



01 MARCH 2025



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 501 WOODBURY, MN

Post 501 Leadership

Commander: Bob Dolan
Vice Commander: JoAnne Kramer
Finance: Bob Wuggazer
Membership: Bruce Nettleton
Sergeant at Arms: Tim Crear
Chaplain: Mike Zerr

Membership Update

As of today, we have 123 renewals for the 2025 membership year. Based on this year's goal of 127 we are at 96.85 %. Help us to continue our outstanding support to the Woodbury community & veterans by going to www.legion.org to renew your membership today.

Remember the membership year runs from 1 July to 30 June, with a 6-month grace period.

This membership year we have had a number of members that have sent in renewal checks twice thinking that we had not renewed for the current year. I know that it can be confusing when American Legion National sends you renewal notices multiple times throughout the membership period.

If you ever have questions if you have renewed for the current year, give me a shout and we can assist.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Volunteerism connotes a mindset or a philosophy. It can also mean an attitude of service or a willingness to give back to your community — and in doing so, to make the world around you a better place.

As it turns out, volunteerism doesn't just help the organization, population or community on the receiving end. Volunteering your time or energy can have amazing benefits for you, too. As a member of the American Legion, we offer a number of opportunities for volunteering at events or being a Post officer. Volunteering for a shift at Poppy Days offers you the opportunity to connect with your fellow veterans and interaction within the Woodbury community.

I hope to see some new faces this year.



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Boys State 2025

The Woodbury American Legion Post 501 is seeking candidates from local Woodbury High Schools for the 75th Annual American Legion Boys State that will be held June 8-14, 2025. Boys State will be held on the campus of St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. All applications must be submitted by March 1 2025 to the Woodbury American Legion Post 501 at woodburypost501@gmail.com.

Applicants for Boys State must be juniors in High School, be in the upper class scholastically at their school and reside in Woodbury. Information has been provided to all Woodbury High Schools guidance counselors or principals, including East Ridge, Woodbury, New Life Academy, and the Woodbury Math and Science Academy. Applicants who reside in Woodbury but go to high school outside the city are also eligible to apply through Post 501.

Legion Boys State is a practical learning experience in local and state government. The week will emphasize civic leadership and pride in American citizenship, a detailed study of our government, and our country's democratic ideals. Highlights of the week include political speakers, mock trials, campaigning, elections, and announcement of Boys State Governor and State Constitution Officers.

If you are interested in getting involved in the program you can find out more information on the Boys State web site at: <http://www.mnboysstate.org/>



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Annual Awards Banquet

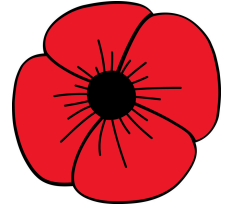
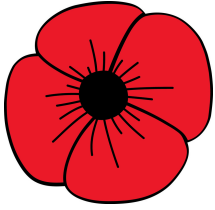
The American Legion Post 501 & VFW Post 9024 had their annual Joint Awards Banquet at the Green Mill Restaurant on 20 February 2025. This event is the VFW and American Legions way to recognize and celebrate the youth in our community and some of the amazing people in Woodbury that make it a great place for veterans to life.

Here are some of the pictures from the night's festivities.



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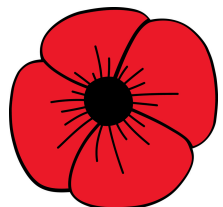
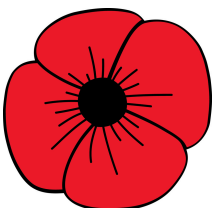
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Poppy Days 2025

Like last year we will be doing 2 poppy distributions. The dates are: 16-18 May, led by the American Legion and 12-14 Sept led by VFW Post 9024. Shortly, I will send out an email requesting volunteers for the May poppy distribution. In the meantime, block out these dates on your calendar to support our big fund raisers for the year.

We need as many people as possible to assist in our annual fund-raising event. Poppy distribution gives us the funds we need to continue our support in the Woodbury community and the many Legion programs we are involved with. Hope to see you there.



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Upcoming Events

- **27 March – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Posts March meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall, Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30pm.
- **24 April – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post's April meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 pm.
- **16-18 May – Poppy Days**
- **22 May – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post's May meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 pm.
- **26 May – Memorial Day** – Join us for a Memorial Day program at the Woodbury Veterans Memorial. The event starts at 11am.



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This Month in History – American Legion Birthday – 15 March 2025

On this day 106 years ago, members of the American Expeditionary Force convened in Paris for the first American Legion caucus. Much as the birthday of the United States is celebrated on July 4, for the date in 1776 when patriots declared the independence of the British colonies and the spirit of America was born. March 15 is the date when The American Legion came to life.

Throughout the organization's history, local posts across the country have celebrated with festivities that have included the entire community. For the 20th birthday in 1939, Battle Mountain Post 71 in Hot Springs, S.D., brought out a 40-pound birthday cake - two pounds for every year of The American Legion's history. For the 38th birthday in 1957, Post 214 in Upper Darby, Pa., hosted an entire week's worth of events as part of American Legion Birthday Week, so proclaimed by the township's Board of Commissioners. Parties, dances and a two-act play were held at Post 214's clubhouse.



This activity supports the U.S. military and its veterans; however, it is not officially connected to or endorsed by the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its branches.