



## Post 416 and 2022: A Year in Review

-Written by Bill Granger, Post 416 Adjutant

There are many traditions I find fascinating related to the new year. Customs 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 looking back at the previous year's highlights, remembering and reflecting upon the past to make the upcoming year full of hope and promise.

### February 2022

- Post 416 hosts District 12 meeting

### March 2022

- Start of regular social gatherings held at Tobacco Wood Brewing Company
- Post 416 now accepts credit card payments
- "The Sentry" wins 2<sup>nd</sup> place for best post newsletter in North Carolina
- NC Senators Mike Woodard and Natalie Murdock speak at Post 416
- Post 416 website is made "mobile-friendly" and wins 3<sup>rd</sup> place for best post website in NC
- Veterans Experience Action Center held in Cary, NC

### April 2022

- Tobacco Wood Brewing Company runs False Motivation IPA promotional, results in \$800 donation
- Cornhole Tournament benefit sponsored by PlayNC held
- Mille Grizzard transfers to post everlasting

### May 2022

- BBQ chicken dinner held, netted ~\$800 total profit. NC Commander Jim Quinlan attends.
- Post 416 founding documents framed and displayed in small meeting room
- Memory wall created in hallway
- Thurman Scott transfers to post everlasting
- Old Mill Farm Durham sponsors Memorial Day event, results in \$600 donation
- A heavy rainstorm caused serious damage to the interior of the main building. All post activities requiring use of the main facility were cancelled until November 2022. After mold remediation and reconstruction were completed, the total cost came in at \$140,000.

### June 2022

- Outdoor LED lighting repairs/upgrades made
- Anne Bennett transfers to post everlasting

### July 2022

- Eugene Harvey recognized by SECDEF for Atomic Veterans Service
- Second season of Post 416 American Legion Baseball concludes with a 4-4 record

- New officers installed

### August 2022

- Eagle Scout project completed
- Security cameras and upgraded wi-fi service installed

### September 2022

- Promotional tent setup at Vets-to-Vets 5K9 Dog Jog event

### October 2022

- Durham County Soil & Water guest speaker

### November 2022

- First post cleanup (and move-in) day held
- Peanut prices increase to \$7/jar, \$80/case
- Post Commander Johnny Clinton is guest speaker at Morrisville's Veterans Day Ceremony
- Post 416 sponsors Morrisville Veterans Memorial Foundation 5K walk
- TV ads promoting Post 416 broadcast over local Spectrum cable outlets

### December 2022

- Post membership for Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons can be processed through post website
- New sign installed on front of main building

What stands out to me is there are not only continued 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 2023 continues this amazing journey. For God and Country!



**Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Social hang @ Tobacco Wood Brewing Company (6-8pm), 2500 Meridian Parkway, Durham.  
**Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>** – Membership meeting (no dinner) @ 7pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham. **Flag retirement ceremony at 6:15pm.**  
**Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>** – Social hang @ Tobacco Wood Brewing Company (6-8pm), 2500 Meridian Parkway, Durham.  
**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** – Membership meeting (no dinner) @ 7pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham.  
**Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** – Sponsored District 12 Meeting held @ 11am-1pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham.  
**Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** – Social hang @ Tobacco Wood Brewing Company (6-8pm), 2500 Meridian Parkway, Durham.  
**Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** – Membership meeting (no dinner) @ 7pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham.  
**Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** – Social hang @ Tobacco Wood Brewing Company (6-8pm), 2500 Meridian Parkway, Durham.  
**Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** – Membership meeting (no dinner) @ 7pm, 5419 S. Alston Avenue, Durham.



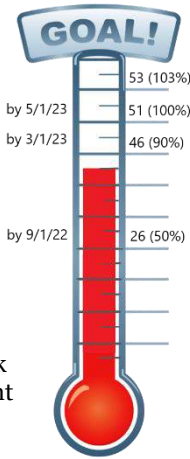
# Membership Progress Slows in December

- By Bill Granger, Membership Cmte Chair

Since last month’s update, we have improved from 41 to 42 members. Thanks to the following member who joined us during December for another year:

**Bryant Farrell**

This moves us to 82.4% of our 2023 goal – short of our annual goal of 53. We have slipped to 5th in our district and 12<sup>th</sup> in the state for posts similarly sized. Much work remains to be done, and membership renewal in The American Legion has never been more convenient. You can mail a check to the Post’s P.O. Box, pay at a regular meeting, or go online through your [www.mylegion.org](http://www.mylegion.org) account or on our own Post 416 website at <https://al416nc.wixsite.com/al416nc>. Don’t delay – renew today!



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

**Commander, Johnny Clinton**  
**Adjutant/Communication Cmte Chair/**  
**The Sentry Editor, Bill Granger**

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## Drew VanDine Awarded Eagle Scout



Drew VanDine (center) celebrates with parents Ken (left) and Laurie (right) after his Eagle Scout board review.

Drew VanDine, the young gentleman who constructed the deck and benches in the batting cage area this past summer as part of his requirements for Eagle Scout, was awarded the honor in December.

According to Wikipedia, Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Scouts program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned this rank after a lengthy review process. The Eagle Scout rank has been earned by over 2.5 million youth.

Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges. The Eagle Scout must demonstrate Scout Spirit, an ideal attitude based upon the Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Eagle Scouts are presented with a medal and a badge that visibly recognizes the accomplishments of the Scout. Additional recognition can be earned through Eagle Palms, awarded for completing additional tenure, leadership, and merit badge requirements. Congratulations, Drew!

## Calendar Reminders

- Jan 1:** New Year’s Day
- Jan 9:** Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Jan 16:** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan 27:** Vietnam cease fire (1973)



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## Don’t Forget About These Benefits... Just for Post 416 Members!

Everyone should already know about the many discounts and free memberships available through [The American Legion](http://The American Legion), but did you know there are some exclusive benefits for belonging to Lowe’s Grove, NC American Legion Post 416 you can’t get elsewhere?

1. All Post 416 members can reserve the facility for private events for FREE, pending availability (first come, first served). Just contact the Adjutant at [AL416NC@gmail.com](mailto:AL416NC@gmail.com) with the necessary details to block it in the post calendar.
2. All Post 416 members can have a bagpiper perform at a funeral/memorial service of an immediate family member for FREE, pending the piper’s schedule availability. Again, please contact the Adjutant at [AL416NC@gmail.com](mailto:AL416NC@gmail.com) with the necessary details.
3. Any Post 416 member can use the FREE notary public services provided by the Adjutant. Contact him at [AL416NC@gmail.com](mailto:AL416NC@gmail.com) with a proposed meet time *in advance* so he can bring the required tools of the trade.

If there are any other members who are entrepreneurial and wish to offer exclusive memberships or discounts to fellow Post 416 members, please contact the Adjutant to add your offerings to this list!

Lowe's Grove, NC Post 416

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LOWE'S GROVE AMERICAN LEGION POST 416 PRESENTS:

SOCIAL  
GATHERINGS

★ ★ ★

A FREE EVENT FOR ALL TO EAT, DRINK, TALK AND LAUGH WITH VETERANS  
WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

TUESDAYS FROM 6-8PM

JANUARY 3 AND 17  
FEBRUARY 7 AND 21  
MARCH 7 AND 21

TOBACCO WOOD BREWING COMPANY  
2500 MERIDIAN PARKWAY  
DURHAM, NC 27713