

189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



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Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Santa visits the 189th Airlift Wing



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Be a giving person

Chaplain (Maj.) Ron Pierce
189th Airlift Wing Chaplain

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 2016.

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!

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Call or email to be added to the distribution list.



Congratulations to Jeremiah Brewer on his promotion to Senior Master Sergeant!



Crosswalk safety sign added



A crosswalk safety sign has been added at the crosswalk between the big parking lot and Building 118 (OPS). Here are a few tips regarding crosswalk safety for pedestrians and drivers:

Pedestrians:

- Always cross at marked crosswalks.
- Obey any pedestrian signals and look left-right-left.
- If a vehicle approaches, make eye contact with the driver.
- Look before walking past stopped vehicles.



Drivers:

- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and at intersections.
- Be prepared to stop at all marked crosswalks.
- Stay alert and reduce speed in areas with crosswalks.
- Come to a complete stop.
- Wait until pedestrians have crossed at least one lane past the lane you are in before resuming travel.
- Never pass another vehicle that has stopped or is slowing down at a crosswalk.

2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



The 189th Airlift Wing wrapped up another historic year of service to Arkansas and the nation. From Jan. 11 – 17, several members of the 189th Medical Group returned to Guatemala to continue subject matter expert exchanges in the flight medicine program there.



In February, the Arkansas National Guard welcomed Maj. Gen. Mark H. Berry as the new Adjutant General of Arkansas. Also in February, popular local radio personalities David Bazzel, Roger Scott and R.J. Hawk visited the 189th.

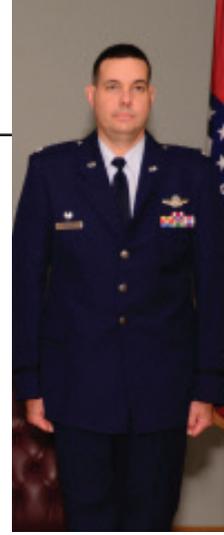


March saw the promotion of Maintenance Group commander Chris Monanaro to Col. Lt. Col. Don Clark took the helm of the Mission Support Group.



In April, 21 members of the 189th were inducted into the ranks of senior non-commissioned officers.





Gen. Frank J. Grass, chief of the National Guard Bureau, visited the 189th to get a first-hand look at the wing's Avionics Modernization Program (AMP) aircraft. Lt. Col. Eric Polta took command of the 189th Communications Flight.

In June, the 189th welcomed Brig. Gen. Kurt Vogel as the new commander of the Arkansas Air National Guard. The second annual Awesome Wassom 5k saw some great costumes, and wing members enjoyed a fun family day at the base lake.

In July, the wing deployed for a week to the Gulfport Combat Readiness Training Center for annual training.

In August, Chief Master Sgt. Sean Harre enjoyed a wet reception after his final flight. Chief Master Sgt. Wade McClean retired after 29 years of service.

In September, a 189th C-130 and crew were a hit at the Andrews Air Force Base 2015 air show. Members of the 189th community were reminded that approximately 40 true combatants were deployed in support of overseas operations, including airmen from the 189th Civil Engineering Squadron and Security Forces Squadron.

Brig. Gen. Kurt Vogel, Arkansas Air National Guard commander, looked in on the 189th in October. The 189th Force Support Squadron kickball team took first place overall during the Little Rock Air Force Base Sports Day.

On a beautiful day in November, 189th spouses





2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

-Continued

were given the rare opportunity to fly on a C-130. 189th Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander Mark Hart was promoted to Lt. Col., as was Clifford Franklin, 189th Maintenance Group deputy commander. A large contingent of 189th Airmen participated in the base's 2015 Veterans Day Retreat Run.





2015 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The 2015 Annual Award winners stand on stage after receiving their awards. Winners are (L to R): First Sergeant Diamond Sharp Award was presented to Senior Airman Aisha Bullock, 189AW Officer of the Year went to Maj. Joseph Geaney, 189AW Honor Guard of the Year went to Senior Airman Michele Cone, NCO of the Year went to Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Hunter, Senior NCO of the Year went to Master Sgt. Justin Tierney and Senior Airman Kourtney Smedley took home the 189AW Airman of the Year for 2015; Col. Robert Ator, 189th Airlift Wing commander, speaks to the winners and their families about how prestigious these awards are and how high we are ranked in the country; Minuteman awards wait to be presented to winners.





KIDS NORTH POLE DEPLOYMENT



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Participating children play Baggo and other fun games; The son of a 189th member gets a candy “inoculation” against the dreaded reindeer flu during his processing for deployment to the North Pole; Santa hands out gifts to the children on the flightline; Each child got the chance to meet and talk with Santa; Santa checks out a 189AW C-130; Children sit on Santa’s lap and pose for a photo; One youngster was very happy to see Santa!; At the North Pole -- the 189th engine shop decorated as such -- children were treated to crafts, games and snacks. Children of 189th Airlift Wing members had a fun day learning about how their mom or daddy deploys, and helping Santa deliver toys to underprivileged and ill children.





Veteran stories preserved for Library of Congress

Local hero of WWII gives riveting account of air warfare



LITTLE ROCK AFB, Jacksonville, AR – With his left inboard engine shot off, a wing full of holes and disabled landing gear, Wilmer Plate knew getting his B-24 back on the ground would be one of the toughest things he'd ever do. Nearly 70 years later he still remembers that day with surprisingly sharp detail.

"It was a mission on 31 July, 1945 to Ludwigshafen [am Rhein] Germany to bomb the railroad complex," says the 96 year old Plate with a raspy but strong voice. His crisp white shirt sports his name on one side and Distinguished Flying Cross Society embroidery on the other. "Boom!," he shouts, "the flack went off right below our bomb bay doors."

The entire event, along with Mr. Plate's life and war experiences, is being video recorded for a special project of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress aimed at preserving the personal accounts of American wartime veterans.

The Veterans History Project gives volunteers from around the country the opportunity to sit

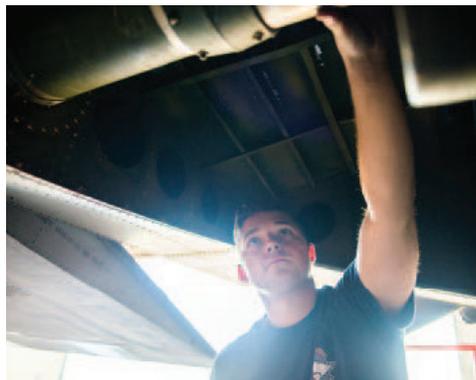
down with any veteran who served in the U.S. military, in any capacity, from World War I through the present and are no longer serving, to conduct a video or audio interview. The project accepts veterans' personal narratives in the form of original, unedited audio or video recordings, photographs, letters, diaries, journals, military documents, two-dimensional artwork, maps and unpublished memoirs.

Mr. Plate remained in the military and went on to serve 30 years, witnessing the birth of the modern U.S. Air Force. He retired to Jacksonville, within shouting distance of the Little Rock Air Force Base, and wrote *The Storm Clouds of War, Reflections of a B-24 Bomber Pilot*. Col. (retired) Anita Deason, now with Sen. John Boozman's office in Little Rock, organized and conducted the interview.

Anyone who knows a veteran, or is family to a veteran, can learn more and download a Veterans History Project field kit from the Library of Congress at www.loc.gov/vets.



Warrior of the Month: A look back at 2015



From top left: January -- Senior Airman Torrez J. French, 189th FSS; February -- Master Sgt. Michelle Malone, 189 Headquarters; March -- Staff Sgt. Ronnetta Johnson-Stump, 189 LRS; April -- Master Sgt. Michael Parrett, 189th EAAS; May -- Master Sgt. Dan Anderson, 189th LRS; June -- Airman 1st Class Christine Odom, 189th FSS; August -- Airman 1st Class Candace Culbertson, 189th LRS; September -- Senior Airman Shawn Huckey, 189th MXS; October -- Tech. Sgt. Colton Guilliams, 189th MDG; November -- Tech. Sgt. Shawn Fahey, 189th LRS.



Promotions



To Colonel
Donald Clark, 189 MSG



To Captain
Heather Baxter, 189 LRS
Shalin Gieson, 189 LRS
Jerald Hogan, NGMTU



To 2nd Lieutenant
Michelle Malone, JFHQ



To Technical Sergeant
Burgess Burgess, 154 WF



To Staff Sergeant
Alexander Benton, 189 MXS



To Senior Airman
Robby Weng, 189 MXS
Joshua Chaplin, 189 MXS

Retirements

Richard McGough, 08 Dec 2015

Sean Harre, 01 Dec 2015

Tala Hill, 31 Dec 2015

PME Graduations

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy

Technical Sgt. Donald Russell, 20 Nov 2015, 189 MXS

Technical Sgt. Nicholas Butler, 09 Dec 2015, 189 MXS

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman Jorge Cantu, 10 Dec 2015, 189 LRS

The RAT Corner

By Master Sgt. William Catton

Emergency Management Superintendent

QUICK NOTES:

We are always recruiting for new members to join the Rapid Augmentation Team so please spread the word. As we lean into future operations I believe we will be as busy as ever and therefore need to always be ready at a moment's notice. Please contact the Emergency Management Flight if you would like to join or if you would need to leave the team so we can update our recall list.

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 of 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.

CONTACT INFO:

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

