



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

September 2017

Commander’s Notes:

On August 31st, 1st Vice Commander Bob Kamman assumed responsibility as our acting Commander. It’s anticipated that Bob will continue in this role for about 4 weeks. Please do what you can to support Bob, during my absence.

With the coming of September, many of our Americanism and Community programs will get underway, and our Fundraising and Post Activities will also pick-up. For successful implementations, all of these activities will require active participation and support by our membership. Please consider how you can help and make a contact with the appropriate Committee Chairman.

The Post is still looking for a member familiar with “Social Media”; Facebook, Twitter, etc., to join our Marketing Committee. If you can help out please contact me at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

Don Bishop

Fall Dance Schedule

We’re just a few short weeks away from the start of our Fall dance schedule. For this season, we have booked 4 bands to conduct 10 events between September 9th and New Year’s Eve. The schedule includes special events on Halloween and New Year’s Eve, and once again we will issue frequent dances cards, giving our customers a chance to win cash prizes.

For the fall season we have added *Blue Stone Ivory* to a lineup that also includes the *Cincy Rockers’*, *The Remains*, and *The Last Caballeros*. Like always tickets to all of our events, except New Year’s Eve, can be purchased in advance at www.ShowClix.com for \$ 10. Tickets purchased at the door are \$ 12.50. Admission to the New Year’s Eve event will be \$25 per person.



Our complete schedule is as follows:

- September 9th – The Remains
- September 23rd – Cincy Rockers’
- October 7th – The Last Caballeros
- October 21st – Blue Stone Ivory
- October 28th – Cincy Rockers’ (Halloween)
- November 4th – The Remains
- November 18th – Blue Stone Ivory
- December 2nd – The Last Caballeros (Christmas)
- December 16th – The Remains
- December 31st – Cincy Rockers’ (New Year’s Eve)

UC Students Plan 9/11 Remembrance

The Young Americans for Freedom Chapter at the University of Cincinnati are planning to honor the 3,000 victims of the September 11 terror attacks by placing 3,000 small American flags in their quad. The hope is that this public display of flags will cause every student to take a moment to remember those who lost their lives on that day. Post 318 leadership believes this to be a worthy project on many levels and has agreed to support it by providing funds to help purchase the flags.

Veterans Day Celebration

Post 318 will once again host the Veterans Day celebration sponsored by the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee. The event will open at 5:00 PM with a cash bar, followed by complimentary dinner at 6:00 PM, provided by Belterra Park. Mt. Washington Care Center will provide dessert, and about 7:30 PM “*The Avenues*” will perform. This year’s entertainment will again be sponsored by Charities, Inc.

Reservations will be required for this event, and each veteran will be able to bring 1 guest. Total reservations will be limited to 200. Like last year, Post 318 members will be able to place advanced reservations, but there are no reservation guarantees. So, mark Saturday November 11th on your calendar and watch for information regarding when and how you can place your reservation.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Fund Raising Update:

Bingo – The Post conducts bingo every Sunday. Doors open at 4:30 PM, preliminary games begin at 6 PM. All your favorite “pull tabs” are available. The good news is our Bingo attendance is starting to increase. The bad news is, an increase in attendance will eventually drive a need to increase “worker bees”. You can support the Post by either coming out to play, or volunteering to work these events. Contact Bingo Manager, Ed Sears (474-0246) with any questions. For the month of August bingo earned \$ 4,669 and contributed \$ 868 to *Charities, Inc.* to meet our legal obligations.

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 members and the public. Doors open at 6:45 PM, games begin at 7 PM. Contact Joe Baker (289-9044) with any questions. For the month of August Euchre contributed about \$ 500 to the Post.

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 on-line and sign up for *Kroger Rewards*, selecting *American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.* as your cause.

PokerMania – Our 1st PokerMania is in the books, and the financial results were mixed. The Post earned \$1,413.24, while Charities, Inc. lost \$371.26. Turnout for the event was very light, and 28% of our event volunteers were non-members. Whether we should conduct PokerMania 2 is currently under debate. However, should we move forward and conduct this event next year, we need to recruit and train more members to deal both Blackjack and 7 Card Stud. If you have ever played either game, dealing would not be a difficult challenge. Should you be interested in learning how to deal, please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dbishop@fuse.net.

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. The following is a summary of our May 2017 giving:

Oratorical Scholarships – Charities, Inc. paid out \$ 500 in scholarship money to American Legion Oratorical Contest winners.

Ohio Veterans Home Golf Hole Sponsor – The Post elected to provide \$ 75 in funding to sponsor a hole for

the Ohio Veterans Home golf outing. All proceeds from this event support activities at the Georgetown facility.

VAVS Hospital Visit – Members of the Post made a quarterly visit to the Cincinnati VA, where we entertained the resident patients and provided a light snack. Total cost of the event, \$ \$92.02, was covered by Charities, Inc.

Awards Program – Charities, Inc., provided \$ 422.65 to purchase service awards and cover mailing cost associated with the Post 318 annual awards program.

Annual Membership Dues; WWII, Hardship & 1st Year Members – Charities, Inc. paid out \$ 480 to cover the annual dues of our WWII members, those members with declared hardships, and our 1st year members.

Veteran Scholarships – Charities, Inc. paid out \$ 2,000 in scholarship money awarded by the Post to local students.

Post to Trial “Open Mic” Event

Starting September 22, and every other Friday thereafter through December 1st, the Post is going to trial an “Open Mic” event. The goals of this program are to; 1) bring people into the Post, 2) enable us to promote our other events to a new audience, and 3) generate operating income. Should our goals be met, we would probably continue this event, long term. So, our success will depend on your support. If you have nothing going on Friday, September 22, check out Open Mic. There are no admission fees.

Patriot Center of Cincinnati Presents:

“Open Mic”

**Family Entertainment
Up-and-Coming Performers
No Admission Fees**

Hours 7:30 PM - 11:00 PM

Dates:

Sept. 22
Oct 6
Oct 20
Nov 3
Nov 17
Dec 1



**Cash Bar
&
Food**

Patriot Center of Cincinnati
6660 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244



Visit us at: www.post318.org

Membership Update

We are slightly behind in our membership renewals compared to this point in time last year. We haven't received renewals from about 54 of our members and this is a kind reminder, that our Post constitution defines that all dues are payable by October 20th. If you can help us out by taking a few minutes to write your renewal check and getting it in the mail, I would be grateful. Those members who have not yet paid their 2018 dues are:

Christopher Beaucham.	Charles Behymer
Robert Beyer	Paul Brondhaver
Thomas Bursk	Michael Bursk
William Bussey	Patrick Bussey
Joseph Chalfant	James Coldiron
Robert Conmy	Robert Dames
Stanley Dillion	Richard Diver
Douglas Earhart	Dennis Fehlenger
Charles Foerster	Clinton Geer
Francis Gory	Curtis Grant
Michael Hartzler	Dick Helms
Steven Hillman	Stephanie Humphries
Edward Kaucher	Kevin Kaup
Glenn Kendall	Raymond Krimple
Thomas Lang	George Martin
Todd Mayer	Donald McLaughlin
John McNamara	John Nolting
Gerald Oaks	Anthony Pastura
Joseph Popp	Robert Puthoff
Joshua Richardson	James Rimmer
David Rittenhouse	Richard Rybolt
Edward Schmerber	Jeffery Shari
Margaret Simpson	Richard Simpson
Jack Snow	Andrew Stump
Allen Taber	Mark Taber
Tom Thornton	Troy Gregory
Michael Walton	William Wright

2018 Membership Scoreboard

<i>2017-2018 Quota</i>	155
<i>Paid as of 8/31/17</i>	100
<i>% Quota</i>	64.50
<i>Still Needed (Quota)</i>	55
<i>Members Yet to Renew</i>	54
<i>Membership Goal</i>	165
<i>Still Needed (Goal)</i>	65

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

Chaplin's Report

Summer has flown by and overall, it has been a good summer. The awards day was fairly successful with over a 100 people showing up. Poker mania was not as successful, financially as hoped, but we did not lose money. Bingo has picked up in attendance, and we now look forward to the Dance Season.

Robert Calder got through his surgeries and is home letting his wife and family take care of him. Keith Musselman is getting out and about with the help of Legionnaires like Gary Gregorio. Our Commander was in the hospital but was able to get out for a while and help with Legion affairs. Now he is preparing for new surgery and we hope and pray for his quick recovery. Walt's wife, Cindy, had some procedures done and is doing well.

Our VAVS activity has continued with success and had five members assist me at the hospital playing bingo with patients and serving snacks.

Well if there is anyone needing assistance, or prayers, please let me know. Keep up the good work and stay healthy.

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

At The Flag Pole

Days to display your flag in September are:

Labor Day Sept 4th

Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance (Half Staff) Sept 11th

POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept 15th

Constitution and Citizenship Day Sept 17th

Ralph Caskey
Sgt.-at-Arms

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, September 13th.

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

Thought for the Day:

Working for God on earth does not pay much, but his retirement plan is out of this world. ***Unknown***

Another Way We Support Veterans

Charities, Inc. oversees a modest ***Military and Family Assistance Fund*** to help veterans in need. To give a perspective on what we do, below please find an email asking for help that the Post received a few days ago. While validating this family's need we discovered that their short story is; this veteran is severely affected by PTSD, he lost his job, became homeless, lost his personal property, lost custody of his children, now getting help from the VA, got the kids back, but still struggling. To help them get through this month the Post, through Charities, Inc., provided \$ 300 in financial assistance. We also offered to connect the family to a local church pantry where they would be able to obtain food. Did we meet 100% of their need? Probably not, but we did what we could! Should any of you decide that you would like to provide additional support to this family in the form of food, clothing, or financial support, please contact our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves (232-7767) and he will facilitate the distribution of these contributions.

And now for the story!

Hello my name is Nicole, my husband Brett is a post 9/11 disabled navy combat veteran he has a 70% service connected PTSD disability that suddenly intensified causing him to have severe flash backs that I never seen before causing him to have a complete emotional/mental health breakdown that caused our family to go through a lot of heartache and stress and on top of it all our family has been dealing with the struggle of unexpected financial hardships due to my husband's PTSD getting worse. He is now undergoing intense weekly treatment at the Cincinnati VA Hospital to help him through the flash backs his deployments and working on the struggle he has been having adjusting to civilian life. We have 3 young children and are going without the basic everyday necessities a family with young children needs to survive through each month. We are in dire need of help this month with food, personal hygiene products for our family, gas to get to appointments, etc. We also are in such great need for help with household items (blankets, pillows, dishes, furniture, kids toys, clothes, etc. etc.) due to another horrible hardship that happened this year after a Public Storage facility wrongfully auctioned off all of our family's belongings over being short 100\$ to be our storage bill and auctioned off everything we've ever owned leaving our family with absolutely nothing to move into the house we were blessed to get into after overcoming being homeless last year when my husband was laid off from his cable contracting job with DirecTV. We have worked so hard trying to overcome

the difficulties and barriers we immediately experienced after we moved back to our hometown when my husband's military service came to an end. Right now we just so desperately need just a little help to get us through the rest of this month. We can't receive help from our local veteran service commission due to them helping us with our electric bill last month and everywhere else we've asked for help with food or gas gift cards this month keeps referring us back to the veterans service commission and not understanding that we already received help last month from the service commission and have wasted a lot of time reaching out to other local organizations just to be told to go to the service commission or red cross which is no help, our family is in such great need of help with food and gas for the rest of the month and scared we will be without until next month's disability check comes in.

If your organization can help our family in any way this month with some of our basic needs please contact us.

Thank you and God Bless!

Need Help?

If you're a veteran and need help obtaining any of your entitled benefits, or are in need of a "helping hand", please contact our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves. Charlie can be reached at (513) 232-7767, or via email at: ccleves1@fuse.net.

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>	Matt Lilly	513- 617-8351
<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>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<i>Bingo:</i>	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
<i>Community Support:</i>	Doug Rogers	513-602-5007
<i>Event Coordination:</i>	Jimmy Bussey	513-616-3215
<i>Fundraising:</i>	Ken Knight	513-675-5234
<i>House:</i>	Bob Alfieri	513-232-0309
<i>Service Officer:</i>	Charlie Cleves	513-232-7767