

M I D W E S T



B E A R P A C K

# Midwest BearPack EXPRESS

January/February 1999 Newsletter

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PO Box 771, Indianapolis, IN 46206  
E-mail: [mwbearpack@aol.com](mailto:mwbearpack@aol.com)

Voice Mail: (317) 624-2667  
Web address: <http://members.aol.com/mwbearpack>

## ARE YOU READY FOR SPRING?

This March 13th 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!

Can you believe this is our third Bear Awakening at DJ's Saloon? For some of you we will be sharing our anniversary with your association with the Midwest BearPack! So I am sure there will be plenty of bears showing up again this year just to celebrate another fur-packed year with the Midwest BearPack.

But for those of you who haven't been to Bear Awakening, let me explain what you'll be in for. . . *I DON'T KNOW!* You see, at this event we have always shown up and just let the fur fly! We don't plan a whole lot, but be assured. . . a lot happens! We always have some sort of activity concocted at the last minute. It's always fun. . . it's always memorable and it's only this March 13th in Dayton!

It was back in 1997, just to give you a bit of history, that we put together a Daddy, Mommy and Baby Bear contest. Everyone is still talking about that one! But how an actual female won a bear contest is beyond me. . . just to say it could only happen at a Midwest BearPack event! And 1998? What happened then? Oh yeah, it was the year that we had our Best Bear contestants do a BEAR JIG onstage and Jon, the winner that year, impressed the crowd by deep-throating a beer bottle!

For hotel accommodations we suggest you call the Best



Western Dayton North at 3636 N. Dixie Drive. Their number is (937) 276-6151. Be sure to come out for this one, I'm sure you won't be disappointed!

## PINS, SHIRTS AND BADGES

Due to popular demand, we have invested in a whole bunch of Midwest BearPack pins. These were introduced at last month's Midwest Bearfest in Indianapolis and you should have seen all the pins being flashed around the bar that night! These pins are 1" X 3/4", very attractive with our logo in black against a white background. You'll be proud to display your club affiliation with these pins, believe me!

The pins are available to members at \$2.00/pin. Many members have been buying them in a group of ten, so I imagine we'll have to make another order soon. To non-members they are available at \$3.00/pin.

Our club t-shirts and tank tops are also available. Our regular club t-shirt is available in grey. But we also have a supply of tank tops with our club logo on the front in gray or black! These have always been a favorite with everyone. And, if you didn't know, we have a small supply of 1998 Midwest Bearfest T-shirts available as well. These only come in white. Each of these t-shirts or tank tops are \$12.00 each. Of course if you are a new member you get a t-shirt or tank top with the membership as always!

If enough people show interest, we can make another order of name badges with the club logo. Please let us know if you are interested!

# MIDWEST BEARFEST '98

This year's Midwest Bearfest was a surprise for all. We all had a chance to make new friends and to become reacquainted with old ones! From the opening bar night at the 501 Tavern on Friday night to our closing brunch at Tropica Bay there was plenty of BEAR hugging and nuzzling to go around. It seems like everyone had a great time and nobody went home without a smile on their face!



**left:** Okay. . . what is Kendra looking for? Her lost earring?



**right:** Most Huggable Bear of 1999 Tony Walker throws on the charm in the contest.



**above:** The Silent Auction raised about \$1,000 for the Diversity Center and Friends of Parkview Manor.



**above:** The downstairs at the 501 Tavern on Saturday night.



**above:** The final four Most Huggable Bear contestants!

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**February 15 - Midwest BearPack's** monthly meeting at the Diversity Center at 7:00pm.

**March 13 - The Midwest BearPack** presents **BEAR AWAKENING** again at DJ's Saloon in Downtown Dayton Ohio! Contact the Best Western Dayton North at (937) 276-6151 for accommodations!

**March 15 - Midwest BearPack's** monthly meeting at the Diversity Center at 7:00pm.

**March 19-21 - The Conductor's Run** in Nashville Tennessee.

**March 25-28 - The Dallas Bears** prove that "some good things just keep gettin' better" at **Texas Bear Round-up 4** in Dallas, Texas.

**April 9-11 - The Columbus Ursine Brotherhood** are looking for a few good bears (and cubs too!) at **BEAR CAMP '99** in

Columbus Ohio! The Host Hotel is The Crowne Plaza (800) 338-4462 under the codename Bear Camp 99. Registration is \$40.00 before 3/15/99.

**April 15-18 - The Music City Bears** promise this year's **BEAR JAM '99** to be "the biggest and best yet!" in Nashville Tennessee.

**April 19 - Midwest BearPack's** monthly meeting at the Diversity Center at 7:00pm.

**April 23-25 - The Hoosier Bears** invite you to come out this spring for their 5th Annual **Out of Hibernation!** This event is in Indianapolis with **Our Place** as their Host Bar!

**May 27-31 - The Great Lakes Bears-Chicago** present their Memorial Day Weekend Event **BEAR PRIDE** in Chicago!