



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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MARCH 2004

From The President's Desk

This month the officers thought that with the elections of new officers approaching it might be appropriate to take this time to tell you about each of the offices. Our bylaws require that a list of nominees for each of the offices be in place by March 17th, 2004. We hope that with this information any of you who have hesitated to offer your services in these positions due to a lack of information might feel more comfortable stepping forward. Thanks in advance to those of you who have already let us know of your interest.

The **President** is responsible for setting and presiding over general meetings of the organization held quarterly. In addition the president may call executive meetings each month, as has been our practice for a number of years. These monthly executive meetings are designed to facilitate the routine business of the club. The president may create standing ad hoc committees and appoint the chairs of such committees. The president is also the chief financial officer and responsible for the clubs financial well being. In addition the President may be asked to represent the organization at local events such as the Austin Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. The president is also responsible for penning "From the

President's Desk" each month for the Bear Brief, along with coordinating the content of the monthly newsletter. The president prepares the upcoming events section of the Bear Briefs used to publicize social events. Although there is great responsibility with the office there is a great reward in having the opportunity to promote our organization. I have enjoyed my term.

The **Vice-President**, though not having some of the defined specific responsibilities of the other offices, has a very important role as facilitating, assisting and picking up the "slack" (i.e. all those other things that need to get done to help the organization run smoothly). I believe the role is further defined by the type of administration that is collectively agreed upon by all the officers at any particular time. This administration has truly been a collective effort, which means the president and vice-president, work closely and consult together on all major decisions in conjunction with the secretary and treasurer. The Vice-President usually calls the restaurants and facilitates our Bears Night Out evenings as well as heads up the activities committee which co-ordinates and plans our various events and activities throughout the year.

The **Treasurer** serves at the pleasures of the Administration (agenda set by the President and the VP.) The Treasurer maintains the post office box and the checking account. He works closely with the Secretary on applications coming from the P.O. Box and he holds all club merchandise. The Treasurer is responsible for monthly financial statements (including bank balance) to be presented at board meetings, and performs monthly bank reconciliations. The books are maintained in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet/workbook. The Treasurer also sets-up for the monthly (Second Sunday) Bear Beer Busts at the Chain Drive, and remains there to reconcile cash sales for the bar (and tips for the club), he also tips-out the BarBack at the conclusion of each Bear Beer Bust. The Treasurer chairs the ad hoc Finance Committee and reports to the Board on behalf of this Committee. The Treasurer also carries available merchandise to Club events, is responsible for this inventory and its sales.

The **Secretary** maintains the club records and manages club correspondence. The first part primarily means keeping the roster up-to-date and accurate, adding new members as they join and removing former members after their membership has

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.

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

RSVP for the
Anniversary Dinner

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Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, March 6

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, March 14

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, March 20

Bears Game Night Tom Bolt's house. Bring a snack and a game to share. The fun starts at 7pm.

Thursday, March 25

Bears Night Out dinner will be south this month. We'll be eating at the Manchaca Firehall (we did say "south" this month!). If you've not eaten there before, you'll enjoy it. It's good cooking at a good price. They are located on 1310 Fm 1626, Manchaca, TX 78652. Their phone number is 512-282-3600.

Thursday, March 25 – Sunday, March 28

TBRU: Texas Bear Round-Up. Join the Dallas Bears for their 9th annual run. Details at www.tbbru.org.

Saturday, April 4

Bears Day Out breakfast at 10am at Luby's.

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 appears in another article in this issue.

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.

Birthday Bears

John Cowart.....	2/23
Steve Cronin.....	2/5
Kevin Gallagher.....	2/22
Vernon Hurrell.....	2/20
Bill McConnaughay.....	2/3
Fred Niemiec.....	2/14
Tom Parker.....	2/11
Jay Robinson.....	2/14
Tim Ryan.....	2/23
Ed Burleson.....	3/5
Mike Kirk.....	3/9
Troy New.....	3/31
CJ Phillips.....	3/20
Glen Shaw.....	3/5
Jade Yost.....	3/11

New Members

Michael Rowley
Mark B.
Peter Reid
Bill McConnaughay
Bob Scott
John Fuller
Victor Hart
Bill Stone

HOT Bears 6th Annual Anniversary Dinner

On behalf of the board of the Heart of Texas Bears, I would like to personally invite you to share an evening of camaraderie and fun at the 6th Annual Anniversary Dinner and Party to be held Saturday, April 17th, 8:00 p.m. at the home of Steve Rison, 1507 Fairfield Dr., Austin, Texas. The Bar-B-Q Dinner is a catered event and tickets are \$15.00 requiring an R.S.V.P. before April 2nd. The dinner and recognition events will be

followed by a party with keg beer and soft drinks being provided. We all hope you can join us for this annual event which will allow us to catch up with each other, party, and look forward to the summer activities.

We will be sending you a special Evite regarding this occasion. Please make use of the RSVP option so that we may accurately reflect attendance per our agreement with the caterer. Your RSVP

assures us that you will be in attendance and if for any reason you are unable to attend that your dinner is covered. Payment in advance is encouraged and you may do so at any bear event prior to the dinner by contacting one of the officers in attendance. Thank you in advance and we sure do hope to see you there.

Sincerely, Tom Bolt
President



From The President's Desk (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

expired. It also includes taking minutes of all quarterly meetings. The Secretary receives all membership applications and keeps them on file along with other important club documents. The second job, managing correspondence, is one of the most critical jobs of any board member. The Secretary maintains the club mailing list and distributes all of the emails that go out to the membership including monthly newsletters, weekly event reminders, and special

announcements. He also receives all incoming email that is sent to the club via the website and is responsible for seeing that any emails requiring a reply receive one. The office of Secretary is perhaps the most time-consuming one, requiring almost daily activity to keep all records and correspondence up-to-date. It also requires a degree of diplomacy and tact, as the Secretary is often the first person a potential member interacts with, and his correspondence with members and non-members alike

represents both the board and the club as a whole.

Though these roles are not glamorous they are essential to the ongoing functioning of a volunteer social organization and require a dedication of time and a spirit of camaraderie. The rewards are measured in the appreciation of your fellow bears brothers who benefit from the ongoing smoothly run and jam-packed year of memorable activities which allow us to share fun times with those of like minds and temperament in a

somewhat hectic and often anonymous outer world. Taking a step forward from the general membership to an officer position affords you an opportunity to know the organization and its membership more intimately and contributes to the positive expansion of the circle of those who can make more of an impact on the direction of the organization in the future.

Tom Bolt,
President

New Club Logo T-Shirts

Order your new Club Logo T-shirt **today!** The shirts pictured show our new, smaller and embroidered logo on the upper left front of the shirt. Also pictured is our very own Bruno. He is also embroidered in the same location. Our official club shirts are black, but we may be offering other colors, as well, in the near future.

Orders will be accepted by email (treasurer@HeartOfTexasBears.org) or letter to the Treasurer (no phone orders please.). The shirts are \$15 and will be collected from you when you pick up your shirt. Be certain to put your **size** on the order; any size is acceptable up to 4X.

The Treasurer will place the request with our new vendor only when 20 or more orders are received.

So order
your new
T-Shirt
today!



March

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 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast (Lubys, 8176 N. MoPac Expy)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 4-8p: Bear Bust (Chain Drive, 504 Willow Street)	15	16	17 Deadline for officer nominations to be submitted to the secretary	18	19	20 7p: Bear Game Night at Tom B's Home
21	22	23	24	25 TBRU - Dallas 7p: Bears Night Out Manchaca Fire Hall Kitchen, 1310 FM 1626 (Manchaca Rd), Manchaca, TX 78748	26 TBRU - Dallas	27 TBRU - Dallas
28 TBRU - Dallas	29	30	31			

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

2004