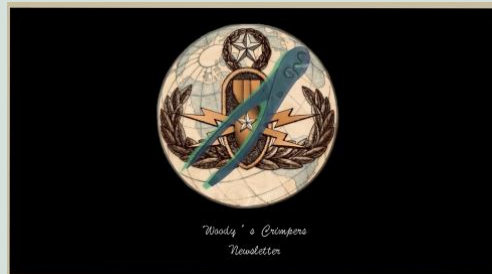


Crimpers



The Crimper News

February 2023

11th Edition

This project is the sole effort of Woody Eastwood, and it is not to be assumed that the Association will Continue this in the future.



National EOD Associations Officers

James E Duncan – _Commander

Woody Eastwood – _Vice Commander

James Sanders – _Treasurer

Chet Heidl – _Director

Terry Fitzgerald – _Director

Tom Manders – manager of the NATEODA Facebook group

Irvin Banta III, National EOD Association Chaplain

Bob Leiendecker, National EOD Association Historian

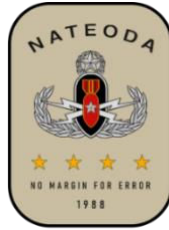
SGM Mike Vining, US Army Retired, our “go-to” for anything “EOD”



It's February, Don't Forget your Honey!



Message From the Commander



James E Duncan
Commander
National EOD Association
Email: duncanjamese40@gmail.com
Phone: (225) 664-6541

20 January 2023

TO: All NATEODA Members

I would like to see everyone at the Conference this year In Oklahoma City. The officers are working hard on getting the Conference set up. So let us make it a very good one this year, so get your reservations in as soon as you can when it becomes available on the Web Site.

The Vice Commander and Joe have worked hard on trying to get our new website up and when finished it will be a great working website for our membership to stay in touch with the Association.

I would like to see each member try and get an EOD friend or other EOD military person to join the association we need new members so we can continue to grow.

At the conventions that I have attended the same questions always come up about convention attendance, difficulties in staying in touch with each other, and the growth of the association. The new website that is being worked on will make it easier for the members to stay in touch with each other and have all the news and other information available to them.

NATEODA is unique as the one all-service association for EOD technicians who have served and are still serving. We need to welcome all EOD technicians regardless of other affiliations. Last year, the board passed that Public Safety Bomb Technicians that are presently or have served in an EOD technician position and have attended the Hazardous Device course in Huntsville, AL, can be regular members of the association.

This year at the convention I would like to hear your thoughts and ideas on alternatives that have helped other groups. We need everyone, including spouses (that's wives for us old guys), in the room. Our discussion will be exploring meeting frequency, locations, and programs.



Oh wow, is it February Already????

I am working on several projects.

We need a Director and an Adjutant for the Board of Directors. Step up or reach out to a friend.

The revision of the bylaws is progressing well, I hope to have a special election for the members to approve them by March or April.

The convention/reunion 2023 in Oklahoma City is in the work and planning stages, with the help of Pat and Walter Perry I should have information to publish on the website in the near future. I look forward to a terrific turnout this year. **START MAKING YOUR PLANS** to attend.

Make a note of the dates 19 – 23 September 2023.

Speaking of the website. Joe Jimenez is working hard with the developer (Sage digital agency) to get our website back up to par. It is functional but not to the degree that we want it.

Update on the new [NATEODA.com](https://natedoda.com)

Our website at [NATEODA.com](https://natedoda.com) is slowly being restored after it crashed from major problems and went offline late last year. We now have a new website and mobile platform for phones and tablets online. It looks similar to our former website, but without all the content and features from the old website.

We are slowly restoring the content on this website. Our priority is getting the application process and member accounts restored.

If you had an active account on the former website, you should still be able to log in. You will not see any information about your NATEODA membership, and EOD and military history. Much of that information was lost when the website crashed. We are working on a plan to restore that information from backup records. Until that happens, your account will only show the information that was saved.

Members who want to pay dues or who did not have an online account on the old website should wait until we give the “all clear” before attempting to sign up or log in. Our plan is to have applications and account operational by Feb 13, 2023.

The Contact page is working. Questions about your account or the website will be sent to the membership committee.

Thank you for your patience. When this restoration project is completed, we will have a more secure and stable website. We are building a website that will share EOD news, help you keep your account updated, and help you find your friends.

We will be raising our membership fees, to \$40.00 on 1 March 2023. We have resisted this for a long time, but think it is now time.

We still need members to join our Board meetings via Zoom Meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 2000 hours CST. Send me an email if you would like to join us and I will send you an invitation. We welcome your input on the operations and planning of the National EOD Association. vicecommander@nateoda.com

I have added some new items to the Web Store and have placed some products on sale. Check them out at [NATEODA Store](#)
I welcome your input on what items you would like to see on our Web Store.

Counter-IED Report Newsletter

[>>Click here for the Newsletter<<](#)

The Counter-IED Report website, one-stop information, and news source for Counter-IED professionals worldwide. The Counter-IED Report is a leading international [subscription-based publication](#), which serves as an information source to communicate the latest developments in the fight against the IED threat. The aim of the Counter-IED Report is to identify technological advances as well as strategies and tactics for [countering threat networks](#), reduce IED manufacture and placement, assist post-conflict [humanitarian demining](#) and [capacity building efforts](#) worldwide. We strive to deliver an up-to-date, first-hand expert knowledge, and facilitate information sharing between stakeholders, academia, and the industry. The report is published in print, eBook, and PDF formats, and distributed worldwide. The distribution is tailored to the highly engaged audience of Counter-IED, EOD, CBRE, Defense, Law Enforcement, Humanitarian Demining and Security professionals and senior decision makers in government, public and private sectors. Additional print copies of the Report are also distributed at the relevant Defense and Security events through our Media Partnership Program.

**NATEODA
Chaplains Corner
Irvin Banta III**

EOD PRAYER

Lord of Power and might, Whose mercy is everlasting.

Guard and guide those who place their lives in the balance to ensure the safety of those nearby.

Look with favor upon those with the prowess and skill to disarm Explosive Devices, Render them Safe, and remove from others the threat of harm.

Bless those who have been set apart by this hazardous duty, and give support to their families and loved ones who wait through each tense call.

Receive into eternal rest those who have given their lives and bring healing to those who mourn. Grant that in the EOD Family there may be unity of spirit for the wellbeing of all. To your glory with grateful hearts we thank you loving God.

Amen



Message from the National EOD Association Chaplain

As we move through winter and into spring, we recognize the power and effects of the environmental seasons on our lives. From cold with ice/snow to warm with rain/mud. There are also emotional/physical seasons in our lives. Work, career and or family experiences attempt to influence how we perceive those seasons throughout the years we have on this planet.

I, for one, can remember some of those 'cold with ice/snow' moments of my life as well as a few 'warm but rainy and muddy moments' too. Do you have such moments/memories?

I learned, after moving through such moments (I.e. Military/Combat/Law Enforcement/death of my spouse, etc.) a couple of important lessons: 1) Don't be '...chained to the Past...' as author Han Kung writes in his book *"On Being a Christian"* ; and 2) Our God is a God of time and space and is with you no matter where you are or when you are.

So, as you navigate the seasons in your life be they: cold, warm, or sunny and great. Consider, as the Bible teaches, you are never truly alone (Matthew 28:20); Christians serve a God of second chances (2Peter 3:9); and God desires you have an abundant life (John 10:10). This abundant life is a life knowing Him more and worrying less about the cold snow and wet muddy moments of your life. Christ came that you may not be.... 'Chained to your past'.

Remember, there is always someone with a four-wheel drive who is knowledgeable and experienced enough to help pull you free of that snow or mud you find yourself stuck in. We have all been there. All you have to do is ask.

FBI LEOBT/NATEODA Chaplain Irvin Banta III



Get caught up on your Retiree Newsletters

Click on the Items below





Australian EOD Brother needs a little help.

Since the EOD Community extends past our US borders and many of us have served alongside our Australian EOD Mates, I am sharing the GO Fund Me page with our US EOD Brothers and Sisters. This is one of those “Ah Shit” life changing moments that not only affected our Aussie

EOD Brother, But his little girl.

Melissa ‘MO’ Tackett, Facebook post

[GO FUND ME PAGE](#)



I recommend you check out the Podcasts from EOD Warrior Foundation Website. There are some good stories here.

[>Click here to check them out<](#)

This month featured Member of the “EOD Family”



SGM Irvin Banta III, USA Retired

National EOD Association Chaplain

Chaplain Irvin J. Banta III, SGM Ret., D.Min.

Born a military brat in Fort Polk, Louisiana son of a WWII veteran, Irvin was the eldest of seven. He grew up in Franklin, Indiana helping his father in the greenhouses of a flower shop. From grade school to High school, he ran the local paper route. On weekends, he mowed lawns to help support the family. Growing up he enjoyed spending his free time reading and researching in the local public library and high school library. He enjoyed language studies and radio communication. After graduating High School Irvin joined the Armed Forces and served 18 months in Vietnam 328th Radio Research (ASA), Det. 3, 198th Infantry brigade; and 196th Infantry brigade from 1970-1972. He had a break in service for about a year and then went to Ft Meade, Maryland and was assigned to a signal company. Then from the signal company he went to 144th Ordnance Detachment (EOD) and then to EOD School, Indian Head, Maryland. He graduated from EOD School in 1974. Then Irvin was assigned to the 77th EOD Yuma, Arizona where he met his wife Debbie Ferris, (sister of EOD SGM James “Jim” Ferris). They were married in Yuma 1976.

Irvin was one of the early EOD volunteers for 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta (Airborne), Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He arrived at the Unit in the spring of 1978 and attended the Operator Training Course -2 (OTC-2). Following graduation from OTC-2, passed Delta’s Selection and Assessment Course, and attended Basic Airborne School. Irvin was assigned to A Squadron as an EOD Operator. Irvin was on the Operation EAGLE CLAW

mission to rescue the 53 American hostages held by the Iranians in Tehran, Iran. Irvin left the Unit in 1982, for an assignment to the 6th Ordnance Detachment (EOD), Fort Shafter, Hawaii. In 1985, Irvin was involved in MIA recovery efforts in Laos. Later that year was assigned to Redstone Arsenal Hazardous Devices School (HDS) as an instructor and was the NCOIC. Irvin was then the NCOIC Army EOD Proponent Office at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

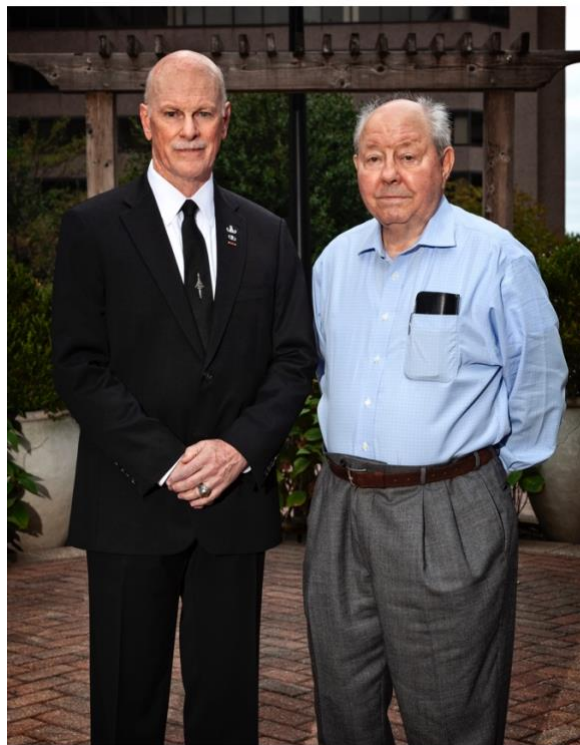
In 1989, Irvin attended the SGM Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas. He then returned to Redstone as the TRADOC EOD SGM for OMEMS (Redstone Arsenal). In 1990 he was asked by the FBI to present his research findings to the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators (IABTI) which were later published by the FBI BDC.

Irvin retired from the Army as an EOD Sergeant Major in 1992 after serving 22 years. Irvin earned a Doctoral degree Counseling Psychology from Trinity College and Theological Seminary, concentrated in Biblical counseling. He earned a Master of Divinity from Samford University where he was concentrating in theology and pastoral care and a Bachelor of Science degree from Columbia College. He was licensed and ordained as a Baptist minister in the spring of 1991 and received endorsement as a professional Law Enforcement Chaplain that same year. As Bi-Vocational Pastor (1992), he became the LEO Chaplain, Senior Training Coordinator, and Deputy for Madison County Sheriff's Office. He was asked to support the FBI as a Chaplain/Counselor from 1997 to the present. He returned to teaching EOD Soldiers at Redstone Arsenal as an Alutiiq contractor (2004) then promoted to run the contract as the Program Manager/Program Director; was also the Chaplain for Huntsville Alutiiq office. Irvin began a Private Counseling Practice while working with the Sheriff's Office around 1994 that is still active today (nearly 30 years now).

He is a member of the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), as well as the International Conference of Police Chaplains and the National Sheriff's Association, Chaplain Division. He is certified in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Debriefing (CISD); as well as instructor qualified in Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention training (SHARP). Additionally, he is certified to administer and score individuals on the Taylor-Johnson Temperament Analysis (T-JTA). Irvin is also a member of the local HAM radio club.

While working in Huntsville, Irvin was PTA President, AYSO certified Soccer Referee, and supported youth mission work in his local church. Irvin was married to his wife, Debbie Banta for 39 years before the Lord took her home after her battle with ALS in 2015. He has 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

Sergeant Major Banta's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medal, seven Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, the Vietnam Service Medal with four Campaign stars, the Humanitarian Service Medals, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Awards, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation. He is authorized to wear the Master Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

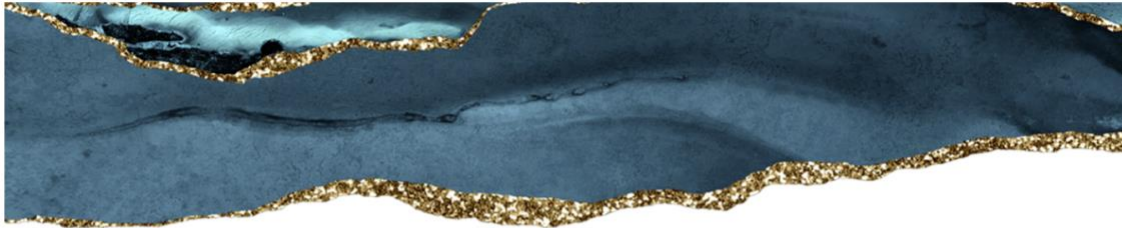


Irvin Banta III and Jim Ferris

Tickets go on sale 1 February 2023

2023 EOD Memorial Weekend

May 5 @ 8:00 am - May 6 @ 11:00 pm UTC+0



2023 EOD MEMORIAL WEEKEND *5 - 6 May*

Plans are in full swing for the upcoming EOD Memorial Weekend, set for 5-6 May 2023.

Friday, 5 May:

Annual EOD Golf Tournament – More info to follow shortly

EOD Auction – Emerald Coast Convention Center / Destin FWB Convention Center, 1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy, FWB, FL

Saturday, 6 May

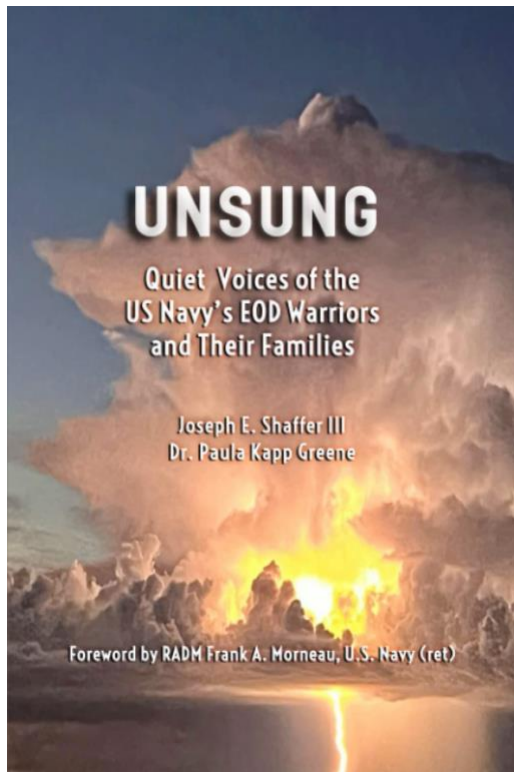
54th EOD Memorial Ceremony – NAVSCOLEOD, 8840 Range Rd, Niceville, FL

2nd Annual EOD Chef Cook off – 3rd Planet, 1400 E John Sims Pkwy, Niceville, FL

55th EOD Ball – Emerald Coast Convention Center / Destin FWB Convention Center, 1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy, FWB, FL



The National EOD Association is sponsoring a table at the Memorial Ball
If you are attending the ball, let us know that you would like a place at the table.



New EOD Book “UNSUNG”
Quiet Voices of the US Navy’s EOD
WARRIORS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Joseph E Shaffer III
Dr. Paul Kapp Green

Is now Available on Amazon
50% split of the profit from sales with the Navy Special
Operations Foundation and the EOD Warrior
Foundation

UNSUNG reveals in-depth stories by members of the US Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) community of special forces and their families. *The Hurt Locker*, an Academy Award-winning film, portrayed one *limited* but dramatic narrative of the US Army's EOD warriors in Iraq. But the stories of the Navy EOD community, the self-described "quiet professionals," have not been told--until now. These are special operators and technicians who undertake some of the most lethal work performed by members of the American military. Two years of interviews recount the grit, devotion, camaraderie, and

pathos of these highly trained specialists. Heartfelt interviews with the families of these brave and dedicated sailors describe their stresses, pride, successes, and sadly, their grief.

Foreword to the book: I always believed it would be a matter of time until this book, or one like it, would be written about these men, and I could not be more grateful to Dr. Paula Greene and Joseph Shaffer for accomplishing this undertaking. The history of the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Force, and their story, is not well known to the American public. And until now, when their story has been told, it has been told with a Hollywood “thrill seeker” or “stuntman” persona cast upon them which could not be more fictitious. This book brings the history and reality of this community of heroes to the reader in not only their own words but the words of their families.

FRANCIS A. MORNEAU
RADM, U.S. NAVY (ret)

Military News in the Pacific

On this Pacific News: Soldiers conduct the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team of the Year Competition in the Republic of Korea, U.S. Air Force F-16CM Fighting Falcons from Germany arrive at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, and U.S. Marines and Sailors with 3rd Marine Logistics Group participate in an appointment ceremony for a new command master chief at Camp Kinser, Okinawa.

24 January 2023

Video by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Flesch
Media Center - Japan

[Click here for DVIDS Video](#)



Marines Reactivate Guam Base to Boost Pacific Footprint

Camp Blaz will become a “strategic hub” and a joint and allied training center.

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY

STAFF REPORTER, DEFENSE ONE

JANUARY 27, 2023

The Marine Corps has formally opened its first new base in 70 years: Guam’s Camp Blaz, which is to become a “strategic hub” as the U.S. military expands its Pacific operations.

“Forward, persistent presence is key to the regional security and stability in the Indo-Pacific. Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz is a critical part of that,” Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger said at the ceremony.

The Corps “administratively activated” Camp Blaz on Oct. 1, 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the ceremony, a service spokesman told *Defense One*. It was “reactivated” on Thursday, becoming the service’s first newly constructed base in seven decades, a press release said.

The base “will serve as a strategic hub as the Department of Defense realizes the vision of the 2022 National Defense Strategy,” the press release said. “The base’s forward presence and engagement in the Pacific will play an essential role in strengthening the ability of the U.S. and its allies and partners for a collective defense and to promote regional security.”

The Guam base will also serve as a training area for U.S. and regional forces, said Pentagon spokeswoman Sabrina Singh on Thursday.

[Click here for full article](#)

This day in Military History
1 February 1862



1862 – “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” was first published in “Atlantic Monthly” as an anonymous poem.

The lyric was the work of Julia Ward Howe and was based on chapter 63 of the Old Testament’s Book of Isaiah. “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” soon became the most popular Union marching song of the Civil War and is still being sung and to the tune of a song titled, “John Brown’s Body”. Julia Ward Howe (b.1819-1908) was an influential social reformer and wife of fellow reformer and educator Samuel Gridley Howe. She was prominent in the anti-slavery movement, woman’s suffrage, prison reform and the international peace movements. Julia Ward Howe was the first woman elected to the American Academy of Fine Arts and Letters in 1908. Ralph Waldo Emerson said: “I honor the author of ‘The Battle Hymn’ ... she was born in the city of New York. I could well wish she were a native of Massachusetts. We have no such poetess in New England.”

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Unofficial Anthem of The Confederate States - "Dixie's Land"

US Navy History you need to Know!



Did You Know?

This is why the saltiest sailors wear a 'fouled anchor'

The history of the fouled anchor dates all the way back to the original seal of Lord Howard of Effingham who served as Lord Admiral of England during the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

The Lord's fouled anchor consisted of a standard nautical anchor with a rope looping through the structure.

The U.S. adopted the iconic symbol from the British in the late 1800s for Naval Chief Petty Officers to wear as it represents the trials and tribulations they are forced to endure on a daily basis. Chiefs regularly serve as the "go between" for officers and junior enlisted personnel.

The adaptation consisted of adding the U.S.N. to the anchor, but these letters which aren't referring to the branch of service like one might think — United States Navy.

The "U" stands for Unity as a reminder of cooperation, maintaining harmony, and continuity of purpose and action.

The "S" means Service, referring to our fellow man and our Navy.

Lastly, the "N" refers to Navigation, to help keep ourselves on a righteous course so that we may walk upright.



The Navy rank insignia of a Chief Petty Officer – E-7 (left), Master Chief Petty Officer – E-9 (middle), and Senior Chief Petty Officer – E-8 (right). (Source: The Goatlocker)



The fourth chief rank refers to the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy or MCPON. Only one enlisted Master Chief Petty Officer can hold this position at one time — they're the most senior enlisted person in the Navy.

Chief Petty Officer Pride Day – Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam

[Video](#)

Grimper Quotes



"It is a Proud privilege to be a soldier -
a good soldier...with, discipline, self-
respect, pride in his unit and his country,
a high sense of duty and obligation to
comrades and to his superiors, and a
self-confidence born of demonstrated
ability."

... George S. Patton ...



[Join us on the Facebook Group](#)



Recruit a New Member today
YouTube recruiting Video



www.nateoda.com



I will Close with this Treasure!

<Am I The Only One>

.....That's All for this Month!.....

Woody Eastwood

vicecommander@nateoda.com

(405) 820-6236