



Midwest BearPack EXPRESS

January/February 2000 Newsletter

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EVENTS YOU CAN'T SHAKE A STICK AT!

On February 12th the Midwest BearPack is hosting a bar night at the 501 Eagle (formerly the 501 Tavern) in Indianapolis! It's the same bar at 501 College Avenue, so don't think we've moved anywhere!

We are in the process of planning a Bear Cupid night (in the Valentine's Day theme). You won't want to miss this one! We haven't set up any special hotel arrangements, but we recommend that you contact the Days Inn at 401 E Washington Street (317) 637-6464 if you need a room.



MIDWEST BEARPACK MEETINGS

There is a lot going on with the Midwest BearPack and now is a great time to get involved! We have so many activities coming up. . .if you want to contribute in the organization then you need to attend our monthly meetings.

Our monthly meetings have now been scheduled so most people can attend them! They are on the third Sunday of each month. The meetings are in the meeting room at Fat Dick's Video Store (115 N New Jersey, Indianapolis.) There is no sign at the building saying it's a video store, just look for the

This March 25th the Midwest BearPack will be hosting a bar night at DJ's Saloon in Downtown Dayton Ohio and it's our annual spring thaw called Bear Awakening!



We are leaving the night in the able hands of William (shelbycub@showyour.net), Dallas (IndyDallas@aol.com), and Michael, so if you'd like to help out be sure to contact them! If it was anything like last year, you can be sure the event is going to have unrestrained FUN all around!

DJ's Saloon is located between First and Monument Streets at 237 N. Main Street. DJ's Saloon has been very instrumental in the success of the Midwest BearPack and it is always a lot of fun returning there.

We will also be having a nice breakfast the next day at the diner next to DJ's Saloon. It is called Café J and the food is great! Be sure to join us there!

We have set up hotel arrangements at the Hotel 30, 330 West 1st Street just a street away from the bar. Call (937) 228-0600 and make your reservation with the codename "Bearpack." (If you run into any problems, talk to Rose.) The rates are \$45 for one bed or \$55 with two beds in the room.

blue awning that says "115 N New Jersey." Their meeting room is going to suit our needs quite well! The video store also carries lots of low-priced Bear videos too!

Here is the schedule for the next few months:

Sunday, January 16th—2pm
Sunday, February 13th—2pm
Sunday, March 19th—2pm
Sunday, April 23rd—2pm (4th Sunday)

MIDWEST BEARFEST '99

This year's Midwest Bearfest was held on December 17-19 and we all had a great time. We added a new feature this year with a trip to Indianapolis' Hollywood Bar and Filmworks! It was a great hit with the BEARS! We all had great food there as well as seeing a fantastic movie.

You should have seen the BEARS scurrying around Circle Centre Mall during the Scavenger Hunt. And those stroller daddies were pretty hot too! Eric from Michigan took the award for the Hunt!

For the Most Huggable Bear Contest, we had eleven contestants and it was Friday night's emcees, William Brown and Tony Walker who were left with the daunting task of whittling it down to four. Well, they did get help from five very-

capable judges too! The judges were Terry Merchel from Motor City Bears, Pete Campey from Columbus Ursine Brotherhood, Bill Yonke from Metrobears, Doug Stein of Great Lakes Bears, and Don Keaton from River Bears. WOOF to the judges!

Saturday night's finals were emceed by Kendra McClain. The four finalists worked the house full of Bears to earn their hugs in which Patrick was chosen by the crowd to be the Most Huggable Bear of 2000! Congratulations to Patrick and all the well-deserving contestants!

We had a great gift exchange at the Sunday morning brunch at Island Café! Hope to see you next year at Midwest Bearfest 2000 on December 15-17, 2000!



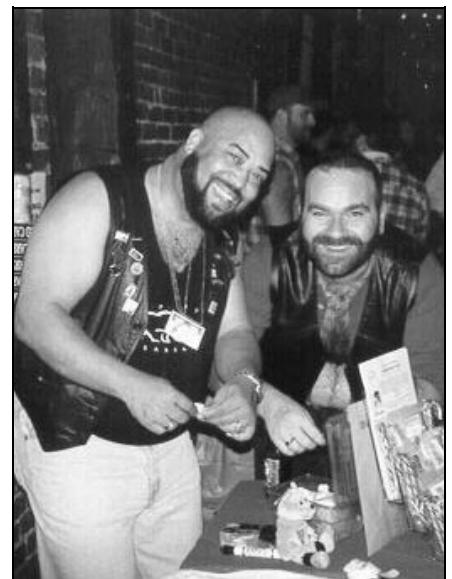
above: Saturday night's emcee Kendra McClain interviews the Most Huggable Bear of 2000, Patrick. **above:** The finalists for the Most Huggable Bear contest (left to right): Mike, Steve, Patrick, and Larry. What boxes they have to open, I wonder?



above: Chris gathers his gift from the holiday gift exchange on Sunday morning.



above: Michael and William participate in the Union Suit Santa photo with Dallas.



above: John and Dallas keep things organized at the club table on Saturday night.