



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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DECEMBER 2006

From the President's Desk



As I write this I am flooded with memories of Christmases past. A few were magical but all in all growing up in the mountains of Virginia was not the best of times. As I got older I fell into the trap that everyone needed a present

from me, I had to send out cards and for months afterwards I resented the debt and lack of reciprocation.

One year I didn't do the presents, I didn't mail out the glad tidings, I didn't put up a tree or drag out the decorations. Instead I knew a couple that was behind on their rent. I paid them up, got their utilities turned back on and took them grocery shopping. I even gave them my company ham and tin of Danish shortbread cookies. Three months later I was rewarded for my kindness. They broke into my apartment and stole my stereo equipment and hundreds of albums.

The next year I gave all of the Christmas decorations to a woman I worked with and went to Key West and for many years the holidays was just a great excuse to get out of town.

Slowly I started forming my own holiday rituals and they are subject to change. I no longer feel that I am being held hostage to the hype. I am grateful for my friends and enjoy sharing within this group. And I am thankful life is not as hard as it once was and that my heart did not grow cold because of a few knuckleheads.

Now it is time to haul boxes out of the attic, dust off the cowboy boots for Holiday Swing and round up the stuffed bears to give to the kids. I'll put on some jazzy Christmas tunes, plan a menu or two and go buy something stupid at Sam's. My mind will drift to world conflicts and I will meditate on peace and I will pray for our troops. And at some moment I will remember the little boy from the mountains, dancing in the snow. I will hear the mix of sleet and snow falling on the pines in my grandparents woods and my favorite Christmas hymn "I wonder as I wander". I will get teary eyed thinking of where I came from and relieved about the direction I am heading. Mostly I will think about how blessed I am.

Seasons Greetings,
Ed Burlison



HOT Bears Christmas Party

Saturday, December 16, 2006

It's time for our annual Holiday Party! This year Steve and Eric have graciously opened their home to the HOT Bears for our Holiday Party.

We'll be collecting teddy bears for children again. They will be donated to **CASA** — Court Appointed Special Advocates. They sure appreciated them last year, and made sure each teddy bear connected with a special kid.

At the party, we'll have both non-alcoholic and alcoholic punches available, along with soda, mixers and set-ups. For all other tastes, by all means, BYOB.



This year the HOT Bears are having the main dishes catered. Bears who wish may bring along either an appetizer or a dessert to share.

Parking is on the street. Please be sure to avoid parking on the grass or blocking driveways in this curbless neighborhood.

We're looking forward to celebrating the Holiday Season with our fellow Bears!

Check your email for an Evite from the HOT Bears. Please respond to it so we can get a count of the people attending. *Thanks!*

Ho Ho Ho! WOOF & GRRRR!



Sponsors

The HOT Bears are grateful for the continuing support of the following people and companies. Please support those who support us.

TapeLenders

TapeLenders Video — Outlines—Skivvies
1114 West 5th Street (78703)
(512) 472-0844

www.TapeLenders.com
10% discount with HOT Bear membership card (Sale items excluded)

Chain Drive

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

Cockpit

113 San Jacinto (78701)
(512) 457-8010

Midtowne Spa of Austin

5815 Airport Blvd. (78752)
(512) 302-9696
www.midtowne-spa.com/austin

Phil Nelson

Registered Massage Therapist
(512) 301-3376

Steve Hales

Realtor — Keller Williams
1801 S. Mopac Expwy #100 (78746)
(512) 330-1055 Direct
(512) 786-9687 Mobile
SteveHales@kw.com

Amy Krause

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

WoofWax.com

Donnie Anderson
(254) 557-1334

Chad Cardani

Realtor — Parrish and Associates
(512) 442-2000
chadcardani.com

The Woodward

Hotel & Conference Center
3401 South I-35 (78741)
(800) 966-3927
WoodwardAustin.com

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 2

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, December 10

Monthly Bear Beer Bust at the Chain Drive (504 Willow Drive, Austin, TX 78701) from 4pm — 8pm. Join the Bears for **\$0.50** draft beer. Come on down and end your weekend enjoying the afternoon with your Bear Brothers. This month **Santa** will be there! Come sit on Santa's lap and tell him what you *really* want for Christmas. Have you been a naughty bear?

Wednesday, December 13

Coffee With Da' Bears! Join your Bear Brothers for some friendship, fun, and caffeine. This month we are going to

La Tazza Fresca. It's a nice little coffee house on the corner of Guadalupe and 37th Street; right next door to the "Groovy Lube." See you there at 7pm. After some coffee we'll walk up 37th Street to see all of the Christmas lights.



Saturday, December 16

The annual **HOT Bears Christmas Party.** See the article on **page one** for details and see your members' only calendar for time and location. Also, check your email for an Evite invitation, to help us get a count of who's attending.

Saturday, December 23

2nd Bear Breakfast at 10am at **Austin Diner**, 5408 Burnet Road, Austin 78756, (512) 467-9552. This "2nd breakfast" for the month has become pretty popular. Join us for some great breakfast cooking and lots of Bear Brotherhood!

Thursday, December 28

This month for "Bears Night Out" we're going back to a bear favorite. Join us at 7pm at **Hoover's Cooking!** They are located just east of IH-35 at 2002 Manor Road, Austin, 78722. Their phone number is 479-5006.

New Years Eve Weekend

Fire & Ice. An annual, informal campout at the TCC Landsite at Buzzards' Peak.

Saturday, January 6

Bears Day Out breakfast at 10am at **Trudy's North Star Restaurant & Bar.**



Pictures from the 3rd Annual UnRun and the Mr. HOT Bear Contest

December Birthday Bears

Robert Downey..... 12/3	Rick Davis..... 12/11
Thom Sloan..... 12/4	Eric Greatsinger..... 12/12
Kirk Sinclair 12/7	Steven Virostko 12/16
Steve Hales..... 12/9	Joseph Smith..... 12/19
Phil Nelson..... 12/9	Glenn N..... 12/24
Ron Redder..... 12/10	Simon Wheatley 12/29



With the Austin Baplist Women



Mr. HOT Bear Contest Winners

Kenny	Grizzly
Kelly	Cub
Harry	Bear
John	Polar



December

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>HOLIDAY PARTY - RSVP via Evite or to CommBear@HeartOfTexasBears.org</p>					1	<p>2 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast Trudy's North Star, 8820 Burnet Road, Austin, TX, 78757 (512) 454-1474</p>
3	4	5	<p>6 7:30p: HOT Board Meeting – North</p>	7	8	9
<p>10 4-8p: Bear Bust The Chain Drive 504 Willow Street Austin, TX 78701 (512) 480-9017</p>	11	12	<p>13 7p: Bear Coffee La Tazza Fresca 519 W. 37th St. Austin, TX, 78705 (512) 453-0403</p>	14	15	<p>16 4-10p: HOTB Holiday Party at Steve & Eric's</p>
17	18	19	<p>20 7p: Bear Coffee Whole Foods Market 525 N. Lamar Austin, 78703 (512) 476-1206</p>	21	22	<p>23 10a: 2nd Breakfast Austin Diner 5408 Burnet Road Austin, TX, 78756 (512) 467-9552</p>
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	<p>28 7p: Bears Night Out Hoover's Cooking 2002 Manor Rd. Austin, TX, 78722 (512) 479-5006</p>	29	<p>30 TCC – Fire & Ice “Enchantment Under The Sea”</p>
<p>31 New Years Eve TCC – Fire & Ice</p>	<p>View the latest calendar information for this month and future months on the HOT Bears web sited Have a Happy And Safe Holiday and Joy and Peace in the New Year</p>					

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