

# Embrace A Vet Graduation Held at Highland Green Community Center

*PTSD and TBI come in all shapes and sizes*



TOPSHAM, ME - Embrace A Vet (EAV) is proud to announce that on May 3 seven teams of a veteran and a service dog graduated the Brunswick Service Dog Class at a special event held at Highland Green Community Center. These veterans worked hard for 16 weeks to complete this course, and EAV applauds them for their perseverance and dedication. EAV is grateful for North Edge K9s for their expertise in training and for EAV all volunteer staff for raising funds to support these classes.

This is an all-volunteer organization working with Maine Veterans who are suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). They have to be referred to EAV for help.

Three programs are offered by EAV, Retreats, (where 10 vets and their significant others go off on a

four-day retreat with professionals), a Caregiver Program (to help the caregiver), and Paws for Peace, which matches a veteran with a dog, and they go through a 16-week training program together. The teams are trained by North Edge K9's, which is a group of Portland policemen who train their K9 dogs.

Highland Green resident, EAV Board member and Treasurer Bev Brown said "I will tell you that watching these vets with their dogs is heart-warming, and that's an understatement. It has changed some of their lives."

The annual EAV "barn party" fundraiser will be held later this month at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport and Highland Green founder John Wasileski is also one of the sponsors of this event.

EAV - A nonprofit organization dedicated to providing direct and supportive services to Maine Veterans and their families living with PTSD and/or TBI. For more information visit: [www.embraceavet.org](http://www.embraceavet.org). To donate send check to: Embrace A Vet, P.O. Box 516 Topsham, ME 04086.