



01 MAY 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 125 renewals for the 2025 membership year. Based on this year's goal of 127 we are at 98.4 %. We only need 2 more renewals or new members to get to goal. Let's get this over the finish line.

Go 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.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

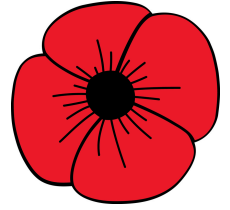
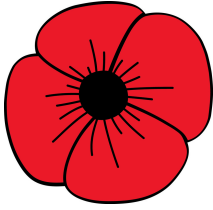
From the American Revolution to the Global War on Terrorism, American veterans have made the Supreme Sacrifice, giving their life for our Country. They died so that we could continue to cherish the things we all love – God, Country, and family. We will gather on Memorial Day... to honor the memory of these fallen warriors. They truly are the guardians of our freedom.

On Memorial Day this year, I hope you will honor these special veterans by visiting Woodbury cemeteries and seeing the flags that American Legion Post 501 will be placing there to honor their Service.



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Poppy Days 2025

We are in full swing with our May Poppy Days (16-18 May) distribution with VFW Post 9024. The sites that we will be at this year are Cub Food, Jerry's, Walmart, Sam's Club, Total Wine, and Hy-Vee in Oakdale. It is important that we have enough volunteers to cover all of these sites and time slots. If you have not contacted me for a volunteer slot, give me a call at 703-851-5416 or reply to this email.



Boys State 2025

This year's selections to Boys State are Daniel Gian from Woodbury High School & Ryan Votel & Michael Korf from St Thomas Academy. As you know Boys State is a practical learning experience in local and state government and is held on the campus of St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota.

I can't wait to hear what they thought of the program.

Middleton Elementary School

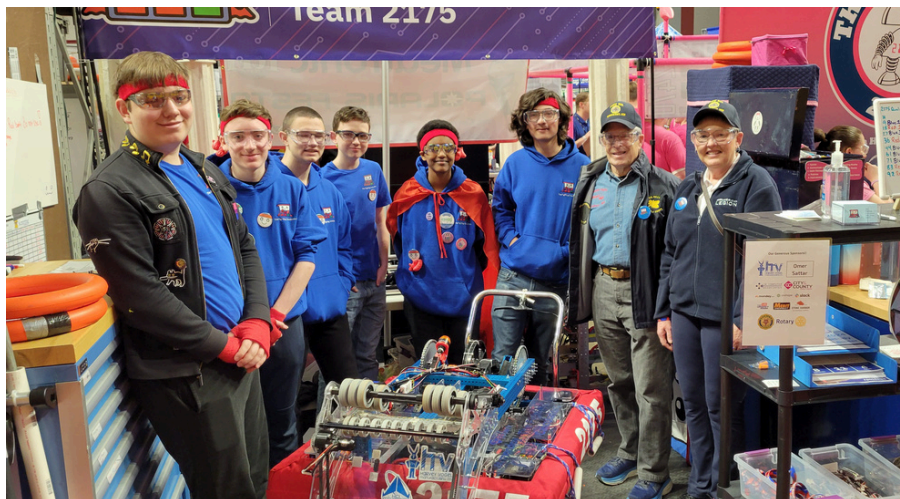
In preparation for Memorial Day the 5th graders at the Middleton Elementary school will be having a field trip to the Woodbury Veterans Memorial on 22 May at 10:30am. The students want to learn about the meaning of the Veterans Memorial and its veterans that it serves.

I am looking for some Post members to be a part of the greeting party for the 5th graders. If you would like to be part of this event and are willing to talk about your service in the military let me know soonest.



MATH & SCIENCE ACADEMY (M&SA) ROBOTICS COMPETITION

The FIRST Robotics Competition Team, The Fighting Calculators, from the Math & Science Academy in Woodbury had their first competition of the season at Mariucci Arena from 4-6 April. Vice Commander JoAnne Kramer spent the morning of April 5 with the Math & Science Academy's robotic team at Williams Arena. It was great to see a bunch of students excited about tech and science. At the end of the competition the team placed in the top 30. This was great fun and hopefully our Post can continue to sponsor this team in the coming years.



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ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS

At our June Post meeting we will be electing Post officers for the coming year. The life blood of any Post is its members, but it takes a group of dedicated members, as Post officers, to make things run smoothly and keep the lights on. A few of our members are currently performing in multiple Post officer positions and this cannot be maintained long term for the Post to remain as a viable activity. I am asking if you can find the time, I am looking for people for the following positions:

• **ADJUTANT:**

1. Is the primary administrative officer for the Post
2. Central point of contact for the Post
3. Maintains Post records
4. Sets up Post meeting to include meeting agenda, meeting minutes, & annual conference room scheduling
5. Picks up & distributions Post mail
6. Assembles & submits annual Post reports

• **HISTORIAN:**

1. Maintains the Post historical documents
2. Maintains copies of news articles that highlight Post activities during the year

We can start you as an assistant in one of these positions and work up into the full position duties over time. If you interested in becoming more involved in the Post, give me a call at (703) 851-5416 and we can discuss.

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MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

You are invited to honor service men and women at the Memorial Day Ceremony Monday, 26 May. This special service will begin at 11:00 am at the Woodbury Veterans Memorial on the City Hall campus. This event is being hosted by the Woodbury V.F.W. Post 9024 & American Legion Post 501.



Upcoming Events

- **7 May – AFJROTC Awards Ceremony** – We will be presenting the American Legion Scholastic Excellence & Military Excellence medals at Woodbury High School in the Auditorium, 2665 Woodlane Dr, Woodbury, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- **16-18 May – Poppy Days**
- **19 May – Woodbury High School Awards Ceremony** – We will be awarding the Stafford Scholarships to 2 worthy AFJROTC cadets at the WHS Awards Ceremony. Woodbury High School in the Auditorium, 2665 Woodlane Dr, Woodbury, beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- **22 May – Middleton Elementary School** - The 5th graders at the Middleton Elementary school will be having a field trip to the Woodbury Veterans Memorial on 22 May at 10:30am.
- **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.
- **26 June – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post's June meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 pm.

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This Month in History – 31 May Memorial Day

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2021 will occur on Monday, May 31.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. Some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemorations was organized by a group of freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial 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.