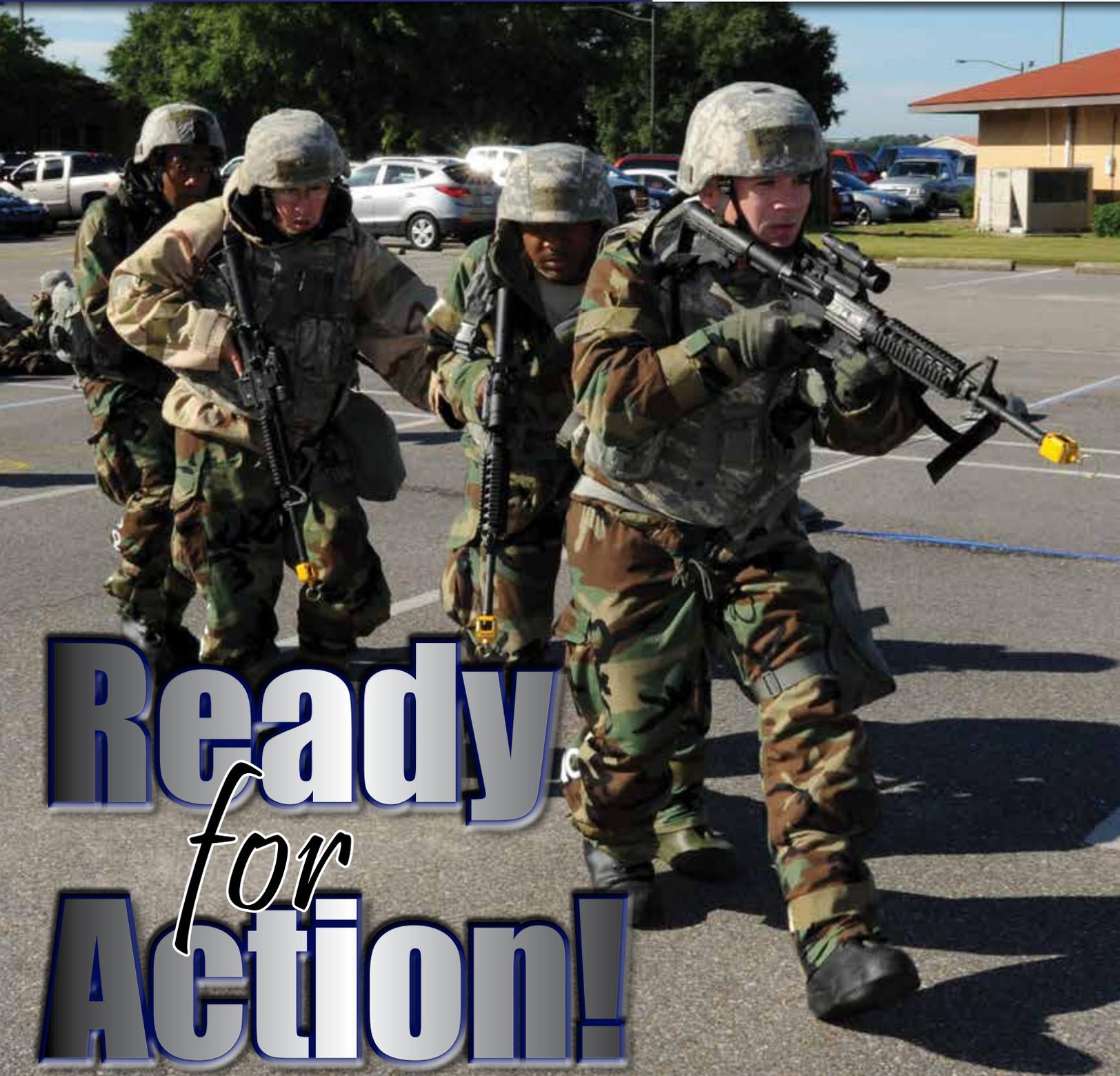


SOUTHERN FLYER



Ready *for* Action!

908th Airmen sharpen combat skills

SOUTHERN FLYER



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Ops group aiming high

The 908th Operations Group will receive an Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Visit (ASEV) from Headquarters Air Mobility Command (AMC) this month. This type of visit is the premier operations inspection. The visit has three basic phases: aircrew written examinations, flight evaluations, and a flying programs review.

Ratings for flying programs, overall flight performance and overall written exams are given from "excellent" to "unsatisfactory." The overall rating is either "Mission Ready" or "Not Mission Ready."

Group members have been preparing for the visit since early spring. Chiefs of aircrew programs (Standardization & Evaluation, Aircrew Training, Tactics, and Flight Management) have been reviewing their processes and adjusting them to ensure compliance with AMC standards. As for written examinations, this is a case where the test is known before it is given. Each crew position has a Master Question File that is used for the exams.

The inspection team will use

questions from this bank for the tests. Each aircrew position has received practice tests from this bank each UTA since spring, and all are fully ready to receive their test if it were given today. The test will be administered during the October UTA.

Since August, some of our aircrew members have received flight evaluations. They are known for their expertise, and this is reflected in the results of these evaluations. We have

received evaluations on nine pilots, three navigators, three flight engineers, six loadmasters, four flight nurses, and six aeromed techs.

All have passed with flying colors, including two aeromed techs receiving "commendable" grades, and one flight engineer, Chief Master Sgt. Brent Solomon receiving an "exceptionally qualified."

I know that all the members of the operations group are ready, and will undoubtedly impress the team when they arrive. Our aircrews are among the finest in the command, and we are aiming for an outstanding.

I have every confidence we will achieve that high standard!



COL. EDWARD JENNINGS
Commander, 908th Ops Group

A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (COL.) DAVID DERSCH

"Parting is such sweet sorrow." I know what Shakespeare meant when he wrote those words. I'm excited about the prospects that God has opened up for me. My next assignment is to be the chaplain consultant to the Yellow Ribbon program.

I'm saddened to leave behind all the friends and relationships that we've developed over the last seven years. I came here as a "green" O-3 with little clue how traditional reserve units worked. Through opportunities given me by my wing commanders and the tremendous work of fellow chaplains and chaplain assistants, I leave a better Airman with great experiences, and even greater memories.

Since this will be my last Southern Flyer article, I wanted to leave you with a final parting message: Always stick to our Air Force core values; integrity, service, and excellence. They will not lead you astray. And to these I encourage you to add a fourth core value — "faith."

Faith in God, faith in your fellow wingman, and faith in yourself, can give you the spiritual strength to do the miraculous. I believe our Wing's best days are ahead, and I have faith the new wing chaplain, Lt. Col Hoggatt, will not only continue the quality chapel program here, but will take it to new heights.

At the 908th chapel section, we're all about "faith." And the good men who remain are always available to help you with your faith. God Bless!



The Continuation of Sequestration

By Greg Hardy
908th AW FM

The condition affectionately known as sequestration will continue in FY 2014.

This means automatic, across-the-board budget cuts which have already taken a chunk out of 2013 spending are poised to continue and will do so again when the calendar rolls over to fiscal 2014.

A Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA) amendment is likely to continue in FY 2014. A CRA is a type of appropriations legislation used by Congress to fund government agencies if a formal appropriations bill has not been signed into law by the end of the Congressional fiscal year.

Congress is currently undertaking the issue of the debt ceiling. If it doesn't raise the ceiling in coming months, the nation will be at risk. Without being able to borrow new money from the markets, the U.S. Treasury won't have enough revenue coming in to pay all the country's obligations and the United States could default on its current obligations, not to mention the increased cost of capital if our credit rating is downgraded due to this.

State governments are seeing record deficits in funding essential services for their respective cities,

counties and states overall. These revenue losses are due to several factors: the economic downturn across the country; as job creation is outpaced by job losses, the erosion of industrial revenues and taxes derived from them, the continuing slide of home valuation and the resulting losses to state government revenues derived from property taxes.

This affects the national budget, as states turn to the federal government to make up their lost revenues.

What does all this mean?

It means that many of the practices we implemented in FY 2013 will continue into FY 2014. We must find that balance between mission requirements as opposed to mission enhancements.

This will mean that communication of these "requirements" and associated funding must be in "lock step" with each other, and our ability to execute those dollars — and thereby defend our budgets — will receive greater scrutiny than in the past. This is evidenced by the fact that we will soon be coming under the Independent Public Accounting (IPA) umbrella, where all financial documents will be scrutinized by an external office set up by DOD; as requested by congress, to review all financial transactions for sufficiency, legality and other issues.

SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

In preparation for upcoming tests of operational readiness, members of the 908th Airlift Wing recently took part in a RAV, honing combat skills.



U.S. Air Force Photo/
Lt. Col. Jerry W. Lobb

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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.

Career keeps a-Rollins

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

LRS Airman is airlift wing's newest chief

Working toward becoming a chief is a difficult and challenging road, yet another Airman of the 908th Airlift Wing has achieved that lofty goal.

Chief Master Sgt. Connie Rollins of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron is the newest member of that small group of senior enlisted members that lead the Airmen of the 908th every day of the year, both in war and in peacetime.

Rollins has a lot to bring to the table. Having been on active duty and then serving in the Reserves for more than two decades, Rollins has been in the Air Force a total of 29 years. With a varied range of experience she has under her belt, three CCAF degrees and three classes short of a bachelor's degree, Rollins takes a humble attitude toward what she still wants to learn.

"I am my own worst critic so it is hard to speak on myself," she said, "I guess I would have to say I will bring new ideas. I am the newest chief so I am already being mentored by seasoned and retired chiefs. I still have a lot to learn being a chief but I just hope to bring a new face with new fresh ideas. I always want to do what it takes to get the job done or to help someone."

Rollins, whose husband also serves in the wing told how he thought it was a great accomplishment for her and their family. "It's nice to have a husband in the unit because he understands the military way of life. We support each other. When one is deployed or TDY, the other picks up the duties and takes care of our son."

They're also close support to each other as in the way of education. "I motivated him to get his CCAF degree and then he kept going and got his BA degree," she explained, "That inspired me to go back to school and get mine."

Tim graduated last year, and Connie will graduate before the end of the year.

"We motivate and support each other," she said. "I could not do what I do without him."



Col. Brett Clark, wing commander of the 908th, presents then-Senior Master Sgt. Connie Rollins of 908th LRS with a glass chevron after announcing her Oct. 1 promotion to chief master sergeant.

Rollins' Secrets to Success

- ◆ "Never let up, never let 'you' be the reason for not getting promoted. Always have your PME and other specific items accomplished and if you do not make rank, it will be for other reasons — not you."
- ◆ "Be a servant to others. This keeps the focus off of you. Get a mentor for yourself and get them to list things you need to accomplish and start working on that list."
- ◆ "Once you finish one thing on the list, cross it off and start working on the next. Multi-task and write things down so as not to forget what you have to get done next."



You've Got A Golden Ticket!

It is time!

See your unit sales rep and get your tickets for the 908th's 50th Anniversary event. The celebration will take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Far from a formal affair, this will be a party to mark our wing's accomplishments and gather with current and former members who have made it all happen through the years. Everyone who is/ or ever has been a member of the 908th is invited!

This will be a first class event, but casual, not stuffy. Business casual will be the uniform of the evening with slacks and nice shirts for men (jacket's optional) and similar for ladies. Instead of a sit-down plated meal, food will be finger foods served in several areas.

There will be a brief period of introductions and comments but they will be kept short so everyone will

50th Anniversary



1963 - 2013

TICKET PRICES:

- E-1 TO E-4: \$10
- E-5 TO E-7: \$15
- E-8 & E-9: \$20
- OFFICERS & ALUMNI: \$25

have time to meet and mingle with your friends and people who you may have only heard mentioned in unit legends and lore.

Given the SEC Championship game will be on that night, several televisions will be on to watch the game. Pictures and a display of the wing's history will be on hand. Following the game a DJ will be on hand to play music and the dance floor will be open.

Some guy in a red suit may show up as well!

In addition to wing members and Alumni, elected officials and other members

of the community support team are invited to attend.

We only have two UTAs to get everyone lined up for the party. Please purchase your tickets and make your plans to attend now!

Call (334) 953-6804 for details.



RAW(E) ON



908th!



The 'E'xcellence is silent
(but obvious)

Photos by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb, SMSgt. Martha Roy & Senior Airman Anntionetta Reese
For More Photos: Go to our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/908AW>



Flanders' familiar field

Dornhoefer hands 25th APS dawg pound to former Army enlisted

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

As she departed for new horizons, and with a new set of eagles on her shoulders, Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer paused to say a few words of farewell to the Airmen of the 25th Aerial Port Squadron.

"Serving as your commander was the greatest honor of my career," she said. "Thank you for all you've done, for all you continue to do and for all you will do in serving our great nation, 24/7/365, 'anytime, anywhere.' I know you'll keep moving mountains and reaching new heights!

"To my friends in the 908 Airlift Wing, I've been blessed to serve with you, and because of you, the song 'Sweet Home Alabama' will forever hold new meaning to me."

With her departure, a former enlisted man achieved yet another milestone in an interesting military career.

Although he may be new to the position, Lt. Col. Jonathon Flanders is no stranger to the 25th APS.

Flanders served as operations officer for the squadron for more than two years before accepting the position of its commander.

The McMinnville, Tenn. native volunteered to serve in the Army as an enlisted man, wanting to see the world and was sent to Fort Jackson, S.C. Not exactly the exotic locale he had imagined, but it provided the platform from which his career was launched.

He received his commission through the Air Force ROTC pro-



Above, new 25th APS Commander Lt. Col. Jonathon Flanders, with a little help, celebrates his assumption of command as 908th MSG Commander Col. Harold Linnean and outgoing 25th APS Commander, Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer look on. Left, Linnean presents Flanders with the unit guidon.

gram at the University of Tennessee, and then served nearly 10 years on active duty before joining the Reserves. that makes it one of the best places to serve," he said. "I couldn't be more proud of our officers and airmen and what they do for our country."

At the same time, he wanted to communicate this message to the squadron.

"Stay ready, stay focused and stay in shape," he said. "World events can change overnight. We may ask you to go to the other side of the globe on a moment's notice to support humanitarian relief or contingency operations."

Flanders closed by saying he wants to make sure that the 25th APS is the Gold Standard in the Aerial Port world.

"We will work every day to fulfill our motto: Anytime...Anywhere!"

The new commander brings a different type of leadership to APS describing how he leads.

"Remain humble and keep the energy level high," said Flanders, "Take care of the people who take care of the mission. Set a course for the future."

The man who's college mascot is a Bluetick Coonhound continued by describing how being a "Port Dawg" is a way of life.

"It's the unit's culture and heritage

Making a DENTON the world's poverty

By Gene H. Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

A load of humanitarian cargo bound for the Dominican Republic finally moved a closer to its final destination following a week of technical difficulties... involving two different aircraft.

The 36,000 pounds of cargo finally took to the skies Monday, Sept. 23 after a C-17 and a C-130J both had mechanical failures while enroute to Maxwell to get it.

Moved under provisions of the Denton Amendment, the cargo is made up of 13 pallets, weighing 36,000 pounds. The aid package includes school supplies, sports equipment, personal care items, lawn and garden tools.

Under the amendment, named for its sponsor, Alabama Senator Jeremiah Denton, donated humanitarian aid is allowed to fly on U.S. Air Force assets on a space-available basis.

Based out of Charleston S.C., the Denton Program provides humanitarian relief to various locations throughout the world on military aircraft. The program procures the aircraft and customs clearances, while donations for the program come from businesses, churches, and other humanitarian contributions.

In this case, the supplies were gathered by Daystar Baptist Missions, an organization founded in Huntington, W.V. for the purpose of sending missionaries to other countries.

"With the explosive growth of the bilingual school in the Dominican Republic, we were in desperate need of school equipment," said David Hodges of Daystar, "The school has grown to more than 300 students in three years. (In) the rescue homes we are targeting, not only abandoned children but women involved in human trafficking, are in need of help.

Hodges said many people from various schools, churches and organizations like the Cincinnati Reds and Boys Scouts responded to the need and sent supplies. Equipment came from Chesapeake, Va.; Jacksonville,



Members of the 25th APS load pallets containing humanitarian cargo aboard a C-130J from the 317 Airlift Group of Dyess AFB Texas.

Fl.; Houston, Texas; and Huntington, Ala.

Global Impact, which raises funds to meet critical humanitarian needs around the world, had been involved in other Denton shipments handled by the 908th, so the shipment was collected in a warehouse in Thorsby because of the closeness to Maxwell.

The 908th is no stranger to humanitarian airlift. In the past, the wing has taken part in the preparation/delivery of cargo to several countries, including Nicaragua, Columbia, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Panama and Afghanistan.

According to Chief Master Sgt. Harold Whited of the 25th Aerial Port Squadron, the supplies began arriving Sept. 3, and took 26 Reservists to palletize; a challenge because "the diversity and type of cargo -- desks, chairs, computers, baseball equipment, clothing, lawn and medical equipment -- make it challenging to build and consolidate on an aircraft pallet," he said.

When the supplies were ready for airlift, the difficulty lay in getting airlift to the supplies. The original C-17 had to stop at Tinker AFB for three days, and the C-130J was acquired to take care to the load (in two trips), but had to be diverted to Keesler for repairs.

But once the Dyess aircraft landed at Maxwell, the 908th Port Dawgs made short work of the first half of the shipment. The plane then proceeded to Charleston, where it was unloaded before returning for the remainder of the supplies.

A C-17 will fly the cargo to the Dominican Republic, where mission representatives are waiting to distribute it.

"I am overwhelmed with emotions to see the men of our military and Reserve units being involved in the shipment," said Hodges, who visited Maxwell to see the supplies. "Every chance we would have to partner with the 908th, we would be honored!"

WING BREEDS NEW BIRDS



The 908th Airlift Wing recently celebrated promotions of several new colonels. From top left, Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer, Col. Michael Manion and Lt. Col. David Dersch.



New to the 908th

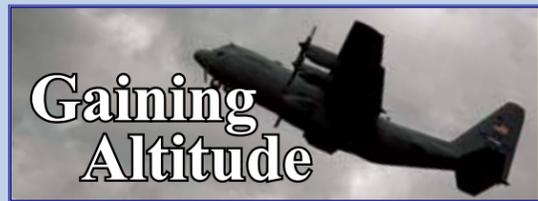
Maj. Royshanda C. Smith, ASTS
 Capt. Steven L. Nodine, OG
 Master Sgt. Robert E. Castellano, MXS Tech.
 Sgt. James V. Livingston, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Victor M. Negrete, MXG
 Tech. Sgt. Emonie Lewis, LRS
 Staff Sgt. Hector Leandry, MXS
 Staff Sgt. Anthony M. Simpson, FSS
 Senior Airman Kimberly D. Bush, 357 AS
 Senior Airman Richard A. Haney, 25 APS

Senior Airman Christina M. Valdes, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Jody Armstrong, 908 AW
 Airman 1st Class Wesley L. Daniels, LRS
 Airman 1st Class Eric D. Mahone, CES
 Airman 1st Class Nicholas Sconiers, 25 APS
 Airman Basic Shannae Morgan, ASTS
 Airman Basic Deondrea Shepherd, ASTS
 Airman Basic Tevin Burks, CES
 Airman Basic Joi N. Iverson, OG
 Airman Mercedes Jackson, ASTS

Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Noreen Burke, ASTS
 Lt. Col. Kevin D. Fuqua, MSG
 Master Sgt. Marcus A. Fuller, 25 APS
 Staff Sgt. David G. Powell, ASTS

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



Chief Master Sergeant



Connie A. Rollins (PEP)

Senior Master Sergeant



Christopher L. Barnby (PEP)
 Adam W. Childers (PEP)

Master Sergeant



Jonathan S. Butterbaugh (PEP)
 Scott H. Tucker (PEP)
 Michael J. Conner
 Nadia D. Nettles

Technical Sergeant



Joshua R. Jones (PEP)
 Rob S. Kinman (PEP)
 Matt G. Morris (PEP)
 David S. Davis
 Shaun B. Donahue

Senior Airman



Christina M. Blackburn
 Jason E. Gessler
 Shannae L. Morgan
 Kiara S. Nelson
 Dorothea A. Wolfe

Airman



Tabitha N. Lockhart

ALABAMA BOAT RIDE



On Friday, Sept. 20, a small number of 908th members gathered aboard *The Harriott II* to bid farewell to Col. Brett Clark, outgoing wing commander.



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