

HOUSTON OUTDOOR GROUP



▲ JULY

NEWSLETTER

2004 ▲

HOG CALENDAR JULY EVENTS

July 4 - Potluck Dinner

Coordinated by Bill & Thomas • 713-560-9794

July 10 - HOG Breakfast • Luby's-290 at 34th St.

Coordinated by Bill & Thomas • 713-560-9794

July 26 - HOG Night at the Astros

Coordinated by Bill & Thomas • 713-560-9794

billpctx@hotmail.com

July 17 - Arts Walk

Hosted by Dwayne • 281-655-5447 • djkcpa@aol.com

July 24 - HOG Social - 6pm

Hosted by Dwayne • 281-655-5447 • djkcpa@aol.com

July 27 - General Meeting & Newsletter Mailout

Hosted by Don & Ray • 713-522-7809 • (7:30pm)

From the President ...

I begin this month with lots and lots of *Thank You's*. At the top of my list is Jon, who helped me out so much with the Empower setup. Thanks to Russell for our activities flyer at Empower. Jon/John and Lisa/Lori donated items that we gave away. They also helped out by staffing the booth. Thanks to all those who worked the booth: Don, Ray, Peter, Rochelle, Dwayne, John, Jon and Russell. I hope I haven't missed anyone. The crowd was small but, as always, we made some new friends.

While all that work was being done at Empower another group was cruising down the Guadalupe. We had 27 people launch together including people from Austin and San Antonio. Thanks to Ed for organizing this annual favorite of ours.

At last month's mailout we began the discussion about officers for next year. I have heard a few suggestions. We have a great group of officers who I urge to continue their work. Dave, our Vice President, has served the group for several years and knows everyone well. I think he will do a great job as leader of the HOG. The big question for us is who will take up the Vice President's post as a leader-in-training? Please encourage either a current board member or other active member who you think would do a good job.

At both the July social and the July mailout the discussion about leadership will continue. Please come and join us for those talks.

If you haven't signed up with the **HOG Yahoo Group**, you really should. There are times when certain events happen for which there is no advance notice. To keep up with last-minute announcements, please subscribe to the Yahoo Group. You never know when you might miss out on something really good because you didn't get the HOG notices. Contact Russell at driftw@aol.com to subscribe to the Yahoo Group.

— Bill

HOG members staffing a booth at Empower 2004 ... oh, no ... wait, these HOGs were floating down the Guadalupe during a weekend excursion coordinated by Ed B. Looks like fun!!!



Jon & John spent some quality time at the Empower booth to promote HOG awareness. Thanks to them and others for staffing our booth. See Bill's article on this page for more Empower recaps!



The **Houston Outdoor Group (HOG)** is a social group for gay men, lesbians and gay friendly persons who enjoy the outdoors. Activities are organized by HOG members, individually or by ad hoc groups, and are reported in the monthly newsletter. Events may be typical sports activities (camping, hiking, etc.) but can also include any social activity, whether indoors or out. Call the Hogline at (713) KAMP-OUT for information, a free trial newsletter or write to HOG, PO Box 980893, Houston, TX 77098.

There are no formal membership requirements except for the annual fee of \$20 per household to cover the cost of the newsletter. HOG is affiliated with the IGLOO (www.radix.net/~erewhon/igloo/index.html)

HOG EVENTS IN JULY

4th of July Festivities July 4

For the last three years Thomas and Bill have hosted our Fourth of July Social. This year they have moved to a new place, but there will still be an excellent view of the downtown fireworks spectacular.

Parking could be a problem. You will most likely have to park a block or so away but it is a nice neighborhood to walk through. You can get a map with directions by emailing Bill: billpctx@hotmail.com

Dinner will be traditional July 4th favorites. If you have a favorite holiday dish, call Bill and tell him what you are bringing. If you don't know what to bring, contact Bill at 713-560-9794 and he will assign something for you.

We will gather beginning at 6 p.m. with dinner around 7:30 p.m.

Bring your portable camp chairs. We will walk over to the viewing area about two blocks away for the fireworks.

Meet Us for Breakfast July 10

Our HOG monthly breakfast will be at Luby's at 9am.

Join us for breakfast and friendly chat with other HOG members, friends and prospective members.

This is a good time to get to know other members and discuss upcoming events and activities.

290 @ 34th Street

For more information
and/or directions, call Bill & Thomas
713-560-9794

See you there!

Arts Walk - Galveston July 17

The HOG will spend this Saturday evening walking through the Strand for the July Galveston Art Walk. We will meet at the Fishermen's Wharf restaurant at 5 p.m. for an early dinner then stroll through the galleries.

According to the Galveston Tourism Office, the Art Walk is: *An evening where Galveston's art galleries in the Historic Downtown Strand District host an evening of openings and receptions of new works by local artists and national touring exhibitions.*

For more information, contact Dwayne at 281-655-5447 or djkcpa@aol.com

HOG Potluck July 24

Enjoy the 25 minute drive from downtown past the loop and past the beltway to this month's Pot Luck. Contact Dwayne at 281-655-5447 or djkcpa@aol.com for more information and meal assignments.

Potluck begins at 6pm. After the social you are more than welcome to stay for movies, card and board games

Houston Astros Night July 26

How about a nite out with boys!! The Boys of Summer: the Houston Astros. The HOG will go to a Monday nite game on July 26th when the Astros host the Arizona Diamondbacks at Minute Maid Park. It is a 7:05 start time. Our president can get good seats in the View Deck for \$10. It is up high but the view is terrific.

If you haven't been out to the ballpark, it is great to go with a group. In order to insure good seats, all together, you must make your reservations with Bill no later than Sunday, July 16th, since he will need to pick up the tickets in advance. Contact Bill at 713-560-9794 or email him at billpctx@hotmail.com

HOG NOTES

MONTHLY MEETING

The HOG General Meeting is held in conjunction with the newsletter mailout on the last Tuesday of every month from 7:30 - 9pm at Don & Ray's. Call 713-522-7809 for directions. Members and non-members are welcome.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit articles, photos and/or ads before the 15th of the month for publication in the following month's edition of the HOG Newsletter. Contact Russell at 713-862-1488 or send email to driftw@aol.com

Save these HOG dates:

Santiago is inviting HOG members to join him a chartered bus rides to one of the Louisiana casinos. It is a free (or very low cost) ride over to Louisiana for a four-hour casino visit. *Since it is only four hours you can't lose all your savings, but you can have a great time on the bus ride with the group.* He would like to go on **Saturday, August 7th**, for a **2pm departure**. If you are interested, give him a call at **713-869-5616**.

The **August 14th pool party/elections** should be a fun event. Milton & Dave are planning a special Hawaiian theme. Watch for details.

The **August breakfast** is set for the **21st**. We need a sponsor and location. Where do you want to go for breakfast? Somewhere new or an old favorite?

The September calendar is open but there are events tentatively scheduled for October. The **Greek Festival** in early October is always a fun event. Howard wants us to go as a group on opening nite, **Thursday, October 7th**. You can beat the big weekend crowds and we can have a great meal together. We are looking at the 3rd weekend in October for a fall campout at Boykin Springs. Details will be posted.

Saturday, Sept 4th and **Saturday, Oct 9th** we have 15 reservations on the back of the boat on the **New Buccaneer of Galveston**. \$75 is the cost paid in full in advance. **Due date for 9/4 is 7/1/04** and **due date for 10/9 is 7/30/04**. Please reserve now by calling **John** at **713-523-6381**.

HOG OFFICERS

President - Bill C.

713-560-9794 • billpctx@houston.rr.com

Vice President & Director of Membership - Dave M.

713-868-7991 • texdave@msn.com

Directors of Activity Support - Jeanne & Judith

281-829-9532 • jlbivens@ev1.net

Director of Publicity - Jon G.

713-290-0220 • jonrussell@houston.rr.com

Newsletter Editor - Russell Ben W.

713-862-1488 • driftw@aol.com

Director of Finance / Treasurer - Arthur G.

713-862-9766 • AGonzales1105@aol.com

Memberhip Records - Dwayne K.

281-655-5447 • djkcpa@aol.com

HOUSTON OUTDOOR GROUP
CALL FOR INFO:

713-K-A-M-P-O-U-T

www.geocities.com/houstonoutdoorgroup

HOG NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION / MEMBERSHIP

Individual or couple at same address - \$20 / year

PLEASE PRINT!

NAME 1: _____

NAME 2: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

New member

Renewal

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE HOG?

Make your check payable to: ARTHUR GONZALES

MAIL TO: HOUSTON OUTDOOR GROUP
P.O. BOX 980893
HOUSTON, TX 77098-0893

The HOG mailing list is confidential, but you can sign up to be on our phone list. Only members who sign up receive the list.

E-MAIL: _____

I would like to receive the newsletter at the above email address instead of by U.S. Mail: YES NO

PHONE #: _____

Include me (us) on the phone list: YES NO

I, the undersigned, agree to hold the Houston Outdoor Group (HOG), its officers, volunteers, members and guests free from any liability for injury to myself or others or damage to property as a result of my participation in HOG activities. I further agree that I shall do nothing intentionally to jeopardize the health or safety of myself, HOG members and guests, that I have familiarized myself with all of the necessary precautions for safe participation in HOG activities, and that I will take such precautions.

SIGNATURE(S) REQUIRED

Signed: _____ date _____

Signed: _____ date _____

Lost Maples

FoxFire Cabins

November 12-14, 2004

Once again we will be going back to Lost Maples, but staying at a different place. This year we have chosen to stay at a place called FoxFire cabins which is located a bit closer to Lost Maples State Park.

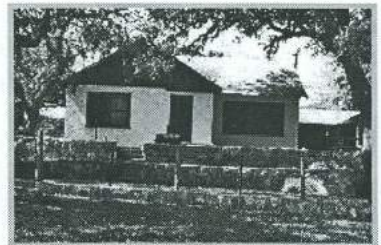
Their cabins are spread out through the hills.

The one we reserved is called the **Farm House** and it is completely isolated with no one around but us HDGs. It has five rooms and sleeps 18 people. The amenities are a gas fire place, BBQ pit,



full kitchen, two bathrooms, washer & dryer and the beautiful outdoors. We even have our own river for wading in.

The date for this year's cabin retreat will November 12-14, 2004. The cost is the best thing about this whole deal — it is only



\$40 for the whole weekend per person. This cost is based on 18 participants.

This is a very popular campout and will fill up fast. All you will need to bring is clothing, food, yourself and a great smile.

Please call John or Jon at 713-290-0220 or email jonrussell@houston.rr.com to make your reservation.

Happy Trails!

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

BOWLING

Sunday Bowling: 713-522-9612

Monday Nite Women's Bowling: 281-437-6218

Montrose Monday Night Men's Bowling:

713-641-5424

Wednesday Night Mixers Bowling:

713-522-9612



HOUSTON TENNIS CLUB

www.HoustonTennisClub.org

713-522-1053



Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club

713-682-4165

www.RainbowRanglers.org

CLASSIC CHASSIS CAR CLUB

www.ClassicChassisCarClub.org



COUNSELING

Montrose Counseling Center

713-529-0037

www.MontroseCounselingCenter.org

RAINBOW FISHING CLUB

PO Box 66450

Houston, TX 77266

713-523-6381

The Montrose Softball League *Houston*

<http://MontroseSoftballLeague.com>

713-867-3913

Houston Women's Softball League

409-257-1885