



"THE CHARGING CHARLIE" Prime BEEF and RED HORSE Newsletter



FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

**2013 Biennial RED HORSE Association
Convention/Reunion September 22-26, 2013
in Bowling Green, Kentucky.**

The RED HORSE Association's 2013 Reunion was a great success and this edition of the Newsletter will be devoted mostly to a recap of the event. Charlie Hogan, our sponsor (819th RHS Vietnam 68-69) in Bowling Green and our "Charlie on the spot"; took care of all the details. Charlie seems to know everyone in the town and everyone knows him including the Mayor and the VIPS. He arranged for all the tours and almost single handily made this event a success. Charlie, who is a native of the area and a "Kentucky Colonel" himself, worked for some time with the City Fathers and others to make this an unforgettable experience for everyone.

Words cannot describe the very interesting and touching story told by our special guest speaker BG Dan Cherry (USAF Ret). Also a Bowling Green hometown boy; see article on page 2.



From Left: Charlotte Birge, Charlie Hogan, Jeff Jobe, Gen. Dan Cherry, Bailey Birge



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS DEDICATED TO AIR FORCE COMBAT CIVIL ENGINEERS (RED HORSE AND Prime BEEF)
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

PRESIDENT'S STABLE



Greetings One and All:

I am Honored and Humbled to have once again been elected to serve as your President and Chairman of the Board. I will continue to focus on making this Association greater for all of us. Thank You. . . . To The HORSE!

What a great turnout we had in Bowling Green, KY, I'm told it's the largest attended RHA event to date. THANK YOU To: Charlie Hogan for everything he did to make this as successful as it was and for his exceptional talent as MC at the banquet dinner; Mayor Bruce Wilkerson for taking time to present RHA the key to the city of Bowling Green; BG Dan Cherry, USAF (ret) for the inspiring story of his reconciliation with Nguyen Hong My; Col Doug Hardman, USAF AFCEC, Readiness Director, for an enlightening Presentation as our guest speaker; Dick Aldinger for organizing a very successful golf tournament; Miss Bailey Birge for sharing her amazing voice with us in singing the National Anthem and old Kentucky Home; MSgt Mark Lillie US Army and the Color Guard from WKU; Brian Allen General Manager, Seth McClain Assistant General Manager, Heather Patterson Restaurant Manager, Claudia Russell Sales Manager, Julee Myers Executive Meeting Manager and The Entire Holiday Inn University Plaza Staff for their incredible support and for sponsoring a Golf team and Hole for our Scholarship fund; and to all RHA Officers, Board Members and Members at large that made the trip from all over the United States to help make this the largest event to date; to all that sponsored a hole, the teams that played a great day of golf, and congratulations to the three winning teams.

Welcome to those new members that have joined the RHA since our last newsletter, we hope you will get actively involved and attend an event when you can. I look forward to meeting you soon at an event.

I would like to also welcome two new members to our Board of Directors; Lt. Col Terry Robinson of the 201st RHS Pa ANG, and Ron Adams a Prime BEEF'er.

Some future events in the works: March 7th, 2014: Our RHA annual Golf Tournament at Hurlburt Field FL and I understand some "Roundups" are being planned for early 2014 and late 2014. If there are other events I am not aware of please let Dick Aldinger, our newsletter editor know and they will get into our next "Charging Charlie Flier".

We are always looking for members that have some free time and specific Experience, Knowledge, Familiarity, and Proficiency that wish to share with us and are able to and willing to help make a difference. Contact me and I'll connect you with the needed vacancy. My e-mail address is greg.macdougall@rhamail.org

Nadine and I wish you and yours a very Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas, and Joyous New Year. Please keep our troops and their families in your thoughts and prayers.
To The HORSE!

Greg

PRIME BEEF AND RED HORSE REUNION

The RED HORSE Association's 2013 Reunion was a great success. What a great turnout we had in Bowling Green, KY; it was the largest attended RHA event to date. A large number of our members, including retirees, active duty and reserves, were able to attend due in part to Bowling Green's central location. The Holiday Inn was the center for most attendees although some came with their campers and were able to hook up their camper or RV close to the events. Charlie Hogan, our sponsor (819th RHS Vietnam 68-69) in Bowling Green arranged for all the tours and we credit him with this event's huge success. Events are described below.

Reunion Guest Speaker Dan Cherry

Aerial Battle Over North Vietnam as told by Brig. General Dan Cherry:

Words cannot describe the very interesting and touching story told by our special guest speaker BG Dan Cherry (USAF Ret). A Bowling Green, hometown boy, Dan was an F-4 pilot in Vietnam and later, in his successful career, Commander of the Thunderbirds. In April 1972 at 15,000 feet in the skies near Hanoi, Dan was engaged in an intense five minute aerial battle; Dan shot down a MIG 21 piloted by Lt. Hong My of the North Vietnamese Air Force. Dan tells the wonderful story, captured in his book **My Enemy, My Friend**, how 36 years later he and Hong My met face to face in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). For more information about the book go to the web site www.myenemymyfriend.com.



Prime BEEF and RED HORSE Updates:

Special thanks to Col Douglas Hardman USAF: Readiness Director at the Air Force Civil Engineer Center for spending his own time and resources to come to Bowling Green and update the attendees on Prime BEEF and RED HORSE activities around the world. The subject of Airfield Damage Repair or Triple RRR (Rapid

Runway Repair) was discussed at length including having an assembly line process, flowable fill and an asphalt or a concrete cap to achieve an 8 hour airfield restart. Latest technologies such as use of lasers and drones for airfield damage assessment were also discussed. Col Hardman's talk reminded the attendees of such memorable things as AM2 Matting, IG/ ORI inspections and of course practice, practice, practice.

Golf Tournament: A beautiful 18 hole golf course adjacent to our hotel was our tournament site. Twenty Three determined golfers tee-ed off Wednesday morning at 8:30 with a "Shotgun" start. Mulligan sales were very good and profitable for the scholarship fund. The winning team with a score of 12 under par included Dick Cardinale, Bill Johnson, George Vasiloff and Dave Giudici. Womens Closest to the Pin winner was Janet Aldinger and Men's the Closest to the Pin winner was George Vasiloff. Men's Longest Drive winner was Mike Thompson. Many thanks to our hole sponsors: Dick Cardinale 31st CES (Prime BEEF) Homestead, Ron Hearst 556th RHS (RED HORSE) Thailand, Dan Raske 554th RHS (RED HORSE) , Dick Aldinger 26th CES (Prime BEEF) Zweibrucken, Germany, 325th CES (Prime BEEF) Tyndall AFB , and 556th RHS (RED HORSE) Thailand . Holiday Inn at Bowling Green was a Gold Sponsor. **Remember our 50th Anniversary Reunion of Prime BEEF and RED HORSE in October, 2015 is at Ft Walton, Florida. This will be a great opportunity for you, your company or your squadron past or present to be a hole sponsor.**



Holiday Inn: The Holiday Inn at Bowling Green is a first class facility and one that offered us many amenities. Guest rooms opened to a

naturally-lit atrium lobby (see photo below) and cascading waterfall which provided a very warm and friendly atmosphere. The entire staff went out of their way to make us feel at home. The breakfast buffet, included in our excellent room rate, had almost everything including made-to-order omelets. Other tasty meals were also available in the dining room. The party and meeting rooms provided were very nice. Kudos to Charlie and Greg for selecting the Holiday Inn and making these arrangements.



Reunion Banquet: On our last night in Bowling Green, the reunion Banquet was held. Colonel Douglas Hardman, USAF (820th and 823rd RHS) Readiness Director from the Air Force Civil Engineer Center once again provided an interesting talk about his RED HORSE deployment to command Task Force Fenix Rojo in Chinchá Peru. Col Hardman's talk discussed the many challenges dealing with the logistics at such a remote location. The unit worked closely with Peruvian Air Force personnel in accomplishing several projects. The deployment was a great training opportunity in learning how to operate outside of the United States in a location other than southwest Asia. They also provided critical support to an Air Force medical mission which treated over 22,600 patients.

Attendance: The turnout for this reunion was the best ever. Several people came at the last minute which added to the surprise and excitement when they met old friends they had not seen each other for over 40 years. We have included some photos in this newsletter but to see more photos please go to the RED HORSE Association Web site www.rhassn.us



Bardstown, "Bourbon Capital": Many of us drove to Bardstown, Kentucky on Tuesday afternoon. Bardstown motto is "Sample Our Spirit" which, by the way, we did. Our Guide, Jamie Gilkisen provided us with a complete tour of the Barton Distillery one of several distilleries in and around Bardstown. For Bourbon connoisseurs, whiskey is to Bardstown what wine is to Napa Valley. One interesting part of the tour was the visit to one of the "barns" where the "white lightning" is stored in charred barrels for two plus years to obtain its flavor and color. More than 10,000 barrels can be stored in one of these barns. There is no electrical wiring or fixtures inside the building to prevent the possibility of an electrical spark which could cause an explosion. The outside of these buildings are painted black because of the fact that whenever you have bourbon or other alcoholic products being produced and aged, a black bacteria will form on existing surfaces. The black paint, therefore, keeps everything looking uniform.



Corvette Museum: Bowling Green is home to the GM Corvette Assembly Plant and National Corvette Museum. Unfortunately, the assembly plant was undergoing a model change so we could not tour it, but the museum provided plenty of information. There were more than 70 Corvettes on display from various years and styles from its inception in 1953 to the 2014 model. There were films, driving simulators and interactive displays that took you through the evolution of the Corvette. Did you know that the American GIs coming back from World War II, as well as Gen Curtis LeMay had a lot to do with creating the interest and demand that brought about the Corvette and other American sports cars. The Corvette store was a great place to find unique merchandise.

Go www.corvettemuseum.org



Memories and More Memories: Not much I can say here, but look at the enclosed photos and those on the RED HORSE Association Website. Impossible to include many in the Newsletter because of space limitations but go tour website at www.rhassn.us Everyone who came met old friends and made new ones. Great to see so many wives there reliving the memories and enjoying the photo sessions.



First Timers, Largest Group, etc. We are trying here to be inclusive but I will give you what I have:

1. 554th RED HORSE Squadron had the most members and their wives present. We took many many photos but never seemed to get everyone there at the same time.



2. 823rd was the second largest group present including Colonel Hardman USAF (Only active duty military in attendance).
3. Reunion First Timers included:
 - Ron Adams
 - Thomas and Donna Beal
 - Louis and Sandy Brooks
 - Holton and Kavin Cartmell
 - Charles Champion
 - James and Connie Chapman
 - David and Sherrie Devine
 - Paul and Jeannie Farabee
 - Roy and Linda Finchum
 - George and Anna Flores
 - Woodrow Giddons
 - Harry and Sue Glaze
 - Wayne and Pam Jaeger
 - William Johnson
 - Wil Painter
 - Ronald and Ilse Poulton
 - Ronnie Robinson
 - Jim Sadler
 - James Smith
 - William and Penny Smither
 - Ronnie and Margaret Sonnier
 - Larry and Martha Tailon
 - George Vasiloff
 - Bill and Judy Verkest
 - Richard and Rita Williams
 - Michael and Whitacre
 - Maurice Wright

4. Attendees who came the farthest: Douglas and Nancy Owen came from Oregon.



5. Most mature attendee: John Burkett

6. Golfer who lost the most balls: I have an idea who it was but not releasable at press time.



NEWS ARTICLES

BUILDING BULGARIA, ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME

The 823rd Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron engineers (ERHS), or **RED HORSE** as they are called, recently completed the renovation of two school gyms and a sleeping area, bathroom and kitchen in a kindergarten in Bulgaria.

The 823rd ERHS engineers deployed from Hurlburt Field, Fla., to Sliven and Yambol, Bulgaria to hone their wartime skills while providing Humanitarian Civic Assistance (HCA) by renovating dilapidated school rooms in dire need of a face lift.

The 823 ERHS's craftsmen tackled these three projects like the true professionals they are, according to Capt Alison Freiman, Deputy Commander 823 ERHS. On every project, it's expected to have some unforeseen issues present themselves but now add a language barrier, a foreign country and different monetary system into the mix and you have an even bigger issue.

For Senior Master Sergeant Shane Huckaby, the project senior non-commissioned officer in charge of construction, the first couple of weeks were a steep learning curve but those stumbling blocks were quickly overcome.



Traditional dances and songs were performed by local Sliven, Bulgaria kindergarten children during the ribbon cutting ceremony. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Gregory Boutwell, 823 ERHS, Aug 2013)

“The biggest challenge was the work itself. RED HORSE is built to do construction work not renovation,” said Huckaby. “In construction, the design is set and everyone knows what to expect and the variables are limited. With renovation, the variables are limitless, couple that with a lack of training for this type of work and it created significant challenges. However, the team overcame these challenges exceptionally well.”

The work included renovating two gyms by tearing out the existing flooring and replacing with new athletic matting, repairing the plaster walls, installing metal cages around new ceiling lights and around new windows, installing basketball hoops and volleyball nets.



The VII Middle School before renovation. Work included new flooring, new plaster on the walls, new lights, cages around windows and lights,

installation of basketball hoops, volleyball net, and pullup bars. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Cecil Makin Aug 2013)



The Sliven, Bulgarain Humanities high school after construction. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. Shane Hucakby 823 ERHS, Aug 2013)

At Joy Kindergarten, the team demolished the existing bathroom and kitchen and replaced it with new sinks, toilets and countertops, along with new flooring and repairing the plaster walls. The kindergarten’s front entrance was rehabilitated as well to include painting, new awnings and new steps in time for the ribbon cutting, which was attended by the Mayor of Yambol and dignitaries from the U.S. Embassy.

Not only did his team increase their job knowledge, they increased the positive image of Americans to the local community.

“The local community was extremely supportive of our work here and seemed to welcome our presence,” Huckaby said. “Many local vendors went out of their way to support our work and even suggested better methods or materials to use. Also, the citizens and businesses were very accommodating to everyone on our team.”

The local community showed an overwhelmingly positive response to the work accomplished at the schools, said Huckaby. They even requested the team to come back and accomplish more work in the future.

Part of the mission was working with the Black Sea Rotational Force, the Bulgarian military. Working with the local military was extremely beneficial, stated Freiman. When they joined the 823 ERHS team, they taught new techniques and introduced new material which increased the productivity by 75 percent.

The Bulgarian technique to repair walls, placing foam board on the damaged portion of the wall and then plastering over, saved time and material cost. Without the Bulgarian military's assistance and knowledge, the team would have been unable to increase the scope of work at Joy Kindergarten by 60 percent and at the High School by 90 percent, said Huckaby.

"My team overcame the tendencies to be paralyzed by the unfamiliar," said Huckaby. "They were flexible enough to adapt to the type of work we were asked to perform and open minded enough to use new techniques and skill-sets all the while using material they were unaccustomed to."

As for returning to do more work, "without any hesitation, and I speak for my entire team, we would absolutely, 100 percent be willing to do this type of work again."

COMBAT OUTPOST AZIMIJAN KARIZ, AFGHANISTAN

A small team of deployed civil engineer Airmen traveled to a remote Army outpost to provide much needed infrastructure improvements.

The 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron Consolidated-Small Maintenance and Repair Team (also known as **Prime BEEF**) visited here April 29 through May 3 to improve life, health and safety areas around the compound.



Members of the 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron Consolidated-Small Maintenance and Repair Team, wait for a Black Hawk helicopter at Combat Outpost Azimijan Kariz, Afghanistan, April 30, 2013. There are two C-SMARTs stationed at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Scott Saldukas)

The C-SMART, made up of six people from different civil engineer specialties, recently made their second of two visits to COP AJK. During the visit, they repaired a sewage line, fixed an electrical box that runs a well and pump, and checked for any other issues potentially hazardous to the residents on the compound.

"This visit was a follow-up to an initial inspection done a few months ago, which was requested by the COP mayor," said Tech. Sgt. Chris Mason, 577th EPBS C-SMART team lead. "The main project was running about 200 feet of new piping for shower drains and a sewage line."

Mason explained how the previous pipeline was severely damaged and causing the sewage water to pool up near a showering area.

"It was real bad when we first got here," Staff Sgt. Alexis Lopez, 577th EPBS C-SMART water and fuels system maintenance craftsman. "Aside from it looking cosmetically bad and having a bad odor, the water was housing frogs, which can attract snakes as well as attract mosquitoes and run the risk of someone contracting malaria."

The second project was a fairly simple fix Lopez said, but needed to be done for the safety of the soldiers here.

"The electrical box that powered their water well was going to be replaced, but just needed to be rewired so that the switch on the outside of the box will turn the pump on and off," he said. "When we got here, they needed to go inside the box and do it manually and even that wasn't working for them. That could have been catastrophic if someone was electrocuted with the 460 volts the box was pushing."

There are two C-SMARTs stationed at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. Each team consists of a plumbing, electrical, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, structural and power pro specialist. The teams are comprised of highly trained civil engineers, who travel throughout Afghanistan to some of the most unforgiving areas. Their mission is to support compounds that do not have the resources to accomplish what the Prime BEEF squadron can offer.

"All of us are familiar with the austere conditions and the challenges that come with them," Mason said, who is deployed from the 28th Civil Engineer Squadron at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. "Regardless of where we are, we fix

everything the correct way, up to code, so it can last long term."

Lopez, who is deployed from the 633rd CES at Langley AFB, Va., noted that deployments like this are extremely rewarding because of the impact each mission has.

"We are taking care of our people and giving them better living conditions than they had before we got there," Lopez said, who hails from Brooklyn, N.Y. "It also shows the other services and coalition forces that the Air Force is here and contributing to the fight."

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, GA

The 116th Air Control Wing Civil Engineer Squadron was selected among a group of Air National Guard CE units across the nation to take on an additional mission, bolstering disaster response in the Southeast United States.

To meet the mission, the Prime Base (**Prime BEEF**) Engineer Emergency Force, took delivery of two route clearance kits June 27 at Robins.

"During Hurricane Katrina, which we responded to, Domestic Operations found that getting to a location hit by a disaster could be time consuming because of debris," Chief Master Sgt. David Fite, 116th CES superintendent said.

"Whether it's trees on the road, overturned cars or piles of rubble, this equipment will give us the capability and skill set to clear the way for emergency operations personnel to respond," said Fite.

Located in the heart of FEMA Region 4, the 116th CES will use the multi-purpose Kubota tractors with buckets, grappling hooks and brooms to provide Guardsmen a mobile and versatile tool set to respond quickly to disasters that strike their region, said Senior Master Sgt. James Love, 116th CES Prime BEEF Manager.

Col. Greg McCreary, 116th Mission Support Group commander, said the new equipment is a boon to the unit.

"The addition of route clearance kits to the 116th CES' equipment provides a tremendous capability to the Georgia Air National Guard to assist our civilian partners in times of disaster. It also ensures the 116th Air Control Wing will play a vital role in protecting the citizens of Georgia," McCreary said.

Having the equipment in their own backyard will provide more opportunity for drill status Guardsmen to get the training they need at home, added Fite.



Master Sgt. Joel Furlough, 116th Civil Engineer Squadron, Georgia Air National Guard, performs an inventory and acceptance inspection of a route clearance kit at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., June 27, 2013. The civil engineering arm of the 116th Air Control Wing will use the kits, consisting of multi-purpose Kubota tractors, when called upon to quickly respond to disasters in their region. The equipment gives the unit the capability to clear debris in the area of a disaster so emergency operations personnel can respond. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Pamela Stauffer/Released)

823rd Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers

U.S. Air Force Airmen lay concrete during a training TDY at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., July 26, 2013. During the training, 27 **RED HORSE** Airmen prepared for an upcoming contingency construction mission and also provided improvements to the base's existing infrastructure.





An airman smoothing and edging concrete during training. (All photos by U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Brittain Crolley)



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Lange, engineering technician, performs a concrete slump test during training. The slump test is used to ensure uniformity between individual batches of concrete.



The crew repairs pavement at the F-15E Strike Eagle wash rack.

BAGRAM Airfield, Afghanistan / PRIME BEEF Relishes Construction Work

When there's a big job to be done, the 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron (**Prime BEEF**) swings into action.

Attached to the 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group headquartered in Southwest Asia, the 577th EPBS forward deploys to conduct construction and repair work.



Members of the 577th Expeditionary Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force Squadron assemble a perimeter mold for a concrete pad on Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 6, 2013. (All photos this article by U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. David Dobrydney)

"Our mission is flexible engineering support to the entire [area of responsibility]," said Capt. Robert Lydon, 577th EPBS Construction Bravo Element officer in charge.

Lydon said a Prime BEEF unit draws together Airmen from several civil engineering specialties who get to see and try different jobs.

"We have electricians, heavy equipment [operators], plumbers ... they get to come out of their career field and help out with other facets of the mission."

Staff Sgt. Gary Owens, 577th EPBS electrical systems craftsman, said that he has gotten to do jobs other than electronics.

"I've laid concrete on this deployment, I've done a lot of plumbing work ... we're putting up [hangars], drilling holes," Owens said.

At Bagram, Prime BEEF Airmen have constructed three large-area maintenance shelters and three concrete laying projects. These specific jobs are to supplement the work of the 455th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.

"The 455th here, they're ... making sure the base keeps running; we just provide extra manpower," Lydon said.

The Prime BEEF Airmen also provide service to coalition partners. Owens described one major job he recently completed, rewiring buildings for future use by the Afghan National Army.

"We had to rewire ten rooms [with] two hundred feet of primary and secondary cable and all the interior wiring," Owens said, "so they can carry on their own mission out there."

Additionally, the 577th visits forward operating bases.

"We go out to different FOBs and [contingency operating bases] and fix everything we can fix," Owens said, adding that fixing a remote unit's water system or electrics is a rewarding part of being a Prime BEEF Airman.

"The best thing about being out here is the reaction you get when you go out there and fix something at these places," he said. "We give them that quality of life back."

RED HORSE Answers the Call for Ulchi Freedom Guardian, OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea

When airmen, sailors, soldiers, and Marine augmentee from all over the world arrived on Osan Air Base, they found themselves living in a tent city that they would call home during the two-week Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise.

Standing up a tent city is nothing new to the 254th RED HORSE Squadron members. RED HORSE squadrons provide highly mobile civil engineering response force to support contingency and special operations worldwide. Since 2006, the Guam Air National Guard RED HORSE has answered the call preparing and supporting the UFG exercise.

"The team built-up and currently sustains the bare base at Rush Park to include 24 tents, 10 ConEx's, two K-Spans, one lodging facility and morale services," said Chief Master Sgt. Richard Delin, 254th RHS chief enlisted manager.

The 28-year veteran also added that RED HORSE deliver 24-hours-a-day support for the augmentees providing climate-controlled environments with heating and ventilation, maintenance, plumbing, portable water, fuel system maintenance, pest management and electrical power generation to name a few.

This year more than 500 service members were lodged in the tent city and the 254th RHS ensure their living conditions were top notch.

"Being a part of the UFG, it is remarkable to see all different services come together in one location and join forces with the ROK counterparts," said Staff Sgt. Tim Flores, heating, ventilation and air conditioning craftsman. "We are all here to accomplish one major task—work together and complete the mission."



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Edward Fernandez, 254th RED HORSE Squadron structure craftsman, troubleshoots a plumbing unit at Rush Park, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, during the Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2013 exercise, Aug. 18, 2013. The 254th RHS has been preparing and supporting the UFG since 2006 ensuring participants have essential water, heat and electrical power generation. UFG is an annual training, defense-oriented exercise developed around realistic scenarios designed to defend the ROK, protect the region, and maintain stability on the Korean Peninsula. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sheila deVera).

RED HORSE Aircraft Ramp Construction on Bagram Nears Completion

Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan - The perimeter flightline road construction undertaken by the 557th Expeditionary RED HORSE squadron here will be completed by the end of August.

A crew of 12 personnel from the 819th RED HORSE Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., and the 555th RED HORSE Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nev., began working on the more than half-mile project upon their arrival here April 25.

The overall purpose of the road is to connect the East- and West-side aircraft ramps with a

perimeter road to eliminate the need for vehicles that are trying to go from one side to the other from crossing the runway.

Having this road is especially important now that Zulu Taxiway is the active runway and there is construction on the main runway. The fewer vehicles getting in the way of both of those operations, the smoother they run, Joerdens said.



Airmen from the 557th RED HORSE Squadron, deployed from Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., are working on the perimeter flightline road construction project at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, Aug. 19. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of August. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rob Hazelett)

“This project is designed ‘in-house’ by RED HORSE, which is something that sets us apart from other engineer units and then constructed using troop labor,” said Capt. Philip Joerdens, 557th Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron officer in-charge, deployed from Shaw AFB, S.C. “That saves on the overall cost of the project since we do not have to pay contractors to build it.”

“We’ve brought in a lot of material and built up the area where the road is because the natural soil for this area is not conducive to supporting the weight loads that come with vehicle traffic,” said Joerdens, who hails from Ellicott City, Md. “The crew has spent a lot of time placing the material, compacting it to give it more strength and making sure it is at the proper height so future rain and snowmelt does not cause flooding on the road.”

RED HORSE squadrons are self-sufficient units that provide the U.S. Air Force with a highly mobile civil engineering response force to support contingency and special operations worldwide.

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel spoke with members of the 315th Airlift Wing here today as part of his tour of military bases in the Southeast United States.



From left) Senior Airman Jonathan Liebherr, Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hampton and Lt. Col. Joseph Swaim, 560th RED HORSE Squadron, explain the RED HORSE mission to Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel. The Secretary visited Joint Base Charleston as part of his Southeast United States military base tour.

Hagel asked the AES Airmen how long they had been doing their job and asked if it was a rewarding opportunity. Hamilton and Foster both enthusiastically agreed that it was very rewarding.

The Secretary patted them both on the shoulder and thanked them for their service before he moved to the back of the jet to learn about Combat Camera.

After speaking to the secretary, Hamilton said, “It was exciting to showcase what we do to the Secretary of Defense.”

“This visit shows that senior leadership pay attention to what we do and they are interested to see how we do our job,” Foster added.

Outside the jet, members of the 560th RED HORSE Squadron gave an overview of their mission. Lt. Col. Joseph Swaim, 560th RHS commander, told Secretary Hagel about the Squadron’s automatic building machine, which was on display.

Swaim explained to Hagel how the ATM can take a roll of steel, corrugate it, cut it and bend it to create K-span structures.

Hagel asked if the squadron owned the machine or it was leased. Swaim said yes. “This is one of our special capabilities,” he added.

Chief Master Sgt. Jim Hampton talked about deployments; specifically the 560th RHS's recent deployment to Southwest Asia. He showed the Secretary photos of some of the many infrastructure projects completed at various bases supporting operations in Afghanistan.

Senior Airman Jonathan Liebherr, one of the newer members of the 560th RHS, told the Secretary about the training that RED HORSE Airmen go through.

Other Joint Base Charleston mission components represented at the Air Force showcase included explosive ordinance disposal Airmen, Security Forces Ravens members and aircraft maintainers.

After the showcase, Secretary Hagel toured the Boeing Modular Repair and Test Center here where he saw aerospace contractors who directly support the base's C-17 fleet.

Secretary Hagel concluded his visit with a civilian town hall in Club Charleston here he gave Air Force civilians an update on the sequester and ongoing Defense budget challenges.

Making a Difference in the Philippines

Pacific Air Forces assets continue to support relief operations in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan, but they will soon be winding down their activities, said PACAF Commander Gen. Hawk Carlisle at AFA's Pacific Air & Space Symposium in Los Angeles on Nov. 21. After the storm's Nov. 8 landfall on the island nation, US Pacific Command activated its humanitarian-assistance plan, which is built around forward-based marines and Navy assets on Okinawa, Japan, said Carlisle. PACAF prepared its 36th Contingency Response Group at Andersen AFB, Guam, which includes communications assets, runway repair capabilities, and **RED HORSE engineers**. "The biggest challenge is working through request processes," he said, as PACOM was following direction from the State Department and US Agency for International Development. PACAF officials helped the Philippine armed forces with air-tasking manifests, as well as airlift operations. Special operations U-28 aircraft were called in, C-130s returning from an exercise in Bangladesh were diverted to Clark Field near Manila, and other assets flowed in once PACAF received requests from USAID. Carlisle anticipated that the two C-

17s supporting the relief operations would return to their home station soon, as Philippine forces are taking over most of the follow-on operations. (See also [AFSOC release](#) on relief efforts).



—Marc V. Schanz



STABLE NOTES:

1. Thanks to AFCESA: Many thanks to Teresa Hood and others at AFCESA for providing some of the materials used in this newsletter.
2. Thanks to Capt Chris Cagle of the 823rd RHS for his continual support in providing articles for this newsletter.
3. RED HORSE Website: www.rhassn.us
4. New Articles are needed: Please send anything concerning Prime BEEF and RED HORSE including photos to Dick Aldinger at famdinger@aol.com or mail to Dick at Dick Aldinger, 4088 Floralwood Ct., Orlando, FL 32812.
5. Newsletter Distribution: In the future, this newsletter will be sent out primarily by e-mail in an effort to save money, reduce labor in mailing, allow more issues to be published and provide wider distribution.
6. Special Note: Please add this newsletter to your Squadron facebook page.
7. Membership: Join RED HORSE Association. You can join the RED HORSE Association for a mere \$10 for the first year. Life memberships are also available. This is one way that you can keep in touch with what is going on with USAF Civil Engineering Combat Engineers today whether it be RED HORSE or Prime BEEF; see application on back page.

RSA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

(Application form on back page)

Regular Membership Dues are \$20 per year, except that the initiation year is set at \$10. Active duty personnel (to include AFRC and ANG) and Veterans, who are or were assigned to, are or were in support of RED HORSE or Prime BEEF units. Spouses, children, parents or guardians of those persons, living or deceased, who are or were members or eligible for membership, shall be eligible. Active military member dues are \$10 per year as long as they remain active in the military.

Associate Memberships: \$20 per year. Those persons, who do not qualify for regular membership, but have an interest in RED HORSE or Prime BEEF, may be considered for Associate Membership.

Life Memberships are to the schedule below:

- Age 45 and under - \$250
- Age 46 to 55 - \$215
- Age 56 to 65 - \$180
- Age 66 and above - \$125

Affiliate Membership: Widows or Widowers of Regular or Life Members.

Please indicate on the application on the back page your war era service. (For IRS tax exemption purposes)

- Apr 06, 1917 to Nov 11, 1918 (World War I)
- Dec 07, 1941 to Dec 31, 1946 (World War II)
- Jun 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 (Korean War)
- Feb 28, 1961 to May 07, 1975 (Vietnam War)
- Aug 24, 1982 to Jul 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)
- Dec 20, 1989 to Jan 31, 1990 (Panama)
- Aug 02, 1990 to today (Gulf war/War on Terrorism)

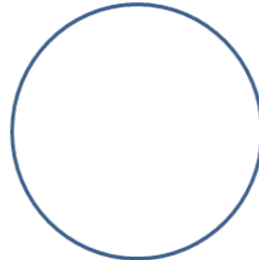
Please indicate the membership or renewal level on the application on the back page.

- Regular Membership, Initiation Year \$10
- Regular Membership Renewal \$20
- Affiliate Membership (Affiliate Members do not pay dues)
- Current Active Duty, Initiation Year \$10
- Current Active Duty Renewal \$10
- Life Membership (please use schedule above)
- Renewal to Life Membership (use schedule above)
- Associate Membership \$20

Applications received on or after August 1st will be credited to the next full year.

RED HORSE's 50th Anniversary 1965 – 2015

**Help with the celebration!
Submit a concept design for a
50th Anniversary Coin.**



The REDHORSE Association will judge all submittals and reserves the right to modify any designs and create the final design for production. Send your concept design to: REDHORSE Association, Office of the President, PO Box 936, Midway, GA. 31320-0936 by 1 April 2014. A prize will be awarded to the winning entry.



REDHORSE Association
Office of the President
P O Box 936
Midway, GA. 31320-0936

Dear Commander:

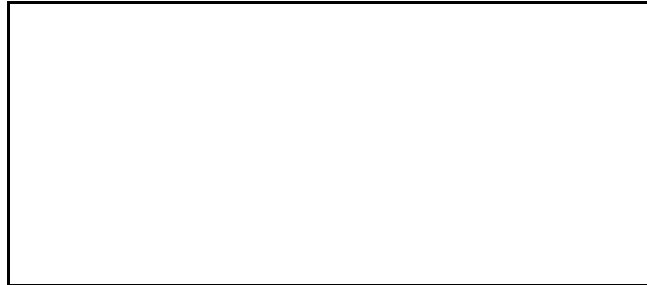
The REDHORSE Association is asking you to allow us to take the lead in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of The Horse by creating an anniversary coin. At this time we are putting out a competition to all Horsemen to design a challenge coin for the celebration of this event. We feel that with the buying power of all Horsemen we can provide all Squadrons a quality coin for less money than if they all purchased them separately.

Please distribute our flyer and encourage your airman to participate. We would like to have all designs returned to us by 1 April 2014. Would you have your unit point of contact get in touch with me so I can keep all informed as the process moves forward and a design is selected. We will distribute the final design and at that point we would like to know how many coins your unit would like to order.

Greg MacDougal
REDHORSE Association President
greg.macdougald@rhamail.org
(912) 321-8430

Circulation Department
 701 Center Drive
 Palmyra, PA 17078

Return Service Requested



REDHORSE Association
PO Box 8
Westminster, CO 80036-0008
303-650-1215
admin@redhorseassociation.org
www.rhassn.us
REDHORSE Association

Please include your check or money order with this tear-off application form and mail to the address above.

Please provide the following contact information:

Name: _____
 Title: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Address (cont): _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Country: _____
 Phone: _____
 e-mail Address: _____
 RH Unit(s): _____ PB: _____ Years: _____
 Referred by: _____

Please indicate your war era service. (For IRS tax exemption purposes)	Please indicate the membership or renewal level you are applying for
___ Apr 06, 1917 to Nov 11, 1918 (World War I)	___ Regular Membership, Initiation Year \$10
___ Dec 07, 1941 to Dec 31, 1946 (World War II)	___ Regular Membership Renewal \$20
___ Jun 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 (Korean War)	___ Affiliate Membership (Affiliate Members do not pay dues)
___ Feb 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)	___ Current Active Duty, Initiation Year \$10
___ Aug 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)	___ Current Active Duty, Renewal \$10
___ Dec 20, 1989 to Jan 31, 1990 (Panama)	___ Life Membership (please use the schedule at right) \$ _____
___ Aug 02, 1990 to today (Gulf War/War on Terrorism)	___ Renewal to Life Membership (please use the schedule at right) \$ _____
___ I was not active military during any war era listed above	___ Associate Membership, \$20