

**WING WELCOMES NEW LEADERSHIP PGS. 4-5**

# SOUTHERN FLYER



# DAWG DAY



# AFTERNOONS

*"... with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."*



# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 52 Issue 7  
July 2015

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 *Commentary*  
Maj. Bryan A. Smith, ASTS
- 03 Chaplain: Freedom & Faith  
FM: Certification process
- 04-05 908th Airlift Wing  
welcomes new commanders
- 06-07 25th APS unleashes  
skills for 2015 challenge
- 08 Around the Wing
- 09 Key Spouse Tour
- 10 News briefs  
Promotions
- 11 UTA schedule/  
General info
- 12 Motorcycle safety course

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PA Officer: Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb  
Editor: Mr. Gene H. Hughes  
Writer: Master Sgt. Eric Sharman

# Check critical to success

**P**rior to deployments, members are prompted to go into the Aeromedical Services

Information Management System (ASIMS) and answer questions about their health status in the Deployment-Related Health Assessment (DRHA). There are questions about chronic health issues, physical limitations, home medications, etc.

Once the member has completed the questionnaire, it is sent forward to the Aeromedical Staging Squadron (ASTS) to review the answers and help make a determination whether the member is medically fit to deploy.

The member will then be called to answer three questions: What home medications are you taking and what are they for? Do you feel at risk to hurt yourself? Do you feel like you might lose control with someone or injure someone else? Honest answers are critical to determine whether a member should be displaced from a relatively domestic position of home station into a more austere condition of deployment.

The list of home medications gives the clinician a clue to what chronic and acute health problems the member may have.

Certain health problems preclude a member from doing certain jobs, while others may be exacerbated due to the conditions. Some medicines have to be refrigerated, which may not be possible during deployment.

The member will often need to bring a supply of medicines

to last the entire deployment if they are not accessible.

The last two questions often result in a giggle or sarcastic joke from many Airmen I have interviewed. Clear and sincere answers are necessary to ascertain the member's mental condition. Deployment stress has the potential to push an already fragile psyche beyond the limits of self-restraint and humanity. In an age where PTSD and other mental health disorders are disturbingly neglected, we must be intentionally vigilant in addressing not only our physical, but also our mental conditions intentionally. The DHRA is one means towards that end.



MAJ. BRYAN A. SMITH  
Nurse Practitioner, 908th ASTS

## A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (LT. COL.) HOGGATT

Patriotic events abound in the month of July, from parades to pyrotechnic displays, picnics to political stump speeches, community fairs to church vacation Bible schools. This time of firecrackers and flags gives us an opportunity to examine the relationship between faith and patriotism, because what we often forget as we celebrate our independence from England is that our Founding Fathers were also declaring their dependence on God.

The signing of the Declaration of Independence took great courage and faith on the part of those who signed the document, as well as each of those first patriots. John Adams said, *"Whether we live or die, sink or swim, succeed or fail, I stand behind this Declaration of Independence. And if God wills it, I am ready to die in order that this country might experience freedom."*

Our forefathers' patriotism and faith in God gave them the strength to take up small arms against the most powerful and well-organized army in the world. These patriots paid the ultimate sacrifice, so that we might live in the home of the free and the brave.

These patriots came from diverse faiths but this did not preclude their joining together as brothers in arms, nor did it stop each of them from basing their declaration of freedom on their dependence on God. The 908th Airlift Wing is a band of patriots. Yes, today we are called Citizen Airmen, but "patriot" defines our service to our country. We declare with every breath freedom for all mankind, while at the same time recognizing our dependence upon our God.

The second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence states that *"we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."* Let us boldly serve our nation and our God as 21st Century patriots.



# Are you certifiable?

By Debbie Smith  
908th FM

In 2013, The Air Force Reserve Order Writing System (AROWS-R) launched a new process which enabled Reservist to go into the system and electronically certify their orders. The basic criteria to use this process are as follows:

- ◆ The order has to be less than 30 days of duty.
- ◆ The member has the capability to input their departure and arrival dates in AROWS-R.
- ◆ Sign in with their CAC card.
- ◆ The order has to be routed to their supervisor for certification.

Once this has been accomplished, the Reserve Pay Office will pull the Tour of Duty Certification (TODC) files and process for payment.

Here are a few questions that have followed with this process:

### How do I change a TODC after completed?

The certification cannot be systematically changed once the supervisor has certified the tour. If the certification is incorrect, pen and ink changes must be made to the order and then a copy must

be taken to the Reserve Pay Office.

### Will I be paid for my long tour using electronic TODC?

Only the mileage portion of the TODC will be paid for orders over 30 days. The long tour still has to be filed in the Reserve Pay Office to start pay.

### What is Error Code 136 when signing a Tour of Duty Certification?

If a member signs his TODC and routes to the supervisor and then gets a new CAC card before the order has completed the TODC process, the supervisor will receive an Error Code 136 which is a CAC credential error.

The member needs to pull back the TODC, re-sign and resend it to the supervisor.

We have sent the entire TODC process out to the full-time ARTs and first sergeants. Please get a copy and start using this process. It will save you time and should speed up the payment process. Once you have this order certified in AROWS-R it will remain certified.

If you have any questions about this process, contact the 908th FM office at 953-6722.



### COVER PHOTO:

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing's 25th Aerial Port Squadron recently competed in the 2015 Port Dawg Challenge at Dobbins air Reserve Base, Ga.



"Providing combat-ready support across the spectrum of operations"

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 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 is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA.  
Address: 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112  
E-mail: 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil  
Phone: (334) 953-6804/7874 or DSN 493-6804; Fax: (334) 953-6355

# NEW KIDS *on the* BLOCK

## Wing's new vice takes on fresh challenges as deployment nears

Colonel Jimmie "Pat" Brooks, the new vice commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, has a big job ahead of him, but coming from a place where everything's bigger, he's ready for it.

The Texas native, having recently arrived from Lackland AFB, where he commanded the 356th Airlift Squadron, which is the C-5 Formal Training Unit for Air Force active-duty, Reserve and Air National Guard students.

"I'm not a micro-manager, and believe that I create an environment where our members lead and make decisions with authority," he said. "I treasure the opportunity to work for the men and women of the 908th, in an effort to lead them and enable them in their mission. My goal is to provide support to Col. Adam Willis, and in his absence, lead the wing."

He's already taking on that responsibility, as Col. Willis and a significant number of the unit's members deploy overseas in support of U.S. Central Command operations. It's a challenge he's looking forward to.

"I believe I'm a proactive leader, who looks to the future," he said. "My goals are to leave the 908th in a better place than I found it. Based on what I've seen so far, this will be a huge task because the 908th is a

top-notch group of professional individuals who are regarded as 'the best in the business' at what they do."

Brooks graduated from Baylor University with a degree in business administration in 1987. Wanting to be a flier, he was commissioned in 1989, and eventually became a C-5 pilot with the 68th Airlift Squadron at Lackland.

He says his favorite deployment was a tour as Multimodal Mission Commander in Rota, Spain, moving Army forces and helicopters into the Afghan theater.

"I enjoyed it the most because I was making a noticeable difference in our fighting efforts in Afghanistan," he said.

A self-proclaimed "100-percent Reservist," Brooks understands the challenges of balance. In his civilian status, he's an airline pilot, flying international routes to Europe and South America.

"While my true passion resides in my military service, I often have to ensure I'm satisfying the requirements and obligations of my civilian employer," he said. "It's easy to get lost in my passion for military service and not consider the impact my absence from home has on my incredible wife. I constantly remind myself that she is my solid foundation, and without her, my military career wouldn't be where it is today!"



## Support group leader wants to give Airmen access to success

Having dropped out of college, Patricia Brewer needed something to do, a place to live and a way to support herself.

Seeing some carefully crafted military media messaging changed all that for the Ohio native who recently assumed command of the 908th Mission Support Group.

"Airplanes had always interested me and I always liked the Air Force ads showing a ramp full of planes and clips of the aerial maneuvers so, that's where I went," she said.

She enlisted in 1974 and Palace Chased out to the Ohio Air Guard in 1978. In 1987, the former drop-out earned a degree in professional aviation from Louisiana Tech, and is now a colonel in charge of more than 500 Airmen whose mission is to provide peacetime and wartime mission-readiness support of the 908th Airlift Wing.

She said her goal will be to make her command the best it can be, and looks forward to meeting her Airmen and learning about them.

"I want to see what challenges the units have, help them overcome them and seeing the Airmen excel," she said. "It's always satisfying to know you've given the units the tools they need to perform their jobs and to hit new heights."

As a Reservist, Brewer finds the most challenging aspect is explain-

ing "what a Reservist is and what we do" to folks who have no connections to the military.

"Trying to explain what an Air Reserve Technician is even more challenging," she explained. "Many folks have nothing to relate to as far as the military is concerned – so I have to describe my job as something akin to the mayor of a city with folks who fix the roads, the policemen, etc."

Brewer, who said she tries to pick up the habits and nuances that make high-performance officers successful, describes her leadership style as "democratic."

"I look to provide leadership and guidance yet I expect persons to proactively participate in meetings - providing information, pros, cons, and being the naysayer when needed," she said. "MSG is an interactive process."

Brewer said she wants to leave the unit in better standing than when she arrived.

"I always try to ensure folks have access to the information, money and training they need to improve their respective units," she said. "I'm focused at trying to ensure the 908th MSG heads to the top. By knowing what does and doesn't work, and knowing things to try and pitfalls to avoid, makes it much easier to get to the top."

# OFF THE CHAIN



EYES ON THE PRIZE

## 908th Port Dawgs unleashes skills during heated competition

By Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb  
908th AW Public Affairs

DOBBINS AIR RESERVE BASE, Ga. — Six Airmen from the 908th Airlift Wing's 25th Aerial Port Squadron competed in Air Force Reserve Command's Port Dawg Challenge here, June 15-18.

The competition brought together a total of 26 teams from as far away as Guam.

The Port Dawg Challenge is the Air Force Reserve Command's premier aerial port competition. The event gives aerial porters the chance to display their abilities and build camaraderie while competing with other units.

Nicknamed "Port Dawgs," aerial porters are responsible for preparing, processing and loading cargo and passengers for conventional offloading or airdrop. These Airmen are a vital component in the airlift community's mission success.

The 25th APS and its rival squadrons competed in 12 unique events — including a written exam, physical fitness challenge, and timed events -- designed to test the teams both mentally and physically. At the end of the day, one team would come out as "Top Dawg" and take home a bronze statue of a life-size bulldog.

"It has been a challenge preparing and competing here, but it's also been fun," said Master Sgt. Frederick Koehl, 25th APS Team Chief. "We've enjoyed the camaraderie and team spirit within our team, as well as the relationships we've formed with people from other units."



WHO LET THE DAWGS OUT?

One of the most challenging events was the Fit-to-Fight challenge, performed under the Georgia summer sun in temperatures which hovered near the 100-degree mark. The timed event consisted of a five-lap run (1,500 meters), with a 20-repetition set of "burpees" at the end of each 300-meter lap.

Airman First Class Alexandra Moton competed along with Koehl and Technical Sgt. Jason Martin in the Fit to Fight event. She completed 58 burpees and ran like a gazelle despite the sweltering heat.

"It was fun and exciting to be a part of the Port Dawg Challenge," she said. "I really gained a deeper appreciation for paying attention to the details. The umpires are extremely knowledgeable, and I walked away knowing more than when I came."



MANEUVERING THE MACHINERY



LAP DAWG



WORKING AS A TEAM

**PORT DAWG CHALLENGE TEAM**  
 Master Sgt. Frederick Koehl (Team Chief)  
 Technical Sgt. Jason Martin  
 Technical Sgt. Michael Beyer (Observer)  
 Technical Sgt. Veronice Natal  
 Technical Sgt. Leslie Jordan  
 Senior Airman Ricky Hunter (Alternate)  
 Airman First Class Alexandra Moton

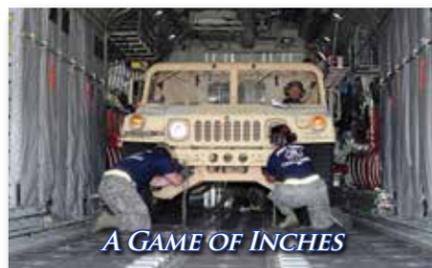
According to Chief Master Sgt. Whit-ed, the 908th team finished 6th overall in scoring, and Koehl placed third in the load planning event.

"From all the the judges' comments, our team had the best teamwork and work ethic of all the teams," he said. "The camaraderie between our members was one of the best I have seen, and the way our more-experienced members mentored the younger Airmen was truly impressive."

"Following each event, they spent time going over each detail and thinking through the process of how they could improve and how they could teach that to

the folks back in the squadron."

After three days of intense competition in the intense heat, the Reservists from the 76th APS from Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, won honors as the 2015 Top Dawg.



A GAME OF INCHES



BUSTING OUT BURPEES



GETTING IT RIGHT



MAKING THE RIGHT MOVES



FORKLIFT FINESSE



IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT



PREP WORK

## MAINTAINERS DEPLOY



Friends and family recently gathered at Maxwell's north ramp to say goodbye to members of the 908th Maintenance Group, who deployed overseas in support of CENTCOM.

## BIDDING FOND FAREWELLS



The 908th Airlift Wing recently said goodbye to two longtime members in retirement ceremonies. At the 357th Airlift Squadron, Lt. Col. William E. Bush, above with Lt. Col. Steve Catchings, was recognized. Senior Master Sgt. Ronald Moncrief of the 908th Maintenance Squadron, at right with Maj. Brian Horton, was honored.



## RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT

The 908th Airlift Wing recently held a Wing Commander's Call, during which members were recognized for outstanding achievements in job performance and education.



Tech. Sgt. Billy Kidd, 908th AW NCO of the Quarter



Master Sgt. John Farris, 908th CES SNCO of the Quarter



Ms. Jasmine Hails, 908th FSS Civilian of the Quarter

Also recognized for quarterly honors were Senior Airman Jamaar Jackson, 908th FSS, Airman of the Quarter; and First Lieutenant Joshua Newman, Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. Master Sergeant Philip S. Crabtree was presented the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service.

# Seeing how the other half lives

## Wing's Key Spouse organization takes educational tour of 908th



Members of the 908th Airlift Wing Key Spouse organization visited several squadrons and facilities during the June UTA. "The intent of the tour was to demonstrate how the different squadrons complement each other for mission success. No one squadron is more important than any other", said Senior Master Sergeant Martha Roy, Force Support Squadron Superintendent, and Key Spouse wing representative.

The tour first stopped at the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (photo below), where Chief Master Sgt. Patrick Weir, Chief Enlisted Manager of the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, explained how the C-130 aircraft can be turned into a flying hospital, capable of transporting up to 50 litter patients and 24 ambulatory patients with injuries ranging from slight to severe.



"I was so impressed with the medical capabilities of this plane. It is a comfort to know Chief Weir and his people are there to get the wounded home," said Amy Negrete.

Next, the group made a stop at the 357th Airlift Squadron. Chief Master Sgt. James Rickels, Loadmaster Superintendent (photo above), discussed the many capabilities of the aircraft, whether transporting personnel, cargo, or a combination of the two. Videos displayed the wing's air drop capabilities, from pallets to soldiers of the U.S. Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga.

The tour then stopped at the 25th Aerial Port Squadron, where Master Sgt. J.D. Ballentine, Aerial Delivery Shop Manager, gave a brief on how pallets are built, fitted with parachutes and loaded on the aircraft.

"I had no idea we could drop everything from water bottles to trucks from these planes," said Trinette Edge.

At the Fuel Cell Hanger, Staff Sgts. Jarrett Johnston, Kendall Williams and Bryan Renforth, representatives of the 908th Maintenance Group explained the various changes and modifications in the aircraft over the past few years, as well as an overview of the various maintenance shops and their specialized functions. The tour ended after each Key Spouse had a chance to enter the cockpit and practice a few "dry landings."

"Seeing the different squadrons independently is one thing," said Michelle Bruce. "Coming on board the plane and seeing how all the pieces actually fit together gives you a much greater appreciation for what our family members are doing when they come to UTAs or deploy."

For more information on the 908th Key Spouse Program and how to participate, contact Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy at (334) 953-3873 or martha.roy@us.af.mil

## NCO INDUCTION CEREMONY



The 908th Airlift Wing 56ers hosted a NCO Induction Ceremony to honor the members promoted to staff sergeant during the June UTA. Above, Senior Master Sgt. Rod Parker leads the honorees as they take the oath. They are: Enrique Castillo, Jarrett B. Johnston, Kevin A. Clark Jr., Trayunne A. Lucas, Dustin T. Daniel, Dominique L. Montgomery, Ricky E. Davis, Shaniqua C. Rogers, Matthew D. Dearth, Robert E. Shufford, Tony A. Donofrio, Gregory S. Vandiver, Timothy J. Gill, Dennis M. Williams, Barie L. Hamilton II, Britney M. Hess, Timothy C. Hill and Wesley T. Ingram.



## New to the 908th

Maj. Dustin Harrelson, 908 AW  
 Capt. Carmine Muscarella, FSS  
 Staff Sgt. Michael Seats, 25 APS  
 Staff Sgt. Candice Nelson, ASTS  
 Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Manning, MXS  
 Staff Sgt. David Parks, 25 APS  
 Staff Sgt. Amanda Webb, ASTS  
 Senior Airman Kyle Lutsic, AMXS  
 Senior Airman Sean Glover, SFS  
 Senior Airman Brett Gianni, SFS

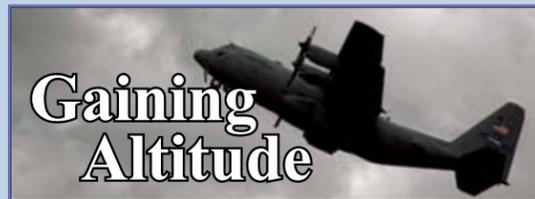
Senior Airman Allen Sims, CES  
 Senior Airman Dwayne Lee, CES  
 Senior Airman Tailon Dow, AMXS  
 Senior Airman Daniel Bartlett, MXS  
 Airman 1st Class Danielle Morgan, SFS  
 Airman 1st Class Mia Oliver, ASTS  
 Airman 1st Class William Rowell, 25 APS  
 Airman 1st Class Kelvin Wiggins, 25 APS  
 Airman Khietre Bean, CES  
 Airman Zetrenne Windy, AMXS

## Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Gwendolyn C. Hill, ASTS  
 Master Sgt. Joseph C. Denman, FSS  
 Master Sgt. Dennis D. Ellis, CES  
 Master Sgt. David G. Greer, 25 APS

Master Sgt. Brandy H. Lindsey, ASTS  
 Master Sgt. Jeffery Speigner, CES  
 Tech. Sgt. Hollis Verneti, AES

\* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place Aug 1 at 9 a.m. at Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.\*



Master Sergeant



Lisa A. Smith

Technical Sergeant



Kenneth E. Andrews  
 Sannu Brooks

Staff Sergeant



Bryan M. Renforth  
 Kevin A. Rodriguez  
 Ethan P. Smith  
 Kelsie R. Summers  
 Michael K. Turry

Senior Airman



Sierra D. Fitchard

Airman First Class



Zackary E. Faith



Congratulations

# 908th RiderCoaches kick start motorcycle safety course

The 908th Airlift Wing held its first stand-alone Basic Riders Course (BRC) in June, with eight participants, both military and dependents.

The 908th, in conjunction with the 42nd Air Base Wing Safety Office, shares the range and training motorcycles to accomplish the four different training courses under the Motorcycle Safety Foundation guidelines. The courses are the BRC (two days), BRC II (six hours), Advanced Riders Course (eight hours), and the Sport Bike Course (eight hours).

Participants had to pass a four-hour block of classroom instruction and a written test, as well as mastering 22 different riding skills.

They were Master Sgts. Marty Ashley, Otis Luke, and Mike Freeman; Tech. Sgt. Jarvis Capers, Staff Sgts. Matthew Chandler, and William Kernels. Dependents Joel Beach, Suzy and Griffin Weed also took the course.

The 908th is the first tenant wing in AFRC to have a fully trained/certified cadre of RiderCoaches.

The RiderCoaches for the 908th are Chief Master Sgt. Lynn Whited, Master Sgt. Matthew Chandler, Staff Sgt. Joe Peterson, and Maj. Carmel Weed. The Wing Motorcycle Safety Representatives are Staff Sgt. Thomas Mendiola and Senior Master Sgt. Terry Shook.

If you ride, it is imperative you take and pass one of these courses so your loved ones have access to your military benefits if something were to happen to you while operating a motorcycle. If not, there's no guarantee that benefits will be afforded if proper PPE and Certification are not utilized by the member while riding.

This training is available for dependents as well, but military members take precedence for all courses.

### Class dates for the 908th:

BRC II: Aug. 1, Oct. 3



### Class dates for the 42nd ABW:

BRC I: June 27-28, July 15-16, Aug. 15-16, Oct. 21-22, Nov. 7-8

BRC II: July 23, Sept. 24, Nov. 21

ARC: Aug. 27

To register for any 908th courses, go through your supervisor and unit motorcycle safety representative for approval. Then contact SMSgt Terry Shook in the 908th Safety Office at [terry.shook@us.af.mil](mailto:terry.shook@us.af.mil).

If you wish to register for any 42nd ABW courses, go through your supervisor and unit motorcycle safety representative. To register for a 42nd ABW course, contact the Maxwell Safety Office (953-2001), or contact at James West at [james.west.35@us.af.mil](mailto:james.west.35@us.af.mil).



908th Airlift Wing  
 401 W. Maxwell Blvd.  
 Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6501

TO THE FAMILY OF:

Presorted  
 First Class  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit #700  
 Montgomery, AL