



The Flying Razorback

188th Wing

Arkansas Air National Guard

Ebbing ANG Base, Fort Smith, Arkansas

December 2015

Maintaining excellence

188th vehicle maintainers provide upkeep of wing vehicles



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188th vehicle maintainers prove to be high speed

By Senior Airman Cody Martin
188th Wing Public Affairs

Since the invention of the wheel, transportation has added efficiency to endeavors man can accomplish. With this advent of technology also came the maintainers of the machinery. Common modern day forms of transportation need to be maintained to prevent failures and need repaired to fix damage. The 188th Wing's vehicle maintainers face these issues head on to ensure we remain mission capable

Within Vehicle Management there are two separate sections, yet both are vital to keeping the wheels turning. The Vehicle Analysis section generates reports, manages the fleet and makes sure that all the squadrons and users in the wing have the right equipment to complete the mission. The Vehicle Maintenance section handles all maintenance concerns for registered vehicles and technical support for ex-registered vehicles.

"We maintain vehicles and equipment, from golf carts and trucks to bulldozers and excavators," said Senior Airman

by the RED HORSE training squadron."

The 188th vehicle maintainers have quickly adapted

"The military gives you an opportunity to work on different types of equipment and different types of systems."

— Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Sehorn,
188th Vehicle Management chief of transportation

Aaron Russell, vehicle mechanic. "We repair them when they are broken, whether it is small or big we fix the issue."

The 188th Vehicle Management section within the Logistics and Readiness Squadron is vital to the success of the 188th Wing's mission, especially with the wing transitioning from a flying mission to a remotely piloted aircraft and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission. The 188th vehicle maintainers have proven to be a force multiplier by supporting groups and squadrons with their vehicular needs, from maintaining vehicles that emergency managers use to the heavy equipment that the Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Readiness Squadron Engineer (RED HORSE) Training Squadron uses to train other Guardsmen.

"We've had a lot of changes, especially in the vehicle fleet," said Senior Master Sgt. Ricky Sehorn, chief of transportation. "We went from supporting the flying mission with aircraft towing tractors and refuel trucks to supporting smaller vehicles, as well as the heavy equipment used

to the mission change due to the excellent training provided through the Air National Guard. The Guard provides automotive service excellence certifications as well as an associate degree in automotive technology through the Community College of the Air Force.

"In the 188th, we have a really good apprenticeship program set up," Sehorn stated. "You can come in and you can learn the trade and there is not as much pressure on you."

The 188th Wing also introduces a wider array of vehicles for their Airmen to learn to repair and maintain.

"The military gives you an opportunity to work on different types of equipment and different types of systems," Sehorn said. "It has given me a lot broader knowledge of the type of vehicles I can work on and it allowed me to get used to the type of systems and how to diagnose those systems."

Airmen within the Vehicle Management section continuously demonstrate that they are essential throughout the entire ANG. Whether working on base, on a deployment or as a civilian mechanic, vehicle maintainers prove that the education and opportunity provided in the Guard sets them apart.



Tech. Sgt. Christopher Corbit, vehicle mechanic, operates on a Zim mixer Oct. 7, 2015, at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark. Airmen within Vehicle Maintenance handle all maintenance concerns for registered vehicles and technical support for ex-registered vehicles. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)

The Good Samaritan: 188th's Sosebee receives Life Saver Award

By Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson
188th Wing Public Affairs

1st Lt. Nathan Sosebee, 188th Security Forces Squadron operations officer, was presented with the Fort Smith Police Department's Life Saver Award by Chief Kevin Lindsey, Oct. 28, 2015.

Sosebee received the award for his actions at Lake Fort Smith State Park on May 30, 2015.

While on his boat, Sosebee and his wife had just arrived to their first fishing spot when they heard a faint yell for help. In the distance, Sosebee saw movement to the north and noticed a man in chest deep water waving an arm in the air.

Once Sosebee neared the individual, he utilized his training from the police department and Air National Guard to ask questions about the man's condition and if he had any injuries or illnesses that needed attention so he could administer first aid if needed.

"It was apparent that this man was covered in scratches, small cuts and he was holding one of his arms to his side and it appeared stiff," Sosebee added. "The man said he was partially paralyzed and diabetic."

After pulling him out of the water, Sosebee

and his wife continued talking with the man to figure out what had happened while they covered him with their jackets to warm his body temperature. He then contacted emergency medical services in the area to report the incident and get first responders on the scene.

"I believe the recurring self-aid and buddy care training I've had helped save the man's life," Sosebee said. "He was in shock and suffering from hypothermia after being stuck on the water for four hours and I knew what I needed to do to help him."

During the conversation, the man informed Sosebee that there had been several people come near him while he was in the water and they never offered him help and ignored his pleas.

The man involved in the incident has made a full recovery from the event on May 30 and his family was so grateful for Sosebee's selflessness and willingness to help others, that they nominated him for the Life Saver Award.

"As a member of the 188th we should always look for ways to help others," Sosebee noted. "I am truly humbled and honored to have been presented with this award."



Chief Kevin Lindsey (left) presents officer Nathan Sosebee with the Fort Smith Police Department's Life Saver Award, Oct. 28, 2015, for his actions at Lake Fort Smith State Park on May 30. Sosebee and his wife were fishing when they heard a cry for help from a man dazed and stranded in the lake. Sosebee aided the man who was suffering from hypothermia and diabetic shock until paramedics arrived on scene. Sosebee is assigned to the 188th Wing's Security Forces Squadron as an operations officer. (Courtesy photo)



The
Flying Razorback

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188th Wing commander

Col. Pete Gauger,

188th Wing vice commander

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188th Wing command chief master

sergeant

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The Flying Razorback

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Cover photo: Tech. Sgt. Christopher Corbit, vehicle mechanic, uses a plasma cutter at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., to remove eyelets Sept. 1, 2015. Airmen within Vehicle Maintenance handle all maintenance concerns for registered vehicles and technical support for ex-registered vehicles. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)



The Flying Razorback member spotlight

Tech. Sgt. John Vincent

Job title: Occupational safety technician

Civilian job: Self-employed at Bulldog Security Services LLC

In the 188th: 2003

Education: Associates degree in drafting

Hobbies: Golf and boating

Goals: Early retirement

Favorite TV show: "The Office"

Favorite actor: Steve Carell

Favorite animal: Myk animal, Google it

Favorite comedian: Jim Gaffigan

Favorite movie: "Fugitive"

Favorite restaurant: Any Mexican restaurant

Favorite soft drink: Dr. Pepper

Favorite foods: Anything with cheese on it.

Favorite book: "Fearless" by Eric Blem

Favorite song: "Roll with it" by Steve Winwood

Favorite word or phrase: Absolutely

Favorite super hero: My wife

Favorite sport: College football

Favorite college team: Mississippi State University Bulldogs

My worst job ever: Recruiter for a logistics company

Place I'd most like to visit: Crete, Greece

My first car was: 1978 Chevrolet pickup

My pet peeves: Someone saying, "I know, right?"

I am proudest of: 19 years of marriage

What scares me the most: My kids being influenced by less than intelligent people in this world

The person I admire most: My dad

The best day of my life: Watching my son

being born

Favorite moment at the 188th: The F-16 days



Tech. Sgt. John Vincent conducts seat belt checks at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., Nov. 4, 2015. Vincent joined the Arkansas Air National Guard in 2003 and is an occupational safety technician with the 188th Safety Office. Vincent has been selected as The Flying Razorback Spotlight for December. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson/Released)

Calling all 188th senior NCOs

The 188th Top 3 is coming back. The Top 3 is a professional organization for senior noncommissioned officers. The purpose of this organization is to enhance personnel morale, increase interaction between base personnel, promote spirit de corps, promote mentoring of Airmen, promote social programs for enlisted service members, promote enlisted activities within the 188th Wing's Ebbing Air National Guard Base, raise funds for projects and provide support to the 188th commanders. See your 1st sergeant, superintendent or chief for more details. The unit would like to see all SNCOs be a part of the Top 3.



188th Wing's Brown reflects on combat tour that changed his life

By Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson
188th Wing Public Affairs

After the war in Iraq began, thousands of service members were deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2005, the 188th Wing, then a fighter wing, had many Airmen called up to support contingency operations in Iraq due to the increased operations tempo and buildup of troops in the area of responsibility. This buildup included backfilling Airmen to positions in the U. S. Army to help fill critical roles necessary to gain an advantage over the enemy. Master Sgt. William Brown, then a staff sergeant, was among those from the 188th selected to fill that role.

Deployed to Tikrit, Iraq during the heart of the buildup, Brown was attached to the Army Reserve's 917th Corps Support Group, 1058th Gun Truck Detachment where his skills as a logistics readiness squadron troop would meld with the Army's needs for a vehicle commander on convoys.

The primary responsibility of the 917th CSG was the transportation of mission critical personnel and equipment throughout the country. These assignments required numerous hours outside the wire leaving convoys vulnerable to an enemy ambush. Due to these risks, a Cobra helicopter often escorted convoys as an added measure of safety.

During the deployment Brown was assigned as a gun truck commander, a role typically held by an Army noncommissioned officer with tactical experience leading a squad in battle. His task was to provide security for the convoy and

maintain communication with the convoy commander and the other vehicles in the convoy.

On June 3, Brown's morning began at Forward Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, where he and his truck crew received the day's assignment. A supply truck convoy needed to transport mission critical supplies and third country nationals from FOB Speicher to Logistic Support Area



Staff Sgt. William Brown poses for a photo at a U.S. Army post while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 4, 2005. Brown was assigned to U.S. Army's 917th Corps Support Group, 1058th Gun Truck Detachment as gun truck commander of gun truck security. Brown was deployed from the 188th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Fort Smith, Ark., and is a native of Conway, Ark. (Courtesy photo)

Anaconda, Iraq. During the mission brief, they were informed there would be no air support for this particular convoy. It was a day that Brown would always remember.

The 1058th Gun Truck Detachment mapped its route during its planning briefing as the convoy prepared its vehicles and armed up four gun trucks. They would be utilizing main supply route Tampa, a well-known military convoy route in the AOR. As the convoy made its way outside the wire, the first vehicles in the convoy headed south with Brown's crew bringing up the rear.

As the crew neared their destination, a white sedan in the passing lane was spotted and swerved towards the convoy, startling the crews.

The sedan then immediately engaged the convoy with AK-47 automatic rifles as they sped by. Their intent was to do as much damage to the convoy as possible as they fled into the distance down MSR Tampa. Brown's truck cab had been hit during the attack, down the side of the vehicle, up through the windows and into the turret.

"There was a lot of panic at first," Brown exclaimed. "It was the first time our vehicle or I had been targeted during our trips outside the wire."

During the attack, Brown's driver maintained composure to ensure the truck wasn't separated from the convoy and targeted again. Due to the risk of collateral damages with the civilian population in the area, Brown's gunner was unable to return fire as the white sedan passed by.

In an instant, it seemed as if the attack was over and Brown's role as truck commander came quickly into play at a pivotal time.

Brown quickly assessed the situation with-

out hesitation and expeditiously radioed in a report detailing the enemy contact containing critical information for the quick reaction force team to try and locate the insurgent vehicle.

"We quickly searched one another for injuries and thankfully none of us had been hit," Brown noted. "We went through three stages of training prior to this deployment but none of those scenarios really prepared us for that moment and how we would react."

Unfortunately, with countless white sedans driving on MSR Tampa that day those involved with this attack were never located.

Combat tour

Continued from Page 5

Brown finished out his lengthy deployment without another life-threatening situation while on a convoy mission, but he will never forget the impact of that day on his life.

“I still have to deal with the memories from the attack,” Brown recalled. “But it was huge to build a bond with these guys. I didn’t know them well at first, but after months of being together we built a brotherhood that will continue after I’m gone.”

After more than a decade, Brown was recognized for his quick thinking and heroism that day when he was awarded the Air Force Combat Action Medal for his meritorious service in Iraq.

“I’m excited to be among one of the few 188th members to have received this honor, and I’m thankful that I was able to have my family by my side,” Brown said.

He is one of a select few 188th Wing Airmen to be presented the AFCAM since the start of the global war on terror in 2001.



From left, Airman 1st Class Dustin Ballard, Senior Airman Jeremy Book and Staff Sgt. William Brown pose for a photo while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, June 1, 2005. During their nine month deployment, Ballard served as a truck driver, Book as a truck gunner and Brown as a truck commander. These Airmen were assigned to the U.S. Army’s 917th Corps Support Group, 1058th Gun Truck Detachment. (Courtesy photo)



Master Sgt. William Brown was presented the Air Force Combat Action Medal Sept. 19, 2015, during commander’s call at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark. As a gun truck commander in Iraq, Brown was responsible for a supply convoy that was fired upon by enemy personnel on June 3, 2005. Col. Bobbi Doerenbos, 188th Wing commander, bestowed the award to Brown for his active participation in combat, having been under direct and hostile fire in connection with military operations. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)



Coggin assumes command of 188th Operations Support Squadron

By Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson
188th Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Patric Coggin assumed command of the 188th Operations Support Squadron, Nov. 7, 2015, during a formal ceremony held at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Col. Brian Burger, 188th Operations Group commander, was the presiding official for the ceremony and shared the importance of the 188th OSS under Coggin's command.

"The 188th OSS is going to be backbone for preparing the Operations Group to stand up next summer as we continue with the conversion," Burger said. "Lt. Col. Coggin is going to be making critical decisions and his leadership is what's going to get us to the goal line."

The 188th OSS, comprised of 110 Airmen, is responsible for providing support to the operation of the MQ-9 Reaper, which the 188th OG will be piloting. The 188th OSS' mission is widely varied and requires the expertise of intelligence, operations, communications and weather specialists.

"I am truly honored to have this opportunity," Coggin said. "Col. Burger and I both share the passion of serving the troops on the ground. This mission will be vital to helping our ground forces achieve their ob-

jectives and get home safely to their families."

During the assumption of command, Coggin expressed the importance of integrity, taking care of Airmen and executing the mission.

"As I take on this role as commander, my mission will not be to forecast weather or certify flight authorizations," Coggin noted. "My mission will be to take care of you all so that you can perform your duties to the best of your ability and execute this extremely important mission."

Coggin earned his commission from the U. S. Air Force Academy in June 1999 and became initially qualified in the A-10 Thunderbolt II in 2001. He is a command pilot with more than 2,600 hours in the T-37, T-38, A-10A and A-10C aircraft and is a veteran of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

"Lt. Col. Coggin is an exceptional leader and will undoubtedly be an outstanding squadron commander," said Col. Bobbi Doorenbos, 188th Wing commander. "His background, experience and leadership equip him with the tools necessary to lead the 188th OSS during one of the most challenging and rewarding times in unit history. He will be critical to the wing's success."



Lt. Col. Patric Coggin (right) receives the 188th Operations Support Squadron guidon from Col. Brian Burger, 188th Operations Group commander, during a formal assumption of command held at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark. Nov. 7, 2015. Coggin will oversee the 188th OSS, which is responsible for providing support to the MQ-9 Reaper operation for the 188th OG. The 188th OSS requires the expertise of intelligence, operations, communications and weather specialists. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson/Released)



Lt. Col. Patric Coggin expresses his goals as the newly appointed commander of the 188th Operations Support Squadron during a formal assumption of command ceremony at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., Nov. 7, 2015. Coggin stated that the three key qualities that he and the 188th OSS must uphold are integrity, taking care of Airmen and executing the mission. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson/Released)

Apply now for EAANG and NGAA scholarships

Enlisted Association of the Arkansas National Guard and National Guard Association of Arkansas scholarship application process is now open for all Arkansas National Guard members and their dependents. All applicants must be a member of EAANG or NGAA and the applicant or the sponsor must have the state sponsored life insurance to be eligible as a scholarship recipient.

Fifty \$750 college scholarships will be awarded by the NGAA Endowment, Inc. to NGAA and EAANG members and their dependents for the academic year 2016-2017. The

scholarships apply to full-time or part-time enrollment to in-state or out-of-state colleges, four-year colleges, vocational training or post-graduate studies. The scholarships may be used for any and all college expenses. Members of the Arkansas National Guard,

their dependents and dependents of deceased members of the Arkansas National Guard may apply. Applicants or their sponsor must have paid NGAA or EAANG dues for 2016 and

must be covered under the NGAA state sponsored life insurance (SSLI) program.

Scholarship applications may be completed and submitted online or downloaded at www.ngaa.org, click on scholarships. Copies will also be available at the NGAA office at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, North Little Rock, Ark., in building 8100 or the 188th Services office, 188th Wing, Fort Smith, Ark., building 102.

The submission deadline for completed applications will be Jan. 15, 2016. Applications must be received or postmarked, if mailed, by Jan. 15. If mailing please address submissions to:

NGAAE Scholarship Program
P.O. Box 663
North Little Rock, AR 72115

For more information please contact NGAA representative Judy Shere at jshere@ngaa.org or 501-758-6422. Members of the 188th may also contact Master Sgt. Brian Mays at brian.l.mays4.mil@mail.mil or 479-573-5465.



Diversity: More than meets the eye

By Senior Airman Cody Martin and Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson
188th Wing Public Affairs

What is diversity? Most would think of a person's race, gender and ethnicity; however diversity includes a number of various qualities. The 188th Wing embraces all forms of diversity as it continues its transition to a remotely piloted aircraft, space targeting and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission sets.

The changes in mission sets, the inclusion of men and women from other branches, the change in American culture throughout the years and a number of other various differences have brought not only a modern diversity among Airmen in the 188th, but an overall change from how the unit appeared throughout the years.



Airman 1st Class Emmanuel Quarshie, 188th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems technician, troubleshoots at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., on a Solar Electric Power Company solar light fixture Nov. 6, 2015. Quarshie provides diversity to the unit by being the only member of the 188th Wing born in Ghana, Africa. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)

Chaplain (Col.) Thomas Smith, Arkansas Joint Force Headquarters command chaplain and 188th full-time chaplain, first came into the unit in 1983 and is one of the unit's longest standing members.

"What I see is that the younger generation is coming in [to the Air Force], and I am excited about it," Smith observed. "They bring in a different view of things and I believe if we will capitalize on that, utilize them and challenge them, then there is no way to go but up."

Smith's time in the unit, as well as his 10-year expedition to the Philippines as a missionary, has brought an enormous amount of experience with different cultures and ways of thinking.

"Diversity is essential," Smith added. "We all have different gifts and abilities. When we blend everything together we can create a diverse culture

that is still focused on a singular mission."

Throughout the unit's history, the wing has broadened their diversity by gaining service members from every branch of the military, including the active, Guard and Reserve components.

Master Sgt. Jodie Haralson, 188th Communications Flight noncommissioned officer in charge of infrastructure, a former Marine and currently volunteers as a vice commander of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 15-5 in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

"In my opinion, diversity is a conglomeration of different backgrounds of people brought together," Haralson stated. "When I first came here, you had the same type of person at the 188th. Now we are totally different.

We have people that come from other states, different upbringings and possess a different mentality. Now we're challenged with bringing all of the people together and becoming one."

Haralson's time in different military branches has brought an extraordinary amount of experience to the wing.

"In every military branch, you have a mission to perform," said Haralson. "We cannot have animosity. It doesn't fit in. We all work together and



Chaplain (Col.) Thomas Smith, Arkansas Joint Force Headquarters command chaplain, provides Senior Master Sgt. Ray Traylor, 188th Weapons Safety manager, with Hershey's Hugs and Kisses at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark., Oct. 7, 2015. Smith has served the 188th Wing for more than 20 years as a wing chaplain and the full-time base chaplain. Smith has served for 10 years overseas in the Philippines as a missionary and has pastored for 40 years. With more than 45 years preaching, Smith brings diverse experience and knowledge to the Arkansas Air National Guard and continues to mentor Airman and Soldiers as he serves at Arkansas JFHQ. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson/Released)



Jodie Haralson, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteer, patrols the Arkansas River as a team practices a run on a dragon boat, Oct. 6, 2015, Fort Smith Ark. Haralson is vice commander of Flotilla 15-5, Fort Smith, and is a master sergeant assigned to the 188th Communications Flight where he serves as the noncommissioned officer in charge of infrastructure. Haralson brings diverse experience and knowledge to the 188th Wing and Arkansas Air National Guard as he also previously served as a Marine. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Hannah Dickerson/Released)

blend our experiences to get the mission done."

The unit has also been a source of inclusion for different nationalities of people. Airman 1st Class Emmanuel Quarshie, 188th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems technician, was born and raised in Ghana, Africa before coming to the United States.

"I wanted to serve this nation because it has a lot of things to offer," Quarshie remarked. "Everyone in America is blessed and I truly appreciate being here and serving this country."

Quarshie's stints in both Ghana and the U.S. have not only provided a unique perspective, but also an understanding of how diversity can strengthen the bonds between individuals.

"We are one team one fight," Quarshie stated. "If we all thought the same way, I don't think this country would be so great."

With Airmen from different backgrounds, the 188th utilizes the differences in gifts, abilities, views and values to bring new ideas, knowledge and experience to accomplish the mission and positions themselves for long range success. Each unique member of the 188th Wing and the Air National Guard is cultivated into ready, responsive and highly-skilled Airmen and brought together to create one powerful force.

"We must blend together like an orchestra," Smith said. "The orchestra has a lot of different moving pieces, but a conductor must take those diverse talents and blend them together so that it makes a beautiful symphony and that's what we're doing here at the 188th."



188th Wing promotions

To Technical Sergeant

Timothy Curd
Marcus Floyd
Bruce Inthavong



To Staff Sergeant

Jacob Gordon
Evan Luther
Alvin Medlin
Edgar Mendez
Carolina Osorio
Dianna Williams



To Senior Airman

Colton Sinyard
Christina Tilley



188th Wing scheduled to begin recruiting ambassador program

Arkansas Air Guard Recruiting Office

The 188th Wing is looking for a few good new recruits and needs help in finding them in the surrounding communities. Since the 188th Recruiting Office has three personnel, it relies on referrals and now support as a recruiting ambassador.

First and foremost, thank you to everyone for considering becoming a part of the RA program at the 188th.

New programs can be challenging because they need time to grow and adapt in order to achieve success.

What is an RA? An RA is a 188th member or volunteer who provides awareness to individuals and communities regarding the 188th Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard. Recruiting ambassadors will strive

to build strong, lasting relationships to establish positive connections and support as well as an increase the recruiting applicant pool.

Recruiter ambassadors are volunteers asked to supplement 188th recruiting efforts. Currently, recruiters strive to connect and build relationships with previously untapped high schools and communities. The majority of these high schools and communities are diverse. The 188th strongly believes that diversity and inclusion will strengthen the wing and is

the key to a bright future.

Air National Guard polos or t-shirts are provided for members to wear to all community events if they prefer not to wear the Airman Battle Uniform or service dress. If you are interested in joining the team please contact Master Sgt. Eric Martin at eric.d.martin75.mil@mail.mil or 479-573-5138.



Recruiting Report: Pilot board reminder

There will a pilot board Dec. 5, 2015. For questions please contact Tech. Sgt. Jeff Mathews at william.j.mathews22.mil@mail.mil or 479-573-5147.



188th Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

Maj. Heath Allen: 479-573-5221 or 479-719-6667

Victim advocates

Capt. Scott Anderson: 501-987-5808

Capt. Holli Nelson: 479-573-5170

Senior Master Sgt. Michell Mashburn: 501-987-7480

Joint Force Headquarters SARC

Jessica Hamilton: 501-212-4225

Find us on on the web: www.188wg.ang.af.mil/188thsaproffice.asp

SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247



Leadership Symposium offers lessons from corporate, academic world to 188th members

By Capt. Holli Nelson
188th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen of the 188th Wing were afforded a unique opportunity to gain valuable lessons from leaders in the corporate world on management, leadership and career growth during a Leadership Symposium held here Nov. 6, 2015.

Dr. Paul Beran, Chancellor of the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith; Chris Sultemeier, Executive Vice President of Logistics for Wal-Mart; and Bob Arvin, Regional Vice President of Logistics for Wal-Mart served as distinguished panelist for the symposium coordinated by the 188th Wing Company Grade Officer's Council.

"I really hope that people here get a different perspective than the traditional leadership training that we get in the military," said 2nd Lt. Sam Grounds, 188th Wing assistant executive officer. "These guys all run big businesses that are very successful and have a different perspective than those in the military so I know we will get a

well-rounded discussion through this symposium."

During the symposium, Airmen from the 188th had an opportunity to ask each panelist questions on a broad range of topics concerning leadership and management. Questions ranged from time-management and meeting schedules, to risk taking and daily routines that have helped make them successful.

"Every day I try to put myself into problem solving situations that someone is having," said Beran. "In my position now, I have many stakeholders to answer to so everything I do involves solving a problem to better serve someone."

The three panelists, who have earned top positions in their fields, shared insight into some of the leadership moments that impacted their lives and current leadership styles throughout their careers.

"I had a one star general disagree with a decision I made when I was in the Army, to which he openly chastised me during an after actions review," said Sultemeier, a West Point graduate. "My commander at the time stood up to the general for me during the AAR and went to bat for my cause. From that experience I learned a valuable lesson about taking care of your people and supporting them as a leader."



Capt. Scott Anderson, president of the 188th Wing Company Grade Officer's Council, poses with Leadership Symposium panel members, Mr. Bob Arvin, Mr. Chris Sultemeier and Chancellor Paul Beran, after presenting them with appreciation gifts on behalf of the CGOC. The Leadership Symposium, coordinated by the 188th CGOC, provided an open forum panel discussion for unit personnel with executive leaders in the Fort Smith area to learn and discuss leadership lessons from the corporate world. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Holli Nelson/Released)

Sultemeier went on to share that sometimes as a leader, an individual needs to support their subordinates and teammates even when they make the wrong decision but had the right intentions.

"I've been scared to tell my boss about a decision I made before because of the possible repercussions," said Arvin when discussing a story about a retail operations breakdown early in his career. "But, he ultimately supported my decision, even when it cost the company time and money, because I made the best choice I could at that time with the information I had available and my thought process was sound. His

leadership during a difficult time in my career stands out to this day and impacted me significantly as I moved up the corporate ladder."

The Leadership Symposium discussion, allowed Airmen to delve into topics not normally discussed in a military forum. Opportunity such as this presents a chance for Airmen to be mentored and learn from non-traditional sources and also affords the wing a chance to build community support in the Fort Smith area.

"We are so thankful to Chancellor Baren, Mr. Sultemeier and Mr. Arvin for taking time out of their busy schedules to take part in this Leadership Symposium," said Col. Bobbi Doorenbos, 188th Wing commander. "Their leadership journey in the corporate and academic world is dynamic and provided a great forum for discussion among all our Airmen here, the current and future leaders of the wing and the Air Force."



Col. Bobbi Doorenbos, 188th Wing commander, along with leaders from the 188th Wing, listen as Leadership Symposium panel members, Mr. Bob Arvin, Mr. Chris Sultemeier and Chancellor Paul Beran, discuss lessons from the corporate world in management and leadership. The Leadership Symposium, coordinated by the 188th CGOC, provided an open forum panel discussion for unit personnel with executive leaders in the Fort Smith area. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Holli Nelson/Released)

Airman and Family Readiness Office eases stress on new missions

By Senior Airman Cody Martin
188th Wing Public Affairs

The 188th Wing's Airmen and Family Readiness Office briefed its Airmen and their families here Nov. 7 on the wing's new mission sets and provided tips for their physical and mental health.

They met during a Military Family Appreciation Month luncheon.

Office officials said that new missions can increase stress as well as leave many open questions for families, especially those concerning the MQ-9 Reapers that will soon provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance with a re-designated attack squadron.

"We want to ensure Airmen and their families are resilient and able to handle and navigate that change and that they understand what that entails," said Michelle Pike, the office's manager.

Senior Master Sgt. Carl Schneider briefed about what the Airmen are doing and what it means to them, including any potential tolls on their physical and mental health.

"We care for Airmen and their families because military life can be hard on families," Pike stated. "We want to make sure they are resilient and able to handle the adjustments."

Following the briefing, the families also engaged in a Q&A.



Senior Master Sgt. Carl Schneider, 188th Intelligence Support Squadron superintendent, advises Airman and their families Nov. 7, 2015, on the wing's new mission sets and provided tips for their physical and mental health at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark. Schneider said that new missions can increase stress as well as leave many open questions for families, especially those concerning the MQ-9 Reapers that will soon provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance with a re-designated attack squadron. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)

Up and coming: Ebbing Rising Six

By Senior Airman Cody Martin
188th Wing Public Affairs

The 188th Wing's enlisted ranks of E-1 through E-6 banded together to form the Ebbing Rising Six professional development organization and held their first official meeting with elected representatives during November's unit training assembly.

The purpose of the Ebbing Rising Six is to enhance and maintain the camaraderie, esprit de corps and prestige of the junior enlisted Airmen and NCOs within the 188th, while promoting a spirit of unity and honor among all enlisted personnel.

The organization is collectively and individually a role model for the development and



mentorship of enlisted Airmen and an interim level of service, professionalism and development toward the NCO and senior NCO tiers.

"We hope to provide social opportunities for our members to become acquainted with each other," said Staff Sgt. Christina Thurby, 188th Communications Flight client systems administrator and Ebbing Rising Six president. "We also wish to provide many educa-

tional opportunities for them to build on and use the skills learned on base or apply them to their civilian lives."

In a previous meeting, the Ebbing Rising Six elected its president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and sergeant at arms. Those elected to leadership positions include:

President - Staff Sgt. Christina Thurby

Vice President - Tech. Sgt. Karen Fletcher

Secretary and Treasurer - Senior Airman Hannah Tripodi

Sergeant at Arms - Senior Airman Clarke Hill

The Ebbing Rising Six will have regular meetings to discuss educational opportunities, fundraisers for charity and volunteer events. For more information, please contact Staff Sgt. Christina Thurby during RSD at 479-573-5623.

188th Security Forces Squadron completes sniper and advanced designated marksman training



Senior Airman Evan Davis of the 188th Security Forces Squadron, looks down the sights of his M-24 rifle to zero his target Nov. 6, 2015 during known distance sniper and advanced designated marksman qualification at Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, Ark. 188th SFS members qualified on the M-24 rifle at designated distances of 100, 300, 400 and 500 yards and with moving targets to maintain combat readiness and efficiency as marksmen. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Holli Nelson/Released)



Senior Airman Christopher Kleist, of the 188th Security Forces Squadron, looks down the range over his M-24 rifle Nov. 6, 2015 during known distance sniper and advanced designated marksman qualification at Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, Ark.

The 188th SFS maintains combat readiness and efficiency through annual training on their designated weapons systems which allows them to remain proficient as marksmen. The training consisted of qualifications at 100, 300, 400, and 500 yards and with moving targets at designated distances. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Holli Nelson/Released)



Members of the 188th Security Forces Squadron ready their weapons during known distance sniper and advanced designated marksman qualification Nov. 6, 2015 at Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, Ark. 188th SFS members qualified on the M-24 rifle at designated distances of 100, 300, 400 and 500 yards and with moving targets to maintain combat readiness and efficiency as marksmen. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Capt. Holli Nelson/Released)



188th Security Forces members complete known distance sniper and advanced designated marksman qualification Nov. 6, 2015 at Fort Chaffee Joint Maneuver Training Center, Ark. The 188th SFS maintains combat readiness and efficiency through annual training on their designated weapons systems which allows them to remain proficient as marksmen. The training consisted of qualifications at 100, 300, 400, and 500 yards and with moving targets at designated distances. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Chauncey Reed/Released)

Safety prevention: Hazards in December to remember

Commentary by Tech. Sgt. John Vincent
188th Wing Safety

Well, December is here, and along with it comes several safety hazards worth mentioning. As your safety technician, I feel I should first warn you about buying your spouse a meaningless Christmas gift. This could haunt you for many years to come and regardless of how many attachments come with the vacuum, resist.

There are so many safety concerns when it comes to this time of the year, but I'll just hit on a few for now. Most of us will start decorating our home for Christmas soon and should be aware of a few safety hazards.

Ladders

More than 90,000 people receive emergency room treatment from ladder-related injuries every year. From climbing up and down the attic ladder to hanging Christmas lights. Be aware of a few causes of ladder accidents.

Always inspect the ladder before usage. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration believes that 100 percent of all ladder accidents could be prevented if proper attention to equipment and climber training were provided. A single crack in the ladder could mean an emergency room visit or even death. Adding an arm full of decorations could exceed the weight limit of that flimsy attic ladder that normally supports your weight.

Hanging lights or decorations around the house is another cause for concern. Ensure the ladder is on firm ground and your center of gravity is always centered.

House fires

From the chimney to cinnamon smelling candles, you need to be aware of the danger associated with all heat sources. December is one of the busiest months for

Have a happy and safe Holiday Season
188th Fire Department



Stockings hung at least three feet from heat sources with care.

Have you made **your list** and checked it **twice**?

Holiday lights and extension cords purchased from reputable retailers that bear the mark of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

Hydrated tree that is watered daily.

Or did you **forget** to be **proactive** about electrical safety?

Do not overload electrical outlets.

Do not string more than three strands of incandescent lights together and always turn off decorations before leaving your home or going to bed.

It's **not** too late.



heat-related house fires. Be mindful of every heat source and know that if it's causing you to back away from the heat, then you should back everything else away as well.

If you're one of the people that buy a real Christmas tree, then you have an extra responsibility to ensure your home remains safe. Never let your tree go without water. A dried out tree will ignite and be fully engulfed before you can walk from one side of your house to the other. Never try to burn your Christmas tree in the fireplace. I knew

a guy that tried this and the fire department was there 5 minutes later.

Alcohol

Sometimes alcohol is the only way you can tolerate the in-laws or cousins that you see once a year. However, the more you drink, the more you might think it's ok to burn your Christmas tree in the fireplace while holding the trunk. Keep the alcohol in check.

Remember that safety prevention is best planned out in advance. That's why it's called prevention, so plan to be safe!

188th Wing presents Poteau Public Schools superintendent with ESGR Patriot Award

By Senior Airman Cody Martin
188th Public Affairs

Dr. Don Sjoberg, superintendent of Poteau Public Schools, was recently awarded the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award for contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve force as a patriotic employer.

The award was presented to Sjoberg Nov. 10, 2015 by Col. Tenise Gardner, Lt. Col. Judith Mathewson and 2nd Lt. Alcides Silva.

Silva, 188th Force Support Squadron personnel officer, nominated Sjoberg for this award. Silva works with new Airmen in the 188th Wing Student Flight to prepare them for Basic Training.

As a civilian, Silva is a Poteau High School teacher and coach for cross-country running and boys soccer.

"When I was interested in pursuing an officer position on base, Dr. Sjoberg was very supportive

of my decision and encouraged me in doing so," said Silva. "I'm blessed to work with him and for Poteau Public schools."

The ESGR is a Department of Defense office created to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component service members and their civilian employers, to promote a culture in which all American employers value military service of their employees and offers a program whereby military members can show their support in return.



Dr. Don Sjoberg, superintendent of Poteau Public Schools, accepts the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award Nov. 10, 2015, from 2nd Lt. Alcides Silva, 188th Force Support Squadron personnel officer and Poteau High School teacher, at Poteau, Okla. Sjoberg received the award for contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve force as a patriotic employer. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech Sgt. Chauncey Reed/Released)

Cherokee Nation honors 188th Wing with visit

By Senior Airman Cody Martin
188th Public Affairs

Cherokee Nation citizens demonstrated traditional aspects of their culture and spoke about their heritage for Native American Indian Heritage Month with a presentation at the 188th Wing Nov. 18, 2015.

The program began with a blessing from Crosslin Smith, a spiritual resource person,



Ja-Li-Si Pittman, 2015-2016 Miss Cherokee, sings a traditional Cherokee song in her native language during a presentation Nov. 18, 2015 for Native American Indian Heritage Month at Ebbing Air National Guard Base, Fort Smith, Ark. Pittman is currently the vice-president of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council and her platform has tackled youth needing strong mentors in school. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Cody Martin/Released)

or medicine man. Smith represented the Cherokee Nation during the Korean War as a member of the 45th Thunderbird Division and is a member of the Keetoowah Society.

Tommy Wildcat, supervisor of the Ancient Village living history exhibit and accomplished Cherokee recording artist, performed on the Cherokee flute following Smith's blessing. Wildcat is renowned for his work on soundtracks that range from Discovery Channel's "How the West was Lost" to Turner Network Television's movie "Tecumseh, the Last Warrior."

After the performance, Joe Crittenden, deputy principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, spoke to the Airmen in attendance about the beautiful country of Cherokee Nation and their traditions. Crittenden served two terms as a Cherokee Nation council member and was elected as deputy principal chief in 2011.

"We want to keep our heritage, our culture and our language alive for as long as possible so we don't lose our being," Crittenden said.

The program ended with a song in the

Cherokee language sung by Ja-Li-Si Pittman, the 2015-2016 Miss Cherokee. Pittman is currently the vice-president of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council and her platform has tackled youth needing strong mentors in school.

Col. Brian Burger, commander of the 188th Operations Group, recognized the participants with a 188th coin and a certificate of appreciation and thanked them for sharing their culture with the unit.

"The 188th made us feel like family," Crittenden stated. "I appreciate them and everything they do for the country."

"The Cherokee Nation has strong ties in the Fort Smith, Arkansas and Oklahoma areas, where many of our members of the 188th reside," said Col. Bobbi Doorenbos, commander of the 188th Wing. "Understanding and appreciating the local culture through programs like this helps to develop longstanding partnerships between the Cherokee Nation and the 188th Wing. We're very thankful for their presence in the community and their commitment to showcasing their culture and heritage to us."



Flying Razorback Flashback

*Remembering the history of the 188th Wing
from the Public Affairs photography archive*



The 188th transitioned to the A-10 Thunderbolt II on April 14, 2007, also known as Warthog Day. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Ret. Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Brambl/Released)

Citizen Airman Dining Facility menu



Saturday, December 5

Turkey, dressing, baked ham, roast beef, mashed potatoes, English peas, carrots, sweet potatoes, yams, dinner rolls, cranberry sauce, assorted pies, ice cream, tea, coffee and milk

Sunday, December 6

French dip, roast beef sub, potatoe salad, carrots, pickle spear, assorted cake, broccoli cheese soup, ice cream, tea, coffee and milk

Short order line Sunday only

Cheeseburger, hamburger, chili dog, hot dog, baked beans, chips and salad bar

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