

AMERICAN LEGION

Welcome to your Post



5/28/2026

“Veterans Strengthening America”



I am the Post Adjutant and on behalf of all elected officers, appointed positions and the members of Chapin American legion Post 193 Family we welcome you to “your” Post.

By now each of you should have received a welcome email from myself and the Commander and your membership card.

You have also been added to the Post 193 email list and should be receiving emails from the Post leadership on regular basis

We hope that conducting these new member orientations will assist with transitioning into the organization and help to provide a more welcoming environment for new members and their families.

We are glad to have you as a member of the Team and look forward to continuing to serve with you and your family.



AMERICAN LEGION



- The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic Veterans' organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. [The American Legion](#)
- It is the nation's largest wartime Veterans service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and Veterans.
- Today, membership stands at nearly 2 million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines.
- If you have not already taken the American Legion basic training course, you should consider it. The course provides a lot of good information about the American legion.
- [American Legion Education Institute | The American Legion](#)
- Establish your MY LEGION account. <https://mylegion.org/personifyebusiness/>



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- Chapin Post 193 was established in 1998 and received a Temporary Charter with 19 Veterans. The Full Charter was presented in 2000 with Charter membership of 70 Veterans.
- Initially Post meetings were held at Crooked Creek Park and in 2011 the Post moved into the Old Lexington County Fire Department where we continue to meet.
- For the past 5 years we have been working diligently to raise money to build a new Post Home here in Chapin. July 18, 2026, we will hold our Ribbon cutting ceremony for our New Post Home!
- Currently Post 193 has a membership of 445 Veterans, 52 Auxiliary members and 26 Sons of the American legion members. Legion Family total 523 and we are continuing to grow.
- Membership is open to All veterans who have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, have been honorably discharged or are still serving

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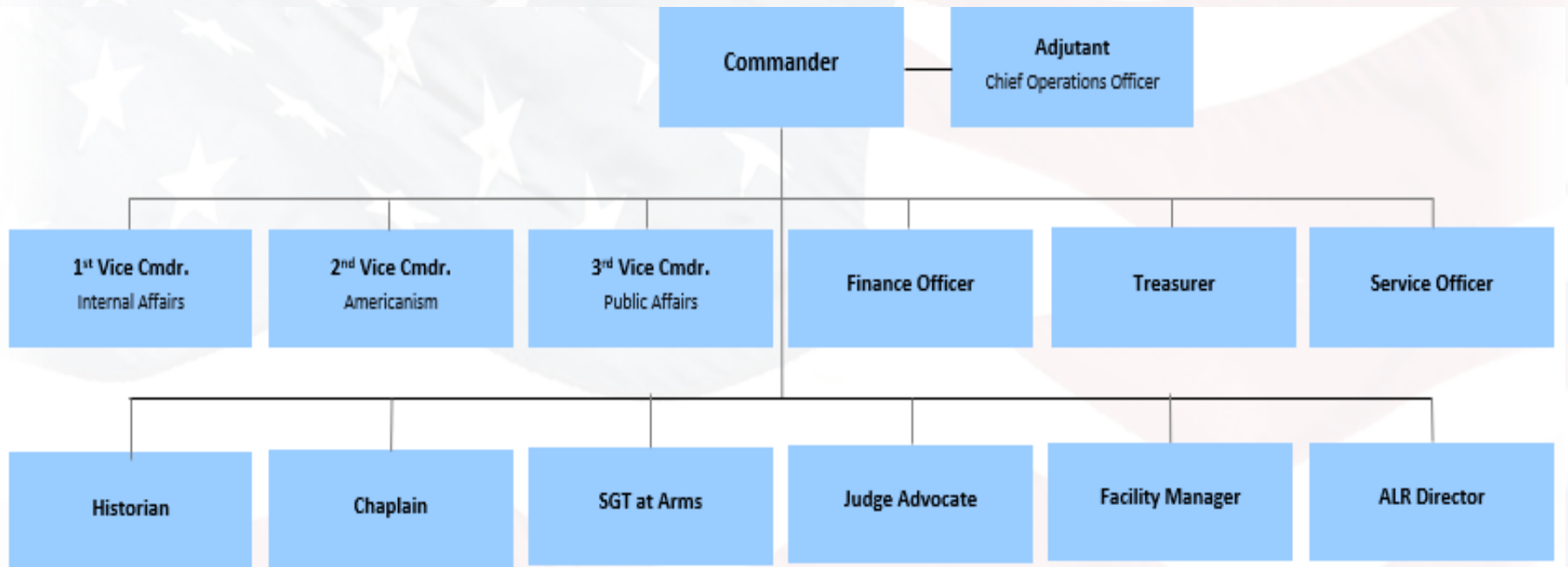
Chapin Post 193 is more than just a few old Veterans!



We are a Family made up of:
American legion Post 193
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 193
Sons of the American legion Squadron (SAL)
American Legion Riders Chapter

AMERICAN LEGION

Organization Chart





Post 193 Officers

Commander: Richard Nielen

1st Vice Commander: Gerard Lebar

2nd Vice Commander: Wil Truesdale

3rd Vice Cmdr. Thomas Taylor

Adjutant: Steve Goulet

Finance Officer: David Shealy

JAG: Jeff Barham

Post Service Officer: Jacque Kendall

Chaplain: Richard Mullinax

Facility Manager; David Schimsa

AL Rider Director: Tom Yeoman

Sgt at Arms: Mike Rowley

Historian: Linda Warren

Auxiliary President: Marthalyn Schimsa

Treasurer : George Donnelly

Commander@americanlegionpost193.com

1stvicecdr@americanlegionpost193.org

2ndvicecdr@americanlegionpost193.org

3rdvicecdr@americanlegionpost193.org

adjutant@americanlegionpost193.org

financeoff@americanlegionpost193.org

JAG@americanlegionpost193.org

vso@americanlegionpost193.org

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facilitymgr@americanlegionpost193.org

ALR193@americanlegionpost193.org

mike11661@yahoo.com

hist@americanlegionpost193.org

marthalyns@yahoo.com

georgeadonnelly@yahoo.com



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All positions in the Post are open to all members in good standing (dues paid)

Post elections are held during our May meeting

All elected Officers of the Post are installed during our June meeting.

In addition to our elected officer positions the Post has several committee positions that are appointed by the Commander

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Our Mission

The Mission of the American Legion Post 193 of Chapin, South Carolina, is to enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our community by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Our Motto

“Veterans Strengthening America.”

Our Value Principles

The American Legion Post 193 value principles are as follows:

A VETERAN IS A VETERAN – which means the American Legion Post 193 embraces all current and former members of the military and endeavors to help them transition into our community.

SELFLESS SERVICE – which means American Legion Post 193 celebrates all who contribute to something larger than themselves and inspires others to serve and strengthen America and the Chapin community local area.

AMERICAN VALUES AND PATRIOTISM – which means American Legion Post 193 advocates for upholding and defending the American Constitution, equal justice and opportunity for everyone and discrimination against no one, youth education, responsible citizenship, and honoring military service by observing and participating in memorial events within Chapin and our local area communities.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – which means American Legion Post 193 meets the unique needs of our local communities within the Chapin area.

HONOR THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US – which means our American Legion Post 193 pays perpetual respect for all past military sacrifices to ensure that they are never forgotten by new generations.

Our Vision

ADVANCING THE NATIONAL VISION – American Legion Post 193 will educate, mentor, and lead new generations of Americans. We do this through actively supporting our programs to promote Veterans and Veteran Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children/Youth and Community.

ENGAGING MEMBERSHIP – American Legion Post 193 promotes all members to be active in our programs and especially in taking care of one another through meetings, activities, and formal and informal Buddy Checks. We will provide mentorship to meet the needs of the members in staying engaged.

ENGAGING FAMILIES and COMMUNITY – American Legion Post 193 will seek to have activities and programs to support Veteran and Community families. We will call on our members to engage with local charity and service organizations to support those needing our help. We will endeavor to have activities that bring together the community.

This vision will require ideas and assistance from all members to meet these objectives.

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The Four Pillars

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- Access to VA Care
- Better Funding Formula
- Support for Veterans with Special Needs
- Career Opportunities
- A GI Bill for a New Century
- Employment and Business
- Heroes to Hometowns
- Volunteering
- Final Respects

National Security

- Strong National Defense
- Military Quality of Life
- Homeland Security
- Foreign Relations
- Full Accounting of POW/MIAs
- Operation Comfort Warriors

Americanism

- Flag Protection
- Illegal Immigration
- Voter Registration and Participation
- Boy Scouts
- The Pledge of Allegiance
- Establishment-Clause Lawsuits

Children & Youth

- Catastrophic Illness
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Immunization
- Family Integrity
- Media Violence
- Drug Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- Host the local community Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) group
- Support the Dorn VA Hospital with annual Christmas gifts for patients
- Sponsor and execute the Chapin Memorial Day ceremony
- Participate in the Chapin and Lexington Veterans Day parades
- Support local Veterans – building wheelchair ramps, hospital visits, etc.
- Donated funds to Homes for our Troops, the Fisher House, & the Freedom and Hope Foundation
- Sponsor Unclaimed Veterans Interments– over 100 unclaimed Veterans interred since 2013
- Sponsor and participate in Wreaths Across America where a wreath is placed on every grave at the Ft. Jackson National Cemetery and sponsor the Chapin Community WAA program
- Sponsor a Monday Morning Veteran Breakfast! All Vets are welcome no need to be a member of Post 193

“Veterans Strengthening America”



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Americanism

- Provide U.S. Flag for Chapin Flagpole across from Sonic as well as U.S. Flags for Crooked Creek Park and the Town of Chapin
- Annually recognize Boy Scout and Eagle Scout of the Year
- Legionnaire's lead the Pledge of Allegiance at monthly Town Hall Meeting
- Provide flag education and protocol to local Scouts and community members whenever requested
- Sponsors Boys from Chapin and Spring Hill High Schools to Boys State
- Sponsors Girls from Chapin and Spring Hill High Schools to Girls State
- Sponsors Boys and Girls to the SC Law Cadet program
- Support Dutch Fork and Chapin High School JROTC programs
- Co-Sponsor American Legion Baseball Team
- ALR Chapter serves as Color Guard for Chapin Labor Day Parade
- Annual Oratorical Competition



Children & Youth

- Support local youth activities / sponsor youth sports teams
- Participate in Toys for Tots drive each year
- Support Newberry Boys Farm
- Provide support to the American Legion Legacy Fund which provides funds for the American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation



Local Community Activities

- Collect and deliver food each week for the local We Care Food Bank
- Provide location for local nonprofits to meet
- Support Newberry Boys Farm annual toy drive
- Support activities for Veterans at Local Freedom and Hope Foundation
- Provide community flag collection and honorably retire all flags
- Host Memorial Day Ceremony at the Town Hall
- Chapin Veterans Parade through local elementary and middle schools
- Annual Wreaths Across America ceremony and sponsorship of 13 local church cemeteries



Meetings

American Legion –General Membership: 2nd Thursday evening of each month (except for December when we have our Post Christmas party in lieu of the Post meeting) Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

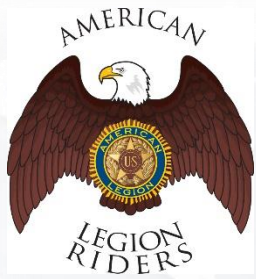
Executive Committee: 1st Tuesday evening of each month

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 193 General Membership: 2nd Thursday evening of each month (except for December when we have our Post Christmas party in lieu of the Post meeting) Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Legion Riders Chapter 193 –General Membership: 3rd Tuesday evening of each month 6:00 p.m.
ALR 193 Executive Committee: Tuesday evening prior to the Post meeting

Amateur Radio Club: 2nd Tuesday evening of each month meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

Sons of the American Legion –General Membership: 2nd Tuesday evening of each month



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



ALR Chapter 193

Tom Yeoman, ALR193@americanlegionpost193.org



SONS OF THE

AMERICAN LEGION



Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

Squadron Commander, Erich Kielburger efk1970@gmail.com

- The SAL is made up of boys and men of all ages who share a common bond of familial military pride. Many veterans who are already members of The American Legion also choose to hold "dual membership" in the SAL to honor their own parents' or grandparents' service.
- The overarching mission of the SAL is to support veterans and strengthen the "Four Pillars" of The American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.
- While our SAL squadron is currently in its infancy here at our American Legion Post, we have big plans on the horizon. As the year goes on, we hope to steadily grow our membership, spark fresh involvement, and build a strong foundation of service right here in our local community. We invite you to be a part of this exciting new chapter.



Post Service Officer

Jacque Kendall vso@americanlegionpost193.org

VA claims assistance
Benefits guidance
Veteran advocacy
Confidential support
County VSO Ed Lundeen

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Lexington County VSO



Email Us

Ed Lundeen

elundeen@lexingtoncounty.sc.gov

Director

Jennifer Parler

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Veterans Affairs Supervisor

Brittany Gunter

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Senior Benefits Counselor

Jolene Bailey

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Benefits Counselor

Michelle Schrock

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Benefits Counselor

Annastasia Blake

ablake@lexingtoncounty.sc.gov

Administrative Assistant



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AUXILIARY



Auxiliary Unit 193

Marthalyn Schimsa, marthalyns@yahoo.com



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Opportunities to Serve








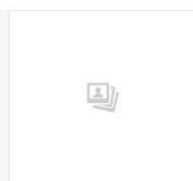
Membership Committee		Boys State and Law Committee
Memorial Day Ceremony		Boy and Girl Scout activities Committee
Labor Day Parade/festivities		Building Committee
Post Everlasting/ POW MIA ceremony and Post Picnic (September meeting)		Convention Delegate Chairman
Veterans Day Parade Committee		Election nomination Committee
Christmas Party Committee		Constitution and By Laws Committee
Ladies Fast Pitch Softball Committee		We Care Christmas gift program
Legion Baseball Committee		Unclaimed Veteran Burial Program
Bingo Committee		Wreaths Across America Committee
Oratorical Committee		

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Legion Uniform Caps

Please review the Uniform Cap Help page and contact us with questions before placing your order.

Sort by:

 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (County) Item No. 777.COUNTY \$50.⁰⁰</p>	<p>Customize Cap</p>  <p>Customize Uniform Cap Item No. 777.CUSTOM \$0.⁰⁰</p>	 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (Department) Item No. 777.DEPT \$50.⁰⁰</p>
 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (District) Item No. 777.DIST \$50.⁰⁰</p>	 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (National) Item No. 777.NATL \$50.⁰⁰</p>	 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (Post City) Item No. 777.POSTCITY \$50.⁰⁰</p>
 <p>Legion Uniform Cap (Post State) Item No. 777.POSTSTATE \$41.⁰⁰</p>	 <p>Other Size Item No. 777.SIZE \$0.⁰⁰</p>	

The official Legion Cap

Legion members are in uniform when wearing this cap.

Caps can be ordered from [Legion - Uniform Caps](#)



Legion Ball Cap

Order through our Post store.
Not for official functions



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The official American Legion uniform has evolved over the years from the military style blouse coat with Sam Brown Belt to the current Dark Blue Blazer and grey colored slacks, however, the one item that has not changed is the official American Legion cap, **the true recognized “uniform of the American Legion”**.

- There is proper etiquette in the wearing of the “official uniform”. Pins showing your military rank should be avoided as “there is no rank among us”. Civic and Fraternal organization pins or patches are prohibited, as well.
- You can wear your Legion Cap at any Legion function, events where you represent the American Legion and your Post, and you are a guest at a civic function, but be aware that wearing the cap any place, such as political rallies, protests, and other controversial places that bring discredit to the American Legion is strictly forbidden.
- You don’t wear your cap during a meal (males only). Even though the established etiquette states that your cap is not to be worn during an official Legion or civic dinner or luncheon, social norms have been to uncover whenever eating.
- The garrison cap is the “Official Cap” of the American Legion, not a ball cap with American Legion written on it or adorned with an American Legion emblem. (American Legion Riders beret with the ALR emblem is part of the official ALR uniform).
- As stated in the 2023 Officers Guide and Manual of Ceremonies, the cap should NOT be worn in a place of worship, with the exception of the guard of honor, color guard, and commander of the same while in marching order or standing guard. When one is seated, the cap should be removed unless your religion dictates otherwise or you are a female that has the option to wear her cover or remove it.
- Posts marching in formation into a place of worship should uncover at the door, hold the cap with the right hand over the heart until arriving in the pews and commanded to take seats, and remain uncovered during the entire service.



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- At the close of the service, upon command, the post shall rise, hold the cap with right hand over the hearts, march out of the place of worship, and recover after marching through the door. Note: During funeral services, the cap should be held over the heart as one approaches the casket and is not at any time worn in a place of worship except by the guard of honor, color guard, or commander of same while in marching order or standing guard.
- Legionnaires not in formation will uncover upon entering the place of worship, remain uncovered during the entire service, and re-cover after leaving the place of worship. At the graveside, the cap should be held in the right hand over the heart during the entire service. In cold and inclement weather, the cap should not be doffed.
- In meetings, the cap should be worn except during the Pledge of Allegiance, prayer, and while standing in silent reverence in memory of departed comrades, when it should be held with the right hand over the heart. A Legionnaire wearing a cap should behave in proper accordance as to salutes, etc., the same as if wearing a military uniform. If not wearing a cap, observe ordinary rules of etiquette for civilian dress.
- Female Legionnaires should wear their caps in the manner prescribed for women in the armed forces. This is suitable for most situations, but taste and common sense should prevail. By American Legion tradition, a female Legionnaire may leave her cap on during the Pledge of Allegiance, the national anthem, prayer, and meals. Legionnaires wishing to attach decorations and/or other official insignia to their caps are advised of National Executive Committee Resolution No. 58, adopted by the National Executive Committee, April 30 – May 1, 1964 resolution on the subject.
- **Show your Legion Pride; wear your uniform properly, with knowledge, pride, and respect.**
- **You are the greatest Public Relation asset of this great organization.**

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Chapin Post 193 has been involved with unclaimed Veteran burials since March 2013

- Have conducted more than 17 Interment Ceremonies at Florence National Cemetery, the Fort Jackson National Cemetery and Beaufort National Cemetery
- Have screened hundreds of potential Veteran records and have interred more than 100 Veterans so far.





Wreaths Across America initiative

- Post 193 reached out to local churches/cemeteries to partner with them in establishing an enduring community program
- Currently 13 churches/cemeteries are participating
- Goal is to have community involvement (“Remember-Honor-Teach”) and to have a Veteran Wreath placed on all Veteran Graves in the Chapin community
- We will conduct one centralized community ceremony and wreath laying at 12:00 p.m. on Wreaths Across America Day (19 December 2026) @ Chapin Christian Community Church
- Abbreviated ceremonies / wreath laying will be held at all other churches/cemeteries at 1:30 p.m.

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**For more information about Chapin American Legion Post 193
Visit**

www.americanlegionpost193.com

<https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionpost193>

<https://www.facebook.com/ALRChapter193>

“Veterans Strengthening America”