HOUSTON AREA BEARS

Growler

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

Website:
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Volume 7, Number 1 | January 2000 Issue | Published by The Houston Area Bears

Membership News

Last month Houston Area Bears had four new members join. They are:

James M. (full member)
Robert P. (full member)
James S. (associate member)
Vincent S. (full member)

We want all our new members to feel welcome in our club, so if you see these guys at an HAB function in the upcoming months, make sure to introduce yourself.

Message From The Triad

Did we survive Y2K? Since this article went to press before the new year, I don't know. Let's assume the worst.

It's 11:59, December 31, 1999. Everyone is partying like crazy. The Ripcord is packed to the brim; all over Montrose there is anticipation in the air. In Times Square the ball starts to drop. (OK, so New York is an hour ahead of us; this is make-believe.) At the stroke of midnight the champagne flows and the air is full of choruses of off-key Auld Lang Syne.

Then it begins; all power is lost in Houston. As the masses begin to panic, no one is safe, as one by one all the services and necessities we have grown to take for granted crash. Telephone, water and (OH NO) the bars run out of booze. How will we survive? Then, the unthinkable happens ... the internet goes down! No chatrooms, no M4MHOUSTON, life is doomed. As the days go on, something strange evolves. People actually meet and have face to face conversations. A very novel concept; no typing is needed to converse. Pic's aren't needed. My God, you can actually see the person you're interested in. Maybe this isn't such a bad thing.

But then, alas, it wasn't a Y2K power failure. Some dizzy queen thought it would be a funny practical joke and threw the breaker switch at the bar. The internet didn't crash. It was just the standard AOL bump off. Oh well, life is back to normal. Now what did I do with his screenname? BTW, you have mail. LOL. :-)

John, Gene & John

January Meeting Agenda

1) **Welcome & Introductions**

2) **Reports**
   a) LUEY Weekend Update

3) **Old Business**
   a) HAB Holiday Party
   b) Turnabout is Fairplay III

4) **New Business**
   a) Future Business Meeting Location
   b) Future HAB Socials Location
   c) Future Dine-Outs
   d) HAB Proposed Table at RSICSS Coronation
   e) Call for Triad Nominations

5) **Items From HAB Members**

6) **Upcoming Activities**

7) **Closing**

Due to printing deadlines, this is an incomplete agenda. Complete agendas will be passed out at the business meeting.

That's News To Me

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

And if you are interested in being part of the newsletter staff for the new millennium, sign up with one of the Triad. We really do need volunteers for this effort, and we need them now. Volume 7 Issue 3 will be the last edition of The Growler to be produced by our current Newsletter staff. And in order for there to be a smooth transition from the old staff (honey, i'm feeling real old now) to the new, a couple months working together would make it much easier. So let's get going. Sign up today.

HAB Holiday Party 1999

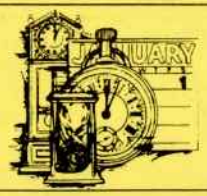
Happy New Year to all you hunky Bears. The HAB Holiday Party 1999 was an overwhelming success. Thanks to the efforts of Joe A. and Tim C. (not to be confused with tim c.) who got busy calling all the members of the club, this year's celebration was well attended. Over 70 Houston Area Bears and guests came together for fun, fellowship, and (need i say) lots of delicious food. Lots! The club supplied the ham and turkey, but all the appetizers, side dishes and desserts were contributed by the party-goers. And in true fashion, each person brought enough to feed a small army. Thankfully, we didn't have alot of people brining bread. Who brought the bread, anyway. Was it Stan LaF?

The customary "Chinese" Gift Exchange was alot of fun. Lots of cute, fuzzy bears. The video tapes seemed to be particularly popular for stealing this year. i ended up with a darling little Teddy that plays music when you squeeze his belly. (my apologies to whomever ended up with those button-covers. my advice - keep it for next year's gift exchange.)

Thanks to all for coming to the celebration and bringing food for all. But the Big Bear Hugs go out to Joe A. and Tim C. for coordinating and planning the party. And most of all to Joe for opening his home to us this year. Luckily the weather was nice enough that we were able to use Joe's screened-in porch to set up a long dining table so everyone could sit down to eat instead of doing the on-the-lap plate balancing act we've all done before. All in all, HAB Holiday Party 1999 was the biggest and best ever.

JANUARY

2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 "Turnabout is Fairplay III" Fundraiser for LUEY Presented by HCC at E.J.'s at 8:30 pm	10	11	12	13 HAB Business Meeting and Dine-Out Biba's One's-A-Meal on West Gray 6:30 Dinner / 7:30 Meeting	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					Houston Area Bears

Cooking With Pam

by
S. Pam Casserole

With just 4 simple ingredients you can prepare this frosty fruit pie in a matter of minutes. After one taste, you'll want to keep an extra pie in the freezer for those unexpected guests.

Frozen Strawberry Yogurt Pie

2 containers (8 oz. each) Breyer's Strawberry Lowfat Yogurt
1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip, thawed
2 cups strawberries, diced or sliced, or finely chopped and sweetened
1 ready-to-use graham cracker crumb crust (6 oz. or 9 in.)

Stir yogurt gently into whipped topping until well blended. Stir in strawberries. Spoon into crust. (Or, spoon yogurt mixture and strawberries alternately into crust. Cut through with spatula to marbleize.) Freeze 4 hours or overnight until firm. Let stand in refrigerator 15 minutes or until pie can be cut easily before serving. Garnish with additional whipped topping and whole strawberries, if desired. Store leftover pie in the freezer. Yummy.

Turnabout Is Fairplay III

Hard to believe, but it's that time of year again already. The Houston Area Bears, in association with Houston Council of Clubs, present Turnabout Is Fairplay III, a fundraiser for HCC "LUEY" Weekend. This show is always lots of fun, and lampoons many of your favorite local performers. This year's show is going to take place on Sunday, January 9th at 8:30 pm at E.J.'s, 2517 Ralph Street. So come on out and enjoy the show, and help raise money to make LUEY 2000 a big success.

Joke Du Jour

How do you spot a blind man in a nudey bar?

Answer: It ain't hard.

Dine-Out & Business Meeting

In January, Houston Area Bears will once again hold the business meeting at Biba's One's-A-Meal on West Gray. The date is Thursday, January 13th. The time for the meeting is 7:30 pm. And, as we did in November, we will also have a dine-out at Biba's prior to the meeting. The time for the dinner is 6:30 pm. Biba's is graciously letting us use their upstairs room for our meeting free of charge, so let's all come early to enjoy some of the fabulous fare they offer. We hope to see all you ravenous bears there.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Triad has arranged for an HAB Social to be held at E.J.'s on Saturday, January 8th at 10:00 pm.

We are now beginning the search for a replacement bar to call our home bar. Please try to attend so we can get your opinion about E.J.'s.

Call For Nominations

It's that time again. Triad elections are in March. Now is the time for nominations for the new millennium's Triad. We need all you take-charge kind of guys to step up and throw your hat in the ring. The pay is lousy, but the benefits are great. Have you ever wanted to shower people with praise, or knock some heads? Then here is your chance. All three Triad positions are up for grabs. So may the best Bears win.

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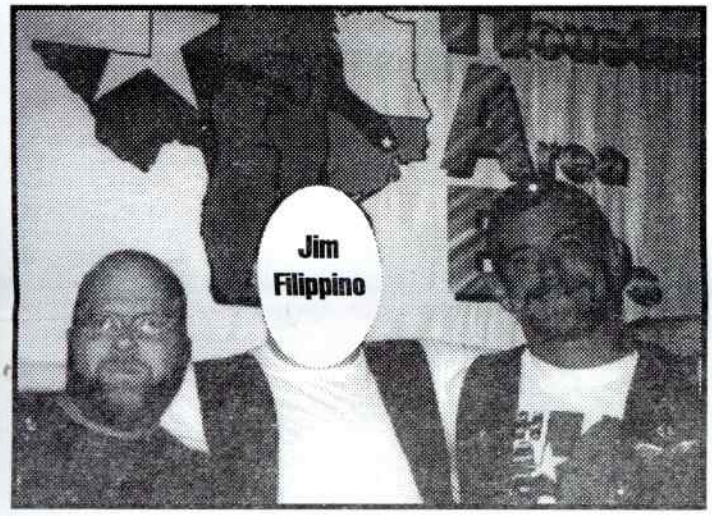
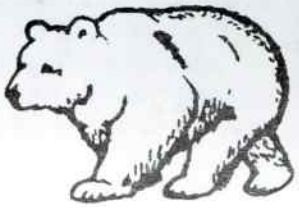


Membership News

Last month Houston Area Bears had one new member join. Welcome Ray G.

And four fellows have renewed the membership last month. Welcome back to Loyd, Robert, Gene and P.J.

We want all our new members to feel welcome in our club, so if you see these guys at an HAB function in the upcoming months, make sure to introduce yourself.



HAB Seeks a few (or many) good men (or bears) for Triad

Triad elections will be here in March. HAB is seeking bears that desire to lead the group into the future. We should be proud to have as many men in our club. Many cities would salivate to have our membership. This is due to the hard work of many men over the past five years.

The HAB continues to need bears that are willing to share their talents and love for the club to assume positions on the Triad. members of the club want to know what their potential leaders have to offer to the club's growth. This should become the reason why a member gets elected as a Triad leader.

This year, those who want to become a Triad member are asked to nominate themselves and present their ideas for the club's development before elections. We ask all nominees to prepare the following for their nomination:

(1) your list of important issues facing the development of the club (example: more involvement of members in planning and attending events);

(2) your plan to deal with those issues;

(3) what the club has meant to you personally; and

(4) other thoughts.

Nominees should prepare this in advance and submit it for the March newsletter. This way, all members can make the best choice for their new leaders. Nominees should also present a summary of their ideas at the March election meeting.

HAB has a lot to offer the bears of Houston (and members beyond Houston). It needs more leaders with great ideas for our future. So bears, offer your ideas and yourselves. Nominate yourself for the Triad. Let your ideas be known so we can make choices that will continue the proud history of the Houston Area Bears.

February Meeting Agenda

1) **Welcome & Introductions**

2) **Reports**
   a) LUEY Weekend Update
   b) Future Dine-Outs
   c) RSICSS Coronation

3) **Old Business**

4) **New Business**
   a) Don Gill Addresses the Membership
   b) Changes in Triad Nomination Procedures
   c) Nominees, Current Triad Get-Together
   d) Call for Triad Nominations

5) **Items From HAB Members**

6) **Upcoming Activities**
   a) Mr. Prime Choice
   b) LUEY 2000
   c) Nights in Black Leather

7) **Closing**

Due to printing deadlines, this is an incomplete agenda. Complete agendas will be passed out at the business meeting.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

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

And beginning with the Volume 7 Issue 4 edition of The Growler, you will need to send your articles to Dwayne Briscoe. Dwayne has stepped up and volunteered to take over the duties of newsletter editor. Big Bear Hugs to you, Dwayne. And, as Dwayne is going to be new to the newsletter effort, i want to urge all the members of Houston Area Bears to help him by submitting articles, or at the very least informing him about upcoming events or other things of interest to our community. Let's all do our part.

And The Oscar Goes To ...

At the January business meeting, Triad Member Gene Landry shocked the members with his announcement that he is stepping down. Gene has decided to fulfill a lifelong dream; to pursue an acting career. Gene has moved to New York City in search of that "big break." As you all probably know, Gene has been a fixture at the Texas Renaissance Festival for years. This past season he was King of the Fairies. How appropriate. His performance in that role was outstanding.

Gene leaves his mark on Houston Area Bears. His leadership in creating a comprehensive and workable set of by-laws for the club was exemplary. And Gene's vibrant personality will certainly be missed. Who will forget the ever-present "Whoo-Hoo's" that permeated each business meeting.

We wish Gene all the luck in the world. He readily admits that his dreams will not easily be fulfilled, but not to try to achieve them is not acceptable. Gene will return to Houston frequently and plans to keep in touch with the club.

Good luck Gene, and don't forget all us little people when you make it big.

Triad Vacancy Filled

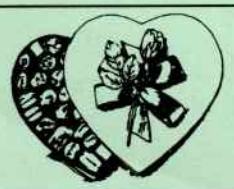
As is the policy, since the adoption of the new by-laws earlier this year, when a Triad member steps down, the alternate fills the vacancy. So, since Gene Landry has resigned his Triad position, Jim Filippino will assume the position on the Triad for the next month until the elections in March.

Triad Nominee Reception

This year the Triad nominations have taken on a new form. As stated in the "Letter From The Triad," nominees for the Triad are asked to present their platforms to the club. This is to state their ideas for improving and advancing Houston Area Bears. We, the current Triad, know that obligating yourself for a year's term may make you apprehensive. You probably have lots of questions about the duties and the time it takes to run HAB. In an effort to answer all your questions, we will be hosting a get-together for all the nominees and those of you who are thinking about running. You will be able to have all your questions answered, and hopefully your doubts alleviated. We will announce more details at the February meeting.

FEBRUARY

2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 HAB Social 10:00 pm (Location TBA)
13 HAB Hosting Cocktail Party for The Brotherhood of Pain Anniversary at Mary's, 2:00 pm	14 Valentine's Day	15 HAB Business Meeting and Dine-Out 6:30 Dinner / 7:30 Meeting (Location TBA)	16 HCC Meeting at the BRB, 8:00 pm	17	18	19
20 Mr. Prime Choice Contest at the Venture-N	21 President's Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				
						Houston Area Bears

Cooking With Pam

by
S. Pam Casserole

Tried-and-true recipes take on a fresh new attitude for the next century. Add excitement to your dinner table by preparing this innovative version of one of your family's favorite meals.

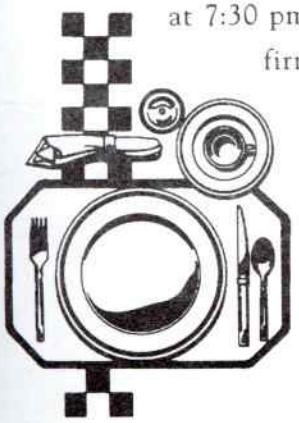
Jambalaya Skillet

½ cup chopped celery
½ cup chopped onion
1 green pepper, cut into thin strips
1 tbsp. oil
2 boneless skinless chicken breast halves, cut into strips
2 tbsp. Creole seasoning, divided
1 can (14½ oz.) diced tomatoes
1 cup water
½ lb. medium shrimp, peeled, deveined
1 can (8 oz.) tomato sauce
2 cups MINUTE white rice, uncooked

Cook and stir celery, onion and green pepper in oil in large skillet until tender. Coat chicken with 1 tbsp. of the seasoning. Add to skillet. Cook and stir 2 to 3 minutes or until cooked through. Stir in tomatoes, water, shrimp, tomato sauce and 1 tbsp. seasoning. Bring to boil. Simmer 2 minutes. Stir in rice and cover. Remove from heat. Let stand 5 minutes.

Dine-Out & Business Meeting

In February, Houston Area Bears will once again hold the business meeting in conjunction with a dine-out. The date is Tuesday, February 15th. The dinner will be at 6:30 pm and the business meeting will follow at 7:30 pm. The location has not been firmed up yet, but Bubbles is hoping to make arrangements to have the dinner and meeting at Felix Restaurant on Westheimer. Check the HAB voice-mail/announcement line for confirmation of the location.



How Sick Are We?

This year's Turnabout Is Fairplay show was held at E.J.'s on January 9th. Stan LaF., aka Muffin Meadows, presented as sick and twisted a show as was possible. After all, that's the tradition. Helping Muffin as co-emcee was John D., Bubbles to his friends. All the performers gave performances that ... well let's say, even a heavy dose of Prozac can't erase the horrifying memories. The divas who graciously participated knew their numbers perfectly. Unfortunately, on the bus ride from the home they forgot them, and their names as well I might add. Considering that most of the performers were around when dinosaurs ruled, that's not totally unexpected. One mistake was obvious, though. That hunky little cowboy who did the C&W number was actually good. Good looks, talent and stage presence all in one performer. Muffin, what were you thinking?

Now, it is my duty to inform you about the most horrifying part of the show. You probably will want to sit down and have a stiff drink before you read further. After many drinks and a lapse in role identity, two of your current Triad members volunteered to do an impromptu performance. Would you believe that John Noessel and Gene Landry donned stunning outfits, beautifully quaffed wigs and did an outstanding C&W duet? Well, I didn't think so, but it's true. John (I'll never be caught dead in drag) Noessel and Gene (I'm a man, all man) Landry embarrassed themselves, the club and set drag shows back 50 years. On the positive side, the stunned audience opened their wallets and tipped generously; I think they were paying to get us off the stage. After all, how much pain and suffering can a person tolerate. It was a ghastly sight.

Update on the performers: John Noessel can be reached at the Ben Taub psychiatric unit; his therapist says he's doing better and is almost coherent once again. Shortly after the performance Gene Landry disappeared. Rumor has it he is contemplating a sex change and is on a pilgrimage to relive the life of Bette Midler. He has been sighted entertaining at the baths in New York. All in all, the show was a success. $322 was raised for LUEY.

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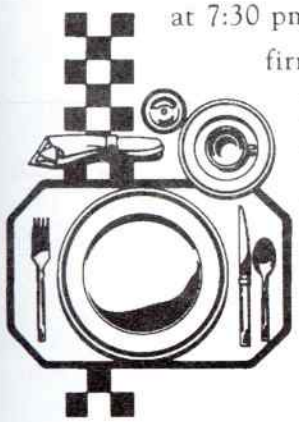

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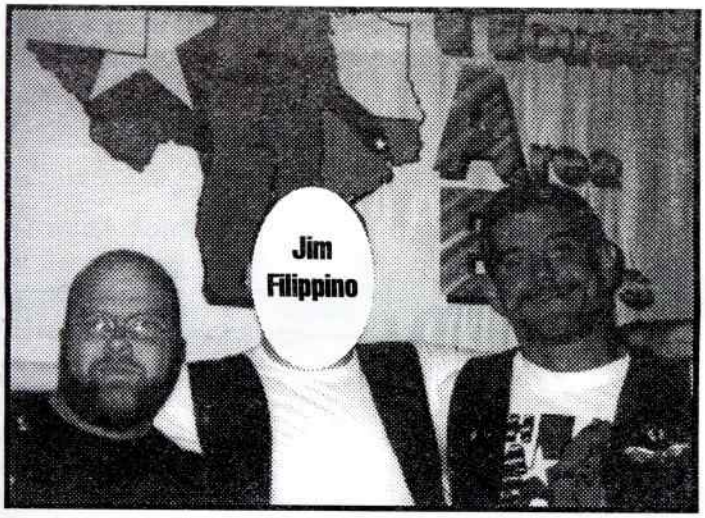


Letter From The Triad

This month our term in office ends. As all of you know, this past year has been challenging, to say the least. Probably the least said about it the better. As the new Triad, whoever it may be, takes office we extend our thanks, encouragement and experience should you need it. Let's all get behind the incoming Triad with our support and help to make their transition into leading our club a smooth one. We, the exiting Triad, wish to thank all the members for their help and support in the past year. It has been a memorable experience and one we will never forget.

John, Jim and John

A Letter From John Dye

As I step off the Triad, I would like to thank all those who have supported me for the past two years. I know at times people must have thought that I was a real asshole. But, I learned a lot also. I would also like to thank Joe Creak. He was a good friend and a good Triad Member to work with. I will fondly remember doing the 2nd and 3rd anniversary parties, which were a lot of fun.

I would like to thank John Noessel and Gene Landry. We might not have seen eye to eye on things, but we got through it. I also would like to thank Bill Neville for asking me to help him with Souther Decadence. I really enjoyed helping with that. I would like to thank Ken Leininger and David Louviere for doing the labels for our newsletter and for doing our telephone directory. Thanks to John Noessel and boy tim for doing a wonderful job on the newsletter this past 2 years.

Thanks to all the bears that were in the Grin-'N-Bear It contest. I am sure the John Mata, a.k.a. Anita Mann, was watching from where she is. If it were not for her, I would not have known what to do with the contest.

When you have friends like Loyd Powell and Robert Conn who help when help is needed, the job was easier. I also would like to thank Stan LaFleur for being there when I needed help with a Triad question.

I know it sounds like I am running on, but I also hope you know where I am coming from. So, as I step down, I wish the new Triad best of luck. I want to let them know that if they have any questions about how we did things in the club, to feel free to call on me to give them a hand if they need one.

I would like to thank our own Bob Bouton for all his and Rene's hard work last year. I am also proud of one of our members, Larry Spriggs, the new reigning Emperor. I know Larry will do a good job.

I will close now. Big bear hugs to all of you. One more big bear hug i would like to give is to Paul Pruitt for all his caring for Anita Mann.

John R. Dye
Triad Member 1998-2000

March Meeting Agenda

1) **Welcome & Introductions**

2) **Reports**
   a) LUEY Weekend Update

3) **Old Business**

4) **New Business**
   a) Triad Nominations
   b) Triad Elections

Thank God It's LUEY

Well, in just a few days we will be in the thick of LUEY Weekend. It's the time of year to party hearty and celebrate the advent of spring. HAB will be presenting our traditional twisted skit on Sunday, March 12. Stan LaFleur is directing our efforts, so you know it will be bizarre. (Just kidding Stan.) We hope to see all HAB members out enjoying the men and festivities. Be sure to wear your colors so that all the out-of-towners know your affiliation with HAB. Have a great time at LUEY.

Balls Out Bear Blast

Coming up this spring is the 6th annual "Balls Out Bear Blast." It's a clothing-optional camp-out for bears and bear admirers. This year it will be held May 19th thru 21st in the Austin area at "Penis Beach." If you're interested contact burrbear@flash.net for details and/or to sign up.

BOTB Casino Trip

For the second year in a row Bears On The Bayou has planned a Casino Trip. The date for the trip is March 26th and all who are going need to assemble in the parking lot across the street from the Venture-N at 9:00 am. Last year's trip was a lot of fun and the BOTB guys assure me this year's will be as well. And just a reminder that this year's Bears On The Bayou Run will be the weekend of May 5th thru 7th.

A Letter From The Editor

This is the last newsletter that i will be doing for HAB. I've really enjoyed it but as Paul Pruitt, my predecessor knows, 2 years is long enough and it's time for a new members slant on the news of the club. The job is being handed over to Dwayne Briscoe. Thanks Dwayne. If you need help, holler. And to you members, if you have something newsworthy and would like to see it in the newsletter, email it Dwayne at osote_tex@hotmail.com.

Now it's time for me to put in my two cents worth. It is my sincere hope that the recent problems HAB has experienced in the area of finding candidates to run for Triad in this months election get solved. I would hate to see HAB come to an end because none of it's members want to take on the responsibility of being an officer. Houston Area Bears has meant more to me than a lot of you know. Three years ago next month John and i were introduced to HAB. For many years previously, we lived in a self-imposed exile, far from the community. We had a small circle of friends and basically stayed home all the time. But we wanted to get out and start meeting new people. Trouble was, it had been so many years we really didn't know how to go about doing it. One day, in a chat room, i met Ken Leininger and told him about our dilemma. He told me that he and David belonged to a club called Houston Area Bears and described them as nice, fun guys who got together for the express purpose of fellowship and fun. He suggested we come to a meeting and then to the social. We did and decided to become members. We found that we were accepted by the club and many of its members quickly befriended us and introduced us to others who in turn became good friends. We began participating in the clubs organized events and started getting involved in helping plan them. Finally, last year, John became a Triad Member. Now John and i have so many good friends and we have an active, involved lifestyle that gives us great pleasure. And i give a lot of the credit to the Houston Area Bears. It was because of the kind, outgoing nature of the club's members that John and i relearned how to make friends, participate and have fun. Joining HAB was one of the best decisions of my life. That's why i truly hope that Houston Area Bears can find some of it's members to carry on the clubs traditions, and reputation of being a place where people like me can find friendship and fun. HAB has made a world of difference in my life and i want to thank all of you for being my friend. i'm proud to tell people the i'm a Houston Area Bear.

tim

On May 5, 2000, the second annual event known as Bears on the Bayou will commence in Houston. This is a very special event for the bear community of Houston and bears in other places. This is also an event that I feel honors the memory of John Mata, also lovingly known to many as Anita Mann.

Several years ago, Anita Mann founded the Grin'N Bear It contest. This was a monthly contest designed to bring to the forefront the "natural" men of the gay community in Houston. Most of the contestants were big men with facial and body hair, particular favorites of Anita Mann. It was at this time that the "bear movement" was going into full swing, not just nationwide, but all around the globe. For the first time men who did not fit any stereotypical mold were recognized as a viable segment of the gay community.

Upon Anita Mann's death in 1998, the Grin'N Bear It contest was passed on to John Dye to cultivate and oversee. It is obvious that this project encouraged growth, not only of the bear community in Houston, but also of a bear club with one of the largest memberships in the country.

Also, through the Grin'N Bear It contest, three local winners have been sent to bear events in other cities to compete for national and international titles. Other contestants have used this local contest to gain confidence to compete in other places. In 1999 four titles were brought back to Houston from a bear event in Dallas, Texas by bears who had previously competed in the local contest.

For all these reasons and so many more, it seems very important to keep the memory of Anita Mann alive in the bear community. Because of this, the founding committee of Bears on the Bayou will present, at this year's event, the first **Anita Mann Service Award.** This award will be presented to a member of the community who has shown unwavering and committed service to the bear community and it's friends.

One of the events of the weekend will be a warehouse party. The warehouse party is an idea that Anita Mann and I shared. It will be during this event that the award will be presented. The warehouse party will take place on Saturday, May 6, from 10P.M till 3A.M. The award will be presented shortly before midnight.

The warehouse party will be attended by registrants of the weekend event, as well as others from the local community who wish to purchase a ticket to the party only. Tickets to the warehouse party will be available thirty days before the event.

Bears on the Bayou would like to extend a warm invitation to the members of the Houston Area Bears to be present for this important moment as we honor the memory of Anita Mann.

Sincerely,

Loyd Powell

Loyd Powell
Founder, Bears on the Bayou
International Daddy Bear 1998

P.O. Box 540323 Houston, TX 77254-0323
www.bearsonthebayou.com

Release of Liability

(Please read carefully and sign below)

I hereby certify that I am at least 21 years of age. I agree not to hold Bears on the Bayou, Inc.; it's guests, sponsors, or any commercial facility or establishment where a portion of this event may be held, responsible for any loss or injury to my property or my person for the duration of this event. I agree to abide by the rules of this event. I agree not to use or possess any controlled substances or non-prescription drugs during this event. I agree to conduct myself in a responsible manner in all public areas of the hosting facilities of this event. I agree to assume full financial responsibility for any damage I may cause to any commercial property or establishment used in conjunction with this event. Still photography, video or audio reproduction of any portion of the Bears on the Bayou event may not be distributed, sold or broadcast in any way without prior written consent of Bears on the Bayou.

Signature: _____

Date _____

Now.....

Now that you have done all this reading and signing and deciding if you can live by all the rules..... Just go ahead and write the check, stick all this in an envelope with the mailing address written in the right spot, lick it, put a stamp on it and give it to that hot and hairy postman that comes around everyday about the same time. (OK, so your local postal delivery person is a woman. That just gives you another opportunity to fantasize.) Once you have done that, it will be only ten days after we receive your check and signed application that we will return by mail to you an itinerary and confirmation that you are registered for.....

B2K

Help us twist it a little more...!

www.bearsonthebayou.com

email: bearsonthebayou@hotmail.com

BEARS ON THE BAYOU

B2k

twist it a little more.....!

May 5 – 7, 2000
Houston, Texas

Mail this form to:
Bears on the Bayou
PO Box 540323
Houston, TX 77254

Please feel free to copy, clone or reproduce this form at will. Only one name per registration form, please.

Registration Information

Please print.

Name:
Address:
City:
State/Province/Country:
Zip Code:
Phone:
Email Address:

Name Badge Information

You will receive a name badge upon check-in at the Bears on the Bayou event. This badge will assure your access to all official Bears on the Bayou scheduled events. Please give accurate information so that we may recognize you in the manner in which you are most comfortable.

Name by which you would like to be identified i.e. nickname, first name, Internet name:
Club Affiliation:

Something to Remember Us By...

All Bears on the Bayou registrants will receive an official event remembrance item upon check-in. Please write in your waist size below. (Come on, don't be shy. We know that some of us bears are pretty big and some of us bears are pretty small.)

Waist Size:

Additional Participation

Please indicate any additional information you would like to receive from the list below:

_____ Information about advertising in the Bears on the Bayou Program Book.

_____ Information about participating in the Bears on the Bayou Vendor Fair. (We want you to bring your most *twisted* bear wares to sell. We all like the same old stuff, but if you've got something new to flaunt, this will be the place to do it!)

_____ Information about volunteering to help during the Bears on the Bayou *twisted* event. (If you do this, you will always be remembered as one *"twisted sicko"*.)

Special Needs

Bears on the Bayou wishes to accommodate persons with challenging life issues. If you have any special accommodation or dietary needs, please describe them below so that we can make provision for your comfort and well being.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Hotel Information

Bears on the Bayou is proud to host this *twisted* event at the ***Crowne Plaza, Houston•Galleria Area***, 2222 West Loop South, Houston, Texas. Guestrooms will be $65.00 per night for a single or double room. To make reservations call **800-327-6213**. When making reservations, please remember to mention Bears on the Bayou for this special room rate. The special room rate will apply May 4 through May 8 for those interested in early arrival or extending their stay in Houston.

Fee and Payment Information

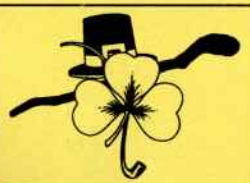
Registration for Bears on the Bayou is $69.69. Registration postmarked after April 15 will be $80.68 (because you still owe us one). Limited registration packet and goodies will be available the weekend of Bears on the Bayou. Payment by check or money order only. Please mail yours early.

Check (indicate amount)
Money Order (indicate amount)

Registration cancellations must be in writing and must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2000. (Now, why would you want to go and do a thing like that?) Cancellations postmarked by April 15, 2000 will receive a refund less a ten-dollar processing fee. This refund will be mailed within thirty days. Registration for Bears on the Bayou is not transferable. All registrants who do not show will not receive a refund. They will receive their registration packet, special commemorative item and whatever other twisted stuff we happen to include. (The real problem is that there is no way we can mail to you all the fun stuff you would miss by not showing up. Besides, by now you are really wondering why we need to know your waist size…!)

MARCH

2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Ash Wednesday	9 LUEY Early Registration at the Outpost 8:00 - 10:00 pm	10 "Let Us Entertain You" Weekend begins	11 HAB Cocktail Party at E.J.'s, 12:00 noon TFL Tea at the Ripcord, 3:30 pm
12	13	14	15 HAB Business Meeting	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
						Houston Area Bears

March Meeting Agenda

1) **Welcome & Introductions**

2) **Reports**
   a) LUEY Weekend Update

3) **Old Business**

4) **New Business**
   a) Triad Nominations
   b) Triad Elections

Thank God It's LUEY

Well, in just a few days we will be in the thick of LUEY Weekend. It's the time of year to party hearty and celebrate the advent of spring. HAB will be presenting our traditional twisted skit on Sunday, March 12. Stan LaFleur is directing our efforts, so you know it will be bizarre. (Just kidding Stan.) We hope to see all HAB members out enjoying the men and festivities. Be sure to wear your colors so that all the out-of-towners know your affiliation with HAB. Have a great time at LUEY.

Balls Out Bear Blast

Coming up this spring is the 6th annual "Balls Out Bear Blast." It's a clothing-optional camp-out for bears and bear admirers. This year it will be held May 19th thru 21st in the Austin area at "Penis Beach." If you're interested contact burrbear@flash.net for details and/or to sign up.

BOTB Casino Trip

For the second year in a row Bears On The Bayou has planned a Casino Trip. The date for the trip is March 26th and all who are going need to assemble in the parking lot across the street from the Venture-N at 9:00 am. Last year's trip was a lot of fun and the BOTB guys assure me this year's will be as well. And just a reminder that this year's Bears On The Bayou Run will be the weekend of May 5th thru 7th.

A Letter From The Editor

This is the last newsletter that i will be doing for HAB. I've really enjoyed it but as Paul Pruitt, my predecessor knows, 2 years is long enough and it's time for a new members slant on the news of the club. The job is being handed over to Dwayne Briscoe. Thanks Dwayne. If you need help, holler. And to you members, if you have something newsworthy and would like to see it in the newsletter, email it Dwayne at osote_tex@hotmail.com.

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tim

HOUSTON AREA BEARS
SPECIAL MEETING

It's That Time Again

TRIAD ELECTIONS

DEAR MEMBERS,

As you know, its that time of year again, Triad Elections. We would like to see you at the special meeting. Come vote your choice for the Triad. Please vote to elect members who you consider to be best qualified for Triad. Nominations remain open. Your dues must be paid up to vote. Hope to see you there.

Bears on the Bayou Casino Trip - $10
March 26, 2000 (Sunday)
9 a.m. departure at 2900 Main
Tickets at Leather By Boots and Basic Brothers.
Continental Breakfast and Lunch included.

Bears on the Bayou II – May 5-7, 2000
Tickets are $69.69 through 4/15/2000
Applications were in your last newsletter

Currently Nominated CANDIDATES:

Chris Daniel

Randy Gearhart

Bruce Reeves

You?

==========

Elections
March 29, 2000
7:30 p.m.
Biba's One's-A-Meal
607 West Gray

HAB Calendar:

03/26 - Sun - Bears on the Bayou - Casino Trip
03/28 - Tue - Dine Out 7 p.m. at the Pot Pie (Westheimer at the curve)
03/29 - Wed - Dine Out 6 p.m. at Bibas – Ones A Meal
03/29 - Wed - Meeting (Triad Elections) at Bibas - Ones A Meal
04/27 - Thu - Dine Out at Chapultepec (813 Richmond)

2507 Capitol Street
Houston, TX 77003
March 16, 2000

Dear Fellow HAB Member:

My name is Bruce Reeves. Some of you probably know me, some of you don't. I officially threw my hat in the ring for Triad of the Houston Area Bears at the last meeting. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the election meeting due to a prior commitment.

Some of you may have heard me express concerns about the time the position takes at a prior meeting. After some very serious soul searching, I have decided that the PRIMARY duty of a triad member should be to keep the club functioning on a day to day basis. That does not and SHOULD not include DOING EVERYTHING behind the scenes to make an event happen - but more simply, to provide the leadership and encourage OTHERS to do those tasks. I believe that the task of a triad member is to make sure that meetings happen - ON TIME and as short as possible while getting the job done.

The triad is also fiscally responsible for the club, and as such needs to present the organization with a budget.

The triad should make every effort to attend as many club functions as possible and perform as ambassadors for HAB to other organizations.

I would suggest a few changes along the way to make the club more efficient. Have quarterly meetings instead of monthly meetings. That may require a two hour meeting instead of one - but when was the last one hour meeting you were at anyway? Most of the business in between meetings should be able to be handled by the triad.

But the MOST important thing that we as a club need to do is make sure that our members are treated well. New members should be handed a membership packet as soon as they pay their dues. That membership packet should include a copy of the latest newsletter, the most recent membership roster, a list of the things which the club currently has for sale, a welcome letter detailing the primary functions the club participates or hosts each year, most importantly, information about the club website and listserv. The triad also needs to listen to the concerns of the members and strive to improve the organization whereever possible.

I will also tell you upfront - in case you DON'T know me well enough, that I am a BITCH. I don't put up with bullshit from anyone for any reason, but if I am elected, I will NOT use the triad for a soap box to complain about doing my job. I'm fair and will do the best job that I can if elected. I would like to ask for your support in the election and in the coming year.

Bruce Reeves

CHRISTOPHER LEE DANIEL
5403 BEVERLY HILL ST. # 23
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77056
713-623-2027 Home
usmcbrcn@aol.com

The purpose of this letter is to formally announce my intentions of run for the Triad of the Houston Area Bears. I would like to take this opportunity to present some of my skills, and thoughts about the direction of the HAB.

EXPERIENCE

- Being involved with the Bear community since May 1998.
- I have been out of the U.S. Marine Corps since October 1993, and been out to the Gay world since my personal coming out since January 1990.
- I am active member of the ***Brotherhood of Pain*** and presently holding the title of President for this organization (since January 2000).
- I am very young and inexperienced in being a big leader of big organizations such as this Bear community but willing to take on this challenge.

SKILLS

- Good verbal and non verbal communication skills
- Good at organization of events
- Budget design and implementation
- Good at seeing the "Big Picture"
- Good at balancing accounts to accuracy
- Able to handle multi tasks
- Delegation

PHILOSOPHY

- Will assist in the day to day functions of Houston Area Bears
- Recruiting new members to the organization as well as asking New Bears to join our mailing list such as Newsletter and One List.
- Try and set new goals for the New Triad.
- Uphold the mission of the Houston Area Bears.
- Assist new and old members of the HAB in finding out reasons why or when we will have meetings, i.e. calling and/or emailing new members information as it comes available to publish.
- Assist with publication of "The Growler" with Dwayne Briscoe aka newsletter Publisher.

I will do my darndest to fulfill goals and missions put before me in helping out this organization as much possible. If you don't know me feel free to ask me, I am available to discuss these issues with you any day or time of the week.

RANDY THOMAS GEARHART
6326 GABRIELLE CANYON COURT
KATY, TEXAS 77450

The purpose of this letter is to formally announce my intentions to run for the Triad of the Houston Area Bears. I would like to take the opportunity to present some of my experience, skills, and thoughts about the direction of HAB.

EXPERIENCE

- 25 years of Administrative/Management experience including staff supervision, policy and procedure development/implementation, orientation/training of staff and volunteers, program development/implementation, budget development/implementation, fund raising/grant reporting, team/leadership development within staff, and more.
- Founding member of Health Issues Taskforce of Cleveland
- Board member Health Issues Taskforce of Cleveland
- Former Executive Director of an AIDS Organization
- Former Administrator of a 500 bed hospital
- Former Administrator of a Health and Human Services Agency
- Former member Board of Directors of Cleveland Lesbian and Gay Community Center
- Former Board member of International Alternative Healing Organization
- Chairperson of International 10 day conference on Healing.
- Former Board member of North East Healing Organization
- Developer/trainer/educator of multiple workshops internationally
- Self Employed Business Owner for 15 years
- Organizational consultant to Five major hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio
- Co-founder North Coast Bears – Cleveland, Ohio
- Former member of Arktos, North Coast Bears, and Motor City Bears

SKILLS

- Good verbal and non verbal communication skills
- Organizational Development
- Mediation
- Delegation
- Budget Development and Implementation
- Training
- Program Development
- Task Oriented
- Able to see the "big picture"
- Able to flow between concrete and abstract issues
- Visionary

PHILOSOPHY

Purpose of Triad

- Day to Day running of Houston Area Bears
- Guidance and stabilizing group to members
- Delegation of tasks to membership to achieve desired outcome of membership
- Hold the vision of Houston Area Bears mission statement
- Provide leadership to members to obtain goals and vision of the club
- Represent Houston Area Bears in the General Community when appropriate
- Fiscal responsibility
- Facilitate effective and efficient decision making

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW TRIAD

- Improve communication with and among membership
- Develop and implement effective budget
- Develop new orientation packet/orientation for new members
- Review mission statement and encourage membership to move towards adherence to current mission statement; or to development a more accurate mission statement to truly reflect the actions and purpose of the club. To become congruent with our mission.
- Consider having quarterly business meetings instead of monthly business meetings
- Increase social activities by re-introducing, movie nights, potlucks, card/game night, etc.
- Revive and improve membership participation in social events and volunteerism towards completion of club tasks.
- Keep it simple - if a task or event is suggested by the membership - the task or event must have the active volunteerism of the membership in order to be considered. If sufficient membership cooperation and responsibility taking is not forthcoming , the event should not be scheduled.

I ask you for your vote either in person or by proxy . Thank you

Randy T Lewis

Houston Area Bears

The GROWLER

PO Box 66443
Houston, TX 77266

Voice Mail/Announcement Line
(713) 867-9123

Website:
http://www.HoustonAreaBears.com

Volume 7, No. 4

April 2000

Welcome New Triad

Murphy's Law (1) - HAB (0)

On March 15th, it was a time to realize that if it could go wrong for Houston Area Bears, it was that Felix's was not prepared to have us. Although there was a discussion of proceeding with a meeting and elections, with the largest turnout of members in recent months, it was agreed upon to postpone it for two more weeks to allow for a more quieter location to hold for such an important meeting. However Chris D., Bruce R., and Randy G. all self-nominated themselves to run for the Triad. With that, a notice of the meeting and proxy votes was to be sent out for members, along with statements by each of the three candidates.

Minor announcements were made regarding the upcoming HAB dine-out at the Pot Pie on March 28th. The next scheduled dine-out for April will be at Chapultapec, 813 Richmond Avenue on April 27th.

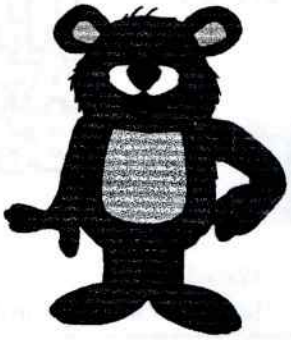
Murphy's Law (1) - HAB (1)

On March 29th, we evened it out with Murphy's Law. Our new Triad has finally been voted in, with the self-nominations of Chris D., Bruce R., and Randy G. all being voted upon and accepted by the membership at the meeting, hosted at Biba's One's A Meal Restaurant. A special note of thanks is to be passed onto former Triad members, Jim F. and John D. for sticking it out until the very end. Also a special note of thanks is to be given to Dan L. who has been a very stable and strong administrative supporter in the past for the Houston Area Bears.

In other news, it was recommended and re-confirmed to host a cocktail party for the Texas Renegades 15th Anniversary Run the last weekend in March. It was also recommended and approved to host a cocktail party for the NLA Spring Inequity Anniversary Run the weekend of April 14th-16th with a specific date and time to be determined. Finally it was also recommended and approved to host a cocktail party for the Bears on the Bayou Run May 5th-7th with a specific date and time to be determined.

In other news, the new Triad will be determining its active participation in the Houston Council of Clubs, as well as doing a brief telephone survey for participation in the Houston Gay Pride Parade this year. The next business meeting will again be held at Biba's One's A Meal on Tuesday, April 18th with dinner beginning at 6:30PM and the business meeting starting at 7:30PM. All members and non-members are encouraged to participate. This will be an opportunity to begin the new year off right!

Houston Area Bears Contact List



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osote_tex@hotmail.com

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Editorial Policy
The opinions expressed in *The Growler* are those of the writer(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Houston Area Bears. Opinions expressed in *The Growler* may not be politically reflective. *The Growler* considers poems, short stories, articles, artwork, etc. submitted by the community for publication. Articles and columns will be edited as needed. Submission containing such adult situations are acceptable, however, submission of pornographic nature (as determined by the newsletter editor) will not be considered. Names will be withheld on request. *The Growler* will make every effort to print time-sensitive submissions in the next issue.

Please send submissions to: Editor, PO Box 66443, Houston, TX 77266 or e-mail to: osote_tex@hotmail.com.

What's Happening Around the Texas Bear Clubs?

Austin

Looking for an old fashioned Toga Party? Well HOT (Heart of Texas) Bear Members Ron and Steve are hosting what proves to be quite a unique experience, on Saturday, April 8th. For information about this event, please call the bears at (512) 473-3815 or reach them via e-mail: info@HeartOfTexasBears.org too.

Looking for a little more fun in the Heart of Texas? Come to the 6th Annual "Balls Out Bear Blast" held at the Hippy Hollow clothing-optional camp ground. It will be held over the weekend of May 19th - 21st this year. More information can be received by contacting the bear telephone line or via e-mail: burrbear@flash.net too.

Dallas

With Texas Bear Round Up wrapping up the first weekend in Dallas, it'll be quite a time to recover for the Dallas Bears. An expected turn-out of around 500 bears and bear admirers, news and hopeful photos, we will publish a brief overview of how successful the men in Dallas were this year.

For information about other events in the Dallas area for bears, contact the bear telephone line at (214) 521-5342, ext. 880 or via e-mail: secretary@dallasbears.org too.

San Antonio

The Texas Lone Star Bears are hosting their "Mr. Texas Lone Star Bear 2000 Competition" on Friday, April 21st with their Fiesta Bear Party, beginning at 9PM at The Hideout, 5307 McCullough. Monies raised will go to AmFar (American Foundation for AIDS Research). For more information, call the bears at (210) 641-8108 or via e-mail: TxLSBears@aol.com too.

Bears On The Bayou News

"Workin' At The Car Wash!!"

The Bears On The Bayou will be hosting a car wash at Mary's Bar on Saturday, April 8th from 10:00AM - 12:00PM. This is based on a donation-only basis, so please bring your dirty cars and your financial donations to help support the upcoming Bears On The Bayou Weekend in May. If you have had the fantasy of having a group of hot bears washing and vacuuming your car, then this is the day to do it!!

Second Annual Run to be Held May 5th - 7th

The planning committee for the Bears On The Bayou weekend has quite a great plan in store for people attending. Beginning off Friday night with a welcome party and bar run, this is surely a great way to get out and show that famous Houston Hospitality we are all well known for.

On Saturday, the pool party will be held, rain or shine (it's indoors), so this will certainly be your time to show off what everyone else has been waiting all year to see. Later on in the evening, comes the awfully twisted "warehouse party" that got very good reviews from everyone who attended last year. The bus schedule will be published the weekend of the event, as this party will be held in an undisclosed location for privacy and security issues. The warehouse party is a clothing optional event.

Finally on Sunday, after such a long and twisted weekend, the bears will be topping it off with a great farewell brunch. This is an opportunity to make new friends, renew old friendships, and maybe even meet that special someone you've been looking for.

Simply contact the Bears at PO Box 540323, Houston, TX 77254 or via the internet at: www.bearsonthebayou.com.

Houston Area Bears News

Membership Update & Survey

Everyone who is a current member should have received a form with a self-addressed stamped envelope for your use. This survey was developed to ask you, the member, basic questions as to what types of activities and direction you want to see this organization move forward in. It only takes 5 minutes to read, check off, and mail this form, as it will be a valuable tool in determining how the new Triad will proceed with developing an agenda for the coming year. If you choose not to complete the form, that is your choice. However, it is also the opportunity to see how you want to see your organization developed.

What Is Onelist?

So many people have asked what "Onelist" is all about, so here's the "Reader's Digest" version. Onelist is a forum in which people have the opportunity to discuss issues, ideas, concerns, etc. regarding a particular subject. The Houston Area Bears has such a list on Onelist, which you can locate on the internet at www.onelist.com. Once you locate the web site, simply follow the steps in signing up for a particular list, which if you state "Houston Area Bears" in the subject, you will locate that list. The list is very self-explanatory and easy-to-use in signing you up. There are a host of other items you can sign up for as well. It's easy, it's free, and it's very useful for our members to keep up with last-minute items that may pop-up.

Editor's Note

Due to several factors, this newsletter will be going through various changes in the coming months. Feedback, positive and constructive, is always appreciated.

What's New in the World Wide Web

As a regular feature in the upcoming issues of the newsletter, web sites of other bear clubs as well as business that cater to bear merchandise and personals pages will be featured. We are always strapped for time when web browsing, so this will allow you, our reader, to find out where some of the best web sites are without having to spend countless hours looking for them yourself.

If you know if any web sites that you think would be of value to our members, please forward your responses to me @ osote_tex@hotmail.com and I will publish them in a future issue.

These clubs/businesses are for informational purposes only. The HAB does not endorse nor align itself with what sites are published here. These sites are to be considered strictly for entertainment purposes.

Bear Businesses

http://www.bearby.com

This site is truly a unique opportunity to find anything and everything it seems. From tank-tops, t-shirts, to caps, bears of all shapes and sizes, as well as the various accessories that include such items as: plush stuffed bears, prints, party towel and even hankys!

http://www.bushcreek.com

This site is probably one that several people have known about through such magazines as Bear and Bunkhouse. On top of those popular magazines for bears, there is also quite a selection of videos, t-shirts, ball caps, and wallets just to name a few. Truly a very wide selection of items for your viewing pleasure.

Bear Personals

http://www.bear.net

One of the best places to meet people from all over the world and in your own back yard. If you're interested in traveling somewhere for work or just for fun, it's a great way to meet a few new friends before you get there. Also it has links to several bear clubs/organizations too.

http://www.woofwatch.com

Developed by a couple of woofy bears named Alex and Bruno, this is a very nice and well laid out personals site. Also some very nice pics in the Bear Events section as well, so it will give you plenty of opportunities to seek out that possible special someone too.

Unique Bear Home Pages

http://www.bearhistory.com

The Bear History Project is a unique collection of bear memorabilia, magazines, newsletters, as well as information on past, present, and future bear events as they have evolved from the very beginning. Developed by a historian and writer, it is amazing that the bear history project has been going on for 6 years in October 1999.

This site is incredible in showing the various issues and also evolution of how "beardom" has come about. Developed and maintained by Les Wright, this has obviously been a very tireless and often thankless effort that is to be admired for the amount of effort and dedication that has been put into it.

April

2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 April Fools Day
2 Daylight Savings Time Begins	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8** Bear's on the Bayou Car Wash @ Mary's 10:00AM-2:00PM
9	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
16 Palm Sunday	**17**	**18** HAB Dine-Out Business Meeting Biba's One's a Meal	**19** Passover Begins at Sundown	**20**	**21** Good Friday	**22**
23 Easter Sunday	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27** HAB Dine-Out Chapultapec	**28**	**29**
30					Houston Area Bears	HAB Growler Line (7130 867-9123

Bear Events Around The Country

April 13th - 16th
Bear Jam 2000
Nashville, TN
www.geocities.com/~musiccitybears.org

WOOF!

Believe it or not, this year's theme is "Bear Trek" so beam me up Grizzly Adams! What more can you ask for, but a chance to mix sci-fi with some of the best men in Tennessee?!

April 13th - 16th, 2000
Spring Thaw 2000
Seattle, WA
www.nwbears.org

With a bear, belly, and buns charity contest, there is a host of events going on this gathering of our northern bear friends. There's a lot more things to see than the redwoods up here.

April 14th - 16th, 2000
Bear Camp 2000
Columbus, OH
www.infinet.com/~cub/bc00.htm

Featuring the 4th annual Mr. All-Ohio Bear Contest, it brings together bear and leather clubs from all over.

April 28th - 30th
Out of Hibernation VI: Cirque Du Millennium
Indianapolis, IN
www.hoosierbears.org

Ever thought about running away to the circus? The Hoosier Bears celebrate their 6th year this month, along with the Mr. Midwest Bear Contest.

May 19th - 22nd
Bears in Paradise
St. Petersburg, FL
www.WestFloridaGrowlers.com

Talk about laying around and being lazy. This weekend is filled with nothing but rest, relaxation, and soaking up the sun..

May 25th - 29th
Bear Pride 2000
Chicago, IL
www.glbears.com

One of the biggest bear events in the country, this brings people from all over the world to celebrate in the Windy City. Events are throughout the Memorial Day Weekend, also held during International Male Leather in Chicago.

June 30th - July 4th
Bear-All 2000
Atlanta, GA
www.southernbears.org

Celebrating 8 years of togetherness, the Southern Bears are a group of people that you will truly find that special southern hospitality at. Especially at their underwear party being held at the Eagle that weekend.

August 4th - 7th
Bears in the Keys
Key West, FL
www.bearsinthekeys.com

Being labeled the "southernmost" bear event in the country, this is sure to be a very hot and shirtless weekend among other items. If you have never experienced the gay experience in Key West, this is definitely the time to go.

September 15th - 17th
Bearadise
Oklahoma City, OK
www.redearthbears.org

Held at the infamous Habanna Inn, the largest gay resort in the country with over 200 rooms and several clubs, you can't miss out on the "Walk of Shame." Curious about the walk? Then you will just have to find out for yourself that weekend then won't you?

If you see an event that is not listed on here that should be, contact the newsletter editor. The Houston Area Bears only provides this information as a resource and does not endorse any event listed here.

HAB MEMBERSHIP UPDATE/SURVEY

Current Information	Updated Information	
(Name) Ken McLeod	_____	
(Address) 7842 Oakington Drive	_____	
(Address) Houston, TX 77071	_____	
(home telephone) (713) 981-0412	_____	(optional)
(work telephone) (281) 652-8626	_____	(optional)
(e-mail) N/A	_____	(optional)
(birthday)	_____	

* *

1. Do you want HAB to have a home bar? Yes _____ No _____

2. If so, rank 1-5, (5 = highest) :

BRB's _____ Brick's _____ EJ's _____ Mary's _____ Rip Cord _____

Other Choice _____

3. How often do you prefer HAB dine-outs to be (please choose only one):

Weekly _____ Bi-Weekly _____ Monthly _____

4. How often do you prefer HAB movie nights to be (please choose only one):

Weekly _____ Bi-Weekly _____ Monthly _____

5. Would you want a HAB campout? Yes _____ No _____

6. Would you want a HAB monthly potluck? Yes _____ No _____

7. Would you want a HAB quarterly progressive dinner? Yes _____ No _____

8. How often do you prefer HAB meetings? Monthly _____ Quarterly _____

9. Should we accept ads to cover production/mailing costs for the HAB newsletter?

Yes _____ No _____

Please print additional comments/suggestions on the back of this form.

Forms are due back by no later than April 21, 2000.

HOUSTON AREA BEARS

Growler

P.O. Box 66443
Houston, TX 77266

Voice-Mail & Announcement Line
713-867-9123

Website:
http://www.HoustonAreaBears.com

Volume 7, Number 5 — May 2000 Issue — Published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc.

Message from Your Triad

On behalf of the three of us, we would like to thank you for your support in our election as the new Triad. Our primary goal for the New Year is to work towards a revitalization of the club - bring it back to life - both physically and emotionally. Part of our efforts will be to make sure there are a variety of events for you - the members - to choose from. The rest is going to be up to each and every one of you.

We are interested in as much input and feedback as you can give us. This feedback can come by participating in the events that appeal to you, by letting us know through e-mails, phone calls, or personal discussions where you would like to see the club move. This includes what you would like to do and what you DON'T want to do.

Our primary purpose is to facilitate YOU the member to make the organization what YOU want it to be. We need YOUR help to do that.

We look forward to reconnecting with past and present members and connecting with all those new members we hope to welcome throughout the next year.

We look forward to working on a strong commitment to communication with the membership, a positive forward movement, and a desire to not fix what isn't broken.

Please come join us at meetings, socials, dine-outs, movie nights, dinners, potlucks and as many social events as you care to attend.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the previous triad for their hard work in what was sometimes a difficult situation.

A very big special thanks and appreciation to Bubbles for his years of hard work, dedication, thorough record keeping and helping this new triad make a smooth and easy transition. Bubbles a big yeahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhaaaaaa and thanks.

Also, we wish to give thanks to Dan for his hours of support, work, and commitment to Bubbles and the club helping us move forward for the last two years.

We would also like to thank Dwayne for doing the last newsletter.

With this newsletter, most of you will find your renewal applications. We would urge you to complete them and drop them back in the mail ASAP. Thanks in advance!

In the brotherhood of beardom....

Chris, Randy and Bruce

WANTED: A Newsletter Editor

Our newsletter editor has resigned! If you have the ability to manipulate characters on a computer, and would be willing to be editor of the newsletter, contact one of the Triad. The newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month and SHOULD NORMALLY come out around the first.

This and That

Word has come down on high that Mary's has come out of bankruptcy and has signed a ten year lease to stay in their current location. Congratulations to them!

Our very own Triad member Randy Gearhart won the title Mr. Texas Lone Star Polar Bear recently in San Antonio. The contest was sponsored by Texas Lone Star Bears.

The Houston Area Bears voted a year or so ago to incorporate. As of April 21, 2000, we are now a State of Texas Non-Profit Corporation organized exclusively for social purposes.

The SURVEY!

We had an outstanding return on the survey - 42 people - roughly 50% of the membership.

The membership indicated that HAB SHOULD have a home bar (34 Yes, 4 No) but the home bar selection was in a dead heat

The SURVEY!, continued from page 1

between the BRB, Mary's and the Ripcord. ***We will decide at the June meeting where our home bar should be.***

Dine-outs - either biweekly or weekly (16 biweekly, 21 monthly)
Movie nights - monthly (3 weekly, 8 biweekly, 32 monthly)
Have a campout (27 Yes, 12 No)
Have a monthly potluck (37 Yes, 4 No)
Have a quarterly progressive dinner (36 Yes, 5 No)
Have monthly meetings (25 Monthly, 16 Quarterly)
Accept ads for the Growler (38 Yes, 4 No)

You have spoken - the Triad will be keeping your survey in mind as the year continues. ***Thanks for your input!***

April 18th Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Triad at 7:30 p.m. Triad members present - Chris Daniel, Bruce Reeves and Randy Gearhart - Meeting chaired by Chris.

Drawing for a Door Prize was held and Joe C. won a Bear Sponge brought back from England.

Note: previous meeting minutes dated March 29th were not reviewed and approved. Therefore, they will need to be voted on at the next scheduled meeting on May 15th 2000.

OLD BUSINESS
Bears on the Bayou announced their event has been cancelled due to low registration at present. Therefore, HAB will not be holding the previously approved cocktail party during the Bears on the Bayou event. Lloyd indicated the committee of Bears on the Bayou are currently regrouping and look forward to offering other events throughout the year in preparation for 2001 Bears on the Bayou.

NEW BUSINESS
Triad reported John D. of the previous Triad has turned over all financial records and club records in good condition. The Triad met last Saturday and changed over the bank accounts to the new Triad signatures at Bank United. Triad also indicated a research of past years records are underway to help determine a budget for the 2000-2001 fiscal year that begins in June.

Triad reports that Bill N has agreed to be the Southern Decadence coordinator for HAB again this year. The Southern Decadence event will be a ground package ONLY this year with people having to obtain their own transportation to the event. Joe C on behalf of Bill N reported that Bill has contacted the guesthouse in New Orleans and is waiting for their response.

Triad reports that Stan L has agreed to become the official HAB Cocktail Coordinator. He has already coordinated the most recent two Cocktail parties for the Texas Renegades and The National Association of Leather.

Triad reports that Jack A has agreed to continue coordinating dine-outs and a two-month schedule was handed out at the meeting. The dine-outs have been expanded to weekly throughout the Houston area as a two month test to determine if better participation occurs with rotation of location, day of the week, and being scheduled more often.

Dwayne C was asked by triad to report preliminary results of mail in survey. Dwayne reported that approximately 36 surveys out of 100 had been returned as of last Saturday and the cut off is next week on April 21st. The preliminary results have Mary's, BRB, and Ripcord close as possible home bar. That the membership does want to continue monthly meetings instead of going to quarterly meetings, the membership wants progressive dinners, potlucks, movie nights, camp outs, and is interested in accepting paid advertisement for the Growler. Final results will be reviewed by the Triad with information then given to the membership either in the newsletter or the next meeting on May 15th.

Triad asked membership if they had an interest in Bears at the Baths night. General membership present at the meeting acknowledged an interest and Joe C volunteered to coordinate and report back to the Triad his research so a date can be set.

Triad asked membership if they had any interest in holding a Daddy Bear picnic in honor of Fathers Day. Membership at the meeting showed little interest in this event. Therefore, no further work will be done to coordinate such an event.

Triad took a straw poll of membership at the meeting regarding participation in the upcoming Pride Day parade. The event will cost the HAB $75 dollars to participate as either a car/truck/float or a walking contingent entry. The members at the meeting expressed some interest in researching and Joe C volunteered to be HAB representative to the Pride Committee Meetings and report back to the Triad his research. Discussion was held as to the possibility of a phone call survey to determine who would actually commit to walking in the parade before HAB invests the $75 dollars. No determination was made as to who would head up this survey or how it would be done. The Triad will discuss this and necessary action will be taken.

Bruce Reeves momentarily stepped out of his Triad Position to present to the membership present at the meeting information about Gulf Coast Archives and Museum. Bruce has asked the membership to consider placing on "permanent loan" the HAB trophy case and all contents. Discussion followed with a motion made and then withdrawn by Lloyd regarding what HAB might need to make this decision. Bruce Reeves agreed to go back to GCAM and develop contract/detailed guidelines between HAB and GCAM detailing the exact nature of this "permanent loan". Bruce agreed and will present documents to the Triad for review and then discussion on the agenda under old business of the May 15th meeting.

FORMER ACTIVITIES - REPORTS
Cocktail parties for the Texas Renegade Run and NLA Run was given
Bruce Reeves gave social Event report. - Held at Mary's two Saturday's ago
Report given for possible Memorial Day potluck

HAB -minutes of 4-18-00 page 3 con't

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF MEMBERS
Jon D reminded members of a car wash fundraiser by the Court at Mary's this Saturday from 10-4pm

Next HAB social will be held on May 12th (Friday) at the Side Pocket at BRB starting at 10pm

Carl from HPEP organization spoke briefly about their pan-sexual pan-gender SM organization and their open meetings. For more information you can look on web site. HPEP.ORG. Meetings are scheduled the 1st Saturday of the Month

Next meeting will be held on May 15th 2000 - location to be announced as soon as Triad is able to determine if Biba's is available that night.

Lloyd moved to adjourn meeting, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Non-HAB Upcoming Events

From **Resources for Bears -**
http://www.resourcesforbears.com/
May 19: Bears In Paradise, Suncoast Resort, St. Petersburg FL, http://www.westfloridagrowlers.com/
May 25: Bear Pride 2000, Chicago, IL http://www.glbears.com/y2k/
May 26: McKinley Club and the Arctic Bears to Denali National Park - http://www.tlfmc.com/calendar.htm
June 2: Bears in the Woods, Silverwood Lake, CA http://www.bearsla.org/
June 19: Southern Hi-Bearnation 2000, Melbourne, Australia http://www.geocities.com/vicbears/

Texas Conference of Clubs

Memorial Day Weekend, the Texas Conference of Clubs (TCC) will be hosting LoneStar 13 - "LoneStar Remembered." For more information see http://www.texasconferenceofclubs.com/lonestar13.htm.

As a member club of TCC, we are able to utilize the Buzzard's Peak Campground that is wholly owned and operated by TCC. More information on the campground, how to utilize it, and hopefully a future camping trip with HOT Bears will be discussed more fully in the next newsletter!

May 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 HAB Dineout/Meeting Biba's 6:30/7:30 607 W. Gray	16	17 HCC Meeting - 8:00 EJ's	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 HAB Dineout - 6:30 Country Café 2041 Mangum	26	27
28	29	30	31 HAB Dineout - 6:30 Mason Jar I-45 @ Nasa Road 1		www.houstonareabears.com	
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com

Houston Area Bears P R O X Y

Full paid up members of The Houston Area Bears who may not be able to attend the Special Meeting on March 29, 2000 may vote via this proxy.

I _____,
being a full member of the Houston Area Bears, and being current on my dues, hereby assign my proxy to

_____

for the March 29, 2000 meeting. My proxy authorizes a vote for: (select one)

☐ **The Candidates I have indicated below (up to 3), and/or**

- ☐ Chris Daniel
- ☐ Randy Gearhart
- ☐ Bruce Reeves
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

☐ **My named proxy holder may vote their choice.**

I understand that I may revoke this proxy by voting at the meeting on March 29, 2000. All proxies must be turned in before voting begins.

Signed,

_____	_____	_____
Signature	**Printed Name**	**Date**

Member in Good Standing of The Houston Area Bears.

HOUSTON AREA BEARS, INC.

Growler

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Anita Mann's Crown to be Rededicated with Trophy Case

As many of you know, Empress XIII Anita Mann was a wonderful, caring, giving and supportive person to the Bear Community and HAB. Upon her passing, she requested her Coronation Crown be retained and guarded by the Houston Area Bears. Since coronation, the Court has held the crown in their care.

The Triad is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached with The Court to return Empress XIII Anita Mann's Coronation Crown to the Houston Area Bears. The Court and Triad will jointly rededicate Anita's Crown in conjunction with the Preview Gala of the Gulf Coast Archive Museum (GCAM) on Thursday, June 15th. The Crown will be remain on display in the Houston Area Bears Trophy Case and will remain in our possession. The Trophy Case has (by vote of the membership) been placed on permanent loan to GCAM. The Court will have the ability to request the Crown appear at appropriate Court functions.

In accordance with Empress XIII Anita Mann, the Triad is looking for volunteers who wish to participate as a Color Honor Guard for her Crown when appearing at Court functions. Any HAB members wishing to become a part of this Color Guard please contact the Triad.

The Preview Gala of GCAM will be a wine and cheese party with cost of $15.00 at the door. It is Thursday, June 15th from 7 to 9 p.m. All HAB members are invited and encouraged to come participate in the dedication of the Houston Area Bears Trophy Case to GCAM and the placing of Anita's Crown in the Trophy Case. GCAM is located at 2507 Capital St. Houston, Texas (close to Enron Field).

For further information regarding the opening or GCAM you can contract Bruce Reeves of the Triad who also serves as GCAM Chair.

HOME BAR DECISION TO BE MADE

As a Club there are many important and some not so important decisions that are made on a regular basis. We as a club have an opportunity to make a decision at our next meeting on Wednesday, June 14th, that will help shape the foundation and future of HAB.

As you are all aware, the Triad recently sent out a survey requesting important information and feedback from you, the membership. One of the more important pieces of information was the opinion and feelings you have regarding the need for a home bar and if one is needed where that home bar might be located. Now is the time to make that decision.

Since leaving the Venture-N last year the group has not had a "Home" so to speak even though we have begun considering Biba's Ones a Meal as sort of a stabilizing location. The HOME BAR of HAB has in the past served as a vital part of our identity and foundation of the club. The survey results showed quite clearly that a home bar was wanted. The selection of a home bar, however, was pretty much inconclusive with the top vote getters being Ripcord, Mary's, and The BRB. The Triad did not feel that the voice for any one bar was a resounding vote.

Therefore, the Triad tabled the decision to vote on the HOME BAR location till the June Meeting. This was done for several reasons.
1) To give the membership notice that the meeting in June would address the vote for a HOME BAR, thus allowing more membership participation in the actual decision,
2) To give the Triad an opportunity to discuss options with these three bars to see what if anything we could expect from them and them from us, and
3) To visit as a club the intent behind the HOME BAR regarding future socials and events. Will this HOME BAR be the place of all socials and events of HAB much like Venture-N or do we want a different meaning behind HOME BAR.
4) Last, but not least, we will also be deciding when and where our meetings will be held - whether we move them to our HOME BAR or continue to hold them at Biba's.

This is your club. The possibilities of HOME BAR have been narrowed to a field of three. Now take this opportunity to be a part of the final decision as well as the decision on meeting place and time. Come discuss and vote on the future of HAB' s new HOME BAR and what part that bar will play in our identity.

The Houston Area Bears, Inc. is a Texas non-profit corporation formed exclusively for social purposes.

Our web address:
http://www.houstonareabears.com

Bear Hotline: 713-867-9123

The corporation is governed by the **Triad**.
Chris Daniel -
usmcbrcn@aol.com
Randy Gearhart -
choperbear@aol.com
Bruce Reeves -
brucereeves@sister.com

Other members head committees or have responsibilities as follows:
Anniversary Dinner -
as yet unfilled
Bears at the Baths -
Joe Creak
Cocktail Parties -
Stan L. - blubeary@aol.com
Dineouts -
Jack A. -
jjetjack@freewwweb.com
Holiday Party -
as yet unfilled
Luey 2001 -
as yet unfilled
Newsletter -
as yet unfilled
Southern Decadence -
Bill N.
Webmaster -
J. J. F. -
james-fulton@geocities.com

This newsletter is published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc. Ideas and articles expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the triad nor of the corporation, but those of the author of the article(s).

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Message from your Triad

As we settle into the mantles that you have seen fit to give to us, one of the things that becomes more abundantly clear to each of us every day is the amount of work that is entailed to make HAB the club that it is. Ultimately, the majority of that work must actually be done by YOU - the member. We are reprinting the following (with permission) from ***Growlings,*** the Voice of the Southern Bears Newsletter.

A Bear Fable

Webster's defines a Fable as "a narration intended to teach a lesson, especially one in which animals speak and act like people."

Once upon a time in the Great Forest there lived an isolated Bear named Bubba. Bubba always felt sad and lonely because he thought he was the only bear in the whole world. No matter where he went, Bubba always felt like an outsider. If he went to the Pretty Pond, the beautiful pink flamingos all screeched and flapped their wings as if they were afraid of him. If he went to the Shady Grove, the peacocks and pheasants ignored him and told him to go away, because bears weren't welcome. Bubba's search for a place to belong always ended in disappointment.

One day while looking for berries, Bubba came face to face with another Bear. To his amazement, the other Bear smiled and said "Hello! I'm Fuzzy!" Bubba was overjoyed - finally a friend of his own! As the two Bears discussed their lives, Bubba told Fuzzy of his disappointing visits to the Pretty Pond and the Shady Grove. He told him how the other animals laughed at him for being a Bear. Fuzzy listened intently then placed a paw around Bubba's shoulder and told him that not all animals were like the flamingos and the peacocks. He told him that there were lots of other Bears and lots of other animals that were very friendly with Bears. Fuzzy agreed and told him that they would go to a new gathering place, "The Cave," where all the Bears come to eat berries, rest in the cool dirt and play Bear games.

On his first visit to The Cave, all the other Bears warmly greeted Bubba. He was amazed; there were Bears of all shapes, sizes, ages and colors and they were so very, very friendly. Finally, Bubba belonged! Week after week, Bubba went to The Cave to be with Fuzzy and all his new Bear friends. At first, all was perfect, but eventually Bubba noticed that sometimes there weren't any berries to eat, or the cool, dirt floor was covered with trash or sharp pebbles. Being a good hearted Bear, as all Bears are, Bubba began to volunteer to bring fresh berries or to sweep the cool, dirt floor. Bubba even convinced Fuzzy to help. All was well again.

After several months, Bubba realized that he was tired of always bringing the berries or sweeping the floor, while the other Bears did nothing but complain about the selection of berries or how they found an occasional sharp pebble on the floor. One day on the way to The Cave, Bubba told Fuzzy that he was tired of doing all the work. "Fuzzy," said Bubba, "why can't other Bears bring berries or sweep the cool, dirt floor? Do they think that they can just come to The Cave and play Bear games and eat berries without helping? What would they do if no one brought berries or swept the floor?"

Fluzzy thought long and hard about Bubba's question before answering. "Bubba," said Fuzzy, "some Bears have forgotten what it was like to go to the Pretty Pond and the Shady Grove and be ignored by the flamingoes and the peacocks. Some Bears are so busy with their day to day lives that they don't feel they have the time to pick berries or sweep floors." "But," interrupted Bubba, "we all have lives and it doesn't take long to pick berries or sweep the floors!" Fuzzy smiled and continued, "That's true Bubba, but some Bears don't want to see beyond their own lives and some Bears are just lazy. Some Bears believe that someone else will always bring the berries or someone else will sweep the cool, dirt floor - and they are right. There are always Bears who will do all the work."

Bubba began to frown and feel sad again. "What will happen to The Cave if the Bears who do all the work get tired? Without The Cave, we will be back in a world of flamingos and peacocks. What can we do?" Bubba asked sadly. Fuzzy just shook his head as they slowly walked toward The Cave. Finally Bubba broke the silence. "Fuzzy, I like having a place where I belong. I like having Bear friends and eating berries and rolling around on the cool, dirt floor. I don't want to lose The Cave! Bears are all friendly, good heated creatures. If we explain everything to them, surely they will see that in order to keep what we have, everyone must be willing to take turns picking berries and sweeping the cool, dirt floor. Don't you agree Fuzzy?"

Fuzzy thought very careful about Bubba's words and then answered, "I don't know Bubba. I would like to think you were right. I would like to thing that the other Bears care about The Cave as much as we do, but I just don't know." Bubbay and Fuzzy looked at one another, smiled weakly, and continued their trek towards The Cave.

To be continued.... I hope!

(Most fables have an ending that determines the lesson the fable was intended to teach. Won't you help write a happy ending to this Bear Fable? C'mon, you know how!)

June 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		1	2	3 HAB Dineout & Movie Doneraki's - 5 p.m. 7705 Westheimer
4	5	6 HAB Dineout - 6:30 Mata Hari 1910 S. Dairy Ashford	7 George T. Kirk B.	8	9 John K.	10
11	12 Tim C.	13	14 **HAB Dineout/Meeting** Biba's 6:30/7:29 606 W. Gray	15 GCAM Opening $15 2507 Capitol 7-9 Trophy case & crown	16	17 HAB Social - 10-2 Ripcord
18	19	20	21 HAB Dineout - 6:30 Niko Niko's 2520 Montrose	22	23 Robert P. Steven T.	24
25 Jim K.	26	27 Jim F.	28	29 HAB Dineout - 6:30 Claddagh Pub 5757 Westheimer	30 Ray G.	
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com

July 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		**1** Daddy Bear Picnic 2-5p Chris Daniel - 5403 Beverly Hill BYOB - BYOMeat - Side
2	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6** Chuck G.	**7** Dineout - Don Carlos 8385 Broadway 6:30 p Robert C.	**8**
9	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13** Dineout - Demeris BBQ 9552 Hempstead 6:30	**14**	**15** Social - Mining Company 10p - 2a
16	**17**	**18** Bill N.	**19** Dineout - Barnacle 9401 S. Gessner 6:30p	**20**	**21**	**22**
23	**24**	**25** Dineout - Mucho Mexico 1310 N. Wayside 6:30p (3 blocks s. I-10)	**26** Jeffery M.	**27**	**28** David C-M.	**29** Peter F.
30 Mark R.	**31**		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com	

Houston Area Bears, Inc.

PO Box 66443
Houston, TX. 77266
Hotline: 713-867-9123
Webpage: http://www.houstonareabears.com

Thank you for your interest in the HAB Southern Decadence 2000 trip to New Orleans. The trip this year will be GROUND ONLY. You must make your own travel arrangements.

ARRIVE no earlier than 3 p.m. Friday, September 1st.
DEPART no later than 6 p.m. Monday, September 4th.

Host: The Rue Dumaine Guest House
517 Rue Dumaine New Orleans, La. 70116

The package price (of $250 per person) includes:

- Three nights (Friday - Sunday) at The Rue Dumaine Guest House
- Welcome Gift
- In suite Coffee & Soda Service
- ***Bear Swim Party***

All registration Forms must have a (**non-refundable**) deposit in the amount of $100.00, check or money order, made payable to Houston Area Bears, Inc., to be accepted. You will receive a confirmation letter after receipt of your payment to HAB. Please provide the following information so that we can reserve your space. Reservations are on a first come-first served basis.

Payment schedule: $100 non-refundable deposit, $75 by July 1, $75 by August 1 = $250.

Bear Hugs
Bill Neville
Southern Decadence '00 Chairbear

Name:_____ Phone: Day _____ Night _____
(please print)
Address:_____ City/State/Zip: _____

Request to share a room with: _____ Request share a suite with: _____

Smoking (circle one): Yes No No Preference

Deposit Check #_____ Date: _____
Payable to Houston Area Bears, Inc.

Signature:_____
I agree to hold the Houston Area Bears, Inc. harmless at this event.

Daddy Bear Picnic

July 1st 2000 @ 2p till 5p

Contact - Chris Daniel @ 713-623-2027 or cell phone 713-594-1745

Location 5403 Beverly Hill # 23, Houston TX 77056

Directions

Take 610 Loop to Richmond
Take Richmond to S. Rice
Take Left @ S. Rice
Take Right @ Beverly Hill

My apartment complex is on left side as you come down the street.

If you get lost please feel free call me.

B.Y.O.M. - B.Y.O.T.
Bring Your Own Meat
(Food that is or
Covered Dish to share)
Bring Your Own Towel

The Houston Area Bears, Inc. is a Texas non-profit corporation formed exclusively for social purposes.

Our web address:
http://www.houstonareabears.com

Bear Hotline: 713-867-9123

The corporation is governed by the **Triad.**
Chris Daniel -
usmcbrcn@aol.com
Randy Gearhart -
choperbear@aol.com
Bruce Reeves -
brucereeves@sister.com

Other members head committees or have responsibilities as follows:
Anniversary Dinner -
as yet unfilled
Bears at the Baths -
Joe Creak
Cocktail Parties -
Stan L. - blubeary@aol.com
Dineouts -
Jack A. -
jjetjack@freewwweb.com
Holiday Party -
as yet unfilled
Luey 2001 -
as yet unfilled
Newsletter -
as yet unfilled
Southern Decadence -
Bill N.
Webmaster -
J. J. F. -
james-fulton@geocities.com

This newsletter is published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc. Ideas and articles expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the triad nor of the corporation, but those of the author of the article(s).

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Message from your Triad

As we settle into the mantles that you have seen fit to give to us, one of the things that becomes more abundantly clear to each of us every day is the amount of work that is entailed to make HAB the club that it is. Ultimately, the majority of that work must actually be done by YOU - the member. We are reprinting the following (with permission) from ***Growlings***, the Voice of the Southern Bears Newsletter.

A Bear Fable

Webster's defines a Fable as "a narration intended to teach a lesson, especially one in which animals speak and act like people."

Once upon a time in the Great Forest there lived an isolated Bear named Bubba. Bubba always felt sad and lonely because he thought he was the only bear in the whole world. No matter where he went, Bubba always felt like an outsider. If he went to the Pretty Pond, the beautiful pink flamingos all screeched and flapped their wings as if they were afraid of him. If he went to the Shady Grove, the peacocks and pheasants ignored him and told him to go away, because bears weren't welcome. Bubba's search for a place to belong always ended in disappointment.

One day while looking for berries, Bubba came face to face with another Bear. To his amazement, the other Bear smiled and said "Hello! I'm Fuzzy!" Bubba was overjoyed - finally a friend of his own! As the two Bears discussed their lives, Bubba told Fuzzy of his disappointing visits to the Pretty Pond and the Shady Grove. He told him how the other animals laughed at him for being a Bear. Fuzzy listened intently then placed a paw around Bubba's shoulder and told him that not all animals were like the flamingos and the peacocks. He told him that there were lots of other Bears and lots of other animals that were very friendly with Bears. Fuzzy agreed and told him that they would go to a new gathering place, "The Cave," where all the Bears come to eat berries, rest in the cool dirt and play Bear games.

On his first visit to The Cave, all the other Bears warmly greeted Bubba. He was amazed; there were Bears of all shapes, sizes, ages and colors and they were so very, very friendly. Finally, Bubba belonged! Week after week, Bubba went to The Cave to be with Fuzzy and all his new Bear friends. At first, all was perfect, but eventually Bubba noticed that sometimes there weren't any berries to eat, or the cool, dirt floor was covered with trash or sharp pebbles. Being a good hearted Bear, as all Bears are, Bubba began to volunteer to bring fresh berries or to sweep the cool, dirt floor. Bubba even convinced Fuzzy to help. All was well again.

After several months, Bubba realized that he was tired of always bringing the berries or sweeping the floor, while the other Bears did nothing but complain about the selection of berries or how they found an occasional sharp pebble on the floor. One day on the way to The Cave, Bubba told Fuzzy that he was tired of doing all the work. "Fuzzy," said Bubba, "why can't other Bears bring berries or sweep the cool, dirt floor? Do they think that they can just come to The Cave and play Bear games and eat berries without helping? What would they do if no one brought berries or swept the floor?"

Fluzzy thought long and hard about Bubba's question before answering. "Bubba," said Fuzzy, "some Bears have forgotten what it was like to go to the Pretty Pond and the Shady Grove and be ignored by the flamingoes and the peacocks. Some Bears are so busy with their day to day lives that they don't feel they have the time to pick berries or sweep floors." "But," interrupted Bubba, "we all have lives and it doesn't take long to pick berries or sweep the floors!" Fuzzy smiled and continued, "That's true Bubba, but some Bears don't want to see beyond their own lives and some Bears are just lazy. Some Bears believe that someone else will always bring the berries or someone else will sweep the cool, dirt floor - and they are right. There are always Bears who will do all the work."

Bubba began to frown and feel sad again. "What will happen to The Cave if the Bears who do all the work get tired? Without The Cave, we will be back in a world of flamingos and peacocks. What can we do?" Bubba asked sadly. Fuzzy just shook his head as they slowly walked toward The Cave. Finally Bubba broke the silence. "Fuzzy, I like having a place where I belong. I like having Bear friends and eating berries and rolling around on the cool, dirt floor. I don't want to lose The Cave! Bears are all friendly, good heated creatures. If we explain everything to them, surely they will see that in order to keep what we have, everyone must be willing to take turns picking berries and sweeping the cool, dirt floor. Don't you agree Fuzzy?"

Fuzzy thought very careful about Bubba's words and then answered, "I don't know Bubba. I would like to think you were right. I would like to thing that the other Bears care about The Cave as much as we do, but I just don't know." Bubbay and Fuzzy looked at one another, smiled weakly, and continued their trek towards The Cave.

To be continued.... I hope!

(Most fables have an ending that determines the lesson the fable was intended to teach. Won't you help write a happy ending to this Bear Fable? C'mon, you know how!)

KRAFT®y Bear
15 Minute Cheesy Rice w/ Ham & Broccoli

Prepare this garden-fresh entree tonight and take advantage of the fresh vegetables now available in the supermarket or at your local farmstand.

Prep Time:5 mins.
Skill: No Experience Required
Ready In: 15 mins.
Serves: 4

Ingredients:
2 cups cooked ham strips
2 cups fresh or frozen broccoli flowerets , thawed
1 cup water
1-1/2 cups MINUTE White Rice , uncooked
1/2 lb. (8 oz.) VELVEETA, cut up

Preparation:
BRING ham, broccoli and water to boil in large skillet. Cover. Cook on medium heat 3 minutes.

STIR in rice and VELVEETA; cover. Remove from heat. Let stand 7 minutes. Stir until VELVEETA is melted.

May 15, 2000 Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Triad at 7:33 p.m. Triad members present - Christopher Daniel, Bruce Reeves, and Randy Gearhart - Meeting chaired by Bruce.

Minutes for 4-18-00 reviewed - Motion to approve minutes made by Barry M. seconded by Jack A. - Minutes approved unanimously.

Financial Report reviewed - Bert moved and Bill N seconded to accept financial report. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill N. gave report on Southern Decadence - This year will be in New Orleans from September 1, 2000 to September 4, 2000. The trip will be LAND ONLY this year. Cost is $250.00 and will include three nights stay at the guesthouse, coffee and soda in room, gift, and bear swim party on Sunday. Each member will have to arrange his own transportation to the event. This year due to the late announcement of the arrangement, there will be no special time frame in which HAB members will have priority. The trip is now open to every one member or not on a first come first serve basis. There are a total of 25 slots available and two were taken at the meeting with a deposit of $100.00 being given with the application. Applications/flyer will accompany the Growler mailing at the end of May. Prior to that you can contact Bill N for the application. Bill announced that there would be a PRE-trip Cajun potluck as in the past years.

Survey and Home bar - The survey was reviewed in its entirety. The main discussion that remains is the HOME BAR situation. There was a dead heat between The Ripcord, Mary's, and BRB. The triad had decided that announcement will be made in the newsletter and on the onelist informing membership that a discussion and decision will be made at the June 14th meeting. This will allow for more members who want to put input into the decision to be present at the meeting.

During the survey portion of the discussion - Jack, dine out coordinator asked for feedback regarding the choices and locations of dine outs. He has created a survey form, which is available in hard copy as well as attaching it to the onelist. He asks that members review and respond to the survey. Triad indicated that even though the response on the survey indicated wish for BI weekly dine outs the schedule through June will remain in effect to see how the membership responds.

Bears @ the baths was tabled to next meeting as Joe C was unavailable to give update report.

Daddy Bear Picnic has been set on Sat July 1 at Chateau Dijon - home of Triad member Christopher Daniel. Time is 2:00pm bring towel, BYOB, and bring own food with a side dish to share. Charcoal and grill will be provided. More details will appear in the June Growler.

Pride Parade - Triad did a straw pole of those interested in having HAB pay the $75.00 to march in the pride parade. It appears there is no interest. Bill N moved and Jack A seconded that we suspend participation in the Pride Parade as a club this year and revisit it next year. Passed unanimously.

G.C.A.M. - Bruce passed the chair gavel to Randy and presented to HAB membership the GCAM / HAB permanent loan document for discussion. Barry M moved and Bill N seconded to accept the document and authorize the permanent loan of the HAB trophy case and contents to GCAM. Discussions followed and vote passed unanimously

Motion was made to accept section 6.2B of the document regarding the right to retain the trophy case and contents by HAB in the event HAB desolves. Motion to accept made by Bill N and seconded by Barry M. Passed unanimously. Meeting chair passed back to Bruce to continue.

Incorporation. - Triad announced that in accordance with a membership vote taken in April 1998 the HAB has now been incorporated in the state of Texas as a non profit social organization.

NEW BUSINESS

50-50 raffle - Randy Gearhart moved that HAB hold 50-50 raffles during the monthly meeting. Motion seconded by Barry M. - Discussion followed: raffle would be way of trying to get members to meetings and to enhance fund raising. Discussion was held regarding the legality issues. Motion passed - one abstention.

Further discussion was held regarding other possible fundraising events. Bert suggests a Beer Bust. This option will be looked into regarding its legality in Texas.

Triad officially announced the resignation of Dwayne as Growler newsletter editor. Informed membership that a new editor is being sought and the Triad will put out the newsletter until a permanent editor is found.

Meetings - Jack moved and Bill N seconded a motion to move the HAB meeting for June from Thursday the 15th to Wednesday the 14th. Discussion included the fact GCAM was holding their opening that night and Triad would be present to present the trophy case to GCAM. Further discussion was held regarding the difficulty of having a meeting place that was secure and always available on a date of the month. Most meeting spaces are given by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th of day of the month. Ex: The second Tuesday of every month. The motion to move the meeting to the 14th of June passed 8-3

Bert moved and Jack seconded that we move the June meeting to the 19th of June which is a Monday. Discussion followed and the motion was defeated 8 against 3 for.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March on Washington - Randy Gearhart informed membership that he and Wayne B were present at the Millenium March in Washington DC and that the HAB colors were present at the Chesapeake Bay Area Bears social and the march on Sunday.

GCAM - opening party is a wine and cheese party $15.00 per person being held on Thursday June 15th at 2507 Capitol St. This will be the opening of the Museum and the presentation of the HAB trophy case to the Museum.

Brotherhood of Pain- is holding a Daddy Auction on June 17th at the Ripcord. (This will also be the night of the next HAB social at the Ripcord.

UPCOMING EVENTS

List of dine outs were reviewed. An addition was made to the events with a HAB Dine out and Movie night on Saturday June 3rd. Dine-out will be at Doneraki 7705 Westheimer at 5:00 PM after dinner we will go over to the theatre on Dunlavy and see a movie.

FORMER ACTIVIES

No Cocktail parties held, Social at the BRB was held with about 8 members present

Dine-outs were held at Chapultepec, Gabby's and Silver Palace - dinner at Chapultepec was well attended.

No further business Barry Mack moved and Bert seconded to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM - Next meeting will be on Wednesday 7:30 PM June 14th at Biba's Ones A Meal. Dine-out to take place at starting at 6:30.

Houston Council of Clubs

Randy Gearhart attended the Houston Council of Clubs (HCC) meeting as the HAB representative at EJ's Wednesday night on May 17. During this meeting elections were held for officers of the HCC for the next year. Creath of the Misfits was nominated and re-elected as Chairperson of HCC for the next two-year term. Chris P. will remain the Secretary/Treasure for the next year serving out the remainder of his two-year term as stipulated in the HCC bylaws. A new office of the HCC was added, that of Web Master. This position is responsible for the development and ongoing Maintenance of the HCC web page with all information pertinent to the group and its participation in LET US ENTERTAIN YOU. A motion was made and passed to remove the name Venture-N Bar from the bylaws as a participating Bar and meeting place. This was done as a formality since Venture-N was no longer participating in HCC activities. A motion was made and passed to put the name Ripcord into the bylaws as a participating bar and meeting place for HCC. This again was a formality since the Ripcord was already being utilized this way during the last LUEY event. The schedule of monthly meetings and fundraisers for HCC is as follows:

- June 21st HCC meeting at Mary's - 8 PM
- July 9th HCC Fundraising event - this event will be hosted by Leather and Lace as well as Sundance Cattle Co. - The plan is to have a bus trip to Chashata Gambling Casino in which transportation and meals will be provided for a $20.00 donation. All proceeds will be given to HCC.
- July 19th HCC meeting at the Ripcord - 8pm
- August 16th HCC meeting at the BRB - 8pm
- September 10th - HCC fundraising event to be announced. This event will be hosted by NLA
- October 18th HCC meeting at Mary's - 8pm
- November 12th HCC fundraising event to be announced. Misfits will host this event.
- December 20th HCC meeting at the BRB - 8 PM
- January 14, 2001 - HCC fundraising event to be announced. This event will be hosted by **HOUSTON AREA BEARS**
- February 21st HCC meeting at Mary's - 8 PM - Last meeting before LUEY 2001
- LUEY 2001 will be held on the FIRST WEEKEND OF MARCH - March 2-4th

At least one or more of the Triad Members will be present at each monthly HCC meeting to represent and vote on behalf of HAB in HCC issues. Members of HAB are certainly welcome and encouraged to attend the HCC meeting.

Buzzards' Peak Campground

Did you know that as a member of the Houston Area Bears you are automatically a member of the Houston Council of Clubs (HCC) and the Texas Council of Clubs (TCC)? What advantages does that present to you?

The NUMBER ONE advantage is FREE (F R E E) access to the Buzzards' Peak Campground which is owned (and paid for mind you) by TCC. Now there are some weekends when access is NOT free - primarily if there is a run of some type happening there by one of the member clubs. The quickest and easiest way to determine this is by calling the campground at 254-697-6229.

Although there are no hookups for those of you with the need for such things, there is a kitchen, showers and water closets (yes, with hot water) for both men and women. There is also a covered pavilion.

The weekend of July 21 - 23 is an activity weekend at the park. That means some folks will be out there doing some work - but don't let that scare you off. You can just be a bum too! Additionally, the quarterly meeting of TCC will take place on the 22nd. There will undoubtedly be a diverse group of folks there that weekend - taking advantage of the campground and there to participate in the meeting as well.

Buzzards' Peak is located about 135 miles from Houston. Take US 290 West to Brenham, then State Route 36 North almost to Cameron. Just before you get to Cameron, US 77 intersects US 190/SR 36. Another 0.8 miles will bring you to FM 2095 where you should turn right (east). One and 1/2 miles later you will cross some railroad tracks and turn left on County Road 228. Then another 1.1 miles. You'll pass a concrete cactus on the left before you get to County Road 228C - a dirt and gravel road. Turn right, go another 1.3 miles (the road makes a couple of 90 degree turns along the way). Turn right at the fork and go through the steel gate and your there!

This and That

Title Queen FuzzyStud Gene L. (did I say that???) won the title of Mr. D.C. Bear 2000 recently. Way to go Gene. We miss you.

Southern Decadence is just around the corner and the bears have reserved the Rue Dumaine Guest House again. The trip is ground only this year. For only $250, you too can enjoy this fun filled experience. The trip includes your lodging (double occupancy) for Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, complimentary beverage service, invitations to the pool party on Sunday and a fun time! Flyers should be included with the newsletter! There are only 25 slots total available, 8 of them are already sold, and they are going FAST!

This AD space could be *YOURS!*

Contact the Triad for more information!

Inventory

Looking for that perfect item as a gift for a friend - or maybe you just need something for yourself? Here's the current inventory. The triad will be looking at purchasing new shirts in the not too distant future. Any suggestions for something different? Let us know!

36 large HAB patches @ $15
18 small HAB patches @ $10
190 HAB friendship pins @ $2 (min. of 5)
4 black XXL t-shirts (white logo) @ $5
3 grey XXL t-shirts (black logo) @ $5
1 white M t-shirt (color logo) @ $5

Birthday Bears

John K	June 9
Tim C	June 12
Robert P	June 23
Steven T	June 23
Jim K	June 25
Jim F	June 27
Ray G	June 30
Chuck G	July 6
Robert C	July 7

HOUSTON AREA BEARS, INC.

Growler

P.O. Box 66443
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Voice-Mail & Announcement Line
713-867-9123

Website:
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Volume 7, Number 7 — July 2000 Issue — Published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc.

Triad Submits Bylaws Amendments

After reviewing the bylaws, the triad submitted a motion to change the bylaws as indicated below. The motion was passed, so these bylaws amendments will be voted on at the July meeting. A copy of the current bylaws is included as a supplement to this newsletter.

1. In Section 1.1, change the name of the organization from "Houston Area Bears" to "Houston Area Bears, Inc." This will reflect the new incorporated status of the organization.

2. In the entire bylaws, change the word "Club" to "Corporation" (e.g. "hereinafter, referred to as the Corporation" as opposed to "hereinafter, referred to as the Club"). This also reflects the newly incorporated status of the organization.

3. Move Section 3.2.a to be between the current 3.2.c and 3.2.d. Therefore 3.2.b becomes 3.2.a, 3.2.c becomes 3.2.b and 3.2.a becomes 3.2.c. This reordering actually reflects the actual order of the process.

4. In Section 5.2.a, change the word March to May.
Add Section 5.2.c to read "The Triad elected in March 2000 shall serve through May 2001. Further, section 5.2.c, shall automatically delete in June 2001."
In Section 5.4.a, change the word March to May.
In Section 5.4.b, change the word February to April.
Our membership runs from June through May. It is the feeling of the triad that that should also be the term of the triad. It also resolves the potential problem of a triad member not renewing his membership in June after being elected. (There have been occurrences in the past where a triad member was actually no longer a member of the organization.)

5. In Section 5.3, change the word June to July. With our membership dues all coming due in June, it is nearly impossible to come up with a seemingly accurate budget for the June meeting, because there are no membership numbers to work from. This resolves that problem.

6. In Section 5.4.c, add the sentence: "Write-in candidates are not allowed." There was some confusion at our elections this year as to whether or not write-in candidates were allowed or

see **Bylaws**, next column

HOME BAR DECISION POSTPONED

It was decided at the last meeting to postpone the decision to select a home bar until the June meeting. This will allow the three bars concerned the opportunity to share with the triad and/or the membership what they may be able to provide the club and in turn, what they would expect from the club.

The questions asked the bars were:

- Do you have meeting space and if so would it be available for meetings that have a pre-arranged set schedule?
- Do you have space you can allot HAB to place either our Trophy Case or something smaller to display awards and let the patrons know we consider this bar our home?
- Do you have space for HAB to hang our Colors?
- Would it be possible for the club to do regular bar tending (once or twice a month) for tips as fund raisers
- Would HAB be able to hold monthly socials at your bar, which might include food?
- What would HAB be able to expect from your bar if it was our HOME BAR?

Bylaws, continued:

not. In the opinion of the triad, the sentence "All candidates will be self-nominated." should be sufficient, however, this clarifies the point beyond all doubt.

7. Delete Section 5.4.e. This section allows for an alternate triad member. The triad feels that as difficult as it is to get 3 people together for a regular triad meeting, getting 4 would be even worse. Additionally, you are asking someone who LOSES the election, to put in the same amount of time as if they had won.

see **Bylaws** page 3

KRAFT®y Bear
Hawaiian Sausage Pizza

Prep Time:5 mins.
Skill: Learning Cook
Ready In: 15 mins.
Serves: 4

ngredients:
1/2 cup KRAFT Brown Sugar or Spicy Cajun Barbecue Sauce
1 Italian pizza crust (12 inch) or 4 Italian pizza crusts (6 inch)
7 oz. (1/2 of 14 oz. pkg.) LOUIS RICH Turkey Smoked Sausage or Turkey
Polska Kielbasa , thinly sliced
1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple , well drained
1/2 cup green pepper strips
1/2 cup red onion slivers
1-1/3 cups KRAFT Shredded Mozzarella & Cheddar Pizza Cheese

Preparation:
SPREAD barbecue sauce on pizza crust. Place on cookie sheet.

LAYER with turkey sausage, pineapple, green pepper, onion and cheese.

BAKE at 450 Degrees F for 8 to 10 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Assemble pizza as directed. Place pizza directly on gas grill on low heat. Cover. Grill about 8 minutes, rotating occasionally, until bottom of pizza is crisp and cheese is melted.

Bylaws, continued from page 1

3. Move Section 5.6.a to be after the current 5.6.c and 5.6.d. Therefore 5.6.b becomes 5.6.a, 5.6.c becomes 5.6.b and 5.6.a becomes 5.6.c. This reordering actually eflects the actual order of the process.

While we realize this appears to be a large number of changes, we believe that our bylaws need to be eviewed at least annually and tweaked. We promise to nake this process as painless as possible.

Houston Council of Clubs

A motion was approved to purchase www.lueyweekend.com as the website address for HCC.

Sundancers is sponsoring a casino trip as a fundraiser for HCC. This trip will be Sunday, July 9. Tickets are available at Mary's Naturally for $20. The bus will depart from Mary's at 8:00 a.m.

The Misfits will be officially hanging their colors at the Ripcord.

On Saturday, July 8, NLA Houston will be sponsoring a free workshop on the HIV clinical trials. The workshop will be at 3 p.m. in the community room at Bering.

Hamburg Vacation Rental

Vacation rental in Hamburg, Germany
Sleeps 4-5; very clean & bright.
$700 July through September;
$500 security deposit required.

Hamburg, the gay capital of Germany, has an active gay and bear community and much to see.

E-mail RobertaRo@aol.com or call 281-433-1660 for more info, pics, or rates for other months.

Trophy Case Finds New Home

On June 15, 2000 the Houston Area Bears Trophy case was presented on permanent loan to the Gulf Coast Archives and Museum. Randy and Bruce from the Triad and several members were on hand to make the presentation at the Gala wine and cheese party opening.

Annise Parker, the first openly gay City Council member in Houston and GCAM board member, was on hand at the opening to provide GCAM a proclamation from the Mayor naming this an historic day in the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community movement. During her presentation, the Houston Area Bears Trophy case was mentioned as a cornerstone display in the museum. The Houston Voice was also present and a news article appeared in the latest edition mentioning the HAB Trophy Case.

Additionally, the Crown of Empress XIII Anita Mann was placed in the HAB Trophy case where it will stay except on those Court occasions in which the presence of the Crown is requested. An honor guard consisting of 6 HAB members has been formed to protect and present the Crown when at Court events. Robert C. will coordinate the Honor Guard for HAB.

HAB is looking for a good photo of Empress XIII Anita Mann to frame and place next to her Crown in the Trophy Case. Any member having a photo they would like to lend, donate or duplicate and give to the case please contact one of the Triad Members.

Inventory

Looking for that perfect item as a gift for a friend - or maybe you just need something for yourself? Here's the current inventory. The triad will be looking at purchasing new shirts in the not too distant future. Any suggestions for something different? Let us know!

36 large HAB patches @ $15
18 small HAB patches @ $10
188 HAB friendship pins @ $2 (min. of 5)
1 black XXL t-shirts (white logo) @ $5
1 grey XL t-shirts (white logo) @ $5
1 white M t-shirt (color logo) @ $5

Birthday Bears

Chuck G. - July 6
Robert C. - July 7
Bill N. - July 18
David C-M. - July 28
Peter F. - July 29
Mark R. - July 30
Rodney S. - August 1
Bill H. - August 17

If your birthday isn't listed - we must not have it on file. Send it to a triad member!

Newsletter Names

You may have noticed in the newsletter that a lot of the names are only first names and a last initial (exceptions being the minutes - which are the official records of the organization). If you are willing to have your full name published in the newsletter, please let the triad know!

The Houston Area Bears, Inc. is a Texas non-profit corporation formed exclusively for social purposes.

Our web address:
http://www.houstonareabears.com

Bear Hotline: 713-867-9123

The corporation is governed by the **Triad.**
Chris Daniel -
usmcbrcn@aol.com
Randy Gearhart -
choperbear@aol.com
Bruce Reeves -
brucereeves@sister.com

Other members head committees or have responsibilities as follows:
Anita Mann Crown Honor Guard -
Robert C. - rnbear@flash.net
Anniversary Dinner -
Jack A. - jjetjack@freewwweb.com
Bears at the Baths -
Joe C.
Cocktail Parties -
Stan L. - blubeary@aol.com
Dineouts -
Jack A. - jjetjack@freewwweb.com
Holiday Party -
as yet unfilled
Luey 2001 -
as yet unfilled
Newsletter -
as yet unfilled
Southern Decadence -
Bill N.
Telephone Tree -
Tim Curtis - valleybear@yahoo.com
Webmaster -
J. J. F. -
james-fulton@geocities.com

WHY isn't YOUR name here?

This newsletter is published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc. Ideas and articles expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the triad nor of the corporation, but those of the author of the article(s).

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Message from your Triad

To Bear, Leather or Cowboy ???

These are the questions

by Chris Daniel

The Triad would like to focus attention on the next meeting on July 12, 2000. At the last HAB meeting, the members present requested that we postpone the vote on new bar. I would like to say a few things in regards to the bars that are up for vote.

Mary's Naturally

The positives for this bar I see are:
(a) big patio space
(b) large stage area

The negatives I see are:
(a) weather (heat is a killer)
(b) walking through main bar to get to patio area.

Ripcord

The positives for this bar I see are:
(a) friendly bartenders,
(b) strong community support,
(c) good music,
(d) leather store for purchases

The negatives I see are:
(a) limited walking space (during big crowds or events scheduled by other clubs)
(b) "Guest" bartending may be difficult to get (3 of 4 host clubs already do)

Brazos River Bottom (BRB)

The positives for this bar I see are:
(a) plenty of pool tables to play pool (if one wishes),
(b) dance floor space, for those of us that dance lots of room,
(c) plenty of elbow space at the bar (no need for nudging and pushing),
(d) Side pocket – a sort of quite area for those that wish to speak in a low tone with out screaming over the country & western music,

The negatives I see are:
(a) not many HAB members feel that they fit the C & W look
(b) trophy case space (not available per management),
(c) patio space very small and limited.

The issue before us is at hand so please understand these points put to you in this newsletter are not solely based on bias or slander of these establishments, just a point of view from one of the Triad members.

Thank you for listening and reading,

Did you know???

There are currently about 1700 black bears living in the Great Smokey Mountains National Park and most of them live in and around Cades Cove.

Sugar Bear's Den Magazine

Hot Bimonthly Publication for REAL Men and their Admirers!!! For free details send a self-addressed stamped legal-size envelope to
P.O. Box 493
Avoca, Arkansas 72711
email:
sugbrsdn@mc2k.com
Check out our website at
http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Castro/9849

June 14, 2000 Minutes

The June 14, 2000, meeting of the Houston Area Bears was called to order at 7:33 p.m. with Randy Gearhart as chair. Bruce Reeves as acting secretary certified that there was a quorum present.

A motion was made by Steve Stepanski, seconded by Robert Conn to accept the minutes as written. Passed Unanimously.

A motion was made by Robert Conn, seconded by Steve Stepanski to accept the financial statement as written. Passed Unanimously.

Joe Creak was not present, so Bears @ the Bathes was tabled until July.

There is still no editor for the HAB newsletter.

After some discussion on fundraising, it was decided there was not enough interest in the membership for fundraising ideas.

Bruce Reeves reported that the HAB trophy case would be rededicated at the Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History, Inc. on June 15, and that Anita Mann's crown would be on-hand for the rededication.

Larry Butler moved to table the home bar decision until the July meeting, second by Richard Parr. Passed 10/2/0.

Bruce Reeves reported that there were 22 of the 25 slots for decadence sold. A question was asked concerning HAB members that are in New Orleans but would not be staying at the guest house attending the pool party. It was decided that members with their membership cards would be admitted.

A motion was made by Jack Adams, seconded by Michael Callaway to set the permanent meeting place for HAB to Biba's on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Passed 10/1/1.

Robert Conn volunteered to chair the Anita Mann Crown Bear Honor Guard. Other members volunteering to serve with him were Loyd P., Chris D., Steve Stepanski, Randy Gearhart and Bruce Reeves.

The triad presented a motion to change the bylaws at the July meeting as attached. Second by Larry Butler. Passed Unanimously.

Jack Adams volunteered to chair the Anniversary Dinner, to be held September 23rd.

The triad presented a budget as attached. Motion to accept by Michael Callaway, second by Loyd Powell. Discussion consisted of allowing couples to notify us if they only want one newsletter per household and to look into the possibility of receiving the newsletter by e-mail. The motion passed 15/0/1.

Jack A. passed out a membership survey and requested that the survey also be put on egroups.

It was suggested that a press release be written to notify the media about our meeting change.

Bears on the Bayou will be hosting a Casino trip on July 16th. Tickets are available at Basic Brothers and Leather by Boots. The bus will leave at 9 a.m. from the parking lot in the 3000 block of Main Street.

Motion was made by Mike Starkey, second by Jack Adams to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

This AD space could be *YOURS!*

Contact the Triad for more information!

L.U.E.Y. Pin Poster Contest Ideas or Suggestions

L.U.E.Y. *Let Us Entertain You* 28 will be March 1 - 4, 2001

Houston Council of Clubs presents its annual Pin and Poster Contest for Let Us Entertain You Weekend 2001.

Requirements for Pin Design:

1. Design must carry the Mardi Gras theme (i.e. masks, beads, colors, etc.)
2. Design must be able to be read at 1 - 1.5" in diameter
3. No more than 6 colors used please
4. Pin can be any shape, but most common is square or round
5. Pin must state the following:
   - "LUEY 2001" or "Let Us Entertain You Weekend 2001"
   - "HCC" or "Houston Council of Clubs" (if HCC is used, "Houston, TX" must also be used
   - The dates "March 1-4"

Requirements for Poster Design:

1. Design must carry the Mardi Gras theme (i.e. masks, beads, colors, etc.)
2. Design can also carry a leather theme with the Mardi Gras theme
3. Design can be letter or legal paper size
4. Design can be color or black and white
5. Poster must state the following:
   - "LUEY 2001" or "Let Us Entertain You Weekend 2001"
   - "HCC" or "Houston Council of Clubs" (if HCC is used, "Houston, TX" must also be used
   - The dates "March 1-4"

Pin and Poster design can be one and the same as long as all requirements are met for each (meaning same art work used in both).

Please mail your designs no later than July 14th to: Houston Council of Clubs, c/o Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos St., Houston, TX 77006. Or bring them to the next HCC meeting held July 19th at the Ripcord at 8 p.m.

Houston Area Bears, Inc.

Bylaws

Chapter 1. General

Section 1.1. Name

The name of this organization shall be Houston Area Bears (hereinafter the "Club").

Section 1.2. Purpose

The Club is a social organization created to bring together people who are either bears themselves or friends of the bear community, for friendship and fellowship, and shared common interests. The purposes of the Club are to sponsor and promote social and recreational activities for its members.

Chapter 2. Bylaws

Section 2.1. Changes to Bylaws

These Bylaws may be changed (amended or repealed) at any time at a regular or called business meeting of the Club. Proposed changes shall be presented in writing at a regular business meeting. A motion must be passed to place the proposed changes on the agenda of the next regular business meeting. The proposed changes will be published in the newsletter or by special mail and/or e-mail at least ten days prior to the next business meeting when the vote is to be taken. A 2/3 majority vote of those present is sufficient to approve changes, amendments or repeals; members may vote by written or e-mail proxy submitted to the Triad.

Chapter 3. Membership

Section 3.1. Members

(a) Regular Members
  - (i) To be a Regular Member, one must be twenty-one (21) years of age or older; and must agree to comply with these Bylaws, complete a membership application and pay the initial registration fee and subsequent annual fees.
  - (ii) Membership applications will ask for identifying information such as name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and birth date. The applicant is required to sign the application to certify that he/she is over 21 years of age.
  - (iii) All Members must be at least 21 years of age. The Club reserves the right to request identification from an applicant or member with proof of age, such as a driver's license or other documents.
  - (iv) Only Regular Members may vote in Club elections, business and decisions.

(b) Associate Members
  - (i) Membership requirements for Associate Members shall be the same as for Regular Members.
  - (ii) Associate Members have no vote in Club elections, business or other decisions.
  - (iii) The Club's Regular Members may set annual dues for Associate Members at a different level than dues for Regular Members.

(c) Honorary Members
  - (i) Honorary Membership may be granted to an individual by majority vote of the membership present as recognition for outstanding dedication or service to the group.
  - (ii) Honorary Members will receive the newsletter and may attend all Club meetings and activities.
  - (iii) Honorary Members have no vote in Club elections, business or other decisions.
  - (iv) Honorary Membership is for life.

Section 3.2. Removal of Members

(a) Members may be removed from Membership by a majority vote of the entire membership of the Club at a regular business meeting.

(b) A motion must be submitted in writing and passed at a regular business meeting to place removal of Membership on the agenda of the next regular business meeting.

(c) The Triad will notify all Regular Members by first-class mail or e-mail prior to the meeting of the Motion to Remove a member.

(d) Members may vote by proxy submitted in writing to the Triad.

(e) Members removed from Membership may reapply for Membership after one year upon approval of a majority of the Regular Membership in attendance at a regular business meeting.

Chapter 4. Meetings

Section 4.1. Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings

(a) The Club shall hold regular business meetings monthly at a time and date to be determined by the membership.

(b) A majority of the Triad may call special meetings.

(c) Notice of all regular and special meetings should be issued to all Members not less than two weeks prior to the meeting for a regular meeting, or 24 hours for a special meeting. The notice must provide the date, time and location of the meeting. Notice may be by publication in the newsletter.

(d) The Triad shall use Robert's Rules of Order as a guide in conducting meetings. When disputes arise over the use of these rules, proceedings may be mediated by a Parliamentarian appointed by the Triad.

(e) Only Regular Members may vote in any business meeting; Associate Members shall have no voting rights but may attend any business meeting.

(f) Unless otherwise specified in these Bylaws, approval of any action requires a simple majority of the Regular Members present.

(g) No financial business may be conducted DURING a regular business meeting (i.e. writing checks, paying dues, etc.) Business may be handled AFTER the meeting's conclusion.

(h) Regular meetings to not include Triad Meetings.

Section 4.2. Quorum.

(a) In order to conduct business, for business matters not otherwise specified in these Bylaws, a quorum shall consist of 15% Regular Members present at a regular or special meeting of the Club.

Chapter 5. Executive Committee

Section 5.1. Triad

(a) There shall be officers of the Club of equal rank referred to as The Triad.
(b) The Triad shall constitute the Executive Committee for business affairs.
(c) Only Regular Members may be officers.

Section 5.2. Term of Office

(a) The term of the Triad shall be from the end of the regular March meeting until the conclusion of the following March meeting.
(b) There is no limit to how many concurrent terms a Triad Member may serve.

Section 5.3. Responsibilities of the Triad

(a) Schedules a calendar of social events and outings for the Club which will be published on a monthly basis.
(b) Plans and executes social events for the Club.
(c) Coordinates and keeps records of all correspondence to and from the Club, including newsletters, the announcement line, web site and promotional/recruitment materials.
(d) Creates, appoints and chairs committees when appropriate.
(e) Facilitates the Regular Business Meetings.
(f) Keeps records of the Minutes from all meetings of the Club.
(g) Maintains Membership records including Member database and mailing lists.
(h) Researches and implements Recruitment and Member Retention devices.
(i) Keeps the Club checkbook and writes checks for expenses when needed.
(j) Prepares annual budget to be submitted to the Club at the June meeting.
(k) Researches and suggests fund raising plans for the Club.
(l) Keeps records of Members dues.
(m) Sells Club merchandise to Members when requested. Also keeps track of inventory and orders additional supplies when needed.

Section 5.4. Election of Triad Members

(a) Elections will be held at the end of the regular meeting in March.
(b) Nominations for office will be submitted to the Triad at the regular meeting in February.
(c) All candidates will be self-nominated.
(d) Members will vote for three Members to serve on the Triad. Candidates with the three (3) highest vote tallies will be named as Triad Members.
(e) The candidate with the fourth highest vote tally will be designated as an "alternate Triad" and will attend all meetings of the Triad, but will have no vote. If a Triad member is unable to complete his term, the alternate will automatically assume the vacant position.
(f) When votes are tallied the count shall be witnessed by the membership present and vote tallies will be posted as counted.

Section 5.5. Handling of a Vacant Triad Position

(a) If a Triad Position becomes vacant for any reason, including resignation or removal, and no alternate is available, the remaining Triad Members may appoint a Member to serve in that position until a special election can be held. The appointed Member may or may not seek election for the open position.
(b) Notice of the vacancy and of the special election must be sent to the entire Membership two (2) weeks prior to the regular meeting where the election is to be held. If the next meeting is less than two weeks away, the election should be held at the regular meeting following that one.
(c) A special election should be held at the next regular meeting, except in the case where proper notification is not possible.
(d) Nominations will be taken on the day of the election and the nominated member with the majority of votes will fill the vacant Triad Position for the remainder of its regular term.

Section 5.6. Removal of a Triad Member.

(a) A Triad Member may be removed from office by a 3/4 majority vote of the entire Regular Membership of the Club at a regular business meeting.
(b) A motion must be submitted in writing and passed at a regular business meeting to place removal of a Triad Member on the agenda of the next regular business meeting.
(c) The Triad will notify all Regular Members by first-class mail, or e-mail prior to the meeting of the Motion to Remove a Triad Member.
(d) Members may vote by proxy submitted in writing to the Triad.
(e) A person removed from the Triad may seek re-election after one year from the date of removal.

Section 5.7. Sponsorships, Endorsements, and Commitment of Resources.

Only the Club as a whole, or the Triad acting on behalf of the Club, may approve sponsorship or endorsements in the Club's name, commit Club resources or Membership, or extend invitations to other organizations or groups.

Chapter 6. Financial Matters

Section 6.1. Fiscal Year

(a) The fiscal year of the Club shall be June 1 through May 31.

Section 6.2. Dues

(a) There shall be annual Membership dues of $24.
(b) Dues are due to the Triad with an updated Membership application BEFORE the regular meeting in June.
(c) Dues for new Members will be pro-rated for the first year and then due before the June meeting.
(d) Members unpaid in the June meeting will lose their Membership privileges until dues are paid in full.

Section 6.3. Expenditures

(a) The Triad may approve expenditures for an amount not to exceed $150 without a vote from the Membership for any one event or item.
(b) Expenditures exceeding $150 will be approved by a vote of the Membership at any meeting.

Chapter 7. Membership Information

Section 7.1. Confidentiality of Member Information

(a) Members must give their individual permission prior to the Club's publication of any personal or identifying information in any form, such as postal and e-mail addresses and phone numbers.
(b) Members shall keep any such published personal or identifying information confidential and shall not release such published information outside the Club.
(c) Members may not use any Membership information for their own commercial purposes.

Section 7.2. Unauthorized Release of Confidential Information; Penalty.

(a) A Member may be removed from Membership for violating the provisions of this chapter.

As a member of the triad of the Club, I hereby certify that these are the bylaws of the Club, as amended on the 18th day of November, 1999.

signed John Dye, Triad

July 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		**1** Daddy Bear Picnic 2-5p Chris Daniel - 5403 Beverly Hill BYOB - BYOMeat - Side
2	**3**	**4** Ranglers @BRB 7p Boots & Boxers Ball Free - $1 Clothes Chk	**5**	**6** Chuck G.	**7** Dineout - Don Carlos 8385 Broadway 6:30 p Robert C.	**8** Miss Firecracker Chances
9 HCC Casino Trip 8a Mary's - $20	**10**	**11**	**12** **Dineout & MEETING** Biba's 6:30/7:30 607 W. Gray	**13**	**14**	**15** **Social - Mining Co** 10p - 2a
16 BOTB Casino Trip 9a Across from V-N $10	**17**	**18** Bill N.	**19** **HCC - Ripcord - 8p** Dineout - Barnacle 9401 S. Gessner 6:30p	**20**	**21**	**22**
23	**24**	**25** Dineout - Mucho Mexic 1310 N. Wayside 6:30p (3 blocks s. I-10)	**26** Jeffery M.	**27**	**28** David C-M.	**29** Peter F.
30 Mark R.	**31**		www.houstonareabears.com	**LUEY - March 1-4**	www.houstonareabears.com	

HOUSTON AREA BEARS, INC.

Growler

P.O. Box 66443
Houston, TX 77266

Voice-Mail & Announcement Line
713-867-9123

Website:
http://www.HoustonAreaBears.com

Volume 7, Number 8 — August 2000 Issue — Published by the Houston Area Bears, Inc.

Mary's Selected as Home Bar

At the regular business meeting on July 12th, the Houston Area Bears selected Mary's Naturally as our home bar. Driven largely by the presentation by Meg and John, the membership in attendance unanimously voted to hang our colors. While the official presentation will be made during our Anniversary dinner evening on September 23, bar socials will immediately begin at Mary's every 3rd Saturday. Depending on member response, we may also tend the bar on the back patio and cook hotdogs on those evenings. Join us in our celebrations.

Television Eye Candy

There's no shortage of eye candy on TV so long as you've got extended basic cable and a loaded remote. Here's a short list of bears, cubs and other attractive ursine that can be found on your very own boob tube.

TV PROGRAMS

"Harold the Security Guard" — If you watch Late Show with David Letterman every so often, you might catch a glimpse of "Harold the Security Guard," a huge, towering bear with a high forehead, a thick blond goatee and an even thicker New York accent, in one of the frequent skits that Dave drops in his show between his monologue and first guest. Woof!

"Disco Bear" — Tune in to VH1's Behind the Music episode featuring disco diva Donna Summer with the sound muted and you'll be treated to the sight of Billboard magazine music reviewer Larry Flick, a blond-haired, blue-eyed beefy bear with a neatly groomed goatee, fun-loving eyes and a charming smile. Turn the sound up, however, and your ears will be assaulted by his lissspy, wissspy, nellie-bear voicccce. Bad girl (toot-toot, he-e-ey, beep beep)!

COUNTRY MUSIC VIDEOS

"Too Much Fun" — Daryle Singletary has a video now playing on GAC (Great American Country, a country music video channel) for his latest tune, "Too Much Fun." This cherubic, chubby-cheeked, guitar-playing bear has a full black beard, long dark hair, gorgeous brown eyes and a smile that makes you weak in the knees. There's no such thing as "too much fun" with this country crooner!

The Mavericks — Lead singer Raul Malo's trembling vocals on "Things I Cannot Change" (from their CD Super Colossal Smash Hits of the '90s) first caught my ear, then his beefy, bearish good looks caught my eye. His wavy black hair, deep-set brown eyes and warm smile enhance a thin but well-defined black goatee and make both this video as well as "Here Comes My Baby" well worth watching.

Montgomery Gentry — Take your pick — either one of this pair of guitar-slingin' honky-tonkers will make you sweat

Eddie Montgomery is John Michael's stocky, blue eyed, blond-goateed younger brother; Troy Gentry is "Ode to Billie Joe's" Bobbi's dark-haired brown-eyed, fully bearded and baby-faced son. Together, they tear up the stage — and their videos — with their sizzlin' sound and rugged, tuff-boy looks.

Behind the Scenes — The aforementioned GAC's counterpart to VH1's Behind the Music is hosted by Programming Director John Hendricks, a devilishly handsome, mature bear with salt & pepper hair and beard, gorgeous brown eyes and a smile

(continued on page 2.)

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Joe Creak
Cocktail Parties -
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Dineouts -
Jack A. -
jetjack@freewwweb.com
Holiday Party -
As yet unfilled
L.U.E.Y. 2001 -
As yet unfilled
Newsletter -
As yet unfilled
Southern Decadence -
Bill N.
Telephone Tree -
Tim Curtis -
valleybear@yahoo.com
Webmaster -
J. J. F. -
james-fulton@geocities.com

The Houston Area Bears, Inc publish this newsletter. Ideas and articles expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the triad or of the corporation, but those of the author of the article(s).

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Message from your Triad
THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME

We landed our house on a WITCH last October and thought " We dot think this is Houston anymore. We are so far from home, will we ever be able to find our way again." We ran into many people along the way that said " Take it to the community, take it to the people, take it to the Triad they will know what to do." So HAB followed the yellow brick road heading to the land of Montrose. Through much trial, tribulation, discussion, debate, and delays, it seemed as though The Houston Area Bears might be lost for good and never find "HOME" again.

The club-weathered adventures in LEATHER, COWBOY BOOTS AND HATS, going up, down then up again the mountains till finally in July they reached the land of Montrose. While in the land of Montrose we ran into the good witch MEG of Mary's Naturally and she told us that home was just a click away. That we have always known how to find our way home we just needed to click our boots three times, and say the magic words" We had many discussions, weighed the pros and cons and HAB finally realized that they did know where home was and wanted to go there to stay.

So with unanimous agreement of the wolfs, cubs, and bears Triad member Christopher Daniel stood in front of the members - he raised his arms and CLICKED HIS RUBY BOOTS THREE TIMES AND SAID "THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME, THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME, THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HOME", where upon a cloud of emerald green mist rose and filled the room and HAB was magically transported to their new HOME Mary's Naturally.

Come join the Houston Area Bears at their new HOME "MARY'S NATURALLY" for socials, celebrations, companionship and big bear hugs in the future.

cont. from p. 1.
that melts iron. Even if you're not a country music fan, he makes chatty interviews with country music recording artists a pleasure to watch.

COMMERCIALS
"I'm pretty!" — The Southern Brick Manufacturers Association has a commercial running showing a big, beefy, blond-furred bear with a full beard in a blue t-shirt standing with two very large arms crossed in front of his brick home, stating defiantly that's he's "pretty." No argument here, big fella! Woof!

"I'm on a sandy beach...." — Ameritrade.com has a commercial running showing a group of meditationists squatting on mats, visualizing peaceful mental scenes. Among them is Brad, a hot little shirt-and-tied cub with buzzed black hair, a strong black goatee and a heavy five o'clock shadow, which sees himself on a "sandy beach." I'm there with ya, Brad!

"I love you, man!" — For the biker bears with a sweet tooth among us, Kellogg's Frosted Mini-Wheat's' latest commercial serves up Bubba, a gravelly voiced, denim-vested, chain-walleted, tattooed biker bear. Outside a biker bar, Bubba tells certain animated frosted mini-wheat, "I love you, man!" (Any sexual overtones are at your own discretion.) Presented with evidence suggesting the contrary (his tattoo of plain mini-wheat), Bubba reassures the frosted flake that he's "taken care of" and displays a frosted mini-wheat tattoo on the other arm. Woof! He can come take care of me, too!

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What Nots

Our very own Gene Landry appeared in the pictures from International Bear Rendezvous in the May-June issue of the Bears of San Francisco newsletter.

Texas Bear Roundup 6 (TBRU) will be held March 29 - April 1, 2001.

Bears at the Bathes

Houston Area Bears

Please join us at Club Houston for a day of fun and sun. August 26th, 2000 at 12:00 PM (NOON) till 6:00 P.M. Food and drink will be provided. Locker fee - $7.00 Please show your bear card upon arrival. Guest are welcome too.

See you there!

August 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
www.houstonareabears.com		**1** Rodney S.	**2**	**3** Dineout - 6:30p AJs Chuckwagon 14525 Lee Rd @Aldine	**4**	**5**
6	**7**	**8**	**9** **HAB Dineout/Meeting** Biba's 6:30/7:29 607 W. Gray	**10**	**11**	**12** Robert Conn & Loyd Powell's - 15th Anniversary **SOCIAL** Mary's 10p - 2a 1022 Westheimer
13	**14**	**15**	**16** **HCC - BRB - 8p**	**17** Bill H.	**18**	**19**
20	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25** Sou. Dec. Dep. Dinner	**26** **Potluck & Movies** Barry & Bert's - 7 p.m. 3019 Guese Rd
27	**28**	**29** Dineout - 7 p.m Demeris 2911 S. Shepherd	**30**	**31**		www.houstonareabears.com
	www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com	**LUEY - Mar 1-4**	www.houstonareabears.com	

September 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com		1 Southern Decadence	2 Southern Decadence
3 Southern Decadence Tim F.	4 Southern Decadence	5 Neil T.	6	7 Jack A.	8	9
10	11	12	13 **Dineout & MEETING** Biba's 6:30/7:30 607 W. Gray	14	15 Tom B.	16 **Social** Mary's 10p - 2a 1022 Westheimer
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Dineout 7 p.m. The NEW Pot Pie 2207 Richmond	29 Steve D.	30
www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com	**LUEY - March 1-4**	www.houstonareabears.com		www.houstonareabears.com

KRAFT® y Bear
Black Bean Pinwheels

Prep Time:15 mins.
Skill: Learning Cook
Ready In: 45 mins.
Serves: 10

Ingredients:
4 oz. (1/2 of 8 oz. pkg.) PHILADELPHIA Cream Cheese, softened
1/2 cup KRAFT Shredded Monterey Jack Cheese with Jalapeno Peppers or KRAFT Shredded Monterey Jack Cheese
1/4 cup BREAKSTONE'S or KNUDSEN Sour Cream
1/4 tsp. onion salt
1 cup canned black beans, rinsed, drained
3 flour tortillas (10 inch)
TACO BELL HOME ORIGINALS Thick 'N Chunky Salsa

Preparation:
MIX cheeses sour cream and onion salt with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended.

PLACE beans in food processor container fitted with steel blade or blender container; cover. Process until smooth. Spread thin layer of beans on each tortilla; spread cheese mixture over beans.

ROLL tortillas up tightly. Refrigerate 30 minutes. Cut into 1/2-inch slices. Serve with salsa.

Nutrition Info (per Serving)
Calories: 150; Total Fat: 8g; Cholesterol: 20mg; Sodium: 240mg; Total Carbohydrate: 15g; Dietary Fiber: 1g; Protein: 5g;

July 12, 2000 Minutes

The July 12, 2000, meeting of the Houston Area Bears was called to order At 7:31 p.m. with Chris Daniel as chair. Bruce Reeves as acting secretary certified that there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the June 14, 2000, meeting were corrected and accepted. Motion by motion by Barry McPherson, second by Loyd Powell. Unanimous.

The financial report was accepted. Motion by Robert Conn, second by Tom Burns, Unanimous.

In the absence of Joe Creak, Barry McPherson indicated that he had been unable to find out any details of Bears at the Baths. Triad indicated that Barry will take over as chair of the event if Joe is not at the next meeting.

There is still no newsletter editor.

Decadence is sold out.

Anniversary dinner will be the 23rd of September. Loyd Powell will chair the party afterwards at our home bar. Barry McPherson will assist.

Bylaws change 1 motion 'In Section 1.1, change the name of the organization from "Houston Area Bears" to "Houston Area Bears, Inc."' by Loyd Powell, second by Bill Neville, unanimous.

Bylaws change 2 motion 'In the entire bylaws, change the word "Club" to "Corporation" (e.g. "hereinafter, referred to as the Corporation" as opposed to "hereinafter, referred to as the Club").' by Barry McPherson, second by Loyd Powell, unanimous.

Bylaws change 3 motion 'Move Section 3.2.a to be between the current 3.2.c and 3.2.d. Therefore 3.2.b becomes 3.2.a, 3.2.c becomes 3.2.b and 3.2.a becomes 3.2.c.' by Loyd Powell, second by Barry McPherson, unanimous.

Bylaws change 4 motion 'In Section 5.2.a, change the word March to May. Also Section 5.2.b to read "The Triad elected in March 2000 shall serve through May 2001. Further, section 5.2.c, shall automatically delete in June 2001." In Section 5.4.a, change the word March to May. In Section 5.4.b, change the word February to April.' by Barry McPherson, second by Roger French, unanimous.

Bylaws change 5 motion 'In Section 5.3, change the word June to July.' by Barry McPherson, second by Loyd Powell, unanimous.

At this point, business was interrupted to allow David (Meg) and John from Mary's Naturally, to address the group concerning our home bar decision.

Bylaws change 6 motion 'In Section 5.4.c, add the sentence: "Write-in candidates are not allowed."' by Loyd Powell, second by Bill Neville, unanimous.

Bylaws change 7 motion 'Delete Section 5.4.e.' by Stan Lafleur, second by Loyd Powell, unanimous.

Bylaws change 8 motion 'Move Section 5.6.a to be after the current 5.6.c and 5.6.d. Therefore 5.6.b becomes 5.6.a, 5.6.c becomes 5.6.b and 5.6.a becomes 5.6.c.' by Bill Neville, second by Barry McPherson, unanimous.

After an extensive discussion which was obviously fueled by Mary's interest and a lack of information from the Ripcord and the Brazos River Bottom. Loyd Powell made the motion to make Mary's Naturally our home bar. Second by John Kenward, unanimous.

Robert Conn made a subsequent motion to Offically hang our colors at Mary's at the after party of our Anniversary Celebration. Discussion indicated that it was conceivable to hang our colors prior to that date, but to "officially" hang them that evening. Second by Loyd Powell. Unanimous.

Barry McPherson moved adjournment, second by Loyd Powell. Unanimous - adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Birthday Bears

Rodney S.	August 1
Bill H.	August 17
Tim F.	September 3
Neil T.	September 5
Jack A.	September 7
Tom B.	September 15
Steve D.	September 29

Inventory

36 large HAB patches @ $15
18 small HAB patches @ $10
188 HAB friendship pins @ $2 (min. of 5)
3 black XXL t-shirts (white logo) @ $5
2 grey XXL t-shirts (black logo) @ $5
1 white M t-shirt (color logo) @ $5

Hamburg Vacation Rental

Vacation rental in Hamburg, Germany
Sleeps 4-5; very clean & bright.
$700 July through September;
$500 security deposit required.

Hamburg, the gay capital of Germany, has an active gay and bear community and much to see.

E-mail RobertaRo@aol.com or call 281-433-1660 for more info, pics, or rates for other months.

NOTE CALENDAR CHANGE:
Social of August 12 moved to August 19.

Houston Area Bears

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

HOUSTON TX 770
PM
31 JUL
2000

33 USA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

2000/06/01
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Houston, TX 77071-2119

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