

01 JUNE 2024



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

COMMANDER'S CORNER

May has been an extremely busy month with the AFJROTC Medal Award ceremony, Poppy Days, Woodbury High School Senior Award ceremony, 2 events with the Middleton Elementary school and ending with the Memorial Day event at the Woodbury Veterans Memorial.

Thank you to all of the Post volunteers who made each of these events successful. Volunteers are the life blood for all Post's.

Membership Update:

As of today, we are at 123 renewals for the 2024 membership year. Based on this year's goal of 133 we are at 92.48%. We are just 10 renewals away from meeting this year's renewal goal. Soo Close. What are you waiting for. It's fast & easy. Just go to www.legion.org to renew your membership today.



Woodbury Post 501 Commander Bob Dolan & Vice Commander JoAnne Kramer awarding the Stafford scholarship to cadet Abi Rosenthal

Three Year American Legion Membership Option

This is the last month to take advantage of this great deal that the American Legion National is offering. The Legion is currently offering members the ability to prepay for 3 years of membership (2025-2027) at the current 2024 rate (\$39). This will give you a reprieve from the higher dues for a few years.

I have already done it for myself, and it was quick and easy. You will need to go to the MN American Legion web site at mnlegion.org and click on the 3 Year Renewal button. You will then be prompted to put in your membership number and last name.

I urge all members that have already renewed their 2024 membership to take advantage of this deal. It will only last until 30 June 2024. After that the increased dues will take effect.

Poppy Days 2024

Thanks to the Woodbury community, the Woodbury AFJROTC cadets and all of the volunteers from American Legion Post 501 & Woodbury VFW Post 9024 for making this a great Poppy Days drive. Enjoy some of the pictures from this year's event.



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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:
 - o Is the primary administrative officer for the Post
 - o Maintains Post records
 - o Develops meeting agenda & meeting minutes
 - o Sets up conference room scheduling
 - o Picks up & distributes Post mail
 - o Assembles & submits annual Post reports
- Historian:
 - o Maintains the Post historical documents
 - o 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.

FAREWELL TO AFJROTC COMMANDER

American Legion Post 501 Commander Bob Dolan, Sargeant At Arms Tim Crear, Woodbury VFW Post 9024 Commander Paul Lindahl, and VFW Post members Bob Fritsche, & Dean Shepersky presented a farewell gift to Woodbury High School AFJROTC Unit Commander Maj Thom Petzold. Maj Petzold has led this unit of young cadets for the last 19 years. Congrats on your retirement.



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Middleton Elementary School

Post 501 Commander Bob Dolan & Vice Commander JoAnne Kramer were invited to speak to the 5th graders at Woodbury Middleton Elementary School about Memorial Day and the military services. It was great fun and the kids were very engaging. The event culminated in a field trip to the Veterans Memorial on the 23rd of May to view the memorial, and to talk to some of our great veterans.



Memorial Day Event 2024

The Woodbury Memorial Day ceremony was another fabulous event put on by the VFW Post 9024 & American Legion Post 501. It would not be a Memorial Day event without the participation of the Woodbury AFJROTC unit, Patriotic Heritage Allegiant Honor Guard, and Boys Scout Troop 559. Minnesota State Representative Mark Wiens gave the main address with welcoming comments from Woodbury Mayor Anne Burt.



This Month in History – 14 June – Flag Day

Flag Day is a holiday observed annually on June 14. It is a day that commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States that took place in 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

The history of Flag Day dates back to June 14, 1777, when British symbols of the Grand Union flag were replaced with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes (one for each state) by the Continental Congress. The number of stars increased as the new states entered the Union, but the number of stripes stopped at 15 and was later returned to 13.

In June 1886 Bernard Cigrand made his first public proposal for the annual observance of the birth of the flag. Cigrand's efforts to ensure national observance of Flag Day finally came when President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of the event on June 14, 1916.

However, Flag Day did not become official until August 1949, when President Harry Truman signed the legislation and proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day. In 1966, Congress also requested that the President issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week.



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Upcoming Events

- **27 June – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post’s June meeting will be held at Birdi Golf (conference room) in the Valley Creek Mall at 6:30 pm.
- **25 July – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Post’s July meeting will be held at Birdi Golf (conference room) in the Valley Creek Mall at 6:30 pm.
- **27 July – Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride:** Come out to cheer on the Wounded Warriors Woodbury ride. It starts at City Hall/Veterans Memorial at 0900 with Woodbury Police & Fire, Washington Co. Sheriffs, and a few surrounding Police Bicycle Units also attending.
- **12 Aug – Woodbury Lions Golf Tournament:** The Woodbury Lions Golf Tournament in Memory of Dick Stafford will be held on August 12, at Eagle Valley Golf Course.
- **20 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 20 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.
- **22 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.
- **23 - 25 August - Woodbury Days:** Come join us at our Legion Post booth to volunteer or just stop by to talk. Also, you can be part of the Joint VFW/Legion parade float on the 25th. Great fun!!!



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.