



Sauls-Bridges American Legion



Post 13 News



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Memorial Day Origins

Memorial Day was originally called “Decoration Day” where it was first observed in Charleston, South Carolina in 1865. Its purpose at the time was to honor fallen Civil War veterans. It wasn’t until 1868 that Americans officially recognized Decoration Day and was honored by community members gathering across the United States to decorate the gravesites of the 620,000 soldiers that sacrificed their lives during the war. The first recorded gathering was at Arlington National Cemetery, May 30, 1868.

The origins of Memorial Day might also be attributed to former enslaved people of Charleston during 1865 that used a racetrack that once served as a prison as a burial site for Union captives.

“On May 1, 1865, thousands gathered for a procession led by 3,000 children carrying flowers and singing patriotic songs.”

“In 1966, the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day when President Johnson signed a presidential proclamation stating Waterloo celebrated the first Memorial Day. That day, in 1866, the city closed all businesses so residents could decorate the gravesites of soldiers with flowers and American flags.”



Memorial Day was recognized as an official federal holiday in 1971 when Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, establishing the third Monday in May as Memorial Day. The reason for this specific date was to allow federal workers a three-day weekend.

However, it doesn’t matter the origins of Memorial Day, or the beginnings that led to this special day. It’s the reason we have it at all. We can all recognize the emotions that are behind this holiday, and though many don’t appreciate our feelings or sentiments surrounding this day, we at Post 13 and all American Legions, understand the sacrifice it entails.

We celebrate National Poppy Day and this year its designated as May 22nd. It was originally inspired by the 1915 poem “In Flanders Fields,” by John McCrae, to honor those who died in WWI.” People wear poppies upon their breast to honor our fallen soldiers, no matter what war or conflict in which they served.

<https://newsroom.woundedwarriorproject.org/What-is-Memorial-Day-Facts-Meaning-and-History>



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

Commander's Thoughts

Submitted by Dennis Hall, Commander Post 13

The April 2 night “Meet and Greet the Candidates” turned out to be very successful. 24 candidates came and took the opportunity to identify themselves, state the office they were running to be elected, and had two or three minutes to tell why they should be elected. They were instructed to not criticize their opponents and to respect each other’s point of view. They were all very polite and complementary to each other. I had several candidates tell me they had never met the person or people they were running against. Some even went so far as to sign the petition of those running against them. We had Democrat, Republican, and Independent candidates running for city commissioner seats to members of the House of Representatives. Approximately 70 voters were present to meet with the candidates. The Post received excellent coverage from WCTV and FOX 49 television and the *Tallahassee Democrat*. Another “Meet and Greet the Candidates” will take place following the primary voting in either September or October. Post 13 will not endorse any political candidate or party.

The Post nominations for the Executive Committee are now closed and the Post elections will take place the May 12, General Business Meeting. You must be a member in “good standing” to vote. Your 2026 dues must be paid. Please bring your current membership card with you to validate your current status. 2026 dues may be paid before the General Business Meeting is called to order at 6:30 pm, and you will be allowed to vote.

The Post second “Gaming Night” was Sunday, April 19. Fifteen attended and two more were present than were at during our first “Gaming Night” in March. Mostly young adults: men and women are coming to the Post for the first time ever. They are finding out about the dances that are being offered and some have indicated they will come and give us a try. I am encouraged and can see this taking off in a few more months. We are using Social media to help get the word out and are encouraging families to participate. Have you been, yet? Bring your own games or borrow one or more from the Post. We have inexpensive snacks to purchase, and the admission is free to anyone who attends. See you at the May 17, “Gaming Night.”

The VA Sgt Ernest “Boots” Thomas Clinic on Orange Avenue is having a “Veterans Resource Fair” on Tuesday May 5, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. A resource table will be made available to provide information about the American Legion. We are planning to participate in the Veterans “Stand Down” on Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16. This event is at the Al Lawson Center at FAMU. We will have an information table set up both days inside the center. The hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm each day. If you are interested in helping veterans know more about the American Legion and Post 13 in particular, call me at 850-445-9612 and let me know. I will be happy to explain how you can help at either of these events.

The annual Memorial Day Service is on Monday, May 25, at 11:00 am in the southeast corner of the Oakland City Cemetery. We are inviting our city, county, and state leaders to join us. I know I can count you to attend. I will need some strong Legionnaires to help load, setup, breakdown, and return tables, chairs, tents and other items to the cemetery and back to the Post. Call me if you can help. 850-445-9612.

THANK YOU, IN ADVANCE!

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU DID IT! WE ARE 103.72% 2026 RENEWAL RATE!! WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU! AND IT AIN’T OVER, YET. OUR GOAL, BY THE END OF APRIL IS TO BE 105 %. WE CAN DO IT TOGETHER! THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

Best regards,

Dennis Hall
Commander, Post 13
“For God and Country”



“All things seem possible in May.” ~ Edwin Way Teale

FSU Student Performs Senior Recital at Post 13

Submitted by Dennis Hall, Commander Post 13

Miss Cassandra Cruz, a senior of the School of Music at Florida State University, performed her senior musical recital in the ballroom of Post 13. Miss Cruz gave an hour recital mixed with jazz, gospel, and three of her original songs of faith. Her performance was well received and enjoyed by everyone attending. Her five member musical accompanists provided additional entrainment by being “highlighted” individually in several of her numbers. She is graduating in a few weeks and will be moving back to Orlando. Her goal is to save money and later move to Nashville and attend Belmont University’s School of Music. Her favorite genres of music are jazz and gospel. For the past three years she was accompanied by the Tallahassee Swing Band as one its lead singers. The Tallahassee Swing Band plays each Tuesday night at Post 13 in the ballroom. She is a crowd favorite and will be missed when she moves back home. Not only does she have an accomplished stage presence, but truly has a gift for singing with passion and confidence. She enjoys performing her own songs of faith by writing the lyrics, arranging, and composing the music. Many in the audience, who came to see and hear her on April 12, were members of the Tallahassee Swing Band, patrons of the Tuesday night dances, and friends and classmates from FSU. Her final regular night of singing is Tuesday night at Post 13 on April 21. We know she must go, but it will be difficult to not see and hear on a regular basis. Congratulations for her scholastic achievement, and the best to her as she follows her dream. May God continue to bless her.



“May, queen of blossoms, and fulfilling flowers.” ~ Lord Edward Thurlow

FSU ROTC Medals Presented by Post 13 (Submitted by Dennis Hall, Post 13 Commander)



On Wednesday, April 1, 2026 Post 13's First Vice Commander Andre Rosedale presented the American Legion Military Excellence and American Legion Scholastic Excellence Medals to FSU ROTC Cadets. The event was a joint awards ceremony for both Army and Air Force ROTC Cadets. The ceremony was held at the Augustus B. Turnbull III Florida State University Conference Center on the campus of Florida State University.

FAMU Navy ROTC Midshipmen had a separate ceremony on another day, and awarded their Midshipmen the medals from Post 13. Post 13 has awarded ROTC and JROTC medals for several years.

JROTC medals will be awarded at their respective ceremonies in May.

U.S. ARMY CADETS



U.S. AIR FORCE CADETS



“The earth laughs in flowers.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

FSU ROTC Medals Presented by Post 13 Continued...

U.S. AIR FORCE CADETS continued



Silas is the son of Jerry and Cheryl Latimer and has been accepted into Boys State. He is the grandson of Sharon Courey.

Boys State is held at FSU and runs from June 21, 7:00 am until June 27, 7:00 am.

Silas is very active in his church and our community. (More to come.)

We at Post 13 wish Silas the very best in the competition.



WCTV featured an article on a Vietnam veteran, Larry Jackson. He resides in Albany, Georgia and travels to Tallahassee every year on April 8 to honor a fallen comrade. Larry was a door gunner on Joe Harris' helicopter during the Vietnam War, and they were gunned down in 1972 by enemy fire.

Joe grew up in Tallahassee and is buried in a cemetery in the Capital City. Joe's father was a distinguished district attorney in town.

Larry is a personal friend of Vick Hanna and John Folsom. Vic recalls growing up with Joe and riding around in his Packard.

To read the full article:

<https://www.wctv.tv/2026/04/09/he-will-never-be-forgotten-vietnam-veteran-makes-annual-trip-fallen-comrades-tallahassee-grave/>

“May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope.” ~ Emily Brontë

Remembering the Gravesites of Vietnam Veterans (Submitted by Dennis Hall, Post 13 Commander)

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is observed annually on March 29 in the United States. It is a national observance that recognizes veterans who served in the U.S. military during the Vietnam War.

March 29 was chosen as National Vietnam War Veterans Day because on March 29, 1973, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) was disbanded and the last U.S. combat troops departed the Republic of Vietnam. The last unit was elements of MACV's Infantry Security Force (Special Guard).

On March 29, 2012, President Barack Obama proclaimed March 29, 2012, as Vietnam Veterans Day. The proclamation called "upon all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that commemorated the 50 year anniversary of the Vietnam War.

On December 26, 2016, the Vietnam Veterans Day Coalition of States Council presented a letter to President Elect Donald Trump and Congressional leadership outlining the history and timeline of cause to establish March 29 as Vietnam War Veterans Day and requesting that it be one of the first legislations passed and signed into law during the 115 Congress.

On March 28, 2017, President Trump signed the *Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017*. This act officially recognizes March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. The Act also includes the day among those days on which the U.S. Flag should especially be displayed.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Vietnam_War_Veterans_Day)

David Wilson, a Legionnaire of Post FL0068 Madison, Florida organizes Vietnam Veterans Graves Remembrance Services at local area cemeteries. The services are usually on the first Sunday of the months of February – May. A short service is provided at the grave of the Vietnam Veteran. The service is a solemn event that provides the assurance the veteran will not be forgotten. Wilson reminds those present that a person can die twice. First, at the time of physical death and secondly, when their name is forgotten to be said. These services prevent their second death from happening.

The service includes a short military biographical sketch of the veteran, including the circumstances which caused the death and the date of death. A "Memory Rock" and a "Hero Rock" are placed at the headstone, a flag is placed on the grave, their name, rank, branch of service are stated, a salute is rendered and a prayer is offered for the veteran's service and surviving family members.

Easter, this year, was on the first Sunday in April, and it was decided to move the April service to the last Sunday of March, on National Vietnam Veterans Day. Members of Post 13 attended the service, as well as members from other Veteran Service Organizations, and the general public. Many of the attendees are faithful in attending other months as well.

Legionnaire David Wilson has laboriously documented the locations of thousands of graves of veterans across north Florida and southern Georgia in books documenting their graves by county. The books, or guides, as he describes them, provide information and pictures of graves and of many veterans. The books are a great resource for families and organizations interested in honoring the graves of veterans in their county. If anyone is interested in obtaining any of his books, Legionnaire David Wilson may be contacted at 850-510-3536 for more information.

Continued...

Remembering the Gravesites of Vietnam Veterans continued (Submitted by Dennis Hall, Post 13 Commander)



Michael Miller



Doyle Wells Reeves



Alan Daryl Harvey



Jerry Grant Ingram



Doyle Wells Reeves



Clayton Leon Cruce



Jerry Grant Ingram



“The month of May paints our world with vibrant hues.” ~ Unknown

Post Social Dinner News March 26, 2026

Submitted by Steven M. Shaffer, Post 13 Historian

2026 marches on. Shout out to the Sauls-Bridges Post 13 Auxiliary with Nell's team helping out with set up and food prep for the monthly dinner. Lot's of great food and fellowship as we gathered at the Legion Hall to honor key people who give of their time and skills to the Hall.



In typical fashion Commander Hall called the meeting/dinner to order, with the Pledge of Allegiance, and opening prayer, and the solemn reading of the POW table of remembrance. Commander Hall also remembered the fallen troops that made the ultimate sacrifice during the current military conflict with Iran.



Pledge of Allegiance

Operation Epic Fury Fallen

Names	Service Branch
Master Sgt. Tyler H. Simmons	Air National Guard
Maj. Ariana G. Savino	Air Force
Tech. Sgt. Ashley B. Pruitt	Air Force
Capt. Seth R. Koval	Air National Guard
Maj. John A. Klinner	Air Force
Capt. Curtis J. Angst	Air National Guard
Sgt. Benjamin N. Pennington	Army
Sgt. 1st Class Noah L. Tietjens	Army Reserve
Maj. Jeffrey R. O'Brien	Army Reserve
CWF-3 Robert M. Marzan	Army Reserve
Capt. Cody A. Khork	Army Reserve
Sgt. Declan J. Coady	Army Reserve
SFC Nicole M. Amor	Army Reserve

Read about each soldier and airman & air woman here:

<https://www.military.com/deployment/honor-fallen-of-operation-epic-fury.html>

The chow line was opened up after the opening remarks, and the food was terrific, especially the dessert table.

The presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation is shown at right.



The American Legion Family



"In the Spirit of Service - Not Self"

NATIONS WILL RISE AGAINST NATIONS

Hi Members,

The month of May will be very emotional for some of us; and a month for **all of us** to give "Thanks" to the families that have had a relative who has given their life, the ultimate sacrifice, in service to our nation. Gold Star Families - We Never Forget! We have Memorial Days every month.



Congratulations to our newly elected ALA Officers. Members, let us remember to give them support as they guide us through fiscal year 2026-2027. Thank you for helping submit all year-end reports to our District II and Department Chairmen last month.

We will be distributing our red paper Poppy flowers for the Memorial Day weekend. The red poppy is a widely recognized symbol of remembrance for military veterans, worn to honor their sacrifices. Distribution locations will be discussed at our ALA monthly meeting.

Mark your calendars for the following events. **May 14th** - ALA Executive Committee Meeting at 5:30 pm in the Hooch; **May 14th** - ALA General Membership Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Hooch; **May 25th** - MEMORIAL DAY ceremonies at different locations; **May 28th** - Post Social at 6:30 pm in the Legion Hall; and **Every Day** - Prayers and Blessings daily for our Legion Families and for the Nations.

Prayers and Blessings,
Muriel Alexander Kweyama, President
ALA Sauls-Bridges Unit 13, Inc.



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



Almighty Father, as we approach Memorial Day, we remember those who fought and died for our freedom. The celebration of this day originated from Decoration Day which honored soldiers killed during the Civil War. Eventually it came to prominence after WWII and was officially federalized in 1967 as Memorial Day. We pay tribute to the millions of soldiers who protected our United States citizens to live under the freedoms afforded by the Constitution. Let us always acknowledge our support, admiration and thankfulness to our military and veterans. Freedom is not free and we pray for the constant protection of all our active armed forces and never forget our veterans of all past wars. Lord, as we strengthen our devotion to You, make us worthy of our citizenship and the principles our military are fighting to maintain. Guide those in authority in our city, state, and nation with wisdom to know and fortitude to uphold the Constitution and its laws for the good of our country and its people. God bless the United States of America, all those who serve and have served. We pray in Your Holy name. Amen.

"The last days of May are among the longest of the year." ~ Alice Monro

Honor Flight Tallahassee

April 18, 2026

Submitted by Steven M. Shaffer, Post 13 Historian



American Legion Post 13 set up a table to welcome home the returning vets from a day of touring our nation's monuments. It as a celebration for families and friends to welcome back the veteran's both old, and not so old to hugs, and the joy of coming home. Learn more at: <https://honorflighttallahassee.org/>.



Here's some photos of the late evening arrival. Those in attendance and representing Post 13 were Post Commander Dennis Hall, his wife Dottie, Mike Mann, (wife Debra, our Sgt. At Arms, was a Guardian), Ed Rodriguez, (2nd Vice Adjutant) and yours truly, with my wife Rosann enjoying the homecoming celebrations.



Entertainment by Tallahassee Swing Band



Water Cannon Arrival



Ed Rodriguez and Commander Dennis Hall



Debra stops by the Post 13 table to see Mike.



Sharp Honor Guard

"May is green and pink and red." ~ Richard L. Ratliff

Honor Flight Tallahassee continued...



Jet approaching stopping point.



Disembarking to a warm welcome!



Cheers and Handshakes, and a Joyful Welcome Back Home!!!



Red Cross handing out gift swag.

Honor Flight 2026 in the news/TV.



Disabled vets also part of

For more pictures from Honor Flight Tallahassee, go to the link below.

<https://www.wctv.tv/2026/04/19/12th-honor-flight-tallahassee-returns-home-successful-trip-washington-dc/>

Joy of coming Home!!!



“And after winter folweth grene May.” ~ Geoffrey Chaucer

Meet and Greet the Candidates April 2, 2026

Submitted by Steven M. Shaffer, Post 13 Historian



Sauls-Bridges Post 13 hosted the 2026 Meet and Greet the Candidates as a non-partisan venue for various candidates to kick off their respective campaigns for public office. Participants included a wide variety of people to include representatives for District 2 Congress, Leon County and Tallahassee City Commission, and even several judges.

The recurring theme naturally centered on veteran services and ways to improve and maintain the work by the VA, from local, county, state and national levels.

The primary is on 18 August and elections will be held on November 3.

As you know, the three key areas of citizen participation in our government are: military service, jury duty, and voting. Early voting begins August 8, 2026.

For more information, please visit the Leon County Supervisor of Elections: www.leonvotes.gov.

This event was an excellent way for each candidate to meet and shake hands with vets and the general public to express their views and goals and introduce themselves with 3-4 minute “stump” speeches that highlighted their career and skills and how they can serve the community.

To start off the evening, Commander Hall officiated with the Pledge of Allegiance, continued with the National Anthem, and Chaplain Folsom offered up a prayer for all present, and we also recognized and paid tribute to the fallen soldiers and airman/women who gave their lives in defense of freedom during Operation Epic Fury. Commander Hall read the names of each one in honor of their service and ultimate sacrifice.

Enjoy the photos from the event.



The event was covered by local TV media and also posted online.

Our 2nd Vice Adjutant Ed Rodriguez was interviewed and quoted in the article shown on page 5.



Meet and Greet the Candidates continued...

6A | SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020 | TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Veterans meet candidates at American Legion event

Arianna Otero

Tallahassee Contributor | USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Nearly 20 candidates showed up for the American Legion's first ever meet-and-greet with the purpose of connecting veterans with those who wish to represent them.

The Lake Hills legion hall hosted a sort of convention-like affair for the event, which kicked off at 6:30 p.m. on April 2. The sides of the room were decked with long tables with candidates; there were a number of tables in the middle for guests, each one was covered with a number of different candidate flyers.

Dennis Hall, the Legion post commander, told the crowd of nearly 30 people, "We want you to know that we already have a great relationship with the city and the county ... all we want to do is build upon that relationship."

Due to the sheer volume of candidates, ranging from local seats to judges to Congress, the first hour was dedicated to introductions. Each person got their turn at the mic for a chance to introduce themselves and provide some facts. Many brought up their own connections to the military.

Keith Gross, running for Neal Dunn's seat in Congress, described himself as an "America First republican." He's a veteran who served in the Army National Guard and is currently an entrepreneur.

Taletin Edwards, running for Tallahassee City



Nearly 20 candidates showed up for the American Legion's candidate meet-and-greet on April 2.

ARIANNA OTERO/TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Commission Seat 3, got personal: "I think about my brother, who is a current lieutenant colonel in the army, still active, just had a baby ... he's holding his breath waiting to see if he's going to be deployed."

She added, "Another one of my brothers is a retired captain ... he struggles sometimes with life issues."

Another candidate for that seat, PJ Perez, provided a different story on the impact the military has, even to

his young students. The school teacher described a moment when a student raised her hand in his class, sharing that, growing up, she would watch YouTube compilations of service members reuniting with their families, and they would consistently move her to tears.

"I just wanted to share that this is a student of mine that has no connection to the military, that had a deep, profound impact about the services you guys have provided," Perez said.

Once everyone was finally finished, veterans and candidates mingled and chatted about anything from local politics to fishing. Even opponents were shaking hands.

Attendees interviewed said it was a worthwhile experience: "Being a military guy for 26 years, you can take me out of the military but you can't take the military out of me. I'm a big fan of veterans, I support veterans, so for me it's what can (candidates) do for the veterans," Edwin Rodriguez, a veteran himself, said.

And Sharon Carlson, a military wife, said she left the legion hall with more knowledge than she came in with, which has encouraged her to do more research. "I didn't know these (candidates) much at all so I feel better."

Arianna Otero is the trending and breaking news reporter for the Tallahassee Democrat. Contact her via email at AOTero@tallahassee.com and follow her on X: [@ari_oterov](https://twitter.com/ari_oterov).



"When April steps aside for May, like diamonds all the rain drops glisten." ~ Lucy Larcom

Meet and Greet the Candidates continued...



“Blossom by blossom the spring begins.” ~ Algernon Charles Swinburne

Meet and Greet the Candidates continued...



Memorial Day Celebration

Every year, Post 13 honors our soldiers who have passed on. This is a somber time; a time for reflection on their sacrifices, a time of honor for those who have served so selflessly, and a time for gratitude, for without their sacrifice and service we would not enjoy the freedoms of this great country.

“Memorial Day is meant for remembering and honoring military personnel who died in the service of their country, particularly those who died in battle, or as a result of a wound sustained in battle.”¹

The traditional Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at Oakland Cemetery, May 25th, at 11:00 am.

The Post will have tents, tables, chairs, and water available and we encourage families to attend. A guest speaker will be providing the honorary tribute.

Flags will be placed at each gravesite along with patriotic music for all to enjoy. We want to honor fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, sisters, aunts, uncles, brothers, husbands, wives, friends, and others who have paid the ultimate price.

This ceremony provides an opportunity to say “Thank you”, once again for the sacrifices made.

The ceremony will conclude at 12:00 noon with Echo Taps.

¹ <https://veteran.com/memorial-day/>



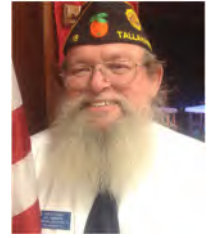
“Oh it was sweet to think that May should be ours again.” ~ Paul Laurance Dunbar

By John Folsom, Florida Veterans Hall of Fame, Chaplain 2nd District, American Legion

That time of the year has arrived once again. We have 8 officer positions that have to be filled every year. Those positions are:

Commander
1st Vice Commander
2nd Vice Commander
3rd Vice Commander

Sergeant at Arms
Historian
Finance Officer
Chaplain



We have had great people serving, and some may even want to continue to serve. Others however have been serving for quite a while and want to give their positions up. This is where you come in, your serving for a time might be just what this post needs to keep itself afloat. I myself have held four different post positions. Our post has over 500 members we should not be hunting for candidates.

Nominations were opened at our March 12th meeting.

At our April 9th meeting Nominations closed.

At our May 14th meeting we will hold our elections. There will not be any nominations taken from the floor.

At our June 25th social we will install our new officers.

I have served as nominating chairman in the past, so until Commander Hall decides to replace me I will fill that position.

You may call me at: John Folsom/Chaplain, at 850-508-6417.



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Members,

Spring is in full-swing! Weather is hot, dry and humid. Two significant, very special days this month. We are celebrating our moms. Most of you remember my mom, Dorothea, and how very special Dorothea was to me and so many people. Also, Vic Hanna's mom Louise. Such a wonderful lady.

We cannot stress enough the importance of Memorial Day. It's such an emotional day for so many of us. I would say there is a majority of the membership here at Post 13 who have lost loved ones and treasured friends, either during active duty, medical related issues due to their military service as I have, or just through their life of commitment to our country. Once military, always military. Please pray for the families and friends of the deceased and remember our currently military serving our country.

We at Post 13 appreciate our members and special thanks to all our many volunteers! ~ Paula Wilkins

“Keep your face to the sunshine, and you cannot see a shadow.” ~ Helen Keller

ACCORDING TO CHARLES LECROY PART 2: LECROY LIFE DURING THE DEPRESSION CONTINUED

My Grandfather, Edward Steed, moved to Pike County from Georgia. He was a longtime night watchman at Dickert Lumber Company. He and Big Mama lived in a big house in the middle of the mill yard. They had a good name, as well as the entire family and all were well respected throughout Pike County and wherever they went.

By any means of the imagination, my childhood days were not blessed with material nice goodies, but we had and appreciated a pleasant home and we enjoyed plenty of food. Daddy was never rich but he was capable of hard work, his work ethic produced quality results. He taught us children to do a very good job or else stop, unless it was right and it looked good.



Mother

Mother, I'm happy to say had the same principles, no excuses! I feel I can safely say all of the kids learned these traits well and their families likewise. It was my parent's influence that taught me to never say no or can't. I'm quite sure most family friends and colleagues have heard me express my "Can Do Attitude" philosophy.

We always looked forward to Christmas as it was a special time of the year. Our Christmas tree was a cedar tree Daddy had kept his eye on for just the right time. It did not have glittering bright lights, remember we did not have electricity, yet we had a Christmas tree decorated according to our conditions. Mother cut strips of garland for the tree by cutting it from construction paper and sewing together the pieces about the size of a quarter. She would make enough to go around the tree a few times. Additional decorations were a pine cone or two, maybe a few hickory nuts and a few wild flowers.

On Christmas morning, we might find a pocket knife for Clyde and Charles. A new skull cap for everyone, an apple and an orange, a small roll of peppermint stick candy, a few English walnuts and a few Brazil nuts for everyone. Just don't recall what the girls, Ruby and Betty, may have gotten.

We kids always wondered how Santa found his way to our house behind the big gully, which was 4.2 miles from Brundidge.

The description of Christmas like this may seem sad, but Santa came to see us and that was okay. And to this day it is still ok. Life teaches us lots of lessons each day. This thought remains very real and active in my heart to this day.

My heart hurts for my Mother and Daddy having to endure the cold weather and conditions such as we did much of the winter. It must have been gigantic hurt for each of them. My heart was also heavy for Mother, Ruby and Betty because there was not a proper bathroom in which to tend to their personal needs.

Our daily chores were an essential part of our life. Ruby, Doug and I were trying to get to the school bus when we could. Most often Ruby and Doug made it to the bus. School was an important issue; however Clyde and I often did not make the bus because we were needed to work around the farm which was a priority. I recall a time when Ruby was crying as we made our way from the house to the bus stop. It was either, very cold, very hot or very wet.

Clyde left the farm and joined the WPA, Work Progress Administration, a federal government program during the depression to earn a few dollars. Young men not in the military, but able to work, were sought for the WPA. The purpose of the program was to carry out public works projects.



Clyde LeCroy, USMC

Continued next page...

"Spring is the time of plans and projects." ~ Leo Tolstoy

PART 2: LECROY LIFE DURING THE DEPRESSION CONTINUED

The Depression and WWII had slowed the economy, so many families benefitted from even the small income earned through employment with the WPA.

Clyde went by train to the state of Oregon to cut trees for lumber. I'm sure Clyde was sad when he learned sawing logs was the job. He grew up sawing logs and had been on the other end of our saw with Daddy, Doug or me. When Clyde came home I did not ask him about the work in Oregon.

Clyde was later drafted for military service during WWII and he chose the Navy where he served until V J Day, when he was discharged. Mother made Roy and Wayne an outfit from Clyde's Navy uniform. What two outstanding handsome young guys they were!!!

Mother was an accomplished seamstress. Her common sense and ability to sew as she did was amazing and a great benefit to our family. In fact, Mother made most of the shirts I wore in tenth through twelfth grades, plus the shirt I wore the day Fred Owens, Edward Phelps and I rode away in a staff car with an Air Force recruiter. I might not have realized at the time, but I was on my way to twenty-gwo wonderful years of Air Force service.

Following his Navy discharge, Clyde joined th Marines and was off to Paris Island, SC. I have many times wished he could have had a military career as I did. My career was very good, I was pleased all the way and it was totally valuable.

During my twenty-two years in the Air Force, I was fortunate to be in the right place at the right time as I achieved CMSGT. I attended college on Operation Bootstrap and earned an undergraduate degree. My military years were blessed with some of the nicest and finest people. In retirement since 1969, I have been associated with various veteran organizations. I was honored as the 2022 Grand Marshal for the Tallahassee, FL, annual Veteran's Day Parade. In 2015, I was voted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame. I was elected and served five consecutive years as Commander of American Legion Post 13, Tallahassee, FL. My heart is filled with pride for the honors I've received and the respect shown to me throughout the veteran communities.



Charles LeCroy and Major John Haynes,
Announcement of 2015 Hall of Fame selection



Commander, Sauls Bridges
American Legion Post 13



Charles representing the Florida Veterans Foundation



Grand Marshal 2022 Tallahassee
Veteran's Day Parade

“Along with the greening of May came the rain.” ~ Victoria Abbott Riccardi



The Rhythm Remedy
Tallahassee, FL



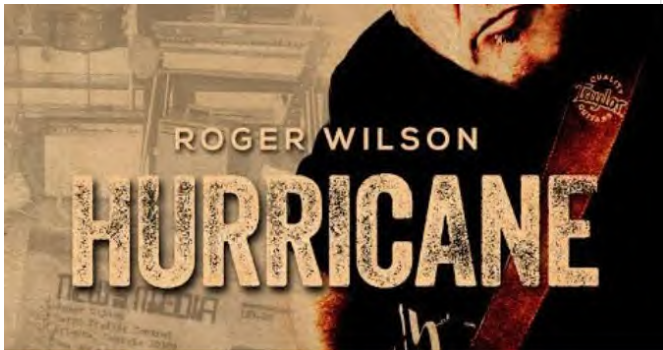
MAY 22ND! THE ELEMENTS
\$10 cover at the door
7:30 PM-10:30 PM
Lake Ella
THE LEGION



Blues MAC DADDY
Friday, May 15th ~ 8 - 10 pm
\$20 Advance - \$25 Day of Show
Doors Open 7:30pm
Alastair Greene
American Legion Post 13
229 Lake Ella Drive
Tallahassee, FL
Tickets: www.macdaddyblues.com



Fri, May 15 at 8 PM
Allastair Greene Band live at the American Legion Post 13 in Tallahassee Friday May 15th at 8 PM ☆ Interested



Sat, May 16 at 8 PM
Roger "Hurricane" Wilson Band live at The American Legion Post 13 in Tallahassee Sat. May 16th 8 PM ☆ Interested



Sat, May 23 at 7:30 PM
Bob Dylan's 85th Birthday Bash in Tallahassee
American Legion Sauls-Bridges Post 13 Tallahassee FL
154 people interested ☆ Interested

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 1 Silver Star Service Banner Day
- May 1 National Loyalty Day
- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 8 VE Day
- May 8 Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 10 Mother's Day
- May 13 Children of Fallen Patriots Day
- May 16 Armed Forces Day
- May 22 National Poppy Day
- May 25 Memorial Day
- May 28 Post 13 Social 6:00 PM
Program 6:30 PM

NATIONAL POPPY DAY



May 22, 2026 is National Poppy Day and it's celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion Family brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day. On the Friday before Memorial Day, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

<https://www.legion-aux.org/national-poppy-day#:~:text=May%2026%2C%202023,Day%2C%20as%20National%20Poppy%20Day>

COME AND DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY WITH
THE MUSIC OF

THE HIGHWAY 59 BAND

Friday

May 29, 2026

The party starts at 7:30 PM at the

American Legion Hall at Lake Ella

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM Cash Bar










\$10.00 PER PERSON Cash Only

Band Plays from 7:30 – 10:30



AMERICAN LEGION HALL

**229 LAKE ELLA DRIVE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302
850-322-3382**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	27 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	28 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	29 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	30 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative	1 MAY HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 National Loyalty Day 	2 9:30 am - 1:00 pm Girl's State Orientation
3 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	4 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	5 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students 	6 10:00 am Commander's Coalition 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	7 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 	8 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 Military Spouse Appreciation Day Victory in Europe Day	9 7:00 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Rhythm Remedy Cover \$10 Open to Public
10 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967 	11 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY \$10 ALL AGES OPEN TO PUBLIC	12 6:30 - 10:00 pm TALLAHASSEE SWING BAND \$10 Open to Public \$7 Students	13 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC Children of Fallen Patriots Day	14 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 5:30 pm E Executive Board Meeting 6:30 pm General Meeting 	15 10:00-4:00 Stand-Down Doors 7:00 pm 8:00 - 11:00 pm Alastair Greene Cover \$20/\$25 Open to Public	16  10:00-4:00 Stand-Down 7:00 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Roger "Hurricane" Wilson Cover \$20/\$25 Open to Public
17 4:00 - 8:00 pm Games Night Free Open to Public	18 5:30 pm SWING FUSION EVERY MONDAY 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 6:30 - 9:30 PM SUE BOYD DANCE AND LESSONS OPEN TO PUBLIC	21 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 5:00 - 9:00 pm Women Vets Unite	22 7:00 pm Doors Open 8:00 pm Show Elements Band Cover \$10 Open to Public NATIONAL POPPY DAY 	23 6:30 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Bob Dylan 85th Birthday Bash Cover Open to Public
24 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967	25  11:00 am - 12:00 pm MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY 5:30 pm SWING FUSION 7:00 - 9:00 pm DANCE PARTY	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 OPEN TO PUBLIC	28 3:00 - 5:00 pm Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative 6:30 pm POST SOCIAL 	29 7:00 pm Doors Open 7:30 pm Show Hwy 59 Cover \$10 Open to Public	30 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967
31 HALL AVAILABLE CALL 284-6967						

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:
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Tallahassee, Florida 32303

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Sauls-Bridges Post #13
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Phone: 850-222-3382
Web: FloridaLegionPost13.org
Email: amlegp13@gmail.com

**For God
and Country**

MAY 2026

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

US Postage PAID

Tallahassee, Florida

Permit No. 21

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Paula Wilkins

Photos: Email:

aml13newsletter@gmail.com

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

EVENTS BOOKING:

(850) 284-6967



Deadline for the JUNE 2026

**Newsletter will be
MAY 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**