



LRAFB RETIREE ACTIVITY OFFICE (RAO) NEWSLETTER

19TH Airlift Wing, 1255 Vandenberg, Suite 121, Little Rock AFB, AR 72099

Hours of operation: M, W, F 0800 to 1300

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Director: Colonel (Retired) Henry Ward

20 FEBRUARY 2019



Numerous C-130 Hercules sit on parking apron 17 Oct 2014, at LRAFB
(U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman 1st Class Harry Brexel)

MONTHLY RETIREE BREAKFAST:

The Retiree Breakfast will be held **Friday, March 15th**, located at HANGAR 1080 at 0815. Please mark your calendar!

NEW FOR THIS WEEK:

We are still in need of volunteers for the Pharmacy, as well as the Commander's new Welcome Center. If you are interested, please contact this office on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 0800-1200 at (501) 987-6095.

We're moving and grooving here in the office and will be adding new features to the newsletter in the coming weeks. Please stay tuned! ☺

The following base services have regularly scheduled closings for training monthly:

- **ID** and **Finance** are closed all day on the **1st Wednesday** of every month.
- The **Pharmacy** is closed the **last Thursday** of every month; however, they are NOT always closed all day. We will update you with full/half day Pharmacy closures as they are reported.

Making a trip to LRAFB to utilize a base service is not always an easy task. Avoid the frustration of arriving to a closed door by CALLING FIRST to ensure these important services will be available

upon your arrival. This is also important to remember when planning a trip during inclement weather. We have included a calendar of these closures at the end of our newsletter for your reference. ***Please Note*** this calendar is an **approximation** of the regularly scheduled training days and holidays. **These dates are subject to change**, and while we will provide updates as required please remember to utilize the contact information for the office/service needed to verify its status. This is also a good time to verify what documentation you might need to bring.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

It's not too late to sign up for your **Dental/Vision Plan** through **BENEFEDS.COM**. To enroll, simply navigate to BENEFEDS website at <http://www.benefeds.com> and click the **orange** Ready to enroll "Get Started" button. Next, click "**I missed Open Season**" and check the box then click "**Check Eligibility Now**". This will take you through the enrollment process. If you need any assistance, you may contact our office at (501) 987-6095 to set up an appointment to enroll you in a plan. We are available M,W,F from 0800-1230.

DFAS Information: Please ensure that you have logged into your MYPAY account and verified your email and home addresses. If you have any issues logging into DFAS, or have any questions you can call (800) 321-1080, press Opt 5, then Opt 3 to speak with a customer service representative. Additionally, if you are receiving **Survivor Benefits Pay**, DFAS will be sending information via email regarding your SBP and what you need to do to keep it current this year so it is vital that your email address is correct in the DFAS system. The open enrollment period for **CRDP/CRSC** is 1-31 JAN. You should have received a letter in the mail regarding your entitlements. Only return the letter if you are making changes for 2019.

1099R: You should have received your 1099R in the mail from DFAS by 31 Jan. If you have not received your 1099R by 1 FEB you have several options to obtain a new one. Login to your MYPAY account and print a copy (For Instructions visit: <http://go.use.gov/xPGrE>). Call DFAS at (800) 321-1080, press Opt 1 (self-service), Opt 1 (retiree), Opt 1 (request 1099R). This method is automated, and should mail a new 1099R to your home address listed in DFAS. To request a new 1099R from a DFAS customer service representative call (800) 321-1080, press Opt 5, then Opt 3. They should be able to verify your home address, and send out a new 1099R. You may also come down to the Finance Office at BLDG 1255, and see Mr. Laxton. Do not wait until tax day to get your 1099R.

DO NOT FALL PREY TO TAX SCAMS THIS TAX SEASON:

While the IRS continues to make headway with reducing incidents of tax payer identity theft and the use of stolen data to file fraudulent tax returns, there are still some common scams you need to look out for. The IRS only corresponds via US MAIL. If you receiving any of the following, do not fall prey to the scam. For more information visit: <http://www.irs.gov>

A) **Telephone impersonators claiming to be IRS Employees.** The IRS will *never* contact you via the telephone trying to money or information from you. If you receive a phone call telling you that you owe money and making threats, HANG UP. This is not the IRS. Even if they call back and try to assure you of who they are, don't buy it.

B) **Email phishing schemes:** The IRS will *never* contact you via email. Do not click on any suspicious links that may look real. Scammers steal your information by linking you a phony site,

and having you input your information there. Always go directly to your own web browser and search for the website you are looking for.

C) **Fake Charities:** Even if it seems familiar, don't fall prey to fake charities. If you are looking to make a donation for tax purposes, call the charity via their official number, or visit their website. Do not accept phone calls or email request.

D) **False claims of being able to get you a bigger refund:** Do not sign a blank return from a tax preparer charge you're a fee based upon your return amount. Seek tax preparation assistance from a trusted preparer.

UPDATES FROM MARKETING:

We've got a ton of family friendly events coming up soon—there's something for everyone! As always, you can still view the full line up on our website by clicking on [E-Blast](#). Check out all of the upcoming events across base on our [calendar](#) and on the Little Rock Air Force Base App!

Don't Forget! Events happening this week include [Guided Goose Hunt](#) and [Basic Brake Class](#)!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: SPIDER-MAN INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE | 29 FEBRUARY | 5 PM

Come on over to Herk Hall on Thursday, February 28 for Family Movie Night! This month, we're showing Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse starting at 5 PM. Bring your favorite snack and drink and enjoy the show!

DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY | 28 FEBRUARY | 4-5 PM

It's time to celebrate! It's time again for fun! Join us for the celebration, join us everyone! The Base Library presents the Dr. Seuss' Birthday -- enjoy a photo op with Cat in the Hat, story time with Dr. Seuss stories, games and so much more! Free for all from 4 - 5 PM at the Walters Community Support Center Ballroom!

ALL YOU CAN BOWL | WEDNESDAYS | 4 - 9 PM

All You Can Bowl at Strike Zone gives you a lane and all you can bowl for 2 hours for only \$18! Each additional hour is \$8, and shoe rental is free! Every Wednesday from 4 - 9 PM.

KIDS' BASEBALL BINGO | EVERY FIRST FRIDAY | 6 - 8 PM

Kids Baseball Bingo is here -- join us at Hangar 1080 from 6 - 8 PM for a fun evening of food and games! Kids buffet is included and everyone wins a prize -- \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members

Have a great week everyone!

19FSS Marketing Department

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Follow us on social media:

www.rockinattherock.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/19fss>

Instagram: RockinAtTheRock

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rockinattherock/albums>

MISSION HISTORIES

Welcome to the 189th Airlift Wing! The 189th provides aircrew training for the [C-130](#) for all branches of the military. The unit operates the C-130 Tactical Airlift Instructor School, where aircrew instructors are trained to they can return to their units and keep members combat ready. The wing also operates the Air National Guard Enlisted Aircrew Academic School, which provides entry-level training for C-130 [loadmasters](#) before they are sent to the [314th Airlift Wing](#) for mission qualification training. The school also provides entry-level flight engineer training.

Established in 1962 when the Arkansas ANG 154th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron was expanded to a Group when elements of the 123d Air Base Group were added. In June 1965, the group became the first Air National Guard organization to be equipped with RF-101 aircraft. As a result of the Pueblo Crises, the 189th was recalled to active duty in January 1968. In July of that year, the 154th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron (augmented) deployed from Little Rock AFB to Itazuke, Japan.

On 1 January 1976, the unit was designated as the 189th Air Refueling Group, Arkansas Air National Guard, and converted to a [KC-135](#) air-to-air refueling mission, and became one of the first Air National Guard units to be assigned to the Strategic Air Command as a gaining command.

As an integral part of SAC under "Total Force," the 189th ARG maintained an around-the-clock ALPHA Alert, participated in European, Alaskan and [Pacific Tanker Task Forces](#), and supported worldwide temporary tanker task forces performing in-flight refueling of all types of aircraft as assigned by the Strategic Air Command.

On 1 October 1986, the unit was re-designated as the 189th Tactical Airlift Group and converted to the C-130 aircraft. The mission squadron was re-designated as the 154th Tactical Airlift Training Squadron and assumed a proportionate share of initial aircrew qualification training, from the 314th Tactical Airlift Wing, Little Rock AFB. Student training began on 25 September 1986.

During Desert Shield/Desert Storm, 135 members were activated and served in both CONUS and OCONUS locations. Aircrews from the 189th flew 123 mission sorties in support of Desert Shield/Desert Storm without affecting the unit's day-to-day aircrew training mission.

On 16 April 1992, the 189th Tactical Airlift Group was officially re-designated as the 189th Airlift Group, and the 154th Tactical Airlift Training Squadron was re-designated as the 154th Training Squadron, Arkansas Air National Guard. On 1 October 1995, the 189th Airlift Group was designated as the 189th Airlift Wing. The 189th AW was the first Air National Guard unit in the country to be located on an active duty Air Force base flying the same type aircraft as its active duty counterpart, and performing the same day-to-day mission.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/189th_Airlift_Wing



ID/DEERS and Finance Closure Calendar
ID/DEERS Contact: (501) 987-6831 or 987-8228
Finance Contact: (501) 987-8294

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
X	X	Weds 6 th : Training	Weds 3 rd : Training
May	June	Jul	Aug
Weds 1 st : Training	Weds 5 th : Training	*Unconfirmed* Training	Weds 7 th : Training
		Thurs 4 th – Fri 5 th : 4 th of July	Fri 30 th – Mon 2 nd : Memorial Day
Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Weds 4 th : Training	Weds 2 nd : Training	Weds 6 th : Training	Weds 4 th : Training
	Mon 14 th : Columbus Day	Mon 11 th : Veteran's Day	Thurs 25 th – Friday 26 th : Christmas
		Thurs 28 th – Fri 29 th : Thanksgiving	

Pharmacy Closure Calendar
Contact: (501) 987-7446

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
X	Mon 18 th : Washington's Birthday	Thurs 28 th : Training	Thurs 25 th : Training
	Thurs 28 th : Training		
May	June	Jul	Aug
Thurs 30 th : Training	Thurs 27 th : Training	Thurs 4 th – Fri 5 th : 4 th of July	*Unconfirmed* Training
		Thurs 25 th : Training	Fri 30 th – Mon 2 nd : Memorial Day
Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Thurs 26 th : Training	Mon 14 th : Columbus Day	Mon 11 th : Veteran's Day	Thurs 25 th – Friday 26 th : Christmas
	Thurs 31 st : Training	Thurs 28 th – Fri 29 th : Thanksgiving	*Unconfirmed* Training
		Unconfirmed Training	