

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

August 2026



Legionnaires, August has been a great month for the Chapin American Legion Post 193! We finally jumped through all the hoops with all the bureaucracy and are now operating out of our new facility. A big thanks to everyone that helped and made it all possible, especially Dave Schimsa, but many others who have put a tremendous amount of time and effort into the new building. As I said, this is an amazing time for our Post. Besides celebrating the US Coast Guards Birthday, we helped the Veterans at Freedom and Hope Foundation with their BBQ sales. We also hosted the District #1 Quarterly Meeting at our Post and a meeting of the Combat Veterans. Bingo was great this month at the Chapin

Townhall and we are preparing for the first Bingo night in the new building which will be on Thursday, 3 September, at the regular time. We are always looking for people to work at Bingo, let us know if you have the time to help. We have had a few meetings with regards to the Bingo floor operations and for the concessions. Our Quarterly Newcomers' Briefing was conducted on the 27th at the new Post and had a very good turnout. I think this will help many of our new members to understand our mission and to blend into the Post and our many activities that we participate in. We also held our quarterly Unclaimed Veterans Ceremony that we organize for the state on the 28th at Fort Jackson National Cemetery. Each of these ceremonies helps to give these fallen Veterans a proper and honored send off as they depart this world. This month has been exceptional, and next month we will be opening our canteen and starting to do Bingo twice each month. We will also be completing our move into the new building and turning the old building back to the Town of Chapin. Once again, thank you to everyone that has worked, helped, and donated to make this a reality.

Richard Nielen / For God and Country / In Service

Veteran Help Line: **Dial 988, option 1**

Adjutant



Our August meeting, our first meeting in our new Post Home, went very well. We had some good chow! Thank you to the Royer's and the folks from Home Place Ministries for preparing the delicious meal, and of course, to Kathy Smith for the tasty, deviled eggs.

I am pretty sure our Auxiliary Unit members appreciated the fact that they did not have to clear all the salads, desserts, and condiments off their tables so they could hold their monthly Unit meeting. Wow, how nice it is to finally have the space we need to hold our meetings and events and continue supporting the veterans in our community.

We will hold our first Wreaths Across America meeting for 2026 on Thursday, September 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the PFC White Room. Chapin Post 193 sponsors 13 churches and cemeteries in the Chapin and Saluda communities. We also coordinate the Chapin Community Wreaths Across

America ceremony at Chapin Christian Community Church. This year's ceremony will be held at noon on Saturday, December 19.

Last year we had a wonderful ceremony and were able to purchase or receive enough donated wreaths to cover the veteran graves in all the cemeteries we sponsored. That is something our Post and community can be very proud of. Your support is critical to the success of Wreaths Across America and all our Post 193 programs, and it is greatly appreciated.

Our Post membership continues to grow! Please continue to talk with veterans you meet and ask them to join our Post and the American Legion. All of you know the benefits of being a member of the Legion and Post 193. Sharing your experiences and telling someone what our Post does for veterans and our community may be all it takes to convince them to join. We have a great Post, and new members bring new ideas, energy, and ambition that will help make it even better.

Membership renewal has slowed down a little. Our 2027 membership goal is 449 members, and so far, 291 members have paid their dues for the 2027 membership year. If you have not renewed yet, please consider doing so. You can pay your annual dues online through the American Legion renewal site. When renewing online with a credit card, there is no service fee. All you need is your membership number and credit card. I will mail your new membership card as soon as I see that you have renewed, or you can pick it up from George during breakfast or at the Post meeting.

Our September dinner will be handled by our 2nd Vice Commander, Floyd Rogers. He may be looking for some help with setting up, preparing and serving the meal, and cleaning up afterward. If you can lend a hand, please let Floyd know. The menu has not been set yet, but I am certain that, as always, it will be a good and tasty meal. As soon as we know what is being served, I will get the word out.

In the meantime, please RSVP for the September dinner so we can have a good headcount and prepare enough food for everyone.

Lastly, I just want to thank all of you for the role you have played in moving our Post forward to where we are today.

There are members of our Post who never dreamed we would ever have a Post Home like the one we now have. They, like me, are proud of how far we have come. But having this new home isn't the finish line. It gives us an opportunity to do even more for our veterans, their families, and our community.

Our building is something to be proud of, but **our greatest asset is us — our members**. It is the time, effort, ideas, and willingness of our members to step up and help that have gotten us where we are today.

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

First Vice Commander / Quartermaster



Just a quick note for the August newsletter. We will need some volunteers to help decorate the float for the Labor Day Celebration. We will meet at the old Legion Hall at 2PM on Sunday Sept 6. We will basically decorate the float the same way that we did last year.

We will need volunteers to help set up and take down the Legions tents and chairs and associated equipment on Labor Day (7 Sept 26) We will need two shifts of people. The morning shift will start at 6 am and the afternoon shift will start at 1:30. Please help us out by coming at the different times noted.

I have some new T Shirts that will be sold for \$20.00. They should not be worn until Labor Day. They are red, white and blue.

The next blood drive will take place on September 14 at the NEW Legion Hall.

That's all for now. Watch the commanders weekly notes for any changes.

Jerry Lebar / For God and Country

Second Vice Commander



Welcome to our new and permanent home. It took a lot of time and a lot of hard work from a whole bunch of people. New record on attendance for breakfast and for our meeting and we are looking forward to see what happens on our first game in our new home of Bingo on September 3rd, all are welcome to play or help going forward with this project to support our home and the people we help. God bless and Thank you.

Floyd Rogers / "Never trouble another for what you can do yourself."

Third Vice Commander



Tom Yoeman and I are looking for volunteers for the Dads and Vets function at Chapin Elementary School, September 25th from 7:00 AM -7:45AM. There are numerous opportunities to volunteer and represent the post. These activities are important to sustain the post and foster community relations. We are always looking for Town Hall Pledge Volunteers. It's fun, easy, and you can leave before the business begins...

Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering.

Russ Taylor / For God and Country

Facility Manager:



We had 120+ attend our first Veterans Monday Morning Breakfast in our new Post. It was great to see some new (and old) faces. Please be patient as we transition to a new set up and added options for breakfast. **Note: There will not be a Monday Veteran Breakfast on Labor Day!**

If you have any item in the old Post you would like to keep please let me know immediately. We need to get everything moved out the week after Labor Day. If you need to reserve meeting times or if you want to rent the new Post for an event notify me immediately. Slots are still available but are going fast.

New Building Committee

We have received our CO and beer/wine & liquor licenses. We have ordered beverages we anticipated would be desired in order to open the bar. This is an initial offering. Feel free to provide polite feedback on our selections. We'll add/subtract beverages based on feedback/sales. We'll offer a limited kitchen menu to begin with. But a very good bacon cheeseburger & fries are on the menu and I think you will be pleased with the quality. Construction has started on the Prayer Garden that former Post Commander Tom Fincher is financing in memory of his wife, Claire. It will be a peaceful place for prayer and reflection. A big thank you to Tom for his foresight and continued support of our Post. Thanks to our outdoor/yard maintenance crew. They have done a fantastic job - the grounds look fantastic!

David W. Schimsa/For God and Country

ALR Director



From the saddle of my Goldwing

We did it, we are now in our new building! Kudos to all that made this possible! The "kudos" list is long. Now we need to support our building, so we can continue to enhance the American Legion motto: Veterans Serving Veterans!

As you are aware, our Bingo events have and continue to be crucial for continued funding of our home. Our Post has decided that in our new home, we will execute Bingo events twice a month; (generally) the first Thursday and the third Tuesday of every month. We anticipate that not only will our new facilities

attract more players, we hope to attract new players on a "new" night.

Previously, our outstanding Auxiliary have been running offered "concessions" and outstanding "home baked" goods for our players. Now that we are offering Bingo events twice a month, our Post's Executive Council asked your Legion Riders to lead the concession sales on the Tuesday Bingo nights. While we have accepted the "leadership" role, we want to encourage any Post members to become a part of our "Concession Delivery Team".

The goal is to engage more Post members in the support of our "Veterans Serving Veterans", where we share this serving and real participation opportunity. And, if you are not careful, you'll get to interact with more of your fellow veterans and have some fun doing it!

If you wish to become one of our "Concession Delivery Team", even if you are limited in availability, please contact me, (Tom Yeoman) at 803-463-5880 or try3sc@gmail.com. We invite and welcome your assistance.

Tom Yeoman/For God and Country/Safety First, People Always

Chaplain's Corner



With just a week in our new Post home and already it feels like HOME. It has been a dream come true for many of us and a new opportunity to serve our local veterans and our community at large. It has been amazing to see all the comrades pitching in to make everything happen and run smooth.

If you are not able or don't have time available to work. Remember to put in some time expressing your thanks and appreciation to those that are going the extra mile making things happen.

Make some calls to those on our Comrades Care List, search diligently for that veteran that is slipping through the cracks.

Remember: We will always have the naysayers and doomist around us... ignore them and find you joy and purpose in finding that brother or sister veteran that needs help or an encouraging word!

Comrade Care List:

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

Choose two or three and be mindful of those two or three for a couple days then choose another two or three others for a few days.

Remember our Post family:

- Ron Saxon
- Paul Holiday
- Bill Szala
- Paul Allen surgery
- Mike Mancari
- Barry Mullens Aorta repairs
- Betsy Harvey and her daughter
- Larry Archer
- Buddy Miller with lung cancer near his heart
- Walt Richardson shoulder surgery
- Jack Hulet
- Ed Abston
- Stephen Geer surgery coming up
- Kathy Smith
- Jack Simpson USN Corpsman- Jack Hulet's request
- Bob Molchan back issues from a fall at home
- Gary Campbell heart issues
- Eddie Sloop's son Joey- Allen Aimar's request
- Peter Prim, new pacemaker
- Bonny Grigsby- USMC-waiting on double lung transplant

Forward your request for this list to me at rcmullinax@gmail.com

Chaplain Richard Mullinax / For God and Country

Auxiliary



We held our first Auxiliary meeting at our new Post home on Thursday, August 20. It was great to finally have a space where we could easily fit and not have to convert a serving area into a meeting area right before our meeting! I want to thank our new members who attended, our visitors, and all our regular attendees. It was nice to see everyone and enjoy our new space.

The Auxiliary also provided the reception for the Palmetto Boys and Girls State Recognition Ceremony. All the young men and women attended with their families, and it was a very nice event. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped make the reception a success.

Our membership is growing now that more people know we have a Post home. We currently have 64 members, with 22 already paid for the new membership year, including new and renewed members. Thank you to Jodi for encouraging everyone to get their dues in early. Our goal is to reach 100% membership by the time of the convention in October. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please consider getting them in early and helping us reach that goal.

We have another opportunity to volunteer together at the Halloween community event at Crooked Creek Park on Friday, October 23, from 6:00–8:30 p.m. We will serve together as a group and help with whatever we are assigned to do during the event. If you would like to join us, please email me at cgoulet08@gmail.com.

Labor Day will be a busy day for our Legion Family. The Auxiliary will have our booth next to the Post and Riders tents, where we plan to have drawings for patriotic wreaths and gift card baskets. We will also have members selling baked goods at the old Post along with the Legionnaires' BBQ sandwich sale.

We would like every Auxiliary member to help with our Labor Day fundraising by either buying some raffle tickets or helping us sell them. If you need tickets, please reach out to me at cgoulet08@gmail.com.

We are also looking for members interested in serving on our Fundraising Committee. The committee will help come up with ideas for future fundraisers, and we are looking for someone willing to chair the committee. If you have some good ideas or would just like to help, please let me know. We would love to have you involved.

Finally, if you would like to attend the Fall Convention on October 24 at the Columbia Convention Center, please let me know by September 10. This is a one-day convention, and registration is \$50. Our Auxiliary can pay the registration fee for two members to attend. Registration forms must be submitted by October 1.

There are a lot of good things happening with our Auxiliary and throughout our Legion Family. I hope to see more of our members getting involved as we settle into our new Post home and continue supporting our veterans, their families, and our community.

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



- 1 Sep: Executive Committee Mtg, 1800-1900, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
- 3 Sep: BINGO 1730-2200, Post Building, Amicks Ferry Rd., Chapin. POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.
- 6 Sep: Labor Day Set-up and Tear Down 0600-1730, Post Building. POC: Gerald LeBar
- 7 Sep: Labor Day Set-up and Tear Down 0600-1730, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
Note: There will be no Veteran Breakfast in Labor Day!!
- 8 Sep: ALR EC Meeting, 1800-1900, Post kitchen. POC: Tom Yeoman
- 8 Sep: Chapin Post 193 Amateur Radio Club Meeting 1800 – 1900, Dan Goldston
- 10 Sep: Post 193 and Auxiliary Meeting, Dinner at 1800, Meetings at 1900, Post Building, POC: Steve Goulet
- 11 Sep: Patriot Day Remembrance Ceremony at the Post Flagpole, 0830 (25th Anniversary)
- 11 Sep: Post Canteen and Bar opens for operation. 1100!
- 14 Sep: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
Be The One 0930–1030, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman
- 14 Sep: Blood Drive 0900-1600, Post Building, POC: Gerard Lebar
- 15 Sep: BINGO 1730-2200, Post Building, Chapin. POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.
- 15 Sep: Chapin Town Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, 1800. POC: Russ Taylor
- 18 Sep: Air Force Birthday
- 19 Sep: POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 21 Sep: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 26 Sep: 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](#)