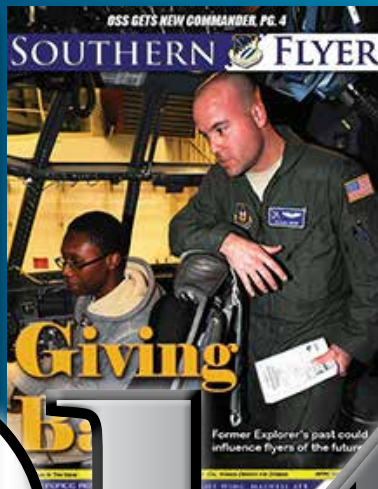
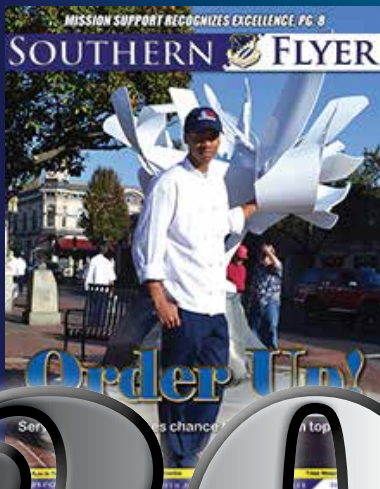
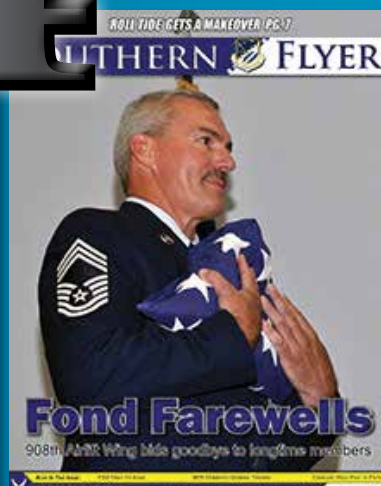


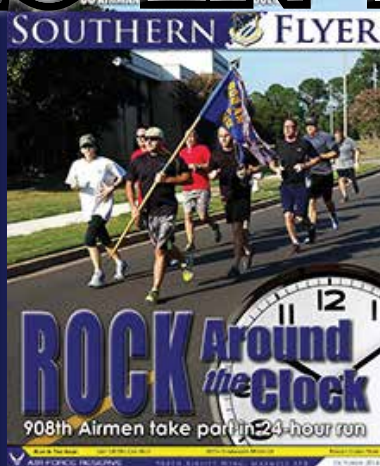
SOUTHERN FLYER



2014



PASS IN REVIEW



SOUTHERN
FLYERVol. 51 Issue 3
March 2015

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 Writer: Tech. Sgt. Jay Ponder

908th: Continue to dream!

Warriors of the 908th, let me celebrate with you the recent successful completion of the first-ever IG Capstone Event for the 908th Airlift Wing. We hosted 32 inspectors from AFRC IG during their week-long Unit Compliance Evaluation of the 908th.

What's the bottom line? "Mission Effective" across the board!

A hearty congratulations to all of you, the members of the 908th for your hard work, dedication and striving for excellence. I am proud, as should you be, of the accomplishments you have made in the past eight months. The 908th is poised for excellence in the coming future as a wing, community and family; we must be prepared to see it through.

I cannot say it enough, it is

you who make the 908th who we are...continue to strive for excellence, continue to find

more efficient methods, continue to ask questions, continue to expand your knowledge, continue, continue, continue... Through your commitment we become great!

The proud heritage of the 908

AW is alive and well; through you, our future excellence is assured.

Through you, we train the future 908 AW members, who will one day look to the past and remember your greatness. As Eleanor Roosevelt stated many years ago, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." Continue to dream...the future is what you make it.

Stay proud, stay engaged, stay safe and continue to dream.

COL ADAM WILLIS
Commander, 908th AW

COVER PHOTO:

Each front page from 2014 adorn this month's cover of the Southern Flyer, in which the year in photographs is included.



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

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 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 is the Monday two weeks prior to the UTA.

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A MOMENT WITH THE
CHAPLAIN

CH. (CAPT.) MATTHEW HOSHOR

It's kind of impossible to miss Valentine's Day. Advertisements for jewelry, chocolates, and roses remind us to shower loved ones with tangible acts of affection. Red roses mean, "I love you." A huge vase of roses and a box of chocolates with a small teddy bear mean "I love you" even more. This one day of the year, we're supposed to measure and show our love and loyalty in a tangible way; dinner and diamonds, roses and romance.

Heaven help you if you forget!

But do roses and chocolate really convey "I love you"? Don't get me wrong, it's important to show loved ones they are valued. However, our actions should also echo this refrain.

One day of chocolates and a box from Tiffany's may get you out of trouble, but does it truly show "I value you" to those you love each and every day?

Our men and women in the military don't always get the luxury of spending Valentine's Day at a spa or a nice restaurant with their significant other. They often miss birthdays, anniversaries, births, deaths, and holidays. They often miss the expensive restaurant, the long-stemmed roses, the box of chocolates, and the diamond jewelry.

However, they don't always miss the moments of showing love and dedication to their dear ones in tangible, albeit less flashy, ways.

CHAPLAIN, NEXT PAGE

Keep up if you want
to keep getting paidBy Debbie Smith & Billy Kidd
908th FM

Finance Management systems have some updates that Reservists need to be aware of.

The Air Force Reserve Order Writing System (AROWS) has masked social security numbers for all orders, so there are a few extra steps that need to be taken before you print your orders.

You must first check the unmasked box at the top and then go into the order-by-the-print function. AROWS-R will have an update in April that will allow all orders (both original and amendments) to be printed. If you have a problem printing a copy, go to your unit orderly room and ask your orders specialist to print a copy for you.

Also, any order less than 30 days old can be certified for pay in the AROWS-R order system. Please ask your supervisor or your unit orders specialist for assistance.

For the Defense Travel System (DTS), go into any unpaid DTS vouchers and check to see if the voucher has been returned to you. These vouchers will pay in two days once the Approving Official approves and routes the voucher. If you have any questions about your DTS voucher, contact your unit Lead

Defense Travel Administrator.

For E-Finance, the 908th Finance Office plans on briefing the E-Finance slides Sunday, March 8, in the 357th Airlift Squadron Briefing Room from 2 to 3 p.m. Send anyone in your unit who has not previously attended. Effective 15 April all RTS travel vouchers will be filed in E-Finance. If you experience computer issues while working on your travel voucher please contact the Comm Helpdesk at 953-2798.

The 908th is at 100 percent recertification for Basic Allowance Housing (BAH). If you have Reservists who did not complete the BAH recertification, they have been changed to single-rate BAH. If this is correct, they need to come to the FM office and complete the BAH form. When they do, they must have the required original documents, which include such items as marriage and birth certificates.

When it comes to taxes, if you cannot retrieve your W2 for filing your 2014 taxes, go into MyPay and reset your password. If you have trouble, you can come to FM and ask for the Terminal Area Security Officer, or go to any military base and go to the finance office and request TASO assistance.

Contact the FM office at 953-6722 with any questions or concerns.

Wing makes CAPSTONE grade

By Maj. Carmel Weed
908th Airlift Wing

Col Adam Willis and his senior staff recently welcomed the AFRC/IG Team to Maxwell AFB on 8 Jan 15 in conjunction with the Unit Effectiveness Inspection.

The overall assessment of the 908th Airlift Wing was "Mission Effective" across all four major graded areas.

The IG Team consisted of 36 inspectors employing active duty, Reserve and civilian personnel. The team conducted 21 Airmen-to-IG sessions with 194 Airmen and civilians. They also conducted 159 individual sessions, gathering concerns that would be formulated into briefing items to forward to senior leaders at headquarters.

As the Air Force transitions from Operational Readiness Inspections to the new Air Force Inspection System and Commanders Inspection Program, this assessment was very different from previous one.

The impression from many 908th personnel was favorable concerning the new type of inspection and interaction with the inspectors. The majority of the inspection took place "virtually" via the Management Internal Control Toolset, thus limiting the requirement for a large inspection team.

"The unit checklist points of contact are learning and maturing daily" said Master Sgt. Sean Kassebaum, 908th Self-Assessment Program Manager. The wing conducted a C2 and Confined Space Exercise along with a Commanders Inspection Management Board, demonstrating the unit's capability to excel and meet mission requirements.

"I am proud of the exercise team and their professionalism in proving we are exceptional at how we do business," said Lt. Col. Doran Gilie. "The efforts of the entire 908th were evident seeing where we were eight months ago and where we stand today. Remarkable!"

"This is a great accomplishment are testament to the efforts and skillset of the men and women of the 908th Airlift Wing" said Wing Commander Col. Adam Willis.

CHAPLAIN, FROM PAGE 3

Our men and women in uniform wake up each morning and make a commitment by putting on the uniform. They make a sacrifice to show their love, and they make it daily.

This act of love does not come with big balloons, red roses, or savory chocolates. It doesn't even come in a card with a sappy poem. Instead, it comes in the form of mothers and fathers whose hearts whisper "I love you" to their children when they

deploy, showing the children that while they may not make the father-daughter dance at school, they will, each and every day of the week, put themselves in harm's way to ensure the safety of their loved ones.

This act of love comes in the shape of wives who cannot see their loved ones for Valentine's because they are serving to get wounded soldiers back to the safety of their own families.



Members of the 908th Air Wing on Maxwell AFB have organized a "908th Run Team" with the vision of encouraging excellence in Airman Fitness within the wing. The team is slowly growing and dedicated to three goals in 2015:

1. Encouraging those who hate running to find the joy in it through "Couch to 5K" or "Couch to Fun-Run" model.
2. Participation in the 2015 Montgomery Marathon and Half-Marathon.
3. Participation in the 2015 Air Force Marathon.

<http://montgomerymarathon.com>

<http://www.usafmarathon.com>

Call out to all 908th Members:

Come and support the team during the Montgomery Marathon and Half Marathon. There are seven meeting locations to gather with friends, family and other wing members to cheer us on.

For more information, contact Billy Kidd at 953-6722.

It is easy to resent the necessary distance and absences of a military lifestyle. However, when reminded that the action is in itself a powerful expression of "I love you," the uniform shows the sacrifice of loving others selflessly, even through time and distance.

That kind of "I love you" may not sparkle as much as diamonds, but it lasts so much longer than anything from Tiffany's.

Womens' History Month: Living the legacy

By Capt. Jessica Stone
908th SFS

This Womens' History Month, I'm drawn to the stories of the amazing, ground-breaking women in the Air Force, stories of women like Nancy Love, Elizabeth



STONE

Jacobson, Sally Kucera, Shawna Kimbrell, and so many others, but I'm not really qualified to tell you any of their stories. I'm really only qualified to tell you mine.

I used to believe that my personal history wasn't important. I didn't want to be singled out, and I felt inadequate to represent my gender. Then I came to the 908th Security Forces Squadron, of which I'm the first female officer, and one of my sisters-in-arms helped me realize my wrongness.

Each one of us represents all of us, and we have a responsibility to do that to the very best of our ability.

I still don't feel that I've done anything remarkable. I've only been able to walk the paths I have because women before me broke them open. All I've done is made choices to set and keep my feet upon those paths.



Major Shawna Kimbrell, the first African-American female fighter pilot in the Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Seven years before I was born, the first woman was accepted into my career field. I was naïve to think there weren't still people who didn't feel she should have been. But she was, so I could be, and every day I try to live in the personal legacy she left me and every woman who wears the blue beret.

This Womens' History month, I humbly ask that you spend a moment hearing, reading, or watching a woman's story. Whether it's asking a female Airman in your unit to share her personal history, or researching the story of one of the women I listed above, you'll find that ground-breaking moments aren't just in our past; they're happening now, all around the Air Force.

West was only two-time commander of Reserve unit

The 908th Airlift Wing recently learned of the passing of Col. Marcus C. West, 93, former commander, who died June 16, 2014.

West was the only two-time commander of the 908th Tactical Airlift Group, having served in that position as a lieutenant colonel from July 1967 to June 1968. He took over the commander's chair again as a colonel from February 1970 to October 1971, after the unit moved to Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery.

In World War II, West delivered bombers to England. In 1944, he received Naval Aviator Wings, and flew air-sea rescue and transport missions in the Pacific.

In 1948, he flew 146 missions in



the Berlin Airlift. In the Korean War, he flew air-sea rescue patrols over the Sea of Japan. Later, West and his wife ran a gas station, a restaurant,

and a motel in S.C.

He also flew reserve transport missions. In 1960, he took command of the 301st Air Sea Rescue Squadron in Homestead, Fla. He later took command of the newly redesignated airlift group, formerly the 908th Troop Carrier Group, in Mobile, Ala.

Upon departing the 908th, he worked at the Pentagon in Reserve Planning from 1968 to 1970.

According to his obituary, "Colonel West will be remembered not only for his military career, but also for raising his family's standard of living. Growing up on a small farm, Col. West enabled his children to get college degrees, the first in the family to do so."



GIFT OF LIFE



BIRD STRIKE



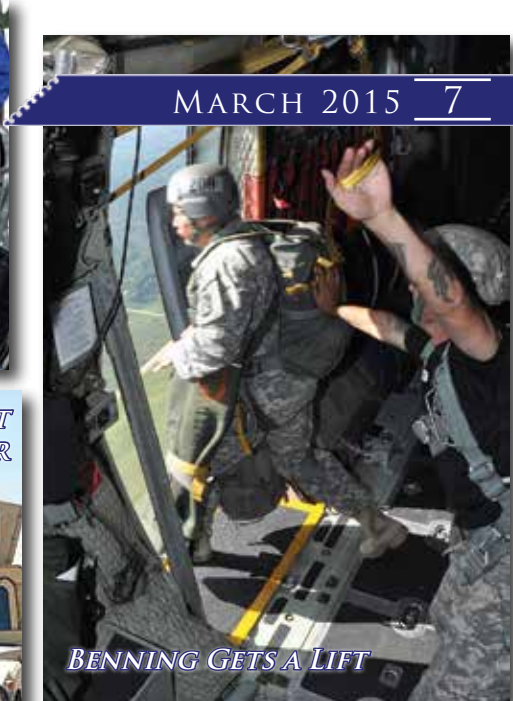
PRINCIPI TOUR



CHINESE AIRMEN VISIT



NAVS TO PILOTS



BENNING GETS A LIFT



HARTLE HOME HALF HIMSELF



LRS ADAPTS



AFRC CHAPLAIN VISITS



TOP 3 GIVES BISCUITS A BOOST



DENTON FLT



PATRIOT DEFENDER



SNCO INDUCTION



CAPTURING TIME



SFS COMES HOME



CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS



SHARING A GOOD BOOK



AVIATION EXPLORERS VISIT



GLOBAL IMPACT



MONTGOMERY ZOO DAY



SAFETY MILESTONE



GO BLUE LOSES BASKETBALL BET



NATIONAL SECURITY FORUM



OH TAKES OVER OSF



WINGMAN DAY



LT GOV VISITS



HAYNES TAKES MXS LEAD



WILLIS TAKES CHARGE OF 908TH



MAYFIELD TAKES MARQUEZ AWARD



FSS WELCOMES NEW COMMANDER

THE YEAR IN PICTURES

The near miss & the working environment

By Maj. Samuel Manno
908th Safety Office

A near miss is an event that did not result in injury, illness, or damage, but had potential to do so. Only a fortunate break in the chain of events prevented an injury, damage or a fatality; in other words "a close call."

Most safety activities are reactive and not proactive. Many organizations wait for losses to occur before taking steps to prevent a recurrence. Near-miss incidents often precede mishaps but are largely ignored because nothing happened that particular time.

Most of the time, Airmen do not report these close calls, as there has been no disruption or loss in the form of injury obvious illness, or property damage. Thus, many opportunities to prevent future accidents and work-related illnesses are lost.

Recognizing and reporting near-miss events can make a major difference to Airman safety. History has shown repeatedly that most mishaps were preceded by warnings, in the form of near accidents, close calls, narrow escapes, near hits, or verbal complaints given by Airmen to their supervisors.

The goal of the U.S. Air Force Hazard Reporting System is to proactively detect unsafe or unhealthy working conditions as early as possible and abate those hazards promptly at the lowest possible working level. We need your help to meet this goal in your organization.

Reportable hazards include unsafe procedures, practices, or conditions.

Any person assigned, attached, or under contract to the Air Force may report a hazard. They can submit a hazard report on any event or condition that affects flight, ground, or weapons. Airman can report hazards to their supervisor or local agency. If the hazard is eliminated on the spot, no further action is required. Hazards that cannot be eliminated immediately should be reported to the safety office. This can be done by telephone, in person, or by filling out an AF Form 457, USAF Hazard Report (HR). If need be, reports can also be submitted anonymously.

For Flight Crew and Maintainers, the AF has implemented the (ASAP) Aviation Safety Action Program as another hazard reporting option. ASAP is a voluntary, non-punitive, identity protected, self-reporting system modeled after the successful FAA program. It encourages voluntary reporting of unintentional errors, hazard-



ous situations, and high-risk activities to identify and mitigate previously unknown hazards or insufficiently managed risks in operations.

Aviators and maintainers can make and/or view submissions. These submissions are designed to capture hazards and errors and distribute the information throughout the aviation community. The purpose is that all may benefit by learning from the experiences of others before they personally experience the same or similar mishap.

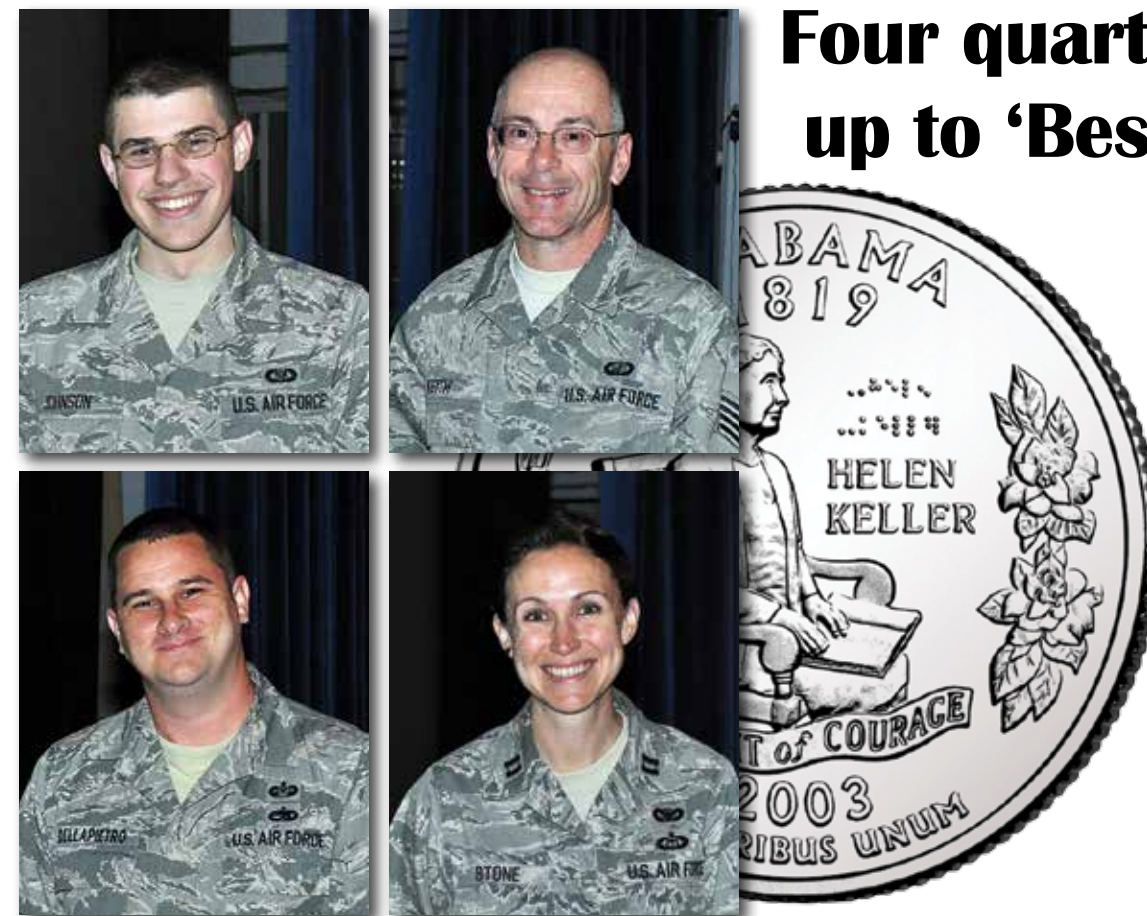
Airmen have a right to a safe workplace and should speak up about unsafe conditions, to include hazards associated with ongoing construction. How many times have you shrugged off a near miss? Never gave it a second thought? Next time, think twice.

The difference between a near miss and an accident, injury, or illness is often a fraction of a second or an inch. And when it happens again, that difference may not be there. Everyone in a workplace shares responsibility for ensuring that their work environment is safe and healthy.

Four quarters leads up to 'Best of Year'

Colonel Adam Willis, commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, recently recognized four members as quarterly winners in their peer groups for the fourth quarter, and were selected by a panel as the finalist for the period.

From upper left: Airman First Class Nicholas Johnson, Airman of the Quarter; Staff Sgt. Anthony Keith, SNCO of the Quarter; Master Sgt. Jared Dellapietro, Senior SNCO of the Quarter; and Capt. Jessica Stone, Company Grade Officer of the Quarter. The annual winners will be announced during the 908th Awards banquet in March.



Wing recognizes members for service



Four members of the 908th Airlift Wing were recently awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding performance of duty. From upper left: Lt. Col. Cynthia Lewis, ASTS; Maj. Javier Tapia, ASTS; Chief Master Sgt. Walter Martinez, ASTS; and Senior Master Sgt. Martha Roy, FSS.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATE!



Master Sgt. Wendy Corbett recently graduated from the First Sergeants Academy. She is assigned to the 908th AMXS. With Corbett, center are, from left, Maj. Marla Powell, Chief Master Sgt. Owen Duke and Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas Kennelly.

New to the 908th

Tech. Sgt. Bellard Justin, LRS	Senior Airman Marcus Yow, LRS
Tech. Sgt. Michael Boyett, MXS	Senior Airman Tempestt Seward, OSS
Staff Sgt. Leonard Grantham, 357th AS	Airman Jarrius Richardson, LRS
Staff Sgt. Sorbor Jaryan, ASTS	Airman Stephen Starks, SFS
Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Gafford, CES	Airman Ashley Fearson, AES
Staff Sgt. Jennifer White, FSS	Airman Dustin Smith, MXS
Senior Airman Natasha Ramsey, LRS	Airman Trinh Kiet, MXS

Preparing to Disembark

Lt. Col. Peter J. Garland III, 357 AS	Master Sgt. Roger L. Butler, OSS
Chief Master Sgt. Adriel D. Carr, 25 APS	Tech. Sgt. Lynette A. Clayton, ASTS
Senior Master Sgt. Mark V. Williams, MXS	

* The next Reserve Retirement Briefing is set to take place Sept. 7 at 9 a.m. at Building 903, the MSG Conference Room.*



Master Sergeant



Cladie L. May

Staff Sergeant



Patrick H. Ezelle
Adan Da J. Fondon
Gregory W. Mcghee
David L. Smith

Senior Airman



Raven R. Brown
Ezekiel R. Duarte
Jacob T. Garner
Mercedes J. Jackson
Tabitha N. Lockhart
Charles A. Ross

Airman First Class



Destiny K. Allen
Emily T. Bryant
Torrielle R. Gibbs
Mia L. Jefferson
Alexandria E. Moton

Airman



Tramel J. Bailiff
Jennifer L. Murphy
Cameron L. Rosenhooover
Eric L. Westbrook



As members of the Chiefs Group look on, Chief Master Sgt. Brent Solomon congratulates Senior Airman Jashaun Hightower, for winning the Sharp Wingman award.

Maintenance Airman wins Sharp Wingman

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

The 908th Airlift Wing's Sharp Wingman Award was recently given to Senior Airman Jashaun Hightower, 908th AMXS.

The honor is a quarterly honor awarded by the wing Chiefs Group to highlight exceptional enlisted members in the wing. The recommending chief cannot nominate a member of his or her own organization.

"The award is given to a Tech Sergeant, or below who truly adheres to the core values and goes out of his or her way to provide exceptional customer service," said Chief Master Sgt. Leon Alexander.

Senior Master Sgt. Quincey Hester, Hightower's supervisor, described Hightower as a very eager and enthusiastic young man. Hester explained how aircrew members enjoy having Hightower assigned to their aircraft

"He's truly willing to do whatever is needed of him," Hester said.

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TO THE FAMILY OF:

Public affairs taking orders for t-shirts, Biscuits tickets

The 908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office is taking orders for the wing shirt, pictured here. The shirt is a light, breathable material and is extremely comfortable.

Sizes and costs are as follows: Small, medium, large and extra large are \$30. Sizes 2XL and 3XL are \$32. To order a shirt, write/print your name, unit and duty phone along with size and color choice. Most colors are available.



Put order form and check/cash into an envelope. Deliver to PA or put in PA mailbox next to MPS customer service.

The order deadline is the close of business April 12. The shirts should be ready for pick up no later than the June UTA.

The Public Affairs Office is also taking advance ticket orders for the Montgomery Biscuits' June 6 evening baseball game at Riverwalk Stadium, stating at 6:35 p.m. The Biscuits will face Southern League rival Mississippi Braves.

If you are interested in attending, come to the 908th PA Office, sign up (and pay) for the number of tickets you want BEFORE close of business of the May Unit training Assembly. Tickets are \$13 each.

Call 953-6804 for details.

