

THE SENTRY

Issue #23, January 2022



Post 416 and 2021: A Year in Review

-Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant

There are many traditions I find fascinating related to the new year. Customs that are common worldwide include watching fireworks and singing songs to welcome the new year, including the ever-popular "Auld Lang Syne" in many English-speaking countries. The practice of making resolutions for the new year is thought to have first caught on among the ancient Babylonians, who made promises in order to earn the favor of the gods and start the year off on the right foot. One practice I find highly useful is to take a look back at the previous year's highlights, remembering and reflecting upon the past to make the upcoming year full of hope and promise.

January 2021

- New shed purchased
- "Sandy" Sanders passes Jan 8th

February 2021

- Lease signed with Best Strength LLC for warehouse space
- New toilet and sink installed in warehouse
- MOU signed with South Durham Baseball Club for construction of batting cages
- All door locks re-cored

March 2021

- BBQ chicken fundraiser held for AL baseball team

- New water heater installed
- Batting cages installed
- New shed installed
- 2020-21 membership drive completes at 112%
- Best Strength begins holding classes

April 2021

- South Durham Little League baseball team sponsored

May 2021

- BBQ chicken dinner held on 15th
- Memorial Day flags planted at Lowe's Grove Cemetery

June 2021

- South Durham Little League games held
- Inaugural season of American Legion baseball at Post 416 held (3-6 final record)
- "Sandy" Sanders memorial held on 12th at post

July 2021

- Newly elected post officers installed
- The return of quarterly dinner at a monthly meeting since the initial outbreak of COVID
- Post 416 awarded 3rd place in best newsletter in NC
- Post awarded 2021 Cardinal Award (50% membership renewal rate before Dept 10)
- Peanut prices increased to \$6/jar, or \$70/case of 12

August 2021

- Minor roof repairs made and sewer line jetted
- Post wins 50 free azaleas
- Parking lot resealed and striped

- New American Legion sign replaced on exterior of building

September 2021

- New azaleas planted around main building

October 2021

- New mulch for planting beds

November 2021

- BBQ chicken dinner held on 6th
- Membership recruitment event held @ Golden Corral
- Veterans Day flags planted at Lowe's Grove Cemetery
- Wireless amplification system installed
- Post 416 represented at Morrisville Veterans Day Ceremony

December 2021

- 2022 budget approved
- Post awarded National Commander Certificate of Appreciation for 100% membership in 2021 cycle
- Post awarded Cardinal Award for 2022 membership cycle
- Shed electrified
- MOU signed with Cub Scout Pack 495 for sponsorship of unit

What stands out to me from this list is there are not only a continuation of long-standing traditions, but also many new activities which move our post forward in our community. There is a lot to be proud of, and I hope 2022 continues this amazing journey Post 416 is on right now. For God and Country!

Annual Membership Renewal Falls Behind

- Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant

7

Members to Final Goal

As of publication time, our post is currently second in our district and eighth in the state (for posts similarly sized) at 87% renewed. Our post has fallen just short by 3% of our December 31, 2021 goal of 90%. For the 9 Legionnaires who renew their membership yearly and have yet to do so, it's not too late to help us reach our end-of-membership drive goal of 103% by March 1, 2022. Annual dues are only \$30, making renewal more affordable than ever! You can renew via three different and convenient methods:

- Pay in person at the monthly membership meeting,
- Mail a check to the post's post office box address, or
- Renew online at [Legion.org](https://www.legion.org)

The good news is the 9 members who have yet to renew can push us over the top of our 2022 annual goal. Help us achieve our goals by completing your membership renewal today: be a part of the legacy – share the vision at Post 416!

You served your country.



As a veteran, your life of service has just begun.

Help your community, your country and fellow veterans – all while having a good time making differences with people who get you.

Be part of the legacy.

Share the vision.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

www.legion.org



Tuesday, January 11th – Monthly Activities (no dinner, business meeting at 7:00pm)
 Tuesday, February 8th – Monthly Activities (no dinner, business meeting at 7:00pm)
 Saturday, February 12th – Post 416 hosts District 12 Meeting. Program starts at 11am
 Tuesday, March 8th – Monthly Activities (dinner at 6pm, business meeting at 6:45pm)

8 Veteran-Owned Business to Support in Durham

- Written by DiscoverDurham.com

During their time in the United States armed forces, many military service members gain a variety of skills that are essential to entrepreneurship. One way that we can show our appreciation to veterans for their service is to support them when they re-enter civilian life and launch businesses.

From restaurants and breweries to an interactive space consisting of more than 13 creative backgrounds to take professional-looking photos, Durham's veteran-owned companies provide great products and services to the community. Check out this list of veteran-owned businesses in Durham that you can support.

ACCORDION CLUB 316 W. Geer St.



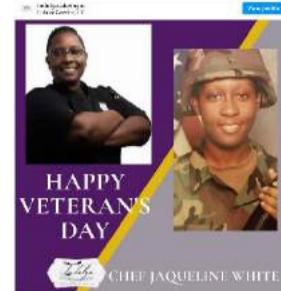
Head to the Accordion Club for a low-key and relaxed hangout with affordable prices, hot dogs, and New Mexican cuisine. Scott Richie, the veteran bartender who opened Accordion Club on Geer Street a few years ago, has worked in and out of the Durham bar scene for the better part of the last two decades.

FLYING BULL BEER CO. 752 Ninth St.

Established in 2020, The Flying Bull Beer Co. is a veteran-owned community brewery on historic Ninth Street. Owner Joel Miles served in the Air Force for about four years and wanted to create a space where everyone was welcome. They feature perfected brews as well as hard-to-find guest beers and ciders, showcasing the best North Carolina has to offer.



INDULGE CATERING, LLC 2223 NC-54



Indulge Catering, LLC Sous Chef Jay served in the U.S. Army for four years. Together with her wife, Chef Queen-Precious Jewel, they are on a mission to create healthy food that actually tastes good. You can indulge at home with an Indulge platter, an Indulge dessert, or a meal for four. They also offer full-service event catering, personal chef experiences, corporate catering, and wedding catering services in Durham. Go ahead and indulge!

LULA & SADIE'S 30 Foster St., Suite 1

Located in the Durham Food Hall, Lula & Sadie's is a seasonal, Southern eatery that highlights the cultural roots and bounty of produce in the region. Chef Harry S. Monds, the executive chef at Lula & Sadie's, served in the Air Force stationed at Cannon AFB in Clovis, New Mexico for four years. From scalloped potatoes and hot cakes, to tomato salad, chicken potpie and eggnog-pecan French toast, Chef Monds knows how to cook up some good flavors.



SALTBOX SEAFOOD JOINT 2637 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd.



With decades of fine dining restaurant and hospitality experience, Chef Ricky Moore believes that ordinary, simple food can be extraordinary when executed at the highest level. His military experience, in conjunction with his upbringing, taught him to be disciplined, stay the course, and strive for excellence. Visit his restaurant for seasonal seafood and freshly cooked fish!

SELFIE SYMPOSIUM 6905 Fayetteville Road, Suite 203

Lester Canidy, the co-owner of the newly opened Selfie Symposium, served in the U.S. Army for 20 years. The Selfie Symposium is an interactive selfie museum that provides creative photo opportunities and fun. (Do it for the gram!) They also have an event space for private rentals, memberships for content creators and photographers, and they host fun events.



THE 360° APPROACH 404 Hunt St.



Chan Little is an eight-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. After serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, Chan elected to separate from the USAF to pursue her passion for a career in wellness. In 2013, Chan opened The 360° Approach, a boutique wellness studio offering personal training, fitness classes, health coaching, nutrition counseling, mindfulness practices and weight loss support.

TOBACCO WOOD BREWING CO. 2500 Meridian Parkway

Mara Shelton joined the National Guard in 2001. Today, she is the president of Tobacco Wood Brewing Co. (TWBC), North Carolina's first female- and veteran-owned brewery. In addition to running fundraisers for the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, TWBC also partners with Operation Fly Our Flag, a North Carolina-based organization with a mission "to honor those who serve(d) our country and communities."



Post 416 Sponsors Cub Scout Pack 495

At the December 2021 membership meeting, Post 416 entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cub Scout Pack 495, which will begin meeting at our facility beginning January 2022. We are very excited to take on this new endeavor and increase our impact in our own community!



From Left to Right: Financial Officer James Snyder, Scoutmaster for Pack 495 Vic Weigman, Commander James Lowe, and Family Scouting Executive for the Occoneechee Council Robin Covert.

Calendar Reminders

January 1: New Year's Day

January 9: Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

January 17: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 20: National Cheese Lovers Day

January 27: Vietnam Cease Fire (1973)

January 28: National Fun at Work Day

January 29: National Puzzle Day



The Sentry is a free, monthly newsletter of the Lowe's Grove American Legion Post 416, NC.

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Available Benefits Grow at Post 416 to Include Free Notary Services

Did you know that in addition to the many discounts available to you, the facility is available for member use at no cost? Just schedule through the Adjutant. Also, a brand new benefit is now available – free notary services! Just contact Bill Granger directly in advance of your need so he can come with the needed supplies.