



# American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

July 2018

### Commander’s Notes:

July starts our new program year. For me I see each July as a new beginning. An opportunity to close out the previous year, good or bad, and get focused on what needs to be accomplished in the new year.

To wrap up program year 2018, we will conduct our annual Awards Program, Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 7:00 PM. This is our opportunity to recognize those who have participated in our programs, and those we have chosen to recognize for their accomplishments or contributions to our community. We also recognize Post 318 members for their continuous service to the American Legion and their contributions to the Post. Please consider coming to the Awards Program. Your attendance sends a positive message to our award recipients that we appreciate their participation and support their accomplishments.

Looking forward to Program Year 2019, our top four (4) challenges are to:

1. Fill our open leadership positions
2. Increase membership support and participation
3. Sustain and grow our membership
4. Improve internal communications.

I can’t opine enough about how much our Post is being negatively impacted because of our open leadership positions. For example, we have lost significant visibility and thousands of dollars in program contributions, primarily Boys State and Girls State sponsorships, because we have no Community Support Chairman to network with the business community and our local government organizations. We’ve also walked away from multiple opportunities to generate operating revenues because we don’t have a Fund Raising Chairman. Now, we’re on the verge of suspending all of our school programs which would include the A&G Testing program, Boys State, Girls State, the American Legion Oratorical contest, Educator of the Year and the awarding of our Veteran scholarships, because we lack an Americanism Chairman. None of these are good outcomes for our Post! Yet, no one seems to be concerned enough to step up!

If we are to continue as a viable organization we have to address these challenges. If you’re willing to help, please let me know.

*Don Bishop*

### Post Officers Installed

At our June 13<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting, we installed our Officers for the 2019 Program Year.



Our duly elected Officers are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – Bob Kamman
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander – Randy Lindsey
- Adjutant – Dan Wolfangel
- Finance Officer – Ron Yersky
- Chaplain – Jerry Porter
- Sgt.-at-Arms – Ral[h Caskey

Although not elected, Don Bishop agreed to continue serving as Commander until a replacement is found.

### Post 318 Scholarships

Post 318 has awarded four (4) \$ 750 scholarships. This year’s recipients are;

- Katelyn Baker – Anderson High School
- Sarah Thornton - Saint Ursula Academy
- Julia Lisac – Turpin High School
- Theresa Herzog – Turpin High School

We wish these students well with their college endeavors.

### Post to Host Ice Cream Social

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, Randy Lindsey, will host an ice cream social August 7<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 9 PM. The Post will be providing the ice cream plus fudge and caramel toppings. If you wish to bring other toppings, to share, please do.

To insure that we have enough ice cream, if you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P to Randy at 374-2099, or via email at [weasellee@yahoo.com](mailto:weasellee@yahoo.com).

### ***Fund Raising Update:***

The Post has to raise about \$6,000 each month to continue operations. You can support our fund raising efforts by attending, or working, our various events.

It should be noted that we fell short of our \$ 6,000 threshold for June. However, this is not unusual! We often run deficits in June, July and August. As members you can help us minimize the impact of this revenue shortfall by coming out and supporting our Summer events (i.e. Bingo, Euchre and Open Mic).

The following summarizes our June income contributions.

<b>Events</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
<b>Bingo</b>	\$ 2,835
<b>Dances</b>	\$ 1,163
<b>Euchre</b>	\$ 208
<b>Open Mic</b>	\$ 353
<b>Rentals</b>	\$ 700
<b>Total</b>	\$ 5,259

**Bingo** –We conduct bingo every Sunday. Doors open at 4:30p games begin at 6:00p. If you’re willing to help out, contact Bingo Manager, Ed Sears at 474-0246.

**Euchre** – Euchre is scheduled every Thursday night and is open to the public. Buy-in is \$5. Doors open at 6:45p, games begin at 7p. Contact Euchre Manager, Joe Baker (289-9044), with any questions.

**Open Mic** – Open Mic provides local artists an opportunity to perform in front of an audience. There are no admission fees and children are welcome. The Post provides beverage and concession services for the event. If you have questions, please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194.

### ***Poppy Day Results***

Each year, just prior to Memorial Day, we conduct our “Poppy Day” campaign. During this event we distribute the “Memorial Poppy”, which is handmade by hospitalized or disabled veterans, for a modest contribution. All donations collected are then used to support veterans and their families.

For our 2018 campaign, we distributed poppies at nine (9) locations and collected net contributions of \$3,102.46. This goes a long ways towards funding our Veteran Programs, but was about \$ 650 less than was collected in 2017.

We would like to thank our “Poppy Day” supporters; The Kroger Company, Belterra Park and the Forest Hills School District.

### ***Charitable Giving***

Over the course of each year American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc. (***Charities, Inc.***) contributes thousands of dollars to programs and causes important to our membership. To cover this philanthropy, ***Charities, Inc.*** has to raise approximately \$2,200 each month.

The following is a summary of recent ***Charities, Inc.*** income and expenses.

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
<b>Bingo</b>	\$ 1,560	
<b>Donations</b>	\$ 185	
<b>Poppy Days</b>	\$ 4,620	\$ 1,518
<b>Post 318 Repayment</b>		\$ 1,000
<b>Flag for Sherriff’s Office</b>		\$ 49
<b>Color Guard Support</b>		\$ 151
<b>Volunteer Raffle</b>		\$ 50
<b>C&amp;P Banquet</b>		\$ 40
<b>Membership Dues</b>		\$ 80
<b>Monthly Rent</b>		\$ 600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,365</b>	<b>\$ 3,488</b>

You can help raise the funds needed to support our programs and philanthropy by; 1) volunteering to work ***Charities, Inc.*** fund raising projects, 2) making tax deductible donations to ***Charities, Inc.*** and 3) by registering with both Kroger and Amazon to participate in their corporate charitable giving programs. An overview of these programs is listed below:

**Kroger Community Rewards** – If you are a Kroger customer and are not currently supporting a charitable organization through ***Kroger Community Rewards***, we would encourage you to do your part! Go to [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com), and register for the Kroger Community Rewards program and select ***American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.*** as your cause.

**Amazon Smiles** – ***American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc.*** is now registered with Amazon Smiles. So, if you shop at Amazon and select ***American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.*** as your charity, Amazon donates 0.5% of all eligible purchases. To maximize our revenue opportunities please share this information with family and friends.

### ***Help Wanted***

This “*Help Wanted*” column was intended to become a regular feature in our monthly newsletter. We hoped that by communicating the kind of support needed we could spark some interest and get some volunteers. These requirements have been published for several months now. If you’re interested in helping, please contact Commander Bishop.

- **Bingo Manager** (member)
- **Fundraising Chairman** (member)
- **Community Support Chairman** (member)
- **Graphics Arts Support** (member/non-member)
- **Bingo Volunteers** (member/non-member)
- **Dance Volunteers** (member/non-member)
- **Post Personal Shopper** (member/non-member)

**Americanism Chairman** (member) – With the installation of our 2019 Officers, we are in search of a new Americanism Chairman. The primary responsibilities associated with this position are to act as a liaison between Post 318 and the Forest Hills School District, its affiliated schools, and McNicholas High School. Its role is to facilitate the delivery of American Legion programs intended to inspire patriotism and good citizenship through observances, patriotic and civil instruction in schools, Americanization of aliens, information on anti-American propaganda, and youth activities such as Boys State, Girls State, The Oratorical Contest, and other similar school programs. All Americanism program will be suspended until we find someone willing to step up and chair this committee.

### ***Membership Update***

I know that you all have been anxiously waiting for this news, the 2019 membership cards are here! You all did such a great job of getting last year’s dues in to me, that I know this year will be another successful year. Dues for 2019 are still only \$40. If you would like to get your hands on your brand new 2019, 100th anniversary, card you have four (4) ways to accomplish this:

1. Drop your dues off at the Post
2. Mail them in: American Legion Post #318  
P.O. Box 54390  
Cincinnati, OH 45254-0390  
Attn: Robert Kamman
3. Renew online at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew)
4. Get with me after any of our monthly General Members or Executive Committee meetings.

If you renew quickly, I’ll even put a bright, shiny, blue Early Bird sticker on your card in recognition of your prompt support.

If you have any questions about your membership, please feel free to contact me at [kamman.rc@gmail.com](mailto:kamman.rc@gmail.com) or via my cell (513) 545-5237. Again, thanks for your 2018 membership support and I look forward to hearing from you for our 2019 membership drive.

**Robert Kamman**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

### ***Chaplin’s Report***

June has come and gone and from my end, nothing much has happened. We did have four of us go to the VA for an evening of volunteering, but that was a bust, since they were double booked for volunteers, so we came back. We do have an activity with the VA at the Post on July 14<sup>th</sup>, from 11 till 1:30 to feed and play game with a group from the VA rehabilitation unit. If you wish to help out and do a fun thing, and help our vets, let me know. Be there at 10:45, at the Post answer where you can fit in.

Our good member, Keith Musselman and his wife are still fighting with their health problem. Please pray for them.

Glad to hear that our candidates at Buckeye Boys and Girls State all did well and enjoyed their experience.

Our participation in the big Anderson Parade is on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We always have a good turnout and this is a great event for the Post. You can show up and ride in a vehicle or walk in the parade. Let Ralph Caskey know if you’re interested.

Glad to see the evening cookout generate by our new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, Randy Lindsey was a success and I am looking forward to the next activity, possibly an ice cream social in August.

Thanks again for all the great volunteers who step forward a give of their time for the Legion.

*Jerry Porter*  
*Chaplain*

### ***At The Flag Pole***

Fly Flag days:

- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day
- July 27<sup>th</sup> – Armistice signed in Korea

**Ralph Caskey**  
**Sgt.-at-Arms**

### ***Post 318 Needs You To Join The Parade***

Come join members of Post 318 as we participate once again in The Anderson Township 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. We have room for riders and walkers. Wear your legion cap or a service cap or a ball cap from your branch of military service. We will meet at Dunkin Donuts at 9:30 AM. If you want to car pool, we meet at the Park n Ride at the Town center bus station by 9 AM. That way you can leave your car at the end of the parade route. We will be first leading the Parade so we finish first too. This year we will have a 4 man color guard and that will be our only marchers. The service flags and carriers will ride in the 6 by plus who ever doesn't fit in a car. If you need to ride let me know so I can plan for your space in a car or jeep.

Hope to see you at the parade

***Ralph Caskey***  
***Sgt.-at-Arms***

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### ***Veterans Resource Guide***

The Ohio Treasurer's Office has produced a "Veterans Resource Guide". This booklet identifies a significant number of resources available to assist veterans. To provide an overview of what the publication contains, below please find its table of contents:

- Ask Josh
- Financial Resources
- Benefits & Assistance
- Health & Wellness
- Education & Employment
- Housing
- Legal Services
- Phone Numbers
- County Veteran Service Offices

This booklet is available at the Post. If you would like a copy, stop by and pick one up.

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### ***Next Meeting***

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

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.

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### ***Thought for the Day:***

Most children threaten at times to run away from home. This is the only thing that keeps some parents going.

***Unknown***

### ***Need Help?***

If you're a veteran and need help obtaining any of your entitled bene-fits, please contact our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves. Charlie can be reached at (513) 232-7767, or via email at: [ccleves1@fuse.net](mailto:ccleves1@fuse.net).

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### ***Post Officers & Committee Chairs:***

<b><i>Commander:</i></b>	Don Bishop	513-474-4194
<b><i>1st Vice:</i></b>	Bob Kamman	513-474-5237
<b><i>2nd Vice:</i></b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b><i>Adjutant:</i></b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
<b><i>Finance Officer:</i></b>	Ron Yersky	513-232-2591
<b><i>Chaplain:</i></b>	Jerry Porter	513-528-1557
<b><i>Sgt.-at-Arms:</i></b>	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588
<b><i>Americanism:</i></b>	VACANT	
<b><i>Bingo:</i></b>	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
<b><i>Community Support:</i></b>	VACANT	
<b><i>Event Coordination:</i></b>	Ken Knight	513-675-5234
<b><i>Fundraising:</i></b>	VACANT	
<b><i>House:</i></b>	Bob Alfieri	513-232-0309
<b><i>Service Officer:</i></b>	Charlie Cleves	513-232-7767