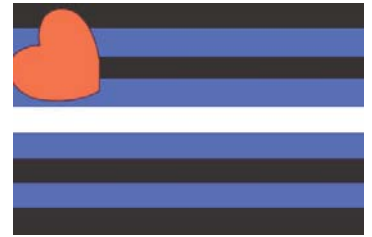


THE BRAND



A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGO HELLFIRE CLUB

SUMMER 2013

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FROM THE INFERNO COORDINATOR

Inferno XLII

Preparations under way

Greetings.

Summer is here, and Inferno is a short two months away. Slots are filling up, so if you haven't sent in your application, *send it now*. There is still much to do for the run to be successful.

Men needed for setup and teardown

We need able-bodied volunteers for setup and teardown. Setup starts on Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 8:00am at the run sight, finishing up Thursday, Sept. 5. Meals and housing will be provided during setup. Teardown begins early morning on Wednesday, Sept. 11, usually finishing up early Thursday morning. If you can work either setup or teardown, email me.

As in years past, we will try to find housing in Chicago for our volunteers who are from distant places and who arrive in Chicago a few days early.

If any Chicago-based members or guests can put someone up for a few days, please let me know. Teardown starts immediately after the closing ceremonies of Session B and usually finishes up the next day around noon. Any teardown volunteers flying home should arrange for a late Thursday afternoon flight. Of course, we house and feed our volunteers during teardown.

Shipping items to Inferno

Shipping information is in your Inferno Confirmation Packet. PLEASE make sure that your shipment arrives at the run site on or after Sept. 2. The folks at the run site cannot be responsible for anything that arrives before Sept. 2.

Transportation

Anyone needing a ride from Chicago to the run sight for setup or the event should contact David K. at switchbear@aol.com.

Anyone with room in their car for passengers also can contact David.

We will be tearing down the clubhouse and packing up in August. Emails will be sent to the mem-

bership with the dates, and we need volunteers to help. If you are able to help out, please email me.

Giving back to the community

The charity for Inferno XLII is the Leather Archives & Museum. If you have any donations for the silent auction or the McAdory table at the flea market, please email me.

Volunteer

The Chicago Hellfire Club is an all volunteer organization. We rely on volunteers for all of our events. Inferno would not happen if we did not have volunteers to help us put

this event on. The expense of having others do the work for the Club would prohibit the vast majority of us from attending.

To all of you who have volunteered in any way, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the hard work you have done over the past several months or will do to make the event a success.

In Leather

Gene M.
Inferno Coordinator 2013
email: inferno@hellfire13.net



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FALL ISSUE DEADLINE:
August 31, 2013

EDITOR:
Kevin B.
Send news to:
news@hellfire13.net

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Looking ahead

Planning for a great future

Greetings all!

Hard to believe 2013 is already half over. Good thing is Inferno XLII is only a few weeks away.

This year's event is sure to be as fun as ever with plenty of wild and kinky fetish play for all who attend. Be sure to talk to your club sponsor or any one of our club members to inquire about guest attendance at this event.

Annual full member meeting in October

As we start moving through the remainder of 2013, the club's board will be getting ready for the October annual meeting of the full members and elections for the 2014 CHC Board of Directors, followed by the club's annual AAW event in November.

This year's board has been working on making some improvements to how we do things with regard to certain administrative tasks and responsibilities.

In spite of the progress made, there is still much work to be done.

In the end, we hope that the modifications made to these tasks will make for more efficient work on behalf of the members as well as the board members responsible for certain tasks with respect to communications, member information, event registration, data tracking and reporting, etc.

What to get more involved?

For those guests interested in becoming more involved in CHC—or seeking consideration for membership within the club—please talk to your sponsor or any one of our club's members who will be happy to assist in answering your questions. Or feel free to talk to the hard working men on our membership committee.

This is CHC's 42nd year and that by itself is quite an accomplishment for an all volunteer men's only BDSM sex club!

Thanks to volunteers

We couldn't do it without the efforts of our members and without the continued growth and reinvestment of resources from our members and guests.

Time, energy, passion, commitment, knowledge, experience, desire, money and hard work all culminate in keeping this club

moving forward and thriving as we've done for so many years.

Look forward to seeing you at any of your up and coming events (bar nights, monthly play parties or annual events).

Regards,

Paul Cantrell
CHC President, 2013
email: president@hellfire13.net



Paul Cantrell, President

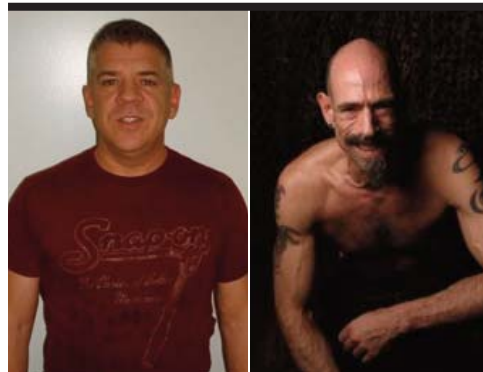
INFERNO TEARDOWN

Volunteer

Give us a hand with teardown at Inferno

We're in search of some solid men to join the terrific team that dismantles Inferno at the end of the run. If you're able to give us a day, your Session B is completely clear for play because you'll have no duty assignment for that session! And, when Inferno ends, you'll have an opportunity to bask in the afterglow while working and sharing camaraderie with a great group of

guys. Just give us your time and energy on Wednesday, Sept 11, plus the next morning. The Club picks up the tab for a night's lodging, meals, snacks, and refreshments. Many hands make light work! With focused effort, we get the job done quickly — and the plan is to head out by lunchtime on Thursday. Complete your Inferno XLII experience with the satisfaction of packing everything



Dan B and Andrew H.
Teardown Co-Chairs, Inferno XLII

Dan B. and Andrew H.
Teardown Co-Chairs, Inferno XLII
email: aharwin@earthlink.net

securely away for next year. Even if you've already mailed your run app, you can easily change your duty preference by dropping us an email or calling Andrew at **212-431-7917**. Many thanks!

In Brotherhood,



FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Summer Fun

With the CHC Program

Greetings.

Everyone seems to have tons to do during the summer and in Chicago its an especially busy time. We have June as Pride month, and time at the beaches, concerts in the parks, Market Days, BBQ parties, pool parties, the 4th of July, and the list goes on. CHC also has a fair bit going on.

First, a big thank you to everyone who helped make our Triple Play Weekend a success.

In August we have our quarterly nonsmoking party on August 10th. These parties have been a big success and have brought folks from all over to play. The energy and play that occurs at these are something to experience and be involved in. Be sure to be there and join in.

Towards the end of August CHC takes our clubhouse apart and gets ready to put on our Premier Event Inferno. The Inferno committee works year round to get ready for this event and to get things setup. The only way to attend is to be invited and the only way to be invited is to talk with your sponsor. Men from around the world attend this event and for many it's a big home coming event. It is often a eye opening and life changing event (at least it was for me). I highly encourage our guests to talk with your sponsor about Inferno and if you don't

get an invite or can't afford it for this year, make plans to get an invite and attend next year.

That wraps up our summer with CHC and planning is fully underway for Fall where we have a full schedule to keep things hot and heavy. October, play party, November AAW, December Holiday weekend parties and NYE. More details on those will be in the next issue of the Brand.

Volunteers are always wanted Needed and appreciated

A huge thank you to our guest volunteers who helped us out at IML. It was truly a great thing to see our guests finding a lot of value in our events and be willing to step up and help out. Some of you I got to say thank you to in person and some of you I didn't and I truly apologize for that, but please know your help and assistance are greatly appreciated and major kudos to you and a major Thank You!

I also want to express a huge thank you to the members who worked the event. It was truly a daunting task to fill in some 80+ volunteer positions during

IML. Your willingness to prompt your guests and to volunteer yourselves is very highly appreciated. For those of you who worked more than one shift (including some of our guests) your willingness to serve was certainly noticed by several people and we really can't say thank you enough. We want to encourage you to keep doing it.

Being an all volunteer organization, things don't get done without people willing to help out and pitch in and make it work. The more hands on the bucket make it easier to carry and you all have shown that to be very true.

We have volunteer positions open for everything that is going on this summer. If

you can volunteer for one of our events please speak up and do so. Members RSVP (and previously registered guests in good standing), email program@hellfire13.net and let me know your availability. Guests make sure you let your sponsor know and make sure they pass that information on when they setup your RSVP. The club appreciates your volunteer support and as a guest we show our appreciation in a number of ways.

Volunteer opportunities include:

Setup: Responsible for opening the house. Turning on the lights, water heater, music, dungeon spaces, unlocking doors, verifying play stations are stocked, getting guest lists and supplies setup. There is a setup checklist available to verify that every thing is setup correctly.

Food & Beverage Host: Makes sure the snack bowls stay full. Works out of the pantry to supply and keep the food table stocked and full for folks to grab something to munch on. Also, light cleanup including emptying and disposing of poor, abandoned cans and bottles; keeping tables clean. May include shopping for food or preparation o food for party.

Story continues on Page 4



Ben V., Program Chairman

THINK "G.E.T. L.A.I.D."

GARBAGE Have you picked up trash, emptied all the garbage cans, relined them and taken the trash to the alley?

ELECTRIC Have you turned off all electric appliances—coffee pot, fans, smoke eater, etc.?

THERMOSTAT Have you turned off all air conditioners?

LIGHTS Have you turned off all the lights, including the bathrooms and back halls?

AMPLIFIERS Are you sure you've turned off all amplifiers (CD player, radios, tape players, TV, etc.)?

INSIDE DOORS Have you locked the office door and checked all back doors?

DOOR Will you be sure to check the front door and make sure it is locked securely after you have gone out?



House Rules

In order for the Chicago Hellfire Club to continue to be successful and full of hot sex and play during all of our events, it's important to remember some items so that problems won't interrupt our fun.

- To help maintain a good relationship with our neighbors, dress appropriately when you and your guests arrive and depart. This means:

1. No extreme leather or fetish wear or toys are to be worn or displayed outside the club. No bare asses or chests, hoods, masks, leashes, or boys on their knees. Keep your toys and tools out of sight until you are inside the club-house.

2. Arrive and depart quietly.

- All attendees are required to show their valid, government-issued ID. When you arrive, we like to get everyone in-side as quickly as possible so we don't have a line on the street. Having your ID out when you get to the check-in window just inside the door will keep the line moving quickly.




- **PHOTOGRAPHY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED IN THE CLUBHOUSE** except by club designated photographers – Don't risk getting caught! Just don't take pictures of that hot scene you were watching or involved in. Keep everyone safe.

- Drug use will not be tolerated.

- We take our members' and guests' safety seriously. DMs are on duty to ensure someone is watching, but it is the responsibility of all members to enforce the club's safer sex policies, listed in our Standing Legislation, Attachment 19. Prohibitions include, but are not limited to: unprotected anal intercourse; fisting without rubber gloves; needles, pins, catheters, sounds, or other devices intended to break the skin or invade a body orifice used on more than one individual without sterilization between uses; sharing of sex toys which come in contact with any bodily secretions.

Thank you for helping us help you have fun!

Calendar

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
Aug. 10 (Sat)	 Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
INFERNO XLII (SEE PAGE 8 FOR MORE INFO)			
Aug. 23-24 (Fri)	Clubhouse dismantle for Inferno*		
Aug. 23- Sept. 18	Clubhouse closed (limited equipment available)*		
Sept. 2-5 (Mon)	On-site set-up		
Sept. 5-8 (Thu)	Session A		
Sept. 8-11 (Sun)	Session B		
Sept. 11-12 (Wed)	On-site tear-down		
Sept. 17-18	Clubhouse reset post Inferno* *Subject to change depending on needs of the Club.		
Sept. 28 (Sat)	Cigar & Boots Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
Oct. 12 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
AAW — ASSOCIATE APPLICATIONS WEEKEND			
Nov. 8-10	Including Sat., Nov. 9 AAW dinner and Sun, Nov. 10 AAW brunch and party. Details to come.		
Nov. 9 (Sat)	 Monthly plus AAW Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
Dec. 13 (Sat)	Bar Night	Touché	10pm - 1am
Dec. 14 (Sat)	Holiday Play Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
Dec. 31 (Sat)	 NYE Play Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
<i>smoking permitted after 12:15am, Jan. 1, 2014</i>			
Jan. 11 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
Feb. 8 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
Mar. 8 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am

Story continued from Page 3

Clean up: What it sounds like. Clean up the remaining food and put it away. Gather and dispose of trash and make sure it gets taken out of the house. Close the clubhouse and make sure that everything gets shut down, closed and locked up.

Miscellaneous volunteer time: These volunteers fill in as needed during special events. Often these positions include assisting with Work Parties, SMU, CHC Bar Nights, the IML Market, AA Weekend, Brunches, and other club events. Responsibilities may range from selling raffle tick-

ets to helping repair items around our clubhouse or something as simple as restocking our drink cooler.

Thank you to all volunteers over the past 42 years and especially those who have made the first half of my year as Program Director a lot easier to deal with. You make this club tick! Please keep volunteering! If you haven't yet, please do so and feel free to come talk to me (or email me) about how you can.

Ben V, 2013 Program Director
email program@hellfire13.net



Embracing needle play

Or, "It's just a little prick..."

Greetings.

My fascination with needles started early, no doubt enhanced with an early introduction to the world of sharp and pointy via weekly allergy shots. Administered quickly and efficiently by brusque and efficient doctor's office staff when I was in my early teens, I remember the sharp stab, the quick rush of endorphins, and the warm and slow come down afterwards. Although I don't think I had yet made a direct connection between the world of heightened sensations and sexual pleasure, I was quick enough to know that I was able to significantly alter my body's reaction to an extreme stimulus, and to light a slow burn of curiosity which would come out many years later.

A little fear is a good thing

Even for many of us who enjoy the gamut of play, from light bondage to heavy S&M, the idea of needle play is often met with a quick shiver of fear and quick dismissal. Although I make no claim to possess superlative expertise in the area, I have enough experience and enough knowledge to speak passionately in its defense (with many thanks to the brothers in the club who have taught and provided information along the way). If you haven't tried needle play before, approach with an open mind, talk with your top about his knowledge and experience, and venture forth to try something new. For many, it is quite an exhilarating experience.

My first piece of advice...don't let anyone tell you what your needle scene needs

to be or include. Suppose you just saw the MOST amazing needle scene at the club with 50 needles all inserted into this breathtakingly beautiful pattern across the chest and arms of this hot stud. This does not mean that you need to recreate this level of play in your first few adventures. I have done a handful of scenes with bottoms (and switches) who have just wanted to try out a few needles. Many men will start to experience some headspace after a few needles — especially if they have worked themselves up so that they are very receptive to the pain and the pleasure that the scene may bring. So, don't be afraid to start off slowly, especially if one or both of you are just learning.

Safe play

My second piece of advice...needle play is one of the types of play which breaks the skin (duh!) and exposes bodily fluids. Since our club is built on safe play, I would strongly encourage you to talk with a brother who has experience with needle play and to get some instruction on how to conduct a safe scene. For example, based on my own opinion and knowledge, I would not be comfortable doing a needle scene with just the cleaners that are commonly out and about at the club (e.g. alcohol and peroxide). I would want to have my own supplies — ones which would make me feel comfortable in creating a sterile and safe environment on the skin appropriate for needle play (e.g. other types of pads, wipes, etc. made to sterilize the skin). It is also critical that you use unused, sterile, unopened needles for play, and disposed of them in sharps containers.

I have found that the process of sterilizing the areas on your bottom (read: submissive) that you intend to pierce can be a very erotic and hot process. It doesn't need to be clinical or perfunctory in nature. Get your bottom nice and comfortable. Make sure you have negotiated with him what you intend to do (and for me, this includes

negotiating limits) and guide him through a stimulating and tactile experience.

A third piece of advice...I love needle play because it creates an intense bond with the bottom you are playing with and can be combined with other kinds of play. This lends itself to being a part of an overall hot scene. As long as you have the right materials and have been instructed on safe

technique (to protect both your bottom and yourself), you can build a very intense and interactive scene by incorporating some needle play. Be aware — areas of the body which have been used for impact play may have excessive blood in them or have already suffered some mild tissue trauma, so be careful in doing needle play in those areas. (For example, if you

have flogged or spanked someone on the back of his body, it may lead to excessive bleeding or greater than expected damage if you pierce these areas with needles.) You may want to avoid these areas unless you are a medical expert and can evaluate their safety.

Timing

I like to introduce some needle play in the middle of a scene, after the bottom's body has been worked over to a modest degree (using whatever kinds of play you enjoy and he responds to) and then, to slowly prepare the area, wiping and sterilizing the skin, and letting the anticipation build. Sometimes at this point, the use of sharp objects to generate sensation is almost better than the actual use of needles, since the bottom is anticipating the quick pain of the needle stick. Remember to insert needles in places where you will be avoiding blood vessels. (A punctured blood vessel may pool blood under the skin, and for most healthy people, will stop bleeding on its own in minutes. When in doubt, stop the scene and seek medical attention.)

Story continues on Page 6



Aaron P., Vice President



Story continued from Page 5

When using the needles in safe areas, away from vessels and close to the skin to generate a sharp, quick stab of sensation, I can see the rush that this almost always brings to the bottom I am playing with. It is an amazing rush to the top to be able to build on this and continue the natural high for the bottom. Needles are typically placed so that they enter the skin and come back out a short distance away - almost looking like a "stitch". When rows of needles are placed together in sequence, very beautiful patterns can be built on a bottom's body and can produce very intense endorphin trips. For me, the goal is to give the bottom an intense experience and to play his pleasure for maximum effect — so rarely have I done scenes with large quantities of needles. However, for more experienced players, quite elaborate and beautiful patterns in the skin can be built.

If you have an interest in challenging yourself to try this type of play sometime, be sure to talk with some of the brothers in the club. It is always fun to hear about the scenes that others have made work, and even if your initial forays into needle play are short and sweet, you may find that there is a whole new type of play to explore and learn about. As with any new play which can be both pleasurable and injurious, I would strongly suggest you talk with and get instruction from some of the brothers at the club who have done this type of play before experimenting with others. However, once outfitted, you can always explore on yourself as well. I am strong believer that good tops should be testing new types of play on themselves when possible to understand how things work and how different types of actions feel. As always, the views in this column only reflect my personal opinions and should not be taken as direction to engage in any unsafe practices. In the event of any uncertainty, consult a medical professional for advice. Now... go forth and have some good play!

Aaron P., CHC Vice President, 2013
email: vp@hellfire13.net



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50 Shades of Sponsor

Individuals:

- Sponsor an event or beverage
- Announce a marriage, anniversary, or collaring with a run book ad
- Refer a business or club that would benefit from an Inferno sponsorship

Clubs:

- Promote your events with a run book ad

Businesses:

- Reach your target customers cost effectively with Inferno ads & sponsorship



Sponsorships include:

- Recognition on beverage tent signs
- Announcements at dinner
- Run book listing
- A banner for Satan Level & Barber sponsors
- Custom signage for Port-a-Potty, Puppy Cage, Puppy Hill & Pillow treat sponsors

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(partial list – see website for complete listing)

SODAS: \$120
WATER COOLER JUGS: \$120
PREMIUM COFFEE: \$120
CELEBRATION OF LIFE: \$120
KEGS (Beer or Non-Alcoholic): \$175
EYE OPENER COCKTAILS: \$175
POOLSIDE COCKTAIL PARTY (Pre-dinner): \$475
AFTER DINNER COCKTAILS: \$210
CHAMPAGNE AT BRUNCH: \$475
SNACKS (Afternoon or Midnight): \$325
WINE WITH DINNER: \$505
SATAN LEVEL: \$590
DUNGEONS, TENTS, or STOCKADE
PORT-A-POTTIES: \$175
DUNGEON MUSIC: \$195
MEDICAL TEAM: \$245

New this year:

PUPPY FIRE HYDRANT – \$120
PUPPY/DISH HILL – \$245
JAIL CELL – \$245

RUN BOOK ADVERTISEMENTS

Inside Cover (Front or Back): \$270
Full Page: \$205
Half Page: \$120
Quarter Page: \$80

For application and availability see: www.HelloBob.Net/inferno
Contact: Bob Goldfarb, Inferno@HelloBob.Net or 415-255-1388, 9am – 9pm Pacific Time
Please call or email regarding ad deadline.

Chicago Hellfire Club Contacts

Mail Address

CHC/Fireside Club. Ltd., P.O. Box 577618, Chicago, IL 60657-7618

Telephone Numbers

General Telephone: 773-486-2452

Fax: 773-486-4026

Party Reservation Line: 773-486-2436

Email Addresses

Party Reservations: program@hellfire13.net

Roster Changes: address.change@hellfire13.net

President: President@hellfire13.net

Vice President: VP@hellfire13.net

Secretary: secretary@hellfire13.net

Hours: hours@hellfire13.net

Treasurer: treasurer@hellfire13.net

Membership: membership@hellfire13.net

Inferno Registration: Inferno.registration@hellfire13.net

McAdory Requests & Information: mcadory@hellfire13.net

Newsletters (Brand/Cicatix): news@hellfire13.net

Program Chair: program@hellfire13.net

Inferno Coordinator: Inferno@hellfire13.net



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Sir. Thank you, SIR!

A passion that captured my heart

By Mark S.
Membership Committee Member
Associate

My partner, Don L., full, and I had the opportunity to have lunch with one of the Club's most esteemed members, John E., honorary, during his visit for IML.

Our intention was to capture his perspectives on balancing an executive career in the corporate sector with his passions for leather and kink at a time when there was an even a greater risk if the two worlds intersected. We intended to talk about his initial attraction to CHC and why he chose to join this club as an out of town associate. What we received beyond a delicious Armenian meal and a few glasses of interesting pomegranate wine was a deeper appreciation for this brotherhood of men.

We addressed few of the prepared interview questions and the stories discussed are too personal for publishing in The Brand. However, the investment of time went beyond the original intention of this story. Too often we may think of CHC as just the clubhouse, parties and, of course, Inferno. What may be less obvious especially to guests is the tremendous connections that wearing our colors gives each of its members. The men of CHC have helped shape the BDSM community for decades.

Their contributions continue to bear fruit for the future as the brotherhood evolves to meet the kinks of the next generations.

I'm a newer associate with the Club. Before I started my application process I considered the benefits of remaining just a guest. As long as my sponsor allowed it, I could attend clubhouse parties and Inferno. However, at my last Inferno I saw that there was more than just hot play that connects this brotherhood. I observed how men who live thousands of miles apart still join together in harmony and with passion.

If you find yourself in a similar place to where I was, pondering the value of becoming a member over remaining a guest, you may find that membership will offer you a personal connection to this community of men that you may not have expected.

Our membership application process begins with you taking the first step by talk-

ing with your CHC sponsor. Tell him that you are interested in joining this Club. Ask him why he chose to become a member. If he agrees to sponsor you, he'll be your mentor through the process.

If he thinks you'd benefit from building a few additional experiences with the Club, or gaining additional knowledge about our play, ask him if he's willing to help you. Even though we are one of the world's largest

gay BDSM organizations, our application process is very personal and very selective. Attending at least one Inferno and attending another official Chicago Hellfire event other than Inferno, the first of which occurred at least twelve months prior to applying for membership, are additional requirements. Your sponsor

can help you through the rest of the process.

Maybe we'll discuss the balance of a suit and tie career with a breeches and covers passion in another issue. The real story here is that this brotherhood can extend beyond playtime offering a reward that must be felt to understand. I offer my heartfelt "thank you" to my brother, John E., for sharing this time with us and for his contributions to our Club and our community. This time together was one of the highlights of my brotherhood experience so far.



AAW Announcement: New dinner location in 2013

The program committee is excited to announce that there will be a change in our restaurant for AAW weekend this year. We are going to be having it in a famous downtown Chicago Landmark and serving an au-

thentic Chicago flavor. Space will be limited so be sure to get your reservation in early. Final details are still being hammered out. Guests and applicants: Check with your sponsors for details.

Members: Details will be released in the member's newsletter.

Ben V, 2013 Program Director
email program@hellfire13.net



Cigar Play

From a cubby's perspective

Greetings.

Few things in the world seem to hold a boy's attention like watching someone smoke a cigar. Once upon a time it was the sign of being distinguished gentlemen that would have the fine cigar and smoke it. I was fascinated by it for many years. Images from as old as the paddle boats on the Mississippi River with Mark Twain smoking a cigar to watching the leather men in the bar smoking. It can make a boy curious to try it for the first time. So indulge me and let me bring you into my first power exchange scene that involved cigar play and what I learned from it.

It was the year of my first BDSM summer camp. I remember walking by and watching the man sit on the porch of his room. He was this very hot daddy-bear of a man smoking a cigar. He was just sitting there watching everyone and everything go by. Down between his legs he had another man sitting and sucking on his cock and balls. Feeling a little jealous of the man between his legs, I moved away and sat down among the other smokers. I just watched, listening to the chatter of the men at camp, inhaling the second-hand smoke and smelling the sweet tobacco as it burned. Soon it was dinnertime and off to eat I went. Of course the meal was not complete for many men without a relaxing drink and a puff on the cigar. Being curious and enjoying the smell of the variety of cigars being smoked, I joined them with my drink in hand.

I found myself invited to sit by a bear of a man, down between his legs. Getting comfortable against the lump in his crotch

I enjoyed my drink. Every now and then I'd watch him and breath in as he blew his cigar smoke down my way into my face. I'd take a nice breath of air mixed with the smoke and hold it, and then let it go. My body started to react by relaxing from dinner and the drinks, but also feeling excited by the cigar smoke. I nuzzled his crotch and inhaled more of the smoke he continued to blow into my face. Soon I found my shirt off, enjoying the pleasure of him putting the cigar close to the sides of my neck and then down around my nipples, warming them gently.

I found myself wondering what it was about the situation that had such an impact on me. It certainly wasn't the typical type of power exchange I was used to. It wasn't like when I let someone flog me or when someone allows me to put them into some rope bondage art. This was much more subtle. Looking back now I see how some relationships can end up being so diverse and casual. The more I look back, the more and more I see how relaxed and casual the art of cigar play is. Let me share with you some of the things I've learned.

For some people there is just something erotic about the smoke. It works all of the senses all at once.

It billows out of the mouth and into the air. Watching as it permeates everything it hits and slowly drafts out, slightest breath of air affects it. Watching how one cloud of smoke can be reinforced by another puff of smoke and how the new smoke takes its place and moves the older one.

Smelling it has its own joys. If you've ever walked into a cigar shop, you know that there are hundreds of different cigars from around the world that are made, shaped, sized and flavored in many different ways. I am sure there are some connoisseurs who could gladly tell you all about the finer points of this world, I cannot claim to be one. However, I do enjoy the different flavors without knowing

everything there is to know about them.

Open your mouth and let your tongue taste the smoke. Tasting the smoke allows you to know the cigar a great deal more intimately. It can dry your mouth out because its become too dry before being burned, or it can make your mouth water. Hold the smoke in your mouth. Its tingle on the tongue may be from spice, or the taste of a variety of tobacco, or its age and strength.

Touching unburned cigars adds another level of pleasure. A raw cigar, unburned tobacco, can feel smooth, yet rough, maybe leathery.

Of course, in being smoked, the cigar has heat. Tobacco has such a variety of levels of heat as it burns. From something very warm and sensual to something extremely burning hot. Fire creates a variety of ways to play. Drawing air in through the cigar brings more air to the burning tobacco and heats it up which in turn, draws the burn down the cigar into fresh tobacco.

For me, all these senses create a very relaxed scene.

Looking back at my first time at summer camp, I remember how I wanted to learn and experience everything. Putting myself into the submissive role of being a cub at the feet of the bear. Feeling his relaxed energy and his warm invite to me to relax along with him. Finding that feeling of being comfortable and watched over; owned for that bit of time, but still free. Feeling the warm caress of his legs holding me up from falling back into the ground. It made for a great day.

Each time there is a cigar scene, I find myself watching and learning. There is always much more to learn. Next time there is a cigar party I'd encourage you to attend and explore this world.

Cubby Ben

