



Sauls-Bridges American Legion

Post 13 News



Volume 76, Issue 9

September 2026

The China Air Offensive

China's campaign against the Japanese was losing its momentum and China was losing both valuable coastal land and its cities along the river banks. "The bulk of Japan's army of over two million men was on the mainland of Asia, primarily in China." The WWII "planners" thought it might be a good time to reinforce China's effort with air and logistical support, technical assistance, and military advice to the Chinese army.

Sounded like an easy plan, but China was in the midst of a civil war between "the Nationalist army of the pro-Western Kuomintang government commanded by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, and the Communist "Red" Army of Mao Tse-tung." In an uneasy truce, both factions agreed to fight the Japanese. However, the lack of coordination between the two groups limited the overall effort. While the Allies provided material assistance and supplies to the Nationalist army, the sub-factions inside the Nationalist Army were at odds and Chiang Kai-shek could never coordinate any kind of effective effort against the Japanese. The Nationalists and Communists did not commit troops to the offensive because their goal was to continue the civil war after WWII. Definitely not helpful to the Allies.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt intervened by dividing the China-Burma-India Theater of Operations into two sections: "Lt. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan took command of the India-Burma theater, and Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer arrived in China on 31 October 1944 to become the commanding general of the U.S. forces in the China theater and chief of staff to Chiang Kai-shek."

During a joint conference between China and the U.S., plans for the Chinese offensive began taking shape as troops were moved into position. "On 3 May a Chinese-American staff conference decided to counterattack a Japanese detachment near Wu-yang, seventy miles south-east of Chihchiang. The subsequent engagement by the 5th Division of the 94th Army on 5 and 6 May was completely successful. Over the next few days, the 5th and 121st Divisions, also of the 94th Army, repeatedly outflanked the Japanese and hustled them north."

From May 5 through September 2, 1945 the air offensive assaulted Japanese forces and culminated with the first atomic bomb detonation on August 6, 1945 on Hiroshima and the second on Nagasaki on August 9. "From the beginning of the enemy advance in early April until its end in June, the Japanese suffered 1,500 killed and 5,000 wounded. Chinese casualties were at least 6,800 killed and 11,200 wounded.

<https://history.army.mil/portals/143/Images/Publications/catalog/72-39.pdf>



Allied victory drive along Nanking Road in Shanghai. (U.S. Army Military History Institute)

EVERY DAY IS MEMORIAL DAY—AND EVERY DAY IS VETERANS DAY!!

Commander's Thoughts

Submitted by Dennis Hall, Commander Post 13

During the August 13, General Business Meeting, several important matters of business were voted on and approved. Our twelve year old kitchen ice machine needed to be replaced. Approval was given to replace the ice machine. The cost of the ice machine and installation was \$4,950.00. Bids from three vendors were received and Crocket's Refrigeration and Air was chosen. Second, the Post's updated By-Laws were read for the second time and voted on by the Post membership.

The updated By-Laws were approved and will be forwarded to Department for final approval. Third, ten new members were approved and added to the Post membership roll. Six were by applications and four were transfers. We are very happy to welcome these new members to Post 13.



Speaking of membership, thanks to each of you who have already renewed for 2027. The membership report for August 13, showed us at 49.38% of our goal. Our goal is to have our membership at 482 paid members by the end of June 2027. Our first goal of 50.00% is set for September 3. We are almost at 50% now! Let's keep the momentum going and renew our 2027 memberships as quickly as possible. The easiest way for you to renew your membership is to go to MyLegion.Org and renew online.

Thanks to all who have donated via a one-time gift or by a recurring gift to Support Our Post. If you would also like to contribute, you can go to the Post website www.floridalegionpost13.org and click donate to make a donation. Thank you for considering donating. Because of your gifts to Support Our Post, we had sufficient funding to replace the ice machine without a strain to our checking account.

During our September 24, Post Social, the Delegates who attended Boys State will join us as we recognize their achievements. Mr Jake Kiker, the Post 13 Boys State Program Director, will also be recognized for his leadership and commitment to our Post 13 Boys State Program. Please mark this date on your calendar to attend. The Social begins at 6:30 p.m.

Post Historian Steve Shaffer submitted an article to American Legion National Headquarters entitled, "A Century of Service" for competition at the National American Legion level. His entry received "First Place" in Public Relations and Media in posts having 250 – 749 members. This was his first article he wrote when he became the Post Historian in August 2025.



Post 13 Historian Steve Shaffer (R)
Received First Place Award for Public Relations
from Post 13 Commander Dennis Hall

Congratulations to Historian Steve Shaffer for the recognition of his outstanding article. The award was presented to him during the July 23, Post Social by Post 13 Commander Dennis Hall.

Thank you for the privilege to serve you as Commander and thank you for all you do for our veterans.

"For God and Country"

Sauls-Bridges Legion Hall 13

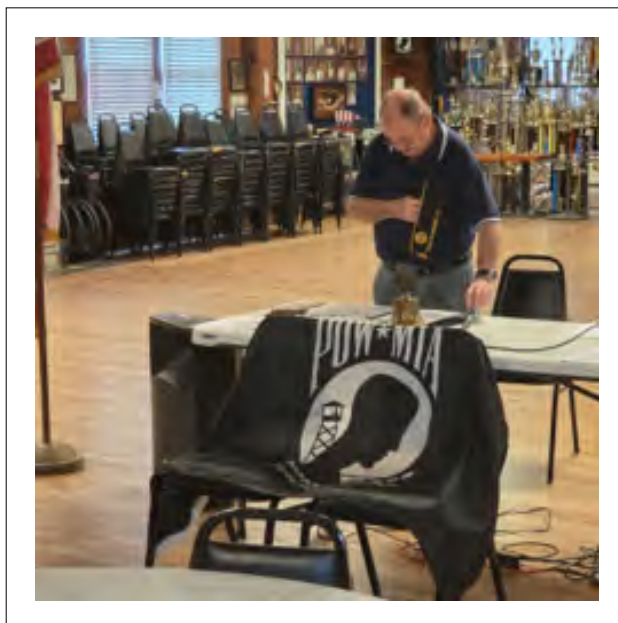
POW-MIA Display of Post 13

Submitted by Steven M. Shaffer, Post 13 Historian

During the August business meeting, Commander Dennis Hall presented to the attendees the POW-MIA flag to the assembly. First Vice Commander Ken Riley and Sergeant at Arms Debra Mann saluted as they completed the display.

From the State of Florida American website, we at Post 13 honor those who have not returned, as stated in the section on POW-MIA remembrance policy.

At every function, from a Post meeting to the National Convention, we salute our POW/MIA by placing a POW/MIA flag over an empty seat to honor their memory in hopes that they will return home.



Our local Post 13 follows these mandates during monthly dinners and business meetings. The public is reminded that we take the issue of POWs & MIAs very seriously as you're always made aware thanks to the display in the foyer of the main entrance that serves as a constant reminder that they are not forgotten. Here's the meaning of each of the items on display.

Symbolic Meaning of the Table for One

It is **set for one** symbolizing the fact that members of our armed forces are missing from our ranks. They are referred to as POWs and MIAs, our **Comrades** in arms.

This **table**, set for one, is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against an army of his suppressors.

The **single rose** in the vase reminds us of the family and friends of our missing brothers who keep the faith while awaiting their return.

Continued.....

POW/MIA Display continued...

The red ribbon on the vase represents the **red ribbons** worn on the lapels of the thousands who demand with unyielding determination a proper accounting of our brothers who are not among us tonight.

A **slice of lemon** on the plate reminds us of their bitter fate.

The **salt** sprinkled on the plate reminds us of the countless fallen tears of families as they wait.

The **glass** is inverted – they cannot toast with us this night.

The **chair** is empty – they are not here.

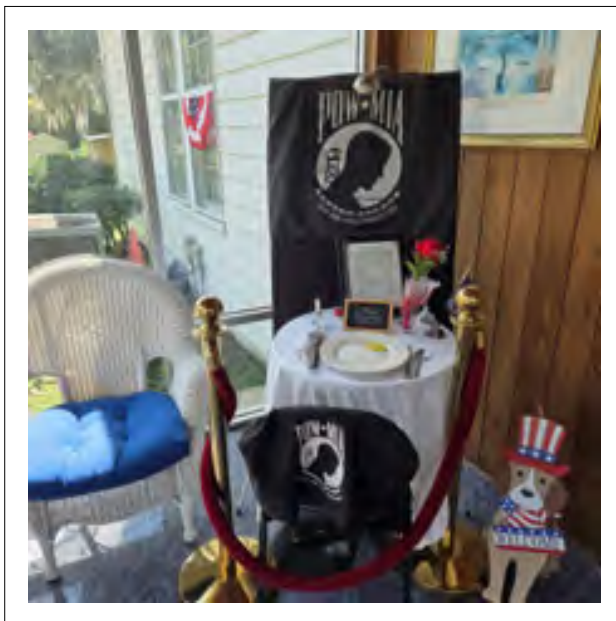
The **candle** is reminiscent of the light of hope, which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors, to the open arms of a grateful nation.

It's easy to think that a POW camp is a distant place long since past. I thought that way as I look back on my service overseas in Europe. I once visited Dachau, a Nazi prisoner camp during WWII. However, a little closer to home is Andersonville, or Camp Sumter. The park is approximately 12 miles north of Americus, Georgia.

The Confederate South held Union Soldiers there during the Civil War. Worth a trip to pause and reflect.

Resources

<https://www.nps.gov/ande/index.htm>



“And all at once, summer collapsed into fall.” ~ Oscar Wilde



"In the Spirit of Service - Not Self"

Auxiliary members are moving forward with Fall plans. Department Auxiliary President Linda Knoblach- Harkness will visit in October.

Theresa Briggs, Unit President



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Members,

Fall is almost here for those who dislike hot weather. I love the summer and don't necessarily want it to end. But God has a plan and that includes all four seasons, even though it's hard to tell between them sometimes in Tallahassee.

I recently attended a family member's college graduation and during the ceremony all military personnel both active and inactive were asked to stand. You would have been so amazed at the number of people in attendance that stood for their country! Tributes to those who served and are currently serving never gets old and I was blessed to have three immediate family members stand, while two more are now deceased. Truly blessed to be part of our military family.

Thanks to our Post 13 members! ~ Paula Wilkins



Sharon L. Courey, Chaplain American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 13



Almighty Father, as we approach Labor Day, may we take a moment to think about how and why this day originated. The reason is to recognize the economic achievements of workers in helping to build our nation's prosperity. It came to be during the industrial revolution in the late 19th century. Many Americans worked long hours and in unsafe conditions. Labor unions and activists advocated for a day to honor workers and so it was established. The first Labor Day Parade was in New York City on September 5, 1882. In 1894, it became a Federal holiday to pay tribute to the economic and significant efforts of the workers who added to the growth, freedom and leadership of our country. So, enjoy your weekend while remembering the reason we celebrate Labor Day.

Praying in the name of the Lord.
Amen

"Every leaf speaks bliss to me." ~ Emily Brontë

ACCORDING TO CHARLES LECROY

PART 4: ATTENDING SCHOOL

Prior to moving to the country in 1935, I was enrolled in first grade at Brundidge Elementary. I would walk from “Bad Alley” to the Dickert house and a group would walk to school. Many of the friends I made in first grade were also members of my graduating class in June of 1947.

Attending school for me was a long-time want but actually getting to school was something else. I dearly loved school and always looked forward to days I could attend. School was the social aspect to our lives amid the farm work.

While living in the country, school was often a hit and miss, because farm work was the priority or a “this or that” was needed. A typical evening for the family included talking about what we had done that day and setting a plan for the tomorrow. This was done when we were at the supper table. One thing I loved to hear, “tomorrow looks like Clyde, Ruby, Charles and Doug can go to school.” The downer was when I went to the kitchen for breakfast only to hear “the hogs are out” and that meant no school for me.



Hopefully, the other kids got to the bus. The school bus would stop only if you were at the mailbox, otherwise he would not stop even if you were running to the bus and he saw you. We figured the driver had so many stops and he must be at Shiloh School on time.

Daddy needed help to get the hogs back to the gully where they were kept. Hogs and pigs are very smart and will go [to] the location in the fence that was torn open by the big boar hog or from storm water. After the hogs were back in the gully, Daddy and I would most often do other work on the farm: there was always something to do. Sunday often was the only slack day I recall, but most any day had a bit of slack for rest. This time might be going to the fish basket in the creek about three hundred yards from the house.

I knew early on that farm work was the priority and I don't recall fussing or being mad when I could not attend school because of the respect for my parents. I understood the animals, crops and plants needed care. Mother taught us early on that flowers and all plants must receive care in order to make more blooms.

Daddy was patient and kind with me. He explained ways to prepare the soil, spacing of the seeds when planting and applying fertilizer. I experienced an education being at Daddy's side and I was truly happy much of the time. Having the ability to be agile, move fast and be responsive must have been a plus and made our work easier.

It seems generations of folks grew up with very little formal education as did my parents, yet they were blessed with morals, beliefs, common sense and work ethics. Both Mother and Daddy were talented and all their abilities are appreciated by us kids.

Maybe to show how proud I am of Mother, Daddy and Big Mama is to recognize that all of them had graduated from the school of hard knocks. They were farmer's children and were needed on the farm as we were. In fact, I recall Daddy telling me over and over about his classroom time. He best recalled two or three times he rode the bus to school, but did not recall why; however he did sit in a classroom those few times. Mother's story is much the same. Continued...

ACCORDING TO CHARLES LECROY

PART 4: ATTENDING SCHOOL CONTINUED

In spite of the limitations, our parents had just [to] look at the LeCroy off-spring. Roy obtained a Masters in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Tennessee, having attended the University of Tennessee Space Institute in Tullahoma, Tennessee. Wayne earned a Masters in Physical Education from Troy State College, Troy, Alabama. Doug had a Masters in Theology from Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas and Charles earned his undergraduate in Personnel Management from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Nebraska, when in Air Force Uniform. Ruby had a successful career working for the Federal Government at Fort Rucker, Alabama and Betty and husband R. J. Richardson reached great success in the Auto Transmission industry and the Merle Norman Skincare and Cosmetics Company.

I have always been so proud of my siblings, especially my sweet sisters Ruby and Betty. They were and are absolutely beautiful ladies.

Education was never more important to me than entering my senior year at Brundidge High School. My sheltered farm life, no reading at home, no materials and no electricity for many years had definitely put me at a disadvantage. However, that did not stop me. I had missed so much school due to farm work graduating was in question. I told Mother I needed to talk to the principal and she said she was uncomfortable visiting him because of her clothing. So I went alone to see our high school principal, Mr. L. L. Still, to learn the classes required in my last year to graduate. He allowed me to attend regular 12th grade classes but stipulated I must make good grades and he would observe my progress. I did it! What a journey my school years were! To graduate from college was one of my life goals and for many years I took 3 semester hours at a time, while holding a range of military titles. Goals were always at the core of my success. I really learned I needed more schooling and general knowledge, exposure and involvement of worldwide activities.



Betty Richardson and Ruby Marsh



Charles LeCroy
Senior in High School



Pike Co High School

SHE IS LEGEND

SEPT 12th
Saturday @ 7PM

\$10-\$15 MEMBERS/STUDENTS
\$20/GA

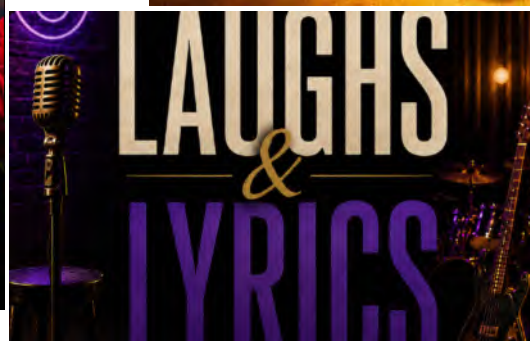
FEATURING
the MUSIC of LEGENDARY Ladies of SAI

Lambda B Provinces:
Tallahassee Alumni Chapter-18C
Valdosta State University Zeta Theta Chapter
Florida State University Beta Alpha Chapter
Florida A&M University Theta Nu Chapter

Purchase tickets via Cash App
STACSAI

2026 Sankofa

American Legion Hall 229 Lake Ella Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303



Charlie Brown Band/988 Suicide Prevention



BIG BEND LABOR CHAPTER

LABOR DAY PANEL



SUPPORTING FOOD NOT BOMBS TALLAHASSEE

09.07.2026 10:00-1:00

PANEL DISCUSSION • FOOD • SOLIDAIRTY

PANELISTS AND MORE
DETAILS TO COME. OPEN
TO UNION MEMBERS,
ALLIES & THE PUBLIC.
SCAN TO DONATE!

**SCAN
HERE!**



* AMERICAN LEGION 229 LAKE
ELLA DR TALLAHASSEE, FL

* [HTTPS://MOBILIZE.
US/S/Y08SME](https://mobilize.us/s/y08sme)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEP 2	VICTORY OVER JAPAN (V-J) DAY
SEP 7	LABOR DAY
SEP 11	PATRIOT DAY
SEP 17	NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY
SEP 18	AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY
SEP 18	AIR NATIONAL GUARD BIRTHDAY
SEP 22	FIRST DAY OF FALL
SEP 24	POST 13 SOCIAL 6:00 PM PROGRAM 6:30 PM
SEP 26	GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY
SEP 29	VFW DAY

MOAA COLA WATCH

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for July was 3.1% higher than the yearly baseline, according to figures released Aug. 12. That's the same percentage as June, and it's down half a percentage point from May's 3.6% – the biggest figure of the fiscal year.

Longer-term predictions by the Congressional Budget Office released in February as part of a wide-ranging economic outlook point to smaller increases in the coming years, with COLA averaging 2.3% from 2029 to 2036.

WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
30 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	31 6:00 - 7:00 pm SWING LESSON 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	1 SEPTEMBER 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	2 10:00 am Commander's Coalition 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS	3 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 6:00 - 10:00 pm Women Vets Unite Dinner	4 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	5 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	
6 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	7 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Labor Day Panel Big Bend Labor Chapter 6:00 - 7:00 pm SWING LESSON 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY	8 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	9 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	10 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 5:30 pm E Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm General Meeting	11 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	12 Doors 7:00 pm Show 7:30 pm She is Legend Concert \$20 Members \$15 Students Food Available	
13 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	14 6:00 - 7:00 pm SWING LESSON 7:00 - 9:00 pm Benefit for Human Trafficking \$10 ALL AGES	15 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	16 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	17 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	18 Doors 7:00 pm Show 8:00 pm 988 Suicide Prevention Charlie Brown Band Cover \$10 Open to Public	19 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	
20 4:00 - 8:00 pm GAMES NIGHT OPEN TO PUBLIC FREE	21 6:00 - 7:00 pm SWING LESSON 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	22 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND	23 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	24 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 6:30 pm POST SOCIAL	25 7:00 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Highway 59 Band Cover \$10 Open to Public	26 Doors 6:30 pm 7:00 - 10:00 pm Laughs & Lyrics Tickets simpletix.com	
27 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	28 6:00 - 7:00 pm SWING LESSON 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	29 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND	30 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	1 OCTOBER 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	2 7:00 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Crooked Shooz Band Cover \$10 Open to Public	3 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	

Post News

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**For God
and Country**

SEPTEMBER 2026

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EVENTS BOOKING:
(850) 284-6967



Deadline for the OCTOBER 2026

Newsletter will be

SEPTEMBER 17th at 5:00pm

Newsletter items can be submitted three ways: (1) Place in the Newsletter Box in the Post 13 office (2) Mail to the return address above, or (3) Submit (with a subject line) to the Post's Newsletter Email Address: **(Please Note this is a NEW email address and should be used for NEWSLETTER communication only.)**

AML13NEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM

All Articles published require the Commander's approval.

PLEASE NOTE:

Post General Membership Business Meetings are held on the 2ND Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.

POST SOCIALS are held on the 4TH Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. [Except for Nov. & Dec.]

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE AN ITEM FOR THE NEWSLETTER
PLEASE EMAIL AMLNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM**