

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



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February 2014

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Winter Safety

Be safe this winter. If you have any questions or concerns about winter safety contact MSgt. JD Crawford at 987-7959.

Photo Feature

This month we're featuring photos from this month's happenings around the wing during February UTA.

RAT Team Updates

See page 8 for this month's RAT team update and information in case the one of the teams is needed during this icy winter weather season.

189AW Facebook

Check our wing Facebook page for updates on winter delays and closings at www.facebook.com/189aw

Public Website

Visit our website for news, newsletters, photos, videos and more at:

www.189aw.ang.af.mil



MSgt. Dan Anderson, Lt. Col. Todd Stuff, 1st Lt. Shalin Gieson and Lt. Col. Erik Polta take the Inspector General Oath of Office administered by Col Steve Eggenesperger, 189th Airlift Wing commander (far left). (Air National Guard Photo by Senior Airman Ian Caple, 189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs)

189AW gets new Commander's Inspection Program

By Lt. Col Eric Polta
189th Airlift Wing Inspector General

The four mentioned above were sworn in by Col. Steve Eggenesperger as they begin to implement the new Air Force Inspection System (AFIS) that will enact the new Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP) in the 189 AW.

This new system will place inspection responsibility and authority with each wing commander, and the IG staff, and will be supplemented by a Capstone Event from the MAJCOM every 48-60 months.

During times of shrinking resources, this new AFIS is designed to be a highly effective and efficient inspection system—with every Airman a

sensor—and will identify and report the earliest indications of a reduction in our ability to deliver what the President and nation expect from the world's greatest Air Force.

The CCIP is the foundation of the AFIS and has two key components: An inspection program, executed by the IG with support from subject-matter experts (SME) in the Wing Inspection Team (WIT), to inspect Groups, Squadrons and other organizations at and below the Wing level, and a self-assessment program, using the Management Internal Control Toolset (MICT), that reports compliance with requirements listed in Self-Assessment Checklists (SAC) to the chain of command and appropriate

staffs.

The new inspection system is structured to inspect and report in accordance with the four key areas of Managing Resources, Leading People, Improving the Unit and Executing the Mission.

The IG team is looking for sharp airmen to join the WIT, so if you are interested in joining, please work requests through your chain of command.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the IG Staff, at 987-8622/8128. After all - they are HERE TO HELP.

Fraud, waste and abuse, and other complaint resolution issues should still be worked via the IGQ office (Lt. Col. Givens 987-3415).



The maintainer

By Lt. Col. Dean Martin
189th MXS commander

Aircraft and equipment readiness is THE maintenance mission. AFI 21-101 (a.k.a. the maintenance Bible) states “The maintenance function ensures assigned aircraft and equipment are safe, serviceable, and properly configured to meet mission needs.” Sounds simple enough but have you ever taken the time to consider what all your maintainers do to make that happen? AFI 21-101 goes on to say “These maintenance actions include, but are not limited to, inspection, repair, overhaul, modification, preservation, refurbishment, troubleshooting, testing, and analyzing condition and performance.”

As an aircrew member, I have always had a high level of appreciation for the long hours and often uncomfortable conditions our maintainers endure to provide mission ready aircraft. Over the past year, I have gained an even higher level of respect for these men and women who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure mission success.

As you already know, 1 October 2013 was a significant milestone for the 189 AW. With the addition of all legacy C-130 aircrew training, came a significant workload increase with a manpower requirement bill not payable until April 2014. What you may not know is that the number of aircrew students sent to the 189 AW is based upon having 20 mission ready aircraft while we only have 15 on average. Yet despite a shortage of manpower and airframes we have reduced

the number of late graduations as a Wing by over half! This did not happen by chance.

Our maintainers provide 24-hour coverage via three shifts. Our flightline maintainers (approximately one quarter of the MXG) focus on daily generation of aircraft to include servicing (fuel, LOX, oil etc.), inspections (preflight, thruflight, postflight) and launch/recovery. Did you know preflight/postflight inspections account for 12-18 hours for each aircraft respectively? Working diligently behind the scenes are our maintenance specialists (approximately half of the MXG). Our specialists are responsible for troubleshooting, repairing, and phase inspections of aircraft systems and aircraft ground equipment (power carts, aircraft heaters, engine stands etc.) The remaining quarter of the MXG encompass QA, MOF and support staff. Quality Assurance ensures the health of maintenance group by monitoring and enforcing maintenance standards. The Maintenance Operations Flight ensures the health of the aircraft by tracking aircraft data, scheduling inspections, and coordinating maintenance operations between flightline, backshops, operations and supply, while also ensuring individuals are properly trained to perform their duties.

Have you ever had a job where you have to account for how much time you spend on each and every task you perform? Each maintainer must document every minute of every work day and I am NOT referring to ATAAPS. You



Lt. Col. Dean Martin

see every job from a preflight inspection to replacing a starter valve must be documented in the Maintenance Information System. Just as important is the amount of time spent on each job by each maintainer. Entering individual time is important because manpower personnel review/use this information to help determine your manpower and job guide standards.

One of life’s many challenges is when you make it look easy, people think it is. To the general on-looker, there appears to be a small army of folks walking around aircraft, moving support equipment, driving around in trucks and vans; but to someone conversant with aircraft maintenance, it’s viewed as a well-choreographed production. A production focused on every minute detail, from the maintenance actions being performed on the aircraft to the countless number of dedicated professionals behind the scenes, including personnel and knowledge operations, making the show a successful production. To the maintainers: Thanks for all you do and thanks for making it look easy!

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Want to receive the newsletter via e-mail? Call or e-mail public affairs to be added to the list.



www.facebook.com/189AW



Partners in Education program helping 188th Fighter Wing build bridges with community

By Tech. Sgt. Josh Lewis
188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

FORT SMITH, Ark. -- Community outreach is vital to mission success. For many years, the 188th Fighter Wing here has been committed to helping the community in which it lives, and enjoys some of the highest levels of community support across the Air National Guard. But that relationship is a two-way street. To do their part, members of the 188th volunteer for programs that create strong bonds between the base and our community. One example of this can be seen through the Partners in Education program.

Partners in Education program links the wing with a local school, and lets the school tap into the enthusiasm and expertise of the unit members when help is needed. For more than 20 years, the 188th has been partnered with Sutton Elementary School in Fort Smith, Ark. When a school needs assistance with items such as supplies, food for low income families or mentoring children from broken homes, they can rely on members of the unit to assist in that need.

"It appears that some children in the school need a strong adult influence because some kids lack that in their families," said Lt. Col. Judith Mathewson, 188th Mission Support Group deputy commander.

The mentoring piece of the PIE program is a relatively new part for the unit. Tech. Sgt. Briane McCaslin, 188th Fighter Wing Fuels Operation Center manager, joined the

program in fall of 2013. McCaslin is mentoring a child who was making Cs, Ds and Fs in class. Since he started mentoring, the child has shown remarkable improvement with all As and Bs.

"He is turning in all of his homework now, and I hope this helps him out in life and he can learn from this," McCaslin said. "The program also allows people to donate a bag of food to ensure that less fortunate children have food to eat through the weekend."

Members from the 188th participated in various events such as a fall festival MASH Bash, in which they set up a simulated triage unit. The program also allowed unit members to attend a career day to teach kids about jobs and personal experiences in the Air Force.

Career day allows members to be positive role models and encourage children to earn their diploma, set goals for themselves and stay away from illicit activities like alcohol and drugs. The lesson plan includes fostering interest in science and math in young men and women to teach them.

"We set up in a classroom with cots and bandages, members from 188th Medical Group and other people attended," Mathewson said. "During the career day, Lt. Col. Toby Brallier did a phenomenal job and was able to relate to the kids."

As a capstone for the PIE program, classes from Sutton Elementary recently accomplished an Ebbing



Master Sgt. Greg Palmer, 188th Security Forces Squadron, shows the M-4 rifle to students with Fort Smith (Ark.) Sutton Elementary School. Sutton toured the 188th Fighter Wing's Ebbing Air National Guard Base Jan. 29, 2014, as part of the Fort Smith School District's Partners in Education program. The 188th has been Sutton's partner for more than 20 years. Sutton toured the 188th's hangar, fire station and Security Forces Squadron during its visit. The group also had lunch in the 188th's Citizen Airmen Dining Hall. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Maj. Heath Allen)

Air National Guard Base tour to allow the children to see firsthand what it's like to be in the 188th.

"This was the highlight of the year for these kids," said Audra Efurd, Sutton Elementary School counselor. "We've really appreciated the partnership with the 188th and everything the wing has done for us at Sutton. I know the kids will be talking about their experience here for a long time. They were so excited and the 188th did a great job of hosting us and showing the kids an amazing time."

For the PIE program to succeed, however, it needs

support from unit members. Many peoples' only experience of the 188th is seeing aircraft fly over the city. With the ongoing mission conversion, the 188th will be less visible to the general public, and will need avenues like the PIE program to allow Guard members to interact with the communities it serves.

Programs such as these are mutually beneficial to the unit and community. Students receive the direct benefits of having Guardsmen take an interest in their lives, and the unit retains a useful education and recruiting tool that allows it to stay in touch with members of the community.



Warrior of the Month

Rank & Name: A1C Trevor Grooms
Unit: 123 Intelligence Squadron
Job Title: (3D0X2) Cyber Systems Operations
Status: Title 10
Hometown: Pocahontas, AR
Civilian Employment: 123 IS Cyber Systems Operations
Family: Single; father: MSgt. Troy Grooms, mother: Lesa Grooms, brother: Troy Grooms Jr.
Why I joined the Guard: I've always wanted to be in the military. My dad is in the Guard and I am working on a degree, so I decided that the Guard would be the best place for me since I can serve my country, go to college, and stay close to home.
Most rewarding part of my job: The people I work with. I have met a lot of great people working here. It's also great that I can feel like I have accomplished something every day.
Hobbies: I enjoy being outside. Riding four wheelers, shooting guns, and spending time with friends. Also, learning how to play guitar.
My favorite movie is: True Grit
My favorite TV Show(s): Colbert Report
My favorite book: The Harbinger
A perfect day would be: Waking up early to go duck hunting, taking a nap, then spending rest of the night with some buddies at the cabin.
I admire: My Grandfather for al-



ways being a hard worker and having the best outlooks on everything.
Something no one knows about me: In 2010 I went to Campinas, Brazil on a mission trip.



WORD ON THE STREET

“Why did you join the 189th Airlift Wing? What is the best part of being in student flight?”



Johnathan Balducci
123 IS

“I joined for the education benefits and to get my Top Secret clearance. Student flight teaches you a lot about what you will learn in basic training including rank structure, the Airman’s song and creed, chain of command and about the M-16.”



Ashford Brunson
189 SFS

“I joined because I like the structure and organization and people here really care about you. In student flight I have learned how to render courtesies, dress code, handle an M-16, and the Airman’s Creed – It’s all very exciting; I wish I could be here 24/7.”



Joshua Samons
189th Vehicle OPS

“I wanted to be part of the military but also stay close to home. Student flight has taught me how to adjust to getting up early, shave, and have the correct uniform. I enjoy the PT, chow hall and meeting people in the unit.”



Christine Odom
189 FSS

“I joined so I could have a better life and I see a future in the Air National Guard. Student flight gives me the information I need for basic training. I didn’t know anything about the military and now I feel better prepared. I’ve also improved my running time from 17 min to 12:40!”



Candace Culbertson
189th Supply

“I joined so I can provide a better future for myself especially with the education benefits, and become a more disciplined person. Student flight is beneficial because you go to basic training prepared for the training environment. I’ve learned the rank structure and how to break down an M-16.”



Courtney Harvey
189th Services

“I would like to go back to school and build myself up mentally and physically. People at the wing have been very friendly and make me feel welcome. I have learned so much in student flight about basic training and to be physically fit.”



Emily Marecaux
189 MDG

“I currently work for in research and diagnostics for a fish health company and I wanted to branch out into a different career field in the medial industry. So far student flight has made me less nervous about basic training and I really enjoy the physical fitness aspect.”



Master Sgt. Travis Jaworski
Student Flight NCOIC

“I help the kids because when they first come here, I see immediate change in them and when they come back from basic and technical school they tell me the student flight experience made a difference in their lives.”



Around the wing - February 2014 UTA



Col. Steve Eggensperger, 189th Airlift Wing commander presents Chief Calvin Slay his Certificate of Retirement on 2 Feb 2014 in the OPS Auditorium. Chief Slay served in active duty Air Force and the Air National Guard for a combined 20-plus years.



Col. Rob Ator presents SSgt. Milissa Johnson the Air Force Achievement Medal during roll call on Feb. 1, 2014 for her outstanding achievement from Aug. 4, 2012 to Feb. 3, 2013 as the unit training manager for the 189th Airlift Wing



February Around the wing, con't



Brig. Gen. Travis D. Balch, commander, Arkansas Air National Guard, presents Col. Tamhira Hutchins-Frye, 189th Mission Support Group commander, the Bronze Star Medal for her accomplishments while deployed to the Middle East.



Col. Steve Eggenesperger, 189th Airlift Wing commander, presents Master Sgt. Josh Angus the 189AW Commander's Ground Safety Award during February commanders call.



Promotions



To Master Sergeant
Andrew T. Stahl, 123 IS



To Technical Sergeant
Robbie W. Brock, 123 IS



To Staff Sergeant
Nicholas M. Watson, 189 MXS
Jason Vincent Rog, 154 TRS



To Senior Airman
Miche'le Cone, 189 LRS
Angela L. Lewis, 123 IS
Vicki L. Wray, 189 CPTF

PME Graduations

Non-Commissioned Officer Academy

TSgt. Kathryn Higginbotham, 13 Feb 2014, HQ AR ANG

TSgt. David Fraser, 13 Feb 2014, 189 MXS

TSgt. Alex Ford, 13 Feb 2014, 189 MXG

TSgt. Tiffani Sherrill, 13 Feb 2014, 189 MDG

Airman Leadership School

SrA James Holcomb, 29 Jan 2014, 189 MXS

SrA Joshua Summers, 02 Feb 2014, 189 LRS

SrA Tyler Griffith, 06 Feb 2014, 189 MXS

SrA Jeffrey Swislocki, 10 Feb 2014, 189 MSG

SrA Caleb Walker, 12 Feb 2014, 123 IS

SrA Joshua Moore, 13 Feb 2014, HQ 189 AW

SSgt. Ethan Winsor, 13 Feb 2014, 189 MXS

Retirements

MSgt. Christopher Klober, 1 Feb 14, 123 IS

MSgt. Scott Hicks, 1 Feb 14, 189 LRS

MSgt. Dane Pederson, 4 Feb 14, 189 MDG

The RAT Corner

QUICK NOTES:

Team "C" you are in the "bucket" through April; are your bags packed and are you ready to assist affected local communities at a moment's notice?

Additional volunteers are needed for all three teams. Being part of a RAT is a great opportunity to deploy with your family from the 189th to assist local communities after a natural disaster or other catastrophic event. As many of those who have previously deployed with a RAT can attest, lending a helping hand to our fellow citizens in a time of need can be one of the most rewarding things we get to be a part of during our military service. The rotation schedule means you are only in the RAT deployment "bucket" for 3 out of every 9 months. Give us a call if you are interested in signing up!

RECALL PROCEDURES: Texts and Telephone Calls are our primary means of contacting personnel when we receive a mission tasking and begin activating a RAT. If either your primary or alternate telephone numbers have changed and you have not previously let us know, please send an email to william.catton@ang.af.mil with your updated information so that we can keep our recall roster up to date.

RAT ROTATION SCHEDULE:

TEAM C: "In the bucket" Feb 01, 2014 - Apr 30, 2014
TEAM A: "In the bucket" May 01, 2014 through July 31, 2014
TEAM B: "In the bucket" August 01, 2014 through October 31, 2014

CONTACT INFO:

If you have any questions or would like to join a team, please contact CMSgt Ken Fisher at 501-987-7978 or MSgt Bill Catton at 501-987-2169.