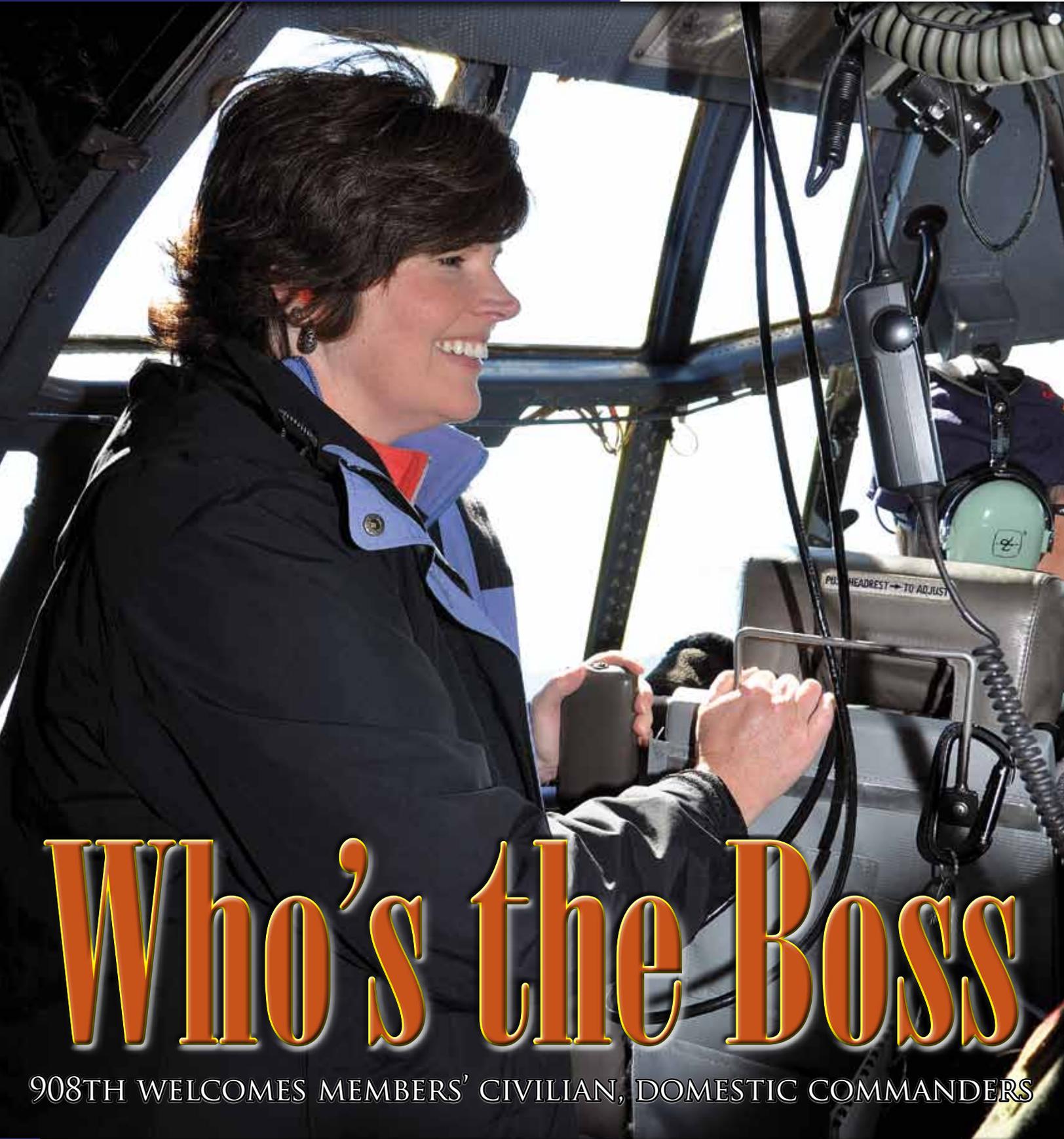


SOUTHERN  FLYER



Who's the Boss

908TH WELCOMES MEMBERS' CIVILIAN, DOMESTIC COMMANDERS

SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 49 Issue 12
December 2011

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908TH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Writer: Staff Sgt. Sandi Percival

To all of the 908th Family...

The year has sped by and Christmas and New Year's are just a few weeks away.

It is hard to imagine that last year at this point I was in Afghanistan, but remembering that makes me really appreciate being home with you all for the holidays this year.

With the drawdown in Iraq, many more of our fellow service members will be home with their families this year. However, about 113 members of our wing will still be deployed through the holidays with more preparing to deploy early in 2012.

Please keep our 908th friends and fellow service members in your prayers. As many of us know from experience the holidays are a tough time to be away from home.

Now is a great time to drop a note, a card or care package in the mail to brighten their holiday season.

Today it seems our years go by with an unending stream of deployments, inspections, and constant change. One of our major challenges in '12 will be preparing and completing the compliance inspection in June.

We'll have some tough work to complete after the first of the year, but I know you will tackle those Compliance

Inspection challenges head on.

For now, I encourage you to take time away to spend with family and friends over the next few weeks. For many of us the holidays are not only a

time to spend with family and friends, but also time to rest, reassess, recharge, and imagine what we can accomplish in the new year.

As you travel to be with family, be careful. The holidays are a lousy time to spend in the hospital. So make sure you are rested before heading "over the river and through the woods," always remembering to buckle up,

and taking it easy on the Egg Nog.

I would also urge you to think of the Reserve families who may need us. Families challenged by the separation of a deployment, or where the economy is presenting difficulties, and for some, where civilian employment may be threatened. For these families, holiday stressors are magnified and may create resiliency hurdles. As good Wingmen, we all stand on the frontline of defense; "Ready... Always" to assist.

Finally, to all members of the 908th past and present and your families, I send my best wishes for a joyous holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you in 2012.



COL. BRETT J. CLARK
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing



A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) JUAN F. SCOTT

New beginnings! This is what I feel as I contemplate my new life as part of the 908th. After nearly five years at Robins Air Force Base as an IMA in the 78th ABW, I thought it was time I gained some "TR" experience.

So here I am ready to explore this new world! I am very fortunate to be living and doing the things I enjoy most in life.

I knew I was called to chaplaincy during the early years of my Air Force career as an airmen assigned to Eglin Air Force Base. I recall leaving active duty to pursue seminary, a requirement to become an Air Force Chaplain. It was a faith-filled journey, not without its share of trials, that would prove to strengthen me for what was ahead. As a chaplain, I enjoy listening and helping fellow airmen and their families find balance to live very purposeful and intentional lives.

I am not a civilian pastor of a church like most chaplains. I decided to maintain my corporate career which allows me an opportunity to be a "representation of the Holy" in the corporate setting. I work for the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta in the Division of the Strategic National Stockpile as the Chief of Materiel. In this role, I am challenged to make sure the American Public is protected in case of any health related event by ensuring we have all of the pharmaceuticals required to respond, and the ability to distribute them quickly across our 62 project areas.

On a more personal note, I've been married for 16 years, and we are the proud parents of two children, Grayson and Savannah ages 10 and 6. I was born in Florence, S.C. and currently reside in Atlanta. A few of my hobbies include reading biographies, traveling, and good food.

I am excited about getting to know the members of the 908th. I will be the chaplain assigned to the 9 a.m. service in the APS classroom, and invite you to take a few moments from your UTA Sunday morning to come and be a part of this worship service. Please email me and let me know if you are interested in being a lay reader, usher, or want to help with the service. My office is on the second floor in the headquarters building and I invite you to stop by and say hello.



Airmen: Make sure Uncle Sam is giving you your allowance

Wing to recertify BAH next two UTAs

By Debbie Smith
908th FM

The FM pay office will be doing Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) recertification during the upcoming December and January Unit Training Assemblies. All members who need to take part in this process should bring all the necessary documents for BAH recertification.

These documents will either be:

- ★ Marriage certificate if you are married
- ★ Child's birth certificate, if you are not married and claiming child as your dependent
- ★ Divorce decree, if you are divorced and paying child support. You must also have a copy of the child's birth certificate
- ★ If your spouse was active duty and now is a civilian you will need to bring your marriage certificate and your spouse's retirement or separation order.

BAH is the entitlement you receive for with-dependent-rate BAH.

If you are single and are not claiming a dependent you will not need to participate in this BAH recertification. If you are receiving with dependent rate BAH and are not entitled to it, you must come to the Reserve Pay office and complete the BAH form (AF-594) to change to single rate.

If you do not complete the form and are entitled to the with-dependent-rate you will be changed to the single-rate until the proper documentation is received in the Reserve Pay office along with completing the form.

For questions concerning this entitlement, contact Debbie Smith or Jasmine Shannon at (334) 953-6722.

SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Jennifer Holston takes a turn on the flightdeck during the 908th Airlift Wing's recent Spouse Orientation & Flight event.



U.S. Air Force Photo/
Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

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We solicit articles, drawings and photographs and reserve the right to edit materials to conform to "Southern Flyer" editorial policies. Because of the printing and mail-out schedule the newspaper goes to press on Friday, two weeks prior to the unit training assembly.

The submission deadline for articles or information is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA. Send inquiries and submissions to 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112 or e-mail them to 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil. Our phone number is (334) 953-6804 or DSN 493-6804; our fax number is (334) 953-2202 or DSN 493-2202. For information about this schedule, call this office at (334) 953-7874.

Feel the Burn!

Security Forces Squadron gets a charge out of nonlethal training

By Tech. Sgt. James Harrell Jr.
908th Security Forces Squadron

With the lack of an NBA season, players won't be taking any charges for some time, but not to worry. There are airmen here at the 908th Airlift Wing who are doing just that.

Members of the 908th Security Forces Squadron recently received extensive training with two methods of subduing an antagonist without having to resort to lethal force.

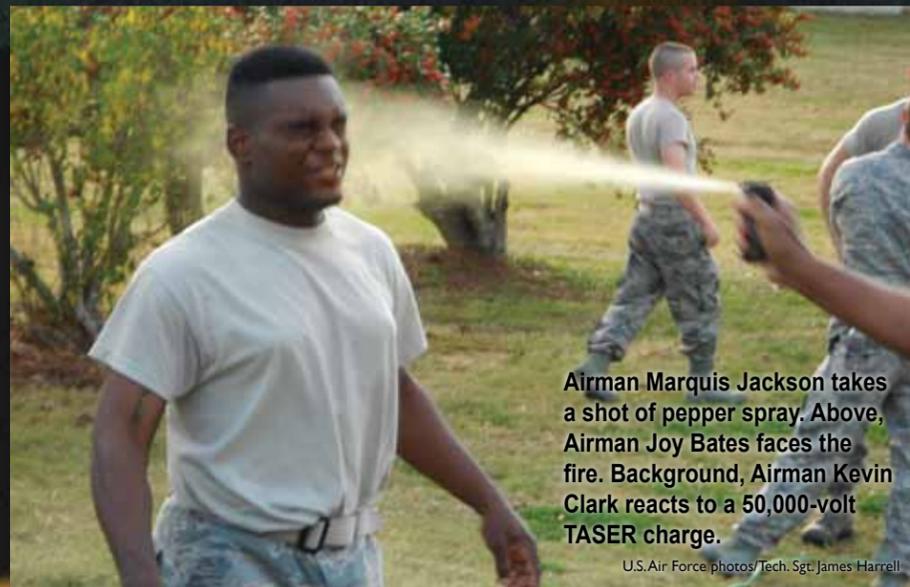
The training, administered by the 42nd SFS, included classroom instruction, familiarization and finally, direct exposure. The instruction began with familiarization with the TASER X26, an electroshock weapon utilizing a potent-yet-nonlethal electrical current to disrupt voluntary muscle control.

"I never felt such pain" said Amn Justin Sasser, an SFS machine gunner. "I thought I was ready, but when it hits you, there's absolutely nothing you can do."

The device administers a charge for a period of up to five seconds, giving security forces personnel time to seize and maintain control of a potentially violent or even fatal situation.

The manufacturer, Taser International, calls the effects "neuro-muscular incapacitation" and the mechanism as "Electro-Muscular Disruption technology".

According to Technical Sgt. Steve Higginbotham, SFS squad leader and TASER Instructor, exposure is



Airman Marquis Jackson takes a shot of pepper spray. Above, Airman Joy Bates faces the fire. Background, Airman Kevin Clark reacts to a 50,000-volt TASER charge.

U.S. Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. James Harrell

necessary so the user can adequately testify in court as to its effects, proper use and justification.

Upon impact with the "suspect," 50,000 volts of electricity run through thin copper wires, resembling fishing line, to the prongs at the end of the line. Once delivered, the voltage temporarily disables the perpetrator. An on-board computer controls the charge on the target.

According to proper procedure, the prongs should only be released by medical professionals upon their arrival at the scene.

"I think I can smell my skin cooking," Airman Basic Marquis Jackson joked after his experience.

Members also received training with OC spray, also known as pepper spray. OC, or Oleoresin Capsicum, is a chemical compound used in riot/crowd control and per-

sonal self-defence, including defense against aggressive animals.

The compound irritates the eyes, causing tears, pain, and even temporary blindness, as its inflammatory effects cause the eyes to shut. This temporary loss of vision allows security forces to more easily restrain subjects and also permits persons using pepper spray for self-defense an opportunity to escape.

"It felt like my face was being melted off" said Airman Joy Bates.

Just as with the TASER, members must undergo classroom and direct exposure before becoming certified to carry the spray. As part of the certification process, members were sprayed, then utilizing a baton, had to run and fight at three stations, all while maintaining control.

"You definitely feel the burn" said Airman First Class Elicia Young,

In the arms of the ANGELS

908TH AERIAL CAREGIVERS: THERE FOR WOUNDED, EACH OTHER

By Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder
908th AW Public Affairs

This is the second of a two-part series on the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

When it comes to traditional military missions, most would assume the active-duty component takes the lead, while the guard and Reserve follow close behind. But these are not traditional times, and America no longer fights in traditional ways.

In fact, of all patient transport and air evacuation missions throughout the world, Air Force Reserve AES units handled 89 percent.

Reserve AES units provide such a significant percentage because they must. Of all such units throughout the Air Force, Air National Guard and Reserve, the active component has only four.

When she joined the Air Force Reserve five years ago, Staff Sgt. Angela Burton said she had the desire to help the troops and help bring them home. Her twin sister, a member of the 908th Airlift Wing's 357th Airlift Squadron was always talking about the great group of people in the AES.

"She said it looked like the members had a good time performing their jobs," she said. "It's hard work but they love it. It was exactly what I was looking for."

The sense of camaraderie is strong within the 908th AES. If one member comes back from a deployment feeling stressed, all the other members are there to help.

"We all understand each other,

we've all been there, we all know," said Tech. Sgt. Karen Hamblin. "It's like a connection we all have to each other. It's a second family, a second home."

Hamblin, who has three deployments in the books, wanted to become a flight medic to fulfill her wishes to fly and be in the medical field.

"I have the best of both worlds."

"Doing your part for your country, your fellow service members, it's something bigger than all of us," said Burton, describing the sense of satisfaction and feeling of camaraderie. "We all respect each other and we all get along together. We have fun together, but we all take our jobs seriously."

Chief Master Sgt. Patrick L. Weir, Superintendent of Nursing Services, explained the feelings of AES members struggling with the reason why they perform this rigorous and

demanding job.

"Why do people do this job?" he asked rhetorically. "These folks put others ahead of themselves. That's a great thing to do and a great thing to aspire to do. You take all the reasons people tell you why they can't do this job, and it's the usual complaints; 'it's too dangerous, it's too far away, I can't leave my family.'

"They're tending to the sick, wounded and maimed, showing mercy and compassion. And that's what you should do as a human being."

"Some people function in a medical capacity outside the unit and some don't, but you might never know if you got on a plane with us," said Master Sgt. Melinda Ford. "We are 100-percent dedicated to our job -- 100-percent care, 100 percent of the time."



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

Respect, camaraderie and dedication: Tech. Sgt. Karen Hamblin, Master Sgt. Melinda Ford, Tech. Sgt. Kim Price and Staff Sgt. Angela Burton prepare for a training exercise.



Kristi Neal enjoys a tour of the flightdeck.

By The Public Affairs Office
908th Airlift Wing

Spouses and civilian employers of 908th Airlift Wing members visited the unit in November to learn about its mission and fly aboard a C-130 Hercules. The separate events, for employers and spouses were planned to express appreciation for the support given to 908th Airmen, both in the workplace and at home.

Both events were quite popular. More than 110 spouses of 908th members signed up for the flights. The 357th Airlift Squadron scheduled three flights in order to accommodate all of them.

A spouse orientation session was also held during the November UTA in conjunction with the flights. Twenty seven "better halves" attended classes highlighting programs and benefits available to 908th members and their families. Valuable information presented included the process to get ID cards, GI bill benefits, legal assistance and financial services.

On Sunday the spouses enjoyed tour of Maxwell, visiting the base exchange and commissary.

"For our first such orientation, I thought it went great," said Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy of the 908th FSS, who ganized the spouse orientation.

"Everyone had a great time and learned thing as the course gressed. Some came



Guests listen to a briefing prior to the Emplier Flight.



Senior Airman Rachel Rach explains safety gear to employers.



Capt. Tonia Stephens shares breakfast with her civilian boss, Patrick Glass of the Alabama Forestry Commission.



A Gaurd/Reserve employer loves the view from the 'front row'



Col. Edward and Janet Jennings.



Debbie Smith of the 908th FM and Senir Master Sgt. Roy of the FSS conduct a family benefits briefing.



Lt. Col. Travis Zimmer takes a photo of himself and employer George Sanders of Value Place.



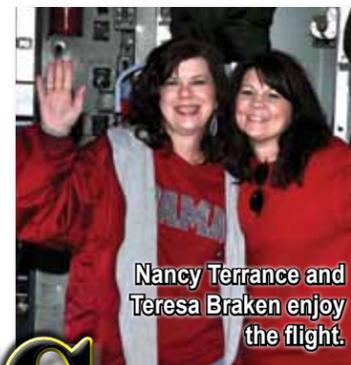
Andrew Roy, Liz Campbell and Cheryl Duke enjoy one of the three spouse flights.



Reginald Jacobs inspects some of the produce available at the Maxwell Commissary.

WHETHER IT'S IN THE CIVILIAN WORKPLACE OR ON THE HOMEFRONT, 908TH MEMBERS KNOW

Who's the Boss



Nancy Terrance and Teresa Braken enjoy the flight.



Master Sgt. John Metcalf shares a troopseat with Shawnta Luke, left, and Shri Merriweather.



Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange presents a River Region Reciprocal Proclamation to 908th Wing Commander Col. Brett Clark.

from the classroom, but we also had fun while on the tour of the base"

According to a survey taken at the orientation, meeting and interacting with other spouses was one of the highlights of the spouse event.

Lori Sims, Wing Mentor for the 908th Key Spouse Program, was excited about the turnout.

"I have been here since 1995 with my husband, and this is the first spouse flight we've ever had," she said. "I think it's wonderful to see this much support from the spouses," said Sims. "I know dependent kids who want to fly, but one step at a time.

"It's not just a spouse day, it's a family day."

"I look forward to doing another spouse orientation, said Roy said. "It's important for spouses to know their benefits."

On November 8, the 908th and the Alabama Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve hosted a "Breakfast with the Boss" for civilian employers of Guardsmen and Reservists at Maxwell's Officer's Club. The employers heard from Dr.

William Kringel, ESGR State Chairman, 908th Commander Colonel Brett Clark, and featured guest speaker Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange, a former Guardsman.

In his remarks, Mayor Strange commented that while it is a challenge sometimes to work around deployments, the character, skills and attitudes held by Guard and Reserve members make them highly valued employees for the city.

Both spouses and employers were given a mission brief on the wing before being instructed in passenger safety and protocols of flying aboard a C-130.

"I've waited nearly 15 years for this opportunity and I am thrilled to have finally had a chance to fly on a C-130," said Cheryl Lobb, "It was AWESOME to sit in the cockpit and watch as the plane came in to land."

"Our families and employers continue to endure enormous sacrifices in support of our reservists and we all know their support is essential to our success," Clark said. "It's nice to provide these incentive flights as a small token of our appreciation and thanks for all they do."



April Posch and Wing Key Spouse Mentor Lori Sims pose for a picture.

Setting the Stage

MEET THE DIVERSE CAREGIVERS OF YOUR 908TH ASTS

For the first time in a number of years, the 908th Aeromedical Staging Squadron is fully staffed with physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. With its diverse and comprehensive team of specialties seldom grouped in a reserve medical unit, the goal is to provide the wing with the best medical care possible. In the first of a two-part series, meet the caregivers of the 908th ASTS

Colonel Camille Phillips, D.M.D.

The commander of the 908th ASTS, Col. Phillips is a graduate of the University of Alabama Dental School and served as an active duty dentist from 1982 to 1985 at Maxwell AFB. She became a reservist in 1988. She has been in private practice in Montgomery since 1985.



Maj. Javier Tapia, M.D.

A flight surgeon and current Chief of Aerospace Medicine (SGP), Maj. Tapia previously served on active duty as an Intensive Care Unit nurse. He graduated from the University of



the University of New Mexico. He is a private practice pediatrician in Greenville, AL, and medical director of the Montgomery Children's Specialty Center.

Maj. Stephen Mitchell, D.O.

A flight surgeon and current Chief of Medical Staff, Maj. Mitchell is prior active-duty enlisted. He graduated from Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine, and completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia. He is the associate medical director of the Department of Emergency Medicine at St. Petersburg General Hospital, Fla.



Capt. Eva Allen, M.D.

Capt. Allen graduated from Baylor College of Medicine in Texas, and completed her residency in Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine Affiliated Hospitals. She is a pediatrician with Magnolia Pediatrics South in Birmingham, Ala.



Lt. Col. Christopher Dress, M.D.

A flight surgeon and 1998 graduate of the University of Tennessee, Memphis, College of Medicine, he completed a General Surgery residency at Keesler USAF Medical Center in 2003. He completed his fellowship in Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital in 2005. He has been on active duty until recently. He now practices Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery privately in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.



Capt. Brian Reece, M.D.

A recent addition to the Reserves. Capt. Reese graduated with his bachelors in Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and is a civilian commercial pilot. He graduated from Florida State University College of Medicine in 2008, and will soon graduate with his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at the University of Alabama. He plans to complete his fellowship in spinal surgery.



BIDDING ADIEU TO THE BDU
On Monday, Oct. 31, members of the 908th took the opportunity to don their BDUs one last time before the new uniform regulations making the longtime uniform obsolete went into effect on Nov. 1. Gathering for a group photo in front of 'War Eagle' are Col. Brett Clark, Lt. Cols. Troy Vonada and Nancy Stephenson, Tech. Sgt. Joseph Buettner, Senior Master Sgts. Connie Rollins and Martha Roy, Master Sgt. William Beach, Chief Master Sgts. Michael Harper and Harold Whited, and Master Sgt. Dimitri Jefferies.

WINGMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

The goal of the Human Relations Climate Assessment Subcommittee (HRCAS), which meets quarterly, is to promote mission effectiveness and strengthen work environments by identifying and resolving human relations issues impacting our total force team. If you have suggestions on how to improve the human relations climate of the wing or your unit, contact Lt. Col. Connie Johnson-Cage at 953-3064. Back row: 908th Command Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke, Capt. Agapito Hernandez, Maj. Michael Meyer, 908th Chaplain Maj.



David Dersch and Maj. Prince Hall. Front row: Tech. Sgt. Loretta Moore, Lt. Col. Johnson-Cage Not pictured is SrA Alicia Williams. The next meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wing Commanders conference room.



FSS MEETS CBS
Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy of the 908th FSS recently attended the World Congress on Disability and the Air Force Exceptional Family Members Program. She was able to meet News Personality Rita Cosby of CBS, who spoke to the assembly about her father's experiences during World War II. Roy returned with informational pamphlets concerning different programs to help 908th families find help for their members with disabilities.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

Maj. Anna M. Sanchez, ASTS
 Capt. Matthew Burns, OSF
 Capt. Juan Scott, AW
 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Riley, ASTS
 SSgt. Jayshawn Allen, LRS
 SSgt. Adam Nixon, AW
 SSgt. Gary Overby, AMXS
 SrA Lucius Green, MXS
 SrA Elizabeth M. Gay, 25 APS
 A1C Kenneth Brizendine, MXS
 AB Corey Hall, LRS

A1C Maurice Rogers, CES
 A1C Aaron Brooker, 25 APS
 A1C Shaquita Bonner, LRS
 A1C Shavona Patterson, ASTS
 AB Gary Tanks, AES
 AB Harold Floyd, MXS
 AB Calli A. Sautter, 25 APS
 AB Joseph Abernathy, MXS
 AB Ethan Smith, 25 APS
 AB Faren Douglas, SFS

Gaining Altitude



Technical Sergeant



Jennifer L. Anderson
 Phillip J. Rosenow
 Ashley L. Guerrero
 Adam D. Weber

Staff Sergeant



Veronica M. Natal

Senior Airman



Cody A. Boyd
 Kenneth M. Brizendine
 Kyle A. Nagamatsu
 Jacob D. Koslofsky

Airman First Class



Derrick J. Mickle
 Christopher J. Myska
 Gary Tanks

Airman



Ridge L. Hollis
 Marquis M. Jackson
 Terence D. Williams
 Joseph A. Abernathy
 Harold F. Floyd Jr.
 Logan M. Spendlove
 Patrick H. Ezelle

Congratulations!

Requesting to Disembark

Col. Robert H. Shepherd,
 Lt. Col. Naomi E. Deshoreosborne,
 Chief Master Sgt. Jesse M. Scott, Senior Master Sgt. Theresa L. Hunt,
 Master Sgt. Jonathan A. Gray, Master Sgt. Todd E. Kern, Master Sgt. John P. Thompson, Tech. Sgt. Darrell A. Lakes, Tech. Sgt. Henry K. Rudolph

* Due to a scheduling conflict, the December Retirement Briefing will take place Dec. 3 in the MSG Conference Room, Bldg 903 at 9 a.m. *

BRIEFS

Join December UTA Worship

Come and enjoy a worship experience designed especially for you. Contact Chaplain Scott if you would like to volunteer in any of the following capacities: Greeter/Usher, Set-up/Preparation, Lay Reader, Music (pianist, keyboard, or other instruments), Singer

New Child Care Providers

The wing now has two more

child care providers. During normal UTA hours, AFRC will fund providers for members who are single parents or parents with a working spouse and drill will cause undue hardship. Each provider can watch six children, for a total of 18 slots.

If you would like to use the service, forms can be picked from Senior Master Sgt Martha Roy. For more information, call (866) 351-8788.

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YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING

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How you look ... After driving

TALK ABOUT SMART

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TO THE FAMILY OF:

COLONEL CLAUUS IS COMING!

Santa Claus will be arriving at Maxwell on Saturday, Dec. 3. Those who wish to greet Santa should be at the 357th Airlift Squadron by 9:30 a.m. to watch as Santa arrives aboard a C-130. He is arriving this way because his sleigh is being upgraded and prepared to make sure it will be able to make millions of important deliveries on Christmas Eve.

Santa and his helpers will receive visitors and listen to children's gift requests in the crew briefing room from 10:15 - noon. Children (young and old) are encouraged to stop by and have their picture taken with Santa.