



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

August 2018

Commander’s Notes:

Here it is August already, and I could say Summer is on its last legs. Some people are please about that, others not so much. For me I’m anxious to get into September so that we can get our fundraising cranked up again. It’s tough to pay Post bills when there’s no money coming in!

We had a great Awards Program, with about 100 guests and award recipients present. We received a lot of compliments on the program and the commitment we have to the community. We even got a nice donation. A “big thank” you goes out to Randy Lindsey, Dan Wolfangel and Bob Kamman for all the work that they put into this event.

We are still seeking members to step up and fill our leadership positions; Americanism, Community Support, and Fund Raising. However, an alternative to becoming a committee chair would be to volunteer to take on an individual project/program, within a committee. Currently, all programs without a lead have been suspended. This impacts both our commitment to the community and our visibility. With your help, many of these programs could be restored. If you have a few hours to dedicate to a good cause, give me a call!

Don Bishop

Jean Wilson Elected 2nd Vice



Jean Wilson, a dual member of Yeager-Benson Post 199 in Harrison, has been elected 2nd Vice Commander, Department of Ohio. Her selection places Jean in line to become the 1st woman Commander, Department of Ohio.

Jean has a resume filled with both community and Legion service and accomplishments. This includes, but is not limited to, holding offices at the Post, County and District level. She has served on the boards of both Joseph House and Fisher House and is a Hamilton County Veterans Service Commissioner. Jean is also the current President of the Harrison Mayor’s Fund for Needy Families.

We support Jean and wish her good fortunes as she progresses through the Department chairs.

Newsletter Survey

To prepare and distribute our monthly newsletter requires a significant amount of time and resource. Yet, it appears that it’s only being read by about 50% of our members. So, we’re trying to understand if it makes sense to continue this publication?

Here’s what we think we know! We currently have about 155 members. 125 of you (or 80.6%) have email addresses and were set up to receive the newsletter electronically. However, of this 125, 13 members have unsubscribed from our email service. This means that these members are not receiving any communications from us. We also have reports from our email service provider that 55.4 % of the remaining 112 members (or 62 members) didn’t open up the email message sent out last month providing the link to our newsletter. So our assumption is that at least 75 members (62+3) didn’t read our last newsletter. That’s 48.4 % of our membership. What we don’t know is how many of the remaining 80 members actually do read it, but our guess is something less than 100%.

Because we only have about half the story, we’ve decided that before we take any action that we’re going to take a survey. Specifically, if you are reading this newsletter we want you to send an email to Commander@post318.org. You can say something as simple as **“I read the newsletter”**, or if you want to express an opinion on this issue, please do. If you’re one of the 30 who get a hard copy, give me a call (474-4194). Remember, we have no way of actually knowing if you read our newsletter, unless you send a message, or contact us. However, if we don’t hear from you we’ll assume the answer is no!

We’ll provide the results in our next newsletter.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

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, on average, *Charities, Inc.* has to raise approximately \$2,200 each month.

You can help with this effort 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 (see 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, 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.

The following provides a summary of the income received and programs recently funded by *Charities, Inc.*:

	Income	Expenses
Bingo	\$ 1041	
Kroger Rewards	\$ 218	
Volunteer Raffle		\$ 50
Anderson Band Boosters		\$ 75
Membership Rewards		\$ 58
AL Legacy Scholarship		\$ 500
Fisher House		\$ 300
Gifts for Yanks		\$ 460
Honor Flight		\$ 300
Joseph House		\$ 100
Yellow Ribbon Support		\$ 100
Total	\$ 1,259	\$ 1,943

Fund Raising Update:

The Post has to raise \$6,000 each month to continue operations. You can support our fund raising efforts by attending, or working, our various events. For July, bingo pulled us over the finish line. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen. The following is a

summary of our July revenue contributions:

Event	Contribution
Bingo	\$ 5,442
Euchre	\$ 281
Open Mic	\$ 130
Rentals	\$ 1,200
Total	\$ 7,053

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.

PokerMania

In support of *Charities, Inc.* fundraising, *PokerMania II* is being planned for October 13th. This is a charitable gaming event that will offer; Blackjack, 7 Card Stud, Texas Hold’Em, and a “Big 6” wheel.

To actually hold this event, we need to recruit, or train, about 11 dealers. If you have ever played either 7 Card or Blackjack, you are a candidate for dealing. Please consider if you can help with this event. Without membership participation, we won’t be able to generate the funds needed to support our programs.

Mentoring Opportunity

A mentoring community has reached out to Post 318 for an opportunity in Forest Hills School District. We are looking for some local veterans to meet with students at Turpin High School and Nagel Middle School. These children need some encouragement and friendship. Are you asking: What do I have to teach? This is not an academic mentoring. Meeting times vary. Some are during school, some are after school. They usually last for about an hour. If you have some time to spare this is an enriching experience.

For more info or to volunteer call 513-374-2099, or email me at weasellee@yahoo.com.

Randy Lindsey
2nd Vice

Help Wanted

This “*Help Wanted*” column was intended to become a regular feature in our monthly newsletter. We hope that by communicating the kind of support needed we can spark some interest and get some volunteers. We still have many opportunities available. If you’re interested, 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)

2019 Business Plan

The Executive Committee has recommended approval of the 2018-2019 Business Plan. This plan will be submitted for membership approval at our August 8th meeting. Copies of the plan can be reviewed and downloaded from our web site. A few copies are available for review at the Post for those without email access.

Ice Cream Social

August is hot... Join us in the clubroom for a cool event. We will have an ice cream social on August 7th, at 7pm in the Clubroom. Leave the heat and get some sweet.

Let me know if you are coming so I can get enough ice cream. I’ll have vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry ice cream. Toppings will be chocolate, caramel, whip cream and cherries. If you want anything else to top your treat with bring it yourself (if it’s really good bring enough to share). Cards and board games too!

RSVP via email to weasellee@yahoo.com, or call 513-374-2099,

Randy Lindsey
2nd Vice

Membership Update

Membership renewal is off to a good start for the month of July with 78 renewals towards our 159 quota. Percentage wise, our Post is leading the 4th District. Great job to everyone that has taken the time to submit their renewal. For those that haven't sent or submitted you renewals, I'm asking you to please take a few minutes and do this for the Post, community and my sanity. All 78 cards should have been received by their

owners by the time this letter hits your hands. The other request I have is for support in drumming up some new members. In order to reach quota this year we are starting out at a deficit of four (4). Also, every year we have 1 or 2 that decide not to renew. Therefore, my best guessment is that we are short by 6. If you know anyone who might at all be interested in joining our Post, please send them my way and I will be more that glad to follow up.

2018 Membership Scoreboard

<i>2018-2019 Quota</i>	159
<i>Paid as of 7/30/18</i>	78
<i>% Quota</i>	49.05
<i>Goal</i>	165
<i>Still Needed (Goal)</i>	87

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

Fall Dance Schedule

On August 18th, the *Wild Rice Musical Review* will kick off our fall dance schedule. This high energy dance band, made up of Cincinnati music legends, specializes in making sure their audience has a great time! Whether you want to get up and dance, or sit back and enjoy the music, you will be entertained.



Our complete schedule is as follows:

- August 18 – Wild Rice
- September 22 – Six Pac
- October 6 – The Remains
- October 20 – Sweetheart Dance – Cincy Rockers
- October 27 – Halloween – Big Trouble Blues
- November 3 – Six Pac
- November 17 – The Remains
- December 1 – Big Trouble Blues
- December 15 – Christmas Show – Wild Rice
- December 31 – New Year’s Eve – Cincy Rockers

Visit us at: www.post318.org

4th of July Parade

Twenty-seven members of the Post participated in this year's 4th of July parade. It was a good turnout and this year for the 1st time, our only marchers were the color guard and our bagpiper, Michael Gregorio. Everyone else had a ride. Probably a sign of the times, but a good time was had by all! Pictures of our participation in the parade can be found below. A "big thank" you to Ralph Caskey for pulling this event together.



Post Bugler Gets Gettysburg Invitation

100 Nights of TAPS, is a daily ceremony conducted in the National Cemetery in Gettysburg, PA., between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Co-sponsored by The Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania and The National Park Service Taps For Veterans, the famous 24-note call is sounded in honor of those who have served our nation.

Post member and "bugler" Ed Ruffennach was asked to participate in this event. We would like to congratulate Ed on his selection. The picture below shows him performing at Gettysburg.



Post to Experiment with Virtual Meeting

Thanks to the efforts of Membership Chairman, Bob Kamman, the Post will conduct its 1st **Virtual Meeting**, August 8th. Our hope is that this technology will help us resolve a long standing problem, by allowing remote and home bound members to participate in our monthly meetings on a regular basis, at no costs.

Our initial trial will have two (2) Post members, connect and use this service. They will be able to see and hear the meeting and if they wish, they will be able to ask questions and participate in conversations.

When they connect to the service, we will know that they have joined the meeting, and their presence will be included in our count to make quorum.

If things go well, we will open the service up to any interested members. This will include help with installing the application, and demonstrate how to connect to the service. To participate you would need access to a PC, tablet, or smart phone and also have Internet Access. If this is something that you would have an interest in, please let us know.

Awards Program

The Post Awards Program was well attended. About 100 Post members and Anderson Township residents came out to recognize those within community who participated in our programs, made significant contribution to either the community or the Post, or were recognized for their continuous service as Legionnaires.

Special recognition was made to Chief Mark Ober, who is retiring after 42 years of service, Vicky Earhart for her service and contributions as a board member of American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc., and Dan Wolfangel who was named "Legionnaire of the Year" for years of dedicated service to the Post.

The following provides a list of all who were recognized by the Post at our Awards Program.

Veteran Scholarship Winners

- Katelyn Baker ----- Anderson High School
- Theresa Herzog ----- Turpin High School
- Julia Lisac ----- Turpin High School
- Sarah Thornton St. Ursula Academy

Americanism & Government Winners

- Sean Schaeffer ----- 12th Grade Boy - AHS
- Tessa Miller ----- 12th Grade Girl - AHS

Boys State Recognition

- James Gibbons ----- Anderson High School
- Peter Henkel ----- Anderson High School
- Nate Hinaman ----- Anderson High School
- Luka Alexandre-Reverendo ----- AHS

Girls State Recognition & Presentations

- Hannah Bird ----- Anderson High School
- Brooke Bitzer ----- Anderson High School
- Emma Bushman ----- Anderson High School
- Elizabeth Minor ----- Anderson High School
- Natalie Walsh ----- Anderson High School

Oratorical Program

- Matthew Martin ----- Anderson High School
- Nathaniel Baker ----- Anderson High School



Poppy Program Supporters

- Kroger Store - Anderson Towne Center
- Kroger Store - Cherry Grove Plaza
- Belterra Park
- Forest Hills School District
- FHSD Elementary Schools (Ayer, Maddux, Mercer, Sherwood, Summit, Wilson)

Legion Program Support

- Nagel Middle School

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

- Cpl. Jason Hovekamp ----- HCSO District 5

Firefighter of the Year

- Firefighter/Paramedic Cory Bower ----- ATFD



Special Recognitions

- Mark Ober ----- Chief ATFD
- Vicky Earhart ----- Amer. Leg. Charities, Inc.
- Dan Wolfangel ----- Legionnaire of the Year

Continuous Service Awards

- Christopher R. Beaucham ----- Five (5) Years
- Kenneth Hamilton ----- Five (5) Years
- Richard Diver ----- Five (5) Years
- Michael Hartzler ----- Five (5) Years
- Darrel G. Everman ----- Five (5) Years
- Anthony Pastura ----- Five (5) Years
- Joseph E. Baker ----- Ten (10) Years
- Walter Geil ----- Ten (10) Years
- Douglas M. Earhart ----- Ten (10) Years
- Charles J. Behymer ----- Fifteen (15) Years
- Roger Siegman ----- Fifteen (15) Years
- Adrienne Prem ----- Fifteen (15) Years
- Pedro P. Ramirez ----- Twenty (20) Years
- Ralph Caskey ----- Twenty-Five (25) Years
- Gerald Porter ----- Twenty-Five (25) Years
- John W. Croxton ----- Twenty-Five (25) Years
- Sophia Hathorn-Utley -Twenty-Five (25) Years
- Steven M. Hillman ----- Thirty (30) Years
- Carl Overberg ----- Thirty (30) Years
- William Hitchcock ----- Thirty (30) Years
- Howard W. King ----- Forty (40) Years
- Donald A. Bishop ----- Forty-Five (45) Years
- Richard C. Burnes ----- Fifty (50) Years
- Hugo Vontz, Jr ----- Seventy (70) Years



Visit us at: www.post318.org

Americanism Update

What a great year we had for our Americanism program: A and G winners, oratorical contest and Buckeye Boys and Girls State. We sent nine candidates to BS/GS this year and were able to honor three of them at the Awards Program. We had two lawyers and a bill writer. All had great things to say about BS/GS and told us some of the things they did. Hopefully I will hear from the others as the year goes on.

This year we handed out four scholarships to children of Veterans; two from Turpin, one from Anderson, and one from St. Ursula Academy.

One of our oratorical contestants could not be at the Awards Program because he was in boot camp for the Naval Academy. It is great that he was accepted there and I think that was a great excuse not to be with us.

With no designated chair, an alternative to suspending all Americanism programs is to find members willing to take the lead on individual programs. Jerry Porter is going to do A and G. Paul Henkel, whose son attended this year's Buckeye Boys State, has agreed to do the BS/GS program. The remaining Americanism Programs that still need someone to take the lead are:

- ***The American Legion Oratorical Contest*** – begins in September and ends in January
- ***The Veterans Scholarship Program*** – distribute applications to the high schools and then leads a committee to choose the winners.
- ***Educator of the Year*** – Interviews and documents the accomplishments of a FHSD Educator.

If you have any interest in helping out please contact Jerry Porter, or myself.

Randy Lindsey
2nd Vice

Bartenders Needed

Anyone interested in learning basic bar tending skills for use at Post rental events, we will train you. Typically when working a rental event the bartenders are paid by the renters at \$15/hour plus tips.

If interested, contact Ken Knight at 675-5234.

At The Flag Pole

Flag Display Days;

- Aug 1st - Air Force Day
- Aug 4, 1790 - U.S. Coast Guard Established
- Aug 14, 1945 Japan Surrendered ending WWII
- Aug 14th - National Navajo Code Talkers Day

SAA,
Ralph Caskey

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, August 8th. Besides our committee reports, we will approve our 2019 Business Plan and Budget and hear from Boys State delegate Peter Henkel.

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, Charlie Cleves. Charlie can be reached at (513) 232-7767, or via email at: ccleves1@fuse.net.

Thought for the Day:

Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses. ----- ***Unknown***

Post Officers & Committee Chairs:

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