THE BRAND

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGO HELLFIRE CLUB

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FALL 2013

One more thing: Before you get all that

Inferno off your kit, before your wounds

heal, before you get too buried in this part

of the world some folks call "real", PLEASE

Send Us Your Stories

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thanks for Inferno XLII

The Run Was Awesome

Greetings all!

There are never enough ways to say thank you to everyone who helped make Inferno XLII a success. Wonder why the word "volunteer" appears so often in The Brand? It's because everyone who comes to play, comes to work.

In just a few days every year, a nearly enclosed community encampment is erected to celebrate the kinky passions of our club members and their guests.

Thanks to Gene M., for coordinating the event. To the committee chairmen, organizers, the teams and to every single contributor: Wow and thank you.

Every participant brings along a fantasy, desire, passion, wonder, curiosity, imagination. So thanks for the amazing play. It's joyful to play, to watch play, to learn and to challenge each

other to enrich the scene. And if you've not been to an Inferno, talk to your sponsor. This run is like nothing else.

Generosity

This year, substantial funds were raised for two charities we often support: The McAdory Fund—the club-run fund which this year has paid nearly \$5,000 in bills for members of the leather community who have fallen on hard times—and Tho Leather Archives and Museum—this year's Inferno charity.





Gene M, Inferno XLII Coordinator

LA&M on its website

(R)

describes itself this way: "The Leather Archives & Museum is a library, museum and archives pertaining to Leather, fetishism, sadomasochism, and alternative sexual practices." We think that's a

good cause.

To those who atgenerous giving.

tended the run and contributed to these worthwhile organizations, thanks for your

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write down an inferno memory and email it to news@hellfire13.net.

Was it your first Inferno? Did you do something you've always wanted to try? Were you somehow tranformed by play?

Share your stories and we'll try to get them into upcoming issues of The Brand!

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

WINTER ISSUE DEADLINE:

October 26, 2013

EDITOR:

Kevin B.

Send news to:

news@hellfire13.net

FROM THE **PROGRAM CHAIRMAN**

Fall Fun

Remember to RSVP

Greetings brothers!

This year is just totally flying by like crazy. Inferno XLII was amazing. Thanks to all who helped make the run a huge success.

Certainly the weather is starting to cool off some and that brings a change in the leaves. While the leaves turn, I'm sure there will be plenty of bottoms turning colors as well. Here's more for you to look forward to:

September 28

October 12

We have a special Cigar and Boot Party. The doors open at 9 pm. Bring your cigars and boy ash trays for it. A bootblack will be on duty to help get your boots cleaned up.

Ben V., Program Chairman

join us in Chicago for a weekend full of play. We have the weekend starting off on Friday night with a welcome for the applicants and a play party Friday night and then Saturday we have our Formal Leather dinner and a great play party afterwards. Sunday we welcome everyone back to the house for a Sunday Brunch.

About the AAW Dinner

The program committee has made arrangements for a new location in downtown Chicago for our formal leather dinner on November 9th. We are going to be at

> the historic Berghoff Restaurant. We are very excited about being at this historic restaurant. For those of you who have never been there, you are in for a true Chicago treat. Berghoff offers a unique menu that they have tweaked just for us. We will be enjoying the private space they are setting up for us complete with a cash bar and a full multi-course family style dinner that promises to

be quite an experience for your taste buds.

One of our regular monthly parties. That day is rather heavy busy because the Members of CHC will be involved in their annual meeting. We will have a bootblack on duty this evening to help take care of your boots and leathers. We look forward to welcoming our guests that night.

November 8-10

Our annual special event weekend of AAW. We have a special weekend planned. We welcome our member applicants to

FILL OUT THE AAW RESERVATION FORM

Space is limited. Return the form on Page 3 and RSVP for space on the bus.

The Berghoff is a family owned and operated business that dates back to 1898. When Prohibition was repealed in 1933, the City of Chicago issued liquor license No. 1 to The Berghoff and has done so each year ever since. This establishment is the quintessential American success story of an immigrant who built a hugely successful business that has stayed in one family for more than a hundred years. Check out their website at http://www.theberghoff.com/about-theberghoff.

We are highly encouraging attendees to come to the clubhouse early (4:30 pm), get checked in for the night (for both dinner and the play party), take a shuttle bus (5:00 pm sharp) to dinner and then back to the clubhouse (8:30 pm) for the Non-Smoking play party starting at 9 pm.

Make sure you RSVP early for the dinner and the bus because seating is limited to 150 people. We must have your reservation for a seat at the dinner by November 1st. We must give them a final headcount at that time. Don't forget and try to RSVP at the last minute, do it NOW! Page 3 has the form you need to fill out. Don't risk missing it because you waited to the last minute!

December

December is a busy time for everyone with holiday parties and weekends. We plan on keeping warm in the house by having a great play party weekend with a public bar night at Touché and then back to the club house for plenty of tinsel and mistletoe along with plenty of play mixed in on the 13th/14th. Finally December ends and January starts with a hot play party at CHC on New Year's Eve. This special night will be a non-smoking night until 12:15am. We look forward to welcoming our non-smoking brothers to join us in bringing in the New Year in a style only CHC can do. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please Volunteer

One of the challenges of every volunteer organization is having the manpower to accomplish events and tasks. None of the events and tasks would go as smoothly as they do it it were not for the volunteers manning the stations. Contact me or your sponsor for ways that you as a guest can volunteer and help to make these events continue to go smoothly. Many thanks in advance for your volunteering spirit!

Feedback is Most Welcome

Many folks have come to me with feedback and all of it is appreciated. Please continue to do that because only with your feedback can we continue to improve the club. The more smoothly things run, the more we can all focus on why we are part of the club: Our Play Time. Events and tasks would not go as smoothly as they do without volunteer support and constructive feedback.

Ben V.

Program Committee Chairman, 2013 email: program@hellfire 13.net



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AA WEEKEND 2013

New AAW banquet venue

This year's annual banquet on Saturday, Nov. 9, has been moved from Marcello's Father & Sons to the famed Berghoff Restaurant. The address is 17 W. Adams, Chicago, IL 60603. The Berghoff offers discounted parking, (with validation from restaurant), at Interpark, located at 17 E. Adams. Even so, parking expense can be prohibitive.

New Shuttle Bus: READ THIS
No really: READ THIS NOW AND RSVP

CHC is providing complimentary shuttle bus service from the clubhouse to the restaurant before dinner, and returning to the clubhouse after dinner.

You Can Check in at the Clubhouse Prior to Dinner and the Party

The clubhouse will be open at 4:30 pm for you to check in for the banquet and the play party, drop off your toy bags and get on the bus. The bus will leave from the clubhouse to head to the restaurant at 5:00 pm sharp! The return bus will leave The Berghoff at 8:30 pm. We strongly recommend parking your car near the clubhouse and taking advantage of the shuttle. As

Chicagoans, we know from experience the difficulties and the costs associated with parking downtown on a Saturday evening. Please sign up for the bus on your AA Weekend Reservation Form (below) or by responding to rsvp4bus@gmail.com.

We will need an accurate head count, so it is very important that you RSVP. Without an RSVP prior to Nov. 1 we cannot guarantee you a spot on the bus.

Please remember and remind your guests that this is a formal leather dinner. Dressing in bare ass attire is not appropriate for this dinner. Reserve space early. Seating is limited to 150 people. Please return the form (below) today with your payment for the dinner.

AA WEEKEND RESERVATION FORM Nov. 8-10, 2013 Reservations for the banquet must be received by November 1, 2013. Send checks of money orders payable to Fireside Club, Ltd., with this form to Fireside Club, Ltd., P.O. Box 577618, Chicago, IL 60657-7618. No party donation requested for Members/Applicants.						
Name of person submitting reservation						
Email	mail Phone (mobile preferred)					
CHC Sponsor Name Printed (If you're a guest)						
BANQUET Please print names of all attendees and any special dietary requirements.						
Banquet tickets are \$25 each for CHC Members \$40 each for guests.						
Number of Member tickets		Number of Guest tickets		Total amount \$		
Number of Applicants (the cost is included in the application fee)						
Please indicate by checking YES or NO if you plan on taking the complimentary SHUTTLE BUS from the clubhouse to the restaurant, and it's subsequent return. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED YES NO						
PARTIES Please print names of all attendees						
Suggested donation (guests only): \$25 for each part \$65 for all three.						
Number of Guest tickets		Total amount for parties \$		Grand total \$		

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 checkin window just inside the door will keep the line moving quickly.
- PHOTOGRAPHY IS STRICTLY PRO-HIBITED 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			
Sept. 28 (Sat)	Cigar & Boots Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
Oct. 12 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
AAW — ASSOCIATE APPLICANTS 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 (Fri)	Bar Night	Touché	10pm - 1am			
Dec. 14 (Sat)	Holiday Play Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
Dec. 31 (Tue)	NYE Play Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
smoking permitted after 12:15am, Jan. 1, 2014						
Jan. 11 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
Feb. 8 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			
Mar. 8 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am			

How to RSVP To reserve a place at a party, send email to program@hellfire.net. Include your name and phone number, and if you're a guest, include the name of your sponsor. Also include the date and time of the party you wish to attend.

Think G.E.T. L.A.I.D.

Clean up after yourself.
Before leaving the clubhouse,
keep these things in mind:

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?

CHC 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 @hell fire 13.net

President: President@hellfire13.net

 $\label{thm:president: VP@hellfire13.net} Vice \ President: \ VP@hellfire13.net$

Secretary: secretary@hellfire 13.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/Cicatrix):

news@hellfire13.net

Program Chair: program@hellfire13.net
Inferno Coordinator: Inferno@hellfire13.net



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

CHC and Internet Interaction

Greetings,

There's no question that the rise of internet technology has made a significant impact on many aspects of our life, including the search for personal, intimate, and sexual interactions. Although the role of face to face introductions, in the form of bars and private clubs such as CHC may be changing, they still hold a critical place in the process of finding and satisfying different types of relationships. If you have been relying exclusively on online sites for places to find skilled, safe, and consensual encounters with guys into different kinds of fetish play, you may need to reintroduce yourself to the men of CHC and visit the clubhouse again, with the help of your friendly neighborhood sponsor.

Internet interactions, even on the best of sites, offer small volumes of men who are focused on different kinds of fetish play. Finding an experienced BDSM player who isn't merely a poseur or chat tease is harder than it looks. Many of us, after thousands of individual email correspondences and promising chats which are often less than productive, come to the realization that the act of online search for real men into BDSM/leather/rubber/gear etc. is one akin to that of panning for gold.

You may find a hot scene with a real guy from online once in awhile, but you are going to have to pan through a lot of unwanted stuff first. My rule of thumb... fine to have high expectations, but prepare to be underwhelmed.

So, with such a stark view of internet interaction, why do we stick with it in so

many cases? Well, obviously there are many reasons, depending on the situations we find ourselves in... it can payoff from time to time, it can be fun if pursued with the right attitude, it can pass the time, etc. But if you think of the time spent looking for men who are into specific types of fetish play, you may want to allocate more of your time to the club, and join us for more of our monthly parties and special weekends. In

addition to featuring attendees who run the gamut in BDSM experience from newbie to expert, we can usually find someone who wants to try something you want to try. We encourage you to ask! The new tagline in some of the club's posters has been, "Yeah, we're into that." If it's safe, sane, and consensual, we can probably hook you up, so don't be bashful asking someone at a party, "Hey, what are you into?"



Aaron P., Vice President

I have started conversations with many guys online who have advertised a laundry list of things that they purport to be interested in. It usually reads something like, "[into] CBT, caning, flogging, wax, electro, puppy play, piss, bondage, rope, gags, masks, etc." But when I ask them, "what have you tried that you responded to?" or "what do you really fantasize about trying again?", I often get a resounding silence.

I don't think that this is necessarily due to game playing, I think that many guys who are less experienced are uncomfortable or unsure of how to talk about what they want—especially over an internet connection. This is one of the strengths of CHC. As a visitor or a member, you are in a safe and supportive space. No one will think poorly of you if you are curious to talk about the joys of handballing (fisting). No one will glance twice at you if you want to know how it feels to be single tailed or flogged until your back glows with a red crosshatch pattern and your body is flush with endorphins. No one will think twice if, later in the night, you get down on your

knees and service that hot daddy bear in the corner who has been giving you a possessive look all night.

So, all of this is to suggest that in addition to seeking out interactions with guys online, there is still a critical need for a place for guys to be able to find the genuine article—hot, safe, and supportive interaction with others who are into the same

things that you are into. Whether or not you choose to play on a given night, know that CHC will provide a place for you to come, embrace the spirit of brotherhood and acceptance, and to talk about the things that turn you on (and that you might want to try).

If you have never been to the club, ask someone who is a member to describe it,

and ask them about their first experience there. It is often a great conversation starter—and you will get some fun stories along the way.

If you are a CHC member, please remember to reach out to people who visit our club and who are new or who you have never seen or played with. Ask them what turns them on and what kinds of things they might like to try sometime. And while you are at it, give them an earful about one of your more memorable experiences at the club or one of the club's events.

One last thing...this year's banquet will be an outstanding combination of food and ambiance. Why not invite that new boy or Sir you have been getting to know? It's a great way to introduce them to some of the men of CHC, to experience the fun of being amongst leathermen of all types and bents, and to show off some of that new leather you have in the closet. It's coming up soon, likely to sell out, and certain to be memorable, so register soon.

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



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