



# Sauls-Bridges American Legion

## Post 13 News



Volume 74, Issue 12



December 2024

### ***Christmas Day War Stories***

Even though we spend Christmas Day with our families and friends, our military are forever vigilant. Always available to answer the call, they remain at the ready no matter what day it is. There have been many major military events on Christmas Day. Here are just four of those events.

#### ***1776: General Washington Crosses the Delaware River***

General George Washington, leader of the Continental Army during the American Revolution, was at a crossroads. It was cold and icy, his troops had been pushed out of New York and New Jersey into Pennsylvania, so morale was at an all time low. He had a thought, why not surprise the Hessians (German troops hired by the British)? After Christmas celebrations, they wouldn't be expecting an attack. In what would be called the Battle of Trenton, Washington led his troops in the crossing of the Delaware late Christmas night. "At dawn on December 26, about 2,400 frozen Continentals pushed into Trenton, and they did indeed surprise the enemy, who surrendered within an hour and a half."

#### ***1864: First Battle of Fort Fisher***

With North Carolina's Fort Fisher not seeing much combat during the Civil War, the Union on Christmas 1864 decided it wanted to capture the last port the Confederates held on the Atlantic Ocean. But it wouldn't be that easy. First the Union filled a ship with explosives to blow up the walls of the Fort, but it instead blew up the ship. Now the Confederates were on alert. Next, the Union placed Fort Fisher under heavy artillery fire to no avail. On Christmas morning, with a last ditch effort, the Union cleared a place with firepower allowing troops to land on shore, but with very little effect. Thus, the Union was in retreat. However, in "mid-January 1865, Union troops were finally able to capture the fort, effectively cutting the Confederates off from global trade and supplies. The Civil War ended three months later."

#### ***1896: "Starts and Stripes" is Written***

John Philip Sousa, a musician who grew up during the Civil War, was headed home from a European vacation. Sousa was the long-time director of the U.S. Marine Band and was known as the "March King". He started his own band in 1892. On this day, Sousa was homesick and while reminiscing on Christmas Day about his memories serving as the Marine band's director, the words of the Stars and Stripes came to him. "The iconic song officially became America's national march in 1987."

#### ***1972: Operation Linebacker II in North Vietnam***

This was an operation of immense proportion. During the latter half of December, President Richard Nixon ordered continuous bombing of North Vietnam known as the "11 Days of Christmas". This operation is said to have ended the Vietnam War. When the North Vietnam leaders walked out of Peace Talks, the bombing ensued and was relentless. "In 11 days, Linebacker II dropped 15,000 tons of bombs via 729 U.S. Air Force sorties involving about 12,000 airmen. Defense Department records show the raids destroyed or damaged 1,600 structures, 500 rail targets, 10 airfields and 80 percent of North Vietnam's electric-generating capacity." In January 1973, the Paris Peace Accords ended U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, but some of our last troops remained for another two years.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/story/Article/1713087/4-major-military-events-that-happened-on-christmas/>

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

# Sauls-Bridges American Legion Post 13 Provides Hurricane Helene Relief

*Submitted by Dennis Hall, Post 13 Historian*

When Hurricane Helene made landfall on the southwest coast of Taylor County, Florida on September 26, 2024 it had sustained winds of 140 mph. Tragically, this was the same area that was severely impacted nearly a year earlier by Hurricane Idalia. After the damage was assessed from Hurricane Helene, Post 13 collected cleaning supplies and bottle water to assist those who were impacted in the Big Bend Area of Florida. The supplies were picked up on October 20, and taken to Monticello, Florida for distribution. Thanks to those who donated items.



As Hurricane Helene moved onshore it took a northeasterly route into north Florida and continued through Georgia as a Category 1 hurricane. It continued into western North Carolina in the mountain areas around Asheville. In this area, Helene dropped rain in excess of 20 inches that created flooding and mudslides destroying towns and villages. Over 170 fatalities occurred in North Carolina. As a result of the devastation, Post 13 responded with an effort to provide warm weather clothing and bedding items to those impacted. Post 13 Adjutant Ed Hood created a flyer/advertisement to promote the Post's efforts. The drive was successful and the items donated were delivered to Capital City Harley-Davidson on October 26, to be transported to North Carolina. Thanks to everyone that helped make the drive a success.



Flyer created by Post 13 Adjutant Ed Hood



Pickup full of donations!



Van full of Donations!



L-R Ed Hood, Thai Smithfield, Rodney Keener, and Dennis Hall



More Donations!

“Only when we are no longer afraid do we begin to live.” ~ Dorothy Thompson

## Sauls-Bridges American Legion Post 13 Grieves the Passing of Glen Rushing

*Submitted by Dennis Hall, Historian*

Regrettably, Post 13 Legionnaire Glen Rushing passed away on September 17, 2024. Glen was very active in the Post as the Post's Webmaster. He held that position for several years and served under Post Commanders John Folsom, Val Frailey, Barry Walker, and Vic Hanna. Glen provided untold hours of dedication in keeping the Post website up to date with current events, newsletters, and pertinent information for the Post membership. Glen was an active member of Post 13 for the past ten years. He continued to maintain the website for several months during his illness. His declining health eventually prevented him from continuing the rigorous pace of being the webmaster. His lung cancer finally took its toll after a valiant fight and effort to continue living his life as meaningful as Glen could.

Glen was born on July 11, 1950, in DeFuniak Springs, Florida. He and his family resided in Ponce de Leon, Florida. Glen excelled as a student and became the 1968 Class Valedictorian for Walton County High School. Glen was always proud to be from a small town in the Panhandle of Florida. Later, he earned his "Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Science" from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Daytona Beach, Florida, while serving in the Army as a Warrant Officer. ERAU is the world's largest, fully accredited university specializing in aviation and aerospace.

Following his high school graduation, Glen enlisted in the United States Air Force. He continued to advance in rank to Staff Sergeant, E-5, before being honorably discharged after 6.5 years of service. During the Vietnam War, Glen served overseas in Thailand and the Philippines. His military occupational specialty was an aircraft mechanic for C-141 and C-5 aircrafts. After a very brief separation from the Air Force, Glen was recruited by his sister Gail, an Army recruiter, into the United States Army. He served in the US Army for an additional 13.5 years. He enlisted in the US Army as a helicopter mechanic before attending the Aviation Warrant Officer Candidate School. As a Warrant Officer, Glen served as an Army aviator flying utility/observation helicopters. He attained the rank of Chief Warrant Officer Two (CW2), and had been selected for promotion to CW3 when he received a direct commission as a Second Lieutenant (2LT). As a commissioned officer he continued to fly, attaining Senior Army Aviator status while serving in the Armor Branch of the US Army. He retired in 1989, as a Captain (O-3) and was honorably discharged after a career of over 20 years of service to his beloved country.

During his combined Air Force and Army career, Glen was awarded, but not limited to, the Good Conduct Medal (USAF), Overseas Service Ribbon (1), Army Aviator Badge, Army Commendation Medal (1 and 2 oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Achievement Medal, Senior Army Aviator Badge, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and various badges and certificates.

Glen's military schools included:

*Aviation Warrant Officer Basic Course*

*Aviation Warrant Officer Advanced Course*

*Rotary Wing Aviator Refresher Training Course*

*UH-1 Instructor Pilot Course*

*Armor Officer Basic Course*

*Aviation Officer Advanced Course*

After Glen's retirement from the Army, he returned back home to Ponce de Leon and was self-employed. He had several business ventures that kept him quite busy and entertained; he owned and operated a locksmith business, opened the first computer store in DeFuniak Springs being the town's first franchise provider for internet communications, and occasionally drove tractor-trailer trucks.

Glen also had a number of interests that kept him occupied when he had spare time. He remained an avid pilot and taught new aspiring pilots how to fly. He even built his own fixed-wing airplane and helped build several other airplanes. He enjoyed driving a race car at the South Alabama Speedway in Kinston, Alabama. Driving 120+ MPH provided him an adrenaline rush like nothing else. It was one of his favorite things to do.

In 1998, he met his wife, Consuelo, whom he loved very much. They celebrated 26 years of marriage at the time of his death. They remained in the Ponce de Leon and DeFuniak Springs area for a period of time after their wedding. Eventually, Glen and Consuelo moved south to the Tampa Bay area and remained there until 2014. They moved to Tallahassee so Glen could be closer to his family back in Ponce de Leon. Continued.....

"Many are the wonders of the world, and none so wonderful as man." ~ Sophocles

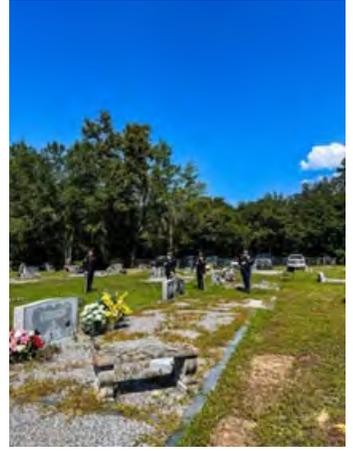
# Post 13 Grieves the Passing of Glen Rushing

*Continued...*

He became a member of Post 13 shortly after moving to Tallahassee. While living in Tallahassee, Glen enjoyed making new friends in Post 13 and in his community. On a very regular basis, he enjoyed having breakfast at the Country Kitchen on North Monroe Street with a friend or while making a new friend.

Glen was laid to rest on September 23, 2024, at the Red Bay Presbyterian Cemetery in Ponce de Leon, Florida. His grave is amongst his family members who passed before him. The United States Army provided full military honors at the grave site: rifle volley, playing of Taps, folding of the flag and presentation of the flag to his wife Consuelo. Glen is also survived by his two daughters, Becky and Glenda, 3 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

*(Thanks to, Mrs. Consuelo Rushing, Mrs. Jamie Coley, Mrs. Lisa Rushing, and Mr. Randall Rushing for their assistance by providing contributing information and photographs for the article).*



“You just can’t live in that negative way...make way for the positive day.” ~ Bob Marley

# Post 13 Grieves the Passing of Glen Rushing

*Continued...*



*Legionnaire Glen Jerome Rushing*

*Thank you for your contributions to  
Sauls-Bridges American Legion Post 13.*

*You are missed.*



Left, Legion and Auxiliary working together for veterans. Dottie and Dennis Hall, Unit 13, Tallahassee.



Upper right, Laura Morris Unit 13, Tallahassee.



Right, Donna Winsloe and Nell Hewitt, Unit 13, Tallahassee.

Left, Juniors, Margaret and Rebekka with mom, Katrina Rosedale at work for our Veterans, Unit 13 Tallahassee.



“They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself.” ~ Andy Warhol

## Sauls-Bridges A L Post 13 Legionnaire Leo Kane Recognized for 49 Years *Submitted by Post 13 Historian Dennis Hall*

Legionnaire Leo Kane was presented his 49 Years Continuous Membership Certificate in the American Legion. Leo began his 49 years in 1975, by becoming a member of Post 8 Department of New Jersey. Later he transferred his membership to Post 289 Department of New Jersey. During his membership in Post 289, Leo was a member of the Post's Honor Guard and was Santa Claus at their Christmas parties. Three years ago, he transferred his membership to Post 13 Department of Florida. Leo was 31 years old when he became a member of the American Legion. He has remained a member all these years because of the patriotism displayed within the American Legion, the various services and support provided to veterans, and it is an outstanding place to find and make new friends.

Leo was inducted into the US Army at Fort Dix, New Jersey on 14 May 1965. He remained at Fort Dix for AIT in the Transportation Branch. After AIT, Leo was transferred to Patton Barracks Heidelberg Germany for eighteen months. His unit was the "Flaming Arrow", United States Army Europe. His main duty was being a Motor Transport Operator. He primarily drove 2 ½ ton trucks, known as a deuce and a half. He advanced in rank to Specialist 4 Class (E-4). He received the Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Ribbon, and a 5,000 mile accident free driving award. Leo was Honorably Discharged on 24 April 1967.

After returning home to New Jersey, Leo remained in the transportation business. He and Marilyn were married, and they continued to live in New Jersey. They moved from New Jersey to Tallahassee seventeen years ago. Marilyn is a continuous member of the American Legion Auxiliary for over 42 years. Thank you both for your continued and dedicated membership within the American Legion Family.



District 2 Chaplain John Folsom (L) and Post 13 Chaplain Eric Smith (R) presented Legionnaire Leo Kane his 49 Years Continuous Membership Certificate at his home on November 4, 2024.



Legionnaire Leo Kane adds another certificate to his military related memorabilia.

Not pictured is his 35 Years Continuous Membership Certificate.



Legionnaire Leo Kane proudly displays his 49 Years Continuous Membership Certificate.

**Post 13 looks forward to presenting Legionnaire Leo Kane his 50 Years Continuous Membership Certificate next year!**

“There is nothing stronger than a broken woman who has rebuilt herself.” ~ Hannah Gadsby

## Sauls–Bridges A L Post 13 Former Legionnaire Michael Gavin Passes Away

*Submitted by Post 13 Historian Dennis Hall*

On September 14, former Post 13 Legionnaire Michael Arthur Gavin passed away in Tallahassee, after having a heart attack. Michael was born on July 15, 1948, in New York City. He was 76 years old at the time of his death. It has been said it is not how many years one has to live, but what one does with the years given to them. Michael made good use of the time that was given to him.

After being born in New York, his family moved to Miami, Florida where he grew up and graduated from high school. He served his country in the United States Army from May 23, 1968 to April 14, 1971. He received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Ribbon, and Expert Badges for M-14 and M-16 rifles. He went to Boot Camp at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and was Honorably Discharged at Fort Lewis Washington. His last earned rank was Specialist 4<sup>th</sup> Class (E-4). Michael was trained as an Administrative Specialist: MOS 71L20.

After serving in the army, Michael attended and graduated from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Following graduation, he became an instructor at Grady Memorial Hospital training pediatric nurses. Later, Michael utilized his nurse's training in New Mexico at a Native American reservation in the Emergency Room and Operating Room. He was later employed in the prison system as a nurse. He turned down opportunities in the medical field which could have rewarded him with higher salaries, but his heart was that of a servant. Where he saw a need, he would do everything he could to meet that need. In Tallahassee, those who knew Michael remember him for his forever servant/service mindset. He was a problem solver for anyone who would share their problems with him. He was passionate about "fixing things" and was dogmatic and determined to tackle each situation with only one goal in mind: a successful outcome.

Michael was involved in the following veteran and community services: Homeless Coalition, Veteran Stand Down, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Customer Service Advisor, Goodwill Industries, training students to become certified as Certified Nurse's Assistants, Big Bend Honor Guard, American Legion Post 13, and to veterans or people who were financially challenged by driving them to doctor appointments or grocery shopping. He was instrumental in the City of Tallahassee providing veterans with free city bus tickets! He was a Honor Flight Chaperone. Michael was very much involved in his community until COVID became so contagious and his own health began to decline which prohibited his activity.

Michael not only had a servant heart, but he was gifted with a beautiful musical voice: strong in volume with a wide range of notes. He could be found singing in Tallahassee at many funerals and Celebration of Life services. He sang at the annual funeral for those who passed away experiencing homelessness. He was often invited to share his musical talent in various houses of worship. He particularly enjoyed singing praises to his Lord at the gospel sings at AL Post 13. He was fond of dining at Mission BBQ and was requested to sing the National Anthem at noon on several occasions. Michael was invited to sing the National Anthem at one of the FSU softball games, and at the Grand Opening for the Sergeant Ernest I. "Boots" Thomas Tallahassee Veterans Administration Clinic on Orange Avenue. He was sought after to sing in a variety of venues in and around Tallahassee.

Michael and Tanya were married on May 14, 2016. Fortunately for both of them, they had each other to rely on during each one's recurring and declining health issues. Shortly after their wedding day, both Michael and Tanya had hospital stays that lasted from a few days to several weeks at a time. During COVID, each one's health issues continued to decline. Eventually, in April 2023, Michael was diagnosed with cardiac heart failure and the doctor's prognosis was Michael most likely would live only eighteen months. After receiving the diagnosis, he continued to do his best to help Tanya and others. He was always thinking of how he could help one more person.

In September 2023, Michael became a patient of Big Bend Hospice Care. During the month of February 2024, Michael was hospitalized for one week due to a cardiac event. Tanya then became unemployed so she could provide for Michael's needed care and assistance. Michael passed away on September 14, 2024.

Michael is survived by his wife, Tanya Gavin, his son Michael, and his daughters Erin and Michelle.

A Celebration of Life was held at the Tallahassee National Cemetery on Friday October 11, at 2 pm. Michael received full military honors: rifle volley, playing of *Taps*, and his burial flag folded and presented to his wife, Tanya Gavin.

"Be soft. Do not let the world make you hard." ~ Iain S. Thomas

# Former Legionnaire Michael Gavin Passes Away Continued...

A GoFundMe Account is established for anyone who may want to assist with Michael's final expenses. The link is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/aid-needed-for-michael-gavins-final-expenses>.



Michael's Burial Flag



Michael's Burial Box



Big Bend Honor Guard



Procession of Family and Friends



Welcome to the Tallahassee National Cemetery



Rifle Firing Detail



Taps



Refolding the American Flag



Ensuring the Flag is Neatly Folded



Presentation of the Burial Flag to Ms. Tanya Gavin



Pastor Tom Tryon Offers An Opening Prayer



Mrs. Tanya Gavin Shares A Humorous Memory



Mrs. Ashley Hall Sings *Daystar, Shine Down on Me*



Members of the Big Bend Honor Guard



Conclusion of the Service

**Legionnaire Michael Gavin, thank you, for your desire and willingness to serve others.  
(Thanks to Mrs. Tanya Gavin for her assistance in preparing this article)**

“A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.” ~ Francis Bacon

## **GOD BLESS AMERICA - OUR VETERANS TRUE**

*Submitted by Bob Costello: Writer, Author, Toastmaster and USAF Veteran*

*“God bless America, land that I love –  
Stand beside her and guide her...”*

On this most pre-eminent special day, let each of us stand to **SALUTE** all our veterans here and those who share a heavenly home! On this, our special occasion, our hearts and thoughts turn to all our Nation's veterans, and spouses who serve and served our **COUNTRY**, active, retired or gone home above.

I remain vigilant in my stead to those spouses who served our nation as they have in good times or during their tribulations: whose personal sacrifice and dedication to duty, with solemnity in ways unbeknownst to us directly; **I salute you!**

Let us honor every Veteran and their military spouses for their combined valor, duty and sacrifice for our Nation! Each **served** with a personal dedication to **duty** in ways sometimes unbeknownst to us directly, not sufficiently recognized by us.

We pay a sincere tribute in their memory of their **HONOR** and **DEDICATION** in their sacrifices for us by their unquestionable contributions to our country in their pursuit of peace, freedom and liberty **by their full measure – for US!**

Thank you **Veterans, we, Americans salute you heartily with passion – mightily – vociferously – and lovingly declared this day!** Our proclamation affirms our thanks from the mountains to the prairies and to the oceans white with foam – for all the goodness you've given us today and all of our yesterdays!

We acknowledge this **spirit** of all our service men, women and spouses, who have honored us in their own way and call to duty for all of us here today to *unconditionally give us these our freedoms; to keep America free from tyranny by defending our freedom of thought, voice, choice and deed alive with vibrance!* **These are the principles that unite us all here today as a family of Americans!**

The impact of our Veterans and spouses is **immeasurable**, each in their own unique circumstance that keeps us **free**. We owe **America's veterans** and spouses more than mere tribute, but rather conscious contributions **for America that sustains and maintains her** in our pursuit for **liberty and freedom** and for our **future** American generations, yet unborn.

As **Emma Lazarus** wrote, as written on our Statute of Liberty - **“Give me your tired, your ... huddled masses yearning to be free”!** **“I lift my lamp beside the golden door”** of freedom where Veterans everywhere have ... by their **“duty done”**, as these veteran's raise the **“light of freedom”** before us and **for us**; with its radiant hope ... for all those worldwide!

**We, your “legacy”**, are ever indebted to these our veterans and active service men and their spouses. There is not sufficiency of words of gratitude to express all that you mean to us for what you **have done, are doing and those who served our country by their contributions.**

By this, you, our Veterans give us hope for our tomorrows; with hope for our families and our descendants; yet greater still, the hope of triumph for our future!

We often think of our Veterans as being only military or governmental units; however, I want to be certain to include our “blue line” officers; our first responders; our disaster medical teams; our citizenry during disaster recovery, as we have recently witnessed. We are all veterans in our variety of situations, when called upon – we, **AMERICA** respond!

“The worst enemy to creativity is self doubt.” ~ Sylvia Plath

## GOD BLESS AMERICA - OUR VETERANS TRUE...continued

As Americans, we more than merely appreciate your service; more so, your selfless service in dire times by your sacrifices defending our Nation, by your bravery protecting our freedoms is well recognized!

We **APPLAUD** your dedication, those alive or those in their heavenly home, as we ... **AMERICANS**, gratefully honor all our veterans on this special occasion – **Veterans Day** – vets and their spouses – **we salute you for all your sacrifices made!**

We are forever grateful to all those who have served **America** in every conceivable manner by your duty to protect and defend our way of life to ensure **America**, our freedoms!

**Thank you** for serving our country by protecting our liberties and freedoms!

You have further defined that courage and honor go in tandem by **standing up in being counted**; defining the character of all our **Veterans** who have and are defending our nation, **America!**

**Because of you, our Veterans, WE are** the “**Land of the Free**” - for we are **America!**

**GOD BLESS AMERICA!!! GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS!!!**

Our tribute to our countries service members who sustain our liberties, can only be simply said by memorializing our gratitude with respect and honor in going the extra mile for us! (I salute all those who maintain our liberties and freedoms. (SALUTE)!!!

### SANTA'S IMPENDING ARRIVAL

I communicated with "Mr. Claus" up in the North Pole a few days ago. He indicated he had a great desire to attend our Christmas Party at the Legion on December 15 at 5:00 pm. I thought it might be a good idea to inform the rest of our members of his pending arrival.



Yours in Service,  
John Folsom  
Florida Veterans  
Hall of Fame  
Chaplain 2nd District  
American Legion  
Chaplain/2nd District  
Veteran of Foreign Wars  
Chaplain VFW Post 3308



### COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

**JANUARY 23TH**

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! And don't forget the Raffle!!



Participate! Bring your crockpot chili and you may win a prize!

*Post Social Moments*  
*Submitted by Paula Wilkins, Editor*



Left, Cindy introducing our new American Legion Baseball Coach Col (R) Jeffrey J. Del Fuoco. Middle, Coach Fuoco addressing the crowd at the Post 13 Social, held October 24th. Right, Lynette Halter was pitching the Oratory Contest of the Post. Students present a 3-5 minute speech on the topic U.S. Constitution, with an emphasis on a citizen's duties and obligations to our government. She only has one person so far. If someone knew of another student they could recommend, they needed to do so because the competition is held in January at the Post level.

**CHRISTMAS DANCE**

**Tallahassee Swing Band**



**December 17, 2024**  
**Come join us for a night of**  
**Christmas cheer!**

**Christmas tunes and**  
**more of your favorites!**



**NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**They're back!!!**  
**Mark your calendars!**



**New Year's Eve Party**  
**with the RockitZ Band!!**

**2**  
**0**  
**2**  
**4**

Hors D'oeuvres  
Party Favors  
Midnight Champagne



Friday, December 31, 2024 to  
Saturday, January 1, 2025  
From 8:00 pm to 1:00 am

Purchase tickets at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)  
Tickets \$30 person | \$50 couple





## “In the Spirit of Service, Not Self”

Hello Auxiliary Members:

It's that time again when we smell the fresh-cut trees, chestnuts roasting, and enjoy the holidays. Thanksgiving is gone, which means winter and Christmas are here!

Veterans Day activities were exciting, beginning with a fabulous breakfast, meeting old and making new friends, and distributing our favorite flower, "The Poppy." Our Poppy distribution was a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped, those who donated time and space, and our community who gave graciously. Unit 13 projects will continue to provide services and support to our military families, children, and youth programs during the holidays.

The Legion requests volunteers on the Sunday after Thanksgiving (December 1<sup>st</sup>) to help decorate the Hall. It is so beautiful with the glamor of the lights and will put everyone in a festive mood getting ready for the holidays.



The Post plans a "Family POST-CHRISTMAS PARTY" on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm. There will be door prizes for games, and Santa Claus will be there to take your wish list. The Legion will provide Turkey, Ham, Dressing, and Gravy for your taste buds' pleasure; we ask for your help in providing a side dish or dessert. The Unit has been asked to help with door prizes and decorating the tables.

Please continue supporting our organization with your prayers; they are much appreciated. In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission statement of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

Thank you for the success of our Raffle baskets at our socials. We hope to continue the Raffle Baskets in January when our socials resume; see you then!

For God & Country,

Nell Hewitt, President  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Sauls-Bridges Unit 13



“I was smart enough to go through any door that opened.” ~ Joan Rivers

## October 24 Sauls-Bridges American Legion Post 13 Social Meeting Highlights *Submitted by Dennis Hall, Historian*



Post 13's new Baseball Coach Col (R) Jeffrey J. Del Fuoco introduced himself to the Post. He is the successor to Dr. Wes Singletary who was Manager/Coach for many years at Post 13. Dr. Singletary had a very long and successful tenure at our Post. Coach Del Fuoco named Mr. Chet Allen and Mr. Wayne Tyson as his Assistant Coaches. Welcome to all of you and the Post looks forward to many successful years under your leaderships. "Play ball!!!!"



Post 13 Commander Cindy Laskowski recognized Legionnaire Paul Lucarelli as the September Legionnaire of the Month. Paul is a long time member of the Post and has held past leadership positions. Currently he serves as a Legionnaire on Duty (LOD) two nights each week. After having a stay in the hospital he returned to his LOD duties as quickly as his health permitted. Thank you, Legionnaire Lucarelli for your continued service to our Post.



Post 13 Third Vice Commander Larry Clayton introduced the viewing of *Christmas Truce of 1914—For Sharing-For Peace*. The video was an advertisement for Sainbury's, a grocery chain in England, which aired in 2014. The ad reenacted the Christmas Eve Truce of 1914 between the British and German armies during WWI.



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 13 President Nell Hewitt announced the Unit will be distributing "poppies" at several Tallahassee locations. She invited the members of Post 13 to assist with the distribution of the "poppies" on Friday and Saturday, November 8 and 9.

# MISCELLANEOUS MOMENTS AT POST 13



ALA District 2 President spending time with other female Veterans, all Legionnaires of Post 13. L2R: Cindy Bennett, Debra Mann, and Lynette Halter. Submitted by Debra Mann.

While preparing for our family's holiday season, it's with mixed emotions. My great-niece, Alexis Lamar, enlisted with the Army as a combat medic. Alexis was previously in the Navy for a number of years, got out and graduated with a nursing degree, and now is an EMT in Birmingham, AL. I pray for her safety and all those with whom she serves. Submitted by Paula Wilkins



A promotional graphic for a book titled 'Speaking of Impact &amp; Change'. The cover features a silhouette of a person against a sunset. Text on the graphic includes 'Meet our Contributing Author Life of Impact Award Recipient Robert Costello' and 'ICN LIFE OF IMPACT'. A QR code is also present.

My father, Leo Kane, accepted the Continuous Member Candidate that you presented to him yesterday. A man who has served our country in the military and now in the medical field. Submitted by The Kane Family

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Post 13 Members,

Well, The Season is upon us...are you ready? It's the Holidays, a time for family and friends to gather. Please remember our veterans in your thoughts and prayers and give generously.

Don't forget about the Christmas Party hosted by Post 13 on December 15th. Also, dance with music by the Tallahassee Swing Band on December 14th for the annual Christmas Dance. And...don't pass up the opportunity to hear a wonderful show band, the Rockitz! Band on New Years Eve with plenty of dancing, food and a champagne toast at midnight! Well worth it!

Merry Christmas to all our members and as always, thanks for supporting our Post. ~ Paula Wilkins

“There are things that are not sayable. That's why we have art.” – Leonora Carrington



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



Lord,

We humble ourselves as we prepare for the celebration of Your birth. May we always remember this as the true meaning of Christmas. We thank you for our beautiful nation, its people, our military and all veterans. Let us never forget You are the creator and savior of this world and always with us. Let us resolve to keep a promise, seek out a forgotten friend, listen, laugh, brighten the heart of a child, encourage the young, appreciate and respect our elders, express gratitude, take pleasure in and appreciate the beauty and wonder of life and speak Your love to others. We pray for the continued protection of all our military wherever they are. They give so much of their life for us. Many will not be with their families for Christmas, so let us keep this thought in our hearts for them. We pray for peace in the world and give thanks for all Your blessings and endless love. A very blessed, Merry Christmas to everyone, Lord we pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.



**VETERANS DAY OBSERVED**

By John Folsom, Post 13 Past Commander

The Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles had an in-house observation of Veterans day, which they held on November 05. American Legions Post 13 and 114 along with the Big Bend Honor Guard provided a presentation that day. The BBHG demonstrated the folding of a flag while having read what each of the folds represent. Chuck Howell and Phil Welch folded the flag, with John Folsom reading the script. These three gentlemen are from Post 13. Barrie Glover from Post 114 presented a short talk on some connections between the Florida Highway Patrol and the American Legion. A couple of these being how the Florida Highway Patrol Auxiliary came into existence and that in order to be a member of the auxiliary you had to be a member of the American Legion. The outstanding officers of the FHP have pledged to provide security for the Boys State Program of the American Legion.

I am pleased that we were extended an invitation, and I am honored to be serving alongside these other veterans.

Pictured from left to right:  
 Phil Welsh, Chuck Howell, John Folsom, and Berry Glover



### AUXILIARY EVENTS *Submitted by Nell Hewitt*



Left, Miss Poppy 2024, Lenna Gayhart in Veterans Day Parade, driven by Dottie Hall.



Above, Stacy Gayhart and her mother distributing Poppies for our veterans.

Below, Nell Hewitt and Paulette Howell.



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Dec 1 Civil Air Patrol Birthday
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec 13 U.S. National Guard Birthday
- Dec 18 National Wreaths Across America
- Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve

#### "CHICKEN FEED"

What candy was referred to as "chicken feed"? Candy Corn! It was created in the 1880s and has remained a very popular treat. It gets little attention, but year after year it returns. Factories produce 9 billion kernels of candy corn annually. The Wunderle Candy Company first produced the candy during the 1880s. Then Goelitz Confectionary Company took over eventually becoming the modern Jelly Belly Candy Company. Goelitz designed a package in 1898 featuring a rooster and the slogan "Something worth crowing for" appealing to rural America.

<https://interestingfacts.com/fact/candy-corn-was-originally-called-chicken-feed/>

**WE SALUTE OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES**



# DECEMBER 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 DECEMBER  <b>Civil Air Patrol Birthday</b> 	2  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	3  6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	4  6:30 pm SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	5  3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative	6  7:00 - 11:00 pm BogLillies OPEN TO PUBLIC Cover Charge \$10	7   7:00 - 11:00 pm Swinging Holiday Dance Party Open to Public Cover Charge
8  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	9  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	10  6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	11  <b>NO DANCE</b>	12  3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 5:00 pm Auxiliary Meeting 5:30 pm Executive Board Meeting 6:00 pm General Meeting	13    HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 <b>U.S. National Guard Birthday</b>	14  3:00 pm Army/Navy Game Watch Party On CBS Open to Public
15    <b>4:00 PM POST 13 CHRISTMAS PARTY</b>	16  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	17   6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND <b>Christmas Dance</b> \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	18    <b>NO DANCE</b>  <b>National Wreaths Across America</b>	19  3:00 - 5:00 pm Legal Collaborative 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Marine Corps League 5:00 - 8:00 pm Judy Langston and Xmas Sing Along 6:00 - 8:00 pm Potluck \$10	20  7:00 - 11:00 pm The One Thing Band Open to Public Cover Charge \$10	21  7:00 pm - 2:00 am Dabbit Trio with 3 additional bands \$10 cover
22  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	23  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	24    <b>CHRISTMAS EVE NO DANCE</b>	25    <b>NO LEGAL COLLABORATIVE</b>  <b>NO POST SOCIAL</b>	26  <b>NO LEGAL COLLABORATIVE</b>  <b>NO POST SOCIAL</b>	27  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 OR 443-1878	28  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
29  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	30  7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	31    <b>7:00 PM OPEN 9:00 PM SHOW ROCKITZ! NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE</b>	1 JANUARY  <b>NO DANCE</b>	2  <b>NO LEGAL COLLABORATIVE</b>	3  HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 OR 443-1878	4  7:00 - 11:00 pm Concrete Cowboys Open to Public Cover Charge \$10

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: amlegp13@gmail.com

**For God  
and Country**

## DECEMBER 2024

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage PAID

Tallahassee, Florida

Permit No. 21

### Editing/Layout:

Paula Wilkins

### Photos: Email:

[aml13newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:aml13newsletter@gmail.com)

Webpage (Face book): Google:  
"American Legion Sauls-Bridges"

**EVENTS BOOKING:**  
(850) 284-6967



### **Deadline for the JANUARY 2025**

**Newsletter will be**

**DECEMBER 15th 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 7:00 pm. [Except for Nov. & Dec.]**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE AN ITEM FOR THE NEWSLETTER  
PLEASE EMAIL [AMLNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AMLNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM)**