

# 189th Airlift Wing WARRIOR



Vol. 21 No. 57

October 2019

Arkansas Air National Guard

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.



All-female aircrew participates in international airshow, pgs. 4-5



# Commander's Corner

By Col. Dean B. Martin  
189th Airlift Wing Commander

189AW Family – Welcome to Fall (I think). Hopefully, it will last a few weeks before going straight to winter. With fall comes lot of great family activities from hayrides, pumpkin patches, to state and local fairs (did someone say fried Oreos?). I am looking forward to our Family Resiliency Day on Saturday. We are going to have several great activities for the entire family to include animals from the LR Zoo, bounce houses, AGFC shooting trailer, trunk or treat and KONA Ice just to name a few. We will also have representatives from some great organizations that provide services and resources to our military families.



We will start our Saturday morning at Herk Hall, where we will have the opportunity to hear a powerful message of hope from Mr. Kevin Hines. In the Year 2000, Kevin attempted to take his life by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge. Many factors contributed to his miraculous survival including a sea lion which kept him afloat until the Coast Guard arrived. Kevin now travels the world sharing his story of hope, healing, and recovery while teaching people of all ages the art of wellness & the ability to survive pain with true resilience. Our spouses and dependents (parental discretion advised) will also have an opportunity to hear Mr. Hines at 1000 in the Ops Auditorium. Additionally, we will have some great burgers and fellowship at the 189AW pavilion followed by an opportunity to showcase your work areas to your families.

At our August Commander's Call, you saw CMSAF Wright's video regarding the AF Suicide rate and the call for a tactical pause to discuss what we are missing, what we are doing right and what we can do better. We will have that opportunity on Sunday in small groups within your squadrons. I encourage you to be real with one another and help us make course corrections to ensure no more airmen's lives are lost to suicide.

You continue to bring great ideas to our Innovation Team – one was recently recognized as an "Air National Guard Top Ten" and has garnered attention from multiple MAJCOMS including a partnership with [AFWERX](#) (take a minute to check out their website). Contact our Innovation POCs (Maj Tom Guillebeau and Maj Justin Fitzpatrick) if you would like to join this exciting team.



I can't stress enough the importance of connections with each other and our families. Take time out this weekend to enjoy time with your families and connect. See you on Saturday. FOLLOW THROUGH!

[www.facebook.com/189AW](http://www.facebook.com/189AW)

[www.instagram.com/189AW](http://www.instagram.com/189AW)

Publication Staff

Col. Dean B. Martin  
189th Airlift Wing  
Commander

VACANT  
Public Affairs Officer

Master Sgt. Jessica  
Condit  
Public Affairs Superintendent

VACANT  
Editor

This un-funded Air Force newsletter is an authorized electronic publication for members of the 189th Airlift Wing, their families, retirees and community leaders. Contents of the Warrior are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. All photographs are property of the U.S. Air Force unless otherwise indicated.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 189th Airlift Wing, 112 MSgt. Dan Wassom Road, Little Rock AFB, AR 72099-4802, DSN 731-6068, commercial 501-987-6068. Call or [email](#) to be added to the distribution list.



# HALLOWEEN SAFETY



## By the Numbers



# 41%

were related to pumpkin carving activities.

An estimated total of 4,500 Halloween related injuries from October through November 2017.



# 32%

were due to falls while putting up or taking down decorations, tripping on costumes, or just walking while trick-or-treating.



Boo!



# 22%

of the injuries included lacerations, ingestions, and other costume, pumpkin or decoration related injuries.

# 5%

were due to allergic reactions or rashes.



[www.CPSC.gov](http://www.CPSC.gov)





# All-female C-130H crew participates in international air show

By Master Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

An aircrew assigned to the 189th Operations Group flew to Abbotsford, Canada, Oct. 5, 2019, to participate in the annual Girls Fly Too, Women in Aviation symposium. The all-female crew, including pilots Lt. Col. Kenda Garrett and Maj. Janelle Guillebeau, navigator Lt. Col. Sarah O’Banion, flight engineer Master Sgt. Erin Evans, and loadmasters Tech. Sgt. Nicole Beck and Senior Airman Ashlyn Hendrickson stopped in Colorado Springs on the way up to Canada and picked up the Wings of Blue female jump team along with their jump master and staff.

“The jump was challenging,” said Lt. Col. Sarah O’Banion, a 189th navigator and Chief of Safety. “I gotta say, though, we had an awesome all-female 189th Herk crew. We were able to get them at their minimum altitude of 2,500 feet and drop the jump team at their target.”

The 189th OG does not have many female aviators in the unit, however, the group was able to gather



SSgt. Stephanie Rowland, Lt. Col. Kenda Garret, MSgt. Erin Evans, SSgt. Jessica McGilton, Maj. Janelle Guillebeau, SrA Ashlyn Hendrickson, TSgt. Nicole Beck, Lt. Col. Sarah O’Banion, and SSgt. Tracie Winston take a group picture after just landing in Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada to support the annual Sky’s No Limit – Girls Fly Too aerial symposium. This is the first all-female C-130 H crew in the history of the annual event.



The Wings of Blue Team pose for a photo after jumping out of a C-130H during the Sky’s No Limit - Girls Fly Too aerial Symposium Oct. 5, 2019, in Abbotsford, British Columbia. The team provided an all-female team of jumpers who are stationed at the Air Force Academy to represent aviatrix in the Air Force. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Porter)

one full crew to accomplish the mission with their crew chief Staff Sgt. Jessica McGilton, of the 189th Maintenance Group. In a predominately male-oriented career field, the representation of female aviators was created to inspire future female aviatrix.

Female aviators, while somewhat commonplace now, were almost unheard of during the early days of aviation. Pioneering women from Amelia Earhart, who was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, to Brig. Gen. Jeannie Marie Leavitt, the first female fighter pilot in the United States Armed Forces, has established a firm base for young girls who have a dream of flying. During the event, O’Banion expressed that she wanted the young girls attending the event to realize that they are capable of doing anything they want if they are passionate about their dream and put their minds to it.



**TOP AND BOTTOM:** Aircraft from several different countries, including the U.S. Air National Guard were present during the annual Sky's No Limit - Girls Fly Too aerial symposium Oct. 5, 2019, in Abbotsford, British Columbia. The symposium was designed to educate and inform young women of the possibilities and options females have within the aviation community.

“It was neat seeing a variety of not just girls and their brothers, but a lot of girls who were interested in what we do,” said O’Banion. “It’s not so much of a diversity thing but it employs the fact that they’re seeing women do jobs as normalcy within a male-centric career field. I hope the girls that came out here see us doing this job and realize that it’s not just a male-oriented career field; it’s something that anyone can achieve if they’re passionate about it.”

Until World War II, women in the U.S. were barred from flying for the military. During this time the only women pilots that were allowed to fly for the military were civilians known as the Women’s Auxiliary Ferry Squadron also known as WAFS and others representing the Women Air Force Service Pilots or WASP. In Fall of 1942, twenty-eight women aviators were officially designated as WAFS or WASP, earning their civilian pilot training wings at government expense through the civilian pilot training programs at different

colleges throughout the U.S. Although this transition was a huge step for women in aviation, it was not until 1970s, during the women’s movement, that females became official military aviators.

At present, approximately six percent of the Air Force aviation community is female. Through the hard work, dedication, courage and military training, U.S. military women aviators continue to achieve air equality in the military.





OCTOBER  
*Breast*  
CANCER  
AWARENESS  
MONTH



# C-130H radio training program becomes virtual reality

By Master Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

On Sept. 24, 2019, Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Crider, an AFWERX Air National Guard Innovation team member along with Maj. Tom Guillebeau, the 189th Airlift Wing innovation officer, and Maj. Justin Fitzpatrick, a 189th Operations Group navigator, presented the first phase of a virtual reality training program to wing leadership, marking the end of the first phase and a significant stride in the future training of C130H aviation for the 189th AW. During the visit, the team shared their progress with Col. Dean Martin, 189th AW commander. Projects such as this have been made possible by the use of innovation funds throughout the Air National Guard.

This project is designed to teach pilots the proper techniques for storing and securely transferring classified radio codes during flight missions. The secured radios are used to communicate with allied forces during combat missions as well as with users on the ground, coordinating movements such as airdrops. The training program will potentially allow student pilots to practice loading radio codes before they arrive at the aircraft, and thus allowing them to spend more time flying and less time on the ground loading radios.

“The whole traditional [training] process is displaced and not user-friendly,” explained Guillebeau. The training must be performed on the aircraft. “They have to have the radios on, you have to make sure the remote control heads are talking to the radios in the back. There are numerous parameters of this and it takes about an hour per person to accomplish training and be signed off on the task. With an average class size of three to



Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Crider, a member of AFWERX's Air National Guard Innovation Team, instructs Col. Dean Martin, the 189th Airlift Wing commander, on proper use of the haptic glove during a virtual reality demonstration.

four people, it would take five hours to train each individual. This training will greatly reduce the ground time and give us more flying training.”

The virtual headset and haptic glove will allow the user to see, touch and eventually feel what they are doing. Using the haptic gloves, the end goal is to allow the user to feel the switches and any movement that occurs in the real world, in the virtual world. The haptic sensory concept takes any virtual reality and puts pressure on the user's skin, allowing you to feel what you are doing in addition to visuals. The team will be upgrading the current haptic gloves used with new ones within the next three months for new, improved versions of the current.

“This is completely different than using a simulator,” said Fitzpatrick. “This takes out the simulator and allows us to be in any room doing our training with a camera and goggles. We're at the front of the pack as far as VR goes. There will be far more competent pilots coming out of the pipeline because they can sit in the room and practice this 100 times a day if they want.”

While many wings are currently incorporating virtual reality into training programs, the 189th AW is currently the only wing in the Air National Guard that is working toward training with this prototype. The completion time for the project is projected to be May or June of 2020.



Members of AFWERX and the 189th Airlift Wing Innovation Team watch as Col. Dean Martin, 189th AW commander, test the virtual reality headset and haptic glove. The simulated training designed to assist students in streamlining the training process. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jessica Condit)



## *Arkansas Air and Military Museum in Fayetteville introduces newest exhibit*

By Master Sgt. Jessica Condit  
189th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The last weekend of September was busy for the Arkansas Air and Military Museum located in Fayetteville, Ark. The museum was at its peak during the Bikes, Blues and Barbecue event along with tours of the aviation displays. Each year, the museum hosts aircraft from different eras in aviation history, while providing historical information to visitors. This year, however, the newest exhibit, a retired C-130H caught the eye of the public and provided a close-up view of combat airlift at its finest. The C-130H, with tail number 86-0410, was a 189th Airlift Wing asset until its retirement in April of 2019.

The addition to the museum is a draw for all visitors in-state and passing through. While the four fans of freedom are a beautiful sight to see, the aircraft also opens the door for recruitment opportunities within the Arkansas National Guard and across the Air Force.

Staff Sgt. William Green and Staff Sgt. Alvin Harris, both 189th Maintenance Group crew chiefs, was in charge of maintenance for the aircraft when it was active. The two attended the unveiling of the aircraft and answered questions during the event.





# *DoD delays Post 9/11 GI Bill changes*

By Staff Sgt. Courtney Dotson-Essett  
434th Aerial Refueling Wing Public Affairs

The Department of Defense delayed the implementation of a policy that would limit a service member's ability to share education benefits with family members.

The policy, originally slated to take effect July 12, will discontinue the transfer benefit for members with 16 years or more of service.

The implementation has been delayed until January 12, 2020, giving long-serving members more time to transfer their education benefits to spouses or dependents.

Currently, members who serve a minimum of six years and commit to serving another four years can transfer their education benefits to dependents.

Those who agree to four additional years but who are unable to complete them because of a service-connected injury, medical discharge or receive a

waiver can also keep their transfer benefits.

If a service member has more than 16 years of service after January 12, 2020, he or she will not be able to transfer GI bill benefits.

Purple Heart recipients will be able to transfer any unused benefits regardless of years of service.

"This extension will be significant for our Airmen, or any service member, with longer careers," said Senior Master Sgt. Adam Oswalt, 434th Air Refueling Wing training technician. "It gives them more time to make an informed decision or start the transfer process."

To learn more about education benefits, visit: <https://www.va.gov/education/> or contact Master Sgt. Jaclyn Cole at (501) 533-8370 or email [jaclyn.l.cole.mil@mail.mil](mailto:jaclyn.l.cole.mil@mail.mil).

Post 9/11  
GI Bill  
changes





# *Warrior of the Month:*

## *Senior Airman Katherine Booth*



*Senior Airman Katherine Booth, a 189th Operations Support Squadron aviation resource manager, discusses paperwork with Lt. Col. Bo Bear, a 154th Training Squadron pilot instructor, Sept. 26, 2019, at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. Booth manages the training and paperwork that all air crew are responsible for supplying and ensures all regulations are met in order for air crew to fly. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Jessica Condit)*

**Rank/Name:** Senior Airman Katherine Booth  
**Unit:** 189th Operations Support Squadron  
**Guard Status:** Full-time  
**Position:** Aviations Resource Management  
**Hometown:** Vilonia, Arkansas  
**Time on Station:** 3 years  
**Time in Service:** 3 years  
**Goals:** Complete ALS  
**Hobbies:** Being a mommy, spending time with my family and friends, fishing, swimming and riding 4-wheelers  
**Core Value Portrayed:** Excellence  
**How this core value is portrayed:** Senior Airman Booth is professional, motivated, self-

starting and determined. She is thorough and a problem solver. She has incredible customer service skills, is always in a positive mood and has an optimistic personality that makes people feel comfortable. As a 5-level, she is constantly learning and trying to see the bigger picture. SrA Booth has been known to step outside her comfort zone and solve problems. She is dedicated to finding answers and enjoys teaching the rest of the office. She willingly takes charge of projects and makes them on her own and is dedicated to not only her own success, but the success of the Aviation Resource Management office.