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



Media Release

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BOSS inviting swimmers to get 'Bold in the Cold'

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. - It's time to get the creative costumes out and take a chilly plunge for the Better Opportunities for Single Service Members program. The Bold in the Cold Plunge will take place at 1 p.m. Feb.23 at the Training Area 250 lake — rain or shine.

Last year was the first year for the bone-chilling event with 76 people taking the plunge.

“We think we will have more this year,” said Marine Sgt. Daniel Opper, BOSS Program vice president.

The advance cost to participate is \$5 per person or \$20 per team of up to five people. The day of the event, registration will be \$10 per person and \$25 per team. Advance registration can be completed at the Information, Tickets and Registration office.

Prizes will be awarded for the best team theme, best couples theme, best individual costume, youngest plunger, old salt and individual with the most moxy.

“A quick dip in and out is all that is required,” Opper said. “It doesn't matter if you are getting in the water or just watching from the side, this event is tons of fun. There will be people in costume getting in the water, groups of people getting in the water and lots of camaraderie to go around. Prizes are awarded, so you also get to vote on who you liked the best. It really is just a fun experience and

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definitely worth the trip out.”

This event is open to the public. Children under 18 must have written consent from a parent or guardian present the day of the event. Appropriate attire is required.

Staff Sgt. Nakita Fox, 399th Army Band BOSS representative, said she enjoyed judging the event last year.

“My favorite thing was seeing how the community as a whole, Soldiers and civilians alike, came together to support our BOSS Program. People should participate because it gives you the opportunity to do something different in support of the BOSS program on Fort Leonard Wood,” Fox said. “It’s fun to watch the participants enjoy the experience and see how creative people are in coming up with their costumes for this event.”

All the proceeds go to the BOSS program to fund events in the future. For more information, call 596.6912.

Story and photo By Melissa Buckley GUIDON staff

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Reporters interested in attending the event should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

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 80-90,000 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, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army’s largest Non Commissioned 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.



A group of participants jumps into the water at TA 250 during the inaugural “Be Bold in the Cold” event in 2012. This year’s event is scheduled Feb. 23. / File photo