

AMERICAN LEGION

Chapin American Legion Post 193

Commander

September 2025



Legionnaires, September was another busy month for our post. There are many good things happening for our Post and we are getting closer to moving into our new building. If you haven't had the chance to drive by the new facility it is really turning into a reality. A lot of hard work through the years is finally paying off. We are continuing to work out our plans for operations at the new post. There will be many new challenges as we move into the new location and it will take some time to set our procedures and establish how the post will function in the future. Starting with a basic plan we can add services and features as we build experience and hear from our members about what activities they would like to see and would support. The Chapin Labor Day Parade and Festival went very well this year. We had a good turnout early that morning for the setup and plenty of people throughout the day to make our activities a success. A big thanks to everyone that stayed around at the conclusion for the cleanup. It was a very busy day, but everyone had a great time working. Bingo had a very good night in September. Everyone that showed up to help with running our program did an excellent job and we appreciated everyone that attended. We had good attendance at our monthly meeting and got some essential work done. Next month's meeting will be our Post Picnic which we will hold at our current Post due to the construction going on at the new site. We will also hold our Post Everlasting Ceremony in conjunction with the meeting. In my last Weekly Update, there was a link asking if you were planning on attending and what side dish or dessert you would be willing to bring. Please take a look and respond. Hope to see everyone at our events this coming month and don't forget our Monday morning Veterans' Breakfasts.

Richard Nielen/ "For God and Country"

Veteran Help Line: Dial 988, option 1

Adjutant



Thank you to all that have renewed your membership for 2025. The Department has set our 2026 membership goal at 433 members. We are currently at 61.89% of our membership goal for 2026 which is just short of the target goal for November 13th goal of 65%. I would appreciate everyone renewing their dues as soon as possible, however no worries if you do not renew yet, as your 2025 membership is good until December 31, 2025. If you want to pay your annual dues online visit [Renew My Membership](#) Just hold down the Ctrl key, hover over the link and right click. You will be taken to the site to renew.

The Department Fall Conference is scheduled Friday, October 31, 2025 to Sunday November 2, 2025, at the Columbia Marriott. If you are planning to attend, please get your money in (\$35.00)

to our Finance Officer before 3 October 2025. All registrations after 7, Oct 2025 will be at a cost of \$40.00

Thank you to everyone that supported and attended the Previously Unclaimed Veteran Interment at the Ft. Jackson National Cemetery on August 22, 2025. We had a large crowd in attendance, and we laid to rest five Previously Unclaimed Veterans with the Honor Dignity and Respect they deserved and earned through their honorable and faithful service to our Nation.

On December 13th at 12:00 p.m. Post 193 will host a community Wreaths Across America ceremony and wreath laying at Chapin Christian Community Church. Following this ceremony at 1:30 p.m. except for St. Peter's Lutheran Church which will hold their ceremony at 2:00 p.m. we will host abbreviated ceremonies and wreath laying at each of the other 11 churches we are site coordinators for. I encourage each of you to do what you can to make this endeavor a success, whether it is serving as a team member/volunteer, purchasing a wreath or attending the ceremony. If you would like to purchase a wreath for one of the 12 churches/cemeteries we are sponsoring or for a wreath at Ft. Jackson National Cemetery, use this link [Sponsor a Wreath](#) click on the sponsor wreaths, select the number of wreaths and just follow the prompts.

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

First Vice Commander



We set up for the Farmers Market this past weekend (Sept 13); however, we were unsuccessful in selling any bricks or signing-up any new members. The blood drive this past Monday (SEPT 15) netted 22 pints, 5 people were no shows and several were unable to contribute. Our next scheduled blood drives are January 12th, March 9th, May 11th, and Sept 14, 2026. This past Friday (Sept 19) we had a membership drive at Bolands Hardware from 8 am to 4 pm. We received \$460.00 in building fund donations, sold one Brick. We talked veterans that are considering joining.

Jerry Lebar/"For God and Country" 803-873-2076

Facility Manager / NBC



The Post had 100 Vets at Monday Morning Breakfast last week, and we hosted 10 new first timers for breakfast in September. Thanks to all for inviting your Veteran friends & neighbors to join us. Our intent is to provide a 100% Veteran environment Monday mornings for the Veterans of our community. Our Post continues to support the community through the use of our facility. Chapin Women in Service, the American Red Cross, the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, the Town of Chapin, and the Freedom and Hope Foundation all used our facility this month to conduct business in support of Veterans and our community.

New Building Committee:

Thanks for everyone's support as we build a new Post of which we all can be proud. The new stone in the front of the Post looks awesome. The HVAC, plumbing, and electrical rough-ins continue. Our DOT permit has been

approved by the state DOT so we should start to see our entrance way cut in and the grading completed. We have passed all construction inspections, and our subs are doing great work. Feel free to visit the site anytime. Buy a paver or two and get ready for our Veterans Day Boot Drive.

David W. Schimsa / For God and Country

ALR Director



From the saddle of my Goldwing

This past Thursday morning, September 18th, Eight Chapin American Legion Riders joined American Legion Riders from multiple South Carolina Posts rode to Washington DC. This is our annual volunteer mission with the National Park System to "Wash the Wall", the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The US Park Service schedules our Riders, alternatively between "the Wall" and the Korean War Memorial.

On Friday, September 19th, which was National POW/MIA Recognition Day, some of our Riders toured DC, including Arlington National Cemetery and view the "Changing of the Guard" at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. One SC Post was honored to place a Wreath there.

The rest of our Legion Riders made a stop at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. Bedford is a small town in Virginia that proportionally lost more young men in the D-Day Landing than any other city or town in America. Our tour guide made the visit extremely memorable.

On Saturday September 20th, at 0530, 30 motorcycles and several "cages" rode up I-95N towards the Mall of Washington. This was an "exciting" (in a Tom Clancy kind of way) ride, as traffic into and out of our Nation's Capital is always "rush hour". We arrived at 0600, just before dawn.

At the Vietnam Memorial we were met by a familiar Park Ranger who has meet us the last several years. He briefed our large group, provided washing instructions and provided the washing tools and supplies. We were able to accomplish our mission by about 0830, prior to the Memorials opening at 0900.

We American Legion Riders of South Carolina were joined by two SC Girl Scout Troops; Troop 626 and Troop 3327 from Pelion, SC. They joined us in our wall washing, and were able to learn about the "Wall" from our veterans.

This annual endeavor by SC American Legion Riders is a moving and inspirational event in which we are proud to participate.

"All that's necessary for the forces of evil to win in the world is for enough good men to do nothing." Edmund Burke



National D-Day Memorial



Vietnam Veterans Memorial

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

Chaplain's Corner



Stand up, stand out and be seen I try to always have something on me or with me that gives a person a reason to speak to me or at least make a comment. I wear a hat with an emblem, a shirt with a message, a belt buckle, boots or a vest.

We are called to be a leader, a lighthouse, a bearer of hope. A fellow veteran needs a word of encouragement, and it may be your time to step up and give that word. If you look like a person that has a word to offer then you might be given a chance to share. If I give a person something to comment about it quite often starts that conversation that makes a difference.

I don't think that Jesus calls us to be a signpost, but rather He teaches us to go out into the highways and hedges and compel the lost to follow us to help, hope and home. Our Post is all about helping our community. Our Post is all about restoring hope to those about to give up on life. Our Post is all about making sure every veteran is "AT HOME" when he or she enters our presence.

Just a reminder to be seen doing your part in looking after each other and finding that veteran that hasn't found their way to our Post home yet.

Comrade Care List:

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

Remember our Post family. Remember Carmen Goulet and her family in the passing of her father Bill Szala. Pray for George and Carol Smith, George is at home under hospice care.

Remember Betsey Harvey, Larry Archer and Buddy Miller with lung cancer near his heart; Richard Royer and his battle with cancer, and Walt Richardson.

Bob Dilworth fell and has several broken bones. Pray for Jack Hulet, Ed Abston, and Dan Berglund. Willie Nix's daughter needs our prayers. James Blackwell is in the hospital having his L-5 cemented. 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 as well.

If you would like a contact number or any details I have, please feel free to call me or text me.

Chaplain Richard Mullinax / For God and Country

Post Service Officer



Welcome new members, we're glad you've chosen to join us. Thank you for the privilege of being your service office! There are several changes with the Veterans administration regarding service-connected disability related to Vietnam, Gulf wars, etc. Please don't hesitate to apply for service-connected disability related to your wartime service. Come see me with your questions. If you're uncertain, file the letter of intent while you seek information and talk to me. There is also a newer program called Caregiver Assistance

program which pays a spouse, child, or agency to help any veteran who is 70-100% service-connected needing help with Activities of daily living. Please see me if you'd like more information.

There's a great program for anyone with PTSD. The Reboot program has 3 courses, 1- Trauma reboot, 2- Combat reboot and 3- Emergency responder's reboot. They are a 12-week programs meeting once a week for 12 weeks. You can remain anonymous by leaving your camera off as the course is done by zoom. Whether you choose to participate in the sessions is your decision.

Jacqueline Kendall / Post Service Officer

Auxiliary



Auxiliary members ushered in September with a successful fundraiser on Labor Day. All proceeds, along with funds from a Chapin Chamber of Commerce grant, are designated for Palmetto Girls State 2026. Members are encouraged to attend the Chapin Women in Service Fall Fashion Show on Sun., Sept. 28, at 2:00 p.m. at Chapin Town Hall. Proceeds will be donated to the Post 193 New Building Fund.

Looking ahead to October: BINGO will be on Thursday, Oct. 2. (contact Carmen if you would like to work in concessions and/or provide dessert). Our next fundraiser will be a bake sale at Boland's Ace Hardware on Sat., Oct. 4, 9:00

a.m. until noon (contact Harriet if you are able to provide baked goods). The SC ALA Fall Conference will be in Columbia on Oct. 31-Nov. 1 (contact Marthalyn if you would like to attend). Reminder: Jodi is accepting payment for 2026 dues with a goal of 100% paid members by December.

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



Post Activities and Events

- 02 Oct: 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 Oct: Texas Roadhouse Homes for Our Troops Ride, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, POC Tom Yeoman
- 06 Oct: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 07 Oct: Executive Committee Meeting 6:15 PM
- 09 Oct: Post 193 Annual Picnic and Post Everlasting Ceremony 1800 - POC: 1st Vice Cdr.
- 13 Oct: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 14 Oct: 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
- 20 Oct: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building. POC: Dave Schimsa
- 21 Oct: Town Council Pledge of Allegiance, 1800, POC: Russ Taylor
ALR Meeting, 1800-2000, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman
- 27 Oct: Veteran Breakfast 0800-1030, Post Building, POC: Dave Schimsa
- 28 Oct: DOT Briefing, 1830, Town Hall, POC: Steve Goulet
Wreaths Across America, 1900-2000, Post Building. POC: Tom Yeoman

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](#)

LABOR DAY 2025



