



Alpharetta Post 201

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Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023

Post Membership Approves \$5 Dues Increase Starting in 2025

With only 21 members of the Post attending Tuesday night's General Membership meeting, they delivered a unanimous vote to increase the Post's 2025 dues from \$35 per year to \$40 per year. Under the current formula, the Post will keep the entire \$5 increase paid by each member when 2025 renewal time rolls around starting in July 2024.

Currently the Post keeps \$10 from each member's \$35 dues check so unless (as one member quietly noted as a side comment) the National offices changes the split a some future date, the Post can look forward to approximately \$3,500 more in dues income starting a year from now.

According to Post Commander Tom Billings, the dues increase question needed to be resolved within the 60 days or so the national organization will need to know what Post 201's dues for 2025 will be by the December 2023 or January 2024.

In other activity Tuesday night Finance Officer Ralph Jordan reviewed the Post's cash position as it stands at the end this past month. He also noted that July's cash position, which he described as strong, is a good indicator of what the Post can expect going forward.

He also outlined specific maintenance and repair costs the Post has incurred since July 1, 2022. They include: Baseball concession stand - \$12,552.40; Banquet Hall (mostly the sound system) - \$2,178.00; General Repairs to Post - \$21,792.00; Bar Kitchen Repairs - \$2,450.00; and the main Kitchen - \$16,740.00.

Finance Committee Chair Harry Hollingsworth told those attending that the Post would not have been able to fund all the repairs except for the fact that Jordan pursued and obtained a \$70,000 low interest "Cares" loan for the Post from the federal government more than a year ago just as Covid shutdown was coming to a close.

Entertainment Chair Dave Kirchner advised the membership that the committee would be coming to the Executive Committee at its next meeting to seek a commitment of somewhere between \$1,000 and \$1,500 to purchase decorations for the Holiday Season.

Kirchner said the Post's current decorations (the few that are still around) have passed beyond the "well-used" state and now fit into the "no longer usable" category. The plan, Kirchner said, is to

purchase new decorations in time to have them installed at the beginning of December since they would be an attractive addition for the number of ballroom rentals already booked for month and through early January 2024.

Updating the membership on clubroom activities, bar manager Bob Moyer called the Saturday, Sept. 16 Jimmy Buffett celebration a “smashing success,” giving credit to Scott Hoehn’s leadership in making it happen - from the cheese burgers in paradise, to the leis worn by most of the participants, to the playlist of Buffett, Beach Boys, Bob Marley and other island-type sounds the Scott produced. Those interested in taking a look at the fun should [click here](#) for a 2:16 minute wrap-up.

Guest Speaker and attorney Matthew Johnson, provided those attending a quick overview of veteran’s rights regarding the Camp Lejeune Justice Act claim and also a much less known firefighting foam claim which contains “forever chemicals” that could affect mostly Air Force and Navy personnel. He also noted that non-veterans may also apply for compensation.

Johnson also distributed a 12-page document which could be of significant value to every Post household. He, along with Post 201 member Jim Swain, are scheduled to discuss veterans and spouses VA benefits at the October General Membership meeting. That presentation is expected to focus on “Everything you need to know that the VA will not tell you.”

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Georgia Tech Baseball Club to Play Double Header on Post Field Saturday

The Georgia Tech Baseball Club is scheduled to play a double header on the Post’s field this Saturday starting at 2 p.m. Each game is expected to be seven innings long. Baseball Committee chair Alan Dudley noted that the concession stand will not be open for the game, but Post Commander Tom Billings, a Georgia Tech alum, plans to be at the game.

Billings also said that the facilities at the Post, including the Clubroom/Bar, will be available to guests or players visiting the Post for the two-game afternoon. So if you are a “Tech” person, bring or wear something to display your “Yellow Jacket” connection and enjoy the afternoon.

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VA Awards 2 Georgia Orgs Close to \$3/4 Million Each For Suicide Prevention Work

Two Georgia organizations were among 80 community-based organizations in 43 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and American Samoa receiving VA grants totaling more than \$52 million as a part of the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program.

The Georgia groups were the Georgia Department of Veterans Service who received \$747,464.00 and the Highland Rivers Community Service Board (which serves Cherokee and Pickens counties) whose grant totaled \$749,931.00. To see a state-by-state list of grant recipients [click here](#).

The grants will help these organizations provide or coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for eligible Veterans and their families. For more information on the program visit the [SSG Fox SPGP website](#).

The awards, which were announced yesterday by the Department of Veterans Affairs are one of several suicide prevention initiatives launched by the VA. The others include a new set of Veteran suicide prevention public service announcements (PSA), and — for the first time — statistics on the impact of VA's [new program](#) offering free emergency medical care to Veterans in acute suicidal crisis at any VA or non-VA health care facility. Specifically, more than 32,000 Veterans in acute suicidal crisis have received free emergency health care under the [new, life-saving VA policy](#).

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Upcoming Post 201 & Other Veterans Related Activities

DON'T FORGET ABOUT TROOP 51's PAINT RECYCLING FUNDRAISER in the Post's front parking lot this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. [Click here](#) and scroll the page to see more information.

Thursday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m. Order of the Purple Heart. Meets 3rd Thursday each month.

Friday & Saturday, Sept. 22 & 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9th District Claims Clinic, held at Sugar Hill Post 127, the VA and the Georgia VSO's. Lunch will also be offered each day. Veterans needing assistance should bring a copy of their DD-214. If they cannot find it, the team members can help them obtain one.

Monday, Sept. 25, 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.

Thursday, Sept. 28 - Sunday, Oct. 1. Georgia Military Officers Association of America State Conference. University of North Georgia, Dahlonega. www.gmcmoaa.org

Friday, Sept. 29, "Sinatra & Friends Show" at Post 201. [Click here for details.](#)

Saturday, Sept. 30, 8 p.m. Laughter at the Legion. The fifth show in the series features Jeff Norris and Renee Delorenzo and their "Married with Laughter" performance. [Click here for details.](#) Tickets may be purchased online or at the Clubroom/Bar.

Friday Night, Oct. 6. The Simply Awesome Band. Come to the Post for a night of Tina Turner! Smooth Jazz! Blues! R&B! Oldies and More. [Click here for more information.](#)

Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 7 & 8. Military and Veterans Family Retreat. The Post was notified last week that all available spaces have been reserved. [Click here](#) to see more on the program or call 770-532-2267.

Wednesday, Oct. 11. SAL's 6th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament at The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm in Woodstock. [Click here](#) for more information on corporate sponsorship. Contact either Derek Garmon 770-294-4259 or Kevin Solik, 404-483-3230 for more information.

Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 17. The Post's rear parking lot has been rented by the Adult Big Wheel Club for a corporate team building exercise.

Saturday, Nov. 11. Veterans Day.

Sunday, Nov. 12, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Annual Cruz-In. Planning Lead: Tommy Youngblood.
Email - youngbloodtom@att.net. Mobile: 678-462-9023. Leave message if no answer.

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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

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

Survivor Assistance Checklist - [Click this link](#).

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

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

Emory Healthcare Veterans Program - [888-514-5345](tel:888-514-5345) or [click here](#) for more info.

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

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

