



Alpharetta Post 201

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Thursday, Mar. 23, 2023

Welcome Home

Wednesday, Mar. 29, marks the 50th anniversary of the last U.S. troops leaving Vietnam and the last prisoners of war held in North Vietnam arriving on American soil.

Unlike other wars where the blood of U.S. service members was spilled, those who fought in Vietnam were, for the first time in our nation's history, not welcomed home as the heroes that they were.

Although it's important for all Americans to understand that the warrior should never be blamed for war, it is equally important to ensure that future generations remember the bravery and courage demonstrated on the distant battlefields of Southeast Asia.

Since 1973 the last day of the war has been recognized in various ways over the years. But it took until 2017, when President Donald J. Trump signed, on Mar. 28, the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, for the nation to officially recognize March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Every service member of the Vietnam generation should know that their sacrifices mattered and that their service made a difference. And the names etched in black granite of The Wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. remind us of those who gave their all and never came home.

North Fulton is fortunate to have a 250-foot replica of The Wall at Newtown Park in Johns Creek. It is worth a visit - - particularly on the 50th Anniversary of the War's end.

To the families, caregivers, and survivors of the 58,318 service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice and whose names are memorialized on The Wall, we must pledge to never forget the eternal sacrifice made by their loved ones and what they sacrificed for the Nation.

Even though to this day historians continue to debate and second-guess the strategies and decisions of America's political leaders during the Vietnam War, the noble service of the men and women who served there should not be forgotten.

Yes, it's always important to say "Thank You for your Service" to anyone who has worn

our nation's uniform. But if you happen to see a veteran who served in Vietnam, all you need to say is "Welcome Home." - *hdlh*

Additional web sources for text and information: USS Midway Museum, The White House, City of Johns Creek, the Johns Creek Veterans Association, and The American Legion.

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Auxiliary to Host Easter Egg Hunt for Children 10 and Younger, 11 a.m. Saturday, April 1; Clubroom/Bar Set to Open 11 a.m. that Day

For the first time in several years the Auxiliary will host an Easter Egg Hunt on the Post's Walk of Memory grounds starting at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 1.

With the expectation that the Egg Hunt will bring a number of parents and grandparents to watch the little one scramble for some of the 1,000 eggs the Auxiliary will scatter on the grounds - - - and that the adults might be interested in finding some liquid refreshment in the Clubroom/Bar - - - bar service will be available starting at 11 a.m. that day, manager Bob Byrd says.

Egg hunters 10-years-old and younger will be divided into five age groups for the hunt: 0-2; 2-4; 4-6; 6-8; and 8-10. Auxiliary President Joanna Garmon says about 200 plastic eggs stuffed with candy and other non-edible trinkets, will be set aside for each age group.

Volunteers plan to stuff the eggs Friday evening at the Post starting around 5 p.m. The stuffed eggs will be scattered around the grounds starting in the 9:30 a.m. time frame Saturday morning - - - after Ed Lively stakes out five separate "age group" hunting zones throughout the Walk of Memories area.

To make it all happen, Joanna says some additional hands and arms are needed to stuff eggs on Friday, scatter or hide the eggs Saturday morning, and help watch the little one during the hunt itself. If interested helping please let either her or Ellen Youngblood. Joanna's email is Joanna.garmon@yahoo.com. Ellen's is eftot57@gmail.com.

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Post News Notes of Interest

Saint Patrick's Day - - An estimated 60-70 people passed through the Post to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Clubroom/Bar manager Bob Byrd reported. And they brought with them "big appetites." It took about an hour to polish off some 35 pounds of corned beef along with the cabbage and potatoes, leaving some late (7 p.m. or so) arrivals at the bar looking for something that was no longer there! However sales of spirits and beer in the Clubroom that day were not out of balance with regular Friday's at the Post - - - unlike wallethub.com who reports that beer sales on St Patrick's Day increase a whopping 174 per cent compared to the rest of the year and 153 per cent more spirits are sold compared to the average day. Just something to ponder.

Eagle Scouts - - Two Troop 51 Scouts were among six who recently earned the coveted

“Eagle Scout” recognition at the Northern Ridge Boy Scout District (Roswell, Alpharetta, John’s Creek and Milton) awards ceremony. They were Sean Sternot and Chase Brown. Troop 51 is sponsored by the Post. Sternot’s project was the design and construction of an outdoor communal library and three benches to sit and read at Vickery Mills Elementary School. Brown’s project was the design and construction of a communal library as well as beautifying the surrounding area by clearing overgrowth and removing the worn out ground tiles and staining the concrete below the tiles at Sweet Apple Elementary School.

Source: Appen Media Group Milton Herald

Continuous Membership Awards - - At Tuesday evening’s General Membership Meeting, Post Adjutant Tom Billings announced that Miles Duncan III has earned a 60 Years certificate and Marvin Green, Jr. has earned a 50 Year certificate. In other membership news Billings said the Post now stands at at 94 per cent membership renewal rate with 656 members registered against a goal of 700.

Laughter at the Legion - - Post Finance Officer Ralph Jordan said two additional shows are being planned, one in early June and one in September. Funds raised at the June show are expected to support a local veterans outreach effort while the one in September, which may draw a “nationally-known” comedian to the Post’s stage would support a national veterans service program.

Help a Vet in Need - - The 28 members attending Tuesday's General Membership meeting approved a \$150 donation request from SAL Commander Derek Garmon to help a hospitalized veteran and his family who is a member of Cartersville Post 42. The Post in Cartersville, along with the local Elks Lodge and the Moose Lodge, will be holding a BBQ Benefit fund raiser and raffle on Saturday, Apr. 15 starting at 11 a.m. at the Post, 525 Martin Luther King Jr. St., in Cartersville to raise additional funds help their member.

“Submarine” Mike Scholarship - - The membership also approved spending \$350 to help fund an anticipated \$4,000 scholarship in memory of “Submarine” Mike Kotler. Making an additional \$150 donation, to bring the total to \$500 will be on the Post’s Executive Committee meeting agenda next month. Mike’s VFW Post (which meets at Post 201) has committed \$2,000 toward the goal and the Johns Creek Veterans Association anticipates making up the difference to bring the scholarship to the \$4,000 goal. The scholarship in Mikes name will be presented by the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame to a JROTC high school senior who plans to attend a university or college in Georgia, continue to participate in ROTC and accept a commission upon graduation.

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~ ~ Military- Veterans Related News ~ ~
(Not likely to be published locally in other media.)

Higher Cancer Rates Found Among Military Flight Personnel

[Click here to read.](#)

Fort Pickett to Replace Its Confederate Name this Week

[Click here to read.](#)

VA Lowers Interest Rates for Native American Vets

[Click here to read.](#)

VA Hiring at Record Numbers, Union Says It's Not Enough

[Click here to read.](#)

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Upcoming Post 201 & Other Veterans Related Activities

King's Ridge Baseball at Post 201. Season schedules for the Varsity and JV teams are published on the Post's web site, www.legion201.org. Click on the "Baseball" link.

Thursday, Mar. 23, 6 p.m. Johns Creek Veterans Association monthly meeting, Park Place Building, Newtown Park, Johns Creek.

Monday, Mar. 27, 7 p.m., VFW Post 12002. Meets 4th Monday of every month. For more information contact Ron Cowan, 404-509-1700, roncowan@bellsouth.net or Jim Davis, 770-235-4858, jim.davis@comcast.net.

Wednesday, Mar. 29. Viet Nam Veterans Day. The Johns Creek Veterans Association will celebrate the day with a 12 noon ceremony at The Wall That Heals, Newtown Park, 3150 Old Alabama Rd, Johns Creek. [Click here for more information.](#)

Friday, Mar. 31, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. "Variety of Legends" Tribute Show starring Conner Lorre. Funds raised benefit American Legion Pickens Post 149. Doors open at 5 p.m. Check him out [by clicking here.](#) Regular admission: \$20 donation. Seniors (65+) and Veterans: \$15 donation. Chattahoochee Technical College Auditorium, 100 Campus Drive, Jasper. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets online.

Saturday, Apr. 1, 8 a.m. First Saturday Informal Pot Luck Breakfast for members. Cooking generally starts around 7:30 a.m. - 8 a.m. Meal served in 9 a.m. time frame. Be sure to bring something to share. First responders who attend are exempt from the 'bring something to share' expectation. For more info contact John Dowd, 770-366-1284, or email jedowd3@gmail.com.

Saturday, Apr. 1, 11 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt on the Post grounds for children 10-years-old and younger. Contact Joanna Garmon, joanna.garmon@yahoo.com or Ellen Youngblood, eftot57@gmail.com for more information.

Tuesday, Apr. 4, 6:30 p.m. House Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Apr. 11, 7 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

Thursday, Apr. 13, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Apr. 18, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.

Thursday, Apr. 20, 11:30 a.m. Georgia Mountain Chapter - Military Officers

Association of America monthly lunch meeting. Golden Corral, 2025 Market Place Blvd., Cumming. Meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Thursday, Apr. 20, 7 p.m. Order of the Purple Heart. Meets 3rd Thursday of every month.

Friday, Apr. 28, 7 p.m. Bourbon and Cigar Night. Taste a flight of three bourbons, smoke of fine 'stogie,' and sample some outstanding hors d'oeuvres - - - all in the interest of raising funds to benefit veterans. Tickets for the 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. event are \$50 each if purchased at the Clubroom/Bar prior Friday, Apr. 21. After that the price jumps to \$60 per person.

Saturday, April 29, American Legion Family Day. The American Legion National Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution at its meeting on Oct. 12 & 13, 2022 in Indianapolis which establishes American Legion Family Day to be observed annually on the last Saturday of April. It encourages Posts to open their doors to members of their community for a day and celebrate the accomplishments of Legionnaires, Sons of The American Legion members, and the American Legion Auxiliary. [Click here](#) for more information. Discussions are underway between members of the Legion and the Auxiliary concerning plans for the Post.

Saturday, Jun. 3, 8 a.m. Ride for Vets - - a motorcycle ride to support veterans with PTSD. Sponsored by the Johns Creek Veterans Association. \$50 entry fee per motorcycle. [Click here for more information.](#)

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Club 201 Dance Activities

Visit both www.club201dance.com
and the [Club 201 Dance FaceBook Page](#)
for detailed information about
all dance activities and schedules.

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Resource Links

Scholarship Applications - - Forms for the Post's annual scholarship program are available for download [by clicking here](#). This year the Post raised the value of each scholarship from \$1,000 to \$1,500 Plans call for presenting four scholarships to graduating seniors. Applications must be received by Saturday, Apr. 1. Contact Tom Billings, Post adjutant, for more information.

Post 201 Walk of Memories - [Click here](#) for more information.

Past Issues of Post 201 E-Newsletter - Visit www.legion201.org and click on the "Weekly eNewsletters" box at the top right of the landing page.

Post 201 Website - www.legion201.org.

VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

Veterans Crisis Line - 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022

Benefits for Georgia Veterans - [Click this link.](#)

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***"It's not the price you pay to be a member,  
It's the price you paid to be eligible."***

**Post 201 - Serving Vets for 75 Years**  
*November 26, 1947 - November 26, 2022*

