



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

APRIL 2005

The President's Corner

What a way to end March.

I would like to congratulate Rick Davis – He is Mr. TBRU Polar Bear 2005. Also Shannon Landry – He is Mr. TBRU Bear 2005- then to add icing to the cake – Shannon is also Mr. American Bear!

Again congratulations to you both – you make the Heart of Texas Bears shine! It would be great to have a sweep of all the titles next year!

Also - What a pool party! The pool area was packed. Everyone was giving up compliments from the drinks and service. It seemed like all 800+ showed up for the party.

The Dallas Bears were very helpful in getting every thing set up, providing napkins and runners to keep the punch bowls filled with ice. Thank you to all that helped with the pool party. We really showed the other

clubs what we could do!

Now for April – spring is in the air. Spring is the time for new beginnings and renewals of life.

In a few weeks we will have the quarterly meeting to elect a new board. I wish the new officer-elects the best.

Many of you do not know the work that goes along with being an officer. We all work very hard to make the best decisions for the club. I was very surprised at the amount of work that was required to run the club. It all looked so easy, but is not. There is lots of work and decisions to be made. I would like to thank all the prior officers for all of their hard work to bring the club to where it is today – you have made the current boards work a lot easier.

I want to thank each one of the board members for all of their work for the past year. We have had some drama and some cheers. We worked

through the drama and relished in the cheers. Thankfully there were more cheers than drama. We have all grown from the experience.

While I was at TBRU I had a chance to talk to members of other clubs. We are so far ahead of some of the other clubs. I found we have more planned events and more participation than many other clubs.

Another upcoming event of GREAT importance is the anniversary dinner. This year we will be doing it a little different. More information will be in the edition. I hope to see each of you there. A good time to renew friendships and to meet the new bears!

I hope you all have a great Spring and very few aching muscles from working in the yard or from spring house cleaning.

*Leonard Schlueter
President*

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

TapeLenders Video – Outlines
1114 West 5th Street (78703)
(512) 472-0844
www.TapeLenders.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

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

WoofWax.com

Donnie Anderson
254-557-1334

Third anniversary Shirts... a real find!

Guys, own a small piece of Bear history. These are shirts that the Bears had for the third anniversary party. We have a limited number so order soon, we have seven shirts; three are XXL and four are XXXL. For only \$5.00 you can have a bit of the history of your club!!!

We all know that warmer

weather is coming. We H.O.T. Bears will need cooler shirts. We have a small amount of the tank tops with Bruno in both white and black; one XL and three XXL. They are great for the cubs or the Bears to show their support to the club... and again they are only \$5.00!

*Tom Parker
Treasurer*



You're Invited!!!



**The Heart Of Texas Bears
Seventh Anniversary Party**

**Sunday April 10th
2-8 pm**

**Food
Prizes
Awards
50 cent draft**

Come help us

Celebrate!!!



**CHAIN-
DRIVE**
AUSTIN, TEXAS

504 Willow St.

(512) 480-9017

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 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, April 3

The **HOT Bears Quarterly Business Meeting** will be at 1pm at the offices of AIDS Services of Austin. We will be electing new officers at this meeting, so don't miss it! It's on the first Sunday of the month this time, to make room for our Anniversary Party the following week.

Sunday, April 10

Our annual **HOT Bears Anniversary Party** will be held at the Chain Drive this year in conjunction with our monthly **Bear Beer Bust** at the Chain Drive (504 Willow Drive, 78701) from 2pm — 8pm.. Join the Bears at our home bar for **\$0.50** draft beer. Join us for a fun, furry, full day of great food, awards, games, prizes, and lots of *hot* bears! All proceeds from the food sales will be donated to charity.

April 15-17

Activity weekend at the TCC Landsite. If you'd like to spend a nice weekend camping out at the landsite with friends and helping on some projects around the place, the TCC activity weekends are for you! For more information contact Peter Reid or email the club at info@HeartOfTexasBears.org

April 15-17

Spring LVL Campout - TCC Campsite (Buzzards Peak), Cameron, Texas. The first PWA Campout was held in September of 1995. This was followed by 2 more in 1996. They were put on hold for a few years. This September's Campout, Sept 23rd - 25th, will be the 10th anniversary of the

very first one. The LVL PWA Campouts started back up in 2000. This April's will be the 10th one since we started them back up. Over the last 5 years we have provided many gay men living with HIV/AIDS many enjoyable weekends of fun and relaxation. These weekends have grown to where we are averaging close to 100 campers for the weekends. To the best of my knowledge the LVL PWA Campouts is the only event of this type, geared to gay men living with HIV/AIDS, being offered in the Central U.S. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. LVL PWA Campouts, 715 Pacific Street, Houston, Texas 77006 For more information: contact John Szewczyk, LVL PWA Campout Coordinator, tex4ever@hotmail.com or 713-529-6615

Saturday, April 16

Steve Rison's annual Toga party, **Toga X**. The Bears are invited. See the Members Only calendar for the location.

Thursday, April 28

Bears Night Out dinner is south this month. We're headed to Artz Rib House. It's located at 2330 S. Lamar, Austin, TX 78704. Join us at 7pm for dinner.

Saturday April 30

Eeyore's 42nd Annual Birthday Party is 11am—Dark at Pease Park, 1100 Kingsbury Street, Austin, TX, 78703. An Austin tradition! Come celebrate Eeyore's Birthday and benefit non-profit groups in Austin. See eeyores.sexton.com/05/ for more information, directions, and shuttle bus pickup/drop off locations.

Thursday May 5

The 2005 International AIDS Candlelight Memorial will take place on Sunday, 15 May 2005 from 8pm - 9pm at Republic Square Park.

Volunteers are need for group and individual speakers, singers, poem readers, performing artists, bands, prayer, remembrances, songs, stats, community literature, music, declarations and commitments.

Austin will host its 6th year participation of this event on 15 May 2005, when thousands of individuals in more than 1500 communities in 85 countries will also participate in the world's largest and oldest annual grassroots HIV/AIDS event. The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial is designed to honor the memory of those lost to HIV/AIDS, show support for those living with HIV/AIDS, raise awareness of HIV/AIDS, and mobilize community involvement in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The Global Heath Council has selected this year's theme for the 22nd International Candlelight Memorial Service as: "Turning Remembrance into Action." The local Austin service will host speakers, prayer, music, poems, songs, and candles with loved ones with both new and old friends. This memorial service will honor the memory of those lost to HIV/AIDS, show support for those living with HIV/AIDS, raise more awareness of HIV/AIDS, and help mobilize community involvement in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

For more info on the AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service please visit: www.candlelightmemorial.org.

May 6 – 8

The Trinity River Bears are hosting a run at the TCC Landsite. It's called Bear Trek IV. It promises to be a fun weekend. To register, visit www.TrinityRiverBears.com

May 20 – 22

BearWatch 6, hosted by the Houston Area Bears. It is a weekend of "Fun, Sun, and Bears on the Beach" in Galveston. The HOT Bears will be hosting a cocktail party again this year. You can read more about the event at houstonareabears.com/bearwatch

May 27 – 30

Lonestar 17. This annual run at the TCC Landsite is held over the Memorial Day weekend. This is always a big event at TCC. For more information contact Peter Reid or email the club at info@HeartOfTexasBears.org

Friday June 3

Project Transitions is hosting the 10th Annual Texas Swing at Saengerrunde Hall & Scholz's Bier Garten. See www.projecttransitions.org/texaswing.shtml

July 21 – 24

Bear Jam 2005, hosted by the Music City Bears. This Ye Olde Bear Faire will be held in Nashville, TN. You can read more about the event at <http://www.musiccitybears.com/bearjam.html>

October 7 – 9

Back to the Woods... A HOT Bears run at Buzzards' Peak. As Peter's column in this issue talks about, the HOT Bears will be hosting a run at the TCC Landsite at Buzzards' Peak near Cameron, Texas. Three days and two nights camping under the stars with Bears in the woods. \$60 per person. All food, drink, entertainment, and a run pin included. Don't have a tent or trailer? No problem. Stay in the bunkhouse. For more information, please email: btw@HeartOfTexasBears.org

The View from Buzzards' Peak

[submitted by Peter Reid, aka Mr Grizzly, 2005]

Hello, Men!

In the Bear Briefs this month, there can be found an application to the Back to the Woods Run at the TCC landsite. Feel free to copy it and share it with anyone who would like to enjoy a weekend in the woods with the bears. For additional information, Jack and Mike have put up a website. The direct link is: <http://www.HeartOfTexasBears.org/BTTW>. On the site you will find an application and eventually a run schedule.

I am heading out to TBRU in about an hour. I will miss the Activity Weekend that is once a Month at the Landsite. Activity weekends are once a month. It's the time set aside for members to clean up the place and do various projects from building bridges to raking the leaves.

It's not all work. On Saturday evening, informal potluck dinners are organized and well attended. Someone might throw a cocktail party that evening and invite all at the weekend to enjoy a concoction made in a big vat from the kitchen. If it rains, there will be a dominoes game or a game of cards. In April, the activity run will coincide with a PWA run- one of the free runs aimed at HIV positive folks who could not otherwise afford to go to a weekend. Volunteers are always welcome to help out with this weekend.

During an Activity Weekend, there is always a lot of camaraderie and news shared at the campground. Stories of good times or crisis are always getting added onto over talks around the campfire. Some become legendary. Like the time when a



Our mascot, Bruno, will be used for the Back To The Woods run pin

large 6-foot inflatable penis was floated by helium balloons up and away! Or the time a freak rainstorm hit just before a weekend run and washed the road away- and the volunteers who helped rebuild it in time for the weekend festivities.

There is the story about two of the members were sharing an intimate moment in the compound and a cell phone went off and was answered- but it did not stop them from continuing their activity. The there were the small rainbow colored concrete pigs that were lifted from one of the campsites- and turned up at the end of the path to Buzzards Peak, then returned- but the red pig was no where to be found. It turned up 6 months later when one of the members went into his camping bag to find out why it was so heavy. There are also stories about the swimming pool antics, or the bad coffee, or the fireworks during Fire and Ice (the New Years Weekend Run). Of course, some of the stories cannot be shared here due to their adult content- but that's part of what the Landsite is all about- creating memories.

The next big run is on Memorial Day weekend. It is Lone Star and all proceeds from the run will benefit the TCC Landsite, as it is their biggest fundraiser. (Go to TexasConferenceOfClubs.Com for an application). I encourage you all to go as part of kicking off a great summer and create your own memories- and then head back in the fall for Back to the Woods.

If one of you has a story of the landsite that you would like to share, please call or email it to me. I would like to share it with the new folks who have never been to the site- and do not worry, names will be withheld to protect the innocent-

Peter Reid

BTTW@HeartOfTexasBears.Org 512.996.9347

April Birthday Bears

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| William Braddock 4/2 | Roger Wheeler..... 4/19 |
| Paul Heisel..... 4/4 | Paul Decoux 4/20 |
| Shannon Landry 4/10 | Bob Scott..... 4/24 |
| Mickey Ferguson 4/17 | |

TBRU 10



Photos Copyright BearFilms.com © 2005 Bear Entertainment Dist.

Photos Copyright © 2005 Michael J. Hall -cmjh@io.com>

Heart Of Texas Bears Back to the Woods '05

Run Application and Agreement



HOTB- Back to the Woods camp out will be held at the Texas Conference of Clubs (TCC) landsite at Buzzards' Peak from October 7-9, 2005. The landsite is located near Cameron, Texas and in convenient to Austin, San Antonio,

Dallas, and Houston. Facilities include showers, toilets, walk in cooler, ice machine, kitchen, and a pole barn. All facilities and many campsites are handicap accessible.

This is an outdoor, camping event. We expect that all attendees treat the land with respect. Littering and/or causing harm to wildlife will not be tolerated. We expect that you will keep a clean campsite and leave the land as good or better than it was when you arrived.

The entire weekend is provided by volunteers. Treat your servers and hosts accordingly. Jump in and help out if you see something that requires it. Your help will be appreciated and remembered.

For medical emergencies, there will be an on-site EMT. For severe cases, there is a good hospital 15 min away.

Basic fee includes a campsite, meals on Friday evening, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning, entertainment, and a run pin.

Please note that the road into the landsite is not paved and larger RVs will have limited maneuverability.

We attempt try to limit attendance to 100 people.

All sites and facilities are provided on a first come, first serve basis at the time of check in.

Official check in starts at Noon on Friday. If you would like to arrive earlier, please call to make arrangements.

By signing this application, you certify that you are at least 21 years of age, and agree not to bring any pets, firearms, explosives or illegal substances of any kind whatsoever on to the Texas Conference of Clubs premises. You agree to comply with all applicable laws of the various governmental agencies during "HOTB- Back to the Woods", and while on the premises. You also agree to be solely responsible for any and all personal property whatsoever that you bring to "HOTB-Back to the Woods". You agree to hold blameless the Texas Conference of Clubs and Heart of Texas Bears, their officers and members, their member clubs, a member of a member club, independent or commercial members, from any and all liability in the event of your accidental injury or death while on the premises.

**Questions? e-mail: BTTW@HeartOfTexasBears.org
phone: Peter @ 512-997-9347
www.HeartOfTexasBears.org**

Base Run Fees:

- ___ \$65 if received by September 7
- ___ \$85 if received by September 23
- ___ \$110 after September 23 or at the gate

Options (available on a first come first serve basis)

- ___ \$15 Bunkhouse accommodations (advance notice required)
- ___ \$10 Electrical hook-up
- ___ \$35 RV Electrical hook-up (limited areas)

Total Enclosed:

\$	
----	--

For the purposes of book keeping, please fill out one application per person and enclose separate checks for each participant. Make checks payable to HOTB-Back to the Woods, mail to:

HOTB- Back to the Woods
Post Office Box 684391
Austin, Texas 78768-4391

There is a \$25 fee for returned checks. All fees must be paid in advance before entry is permitted. This outdoor event will be held rain or shine. Except in the unlikely instance of event cancellation, all fees are non-refundable- but are transferable to another attendee with written permission.

Admission to this event is contingent upon acceptance of this application by HOTB who reserves the right to accept or reject any application solely at its discretion. Violation of any of the provisions in this agreement shall constitute grounds for immediate expulsion from the TCC grounds.

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Email (for confirmation)

Club Affiliation

Expected Arrival Time

I will be staying in (circle one):

Tent Bunkhouse Camper (Size _____)

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions as stated in this application.

Signature/Date



A proud member of the
Texas Conference of Clubs
texasconferenceofclubs.com

April

www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>* Quarterly H.O.T. Bear Membership Meeting: 1PM at AIDS Services Austin (ASA) – This Meeting Includes 2005-2006 Officer Elections 7215 Cameron Road, Austin, TX, 78752.</p> <p>** H.O.T. Bear Anniversary Celebration At The Chain Drive – 2PM-8PM</p>					1	2 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast Trudy's North Star, 8820 Burnet Road, Austin, 78757 512.454.1474
3 Daylight Saving Time Begins 1p: Quarterly Membership Meeting at ASA *	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 2-8p: HOTB ** Anniversary & Bear Beer Bust The Chain Drive 504 Willow Street Austin, TX 78701 512.480.9017	11	12	13	14	15 TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout	16 Toga X TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout 1p: TCC Spring Mtg. TCC Landsite 7p: Toga X
17 TCC Activity Weekend TCC PWA Campout	18	19	20	21	22 TCC Discipline Corps Campout	23 TCC Discipline Corps Campout
24 TCC Discipline Corps Campout	25	26	27	28 7p: Bears Night Out Artz Rib House 2330 S. Lamar Austin, TX, 78704 512.442.8283	29	30 11a-Dark: Eeyore's Birthday Party Pease Park 1100 Kingsbury Street Austin, TX, 78703

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

2005