



# American Legion Anderson Post 318 January 2026



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	SAL E.C. Meeting	6:30 pm
Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	SAL Monthly Meeting	7:30 pm
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Post General Meeting	7:00 pm
Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Marketing Committee	7:00 pm
Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	E.C. Meeting	7:00 pm
Karaoke	Every Thursday	7:00 pm

## Congress authorizes military force in Iraq and Kuwait

Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing military force in Iraq and Kuwait. The Persian Gulf War was waged by coalition forces from 35 nations led by the United States against Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait arising from oil pricing and production disputes. On January 15, Iraq ignored the UN's deadline to withdrawal from Kuwait. On January 16, President George H.W. Bush addressed the nation beginning the U.S. led coalition forces strikes at the beginning of Operation Desert Storm.



## 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. We hope to see you there.

**Randy Lindsey**

## Post Finance Report

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

**Randy Lindsey / Finance Officer**

## 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](mailto: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 a 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 Officers & Committee Chairs

<b>Commander</b>	Kirk Minnich	513-594-5339
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice:</b>	Morgan Sipes	513-313-2638
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice:</b>	Tina Sunderhaus	513-313-1217
<b>Adjutant:</b>	Bob Carey	513-313-7369
<b>Asst. Adjutant:</b>	Vacant	513-474-9577
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b>Asst. Finance Officer</b>	Joe DuBois	513-582-8477
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Rob Heberly	513-550-6601
<b>Sergeant at Arms:</b>	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588

<b>Event Coordinator:</b>	Ken Knight	513-675-5234
<b>House:</b>	Vacant	
<b>Service Officer:</b>	Charlie Cleves	513-232-7767
<b>Charities Inc. Liaison:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-703-2287
<b>Corp. Statutory Agent:</b>	Bob Carey	513-474-9577
<b>VA Volunteer Service:</b>	Bob Heberly	513-528-1557
<b>S.A.L. Advisor:</b>	Tony Capetillo	513-633-1667
<b>S.A.L. Commander:</b>	Chris Short	513-460-4560
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Gary Gregorio	513-307-3824

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Bradford Beckett	Jack Buchwald II
Thomas A. Bursk	Joe J. Carroll
Noel D. Fenner	Paul R. Fritinger
Michael Hartzier	Kathern Hassoune
Robert Kamman	Jimmie L. Nugent Jr.
Jeremy Sipes	Christina Sunderhaus
Danile Ticotsky	Loy M. White

### Take the USA 250 Challenge — Celebrate America's 250th in Action us

As our nation prepares to celebrate its 250th birthday in 2026, **Anderson American Legion Post 318** is joining the call to action through the **USA 250 Challenge** — a national initiative from The American Legion that combines fitness, wellness, and service in true patriotic spirit.

Participants are encouraged to complete **250 miles or hours** between now and **July 4, 2026** in one or more of three categories:

- **Fitness** – walking, running, cycling, or other physical activity
- **Mental Wellness** – journaling, meditation, or counseling
- **Community Service** – volunteering, mentoring, or helping others

Registration is **\$30**, and proceeds support The American Legion's **Veterans & Children Foundation**, which funds programs like Temporary Financial Assistance and accredited veteran service officers.

Every registrant will receive a **performance tech shirt** moisture-wicking, comfortable, and available in multiple adult and youth sizes. It's perfect for workouts, volunteer events, or showing your Legion pride around town.

Post 318 members are encouraged to **register as a team**, log their miles together, and

represent our post throughout the challenge year. We'll recognize participants at upcoming meetings and events as we build toward America's 250th birthday!

👉 **Register today and start logging your miles or hours:**

[www.legion.org/usa250](http://www.legion.org/usa250)

**Submitted by Morgan Sipes 1<sup>st</sup> V.C.**

### 2015 Post 318 Christmas Party

On Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup>, the annual Post 318 Christmas Party took place, open to all Post 318 members, SAL's, their families and/or guests. Festivities started at 5:00 pm with appetizers and a cocktail hour. An open bar was provided, including draft beer, wine and soft drinks. The party was a Pot Luck dinner, with entre provided by Post 318 and Charities, Inc. Salad, side dishes and desserts were provided by attending members and their guests. Door prizes were donated by attendees and raffled off throughout the evening.







***Pictures provided by Ralph Caskey***

## **ATTN: ALL MEMBERS PLEASE READ THIS ARTICLE CAREFULLY**

### **DO YOU KNOW WHAT AMERICAN LEGION POST 318 CHARITIES, INC. IS? DOES? OR WHY IT EXISTS?**

On April 5, 2012 the IRS granted a 501 C 3 tax exempt status to American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc., yet it's fair to say that few members within our ranks have a clear understanding of what Charities, Inc., is, why it was formed, and the value proposition it provides to our Post. Our goal here is to address these issues.

What is Charities, Inc.? It is a non-profit Ohio corporation. It has its own Board of Directors, its own Articles of Incorporation, its own Constitution and its own By-Laws. As previously mentioned, the IRS has granted 501 C 3 Federal tax-exempt status, as a **Public Charity**. What this means is its corporate function is to raise funds that can be distributed to **"IRS Approved Programs"**. This corporation is independent from the Post. Its relationship with the Post is that the Post is a client of Charities, Inc., and there are contractual relationships between the Post and Charities, Inc. Although Post 318 is the only client of Charities, Inc., Charities, Inc. could take on additional clients.

Why was Charities, Inc. formed? There are three (3) primary reasons why Charities, Inc. was formed; 1) to manage Post 318 charitable giving, 2) to protect program revenues, and 3)

to gain access to restricted revenue streams. For many years Post 318's charitable giving (including program support) was dependent on the revenues available after operating expenses were paid. With the formation of Charities, Inc. this is no longer a consideration, or even a concern. Money raised for Post operations remains with the Post, and money raised by the Post for its programs and philanthropy are held in Charities, Inc. accounts that can only be used for their stated purpose. Should our Post undergo financial difficulties, our programs will continue. In previous years, money raised by the Post to support charitable giving was fungible. It got lost when it came time to pay our bills. Our Poppy donations are a good example of this. By agreement, all money raised from "Poppy" donations must be used to support veteran programs. Charities, Inc. holds these funds in a separate account, to insure this occurs meeting our contract obligations.

In the State of Ohio, charitable gaming can only be conducted by Ohio corporations with Federal 501 C 3 tax status. This means that Post 318, as an entity, can't conduct gaming operations Charities Inc. can! Under agreement the way this works is the Post provides the volunteer staffing for this event, and for this consideration all money raised is credited to the Post 318 accounts held by Charities, Inc. to support IRS approved programs. Without Charities, Inc. this money would not be available to the Post. For example, under Ohio law "E-bingo" (Gaming machines as in Post 318 Club Room) can be conducted by 501 C 19 organizations (Post 318 is a 501 C 19). However, 25% of all revenues generated from these machines, must be directed to a 501 C 3. If Charities, Inc. didn't exist, these funds would be required by statute to go to another Ohio Public Charity, over which our Post would have no control or say in how these funds are distributed. So, what is the value proposition associated with Charities, Inc.? First, the Post recognizes thousands of dollars in annual revenues, to fund our programs and other charitable giving, that it would not otherwise have access to. Second, it protects these revenues, and others

raised by the Post, for the exclusive use by the Post to fund its programs and charitable giving. Even if the Post should go bankrupt, our charitable programs would be able to continue. And lastly, with the separation of funds from Post operating expenses, it ensures that we meet our contractual obligations relative to how earmarked funds must be spent.

In summary, the tax and regulation issues associated with forming and operating a 501 C 3 are complex! What we have tried to accomplish with this article is to summarize in simple terms what Charities, Inc. is and provide a high-level understanding as to how all this works. If in your mind you still do not have a clear understanding of the value and of Charities, Inc. and its relationship to Post 318, please contact a Charities Inc Board member, as it is important that all members fully understand the value and benefits that Charities, Inc. brings to our Post, and our Post charitable programs.

Dan Wolfangel - President / Chair – American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.

#### **FUNDING RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO DONORS FOR POST 318 LEGION / POST BENEVOLENT VETERAN AND COMMUNITY PROGRAM THROUGH POST 318 CHARITIES, INC.**

Dear Post 318 Post / SAL Members / Members Families / Friends of the Legion,

As we enter 2026, you have probably heard more than once, that with the cancellation of Post 318 Bingo, the Post through it's Charities, Inc entity will be looking for new revenue sources to continue it's funding programs. The following are several ways you can financially assist Post 318 Charities, Inc, in funding Anderson American Legion Post 318's charitable veteran, school and community programs, without writing a check, sending a donation, or attending a fundraising event? Sound too good to be true? Well, it isn't.

**KROGER PLUS COMMUNITY REWARDS:** If you buy anything from Kroger stores the Kroger "Community Rewards" program will

contribute monetarily to the American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc for purchases made in conjunction with a "Kroger Plus Card" which has designated **American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc** to be the recipient of Community Rewards benefits. It costs you nothing other than your store purchases for the Post to received this benefit. If you are already one of several Post 318 members, or member's families who have already designated **American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc**, as a Kroger Community Rewards recipient we sincerely thank you, and hope you might consider asking any of your family or friends to sign up also. If you already have another charitable organization designated as the recipient of your Kroger Plus Card Community Rewards benefit, we are not asking you to change, in which case you can ignore this request. Should you choose to change your benefit community reward recipient, please go on [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com) website and under Community Rewards make the change as indicated under the "selecting benefit organization" instructions below. For those of you that are not currently enrolled in Kroger Community Rewards, we ask that you consider enrolling. It is easy and painless, and simply stated as follows:

- 1) If you already shop at Kroger, you are 33% done.
- 2) If you already have a "Kroger Plus Card" you are 66% done.
- 3) Go on-line to Kroger's website and under Community Rewards select American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc as the entity you wish your benefit to be distributed to, and you are 100% done.

Should you not already have a Kroger Plus Card, please visit [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com), and create a digital account by:

- 1) Select "Register" button.
- 2) Enter requested information.
- 3) Select "Create Account"

When account has been created, to select your benefiting organization, on the website:

- 1) Sign in to your digital account.
- 2) Select "My Account".

- 3) Scroll down to the "Community Rewards" section of your account page.
- 4) Select "Enroll Now" or "Edit".
- 5) Enter the name (**American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc**) or NPO number (83396) of the organization that you wish to support
- 6) Select the appropriate organization from the list and click "Save". Once you have made your designation, all you have to do is present your Plus Card or Alternate ID # at time of Kroger purchases, and you are now monetarily supporting American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.

**RMD TAX DRAW:** If you have a personal financial account requiring an RMD (Required Minimum Deduction) at end of taxable year, you can have all or a portion directed to **American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc** at end of each year, as several Post members currently do.

**COMPANY "MATCHING CONTRIBUTION" PROGRAMS:** If you are still employed, many companies have matching donation programs, whereby the company will match an employee's donation to a non-profit entity. Check with your company.

***All donations appreciated. Contributions to American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc, a 501 (C) (3) organization is tax deductible to the extent provided for by tax code.***

**CHARITIES, INC BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**ANDERSON  
AMERICAN LEGION POST 318  
P.O. Box 54390  
Cincinnati, OH 45254-0390**

**"KARAOKE THURSDAYS" RETURNS TO PATRIOT CENTER FOR 2026**

Are you a "Karaoke" fan? Do you sing yourself? Or do you just like to listen to, or dance to a variety of varied songs sung by

others? Want something other than Bar environment Karaoke? Whatever your pleasure the place to fulfill your singing, dancing or listening desires, is the Patriot Center at 6660 Clough Pike in Anderson Township which returns with its "Karaoke Thursday" events every Thursday evening starting on Thursday – January 8, 2026, and continuing through end of May, 2026, from 7: PM until 10:30 PM. Join Karaoke D.J. "Chuck", of Treasured Sounds and your fellow Karaoke enthusiasts and audience for an evening of fun and song in a family friendly Karaoke environment, and even a weekly Split-The-Pot raffle. As noted previously, we do have a portion of the Karaoke area open for dancing to the fine vocal stylings of our many talented and top-notch Karaoke singers.

This event, sponsored and hosted by Anderson American Legion Post 318, has no admission charge, and has a cash bar in the Post Club Room for your favorite beverage, as well as access to our Club Room electronic gaming machines (age 18 and over). Fresh baked whole large pizzas, and a variety of bag snacks are available. You may also bring in your favorite appetizers or finger-food for you and your group. Sorry, no by-the-slice pizza sales. 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 Anderson American Legion Post 318, which uses the revenue from this and other such fundraising events to maintain a presence in Anderson Township for over 85 plus years, serving our active and veteran military personnel, the community, and our local schools and students with many and varied programs.

**For questions please contact Dan Wolfangel at 513-703-2287.**

### **Post 318 Year End**

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and were able to celebrate it with family and friends. 2025 marked the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthdays of our Nation's Army, Navy and Marine Corp! 2026 will bring on the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our great country! It will be an exciting time and should make for a fantastic 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

This year will be packed with events at the Post. The Marketing Committee is hard at work putting together fundraising and events for our members. We are putting on the final touches on this year's Fish Fry, starting on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> and going on through the Lenten Season. Please watch for further communication surrounding coming up soon for times and volunteering opportunities to support one of the largest fundraisers of the year.

We are also looking to increase our Color Guard for this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade to help Celebrate the US 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Post Color Guard.

I look forward to seeing you all at down at the Post. Thanks for a great 2025.

***Kirk Minnich***  
***Commander Post 318***

#### **DID YOU KNOW**

Did you know more than one million veterans stand to benefit from a fresh health care update? The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced that women veterans enrolled in VA health care can now enjoy access to specialized gynecology care without a referral from a primary care provider (PCP).

**Submitted by Robert Kamman**

#### **Did You Know?**

Did you know scars are one of the most common service-connected disabilities? More than a million veterans are receiving compensation for scars—including

over 65,000 with burn scars. The VA evaluates scars based on several key factors, such as location, size, pain, stability, and whether the scarring limits motion or causes disfigurement

**Submitted by Bob Kamman**

#### **Scammers Posing As SSA OIG Agents**

The current Social Security Administration (SSA) scam involves fraudsters impersonating SSA or SSA Office of the Inspector General (OIG) employees and contacting people by phone, text, email, mail, or social media, often without any prior interaction, to coerce them into paying money or revealing personal information. In these scams, the caller or message typically claims there is a problem with your Social Security number, benefits, or records, and then they may threaten to suspend your SSN, arrest you, or take legal action unless you pay immediately. Scammers often insist on unusual forms of payment like gift cards, prepaid debit cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, or even handing cash to someone claiming to be an SSA agent, which the real SSA would never request. They may also use fake documents, official-looking letterhead, spoofed caller ID numbers, or even the actual names of SSA employees to make the fraud seem legitimate. Importantly, the real Social Security Administration will never demand immediate payment, threaten you with arrest, ask for payment via unusual methods, or pressure you for secrecy, and it typically contacts individuals by mailed letter for routine or urgent matters rather than unprompted calls or messages. These impersonation scams are widespread and evolving, so it's essential to hang up, ignore suspicious messages, and report them to the SSA OIG and appropriate authorities if you receive one.

**Robert Kamman**

