



# Patriot Pack Raises More Than \$100k

Last month in this column I thanked the 2023-24 fiscal year contributors to the BTA Scholarship Foundation for their future-forward donations to deserving students. This month, I'd like to up the ante on my gratitude. Thanks to a suggestion from Bob Goldberg, BTA's former general counsel, the Patriot Pack — a group of motorcycle-riding industry veterans — made the BTA Scholarship Foundation its charitable cause for this year's Patriot Pack Ride, which was held Sept. 9-13.



I recently received the news that the Patriot Pack exceeded its goal of raising more than \$100,000 during the Ride. These donations will be used to create the Patriot Pack Scholarship Fund, which will award BTA scholarships to office technology industry U.S. military veterans, their children and grandchildren, starting with the 2025-26 school year.

The Ride, which began at Mars International in Clifton, New Jersey, hit several stops on its East Coast journey to the Navy Seal Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida. Stops included: Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A. Inc., Sharp Electronics Corp., DLL Financial Services, Cobb Technologies, Virginia Business Systems, The Patriot Pond, Systel Business Equipment, ABR Digital Office Solutions, First Citizens Bank, Hytec, Milner and DEX Imaging. I followed the Ride online throughout its journey this year. To see some great photos and videos of the trip, search for the hashtag #patriotpack on LinkedIn.

In an email recapping this year's Ride, Mike Stramaglio, president and CEO of Stramaglio Consulting, and a founding member of the Pack, wrote: "As I write this

email, I do not have official numbers, but by my calculations, we have exceeded our goal in dramatic fashion, proving again that our industry is arguably the most generous industry in the world! Absolutely incredible! Everyone was remarkably generous this year, but the personal donation from the Doyle Family Foundation [run by Dan Doyle of DEX Imaging] was incredibly off-the-charts generous! I never imagined we would be receiving a \$35,000 check and yet, it happened, making every dangerous mile worth it because now we really can make a huge difference for our veterans."

It gives me great joy to know we will be supporting our industry veterans — and their children and grandchildren — by helping them continue their education. I'd like to thank the generous contributors to the Patriot Pack Scholarship Fund so far: Janene Aul, Adrienne Bastinelli, Alex Richard Bastinelli, Cobb Technologies/Toni Gorveatt, DLL, Doyle Family Foundation/Dan Doyle, GreatAmerica, IBPI/Mark Grice, Konica Minolta, Yasmin Lopez, Nicholas Mattiello, Milner, Louise Sacks, Debbie Scherer, Kathi Scherer, Sharp, Tom Thomasian, Virginia Business Systems and Tom Walsh.

If you'd like to contribute to the Patriot Pack Scholarship Fund, please visit [www.bta.org/PatriotPackScholarships](http://www.bta.org/PatriotPackScholarships). You can also get more details about the scholarships on that page. For those looking to apply, the application will be available in December.

Since the 1984-85 school year, the BTA Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than \$1.8 million to 1,587 deserving students. Will you — or one of your family members — be a future recipient? Even if you are not a veteran, I encourage you to check out BTA's scholarship program. Learn more at [www.bta.org/Scholarships](http://www.bta.org/Scholarships). ■

— Adam Gregory

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