



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

December 2018

Commander’s Notes:

We survived Veterans Day! Every year it seems like the challenges become greater. Thanks to Sgt.-at-Arms Caskey for coordinating all of our committed activities, and thanks to everyone who came out to participate in the numerous Veterans Day events.

I also want to thank the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee, Belterra Gaming, the Mt. Washington Care Center and Charities, Inc. for another great Veterans Day Celebration. We hosted about 150 veterans for a complimentary meal and live entertainment. From all indications, a good time was had by all!

The Post is involved in a lot of events and activities during the month of December. Take the risk and join us. You may even have a good time!

Merry Christmas to all!

Don Bishop

Pearl Harbor Day

The Post is planning to participate in the annual Pearl Harbor Ceremony, December 2nd, hosted by Post 534. We are providing a Color Guard, but all members are welcome to attend.



This ceremony is a really nice event open to all Veterans and their families. Doors open at 9:00 AM for coffee and donuts. There is a flag retirement ceremony at 10:30 AM, with the Pearl Harbor ceremony on the river at 11:55 AM. After the ceremony a hot lunch is provided. Coffee, donuts and lunch are complimentary.

The plan is to car pool from the Post, departing at 9:00am. If you would like to either participate in the Color Guard, or just attend the ceremony, please contact Sgt.-at-Arms, Ralph Caskey at 470-6588 or email, caskeyrw@gmail.com.

Christmas Party Scheduled

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 7th, beginning at 5:30 PM. As always, it will be a family event with a “Pot Luck” dinner. The Post will provide the meats, and adult beverages. We’re asking you to bring a dish to pass; a salad, a vegetable, a side dish, or an appetizer. We have 112 pieces of cheese cake, so we’re asking that you refrain from bringing a dessert. If you have any questions, or missed the RSVP deadline, please contact Randy Lindsey at 374-2099, or email him at weasellee@yahoo.com.



Joseph House Christmas Giving

Each year for Christmas, the Post collects new socks, underwear, and T shirts and donates them to Joseph House, a shelter for homeless veterans. If you would like to participate, please bring your contributions to the Post no later than December 15th.

Fisher House Christmas Giving

Santa will be greeting our dance customers, December 15th, collecting nonperishable food items for Fisher House, a temporary lodging facility for family members visiting veterans admitted to the Cincinnati VA Hospital. If you would like to participate, you can bring your contributions to the dance, or drop them off in the club room, prior to December 15th.

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	\$ 556	
Member Donations	\$ 1,025	
Wave the Flag	\$ 2,200	\$ 212
PokerMania	\$ 1,182	\$ 493
A&G Testing		\$ 35
WWII Memberships Fees		\$ 200
Trunk & Treat		\$ 25
Color Guard Support		\$ 134
Scholarship		\$ 750
Scout Donations		\$ 300
Volunteer Raffle		\$ 100
Total	\$ 4,963	\$ 2,249

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 November, a combination of our fund raising efforts pulled us over the finish line. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen. The following is a summary of

where our November revenues came from.

Event	Contribution
Bingo	\$ 2,967
Euchre	\$ 265
Dances	\$ 1,496
Rentals	\$ 1,300
FootballMania	\$ 1,470
Total	\$ 7,498

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 two (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.

Rentals – We have five (5) primary sources of rental income; hall rentals, kitchen rentals, office rentals, property rentals (Norton Sign), and the beverage sales associated with hall rentals. Members interested in renting the hall for personal use get a 25% discount. Contact Ken Knight (675-5234) for details.

FootballMania™ – The Post participates in the FootballMania fundraiser on an annual basis. If you purchase a ticket you have an opportunity to win cash prizes throughout the NFL season. For each \$20 ticket purchased, \$14 is retained by the Post. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Sakal at 335-3148.

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: cceves1@fuse.net.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, December 12th. 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.

At The Flag Pole

Display flag Days:

- December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day
- December 25 - Christmas Day

Other Special Days:

- December 8 - War declared on Japan (1941)
- December 11 - Germany and Italy declare war on U.S. (1941)
- December 15 - Iraq War ended (2011)
- December 12 - Official end of WWII (1946)

Thanks to all who volunteered for the Color Guard and school visits in November.

If you would like to donate to the Gift for Yanks fund a collection basket will be out during the Post meetings and at the Christmas Party.

If you would like to bring in socks, underwear or t - shirts for the Veterans at Joseph House, I will deliver them before Christmas. (Container in Club room).

Joseph house also needs pants (30 --38 waist) and coats.

Canned food is needed for Fisher House (place in same container as Joseph House.)

If you would like to join us on Sunday Morning, December 2, contact R. Caskey at 470-6588 or email, caskeyrw@gmail.com . A Color Guard detail is going to participate in the Pearl Harbor and Flag retirement ceremony on River Road with Post 534. We will car pool from Post 318 at 9:00am.

Ralph Caskey
SAA

Mt. Washington Care Center Provides Nursing Home Care for Veterans!

Did you know an eligible veteran can not only receive nursing home care at a VA medical center (i.e., community living center) but also a private or public nursing home like **Mt. Washington Care Center at 6900 Beechmont Ave.** at the VA's expense?

Currently, there is no limit on the length of time a veteran can remain in a VA-paid contract nursing home like **Mt. Washington Care Center** (called either community nursing home care or contract nursing home care). The VA will ensure, however, all alternatives to other available resources are addressed, such as home health care and adult day health care, before a contract nursing home is the first resort.

Each VA medical center maintains a list of approved available local nursing homes they conduct contracts

with. The purpose of VA contracting with community nursing homes is to meet the needs of veterans requiring long-term care in their own community, while remaining close to their families.

VA nursing home care is for veterans too sick, disabled or elderly to care for themselves, but do not require hospital care.

Veterans with a combined service-connected disability rating of 70 percent or more have priority.

If space and resources are available, VA can also provide nursing home care to veterans rated below 70 percent and non-service connected veterans—but for a limited amount of time.

Many states operate state veterans homes to provide care to veterans, spouses, and surviving spouses. Most states receive some type of VA funding to cover a portion of the cost of the veteran's care.

Mt Washington Care Center is inspected and audited by VA to ensure they meet certain standards.

Since most states have their own eligibility requirements for admission, veterans and advocates will need to contact the individual state home for information.

For more information, please visit

http://www.va.gov/geriatrics/Nursing_Home_Eligibility.asp or feel free to contact Ken Schroeder, Director of Admissions at Mt. Washington Care Center at 513-231-4561 or email at admissions@mtwcc.com.

Post 318 to Participate in G5 Beta Testing

Post 318 has entered into an agreement with Novation Networks to participate as a Cincinnati site in the Dish Network Nation Wide G5 Beta testing. A deciding factor is that 100% of the planning, installation and support for this project will be done by veterans. An element of this agreement is for Novation to identify and train the veterans using our rental hall as a training site when possible.

The benefits that the Post will derive for its participation are; 1) a \$ 1,000 contribution to the Post, 2) three (3) years of free TV service provided by Dish (120 channels), 3) the designation of Post 318 as a training site, for which we would receive rental income when used, and 4) all veterans who attend a training session will be offered a one (1) year paid membership to the Post. This membership will be paid for by Novation Networks.

Expectations are that the G5 equipment and TV service will be installed within the next few weeks. House Chairman, Bob Alfieri, will be coordinating with Novation Networks to complete this installation.

Visit us at: www.post318.org

December Dance Schedule

For December, we have two (2) dances scheduled. First up is our Christmas show featuring the **Wild Rice Musical Revue**. 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.



For this event, we will be handing out cash prizes, and Santa will be present to collect non-perishable food items and pass out candy canes.

We will end the year, and our Fall dance schedule, with a New Year's Eve (NYE) celebration, featuring the **Cincy Rockers**. This is Cincinnati's premiere band, playing the music you want to hear.



NYE is our biggest event of the year, and generally sells out, in advance. Therefore if you're planning to attend, we would recommend that you purchase your tickets as soon as possible. Besides our usual table snacks, there will be party favors and a champagne toast at mid-night.

Tickets for all events can be purchased in advance for \$10 (\$25 for NYE) at ShowClix by following this link: <https://www.showclix.com>, 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 for all events, except NYE, are \$12.50. All NYE tickets are sold in advance.

Spring Dance Schedule Almost Complete

Except for Saturday, April 27th, our spring dance schedule is complete. It consists of thirteen (13) events and will run from January 12, to June 15, 2019.

For the spring schedule we currently have a line-up of four (4) bands; **Cincy Rockers**, **The Remains**, **Wild Rice Musical Revue** and **Six Pac**, and we will conduct five (5) theme events; **Valentine's Day**, **St. Patrick's Day Celebration**, **Vegas Night**, **Cinco de Mayo**, and **Prom Night**. We will also recognize our customers on the last dance of the season, with cash prizes. This event is called **Loyalty Night**. Our complete schedule is as follows:

- January 12 – Six Pac
- January 26 – The Remains
- February 2 - Cincy Rockers
- February 16– Valentine's Day – Wild Rice
- March 2 – Six Pac
- March 16 – St. Patrick's Day Celebration – Cincy Rockers
- March 30 – The Remains
- April 13 – Vegas Night – Wild Rice
- April 27 – TBD
- May 4 – Cinco de Mayo - Six Pac
- May 18 – The Remains
- June 1 – Prom Night – Cincy Rockers
- June 15 – Loyalty Night – Wild Rice

New Year's Eve Staffing

If you don't have plans for New Year's Eve (NYE), consider volunteering to help work our dance. NYE is our largest single revenue generating project each year, with net profits in the \$2,500 to \$3,000 range. However, it takes about thirteen (13) people to work the event and it's difficult to get people to come out on NYE and help.

Currently, we have a group of volunteers who come out and work every dance committed to help with NYE. However, to supplement these volunteers, we also need two (2) people to act as hostesses and seat people, we need two (2) people to work the Club Room bar, and we need two (2) people to buss tables. If you're willing to help please contact Don Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

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Chaplain's Report

Every month we worry that the Legion is going to fold if we do not bring in enough capital to keep us afloat. Yet we keep finding ways to bring in the money. This of course, does not just happen. Without the extra time and effort put forth by Don Bishop, Ed Sears, and Ken Knight, this would not happen. They are constantly requesting people to come in and work Bingo, dances, rentals and other fund raisers. Some of our members have never even been in the Post once they joined. I know that if a few of you would at least try one event, you would see that they can be fun and you get to know other members.

Some of our members we do miss around the place are Leo Turner, who worked many dances and the Joe's table at bingo. His lady followers ask about him all the time and others miss his piano playing. Then we have Dick Burns who came in regularly to help clean up the Post, but he had a slight stroke, and even though he wants to come back and help, until he is healthy, we will continue to pray for him. Don McGlaughlin, Bill King, Charlie Stein, Bill Becker and Gene Sawka, would love to help, but age has a way of slowing us down. They still support the Legion by attending our other functions.

Our Post is by far the newest and cleanest Post in the District. Visitors from other Post are always giving us compliments and are impressed by all we do. Too bad we do not get more support from our own members.

Buckeye Boys/Girls State is being advertised and very soon we will begin interviews for those who will attend. Because of lack of funds in the Charities Inc., we will only be able to send six students unless we get some scholarships from other members or donations from outside. Last year we sent four extra students because we got donations. This is one of the greatest programs we have and it deserves our support.

The Christmas Party will be on December 7th. What a great opportunity for members to enjoy great food and meet a lot of members. It is free and they only ask those who can, bring in a side dish. Beer and wine will be furnished along with other types of drinks. Call Randy Lindsey, our second Vice Commander and let him know you are coming.

Veteran's Day activities went exceedingly well under the Leadership of old Ralph Caskey. Thank you all who were involved.

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

VA Hospital Visit

The Post will participate in a visit to the Cincinnati VA Hospital, December 17th. During this visit, we will play games and provide a light snack to the patients. To conduct this event we need approximately six (6) volunteers. The plan would be to car pool from the Post, departing at 6:00 PM and returning about 8:30 PM.

If you would like to participate in this event, please contact Jerry Porter at 513-528-1557, or via email at gerryporter7952@gmail.com.

Thought for the Day:

We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea. ----- ***W.H. Auden***

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