



01 JULY 2025



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 501 WOODBURY, MN

### **Post 501 Leadership**

Commander: Bob Dolan  
Vice Commander: JoAnne Kramer  
Finance: Teresa Skinner  
Membership: Bruce Nettleton  
Service Officer: Paul Lindahl  
Sergeant at Arms: Tim Crear  
Chaplain: Mike Zerr

### **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

The Fourth of July is a significant day for every American. The country earned their long-cherished freedom on this day. It is also a time to honor those who have served in the military, past and present, and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country's freedom.

This holiday send your warm wishes to the veterans and servicemembers that you know to thank them for their sacrifices. I know that they would greatly appreciate it.

### **Membership Update**

As we end the 2025 membership year our Post had 125 renewed members. We came close to making our membership goal this year, but it was a standout year for signing up new members and transfers into our Post. If you know a veteran that is looking at giving back to the community Post 501 is the place to make that happen. Our Post continues to support the local High School Legion baseball, Boys State, Christian Cupboard, Big Marine Veteran Camp, AFJROTC scholarships, and many other activities in the Woodbury community.

As a reminder the 2025/26 Post membership will go up to \$49. This is to offset the increases at the National, MN Department and Third District over the 2025 and 2026 membership years.

Let's get a jump on the year and renew your membership at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). We need to strive for a 100% renewal rate for the 2025/26 membership year.

Do not wait until the last minute to do it.

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### **Post Elections**

At our 26th June meeting we elected new Post officers for the 2025/26 season. Below is the complete roster of Post 501 Officers that were confirmed:

- Commander: Bob Dolan
- Vice Commander: JoAnne Kramer
- Sergeant at Arms: Tim Crear
- Finance Officer: Teresa Skinner
- Chaplin: Mike Zerr
- Service Officer: Paul Lindahl

Being a Post officer is a great way to contribute not only to the Legion, but veterans and the Woodbury community. We have an opening for Adjutant & Historian. If interested let me know.

### **Joint Color Guard & Rifle Squad**

Legion Post 501 & VFW Post 9024 have a Joint Color Guard and Rifle Squad. This joint team performs at Veteran funeral, parades, and other occasions that require their services. Team lead John Martin is looking for new recruits to ensure that we have enough members to allow us to continue this service to the community. No previous experience is not required. Training and uniforms will be provided. If you are interested in being part of this group let me know.



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### Joint VFW/American Legion Annual Picnic

In giving back to our members, the Woodbury Legion and VFW Posts will be jointly hosting the Annual Veterans Picnic on 19 August, 3:00 to 09:00 pm, at Carver Lake Park. The picnic is **free** and open to Legion & VFW members and their families. If you can bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share that would be greatly appreciated. If you plan on attending, I need to know how many people from your household will be at the picnic by 17 July. The picnic organizer needs to get an accurate head count to order enough meat. Hope to see you there.



### Poppy Days Sept 2025

Our second distribution of poppies will be on 12-14 Sept, led by VFW Post 9024. Shortly I will be sending an email to Post volunteers for the Sept dates. Poppy distribution is a major source of revenue for both Posts and is used to support veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs, local scholarships, Boys State, and Woodbury charities that promote veterans' care. I hope I can count on you to be part of this fund-raising event.





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**Woodbury Legion**  
**Baseball**

Post 501 supports the Woodbury & East Ridge Legion baseball teams through a donation to their organization. This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Legion baseball and we will be celebrating with the teams on 16 July at 5 pm at East Ridge High School ball field. Join the Post in cheering on the Legion teams and show your support.



**Wounded Warrior Soldier Ride**

The 8th Annual Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride will start at the Woodbury City Hall/Veterans Memorial at 9:00 am Saturday July 26th 2025. Come out and cheer on 40 of Minnesota's Wounded Warriors as they ride an 18-mile route, with Woodbury Police/Fire escorts, through the streets of Woodbury! Line the route and cheer on our Wounded Warriors as they ride bikes (adapted to their injuries as needed).



### Upcoming Events

- **16 July - Woodbury Legion Baseball:** This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Legion baseball and we will be celebrating with the teams on 16 July at 5 pm at East Ridge High School ball field.
- **24 July – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post’s July meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 pm.
- **11 Aug – Woodbury Lions Golf Tournament:** The Woodbury Lions Golf Tournament in Memory of Dick Stafford will be held on August 11, at Eagle Valley Golf Course.
- **19 Aug – Joint VFW/American Legion Annual Picnic:** In giving back to our members the Woodbury Legion and VFW Posts will be jointly hosting our Joint Veterans Picnic on 19 August, 3:00 to 09:00 pm, at Carver Lake Park. The picnic is free and open to all Legion & VFW members and their families. If you plan on attending let me know as we are trying to get an accurate head count. Hope to see you there.
- **24 Aug – Woodbury Days Parade:** Everyone loves a parade, and your American Legion Post 501 and VFW Post 9024 will be in this year’s Woodbury Days parade. If you would like to be part of our float let me know. Like last year the Post will be having a booth at Woodbury Days from 22-24 August. Come by to see your fellow Post members or volunteer to man the booth.
- **28 August:** Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting: The Post’s August 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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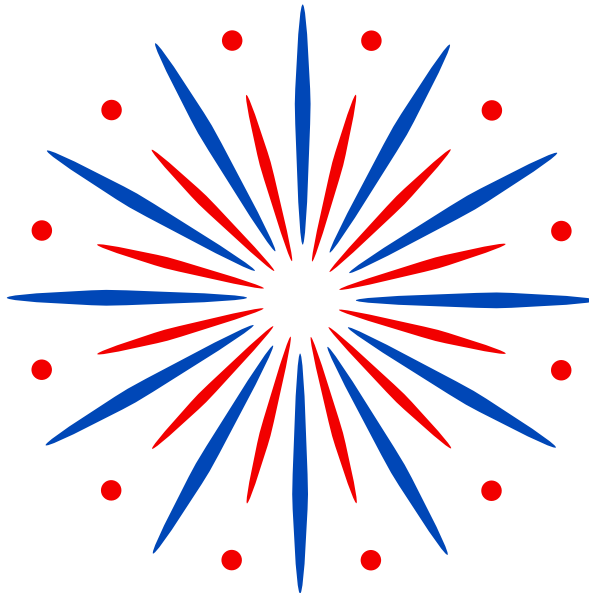
**This Month in History – 4 July – Independence Day**

Independence Day, commonly known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday in the United States which commemorates the ratification of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America.

The Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress voted to approve independence by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2 and adopted the Declaration of Independence two days later, on July 4.

From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Come check out the fireworks display in Woodbury at M Health Fairview Sports Center around 10 pm.



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.