

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

February 2024



Another great month behind us, greater months ahead. I look forward to starting construction soon. As it gets closer, more questions come up as to how we can use this great facility to benefit veterans, children, and our community. If you have ideas, pass them along to me via email or by note. We need to discuss them with each other to formulate proposals that the Post can decide.

I've changed the Post hours (see schedule). This is flexible as I receive requests and ideas for activities. I'm looking for you to use the Post and provide feedback.

Expect a phone call/email on March 2nd. Members will be calling members to check up on everyone, especially those we haven't seen in a while. Please join Tom Yeoman and others at 8:30 a.m. to participate.

The Four Chaplains Program was a great start to an annual ceremony. We will seek to have more community involvement to raise awareness of these men and veterans in general.

Keep in touch with each other. Reach out to those you don't see. We have each other's back.

Mark Harvey/For God and Country/In Service
Veteran Help Line: **Dial 988, option 1**

Adjutant



Congratulations to all of YOU on an outstanding job of retaining and recruiting new members to our Post! Our membership currently stands at 377 or 101.62% of our 2024 membership goal. It is also noteworthy that we currently have a 92.64%-member renewal rate, it is not 100% but it is still very good. For those that have yet to renew, rejoin the team and continue to be a part this great Veteran Service Organization. There is strength in numbers. [Membership Renewal Quick Pay \(mylegion.org\)](#), mail your check to PO Box 897 Chapin SC 29036, come to breakfast Monday morning, attend one of the Post meetings or activities.

At our March meeting we will select our nominating committee which should be made up of no less than three members in good standing one of which will serve as the Committee Chairman. If you would like to be the Chairman or be one the nominating committee members just let one of our Post Officers know and they will place your name on the list. We will hold our Post elections in May. If you desire to fill one of the elected positions in the Post, please let it be known, do not let the fact that the incumbent desires to remain in the position keep you from running. In a perfect scenario we would have three or four members running for each position. We are a growing Post and there is plenty of talent out there to serve in all our elected positions.

We held our first Wreaths Across America (WAA) meeting on 23 January 2024, the meeting was well attended and raised a lot of questions. Currently we have four churches/cemeteries that have agreed to participate in and are registered with Wreaths Across America. I believe this is going to be a good program for us to sponsor here in the Chapin community. For it to be a success we will need the support of the Post members, we have 10 – 12 members that have stepped up to serve and we need more. Each Church/cemetery will need to have at least one Liaison / Site Lead. If we cannot get a Liaison/Group Lead for a Church or cemetery we may not be able to sign the site up. We are also in need of a public affairs kind of person to take the lead in organizing our advertising and community outreach. The Wreaths Across American resource support site has a myriad of information and tools to assist us in getting the word out, we just need someone to manage it. We will hold our next WAA in person meeting Tuesday 5 March @ 7:15 p.m. If you would like to help, please let me know.

The 2024 American Legion Department of South Carolina annual Convention will be held May 16, 2024 – May 19, 2024, at the Doubletree by Hilton in Columbia. Currently Post 193 is authorized 18 delegates to the Convention. The Post will pay the \$35.00 registration fee for all authorized delegates. Detailed Information pertaining to the Convention can be found by clicking the following link. --[2024 Call to Convention updated.pdf \(southcarolinalegion.org\)](#)

Steven Goulet/" We Can Build It"/" Veterans Strengthening America"

First Vice Commander



The submission for Teacher of the Year was turned in meeting the 15 February suspense date. No Boy Scout of the Year nominees were provided.

Our recruitment drive and raffle ticket sales were conducted on Friday the 16th and Saturday the 17th at Boland's ACE Hardware. The results were that we took in \$120.00 for the Post Building Fund, sold 40 Gun Raffle tickets, 3 tickets for the American Legion Riders' Breakfast and signed up one possible new member. The next recruitment/raffle drive will be in March on Friday the 15th / 1200 to 1600 and Saturday the 16th / 1000 to 1400 and will be held again at

Bolands'.

Richard Nielen/For God and Country

Third Vice Commander



I now have a picture, so you know what I look like. If you have any input for the newsletter please send it to my email address by the 15th of the month, 3rdvicecdr@americanlegionpost193.org or you can send to my private email Lebar5@twc.com . I am also looking for volunteers to do the Pledge of Allegiance at the Chapin Town Hall meeting for July, August, November and December. You can email me, or you can see me at breakfast on Mondays.

Jerry Lebar / For God and Country

Facility Manager/NBC



Monday Morning Veterans Breakfast is averaging 65 - 70 Veterans. We had three new Veterans this past week, with six over the last month. Breakfast is served from 0830 - 0900 and costs \$6. Coffee is on from 0700 - 1100. You must be a Veteran but you do not need to be a member of the Post to share breakfast with us.

Chapin Women in Service, Oratorical, and the Four Chaplains ceremony utilized the Post this month. If you need to reserve the Post for a meeting or function, give me a call or text at (803)960-8708 to check the calendar.

New Building Committee

Soil samples were obtained by the structural engineer. As expected, the soil on the property will allow for all of our grading and construction requirements. The NBC is preparing for a Groundbreaking Ceremony in April. Stand by for date/time. We will be conducting a Boot Drive Memorial Day weekend - stand by for further details. We are \$80,000 from our original \$1,200,000 fund raising goal. We appreciate everyone contributing to the Building Fund.

David Schimsa/For God and Country

ALR Director



While the weather is still chilly outside, the Riders are gearing up for the warm weather riding seasons. This time of year is always a busy time for ALR 193 due to the wants and needs of Chapter 193.

This weekend, February 24 - 25, we will be riding to Post 186 in North Myrtle Beach for our pre-ride to The Legacy Ride. There will be twelve Riders leaving Saturday morning. The Legacy Ride is going to take place on April 27-28. The Legacy Ride will go to Post 186, and we will raise money for The Veterans and Childrens Fund. If anyone would like to donate to the V&CF, please give the

donation.

The month of March is going to be laden with activities. On March 3, the National Commander is coming to Columbia and Chapter 193 will take part in the motorcycle escort from the airport to his hotel in Columbia. Post 71 in North Augusta is having their Spring Thaw Ride on March 9. 193 Riders will travel to North Augusta to support another ALR Chapter in their fundraiser. A Blessing of the Bikes will take place on March 30. Post 90 in South Congaree has asked for assistance in their Ride around Lake Murray. Chapter 193 will help them out by providing lunch for the Riders taking part in this ride. Our plans are to use the new Post site if the weather permits or Post 193 if the weather dictates.

Chapter 193 in breaking new ground on March 16. The Riders are going to sponsor a St. Patrick's Day Karaoke Party. This event will take place at Post 193 and commence at 4:00 pm (1600 hours) and continue until. All Post members and their guests are invited to attend. Riders are asked to bring snacks and drinks. We already have some singers to provide entertainment, however if you can sing or think you can sing you are encouraged to grab the microphone and display your talents.

On April 6, we will have our Breakfast at Zorba's. This is our best fundraiser and all you need to enjoy a fantastic breakfast is a ticket. You can acquire your ticket from any Rider for a mere \$12.00. This is a very good breakfast, (buffet) and Jimmy Kokolis and his crew at Zorba's provide a breakfast that is second to none. Everyone always sings the praises for this event.

TAL State Convention will take place May 16-19. The ALRSC part will take place on Saturday the 18th at 12:00 noon. It is important that we attend this meeting because this is the time that we vote on changes to our Constitution. All Riders are encouraged to attend.

ROMP Event (Riding On Military Pride) will be June 20-23. This event will be held at Post 186 in North Myrtle Beach. We have Riders coming from everywhere from Maine to Texas. To date we have approximately 150 Riders coming from 11 different states. This event is an outstanding opportunity to meet and socialize with Riders from different parts of the country. If you are planning on attending this event, I urge you to make your hotel and event reservations ASAP.

The Law Cadet Academy is the best kept secret in TAL. Students who are in High school but not 19 years old are eligible to attend this great event. The cadets are introduced to law enforcement, they get to drive police cars, shoot weapons, meet the divers for sled, and many other activities. ALR 193 has committed to sending four cadets to the Academy. If you know of a student who would like to take part, please let a Rider know.

In March we will officially announce that the election season has opened. If you are considering running for a position in the ALR, please know that the following schedule will be followed. In March we will announce that the election process will commence at our April meeting. At the April meeting we will open nominations for all officers of ALR 193. In May we will close nomination, vote, and announce the newly elected officers. The new officers will be sworn in at the June meeting.

Walt Richardson/For God and Country

Chaplain's Corner



The Four Chaplains program was a great success for our first time. We are so fortunate to have five or six trained Chaplains in our post. So many of our Post across the state do not have a trained Clergy to assist with the post work. Tom is doing a yeoman's job of training all of us to "be the one" . to find that one that is slipping through the cracks. Dave has done the impossible with our building program, offer Dave an encouraging word and look for ways to help him. Support our third vice, he has been begging for help at the town hall. There are so many opportunities to serve our post and our Town.

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Comrade Care List:

Remember our Post family, remember the families of the recent members that have passed away, Gerald White, David Frost and Wallace Shirley.

Continue prayers for healing for Betsy Harvy, Jim Major and his Dad, James Blackwell, Jerry Mascisco, and Doug Schmolzde
If you know of someone that needs to be added to this list, please let me know.

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Auxiliary



Ladies, Palmetto Girls State interviews are March 21 and 22 starting at 4:00 p.m.. Please call Nancy Graham at 803-404-0047 if you can help with the interviews. She needs a few more ladies to help. Elections for new officers are in May, please consider stepping into any of the positions. We could do so much more if we all took part in leading our Unit. Please contact Carmen if you are interested in learning more about any of the open positions. The National Auxiliary President Lisa Williams will be in South Carolina, March 17 – 20. She will be in Lexington on Tuesday March 19, and they will be doing a crafting Bee at Post 90 and having dinner at the Flight Deck. I would like some of us to go and meet her. If interested in attending, please let me know. The Spring Convention is May 17 – 18 at the Double Tree in Columbia. I hope that we have at least five members of our Unit that are willing and able to attend.

If you can help with bingo concessions on March 12 at 5:00 – 8:00 please let Carmen know. A roster was sent around and we need help for the remaining second Tuesdays of the month through December. This is our only continual fundraiser and all of us should want to give the time to help with it.

We will be taking the American Legion Auxiliary Basic Course as a group. I have sent out the yes or no questions already and the history for you to review. Please go online to learn more about the American Legion Auxiliary <https://www.legion-aux.org/> and read about what is currently going on with the National Department. You will have to log in so create a user name and password when prompted.

The Chapin Women In Service awarded us a grant for 1,020.00 which will be used to send three young ladies to Palmetto Girls State. If you see a member of The Chapin Women in Service please remember to tell them "thank you".

Carmen Goulet/President /"In the Spirit of Service, Not Self"



Post Activities and Events

Post is open Monday from 0730-1400; Thursday & Friday 1600-2100

- 26 Feb: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 2 Mar: "Be the One" Buddy Checks, 0830-1200, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman/Rich Nielen
- 4 Mar: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 5 Mar: Wreaths Across America meeting 1900, Post Building. POC Steve Goulet
- 7 Mar: Executive Committee Mtg, 1815-1915, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
- 10 Mar: Daylight Savings time ends. Spring ahead one hour...
- 11 Mar: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
BINGO setup. 1630-1730. Post Building. POC: Matt Zambrano
- 12 Mar: BINGO 1730-2200, Ole Oak Barn, 1155 Holy Trinity Church Rd, Little Mountain. POC: Floyd Rogers. Come, help or play.
- 14 Mar: Post 193 and Auxiliary Meeting and Dinner, Dinner at 1800, Meetings at 1900, Post Building, POC: Steve Goulet _ Meal = Pork chops, rice, mixed vegetables
- 16 Mar: **ALR Chapter 193 St. Patrick's Day Karaoke at the Post - Everyone welcome bring a friend. 1600 -**
- 17 Mar: Happy St Patrick's Day!
- 18 Mar: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 19 Mar: ALR Meeting and Dinner, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Walt Richardson
Chapin Town Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, 1800. POC: Dave Schimsa
Boys State Interviews, TBD, Post Building. POC: Floyd Rogers (+20th if needed)
- 25 Mar: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 30 Mar: ALR Picnic. TBD, Post Pavilion. POC: Walt Richardson

For a complete listing of Post 193 activities visit: [Events Calendar \(americanlegionpost193.com\)](http://americanlegionpost193.com)
You can find a great deal of info on our Post website at www.americanlegionpost193.com or on our Facebook page [Chapin American Legion Post 193 | Chapin SC | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ChapinAmericanLegionPost193)

If you are not receiving communications from the Commander at least on a weekly basis, please check your spam folder and, if that is not the problem, let the Adjutant know so the problem can be resolved.

Sign up for MyLegion, there you will find lots of good information at your fingertips. myLegion



Our First Annual Four Chaplains Ceremony was a wonderful success.



Auxiliary Unit 193 was presented a donation for their Girls State Program from the Chapin Women in Service

Good Stuff



Legionnaires Lykes Goulet and Mullinax held a Quilts of valor Presentation in January at Cardinal Neumann Church



Here, Here To Gerald!