



Barrett-Davis-Watson
Post 233



March 23, 2020

Special Commander's Corner

Bill Dolan, commander@gapost233.com

Good Day My Friends,

As you are all probably aware, the Post is closed. The Post Executive Committee along with our Bingo Chairwoman, Anita Owens, Our Judge Advocate, Jim Carmona, our Event Coordinator, Julie DeVries, and our Auxiliary Unit President, Mary Nelson initially met on Friday March 13th to determine if we should close the Post and cease our meetings and events as recommended by our Public Health officials. At that time we voted to close the Post until March 31st with a follow-up meeting in a week on March 20th to review the current situation with the Coronavirus (COVID19) and any new guidance received at that time. At the Meeting on March 20th, we decided to close the Post until April 30th due to the restrictions and recommendations of our State and National Leaders pertaining to COVID19. We did allow that if the situation significantly improves and based on guidance from our Public Health Leaders, we can reopen the Post early if it is appropriate. The Monthly meeting scheduled for April 7th is cancelled.

This virus is extremely dangerous for all Americans, especially those of us over the age of 60 and anyone with chronic health conditions that depress their immune system or affect their breathing. I don't want anyone to panic, but I do want you to take this seriously. If you are over 60, please, shelter in place at home. Please ask your younger children, friends, or neighbors to help you with getting your groceries, medicines, or other needed supplies. If you don't have anyone to ask for assistance, **PLEASE** call the Post at 770.466.4728 and leave us a message with your name, phone number and what type of assistance you need. We will work diligently to address these requests as we are able. You are not alone, you have over 560 members of the Post who may be able to help with a phone call, email, or text. Please reach out to us if you need anything at all, we are a family and now is when we really need to help each other get through this trying time.

There has been a significant rise in bad sites on the internet and even some on the phone that are trying to take advantage of this crisis to get your money and personal information with scams. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and the World Health Organization (WHO) at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019> are two of the primary websites you can get reliable information on the state of the COVID19 crisis. The Georgia Department of Public Health has also created a website to help keep Georgians informed, it is updated daily at noon, <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>. Although our older Americans are most adversely affected by this virus, our younger Americans are also susceptible and need to heed the warnings from our Public Health Leaders. No one is immune to this virus, we truly are all in this together. Please be careful, take precautions, and if you need help, please reach out!

Life goes on even during a crisis. We are continuing to help veterans who contact us with needs. Although the Post is closed, we are routinely checking the voicemail and responding to questions and concerns.



We have set up a Nominations Committee for the upcoming election of Post Officers. As a reminder we have seven elected positions, the Post Commander, the Senior-Vice Commander, the Junior-Vice Commander, the Finance Officer, and three Executive Committee members at large. You must be a member in good standing, i.e.; have paid your 2020 membership dues, in order to vote in this year's election or to run for any of the available positions. Now would be a good time to pay your 2020 dues if you have not already done so. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, or you would like to nominate someone for one of the positions, please contact the Nominations Committee Chairman, Jim Carmona via email at jamescarmona@bellsouth.net or via his cell at 770.235.1525. The official list of nominated officers will be announced at the May Monthly Post meeting, currently scheduled for Tuesday May 5th. The election of officers will take place at the June Monthly Post meeting, currently scheduled for June 2nd. All of this is dependent on when we can reopen the Post. At our Executive Committee Meeting on March 20th, our Judge Advocate, Jim Carmona, reminded us that our by-laws do not have a provision for an absentee ballot. If the Post has to remain closed past June 2nd, we will be consulting with the Department on how to proceed with the election of Post Officers for the 2020-2021 year.

The carillon dedication, scheduled for May 2, 2020, is postponed until further notice. All public events at Georgia National Cemetery (GNC) are cancelled thru May 15. Reschedule dates for events will be published when available.

I cannot stress this enough, please take this virus seriously, take precautions recommended by our Public Health Leaders, and keep yourself and your family safe. We are here for you if you need anything, so please, please, please, reach out and give us a call at 770.466.4728 or via email at commander@gapost233.com.

God Bless each and every one of you. Be safe and well until we are able to meet again.

Bill Dolan