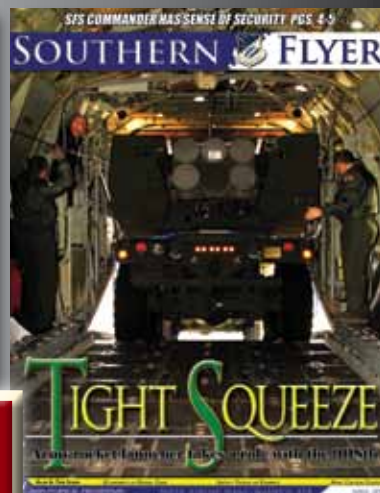
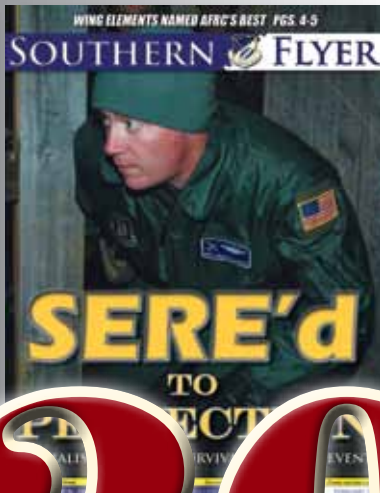
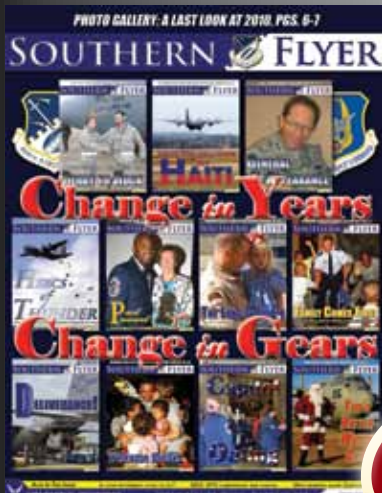
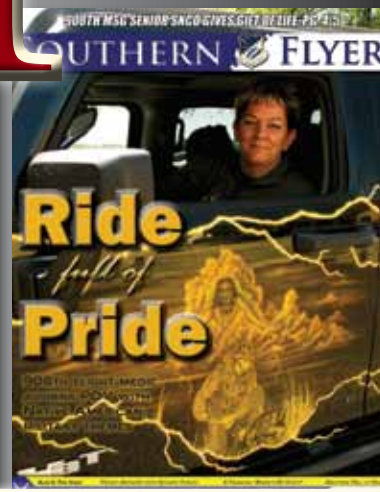
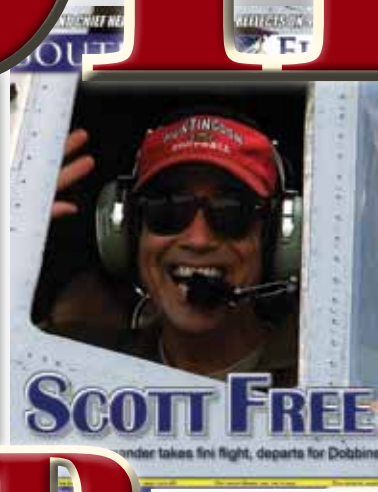
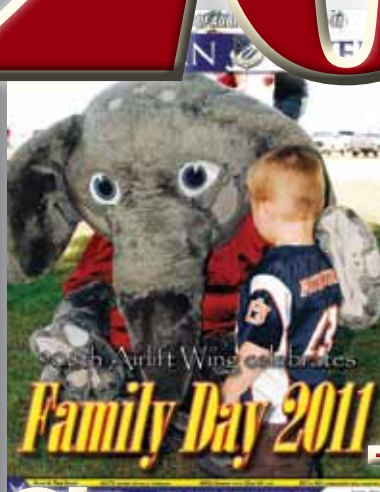


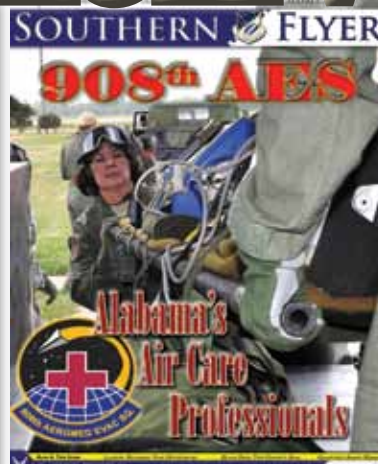
SOUTHERN FLYER



2011



PASS IN REVIEW



SOUTHERN
FLYER

Vol. 50 Issue 01
January 2012

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2012: A Year of Excellence

Ready... Always! This motto has long represented the 908th Airlift Wing's commitment to bringing combat airlift and aeromedical evacuation anywhere on the globe.

In 2011, it was reflected in the wing filling 561 deployment positions overseas and in the U.S., and in the generation of more than 2,200 tactical airlift flying hours.

So what does "Ready... Always!" mean for 2012? Fortunately for most of us, it does not mean another trip overseas. Although our CE Squadron is preparing for deployment, the rest of the wing will be gearing up to for inspections. This year will be a time to prepare the wing for June's Unit Compliance Inspection, the Logistics Compliance Assessment Program, and Health Services Inspection and an Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Visit.

"Ready... Always!" will mean that almost to a person, our focus will change from readying for operations in a contingency environment to readying our programs and strengthening our compliance efforts at home.

This wing absolutely excels at performing our wartime tasking apart from the base. This year's challenge will be putting that same level of commitment and professionalism into the less glamorous aspects of our job. While it might not be as exciting to finalize your family care plan as it is to load the back of a C-130, we're going to have to do it. Supervisors will need to spend as much time with training records as in the air training to enhance our combat capabilities.

Excellence is not only measured in how well we accomplish our wartime tasking, but also how well we administer the supporting programs that get us there. This is where the 908th Airlift Wing will show its depth of excellence. We not only accomplish the mission, but we also take care of our people by tirelessly working the details of commander's programs, newcomer's orientation, medical readiness, and family programs.

For 2012, "Ready... Always!" means that we will be ready to show our excellence in every aspect of our mission.



COL. CAULEY VON HOFFMAN
Commander, 908th MXG



SOUTHERN FLYER

COVER PHOTO:

As we pause to catch our breath before going wheels up on the new year, the Southern Flyer takes a look back at 2011, and the cover of 2012's first issue shows the covers of the past year.

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.

A MOMENT WITH THE
CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) JUAN SCOTT

The year 2012 has arrived, with an opportunity to make a fresh start. Okay, let's all breathe in, and exhale together s-l-o-w-l-y as we anticipate the great things in store for us this year. Did I mention I am a person who views life from a "half-ull" rather than "half-empty" perspective? Well now that I have your attention, let's prepare for the best year of our lives.

First, begin with a plan. Plans have names like resolutions, goals, and objectives. Vow to make one and check your progress often.

As a wing, there is one major event -- the Compliance Inspection -- which we will begin preparing for this UTA. We already know our desire for an "excellent" rating in this inspection, but that will only come through planning and execution of necessary tasks.

On a more personal note, your desire may be to raise your fitness test score this year. You have the power to make that happen by resolving to eat better and committing (there's that word) to more exercise.

Next, I challenge you to remove yourself from the culture of immediate gratification that has robbed us of our patience and the ability to enjoy life one moment and day at a time. Finally, remember this phrase, "And it came to pass"... otherwise interpreted, "it did not come to stay."

Decide today that your future will be greater than your past.

Happy New Year, 908th!



MOBILITY'S MAIN MAN VISITS MAXWELL
General Raymond Johns, head of Air Mobility Command, recently paid a visit to the 908th Airlift Wing. Gen. Johns received a command briefing, then toured the operations and maintenance facilities, where he spoke with several Airmen about their jobs, quality of training, and concerns about the future. Above, Master Sgt. Teresa Lapcheske gives the general a description of the nondestructive inspection lab's five-year turnaround from failure to USAF NDI Lab of the Year in 2009.

Download & Repeat
Old Leave & Earnings data is at your fingertips

By Tech. Sgt. M. Evelyn Baxter
908th FM

Have you ever needed to look at an LES from several months back? In the past, you've had to wait on a drill weekend, sign into Finance, wait in line and request assistance in retrieving an old LES.

No longer will you have to go through that song and dance.

You can now access MyPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> and view, save, or print up to one year of previous LESs.

The site has many tools that make it easy for you to keep your finances in check. You can update your EFT or direct deposit information. You can also change your address, in-

crease or decrease your tax withholdings. If you're enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) you can increase or decrease contributions, and print five years' worth of W-2s.

MyPay is making logging into your account even easier by offering you a choice of a CAC or password log in. That way, if you are at a CAC enabled computer you just select your CAC and type in your pin and if you need to access myPay from home you can use your password. Did you know you can also download myPay for you smart phone?

Information for the downloadable app and compatible phones can be found at:

<https://mypay.dfas.mil/FAQ.htm#myPayMobile>

Old friend returns to lead OSS

By Staff Sgt. Sandi Percival
908th Public Affairs

The 908th Operations Support Squadron recently came under new leadership, as Lt. Col. Michael Manion assumed command during the December Unit Training Assmely. The assumption of command was a reunion of sorts, for Manion is no stranger to the 908th Airlift Wing.

From April 1998 to the end of 2001, Manion was a pilot with the 357th Airlift Squadron, and departed 10 years ago to pursue other opportunities. Among these were challenging jobs in combat rescue and air refueling.

His latest position was as chief of Total Force Integration at Headquarters, Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field in Florida.

Colonel Edward Jennings, 908th Operations Group commander, said he is excited about the experience Manion is bringing back to the unit from his position



Col. Edward Jennings, commander of the 908th Operations Group (left), presents the guidon of the 908th Operations Support Squadron to its new commander, Lt. Col. Mike Manion.

at a major command.

"He's bringing us a unique perspective that is certainly going to benefit the members of his unit and the leadership here in the wing," he remarked.

Manion has served in a wide variety of commands, including strategic airlift, air mobility, special operations, and air combat. During his career, he has amassed more than 4,100 flying hours.

The 908th OSS' was recent commander was Lt. Col. Craig Drescher, who currently commands the 357th.

Manion said he is thrilled to be able return to the 908th.

"Great men and women were here before, and I see some that are still here," he said. "I'm just excited to have the opportunity to return to work with them."

Comm Check: Proper USB use prevents headaches

Information provided by
908th Comm Flight

Unit leaders, it needs to be stressed to your Airmen that the 42 Air Base Wing regularly scans for unauthorized Universal Serial Bus (USB) devices plugged into any computer on the Maxwell network.

Policy violators have to deal with the unpleasant task of having their account disabled, explaining why they didn't follow long-established policies regarding unauthorized USB

devices, and re-taking the Information Assurance Computer Based Training (CBT) before their access is restored.

All approved USB devices, predominantly external hard drives, must be identified by letter and properly labeled with a green unclassified sticker (SF 710). In addition, each external hard drive must have encryption software running on it, so in the event it is lost or stolen, the data would be inaccessible.

All USB devices currently in use in the wing must be identified by unit, using the attached letter template. It is vitally important that each unit prepare a letter containing all their USB devices and return it to your unit/group IAOs (Information Assurance Officers), so they can submit them to the base IA office.

Following this simple process will spare your personnel any unnecessary headaches caused by being accused of

using an unapproved USB device, simply because your approved device wasn't correctly identified. Please get with your IAO/Client Support Technician for the green labels (SF 710) and have those devices setup for encryption.

Once again, remind those in your units not to plug any USB device into their computers without first checking and getting approval.

Remember, charging cell phones is the biggest no-no.

SOP: STANDARD of PERFECTION

908th SFS Color Guard is wing's 'Blue Beret Ambassador'

By Tech. Sgt. James Harrell Jr.
908th SFS

Like its parent organization, the 908th Security Forces Squadron, it is a group of the elite. Its mission, to represent the squadron, the 908th Mission Support Group, and the 908th Airlift Wing as "Ambassadors of the Blue Beret."

The 908th Security Forces Squadron Color Guard was formed for the purpose of providing ceremonial support through the professionalism of arms. From changes of command to military funerals, the 908th SFS Color Guard ensures the colors are proudly displayed.

Under the supervision of Operations Superintendent Senior Master Sgt. Brad Counce, the team provides ceremonial functions for the wing, Maxwell Air Force Base and local communities throughout Alabama.

The original detail was formed in 2000 with four members, one of whom with a wealth of experience under his belt. Technical Sgt. Steve Higginbotham had served as a member of the United States Air Forces in Europe Security Forces Honor Guard while on active duty.

After becoming a member of the SFS detail, Higginbotham and fellow co-team leader Technical Sgt. Johnny White noticed a number of special events taking place without the crisp presentation and colorful pageantry that only a well-disciplined color detail can provide. Any request for the base honor guard had to be made months in advance and in cases where the team was unavailable, the colors were simply posted prior to the ceremony.

To the two 908th SFS team leaders, this situation was completely unsatisfactory.

"This is not befitting for individuals who have served, or even given their life for, our country," said Counce. "These individuals deserve the best ceremonial salute this nation has to offer, with all the pomp and circumstance that goes along with it."

Counce is responsible for the selection, training, and mentoring of the members, carefully screening all volun-



teers for physical ability, dexterity and attention to detail. He then forwards his selections to the current team leaders for training. Those ultimately chosen are highly motivated, maintain the highest standards of appearance and conduct, and show aptitude for ceremonial duty.

The detail trains rigorously for four hours or more each Unit Training Assembly, not including preparation for specific events. On top of maintaining job proficiency, members have to ensure dress uniforms are flawless, weapons are in inspection order, and that when it comes to moving as one, the team is in perfect synchronization. In addition, the training necessary for technical proficiency in flag folding usually consumes two hours.

Often staying after hours to ensure all required training is accomplished, team members dedicate themselves to the highest levels of excellence and perfection, the only standard their "clients" deserve.

The team leaves nothing to chance when its number is called for an event. Specific members are responsible for scouting the venue in advance, meeting with the ceremony coordinator, transportation, taking care of the weapons, and the final setup. A single 30-minute ceremony might take two days to prepare.

"I enjoy seeing the look on the faces of those who are being honored" White said, referring to non-funeral details. "All the hard work and long hours makes it worthwhile to support and provide this service to these members."



WING BOSS JOINS DEPLOYMENT PARTY



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PATRIOT DEFENDER



HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT TRAINING



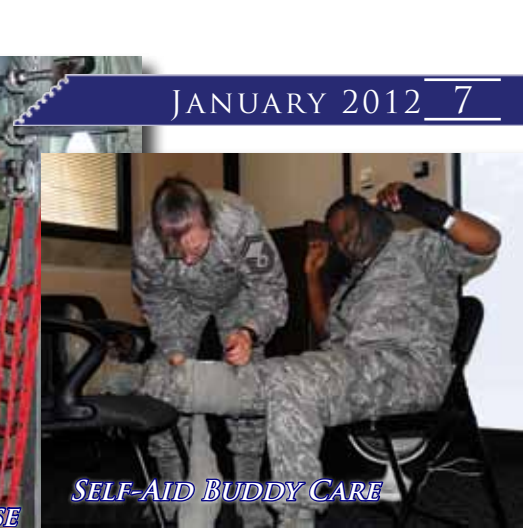
MXG BOSS DEPLOYS TO TAMPASTAN



AERC LEADER DROPS IN



SPOUSE FLIGHT



SELF-AID BUDDY CARE



FAMILY DAY FESTIVITIES



NOSE ART



HAYES - DAVIS FINI FLIGHTS



FUEL CELL EXERCISE



AUBIE & BIG AL VISIT 908TH



YELLOW RIBBON EVENTS



ACES HOSTS COOKOUT & CARWASH



WATER SURVIVAL TRAINING



ACES: READY FOR ANYTHING



BIG GOODBYE FOR 'BIG COUNTRY'



LOADING HUMANITARIAN FLIGHT



A CHANGE IN CHIEFS



HITTING THE MARK



TEACHING SELF DEFENSE SKILLS



VEHICULAR VICE



APS ADIOS



COMMANDERS-IN-HOUSE



BROOKS TAKES SFS COMMAND



SANTA CLAUS COMES TO TOWN



MXG KNUCKLEBUSTER BANQUET



HIMARS AIRLIFT



DRESCHER TAKES OVER 357TH



LRS DEPLOYS TO ENGLAND



9/11 10TH ANNIVERSARY

THE YEAR IN PICTURES

Packages for the packers

Scout troop produces boxes of appreciation for deployed 'dawgs'

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

According to the traditions of Scouting, a Scout possesses of trustworthiness, loyalty, courtesy, kindness and courage. The members of one organization, Cub Scout Troop 220 out of Alabaster, Ala., also have a good deal of holiday spirit and patriotism.

The group has been industriously working on collecting money and making packages to send to deployed Airmen of the 908th Airlift Wing.

The troop recently visited the 25th Aerial Port Squadron to deliver the results of their work.

"We're here to deliver Christmas boxes to the airmen," said Troop Master Wanda Byrd. "This is something our scouts can do to give back to ya'll for giving up so much."

The troop, numbering some 26 members, collected money to

purchase the items, including books, DVDs, some personal items like socks and towels and each our scouts has written a personal letter to the airman. Chief Master Sgt. Harold L. Whited, 25th APS Superintendent, acted as wing pack liaison, answering questions and providing information, so the scouts would be able to put the packages together and individually tailor the letters to the 908th Airmen.

"We are so grateful for the scouts," he said, "we have

been talking to our folks deployed overseas and they are just ecstatic that they'll be receiving these packages right before Christmas."

Lieutenant Colonel Vanessa J. Dornhoefer, 25 APS commander, was happy to see the scouts wanting to make a difference in the lives of deployed airmen. She said that the unit tries to find different ways to help keep up morale of deployed members, and reaches out to several

community organizations to help. She said the scouts picked up on it and put together the individualized care packages.

We can send deployed airmen things they need, but to receive something from the younger generation saying 'thank you' means a lot more," she said.

"We're sending things like a karaoke machine, but we can't inspire them like these young people can."

During their visit, scouts were given a static tour of a C-130 and were able to witness a training airdrop.

"I think it's a win-win," Dornhoefer said, expressing her admiration for the scouts who volunteered and gave freely of their time. "It's an inspiration for us to see the future generation working on taking care of those taking care of their country."

"It's really a privilege to be here and do this for you," said Byrd.



Lt. Col. Vanessa Dornhoefer, commander of the 25th Aerial Port Squadron (left), accepts one of several care packages prepared for deployed members and delivered by members of Boy Scout Troop 220 of Alabaster, Ala., represented by Troop Master Wanda Byrd and Webelo Scout Cole Holcomb.

SOUTHERN FLYER CAPTION CONTEST

Airmen, alums and friends of the 908th AW, what does this photo say to you? If you think you have 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



ASTS: Second Stage

MEET THE DIVERSE CAREGIVERS OF YOUR 908TH ASTS

In the second of a two-part series, we introduce the caregivers of the 908th ASTS

Capt. Jario Puente, M.D.

A recent Reserve join, Puente graduated medical college from the Universidad Metropolitana, Barranquilla, Colombia. He completed his residency in Family Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas. He is currently a private practice hospitalist at Baptist Hospital in Pensacola Fla. He will be attending flight surgeon school this year.



Lt. Col. Noreen Burke, ARNP

The 908th ASTS Fetal Protection practitioner. Burke graduated from nursing school at Boston College in 1979. She completed her education as a nurse practitioner while on AF active duty at the School of Health Care Sciences in 1991. She currently practices Gynecology at Coastal OB/Gyn in Panama City, Fla.



Maj. Cynthia Lewis, DNP

A Registered Nurse Practitioner since 2002, Lewis completed her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at

the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in 2009. She has been with the 908 ASTS since 2002. She currently practices medicine for the Alabama Department of Public Health in several Alabama county health departments.



Capt. Bryan Smith, ARNP

With 12 years military medical experience as a Navy corpsman, Smith graduated from Auburn University College of Nursing with his BSN in 1999, and recently, from Troy State University with his nursing practitioner degree. He has been with ASTS as a nurse for the past 10 years, and has now joined the ASTS provider team. He currently works as a hospitalist practitioner for Hospital Physician Services of Central Alabama.

Capt. Pamela Stuckey, MPAS, PA-C

A recent addition to the 908th ASTS, Stuckey completed an A.S. in nursing at Copley Lincoln Community College in 1998, and her B.A. and M.S. and Physician Assistant degrees from the University of Nebraska. She currently practices



at Fox Army Health Center-Family Practice Clinic.

Maj. Rory Frederick D.D.S

The Interim Chief of Dentistry for the ASTS, Frederick graduated Indiana University with a doctorate in Dentistry, and completed a post graduate General Dentistry residency. He served as a USAF active-duty dentist for six years. Currently, he is in private practice in Robbinsville, NC.



Capt. Jay Johnson, O.D.

is our new Optometrist. He graduated from the University of Alabama College of Optometry. He completed an Ophthalmologic surgical residency at the Simon-Wilkinson Clinic, Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, Ala. He is currently in private practice in Gadsden Ala, and also provides services for three non-profit clinics in Gadsden and Anniston, Ala.



**Your Health...
Our Mission...
Through Time...**

Welcome Newcomers!

Maj. Kelly R. Maiorana, AW
SSgt. Antonio T. Lee, LRS
SSgt. Jayshawn R. Allen, LRS
SrA Casey D. Mullis, 25 APS

SrA Jacob M. Kayl, LRS
A1C Trevious M. Walker, LRS
Amn Erik D. Perkins, MXS
AB Gregory M. Bush, MXS

AB Kevin A. Rodriguez, MXS



Col. Robert H. Shepherd,
Lt. Col. Naomi E. Deshoreosborne,
Lt. Col. Donna B. Roberts, Lt. Col. Billy R. Tabor,
Chief Master Sgt. Jesse M. Scott, Senior Master Sgt. Theresa L. Hunt,
Master Sgt. Jonathan A. Gray, Master Sgt. Todd E. Kern, Master Sgt. John P. Thompson,
Master Sgt. Charles S. Britt, Master Sgt. Rodney T. Bush, Master Sgt. David J. McCaughtry,
Tech. Sgt. Darrell A. Lakes, Tech. Sgt. Henry K. Rudolph, Tech. Sgt. Flora M. Walker

* The retirement briefing which was initially scheduled for the December UTA will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, 2012, in the 908th MSG Conference Room, Bldg 903. *

EDUCATION BRIEFS

General Education Mobile

General Education Mobile offers freshman/sophomore-level courses through a web-based platform. Courses are in distance (mobile) learning format and meet the CCAF associate in applied science degree requirements.

GEM is delivered via the Air Force Virtual Education Center and incorporates many features of the successful Air University Associate-to-Baccalaureate Cooperative, to include registration, course enrollment, tuition assistance and CCAF transcript ordering processes.

Contact Master Sgt Belinda Ray

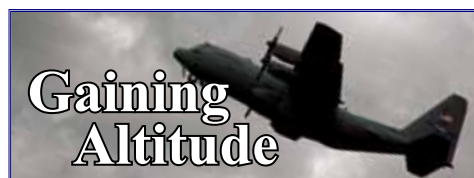
at 953-6678 for more information.

Senior Leadership Course

The 908th Airlift Wing will be hosting a Senior NCO Leadership Course, Jan. 28-29, 2012.

This course uses lecture/discussion and experiential learning techniques to convey topic techniques followed with an analysis and feedback discussion. If a master sergeant and above, and interested in attending, send a completed AF Form 101 to the Wing Education Office by Jan. 6.

This is a unit-funded course. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Aaron Knight at 953-6678.



Master Sergeant



Michael J. Herman
Brandon R. Means
Brian S. Peirpoint
Stephanie M. Woods

Technical Sergeant



Dana M. Cline
Damion R. Howell
Michael M. Scheil
Tracey J. Peil

Staff Sergeant



William S. Howard
Terance T. Jackson
Chemetaya C. McMillian

Senior Airman



Antonio M. Kendrick
Jairius D. Simpkins
Adam J. Wilkerson
David L. Smith
Ashley N. Bailey
Joel A. Snyder

Airman First Class



Cruetz A. Davis
Zachary D. Trawick

Airman



Corbin D. Tunstall

Congratulations!



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