

SOUTHERN FLYER



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Supporting your mission

Your mission support group is focused on providing complete and responsive support to every Airman of every career field here in the 908th. By using the core values as a hallmark of our efforts, we strive to make customer service the very best for you and your family.

Now a part of the FSS, our comm element plans to update your computers to the newest versions of Microsoft Office and Windows 7, in addition to migrating everyone to the E-mail for Life program.

Manpower and Personnel constantly looks for new ways to improve your experience at customer service, career development, force management, readiness and in our personnel systems. Wing training boasts state-of-the-art testing facilities while you work to improve your experience at work and development as a professional, including civilian education and certification programs.

Services element runs your fitness center during the early weekend hours to offer you more options to remain fit to fight. Family Readiness

remains ready to care for you and your family before, during and after deployments or natural disasters.

Man or cargo, logistics readiness is prepared to supply every need and mission to every battlefield we fight, while aerial port gets those supplies onto our aircraft from hangars and buildings civil engineering keeps to the highest codes of safety and efficiency.

Security forces not only protect us while we pursue our individual functions, but also trains each of us how to stand

the line and strike at the enemy should the day come when you meet the enemy face-to-face.

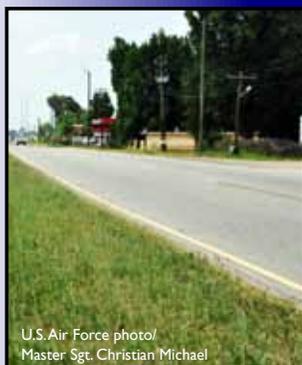
Because customer service is our highest priority, it's important we hear from you. How can we improve our services to meet your needs?

I promise you we will do our very best to provide you the exceptional service you deserve as voluntary Citizen Airmen. My door and those of my commanders are always open to you, to remedy any issue wing customers may have or encounter.

Thank you!



COL. PETE PETERSON
Commander, 908th Mission Support Group



U.S. Air Force photo/
Master Sgt. Christian Michael

SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Along this stretch of Highway 31, only a mile west from the Maxwell AFB Kelly Street Gate in Montgomery, Ala., four members of the 908th Airlift Wing attempted to save the life of a murder victim left for dead in the middle of the road.

This funded Air Force Reserve Command newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Southern Flyer" are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. Editorial content of the "Southern Flyer" is edited, prepared and provided by the 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office. All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.

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.

A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) JUAN SCOTT

The race is not given to the swift or to the strong, but to the one that endureth to the end.

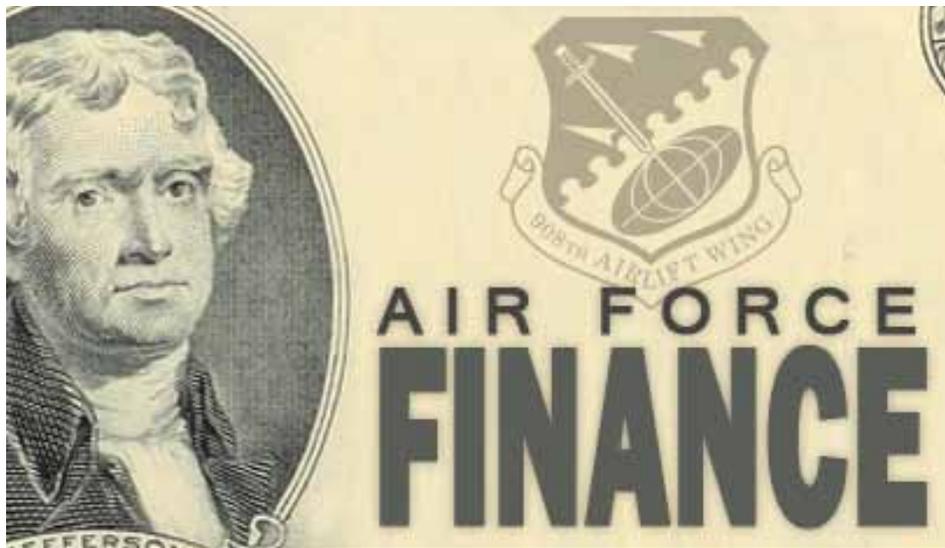
I shared this verse with some members of our unit in the final days of preparation for the compliance inspection. Those words formed on my lips as I went about my unit visitation looking, listening and making sure members were not overwhelmed with the long list of items remaining to be completed against the short time line.

This verse resonates within me each time I take on a major project, and I would like to share a few lessons learned along the way with you today.

Lesson one is to remember that you don't have to be the fastest or the strongest to win in life. Recall your fitness run and how some of your fellow wingmen began running too fast at the start of the race. Some lost their breath and had to slow down before the third lap. Conversely, other runners who are not as fast developed a plan in order to complete the race. They realized six laps are required to finish the race, so they began with a slower pace that allowed them to build momentum as the race progressed.

Now lesson two. Speed and strength are great attributes, but *endurance* always wins the race.

Thank you, members of the 908th, for your endurance over the last few months.



What's in your wallet?

By Staff Sgt. Billy Kidd
908th Airlift Wing Finance

Most Reservists have been issued a Government Travel Card or Controlled Spend Account card. The cards act as a system of payment, allowing holders to buy goods and services while on official government travel such as a school tour, seasonal training and deployment.

The card cannot be used if the member is on Unit Training Assembly status, a commuter or lives in corporate limits of the base that the member is working.

Each squadron has an Agency Program Coordinator to bring all questions and concerns about the GTC. For example, if a member needed a limit increase on their card, the unit APC would assist them with that transaction.

While TDY, members may use their cards for such expenses such as airfare, bus ticket, rental cars, and train ticket. These cards may be used for meals and lodging, but not for alcohol, car repairs, department stores or casinos. Bottom line, use the card for official travel expenses.

After travel, members should submit vouchers within five days and split disburse funds to their GTC/CSA. If enough money is not disbursed to pay off their cards, charges will incur. Once a card becomes 60 days past due, the card will be suspended; at the 75-day mark, a \$29 late fee will be charged. At the 120-day mark the account will be cancelled and this can impact credit.

The CSA program is being discontinued. Cardholders will keep the same card but now use it like a GTC, using a credit with a predetermined limit instead of preloaded funds. The transition will begin late summer and be completed by the end of September. The CSA rules will stay in effect until the member is notified of the transfer to the GTC. Members should ensure the CSA has their correct mailing address and if there are any outstanding balances on the CSA cards, to retrieve their funds.

Take a look at what's in your wallet and if you have any questions your local finance office is here to help.



STAND IN HONOR

SF members represent military at commemoration

By Tech. Sgt. James Harrell
908th Security Forces Squadron Public Affairs Rep.

"No greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for a friend." -- John 15:13

For those who answer the call to serve as a law enforcement officer, it is the greatest sacrifice. A sacrifice far too many have given in the protection of our freedoms. Recently, the State of Alabama remembered those who have given their lives in the protecting of the public during a ceremony on the south lawn of the state capitol.

The ceremony was attended by local, state and federal law enforcement officer from around Alabama. Dr. Robert Bentley, Alabama governor, spoke at the memorial, hosted by the Alabama State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police. Representing military law enforcement personnel was Airman First Class Faren Douglas. Also participating in the ceremony was Tech. Sgt. William Powell where he performed with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard. Both are members of the 908th Security Forces Squadron.

Bentley also recognized the members of the Armed Forces for their continuing sacrifices in protecting democracy, freedom and peace around the world. Douglas, being

the sole member representing the armed forces at the ceremony drew special attention from a thankful audience of law enforcement and their families, to include various chiefs of police, the director of Alabama Public Safety, and the Alabama Attorney General Luther Strange.

"It was an honor representing the military at the ceremony" said Douglas. "I selected this career field in order to help others, and give back what this country has given me."



Airman 1st Class Faren Douglas stands at by a flower star at a memorial service hosted by Fraternal Order of Police at the Alabama state capitol, May 11. (US Air Force photos/Tech. Sgt. William Powell)

Powell and the members of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard provided an emotional presentation with a three-shot volley for the ceremony.

"Our team has performed for numerous events and occasions, but to honor our brothers in law enforcement is the ultimate tribute for an ultimate sacrifice" said Powell.

A wreath ceremony celebrated those who serve to protect the "Thin Blue Line" day in and day out, thanking those who retired from law enforcement, and

mourning those who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

"I felt it necessary to represent not only the members of the Armed Services, but the many member of our own wing who both fight crime and bring peace to our communities, then deploy to faraway lands to do the same thing," said Douglas.

The Road Ahead

Why Social Media has changed the world, and how you can protect yourself and your service member in it

By Master Sgt. Christian Michael
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Social Media has changed the world. Ten years ago most people were just learning how to use e-mail effectively, and we called it the “World Wide Web” with as much clarity as nuclear physics to a third grader.

Airmen are targets for terrorists, extremists and foreign intelligence.

It might be difficult to name on both hands your friends under the age of 50 who don't, in some small fashion, have a presence on social media, be it on Facebook, Twitter, Digg, LinkedIn, YouTube, Google+, or even the ill-begotten Myspace.

For those who wish to remain aloof, it's as well as remaining afoot while the rest of your band climbs aboard the train and rides away.

It's how people communicate. No longer is it good enough to speak once in awhile and catch up only on births, deaths and other big things. Now we like to know when each other feels ill, when bad days at work rumble by, when there's a possibility of hope upon the

horizon, when we're engaged, broken up, or really just hankering for a good bowl of ice cream. While it seems inane, it's no longer the fantasy of the future. It's already here to stay.

For service members, this means careful vigilance. Unlike

most other Americans, Airmen are potential targets for

terrorists, extremists and foreign intelligence. Member habits, locations, numbers and patterns are all usable information by enemy forces. In the '40's, the common saying was “Loose Lips, Sink Ships.” Now it's “Loose Tweets Sink Fleets.”

Be aware of what you talk about while online. Don't create Facebook Events for deployment send-offs or receptions where there might be a large group of service members. For the enemy, suddenly

they know where you are, how to attack you and the potential impact.

Don't post your phone number in status posts or on your info page. Trolling softwares will find and steal it for call centers to solicit to you, or for identity thieves.

Get to know your privacy settings. Set your audience to “Friends Only” as much as possible, unless you operate in a public fashion for small businesses. If you own a small business, start an organizational page to separate your personal and professional lives to keep

you and your family as secure as possible. Be aware of who your friends are, especially if you only know them on-line.

The safety and security of Airmen is top priority for the Air Force, but only you can

control your personal information online, so be alert and stay safe!



MURDER on



AES members struggle to save murder victim dumped a stone's throw from Kelly St. gate

By Master Sgt. Christian Michael
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

It wasn't on the sandy plains of Iraq or the mountains of Afghanistan that four Reservists encountered a man brutally attacked and left for dead. Instead, on a bend of Highway 31 between Montgomery and Prattville, Ala., May 12, four members of the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron struggled to save a man found cut from ear to ear lying in traffic.

A convoy of four vehicles had left late after the May Saturday Unit Training Assembly for a get-together across town when traffic ahead of

them slowed and began moving around something in the road. Seeing an injured man, the group pulled over and three moved to the victim while the fourth kept watch over their vehicles.

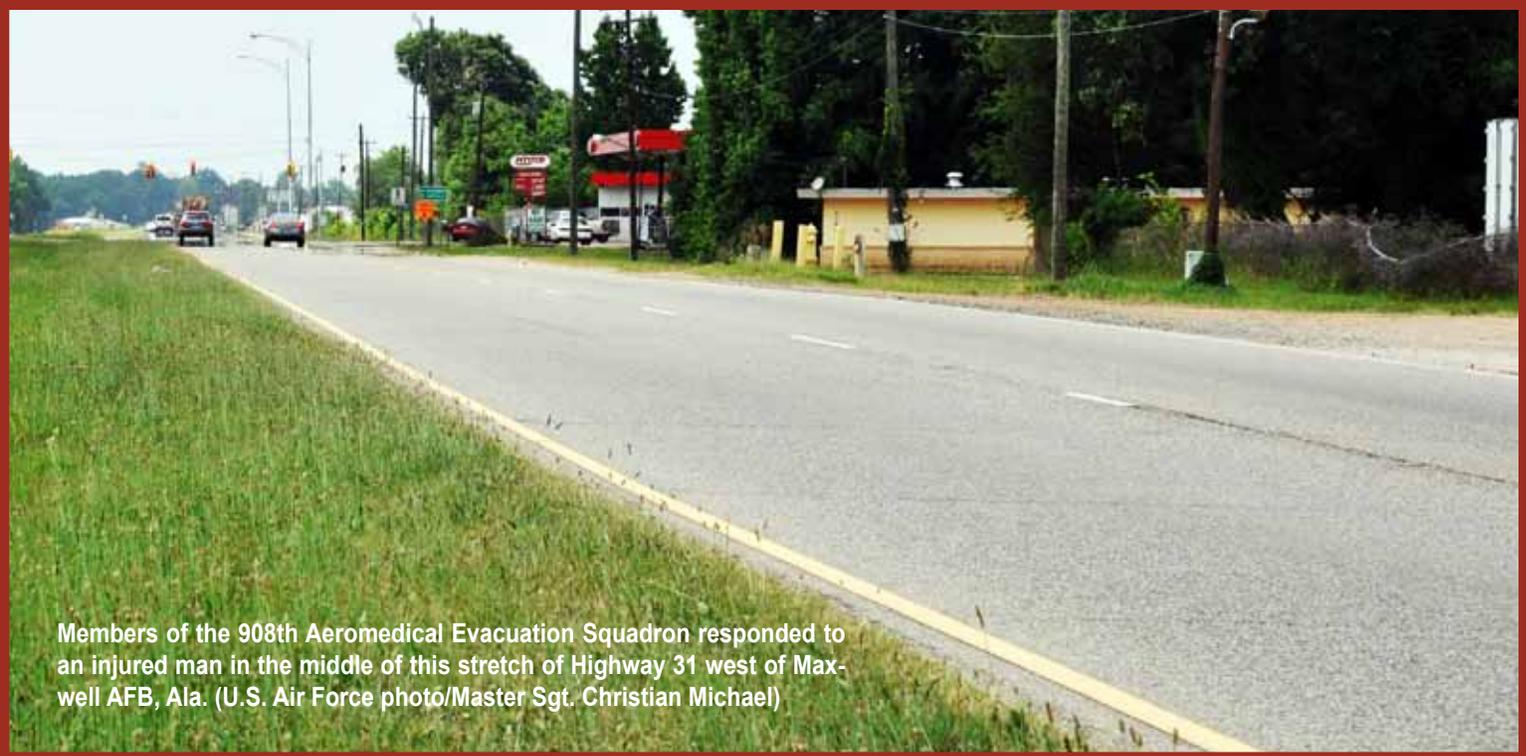
Aeromedical evacuation technician Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hines was first to leave his vehicle and reach the victim with his emergency bag, followed fast by technician Master Sgt. Jonathan Griswold, both of whom were accompanied by an unidentified civilian doctor on-scene.

"We originally thought it was a car accident," said Griswold, who helped Hines and the doctor begin an IV and apply pressure to the

man's bleeding injures. "You think it's one thing. It turns out to be something else. That's why his injury didn't make any sense – his throat was cut."

The group had stumbled upon a secondary crime scene – a victim injured in one location and dumped away from the attack. As Griswold and Hines checked the man for injuries they initially believed came from a hit-and-run, Tech. Sgt. Sean Kassebaum, a Reserve aeromedical evacuation technician and civilian emergency medical technician, pulled on his official "Traffic Control" jacket he keeps in his car and began directing traffic.

As if on the job, the three fell



Members of the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron responded to an injured man in the middle of this stretch of Highway 31 west of Maxwell AFB, Ala. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Christian Michael)

into the natural roles of a first-responder medical team.

“We worked like the team that we are,” said Kassebaum. “We got out and did exactly what I’ve seen every ambulance crew ever do.”

Meanwhile, medical logistician Master Sgt. Judith Johnson remained by the vehicles and kept traffic moving. She said until they all sat down to debrief, she thought someone had been hit by a car, and intentional injury was “definitely not what I was expecting.”

Back at the victim, the responders struggled to keep the man alive.

“We normally don’t see (patients) in that condition,” said Griswold, who said most of his military work comes after triage and Self Aid Buddy Care. “You don’t expect to run into something like that on the side of the road.”

Kassebaum has seen many such injuries in his work as an EMT, but

not often by homicide.

“When you come up on a body on the side of a highway at night, generally it’s a hit and run, not a murder,” said Kassebaum. “So that was different.”

After cleaning up and getting to the party, the group talked.

“We got back to the house and the four of us sat there and debriefed, which was really cool,” said Kassebaum. “We started debriefing and it was like: well, there’s no way that was an accident. That had to have been something deliberate.”

Kassebaum praised the victim despite the grim outlook.

“He lived for another hour. I thought that was pretty awesome,” he said. “I could tell by the way he was responding to the treatments ... that he was definitely a fighter. To hear that he lived for another hour, was testament to his will to live.”

The situation gave a testament

not only to the will of the victim, but the hope and commitment of the responders.

“I thought they did a fantastic job out there,” said Maj. George Hilyard, 908th AES director of operations, who praised them for jumping unbeknownst into a crime scene without PPE to save a life. “It’s not every day you come across something like that. They took all the training they’ve acquired over the years and did what was necessary.”

Hilyard plans to submit the four for appropriate recognition for their bold response to a potentially dangerous situation, and ascribes them and the unit as a whole with high regard.

“I always knew that they would step up whenever they needed to, and that’s exactly what they did,” he said. “They are fantastic, just like the rest of this unit.”

BEING THE DIFFERENCE



Volunteering from the 908th, Airman Corey Hall (LRS) helps the girls (above) and Airman 1st Class Kevin Rodriquez (main) helps the boys into inflatable bouncy houses during a Springfest at Highland Avenue Elementary School in downtown Montgomery, Ala., May 18. Right, Senior Airman Kyle Nagamatsu helps a student during the activities. (Submitted photos)



Submitted photo

Senior Airman Shaniqua Rogers stands with Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School eighth grade graduation class, May 17. Rogers gave the graduation speech to the graduating class.



Submitted photo

Staff Sgt. Melissa Carmon volunteered May 19 with Air Force Sergeant's Association at an Alabama Special Olympics event in Montgomery, Ala.

BRIEFS

Civic leaders sought

The 908th Airlift Wing public affairs office is looking to improve relationships leaders of member communities.

Members who know civic leaders not already involved with the 908th can submit a name and contact info to the PA office for review to jerry.lobb@us.af.mil.

Personnel accountability

The Air Force now uses the Air force personnel Accountability and Assessment System to keep track of Airmen before, during and after major life-threatening events, such as tornadoes, hurricanes, or even when a home burns to the ground.

Airmen are encouraged to update their personal information and orient themselves with the system in the event of a catastrophe so the Air Force can maintain accountability and direct help as available through nearby and home units.

Members can log in using their personal information and set up a login and password, and can access in-depth information by using the "References" tab, then at the bottom right in the "Downloads" box, download the "Trifold Brochure Air Force."

To login and for more information, visit the Web site at <https://afpaas.af.mil>.

TALKING POINTS

Knowing retirement system makes exit easier

By Tech. Sgt. Katrina George
908th Force Support Squadron

Do you have enough points to retire?

To have a good year for retirement, a member must earn at least 50 points during their retention/retirement year (R/R). Each reservist is given 15 points for membership in a Reserve status, so they only have to accumulate a minimum of 35 points to earn a good year for retirement.

A retention/retirement year begins on one day of one year and ends on the preceding day of the next year, example: July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

Points can be earned in any number of ways.

Airmen can earn one point: for each day of active duty; for four hours of inactive duty training (not to exceed two points per calendar day); and for each three study hours of military correspondence courses.

For a full R/R year, 15 membership points (prorate points for periods less than a year) are awarded. Active-duty points are earned, at the rate of one point per day, while serving in active-duty status.

For inactive duty points, one point shall be credited to members in an active status for each four-hour period of each unit training assembly or equivalent instruction, not to exceed two points per day. Funeral honors duty is performed at a minimum of two hours, earning one point per day.

While some Reserve sections require paid inactive-duty training, inactive duty for points only (non pay) can be earned in authorized activities.

A nonresident extension course can

get you one point for every three study hours.

Airmen are credited with a year of satisfactory Federal service for retirement when they earn a minimum of 50 points (including membership points) in a full R/R year.

If you are interesting in viewing your points, you can use the ANG/USAFR Point Credit Summary: To review and make copies of point credit information go to the vMPF at wwa.afpc.randolph.af.mil/VS/ (at least 60 days after R/R year closeout) under the Self Service Actions, select "Personal Data," select "ANG/USAFR Point Credit Summary Inquiry" (PCARS) and select "View All."

What action do you take as the member to correct discrepancies you see after viewing your points?

Each member can access the vMPF at wwa.afpc.randolph.af.mil/VS/ to view their points and service history. If errors are identified, members can access the vPC-GR Dashboard at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/default.asp> and submit supporting documents through the "Correct Retirement Points History" link.

This application provides the capability to request changes or corrections to current R/R year points or service history. It is the members' responsibility, when requesting a correction, to submit documentation (i.e. DD 214, NGB 23B, Sister Service Point Summary, LES, Certified Travel Voucher, Certified Orders, etc.) to support the change.

You can visit MPS Customer Service during regular hours for assistance.

THEY MIGHT BE GIANT

The son of a military member hugs Airman Andy as the Montgomery Biscuits held their annual Military Appreciation Night June 2, 2012, at the stadium in downtown Montgomery, Ala. More than 140 men and women were enlisted on the field prior to the game, with many local military from Maxwell Air Force Base, Gunter Annex and other units from around town. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sandi Percival)



U.S. Air Force photo/Gene Hughes

I told you, no cameras! What happens on the flight deck, stays on the flight deck!

Command Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke

Roll Call

PROMOTIONS

- E-7** Richard Peterson Joseph Buettner
Christopher Parrish Kelvin Pettus
- E-6** Adam Dennis Nicole Plummer
David Baxter
- E-5** Angel Armstrong
- E-4** Kevin Clark Kresston Davis
Justin Sasser Irvin Wright
Ulysses Grant
- E-3** Melissa Erickson Patrick Ezelle
Harold Floyd Eric Perkins
Joseph Abernathy
- E-2** Keith Smith

NEWCOMERS

- Col. Paul Knapp
- Capt. Stephanie Hahn
- Tech. Sgt. John Marshall
- Staff Sgt. Daniel Idell
- SrA Joshua Armour
- SrA Amorette Barger
- SrA Tametrices Fuller
- SrA Tamara Lewis
- A1C Latavious Montgomery
- A1C Craig Schoenewaldt
- A1C Kelsie Summers
- AB Careasha Little
- AB Latricia Parks
- AB Michael Sankey
- AB Brandon Thomas

Welcome!

RETIRING

- Col Camille Phillips
- LtC Peter Garland III
- LtC Stanley Jesionowski
- LtC Laurie Parker
- LtC Billy Tabor Jr.
- CMSgt Adriel Carr
- CMSgt Jesse Scott
- SMSgt Mark Williams
- MSgt Lee Cobb
- MSgt David McCaughtry
- MSgt Nicholas Monday
- MSgt Pamela Rhodes
- MSgt Darrell Stephens
- TSgt Lynette Clayton
- TSgt Alfred Deramus
- TSgt Henry Milliner Jr.

Farewell!

*** The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place on July XX at 9 a.m. in Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.***



LRS improves morale

(Submitted photos)



ACE Meeting

(US Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder)



Duke Re-Enlists

(US Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Sandi Percival)



A Big Thank You

Senior Airman Eva Sisson thanks the 908th Airlift Wing for supporting her and her family after a tornado destroyed her home earlier this year. (US Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder)

EMPLOYER DAY 2012

The 908th will be hosting a joint employer event on Nov. 7 in cooperation with the Alabama Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Nominate your civilian employer/supervisor to attend "Breakfast with the Boss" using the form below. The event will start at the Officer's Club at 7:30 a.m. Those who wish to stay will be offered the chance to fly over central Alabama in one of our C-130s. Nominate your boss today!
All nominations must be received by COB Sept. 25.

Please print, fill out and bring in or mail the box form below by Aug. 15, 2012. Cut out if you like to save space.

**908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
401 W. Maxwell Blvd. Rm. 100
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112**

Employer Day Nomination Form

EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Title (Mr. Mrs. etc) _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

Company/Org _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Office Phone: _____

Driver's license # _____ State issued by: _____

Needed to meet base entry security requirements

Participate in C-130 Flight Yes/No?

MEMBER INFORMATION

Rank _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

Military Unit _____ Phone _____