



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 318
NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2022**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 7th– SAL Monthly Mtg, 7pm
- Dec. 7th – Pearl Harbor Remembrance
- Dec. 14th – General Meeting 7pm
- Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th Karaoke
- Dec. 17th – Post Christmas Party, 5:00 pm
- Dec. 28th, E.C. Meeting
- Bingo – Every Sunday 6:00 pm
- Euchre – Every Thursday 7:00 PM, Friday 12:00 PM

REMEMBER OUR HONORED DEAD



Commander's Notes

Veterans At Higher Risk

Did you know veterans and their families are at a higher risk for mental health strain? Also, of the 11% - 20% of veterans who have been diagnosed with PTSD, just a mere 9% have recovered, according to a survey by digital therapeutic service Freespira. And, it's not from a lack of trying: veterans listed transportation challenges and finding nearby providers with PTSD experience as the main barriers to accessing healthcare services.

***Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander***

VA WELCOME KIT

Whether you are just getting out of the service, or have been a civilian for years now, the VA Welcome Kit can help guide you to the benefits and services you have earned.

Based on where you are in life, your VA benefits and services can support you in different ways. Keep your Welcome Kit handy so you can turn to it throughout your life, like when it's time to go to school, get a job, buy a house, get healthcare, retire, or make plans for your care as you age.

To access this kit, follow this link:

<https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit>

***Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander***

Membership

We picked up 13 membership renewals this past month. Since we were supposed to be at 100% by the end of December, that puts us way below the curve. Therefore, if you haven't renewed your membership, we would greatly appreciate you doing so soon. We have 45 existing members that haven't renew their membership to date. Your membership, by Post constitution, was supposed to be paid by the end of October. If you're not sure if you have paid, please reach out to me at the phone or email below

2022-23 Membership Scoreboard

Paid as of 11/19/2022	135
2022-2023 Post Goal	185
% of Goal	73%
2022-2023 Quota	177
% of Quota	76.3%
Required for Quota	42

I would like to welcome aboard a couple of transferees, John Glennon and Frank Trainor. John is coming from OH0888 and is an US Army vet serving in other conflicts. Frank comes to us from Post OH0069 and is also an Army vet having served in the Korean war and with 34 years of American Legion membership. Please welcome both of these new members our Post.

You have three (3) ways to execute your renewal:

- (1) Bring or mail your check or cash to the Post.
- (2) Renew online at: www.legion.org/renew
- (3) Or join as a Paid Up for Life (PUfL) at: www.legion.org/join/pufl

Numbers 2 & 3 can also be accessed by scanning this QR code:



If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander
Membership Chair
Kamman.rc@gmail.com

Post Activities

We will be holding our annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 17th. There will be an Open Bar and appetizers starting at 5:00pm. The Open Bar will consist of draft beer, wine and soft drinks. Mixed drinks can be purchased in the Club Room. Our "Potluck" dinner will begin at 6:00pm, followed by our Christmas Program at approximately 7:30pm.

As always, this a family event and free of charge to Post members and their guests. To ensure that we have enough food and beverages, please RSVP by December 10th including the number of guests and their names name tags can be prepared. The dinner will be a "Potluck" with dinner and dessert provided by the Post. Please plan to bring an appetizer, salad or side dish to share with others. Please include in your RSVP on what type of dish you plan to bring (ie green beans, cheese ball w/ crackers or potato salad)..

I am looking for any larger item or gifts to raffle off during the Christmas Program if you would like to donate something for the event. As in the past we will be conducting our gift raffle after dinner so please bring in a smaller wrapped gift to add to the gift table. We will also be having split the pot and other activities throughout the evening as well as Holiday music to enjoy.

As a reminder, The Patriot Center is handicap accessible. If you would like to come but do not have transportation, please let us know and we will make arrangements to pick you up and get you home that night.

I hope to see everyone there on Saturday, Dec 17th for a fun evening to celebrate the Holidays with our service family!

Please RSVP through evite invitation if possible or let me know at 513-594-5339 or kirk.minnich@gmail.com. Remember to include: Number in your party, including their names; which type of potluck dish you will be bringing; and if you have an item to donate for the raffle. Remember to bring a small gift for the gift raffle table. Let me know of any late changes to your attendance or guest.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

Happy Holidays!

Send suggestions for future events and RSVPs to me at: kirk.minnich@gmail.com or 513-594-5339.

Happy Holidays!

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander

Uniformed Ceremonies



USMC Veterans, Gene Sawka (L) and Ralph Caskey, cut the Marine Corp Cake with a ceremonial sword, during Post 318 celebration of the 247th birthday of the US Marine Corp. Semper Fi!



Members of Post 318 attended a Veterans Day Program at Wilson Elementary School. The staff and students honored all Veterans, with songs and pictures, that were hand made by all the students. (L-R) Charles Cleves, Cdr. Stegmann, Ralph Caskey, Gary Gregorio, Walt Geil, Gene Sawka. (Mike Gregorio taking the picture). A big Post 318 Thank You to the members of Wilson Elementary School!

I will also make a delivery to The Joseph House after the Christmas party at the Post. Pillows, toiletries, and underwear, socks etc.

Ralph Caskey
Sgt. At Arms

All Post 318 Zoom Meetings

ID: 3959722502, Password: Post318 (Capitol "P" and no space between Post and 318 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---or in person at the meeting!

Randy Lindsey
Zoom Chairman

Post Finance Report

All bills are paid, we have a positive cash flow, and Post 318 is solvent!

Randy Lindsey
Finance Officer
513-374-2099, (Call or text)

Post Clean Up Schedule

We need help cleaning up the Post on Tuesdays at 9 AM. Please come out and help! This is the day of the week we clean up the Post! Bob brews fresh coffee, and Mike Stringer usually brings donuts, muffins or cookies! We hope to see you there!

Ed Sears and Bob Alfieri

Service Officer Notes

We have been advised by the Veterans Service Office in Batavia to check with their Office before joining the Lawsuit regarding Camp Lejeune. By joining the lawsuit, you could be jeopardizing benefits from the VA. It's relatively normal for any organization to cease voluntary benefits if they are sued. So, check with the VSO in Batavia or Cincinnati for their advice.

Charlie Cleves
Service Officer

Trivia Question

What organization is the nation's largest and most effective advocate in Washington D.C. for veterans, troops and their families?

.

NEED SUPPORT FOR “KARAOKE THURSDAYS”

Post 318 is continuing to look for support from our members for our “Karaoke Thursday”. That support can be through: participating as a singer; volunteering to assist at the events; or just by patronizing the event and listening to the varied singers, while enjoying a cold beverage or bagged snack. The sale of concessions, plus a nightly “Split-The-Pot”, are the only source of our Post 318 revenue to pay our Karaoke DJ and earn funds for the Post. The following excerpt from a recent media release tells you all you need to know regarding the event.

“Are you a “Karaoke” fan.? Do you sing yourself, or just like to listen to others? Want something other than Bar environment Karaoke? Whatever your pleasure is, the place to fulfill your musical desires is the Patriot Center at 6660 Clough Pike in Anderson Township which has reinstated its “Karaoke Thursday” events on almost every Thursday. Join Karaoke D.J. “Chuck”, of Treasured Sounds and your fellow Karaoke enthusiasts for an evening of fun and song in a family friendly / non-bar Karaoke environment”.

This event, sponsored and hosted by Anderson American Legion Post 318, has no admission charge, and has a cash bar and packaged snacks available. You may also bring in your favorite appetizers or finger-food for you and your group. 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 support your local American Legion Post. The revenue from this and other such fundraising events has helped post 318 provide programs for veterans, the community, and schools in Anderson Township for over 80 years.

Remaining scheduled dates for Karaoke Thursdays for 2022 are: December 1st, 8th, and 15th, from 7:30 PM until 11 PM each of those evenings. Our success at increasing event attendance and revenue over the balance of this Fall session will determine if we can continue Karaoke Thursdays as a productive fund-raising endeavor in 2023.

Dan Wolfangel

Any Post or SAL Members needing more info on events, or volunteering may contact: Ass't Adjutant Dan Wolfangel at dwa-cons@aol.com (Please note “Karaoke” on email subject line), or at 513-703-2287.

ARE YOU BORED??

Legionnaires: Do you sit around watching TV, doing puzzles, reading, etc.? Are you looking for something to do that can have meaning, or just an outlet so you have some purpose? Well, there are opportunities for you that do not take a lot of time or tire you out. Your American Legion Post can use your help.

Our Post has almost 180 members. Right now, only about 25 to 30 members help out when they can. There is Tuesday morning clean up and set up from 9 until 10 followed by coffee and conversation. Sunday night is Bingo from 4:30 until 9:30 but many jobs are finished by 7:30. You can be on a call list so when we have a rental, you can assist with Set Up. Our Fish Fry starts at the end of February and runs until Good Friday, April 7th. This event starts around 4:30 and is finished by 7:15. There is a need for 20 to 24 people to run this successfully. Of course, you can also volunteer to hold an office. All we ask if for you to step up for two to four hours a month, or when you can. Talking with other veterans can be fun and take you mind off of mundane activities at home. Maybe you just want to come to coffee at on Tuesday, around 9 AM. Don't forget we have a regular meeting on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 until 8:30. We would love to get to know more members better. We see your name on the roster but have no idea who you really are. Come join us and get to know other members.

***The EC Committee
Post 318***

MILITARY HISTORY

We're celebrating 100 years of U.S. Navy Aircraft Carriers! From CVN1 to CVN78, each and every carrier has served the nation's interest in times of war and peace. We look forward to the future Ford Class of carriers who will lead us through the next 100 years!

***Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander***



Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

The SAL continues to meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Their Charter has been signed by National and Department and membership cards for the original 21 members have been issued shortly. Enrollment of additional new members will begin as soon as National the database setup.

They will be hosting the New Year's Eve bash. They have booked the Marsha Brady Band for the event, sounds like it's going to be a blast.

Regarding the New Year's Eve party, the Post is collecting the bar profit for which we will have to provide bar tenders on the 31st of December.

Tony Capetillo
SAL Liaison

December Birthdays

Gregory Brown
Chester Canter
David Cosaboom
Raymond Dasenbrock
Eric Franz
Eric Howland
Kevin Kaup
Lee Lautman
Peter Lowry
John Mayer
Keith Musselman
Richard Peters
Doug Rogers
Roger Wade
Rick Weis
Ken Wright

Fund Raising

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. The good news is our Bingo attendance is starting to increase. The bad news is, an increase in attendance will eventually drive a need to increase “worker bees”. You can support the Post by either coming out to play, or volunteering to work these events. Some of these support roles are only for a few hours. Please contact Bingo Manager, Ed Sears (474-0246) with any questions. For the month of August bingo earned \$ 4,669 and contributed \$ 868 to **Charities, Inc.** to meet our legal obligations.

Euchre – Euchre tournaments are conducted every Thursday night in the Club Room. Buy-in is \$10, \$5 going to the Post and \$5 going to prize money. This is a fun evening and is open to both our members 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 August Euchre contributed about \$ 500 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.

Good of the Legion

If you or a loved one is in need of assistance now, call the:



Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander

Contact Update!!

Going into 2023 we are trying to make sure we have updated contact information for all our members to ensure we can better communicate with you post events and activities! If you have a newer email, address or phone number or are just not receiving communication regularly please email your contact information to either Bob Kamman at kam-man.rc@gmail.com or Kirk Minnich at kirk.minnich@gmail.com

We want to make sure you are able to take advantage of all your benefits of being a member of Post 318.

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander

Adopt a Family

Will your family be separated by deployment this holiday season? Or are you a veteran in need of additional support to give your family the holiday celebration they deserve?

Soldiers' Angels Adopt-A-Family program is here to help!

Veteran and military families in need of a helping hand this holiday season can visit SoldiersAngels.org/Adopt-A-Family between September 7 and December 6, 2022, to learn more and apply.

Bob Carey
Adjutant

Trivia Answers:

The American Legion. The Legion fights every day on Capitol Hill and across the country for a quality VA health-care system, improved benefits processing and a decent quality of life for active-duty military personnel.

Bob Carey
Trivia Master

Wreaths Across America Hillcrest Cemetery



RESULTS

2022 SO FAR

614 Wreaths Sponsored

43.1% to Goal

810 To Go!

On December 17 at 12 noon, there will be a ceremony to honor the veterans resting at Hillcrest cemetery. Our goal is to place a wreath on every veteran grave but we can't do it without your help. The event is open to the public, we look forward to seeing as many of you at Hillcrest as possible it should only take 30 to 45 minutes. It's a great opportunity to take some fantastic pictures of a beautiful cemetery with beautiful wreaths displayed on our veterans' graves. You can help us reach our goal by buying a wreath today, sales cutoff is November 29th,

Don Bishop

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:	Bob Carey	513-313-7369
Asst. Adjutant:	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
Finance Officer:	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
Chaplain:	Rob Heberly	513-550-6601
Sergeant at Arms:	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588
Bingo:	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
Event Coordinator:	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
S.A.L. Advisor:	Tony Capetillo	513-633-1667
S.A.L. Commander:	Chris Short	513-460-4560
Asst. Finance Officer	Joe DuBois	513-582-8477
Newsletter Editors:	Gary Gregorio	513-307-3824
	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237



Army-Navy Game

On Saturday, Dec 10 at 3pm, I will be opening the Clubroom up for members and their guest to come watch the Midshipmen and Black Knights battle on the gridiron. The bar will be open for drinks to be purchased but please feel free to bring a snack if you would like to share. This is not an official Post Social, so I don't need any RSVPs or headcount. It should be a pretty good game with Army at 5-6 and Navy at 4-7. I hope to see some of you there! Go Army!

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander