



Alpharetta Post 201

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Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024

Post's General Membership Meet To Hear Oratorical Contest Winner

Next Tuesday night's General Membership Meeting, which starts at 7 p.m. in the ball room will feature the recent winner of the Post's oratorical competition, Oluwatimilehin (Timi) Akinyele. He will reprise his 10-minute winning presentation, "The Unseen Epidemic of Disinformation" for the membership.

The 16-year-old Junior at Innovation Academy earned a \$1,000 scholarship check from the Post for his presentation, along with a second, shorter presentation about the second amendment to the U.S. Constitution during the two-hour competition on Saturday morning, Jan. 6.

It has been some 60 days since the last general membership meeting because the Post did not hold a meeting during the month of December.

The menu for the 'no-charge dinner' prior to the meeting includes homemade rolled chicken and dumplings, baked beans, green beans, corn, peach cobbler, banana nut bread, brownies and tea, according to Dave Gordon who chairs the entertainment committee. The buffet meal service will start in the 6 p.m. to 6:10 p.m. time frame.

More on the Oratorical Contest

In total, the three Oratorical Contest winners left the Post Saturday with \$2,250 in scholarship funds.

The other two competitors, Advait (Adi) Singh, 17, a Junior at Chattahoochee High School, finished second earning \$750 for his presentation, "The 17th Amendment: Power to the People." Sydney Marie Clark, 16, also a Junior at Innovation Academy was the third place winner. Her presentation, "Underneath Red White, and Blue" earned her a \$500 scholarship check from the Post.

With his first place win, Akinyele advances to the District 9 competition which is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 2 at Ingram Chapel, 210 Ingram Ave., Cumming.

Additional scholarship money may be earned at each succeeding level of competition with the winner at the national level earning more than \$25,000. Additional competition dates and locations are: Area 3, 1:30 p.m. Sunday Feb. 18 at Post 56, 309 Lee St. Jefferson, Ga.; Department (State of

Georgia), 2 p.m. Sunday, March 3, at Mary Persons Auditorium in Forsyth, Ga.; and the National Finals, May 17-19 at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Mich.

Judges for this year's competition at the Post were Grant Miller, Lauren Linville, Meredith Morris and Post Commander Tom Billings.

Miller, a graduate of the Citadel, is a U.S. Army Reserve Human Intelligence Officer and DEA Intelligence Supervisor. He is an elected member of the board of directors on the Citadel Alumni Association and an active Citadel recruiter. He is currently a Senior Consultant at Deloitte in national security.

Linville is a graduate of Youngstown State University with a degree in criminal justice. She earned a master's degree in public administration from Florida International University. She has spent more than 18 years, both active and reserve, with the U.S. Coast Guard in various roles including Reserve Personnel Management, Military Reserve Operations, and Foreign Disclosure Officer. She recently joined the City of Roswell as Division Chief of Emergency Management.

Morris is a graduate of Florida State University and Middlebury College. She spent more than 25 years teaching various subjects at Mount Pisgah private school including AP English, Literature, and Spanish. She was a foreign student Ambassador working with multiple international programs. She currently has her own tutoring business and also teaches at Westminster.

Billings, who has a degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech was a Intelligence Officer with the U.S. Navy for more than 32 years of active and reserve service, retiring as a Warrant Officer 4. He also is retired from the US Corps of Engineers. Currently he serving his first year as Post 201 Commander after serving as both the Post adjutant as well as a member of the executive committee prior to his election to commander in May 2023.

This year's Oratorical Competition chair is Post member Dave Cunnold, who is also the Troop 51 scoutmaster.

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Pool Tournament, Chili Cook Off Set for Sunday, Jan. 21 in Clubroom

"To write about chili is to court controversy" says Sho Spaeth, senior editor at Serious Eats.

"Few subjects in American culinary life are so contentious . . . It seems like everyone knows exactly what they think chili should be, and everyone knows that everyone else is wrong," he writes in a Nov. 7, 2023 article titled "Divided States of Chili: A Guide to America's Most Contentious Stew." [Click here to read](#) the full article.

Starting at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, members of the Post will have the opportunity to weigh in on the 'chili debate' with a Chili cook off competition that will take place in the Clubroom. At this point no one knows how many types of chili will be in the competition, but there will be a \$50 cash prize for the winning chili.

The chili competition will be second event of the day at the Post. Earlier that afternoon, the regular third Sunday of the month pool tournament will get started at 2 p.m.

Clubroom/Bar manager Bob Moyer is working with the Entertainment Committee to conduct the cook off. So if you want to compete, bring your chili to the Post that afternoon. For those who don't

want to cook chili, there is a request from the Entertainment Committee to bring a side dish that compliments the various chili dishes that will be available. Cornbread is one of the suggestions.

The web site GypsyPlate has published a list of "The 30 Best Chili Recipes" that will "stir up your appetite." [Click here](#) to see the list. The question of the day at the Post on Jan. 21 will be how many of chili dishes competing in the cook off for the \$50 prize will stir your appetite and keep you warm on a chilly night?

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Upcoming Post 201 & Other Veteran Related Activities

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m. Post General Membership Meeting. Dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

Monday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m., VFW Post 12002. Meets the 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.

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, 6 p.m. A "Valentine Martini Night." Tickets for the Auxiliary-hosted martini night will be available starting in January 2024. The evening's entry fee, which includes one regular martini will be \$20. Additional martinis can be purchased for \$10 each or you can try out the 'flight' of three mini-martinis of your choice from a menu of six alcoholic offerings and three non-alcoholic drinks for \$15.

Saturday, April 27, 2024, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. VFW Post 12002 Life Member Recognition Luncheon. This event includes a social hour, luncheon, and a formal recognition program. It will be followed immediately by a Post Meeting dedicated to the Election of Officers for the 2024-2025 year. For more information contact Jim Davis, 770-235-4858, davis1824@comcast.net

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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.

VA Survivor's Pension & Eligibility for Veterans Pension - [Click here](#) to read.

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

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

Past Issues of Post 201 E-Newsletter - [Click here.](#)

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.

United Military Care - [Click this link.](#)

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Post 201 - Serving Vets for 76 Years
November 26, 1947 - November 26, 2024

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

