



American Legion Post 201

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www.legion201.org

Thursday, May 14, 2026

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### **9 a.m. Saturday Ground Breaking Ceremony on Tap for New Walk Of Memories Remembrance Pod**

This Saturday morning, which is also Armed Forces Day, the Post will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Walk of Memories' pod.

Located on the north side of the brick walk path near the two aircraft on display, the new pentagon-shaped pod will be reserved for bricks honoring veterans who served during conflicts since the official end of the Vietnam War on April 30, 1975. They include the Global War on Terror, the Gulf War, Panama, Lebanon/Granada as well as all the other conflicts.

Construction of the new pod is expected to be completed in time for a dedication ceremony on Old Soldiers Day, Saturday, Aug. 1.

Scheduled participants in the Saturday's ceremony include Bob Byrd, Bruce Hay, Ellen Youngblood, Derek Garmon and Tom Billings.

In addition to the groundbreaking ceremony and reception in the Clubroom (thanks to the Auxiliary and the SAL) following the ceremony for those who attend, the Post's Clubroom/Bar will open at 9 a.m. Saturday to support the Post's all day Open House for members of the community who might want to visit the Post during day and say "Thank You" to a veteran.

During the morning hours the bar will also offer Bloody Mary, Screw Driver and Mimosa drink specials from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. when the Clubroom/Bar normally opens on Saturdays.

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## **General Membership Meet Scheduled For 7 p.m. Tuesday; Dinner at 6 p.m.**

This month's General Membership meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday with a complimentary dinner served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame. Major items on Tuesday night's agenda include presenting the proposed FY 26-27 budget to the membership, the "official" election of next year's leadership although there were no contested positions, and the presentation of Post's \$1,500 scholarship checks to four graduating high school seniors.

Since there were no contested positions for 26-27 Leadership, the 'elections' will take place when Tom Billings, the Post's immediate past commander and chair of the elections committee, casts a single 'unanimous vote on behalf of the membership for each member of the next year's Leadership team.

They are Tom Richardson, Commander; Ralph Jordan, Sr. Vice Commander; James Timcoe, Jr. Vice Commander; Joan Ming, Finance Officer; Jim Davis, Judge Advocate; and Linda Barker, 3-year term on the Executive Committee.

Penny Kumpf, who was named Legionnaire of the Year by outgoing Post Commander Bob Byrd at the April membership meeting, has one year remaining on her 3-year Executive Committee member slot. Harry Hollingsworth, who also serves as the Post Adjutant has two years remaining on his 3-year Executive Committee member term.

In addition to Byrd, Bob Moye will be leaving the Leadership team having completed a 3-year term as a member of the Executive Committee. Neither Byrd or Moye sought re-election. The 26-27 Leadership team will officially assume their duties on Monday, June 1.

The four scholarship winners scheduled to be presented their checks are Abigail E. Dowd, Johns Creek High School; William J.R. Thomas, Innovation Academy; Addison J. Baurmann, Northview High School; and Robert D. Burrows, Alpharetta High School.

Individual copies of the proposed FY 26-27 budget will be available for members to review during the dinner hour. A more formal presentation of the budget, along with a request for membership approval will take place during the meeting.

For those who always ask what's on the menu, cooking team member Joan Ming reports that the menu includes three flavors of chicken drumsticks (BBQ, Cajun Spicy and Parmesan Herb Crusted), with potato salad, glazed carrots and brownies.

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## **Memorial Day Plans At Post Shaping Up**

Sr. Vice Commander-elect Ralph Jordan, who volunteered Tuesday night to take the planning lead for Monday Day activities at the Post, has already put some activities in place. They include opening the Clubroom/Bar at 12 noon on Monday, May 25 for member use as well as for community guests who might visit, since the Post will be holding an Open House for the community at large that afternoon.

He also said the Johns Creek Veterans Association Color Guard will present the colors in a brief ceremony scheduled for 1 p.m.

For the remainder of the afternoon, guests, as well as members of the Post family can enjoy food for sale. While the timing and the menu are still being developed, the expectation is that food (most likely hot dogs and hamburgers with all the trimmings) will be on sale between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Also, a 26-minute movie, "Honoring Memorial Day", will be shown on the hour at 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the Post's ballroom. Jordan said other activities are also in the "thinking about" stage.

### ***City of Alpharetta Plans***

In addition to Memorial Day activities at the Post, Jordan said that members of the Post 201 Family are "invited and encouraged to attend - - - and wear your Post 201 cover" the City of Alpharetta's 12th annual Memorial Day Tribute on Monday morning at City Hall (2 Park Plaza).

The ceremony, which is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. will honor military personnel who died in service. The event features a keynote address by veteran Tommy Clark. Jordan, along with Post member Marty Ferrell, are also on the program. Ferrell, who is a past commander of the Post, has represented the American Legion at this event every year since it was launched.

Other Memorial Day and weekend activities conducted by the city include a "Let Freedom Ring" concert by the Alpharetta Symphony at 7:30 p.m. Monday evening, May 25 at Brooke Street Park; an Alpharetta Arts Streetfest on Sunday and Monday, May 24 and 25 at The Grove at Wills Park; and the Alpharetta Farmers Market on Saturday May, 23.

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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**

**Saturday, May 16. Armed Forces Day. 9 a.m. Groundbreaking Ceremony** for a new Walk of Memories remembrance area "For Those Who Served After Vietnam." A reception in the Post Clubroom for those attending will follow the ceremony. Also the Post will celebrate Armed Force Day with an all-day Open House for the general public.

**Saturday, May 16, 7 p.m. "Song Writers for Vets, Atlanta 2026"** 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](http://www.sw4vets.com) to be the first to know who the performers will be and when tickets are

available.

**Monday, May 18, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Innovation Academy Showcase.** The students and faculty at Innovation Academy have extended an invitation to members of the Post 201 Family to attend the school's 5th Annual Innovation Academy Showcase. Although the Showcase will open at 5:30 p.m., guests are welcome to arrive at any time during the evening. The school is located in downtown Alpharetta at 125 Milton Avenue. Please RSVP to this online address: <https://fcsia.com/remind/e/showcase-2026> if you plan to attend.

**Tuesday, May 19, 5:30 p.m. House & Grounds Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, May 19, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting** and leadership elections for 26-27 Legion Year (June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027). Complimentary dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**Thursday, May 21, 12 noon. Georgia Mountain Chapter** of the Military Officers of American Association monthly meeting. Golden Corral, 2025 Market Place Blvd., Cumming. Contact Tom Billings for details if interested.

**Monday, May 25. Memorial Day.** Clubroom/Bar opens at 12 noon. See story above for more details about plans for the day.

**Saturday, May 30, 5 p.m. "70's Appetizer" Golden Ladle Competition.** [Click here](#) for details.

**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.

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 12 noon. 2nd Annual Georgia American Legion Veterans Raffle Drawing.** [Click this link](#) for details. Tickets are now available at the Post. Winning tickets will be drawn Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026. You do not have to be present to win. For every \$20 ticket sold by Post 201, the Post gets to keep \$12 for its treasury.

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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**