



## American Legion Post 201

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**Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026**

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### **Bingo, Dancing to DJ's Music On Tap this Weekend at Post**

Activities this weekend at the Post will feature Bingo starting at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon, and dancing to music provided by DJ Buddy Stotts Friday evening and DJ Jason Bewley Saturday evening. The weekend will be capped off with the regularly scheduled "Swing Invasion" dance evening featuring DJ Rich Kopels on Sunday evening.

This Sunday's Bingo at that Post will again feature a \$1,000 jackpot. Although play starts at 2 p.m., those "in the know" strongly suggest that if you plan to play, you should arrive 45-to-60 minutes (or earlier) than the scheduled game starting time to get settled-in for the afternoon.

Auxiliary members who oversee the twice-a-month game report that the current attendance record stands at 149 players. Will this be the weekend that a new record is set? That answer will be available sometime shortly after the 2 p.m. start time.

The line up for this weekend's dance schedule looks like this:

- Friday - Ballroom/Latin Dance Night with rumba lessons starting at 7:30 p.m. followed by open dance at 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday - Country Night with Cha Cha lessons on tap at 7:30 p.m. and open dance scheduled for 8:30 p.m.
- Sunday - Swing Invasion gets underway at 6 p.m. with dance lessons followed by open dance at 7:30 p.m.

For more details about all three evenings, visit the 'calendar page' at [www.club201dance.com](http://www.club201dance.com).

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***An Editorial Observation***

The United States' 250th anniversary, which we are celebrating this year on July 4, provides a profound opportunity to reflect on the pivotal role of veterans throughout the nation's history. The story of America is inextricably linked with the history of its military, born of necessity during the Revolutionary War struggle for independence.

For nearly 250 years, American service members have embodied the courage, sacrifice, and strength required to defend the Constitution and the core values of liberty and justice for all.

The Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, all established by the Continental Congress in 1775, celebrated their own 250th birthdays in 2025, a testament to their enduring legacy that is older than the nation itself.

From the farmers and laborers who first took up arms at Lexington and Concord to the diverse, all-volunteer force of today, these individuals have consistently answered a call to serve a cause greater than themselves.

The national commemoration honors this legacy, encouraging Americans to remember that the blanket of freedom we live under was woven by the sacrifice of these citizen-soldiers. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is actively participating in the commemoration, highlighting veteran stories to create a full portrait of America at 250 years.

As the nation looks ahead to the future, the anniversary serves as a call to action, urging patriotic participation and community service to honor the fallen and support living veterans. By reflecting on the past and supporting those who served, Americans can ensure the legacy of honor and sacrifice continues for the next generation.

Post 201's Sr Vice Commander Tom Richardson has volunteered to take the lead in coordinating the Post's ***250th Birthday of the Nation*** activities as well as our collaboration with the City of Alpharetta's plans.

The outstanding question now seems to be: Who's going to volunteer to work with him and what do we plan to do?

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## **Cooking Team Members Sought for Post Events**

Ed Holben recently volunteered to put together a 'cooking team' for Post events. As part of his outreach, he's posted the following 'qualifications' announcement in the Clubroom.

### **NOW HIRING (NOT REALLY) - COOK TEAM MEMBERS**

**Because apparently food doesn't cook itself.**

Do you thrive in a fast-paced environment where meals multiply like rabbits and the fry oil judges your life choices?  
Do you enjoy long walks on the beach, followed by sprinting back to the line because someone yelled "BURNING"?  
If so, we want you.

#### **Who You Are**

- You can wield a knife without reenacting a crime documentary.
- You understand that "mise en place" is not a French perfume.
- You season food like someone who has tasted food before.
- You can cook three things at once while answering "How long on that chicken?" for the 47th time.
- You clean as you go, not "clean as you feel spiritually moved."
- You know the difference between cross-contamination and cross-fit.

- You can take feedback without throwing a sauté pan.

### **What You'll Do**

- Turn raw ingredients into edible, consistent, non-lawsuit-inducing meals.
- Maintain a station so organized a Navy Carrier Deck boss would weep.
- Take instructions like a Marine Corps recruit.
- Communicate clearly without using adjectives.
- Survive the meal rush with dignity (optional) and humor (required).

### **Food Safety**

You'll wash your hands so often you'll question your fingerprints.

You'll label and date things like a responsible adult.

You'll keep TCS foods out of the "danger zone," unless you're talking about the Kenny Loggins song.

### **Team Vibes**

We're a family.

Not the kind that argues at Thanksgiving — the kind that yells "HOT PAN!" to save your life.

### **Bonus Points If You Can**

- Can cut onions without crying
- Keep composure beautifully under pressure - Fix kitchen equipment with zip ties, duct tape, and hope
- Tell the difference between "86 it" and "I thought YOU had it"

### **Compensation**

Competitive pay (NOT REALLY), free staff meals, and the emotional satisfaction of hearing "That's not what I expected" from a customer who definitely doesn't know how to cook.

**If interested, reach out to Ed Holben.**

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## **~ IN MEMORY ~**

*James Reese Thornton*

James was a member of Post 201, joining after he moved to Cumming in 2005. Prior to that he was an active member of an Akron, Ohio, American Legion Post which his daughter, Wendi, has fond memories of visiting often with him during her childhood. A 92-year-old USAF Korean War veteran, James died on Dec. 9, 2025. [Click here to read](#) his complete obituary.

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## **Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities**

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

**VIEW FEATURED  
POST EVENTS**

**Thursday, Jan. 8, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.**

**Sunday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom.**

**Tuesday, Jan. 13, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, Jan. 20, 5:30 p.m. House Committee Meeting.** Executive Committee member Penny Kumpf is taking the lead in reconstituting the House Committee. This committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. every month immediately prior to the General Membership meeting. If you are interested in helping to oversee the Post's building and grounds, please plan to attend this meeting.

**Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** Complimentary dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**Saturday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m. Post 201 Oratorical Contest.** Students in grades 9 - 12 may compete. 1st Place earns \$1,000; 2nd place - \$750; 3rd place - \$500. [Click here for more details](#) about the competition and to register to compete. Currently four students are registered to compete. The competition will take place in the Post's Ballroom

**Sunday, Jan. 25, 2026, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom.**

**Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2025, 6:30 p.m. SAL Membership Meeting.**

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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**