

Southern Flyer

908th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Maxwell AFB, Ala., Vol. 45, Issue 2, February 2008

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Wing set to mark AF Reserve 60th birthday

908th AW military and civilian Airmen and their families should make plans now to attend the celebration to mark the 60th anniversary of the Air Force Reserve. The event is set for Saturday, April 5 in the maintenance half-bay (Bldg. 1455) and will be similar to the annual wing family day with fun and food galore the order of the day.

"This diamond anniversary represents 60 years of enduring contributions to our nation by dedicated Citizen Airmen and civilian employees and their families. These contributions and the untold sacrifices associated with them shouldn't go unrecognized," said 908th AW commander Col. Michael J. Underkofler.

The celebration is a way of saying thank you to the 908th

extended family past and present. The event kicks off with an afternoon heritage run/walk followed by games and other activities in the hangar. Dress is casual.

The event will be family-oriented, said Capt. Danielle Stringer, one of the primary organizers.

Tickets (cost TBD) will be available from unit first sergeants.

Unit members should let their first sergeants know about their ticket and lodging requirements as soon as possible, the captain added.

"I encourage a big turn out to recognize this significant milestone – we want all of our extended family to come celebrate with us," Colonel Underkofler said.



You're in good hands in God's hands

By Chaplain (Capt.) David M. Dersch
908th AW Chaplain's Office

This last month I've had occasion to say goodbye to four of my chaplain colleagues and friends before they deployed down range. They are from all branches of the Air Force: two are active duty from the 42d Air Base Wing here at Maxwell; one is from the Alabama Air Guard over at the 226th Combat Communications Group here in Montgomery; and one is

from the reserve. This last chaplain is extra special, because he used to be here at the 908th AW, Chaplain Jamie Danford. Yes, the reality is that chaplains deploy, too!

As I stood with them and their families in the airport lobby, I wondered how it would be if I were in their shoes. I watched them hug their wives and children, and with tears in their eyes say "goodbye." As they prepared to leave, I searched for words of comfort and encouragement. But most of what I

thought of seemed so hollow or trite compared to the separation they were facing.

One of the chaplain assistants was holding her seven year-old son in her arms. The little boy had his arms around her neck, tears in his eyes, and seemed to be hanging on for dear life. The thought came to my mind that that little boy was in good hands, and he knew it. He was in the hands of one who loved him, was stronger than him, and had his best interest in mind. Truly they were good hands.

A few moments later as I hugged the chaplain assistant goodbye, I reminded her that she was in God's hands, and that she would be OK. God loved her, was stronger than her, and has her best interest in mind. The same trust that her son had in her, she needs to have in her Heavenly Father.

No matter what you're facing, this great truth applies to you.

When you're in God's hands, you're in good hands!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

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

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

Jeffery Melvin Deputy Chief/Editor

Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder Public Affairs Specialist

Cover photo...

Loadmaster Tech. Sgt. John Metcalf helps Airman 1st Class Daniel Gregory, 908th Communications Flight, don a flight helmet. See Pages 8-10 for more about the wing Airmen's orientation flight Jan. 5.

Southern Flyer

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Two former unit members die over holidays

Two members of the 908th AW extended family died over the holiday season— retired Col. (Dr.) M.A. "Doc" Nayeem who died Dec. 20 in a car accident in Chattanooga, Tenn., and medically retired Tech. Sgt. Donna J. "Jill" Hill who passed away Jan. 1, in her hometown of Alexander City after an extended illness.

Born in Hyderabad, India, Colonel Nayeem was a flight surgeon with the 908th Aeromedical Staging Squadron for more than 20 years before retiring about two years ago; he was 67. Survivors include his wife, Wanda Nayeem, of Fort Payne, Ala; and five daughters: Dr. Anisa Nayeem and husband, Rob Griswold VI of Auburn, Calif.; Dr. Sara Nayeem of New York; Alia Stowers and husband, George, of Springfield, Mo.; Leila Ojala and husband, Eric, of Silverthorne, Colo.; Razia Nayeem of Orlando, Fla.; one grandson, and (in India) four sisters and one brother.

Anyone wanting to submit memories, special thoughts, pictures, etc., to Colonel Nayeem's wife and children may do so via the website set up in his memory: www.drnayeem.com.

Sergeant Hill is survived by her husband, John Hill; daughter, Christine Hill; two stepsons, Airman 1st Class Mark Hill and Samuel Hill; her parents, Wayne and Hazel Baker; sister, Chris Blankenship; and brother, Glenn Baker – all of Alexander City except Airman Hill who is stationed at Whiteman AFB, Mo. Her military career



Col. (Dr.) M. A. "Doc" Nayeem



consisted of 19 plus years of service the Air Force including 10 years with the 908th AW as aircraft maintenance turboprop mechanic. The sergeant was diagnosed with cancer in 2004 while activated in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

"Jill was known throughout the maintenance organization as a true professional who unselfishly volunteered her services in support of the unit and the propulsion flight. She could always be counted on and accepted short notice TDY tasking without hesitation. She will truly be missed by her peers, subordinates and the leadership of this unit," said propulsion flight flight chief Senior Master Sgt. Marlin Brandon.

Sergeant Hill was buried with full military honors with members of the propulsion flight, honoring her request, serving as pallbearers.

Members of the 908th's extended family who were unable to attend the funeral may pay their respects to Sergeant Hill during a memorial service Sunday, Feb. 3 at 3 p.m at Maxwell AFB Base Chapel No. 2 near the Officer's Club.

The Hill family expressed their gratitude to the 908th AW, especially, the maintenance group, for the support they received in their time of sorrow.

908th MXS propulsions flight members serving as pall bearers carry Tech. Sgt. Jill Hill to her final resting place as mourners pay their respects.

Money Matters

Finance office offers news, tips

Show Me The Money! Effective Jan. 1, Congress increased military pay rates 3 percent over last year. In addition, Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates have also changed this year. Reservists on orders for over 30 days receive BAH-I rates based on their home address. The new rates are available at <http://perdiem.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html>.

Tax Season Looms Over The New Year! One of America's more celebrated days of the year is swiftly approaching. It is a time when each of us must assess our financial giving the previous year to ensure the smooth operation and funding of our federal government. Yes, it is almost tax time again. To help you during this potentially stressful time, the finance office has put together several helpful tips that may make your federal income tax filing easier. Here they are:

- Wage and tax statements, commonly called W-2's, are now available on the myPay website: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>

Once you log into the site, your W-2 tax statement is the second option below the TAXES category.

- The online IRS publication 3, <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p3/ar02.html>, lists various deductions for traditional reservists and income reporting guidance for those that receive special pay and allowances. For instance, it is possible for reservists that have more than 100 miles from home to deduct travel expenses. For a complete list of possible deductions and stipulations, visit the Internal Revenue Service website or consult an income tax advisor.

- Make sure you complete the federal tax form that is right for your situation. There are three federal income tax filing forms:

Form 1040EZ – for single filers, no itemized deductions, or income limits

Form 1040A – for single, married, and head of household filers with no itemized deductions.

Form 1040 – for single, married, and head of household filers with itemized deductions.

- The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) is available across the country to help members complete their income tax forms. Call 1-800-829-1040 for VITA locations and hours of operation. (Submitted by the 908th AW Finance Office)

Healthy Airmen

Know facts about oral cancer, make a difference

Col. (Dr.) Hal H. Rhea II
908th ASTS Dentist

More than 30,000 new cases of oral cancer will be diagnosed in the United States this. Each year nearly 8,000 Americans die from oral or pharyngeal (related to the pharynx or throat) cancer – almost one death every hour of every day. Oral cancer is responsible for more deaths than cervical cancer, Hodgkin's disease, and melanoma, affecting more men than women, and is also the 11th most common cancer worldwide.

Oral cancers typically form as very small, often painless lesions. Usually, they are discovered in the floor of the mouth, lateral borders of the tongue, or inside the cheek; however, they can be located anywhere in the mouth, throat or lip area. Unfortunately, two-thirds of oral cancers are detected only in advanced stages, usually after the cancer has metastasized, or spread, from its original site to regional lymph nodes and other organs.

This disease is particularly alarming because it causes severe disabilities and disfiguration once it reaches advanced stages. Typical costs for treatment of moderate to advanced cases of oral cancer may range from \$100,000 to \$200,000; moreover, the necessary treatment often involves the removal of large portions of the tongue and jaw by either an oral or a head and neck surgeon. Along with these factors, the process of reconstruction and rehabilitation is painful and difficult, and patients are often permanently impaired, regardless of the success level of the outcome. Thus, the need for prevention and early detection of oral cancer is imperative.

Historically, those at risk for oral cancer are age 40 and older, with lifestyle risk factors including tobacco and alcohol use, combined with poor diet and nutrition. For obvious reasons, the risk for developing oral cancer is highest in this group.

In my brief tenure with the 908th AW, I've been truly amazed by the wide usage of smokeless tobacco among many of our members. One commonly held misconception regarding the use of smokeless tobacco is that the smokeless is "safer" than smoking cigarettes.

To the contrary, studies have shown that smokeless users actually have a higher probability of developing oral cancer than cigarette smokers do. The earlier in life the smokeless habit is begun, the greater the health hazards.

On another front, recent studies suggest a definite increase of health risk is

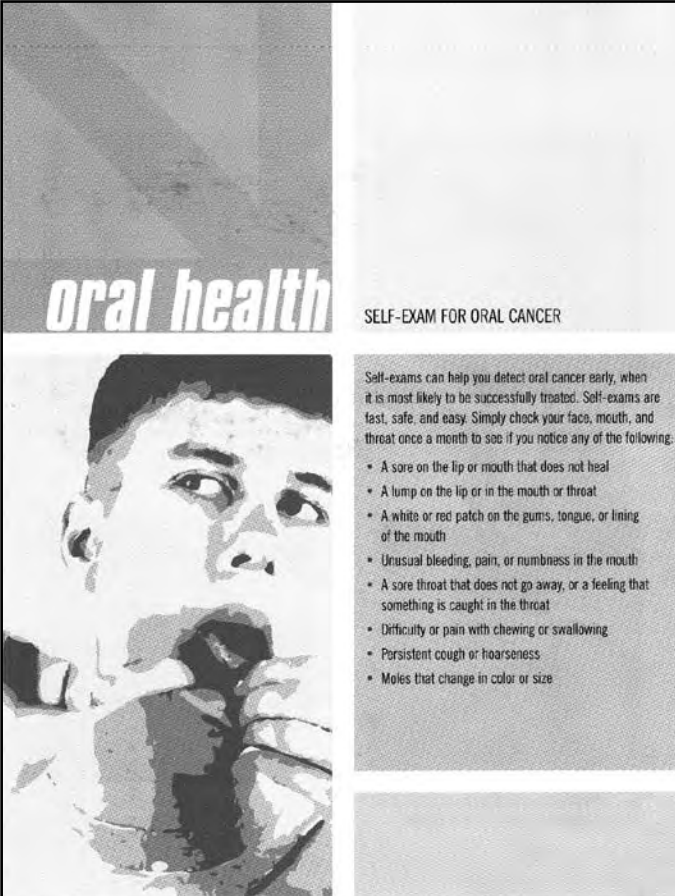
present in any person over age 18 due to the human papilloma virus types 16/18 (HPV), especially among those who are sexually active. According to the American Cancer Society, HPV may contribute to the development of approximately 20 to 30 percent of oral cancer cases. Consequently, a much younger, healthier, population, many of whom have never used tobacco, is now exposed to the risk of developing oral cancers. This discovery completely blows away the former concept of those at risk for oral cancer.

The Air Force requires that all Reserve members have an annual dental examination accomplished no later than the end of their birth month. This is an excellent pro-active measure because:

- You will not become a class 4 dental statistic compromising the wing's individual medical readiness numbers.
- You will not risk a medical profile that could render you unable to deploy, and can even place you in a no pay/no points status.

- You will receive a comprehensive dental examination, including an oral cancer exam that could save your life.

Now that you have the facts, make a difference, do your best to quit any tobacco habit, and make sure you get your annual dental exam.



oral health

SELF-EXAM FOR ORAL CANCER

Self-exams can help you detect oral cancer early, when it is most likely to be successfully treated. Self-exams are fast, safe, and easy. Simply check your face, mouth, and throat once a month to see if you notice any of the following:

- A sore on the lip or mouth that does not heal
- A lump on the lip or in the mouth or throat
- A white or red patch on the gums, tongue, or lining of the mouth
- Unusual bleeding, pain, or numbness in the mouth
- A sore throat that does not go away, or a feeling that something is caught in the throat
- Difficulty or pain with chewing or swallowing
- Persistent cough or hoarseness
- Moles that change in color or size

Sources for information about oral cancer

The Oral Cancer Foundation: www.oralcancerfoundation.org

Oral Cancer: www.oralcancer.com

Oral Cancer Consortium: www.oral-cancer.org/resources.html

The Yul Brynner Head and Neck Cancer Foundation: www.yulbrynnerefoundation.org

American Cancer Society: www.cancer.org/docroot/home/index.asp

New Commander Profile

Full Name: Capt. Michael W. Boggan

Duty title: Commander, 908th Services Flight

Hometown: Newton, Miss.

Current Residence: Muscle Shoals, Ala.

Prior Military Service Yes, Enlisted 1987 to 2000 power production/interior electrician

Previous assignment: Operations Officer, 908th SVF

Duties and responsibilities: Ensure the 908th Services Flight and its assets are managed and cared for properly

Work philosophy: Give the Services personnel the tools and the authority to do their jobs and expect them to do great things

Personal philosophy: Perform my very best, Trust my leadership, and Reward those who exceed expectations

Reserve Status: Traditional Reservist

Civilian occupation: Public Health Environmentalist, Ala. Dept of Public Health, where he ensures regulatory compliance for restaurants, hotels and septic systems installations



Photo by Jeff Melvin
Capt. Michael W. Boggan, commander, 908th Services Flight

Get smart about antibiotics

How much do you know about the proper use of antibiotics?

Antibiotics are powerful medications that should be used only when prescribed by a medical provider to treat bacterial infections.

Bacteria are single-celled organisms usually found all over the inside and outside of our bodies, except in the blood and spinal fluid. Disease-causing bacteria trigger illnesses, such as strep and some ear infections. Viruses are smaller than bacteria. Viruses cannot survive outside the body's cells, and cause illnesses by invading healthy cells and reproducing. Colds, flu, most coughs and bronchitis and sore throats are caused by viruses and usually not treated with antibiotics.

Many people automatically think they need an antibiotic when nasal mucous changes to yellow or green. Yellow or green mucous does not always indicate a bacterial infection, and it is normal for mucous to thicken and change during a viral cold. A trained medical provider should be contacted if there is a question of whether antibiotics should be used.

Antibiotic resistance has been called one of the world's most pressing public health problems. The number of bacteria resistant to antibiotics has increased in the last decade. Every time a person takes antibiotics, sensitive bacteria are killed, but resistant germs may be left to grow and multiply. Repeated and improper uses of antibiotics are primary causes of the increase in drug-resistant bacteria.

We can help prevent antibiotic resistance by NOT taking them for viruses like colds, flu, or cough. Take the prescribed antibiotic exactly as the provider instructs you. Do not skip doses. Complete the prescribed course of treatment, even if feeling better. Do not save any antibiotics for the next time you get sick. Do not take antibiotics prescribed for someone else. Parents should refrain from demanding antibiotics when the healthcare provider has determined it is not needed.

There are helpful hints available for concerned parents. Remember there are several types of ear infections in children. Many need antibiotics, but some do not. Antibiotics are not always used to treat sinus infections, but may be needed in severe or long-lasting cases. Strep throat does benefit from antibiotic use.

For further information consult the website; www.cdc.gov/drug_resistance or contact Maj Donna Roberts, Wing infection Control Officer at 953-5404.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February

2 — Reserve Enlisted Association Indoor Event. 6 p.m. Base Gym. Get your teams ready for some fun — walleyball, volleyball, racquet ball and basketball at the base gym.

8 — 42nd ABW Annual Awards Banquet, Officers' Club

10-13 — Reserve Officer Association Reserve Components Joint Officer Professional Development Seminar (for 01-03s) and AFRC Leadership Today and Tomorrow seminar (for 04 - 05s). Presented in conjunction the ROA Mid-Winter Conference, Washington Hilton Hotel, Wash. DC. All seminars require ROA registration. RCJOPDS Online registration is available below. The cut off for online registration is midnight Feb. 4, 2008 (CST). After Feb. 4, all registration and payment will be on-site-subject to space availability. For info, go to ROA web site at <http://www.roa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=rcjopds>. LTT seminar information is available at <http://www.roa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=afrrltt>. For LTT quota and attendance information, contact mickey.crawford@afrc.af.mil DSN 497-0933 Com (478) 327-0933. Wing POC for both events is Capt. Norton, LGRR, at (3340 953-6303.

18 — President's Day (federal holiday)

March

1 — Wing Commander's Call, 3:30 p.m., Polifka Auditorium, Bldg. 1403

7 — Maxwell-Gunter Annual Awards Banquet, Officers' Club

13-15 — Women in Aviation Conference. San Diego, Calif.

April

4 — Employer Day (See Page 14 for Nomination Forms)

5 — Hank Call Sign Dedication. Time/location TBD. 908th AW C-130 call sign changes to "Hank" to honor country music legend and former Montgomery resident Hank Williams Jr.

5 — Air Force Reserve 60th Anniversary Celebration, 5 p.m. Bldg. 1455, preceded by Heritage Run/Walk (See Page 2)



Courtesy Photos

Operation Smiles brightens medic's deployment



Deployed 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron member Senior Master Sgt. Tom Haney member is serving as a senior medic assigned to the 33rd Expeditionary Rescue Squadron, an Air Force unit flying HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters alongside Army aircraft to help provide medical evacuation throughout Afghanistan. Along with his regular duties, the medic says he has worked in the emergency department and the intensive care unit of the joint forces regional hospital "during any off time that I may have had." He also reported his holiday season was brightened somewhat by his participation in what he and his fellow medical practitioners dubbed "Operation Smiles." "This is where we are taking boxes of school supplies, toys, etc. and dropping them off (literally) at various villages on our missions when we are just 'escorting' the Army (Corsair) Blackhawks. I love playing Santa," Haney wrote in an e-mail back to co-workers here at the 908th.



One mouse click away

No matter where traditional Reservists are, they are just a mouse click away from a new tool that should make managing their military life a lot easier.

That's the idea behind ReserveNet, an online program that is quickly becoming the Air Force Reserve Command way of things.

ReserveNet is a DOD and Air Force award-winning secure, web-based system designed to effectively and efficiently manage information and people within a reserve organization.

Access to ReserveNet is granted through the Air Force Portal. As long as Airmen know their portal username and password, they can get to ReserveNet without use of the common access card. The immediate goal for ReserveNet, said Staff Sgt. Keith Rudolph, 908th Communications Flight communications and information systems supervisor, is to allow Reservists to get on a computer anywhere and request days for duty and communicate availability for missions that pop up. In turn, the process also gives Reserve leadership a much-improved picture of troop availability and mission obligations.

The tools available to AFRC frontline users grow and improve with each new release. With over five years of operational testing and use at select reserve units, the ReserveNet tools have streamlined operations while affording Reservists secure access to a common operational picture from their civilian environments. The ReserveNet system is increasingly integrating with other Air Force and DOD databases.

ReserveNet employs a web-based architecture that does not require users to load proprietary software. Rather, it is easily accessible from

anywhere with an internet connection and an internet browser.

In addition to a growing set of readiness management tools, some of the key tools in the ReserveNet suite are the duty planning and budgeting tools that precede a member's request for orders. For Reservists and their supervisors, ReserveNet is a perfect compliment to the existing unit orders systems. ReserveNet's suite of electronic duty planning and tracking tools allow Reservists and their duty supervisors to streamline this coordination process and improve the accuracy of the information.

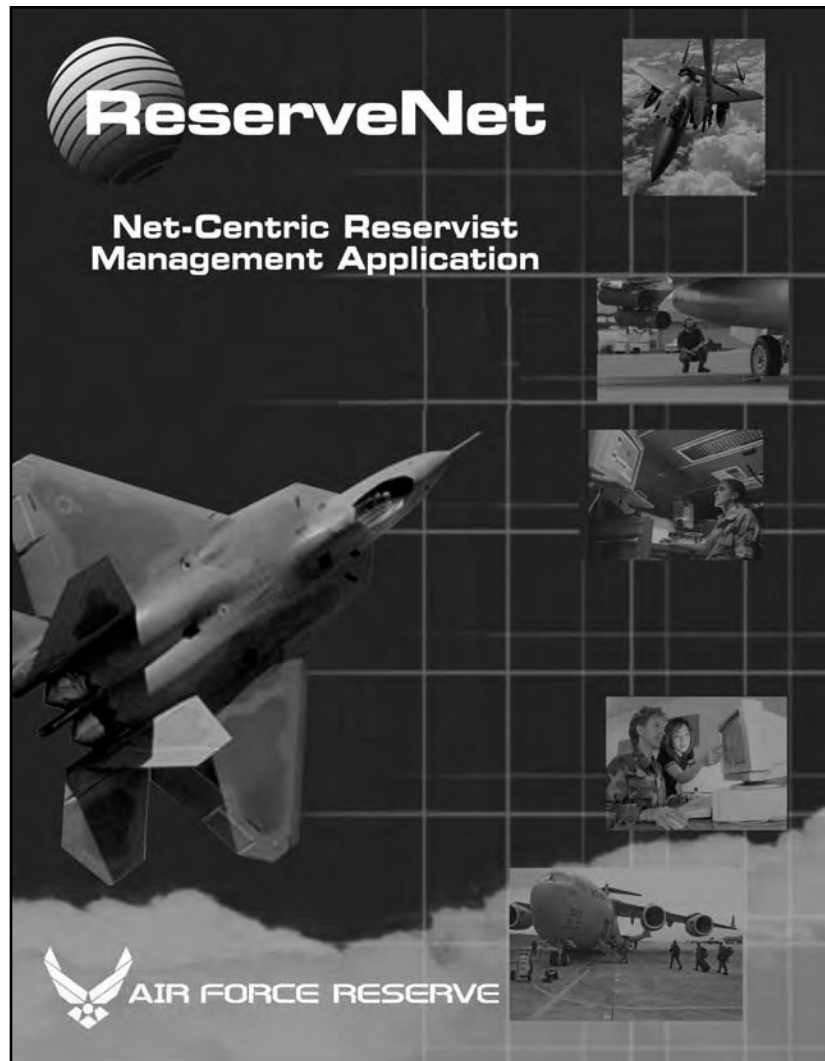
From one screen, reservists can establish their duty plan and, at some locations, initiate billeting reservations. Electronic bulletin boards and unit event calendars enable traditional reservists to plan their duty around key unit events and stay informed of information affecting duty and unit program operations.

Additionally, ReserveNet e-mail messaging capabilities allow units to manage e-mail distribution lists while affording users a method to filter e-mail lists and send messages through a simple web interface.

Finally, as a launching point tool, ReserveNet contains links to many useful sites such as MyPay, Virtual MPF, and the Volunteer Reserve System.

AFRC is looking at training options for ReserveNet and other related technology changes. Until then, 908th unit POCs should contact the Maxwell Support Division Training Office or other sources for classes in HTML, web design and/or Front Page to learn the basics of web pages design and management. Knowing the basics of web design will provide the needed skills for developing each unit's web page.

For more information, contact Sergeant Rudolph at 953-6061.





Incentive flight takes Airmen to new heights

It takes an entire wing to launch a C-130

Story and Photos by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder
908th AW Public Affairs

Airmen from around the wing jumped at the opportunity to fly a unit C-130 during a local area orientation flight Jan. 5.

908th AW Command Chief Master Sgt. Rick Fanning said the incentive flight was a way for Airmen who were not familiar with the aircraft to learn more about flying and enjoy the experience of riding on a C-130. "It's not just climb on the airplane and sit in a seat," he said referring to all of the preparation involved prior to the flight.

Airmen experienced the thrill of embarkation and flight with an experienced loadmaster guiding them through the ropes.

Col. Edward Jennings, 908th Operations Group commander, explained how Airmen interested in flying could later become aircrew members, including pilots and navigators if they wished. "One of the real unique things about the C-130 is it can land on all types of surfaces," he told the Airmen during a preflight briefing. "I landed a C-130 on a four-lane highway during Desert Storm."

He also explained in the C-130s use in variety of ways besides the wing's airlift mission such as rescue, weather, firefighting and special operations."

Concluding with directing the Airmen to explore the plane, the colonel told them to be curious and ask questions about the airplane.

Lt. Cols. Steve Catchings and Jeff Spencer piloted the aircraft. Catchings said the entire wing helps get the 908th's planes into the air. "Everyone has a part in getting the airplane off the ground," he explained. "Every job in the wing helps ensure our planes continue to fly. Everything our Airmen do helps get that airplane off the ground."

Chief Fanning summed it up, saying, "The incentive flight was great!"

He thanked all the commanders and supervisors for allowing time for their Airmen to participate. "This event reinforced an important principle to our Airmen, one they shouldn't lose sight of: It takes the entire 908th Airlift Wing to launch one airplane."

"Also," said Chief Fanning, "It is good to get a chance to meet people from other squadrons and learn about the entire wing and opportunities we have at Maxwell AFB."



Senior Airman Jason Kinney, 908th CF, cockpit



Eager Airmen prepare to board the 908th AW C-130.



enjoys the view from the cock-



Incentive flight passengers strap themselves in. See more photos on Page 10.

: Incentive flight continued

Right, Staff Sgt. Karen Hamblin, 908th AES, peers out the forward porthole.



Bottom left, Senior Airman Tonya Fernandez, 908th AES, gets to check out the cockpit during flight. Bottom right, Senior Airman Crystal Bickerstaff, 908th LRS, flashes a smile indicating her approval of the incentive flight.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder



908th AW reservist top C-130 grad in elite AF weapons school class

By Jeff Melvin
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

One could forgive Maj. Joe Accardo if he puffed up his chest and strutted his stuff a little after completing the demanding five and one half-month Air Force Weapons School weapons instructor course attended by an elite group of pilots and navigators and earning recognition as the top C-130 graduate in his class but that would be totally out of character with his no nonsense nature and counter to the school motto of producing "humble, approachable and credible" weapons officers.

In the case of Accardo, the 357th Airlift Squadron chief of tactics, that description should be 'more' humble, more approachable and more credible since most who know and work with him would say he fit that bill before he headed to Nellis AFB, Nev. to attend the weapons officer course.

The students are fully qualified instructors, chosen by a central selection board, and acknowledged by their peers as among the best. During the course, they receive an average of 400 hours of graduate-level academics and participate in demanding combat training missions. The climax of the course is the mission employment phase, a two-week staged battle over the Nevada Test and Training Range. The students demonstrate their ability to manage a battle and effectively integrate multiple weapons systems. Upon graduation, the new weapons officers return to the field to serve as unit weapons and tactics officers, providing advanced instruction and technical advice to their commanders, operations officers and personnel.

"We take the best the Air Force has to offer here at the Weapons School, and even some of them don't make it to the finish," said Maj. Donn Yates, U.S. Air Force Weapons School director of staff. Out of 100 students, three to five will not make it to the end of the course, he said.

True to conform, Major Accardo down played his accomplishment saying he was caught off guard by his selection as the top C-130 graduate in his class. Each class consists of about 70 weapons systems officer representing various airframes such as the C-130, C-17 and KC-135 aircraft; the major's group included eight other C-130 students.

The former active duty C-130 special operations aircraft pilot who more than

5,200 flying hours including nearly 600 instructor hours and 780 combat hours since joining in the Air Force in 1992 said he was "pretty stunned."

"I know I was shocked because I must have paused when they called out my name and the colonel who was handing out the awards said, 'Go ahead, take it, it's yours,'" said the 15-year Air Force veteran, who left active duty after nine years and joined the reserve and the 908th AW in 2001.

Along with the top graduate trophy and the coveted weapons officer patch, the major brought back a wealth of information about weapons systems and tactics to pass on to his fellow reservists at the 908th Operations Group.

"Whenever someone with this (the weapons officer) patch walks into a room, he gains instant credibility with anyone in the room, because they know what he did to earn this patch," Major Yates, the weapons school director of staff, said.

That credibility is one of the reasons Accardo took the course, that and the urging of a former 357th AS tactics officer who mentored him and urged him to take the course.

His mentor had "that extra edge of knowledge and experience," Accardo said. "I knew he was leaving and that at some point and that I was probably going to be running the shop. 'You don't want to be second

rate; you want to be an expert.'"

Well, he needn't worry anymore, nearly 400 academic hours later; he's an expert with the patch, and an outstanding graduate trophy, to prove it. His colleagues in the 357th AS are already benefiting from his heightened expertise, he taught a course his first week back at work and he's already developed ideas for the unit's annual tactics training.



Photo by Jeff Melvin

Maj. Joe Accardo displays the trophy earned as the top C-130 graduate at the Air Force Weapons School Class.

Wing snapshots

Staff Sgt. Daniela Woo, 908th AW Command Post, works out on an elliptical machine while performing PT at the gym Sunday morning during January UTA.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Staff Sgt. Clyde Reliford and Senior Airman Shameka Douglas of 908th Services Squadron work at the gym counter early Sunday morning during the January UTA.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

Above, from left, Senior Master Sgt. Robert Spears, Col. Jon Andre and Tech. Sgt Stephen LeGrady exchange banter as Spears prepares to bowl. Below, Master Sgt. Gary Waldon, AMXS, follows through after releasing the bowling ball. One team each from Comm Flight, 25th APS, AMXS, MXS, and Recruiting Squadron; and one team comprised of players from mixed units competed in the Chief's Group-sponsored Bowling Challenge. Trophies were presented to First Place Team - Misfits - 1703 pins; Second Place Team - Recruiting Sq - 1690 pins; Third Place Team - 25th APS - 1557 pins; High Series Male - Senior Master Sgt. Adriel Carr, 25th APS, 618 pins; High Series Female - Jen Spears, Recruiting Squadron spouse, 501 pins; High Game Male - Senior Master Sgt. Adriel Carr, 25th APS - 263 pins; High Game Female - tie, Donna Baird, 25th APS spouse; and Jen Spears, Recruiting Squadron spouse, 189 pin. The next match is set for August.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jay Ponder

908th AW to host clergy, employers this spring

Two events designed to provide employers and clergy of wing members a firsthand look at the wing mission capped by a local area orientation flight are planned for this spring.

The Clergy Day is planned for May 2, the Friday before the May UTA.

An Employers Day is planned for June 6, the Friday before the June UTA. (Note date change)

These events provide a chance for your employer

(both supervisor and president/chief executive officer) or minister to see the wing mission firsthand as well as learn all about the Air Force Reserve.

Please nominate your boss or minister by filling out the forms below and returning it to the Public Affairs office, First Floor, Bldg. 1055, or mail to: 908th AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB AL 36112, or FAX: (334) 953-2202. For more information, call the PA office at (334) 953-6804.

Employer's Day Nominations

Employer's name/title:

Employer's phone number:

Company/organization:

Nominating Reservist name:

Company mailing address:

Your civilian job title:

Unit duty phone:

Clergy Day Nominations

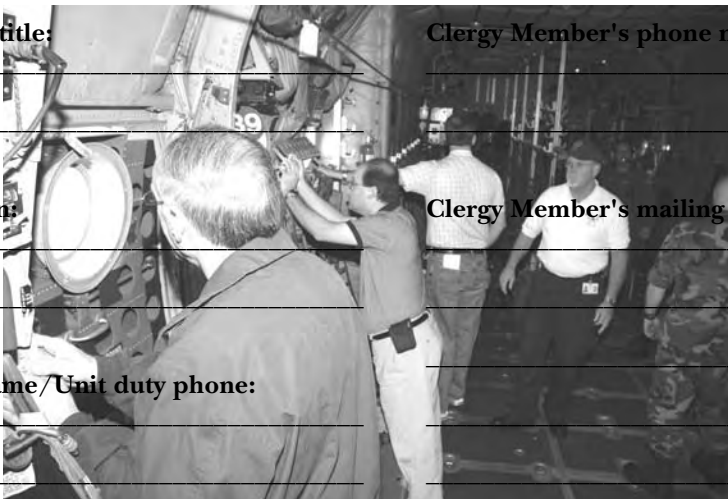
Clergy Member's name/title:

Clergy Member's phone number:

Denomination/affiliation:

Clergy Member's mailing address:

Nominating Reservist name/Unit duty phone:



Take Note

Promotions

Congratulations to the following people promoted to the grades indicated:

....to Senior Master Sgt.
Gregory Hutto, ASTS
to Master Sgt.
Donald Washington, AES
to Tech. Sgt.
Charles Britt, 357th AS
Tarissa Brown, ASTS
Vicky Gissendanner, ASTS
Yvonne Johnson, AMXS
Michael Laursen, AES
Douangmala Ordinario, SVF
Clyde Reliford, SVF
Richard Valarezo, OSF
to Staff Sgt.
Brian Barkley, SFS
Miranda Boswell, ASTS
Brenda Johnson, ASTS
Shante Lamb, 357th AS
Michael Lemke, AES
Otis Luke, ASTS
Randy Stephens, CES
Crystal Turner, ASTS
Jonathan West, 25th APS
Cedrea Young, SVF
to Senior Airman
Temika Howard, SVF
James Short Jr., 357th AS
to Airman 1st Class
Matthew Dearth, 357th AS
Anthony Knizel, SFS
to Airman
Justin Bryson, MXS
Ronaldo McConico, 357th AS
Tyrez Turner, 25th APS



Photo by Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

Security forces, ops, maintenance Airmen prepare to deploy

Above, Senior Master Sgt. Ronald Holland, 908th SFS operations superintendent, observes Senior Airman Shaun Donahue clear his weapon in preparation for departure for Patriot Defender training Jan. 5. Patriot Defender is two weeks of intense combat training Air Force Reserve security forces undergo periodically at Camp Swift, Texas. This training is opportune as the majority of the wing's security forces will be deployed by the end of February. February will be a busy month as along with the security force personnel about 65 operations and maintenance personnel deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Wing hosts workshop

The 908th Airlift Wing will host a two-day workshop called "Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Challenges," Feb. 9-10 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

"As Citizen Airmen, we face unique challenges trying to balance family, civilian job, and military requirements," said 908th AW Command Chief Master Sgt. Rick Fanning. "With the help of the Airman and Family Readiness Center as well as some other key leaders from the military and civilian communities, this event will be two days of learning about finances, education, CCAF, TSP, promotions, relationship building, goal setting, bullet writing, deployment preparation and hopefully we will have some fun as well," the chief continued.

Those interested in attending should contact their respective supervisor, first sergeant, or commander.

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

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