

MINUTES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 318

REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2017 (Pending Approval)

The Post meeting, conducted at Post 318's facility, was called to order by Commander Don Bishop at approximately 7:00 PM. Colors were in place and were saluted. Opening Prayer was given by Chaplain Jerry Porter. Commander Bishop then gave the recognition of POW-MIA's, with the POW-MIA Chair Cover put in place by Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey. 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman then led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. 2nd Vice Commander Matt Lilly led the reciting of the American Legion Preamble. Bishop then opened meeting for the normal order of business.

Attendance: Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey noted that there were sixteen (16) Post 318 members present, which represents a quorum. There were no guests. Commander Bishop then introduced new member Edward Ruffennach (transferred from Post 888) who gave some military background on himself.

Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs: Adjutant Dan Wolfangel conducted roll call, indicating Post Officers: Commander Don Bishop; 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman; 2nd Vice Commander Matt Lilly; Adjutant Dan Wolfangel; Finance Officer Ron Yersky; Chaplain Jerry Porter; and Sgt.-At-Arms Ralph Caskey were present, as were Committee Chairs: Randy Lindsey (Americanism); Ed Sears (Bingo); and Bob Alfieri (House).

Absent with prior notice were Service Officer Charles Cleves and Committee Chairs Ken Knight (Fund-Raising) and Jimmy Bussey (Event Coordination). Absent was Committee Chair Doug Rogers (Community Support).

Minutes: Adjutant Wolfangel noted that the Minutes from the October 11, 2017 Post Meeting had been produced in printed format, and placed in the Post Meeting Minutes binder located in the clubroom bookcase, distributed to all E.C. members, and also posted on Post web-site. *A motion made (Dan Wolfangel) to accept October 11th minutes as printed, was seconded (Bob Alfieri), and passed by unanimous vote.*

Executive Committee Notes: Adjutant Wolfangel advised that the October 25, 2017 E.C. Meeting Minutes, in full printed format, had been placed in the E.C. Meeting Minutes binder in the clubroom bookcase, and distributed to all E.C. members, and have been posted on Post web-site. A summary of noteworthy items or actions from the October 25th E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- Approved distribution of a \$100 contribution from Charities, Inc (C.I.) allocated funds to Joseph House's Annual Holiday Solicitation.
- Approved the addition to the Post 318 web-site of a link to the Hamilton County Veteran Service Commission web-site.
- Adopted a written policy relative to "Bar / Concession Worker Compensation", which is now posted in the policies binder located in clubroom. (NOTE: Adjutant read policy content.)
- Discussed viability of offer for donation to Post of two two grave sites in Graceland Memorial Cemetery (Milford, OH) for disposition as desired. More info has been requested prior to decision.
- Set date for Post 318 Christmas Party for Friday, December 8, 2017.

Finance Report: Finance Officer Ron Yersky submitted written finance report for the month of October 2017, with copies available for distribution to membership, and to Adjutant for filing with November Post Meeting Minutes. He advised our financial balance was in fairly good shape at approximately \$15,000 plus combined balance in Post's operating account and capital projects savings account. He further commented on known upcoming expenses. He anticipates scheduled Post's bingo and fund-raising events will continue to assist us in maintaining an adequate balance. *Upon motion (Dick Burnes) to accept October Finance Report, subject to audit, and second (Ralph Caskey), motion was passed unanimously.*

Membership Report: (Chair - 1st Vice Commander).

Chair Bob Kamman submitted written report to Adjutant, and noted the following:

- Currently at about 120 documented paid members for 2018, which is currently 35 members short of quota of 154.
- He advised we still have about 38 current members that have not yet renewed for 2018.
- He announced the names of members with November birthdays.

Post Activities Report: (Chair - 2nd Vice Commander).

Chair Lilly noted or commented on the following:

- A/T Veterans Day Celebration – 11/11/17 – Given by Aderson Township at Patriot Center (in partnership with Post 318). Noted the details. Commander Bishop also commented on logistics. Noted that reservations were available by contacting A/T. (Molly Mohrfield) at 688-8421.
- Post Christmas Party – 12/8/17. Noted details, and advised invites will be sent out out shortly.
- 4th District Bowling Tournament (December 2nd), noting he still needed a couple more interested individuals if we would participate. Anyone interested should contact him. Requires 5 person team.

Adjutant Reports and Correspondence:

Adjutant Wolfangel noted the following items of correspondence, or articles of interest that were received and/or posted over the last month on the Adjutant's bulletin board located in the Post clubroom:

New or Recent Correspondence / Items:

- Joseph House Announcement of First Female Veteran Staff Member – Associate Director – Alicia Harter (Marine Veteran): Posted on BB.
- A/T Park District Acknowledgment of Post's \$25 Contribution to “Trunk 'R Treat Event”: Posted on BB.

Outgoing Correspondence:

- Acknowledgment of \$50 Donation received by Post from member Gary Gregorio.
- Acknowledgment of \$100 Donation received by Post in memory of deceased member Steve Justice.

Chaplain's & VAVS Report: (VAVS Chair - Chaplain):

Chaplain Porter commented on, or noted, following:

- Noted that November 7th VAVS event had been canceled, and we had no current pending activities.
- Gave a medical status update on members Keith Musselman, Ken Knight, and also Chris Gregorio (wife of member Gary Gregorio).
- Noted info regarding McNicholas High School's Veterans Breakfast and Program on Friday – 11/10/17.

Committees and Liaison Reports:

■ **Americanism Committee:** (Chair – Randy Lindsey).

Chair Lindsey noted:

- A & G Testing - Anderson High School was giving the A & G Test today, and he expected the results shortly. He will send the information on the winners to the HCC as soon as he has them.
- Oratorical Program - Believes they currently have three candidates for participation, but could possibly have several more. Will be meeting with Anderson H.S representative next week.

■ **Community Support & Recognition Committee:** (Chair – Doug Rogers).

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Rogers, commented on his (Bishop's) attendance at Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, advising nothing of consequence to report.

■ **Service, Veterans Affairs, Economic & Legislation Committee:** (Chair - Service Officer)

SAA Ralph Caskey, in absence of Chair Charles Cleves, noted that the veteran the Post had been assisting (Brett Feldman & family) had been in touch with the church they were referred to, and the church is helping them out.

■ **Bingo Committee** (Chair – Ed Sears)

Chair Sears commented on, or noted:

- Thanks to all who volunteer for Bingo, and he still needs additional volunteers.
- Bingo in the month of October, which encompassed 5 weeks, provided \$3,100 to the Post, and \$1,400 to C.I., and generated \$723 from concessions, for a total of about \$5,233.2,069.
- Bingo will only have 3 weeks in November and 2 weeks in December.
- November 1st started the new Bingo year.
- Statistics for the Bingo year just ending October 31st, indicated: Attendance was down 7%; Bingo sheets sold was down 4%; and sale of Instant Tickets was up 27%.
- Advised he is now having to pay a service fee to PNC bank due to amount of money being deposited.
- He reminded that he had notified the E.C., that he will be stepping down as Bingo Manager / Chair effective October 31, 2018. So far, to his knowledge, no one has stepped up to work with him and take

over Bingo.

- Noted someone had been tampering with the wiring on the Bingo machine. Fortunately was repairable.

Commander Bishop stressed the need for someone to step up, to assure continuance of Bingo, which produces one-third of Post's revenue.

■ **Fund-Raising Committee:** (Chair – Ken Knight).

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Knight, noted

- Football-Mania was still going on. Matt Lilly noted we had two more Football-Mania winners (\$25 and \$200), for a total of four winners thus far..
- Hoops-Mania tickets will be ordered shortly, so they will hopefully be available for Christmas stocking stuffers.
- Next dance is November 18th. Band is Blue Stone Ivory.
- Next Open Mic event is November 17. Last event was better attended with 45 people, and food sale were about \$170, and beverage sales were about \$150. We will soon need to decide if we will continue this event.
- Have developed schedule for 2018 dances, have added several, and selected “themes” for more of the dances, as the “theme” dances seem to do better.
- Bishop will be meeting with Karen Vanderhorst (Anderson High Marketing Instructor) on November 14th, at 10:30 AM, to get some marketing advice for our fund-raising activities. Anyone that wishes to attend with Bishop is welcome.

■ **Event Coordination Committee:** (Chair – Jimmy Bussey).

Commander Bishop, in absence of Chair Bussey, noted that Jimmy Bussey has advised that he was stepping down as Event Coordination chair as of December 9th. It is necessary that someone step up to take this responsibility also, as the hall rental efforts are responsible for one-third of Post's revenue. There are many issues of concern here, including the handling of three rentals already booked, and the coordination with our ticket office “Showelix”. Anyone interested in taking over as Event Coordinator should contact Commander Bishop as soon as possible.

■ **House Committee:** (Chair – Bob Alfieri).

Chair Alfieri commented on, or noted:

- Thanked all for help on regular and special hall clean-up / set-up details, noting still can use more help.
- Hall Roof Leak, apparently has been successfully repaired, as did not leak during last heavy rain.
- Thanks to Wayne and Bobby Hinaman, who took on painting of the 501-C-3 office.

■ **Internal / External Communications Committee:** (Chair – Adjutant).

External Communications: Adjutant Wolfangel advised our media release on 2017 Awards Program finally was published in FHJ today (November 8th). Takes up two pages. Copy to be posted on BB.

Internal Communications: Commander Bishop reported that the December Newsletter deadline for items to be submitted is November 24th.

■ **Uniformed Ceremonies Committee:** (Chair - Sgt.-at-Arms):

Chair Ralph Caskey commented on or noted:

- Veterans Day Color Guard Details: Reviewed schedules for all remaining events, advising he would send out reminder emails on all.
- Sherwood Elementary Veteran Day Activities: Noted just received details, and will send out schedule of assignments.
- Flag Etiquette Classes: Two were scheduled for Mercer Elementary School.
- Scout's Flag Retirement Detail: Noted he needed volunteers for a color guard for this event on November 13th, in evening.
- Basketball Color Guard Details: Noted will be doing about four. Details will be forthcoming.

Ron Yersky advised his speaking engagement for the Hamilton County Retired Teachers Ass'n on November 8th went well.

■ **Charities, Inc. Committee:** (Chair Don Bishop)

Chair Bishop commented on, or noted:

- CI Finance Report (prepared by Walt Geil – CI Treasurer) as of October 31, 2017). Copies were available at sign-in table, and copy provided to Adjutant for filing with November meeting minutes. He noted that the total balance of CI funds on report was \$2,589.43 as of end of October. He commented on the various distributions from the CI program funds during October.
- CI Quarterly Meeting: Noted C.I. Trustees would be meeting for their quarterly meeting on November 20th.
- “Wave The Flag” Fund-Raising Program: Noted that he needed one more volunteer for the program that was being held on Sunday - November 12th at Kroger Anderson Town Center (10 AM – 4 PM) and Kroger Cherry Grove (10 AM – 2 PM). Hopefully will generate \$4,000 to \$5,000 for our C.I. programs.

Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report: Nothing to report.

4th District Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Good Of The Legion: .

- Volunteer Drawing: Don Bishop handled. \$50 Carrubba's gift card went to Walt Geil.
- Split-the-Pot: Jerry Porter handled, with \$40 going to Bob Alfieri.
- Next E.C. Meeting: Commander Bishop noted it would be on November 29th.
- Next Post Meeting: Commander Bishop noted it would be on December 13th.
- Refreshments: Will be in club room following close of meeting.

Closing:

There being no further business to come before the membership, Chaplain Porter gave closing prayer, followed by Commander Bishop's call for removal of POW-MIA Chair Cover by SAA Ralph Caskey. Commander Bishop then called for saluting the colors in place, and then declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50 PM.

Dan Wolfangel