



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

SEPTEMBER 2007

From the President's Den



The Rodeo is Coming to Town!

Get out your hats and boots, the Texas Gay Rodeo Association (TGRA) is hosting the Capital City Rodeo on September 21-23. In addition to

hosting a cocktail party at the host hotel (a HOT Bears sponsor: The Wyndham Garden Hotel), The HOT Bears have been asked to volunteer to do security during the daytime. We are looking for members who are willing to do a shift in the mornings (7:30am-12) or afternoons (12-4:30pm) on Saturday and/or Sunday. In exchange, you will get free admission to the rodeo for the day you volunteer, as well as a t-shirt. Please email me for specific details or to sign up for a slot. The more volunteers we have, the shorter the shifts will be. I am going to do both mornings and look forward to a weekend of camaraderie with TGRA members and attendees. If you cannot make the rodeo, come on down to the poolside cocktail party at the Wyndham. It's on Saturday evening and hosted by the HOT Bears. It's sure to be a great time. We will have a hotel room at the Wyndham as a base of HOT Bear operations for the weekend. Details about time for the party will be emailed in the HOT Bear Happenings.

Woof-Yip-Hi-O-Hi-A!

Member Survey

Also in this issue is an article from James Bryant, our treasurer. He is heading up an online survey to help us continue to make this club the best it can be. Take a look and do the survey. Prizes will be awarded for your participation.

September Birthday Bears

Jaime Nunez.....9/2	Leonard Schlueter9/21
Vincente Vasquez9/2	Jack Landers.....9/26
Marcus Montemayor 9/11	Bob B.....9/27
Bud McMullen.....9/12	Bill Sebring.....9/27
Steve Glaser.....9/14	Mike Hall9/29
Kirk Lammert9/15	

B2W3

Don't forget to sign up for Back 2 the Woods 3. **Sign up now on our website before the rate goes up again on October 1st.** The HOT Bears are hosts for this popular event. Bears and bear admirers come from across Texas (and some outside the state). Just check out the 11 pages of attendees on Bear411.com! A large part of the net proceeds from this event go toward our 10th Anniversary Party/HOT Bear contest/UnRun in April. Ed Burleson and John Cowart have been working hard at putting all the details together. They are looking for volunteers for various tasks during the campout. Email BTTW@HeartOfTexasBears.org for more information.

Bruno

Have you noticed the HOT Bear mascot Bruno in summer HOT Pants? A big thanks to one of our new members, Dig Space, for his effort. Do you have suggestions for other outfits to make Bruno a seasonal bear? If so, send them to us at info@HeartOfTexasBears.org. I wonder what he will be dressed in for the HOT Bear Contest and Anniversary Party in April?

As always, I welcome your notes and emails. Keep 'em coming.

-Peter

president@heartoftexasbears.org

Membership Expired?

Renew! Has your membership expired? Our secretary sends reminders, but I know how it can be- what with the summer and vacation time. If your membership has lapsed, now is the time to renew. We can do a lot with your \$25 annual dues. It is the financial backbone that keeps this club going. -PR



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

Wyndham Garden Hotel – Austin

3401 South I-35 (78741)
(512) 448-2444
WyndhamAustin.com

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 1

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!

Saturday, September 1

Joe Smith and Tom Strauch's **Dive-In Movie** 6pm-2am. They will provide burgers and dogs, mixers and a keg. We will do the usual potluck and BYOB. The movie will be a surprise.

Tuesday, September 4

HOT Bear Board Meeting. Join the officers for their monthly board meeting at 7:15pm. Your input will help make the Club better!

Saturday, September 8

Leonard Schlueter's H.O.T. Dawg Daze of **Summer Social** 7pm-11pm. He will provide Hot Dogs and fixings. We will do potluck of sides and dessert and BYOB. Plenty of room for games or movies, so bring something along! All that attend are asked to bring a can of dog or cat food (better quality) or chew toy to donate to a local animal shelter.

Sunday, September 9

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. Wear your

favorite **cowboy getup** (boots, hat, etc.) and get in the mood for the Cap City Rodeo! YEE HAW!

Saturday, September 15

Guadalupe Toobing! Rescheduled again. We hope the river is finally open! Come join us for a toobing trip down the Guadalupe river starting at 11am. But wait! Gary & Denny have invited the HOT Bears to camp at their homestead on Friday and Saturday nights. **Please see** the article below for more information and a schedule.

Check the HOT Bears' web site for updates. If the river is still not cooperating, we'll spend in the day on Saturday at Schlitterbahn instead of toobing.

Saturday, September 15

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

Wednesday, September 19

Coffee With Da' Bears! Join your Bear Brothers for some friendship, fun, and caffeine (Note: caffeine optional). This month we are heading to **Mozart's** (3825 Lake Austin Blvd.). They offer some great coffee choices and some fabulous desserts! See you there at 7pm. There number is (512) 477-2900.

Friday — Sunday, Sept. 21 — 23

Activity Weekend at the TCC Landsite. Camp out and help work on some improvements for the Landsite.

Friday — Sunday, Sept. 21 — 23

Capital City Rodeo. HOT Bear volunteers are needed to help with daytime security for the weekend and for the cocktail party. Please contact Peter (president@heartoftexasbear.org) or Kelly (vp@heartoftexasbears.org) **Free** entrance for all those who volunteer. Bears will have a hospitality suite at the host Hotel and will be doing a Bear Cocktail party Saturday Night. Visit www.austintgra.org for details about the rodeo.

Thursday, September 27

Bears Night Out dinner this month is near the Chain Drive. We're headed to **Ironworks BBQ** for some great food then we'll head for cocktails and live music at the Drive. See you at 7pm (Bear Time). [100 Red River (Red River and Cesar Chavez), Austin, TX, 78701 (512) 478-4855]

Saturday, October 6

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

Friday—Sunday, October 12 — 14

Back to the Woods 3! Join us for our third campout weekend at the TCC Landsite. Visit the B2W3 web site for details: heartoftexasbears.org/bttw

In Memoriam — Karl Gahley



On Friday, August 24, 2007 around 11am Karl Gahley passed away.

He and his partner Jeff had recently returned from a happy trip out of town when Karl unexpectedly went into the hospital (Seton) on Wednesday.

Jeff and friends visited him, and Karl was in good spirits knowing folks were thinking of him.

Karl was born on September 12, 1968. He's been a member of the Heart of Texas Bears for many years. He has numerous friends in the club and in the community. We are all saddened by the loss of our friend.



Jeff has created an online memorial for Karl's friends to post their thoughts and memories of Karl. Please visit web.mac.com/applejsa to read the postings and add your own.

As you can see from these pictures of Karl, he's been very happy recently.

Please keep Jeff in your thoughts... and give him a hug if you see him out at a Bear event.



A "Sleuth" of Bears, sleuthing out their desires...

How does winning a **FREE REGISTRATION TO BACK TO THE WOODS** grab you?

How about winning one of **FIVE** new **HOT BEAR T-SHIRTS**? If I've peeked your interest read on...

In the last few years the group has grown considerably, from 97 members in July 2005 to 147 members in July 2007. So we are very much now a true "sleuth" of bears. This expansion has been to a large part due to the nurturing of the out going board; Ed Burleson, Jack Landers, Mickey Ferguson and John Cowart. The goal of the out going board when they took on the job of steering the club in 2005, was to increase the membership and to increase the funds of the club in order to extend the wealth of activity that the group undergoes. The outgoing board have promoted and introduced great events such as BTTW and the Unrun.

We have now just completed the change over of the board to the new board. Personally I must say that I have a renewed admiration and understanding of the huge amount of work that the previous board has done for the club. As the new board, we would like to add to the great job that the old board has done. We would like to continue the theme of improving the activities of the group, in addition we would like to further promote the sense of community that we have within the club. To this end we are planning on increasing the variety of our offerings of social and voluntary charitable events.

In view of our goals as a new board and the size of the club, I thought it would be a great time to take stock of what the membership want from their club. As I teach statistics, I thought

that a member survey would be a great way of sleuthing out the wishes of the membership. To this end I have assembled a members survey, addressing the issues of the club activities you enjoy and what you would like to see more of in the club. In addition the survey addresses some broader questions about our "sleuth". For instance, 'What do you peeps get from the club?', 'What are the strengths and weaknesses of the club?', and the ultimate question, 'How would you like to see the club grow & develop in order to keep the club vibrant and energetic for the future?'

The survey is available online at www.HeartOfTexasBears.org/survey from 1st September to 21st September 2007. Once the survey is complete, I will collate the information and present the findings to you all through a series of bear brief articles. In addition, the board will also use the information in order to improve upon our activities for the membership to further promote community and sense of fun within the group.

The survey is modular, so please feel to contribute your views to all or part of the survey. Everyone who participates in the survey will be eligible for the drawing of prizes, which include a free enrollment to BTTW3s (or refund of the basic fees if you have already enrolled) or one of 5 new HOT Bears T-shirts. Names will be pooled and winners drawn randomly. The results will be published in next months *Bear Briefs* – so watch this space...

-James
treasurer@heartoftexasbears.org

Guadalupe River Tubing – Rescheduled – Yes, Again!

Come for the tubing trip, come for the weekend, or just stay one night (Friday or Saturday). It's up to you! **Please note** that tubing on the Guadalupe river is a *physically demanding* activity in the hot Texas sun. If you have *any* concerns that you cannot carry yourself, your tube, and any thing else you bring along (such as an ice chest) down the river for the full five hour trip down the river, then we'd prefer that you stay and participate in the Bear Brotherhood with your Brother Bears in the cool of Gary & Denny's air-conditioned home during the afternoon. Tubing not required — y'all can just visit too! Here's our itinerary:

Friday, September 14

Come pitch your tent at Gary & Denny's starting at **2pm** on Friday. We'll have a group potluck dinner at **7:30pm**. **BYOB**. Stay the night or just come for the potluck.

Saturday September 15

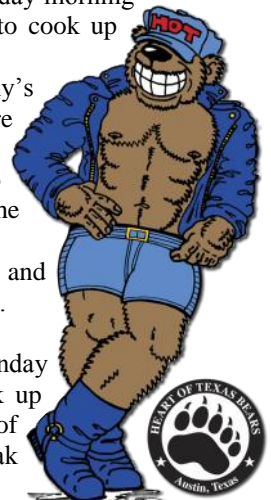
We'll do a group breakfast on Saturday morning starting at **9am**. Bring breakfast foods to cook up and share with everyone.

Gather by **11am** at Gary & Denny's home for tubing on the Guadalupe. There is a **\$10** charge for renting the tubes. Bring sunscreen and drink. Sorry, no glass or polystyrene (coffee cups) on the river. We'll leave for the river at **11am**.

We should return by about **4pm** and we'll have a cookout and bear fellowship.

Sunday September 16

We'll do a group breakfast on Sunday morning. Bring breakfast foods to cook up and share with everyone. With the fuel of a good breakfast, it'll be easy to break camp, pack up, and head back into town!



Let's Hear It For The Bears!!!

The Heart Of Texas Bears entered the 7th annual ACE Weekend TFLT (Texas First Ladies Tea) hat contest this past August, and won best "Out-of-Town" hat. If you have never been to ACE, you should make it a point to do so next year. Check out their website at www.aceweekend.com for more details. The hat contest is a fun event that helps raise money for various San Antonio AIDS related charities. In total there were 9 different hats representing 9 different clubs and charities from all over Texas, and helped to raise over \$750. Be sure to look for our next

hat entry at LUEY Weekend 35 coming up in February in Houston.

GO BEARS!



September

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2nd Breakfast: 5408 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78756 (512) 467-9552</p> <p>Your Input Is Needed! Please take the online survey: www.HeartOfTexasBears.org/survey</p>						<p>1 TCC Lone Star Nudist 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast Trudy's North Star 6p-2a: Dive-In Movie party</p>
<p>2 TCC Lone Star Nudist</p>	<p>3 TCC Lone Star Nudist</p>	<p>4 7:15p: HOT Board Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 7p-11p: Leonard's Summer Social</p>
<p>9 4-8p: Bear Bust The Chain Drive 504 Willow Street Austin, TX 78701 (512) 480-9017</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 TCC Cowtown Leathermen (through September 16th) Guadalupe Tubing 2p onward – Arrive and setup your campsite 7:30p – Potluck Dinner and cocktail party</p>	<p>15 TCC Cowtown 10a: 2nd Breakfast Guadalupe Tubing 9a – Breakfast 11a – Tubing on the Guadalupe River 4p – Cookout and cocktail party</p>
<p>16 TCC Cowtown Guadalupe Tubing 9a – Breakfast</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 7p: Bear Coffee Mozart's 3825 Lake Austin Blvd. Austin, TX (512) 477-2900</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout Capital City Rodeo</p>	<p>22 TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout Capital City Rodeo</p>
<p>23 TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout Capital City Rodeo</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 7p: Bears Night Out Ironworks BBQ 100 Red River Austin, TX, 78701 (512) 478-4855</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>Capital City Rodeo: Bear volunteers needed! please email: president@HeartOfTexasBears.org (visit www.AustinTGRA.org for details)</p>					<p>2007</p>