

red hatter

FALL 2011

matters

Hatter of The Year

Linda Theriot, Queen Too Too! The Red Hat Society is proud to announce the first Hatter crowned with the honors! Read all the details about our winner on page 26.

A QUARTERLY DIGITAL MAGAZINE FROM THE



What a Party!

A look back at all the excitement that made up this year's Big Easy Bash.

Linda Theriot,
Queen Too Too of Houma,
Louisiana, USA

Dear Red Hatters,

What would you say if someone asked you this question: Are you fulfilled? That's a pretty broad question, isn't it? And what do we mean by "fulfillment" anyway? I guess I always thought of a fulfilled person as one who felt that she had everything she needed. But the definition I found indicates that fulfillment can also be a verb ("to fulfill"), signifying an action or an accomplishment. It's something we do, not something we feel. We fulfill obligations, we complete tasks.

So the real question might be asked: "Have you fulfilled your dreams?" Maybe you're not sure about that yet. Maybe there are more things to accomplish. One of the purposes of the RHS is to be there for each other, to encourage, to urge onward. If there's something you want to achieve or an experience you want to have, tell your chapterettes about it and ask them to be your cheering squad. Don't sit around waiting to feel fulfilled! Get going and fulfill a dream!

In friendship,

Sue Ellen

Sue Ellen, Exalted Queen Mother





Dear Hatters,

Let me just start by saying that it was a wonderful experience to be with those of you who joined us in New Orleans for the Big Easy Bash! Not only did we have a lot of fun, we did another amazing thing this year (besides our donation to the Smithsonian)—we were able to support the city of New Orleans as we had intended to do six years prior! Thank you to all of you who joined us. You made this year's convention one I'll never forget! To those of you who couldn't make it, you were truly missed. I personally want to invite you to sign up and attend our London week long New Year's event in December, and/or our International Convention in Las Vegas for the Golden Age of Glamour! The Vegas Strip has never sparkled this brightly before, ladies—I guarantee it! Hope to see you at one or both events!

I am also delighted to announce that we have reached 30 countries! That's right—the Red Hat Society is now in Argentina. This past quarter we have enthusiastically welcomed in 3 new countries—Namibia, Ecuador and Argentina! Amazing! What a Legacy we are creating together. We truly are an international organization! When meeting and talking with our very special international Members we found we all share the same goals, challenges and experiences worldwide. It is also a lot of fun to get mail and emails from RHS sisters from across the globe. In this issue, the team at Hatquarters has done a fantastic job of summarizing the Big Easy Bash for you. From mask contests to the announcement of our Hatter of the Year (or Queen of Mardi Gras), Linda Theriot (aka Queen Too Too) what a fun time was had by all! Please make sure you check out all the event wrap-up details.

This issue is also dedicated to one of our five F's found in our Mission Statement—FULFILLMENT! I think you'll find that there are some amazing stories of Sisters who are fulfilling their hearts' desires through their association with the Sisterhood. I never tire of hearing these types of stories. It warms my heart and reminds me why keeping our Legacy alive is so important for women today and tomorrow. I am always inspired and motivated to continue on in Hatquarters quest for the Legacy when I see how many lives this Sisterhood touches on a moment-to-moment basis!

If you have a story that you think is worth sharing with the Sisters (or you want to see your chapter in print,) please email us at stories@redhatsociety.com. We love hearing from our chapters across the globe!

Happy reading!

Debra

Debra, Ladybug

FALL 2011

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On the cover:
Linda Theriot, Queen Too Too! The Red Hat Society is proud to announce the first Hatter crowned with the honors! Read all the details about our winner on page 26.

BECAUSE THIS IS OUR LAST ISSUE UNTIL JANUARY 2012, WE WANT TO WISH ALL OF OUR SISTERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE NEW YEAR BRINGS TO ALL.



Merry Christmas
& Happy Holidays!

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

*Operation Red Envelope is taking off! Here are some of the emails we've received so far from Hatters who are participating!
Send your remarks to stories@redhatsociety.com.*

First, a note from the Hatter who sparked the idea!

Oh My Gosh – that is absolutely wonderful!!! It makes me feel so good inside to know that an idea I had actually is coming true to benefit all of us! (Gosh, I wish I was able to be at the Big Easy this year! After having my spinal fusion a few months ago, I'm just now getting around with a cane (I had lost all use of my left leg before the surgery! But my ladies stood beside me and kept my spirits up, and now I'm walking again, but still working at being proficient at it! But hopefully next year I'll be able to go!!!)

Mailing my red envelope today to the U.S. Postal Service! I will request that all of the Diamond Divas of Distinction do so also!

I'm proud to wear hat(s) and would love to have a stamp to honor it!!!

Queen Linda Johnston
Diamond Divas of Distinction!
Livermore, California, United States

I think it is a fabulous idea. I have contacted many chapters with the stamp idea, and they are at work on the red envelopes and letter.

Queen Marjorie Oliver
RHS Ambassador
Barefoot Beauties
La Grange, North Carolina,
United States

I always go to the clearance tables at card shops of office printing supply stores and look for envelopes. Packaged invitations or cards at the holidays that usually do have red envelopes so I buy them up just for the envelopes and donate the cards to some park or senior group that always wants your left over holiday cards.

So, I made labels with the postal address to put on the red envelope, typed up your suggested note, and handed them out at our movie date last week and said, - please sign them and mail them.

Queen Barb Lesiak
RHS Ambassador
Queens of Hearts
Elmwood Park, Illinois, United States

The Desert Roses of Fort Mohave had a business meeting on August 4 and I took a supply of red envelopes with me to distribute. I am the email person for the group so I emailed the request to all members. I even separated out the letter on a separate page so they could just print it, sign it, and mail it!! Here's to future Red Hat stamping!

Sheri Duerst
Desert Roses
Fort Mohave, Arizona, United States

While going through some of my papers I have saved regarding the RHS, I came across a quotation from Brent D. Glass, Museum Director of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, which I believe was stated at the time of the unveiling of the original Red Hat on April 25, 2011 with many, many Red Hatters in attendance.

'The Red Hat Society is a wonderful one-of-a-kind example of American culture and tradition. It is an organization that encourages strong bonds and living life to the fullest-ideas that are cherished by our society.'

It is my opinion, that if we included this quotation in the letters we are sending to the Postal Service asking for a Red Hat Society Stamp to be issued, it would make an impression on the committee that select what stamps will be issued. If the Red Hat Society is great and respected enough to be included in the Smithsonian, it should be great and respected enough for the United States Postal Service.

I copied this statement to give to a group of Red Hatters who play BINGO together the 2nd Monday of each month. We meet in Kinston, NC and our Hostess/sponsor is Patsy Lain, a member of the Diva Va Vooms of Jacksonville, NC. There are 8 to 10 chapters represented and we plan to ask each one to send a 'red envelope' letter requesting the stamp be issued. (In fact we will be making our own red envelopes in which to send these letters.)

If others would include this quotation in their letters, perhaps it would make for speeding up the process.

Queen Martha Seighman
W.O.W. Girlz
Washington, North Carolina, United States

I just read the Queen to Queens Broadcast of 8/1/2011. I think the idea of a RHS stamp is simply great!! While reading this I thought, 'why not get as many of the Queens and supporting members in my area to go to the local postal distribution facility and let them know how important this project is to us.' By physically being there it will have more of an impact and get the ball rolling locally. At the same time getting publicity by a local TV station of Red Hatters presenting Bright Red Envelopes to the local Postmaster and the reason for our visit.

I will start contacting my sister Queens today. Should I wait for conformation from you? I hope this idea will not cause undue problems. I just thought it would bring attention to the project and more support.

It would be a way of showing the world what Hatting means to us, after all we ARE in the Smithsonian now.

Queen Bobbie Hesse
Chantilly Lace Red Hats
Charleston, South Carolina,
United States

With the PO just this wk. announcing that it was...bil's short, & 1k's of families will lose their livelihood I certainly do not think that they would even consider any NEW stamps.

So why don't you work on something that isn't so "LOOK AT ME" so conceited, & work on something helping feed human being, & their animals in anywhere in our country, & most assuredly upcoming laid-off postal workers!!!

Sincerely

Pamela Clark

I have just read the news about Operation Red Envelope and think that this is a fantastic idea to celebrate our 15th.

I wondered if you had contacted the Canadian Postal authorities and if not will you or would you like a Canadian Queen Mother to do so? I would be happy to do this but would like to know if you have a record of the number of Canadian ladies and chapters that are Red Hatters?

I look forward to hearing from you in this regard and would like to thank you for all that you do for 'us.'

Queen Mo Nelder
RHS Ambassador
Majestic Mavens
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

I am giving this info to my Chapter at our next luncheon next week. I hope they will all send in a request as suggested by Sue Ellen. Is there anything else we can do to help with this cause?

Queen Joanne Beaulieu
Red Hat Divas Rochester NH
Farmington, New Hampshire,
United States

I would love to see an RHS postal stamp. We could collect and use them. What fun!

Love this organization. Thank you.

Maryann Moszczynski
The Cardinal Cappers
Cherry Hill, New Jersey,
United States

From the Red Hot Red Hats Too about twenty-five letters will be going out the middle of August. Sure hope all the chapters send letters.

Queen Bonnie Zarch
Red Hot Red Hats Too

Consider it done with my own personal touches. I had to buy a birthday card anyway and saw a red envelope there with no card. I got both envelopes for free. So I mailed the letter today. It was meant to be, and I'm proud to be part of making it happen!

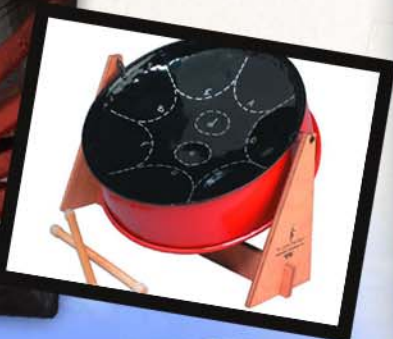
Queen Becky Mickler
Tennessee Gypsy Roses
Sevierville, Tennessee, United States

Just a note to say that I am so excited the U.S. Government is considering a postage stamp to recognize the greatest organization in the world for older women, to celebrate fun, friendship, fellowship, and fulfillment. I will proudly purchase and use these stamps to send birthday cards to all my Red Hat ladies, invitations to Red Hat events, and just for every day use, as I do mail out lots of postage correspondence, even to my friends in other countries.

Queen Janice Terrell
Happy Hats
Groves, Texas, United States



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Did you know that we have four active chapters in Trinidad and Tobago? These beautiful tropical islands are a mixture of mountains and plains; the highest mountain is El Cerro del Aripo which is 3,080 feet above sea level!

The flag was created in 1962. The colors are very important: red for the sun which represents courage, black for the earth which represents dedication, and white for water which represents equality and purity.

Trinidad and Tobago are considered the birthplace of calypso music, as well as the only acoustic musical instrument invented during the 20th century, the steel drum!

Trinidad and Tobago claims two Nobel Prize-winning authors, as well as current pop star Nicki Minaj! Popular sports on the islands are cricket and basketball.



TEXAS

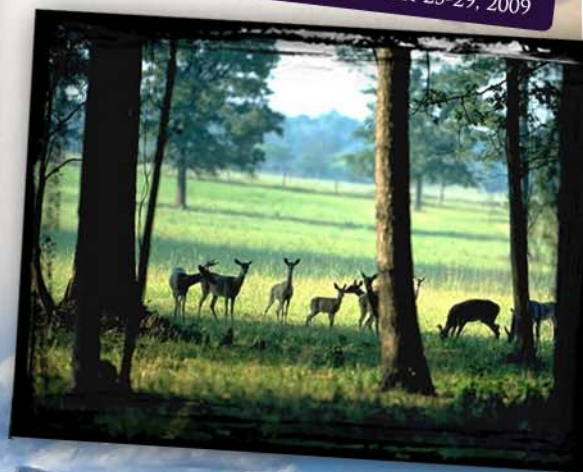
One of the things everyone knows about Texas is that it's BIG. It's the second-largest US state by both area and population. Texas ranks third for number of Red Hat Society chapters, after California and Florida.

The name is based on the Native American word "Tejas" meaning "friends" or "allies."

Texas contains an incredible diversity of terrain! There are deserts, prairies, forests, grasslands, and a coast! You can even find patches of swamp and a few mountains!

This state is also home to Johnson Space Center, which houses Mission Control for all US manned spaceflights, and most US astronauts live in or around Houston.

We also hosted our 2009 International Convention, Divas Wear Diamonds, in Houston, Texas! Check out the Past Event Photos on the Red Hat Society website (under the Events tab at the top of the page) to see pictures!



catch of a lifetime



The Sisters With Hattitude (Medina, Ohio, United States) made a shocking discovery one day! Chapter Hysterian **Jan Tomcho** writes, "One day at one of our girly luncheons, our Red Hat Chapter made the discovery that some of us had never been fishing...EVER! Having a fully stocked pond in my backyard, a picnic/fishing day was soon planned. It was a potluck lunch topped off with good old-fashioned popsicles and ice cream. After lunch, my husband headed down to the pond with us to help us get our lines ready and hooks baited. He never made it back to the house. The ladies started catching one fish after another so he was very busy taking fish off the lines and putting on new bait. There were so many laughs that afternoon. We even gave out prizes for the first fish, most fish, and largest fish. At the end of the day, I said to one of the ladies, 'Well, fishing is something you can now cross off your bucket list.' She replied, 'The funny thing is, I never had it on my list, but it was so much fun.' You never know where Red Hat adventures will lead you!"



BOX LUNCH PARTY

Each lady packs a wonderful lunch and brings it in a decorated box. The container may be a shoe box, a hat box, actually any container has potential. The box can be decorated with glued on faux jewels or boa or scrap booking materials or hand painted or simply could be a solid colored box with a beautiful ribbon trim. Feel free to use your creativity.

A variation on this idea is to include a pretty tea cup and saucer or mug in the box. (We all have an extra tea cup or mug in the cupboard to share!) The hostess provides the hot water and tea.

Another variation is to pick a theme for the party to represent such ideas as St Patrick's Day or Victorian or Beach party. Decorate the box by theme.

How distribution works:

Have two sets of numbers prepared. As a lady arrives, assign her box a number and put the other in a red hat. When everyone is there, pass around the hat filled with corresponding numbers. Each lady draws a number and receives the box lunch with the corresponding number attached.

*Like the idea of hosting a Box Lunch Party?
Check out page 37 for some delicious recipes to include.*

Enjoy!



EVENT

We have waited years to have an International Convention in New Orleans, but it was worth the wait!



Red Hat Society.
Big Easy

Bash!

August 18 - 20

2011



WHAT A PARTY!







THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2011

Hatters began flocking to the city on August 18, filling the Big Easy with red and purple (and pink and lavender!) Some took advantage of the incredible New Orleans Rebirth City Tour, which let Hatters experience firsthand the electric atmosphere and rich history that makes New Orleans one of the most fascinating cities in the world! We saw the past and present of New Orleans, and more importantly, the promising future of the Crescent City after Hurricane Katrina. We saw the infamous Bourbon Street, historic French Quarter (home of Mardi Gras!), the Garden District, and famed St. Charles Avenue!





Our time at **Mardi Gras World** was an unforgettable evening of sparkle and splendor at Mardi Gras World. We explored the famous floats and costumes of the parade, enjoyed the fabulous entertainment and a delicious buffet filled with traditional New Orleans food, like catfish, gumbo, jambalaya, and Cajun chicken! Of course, we couldn't leave without seeing the Mardi Gras World Mini-Parade, complete with floats, beads, and a marching band!





FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2011

There were so many wonderful tours to choose from, it was hard to pick which ones to attend! The Rebirth City Tour was very popular, but we also visited the Beyond All Boundaries exhibit at the National WWII Museum, enjoyed an afternoon of creole culture on the Creole Queen lunch cruise, learned about traditional N'Awlins cuisine at the New Orleans School of Cooking, and discovered how to mix our own Sazerac cocktail (a signature drink of The Big Easy!) at the Sazerac Cocktail Academy!





Our first event with everyone present was the Opening Ceremonies on Friday night. It was so exciting to see that sea of red, purple, pink, and lavender! While all of our conventions are special, this one felt particularly meaningful. After all, we've waited years to be in New Orleans, and being part of the revival of the city is a very special thing! We just had to get to our feet and dance as we were serenaded by Rockin' Dopsie Jr and the Zydeco Twisters! One of the highlights of the event was the crowning of Queen Linda Theriot as the Hatter of the Year and Queen of Mardi Gras! (see page 26 for more on Linda!)



SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2011

It's just not a Red Hat Society International Convention without our trademark Pajama Breakfast! Hatters in their comfiest PJ's enjoyed a plated breakfast, with entertainment from Tina Sloan, actress and author of the wonderful book Changing Shoes! The Pajama Breakfast was such a wonderful event: it's like the world's biggest sleepover!

Former Lord Mayor of Westminster, Duncan Sandys, joined us to give a special invitation to march in the London New Year's Day Parade! What a treat!

This year's Hat District was better than ever! Not only did attendees get to shop from some of the best vendors around, but they also participated in fashion parades, displayed their home-made Mardi Gras masks for a contest, enjoyed wine tastings, and experienced the best in on-site entertainment! Local Hatters and prospective members also joined in the fun: what a perfect way to give women a taste of how special our Sisterhood is!





As evening neared, Hatters gathered for the glitziest party of the event: the Big Easy Bash Banquet! We enjoyed a delicious three course dinner, followed by fabulous entertainment, New Orleans style! RHS Founder, Exalted Queen Mother Sue Ellen Cooper, along with Esteemed Vice Mother Linda Murphy and Lady Bug Debra Granich, CEO, brought us up to date on the State of the Sisterhood. Of course, the evening concluded with hours of dancing with friends old and new, as the Jimmy Maxwell Orchestra played some of the greatest hits of the big band era! What a party to remember!





“ I just wanted to tell you what a *Fabulous* time I had in New Orleans. Thank you so much!!! I am including a picture of Queen Mother Sue Ellen that I took on the last day. I love her smile, she IS the true symbol of SISTERHOOD ”

Kim Gugliotta

Red Hat Divas of Tucson
Tucson, Arizona, United States

“ My mom and I had so much *fun* at the New Orleans convention. What a great way to spend time with some one so special to me. Thank you all at Hatquarters for all your hard work getting it set up. ”

Christine Trafelet

Sassy Classy Hats of Orlando
Orlando, Florida,
United States

This note is part of a letter from Pink Hatter Caretha Lau (Red Hats of the West, Torrance, California, United States) who went with her grandmother-in-law, Shirley Keas (Queen of the Red Hats of the West, Torrance, California, United States), to New Orleans:

I just wanted to take a minute and say “Thank You.” I had a great time in New Orleans, it was a *wonderful* experience for me. I loved seeing and interacting with women from all over the world. It was refreshing to have someone, a complete stranger, strike up a conversation and treat me like they have known me forever. I saw free spirited/carefree women. It gave me perspective in my own life, that I don’t want to dwell on what has been or is wrong with my life. I want to live today for today. Tina Sloan who spoke at breakfast said the same thing. The women at the conference are living for today, supporting other women and having fun. I thank you for that experience.





Queen Christy Takes the Stage!

We all did a 'special dance' when Her Royal Hind-End & FQM *Queen MotorMouth Christy Goerbig* of Benton, Louisiana, USA performed her new song, "The Pee Pee Shuffle" for all the attendees of this year's International Convention. If you weren't there to see it live, make sure you check it out!



THE SOUND STAGE HAS BEEN SET AND YOUR APPEARANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED



★ 2012 ★
INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION

JUNE 28

LAS VEGAS, NV

JULY 1

✦ 2012 ✦

It's time to pack up your hatboxes, book your flights and join us. Las Vegas has been called the Entertainment Capital of the World and has been the backdrop for many films and television shows. Celebrities have been flocking there as their desert resort "getaway." Which is why it is the perfect setting for the 2012 International Convention.

GOLDEN AGE OF

GLAMOUR

★ PACKAGES ★

EXTRA DAY

SUPPORTING MEMBER PRICE

\$460 per person

Thursday, June 28 -
Sunday, July 1

Includes: Las Vegas' World
Famous Jubilee Show

MAIN DAY

SUPPORTING MEMBER PRICE

\$380 per person

Friday, June 29 - Sunday, July 1
Includes: Selected meals listed on
agenda, shopping the Hat District
and admission to all parties and
events.

★ LODGING ★

PARIS HOTEL LAS VEGAS

Starting at **\$109**

**For room reservations please call:
(877) 603-4389 Cut-off date June 6, 2012**

*Register for the event first in order to receive
the special RHS rate. Convention confirmation
number will be required.*

Visit our website:

★ **REGISTER TODAY!** ★

WWW.REDHATSOCIETY.COM

(866) 386 - 2850 Toll Free in the U.S
(714) 738 - 0001 International

CANADIAN

And what a trip it was! Debra toured North Bay, Elliott Lake, Barrie, Hanover, Oshawa, and Toronto: she traveled over 1,500 miles in 6 days! Whew!

Debra said,

"The trip was a huge hit! It was my pleasure and honor to participate in the 2011 Ontario, Canada, tour. I met so many wonderful Red and Pink Hat sisters. It was good to have a representative from Hatquarters to let our Canadian sisters know how much they matter to us! I was there to meet Supporting Members and thank them for their support, extend a personal invitation to women who have participated in Red Hatting to officially join and support RHS. I was also there to learn how Hatquarters can better support our international sisters and meet potential business partners

who are interested in working with RHS. The Members were very gracious and appreciative of the visit, and we had many new Members sign up. Some of these Members drove over 5 hours one way to meet us. Many others drove over 2 hours. It was amazing and appreciated.

Canada is a beautiful country with beautiful people! Lovely! I'd like to express my sincere appreciation for two RHS special Queens and Ambassadors: Brenda Marshall (WINOS, Shelburne, Ontario, Canada) and Jan Lukas (Divas of Ancaster, Ontario, Canada) who planned and coordinated the entire 6 day 2011 RHS Ontario tour. Without the two of them this trip would not have been the success that it was. We are very lucky to have such committed Members who support and embrace what we do.

I met with almost 900 women during the trip! There were all kinds of events, from one held at a local community center to our final luncheon in a revolving first class restaurant in the CN building, which is one of the tallest buildings in Toronto. It was a beautiful clear day, topped with a remarkable view of the city, wonderful Members, a delicious luncheon, and a welcome from honorable Minister Laurel Broten who is accountable for youth services and women's issues in Ontario. She was there to read the proclamation on behalf of the Ontario governor. We also received recognition from Prime Minister Stephen Harper's office recognizing our 10th year in Canada! What an honor! What a day! What a week! The RHS is a very important and meaningful international woman's social organization that is recognized and respected worldwide.



Road Trip

RHS CELEBRATES OUR CANADIAN SISTERS' 10TH ANNIVERSARY!



While in Canada, Debra and some local Hatters even appeared on TV! To top it all off, this year is the 10th anniversary of the Red Hat Society officially being in Canada! What a perfect way to celebrate! Congratulations to our Canadian Red and Pink Hat Supporting Members on your 10 year anniversary!



We had over 280 nominations in the Nominate A Hatter contest! Thank you for nominating your Sisters and sharing how many wonderful women are a part of this organization! It brought many tears and laughs to those of us who were taking such care at picking the winner.

Hatter of the Year

This Sister has been called “a **helper**,” “outgoing,” “outpourer of **love**,” “talented,” “**best friend**,” “**confidant**,” “mentor,” “**angel**,” “a **joy** to be around,” “a truly **wonderful** lady,” “an **inspiration**,” “someone who will pick you up when you are down and feel discouraged,” “the essence of Red Hatting,” “someone who will do ANYTHING for a Red Hatter,” just to name a few. She belongs to several Queens Councils and hails from the New Orleans area. Not only has she continuously embodied the true spirit of the Red Hat Society, she has shared the true spirit of the Red Hat Society.

Wow, what an inspirational Hatter and one we are certainly proud to call a Sister! So, without further ado, the Red Hat Society’s first Hatter of the Year and Queen of Mardi Gras is...**Linda Theriot**, also known as “**Queen Too Too**”! Queen Linda, of the Red Hat Jambalaya Mamas (Houma, Louisiana, United States), is also a Red Hat Society Ambassador!



ATTENTION HATTERS!

Do you know a Hatter that has the makings to be the 2012 Hatter of the Year? We'll be launching our nominations in January. What an honor it will be for one lucky Sister to be recognized for all she has done for the Sisterhood—just like Queen Too Too!



One person summed up this amazing Hatter like this:

"I have known her for around 6 years. I was a Hurricane Katrina victim and Queen of the RRRR. My chapter was blown all over the good old USA and talk about a displaced Queen—no home, no Chapter. I met this Queen online, cried on her shoulder for a bit, and told her my biggest loss was the cookbooks that had been in my family for generations. Next thing I know, I received a cookbook from her church. She saved my sanity and helped me make all kinds of new friends in a new area. Trust me, that is hard to do when one becomes a refugee."

thank you!

Thank you, Queen Too Too for all you have brought to our Society. We are forever grateful for your support. We crowned Linda the first Hatter of the Year and Queen of Mardi Gras at the Big Easy Bash!



WESTERN WOMEN

The Dazzlin Divas (British Columbia, Canada) recently celebrated their 6th Anniversary as proud Supporting Members of the Red Hat Society. Queen Joan Catonio writes, "Every party needs a theme and we decided on Western as the order of the day. The Divas were extremely creative, each contributing dishes that would make any cowboy proud. Boots were polished, red cowboy hats dusted and decorated, who does it better than Red Hatters!!!! It's hard to believe six years have gone by so quickly, fun and friendship at it's best. Viva Red Hatting!"

We have always known of the AMAZING talent within our Sisterhood, but it is always fun to share. Val Palmer of Peace River, Alberta, Canada shared one of her original poems that was sparked by a very dear Sister in her chapter. The poem was later modified to be something that all Red and Pink Hatters can enjoy. It is beautifully written and something too precious to keep to ourselves. Thank you Val for sharing it with us and we hope all of you enjoy it as much as we did.

the Royal Wave



The mystery of 'Hatting' is not known to all
But around the world, women have answered its call.
Each town has its flock of these bright-feathered birds,
Who gather in outfits just too strange for words!

Dressed to the hilt, in wild purples and 'bling',
These gals in their red hats know well how to swing!
Such magnificent creatures you ever did see,
Each group royally led by their own Queen Bee.

Their outings and meetings with laughter are blessed,
As games and diversions, of all kinds, are stressed.
With sweet home-made 'goodies', and coffees in hand,
The jokes and the stories are much in demand.

There are so many memories, and photos galore,
Of fashion shows, BBQ's, parties, and more;
On each festive occasion, exchanging small gifts,
Giving pleasure to others gives their spirits a lift.

They chase away loneliness, sadness and fears,
And many form friendships to last through the years.
But they know, when they leave, that others will come,
To fill all the gaps, and then join in the fun!

Valerie, J. Palmer (Lady Mush(room),
Peace River, Alberta, 2010.

MAKING SURE YOU GET OUR EMAILS

Do you have trouble receiving all of the RHS communications that you're entitled to? Do you know someone who doesn't receive the Friday Broadcast? Here's what you can do to make sure you stay in the loop!

1. Check your Junk Mail (or Spam) folder.

Sometimes email companies don't recognize our emails correctly, and send them to the junk mail folder! Oh no! If you see a message from the RHS in there, just select the email and click "Not Junk" or "Not Spam" (whichever command your email uses).

2. Add our email addresses to your email address book!

The main addresses we use are memberservices@redhatsociety.com, events@redhatsociety.com, info@redhatsociety.com, and redhatnews@hatquarters.com.

3. Certain types of email have difficulty receiving our messages.

The most common are aol.com, bellsouth.net, and comcast.net (although this list fluctuates from time to time.) If you have one of these emails, consider setting up a secondary account with Gmail or Yahoo. These email providers are free and are able to receive all of our emails!



THE SMART HATTER'S GUIDE TO

A REDuation is a Pink Hatter's "rite of passage" which may include a creative ceremony or just a simple swapping of a pink hat for a red one. (We definitely encourage elaborate ceremonies whenever possible!) Now we've made it even easier by creating a digital REDuation kit, which is free for all Supporting Members!

REDuation Kit



To find the kit, go to www.redhatsociety.com and select "REDuation kit materials" from the Fun Stuff drop-down menu.

You'll see four different items on the page.

The first piece is our exclusive REDuation pledge, which was written by Esteemed Vice Mother Linda Murphy. This pledge has been extremely popular, and it's even used by Hatquarters when staff members REDuate! This pledge has been designed to be printed off and given to attendees so that everyone can recite it together. These print two to a page.

You'll also find an invitation form: it's a cinch to print it off and fill in the names of those you want to invite to the big event. These print two to a page.

Next is a page of Wisdom Notes: these print four to a page, and provide a lovely space where seasoned Red Hatters can write a bit of advice or encouragement to the newly REDuated Hatter! You can print any of these items separately (just click on the item you want: it will open as a printable PDF) or download all of them into a single document. Just another benefit of being a Supporting Member!



Red Hat Society.

London New Year's Day Parade

Handbook

2012

for London

Guide to the Summer Olympics



2012 is London's Olympic Year! The whole city is abuzz with Olympic fever. In fact, London has a grand history in the Olympics! The first opening ceremonies were held during the 1908 Olympic Games in London. At the 1908 London Games, for the first time, athletes marched into the stadium behind the flags of their nations!

The Olympic motto is *Citius—Altius—Fortius*, which is "faster, higher, stronger," in Latin. This motto has been part of the modern Olympics from the very beginning, in 1894! It reminds the participants that the games are not about winning, but about doing one's best.

If you've seen the Olympics flag, you know that it is five rings of different colors—blue, yellow, black, green, and red—Each ring represents one of the inhabited continents, and they are linked to show the way the Games bring people from around the world together, regardless of background. (Hmmm, that sounds familiar! No wonder we love the Olympics so much!)

At the beginning of the games, one athlete and one judge from the hosting nation take the Olympic Oath on behalf of all participants.

While several forms of the Oath have been used, the current one is "In the name of all the competitors I promise that we shall take part in these Olympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, committing ourselves to a sport without doping and without drugs, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honor of our teams."

A quote from one of the founders of the modern Olympic Games, Baron de Coubertin, best expresses the Olympic spirit:

"The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well."

What a beautiful thought!



Within 15 minutes drive from our host hotel,
the Charing Cross, you'll find a wealth of

shopping opportunities!



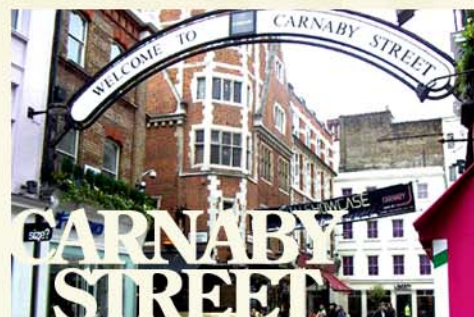
BOND STREET

For the most fashionable ladies, Bond Street is the place to be! New Bond Street boasts one of the best concentrations of designer shops, including Donna Karan, Prada, Louis Vuitton, Chanel, Nicole Farhi, Armani, Jimmy Choo and Ralph Lauren, not to mention the Mulberry and Burberry stores. You'll also find Sotheby's auction house here, as well as a number of antique stores and markets. And don't forget the bling! Cartier, Tiffany and Asprey are just a few of the jewelers to be found on Bond Street!



SPITALFIELDS MARKET

In the heart of London, you'll find Spitalfields Market. It's the perfect place to look for truly original items, especially for those who value quality! Sundays are the busiest days at the market, with over 200 stalls doing business. On weekdays, the Market is quieter (except for lunchtime), and on Fridays you will find scores of young designers showing off their work!



CARNABY STREET

Once known for 1960s "Swinging London" scene, Carnaby Street has had a revival and is home to trendy cutting-edge designers and fantastic street wares. There are over 140 shops, bars and restaurants to choose from! It's a great place to spend a day: there are several streets in the immediate area - notably Newburgh Street, Foubert's Place, and Kingly Court which has several floors of unique shops, cafes and restaurants around an open courtyard.

Things to watch for in London

How many of these can you spot during your trip?

- The changing of the Guards at Buckingham Palace
- A red phone box
- An iconic London double-decker bus
- Kate and William out for a stroll—you never know!
- The London Eye ferris wheel
- The "Gherkin"- a building shaped like a large glass pickle!

YOUR INVITATION TO

Red Hat Rendezvous

OCTOBER 11, 2011



AN EXCLUSIVE EVENT FOR RED HATTERS

Red Hat Society members from across the country are invited to take part in the "Red Hat Rendezvous" on Tuesday, October 11 at The Mills®, the most recognized portfolio of 16 outlet and value retail shopping destinations in 13 states.

Mills properties nationwide will offer you an exciting assortment of activities, retailer discounts, special prizes, competitions and hotel "shop and stay" programs. Plus, the savings will last all month with exclusive offers and giveaways available for Red Hatters throughout October.

CELEBRATING WOMEN

This Red Hat only event will be part of The Mills' "Celebrating Women," a month-long initiative to honor and empower women through fashion and self-expression with style presentations, awards to female role models, fashion design competitions, women's health awareness programs, in-store events and discounts, plus select appearances by Miss America 2011 and individual state titleholders.

To learn more about Celebrating Women and our "Red Hat Rendezvous," please visit www.simon.com and search for the participating Mills property near you.

"We are looking forward to welcoming Red Hatters from across the country to The Mills to showcase our unique brand of shopping with fashion forward outlet and value retailers, while engaging women who play a vital role in our society."

Kelly Mikesell, vice president of marketing for The Mills.

PARTICIPATING MILLS PROPERTIES

Arizona Mills (Phoenix, AZ), Arundel Mills (Baltimore, MD), Colorado Mills (Denver, CO), Concord Mills (Charlotte, NC), Discover Mills (Atlanta, GA), Franklin Mills (Philadelphia, PA), Grapevine Mills (Dallas/Grapevine, TX), Great Mall (Bay Area, CA), Gurnee Mills (Chicago, IL), Katy Mills (Houston, TX), Ontario Mills (Los Angeles, CA), Sawgrass Mills (Miami/Fort Lauderdale, FL), St. Louis Mills (St. Louis, MO).



CELEBRATING WOMEN
Look Good. Feel Good. Do Good.

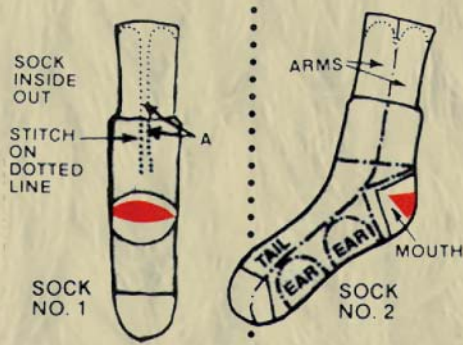
THE MILLS®

A SIMON® Company

When we published the Sock Monkey Sisterhood in one of our recent Inspiring Hatters emails, we had no idea it would get such a response! It seems like everyone wants to use this great idea!

You can purchase your own sock monkeys from the Red Hat Society Store or, if you're feeling extra adventurous, make your own! To help you out, here's a simple guide to creating your own sock monkey! (Missed the email? Never fear! You can see ALL Inspiring Hatters emails on the RHS website: just click on Fun Stuff!)

SOCK MONKEYS TO THE RESCUE!



1. Get some cool socks! Monkeys are traditionally made with red-heeled socks, but you can make them with any socks you like! You'll need two socks for each monkey.
2. Turn the socks inside out. Lay one sock flat, heel down: this will be the body and feet of the monkey.

3. Draw a line down the center of the sock from the toe to one inch from the heel. Keeping the sock flat, sew up one side of your marked line and back down the other side: leave about a quarter-inch space between the line and your seam.
4. Cut along the line: now you have the monkey's legs! Turn the sock right-side out and stuff the sock.

5. Decide where you want the monkey's neck to be: using a strong thread or embroidery floss, stitch around the neck with quarter inch stitches. Pull these stitches snugly until the neck is the size you want, then knot the ends.
6. Fill the head area with as much stuffing as you want, then gather the tip with large stitches and cinch them closed. Tuck the raw edges inside, and stitch closed.
7. Cut the second sock as shown: this will be the arms, tail, and ears.
8. Sew up the edges of the arms and tail, turn them right-side out, and stuff them. Attach the tail to the rump and the arms to either side of the body.
9. The heel of the second sock will become the monkey's nose: cut it out and decide where you want the monkey's face to be. Sew the bottom edge of the nose to the monkey's chin, right sides together, so that when you fold the nose up, the outside edge will be a fold (not raw).
10. Fold the nose into place and add stuffing, then fold the raw edges in and sew around the rest of the nose.
- 11: Turn the raw edges of the ears to the inside and stitch them closed. Stitch the completed ears to each side of the head.
12. Add button eyes and there's your monkey!



Sock Monkey Sisters Unite at the Big Easy Bash!

Not as crafty? Want an already crafted sock monkey? Visit the Red Hat Society Store and get one of your very own!

Don't miss the Boxed Lunch Idea found on page 11. It's a great way to take advantage of these delicious recipes with your Sisters!

You can't fill your beautiful box with just any old food, can you? Of course not! Here are a few favorite recipes from the Red Hat Society Cookbook that are sure to please any crowd!

Green Tomato Bread

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups finely chopped green tomatoes
- 1 cup well-drained, crushed pineapple
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon mace
- 1 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup golden raisins
- 2 tablespoons sesame seeds



Preheat the oven to 350°. In a large bowl beat the eggs with the oil, sugar, and vanilla until light and fluffy. Stir in the tomatoes and pineapple. Sift the flour, baking soda, salt, baking powder, cinnamon, and mace and add to the mixture. Blend well. Stir in the nuts, raisins, and sesame seeds. Pour into two greased and floured loaf pans. Bake for 1 hour 15 minutes. Test before removing from oven. Makes 2 loaves.

Submitted by Sharon Beadle, Ruby RedHat's Ramblers (Internet only). Found on page 240 of the Red Hat Society Cookbook.

HONEY-PECAN CHICKEN SALAD

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup dill pickle relish
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon white pepper
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped toasted pecans
- 1 1/2 pounds chopped cooked chicken (about 4 cups)



Combine the mayonnaise, relish, onion, honey, sugar, salt, and white pepper in a bowl and mix well. Stir in the celery and pecans. Fold in the chicken. Adjust the seasonings to taste. Chill, covered, in the refrigerator. Serve on crusty French bread rolls with potato chips and carrot sticks. Makes 6 to 8 servings.



Submitted by Alice Russell, Sassy Bodacious Ladies (Greenville, Tennessee, United States). Found on page 337 of the Red Hat Society Cookbook.



These inventive recipes, and hundreds more, are also available in the Red Hat Society Cookbook. Every recipe was submitted by a Red Hatter, and has been tested by other Hatters, so we know you'll love the results. Visit RedHatSocietyStore.com to get your copy today!

Tidbit Fact: Sue Ellen Cooper used an old recipe box to house our chapter records for the first few years. We wonder how many recipe boxes we'd need today with 30 countries represented! She really did have the best recipe: the recipe for success!

CHANGING SHOES WITH

Tina Sloan

My first encounter with the Red Hat Society was when I met a bevy of Red Hatters at the Cheesecake Factory in Atlanta, Georgia. These fabulous bedecked ladies welcomed me with open arms and huge smiles as they recognized me from the soap opera I was on called the "Guiding Light." I sat down with them – how could I not- and we happily wolfed down huge hot fudge sundaes. I told them how I fell into a rut and how I crawled my way out of the rut and wrote a book and a play about it called "Changing Shoes" and they all applauded. LOUDLY. Right there in the Cheesecake Factory. Of course I invited them to my play and they strutted and I do mean strutted in and took over the audience a couple nights later and those ladies were the most fun audience I've ever had.

Could it get any better? Well it did...at the "Big Easy Bash" RHS Convention in New Orleans. I arrived conservatively wearing a red felt hat with no bling. Within an hour I had bought a huge gorgeous red feathery hat with the help of everyone near me. I had just gotten permission to play dress-up and I love dress-up. As an actress I know being dressed up as a character is the most important thing in finding the character and here I was all decked in feathers and admiring everyone else's blingy hats and clothes.

When I gave my PAJAMA talk the next morning to all 1750 PJ clad Red Hatters, I arrived in my white pjs with shoes on them. Because of what I had learned in one day being with these amazing happy fun loving women, I had worn underneath the PJs a red short sexy nightie and so I stripped the PJs off revealing the nightie and my arms for the first time in a decade. I added red high heels and a red fascinator I had also bought in my spin of fun the day before and there I was – a real Red Hatter. When I came home to NYC after this experience of dancing the night away to Rockin Dopsie and yelling I WILL SURVIVE at the top of my lungs with hundreds of other Red Hatters, I opened my own chapter in NYC called Madhattan Hatters. I am Queen Teenie Bellini and my friend who joined just now is Princess Savvy Abby. We are laughing and wearing sleeveless dresses so "Thanks for the Memories" - a la Bob Hope (who would have worn a red hat so jauntily and would have understood fun, flamboyant fun, frilly fun, frothy fun). Thanks Red Hat Society for giving me this wonderful glimpse into my childish soul and engaging it. I love being part of the wonder of it all. And the fun, fun, fun!

Tina Sloan aka **Queen Teenie Bellini**
of the Madhattan Hatters

Just IN TIME for the holidays...



Queen Pin \$6



Member Pin \$5

The Red Hat Society believes in giving gifts that speak to the very heart of Red and Pink Hatting. This season we are excited to be offering our Queen and Member pins as the perfect way to show your Sisters how much they mean to you.

A Holiday Gift Just for You...

Give yourself the "royal treatment" by becoming Queen of your very own Queendom! By upgrading to Queen, RHS will send you a Queen Pin as our gift to you along with your new Chapter Charter, Queen Handbook, an official Welcome letter from RHS, Registration Cards and the Queen's Getting Started Page.



UPGRADE FOR ONLY \$19



Contact Us

Need help? Want to ask some questions to your dedicated Member Services team? Just give us a call. We'd love to help you.

866-386-2850

We have chapters in thirty countries. Locate those names in the word search below.

word search

NOTE: Names are all at ANGLES

International	Chapters	Anguilla	Australia	Austria	Belgium
Canada	Ecuador	England	Finland	France	Germany
Greece	Guam	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Luxembourg
Mexico	Namibia	Netherlands	New Zealand	Norway	Panama
United States	Scotland	South Africa	Sweden	Taiwan	Wales
Trinidad and Tobago	Peru				

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RHS appears thirty times in this puzzle, once for each country the Red Hat Society can be found in today!

Submitted by Arlene Manemann, Lady Frisco of the Orange County Red and Pink Hatters, Brea, CA.



Red Hat Society®



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