



# American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



*“For God and Country”*

*April, 2020*

### **Commander’s Notes**

It is with deep regret that Post 318 has had to cancel all of our group activities until further notice. Governor DeWine has shut us down until this crisis is over in the Anderson, Ohio, area. If you are having a hard time adjusting to the crisis conditions, give one of us a call! Our Chaplain, Jerry Porter, our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves, and our Commander, Joe DuBois, are all willing and able to talk with you!

This will be a difficult time financially, for us individually, and for the Post as well. We have taken steps to slow the outflow of funds the Post has, since our income has dried up for the near future. If you receive the money promised by the government, consider donating it to the Post!

Please continue to pray for a quick end to this crisis, and hunker down until we can meet again---in groups larger than 2 or 3! Charlie can be reached at (513) 232-7767, email at: ccleves1@fuse.net.

**Joe DuBois**

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### **Patriot Center Rental**

*Our Hall is one of the newest, largest and cleanest in the area which is available for rental. The hall can hold over 200 guests! If you know anyone who needs a good place to have a party or gathering, please give them my number, (513) 675-5234, and recommend that they use our Patriot Center.*

**Ken Knight**

**Events Coordinator**

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### **Bingo!**

Bingo has been cancelled, along with everything else! February was the last full month of Bingo Sundays until the crisis is over! Money to the Post: \$2,700, money to the 501C3: \$685, Gross Concession: \$470. Money in checking account: \$572.64.

**Ed Sears**

**Bingo Chairman**

### **Officer Elections – 2020-2021**

**March 11th** - Nominating Committee was to be appointed to develop a slate of Post Officers for 2020-2021 Membership Year. (Elected Officers are : Commander / 1st Vice Commander / 2nd Vice Commander / Adjutant / Finance Officer / Chaplain / Sgt-At-Arms)

**April 8th** - Adjutant to read Nominating Committee report of nominees for Post Officers for the 2020-2021 Membership Year. Additional nominations may be accepted from the floor. Nominations should be closed at this meeting.

**April 29th** - Publication in Post newsletter of: Date of Election; Nominees for Post Officers; and absentee voting process.

**May 13th** - Election conducted at Post General Membership Meeting.

**June 10th** - Installation of Officers at Post General Membership Meeting (after which they assume responsibility for their respective office).

In my reading and understanding of the By-Laws, should emergency or circumstances delay this order of process, the current Post Officers continue to serve until the election process has been completed and the newly elected officers have been installed.

I would think the first step would be to try and determine which current "elected" officers are willing to seek re-election to their current "elected" position, or run for another "elected" position. *Adjutant Ed Ruffennach will run for adjutant again.*

**Post 318 MUST HAVE a minimum of a COMMANDER and an ADJUTANT to maintain our charter. WITHOUT A CHARTER THE POST MUST CLOSE!**

**Someone must volunteer to be Post Commander so that we can carry on our work as American Legion Post 318, Anderson, Ohio! Step up or we go out of business!**

**Dan Wolfangel & Joe DuBois**

### ***Fund Raising Update***

**Bingo** is cancelled until further notice!

**Euchre** is cancelled until further notice!

**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.

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### ***Hoops Mania Results***

So far Post 318 has had 4 winners who played HoopsMania this season! They each won \$30, which will be distributed by the Post. Hopefully we will have more winners, as time marches on!

***Matt Lilly***

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### ***Erika Reynolds***

We had a special visitor at our General Membership Meeting. She is an employee of the Cincinnati VA, working at the Vet Center located in Norwood. Erika Reynolds, a veteran herself, is a Veteran Outreach Program Specialist at the Cincinnati Vet Center, 4545 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45212.

She described some of the programs she is involved with, and answered questions from members. If you need help from the Center, give Erika a call at: (513) 763-3500. Here is a link in case you are not familiar with Cincinnati Vet Center:  
[https://www.cincinnati.va.gov/services/Vet\\_Center.asp](https://www.cincinnati.va.gov/services/Vet_Center.asp)

Erika also has access to Vietnam Commemoration Pins. If you want one (as a Vietnam Era Veteran), give her a call. She can arrange a drop off at the Post if she can't mail them directly to you.

***Erika Reynolds***

### ***Chaplain's Report, March, 2020***

March has brought us all kinds of headaches. The Post finally started to make money and become a little more secure financially. Membership has reached a record high due to Bob Kamman's hard work and persistence.

WHAM! Here comes the Corona Virus, and life as we know it, comes to a screeching halt. Puzzles, TV, housecleaning, and conversation becomes our temporary (we hope), way of life. I hope prayer and patience are part of your daily routine. We do not know how long this event will be part of our lives, but it will take understanding and discipline to get through it.

Next month will be an important month for the Legion. We will be looking forward to new officers for our Post. From the sound of things, we will be asking for someone to step up and fill the positions of Commander and Chaplain. In the past few years we have finally established procedures to make the Post run more efficiently. New officers will have a good roadmap of how the Post operates.

It is my hope and prayer that someone steps up to keep our Post running effectively. How long these closures last will determine what we can do for the next few months. If you need assistance to get anything give me or Charlie Cleves a call and we will try to get you some assistance.

There has been a deal made with the Family Pet Center next door to remove part of the island that now exists between our two properties. This new arrangement is helping us become better neighbors.

The loss of Ron Yersky was a heavy loss for our Post. Every loss is hard, but Ron really gave a lot of his time to make our Post financially solvent. We will miss him, and we thank Randy Lindsey for stepping up and filling our Financial Officer position. Now we need to fill the office of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander also. This is a very good starting position for someone who is interested in being a part of the Post operating board.

May God continue to watch over all of you and your families. We pray that the virus does not find a way into your life. If anyone has any concerns that I can assist with, please feel free to contact me: Gerald1940@twc.com.

***Jerry Porter***

***Chaplain***

### Membership Update

#### **2020 Membership Scoreboard**

<b>2020 Quota</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Goal</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Paid as of March 11, 2020-</b>	<b>166!</b>
<b>% Quota</b>	<b>103.1%</b>
<b>Potential</b>	<b>170!</b>
<b>Members Yet to Renew</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Paid by Charities, Inc.</b>	<b>22</b>

**Robert Kamman**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

### Missing Person Report

Joe Baker is in touch with Zane (Zenon Bilwin), who's newsletter was returned last month. Joe reported: "Zane called me this morning and said he was still alive! He is a WWII vet who is around 92 years old, and was my neighbor for a while. He went into the hospital for a month in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 and they thought they were going to lose him, but he is a tough old bird and pulled out of it! So he called me and gave me his new address: Zane (Zenon) Bilwin - Room 1106, Forest Hills Care Center, 8700 Moran Road, Cincinnati, OH 45244. " His Phone is still (513) 538-6030, so if you know Zane, give him a call!

**Joe Baker**

### Charitable Giving

Over the course of each year, American Legion Post 318 contributes thousands of dollars to programs important to our membership through Charities, Inc. The following is a summary of our February, 2020, giving:  
High School After Proms - \$200  
Forest Hill Band Boosters - \$75  
Buckeye Boys State - \$900 & Girls State - \$1,375

General Account as of February 29 Balance: \$3,596.21

Veterans Account as of February 29 Balance: \$978.89

**Walt Geil**

**Charities, Inc., Treasurer**

### House

Not much going on! I believe we have done as much as possible to reduce costs etc. I have been to the Post every day to check on things. All the thermostats have been set at 50 degrees since the weekend.

**Bob Alfieri, House Chairman**

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We are going to try a virtual General Membership Meeting! At 7 PM I will call the meeting to order. We will be using the free app, Zoom, as the way to go. It works with computers, smart phones or tablets. The host simply sends out an invitation. You click on the link with whatever device you are using and it quickly downloads the software and connects. Randy's wife has been using it to contact her entire class in one meeting. I can host and send out the links.

Once you are signed up, we can test Zoom sometime before the meeting. On meeting night, Adjutant Ed will have an officer roll call and determine which officers are attending, as well as who else is "Zooming" with us. If we have a quorum we can conduct Post business. If you want to participate, load the Zoom app on your device and e-mail joedubois@cinci.rr.com before 7 PM on April 8th, so we can add you to our list of "attendees".

We will not have a Split-the-Pot, nor will we have a drawing for Volunteer of the Month! There will NOT be a light snack after the meeting, either!

**May God bless us, each and every one!**

**Joe DuBois**

### Finance Report

As of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020:

PNC Hall Account = \$2,141.24  
5/3<sup>rd</sup> Checking = \$8,212.58  
5/3<sup>rd</sup> Savings = \$7,215.10  
1<sup>st</sup> Financial Savings = \$5,000.08  
13 month CD = \$10,000  
1<sup>st</sup> Financial Checking = \$14,630.34

**Randy Lindsey**

**Post Treasurer**

## ***IMPORTANT VETERANS UPDATE***

### **Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Seeking Applications**

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame is accepting nominations to recognize those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and continue to contribute to our communities, state, and nation through exceptional acts of volunteerism, advocacy, professional distinction, public service, or philanthropy.

Each year, the Hall of Fame inducts up to 20 former service members based on recommendations from an Executive Committee of veterans from throughout the state and approval from the Governor of Ohio.

To be considered, the veteran must meet the following criteria:

- Be a past or current Ohio resident
- Have received an honorable discharge
- Be of good moral character

This Hall of Fame sets the standard for recognizing Ohio's veterans for accomplishments beyond their military service. In addition, it is a fitting way to say "Thank you for your service to our nation and thank you for your continued service to our communities." Chances are you know a veteran who deserves to be inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. You are encouraged to nominate that deserving veteran today.

Nomination deadline is June 1, 2020. Guidelines, a sample nomination, and more information are available at: <http://dvs.ohio.gov/main/veterans-hall-of-fame.html>.

***Sandra Puskarci***

***Program Administrator, Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame***

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***Color Guard***

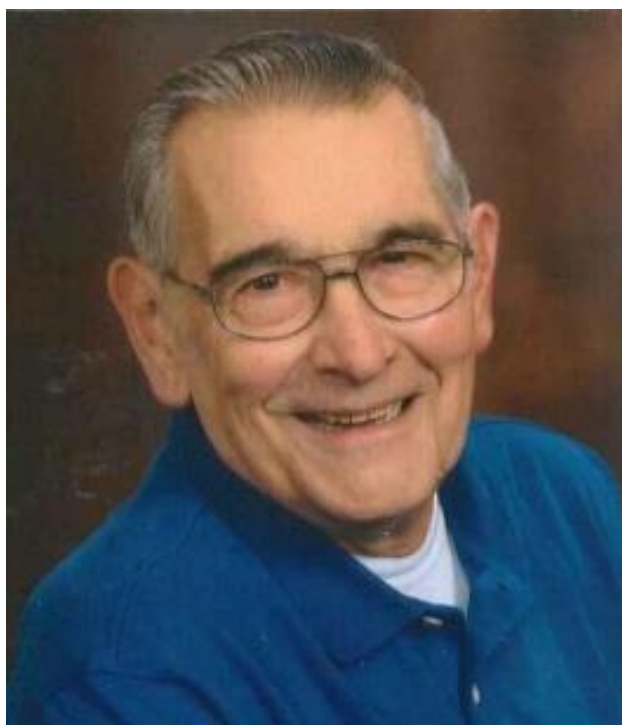
Due to Governor DeWine's directives, all group activities have been canceled until further notice.

***Ralph Caskey***  
***Sgt.-at-Arms***

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***At The Flag Pole***

Passover: April 8th  
Easter Sunday: April 12<sup>th</sup>  
Orthodox Easter Sunday: April 19th  
Ramadan begins: April 24th



**Ronald Emery Yersky, Sr.**

Retired Major, U. S. Army, husband of Juanita Yersky for 60 years. Father to Deb, Jim (Biz McClure), Rose (Scott) Kreidler, and the late Ron Jr. Ron had 9 grandchildren.

He passed away on February 29th, 2020, at the age of 82.

He served as a career officer in the Field Artillery, including two tours in Vietnam. On returning, he taught ROTC at Xavier University. After he retired from the Army, Ron taught History and English at Princeton High School for 17 years. While there, he also coached women's basketball and softball.

After civilian retirement, he volunteered at Mercy Anderson Hospital, St. Vincent DePaul, and was named a Fellow of the AARP Tax Program. A member of American Legion Post 318 for 15 years, Ron recently retired from being Finance Officer. After a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Veronica Church, Ron was laid to rest in the Gates of Heaven cemetery, with Military Rites conducted by the Post 318 Color Guard. Memorial contributions may be made to [josephhouse.com](http://josephhouse.com).

**We miss you, Ron!**

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**Visit us at: [www.post318.org](http://www.post318.org)**



*Connecting critical needs of Anderson area residents with local resources that can fill those needs, especially the elderly and those underserved during this COVID-19 crisis.*

*Serving and helping our community to stay safe and healthy by making it feasible for those who are elderly, ill or underserved to stay at home.*

Allow us to serve and stand in the gap for those with critical needs.

Helping Hands of Anderson Township (HHAT) is a local volunteer group who are healthy, willing and able to help the elderly and those in need while complying with the state mandated COVID-19 regulations.

Our program works two ways:

1. We have created a "call center" to match those who have a "need" with local resources, such as churches, food banks and other agencies, that are able to fill that "need".
2. We have a "volunteer bank" of folks ready to run errands, grocery shop, or pick up medicine for those residents that are elderly, high risk, or ill so they can stay at home protecting them from illness or spreading illness to others.

All our volunteers are informed and adhere to the latest Center of Disease Control "best practices" guidelines. A copy of those guidelines are available upon request.

Contact us at:  
513-302-8160  
[HHATneed@gmail.com](mailto:HHATneed@gmail.com)  
Hours of Operations: M - F 10AM - 2PM

(This just came in and is available to members of the Anderson, Ohio, community in need!)

### ***Post Officers & Committee Chairs:***

<b>Commander:</b>	Joe DuBois	513-582-8477
<b>1st Vice:</b>	Bob Kamman	513-474-5237
<b>2nd Vice:</b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b>Adjutant:</b>	Ed Ruffennach	330-962-9652
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Jerry Porter	513-528-1557
<b>Sgt.-at-Arms:</b>	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588
<b>Americanism:</b>	Paul Henkle	513-413-4293
<b>Bingo:</b>	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
<b>Event Coordination:</b>	Ken Knight	513-675-5234
<b>House:</b>	Bob Alfieri	513-232-0309
<b>Service Officer:</b>	Charlie Cleves	513-232-7767
<b>Charities, Inc., Liaison:</b>	Don Bishop	513-474-4194
<b>Corp. Statutory Agent:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577