

Southern Flyer

908th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., Vol. 42, Issue 11, November 2005



Demobilization activities heat up as deactivation nears

Right, 908MXS's Staff Sgt. Marjorie Driver asks a question during the 908th Military Personnel Flight demobilization procession panel session Oct. 17. Below, a Veteran's Affairs representative, flanked by wing education and training manager Tech. Sgt. Jo Kaestner (left) and a TRICARE representative, answers a question during the panel session. Four processing sessions were conducted last month as a prelude to final out-processing which is scheduled to take place at the end of the two-year mobilization period, on or about Nov. 24.



Photos by Jeff Melvin

Last 908th reservists return from hurricane relief support

Six members of the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and 14 members of the 908th Security Forces Squadron returned home Oct. 3 and 6, respectively, after helping Hurricane Katrina victims.

The reservists were the last members of a 60-person initial response team from the 908th to assist rescue, relief and recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The 908AES personnel teamed with six AE personnel from March AFB, Calif.'s 452nd Air Mobility Wing to operate a crew management cell, facilitating the movement of injured and ill patients from New Orleans to other cities. The reservists worked under the direction of the San Antonio-based 433rd Airlift Wing. The 433rd served as the hub for

coordinating aeromedical evacuation operations to remove sick and injured people from the Gulf Coast area affected by Hurricane Katrina.

At one point, reservists accounted for 98 percent of all aeromedical evacuations. The crew management cells provided oversight for more than 360 personnel, comprising 55 aeromedical evacuation crews and 15 critical care air transport teams.

The Security Forces squad spent a month augmenting forces protecting Joint Air Reserve Base New Orleans.

Right, Senior Master Sgt. Curtis Coleman (center) and other 908th Security Forces Squadron personnel draw their weapons from the 42nd Security Forces Squadron armory in preparation for their departure to New Orleans Sept. 7.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Message from your military equal opportunity office

By 2nd Lt. Darrell Bogan and
Master Sgt. Gloria Derico,
908th Military Equal Opportunity Office

Every individual must be able to work in an environment free of discrimination.

It is the policy of the government of the United States, the Air Force, and the 908th Airlift Wing to provide equal opportunity in employment for all its members regardless of race, sex, color, religion, or national origin.

The military equal opportunity office clarifies complaints for military members, their families and

retirees. In addition, we offer a wide variety of classes in human relations education, conduct unit climate assessments within each organization, and assist commanders with their equal opportunity treatment programs.

Everyone must be proactive in preventing discrimination and sexual harassment. You don't have to be the focus of sexual harassment or discrimination to speak out against it. Take the lead in ensuring equal treatment for all people regardless of race, sex, color, religion, or national origin.



Lieutenant Bogan

If you have any questions, contact the MEO office, (334) 953-6672. Our office



Master Sergeant Derico

is located on the second floor of Bldg. 1056 between the Chaplain and JAG.

God deserves thanksgiving each day

In the United States, the fourth Thursday of the eleventh month is designated Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving is a time when family, friends, and special people get together and appreciate one another and give thanks.

Let's reflect on the countless days and missed

opportunities during the year that many people failed to give thanks to the King of kings and the Lord of lords. In Psalm 136: 1-3, the scripture encourages the believer to give thanks unto God continuously.

Why should we give God thanks continuously?

What do you do 18 times a minute, 1,080 times an hour, 25,920 times a day, most people rarely notice? The thousand-dollar answer is: You breathe air! Some studies suggest that if you are 40 years old, you have already taken more than 378 million breaths. If you think about it, each breath has been a miraculous gift from God!

The lungs are one of the most vital organs in the human body. The lungs supply the blood with oxygen and get rid of carbon dioxide and water. If

a person goes without oxygen for a few minutes, he or she may lose consciousness. In addition, one may not survive much longer without oxygen and death may be imminent.

The Bible instructs us that the Lord holds in His hand "the soul of every living thing, and the breath of humankind" (Job 12:10). God provides His people a multitude of gifts daily, and the people of God must give Him honor, glory, and thanksgiving daily for His blessings. It is God who sustains and provides for humankind, so give God thanks!

Finally, never forget that God smiles when His creation blesses and thanks Him. Take the time to give God thanks and honor because He deserves daily thanksgiving throughout the year.



By Chaplain (Capt.) Val Shumate
908th AW chaplain

Command wants greater survey participation

ROBINS AFB, Ga. – Air Force Reserve Command leaders want everyone in the command – military and civilian – to participate in the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey.

The survey began Oct. 1 and runs to Nov. 23.

"Last year was the first time AFRC participated in the survey, and the results were tremendous," said Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, AFRC commander. "The 33-percent participation rate sent a clear message that our people are committed to improving the Air Force. This year our goal is 100-percent participation across the command."

The purpose of the survey is to make things better for people and their organizations. The survey measures how people feel about leadership, supervision, training, recognition and other aspects of the Air Force.

"Since the survey software protects one's identity, I encourage everyone to be honest and straightforward in their responses," said Chief Master Sgt. Jackson A. Winsett, AFRC command chief master sergeant. "The survey data will be as good as the respondents make it. It's our opportunity to stand up and be counted."

The survey can be completed online at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil/> any time during the survey period from either a government or personal computer.

Member sends thanks to wing

My five-month old son, Jacob, was seriously injured at his daycare Aug. 17 of this year and as a result we spent the next eight days in the special care unit at Children's Hospital in Birmingham.

During this time we received a wonderful outpouring of love and support from the members of the 908th Maintenance Group, the 908th Maintenance Squadron and the Chaplain's service.

Jacob is doing very well now and we are given much hope for a full recovery. But, during those first trying days it was the love, support and prayers from our friends that helped to sustain us.

We surely feel that we are blessed to be a part of such a fine group and know in our hearts that our prayers and the prayers of our friends in the 908th have been answered each time we see our son smile.

We would like to express a simple thank you on our and Jake's behalf because we know we will never be able to reach member personally yet at the same time wish to ensure our friends are aware of how much we appreciate their expressions of love and support.

Master Sgt. Randy B. Garrett
908LG/LGQ



Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Col. Heath J. Nuckolls

Editorial Staff

Chief, Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Jerry W. Lobb

Deputy Chief/Editor

Jeffery Melvin

Writer

Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Address

Editor, "Southern Flyer"
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Phone Number

(334) 953-6804
or DSN 493-6804

Fax Number

(334) 953-2202
or DSN 493-2202

E-mail

southern.flyer@maxwell.af.mil

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 policy

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 UTA. The submission deadline for articles or information is the Wednesday two weeks prior to the UTA.

For information about this schedule, call Jeff Melvin at (334) 953-7874.

'First Shirt' candidates meet board in January

The next annual First Sergeant Board is set for Sunday of the January UTA in the Command Chief's conference room at 9 a.m.

The purpose of this board is to have a pool of qualified applicants interested in becoming First Sergeants readily available, 908AW Command Chief Master Sgt. Amos Moore, said.

"If a position becomes available, I will be in a position to offer the prospective commander names of the top candidates from the most recent board for their consideration. This will reduce, by at least three UTAs, the amount of time it has taken in the past to announce the vacancy, convene a board and schedule an interview with the prospective commander," Chief Moore said.

If no vacancies occur, or an applicant is not selected, applicants are free to re-apply the next year. All applicants must meet the board in Service Dress uniform.

Interested applicants should submit their military/civilian resume, copies of their last three enlisted performance appraisals, a current records review listing, a letter of recommendation from their commander and a letter detailing he or she

would like to be a first sergeant. This information should be provided to Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker, 908 MPF, Building 1056, not later than 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4.

Chief Moore cited three useful sources for those interested in finding out more information about the First Sergeant career field: AFMAN 36-8001, Reserve Personnel Participation and Training Procedures, Chapter 8, para 8.2.6; AFMAN 36-2108, Airman Classification and AFI 36-2113, The First Sergeant, Chapter 11.

AFMAN 36-8001, Chapter 8, para 8.2.6 lists the special instructions for retraining into the first sergeant special identifier 8F000.

AFMAN 36-2108 describes the duties and responsibilities, along with special duty qualifications for the special duty identifier 8F000, First Sergeant. "The duties listed primarily pertain to the Active Duty, but are very applicable during AEF rotations and other deployments supporting active duty; it also gives you a big picture of the role of the First Sergeant," Chief Moore said.

AFI 36-2113, Chapter 11, explains the Roles and Responsibilities of the AFRC first sergeant.

Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve increased educational assistance allowance

The annual cost of living increase in Educational Assistance Allowance for trainees under the Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve (Ch. 1606 of Title 10, U.S.C.) has been approved.

The following monthly rates are effective October 1, 2005.

New monthly rates for persons training under the Montgomery GI Bill -Selected Reserve

Type of training	Full time	Three-quarter time	Half-time	Less than half-time
Institutional	\$297	\$222.75	\$148.50	\$74.25
Cooperative	\$297 (Full Time Only)			
Correspondence	Paid at 55% of approved charges for course. Entitlement charged at rate of one month for each \$297 paid.			
Apprenticeship	First 6 months		\$252.45	
On-the-job	Second 6 months		\$193.05	
Training	Remainder of program		\$133.65	
Flight	Paid at 60% of the approved charges for the course. Entitlement charged at the rate of one month for each \$297 paid.			

Get One -- Tell a friend, no better recruiters than unit members

Tell your friends, family and co-workers about the challenge and excitement that go with serving in the Air Force Reserve. Share your pride and commitment with them. Then submit their names.

The Get One Program is an Air Force Reserve command-wide program that gives reservists a way to refer friends, family members and co-workers to the Reserve Program.

Once you submit your referral information, you'll receive a token award just for participating. Soon thereafter, your referral will receive a phone call from an Air Force Reserve recruiter.

If one of your referrals joins the Air Force Reserve, you'll get a special award and recognition. The more enlistments that you generate, the more you get in return.

All reservists are eligible to participate, except AFRC re-

cruiters. There is no limit to the number of referrals submitted. A referral must result in an enlistment within 24 months to qualify for an enlistment award.

More information is available online at www.afreserve.com.getone.

Chances are you know someone who wants to serve in the 908th Airlift Wing.

908AW recruiters

Senior Master Sgt. Bob Spears, Maxwell senior recruiter, (334) 953-6737/5212; **Master Sgt. Demetra Nickerson**, Maxwell in service/line recruiter, (334) 953-7997; **Tech. Sgt. Robert Casavant**, Columbus, Ga. recruiter, (706) 689-4544; **Staff Sgt. Gregory Davis**, Huntsville recruiter, (256) 722-0558; **Master Sgt. Tammi Langhorn**, officer accessions recruiter, Phone TBA; **Tech. Sgt. Brad Roate**, health professions recruiter, (334) 396-

2923 and **Tech. Sgt. Neil Sherman**, Hurricane Katrina displaced recruiter from Mississippi working out of Hattiesburg, Miss., (601) 264-6734.

ALL SHADED FIELDS MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM

REFERRAL INFORMATION

Name: Last First MI

Home Address:

City: State: Zip:

Email:

Phone: - -

RESERVIST INFORMATION

Name: Last First MI

Home Address:

City: State: Zip:

Date of Birth: / / Wing #: Rank:

example: 05 / MAR / 71 example: 908 example: TSGT

Phone: - - Check here if this is a new address ☐

Are you already registered in the program? ☐ yes ☐ no (check one)

All shaded fields still need to be filled out.

AIR FORCE RESERVE
REPEL & ALTON

Complete the form on the above and give it to one of the wing's recruiters to refer someone and to register for a prize in the Get One program. You can also refer someone by calling (877) 786-2372 tollfree, or you can enter your referral's information at www.afreserve.com.getone

Wing thanks local Methodist church for support

Rev. Randy Greene and Mrs. Marie Witte of St. Luke United Methodist Church show presentation case to congregation as 908AW Commander Col. Heath Nuckolls offers thanks on behalf of the wing Oct. 3. Colonel Nuckolls, Chaplain (Capt.) Jamie Danford, the unit's group commanders and command chief paid a short visit to the church to thank them for their support over the last two years - St. Luke provided a free pot luck supper and a place to gather on the last Tuesday of each month to any activated reservist or his or her family. The case contained an American flag that was flown on one of our C-130's during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The bottom of the case contained a hymnal that was flown by Maj. Ken Bartczak to numerous locations during one of his deployments. Major Bartczak recorded each location visited in the front of the hymnal. Reverend Greene is St. Luke's senior pastor; Mrs. Witte oversaw the dinners.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Time draws near for SNCOs to request top military education slot

Air Force Reserve personnel, unlike their active duty counterparts, meet a central selection board to compete for limited quota allocations for the USAF Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

The selection board for the next SNCOA in residence class will be held during the December UTA, wing training officials said.

In order to allow enough time for review, the packages need to be in the wing training office by close of business, Sunday of the November UTA, Nov. 6.

Applicants should provide the training office a civilian e-mail address or phone number so they may be contacted if there are problems with their packages.

Classes being considered are FY2006 classes 06B, C, D and E. The class dates are:

Jan. 5 - Feb 22 (06B);
March 7 - April 20 (06C)
June 7 - July 25 (06D)
Aug. 14 - Sept. 28 (06E)

The procedures for requesting to attend Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy In-Residence Course are spelled out below.

First **ALL** applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- ◆ Be in the grade of Master Sergeant or higher
- ◆ Have a General ASVAB score of 50 or higher
- ◆ Have computer capabilities
- ◆ Not be in upgrade or re-training status
- ◆ Be in compliance with AF

Physical Fitness Standards

Air Reserve Technicians (ARTs) attending in civilian status must meet all of the above requirements and sign a Student Attendance Agreement.

Application package will include:

- ◆ Application - AF Form 4036
- ◆ Current Rip signed on Pg 4
- ◆ Last two EPRs

◆ Full length color photograph - 8 x 10, ¾ turn, Service Blues/no ribbons no service jacket (include 2 copies and a digital copy)

◆ Rank order class dates available for attendance

If member meets all of the above criteria, the application process will be as follows:

◆ A p - plication pack-

age will be sent to wing education and training for review to ensure all above prerequisites/requirements have been met

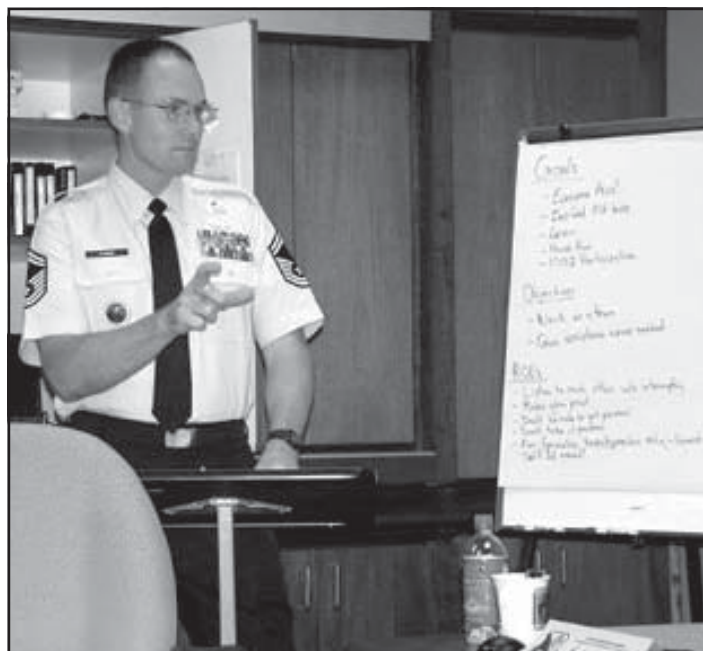
◆ The wing command chief master sergeant, assisted by wing education and training, will conduct interview selection board, consisting of the wing command chief master sergeant and five wing chief master sergeants

◆ Results of selection board will be submitted to wing commander for final approval

The wing education and training office will submit the name(s) of the selectees to the appropriate RSG/DPT for consolidation. Any substitutions will be approved by the command chief master sergeant and the wing commander prior to submission

The RSG/DPT office will forward the selected names to HQ AFRC/DPTS to release the quotas. DPTS will fill seats/quotas by name from approved spreadsheet.

Wing senior NCOs experiencing problems with their application packages or who have questions, should call the education and training office at 953-6671/6678.



SNCOA classroom instruction

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force

Editor's note: The following commentary is adapted from a by Gen. T. Michael Moseley, Air Force chief of staff.

By Gen. T. Michael Moseley
Air Force chief of staff



Gen. T. Michael Moseley

WASHINGTON – We are a Nation at war. Oct. 17 marked the 1,470th day we've been fighting Operation Enduring Freedom. World War II lasted 1,347 days.

We've now been fighting the Global War on Terror for four months longer than World War II. From the day Desert Storm kicked off, Jan. 17, 1991, the Air Force has been in continuous combat. For 14 years our enemies have shot at us and for 14 years we've returned the favor.

But no matter how long the road, we must never lose our focus on winning this fight.

Today, we are engaged more than ever ... from across the globe to here at

home. From taking the fight to the enemy in Iraq; to rebuilding lives in the wake of Hurricane Katrina; to controlling satellites on the other side of the world; to fighting forest fires in the Rockies; to patrolling the skies over America – you can be proud of the work your Air Force is doing to protect our country.

I'm incredibly proud to be a member of an Air Force family that has more than 106,000 Airmen assigned or deployed in 64 countries, on every continent, and in every time zone throughout the world.

We have handled each and every task brought before us with lethal efficiency because of you. It is an honor to work and fight alongside you in service to our republic.

The 684,000 active-duty, Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard members and civilians of the United States Air Force are truly a total force.

We stand alongside our Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine brethren ready to answer the nation's call. We fight together. We triumph together.

Our promise to the joint team is that as Airmen we will always be the best in the world at what we do: dominating Air and Space from 1 inch above the ground to 100,000 miles above the earth.

Today, we have three major challenges facing our Air Force. First and foremost is accomplishing the combatant tasks the president and secretary of defense assign. The tasks will be ones we've done before and ones we've

never undertaken.

Second, we must preserve that which makes us the most feared air force in the world – our people. Our culture of excellence must continue to develop Airmen ... Airmen who are the most adaptable, most skilled, most professional and most lethal the world has ever known.

Third, we face the difficult task of operating the oldest inventory in the history of the United States Air Force. My senior leadership will work to break this vicious cycle. I need you, our Airmen on the line, to continue making the mission happen.

As we work towards a more secure, more peaceful tomorrow ... look around. Behind us you'll see a proud, rich heritage. And in front of us is a limitless horizon. So let's push it up, go to work and make the mission happen. (AFRC News Service)

Users can log on to portal with access card

WASHINGTON -- Users can now log on to the Air Force Portal using their common access card and personal identification number.

This latest change to the Air Force Portal means fewer passwords for users to remember and leads to greater security for Air Force networks, said Maj. David Gindhart of the Air Force warfighting integration and chief information officer directorate at the Pentagon.

"We have gone to a newer, easier, more secure way of logging into the Air Force Portal," Major Gindhart said. "The beauty of the CAC login is that it requires you to physically have (a CAC) issued through the proper authorities, and then you have to have the PIN. So it's a two-factor authentication, much stronger than the user ID and password combination."

Major Gindhart said getting the Air Force Portal to recognize your CAC is easy. Users should go to the Portal Web site at <https://www.my.af.mil> and click the "New/existing users start here" link under the "Register Now with CAC" heading.

"It'll take a few minutes to associate your CAC with your user ID and password," the major said. "In the background it'll take about 30 minutes for the software to update. From there on out you use the CAC to log in."

If users need to log into the Portal from home or any machine without a CAC reader, they will still be able to log in with their password and ID combination, he said.

When users use their CAC to access the Portal, they will continue to have access to the reduced sign-on access applications they have set up, such as the Virtual Military Personnel Flight, myPay, Air Force Personnel Center secure, Air Force Virtual Education Center, the fitness management system and more.

The Portal will continue to change and improve as the DOD updates requirements for network user authentication, Major Gindhart said.

"Where the Portal goes depends on where the DOD goes with identification mechanisms," he said.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Family member, classmates aid evacuees

908CES's Senior Master Sgt. Phillip Watkins, 908th Family Support's Tech. Sgt. Flo Walker and Chaplains (Capt.) Jamie Danford and (Lt. Col.) Bob Anders, far right, show off the product of Watkins' daughter Meagan's effort to help the school age victims of Hurricane Katrina. Meagan and some of her Florence (Ala.) High School class-

mates, courtesy of donations, were able to put together nearly 40 backpacks complete with school supplies for distribution to school age evacuees. Knowing that Sergeant Watkins was coming down for a UTA weekend, they asked him "to see they got in the right hands."

Gen. McNabb returns to take command, says "Heart always with AMC"

SCOTT AFB, Ill. -- Gen. Duncan J. McNabb took command of Air Mobility Command during a ceremony here Oct. 14.

During the ceremony, the general discussed the importance of the command now and in the future.

"It has been six years since I left here as commander of the (Tanker Airlift Control Center)," said General McNabb. "And it seems like I've been fighting to get back here ever since I left."

The general said although he spent the past six years at the Pentagon, his heart has always been with AMC.

General McNabb talked about the

importance of the command's active duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen.

"Nobody does (Total Force) better than AMC," he said. "When we get together, we do it superbly. And as we go to the future, Total Force will become ever more important."

About his return to Scott, General McNabb said he feels like he has come home.

Before handing the command lead to General McNabb, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley talked of the importance of air mobility and the trust he has in the new commander.

"We have a lot of work ahead of us, and there isn't anyone better to do

this than (General McNabb)," General Moseley said. "This country's at war and this population is depending on the American military to do this. And to a certain extent, the world is depending on Air Mobility Command to be able to deliver, at the right time and the right place, the equipment, the people, the capabilities and the effects required to fight the Global War on Terrorism."

The chief of staff also talked of what the Air Force and its coalition and Guard and Reserve partners are doing today. He said the Total Force is engaged in contingency operations such as Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, as well as in humanitarian relief for the United States, Guatemala and Pakistan.

General McNabb is responsible for more than 148,000 men and women -- active duty, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and civilians -- who provide rapid, global mobility and sustainment for America's armed forces. The command also plays a crucial role in providing humanitarian support at home and around the world. Additionally, it has many special duty and operational support aircraft and aeromedical evacuation missions.

General McNabb has extensive experience in the mobility world. He was an instructor navigator, instructor pilot, chief pilot and airlift direc-



Gen. Duncan J. McNabb

tor at Norton Air Force Base, Calif. And he has held various squadron, group and wing command positions within the command. The general also commanded the Tanker Airlift Control Center here for nearly two years during the late-1990s.

The general has logged thousands of flying hours in mobility aircraft, including the C-141 Starlifter, C-17 Globemaster III, C-20 and C-21. He is a command pilot and navigator with more than 5,400 hours flown in a variety of aircraft, including the T-37, T-38, C-141, C-17, C-21, C-20 and UH-1N. (Courtesy of AMC News Service)

Myers retires; Pace takes JCS helm

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld hosted an armed forces farewell tribute and hail ceremony in honor of Gen. Richard B. Myers, the 15th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, 16th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Sept. 30 at Fort Myer, Va. The ceremony concluded with a joint service pass in review and flyover.

General Myers completed more than 40 years in uniform. He was appointed the 15th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on Oct. 1, 2001, and reappointed to a second two-year term in 2003.

General Pace is the first Marine to hold the nation's highest military position. He has served as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff since Oct. 1, 2001



Gen. Peter Pace

Area civic leaders view AF Reserve in action during Texas tour

Second Lt. James Burckhard from the 433rd Airlift Wing briefs a group of Alabamians during the 908AW's Civic Leader Tour Oct. 6-7. Thirty four community leaders from across the state flew to San Antonio for the tour aboard one of the 908th's C-130s for a two-day visit. In addition to touring the 433AW's C-5 and "flying" in the aircraft's simulator, attendees saw Reservists who train the Air Force's cadre of instructor pilots and toured the Security Forces Museum. Civic leader tours are one tool used to educate civilians about the military and the Air Force Reserve.



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Take Note

Changes at top in store for unit

The reins of command for the 908th will change hand in January.

908th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Heath J. Nuckolls will move to command the 94th AW at



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Aerial port to the rescue, again

25APS's passenger service supervisor Staff Sgt. Keith Daniels checks bindings on a load on items bound for Keesler AFB, Miss.-area victims of Hurricane Katrina. The items, totalling roughly 16,000 lbs, were donated by actor Gary Sinise shortly after his "Lt. Dan Band" gave a free concert for the Maxwell-Gunter community. Since the hurricane struck in late-August, aerial port volunteers have made several such trips including one to deliver generators and one to pick up and deliver to Maxwell pets of evacuees temporarily relocated here.

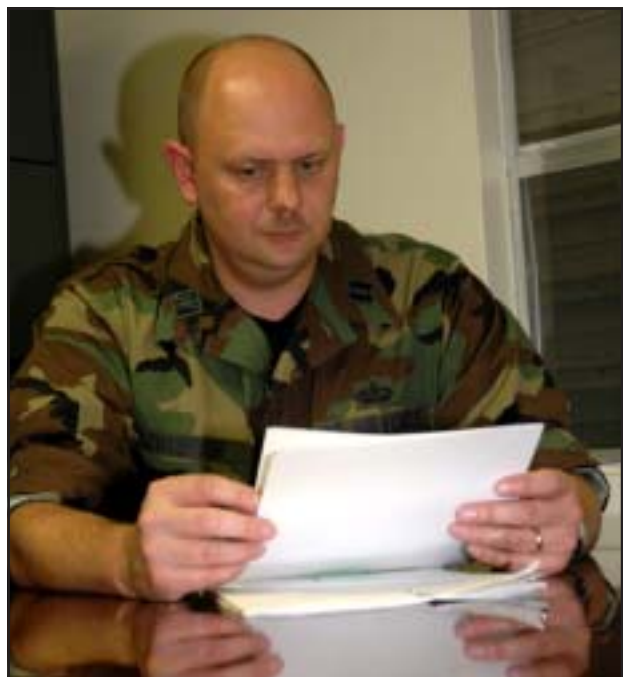


Photo by Jeff Melvin

Two flights get new commanders

Cpts. Patrick Chastain, above, and Sara Butler, right, took command of the 908th Services and Mission Support Flights, respectively. Captain Chastain replaces Capt. Anna Hill, who goes from the 908th to Dobbins ARB, Ga., to fill the vacancy created by Chastain's

Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga, Air Force Reserve Command announced in last month. Colonel Nuckolls will replace Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Stogsdill who will retire from the Air Force Reserve.

Col. Michael J. Underkofler, 403rd Operations Group commander at Keesler AFB, Miss., will replace Colonel Nuckolls as commander of the 908th AW. Colonel Underkofler commanded the 908th Operations Group's 357th Airlift Squadron before his departure to Keesler. (AFRC News Service)

Top 3 group reaches out to vets

The 908th Top Three Association has taken on the task of providing the residents of the Montgomery and Tuskegee Veterans Hospitals with personal items for Christmas. The two facilities house approximately 200 residents. VA Hospital staff has requested small personal-sized items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, deodorant, shaving cream, disposable razors, lotion, shampoo/conditioner, powder, nonskid socks or footies, and prepaid calling cards.

"We will be collecting items during the November UTA and prepare a bag for each resident. The bags will be delivered in the name of the 908th Top Three Association during the December UTA. We are asking for donations of such items to be brought to the Command Chief's office between now and the November UTA for collection," said 908AW Command Chief Master Sgt Amos Moore.

1st Sgts spread holiday cheer

The First Sergeants' Christmas Clearinghouse provides assistance to families of our 908th Airlift Wing by providing monetary relief in the form of gift cards to members in financial need. Wing members are requested to identify military members within your organization with families you may know who need assistance. Assistance will also be provided to families separated due to TDY or Mobilization or AEF assignments.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

departure. Captain Butler has been a traditional reservist in the 908MSF for nearly two years. A former Alabama National Guard officer, she has served at Patrick AFB, Fla., and Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, since her transfer to the Air Force Reserve.

You can help. Referral forms are available with from First Sergeants. Complete and return referral forms to your First Sergeant no later than close of business Dec. 3.

You can also make a contribution to the fund in order to brighten someone's holiday with a gift of caring. As always the First Sergeants will be collecting money at our Wing Commander's Call Saturday, Dec. 3.

Enlisted, Top 3 call to follow Dec commander's call

Today additional meetings will follow the regularly scheduled quarterly wing commander's call.

An enlisted call with Col. Heath Nuckolls and a Top Three call will be held immediately following the Dec. 3 Wing Commanders Call.

Congratulations to the following people:

Promotions

....to Senior Master Sgt.

Timothy Merrihew, CES

Wesley C. Meyer, LRS

....to Master Sgt.

Stephen C. Kramer, 25APS

....to Tech. Sgt.

William R. Fletcher III, LRS

Mary E. Lacy, 908AW

Retirements

Senior Master Sgt. Leonard N. Cesna, AMXS

Tech. Sgt. Jaime A. Baca, 357AS

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

To the Family of:

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