



# American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

June, 2020

### Commander’s Notes

This is my last newsletter as your Commander, so I want to thank all of you dedicated Post 318 veterans who have helped me through this memorable year as your leader! Because of your help, I was able to accomplish several things I am very thankful for! First of all, I am thankful that we were able to continue with all of the programs we have been carrying out for the last several years --- at least until this virus locked us down! Secondly, I am very happy to have a few younger members in leadership positions, so that some of us age-challenged volunteers can take a break! Thirdly, I am very happy that we finally came to an amicable agreement with Daryl Meyerrenke, owner of our neighboring business, the Family Pet Center, concerning our parking lots. So far we have been able to have virtual meetings to continue some of our normal work at Post 318! Thanks again for making this past year a memorable experience for me! Please continue your support of Post 318 by actively supporting all of our Officers, who have volunteered to represent you in support of our community, our state and our nation!

An excellent way to start taking an interest in Post 318 activities is to join our next virtual General Membership meeting at 7PM on June 10<sup>th</sup>. You can download the free Zoom.com app to your smart phone, tablet, or to your computer. Install the app, then go to the meeting page and note the blank ID and Password spaces on that page. Once you have the app loaded and installed on your device, you just start the Zoom app 5 or 10 minutes before the meeting and go to the Meeting page. Nothing else is required until 6:55PM! **At 6:55PM on June 10<sup>th</sup> enter ID: 737 2868 1103 , Password: Post318.** After 40 minutes, Randy will have us exit the meeting, and we will then go to the next Zoom meeting at 7:30PM. Ed Ruffennach will host the second half of the meeting, since our free Zoom use is limited to 40 minutes per host! **7:30 Meeting ID: 227 434 5365, Password: 9kASkc.**

Make sure you activate “video and audio” on your device. The group will see your picture (your camera must be on) whenever your microphone picks up a sound (your video and mike must be on too). If there is any noise picked up by your mike, you will stay on everyone’s screen, so find out where the mute control is located on your screen! (Microphone Icon)

**Your sound causes Zoom to send your video and mike input to everyone, so we can hear and see who is talking (or who has a noisy dog, wife, kid, TV or radio, etc.) Please be in a quiet space for the meeting, or mute your mike until you want to speak to the group.** Find your mute button! Usually a microphone icon which has a slash through it when you touch it to mute (or click on it with your mouse to mute).

### Officers for 2020-2021

Due to the failure to have a quorum at the May 13<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting, Post 318 failed to conduct an election of officers for 2020-2021. To keep the Post operational, I have appointed three new officers:

- Chester Canter as Commander,
- Kirk Minnich as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander,
- and Robert Heberly as Chaplain.

The remainder of our Officers have agreed to extend their terms until the next scheduled elections in May of 2021:

- Ed Ruffennach as Adjutant,
- Randy Lindsey as Finance Officer,
- Robert Kamman as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander
- And Ralph Caskey as Sergeant-at-Arms.

The three appointments, and the extensions for the remaining officers was voted on and approved by the Executive Committee at their virtual meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This action now requires the approval of the General Membership.

**June 10<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting** – If the appointed Officers are approved by vote of the General Membership, our Officers will be installed later in the Post 318 General Membership virtual meeting. After installation, they will assume responsibility for their respective offices for the remainder of the meeting, and until the next election of officers in May of 2021.

If an emergency or other circumstances delay this order of process, the 3 new, appointed Officers, and the 4 current Post Officers will continue to serve until they can be installed.

**Joe DuBois**  
**Commander**

### *Fund Raising Update*

**Bingo** is cancelled until further notice!  
**Euchre** is cancelled until further notice!  
**Dances** are 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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### *Joseph House*

Al Buxton, 4<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant, wrote: “Will you please forward this to your contacts. Joseph House stepped up big time. They continue to do the right thing for all veterans.”

If you can, please add Joseph House to your monetary donation list during this crisis. We are still collecting toiletries and clothing for the veterans at Joseph House. You can drop off your donations inside the members entrance at the Post, just to the left, just inside the door.

### *Joe DuBois*

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### *Are you a Veteran in crisis?*

#### *Or concerned about one?*

Did you know that VA offers same day services in Primary Care and Mental Health at 172 VA Medical Centers across the country

**Contact the Veterans Crisis Line (1-800-273-8255) and press 1, Chat, or Text 838255.**

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### *Memorial Day Tribute*

Post 318 pays tribute to our comrades and friends who recently passed away: Roger C. Siegman, Leo E. Turner, Howard W. (Bill) King, Donald J. (Don) McLaughlin, Dale L. Simpson, Jack R. Storm, and Ronald Yersky.

### *Chaplain's Report, Jerry Porter Chaplain*

It is my hope and prayer that this newsletter finds all of you and your family in good health both physically and mentally. This time being locked up, so to speak, is wearing on everyone. I do not recognize some of my friends. So many look like bank robbers!

The Anderson Township Memorial Day taping was a success and I hope many of you took the opportunity to watch it on Facebook or You Tube. Thank you Don Bishop and Ralph Caskey for working with Anderson Township to get this done.

Our Legionnaire member Bill Becker has good news about his cancer. It has gone away and we hope and pray for good. Glad to hear Charlie Stein's daughter is doing better. Hopefully Keith Musselman is doing ok. I have not been able to visit with him at the “Anderson”. No other news is good news.

Everyone should applaud our Legion Officers with keeping our Legion up to date, and trying to come up with new ideas to keep us solvent. Our Commander is on his way out but the last few months of his term he is not going out like a lamb. He still is working hard to get a new slate of officers voted on with a quorum of members, so new ways are being considered to get our new officers on board. Seems kind of strange that we have three fairly new members to our Post stepping up to run the Post as Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, and Chaplain. Hopefully people will step up to help them get started in the right direction.

May God help all of us get the Post back on its feet and be a working part of the community.

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### *Jerry Porter Chaplain*

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### *Winners of our Veteran's Scholarships*

The budget for our scholarships is \$3,000, so divided by 4, each qualified applicant will have \$750 sent to the college they enroll in for the fall term. Winners of the scholarships are:

Owen Minnich, Anderson H.S.

Kirk Minnich - father - Member Post 318

Diego Capetillo, Turpin H.S.

Antonio Capetillo - father - Member Post 318

Abbey Blocksidge, Anderson H.S.

Arthur Blocksidge - grandfather - member Post 318

Claire E. Scheffter, Notre Dame Academy (H.S.)

Charlie Cleaves - grandfather - member Post 318

### ***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.*

#### **General Account:**

Expenses: \$22.99, Income: \$120.00

Balance as of 4/30/2020: \$4,063.74

#### **Veterans Account:**

No activity!

Balance as of 4/30/2020: \$508.89

**Total of both accounts: \$4,572.63**

***Walt Geil  
Charities Inc., Treasurer***

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***From Roger Friend,  
Department Commander,  
To Our Ohio Legion Family***

Governor DeWine announced new sectors of business that are now permitted to reopen in our state under the Stay Safe Order. Those additions included barbershops, hair salons, restaurants, and bars starting May 15.

On May 21, restaurants and bars may open for inside dining with additional instructions, and patrons may be required to wear a face-covering while they wait to be seated. Once seated, you may remove your face mask. If you need to leave your seat, you would be required to don your face covering again. Bars may open as well if they can meet the specific guidelines listed.

### ***Good News for Post 318!***

Looks like we can reopen the Club Room on May 21st, as long as we comply with the 10 person limit, wear face masks when moving around the area, and keep the 6ft. spacing between social groups. Everyone using the area will have to clean the whole area before they leave the Club Room.

We are still not allowed to hold Bingo games, so we are still marking time until the governor allows gambling. We can then develop our requirements to open up our major fundraiser! Dances are another issue, since normal dances require mingling in close quarters with other moving people, and keeping a 6 foot distance will be impossible the way we have always done it!

### ***House***

We have done as much as possible to reduce fixed costs. All kitchen appliances are off, excess night lights are off, and I have been to the Post every day to check on things. All the thermostats are set at 50 degrees for now.

***Bob Alfieri  
House Chairman***

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### ***Next Meeting***

On meeting night, I will officially start the meeting after we all get on Zoom, since we don't open the Zoom app until 7 PM. 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 join the meeting at 6:55PM on June 10<sup>th</sup>!**

**We need a quorum to approve the 2020-2021 Budget! We also need to approve the slate of officers for the 2020-2021 Term of Office.**

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

***Joe DuBois  
Commander, Post 318***

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### ***New Chaplain Candidate!***

Robert Heberly has expressed interest in our Chaplain position, beginning in July. He has not been active in Post 318 activities, but he served 7 years as VFW Post 5908 Chaplain. He also served as VFW Kentucky District 5 Chaplain. He currently works for Hospice in Cincinnati, and will be off for 4 evenings a week after July 1<sup>st</sup>, by working 3 x 12 hour shifts.

### ***Bingo!***

Bingo has been cancelled, along with everything else! February was the last full month of Bingo Sundays until the crisis is over. There is no current income from Bingo, dances, Euchre, Hall rental, or catering, and the latest changes have not changed anything for us!

***Ed Sears  
Bingo Chairman***

**Charities, Inc.**

Americanism: Scholarships recipients have been selected!

Community Support: The Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce has suspended distribution of all Post 318 event notices.

Budget Reduction: The suspension of Bingo and the collapse of the "Poppy Program" will create a significant "Revenue Shortfall". To address this issue the 2020 Charities, Inc. Budget was adjusted. Specifically, outstanding 2020 Budgeted Expenses were either reduced, or eliminated, to offset the revenue shortfall. These identified changes are effective immediately.

Charities, Inc. also has recurring expense commitments that are due in July and August. These 2021 expenses, total approximately \$3,400, and those funds are available.

**Donald Bishop**  
**President, Charities, Inc.**

**2020-2021 FABULOUS FOURTH DISTRICT ACTIVITIES**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>2020 District Picnic</u>	July 19, 2020	Post 199
<u>District Golf Tournament</u>	August 2, 2020,	Circling Hills, Harrison
<u>District Billiards Tournament</u>	Sept. 13, 2020,	Roc's Billiards
<u>District Corn Hole Tourney</u>	Oct. 11, 2020,	Post 199
<u>District Bowling Tournament</u>	Nov. 28, 2020,	Madison Bowl
<b>DECEMBER-NO EVENTS SCHEDULED</b>		
<u>Outlaw Turkey Shoot</u>	Jan. 24, 2021,	Post 237
<u>Billiards Tournament</u>	Apr. 11, 2021,	Roc's Billiards
<u>2021 District Picnic</u>	TBA	Post 450.

I would like to see if a post on the East side could maybe get a Euchre Tournament date for us, or something else of interest to the American Legion Family. If your post is interested in hosting an event, please let me know.

**Al Buxton**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 2nd Vice Commander**

**May Finance Report**

1st Financial Checking:	\$17502.36
1st Financial Savings:	\$12125.51
13 mos CD:	\$10041.80
5/3 Bank	\$200.00
Outstanding checks:	\$3187.40
Available Balance	\$14284.96

We have the check from the Family Pet Center for \$12,500, and work has begun on the parking lots!

All bills are paid except noted.

Liquor license has been paid. Liquor license renewal date is 6/1. Cost was \$2844.00. Pending is Lawyer costs for Anderson Pet Center agreement. Post expenses have been reduced to less than \$2500 per month.

Final HoopsMania numbers:	
Cost of the tickets	\$108
Cost for the entries	\$510
Cost to Winners	\$120
Total donations	\$2300
Total Profit	\$1562

**Randy Lindsey**  
**Finance Officer**

**Post 2021 Business Plan & Budget**

The Post 318 2021 Business Plan and Budget are scheduled for membership review and approval at our June 10<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting. For your review, an electronic copy will be distributed to all Post members with email addresses, June 1<sup>st</sup>. For those without email, three (3) hardcopies of the plan will be available in the clubroom, after 12:00 PM, June 1<sup>st</sup>. These copies should not be removed from the clubroom. Our June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be scheduled as a video conference. Access information will be provided at a later time.

**Don Bishop**

**At the Flag Pole**

Fly The Flag: Flag Day: June 14, 2020, and Father's Day: June 21, 2020.

**Ralph Caskey**  
**Sergeant-At-Arms**

***4<sup>th</sup> District Elections for  
2020-2021 Officers***

I "attended" the virtual 4th District convention this morning using Go To Meeting. We elected a new slate of 4th District officers: Commander, Steve Foster, 1st Vice, Steve Ervin, 2nd Vice, Al Buxton, Finance Officer, Jerry Perry (Other Officers are appointed). That was all that we covered, except we accepted the minutes of the previous meeting.

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***Schedule for Fabulous 4<sup>TH</sup> District  
E-Board and Conferences 2020 – 2021***

E-Board meetings will be held on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Conferences will be on Sundays. doors open at 8:00 a.m., and meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. snacks at E-Board or lunch at conference meetings will be at discretion of the host Post.

E-BOARD, AUG. 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2020, 7:30 p.m., WILMINGTON POST 49

FALL CONFERENCE, OCT.25<sup>TH</sup>, 2020, HARRISON POST 199

E-BOARD, DEC. 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020, 7:30 p.m., LOCKLAND POST 631

WINTER CONFERENCE, JAN. 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2021, POST 72

E-BOARD, FEB. 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2021, 7:30 p.m., MILFORD POST 450

SPRING CONFERENCE, MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2021, POST 534

E-BOARD APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> 2021 7:30 p.m. POST 194

SUMMER CONFERENCE, MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> 2021, POST 484

***Al Buxton  
4<sup>th</sup> Dist. 2nd Vice Commander***

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***Memorial Day Service***

Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee videotaped a Memorial Day Service. To take a minute to pay tribute to these fallen Veterans. Simply follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pChUoY8jnps>.

***Fourth District, Department of Ohio The  
American Legion  
Fourth District Golf Tournament  
August 2, 2020***

The tournament will be held at Circling Hills Golf Course, 10240 Carolina Trace, Harrison OH. First tee time is 10:00 AM. This tournament is open to all Legionnaires, SAL, and Ladies Auxiliary members with a 2020/2021 membership card.

Please see that your Post Activities Chairman is made aware of this information and if possible, advertise in your Post newsletter. Act promptly, the deadline for entries to be received is July 24, 2020.

This year we are asking everyone in the Legion Family to sponsor a hole and to assist in finding hole sponsors. In this packet you will find the letter and form that can be copied and handed out to individuals and local businesses for hole sponsorship. We will have four (4) different sponsorship levels. Any post that signs up as a hole sponsor will receive a \$25 discount on the posted prices for each level of sponsorship. Help us make this a great tournament.

Lunch will be provided, and prizes awarded at the end of the tournament at Yeager-Benson Post 199, 10700 Campbell Rd. Harrison.

Looking Forward to your participation.

***Al Buxton  
2nd Vice Commander  
Fabulous Fourth District***

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***Email Scam***

Dear Member,

I was contacted by a Post member who received an email message from someone pretending to be another Post member asking for immediate help.

The member responded and learned that the sender wanted him to purchase some gift cards. The member recognized it as a scam and asked that I let everyone know, just in case the scammer has a list of our membership. Be on the alert for these kind of messages.

***Don Bishop***