

SOUTHERN FLYER

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE ANNUAL AWARDS WINNERS FROM THE 908TH AIRLIFT WING



SOUTHERN FLYER



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Fond Fairwell from your OG

This month, I will be retiring after serving almost 34 years in the United States Air Force. The one thing that has stayed constant during those 34 years is change.

When I was in college attending the Reserve Officers Training Corps, the Thunderbirds had just changed aircraft, from T-38's to the brand new F-16 Fighting Falcon. The West ramp here at Maxwell had 16 parking spots, for each of the unit's C-7A Caribou aircraft. The 908th was a Tactical Airlift Group, not the Wing that we are a part of now. Things are much different today because of change.

Webster's online dictionary defines change as a transitive verb. It points out the change is "to make something different in some particular (ALTER); to make radically different (TRANSFORM); to give a different position, course, or direction to." Healthy and strong organizations must change. It is the only way to make them stronger. Our Air Force would not be as great as it is without change.

To continue doing things the way that we always have leads to regression. Our international rivals are constantly looking at ways to gain an advantage over us. Strength leads to survival. National Defense Strategy is modified to identify what our priorities are, and where we need to focus our efforts to remain strong and viable. Our efforts must be altered from time to time to keep up with emerging threats. Our force needs to transform itself periodically to retain the advantages we currently have. Failure to do so will lead to regression.

Change can be painful, but it can also



be a time of great opportunity. Grasping and accepting the change can be exciting and keep things fresh. It can stimulate our way of thinking, and allow us to develop new techniques to make us more survivable. It can pave the way for more efficient operations, and make us better than we have ever been.

One thing that hasn't changed in my career has been the Airmen I have served with. They have always represented the best that the United States citizenry has to offer. They/You have been remarkable and outstanding. There isn't anyone I can think of better suited to lead our Air Force in change as the men and women who serve in the 908th Airlift Wing. Whatever the future may throw at you, I know that our Wing will be in good hands because of your dedication to this Nation. You are all awesome, and I will rest easy in my retirement knowing that you are here protecting our country. It has been my pleasure serving beside you.



COVER PHOTO:

908th Airlift Wing Commander, Col. Craig Drescher and Wing Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Tracy Cornett and guest speaker Master Sgt. Jahara Brown flank the 908th's six annual awards winners for the year. The 908th awarded all of the wing-wide winners during their annual awards banquet at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama Feb. 1, 2020. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Max Goldberg)



"Provide Combat Capability Anywhere... Anytime"

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From The Command Chief

As we all know, change is our only constant in this life. Change is something that we can either embrace or ignore. Many choose to ignore it because it takes them out of their comfort zone. Being in our comfort zone is not a bad idea in itself, but it does rob us of the opportunity to learn.

Remaining in that comfort zone restricts us from exploring areas to grow in our lives.

At one point in my military career, I felt like I wasn't going anywhere else and that I would continue to do my daily routine until I retired. I wasn't really interested in any upward movement or taking on any additional tasks. I was comfortable! It was at that point I had an eye-opening conversation with my command chief.

During our conversation, the command chief told me, "get out of your comfort zone and make yourself vulnerable." At first, I thought I was giving my best and if I moved any further outside of my comfort zone, I would fail. After thinking about his comments for a while, I really began to understand what he was talking about. Basically, he was telling me to get out of the day to day grind of doing mundane tasks that I was very knowledgeable about and move into an area that I knew very little or nothing about. That's where growth and

learning happens! I wasn't sure that I liked the idea, but what did I have to lose?

I had one of two choices to make that day. I could continue serving comfortably or I could take the chief's advice and step out of my comfort zone and be vulnerable. I decided on the latter choice. Fast forward seven years and three assignments later, I find myself serving alongside of you at the 908th Airlift Wing in a position that I never thought I could serve in...until my conversation with the command chief.

I will leave you with this challenge, ask yourself, Am I comfortable? If your answer is yes, I would encourage you to step up and step outside of your comfort zone to see where it takes you. Remember, embrace being uncomfortable because it is the catalyst to learning.



Tools for Life: Appreciation

By Amy Kemp-Wellmeier
908th Airlift Wing Director of Psychological Health

So what is so important about Appreciation?

Appreciation is a fundamental human need that is often considered an unnecessary skill in our already busy schedules and lives. Besides aren't people that need appreciation showing a lack of confidence and being needy? Shouldn't they know that they are appreciated without others having to draw attention to it? Shouldn't a well done job be satisfaction in itself? Nope. It is estimated that 64% of Americans leave their job and over 40% of marriages end because of lack of it.

Appreciation gives us purpose, changes our perceptions, and fosters positivity. We all want and need to feel valued for who we are and recognized for our contribution and accomplishment. We all need to know that we truly make a difference.

Purpose.

Appreciation of our good works confirms our work has purpose and that we are valued in the relationships and systems we are part of. Studies consistently show that when our work is valued, our satisfaction and performance increases. Feeling genuinely appreciated makes us feel secure, which is what empowers us to do our best work. It builds our self-confidence, self-esteem and our entire self-image. It gives us energy and motivation to work hard and to do more. Conversely, when we aren't given positive feedback it may seem as if others don't notice or care about our contributions. We may lose our sense of purpose if we think that what we do isn't important enough to be noticed and appreciated. We may start to wonder if we are doing a good job. We may start to become sensitive to comments made by others and only hear them as negative. Social Science studies show that healthy work settings and relationships function on the ratio of three positives to every one negative feedback in conversations. Exceptional work settings and relationships are a result of five positive feedbacks to every one negative! Simply put, we lose our sense of purpose if we come to believe that what we do isn't important enough to be noticed and appreciated.

Perception.

Appreciation has the ability to change our perception by changing our focus. When we are not getting

along with our co-workers or loved ones it is often our basic nature to focus on what we don't like and to take for granted the positive things we do like. We can get so focused on what we don't like, that we stop seeing the good in the other. To counter this, next time you find yourself in this situation attempt to list five things you appreciate about the other person. Think about how they make a positive difference in your life, now or in the past. Then consider how important what you are upset about now is in the scope of your relationship. Focusing on what you appreciate in the other person changes our focus to see them in a new light. Additionally, when we show appreciation to another person it changes their perception of us as well. People are much more willing to go the extra distance if they know they will be appreciated.

Positivity

Positivity is the practice of using an optimistic attitude. Positivity is a side effect of appreciation. Whether the giver or the receiver of appreciation we will feel more positive. Feelings of anger and frustration disappear when we feel appreciated and are often replaced with feelings of happiness and peace. The human mind is not wired to be aware of appreciation and negative emotions at the same time. Positive Psychology has shown that appreciation is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Studies show that the more we look for opportunities to show appreciation the more positive emotions are created for everyone! People feel more positive emotions, enjoy activities more, improve their health, deal better with challenges, and build stronger relationships.

So how do we show appreciation?

In order for appreciation to have its greatest power it must be *timely, specific, brief*, and BE GENUINE. Over the next year we will look at various ideas and ways to show appreciation and to build the quality of our lives and relationships. Let's start with showing appreciation towards others in our lives and see if it cultivates the purpose, perception and positivity that will strengthen and improve the quality of our lives. I dare you. I think you will be amazed at how such a simple practice can produce such big results.

908th has New Key Spouse Mentor

By Senior Airman Shelby Thurman

908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Tina Harstad is the 908th Airlift Wing Key Spouse Mentor. As the Key Spouse Mentor, she works with Wing leadership team to plan, coordinate and execute the Wing's Key Spouse Program. She is responsible for promoting partnerships and relationships between the unit's Key Spouses, leadership, families and other installation agencies.

"I wanted to be a Key Spouse to ensure that our families are connected to the units and the Wing so that they know that there is support and contact for questions big and small," said Harstad.

Harstad has been a Key Spouse Volunteer for almost nine years. She has served at the 934th Airlift Wing in Minneapolis, the 926th Fighter Wing in Las Vegas and at the 310th Space Wing in Colorado Springs.

Harstad has been recognized and honored over the years for her selfless service. In 2014, she was the recipient of the Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year award. In 2015, she was inducted as the 14th member of the 934th Airlift Wing's Order of the Global Viking. The Order of the Global Viking was established as a way for the Airmen of the 934th Airlift Wing to show their appreciation to individuals that give steadfast support and contributions to both the Wing and Air Force Reserve Command. Also, in 2015, Harstad was named the AFRC Key Spouse of the Year. After receiving the award, Harstad was personally coined by then AFRC Command Chief, Chief Cameron Kirsey. Harstad was then



thanked for her dedication and service to the Airmen and their families of the 934th and the AFRC.

Harstad is married to Senior Master Sgt. Jim Harstad, 908th Force Support Squadron superintendent. They currently live in Montgomery, AL. Harstad has one adult son, Josiah, who lives with his wife

in Dallas, TX.

Harstad says that it is vital for wings to have a strong Key Spouse program because, "There is always that chance that somebody might need help, and I might be the one to connect them to the resources that they need or the people that they need to talk to."

The 908th Airlift Wing firefighters conducted total force exercises Jan. 9 and 10, 2020, at the Montgomery Regional Air National Guard Base, Ala. and at the 908th Airlift Wing fire station, for emergency management procedural training.

On Jan. 9, the 908th firefighters worked with the 187th Fighter Wing firefighters on F-16 Fighting Falcons and other aircraft emergency procedures. The crews were briefed over various hand signals, tools and safety systems. Afterwards, they practiced trouble-

shooting underground generators and toured the F-16 Fighting Falcons hangars.

On Jan. 10, the 908th firefighters conducted a total force exercise with emergency management Airmen from the 908th Civil Engineering Squadron, the 42nd Operational Medical Readiness Squadron and contractors from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Emergency Management. The 908th firefighters and emergency management Airmen



simulated the presence of biohazardous materials, executing emergency management and handling procedures. The health and welfare of those involved in the training event was monitored by 42nd OMRS airmen.

“It’s important to do total force exercises so that you know your counterparts,” said Defonzo Brown, 908th fire station chief.



Congratulations to the 908



Photos by Senior Airman Max Goldberg and Senior Airman Shelby Thurman
908th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

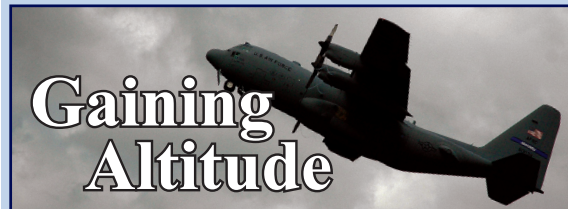
The 908th Airlift Wing held its Annual Awards Banquet during the February Unit Training Assembly to honor the wing members who have gone above and beyond during the last year. 908th Airlift Wing Annual Award Winners, from top down, left to right are; Senior Airman Brianna Clay from the 908th Mission

Support Group for Airman of the Year. Tech. Sgt. Jason Gessler from the 908th Maintenance Group for NCO of the Year. Master Sgt. Kevin Garrett from the 908th Maintenance Group for Senior NCO of the Year. Senior Master Sgt. Eric Sharman from the 908th Maintenance Group for 1st Sgt. of the Year. 1st Lt. Edward Capell from the 908th Operations Group for Company Grade Officer of the Year. Mr. Michael Smith from the 908th Maintenance Group for Civilian of the Year Cat II.



New to the 908th

Gaining Altitude



Lt. Col. Douglas Werner, OG
 Maj. Justin McCullough, 357 AS
 Capt. Natasha Bozeman Guthridge, ASTS
 Capt. Jonathan Smith, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Brittany Brown, ASTS
 Staff Sgt. Kenneth Pickens, AMXS
 Staff Sgt. Charles Ross, MXS
 Senior Airman Issakha Ndiaye, MXS
 Senior Airman Shakirra Steward, OSS
 Airman 1st Class Devon Antoine, AMXS
 Airman 1st Class Andrew Dumitru, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Benjamin Fonrose, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Christopher Golston, SFS
 Airman 1st Class Ashley King, MXS

Airman 1st Class Karly Lockie, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Norvin Martinez Moralez, AMXS
 Airman 1st Class Christian Norwood, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Tiara Peoples, SFS
 Airman 1st Class Kyler Salter, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Devan Smiley, MXG
 Airman 1st Class Kali Stanton, AW
 Airman 1st Class Alex Tongson, MXS
 Airman 1st Class Lee Turner, MXS
 Airman Jarreau Hall, SFS
 Airman Basic Deronta Delaney, SFS
 Airman Basic Kevontrae Holley, SFS
 Airman Basic Teare Streeter, CES
 Airman Basic Helena Urban, CES

Patrick Banks
 Cameron Brock
 Dekendrick Dubose
 Seung Han
 Kenneth Jackson
 Jamal Jones
 John Marta
 Norvin Martinez Morales
 Evan Mayomi
 Patrick McCants
 Khari Moore
 Chandra Obryant
 Jonathon Robinson
 Ryan Rosser
 Jordan Rowland
 Vanessa Senegar
 Augusta Thomas
 Shelby Thurman
 Yeseni Vasquezyanex
 Wayne Williams



GAINING ALTITUDE



Robert Byrd



Terance Jackson



Jonathan Angiulli
 Anson Pryde
 Mona Villalobos



Joseph Brown
 Korshontes Butts
 Casey Estes
 John Flournoy
 Jamie Hicks
 Avian Shine
 Brandon Williams



Tramel Bailiff
 Miguel Barragan
 Amber Burhans
 Joshua Mccammon
 Justin Moore
 Cecilia Nguyen
 Brandon Smith
 Victoria Tarver
 Tyler Wright
 Chase Young



Ricardo Arias
 Sierra Bothwell
 Khobi Brown
 Jalen Calhoun
 Freddy Florian
 Kenya Frye
 Jarreau Hall
 Lacey Jackson
 Davontia Johnson
 Tikaria Jones
 Jayla Kennon
 Logan Mclin
 Colton Stone
 Kendal Tucker
 Isaiah Walker



Deronta Delaney
 Christopher Golston
 Tykeria Grissom
 Dylan Hanna
 Dejon Harris
 Dru Hitt
 Kevontrae Holley
 Adrian Lavant
 Gregory Pritchett
 Ladarren Rivers
 Azariah Saxton
 Makayla Silas
 Romany Smith
 Helena Urban

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 - * Upon request, input PIN number, then "#."
PIN is assigned during Newcomers. **If not known, contact your Squadron Lodging Rep.**
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(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 FY20

Oct. 5-6	April 4-5
Nov. 2-3	May 2-3
Dec. 7-8	June 6-7
Jan. 11-12	July 11-12
Feb. 1-2	Aug. 1-2
March 7-8	Sept. 12-13

MARCH-APRIL 2020 **11**

908TH UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

March

Start	End	Event	Location/OPR
Friday, March 6, 2020			
1500	TBD	Commander's Staff Meeting	Bldg 1050/357th Conf Rm
1700	TBD	First Sergeants' Meeting	Bldg 845/AMXS Conf Rm
Saturday, March 7, 2020			
0600	1000	Fit To Fight Testing	HAWC
0630	0700	Sign In	Orderly Room
0730	1530	Clothing Issue	Bldg 1154/Rm 131
0730	0815	Mask Issue for Weapons Qual	Bldg 1154
0800	1100	Lab work/DNA/HIV/Blood testing	Bldg 760/Lab
0800	1530	Physicals	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0830	1530	Immunizations	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0900	1100	Newcomer's MPS Inprocessing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
0900	0930	SAPM Training	Bldg 1056/CC Conf
0900	1000	UDM Meeting	Bldg 848/ CF Classrm
0900	1000	Fitness for Duty (DD 689)	Bldg 760/Flr 1
0900	1000	First Duty Station Briefing	Bldg 1056/Classroom
1230	1530	CDC Testing	Bldg 903/FSDE
1600	1630	Sign Out	Orderly Room
Sunday, March 8, 2020			
0700	0730	Sign In	Orderly Room
0700	1100	CBRNE	Bldg 1154/Room 119
1200	1600	CBRNE	Bldg 1154/Room 119
1230	1300	Readiness Reporting/DRRS/ART Briefing	Bldg 1055/908 CAT
1400	1600	AFSC SPECIFIC TRAINING	Designated Workcenter
1600	-	Sign Out	Orderly Room

Support functions' schedule

Activity	Dates & hours of operation	Location/Ext.
Newcomers' Trg Flt	Sat 0700-1600	Bldg 1056/Rm 101
MPS Customer Svc	Sat 1300-1600 Sun 0700-1300 M-F 0900-1600 (Closed 1300-1600 every Wed except drill week)	Bldg 1056/3-5522
Reserve Pay	MTTHF 0800-1600 / Wed 0800-1200 Sat 0900-1500 Sun 1200-1500	Bldg 1056/3-6722
Medical Records	Sat 0800-1500	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 Lunch: 1100-1300 Dinner: 1600-1830	Bldg 668/3-6450
Lodging Office		Bldg 682 /240-5600
Photo Lab	M-F 0730-1600	Bldg 926/3-7981
Comm Help Desk		Bldg 848/3-9703

AIRMAN & FAMILY READINESS INFO



Taking care of families is an important part of the quality of life for Airmen with programs intended to enhance morale and quality of life for Airmen and their families.



Emergency assistance provided for reservist on Title 10 orders more than 15 days.



Commanders program promoting cohesion between unit leadership and family members.



Office 334-953-9018
Work Cell 334-472-8556(call or text)

MON. - FRI. 0800-1630

UTA WEEKEND:
SAT. 0700-1600; SUN. 0700-1600

Bldg. 1056, 2nd Floor

Stop by your 908th Airman & Family Readiness office to learn more about all the programs available.



Mandated for ALL reservist on Title 10 Orders



HHC program providing child care for the UTA weekends.

Military Family Life Counseling
(334) 559-0702 or (334) 744-0418
Personal Financial Counselor
(334) 618-6991

\$\$\$\$\$\$ Financial Readiness = Mission Readiness \$\$\$\$\$\$



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