



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

April 2018

Commander’s Notes:

It’s time to identify a slate of candidates to serve as Post Officers for program year 2018-2019. The Officers we elect each year are; Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, and Sergeant-at-Arms. The two (2) positions we need to focus on, because they don’t have any identified candidates are: Commander and 2nd Vice Commander. If you would have an interest in serving in either role, or running in opposition to any of the other leadership positions, please make yourself known.

Members of the Executive Committee have been appointed to form the Nominating Committee. Should you be contacted by a member of the nomination committee, please consider serving the Post. Time spent working on Legion projects and programs provide value to the community and a sense of personal accomplishment to those members actively involved. Also remember, that without membership support our programs, and eventually our Post, won’t survive. A proposed slate of Officers will be published in the May newsletter and voted on at our May 9th General Membership meeting.

Our membership year is quickly coming to a close. We have two (2) months left to reach quota, Yet, to maintain our string of 10 consecutive years of being a quota Post, we still need to either recruit or renew two (2) more members. We should all be proud of our membership accomplishments. There is no other Post in the county that can match our membership record, but it all comes to an end if we don’t come up with two (2) more members by the end of May.

Our condolences go out to the Calder family. Bob was a thoughtful, caring, person and a great Legionnaire. His legacies are the refinement of our *Color Guard* and the creator of our *Flag History Flag Etiquette* program, which he presented to nine local schools on a regular basis. His passing leaves some very large shoes to fill.

Don Bishop

Loose Leaf Binders

A couple of members have cleaned out their home offices and have brought quite a few loose leaf binders to the Post. There are various sizes to choose from. If you would have an interest in any of these binders, please contact Commander Bishop.

Hillcrest Community Service Projects

Hillcrest Cemetery is the final resting place for approximately 1400 veterans from the World Wars, Korea, and Vietnam. There are also Civil War and Spanish American Veterans buried on these grounds. Most of those buried at Hillcrest are indigent black veterans, with no resources or family connections.



With Memorial Day approaching, there are a few projects planned to spruce up Hillcrest. On Saturday, May 12th, Cross Roads Church will be conducting a community service day. The plan is for them to clean head stones, and clean up debris around the in-ground grave markers. In support of this clean-up effort, there is also a need to do some light chainsaw work. Specifically, there’s a need to cut up some downed trees and branches. Post 318 has been asked to complete this task. It’s estimated that it will take 2 or 3 volunteers. If you have a chain saw and would be willing to put in a few community service hours, please contact Commander Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

On May 19th, additional clean-up work will be done by volunteers from General Electric and a local Boy Scout Troop. We will also use the 19th to begin work on our next major project, the straightening/alignment of approximately 450 headstones. It’s estimated that this project will take several years to complete. Todd Mayer, a member of Post 318 and a GE Employee, will lead this effort. The first challenge associated with this project is to figure out how to actually re-set the head stones. To complete this task, the plan is to pull together a team comprised of 2 to 3 Post members and a few GE Employees. The goal is to develop a process for straightening the individual head stones. If you have some basic construction, or stone laying skills or experience, and would be interested in getting involved with this project, again please contact Commander Bishop.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Fund Raising Update:

The Post has to raise about \$6,000 each month to continue operations. You can support our fund raising efforts by either attending, or working, our various events. For March, we exceeded the \$ 6000 threshold. How we got there is summarized in the table below.

| Event | Contribution |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Bingo | \$ 3,771 |
| Dances | \$ 2,610 |
| Euchre | \$ 253 |
| Fish Fries | \$ 3,624 |
| HoopsMania | \$ 2,039 |
| Rentals | \$ 310 |
| Total | \$12,607 |

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.

Post Dances – We attempt to schedule 2 dances each month. They are open to the public. Doors open at 7p. The bands perform from 8p to 11p. Volunteers are always needed for these events, if you’re willing to help out, please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194.

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.

Fish Fries – We closed out our Fish Fries for the year having serves 941 meals and ending with a net profit of approximately \$ 4969. Compared to 2017 both attendance and profits were down, 5.9% and 9.3% respectively. We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came out to support these events.

Open Mic – Open Mic returns to the Post April 13th, from 7:30p to 11p. This event provides local artists an opportunity to perform in front of an audience. There are no admission fees and children are welcome. Beverage and concession services are also available. If you have questions, please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194.

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 an overview of the programs recently funded by *Charities, Inc.*:

After Prom – After Prom is an event arranged by each of the local high schools. It is an entertainment experience that follows prom. The program goal is to provide a drug and alcohol free event that will end with the safe return home of each students. *Charities, Inc.* provides financial support for these events.

Buckeye Boys & Girls State – Boys & Girls State is intended to educate high school students about state and local government and develop leadership skills through simulation and role play. *Post 318* works with the staff at Anderson High School to select at least eight (8) candidates to attend these programs. *Charities, Inc.* provides funds to pay tuition and transportation.

Member Hardships - *Charities, Inc.* provides funds to pay the annual dues of members who are in financial distress.

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

| | Income | Expenses |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Bingo | \$1,284 | |
| Member Donations | \$ 420 | |
| Turpin After Prom | | \$ 100 |
| McNicholas After Prom | | \$ 100 |
| Buckeye Boys State | | \$1,800 |
| Buckeye Girls State | | \$1,375 |
| Member Hardships | | \$ 80 |
| Monthly Rent | | \$ 300 |
| Total | \$1,704 | \$3,755 |

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, 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 is going to become a regular feature in our monthly newsletter. Its purpose is to communicate the kind of support needed by the Post to maintain operations. Some of the support we need can be provided by non-members (spouses, family, or Friends of the Legion). If you’re willing to take on any of these challenges, please contact Commander Bishop.

Over the last couple of months we have highlighted the positions listed below. These opportunities are still 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)
- **Sombrero Toss** (member/non-member)

This month we’re adding to the list the following requirements:

Post Personal Shopper– On a weekly basis there is a need for someone to shop for food and supplies used by the Post for bingo, dances, other events and house maintenance. The goals associated with this task are to; 1) provide a common inventory of product and services for use to maintain Post operations, and 2) to impact customer satisfaction by providing consistent quality products. There is a defined list of stores at which you would shop, and a defined set of product that you would purchase. You would be issued a credit card to support the shopping task.

The work effort associated with this task is approximately 3 to 4 hours weekly and is usually performed on Thursdays to insure product availability and quality for weekend use.

April Dance Schedule

There are two (2) dance events scheduled for the month of April.



We will host *The Remains*, April 14th. They have performed thousands of shows that guarantee fun for

every age! They play an eclectic mix of music spanning from the '60s all the way to what's on the radio now.

On April 28th the *Cincy Rockers* return to The Patriot Center. This is one of Cincinnati’s premier bands playing the music you want to hear.



Tickets to all of our dance events can be purchased by going to our web site www.post318.org and clicking on the special events tab. Tickets purchased in advance are \$10. Tickets purchased at the door are \$12.50.

Need Mulch?

Our Boy Scout Troop is conducting their annual Mulch Fundraiser. If you're in need of mulch, please consider supporting them. Ordering information can be found below!

BOY SCOUT TROOP 519
ANNUAL MULCH SALE 2018
NO MINIMUM ORDER REQUIRED!
Free LOCAL delivery to your driveway
Sat. April 14th, 2018

To order, please complete order form and mail with payment to:

Dean Goering
6513 Ambar Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45230

*Please pay at time of order.
Price includes delivery.*

Orders must be placed by Monday April 9, 2018

Black Platinum Mulch - \$4.25 per bag (2.0 cu. ft.)
Colored Black Platinum - \$4.25 per bag (2.0 cu. ft.)

MULCH ORDER FORM

Customer Name: _____
Address: _____
Contact Phone Number: _____

Bags of Black Platinum _____ @ \$4.25 for \$ _____
Bags of Colored Black Platinum _____ @ \$4.25 for \$ _____
Total Order \$ _____ cash _____ check _____
(payable to troop 519)

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Chaplin's Report

Our Legion continues to grow even as we lose some members from transfers, lack of interest or passing. Our Post still continues to offer a variety of programs for the Community and for our members. Some people have joined but have never come to a meeting or activity to see all the things we do. We donate items for Joseph House, Fisher House, and Legionnaires who need help. We donate to "Gift For Yanks". There are scholarships for High School Students to go to college. We send boys and girls to Buckeye Boys Girl State government camp. A program that ranks one of the best in the country. We sponsor an Oratorical contest that helps students get into advanced education. We run educational programs at select elementary schools. We support families dealing with the passing of a member, by offering services offering Honor Guard Ceremonies and other Memorial programs such as visiting Graves on Memorial Day and taking part in the "4th of July Parade." So many things that many members have no idea what we actually do.

Programs like ours take money, so we have Bingo, Dances, Poppy Days, Fish Fries, and Rentals. These take people to step up and run. So if you are looking for something to do instead of sitting around and watching TV, come down and get involved.

We just lost a member to a long illness. Robert Calder was a great man who worked very hard when he was active at the Post in setting up in school educational programs. He Honored members who did helpful things for the Legion. He helped to set up the present Day Honor Guard program that visits schools, grave sites and other noteworthy events. His funeral was held on March 27th at IHM with a full service and Honor Guard program. Bob will be missed. May he Rest In Peace.

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

At The Flag Pole

Fly the flag day: April 1, Easter Sunday

Ralph Caskey
Sgt.-at-Arms

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, April 11th.

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.

Membership Update

Okay fellow Legionnaires, we are on the homestretch to making our quota for 2018. We only need two (2) more members to renew or to recruit as new. At this point in time, we have 9 existing members that still haven't renewed, so I will be following up with them. If you know of anyone that would like to join, please send them my way and I would be glad to meet with them. Here is our current status summary:

2018 Membership Scoreboard

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>2017-2018 Quota</i> | <i>155</i> |
| <i>Paid as of 3/31/18</i> | <i>153</i> |
| <i>% Quota</i> | <i>98.70</i> |
| <i>Still Needed (Quota)</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Goal</i> | <i>165</i> |
| <i>Still Needed (Goal)</i> | <i>12</i> |

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

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:

Have an awesome day, and know that someone who thinks you're great has thought about you today!

.....***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> | 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> | 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 |