

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



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December 2014

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

New Adjutant General

See page 3 for more information on the Arkansas National Guard's new adjutant general.

Winter Safety

See page 2 for information on what to do in the event of inclement weather this year.

Photo Features

See pages 6 and 7 for photo coverage of Airmen and events around the wing during the month of December, including the Wassom dedication event and award presentations.

RAT Team Updates

Which team is in the bucket? Check out page 8 for an update on the 189th Rapid Augmentation Teams.

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www.189aw.ang.af.mil



Airman's Medal Awarded Posthumously to Master Sgt. Daniel Wassom for his Heroic Actions

By Maj. Allison Stephens
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A moving ceremony held Saturday, December 6, 2014, here commemorated the life and heroism of Arkansas Guardsman Master Sgt. Daniel Wassom. His wife Suzanne, father Dan Sr. and mother Pam accepted the Airman's Medal and participated in the dedication of a street in Dan's name on the base.

The Airman's Medal is awarded to an Air Force member who distinguished himself or herself by a heroic act, usually at the voluntary risk of his or her life but not involving actual combat. Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clark III, director of the Air National Guard and the top ranking Air National Guard member at the Pentagon, presided over the event and conveyed the Airman's Medal to the family.

"I represent 105,000 Airmen across 50 states, three territories and the District of Columbia. It is an honor and privilege to present this medal, on behalf of the United States Air Force and the Air National Guard to the Wassom family," said Lt. Gen. Clark.

To further honor the life and legacy of Master Sgt. Wassom, a portion of the main road that runs through the 189th campus has been renamed and dedicated as "Master Sgt. Dan Wassom Road."

"Dan was willing to step up when the time called for action," said Col. Robert Ator II, 189th Airlift Wing commander. "We are humbled by his character and will be reminded of him daily when we come to work and make that turn on Master Sgt. Dan Wassom Road."

Wassom, a loadmaster

instructor in the 189th Airlift Wing, lost his life while shielding one of his daughters when an EF-4 tornado ripped through Vilonia, Ark. on April 27, 2014. During his time in the Arkansas Air National Guard he served as an instructor loadmaster and deployed in 2010 in support of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In addition to the Airman's Medal the Wassom Family were also presented two other medals which Dan earned during his service in the 189th. The Adjutant General of Arkansas, Maj. Gen. William D. Wofford, presented the Arkansas Distinguished Service Medal, and Col. Robert Ator II presented the Meritorious Service Medal.

"Master Sgt. Wassom died as he lived, in service to others," said Colonel Ator.



Be a giving person

By Chaplain Ron Pierce
189th Chaplains Office

Be a giving person
Calvin Coolidge once said, “No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.”

I would like to challenge all of us to think about being more generous and giving as part of our goals for 2015.

How to cultivate the quality of GENEROSITY in your life:

- Be grateful for what you have.
- Put people first.
- Don’t allow the desire for possessions to control you.

- Regard money as a resource.
- Develop the habit of giving.

Once we begin to give more, it changes who we are. We find that giving is fulfilling and helps give us a sense of worth and accomplishment. We find that putting others first gives us an important sense of meaning that we can never develop as long as we keep putting ourselves first.

Start slow and build. It doesn’t have to be a lot – small things can make big differences. There are many ways to give – time, talents, and treasures. Helping

someone in need can come from your billfold or it can come from a listening ear or a helping hand.

Here are some ideas for being more giving:

- Family – generosity should start in the home!
- A favorite charity or church
- Community involvement helping those less fortunate
- Responding to natural disasters or other emergencies

Once we start to see need and respond to it, we begin to change the world – one good deed at a time. Let’s change the world!

Publication Staff

Col. Robert Ator, II
189th Airlift Wing
Commander

Maj. Allison Stephens
Public Affairs Officer

Senior Airman Ian Caple
Editor

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The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the public affairs office of the 189th Airlift Wing, 112 CMSgt Williams Drive, Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. 72099-4802, DSN 731-6068, commercial 501-987-6068, e-mail ian.caple@ang.af.mil.

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Arkansas National Guard Personnel During Inclement Weather

Lt. Col. Damon N. Cluck
Human Resources, ARNG

For you situational awareness, NGAR Joint Supplemental 1 Regulation 600-8-10, Management of Arkansas National Guard Personnel During Inclement Weather, has been published.

This regulation, which applies to AGRs, Technicians, and State Employees, supersedes TAG Policy Letter 2012-03 Guidelines for Inclement Weather.

There are some significant changes with regard to the definition of Emergency Essential Employees.

Paragraph 1-3.b. Emergency Essential personnel: designation for personnel deemed vital to the operation of the agency, whose presence is required regardless of the existence

of an emergency condition and whose absence from duty would endanger the safety and wellbeing of the citizens of Arkansas.

These personnel could include, but are not limited to: emergency management, staff, public safety, firefighters, grounds maintenance employees, electricians, heating ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) technicians, heavy equipment operators, the 61st Civil Support Team, communications personnel and other critical services. Emergency Essential personnel are expected to report to work or remain at work regardless of the conditions.

Paragraph 1-5. b. requires that “Personnel designated as “emergency essential” to operational capability or security will be (1) designated

by job title and location, and (2) notified by memorandum that they are expected to be at work, regardless of weather conditions and should make plans accordingly.” Paragraph 1-8. a. defines five different statuses under which the Arkansas National Guard may operate in the event of inclement weather:

1. Open,
2. Open with the option for unscheduled leave,
3. Open with XX hour delayed reporting with the option for unscheduled leave,
4. Open with XX hour early departure,
- and 5. Facilities closed to the public.

Appendix A encapsulates this section’s guidelines in a simple reference table.

You may direct any questions that you have to Lt Col Nichols.



Former 188th Wing member Berry named new Arkansas National Guard adjutant general

By Maj. Heath Allen
188th Wing Executive Officer

CAMP JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, Ark. -- Arkansas governor-elect Asa Hutchinson announced Dec. 17 that Brig. Gen. Mark Berry, former 188th Maintenance Group commander and current Arkansas Air National Guard chief of staff, will be the Arkansas National Guard's next adjutant general.

"I have had the opportunity to work with Brig. Gen. Berry over the years and I congratulate him on his selection as our next adjutant general," said Maj. Gen. William Wofford, Arkansas National Guard adjutant general. "Brig. Gen. Berry has a wealth of experience serving 40 years in the Air Force, with over 20 of those years in the Arkansas National Guard."

Berry will be the first Arkansas National Guard adjutant general from the Air National Guard since 1966. Berry also served as 188th public affairs officer, 188th Communications Flight commander and 188th Mission Support Group commander during his time at the 188th Wing.

"He will do Arkansas a great job," Wofford said. "I look forward to working with Brig. Gen. Berry during our transition; his years of service and experience will continue to move our great organization in the right direction."

The change of command is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 7 at 10 a.m. at Militia Hall located on the Professional Education Center campus at Camp Joseph T. Robinson in North Little Rock.



189th Airlift Wing, April 2013, Little Rock Air Force Base



Warrior of the Month: Technical Sgt. Adrienne Collins



Rank and Name: Technical Sgt. Adrienne Collins
Unit: 189th Maintenance Squadron
Job Title: Administrative Technician
Status: AGR
Hometown: Sikeston, Missouri by way of St. Louis
Family: My mother, Step-father, 3 half-sisters, 2 half-brothers, and my precious dog, Jaxson
Why I joined the Guard: I originally joined to go to college. But I enjoyed it so much, I decided to make it a career.
Most rewarding part of my job: I like being able to help others.
Hobbies: painting, singing, DIY projects, playing poker, reading, writing screenplays and community service

My favorite movie is: The Wiz
My favorite TV Show(s): Saved By The Bell, Scandal, Castle, and lots of Reality TV
My favorite book: Giving Thanks by Iyanla Vanzant
A perfect day would be: Spending a day at the beach and ending it with an awesome bonfire
I admire: My mother and grandmother. Both of these wonderful women have taught me the power of love and the power of prayer.
Something no one knows about me: I used to be a professional recording artist with a big music label. I had an album when I was 14 years old and I toured all over the US.



2014 YEAR IN REVIEW



Your 189th Airlift Wing has been a regular sight in Arkansas' skies for more than 89 years, tracing its heritage back to the formation of the 154th Observation Squadron in October of 1925 at the Little Rock Municipal Airport. Today, the 154th Training Squadron is the keystone to a wing that boasts more than 900 personnel and 18 aircraft. Here's a look back at the major stories of 2014 as published in the Warrior:

- January – Col. Tamhara Hutchens-Frye is welcomed back to the 189th leadership team as the new Mission Support Group commander; the Warrior of the Month is Staff Sgt. Nathan Michael; the Outstanding Airman of the Year competition is held, which includes a written exam, prepared speech, board interview and PT test.
- February – The new Commander's Inspection Program is kicked off with the swearing in of Lt. Col. Todd Stuff, 1st Lt. Shalin Gieson, Lt. Col. Eric Polta and Master Sgt. Dan Anderson; the Warrior of the Month is Airman 1st Class Trevor Grooms; Chief Calvin Slay retires, Staff Sgt. Milissa Johnson receives the Air Force Achievement Medal, Col. Tamhara Hutchens-Frye receives the Bronze Star and Master Sgt. Josh Angus receives the Commander's Ground Safety Award.
- March – Yearly fitness testing looms for many in the unit; the Warrior of the Month is Senior Airman Brad Clark; the wing celebrates the promotion of Patty Clements to lieutenant colonel; the wing held a senior non-commissioned officer induction ceremony; 1st Lt. Jason Kulaga assumed command of the 189th Security Forces Squadron; the Arkansas Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and the 189th teamed up for an employer "bosslift."
- April – Chief Master Sgt. James Hotaling, command chief master sergeant of the Air National Guard, visits the 189th and has the pleasure of pinning chief rank on new Chief Master Sgt. Charles Wisdom; Col. Steve Eggensperger writes his last column as commander of the 189th, and takes his FINI flight; Senior Airman Milissa Rudell and Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence Scheeler receive their Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) degrees; members of the 189th enjoy Family Day 2014.
- May – Col. Rober Ator II takes command of the 189th Airlift Wing; the Warrior of the Month is Airman 1st Class Austin Appleby; Lt. Col. Christopher Montanaro takes command of the 189th Maintenance Group; Lt. Col. Don Clark takes command of the 154th Training Squadron.
- June – The wing holds the first annual Awesome Wassom 5k event in honor of Master Sgt. Dan Wassom, who lost his life protecting his family from a tornado that ripped through Vilonia; Master Sgt. J.D. Crawford reminded everyone to be safe during the 101 days of summer; the Warrior of the Month is Staff Sgt. Jonathan Madvay; Mr. Terry Weatherford is named the new 189th Airlift Wing honorary commander; wing Airmen enjoy a cookout and canoe race.
- July – No Warrior in July.
- August – Four members of the 189th are featured for taking their medical expertise to Guatemala as part of the State Partnership Program; wing-wide building construction and temporary office moves are detailed; the Warrior of the Month is Tech. Sgt. Ronnie Johnson; the Arkansas Air National Guard co-ed softball team is crowned national champions after beating the Georgia National Guard team; Col. Charles Meyers retires, Maj. Claude Howard takes command of the 189th Civil Engineering Squadron.
- September – The 189th Airlift Wing wins the coveted National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Mission Support Trophy, and a Distinguished Flying Unit plaque; the Warrior of the Month is Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Hunter; wing commander Col. Ator helps put a shine on his assigned C-130; Maj. Christopher Wolter takes command of the 189th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Lt. Col. Stephen Rogers retires, Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Foster receives the Meritorious Service Medal, Senior Master Sgt. Steven Garrison helps cut the Air Force birthday cake, and Master Sgt. James Thissen and Staff Sgt. Jonathan McWhirter reenlist.
- October – Col. Ator's assigned C-130 gets a nose job as a bright red razorback decal is unveiled; the 189th hosts a hunter education course; the wing enjoys visits from several legislative staff members; an Instructor Certification Program course is held at the 189th; the Warrior of the Month is Master Sgt. Brandon Stewart; the wing hosts a motorcycle Basic Riders Course; the Combined Federal Campaign is kicked off; female pilots tell Girls of Promise participants what it's like to be a Guard pilot; Senior Master Sgt. Douge McGraorty takes his FINI flight.
- November – The family of Master Sgt. Dan Wassom accept the Airman's Medal from Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clark III, director of the Air National Guard during a ceremony that also sees the unveiling of the MSgt. Dan Wassom Road sign; the Warrior of the Month is Staff Sgt. Ebone Sturgis; the 2014 Annual Award winners are announced; the 189th campus is given a good cleaning; Capt. Kenneth Simon and Staff Sgt. Jason Fuller each receive the Air Force Commendation Medal; 189th Security Forces Squadron holds an active shooter exercise.
- December – The wing looks forward to a new year and a strong commitment to the mission, our Airmen, our families and the community.



Around the Wing



2014 annual award winners and other top Airmen from the 189th Airlift Wing gather at the Hercules Dining Facility for an early breakfast with Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke, director, Air National Guard.



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Lt. Gen. Stanley E. Clarke, III, Director, Air National Guard, presents the Airman's Medal to Master Sgt. Daniel Wassom's wife, Suzan Wassom and his parents, Mr. Dan Wassom and Mrs. Pam Wassom during the Airman's Medal Presentation and Wassom Road Dedication on Dec. 6, 2014 in Hangar 207.



Master Sgt. Daniel Wassom's parents, Mr. Dan Wassom and Mrs. Pam Wassom stand in front of the newly installed street sign at Vandenberg Road and MSgt. Dan Wassom Road.



Around the Wing, con't



Air National Guard Photo by Master Sgt. Chris Durney

Col. Marc Sicard, 189th Airlift Wing vice commander, presents the Meritorious Service Medal to Capt. Ronald E. Pierce during December UTA roll call.



Air National Guard Photo by Master Sgt. Chris Durney

Col. Marc Sicard, 189th Airlift Wing vice commander, presents the Air Force Commendation Medal to Staff Sgt. Matt Pelkey during December UTA roll call for his photography support at the 188th Wing.



Air National Guard Photo by Senior Airman Ian Caple

Lt. Col. Reagan Whitlow presents Master Sgt. Chris Pelletier, 189th Airlift Wing loadmaster, his Certificate of Retirement during his retirement held on Dec. 7, 2014 during December UTA.



Air National Guard Photo by Senior Airman Ian Caple

1st Lt. Shalin Gieson presents Staff Sgt. Fuller the Air Force Commendation Medal for outstanding achievement while assigned to the 189th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. During this period, Sergeant Fuller used his professional abilities and specialized skills in support of the wing's rigorous 7300 annual programmed flying hours and a numerous amount of sorties, more than any other Air National Guard C-130 unit. His skillful participation led to a 98-percent departure reliability rate



Promotions



To Master Sergeant
Jassen C. Travis, 189 AW/HQ

PME Graduations

Senior NCO Academy

Master Sgt. Jerry Parson, 21 Nov 2014, 189 MXS

Non-Commissioned Officer Academy

Technical Sgt. Melissa Prowse, 5 Oct 2014, 189 OSS

Technical Sgt. Monica Murray, 9 Oct 2014, 189 LRS

Technical Sgt. William Yoakum, 19 Nov 2014, 189 OSS

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman Cameron Kohler, 9 Oct 2014, 189 CES

Senior Airman Jay Mandrell, 29 Oct 2014, 189 SFS

Senior Airman Cody Ealy, 2 Nov 2014, 189 SFS

Senior Airman Jacqueline Pope, 5 Nov 2014, 123 IS

Retirements

Maj. Christopher May, 154 TRS, 20 Jan 15

Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Fry, JFHQ, 1 Jan 15

Senior Master Sgt. Myra Cross, 1 Feb 15

Senior Master Sgt. Douglas McGroarty, 1 Feb 15

Master Sgt. Christopher Pelletier, 154 TRS, 1 Jan 15

Master Sgt. Mark Erickson, 154 TRS, 1 Feb 15

Master Sgt. Mark Cheney, 189 MXS, 25 Feb 15

Technical Sgt. Robyn Rosamond, 189 CES, 6 Jan 15

The 189th Airlift Wing mission:



- Elite C-130 aircrew training and worldwide airlift
- Highly trained and enthusiastic combatants to combatant commanders worldwide
- Capable, effective, and prompt support to Arkansans in need whenever the governor calls



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The RAT Corner

QUICK NOTES:

Team "C" you are now in the "bucket" through January 2015; 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" Nov 01, 2014 through Jan 31, 2015
TEAM A: "In the bucket" Feb 01, 2015 - Apr 30, 2015
TEAM B: "In the bucket" May 01, 2015 through Jul 31, 2015

CONTACT INFO:

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