

**MINUTES**  
**AMERICAN LEGION POST 318**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**July 12, 2023**

In the excused absence of Commandeer Stegmann, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Kamman called the Post Meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM. Colors were in place and saluted. Kamman gave the Recognition of POW-MIAs, and the POW-MIA Chair Cover was placed by Assistant Sergeant at Arms Gregorio. The Opening Prayer was given by Kamman. Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kamman. Reciting of the Preamble was led by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Minnich. Kamman then opened the meeting for the normal order of business.

**Attendance:** Sergeant at Arms Caskey advised that there were eighteen (18) Post 318 members physically, and one (1) via ZOOM, in attendance, for a total of nineteen (19) Post members, which constituted a quorum.

**Roll Call of Post Officers and Committee Chairs:**

Adjutant Carey conducted roll call of Officers and Chairs, as follows:

**Elected Officers**

Commander	Lee Stegmann	<b>E</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Bob Kamman	<b>X</b>
2nd Vice Commander	Kirk Minnich	<b>X</b>
Adjutant	Bob Carey	<b>X</b>
Finance Officer	(VACANT)	<b>V</b>
Sgt-at-Arms	Ralph Caskey	<b>X</b>
Chaplain / VAVS Coordinator	Rob Heberly	<b>A</b>

**Appointed Positions/Chairs**

Service Officer	Charlie Cleves	<b>X</b>
Americanism Chair	Eric Howland	<b>E</b>
Bingo Chair	Ed Sears	<b>X</b>
House Chair	Bob Alfieri	<b>X</b>
Fund-raising Chair	(VACANT)	<b>V</b>
Community Support Chair	(VACANT)	<b>V</b>
Event Coord. Chair	Ken Knight	<b>A</b>
Charities, Inc Liaison	Don Bishop	<b>X</b>
Corporate Statutory Agent / Ass't Adjutant	Dan Wolfangel	<b>X</b>
SAL Committee Chair	Tony Capetillo	<b>A</b>
Bar/Concession Manager	Steve Stuntz	<b>X</b>

**Alternate to Officers and Chairs**

Ass't Finance Officer	Joe Dubois	<b>X</b>
Ass't Sgt at Arms	Gary Gregorio	<b>X</b>

**KEY:** X=Present E=Excused (Prior Notice) A=Absent V=Vacant Z=via Zoom

**Minutes:** Adjutant Carey reported the Minutes from the June 14, 2023 meeting, have been posted in Post Meeting Minutes Binder in club room, distributed to all E.C. members, and submitted for posting on Post website. *Motion (Bishop) to accept and approve the Minutes was seconded (Wolfangel), and passed*

*unanimously.*

**Executive Committee Notes:** Adjutant Carey advised that the June 28, 2023 E.C. Meeting Minutes, in full printed format, had been placed in the E.C. Meeting Minutes binder in the club room, and distributed to all E.C. members, and have been posted on Post web-site. A summary of noteworthy items or actions from the E.C. Meeting were reported as follows:

- The EC voted 8 to 3, with one abstention, to proceed with paying off the mortgage with a single payment of approximately \$142,000 by the end of August 2023.
- The EC unanimously approved the purchase of an approximately 5” x 7” plaque laser-engraved brass plate on black background for Hall A to read “Hugo Vontz Jr. Memorial Hall,” and an identical blank plaque for Hall B.
- The EC unanimously authorized Karaoke Thursdays from October 5, 2023, through May 2024.

**Finance Report:**

Carey presented the Financial Report dated July 12, 2023, provided by Lindsey, included with these minutes.

*Motion (Alfieri) to accept and approve the Finance Report, subject to audit, was seconded (Gregorio), and passed unanimously.*

**Membership Report:** (Chair - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander)

Chair Kamman submitted his written report for filing with these Minutes, and reported as follows:

- Our quota target for 2024 will be 165 members. If all members on the roster now renew, we will make 166.
- Our Post goal will be 170 members.
- 32 Post members have paid their 2024 dues as of today (includes Life Members, PUFL Members, New Member, and Korea veterans and Active-Duty veterans paid for by CI).
- 10 members with July birthdays were recognized.
- The new membership cards were picked up at the Convention by Wolfangel.

**Post Activities Report:** (Chair - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander).

Chair Minnich presented the report as follows:

July 22: Awards and Recognition Program, 7:00

August 19: Ice Cream Social

August 26: Back to School Dance

All events are on the Post calendar.

He called for photos of the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade to be exhibited at the Veterans Day event.

**Adjutant Reports and Correspondence:** Adjutant Carey advised following correspondence of consequence and interest to Post members, or requiring Post action, were received since last meeting:

Correspondence Received:

- Routine bank statements, ads, magazines, dues payments, invoices, etc.
- Email from Easterseals Redwood, Military and Veteran Services, announcing their Honor Ride bicycle ride on August 19. *Forwarded to SAL Commander Short*
- Mail from Bingo Info Dayton. *Forwarded to Sears*
- Membership dues invoice from Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce. *Forwarded to Lindsey*

- Reminder from Ohio Department of Commerce to submit annual report of unclaimed funds by November 1.  
*Forwarded to Bishop*

Outgoing Correspondence: None

**Chaplain's Report:** (Chaplain Heberly):

Kamman noted that Commander Stegmann is in ill health.

**Committees and Liaison Reports:**

- **Americanism Committee:** (Chair Howland)

In his absence, Howland noted "No report."

Wolfangel displayed the plaque NATIONAL LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD to be hung in CR upon renovation completion.

- **Community Support & Recognition Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).

Wolfangel reported:

**POST 318 AWARDS & RECOGNITION PROGRAM:**

- Sat – July 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7 PM
  - Approx 60 invites sent out. Responses due by July 14<sup>th</sup>. Received about 15 so far.
  - Ohio Senator Wilson office (Veteran Honor Program) contacted. Will attend and present certs for 11 deceased Post members.
  - L & O Plaques and all Certificates prepared inclusive of: 5 Post Scholarship & 1 SAL Scholarship / 4 BBGS / 2 L & O / 9 FHSD Elementary and Middle Schools / 1 bugler / 26 Continuous Service Post Members / 11 VHP family members (if possible). Also invites to about 10 dignitary guests from FHSD / ATFD / HCSO.
  - If you received an invite letter as an awardee, and have not yet responded, please let me know tonight.
  - All Post and SAL members welcome to attend, and further encouraged to do so to show support for our programs. We would ask that you wear some sort of A.L. identification, if you can so you are recognizable as a Post member.
  - Light refreshments will follow program.
- **Service, Veterans Affairs, Economic & Legislation Committee:** (Chair - Cleves)  
No report
  - **VAVS Coordination Committee:** (Chair - Heberly)  
No report.
  - **Bingo Committee** (Chair - Sears)  
Chair Sears submitted the June Bingo Report.  
All existing Bingo volunteer workers, but one, have indicated they will continue providing their services in the new Bingo year. Post and Squadron members are encouraged to consider volunteering.
- \* **Fund-Raising Committee:** (Chair – VACANT).

Wolfangel reported:

KARAOKE THURSDAYS:

- E.C. authorized continuation of this weekly fund-raising event starting Oct 5<sup>th</sup> thru May 30<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30 PM to 11 PM.
- All dates on Post calendar.
- No events on Thanksgiving and last two weeks of December due to holidays.
- Could use some volunteers to help with coordination and concessions. See me if interested.

Mike Stock from SAL and Mike Stringer from Post continue as bar/concession volunteers.

Marketing meeting is next Wednesday July 19.

- **Event Coordination Committee:** (Chair - Knight)

No report.

- **House Committee:** (Chair - Alfieri).

Alfieri thanked all members who have helped with cleanup and with setup of the new chairs and tables. All bar taps have been cleaned and sanitized, and will be cleaned quarterly in the future.

Post members should consider providing help to the SAL to finish up the remodel work in the club room; Wolfangel is communicating with SAL Commander Short regarding the schedule to complete the work.

- **Public Relations / External Communications Committee:** (Chair – Carey).

No report

- **Internal Communications Committee:** (Chair - Minnich)

Gregorio reported the July newsletter was sent out, including 18 paper copies of 4 pages each. Those members not receiving the newsletter via Mailchimp can access it on the Post website. The August newsletter is in progress. Thanks to Minnich and Kamman for their assistance with formatting and website posting.

- **Uniformed Ceremonies Committee:** (Chair - Caskey):

Caskey noted following:

The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade was a success; we won first place Blue Ribbon (\$100) for Most Patriotic. 21 Post members and 11 SAL members participated.

Upcoming events:

Forest Hills opening day Color Guard mid-August

Military Night at AHS in September: need 10-12 volunteers, hopefully including some SAL members

The rifle slings have been cleaned.

The Joseph House bin is in the club room for donations, for delivery during July. Porter will advise a community member with towels to donate to bring them to the Joseph House bin.

- **Charities, Inc. Committee:** (Chair Bishop)

Bishop submitted the CI Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2023 (final report for year 2023) prepared by Geil, included with these Minutes. CI is meeting its budget and is funding its committed programs. He also noted:

He and Geil are working on the 2024 budget. It will be submitted to the CI board in August for approval.

- **Capital Projects:** (Chair – Vacant):

Wolfangel is getting quotes for a new rooftop sign, which will include mention of American Legion Post 318, as well as Patriot Center.

- **Marketing Committee:** (Chair - Minnick):

Meeting next Wednesday.

- **SAL Committee:** (Chair - Capetillo)

Wolfangel reported on planning a POST / SAL COMMUNICATIONS MEETING:

- Purpose to improve relationship, communications and understanding of roles and responsibilities.
- Meeting to consist of Post / SAL elected officers.
- Pre-meeting email sent out to E.C.'s of both entities soliciting topics to be included in agenda.

Dubois reported:

- The SAL is planning a golf outing fund raiser on September 8. 12 sponsors have been secured, and they need 6 more. Fundraiser gift baskets are needed for the silent auction; contact Mike Stringer to donate. Dinner and golf will cost \$125, \$500 for a foursome. Reservations are due July 30. The flyer is posted on the club room bulletin board and on the lobby bulletin board.
- 11 SAL members participated in the July 4 parade.
- Ron Wissman attended the last SAL meeting, reporting that the new SAL membership cards are available, and the SAL Squadron will receive the Blue Jug award for 2024.
- The SAL uses Venmo for dues payments, and they use an online app for internal communication.

Cleves noted the SAL is planning Bengals watch parties Sundays in the club room.

- **Concession/Bar Manager** (Stuntz):

Interested in having a work day to assist with completion of the club room remodel.

- **Hamilton County Council (HCC) Report / Items:**

No report

- **4<sup>th</sup> District Report / Items:**

No report

- **Dept. of Ohio Report / Items:**

Wolfangel reported on the DEPT OF OHIO ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT:

- Attended as Post 318's only delegate (the Post is entitled to 2 delegates).
- Attended all General Sessions over the three days of June 30, July 1, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, in addition to 4<sup>th</sup> District Caucus Session, and Charities Gaming Session.
- Picked up Post 318's 2024 Membership Cards for Kamman.
- Keynote Speaker was Ohio Supreme Court Justice Sharon Kennedy.
- Voted on behalf of Post for various resolutions presented at both 4<sup>th</sup> District and Department

levels. Including:

Resolution establishing a new Ohio Legion Flag Etiquette Program for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade “YES”

Resolution to establish a Finance Oversight Advisory Board. “NO”

- Voted on newly elected Dept Officers to wit:
  - Commander Jason Rue (Dupont, OH) (Former Dept 1<sup>st</sup> VC).
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Arnold “AJ” Whatley (Centerville, OH) (Former Dept 2<sup>nd</sup> VC)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Stan Oren (Putnam County, OH)
  - Treasurer/ Finance Officer Jose Rivera Former (Dept Finance Committee Chair).
- Post 318 Supporting ad (business card size) published in convention Program.
- 2024 Dept of Ohio Convention to be in Columbus, OH
- The dues resolution remains tabled until a later conference.

- **Old Business:**

Wolfangel gave a summary update on the CLUB ROOM / LOBBY - CORRIDER REVITALIZATION:

- Euchre table received and in use.
- All Hi-top tables and chairs received and have been assembled.
- Six swivel bar stools received and assembled.
- Lobby Hall locked bulletin board and wall mounted pamphlet holder in place.
- Display Cases, Veteran Profiles, Memorial Day Detail photos, service flags, and several other items moved to Lobby. (Includes recent 2023 photos of Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> Post details.)
- Painting of walls by SAL members is now complete.
- Installation of corrugated steel on lower portion of walls pending action by SAL.
- Replacements for existing CR TV and two additional TVs for CR have been obtained, are in CR and are pending installation by SAL.
- Existing ceiling lights have been converted to LEDs (by Kamman).
- Secondary can light system pending installation by SAL.
- Once all the construction projects above completed, will return select wall hang items to CR. For display, with some other still being moved to lobby.
- Caskey is working on development of a permanent “POW-MIA Table Display” to be forthcoming in lobby area. Sourcing of the Plexiglas is being investigated. The Post needs to improve its visibility to the community.
- EC adopted Revised Club Room Utilization Policy has been posted in Policy binder in Club Room. Members can request copy of policy.

He reported meeting with 3 vendors of GAMING MACHINE systems at the convention: All 3 of them have demo displays available. They distribute 65% of the proceeds to the Post, and 35% to the system provider. The machines can be put in without a minimum required amount of traffic in the club room. He noted we should not move on this issue until after completion of the club room. The EC will further consider this issue.

He displayed the HALL “A” PLAQUE (“IN MEMORY OF POST 318 BENEFACTOR HUGO VONTZ, JR.”) and the blank plaque for “Hall B”.

- **New Business:**

None

- **Good of the Legion:**

July 12, 2023

Porter noted Winnie Clayton has donated 20 display copies of the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution for use at the Post; they will be available on loan to members and their families. He will provide an article for the newsletter. The Americanism Committee should have custody of them.

Caskey noted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Back the Heroes Rumble Car Show will be August 5 at West Clermont High School, free admission, \$20 entry fee to benefit families of slain veterans and first responders. 286 entries so far. Flyer is on the club room bulletin board.

• **Joseph House Bin in Clubroom**

• **Volunteer Raffle:** Gift Card won by Stuntz.

• **Split-The-Pot:** Handled by Tom Prem. Won by Martin Gilbert.

• **Next E.C. Meeting:** July 26, 2023

• **Next Post Meeting:** August 9, 2023

• **Further Business:**

None

• **Closing:**

There being no further business to come before the membership,

Closing Prayer was given by Kamman.

Kamman called for removal of POW-MIA Chair Cover by Gregorio.

Kamman then called for Saluting the Colors in place.

Meeting Adjourned approximately 8:15 PM.

Prepared By:

Bob Carey  
Adjutant – Post 318