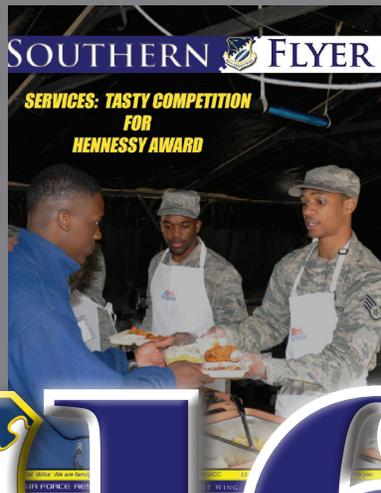
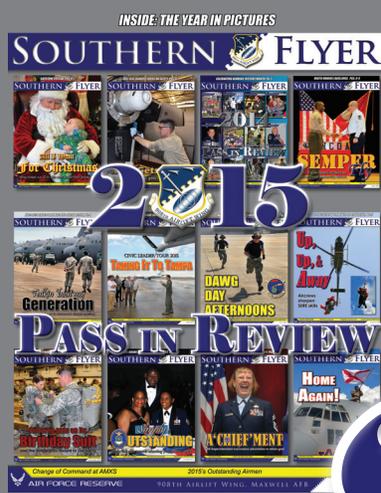
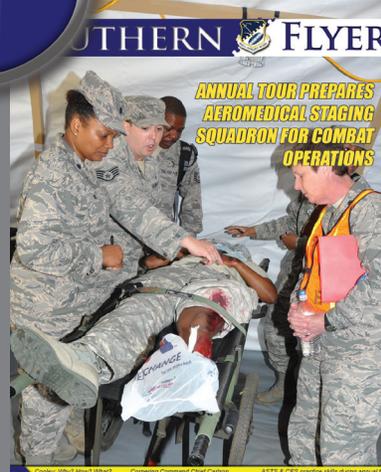
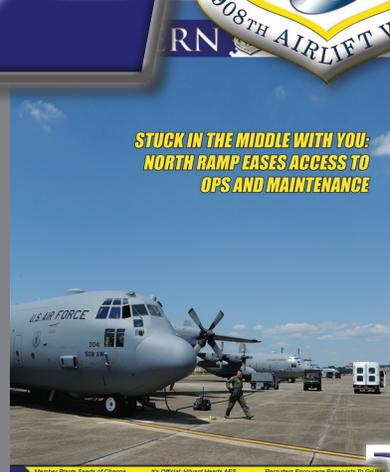
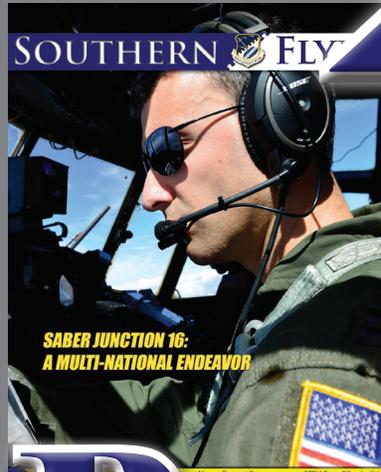


SOUTHERN FLYER



2016



PASS IN REVIEW



Santa Visits the 908th 2016 Year in Review First Sergeants Wanted Awards Banquet

SOUTHERN FLYER



Vol. 54 Issue 1
January 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 CC Commentary
- 03 Chaplains Corner
& OpSec
- 04-05 2016 Year in Review
- 06-07 Santa Visits the 908th
- 08 Goals for Health &
Awards Banquet Info
- 09 Capstone Tips
- 10 Briefs and Promotions
- 11 January UTA Schedule
- 12 1st Sgts Wanted

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The Year Ahead!

Welcome 2017! I hope all of you had a wonderful and blessed holiday season. Amy and I enjoyed time with our families in Dallas and after the New Year, I've been mentally preparing for a very busy upcoming year!

2017 will be an exciting year for the 908th Airlift Wing. For starters, we have our upcoming UEI Capstone Inspection. Our IGI Lt. Col. Gillie has been working feverishly over the last six months to get our wing prepared. He has provided some final guides for preparing and hosting our inspectors, which can be found on page 9. Please take a moment to review his recommendations and be prepared for the inspectors. Fresh haircuts, clean work areas, and all of the other steps that we take in preparation for this Capstone will go a long ways towards impressing those who come from headquarters to look at our processes.

While the UEI is an important measure of our constant readiness, much of our focus this year will be living out our mission statement, which is "To Provide Combat-Ready Support across the Spectrum of Operations." Preparations for our upcoming deployments, and the actual support of our members down range, will be our primary focus in 2017. If you are among those in the wing that are deploying, please be diligent in finishing your pre-deployment checklist steps as soon as possible. If you're one of those in the wing who is providing training or services to those



COL. JIMMIE "PAT" BROOKS
Commander, 908th Airlift Wing

who are about to deploy, please do all you can to help them get ready! We will act together as one team, and whether you are training or deployed, we will collectively put our best foot forward to be ready!

The 908th Airlift Wing has a reputation for being among the finest in Air Force Reserve Command. As we have done before, we will do everything we can to prepare our Airmen for war. To deploy and serve is to answer our nation's highest call. Be sharp, be professional, and be proficient. That is what we ask of all of our Airman, and I have full confidence in each and every one of you that we will succeed!



COVER PHOTO:

In this issue we take a look back at 2016 as we launch into a new year.



"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**

MAJ. REGINALD D. HORTON

At the beginning of humankind, the Creator stated, “it is not good for man to be alone...” Imagine the Creator looking at all His work, creating the galaxy, the earth, the sun to shed light, and animals of all kinds with companions. But when he looked at man, who was created in his own image, “He said it was not good for him to be alone.” It’s not until recent decades later that the human mind has realized the importance of this statement. Bowlby, a psychologist in the early twenty century, developed what is known today as attachment theory. He believed children who are in se-

cure relationships with their primary care taker, develop well, and relate well later in life. Today attachment theory is a practice used by many in the field of behavioral science. Gable and Maisel state, “Intimate relationships constitute not just an aspect of life but one of the most important aspects of life.” Being in a secure attachment with another is so important that if you are not in one, it could impact your cardiovascular system, your endocrine system, and your immune system. All of which make us susceptible to diseases and substance abuse.

We are all faced with a challenge when it comes to relation-

ships. John Ortberg described our relationships to that of a porcupine. Porcupines have a dilemma, how do they become intimate without injuring one another with their quills? How do we attach without hurting one another with our bad behaviors? One way we can attach without hurting is to begin by practicing positive emotion. Studies have shown when people experience gratitude, compassion, and love; people are drawn closely to others and are willing to socialize more. Joy, even triggers play in relationships which solidifies the relationship bond. This year let’s be more willing to attach in relationships.

Operations Security Essentials

Lt. Col. Thomas G. Ohland
908 AW OPSEC Program Manager

Operations Security (OPSEC) is a process to protect critical information from an adversary. An adversary may be an enemy combatant, a terrorist organization, a criminal, or even a family member. Most adversaries get their information from open source sites like social media.

So what do you need to know about OPSEC? One thing you need to know is what information is critical to your specific unit. Although there is critical information list (CIL) which is applicable to the whole Wing, the Aeromedical Staging Squadron (ASTS) and the Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AES) have specific information that should not be disclosed such as immunizations in stock or a shortage of medical supplies that could affect their mission. Do you know what is on your unit’s critical information list? A copy should be posted on your unit’s bulletin board. You could also print one out for reference or save a copy to your desk-top.

Every Airman also needs to know who your OPSEC coordinator is, who the OPSEC Program Manager and Alternate are and how to contact them. This information is also on your unit’s bulletin board.

Protecting Personal Identifiable Information (PII) is very important to Operations Security, preventing an adversary from gaining personal information or keeping criminals from stealing your identity. Treat and guard all PII like it is your own personal information, and always encrypt email with PII! Do not send PII to a non-government computer. If you print out something with PII, be sure to lock it in a desk drawer at the end of the day, or shred it when you no longer need it. OPSEC violations or inadvertent disclosure of critical information needs to be reported to your supervisor, your OPSEC coordinator, or the OPSEC Program Manager.

Remember OPSEC is everyone’s responsibility. Encourage family members to protect information for everyone’s safety!

Out with the Old and In with the New...

The 908th Airlift Wing started 2016 welcoming home 27 members from 25th Aerial Port Squadron after a six-month deployment. Also, 132 Airmen from our operations and maintenance groups returned from a deployment to the U.S. CENTCOM Area of Responsibility in January. Col. Richey assumed command of the Operations Group, returning to the 908th after assignments in Georgia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

In March, we held our 2nd Annual Awards Banquet with over 200 attendees to recognize all our Airmen of the Quarter as well as our Airmen of the Year for all categories. Lt. Col. Casey Cooley assumed command of the 908th Maintenance Group, after serving 9 years with the Alabama Air National Guard. The Force Support Squadron created their best culinary dishes to compete for the John L. Hennessy Award. The Civil Engineer Squadron's firefighters held a March Super Unit Training Assembly to practice their skills and meet their annual certification requirements.

The Family Day and Education Fair were April highlights. The wing also participated with US Armed Forces and 17 other NATO and European partner nations in Exercise Saber Junction held in Germany.

The summer brought many exciting events. A formal change of command ceremony was held in June when Col. David Condit took the guidon from Maj. Gen. Stayce Harris, 22 Air Force Commander. Also, Command Chief Master Sgt. Tina Carlson became the new Command Chief. Lt. Col. George Hilyard assumed command of the 908 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. The 908th CES performed annual tours in Maine and England. One group assisted a Boy Scout Camp in Maine with several building projects. The other group assisted the 48th Fighter Wing at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, completing overdue projects. The Security Forces Squadron also held a block-training event for their annual tour to refresh skills and complete mission-ready requirements. During a formalized NCO Induction Ceremony, 47 Airmen took their oaths. Staff Sgt. Octavious Ausbon was presented the John L.



Hennessy Award by Maj. Gen. Harris during her visit to the wing. As a result of that award, he attended a week-long forum at the Culinary Institute of America's Greystone Campus in California. The first Reserve Partnership Program visit with the Romanian Air Force was a resounding success and was recognized by both Maj. Gen. Harris and Maj. Gen. Stokes during the 22nd Air Force Change of Command in August. The wing sent two aircraft and 70 people to Romania to serve as ambassadors and train with our NATO allies. Planning is already underway for another partnership visit in 2017. Renovations were completed for our Maintenance Group, Maintenance Operations Flight and Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. Working with our 42nd Airbase Wing mission partners, the North ramp was renovated, allowing our aircraft to be moved from the West ramp to the North ramp. This move significantly improved the efficiency of flightline operations by bringing key resources closer together. The MXS Fabrication Flight is recognized all over Maxwell AFB for their contributions to our host, 42nd Air Base Wing, and to community partners. Their unique combination of talent and skill has contributed to our mission and supported the 42nd with multiple "value added" items, including: customized display representations of the 42nd shield, replicas of the B-25 and C-130 aircraft tails for the 42nd ABW Commander's Conference room and a sword for the "Order of the Sword" presentation to General Welsh.

In September, Lt. Col. Dueitt assumed command of the 908 Operations Support Squadron. Engaged as a community mission partner, we flew our "City of Montgomery" C-130 over the commissioning ceremony for the USS Montgomery in Mobile, Ala., in which state dignitaries and congressional delegation were in attendance. Also, the wing has 36 Airmen who have received Green Belt Academic training. Furthermore, we are the only Air Force Reserve Command wing with a cadre of four Motorcycle Safety Foundation Certified Rider Coaches. They trained over 45 Airmen in motorcycle safety as well as 12 Army Special Operation Soldiers to meet AOR requirements prior to a deployment.

In October four crew chiefs from the 908th Maintenance Group won the fourth annual Fire Muster competition, beating out 19 other teams from across the base.

Lt. Col. Jennifer Berry assumed command of the Force Support Squadron in November, replacing Lt. Col. Darris Edge. Operations and Maintenance once again provided airlift for the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning. For a week 908th members shuttled loads of students from Lawson Army Airfield to the drop zone, to complete five jumps required to graduate from the course.

Wing Commander, Col. David Condit, departed the unit in December, with Vice Commander, Col. Pat Brooks, assuming command on an interim basis.

To finish out the year, the 357th Airlift Squadron flew a Denton amendment humanitarian flight, delivering an ambulance to San Bartolomé Quialana, Mexico.

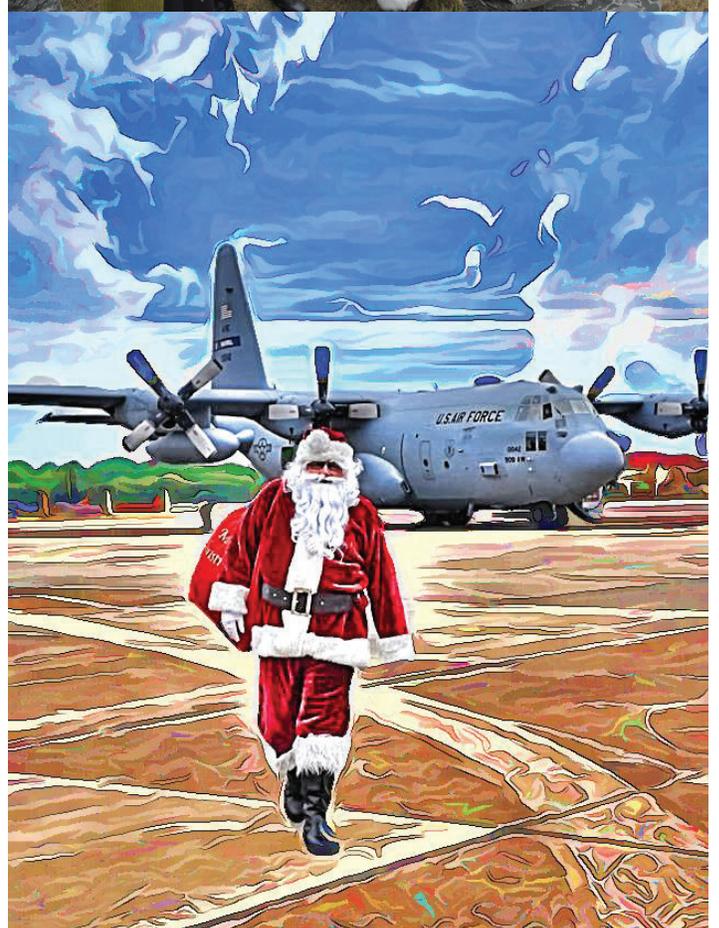


Clockwise starting at oppsite page; Security Forces Exercise in June, Saber Junction in March and April, Awards Banquest in March, Redeployment in January, and Romania Partnership in August.



Here is the 2016 Year in Review!





Why Goal Setting is Important to Our Psychological Health

By Jamie Ellis

908th Dir. of Psychological Health

Every year, I attempt to make a new year's resolution. Most of the time my resolution has been to lose weight or spend less money. My goals usually last an average of 1 month, if I make it that far. The only goal that I am really good at is not being consistent with my goals. So you make ask me why I continue to set goals if they lead to heartbreak. I believe that when we set goals it gives us meaning and purpose for our lives.

What does meaning and purpose have to do with our psychological health? It has everything to do with our psychological health. When we have meaning and purpose we can get up every day and feel that we have a direction. That direction can give us contentment to our lives. That contentment can make us feel happy with ourselves. That happiness is noticed by others who also feel joy when they are around us.

Goals give us direction and motivation. They allow us to stay focus and undistracted from the negative things that may come into our lives. Goals keep us productive and that keeps us filled with contentment in things such as our job and relationships with others.

When I was in the Navy, I had a Chief who would make everyone have a to-do list or tasker list every day. I used to hate that tasker list because I felt like that was someone else's list for me. But now, I find myself making a to-do list for myself. By making the list myself, the goals become my goals and I like the visual reminder of what I am supposed to do for the day. This list helps me stay focused and gives me purpose. I also feel contentment when I can see what I have accomplished that day. Sometimes my things that were to-do for one day get changed to the next day but that is ok too. Having a list gives me a plan and direction which fills me with purpose.

I have learned that New Year's resolutions are hard because, who thinks about things for a whole year. Daily to-do lists are something that gives me direction and purpose. When you sit down to think about what you would like to accomplish this year, think about what makes you feel useful, happy and content, and set your goals. Allow yourself to move/change your goals as circumstances dictate. Goals can lead to great health by giving you purpose and direction.

*908th Airlift Wing
2017 Annual Awards Banquet
Location: Embassy Suites, Montgomery, AL
Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017
Time: 1900-TBD
Attire: Mess Dress/
Semi-Formal
Cost: \$30 per person or \$50 per couple
Social Hour: 1800-1900
Members can purchase tickets through their
Squadron rep or 1st Sergeant*

Be prepared...Inspectors are Coming!

By Senior Master Sgt. Sean H. Kassebaum
908th Airlift Wing Inspections Superintendent

The 908th will be hosting about 40 inspectors from the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) during the February Unit Training Assembly. Their focus will be on how well the 908th Airlift Wing is doing in the inspecting process. There are a couple of things they will assess in order to answer that question.

They will look at how well our exercises are designed to find areas that need improvement. This team will look at the “After Action Reports” from all of the real deployments our Airmen have performed over the past two years. The grade will be based on whether or not we identified problem areas and put plans in place to improve those short-comings.

They will also be looking at how skilled we are at detecting non-compliance areas in our “garrison” jobs. Those are our day-to-day UTA jobs that we do when we are not at briefings or doing Computer Based Training. Things like performing annual physicals, training and education, and equipment management. All of the things we do to make sure we are ready to deploy with 72-hours’ notice. The Team has already done a lot of this part of the assessment through a virtual inspection of our Manager’s Internal Control Toolset (MICT) checklists. Most of our grade is already set based upon these findings.

Several people throughout the wing will be invited to participate in ATIS-G (Airmen to IG Sessions – Group). These are small group interviews with 10-12 Reservists, grouped by rank. These sessions are a “mandatory formation” and you must be on time. The format is simple. They will ask about your work environment and what can be done to improve it. They will be really listening for our suggestions. They are looking for genuine honesty about our working environment. They want us to identify where we need help accomplishing our mission, what resources we lack, and suggestions on how we, the Air Force and the 908th, can improve.

Be ready to show our visitors your Professionalism and how we at the 908th exemplify southern hospitality and technical expertise executing our mission statement “Provide combat-ready support across the spectrum of operations”.

Top 10 Things to Remember

1. Remember your customs & courtesies at all times
2. Be Yourself
3. Be Honest
4. Be Helpful
5. Be Respectful
6. Know Your Job
7. Do your job
8. Ensure you look your best
9. Be on time
10. Show the IG how outstanding we are at what we do!



New to the 908th

Tech Sgt. Marcus Black, OG
 Staff Sgt. Morris Lorenzo, 25 APS
 Senior Airman Christopher Tarantino, LRS
 Senior Airman Jerrell Williams, SFS
 Airman 1st Class Teterion Blackmon, CES

Airman 1st Class Jeremy Driver, AES
 Airman 1st Class Danielle Hamilton, 25 APS
 Airman 1st Class Jasmine Jackson, CES
 Airman Brianna Clay, SFS
 Airman Basic Anthony Marks, CES

BRIEFS

Air Force tests new stretcher to help TBI patients

Air Force researchers are developing a new aeromedical evacuation stretcher that can more efficiently and safely transport patients with brain and spinal injuries.

The stretcher aims to keep the patient stable and comfortable while cutting down on the amount of equipment needed while in transit.

The new device is rigid, unlike the standard NATO litter that's currently used to transport patients with traumatic brain and spinal injuries. Troops with such injuries need to be stabilized, but the NATO stretcher can bend six inches or more in certain conditions.

To counteract this, a Vacuum Spine Board is added on top of the NATO litter. The board provides rigid full-body support for the patient, said Lt. Col. Elena Schlenker, the contingency operations division chief and course director for the Critical Care Air Transport Team. With the new stretcher, it's one piece of equipment instead of two, which also cuts down on weight.

"The newly developed litter will provide more patient comfort and stabilization," she said. "It will decrease the vibration that does affect TBI patients."

Nearly 330,000 U.S. service members sustained head injuries in Iraq or Afghanistan, 82 percent of which were considered mild traumatic brain injuries, also called concussions.

The number of head injuries suffered by troops since 2001 -- due to blasts, blunt trauma and penetrating wounds -- has been so significant that TBI often is referred to as the "signature wound" of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Scientists at the U.S. Air Force School

of Aerospace Medicine at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio teamed up with Cornerstone Research Group to work on getting the new stretcher into the field. They have been testing and evaluating the new stretcher since 2013.

In addition to being rigid, the one-piece stretcher can absorb shock and vibration during travel, and it features a specialized mattress pad that will help the patient avoid developing bed sores.

The stretcher also is designed to be compatible with both air and ground transportation. The same stretcher that's used on a C-17 can also be used in the back of an ambulance so the patient doesn't need to be transferred between stretchers.

Lt. Col. Dwayne Rolniak, the Aero-medical Test Lab lead, said if it fits in one, they want to make sure it fits in all vehicles and aircraft.

"We make sure it can shut the door, and we put these litters next to each other and make sure they do fit," he said.

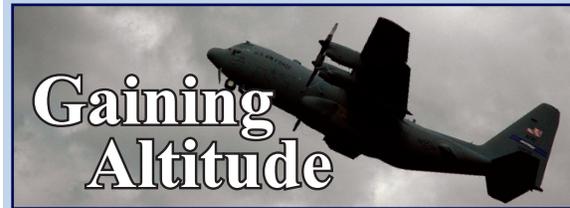
Rolniak said the litters go through testing to ensure they can withstand the vibrations and movements that a normal Humvee or aircraft would experience.

"We put it on a vibration table to make sure it doesn't fall apart or collapse on itself," he said.

The tests also determine whether the litter can stay secure if there's a sudden decrease in pressure or the aircraft hits an air pocket, Rolniak said.

Rolniak said how quickly the stretcher will be available to troops is up to the manufacturers, once all parties are satisfied with the results of the testing.

The goal is to have the new stretcher available across all services, Schlenker said.



James R. Swingle
 Christopher L. White



Christian C. Forsythe
 Eric D. Mahone
 Jonathan E. Martin
 Demonte L. Powell
 Brandon T. Self



Amber D. Burhans
 Aysatis N. Harris
 Joshua A. Mccammon
 Leon C. Mullin
 Malcom X. Walker



Janie E. Murray



Zachary A. Chevalier
 Jacolby J. Fitts
 Robert L. Rembert III
 Jacob M. Wright



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- * 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.

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. 9-10

908TH UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

January

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, January 6, 2017			
1500	TBD	Commander's Staff Meeting	Bldg 804/42ABW Conf Rm
1700	TBD	First Sergeants' Meeting	Holiday Inn Express, Prattville
Saturday, January 7, 2017			
0600	TBD	Fit to Fight Testing Session One	HAWC
0730	0800	** Sign In **	Orderly Room
0730	TBD	Fit To Fight Testing Session Two	HAWC
0800	1030	Newcomer's MPS Inprocessing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
0800	1100	Lab work/DNA/HIV/Blood testing	Bldg 760/Lab
0800	1530	Physicals	Bldg 760/Floor 1
0830	1530	Immunizations	Bldg 760/Floor 1
0900	0930	SAPM Training	Bldg 1056/CC Conf Rm
0900	1000	UDM Meeting	Bldg 848/CF Classroom
0900	1000	Fitness for duty (DD 689 & Fitness Letter)	Bldg 760/Floor 1
0900	1000	First Duty Station Briefing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
0930	1000	TDY/PCS Outprocessing	Bldg 1056/Rm 111/DPMSA
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg 903/FSDE
1330	1400	Fitness for Duty (DD 689 & Fitness Letter)	Bldg 760/Floor 1
1700	1730	Sign Out	Orderly Room
Sunday, January 8, 2017			
0600	TBD	Fit To Fight Testing Session One	HAWC
0630	0700	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	TBD	Fit To Fight Testing Session Two	HAWC
0930	1030	HRDC Meeting	Bldg 1056/CC Conf Rm
1230	1300	SORTS/DRRS/ART Briefing	Bldg 1055/908 CAT
1300	1500	AFSC SPECIFIC TRAINING	Designated Workcenter
1600	-	Sign Out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule		
Activity	Dates & hours of operation	Location/Ext.
Newcomers' Trg FLT	Sat 0730-1700	Bldg 1056/Rm 101
MPS Customer Svc	Sat 1300-1700 / Sun 0700-1300 M-F 0900-1600 <i>(Closed 1300-1600 every Wed except drill week)</i>	Bldg 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	MTTFH 0800-1600 / Wed 0800-1200 Sat 0900-1600 / Sun 1230-1500	Bldg 1056/3-6722
Fitness For Duty	Sat 0900-1000 ** Bring DD Form 689 **	Bldg 760 1st Floor/ 3-5714
Medical Records	Sat 0800-1500 / Closed Sun	Bldg 760 2nd Floor/ 3-5714
Individual Equipment		Bldg 1154/3-6020
Clothing Sales	Sat 0900-1500	Bldg 851/3-7505
Restricted Area Badge	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 502/3-4283
Geneva Conv Cards	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 502/3-4283
Dining Hall	Breakfast: 0600-0800 Brunch: 1030-1300 Dinner: 1600-1800	Bldg 668/3-5127
Lodging Office		Bldg 682 /240-5600
Photo Lab	M-F 0730-1630 / Sun 1300-1500	Bldg 926/3-7981
Comm Help Desk	Sat 0800-1600 / Sun 1300-1500	

What is Your Goal in Life?

By Chief Master Sgt. Martha Roy
908th Force Support Superintendent

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 Air Force Reserve Command command chiefs, 12 have worn the diamond. The current Command Chief for Keesler Air Force Base, Command Chief Master Sgt. Barnby who once was assigned to the 908th used this opportunity, Chief Master Sgt. Keith Tareco, MXG Group Superintendent, also took this path to reach his objective and the list of names goes on.

Chief Master Sgt. Rupinen, AFRC First Sergeant 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 the "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 than 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 at 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 until February to meet a 1st Sgt. board in March 2017. We have so many fantastic Tech Sgts. ready to pin on Master Sgt. that would be great 1st Sgts. to include 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 becoming a Command Chief Master Sgt., or better yet the Air Force Reserve Command Chief Master Sgt., so do not delay in bringing your 1st Sgt. package to FSS. Take the first step in making a difference in your life.

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