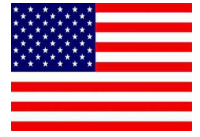




American Legion Anderson Post 318

December 2023



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 6th – SAL Monthly Mtg, 7pm

Dec. 13th - General Meeting 7pm

Dec. 27th - E.C. Meeting, 7:00 pm

Dec. 7th & 14th – Karaoke 7:00 pm

No Karaoke on Dec. 21st or Dec 28th

Dec. 9th Post 318 Christmas Party 5:00 pm

Bingo – Every Sunday 6:00 pm

No Bingo on Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st

Euchre – Every Thursday 7:00 pm

Every Friday 12:00 pm

Membership

Hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. We had entered a busy time of year but since we have fallen behind our past renewal trajectories, I am asking that if you haven't renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible! By the National Constitution all membership dues were to have been paid by Veterans Day, Nov 11th. That only leaves a little over a month before your membership will be in default.

Thank you to all of you that have paid your renewal dues. You should have received your renewal notices by now and I have sent out email reminder to all that haven't renewed to date. I can still process your 2024 membership card. We have kept our membership dues at \$40 for this coming year. As in previous years you will be able to renew by several methods:

1. Online at www.legion.org
2. By sending checks to the Post address:
American Legion Post 318, PO Box 54390,
Cinti, OH 45254-0390
3. Pay with cash or checks at the Post
4. Sign up as a Paid Up for Life (PUfL) member at: www.legion.org/join/puf

Quota: 165

Paid: 144 at 87.3% of quota

Needed to reach quota: 20

Existing members not renewed to date: 25

New members: 5 (Joe Carroll, Mike Colton, Kevin Gassert, Perry Hixon & Marc Posalski)

Deceased members: 2 (Art Blocksidge & Al Free)

Active Duty: 5 (John Ehemann, Ted Mayer, John Mayer, Adrienne Prem & William Suter)

Transfers In: 1 (Jeremy Rogers)

Transfers Out: 1 (Mike Leopold)

“A Date That Will Live In Infamy”

On December 7, 1941, the Empire of Japan, launched a military attack, on the US Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, at 0748 am, Hawaii time. The US was a neutral country at the time of the attack. Out of 8 battleships at Pearl Harbor, all were damaged, 4 sunk. 3 cruisers, 3 destroyers, and 180 aircraft were destroyed. 2403 Americans were killed, 1178 wounded during the attack. Japan declared war upon America, shortly after the attack. On December 8th, US Congress declared war upon Japan. On Dec. 11th, Japan's allies, Germany and Italy declared war upon the US, which was quickly followed with a US response of war declared upon Germany and Italy.



If you know of anyone that would be interested in joining the American Legion, please send them my way and I would be glad to follow up with them. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Robert Kamman

1st Vice Commander / Membership Chairman

513-545-5237 / Kamman.rc@gmail.com

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

Veteran Affairs

Post 318 is here for veterans that need any kind of help. We are here to help. Our phone number is 513 231 6477. Our email address is contact@post318.org. The VA has a Vet crisis line: 1 800 273 8255, Press 1, or text 838255. If you call the Post, leave the message for me.

Charles Cleves / Service Officer

We are here for you!

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

Fund Raising

Bingo - The Post conducts Bingo every Sunday. Doors open at 4:30pm, preliminary games begin at 6pm. All your favorite "pull tabs" are available. You can support the Post by either coming out to play or volunteering to work these events. Some of these support roles are only a few hours. Please Contact Bingo Manager Ed Sears at 513-373-9133 with any questions.

Euchre – Euchre tournaments are conducted every Thursday night and Friday morning in the Main Hall. Buy-in is \$5.00 with \$2.50 going to the Post and \$2.50 going to prize money. This is a fun event and is open to both members and the public. On Thursday's doors open at 6:30pm and starts at 7pm; Fridays doors open at Noon and starts at 12:30pm. Contact Joe Baker at 513-289-9044 with any questions.

Karaoke: Thursday night at 7:00 pm. For information, contact Asst. Adj. Dan Wolfangel at dwacons@aol.com, or call 513-703-2287

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Gregory K. Brown	Chester L. Canter
David P. Cosaboom	Eric E. Franz
Eric E. Howland	Kevin T. Kaup
Lee Lautman	Peter H. Lowry
John Mayer	Richard L. Peters
Stanley Rogers	Roger Wade
Richard Weis	Kenneth Wright
Andrew S. Zemany	

URGENT NEED FOR A POST FINANCE OFFICER

As for the Finance Officer position, which currently is vacant due to no one stepping up to run for the office,

hopefully someone will step up **very soon**, to accept an appointment made by the Post Commander in accordance with Post By-Laws, to this position. While this position must be held by a Post Legion Member, we have been in contact with one of our SAL members who runs his own accounting and tax firm, who has agreed to assist and advise our Post Finance Officer as needed and assist with tax filings, and our past Finance Officer will also be available to give guidance and training.

THIS IS A REQUIRED AND VERY NECESSARY AND IMPORTANT POST OFFICER POSITION, AND HOPEFULLY SOMEONE WILL STEP UP TO THE PLATE.

If you are interested in filling his vacant position, or need further info regarding duties of the office, please contact current Finance Officer Randy Lindsey at (513) 374-2099 or email at weasellee293@gmail.com, or Commander Stegmann at (513) 967-9613, ASAP.

Dan Wolfangel

Ass't Adjutant / Corporate Statutory Representative

Post 318 Clubroom Revitalization Update

Work continues to progress on the Club Room Revitalization, and hopefully will be completed by the Awards & Recognition Program. The re-painting is complete, the lower wall treatment (below chair rail) is under way, and a new ceiling lighting system is in process. Replacement bar stools and several high-top tables and stools (for area vacated of pool table) have been obtained. This is all being done to create a more congenial and friendly area and atmosphere where our Post and SAL members can enjoy meeting with old and new members and friends, sharing conversations and beverages. As most of you should already know, our Post 318 Club room has always been, and is still, not open to the public, but is solely for the exclusive use of our Post and SAL Members and their invited guests. Post /SAL members are responsible for their invited guests and seeing that our Honor Bar Systems is adhered to. If you are interested in a copy of the just recently adopted revised "Club Room Use Policy", please contact Dan Wolfangel, via email at dwacons@aol.com, and you can receive an electronic copy.

This Club Room Revitalization Project has resulted in many military and Legion items previously being displayed in Club Room, being relocated to the public lobby and hallway area of our facility for public viewing to give the public a better understanding of what the Legion and the Post is all about, and the Post's involvement with the community. This relocation has been well viewed and received by visitors and rentals using our Patriot Center Hall portion of our facility.

We hope to see you in our newly revitalized Post Club Room in the future. Possible additional amenities under consideration to be added in future may include electronic

gaming devices, and a music system. We have already added an ATM in the lobby for use of our members, and visitors.

Dan Wolfangel

Post Activities

The Marketing Committee meets every 3rd Wednesday at 7pm in the Clubroom to make sure we are coordinating all the events among all the committees.

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander
Post Activities

Post Officer's & 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

CONTINUED SUPPORT NEEDED FOR **"KARAOKE THURSDAYS"**

Post 318'S "KARAOKE THURSDAYS" Fall and Winter Season is continuing to look for support from our Post and SAL members. This event is held every Thursday, except Dec 21st and 28th due to holidays, at the Post facility, from 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM each event. That support can be through: participating as a singer; volunteering to assist staffing the events; or just by patronizing the event and listening to the varied singers, while enjoying a cold beverage or bagged snacks. After all, the latter reference to the sale of beverages and concessions, plus a nightly "Split-The-Pot", are the only sources of revenue to our Post to compensate our Karaoke OJ and earn funds for the Post operations. Join Karaoke D.J. "Chuck", of Treasured Sounds and our Karaoke enthusiasts for an evening of fun, singing and dancing to music and songs done in a family friendly non-bar Karaoke environment. Our success at continuing to increase event attendance and revenue will determine if we can continue Karaoke

Thursdays as a productive fund-raising endeavor. This event, sponsored and hosted by our 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 evening of fun and entertainment, and support your local American Legion Post 318, which uses revenue from this and other such fundraising events to maintain a presence in Anderson Township for over 80 years, serving our military veterans, the community and its schools and students with many programs. Any Post or SAL Members needing more info on events, or wishing to volunteer to assist with the events may contact: Ass't Adjutant Dan Wolfangel at dwacons@aol.com (Please note "Karaoke" on email subject line), or at 513-703-2287.

Dan Wolfangel
"Karaoke Thursday Coordinator"

Veteran Affairs

ODVS Announces Sunset of Ohio Veterans Bonus

On Aug., 30, 2021 — the United States officially ceased its military involvement in Afghanistan. As a result, the Ohio Veterans Bonus program associated with the Afghanistan Conflict, which the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS) administers, is nearing its completion.

Through the support of **Ohio Governor Mike DeWine** and the State Legislature, a \$9.5 million measure was included in the state's recently enacted biennial budget in order to sustain the program, which will sunset in one year. The Office of Budget and Management (OBM) authorized that transfer to our agency.

These funds will ensure that ODVS can make a rigorous final push to pay every eligible veteran — including those who may have been denied payment because of correctable technicalities or other impediments. The money total is based on Department of Defense deployment figures and the number of applicants and payouts that already have been made to Ohio veterans.

The Ohio Veterans Bonus program offers a bonus for those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces after October 7, 2001. Once a veteran has received \$500 for service anywhere in the world or \$1,000 for service in a designated country, or the maximum \$1,500 bonus, the veteran is not eligible for additional funds, even if they served in multiple conflicts. **Those service members who completed their deployments in Afghanistan and have not yet applied for the Ohio Veterans Bonus can do so up until Aug. 30, 2024.**

**Apply for your bonus today:
www.ohiovets.gov/veteransbonus
Charles Cleves / Service Officer
We are here for you!**

Post 318 Christmas Party

Seasons Greetings from American Legion Post 318

We will be holding our annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 9th. As always, this is a family event open to all Post Members, SALs, their family and/or guests. The festivities will start at 5pm with appetizers and a cocktail hour for everyone to arrive and mingle. There will be an Open Bar for the party which will consist of draft beer, wine, and soft drinks. Mixed drinks & bottled beer can be purchased in the Club Room. The party will be a "Pot Luck" with entree and an open bar provided by the Post & Charities Inc. Please plan to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share with others.

This year we will again be conducting a raffle of donated door prizes. If you have a larger item, you would like to add to the door prize raffle please include that in your RSVP. The tickets for the door prizes will be sold throughout the night. If you would like to participate in the smaller gift exchange, please bring those the night of the event.

To ensure that we have enough food and beverages, please RSVP by December 1th by either responding to the Evite invitation or notifying 2nd Vice Commander, Kirk Minnich at kirk.minnich@gmail.com or 513-594-5339. In your RSVP, please include the number in your party, which type of dish you will be bringing and if you have any items to be raffled off as door prizes. Also, we are asking that you provide the names of those attending so that name tags can be prepared. If you have any changes or late reservations, please notify Kirk Minnich. 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 can make arrangements to pick you up and get you home that night.

**Looking forward to seeing everyone there!!
Happy Holidays!
For God and Country,
Lee Stegmann
Commander – American Legion Post 318**

On December 10th, a celebration of the 248th Birthday of the US Marine Corp, was held at Post 318. As per tradition, a cake representing the Marine Corp, was cut with the ceremonial Marine Corp sword, by the youngest Marine in attendance, Roger Wade, and the senior Marine in attendance, Gene Sawka. Semper Fi.



On

December 11th, Post 318 celebrated Veteran's Day. A dinner and dance was held, in which many members and their families attended. This event was sponsored by the Anderson Township, with Belterra Casino Resort & Spa donating the delicious food that was enjoyed by grateful members and their families.



At last night's even, Marine Corp Veteran, Gene "The Marine" Sawka, demonstrated his prowess on the dance floor! Henceforth, Gene will be known as "Gene, Gene, the Dancing Marine!"

Trivia Question

How can a veteran get a ticket to a concert, game, or other event, at little or no cost?

Bob Carey /Post Adjutant/ Trivia Master

Uniform Services

On November 9th and 10th, members of Post 318 participated in Color Guard details honoring Veteran's Day, at Immaculate Heart of Mary School, and Anderson Senior Center. Veteran's Day concerts were also attended at Sherwood, Wilson, and Summit Schools.



Immaculate Heart of Mary School



Summit School



Wilson School



Sherwood School



Anderson Senior Ctr.

Ralph Caskey / Sgt. At Arms

Charities Inc., Update



On November 18th, members of American Legion Post 318 visited the Save-A-Warrior (SAW) facility in Hillsboro, Ohio. This organization works to prevent suicides and heal Post Traumatic Stress among our nation's veterans. This includes active military, returning veteran's, and first responders. We were advised of the mission of SAW, and their assistance offered to veterans, at this facility. Many of the staff members here, are veteran's who, at some level, have experienced the growing number of suicides among our veterans, and are reaching out to help. Post 318 donated \$5,000.00 to assist this organization in this effort.

L-R: Brad Gallup SAW, Donna Prues CI Post 318, Gary Gregorio Post 318, Dan Wolfangel Post 318, Don Bishop Post 318, Ron "Jake" Clark Founder of SAW, Walter Geil Post 318, Ralph Caskey Post 318, Suzette Heller SAW

Don Bishop, Charities Inc.

Trivia Answer

Donated tickets are available at vettix.org/visitor/home, at little or no cost, up to 4 per veteran.

Bob Carey/ Post Adjutant/ Trivia Master

**POST 318 CHARITIES. INC. LOOKING
EXPAND CONTROL BOARD**

Post 318 bingo revenues (as required by Ohio to go to a

One of your first questions you may ask, if you are not currently actively involved in your Post's activities and make up, is "what and who is Post 318 Charities, Inc?". To make the explanation as short and simple as possible, Post 318 Charities, Inc. (C.I.) is the entity, which is a separate 501-c-3 corporation, which provides funds for Post 318's Legion and Post programs approved by the Post 318 Executive Committee. C.I. gets its funds from several sources such as Poppy Days, a percentage of 501-c-3), and other fundraisers, as well as direct donations. If Post 318 C.I. did not exist, any Post 318 fundraising activities such as Bingo, where the percentage required to go to a 501-c-3, would have to go the Legion's Department of Ohio C.I. or some other established 501-c3 with Post 318 receiving no benefit from it, or having any control as to its usage. Now for topic of this item. Post 318 C.I. has its own Articles of Incorporation, and By-Laws, chartered by Ohio in 2011. Post 318 C.I. Is currently governed and controlled by a five (5) member Board of Trustees. Currently the Board consist of three (3) Post 318 Members (Don Bishop, Walt Geil & Dan Wolfangel) and two (2) non-Post members (Donna Prues & Lisa Banks). The currant By-Laws permit the Board, at their discretion, to expand to seven (7) Trustees. The C.I. Board at its recent Quarterly Meeting, discussed consideration of increasing the members of C.I. Board to the maximum permitted, with at least one being a member of Post 318, and the second being either a Post Member or non-Post member person. Anyone interested in being considered for appointment as a C.I. Board Member, or wishing more detailed info, should feel free to contact one of the existing Post Members on the C.I. Board of Trustees.

Dan Wolfangel
Vice Chairperson - Post 318 Charities, Inc.

On December 1st, Post 318 member, Lt. Col. Adrienne Prem, U.S. Army, was promoted to the rank of Colonel. Col. Prem is the daughter of Tom Prem, also a member of Post 318, and Priscilla Prem, her mother. Col. Prem has been in the U.S. Army for 20 years, and is now stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., and assigned to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command. Presenting her promotion was Col. Mario Washington, of the U.S. Army's Colonels Management Office. Col. Prem started her career with the 82nd Airborne Division, and deployed with division headquarters in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Col. Prem most recently served as Asst. Chief of Staff, G1 for the 1st Cavalry Division. Post 318 congratulates Col. Prem and her family, for a job well done.



Col. Prem & Col. Washington



Mom Priscilla Prem, Col. Prem, Dad Tom Prem pinning his daughter



Col Prem's family: L-R Gretchen (sister), Priscilla (Mom), Col. Prem, Tom Prem (Dad).