Chapin American Legion Post 193
230 Amicks Ferry Rd.
Chapin, SC 29036

Commander **October 2026**

October has been a great month and a very busy one for our Post. We are finally getting settled into our new facility and adjusting to life in our new home. A big thank-you to everyone who has worked so hard to make this possible. Your dedication and efforts have helped us get to where we are today.

As I have said before, this is an exciting time for Post 193, and we have a lot to be proud of. This month, we celebrated the **U.S. Navy's 251st Birthday** and supported Texas Roadhouse with its motorcycle charity ride benefiting Homes for Our Troops, an organization dedicated to helping our severely injured veterans.

We also hosted our first major event in the new facility. On October 10, the **Chapin Women in Service held their Celebrate America Gala**, and it was a great success. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time, and the funds raised will help us continue working toward paying off the mortgage on our new home. A special thank-you to the ladies of Chapin Women in Service for their continued support of our Post.

Bingo continues to be a big success! This month, we settled into our new schedule of twice-monthly games, and so far, we are averaging more than 150 players per night. That is a great turnout, and we appreciate everyone who comes out to support us. A special thanks to Floyd and Carol Rogers for their hard work organizing and running Bingo, along with all the volunteers who help with concessions and everything else needed to make these evenings successful. It takes a team effort, and we certainly have a good team.

We were also pleased to host **U.S. Congressman Joe Wilson** during his bus tour through the district, giving him an opportunity to visit with his constituents and see our new facility. We also welcomed the **Chapin Garden Club** for an Arbor Day event. It is great to see our new Post home becoming a place where our members and the community can come together.

Looking ahead, we have several important events coming up. Our **Post Christmas Party is scheduled for December 5**, followed by **Wreaths Across America on December 19**. Both are important events, and we hope to see a great turnout. More information will be coming out as we get closer to those dates.

As we continue to settle into our new home, I encourage everyone to get involved wherever you can. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer, participate in activities, and help make our Post even better. Remember, this is **our Post**, and its success depends on all of us working together. Thank you again to everyone who continues to give their time and talents to support Post 193. We have accomplished a lot, but there is still much more ahead of us.

Finally, **Happy Halloween to everyone!** Enjoy the holiday, stay safe, and don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 1, as Daylight Saving Time comes to an end.

.**Richard Nielen/For God and Country/In Service**
Veteran Help Line: **Dial 988, option 1**

Adjutant

We are entering a busy time of the year, with many activities and organizations competing for our time and talents. With our new home open and activities taking place almost every day, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. We need to remember that we cannot do everything, nor should we expect to. If each of us contributes a little of our time and talents we can accomplish a great deal without placing the burden on just a few. As the saying goes, **"Many hands make light work."**

I want to congratulate Eric Puette, who was unanimously elected by our Executive Committee on October 19, 2026 to serve as our new Third Vice Commander. The Third Vice Commander is an important position, and we appreciate Eric's willingness to step up and take on this responsibility. It takes dedicated members who are willing to serve to keep our Post moving forward. Thank you, Eric, for stepping up and accepting this important position. We look forward to working with you as we continue to build on the success of Post 193.

Our membership continues to grow, and I want to thank everyone who has already renewed their membership for the 2027 membership year. As of October 22, we were at 83.96% of our membership goal! That is great progress, and we continue to work toward reaching our goal of 100% membership before Veterans Day on November 11.We have also welcomed 35 new members to our Post this year, which is certainly something to be proud of. However, while our overall membership numbers are encouraging, only 70.35% of our existing members have renewed their membership for 2027. We still have work to do to bring our current members back into the fold. If you have not renewed your membership, please take a few minutes to do so. You can renew your membership online at:

Renew Your American Legion Membership:
https://www.legion.org/renew

Remember, your membership does more than support our Post. It helps support the programs and services The American Legion provides to veterans, their families, and our communities. Thank you again to everyone who has renewed, to our 35 new members who have joined us, and to those who continue to help us recruit and retain members.

Our Post Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5, is approaching fast. This will be our first Christmas party in our new Post home, and we are looking forward to a wonderful evening of good food, entertainment, and fellowship with our American Legion Family.

As we approach Veterans Day and the holiday season, we have several important events coming up, including our Veterans Day activities, Christmas Party, and Wreaths Across America on December 19. These events give us opportunities to honor our fellow veterans, support our community, and enjoy the friendship and fellowship that make our American Legion Family so

special. With our new Post home now fully operational, we have much to look forward to. We've accomplished a great deal this year, and there is still much more ahead of us. I encourage everyone to take advantage of the activities and events at the Post, spend time with your fellow Legionnaires, and enjoy the home we have all worked so hard to make a reality.

Steven Goulet/"Veterans Strengthening America"

First Vice Commander/Quartermaster

The Christmas party is fast approaching[. Again, this year I am in charge of planning the party. I need several volunteers to help me plan the Post Christmas party. If interested (and you know you are) see me after breakfast on any Monday or after the post monthly meeting or you can call me at 803-873-2076.

Blood drive dates for 2027 are as follows: February 15, April 12, June 14, August 23, and October 18. You can sign up on the American Red Cross website to contribute.

Black Ball caps have finally come in; they will be available at any Monday breakfast or monthly meeting. Cost is $25.

Jerry Lebar/For God and Country

Facility Manager

We are looking for a few good Veterans to join the Monday Morning Veterans Breakfast crew. No experience required. See me for details. We are also looking for a few good Veterans, SAL, or Auxiliary to join the canteen kitchen team. We have developed a great food menu to complement our awesome bar menu. You do not need to be a trained chef. This is all basic cooking & food prep. No food service course is required - just a desire to prepare good food for our members and guests.

A big thanks to Pat Cherry for his continued help with projects for our new Post. Among many other things he has installed lights in our connex, hung many of our plaques & pictures, and assembled & installed shelving. Thanks, Pat!

David W. Schimsa/For God and Country

ALR Director

From the saddle of my Gold Wing:

It's October, and as is the norm, our Post is making multiple efforts to ensure that Veterans and some of the less fortunate children of our community are not forgotten at Christmas. You've probably noticed the four large, "mostly" Christmas decorated cardboard boxes at our Post.

Firstly, we have a box clearly marked as "Toys for Tots", the Marine Reserve charity that collects new and unwrapped toys for children. Just drop them in the white and red box!

Secondly, we have a Christmas "wrapped" box for the 26th Annual Dorn VA Hospital "Vets Charity Christmas Ride". The gifts for this box are for the Veterans that are in the Dorn VA Hospital. These items must be new and unwrapped.

- The items that are "requested/suggested" are listed on the box flyer and on the internet: https://06dc4bd8-934d-4083-9345-c114fab4d01e.filesusr.com/ugd/21e766_a6400ab23d894532b70e407052e0480b.pdf
- Items include; L to 3XL bathrobes, sweatshirts and pants, coats, men's underwear, warm sox, gloves, blankets, slippers toilet articles, and Walmart gift cards.

Thirdly, we have, (*as I have been assured by Post Member, Jim Pepper*), a special box for the Justin Pepper House "Teens and Tweens Christmas Charity" is in place….. This event collects and delivers, to local group homes and shelters, focusing on the often overlooked 12- to 18-year-old age group. A complete list can be found at: https://justinpepperhouse.com/tweens-and-teens-gift-drive

- Items requested are "Group Activities and Crafts", "Clothing items for teens & tweens", Beauty and Hygiene items, Holiday decorations, Hair products and Bedding. All gift items to be new and unwrapped.

And our fourth Christmas wrapped box is for The Newberry Boys Farm & Area Children Toy Drive. We Legion Riders traditionally lead the (couple hundred) motorcycle parade/ride from Boland's to Newberry. They are seeking new unwrapped toys.

We will be asking all participants at our Christmas Parties (Post & Riders) to bring one donation per participant to any of the four donation boxes.

We are also asking all of our Veterans who attend our Monday morning (a real bargain at $6) breakfast, to also bring in donations for the donation boxes.

All of your donations hit two of our Four Pillars; Care for Veterans and Children & Youth. Remember all gifts must be NEW & UNWRAPPED!

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

Chaplain's Corner

The older that I get, life seems to come at me faster. Before I'm able to recover from a busy weekend it is Sunday again. Monday morning veterans breakfast seems to be about four days apart. Life can get overwhelming very fast.
I was reminding someone a few days ago to remember the oxygen mask on an airplane "put your mask on first" take care of yourself first if you are going to be there to help others. I get my greatest joy by helping others but if I get so busy that I neglect my own rest, exercise or nutrition or greater yet my spiritual needs, I will not be able to keep up with the activity load.

I want to be involved in everything, but I really need to be selective in what I do. There are so many exciting things going on in our new post home, I can't do everything and don't want to feel guilty for passing up many of the activities and opportunities.
Choose your part, your place and do it well and let someone else share the load.

Jesus promises that He will never leave us nor forsake us, that He will always be near us not only to rescue us, as He did Peter on the waters but to comfort us in our time of struggles, doubts and fears.
The load may seem heavy and the thought "I can't" is so discouraging but "WE CAN" is a very comforting thought . It is amazing what me and Jesus can do when I let Him do the leading.

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:
Bob & Bev Vogt
Nancy Graham back surgery on Oct 13
Roy Schwalm heart issues
Ron Saxton
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
Stephen Geer
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 waiting for double lung transplant, Donna Tsukayama's friend
Forward your request for this list to me at rcmullinax@gmail.com

Chaplain Richard Mullinax/For God and Country

Auxiliary

Happy Fall!

Thanks to everyone who participated at Labor Day. So many worked behind the scenes to make this event successful. I want to thank everyone who attended, worked the booth, and helped with the desserts at the Post. There were bakers, ticket sellers, face painters, tent area setup and teardown crews, and helpers who worked wherever needed. We were seen.

The gift card basket and wreath drawings were held at the Post on October 9. A representative from Chapin Women in Service drew the tickets. The winners are Carolyn Price (large wreath),

Mary Plexico (basket 4), Tony McCall (basket 5), Ken Hart (medium wreath), and Connie Mancari (medium wreath). Congratulations to our winners! I also want to thank everyone who sold tickets, bought tickets, and told others about the drawings. We had a successful fundraiser for Palmetto Girls State.

Jodi continues to ask those who are current members to renew before the convention in late October, and our numbers have increased. If you need to renew, please contact Jodi at **redhatgrammy5@yahoo.com**. Once you renew, your name will be placed with other members who have renewed, and there will be a drawing for a cake at the next meeting. Deborah Royer's name was drawn for the cake in September for renewing her membership.

The Auxiliary will be providing refreshments for Wreaths Across America on December 19. Please consider volunteering that day. Signups will be held at the November meeting.

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

1 Nov: Lexington County Veterans Day Parade, 1500, POC Jim Schafer

2 Nov: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

3 Nov: Executive Committee Mtg, 1815-1915, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet
Election Day

5 Nov: BINGO 1730-2200, POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.

5 Nov: Flag placement Downtown area, POC: First Vice Cmdr.

6 Nov: Boot Drive, 0730-1600, Post Building, POC: Steve Tucker / Gene Powell

7 Nov: Newberry Veterans Day Parade, 0900-1200, 1856 Wilson Rd, Newberry

9 Nov: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

10 Nov: Veterans Day Program 1800-1900, Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church

10 Nov: USMC 250th Birthday

10 Nov: ALR Executive Meeting 1800- 1900, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman
Amateur Radio Club Meeting 1800 – 2100

11 Nov: **Veterans Day** Veterans Day Parade, 0730-0900, Start at Post Home, POC Bill Wilson

12 Nov: Retrieve Flags from Downtown, 0900-1000, Post Building. POC: First Vice Cmdr.

12 Nov: Post 193 and Auxiliary Meeting, Dinner at 1800, Meetings at 1900, Post Building, POC: Steve Goulet, Dinner provide by Post Historian Linda Warren

16 Nov: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

16 Nov: ALR Meeting, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman

17 Nov: BINGO 1730-2200, POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.

17 Nov: Chapin Town Council Meeting, Pledge of Allegiance, 1800. POC: 3rd Vice Cmdr.

19 Nov: Wreaths Across America mtg, 1900-2000, Post Building, POC: Commander/Adjutant

23 Nov: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa

26 Nov: Happy Thanksgiving!!

1 Dec: Executive Committee Mtg, 1815-1915, Post Building. POC: Steve Goulet

3 Dec: BINGO 1730-2200, POC: Floyd Rogers. Come help or play. Setup starts at 4pm.

5 Dec: Post 193 Annual Christmas Party 1800