



## ***MAINTENANCE GROUP BLAZES PAST COMPETITION DURING FIRE MUSTER***

# SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 53 Issue 11  
November 2016

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 MXG Commentary
- 03 Chaplains Corner, Being Thankful, Santa
- 04 Amazing Partner
- 05 Condit Visits AES
- 06-07 Fire fighters for a Day
- 08 36 Years of Service
- 09 Alumni Breakfast
- 10 Briefs and Promotions
- 11 November UTA Schedule
- 12 Propeller Inspection

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PA Officer: Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb  
Editor: Bradley J. Clark  
Writer: Vacant

## CCIP, IGEMS, MICT...What Does It All Mean?

In two words, Combat Capability. To many, the Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP) is a confusing mix of acronyms, web-based programs, and inspections with directional names like vertical and horizontal. You probably just want to know when our next Unit Compliance Inspection is so there is a target to prepare for. The date for our next inspection is...every day. CCIP gives all Airmen the responsibility and tools to assess real time whether we have the capability to do our part to generate the mission of the Wing; which for maintenance is provide combat capable Airmen, aircraft, and equipment. Our next inspection is essentially every day since we should be constantly evaluating our mission effectiveness.

CCIP accomplishes this by pushing responsibility of being combat ready down to each commander. While our goal is to be 100 percent ready at all times, reality is that we generally do not have all the resources: time, money, people, etc., to be 100 percent ready all the time. Self-assessment is CCIP's method of determining where we are falling short of 100 percent. Commanders must be able to assess their unit's readiness, know where their shortfalls are, and plan to overcome them. A healthy organization is always assessing, adjusting, and prioritizing effort to needed areas. Identifying problem areas and deficiencies is not a bad thing, in fact, it is an important indicator of an effective, self-assessing organization.

Maintenance is blessed to have organic self-assessment programs that pre-date CCIP. While it is every maintainers' responsibility to self-assess, our quality assurance office is charged with managing our macro assessment programs. The Maintenance Standardization and Evaluation Program



LT. COL. CASEY COOLEY  
Commander, 908th MXG

(MSEP) leads the way in validating that we can do the mission and we are spending our resources in the correct places to identify areas for improvement. While we all like to see high percentages of "success", a high average MSEP pass rate could be a sign that we are not being critical enough or not looking at the right areas. CCIP is built on an organization's willingness and ability to be very critical of itself. Quite simply, if you are not finding anything to fix you probably need to be looking somewhere else.

Large-scale Inspector General team inspections of the past are just that, in the past. The Air Force is holding commanders at all levels responsible. CCIP is the vehicle with which commanders validate and ensure their unit's ability to prepare for and provide Combat Capability.

## A MOMENT WITH THE CHAPLAIN

STAFF SGT. DUSTIN TURNER

Fall is the most wonderful time of the year for me. As the weather cools, and the leaves change colors, my mindset begins to change as well. A hot cup of coffee and a cool, brisk morning make the perfect combination. Shorts and t-shirts give way to jeans and sweaters. Every season has a purpose. Every season can have a positive impact on our mental outlook. Hot summer days at the beach, or lake are great, but at some point the heat becomes exhaustive and we are ready for a reprieve. Fall is a

## Time for reflection

great transitioning period between the scorching heat of summer and the chill of winter. As the pumpkin spice craze of October fades, and the sugar highs of Halloween subside, we wake up to the cool mornings of November.

As we welcome November our thoughts begin to turn to a mindset of thankfulness. Thanksgiving is always a great holiday to stop in our busy lives, and reflect on the blessings that have been bestowed upon us during the past year. Whether it is a career, children, or some great personal accomplishment, we all have reasons to be thankful this year.

It is easy to lose sight of Thanksgiving in between the children's insistence on Halloween costumes, and their never ending Christmas lists. Yet, we would be doing ourselves a great disservice by not taking time to appreciate the season of thankfulness that is sandwiched in between the pumpkins and the reindeer.

This year let us all make a point to slow down the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to reflect each day on the positive aspects of our lives. Let us thank our great creator for the life he has given us to live. Let us enter the holiday season with a thankful heart.

## Being Thankful

By Jamie Ellis

Every year we approach the holiday season with a reminder of how blessed and thankful we should be; but, what does that mean, to be thankful? Maybe being thankful is hard for you this year because you have had a rough year. It is so easy to look back on the past year and this season and not focus on the things that you are thankful for, but instead focus on your current struggles in your life.

Our minds tend to focus on our current struggles as opposed to being thankful for the good things in our life. Don't believe me? Take a minute to focus on one day of the week, Monday, and make a list of all the good things about Monday. Was it hard? Did your mind jump to all the things that you hate about Monday? Some-

times being thankful for the good things in your life is hard.

You may say to yourself, why be thankful when I have so many negative things in my life right now? What is the point? The point is search your heart for the small things, such as the breath you take to live. Focus on these items and you begin to look at life with purpose and meaning.

I will leave you with the words of Tecumseh, the Shawnee Chief, "When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the morning light, for your life and strength. Give thanks for your food, and the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies within yourself."

## Santa's Coming to Maxwell AFB

We have received intelligence that Santa Claus will once again be visiting the 908th Airlift Wing on Saturday, December 3, 2016. Plan now to bring your children and

or grandchildren out to see Santa arrive. Children, young and not so young, should gather in the 357th Airlift Squadron Briefing Room by 10 a.m. that morning. Santa will be

available for photos and wish list discussions. Intel says this might be last chance to make sure you end up on the nice list.

### COVER PHOTO:

Four crew chiefs from the 908th Maintenance Group, 908th Airlift Wing, won the fourth annual Fire Muster competition organized by the Maxwell Fire Department on Oct. 6 at the Northeast ramp here.



"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.

Address: 908TH/PA, 401 W. Maxwell Blvd., Maxwell AFB, AL 36112  
E-mail: 908aw.pa@maxwell.af.mil  
Phone: (334) 953-6804/7874 or DSN 493-6804; Fax: (334) 953-6355



Carl Kuykendall, general manager of Montgomery Aviation receives a lithograph from Col. Donald Richey, commander of the 908th Operations Group, 908th Airlift Wing, in appreciation for an ongoing partnership and assistance to the 908th Airlift Wing at the Montgomery Regional Airport Sept. 28.

## Amazing Partner, Even Better Friend

By Bradley J. Clark,  
908TH Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 908th Airlift Wing presented Montgomery Aviation with a lithograph Sept. 28, in appreciation for an ongoing partnership to the unit at Montgomery Regional Airport.

For roughly five weeks in July and August, Montgomery Aviation helped the wing by providing a place for the 908th to operate from while there was construction taking place to improve the flight line at Maxwell.

Commander of the 908th Operations Group, Col. Donald Richey, said, "They kept both, the training mission and the real world mission, going for us."

Carl Kuykendall, general manager of Montgomery Aviation, said, "It gave us experience to see how much we could handle and it is also a boost to the local economy."

This isn't the first time that the 908th has worked with Montgomery Aviation. The partnership, which is more of a friendship, has been ongoing for years.

"We have worked with them off and on over the years," said Richey. "They have let us operate out of here in situations when we needed to, from holiday weekends to runway repairs."

Montgomery Aviation wasn't limited to providing a place for the aircraft to stay ready, they did much

more than that.

"They gave our Maintenance Group a hanger to work out of," said, Chief Master Sgt. Brent Solomon, chief flight engineer of the 908th Operations Group. "Flight operations probably would have stopped and we would have had to relocate somewhere else if it wasn't for Montgomery Aviation."

The forward coordination and long lasting relationship between the 908th Airlift Wing, Montgomery Aviation and Flight Base Operations at Montgomery Regional Airport have been valuable to the wing in allowing to keep the mission statement of providing combat ready support across the spectrum of operations.

## Condit visits with AES Airmen

By Bradley J. Clark  
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The 908th Airlift Wing commander, Col. David Condit, checked in with the 908th Operations Group during the October Unit Training Assembly.

Condit toured the group's facilities, received briefings and met with Airmen from the 357th Airlift Squadron, the 908th Operations Support Squadron, and the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

Condit took time to speak with several Airmen about their roles in the unit.

Senior Airman Emily Bryant, aeromedical evacuation technician with the 908th AES said, "I thought the visit was awesome." The Auburn native continued with, "The commander is very easy to talk to. It was a joy to have him ask questions about our section."

The mission statement of the 908th AES is, "To be the preeminent provider of universally qualified aeromedical personnel in support of global patient movement."

Senior Airman Edwin R Perez-Cruz, aeromedical evacuation technician with the 908th AES said, "I was very surprised to see how interested the wing command-

er was in our specific duties." The Bayamon, Puerto Rico native also added, "It is very encouraging to know that we have a commander who is interested in his Airmen."

Condit tested the knowledge of the two Airmen by asking them various impromptu questions about the equipment they use which includes various testing dummies and two litters, the NATO litter and the Emergency Equipment Litter.

"Each litter can hold up to 250 pounds and we use a two person carry when loading a C-130 and add additional help as needed for heavier patients or equipment," said Bryant. "When using a backrest with the litters we have two people at the head of the patient and one at the foot of the patient."

Bryant was very pleased and honored to spend time with Condit.

"I love that he is interested in the aeromedical evacuation career field and what our role is in it," said Bryant. "His knowledge of our job says a lot about how involved he is as a commander, especially because he is going around seeing Airmen working and interested in the missions of each squadron."



Commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, Col. David Condit, talks with aeromedical evacuation technicians Senior Airman Emily Bryant and Senior Airman Edwin R. Perez-Cruz while visiting the 908th Operations Group during the October Unit Training Assembly.

# Firefighters for a Day

By Bradley J. Clark  
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Four crew chiefs from the 908th Maintenance Group, 908th Airlift Wing, won the fourth annual Fire Muster competition organized by the Maxwell Fire Department on Oct. 6 at the northeast ramp here.

Twelve Airmen, in three, four-person teams, from the 908th Airlift Wing participated in the event.

The fire muster required teams to roll up two fire hoses, then pull two fire hoses, hammer a log in two separate directions, a bucket brigade section, then a hose evolution (connecting the different fire hoses together) then hosing a basketball off of a traffic cone, finishing with a dummy carry to a litter carry.

"Honestly, I just found out we were participating on Sunday (Oct. 2) so we didn't have a lot of time," said Staff Sgt. Bryan Renforth, a member of the winning team.

Normally that wouldn't sound like a recipe for success, but this team was able to overcome that obstacle.

"We know about team work and how to accomplish something when it's put in front of us," said, Tech. Sgt. Marlin Kennedy.

As for the most difficult part of the competition, the whole team was in agreement.

"The buckets were the hardest part," said Senior Airman Victoria Lott. "We watched other teams try a technique that looked like a train. We decided too many people were running into each other that way, so we would just create our own lanes and stay in them. We were able to go at our own pace without running into each other."

There were adjustments that had to be made throughout the competition, considering half of the team hadn't practiced at all, while the other half only did a walk-through the day prior to the event.

"The first time through we had some trouble with the dead man (dummy carry), running into each other," said Staff Sgt. Kyle Lutsic. "We made some adjustments for the following rounds. That's what got us through, being

able to adjust to the problem and carry on and accomplish the task at hand."

Even though they had to compete against other members of the 908th, in the end, the two other teams were cheering them on.

"It's fun competing against everyone," said Kennedy. "Of course we wanted to beat them and I bet they wanted to beat us. In the end we are a family, and it felt great to have the rest of the other members cheering us on."

The fire chief for Maxwell was very excited for the

winners.

"It was great for them to represent the wing," said Charles Jorgensen. "Having them out here meant a lot, after all, we are all one team, one fight."

As for the commander of the 908th Airlift Wing, his thoughts on the win couldn't be clearer.

"It's a great day to be a member of the 908th family," said Col. David Condit. "We had three teams with amazing Airmen competing today. I am so proud of all of them. It's a great feeling having your family participate and win."





Senior Master Sgt. Herbert Pfeiffer receives his retirement paperwork from Lt. Col. Patrick Albrecht, commander of the 908th Civil Engineer Squadron, during his retirement ceremony held Oct. 1 at the AIS large auditorium.

## 36 Years of Service Honored

By Bradley J. Clark  
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

After 36 years of service to the nation, Senior Master Sgt. Herbert Pfeiffer retired from the U. S. Air Force Reserves during a ceremony held Oct. 1 at the Academic Instructor School large auditorium.

Pfeiffer was most recently assigned to the 908th Civil Engineer Squadron, 908th Airlift Wing.

During the ceremony Pfeiffer's career was highlighted by Chief Master Sgt. Bill Rupinen, 908th Electrical Superintendent "Pfeiffer used his 36 years of experience to ensure flawless deployment of Airmen to six Silver Flag exercises and over 1,500 annual tours. In 2012, he led the successful training and equipping of 25 Airmen in support of Operation Enduring Freedom."

Rupinen goes on to mention, "Pfeiffer was also key in properly training and mobilizing 40 Airmen to Fort McCoy, Wisconsin, for Operation Patriot Warrior leading to Air Force Reserve Command's commendation of the 908th Civil Engineer Squadron capabilities. In 2015, he spearheaded the inventory and relocation of more than \$650,000 in mobility assets to the reserve command central storage facility. Pfeiffer was vital in the success of the combined 908th Civil Engineer Squadron and 622nd Expeditionary Combat Support Training and Certification Center super unit training assembly. The first ever event included a squadron leadership review of

the brand new Airfield Damage Repair process as well as hands on training for 50 Airmen."

Rupinen also noted, "Pfeiffer was responsible for more than \$12 million in facility sustainment and re-modernization for nine 908th AW building projects to include a new flight operations building and interior renovations."

Commander of the 908th Civil Engineer Squadron, Lt. Col. Patrick Albrecht talked very fondly of Pfeiffer and his time with the unit.

"It's going to be a challenge for us going forward to fill that position with all he brought to the unit," said Albrecht. "He has lots of knowledge and his are going to be big shoes to fill. We are going to miss him and his willingness to step up and answer the call with anything we needed."

Pfeiffer took sometime after the ceremony to address the crowd.

"It's been a long road with lots of hard times and lots of people," said Pfeiffer. "To serve, to train, to go to war, that's why we are here. I've seen awful things and I've seen great things and I wouldn't change anything I've done."

Finally, Pfeiffer closed the ceremony by saying, "Twenty years in the 908th is a long time. We have always been a family and we stay a family."

## Alumni Breakfast Keeps Family Together

By Bradley J. Clark  
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

You can hardly hear the waitress ask if you want more coffee over the laughter and chatter coming from the rest of the section. She darts around people hugging and exchanging pleasantries to top off the cup. Military members are used to meetings that are more like briefings and filled with PowerPoint presentations, but this was instead comprised of coffee and bacon.

On Oct. 4, more than 20 past and present members of the 908th Airlift Wing filled up the back room of the Prattville Cracker Barrel for the monthly alumni breakfast.

"We started this back in 2004,"

said retired Chief Master Sgt. Harold Taylor, retired maintainer in the 908th. "A few of us went down to Enterprise to meet up with a friend," continued Taylor. "His old unit got together once a month to share a meal. We thought that was a great idea and decided to go from there."

The monthly event has seen its fair share of locations.

"We started at the K-mart until a hurricane happened," said Taylor. "Then we moved to the Wagon Wheel near Maxwell, until it closed, then to the Wagon Wheel in Millbrook and now at the Cracker Barrel in Prattville."

Master Sgt. Bobby Horton,

who retired as the supervisor at the 908th's wheel and tire shop, said, "It's a great way to keep up with friendships. Some of us were with the unit when it was in Mobile, to be able to get together every month is a great thing for us."

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Eubanks, accessories flight chief for the 908th said, "It's a great way to remember our history and to keep in touch with all of the amazing members we have had."

If you are a current or past member of the 908th Airlift Wing, be sure to make room in your schedule the first Tuesday of every month for breakfast with the family.



More than 20 past and present members of the 908th Airlift Wing filled up the back room of the Prattville Cracker Barrel for the monthly Alumni Breakfast Oct. 4.

# New to the 908th

Lt. Col. John Foran, MXG  
 1st Lt. Thomas Boone, AES  
 Tech Sgt. Samuel Green, ASTS  
 Staff Sgt. Lindsee Beasley, AES  
 Staff Sgt. Allison Padgett, 357 AS  
 Staff Sgt. Charles Pickett, MXS

Senior Airman Quinton Wright, CES  
 Senior Airman Paul Wascher, 357 AS  
 Airman 1st Class Joshua McCammon, MXS  
 Airman 1st Class Kiara Moore MXS  
 Airman 1st Class Antesia Taylor, MXS  
 Airman Basic Rickey Samuel, CES

## BRIEFS

### National Veterans Day Birmingham

Each year Birmingham holds one of the largest Veterans Day observances in the country. The parade is something everyone should see at least once, with more than 100 units/groups participating with bands, marching units, floats etc.

### Montgomery holds Veterans Day Parade

The Annual Montgomery River Region Veterans Day Parade will take place on November 11 beginning at 11 a.m. in front of the State Capitol and continues down Dexter Avenue to the Court Square Fountain. Following the parade, the Capitol Sounds Band will perform a Veterans Day Concert inside the City Hall Auditorium beginning at 12 - Rain or Shine. For more information, call 334-625-2100

### What is your goal in life?

By Chief Master Sgt. Martha Roy

As we progress within our careers, we all should have an end goal in mind. Some of us miss the simplest path that can lead to great rewards and a great stepping-stone to making Chief Master Sgt. Some believe that taking the path as a first sergeant is a career ender, but in actuality it is a career builder. Out of 39 AFRC command chiefs, a total of 12 have worn the diamond. The current command chief for Keesler AFB, Command Chief Master Sgt. Barnby who once was assigned to the 908th used this opportunity, Chief Master Sgt. Keith Tareco, MXG group superintendent, took this path to reach his objective and the list of names goes on.

Chief Master Sgt. Rupinen, AFRC 1st Sgt. functional manager, stated, "The time I spent as a 1st Sgt. was key to my eventual promotion to Chief Master Sgt. I was told during my selection that being a 1st Sgt. put me on top to fill a Chief Master Sgt slot. Volunteering for the special duty career field of 1st Sgt. shows you are willing to step outside your 'comfort zone' provided by your career field and take on something completely different. It changes your perspective and your view on too many things to list here. It is the closest to being in an actual Commander's position that most of us will normally see in our careers. Finally, it shows you care about the Airmen you serve with and to be a good Senior NCO those are skills you must have."

If you are looking for a great way to broaden your horizon and start a path to success, consider putting in your 1st Sgt. package. 908th Force Support Squadron will be accepting packages in December to meet a special board that will be held January. We have so many fantastic Tech Sgts. ready to pin on Master Sgt. that would be great 1st Sgts. Also many current Master Sgts. that are ready for a career change.

If your goals include being a Chief Master Sgt. or even a Command Chief Master Sgt., talk to a mentor about becoming a 1st Sgt. This wonderful opportunity could lead you to the future of becoming a Command Chief Master Sgt., or better yet the Air Force Reserve Command Chief Master Sgt., so don't delay in bringing your 1st Sgt. package to FSS. Take the first step in making a difference in your life.



Jason Carmack  
 Donnie Freeman



Melissa Bayer  
 Pat Brown Jr.  
 Angela J. Burton  
 Billy W. Kidd  
 Darryl T. Lane  
 Stacy Nabor  
 Miyoushi Simpson  
 David Wesley



Jarrett Johnston  
 Marlin D. Kennedy  
 Dominique L. Montgomery  
 Peggy Nguyen  
 Taurean Omoregie  
 Shaniqua Rogers  
 Valentina E. Walker



Shaquoya D. Brazzley  
 Carl R. Cooper  
 Adrian S. Hunter  
 William B. Hursey  
 Daniel P. Johnson  
 Vincent D. Senegar  
 Sarah N. Shea  
 Dustin G. Turner



Dalandon J. Callens  
 Deondrea K. Shepherd  
 Althia E. White



Ferlando M. Starks



## UTA Lodging

- \* Make reservations, cancellations or changes at least 48 hours prior to your arrival.
- \* Maxwell Toll-Free 1 (800) 673-9356  
 Direct (334) 953-8557/8558
- \* Input your unit authorization code (Given by unit's First Sergeant)
- \* Dial 953-8557 or 953-8558
- \* Upon request, input USER ID
- \* Upon request, input PIN number, then "#." PIN is assigned during Newcomers. **If not known, contact 908th Services.**
- \* Make, change, cancel, check reservation  
Reservation: input arrival date followed by departure date, then type [ADT, IDT, or both (ADT: Annual Tour, Mandays, Special Tour) (IDT: UTA, AFTP, RMP, Make-up UTA). UTA is IDT.]  
 > ADT only? Call Lodging: (334) 953-6133
- \* If a scheduled UTA weekend, system will tell you where you will be staying

### Questions?

Contact Tech. Sgt. Cedrea Young  
 (334) 953-1690, option 1  
 Emer cell: (254) 258-1884  
 DSN: 493-7332 cedrea.young@us.af.mil

### Checkout time:

No time to go to the front desk, or phone charge? Drop the keys in the drop box in Bldg 682 (Main Lodging) for your convenience.  
 DO NOT USE this box if you have charges on your bill.

**In accordance with AFI 34-246 smoking is prohibited in lodging rooms. You may be charged a minimum of \$50 for cleaning for violating this AFI.**

## UTAs FY17

Oct. 1-2	April 1-2
Nov. 5-6	May 6-7
Dec. 3-4	June 3-4
Jan. 7-8	July 8-9
Feb. 11-12	Aug. 5-6
March 4-5	Sept. 8-10

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
-------	-----	-------	--------------

# 908th UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

# November

# Propeller Inspection

Due to a recent U.S. Air Force C-130 propeller mishap, the 357th Airlift Squadron, flight engineers made a trip to the propulsion shop to see a propeller that had been disassembled for a Time Compliance Tech Order inspection during the October Unit Training Assembly.

“I had briefed our engineers the day before about the recent mishap, TCTO (Time Compliance Tech Order) and recommendations from the SPO (Special Program Office) to correct the propeller problem,” said Chief Master Sgt. Brent Solomon, chief flight engineer of the 908th Operations Group.

Solomon wanted the flight engineers to understand the process up close and personal.

“Looking at pictures on slides is one thing, but being able to see and put hands on the actual components is better,” explained Solomon. “Senior Master Sgt. Smith was nice enough to take time out of his busy UTA to explain the propeller components and TCTO procedures to us.”



Senior Master Sgt. Mike Smith, 908th Maintenance Squadron propulsion superintendent, explains the new Time Compliance Tech Order (TCTO) procedures to 357th Airlift Squadron flight engineers during the October Unit Training Assembly.

**908th Airlift Wing  
401 W. Maxwell Blvd.  
Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6501**

Presorted  
First Class  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #700  
Montgomery, AL

TO THE FAMILY OF:

The work done at the propulsion shop doesn't go unnoticed.

“Propellers and engines are what keeps our aircraft in the air,” said Solomon. “Our propulsion shop does an outstanding job keeping them operating.”

The critical relationships between sections and shops are key to mission success, as noted by Solomon.

“We have a good working relationship with our maintainers and always appreciate learning from them any chance we get,” explained Solomon. “We are all on the same team and work together to accomplish the same mission which makes our working relationship vital.”

