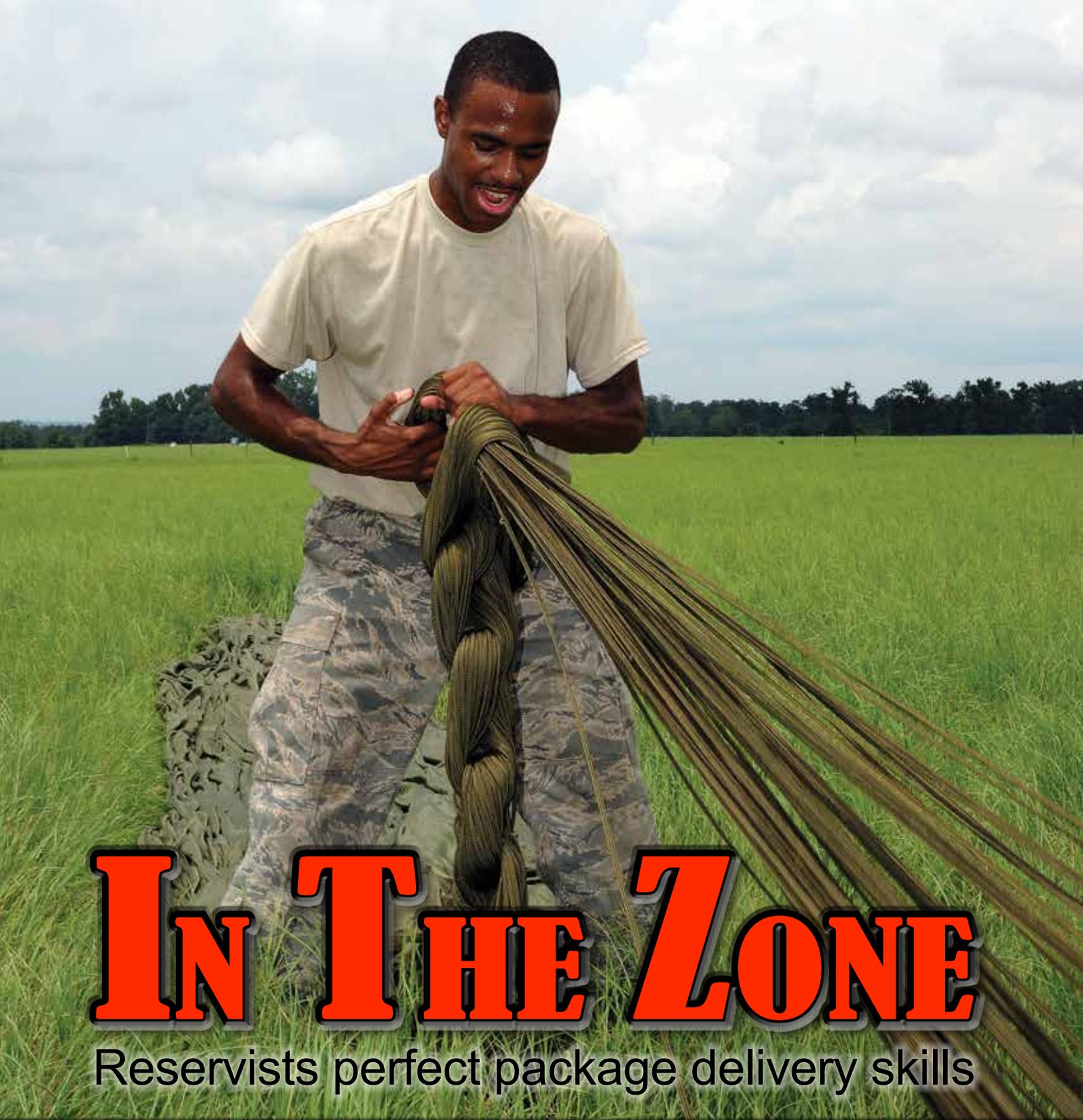


SOUTHERN FLYER



IN THE ZONE

Reservists perfect package delivery skills

SOUTHERN FLYER



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 *Commentary*
Col. Harold "Hal" Linnean
- 03 *Chaplain's Moment*
Money Matters
- 04 *Wing Vice Departs*
- 05 *MSG Gains Commander*
- 06-07 *Air Drop Photo Gallery*
- 08 *50th Year Event Scheduled*
Team Improves Processes
- 09 *22nd AF Chief Vsits 908th*
- 10 *News Briefs*
Promotions
- 11 *UTA schedule/*
General info
- 12 *Back Page*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PA Officer: Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb
Editor: Mr. Gene H. Hughes
Writer: Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

Be unconquerable Airmen

After six weeks on the job, I concluded two things: the 908th Airlift Wing has an "invictus" spirit and I am going to really like it here. William Ernest Henley's poem "Invictus" described how a man faced life head-on and did not let it change him; he was unconquerable (i.e. invictus).

*"In the fell clutch of circumstance,
I have not winced
nor cried aloud.*

*Under the bludgeoning of chance,
My head is bloody, but unbowed."*

Through the years, this wing has faced many challenges and struggles. Each time you stood your ground and faced the situation head-on. To me, the spirit of this wing echoes,

*"I am the master of my fate;
I am the captain of my soul."*

I sense that you will not bow without a fight. Do not lose sight of this strength. Remember you are in charge of your life. Know who you are, and stand prepared to face unknown journeys.

Have an invictus spirit.

I, my wife Joy, and young sons, Jackson and Luke are excited to join y'all in Alabama. The South is home to us and it is here that we feel the most comfortable. We appreciated the warm reception extended by each of you after my promotion and assumption of command ceremonies.



COL. HAROLD "HAL" LINNEAN
Commander, 908th MSG

It is this heightened sense of comfort that allows me the opportunity to focus on how best to serve our

Airmen. This comfort stems from observing the sense of family and bonds of friendship within the wing.

Nevertheless, like any family, we have our differences. Internally, we have many different groups of family members (i.e. Ops, MSG, MXG, ASTS and headquarters) that may not always get along.

We may bicker with and tease one another, but we always stand united against external threats and challenges.

Do not forget this perspective, we are in this together. I am honored and excited to be a part of the 908th.

Stay focused, keep charging, and thanks for the DYDJs.

A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) MATTHEW HOSHER

Ever felt helpless? On the first day of a recent TDY, I received bad news from four different sources. When the phone rang for the fifth time I thought, "It can't get any worse," but it did.

My mom informed me dad has "Permanent Cognitive Impairment," an ongoing family joke that dad has been losing his car keys for years. But this was different. She explained, "Dad got lost in the kitchen at home last week."

I felt crushed. One of the smartest men I have known was fading. Panic sank into my soul and worry weighed me down. My mind raced as I frantically searched for solutions. I felt helpless.

I reached out to my Chaplain, who said, "This morning on the way to work, I saw the scariest thing. As I drove down the interstate, the car ahead of me was about to hit a dog crossing the road. I watched, helplessly, and knew that there was nothing I could do. The dog tumbled under the car with a thud. To my amazement, the dog came out the back, took a hard right and kept on running."

I reflected on his words, and I am learning that life sometimes hits us all at once. If we stop and resist, it will kill us. But if we take the hits, each in its own measure, and roll with them, we will survive. Sometimes to make it through, we just need to hang a right and keep running. So I took the hit, rolled with it, and am still alive and running.



Closeout Closing In

By Debbie Smith
908th FM

Less than 45 days to go, and FY 13 will only be a memory. I know the question that I want to ask, "Is that a fond memory?"

This has been a very challenging year for all of us, especially the FM community. We have had new programs to grasp, furlough days to deal with, more work with less time to get it accomplished, budget constraints, and we still have to close out by Sept. 30.

Can this be done??

We are asking all units to please make sure that your members are doing their part to help us:

- ◆ Make sure all travel vouchers have been submitted in e-finance or a paper copy for those vouchers to be filed in RTS.

- ◆ Those vouchers in DTS need to be completed and digitally signed by member so they can be paid.

- ◆ If you have an outstanding pay document please go into AROWS and certify through TODC, or turn in your certified paper copy to your unit Orderly Room.

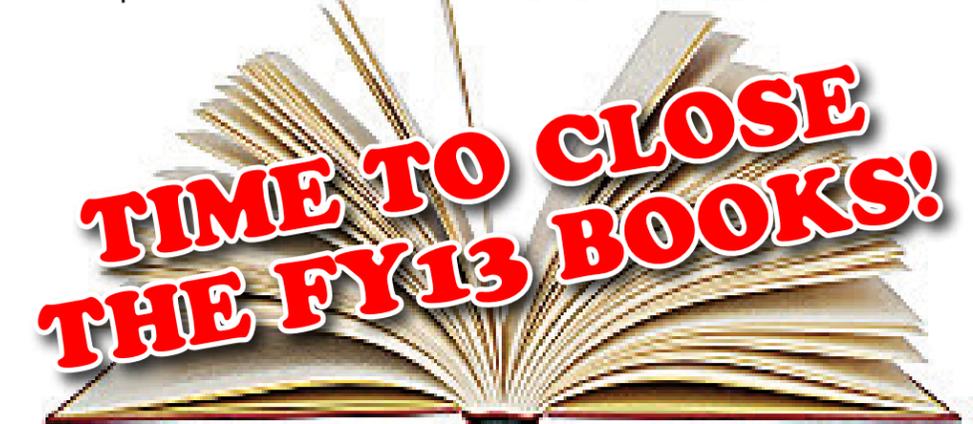
- ◆ Check you GTC card and make sure you do not have an outstanding balance. This could be due to a travel voucher not being paid.

- ◆ We still have a small amount of Reservists that have NOT registered in DTS, please get them registered.

- ◆ Members on long tours are being encouraged to file 30 day vouchers instead of accruals, please check with FM before going on a long tour.

- ◆ All Reservists/Civilians should have a MyPay pin number, please check your LES for pay before calling the FM Mil Pay office to check on your pay.

Happy New (Fiscal) Year to all, and may next year have a bright light at the end of the tunnel...



SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Senior Airman Davey Atkins of the 25th Aerial Port Squadron "daisy chains" a parachute at the wing's drop zone following one of several drops made during a recent TAC weekend.

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.

POWER KNAPP

Vice Commander's wing tenure short, but beneficial

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

His time with the 908th Airlift Wing has been short, but during his tenure as the vice commander, Col. Paul Knapp couldn't be accused of copping any "Zs."

After just more than a year, Knapp announced that he would be departing the 908th to take a position as the Reserve Advisor to the director of Air, Space, and

Information Operations, Air Force Materiel Command Headquarters at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

Knapp's first impression of Maxwell Air Force Base didn't start his first day on the job. It actually began in the late 90's while he was a Squadron Officer College student at Air University.

"It was a big change to be able to address the wing from the stage this month in the same auditorium

where I attended lectures and briefings as a student at SOC," he said. "The base and the local area have come so far since then. I definitely have a much greater appreciation for this community after serving with the 908th."

Speaking at his final commander's call during the June UTA, Knapp said he will miss the 908th's southern hospitality, one of the things he views as the wing's foundation.

"The family-like atmosphere is what gives the wing its strength, and I hope you all will continue to keep

Col. Paul Knapp's tricycle performance with helmet cam on Family Day won't soon be forgotten.

that attitude in everything you do," he said. "The 908th has a proud heritage and a promising future."

According to Command Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke, one of the greatest things about working with Knapp has been his attentive leadership approach.

"Col. Knapp has a leadership style that complements (wing commander) Col. Clark's in a very positive way," Duke said. "It's always great to have another set of eyes to offer a different perspective in the decision-making process."

As the Reserve Advisor to an active duty general, Knapp will have the opportunity to provide valuable insight from the Reserve perspective.

Knapp encouraged Reserve Airmen to continue to foster similar relationships on Maxwell with our active duty counterparts.

"Active-duty Airmen PCS in and out of here on a regular basis. You have the opportunity, as Reservists, to provide continuity for the base," he said. "Building a working relationship with active duty is a constant process and that synergy is going to carry all of us forward."

Having enjoyed his time at Maxwell, Knapp said his departure is bittersweet.

"I would love to stay here longer, but I've always gone wherever the Air Force calls me," he said. "The 908th is on the right path for success, and I'm excited to see where the future takes this wing."



Double Upgrades

Newly eagled Linnean takes over support group

Story by Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder
Photos by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb
and Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder
908th AW Public Affairs

The 908th Mission Support Group has a new commander.

Colonel Harold W. "Hal" Linnean III assumed command of the 908th MSG shortly after pinning on his 'eagles.' Linnean, who served as the assistant executive officer to the Air Force Reserve Command commander, is a recent graduate of the Air War College here.

His attitude was evident right from the start.

"I take my work very seriously, and I'm ready to start right now," he said.

Major Gen. Craig Gourley, vice commander, AFRC, attended Linnean's pinning on and change of command ceremonies. After naming off a long list of Linnean's accomplishments at the earlier promotion ceremony, Gourley told those attending that Linnean was savvy, smart and fair. Referring to a recent performance report, he quoted, "he's the epiphany of a professional."

Colonel Brett Clark, 908th Airlift Wing Commander used a quote from Lt. Gen. David Fadok, commander and president of Air University to describe Linnean's management style.

"When it comes to serving in the Air Force, it has to be viewed as a team sport," he said.

Linnean then addressed members of the force service support squadron, explaining what some of his values were. "I am here to serve with you. I offer you four things; raised expectations, accountability, personal growth and professional growth."

Linnean outlined his expectations, instructing his Airmen to "stay true to the Air Force Core Values, maintain professional discipline, put forth effort seeking improvement, and do your job."

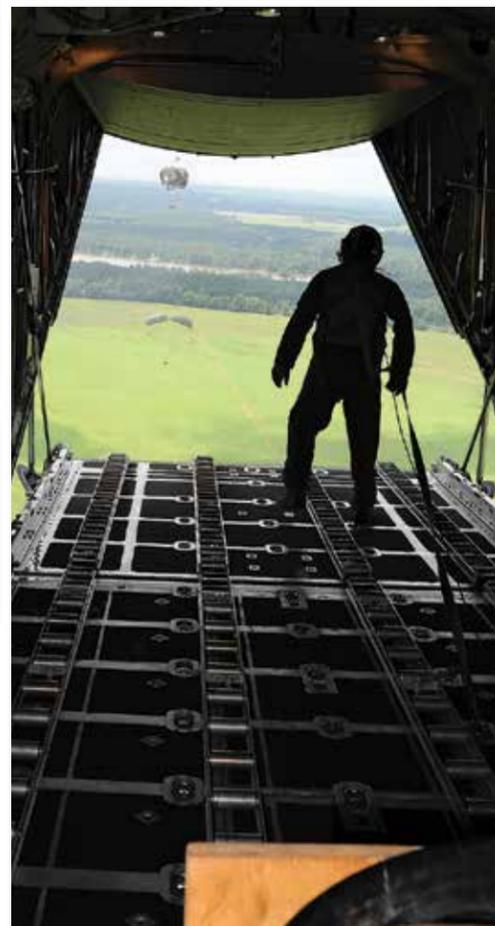
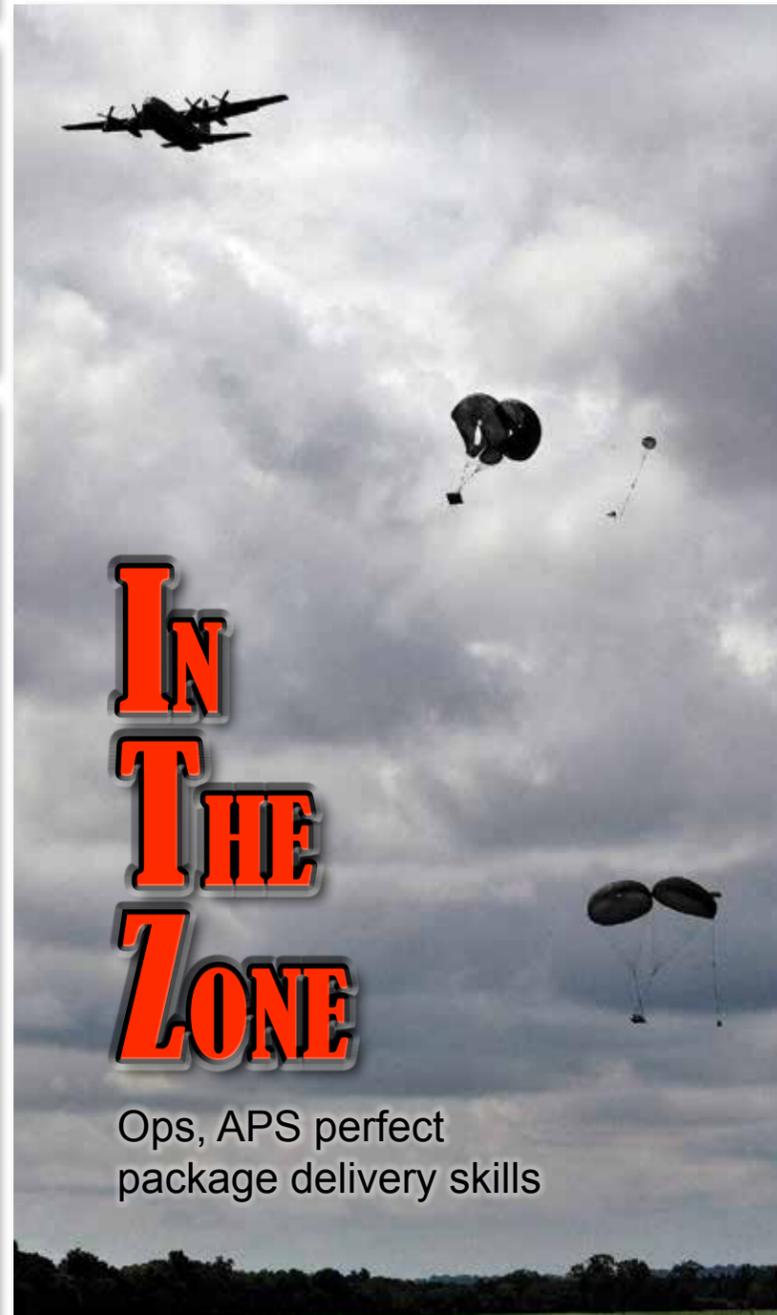
"Together, we are an unbeatable team!"

Right: Col. Linnean receives the MSG guidon from Wing Commander Col. Brett Clark.



Above: Newly promoted Col. Harold Linnean has his eagles pinned on by his family, with help from AFRC Vice Commander Maj. Gen. Craig Gourley.





In The Zone

Ops, APS perfect package delivery skills

Wing to host anniversary event

The 908th Airlift Wing, Alabama's only Air Force Reserve unit, will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Dec. 7.

The wing's golden anniversary event will be held at the Embassy Suites in Montgomery.

The unit was formed in Mobile in 1963 as the 908th Troop Carrier Group and was redesignated as an airlift wing in 1994. During its five decades of service, the wing has undergone changes in name, mission and aircraft, and location.

The 908th, which began flying C-130 transport planes in 1983, has been awarded seven Air Force Outstanding Unit awards and countless individual, group

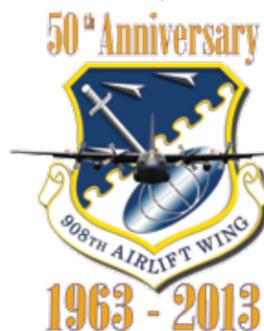
and Air Force awards.

Over the years, Reservists of the 908th have been activated or volunteered to serve all over the world. They have served in both humanitarian efforts in such places as Puerto Rico, Bosnia, Haiti and Pakistan, and combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The wing currently employs about 1,200 Reservists. The full-time staff is made up of approximately 190 Air Reserve Technicians and 15 civilians.

Tickets for the event are now on sale for former wing members. The tickets are \$25 each, and may be purchased by sending a check to: 908 AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd, Montgomery AL 36117.

For more information, call (334) 953-6804 or e-mail Jerry.Lobb@us.af.mil.



Wing team improves process efficiency

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

Looking to improve processes, clean and straighten up the area, or perhaps collect data and make charts?

Those charts tell stories, such as how well a unit is doing. It can also identify areas needed for improvement. Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century, known in the civilian world as Continuous Process Improvement, is a program the Air Force has implemented to cut or eliminate processes waste.

Lt. Col. Troy Vonada, 908th Airlift Wing Process Manager has been working on ASO-21 by guiding the wing, with the help of a special team made of Airmen from various units, to streamlining its processes, resulting in substantial cost savings.

"AFRC created positions like mine to have people lead the way at every wing to help us in our continuous process efforts," he said.

Several events have been con-

ducted recently at the 908th, such as the wing's Newcomer program. After examining the program, evaluators determined it was taking an average of 17 hours out of an average Unit Training Assembly to process an Airman reporting to the wing.

After evaluation and implementation, the program is adhering to AFI, and according to Vonada, it now only takes four hours per UTA day for classroom briefings. New Airmen can now spend the rest of each day accomplishing tasks at their respective units.

As anyone who has ever dealt with them knows all too well, performance reports is another area where improvements can save time.

"The goal is to have every OPR/EPR ready for signatures on close-out day," said Vonada. "With this new project implementation, it would ultimately mean over time, that there would be no 'do overs.'"

He explained that there were 28 steps in the old process and now, after

the event, only 11. The goal would be to submit OPR/EPRs only once, meaning no "recycle."

It's a vast improvement over the average 11-month time period spent writing, checking, approving and re-routing evaluations before submitting the forms to AFRC. The process team has cut down that time down to five months and 15 days and has improved 17 steps.

A third process improvement was conducted in March at the wing's medical clinic where long wait times have long interfered with unit efficiency. For instance, the team found that three different medics were checking vital signs. The team improved this process by having signs taken once at the start of the visit.

The information is then entered into a database where every other office can see it, meaning a reduction from four and one-half hours down to one and one-half hours per average visit, saving 3,600 man-hours a year.



In a distant air base, far, far away ... An aeromedical evacuation crew poses amongst a variety of aircraft. Amongst the crew are Staff Sgt. Ross Rudolph from Kadena Air Force Base, Japan; Capt. Jeff Farley from the Oklahoma Air National Guard; TSgt Travis Adams and First Lt. Steven Vietti from Pope AFB, N.C. Standing tall in the center is Senior Airman Christina Dryden of the 908th. "We are flying medical evacuation missions throughout the AOR getting injured soldiers out and bringing them to safe areas for treatment," she said.

NAF Command Chief motivates 908th Airmen



Chief Master Sgt. Steven Larwood, Command Chief of the 22nd Air Force, addresses enlisted members of the 908th Airlift Wing.

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

Chief Master Sgt. Steven Larwood, Command Chief of the 22nd Air Force, addressed 908th enlisted members after the commander's call during the June UTA.

He spoke about how Airmen should set realistic goals for themselves.

"We're only as strong as our weakest Airman," he said.

Larwood specifically addressed senior Airmen and below explaining how important it is to be trained, so Airmen can do their job with skill and competence. "Immerse yourself in your chosen career field knowing everything you can to become the best technician you can," said Larwood.

The chief explained how 75 percent of the American population does not qualify to wear the uniform. He described how, out of the remaining 25 percent, 12 will show interest in the military, saying that out of that 12 percent, the Air Force competes with all other branches of the service to recruit the best talent.

"You should feel very good about who you are," he said.

He advised Airmen to pick a subject matter expert and pick their brain with the sole intention of replacing them one day. Larwood closed saying, "set some goals for yourself and track your accomplishments."

Larwood also recognized the new Development & training Flight, describing how he had performed his P.T. with them.

New to the 908th

Soliel K. Albright, SFS
 Hoyt B. Bell, 25 APS
 Anne K. Boenisch, ASTS
 Devince M. Bryant, AMXS
 Michael E. Caldwell, MXG
 Ashley R. Clark, ASTS
 Veronica Coronado, SFS
 Nichole M. Davis, CES
 James B. Deason, CES
 Jared T. Dellapietro, AW
 Shaundella Dowdell, LRS
 William M. Fults Jr., CES
 Senovia G. Gallegos, SFS
 Glen A. Gilbert, MXS
 Andrew R. Hampton, FSS
 Christopher D. Hardin, LRS
 Bryant Hightower, MXS
 Amber D. Howard, FSS
 Jessie W. Howard Jr., MXS
 Adrian S. Hunter, LRS
 Clive E. Johnson, MXS

Daniel P. Johnson, MXS
 Emonie Lewis, LRS
 Kynara A. Lewis, SFS
 Shawanda L. Miles, ASTS
 Brittany A. Millsaps, FSS
 Trevon D. Mingo, 25 APS
 Stacy Nabors, 357 AS
 Ashley D. Nix, ASTS
 Sasha S. Phillips, SFS
 Jackia Pitts, 25 APS
 Henry M. Relf, SFS
 Courtney Ridgeway, ASTS
 Joshua A. Simmons, MXG
 Lisa A. Smith, 357 AS
 Veronica Stallworth, 357 AS
 Lateriya Stamps, 25 APS
 Austin D. Sturdivant, CES
 Courtney E. Tremer, FSS
 Kristtyn, Tutt, AW
 Laura L. Wagner, LRS
 Nathanael A. Smith, ASTS

Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Noreen Burke, ASTS
 Lt. Col. Kevin D. Fuqua, MSG
 Lt. Col. Billy R. Tabor Jr., 357 AS

Master Sgt. Marcus A. Fuller, 25 APS
 Master Sgt. Michael Talley, SFS

* Please be advised, due to FY13 sequestration the August Retirement Briefing was rescheduled to the Oct UTA.*

BRIEFS

Volunteer Opportunities

Airmen Committed to Excellence, the E-1 through E-4 group at the 908th, will be taking part in the Heros' Welcome: Picnic in the Park, scheduled for from noon to 4 p.m. Sept. 15 at Ida Bell Young Park in Montgomery. Anyone interested in volunteering can call (334) 819-0272, but all members of the 908th family are invited.

Also, ACE will be taking volunteers to assist in the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance. Members will be serving at the Children's Center of Montgomery, 310 North Madison Terrace, on Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information on these events, call Senior Airman Shaniqua Rogers, ACE President, at (334) 953-5029.

Gaining Altitude



Master Sergeant



Zola Barbour
 Don Prempramot
 Karen A. Rhodes

Technical Sergeant



Christopher J. Barbour,
 James C. Bonds,
 Taylor R. Ford
 Amber T. Jackson
 Evan P. Stroumpis

Staff Sergeant



Steven D. Harris
 Andrew J. Jeter

Senior Airman



Siedrick E. Orozco
 Cynthia I. Russold
 Sarah N. Shea
 Jeffery L. Smith

Airman First Class



Cameron M. Smith
 James M. Starns
 Kristyn D. Tutt
 Steven D. Ward

Airman



Tevin T. Burks
 Veronica Y. Coronado
 Sierra D. Fitchard
 Victoria L. Garnes
 Christopher M. Isbell
 Kynara A. Lewis



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