



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

November 2018

Commander’s Notes:

We are beginning the 4th month of program year 2019, yet 1/3 of our membership still has not renewed! Why is that? Being an American Legion member for 46 years, I don’t get it! It seems to me that you either want to support the American Legion and the veteran community, or you don’t. I’m especially dismayed when I see the names on the list of those who have not renewed. Our program year runs from July 1st through June 30th. Renewal notices go out in late June, early July. Each month you put off your decision to renew causes the Post to spend time and resources that we don’t have sending out emails, writing letters, and making phone calls to remind many of you of something you already know. If you’re not renewed by October 20th, you are delinquent and this causes additional work. Please help us out! If you haven’t renewed already, please take a minute right now and do so! If renewing your membership would cause a financial hardship, be aware that we have a policy that no member is turned away for this reason. Simply contact membership chairman Bob Kamman to discuss.

On October 13th, American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc. is going to host *PokerMania II*. This charitable gaming event is being held to raise the money necessary to fund our veteran and community programs. Please come out and support this event.

Don Bishop

Post Secures Commercial Loan

As reported last month, Post 318 has obtained an adjustable 5 year mortgage from First Financial Bank. This loan is amortized over 15 years, at an interest rate of 5%, resulting in a monthly payment of approximately \$ 1,496. With the additional cost of flood insurance, the Post will still realize a savings of \$ 90 each month.



A secondary benefit of this financial arrangement is that this loan automatically renews at the end of the 5 year period, at an interest rate that’s tied to CPI, providing the Post a level of security it has never had before.

Post Christmas Party Scheduled

Mark December 7th on your calendar. This is the date for this year’s Post Christmas party. As always, it will be a family event with a “Pot Luck” dinner. The Post will provide the meats, and adult beverages. Specific details will be provided in a mailing that will be sent out in November.



Virtual Meeting Update

We held our 2nd Beta test of our Virtual Meeting during the September Members meeting. We had much improved results; but, still need some tweaking of the audio. For this past meeting, we set up using the stage and this seemed to provide better visibility. The benefit of having this software on one of your devices is that it allows one to participate in our monthly meeting from a remote location. Therefore, if you able to remotely join; but, not physically be at the facility, it provides one the opportunity to observe and **participate** in our monthly Members Meetings. To date we have 2 Beta testers (2 of our Korean War vets) and one was out of town this past month; therefore, we could use a couple additional people. The software is very easy to install and even easier to use. Usable devices include: smartphones, tablets, laptops or desktops. All devices need to have microphone, speaker (or headset) and camera capabilities. If you are interested helping Beta test, please contact myself (513-545-5237) so that I can arrange to get the application loaded on your device.

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

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.

As a member you can help raise the money we need to fund our programs in the following manner; 1) make tax deductible contributions to *Charities, Inc.*, 2) attend *Charities, Inc.* fundraisers, 3) volunteer to work *Charities, Inc.* events, and 4) register 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	\$ 918	
Member Donations	\$ 180	
Amazon Smiles	\$ 10	
Quota Award	\$ 200	
Flags for Schools		\$ 328
Awards Program		\$ 380
Scholarship		\$ 750
Volunteer Raffle		\$ 100
PokerMania		\$ 50
Total	\$ 1,308	\$ 1,608

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 September, bingo once again pulled us over the finish line. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen. The following is a summary of where our September revenues came from.

Event	Contribution
Bingo	\$ 4,600
Euchre	\$ 200
Dances	\$ 298
Rentals	\$ 1,200
Total	\$ 6,298

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.

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. We also encourage you to come out and enjoy these events. If you’re willing to help out, please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194.

Open Mic – Because we could not make this event work financially, it has been discontinued.

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. There will also be a cash bar available.

It’s really important that this event be successful, and we ask you to consider coming out to support both *Charities, Inc.* and *Post 318*. We also ask that you share this event information with family and friends and encourage them to attend.

Clip the ad below and bring it with you for a \$5 Blackjack table credit.

American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc. Presents:

PokerMania

Cash Bar

Blackjack
7 Card Stud
Texas Hold'em
Big 6 Wheel

Clip This Ad and
Present for a \$5
Blackjack Table Credit
(Limit 1 per Customer)

A Charitable Gaming Event

October 13th – 7p to 12a

6660 Clough Pike – Anderson Township

Promotional Displays

The cost to promote our many events can add up to. To help offset these costs you may have noticed that we have several displays set up around the Post, which include handout materials and video displays. The intent is to have materials and information readily available to people who come in and out of our Post for various reasons; bingo, dances, euchre, rentals, etc. These materials should be neatly organized and out in plain view at all times. Also, the video displays in the Club Room and Foyer should never be turned off. You can help us make these displays effective by recognizing that they need to be seen for them to be effective. **PLEASE DO NOT MOVE THESE MATERIALS OR TURN OFF THE VIDEO DISPLAYS!**

October Dance Schedule

In October we have three (3) dance events scheduled, with some great Cincinnati bands coming to the **Patriot Center**. **The Remains** start things off October 6th. They always draw a very nice crowd. If you haven't come out to listen to this group you're missing something special.



On October 20. The Cincy Rockers will be hosting our **"Sweetheart Dance"**. For this theme dance we will bring out the **"Kissing Booth"** for a Photo Op, and there will be an opportunity for complimentary tickets, should you guess how many candy kisses are in a jar. This will be a fun evening, so don't miss out.



Then on October 27th, we welcome back to the Patriot Center **"Big Trouble Blues"** to host our **"Halloween Dance"**. Costumes are optional, but must be worn to participate in the prize money we pay out for best couple, or individual; \$100 for 1st place, \$50 for 2nd place, and \$25 for 3rd place.



Tickets for all events can be purchased in advance for \$10 at ShowClix, by following the link below, or by calling their box office at 1-888-718-4253, Option 1 and ask about **Patriot Center of Cincinnati** events. Advance sales end at 12:00 PM on the day of the event. Tickets purchased at the door are \$12.50. For tickets go to: <https://www.showclix.com>.

Membership Update

We have lost our lead in both Hamilton county and the District. We are trending slightly below where we've been at this point in time as compared to the past 4 years. We picked up 10 renewals for the month of September. Here are our current stats:

2019 Membership Scoreboard

<i>Paid as of 8/31/18</i>	90
<i>2019 Goal</i>	165
<i>% Goal</i>	60.60
<i>2019 Quota</i>	159
<i>% Quota</i>	62.89
<i>Still Needed</i>	59
<i>Projected Shortfall</i>	6

To make up this shortfall we still need to recruit 6 new members and have the remainder of our members that haven't renewed to date (57), please do so. If you hear of someone interested in joining our Post, please send them my way and I will be glad to follow up.

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

Visit us at: www.post318.org

Chaplain's Report

There is really very little to report. I have not heard from anyone having any difficulties except for Keith Musselman who continues to get over hip replacement and is staying at the Anderson Rehab facility.

The members have started to volunteer for some of our events such as bingo and dances and they have found that their time was well spent and it was fun. If our members would try just once to volunteer for one of our activities they would see that they too could have fun.

This past month a couple of our members have donated money to the Legion and I hope added the Legion as one of their charities that they support.

Veteran's Hospital is supposed to send some of their patients over to our Legion for lunch, conversation and games. Right now it is scheduled for October 20th from 11 till 1:30. Watch for more info to be coming out by email.

Please look at our website and pull up the calendar and you will see all that we do and find opportunities to give some of your time.

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

At The Flag Pole

Fly the Flag Days:

- October 14 – Columbus Day
- October 27 – Navy Day

Other special days:

- October 7 – Afghanistan War began
- October 13 – U.S. Navy Established (1775)
- October 23 – Granada Campaign began (1983)

Ralph Caskey
SAA

Mentoring Opportunity

I have met with the Assistant Principal at Turpin High School, Camey Eberhard, and she would love to have some good men and women act as mentors this school year. They have a need for 5 to 10 people who would be interested in building a relationship with a struggling high school student. This can be life changing on both sides. Meeting times are flexible and last less than an hour. If you would like to help out let me know.

Randy Lindsey
2nd Vice Commander

Fallfest Social

I am hoping to host another fun event on Tuesday October 23rd. We will roast hot dogs, make S'mores and tell tall tales of falls in the past. Come on out and have some fun. All are invited. Just let me know how many I should expect so I can have enough food. We may even bob for apples!

Randy Lindsey
2nd 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.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, October 10th. As usual we will go through our committee reports, updating our projects and programs.

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.

Thought for the Day:

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour ----- ***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