

Fall 2010

# red hatter *matters*



## We've Made History!

The very first red hat is now a part of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History!

*Read more about this historic event on page 28*



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE

*Red Hat Society*

Get a taste of the fabulous  
Brims By the Bay experience!  
Turn to page 30

## Founder's Note

Dear Red Hatters,

Fulfillment of one's most treasured dreams is everyone's goal, don't you think? But if someone asked you today – right now – how would you answer this question? Would you have the answer at the tip of your tongue? If the answer is no – why do you think that is?

Is it because, even now, most of us could more easily come up with the answer our children or grandchildren would give, speaking for themselves? Is it because our focus, even as Red Hatters, is rarely on ourselves? My guess would be yes. When we love someone, we care very much about that person's happiness, and we will do whatever we can to help them attain it. This is a very, very good attribute. And loving others is certainly a Red Hat Society value.

But I am urging you to give serious thought to any unfilled (but still attainable) dream you may have – for this reason: at our stage in life, we can no longer fool ourselves into thinking we have all the time in the world. If old dreams are ever going to be seriously pursued (not just dreamed about) the time is n-o-w. (It is not too late!) If you have to, scale the dream down a little. But, whatever you do, make a start. Maybe one of your loved ones could help you, in some way, this time? I'll bet they'd love to do that. And I'll bet they'd be proud of you too.

And when you reach that dream, let the rest of your RHS sisters know about it. We will cheer you on – and be encouraged to find our own paths to fulfillment.

In friendship,

*Sue Ellen*

Sue Ellen, Exalted Queen Mother



in the know





Hatters,

Can you believe we are rapidly approaching the end of the year? Time really does fly when you are having fun.

Time...time...that word has a richer, more layered meaning for me as I reflect on the Smithsonian accepting our gift of the original red hat and marvel on the impact that it will have on generations to come. What an opportunity for all of us.

Laura Duff, publicity representative for the Smithsonian made a statement that really struck me. She stated, "We, at the Smithsonian, are in the forever business." What she meant by that statement is that the pieces that they house at the Smithsonian (including our first red hat and boa) will be preserved in such a way as to make sure time and the elements do not deteriorate them. Amazing! Ladies, neither time nor the elements will deteriorate our Sisterhood! If that doesn't resonate, I don't know what will! Our Legacy is of cultural significance. Red Hatters Matter!

I thank you all for your support and friendship and look forward to the "Scarlet Sparkles" that will be unveiled to us all in 2011. I tip my hat to each of you.

Royal Regards,



Debra, Ladybug

# In This Issue

## Fulfillment Stories

- 28 First Hat Fnds New Home
- 8 The Road to the Throne
- 18 We've been Pinked
- 38 Terry the Dolphin

## In Every Issue

- 2 A note from Sue Ellen
- 4 In the Know with Debra
- 20 Activities Collection
- 22 Smart Hatter's Guide To...
- 24 Recipes

## Just for Fun

- 19 New Invite-a-Friend contest
- 16 And The Winner is...
- 14 In The Spotlight
- 36 RHS at AARP Orlando

## Official RHS Events

- 30 Brims By The Bay recap
- 40 London
- 26 The Big Easy Bash

## Membership

- 7 Gift of Friendship
- 6 Legacy
- 16 GRAND Benefits

## Classifieds

- 12 New Trading Cards
- 44 RHS Store
- 46 Online Hat District
- 47 Discountess shop
- 48 The Alliance
- 49 Hats!

## Keep in Touch

- 39 Local Opportunities
- 17 How to Tell Your Story
- 50 RHS contact info

## *How You Can Contribute to the Legacy*

1. Queens: sign up non paid Hatters who are enjoying the benefits without the financial commitment to our legacy.
2. Commit to renewing your membership yearly.
3. Invite new women to join you on your outings and invite them to join the Official Red Hat Society! By the way, you could win the "Invite-A-Friend" contest!
4. Join our conversations on the QMB, QMB2, Facebook and Twitter. There is strength in numbers! Besides, there are fun games, trivia, giveaways and the opportunity to connect with your Red Hat Sisters from around the world! It's fun and free! See our website for specific links.
5. Share your adventures and photos with Hatquarters! We'd love to hear from you at [stories@redhatsociety.com](mailto:stories@redhatsociety.com). You never know when you'll be featured in one of our many publications.

Red Hatters Matter!



THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, GIVE THE

# GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP



Finding the perfect Holiday gift can be a challenge. Never again! The Red Hat Society has created a way that makes Holiday shopping a snap. Give those special ladies in your life a gift that will last all year long. You have the ability to name their royal title. Make them a "Queen" of their very own chapter for just \$39 or give her the gift of "royalty" as an individual Supporting Membership for \$20 per year.

The Gift of RHS Membership or a Gift Renewal allows women to expand their horizons as a part of one of the largest women's social organizations in the world. Members are provided with:

- connections to new friends from around the globe
- empowering stories of fellow Hatters
- fun activities to keep them giggling
- a Membership kit full of official RHS 'goodies'
- a dedicated team at Hatquarters committed to making sure every Members' experience is magical.

After all, there's Magic in the Hat!

Click [here](#) to see a full list of Member benefits.

*We'll help you send a gift membership anywhere in the world!*

Press Ext. 5



To send this amazing gift, call Hatquarters at  
866-FUN-AT-50 (866-386-2850) or  
714 738-0001 (international).

# RedHatSociety.com

The RHS is delighted to announce that we will be launching a new and improved website, created specifically with you in mind! Thank you to all of you who have offered Hatquarters suggestions on how to make this site work for you. Look for the new launch on **December 1, 2010**. Enjoy!





Submitted by:  
Constance Frazier Red Hat  
Roadrunners  
Cypress, Texas, U.S.

Every Queen has a different story: some Hatted for years before discovering their Queenly potential, some start their Red Hat Society experience by creating a chapter! Whether it's the fulfillment of a dream, or an unexpected adventure, each journey is unique, and each is a story worth hearing! Here are a few of our favorites.

## The Road to the THRONE

I started my chapter in June of 2007 with 5 ladies that I had met in and around the Houston area. My daughter-in-law worked at a hospital in Houston and told me about a lady that sometimes came in with her red hat and purple outfit. She was a member of a chapter that met at the Doss Community Center in Houston. I thought the commute was too far for me. One of the Doss staff members, Elizabeth, told me that she knew of another chapter that I might be interested in joining. I contacted the Queen, and she made me feel so welcomed and special that I knew this was the disorganization that I wanted to belong to. I was invited to join the chapter prior to starting my own but there were over 50 ladies joined or lined up for this chapter and the queen was about to step down from her throne. The first thing she suggested was that some of us start our own chapter. I had no idea what would be involved but I sometimes like walking on the wild side.







I am very proud of my chapter and my ladies,  
The Red Hat Roadrunners!

So, I became a queen. It was a great feeling because my mom's first name was Queen and this was the first time I really felt connected to the name. I choose the name Roadrunners because of a girl's sports team that I had coached in Gardena, California. Therefore, I came up with the Red Hat Roadrunners.

Then the big challenge. Where and what kind of ladies do I want for my chapter? The RHS website played an important part in helping me make decisions. Thelma Robinson and I had met in a gym and we became good friends and began traveling on many of the senior activities provided by Harris County. Thelma was my first supporting member, first Vice Queen and is still with me today. One day I was in Walmart and I saw this lady dressed in purple. I walked up behind her and said "Hello, are you a member of the RHS." She gave me this funny look and a short "No, I don't know what the RHS is". This was my clue to make my pitch and Dorothy Kirby became my second supporting member.

I have about 35 interesting, crafty, wonderful and sometimes challenging ladies. The lady that moved from another state and needed that extra special person to just get together with, the delightful lady that lost her home after Katrina and walked into her first meeting and said, "Now this is what I was talking about," the mom that felt that there had to be more for ladies over 50 than just taking care of grandchildren, the woman that had lost her spouse and wanted the friendship of sisterhood and all those ladies that joined just because one or more members told them that our chapter was fun and we loved just having a good time.



*For a great story  
about a Pink Hat  
Queen, turn to  
page 18*

*Being Queen isn't always easy, but it's always rewarding! We hear from Queens every day, expressing their delight in their chapters and their love of the wonderful Hatters who surround them. The journey to becoming Queen is different for each woman, and every single story is special!*



# BECOMING Queen

*Submitted by  
Evelyn Waters, Queen of Red Hats R Us,  
West Grove, Pennsylvania, U.S.*

I've only been a Queen for a short time but have been a Red Hatter for about five years. The first club I belonged to disbanded and I moved on to a second club. After a while the Queen there just sort of vanished but we were continuing on without her. When I attended the October 2009 meeting, out of the blue one of the ladies said, "We think you would make a good queen, how about it? I said, 'I don't know about this queen thing but I will try my hand at being leader for a while.' Previously I had thrown myself into the Red Hatters with great enthusiasm. I bought tons of Red Hat items, seven hats, blouses, scarves, shoes, hose, rings, necklace, shawls, even a long red fleece coat. I was having fun!!

So, finally after a few months of being 'leader' I decided I wanted to be 'official' and so we chose a name and I became Queen Evelene. I have initiated the Red Hat Regalia Game, which my ladies love and we also play at least one other game while we are having lunch. I give prizes, all of which I pick up at yard sales and most of the items are 'new' and 'cheap'. In June I had a Red Hat Tea Party at my house with little tea sandwiches, desserts and fresh squeezed lemonade.

Are we having fun? We are a small group, but we attract attention where ever we go. Once a group dining nearby said we had "made their day." Last month while at my son's house, he and his wife, my daughter and her husband began kidding me about being "Queen Evelene" so I began showing them how I did my Queen wave (like Queen Elizabeth II, waving my wrist not my whole hand) Well, the kids were just falling over laughing so I informed my daughter and daughter-in-law that they had to curtsy to me beings as I was now a Queen, and the son and son-in-law had to bow. In the spirit of the moment they all did so and it was just hilarious! The following Sunday in church my daughter rushed up to me and laughingly swept me a lovely curtsy.

Submitted by  
Sheila Barton,  
Queen of the Rosebud  
Rascals of Lloydminster  
Alberta, Canada



*Pictured:*  
**Heather Jackson**  
Scarlet O' Hatters  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

**Judy McIvor**  
Rosebud Rascals of Lloydminster  
Alberta, Canada

**Carol Conrad**  
Queen of the Scarlet O'Hatters  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

These four ladies are all cousins—they even grew up in the same town, but as they finished high school, each lady moved to a different part of the country. Carol Conrad writes, “Our age difference and distance meant that we weren't really friends but did keep in contact during family reunions, weddings and funerals. Thirty-plus years later, Judy McIvor became a member of the Red Hat Society and then on to be the Queen of the Peace River Sassy REDS. On her encouragement, I started the Scarlet O'Hatters in Edmonton, Alberta, and had our cousin, Heather Jackson, join the chapter as Vice-Queen. Another couple of years go past and Sheila Barton heard about all the fun the other cousins are having and she became Queen of the Rosebud Rascals in Lloydminster, Alberta. A few moves later and we live within a two hour drive of each other. After many years these four cousins now attend Red Hat Society events together and have become great friends. Thank you to this great organization!”



## Queen Package

We believe in the Queen's right to dress fabulously!  
You'll be the talk of the town with this exclusive:

- Red, purple and silver lurex boa
- RHS crown pin
- Oversized clear stone bracelet
- RHS initial pin
- Fingerless gloves

ONLY \$39 **CLICK HERE TO ORDER YOURS!**

## Introducing a whole new line of *EXCLUSIVE* trading cards and stationary!

Check out these new designs (15 of them!) on [RedHatSociety.com/Prints](http://RedHatSociety.com/Prints)

### FEATURING:

- Address Labels
- Trading Cards
- Letterheads
- Envelopes
- Invitations
- Greeting Cards



*"Golden Royalty"* (above) Possessing elegance, the attribute of being tastefully designed, decorated and maintaining refined grace and dignified propriety. Every woman wants to feel like a queen! Now you can look and feel like a queen with these golden stationary designs!





**Themes:** "Charmed, I'm Sure"

In both Europe and North America, a new modular charm bracelet trend has emerged. The bracelet's design allows the wearer to interchange the charms and create a totally unique look. Hatters can create their own look and style for every whim or special moment. Now we have designs set to this favorite hobby without breaking your wallet!



**Don't forget to check all 15 of our NEW designs  
online at [RedHatSociety.com/Prints](http://RedHatSociety.com/Prints)**

## In The Spotlight

No matter where you go, you'll find Hatters playing and having fun! From Alaska to South Africa to Japan, the Red Hat Society really is "taking over the world!" England and Arizona are both home to some very active Hatters—so we thought we'd tell you a little bit more about them!

# Greetings From **ARIZONA!**

Arizona is known for its picturesque desert landscape, which includes such natural wonders as the Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, and Petrified Forest.

Arizona is also home to a thriving art community, especially in the towns of Sedona and Jerome. It's also been the launching ground for many musicians, and the setting for several top films!

## Great chapter names from Arizona **The Desert Roses**

Fort Mojave

👑 Queen: Carrie Robinson

## **Fortuna Purple Plumes**

Yuma

👑 Queen: Scotty Beekley

## **The Red Fedora Flora Doras**

Gilbert

👑 Queen: Kathi Willis



## **Jazzercise Jezebels**

Mesa

👑 Queen: Blossom Geiger

## **Red Hat Ladies of the Sun**

Surprise

👑 Queen: Edna Weidman

# ENGLAND

England is a nation known for its culture and art, as well as its long history. The land has been settled for about 35,000 years, and is home to Oxford, the third oldest university in the world: teaching began there in 1096! In literature, England is sometimes referred to as Albion or Loegria. It is also known for some of history's most memorable Queens: Boudicca, Elizabeth I, Victoria, and Elizabeth III!

## Great chapter names from England

### Fen Fatales

Holbeach, Lincolnshire

👑 Queen: June Trueman

### Daft Old Bats

Bedford, Bedfordshire

👑 Queen: Jenny Howard

### Fiesty Funsters of Felixstowe

Felixstowe, Suffolk

👑 Queen: Lilian Miles

### Gadabout Girls

Wisbech, Cambridgeshire

👑 Queen: Carol Faulkner

### Reddy4Anything

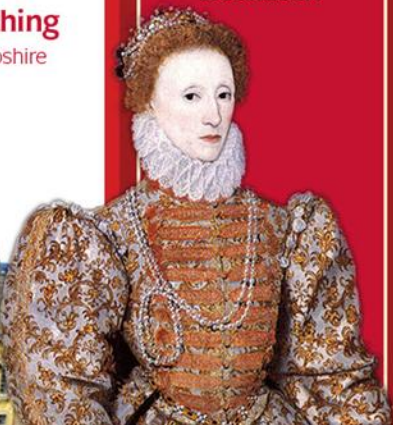
Basingstoke, Hampshire

👑 Queen: Pat Twigg



## Don't Forget

You can see many of the great sites of this fabulous country if you join the Red Hat Society for our London trip in December!



## And the Winner is...

During the month of August, we had a video contest on our Facebook Fan Page, and we have a winner! This video was truly special, one that made us laugh and brought tears to our eyes. We were touched to the bottom of our red and purple hearts! The winner is... Eileen Congelosi! Eileen is a new Supporting Member, part of the **Purplicious, Pinkrageous Cardinal Cuties** of Grayslake (Grayslake, Illinois, U.S.)

***Congratulations, Eileen!***



Watch Lady Leeny's winning video on RHS' Video channel:  
**REDHATSOCIETY.COM/VIDEOS**

## Benefits: GRAND Magazine

We are delighted to announce that GRAND magazine will be featuring our very own Exalted Queen Mother, Sue Ellen Cooper, as the cover story for the January 2011 issue of their magazine!



# GRAND

Click [here](#) to claim your free subscription. Just another amazing benefit of Supporting Membership in the Red Hat Society!





## A Friendly Reminder

At the Red Hat Society, we value our Members above everything else, and we are committed to our legacy of sisterhood. As of August 27, 2010, only the first paragraph of RHS Founder Sue Ellen Cooper's introduction to the Friday Broadcast is available to all readers. Supporting Members (which includes Queens) are able to read the entire introduction, by clicking on a link; if you are logged in, you have full access. As with all other benefits, the complete Friday Broadcast will be available to our Queens and Supporting Members only. Pass the Friday Broadcast on to your friends - they'll find it's definitely worth the read!

## Keep in touch

*Have you changed your email address this year? Moved? Run across a chapter that doesn't use email communication?*

Lots of RHS news will come your way through email. We don't want you to miss anything! Just to be sure, login to the website and take a peek at your information and update it if necessary. If you run across a Chapter Queen who doesn't use email, please encourage her to choose an email female who will help share information with all the members. Hearing news firsthand and being in the know feels great! Help get us connected. Thank you!

## How to Tell Your Story

### 1. Don't be afraid to name names!

If you played games, who participated? Who won? Who hosted the party? You know all your chapterettes, but others reading the story may not.

### 2. Find the narrative.

Everyone who attends your event has a story, but what's the big picture? Is it a special birthday for a chapterette? What happened at the beginning? How did events progress? What made the whole thing special?

### 3. Don't be shy!

We're all friends here; be chatty! Everyone likes to hear about funny things that were said, or silly moments of spontaneous fun. Tell us about them!

### 4. Send pictures.

Nothing makes your story pop like a fantastic picture. Try to have someone document the occasion, and remember to send the photos along with the story!

### 5. Be unique!

While every Hatter outing is special, everyone loves to hear about the really unique ones. What makes your chapter unique? Why was this outing different?

### 6. Send it in!

We can't share your story if we never receive it. Just type it up, and email it to [stories@redhatsociety.com](mailto:stories@redhatsociety.com). You can also share them on the QMB and QMB2!



While not every chapter has Pink Hat members, we're sure that everyone has heard about these special ladies! Pink Hatters are Members of the Red Hat Society who have not yet had the "Majig Birthday," but simply couldn't wait to come out and play! Pink Hatters are just as eager to get the most out of life, and they don't want to waste a single moment!

## We've Been



While most of the staff was out in San Diego at the Brims By the Bay convention, one glamorous pink pirate decided to redecorate Hatquarters! Maureen Armstrong, Queen of The Pirates of Pez Hats (Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.) showed up at Hatquarters on Friday, July 30, with an armload of pink! It seemed that Latonya (Princess Nefarious of Hatquarters) had been giving her a good-natured ribbing in San Diego, and Maureen wanted to give her a taste of her own medicine!



# Pinked!

Maureen quickly enlisted the help of the Pink Hatters at Hatquarters, and got to work decorating Latonya's desk. Lavender tinsel was everywhere!

Maureen is the Queen of not just one, but THREE chapters in her town! This Pinkie is out to prove that you don't have to wait till you're a Red Hatter to have the time of your life! Pink Hatters are a welcome part of the Red Hat Society sisterhood—they are our future!



## You never know what the day may hold!

By Judy Skene  
The Red Chapeaux Sault Ste. Marie  
Ontario, Canada

"I met Iris Barnes at the grocery store in San Diego when she asked how she could join the Red Hat Society. When I told her there was a convention going on at the Hyatt she asked if she could come with me to the hotel. Iris was soon signed up as a Supporting Member, so after a walk thru the Hat District to see all the wares, I asked if Iris could join the pool party in progress and was assured she would be welcome to attend. As I introduced Iris as the newest member of the Red Hat Society, someone from Hatquarters overheard the conversation and before we knew what was happening, Sue Ellen Cooper and Linda Murphy were at the table to meet Iris.

I had to explain to her that not every new member of the RHS gets to meet the Exalted Queen Mother and the lady who received the first red hat!

When we found out the next convention would be in New Orleans my roommate Donna Heisterberg phoned Iris and she expressed the hope that she would be able to attend. As she said to me a couple of times on the way to the hotel "**You never know what the day may hold in store for you when you get out of bed in the morning.**"

How true! Welcome to the Red Hat Society, Iris!

*It's the time of year when our thoughts begin to turn to the holiday parties coming up over the next few months. Jazz up your gatherings with fun party games from the Activities Collection!*

## Musical Bag O'Clothes

Get a large trash or laundry bag that's dark enough in color that you can't see through it.

Put in it a large assortment of odd/unusual types of clothing articles. (Clean out closets, get donations, go to thrift stores, whatever...just gather some weird and wacky pieces of clothing such bras, swimsuits, girdles, baggy pants, men's trousers, wigs, hats, etc....)

Have the ladies sit in a circle so it's easy for them to pass the bag around to each other.

Have them pass the bag around in one direction, while someone plays some music. When you stop the music, whoever is holding the bag has to reach in without looking and pull out an item. Whatever they pull out, they have to put on and wear.

Continue until you run out of items, then vote on who has the wackiest outfit on. You can give a prize if you want. This game makes for a great photo opportunity! For a Halloween theme, use this game to prepare your group for a night out on the town, and draw costume pieces from the bag!



Two very lucky ladies have won a \$100 Shopping Spree, sponsored by the Red Hat Society Store! Winona Caltenback, a Member of Ruby RedHat's Online Chapter since July of 2004 referred new Supporting Member Migdalia Byard, also of Ruby's chapter! Both are from Watertown, New York, United States, and will happily spend their \$100 Shopping Spree! Congratulations to Winona and Migdalia for participating in the latest Invite-A-Friend Contest!

## YOU CAN BE A WINNER, TOO!

We've just kicked off the next Invite-A-Friend Contest, and the prize is spectacular!



Invite a friend to join the RHS for a chance to win a FREE full registration (a \$425 value) to the 2011 Big Easy Bash International Convention to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, for both of you! This contest runs from August 1, 2010 through June 15, 2011.

### NOTE:

To be entered into the contest give the new member who is referred your MEMBER ID NUMBER (not your chapter number) to use at the time of her registration. Print out the handy Referral Cards from the RHS website to make it easy to share your Member ID Number! Good Luck!

# THE SMART HATTER'S GUIDE TO

## You've heard the buzz about the Red Hat Legacy!

We're no passing fad: we're here to stay, and we're not afraid to say so! Queen Mary Forbes of the Happy Hearts (Decatur, Alabama, U.S.) had a great idea:

"I would like to suggest that the RHS have some T-shirts made up that say:

Long Live The Red Hat Society, to go along with the message in today's Queen to Queen email!"

What a fabulous idea! And here you are: completely free RHS designs that can be printed onto transfer paper from your home computer!

## Step 1

Log in to the **RHS WEBSITE** and click on **FUN STUFF**

### MEMBER SIGN IN

NOT A MEMBER? [CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

Username:

Forgot your username?

Password:

Forgot your password?

[Sign in](#)

### SUBSCRIBE

Stay up-to-date on the latest RHS news, events and happenings

[subscribe](#)

### FUN STUFF

- Friday Broadcast
  - NEW!** Invite A Friend
  - NEW!** Inspiring Hatters
  - Activities Collection
  - Red Hatter Matters
  - NEW!** Tidbits From HQ
  - Question of the Month
- [SEE MORE](#)

## Step 2

Click on **T-SHIRT TRANSFERS:** it's in the last row down.



## t transfers

g fabulous, and here's a new way to show your Red Hat Society style!  
acy transfers are completely free with your RHS Membership: it's  
benefit of supporting the Red Hat Society!



### Step 3

Click on the **DOWNLOAD** button and start printing!

You can usually find transfer paper at your local craft store.



Soon you'll be well on  
your way of showing off  
your love and support  
to the Red Hat Society!



*Donna Heisterberg, IMA43\*, proudly  
shows off her T-shirt at the Brims By The  
Bay Convention in San Diego.*

*\*How did IMA get her name?  
Go ask her on the QMB1!*

Bookmark the new **RedHatSociety.com** and  
make it your new daily online destination!



## Recipes

Before you know it, the holidays will be here, and the last thing you want to do is scramble trying to find the perfect recipe to take to those holiday parties! Here are some great ideas from the Red Hat Society Cookbook!

### Big Batch Tea Sandwiches

- 2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup crushed pineapple, drained, patted dry
- 1/2 cup finely minced green olives
- 1/2 cup finely chopped cucumber
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans
- 1 loaf soft white bread, crusts removed
- 1 loaf soft wheat bread, crusts removed
- Chopped parsley, crumbled bacon, poppy seeds, and pecans for garnish



In a medium bowl beat the cream cheese and mayonnaise. Divide the mixture evenly among four bowls. Add the pineapple to one bowl and mix well. Add the green olives to another bowl and mix well. Add the cucumbers to a third bowl and mix well. Add the pecans to the fourth bowl and mix well. Spread the fillings on the white bread and cover with the wheat bread. Cut each sandwich into triangles or other shapes. Arrange on a large platter, grouping by fillings. Garnish with the parsley, bacon, poppy seeds or pecans. Label the sandwiches. Makes about 32 full-size sandwiches.

Submitted by Paula Holdren, Scarlet Ladies of Littleton (Littleton, Colorado, U.S.) Found on page 260 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 [www.RedHatSocietyStore.com](http://www.RedHatSocietyStore.com) to get your copy today!





## The Great Pumpkin Cake

- 1 (18-ounce) package butter brickle or spice cake mix
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin puree
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup butterscotch chips, melted
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup pecans



Preheat the oven to 350°. In a large bowl beat together the cake mix, egg, and butter. Reserve 1/2 cup mixture. Press the remaining cake mixture firmly into the bottom of a greased 13 x 9-inch cake pan. In a second large bowl beat the reserved mixture with the condensed milk, pumpkin, eggs, butterscotch, ginger, and nutmeg. Spread evenly into the cake pan and top with the pecans. Bake for 40 minutes or until firm and golden brown. Cool. Makes 12 servings.

Submitted by Sherry Kneeland, One of those Red Hat Chapters (Winnebago, Minnesota, U.S.) Found on page 18 of the Red Hat Society Cookbook.

## Mexicorn Dip

- 2 (7-ounce) cans Mexican corn, drained
- 8 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated
- 8 ounces sour cream
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 (4-ounce) can chopped green chilies
- 1/2 medium-size white onion, chopped
- Jalapeño peppers to taste



In a large bowl mix together the corn, cheese, sour cream, mayonnaise, chilies, onion, and jalapeños. Serve immediately or chill until ready to serve. Stir before serving. Serve with tortilla chips.

Submitted by Sandy Meller, River City Reds (Jefferson City, Missouri, U.S.) Found on page 171 of the Red Hat Society Cookbook.

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU  
TO ATTEND YOUR ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



*Red Hat Society*  
**Big Easy**

**Bash!**

New Orleans, LA

August 18 - 20

2011

**We're kicking our 2011 convention off with style!**

Feel the spirit of this beautiful multi-cultural city as we turn it red and purple for a week next year. For the first time, this brand new collection includes: trading cards, address labels, letterhead, envelopes, invitations and greeting cards. 15 new designs, including one specifically made for New Orleans. See page 12 for details and other designs!



# Package

**\$325 SUPPORTING MEMBER PRICE**  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 19 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2011**

## Register Today!

Visit our Website:

**WWW.REDHATSOCIETY.COM**

TOLL FREE IN THE U.S.  
**(866) 386-2850**

INTERNATIONAL  
**(714) 738-0001**

## Lodging

### HILTON NEW ORLEANS RIVERSIDE

For room reservations, please call:

**(504) 584-3959**

Be sure to ask for the Red Hat Society Rate

### Standard Guest Room

Starts at **\$99** per night

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



Invite a Friend to Join RHS for a chance to win a FREE full registration to the Big Easy Bash for BOTH of you!  
 See page 21 for details!

In 1997, RHS Founder Sue Ellen Cooper entered a thrift store in Arizona, and bought a bright red fedora. Little did she know that her simple purchase would become a part of history—literally! In August of 2010, that very first red hat was given to the Smithsonian Institution: it will become part of their National Museum of American History and take its place in cultural history.

## First Hat Finds New Home at the Smiths



*"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."*

*Brent D. Glass, Museum Director*

### **This is a momentous occasion!**

Our simple symbol, the red hat, is now a recognized cultural icon, and it will be on display for everyone to see! We truly have taken our place in history, and it's all because of the wonderful women who decided to take a chance, reach out their red-gloved hands, and look for friendship and fun. Without all of the wonderful women of the Red Hat Society, that first red hat would be just another hat. But thanks to our loyal Members, we are recognized around the world, and with our entrance into the Smithsonian Institution, we are taking our place in history and looking forward to the future!

onian!



Check out the RHS website  
for more pictures and to read  
the Smithsonian press release.



## Sensational San Diego!

What a weekend we had in San Diego! After the Dinner Cruise and Pool Party for the Extra Day attendees, things really got heated up at the Opening Ceremonies! By the end of the night, none of us were strangers: we were all sisters!



Our Pajama Breakfasts are always a hit, but this one was extra-special! Damon Wayans came to talk to us about how the Red Hat Society inspired his first novel, and the change he'd seen it bring in the lives of women. We had a fabulous time with him!





RHS conventions are always a good time to bring out the bling and really glam it up, and our Hatter really rose to the occasion! There were dramatic hats, whimsical costumes, and glittering jewelry everywhere! Hatters really know how to dress to impress!







A Red Hat Queen, Patty Stevens (The Southern Belles, Houston, Texas, U.S.) and her daughter, Pink Hat Queen Suzanne Stevens (P.I.P.S. Pretty In Pink Sisters, Magnolia, Texas, U.S.), went all out to decorate their room in their colors! Everything was covered in red, purple, pink, and lavender!



You never know what you might see at a Red Hat Society convention, and San Diego was no exception! We saw Red Hat pirates (and Pink pirates, too!), some fancy Victorian ladies, and even a chorus line! There's never a dull moment!





And of course, it just wouldn't be a Red Hat Society event without lots of dancing! We boogied and bopped and had a wonderful time dancing the nights away!



# EVENT SOUVENIR

Exclusive limited-time offer! Remember all those wonderful memories you created at Brims By the Bay in San Diego? Don't you wish they could last forever? Well, now they can! We have a few San Diego DVDs left at Hatquarters, and they are available for purchase for a limited time!



Each DVD is only \$14, which includes shipping: a real bargain! To order, call Hatquarters at 1-866-386-2850 (in US) or 714-738-0001 (international).

## We're A Hit!

The Red Hat Society made quite a splash at AARP's "Orlando @ 50+" Convention held September 30 through October 2nd in Orlando, FL. The annual AARP event is known for featuring celebrity speakers and panelists. This year's stars included Olympia Dukakis, Patty Loveless, Whoopi Goldberg and Larry King. There were concerts by popular artists like B.B. King and Gloria Gaynor.

The Society's booth showed off our royal colors amongst some of the biggest organizations and businesses in the world. Our booth was quite the show stopper complete with boas, bling and an impressive group of local Hatters acting as Ambassadors for the organization. We were the "hottest" booth there! Led by CEO, Debra Granich and Hatquarters' very own Bella Lagmay Funk, our Ambassadors were decked out in full regalia ensuring that our booth was one of the most popular in the exhibit hall – and certainly the most lively! It was truly delightful to watch as fellow vendors and event attendees stopped by to learn more about our dear Society and enthusiastically sign up to join us.

A very big thank you goes out to Vickie Koch of Victoria, Minnesota, Bunny Hayden and Shirley Saunders of the Diamond Divas of Orlando, FL, Liz Gunn of the Sassy Classy Red Hats of Orlando, FL, Lianne Paschette of the Red Hat Sorority in Melbourne, FL and Beverly Addicot of the Ruby Red Hatters of Melbourne in Melbourne, FL for their support and smiles at the booth. This is an incredible group of women who truly understand what it means to be Hatters. Your support and commitment at the event are so appreciated.

To our new Members who joined at the convention...welcome to the greatest women's social organization in the world!  
We can't wait to get to know you.





Just for Fun

## Red Hat Society Reduates “Terry the Dolphin” as Honorary Member on her 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Atlantic bottlenose dolphins are native to the Atlantic Ocean, closer to the equator near Florida, Mexico and South America. Of the 13 specimens at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo, CA, USA, Terry, a 50-year-old female, is one of the oldest in North American facilities.

In addition to being one of the oldest known bottlenose dolphins in North America, she has surpassed the average life expectancy of 25 years of age. Go Terry!

“I was fortunate enough to be home when my phone rang a week ago. I was surprised to see Red Hat Society on the caller ID. It really was hatquarters! They had just one week to put together part of a birthday party for Terry the Dolphin at Six-Flags. Terry is 50 years old and our wonderful CEO Debra from Hatquarters was flying up to induct her into the society. They were looking for a chapter to participate and I immediately said YES! Four of the Royal Monarchs, including yours truly, had the privilege of going into the water with Terry and having three other Monarchs plus assorted husbands to cheer us on. An experience we will never forget. Being a red hatter leads you down roads you never thought to travel. When opportunities happen, be ready for the adventure. You never know what tomorrow will bring.”

*Billi Friese, Queen of the Royal Monarchs of Concord, CA*



## Want to Participate in local Opportunities?

How does the Red Hat Society decide on who we ask to participate in special local events, like swimming with Terry the Dolphin?

### It's simple:

#### FIRST,

we search for active chapters in the local area. We only extend these invitations to currently registered chapters!

#### NEXT,

we check to see which chapters have a roster of Supporting Members: this way we ensure that the ladies we invite are ready to jump in for some fun right away!

#### FINALLY,

we get on the phone and call the Queen of the chapter that has everything we're looking for! If there is an opportunity for many Hatters to attend, we'll also put the opportunity on the Queen Member Board, the QMB2, and our social media platforms, like Facebook and Twitter!

It all starts with a registered chapter and Supporting Members: local opportunities are another fantastic benefit of RHS Membership!

## Science Magic in the Hat!



We are delighted to participate in a study, beginning this month, with The Pennsylvania State University, a prestigious academic institution. We were originally part of an earlier study by Penn State in 2004. That study found that Red Hat Society does a great deal of good for women including helping them make friends, enjoy life and have fun, and providing a venue for dealing with multiple stressors. Now Penn State would like to extend the initial study to look more specifically at how Red Hat Society contributes to women's health and well-being. This is very exciting! We'll have scientific proof to share with the world what we already know: **Red Hatters Matter!**

*While our fabulous trip is packed with fun things to do and see, there's still time for sight-seeing on your own! Here are a few ideas:*

## The 3 Things We Love Most About the Charing Cross

### Location

Located on the Strand near Covent Garden and overlooking Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, the Charing Cross hotel is literally situated in the Centre of London. It is also close to Covent Garden and the West End attractions, theatres and galleries. Across the Hungerford Bridge lies The London Eye and Jubilee Gardens.



### Luxury

The Charing Cross is a four-star hotel: while the hotel has the latest in convenience and comfort, the classic architecture creates an atmosphere of elegance. It's perfect for Red Hat royalty!

### Long History

Charing Cross has been an important location since the 13th century, and has been considered the center of London for over two hundred years!



All Red and Pink Hatters are invited to join us for this momentous event! We invite Hatters from all over the world to flock to London and bring their friends and family!

A fantastic value! If you tried to book this package on your own, it would cost \$1000-\$1200 more! In addition, many of the highlights of the event, such as marching in the Parade and meeting dignitaries, are not available to the public at any price!



## What to See in London



### Covent Garden

The Garden, once known for the fruit and vegetable market located in its central square, is now a tourist destination with fantastic shopping! See street performers, beautiful buildings, the Theatre Royal, and Drury Lane!

### Trafalgar Square

This famous location commemorates the naval victory at the Battle of Trafalgar. In the middle of the square is Nelson's Column, guarded by four lion statues. The square is known for its statues and sculptures, and has often been used as a location for demonstrations and gatherings, including the New Year's Eve celebration!



### London Eye

You can't miss this: it's a giant Ferris wheel by the banks of the Thames! The Eye is the tallest Ferris wheel in Europe; when it was built in 1999, it was the tallest in the world!

### Jubilee Gardens

Jubilee Gardens is a public park, built in 1977 to mark the Silver Jubilee of Elizabeth II. There is easy access from the park to the London Eye (the ticket booth for the Eye is in the southwest corner of the Gardens), County Hall and the River Thames.



Don't forget, the Charing Cross Rail and Underground station are immediately next to the Charing Cross hotel, so the whole city is open to you!

A special tribute to

# Becky Blankenship



Becky Blankenship was an amazing Member of the Red Hat Society. She was a constant presence at the Society's London events, as she attended every New Year's Parade since we began going to London 8 years ago. Her bright smile and thoughtful manner were a treasure to all who came in contact with her.

She passed away shortly after returning from the 2010 London New Year event. Becky was best known for the inspirational words she shared with the women who were with her in London on the last trip. She stated, "It is not about quantity of life, but it is about quality of life." She truly understood the meaning of what it meant to be a Red Hatter. In Becky's honor, we will be holding a special tribute to remember her joyful spirit.





Events

*Red Hat Society.*

participates in the

# London New Year's Day Parade

in London,  
England

December 28, 2010 to  
January 4, 2011

*Celebrating the Parade's  
25th Anniversary!*

For Itinerary and More Information, visit us:



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ale - \$16.80



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HA1595



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# HATS!

the musical



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for the latest show information!

## Rave Reviews!

*HATS! is a music-and-comedy celebration... It will make a lot of people feel empowered. It does so with integrity, craft and heart.*

—The Chicago Tribune

*"That's a real audience emitting real belly laughs and crying real tears. I have never seen an audience so affected in the course of watching theater."*

— The Denver Post

*"This is a feel-good show that's really about feeling good."*

—Variety

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P.O. Box 1754  
Shelby, NC 28150  
March 2011

**McKeesport Little Theatre**  
P.O. Box 431  
McKeesport, PA 15134  
February 2011

**Rivertowne Repertory Players**  
P.O. Box 796  
New Bern, NC 28563  
February 2011

**Stirling Festival Theatre**  
41 West Front St.  
McKeesport, PA 15134  
April 19 - 30, 2011



**HATquarters – RHS Main Office**

Red Hat Society

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Membership: [memberservices@redhatsociety.com](mailto:memberservices@redhatsociety.com)

**RHS Sponsored Events**

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(866) 386 - 2850

(714) 738-0001 (main)

(714) 738-0005 (FAX)

Online Event Calendar: [RedHatSociety.com/eventcalendar.html](http://RedHatSociety.com/eventcalendar.html)

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