American Legion Post 201

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Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026

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18 Volunteer for Magnolia Day Clean-Up; Includes 4 From Post

Kudos to the four members of the Post's House & Grounds committee who, along with 10 young men from the Young Men's Service League and four adults who accompanied them, showed up this past Saturday to what might best be described as Penny Kumpf's "Saturday morning Magnolia Landscaping Day."

Despite the early morning rain, temperatures in the low 50's, and humidity in the 90th percentile, they worked for about 3½ hours in the muck and mud to clear the underbrush beneath the Magnolia trees which block the view of the baseball field from passing traffic on Wills and Rucker roads. In addition to the general underbrush cleaning, a little extra effort was called for around the center field flag pole.

Over time a patch of poison ivy, as well as a number of small, 3-inch or so tall trees, had started growing around the base of the pole and was spreading along both the right and left field fence line.

Although a few more 'volunteers' probably would have be appreciated, Post members Ken Bauer, Alan Roberts, Wendell Kelly and Don Kumpf (all members of the House & Grounds committee) 'stepped up to the plate' for the work party.

In addition to last Saturday's cleanup, those who passed by or came into the Post on Monday saw a work party from Cumming-based Exceed Tree Care taking down a dead 70+ foot high pine tree along the fence line. In addition to removing the tree, they also cleaned up tree limbs and other debris around the light poles along the driveway. We appreciate being able to include Exceed on our 'friends of the Post' list noted the recently named House & Grounds committee chair, Penny Kumpf.

Looking out a couple of months, there is some early discussion underway about a "Day of Service" being held at the Post on Saturday, April 25. This date coincides with the American Legion-wide Family Day which takes place annually on the fourth Sunday in April.

Tentative planning at the Post envisions a 'family work day' where members of the Post 201 Family, along with members of the community, would participate in various campus beautification or other clean-up activities both on the grounds and in various buildings. They would include the deck, the main building, the concession stand, perhaps the press box, and the fire truck garage.

If an April 25 "Day of Service" at the Post does move from the "thinking about it" to the "we're going to do it" list, then the proverb "Many hands make light work" would be put to the test again. It does lead one to wonder if more volunteers would show up since April 25 happens to be the last day of this year's National Volunteer Week. If not that, then perhaps more would show if the weather is more cooperative than it was this past Saturday.

Or would it take something else? There is some early thinking about serving a noon meal (or maybe both breakfast and lunch) to the volunteers that day. If something like that comes to fruition, and if you were a betting person, where would you put your money?

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~ News Notes ~

SAL Saturday Dinner Menu Update - - Late yesterday afternoon, SAL Commander Derek Garmon provided an update on this Saturday's dinner menu. The $25 per person offering includes a nice NY Strip Roast , salad, vegetable medley, baked potato with bread, and two different kinds of banana pudding for dessert. Dinner will be served from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A signup sheet is posted in the Clubroom.

Save The Date - - "Song Writers for Vets, Atlanta 2026" is scheduled for 7 p.m., Saturday, May 16 at The Hotel At Avalon. Help VetBuds help Vets as songwriters join together for an unforgettable night performing their #1 hits and sharing the stories behind the songs. Sign up at www.sw4vets.com to be the first to know who the performers will be and when tickets are available.

Post Scores 100 - A - - The Post recently received a 100-A score from the Georgia Department of Public Health on its periodic food service establishment inspection of the Post. Areas examined as part of the report included Supervision, Employee Hygienic Practices, Protection from Contamination, and Conformance with Approved Procedures. Applause and three cheers for DiAna Casale who oversees the Post's kitchen operations.

An Interesting Read - - "25 Years After 9/11: Former CENTCOM Commander's Strategic Warning on What America Still Gets Wrong." The only U.S. officer to lead PACOM and CENTCOM warns in his memoir that America chases short-term wins over strategy—risking repeated failures in future wars. **Click here to read the Military.com story** by Robert Billard which was published on Monday, Feb. 23.

And Another Interesting Read - - **Click here** to check out Appen Media's online story about the Rotary Club's Senior Gala held recently at the Post. The online version has more photographs than the print edition story which appeared in the Feb. 19 edition of the *Alpharetta-Roswell Herald.*

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~ Scholarship Information ~

Applications are now available for the Legion's annual awards to graduating high school seniors, both male and female. Forms are available in the Clubroom, or may be downloaded by **clicking here**. April 15 is the deadline to apply. The value of each Legion scholarship to be awarded this year is $1,500, with plans to award at least four. For more information about the Legion scholarships contact the Post's Immediate Past Commander Tom Billings, Email: tombill03@comcast.net.

The Auxiliary Unit of the Post has two scholarships available for this year only. They are the Randall Porter scholarship which will be will be offered in the amount of $2,000. This scholarship is available to a graduating senior in any of the greater metro area high schools, including the private schools. The second Auxiliary scholarship, which will be offered this year and the next two years, is the Coalson scholarship. This $1,500 scholarship will be awarded only to a Milton High School senior.

Click here for a copy of the Auxiliary's application form for both scholarships. For more information email Ellen Youngblood at eftot57@gmail.com

Information about SAL scholarship applications will be published here as soon as it is made available to this publication.

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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, Mar. 5, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Mar. 10, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

Sunday, Mar. 8, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. $1,000 Jackpot.

Saturday, Mar. 14, 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Lucky Paws and Patriots Casino Night. Sponsored by the Alpharetta Lions Club, all proceeds from this fundraiser will go to "Warrior Freedom Service Dogs." Tickets are $75 per person. Visit www.alpharettalions.com to purchase tickets. For more information call 410-708-6331 or email: casino@alpharettalions.com.

Tuesday, Mar. 17, 5:30 p.m. House and Grounds Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Mar. 17, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting. Complimentary dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

Sunday, Mar. 22, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. $1,000 Jackpot.

Tuesday, Mar. 24, 6:30 p.m. SAL Monthly Meeting.

Wednesday, Mar. 25, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Life Line Screening. Special Package for $129 which includes screening for Carotid Artery Disease, Atrial Fibrillation, Peripheral Artery Disease and Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. To schedule an appointment call 800-324-9485 and use code HABC001.

Sunday, March 29. Vietnam Veterans Day. Discussions are underway about the possibility of holding a relatively 'low key' ceremony at the Post's Circle of Flags to commemorate the Day. More to come on this one.

Friday, June 26 - Sunday, June 28. Department of Georgia Convention. The meeting will be held at the Sonesta Gwinnett Place Hotel, 1775 Pleasant Hill Rd., Duluth.

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CLUB 201 DANCE - LEARN MORE

VETERANS RESOURCES

Visit the **Resource Page** at Post 201's website, 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
VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

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

POST 201 - SERVING VETERANS SINCE 1947

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