



01 SEPTEMBER 2026



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 501 WOODBURY, MN

Commander's Corner

August wasn't just busy — it was a month that showed the strength of Post 501. From the Woodbury Lions Golf Tournament to the Joint Veterans Picnic, from marching in the Woodbury Days parade to standing tall at the Business Fair, our members were everywhere. You showed up. You represented. You reminded this community who we are.

Seeing so many of you at these events wasn't just encouraging — it was a powerful reminder of what makes the American Legion different. This is the same spirit that binds military units together: shared purpose, shared service, and the unspoken bond that forms when people commit themselves to something larger than their own lives.



Post 501 Leadership

Commander: Bob Dolan
Vice Commander: JoAnne Kramer
Finance: Teresa Skinner
Service Officer: Paul Lindahl
Membership: Bruce Nettleton
Sergeant at Arms: Stacy Ferguson
Chaplain: Bob Wuggazer

Membership Update

A new membership year has begun. As of today, we have 73 renewals. Based on our renewal goal of 121 our Post is 67.5% to achieve our membership goal for this year. This is a fabulous.

The earlier you renew, the more time you'll have to enjoy the full range of benefits that come with a Legion membership.

Remember, it's best not to leave renewal to the last minute. The best way to renew is via www.legion.org.



Kowalski's Non-Profit Donation Program

Did you know that Kowalski's has contributed over \$2 million to local charities through their Groceries for Good Causes (GFGC) initiative? The purpose of GFGC is to directly support the community surrounding each store by aiding nonprofit organizations such as schools, churches, food shelves, youth support groups, and Animal Humane Societies, among others. These local organizations then utilize the funds to assist those in need.

This year, American Legion Post 501 has become one of the beneficiaries of Kowalski's GFGC program. To contribute, simply keep your receipt when checking out and deposit it into the American Legion Woodbury Post 501 box. This is another fantastic way to support your Post and the various projects and activities we are engaged in.



POPPY DAYS SEPT 2026

The second poppy distribution event will take place from September 11-13, organized by American Legion Post 501. This time we will be at a new location at Texas Roadhouse restaurant and have donation boxes at 4 Woodbury businesses.

Remember Poppy distribution serves as a significant source of income for both Posts and is used to support veterans, local scholarships, Boys State, and Woodbury charities that promote veterans' care.

Your participation in this fundraising event would be greatly valued. Even dedicating time to one slot would be immensely beneficial. To sign up contact Commander Dolan at 703-851-5416.



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JOINT VFW/AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL PICNIC

It was wonderful weather for the Joint Annual Veterans picnic put on by the American Legion Post 501 & VFW Post 9024 at Carver Lake Park. Woodbury Mayor Anne Burt was in attendance. Fun, camaraderie and good eating was had by all.

Here are some of the pictures from the event.



WOODBURY DAYS

Woodbury American Legion Post 501 and Woodbury VFW Post 9024 along with cadets from Woodbury AFJROTC led the Woodbury Day's Grand Parade. We mustered at Middleton Elementary School and shuttled to Red Rock Elementary to lead this year's parade. Great job to the cadets and our Joint Color Guard.

In addition to being part of the parade on the Post 501 had a booth at the business fair. We had a lot of people stop by to find out what we do in the Woodbury community. We talked to a number of potential members to be part of our Post. Our Spinning Wheel was a great hit with the kids that visited our booth. Enjoy the pictures from Woodbury Days.



VOLUNTEER HOURS

One of the measures that the Posts get recognized each year is the amount of volunteer hours our members serve throughout the year. We normally collect this information from the members that attend our monthly meetings. I know that there are a lot more members that volunteer on a weekly basis that we need to gather information from. If you volunteer at an organization such as, a local charity, youth programs, VA home, etc. I would ask that you send me your hours at the end of each month to woodburypost501@gmail.com or call 703-851-5416.

VETERAN MEMORIAL PAVERS

The Woodbury Veterans Memorial was developed to commemorate the sacrifices our military men & women made to make this world safe, secure, and free. This memorial stands as a testament to all those that have served our great country! You can play a part in keeping this memorial vital to the Woodbury community and the veteran in your life with a personalized legacy paver.

This statement piece says “We will NOT forget” by etching it in stone. What a great way to honor the service of a loved one, your own service, employees and first responders. Each stone is professionally etched with the veteran’s name, branch of service, period of service, and any significant medals. An engraved stone paver can be purchased at Lions Veteran's Memorial Paver — Woodbury Lions Club. It makes a great Christmas or birthday gift.



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Upcoming Events

- **11-13 September – Poppy Days**
- **24 September – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post's September meeting will be held at Jerry's Foods (second floor) conference room 1 at 6:30 pm.
- **22 October - Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post's October meeting will be held at Jerry's Foods (second floor) conference room 1 at 6:30 pm.

This Month in History – 9/11 Remembrance

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on U.S. soil. It is a time to remember the courage of so many firefighters, paramedics, New York policemen and New York's Port Authority Officers that sacrificed their lives to save others, and a time to honor the memory of all those who perished at Shanksville, Pennsylvania, the Pentagon and the Twin Towers.

The morning of September 11, 2001 remains one of the most pivotal points in American history. The events of 9/11 are forever etched in the minds of anyone old enough to remember the day. Those who were on the East Coast recall that it was a brilliant, clear morning. Then, at 8:46 a.m., American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. In a meticulously planned attack, terrorists hijacked four airliners. They flew three of the planes into buildings: the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. They crashed the fourth plane in rural Pennsylvania. The attacks killed 2,976 people and injured thousands more. Today, many first responders are still dealing with adverse health effects from working in toxic conditions.

Let us keep the valiant people who died in these attacks in your thoughts and prayers on this day.



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.