



Bear Briefs

The Newsletter of the Heart Of Texas Bears

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SEPTEMBER 2008

And now a word from the Vice President...



One of my duties as VP is to step in and fulfill the duties of President if and when the need arises. And since Peter has decided to "exile" himself somewhere in the middle of the Baltic Sea for the next few weeks aboard a luxury cruise ship... (and yes, I am jealous)... I am writing the cover article this month for the *Briefs*, as

well as declaring martial law, suspending the free press, and demanding that everyone pledge their undying loyalty to me. (ummm... did I say that out loud???)

The last couple of months has been a busy summer for the HOT Bears when it came to activities. In June we celebrated Austin Pride by floating the parade route and winning the hearts of the crowd who voted the HOT Bear float as "Crowd Favorite," and then we kicked off the summer with a Dive-In Movie at Joe Smith and Tom Straugh's home. We also celebrated the last Mid-Summer Splash at Steve Rison's home and wowed the crowd with our ice skating skills at "Bears on Ice" in July. August really geared up with "Take Me to the River" at Daniel Trevino's home, "Bear Swim" again at Joe and Tom's home, and a great "Luau Party" with one of our newest members Ric Roberts. And the rest of the year looks to be just as event packed.

This month we will help TGRA celebrate its 25th Anniversary by hosting a "Wild and Woolly" poolside party at the host hotel, and providing security at the rodeo arena. Volunteers are needed to help with both the pool party and with security, so if you want to help out, please contact me at VP@heartoftexasbears.org. We had a great time last year, and this year looks to be just as much fun.

Another event coming up, before you know it, is our annual camp-out run (Back to the Woods 4) at the TCC land site. If you

have never been to BTTW, you really are missing out on a great time. Just ask anyone who has been... and they will tell you the same thing. And if they don't agree, ask someone else, cause they must have been thinking of some other event... LOL. You can sign up and pay for BTTW online on the website. If you need more details, be sure to email Kevin (our run coordinator) at BTTW@heartoftexasbears.org. He will be happy to answer any questions you may have. We also need help from volunteers with various things ranging from helping cook and serve meals, cocktail party help, heading up games, and walking around policing the grounds... so be sure to let Kevin know if you would like to help. Remember... volunteering doesn't take that much time and it's good karma.

Be sure to check out the calendar for all our activities and events throughout the rest of the year. And if you have an event that you would like to see on the calendar... just email me.

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.

*Wooof's and Grrrrr's
Kelly Stephens*

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

Midtowne Spa of Austin

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

Phil Nelson

Registered Massage Therapist
(512) 301-3376

Back to the Woods 4 October 10 - 12



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 2

HOT Bears Planning Meeting. Join the officers for their monthly board meeting at 7:15pm. This time, it will be at the home of Kelly Stephens, your vice-president. See the HOT Bear Happenings email for the address. Your input will help make the Club better!

Thursday—Sunday, Sept. 4—7

Silver Anniversary Texas Gay Rodeo. HOT Bear volunteers are needed to help with daytime security for the weekend and for the cocktail party. Contact Kelly (vp@heartoftexasbears.org) for volunteering opportunities. Free entrance for all those who volunteer. The HOT Bears will have a hospitality suite at the host Hotel and will be hosting a **Bear Cocktail party Saturday Night from 5pm to 9pm**... be sure to join us!

Saturday, September 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!

Sunday, September 7

Austin Baptist Women 22nd Anniversary Celebration, at the Rainbow Cattle Company starting at **7pm**. Come celebrate 22 years of the Austin Baptist Women as they "*Build a Better World, One Wig at a Time*". Special guests include Miss SheGotta Moustache, Victoria Weston, Dana Woodrow plus other local favorites. All proceeds benefit the David Powell Clinic. [305 W 5th, (512) 472-5288]

Friday, September 12

Guerilla Queer Bar from 6pm to 9pm. See SmokingBanana.com for details.

Friday — Sunday, Sept. 12 — 14

The Cowtown Leathermen are holding their annual run at the TCC Landsite. This is their 25th annual event!

Sunday, September 14

Monthly Bear Beer Bust at the *Chain Drive* 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. [504 Willow Street, Austin, 78701, (512) 480-9017]

Wednesday, September 17

Coffee With Da' Bears! Join your Bear Brothers for some friendship, fun, and caffeine (Note: caffeine optional). This month we are heading to Ruta Maya's. They offer some great coffee choices and some fabulous local eats! See you there at 7pm. [Ruta Maya's - 3601 South Congress Avenue Suite D-200 - Austin, TX 78704 - (512)707-9637]

Friday — Sunday, Sept. 19 — 21

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

Saturday, September 20

2nd Bear Breakfast at **10am** at **The Bakehouse Restaurant & Bar** (austinbakehouse.com). Join us for some great breakfast cooking and lots of Bear Brotherhood! [5404 Manchaca Road, Austin, 78745 (512) 443-5167]

Saturday, September 20

Leonard Schlueter's **H.O.T. Dawg Daze of Summer Social** is from **7pm to 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. Last year we collected quite a bit, but as you know, the shelters can always use more.

Thursday, September 25

Bears Night Out. Dinner this month is in Central Austin at Hoover's Cooking. Come join us for the best home cooking next to mammas! They have something that everyone will enjoy. See you at 7pm (Bear Time). [2002 Manor Rd. Austin, TX 78722 - (512) 479-5006]

Saturday, September 27

Join us at the home of one of our newest *membears*, Scott Stover, for game night! So make plans to bring your favorite board or card game and potluck dish as we are sure to have a great time. Be sure to check out your HOT Bear Happenings for time and location.

Saturday, September 27

Bear Feet — One of our newest members (Sterling Smith) has started a monthly Bear Get-Together near Lake Travis on the last Saturday of the Month. For times and directions, you can contact Sterling directly at (512) 576-2685 or texasotter@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 4

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

"Back to the Woods 4"

October 10th—12th, 2008. Join us for our fourth annual campout weekend at the TCC Landsite. Register early and get the best price. Details and online registration at HeartOfTexasBears.org/bttw



Charity

Charity: a gift for public benevolent purposes.

The word charity has a long, long history. It entered the English language around 1137, where it was derived from the French word *charite*, but the concept has existed as long as civilization. In any civilization or society, there will always be a need for charity and there will always be a way to help.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, the members of The Heart of Texas Bears, for helping. Throughout the year, our members give both money and time to worthwhile causes, and we do make a difference.

You have provided toys for underprivileged children and coats for children who would do without. You have fed the

hungry and delivered food to the elderly. You have provided counseling for gay and lesbian teenagers. You have made a difference.

Last month, we held a charity raffle to support The Capital Area Food Bank. With your help, we raised enough money to provide over 1,300 meals, and thanks to several very generous members, these funds were matched. 2,600 meals for the hungry—that is definitely something to feel good about.

On behalf of the board, Capital Area Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, The Wright House, Coats for Kids, Operation Blue Santa, the People's Community Clinic, AIDS Services Austin, and all the other charities that you have supported, Thank You. You have made difference.



Bear Beer Bust
Bear Swim
“Take Me to the River”



**The Heart Of Texas Bears invite you to:
Back to the Woods 4**

B2W4



At Texas Conference of Clubs

**October
10, 11, 12**



The HOT Bears in Austin invite you to join us for our annual camp out run at the TCC landsite on Buzzards' Peak. 3 days and 2 nights camping under the stars with Bears in the woods. All food, drink, entertainment, and a run pin are included in one low price. Don't have a tent or trailer? No problem. Stay in the bunkhouse. A small number of indoor accommodations are available for a nominal charge. We had a blast last year- just ask around! Better hurry-We are limiting this event to 150 attendees.

Online Registration Now Open!
heartoftexasbears.org/bttw

THE HEART OF TEXAS BEARS

September 2008 HOT Bears Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Ramadan begins Labor Day Weekend LUAU Party	01 Labor Day	02 7:15pm» HOT Bear Planning Meeting	03	04 Texas 25 - Silver Anniversary Texas Gay Rodeo	05 Texas 25 - Silver Anniversary Texas Gay Rodeo	06 Texas 25 - Silver Anniversary Texas Gay Rodeo 10am» Bears Day Out Breakfast 5pm» TGRA 25 - Wild and WOOLY Pool Part
07 ☾ Texas 25 - Silver Anniversary Texas Gay Rodeo 7pm» Austin Babtist Women 22nd Anniversary Celebration	08	09	10	11	12 TCC Cowtown Leathermen 6pm» Guerilla Queer Bar	13 TCC Cowtown Leathermen
14 TCC Cowtown Leathermen 4pm» Bear Beer Bust	15 ☀	16	17 7pm» Bear Coffee	18	19 TCC Activity Weekend PWA Campout	20 PWA Campout TCC Activity Weekend 10am» 2nd Breakfast 7pm» Hot Dawg DAZE of Summer
21 TCC Activity Weekend PWA Campout	22 ☾	23	24	25 7pm» Bears Night Out	26	27 Game Night Bear Feet
28	29 ☀ Rosh Hashanah Ramadan ends	30 7:15pm» HOT Bear Planning Meeting	01	02	03 Cross Timbers Prime Timers	04 Cross Timbers Prime Timers 10am» Bears Day Out Breakfast

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