



Association of Quartermasters



# Red Hat Chapter

1876 REDFISH RUN SW SUPPLY, NC 28462

[WWW.REDHATCHAPTER.COM](http://WWW.REDHATCHAPTER.COM)

## NEWS LETTER JANUARY 2015

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### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings RHC!

I am honored to be the new RHC president. My compliments to all the previous and current Officers of the RHC for all of their hard work and dedication to the chapter.

A little about me. I graduated Rigger School the 29<sup>th</sup> day in November 1983 when the MOS classification was 43E and Rigger Wings were not yet authorized. The details of my various assignments can be found through a link from the RHC website sometime in February once I have provide them to the webmaster. I am married with three children (college, high school and kindergarten), and we live in Fayetteville, NC. I have just recently retired after 31 years and some change of active duty service.

Moving forward in the RHC seems to be a simple agenda for us all. As always increased membership is an objective and I ask that current and former NCOs, Warrant Officers and Officers reach out to their peers who are not members and ask them to join our fine organization. We (Riggers) are an elite and unique brand of individuals whose retired and active duty numbers decrease annually only adding to our eliteness and uniqueness. That is one reason I would give for the inevitable question of why should I join the RHC? The second reason is simply the camaraderie of a common interest and the satisfaction of helping others with your time and wisdom when the opportunity presents itself. I know that these are not tangible but they are truths. The webmaster tells me that we are 2,000 strong on our Facebook page, this is clearly an indication of a desire to be a part of the "camaraderie of a common" that I speak of.

I am currently soliciting for an active duty unit on Fort Bragg to take on and initiate planning for a 2015 Rigger Ball, hopefully to be held the last quarter of FY 2015. It is my understanding that the International Rigger Reunion held in Charleston, SC was a huge success (all planned and executed by the RHC) and that the next reunion is scheduled for APR 2016 in Sydney, Australia. Given these two short-term objectives (Rigger Ball & Sydney, AUS) there will be a need to organize several fund raising events, all ideas are welcome! CW3(P) DeCosta the RHC VP is look into our left and right limits on raffling off a Colt AR-15 modified for .22 caliber cartridges – more on this will be posted on the website at a later date.

As we all know you can't please all of the people all of the time but you can try to please most of the people some of the time. With that I ask for your patients and understand during my tenure as your RHC president and I will do my best to ensure we have an active and purposeful organization.

**NOTE:** The Red Hat Chapter Breakfast is now a luncheon and will be held at 12:00 pm on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Elizabeth's Pizza (910 487-0588) located at 1800 Skibo Road Fayetteville, NC. Elizabeth's Pizza is located just behind the newly remodeled Golden Corral on Skibo Road. Please mark your calendars for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday beginning February 21, 2015. Also, check the website for additional information as well.

Cheers, Mark  
"RIGGER"... I Will be Sure Always!

**A WORD FROM OUR OUTGOING PRESIDENT**

This year our time was spent doing the final planning of the 2014 International Rigger/Air Dispatchers Reunion, held in Charleston, SC. Myself, Jess, and Garry made several trips south to visit Charleston and Myrtle Beach making the plans, doing up the contracts, meeting with the staff, and discussing what we expected from the events planner, and gave them our expected numbers. With all the work in the past and the paperwork signed in September, all we had to do was set back and wait and it was well worth it. We saw some of our old friends from the 2006 reunion and met new ones. Elaine and I are waiting for the 2016 Reunion in Australia.

The RHC wreath was laid on Memorial Day at the Memorial Wall in Saint Pauls, NC this year. I was the MC for the event this year, and we had over 200 in attendance.

No Rigger Ball was planned this year as our main focus was the 2014 reunion.

We finished up the year with our participation in the Veteran's Day Parade. The theme was to pay tribute to our returning veterans serving in the current areas of conflict. We had 7 riders this year, and again it was broadcast on WRAL TV news. Several people said they saw us.

We had on average 14 attendees at our meetings with guests and family members counted.

I want to say that it has been my pleasure to serve as the President of the RHC for the past four plus years. I will always be a part of this great organization and support it in any way that we (Elaine and I) can.

As a final note, the 824th QM AD stone is due to be placed the end of this month. Not bad for a reserve unit to raise over \$5,000.00 in 12 months.

SFC (R) Karl F. Whitby  
(Past) President Red Hat Chapter, AQM

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**WEBMASTER CORNER**

Since I have been the RHC webmaster, I have tried to give the Chapter an online presence that is appropriate to our cause and meets the need of our members. With my thoughts and the support of the

leadership, we have decided to shift the website to a more modern updated platform. What does that mean to you as a chapter member?

It means the RHC website will look and act different – but still be user friendly. It means ease of use by the leadership. It means we will have the ability to update the website from wherever we are - instead of the only computer that has the software to do it. It also means we may be able to automate the Supply Room, accepting online payments for merchandise – easing the load on Jesmer and speeding the transaction process. Currently the shipping charges within the supply store are a bit confusing (at best), but understand we are working to decide on the best way to handle that. Please bear with us through this transition, because it is a learning process for all.

I encourage members and others to send us different kinds of Rigger news so we can post it to the site – pictures, videos, etc. We love to share promotions, deployment pictures, Soldiers’ of the Month, information links, and almost anything else you think of as long as it is Rigger related. Please be patient, the website doesn’t get updated daily – but we do the best we can.

Thanks, Mike  
[www.redhatchapter.com](http://www.redhatchapter.com)

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**QUARTERMASTER CORNER**

Well another year has gone by and here we are in 2015. Can you believe that? Happy New Year to you all, and I hope everyone had a fantastic time with your families and friends over the holidays. Both Julie and I enjoyed our time with our family and friends with a visit from both of our sons for 10 days and granddaughter for Christmas. We had a very quiet and peaceful NYE here at the beach with a trip to the movies and dinner at the house just for the both of us. It was a “Great” time for us, and we hope you had a great time as well. The Red Hat Chapter had a great year for 2014, and we want to bring you the events that gave us this wonderful time.

During the past year, we received 32 Supply Room orders both from the RHC Website and at our regularly monthly meetings. Of the 32 orders received, a total of \$1,633.45 in cash, checks, and money orders were received. The orders included red hats, rigger wings, coins, shirts, and coffee cups to name a few. I encourage each of you to visit the Website Supply Room to see what is available for sale. The orders received helps the RHC to continue to provide both members and non-members with the items they need to show off their true colors to their friends and family. Please support the RHC by visiting the Website Supply Room soon and place your orders.

The RHC would like to recognize our new members. The table below shows who they are and the type of membership they signed up for. If you personally know these individuals, please acknowledge their membership the next time you see them and thank them for their continued support of the RHC.

LAST	FIRST	RANK	MEMBERSHIP
BETTIS	EARL W.	E-5	LIFETIME
CHARGE	MIKE	CW4 (R)	LIFETIME
GONZALEZ	CRYSTAL	CW3	4 YEAR
GOURDOUX	KYLE	S/SGT	1 YEAR
HEBRON	THEODORE	CSM (R)	LIFETIME
HORNE	LARRY S.	E-5	LIFETIME
JOSEPH	WILLIE J.	CSM (R)	LIFETIME
LOGIS	ROBERT	E-5	1 YEAR
MANNING	BENNIE A	CW4 (R)	LIFETIME
McKOY	HENRY C.	MSG (R)	LIFETIME
MICHEL	MARK A.	CW5 (R)	LIFETIME
MOOSE	MIKE	LTC (R)	LIFETIME
RICHARDSON	JOHN E.	E-4	3 YEAR
STOUGHTON JR.	ROBERT B.	E-4	LIFETIME
STUDER	KENNETH K.	CW4 (R)	LIFETIME
STUDER	NANCY E.	CW2 (R)	LIFETIME
SULLIVAN	ROGER	MR	LIFETIME

The RHC holds Monthly 50/50 Drawings throughout the year. Last year we conducted 16 of these drawings. As a result, the RHC raised \$834.00 to support the daily operation of the RHC. The table below shows the winners for these drawings and the amount that was collected. The RHC would like to thank these members for their generosity and untiring support throughout the year.

MONTH	EVENT	WINNER	AMOUNT
JAN 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	KARL LEE	\$13.00
	“	DENNIS GAZIO	\$13.00
FEB 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	DAVID EDO	\$8.00
	“	REUBEN MATTHEWS	\$8.00
MAR 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	KEN STUDER	\$10.00
	“	FRED CHRISMAN	\$10.00
APR 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	JULIE JESMER	\$7.00
	”	GARRY DIXON	\$7.00
MAY 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	GAYLIN JESMER	\$8.00
	“	N/A	
JUN 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	N/A	
	“	N/A	
JUL 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	DENNIS GAZIO	\$6.00
	“	GAYLIN JESMER	\$6.00
AUG 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	NICHOLAS PARTIDO	\$9.00
	“	NICHOLAS PARTIDO	\$9.00
SEP 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	GERALD WILLIAMS	\$5.00
	“	BOB CARHUFF	\$5.00
OCT 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	REUNION	\$710.00
	“	N/A	
NOV 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	N/A	
	“	N/A	
DEC 2014	MONTHLY 50/50	MEETING CANCELED	
	“	“	

Additionally, the RHC received several donations from its members during the past year that added up to \$1,116.50. We would like to acknowledge them for their continued support over the years. We truly need folks like them who share the same values and commitment as our founding members of the RHC. The table below shows who these great supporters are:

LAST	FIRST	DONATION
CAMPBELL	WILLIAM	\$100.00
CUSICK	JOHN	\$96.00
GLISSON	HENRY T.	\$350.00
GOURDOUX	KYLE	3.50
JESMER	GAYLIN	\$46.00
LEE	KARL H.	\$25.00
LEWI	KENNETH	\$100.00
MOOSE	MIKE	\$50.00
WEITMAN	DELMA	\$100.00
WHITBY	KARL	\$246.00

Since the International Reunion, I have been working on our manifest. I have taken a list of members assigned to the Red Hat Chapter from the AQM Website and consolidated that list of names with what I have on our manifest. During the consolidation of these lists of names, I discovered that there were a few changes that needed to be made. I have contacted Debbie Donovan at the AQM through email, and she stated that she will update the RHC Members with these changes within the next few days. If you want a copy of the manifest, please send an email request to [redhatchapterqm@aol.com](mailto:redhatchapterqm@aol.com).

The 2014 International Reunion for all Parachute Riggers and Air Dispatchers and their guests was held at the Holiday Inn Charleston-Mt. Pleasant, 250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464 from October 5-10, 2014. We had 43 people that attended the reunion. I was somewhat disappointed in the small number of people from the US who attended the reunion. I would like to say that the reunion committee devoted a lot of their time, money, and effort into the reunion and we expected to see more people from the RHC attend this reunion. Nevertheless, I would like to acknowledge the following people; Karl & Elaine Whitby; Garry & Roi Dixon; and my wife Julie for their outstanding support in coordinating this event. Those 43 people who did attend the reunion had the best time ever and will remember their time spent with our overseas Air Dispatchers for years to come. We did have one item that failed to work out. The reunion coin we were going to present to each of the members for attending the reunion was not available. We used the same vender (Quartermaster Sales & Service) that we have always used in the past, but for some reason he did not come through on this one. It is our intent to follow through with this promise and present everyone a 2014 Reunion Coin. MSG (R) Garry Dixon is working this issue as we speak with a new vender. When the coins become available, we will mail them to each attendee as promised and extend our sincere apologies for being so late with delivery. Pictures taken during the reunion are posted to the Red Hat Chapter website.

If you have any suggestions for the RHC Supply Room, please let me know. I am going to be looking for additional items to sell on the website now that we will be able to accept credit cards through the new website that Mike Charge is working on.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for supporting us during the past year, especially Mike Charge for all he is doing on the new RHC Website. He has devoted many hours making the transition to the new site seamlessly and we want him to know we appreciate his time and dedication. Have a great year and we hope to see you at the monthly meetings.

CW3 (R) Gaylin Jesmer  
RHC Quartermaster

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We honor with respect and thanks the great sacrifices made by our deceased Veterans and fellow Riggers. We pray for their families and friends, those who were left with their loss, and we ask that they may be comforted by knowledge of our support, and our tears. May God bless them all.

**Chaplains Corner**

We continue to lose members at an alarming rate. Considering that fact, we must be forever mindful of the widow left behind. Each of us should make an effort to stay in touch with the widow as much as the situation allows and the needs of the widow require. We should especially remember them on special occasions with a card, email, phone call or letter but let's not forget. Let's continue to give them an opportunity to be a big part of the rigger family. The list of Parachute Riggers below have left us this past year for much greener pastures above to be with our Lord Savior Jesus Christ:

- CW4 (R) William James "Robby" Robertson, Jr
- CW3 (R) Joseph Devesconi
- LTC (R) Billy R. Penick
- SFC (R) John E. Johnson
- CW4 (R) Kenneth Sullivan
- COL (R) Kenneth E. Lewis
- CSM (R) Willie B. Harris
- CSM (R) Wayman E. Lee

Our prays go out to their families, and we are here to support them in any way we can. The members of the Red Hat Chapter pray that these riggers may have a soft landing covered with clouds in heavens drop zones.

1SG (R) Delma Weitman  
RHC Chaplain