



01 NOVEMBER 2025

Thanksgiving



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 501 WOODBURY, MN

Post 501 Leadership

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

Membership Update:

As of today, we have 90 renewals for the 2025 membership year. Based on this year's goal of 126 we are at 71.4 %. We are ahead of the goal of 65% by November, but the renewal rate in the last few months has slowed down.

As a reminder your annual dues helps us fund the various activities and local charities that we support such as the local High School Legion baseball, Boys State participation, Christian Cupboard, Big Marine Veteran Camp, AF JROTC scholarships and many more activities within the Woodbury Area.

Let's continue to support all of these great activities by renewing your membership. It's fast & easy by going to www.legion.org. Do not wait until the last minute to do it.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Veterans contribute to American society in many ways and not just during their time in active duty. Throughout our history, service members have put on their uniforms to protect the values and liberties that this nation was built on. That doesn't stop once the uniform comes off and the veterans' time in active duty has ended. Veterans take the lessons they have learned and the experiences they've gained and continue their service to our nation by strengthening our communities.

It is one of the cornerstones of the American Legion and why many people become members and become active participants in their Posts. The more voices that are heard the better our Post becomes. Let's see if we can get some new faces in our November meeting.



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Toys for Tots

This is the third year the Legion Post 501 has partnered with Talamore Senior Living on collecting toys for the Marine Corps sponsored Toys for Tots. This year we will be starting collections on 12 Nov to increase the number of toys collected from last year. In addition to Talamore we are glad to have the Valley Creek Mall as another collection point this year. I will ask to the Chamber to get assistance from the Woodbury businesses.

At our Nov Post meeting members are encouraged to bring a toy. Let's show a lot of Christmas spirit this year.



VOLUNTEER HOURS

One of the measures that 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.

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Woodbury Newcomer Event

Post 501 participated in the City of Woodbury's Newcomer event at M Health Fairview Sports Center on 23 October. As part of the city's goal to foster a welcoming community, they have created this event for the city to welcome new residents into our community, share information about the services and resources available from the city, and allow them the chance to learn about what the non-profit organizations in the area have to offer as well. We meet a lot of new community members and made new connections with other Woodbury non-profits. It was great fun.



ELECTION DAY (4 NOVEMBER 2025)

The American Legion encourages all Legionnaires to vote in all elections. Legionnaires have traditionally responded to the call and are among the groups of individuals most likely to cast their ballots on Election Day. Every election is important, and it gives us a voice in issues that affect their lives.

Let's get out there in force this Election Day.



Wall of Thanks

We will be again doing the Wall of Thanks at the Valley Creek Mall. The event starts the weekend after Thanksgiving, 29/30 Nov, and lasts until the weekend prior to Christmas, 20/21 Dec (Sat/Sun only). The Wall of Thanks is our annual event to raise money for local charities and to honor veterans or members currently serving in the military.

The booth will be located inside the Valley Creek Mall across from Keys Cafe. Visitors will be able to donate money that will benefit local charities. Additionally, they will be able to post the name of a veteran or a family member currently serving in the military, on a placard and affix it to the Wall of Thanks. If you would like to volunteer a few hours let me know as soon as you can.

This is a great outreach to the local community to let them know that what our Post does within Woodbury.



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VFW/AMERICAN LEGION JOINT HONOR GUARD

This position has been vacant for the past few months, and ultimately if no one is willing to step up to lead the Joint Honor Guard then it may be disbanded. Responsibilities include:

- Point Person to Respond to Honor Guard requests for funerals, parades, and colors
- Coordinate with local city partners for events, if needed
- Organize Honor Guard personnel for events
- Maintain and store supplies (uniforms and rifles)
- Training of new members
- Time commitment ~2 hours per month

PLEASE CONSIDER LEADING THE JOINT HONOR GUARD so that we can continue to provide honors to our fellow servicemembers and at events. You can respond to this email or email Commander Lindahl or Commander Dolan

Upcoming Events

- **10 Nov - Veteran's Day Service:** Saint Therese Senior Care will be having a special service (30 minutes) to honor our veterans and their families. The service will start at 12PM. All Post members are invited to attend.
- **11 Nov – Veteran Day Events:**
 1. **Woodbury High School Veterans Day Ceremony:** The program will start at 9:30 AM. People are encouraged to arrive around 9 AM for coffee and refreshments.
 2. **City of Woodbury:** The ceremony will be at the Woodbury Veterans Memorial at 11:00 AM. in case of rain it will be held in City Hall.
 3. **Talamore Senior Living:** Talamore Senior living of Woodbury will be celebrating Veterans Day with a 1:30 PM chili cook off, followed by cake and a ceremony for their veterans at 2:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.
- **20 November – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Posts November meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 PM.
- **18 December – Woodbury Post 501 Monthly Meeting:** The Posts December meeting will be held at the Woodbury City Hall in the Ash North (main floor) conference room at 6:30 PM. Come join us for some Christmas cheer after the meeting.

This Month in History – Veterans Day: 11 November 2025

Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with holidays in several countries, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which also occur on the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

Veterans Day is distinct from Memorial Day, a U.S. public holiday in May. Veterans Day commemorates the service of all U.S. veterans, while the older Memorial Day, which grew out of Civil War commemorations, specifically honors those who have died while in military service.

We celebrate and honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.



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.