American Legion Post 201

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'Business Casual' Requested For Auxiliary Oct. 19 Dinner

This past Tuesday evening the Auxiliary asked this publication to help “get the word out” that the dress is 'business casual' for those planning to attend the Oct. 19 reception and dinner for Dr. Coral May Grout, the recently elected national president of the American Legion Auxiliary.

This request prompted the opportunity to conduct a quick-and-dirty survey of several male vets at the Post who were asked to define “business casual.”

Answers to the question were along the lines of, “well . . . you know, it’s a shirt with a collar for the guys.” Or a, “I don’t really know, but I guess it includes a coat . . and . . . nice slacks.” When asked about business casual for women, the answer seemed to be more evasive. . . . something along the line of, “well, I’m not sure, but she’ll know.” Or an even better - - - “I’m not going to go there. My wife will know.”

Since defining “business casual” seemed to somewhat difficult, this publication thought some research on the subject might be appropriate. So we sought AI, or if you prefer, SI guidance on the matter by asking the following question: “What is considered business casual dress for both men and women in metro Atlanta?”

Here’s the answer - - - in some detail:

In metro Atlanta, business casual typically means tailored separates and smart-casual layers that balance a polished professional look with the region's warm climate and diverse industry vibes.

Men's Business Casual - - Tops: Collared button-down shirts, oxfords, or high-quality polo shirts. Ties are generally

omitted unless meeting high-level clients. Layers: Quarter-zip sweaters, cardigans, or sport coats/blazers for cooler weather or formal meetings. Bottoms: Chinos, khakis, or pressed dress slacks. Dark, unwashed or clean dark-wash denim without rips is accepted in more progressive or tech-forward offices. Shoes: Leather loafers, oxfords, or clean minimalist leather shoes.

Women's Business Casual - - Tops & Layers: Blouses, professional knit tops, sweaters, or tailored button-downs, paired with optional blazers or structured cardigans. Bottoms & Dresses: Dress pants, tailored trousers, knee-length skirts, or modest professional dresses. Dark-wash, polished denim is also common in creative or agency environments. Shoes: Flats, loafers, mules, or low, modest heels.

So there you have it - - for Atlanta.

But this did invite a second question which, just for grins, we checked out: “Is business casual different in other parts of the U.S., for example, Los Angeles, New York, Denver, St. Louis, and New Orleans to name a few.

In sum, the answer was, “Yes, business casual looks entirely different depending on where you are in the United States. While the baseline definition always excludes shorts, t-shirts, and sandals, regional variations are heavily driven by local climate, dominant industries, and cultural attitudes.

For instance, **New York** leans toward a sharp, tailored look featuring dark tones, blazers, and high-end footwear. Conversely, **Los Angeles** embraces a creative, laid-back vibe where premium denim, stylish sneakers, and high-quality t-shirts under unstructured blazers are standard. In tech and outdoor-centric hubs like **Denver**, the aesthetic shifts toward practical performance wear, including quarter-zips and rugged chinos. Meanwhile, traditional Midwestern and Southern cities like **St. Louis** and **New Orleans** lean on classic, conservative styles, often incorporating lightweight, breathable fabrics like linen or seersucker to combat intense regional humidity.

Atlanta One More Time

Atlanta sits right in the middle of these extremes. It is more colorful and climate-conscious than New York, yet noticeably more structured and formal than the ultra-casual environments of Denver or Los Angeles. Atlanta also sits uniquely at the crossroads of traditional Southern hospitality and a booming corporate economy. As a major hub for Fortune 500 companies, tech startups, and the entertainment industry, ***Atlanta’s style is best described as "Polished Southern Corporate."***

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Spaces Still Available for 'PilotTest' Of VA Claims Packaging Workshop

Space is still available for vets who are interested in helping Post 201 member Jay McVinney "pilot test" his VA Claims Packaging Workshop. Based on personal experience he has developed a process which he believes can help veterans learn how to package their claims evidence so it moves through the VA review process with minimum delay. There is no charge for those who participate.

His “pilot test” is a six-hour course, presented in four work sessions, during which participating vets are walked through the claims preparation process. The four Saturday mornings set aside for the course, and the number of hours

involved each Saturday are Oct. 10 (one hour); Oct. 24 (two hours); Nov. 14, (two hour); and, Nov. 21 (one hour).

All sessions will be held in the Post's ballroom starting at 9 a.m. each Saturday. A signup sheet is posted in the Clubroom; or you may also email him at jay@dba-in-a-box.com to volunteer to participate.

Those interested may read more about his course by picking up a copy of this week's Alpharetta-Roswell Herald which is in the Clubroom and checking out the front page story, **clicking here** to read the story published on line, or reading a more detailed story **(click here)** published in last week's copy of this e-newsletter.

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~ News Notes ~

Clubroom Pool Table Back in Play

Repairs to the Post's pool table were completed mid-afternoon yesterday and it was in play less than an hour after the work was completed. A "chewed-up" sub rail on the table, which was not visible until the repair work began, and which had to be replaced, was the reason for the for the additional delay in getting the more than 55-year-old Brunswick table back in use.

Although the exact age of the pool table is unknown, Brunswick Corp. built tables like the one at the Post for a 20-year period between 1950 and 1969. Known as a "furniture table," its proper name was the "Brunswick Sport King."

Marketing publicity at the time contained one very interesting line which read: " . . . the Sport King features armor-like FORMICA rails that actually resist burns up to 250 degrees, making it virtually cigarette proof!" The estimated price to purchase a new one was during the years it was being built was in the range of $950. In today's dollars, that would put the table's cost in the range of $9,000.

Although no records exist on when the Post acquired the table, those who have some historical knowledge believe it was donated to the Post sometime during the 1970s. On today's resale market, the table is probably valued in the range of $1,200 to $1,500.

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VA launches pilot program that includes Atlanta to speed Veterans' access to services, care, benefits

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs today launched a new pilot program at six VA facilities to help Veterans establish VA.gov accounts faster than ever before, which means speedier access to VA services, care and benefits.

VA has worked with technology and security company CLEAR to deploy CLEAR pods at six VA hospitals across the country. Veterans who want to create a new account on VA.gov can use these pods to sign up in a matter of minutes with the assistance of VA staff.

To read the complete story, **click here**.

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Falcons Offer 'Salute to Service' Sunday, Nov. 15 Game Package

The Atlanta Falcons have created a special Salute to Service group ticket packages for military and veterans organizations to attend the game against the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday, November 15 at 1 p.m. at Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

They currently have discounted packages available for groups of 25, 50, 75, and 100 tickets. Each game ticket includes a 2026 Falcons Challenge Coin and a $10 food & beverage voucher.

For organizations unable to purchase as a single group, the team has also has an individual **Salute to Service link** available for military and veteran members and their families.

More information is available by contacting Sydney Watts, Group Sales Executive, Atlanta Falcons, 470-341-3491 | **AtlantaFalcons.com** , **sydney.watts@falcons.nfl.com**, 1 AMB Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30313.

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Upcoming Post 201, Other Veteran Related Activities

Monday Madness in the Clubroom
Every Monday - - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
1st Drink - $1 Off the Regular Price for any Brand

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

VIEW FEATURED POST EVENTS

Thursday, Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting. CANCELLED. Agenda will be added to next week's Executive Committee meeting agenda

Sunday, Oct. 11, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. $1,000 Jackpot.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 6 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Brain Health Summit for Vets, Families. The Summit will explore PTSD, TBI, moral injury, cognition, treatment, recovery, purpose, and the lasting effects of military service. Presented by Skylark Senior Care in collaboration with the Emory Healthcare Veterans Program, the Summit is free for veterans and their families. **Click here for more information** about the event, the keynote speakers and to register to attend.

Registration is required due to limited seating. Boxed lunches will be served.

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, derekgarmon@yahoo.com, or Bruce Hay, 309-657-8528, hayville@att.net for details. The last tournament meeting planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 16 and Saturday, Oct. 17. Two Toys for Tots Fundraisers featuring ventriloquist Doug Mickan. Friday night starts at 7 p.m., Saturday morning gets underway at 11 a.m. **Click here for Oct. 16** details, and **click here for information** on the Saturday morning show. And be sure to **click here to show the little ones** a 2-1/2 minute FaceBook video with Doug and a couple of his friends who will be coming to the Post.

Monday, Oct. 19. 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Auxiliary National President Dr. Coral May Grout visit to the Post**.** Auxiliary Unit 201 will host a reception and dinner during her visit plus giving her a tour of the Walk of Memories.

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m. House and Grounds Committee Meeting.

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m. General Membership Meeting. Complimentary buffeet dinner served prior to the meeting starting in the 6 p.m. time frame.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 5 p.m. Golden Ladle Brews & Stews. Bring your best stew for consideration. A number of beers will be on sale for a "buck per beer."

Sunday, Oct. 25, 2 p.m. BINGO in the Ballroom. $1,000 Jackpot.

Monday, Oct. 26, 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.

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***. 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 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