



# The Flying Razorback

188th Fighter Wing

Arkansas Air National Guard

Volume 57 Issue 1

January 2012



The official Air National Guard patch is pictured above on the aviator jacket of an ANG pilot. It represents the pride and professionalism exhibited by Airmen in the ANG and the 188th Fighter Wing. The 188th named its top Airmen of the year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Public Affairs)

## 188th names Airmen of the Year winners

By Capt. Heath Allen  
188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

FORT SMITH, Ark. — The success of a wing always depends on the quality and aptitudes of its personnel. The 188th Fighter Wing recognized those individuals who have made some of the most notable contributions to the Flying Razorbacks' success in 2011. The 188th named its top Airmen of the year during a commander's call Dec. 3.

"We're very proud of the hard work and dedication of all the nominees and award winners," said Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander. "It's their commitment to the Air Force Core Values and their determination that helps this wing excel and allows our mission to flourish. I also commend all the supervisors for taking the time to

SEE AIRMEN OF THE YEAR PAGE 8

## A family affair



Above: An A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthog" with the 188th Fighter Wing, Arkansas Air National Guard flies just off the wing of a KC-135R Stratotanker with the 185th Airlift Wing, Iowa Air National Guard Dec. 3. The flight was part of a "Spouse Lift" tour in which spouses with the 188th flew on the KC-135 and watched the A-10s conduct aerial refueling from the boom operation area. The tour was part of an open house in which 188th family members were afforded the opportunity to fly an A-10 simulator as well as observe A-10 training exercises at the 188th's Detachment 1 Razorback Range located at Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center, Ark. The objective of the program was to showcase the 188th's mission to family members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs) Below: A KC-135R crew member with the 185th speaks with a group of 188th spouses during a "Spouse Lift" flight Dec. 3 (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Hillier/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## 188th family members take to skies, range to observe mission

By Airman 1st Class John Hillier  
188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

FORT SMITH, Ark. — It was a family affair at the 188th Fighter Wing during the December Unit Training Assembly.

Spouses took to the skies over Fort Smith for an up-close look at flight operations during a "Spouse Lift" orien-

tation flight here Dec. 3.

Unit family members also took advantage of the opportunity to observe the 188th's A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthogs" drop munitions, conduct strafing runs and fire their 30mm Gatling guns at Detachment 1 Razorback Range, which is located at Fort

SEE FAMILY AFFAIR PAGE 10





**The Flying Razorback**

**Col. Tom Anderson,**

188th Fighter Wing commander

**Col. Mark Anderson,**

188th Fighter Wing vice commander

**Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter,**

188th Fighter Wing command chief  
master sergeant

### Publication Staff

#### 188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Capt. Heath Allen,

Chief of Public Affairs

Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Brambl,  
Public Affairs NCOIC

Technical Sgt. Joshua Jones

Airman 1st Class John Hillier

Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros

Airman 1st Class Veronica Huff

### Printing

Senior Master Sgt. Joel McDonald

Staff Sgt. Joshua Lewis

### Visit us on the Web

[www.188fw.ang.af.mil](http://www.188fw.ang.af.mil)



[www.facebook.com/  
188thFighterWing](http://www.facebook.com/188thFighterWing)

### The Flying Razorback

This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *The Flying Razorback* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the 188th Fighter Wing.

*The Flying Razorback* news articles and information are welcomed. Articles for publication should be submitted via e-mail to [heath.allen@ang.af.mil](mailto:heath.allen@ang.af.mil) and [heathallen188@gmail.com](mailto:heathallen188@gmail.com).

## 188th Fighter Wing vacancy announcement: Mission Support Group first sergeant

The 188th Mission Support Group is projecting a vacancy for the position of first sergeant. This is a master sergeant's position that could be filled by any technical sergeant that can be promoted to master sergeant, or any current master sergeant, who possesses the qualifications listed below.

The qualifying requirements for this position are that technical sergeants have two years time in grade, have completed the Noncommissioned Officers Academy course, are promoted to E-7 prior to attending the First Sergeants Academy (FSA), have a minimum ASVAB score of 41 administrative or 62 general, have a minimum of three years retainability upon completion of the FSA, and must complete the Senior Noncommissioned Officers Academy by in-residence or Career Development Course within

the first three years as a first sergeant.

Also, the selected individual must complete his/her physical fitness test with a score of 75 or higher within 60 days of the class start date at the FSA. Be prepared to run; there will be no step tests administered.

This position is open to any AFSC. Upon completion of the FSA, the candidate will be placed in the 8F000 SDI, and will be paid an additional \$150 per month when in active duty status.

Those interested should provide a letter of intent, resume and RIP to Command Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter or Master Sgt. Greg Qualls.

This advertisement will serve as the notice and we will convene the recommendation board during a subsequent Unit Training Assembly.

For further information on the first sergeant's career field, research AFI 36-2113.

## 188th Fighter Wing vacancy announcement: Operations Support Flight Intel officer

The 188th Fighter Wing's Operations Support Flight is holding a board during the April Unit Training Assembly for a traditional Intel officer position. Applicants must have qualifying Air Force Officer Qualification Test scores and have passing PT scores.

In addition, applicants must have completed at least 90 semester hours of post

secondary education with the ability to obtain a degree within one year. Please contact Master Sgt. Craig Gardner, 188th Fighter Wing Recruiting, with questions at 479-573-5147.

Packages must include an AF Form 24 and a current resume. Packages are due to 188th Recruiting no later than March 15, 2012.

## Undergrad Pilot Training board slated for February

The 188th Fighter Wing will conduct an Undergraduate Pilot Training board in February 2012. The deadline to submit packages is Monday, Jan. 9, 2012. For more information, including package requirements, con-

tact Tech Sgt. Jeff Mathews at 479-251-1571 or at [William.Mathews@ang.af.mil](mailto:William.Mathews@ang.af.mil). Interested applicants can also contact Master Sgt. Craig Gardner at 479-573-5147 or at Terry. Gardner@ang.af.mil.

## January Citizen Airman Dining Hall menu

### Saturday, Jan. 7

Caterer: Chick-Fil-A

### Sunday, Jan. 8

Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, Texas toast, dinner rolls,

peach crisp, ice cream, coffee, tea, milk.

**Short-order line (Sunday only):** Hamburgers/cheeseburgers, hot dogs/chili dogs, baked beans, chips.

## 188th Unit Training Assembly news

### Upcoming drills

Jan. 7-8

Feb. 11-12

### UTA pay dates

Jan. 18

Feb. 22



## Meritorious Service Medals

*Editor's note: The members of the 188th Fighter Wing listed below have recently been awarded the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal*

- Col. Jeffrey Hickman
- Lt. Col. Marty Dahlem
- Lt. Col. David Sheely
- Capt. Heath Allen
- Capt. Andrew Nash
- Chief Master Sgt. James Elder
- Senior Master Sgt. Charles Frye
- Senior Master Sgt. Joel McDonald
- Master Sgt. Marty Adkins
- Master Sgt. Michael Ballard
- Master Sgt. Douglas Barker
- Master Sgt. Bradley Boese
- Master Sgt. Marcus Booker
- Master Sgt. Jodie Haralson
- Tech Sgt. Robert Howell



## 188th Fighter Wing retirements

- Lt. Col. Donald R. Hunter, 184th Fighter Squadron
- Senior Master Sgt. Paul Getz, 188th Security Forces Squadron
- Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth D. Polk, 188th Security Forces Squadron
- Master Sgt. Martin M. Adkins, 188th Maintenance Group
- Master Sgt. Michael C. Ballard, 188th Medical Group
- Master Sgt. Matthew G. McCullah, 188th Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sgt. Randy L. McGee, 188th Maintenance Squadron
- Master Sgt. Paul S. Smith, 188th Maintenance Squadron
- Tech Sgt. Philip L. Hughes, 188th Maintenance Squadron
- Tech Sgt. Stephen M. Hornsey, 188th Fighter Wing
- Tech Sgt. Daniel M. Sprague, 188th Mission Support Group
- Tech Sgt. Timothy Tedford, 188th Maintenance Squadron
- Staff Sgt. Gary D. Goff, 188th Civil Engineer Squadron

## Moers retirement ceremony scheduled for January UTA

The 188th Fighter Wing's Comptroller Flight will host a retirement ceremony to honor Senior Master Sgt. William A. Moers III on Saturday, Jan. 7 at 2 p.m. in the wing's headquarters auditorium. All members of the 188th Fighter Wing are invited to attend. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony.

## 188th academic, training accolades

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Master Sgt. Steven Eubanks      | Top Graduate           |
| Tech Sgt. Josh Bull             | Top Graduate           |
| Staff Sgt. Shannon Feliccia     | Academic Achievement   |
| Staff Sgt. James Smith          | Distinguished Graduate |
| Staff Sgt. Arthur Siddons       | Academic Achievement   |
| Airman 1st Class Bobbie Hickman | Distinguished Graduate |
| Airman Basic Zachary Glover     | BMT Honor Graduate;    |
|                                 | Academic Achievement   |

## Find helpful military resources

Looking for helpful information on military-related topics? Visit these Websites to learn more: Military OneSource ([www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)); Arkansas National Guard ([www.anguard.org](http://www.anguard.org)); Veterans Affairs ([www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)).

## Community College of the Air Force grads

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Master Sgt. Larry Laney        | Human Resources Management     |
| Tech Sgt. Richard Mott         | Aircraft Armament Systems Tech |
| Tech Sgt. Crystal Westmoreland | Information Systems Tech       |
| Tech Sgt. Hugh Coulbourn       | Munitions Systems Tech         |
| Staff Sgt. Stephen King        | Allied Health Sciences         |
| Staff Sgt. Myles Sharp         | Munitions Systems Tech         |
| Senior Airman Bobby Polk       | Aircraft Armament Systems Tech |

## 188th Fighter Wing no longer offers CLEP

Effective Dec. 31, 2011, CLEP tests will no longer be available at the 188th Fighter Wing. All members wishing to take a CLEP test will need to take the tests at a National Testing Center.

Any questions can be directed to Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Peters at 479-573-5330 or toll free at 1-800-446-8373, ext. 5330.

## 188th Fighter Wing promotions

### To 1st Lieutenant (O-1)

- Matthew Cooley
- Russell Leinart
- Joshua Koenig



### To Senior Airman (E-4)

- Matthew D. Bugg
- Chase A. Grouse
- Seth T. Hudson
- Rose E. King
- John J. Mills
- Justin H. Perryman
- Brandon R. Schwowe



### To Senior Master Sergeant (E-8)

- Vincent Prince



### To Master Sergeant (E-7)

- John Ashworth



### To Technical Sergeant (E-6)

- Bradley C. Hobbs



### To Airman (E-2)

- Zachary A. Glover
- Andrew W. Sharp





# The Flying Razorback member spotlight

**Hometown:** Born in Ventura, Calif., but I live in Van Buren, Ark.

**Job title:** Computer operations.

**In the 188th:** Since 2003.

**Education:** Bachelor of science in history and education from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

**Goals:** To retire, travel and spend time with family and friends.

**Favorite TV shows:** "Real Housewives", "X Factor" and "The Office".

**Favorite actor/actress:** Jennifer Lopez and Edward Norton.

**Favorite color:** Red.

**Favorite animal:** Chihuahua.

**Favorite comedians:** George Lopez and Nick Chastain.

**Favorite movie:** "La Bamba".

**Favorite restaurant:** In and Out Burger.

**Favorite soft drink:** Horchata.

**Favorite foods:** Nachos and burgers.

**Favorite book:** Bible.

**Favorite author:** Stephanie Meyer.

**Favorite song:** "Low Rider" by War.

**Favorite musical group/musican:** War.

**Favorite word or phrase:** "Bazinga."

**Favorite super hero:** Blankman.

**Favorite U.S. President:** Andrew Jackson.

**Favorite historical figure:** George Washington.

**Favorite sport:** Football.

**Favorite pro sports team:** Chicago Bears.

**Favorite sports individual:** Donald Thomas.

**Favorite football team:** Arkansas Razorbacks.

**My worst job ever:** A steakhouse chain.

**Hobbies:** Cooking, eating, traveling, reading and watching movies.

**My dream shopping spree:** Mall of America.

**Place I'd most like to visit:** Turks & Caicos.

**Favorite cartoon character:** Speedy Gonzales.

**Favorite automobile:** Chevrolet 1969 Impala.

**My first car was:** Pontiac Grand AM.

**My worst habit:** Overeating.



Staff Sgt. Jessica Wilson was recognized as the 188th Fighter Wing's Flying Razorback spotlight for January 2012. Wilson is a member of the 188th Logistics Readiness Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)



## Staff Sgt. Jessica Wilson

**My pet peeves:** People who cheat.

**I am proudest of:** My family.

**What scares me the most:** Something

happening to my family.

**The person I admire most:** My husband.

**The best day of my life:** The day I had my son.

## 188th Fighter Wing Airman and Family Readiness news

### Compiled by Eva Patton

188th Airman and Family Readiness

It is now time for me to say goodbye to the 188th Fighter Wing unit members and their families. My last day is Dec. 31, 2011. I have enjoyed working with all of you at one time or another.

Tech Sgt. Terry Hearn, Airman and Family Readiness specialist, will be the point of contact for any information or help that might be required. I wish each one of you a very best in the coming year 2012. This unit will always have a special place in my heart!

### Prayer of the Guard Spouse

"Dear God, I am proud to be wed to one who defends freedom and peace. My challenges are many and I pray for your love and guidance to meet them. Special to me are the symbols representing my religion, country, community

and home. I pray for the wisdom and grace to be true to their meaning. You are the symbol of my religious beliefs and the source of my strength. Because my life is full of change, I cherish the solid and constant spiritual foundation

SEE FAMILY READINESS PAGE 6

## Solid, consistent leadership the best solution for conflict

**Commentary by Geoff Gibson**

Wing director of Psychological Health

Do you ever get irritated by your coworkers or supervisor? Col. Mark Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing vice commander, recently stated that his most significant concern regarding wing health and readiness is conflict between members, as well as conflict between members and leaders.

Some irritation is natural to human relationships, and often happens at work or home when people work closely together. However, daily feelings of irritation and frustration can be a signal that change is needed.

You can actually harm the readiness and wellness of the wing if you avoid dealing with these feelings and situations, or if you react with blaming and retaliation. If you find that irritation between yourself and others is becoming a problem, I suggest that you consider asking yourself a few questions.

Am I acting with integrity, and doing my part to solve this problem? Am I being a leader in solving this problem, or just reacting based on irritation? Am I blaming others, or showing example by leadership?

Am I putting things in perspective, which includes putting mission and wing first? Am I reacting in ways that will support our mission, or am I acting in ways that actually undermine our mission? Does my reaction help, or hurt my shop's effectiveness?

Am I taking pride in my role, and doing things that I feel proud of? Or am I just enduring day after day without feeling good about my contribution?

Blaming others for problems helps us justify our own

behavior and inaction, but also leaves us feeling stuck, discouraged and upset. A solution can be found in taking initiative and showing leadership.

If you have identified the change that you feel needs to be made, it is then up to you to lead the way and to "be the change" you wish to bring about. If you feel stuck and don't know what to do to solve your problem, you have the support of the 188th Fighter Wing director of Psychological Health via informal, confidential consultation.

Other available options for support include counseling, mediation, or even bringing the issue before the Community Action Information Board (CAIB) if it is impacting the health and readiness of the wing.

Avoidance, blaming and retaliation are all natural human responses when we are irritated or feel threatened. However, Air Force Core Values of "Integrity First," "Service Before Self," and "Excellence in All We Do" will help you be more effective and fulfilled in your service.

These principles of leadership and personal responsibility will improve your relationships at work, and also strengthen your home relationships as a partner and parent. Showing personal leadership will strengthen you, your shop, your squadron and our wing.

**188th Fighter Wing  
Psychological  
Health Office**

Cell: 479-431-9210

Office: 479-573-5742

E-mail: Geoff.Gibson.ctr@  
ang.af.mil

## To the rescue



Members of the 188th Fire Emergency Services Flight and the 138th Fire Emergency Services Flight conduct Urban Search and Rescue training at the 188th Fighter Wing in Fort Smith, Ark., Sept. 30. (U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Michael Rutherford/188th Fighter Wing)



# Home on the range



Senior Airman Daniel Clark, a Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC), plots coordinates for 188th Fighter Wing A-10C Thunderbolt II “Warthog” air strikes during a Close-Air Support (CAS) training exercise Dec. 12 at the 188th’s Detachment 1 Razorback Range, which is located on Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center, Ark. Clark is a member of the 19th Air Support Operations Squadron based in Fort Campbell, Ky. The 188th’s Razorback Range is a key asset and currently is the best among all Air National Guard units nationwide in terms of proximity to the wing. Razorback Range’s proximity to Ebbing Air National Guard Base allows the 188th’s A-10s to be on the range just two minutes after takeoff, which makes the unit the most efficient A-10 wing in the ANG in terms of training costs. (U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Heath Allen/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## Family Readiness

Continued from page 4

that you provide. Help me Lord, to be an example of your teachers. My national flag represents freedom. Let me never forget, or take for granted, the hope it shows to the world. Bless those who have made sacrifices for freedom. As I enter the gateway to a military community, guide me to reach out to others, and keep it a wholesome place. May my charity be given without thought of personal reward. My wedding ring represents eternity and never ending love. Let me celebrate all of the joys of our togetherness and find comfort in them during times of separation. I pray also we are spared the ultimate sacrifice of duty to country. My house is a symbol of our family and its unity. It is the place where we share memories of the past and build dreams of the future. Make willing my heart and hands to do even the smallest tasks that will make our house a better home. Thank you God for daily being with us as we live in Guard. Please grant us your continued blessings, increased strength and infinite guidance as we live to your honor and glory. Amen.” — Author unknown

### Military spouse mission

The military spouse’s mission is to be finance smart, juggle school activities, be a disciplinarian and nurture, not to mention going to work every day. Both the spouse and the children often learn how to adapt, remain strong and become resilient.

Some spouses have been introduced to military through marriage while some have grown up in a military family. Strength can be gained by interchanging conversation via the internet through Facebook, Twitter, Military OneSource and through information and referral received from their Airman and Family Readiness personnel. Be sure to let your military spouse know how proud you are to have them on your side.

### Online training available

Military Spouse Corporate Career Network (MSCCN) is offering free online training events January 2012: Targeting your Resume for Maximum Impact; How to Lock that Job Resume: Techniques that Work for You; and Skill Training: Social Media are the courses that will be offered. To register or find out more information, go to their Website: <http://www.msccn.org/Training/OnLineTraining-Calendar.htm>.



# Worrying about the past, future keeps us from making most of today

**Commentary by Lt. Col. Tom Smith**  
188th Fighter Wing chaplain

The Mayan calendar and the end of the world on Dec. 21, 2012. Planet X. Failing world economies. Global warming. Escalating terrorism. Rising unemployment. Possible base closings.

Sounds like something out of a horror movie, doesn't it? And to think, those are just some of the prognosticators' forecasts for 2012!

As we enter this new year, it's important for us to reflect on 2011, its joys and sorrows, victories and defeats ... savor the good moments and still give thanks for the bad.

However, like Lot's wife, who in the Bible was turned into a pillar of salt when she turned back to look at Sodom and Gomorrah's destruction against God's specific warning (Gen-

esis 19:26), we must stay focused on the days ahead. Otherwise, we'll be paralyzed by disappointment, fear, frustration, bitterness and regret, and miss out on doors of opportunity in the coming days.

Somehow we think we'd feel more prepared if we had a sneak peek at the future; yet, in reality, if we could see all that lies ahead of us, we might wish we didn't know, especially if there's much heartache and sorrow ahead of us.

That's why it's important, as the Apostle Paul said, to "forget those things which are behind and press forward for those things which are before" (Philippians 3:13). Likewise, as Corrie ten boom, a survivor of the Holocaust, once said, "It's never wrong to trust an unknown future to a known God."

So true, so true.

Years ago, as a young boy growing up in Central Arkansas, I heard an old Gospel song that's stuck with me through the years. Written by Ira Stanphill, it's entitled "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" and I believe its lyrics are well worth our remembering.

They read as follows: "I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day-to-day. I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to grey.

"I don't worry o'er the future, for I know what Jesus said. And, today I'll walk beside Him, For He knows what is ahead. Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand. But I know Who holds tomorrow, And I know Who holds my hand."

Aren't those wonderful words? And, isn't that a wonderful assurance to know that the same one whose eye is on the sparrow is the same one who's watching over us? Most assuredly it is!

Here's praying this will be the best year ever for the 188th.

Let's do our best in 2012 and stay focused upon the one who knows everything about us and has promised to "supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). God bless you!

*Lt. Col. Tom Smith is a Christian chaplain and a member of the 188th Fighter Wing. The views expressed in the commentary do not necessarily represent the views of the 188th, the Arkansas National Guard, United States Air Force or the Department of Defense.*

## New ANG Family Guide now available

**By Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Matwey**  
166th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The new Air National Guard Family Guide is a well-written, well-researched and well-organized 124-page document that ANG Command Chief Master Sgt. Chris Muncy and ANG Director Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt and their wives collaborated on.

There are four chapters: Welcome to the ANG; Life in the ANG; Managing Deployment; When Bad Things Happen.

Consider the guide to be a personal navigation aid to better understand the ANG as a whole, starting with the ANG role in the overall U.S. military structure, to

the dozens of concerns and questions that pop up during a career — health, dental, legal and financial matters, and family relationships. Communication, popular social media tools and various coping skills are addressed. Even if you think you know a lot about ANG programs and the military bureaucracy, and you, or you and your family have gone through a deployment or sought needed assistance or direction before, valuable new information has come out making this guide well worth reviewing.

Find the guide online at <http://www.ang.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-111128-048.pdf>

## Can-ucopia



Airmen with the 188th Fighter Wing's Civil Engineer Squadron pose for a photograph in front of a collection of nonperishable food items at the CES headquarters facility Dec. 4. The goods were collected as part of a food drive put on by the 188th CES. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## ESGR Freedom Award nominations

Members are encouraged to nominate their employer for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Freedom Award. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 16. Employers must have already received a Patriot Award. To nominate for both awards visit [www.freedomaward.mil](http://www.freedomaward.mil) and [www.esgr.mil](http://www.esgr.mil).

**Find the 188th on the Web**

[www.188fw.ang.af.mil](http://www.188fw.ang.af.mil)

[www.facebook.com/188thFighterWing](http://www.facebook.com/188thFighterWing)



## Airman of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Senior Airman Michael Rutherford; and Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter, 188th command chief. Rutherford, a member of the 188th Fire Emergency Services Flight, was named the 188th's Airman of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

### Airmen of the Year

Continued from page 1

submit these award packages and for recognizing their personnel for all the sacrifices they make and the successes they've achieved."

Taking home the unit's Outstanding Airman of the Year was Senior Airman Michael Rutherford of the 188th Fire Emergency Services Flight.

Joining Rutherford as nominees for this accolade were: Senior Airman Kyle Flannigan, Senior Airman Lauren Davidson, Senior Airman David Wasicek and Airman 1st Class Chanel Irvin.

Outstanding Service Awards were also awarded to Irvin and Davidson. Wasicek and Flannigan received Outstanding Service Certificates.

Staff Sgt. Lowell McKenzie Jr. of the 188th Civil Engineer Squadron was named Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Along with McKenzie, the nominees for Outstanding NCO of the Year were: Tech Sgt. Robert Martin, Tech Sgt. Tony Crockett,

Tech Sgt. Michelle Malone, Staff Sgt. George Burns Jr., Staff Sgt. John Prescott IV and Staff Sgt. Clifford Robison.

Crockett and Malone received the Outstanding Service Award. Burns, Prescott, Robison and Martin received Outstanding Service Certificates.

Senior Master Sgt. Walter Schluterman of the 188th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron nabbed the Outstanding Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year honor.

Joining Schluterman as nominees for Senior NCO of the Year were: Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Peters, Senior Master Sgt. William Moers III, Master Sgt. Richard Barr and Master Sgt. Derrick Phillips.

Peters and Phillips received Outstanding Service Awards. Moers and Barr earned Outstanding Service Certificates.

Master Sgt. Joshua Rich of the 188th Civil Engineer Squadron snagged the Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year award.

Master Sgt. Stephen Walbe was named the Outstanding Honor Guard Member of the Year.

"This is a great program

## NCO of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Staff Sgt. Lowell McKenzie Jr.; and Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter, 188th command chief. McKenzie, a member of the 188th Civil Engineer Squadron, was named Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## Honor Guard Member of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Master Sgt. Stephen Walbe; and Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter, 188th command chief. Walbe was named the 188th's Outstanding Honor Guard Member of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

and we encourage all supervisors and commanders to take advantage of the opportunity to show off the quality and expertise of those Airmen in their sections who go above and beyond

to help push this wing to new heights," said 188th Command Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter.

Carter said the 188th's outstanding Airmen will advance

SEE AIRMEN OF THE YEAR PAGE 9



## Senior NCO of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Senior Master Sgt. Walter Schluterman; and Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter, 188th command chief. Schluterman, a member of the 188th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, was named the 188th's Outstanding Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## First Sergeant of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Master Sgt. Joshua Rich; and Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter, 188th command chief. Rich, a member of the 188th Civil Engineer Squadron was named the 188th's Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## 188th Fighter Wing annual award winners

### Outstanding Airman of the Year

Senior Airman Michael Rutherford

### Outstanding NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. Lowell McKenzie Jr.

### Outstanding Senior NCO of the Year

Senior Master Sgt. Walter Schluterman

### Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year

Master Sgt. Joshua Rich

### Outstanding Honor Guard Member of the Year

Master Sgt. Stephen Walbe

### Outstanding Service Awards

Airman 1st Class Chanel Irvin  
Senior Airman Lauren Davidson

Tech Sgt. Tony Crockett  
Tech Sgt. Michelle Malone  
Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Peters

Master Sgt. Derrick Phillips

### Outstanding Service Certificates

Senior Airman Kyle Flannigan  
Senior Airman David Wasicek  
Tech Sgt. Robert Martin  
Staff Sgt. George Burns Jr.  
Staff Sgt. John Prescott IV  
Staff Sgt. Clifford Robison  
Senior Master Sgt. William Moers III  
Master Sgt. Richard Barr

## Air Force Association Person of the Year



From left: Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, Arkansas Air National Guard commander; Mr. Jerry Reichenbach of the Air Force Association; Senior Master Sgt. Mike Francis; and Col. Tom Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander. Francis, a member of the 188th's Safety Office, was named the Arkansas chapter of the Air Force Association's Person of the Year during a commander's call Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Public Affairs)

### Airmen of the Year

Continued from page 8

to compete at the state level.

A 188th member was also

honored as the Air Force Association Person of the Year. Jerry Reichenbach of the AFA was on hand to present the award to Senior Master Sgt. Mike Francis with the 188th Safety Office.



An A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthog" with the 188th Fighter Wing, Arkansas Air National Guard conducts aerial refueling with a KC-135R Stratotanker with the 185th Airlift Wing, Iowa Air National Guard. The flight was part of a "Spouse Lift" tour in which spouses with the 188th flew on the KC-135R and watched the A-10s conduct aerial refueling from the boom operation area. The objective of the program was to showcase the 188th's mission to family members. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)



A family of a 188th Fighter Wing member watches as the unit's A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthogs" train Dec. 3 at the 188th's Detachment 1 Razorback Range located at Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center, Ark. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Hillier/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

## Family affair

Continued from page 1

Chaffee Maneuver Training Center, Ark.

Family members were also afforded the chance to operate an A-10 flight simulator during the two-day program.

"I thought it would be a good idea to do something for the families, to show them a small part of what we do here," said Capt. Josh Parnell, a 188th pilot who also functioned as the project officer for the spouse orientation flights. "I wanted them to see what their spouse as a unit member does to contribute that as a civilian you wouldn't normally get to see."

In all, 97 spouses had the opportunity to fly aboard a KC-135R Stratotanker from the Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing as it conducted mid-air refueling exercises with the 188th's A-10s.

After a safety briefing from Tech Sgt. Mike Dunlop, a boom operator with the 185th, spouses were given a tour around the KC-135R, and learned about the refueling mission of the aircraft.

Spouses then boarded the KC-135R and strapped in for takeoff. Once the aircraft reached 16,000 feet, spouses were able to explore the aircraft and talk with the crew and visit the cockpit.

While the spouses took photos of the Stra-



A spouse of a 188th member captures photographs from the boom operator area of a KC-135R Stratotanker with the 185th Airlift Wing, Iowa Air National Guard as the aircraft conducts aerial refueling of a 188th A-10C Thunderbolt II Dec. 3. The flight was part of a "Spouse Lift" tour. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

totanker and watched out the windows for the arrival of the A-10s, Dunlop talked about the KC-135R's mission, and entertained them with stories from his career.

Each spouse had the opportunity to ob-

serve a contact drill between the KC-135R and an A-10, in which the boom operator connects the refueling hose to the other aircraft in preparation for mid-air refueling.

SEE FAMILY AFFAIR PAGE 11



Above: 188th spouses visit the cockpit of a KC-135R Stratotanker with the 185th Airlift Wing, Iowa Air National Guard Dec. 3 as part of a "Spouse Lift" flight in which in they flew on the KC-135R and watched the 188th's A-10C Thunderbolt IIs conduct aerial refueling from the boom operation area. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Public Affairs) Top, right: A 188th spouse listens to 185th pilots on a radio headset inside the cockpit of a KC-135R (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class John Hillier/188th Public Affairs) Right, middle: Crew members with the 185th shake hands with 188th spouses following an orientation ride on a KC-135R. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Public Affairs) Bottom: 188th spouses capture photos of a KC-135R at the 188th Dec. 3. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Public Affairs)

## Family affair

Continued from page 10

Parnell, who flew with the 185th for three years before coming to the 188th had flown spouse flights with KC-135Rs before, he said. He was able to use that relationship to benefit both the 185th and 188th.

"I've flown with both the pilots and boom operators many times," Parnell said. "I know them really well. That helped with organization of the flights, and would have been much more difficult without that personal relationship."

Parnell said it can be challenging to keep current with training requirements, especially for part-time flyers. Parnell said they don't get to refuel A-10s very often, so it's a change of pace for them.

"The 185th gets to fly sorties out of a different location and refuel an aircraft that they don't normally get to practice with," Parnell said.

Parnell said the 188th pilots got to not only exhibit the aerial refueling process to unit member spouses but it was also a



chance to prepare for the 188th's upcoming Air Expeditionary Forces deployment to Afghanistan this summer.

"We've got a lot on our plate next year, and air refueling is a big part of letting us execute our mission," Parnell said. "It's also something that family members were able to go see. Knowing that we're going to be deployed next

summer, it's a way to say 'thank you' to the families for supporting us when we have to go away and do our jobs."

The flight was certainly appreciated. It was the first flight ever for Shelley Staggs.

"It was really neat; I enjoyed it," she said. "We went up in the cockpit and got down in the [boom area]. I'd definitely do it again."

Arkansas Air National Guard  
188th Fighter Wing/Public Affairs  
4850 Leigh Avenue  
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903-6018



PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Fort Smith, Arkansas  
Permit No. 127



## To the family of:

# Join the 188th Fighter Wing Your hometown Air Force

## New recruiting referral program benefits Air Guard members

The new Air National Guard Referral Rewards Program was created for current and retired ANG members who are helping to recruit new Airmen. To get started, log on to [www.refer2ang.com](http://www.refer2ang.com) to create an account.

Once an account has been created, members will receive a welcome kit in the mail, which contains Referral Rewards Program business cards with your unique four-digit code. This code is the key to claiming your rewards!

When you send a potential Airman to a recruiter, make sure the potential Airman gives your card or code to the recruiter. Once the individual joins, it will be noted on your online

account. Then you can choose your reward. It's that easy!

Rewards are redeemed via a tiered system. After your first recruit joins, you can choose a reward from the first tier. When your second recruit joins, you can pick a reward from the second tier, and so on. The more new Airmen you find, the more valuable the reward you are eligible to receive.

The ANG Referral Rewards Program is a voluntary program that is a benefit for current Airmen and retirees of the ANG.

Your story is our number one recruiting tool so let potential Airmen know how you have benefited from being in the Arkansas ANG.

## New incentives, bonuses available

The Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) below are eligible for the Air National Guard national and local incentives. These incentives are effective Oct. 1, 2011, until Dec. 31, 2011. The incentive program will be reviewed each quarter by the National Guard Bureau to determine which AFSCs will be authorized a bonus.

The incentives for non-prior service enlistments include \$20,000 cash and the G.I. Bill

Kicker. Current members may receive \$7,500 cash for a three-year reenlistment and \$15,000 cash and the G.I. Bill Kicker for a six-year reenlistment.

Contact Technical Sgt. Keith Freeman in the 188th Retention Office at 479-573-5360 for any questions regarding reenlistments. Contact the 188th Recruiting Office at 479-573-5728 with questions concerning joining the Air National Guard.

2A3X3	TACTICAL AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE
2W0X1	MUNITIONS SYSTEMS
2W1X1	AIRCRAFT ARMAMENT SYSTEMS
3E7X1	FIRE PROTECTION
3M0X1	SERVICES
3P0X1	SECURITY FORCES