



Sauls-Bridges American Legion Post 13 News



Volume 76, Issue 1



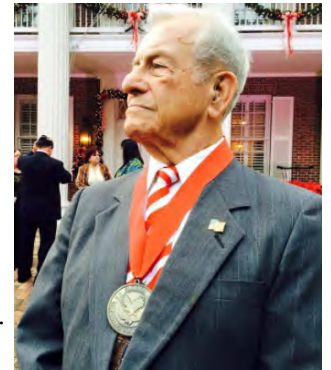
January 2026

According to Charles LeCroy...

During a previous Post Social, I was blessed to receive the Life of Charles LeCroy as a published documentary. It's a collection of the life and times of Past Commander Charles LeCroy, and with his permission, I will be presenting these stories for everyone to enjoy. I'll start at the beginning with this month's newsletter. The following is according to Charlie LeCroy....

PART ONE: HOW IT ALL BEGAN

This is my story about the J.D. and Nellie Steed LeCroy family that moved to the Richland Community, Pike County, in 1935 when J.D. and many others lost their jobs at the C.L. Dickert Lumbar Company, in Bainbridge, Alabama. The national economic conditions forced the lumber company to lay-off workers.



In 1932, much of the USA knew that WWII was heating up rapidly and the economy could put a choke hold on everyone. Conversations through out all means of communication dealt with these issues. I can imagine the facial expressions of the general public. Life as it had been was about to change.

Before moving to the country I must have been mature for my age, I was around adults most of the time and I do remember much of what I heard. Talk was about stores did not have full shelves stocked, merchants were not able to buy needed items and the depression was feared by many. Folks were trying to figure out the best way to survive the hard times and farming seemed to be the way for my family to prosper.

We left our house in Bad Alley and moved to the country, behind the big gully. My parents brought with them nothing except their good name, a few items of furniture and the understanding that family love would support them. My grandmother, 'Big Mama', and her brother Uncle Bud Thrash, had confidence in their ability to succeed.

My parents no doubt were the best Mother and Daddy in the day and years we spent on the farm. On the plus side both were reared, living and growing up on a farm in Pike County, Alabama. Neither of my parents had more than a fourth grade formal schooling. History and family tells me my grandparents were honest hard workers who were known to always have a good name. How well do we know a good name is earned and cannot be bought. Throughout my life, our family was known as trusted, hard-working and reliable.



What is a sharecropper? A typical definition is a business where the landowner provides a mule and all tools and equipment necessary to plant and grow crops for the market on forty acres. In this case, crops were cotton, corn, and peanuts. I personally feel our large family was treated fairly. We had two mules and approximately sixty acres on which to yield crops and earn our share of the profit to support our family. Sharecroppers were usually provided a house.

How did this all come together? Big Mama, my Grandmother, my Mother's Mother, knew we would need help. Her influence resulted in Daddy making a sharecropping arrangement with her brother, Hillary Baker 'Bud' Thrash. Uncle Bud was a natural achiever, landowner and thankfully came to our rescue. Mother's brothers, John and Edward 'Pid' Steed and their families resided in Brundidge, AL. They collected items of benefit for our family and others, clothing and food among them.

Continued....

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

ACCORDING TO CHARLES LECROY HOW IT ALL BEGAN CONTINUED....



Big Mama

John and Pid had automobiles. Two or three nights a week, cars from town would arrive at our house bringing food items, clothing, etc., that Big Mama had secured for us. I would sometimes recognize Pid and his wife Edna and John and his wife Jewell among the visitors. Big Mama would often be with them.

As for the abundant amount of peanut butter we received, our family was a sampler. Government regulations required taste testing for flavor. The peanut butter came in large glass jars.

Most houses were generally built two to three feet high off the ground. They featured high ceilings, large doors and windows that all assisted with ventilation. A tin roof was the economical choice; however, tin was sure to leak over time. Wind and heat would cause movement, the tin and nails and tacks would loosen, rust would occur and rain found its way into the house. Floors were not the primary concern, furniture and bedding were protected the best we could. Old syrup buckets were kept for the next rain and each of us knew where the leaks were. During a down pour, buckets needed to be emptied constantly day and night.

A few of the homes of this era had an outside kitchen that was not attached to the main house. This was the case of the house we moved into. This was done for safety, in the event of a kitchen fire it could be extinguished before spreading to the main house.

Mother never once cooked in the outside kitchen; rather her wood stove was in our kitchen. Another feature of many houses of that time was a car shed built away from the main house. Again it was a safety feature in case of a possible house fire.

We moved into a large crude cut lumber house with ten foot high ceilings and a tin roof. There were two large bedrooms separated by a wide hallway, with the kitchen to the back of the house. The windows were approximately three foot wide and at least six foot tall with no glass or screen; however, there were wooden shutters that opened to the outside. The windows were never covered with glass or screen the entire time we lived there till the early 1940s. Floors were planed smooth boards with cracks in every room in the house. They were kept clean with a handmade shuck-filled scrubber that was dipped in hot water with homemade pot-ash soap. This chore was done as needed.

Sweeping the floors was no big chore. The brooms were typical broom straw much like those sold in stores today. Remember all floors had wide cracks allowing dirt to fall below the house.

Smoke buckets were our source of dealing with certain pests. By definition, old syrup cans were filled with pieces of scrap or discarded clothing. A match would set the cloth to burn and create smoke to repel the flies, gnats and mosquitoes. We had eight or nine pots that were used as needed. The cool breeze was welcome in the summer months and the bugs, gnats and flies were kept at bay thanks to the breeze and smoke.

We survived the winter season with the heat from the wood cook stove and one large fireplace located in Mother and Daddy's bedroom on the east end of the house. The room had their bed, Ruby's bed, a baby bed and an old dresser. After Betty was out of the baby bed, she and Ruby shared a bed. Betty Joyce was born December 13, 1935. the sixth child, Roy Clifford was born September 2, 1938. The boys, Clyde, Charles and Doug, shared a bed in the large bedroom across the hall opposite their parents. Fortunately, this room had a second bed. The fireplace in this room was never used.

Above the boys' bed were three large flathead nails for each boy. Since there was no closet or chest of drawers, these nails held overalls and union underwear. The first set of nails belonged to Clyde, second set was Charles' and the third for Doug.

The front porch covered the width of the house and was where we enjoyed our swing.

To be continued....(February issue)



Bud Thrash



Pid Steed

Commander's Thoughts

Submitted by Commander Post 13, Dennis Hall

I want to report to you of two events that happened too late in November to give a report in the previous newsletter. On November 22, Post 13 held a Flag Retirement/Disposal Ceremony for the first time in almost two years. It was conducted at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum. Approximately 30 spectators were present as the ceremony was performed. Our thanks to the Big Bend Honor Guard who assisted as being the ceremony's flag detail. We really needed them to assist us and they did a great job! Thank you, BBHG! Many of the spectators told me they had never been to this type of ceremony and were very impressed in the way the flags were retired and ultimately disposed of honorably. Several hundred flags were disposed at the end of the ceremony. We even had the spectators, who wanted to help, assist in the flag disposal. NPR provided a small segment of our event on WFSU Radio during their local events segment.

Thanksgiving at the Post was another very successful event. Over 450 people were provided, free of charge, a traditional Thanksgiving meal that they may not have had. The menu was smoked turkey (66 turkeys), stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, string bean casserole, sweet potatoes, cranberry salad, rolls, and pies for dessert (apple, sweet potato, pumpkin, and pecan). Premier Home Builders was the chief corporation who spearheaded the lunch. Several other businesses provided food items, or other resources. We have had the Community Thanksgiving Lunch at the Post for several years. Many who came expressed their gratitude for having a place to come and have a wonderful meal on Thanksgiving. WCTV and WTXL covered the lunch during their local news events that evening and the next day.

Coming up in January:

Saturday, January 3, at 2:00 pm we will be taking down the holiday decorations at the Post. We had over 20 people come and help decorate the Post a few weeks ago. We need as many as can come on January 3, to help take the decorations down.

Sunday, January 4, at 2:00 pm at the Post. An American Legion Oratorical contest will provide a great opportunity for several high school students to hone up their speech delivery skills and compete for the Post 13 winner. The Post 13 winner will advance to the District 2 competition. The winner of the District 2 competition continues to compete in the area competition. As long as the student wins each competition, they continue to advance. Each student will prepare a seven to ten minute prepared speech on a part of the U. S. Constitution. Then, they deliver a three to five minute impromptu speech on one of four topics of the Constitution, they will not know which one until the time of the competition. We have contestants, at this time, from Chiles High School, Rickards High School, Leon High School and Florida High. Come out and support these outstanding students and the work they are putting in to compete.

Saturday, January 10, doors open at 7:00 pm. A Fundraiser to help finance our American Legion Post 13 Baseball Team will take place at the Post. A very good Neil Diamond Impersonator will be in concert to pay tribute to the many decades of music that Neil Diamond has recorded. Many of your favorite songs will bring back wonderful memories. A donation of \$20.00 at the door will go a long way to benefit our Post 13 Baseball Team. Last year, the team came in second in the state and we are hoping to be state champions this year.

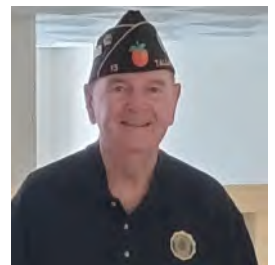
Thursday, January 22, our Post Social will host the Past Commander Ray Stallings Chili Cook-off. Please bring chili to feed your family and others as well. We will have plenty of chili toppings, hot dogs, and chips to make it a fun and festive night. Legionnaire Doug Marsh has agreed to be the lead for the cook-off. We will have a prize for the best chili. Be sure to dust off your family chili recipe and enter the competition.

Saturday, January 24, Flag Retirement/Disposal Ceremony at 1:00 pm. It will be at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum. Come out and help support this patriotic and moving event. There are several events taking place in January, please come out and support your Post.

Happy New Year! May you have a healthy and prosperous 2026!

Best regards,

Dennis Hall,
Commander, Post 13
For God and Country!



Thomas J. Henning
Submitted by Gina Mikesell

A Celebration of Life will be held at the American Legion on January 24, 2026 for Thomas J. Henning, known to many as Tom, 75, of Tallahassee, who passed away on November 30, 2025. Tom grew up in the Tallahassee area graduating from Rickards High School. From 1968 –1975 Tom served his country in the Vietnam War rising to the rank of Sargeant in the United States Air Force. He became a familiar face in the Tallahassee community as the owner of Vehicle Works. Tom was a great guitarist as a member of Charles Atkins and the Blues Boys, Low Pressure, and Skyhouse. The celebration will be hosted by Tom’s best friends and bandmates Michael Brawer and Dr. Michael Douso, as well as his sister Andrea Henning Revell. The event will start at 7:00 pm and will feature friends, some snacks, and good music. Open to the Public. (For more information about Tom, please visit the following website for his complete obituary: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/thewakullasun/name/thomas-henning-obituary?id=60264060>.)



THE NEIL DIAMOND IMAGE

For one night only, Saturday January 10th 2026, the American Legion Sauls-Bridges Post 13, in Tallahassee, Florida will present “A Neil Diamond Tribute” at 7:00 pm. “A Neil Diamond Tribute” stars Diamond look and sound alike Keith Allynn.

Experience the feel of Neil as Allynn unveils the story of Diamond’s life through Neil’s own songs from the ‘60s through today, while weaving through his own comedic career change from an international top 10 Elvis, to Neil Diamond, all for the love of a woman.

Allynn began his career in stand-up comedy at the age of 14 opening for such greats as Chris Rock, Tim Allen and Robin Williams. At 21, he discovered his musical talents while performing “All Shook Up” at a karaoke night. The girls went wild, and Allynn was hooked. For several years he continued to perform as an Elvis tribute artist and was voted a top 10 Elvis by Graceland in 2004.

Later, trying to impress a girl who was a huge Neil Diamond fan, he called her on the phone and in his best Neil voice sang “Hello Again” from the Jazz Singer. It became their song, 2004she became his wife, and he became The Diamond Image. Come see the story unfold live along with the story of Neil Diamond’s struggles and triumphs, enjoying hits like “Sweet Caroline,” “Song Sung Blue,” “Hello Again,” “Brother Love,” “America” and many more.

If you love romance, magical surprises, comedy and Neil Diamond music, you will love *A Neil Diamond Tribute*. For tickets and information, contact Gina at (850) 284-6967.



“What you resist not only persists, but will grow in size.” ~ Carl Jung

Sauls-Bridges Legion Hall In the News Thanksgiving 2025 *Submitted by Steve Shaffer, Post 13 Historian*

Community meals were all over town, from churches to community centers. Most notably, Sauls-Bridges Legion Hall once again hosted a community Thanksgiving meal for the public sponsored by Premier Homes.

WCTV featured these meals in their broadcasts and here's a few photos of the event.



“We all have ability. The difference is how we use it.” ~ Stevie Wonder

America By Right

by Bob Costello, USAF Vietnam Era Veteran, American Legion member, Toastmaster, Writer

Rebellion against tyranny of monarchical rule; America's revolution was the effect created in favor of liberty, equity and human dignity as extensively formed for its lasting governance – *for all time*. From the year 1787 (went into effect in 1789, replacing the *Articles of Confederation*) was the essence of freedom from oppression and monarchy dominance.



Our forefathers risked everything (their very lives, fortunes, farms and their sacred honor) which they learned through torrid experiences of battle. We stand now in its rejoicing without trembling or fear. Our forefathers took a fiery stance of resistance against a grueling dominant monarchy in power then. The revolutionary mindset was predicated upon the great danger of oppression. During these early stages, prior to the commencement of the revolution, the sense and sensibilities of our founders were put to the test.

The oppression experienced by the colonies provoked resistance in their fledgling democratic views with all the turmoil brewing. Unknown was the solidity of the principles of a democratic union being built upon faith. The founders lacked the firm principles of a democratic union being built. The founders lacked the substantial principles of our new political architecture as untested. The founders searched for solidarity. In the fledgling formation of our government's structure – one that all states could agree upon – in its writings.

John Adams stressed the perils of unbridled, unbalanced democracy conjoined with what he called ***“useful reflections”*** that dealt with the human element by its nature. The natural order of man was to resist those seeking only power and control. The natural ***“passion for distinction”*** in all men and women – whether they be old or young, rich or poor, high or low, wise or foolish, ignorant or learned. Every individual is to be seen, heard, respected in approving this form of governance – even those early days of colonization.

Power of the few is not to be overlooked. The passions of man are fundamental and true. The founders respected many thoughts offered even though the channels of communications were poor. The *town crier* was a fundamental source of messages, mail or immediate urgent communications as was Paul Revere. However, as revolutionaries, they were targeted as enemies of the Crown.

No creation of governance is without difficulty, complaint, fear and excruciating headaches. The leaders seemingly knew best when in congress. The plethora of debates over articles of governance tended to argue for the separation of states rather than its union. The formation of the American government was a formidable task requiring secrecy and confidentiality.

Our governance was the combination of a democracy with republican influences for the common man and the general welfare; public good rather than governance of the powerful few. Congress worked in a fever pitch in its formation for its long-lasting influence without consequence. The Constitution had a built-in formation; that was inclusive of allowable changes or modifications as time or issues may arise to accommodate our newly created constitutional republic.

Unfortunately, the ideals of the founders and other influencers (Anti-Federalists) differed as to the best form of our government as they, our founders argued. Opinions were vast and conflicting in those days, as they are even today. Americans respectfully honor the implications of impurity of one another's ambitions or beliefs - either private or as a public variant. Although *Constitutional* hope prevailed, the amendments opened the door for change or introspection, if and when the public good was proven; resulting in the First Continental Congress Declaration.

Continued...

“In three words I can sum up everything I've learned in life: It goes on.” ~ Robert Frost



"In the Spirit of Service - Not Self"

THE OLD HAS PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD THE NEW HAS COME.

Happy New Year Members!

Many of us might be making New Year's Resolutions. Let us continue to have a strong determination to Pray daily and display Kindness to everyone. That which we did not complete in 2025, let us complete it in 2026. Time is still "jetting" by me.



We began December with a trip to the Florida State Hospital in Chattahoochee to share a holiday luncheon with the Veterans there. They enjoyed the food, but they truly enjoyed the corn casserole and the macaroni and cheese! They were surprised and very happy when they were given goodie bags and game books.

The Post 13 Legion Family Dinner was wonderful and provided a great opportunity for fellowship and meeting new family members and friends. Santa Claus, music, games, and door prizes added to the fun, and of course the food and drinks were yummy!

Our first project in January will be to recommit ourselves to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary, recruit a new member, attend meetings, and volunteer when needed. Also, bring new ideas and projects for the Auxiliary to implement.

Mark your calendars: Executive Committee meeting on January 8th at 5:30 pm in the Hooch; General Membership Meeting on January 8th in Hooch at 6:00pm. Post Social Chili Cook-Off on January 22nd at 6:30 pm in the Legion Hall; Praying daily on January 1st—31st anytime and anywhere.

Prayers and God's Will,
Muriel Alexander Kweyama, President
 ALA Sauls-Bridges Unit 13, Inc.

America By Right continued...

James Madison, in his address to the House assembly, expressed *"The more simple (its principled ideology), the more republican we are in our manners, the more national dignity we shall acquire"*.

In this vanguard movement of our Constitutional endeavor, many an opinion was loudly heard. Whether it is *"we the people" or its sundry representatives of diplomatic agents acting on our behalf, the Constitution commands our attention and faith"*.

The new Constitution, had its day then, yet remains steadfast and true – even today. It was vehemently opposed as a threat to the rights of the *"states"* and thus to *"individual liberty"* when as such, two sides were created: Federalists and Anti-Federalists. Those old school *"Federalists"* wanted a strong Federal government, while the Anti-Federalists argued for *"that government which is best which governs least"*.

The finality of the Constitution foundation was anything but a *"shoo-in"*. We are not a nation of timidity, or a country in want of confidence in our form of government. *We stand our ground* as we encourage others and our youth that this form is the best exertion of governance *"by the people, for the people and of the people"*.

We are proud to be American! We are patriots and Veterans true!

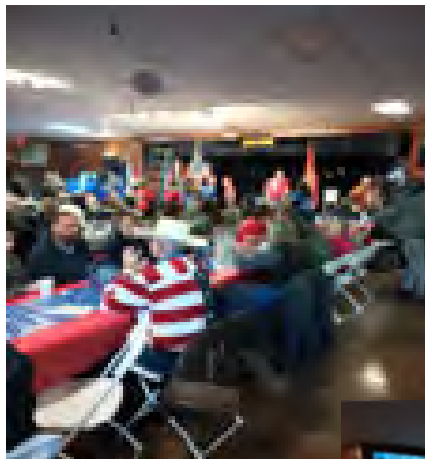
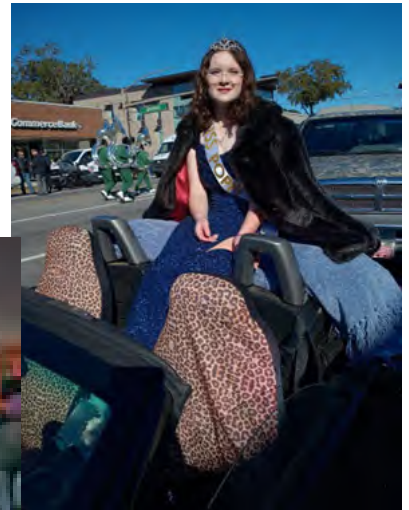
"Your world is a living expression of how you are using and have used your mind." ~ Earl Nightingale

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DISTRICT 2
UNIT 13 SAULS BRIDGES POST 13
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

SUBMITTED BY DOTTIE HALL

MISS POPPY

ALA VETERANS DAY



“Happiness never decreases by being shared.” ~ Gautama Buddha

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DISTRICT 2
UNIT 13 SAULS BRIDGES POST 13
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

SUBMITTED BY DOTTIE HALL



A DAY FILLING STOCKINGS FOR THE TROOPS.



KATRINA PROMOTING POPPIES.

Dear Members:

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



Chili Cook-Off at the Post Social January 22nd! If you haven't been, you're missing out! The Chili-Cook-Off kicks off our Socials for the year and this year (2026) looks to be a record breaker! Our calendar fills up every month and the Legion and Auxiliary are continually adding events every year to help our Veterans. From free legal advice with the TVLC (see calendar), and food, supplies, medical care at certain events, to support for families, we have you covered. If you know of a veteran or a veteran's family in need, please contact the Legion and let us know. Our sole mission is to help Veterans.

Make a note for the New Year's Eve Dance Party with Clever Girl and show band Rockitz! Please plan to attend and I'll see you there.



As always, we at Post 13 appreciate our members! ~ Paula Wilkins

"Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will." ~ Suzy Kassem

2025 Flag Retirement Ceremony

November 22, 2025

By Steve Shaffer

The pillars of Americanism and Youth were on full display with this retirement ceremony. On the afternoon of November 22, 2025 (in spite of a burn ban declared by Leon County at 8 am) Post 13 demonstrated two of the four Pillars under the command of Dennis Hall, as Post 13 hosted the U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony on the open field in front of the Tallahassee Automobile Museum on East Mahan Drive. A combined respect for the flag of our nation and teaching the youth, the future, that patriotism and love of country matters even when the Stars & Stripes needs to be disposed of.



The burning was safe with fire safety front and center as word of the burn ban wasn't known at the time the ceremony began.

Side Note: We need a prayer from the Post 13 Chaplain asking for rain.

It would have been easier to simply have a few Post 13 members collect the old torn up flags and light the fire, and toss them into the flames as per the flag code. Flag retirement wasn't treated as a chore but an act of patriotism, a teachable moment for the youth and their families. Others watched as their own flag, tattered, torn or simply faded with time were collected for burning. There was a sense of pride that this was the right way to say goodbye to "Old Glory". Respect for the flag even in its last moments teaches and reinforces love of country and citizenship.

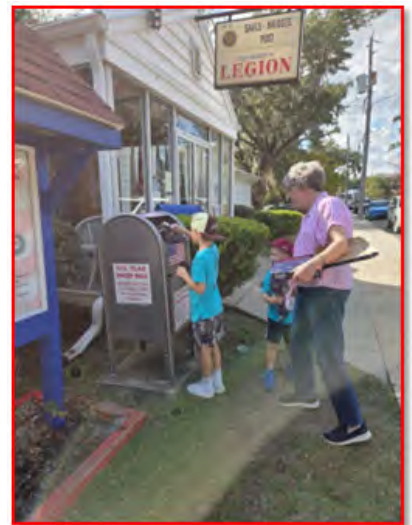
After the opening prayer by Chaplain John Folsom, the Pledge of Allegiance and remarks by Commander Dennis Hall, the honor guard led by Shirley Combass presented two flags to the leadership of Post 13 for inspection, as representative of the years worth of flags laid out on tables to be destroyed.

Shirley filled in for our Sgt at Arms, due to a conflict in her schedule. The Post 13 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders declared the flags ready for burning. This announcement was a visible way of moving the decision up the "Chain of Command" with the Post Commander making the final decision to dispose of worn out flags of our country.

The Process

Mark your calendars: Next Flag Retirement Ceremony is scheduled for January 24, 2026.

The Collection of Flags made ready for burning.



Out of Service Flags collected for disposal.



"Grant me courage to serve others; for in service there is true life." ~ Cesar Chavez



Veterans, others and a Scouting Family in Attendance.



Presenting the Symbolic Flags to Post 13 Leadership for Approval to Retire.



“I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart.” ~ Anne Frank



Symbolic Flags Ready for Commander.



Remarks on Flag Retirement and approval for burning by Post 13 Commander, Dennis Hall.



Symbolic Flags Displayed for Disposal.

The playing of Taps concluded the Flag Retirement Ceremony for 2025.



The Banner Yet Waves



Thanksgiving 2025

Submitted by Bob Costello, USAF, Vietnam Veteran, American Legion Member



“Do what you can with what you have, where you are.” ~ Squire Bill Widener

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



A very blessed Happy New Year to everyone! As we begin 2026, may we grow closer and resolve to see Christ in our families, friends, units, work, and those who come into our daily lives. Life can be a mixture of happiness and sorrows, but the Lord is always with us. While giving thanks for His endless love and gifts, let us always pray for our country, the protection of our troops and those who are no longer with us. They sacrifice their lives to maintain our protection and freedom. Let us forever stand strong against threats to our Christianity and attempts to eliminate Christ's name and prayer from our lives. Lord, help us to reverse any unjust policies being forced upon us and rally to restore our nation to the principles of freedom and justice upon which it was founded. May we come together, "In God We Trust" and maintain Your inspiration and strength in keeping our freedom, justice, and religious values in our United States of America.

Lord, we pray in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

Thanksgiving 2025



"I have been bent and broken, but - I hope - into a better shape." ~ Charles Dickens

Honoring Honor Flight Tallahassee

Submitted by Bob Costello, USAF, Vietnam Era Veteran, American Legion

"I knew this would happen, that a little bit of rain and a little bit of cold would not slow any of you down!"

In tribute to all Veterans, a candle is lit...Saturday evening Honor Flight Reunion was one of honoring all our veterans everywhere. We were welcomed by our Honor Flight Tallahassee Vice-Chairman, the honorable Tom Napier made certain everyone was made at home. For our POW-MIA REMEMBRANCE, our Former Commander of American Legion Post 13, Mr. Val Frailey gave us thoughts worthy of recalling by his devotion. As for the INVOCATION our former Auxiliary Chaplain of our American Legion Post 13 was Ms. Sharon Courey giving us our thanksgiving for every veteran and all of us.



No veteran meeting could ever be conceivable without out Pledge of Allegiance as all Salute Our American Flag and our word of honor, commitment and surety led by Guest Speaker of Honor, Major General Michael Snodgrass, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of the United States Air Force, who was also a distinguished airman extraordinaire, though now a Retired Command Pilot. His words touched us all and gave us much food for thought. It was a "Welcome Home" for all our veterans by his enlightenment of our noble causes of action.

One of our Veterans reminisced this thought-provoking conversation by our Major General's recollections. In all gratitude, the emotion of our gathering caused him to pen these moving thoughts:

"The Honor Flight Reunion got to me emotionally. All during the 12 years I was in uniform... we were despised by seemingly all of the civilian population. The Honor Flight experience and being with those who also served is a kind of catharsis. In a way it is an experience that allows the release of suppressed emotions that have been buried for decades.

The Keynote Speaker (Major General Michael Snodgrass) is a retired Air Force Major General. He was incredibly effective. He spoke (to us) about *Leadership versus Management* (methodology and logic).

(Moreso), the key organizer of the Tallahassee Honor Flight, Mac Kemp...told the story that he just returned from a trip to France that included a visit to Normandy. That was the site of the D-Day Invasion (June 6, 1944). He said that while he was there, a very elderly World War II veteran was sitting in a chair on the beach. He had come ashore on D-Day. He was leaning over and repeatedly running his fingers through the sand and sifting it through his fingers. He never looked up... just continued sifting the sand... again, and again.

Finally (he) said: '... there's no blood.' When he was there before, the sand was red with blood. 'There's no blood.'

I lost it... my dad went in at Normandy. Out of his Company of 300 men, only 7 came home. The rest are buried in the cemetery. Actually, the seven never came home. The horrors of war changed them forever.

Every man and woman who serves in the military essentially signs a blank check that is payable to the U.S. government. That check may be cashed for any amount up to giving one's life. We each took a solemn oath to protect and defend the Constitution against all enemies.

The Honor Flight has put my years of service in a more positive perspective. As Mac Kemp said... 'one Veteran had a woman come up to him and say (only) two words that redirected the anguish he had held ever since serving during a very unpopular war... she said..."Welcome Home!"

That was when I lost it! It was a powerful message and there were many guys who wiped tears from their eyes. (That says it all!)

May God Bless the members of our Armed Forces and the United States of America!"

There is nothing more that I can add... as I am emotionally "tongue-tied!" God Bless Our Troops, now and then, with all who did not come home!



"Happiness depends on being free, and freedom depends on being courageous." ~ Pericles

Honor Flight Reunion 2025

Submitted by Bob Costello, USAF, Vietnam Veteran, American Legion Member



Honor Flight
General Speaker



Honor Flight Reunion
Dinner



“Life is wide, limitless. There is no border, no frontier.” ~ Bruce Lee



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Jan 1 New Year's Day
- Jan 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan 22 Post 13 Social 6:00 pm
- Program 6:30 pm
- Annual Chili Cook-off and Raffle!



COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF
JANUARY 22ND

Cook your favorite chili and bring enough to share. We'll have chili toppings as well as salads and desserts. A prize will be awarded for the best chili. If chili is not your thing, other dishes will be available. This tradition was started by Past Post Commander Ray Stallings, so lets keep it going!



WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

COMING NEW YEAR'S EVE !

TWO GREAT BANDS!

The Rockitz

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

Clever Girl

AMERICAN LEGION

LAKE ELLA, TALLAHASSEE, FL

TICKET INFORMATION SOON



DOCKIT7

DOORS OPEN 6 30 SHOWTIME 7 30



JW-JONES EVERYTHING NOW



“The primary cause of unhappiness is never the situation but your thoughts about it.” ~ Eckhart Tolle



POST 13 JANUARY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	29 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	30 NO SWING DANCE	31 7:00 PM OPEN 8:00 PM SHOW ROCKITZ! CLEVER GIRL NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE	1 JANUARY 	2 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	3 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
4 2:00 - 5:00 pm American Legion Oratory Contest	5 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	6 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	7 10:00 am Commander's Coalition No Dance	8 3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 5:30 pm Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm General Meeting	9 7:00 Door Open Capricorn Birthday Party with Roadhouse Band and includes Buffet Dinner \$20 Door	10 7:00 pm Show Neil Diamond Tribute Band Fundraiser for AL Baseball Team \$20 Cash Door Open to Public
11 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	12 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	13 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	14 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	15 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 5:00 - 9:00 pm Women Vets Unite	16 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	17 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
18 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	19 5:30 pm SWING FUSION 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC Martin Luther King Day	20 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	21 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	22 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 6:30 pm POST SOCIAL	23 7:00 pm JW-Jones Blues \$20 Door Open to Public	24 7:00 - 11:00 pm 2 Free Bands and Jam with Rhythm Remedy +1 Dona- tions to Big Bend Hospice with Food
25 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	26 5:30 pm SWING FUSION 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 12:00 - 2:00 pm League of Women Voters Luncheon 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE	29 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	30 6:30 Doors Open Rhythm Remedy \$10 Cover Open to Public	31 7:00 Doors Open Boom Chick Ramblers with Clever Girl Band \$10 Door 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

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**For God
and Country**

JANUARY 2026

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

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Tallahassee, Florida

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"American Legion Sauls-Bridges"

EVENTS BOOKING:

(850) 284-6967



Deadline for the FEBRUARY 2026

Newsletter will be

JANUARY 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**