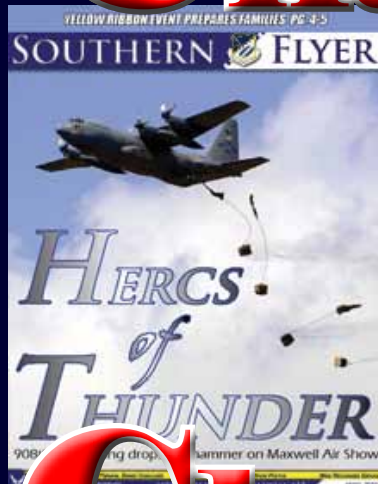


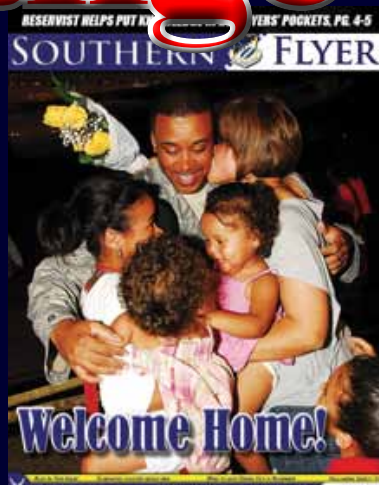
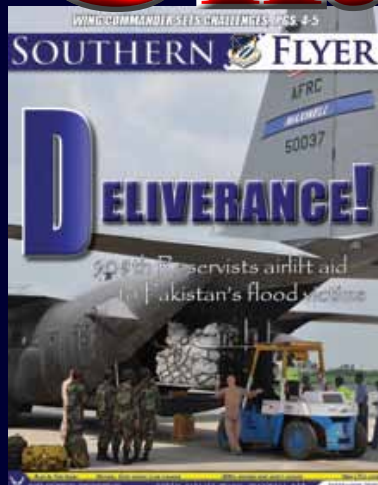
SOUTHERN FLYER



Change in Years



Change in Gears



SOUTHERN
FLYER

Vol. 48 Issue 01

January 2011

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Times change, excellence cannot

“**S**how-of-hands time: how many of you think that the past year was boring and 2011 will simply be more of the same?

No need to put your hands down ... they should not have been raised, unless you've had your head in the sand! We've been an exceptionally operational wing over the last couple of years and you've answered our nation's call in high style. Our future promises more of the same, but with a slightly different focus.

We are slowly transitioning from an operational (Operational Readiness Inspection, deployment, etc.) footing to one more centered on inspections. The Aeromedical Staging Squadron will undergo a Health Services Inspection during the January UTA, our pre-UCI staff assistance visit is scheduled for late March, the Operations Group has a Staff Assistance Visit immediately following, and our Unit Compliance Inspection is February 2012. Some operational events are mixed in as well, giving us a full plate for the foreseeable future.

Despite the impending challenges, we are well positioned to continue our tradition of excellence. We recently welcomed a new Mission Support Group commander,



COL. ROBERT H. SHEPHERD
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

Col. Pete Peterson, and a new lead Port Dawg, Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer, and both are setting a fast pace for their units. The mission support flight and services flight were deactivated, with a new force support squadron standing up to better align the services they provide with our mission needs.

We sent one of our airplanes to Little Rock to help with legacy C-130 training, but our ops and maintenance Airmen are working diligently to minimize the impact of the loss on our effectiveness. You, the wing members, are looking for guidance and role models; your commanders and other senior leaders are ready, willing and able to provide it at all levels.

We're all in this effort together, so keep your heads up and your boots laced tightly. We're in for a wild ride and we're looking forward to showing the command why we should be the best wing in the Air Force.



CH. (MAJ.) JAMIE DANFORD

English is a very unique language which tends to borrow words and phrases from other countries. Take the months for example (each borrowed from the ancient Roman calendar).

January takes its name from the Roman god Janus, the god of gates, doors and believed to be beginnings. He is depicted as having two faces – one looking forwards and one backwards.

The face looking backwards was shown as bearded and aged, while the one looking forward was clean-shaven and young. The symbolism is clear. As someone begins something new, they take with them the experience of the past.

When we think of January we neither pray nor even think of him when we begin something new. However, with the New Year we often think of beginnings – and endings. We look back at both successes and failures as we look forward to what is ahead.

I would harbor to guess that many of you have already made New Year resolutions - probably a strong wish to change something. We may have a desire to be a better person this year than last.

As you look to the New Year remember the lessons of the past. What did you learn in this past year? What lessons are you going to take with you? Remember what you have learned. Remember to lean upon the faith that God has given you. Ask God for His direction as you move to this New Year.

What's your point?

AIRMEN NEED TO KEEP TRACK OF R/R STATUS

908th MPF Customer Service

To have a good year for retirement a member must earn at least 50 points during their retention/retirement (R/R) year. Each reservist is given 15 points for membership in a Reserve status, so they only have to accumulate a minimum of 35 points to earn a good year for retirement. These points can be earned in any number of ways.

Airmen can earn one point for each day of active duty, four hours of inactive duty training (not to exceed two points per calendar day) and for each three study hours of military correspondence courses. Airmen can earn 15 membership points (prorate points for periods less than a year) are awarded for a full R/R year.

Active-duty points: One point per day, while serving in an active-duty status

Inactive Duty Points: One point for each four-hour period of each unit training assembly or equivalent instruction, not to exceed two points per day. Funeral Honors duty is performed at a minimum of two hours, earning one point per day. While some Reserve sections require paid inactive duty training, inactive duty for points only (non pay) can be earned in authorized activities.

Nonresident extension course points: One point for every three study hours.

When it comes to crediting points and satisfactory Federal service, Airmen are credited with a year of satisfactory Federal service for re-

tirement when they earn a minimum of 50 points (including membership points) in a full (R/R) year.

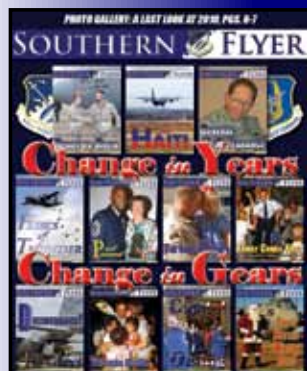
Establishment of a R/R date: A R/R year begins on one day of one year and ends on the preceding day of the next year. For example, July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011.

To review your ANG/USAFR Point Credit Summary and make copies of your point credit information, go to the vMPF at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/VS/>, at least 60 days after R/R year closeout. Under "Self Service Actions", select "Personal Data," then select "ANG/USAFR Point Credit Summary Inquiry" (PCARS) and finally select "View All."

If, after viewing your points you see discrepancies, you can make Point Credit Corrections/Audits by accessing the vMPF at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/VS/> to view their points and service history. If errors are identified, members can access the vPC-GR at <https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/default.asp> dashboard and submit supporting documents through the Correct Retirement Points History link.

This application provides you with the capability to request changes or corrections to current R/R year points or service history. It is your responsibility, when requesting a correction, to submit documentation (i.e. DD 214, NGB 23B, Sister Service Point Summary, LES, Certified Travel Voucher, Certified Orders, etc.) to support the change.

You can also visit MPF Customer Service section for assistance.



SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Before proceeding into the New Year, we thought we'd check our six one last time. The January cover contains the cover of each month's Southern Flyer from 2010.

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 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 unit training assembly.

The submission deadline for articles or information is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA. Send inquiries and submissions to 908AW/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell 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.

Getting a grip on the group

COL. PETE PETERSON TAKES REINS OF MISSION SUPPORT

Air Force photos/Gene H. Hughes

Colonel Pete Peterson, new commander of the 908th Mission Support Group, is setting the bar high for his Reservists. Below, one of his first official acts was the stand up of the 908th Force Support Squadron, commanded by Maj. Sara Butler.

By Gene H. Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

SF: Tell us about your background.

Col. P: Personally, I am originally from Greenville, Miss., where I attended Mississippi Valley State University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Industrial Technology in the area of Electronic Engineering. I'm also married to a beautiful young lady from Trinidad, West Indies in the Caribbean.

Professionally, I've been in the military for 26 years, 22 of which I've served as a commander of various units. I served on Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's staff during Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield. More recently, I deployed to Kyrgyzstan and served as the 376th Mission Support Group Deputy Commander.

SF: This is your first group command. What are your first impressions?

Elated, absolutely elated. First of all I am so grateful to my Lord and Savior for giving me this opportunity. Through His grace, I plan on work-

ing hard for the men and women of the wing, forging and improving on the excellent relationship we presently enjoy with host base.

I'm also grateful to the 908th leadership (Cols. Clark and Shepherd) for believing in me

SF: What are your expectations?

Col. P: (For our people) to do their best, in their job, always putting service before self. More importantly, I expect our people to be open and honest, moving with a "sincere" sense of urgency to assist wing personnel, regardless of their issue. How can they do that? By knowing "intimately," and always improving on, their job and the processes within their respective areas.

I have been totally impressed with the desire and professionalism of the men and women of the 908th since my assignment last month. I sense a strong desire in each Airman to reach for a level of perfection in the way they perform their jobs. That, coupled with my desire to deliver on

customer service will undoubtedly lead to an improved wing, supporting the best group of men and women in the Air Force.

SF: What do you want from the rest of the wing to help your people accomplish their mission?

Col. P: Understanding and patience as we delve into all of our processes and the way we do business that will result in better service.

SF: What is your goal for the group?

Col. P: Simply, to be the best within 22d, AFRC, and beyond; to raise the bar across all areas of services, from force support and communications services to civil engineering and security forces.



APS 'train' gets new conductor

By Gene H. Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

Standing before the assembled Airmen immediately following her taking the helm of the 25th Aerial Port Squadron, Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer offered a unique insight into her thinking as the new commander.

She explained that throughout her life, one book has been a great inspiration and guidance through all of life's peaks and valleys. She then produced a copy of the literary work that she claimed to have read more than 200 times in the last four years -- *The Little Engine That Could*.

"Believe it or not, it may be the first children's book on logistics," she said. "But for me, it comes down to three main messages: Getting the mission accomplished, striving to always do the right thing and always having a great attitude."

The new commander focused on the unique and inspiring heritage of the unit, its reputation and why it stands out, showing that just because she was new to the job didn't mean she hadn't done her research.

"After the Siege of Bastogne Belgium in 1945, half of the unit was reassigned with no change in the mission. In spite of being half of its strength, the unit won praise for its work in aerial resupply and loaded more planes than any other unit.

"The historian that documented the history of our heritage went on to say this about the unit, 'The men



Air Force photo/Gene H. Hughes

"Some people believe aerial ports just move people and equipment. I've even heard aerial porters describe their own job as 'pushing pallets.' We do much more than that!"

— Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer
25th APS commander

have but one concern and this is to do what the Army Air Force requires of them to speed victory. This is what they've done and more."

As a former tanker airlift control element commander and operations officer, Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer has been around the globe. She calls these tours "the good old days," when she was constantly on alert and many times didn't know where she would lay her head from one night to the next.

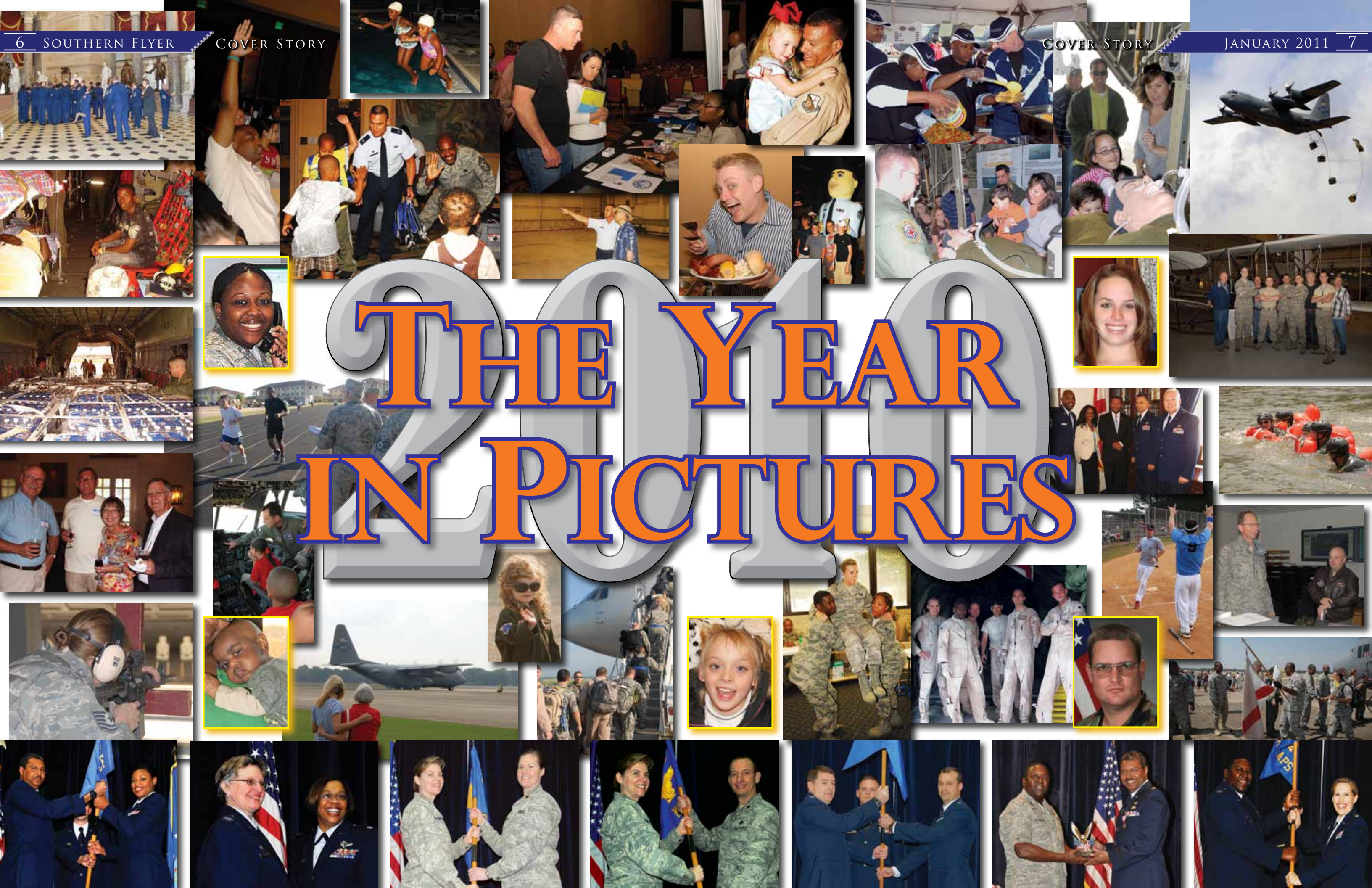
She traveled to places like Cape Town, South Africa, supporting then-President Bill Clinton's tour of Africa. She was present when President Clinton met Nelson Mandela, the first time in history a U.S. President visited South Africa.

She's also worked on the Air Staff, a tour which provided her a

special insight into the inner workings of the government, the painful budget process and the ripple effects of the legislative process from Washington to Air Force Reservists.

"As a new commander, I think it's important for me to be able to articulate the challenges our nation currently faces and how these challenges can and will effect each of us that serve in the military, from a strategic/global perspective to things like military pay and our retirement benefits," she said. "As a logistician myself, I've witnessed and believe aerial porters truly move the mission! I intend to keep this long tradition in accomplishing the mission. As we say in the 25th APS, 'anytime, anywhere.'"

"I know we'll make a great team and I look forward to working with each and every one of you."



THE YEAR IN PICTURES

908th volunteers spread Christmas cheer

908th AW Public Affairs

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing shared the spirit of the season, giving of themselves to members of the community during the December UTA.

Wingmen of the logistics readiness squadron (LRS) delivered Christmas presents to a young mother in her early 20s with four small children who had recently left a domestic abuse situation.

"This year we wanted to do something as a squadron to give back to the community," said Captain Tonia Stephens. "This was an opportunity to emphasize that together we can make a difference and touch the lives of others in a positive way. We don't know how fortunate we are."

The squadron worked with representatives from the Christmas Clearing House in Montgomery to Adopt-A-Family. The organization is a coordinated effort that works to



Airman Britney Cassidy, Senior Airman Melissa Hamilton and Tech. Sgt. Tifarah Boyd prepare vegetables for the evening meal at the Salvation Army shelter near Maxwell AFB.

ensure that more people in need are able to share in the joy of Christmas.

"Sharing joy with the family was a very heart-warming experience", shared Master Sgt. Vera Berry, who dressed as "Mrs. Clause" for the occasion. "I am hopeful that this can be done for many years to come."

In another example of seasonal giving, Airmen from the force support squadron volunteered to help prepare meals and deliver clothing to people in need for the Salvation Army.

Senior Master Sgt. Roy said Airmen benefited from the experience as well as the shelter.

"I believe we came back with a fonder appreciation of how fortunate and blessed we are to not only have our jobs, food on the table and a roof over our heads but also the refreshing feeling of being able to further serve by giving back to the community," she said.

Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder contributed to this story

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY IS?

SUBMIT IDT TRAVEL ORDERS, VOUCHERS BEFORE ENTITLEMENT EXPIRES

SSgt Mary Evelyn Baxter
908th FM

Do you have a military pay question? Do you have a problem with your travel voucher? Are you perplexed by something that is on your Leave and Earnings Statement (LES)? Well, your Reserve Pay Office is here to help you. If you don't know how to print a copy of your LES, you can go to myPay via the AF Portal or <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> and print a copy of your LES there.

If you do not have a pin/password you can use "Forgot/Need Password" option or call (888) DFAS-411. If you don't have a copy of your orders, you can access ARROWS to print your orders via the AF Portal as well. If it is your first time using ARROWS, the instructions for your username/password are on the home page. Help us help you by bringing your LES or orders with you when you come to our office. This will expedite your request and assist in answering your military pay or travel questions/problems.

Get your IDT travel orders and vouchers into the pay office now as the current IDT travel reimbursement

entitlement will be expiring on Dec. 31, 2010. Unless a Congressional Bill is passed that extends the deadline beyond the end of December, or grandfathers the entitlement when the FY11 authorization is passed, there will be no more claiming reimbursement for Inactive Duty Training (IDT) related travel.

The reimbursement covered up to \$300 in actual costs incurred by Reserve members who performed UTAs, RMPs, AFTPs, and GTPs and met the specific eligibility as defined by HQ AFRC/A1. These eligibility requirements included those impacted by BRAC, PDB 720 or critical AFSCs selected based upon command manning levels, hard fill career fields, and mission capability rates. A letter from your Squadron Commander listing all eligible members must be on file with the 908th Reserve Pay Office in order to be able to file for IDT reimbursement.

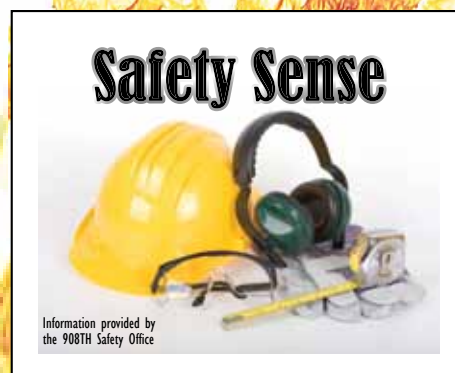
Please take note and disseminate the pertinent information provided as it could impact personnel within your squadron. Arm yourself with these tools so you can always be aware of your money and what is going on with it. Remember knowing is half the battle.

KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING, NOT THE HOME

No matter what type of device you use to heat your home, making sure your heating devices/systems are in good working order is an important fire safety tip. After all, many things can go wrong with heating equipment. Verify that everything you need to keep your home warm throughout winter is in good working order before you experience the first cold snap of the season.

Central Heating System Safety

◆ Get your central heating system cleaned, inspected and serviced by a certified HVAC (heating, venting and air con-



ditioning) contractor every year before using it.

◆ If you have a gas heater, make sure that you have a sufficient quantity of fully functioning carbon monoxide detectors installed in your home.

Space Heater Safety

- ◆ Make sure that all space heaters have at least three feet of empty space around them.
- ◆ Never place clothing or any other objects on a space heater to dry.
- ◆ Do not place space heaters near furniture or drapery.
- ◆ Turn space heaters off when you leave the house or go to bed.
- ◆ Avoid storing any combustible items near heaters.

Fireplace Safety

- ◆ Get your chimney inspected each year to make sure that it is safe.
- ◆ Hire a chimney sweep to clean

out your chimney every fall.

- ◆ Repair any cracks in fireplaces.
- ◆ Use fireplace screens to keep sparks and fire debris inside the fireplace.
- ◆ Do not ever use gasoline to start a fire in the fireplace.
- ◆ Never leave a fire unattended. Make sure that combustible materials are not stored within three feet of your fireplace.
- ◆ For natural gas fireplaces, get all connections and lines inspected before use each season.
- ◆ Remember that outdoor fireplaces can be just as dangerous as indoor units, and observe all safety precautions when using them.

Family Fire Safety Tips

- ◆ Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire.
- ◆ Make sure young children know how to dial 911.
- ◆ Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home.
- ◆ Practice stop, drop and roll with your children so they learn how to escape beneath a fire.
- ◆ Teach everyone in your family multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.
- ◆ Make sure that there is a sufficient quantity of smoke detectors in your home.

- ◆ Verify each month that smoke detectors are in working order.
- ◆ Make sure everyone in the family knows how to use a fire extinguisher.
- ◆ Do not place lit candles where they can be reached by children.
- ◆ Never leave burning candles unattended.
- ◆ Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep.
- ◆ Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove.
- ◆ Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove.
- ◆ Make sure all flammable substances are properly stored and out of reach of youngsters.

Welcome Newcomers!

Maj. Jamey Wright, 357 AS
Capt. Pamelyn Stuckey, ASTS
2nd Lt. Jessica Stone, SFS
TSgt. Jay Ponder, AW
SrA Henry Grayson, SFS
SrA Paul McGowan, OG
SrA Kelley Tyler, MXS
A1C Cody Boyd, SFS

A1C Robert L. Daniel, MXS
A1C Barie Hamilton, AES
A1C James F. Mayo III, LRS
AB Kevin A. Clark, SFS
AB Demetrius Kimbrough, AW
AB Justin M. Sasser SFS
AB Clifford Strawder

DID YOU KNOW?

Plan can take care of families

In the event that you are called to military duty, the wing needs to ensure that your family members receive adequate care, support, and supervision in your absence. A Family Care Plan outlines the person or persons who will provide any necessary care for your family members in your absence due to your duty requirements.

The plan outlines the legal, medical, logistical (i.e. food, housing, transportation), educational, monetary, and religious arrangements for the care of your family members. It must be very detailed and systematic to provide a smooth, rapid transfer of responsibilities to the person(s) who will be providing care and support to your loved ones.

All members of the Air Force will have family care plans that would reasonably cover all short- and long-term situations. However, only the

personnel addressed in AFI 36-2908 para 1.2 must document their family care plans on the AF Form 357 and an additional information attachment form and have them maintained by the commander or first sergeant.

Paragraph 1.2 of AFI 36-2908 states that AF Form 357 is required to be completed by single parents, (for unmarried children under 19) dual military couples with family members, and members with civilian spouses or other adult family members who are not capable of providing care for themselves and reside in the household with the member.

If you don't fall into any of these categories at the present time, just keep this in mind for the future. If you have changes in your status that might require a Family Care Plan, please notify your first sergeant immediately.

SENIOR NCO LEADERSHIP COURSE

A Senior NCO Leadership Course will be given Jan. 29 and 30, 2011 in the classroom of Bldg. 1055. The 16 hours of instruction is open to pay grades E-7 through E-9.

The purpose is to provide SNCOs

the opportunity to explore in-depth communication, trust, teamwork, and current AFRC leadership issues and initiatives. Attendees conduct a personalized assessment of their own abilities and skills.



ENLISTED

Master Sergeant



Barbara A. Owens

Technical Sergeant



James G. Greenhow Jr.
Durwin H. Law

Staff Sergeant



David C. Baxter
Chad K. Green

Senior Airman



Jessica H. Henderson
Marquel D. Jones
Alan S. Thompson

Airman First Class



Ashley N. Bailey
Shaquoyah D. Brazzley

Airman



Sierra Autumn Don Chiz
Timothy E. Bennett Jr.
Kevin A. Clark Jr.
Justin M. Sasser
Zachary B. Stanford
Clifford J. Strawder

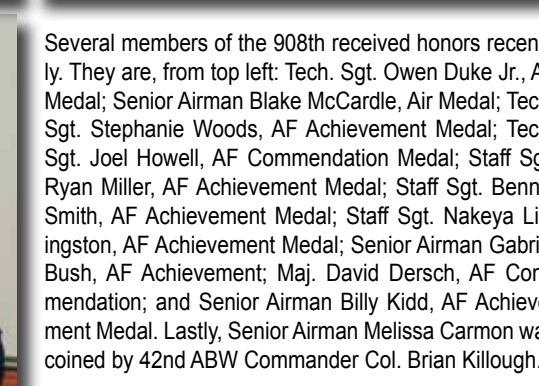
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TO THE FAMILY OF:



Several members of the 908th received honors recently. They are, from top left: Tech. Sgt. Owen Duke Jr., Air Medal; Senior Airman Blake McCardle, Air Medal; Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Woods, AF Achievement Medal; Tech. Sgt. Joel Howell, AF Commendation Medal; Staff Sgt. Ryan Miller, AF Achievement Medal; Staff Sgt. Bennie Smith, AF Achievement Medal; Staff Sgt. Nakeya Livingston, AF Achievement Medal; Senior Airman Gabriel Bush, AF Achievement; Maj. David Dersch, AF Commendation; and Senior Airman Billy Kidd, AF Achievement Medal. Lastly, Senior Airman Melissa Carmon was coined by 42nd ABW Commander Col. Brian Killough.