

**908TH PORT DAWGS GET A BLUE-WATER WORKOUT**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



# Play Ball!

**Airmen attend Military Appreciation Day at Biscuit Stadium**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 51 Issue 6  
June 2014

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# Reasons to be proud

Since joining the 908th Airlift Wing in the summer of 2011, I have been amazed at the work being done in my squadron and throughout our wing. In the three years since, we have participated in — and often shaped — monumental events. Everything from multiple deployments and inspections to tornadoes and disaster relief efforts to a force shaping announcement to changes throughout wing leadership and even our recent 50th anniversary celebration all stand out in my mind.

We have accomplished big things together. We excelled despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles like sequestration and the government shutdown.

How did we do this?

I think the answer is clear if we just look around. We are successful because we have a talented and diverse group of Airmen who remain committed to excellence and service.

While the high turnover ratio that our wing has experienced in recent years causes some stress it also infuses our organizations with

new ideas and new energy. We even see this happening at the entry level with our new accessions. Obviously, diversity is more than demographics. It also means diversity of thought and new ideas. However, I think our wing stands as a model of idea-based as well as demographic diversity.



LT. COL. JONATHON FLANDERS  
Commander, 25 APS

For instance, our wing is 28 percent female as compared to the Air Force Reserve which is 26 percent. Also, our wing is 40 percent African-American compared to the Air Force Reserves which is 17 percent.

We should be proud, of both our many accomplishments and our diverse makeup.

Being a part of an organization with such a legacy of valor and a rich tradition steeped in a talented and diverse group of Airmen is a rewarding and rare experience. My hope is that we channel our energies toward the big events on the horizon like the UEI, upcoming deployments, and the current budgetary environment.

Together we can continue to show the world that we truly are among the best of the best!

## A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

SENIOR AIRMAN DUSTIN TURNER

For people in Alabama, April brings a mixed bag of emotions. We're happy to see winter behind us, but we're also aware deadly storms may be on the horizon. April 27, 2011 changed my perspective on Alabama's spring. At 6:25 a.m., my wife and I were awakened as an F2 tornado touched down in our neighborhood. At the time we did not realize how fortunate we were. We sustained about \$40,000 in damage to home and property. Some neighbors had to completely rebuild homes, and tornadoes destroyed many cities, killing dozens.

When storms come we know what to do. The meteorologist will tell everyone to get to a safe place: lowest level, smallest interior room. In other words, hunker down and ride it out. Never will the meteorologist tell you to ignore the storm because it will eventually pass. He never says face it and fight it.

Many times when storms arise in our personal lives we try to ignore them as if they will harmlessly pass us by. Other times we feel that fighting them is the best option. Sometimes our best advice is to shelter in an unshakable sanctuary.

For many this may be found in prayer or Scriptures. For others it may be in the counsel of a friend or family member. When the storms hit, remember to first seek shelter while it is raging, reach out to your fellow Wingman and together start rebuilding when it finally calms.



*Want annual orders?*

# Request time is here

By Debbie Smith  
908th FM

It is that time of the year again when we ask that all Reservists put in their requirements for annual tour orders for the fiscal year. We're asking you to get your request into your unit orderly room by the end of the upcoming June Unit Training Assembly, if you have not already.

These orders need to be input into the Air Reserve Orders Writing System (AROWS) by 15 July. Do not wait until the last minute to get your request to the order specialist. We want to make sure your order request will be done correct and in a timely manner.

If you have any questions please direct them to your supervisor.

All Reservists have the ability to certify their orders for pay in AROWS. If you need instructions on how to do this process, they should be posted in your corresponding unit orderly room.

Make sure you have updated your personal information in the Defense Travel System (DTS), if you have changed your banking information, received a new Government Travel

Card (GTC), or have submitted a name change or a change of address, this information needs to be updated in your registration information.

If you need assistance in DTS please ask your unit DTS Organizational Defense Travel Administrator. If they are not available contact the FM office for assistance.

We also want to remind our Reservists that FM will also have Basic Allowance Housing recertification during the June UTA.

On Sunday, June 7, FM will be in the Maintenance Conference Room from 8-11 a.m. to assistance with BAH forms. We ask that you have your original documents (marriage certificate, birth certificate, divorce decree) with you. Our office will also be available during the week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. except Wednesday from 8 a.m. to noon to assist with the BAH process.

This recertification needs to be completed by the August UTA for all 908th Reservists.

UTA Weekend Hours of Operation:

Saturday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday: 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.



## SOUTHERN FLYER

### COVER PHOTO:

A member of the 908th Training and Development Flight tosses T-shirts to the crowd attending the Montgomery Biscuits Military Appreciation Day game.

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.

# Fiscal climate demands full-force responsibility

Airmen of the United States Air Force:

Last year, in response to budget sequestration, we launched the Every Dollar Counts campaign. Since that launch, your innovative ideas and money-saving efficiency changes saved our Air Force hundreds of millions of dollars during these challenging fiscal times.

From public-private partnerships at base level, to centralized engine repair Air Force wide, your ideas are saving precious resources all across the enterprise. To each Airman who took the time to send in an idea, influence change or create a new efficiency in your shop: thank you — job well done!

But we can't stop now...we must do more.

Now is the time to leverage the success of last year's campaign and continue to cultivate a culture of innovation, efficiency, and savings. This letter is our call to action to Make Every Dollar Count. Our goal is to take as many of our efficiencies and savings initiatives as possible and multiply them across the entire spectrum of operations. From large scale initiatives, such as implementing cutting-edge energy practices or acquisition process improvements, to base-level actions, such as video teleconferencing and contract review, everything counts.

Our current initiatives are just the beginning. We challenge each of you to develop initiatives in your own areas of expertise. If there was ever a time for out-of-the-box ideas, it's now. Each of us must be "all in, all the time" to make this work. There are two programs available to submit your great ideas to increase cost savings across our Air Force. You may submit ideas online to our Airmen Powered by Innovation website at <https://ipds.afpc.randolph.af.mil>, or by contacting your local Air Force Smart Operations for the Twenty-first Century Office.

All ideas will be actively processed by the Office of the Under Secretary of the Air Force for Business Transformation.

As you know, there are consequences of this fiscal climate we cannot change, but we must do our very best to improve the things we can and ensure we are good stewards of every taxpayer dollar. Let's all take ownership — each active duty, Reserve, Guard and civilian Airman — to improve what we can control and to Make Every Dollar Count.

"Make Every Dollar Count: All In, All The Time."

—Deborah Lee James  
Secretary of the Air Force



## 908th will document first 50 years

According to Wikipedia, a time capsule is a "historic cache of goods or information, usually intended as a method of communication with future people..."

For example, The 1939 New York World's Fair time capsule contained everyday items such as a spool of thread and doll, a description of the capsule and its creators, a vial of staple food crop seeds, a microscope and a 15-minute RKO Pathé Pictures newsreel. Microfilm spools condensed the contents of a Sears Roebuck catalog, dictionary, almanac, and other texts."

To preserve the first 50 years of the 908th Airlift Wing, there will be a ceremony in the very near future to capsulize items to be opened at the 75th anniversary in 2038. We are looking for items such as patches, deployment hats, unit hats, or group/squadron/flight-unique items. We are also looking for items from our Bates Field days in Mobile.

If you have something that represents our first half-century, please drop it off at Building 1056 with Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy or Senior Airman Harold Floyd.

## In the Navy: APS Airmen train at Norfolk

By Master Sgt. Tracy Piel  
25th APS

Thirteen Airmen from the 25th Aerial Port Squadron recently boarded a locally generated C-130 operated by the 357th Airlift Squadron and destined for Naval Station Norfolk for two weeks of annual training.

In the weeks preceding the tour, Team Chief Master Sgt. Jamaal Dewberry worked closely with Reserve Coordinator Dexter Jackson to ensure required tasks and training would be provided, as well as access to computers, berthing and transportation. Once in Norfolk, the aerial porters were assigned to work areas and shifts according to the sections they normally work at home station.

Airmen in the Cargo Section helped the naval station staff of civilians build 205 pallets with 314,736 pounds of cargo, while those assigned to the Special Handling section packaged and inspected 553 pounds of hazardous materials. The aerial porters serving in the Passenger Service Terminal moved 4,422 passengers, including active-duty personnel, retirees and dependents.

Additionally, aerial porters were assigned to Load Planning, Air Terminal Operations and Data Records sections.

In two weeks, the aerial port team handled a total of 129 aircraft to include one or more of the following: C-5, C-12, C-17, C-63, C-130, C-40, KC-10 and MD-11s. In addition, the team also handled 737, 747, 767 and 777 commercial aircraft.

On the afternoon dedicated to Material Handling Equipment (MHE) training, civilian MHE trainer Brian Wysocki provided training on the Wide Body and C5 staircases, baggage conveyor, lavatory truck and 4k forklift — equipment not readily available day-to-day at the squadron's home at Maxwell.

In addition to hands-on-training, the group toured the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) that had recently returned to port. Chief Petty Officer Brian Stuchinski provided the group a personal tour late one evening after an early attempt at an organized tour was postponed by the arrival of a distinguished visitor.

The tour included the hangar bay, the 4.5 acre flight deck and ship's bridge in addition to the living and work spaces of the decks in between.

Overall, the airmen of 25th Aerial Port had a very productive annual tour. We got to serve with our civilian counterparts, active duty members, and get a taste of the joint environment by touring with the Navy. All of which was made possible by airlift support from our own wing.



Senior Airman Tiffany Storay, Airman 1st Class Devon Hunter and Senior Airman Gabrielle Stallworth run through an inspection checklist for the baggage conveyor.



Senior Airman Melissa Erickson and Airman 1st Class Devon Hunter place nets on a pallet of outbound cargo.



Staff Sgt. Tyrez Turner, Senior Airman Tiffany Storay, and Tech. Sgt. Michael Beyer inspect hazardous materials in the Special Handling Section.

# Out to the Ball Game

Nearly 200 members of the 908th Airlift Wing took advantage of a rare opportunity during the most recent UTA to attend the Montgomery Biscuits' annual Military Appreciation Day Game. Featured at the event were members of the wing's Training and Development Flight, who threw T-shirts to the crowd during the 7th inning stretch. This is the first time in many years that the event fell on a UTA weekend. For more photos, visit the 908th Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/908AW](http://www.facebook.com/908AW)



Recognizing commitment



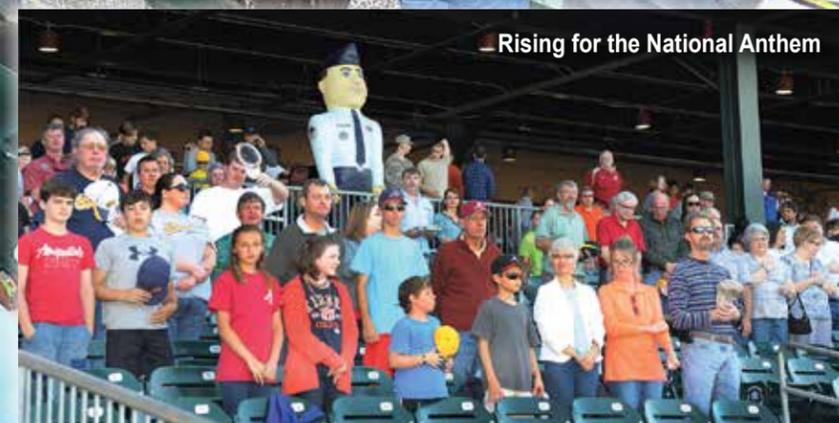
Enjoying the game



Hanging with Airman Andy



Ready for a good time



Rising for the National Anthem



Who wants a T-shirt?



Family fun



## Safety Sense

# Proactive Safety: Taking control

By Senior Master Sgt. Terry Shook  
908th Safety Office

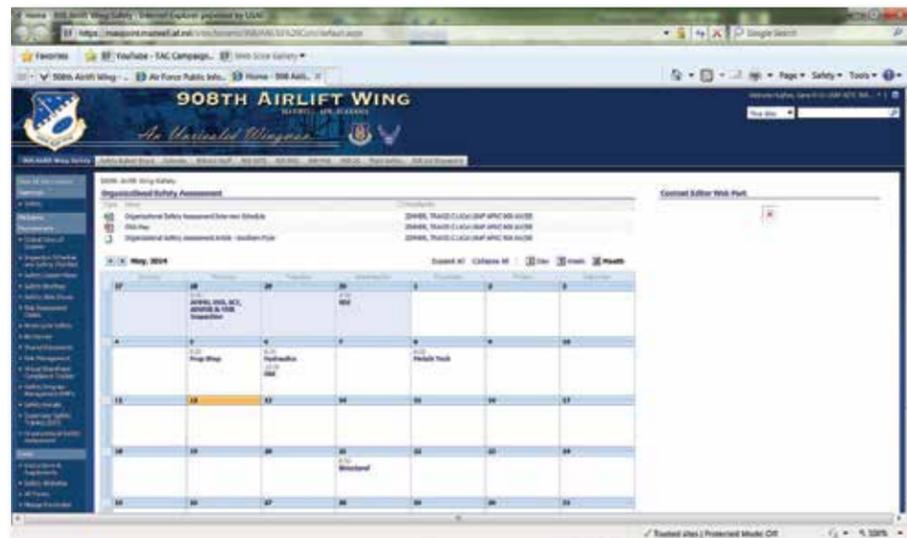
It is easy for any safety office to bark out “it is everyone’s responsibility to proactively manage risks and mitigate hazards.” However, if we’ve never shown you how to do this, or provided you with the necessary tools, then how can we expect you to take control of your environment and be successful at it? We can’t!

It is our job as safety specialists to come beside you and help you proactively take control of your work environment. So I say, let’s continue to roll up our sleeves and work together to change our culture of safety. Your goal (and your responsibility), should be to identify hazards before they turn into incidents or accidents, and then take the necessary steps to reduce the safety risks.

This can seem like a daunting task, and is often misunderstood and misapplied.

One of the many “tools for success” in being proactive is our Safety SharePoint site, a dynamic and interactive site that provides you with a multitude of tools, benchmark programs, safety briefings, and access to your unit’s open hazards and our recommended corrective actions. The site is designed to save you time while assisting you in making your work environment as safe as possible.

As you maneuver around the site, you’ll see it is designed so each group, squadron, flight and shop has a place to electronically store their pertinent safety information. By storing on SharePoint, it not only gives you a safe place to maintain it, but it gives



### What can the Safety SharePoint Site do for you?

- ◆ Access to up-to-date open hazards in your unit, and our recommended corrective actions
- ◆ Access to your unit’s annual safety inspection report
- ◆ Continuity across primary and alternate representative positions
  - ◆ Effective turn-over from the losing supervisor/representative to the gaining supervisor/representative
  - ◆ Safe storage location for your safety files
  - ◆ Benchmarking from other successful programs
- ◆ Continuous Wing Safety Observations resulting in zero safety findings during your annual assessments
  - ◆ A multitude of safety briefings
- ◆ Several Safety lesson plans that are up-to-date
  - ◆ Access to Safety Instructions

Visit the Safety SharePoint website at: (<https://maxpoint.maxwell.af.mil/sites/tenants/908/AW/SE%20Coin/default.aspx>)

our office the opportunity to help you ensure it is relevant to your workplace and correct prior to inspection. You may be concerned about the security of your electronic products once they are placed into the SharePoint environment. Well, don’t be. Our site is set up so each folder is protected with unique permission settings. Only a predetermined amount of individuals (that you select) can make changes or deletions.

Finally, the site provides you access

when you are deployed, TDY, or at home wanting to stay ahead. All you need is a CAC-enabled computer.

Our Airmen deserve a work environment where unnecessary hazards are eliminated and necessary hazards are understood and mitigated. You are an integral part of creating a “culture of safety” in your workplace. You set the example, positive or negative. We are here to serve you.

**Next in this series:** “How to Make Your Safety Inspection Work for You.”



## Aiming High: Wing inducts new NCOs

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

Several members of the 908th Airlift Wing were recently recognized as the unit’s newest noncommissioned officers.

The ceremony, held at ATS’ Boyd Auditorium recognized the ascension of these Airmen to the rank of staff sergeant.

Wing Commander Col. Adam Willis congratulated the new NCOs, saying they had joined the ranks of the core of the Air Force. “Listen to your supervisors through your career,” he said. “Never forget, and continue to learn, which means your toolkit will continue to grow.”

Each new NCO was awarded a certificate of recognition from Col. Willis. Retired Chief Master Sgt. Leslie Morrisette, who spoke at the event described duty, performance and professionalism to the new NCOs, going on to tell the Airmen their prime responsibility as new NCOs.

“Ensure that the mission is accomplished at the tactical level,” Morrisette said. “Duty, service and honor start with you.”



Guest speaker Chief Master Sgt. Leslie Morrisette (ret.) addresses the wing’s newest NCO inductees.

**FORMER MEMBER BECOMES BRIGADIER**



Brigadier General John P. Stokes, former commander of the 357th Airlift Squadron, recently pinned on his first star in a ceremony at Maxwell's LeMay Center in front of family and friends. Above, Stokes is congratulated by the presiding officer, Maj. Gen. Leonard Patrick, commander of the 2nd Air Force. "I think it is a really good illustration of the opportunities that are available to our Reservists," Stokes said. "I had no idea when I joined the 357th Airlift Squadron following Sept. 11, 2001 that I would be where I am today. The opportunities have really come as quite a surprise. So many of our Airmen are unaware of the benefits they have of broadening their experience outside the squadron or wing. Since leaving the 908 AW I've been a deputy commander of an active duty training group, worked on a NAF staff, been the vice commander of an airlift wing, attended a Harvard Fellowship, and now serve on the Air Staff. The Air Force Reserve has given me a wide range of opportunities to serve our country, and for that I am very thankful."

***New to the 908th***

Master Sgt. Eric Sharman, AW  
 Tech. Sgt. Kevin L. Cole, SFS  
 Tech. Sgt. Melvin D. Alexander, SFS  
 Staff Sgt. Valencia L. Vega, LRS  
 Staff Sgt. Jake A. Yakes, MXS  
 Staff Sgt. Abbigale C. Dawson, LRS  
 Staff Sgt. Jonathan D. Angiulli, MXS  
 Staff Sgt. Bradley J. Hardin, AMXS

Senior Airman Garrett R. Monge, 25 APS  
 Senior Airman John D. Ballentine IV, MXS  
 Senior Airman Antoine L. Tucker, CES  
 Airman 1st Class Joshua Peterson, 357 AS  
 Airman 1st Class Lakesha S. Parks, AW  
 Airman Destiny Allen, ASTS  
 Airman Basic Julian A. Murray, MXS

***Preparing to Disembark***

Lt. Col. Joel C. Marsh, AW  
 Maj. Marley B. Crabtree, AES  
 Capt. Steven D. Hardin, AES  
 Chief Master Joseph Spraggins, CES  
 Senior Master Sgt. Don J. Johnson, AES

Senior Master Sgt. Daryl E. Waters, CES  
 Senior Master Sgt. Tyrome Williams, FSS  
 Master Sgt. Joseph L. Smith, ASTS  
 Master Sgt. Billy J. Wallace, CES  
 Tech. Sgt. Mark R. Simmons, SFS

\* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place Aug. 2 at 9 a.m. at Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.\*

**Gaining Altitude**

Master Sergeant



Keonrick T. Johnson  
 Jeffrey K. Paul

Technical Sergeant



Vincent K. Grasser  
 Tekima V. Howard  
 Brandi S. Walker

Staff Sergeant



Emily G. Griffey

Senior Airman



Kaila K. Fernandez  
 Adrian S. Hunter

Airman First Class



Tabitha N. Lockhart

Airman



Christian R. Tyler



The 908th has seen a flurry of activity in recent weeks. Clockwise from above: Chief Master Sgt. Leon Alexander answers questions from visiting representatives from the Khazakhstan Defense University. After losing a bet, die-hard Michigan fan Master Sgt. Dwayne Curtis has to wear an Auburn shirt for the day. Major Kristin Hill helps Master Sgt. Alvin Jefferies celebrate his birthday. Technical Sgt. Karen Hamblin explains AES capabilities to visitors during the National Security Forum. Members of the 908th Operations Group host a youth leadership tour group sponsored by the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce. Wing Executive Officer Lt. Col. Nancy Stephenson reacts after being surprised on her birthday.



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