



We Belong To

# Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416

What's Your Superpower?




## 2024 Membership Drive Is Underway

Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant

As is customary this time of year, it is time to kickstart our 2024 membership drive. This year, we have added focus on our member efforts as it is one of the Post's annual goals: to add three new TAL members (bringing our total to 51) and to create a new SAL squadron of 10 new charter members. We have also begun a new membership marketing campaign entitled, "We Belong to Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416 – What's Your Superpower?"

With that aim, we have created materials that equally promote all three parts of The American Legion family at Post 416: The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and a soon-to-be chartered Sons of the American Legion squadron. Flyers will be readily available at all future Post events, as well as for members to take and share in our community. We will also be introducing new labels to be attached on the jar lids of our famous fried peanuts to promote membership at Post 416. All members are encouraged to take as many flyers as you wish, so we can achieve our goals together.


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LOWE'S GROVE AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 416




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SUPERPOWER?**

If you're ready to enhance the well-being of our community, help families, and support our military, we need you!

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY AT LOWE'S GROVE INVITES  
ALL GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, CHILDREN, SPOUSES, AND  
DIRECT OR ADOPTED DESCENDANTS OF VETERANS  
TO JOIN OUR RANKS.



Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416  
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Durham, NC 27713  
<https://al416nc.wixsite.com/al416nc/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/ALPost416NC/>  
AL416NC@gmail.com



- Continued on page 3, Membership Drive



**Tuesday, August 8** – TAL & ALA meeting (dinner @ 6pm, meetings @ 7pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue  
**Tuesday, August 22** – TAL Membership meeting (no dinner, meeting @ 7pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue  
**Tuesday, Sept 12** – ALA Membership meeting (no lunch, meeting @ 1:30pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue  
**Tuesday, Sept 12** – BBQ Chicken Dinner planning meeting (no dinner, meeting @ 7pm)  
**Sunday, Sept 24** – Fall BBQ Chicken Dinner, carryout or dine-in (noon-2pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**TAL** – The American Legion    **ALA** – American Legion Auxiliary    **SAL** – Sons of The American Legion

## Fall Post Cleanup Scheduled for Saturday, October 14

Plans are underway for our fall post cleanup, scheduled for Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am-noon. Tasks such as indoor cleaning, weed control, and roadside trash pickup will be accomplished, as well as any other chores that present themselves before the event. Light breakfast items will be provided. Please block your calendar now, as many hands make light work!



# AMERICAN LEGION

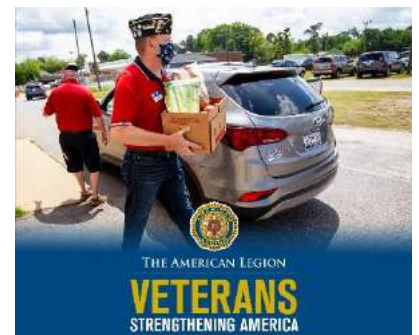
## BE THE ONE

### Welfare Check Volunteers Wanted

Did you know that for those who served in Desert Storm or the Global War on Terror, 86% knew someone who was injured or killed? Furthermore, 75% reported a team member becoming a casualty, and 65% saw dead or seriously injured Americans during their service. It's not surprising to veterans, as we know firsthand the high personal cost of serving in the U.S. armed forces. For this reason, one of our Post goals this year is to focus more on providing support for our comrades in arms, whether they are current post members or veterans in our community.

Leo Scrivner is spearheading a Post initiative to reach 5 veterans a month with a welfare check. He has a script already drafted, so the action steps are pre-planned

and easy to follow. If helping other veterans is a passion of yours, he is in need of a few volunteers to make a few phone calls monthly to talk with veterans in our community. If this interests you, please contact Leo at [leo.scrivner@gmail.com](mailto:leo.scrivner@gmail.com).



**AMERICAN LEGION**  
LOWE'S GROVE, NC POST 416

The Sentry is a free, monthly publication of Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 146, NC.

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*-Membership Drive (continued from page 1)*

The Post's renewal goal for the 2024 membership drive is a total of 51 members by May 1, 2024. There are also a couple of landmark dates as set by the North Carolina Department, the first being the 'Cardinal Award' for 50% of the total goal reached by September 1, 2023, and a second being the 'Dogwood Award' for 75% of the total goal reached by December 31, 2023. We'll be updating everyone monthly with the handy thermometer graphic to the upper left as we progress through the membership drive.

We are very fortunate to have 8 "paid-up-for-life" members (PUFL) at Post 416. In addition, we have 14 members who have already responded to a mailing from the national office asking for renewals. Thank you to the following 22 members who have already contributed to the 2024 membership drive:

Willie Alford  
Kellen Arney-Johnson  
John Barricelli (PUFL)  
Austine Brooks  
Johnny Clinton (PUFL)  
Deanna Dooris (PUFL)  
Bryant Farrell  
Forest Gale  
Bill Granger  
Bobby Haggy (PUFL)  
David Hartmetz

Walter Henderson (PUFL)  
Larry High  
James Lowe (PUFL)  
E.V. McBroom (PUFL)  
Mike Mitchell  
Alfred O'Briant  
Joe Oleniacz  
Missy Owen (NEW)  
Al Rowland  
Leo Scrivner (PUFL)  
Arley Webb

To the lower right of this page is our thermometer graphic for the Post's goal to standup a new Sons of the American Legion squadron in 2024. To charter a new squadron, the Department of North Carolina requires 10 eligible members (all male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons of veterans) as a minimum. Annual dues are set at \$25 annually, and enrollment can be done easily on the Post website at <https://al416nc.wixsite.com/al416nc>.

For TAL members who renew annually, \$35 payment is due. You can renew the following easy and convenient ways:

- Pay via check or cash in person at any membership meeting
- Mail in a check to: American Legion Post 416,  
P.O. Box 12202, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.
- Pay via credit card at <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Home> using your MyLegion login information
- Pay via credit card at <https://al416nc.wixsite.com/al416nc>



### Presumed Dead in 2021, This Recruiter is Alive and Well

- Written by [The American Legion](#)

Walter Geraghty Jr. of San Antonio, Texas, has done a lot of American Legion recruiting over the decades. He has worn many caps in the organization, from the post to national level, which is good. He needs them to display all the pins and other awards he has received for signing up hundreds of members a year.

He serves on the national Membership & Post Activities Committee and is generally considered a titan of new-Legionnaire acquisition, a perennial Gold Brigade award (50 new members or more in a given membership year) winner who estimates he has signed up nearly 5,000 Legionnaires singlehandedly in his life.

One post he revitalized went from 12 members to 1,006 in less than 10 years. “The most I ever signed up in one day was 17, which was a good day ... It’s very easy to sign up people, if you’re positive.”

No sales effort, however, compares to his performance following a Sept. 19, 2021, cardiac event that put him in the hospital and left him unconscious for 52 continuous hours.



*Texas American Legion “Master Recruiter” Walter Geraghty Jr. of San Antonio, Texas, estimates he has signed up nearly 5,000 new members. Photo by Holly K. Soria.*

Geraghty Jr. had eaten a steak, baked potato and salad for dinner at a restaurant that night.

“After eating, I fell out of the booth and landed on the floor, and I died for 26 minutes,” he explains. “They revived me, put me in the ambulance, and I died a second time for between four and six minutes ... My cardiologist, she said, the odds of living were about 2-6%. So, I am a walking miracle. I am either a ghost or an angel.”

He was unconscious from Sunday to Tuesday that week. And when he came to, Geraghty Jr. did what he usually does. He signed up three new members, including one of his nurses, before he was discharged.

In the nearly two years since the incident, Geraghty’s recruitment numbers have slowed down from his usual pace of more than 100 per year – he has lost some of his balance and now uses a walker to get around – but his passion for membership remains unchanged. He recently staffed a membership booth at a restaurant where he quickly sold two veterans on the organization, and his booth mates observed, “Well, you haven’t lost the touch.”

Geraghty, a Vietnam War draftee, has been involved with The American Legion since boyhood in the mid-1950s when he was on a championship American Legion junior drum and bugle corps in Florida. After serving in the Air Force in the early 1970s, he was elected commander of two different posts a total of 15 times; he was also a district and division vice commander in Texas.

LOWE'S GROVE, NC POST 416

 AMERICAN  
LEGION

# BBQ Chicken Dinner

\$12/meal

(Cash, check, or credit card)

Dine-In or Carryout from Noon-2pm

**Advance Ticket Purchase Required  
Before September 15**

**SEPT  
24**



5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham, NC 27713  
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LOWE'S GROVE, NC POST 416

# POST CLEAN-UP DAY



INDOOR  
CLEANING



WEED  
CONTROL



TRASH  
PICKUP



Saturday, October 14  
9am - Noon