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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



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Senior enlisted adviser wraps up tenure as FLW command sergeant major

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Q. What is the state of the Soldiers and NCO Corps on Fort Leonard Wood?

A. The state of the Soldiers and NCO Corps on Fort Leonard Wood is very strong. The installation has some of the best leaders I have worked with in my 32 years of service. I started my military career at Fort Leonard Wood as a Soldier in training and then as a permanent-party Soldier in the 5th Engineer Battalion. The installation Soldiers and leaders get better and better, each of the four times I have been stationed here.

Q. What was the biggest change you saw during your tenure on Fort Leonard Wood?

A. The biggest change I saw is the way people tend to feel about coming to work here. There is genuine happiness about being at work. Fort Leonard Wood has a lot of great people and great things to do. Many people do not believe this is a great place, until they get here and meet the people on the installation and in this great community. I have seen this community bond grow stronger over the years. That is an amazing thing.

Q. What is your most rewarding experience/accomplishment as command sergeant major or during your tenure here?

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A. I am proud to be a part of such a diverse team of active duty, civilians and Family members and such a great community of people who truly care about this installation. Fort Leonard Wood has produced instructors of the year from the different services, the TRADOC Soldier of the Year and the TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year. Watching people learn and grow into a cohesive team is simply amazing, and I am proud to serve with this great team.

Q. What memory will you carry with you from Fort Leonard Wood?

A. I will carry the memory of the people who were here when I started my career and every time I returned. Being the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence command sergeant major has been the absolute highlight of my career, and I could not have been part of a better team. As we move up in grade, we increase in responsibility. I have a phrase — “Surround yourself with good people, and good things will happen to you.” Being surrounded by the great team in the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence command group every day and have the Soldier of the Year, Drill Sergeant of the Year and AIT Platoon Sergeant of the Year just outside my door has been great. Watching those leaders get better and better everyday and witness the things they do for the installation makes my heart swell with pride. Being able to work with Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith and watch his extraordinary leadership style and getting to know his Family just makes me feel like there is nothing I can’t achieve. I will carry with me the friendships and extended Family relationships made here with the service members, civilians, Family members and this community of excellence.

Q. What will you miss the most about being the post’s senior enlisted advisor?

A. I will miss the people. I do what I do, not for myself but, for the team. Being part of something much bigger than myself and seeing this team succeed was simply amazing, and I will miss being part of this group of teammates, friends, Family and acquaintances. Being in the military, we tend to move a lot and make friends all over and create extended Families. I will miss that camaraderie and mentorship that I believe I provided to many on this team.

Q. Anything else you would like to add?

A. Fort Leonard Wood is a great place with great people. If I were to thank everyone who had a part in making me successful, there would be no space left. I lump the people who touched me into groups of Family, friends, and teammates. No one can achieve success alone; it is achieved by being part of an awesome team such as this one. There are challenges and issues within every organization but a good organization can overcome those things that plague them. This installation has fought through as a team and overcome. It is a great team, and I truly wish Brig. Gen. Kent Savre and Command Sgt. Maj. Roy Ward the absolute best in their command tenure here at Fort Leonard Wood. Maneuver support starts here. Army Strong — this we’ll defend.

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains about 80,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.
