



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473
VOICE: 573-563-5034 / 563-4145
FAX: 573-563-4012
BY: Marti Yoshida
EMAIL: Martha.I.yoshida.civ@mail.mil

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Engineers go kickstands up for a cause

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Members of the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment took part in the 3rd Annual Engineer Regimental Motorcycle Ride June 8. The event, sponsored by the Army Engineer Association, began at Fort Leonard Wood's main gate, and covered more than 25 miles on the installation where engineers train.

The event serves several purposes by celebrating the regiment's 238th birthday; paying tribute to wounded and fallen combat engineers; and raising contributions for the Col. Carl F. Baswell, U.S. Army retired, academic scholarship fund. The scholarship is awarded annually through an application process to sons, daughters or spouses of fallen or wounded engineers who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

According to Command Sgt. Maj. William Calhoun, 554th Engineer Battalion command sergeant major and the event's organizer, this year's ride raised nearly \$500.

Pic 1: Motorcycle riders from the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment start out on the 3rd annual regimental ride from Fort Leonard Wood's main gate June 8. The ride covered more than 25 miles of roadways and included static displays and demonstrations of engineer equipment and training. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

Pic 2: Command Sgt. Maj. Terrence Murphy, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood's command sergeant major, and Lt. Col. Mark Rodwell, 1st Engineer Brigade executive officer, carry a wreath in the Engineer Memorial Grove to place in front of the Fallen Sapper Memorial Wall June 8 following the 3rd Annual Engineer Regimental Motorcycle Ride. The memorial wall pays tribute to Army engineers who served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom and today holds more than 350 names. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

Pic 3: The Engineer Regiment's youngest Sapper cuts the regiment's birthday cake in the World War II Dining Facility on Fort Leonard Wood June 8. The Engineer Regiment officially celebrates 238 years of service to the nation June 16. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

Pic 4: The Engineer Regiment's oldest Sapper available cuts the regiment's birthday cake in the World War II Dining Facility on Fort Leonard Wood June 8. The Engineer Regiment officially celebrates 238 years of service to the nation June 16. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

Pic 5: Members of the Engineer Regiment stop at Training Area 250 during the 3rd Annual Engineer Regimental Motorcycle Ride June 8 for a rafting demonstration by cadre of the 35th Engineer Battalion. The ride covered more than 25 miles of roadways where engineers train on Fort Leonard Wood. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

Pic 6: Participants of the 3rd Annual Engineer Regimental Motorcycle Ride receive a door breaching demonstration on Range 33 by cadre of the 35th Engineer Battalion. The ride covered more than 25 miles of roadways where engineers train on Fort Leonard Wood. Photos by Kellie Calhoun/Released

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.

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