

RESERVE LRS TEAMS WITH ACTIVE DUTY IN VIRGINIA, PGS. 6-7

# SOUTHERN FLYER



# Alabama Comes Callin'

Lieutenant Governor Kay Ivey visits 908th

# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 51 Issue 9  
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# Wingman Day a Success!

COLONEL ADAM WILLIS  
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

To all Airmen in the 908th Airlift Wing ... thank you for making Wingman Day a success. The enthusiasm I saw on Sunday lends credence to our mission statement, "Provide combat ready support across the spectrum of operations."

I, Col. Johnson and Chief Duke visited most, if not all, of the wing organizations and what we found was nothing short of outstanding.

Each organization had a slightly different spin on "Finding the Good" day. I recall going over to the 908th AES and found an entire squadron laughing ... it was contagious! Their implementation was geared toward unit camaraderie via laughter.

Other units throughout the wing organized sports teams and had good ole competitions as their team build-



ing and "Finding the Good." Still another unit spun their own required training into a friendly competition between squads on litter carries with a slight twist.

All in all, the Airmen of the 908th stood together on Wingman Day promoting a sense of pride, well-being, dedication and teamwork.

I thank all who braved the laughter, games, teamwork and just plain fun! The success of Wingman Day was due to your engagement, your dedication, your pride and your desire to ensure the 908th Airlift Wing stands tall and remains vibrant.



## A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) MATTHEW HOSHOR

The life of comedian and actor Robin Williams tragically ended on Aug. 11. His life affected millions, and yet he was alone when he died. The circumstances of his passing demonstrates the importance of a wingman.

Williams, who first came to prominence as the alien Mork from Ork in the mid-1970s, is remembered for his manic energy and freestyle stand-up comedy.

He was also there for those with whom he worked and fondly remembered for offering the support his friends needed to make it through their personal struggles. He made several USO tours to entertain troops and took time to sign autographs, shake hands and share jokes on an intimate, personal level.

Robin Williams was one of the greatest Wingmen we've ever known. Even if you never met him, there's a good chance one of his jokes or characters lifted you up when you were feeling down.

There is always tragedy in death, and Williams' is no exception. However, there is more than just the tragedy of a life cut short. The tragedy here is the missing wingman.

There are two missing wingmen in this tragedy. One, Williams is no longer able to help others. Two, where was his wingman during his personal struggle?

Williams' struggles were not kept secret. He openly discussed his addiction and his efforts to shake it. It seemed like he quietly cried for help. In interviews, Williams indicated struggles with loneliness during his younger years. His publicist informed news sources that Williams struggled with depression. Williams admitted he struggled with addiction.

He sought help in rehab, and had recently entered it again.

The tragedy of Williams' untimely death is no joke. Even in film, many of the characters he portrayed proved to be invaluable Wingmen. Where would Aladdin be without the Genie? What would happen to the Hillard family if Mrs. Doubtfire hadn't been there to help them through their time of need?

It's ironic that the man who gave us so many smiles left us in tears. Perhaps if he had a Wingman to walk with him through his low time, like he had been to so many others, we would be laughing still instead of reminiscing behind watering eyes.

So reach out to your Wingman, because we need each other, through all the highs and lows.

When it seems like your Wingman is on top of the world, rest assured that they may be facing a deep valley very soon.

Don't be the missing wingman.

# Money Matters: Did You Know?

Did you know you can look on your MyPay account and see your paid travel vouchers? Simply select the option "Travel Advisory."

You can also change your banking information on MyPay. All you need is your nine-digit bank routing and bank account numbers.

If you want to change your federal or state tax exemptions; you can also do this in MyPay.

Here is the web site for MyPay:  
<https://Mypay.dfas.mil>

Do you need assistance in getting or changing your Mypay password? Go to the link above and on the right side of the home page, select "Quick Links." This will guide you through the process.



Do you need Pay and Allowance information (Pay tables, TSP, Travel pay)? You can go to "Quick Links" and select "DFAS-Home." You can get all kinds of important information pertaining to both military and civilian personnel.

Did you know you can do your partial payment voucher (30-day vouchers) for long tours in the E-Finance Workspace?

<https://www.my.afmil/efinanceprod/GovWarnings.aspx>

If you need information on TSP (Thrift Savings Plan) and the new change for Roth Contributions you can go to their site and obtain forms and information on investing for your Retirement.

<https://www.tsp.gov>

All Reservists should be registered in AROW-R so you can obtain a copy of your order (AF-938), and you can digitally sign the order in AROWS-R to get your pay.

Obtain your user account here:  
<https://arowsr.afrc.af.mil/arows-r/>

If you have any questions, contact the finance office at (334) 953-6722, and we will assist you.

## SOUTHERN FLYER

### COVER PHOTO:

Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey takes a tour of the flight deck of a C-130H2 during her recent visit to the 908th Airlift Wing. See story and photos on pgs. 4-5.



U.S. Air Force Photo/  
Master Sgt. Eric Sharman

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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.



Alabama Lt. Gov. Ivey gets a tour of the flight deck of a C-130 from Lt. Col. Steve Catchings, left, and Senior Master Sgt. Adam Childers.

# FACT-FINDING TOUR

## Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey meets with 908th leadership

By Gene H. Hughes  
908th AW Public Affairs

Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey, chairman of the state's Military Stability Commission, recently visited the 908th Airlift Wing for the purpose of preparing for any potential future round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

During her visit, she received a mission brief from 908th commanders, took a tour of one of the unit's C-130 aircraft, and went on a brief tour of the wing's facilities at Maxwell.

Ivey asked several questions, aimed at discovering what ways the

state might help make the wing more difficult to include on any possible future closure lists. The 908th and

its eight aircraft has been the focus in recent years, most recently last year's Force Restructuring announcement.



Ivey makes a statement during a mission briefing at 908th Airlift Wing headquarters. At left are Col. Hal Linnean, commander of the 908th MSG and Wing Commander Adam Willis. (Photos by Gene H. Hughes and Master Sgt. Eric Sharman)

With strong support from the state's congressional delegation, the unit survived, and Ivey said Alabama wants to ensure the wing — and its flying mission — stays right where it is.

"Well, we don't know when it's coming, but we know it's coming," she said. "Congress could authorize it (BRAC) pretty soon, we just don't know. The name of the game is to identify possible opportunities for improvements or strengths and get those done."

Among the strengths discussed were the benefits of the wing as Alabama's only Air Force Reserve flying unit, with 50 years behind it. It provides not only airlift capabilities to the Air Force and combatant commanders overseas, but has also taken part in many humanitarian operations from Puerto Rico and the Balkans to Haiti and Pakistan.

It also supports airborne troop training for the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

Ivey was also informed that the wing and its 1,200-plus members (more than 880 reside within the state's borders) has an approximate \$70 million-a-year impact on the local economy. The value of jobs created is \$13.2 million dollars.

This, together with the wing's pilot training, security, support and medical missions, gives the unit a firm foundation.

"We are one of very few flying organizations in the state of Alabama. We do bring a lot of economic impact to not only the state and local community," said Wing Commander Col. Adam Willis. "We have the local community's support, and the Air Force doesn't want to lose our aircraft."

Ivey stated she's looking for ways to make the 908th's case even stronger.

"We are very hopeful that everything will be fine because of their history, size, operations, and their abilities that they have proven over 50 years of service," she said. "We are optimistic, but we can't sit on our laurels. We have to be fully prepared."



Above, Lt. Gov. Ivey inspects a training load at the 25th Aerial Port Squadron. Left, Ivey meets with 1st Lt. Heather Kindred of the 357th Airlift Squadron during her C-130 tour. Below, Ivey's Deputy Chief of Staff Taylor Nichols, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Brent Solomon look on as she tries out a C-130 troop seat.



# Gameplan results in LRS success

By Tech. Sgt. Mona Villalobos  
908th LRS

As summer winds down and fall quickly approaches, most Americans have one thing on their minds ... football. With that in mind, three flights of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron set out on annual tour to Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

The 10-day evolution involved months of teamwork and coordination between the 908th LRS and its active-duty host, the 633rd LRS.

A successful mission cannot be achieved without a strategic game plan and implementation of key elements. These are: teamwork, goal setting, discipline, perseverance and the high of the experience.

There was an instant sense of partnership from the moment the 908th LRS stepped foot off the plane. This made the working relationship an even greater experience. When you're part of a football team, understanding one's role and teammates is critical. In the Air Force, trusting one's wingman to do his/her job is of utmost importance.

Wherever there is measurement, there is a chance to set goals for improvement. Major Gregory Boschert, commander of the 633rd, set a goal



Members of the Materiel Management team are: Senior Airman Kendria Alexander, Airman First Class Brittney Jenkins, Tech. Sgts. Renee Fuller, D. Johnson, Eva Appiah and Kanika Blackmon, Staff Sgt. Tiffany Johnson, Master Sgt. Quintin Rudolph, Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Fontenot, Senior Airman Christopher Hardin, Airman Shaundella Dowdell, Senior Airman Demonte Powell and Capt. Eric Withers.

to provide support for the following areas: manning, warehouse inventory, and base housing. By including everyone on the team-oriented goals, it helped them become accountable for their part of the overall team.

Football requires discipline and hard work. Our team internalized these requirements by staying focused on their goals.

The Command Support Staff trained and assisted with file plans. The Traffic Management section as-

sisted with out-processing more than 50 active-duty members for deployment. The Materiel Management section conducted a Mobility Readiness Spares Packages inspection and validated more than 1,504 line items valued in excess of \$19,000.

"Training requires discipline in order for us to reach our potential," said Master Sgt. Quintin Rudolph. "Our team gained a vast amount of training, but was not limited to the duty section. They stepped it up

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Leadership:** Capt. Eric Withers, acting commander; Tech. Sgt. Angela Oden, acting first sergeant; and Master Sgt. Henry Preston, acting chief. **Command Support Staff:** Senior Airman Evelyn Vazquez and Airman Louis Fields.

### DEFENSIVE TEAM

**Traffic Management Operations:** Tech. Sgt. Miyoushi Simpson; Staff Sgts. Kendall Lipscomb and Derecus Matthews; Senior Airmen Shaquita Bonner, Adanda Fondon, Wesley Daniels and Jairius Simpkins.

### OFFENSIVE TEAM

**Materiel Management:** Master Sgt. Quintin Rudolph; Tech. Sgts. Renee Fuller, Kenneth Fontenot, Kanika Blackmon, Eva Appiah and Donovan Johnson; Staff Sgt. Tiffany Johnson; Senior Airmen Christopher Hardin and Kendra Alexander; Senior Airman Demonte Powell; Airman First Class Brittney Jenkins and Airman Shaundella Dowdell.



Members of the Command Support Staff and Traffic Management Operations teams are: Senior Airman Evelyn Vazquez, Staff Sgt. Derecus Matthews, Senior Airman Adanda Fondon, Airman Louis Fields, Master Sgt. Henry Preston, Senior Airman Shaquita Bonner, Tech. Sgt. Miyoushi Simpson, Senior Airman Wesley Daniels, Tech. Sgt. Angela Oden, Senior Airman Jairius Simpkins, Not pictured is Staff Sgt. Kendall Lipscomb.

another level and led squadron PT, formed flights for unit formation, and planned icebreaker gatherings for our host."

Due to deployments and a high turnover rate, the 633rd performed with minimal manning. As soon as 908th teams were trained they immediately went to work cutting their host's processing time in half.

Although training and hard work were expected during the expedition, the Reservists more than filled the shoes of their active-duty counterparts. The 908th LRS members left a positive impression and renewed respect for the Air Force Reserve.

"We provided support in a time of need, and they in turn reinforced our Airmen with knowledge and proficiency to ensure a qualified and proficient workforce," said Capt. Eric Withers.

Planning and executing an expedition is an experience most Airmen never forget. Winning a game or getting an outstanding rating after an inspection is a huge adrenaline rush, and the emotions are a high you can't buy. The 908th LRS team returned with a "high" and experience they too will never forget.



Senior Airman Wesley Daniels ensures cargo paperwork is correct.

## HARTLE HOMECOMING



Friends and family recently gathered at the Montgomery Airport to welcome home Lt. Col. James Hartle of the 908th MXG from a six-month deployment to Southwest Asia. Above, the welcome mat is laid out. Below, Hartle embraces his family.





## With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Mendiola  
908th Safety Office

From the beginning to the end of our military careers we are immersed in the culture of safety.

Therefore, it's no surprise that safety for the motorcycle program continues to evolve into, if you will, "a well-oiled machine."

Sometimes during the evolution we miss subtle changes. Sure, you wear your personal protective equipment and you've taken the basic or advanced riders courses, but did you know that retro-reflective materials are no longer mandatory for day riding?

Did you know that there is now a mandatory training course for sport bike riders?

How about your unit Motorcycle Safety Representative (MSR) — do you know who that is?

We'll touch on those subjects to clear the air.

**Sport bike riders SHALL take a sport bike riders training course.**

This recent addition to AFI 91-207 may seem tricky on the surface, but really it's straight forward. The question that goes along with this training is, "What is classified as a sport bike?"

The Air Force defines a sport bike as: A high-powered motorcycle on which the rider leans forward over the gas tank, like you see in the photo above.

So if this describes the natural riding position of your motorcycle, then this training is mandatory for you. Be aware that it is classified as an intermediate level of training, so this course should be taken after you have completed the Basic Riders Course.

The training must also be completed within 120 days of initial training or purchase of a sport bike.

**Retro-reflective materials are no longer mandatory for riding during daylight hours.**

Yes, you read that right; but keep in mind just because it's no longer mandatory, doesn't mean it's not a good idea. I've heard the saying, "It doesn't matter what you wear, other motorists still won't see you if they're not looking."

Fair enough, but why not give yourself every chance and opportunity to BE SEEN - especially when your life's at stake?

So what is required?

Well, riders should choose upper garments that incorporate high visibility colors (e.g., fluorescent yellow-green, fluorescent orange-red or fluorescent red, etc.) during the day and of course retro-reflective upper garment at night.

**Who is my Motorcycle Safety Representative (MSR), what do they do, and how do I find them?**

The MSR coordinates the motorcycle safety program for your unit. They are the first in line when you have questions regarding motorcycle safety and training, so naturally it's important to know who they are.

There are multiple ways to determine your MSR, but being the proactive rider that you are, you go straight to the 908th AW Safety SharePoint site: <https://maxpoint.maxwell.af.mil/sites/tenants/908/AW/SE%20Coin/MSR/default.aspx>

Go to your unit home page. Displayed is a list of need-to-know personnel, including your MSR and their contact information.

### DID YOU KNOW

Refresher training must be done every five years? This new regulation can be found in AFI 91-207 Table 4.1.

## Inspections: Embrace the change

By Capt Richard Smith  
908th AES/IGI

As I sit here at my desk contemplating a topic to highlight the new Air Force Inspection System (AFIS), a quote by Tony Robbins comes to mind: "By changing nothing, nothing changes."

So I would like discuss what change means with this new system.

The office of the Inspector General (IG) has paved the way in an effort to make significant changes in the inspection system, which will reduce the burden while at the same time improve the overall quality the system provides.

With the new AFIS, wing commanders will inspect their own unit's ability to execute the mission, manage resources, lead people and improve performance using their Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP). The program strengthens the wing commander's ability to focus on what matters most to them and gives the entire chain of command answers to the most important questions while reducing the need and incentive for inspection preparation.

Over the past several decades, we have created a morbid reliance on periodic external inspections as the primary means of gauging a unit strength and weakness and as the primary incentive to get in compliance and strengthen long-withered organizational muscles. The unintended consequences of the system we've grown up with included a tremendous amount of man-years wasted on inspection readiness that contributed very little to our mission readiness; unconstrained and dysfunctional requirements generated by the staff.

The result? An unspoken, but clearly heard message that "how we look when the IG is looking is more important than who we really are every day."

So, as we embark on this new journey of change, I ask each one of you to step up and embrace this change and show the IG that how we look when the IG is looking is not more important than who we really are every day. Show the IG that the 908th has a long history of outstanding achievement and that we will continue this legacy now and forever.

## SAPR: It's Not A Four-Letter Word

By Master Sgt. Beverly Williams  
908th AES/IGI



How many of you, when Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) training is announced, have heard or even made the statement "(Expletive) Here we go again – another male bashing session?"

Unfortunately, it's a common response. One of the goals of the SAPR training program is to halt that response and all other mythical ideas one may have.

Before 2005, the SAPR program did not even exist! There had been so many reports of sexual assaults in the deployed locations in 2004 that then-Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld directed a review of the process for the treatment and care of sexually assaulted military members. The Care for Victims of Sexual Assault Taskforce was immediately organized with the main focus being to develop a policy encompassing all of DoD.

After a lot of dedication and hard work, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office was formed and now serves as the department's single point of authority for sexual assault policy. It also provides compliance oversight for each of the service programs.

Before this program was put into place our female and male airmen, soldiers, marines, sailors and DoD civilians and families were being sexually violated without any organized assistance or care. Sexual predators don't care about gender, they care about power.

What can you do to help? During the October UTA, we'll be training people to facilitate the SAPR Stand Down Day small group discussions. This is an annual event, slated for the November UTA and aimed at educating personnel on the importance of sexual assault prevention and victim care.

If you are called upon to assist, please do. We need every person to be an educated educator. SAPR is not a four letter word, please assist me and leadership in relaying that message during our SAPR Stand Down Day.

## New to the 908th

Maj. Christine Van Weezendonk, AW  
 First Lt. Schoberle Atkins, AES  
 Master Sgt. Shari Belcher, 357 AS  
 Tech. Sgt. Matthew H. Scales, AW  
 Staff Sgt. Jarvis R. Capers, MXS

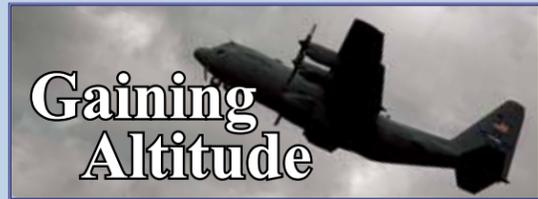
Staff Sgt. Jazika A. Levario, AW  
 Staff Sgt. James C. Taylor, CES  
 Airman 1st Class Emmanuel Matthews,  
 Airman 1st Class Corrina M. Stoddart, SFS  
 Airman 1st Class Andrew D. Williams, CES

## Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Joel C. Marsh, AW  
 Lt. Col. Mark E. Harrison, 357 AS  
 Maj. Marley B. Crabtree, AES  
 Capt. Steven D. Hardin, AES

Senior Master Sgt. Don J. Johnson, AES  
 Senior Master Sgt. Cathi D. Bradford, AW  
 Tech. Sgt. Clarence M. Armour, 25 APS  
 Staff Sgt. Brandon Foster, 25 APS

\* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. at Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.\*



## Gaining Altitude

Senior Master Sergeant



Michael E. Smith

Master Sergeant



Eural W. Madry Jr.

Technical Sergeant



Caleb M. Kohler  
 Nicholas M. Munkachy  
 Joshua A. Simmons

Senior Airman



Denver C. Robles

Airman First Class



Sierra D. Fitchard  
 Cody A. Kulp  
 Victoria L. Lott  
 Carter S. Moorer  
 Lateriya Q. Stamps  
 Ashley S. Ware

Airman



Torrielle R. Gibbs  
 Emily T. Walker



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TO THE FAMILY OF:



The 908 Airlift Wing recently hosted the Air Force Reserve Command NCO Leadership Development Course. The course provides junior NCOs the opportunity to explore in-depth communication, trust, teamwork, and current AFRC leadership issues and initiatives. Each topic is presented via a lecture/discussion coupled with scenarios. Among the attendees were Airmen from other AFRC units and the Air National Guard. Members of the 908 Airlift wing attending were Tech. Sgts. Katrina Lee, Matthew Bruce and Joshua Green; and Staff Sgts. Tony Donofrio, Andrew Jeter, Logan Spendlove, Mark Hill, Ian T. Jones, Veronica Stallworth, Erica Deramus-Smith and Jarrett Johnston.



Units from the 908 Airlift Wing took time during the recent Wingman Day to reinforce the bonds of camaraderie by participating in a variety of athletic team-building activities. Here, the 'port dawgs' of the 25th APS participate in a unit run.



2014 Hiring Our Heroes Veterans Event – Montgomery AL  
 Multiplex at the Cramton Bowl  
 1022 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104  
 Tuesday, September 9, 2014

HIRING FAIR: 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: 9:00 a.m.

This event is being conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and supported by the Greater Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Labor Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), the Alabama Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, The American Legion, AL DOL, NBC News, and other local partners.

### EMPLOYERS

Must register for FREE at [HiringOurHeroes.org](http://HiringOurHeroes.org)

### JOB SEEKERS

Register for FREE at [HiringOurHeroes.org](http://HiringOurHeroes.org) to guarantee admission. Walk-ins welcome but space not guaranteed.

A workshop for veterans and other military job seekers that focuses on resume writing, tips for successfully navigating hiring fairs, military skill translation, and interviewing will start at 8:30 a.m. Pre-register for the Workshop during the job seeker registration process.

For registration questions, please contact us at [hiringourheroes@uschamber.com](mailto:hiringourheroes@uschamber.com) or call 202-463-5807.



[HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG](http://HIRINGOURHEROES.ORG)

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