

American Legion Post 201

Telephone: 770-475-9023

americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com

www.legion201.org

Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025

~~~~~~~~~~~~~

# **Meager Participation Recorded At Tuesday's Membership Meet**

Tuesday night's general membership meeting may turn out to be one for the record book. It was one of the shortest meetings in recent history (25 minutes from start to finish) - - - except for those past meetings which had to be cancelled for lack of a quorum - - - and only 19 of the 700+ Legion members at the Post turned up for the meeting.

With a quorum of 18 required to conduct business, a stand-and-be-counted call was requested by the Post Judge Advocate Jim Davis. After two rounds of counting, it was determined that 19 members were present.

Apparently on the first round of counting one of the 'counters' forgot to count himself, plus one member who was partially hidden by others in front of him did not get counted. But despite the initial 'head counting' problem, those attending did approve unanimously adding nine new members and three transferring members (all from Post 400) to the Post's membership rolls.

Other news updates reported to members during the evening included the following information.

#### **Oktoberfest Beer Promotion**

Finance Assistant DiAna Casale, who recently added bar manger responsibilities to her job title, announced that in recognition of Oktoberfest all beers sold in the Clubroom/Bar during the month of October will be reduced in price by 50-cents per beer off that beer's regular retail price. For 'bucket beer drinkers' there will be no change in price since they are already getting, according to DiAna, that 50-cents per beer price break.

For those who have been stationed in or traveled to Germany and really 'know' what Oktoberfest is like in Germany, please don't look for Bavarian barmaids serving large mugs of draft beer at the Post. Just rejoice in the knowledge you're saving 50-cents per beer with each beer you buy.

Also, be advised that the Post has no plans to bring in a band to perform traditional Bavarian and German 'oom-pah' music that is a central part of Oktoberfest celebrations. But, perhaps the bartenders can be prevailed upon to find a music channel that can provide a mix of German and Bavarian folk and beer-drinking sounds to help a little with the atmosphere!

#### Cooler Repairs

The 50-year-old cooler which supports bar operations crashed last week. It is expected to be operating again either late last night or early this morning at a repair cost in the \$2,400 range according to DiAna. The repairs, which are being done by Mark Bryans who owns Adrian's Contract Services and who was available on very short notice to come to the Post's aid, are at best a temporary fix. The Post will need to fund a more permanent fix sooner or later.

#### Post IT Network Update

While on the subject of repairs, many who frequent the Post on a regular basis over the past several years have probably observed, or perhaps even experienced the continuing issues with the Post's IT network and connectivity. It is particularly evident with the POS or Point of Sales system where bar tabs are created then cash or credit card payments are processed.

Over that period of time the short term solution has been to add-on pieces to fix the broken parts. This approach resulted in a "daisy chain system" which had the effect of creating multiple points of failure and complexity for troubleshooting, said Legion member Joan Ming who is an experienced IT professional.

Recently she, along with Legion member John Lee (also a professional in the field), volunteered to oversee an IT overhaul at the Post. The goal: to ensure a stable network where connectivity will be consistent.

It began with John literally looking into every nook and cranny of the main building (including the attic) and the concession stand. From that he produced a map showing every point of connectivity (and there are more than 40 locations) as well as inspecting all the associated wiring and identifying problems there also.

Last week the Executive Committee reviewed and approved the network upgrade proposed by Joan and Jim. It will be performed on Friday, Sept. 26, between 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"We expect the POS system to be available by 2 p.m. for the opening of the Clubroom/Bar at 3 p.m. We will continue to install our new network equipment until all is completed approximately by 6 p.m.," Joan told those attending the General Membership meeting.

"WiFi for members and guests will not be available in the Clubroom/Bar or the Ballroom during this (installation) period of time. We ask for your patience while this gets completed," she said. "After the network is stabilized we will be better able to prioritize and address any other technology issues moving forward," she added.

#### A Final Meeting Note

Those who did attend the meeting also enjoyed a great Bar-B-Que meal which tasted just as good Tuesday night as it did when Ralph Fike and his cooking team smoked it for 24+ hours prior to serving it at the Post on Labor Day.

~ ~ ~

### **Special Update**

## About Auxiliary Clothing Drive

Late yesterday Auxiliary President Ellen Youngblood advised this publication that donations the Auxiliary is collecting to support the Women's Clinic, the VA Hospital and the Army Ranger unit in North Georgia "must be new items." She also said it would be helpful if items that are for the VA be "marked as such."

Here's the list of donations being requested which was published in the Sept. 11 issue of this publication.

For men the most needed items are Socks, Undershirts/T-shirts and Boxers/briefs. Other needed items include, Bathrobes, Sweat pants/shirts, Tennis shoes, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Combs/Brushes, Shampoo/soap/body wash, Water bottles, Deodorant, Pajama pants, Ball caps, Puzzles and Books – crossword, wordsearch, Sudoku.

For Women the most needed items are Socks and Camisoles/Bras. Other needed items include T-shirts, Bathrobes/House coats, Sweat pants/shirts, Tennis shoes, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Combs/Brushes, Shampoo/soap/body wash, Water bottles, Deodorant, Pajama pants/Night shirts/Night gowns, Hair ties/barrettes, Puzzles and Books – crossword, wordsearch, Sudoku.

For the Women's Clinic and the Rangers they are looking for Diapers/Wipes, Onesies/pajamas, Baby wash cloths, Bibs, Baby thermometers, Bulb syringes, Oragel, Baby books/toys, Antibiotic ointment, Baby shampoo/body wash, Baby socks, Baby spoons, Knitted caps, Blankets, Desitin, Pacifiers, Baby Tylenol/Advil and Bandaids.

# **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

**Thursday, Sept. 18. USAF Birthday.** All scotch whiskey drinks at the Clubroom/Bar (including Irish Whiskey) will be reduced by \$1 off the normal retail price for all veterans carrying appropriate ID (VA issued Veterans ID card, a current American Legion membership card, or a valid U.S. Armed Forces military ID card).

**Friday, Sept. 19. National POW/MIA Recognition Day.** Any veteran who was officially listed as a POW at any point during his or her active duty service, may order any drink the bar offers for \$1 off the retail price.

Friday, Sept. 19. ALPHA JAZZ is BACK. Dance the night away to Big Band favorites. Open dance starts at 8

p.m. Dance Lessons at 7:30 p.m. Click here for more information. Admission: \$12 per person cash or credit.

**Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Hero Games.** Kickball fundraiser for the Manna Fund, which pays for the treatment of veterans' and first responders' mental health issues. <u>Click here</u> for details.

**Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Troop 51 Paint Recycling Fundraiser** in the Post parking lot. Support the Troop by bringing your leftover cans of latex and oil-based paints to be properly disposed of or re-used. Donated paint will be filtered and turned into quality, re-usable paint products and then donated back to non-profit groups in the community such as Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, and Boys & Girls Clubs. The donation cost is: 5 gallon cans - \$25 each; one gallon cans - \$5 each; quarts - \$2 each; pints - \$2 each; and spray cans - \$2 each. Check out the "Featured Events" page on the Post's web site, www.legion201.org, or click here for additional information.

Sunday, Sept. 28, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. \$ 1,000 Jackpot

Thursday, Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m. Post Finance Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6 p.m. Post Executive Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Oct. 21., 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting. Complimentary dinner served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**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. <u>Click here</u> to see the online version.

Wednesday, Nov. 5. Metro-Atlanta Veterans Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament. BridgeMill Athletic Club, Canton, Ga. <u>Click here</u> for details.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 9th Annual Cruz-In. <u>Click here to see</u> some of the cars on display last year. <u>Click here to read</u> about last year's event in the *Alpharetta-Roswell Herald*.

CLUB 201 DANCE -LEARN MORE

## **VETERANS RESOURCES**

Visit the <u>Resource Page</u> at Post 201's website, <u>www.legion201.org</u> 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 <u>www.veteranscrisisline.net</u> VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

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