



Sauls-Bridges American Legion

Post 13 News



Volume 74, Issue 3



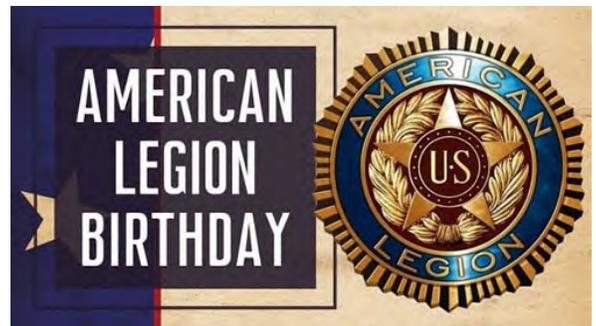
March 2024

American Legion Birthday

One of our most important dates is the creation of the American Legion on March 15, 1919. Today, it celebrates 105 years of service for our veterans and their families. The organization was previously known as the American Expeditionary Force and held its first meeting in Paris, France. The American Legion is considered a Veteran Service Organization, or VSO. The official Legion website states that it is “the nation’s largest’ wartime veterans service organization.”

The very first convention was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1919. During the convention, “the Legion chose to place its headquarters in middle-America (Indianapolis, Indiana) instead of Washington, D.C.”

In 1921, the Legion participated in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, which was the precursor for the modern day Veterans Administration.



“Today the American Legion has a membership of approximately two million people, with more than 13,000 Legion posts all over the world.” The American Legion Auxiliary boasts over one million members.

Being a non-profit, non-partisan organization, its mission remains to fundraise and advocate for veterans and their families, especially by providing lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C. It is strictly run by volunteers, and only volunteers, so overhead is very low compared to other veteran organizations.

The American Legion constitution and by-laws are built on the following premises:

- ☆ To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.
- ☆ To maintain law and order.
- ☆ To foster and perpetuate 100% Americanism.
- ☆ To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars.
- ☆ To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.
- ☆ To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses.
- ☆ To make right the master of might.
- ☆ To promote peace and goodwill on earth.
- ☆ To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy.
- ☆ To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Contributions by: *Joe Wallace is a 13-year veteran of the United States Air Force and a former reporter for Air Force Television News*

<https://veteran.com/american-legion-birthday/>

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

Appreciation Award



Ed Hood presenting a token of appreciation to Commander Walker.



Sonny Decker, Western Area Commander

FINGER AND TOE WRINKLES

Ever felt “prune” when your fingers and toes have been in the water for awhile?

According to a study conducted by Manchester Metropolitan University in 2021: “This wrinkling is caused by constriction of the blood vessels (which is also why fingers and toes turn pale at the same time). The leading theory as to *why* this happens is that our hands evolved to wrinkle in wet environments to improve grip, whether we’re running in a rainstorm or grasping a potential meal in a freshwater stream.”

https://www.interestingfacts.com/fact/6386e05eff7b5e0008473e33?liu=ea3b14849e460020bd65fc834def2b27&utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2039795558#6386deef94792300081d1967

“All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware.” ~ Martin Buber

POST NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS 2024

Nominations start on March 14, 2024

Nominations end on April 11, 2024

Voting on May 9, 2024



Those three dates coincide with our monthly meeting. Nominations will be closed on April 11. No nominations will be accepted at the May meeting.

Our swearing in ceremony has to follow the state convention in June; we have our social on June 27 and that will be the date for the American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary to swear in their officers. The elected American Legion offices are: Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, 3rd Vice Commander, Finance Officer, Historian, Sergeant at Arms, and Chaplain.

As a matter of note the Adjutant is appointed by the Commander and approved by the Executive Board.

Nominees have to be members in good standing and be willing to serve. A member can only hold one elected position at a time. However you may run for more than one position. To nominate someone, write their name on a piece of paper and hand it in to John Folsom, Chaplain anytime from March 14 to April 11, 2024.

Show up to vote on May 9, 2024. To vote you have to be a member in good standing.

Yours in Service,

John Folsom

Florida Veterans Hall of Fame

Chaplain/2nd District

American Legion

Department of Florida

Chaplain VFW Post 3308



The American Legion Family

MAJOR JOHN L. HAYNES (RET.)

FEBRUARY 6, 1930—NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Post 13 would like to call attention to the passing of a true hero in Monticello, Florida. Major Haynes had a 30-year military career in the U.S. Marine Corps, followed by close to 50 years of volunteer service for veterans and their families. He was inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame in 2013, received the Governor's Medal of Merit in 2017, was selected by Governor Scott to represent him in Washington DC for the signing of the "VA Mission Act of 2018", and he received the DAR Medal of Honor March of 2022. The Jefferson County Commission received permission to rename a section of State Highway 59 after Major Haynes. For more information visit:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/tallahassee-fl/john-haynes-11539771>



"Aim above morality. Be not simply good; be good for something." ~ Hendry David Thoreau

“Cane Gang”



Every Wednesday between 9:30 and 10:00 am at Denny's on North Monroe, our group meets to have breakfast for veterans—you pay your own bill and we have anywhere from about 8 to 15 people attend. We're called the “Cane Gang.” Come join us for good food and camaraderie!



Commander Vic Hanna with Former Commander and current District Chaplain John Folsom at the Post's bank taking care of business!

“Muddy water is best cleared by leaving it alone.” ~ Alan Watts

True Stories

Submitted by Dave Lang

STORY NUMBER ONE

Many years ago, Al Capone virtually owned Chicago. Capone wasn't famous for anything heroic. He was notorious for enmeshing the Windy City in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder.

Capone had a lawyer nicknamed "Easy Eddie." He was Capone's lawyer for a good reason. Eddie was very good! In fact, Eddie's skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time.

To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big, but Eddie got special dividends, as well. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago City block.

Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him.

Eddie did have one soft spot, however. He had a son that he loved dearly. Eddie saw to it that his young son had clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object.

And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Eddie wanted his son to be a better man than he was.

Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things he couldn't give his son; he could not pass on a good name or a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Easy Eddie wanted to rectify wrongs he had done.

He decided he would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Al "Scarface" Capone, clean up his tarnished name, and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he would have to testify against The Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. So, he testified.

Within the year, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago Street. But in his eyes, he had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he could ever pay. Police removed from his pockets a rosary, a crucifix, a religious medallion, and a clipping from a magazine. It read:

"The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own. Live, love, toil with a will. Place no faith in time. For the clock may soon be still."



True Stories Continued

Submitted by Dave Lang

STORY NUMBER TWO

World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander Butch O'Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier Lexington in the South Pacific.

One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank. He would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship. His flight leader told him to return to the carrier. Reluctantly, he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet. As he was returning to the mother ship, he saw something that turned his blood cold; a squadron of Japanese aircraft was speeding its way toward the American fleet.

The American fighters were gone on a sortie, and the fleet was all but defenseless. He couldn't reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet. Nor could he warn the fleet of the approaching danger. There was only one thing to do. He must somehow divert them from the fleet. Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes. Wing-mounted 50 caliber's blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised enemy plane and then another. Butch wove in and out of the now broken formation and fired at as many planes as possible until all his ammunition was finally spent.

Undaunted, he continued the assault. He dove at the planes, trying to clip a wing or tail in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible, rendering them unfit to fly.

Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction. Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier.

Upon arrival, he reported in and related the event surrounding his return. The film from the gun-camera mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of Butch's daring attempt to protect his fleet. He had, in fact, destroyed five enemy aircraft.

This took place on February 20, 1942, and for that action Butch became the Navy's first Ace of WWII, and the first Naval Aviator to win the Medal of Honor. A year later Butch was killed in aerial combat at the age of 29. His home town would not allow the memory of this WW II hero to fade, and today, O'Hare Airport in Chicago is named in tribute to the courage of this great man.

So, the next time you find yourself at O'Hare International, give some thought to visiting Butch's memorial displaying his statue and his Medal of Honor. It's located between Terminals 1 and 2.

SO WHAT DO THESE TWO STORIES HAVE TO DO WITH EACH OTHER?

Butch O'Hare was "Easy Eddie's" son.

AIR FORCE READINESS

“At the start of FY 2024, the Air Force tanker inventory totaled 575 aircraft. Of that number, 483 air refuelers—including 362 elderly Stratotankers—belong to Air Mobility Command (AMC). AMC claims some of its KC-135s based in Scotia N.Y. can remain operational past 2040 thanks to a series of service life extensions. The KC-10A Extender entered service in 1981, and the last of them is scheduled to retire this year.”

Contributions by: Lt. Col. Patrick Chaisson, USA (Ret) is a writer and historian based in Scotia, N.Y. Military Officer (MOAA) Magazine, Article Title: Extending Their Reach, February 2024 issue, Page 59.



You'll remember from past newsletters that the Sacred Heart Home Educators home school group is led by Sharon Corey's daughter Christie Stavres. This group provides Valentines every year for our veterans.

“Whatever you are, try to be a good one.” ~ William Makepeace Thackeray

Post 13 Chili Cook-off



**Congratulations
Chuck Powell for
breaking the three
way tie for 1st
place!**



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Members:

Happy Saint Paddy’s Day! Celebrate responsibly if you venture out. We had a three way tie for 1st Place in the Chili Cook Off at the January Post Social. A name was drawn and Chuck Powell won the honors.

As you can see from our calendar, it is full of events. Please come join us for as many as you can attend. Plenty of dancing, socializing and opportunities for volunteering. Don’t forget the St. Patrick’s Day Dance on Tuesday, March 12th with the Tallahassee Swing Band providing the music.

Also, I want to thank the members who sent in items for the newsletter. It’s appreciated!

Post 13 thanks you for your support. ~ Paula Wilkins

“Words empowered by justice can never be silenced.” — Isabel Ibañez

Robert Wise Chili Cook-off



Time and Date:

Saturday, March 9, 2024
12:30 - 4:30 pm EST

Where:

Henry W. McMillan
National Guard Armory
1225 Easterwood Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Enter & Win

Judge's Table Prizes

1st Place Trophy & \$150
2nd Place Trophy & \$100
3rd Place Ribbon & \$50

Admission:

\$ 12.00 in advance or
\$ 15.00 the day of

Each ticket includes:

- Entry fee
- Two beverages (beer, water or soda)
- Chili tasting from EVERY booth

KIDS (12 & under) are FREE

**CHILI
COOK OFF**

Annual

ROBERT A. WISE

Best Military Branch Chili
1st Place Trophy
Best Booth
1st Place Trophy

People's Choice
1st Place Trophy
2nd & 3rd Place Ribbon

Tickets purchased online through
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/12th-annual-robert-wise-chili-cook-off-tickets-798986519187>

This event is in remembrance of SGT Robert Allen Wise, whom was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on November 12, 2003. Proceeds go to Honor Flight Tallahassee and the VFW Post 4538 of Wakulla, FL.

**VETERANS HELPING
VETERANS
GOLF TOURNAMENT
Open to the public!**

MONDAY APRIL 22, 2024

**GOLDEN EAGLE GOLF AND
COUNTRY CLUB**

For Questions Contact:
Gordon Lightfoot at
(850) 312-6924
Dutchlight@embarqmail.com

Tournament Itinerary

0800 Registration and check-in
Coffee and Donuts available at check-in
Tec-off at 0900 hours (9 A.M.)
Mulligans can be purchased during
registration. 3 Mulligans for \$20.00.
Limit one purchase per player.

Tournament begins with
shotgun start.

Lunch Buffet Begins as teams return.

"POW/MIA" Ceremony with the decorated
Table and its symbolism
is acknowledged.



**Ring-of-Fire Challenge
Hole 7**

Place your first only drive within 5ft. of the Pin.
Ticket Price - \$5.00 - Limit One Ticket/Player
Prize - \$50.00
No Mulligan tickets may be used at this hole.

**Tow-the-Line Challenge
Hole 9**

Objective: Reward Straight Drive
Place your drive within 5 feet of one of the
multiple targets placed in the fairway.
Ticket Price - \$10.00 - Limit One Ticket
Prize - \$50.00
Sponsor: AMVETS Post 1776

Hole-in-One Challenge

Hole 12
Hole in One with 1st Shot
No Mulligan Tickets may be used at this hole.
Ticket Price - \$15.00
Prize - \$500.00



Levels of Sponsorship:

Gold Sponsor: \$1,000.00

Your company name will be on a sign placed on a Tee. You will be allowed four complimentary golfers and two additional invitations to awards lunch buffet, and be recognized with a commemorative award.

Silver Sponsor: \$500.00

Your Company Name on a sign on a tee. Allowed two complimentary golfers

Remember a Veteran: \$100.00

Your Veteran sign will be on a tee with name, picture, service date, etc.

Note: In order to have all signs ready at Tournament payment will be due by March 31st, 2024

Awards Ceremony

Gross and Net Flight winning teams will be awarded trophies. Longest drive and Closest to the Pin awarded at Lunch.

Door Prize Raffle

Buy raffle tickets during tournament to win valuable prizes and gift certificates from area businesses.

"The difficult is what takes a little time; the impossible is what takes a little longer.." ~ Fridtjof Nansen

Music at the Post

The Rockitz, a local dance and show band, performed at the Legion Saturday night, January 27th. When we have music, it's worth attending! Come join us and see for yourself!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March	3	Navy Reserve Birthday
March	4	Hug a GI Day
March	5	Seabees Birthday
March	10	Begin Daylight Savings Time
March	13	K-9 Veterans Day
March	21	Rosie the Riveter Day
March	25	Medal of Honor Day
March	28	Post 13 Social 6:00 pm Program 6:30 pm
March	29	National Vietnam War Veterans Day

St. PATRICK'S DAY DANCE Tallahassee Swing Band



Tuesday, March 12th
Come join us!

"WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES"



MARCH 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	27 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	27 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	28 6:30 - 9:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS	29 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	1 MARCH 8:00 - 11:00 pm BBC Presents Frank Bang Open to Public Cover	2 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
3  NAVY RESERVE BIRTHDAY HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	4  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	5  SEABEES BIRTHDAY 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND Open to Public	6 6:30 - 9:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS	7 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	8 8:00 - 11:00 pm BBC Presents Albert Castiglia Open to Public Cover	9 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
10 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 	11 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	12 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND ST. PATRICK'S DAY DANCE 	13 6:30 - 9:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS K-9 VETERANS DAY 	14 3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 5:30 pm Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm General Meeting	15  AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY 8:00 - 11:00 pm BBC Presents Chris O'Leary Open to Public	16 7:00 pm New State Theater Fundraiser Open to Public
17 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 	18 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	19 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	20 10:00 am - 2:00 pm 3rd Annual ALA Spring Luncheon 6:30 - 9:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS	21  3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Marine Corps League 5:00 - 10:00 pm Women Veterans Unite	22 8:00 - 11:00 pm Crooked Shooz Band Open to Public Cover	23 9:00 pm Latin Dance Fiesta Cover Open to Public
24 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 31	25  MEDAL OF HONOR DAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	26 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	27 6:30 - 9:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS	28 3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 6:30 pm POST SOCIAL 	29 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY 	30 6:00 pm Lili Forbes Band Cover Open to Public

To Book your Event at the Post, please call 850-284-6967. We do not maintain regular office hours. All services performed here are volunteer hours. Generally, the office is open from Noon until late afternoon. If you must leave a message, please make certain to leave your area code as part of your telephone number.

Post News

Located at:
229 Lake Ella Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Mailing Address:
American Legion,
Sauls-Bridges Post #13
PO Box 38028
Tallahassee, FL 32315-8028

Phone: 850-222-3382
Web: FloridaLegionPost13.org
Email: amleqp13@gmail.com

**For God
and Country**

MARCH 2024

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage PAID

Tallahassee, Florida

Permit No. 21

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Paula Wilkins

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aml13newsletter@gmail.com

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"American Legion Sauls-Bridges"

EVENTS BOOKING:

(850) 284-6967



Deadline for the APRIL 2024

**Newsletter will be
MARCH 10th 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.

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