

2024 was an extraordinary year during which Chapter 303 met or exceeded every membership, financial and service goal. While four members were deceased in 2024, we added seven new members resulting in a total of 205 members. Service activities included monthly bingo for the residents of the Dorn VA Community Living Center. In October we donated \$2000 Hurricane Helene disaster recovery assistance. Following a ceremony at the South Carolina Vietnam War Memorial President Eisenhower and 1st VP Cervantez led the parade in downtown Columbia on Veterans Day. Our November meeting featured CW5 (Ret.) Austin Norris, an Apache helicopter instructor pilot with extensive deployment history during a 38 year career with the South Carolina Army National Guard. We held our Annual Christmas Dinner on Dember 10th including a presentation by LTC Baker, Commander of the 4th Battalion 39th Infantry Regiment, an Army Basic Training unit at Fort Jackson. The drawing for a highly successful Rifle Raffle was held after the dinner. Our January meeting included another excellent program featuring CSM (Ret.) Luther Thomas. Mr. Thomas is now Chief of Staff, 81st Readiness Division at Fort Jackson. Currently more than a dozen committees are working on plans and reports for the 2025 service and activities of Chapter 303. Chapter 303 recently received a “Top Fifty commemorative Partner” award from the DOD office of Vietnam War Commemoration. In addition to traditional committees, a historical legacy committee is working to do document the history of Chapter 303. A second legacy phase will address the questions regarding the future of Chapter 303 in advance of the upcoming National Convention.



Luther Thomas Chief of Staff 81st RD



LTC Baker, CO 4/39



2024 Christmas Dinner



Veterans Day 2024



Rifle Raffle Drawing



CLC Bingo