



## Helping Out: How American Volunteerism is Changing

Written by [Glenn Gamboa](#)

For decades, volunteerism in America has been declining. But according to a recent U.S. Census Bureau and AmeriCorps survey, it dropped another 7 percentage points between 2019 and 2021. The survey found about 23% of Americans volunteered with a formal nonprofit – including churches, schools, and food banks – at least once in the previous year. There is a disconnect between organizations and their volunteer pools. And it's not only getting in the way. It's becoming systemic.



### *A Long Tradition*

Since Benjamin Franklin organized the emerging nation's first unpaid fire company in Philadelphia in 1736, volunteering has been as definitively American as Girl Scout cookies, blood donation and school bake sales.

But Americans' fraying connection to organized volunteering is a long way from the days when French aristocrat and political scientist Alexis de Tocqueville marveled at how many "Americans make great and real sacrifices to the public welfare" in his 1840 book "Democracy in America." "They hardly ever failed to lend faithful support to each other," he wrote in his renowned 1840 book "Democracy in America." "Men attend to the interests of the public, first by necessity, afterwards by choice."

- (continued on page 5)



**Saturday, Nov 4** – Veterans Benefits Fair, 9am-3pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**Saturday, Nov 11** – Morrisville Veterans Memorial 5K walk, 8:30am registration, 9:30am start, 101 Town Hall Drive, Morrisville

**Tuesday, Nov 14** – ALA Membership meeting, 1:30pm start, 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**Tuesday, Nov 14** – TAL Membership meeting (no dinner, meeting @ 7pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**Tuesday, Nov 28** – TAL Membership meeting (no dinner, meeting @ 7pm), 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**Tuesday, Dec 12** – Post 416 Holiday Dinner, 6pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue

**Tuesday, Dec 12** – TAL and ALA Membership meetings, 7pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue

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



## Fall Post Cleanup Report

Even though it was a wet, soggy day on Saturday, October 14, the fall post cleanup was a very productive morning. We were able to remove all ground cover in the front planting bed and replace it with pine bark nuggets, which many individuals have remarked looks much better.

Volunteers from Cub Scout Pack 495, Cary Academy, and the Immanuel Church of God were instrumental to helping us accomplish our goals for the day, and they were wonderful! Thank you!



## Cub Scouts Active in October

The scouts had their first fall camp at Falls Lake at the start of the month. The scouts also learned proper ways to retire the flag and properly raise one. We also had emergency training for the scouts at Durham Fire Station #18. The topics included first aid training and fire and emergency planning.





**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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## 2024 Membership Drive Update

- Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant



As a reminder, the Post's goal for the 2024 membership drive is a total of 51 TAL members by May 1, 2024. We now have **46** members "on the books" for 2024. There's still room for improvement as there are 7 TAL members who have yet to renew. If all 7 of those existing members renew today, we will have exceeded our 2024 membership goals! We'll be updating everyone monthly with the handy thermometer graphic to the upper left as we progress through the membership drive.

Thank you to the following members who joined or renewed during October:

TAL – Richard Chilausky (NEW)  
 TAL – Spencer DeWaele (NEW)  
 TAL – Ron Eurquhart  
 TAL – Gene Harvey  
 SAL – Leo Scrivner (NEW)  
 TAL – Jack Swanson

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. October saw our SAL membership grow to 4 members. Annual dues are set at \$25 annually, and enrollment can be done easily on the Post website at <https://al416nc.wixsite.com/al416nc>.

For the remaining 7 Post 416 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>





## Post 416 Sponsors Veterans 5K Walk

- Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant

Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416 will once again serve as a sponsor of the Morrisville Veterans Memorial Foundation 5K Walk, scheduled on Veterans Day 2023 (November 11). This will be the second consecutive year Post 416 has sponsored the event, as we continue our partnership providing financial services as a pass-through agent with our credit card capability to benefit the creation of a future Morrisville Veterans Memorial.

This year's event starts at 8:30am with event registration, a special Veterans Day commemoration at 9am featuring Congresswoman Deborah Ross, and the walk begins around 9:30am. All those who register will receive a gratis t-shirt for the walk. Registration can be done online at <https://brushfire.com/morrisvilleveterans/morrisvilleveteransmemorialfoudnation5K/562521>. Each walker registration is \$25, and is a fantastic way to stay healthy and pay tribute to all veterans on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

For anyone interested, you can learn more about the plans for a future Morrisville Veterans Memorial on the internet at <https://www.morrisvilleveteransmemorial.com/>



## Post 416 Updates Pack 495 Trailer

If you haven't noticed already, the lettering on both sides of the Cub Scout Pack 495 trailer has been updated to reflect our sponsorship of the organization. Thanks to Bill Granger for volunteering his time and donation of the lettering to update the trailer!



## 'The Sentry' Wins State-Level Award



Post 416's monthly newsletter, 'The Sentry' was recently awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the 2022 Best Newsletter from the Department of North Carolina American Legion. District 12 Commander Lewis Atwater presented the award to the newsletter's editor, Bill Granger.

**Volunteerism** (continued from page 1)

That spirit has certainly continued, boosted occasionally by calls to action like President John F. Kennedy's inaugural speech urging, "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Though American volunteerism has generally declined since the 1950s, there have been bursts of growth to cope with the AIDS crisis and in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

As recently as 2018, Americans donated more of their time than any other nation in the world, even more than in far larger countries like China and India. When measured on a per capita basis, though, residents of Luxembourg and Canada were volunteering more than Americans.

*Finding New Paths*

Americans are on the move more than ever before, and that ripples out into volunteering as well. If people don't live in one place for very long, they tend not to volunteer as much — especially if they are surrounded by other newcomers, says Mark Snyder, director of the Center for the Study of the Individual and Society at the University of Minnesota.

"The residential stability of your ZIP Code is a really good predictor of how much volunteering goes on in your neighborhood," Snyder says. "Generations find their voices in different ways. So the kinds of volunteer engagement that worked for an older, more suburban generation may not work as well now."

*Volunteering for Tomorrow*

This much seems clear: When it comes to volunteering, organizations simply can't ignore the generational shifts taking place in a 21st-century world where many institutions have been upended.

American nonprofits will face big consequences if they don't take immediate steps to attract younger volunteers, says Carl Nassib, an NFL linebacker and volunteerism advocate. "This decline is horrible," says Nassib, who last year launched Rayze, an app to connect volunteers with more nonprofits.

"It should be fun," he says. "You should be able to do it with your friends. It should be easy. Then, that's where you're gonna get recurring volunteers. And that's how we're going to reverse that trend — when there's reasons to come out other than just giving back."

Nassib recognizes that nonprofits face issues beyond their control that impede volunteering. But, he says, "I do feel that some of the most well-known nonprofits in the country have kind of been asleep in the wheel," he says. "They have very little brand recognition among younger generations. They have never really met them where they are."

"They're still doing mail-outs," added Nassib, laughing. "They're still sending hard mail to millennials and Gen Z." Nassib is optimistic, though. He believes the disconnect can be fixed — and that American volunteerism can echo through the rising generation and find new ways of expression. "I've been a delusional optimist my entire life," he says. "If you ever ask me if anything was possible, I'm always gonna say, 'Yeah.'"

## Linda Fogleman Transfers to Post Everlasting



Linda Fogleman, Chaplain of Post 416 American Legion Auxiliary, transferred to post everlasting on Saturday, October 21, 2023.

She grew up in the Lowe's Grove community and attended Lowe's

Grove Schools. She graduated from Southern High School in 1962, where she was a Majorette. Linda graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne College with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1966.

Linda has been an active member of Berea Baptist Church since 1981 and an active member of the American Legion Post 416 Auxiliary since 1963, where she served as Chaplain for the Post for many years. Linda volunteered in Dr. Ugo Goetzl's Neurology office in Durham for several years with MS patients and volunteered in her childrens' schools through PTAs and Sports Booster Clubs

Linda's tenacity in life gave witness to all who knew her. Her faith never wavered, and her spirit was one of spunk and sass. If you were in her presence, you would be granted her opinion, whether you asked or not. She was also an avid Duke fan, however, that loyalty was skewed whenever one of her children or grandchildren were playing on a sports team.

Linda was preceded in death by her husband of thirty-seven years, Rev. Jay A. Fogleman, her brother, Rowland F. Williams, Jr. and her son, William N. Small.

**HUBZONE TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE**

## VETERANS DAY LAPTOP DRIVE

**NOVEMBER 4-11**

<p><b>HUBZone Technology Initiative</b>  Mon-Wed, Fri: 11 AM - 3 PM  Thurs: 10:30 AM - 4 PM  208 N. Garnett St., Suite F  Henderson, NC 27536</p>	<p><b>Jubilee Home</b>  Mon-Thurs: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM  Tues-Wed: 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  404 E. Umstead St.  Durham, NC 27707</p>
<p><b>ATAP4AUTISM</b>  Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 5 PM  120 E. Belle St.  Henderson, NC 27536</p>	<p><b>Boys &amp; Girls Club Wake Co.</b>  Mon-Fri: 2:30PM - 8:00 PM  721 N Raleigh Blvd.  Raleigh, NC 27610</p>
<p><b>Veterans Life Center</b>  Mon-Sun: 24 hours  1005 9th St.  Butner, NC 27509</p>	<p><b>Passage Home</b>  Mon-Thurs: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM  Fri: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  513 Branch St.  Raleigh, NC 27601</p>
<p><b>Step Up Durham</b>  Mon-Fri: 10 AM - 4 PM  112 Broadway St., Suite B  Durham, NC 27701</p>	<p><b>Green Day - November 4, 2023</b>  Saturday Only: 8:00 AM - Noon  5800 Cricket Pitch Way  Morrisville, NC 27560</p>

**HTI GETS LAPTOPS TO VETERANS IN NEED!**

**WE BELONG TO  
LOWE'S GROVE AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 416**

## WHAT'S YOUR 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.**

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A joint initiative between



**DURHAM COUNTY**  
Veteran Services

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

# Veterans Benefits Fair

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**  
**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

## Get Assistance With:

- Applying for VA compensation, pension, disability benefits and services
- Applying for healthcare enrollment at VA-Durham
- Seeking NC property tax relief
- Registering your DD-214 with Durham County Veterans Services
- Applying for vehicle tags for disabled veterans
- Applying for NC veterans vehicle tags
- Obtaining NC hunting and fishing licenses

## Featuring Onsite:

- VA-Durham Healthcare System
- VA-Raleigh Mobile Vet Center
- Durham County Veterans Services
- Durham County Register of Deeds

## Location:

Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416  
5419 South Alston Avenue  
Durham, NC 27713

**Advance registration  
requested but not required.**  
**Contact (919) 560-8387**





2ND ANNUAL  
MORRISVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

# 5K WALK

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

INDIAN CREEK TRAILHEAD

101 TOWN HALL DRIVE, MORRISVILLE NC 27560



\$25/WALKER, EVENT T-SHIRT INCLUDED

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CREATION OF A MORRISVILLE VETERANS MEMORIAL

8:30 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS

9 A.M. COMMEMORATION CEREMONY, REMARKS BY CONGRESSWOMAN ROSS

9:30 A.M. WALK (RAIN OR SHINE)



[HTTPS://BRUSHFIRE.COM/MORRISVILLEVETERANS/MORRISVILLEVETERANSMEMORIALFOUDNATION5K/562521](https://brushfire.com/morrisvilleveterans/morrisvilleveteransmemorialfoundnation5k/562521)