

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

March 2024



Another great month behind us, greater months ahead. I look forward to the Groundbreaking Ceremony! 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.

Nominate or volunteer to be on your Executive Committee. See the committee: Bill Moser, Tom Yeoman, or John Siemers. All positions are available. Position descriptions are in the Post Constitution/Bylaws and additional duties list are on the bulletin board. Make a difference to our veterans. It is work but worth it!

The Department Convention is in May. Sign up to attend with George or Steve. Meet with other posts and bring back what your American Legion is doing.

I applaud the ALR for their planning and a great Karaoke event. Everyone had fun and got to talk to their friends. Several great singers!
Keep in touch. 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



Our membership currently stands at 386 or 104.04% of our 2024 membership goal. Also noteworthy is that we currently have more than a 95%-member renewal rate. Where we stand in membership is outstanding and it is all because of YOU, what we as an organization stand for and contribute to our community and what we provide for each other. We are not perfect but collectively we are pretty damn good.

Our Wreaths Across America Program is going well. The mission of the Wreaths Across America Program is to Remember the Fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom. I am certain that in bringing the Wreaths Across America program to the Chapin Community we will accomplish the organization mission and have a positive impact in this community. Currently we have registered/enrolled in the program Chapin Christian Community Church, Lake Murray Presbyterian Church, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, St. Johns AME Church, and St. Thomas Lutheran Church. Starting now we should be reaching out to local organizations, letting them know about the program and soliciting their assistance. If you would like to know more about the Wreaths Across America program you can follow this link [Home - Wreaths Across America](#). There you

will find much information about the program. I also invite each of you to attend our next meeting at the Post, 7:00 p.m. on 2 April 2024.

HELP, we still need 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.

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. 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



Our Be The One "Buddy Check" was completed as scheduled on Saturday the 2nd of March. Thank you to all 16 Legionnaires that participated and to Tom Yeoman and Steve Goulet that organized the session. Looks like we had 98.5% contact rate and we had nine members that needed assistance.

We received two submissions for the Teacher of the Year for 2024. Our submission to the department was not selected. We will determine a date and location to present our Post Award to the teacher that represented our post.

We established a date of 20 March for presenting the Law Enforcement, Public Safety and Bravery Awards at the Richland County Sheriff's Office.

The month of March's scheduled date for recruiting at Boland's ACE Hardware was 16 March from 0900 - 1300. We also used an extra day of Friday 15 March 1200 – 1600 for the main purpose of selling the Rifle Raffle Tickets. The two-day total was 29 Raffle Tickets, 4 Rider's Zorba Tickets, \$50 in donations to the Building Fund, and one new member with two more possibilities.

We held our Memorial Day planning meeting this week and we are looking for volunteers to assist. The next planning session for Memorial Day will be 17 April/1300 at the Post. Please attend if you think you can help out with the ceremony.

Looking for assistance to help conduct the annual Post Audit on the Building Fund, Bingo and the Post Operating Fund. Please contact me if you are willing to assist in these audits. Phone: 781-290-7154 / Email: rhnielen@hotmail.com.

Wreaths Across America planning is continuing with the next meeting scheduled for 2 April / 1900 at the post. If you would like to help or just would like more information you are welcome to attend.

Richard Nielen/For God and Country

Third Vice Commander



I now have a picture, so you know what I look like, I'm also the post quartermaster so I'm the one that orders your name tags, hats, t-shirts, etc etc. 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 the breakfast on Mondays.

Jerry Lebar / For God and Country

Facility Manager/NBC



Monday Morning Veterans Breakfast is now averaging over 70 Veterans per week with a record number 83 the second week of March. A reminder to not park in the Wells Fargo parking lot during banking hours and that the side of the Post next to the flagpole is reserved for motorcycles only. We appreciate our KP volunteers helping with clean up. A reminder, KPs get their next breakfast at no charge. We are looking for two members who would like to join the Breakfast Cooking Crew. Please come see me if you are interested. The Post calendar is filling up. Let me know if you need to reserve the Post for an event or meeting.

New Building Committee

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Groundbreaking Ceremony on Friday, 19 April, at 1500. Our contributions continue to come in. We have raised a total of \$1,146,152.40 against our original goal of \$1,200,000. As you know we have been hit hard by inflation and construction materials have increased significantly since 2019. Let's keep the pedal to the medal in our fund-raising efforts for the Post. Also, in the very near future we will be soliciting bids for goods and services provided by subcontractors. Our Building Consultant and the NBC are working hard to identify subs that will offer us the best possible prices; however, if anyone knows a subcontractor who you think will provide goods/services at a discounted price please let me or anyone else on the NBC know and we'll be sure to follow up. Stand by for some dates for spring cleanup at the new Post site.

David Schimsa/For God and Country

ALR Director



LOOK TWICE, SAVE A LIFE

We have all seen these signs around and as the weather warms up these signs become more and more important. Whether you are in a car or on your bike, take a second and look twice.

On March 16, Chapter 193 had its first annual St. Patrick's Day Karaoke Day. This was an event that was enjoyed by all who attended, and I am certain that all the future St. Patrick Day Karaoke event will be a success. Chapter 193 has a lot of very talented Riders who put on a very good show.

The Blessing of the Bikes for Chapter 90 is coming up on 30 March 2024. We are expecting approximately 60 bikes from Chapter 90 to arrive around 11:30 am. Chapter 193 will be providing lunch for the riders on their ride around the lake. We are ready for the event; the plans are all made and now we wait for the weather. Good weather we will meet at the new Post site, inclement weather and we will meet at Post 193. It is always good to have a good showing for any event. If you are able, plan on attending this event and helping out.

On 6 April 2024, we will have our Breakfast at Zorba's. This is always a fun event, we get to meet a lot of people, have a good meal, promote TAL, and make a little money for our programs. We will start serving around 7:30, but we need you there around 7:00 am. Tickets are \$12 per person, and you will not find a finer breakfast for any price anywhere. Don't forget, we have a choice of rides after breakfast!

GROUNDBREAKING! Post 193 will have its official groundbreaking for the new post on 19 April 2024 at 3:00 pm at the new post site. All Riders are encouraged to attend this event, a lot of Legionnaires have worked long and hard to get us this far.

We will have our Legacy Ride on April 27-28. The ride will go to Post 186 in North Myrtle Beach. This is the first year that we ride to support the Veterans and Children's Foundation. Chapter 193 needs as many riders as possible taking part in this event. This is the signature event for the ALRSC. Anyone wishing to donate to the V&CF can give the donation to Paul Holiday.

The Annual Convention for TAL and ALRSC will take place on May 16-19. The Convention will be held at The Doubletree Hotel on Bush River Road. The ALRSC Convention will be held on Saturday at 12:00 noon. Riders need to attend The Convention so they will learn how Headquarter works and become familiar with the protocol of the Convention.

June 20-23 is the ROMP at Post 186 in North Myrtle Beach. This is going to be a fantastic event that will be attended by over 200 American Legion Riders from over 14 states from New York to California. If you are planning on attending, make sure that you register and secure your hotel reservations. I would also suggest that you purchase a shirt and coin, they will be highly sought after at the event. It is best to pre-order them.

Events that are further out:

Aug 3, Meet and Greet, Chapter 15 Sumter, Sep 21, Wash the Wall, Washington, DC, Oct 6, Texas Roadhouse, Columbia

Chapter 193 is a very active ALR Chapter. In order to maintain this level of activity it is imperative that we have a very large part of our members be active in our events and step up and help in the planning and running of the Chapter. We need all our members to participate in as many activities as they can and to step up and guide the Chapter into the future by becoming an officer in the ALR.

Walt Richardson/For God and Country

Chaplain's Corner



I see signs of Spring.

Grass is turning green, trees are budding out, and early flowers are popping up all around us. Everything was lifeless, brown and dreary just a few weeks ago but SPRING brings us hope of a new beginning. We get to begin again, start over and hope for better results this time. Your religion should provide you with hope and the ability to be forgiven for our failures and the joy of trying again.

Jesus is my hope, He promises to forgive, forget and to cast all my past into the sea of forgiveness never to be remembered again.

Why would He do this? Carrying the weight of our failures and disappointments we would never be able to love, to serve or experience the joy of encouraging others.

Let us lay aside every weight that does so easily beset us and see the opportunity of spring breaking all around us. There are no regrets of yesterday, only success ahead. Hope is around the curve, joy is just over the hill. My hope is to lift one that is down. To encourage one that is losing hope. To be the one that is always looking for that one that is slipping through the cracks of our programs.

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Comrade Care List:

When you pray, remember those listed on our Comrade Care List.

Remember our Post family, remember the recent deaths, Wallace Shirley, David Frost and Gerald White. MG Steve Siegfried recently passed away and the viewing will be at Chapin Christian Community Church on Wednesday 27 March at 12:00 p.m. with the Service at 1:00 p.m.

Remember and pray for our sick and in need of healing, Don Culver, Betsy Harvey, Jim Major and his Dad if anyone has contact information on Jim or his Dad please pass it along to me, James Blackwell, Jerry Mascisco, Doug Schmolze, Rick Daves had shoulder surgery and John Siemers neighbor Glenn Pruitt.

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



Elections for new officers are in May, please contact Anne Richardson our Nominations Chairperson if you are interested in any position. We could do so much more if we all took part in helping with the various positions that are open.

If you can help with bingo concessions on Tuesday, April 9 at 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. please let me know. Please remember that this is our only ongoing fundraiser and with 12 months in a year I think we should all try and help at least one time per year. Thanks to Sharron Ostrander and Jodi Donnelly for helping in March.

National Poppy Day is Friday, May 24, Carol Johns Rogers needs volunteers to help distribute poppies at Bolands Ace from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please contact her if you can help. The Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Monday, May 27 at 10:00 a.m. The Auxiliary would like to host the reception which will immediately follow the ceremony. We need a person to head the reception committee. Anne Richardson has already agreed to help on the committee. Please let me know. Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC has agreed to sponsor the reception. Please thank Robert Shealy Jr. our Post member.

We will be taking the American Legion Auxiliary Basic Course as a group for those who would like to do it. I have sent out the yes or no questions already and the history for you to review as well as the answer sheet. A date can be set on a Saturday morning and we could have lunch afterwards. For those of you that would like to do the course at home and turn in your answer sheet please drop it off at the Post when they are open or scan and email it to me. I think it is important to our Unit to have this information about what the Auxiliary is about. Our meetings do take up all the time so it would be better to do it on a Saturday. I will email out the proposed dates soon.

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

- 30 Mar: Lunch for ALR Chapter 90 Blessing of the Bikes 1200 @ Yeoman-Bernard Pavilion
POC Walt Richardson
- 1 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 2 Apr: Wreath Across America Planning Meeting, 1900, Post Building, POC: Steve Goulet
- 4 Apr: Executive Committee Mtg, 1815-1915, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
- 6 Apr: ALR Buffet Breakfast (\$12 ea.), 0730-1030, Zorba's in Chapin. POC: ALR Member
or at the door
- 8 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
BINGO setup. 1630-1730. Post Building. POC: Matt Zambrano
- 9 Apr: BINGO 1730-2200, Ole Oak Barn, 1155 Holy Trinity Church Rd, Little Mountain.
POC: Floyd Rogers. Come, help or play.
- 11 Apr: Post 193 and Auxiliary Meeting and Dinner, Dinner at 1800, Meetings at 1900, Post
Building, POC: Steve Goulet
- 15 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
TAX Day (reminder)
- 16 Apr: ALR Meeting, 1900-2000, Post Building. POC: Walt Richardson
Chapin Town Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, 1800. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 17 Apr: Memorial Day Planning Meeting, 1300-1400, Post Building. POC: Rich Nielen
- 19 Apr: New Building Groundbreaking Ceremony, 1500-1700, Post Pavilion.
POC: Dave Schimsa
- 22 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 29 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

Sign up for MyLegion, there you will find lots of good information at your fingertips. [myLegion](#)

For a complete listing of Post 193 activities visit: [Events Calendar \(americanlegionpost193.com\)](#)
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](#)

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.



Karaoke? Stay tuned for the next karaoke with Tedioki Productions.

Good Stuff



Bingo anyone? We have been having a packed house each month. Mark your calendar and plan to attend in April.



Bingo Chairman Floyd Rogers presenting a check for \$4,500 for the Post Building Fund to Building Committee Chairman Dave Schimsa



ALR Chapter 193 Member Jim Schafer received his ALRSC United Patch at during the ALRSC Spring meeting on 16 March.