

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



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Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Arkansas National Guard welcomes new commander



Top to bottom: Maj. Gen. Mark Berry, adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard, passes the colors back to State Command Sgt. Maj. Steven Veazey after having been presented command of the Arkansas National Guard by Governor Asa Hutchinson in a change of command ceremony at Camp Robinson on Saturday Feb. 7, 2015. Maj. Gen. William Wofford renders his final salute as adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard to Brig. Gen. Keith Klemmer, commander of troops for the adjutant general's change of command ceremony on Feb. 7, 2015 at Camp Robinson.

See full story on page 3



Take time to redirect your life

Chaplain Matt Garrison
189th Airlift Wing chaplain

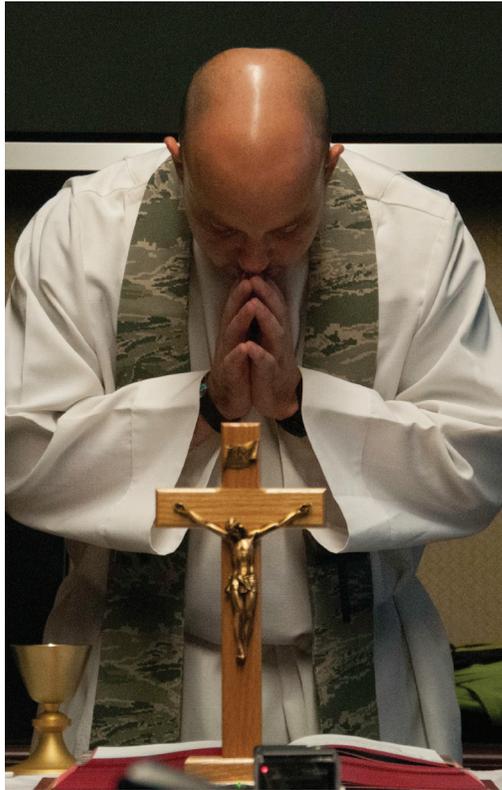
Like most of you, I always feel like life might slow down a little if I can just get through (insert a significant event).

As a priest, Christmas and Easter are usually my busiest times of year. So, naturally, there's always a lengthy build-up to these large events, and I'm simultaneously looking forward to some sort of a break once I get through the craziness.

I say all of that to state the obvious... that time actually never slows down. Things just seem to get busier and busier. Something else is always hiding around the corner, waiting to surprise me just as soon as I finally begin to see that well-deserved break coming to fruition. I know the same is true for all of you, and I want to thank you for pushing through and doing such an amazing job, but sometimes we all just need to make ourselves take a break and recharge.

For many Christians, we began the season of Lent on Wednesday, February 18. The season of Lent lasts 40 days, giving us an opportunity to recharge and re-direct our lives. Many people commit to spending more time in prayer, or giving up certain things (I'm already craving some Ben & Jerry's ice cream).

Some people commit themselves to doing more acts of charity, perhaps serving in a soup kitchen or food bank—all things to help re-direct and recharge. Some people



will take time to do some sort of retreat, perhaps spending a few days in silence and meditation, helping them to re-center their lives.

Life is busy, and seems always to be getting busier and busier. Don't forget to take a little time to re-direct your life. We all need that time to continue giving our very best. Even if it's just one hour, get away and recharge. If you need some help or some ideas, get in touch with your chaplains. We're always happy to help all of you to continue to give your very best.



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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Arkansas National Guard receives new commander



Maj. Gen. Mark Berry stands before the audience as the new adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard during change of command ceremonies at Camp Robinson on Saturday Feb. 7, 2015. (Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Ian Cagle)

Pfc. Haley E. Haile

119th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, Ark. – Maj. Gen. Mark H. Berry assumed the title of The Adjutant General of the Arkansas National Guard from Maj. Gen. William D. Wofford during a change of command ceremony here Saturday, February 7, 2015.

Berry enlisted into the Air Force in 1974, and received his commission in 1985 after completing Officer Training School. After serving on active duty for 18 years, Berry separated and joined the Arkansas Air National Guard. He has held many positions throughout his career including: Communications Flight commander in the 188th

Fighter Wing and chief of staff, Arkansas Air National Guard, Arkansas Joint Force Headquarters. Berry is the first airman to hold the position as Arkansas adjutant general in over 50 years.

“I accept this role with great honor and humility,” conveyed Berry during the ceremony. “I take this post knowing I follow in the footsteps of someone very special, but I will work as hard as you do to make this change rewarding.”

Wofford served as adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard for eight years. He began his career with the Arkansas Army National Guard in 1975, and served in many command positions throughout his service including: 5th Battalion,

206th Field Artillery, and 2nd Battalion, 142nd Field Artillery during Operation Dessert Storm. Wofford was named adjutant general in February 2007 by then Governor Mike Beebe. During his service as adjutant general, over 8,166 Arkansas National Guard members were deployed, and the Guard responded to more than 486 state emergencies.

“It is a sincere honor for me to be a part of this team, and it is with great pride that I entrust [Maj.] Gen. Berry with this professional military organization,” reflected Wofford. “I am honored, privileged and humbled to have had the opportunity to help lead this most awesome group of military professionals, our citizen soldiers and airmen.”

Among the many distinguished guests attending the ceremony was Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson. As the state’s governor, Hutchinson holds the title of Commander-in-Chief of the Arkansas National Guard. The adjutant general is the commander of the state’s military department and serves on the governor’s cabinet.

“It is important that I am here today as governor for this change of command ceremony, but also to recognize the leadership of [Maj.] Gen. William Wofford,” said Hutchinson. “I personally want to express my appreciation for his leadership and extraordinary record of accomplishment as adjutant general.”



Warrior of the Month: Master Sgt. Michelle Malone



Rank & Name: MSgt. Michelle D. Malone

Unit: 189 AW/HQ

Job Title: Wing Commander Executive Assistant

Status: AGR

Hometown: Fayetteville

Why I joined the Guard: I was looking for personal and professional direction in my life.

Most rewarding part of my job: Belonging to an awesome team that contributes to the greater good of society.

Interests: Working out, studying, organizing, traveling, and volunteering.

My favorite TV Show(s): I don't have a

favorite TV show, but I enjoy watching anything on ESPN.

My favorite book: "The Purpose Driven Life"

A perfect day would be: Being able to accomplish every task on my "to do" list and still have time to relax at the end of the day.

I admire: Anyone who treats others with kindness and respect; also anyone who takes the time to share what he or she has learned in life in order to help others learn and grow.

Something no one knows about me: I thoroughly enjoy being around people and being social, but I also greatly value time alone.



189AW holds MEOC event

By Master Sgt. William Catton
189AW Emergency Management

The 189th Airlift Wing hosted the 2015 Air National Guard Mobile Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) custodian training event from 10-12 February. Twenty of 21 states that have a MEOC were represented at the event, which brought all of the MEOC custodians together, along with the EM Functional Area Manager (FAM) from the National Guard Bureau, to train and collaborate. Vendors from all over the country came in and provided training for the equipment that is used in the MEOCs, and

provided information for the latest in new technologies that could support our mission. The collaboration amongst all the custodians and vendors helped to plan and map out the way forward for updating and upgrading the Air National Guard MEOC fleet. This will help us stay on the leading edge for MEOC deployments now and into the future. All in all the event was a huge success, and gave an opportunity for the MEOC custodians to help improve the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and training of the fleet.



Top to bottom: Master Sgt. Richard Bailey and Staff Sgt. Watkins of the Alabama Air National Guard Emergency Management, speak with Master Sgt. William Catton this morning before heading back to their base on Feb. 13th, 2015; The Alabama Air National Guard's Mobile Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) sits behind the 189th MDG/189th CE buildings with our own MEOC after a training event held this week at our campus here.



103.7 The Buzz Visits the 189th



Clockwise from top: Popular local radio personalities David Bazzel, Roger Scott and R.J. Hawk from 103.7 The Buzz's morning show, visited the 189th earlier this month and -- clockwise from top -- got a C-130 cockpit tour from Lt. Col. Regan Whitlow; a close-up look at a C-130 engine undergoing maintenance in the hangar; a tour of the business end of a C-130 from loadmaster Master Sgt. Aery Adkins; and a mission briefing from Col. Robert Ator II, the wing commander.





Around the wing



Top to bottom: Maj. Gen. Judd Lyon, Director, Army National Guard, presents the Certificate of Retirement from the United States Army, to Maj. Gen. William Wofford, during his retirement ceremony at the National Guard Professional Education Center at Camp Robinson on Feb. 7, 2015; Members of the Arkansas Air National Guard, including the states new Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Mark Berry, meet with Gen. Frank Grass, director of the National Guard Bureau, in Washington D.C.; An Arkansas Air National Guard humvee sits ready for action at the Arkansas State Police headquarters. The Arkansas Air National Guard's 189th Airlift Wing had a Rapid Augmentation Team (RAT) pre-positioned for quick support of civil authorities during the recent winter weather event



Promotions



To Technical Sergeant

Maghoney S. Dedham, 189 LRS
Christopher B. Johnson, 189 SFS
Nathan V. Michael, 189 AMXS
Michael E. Thomas, 189 CES
Geoffrey S. Wray, 189 AMXS



To Staff Sergeant

Leslie A. Blansett, 189 FSS
Bradley D. Clark, 189 LRS
Brett A. Grove, 154 TRS



To Senior Airman

Laura N. Bagley, 189 LRS
Emily G. Simmons, 189 MXS



To Airman

Ab Ray L. Whitmore, 189 LRS

PME Graduations

Senior NCO Academy

Master Sgt. Michael Tibbs, 123 IS, 18 Feb 2015

Airman Leadership School

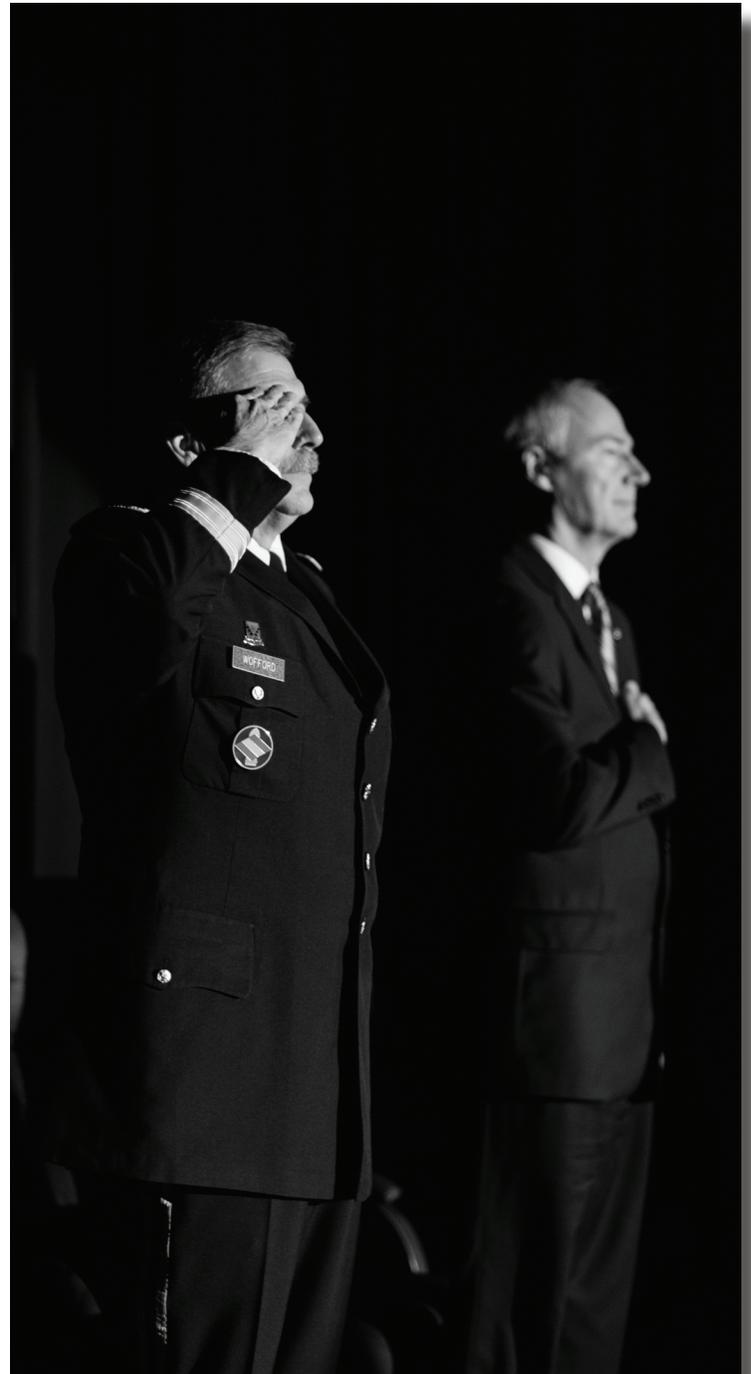
Senior Airman Dustin McElyea, 189 LRS, 11 Feb 2015

Senior Airman Ryan Weng, 189 MXS, 12 Feb 2015

Retirements

Master Sgt. Mark Cheney, 189 MXS, 25 Feb 2015

Master Sgt. Michael Parrish, 189 CES, 21 Mar 2015



The 189th Airlift Wing would like to wish former Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. William Wofford the best during his retirement. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do!