

Southern Flyer



AF Reserve Command
908th Airlift Wing
Maxwell AFB, Ala.
Vol. 44, Issue 08
August 2007

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Bowling for Maxwell

Chuckling bowling balls
at sinister pins - Pg 7



Wing snapshots

Take a look at scenes
from July's UTA - Pg 12

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Did you hear?

908th ASTS makes
move, lands in
Bldg. 760 - Pg 10



Cover photo...



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Staff Sgt. James Greenhow, MXS Avionics flight, undergoes a hearing exam in the sound booth at the Maxwell AFB Ambulatory Healthcare Center. See Page 10 for more photos about ASTS's move to Bldg. 760.

Southern Flyer

Commander, 908th Airlift Wing
Col. Michael J. Underkofler

Editorial Staff

Chief, Public Affairs
Lt. Col. Jerry W. Lobb

Deputy Chief/Editor
Jeffery Melvin

Public Affairs Specialists
Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder
Staff Sgt. Christian Michael

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
908aw.pa@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.

Assessment provides helpful feedback; offers chance to employ members ideas

By Col. Michael J. Underkofler
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

A few months ago most of you took time out of your busy UTA schedules to complete an on-line unit climate assessment in which we asked you to tell us about how you felt things were running in your respective unit and in the 908th AW overall. I realize it took a bit of time to complete and then quite some time for us to "crunch" the numbers, but don't think it was a meaningless exercise. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The UCA is an incredibly helpful feedback tool. The military equal opportunity office routinely administers them to units. They are especially helpful when conducted shortly after a change of command as they provide a new commander with viewpoints and feelings that might not be openly articulated to a section supervisor, first sergeant, or commander.

For our wing UCA, there were some illuminating perceptions, insightful analysis, and constructive improvement ideas. I've read and re-read the UCA, trying to set a course to resolve misperceptions and weaknesses and implement your ideas.

As an example, several of you responded that communication up and down the chain of command could be improved. I couldn't agree more. Clear and effective communication is vital to a unit. One idea offered to improve it was to expand participation at pre-UTA staff meetings. For the wing, I've moved our Friday night meeting to the civil engineering classroom which now allows first sergeants and more supervisors to attend.



Col. Michael J. Underkofler.

I hope you, your commander and first sergeant challenge me or my staff if we're not communicating as clearly as we should. But I also hope you are doing the same at your section, flight, and squadron meetings. At times, providing feedback or seeking clarity is more important than just using good listening skills. Similarly, try to be as inclusive in your meetings as you can.

Another suggestion on the UCA was to have more social events on UTAs. This response seemed more pronounced from wing members who live outside the local area. This too was a great input, so last month I asked the chief's group to organize a bowling tournament. To make it more about fun and less about a competition, they used a handicapping system which allowed even a weak bowler like me to have a good shot at breaking 100. The tourney was for all of us, commuters and local wing members. I hope you'll come out to participate or cheer on your unit at the next one.

This month the local chapter of the Reserve Enlisted Association will host an outdoor event on

Saturday night. The details are listed on the opposite page. Alumni reunion activities are set for the September UTA and there will be officer and enlisted calls at the respective clubs in October. Give your first sergeant, commander, or me your ideas for things you're interested in doing in the future.

Better yet, take your idea and see it through fruition. A PME study group, an after-hours mentoring session, or small pizza party are valued by our members too. We just need to continue to be inclusive and good wingmen for each other at work and at play.

On some UCA surveys, there were examples of where you had been hurt or thought someone had been wronged. Some stories told were painful to read—but certainly less painful than that endured. Let me make this perfectly clear, there is no place in our organization for harassment, discrimination, or misplaced favoritism. We serve because we want to serve and we should respect the sacrifice and talent of all.

I'm incredibly proud to serve with you. We have a rich tradition of excellence and of working together as a family. Let's continue to resolve differences at the lowest level with an open, kind, and servant-heart. Despite our infrequent and temporary shortcomings, together we are the envy of the Air Force Reserve Command.

Smoke free and loving it

Love, support helps commander's secretary quit smoking, win wager



Photo By Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Roxanne Ray cuts up a cigarette and accepts \$100 from Col. Bill Forshey for successfully stopping smoking after 26 years.

By Jeff Melvin
908th AW Public Affairs

908th AW commander's secretary Roxanne Ray couldn't feel better if she won a million bucks. Well, unless she won \$1 million, she couldn't feel better.

The source of her joy is the end of a 26-year smoking habit. She's healthy, happy, and courtesy of 908th Mission Support Group Commander Col. Bill Forshey, \$100 richer. The colonel, a smoker for 15 years before quitting, promised Ray \$100 if she remained smoke free for one year.

The commander's secretary is the second wing member to meet Colonel Forshey's challenge.

The colonel said he's continuing a tradition started by former 908th AW vice commander Col. Brad Lynn who made the same offer to then-Senior Master Sgt. Linda Roberts. Roberts, who went on to become the 908th AW Command Chief Master Sgt., is the wing's financial analysis officer.

"I picked up the challenge from him and have put it out over the years, but so far only Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder and Roxanne Ray have fulfilled the requirement to be smoke free for a year. There is also a caveat that if they start back within the

year after I pay off, they have to pay me back the money. I quit smoking in 1984 after smoking for 15 plus years. I tried all the gimmicks of the time but finally quit cold turkey with no crutches because of the pending birth of my daughter in 1984. I can understand how difficult it must be for drug addicts to kick their habits and smoking is a chemical dependency of sorts," Colonel Forshey said.

Getting the colonel's money sweetened the deal for Ms. Ray, but her grandson spurred her to kick a 26-year habit.

"I had tried to quit numerous times using everything on the market and some people have probably never heard of, spending thousands of dollars. I don't think I was really committed to quitting until this last time. In the year before I quit, I watched two people suffer and die; one from emphysema and one from lung cancer, and a very good friend had a serious cancer scare. I just decided I wanted to quit and beat the odds before it became too late and there were no more "Mondays" or "tomorrows", and I wasn't around to watch my grandson grow up. My four-year-old grandson, Landen, was my biggest motivator and biggest supporter. My parents and friends were also supportive," Ray said.

She added she would love to talk with anyone to help them quit, "but to be honest, it has to come from the 'gut' of the person wanting to quit. No one else can do it for you. It was probably one of the hardest things I've ever done in my life, but also one of the proudest moments! I didn't think I would ever be able to say, 'I don't smoke.' It feels great!"

As for the colonel, he said the challenge still stands and he hopes those that have quit will throw down the same gauntlet to others.

Reserve Enlisted Association hosts games at softball fields Aug. 4

Area Reservists and their families are invited to an evening of sandlot volleyball, horseshoes, and kickball Aug. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Maxwell base softball fields. The event is sponsored by the REA, Reserve Enlisted Association.

The Reserve Enlisted Association's mission is to be an advocate for the enlisted men and women of the United States military Reserve components in support of national security and homeland defense, with emphasis on the readiness, training, and quality of life issues affecting their welfare and that of their families and survivors.

The REA is the only joint Reserve association representing enlisted Reservists – all ranks from all five branches of the military, and will:


- provide full representation of Reserve enlisted personnel before national, state and local legislatures, the Department of Defense, and military services leadership, and within the family of military associations to educate, inform and promote the general welfare, readiness and quality of life of the membership,
- serve as the voice for Reserve component enlisted men and women and lead in the advocacy of national policies that support them,
- serve as an agency for the collection and dissemination of information to inform and educate members on issues affecting the Reserve forces,

- enhance the image of enlisted Reservists to promote greater recognition of the professional skill and performance demanded by their positions,
- support the welfare of members and provide benefits to members or their dependents, and
- strengthen positive relationships among enlisted Reservists, and military and civilian communities.



UCI UTA “To Do” List!

By Lt. Col. Troy Vonada
Chief, Performance Planning



Edson Arantes do Nascimento, otherwise known as “Pele” is revered worldwide as being the most famous footballer (soccer player) and best player of all time. He scored 1,281 goals in 1,363 professional soccer matches. He holds the world record with 92 hat tricks (3 goals in a game) and the number of goals scored at the international level with 97. He scored 127 goals for Santos of Brazil in one season. In comparison, today’s leading scorers have difficulty netting 30 goals in a season.

Pele led the Brazilian National Soccer team to three World Cup championships (1958, 1962 and 1970), which allowed them to permanently possess the coveted Jules Rimet trophy. An average-sized man, he was blessed with speed, great balance, tremendous vision, the ability to control the ball superbly and the ability to shoot powerfully and accurately with either foot and with his head. In 1999, the world’s combined national Olympic committees named him Athlete of the Century.

A remarkable athletic specimen, Pele was subjected to scientific testing and it was determined that he was a genius, and his vision of the field coupled with terrific body mechanics and balance were the characteristics that truly set him apart. For great success, it takes superb vision and balance. I ask that each of us envision doing well in the UCI. While doing so, ensure a balanced approach by solidifying each program under your purview. As Pele reached an incomparable level of excellence, so can we.

For this UTA, please accomplish the following:

- Review the last UCI report to ensure no two-time repeats!
- Run common core checklist sent via UCI-e-Gram #011
- Ensure SITS and MICP reviews/updates are accomplished
- Focus on closing all “open” findings from the 22nd Air Force SAV
- Begin final UCI preparations, i.e., clean areas, finalize continuity books, etc.
- Supervisors, re-certify AF Form 55, Employee Safety and Health Record
- Pull out your Gas Mask Inspection card and perform an inspection
- If need a Family Care plan, see your first sergeant
- If a supervisor, annotate OJT records appropriately (see DPMT if questions)
- If a mentor, conduct your mentoring and document it (see MPF if questions)
- Get your uniforms in shape and new AFRC patch; replace old, worn out patches

Retraining Opportunities

Several retraining opportunities are available within the 908th AW, said Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker, chief, 908th MPF Personnel Employment branch. Vacancies and contact information are as follows:

X4N0X1 – Flight Med Tech. Must interview with Senior Master Sgt. Patrick Weir in 908th AES, pass a Flying Class III physical and have a minimum G-44 ASVAB score.

1A2X1 – Aircraft Loadmaster. Must interview with Chief Master Sgt. Michael Harper in 357th AS, pass a Flying Class III physical and have a minimum G-57 ASVAB score.

1A1X1 – Flight Engineer. Must interview with Senior Master Sgt. Ken Eddy in 357th AS, pass a Flying Class III physical and have a minimum G-57 ASVAB score. Must have a prior 5- or 7-skill level in the 1A0, 1A2, 1A3, 1A7, 2AXXX or 2M0 career field ladder or possession of a valid Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Flight Engineer certificate, FAA private pilot license, or valid FAA aircraft and power plant license or Aircraft Maintenance Technician license.

5J0X1 – Paralegal. Must interview with 908th AW/JA Col. Dennis Pierson, have a minimum G-51 ASVAB score. Must have completed college-level course in English composition, math and computers is desirable. Ability to keyboard at a minimum rate of 25 words per minute. No previous convictions by court-martial; punishment under the provisions of Article 15, UCMJ; or convictions by a civilian court except for minor traffic violations and similar infractions listed in AFI 36-2002.

Sergeant Barker stressed that all members requesting retraining must have 36 months retainability, must attend technical school within 12 months of retraining approval date, and must hold a minimum 5-skill level. Applicants who have previously retrained are ineligible for voluntary retraining until they acquire a skill level in their current PAFSC commensurate with the skill level of the AFSC from which they previously retrained. Those interested in applying for any of these positions should first see their Unit Career Advisor and CSS for assistance. AF Form 3920 and AF Form 1288 must be submitted to the Personnel Employment office once requirements have been met. Direct questions to Sergeant Barker at (334) 953-5525.

Annual alumni reunion dinner set for Sept.

All past and present unit members are invited to the 908th AW Alumni Association Reunion Sept. 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Falcon's Nest on Maxwell AFB-Gunter Annex.

The buffet starts at 7 p.m. and includes sliced roast beef, chicken breast, salad and various vegetables, desserts and tea or coffee.

Noting that people are the key to a successful reunion, alumni association committee member Gene Beasley said the reunions are successful because of "good food and the good company of all that attend, whether it is their first time or they've attended many times." He added the reunion isn't merely an old-timers' club but "an ideal opportunity for those of us still here to listen and learn from those that were here before us."

He asked that people share the information about the reunion since the news doesn't always reach everyone. "If you know any current or former member who hasn't received a letter about the reunion, please give him or her a copy or pass his or her address on to me."

Beasley added that those unable to attend should still respond back so they can remain on the alumni association mailing list.

"Photos have been a big hit. If you would like to share photos you have of unit personnel or aircraft, please put your name on the back so we can return them to you," Beasley said, also noting that all the photos on display last year were destroyed when his house burned down last October.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

4 – Reserve Enlisted Association Outdoor Events, 6 p.m., Maxwell AFB Softball Complex

23 – Military Open House at Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free to all military families. For more info, call the museum at (334) 240-4333.

September

8-22 – Coronet Oak

3 – Labor Day (federal holiday)

4-9 – Maintenance Standardization Evaluation Program pre-visit

7-9 – Visit to 908th AW by Maj. Gen. Martin Mazick, commander, 22nd Air Force

8 – 908th AW Commanders Call, 3:30 p.m., Polifka Auditorium

8 – 908th Airlift Wing Alumni Association Reunion, Facilities tour, bus departs from Maxwell Events Center (formerly Maxwell Enlisted Club) 1:30 p.m. Social, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Falcon's Nest, Gunter Annex Dinner, 7 p.m. Falcon's Nest

18 – Air Force 60th Anniversary Activities, Maxwell AFB, academic circle across from Wright Flyer replica

21 – POW/MIA Day

22-23 – Commanders' Workshop Weekend

October

8 – Columbus Day (federal holiday)

9-14 – Unit Compliance Inspection

13 – Enlisted Call, 4 p.m., Maxwell Events Center

13 – Officer's Call, 4 p.m. at the Maxwell AFB Officers' Club

14 – Run the Runway (1.5- and 2.9-mile options), 7 a.m. behind the 357th AS Building

30 – Air Force Association Golf Tourney, Cypress Tree Golf Course

For more information, contact Gene Beasley at (334) 365-4721 (home) or (334) 399-5198 (cell) or e-mail Gene Beasley at: beas1259@bellsouth.net (home) or gene.beasley.ctr.@csd.disa.mil (work) or call or e-mail Harold Taylor at (334) 365-5529 Taylorsh3@aol.com.

Please complete and return ASAP:

Name: _____

E-mail: _____



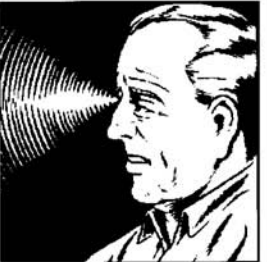


Dinner: \$19 per person (includes tax and gratuity)

in Party: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Make check or money order payable to:
908th AW Reunion Alumni Association

Send to: Harold Taylor, 1448 Upper Kingston Road,
Prattville, AL 36067

PH: (334) 365-5529, E-mail: taylorsh3@aol.com

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Weak, numb or paralyzed on one side | Unable to speak or understand clearly | Blurry vision or loss of vision | Dizzy or loss of balance | Sudden severe headache |

Stroke warning signs

You have the power to end stroke

By: Capt Pamela Sexton
908th ASTS

Imagine that you are sitting in your favorite over-stuffed chair reading a book, maybe enjoying a glass of iced tea. Maybe you are watching your favorite college team play football on a Saturday afternoon. You are unwinding; relaxing ... feeling as if nothing could be better.

Suddenly, something does not feel quite right. You begin to experience a severe headache. You think to yourself ... where did that come from?

Now you are confused. You can't get up, you feel weak ... no ... you can't move anything on your right side. You know you need to get up, but you can't. You manage to move, only to fall to the floor. What is happening? You are having a stroke!

A stroke occurs when a blood vessel in the brain becomes blocked or when a vessel in the brain bursts. Stroke, also known as a "brain attack," is the third leading cause of death in the United States and is the No. 1 cause of long-term disability. However, one of the most disturbing statistics is the fact that African Americans are almost twice as likely to have a stroke as Caucasians.

Moreover, not only do African Americans have twice the risk, they tend to suffer more extensive physical damage than those of any other

racial group in the United States. Do I have your attention? Let's talk risk factors.

Risk factors for stroke are both non-preventable and preventable.

Risk factors that you can not change include: family history and race, age, sex, and any previous stroke or heart attack. In other words, the "genes" have control in this aspect, and you have no control over these factors!

Now for the encouraging news ... there are risk factors that you do have control over. These include the areas of: high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, carotid (or other artery) disease, atrial fibrillation, TIA's (transient ischemic attacks, AKA "mini-strokes"), certain blood (clotting) disorders, high blood cholesterol, physical inactivity and obesity, excessive alcohol, illegal drug use, and finally, the lack of quality care.

You might not think that high blood pressure and diabetes are controllable factors, but they are. You must work closely with your family doctor in order to KEEP these diseases under good control.

So now you may ask, "What can I do?" You need to have a plan, you need to take control. If you have any disease that has been identified as a risk factor ... keep it under control. If you are obese and/or do not participate in any type of physical activity, check with your doctor and start. Avoid excessive alcohol and il-

Stroke, also known as a "brain attack," is the third leading cause of death in the United States and is the No. 1 cause of long-term disability.

legal drugs, STOP SMOKING, and finally ... find a doctor you can trust and ensure you are receiving quality care.

Let's say you do everything in your power to reduce your risk for stroke; you in turn educate your family and friends, but what if it happens anyway?

Stroke is treatable, but it is a true medical emergency. Recognize the warning signs because every second counts ... literally! Respond immediately by calling 9-1-1. Look at the clock; remember the time that the warning signs first appeared. You will need to know this because certain medications must be started within three hours of the onset of the symptoms, if applicable. Testing will be done in the emergency room to identify the specific cause of the stroke. For this reason, time is of the essence!

Let's review those warning signs again: sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or

coordination; sudden severe headache with no known cause. These are the most common signs, but not all may occur with stroke. Call 9-1-1! These people did, and they survived stroke: Bob Barker, Dick Clark, Peter Boyle, Kirk Douglas, Gerald Ford, Robert Guillaume, and Mark McEwen, anchor of "CBS This Morning."

McEwen is now leading a campaign on stroke awareness. Please visit <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/09/12/early-show/leisure/celebspot/main1999806.shtml> for a clip of McEwen's journey after suffering his stroke in 2005.

Finally, the "Power to End Stroke" Campaign was created by the American Stroke Association in order to increase stroke education and awareness among African Americans. It provides stroke information and health tools, while celebrating the culture of the African American. I encourage you to visit www.strokeassociation.org for more valuable information.

Remember, you do have the power to prevent stroke.



Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christian Michael

Chief Master Sgt. Gary Looney, 908th LRS superintendent, will retire in September. Chief Looney stands next to a display of awards and other tokens he's gathered during his years with the 908th.

By Staff Sgt. Christian Michael
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

He's a man of details. It's apparent in the quality of his work. Ask him a question and he's likely to give you all the details you could ask for. But that's certainly not a complaint, especially when he's the one making sure this base is ready for disaster.

Chief Master Sgt. Gary Looney is a man with two pairs of shoes to fill. Every day he drives in through the Maxwell gate as the base exercise and evaluation team chief, a civilian position at the base headquarters building.

But once a month, he comes home to the 908th as the 908th Logistics Readiness Squadron superintendent. His time with the unit, however, is quickly drawing to a close. In September, Chief Looney will bid adieu to a unit full of memories and friends he's had since joining the Maxwell Reserve unit in 1977.

While his time here began as an individual mobilization augmentee, he didn't stay, moving to an inactive role and returning home to Tallahassee with his wife and daughter. He tried three professions and realized he missed the service.

"I started missing the camaraderie we have in the military," he said. "We become, basically, like a big family."

In September 1982, he returned as a traditional Reservist into an engine shop as a reciprocating engine mechanic, working on the C-7 Caribou. Though he immediately began applying for an air reserve technician slot once returning as a TR, he didn't get the job until a year and a half later.

He has loved his job ever since.

"I felt like I was contributing to something a bit bigger than myself," he said. "I was serving my country, I was proud of what I was doing and who I was working with."

Chief Looney said that the men and women he worked with enhanced work and life, pointing out that many have either retired or passed away. And while he enjoyed the service, he valued the Reserve for obvious differences from active duty.

"The good thing in the Reserve," he said, was that he could deploy and his wife and daughters wouldn't have to move around. He pointed out that his daughters grew up attending the same schools – elementary, middle, high school and college – his wife attended growing up. "That's the biggest advantage of being an ART rather than active duty."

Chief Looney takes pride

in having visited 28 countries, most of which were with the 908th, and on his travels, he's never forgotten his mission. His attention to detail has kept him moving up the ranks and earned respect because of the quality of his work.



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Chief Looney stands next to Capt. David Lionberger during an exercise in Savannah, Ga., in 2004.

"I never lost a plane or a mission because people and cargo weren't ready to go," Chief Looney said.

His skills have not gone unnoticed, garnering him the Air Force Logistics Planner of the Year, Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the

Year and the first reservist to win the Maxwell/Gunter Senior NCO of the Year, all in 1997, as well as the Governor's Outstanding Enlisted Representative in 1998.

Chief Looney related a story of his temporary duty assignment for an exercise at the Air National Guard Combat Readiness Training Center in Savannah, Ga., in 2004 during which his unit was already deployed and he was operating with minimum manning.

"The IG pulled me aside and said, 'There's no way you guys can reach your airflow.' I told him, 'You just watch.'"

And watch the IG did. Not only did Chief Looney and his men complete the assignment, but they took off an hour and a half early.

"That's a testament to the hearts and minds of the men and women of the 908th," he said.

Chief Looney has been a long-standing member of the 908th, and hopes that in his wake, Airmen learn the same time-proven lessons he learned.

"The service is never the same," he said. "You have to be adaptable. The Air Force Reserve I joined is not the same one I'm leaving."



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb



Left, Master Sgt. Donald Corkrum, 908th MXG gets ready to bowl. Above, from left, Senior Master Sgt. Bob Spivey, 908th AMXS, Command Chief Master Sgt. David Fanning, Chief Master Sgt. Lynn White, 908th CF, tally final scores from the event.

THE BOWLING



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

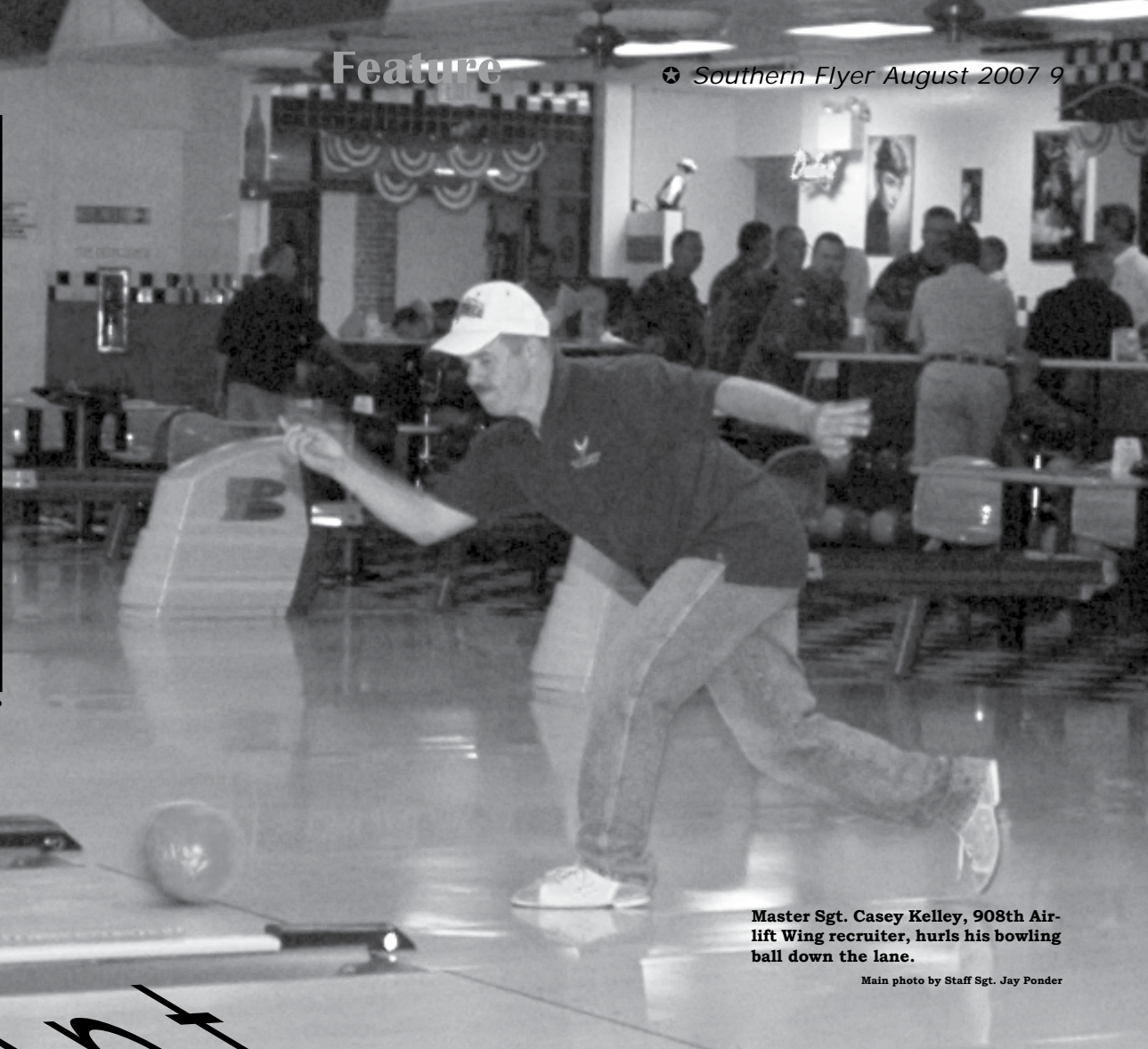
Members of the 908th Maxwell Bowling Association, including food and flinging, celebrate the 908th Maxwell Bowling Tournament. The 908th CF, second place winner, 908th AW recruit Master Sgt. Bob Spivey, Master Sgt. Sheila Mitchell, and Master Sgt. Karl, prepare to send a bowling ball down the lane.

Left, from left, Senior Master Sgt. Kym Corkum, 908th MSF, do a three-way high-five during the event. Master Sgt. Karl, prepare to send a bowling ball down the lane.



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

for Master Sgt. Christopher Barnby,
ited and Capt. Dreidra Randolph,



Master Sgt. Casey Kelley, 908th Air-
lift Wing recruiter, hurls his bowling
ball down the lane.

Main photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

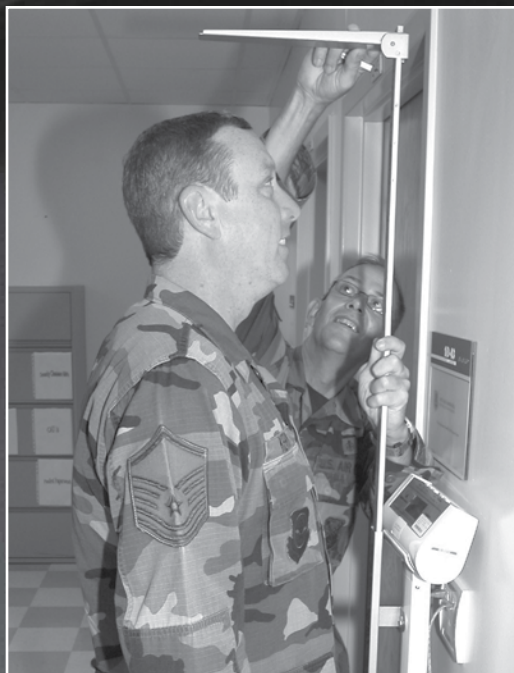
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908th Airlift Wing gathered at the
alley the evening of July 7 for fun,
bowling balls in the first Chief's
event. The first place team was 908th
was ASTS Team 'A' and third was
rs. High game male was Senior
pears; high game female was Master
ll, who also captured the high se-
male. High series for male was
Senior Master Sgt. Adriel Carr.

, 908th MOF, Senior Master Sgt. Don Johnson, 908th AMXS, and Master Sgt. Ken Wright,
the evening's festivities. Right, Col. Jon Andre, 908th AW vice commander, helps his son,
ane.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder



Tech Sgt. Ronald Hyde, 908th ASTS medical technician, checks the height and weight of Master Sgt. Todd Kern, 908th MXS, Avionics flight.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Above, Senior Airman Karen Hamblin takes blood from Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb, 908th AW Public Affairs. Below, Master Sgt. Ronnie Patterson, 908th AES medical technician, has his blood pressure taken by Senior Airman Elissa Helms, ASTS medical technician.



Moving on up

The 908th Aeromedical Staging Squadron recently moved from Bldg. 711 to the second floor of Bldg. 760, the Maxwell AFB Ambulatory Healthcare Center. The move allows ASTS to be closer to clinic facilities and provides greater accessibility for ASTS customers.

Staff Sgt. James Greenhow, MXS Avionics flight, undergoes a hearing exam in the sound booth.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christian Michael

Tech. Sgt. Sunny Saelee, 452nd Air Mobility Wing, March AFB, Calif., is a willing and happy volunteer for a self aid and buddy care demonstration by 908th MPF's Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker, left, and Staff Sgt. Tifarah Boyd, center.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Above, from left March ARB, Calif., personnel specialists Senior Airman Juanita Luna, Staff Sgt. Karen Moorhouse and Senior Airman Ruben Contreras-Ruiz listen while 908th MPF's Master Sgt. Cynthia Barker, right, gives pointers on mobilization procedures.

Personnel Airmen get targeted training

Unit and visiting personnel specialists received targeted training during a weeklong training session organized and led by the 908th Military Personnel Flight. Nearly 25 people including nine from March Air Reserve's Base's 452nd Air Mobility Wing attended the sessions.

The primary aim of the training was to have "an organized block of time to fulfill some of the 3S0s AFSC-specific

training requirements as well as any ancillary training requirements that were coming due for unit members, said 908th MPF commander Capt. Colby Leathers.

The captain said he felt they accomplished their goals and got positive feedback from all of the participants, especially the 452nd members who didn't have similar training available at March.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Right, Senior Master Sgt. Tyrone Williams, 908th Communications Flight, conducts a computer troubleshooting class July 7. The class is one of several comm flight provides for information managers periodically.



Photo by Jeff Melvin



Taking the R

Lt. Col. Sharon Anderson, 908 Aeromedical Flight, follows Lt. Col. Anderson. She follows Lt. Col. Anderson unit. Colonel Anderson AES since 1997, and Operations Iraqi Freedom. She has qualified as frames and has mo



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Wing snapshots

Reins

Andrews took command of the Evacuation Squadron July 7. Ronnie Roberts in leading the news has been with the 908th and has deployed in support of freedom and Enduring Freedom. is a flight nurse on multiple air- re than 1,200 flying hours.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christian Michael



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Above, from left, newly-promoted Chief Master Sgt. Douglas Dearth, son, Airman Matthew Dearth, grandson, Caleb, and son-in-law, Tech Sgt. Brady Newman after a promotion ceremony July 7 in Building 845, honoring Dearth's ascension to the top enlisted grade and Matthew's promotion to Airman. Below, loadmaster Senior Airman Aaron Brown, 700th Airlift Squadron based in Dobbins ARB, Ga., flight engineers Tech. Sgt. Scott Cathcart and Senior Master Sgt. Lee Mercer, 357th AS, and crew chief Staff Sgt. Heath Garrison, 908th AMXS, perform the aircraft forms review while prepping a wing C-130 for departure to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, in support of Operation Joint Enterprise.



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Air Force streamlines officer, enlisted evaluation forms

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- Air Force officials are introducing new officer and enlisted evaluation forms as it transforms its personnel processes.

The major part of this effort has been directed at reducing the workload associated with preparing officer and enlisted performance reports while ensuring the evaluation process remains fair and provides for accurate portrayal of performance.

The change also includes the much anticipated addition of physical fitness documentation to both evaluation and feedback forms. Although the Air Force used a competency based performance evaluation and feedback process, the changes to the evaluation forms make them a more user-friendly, value-added product that accurately reflects an Airman's performance.

"Daily support to combatant commanders worldwide and the constant requirement to provide training and support to Airmen and their families have placed a heavy workload on our entire force," said Lt. Gen. Roger A. Brady, Air Force deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel. "The reality is that we cannot continue to accept cumbersome processes that impact our ability to operate at a high tempo. At the same time, we need to ensure that our evaluation processes fairly and accurately reflect performance."

Both the officer and enlisted performance reports were shortened and technologically enhanced to decrease the time required to accomplish the report. The OPR narrative lines were significantly reduced and the unit mission description and impact on mission accomplishment areas were eliminated.

While the former OPR had six performance factor blocks to rate job knowledge, leadership skills, professional qualities, organizational skills, judgment and decisions and communication skills, the new form has one block to be used to indicate that all standards are met; if an officer does not meet standards, the new OPR allows more detailed information to be provided.

EPR narrative comments were also significantly reduced and performance assessment areas now reflect the increased responsibility Airmen are charged with as they progress in rank.

On performance feedback worksheets, performance assessment areas are now evaluated on a standardized criterion using "Does not Meet," "Meets," "Above Average" and "Clearly Exceeds" criterion.

KEY DUTIES, TASKS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Limit text to 4 lines)

II. PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

PRIMARY/ADDITIONAL DUTIES (For SSgt/TSgt also consider Supervisory Duties)

Consider Adapting, Learning, Quality, Timeliness, Professional Growth and Communication Skills

☐ Does Not Meet ☐ Meets ☐ Above Average ☐ Clearly Exceeds

STANDARDS, CONDUCT, CHARACTER & MILITARY BEARING (For SSgt/TSgt also consider Dress & Appearance, Personal/Professional Conduct On/Off Duty) (Limit text to 4 lines)

Streamlined Forms

The Air Force is introducing new officer and enlisted evaluation forms as it transforms its personnel processes.

The immediate rater's comments are also aligned to the respective performance assessment areas on the front-side.

Comments by commanders and supervisors over several years indicate these changes will significantly reduce the administrative burden without negatively affecting their ability to provide an accurate assessment of an individual's performance and potential.

Implementation dates for the new evaluation forms for all ranks is as follows:

- Officers: Aug. 15, 2007
- Airman basic to senior airman: Aug. 15, 2007
- Staff sergeant: Jan. 1, 2008

- Technical sergeant: Jan. 1, 2008
- Master sergeant: Oct. 1, 2007
- Senior master sergeant: Aug. 1, 2007
- Chief master sergeant: Aug. 15, 2007
- Premier band: April 1, 2008
- Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard (airman basic to chief master sergeant): Aug. 15, 2007

The new IMT performance report and performance feedback worksheets are available on the Air Force e-Publishing Web site at <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/>. Questions should be directed to HQ AFPC/DPPPEP, evaluations programs management branch at DSN 665-2571 or e-mail at AFPC.DPPPE@randolph.af.mil.

Course offers leadership training opportunity to junior officers

The education and training office is now accepting nominations to attend the Junior Officer Leadership Development Course Sept. 27-30 at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

This course will provide company grade officers a professional development opportunity to obtain valuable tools and skills in leadership principles and practices. It is intended for officers in the O1-O3 grade. Travel dates for this training is Sept. 27 and 30. Attendance for this course is unit funded.

Any officers interested in attending this course should use their normal chain of command for approval and forward their information (name, rank, Air Force Specialty Code, social security number, unit, home mailing address, daytime phone number, fax, e-mail and unit orders point of contact) to Capt. Deanna Goudeau in the Wing Training office (deanna.goudeau@maxwell.af.mil) by close of business Aug. 10.

All names will be forwarded to wing commander for final approval

JOLDS classes for FY 08 are tentatively scheduled for Maxwell AFB in March, Dover AFB, Del., in June and Peterson AFB, Colo., in September. Exact dates have not been announced yet.

Take Note

Promotions

Congratulations to the following people promoted to the grades indicated:

....to Chief Master Sgt.
Douglas Dearth, MXG
to Senior Master Sgt.
Daryl Waters, CES
to Master Sgt.
William Lyndall, AMXS
to Tech. Sgt.
Richard Howard, SFS
Bakir Mason, SVF
to Staff Sgt.
Kenneth Fontenot, LRS
Kendall Lipscomb, LRS
Markis Myers, CES
Phillip Norris, SFS
Kenneth Perkins Jr., MXS
Charles Thompson, MXS
to Senior Airman
Angel Armstrong, ASTS
Taneisha Harrell, ASTS
Brandon Sample, MXS
Craig Morris, MXS
to Airman
Matthew Dearth, 357th AS

'Women mentoring women' group meets

All women of all ranks are invited to attend a wing-wide "women mentoring women" meeting Aug. 4, 11:30 a.m., at the Riverfront dining facility. Those unable to attend can e-mail Lt. Col. Nancy Stephenson at nancy.stephenson@maxwell.af.mil with any suggestions or goals you want the group to consider.

Planning to retire?

If you are planning to retire at wing commander's call should contact Tech. Sgt. Dimitri Jefferies in the MPF (953-6564) and Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb in PA (953-6804). The new online retirement application system doesn't provide a means to make your wishes known, so this is a work-around until a better solution is found.

Show boss support, fill out Patriot award form

Award your employer! Recognize your boss for his or her support of National Guard and Reserve members. Nominate him or her for a "Patriot Award". Your employer will receive a Department of Defense Certificate of Appreciation and a Patriot lapel pin. All members of the National Guard and Reserve are eligible to nominate their employers.

To nominate your employer go to <http://www.esgr.org/forms.asp?p=patriot>



Courtesy photo

Airmen pay respect to colleague

Members of the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron serve as pallbearers at the funeral of their colleague, Maj. Charles Stresino, June 30 in Speedway, Ind. The major, who had recently become AES's director of operations after serving nearly 10 years in the 908th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, died June 24 at Baptist South Hospital in Montgomery, a day after sustaining injuries in a traffic accident in nearby Opelika. A group of 908th AW members traveled to Indiana to attend the funeral.

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