

HOUSTON AREA BEARS

Growler



Houston Area Bears
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Houston, TX 77266

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Volume 5, Number 7

July 1998 Issue

Published by
The Houston Area Bears

John Mata



Well known local entertainer, John Mata, aka Anita Mann, died on July 13th at his home in Houston. He was 36. John came to Houston from Chicago in 1990. He was active in the leather and drag communities, famous for his Armani gowns and his monthly "Anita Mann's

Grin 'n Bear It" contests at Nighthawks. He also served as Empress XIII of the RSICSS, until turning over his tiara last January. John was an active member of the Texas Renegades and HAB.

"John had lots of friends," said longtime friend Jerry Sherman. "He was always there to help and give money."

John was a computer specialist, and had worked for First Chicago, American General Insurance, and Compaq Computer. His lover, Frank Talbot, preceded him in death. He is survived by many friends across the country and three adored cats.

A Life Celebration for John will be held at Nighthawks on August 22nd from 5:00 p.m. til 8:30 p.m. The following day there will be a caravan leaving the Nighthawks parking lot around 12:30 for Galveston to spread John and Frank's ashes.

Fourth Anniversary Party

The anniversary party is set for September 26, 1998. Dinner will be at Dirty's, 1710 Durham. We will meet at around 6:00 p.m. for a social time. We will need to place our orders at about 6:30. We have arranged with the management to give us drink specials and a limited menu. This will give us more flexibility as far as our entree choices. The cost is \$20⁰⁰ per person, to be paid prior to the dinner.

After dinner and presentations at Dirty's, the party will continue at Nighthawks with raffle drawings, cocktail parties, more presentations and a performance from our special guest emcee.

Paul J. Williams will be our emcee for the evening. He is a comedian from San Antonio who lives in New York. If you went to the Texas Bear Round-Up III in Dallas, you will remember Paul's hilarious performance during the Mr. American Bear™ contest. Paul will be performing at both the dinner and at Nighthawks afterward.

We have decided that our theme will be electrical appliances and the table decorations will reflect this theme. You can help us out by collecting any non-functioning appliances you have and giving them to Scot Mackie by the September meeting. We will also need help decorating the bar and the restaurant on the morning of the celebration, so I will be calling on some of you to help out at that time.

Day at the Baths

On Saturday, August 15th at Club Houston there will be a bear event starting at 1:00 p.m. Locker fees are \$6.00 per person for bear members and their guests. Damon has always put out a wonderful spread for the Houston bears. Please inform the Triad if you will be attending this function. (Suits optional - Toast those buns!)

Awards Selection

The anniversary committee would like to extend the opportunity to you to help nominate your fellow bear for a special award. These awards will pertain to events that have happened during the past year. Please feel free to call Scot Mackie for your input. All these nominations will be kept under ropes until the evening of the anniversary celebration.

George Tresch - Texas Conference of Clubs

Last meeting on July 14, 1998, the bears were introduced to George Tresch, treasurer of Texas Conference of Clubs. After his presentation about Buzzard's Peak Community Landsite to the club, it was voted to join this organization. All the bear members can use this facility, with other area bear groups who like to meet and camp outdoors. This is also a private place to have a bear run with other member clubs. Now that we have joined, hope to see alot of Houston bears get out and have fun.

"Off to the woods we go..."



We're Still Looking For A Few Good Men

We are always looking for fellow HAB members to help bartend on Sunday evenings at Nighthawks. We are scheduled for the 3rd and 4th Sundays each month, from 7:00 p.m. til 11:00 p.m. It's lots of fun; just ask anyone who has done it before. No prior bartending experience is necessary. We will train you with someone who has already been helping. If you're interested in joining in please contact Joe Creak at 281-446-3141 or John Dye at 281-590-9899. Thanks.

Southern Decadence

Attention: All those who have paid your fees in full for the trip to New Orleans for Southern Decadence will receive a letter in August specifying a time and place where we will meet before traveling. Those who have only paid your deposit need to pay the second and third installments now. We need to pay all the remaining debts to the airlines, bus transportation and guest quarters.

We still have a few spots open if you would like to make the trip. If you are interested or need more information about the trip, please contact Bill Neville at 281-446-6953 or John Dye at 281-590-9899. Your reservation would need to be paid in full as time is running out.

The trip is opened for guests as well as HAB members now, so if you have any friends that you think would be interested in going, contact them now. Space is limited.

Thanks.



Mass Affirmation COMMITMENT CEREMONY



CONDUCTED BY REVEREND CAROLYN MOBLEY
ASSISTANT PASTOR MCCR



AUGUST 22, 1998, 9:00 P.M. AT THE NEW BARN

\$20⁰⁰ PER COUPLE




BENEFITING BERING DENTAL CLINIC



COUPLES WILL RECEIVE
A CERTIFICATE OF COMMITMENT,
CAKE AND CHAMPAGNE TOAST

AUGUST

1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5 HAB Dine Out 7:00 p.m. at Black-Eyed Pea on W. Gray	6	7	8 HAB Social Night at Nighthawks 9:00 pm
9 HAB Meeting at Nighthawks - 4:00	10	11	12	13	14	15 Bears at the Baths 1:00 p.m. at Club Houston \$6.00 for locker
16 Grin-n-Bear It Contest - 9:00 pm at Nighthawks HAB Bartending	17	18	19 Movie Night 6:30 p.m. at AMC Studio 30 2949 Dunvale	20	21	22
23 HAB Bartending at Nighthawks	24	25	26	27	28	29 Road Trip to Hippie Hollow and Austin Bar Tour. Bring a picnic for lunch; dinner out on the town. Leave Houston 8:00 a.m. RSVP Barry Mack at 713-861-3949 or 713-861-1209 or Bearthack@aol.com
30	31					

Bears On The AOL Prowl

My bear buddy from Austria, Lazar and I just returned from a wonderful trip from Houston to New York City. After he left to fly back home, I finished the trip alone and drove down the east coast to Orlando, FL and then home. What a wonderful 6000 mile trip it was that covered 5 weeks.

Here are a few of the highlights. Lazar had never been to San Antonio, so we went over to our friend Rick's. Rick is one of the founders of the Bexar Bears. It just happened to be his birthday weekend so we partied all weekend. Bar tours and sightseeing were on our agenda and we managed to see and do most of it. Still did not make it to Sea World but who needs fish when you have bears.

Monday, bright and early, we drove like madmen to St. Louis and spent the night. We were too tired to stay with bear friends, so we stayed in a hotel and the next morning went to see the arch and do some general quick looks about town before we headed to Indiana and our bear friends there. One had knee surgery so we took care of him for 4 days before we drove to Rogersville, TN to check out Lees Valley Farm. This is a place that we discovered on the web. You trade for your room and board. They are always building and fixing things so a pot bellied stove and some paint were our tickets for a weekend stay. Sorry to say that we cannot recommend it and we left after spending one night. Talk about being in the boonies. Just a little bit too quaint for us. We decided then to drive to Long Island and see if we couldn't make the gay pride parade there, and we managed to do that. The parade was held in Huntington, Long Island and we marched with the Long Island bears and made many new friends. I need to mention that we were staying with our Houston friends that had moved back 3 years ago and had just moved into their new house 2 days before our arrival. Such wonderful hosts.

After sightseeing in NYC (do you know how hard it is to park my truck in NYC?) for several days we managed to get tickets to The Beauty Queen of Leann, a Tony award winning drama at the Kerr Theater and met some bears along the way. Our Long Island friend, Cliff, is responsible for this. The Ursa Major group, a group of Big Bears, is wonderful and meets every Tuesday night at a bar called Sneakers. We were treated like royalty and taken out to dinner and to a Mirth and Girth party at the NYC Gay and Lesbian Center during their gay pride week.

Poor Lazar had to fly home before the parade, but I managed to march with the New York City Bears. One of our former members, Bob, was there to greet us. How nice it was to see a familiar face. We also met Capt. Woof, who is blind and has the most wonderful dog. He tells me that he is coming to Houston for work. He is a very nice and thoughtful bear. One thing very interesting about the NYC parade is that they have to stop traffic to let the parade through a few blocks and then the parade stops and the traffic goes through. This makes for a very long parade. The closer we got to Christopher Street the greater density of the crowd. You really had a terrible time trying to get through to find a place to eat after the

parade, but we found the bears and ate at a wonderful Greek Cafe. After walking around and looking at all the hot men and their wares, we found a cab to take us back to the car and drove home to Long Island.

What a whirlwind tour. From NYC, I went to Delaware, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. where there was a wonderful play party in a public parking garage on the 4th of July. My host, Luther, whom some of you met at our last LUEY, was the doorman, and we arrived early. This enabled us to view the wonderful D.C. fireworks from the top of the garage. We also taped it on TV, and I will be happy to share it with you. The fireworks and the music were wonderful.

From D.C. I went to Ashville, NC and visited Biltmore, the wonderful home of the Vanderbilts. You can view this on A&E or see my books. From there I went to Atlanta and visited some more bear friends that are starting a new bear group there. We visited the Coke Museum and the Atlanta Underground and the Atlanta Eagle. Did you know how many Eagle Bars there are in the US? Atlanta is a nice place and I would like to go back. From Atlanta, there was a side trip to Montgomery, AL and then on to Orlando, FL and then on to Houston. The details of the trip were left out to protect the innocent, but ask me.

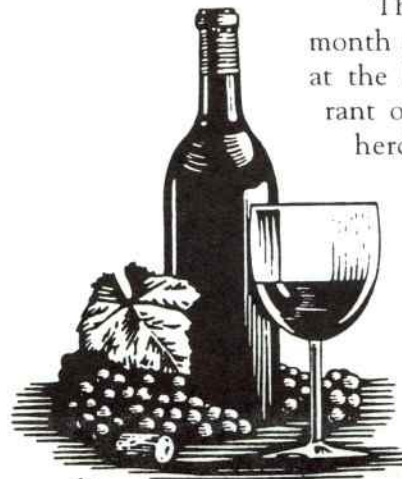
Meeting people online is fun and you can have a wonderful vacation by trading hospitality. Maybe we will see some new faces at LUEY.

Barry Mack

Ms. Firecracker

The 4th of July went out with a BANG this year. Ms. Firecracker Emeritus crowned the new winner, Ms. Fancy Face Lawrence (aka Bill O'Rourke) for 1998. Ms. Bubbles steps down; she was the first Ms. Firecracker for Houston. Congratulations and best wishes to both.

Dine Out at Black-eyed Pea



The Dine-Out for the month of August will be held at the Black-eyed Pea restaurant on West Gray at Shepherd. The date is Wednesday, August 5th, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. There will be lots of good food and fellowship for all. Come join us!

Bon Appetit!

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Volume 5, Number 8

August 1998 Issue

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The Houston Area Bears

Southern Decadence

To all you Bears: Have a wonderful weekend in New Orleans over the Labor Day Holiday. And don't forget to proudly wear your Houston Area Bears T-Shirts to promote our fine organization while you are mingling with the other Bears there.

Have a fun party at the Guest House. And come back with lots of pictures (movies) and momentos.

Grin-N-Bear It Contest

September is shaping up to be a busy month. With Southern Decadence over the Labor Day Holiday and HAB's Fourth Anniversary Celebration on Saturday the 26th. But that's not all. The following day, Sunday the 27th, is the monthly Grin-N-Bear It Contest. And this one should be extra special. We are privileged in having comedian Paul J. Williams emcee the contest, as he is also going to emcee the anniversary dinner.

Paul, originally from San Antonio, is currently living in New York. He is a great entertainer, as many of you who saw his hilarious performance at the Texas Bear Round-Up III know.

So this month's contest will be quite a show. And you can be a part of it as a contestant. We need all you big, furry bears to drop your inhibitions (amongst other things!) and strut your stuff for all to see. *Woof Woof!*

Houston Council of Clubs

On August 19th, the Houston Council of Clubs held its first meeting for L.U.E.Y. - '99. Elections were held and our new officers are:

Creth Robinson, President

Chris Patterson, Treasurer

Stan LaFleur and Joe Creak attended this meeting as representatives of Houston Area Bears. HCC needs all the bears help in putting on the shows to raise the money for next year's L.U.E.Y. We will be calling on our fellow bears, with their various talents, to help do a number for a future show.

Splash Day at Club Houston

The annual Splash Day at the Club Baths was held on August 15th (as was scheduled on your calendar from last month.) All who attended had a fun time and lots of good food. The water was great and so were the men. Sorry we didn't see more of you out and about that day. If you weren't there you missed a great time.

And to all of you would-be water volleyball players:

"Alright guys! Learn to rotate - rotate, not pivot - on your heels."



Anniversary Awards

We need suggestions for anniversary awards to be given out at Dirty's during the dinner. This can be something that's nice, notable, unusual, funny or ...? We want to include as many people as possible so if you know something about someone else without being cruel, let us know. If you wish, you may use the form at the bottom of this page, or you may call me at (281) 441-6047. I would like to have these award ideas no later than September 10th. The anniversary committee will be meeting at my apartment on September 12th. We will begin working on decorations and deciding on awards at that time.

The anniversary party is set for September 26th. Dinner will be at Dirty's, 1710 Durham, and we will meet around 6:00 pm. We have an entire dining room to ourselves. There will be drink specials as well as a cash bar. Chips and salsa will also be provided. We will order from a limited menu. Our dinner program will begin around 6:30 pm.

As you are probably aware, the cost for the dinner is \$20⁰⁰ per person. Please get your money to me or David Martinez by the meeting on September 13th so we can make our final preparations.

Hugs & Nuzzles.
Scot

AWARD: _____

MEMBER'S NAME: _____

REASON: _____

We're Still Looking For A Few Good Men

We are always looking for fellow HAB members to help bartend on Sunday evenings at Nighthawks. We are scheduled for the 3rd and 4th Sundays each month, from 7:00 p.m. til 11:00 p.m. It's lots of fun; just ask anyone who has done it before, like new HAB member Harry who helped bartend at the last Grin-N-Bear It Contest. No prior bartending experience is necessary. We will train you with someone who has already been helping. If you're interested in joining in please contact Joe Creak at 281-446-3141 or John Dye at 281-590-9899. Thanks.

More Anniversary Stuff

We need volunteers (and you know we hardly ever ask for volunteers!) for some other things associated with the Anniversary Celebration. The morning of the party we will need a crew to help put up decorations at Nighthawks. If you would like to help decorate, please contact Scot Mackie or Joe Creak.

And we also need volunteers to bring finger food to the after dinner party. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact tim concelman at 281-561-6213.

Remember that the decorations and food at Nighthawks will not only be enjoyed by the membership of HAB, but by everyone in our community who will be there to help us celebrate our anniversary. So let's make this really great. Thanks.

A Few Words From John Dye

Moving Bears:

If you have a change of address (cave hopping, etc.) please notify me of your new address, e-mail address, telephone number, beeper, cell phone, pager or anything else you might want to share.

Bear Auction Coming Up:

We will need bears to volunteer to be auctioned off for charity. The event is scheduled for October 10th. Thanks.

Dine Outs Past and Present

The Dine Out at Black-Eyed Pea was held on August 5th at 7:00 p.m. This event was attended by twenty or more of you bears, including a guest from New York named Andre. Also to our surprise we were greeted by a friendly miss, formerly of the Spaghetti Warehouse, who now works there. It was like old times and everyone enjoyed the fellowship and the meal. Future Dine Outs are planned for September 23rd, 7:00 o'clock at Ci Ci's Pizza at 4400 North Freeway (Northline Mall), October 7th, 7:00 o'clock at Barnaby's at 604 Fairview, and another on October 21st, 7:00 o'clock at Wok Bo Seafood Buffet at 6159 Westheimer. Hope to see you there.



Bon Appetit!

Two sheep were grazing in a meadow.
"Baa-aa-aaa," said the first.
"Mooooo," said the second.
Said the first sheep, "What do you mean 'mooooo'?" Answered the second sheep, "I'm studying a foreign language."


Newsletter Articles

If you have anything that is newsworthy, like information about upcoming events or milestones in the lives of other bears, and would like to share it with us, please get the information to Joe Creak. The cut-off for the newsletter is the third week of the month, so submit your articles **early**.

And Don't Forget to check your calendar for up-coming events!

SEPTEMBER

1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 Southern Decadence	5 Southern Decadence
6 Southern Decadence Labor Day Party for those left in town. Covered Dish & Ice Cream Social. 3019 Guese Rd. - 7:00 p.m. For info: 713-861-3949	7 Labor Day Southern Decadence	8	9	10	11	12 HAB Social Night at Nighthawks 9:00 pm
13 HAB Meeting at Nighthawks - 4:00	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown	21	22	23 HAB Dine Out Ci Ci's Pizza 4400 North Frwy. Northline Mall 7:00 p.m.	24	25	26 Houston Area Bears 4th Anniversary Party
27 Grin-n-Bear It Contest - 9:00 pm at Nighthawks HAB Bartending	28	29 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	30			
						

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Volume 5, Number 9

September 1998 Issue

Published by
The Houston Area Bears

Southern Decadence '98

On September 4th through 7th, The Houston Area Bears traveled to New Orleans to celebrate Southern Decadence with 26 members and guests in attendance. All weekend long, bears toured the city, ate cajun food, swam, sunned and drank cocktails. All while socializing with many other Bear Clubs who also attended this event. Many members ran into old friends as well as making new ones.

On Sunday afternoon, HAB hosted a Bear Party at the Guest House. All members received "Guest Cards" upon arrival in New Orleans to give out to people they wanted to see at the party. Attendance was better than expected considering the rain earlier in the day. At one point the pool was so full of bears that from the balcony it looked like bear soup!

The bears and their guests enjoyed beer and chili dogs cooked up and served by Ron and Joe C., John D., David G. and Wilton T. On hand at the door to insure security as well as collect the all important "Guest Cards" were Bill N., Jeffrey M., Ed M., Kenny and David L., and John N and tim c. Guests were greeted warmly and told where to find the food, fun and bears. As they were leaving, guests from around the country commented that the HAB really knows how to throw a party! Of particular interest, John and tim wore neon colored t-backs during their shift at the door. Thanks for providing great scenery guys.

The bears returned to Houston on Monday afternoon, a little weary and a "quart low," but no worse for the wear.

A big Thank You to the following people who put forth their best efforts to insure a good time was had by all:

- John D. – Triad liaison, transportation, site prep, purchasing and site assistance
- Joe C. – Triad liaison, purchasing, site assistance and moral support
- Dan L. – Forms, budget records and correspondence
- Jerry S. – The wonderful "Gift Bags"
- & Chris P. – for guests
- Ken L. – Site prep, purchasing, site
- & David L. – assistance and door security
- David G.
- Wilton T.
- & Ron – Transportation, site prep and site assistance
- Ed M.
- Jeffrey M.
- John N.
- & tim c. – door security

Bearadise '98

Bearadise '98 was a three day bear run put on by the Red Earth Bears of Oklahoma City. This took place at the infamous Habana Inn, September 18th through 20th. Five members of the Houston Area Bears were in attendance and had a growling good time. Bearadise was presented as a lazy bear's utopia, but most of the bears there were "working it" for all they were worth. One of the highlights of the weekend was a contest to point out four of the physical attributes most of us bears like to see in our men. It was the beard, belly, butt and box contest. The beard portion of the contest was won by a Dallas bear with a large, thick, beautiful, dark beard. The belly portion of the contest was won also by a bear from Dallas. Not only did he have a prize winning belly, but if you see this bear you will know what a golden carpet would look like. There was one bear who walked away from the contest a real pig. Houston Area Bear's member, Loyd Powell, was declared Mr. Butt and Mr. Box for Bearadise '98. Chalk one more up for Houston!

Bears at the Baths

The Triad would like to thank Damien for another outing to Club Baths of Houston, for opening their doors to the Bears. As usual, there was loads of food and alot of good times to be had by all. So if you missed it, hope to see you at the next one.

Thanks, Barry...

for putting together the trip to Hippy Hollow and chairing the event; and for the Labor Day Pot Luck/Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 6th.

Do we have your correct address? And telephone numbers?

We would hate to lose track of any of our fellow bears. So if you have a change of address, or telephone numbers, please contact any Triad with your new info. That way you'll be sure to get the newsletter, and won't miss out on any of the fun.

Stone Soup

The people at Stone Soup, who are doing a wonderful job, need your help. In particular, they need items that cannot be purchased with food stamps. Things like paper towels, toilet tissue, disposable razor blades, shaving cream, tampons, laundry detergent, hand soap, plastic and paper bags, toothpaste and tooth brushes, etc. If you can help by donating these things, just bring the items to the regular monthly meeting, or call John Dye.

Houston Council of Clubs Meeting - Stan LaFleur

Houston Council of Clubs held its September meeting at Nighthawks on Wednesday, September 16th, at 8:00 pm with new Chairperson Creath Robinson, and secretary/treasurer Chris Patterson presiding. There was not a majority of clubs attending, so voting for the future agenda will be held off until the October meeting.

Several decisions were put before the members attending, and it is your advantage to have this news in advance of the other member clubs. First, there will be another pin contest with a winning design to adorn a few select host T-shirts, and runners up to grace a few posters advertising the event. Please submit entries to Chris, Stan, or any Triad by the November HCC meeting.

There was no host hotel designated for this year's LUEY, and the wheels are in motion to fill Gentry's spot of the weekend schedule with EJ's (still pending approval). The usual monthly HCC fundraiser held at Nighthawks will be bi-monthly shows this fall, with the next show falling in November with the Misfits arranging a leather & levi dance of Loading Dock proportions at a location to be announced. This is their choice to try something different, for a LUEY fundraiser. More details next newsletter.

The Houston Area Bears have committed to producing the January HCC show which is know as Turnabout (is fairplay!!...) Any ideas have to go by Joe, and performances have to be good enough to be recognized as the act they're imitating. Hopefully we won't be busting at the seams, and let's hope for a minimum of repeats among the imitated. If any of the shows ideas are discussed, remember, keep the performances a mystery until we spoof them onstage.

Membership

Last month our numbers increased with 12 new members and 2 re-joined members.

New Members:

Clarence Bolster
Harry Boudreaux
Elliot Budrick
Tom Burns
Mike Burton
Jeffrey Maki
Ed Manson
Brett Penn
Nicholas Peregay
David Stroud

Associate Members:

Rich Blackard
Ronnie Johnson

Re-joined Members:

Robert Feltenberger
Henry Galindo

Casino Bus Trip

The Casino Bus Trip originally scheduled for November 1st has been postponed once again. The trip is being chaired by "Bears on the Bayou." They are hoping to be able to set a date sometime in December. Check next months newsletter for more details, or call the Bear Hotline.

The Usual Reminders

~ If you have anything that is newsworthy, and would like to share it with us, please get the information to Joe Creak. The cut-off for the newsletter is the third week of the month, so submit your articles **early**.

And we are always looking for fellow HAB members to help bartend on Sunday evenings at Nighthawks. We are scheduled for the 3rd and 4th Sundays each month, from 7:00 pm til 11:00 pm. No prior bartending experience is necessary. We will train you. If you're interested in joining in please contact Joe Creak at 281-446-3141 or John Dye at 281-590-9899. Thanks.

Bear Auction

On Saturday, October 10th, along with the monthly HAB social, will be a Bear Auction. The money raised will go to charity to help our area counterparts who are less fortunate than us. We are looking for our group to help in this event. If you would like to strut your stuff on stage to be auctioned off, please contact John Dye. And if you bring items for Stone Soup (see article on page 2), you'll receive free Bear Bucks, good for purchasing your favorite bear in the auction. See you there.

Bexar County Bears



Saturday, Nov. 7th at 9:00 pm at Annex, 330 San Pedro in San Antonio is the 3rd anniversary of the Bexar County Bear's Mr. Bexar County Bear 1999 Contest - "unBEARable 3." There will be cocktail parties, munchies and charity raffle prizes. (A \$3⁰⁰ donation is requested.) Also for \$9⁵⁰ (which includes the \$3⁰⁰ donation) there will be a BBQ Buffet for which reservations are required by Nov. 2nd. You can contact the BCB at 210-697-2175 or on the internet at BCtyBears@aol.com. The winner of the contest could be in American Bear Magazine!


Up-Coming Events

- Oct. 10 - Bear Auction at Nighthawks
- Oct. 18 - Rainbow Ranglers Anniversary
Free BBQ at the BRB
- Oct. 31 - Open House at Barry Mack's
50th Birthday & Halloween
Covered Dish
- Nov. 7 - Texas Renaissance Festival
With Austin's HOT Bears
- Nov. 7 - Mr. Bexar County Bear 1999 Contest
- Nov. 22 - Grin-N-Bear It Contest
Bartending
- Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving
 - (1) Dinner for Steven's House
 - (2) Open House Covered Dish
at Barry Mack's
- Nov. 27 - 29 - Texas Round-Up
- Nov. 29 - Bartending

OCTOBER


1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 HAB Dine Out 7:00 p.m. at Barnaby's 604 Fairview 713-522-0106	8	9	10 HAB Social Night and Bear Auction at Nighthawks 9:00 pm
11 HAB Meeting at Nighthawks - 4:00	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17 Trip to Galveston - Moody Gardens & IMAX "Mark Twain's America" Leave from Nighthawks at 9:00 a.m.
18 Grin-n-Bear It Contest 9:00 pm at Nighthawks HAB Bartending Rainbow Ranglers Anniversary Free BBQ at BRB	19	20	21 HAB Dine Out 7:00 p.m. at Wok Bo Seafood Buffet 6159 Westheimer 713-983-6838	22	23	24 United Nations Day
25 Daylight Savings Time Ends HAB Bartending at Nighthawks	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween Birthday Open House - Costumes 3019 Guese Road 6:00 p.m. Covered Dish (meat provided)
						



IT'S REALLY NIFTY
BARRY MACK
IS 50

A costume birthday party hosted by
David Marsh and Robert Feltenberger



OCTOBER 31, 1998
3019 GUESE ROAD
6 - 10 PM

RSVP

713-861-3949

713-861-1209

Bearmack@aol.com

please read the back, thanks





Birthday - Halloween Costume Party

6-10 PM

10-31-98

covered dish: meat, cake, ice
cream, coffee, tea provided

please bring a side dish

BYOB or soft drinks

Please no gag gifts,
we will provide a money tree.

join us after 10 at Night Hawks

Thanks, Robert Feltenberger

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Volume 5, Number 10

November 1998 Issue

Published by
The Houston Area Bears

Houston Area Bear's Fourth Anniversary Dinner and Party

Our Fourth Anniversary Party at Dirty's was a huge success. Over seventy members and guests were present. The highlight of the evening was comedian Paul Williams who emceed the dinner and awards presentations at the restaurant. Later he gave a show at NightHawks which was an outstanding performance. The food at Dirty's was very good; combined with fellow bears the evening was one to remember.

Thanks to all who helped put together the anniversary celebration. And particularly a big Thank You to Scot Mackie for coordinating the entire effort. A lot of us thought the "Used & Abused Appliances" theme sounded unusual at first, but it really worked. The decorations at Dirty's and NightHawks were fabulous!

Following is a list of the awards that were presented at the anniversary celebration:

Martha StewBear Award

For having the most fashionable and elegant dinner parties, and for having matching flatware.

Barry (Mack) McPherson

Clock Watcher Award

Always checking his watch and leaving early.

Mitch Froehlich

Berenstein Bear Award

Best bear family.

Loyd Powell and Robert Conn

Prodigal Bear Award

It's so nice to have you back where you belong.

Tim Curtis

Acrobatically Balanced Bear Award

For juggling the books and never losing balance and straightening out the club finances.

John (Bubbles) Dye

It's Been A Hard Bears Night Award

For maintaining an impressive four-hour erection on at least one occasion, much to the delight of hundreds of bears from all over the country at Southern Decadence.

tim concelman

Lightning Bears Award

For making the Houston Area Bears shine at the Pride Parade.

David Louviere and Kenny Leining

Care Bear Award

For caring for and comforting the Dowager Empress XIII "Anita Mann" in her last days.

Paul Pruitt

Where Bear Award

For being conspicuously absent a great deal of the time. "We miss you!"

Steve Fitzhenry

(continued on page 2)

Bear Awards (cont.)

Man's (?) Best Friend Award

For being a faithful friend and companion, and for playing "Lassie" to John Dye's "Timmy."

Dan Lindquist

All-American Bear Award

Most resembles a tight end.

Steve Stepanski

The Burning Bears Award

For bringing the wrath of God down on their house. "Haven't my people suffered enough. Oy Vey!"

Jerry Sherman and Chris Patterson

The Migratory Bear Award

For instituting the "Summer Fun Trick Tour."

Barry (Mack) MacPherson

Bend My Ear Award

For being willing to listen to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

Stan LaFleur

Say Yes To Crack Award

For always flashing a grin in two different directions at once. And for leading his own one-man pride parade at Houston's Laff Stop.

Johnny Fischer

(Johnny asked me put in the newsletter a big "Thanks.")

May I Rub That A Little More Sir? Award

For rubbing and polishing us up and making us look and feel good.

Stan Harrell

Lyle Barrett Memorial Hairy Back Award

For most resembling a knitted sweater.

Martin Diaz

Most Cuddly Bear Award

Bear that gives the best hugs.

Johnny Fischer

Joe Amante Memorial Hernia Award

For giving birth to a five-pound bouncing baby hernia, and still maintaining his girlish figure.

Joe Creak

Cyber Bear Award

For being enough of a computer geek to get the Bears back on the 'net.

Barry Gosnell

Paddington Bear Award

Bear that always seems to be lost or disorganized.

John Dye

Out-Of-Control Bodily Functions Bear Award

For making all kinds of noises with a wide variety of body parts and orifices.

Scot Mackie

Baloo The Bear Award

For furnishing the "bear" necessities of life.

Jim Filippino

Daddy On A Bearskin Rug Award

For strutting his stuff all over the country, all from the comfort of his own lair.

Loyd Powell

Good German Hausfrau Award

For having a place for everything and everything in its place. And for hard work and devotion in putting together a fun weekend for 26 bears in New Orleans.

Bill Neville

Black Bear Award

Blackest beard, without assistance from "Lady Clairol."

David Martinez

Monica Lewinsky Memorial Award

For being on his knees longer than any nun, mostly on the patio at NightHawks.

Kenny Leininger

T-Back Bear Butt Bar Back Award



For looking good when representing the Bears, whether it's behind the bar, or on the street in the French Quarter.

John Noessel and tim concealman



NOVEMBER

1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Election Day 	4	5	6	7 Texas Renaissance Festival Austin HOT Bears to join us. Meet at Nighthawks parking lot - 10:00 am
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day HAB Dine Out Luby's Cafeteria 5215 Buffalo Speedway 7:00 p.m. • 713-664-4852	12	13	14 HAB Social Night at Nighthawks 9:00 pm
15 HAB Meeting at Nighthawks - 4:00	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Grin-n-Bear It Contest - 9:00 pm at Nighthawks HAB Bartending	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day Open House & Covered Dish 3019 Guese Rd. 1:00 pm 713-861-3949 713-861-1209 Bearnack@aol.com	27 Texas Round-Up	28 Texas Round-Up
29 HAB Bartending at Nighthawks	30					
						

HCC Meeting - Stan LaFleur

Houston Council of Clubs held its October meeting at Mary's. An HCC schedule for 1998-99 was handed out. During the first part of November, Joe Creak will be contacting people for the "Turnabout" show in January. We are keeping this show under wraps. We are looking to do more of the spoofs in good fun, and have a good turn out. This show benefits the LUEY weekend.

NOVEMBER

8th HCC Show / Bartending at NightHawks
(Show: Misfits / Bartending: HAB)

18th HCC Meeting - Brazos River Bottom, 8:00 pm

DECEMBER

16th HCC Meeting - NightHawks, 8:00 pm

JANUARY

10th HCC Show / Bartending at NightHawks
(Show: HAB / Bartending: Misfits)

20th HCC Meeting - Mary's, 8:00 pm

FEBRUARY

17th HCC Meeting - Brazos River Bottom, 8:00 pm
Run Packet Stuffing

19th-21st "Let Us Entertain You" Weekend
26th Anniversary

Casino Bus Trip

The Casino Bus Trip is set for Sunday, December 6th to leave from NightHawks parking lot. If you have any questions about the trip, call Loyd Powell. The Bears On The Bayou are hosting this trip as a fund-raiser for their up-coming event in April. The cost of the trip is \$10⁰⁰.

The Usual Reminders

If you have anything that is newsworthy, and would like to share it with us (LOYD!), please get the information to Joe Creak. The cut-off is the third week of the month, so submit your articles **early**.

And we are always looking for fellow HAB members to help bartend on Sunday evenings at Nighthawks. We are scheduled for the 3rd and 4th Sundays each month, from 7:00 pm til 11:00 pm. No prior bartending experience is necessary. We will train you. If you're interested in joining in please contact Joe Creak at 281-446-3141 or John Dye at 281-590-9899. Thanks.

Bear Auction

Thanks to all that entered the Bear Auction held on October 10th at NightHawks. There was a large number of contestants which helped to raise over \$1100 for Jay Kill and Stone Soup. Thanks to John Dye for taking the time to set up this event, and Loyd Powell who helped as Co-Emcee with John.

Texas Renaissance Festival

On November 7th, if you would like to go to the Texas Renaissance Festival, contact Barry Mack at 713-861-3949 to let him know you are going. They will leave at 10:00 am from NightHawks parking lot. Also Austin HOT Bears will be making the trip to the festival. "Come One, Come All." Hope to see you there.

PWA Holiday Charities

On Sunday, November 8th at Mary's patio there will be a PWA Anniversary Party. For further info call Don Gill at 713-521-0911.

Stone Soup

The people at Stone Soup need your help. They need items that cannot be purchased with food stamps; like paper products, disposable razor blades, shaving cream, tampons, detergent, soap, plastic bags, toothpaste and tooth brushes, etc. If you can help by donating these things, just bring the items to the regular monthly meeting, or call John Dye.

Up-Coming Events

- Nov. 7 - Texas Renaissance Festival
With Austin's HOT Bears
- Nov. 7 - Mr. Bexar County Bear 1999 Contest
- Nov. 22 - Grin-N-Bear It Contest
Bartending
- Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving
 - (1) Dinner for Steven's House
 - (2) Open House Covered Dish
at Barry Mack's
- Nov. 27 - 29 - Texas Round-Up
- Nov. 29 - Bartending
- Dec. 6 - Casino Bus Trip

HOUSTON AREA BEARS

Growler



Houston Area Bears
P.O. Box 66443
Houston, TX 77266

Voice-Mail
& Announcement Line
(713) 867-9123

E-Mail: houareabrz@aol.com
Website: <http://members.aol.com/hou/bears/index.html>

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Published by
The Houston Area Bears

Bexar County Bears

On November 7th in San Antonio, the Bexar County Bears held their Third Anniversary Party at the Annex on San Pedro. The Annex is a quaint little bar with big feelings.

As part of the celebration, clubs from Austin and Houston hosted cocktail parties for the San Antonio club. Each cocktail party was as different as night and day.

Everyone enjoyed the festive drinks, food treats and alot of hunky bears. (Leather, cowboys, denim and all the other bears.) The also had raffles that night with such prizes as autographed posters of Tim McGraw and George Straight.

To top the evening off they had the Bexar County Bear Contest. Our own Robert Conn from Houston Area Bears and Bears On The Bayou won the title Mr. Bexar County Bear. Boy did he have a shocked look on his face. Way to go Robert! Best of luck in the next years reign.

We would like to thank the San Antonio group for the great time we had, and express best wishes in their continued success.

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston

Take your honey, a friend, or just treat yourself to a pre-Christmas gourmet meal, and support the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston at the same time. The dinner will be on Friday, December 18th, at Houston Community College, 1300 Holman off San Jacinto. The cost will be \$20.00 per person, with a taxable donation credit of \$5.00. Seating begins at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm.

The menu will be Gravad Lox, Amish Style Chicken Corn Soup, Caesar Salad, Beef Touredos Saute a la Nicoise, and finally Dessert Du Jour. Call Larry Butler at 713-807-1541 to make reservations by 3:00 pm on Friday, December 11th. Payment must be received no later than Monday, December 14th. I plan to be at the December 12th Bears Night Out, but not past 10:30 pm. And I plan to be at the December 13th Christmas Party. If you cannot be there, have someone else get your check or cash to me one of those times.

Thanks for helping to support the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston, while enjoying a great dinner with some of your friends. Note: Seating is limited; make your reservations early.

You Are Invited
to
**The Houston Area Bears
Christmas
Party**

at
Paul Pruitt's Home
4214 Littleberry St. Hou, TX 77088
December 13th From 2:00 p.m. til 8:00 p.m.

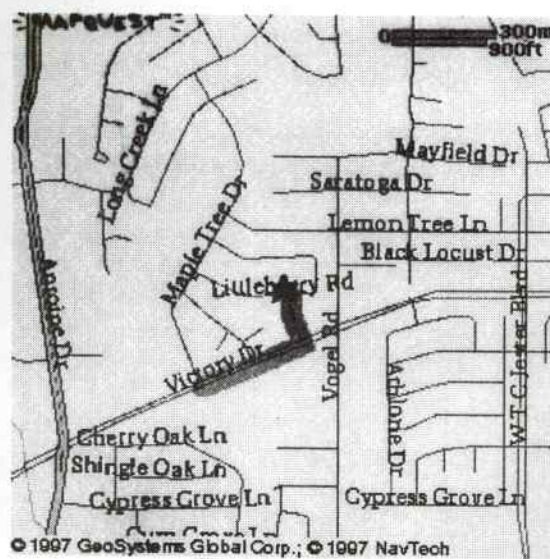
**Please bring a \$12 gift item for the gift exchange
R.S.V.P. to the HAB voice mail and announcement line
(713)867-9123 Stan LaFleur is making a list and checking
it twice for food items (no bread please,
he could get violent) Call him for food details.**

Take US 290
outbound from town.

Get off at
Antoine/W.34th exit.
Go north on Antoine
to Victory. Turn right
on Victory, go to Oak
Arbour and turn left.
At the end of the street
is Littleberry. You will
see a giant HAB run
pin in the front yard!
Can't miss it!





Full Route



Destination

DECEMBER

1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 HAB Dine Out 7:00 p.m. at Souper Salad 1574 W. Gray 713-524-3536	3	4	5
6 Casino Bus Trip	7	8	9	10	11	12 HAB Social Night 9:00 pm at Nighthawks Bring a Toy for a Tot Loving Arms
13 Hanukkah Begins at Sundown HAB Meeting and Christmas Party	14	15	16 HAB Dine Out 7:00 p.m. at Cafe Adobe 2111 Westheimer 713-528-1468	17	18	19
20 Grin-n-Bear It Contest 9:00 pm at Nighthawks HAB Bartending	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26
27 HAB Bartending at Nighthawks	28	29	30	31		
						

Bears Dine-Out

Come join us at the dine-out on December 2nd at Souper Salad at 1574 West Gray at 7:00 pm. Always lots of friends and good food. And there's another dine-out on December 16th at Cafe Adobe, 2111 Westheimer at 7:00 pm. Let's chow down!



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The Casino Bus Trip is set for Sunday, December 6th to leave from NightHawks parking lot. If you have any questions about the trip, call Loyd Powell. The Bears On The Bayou are hosting this trip as a fund-raiser for their up-coming event in April. The cost of the trip is \$10⁰⁰.

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HAB Social - December 12th

Attention all Bear Brothers: Christmas is just around the corner. In the spirit of the season we would like to continue to help Jay Kill with gifts for the needy children. Loving Arms Foundation is hoping to get toys, as well as Pampers, T-shirts, blankets, nightgowns and other essential items for the kids. They range in age from 3 to 5 years and have 25 children at this time.

And we would also like to continue to support the efforts of Stone Soup by donating items that they cannot purchase with food stamps. Items such as paper products, razor blades and shaving cream, detergent, soap, plastic bags, toothpaste and tooth brushes etc.

If you can help by donating any of these things, please bring them to the Bear Social Night at NightHawks on December 12th. We will have boxes assembled to collect your donations and gifts. Let's put a little sunshine in their lives. Thanks.

Joe Creak

John Dye



*Happy
Holidays*