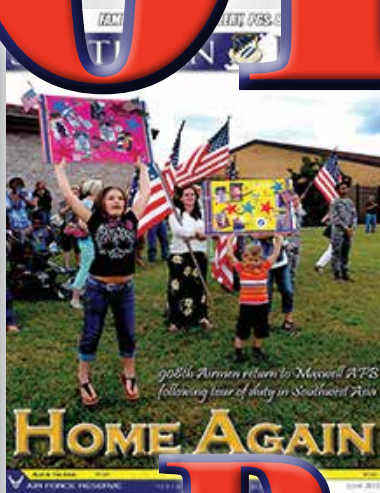
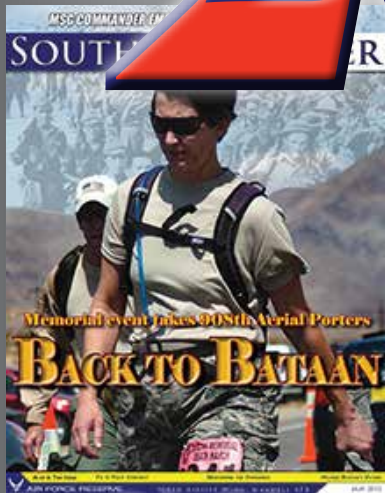


INSIDE THE YEAR IN PICTURES

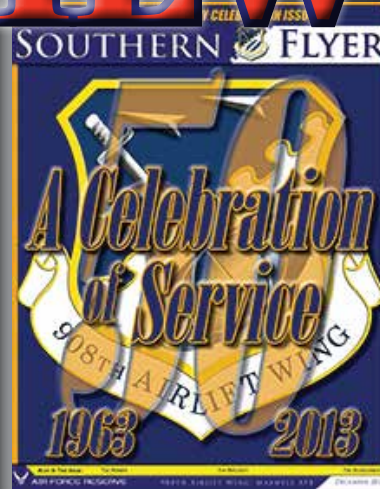
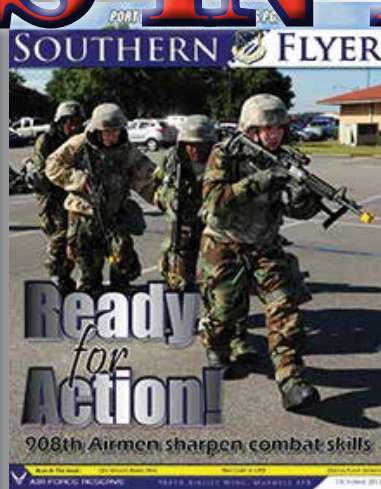
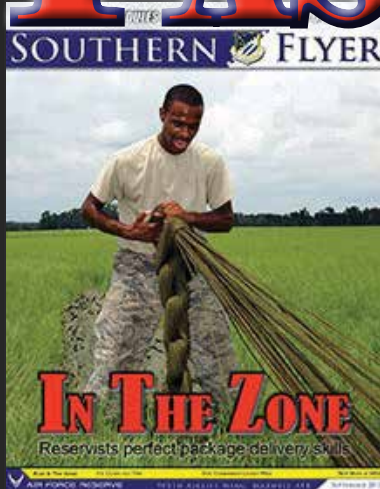
# SOUTHERN FLYER



# 2013



# PASS IN REVIEW



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

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50TH ANNIVERSARY STRIKES GOLD

WINGMEN GRADUATE ALS

AIR FORCE RESERVE

908TH AIRLIFT WING, MAXWELL AFB

JANUARY 2014

SOUTHERN  
FLYER

Vol. 51 Issue 01  
January 2013

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## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PA Officer: Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb  
Editor: Mr. Gene H. Hughes  
Writer: Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

## Strive, Seek, Find, and Do Not Yield

As you walk your path of life, it is important to frequently pause and assess your direction. During this past year, were your steps straight and true? The start of a new year is a good time to conduct both personal and professional inventories.

What if your biggest enemy is the same person who brushes your teeth every morning? In other words, are you self-inflicting pain or problems into your own life. Were you happy with your performance or behavior this past year? Start by asking yourself simple questions. What are you doing well that you should continue doing? What are you not doing that you should start doing?

Finally, what are you doing that you should stop doing?

Keep probing your inventories. The objective is to reflect on your personal and professional lives. Do you have good habits? Do you need to improve your method of influence? Are you willing to accept some problems and learn to live with them?

Another technique is to read a wide-range of subjects, which stimulates new insights and spawns fresh ideas. I recently read five literary works that helped me reflect.

Check out the following works and see what you think; Google them.



COL. HAROLD LINNEAN  
Commander, 908th MSG

♦ *Rip Van Winkle* by Washington Irving. Do not fall asleep on your life or career.

♦ *What Constitutes Success* by Bessie Stanley. In 1904, she answered the question, "what is success" and won first prize.

♦ *Ulysses* by Alfred Tennyson. There is always time to grow and learn, "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

♦ *The Busy Man* by Anonymous. A perspective of working hard for yourself and for others.

♦ *Your Mission* by Ellen Gates. There is always a role for you, "you can find it anywhere."

Stay focused, keep charging, and thanks for doing your job. Let us have a great 2014!

A MOMENT WITH THE  
CHAPLAIN

SRA DUSTIN TURNER

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. I am Senior Airman Dustin Turner, and I am your new Chaplain's Assistant for the 908th.

I live in Moody, Ala. with my wife of 12 years and our two sons.

As a chaplain's assistant, I work and in hand with the Chaplains to make sure the spiritual needs of the 908th are met. I enjoy this opportunity because I am a compassionate person with an eagerness to help others.

I view my position here at the 908th more as a ministry than as a job. Being that the Chaplains are officers, if you are enlisted and would feel more comfortable talking to a fellow enlisted Airman, I am here to listen.

Some individuals have asked me, "What can a Chaplain Assistant do for me?" This is an exciting question. We are covered under the same confidentiality as a Chaplain, but sometimes talking to an officer can be a little intimidating.

You know sometimes, "Stripes just want to talk to stripes."

I also assist the Chaplains in conducting our worship services every Sunday morning of our UTAs, such as offering Communion and leading the worship music with my guitar.

If you have any questions about how our Religious Support Team at the 908th can help you, please contact me by email at Dustin.Turner4@maxwell.af.mil.

I look forward to hearing from each of you!



## Reserve Pay: What should you do with it?

By Staff Sgt. Tony Keith  
908th FM

One of the many benefits of being a Reservist is the opportunity to earn significant part-time income for one weekend a month and an additional fifteen days per year of work. In fact, depending on your rank, you can earn between \$4,000 and \$15,000 annually from being in the Air Force Reserve.

So, what can you do with this money? Although a numbered Swiss account is probably a stretch, there are options you should consider.

One use for this pay is to supplement the pay you receive from your civilian occupation. You can use it to buy additional food, gas or groceries for you and your family, contribute to your car payment, pay your power bill, or use it in a number of other ways to offset any costs you may have.

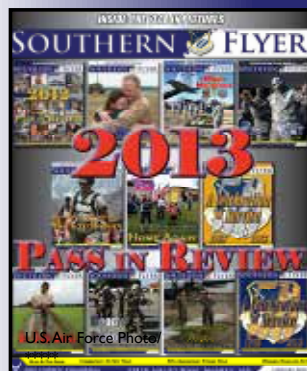
Many younger Airmen enlist in the Air Force Reserve in order to take advantage of the educational benefits that are offered by the military. While the various GI Bills and Tuition Assistance programs can help defray

the ever-increasing costs of tuition, room and board, and books, it is an often-overlooked fact that your monthly drill pay can help offset living expenses, such as food, gas and entertainment all students incur.

Another option many take advantage of is investing a portion of their monthly Reserve pay in the Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP. This plan is helping veterans save for retirement, particularly those Airmen that do not have access to a 401(K) or similar account through their civilian employers. It should be noted that the average airman that opens a TSP account upon entering the service and contributes 10 percent of their annual pay for 20 years could accumulate over \$50,000 to help supplement their retirement savings.

This proves it's never too early to begin saving for retirement!

There are many options to put your reserve pay to good use. No matter which option(s) you choose, it is clear that your monthly reserve pay provides excellent part-time income.



## SOUTHERN FLYER

## COVER PHOTO:

A collection of cover shots of the 2013 Southern Flyers adorn this month's cover.

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.



# GOLDEN TIMES



Celebration brings generations together as Wing's 50-year event exceeds expectations

By Gene H. Hughes  
908th Public Affairs

Alabama's only Air Force Reserve unit, the 908th Airlift Wing, celebrated its 50th year of service to the country Saturday evening with a gala event at the Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Montgomery.

More than 1,000 current and former members spanning the unit's five decades were in attendance for the festivities, traveling from as far as Texas and even Hong Kong.

"I joined the 908th in April of 1988 -- 10 wing commanders ago," said Senior Master Sgt. James Rickels, loadmaster superintendent of the 357th Airlift Squadron. "Seeing my first wing commander was fun, also my first three squadron commanders. I saw numerous friends and acquaintances, some of whom I haven't seen in 15-plus years."

Among the distinguished guests were Alabama Lt. Governor Kay Ivey, Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange and several former commanders. Although unable to attend, U.S. Representatives Mike Rogers and Martha Roby and Alabama Governor Robert Bentley communicated their congratulations via video presentations.

Planning for the event began in earnest in early fall, with the formation of a planning committee, which held weekly meetings. Master Sgt. Jon Butterbaugh led the committee, ensuring preparations stayed on track, despite the challenges of sequestration and a government shutdown.

"Our initial guidance was to put together an elegant event with maximum participation which would capture the significance of our 50 years," he said. "Our initial hurdles were choosing the location, the four-month timeframe, and of course, our current fiscal climate."

"The celebration was quite an undertaking," said Chief Master Sgt. Connie Rollins. "Fundraising was a big effort requiring every group and squadron to get involved. Each was committed to raising a portion of the funds so member ticket costs could be kept at a reasonable price."

The Embassy Suites was chosen to host the celebration. Afterwards, committee members said it was the best decision they'd made.

"Everyone from the sales department, food and beverage, lodging, and the chef went out of their way to ensure we were impressed," Butterbaugh said. "Their willingness to accommodate our budget, anticipate problems, provide additional rooms, and allow use of their beautiful atrium made the night what it was."

Another unknown was unit participation. With the summer furloughs, the recent government shutdown and with the upcoming holidays, budgets would be tight for everyone. Originally, the committee estimated an attendance between 350 and 500.

But shortly after ticket sales began, the number had soared to more than 500, and even higher as word of the event spread. "Initially hoping for 350 guests, we had to become flexible when we hit 800 tickets sold after the first month of sales," Butterbaugh said. "All together, we had approximately 1,100 guests, several of which were members' families. I felt this was

important. They may not often have the opportunity to get to know those with whom their loved ones serve."

Surrounded by good food, music and displays commemorating the wing's 50 years, alumni and current members mingled, sharing stories of camaraderie, sacrifice and service. Many alumni and current longtime members remarked the event was the best they'd ever seen, commenting on the elegance of the layout and the atmosphere.

"One long retired member told me he thought some of his friends were no longer with us, until he saw them at the celebration," Butterbaugh said. "It was great for him to reconnect, and now he has their contact information for the future. I truly knew this event was a success when I witnessed two alumni

embracing in the atrium, one wiping away a tear."

Early in the evening there were two huge screens showing the Auburn-Missouri football game. Given the size of the crowd, the 908th's 50th Anniversary event was also one of, if not the largest, SEC Championship game watch parties in the state.

Chief Master Sgt. Gary Looney, a 25-year member of the wing from 1982-2007 said the event Saturday night was one of the finest military functions he's ever seen.

"It was great to see my old friends and to meet current wing members," he said. "Hopefully the newer members saw that we older members came out, and understand they haven't joined just a unit, but a family. It was an awesome event, and my hat is off to those who put it together."



AES-ASTS TRAINING



RIDIN' IN STYLE



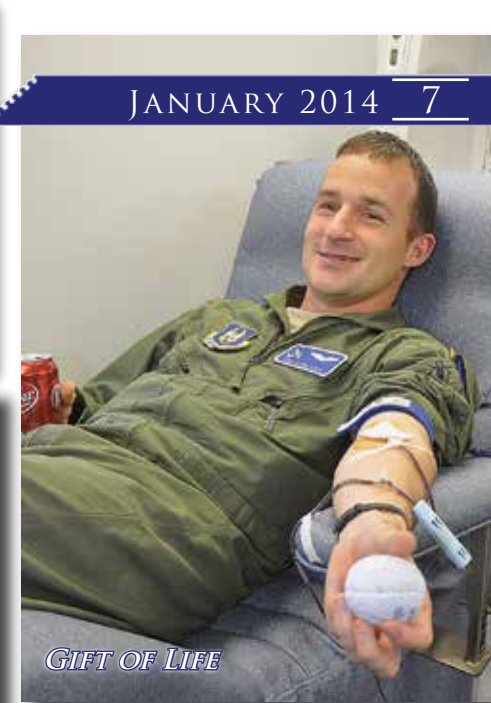
ACE LENDS A HAND



357TH WINS SAFETY AWARD



SAYING GOODBYE



GIFT OF LIFE



ONE MORE TIME



NEW LEADERS



PUCCINI FINI



HEADED OVERSEAS



AFRC VICE VISITS



MAXWELL AWARDS



CLERGY DAY



TCB IN THE AOR



LOGISTICS AIRMEN HONORED



HOME AGAIN



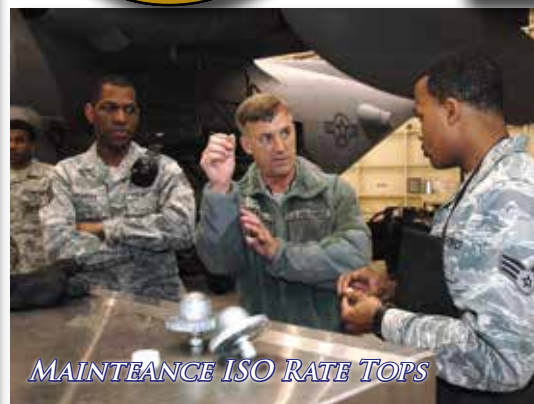
HOME ON THE RANGE



CONGRESSIONAL VISIT



DAWG MAKES A DEATH MARCH



MAINTENANCE ISO RATE TOPS



RENDERING HONORS



COMMAND POST TOPS AFRC & AETC



DEPLOYERS RETURN



FLANDERS TAKES OVER 25 APS



AMC CC VISITS 908TH



IN THE BAG



LINNEAN TAKES MSG LEAD



ALBRECHT TAKES CHARGE OF CES



FAMILY DAY



WING WELCOMES NEW VICE

# THE YEAR 2013 IN PICTURES

# Reservists graduate leadership school

FSS, 357th AS members receive two of four class honors at ceremony

By SMSgt. Martha Roy  
Group Superintendent, 908th MSG

One of the requirements for achieving the rank of staff sergeant is to complete the Airmen Leadership School either in-residence or by correspondence.

On Dec. 12, the 908th Airlift Wing had three of its own — Senior Airmen Ricky Davis, Timothy Gill and Shaniqua Rogers — graduate from class 14-1, taking two of four class awards in the process.

Rogers was presented the first accolade of the evening, the Commandant Award, presented to the student who makes the most significant contribution to the overall success of the class. One of four nominated by fellow classmates, she said the school was very challenging, and that the faculty and staff at the Maxwell ALS ensured that each flight member had every tool possible to be successful throughout the course.

"I felt very honored," she said. "I personally feel that I couldn't have made it through the rigorous coursework without each and every one of my flight members. I would like to thank the ALS Staff, my supervisor (Senior Master Sgt. Tyrone Williams), and all friends and family who supported me in this endeavor."

"Senior Airman Rogers earning the Commandant Award reveals what we in the 908th Mission Support Group already knew," said Col Harold Linnean, group commander. "Rogers is the essence of servant leadership."

The Distinguished Graduate Award went to Gill, and recognizes



Acting 908th Wing Commander Col. Jennie Johnson, left, and Command Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke congratulate Senior Airmen Shaniqua Rogers, Timothy Gill and Ricky Davis upon their graduation from ALS. Below left, Rogers receives the Commandant Award from ALS Commandant Senior Master Sgt. Saskia Johnson and Master Sgt. Gary Swanson. Gill is presented the Distinguished Graduate Award by Master Sgt. Erin Panas.



students whose performance places them at the top of their class. Candidates must demonstrate high achievement as a leader and a student.

"I was honored to be selected for my class," Gill said, "but more than that I am excited to begin a new chapter in my career as an Air Force supervisor and NCO."

"The 357th Airlift Squadron is very proud of Senior Airmen Davis and Gill for completing ALS," said Lt. Col. Drescher, squadron commander. "They both demonstrated the work ethic and professionalism that we have seen from them since

they joined the squadron. We are especially proud of T.J. for finishing first in the class and earning Distinguished Graduate."

According to ALS Commandant Senior Master Sgt. Saskia Johnson, graduates are combat-ready, prepared to maintain and supervise Air Force work teams, and support the Airmen and families for whom they are responsible.

"These two hard chargers have met the challenge set before them," she said. "This was very evident in their leadership awards. They will do great things for this Air Force. We are in great hands."



# AFRC COMMAND CHIEF MENTORS



Chief Master Sgt. Kirksey, command chief of AFRC and former command chief of the 908th, spoke with the 908th ACE group during the December UTA. He spoke to the Citizen Airmen on the importance of being qualified, skilled and mission-ready Airmen. He also stressed the importance of mentoring and how it plays a key role in leadership and personal development. Among those attending the session were Senior Airmen Shaniqua Rogers, Corey Hall, Lashanta Buchanan, Zacchaeus Thames, Marvin Perdue, Jarrett Johnston; Airmen First Class Tamara Lewis, Tamika Richardson, Jasmine Thomas, Ashley Thomas, Chantel Lucas, Kayanna Rich, Romesha Perry, Sharonda Roper; Airmen Kevin Clark, and Ashley Nix.

## New to the 908th

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Maj. Brian A. Horton, OG                    | Senior Airman Zachary B. Streety, AMXS     |
| Capt. Sanja M. Athavale, ASTS               | Senior Airman Vista W. McDuffie, MXS       |
| Capt. Sarah J. Atherton, LRS                | Senior Airman Tyler P. Cast, MXS           |
| Senior Master Sgt. Walter N. Martinez, ASTS | Airman 1st Class Rachel M. Hill, 25 APS    |
| Tech. Sgt. Robert E. Light, MXG             | Airman 1st Class Lashonda D. Marshall, LRS |
| Tech. Sgt. Thomas M. Thomson Jr., MXS       | Airman Basic Zachary N. Gantt, FSS         |
| Staff Sgt. Dante A. Davis, MXS              | Airman Basic Aaron B. Shelnutt, SFS        |
| Staff Sgt. Kenneth Price, LRS               | Airman Basic Patrick S. Ewing, SFS         |

## Preparing to Disembark

- Senior Master Sgt. Ronald J. Holland, SFS  
 Master Sgt. Teresa J. Morgan, ASTS  
 Staff Sgt. David G. Powell, ASTS

\* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place April 5 at 9 a.m. in Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.\*



Senior Master Sergeant



Grant W. McDaniel

Master Sergeant



Warren O. Moore

Technical Sergeant



Robert W. Browning  
 Veronica M. Natal

Senior Airman



Douglas A. Bowers  
 Veljulisa T. Canty  
 Eric D. Mahone

Airman First Class



Carl R. Cooper  
 Alan F. Poole  
 Denver C. Robles

Airman



Cameron D. Covington  
 Marious L. Davis  
 Trevon D. Mingo



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