'll eat at EZ's restaurant, which is located across from Central Market. Their address is 3918 North Lamar. Join us at 7pm for some great food!

Saturday, February 28

Bears Game Night at Bill Bohrer and Tom Parker's house. Bring some food and a game or two to share. The fun starts at 7pm.

Saturday, April 17

Plan Ahead: Our 6th Anniversary Dinner will held at 8pm, after the Quarterly Business meeting, where we'll be electing new club officers. It will be held at Steve Rison's house and will be catered. More information and cost will appear in next month's Bear Briefs.

Saturday, April 10

Also plan ahead for Steve's 9th Annual Toga Party. Steve has graciously invited all of the Bears to attend the party. Look for more information next month.

Bear Growl – Batter's Up

"Bear Growl" is a new column in the Bear Briefs where any member can express their views, thoughts, and opinions. This month our Vice President, Steve, has some things to share...

Remember when we were learning to type that ever familiar line... "now is the time to come to the aid of your country?" Well, anyway, that was the practice line I started out learning my typing. In any case, with a slight adjustment it seems like an appropriate line to use now in regards to our club in that now is the time to come to the aid of your

fellow bear brothers. What I am talking about is the upcoming election.

The most critical time of the year is just about upon us as we contemplate who will lead and represent us as the leadership team for the coming year. We have a membership that exceeds a hundred bears and an itinerary that has included a myriad of successful events from parties, parades, game nights, movie nights, dinners, breakfast, Bear contests, camping runs and an assortment of other gatherings. These events take organization and commitment and the sacrifice of time and energy of many individuals especially the leadership teams.

Over the years many have stepped up to the plate and offered their contributions in time and service to keep this organization healthy and growing. We have achieved a positive can-do reputation internally among

the membership and have earned the respect of the gay and bear communities both locally and around the state. The challenge now is to continue on this path of success and move forward.

I would like, therefore, to ask all members to really search their own reservoirs of time and energy and there closest comrades to consider running and perhaps serving a term as a H.O.T Bear officer.

I won't deny that there isn't some sacrifice of time and energy to get all these things accomplished but there is a growing support system of dedicated bears, both former officers and others, who are ready, willing and anxious to help and support the new team.

So if you have an inkling to give it a try and give a little something more back to this organization—please identify your interest and consider running for an office, volunteering to serve on one of the standing or special events committees, and most definitely come to the next quarterly meeting, Saturday, April 17th @ Steve's house 1507 Fairfield Dr. Austin @ 6:00p.m. to support the team

that will be elected to lead us for the next year. Nominations, according to our by-laws, must be received by March 17th for the election to take place on April 17th.

Thanking you all in advance for your spirit of contribution in regards to this important issue.

Bear Hugs,
Steve Rison
Vice-President,
Heart of Texas Bears

If you would like to express your views / opinions in this "Bear Growl" space, please send your article to [BearBriefs@HeartOfTexasBears.org](mailto: BearBriefs@HeartOfTexasBears.org).



February

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast (Lubys, 8176 N. MoPac Expy)
8 4-8p: Bear Bust (Chain Drive, 504 Willow Street)	9	10	11	12	13	14 7p: Valentine's Day Dessert Contest at Bud M°M's Home
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 7p: Bear Movie Night at Leonard S's Home
22	23	24	25	26 7p: Bears Night Out at EZ's Restaurant, 3918 North Lamar	27	28 7p: Bear Game Night at Tom P and Bill B's Home
29						

View the latest calendar information for this month and future months at the online calendar on the HOT Bears web site

2004