



American Legion Post 201

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www.legion201.org

Thursday, July 3, 2025

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### **Independence Day Schedule at Post 201**

- The Post's Clubroom/Bar will open at 1 p.m. tomorrow.
- Members of the general public are always welcome on the Post's grounds. They are also welcome in the Post's Clubroom/Bar from 1 p.m.. until after the Wills Park fireworks show.
- Auxiliary Unit 201 will be selling 4th of July 50/50 raffle tickets. The winner's name will be drawn prior to the Wills Parks fireworks. Tickets are one for \$5, three for \$10, or 10 for \$20. You do not have to be present at the drawing to win.
- The baseball field concession stand will be open from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. selling hamburgers and hotdogs. The SAL is responsible for concession stand activities this year.

- At 6:30 p.m. the all-volunteer Alpharetta City Band will start playing patriotic music for your enjoyment on the front lawn.
- The Highway 9 Band will be providing music for dancing in the Post ballroom. Hustle dance lessons start at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dance starting at 8 p.m. Admission is \$12 per person cash or credit.
- Wills Park fireworks, which can be seen from the Post's Walk of Memories and baseball field, are scheduled to start when the sky is dark, which should be in the 9:15 p.m. time frame.

### ***Additional 'Need to Know' Information***

- All alcoholic beverages sold on the 4th will be sold at the Clubroom/Bar.
- Volunteers are still needed to help marshal cars and collect a \$10 per car parking fee from those coming to the Post to watch the fireworks and listen to the Alpharetta City Band. If you can help with parking, contact Post Commander Bob Byrd.
- Members of the Post Family or members of other American Legion Posts (which includes SAL and Auxiliary members) who have and present a current 2025 Legion, Auxiliary or SAL membership card do not have to pay the \$10 parking fee. Don't forget to have your membership card with you.
- For those not familiar with the Post's safety and beverage rules, alcoholic beverages may not be brought onto the Post's grounds. Consumer fireworks, charcoal grills and small propane grills are also prohibited on Post grounds.

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## **What was Different on the 5th of July?**

*by Michael Quinn Sullivan*

Texas Scorecard, July 4, 2024

"Reflections on Life & Liberty"

There was no difference between July 3, 1776, and July 5. By all outward appearances, the American colonies were no more free and no more independent. Practically speaking, the governing structures were not different.

So what makes the Fourth of July so special?

Think about it. We do not celebrate October 19, 1781, the date the war for American independence ended. There are no parades commemorating September 3, 1783, when the Treaty of Paris formally concluded the war.

No, we celebrate July 4, 1776. That is the day when our Founding Fathers firmly, finally, and officially committed themselves—their lives, their fortunes, their sacred honor—to the cause of American liberty.

Now, make no mistake: many of them had done so personally and individually weeks, months, even years earlier. They already had an army, and blood had already been shed.

Yet, the Fourth of July is celebrated because that is when they formally, out loud, with one voice, declared their independence. They acknowledged to each other and a "candid world" that they were dissolving their political ties with England.

We celebrate their commitment to the fight. It is a recognition that, in the most important ways, by choosing to declare their independence, they had already achieved it.

Nearly all of our Founding Fathers were men of faith; they understood that the struggle upon which they were to engage may or may not be successful in the eyes of the world. That didn't matter; they achieved freedom in their choice, declared on the Fourth of July, and the fight ahead was merely the necessary consequence.

On Independence Day, we celebrate our Founding Fathers' commitment to the ideals of self-governance. On Independence Day, we celebrate their willingness to exercise their convictions for themselves and for us.

On this Independence Day, let us recommit ourselves to their founding convictions. Let us recognize that refusing to accept the yoke of tyranny is the highest expression of liberty.

As it was in 1776, so it is today. The real difference between July 3rd and July 5th is what we commit ourselves to on the Fourth of July.

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*Editor's Note: This is the print version of a "Reflections on Life & Liberty" podcast, Episode 106. It can be found on the "Texas Score Card" website published by Michael Quinn Sullivan -- a native Texan, a graduate of Texas A&M, and an Eagle Scout. Previously, he has worked as a newspaper reporter, magazine contributor, Capitol Hill staffer, and think tank vice president. He is the author of three books, including "Reflections on Life and Liberty." We'd like to thank Tom Billings, the Post's immediate past commander, who found this article shortly after last year's July 4 holiday and shared it with us for future e-newsletter use.- hdh*

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## Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

***Every Sunday at 7 p.m. - - Karaoke in the Clubroom/Bar.***  
*Lots of Laughs, Good Times, and even Greater People.*  
*Libations at a much better price than downtown!*

***9-Ball Pool Tournament, 2 p.m.***  
***Every 3rd Sunday in the Clubroom/Bar***

[VIEW FEATURED POST EVENTS](#)

**Monday, July 7, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Game Nite in the Clubroom.** Come play. Various board games and card games will be set up. This a no-cost, no-wager, fun way to spend an evening at the Post.

**Tuesday, July 8, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Thursday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, July 15, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** A complimentary dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame. Officers will be installed for the coming year.

**Saturday, August 2, Old Soldiers Day.** While not confirmed yet, Post Leadership is hoping to have several certified Veterans Service Officers available who will bring their laptops to the Post so veterans can access their records at the VA. Newly elected Jr. Vice Commander James Timcoe has agreed to pursue the arrangements. Post Finance Officer Ralph Jordan will chair the day's overall activities.

**Thursday, Aug. 7, 6 p.m. Purple Heart Day.** The Auxiliary will hold a brief service at the Purple Heart Memorial on the Walk of Memories. All drinks at the bar will be reduced by \$1 for veterans who have earned the Purple Heart. Additional details for the day are still being worked out.

**Wednesday, Oct. 15. 8th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament,** at the Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. A flyer is posted in the Clubroom with more information. [Click here](#) to see the online version. The SAL will start having golf tournament planning meetings at the Post every other Wednesday after the July 4th weekend. Meetings will be on 7/9/25, 7/23/25, 8/6/25, and 8/20/25. After Labor Day meetings will be every Wednesday: 9/3/25, 9/10/25, 9/17/25, 9/24/25, 10/1/25, and 10/8/25. All meetings will start at 6:15 p.m.

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[CLUB 201 DANCE - LEARN MORE](#)

## VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the [Resource Page](#) at Post 201's website, [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) for a significant amount of information concerning various resources available for veterans. You'll find a Survivor Assistance Checklist, Benefits for Georgia Veterans, Burial at Sea Information, Veteran's License Plates Information, Emergency Housing Information Guide and many other resources.

Past Issues of the Post's E-newsletter - [Click here](#).

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
Call 988 and Press 1 or Text 838255  
Visit [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)  
VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

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

[Legion](#)

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## POST 201 - SERVING VETERANS SINCE 1947



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