

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

November 2025



Legionnaires, November was a great month for our Post with many activities and opportunities to live up to the four pillars of the American Legion. The month started off with the American Legion Department of South Carolina Fall Conference in Columbia. Our attendees represented the Post at the Legion and Riders portions of the conference. Our breakfasts have been going and growing. The last breakfast had about 100 to 105 members present. The breakfast crew always does a great job and where else are you going to get a great breakfast for \$6.00? Bingo had a record-breaking effort this month with 176 players participating. Another big thanks to Floyd Rogers and everyone that helps with Bingo. It's a lot of work but fun at the same time. Don't forget that bingo in December will be on Thursday the 4th of December. Our meeting this month was well attended, and we made good progress with some of the motions that were passed; to include the proposed budget for next year. We also conducted our Be The One Buddy Check on the 17th which went very well as we contacted a little over 92% of our members. Tom Yeoman and his band of volunteers that make the calls made the operation run very smoothly.

We had a meeting for Wreaths Across America and that event's planning is moving along nicely. Thanks to all the volunteers and to everyone that has donated wreaths for the ceremony. There's still time to donate either online or to George Donnelly at breakfast. We have until the 1st of December.

Finally, the new post continues to make progress as Dave Schimsa and the New Building Committee drive that effort to get us into our new home. I'm also working on a Post Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that I will have a draft copy ready to be sent out to the Post members for review in early January. Thanksgiving is coming up Thursday, and I hope everyone gets to enjoy the holiday and prepares for the upcoming holiday season in December.

Richard Nielen/ "For God and Country"
Veteran Help Line: Dial 988, option 1



Adjutant



Busy, busy, busy we are very busy with all the activities our Post is involved in and supports. Thank you to each of you for your contributions in making Chapin American Legion Post 193 a great place to serve and a positive and meaningful contributor in and to our community. Everyone contributes something in one way or another, just being a member and paying your dues each year makes a difference. Serving on the Bingo team, wow, what an impact our Bingo has in the community not to mention the income it provides. We Care food collection each week this activity has been going on since before I joined the Post 13 years ago. Our community Memorial Day ceremony, our

Wreaths across America program, Be the One, Monday morning veteran breakfast and many other activities that sometimes go unnoticed. The America Legion Motto is **"Veterans Strengthening America"** We, Chapin American Legion Post 193 exemplify the motto.

During our last Be the One calling activity it was once again noted that we were missing the phone numbers and or emails of many of our Post members. Some members have sent their correct or missing information in and that has been corrected (maybe/maybe not). One sure way for us to have the correct information is for our members to keep their information up to date by using My Legion. All our members should have a My Legion account, not just so they can keep their info up to date but to have access to an incredible amount of information pertinent to veterans and the American Legion. Just take a few minutes, visit this link and register for a My Legion account. [myLegion](#).

Thank you to all that have renewed their membership for 2026. We are currently at 76.21% of our membership goal for the 2026 membership year. They show us with a 67.48% renewal rate which means only 67.48% of our 2025 members have renewed. That number seems to be a bit low but not alarming since many of our members tend to renew closer to the end of the membership year. If you want to pay your annual dues online visit [Renew Membership | The American Legion](#)

Have a great Thanksgiving!

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

Facility Manager/NBC



Thanks to everyone for keeping the Post clean. We have a lot of people from the community using our facility throughout the week and it helps when everyone pitches in to clean up and take out the trash whenever you happen to be in the area. We continue to average 95 - 100 Veterans each Monday morning. Coffee is on by 0630 so feel free to come as early as you like. A reminder we will not serve breakfast Monday morning, 29 December.

New Building Committee:

A huge thank you to the caulking & painting crew - Eddie Sloop, Joanie Totani, Matt Zambrano, Dave Lavigne, Bob Dillworth, and a few others. We are saving significant money by painting ourselves. A big thank you to Sherwin Williams for providing the paint at half price. Stand by for opportunities to paint the interior in a few weeks. The drywall is up and most of the sidewalks and concrete pads are complete. The fire alarms and security cameras have been wired, the kitchen hood has been installed, and the power company has installed the lines to bring power to the building.

Thanks for everyone's continued support with fund raising. We raised \$10,000 from the Boot Drive and Bingo had 176 players this month.

David W. Schimsa / For God and Country

ALR Director



From the saddle of my Goldwing

December is usually one of our "biggest" months, even though, our rides fade after the ides of December. This year is no exception.

The boxes you see at the post: Toys for Tots Box, Newberry Boys Farm Box and the Dorn VA Christmas Box are all there to give our Legionaries the opportunity to reach out and help our neighbors.

On December 7th we participate in our first Christmas Charity Ride of the season, the Blue Knights/Toys for Tots Ride. Your Riders will rally at the Sportsman's Warehouse, to ride together to the staging area, the SC Military Museum. At the SC Military Museum there will be riders from multiple Legion Rider Posts, SC Patriot Guard Riders, Blue Knights, Combat Vets and a plethora of motorcycle riding clubs and groups. At 1300 the several hundred motorcycles, Can-Ams and Trikes, under a police safety escort, head out to the Colonial Life Insurance campus with the toys.

On December 13th your Riders lead the Richard Strobel Memorial Wreaths Across America Escort Ride. This ride, named after Past Post Commander Richard Stroble, was begun following his passing. Richard's trucking company under Richard's leadership began supporting the Wreaths Across America years ago. Today, on this ride, we meet up with a several Wreaths Across America tractor trailers loaded with several thousand Christmas wreaths for the Fort Jackson National Cemetery (FJNC). Post 193 leads this escort, accompanied by several other Post's Legion Riders, and members of the SC Patriot Guard Riders. We escort the trucks to the FJNC, where we are met by hundreds of volunteers who will distribute the wreaths.

Following the escort, Post 193's riders turn and ride straight back to Chapin to prepare and execute Chapin's own Wreaths Across America ceremony and distribution at five Chapin Church cemeteries. This Chapin Wreaths Across America effort is led by our Adjutant, Steve Goulet.

Following the Chapin Wreaths Across America events, your Riders ride to Boland's Ace Hardware to lead the Newberry Boys Farm Toy Ride. We line up, right behind the parade "lead" the Newberry antique fire engine, upon which Mr. & Mrs. Clause ride to lead the motorcycle procession. This ride normally has several hundred motorcycles for this 17-mile ride/parade up US 76W. Upon arrival at the Newberry Shriner building, the toys are unloaded and distributed.

Our final Christmas charity ride is our participation in the 25th Anniversary Annual Dorn VA Hospital Christmas Ride. This ride differs from the others, as this one supports veterans at the VA hospital with items that the veterans need. Your riders will again rally at the Sportsman's Warehouse for a ride to the Carolina Honda Powerhouse to stage for the ride. through Columbia to the Dorn VA Hospital. At the VA Hospital, the gifts are unloaded and placed under their giant tree for distribution.

And, if that wasn't enough, our quarterly Interment of Previously Unclaimed Veterans will occur on Friday December 12th at FJNC. You Riders and SC Patriot Guard Riders escort the remains to FJNC.

Prior to the escort and interment your Riders will participate in what we call the "Dignified Transfer of Remains". The County Coroners of Berkeley and Horry County have identified four unclaimed veterans. Your riders will meet with Riders from Conway on Tuesday December 2nd in Sumter for the dignified transfer. On Wednesday December 3rd your riders will meet with Riders from Goose Creek in Blackville for the dignified transfer. We will then bring the remains to our Post in Chapin.

We encourage all Post 193 members attend the Interment of Previously Unclaimed Veterans, at FJNC at 1100 on Friday December 12th.

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

Chaplain's Corner



Thanksgiving week 2025!

As members of Post #193 we are blessed beyond belief.

More than a hundred veterans for Monday morning breakfast most weeks.

Our new Post home is taking final shape on the outside and looking good on the inside.

Our Be-The-One call program is verifying that no one at our Post Family is slipping through the cracks and forgotten.

The Wreath's Across America (Chapin) programs is seeing that those that have passed from this life are not forgotten.

Our VSO (veteran's service officer) is helping our Vets get the benefits they have earned.

I'm thankful for our leadership team that is taking our Post to heights that many Post just dream of. I challenge you to find your place of service in our Post and help us to continue to grow and serve.

Comrade Care List:

As you pray, remember those listed on our Comrade Care List.
Remember our Post family. Remember our Post family:

Charles Smith, Auxiliary member, Laura Smith's husband passed this past week
Paul Holiday is back home from his treatment in Jacksonville, Florida
Remember Bill Szala
Pray for George and Carol Smith, George is at home under hospice care
Betsey Harvey and her daughter
John Siemers
Larry Archer
Buddy Miller with lung cancer near his heart
Richard Royer as he battles with cancer
Walt Richardson
Bob Dilworth's wife
Jack Hulet
Ed Abston
Rejoice with Dan Berglund in victory over cancer
Willie Nix's and his daughter needs our prayers
Alvin Shrum's wife fell and is bruised up, thankfully no broken bones
Steve Kelly's wife, Becky
Doug Abramson's wife, Florence with a broken ankle and recovery from surgery
Keith Ostrander's wife, Sharron has a serious eye condition
I was given a couple requests for prayer, but they did not want to be identified. Remember them also.
If you would like a contact number or details that I have, please call me or text me.

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Auxiliary



November kicked off with two Auxiliary officers attending the ALA Fall Conference in Columbia where they networked with other units and learned of more opportunities to support veterans and their families. Many ideas were presented at our November meeting and should be implemented during 2026!

We are now looking forward to a fun and festive holiday season including these events:

Sun., Nov. 30, 3:00 p.m. - Decorate Post 193 for Christmas
All invited to help ~ decorations provided.
Thurs., Dec. 4, 5:00 p.m. - BINGO at Chapin Town Hall

- Sat., Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m. - Contact Carmen to volunteer in concessions.
Post 193 Christmas Party
- Sat., Dec. 13, 11:00 a.m. - Contact Marthelyn to volunteer to help decorate tables.
Wreaths Across America Ceremony
- Sun., Dec. 14, 2:00 p.m. - Contact Marthelyn to volunteer to serve beverages.
Christmas Party at Unit 174, Irmo, 801 Piney Woods Rd.
All encouraged to attend! Please bring an appetizer to share.

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



Post Activities and Events

- 01 Dec: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 02 Dec: Executive Committee Meeting 6:15 PM. Post Building
- 04 Dec: BINGO 1730-2200, Chapin Town Hall, 157 Columbia Ave, Chapin. POC: Floyd Rogers
Come help or play. Setup starts at 4:30 p.m.
- 05 Dec: Arbor Day ceremony and tree planting, 1300-1400, New Post Building. POC Dave Schimsa
- 06 Dec: Chapin Post 193 Christmas Party 5:30 – 9:00 PM
- 08 Dec: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 09 Dec: ALR Executive Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman
Chapin Post 193 Amateur Radio Club Meeting 6:00 – 9:00 PM
- 12 Dec: Veteran Internment 11:00 AM, FJNC. POC: Steve Goulet
- 13 Dec: Wreaths Across America 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, Chapin Christian Community Church
POC: Rich Nielen / Steve Goulet
- 15 Dec: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 16 Dec: Town Council Pledge of Allegiance, 1800, POC: Russ Taylor
ALR Meeting, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman
- 22 Dec: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 29 Dec: 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](#)

GOINGS ON!

