



# Alpharetta Post 201

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Thursday, May 18, 2023

## Billings Elected Post Commander; New Leadership Takes Helm Thursday, June 1

Tuesday evening's General Membership meeting, which was election night for next year's leadership, drew 55 Legionnaires to the Post to vote - - - the most at any general membership meeting during the past 12 months. However, as large as that turnout was it still represents only 7.7 percent of the Post's 718 total paid members. That said, the newly elected leadership will inherit the responsibility on Thursday, June 1. Next year's leadership includes:

**Commander** -Tom Billings.

The new commander will fill the remaining one year of departing Commander Fred Mahony's two-year term. Mahony announced previously that he will not serve the second year of his two-year term due to personal plans which will be taking him away from the local area.

**Sr. Vice Commander** -Alan Dudley.

**Jr. Vice Commander**-Tom Richardson (uncontested).

**Finance Officer**-Ralph Jordan (uncontested).

**Judge Advocate** -Bob Byrd.

With his election as Judge Advocate, Byrd will have to resign his executive committee member slot. At a future date a replacement will be selected fill the final year of his three-year term.

**Executive Committee Member (3-year term)**-Bob Moye.

**Adjutant**-To be named at a later date since this is an appointed position by the Commander.

In his campaign speech prior to the vote, the new commander said his goals for the coming year include emphasizing the American Legion's four pillars of service - - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children & Youth.

Focusing on those goals, he said, would include sending more young men to Boys State, increasing participation in the annual Oratorical Contest, and expanding the Post's scholarship and veterans educational programs.

Billings also said the Post needs to develop some community recognition programs such as awarding Law Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards, both of which would help bring the Post greater visibility in the community. He also pointed to the continuing need to develop both "financial and physical resources" for the Post.

In closing , Billings said his guiding principles as commander would be to “make informed decisions, based on fact not rumor, using sound judgement, and letting common sense rather than emotions prevail.”

In other actions at the meeting, the membership approved:

- Spending up to \$20,000 to purchase and install a new, larger hood over the kitchen stove. The hood itself is expected to cost some \$6,000. The difference includes \$9,600 to install it and another \$4,000 to install a new fire suppression system that meets code enforcement standards associated with the new hood.
- Spending approximately \$1,600 to purchase a small freezer, a table-top warmer and a popcorn machine for the concession stand. Reimbursement for this expenditure is expected to come from concession stand sales during the remainder of the baseball season.
- Spending \$1,700 for tree removal service.

During the meeting the membership also:

- Heard an update on the FY 2023-2024 budget which is currently being developed. Finance officer Ralph Jordan said he expects the final budget would be presented to Post membership for approval at the July membership meeting.
- Approved membership applications for two transfers and nine new members. Transfers are: Morris R. Chappell, and Richard S. Turner, both from Post 400. New members are: Robert Pfister, USAF, Viet Nam; Jennifer Bowman, USN, Gulf; Clark Donnelly, USN, Gulf; Elizabeth Griffith, USAF, Panama; Ronald Von Holt, USAF, Viet Nam; Theodore (Ted) Turner, USAF, Viet Nam; Roland T. Vann, USAF, Viet Nam; Rex Dunlap, USN; and Rob Sumter, USN, Gulf. The Post currently has 718 members, which is 103 percent of the 700 membership goal.
- Learned that the SAL has achieved 111 percent of its membership goal. SAL's goal was 216. Membership currently stand at 241, and they are pushing to reach 250.

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## ~ ~ IN MEMORY ~ ~

**Gaye Boardman**  
**May 21, 1941 - May 9, 2023**

Member of the Post 201 Auxiliary for 12 years. Known and appreciated for her personal commitment to care for the flowers along the Walk of Memories and the hanging baskets on the deck. Funeral service, 12 noon Friday, June 9, Northside Chapel Funeral Directors & Crematory, 12050 Crabapple Road, Roswell. [Click here](#) for more information.

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**Post News Notes**

**The new “Monday Music Trivia with Lisa”** program in the Clubroom seems to be catching on. So if you haven't tried it out yet drop by during the early evening and see how it 'plays'. Light snacks will be available and there is a prize for the winner. BUT Please: If you're not playing, don't shout out the answer!

**New flooring is expected to be installed** in the Clubroom starting Sunday night, May 21 with installation completed before the Clubroom is scheduled to be open at 3 p.m. Monday, May 22. The pool table, which will need to be removed from the Clubroom during the floor install, is scheduled to be returned to the Clubroom on Tuesday, May 23. Volunteers are needed to help with the floor install on May 22 starting at 7 a.m. and throughout the day. Email Bob Byrd at [bobbyrd947@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyrd947@gmail.com) if you can help.

**Volunteers are still needed for the May 20 Post Clean Up Day**, which is also Armed Forces Day.

**Volunteers are also needed to work the concession stand.** Between now and the end of July at least 75 games will be played on the baseball field. A signup sheet is posted in the Clubroom. At least 2 volunteers are needed to work a single game, although three would be better. And if two games are being played four volunteers are needed to work the stand.

**Harley Davidson Killer Creek** is planning an event at the Post on June 8. More details to follow. Jeff Rahn is coordinating the function.

**Two Post 201 Marine veterans**, Dan Halpern and Bob Gault, plan to ride to the four corners of the continental U.S. as part of a fundraiser for the Tunnel to Towers Foundation. Their goal is \$50,000 which equates to \$1,500 per day or \$4.17 per mile. Their motorcycle ride kicks off on May 22 from Gillsville, Ga. They estimate the trip will take approximately 32 days and rack up around 12,000 miles. June 23 is the estimated return date to the northeast Georgia town which is about 12 miles east of Gainesville. [Click here for more information](#) and ride itinerary. *(Thanks to Ed Holben for this story lead.)*

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## **Upcoming Post 201 & Other Veterans Related Activities**

**Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m. Order of the Purple Heart.** Meets 3rd Thursday of every month.

**Saturday, May 20. Armed Forces Day.** Post 201 Clean Up Day starting at 9 a.m. Clean up 'zones' which need some attention include brush on the fence side at the Wills Road entrance, pine cone pick up in the Walk of Memories area, underbrush cleanup around all the Magnolia trees along the baseball field's outfield fence, some general cleanup around the concession stand, and underbrush cleaning along the grass area next to the fence at the back of the Post.

**Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. American Legion Post 307** Armed Force Day BBQ fundraiser at Beaver Toyota, 1875 Buford Highway, Cumming. Tickets are \$10 per person. Enjoy live music and Socks' Love Barbecue.

**Saturday, May 20, 7 p.m. AboutFace-USA Charity Poker Tournament** to help prevent veteran suicide. Stars and Strikes, 133 Merchant Square, Cumming. [Click here](#) for details.

**Sunday, May 21, 3 p.m. Celebration of Life for Barge Stoios** (Jan. 15, 1953 – May 6, 2023) in Post Ballroom. [Click here](#) for a A Go Fund Me page to help with memorial expenses. [Click here](#) to read Appen Media news story by reporter Amber Perry.

**Monday, May 22, 7 p.m., VFW Post 12002.** Meets 4th Monday of every month. For more information contact Ron Cowan, 404-509-1700, [roncowan@bellsouth.net](mailto:roncowan@bellsouth.net) or Jim Davis, 770-235-4858, [jim.davis@comcast.net](mailto:jim.davis@comcast.net).

**Monday, May 29. Memorial Day.** Activities at Post TBD.

**Saturday, June 3, 8 a.m. First Saturday Informal Pot Luck Breakfast** for members. Cooking generally starts around 7:30 a.m. - 8 a.m. Meal served in 9 a.m. time frame. Be sure to bring something to share. First responders who attend are exempt from the 'bring something to share' expectation. For more info contact John Dowd, 770-366-1284, or email [jedowd3@gmail.com](mailto:jedowd3@gmail.com).

**Saturday, Jun. 3, 8 a.m. Ride for Vets and 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., PACT Act Claims Filing and More.** Park Place, Newtown Park, Johns Creek. [Click here for details](#) on both events.

**Saturday, June 10, 8 p.m. Laughter at the Legion** featuring Atlanta-based comedians Lace Larrabee and Nick Murphy. [Click here for more information](#) and to purchase tickets online, or tickets may be purchased at the Clubroom/Bar during regular operating hours.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11. SAL's 6th Annual Rick Gimpel Memorial Golf Tournament** at The Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm in Woodstock. [Click here](#) for more information on corporate sponsorship. Or contact either Derek Garmon 770-294-4259 or Kevin Solik, 404-483-3230 for more information.

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## ***Club 201 Dance Activities***

Visit both [www.club201dance.com](http://www.club201dance.com)  
and the [Club 201 Dance FaceBook Page](#)  
for detailed information about  
all dance activities and schedules.

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## ***Resource Links***

**Post 201 Walk of Memories** - [Click here](#) for more information.

**Survivor Assistance Checklist** - [Click this link.](#)

**Benefits for Georgia Veterans** - [Click this link.](#)

**Past Issues of Post 201 E-Newsletter** - Visit [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org) and click on the "Weekly eNewsletters" box at the top right of the landing page.

**Post 201 Website** - [www.legion201.org](http://www.legion201.org).

VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

Veterans Crisis Line - 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

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

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

**Post 201 - Serving Vets for 75 Years**  
*November 26, 1947 - November 26, 2022*

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