

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

March 2025



We honor our Vietnam Veterans every month but this month is designated Vietnam Veteran Month on the calendar. We had sweets and recognition at breakfast one week and Mission BBQ will provide a free sandwich to any Vietnam era Veteran on 29 March. Thank you for your Service and welcome home.

Post Elections are scheduled for the May Post Meeting. Nominations for all positions are being accepted by the Nomination Committee consisting of Bill Moser, John Siemer, and Moses Cohen. You can nominate yourself or another that you have confirmed will accept the nomination. Even if you cannot fill a formal position, consider volunteering for one of our activities like Memorial Day, Christmas party, membership committee, etc. Speak to any EC member about committees. South Carolina Legion has two Conventions every year where awards and training takes place. It is open to all Legion Members.

As discussed in March, our financial audit is underway as required by our bylaws prior to elections. We expect a clean audit (trust but verify). We will report the results in May.

I'm excited to see the progress on the building. We will have more visibility in the community and local veterans. Ideas on expanded programs that impact our Four Pillars: Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth; are always welcome. Thank you for all you do.

Mark Harvey/ In Service
Veteran Help Line: Dial 988, option 1

Adjutant



Our membership currently stands at 408 or 98.08% of our 2025 membership goal. We currently have an 87.76% member renewal rate which is much lower than what we had at the same time last year. Thank you to all who renewed their membership early and for those that have yet to renew their membership in this great Veteran Service Organization, you still have time. [Membership Renewal Quick Pay \(mylegion.org\)](https://mylegion.org), mail your check to PO Box 897 Chapin SC 29036, come to breakfast Monday morning, attend one of our meetings or activities.

Post elections are 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 or on one of our committees.

The 2025 American Legion Department of South Carolina annual Convention will be held May 15, 2025 – May 18, 2025, at the Doubletree by Hilton in Columbia. Currently Post 193 is authorized 19 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. -- [2025 Call to Convention updated.pdf](#) Please let our Post Treasurer George know if you would like to serve as a delegate.

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

First Vice Commander



We can always use more personnel to participate in the Membership Drive/Rifle Raffle Outreach. **We set up at Boland's on Friday 21 March and Saturday 22 March.** We intend to set up early in April at Mission BBQ (Time and Date TBD). Every little bit helps to get our new building constructed. All are welcome and requested to wear Legion attire. We will put out more information for our next event in April.

We have also begun planning for the Memorial Ceremony. A request has been sent to recruit a speaker for Memorial Day. Our first meeting was held on 13 March and was well attended. The next meeting will be 17 April at the Post with a follow on meeting 15 May at the Town Hall. All three of these meetings will be at 1300. The rehearsal will be on the 22nd of May at the Town Hall at 1600.

Commander Harvey also mentioned that Post members are invited to attend a meet and mingle at Chapin Elementary School on 4 April from 1700 – 1900. The event is led by Fidelis Family Retreat. Let myself or our Commander know if you want to attend. We will also need members to assist in the set-up and breakdown for the event.

We have started planning for the Christmas Party and have locked in Our Lady of the Lake **Catholic Church for this year's party. We will also be using the same caterer that we used this last year.** The first Saturday of December, 2025, is 6 December, and that is the date we have reserved for this year's party. **Profits from the monthly 50/50 at the Post Meeting will go to the Post Christmas Party and Building Fund.**

Richard Nielen / For God and Country

Second Vice Commander

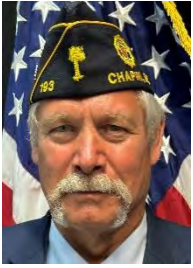


Nothing new for this month. Bingo continues to draw many people.

For our April BINGO we had a scheduling conflict with the Town Hall so we had to move our April game from the 1st Thursday to Tuesday the 8th of April. In May we will return to our normal first Thursday schedule.

Floyd Rogers / For God and Country

Third Vice Commander / Quartermaster / Blood Drive Monitor



There will be a Blood drive on May 12 2025 starting at 10 am and finishing about 4 p.m. For any that can donate it would be appreciated plus it adds to our total units given. Sign up will be on the Red Cross website. We will also need help taking down and setting up the chairs and tables.

I have approximately 30 name tags for people that have ordered them or they were ordered when they joined the Post. Please come see me on Monday during breakfast, at the regular post meeting or call me and we can meet and exchange the name tags The following people have name tags that were ordered:

Frank D. Graham
Ragan Newell
Charles Hurd
Cheryl Hill
Jeremy Coulter
Ryan Smith
Phil Keener
Jonathan Maness
Tonya Ridgeway
Travis Holdorf

Michael Roderick
Mark Campbell
Dan Goldston
Donald Holster
Russell Lynam
Marc Stanley
Gary Green
Doug Thrailkill
Damon Gordon
David Copoely

Michael Swain
Charles Case
Chad Eisenhower
Thomas Brancher
Ken Moulton
Philip Sobek
Bobby Havird
Les Carroll
Steve Sidewell
Robert George

Plus several more that were just ordered. Please come get these !!!!!!!.

Jerry Lebar/For God and Country 803-873-2076

Facility Manager/NBC



Thanks to Dan Goldston for joining the Monday Morning Veterans Breakfast Crew. We appreciate his service to the Post and his culinary expertise! We are **averaging just over 70 Veterans each Monday morning. Even if you don't eat breakfast come and join your fellow Veterans for coffee and fellowship.** Thanks also to Doug Abramson for his continued help with installing different items at the Post.

New Building Committee:

With the pouring of the foundation Phase I of our construction is nearly complete. The sewer line has been installed and the detention pond is complete. The water run off drains in the parking lot are also installed. We have a bit more grading to do to complete Phase I. Phase II will begin late next month with the construction of the building which will include walls, roof, windows, and **external doors. Phase II will also include at least the minimum HVAC to keep the building's** environment at proper temperature and humidity levels. If you have not visited the site I **encourage you to do so. It's very exciting to see the progress made the past seven months** We are less than \$4,000 away from the \$100,000 goal for the naming rights of the PFC Gerald and Pearl White Multipurpose Room. Thank you to the Bingo Committee for the \$6,000 check to the Building Fund. Also a big thank you to our Auxiliary Unit for their \$5,000 donation to the Building Fund.

David W. Schimsa / For God and Country

ALR Director



We have an approved budget thanks to the hard work of Anne Richardson. There are many events that are coming up in the near future ie: The Riders Breakfast on April 5 2025, The Legacy Ride on April 26 and 27 2025, ALR in the Mountains on May 10 2025, The ROMP 2025 on May 30 thru June 1 2025 and Washing the Vietnam Memorial Wall on Sept 19 thru 21 2025 to name a few. Elections are upon us as we pick new officers for the Riders. There are eight positions open for the coming year, Director, Asst Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt at Arms, Ride Coordinator, Chaplain, and Communications Officer. Walt Richardson, John Siemers and Keith Ostrander will serve as the Election Committee.

Jerry Lebar/For God and Country/Safety First, People Always

Chaplain's Corner



In the book of Philippians Chapter 4 the 13th verse reads "I can do everything through him who gives me strength".

As this old age creeps up on me I'm finding it difficult to do most anything. I spend so much time around old folks, hurting people and almost helpless people that I begin to take on their frustrations and fears.

I'm planning to attend my 65th high school reunion and I've been getting so excited as if I was going back to 1965 and spending the day with these high school kids of my memories and as the date of the reunion gets closer, I am getting depressed. I'm not sure that I want to see the friends of my youth

as the old people that they have become. We had about 30 boys in the class, and I was told recently that there won't be but 4 or 5 men left to attend this time.

What about the promise of Philippians? I think that I need to change my perspectives. My want to's have changed over the years. There was a time that I wanted to win every race, I wanted to win every eating contest, now I just need to sit on the sideline and cheer on the participants. I need to find purpose and joy in the successes of others. I can help, assist and encourage others.

If I can shift my thinking a little, I might be able to enjoy this upcoming reunion, I might plan to attend my ship's reunion this year. If I go looking for joy and excitement, I may find that I can still do those things that produce meaning for me.

I think that I will pray for an opportunity to share instead of fighting for the opportunity to compete!

If I can change my want to's I can still do "all things through Him that strengthens me".

Comrade Care List:

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

Remember our Post family.

Remember the Ron Finney family in the passing of Ron recently.

Pray for George and Carol Smith, George is at home under hospice care.

Betsey Harvey as she works with some health issues.

Chris Christopher is in rehab

Buddy Miller with lung cancer near his heart Richard Royer as he recovers from the motorcycle accident and his battle with cancer.

Remember John and Dale Siemers as they face the loss of Dale's brother Collins Mullinax

Tony bates as he recovers from recent back surgery

Dan Berglund as he prepares to undergo treatment for esophageal Cancer

Bob Dilworth fell and has several broken bones.

Walt Richardson

Jack Hulet

John Graham

Ed Abston

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Auxiliary



Concessions sales at March BINGO were very good and we appreciate all the ladies who volunteered in the kitchen. Things run so much more smoothly when we have sufficient help ~ thank you! On March 14 Chapin Women in Service presented a check to Unit 193 which will pay for three delegates to attend Palmetto Girls State this summer. **We can't say enough good things about their continued generosity to both our unit and to the new building fund. They are amazing community partners!**

Several members will be attending two SC ALA events this month: a Town Hall meeting on Saturday, March 23, with the National ALA President, Trish Ward, and a baby shower **for wives of deployed veterans on Tuesday, March 25. We are all looking forward to our "Painting with a Purpose" fundraiser on Sunday, April 13, at 2:00pm at "Painting with a Twist" on Harbison Blvd.** (all proceeds will be donated to the Gerald and Pearl White Room in the new building). **Everyone is welcome to attend and can register on the "Painting with a Twist" website.**

Marthalyn Schimsa/President/In the Spirit of Service, Not Self



Chapin Women in Service presented Scholarship money for three girls to attend Palmetto Girls State

Post Activities and Events

- 1 Apr: Executive Committee Mtg, 1815-1915, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
- 5 April: **ALR breakfast at Zorba's 0800- 10:30**, POC: Jim Schafer
- 7 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 8 Apr: BINGO 1730-2200, Chapin Town Hall, 157 Columbia Ave, Chapin. POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.
- 10 Apr: Post 193 and Auxiliary Meeting, Dinner at 1800, Meetings at 1900, Post Building, POC: Steve Goulet
- 13 Apr: Painting with a Twist Auxiliary Fundraiser, POC: Marthalyne Schimsa
[Painting with a Purpose](#)
- 14 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 15 Apr: ALR Meeting, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Jerry Lebar
Chapin Town Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, 1800. POC: Jerry LeBar
- 17 Apr: Quilt of Valor presentation 1900, Post Building, POC Mike Mancari
- 21 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 26-27 Apr: ALRSC Legacy Benefit Ride POC: ALR 193 Director, Jerry Lebar
- 28 Apr: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa



For a complete listing of Post 193 activities visit: [Events Calendar \(americanlegionpost193.com\)](http://americanlegionpost193.com)
For info on our Chapin Newberry Baseball Team visit, [South Carolina American Legion Baseball Home Page \(scalb.org\)](http://scalb.org). 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](#)



There is a lot going on out at the Future Post Home of Chapin American Legion Post 193. Fundraising for the Building Fund continues to be our primary task.



Director Lebar presents a \$2k donation to the post Building Fund from ALR Chapter 193



Thank you, Moses Cohen, for serving at the 2025 VEAC



ALR 193 came out in support of the Chapin NJROTC Color Run.



After the ALRSC Spring meeting members of ALR 193 and a couple guest from North Augusta Chapter 71 took a ride up to have lunch at the Blue Ocean Restaurant in Clinton. Great weather, Great Ride Good times!



ALR 193 Director Jerry Lebar and Chapter members Tom Yeoman and Steve Goulet received the 2024 Legacy Scholarship Plaque from the American Legion National Commander James a LaCoursiere Jr.



ALR 193 members attended the Homes for Our Troops community welcome ceremony in Honeo Path SC for SFC Daniel Metzdorf. Homes for Our Troops is building SFC Metzdorf an adaptive home that will make it much easier for him to be able to do routine task for himself



Our Vietnam Veterans were recognized During our Monday Morning Veteran Breakfast. Thank you to Missy Foy with Halcyon Hospice for providing the tasty sweets



Unit 193 President Marthalyn Schimsa and Unit 193 Vice President Carmen Goulet with the American Legion Auxiliary National President Trish Ward. Both received the Presidents Pin
[American Legion Auxiliary President](#)



Legionnaires Gene Powell and Rico Reyes out recruiting and selling rifle raffle tickets



Members of Post 193 utilized some of the funds donated by **Chapin's Post 193 American Legion Riders** to install water and electric lines for a washer & dryer, rewire the service panel, repair a dishwasher, and install a exterior door for a single **mother's** home that was severely damaged during Hurricane Helena. (25 March 2025, Swannanoa, NC)

Membership matters! American Legion Post 193 and our American Legion Family are making a difference locally and across the State! You may not be the member rewiring the electrical panel, but you may have been the one providing funds either directly or through participation in one of the many fundraisers we hold. None of us can be everywhere and do everything but we can do what we can do no matter how big or how small, every little bit helps.

We are fortunate to have a very active ALR Chapter and where would we be without our outstanding Auxiliary Unit 193? Our SAL program needs a boost, but it is still intact. If you or a family member are eligible for membership in any of these programs, please consider joining.