



American Legion Post 201

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Thursday, Sept. 3, 2026

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### **Post 201 Sets 9/11 Ceremonies For 9 a.m. at Walk of Memories**

Post 201 will recognize Patriot Day (often referred to as 9/11 Remembrance Day) with a ceremony starting at 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11 on the Post's Walk of Memories. In addition to honoring the victims of the tragic 2001 attacks, the first memorial brick to be placed in the newly completed section of the Walk of Memories will recognize 16 individuals with Georgia connections who died that day - - nine in the World Trade Center's North Tower, two in the South Tower, and five at the Pentagon.

The new section of the Walk, which is shaped like a Pentagon, was constructed to provide space for bricks planted in memory of those who died during conflict periods since Vietnam. They include Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Gulf War, and the Global War on Terror as well as other conflict interventions throughout the world.

Retired U.S. Navy SEAL Nicholas Bellenbaum will be the guest speaker for the Patriot Day ceremonies. Music will be provided by the Alpha Brass, a unit of the Alpharetta City Band, and by four members of the Innovation Academy's Chorus - - Ruby Davis, Benjamin Kruzic, Lucy Kruzic and Owen Sullivan.

Bellenbaum retired from the Navy in 2019 after serving for more than 20 years. He spent the majority of his career as a Navy SEAL, serving with multiple Naval Special Warfare commands during the Global War on Terror, in which he completed seven operational deployments. His service included assignments with SEAL Teams 1, 2, and 8, as well as Naval Special Warfare training commands. He retired as a Special Operator Chief, with the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Post Commander Tom Richardson will be Master of Ceremonies for the event; Post Executive Committee member Penelope Kumpf, who also chairs the Post's House and Grounds Committee will speak briefly about the importance of the new section being added to the Walk of Memories; and Post 201 member Donnie Ray will sing the National

Anthem as part of the presentation of colors. Also, the Alpharetta-based Patriots of Liberty Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will lay a wreath as part of the new section's dedication.

The Post will observe a moment of silence on the 11th at the time each of the four planes crashed:

8:46 a.m. – American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

9:03 a.m. – United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center.

9:37 a.m. – American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon.

10:03 a.m. – United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

A total of 2,977 people were killed in the terrorist attacks. They included:

2,753 in New York City (at the World Trade Center and on the two planes).

184 at the Pentagon (in the building and on the plane).

40 in Shanksville, Pennsylvania (on Flight 93).

Of those who died at the World Trade Center site, 415 were first responders. They included:

343 firefighters from the Fire Department of New York (FDNY).

37 police officers from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department (PAPD).

23 police officers from the New York City Police Department (NYPD).

8 emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics from private ambulance services.

3 New York State Court Officers.

1 New York State Fire Marshal.

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*(Editor's Note: The total number of deaths listed above does not include the 19 hijackers.)*

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## **Dancing Highlights Long Holiday Weekend at Post; Clubroom/Bar Set to Open At 12 Noon on Labor Day**

Although the Post's Clubroom/Bar will open at 12 noon on Labor Day (Monday), which is three hours earlier than the normal 3 p.m. Monday opening time, since no special member-focused activities have been announced or appear to be scheduled in the Clubroom/Bar as of publication deadline, it looks like the Post's dance activities will highlight the extended holiday weekend.

A return engagement of the Alpha Jazz "Big Band" on Friday night will get the long weekend off to a strong start. The evening of dancing will begin at 7:30 p.m. with beginner and intermediate Rumba dance lessons taught by instructor Elizabeth Williams. Following that, the premier 22-piece Alpha Jazz, which operates as a specialized ensemble under the Alpharetta City Band umbrella, will take the ballroom stage for the remainder of the night starting at 8:15 p.m.

The band's playlist, which is designed for ballroom and social dancing, blends timeless big band swing classics with elegant waltzes, lively cha-chas, and smooth foxtrots - - - all designed to keep dancers on the dance floor during the evening. Admission for the evening is \$15 per person (cash or credit).

Saturday night on the dance floor will be "Country Night with DJ Joe Luczak." Again, dance lessons get started at

7:30 p.m. with beginner and intermediate “2 Step” lessons led by instructors Elizabeth and Mark Williams. They will step back at 8:15 p.m. for 15 minutes of line dance lessons taught by Nancy Anthony.

Three hours of open social dancing to Luczak’s country dance mix gets underway at 8:30 p.m. Admission for the evening is \$15 per person (cash or credit).

Sunday night dancing starts at 6 p.m. and concludes at 10 p.m. Hosted by Swing Invasion ([www.swinginvasion.com](http://www.swinginvasion.com)), lessons are the bill of fare from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Open social dancing with DJ Virgil Breeden gets underway at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$12 per person (cash or Venmo). [Click here for more details](#) about Sunday evening’s dance.

Although Monday is a national holiday, the morning line dance class is still listed on the dance calendar as taking place. [Click here to see the calendar](#).

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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**

**Monday, Sept. 7, Labor Day.** The Post's Clubroom/Bar will open at 12 noon instead of the normal 3 p.m. Monday opening since Labor Day is a national holiday.

**Tuesday, Sept. 8, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.**

**Friday, Sept. 11, 9 a.m. Patriot Day - 9/11 Remembrance Day Ceremony** to dedicate the new pod on the Walk of Memories to recognize all conflicts since Vietnam.

**Sunday, Sept. 13, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. \$1,000 Jackpot.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 15 5:30 p.m. House and Grounds Committee Meeting.**

**Tuesday, Sept. 15. 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting.** A complimentary buffet dinner will be served starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

**Friday, Sept. 18. U.S. Air Force Birthday.** Celebrate with a \$1 off regular price (any drink) for the first drink you order at the bar.

**Saturday, Sept. 19. POW/MIA Recognition Day.**

**Friday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Bourbon and Cigar Night.** Tickets are \$50 per person if purchased prior to

Sept. 18. They are available at the Clubroom/Bar. If you'd prefer to pay using Venmo, find one of the flyers scattered around the Post and grab the QR code from it. In addition to tasting a flight of good bourbons and a cigar (no information yet on the brands of bourbon or cigar) your ticket also gets you some tasty hors d'oeuvres. Mark your calendar, save the date, and get your ticket before Sept. 18. After that date, you can expect the price to increase to an "as yet to be announced" dollar value.

**Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. \$1,000 Jackpot.**

**Monday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. VFW Post 12002 Month-End Meeting.** The VFW's month-end meeting at Post 201 is scheduled for 7 p.m. on the 4th Monday of every month. The mid-month meeting is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at Brimstone Restaurant & Tavern, 10595 Old Alabama Connector Road, Alpharetta.

**Wednesday, Oct. 14. 9th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament.** The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm, 3030 Bradshaw Drive, Woodstock. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. Contact Derek Garmon, [770-549-5669](tel:770-549-5669), [derekgarmon@yahoo.com](mailto:derekgarmon@yahoo.com), or Bruce Hay, [309-657-8528](tel:309-657-8528), [hayville@att.net](mailto:hayville@att.net) for details. Tournament meeting planning dates between now and tournament day are Wednesday, Sept. 9, 16, 23 & 30, and Oct. 7. All meetings are scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m.

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

**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. The 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.

**Monday, Nov. 9. Save the Date.** Annual Breakfast for Vets hosted by Melissa Morgan. Details to follow.

**Wednesday, Nov.11. Veterans Day.**

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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](tel:1-877-222-8387)**

**Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - [631-720-6022](tel:631-720-6022)**

**Legion  
SAL**

**Auxiliary**

**More Veterans Resources**

**Photo Gallery**

***Post 201 - Serving Vets Since 1947***

***"It's not the price you pay to be a member,  
It's the price you paid to be eligible."***