



The Flying Razorback

188th Fighter Wing

Arkansas Air National Guard

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Green Flag East preps 188th for Afghanistan

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

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Airmen of the 188th Fighter Wing here participated in a joint-service training exercise at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., April 30 through May 10. The exercise, known as Green Flag East helped A-10C Thunderbolt II “Warhog” aircrew and maintainers hone their combat skills while working alongside other Airmen and U.S. Army troops in a realistic training environment.

The primary objective of Green Flag East was to prepare the 188th for its upcoming Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) rotation to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). This will be the 188th's second combat deployment in the A-10C.

The 188th's last AEF tasking occurred in 2010 when the unit deployed approximately 300 operations, maintenance and support personnel to Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, also in support of OEF.

“Close-air support is the most common mission we do,” said Lt. Col. Brian T. Burger, 188th Operations Group commander. “But we don’t often get an opportunity to be out there in an unfamiliar environment with Army maneuver units. This exercise will help make sure we’re ready to execute when we go downrange.”

Burger said the 188th is using

SEE GREEN FLAG-EAST PAGE 9

Beyond the Horizon



Staff Sgt. Joshua Denniston, right, steps out after digging a trench that will eventually become the foundation of a women's clinic in the Guatemalan town of Tactic. Denniston, an Airman with the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron, was deployed to Guatemala in support of Beyond the Horizon 2012 and spent two weeks working in Tactic to nearly double the available space of the Centro de Salud clinic. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones)

188th civil engineers construct key medical facilities during Guatemala deployment

118th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment,
Task Force Arriero Public Affairs and
188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

TACTIC, Guatemala — The 188th Fighter Wing does more than just fly jets.

Airmen with the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron (CES), which falls under the 188th Mission Support Group of the 188th Fighter Wing, began constructing a key addition

to the Centro de Salud medical clinic April 16 in Tactic, Guatemala, during a deployment to the country.

The 188th civil engineers deployed to Guatemala to participate in Beyond the Horizon (BTH) 2012, a joint foreign military, humanitarian and civic assistance mission deploying U.S. military engineers and medical professionals to Guatemala. The effort is led by

U.S. Army South.

The 188th CES' deployment to Guatemala was part of a three-team, six-week rotation. Each team from the 188th CES was deployed for two weeks.

The 188th CES spent most of its time constructing a 1,500 square foot structure that will function as a women's clinic and will include four exam

SEE 188TH CES PAGE 10



The Flying Razorback

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188th Fighter Wing commander
Col. Pete Gauger,
188th Fighter Wing vice commander
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The Flying Razorback

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From left: Staff Sgt. Shilo Schluterman, a member of the 188th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and American Eagle Airlines employee; Tracey Moody with American Eagle Airlines; Col. Pete Gauger, 188th Fighter Wing vice commander; and Jon Woodham, employer relations specialist with the Arkansas Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Moody, Schluterman's civilian supervisor, was presented a Patriot Award for being highly supportive of Schluterman's career in the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing. (National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Brambl/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

188th Maintenance Group Airman honors civilian employer for support with Patriot Award

188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Arkansas Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an agency of the Department of Defense, announced May 4 that Tracey Moody with the American Eagle Airlines was honored with a Patriot Award in recognition of extraordinary support of her employees who serve in the Arkansas National Guard and Reserves.

"The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve," said Jon Woodham, ESGR Arkansas Employer Relations specialist.

Staff Sgt. Shilo Schluterman, a member of the 188th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and employee of American Airlines, nominated Moody for being highly supportive of her career in the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing.

Woodham said supportive supervisors and employers are critical to maintaining the

strength and readiness of the nation's Guard and Reserve units.

"Tracey has consistently made exceptions for drill and last-minute [temporary duty assignments] even when it has put our station in a bind," Schluterman said. "Tracey has filled in my hours herself when needed and has never held it against me. She has supported my participation in the Air National Guard and she is very proud of the fact that I serve."

As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserves continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions in America's borders and beyond, ESGR continues to function as a vital resource for the employers of citizen warriors. ESGR recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of the law and resolves conflict through mediation.

More information about ESGR Employer Outreach programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil and www.facebook.com/ArkansasESGR. Interested individuals can also call Jon Woodham at 479-459-3342 or Richard Green at 501-212-4096.

Fit to fight

188th recognizes PT standouts

By Maj. Heath Allen
188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Physical fitness is a vital aspect of mission readiness and paramount for maintaining a healthy force.

The 188th Fighter Wing recently recognized its fittest members as measured by the Air Force Physical Fitness Test. The Airmen were honored at a commander's call held May 5 during a unit training assembly at Ebbing Air National Guard Base.

The unit members were recognized for logging the highest AFPT score in their category. There were six divisions, including: Airman; junior non-commissioned officer; senior noncommissioned officer; lieutenants; captain/major; and lieutenant colonel/colonel.

Airman 1st Class Adam

Thompson of the 188th Maintenance Group registered a score of 100 to top the Airman division. Staff Sgt. Rachel Ponder of the 188th Security Forces Squadron tallied a 100 to best the field in the junior NCO category. Senior Master Sgt. Richard Barr of the 188th Maintenance Group also scored a perfect 100 to nab first in the senior NCO division.

Capt. Mark Cox of the 188th Operations Group recorded a 100 on his AFPT exam to snatch top billing in the captain/major category and 2nd Lt. Laura Delgado of the 188th Medical Group graded out at a 97.7, which was tops among the lieutenants.

Lt. Col. Brian Carter with 188th Fighter Wing Staff also achieved a score of 100 to take top billing in the lieutenant colonel/colonel category.



From left: Capt. Mark Cox, 188th Operations Group; Lt. Col. Brian Carter, 188th Fighter Wing Staff; Col. Mark Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander; Airman 1st Class Adam Thompson, 188th Maintenance Group. Not pictured: Staff Sgt. Rachel Ponder, 188th Security Forces Squadron; 2nd Lt. Laura Delgado, 188th Medical Group; and Senior Master Sgt. Richard Barr, 188th Maintenance Group. The six Airmen were recognized by Anderson as the 188th's fittest members as measured by the Air Force Physical Fitness Test. The Airmen were honored at a commander's call held May 5 during a unit training assembly at Ebbing Air National Guard Base. (National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

The AFPT's overall score is tabulated based on the cumulative tally of the individual's performance in aerobic fitness (run/walk), push-ups and crunches as well as their age and body composition as de-

termined by height, weight and abdominal circumference.

The top scoring unit members in each of the six divisions will continue to be recognized quarterly at commander's calls and will receive a commander's coin.

Celebrating individual uniqueness helps harness our strengths

Commentary by Maj. Shane Pair
188th Fighter Wing chaplain

In today's culture we hear a lot about diversity, yet a lot of us really don't know what that word means. The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences.

These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual.

I must admit often we use diversity to exclude "others" — you know, the people who don't hold the same values or views we do. I am a Christian pastor, and I have been excluded or chided for my beliefs. I believe in a God who walked upon the Earth at a

particular time in history to die for human sin and rose for human redemption. That is my belief, but it is not the belief of everyone with whom I associate.

Sadly, I must also admit, that I have also experienced those who believe the same as I do exclude those who don't believe the same as we do. To be a truly diverse people we are called to respect the uniqueness and differences each of us has.

It is in the celebration and embracing of our differences that makes life interesting and keeps it from becoming stale. It is in each of our differences and our unique gifts that we are at our best.

There is one core value that I hold supreme to all other values in my life and it is this: "All people are of sacred worth." This means each person I meet, regardless of belief, race, gender, socioeconomic status, age, physical ability, or political affiliation is of intrinsic value and worth.

If I am honest, this is due to my understanding of my creator. In my faith we are told in Genesis 1:27 that "God created humanity in God's own image, in the image of God they were created male and female." This means if I believe in a God, I must believe that you, the reader, are created in God's image; therefore, that changes how I view you and embrace your uniqueness.

One of the Air Force's core values is "Service Before Self," and I believe this is most obtainable when we celebrate our diversity by utilizing our differences. When we accept one another for who each of us is, we can overcome any obstacle and we can obtain any objective.

It is my prayer this month that we explore how our differences can become our strengths. I hope each of you will begin seeing and celebrating the value of each person with whom you come in contact. I pray you have a blessed UTA and month.



The Flying Razorback member spotlight

Hometown: Born in St. Paul, Minn., but now I live in Fort Smith.

Job title: Militarily, I am an A-10C Thunderbolt II pilot. At my civilian job, I am a captain with Piedmont Airlines.

In the 188th: Since 2005.

Education: Bachelor's degree in commercial aviation from the University of North Dakota "Go Sioux!"

Favorite TV show: "Archer" and "How I met your Mother" are at the top, but I also enjoy "Family Guy," "The Simpsons" and "American Dad!"

Favorite actor/actress: Yvonne Strahovski and Sean Connery, who was the best James Bond.

Favorite color: Blue.

Favorite animal: Any dog. I have a mini dachshund and a West Highland terrier.

Favorite comedian: Adam Sandler, especially his Hanukah songs.

Favorite movie: "Lord of the Rings" or any James Bond movie.

Favorite restaurant: In Fort Smith it would be Fuji or Emmys German restaurant. My favorite of all time would be Le Republique Marinare, which is a little mom and pop shop located in in Pisa, Italy, that has unforgettable food!

Favorite soft drink: Lemonade.

Favorite foods: Italian.

Favorite musical group/musician: Jimmy Buffet always helps me relax. Also, I enjoy Bob Marley.

Favorite word or phrase: "So to speak" or "tonight is going to be legen ... wait for it ... dary" from "How I met your Mother."

Favorite super hero: My Dad! He made me the man I am today; any complaints with me should be taken up with him. He inspired me to be a pilot.

Favorite U.S. presidents: Ronald Reagan and Theodore Roosevelt.

Favorite historical figure: General James Harold "Jimmy" Doolittle.

Favorite sport: Soccer. I play in a league in Fort Smith. I usually play outside back or midfield.

Favorite sports individual: David Beckham.

Favorite football team: Minnesota Vikings! Purple pride!

My worst job ever: Bus boy at a restaurant.

Hobbies: Playing soccer. I enjoy going for a drive in my new Audi, and of course flying.

My dream shopping spree: Any gun store.

Place I'd most like to visit: Eastern Europe.



Capt. Mark Cox, a member of the 188th Operations Group, was selected as the 188th Fighter Wing's Flying Razorback spotlight for June 2012. (National Guard photo by Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Brambl/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)



Capt. Mark Cox

Favorite cartoon character: Archer.

Favorite automobile: Audi or an Aston Martin DBS.

My first car was: Suzuki Sidekick.

My worst habit: Chewing ice.

What scares me the most: Fratricide, and also a fear of failure. I hate snakes, too. The last snake to venture in my yard was shot then burned.

The best day of my life: Still to this day the best day of my life was when I got the call to fly for the 188th Fighter Wing. I was in downtown Minneapolis and walking with my wife Megan (we were still dating at the time). I literally jumped off a wall. I had spent my entire life working toward that goal. If my wife asks the same question, I might say our wedding. But honestly, it's not even close.

Things I look forward to: My wife's coffee. While we were at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., for A-10 training she worked at Starbucks for five months. We bought an awesome espresso machine and all the beans and syrups. Now she can make just about anything you would order at Starbucks. One of my favorite things to do on an off day is drink a latte or cappuccino and read the paper without ever having to leave my house.

Most inspirational figure: My dad, who was a United Airlines captain and a retired U.S. Army helicopter pilot who flew in Vietnam. He put me behind the controls of an airplane when I was 2. I started taking flying lessons when I was 14 and had my first solo on my 16th birthday. My dad was the inspiration behind all that.



'Check your oil' before you deploy

Commentary by Geoff Gibson
Wing director of Psychological Health

FORT SMITH, Ark. — Our wing has repeatedly shown great ability to place service before self and to accomplish our missions with excellence and honor. Your work brings credit to our wing, and to our nation.

For us to maintain our high standards of performance, we must also maintain ourselves, our families and each other. Because your work is important to our mission and our wing's success, your personal maintenance is as important as our world-class aircraft maintenance.

Just as our jets won't fly without proper maintenance, our bodies, minds, emotions and relationships require regular maintenance. Would you drive your personal vehicle without enough oil, or leave for deployment without checking the oil in your family vehicle? Please take a moment and "check the oil" in a few key aspects of your life.

Ask yourself some important questions. Are you physically healthy, or is your physical health and fitness an issue? Is your mind sharp, or do you sometimes have difficulty concentrating? Are you happy and calm, or are you angry, stressed or depressed? Do you have positive relationships with your partner, family and peers?

If you have any concerns with any of the issues above, please summon the courage to face these issues for a moment. Think of how much more prepared you will be for deployment or other challenges when these issues are solved.

Consider how much more peaceful and confident you will feel as you face these issues, and prevail over them. Now, commit to taking some kind of action to address these issues. If you would like a supportive, knowledgeable and confidential wingman, please contact me at 479-573-5747. I want to help you!

Next you will find a few suggestions on how to manage the stress and distractions in your busy lives.

Engage in regular exercise

Research indicates exercising at least 30 minutes per day can be as effective in managing depression as antidepressant medication. A research study at UCLA found participants who practiced yoga three times a week for eight weeks reported significant reductions in

depression, anxiety and other symptoms.

Meditation for focus

Meditation involves focusing your mind continuously on one thought, word, object or mental image for a period of time. It can also involve focusing on your breathing or on sensations in your body.

The goal of meditation is to quiet your mind. Meditation leads to changes in the body known as the relaxation response. These changes may include reduced heart rate and blood pressure, reduced muscle tension, and increased energy, awareness and mental focus.

Take a deep breath

Similar to meditation, slowing a person's breathing increases oxygen flow to the brain and reduces the brain's response when under stress. The most common method of deep breathing is "belly breathing." With this method, sit upright with shoulders relaxed. Take three deep breaths in a row; breathe in deeply through your nose and exhale through your mouth.

Breathing should be from the abdomen as opposed to the chest. This should be practiced several times throughout the day, as well as when experiencing a stressful situation.

Start a journal

Writing about life's traumatic or stressful events for 20 minutes a day for a minimum of three consecutive days leads to noticeable improvements, such as lifting depression, decreasing physical pain, and strengthening the immune system. The most helpful topics to journalize include worries, dreams, stressful events, and issues you have been avoiding.

Network for support

Sociologists hypothesize "7" is the magic number with regard to our social support networks. Recent research has demonstrated social support networks alone can significantly reduce the likelihood of developing depression or PTSD.



188th vacancy announcement Judge advocate

The 188th Fighter Wing Judge Advocate Office is seeking to fill a judge advocate position. This traditional (not full-time) officer position provides legal advice and opinions to commanders and senior staff on all phases of Air Force and Air National Guard operations, including international law, state law, operations law, procurement law, claims, environmental law, military and civilian personnel issues, litigation, military affairs, legal assistance and preventive law, and allied legal matters.

The 188th Judge Advocate Office provides legal assistance to military personnel and dependents on personal civil matters such as wills and estates, powers of attorney, consumer affairs, domestic relations, insurance, and execution of legal documents. Furthermore, the 188th Judge Advocate Office acts as defense counsel for 189th Airlift Wing personnel.

Knowledge of military and civilian law is essential. Minimum requirements are that applicants be less than 35 years of age, a U.S. citizen, a graduate of an American Bar Association-accredited law school, and admittance to the highest court of any state or a federal bar.

Selection factors include academic performance, extracurricular activities, community service, prior military record, experience, and the recommendation in the report of interview. Interested applicants should contact Lt. Col. Steve Coney, 188th staff judge advocate, at steven.e.coney@usps.gov.

Social media tip Image is everything

Be aware of the image you present. If using a visual medium, don't let your message become overshadowed because the viewer's attention is drawn to your improperly worn uniform or something occurring in the background.

The image you present will set the tone for your message and often mean the difference between people listening to your message or ignoring it. Your tactical representation could have strategic and international consequences for the Air Force and the nation.

**188th Fighter Wing
Psychological
Health Office**
Cell: 479-431-9210
Office: 479-573-5742
E-mail: Geoff.Gibson.ctr@ang.af.mil



188th Fighter Wing Chiefs' Council Scholarships available

188th Fighter Wing Chiefs' Council

The Chiefs' Council is again contributing to the improvement of the 188th Fighter Wing by offering its Airmen college scholarships. Unit members interested in receiving a Chiefs' Council scholarship must first pen an essay of 500 words or less describing one of the following topics: What the Air National Guard means to you; military service and college; or the balancing act between family and military and civilian work.

Interested applicants must meet the following criteria: Must be an enlisted member of

the 188th and must be seeking an undergraduate degree.

The scholarship will total \$500 each. The number of scholarships awarded will be based on the number and type of entries. The deadline for application is Aug. 5, 2012.

Submit an application along with your narrative to any chief master sergeant of the 188th Fighter Wing or send an e-mail to Chief Master Sgt. Mark McDaniel at mark.mcdaniel.3@ang.af.mil

Applications can be found on the S: drive at S:\MSG\FSS\Scholarships or by asking any chief master sergeant of the 188th Fighter Wing.

188th Fighter Wing retirements

Tech Sgt. John Barnett, 188th Maintenance Squadron
 Master Sgt. Sharon Evans, 188th Maintenance Squadron
 Tech Sgt. James Jenkins, 188th Maintenance Squadron
 Master Sgt. Charles Hilton, 188th Force Support Squadron
 Tech Sgt. Donald Ullrich, 188th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
 Master Sgt. Gregory Gordon, 188th Civil Engineer Squadron
 Senior Master Sgt. William Moers III, 188th Financial Management Flight
 Senior Master Sgt. James Clark, 188th Maintenance Squadron
 Senior Master Sgt. Jimmy Hudlow, 188th Maintenance Squadron
 Chief Master Sgt. Alwina Freeman, 188th Force Support Squadron
 Tech Sgt. Lana Sehorn, 188th Civil Engineer Squadron
 Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Andrews, 188th Maintenance Operations Flight

Citizen Airman Dining Hall menu

Saturday, June 2

Chili mac, green beans, garlic potatoes, Texas toast, peach crisp, ice cream, coffee/tea/milk.

Sunday, June 3

Fish, ham steak, pinto beans, corn on the cob, corn bread, brownies, ice cream coffee/tea/milk.

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

NOTE: Civilians and family members are not permitted to eat in the Citizen Airman Dining Hall. The one exception is the annual holiday meal.

188th Top III to award scholarships

188th Fighter Wing Top III Council

To promote and encourage excellence in the enlisted ranks at the 188th Fighter Wing, the unit's Top III Council will be awarding two \$250 scholarships to a degree-seeking student who is an enlisted member of the 188th.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must be eligible as measured by the following criteria: A member of the 188th Fighter Wing; currently enrolled in an accredited college or university; enrolled at least as a half-time student.

The deadline for applications is Aug. 15, 2012. The submission procedure includes the completion of a scholar-

ship application, which must be received by Master Sgt. Ryan McClure or Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Peters by the deadline.

The scholarship recipient will be recognized by the 188th's Top III Council during a presentation in which the recipient will be awarded the scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded based on the availability of funds. Members of the scholarship committee and their immediate family members are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

Application forms are available through McClure or Senior Master Sgt. Sam Bond or by visiting the S: drive at S:\MSG\FSS\Scholarships.

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. Peter Gauger
 Maj. Brian Ahlert
 Maj. Matt Holguin
 Capt. Lionel Riley
 Chief Master Sgt. (Ret.) Stephen Andrews
 Chief Master Sgt. Larry Madden
 Chief Master Sgt. Fred Williams
 Senior Master Sgt. (Ret.) James Clark
 Senior Master Sgt. Archie Goins
 Senior Master Sgt. Larry Laney
 Senior Master Sgt. (Ret.) William Moers III
 Master Sgt. (Ret.) Sharon Evans
 Master Sgt. (Ret.) Gregory Gordon
 Master Sgt. Gregory Palmer
 Master Sgt. Michael Walker
 Tech Sgt. Sean Dover
 Tech Sgt. Timothy Holland
 Tech Sgt. Stephen McCormick (Posthumously)



188th academic, training accolades

Tech Sgt. Michelle Malone — NCO Academy Distinguished Graduate
 Tech Sgt. Rickey Brown — Outstanding Performer
 Airman 1st Class Sean Liggett — Physical Fitness Achievement
 Airman 1st Class Samuel Grounds — BMT Honor Graduate
 Airman 1st Class Aaron Wolfe — Distinguished Leadership

188th Fighter Wing promotions

To Major (O-4)

William V. Schnauffer



To Master Sergeant (E-7)

Lanette M. Hunt
Scott W. Oliver



To Technical Sergeant (E-6)

Timothy J. Holland



To Senior Airman (E-4)

Dalton G. Delozier
Brian A. Smith

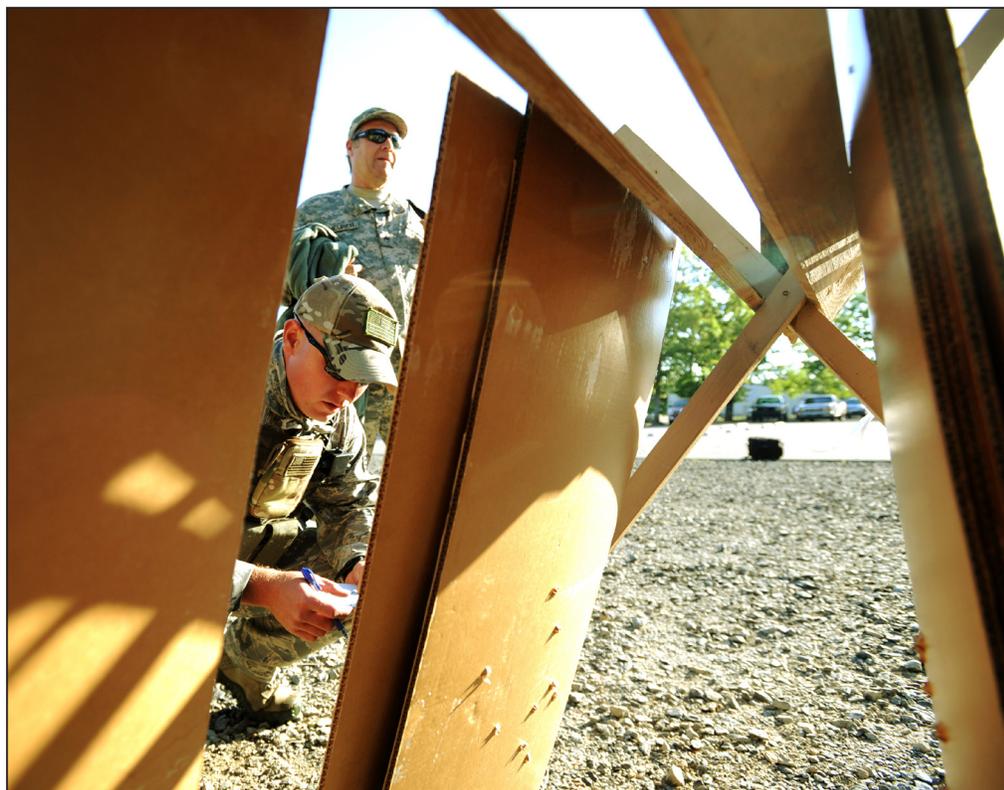


To Airman First Class (E-3)

Evan N. Davis
Jeremy L. James



On target



Staff Sgt. Nathan Sosebee with the 188th Security Forces Squadron and Sgt. Darrell Theurer with the North Dakota National Guard check Sosebee's targets April 24, 2012, during the 41st annual Winston P. Wilson Rifle and Pistol Championships hosted by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center located at Camp Joseph T. Robinson Maneuver Training Center, Ark. (National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Ian Caple)

Service members, families get free passes to National Parks

By Lisa Daniel
American Forces Press Service

Service members and their families will be able to enter all of America's national parks free of charge for a year under an initiative announced Tuesday.

The pass — the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Annual Pass, which normally costs \$80 — became available to service members and their dependents on Armed Forces Day, May 19.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar made the announcement along with National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis, at a ceremony at Colonial National Historical Park in

Yorktown, Va., the site of the last major battle of the Revolutionary War. The area surrounding the park hosts installations from all the military services, including the world's largest naval base.

"I think when one goes into Virginia and you see all the sites, the Yorktown battlefield and the whole history of the country, it's important that those who have fought in the tradition of making sure the nation's democracy and freedom are protected also have access to these wonderful sites there," Salazar said Monday in a conference call with reporters.

The passes allow the holder
SEE **PASSES** PAGE 8

188th Unit Training Assembly news

Upcoming drills

June 2-3
July 14-15



UTA pay dates

June 13
July 25

Community College of the Air Force grads

Master Sgt. Ray Traylor
Tech Sgt. Steven Tidwell
Tech Sgt. Jason Reynolds
Tech Sgt. Robert Martin
Tech Sgt. Joshua Bull
Tech Sgt. Mark Adams
Staff Sgt. Morgan Kilpatrick
Staff Sgt. David Isbell
Staff Sgt. David Adair

Munitions systems tech
Aviation maintenance tech
Public health tech
Aviation maintenance tech
Logistics
Metal tech
Maintenance prod management
Aviation maintenance tech
Electronic systems tech



101 Critical Days of Summer: Personal risk management key to safe choices

By Senior Master Sgt. Mike Francis
188th Fighter Wing Safety Office

Every year the Air Force labels its summer months, the "101 Critical Days of Summer." This is the time between Memorial Day and Labor Day when we see an increase in off-duty, recreational mishaps.

Summer brings about many activities and people become more active outdoors. As you prepare for summer fun, take a minute to think about the risk involved in your choice of activities.

This year, the theme for the 101 Critical Days of Summer is "It's Personal." Your wing's safety office or even your wingman can't be looking over your shoulder every minute so the emphasis

is on personal risk management.

Will you be one of our statistics this summer or will you choose to make good decisions about taking risks? The choice is yours. The 188th Fighter Wing's greatest asset is the people who work here.

Without each and every Airman working together, we cannot effectively perform the mission. If you are injured, who will perform your job? An injury affects not only you and your family, it also affects your co-workers and the overall mission objectives of the wing. Work and play safe this summer, and remember to stay focused on safety. Your wingman is counting on you!

Finance office announces new customer service hours

In order to serve its Airmen better, the 188th Financial Management Flight is pleased to announce new customer service hours effective immediately.

Finance will be open for customer service from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Unit Training Assem-

bly hours are as follows: Saturday from 8 a.m. -2:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

Deploying personnel and individuals with emergency issues who need assistance outside these hours may call 479-573-5277 (DSN: 778-5277) for assistance.

Metlife now TRICARE dental provider; members need to make direct payments

Effective May 1, 2012, MetLife replaced United Concordia as the Tricare Dental provider. Currently, MetLife cannot collect premiums by payroll deduction. Members will receive from MetLife, a direct billings in the mail for their premiums.

Members will need to pay Metlife directly according to the

options in the billing. MetLife will eventually institute a fix and return members back to payroll deduction. Despite the delay in collection of the premiums, members will still be covered in this conversion period. Please let your dentist know that they will need to work with MetLife for your future dental claims.

Going through a phase



An A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthog" from the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing undergoes a phase inspection at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 8, 2012. The phase is one of the most extensive maintenance actions, requiring the removal, inspection and service of hundreds of parts, panels and mechanisms. A-10s conduct close-air support in southern of Afghanistan, according to officials at Bagram. The 188th currently has approximately 75 Airmen deployed to Bagram, where they are attached to the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron. An additional 300 Airmen with the 188th will deploy to Afghanistan later this summer when the 188th begins its official portion of an Air Expeditionary Forces rotation. (Courtesy photo by John A. Tirpak/Air Force Magazine)

Passes

Continued from Page 7

and passengers in a single private vehicle access to some 2,000 sites that charge per vehicle. At sites where entrance fees are charged per person, it covers the pass owner and three adults age 16 and older.

Military personnel can get the passes at any national park or wildlife refuge that charges an entrance fee by showing their military ID. Family members also will be able to obtain their own pass, even if the service member is deployed or if they are traveling separately.

The pass will be accepted at National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps sites that

charge entrance or standard amenity fees.

The free pass will be made available for activated members of the National Guard and reserves, but not for military veterans or retirees, whom Jarvis said have other opportunities for free or reduced admission, such as the National Park Service's "Access Pass" or a seniors pass for those 62 and older.

The free pass initiative is part of the "Joining Forces" campaign First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, launched last year to rally Americans around supporting service members and their families.

"Our nation owes a debt of gratitude to our servicemen and women who make great sacrifices to protect our country and preserve our freedom," Dr. Biden said.

Green Flag East

Continued from Page 1

the lessons learned at Green Flag East to prepare for their upcoming AEF deployment to Afghanistan. Participating in the exercise exposed 188th pilots to a wide variety of realistic scenarios they are likely to see during their deployment, he said.

“There’s not too much our pilots haven’t seen training in our own area,” Burger said. “The ability to go out into an area that our pilots aren’t familiar with gives us an extra measure of difficulty that is good for us to overcome.

Burger said many of the scenarios pilots experienced involved close-air support missions but they also had the chance to work with the Army in combat search and rescue, and direct action with Special Forces units.

Maj. Chris Simpson, who served as the 188th’s project officer for Green Flag East, said learning to work in a joint environment was a primary objective during the exercise. Simpson added that A-10s are just one of the many air assets available to commanders downrange, so there’s a high likelihood that pilots from the 188th will be participating in coordinated attacks.

Green Flag East is one of the final steps in the deployment preparation process and functions as follow-on training to Operation Snowbird. The 188th deployed approximately 300 Airmen to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., Feb. 11-26 to participate in Operation Snowbird.

The 188th dropped myriad live munitions at Snowbird that it doesn’t have the opportunity to accomplish at Razorback Range, including GBU-38 JDAMs, GBU-12 LGBs, MK-82s, MK-66 rockets and AGM-65 Mavericks. The 188th also fired 30mm rounds from the A-10’s GAU-8/A seven-barrel Gatling gun.



An A-10C Thunderbolt II “Warthog” takes off from the 188th Fighter Wing, an Arkansas Air National Guard unit based in Fort Smith. The A-10 was participating in a training mission. The 188th recently participated in Green Flag East at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., in preparation for an upcoming Air Expeditionary Force deployment to Afghanistan later this summer. Due to the 188th’s geographical proximity to the Louisiana air base, the 188th was able to take off from Fort Smith to perform vital training near Barksdale, minimizing the number of personnel required on site and saving taxpayer dollars. (National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Hannah Landeros/188th Fighter Wing Public Affairs)

Green Flag East integrated the training logged at Snowbird and incorporated new elements in order to execute a more realistic wartime scenario and generate a more authentic battle rhythm.

Simpson said the 188th also conducted live firing on moving targets and strafing as well as coordinated attacks with Army AH64D Apache and OH-58 Kiowa helicopters while participating in Green Flag East.

Airmen from the 188th trained at Green Flag East in conjunction with elements of the 101st Airborne Division, 19th Air Support Operations Squadron and 5th Special Forces Group during the exercise.

Burger said that in addition to valuable training and vital preparation for its upcoming deployment, another prime consideration for the 188th at Green Flag

East was the efficient use of taxpayer dollars.

Rather than send eight or 10 aircraft to Barksdale AFB, along with the maintenance and support personnel that perform ground support for the jets, pilots took off from Fort Smith, conducted training scenarios, and then returned to Fort Smith the next day. Only about 20 people from the 188th were required on site at Barksdale AFB.

In 2010, the 188th deployed approximately 300 Airmen to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., to participate in Green Flag West in preparation for its AEF deployment to Kandahar.

Burger said the 188th’s decision to participate in Green Flag East this time saved the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command, and taxpayers, a substantial amount of money.

“This is a small-footprint operation for us,” Burger said. “A typical complement for eight or 10 aircraft would consist of a much larger group of people. With us being located so close, it makes the exercise very efficient on cost.”

Another way the 188th was able to cut training costs for the exercise was through extensive use of teleconferencing. Burger said that following each scenario, all participants went through an extensive debriefing, in which they discussed the scenario, and searched for ways to improve their performance.

Burger said the video and data link capabilities available at the 188th allowed intelligence and operations staff to take part in the debriefing from Fort Smith, and not require them to be on site in Louisiana.



188th CES

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rooms, one lab, three bathrooms, a maternity ward and a waiting room.

"We're extremely proud of our civil engineers and the great work they're doing in Guatemala," said Col. Mark Anderson, 188th Fighter Wing commander. "Their professionalism, dedication and skill shows in everything they do. The construction they're accomplishing in Guatemala furnishes valuable training for our Airmen. It will also provide an important medical facility and function as a key community resource for many years to come."

Sergeant 1st Class Jason Ites, Tactic site project manager and member of the Missouri Army National Guard's 110th Movement Enhancement Brigade, oversaw the construction through the project's anticipated completion in early July.

"We're doubling the size of the facility," Ites said. "It will give them the opportunity to see more people, which will also allow them to better focus their medical assets."

The project, first scheduled for an early July completion, was progressing a full month ahead of schedule and at presstime was projected to be finished at the end of May.

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Morgan, BTH construction manager and Soldier with the Missouri National Guard's 35th Engineer Brigade, lauded the performance of the 188th CES.

"They're kicking butt," Morgan said.

Maj. Joe Harrison, 188th CES commander, said his Airmen have exceeded all expectations to this point.

"Any obstacles, they've adapted and overcome," Harrison said. "I'm just really proud



Staff Sgt. Samuel Miller, left, Senior Airman Aaron Green, center, and Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Crowder, all members of the 188th Civil Engineering Squadron of the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Fighter Wing, deployed to Guatemala in support of Beyond the Horizon 2012 (BTH). They are building a rebar form for use in the foundation of a women's clinic. This construction project will be an addition to the Centro de Salud medical clinic, nearly doubling its square footage, and will serve the community of Tactic as a women's clinic. The clinic is a BTH military engineering exercise designed to provide training for service members and medical resources to Guatemalan civilians. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala, which is state partners with Arkansas. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones)

of how they've done."

The primary objective of BTH is to train U.S. military personnel while demonstrating U.S. commitment and support to Guatemala. Guatemala and Arkansas are state partners and the 188th used the clinic addition to give back while completing its annual training requirements.

"The 188th jumped at the opportunity to participate in BTH," Ites said.

Ites said the 188th CES supplied the bulk of the workforce and will be responsible for the majority of the site's progress.

"This is a great opportunity to gain experience working with the people of Guatemala," said Senior Airman Lance Hobbs, a heavy equipment operator with



Tech. Sgt. Michael Scott Gilreath swings his pickaxe, breaking apart material to be pulled from a trench. Gilreath, a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron, was deployed to Guatemala in support of Beyond the Horizon 2012, an Army South-led humanitarian aid and military engineering exercise, and spent his two-week training period constructing an addition to the Centro de Salud clinic in Tactic. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones)

188th CES

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the 188th CES.

The Centro de Salud clinic has been open for more than 20 years but lack of space has hampered its ability to provide adequate care for the local community.

"This will give them better opportunities to serve more people and expand their capabilities," said Master Sgt. Bob Haag, a heavy equipment operator with the 188th CES. "I'm humbled to have the opportunity to make the quality of life [in Tactic] better."

Hugo Hernandez, who has served as the clinic's director for the past eight months, said during his tenure the clinic has assumed a 24-hour operating schedule. Hernandez said the around-the-clock operation has led to a vast increase in patient admittances with numbers nearly tripling since 2009. He estimates 25 percent of all Tactic citizens are now born at his clinic.

"We are honored and humbled to be working here," Harrison said to Hernandez while on a tour to review the site's progress.

The clinic has struggled to keep up with the increasing number of patients. Hernandez expressed his thanks for the U.S. support exhibited through the BTH project.

"Last year, we only had three beds," Hernandez said. "To get this project done locally, especially this big and this quickly, would be very difficult."

The entire BTH operation, which spans from April through July, will feature construction projects at two schools, construction of three medical clinics, establishment of a short-term veterinary aid station and establishment of several medical care points, each able to render aid to more than 500 Guatemalan civilians.



Airmen with the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron cut rebar for use in the foundation of a joint service and multinational construction exercise. A Beyond the Horizon Guatemala 2012 mission, the Tactic exercise will construct a 10-room addition to the Centro de Salud medical facility that will function as a women's clinic. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones)



Above: Tech. Sgt. Michael "Scott" Gilreath, a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron, cuts wood for forms and bracing to be used in the construction of a Guatemalan women's clinic. Gilreath was deployed to Guatemala in support of Beyond the Horizon 2012, an Army South-led humanitarian aid and military engineering exercise demonstrating U.S. support and commitment to Guatemala. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones) Right: Tech Sgt. Jeremy Hart, an Airman with the 188th CES, excavates a trench for the installation of plumbing utilities with the assistance of some earth-moving equipment at a construction site located at Tactic, Guatemala, May 8. (U.S. Army photo by 2nd Lt. Harold D. Williams/Task Force Arriero Public Affairs)



Master Sgt. Ronnie Piovesan, left, and Tech. Sgt. Michael Scott Gilreath, right, work together to create forms and bracing to be used in the construction of a Guatemalan women's clinic. Both Airmen are members of the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Civil Engineering Squadron, and were deployed to Guatemala in support of Beyond the Horizon 2012. The 188th CES, which is part of the 188th Fighter Wing, sent three teams in three separate two-week rotations to Guatemala. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Anthony D. Jones)



Join the 188th Fighter Wing Your hometown Air Force

New incentives, bonuses available

The Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) below are eligible for the Air National Guard national and local incentives.

These incentives below are currently eligible for national incentives. 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.

National incentives

2A3X3	Tactical Aircraft Maintenance
2W0X1	Munitions Systems
2W1X1	Aircraft Armament Systems

Local incentives

3D0X3	Cyber Security
3D1X1	Client Systems
3M0X1	Services

Recruiting referral program benefits Air Guard members

The 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 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.

Transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill to dependents

Do you have Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits that you plan on transferring to a dependent? If so, now is the time to make that move. When you transfer your benefits,

you may have a service obligation that must be completed in order for benefits to be awarded to dependents. Currently, your service obligation is based on your retirement date as

shown on the adjacent chart. After July 31, 2013, the chart will no longer be utilized, and anyone applying to transfer benefits to their dependents will incur a four year service obligation. You must first apply for the Post 9/11 GI Bill before requesting a transfer to a spouse or child. This process normally takes three to four weeks. The member must have completed six years of service in order to transfer benefits to a spouse, and

10 years of service to transfer to children.

If a member was eligible to retire Oct. 2, 2009, and they request to transfer benefits Feb. 19, 2011, their service obligation will be one year. If a member was eligible to retire Oct. 2, 2009, and they request to transfer benefits Aug. 17, 2013, their service obligation will be four years.

Instructions on how to apply and transfer your Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits can be picked up at the 188th Retention Office. Contact Master Sgt. Keith Freeman at 479-573-5360 for more information.

Date eligible to retire: service obligation

On or before Aug. 1, 2009: None
Aug. 1, 2009-July 31, 2010: 1 year
Aug. 1, 2010-July 31, 2011: 2 years
Aug. 1, 2011-July 31 2012: 3 years
After July 31, 2012: 4 years



Warthog wild



Multiple A-10C Thunderbolt II "Warthogs" with the 188th Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard and the 175th Wing of the Maryland Air National Guard stop at the 65th Air Base Wing at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal before making their way to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). (Courtesy photo by Joao Toste)