

SOUTHERN FLYER

BECOMING AN ART



SOUTHERN
FLYER

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Out with old, in with new

“It’s just another exercise.”
“This is the way we’ve
always done it.” “This isn’t
the way it’s done in the real world.”
This is what’s been said during and
since our operational readiness
exercise in September. These
thoughts must end now!

I’m sure you’ve heard this
saying: “Out with the old,
in with the new.” While
I wish the operational
readiness inspection was
already behind us,
we’re not there yet.

Borrowing a
quote from my fellow group com-
mander, “Our ORI evaluates our
unit’s combat readiness, ‘i.e. its
ability to perform its most stringent
wartime mission.’” We have to be
prepared for the worst-case scenario.

I know it’s difficult to act and
believe the ORI scenario is the real
world. Yet, this is what the IG is
looking for – for us to do it the Air
Force way and not our way. Our
forms and checklists, including those
in the Airman’s Manual, have to be
filled out and used properly.

It’s not easy asking our Airmen to
leave their family and civilian careers
to practice and execute their mili-
tary duties and responsibilities. As a



LT. COL. ALLISON MARSHALL
Commander, 908th MSG

traditional reservist, small business
owner, and husband and father of a
blended family, maintaining the bal-
ance between all three isn’t easy for
any of us and even riskier in these
changing economic times.

It’s easy to lose our mission
readiness mindset between UTAs.

It will be even more challeng-
ing between now and the
ORI with Thanksgiving
holidays in between. Use
these holidays to relax,
recreate, and be
with family and
friends. Yet, be-

tween now and the ORI, find a way
to stay focused on the mission and
your tasks at hand.

For many of us, it’s not just a
learning curve we have to deal with.
It’s also a practice curve. We all may
have to stay a little later than nor-
mal to practice doing our jobs in an
expeditionary environment with fel-
low Airmen from three other wings
during the night shift.

We’ve made significant improve-
ment between the Operational
Readiness Training Program 4 in
April and the ORE in September.
Let’s keep the momentum going to
be successful in December and have
a great and Happy New Year.

A MOMENT WITH THE
CHAPLAIN

CH. (MAJ.) JAMIE DANFORD

November is the month of
Thanksgiving, a national holiday
which gets less attention each
year. Often it’s considered nothing
more than a springboard into the
spending of the Christmas season.

However, thanksgiving for
us as a nation and as individual
people is extremely important.
The Roman Philosopher Cicero
said, “A thankful heart is not only
the greatest virtue, but the parent
of all the other virtues.” Thank-
fulness allows us to focus on the
multitude of gifts and blessings
that we have — and not to focus
on the things we do not have.

I recommend that all of us do
an exercise in thanksgiving. Take a
few moments and recall the things
for which you are thankful.

If you have trouble getting
started listen to the words of
Ralph Waldo Emerson:

*For each new morning
with its light,
For rest and shelter
of the night,
For health and food,
for love and friends,
For everything
Thy goodness sends.*

A spirit of thankfulness also
motivates us to reach and help
others. That is when we truly
experience the joy of gratitude
— when through our blessings we
share and help those around us.

May God bless us all this
Thanksgiving season.



Courtesy photo/Senior Airman Angela Burton

Twins Senior Airman Angela Burton, right, and Technical Sergeant Christy Henderson, mid-
dle, pose with their mother, Ann Henderson, after they won first place in the Women’s Relay
Team category in the Callaway Gardens Triathlon on Sept. 6.

Going the Distance

By Gene Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

Aside from the name, there’s not
much that separates Senior Air-
man Angela Burton and Tech. Sgt.
Christy Henderson. Both reside in
the Atlanta area. Both share a pas-
sion for an active lifestyle. And both
serve in the 908th Airlift Wing. They
are, after all, sisters.

Not only sisters, but twins.

Always close, the bond between
the 37-year-olds has become even
closer through their competition in
triathlons. Together with their moth-
er, Ann Henderson, they recently
took part in the annual Olympic
triathlon at Callaway Gardens in
Pine Mountain, Ga.

Their love of country and com-
petition began before they were even
born. Both grandfathers served in
the Air Force during World War II,
one at Maxwell. Their parents shared
a love of sports and activity. Their
mother, Ann Henderson, would take
them on her regular bicycle rides,

one sitting in front and the other be-
hind. In school, they participated in
basketball, softball, tennis and track.

“We’re very in tune to each other
and what we’re thinking and feeling
without having to ask,” said Airman
Burton, who serves with the 908
Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.
“We just know. We definitely have a
special and unique relationship. She’s
my best friend.”

“We do everything together and
have a great time doing it,” said
Christy, a member of the 357th Air-
lift Squadron.

When Sergeant Henderson en-
listed 16 years ago, Airman Burton
said it was difficult because she
couldn’t just pick up the phone and
call. It took 13 years, but it was
inevitable that she would eventually
join her sister in the service.

“I got married early in life, but
joining was something I always
wanted to do,” she said.

“I’m very proud of them, proud
that they made that choice,” their

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SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

The sky over the Maxwell flight line
fills with clouds in a display of bil-
lowing blue and white as maintain-
ers work on C-130s belonging to the
908th Airlift Wing.

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AFB, AL 36112 or e-mail them to 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil. Our phone number is (334)
953-6804 or DSN 493-6804; our fax number is (334) 953-2202 or DSN 493-2202. For
information about this schedule, call this office at (334) 953-7874.



U.S. Air Force Photo/
Tech. Sgt. Christian Michael

GO

for

LAUNCH



Several new reservists were given the green light for a bright future Oct. 15, when they were given the oath of enlistment by former astronaut and retired U.S. Air Force Col. James D. Halsell Jr. at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., above.

Reenlisting in the ceremony was superintendent, 908th Military Personnel Flight Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy, at right with husband, Andrew. At left, Andrina Smith and Courtney Bergin try out an early command module while Colonel Halsell signs autographs.

A veteran of five shuttle missions, two as pilot and three as mission commander, Halsell has logged more than 1,250 hours and traveled more than 20 million miles in space. As manager for Shuttle Launch Integration at the Kennedy Space Center, he gave the 'go-for-launch' order for 13 successful shuttle missions. He also led NASA's return to mission-ready status after the Columbia tragedy.

The enlistees, below, were Airmen Theresa Eatmon and Ashley Morrow, Airmen Basic Anna Corban, Clifford Strawder, Karlita Holifield, Sierra Chiz, Joel Snyder, Justin Sasser, Holly Bickford, Robert Johnson, Kevin Clark, Mekesha Leavell, Zachary Stanford, Tyeshia Payton, Britney Cassedy, and Airman 1st Class Joshua Hall.



Hiring an ART

WHERE IT BEGINS

By Tech. Sgt. Christian Michael
908th AW Public Affairs

This is part 1 of 3 in a series on the Air Reserve Technician program and hiring process.

Air Reserve Technicians are mainstays of continuity and experience for the Air Force Reserve, running unit missions and weapon systems during the month while traditional reservists are away. Without them, daily operations would cease and unit training assemblies in Reserve units would have no enduring coordination.

The ART program and hiring process have evolved in recent years, with new emphasis on the need for ARTs and the advent of specialized programs to fill empty slots. To find ARTs, recruiters look first within the Air Force ranks.

"My primary focus has been on recruiting Air Force Reserve members who are traditional reservists and on active duty Air Force who are interested in the stability of an ART posi-

tion," said Master Sgt. David Beach, ART recruiter for Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Historically, active-duty members were most qualified for ART positions. Now, through a new program, the Reserve prepares traditional reservists for the same demands. This allowed all Reserve recruiters access to a greater pool of Airmen from which to recruit.

"The implementation of the Seasoning Training Program has offered ART opportunities to many TR members who, in the past, would not have been qualified," said Sergeant Beach.

Reserve recruiters can now employ even more qualified or would-be qualified applicants in every area of the Reserve mission. ART-specific recruiters are a new commodity for the Reserve and, according to Master Sgt. William Hose, ART recruiter for Westover ARB, Mass., the program has worked well.

"I have had a very good success rate in the Northeast United States," said

Sergeant Hose. "Most people that meet the qualifications for these positions ... have been selected for hire. We have 12 recruiters across the country that are having the same types of reactions to our efforts. We are seeing that ART Recruiters are making things happen to meet the needs of the Wings we're here to support."

Making things happen has included not only recruiting the ARTs, but also going between the hirers, the hirees and everyone in between.

"The ART recruiter position has allowed for the establishment of a link between applicants and hiring officials," said Sergeant Hose. "This allows the ART recruiter to match qualified applicants with the needs of the Air Force Reserve. A secondary benefit has been the ART recruiter's ability to act as the subject matter expert for the wing commander and hiring officials."

The ART hiring process has a short list of agencies an applicant's package will go through. While the Reserve has



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Christian Michael

evolved substantially over the years, the program for gaining ARTs has remained largely the same. Now with ART positions undermanned, a new focus has been turned to gaining more ARTs for the fight.

"Do you think a wing commander would find it acceptable for his wing manning to be at only 20 percent?" asked Senior Master Sgt. Kelly Garrett, ART Recruiter superintendent at Robins AFB. "Wing commanders

WANT TO BECOME AN ART?

External applicants can submit a package:

1. Resume or OF 612
2. ATAFR 202
3. ATAFR 209 (if a Flyer)
4. SF 15 (Vet Pref 10 pts or more)
5. DD214

By the 25th of the month.

Receive the rating from SEU

Receive the offer to hire from AFPC

Receive the notice of hire from AFPC

Visit <http://www.afrc.af.mil/library/jobs> for more information

Tech. Sgt. Victor Senegar Jr. is a 3-year Air Reserve Technician at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. The Montgomery, Ala., native is a quality assurance aircraft maintenance inspector enjoys the travel and his coworkers most about his job. "Everybody works together and we have a good time while doing it."

"Also, there's the opportunity to become part of the local community without having to PCS every three years. Active duty Air Force members are attracted to the standardized deployment schedules and rotations offered by the Air Force Reserve."

ARTs may wear uniforms every day and abide by customs and courtesies, but they are paid on a Government Service payscale and abide by civilian employment regulations. That includes the ability to move where and when an ART wants, or to leave the ART service as desired.

To find out more about the ART hiring process, read part 2 of 3, Hiring an ART: Application

love us because we're out there filling these positions that keep their units running."

Being the backbone of a Reserve unit has many benefits recruiters like Sergeant Beach use to find and attract new ARTs.

"Positive aspects of being an ART include the ability to continue serving as a member of the Air Force Reserve with the flexibility of choosing what base to serve at," said Sergeant Beach.

ENLISTED CALL

Command Chief Master Sgt. Cameron Kirksey hosted an Enlisted Call during the October UTA to discuss issues that had arisen during the Operational Readiness Exercise at Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center, Miss., in September.

"I want the unit to take on a can-do attitude," he said. "We need to take personal responsibility for our performance and show that the 908th is the very best at what we do and how we do it."

OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing are recognized formally for outstanding performance during the operational readiness exercise at Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center, Gulfport, Miss. in September. Command Chief Master Sgt. Cameron Kirksey awards the certificates to, from left, Airman 1st Class Jake Yates, Senior Master Sgt. Christopher S. Brown, Tech. Sgt. Daniel T. Varnes and Tech. Sgt. Barbara Owens.



Holiday SAFETY TIPS

The safe handling of turkey and other holiday foods is essential in preventing foodborne illness. Here are some tips to share with your family for preparing a Thanksgiving turkey safely.

- Thaw frozen turkey in the refrigerator. Allow one day for each five pounds. A 20-pound bird will take about four days to thaw. Hint: Remove neck & giblets from inside the bird as soon as possible to hasten thawing.
- Do not thaw on the kitchen counter. If you do not have time to thaw in the refrigerator, thaw it in cold water, provided the turkey is in a leak-proof package, submerged, and the water is changed every half-hour. Allow 30 minutes per pound to thaw in cold water.
- Cook fresh turkeys within two days, thawed ones within four days.
- Wash your hands with hot, soapy water before and after handling raw poultry. Wash all knives, cutting boards and

utensils also after using for raw poultry.

- Read and follow the cooking directions on the label. Cook turkey until it is done (165°F). Do not slow cook overnight at low temperatures or partially cook. Some turkeys come with pop-up thermometers. They are to be used only as a guide to doneness. Take the temperature with a meat thermometer to ensure the temperature is over 165°F.
- Stuffing should not be prepared a day ahead and the turkey should not be stuffed until ready to cook. A quicker, safer method is to cook the stuffing separately, using some of the pan juices to flavor and moisten the stuffing.
- Eat the meal as soon as it is prepared. Do not leave leftovers out on the counter or table after dinner. Cut the meat off the bones and put it in shallow containers in the refrigerator.
- Reheat all leftovers to 165°F. (Use your meat thermometer.) Gravy should be brought to a rolling boil.



Courtesy photo/Master Sgt. David McCaughtry

Master Sgt. David McCaughtry and Staff Sgt. Matt Scheil, members of the 908th Airlift Wing Security Forces Squadron recently volunteered to share their skills and training to help participants at the June Boy Scouts of America Camporee meet the 21 requirements for the Rifle Shooting Merit Badge. Above, Sergeant Scheil assists a Scout improve his posture. "If it hadn't been for you guys, the boys wouldn't have been able to shoot. You saved our bacon," Menewa District Executive Larry Coletta said on behalf of the Tukabatchee Area Council.

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mother said.

Callaway gave them the opportunity to compete together without putting Ms. Henderson into the water, in the All-Women's Relay Division. Burton kicked things off in the nine-tenths-mile swim, Ms. Henderson rode the 20-mile bike course, and Sergeant Henderson finished up with the five-mile run.

They had initially entered on what was basically a whim, according to Sergeant Henderson, but the end results were anything but whimsical. When it was over, the

ladies had won the top honors.

"When we signed up, we just knew we weren't going to win," she said. "So when we saw the results, needless to say, we were very pleasantly surprised."

It won't be long before all three are taking part in all the events, not as a team, but as individuals. All three agreed that the close-knit family has been made even closer.

"We enjoy doing this together," Ms. Henderson said. "It brings us closer that we can do this and share these memories and experiences."

908TH MSG COMMANDER'S CALL ORE HOT WASH – ORI PREP

Saturday, Nov. 14

0730-0745 Sign In
Location: Orderly Room
0815-0830 Assembly
Location: OTS Auditorium
0830-1130 ORE Hot Wash
Location: OTS Auditorium
1230-1600 ORI Targeted Training
Location: Assigned Unit

Sunday, Nov. 15

0630-0700 Sign In
Location: Orderly Room
0730-1600 ORI Targeted Training
Location: Assigned Unit

BRIEFS

Combined Federal Campaign

The Combined Federal Campaign began Sept. 14. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact their local CFC representative.

Wing staff — Lt. Col. Nancy Stephenson at 953-9080

Mission support flight — Capt. Michael McDonald at 953-5441

Maintenance group — Tech. Sgt. Quincey Hester at 953-7306

Operations group — Staff Sgt. Kimberly Pettway at 593-2779

Southern Flyer submissions

Gene Hughes, new editor of the Southern Flyer, would like to remind everyone that the deadline for submissions for December will be Nov. 20. Submissions include news briefs, feature possibilities and photos.



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