GETS THE WORM! PG. 5

District 11, Division 3, Dept. of North Carolina | 6400 Johnson Pond Rd., Fuguay-Varina, NC, 27526 | 919-552-0278 | fval@alpost116nc.org

A POST 116 NEWSLETTER

February, 2024

COMMANDER'S







BLACK MILITARY HISTORY

As we begin on the month of February, I wanted to take a moment to remind and encourage each one of you to honor the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans in the military, as we observe Black History Month.

Throughout the history of our great nation, Black servicemen and women have played an integral role in safeguarding our freedoms. Their bravery, dedication,

and unwavering commitment continue to inspire us all. As members of the American Legion, it is our duty to ensure that the stories and achievements of these remarkable individuals are celebrated and remembered. Let us foster an environment of inclusivity and appreciation within our ranks, where everyone feels valued, respected, and welcomed.

In the spirit of coming together for a greater purpose, I want to express my gratitude for the selfless dedication each of you has shown by volunteering your time at Post 116. It is through your collective efforts that we are able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our fellow veterans, their families, and our community.



A Tuskegee Airman crew poses in front of a B-25

COMMANDER'SCORNER

Continued

Furthermore, I would like to bring your attention to an important day this month. On February 17th, we will celebrate International Day of Kindness. I invite you all to participate by performing a simple act of kindness. Whether it's opening a door for someone, offering a warm smile and a friendly hello, or returning someone's grocery cart, these small gestures can have a profound impact on someone's day. We never know what others may be going through, and the ripple effects of kindness can truly touch the lives of many.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities to help spread kindness at our Post and support our veterans, please reach out to me via email at Commander@ALPost116NC.org to be added to our "volunteer opportunity notification list." Your involvement and willingness to serve reflect the strength and unity of Post 116, and for that, I sincerely thank each and every one of you.

I look forward to see you all around The Post soon!

Krista Abshure Commander, Post 116



Buffalo Soldiers



Gen. Colin Powell (Left) w/ Gen. Schwarzkopf



2nd Combat Aviation Brigade

!!! ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION !!!

RENEWALUPDATE

National caught flack because members that renewed in a timely manner were not offered [the] **three-year deal.** They have now extended the offer to members that had already renewed for 2024.

So, if you want to renew through 2027, you have that ability right now. In addition to the bonus of not receiving a renewal notice during the time that you have signed up for the multiyear membership, it will be treated in the same manner as a PUFL-- The dues that are due to National and Department effective at the time of payment will remain throughout the renewal period.

So, when National raises their rates for Membership Year 2025, the Post will not have to pay the added fees for those members until Membership Year 2028.

Click Here to learn more.

COMMITTEE/CLUB REPORTS

RIDERS

Chris Stoker chris@thestockers.net

VA Medical Center Ride

January 6, 2024 Fayetteville VA Med. Cntr.



COLD, WET WEATHER DIDN'T KEEP THE RIDERS DOWN THIS MONTH!

A small group of Riders made a trip to the Fayetteville VA Medical Center the first weekend of January to visit with Veterans in the psychiatric ward. The group showed up with hot pizzas for the patients to enjoy while visiting. They were very appreciative to have visitors (and pizza). The Riders were told that one patient hadn't come out of his room in a month. It's amazing what a visitor with pizza can do for someone.

The Riders typically escort the Deuce to deliver bottled water they donate to the USO at the airport. The Deuce was down and the weather was cold, but with the help of Lee Johnson's truck and trailer and the Riders' four-wheel vehicles, they delivered their donation to the USO.



VETERAN SERVICES

Paul Ferris service-officer@alpost116nc.org

HOW TO REACH YOUR SERVICE OFFICER

Service Officer Open Hours held each Saturday are canceled until further notice. On 16 January 2024, Philip Du, Deputy Director of Benefits & Claims, National VA&R Division published a memo to all Department Commanders and Adjutants informing them of the release of the Post Service Officer Case Brief (PSOCB). The PSOCB gathers general information and is forwarded to the County Service Officer for The American Legion, which is a tax-funded position at the County Veteran Services Office, or to The American Legion Department Service Officer, located at the VA Regional Office in Winston-Salem.

The PSOCB states that a Post Service Officer is prohibited from the following:

"preparing, presenting, and prosecuting" a VA benefit claim.

Preparing includes, but is not limited to, consulting with or giving advice to a claimant or potential claimant in contemplation of filing a benefits claim, gathering evidence in support of a benefits claim on behalf of a claimant or potential claimant, or filling out VA forms for their submission to VA.

Veteran Services Offices to Post 116.

State VSO (NC Department of Military and Veteran Affairs – NCDMVA)

Raleigh: 413 N Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC 27603 (HQ only - no Customer services)
Garner: 1027 US-70 #202, Garner, NC 27529 (In PNC building), (984) 232-7060 County VSO

Wake County VSO: 4401 Bland Rd, Raleigh, NC 27609, (919) 212-VETS

Harnett County VSO: 455 McKinney Pkwy, Lillington, NC 27546 (910) 893-7574

Johnston County VSO: 309 E Market St., Smithfield, NC, (919) 989-5067

COMMITTEE/CLUB REPORTS Continued

CERIMONIAL COMMITTEE

Dan Miltenberger dmiltenberger@gmail.com

WE'VE BEEN BUSY.

As we begin a new year, the Honor Guard has just finished a spectacularly busy year! We participated in many community-oriented events such as Christmas parades; presenting the Colors at Town Council meetings; participating in numerous Post oriented ceremonies remembering 9/11, celebrating Memorial Day and Veteran's Day; supporting the Flags for Heroes event and the 9/11 Remembrance in conjunction with the Town of Fuguay Varina and providing color guard teams to local sporting events. Most importantly we had the privilege of rendering military honors to 15 veterans who passed away. It is always an honor o support grieving families as we provide rifles salutes, flag folding and presentation and Taps, providing these solemn ceremonies each of them have earned and so richly deserve through their service to their country. It is without question the most gratifying events we do.

Our next year is shaping up to be just as busy as last, if not more so. We need more volunteers to meet the escalating demand for ceremonial support. You need not have any previous experience and we can guarantee that you will have a great deal of fun and great camaraderie very similar to that which you experienced while in uniform. So please join us!

We meet every third Saturday of the month in Bldg. 2.

We look forward to seeing you and to joining our team!!

MEETING INFO

February 16 Bldg. 2







COMMITTEE/CLUB REPORTS Continued

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Paul Ferris service-officer@alpost116nc.org

EARLY BIRD MONTHLY DRAWING

"What's so special about the Early Bird stamp on my membership card? It doesn't do anything."

A statement that I have heard far too often in the last 18 years that I have been at Post 116. Well, that changes now. As of January 2024, the Membership Committee has started a monthly prize drawing **exclusively** for Early Bird recipients.

"What's an [Early Bird] and how do I get one?"

The American Legion membership year is January 1st through December 31st, so your American Legion membership is valid through 31 December of the year printed on your membership card. In order to obtain maximum renewal by the new year, The American Legion starts the renewal season each July 1st – six months before the expiration. Post 116 has established that September 15th will

be the cutoff for Early Bird renewals. If you renew between July 1st through September 15th, you will get an Early Bird stamp on your membership card.

- Each month on the 25th, +/- 2 days, the Membership Committee will conduct a random drawing of an Early Bird recipient.
- The winner's Member ID Number, located on your Membership Card, will be published in a random spot in the Monthly Newsletter. (Hint: Keep your Membership Card handy to see if you are the winner)
- The winner's name will be announced at the General Meeting.
- The random drawing results will be published after the General meeting to our Facebook group: American Legion Post 116 (Closed Group for Members and Supporters).

On July 1st, at the beginning of the renewal season, the eligibility list will reset. Only the Members that have renewed between July 1st and July 24th will be included in the drawing on July 25th. Renew early. Be an Early Bird. Get the worm. Or prize. We like prizes!



alpost116.slack.com

The best way to stay informed on everything happening at the Post is to use our Slack® channel. Want to know what's happening in the Rec Room? Check alpost116.slack.com.

116 MEMBERSHIP GOAL

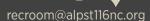
■ 1009 as of Jan. 31, 2024 ■ 991 as of Jan 24, 2024

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

ALP116 memberships expired December 31, 2023. To renew your membership see your friendly bartender in the Rec Room when it's not busy.

Renew online: Legion.org/Renew

SUN. 12p-8p M-Th. 2p-10p FRI.-SAT. 12p-11p





ON YOUR MARKS. GO!

Happy New Year from all of us in the Rec Room. We appreciate each and every one of you for helping make our events run smoothly and the Rec Room the place to be for all of our legion family events. A special thank you goes out to the entire Cook Team for the fantastic job they did to helping make all of our NFL Sundays a huge success. On behalf of the Rec Room, thank you to all of our volunteers who help make this post, what it is today.

We have a busy month planned with Fish Fry, Karaoke, Free Jukebox Fridays, Super Bowl/ Oyster Roast, Music Bingo, Kings of the Highway and For the People Bands.

Don't forget, we have Cornhole every Monday brought to you by our very own Son's of the Legion & it's open to the public so bring your friends.

We would like to welcome Fuguay Dart Club on Tuesday Nights. Thank you for choosing ALP116 Rec Room as your new home.

We now have four RDL Dart teams representing Post 116 on Wednesday nights. We are excited for the new season to start. Speaking of Darts, join us for Luck of the Draw Dart Tournament every 2nd & 4th Friday of the month.

Reminder that your t-shirts are in so if you haven't picked them up, please do so. We also have a few extra t-shirts available for \$25.

Stop by the Rec Room and meet all of our friendly bartenders. Sarah, Danni, Erin, Brandy, Jan, Sam and our newest bartender Chelsea "from the brick". See them for tickets, t-shirts, and your favorite cocktails.

DAILY SPECIALS

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
SUNDAY		THURSDAY	
DOMESTIC BOTTLES	\$2.50	COORS LIGHT	\$2.50
HAZY LITTLE THING	\$4.00	GUINNESS	\$3.50
WELL GIN	\$2.50	WELL SCOTCH	\$2.50
BLOODY MARY	\$3.00	CLASSIC DAIQUIRI	\$4.00
MONDAY		FRIDAY	
BUD LIGHT	\$2.50	BUDWEISER	\$2.50
STELLA ARTOIS	\$3.50	PERNICIOUS	\$4.50
WELL VODKA	\$2.50	WELL RUM	\$2.50
BABY GUINNESS	\$3.50	BUTTERY NIPPLE	\$3.50
		ALL WINE	\$3.00
TUESDAY			
MICHELOB ULTRA	\$2.50	SATURDAY	
LIL SUMPIN'	\$3.00	MILLER LITE	\$2.50
WELL BOURBON	\$2.50	CORONA	\$3.00
CHERRY LIMEADE	\$4.00	GREEN TEA SHOT	\$4.50
WEDNESDAY		MALIBU PINEAPPLE REFRESHER \$3.50	
_	40.00		
YUENGLING	\$2.50	Ask your bar	ender about our
PEOPLES PORTER	\$4.00	DRINK CHIPS	
WELL WHISKEY	\$2.50	Feeling Groovy?	
ELECTRIC LEMONADE	\$4.00	Buy a fri	end a drink!

MUSICAL MUSINGS



FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

FEB 1

Legion Executive Meeting • 7p

FEB **17**

Band
Kings of the Highway • 7-10p

FEB 8

General Meeting • 7p
Dinner • 6p

23

Luck of the Draw

Dart Tournament • 7pm

FEB 11

Oyster Roast • 2-5p
Tickets \$35 (Ltd. tickets available)

FEB **24**

Band For the People • 7-10p

Meetings

Eat

Clubs/Classes

Entertainment

February Happenings Continued

2/6/24 - Aux Executive Meeting - 6:30pm

2/13/24 - Rec Room Meeting - 6:30pm

2/14/24 - Special Events Meeting - 6:30pm

2/14/24 - Ways & Means Meeting - 6:30pm

2/15/24 - New Member Meetup - 5pm

2/15/24 - Cruisers Meeting - 6pm

2/20/24 - Aux General Meeting - 6:30pm

2/22/24 - Riders Meeting - 6:30pm

2/27/24 - SAL Executive Meeting - 6:30pm

2/27/24 - SAL General Meeting - 7pm

2/28/24 - Finance Meeting - 7pm

2/7/24 - Veterans Peer Support - 9am

2/14/24 - Veterans Peer Support - 7pm

2/21/24 - Veterans Peer Support - 9am

2/28/24 - Veterans Peer Support - 7pm

2/2/24 - Fish Fry - 4-7pm - \$10 per plate

2/4/24 - SAL Cook - 1-5pm

2/11/24 - Oyster Roast - 2-5pm

\$35 All you can eat - See bartender for tickets

2/5/24 - Cornhole - \$10 - 7pm *

2/6/24 - Fuquay Dart Club - 7:30pm

2/7/24 - Yoga Class - Bldg 2 \$10 entry - 6:30pm

2/7/24 - Raleigh Dart League 8pm*

2/9/24 - Luck of the Draw Dart Tournament - 7pm

2/12/24 -Cornhole - \$10 - 7pm *

2/13/24 - Fuquay Dart Club - 7:30pm

2/14/24 - Yoga Class - Bldg 2 \$10 entry - 6:30pm

2/14/24 - Raleigh Dart League 8pm *

2/19/24 - Cornhole - \$10 - 7pm *

2/20/24 - Fuguay Dart Club - 7:30pm

2/21/24 - Yoga Class - Bldg 2 \$10 entry - 6:30pm

2/26/24 - Cornhole - \$10 - 7pm *

2/27/24 - Fuquay Dart Club - 7:30pm

2/28/24 - Yoga Class - Bldg 2 \$10 entry - 6:30pm

* Pizza available 5:30 - while supplies last

2/2/24 - Karaoke - 7-11pm

2/15/24 - Music Bingo - 7-9pm

2/16/24 - Singles Mingle - 7pm - Sign up at Bar

2/16/24 - EarlyBird - 102244223



COMMANDER

Krista Abshure | Commander@ALPost116NC.org



1st VICE

David Rossner | d_rossner@hotmail.com



2nd VICE

Jason Williams | jasonlwilliams1975@gmail.com



ADJUTANT

Jim Cavaco | adjutant@alpost116.nc.org

SGT. AT ARMS

Chuck Fiet | clfeit@yahoo.com Jon Gainey | jongainey@gmail.com Myka Knox | carth.volgate@gmail.com

HISTORIAN

George Broneske | gbroneske1@gmail.com



FINANCE OFFICER

Mike Cortez | ncalp116finance@gmail.com



JUDGE ADVOCATE

Open



SERVICE OFFICER

Paul Farris | service-officer@alpost116nc.org



CHAPLIN

Wayne Sherrod | chaplain@alpost116nc.org



OFFICERS AT LARGE

Open

Tony Smith | tonysmi@nc.rr.com Dave Avis | avis1dave@gmail.com Dan Miltenberger | dmiltenberger@gmail.com Malcom Lewis | virockman@gmail.com Kathy Koch | slineykoch21654@gmail.com



SONS COMMANDER

Patrick Dunkle | ncsal116commander@gmail.com



AUXILARY PRESIDENT

Stacey Rossner | staceyspeaker@yahoo.com



RIDERS DIRECTOR

Chris Stocker | chris@thestockers.net



CRUISERS DIRECTOR

Harold Boettcher | Harold7422@gmail.com



Rec Room: Sherry Johnson Finance: Mike Cortez IT: Jason Williams

Ways & Means: David Rossner Memberships: Paul Ferris Public Relations: Dave Avis Buildings & Grounds: Bob Wesley

Rentals: Jason Williams

Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation: Paul Ferris

Special Events: Ann Romano

BBQ: Lee Johnson Elections: Open



COMMITTEE CHAIRS Americanism & Youth: Open

Audit: Mike Cortez Girl Scouts: Kathy Koch Boys State: Richard Stancel

Student Trooper: Richard Stancel Junior Shooter: Todd Wenzel

BSA: Mike Lake

Deuce-Big Green Truck: Norm Klein

Welcome: Open

SAL Cooks: Jason Medhurst



HONOR GUARD

Chair, Cmdr.: Dan Miltenberger

Captain: Norm Klein Captain: Mike Carrieri

Joe King Mike Hollett Ed Wagner Rich Akelewicz Jim Hunsberger Al Everington Chauncey Scarbrough Dave Campbell Michelle Graf

Wayne Thompson George Guenther

Ken Stallings John Velez Jesse Moore John Lockhart Bill Douglas



New Member meet up. The Commander along with Auxiliary and Sons meet new memebrs to our Post family.

PHOTOS ON THE POND







Volunteers gather to help a veteran in need, building a handicap access ramp to their home.



Holly Ridge Elem. PTA hosted a Veterans Appreciation lunch. Thomas Kopsa and his son.

A SENSE OF CAMARADERIE

Comraderie, noun: mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together. Well, we do spend a lot of time together. Whether it is to meet new members or to build a ramp for those in need or simply just to socialize, we do so because of that sense of comraderie. It's a familiar sense that we enjoy. Being a Legion member is about being of service to our Veteran community. And, it's that service that bonds us. It's why we jump at the opportunity to help where we can, to honor our fathers & mothers and to welcome our newest member to the fold. But there is a catch. In order to feel it, you kinda have to be there.

THANK YOU FALL CAR SHOW SPONSORS



Holly Springs Ace Hardware 509 N Main St Holly Springs, NC 27540 Ph: (919) 567-0233

Jake Barnes

Store Manager jake.barnes@owenshardware.com www.acehardware.com



Phone: 919-601-8879
Email: Fernandoprofessionaltouch@hotmail.com
Interior and Exterior Free Estimates

Mike Stanton

Commercial Parts Pro

t: 919.567.3465 e: mike.stanton@advance.auto.com

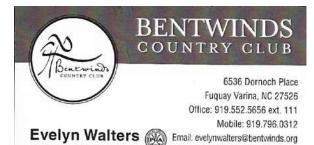
650 N. Main Street | Holly Springs, North Carolina 27540





Veterans and Community Alliance



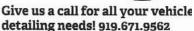


Director of Golf









- Professionally Certified
- -5-star rating on Google
- Mobile/stationary
- Ceramic Coatings, Paint corrections, Interior, and exterior packages!



Web: www.bentwinds.org





THANK YOU WHOLE-HOG COOK OFF SPONSORS



Marina Barnes
Free Estimates
Located in: Angier NC

Commercial / Residential Fully Insured ACleanLookinc@gmail.com



| Hal Owen and Associates, Inc

Environmental Assessments Septic System Design Soil Investigation Wetland Mitigation

(910) 893-8743 827 S 8th Street, Lillington Fast Professional Service www.HalOwenSoil.com







June '24

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY







LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

LOOK TO THE POST



WE HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS!

Currently looking for assistance with:

- * Fish Fry's
- * BBQ Event, Oyster Roast
- * Road Side Cleanups
- * National Ceremonies

Commander@ALPost116MC.org
Please include "Volunteer" in the email subject line.

6400 JOHNSON POND RD. FQY-NC







PEER SUPPORT GROUP

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

Returning to civilian life from the military can be a difficult transition. This peer support group provides our Veterans a private space amungst peers to share their experiences or struggles.

JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY

JAN. 3 APR. 3 7p · You do not need to be a member JAN 10 APR. 10 9a Coffee and donuts are provided JAN. 17 APR. 17 7p APR. 24 JAN. 24 9a **JAN.31** MAY 1 7_D · You may park on the FEB. 7 MAY 8 9a right side of Bldg 2 FEB. 14 **MAY 15** 7р for privacy if desired FEB. 21 **MAY 22** 9a FEB. 28 **MAY 29** 7p MAR 6 IUN 5 9a MAR. 13 **JUN. 12** 7p MAR. 20 JUN. 19 9a MAR. 27 JUN. 26 7p



FIRST FRIDAY



Flounder, Hushpuppies,
Green Beans & Home-made Cole Slaw

CARRY OUT or CURBSIDE

Order from your car and we'll happily bring it out

PICK UP or DINE IN

Bldg 1 Hall will be open

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

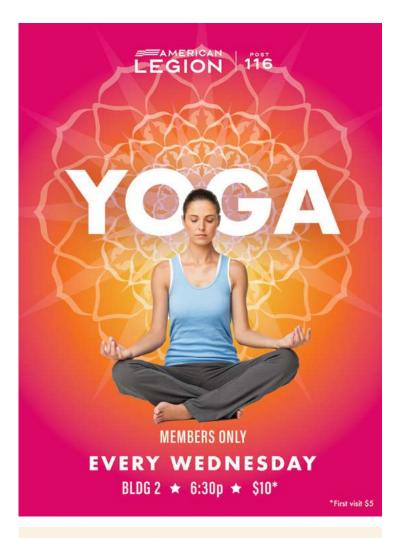


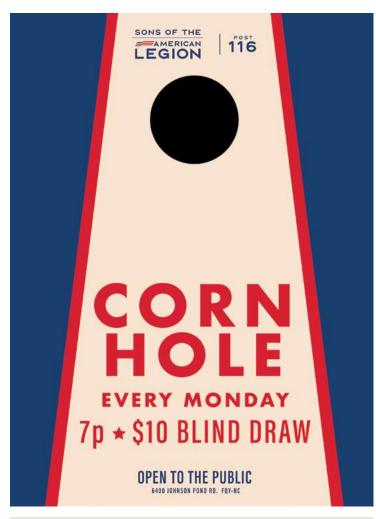






















DEC 21 APR 18 JAN 18 MAY 16 FEB 15 JUN 20

NEW MEMBERS GET THEIR FIRST DRINK ON THE COMMANDER!

6-7p

Cheers.



116 GENERAL MEETING

SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

DINNER 6p * MEETING 7p

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS

POST 116 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AD SPECS

Full page 8.5x11 6 months \$300

Contact Dave Avis: newsletter@alpost116nc.org

Arrange payments through Mike Cortez: finance@alpost116nc.org

Half page 8x5.125 6 months \$150 Quarter page 3.75x5.125 6 months \$75

1/8 page 3.75x2.5 6 months \$50