

VICE COMMANDER FACES THE FIRE WITH CES, PGS. 6-7

SOUTHERN FLYER

HOME AGAIN!



**908th Airlift Wing
deployers return
from overseas tour**

0040

908 AW

SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 52 Issue 12
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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PA Officer: Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb
Editor: Mr. Gene H. Hughes

Can Your Mouth Go Mobile?

A Deployer's guide for dental readiness: You must be Dental Class 1 or 2 to deploy (Class 1: you have had a dental check-up and cleaning within the past 365 days. Class 2: you've had a check-up and need some dental work, but are not likely to have unbearable dental pain or swelling within a year).

Your current dental exam must not expire (current for 365 days) while on deployment.

You must have "Class 3" dental conditions resolved before deployment (a dental problem likely to cause unbearable pain or swelling within one year).

Check ARCnet "My Readiness Details" for your most current dental exam date and dental classification.

The best way to ensure that you are "dentally deployable" is to do your best to have good dental home care (i.e. brush, floss, fluoride mouth rinse, etc.), avoid excess sticky, sugary snacks and acidic, sugary drinks.

You should also get to know your neighborhood dentist. Find a civilian dentist in your community for definitive dental care. Once you have established a "dental home" you will be able to complete a DD form

2813 to fulfill your annual dental exam requirement. The form can be given to your Unit Health Monitor or to the 908th ASTS Dental Flight front desk during drill weekends to update your status.

The Tricare dental insurance program is a great way to get access to a local dentist. You can find out about the program on the web at:

www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Dental/NGRDental.aspx,
or you can call them at (855) 638-8371.

The Reserve Health Readiness Program (RHRP) is also a way to gain access to a dentist within 50 miles of the member's home of record. This program is free to the member, but limited to exams only. Information can be found at:

www.health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Health-Readiness/Reserve-Health-Readiness-Program/Air-Force-Reserve-Command.

Reservists are also required to be dentally ready for deployment by having a "military" dental exam once every three years. These are scheduled with your unit health monitor and the 908th ASTS Dental Flight. The exam determines the most accurate dental classification for each Airman. If a member is found to be Class 3 at the military exam, you are given a time limit to get your issues resolved (regardless of deployment status).

DENTAL, PAGE 10

A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

CH. (MSGT.) KELVIN KING

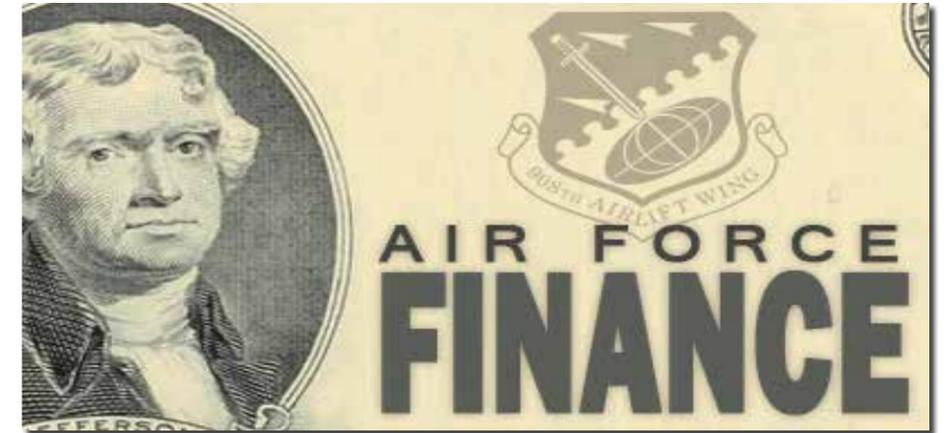
Relationships can be a very fulfilling experience. Some can be very positive and some can be, unfortunately, just the opposite. The key to having positive relationships is to have insight on the background of the people we meet which is not always readily available. Also establishing a rapport will help to make conversations that would not otherwise take place.

People having various backgrounds, locations, race, religious beliefs and other diverse differences can be challenging to say the least. But, like almost everything in life worth having, needs to be nurtured and time has to be spent to create meaningful relationships. Another stumbling block is having time to build on these types of relationships.

With social media, smartphones and other similar electronic devices, the personal touch fades more and more. This type of communication is difficult to read at times because the personal effect of eye contact is lost. Speaking on the phone to someone can sometimes give insight into the person's mood by the words used and the emphases on the words used in speaking, but texting, on the other hand, can be misread on what the person is trying to communicate.

Relationships can be built and be more meaningful when the parties involved have common interests. Examples are sports, hunting, fishing, and swimming, going to

RELATIONSHIPS, PAGE 10



Tips for successful orders processing

By Marie L. Shepherd, 908th FM

There are two forms used for orders, AF Form 938 and DD Form 1610. This article will cover some of the items on the AF Form 938. When cutting orders, it's essential to be accurate. Because mistakes happen from time to time, here are some tips on things to look out for.

If you're creating an order for more than 15 days or a Military Personnel Appropriation (MPA) order, you must complete a Man-Day Authorization Request. This completed form should be e-mailed to Debbie Smith, Angie Rankins-West or Marie Shepherd prior to sending the order for processing in AROWS-R, as we need this form to approve orders.

If your order type is MPA, you will also need to send the M4S prior to submitting the order for processing.

Pay close attention to Blocks 15 and 16 of AF Form 938. To determine if either of these blocks should be checked, use the member's Home of Record (Blocks 4-6) and the location in Block 12. If either of these blocks is checked, the member

should not receive any travel or per diem (Blocks 23-26).

Be sure to use the correct Duty Status/PERSTEMPO Codes. These are determined by using the distance from your Home of Record to the duty location (Block 12), and the order type (Block 11). Some of the most common types of orders are: Annual Tour, Active Duty for Training, School, MPA, and Active Duty Operational Support.

A Continuing Resolution Authority (CRA) statement is required on orders cut during a time period when the government budget is under a CRA. Currently, this statement is required. The CRA statement is:

"USE OF FUNDCITE AND THE DAYS ASSOCIATED WITH IT IS CONTINGENT UPON THE SIGNING OF THE FY 16 APPROPRIATION BILL OR CONTINUING RESOLUTION AUTHORITY (CRA)."

There are many details to creating orders. These are just a few key items to keep in mind as you prepare them for submission to FM. Remember to contact the FM office if you have questions; we are always happy to help!



COVER PHOTO:

Technical Sgt. David Baxter unfurls the Alabama flag atop a C-130 to celebrate the return of maintenance group deployers from the Middle East. For more photos, see page 8.



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

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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

LRS command changes hands



By Gene H. Hughes, 908th AW Public Affairs

Commander leaves 908th, goes to the 'Dawgs' at Wright-Patterson

When describing qualities that made Lt. Col. Barry H. Crane, outgoing commander of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron, a good mentor who doesn't shrink from a leadership challenge was a common topic.

After leading the LRS for a relatively short two years, a career opportunity laden with challenges came knocking, and Crane answered.

Crane departs the 908th to become the commander of the 200 Airmen who comprise the 87th Aerial Port Squadron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He said his goal is to make a significant impact on the development of the squadron's officers and enlisted.

"Over the past two years I have grown tremendously as a commander," he said. "I realized the nuances of leading a squadron while being a Traditional Reservist, understanding that great leadership ultimately depends on the great people you have in key positions."

During Crane's Air Force career, which includes seven years active duty, he has always been in logistics of some kind. His tours of duty have afforded him the opportunity to deploy to Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain.

He said the LRS grew as a unit on several annual tours, implemented successful training plans for its sections, and greatly increased individual mentoring. He said the entire 908th will benefit as more LRS members take their knowledge into positions of greater responsibility.

"I would tell everyone to keep your own strategic plans in sight," he said. "Know what it takes to reach your goals. Don't be your own obstacle to that next promotion. And, most importantly, lead and mentor those following you, as they are the Airmen who will be our future leaders."

Mission, Airmen's empowerment is the focus of new commander

Initially joining the Air Force to pay for her education, Maj. Meghann F. Allison continues to serve because she believes in the Air Force mission, and has "a love for the people who comprise our great service."

Allison, a Delaware, Ohio native, assumed command of the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron during a ceremony held during the November UTA.

She said she looks forward to "leading a team in successful mission accomplishment, seeing members succeed both holistically and individually achieving their personal best in support of the mission."

When she came out of the ROTC program, she was better suited to carry a tune rather than a logistics load. Allison holds a Bachelors in Voice Performance, as well as another in Interdisciplinary Studies.

She's made up a lot of ground since then. As a "core LRO," she has served in the APS and LRS, been an IDO and served as an executive officer at both the MSG & HAF levels. She said her goals are to maximize training opportunities in support of readiness requirements.

"As I lead, I strive to model the Air Force core values in the execution of my duties, thereby setting the example for my team. I strive to make a difference and giving the same level of effort I'm asking from them," she said. "We accomplish our mission by taking care of our people and ensuring they're trained in their primary specialty as well as emotionally and physically prepared to support the mission as required."

"My greatest pleasure is steering a team towards organizational goals and personal career milestones to achieve more than its members thought possible. I strive to empower my Airmen to achieve their personal best."



OUT OF THE FLYING SUIT AND INTO THE FIRE

908th vice commander changes business suits for training day with firefighters

By Col. Jimmie Brooks
908th AW Vice Commander

Almost every boy has a childhood dream of becoming a firefighter when he grows up. Never in my wildest imagination did I ever think that I would have the opportunity to be a firefighter this late in my Air Force career! So you can imagine the excitement I felt when I was offered the opportunity to participate as a member of our 908th Airlift Wing firefighting team, while they conducted an exercise during the November UTA.

This fire drill started at an abandoned dormitory on Maxwell Air Force Base. I showed up and was greeted by our 908th firefighters, who had arranged for a firefighting suit that would fit me. They helped me get into my boots and bib, and then pull on my nomex fire hood. Next came my firefighting jacket, and oxygen bottle harness that went on my back. Finally I put on my oxygen mask and goggles, helmet, and gloves. This process, with their assistance, took me approximately five minutes. When I asked them what their standard was for putting the suit on, they told me that they must do it in under 60 seconds! Wow...

After suiting up, we boarded 5 firefighters into the large pumper truck, and drove to a remote part of the base and waited for our radio dispatch call. When the call came in, the driver turned on the siren, and we raced to the location of the fire.

Upon arrival at the fire scene, we briefly

stopped by the fire hydrant to hook up the main fire hose, then the firefighter jumped back in the truck and we continued driving to the emergency site. Upon arrival, we jumped out of the truck and assembled our three-man emergency team that would enter the smoky building.

As we pulled the fire hose off of the truck, it filled with water, and became extremely heavy. The three of us grabbed the hose and went to search the building for any victims. Our first priority was to find any victims and the second priority was to extinguish the fire. I must admit, I was shocked at how heavy the hose was!

As we entered the smoky room, the visibility was zero. To be honest, I could not even see the firefighter in front of me, and he was only three feet away! We got down on our hands and knees to avoid any extreme heat temperatures that would be in the room where a fire was. This was very challenging since we also had to carry a very heavy water hose.

After a thorough search of the room, we found the victim, and, as a team, took him outside to safety. After that, we re-entered the smoky room to fight the fire. Under extremely poor visibility conditions, we

were able to locate the source of the fire and extinguish it!

After the emergency was over, our team assembled outside for a debriefing, just like a flight crew does after a flight. We talked about the lessons learned. First of all I was shocked at how extremely physically demanding our task was to find the victim and extinguish the fire. It was very difficult to breathe in my oxygen mask while my heartbeat was racing. The physical demands of crawling on my hands and knees while carrying the heavy and stiff water hose was tremendous! While I have handled many emergency situations in the cockpit, I was not prepared for the challenges that I would meet in that smoky room.

After the completion of the exercise, I walked away from the scene with newfound respect for our firefighters. The weather condition for us was cool and light rain. I can only imagine how hard it would be for a firefighter who was fighting a fire in the middle of July, in summertime heat conditions, for many hours! It is truly amazing what our firefighters do to save equipment and lives for the Air Force. I am proud to serve with them, and have them on our team!



Colonel Jimmie Brooks, vice commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, recently took the opportunity to participate in a training mission with members of the wing's firefighting squad. Brooks learned the proper donning of the many layers of gear, safety procedures, and even went on a 'call,' entering a simulated fire, pulling the hose and rescuing a 'victim.'





SWEET HOME ALABAMA



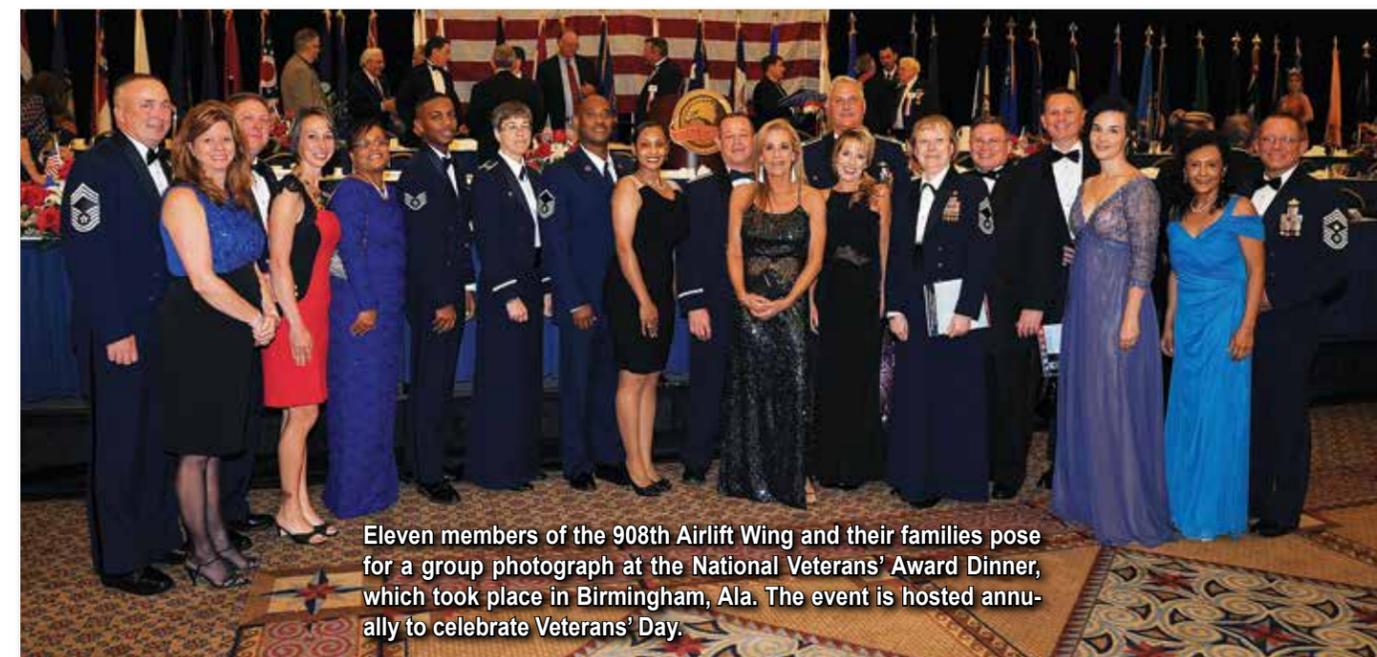
A HELPING HAND FOR HONDURAS



The 908th 'Port Dawgs' recently used their skills to assist in putting together approximately 4,000 pounds of humanitarian supplies headed for Honduras, and transported by a C-5 Globemaster.



REPRESENTING IN BIRMINGHAM



Eleven members of the 908th Airlift Wing and their families pose for a group photograph at the National Veterans' Award Dinner, which took place in Birmingham, Ala. The event is hosted annually to celebrate Veterans' Day.

908th AW 2015 Annual Awards Banquet

Location: Embassy Suites, Montgomery, AL

Date: Saturday, 5 March 2016

Time: 1900-2200

Attire: Mess Dress/Semi-Formal

Cost: \$30

Social Hour: 1800-1900

Contact your Squadron POC to purchase tickets.

Wing POC: TSgt Dickerson (334)953-0543



New to the 908th

Maj. Benjamin Iannucci, CES
 2nd Lt. Krizia L. Ware, AES
 Master Sgt. James K. Groce, CES
 Tech. Sgt. David A. Pelegrin, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Kevin Ricks, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Matthew T. Lowe, CES
 Tech. Sgt. Shari A. Gacksetter, SFS
 Staff Sgt. Bernard J. Whitney Jr., MXS
 Staff Sgt. Adarryll L. Reeves, CES
 Staff Sgt. Leon Hampton Jr. CES
 Staff Sgt. Page K. Lacey, CES
 Senior Airman Christopher L. Halbert, MXS

Senior Airman Quentin D. Simpson, CES
 Senior Airman Kelvin D. Hudson, CES
 Senior Airman Justin M. Morris, CES
 Senior Airman Kateecha Robinson, FSS
 Airman 1st Class Steven B. Barker, AMXS
 Airman 1st Class Demarcus J. Cade, CES
 Airman 1st Class Brian D. West, 25 APS
 Airman 1st Class Columbus Sanders III, 25 APS
 Airman 1st Class Justin Brown, AES
 Airman 1st Class Shemorre Bolton, 25 APS
 Airman Basic Starks Ferlando, LRS

DENTAL, FROM PAGE 2

If a member goes past the time limit without getting class 3 issues resolved, they can be put in a "no-points/no-pay" status.

If you find yourself in a situation where you have a major dental problem and you have a deployment coming up, there are ways

to get you ready in time. One of those ways is through pre-activation benefits. You are eligible for care through the active-duty dental plan prior to deployment. You must have "Delayed-effective-date" active-duty orders lasting more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation.

RELATIONSHIPS, FROM PAGE 3

see that new movie that has just been released, shopping, and other activities of leisure.

Relationships can be built easily and be most rewarding when we volunteer time to help on a project such as clearing brush in constructing a trail for runners in the local community, volunteering time to

help Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill, Salvation Army and other non-profit organizations.

Relationships are extremely important and the approaching holiday season is a great time to take a look at the relationships we have which can last throughout our lives.

Gaining Altitude



Master Sergeant



Anthony W. Lewis

Technical Sergeant



David F. Holland

Staff Sergeant



Harold E. Floyd Jr.
 Theresa L. Hall
 Tamara O. Lewis
 Breyanna S. McGilberry
 Ka Teecha L. Robinson
 Jimmy S. Smith
 Keith K. Smith

Senior Airman



Emily T. Bryant
 Jonathan T. Evans
 Wade A. Messick
 Brandon A. Morrissette
 Alexandria E. Moton
 Jarrius D. Richardson
 Keith A. Turner

Airman First Class



Joshua J. Scullark
 Deondrea K. Shepherd
 Chasity T. Vaughn

Airman

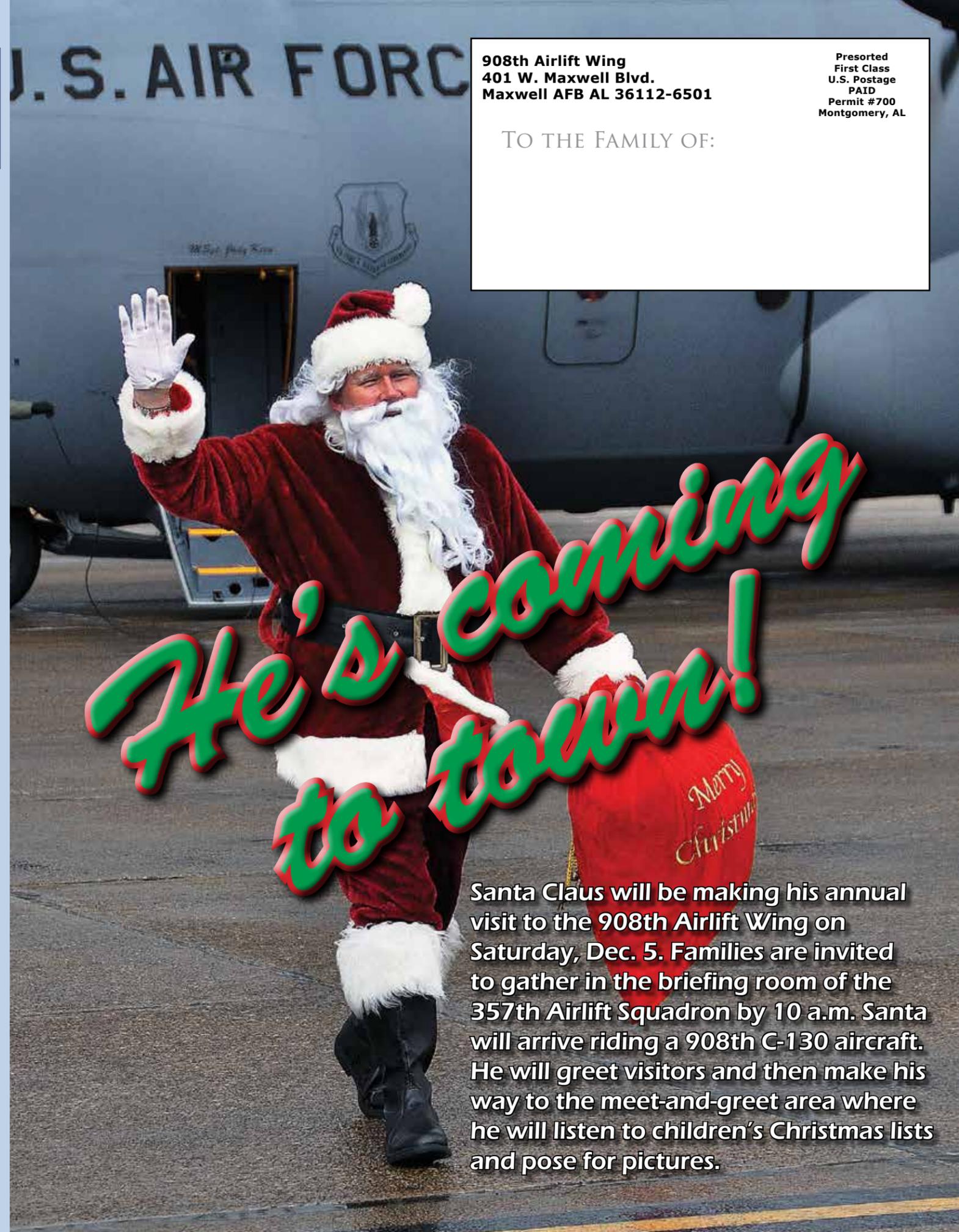


Joshua A. Colin
 Cecilia C. Jenkins
 Deminica L. McCall
 Jerin P. Price

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TO THE FAMILY OF:



He's coming to town!

Santa Claus will be making his annual visit to the 908th Airlift Wing on Saturday, Dec. 5. Families are invited to gather in the briefing room of the 357th Airlift Squadron by 10 a.m. Santa will arrive riding a 908th C-130 aircraft. He will greet visitors and then make his way to the meet-and-greet area where he will listen to children's Christmas lists and pose for pictures.