

A Publication of the Chicago Hellfire Club

JULY 2022



Theo E.

CHC Spotlighted In The Summer

From the Program Chair

Summer is in full swing here in Chicago, and the Chicago Hellfire Club has been about town showing our pride! First off was the return of our IML cocktail party; after three years without IML, we were all grateful to be back at the Congress welcoming kinksters from across the globe to our fair city. Our cocktail party was well attended, and we were able to raise some extra money for the Leather Archives And Museum with our 50/50 raffle. The official IML photographer got some great shots from the event here:

https://www.imrl.com/galleries/nggallery/2022-friday-1/2022-sat-around-iml.

Then in June, we were invited again to march with the BDSM/kink contingent of the Chicago Pride Parade, sponsored by Touché. The weather was amazing, and the crowds were awesome! After three years without a parade, it was wonderful to celebrate LGBTQ+ pride in the city.

Keep an eye on our events page and social media for any upcoming bar nights. I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer and keep cool!

In Brotherhood,

Theo E. | Program Committee Chair | program@hellfire13.net



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Inferno 51 We Want You! Hot Guys Notice Inferno Sponsors



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SPONSORSHIP INFO:

See current availability, login with your CHC credentials at:

https://store.hellfire13.net

Contact: Bob Goldfarb, <u>Inferno@HelloBob.Net</u> or 415-203-4900 (9am to 9pm Pacific Time) Please call or email regarding the ad deadline.

See you in September!





Hieu N.

Inferno 51

From the Inferno Coordinator

Less Than Sixty Days Away!

It's summer and the days until Inferno 51 are getting fewer and fewer. Preparations are in full swing, and we're eager for another great Inferno.

Registration Is Working HARD!

Inferno confirmations were sent this week. We thank everyone for their patience, as this year was a record year for applications. Our Registration Chairs have worked diligently to maximize the number of attendees. Please check the club website to see if you have an outstanding balance due as all initial invoices must be paid by August 5, 2022 or you will forfeit your spot at Inferno 51.

Sponsorships And Advertising

Sponsorships and advertising help to make Inferno a success. Many of the same opportunities from previous years are back and there are some new ones including hard cider, hard seltzer, and Scotch & Cigars. If you would like to sponsor something for Inferno 51 please go to https://store.hellfire13.net/sponsorships so you can help! If you do not see something you would like to sponsor, please contact Bob G. at bob@hellobob.com. He can answer any questions you may have.

Clubhouse Tear Down And Reset

We will be tearing down the clubhouse and packing up in August. House breakdown is scheduled for Saturday, August 27 starting from 10 a.m. We will be putting the clubhouse back together on Saturday, September 24 at 10 a.m.

These volunteer opportunities (and also truck loading/unloading) will earn Full members hours towards their annual volunteer hours obligation.

We Need You! Please Volunteer for Set-Up, Tear-Down, and More

Remember, this is an all-volunteer event; we need everyone to help make Inferno 51 a success and there is much to do. We still need able-bodied men to volunteer for set-up and tear-down.

- Monday, September 5 at 10 a.m.: we load up the truck and head to the Inferno run site.
- Tuesday, September 6 at 8 a.m.: we start Set-Up.
- Wednesday, September 14: we start Tear-Down early in the morning.
- Thursday, September 15: Tear-Down finishes on site by 3 p.m., and we unload the truck at the clubhouse around 5 p.m.

The club will house and feed you during on-site Set-Up and Tear-Down. If you can work either of these shifts, please send a note to inferno.registration@hellfire13.net. However, please do not make your travel arrangements until you have heard specifically from the Set-Up, Tear-Down or Electrical chairs that you will be needed.





Inferno 51 Teardown

Please consider helping us prepare for Inferno 52. Start thinking now: if you're attending Session B, can you stay until Thursday? We can always use a few extra hands tearing down. The people who help us disassemble and store the equipment and supplies from this year's Inferno are the first step in getting next year's Inferno ready, and we can use all the same skills as we need for Setup.

We need men willing to get hot and sweaty, to do a little lifting. More men makes it easier for all. We need men willing to work in a team. We also need men who know their hands and power tools. We need men who can organize and men who can take direction. Working Teardown counts as at least one session's duty of Inferno. Like Setup, Teardown does not count for both sessions, but we'll take it into consideration when working up duty rosters.

At the end of Inferno, even if you've done your official duty, we really appreciate if you can give us even an extra 30 minutes of help.

Shipping

Look for shipping information in your Inferno confirmation packet when it arrives. Please make sure that your shipment arrives at the run site on or after September 5 (Labor Day). The folks at the run site cannot be responsible for anything that arrives before September 5.

Leather Tailor

I know it is early but if you have something in your closet that needs repair, think about packing it for Inferno. Also, we know everyone wants to get their Inferno patch sewn on! Karri, our very talented club brother/tailor will have his sewing machine at camp. It's a great way to get your leather repaired and help a club Brother at the same time.

Inferno Stories/Anecdotes

We are working on a special August newsletter for Inferno. If you have any stories or anecdotes about Inferno, please send them to me at inferno@hellfire13.net. We want to hear about what makes this magical Brigadoon special for you. Deadline is Monday, August 1.

I look forward to seeing you all at camp in September!

In Brotherhood,

Hieu N. | Inferno 51 Coordinator | Inferno@hellfire13.net







John B.

Into Our Next 50 Years

From The Preservation Chair

When the Chicago Hellfire Club started in 1971, organizations of gay men interested in BDSM already existed, around the country and even in Chicago – but they were motorcycle clubs. Generally, members of these clubs had to own motorcycles. Chicago's Second City M.C., which formed in 1965, notably increased its numbers by letting guys who only rode the bitch seat to also become club members.

From our start, though, Chicago Hellfire Club was a sex club for men into BDSM and sex with men. No motorcycles were required, though some of the founding members had them. The men's BDSM motorcycle clubs thought this would doom CHC to irrelevance and a brief existence, but I'd say our 50 years of history proved them wrong.

We not only started and maintained our organization through the years, we moved from parties in members' homes into our own clubhouse, a dedicated and club-owned space for sex and fetish fun. We developed Inferno, first from small parties at bars and in homes to celebrate the anniversary of the club's founding, into an overnight event at a campground, into a weeklong event on the eastern shores of Lake Michigan, in Western Michigan.

As other clubs around the country formed, they looked to our bylaws, dungeon master guides, and parties as models. CHC helped in the creation of a couple other sex clubs in Chicago: M.A.F.I.A., a fisting club which organized itself at Inferno and is still around; and the Windy City Bondage Club, "a bunch of guys who just want to have fun" and who required some form of bondage for any play at their parties. CHC was a bit more catholic – men found all kinds of kink to explore with us.

Yes, we were all about bondage, and impact play, and dominance, and S&M, and cocks in asses and mouths and hands and cages – but we also did real service to our community. Fundraisers at Inferno, participation in Toys for Tots, marching in D.C. and Chicago, our leadership in safer sex and in caring for our brothers living with HIV, SMU, and Whips on Wheels to teach people how to play, and our monthly parties were all ways CHC gave back. We enthusiastically supported the Leather Archives & Museum, and helped at International Mr. Leather (and found ways to make IML Weekend work for us!) and CLAW (and again found ways to promote the Club and especially Inferno).

When HIV/AIDS crashed our parties, we worked to keep our members and guests safer, and to spread the word of the best ways to make sure you didn't pass on or catch the virus. We did this again as the COVID-19 pandemic raged – and we kept our brotherhood afloat with Zoom, check-ins with our members, and controlled, small-group use of the clubhouse, even during the long months when we couldn't have bar nights or parties – or hold Inferno 49.

We came back to parties, and Inferno 50 was amazing by all accounts. The largest Inferno ever, and with the smallest tents! Yes, we were still about sex and sadism, and a lot of play happened -- but it sure was great to see everyone in person again!

We continue to respect our past – Preservation has always done well as an Inferno charity, and the Chicago Hellfire Club/Fireside Club Archives at the LA&M has an ever-increasing wealth of organized information about our club's history and development. But our history is only half the story.





Our future is the other half. And our members! (Wait, does that make three halves? Math isn't my strong suit.) When we face challenges – how do we serve food at parties without buffets?; the clubhouse needs work – or should we sell this one and buy something else?; have you seen the contradictions in the bylaws and standing legislation?; we have to find tents! – members and guests step up. As we negotiate changing times and different ways, we can explore kink and ways to stay connected, you are glad to show us what works.

Everything is not going to work for everyone. Club Brothers include Tops, bottoms, switches, and aces; technomages and strictly analog; neophytes and seasoned veterans; younger and older. And we're all of us pretty, and we all have valuable voices. Members can check out some of these voices on the CHC Website, in the 50th Anniversary Forum (https://hellfire13.net/50thForum). Guests and members can keep up on events and club direction through the newsletters and the CHC website in general.

I'll see you at Inferno 51, and into our next 50 years.

John B. | CHC50 Celebration Committee Co-Chair Preservation Committee Chair







Brendon Z.

From Service Unto Service

As an act of service to the community, the Leather Archives & Museum was founded in 1991 by Chuck Renslow and Tony DeBlase. The LA&M serves to make leather, kink, BDSM, and fetish accessible through research, preservation, education, and community engagement. The LA&M serves the Chicago Hellfire Club directly by maintaining, developing, and organizing the CHC archives for us. They have allowed us to hold meetings and social events there. Just last year we had a brunch social at the museum over AA weekend.

The LA&M has had a unique struggle during the pandemic. The museum receives the majority of its annual support from just IML, MAL, and CLAW. Starting in 2020 those events were not able to provide any support, so overnight funding was reduced by more than half. This continued over the next year. While these three events were back this year, each has worked to get their own finances back in order after suffering immense losses, so 2022 continues to be a financial struggle for the museum.

Before the pandemic, the LA&M was supposed to be the charity for Inferno 49. Even still, they were gracious enough to allow the McAdory Fund to be the charity recipient at Inferno 50 to celebrate our anniversary. Now is the time to repay this service, because supporting the museum also helps safeguard our legacy.

The museum has been there for us, and CHC Brothers have been strong supporters of the museum. We encourage you to make a donation—whether monetary or through



assistance in fundraising at camp—as an act of service to the museum and wider community. Let's continue to be there for them!

We need fundraising ideas for camp, people who will volunteer to help run them (or have the fundraisers run on them), and of course just direct financial giving. All donations made through this link will count towards our total raised as part of Inferno 51:https://the-leather-archives-and-

museum.networkforgood.com/projects/164362-chc-inferno-lam-fundraiser

In Brotherhood and Service,

Brendon Z. | Leather Liaison | zavalabedon@gmail.com









Hey Jock, are you all ready for Inferno







🔥 🔥 🔥 this year?

What are you talking about, dork? Inferno isn't for a few more months!

Well, you know how I like to be prepared! I've already got my small fan packed. Those rooms in the basement of the motel don't have air conditioning so a small fan definitely makes things more pleasant!

Hey don't do that! Or wait... actually yes please! I've always wanted to be peed on by a big tough jock!

I'll definitely be making use of our digital options for getting to know our attendees beforehand. I find it takes a lot of pressure off weekend if I already know what's on my dance card. And if I can't find it online or in person, I can always ask the Fantasy Committee to try and make it happen.

Ooh I just remembered I have to pack a swimsuit. I didn't even know Inferno had a swimming pool until you and your mean friends threw me in there in my TWs! It was humiliating. I loved it. But this year, I'm gonna decompress by the pool in between scenes.

Ooof I remember. You stuffed all that poison ivy in my briefs and gave me a wedgie I'll never forget. Which reminds me...

Oh yeah, I'm gonna bring my own jug of water this year. I got a little dehydrated last year with all the sun and all those keg stands I was doing. So I'm trying to drink extra water this time. And hey, if I have to piss, I'll just throw you into the



tent and let loose.

Well Inferno is the place to make your fantasies come true so if you're looking to try a specific kink, ask around. Lots of people will be all too eager to introduce a newbie to their kinks. And if they don't know, they'll probably be able to point you in the right direction.

You'll find me out in Inferno's wooded area, the Back 40. It's peaceful and pervy all at the same time. Great for a quiet stroll through nature or strapping a sub to a tree for a beatdown.

To pack calamine lotion?





To bring a jacket at night. It can get a little chilly in the evenings... especially if you're tied to a tree in the woods!

This year, I'm gonna spend so much time in the tent. So many different pieces of equipment to try out. So many positions to be put in

You'll catch me in the Music Room! It's open longer hours, and you can be as loud as you want which is perfect for when I'm getting paddled so hard I scream, or when my Superiors loudly hurl insults at me!

Speaking of Inferno... can I get a ride this year?

Yeah, I might have a spot... in my trunk!

Just try not to go over too many bumps this time!
Indiana is chock full of potholes.

No promises, dork! See you at camp!

With thanks to the Jock & Nerd, Chris G. & Julian M.













Club Contacts

Email Addresses

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Party Registrations: program@hellfire13.net

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Hours: Hours@hellfire13.net

Inferno Coordinator: Inferno@hellfire13.net

Inferno Registration: Inferno.Registration@hellfire13.net

McAdory Requests & Information: McAdory@hellfire13.net

Newsletters (Brand and Cicatrix): News@hellfire13.net

House Committee: House@Hellfire13.net

Address

Recently, our P.O. box changed from 577618 to 57098. Please make a note of this and update all relevant records.

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