



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

May 2022

Commander’s Corner

Spring is finally here, and Post 318 is doing well! Our Fish Fry fundraiser went very well---the best ever! A big “Thank You!” to Jerry Porter and all of our Fish Fry volunteers this year.

Our biggest fundraiser is Bingo, so a big “Thank You” to Ed Sears and his crew who volunteer every Sunday!

We are also continuing to profit from our hall rentals, thanks to the efforts of Ken Knight. Related to the Patriot Center is the rent we receive from our in-house caterer, Tammy McCauley. She uses our kitchen, and has been a steady source of income for three years now. If you need catering, she will do a great job.

Our other income source is Euchre, run by Joe Baker. We also need to mention our newest trial fundraiser, Karaoke. Dan Wolfangel has been running that, with help from his wife and his daughter. Our SAL Commander, Chris Short, and others have also been helping out with Karaoke.

Don Bishop is busy reviving our Poppy Day fundraiser, which hasn’t been doable since Covid shut us out of the schools and local grocery stores.

Because of the hard work being done by our veteran volunteers, Post 318 is continuing to contribute to our programs to benefit veterans, local children, and our Anderson Township community. Thanks again to our core of dedicated veterans who have continued to support Post 318 in spite of the Covid epidemic!

Lee Stegmann
Post 318 Commander

Post Clean Up Schedule

Help us clean up the Post on Tuesdays at 9 AM. Please come out and help! Since we don’t have dances anymore, this is the only day of the week we have to clean up the Post! Bob brews fresh coffee, and Mike Stringer usually brings donuts, muffins or cookies!

Ed Sears and Bob Alfieri

Membership Update

The great news is that we are at quota. The downside is that we still have 5 members that haven’t renewed, and 12 members that the Post prepaid their memberships and they have not reimbursed the Post. If you are one of those, please send your dues to Bob Kamman---soon!

A big thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership to get us to quota. We now have 175 members, an all time high for Post 318!

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander
Membership Chair

Need A Covid Shot?

Please share this with your Members. If you still need or want the Covid shots the VA still has them. They are just moving out of the auditorium. Thank you!
For God And Country!

Jerry E. Perry
1st Vice Commander
4th District of Ohio

Memorial Day on May 30th

The annual Memorial Day ceremonies will begin with Tammy McCauley catering our breakfast at 7:30 at the Post. The Color Guard will then proceed to the cars which we will drive to visit the veteran cemeteries.

After that we proceed to the Anderson Town Center to conduct the annual Memorial Day Ceremony with the ringing of the bell. If you want to help, please contact Ralph Caskey so he can fix you up with Color Guard accessories and instructions.

If you are already a Color Guard member, please contact Ralph and sign up to participate in the services. We will use our cars this year, since we now have problems using a bus.

Ralph Caskey
SAA

Support Veterans Exposed to Toxic Hazards

This week, The American Legion National Headquarters sent out an alert to NLC members and Legislative Action Center subscribers to call on their Senators to pass H.R. H.R.3967 the Honoring our PACT Act. After one week of advocacy, the following numbers were achieved:

Email Alerts Sent to Legionnaires: 23,169

Emails Opened: 6,218 (27%)

Messages Sent to Congress: 3,014. New Senders: 347.

This campaign will be the top legislative priority of The American Legion over the next few months. Status updates will be shared weekly, and Legionnaires are encouraged to disseminate this campaign far and wide.

American Legion National

May Meetings

Next General Meeting is on May 11th at 7PM.

EC Meeting is on May 25th at 7PM.

S.A.L. Meeting at 7PM on May 4th at 7PM.

4th District Activities

4th District Pic-Nic, Sunday, June 26th, 2022, at Post 450, Milford, Ohio.

Dept. of Ohio Golf Tournament, Saturday and Sunday, July 30th & 31st, 2022, at the Elks Run Golf Course, Batavia, Ohio.

4th District Golf Outing, 9AM Shotgun Start, Sunday, August 14th, 2022, at the Eagles Nest Golf Course, Loveland, Ohio.

Charities, Inc. Update

Please remember that there are two corporate programs that contribute to CI (Charities, Inc.) based on your support for their businesses. All you need to do is sign up, select CI as your cause, and they will contribute a portion of your spending to CI. Details are listed below:

Kroger Community Rewards – If you are a Kroger customer and are not supporting a charitable organization through *Kroger Community Rewards*, we would encourage you to do your part to support your Post! 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 – If you shop at Amazon.com 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.

Don Bishop

President, Charities, Inc.

Post Officers & Committee Chairs:

Commander: Lee Stegmann 513-967-9613

1st Vice: Bob Kamman 513-545-5237

2nd Vice: Kirk Minnich 513-594-5339

Adjutant: Dan Wolfangel 513-474-9577

Asst. Adjutant: Bob Carey 513-313-7369

Finance Officer: Randy Lindsey 513-374-2099

Chaplain: Jerry Porter 513-528-1557

Sergeant at Arms: Ralph Caskey 513-470-6588

Bingo: Ed Sears 513-474-0246

Community Support, Americanism, and Fundraising are all VACANT

Event Coordination: Ken Knight 513-675-5234

House: Bob Alfieri 513-232-0309

Service Officer: Charlie Cleves 513-232-7767

Charities Inc. Liaison: Don Bishop 513-474-4194

Corp. Statutory Agent: Dan Wolfangel 513-474-9577

VA Volunteer Service: Jerry Porter 513-528-1557

Asst. Finance Officer and Newsletter Editor: Joe

DuBois, joedubois@cinci.rr.com 513-582-8477

SAL Advisor: Tony Capetillo 513-633-1667

SAL Commander: Chris Short 513-460-4560

All Post 318 ZOOM Meetings

ID: 3959722502, Password: Post318 (Capitol “P” and no space between Post and 318 is necessary in the password.)

If you can't attend the monthly General Membership Meeting, please use the Zoom application and the ID & Password provided above! Log on, mute your microphone, then listen and observe the meeting. We need your attendance, since we can't do business without a quorum. We need you there on Zoom!

Randy Lindsey
Zoom Chairman

Bingo

I want to again thank all the people who come out to help set up for bingo, along with all of the people who come out and work Bingo for the POST. If you like to play Bingo, we play on Sunday night. Doors open at 4:30 pm. and play starts at 6 pm, sharp!

Please consider helping us out on Sundays. The jobs are easy to learn, and about half are completed by 7:30 pm. We are usually finished with all jobs by 9:30 pm or 10:00 pm. Thank you!

We are looking for one or two people who would like to learn how to call Bingo numbers for us once in a while. We will teach you how to run the new console. If you are interested please contact Ed Sears:
emsears1969@gmail.com.

Ed Sears
Bingo Chairman
513-474-0246

Post Finance Report

All bills are paid, we have a positive cash flow, and Post 318 is solvent! All winners of our “Hoops Mania” have been paid!

Randy Lindsey
Finance Officer

Uniform Services

Joseph House donations are still needed for May, since there is turnover of patients on a regular basis. If you have donations, please leave them inside the Club Room door, on the left side.

We're still collecting money for Gifts For Yanks until May 15th, and any donations will be gladly accepted.

Any member wishing to join the Honor Guard please let me know. We could use a few more volunteers.

Ralph Caskey
SAA

Adam Sears



It is with deep sadness and respect that we announce that Adam Sears, son of Ed and Carolyn Sears, passed away in April. A celebration of Adam's life was held at the Post on April 22nd. Several donations have been made to the Post in memory of Adam.

Post 318 Election of Officers

The Election for Post 318 Officers for the 2022-2023 year will occur at the May 11, 2022 Post General Membership Meeting, starting at 7 PM. Notice of the election logistics and the slate of candidates, is being made known to all Post Members through this newsletter and a separate MailChimp email notification, in accordance with member notification requirements of Post 318 By-Laws, and includes the following slate of candidates, which is as follows:

Commander	-	Lee Stegmann
1 st Vice Commander	-	Robert Kamman
2 nd Vice Commander	-	Kirk Minnich
Adjutant	-	Robert Carey
Finance Officer	-	Randy Lindsey
Sgt-At-Arms	-	Ralph Caskey
Chaplain	-	Rob Heberly

Since there are no contested positions (i.e.: no more than one candidate for any position) a vote by acclamation for the election of all candidates listed for their respective Post Officer positions, will be taken at election meeting, and no ballots will be necessary, nor prepared.

Dan Wolfangel
Post 318 Adjutant

Post Activities

We had an enjoyable and tasty Cinco de Mayo last month for our April Post 318 Social Event! Our May Activity will be the Memorial Day activities on May 30th. All of our future Post Socials will be on the 3rd Saturday of even months and will be held in the Clubroom.

The dates are: June 18th; August 20th; October 15th & December 17th. Make sure to check the Post Calendar and the Newsletter for the details of each event and for all the events at the Post! We plan to have a busy 2022, and look forward to seeing you at the Post!

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander

Sons of America Legion

Our Post 318 S.A.L. held their first meeting on April 6th. They have voted to have their monthly meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month. They have volunteered to run our annual Halloween and New Years Eve fundraisers, since we had no plans for the Post to do it this year. Therefore, they have had members attending our Marketing Committee meetings so the Squad will be well coordinated with the Post and their fundraising efforts.

We are confident that our application for certification of our S.A.L. Squadron will be approved at the convention in July, so they are moving along!

SAL Advisory Committee

Post 318 Fish Fry Signs

We need to know who has our signs, since we plan to reuse them next year, so please call Kirk Minnich at: 513-594-5339 if you have a Post 318 Fish Fry sign, or email: kirk.minnich@gmail.com .

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander

Karaoke Anyone?

Are you a “Karaoke” fan.? Do you sing yourself, or just like to listen to others? Want something else than Bar environment Karaoke? Either way the place to fulfill your musical desires is at your Post's Patriot Center starting on Thursday – March 3, 2022, and scheduled to continue every Thursday thereafter. Join our Karaoke D.J. and your fellow Karaoke enthusiasts for an evening of singing, entertainment and fun starting at 7:30 PM and continuing until 11 PM each Thursday.

Your Post 318 Executive Committee has authorized this event on a three month trial basis to see if we can develop it into a sufficient revenue source to offset several of the event losses we have incurred over the last several years. This event, sponsored by Anderson American Legion Post 318, has no admission charge, and has a cash bar and packaged snacks available. Since this is a license permit premise, no beverages of any kind may be brought in.

Get a group together for an evening of fun and entertainment, and tell your friends to patronize the activity. So plan to bring your best voice, and your best friends and family members to cheer you on for a fun, weekly, Thursday night out.

Sadly, our activities and proceeds for the ninth night of "Karaoke Thursdays" was disappointing, to say the least. Many of our previous regulars must have had something else to do. Those that were there were almost all repeat attendees.

It is estimated that with expenses of product sold and payment to DJ, we had a loss for the evening. Attendance: Started with 5 guests at 7:30 PM, to a peak of 12 (less than half of previous event) in the 9 to 9:30 PM time frame, and ended the evening at about 10:30 PM. Of these guests there were probably a total of 8 participating singers over the evening.

Thanks to Mike Stringer for tending bar, with some assistance from SAL member Mike Stock, and for the assistance from my wife (Ruth).

With a look in hindsight, due to the cooperation of our DJ working for tips for the first five weeks, the overall event over the nine week period, in spite of last night's loss, has still produced an estimated net profit to the Post. We hope that last week was an abnormality, and that next week's event will give us hope for Post 318 Karaoke!

***Dan Wolfangel
Adjutant***

April 20th Choral Concert at Post 318!

On April 20th, a national singing group of young people from the Austintown Fitch High School gave a free concert for Veterans here at the Post. There were 39 young high school singers in the choir who entertained us for about an hour. They are one of 4 singing groups from the Austintown Fitch High School who travel around the country entertaining and honoring Veterans.

The Choir at Fitch has a tradition since 1972 of traveling the US and entertaining Veterans at Hospitals. Due to the pandemic, performing at VA's Hospitals is nearly impossible, so they are continuing to tour around the country performing for Veterans at local American Legion Halls and community centers.



Choir Director Jeremy Claine

Chaplain's Report

April has been an interesting month. Because I was involved with the Fish Fry, it was very high on my thinking. It is over and with help of 22 to 30 dedicated individuals, we pulled it off with a good amount of success. Over \$7000 was generated from this endeavor, the most ever! Again a great big thank you must be going out to the volunteers for their time and effort given to make this such a great success.

On a sad note, we did lose a son of our Comrad, Ed Sears, who is one of our dedicated members of the Post. He and Ed's wife, Carolyn, had a Celebration of Adam's life, on Friday, April 22, at the Post. Tributes and remembrances were greatly appreciated by the family.

Our Post continues to grow and we are up over 170 members, because of Bob Kamman's hard work and other members talking people to join our great post. Our post will continue to serve Veterans, youth, and the Anderson Community, if all of us step up and fill positions of leadership, or volunteer just a little time at the Post.

I have been Chaplain for a while and will be stepping down this year.

Our Chaplain from 2019, Rob Heberly, stepped up to fill this position to assist in the well being of the members of our Post.

COVID seems to have subsided and we have not had any new cases at the Post, that I am aware of. The Post continues to be sanitized regularly. Keeping it clean is a job for members who step up.

In that regard, we are replacing our old defective toilets which have become regular problems.

"The happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything, they just make the most of everything that comes along their way."

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

Congress

The Senate spent much of the week focused on the Supreme Court Justice vote and legislation to suspend normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus. It is always refreshing to see how quickly they can act when a two-week recess looms ahead of lawmakers.

And, thus, history was made Thursday afternoon. The Senate, on a 53-47 vote, confirmed Kentanji Brown Jackson as the first black female justice on the US Supreme Court. This was made possible in a divided Senate because Senate Minority Leader McConnell (R-KY), in 2017, lowered the threshold for confirming a Supreme Court justice from 60 to 51 votes.

Republican Senators this week blocked cloture on the COVID supplemental spending bill, which means no action on this until after the recess. The Republican Senators were trying to force a vote on maintaining the immigration-related Title 42 policy from the previous Administration. President Biden has proposed lifting this policy, which provides for those coming into the US to be quickly expelled to their country of origin or, at the Southern border, back into Mexico.

House Appropriations Committee (HAC) Chairwoman, Representative DeLauro (D-CT) is trying to prevent the FY22 gridlock. At her insistence, the chairs and ranking members, known as the "four corners" of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, will likely meet shortly after the coming recess. The goal is to set topline spending amounts. Rumor has the HAC aiming to conduct subcommittee markups from June 13 to 22, and full committee markups from June 22 to 30, allowing for potential passage of appropriations bills in the full House before the August recess.

American Legion Legislative Action
