



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

February 2017

Commander’s Notes:

Sorry, I simply don’t have time to write a Commander’s column this month. I’m too busy overseeing two corporations, planning the 2017 “Poppy” campaign, updating 2017 fish fry costs, planning and managing our bi-weekly dances, promoting and staffing these dances, meeting with each band so they can set up, staying with each band until they can pack up, participating on the Marketing Committee and providing financial justification for any projects we undertake, shopping each Thursday for food and supplies to keep bingo concessions and our other events functioning, working bingo each Sunday, working the dances every other Saturday, writing the newsletter each month, participating in our New Member Orientation sessions, attending Chamber of Commerce meetings, working on Veteran’s Memorial issues, working Hillcrest cemetery issues, preparing for our monthly General Membership meetings, preparing for our monthly Executive Committee meetings, pulling together the Post Business Plan, pulling together the Charities, Inc. Business Plan, providing project specific support to Post 318 committee chairs, updating Facebook pages, coming out to work parties when I can, and resolving issues important to the Post like securing a new mortgage or filing insurance claims associated with our walk-in cooler or making calls to get our roof fixed.

Maybe next month if we can get a little help, I can get back to writing this column.

Don Bishop

Constitution & By-Law Changes

The changes listed below, either lined out or in *Italics*, have been proposed to our Constitution and By-Laws. They will be discussed and voted on at our February 8th meeting.

Constitution Changes:

ARTICLE V, Government, Section 6 - Whenever a duly elected officer, *or appointed committee chair*, does not make an appearance for three (3) consecutive General meetings or Executive Committee meetings, it shall be the right of the Commander to relieve such officer from the office held without prejudice.

ARTICLE VII, Finance, Section 1 - The revenue of this Post shall be derived from annual membership dues, and from such other sources as may be recommended by the ~~Budget Committee~~ *or Executive Committee, or Marketing Committee with concurrence of the Executive Committee*, and subject to approval from the floor at Post Meeting.

ARTICLE XII, Expenditures, Section 2 - All money shall be placed in *either* the general fund, *the events account, or the bingo account*, except those moneys donated for a specific purpose, or any funds which are directed by the Executive Committee to be placed into Post investment/savings/reserve */special projects* accounts. Expenditures exceeding \$100.00 from the General Fund that are not within the approved Post Business Plan and Budget, must be recommended by the Executive Committee, and is subject to approval from the floor at Post General Meeting.

ARTICLE V, Discipline, Section 1 - Members may be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled from the American Legion, and Officers may be reprimanded, removed from office or suspended or expelled from membership only upon a proper showing of cause. Charges should be based upon disloyalty, neglect of duties, dishonesty, *failure to pay Post approved assessments*, and conduct unbecoming a member or officer of the American Legion. All charges must be made under oath, in writing by the accuser, and no member in good standing shall be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled, nor shall any officer be reprimanded or removed from office, suspended or expelled, until a fair trial as herein provided. The charges are to be filed with the Executive Committee.

By-Law Changes:

ARTICLE II, Membership, Section 2 - The cost of annual dues, *and/or Post assessments, to cover operating expenses* for each upcoming year is to be determined at the March meeting of the Executive Committee and confirmed on the floor by the membership at the next regular meeting.

On-Line Newsletter

Didn’t get the newsletter, or maybe you deleted it and now you’re looking for something we published? If so, now you can go to our web site www.post318.org and download it. Simply go to our web site, “click-on” the *Newsletter Tab* and select the newsletter you’re looking for.

We want to send out a big thank you to Josh Richardson for getting this feature working again.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Fund Raising Update:

Bingo – The Post conducts bingo almost every Sunday. Doors open at 4:30 PM, preliminary games begin at 6 PM. All your favorite “pull tabs” are available. You can support the Post by either coming out to play, or volunteering to work these events. Contact Bingo Manager, Dennis Sakal (335-3148) with any questions.

Euchre – Euchre tournaments are conducted every Thursday night in the Club Room. Buy-in is \$10, \$5 going to the Post and \$5 going to prize money. This is a fun evening and is open to both our membership and the public. Doors open at 6:45 PM, games begin at 7 PM. Contact Joe Baker (289-9044) with any questions.

Kroger Community Rewards – If you are a Kroger customer and are not supporting a current organization through **Kroger Community Rewards**, we would encourage you to go on-line and register, selecting American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc. as your cause. Signing up for the **Kroger Community Rewards** program does not impact any discounts offered by Kroger, or your Kroger Fuel Points.

HoopsMania™ - **HoopsMania™** tickets have been distributed. This is a key fund raiser for the Post, with the Post getting \$ 14 for every ticket purchased. So, we ask that you do what you can to purchase, or sell, the tickets sent out to you. If you need extra tickets, submit your request to Roger Wade via email at rwade@cintechconstruction.com.

February Dance Events

Our last few dances have been great successes. For New Year’s Eve we sold out, meaning we had 200 guests. For our 1st dance of 2017, we hosted **The Remains** and drew another 140 guests. “And the beat goes on”! We have some great

bands performing at the Patriot Center this February.

To celebrate “Valentines Day”, February 11th, the **Cincy Rockers’** return. This is a great band playing music from across the decades. For this dance we will also be providing a special candy promotion to all guests who attend. Have nothing to do on the weekend just prior to Valentine’s Day? Bring your wife or significant other to the Patriot Center for an evening of live music.



On February 25th, Slow Burn” returns to the Patriot Center. This band features singer Bobby Lewis, the “Genuine Article”, who performed for several years with national recording act “Cornelius Brothers & Sister Rose”.



Both of these bands perform on a regular basis at Cincinnati’s top entertainment spots. Yet, you can purchase tickets, in advance for \$10, to see them at the Patriot Center by going to www.Showclix.com, and searching Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events, or call the Showclix Box Office at 1-888-718-4253, Option 1 and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events.

Charitable Giving

Over the course of each year, Post 318 through American Legion Post

318 Charities, Inc. (**Charities, Inc.**) contributes thousands of dollars to programs and causes important to our membership. The following is a summary of our recent giving:

Cub Scout Pack 405 – Our Cub Scout Pack (405) requested funds to support a spring camp out. Responding to this request, the Post directed **Charities, Inc.** to contribute \$150 towards this purpose.

VA Patient Visit – In November, Post 318 hosted a group of VA patients. During their visit we played corn hole and bingo then provided a lunch. **Charities, Inc.** funded this outing at a cost of \$77.73

Veterans Christmas Party – Each December, **Charities, Inc.** sponsors a Christmas party for Post 318 veterans and their families. This year **Charities, Inc.** contributed \$507 towards this event.

Handicap Ramp – Responding to the need of a Post 318 member, the EC directed **Charities, Inc.** to contribute \$ 400 towards the construction of a Handicap Ramp.

HCC to Meet at Post 318

The Hamilton County Council (HCC) will meet at Post 318, March 1st. HCC representatives will begin arriving about 6:45 PM. They usually depart about 8:30 PM.

The HCC will recognize its annual Americanism award winners at this meeting. This usually includes A&G Test winners, Educator of the Year, Eagle Scout of the Year, and the county America Legion Oratorical Contest winner (Sean Schaeffer).

To support this event, we need a bartender, and about two people to prepare and serve a light snack. A few members in the audience would also be good. If you can help out, please contact Commander Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Post Oratorical Contest

Post 318 conducted its 2nd American Legion Oratorical contest, January 7th. Two Anderson High School students competed for \$500 in scholarship money and the opportunity to represent Post 318 in the Hamilton County contest.



The American Legion Oratorical contest focuses on the U.S. constitution and contestants must present an 8 to 10 minute oration on any aspect of the constitution and a 3 to 5 minute oration on a selected constitutional topic. These orations must be delivered without notes, props, or amplification.

The Post 318 contest was won by Sean Schaeffer, pictured on the left. This was Sean's second year as a participant in the oratorical contest. Our runner-up was Matthew Martin.

Since the conclusion of the Post 318 contest, Sean participated in the HCC contest and was declared the winner. His next challenge is the 4th District contest being held in Mason, February 12th. Should he win the District contest, he would move onto the Department Of Ohio contest. We wish Sean well in this endeavor.

Bartenders Needed

We seem to always be looking for people to tend bar. However, we should note that there are 2 different requirements; 1) Legion events like dances and fish fries, and 2) private hall rental events.

For Legion events we seek volunteers, and follow our existing policy which is no form of compensation is provided. However, when we rent our hall out for private events, and

the client requires beverage services, because of liquor laws we need to provide bartenders. These positions are paid by the hall rental customer. Usually, about \$ 60 for a 4 hour event.

The responsibilities associated with these paid positions are to; 1) set up the bar, 2) serve beer, wine, mixed drinks, and soft drinks, 3) close down the bar after the event, and 4) serve as the Post interface (baby-sitter) during the event.

Currently, our list of people who are interested in working our paid events is rather sparse. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact event coordinator, Jimmy Bussey at 616-3215, or via email at JimBussey@live.com.

Service Officer Needed!

Tom Clegg has indicated that at the end of his current term (June 30th), he will be stepping down as the Post 318 Service Officer. This is an important position within the Post and has two primary responsibilities; 1) to assist members and other veterans in obtaining their entitled VA benefits, and 2) to assess and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on requests made for Military and/or Family assistance.

To maintain our charter, we must fill this position. If assisting others is something that interests you, please contact Commander Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

New Mortgage Agreement Implemented

On January 15th the Post implemented a new mortgage agreement with Mary Jo Cleveland. As reported before, the interest rate is the same as our previous agreement, 6% annually. However, the new loan is amortized over 15 years, a reduction

of 5 years over our previous agreement. This reduction will increase our monthly payments to \$1687.71. Yet, by reducing the amortization schedule we will be able to pay off the loan much earlier than originally planned.

The new loan runs for 5 years, and has a balloon payment of \$152,018.45, due January 15, 2022.

Anderson Republican Club

Beginning February 1st, and the 1st Wednesday of each month thereafter, The Anderson Republican Club will be renting Patriot Center Hall A. We are pleased to have gotten this long term contract, which will also include a beverage service (beer, wine and soft drinks), prior to each meeting. This should provide a little extra revenue, above and beyond the rental itself.

Membership Orientation

To date we have completed three Membership Orientation seminars, and we would like to thank the following members for their participation; Bob Carey, Bill Cole, Gary Gregorio, Don McLaughlin, Doug Rogers, John Smith, Allen Tabe, Charlie Cleves, Clint Geer, Wayne Hinaman, and Randy Lindsey.

We've gotten some very positive feedback about these seminars, and would encourage all members to consider attending one of the future sessions. We know you will learn things about the American Legion and our Post that were previously unknown.

Our next seminar is tentatively scheduled for February 28th, beginning at 7:00 PM. However, to participate, you must sign up in advance by contacting Membership Chairman, Bob Kamman at 474-5237, or via email at kamman.rc@gmail.com. If no one registers the class will be cancelled.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

"Post Scripts"

Should you have an issue you would like to opine about, if you put it in writing and submit it by the 25th of each month, it will be published for all to consider. However, there are two requirements; 1) we can't publish political opinions/endorsement, and 2) all editorials must be attributed. You sign it we'll print it!

Nothing submitted this month!

Chaplin's Report

The men of Post 318, under the leadership of Ralph Caskey and the work of two Habitat men, and other Legionnaires, Walt Geil, Gary Gregorio, Darrell Everman, and Jerry Porter have worked exceptionally hard to build a wheelchair ramp for our member, Keith Musselman.

This was a big undertaking by these men, especially Ralph, Walt, and Darrell. It should be finished by the 25th of January. This is a great thing they have done and they should be pleased and complimented on a job well done.



We lost a good friend of the Legion, this past week, Florence Knoechel. Her funeral was held at TP White on January 24th. She was a reliable volunteer for fish fries and bingo. She will be missed. She also asked that donations be given to our Post.

Fish Fries begin on March 3rd. I hope we have a lot of volunteers as we have had in the past. This is a good activity for our Legion and your support is important. Be thinking of what dessert you might donate for these events. Come and eat with your families. The food is good.

There have been no major health events for our members this month. Bob Calder is still fighting his many surgeries, but is on line.

Jerry Porter
(513) 528-1557

Membership Update

We have been a "Quota Post" for 9 consecutive years. To make it 10 years in a row, we need to add 4 more members. They can be new members, or existing members who have not yet renewed. If you know of anyone who may be interested in American Legion membership, please contact Membership Chairman, Bob Kamman. Bob can be reached at 474-5237.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome 3 new members to Post 318. They are:

Greg Elpers – A Persian Gulf Era Army Veteran.

Clinton Geer – A Persian Gulf Era USMC Veteran.

Greg Oliver – A Grenada Era USMC Veteran.

2017 Membership Scoreboard

2016-2017 Quota	154
Paid as of 1/31/17	150
% Quota	97.40
Still Needed (Quota)	4
Goal	165
Still Needed (Goal)	15

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, February 8th.

Our success depends on your support, so feel free to bring a friend and come out and join us! As always there will be a light snack after the meeting.

Need Help?

If you're a veteran and need help obtaining any of your entitled benefits, please contact our Service Officer, Tom Clegg. Tom can be reached at 513-608-5505, or via email at: tomclegg42@yahoo.com.

Thought for the Day:

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?Unknown

Post Officers:

Commander:	Don Bishop 513-474-4194
1st Vice:	Bob Kamman 513-474-5237
2nd Vice:	Matt Lilly 513-617-8351
Adjutant:	Dan Wolfangel 513-474-9577
Finance Officer:	Ron Yersky 513-232-2591
Chaplain:	Jerry Porter 513-528-1557
Sgt.-at-Arms	Rick Simpson 513-444-6314

February 2017

February 2017							March 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 29 - Feb 4	Jan 29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3	4
				6:00pm Anderson Republican Party (Hall A) 7:00pm HCC - FFOY (Post 534 - Riverside)	11:30am AACC (Anderson Center) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)		
Feb 5 - 11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	NO BINGO	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318) 7:00pm Marketing Committee (Club Room)	7:00pm General Membership (Post 318)	9:00am Veterans Breakfast (New England Club) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)		7:00pm Dance - Cincy Rockers (Hall A&B)
Feb 12 - 18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	3:00pm Work Party (Post 318) 4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318)		7:00pm Cub Scouts (Post 318) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)		9:00am Crew 519 (Hall A)
Feb 19 - 25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318) 6:00pm VAVS (VA Hospital) 7:00pm Marketing Committee (Club Room)	7:00pm Executive Committee (Post 318)	6:30pm 4th District E-Board (Post 630 - Blue Ash) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)		7:00pm Brown Jug Party (Post 534) 7:00pm Dance - Slow Burn (Hall A&B)
Feb 26 - Mar 4	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
	3:00pm Work Party (Post 318) 4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318) 7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Tentative - Turpin High School (Hall A&B) 7:00pm Membership Orientation (Club Room)				

March 2017

March 2017							April 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 26 - Mar 4	Feb 26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
				6:00pm Anderson Republican Party (Hall A) 7:00pm HCC (Post 318 - Anderson)	11:30am AACC (Anderson Center) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)	5:00pm Fish Fry (Hall A&B)	
Mar 5 - 11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318)	7:00pm General Membership (Post 318)	9:00am Veterans Breakfast (New England Club) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)	5:00pm Fish Fry (Hall A&B)	
Mar 12 - 18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318) 7:00pm Marketing Committee (Club Room)		7:00pm Cub Scouts (Post 318) 7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)	5:00pm Fish Fry (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Dance - Cincy Rockers (Hall A&B)
Mar 19 - 25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	10:00am 4th District Spring Conference (Post 288 - Williamsburg) 3:00pm Work Party (Post 318) 4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318)		7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)	5:00pm Fish Fry (Hall A&B)	1:00pm Tentative - Birthday Party (Hall A) 6:00pm Tentative - Retirement Party (Hall A&B)
Mar 26 - Apr 1	26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
	4:30pm Bingo (Hall A&B)	7:00pm Boy Scouts (Hall A&B)	10:00am Work Party (Post 318) 7:00pm Marketing Committee (Club Room)	7:00pm Executive Committee (Post 318)	7:00pm Euchre (Club Room)	5:00pm Fish Fry (Hall A&B)	