



The American Legion is turning 100, and American Legion Post 143 in Carrollton is planning to celebrate.

The Post is located at 1790 Stripling Chapel Road, Carrollton, Georgia, and was chartered on March 19, 1935. The organization as a whole traces its roots to March 15, 1919, in Paris, France in the aftermath of World War I. The American Legion was federally chartered on Sept. 16, 1919, and quickly became an influential force at the national, state and local levels, dedicated to service to veterans, strong national defense, youth and patriotism.

A year after it was formed, the American Legion had chartered more than 5,400 local posts that continue to operate today. (Post 60 was formed in Carrollton but closed in the depths of the “Great Depression”) Since then it has grown to more than 13,000 posts around the world with more than 2.2 million war-time veteran members. Throughout its first century, the American Legion built a legacy on such accomplishments as leading the way to create a U.S. Flag Code, helping start the Veterans Administration, drafting and getting passed the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944—the GI Bill—which transformed America in the second half of the 20th century, and helping veterans receive benefits for health-care based on their honorable service, including acceptance of Agent Orange exposure as a service connected. Today, the American Legion has nearly 3,000 accredited service officers worldwide who assist veterans with their benefit claims and other concerns.

Post 143 was formed by 30 World War I veterans in March 19, 1935, currently numbers 247 veteran members plus an additional 74 members affiliated with the Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Among those whose lives have been touched by the Post Family include: Veterans receiving assistance with VA forms, emergency needs, funeral Flag services, and memorials at the Carroll County Veterans Memorial Park. Other Programs and activities include Boys/Girls State participation, Special Olympics, Carroll County annual Heritage Days event, the Junior Air Rifle Tournament, High School Oratorical Contest, Boy Scouts, High School JROTC, Color Guard Parade participation and Flag Retirement ceremonies.

“The American Legion Family of Carrollton is excited to share both the legacy and vision of our organization. Post 143 Commander Joe Harrod said “we’ve done a lot of good, and intend to keep doing for a second century and we hope that the people of Carroll County will join us in the events planned for celebrating the Legion’s 100 year anniversary.

