



## The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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NOVEMBER 2004



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See page 3 for the schedule...

### **The President's Corner**

I am keeping the column short this month. There is a lot of information on the UnRun is this issue. That is a lot more important than my ramblings!

We did have a great month - lots was going on!

We had a great Quarterly meeting. Lots of faces that we have not seen in a long time and the best part lots of new faces! Hope you will all come back and bring others. It seems like the hint of food really brings the bears out. We had plenty of snacks.

As most of you have heard Russ resigned for personal reasons. I wish him well. In his place – I appointed Ed Burleson. The club and I will benefit from his experience.

Thanks Ed for stepping in! The UnRun was the major topic of discussion! It is really developing into a great weekend. Lots of hours have gone into the planning! We have commitments from several area clubs to send an officer to be on the judge's panel. Also – lots of guys from out of town will be here. It is a great way to make friends.

We still need volunteers to help with the activities. Please contact Ed Burleson or John Cowart UnRun@ a t HeartOfTexasBears.org to see what is still needed. I really want the weekend to show the other Austin clubs -

that the Bears can throw a on Dec. 11, 2004 at the Erwin party!!!!

Also we had a really good Beer Bust at the Chain Drive. THANK YOU to the bartenders and the decorators. And of course a THANK YOU to the staff at the Chain Drive.

The Board is meeting to schedule future events. Please let us know if you are interested in hosting an event. I know the next several months are going to be busy.

If there are events you would like us to try - let us know.

There are several shows coming to Austin in the next few months - The Trans-Siberian Orchestra will be here

Center. If you have not experienced this group - it is a must see event! And for those that have seen the group - will want to go back again. If anyone is interested let me know.

I have rambled long enough! I look forward to seeing each you at the UnRun events! Bring friends - the more the merrier!!!

I hope each of you have a very Happy Thanksgiving!!!



## **From the Vice President**

I want to thank my fellow officers for thinking of me when the position of vice president became vacant. I will do what I can to make our Club the best that it can be. For me to do this effectively, along with the duties as chairman of the membership committee I need to hear your concerns and will answer questions you may have about memberships or

the UnRun we are trying something new and that is Cohosting. An example of this would be two or three different members decide they would like to have a movie night or game night and work together having the event. The in possibilities are endless and it reflects the core of who we are. a social Club.

hosting a HOT Bear event. For membership committee some with the membership and I

of the things we are working on realize there are Bears out there is a new member packet and putting into action a "Buddy Bear" program. We are also looking into every three months having a welcome event for our new feature for the Bear Briefs newer members, a chance for them to get to know some of the older members, to meet the officers and hopefully make a our first UnRun! new friend. Most of us can As chairman of the reflect back to our first contact

that are as shy as I am. This is where you can now roll your eyes and go "oh please".

And starting this month a where we will spotlight a member each month.

I hope to see everyone at

Hugs. Ed Burleson

## **Donations for Doug's House – Project Transitions**

Most of us are blessed with excellent health, comfortable homes and a wonderful support group of friends. The basics of a good life.

This year at the HOT Bear quarterly meeting everyone in attendance agreed that our fund raising endeavors during the UnRun will be directed to helping Doug's House.

Project Transitions opened Fall Wish List: Doug's House in 1989. People were being turned away from family, friends and even medical professions. Their first

Board of Directors wanted to create a home-like environment that would allow people to die comfortably and with dignity. Last year they had an 85% occupancy rate at the residential hospice which means they have at least four out of five rooms occupied at any given time.

This is Project Transitions

Cloth Bedpads, Wet Vac/ Steam Cleaner, Kitchen-Dining room chairs with arms and

Outdoor patio furniture (table and chairs-green), Household Tools, Movie Tickets, Gaspowered Weed Eater, VCR, Desktop Photocopier, Baby wipes, Adult diapers-pull ups (size medium), Household Paper Products, Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets, Emery Boards, Combs and Picks, Incense, Tall Votive Candles, Cat Food (Fancy Cloth Napkins, Feast), Washcloths, Hair products for be easily transported to any African-Americans, Lip Balm, rollers, CD's, wheelbarrow, Birdbath, No-Slip Decals for boxes for your donations.

Bathtub, Internet Service, Lap Buddy, Cordless Phones, Plastic Shower Curtains, Opcite Patches, Hair Cutting Scissors, Burner Covers for Stove, Small plastic trash cans.

Everyone is looking forward to the fun and brotherhood our first UnRun is going to generate and we hope each of you will make plans to attend all of the events. Most of the items on the Wish List can event and we will have drop off

HOT Bear UnRun: www.HeartOfTexasBears.org

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 12	NOVEMBER 13	NOVEMBER 14
<ul> <li>5p-8p: Meet and Greet the Bears at 'Bout Time during Happy Hour</li> <li>Come and mix with our out of town guests as well as HOT Bear members at 'Bout Time!</li> <li>'Bout Time: 9601 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78753 (512.832.5339)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>10a: Bear Breakfast at Trudy's North Star Trudy's North Star: 8820 Burnett Road, Austin, TX 78757 (512.454.1474)</li> <li>1p-6p: Meat and Grreeet the Bears Pool Party At Ed &amp; Marcus' Pool; Pot Luck &amp; BYOB</li> <li>8p: China Star Buffet Bears China Star: 6134 East Highway 290, Austin, TX 78723 (512.706.4545)</li> <li>10:30p: The 2004 Mr. H.O.T. Bear Contest Chain Drive: 504 Willow St, Austin, TX 78701 (512.480.9017)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2p-6p: Bear Beer Bust @ Chain Drive</li> <li>We're having the Bust earlier in the day this month so our out of town guests can join us. Come out the Chain Drive to close out the UnRun in grand style!</li> <li>4p-6p: Food by The Central Texas Boys Of Leather</li> <li>Chain Drive: 504 Willow Street, Austin, TX 78701 (512.480.9017)</li> </ul>

A ..... This calendar was created to be printed out and put on your refrigerator!

# **Upcoming Events**

### Saturday, November 6

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, November 6

AIDS Services of Austin (ASA) Appreciation Day 11:30am, 7215 Cameron Road, Austin, TX, 78752. The HOT Bears will be performing some maintenance work on the grounds of ASA. This work is a token of our appreciation for the use of their facility for our quarterly meetings and will take place *immediately after* the breakfast. All that we will need to bring is some garden tools and a willing pair of hands. Shovels, rakes, hoes, and power tools will be needed. We will be working on a french drain and doing some general clean-up of the property. Marcus Montemayor and Ed Burleson will be organizing the effort and have promised to make it a fun couple of hours in the fresh air. If it is raining that day, we will postpone until the weekend after the UnRun (the 20th). Come have breakfast with us at Trudy's and then help show our appreciation to ASA for their efforts on behalf of our community. If you can't make it to breakfast, meet us at ASA around 11:30am. If you have questions, please call Ed or Marcus at (512) 491-8888.

#### Friday, November 12 – Sunday, November 14

The HOT Bears "UnRun" weekend. See the mini-calendar above and the other articles in this issue of the Bear Briefs for more information about the weekend and about how you can help! *Be sure to come out to the Chain Drive on Saturday as we crown Mr. HOT Bear,* 

**November Birthday Bears** 

Randall Ellis	11/3
David Gartner	11/23
David Jones	11/8

Ron Koliba	11/3
Robert Mayott	11/23
Tom Strauch	,
	,



PREVIOUS MR. HOT

Grizzly Bear, Polar Bear and Cub for the coming year! The Mr. HOT Bear winner will represent the club at next year's Mr. American Bear Contest at TBRU. For info on how to enter, contact John Cowart at iohn@austinbears.com.

#### Thursday, November 18

Bears Night Out dinner will be a week early this month. We'll eat at *Hickory Street Bar and Grill*, 800 Congress Avenue, (512) 477-8968. Join us at 7p.



## Spotlight Bear for November - Peter Reid

I was chatting with Peter Reid on Bear411 one evening and I asked him if he was going to Rosebud this years at Buzzards Peak. He informed me that it has been cancelled this year. Out of our conversation I asked Peter if he would write a little something about himself and about his involvement at the TCC Landsite. He agreed and Peter Reid is our Spotlight Bear for November — Ed Burleson

After one hellish year of unemployment I decided to get out of New York. I drove out in a blizzard and arrived in Austin to 70 degree weather last February to take a development position in publishing.

I signed up with the HOT Bears to make new friends and start my revised life here in Austin. Some of the members

told me about Peak Buzzards and it sounded a little like Hill Side Campground, a private gay campground in Pennsylvania. The HOT Bears are one of eighteen clubs that are members of The **Texas** Conference of Clubs. Though new friends Paul and Steve. I heard about the Lonestar Leatherman Run being held at the landsite and made

plans to attend.

After a short

drive though the country-and a nature, attending the cocktail few missed turns, we finally parties and shows put on by the found the landsite. We had a participating clubs. Buzzards great time communing with Peak is an oasis, a safe place to

be whatever you want to be-do what ever you want to do and have total freedom in the outdoors-in the company of others.

As an all volunteer organization that brings many gay Texas Clubs together, it has a special quality that no other campground has; there isn't anyone making money from this-it only exists because people come together and make it happen. The landsite is a direct reflection of the TCC organization, it's volunteers, and participants.

I now try to get out to the TCC Landsite at Buzzards Peak at least once a month either for an official Run or during an activity weekend. It rejuvenates me — Peter Reid



	ember	www.He	artOfTexasB	ears.org			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2 0	3	4500	5	6 10a: Bears Day Out Breakfast at Trudy's North Star * 11:30a: Bear Brigade Day at ASA ****	
7	8	9	10	11	<b>12 HOTB UnRun</b> 5-8p: Meet & Greet The Bears at 'Bout Time 9601 North IH 35, Austin, TX, 78753 (512.832.5339)	13 HOTB UnRun 10a: Bear Breakfast Trudy's North Star * 1-6p: Meat & Greeet The Bears Pool Party at Ed & Marcus' Home - Potluck & BYOB ****** 8p:China Star Buffet Bears *** 10:30p: Mr. H.O.T. Bear Contest 2004 Chain Drive **	
14 HOTB UnRun 2-6p: Bear Bust Chain Drive ** 4-6p Food by Central Texas Boys of Leather	15	16	17	18 7p: Bears Night Out Hickory Street Bar & Grille 800 Congress Ave, Austin, TX, 78701 (512.477.8968)	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27	
28	29	30	<ul> <li>* Trudy's North Star: 8820 Burnett Road, Austin, TX 78757 (512.454.1474) (Trudy's is in CrossRoads Shopping Center near Burnett &amp; 183)</li> <li>** Chain Drive: 504 Willow Street, Austin, TX, 78701 (512.480.9017)</li> <li>*** China Star: 6134 East Highway 290, Austin, TX 78723 (512.706.4545) (China Star is in the Northwest quadrant of the I-35 &amp; 290 interchange)</li> </ul>				