



BEAR PRIDE 1997

Is it over so soon?

The Great Lakes Bears have put together an event package worthy of the title EVENT!

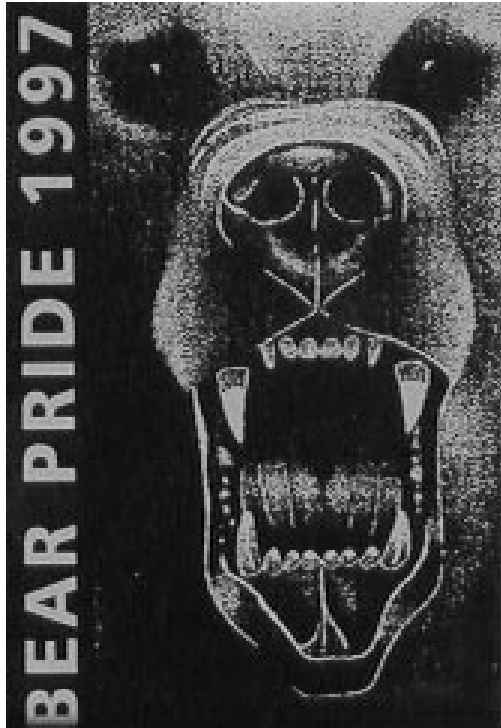
If you missed out on **Bear Pride 1997** you missed out on a fantastic time. The first night, Friday night, was mostly just a "get acquainted" time. Just a bunch of bears standing around sniffing each other out.

The next day (Saturday) we tended to stay within our BearPack group and walked down the street what seemed forever and dropped by the Leather Market at IML. (I have to say it was a rather woofy weekend for Chicago.) On the way a German magazine photographer took a picture of our group.

Saturday was a great day (weather-wise) and we went afternoon bar-hopping in the Boystown area. It was okay, but nothing too exciting. That evening we went to the Bear Pride Bear Contest. The emcee was very funny and kept the event fun for us all. Of the 20 contestants, Gene, a bear from Bloomington Indiana had won. Gene was a former cover model for American Bear.

The next day, Sunday, was cold, especially around the lake area where the Bear Pride Picnic was held. We didn't do anything but eat at the picnic. Get on the bus, go to the picnic, get in line, get food, eat, get back on the bus, sorry, no time to talk. . .too cold. A British BBC film crew was there interviewing some bears.

After the picnic we socialized with some friends back at the Bear Hotel (The Inter-Continental Hotel actually.) A wedding was happening the same time as our Bear event so you can imagine how those mothers and aunts were making a fuss over the mass of Bears in their way. They were not too happy.



Bears were meant to eat,
travel and have fun . . .and
to do those things with
other Bears!

That night we went to the Nutts-to-Butts Party and had a great time. Everyone was left to their own devices so there is not much to say here.

The next morning (Monday) we had to go home. We said good-bye to some new friends and headed back home. At a rest stop on the way home Mike saw someone had written on the bathroom stall wall: "**Bear Pride 1997 WOOF!**"

Upcoming Activities

Friday, June 13 - Midwest BearPack Pride Cookout at Our Place (231 E 16th, Indianapolis.) Time is from 5:00 to 7:30pm.

Saturday, June 14 and Sunday June 15 - Gay Pride Weekend in Indianapolis. The Picnic is scheduled from 11am - 5pm on Sunday afternoon.

Monday, June 16 - Midwest BearPack's monthly meeting at the Diversity Center, 1112 Southeastern Ave, Indianapolis at 8pm.

Sunday, June 29 - Columbus Ohio Gay Pride Weekend.

Saturday, July 5 - Midwest BearPack presents "Red, White, and Blue, the Bears and Goldilocks too!" at DJ's Saloon in Dayton Ohio. DJ's address is 237 North Main Str.

Monday, July 21 - Midwest BearPack's monthly meeting at the Diversity Center in Indianapolis, 8:00pm.

Friday - Sunday, July 25-27 - Black Swamp Bears and Mid-Michigan Bears' Bear Invasion '97 in Toledo Ohio.

Saturday, August 23 - Midwest BearPack's Fur Blast II at DJ's Saloon in Dayton, Ohio.

Saturday, September 20 - Midwest BearPack is heading to Cincinnati for the **Official Red Day** at Kings Island.

AFTER THE FIRE

Some Computer-minded BearPack members may have noticed our WEB Page not being updated recently. Well, as many as you know, our home base burned down with the computer along with it. (You may remember in the last newsletter we had a tornado hit our complex.) we actually didn't have a way to get to the WEB Page.

Well, all of that is taken care of. We are now in a new apartment with a brand-spanking new computer. Just a few days ago we had the time to update the WEB Page with the most current dates of upcoming events as well as a few bits of news.

We want to thank everyone for their concern and their patience during our transition period. Please feel free to access the WEB Page to get the most current information on upcoming activities. Aside from calling our home directly, we believe the WEB Page to be the best source of accurate and up-to-date information.

Our WEB address is:
<http://members.aol.com/mwbearpack>

Mike Davis and Tim Smith's new phone number: (317) 216-0499.

Membership Renewal

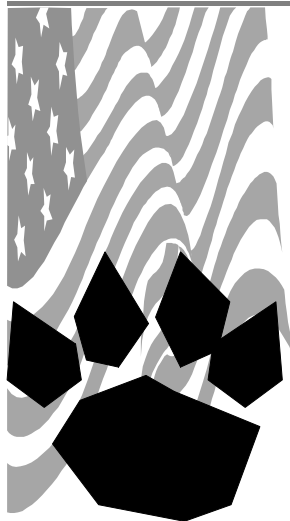
Members of Midwest BearPack will find a membership form enclosed with this newsletter. Because of our recent home fire, we lost the original completed forms. Please update our records by completing the enclosed form and returning it to us.

If you would like to extend your membership another full year, please submit your next year dues with the form. Bears who became members before January 1, 1997 are considered active members until December 31, 1997. You

may send in your completed Renewal form anytime before that date to maintain your membership.

Bears who became members after January 1, 1997 are invited to extend their membership another year as well and will be considered active members based upon the month they joined the Midwest BearPack.

We hope you are enjoying your participation in the Midwest BearPack and encourage you to take advantage of all the activities and fun!



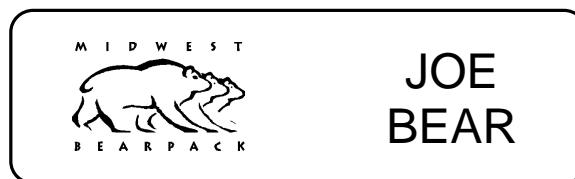
LET'S HELP GOLDDILOCKS!

Midwest BearPack member Kendra McClain will be participating at IMsL in San Diego, California this year. In an effort to help Kendra raise the necessary funds to cover the expenses of the trip, Midwest BearPack will host "Red, White, and Blue the Bears and Goldilocks too!" This event is on July 5th in Dayton Ohio at DJ's Saloon (237 North Main St. in Downtown Dayton.) We will be selling Mark Kelso-signed photos (thanks to the Diversity Center and BearPack members Kerry and Jim). We also will have a "Bare D Bear." The highest bidders get to strip the Bears, (let's see what we can raise for this.) We will also be doing a 50/50 raffle. The Midwest BearPack is here to help sponsor, raise money, and support our Bears and community.

Cards, Name Tags and Shirts Available

The BearPack will provide business cards (example to the right) to it's members for a cost of \$1.00 for 10. The cards will only be provided in the design to the right (the bears will have the gay colors.) When you send your request please write the name and/or phone number as you want it to appear on the card. We are not offering any discount for bulk amounts.

Name Tags are available for \$12.00. They are gold with black lettering. We tested the new name tags in Chicago and the other Bear Clubs were very impressed. They are really sharp!



Name Tag example

Our T-shirts and tank tops will be available again soon. For members the t-shirts and tank tops are \$12.00/ea and for new members one shirt is free with membership.



Business Card example