



American Legion Post 201

Telephone: 770-475-9023

americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com

www.legion201.org

Thursday, June 4, 2026

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### **Post 201 Family Sponsors 18 Students at Next Week's Boys State, Girls State in Valdosta**

The Post 201 Family is sponsoring three young women and 15 young men at this year's Girls State and Boys State programs respectively. It's the largest delegation of students sponsored by Post 201 in recent history.

Each of the week-long programs are designed for students who are finishing their 11th-grade year. This year's program, as in past years, will be held on the campus of Valdosta State University in Valdosta. Both programs start on this Sunday with Girls State concluding on Friday, June 12, and Boys State drawing to a close on Saturday, June 13

The Auxiliary-sponsored young women attending Girls State and their local high schools are: Sofia Kane and Emily Kilguss, Wesleyan School; and Neha Shariff, Innovation Academy

The Legion sponsored young men attending Boy State and their local high schools are: Sage Huels, Milton; Benjamin McSweeney, Centennial; Rajveer Nadkar and Jisung Kwak, Northview; Joseph Dejarnett, Alpharetta; James Hart, Wesleyan; William Hudkins and William Mcinerney, Blessed Trinity; Elliot and James Liptzk, Lambert; Gavin Martine, Norcross; William Massey, William Powell and Rishi Pamulapati, Cambridge; and, Taron Karumanchi, high school unidentified. The SAL has said they will financially-sponsor two of the 15 on the Legion's list.

Both programs provide the rising high school seniors with an immersive, hands-on education in practical citizenship and leadership. It challenges them to understand the mechanics of government and the rights and responsibilities of an active, informed democracy.

Those goals are achieved by dividing participants into mythical cities and counties, and are tasked with building their

own governments from the ground up. They organize political parties, draft platforms, campaign for offices, draft and debate legislation, and hold mock trials.

Following the week in Valdosta a highly selective panel chooses two "Senators" and two alternates from Boys State and Girls State to receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. later in the summer. In Washington they will join students from across the country to form a mock federal government, draft legislation, and meet with national lawmakers.

Attending either program unlocks access to exclusive, highly competitive college scholarship opportunities. Also, listing "Boys State Delegate" or "Girls State Delegate" is heavily weighted by college admissions boards; and for students applying to West Point, the Naval Academy, or the Air Force Academy, completion of either program significantly boosts leadership scores during the congressional nomination process.

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## **Post Honors Nation's 250th By Flying 'Betsy Ross' Flag**

Beginning today, and as part of the Post's recognition of the nation's 250th Birthday, the Post will start flying an iconic emblem of the American Revolution - - - the Betsy Ross flag - - - in the Ring of Flags at the Post's front entrance.

The flag, which features 13 alternating stripes and 13 stars arranged in a circle, represents the original 13 colonies that declared independence from Great Britain, with the circular star pattern symbolizing equality among the newly formed states.

Current plans call for the Betsy Ross flag to be flown until after the July 4 weekend.

While the historical legend that Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross sewed the very first version for George Washington in 1776 continues to be widely cherished, historians debate its exact origins. The design became officially recognized after the Continental Congress passed the Flag Act of 1777, which authorized 13 stripes and 13 stars to represent a "new constellation".

To this day many people still mistakenly believe that U.S. flags with less than 50 stars are obsolete since each star represents a state which has been added to the Union. That belief is not accurate. Under the United States Flag Code, any historically accurate U.S. flag remains a legally recognized and appropriate flag for public display. Because the code does not prohibit the flying of obsolete or historical flags, the Betsy Ross flag can be flown with the same respect as the current 50-star version.

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## **~ Post News Notes ~**

**Volunteers Needed** - - The House and Grounds Committee is looking for volunteers this Saturday morning to start setting concrete slabs for the new Memorial on the walk of Memories. Start time is 9 a.m. Committee Chair Penny Kumpf notes that "muscles are needed for this job." Drop her an "I can help" email if you're willing to provide some of your muscle to the project. Her address is [penelopek0877@gmail.com](mailto:penelopek0877@gmail.com).

**Possible Fall Fundraising Show** - - Early discussion is underway about holding a fundraising show at the Post on Friday, Oct. 16 using the talents of Ventriloquist Doug Mickan. He has been entertaining audiences of all ages for 32 years. Churches, birthday parties, schools, libraries, corporate events....you name it, he has probably done it. Doug is a comic ventriloquist with a large cast of lovable and unique characters. His content is always family-friendly, and entertaining for all ages. Recently he took the time to prepare a 3-minute video expressing his interest in performing at the Post. [Click here](#) to take a look at it. Then drop the Post an email letting us know what you think. Be sure to put "Doug and his team" in the subject line before you send it to the Post at [americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionalpharetta@gmail.com).

**Post on Patriotic Pathway** - - The Post's Walk of Memories is one of 13 stops on "Alpharetta's America250 Experience." The Pathway invites visitors and residents to discover how Alpharetta's history connects with America's larger story, from early settlement and innovation to civic engagement and technological leadership. The journey begins at the Alpharetta Welcome Center, The self-guided walking tour connects thirteen historic places in the city, representing the 13 original colonies with defining moments in American history. The walking distance is 2.5 – 3 miles. [Click here](#) for more details.

**Veteran's Burial Benefits from the VA** - - Recently the Post's Adjutant has received more than the usual number of calls seeking information about VA burial benefits. In addition to information available on Veterans Resource page of the Post's website, [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org), Military.com published an excellent summary with additional information links. Their story, published on May 11, 2026 can be read [by clicking here](#).

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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, June 4, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting.**

**Thursday, June 4, 11 & 18, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free Dance Lessons at the Post for Vets, First Responders and their Partners.** If interested, or for more information, contact dance instructors Elizabeth or Mark Williams via email at [htjem@comcast.net](mailto:htjem@comcast.net).

**Tuesday, June 9, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Life Line Screening.** To schedule an appointment visit <http://www.llsa.social/HABC>; Call 800-324-9458 and use promo code HABC001; or text the word "circle" to 216-279-1067. For those interested, Life Line is offering a special price of \$129 for four screenings: carotid artery disease screening, atrial fibrillation screening, abdominal aortic aneurysm screening, and peripheral artery disease screening.

**Tuesday, June 9, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Sunday, June 14, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. Jackpot - \$1,000.**

**Tuesday, June 16, 5:30 p.m. House Committee Meeting.** More volunteers are needed for this committee. Get in touch with Penny Kumpf and let her know you are available. Her email address is [penelopek0877@gmail.com](mailto:penelopek0877@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, June 16, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** Legion, Auxiliary and SAL leadership will be officially installed at this meeting. The Auxiliary has announced they will not hold their regular monthly membership meeting this month. A complimentary buffet meal will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**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.

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

**Tuesday, June 30, 6:30 p.m. SAL Membership Meeting.** This meeting replaces the June 2 meeting which was cancelled mid afternoon on June 2 .

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 10th Annual Cruz-In “car show”.** Free for members of the general public who want to visit the Post and look at the cars on display. Registration fee for those showing cars: \$10 pre-show; \$20 day of show. To register [click here](#) , or if you need more details or have questions email [al201carshow@gmail.com](mailto:al201carshow@gmail.com). Food and drinks will be available for sale, and children can take advantage of a jump house and other planned activities during the 4-hour event. Also, a “Stars & Stripes” baseball game pitting the Aviator Nation against the Georgia Jackets, is scheduled for 11 a.m.

**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