



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

October, 2019

Commander’s Notes:

I want to say “Thank you all again!” to everyone who works to support our Post 318 fundraising projects! For us to continue as a positive influence in the Anderson, Ohio, community we must continue to support the activities of the Post which raise the money we need to continue our programs. We need continuing efforts of everyone in the Post to support our Bingo parties on Sunday nights, our dances on Saturday nights, and our other fundraisers. It would help if you just came once a month at 3 PM to help clean and set up the hall for Bingo! That usually takes less than 1 hour, so if you want to continue helping you can stay and learn how to do any or all of the several things that we must do to keep our Bingo customers happy! Or show up on Tuesday morning at 9 AM and help clean the Patriot Center! If you can give the Post a Sunday a month (or more!) please call Ed Sears at (513) 474-0246, or me at (513) 582-8477 and volunteer! This also applies to support for our Dance Schedule. Don Bishop is still in charge of the dances, and he is always ready to sign up new help (513) 290-8307! Ed and Don publish Bingo and Dance volunteer signup sheets the week before events. If you don’t receive these e-mail signup sheets please call Ed, Don or myself and you will be added to that volunteer e-mail list.

4th District News

Welcome to the 2019 - 2020 year. With all of your help the Fabulous 4th District is off to a good start. Asking all Legionaries to remember the WAY and the WHEN of The American Legion. (1) Serving and helping VETERANS. (2) Child welfare. (3) National Security and, last but not least (4) Americanism! This is the year we are celebrating our 100 years as an organization. Be committed and be Proud ! I hope to see more Legionnaires and more Posts in attendance at our District Conferences and District Membership Meetings.

Steve Foster reports that Ohio District 4 is in 2nd place at 61.01% paid memberships for 2020. If you have not paid your dues to Post 318 for 2020, please do so now! To plan the budget for next year they must know what the total dues count will be by November 1st!

4th Dist. Commander Jim Jennings

Post 318 Officer List

Commander: Joe DuBois (513) 582-8477
1st Vice: Bob Kamman (513) 474-5237
2nd Vice: Randy Lindsey (513) 374-2099
Adjutant: Ed Ruffennach (330) 962-9652
Finance Off.: Ron Yersky (513) 232-2591
Chaplain: Jerry Porter (513) 528-1557
Sgt.-at-Arms: Ralph Caskey (513) 470-6588

Post 318 Committee Chairmen

Americanism: Paul Henkel (513) 413-4293
Bingo: Ed Sears (513) 474-0246
Events Coordination: Ken Knight (513) 675-5234
Communications: Ed Ruffennach (330) 962-9652
Community Support: (vacant)
Finance: Ron Yersky (513) 232-2591
Fundraising: (vacant)
House (Building): Bob Alfieri (513) 232-0309
Membership: Bob Kamman (513) 474-5237
Post Activities: Randy Lindsey (513) 374-2099
Service, Vet. Affairs: Charlie Cleves (513) 232-7767
Uniformed Ceremony: Ralph Caskey (513) 470-6588
Charities, Inc. Liaison: Don Bishop (513) 290-8307
VA Volunteer Service: Jerry Porter (513) 528-1557

Next Meeting

Our next general meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, October 9th, 2019. The success of Post 318 depends on your support, so please bring a friend and come find out what’s going on! As always, there will be a split-the-pot and light snacks after the meeting. If you can bring a fellow veteran who needs a ride, please call our Chaplain, Jerry Porter, at (513) 528-1557.

Patriot Center Rental

The Patriot Center hosted a reunion on September 21st and made over \$600 for the Post! If you can tend our bar for rental functions, please contact Ken Knight at (513) 675-5234, and let him know that you might be able to help him out with rental functions in the future.

Ken Knight, Events Coordinator

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. 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 September bingo earned \$ 3098+ and contributed \$ 607+ to **Charities, Inc.** to meet our legal obligations.

Euchre – Euchre tournaments are conducted every Thursday night in the Club Room. Buy-in is \$5.00, \$2.50 going to the Post and \$2.50 going to prize money. This is a fun evening and is open to both our membership 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 September Euchre contributed \$ ____ 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.

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.

Bingo Results for the month of September:

\$2,600 to the Post, \$950.00 to our 501C3,
Concession \$547, September Total \$4,097

Ed Sears, Bingo Manager

Need Help?

If you're a veteran in need of help obtaining any of your benefits, please call our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves, at (513) 232-7767, or email at: ccleves1@fuse.net.

Chaplin's Report for September, 2019

The Post is holding its own, not because of a windfall, but because we have carried the tradition of good people stepping up. Joe DuBois and Ed Ruffennach are relatively new members, but they realized that our Post does a lot for the Community, so they stepped in and filled two of the Legion's most important positions. Joe is now our Commander and Ed is our Adjutant. They have gotten out of the blocks running and are doing a very good job. Now we need a couple more members to step up and fill some of our committee heads.

Be looking at the calendar because there some upcoming **free activities** that all Legionnaires and veterans can take advantage of. There is a Veteran's dinner put on by Anderson Township for all veterans living in Anderson. It will be held at our Post so we can get first crack at reservations. The Post Christmas Party is being held at the Post on December 6th. Your whole family is invited. Full meal, entertainment and gifts will be the order of the evening.

There are also dances every other Saturday night with good dance music or just to listen, and they can be visited for as little as ten dollars. One night, January 28th, there is going to be a big band night, just for your listening pleasure. Try some of these activities. You might just find out what you have been missing!

One of our members, good old **Bill King**, has passed away. Services were held on September 30th. Please keep his family in your prayers. **Bill Hitchcock** is now at Mt. Washington care center with lung cancer but is still hoping for positive results from his treatment. **Charlie Stein** is home and is improving from back surgery.

Many of our members are getting up in age and are still anxious to get out to a meeting or activity, but may need a ride. Please consider helping one of our older veterans. Contact Jerry if you can give a fellow veteran a ride! (513) 528-1557

Jerry Porter, Chaplain

October Dance Schedule

On Saturday, October 12th, we welcome “*The Remains*” back to the Patriot Center. This group has performed thousands of shows that guarantee fun for every age!



The Remains play an eclectic mix of music spanning from the '60s all the way to what's on the radio now. This is your chance to listen to a great local group playing the songs you want to hear.

To celebrate Halloween, the *Cincy Rockers*, will host our annual dance, Saturday October 26th. Make the Patriot Center your perfect “Date Night” destination. A friendly venue where people gather to listen and enjoy great bands playing the music you want to hear.




For the Halloween dance we will continue the “costume contest” which has become a Patriot Center tradition. Three cash prizes will be presented to the best costume, or couple; 1st Place (\$50), 2nd Place (\$25) and 3rd Place (\$15). There will also be some other Halloween surprises awaiting you.

Tickets for all dances can be purchased in advance for \$10 by going to the Post web site www.post318.org, then click on the Special Events Tab, or you can call the ShowClix box office at 1-888-718-4253, Option 1, and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events. Advanced sales end at 12:00p on the day of the event. Tickets purchased at the door are \$12.50.

Veterans Day Celebration

Mark Monday November 11th on your calendar and come celebrate Veterans Day with us. This event is intended for Anderson Township Veterans and 1 guest. It will include a complimentary dinner, dessert, and live entertainment. Details are listed below. Capacity is limited to 200 guests, and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. **Post members may call in their reservations beginning October 1st.** This is a few days before reservations will become open to other Anderson Township Veterans. To make a reservation for you and one guest, call (513) 688-8400.



Anderson Township Veterans Day Celebration


Monday, November 11th, 2019

American Legion – Anderson Post 318

Reservations Required:

- Anderson Township Veterans & 1 Guest
- Seating for 200 – 1st Come / 1st Serve
- For Reservation - Call 688-8400

LIVE STAND UP COMEDY
FOR VETERANS BY VETERANS!



Program:

- 5:00 PM - Cash Bar
- 6:00 PM - Complimentary Dinner
(Sponsor – Belterra Park Gaming)
- 7:00 PM - Complimentary Dessert
(Sponsor – Mt Washington Care Center)
- 7:30 PM - Live Show – The Veterans of Comedy
(Sponsor - American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.)

6660 Clough Pike
Anderson Township, Ohio 45244

Wave the Flag Fundraiser

Charities Inc., will conduct its annual Veterans Day fundraiser “*Wave the Flag*”. We have made our request to Kroger for Saturday, November 9th. We hope to be at Kroger, Anderson Town Center, from 10 am to 4 pm. We are also planning to be at Kroger, Cherry Grove, from 10 am to 2:00 pm. However, neither location has been confirmed yet. Sign-up for this event will be available at our October General Membership Meeting, or by contacting Don Bishop at 474-4194, or via email at dabishop@fuse.net.

Service Photos

Over the last 4 years, we have developed a slide show of service related and Legion photographs. It has become a Post historical record and is shown each year during our Veterans Day celebration. In preparation for this year's event, we are currently updating this slide show. If you should have some pictures to contribute please get them to Don Bishop ASAP. Electronic files are preferred, but if you have photographs, he will scan and return the originals.

Flag Retirement Ceremony

The Post has received many American flags which are in need of retirement. We have scheduled a Flag Retirement Ceremony at Hillcrest Cemetery for 10 AM on October 19th. If you want to participate in the ceremony, please contact Sgt.-at-Arms, Ralph Caskey, (513) 470-6588. If you do participate in the ceremony we will meet at the Post at 9:30 AM and carpool, since parking at Hillcrest is limited.

Post 318's October Social Event Fallfest Cookout: RSVP Randy at: weasellee@yahoo.com

Our next social event will be on Wednesday, October 16th. We will roast hot dogs, make S'mores and tell tall tales of falls 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! Bring a dish to share. Starts at 5:30 PM.

Future Post Activities – Save the Dates!

November 11th: Anderson Township Veterans Day Dinner. Sign up now! (513) 688-8400. Veteran + 1 guest. Dinner donated by Belterra Park Gaming.

December 6th: Post 318 Annual Christmas Party
More info to follow!

Randy Lindsey, 2nd Vice Commander

Post Finance Report for September

Current operational figures - Checking \$14,862.67.
Savings \$21,720.77. Current as of September 24th, with all bills up to date!

Post Finance Officer Position Available immediately with OJT. Bonding not required. Contact Post Commander or Finance Officer Ron Yersky for details.

Ron Yersky, Finance Officer

District 4 Fall Conference

If you are interested in attending, call (513) 897-9401 and let them know you will be there. The Conference will be held at Post 615, 174 S. 4th Street, Waynesville, Ohio 45230 on Sunday, October 27th, at 10 AM.

Veterans Gain a Victory

Vietnam-era Navy and Marine Corps veterans appear to be set to claim disability benefits related to Agent Orange exposure. The Department of Justice will drop its appeal of a federal court decision awarding benefits to Blue Water Veterans. According to a filing with the Supreme Court, officials will not argue for overturning the January 2019 decision that undid the Veterans Affairs (VA) policy of denying benefits to those Navy/Marine veterans.

Vietnam veterans who served in or off the shores of Vietnam and have any of the following medical conditions are encouraged to contact the nearest Veterans Affairs (VA) office so staff can file for potential compensation on their behalf: AL Amyloidosis, Chronic B-cell Leukemias, Chloracne (or similar acneform disease), Diabetes Mellitus Type 2, Hodgkin's disease, Ischemic Heart Disease, Multiple Myeloma, Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Parkinson's disease, Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset, Porphyria Cutanea Tarda, Prostate Cancer, Respiratory Cancers (including lung cancer), Soft Tissue Sarcomas (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma).

Vietnam veterans who have one of the conditions listed above and never filed a claim with the VA are encouraged to contact their County Veterans Affairs office to file to potential compensation. **If veterans suffer from one of the conditions that was previously denied, or if the disease has shown progression, the staff can file to reopen the claim for reconsideration or for an increase to the disability rating.** Blue Water Navy veterans who previously filed a claim for any of the above medical issues need to allow the VA office to file to reopen their claims in light of a recent court decision. Navy/Marine veterans who were within the 12 mile limit off the coast of Vietnam and have one of the Agent Orange-related conditions **but never applied for compensation need to file an initial claim immediately.**

At the Flag Pole

October 14th, Columbus Day
October 27th, Navy Day

Ralph Caskey, Sgt.-at-Arms

Membership Update

We are off to a great start towards our membership quota of 161. Through Sept 25th, we are 75% of the way to our quota of 161. Great job everyone on getting your renewals in. We have 120 members that have paid their 2020 dues to date and we are looking for your continued support for our Post and community. There are still about 46 existing members that haven't renewed to date and I could really use your support by renewing at your earliest convenience. National attempts to set their 2020 budget by November and therefore it helps to have the commitment of all our members for them to know what they are working against. Ways that you can renew:

(1) By mailing or dropping off a check or cash to the Post. 6660 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244 (Be sure your name is included and that it is for membership).

(2) You can renew by credit card at: www.legion.org/renew

This year the President has signed the Legion Act. This now permits anyone that has served in active duty since Dec 1949 and was honorably discharged to become a member of the American Legion. Therefore, if you have a relative, friend or neighbor that might be interested in joining, I would be grateful if you could either send them my way or send me their contact information and I would be glad to follow up with them.

2019 Membership Scoreboard

Paid as of 08/25/2019	120
2019 Goal	165
% of Goal	72.7%
2019 Quota	161
% of Quota	74.5%
Required for Quota	41
Unpaid members	46

If you are one of the 46 members that hasn't paid to date, please try to do so soon. We have a really good chance of hitting our goal this year. This would be the first time in 5 years that I have been doing membership!

The President has signed the Legion Act. This permits anyone who has served in the Armed Forces since Dec 1941 and was honorably discharged to be granted membership into the American Legion. If you know of someone interested in joining our Post, please send them my way and I will be glad to follow up or forward me their contact information and I will be glad to follow up with them. We have 5 new members this year, which is really great. Let's keep this trend up and have another great membership year.

Bob Kamman, Membership Chair

Color Guard

The presence of our Color Guard at community events demonstrates that we are involved in local activities, and that we care about our youth activities.

October Schedule

October 11th, Anderson HS Military Night. All Veterans welcome, We will need 10 Color Guard member and service flag bearers. We need ten volunteers! Contact Sgt.-at-Arms, Ralph Caskey, if you can help the Color Guard! (513) 470-6500

October 18th, Turpin HS vs. Anderson HS: Football game Color Guard, 7 PM.

October 19, Flag Retirement Ceremony at Hillcrest Cemetery with The Young Marines of Cincinnati helping us. Saturday at 10 AM. Parking is limited at Hillcrest so we can car pool from the Post by 9:30 if you want to.

Ralph Caskey will be out of town from 10/4 to 10/10. He will send out details to those volunteers who sign up for the Flag Retirement Ceremony on October 19th. All are welcome to participate, or to just come and show your respect for the flags which represented our United States of America until they were no longer able to!

Ralph Caskey, Sgt.-at-Arms

Appreciation Night!

On October 9th at 7 PM we are going to recognize the volunteers who planned and initiated the fundraiser for Post 318 at Latitudes Bistro and Bar on August 25th! We will also recognize the sponsors of the event. We will also thank musicians who entertained us during the event! They will attend our general meeting on at 7 PM, where we will present them with a plaque, or a letter of appreciation, for their generous support of American Legion Post 318! Please plan to come to this meeting and express your appreciation for their contribution to the maintenance of our Post!

Volunteers: Renee Bode, Sherri Warner-Hudson, Tracey Raymond, Chris Short, Anne Stratman

Musicians: , Glen Hock (the DJ), and Dan Varner, Nick Netherton, and Brad Kelly, (The Dan Varner Trio)

Planners / Promoters: Kerri Wolfangel (Comey & Shepherd Realty), Sammy Khoury (Latitudes Bar & Bistro), and Charles Ferrara (Latitudes Bar & Bistro).