

FUEL CELL EXERCISE FOCUS ON SAFETY, PGS. 6-7

SOUTHERN FLYER



MXG Gets Props

Alaska ANG C-130 gets 908th ISO assist



Also In This Issue:

CAPSTONE PERFORMERS

FINANCE UPGRADES FOR 2015

CITIZEN AIRMAN/EMPLOYER AWARDS

AIR FORCE RESERVE

908TH AIRLIFT WING, MAXWELL AFB

FEBRUARY 2015

SOUTHERN
FLYER

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The Legacy of Leadership

Recently, I received word that Lt Col Gwendolyn Hill, 908 ASTS Chief Nurse will retire soon. While congratulating my mentor, I considered my 15 years of service with her and the impact she has had on me and everyone around her/in the unit.

Military organizations can be compared to businesses and families. Like civilian supervisors and parents, military leaders can leave behind a lasting legacy in the thoughts and behaviors of their peers and subordinates.

A leader's personal and organizational priorities are reflected by those under their command. They can encourage or discourage creativity, promote good or bad work habits, and influence the degree subordinates pursue excellence and professional development. Subordinates will often adjust their priorities based on the aspects of the work their supervisors are passionate and dispassionate about.

They also are left with an impression of what a leader is doing or

willing to do to or for them; which consequentially influences their behavior going forward.

I am thankful Lt. Col. Hill managed to put equal emphasis on serving the wing and on our squadron's individual training and professional development. She was able to both focus on the daily tasks at hand and long term personnel training and development requirements.

She defined a long-term vision for our efforts and always adhered to sound moral and ethical principles. Approaching day-to-day operations, she clearly defined performance targets for our members that used short term actions to meet long-term goals.

On behalf of the entire 908th ASTS, I want to thank Lt. Col. Hill for her service and wish her much success in all her future endeavors. She is leaving the ASTS with a legacy of leadership.

It is my hope that we can all, no matter the rank, strive to leave such an example and contribution when we depart.



MAJ. BRYAN SMITH
908th ASTS

COVER PHOTO:

Senior Airman David Smith checks a propeller during an Iso inspection of a C-130 belonging to the Alaska Air National Guard.



"Providing combat-ready support across the spectrum of operations"

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

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A MOMENT WITH THE
CHAPLAIN

CH. (LT. COL.) W. LANCE HOGGATT

February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day and Groundhog Day. Both holidays signify spring is near but what does that actually mean and how can we apply it to our daily lives? The tradition of Groundhog Day holds that if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow he will return to his underground burrow and there will be six more weeks of winter. Valentine's Day is named for an early Christian martyr and saint named Valentinus. The celebration of Valentine's Day is associated with fresh flowers and therefore also the advent of spring.

The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the people of Corinth and he said "Three things will last forever — faith, hope, and love — and the greatest of these is love." The traditions of Punxsutawney Phil and St. Valentine remind us that February is the month that we focus our attention on Faith, Hope, and Love.

These are applicable for each of us in our daily lives. Today, for example, you may be experiencing anxiety because of a deployment, finances, the loss of someone close to you, the loss of a job, relationship issues, or work-related stress. Valentine's Day and Groundhog Day remind us that spring and the newness of life it promises is just around the corner, thus we should embrace faith, hope, and love as standards by which we live our lives.

One author puts it this way "Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strength." Maybe you feel that your strength has been depleted; look forward to the spring. I challenge each of us to renew our strength by concentrating on our Faith in our God, our Hope for tomorrow, and the Love that is a part of our families.

Financial Changes
& Updates for 2015

By Debbie Smith
908th FM

A new change came into effect in December for AROWS-R: When you want to print your orders in AROWS-R the Social Security Number is now masked. The Reservist and Order Specialist have a print option in AROWS-R to unmask the SSN. Orders for pay and travel must contain the SSN. If you have printed these orders without it you can pen and ink it on each copy of the AF938 or 1610. This will be acceptable for pay purposes.

Your W2 for 2014 was available as of Jan. 7 in myPay. Make sure you are able to access myPay so when you are ready to file your Income Tax for 2014 you will be able to retrieve your W2.

Some quick reminders to help you keep your time in myPay secure: DO NOT USE A PUBLIC COMPUTER OR KIOSK SYSTEM TO ACCESS myPay! Using a public system places you at greater risk for compromise of your myPay account. Even connection via a public wifi network exposes your information to possible theft.

To learn more on this subject go to myPay.dfas.mil and in the upper right-hand side of the page select "DFAS Home" then select latest "News & Events."

An E-Finance briefing will be given on Saturday, Feb 7 at two consecutive times, 2-3 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. in the OTS auditorium. All

units will be doing RTS vouchers in E-Finance after the April UTA.

If you are out-processing the 908th due to retirement, transferring to another unit or going IRR, you must come to the FM office to make sure all of your pay documents, travel vouchers, GTC card issues have been taken care of and you have out-processed properly.

Those Reservists on long tours lasting more than 31 days will accrue leave, which is 2.5 days of leave for every 30 days on duty. You must complete an AF988 leave form and sign it and have it approved by your supervisor before the FM office can give you a leave number.

The JTR (Joint Travel Regulation) has all the new changes on Flat Rate Per Diem. You can log into DTS and on the home page under the "News" section you can find all the new changes which began Oct. 1.

The Department of Defense GTC (Government Travel Card) will be migrating to Chip and PIN cards which started in mid-January 2015. To prepare, login to CitiManager and ensure your mailing address is current and accurate. When your new card arrives call Citibank to confirm receipt, activate it and sign the back of the card. You will also need to update your GTC information in DTS.

As always, if you have any questions regarding your pay or entitlements, contact your FM office at (334) 953-6722.



Members of the 908th Airlift Wing perform ISO inspections on a C-130 belonging to the Alaska Air National Guard. The volunteer-maintenance operation gave Airmen bonus opportunities for training and experience.

Alaskan win-win

ANG gets needed inspections, 908th gets training opportunity



Tech. Sgt. Demarrick Evans checks the security of flight deck components

By Gene H. Hughes
908th AW Public Affairs

The 908th Maintenance Squadron has been hosting a special visitor recently, a C-130H1 from the Alaska Air National Guard.

How does an Alaska ANG aircraft happen to be at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., in the hands of an Air Force Reserve unit?

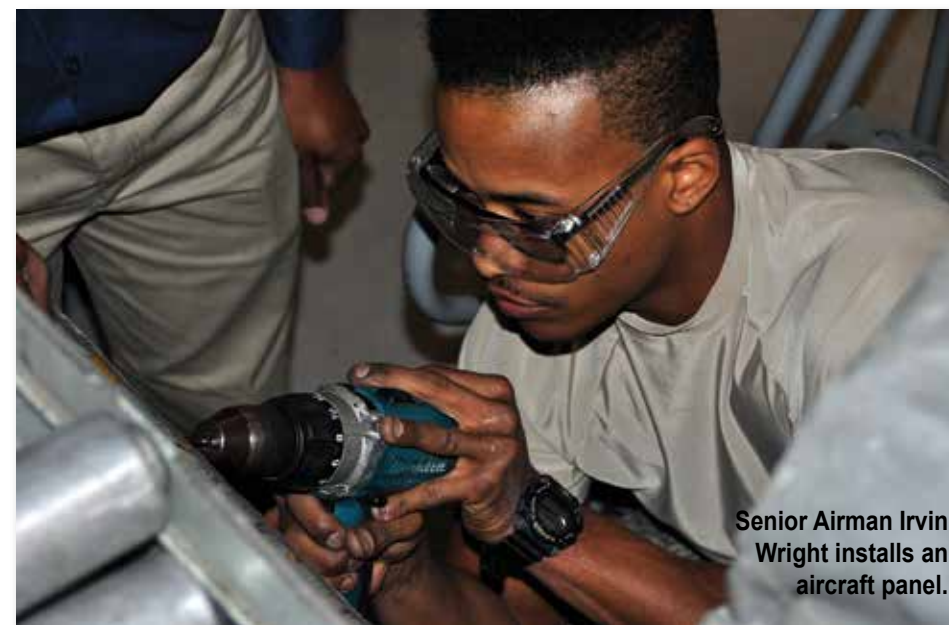
According to Lt. Col. James Hartle, the Alaska ANG was looking to fulfill a requirement of three isochronal (ISO) inspections for their aircraft, but faced challenges due to facility renovations, predeployment preparations and an overall shortage of manpower. They needed to complete the inspections off station.

The 908th Maintenance Group was the first unit within AFRC to step up and help out.

They have a deployment going on, and are prepping for another," said Senior Master Sgt. Michael Swims, Maintenance Flight Chief, 908th MXS. "They had three aircraft that needed ISO inspections. Little Rock did one for them in December, and we put our name in the hat to help them out in January, and they still have one more that needs to be done."

An ISO inspection, required every 18 months, takes approximately 22 days to complete.

We take the panels off and dig deep into the airplane. More in-depth inspections than those carried



Senior Airman Irvin Wright installs an aircraft panel.

out during day-to-day operations. Take it apart, inspect it and put it back together.

The 908th's guest is a 1982 H1 version of the C-130 (the 908th flies the 1985 H2 model) For 90 percent of the work, there's no difference.

"But when you get into the avionics, that's where the planes differ," Swims said. "For those, they'll have to go back to Alaska."

The first week was basically scheduled maintenance, and then the 908th Airmen got into inspection mode to identify any discrepancies. Although this is an additional workload for the MXG, which perform approximately six inspections a year, it provided a bonus training

opportunity for the year.

"This benefits the entire group, as every maintenance specialty is required to perform the ISO," Hartle said. "This way, we can get ahead with required maintenance tasks, as well as become more proficient in our overall processes and personal tasks."

"The biggest benefit for us is that we have a deployment coming up, and my ISO coordinator is scheduled to go," Swims said. "I'm training someone to take his position, and this inspection gives one more opportunity for him to train to manage the ISO process."

"For my Airman on orders and those here during the recent UTA, we got a lot of training done."



Airmen First Class Elijah Benson and Victoria Lott inspect an aircraft flap assembly.



Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Harris replaces damaged hardware.



Master Sgt. Bishop Cochran inspects an aircraft engine.



Senior Airman Clive Johnson inspects an engine fuel system.



Master Sgt. Spencer Meeks and Senior Airman Jason Gessler install a propeller



During its recent visit to the 908th, the AFRC/IG Team recognized the following wing members:

Superior Performers

Maj. Jameson Durham - AES
 Maj. Christine Van Weezendonk - CP
 Maj. Carmel Weed - IGI
 Capt. Arthur Caffey - AES
 Master Sgt. Sean Kassebaum - AES
 Master Sgt. Cynthia McGill - MXG
 Technical Sgt. Heidi Pierce - CES
 Senior Airman Sarah Shea - CES

Military Bearing Award

Master Sgt. Aaron Knight - FSS

Col Willis would like to thank the following individuals for their special efforts preparing for the IG visit:

Capt. Richard Smith - AES
 Capt. Raymond Klinger - LRS
 Chief Master Sgt. Connie Rollins - LRS
 Senior Master Sgt. Herbert Pfeiffer - CES
 Master Sgt. Dwayne Curtis - LRS
 Master Sgt. William Beach - LRS
 Master Sgt. Cortney Tremer - FSS
 Master Sgt. Aaron Knight - FSS
 Technical Sgt. Heidi Pierce - LRS
 Senior Airman Sarah Shea - CES
 Senior Airman Ethan Smith - 25 APS
 Senior Airman Jamaar Jackson - FSS

Between a rock and a crawl space

Airmen, first responders sharpen emergency skills needed to rescue someone from an aircraft fuel cell

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

During the January UTA, the Fuel Cell hanger was the site of an annual exercise designed to sharpen skills and procedures taken during an emergency.

"It's very critical we get a chance to do it as often as possible, particularly with real aircraft," said Master Sgt. Dennis Henley, Fuel Cell Supervisor. "It gives the fire department real-world training, as compared to using a mockup. It's very invaluable to them and us to get to do it."

Henley explained how fuel cell members are usually focused on performing the physical aspects of the job, so spending this time practicing a rescue is important because it allows them to practice what to do in an emergency.

"It helps Airmen hone their skills and prepares them for real-world emergencies," he said. "It allows us to have a situation where we're able to focus on the rescue portion of our job and the actual steps involved."

For the actual exercise scenario, an Airman -- simulated by a life-size dummy -- has passed out inside the empty fuel tank inside a C-130 wing due to something unexpected, like a heart attack or being overcome by fumes.

Describing, described what goes on during the exercise. "We take a mannequin and go through a scenario where the victim is incapacitated and not responding," said Master Sgt. Joseph Buettner, a 908th Fuel System Mechanic. "Members of the fuel cell then go through procedures to remove the mannequin from the tank."

"It's very detailed and can be very laborious getting someone out of the tank, it's an extremely confined space," Henley added.

According to Buettner, the exercise was designed to allow different entities involved in the exercise, including firemen, paramedics and Airmen, an opportunity to practice their emergency skills.

"It helps Airmen know what to do and become familiar with procedures taken in that type of emergency," said Buettner.



Above, Fuel System mechanics Senior Airman Allen Rose, left, and Senior Airman Ivan Desindes practice their rescue and first-aid skills on a "stricken Airman" while awaiting the arrival of first responders during the fuel cell exercise. Below, from left: Senior Master Sgt. Mike Eubanks discusses procedures with Senior Master Sgt. Terry Shook of the 908th Safety Office. Fire Department personnel make their way up to the wing, secure the accident victim and prepare him for transport to a medical facility.



Safety Sense: Don't be snowed by south's warm winter

By Staff Sgt. Thomas Mendiola
908th Safety Office

At Maxwell Air Force Base, we've been spared the wrath that Old Man Winter brings to the northern states, but that doesn't mean Jack Frost skips us altogether. Occasionally we will see "snowmageddon" and it seems our state simply shuts down. Do you remember the snow last year? I vaguely remember it, and chances are you don't think about it much either.

Forgetting winter in the south is easy to do, but I'm here to give you a few pointers so you will be ready for the winter roads!

Before You Do Anything Else

Read your vehicle's owner's manual and follow all the manufacturer's recommended service schedules. Car care for your vehicle is essential for everyday use, however heading out in the dead of winter with a poorly maintained vehicle is foolhardy at best, remember: Cold weather makes existing problems worse!

Do A Quick Check!

I know that a full one million point inspection may be a daunting task, and most likely your vehicle won't spontaneously combust, so here are a few high interest items you can check before your winter travels and won't require a certificate from the auto industry:

-Have your battery checked. Service outlets usually do this free, but if you are a DIY'er check for corrosion on the terminals and cable connections, and check battery fluid. (PPE required!)

-Change your oil and filter as specified in your manual. Oil and filter changes are one of the most frequently neglected services yet one that is essential to protect your engine.

-Worn tires are dangerous in winter weather. Examine tires for remaining tread life, uneven wearing, and cupping; check the sidewalls for cuts and nicks. Rotate as recommended. Check your spare, and be sure the jack is

in good working condition. Look for under-inflated tires or poorly aligned wheels.

-The cooling system should be flushed and refilled as recommended. The level, condition, and concentration of the coolant should be checked. Do-It-Yourselfers: Never remove the radiator cap until the engine has thoroughly cooled! Inspect the drive belts, clamps, and hoses for serviceability.

-Always carry an emergency kit with you, blankets, gloves, boots, and a flash light are handy items to place in your vehicle. Think about adding: a small shovel, kitty litter or sand, tire chains, extra batteries, a cell phone with a car charger, throw in some high energy snack bars or beef jerky in your glove box for good measure.

DID YOU KNOW?

In Alabama, January and February yield the highest monthly amount of measurable snow.



HRDC to sponsor wing field day

The 908th Airlift Wing Human Resources Development Council (HRDC) is sponsoring a Wing Career Field Day. This event allows existing wing members to explore retraining opportunities and requirements. It also fosters mentoring and encourages long-term career development planning for the Airmen who....

◆ Want to explore other career fields that might increase your Reserve satisfaction, or align with your civilian job and/or your professional aspirations;

◆ Want to know about other opportunities in the Air Force Reserve that might help you reach your goals;

◆ Would like some personal 'one-on-one' with a mentor who can help guide your military career to the next level;

◆ Are curious about what folks in other 908 AW units do;

◆ Want help planning next steps from where you are now to where you want to be; or

◆ Want to talk with folks who are enthusiastic about their Air Force career field and see what they're all about.

Are you burned out, or about to tap out? Want to learn about a possible fresh start and find out what that would take?

Then, this event is for you! The location and time makes it easy for you to stop by for a minute to get answers to questions you may have about other squadrons. Stay as long as you would like – and your supervisor allows!

We'll see you at the 908 AW Career Field Day!

When: Sunday, March 8

Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: Riverfront Inn

Airmen, Employer of Year awards seek nominations

Packages due to Chief Master Sgt. Alexander by Feb.23

Nominations are being accepted for both the Citizen Airman and Employer of the Year Award.

This award recognizes both an enlisted and officer member who deployed in support of current operations from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014 and their respective employer who illustrated strong support for activation and deployment for his/her Citizen Airman.

Nominations for both the Citizen Airman and Employer of the Year Award are forwarded as one package. Nominations must include packages for both the Reservist and their respective employer and must consist of the following:

Nomination

Each nomination narrative should be typed on AF IMT 1206, 20120926, *Nomination for Award*, when prepared by Air Force Personnel. Non-Air Force Personnel may prepare the nominations on 8 1/2 x 11 paper. In either case, limit the nomination to one page. Include contact information for both the recipient and the nominating supervisor.

For the Reservist portion, explain accomplishments of the Reservist's contributions to the Air Expeditionary Forces (AEF) or contingency. For the employer portion, explain support for activation and deployment for his/her Citizen Airman.

The individual Reservist nominee should be fully identi-

fied, along with job title, organization, mailing address, commercial telephone, fax number, and e-mail address. Please include the e-mail address on the AF FM 1206 or 8 1/2 x 11 paper for both the award nominee and the unit commander.

Each nomination should contain the name, position, mailing address, commercial telephone, fax number, and e-mail address of the nominator on separate bond paper.

Biography

Limited to one single-spaced typewritten page for military and one-page write-up for employer. (Refer to AFI 36-2805, Attachment 2, for format).

Citation

Limited to no less than 50 words and no more than 70 words that capture the essence of the achievement. This information is used to prepare the award plaque and within the award program script presentation. (Refer to AFI36-2805, Attachment 3, for format).

Note: acronyms are not authorized in the citation.

A recommendation letter signed by the wing commander, group commander, RIO/CC, ARPC/CC, or Air Force Reserve Command Director stating "A records check was conducted on (date) and revealed no information that would bring discredit to the award or the U.S. Air Force."



You are cordially invited ...

Please join Col. Adam Willis as we honor our annual award winners at 908th Airlift Wing's inaugural awards banquet on March 7, 2015 at the Embassy Suites in beautiful downtown Montgomery.

Attire is mess dress or semi-formal. Social hour begins at six o'clock. Choices are pork tenderloin or cheese ravioli. A cash bar will be available.

Tickets are \$30 each. Contact your first sergeant or group point of contact to purchase your tickets and select your meal option.

Deadline for purchasing tickets is Feb 14.

New to the 908th

Capt. Allyson Dossman, ASTS
Master Sgt. Courtney Lalla, ASTS
Staff Sgt. Terri Miller, MXS
Staff Sgt. Nikia Gettridge, AES
Senior Airman Katelyn Yau, 25 APS
Senior Airman Travis Garmon, 25 APS
Senior Airman Cody Speckman, OSS
Airman 1st Class Lane Ellisor, 25 APS
Airman 1st Class Kaneisha Sims, AMXS

Airman 1st Class Devunte Finley, MXS
Airman 1st Class Ezekial Duarte, AMXS
Airman 1st Class Elicia Walker, 25 APS
Airman 1st Class Tyler B. Aldridge, MXS
Airman Anthony McGill, 357 AS
Airman Basic Zachary Faith, AMXS
Airman Basic Eric Westbrook, SFS
Airman Basic Jonnesha Sears, ASTS

Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Robert D. Rosedt, ASTS
Senior Master Sgt. Matthew A. Denton, MXS
Master Sgt. Wayne D. Askew, ASTS
Master Sgt. Jonathan R. Griswold, AES

Master Sgt. William T. Moore, MXG
Tech. Sgt. Kenneth L. Johnson, 25 APS
Tech. Sgt. Jay G. Ponder, AW
John T. Traum III, LRS

* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place April 11 at 9 a.m. at Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.*



Technical Sergeant



Jarvis R. Capers
Hernandez L. Torres

Staff Sergeant



Jacqueline M. Hardiman
Dustin C. Smith

Senior Airman



Martinus O. Ashford
Joseph R. Brown
Olivia N. Edwards
Brittney R. Jenkins
David L. McElrath Jr.
Rennell T. Pitts

Airman First Class



Andrew R. Hampton
Anthony M. McGill
Aaron B. Shelnut

Airman



Zackary E. Faith



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