



The American Legion

Chapin Post 193 Inc.

P.O. Box 897, Chapin, SC 29036-0897

August 2019

Commanders Corner



We had a great meeting this month and it all started off with a wonderful meal provided to us by the Dutch Fork Air Force JROTC and their Booster Club. A big **Thank You** to these young people and to Legionnaire Joe Whetstine for facilitating the meal and the opportunity for all of us to interact with the youth from the Dutch Fork High School. We had two new members join our Post recently Chuck McAllister and Scott Tate. If you see them around be sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the Post. During our meeting I had the honor of presenting a certificate of Achievement to Legionnaire Bill Larrochelle

for 30 continuous years in the American Legion. That is a long time to be a part of an organization, just think of the many folks Bill has impacted in a positive way by serving in the American Legion. I was curious as to how many folks in our Post had served at least 30 years and again I was amazed. We have one member Bill Szalas who has been a Legionnaire for 48 continuous years, Donald Konkell with 45 and Robert Alt with 44 years. I look forward to the day when they each get their certificate and pin for 50 continuous years! Legionnaire Skip Wilson was at our meeting and was able to share some good information with us on deferred giving and ways that we can give monetary gifts to benefit our Legion home and benefit from it when we do our taxes. On Thursday the 22nd of August we hosted a Boys State awards presentation and reception. Mayor Knight, Senator Cromer and Representative Chip Huggins were on hand and also presented certificates to each of the Boys State attendees as well. By the end of the evening it was very clear to me and to everyone there that Palmetto Boys State had made a significant impact on each of the young men and they were all very appreciative to our Post for sending them to a camp with the motto "Let one week begin your life". Thank you to everyone that attended and an even bigger **THANK YOU** to the ladies Auxiliary for handling the reception. We have been pretty busy and we have much to do in the coming months. Please keep an eye on our calendar of events, follow our Facebook page and Post website and fit in where you can. I will continue to send out emails with information as to what is going on and where we can use your help or participation. We have a fair amount of people in our Post that work their butts off to plan, organize and execute events and activities for our members and the community. Imagine spending your Sunday decorating a float for the Labor Day Parade and on Monday morning only two or three show up to ride on the float? Many of our folks travel away over the Labor Day weekend so if you are in the area come on out and support our efforts. Our Bingo committee is about ready to kick things off. They have a couple more practices scheduled so everyone has a few more chances to have some free fun. In place of our September meeting we have our annual Post dinner. The Post is providing the meat and we ask everyone to bring a side dish or desert. We will have our POW-MIA and Post Everlasting ceremonies and just spend time together catching up after a busy summer.

Steve Goulet/For God and Country – "We Can Build It"

Adjutant



Labor Day in Chapin is a big deal, it's an entire weekend of events. Culminating with the parade. Post 193 is an integral part of the celebration. We lead the parade each year with ALR and our float. The Post building houses the train exhibit, our bbq sales and gets a whole lot of foot traffic. It's a great day to show off who we are and what we do. Please come out and support our ALR, Post booths, bbq sales and float. We always seem to scramble at the last minute to find float riders. Please give us a hand and get to the Post at 7:30 to ride on float. We will depart

for GIS on float at 7:45, We are always at the front of the parade line, this allows us to take the back road behind town hall back to the post before it gets crazy busy. A float in a parade is no fun unless we have volunteers riding and waiving to the crowd. Come on out and enjoy.

James Pepper/For God and Country

ALR Chapter Director



Chapter 193 had a great start to August with helping Texas Roadhouse with the Homes For Our Troops Ride of South Carolina. \$17,139 was raised for this great organization. Four riders participated in the Patriots Tour by helping deliver a US flag from Harley Haven in Irmo to Falcons Fury HD in Conyers, Ga. Money raised from this ride helps wounded warriors. We also assisted in the interment of an unclaimed veteran, SP3 Kobold on the 16th of August. Our chapters monthly ride went to Martin's General Store near Ware Shoals, SC. This store is now a small restaurant. The store was built before the War Between the States and is a

designated historic site. Two riders went to assist Spartanburg Chapter 28 on the 20th of August when they hosted the ALR National Legacy Ride. The Riders are preparing for an even busier September. Chapin Labor Day Festival and Parade on September 2nd, ALRSC Meet and Greet on 14 September, Fisher House fund raiser in Greenville on 21 September and Chapter 193 annual weekend ride to Maggie Valley, NC the 27th, 28th, and 29th of September.

John Siemers/For God and Country/In the Wind

Public Affairs Officer



Changes in American Legion membership requirements should increase our numbers.

Did you ever ask yourself why you joined the American Legion? How did you become interested in it? Was it by design, or did someone mention it to you offhand and then you signed up? For many of us, it's the latter: chances are you were talking to someone who mentioned or invited you to a meeting/event at the American Legion and—being that we all often miss being around Soldiers/Marines/Sailors/Coasties/Airmen—you attended. And, chances are, that when you arrived a whole platoon of veterans greeted you warmly and you discovered folks who served in the same units you did. In between all of this conversing and handshakes, someone pulled out a membership form, handed you a pen (black ink, of course) and you gladly signed up.

Easier than a recruiter signing up a kid for a four year hitch, and things just got easier to increase our membership ranks. Just recently, a Congressional act was signed by President Trump which expanded the eligibility requirements for potential members to join the American Legion. According to the American Legion:

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving - you are eligible for membership in The American Legion! (emphasis added)

In a nutshell, anyone who has served on active duty since 1941 are eligible to join the American Legion. Additionally, "Because eligibility dates remain open, all active duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible to join The American Legion at this time, until the date of the end of hostilities as determined by the government of the United States."

In addition to being a great organization to hang out with other veterans, contribute to the larger community, and help others the American legion advocates for veteran's rights: the larger our organization, the louder the voice we have on capitol hill.

Now that the rules have changed, the challenge for every one of us should be to invite at least one veteran to an American Legion event. Last week, Gerald White met a former veteran and current FBI agent and within minutes had invited him to our Monday breakfast. The man accepted Gerald's invitation. I reached out to a veteran I met at Liberty on the Lake, and he is going to join us for breakfast. So just like someone reached out to you all those years ago, let's grow our numbers by inviting a veteran to our Post: Strength in numbers.

Zoltan Krompecher

Chaplains Corner



We had a great program recognizing our young men that returned from Boys State this year. I often worry about the future leaders of our great country, but when I see the caliber of young men and hear them share their experiences at Boys State, I have confidence that there is a young generation coming that will make us proud. There are those that scare me. Those that missed studying history and civics have a very distorted view of who we are as a nation and where we should be headed as a democracy. Then we have young men like these that have had a life changing

experience at Boys State and young ladies that come back from Girls State determined to be leaders in our state.

The Children of Israel had all but given up hope in Egypt, when a leader appeared on the scene, Moses. I'm confident that God is always preparing leaders for when the time is right. Possibly preparing one from our community. Be ever diligent in praying for and encouraging our future veterans, our future politicians and leaders of tomorrow.

Comrade Care List

Remember these "Daily" it doesn't take a formal prayer, it takes a compassionate heart.

If you would like to add someone to this list, please call me, [803.622.4300](tel:803.622.4300). If you would like to contact any of these comrades, call me for contact information.

Ernie Massaro, Joyce Mustard, Past Commander, Hal Morrison, Roy Nelson, Coach Frank Singleton, Pearl White, Joe Keilb (Jim Pepper's brother-in-law), Richard Strobel, Past Commander, Bill Smith, Charley Thorton (Benny Melton's friend), Ken Sullivan, Jerry Robbins and James Taylor.

Doug Abramson's son activated and in preparation for deployment

John Wayne Fulmer – brother of Eddie Fulmer in Saluda Rehab Center

Dave Schmisa – stepfather in-law has heart condition

Marcus Reese – recovering from knee surgery

Ed Abston - son recovering from accident

Gerald White – outpatient treatment

Ed Gohn "Fingers" – accident recovery

Richard Royer – prayers for his sister

Bill Moser – granddaughter

Joe Grimaud – in hospice care

Joe Cole - medical procedure

Richard Mullinax Sr. – For God and Country, If you believe it you'll be recruiting for it.

Auxiliary



We had a good group at the August monthly meeting. We had 2 new members and one guest present. Carmen has the membership cards and we are collecting your membership dues (\$35) for the 2020 year. Remember that National and the State always work a year ahead. Carol gave us a Bingo update. The Post will have our first real Bingo night at Timberlake Country Club on 9/18. Our last practice game will be on Sept 13th at the post. We are still looking for people to commit to help with Bingo. We also discussed several of the projects that we will be doing for Labor Day. August 10th we met and put together the 'blow guns' to sell at Labor Day. We also have several people that will be baking dog

biscuits for Labor Day. We would love to see each of you at the Labor Day Parade. We will need plenty of help in the Post and Auxiliary booths.

Anne Richardson

Calendar of Events

- August 31 Post cleanup/maintenance day 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- August 31 Membership Workshop Ridge Springs Post 133
- Sept 2 Labor Day Parade and Festivities 7:00am set up at the Post, 8:30 a.m. meet at GIS Parking lot to ride the float.
- Sep 3 Pledge of Allegiance Chapin Town Hall 7:00 p.m. meeting 6:15 p.m. (Ernie Massaro)
- Sep 9 Executive Committee meeting 6:15 p.m.
- Sep 12 Regular Membership meeting 7:00 p.m., dinner 6:15 p.m.
- Sep 14 ALRSC Annual Meet and Greet Rock Hill SC.
- Sep 17 ALR Chapter meeting 7:00 p.m., dinner 6:15 p.m.
- Oct 7 Executive Committee meeting 6:15 p.m.
- Oct 10 Regular Membership meeting 7:00 p.m., dinner 6:15 p.m.

More calendar items can be seen on the Post webpage at www.americanlegionpost193.com
Join our Post 193 Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/americanlegionpost193/>

Reminder: Post 193 is open every **Monday morning 0900-1100 for our weekly Veteran Breakfast**. Come on by and have some coffee, breakfast and a little comradery.

Highlights



Bill Larrochelle was presented an American Legion Certificate of Achievement for reaching 30 continues Years membership in the American Legion.



1st Vice Commander Roberta Poulos visited with ALR Chapter 193 to share information on the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund.



2019 Boys State Awards presentation and reception held at the Post Thursday 22 August 19. We received great feedback from the young men and the reception was great. Thank you to the ladies Auxiliary for making the reception memorable for everyone.



Interment for SP 3 Devon Kobold facilitated by Post 193 16 August 2019.



Our ALR Chapter loves riding! They had their August Chapter ride to Martin's General Merchandise in Ware Shoals SC.



Fellow Legionnaire and WWII Veteran Roy Nelson is 100. Wish him a Happy Birthday!