AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

January 2023

Commander

Welcome to 2023. Welcome and thank you to Donna Tsukayama as our new 2nd Vice Commander.

We started the new year with our Oratorical Contest headed by Bill LaRouchelle. Congratulations to Ava Grant of Springhill High School for winning the contest. Saina Srivastava, also of Springhill HS, gave a great presentation. Ava has been awarded a $200 college grant from Post 193 and moves on to the District competition on 11 February.

Our February Meeting on Feb 9th will be our annual Valentine's Day celebration. We are asking you to sign up to bring a portion of the meal. A signup sheet is at the Post. Call Betsy, at 703.282.6494, to help with decorations, etc. Come and enjoy the fellowship with your sweetie and the Post family.

Our next Family Breakfast will be on March 25th. Plan on bringing your family to enjoy a great breakfast. More information as we get closer.

Keep in contact with each other. If you haven't seen someone in a while, or know of someone that could use a visit, contact them directly or contact me (703.789.6708). We all need to have each other's back.

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

Activities (see Post Calendar on www.americanlegionpost193.com website)

30 Jan: **Veteran Breakfast** 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

6 Feb: **Veteran Breakfast** 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

Post and ALR Executive Committee meeting, 1815-1930

9 Feb: **Legion/AUX Valentine's Dinner**, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Betsy Harvey

13 Feb: **Veteran Breakfast** 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

14 Feb: **Valentine's Bingo** 1730, Old Oak Barn, 1155 Holy Trinity Church Rd, Little Mountain. POC: Floyd Rogers

20 Feb: **Veteran Breakfast** 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

21 Feb: **Pledge of Allegiance** 1800, Chapin Town Hall, (Tony McCall), POC: Susan Reynolds

27 Feb: **Veteran Breakfast** 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

In addition, the Post is **Open M, W, F 1000-1400**

First Vice Commander

The mission of the American Legion, as adopted by the National Executive Committee in October 2020 is: *"To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness"*.

We are fortunate that our Post has a growing membership and leadership that strives to ensure our Post embraces that mission statement. We continue to be an active, vibrant, growing, and relevant Post through our always keeping the mission statement in front of us.

A way we can maintain "relevance", is to ensure that we continue to recruit new members, with particular attention to our "War on Terror", post 9/11 veterans. These wartime veterans, male and female, face many of the same issues upon their return to civilian life as previous generations of veterans faced. There are always levels of difference, but we need to support them as they face their own challenges.

I feel that one of the best strategies is to bring these veterans into our "veteran-friendly" environment. One of our best "outreaches" to our veteran community is our Veterans Breakfast on Monday mornings, where we get one or two new faces most Mondays.

To get more new veterans, invite veterans you don't know, but whom you interact with in our community. Usually, veterans are easy to spot in our community. They will have a military license plate on their car, they wear a military ball cap, or they comment on your plate or cap. At some retail stores, employee nametags, shirts, or work vests are "veteran labeled". At Lowes, as an example, employees who are veterans wear a green camo vest. When you see them, invite them to join us at breakfast or a meeting. To make it easier for you (and them to remember!), carry some of the cards that our Post had printed. Just write your contact information on the back, and hand them to other veterans.

Next time you are at the Post, go to the office and ask for some cards. You just don't know the effect you can have on another veteran's life.

Thomas Yeoman/For God and Country

Second Vice Commander

American Legion Post 193 approved the formation of a Ladies' Fast-Pitch softball team during the January meeting. The coach, Mickey Edwards, and manager, Brian Ortman have been selected. Games will start in early June, consisting of four home games and four away. Two 5-inning games are played each night.

We will be requesting assistance from the Post to work in the concession stand and at the gate selling tickets. A background check needs to be completed prior. Please consider taking a few hours and contributing your time to this fledgling endeavor. More information on this process will be coming out soon.

Post 193 retired over 1700 flags last year! A huge thanks to everyone who participated.

Donna Tsukayama / Semper Fi / For God and Country

Third Vice Commander

The Legionnaire conducting the Chapin Town Hall Pledge of Allegiance for February 21st is Tony McCall. If you cannot make it, please let me know as soon as possible.
I am still looking for individuals from Chapin to conduct the Pledge of Allegiance for the months of July, August, September, October, November, and December. If you can take a half hour out of your Tuesday evening one night during any of these months, please send me an email at nhsgtmom@icloud.com. It only takes about 15 minutes and you do not have to stay for the entire meeting.
Also, if you take pictures at any of the Post events, please send them to me for inclusion in the newsletter and for historical purposes. I am working on the new website and am including them in our Photo Gallery. Please check out the new website at https://www.americanlegionpost193.com. Bear in mind, it is still a work in progress. If you have any suggestions for additions or changes, please let me or one of the other Executive Committee members know, and we can take it under advisement.

Susan Reynolds/"Vires In Arduis"/For God and Country

Facility Manager/NBC

We enjoy meeting on average one new prospective member to our Post every Monday morning at the Veterans Breakfast. Come out and enjoy fellowship with your Brothers and Sisters. Just a reminder that breakfast is served from 0830 - 0900. Announcements and prayer at 0900, and then the chow line opens again from 0905 - 0920. The cost is $6. The best value you will get all week.

New Post Update - thanks to the ten Post members who came out for clean-up day at the new site. It's looking good out there and I'm sure we'll enjoy some nice events out at the Yeoman-Bernard Pavilion this year. A big thanks to Doug Abramson (and his crew of Matt Zambrano & Fred Beauchemin) for building shelving in our connex at the new site, A BIG THANKS also to Leigh Ann Whitticar & Bolands Ace Hardware for donating $275 worth of lumber and plywood for the project. One last note of thanks to Doug for his donation of internal solar lights for the connex.
We have preliminarily selected finishes (paint, flooring, etc.) for the new Post. Finish boards will be available at the Post during the Valentine's Day party for you to review. A continued BIG THANKS to those who donated to the Building Fund this past year. We took in more than $50,000 in just the past four months! We have collected more than $650,000 since Day One of our effort to build our own Chapin Post 193 facility. THANK YOU!!

David W. Schimsa/For God and Country

American Legion Riders

We had a busy month in December. The Toys-for-Tots ride was held on December 4th. There were eight bikes from our post riding with a total of over 650 bikes participating. The weather was good and all who attended had a great time for a worthy cause. The following weekend, the Dorn Veterans ride was held. Riders who attended from our Post were Dave Schimsa, Richard and Deborah Royer, and Richard Mullinax. It rained and the turnout was a little light. On Saturday, December 27th, our riders provided the Wreaths Across America escort from the old Hardees in Ballentine to Fort Jackson National Cemetery. Turn out was great and all had a good time placing wreaths. The Rider's Christmas party went off without a hitch and had excellent participation from our riders' group. The Post's Christmas Party was held on December 15th, and all had a good time. Instead of door prizes, we did a 50-50 raffle which netted us around $500 for the New Building Fund. Plans are to have one during every Post meeting and see how the fundraising goes. We have the Legacy Ride coming up in April with the pre-ride in February. I hope it will be well attended. If one of the riders approaches you for a donation, please consider supporting this worthy scholarship fundraiser.

Wes Moore/For God and Country

Chaplain's Corner

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38,39).

In Christ Jesus our Lord, death is dead. It cannot kill.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, life is bigger than your surrounding circumstances. You are not defined by what happens to you.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, angels clash with demons in spiritual warfare to protect you. And angels always win!

In Christ Jesus our Lord, today is a gift. That's why we call it the present.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, the future isn't something to worry about. Nothing that happens to you tomorrow or next year beats him to the scene.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, powers of this world are pawns for his kingdom. And you belong to his kingdom. You're on the winning team.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, your whispered prayers reach higher than high stress, high taxes, high blood pressure, high demands, high risk, and high hopes.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, your faith digs deeper into his life-giving water than any depths of despair.

In Christ Jesus our Lord, there is nothing that you do, nothing that happens to you, nothing you forget to do, and nothing you neglect that will make him love you any less.

Chaplain Jude Peck/For God and Country

Comrade Care List

As we remember our Comrades before the Lord, have you noticed that there is never a busy signal on God's line? Pray for these listed here on our care list. Remember them daily as you go about your routine chores.

Jim Schafer – dealing with hip and knee issues.
Wes Moore whose veteran friend Gary Adams is at Augusta's burn center with 4th-degree burns.
Rick Gibson – District 13's commander's wife was recently diagnosed with cancer.
Richard Mullinax - his brother-in-law York veteran Bud Deitz has cancer.
Mike Mancari - returned to breakfast on Jan 2nd while dealing with a broken leg & kidney issues.
Jude Peck – was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer.
James Blackwell - who is back in Florida, fell and broke his ribs in December.
Floyd Rogers - wife Carol's back surgery and pneumonia in December.
Chris Christopher – had a stroke in January and is recovering well at home.
Ken Sullivan - Jan 6th heart procedure went well.
Freddie Warren - Linda Warren's NC cousin passed away in January.
Bob Shearer - fell and fractured his pelvis in two places in early January. His wife is Sherri.
Bill Moser – had abdominal surgery on January 11th, and is now at home recovering.
Eddie Kessinger - is home now (Jan) from Lex Med Ctr recovering from heart issues.
Ron Saxton - recovering from January 11th back surgery.
Zoltan Krompecher - stepfather in Cincinnati battling cancer.
Jerry Macisco - recovery from Jan 16 open heart surgery for a stint and bypass.
Larry Stouts - health issues per his wife Debbie.

Auxiliary

Our first meeting of the year started off with the remaining Palmetto Girls State delegates briefing the members about their experience. Both young ladies wore their shirts and kept the members engaged. Dave Schimsa gave an update on the progress of our new building. Cookies for Soldiers at Ft. Jackson was a success with over a thousand bags of cookies, snack mixes, and candies from the Auxiliary, the Quilters Guild, and Francis Bissett's group. Thanks to our members for their generous contributions. Harriet Wilson will be heading the Americanism Essay Contest for the schools. We thank her for taking on this project. If you can help at Bingo concessions on February 14, please contact Carmen at 803.556.3653. In November I applied for a grant through The Greater Chapin Community Foundation for Palmetto Girls State. The Foundation issued our grant award of $1,000.00 which will help fund 5 young ladies to participate in Palmetto Girls State in June. If you know any of the Foundation's board members, please thank them when you see them. The February meeting on the 9th will be a member-provided dinner, please sign up to come as well as sign up for a dish! Contact either Betsy Harvey (703.282.6494) or Carmen Goulet (803.556.3653).

Carmen Goulet/President

Pavilion Work Day

The Work Crew!

Wreaths Across America Clean Up Day

Post 193 Commander Mark Harvey and Legionnaire Gerard Lebar making their way to the drop-off point during the Wreaths Across America clean-up day.

Matt Zambrano working the wheelbarrow during FJNC Wreaths Across America cleanup day