



VOICE FOR THE ARMY-
SUPPORT FOR THE SOLDIER!

FORT LEONARD WOOD MID-MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY



This past October, your Mid Missouri Fort Leonard Wood Chapter made a strong presence at the AUSA Annual Meeting in Washington DC. Over 40 Chapter members including 16 sponsored FLW distinguished Soldiers, FLW Leadership, our two local Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army, and many other Community Leaders attended the three day event.



This annual meeting continues to be the largest land power exposition and professional development forum in North America. Our mission is three fold.... Showcase the unique capabilities of Fort Leonard Wood, Introduce Big Army and Big AUSA to our Soldiers of Excellence, and See where Big Army is heading with mission, technology, and support of Soldiers and family members.

Mission accomplished! As you can see from the content of this newsletter, your Chapter continues to lead the way as a Chapter of excellence. Thanks for your support as we continue to be a "Voice for the Army and Support for our Soldiers!"

Steve Ehrhardt, Chapter President

SAVE THE DATE

2014 HIGHLIGHTS

2015 Annual Meeting Dates

October 12-14th



Special points of interest:

- * William G. Bainbridge Medal
- * Chapter Dinner
- * Congressional Breakfast
- * Hospitality Suite
- * VIP Tour of Arlington National Cemetery
- * Fifth Region Breakfast

2014 Sustaining Sponsors



Thank You!

ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON D. C. MONDAY

Representatives of the Fort Leonard Wood-Mid Missouri Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), Soldiers from Fort Leonard Wood, and members of the Sustainable Ozarks Partnership staff attended the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Washington, D.C. Convention Center.

The meeting was packed with non-stop events and everything was kicked off with the opening ceremonies, which were held on Monday morning. During the ceremonies, the Sergeant Major of the Army William G. Bainbridge Medal was awarded to Command Sgt. Maj. (Retired) Richard (Rick) Morris of Waynesville, Mo.

The William G. Bainbridge Medal is awarded annually to a noncommissioned officer – Active, Army National Guard, Army Reserve or Retired – whose contributions to the Army and the local community have been significant. The award specifically highlights the importance of the contributions NCO's make to the United States long after they take off the uniform.

Morris is a member of the local Fort Leonard Wood-Mid Missouri AUSA chapter. He served as president in 2013 and helped the chapter achieve their national Best Chapter award in 2012. The local AUSA chapter supports Fort Leonard Wood Soldiers and Families in a variety of ways, including sponsoring quarterly dinners to recognize Soldiers for their achievements and special group outings and activities for Wounded Warriors and their Families.

After Morris received his award, members of the group explored different parts of the exposition, including the exhibit floor. Almost 600 exhibitors from many defense sectors displayed state of the art products and invited attendees to interact with new technology.

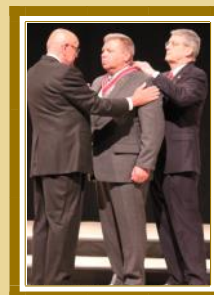
On Monday evening, the group came back together for a chapter dinner at a local restaurant in Washington D.C. The dinner gave everyone, including the 16 Soldiers from Fort Leonard Wood that attended as guests of the local AUSA chapter, a chance to mingle and learn more about their connection to Fort Leonard Wood. The group also enjoyed the company of Maj. Gen. Leslie Smith, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Commanding General and Command Sgt. Maj. Terrence Murphy.



COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR RETIRED RICHARD MORRIS (AUSA LIFETIME MEMBER) RECEIVES THE WILLIAM B. BAINBRIDGE MEDAL



Mr. Morris entered the United States Army on June 23, 1983. During his 23 year career, he served in every leadership position from Team Leader to Command Sergeant Major along with several specialized positions of tremendous importance and responsibility. In all of his Army assignments Rick found success at every level of responsibility. His impact on the Soldiers, Civilians, and Families whom he served are legendary. Rick has been a constant champion for every endeavor that supports all military, civilian, and family members in our community.



ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON D. C. TUESDAY

Everything got started bright and early for the entire group on Tuesday with the Congressional breakfast at the Senate Russell Office Building. The breakfast was hosted by Committee of Fifty and Missouri U.S. Senator Roy Blunt, and was attended by many congressional staffers, as well as Fort Leonard Wood Soldiers and local community members.

The group was honored to have U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Commanding General David Perkins attend as the guest speaker. Gen. Perkins arrived early and took time to speak with community members and Soldiers, asking questions, and showing a great deal of interest in their daily responsibilities in the Army and at Fort Leonard Wood.

Fort Leonard Wood AUSA chapter president Steve Ehrhardt welcomed everyone to the breakfast and introduced Blunt, who took time to reiterate the positive aspects of Fort Leonard Wood and its importance to the Army. Blunt then introduced Perkins who provided an overview of the new TRADOC operating concept, as well as great insight into how today's Army needs to use technology and innovation to overcome the enemy.

"The key to our future is our rate of innovation. The technology is not going to give us our [advantage] like it used to. What you have to do is innovate faster; you have to say I can use my night vision goggles better than you can use yours," said Perkins.

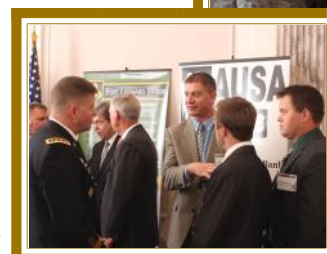
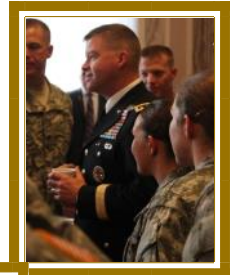
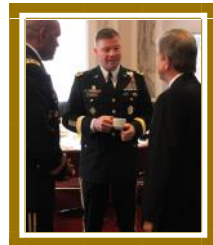
After the breakfast, the excitement continued at the Eisenhower luncheon as Staff Sgt. Jonathan Miller of Fort Leonard Wood was awarded the Drill Sergeant of the Year award from U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno and Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler.

On Tuesday evening, the Fort Leonard Wood AUSA chapter sponsored a hospitality suite at the Convention Center. Over 150 people attended the event. They enjoyed food and drinks and were entertained by the 399th Army band.

All those in attendance were lucky enough to be joined by Perkins and TRADOC Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dailey. Perkins made some brief remarks to the entire group, but he was adamant about spending additional time with the Soldiers from Fort Leonard Wood.

Before Perkins and Dailey began their discussion with the Soldiers, they presented coins to each of them. Afterwards, they asked the Soldiers to tell them what they would do or change if they were the TRADOC Commander or Command Sgt. Maj.

"I have never seen a TRADOC Commander spend so much time with one group of Soldiers. Both General Perkins and CSM Dailey personally connected with each Soldier and were really interested in learning about their experience at Fort Leonard Wood. It was incredible to see and I'm so glad they got that opportunity," said Morris.



SSG JONATHAN MILLER IS AWARDED DRILL SERGEANT OF THE YEAR



**Fort Leonard Wood
Mid-Missouri Chapter
2014 AUSA Streamers**

SUPERIOR CHAPTER - 2014

MERIT CHAPTER - 2014

FAMILY PROGRAMS - 2014

**BEST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETINGS - 2014**

ARMY HISTORY - 2014

TAKE THE HILL CHAPTER - 2014

MEMBER COMMUNICATION - 2014

ILW HONOR ROLL - 2014

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CHAPTER OF AUSA**

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**ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON D. C.
WEDNESDAY**



The final mission for the 16 Soldiers before they left our nation's capital, was a VIP Tour of Arlington National Cemetery which was guided by First Sgt. James Barrett III. Barrett, a former Fort Leonard Wood Drill Sergeant of the Year, is now assigned as the First Sergeant in the Old Guard and responsible for the Honor Guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The group's time at the AUSA conference concluded on a high note as members from the local chapter attended the Fifth Region Breakfast on Wednesday morning. The local chapter was honored with the following awards: Superior Chapter, Merit Chapter, Family Programs, Best General Membership Meetings, Army History, Take the Hill, Member Communications, and ILW Honor Roll

SOLDIER TESTIMONIALS



By sending young NCOs and Soldiers to the annual conference, AUSA provides a conduit for information back into the installation. Those Soldiers who attended were able to hear from the senior leadership of this great Army on the direction we are moving. The information about the Army Operating Concept provided directly from one of its architects, the Training and Doctrine Commander General Perkins,

was truly an excellent thing for those young leaders. The manner in which the information was presented by GEN Perkins at the congressional breakfast was at a level that the lowest ranking person to the highest level officer and civilian in the room could completely understand. It is truly a unique opportunity to tell the Army story and it was done right.

CSM Terrence Murphy
Maneuver Support Center for Excellence



The AUSA trip was very informative. Being able to learn about where the Army is headed in 2020/25, as well as being able to see the new LHS, MRAPs, and the Army's new equipment, especially as a transporter, was beyond impressive. It gave insight

that can be passed down to our current Soldiers. Also, learning more about CAPE was something that can be used on a daily basis as we constantly inform our Soldiers and build the total Soldier concept. It was a huge honor to be a part of the recent AUSA trip.

SSG Jo Schaus



This Year's AUSA Trip was an amazing experience. I am very thankful for what AUSA has done not only for me, but for all of the Soldiers that had this opportunity. We were able to see where our Army leaders are taking us; we learned that our Army leadership is concerned about our career in the Army and our future careers, as civilians. I'm now able to take all of the information I learned at AUSA and bring it back to Fort Leonard Wood, which helps Soldiers see the direction the Army is going and how to stay ahead of the game. I truly want to thank AUSA and everyone who had a part in letting this group of Soldiers attend this year's AUSA convention.

SGT Joshua Roberts
TRADOC Soldier of the Year



This was my second year attending the Annual AUSA meeting and I have to say it has only gotten better. The professional development forums that take provide input from all senior leaders in our Army and they are truly beneficial to everyone, regardless of rank. To hear from our senior leaders including the Secretary of the Army, Chief of Staff of the Army, Sergeant Major of the Army, and other Commanding Generals and Senior Mission Command Sergeants Major, as well as the outside agencies truly allows us to see where our Army is currently and what our future holds.

Another great asset is the number of vendors that come to showcase the technology and equipment that is available to our Army. The annual meeting is a one of a kind opportunity to gain insight into our Army's capabilities and future endeavors. The Fort Leonard Wood Chapter of AUSA is truly a unique organization that provides exceptional opportunities to a number of Fort Leonard Wood Soldiers. For our local community to provide this level of professional and personal development for Soldiers at an event of this magnitude is a testament to their commitment to not only Fort Leonard Wood, but also Soldiers and their Families. I have never been a part of a community that has as much support as Fort Leonard Wood, MO. It has been a privilege to be a member of this community and it truly sets the standard for all installation communities to emulate. Thank you!

SSG Jonathan Miller
TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year