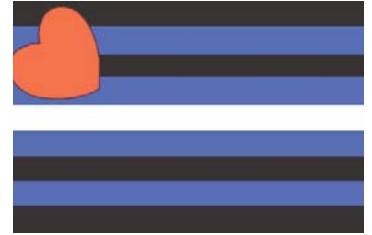


# THE BRAND



A PUBLICATION OF THE CHICAGO HELLFIRE CLUB

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2018

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## FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

# What's Coming Up at CHC?

### February

Saturday Night, February 10, "CHC in 3D"  
Dinner, Demo, and Dungeon Party

On Saturday, February 10, the clubhouse will rock when we present our "CHC in 3D" Dinner, Demo and Dungeon Party. The doors will be open from 6:45 to 11pm. The dinner will begin at 7pm, the demo will begin at 8pm, and the party begins at 9pm. All events are non-smoking and are open to registered members and guests.

### Dinner - 7pm

Our catered dinner begins at 7:00pm and the cost is \$10 per person collected at the door. This fee is in addition to the regular party "donation". RSVP's must be made in advance through Eventbrite.

The doors will be open at 6:45pm for dinner attendees to check in, and the food will be served from 7pm to 7:45pm. The food will then be cleared, and anyone who wishes can move upstairs for the demo at 8pm.

### Demo - 8pm

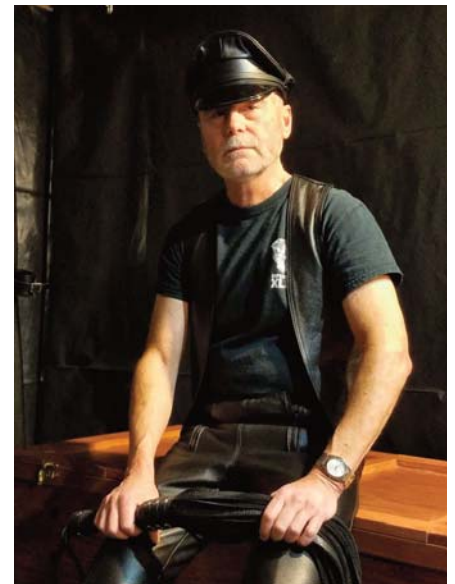
The demo will be presented by Gabe W, a CHC Applicant. Gabe is a pansexual switch who has been obsessed with Japanese Rope Bondage since 2013. In his classes, he aims to take complex, abstract topics like "connection," "rope handling," and "tension," and break them down into straightforward, concrete and learnable chunks. His goal is to impart to his students solid, safe technical foundations without losing sight of the communication that's always occurring between top and bottom.

He's one of the founders of Second City Kinbaku and a staff instructor at Chicago Rope.

### Demo - "One Rope, Two Hands"

Japanese Rope Bondage (aka Kinbaku/Shibari) can seem imposing.

It's often extremely complex, intricate and beautiful; not something that you can learn in an hour and not something you'd necessarily want to \*play\* with outside of a photo shoot.



Jack M - Program Director

In this demo, Gabe W will show you a different side of Japanese bondage. With a single rope, two hands and just a few simple building blocks, you'll learn how to play with your partner, taking him through a wide range of sensations - from gentle and

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**NEXT ISSUE ARTICLE DEADLINE:**  
March 24, 2018

### EDITOR:

Kevin B.

Send news to:

[news@hellfire13.net](mailto:news@hellfire13.net)

## MORE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

*Continued from Page 1*

caressing all the way to rough and controlling. Bring yourself, grab a nearby sub or switch, and learn a new play style. Rope will be provided.

### Party

After the demo, the dungeon party begins at 9pm, and once the Dungeon Master is in the room (in the orange vest), you can feel free to start any scene you have planned. If you want to continue a conversation, please move downstairs to the social area. If you're staying upstairs, please keep conversation to a minimum so all players can enjoy their scenes without being distracted.

### March

#### Friday Night, March 9, Bar Night at Cell Block

We begin the March party weekend by joining our CHC brothers and guests on Friday night, March 9, at 10pm at Cell Block, 3702 North Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois. The bar night is listed on our website as a public event, so be sure to wear your colors and be ready to answer any inquiries about the club. If you want to invite someone at the bar night to the Saturday night party, please respond to your Eventbrite invite by noon on Saturday, March 10. If you've already responded to your Eventbrite invite, request an additional one from the Eventbrite organizer so you can register additional guests.

#### Saturday Night, March 10, Contest and Dungeon Party

On Saturday, March 10, the clubhouse will be busy with excitement when in our demo time slot we present our first ever contest. The doors will be open from 7:45 to 11pm. The contest will begin at 8pm, and the party begins at 9pm. All events are non-smoking and are open to registered members and guests.

### Demo - Chair Bondage Contest

With all of the demos and education offerings at CHC, it was only a matter of time

until the idea of a kink contest was suggested. Our first such contest will be Chair Bondage. In addition to their own equipment and a chair we provide, each contestant will receive a bag of 5 items they must use in the bondage, and 30 minutes to get it done. The audience will then vote on the best entry and a \$100 cash prize will be awarded to the winner.

### How to Enter the Chair Bondage Contest

Email [program@hellfire13.net](mailto:program@hellfire13.net) and let me know you want to be a contestant in the Chair Bondage Contest. Please note, you must provide your own sub.

### Party

After the contest, the dungeon party begins at 9pm, and once the Dungeon Master is in the room you can feel free to start any scene you have planned. Maybe you'll be inspired to try some chair bondage!

### Getting the Most Out of CHC Parties

If you're new to CHC or need a reminder on how our parties work, here are some simple suggestions to help make your evening enjoyable:

### Dungeon Masters

Dungeon Masters are a very important part of CHC play parties. Our Dungeon Masters wear an orange vest and are in charge of all play in the room. Please give them your respect and remember that their decisions about play are final. And, if you're preparing to do a scene that might be seen as overly intense, it's always wise to let the DM know in advance.

### Noise in the Dungeon

I frequently mention that audible talking needs to happen downstairs during a party. Imagine being bound to a table enjoying an erotic headspace then hearing someone near you discussing their shopping list, a project at work, or worse, critiquing the scene you're in. Also, if your sub is a screamer, you will need to quiet him with a gag or change the scene to reduce the noise. We are, after all, located in a residential neighborhood.

### Social Area

Our social area is downstairs, and this is where you can sit and enjoy a snack and a beverage, talk all you want with other players, and watch a video.

### CHC Party Dynamics

Some members and guests attend our parties already having a scene in mind. Others attend without having anything planned, just to see what opportunities the evening presents. Don't be a wallflower! Increase your chances of future play by engaging members and guests in conversation in our social area downstairs. Introduce yourself and ask questions to get the conversation going. Remember, unlike online hookups, Hellfire Club is your opportunity to meet players face to face, watch them play, and get to know them before you approach them about a possible scene.

### CHC Bar Nights in 2018

CHC Bar Nights are one of the ways CHC members and guests can meet guys interested in the club. This year, the Program Committee and the Membership Committee will be working together to up the energy level at bar nights. There will be a raffle, various prizes, some informative signage about the club (more than just our colors), friendly faces, and no discussion of club business by members and no clumping together of members in groups facing themselves. Sounds like someone got some feedback!

Here are the 2018 CHC Bar Nights. They are also listed on the club web site. Mark them on your calendar.

Cell Block -Friday, March 9 at 10pm  
Touché - Friday, May 11 at 10pm  
SoFo - Friday, August 10 at 10pm  
Touché - Friday, October 12 at 10pm

### Jack M

#### CHC Program Director

[program@hellfire13.net](mailto:program@hellfire13.net)



# CHC 2018 Calendar

For more information on public CHC events, check our Facebook Page at  
<http://facebook.com.chicagohellfire>

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
February 10 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
March 9 (Fri)	Bar Night	Cell Block	10pm
March 10 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
April 14 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
May 11 (Fri)	Bar Night	Touché	10pm
May 12 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
<b>IML Weekend</b>			
May 25 (Fri)	IML Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
May 26 (Sat)	IML Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
May 27 (Sun)	IML Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
June 9 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
July 14 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
August 10 (Fri)	Bar Night	SoFo	10pm
August 11 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am
October 12 (Fri)	Bar Night	Touché	10pm
October 13 (Sat)	Monthly Party	Clubhouse	9pm - 2am

Watch this space and your email for updates on Demos, Bar Nights and more. All parties are non-smoking unless otherwise noted.

## CLUB CONTACTS

### Mail Address

CHC/Fireside Club Ltd.  
P.O. Box 577618 | Chicago, IL 60657-7618  
Telephone: 773-486-2452

### Email Addresses

Party Registrations: [program@hellfire13.net](mailto:program@hellfire13.net)  
President: [President@hellfire13.net](mailto:President@hellfire13.net)  
Vice President: [VP@hellfire13.net](mailto:VP@hellfire13.net)  
Secretary: [secretary@hellfire13.net](mailto:secretary@hellfire13.net)

Hours: [hours@hellfire13.net](mailto:hours@hellfire13.net)  
Treasurer: [treasurer@hellfire13.net](mailto:treasurer@hellfire13.net)  
Membership: [membership@hellfire13.net](mailto:membership@hellfire13.net)  
Inferno Registration: [Inferno.registration@hellfire13.net](mailto:Inferno.registration@hellfire13.net)  
McAdory Requests & Information: [mcadory@hellfire13.net](mailto:mcadory@hellfire13.net)  
Newsletters (Brand/Cicatrix): [news@hellfire13.net](mailto:news@hellfire13.net)  
Program Chair: [program@hellfire13.net](mailto:program@hellfire13.net)  
Inferno Coordinator: [Inferno@hellfire13.net](mailto:Inferno@hellfire13.net)  
Volunteer Coordinator: [Volunteer@Hellfire13.net](mailto:Volunteer@Hellfire13.net)



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

# A New (CHC) Year

**Greetings and Happy New (CHC) Year to all of my club brothers, friends of the club, and guests of the club.**

It is with great pride and humility that I write my first article as President. I am thrilled to follow in the footsteps of so many great men that have come before me, and paved the way.

Before this calendar year began, myself and the 2018 Board of Directors began work, and even through it is only February, the Board has met twice already. I am extremely excited about some of the things that we will be doing differently this year. Of course some things will be the same, but even with those things, we are hoping to add a new twist, tweak an element, or spice it up a bit.

Our monthly play parties on the 2nd Saturday of each month continue to draw good numbers. The orchestration of the pre-party demos by our Program Director was a great success in 2017 and we are continuing that again in 2018. We are always looking for volunteers to do demos. If you are interested please contact Jack M at [program@hellfire13.net](mailto:program@hellfire13.net). You will also see some changes in how we do our social bar nights this year as well. We are already knee-deep (or maybe I should say elbow-deep, considering the nature of our club), in the planning of our IML fun. We hope to have some changes there as well. More on that as it develops. Keep an eye out for some unofficial fun at CLAW. I mean what could possibly happen when a bunch of CHC guys and their like-minded friends get together in a suite one evening!

In addition to their regular responsibilities, our Membership Committee is working at getting our memory books caught up and as current as possible. At the same time, they are working on an edit of our

membership booklet, addenda, and application.

Our House Committee has taken on the responsibility of evaluating and reporting on the needs of our clubhouse. We are working toward identifying the more urgent concerns and correcting those first. From there, we will proceed to things that are less urgent but still important. Next to our members, our clubhouse is our greatest asset. We need to take care of it to ensure its continued existence.

The finance folks continue to evaluate and advise the Board regularly. We rely on their knowledge and budget wisdom to help us make financial decisions that are indeed in the best interest of the club.

The Inferno Committee, led by Joe D, your Inferno Coordinator, has already begun their work in planning Inferno 47. Pre-planning and initial phases begin, (believe-it-or-not) immediately after the last Inferno. Then things settle for a couple of months, only to begin again in January. Then it is full steam ahead from January right through the run in September. This year's Inferno committee members are Full Member Joe D, (as Coordinator), Full Member David R, (as President), Full Member David K, Honorary Member John E, Honorary Member Tony K, Associate Member Dan O, and Associate member Travis F. If you have any constructive suggestions or ideas for Inferno 47, please email Joe at [inferno@hellfire13.net](mailto:inferno@hellfire13.net), or get in touch with any of the committee members.

Our Preservation Committee continues their work in ensuring that our history, our past, and the path that led us to where we are today is not lost. They work at getting our banners restored so they can be preserved, they also work directly with the Leather Archives and Museum in the stor-



*David R - CHC President*

age and archiving of our items, our documents and our history.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the great work done by our I.T. committee led by Pete B. In addition to us being almost 100% fully functional on our website, they are continuously updating amending, and editing the site. While doing all that, I.T. has three-four new projects in the works for 2018. I promise to share more on those as they develop.

In addition to his duties as our club's Secretary, Brian B has taken over the helm of monitoring our social media outlets. He has the help of some other members as well.

Full Member Kevin B still graciously gives much of his time putting together these newsletters - which is no easy task. If any of you have ever tried to organize a group activity or a group outing with a

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## MORE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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bunch of gay men before, you'll know exactly what I mean!

And of course, one of the hardest working men is our VP, Scott Z. The VP position in our club has (un)affectionately become known as The Club Bitch, (or as some of us who've held the position prefer to call it, the Club's Bitch). Talk about having to herd cats...He oversees the newsletters, he oversees Programming, House, and Membership Committees, (and if you know Scott, that means he goes to as many of their meetings as he can), he handles anything and everything related to dues, takes on whatever the President delegates to him,

and on top of all that comes in and cleans and organizes at the clubhouse. As the VP, he does not get the glory, but does most of the work. If and when you see him or contact him, please remember to thank him.

At this point, (if you've read this far), you're probably wondering why I've gone into such detail and mentioned the committees and the men who are doing all this work. I want everyone to know that as the President, I am the face and the name recognition of and for the club, but these are the men and the committees that are doing all the work that run our club. These are the men that mop the floors after a Saturday night party, and do the shopping before the party, and make the decisions to

keep us moving forward, then do the work that those decisions yield. These are the men who put Inferno together, and preserve our history, and advance us technologically. This club is made up of so many hard working, dedicated individuals, and I wanted to make sure everyone knows that. I am very proud to be surrounded, and more importantly, supported by these men.

I thank you for reading all these words, and I look forward to a great 2018 for the Chicago Hellfire Club and all of our members, friends and guests.

**In Brotherhood, Admiration, & Respect,  
David R, CHC President  
[president@hellfire13.net](mailto:president@hellfire13.net)**

## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

# Hands on in 2018

As I begin my second year as Vice President, I am looking ahead to a very exciting year. Our brotherhood is composed of over 450 men from around the world. I am proud to continue to serve as part of the leadership.

2018 promises to be a year full of great parties, new experiences

and a few minutes? Whether you are a participant or an observer, it promises to be fun.

I want to invite everyone to enjoy a special party in February. Dinner – Demo – Dungeon. We hope the dinner will be a great social occasion for members and guests to reconnect after a long cold win-

and amazing opportunities. This year will see parties with fun themes. We are hoping this will attract more people. We will also be encouraging education. Before each party will be a DEMO. This may be something you know or something new. Either way, there is always more to learn. I encourage you to attend as many as possible. We also hope to restart our SMU program. These were daytime hands-on learning sessions. We all have something to teach and lots to learn. In March we are bring something old back to our party....a friendly contest! How fast can a top restrain a bottom? What can a top do with a piece of rope and a few other interesting items in just

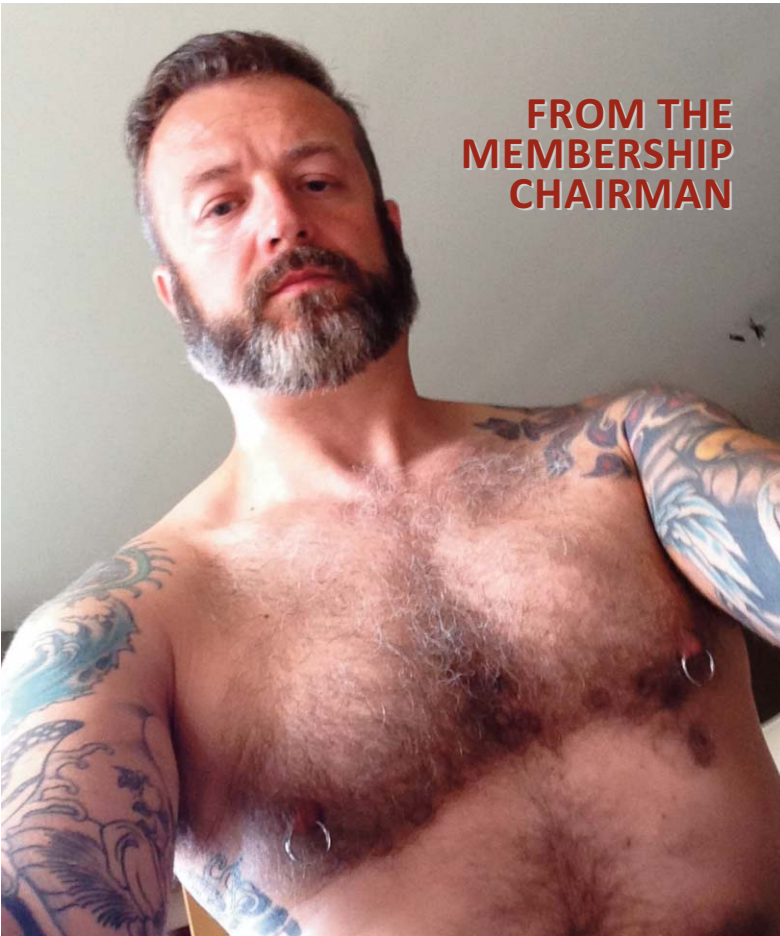
ter. The demo is part of our ongoing BDSM education program. Finally, an evening of hot dungeon play!

I encourage everyone to follow our events on the web site. You can also read old versions of the BRAND. If you have any club related issues or concerns, please contact me at any time.

**In Brotherhood  
Scott Z, CHC Vice President  
[VP@hellfire13.net](mailto:VP@hellfire13.net)**



## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN



*Sir Rob D - CHC Membership Chair*

a. On the application form, there are two essay questions. Please, answer them thoughtfully and thoroughly. There are seven members of the membership committee and thirteen members of the board, all of whom will review and vote on your application. Some of them may know you, but it is likely that many will not know you personally, so what you write is a major part of how they learn about you.

5. Send your application (and all the items listed on your application, including an application fee – currently \$100) to the membership chair at the address on the application. Your sponsors can send in their addenda directly or to you.

6. Once I have received all the materials, your application can move forward. From that point it can be three to six months before a final decision is made on your application.

Here's what happens after your application is complete.

1. It will have a first reading (be reviewed) at the next monthly Membership Committee meeting.

2. It will then have a first reading at the next monthly board meeting.

3. Your name and city will be published in the members only newsletter, which comes out approximately every two months.

4. After your name has been published for 30 days and all members have had time to send in comments on applicants, your application will come back to the next Membership committee meeting for a final review and vote.

5. Your application will be reviewed and voted on at the following board meeting. Your full member sponsor is expected to attend this meeting to speak on your behalf.

6. The result of your application vote will typically be communicated to you first by your full-member sponsor and/or your primary sponsor. After that, I will officially notify you via email with further information.

So, that's the process. But you might be asking, how do I know if I'm ready to apply? Excellent question. I can't answer that for you. This would be something to talk to the person who sponsors you for parties or Inferno. I can offer you some thoughts. First, are you a knowledgeable and experienced player? Experienced doesn't have anything to do with age and it doesn't mean you have to be into every scene and know how to use every toy. It does mean that you have a solid understanding of what safe BDSM play is and how to implement it, particularly within your areas of kinky interest (aka RACK and Safe, Sane, and Consensual). It also means you know enough to sometimes be able to say that something is outside your realm and admit you'd need to learn more before trying it. If you consider yourself a novice, even an enthusiastic one, then you are not yet ready for membership. Second, do you understand and respect limits (both your own and your partners')? You should have an excellent understanding of consent, safe words (and their equivalents when speaking is not possible in a scene), negotiating scenes, etc. While none of us are perfect at this, if you feel like this is still something you are figuring out, you are not ready for membership.

When you are ready, I look forward to seeing your application in my mailbox. Until then, I look forward to seeing you having a great time at the club house and at Inferno.

**Yours in leather,**  
**Sir Rob D, CHC Membership Chair**  
[membership@hellfire13.net](mailto:membership@hellfire13.net)

# How to Apply

**Hello Guests (both new and long-term),**

Thanks for coming around to play! I hope you have been having a good time and meeting new people. We love having you here, so keep coming back for more! At some point, you might start wondering about becoming a member yourself. Great! And if you live in Chicago – even better, as local full members are the key to the club functioning! Let me tell you what you need to do to apply.

1. You must have attended a club event (essentially, a monthly play party), attended Inferno, and have been a guest of the club for at least a year.

2. You must find a member (Associate, Full, Honorary, or Emeritus) who will be your primary sponsor. This should be someone you know well and who knows you well enough to be able to vouch for you as a responsible and trustworthy player. They will also act as your primary source of information about the application process, including getting you an application booklet.

3. Including your primary sponsor, you will need three members to sponsor you, including at least one who is a Full Member.

4. Once you have three sponsors and have an application booklet in hand, fill out the application and have your sponsors fill out the addenda.





## FROM THE INFERNO COORDINATOR

# Inferno 47 Coming to Life

### Inferno Committee

I am pleased to announce the Inferno Committee for Inferno 47.

Joe D. – Inferno Coordinator  
David R. – President  
John E. – New York, New York  
Tony K. – Lakewood, Ohio  
David K. – Chicago, Illinois  
Travis F. – Washington D.C.  
Dan O. – Marlboro, Massachusetts

Congratulation to everyone and thank you to everyone who submitted their name for consideration.

### Inferno Applications

Preparations are well underway for Inferno 47.

In the near future members will be receiving their sponsorship forms to sponsor guests for Inferno 47. Members don't wait until you get your form to talk with your guests about coming to Inferno.

Remember that the sponsorship list for Inferno is rebuilt from scratch each year. Just because someone was on the list last year doesn't necessarily mean that they will be on the list again this year. If you are a guest, make sure you contact your sponsor and get on their list. Even if you aren't sure you can attend Inferno this year it is still better to get on your sponsors list and receive an application with the first round of guest applications.

### Important Note for Members

If you have not paid your dues or made arrangements with the Vice President to pay your dues before March 15th you WILL NOT receive your Inferno invitation on time with all the other member applications. Members who pay their dues after March 15 and before April 1 will receive their application with the guest applications in mid-April. In addition, anyone you sponsor will also have their application delayed. If you are unsure about your dues status, please reach out to the Vice President at [vp@hellfire13.net](mailto:vp@hellfire13.net)

### Some Dates to Remember

June 1 – Roommate Deadline – Everyone you want to room with must have their application in by this date.

August 25 – Clubhouse Breakdown – 10 AM

September 3 – Truck Load – 10 AM

Session A – September 6 – 9

Session B – September 9 – 12

September 13 – Truck Unload at the Clubhouse – Aprox. 4:30 PM

September 22 – Clubhouse Reset – 10 AM



*Joe D — CHC Inferno Coordinator*

