

INSIDE: SPECIAL PULL-OUT PHOTOS OF AUBIE & BIG AL

SOUTHERN FLYER



908th Airlift Wing celebrates

Family Day 2011



Also In This Issue:

ASTS NURSE RECALLS TORNADO

MXG AIRMAN TOPS 22ND AF LIST

357TH AS COMMANDER BIDS FAREWELL

AIR FORCE RESERVE

908TH AIRLIFT WING, MAXWELL AFB

JUNE 2011

SOUTHERN
FLYER

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908th will always be home

“My home’s in Alabama, no matter where I lay my head” is a great lyric from a great song, by the great country group, Alabama, and it sums up how I feel as my tenure with the 908th comes to an end; for the 908th will always be where I call home, even though the time has come for another chapter in my professional life.

I joined the 357th Airlift Squadron on Oct. 1, 1997 and for the last 13.5 years I have worked with the 908th family, taking care of the mission whenever and wherever needed. I was barely out of unit indoctrination when I was asked to be a part of the first “Big Drop” exercise, and the next thing I knew, I was in Panama on our last Oak rotation learning what HOROKO and peacock bass were.

The rest has been an amazing blur of ORIs, Oaks, Forges, activations, staff meetings, and planning meetings, culminating with the incredible opportunity to command the finest C-130 squadron in the Air Force.

As I prepare to hand over the reins to my good friend and fraterni-

ty brother, Lt. Col. Craig Drescher, my heart is heavy with the thought of saying good-bye to so many fellow

airmen that I have the greatest amount of respect for. I have worked with almost every organization in the wing in some capacity and am grateful for the opportunity to serve with you all.

My maintenance brethren have kept me safe for thousands of flight hours and exemplify the core value

of “service before self.” I have never doubted the aircraft status when it was time to “Clear Number 3 Engine,” and I thank you for your efforts.

Lastly, to the proud men and women of the 357th Airlift Squadron, words can’t express the gratitude and honor I feel as part of your family. We have watched children grow up, celebrated family joys, prayed over family losses, and endured combat together. And together, we have continued the proud tradition of answering our nation’s call when needed.

I salute you all and wish you God’s speed, as I depart for the Force Generation Center at HQ AFRC.

— “Snip”



LT. COL. SCOTT HAYES
Commander, 357th AS

A MOMENT WITH THE
CHAPLAIN

CH. (MAJ.) JAMIE DANFORD

A couple of days before last month’s UTA the south experienced epic storms. The tornadoes produced by these storms have been said to be the worst in recent memory for folks in the region, and especially in Alabama. As everyone is aware, we had a number of our Airmen directly affected by the storms and probably all of us were affected in the periphery.

The devastation boggles the mind. Those in the military expect to deal with destruction in our job – but when it happens here at home it is hard to grasp.

Even though we experienced the destruction we also witnessed the best of humanity as well. While it was a quick call we raised quite a bit of money to give to the members across the wing. Much more was also given directly to those affected by the men and women in their units. We showed what it means to be friends and family – to reach out and help each other in the time of need.

However, rebuilding efforts will not happen overnight. Even though by the time you read this a month will have passed, many are still dealing with the aftermath. Let us continue to listen and support each other as the rebuilding takes place. To those who were impacted – please ask for help. It is not a sign of weakness to admit that you need to talk.

May we continue to help each other and continue to hold all in our prayers.

Money Matters\$

Hurricane Season 2011:
Can your funds float you?

Take proper steps in case evacuation is called

By SrA Cynthia Fogelman
908th FM

of the day dependants leave for the safe haven site.

Hurricane season officially begins June 1. Should a hurricane impact the Gulf Coast, it may become necessary to evacuate potentially affected areas.

If evacuation is necessary, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense or other designated official will announce and determine a safe haven location. Evacuation orders may apply to military members and/or their dependants and civilian employees and/or their dependants.

Once a location is identified, evacuees will either be provided transportation or authorized reimbursement. When they have arrived at the safe haven location allowances to offset expenses, due to evacuation, will be provided by the safe haven servicing finance office.

Dependants will need to file travel vouchers at the Financial Center closest to the safe haven site. Allowance funding is usually paid every 30 days. If this occurs, the members’ BAS will stay the same, COLA stops as soon as the dependants depart the COLA location and the member will be entitled to family separation pay as

Virtual Finance

Before calling Finance for answers to basic financial questions, check out the virtual finance website link on the AF Portal. Information available includes: direct access to the government travel card, frequently asked finance questions, and Instant Advice to name just a few.

The Instant Advice link in particular is very helpful, as it covers many financial topics and is a source of much information.

Finance Office

Be prepared! When you are coming to finance for any reason, make sure that you bring all the documentation that you will need.

If you are unsure of what you will need, ASK. The process will go much quicker and smoother if you already have everything that you need at the time of your visit.

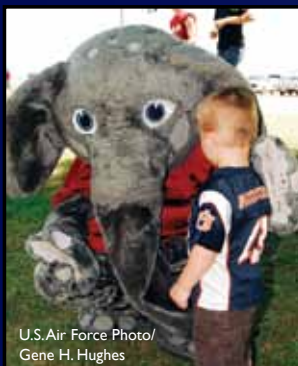
Members with pay questions should bring their latest Leave and Earnings Statement.

Members with travel questions should have a copy of their travel claims and paid vouchers if available.

SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

Big Al, mascot of the Crimson Tide of the University of Alabama attempts to get a hug from a young Auburn University fan at the recent 908th Airlift Wing Family Day.



U.S. Air Force Photo/
Gene H. Hughes

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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.



Above, Maj. Cynthia Lewis of the 908th ASTS examines one of her photos of the devastation caused by the April 27 tornado in Tuscaloosa (side panels). Below, an aerial view of the cyclone's path, taken from a 908th Airlift Wing C-130.



Alabama hammered

'Tuscaloosa Twister' impacts 908th, ASTS provider

By Gene H. Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

As a provider for the 908th ASTS and as a nurse practitioner in her civilian life, Major Cynthia Lewis has seen a lot. That didn't prepare her for what she saw in the aftermath of the deadliest natural disaster to hit the state in more than a half century.

Between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m. on April 27, a wedge tornado measuring about a mile wide struck northern Alabama, wreaking destruction all the way from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham. Although no member of the 908th was seriously injured, one lost family members and several sustained either minor loss or significant property damage.

In all, almost 250 Alabamians lost their lives, with more than 330,000 residents experiencing power loss.

For Maj. Lewis, it began when her sister woke her up as the sirens



Air Force photo/Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb

began to go off, telling her to take cover because the massive funnel was just two streets from her house.

"We started hearing this loud roaring, so we put the kids in the bathtub," she said. "I peeked outside, and it was jet black like midnight, and the windowpanes were shaking. After a few minutes, it became bright, clear and sunny, but you could hear the roaring for a long time."

Upon venturing out into her neighborhood, Maj. Lewis was overwhelmed with the destruction the vortex had wrought.

"Everything was reduced to rubble," Maj. Lewis said. "You couldn't tell what it was anymore."

She said she felt bad because movement was restricted and she wasn't able to use her skills to help ... until the next day, when she and three other nurses helped a group of residents looking for a 5-year-old girl.

"They had heard cries that morning, but hadn't found her," she said. "She was found under a couch, and you normally feel for a pulse, but I had touched her, and she was cold as ice."

Driving soon after, Maj. Lewis started to cry and had to pull over. She and her children came down to Montgomery because, she said, she just had to get away. At the unit, they spoke with psychiatric technicians about their experience.

"I think it's very important to talk about it," Maj. Lewis said. "It hurts my heart that people didn't take warning. I think I'll be sensitive about it for a while. There's so much devastation. Tuscaloosa will never be the same."

By Gene H. Hughes, 908th AW Public Affairs



Newly promoted Staff Sgt. Michael Campbell secures a panel under the wing of 'The City of Montgomery.' The AMXS member was recently named 2010 Airman of the Year for 22nd Air Force.

Air Force photo by/Gene H. Hughes

Wingman is 22 AF's top Airman for 2010

By Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder
908th AW Public Affairs

Before adding the first rocker of a staff noncommissioned officer to his senior airman stripes, Staff Sgt. Michael Campbell received word that he would be leaving his previous rank on a high note.

The member of the 908th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was selected as the 22nd Air Force's Airman of the Year for 2010.

He first received the 908th's Airman of the Quarter award, and next was selected from the quarterly winners as 908th Airman of the Year which placed him into contention for the numbered air force honor.

When competing for awards, the submission of a phenomenal package makes all the difference, as Chief Master Sgt. Leon Alexander, superintendent for the 908th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, can attest. He said several aspects of an airman's contributions are considered.

"The foundation of the packet includes completion of AF Form 1206, (nomination for award), examples of leadership, community service and exhibiting significant self-improvement," he explained.

One of Airman Campbell's noteworthy accomplishments that set him apart was his completion of the Joint Services Senior Non-commis-

sioned Officer PME.

"He is the only airman in the command so far to have completed it," said Chief Alexander, "Senior Airman Campbell has also completed his CCAF Associates degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technology this year, maintaining a 3.8 Grade Point Average and scoring a 92 on the end-of-course exam on his CDCs."

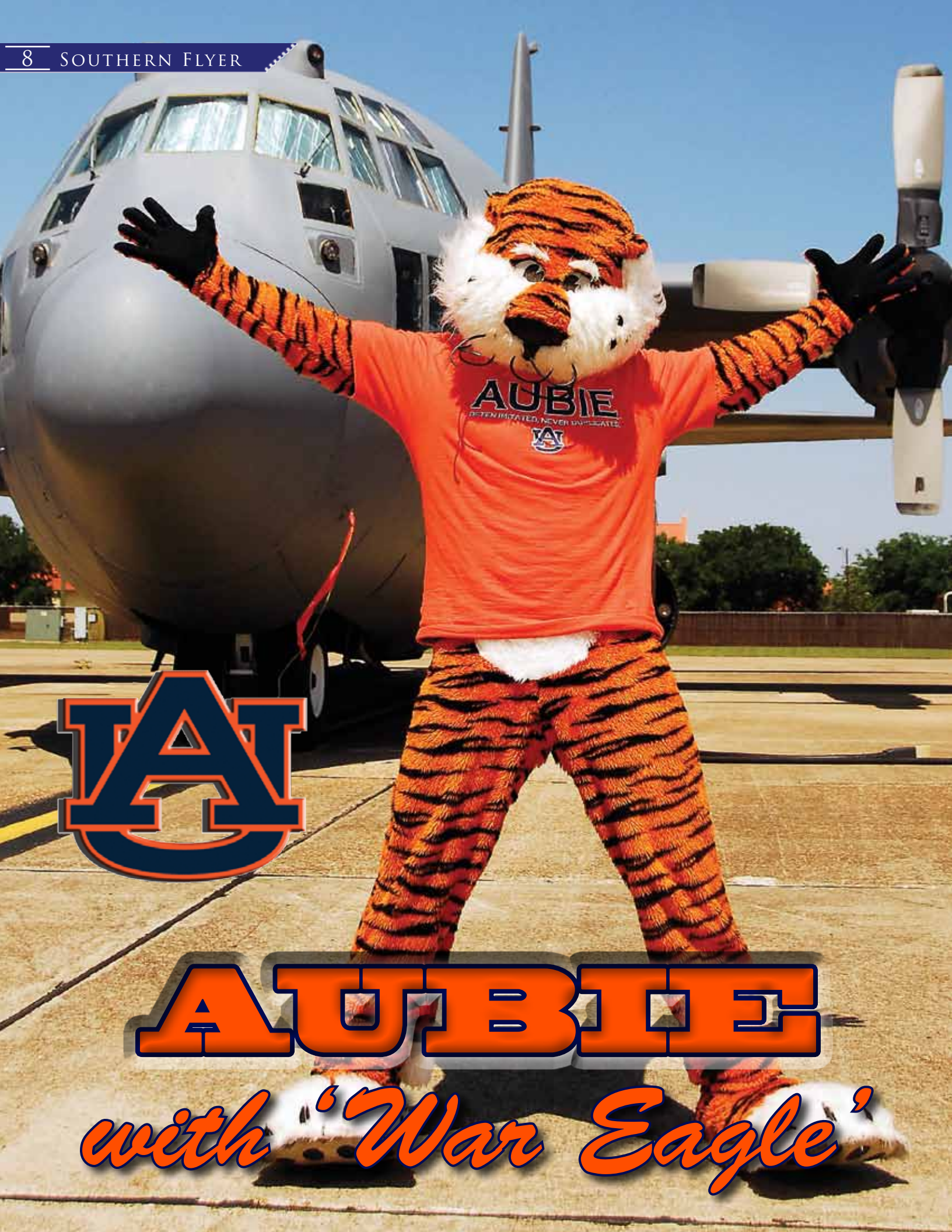
Airman Campbell finds the time to volunteer with a missionary organization in Atlanta and also mentors handicapped children. Finishing up a well-rounded resume, he participated in 'Arctic Care' and in Humanitarian missions to Haiti last year.

Fun, Food Family Day 2011 & Furry Friends



Air Force photos by
Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb, Gene H. Hughes
and Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder





AUBIE
with 'War Eagle'



BIG AL
with 'Roll Tide'



A WING UNITED

BUSINESS INSIDE THE BELTWAY



Wing Commander Col. Brett Clark, Command Chief Master Sgt. Cameron Kirksey, and Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with members of Alabama's congressional delegation. Clockwise from upper left, the 908th team meets with Reps. Martha Roby, Spencer Bachus and Mike Rogers. Above, Col. Clark explains the wing's MILCON needs with Pete Landrum, senior defense policy advisor for Sen. Jeff Sessions, who paid a recent visit to Maxwell.

AFRC boss visits 908th



Lt. Gen. Charles Stenner, AFRC commander, recently visited the 908th, where he was greeted by base and wing leaders before speaking to members on the state of the Air Force Reserve.

SOUTHERN FLYER CAPTION CONTEST



This month, third place goes to SrA Brandi Walker for "WOW! There are people who really care about what I do, little ol' me." Second is awarded to Lt. Col. Steve Catchings for "Is this going to happen every time I wear a flightsuit? Cool!" First place goes to CMSgt. Owen Duke for "Really, it was nothing at all; I have done plenty of barrel rolls in a C-130."

MAY CAPTION CONTEST

Airmen, alums and friends of the 908th AW, what does this photo say to you? If you think you can devise a clever caption, send your submission to the Public Affairs Office at 908aw.pa2@maxwell.af.mil

The winner will be published in next month's issue of the Southern Flyer



Comm Check: Keep personal info off the skyline

Information provided by 908th Comm Flight

In today's society, there are really bad people that take advantage of innocent everyday occurrences such as throwing away junk mail that may have been delivered with your personal identifiable information (PII). Many people have had their identity stolen, credit card accounts activated, or bank accounts emptied because information was obtained in one or two pieces of mail.

The same is true on the world wide web. Electronic mail (e-mail) is often scanned for PII and used to hack into e-mail accounts, apply for lines of credit, and sometimes even worse illegal activities. We MUST stay vigilant of all activities that may expose ourselves to unnecessary risk of delivering and/or receiving PII without safeguards.

The Privacy Act and AFI 33-119 provides guidance and mandates all information that contains PII be protected. EPRs, OPRs, awards, Form 2096s, and recall rosters all contain much more personal information than you would want to make available to the average joe.

When transmitting such information via e-mail follow these steps:

1. Include For Official Use Only ("FOUO") at the beginning of the subject line.
2. Add the following statement at the BEGINNING of the email content: "This e-mail contains For Official Use Only (FOUO) information which must be protected under the Privacy Act and AFI 33-332". We want the reader to know that this is just for the reader before the email is read ... not after the fact.
3. Digitally sign and encrypt the e-mail. For instructions on how to digitally sign and encrypt emails contact the 908 CF Helpdesk at 953-9703.
4. Remind others to protect PII of fellow members. The one that benefits the most from the reminder, may just be you!



101 Critical Days of Summer: Don't rock the boat



Information provided by 908th Safety Office

NOTE: This article is a continuation of our "101 Critical Days of Summer" series.

With nearly 17 million registered vessels operating nationwide, boaters are at an increasing risk of suffering serious injury or death.

National Safe Boating Week takes place May 21-27, so it's the perfect time to examine safety procedures that reduce on-the-water accidents.

BOATING SAFETY TIPS

Boating can be a great way to get away and relax. The following

tips can help make boating safer and more enjoyable:

- ◆ Take a boating safety course.
- ◆ Know your boat's load limit and don't exceed it. A safe boat is a well-equipped boat. Always carry the necessary safety gear and know how to use it.
- ◆ Know how to swim and spend time on the water.
- ◆ Keep life jackets visible and accessible. Never make someone feel uncomfortable if they choose to wear a lifejacket.
- ◆ Don't drink while boating.

- ◆ Check the weather before setting out; avoid being surprised.
- ◆ Put together your own safety kit. Include: an oar, flashlight, first aid kit, and bailing bucket.
- ◆ Wear light rubber soled shoes. They won't slip as easily and won't weigh you down if you have to swim.
- ◆ Give way to less maneuverable craft. Your wake could upset them. Never motor through swimming areas. Be alert for divers.
- ◆ Always be sure that at least one person on board knows how to operate the boat.

On The Web: North American Safe Boating Campaign: www.safeboatingcampaign.com Alabama Boating License Online: www.boaterexam.com/usa/alabama

Welcome Newcomers!

Maj. Marley Crabtree, AES
SrA Kurt W. Butler, 25 APS

AB Luke A. Green, 25 APS
Amn Robert E. Johnson, MXS

Retirement Requests 2010-11

Senior Master Sgt. Jurgen Kropp
Senior Master Sgt. James P. Williams
Master Sgt. Loyce A. Byrd
Master Sgt. Kenneth E. Carter
Master Sgt. Terry W. Calhoun
Master Sgt. Jose M. Garcia
Master Sgt. Joe B. Houston

Master Sgt. Cyrus J. Jones
Master Sgt. Larry G. Parker
Master Sgt. Sonya Y. Wallace
Master Sgt. Woodrow Washington III
Tech. Sgt. Anita M. Gray
Tech. Sgt. Erich J. Halbert
Tech. Sgt. David W. Barber

BRIEFS

Baseball, Burgers & BBQ

The 908th has an opportunity to reserve the Boxcar Buffet at the Montgomery Biscuits' Riverwalk Stadium on Aug. 6 at 7 p.m.

Tickets (great centerfield location) are \$23 for adults and \$18 for children ages two and above (children two and under are free). The fee includes all-you-can-eat, one-third-pound hamburgers, freshly grilled hot dogs, quartered barbecued chickens, Polish sausage, baked beans, potato and pasta salad and all-you-can-drink Coca-Cola products.

The wing must commit to the purchase of 60 tickets, but as many who want to attend can be accommodated. Those wanting to take part need to RSVP and pay by close of the June UTA.

AFRC offers ART 101 course

AFRC Professional Development Center (PDC) is offering a new "ART 101 Course," which replaces the old ART Orientation Course with a week-long, in-resident course. The first class is scheduled for June 20-24 and will take place monthly at the PDC.

The course is designed to prepare new ARTs, officers and enlisted to effectively and efficiently perform their new roles and responsibilities in support of mission requirements, as well as develop an appreciation of the ARTs' importance.

In October, the course will become a mandatory requirement for new ARTs. For more information, contact the Education and Training office at 953-6771/6678.



ENLISTED

Master Sergeant



Joseph C. Denman

Technical Sergeant



Jonathan S. Butterbaugh
Keondrick T. Johnson
Jessica L. McKinney
Wendell Oliver
Thomas G. Speight

Staff Sergeant



Melodee L. Jackson
Angela L. Burton

Senior Airman



Joshua Hall
Cory D. Ledesma
Joshua T. Stolley

Congratulations!

If you have any story suggestions, photos you'd like to share, or any ideas that can improve the Southern Flyer or the 908th's website and Facebook page, contact the Public Affairs Office at 953-7874

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