

# The Blaster News

First Quarter 2025

## Upcoming Events and Retreats

### March

**March 9:** EOD Monthly Gathering, Beer Lab HI: Oahu, HI

**March 15:** Leprechaun 5K, 10K & 1M: Old Mill State Park, Fredericksburg, VA

**March 15:** EODWF Flag Program Kick-off: San Antonio

**March 29:** EOD Monthly Gathering, EOD Trivia: Niceville, FL

### April

**April 11- 12:** Warriors Helping Warriors Bottling Party & Navy EOD Association Annual Reunion: Tackitt Family Vineyards, San Miguel, CA

**April 19:** Eglin AFB Intrepid Spirit Center and the Midnight Tattoo Crew Concert at EODWF

### May

**May 2-3:** EOD Memorial Weekend

**May 2:** Annual EOD Golf Tournament: Hurlburt Field, FL

**May 2:** 1st Annual Crab Fest, LJ Schooner's: Niceville, FL

**May 2:** EOD Auction: Fort Walton Beach, FL

**May 3:** 56th EOD Memorial Ceremony: NAVSCOLEOD, Niceville, FL

**May 3:** EOD Chef Cookoff: Fort Walton Beach, FL

**May 3:** 57th EOD Memorial Ball: Fort Walton Beach, FL

**May 21:** EODWF DC Luncheon, Army Navy Club: Washington DC

## We Can't Wait to See You Again!

### EOD Memorial Weekend

**May 2 - 3, 2025**

The annual EOD Memorial Weekend will take place May 2-3, 2025, in Fort Walton Beach, FL, bringing the EOD Community together to honor fallen heroes and support our Warriors. The weekend begins with a golf tournament at Gator Lakes Golf Course on Hurlburt Field, followed by an auction at the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center, with proceeds benefiting the EOD Warrior Foundation.

On May 3rd, the EOD Memorial Ceremony at the EOD Memorial Wall will honor fallen EOD Technicians, followed by the EOD Memorial Ball in the evening. This formal event fosters camaraderie through dinner, dancing, and guest speakers, ensuring that the legacies of EOD heroes live on while strengthening bonds within the community.

*Your guide to...*

## EOD Weekend

*Friday:*

**Golf Tournament:** Reg. 7 AM, Shotgun 8 AM

Gator Lakes Golf Course, Hurlburt Field

**Auction:** 6 PM (Doors open at 5 PM)

Destin/Fort Walton Beach Convention Center

*Saturday:*

**56th EOD Memorial Ceremony:** 9 AM

NAVSCOLEOD - 8840 Range Rd, Niceville

**EOD Chefs Cook-Off:** 11:30 AM - 3PM

The Gulf - 1284 Marler Ave, Fort Walton Beach

**57th EOD Ball:** 6 PM (Doors open at 4:30 PM)

Destin/Fort Walton Beach Convention Center



**EOD WARRIOR**  
FOUNDATION

For the 5th year, the EODWF will kick off the EOD Remembrance Flag Program in March!

Thank you so much for all your support in helping to honor all EOD Techs through this program. The goal is to place an EOD Flag on the grave of all EOD Techs, regardless of branch, years of service, or cause of death. To volunteer to place flags in your area or for additional information, visit: <https://memorial.eodwarriorfoundation.org/flag-project/>



## 2025 - 2026 EOD Warrior Foundation Graduate Scholarship



The EOD Warrior Foundation is proud to offer graduate scholarships to dependents of graduates of NAVSCOLEOD. To learn more, and to see full eligibility requirements, please visit our website.

**March 1, 2025 - April 27, 2025: Graduate application window**

\*Note that prior awardees must renew their scholarship each year.

## EOD Monthly Gathering



The EOD Monthly Gathering is a series of family-friendly events held one day a month, sponsored by the EOD Warrior Foundation. Our purpose is to bring EOD Techs (past and present) and their families together for food, conversation, and fun!

<https://eodwarriorfoundation.org/eodmonthlygatherings/>





# ANNUAL EOD MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

2025


**EOD WARRIOR  
FOUNDATION™**


## THE HAMILTON TEAM

NATIONWIDE LENDING

VA LOANS WITH EXPERTISE &amp; INTEGRITY

Powered by:  
**MOVEMENT**Proud Partner of:  
**HB**

### Registration Includes:

18 holes

Lunch

Goodie bag

### Tee Up for a Cause: The Annual EOD Warrior Foundation Golf Tournament

Join us for a fantastic day on the green at the Annual EOD Warrior Foundation Golf Tournament on Friday, May 2, 2025, at Gator Lakes Golf Course in Hurlburt Field. Registration opens at 7 AM, with a shotgun start at 8 AM.

This event is open to Active Duty Military, Armed Forces Retirees, Department of Defense employees, and civilians with approved passes. Civilian guests can obtain a 6-month pass through the Hurlburt Field

Visitor Center or by submitting the Golf Affidavit through the EOD Warrior Foundation.

Enjoy a day of camaraderie, competition, and community spirit while supporting the EOD Warrior Foundation. A special thank you to our generous sponsors: **Justin Hamilton & EOD Home Buying, PointOne, and EAI, Inc.**

For more details or to secure your spot, visit [eodwarriorfoundation.org](http://eodwarriorfoundation.org).

We look forward to seeing you on the course!

Save the Date!

**WARRIORS  
HELPING  
WARRIORS**

Supporting the EOD Warrior Foundation



JOIN US FOR OUR



## 2025 EOD CHEFS COOK-OFF

• FREE TO ENTER •

VOTE FOR THE BEST DISH WHILE  
ENJOYING MANY VENDORS, DRINKS,  
MUSIC, & MORE!

SATURDAY, MAY 3RD @ 11:30AM

THE GULF

1284 MARLER AVE, FORT WALTON

BEACH, FL 32548

**April 11-12, 2025**

Tackitt Family Vineyards // EOD Cellars  
6640 Von Dollen Road, San Miguel, CA 93451  
805.286.4266





# EOD Auction

**May 2, 2025**

**Destin - Fort Walton Beach Convention Center**

Every year, the EOD Warrior Foundation brings together former and current EOD Techs and their families from across the country—and sometimes around the world—for an unforgettable event. The annual Auction is a testament to the incredible generosity of our community, raising vital support for EOD Techs and their families. The auction floor buzzes with excitement as bidders compete for everything from beautiful quilts and unique artwork to rare EOD memorabilia. But beyond the bidding wars, it's the sense of camaraderie and connection that truly makes this event special.

The 2025 Auction, set for May 2nd at 6:00 PM, promises another evening filled with cherished reunions, friendly competition, and the chance to take home extraordinary items—all while supporting a powerful cause. If you'd like to contribute an auction item, please visit our website for more information.

After 5 incredible years of dedication and service, we bid a warm goodbye to Jaclyn Diep as she moves on from the EOD Warrior Foundation.

Jaclyn joined us in January 2020 as an Accountant, bringing 24 years of financial expertise to our mission. Her passion, leadership, and commitment to excellence earned her a well deserved promotion to Chief Financial Officer in November 2024.

Born in Vietnam and raised in Mobile, Alabama, Jaclyn's journey to Fort Walton Beach, Florida, is marked by resilience, ambition, and a deep love for giving back. With a personal connection to the military through her family, Jaclyn has embodied our mission to serve the EOD Community with dedication and care.

Jaclyn, we thank you for your incredible support and for helping us fulfill our vision. We wish you all the best in your next chapter—you'll always be a part of the EODWF family.



***Wishing Jaclyn Diep Success in  
Her Next Chapter***







# EOD Warrior Foundation

## Luncheon

Wednesday, May 21st from 11:30am-1:30pm

Please join the EOD Warrior Foundation and friends at a luncheon honoring the incredible Joint Service EOD community and their families, while supporting these EOD servicemen and women who carry out one of the most dangerous jobs in the military.

You'll be inspired by our distinguished speakers, Jon M. Huntsman and Adam Popp, whose perspectives on leadership and perseverance will ignite passion, share wisdom, and spark change.



Ambassador Jon M. Huntsman Jr.  
Vice Chairman and President, Strategic  
Growth of Master Card



Adam Popp  
TSgt, USAF EOD, Ret.  
8x Guinness World Record Holder

**Army Navy Club**  
**901 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20006**



**EOD WARRIOR**  
FOUNDATION™

Reserve your spot at:  
<http://weblink.donorperfect.com/DCluncheon2025>

## Meet our Staff!



Get to know the friendly faces behind the EOD Warrior Foundation! Each quarter, we'll introduce staff or board members who help support our mission.

## Meet Patricia Adelmann!

Patricia is the mastermind behind making things happen at the EOD Warrior Foundation—literally. As our Development Officer, she's the one writing grants, rallying sponsors, and making sure we have the funds to support our Warriors. She also heads up our flag program, ensuring EOD Technicians are honored and remembered.

💊 Need Tylenol? A Band-Aid? Maybe some salt and pepper? A sponsorship? Or help with a spreadsheet? Patricia is the office go-to for all of the above—and somehow, she always has exactly what you need.

💜 Fun fact: Patricia is obsessed with all things purple—suitcase, purse, pens... you name it! But plot twist—her actual favorite color is yellow!

😂 If you hear a laugh that could brighten even the darkest day, it's probably Patricia. Her sense of humor is so strong, she even made it official—her license plate literally says "LOLLOTS"!

✈️ She's based in Atlanta, but don't be surprised if you spot her zooming through Niceville every few months, keeping an eye on the EODWF crew (and making sure we behave!).

⭐ Patricia-isms:

✅ Once won a \$10 bet proving that Northwest Airlines was headquartered in Minneapolis, not Detroit. (Never doubt her airline knowledge!)

✅ Literally took the wheel (from the passenger seat!) to help a terrified driver over Atlanta's infamous Spaghetti Junction—all at 60 mph. 🚗💨

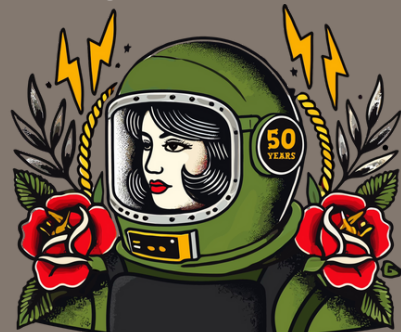
Want to get on her good side? Talk aviation (Delta only!), laugh at her jokes, and maybe send her something purple (or yellow 😊).

April 19  
5 - 8 PM

EOD Warrior Foundation  
716 Crestview Ave  
Niceville, FL

## EOD Concert

Presented by Eglin AFB Intrepid Spirit Center and the  
Midnight Tattoo Crew





# Mental Health Pillar

## Need to Talk? Crisis Text Line is There for You

Life throws curveballs. Sometimes, it feels like you're drowning in stress, anxiety, or just feeling completely overwhelmed. Maybe you're having a panic attack, struggling with thoughts of self-harm, or just need someone to listen. Whatever it is, you don't have to go through it alone. That's where the Crisis Text Line comes in.

Think of it like a 24/7 mental health support system right in your pocket. It's simple, free, and confidential. No awkward phone calls, no waiting rooms. Just text **HOME** to **741741** from anywhere in the US, anytime, day or night.

### How Does it Work?

You text HOME, and within minutes, you'll be connected to a trained crisis counselor. These are real people, not bots, who are trained to listen empathetically and provide support. They'll text back and forth with you, helping you to de-escalate the situation, explore your feelings, and find coping strategies. They can also connect you with further resources if needed.

### What Can You Text About?

Seriously, anything. No issue is too big or too small. People text the Crisis Text Line about all sorts of things, including: Anxiety and Panic Attacks, Depression and Sadness, Suicidal Thoughts, Relationship Problems, Substance Abuse, and even Loneliness.

### Why Text?

Sometimes, texting feels less intimidating than talking on the phone. It can be easier to express yourself in writing, especially when you're in crisis. It's also discreet – you can text from anywhere without anyone overhearing.

### Is it Really Confidential?

Yes, the Crisis Text Line is committed to confidentiality. Your conversations are private and won't be shared with anyone without your consent, unless there's an immediate risk of harm to yourself or others.

### The Bottom Line:

The Crisis Text Line is a valuable resource for anyone who's struggling. It's a safe, confidential, and convenient way to get support when you need it most. So, if you're feeling overwhelmed, don't hesitate to text **HOME** to **741741**. You're not alone.



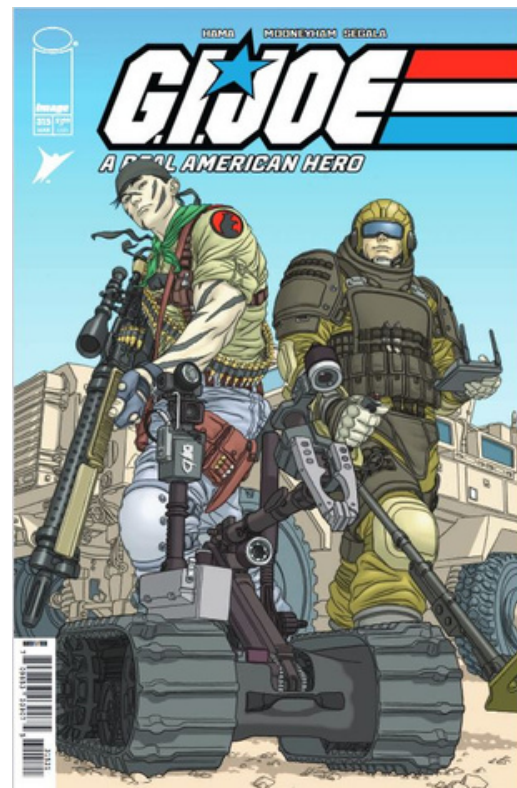
## Big Alpaca Comics Launches Exclusive G.I. Joe Variant to Benefit EOD Warrior Foundation

Big Alpaca Comics is set to release a retailer-exclusive variant of G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero #315, featuring stunning artwork by the talented Mike Choi! This special cover shines a spotlight on the two EOD Technicians on the G.I. Joe team—Tunnel Rat and Tripwire.

The highly anticipated comic will be available on March 26, with 100% of the proceeds benefitting the EOD Warrior Foundation. This is a fantastic opportunity for comic book enthusiasts and supporters of the EOD community to own a unique collectible while making a real impact.

We extend our thanks to Robert Mott and Big Alpaca Comics for their incredible generosity and support.

For more information, visit [bigalpacacomics.com](http://bigalpacacomics.com).



## EODWF Strategic Planning 2025



The EOD Warrior Foundation board and staff came together in January to craft the vision and goals for the EOD Warrior Foundation for 2025. It was an inspiring time of collaboration, dedication, and forward-thinking as we focused on how to best serve our EOD Family in the year ahead.

A huge thank you to Joe Fetzer of Innovative Organizational Development for facilitating impactful conversations and guiding our strategic discussions. Your expertise made all the difference!

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Niceville Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce, Chick-fil-A Niceville, and 7 Brew Coffee of Niceville for fueling our team with delicious breakfast and coffee—your support helps keep us moving forward!

Here's to a year of continued service, impact, and growth!



# EOD HOME BUYING

We are so excited to be working with Justin and Christine Hamilton of EOD Home Buying! In addition to assisting EOD families across the country with their home purchasing needs, the Hamiltons have generously pledged to donate 5% of their PERSONAL commission to the EOD Warrior Foundation.

Simply mention the EODWF when working with them! The Hamiltons are licensed lenders in all 50 US States, so no matter where you are located, they can assist you.

Learn more about their nation-wide network by visiting [www.eodhomebuying.com](http://www.eodhomebuying.com) or contact the Hamiltons directly by calling 815-908-9363!



## Giving for Tomorrow

EOD has been part of your life for years and EODWF is there for you and your family every step of the way. From support to new graduates and their families to scholarships for the grandchildren of Vietnam-era EOD Techs and everything in between, we fully embrace the belief that the EOD Community is for life. We are here for you and are grateful that you are here for us!

Ensure your legacy and support to the EODWF and EOD Community continues by including EODWF in your Will or living trust. For more information, please contact Patricia Adelman, Development Officer, at 770.655.4028 or [patricia@eodwarriorfoundation.org](mailto:patricia@eodwarriorfoundation.org) or speak with your financial or legal advisor. The process is simple, quick, and completely confidential.

## Gift Donation of Stock & Wire Transfers

As the end of the 2024 tax year approaches, remember that we welcome your gift of appreciated stock and wire transfers! It's a fast, easy way to support both our programs and the entire EOD Community. Check with your personal tax advisors on how to best accomplish your goal of support and reducing your 2024 taxes.

Please contact Patricia Adelman, Development Officer for Broker and Account numbers.

EOD Warrior Foundation Phone: 850.729.2336

Patricia's Direct Phone: 770.375.8375 (best number to call over the holidays and at year end)

EOD Warrior Foundation Address: 716 Crestview Ave. Niceville, FL 32578

Nonprofit EIN#: 20-8618412

Thank you again for making such a positive and lasting difference in the lives of EOD families.

## Monthly Giving

Giving can be easy, painless, and still make a major impact! Just sign up for a recurring gift and we will be happy to charge your card a set amount on a set schedule until you tell us to stop! Your small (or large!) gifts add up quickly and make a big difference in the lives of EOD Techs and their families.

