



# American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

June 2021

### Commander’s Update

As we start to come out of the Covid restrictions, we are beginning to open up many of the Post activities and functions that had been restricted previously. We have begun to outline our dance program for the Fall/Winter season; we are resuming the snacks and socialization after our General Membership Meetings and we are going to increase the Post focus on family activities/events. We need the support of our members if we are going to keep our Post active and veteran and community supportive. Bingo has been our main source of income for this past year. We did have smaller streams from hall rentals and a few dances last Fall. All it takes is for our members to contribute a couple hours a month to make our Post strong and viable. I hope that you look within yourself and can find a few hours to help support your Post. I also want to remind everyone that the Legion is a non-political organization, from the Post level up to National. We all have our own beliefs and ideas; but they are not to be shared using Legion facilities or communication systems. That not to say that you can’t have open discussions with your fellow legionnaires, but please have respect for other’s beliefs and feelings. As we enter into our Summer session, and attempt to regain our Post’s momentum, we look forward to reuniting with our members. Please have a safe and happy summer.

**Robert Kamman**  
**Commander / 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

### Need Help?

If you’re a veteran and need help obtaining any of your entitled benefits, please contact our Service Officer, Charlie Cleves. Charlie can be reached at (513) 232-7767, or via email at: [ccleves1@fuse.net](mailto:ccleves1@fuse.net).

**Charles Cleves**  
**Post 318 Service Officer**



### Membership Update

As we start to come out of the Covid restrictions, we are beginning to open up many of the Post activities and functions that had been restricted previously. We have begun to outline our dance program for the Fall/Winter season; we are resuming the snacks and socialization after our Members meetings and we are going to increase the Post focus on family activities/events. We need the support of our members if we are going to keep our Post active and veteran and community supportive. Bingo has been our main source of income for this past year. We did have smaller streams from hall rentals and a few dances last Fall. All it takes is for our members to contribute a couple hours a month to make our Post strong and viable. I hope that you look within yourself and can find a few hours to help support your Post. I also want to remind everyone that the Legion is a non-political organization, from the Post level up to National. We all have our own beliefs and ideas; but they are not to be shared using Legion facilities or communication systems. That not to say that you can’t have open discussions with your fellow legionnaires; but please have respect for other’s beliefs and feelings. As we enter into our Summer session, and attempt to regain our Post’s momentum, we look forward to reuniting with our members. Please have a safe and happy summer.

Here are our current stats:  
2020-21 Membership Scoreboard  
Paid as of 03/23/2021: 168 Members  
2021 Goal: 168 =100.0% of Goal!  
2021 Quota: 167 =100.6% of Quota!

**Robert Kamman**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**  
**Membership Chair**

### Veterans Crisis Line:

Phone: 1-800-273-8255, then press 1 to chat.  
Or, Confidential crisis help on-line at :  
[www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)  
Or, text to : 838255

### Post Finance Report for 5/26/2021

After a determination that we were paying twice the Anderson Township aggregation rate for electricity, I terminated the contract with American Power and Gas (APG). We have signed up with Dynergy, the approved carrier for Anderson Township, and we should see our bills going down in July. We should see a reduction this month as Duke's rate is 6.6 versus the 11.5 that APG was charging us for. The new aggregation rate is 4.98. There was no termination fee. **The May Finance Report:**

Effective Balance: \$8,416.26  
Savings Balance: \$57,612.43  
15 Month CD: \$45,184.41  
Total Available: \$111,213.10

Electric is switched over. Dynergy is our new provider via the aggregation. Our first payment under the new rate will be in August. At that time we will begin to see a savings. All bills are paid.

***Randy Lindsey***  
***Finance Officer***

### Post Clean Up Schedule

We are once again scheduling our Post clean up day on Tuesdays at 9 AM. Please come out and help!

***Ed Sears and Bob Alfieri***

### Post 318 Socials Resume!

I am happy to announce that with the lifting of Covid restrictions we will once again have refreshments and drinks after each Post General Membership Meeting! This will start following the Post meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have light refreshments and drinks in the club room immediately following the meeting. We are also long overdue having family get-togethers at the post. We will start those beginning on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, with a hamburger social, starting at 6:00PM. I hope to see you and other members and their families when we get together again and enjoy a nice evening together. If you are close to any of our new members, or to any potential new members, please reach out to them with a personal invitation to come along with you and enjoy our get together!

***Kirk Minnich***  
***2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander***

### Charities, Inc. Finances

General Account Balance 4/1/2021: \$8,863.56  
Expenses: April Rent: - \$ 150.00  
Transferred to Veterans Acct.: - \$1,000.00  
Kroger "Your Cause" donation: + \$ 40.00  
Bingo: (4 weeks) + \$1,175.00  
General Account Balance: 4/30/2021 \$8,928.56  
Veterans Account Balance: 4/1/2021: \$ 692.93  
Expenses: April Rent: - \$ 150.00  
District Commanders Pin Donation: - \$ 25.00  
Memorial Day Foundation Donation: - \$ 25.00  
Fisher House Donation: - \$ 300.00  
Joseph House Donation: - \$ 300.00  
From General Account: + \$ 1,000.00  
Members Donation, Gifts to Yanks: + \$ 40.00  
Veterans Account Balance: 4/30/2021 \$ 932.93  
Total Balance of both Accounts: \$9,861.00

***Walter Geil***

***C.I. Treasurer***

With our lack of fundraising, CI is going to depend heavily on donations to fund our 2022 programs. To this point, remember there are two corporate programs that contribute to CI, 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 currently supporting a charitable organization through ***Kroger Community Rewards***, we would encourage you to do your part! Go to [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com), and register for the Kroger Community Rewards program and select ***American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.*** as your cause.

**Amazon Smiles** – ***American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc.*** is now registered with Amazon Smiles. So, if you shop at Amazon 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.***

### Color Guard Events

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, Post 318 resumed our annual Memorial Day activities! We started with breakfast at the Post at 7:15 AM, then met at Anderson Towne Center out front by the flag poles for a group photo around 8:15. More detailed information is provided on a following page.

Color Guard volunteers were: Bob Kamman, Lee Stegmann, Don Bishop, Ed Sears, Dan Wolfangel, Jerry Porter, Walt Geil, Gary Gregorio, Ralph Caskey, Stephen Stuntz, , Jack Surdick, Joe DuBois, and Mike Gregario, our bagpiper. We had two local H.S. students, Nathan and Jacob Bell, who volunteered to play Taps for us at the ceremonies. Thanks to all who participated in our Memorial Day activities!

**Ralph Caskey**  
**Sgt. at Arms**

### BINGO!

We had Bingo at Post 318 on 4 Sundays in May, and we are on the way to a record breaking year of Bingo income! Money to the Post in May: \$2,600. Money to Charities, Inc. (501C3): \$1,010. Concessions, Gross: \$439.75. Total for the month of May: \$4,049.75. That brings the total Bingo income for the fiscal year (November thru October) to the Post: \$21,800, and to Charities, Inc.: \$6,975.00.

Please consider helping us out on Sundays. The jobs are easy to learn, and about half are completed by 7:30PM. We are usually finished with all jobs by 9:30 to 10PM --- except for me!

**Ed Sears**  
**Bingo Chairman**  
513-474-0246, [emsears1969@gmail.com](mailto:emsears1969@gmail.com)

**All further ZOOM meeting will use this:**  
**ID: 3959722502 Password: Post318 (Capitol**  
**“P” is necessary in the password.)**

**Randy Lindsey**  
**Zoom Chairman**

### Euchre is Back!!

Euchre is now open and currently scheduled every Thursday night starting at 7PM (Doors open at 6:30PM), and every Friday starting at 12:30PM (Doors open at 11:45AM). Euchre is open to the public. Buy-in is \$5 (1/2 prize money and 1/2 post donation). Covid restrictions are currently mandated and enforced.

### **Joe Baker**

BSA Troop 519 - COR & American Legion Post 318 -  
Euchre coordinator

### Formation of a "Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) Squadron"????

At the February 24<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting, the E.C. authorized the exploration into the formation of a Post 318 S.A.L. Squadron. Thus, we are seeking information as to whether any of our membership's sons would be interested in joining a Post S.A.L. Squadron, should such be formed.

The S.A.L. was created in 1932, as an organization within the American Legion that exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. The S.A.L. is made up of males all male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of veterans of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. Military and were eligible for membership in the American Legion.

To form such a Post 318 unit requires a minimum of at least ten (10) eligible males to serve as Charter Members of the Squadron. Should it be determined that we have sufficient volume of interest, we will conduct an "Informational / Orientation Meeting" for all interested to attend to determine if we can move forward with the formation.

**Anyone interested in possible membership in a Post 318 S.A.L. Squadron, should contact Post 318 Adjutant – Dan Wolfangel, via email at [dwacons@aol.com](mailto:dwacons@aol.com). Please provide email and phone contact info for follow-up, and indicate “S.A.L.” on subject line of email so it doesn't get missed.**

**Dan Wolfangel, Adjutant**

### Chaplains Report

The year of COVID is coming to an end or that is why we hope it to be. Although it attacked many of our Legionnaires and their families, I did not hear of anyone passing away or spending too many days in the hospital. At the Post, for the most part, members and guest wore masks and we maintained distancing. Zooming was the new word of the year. I hope and pray that all of our members get their shots and remain vigilant about this virus so it does not start up again.

We need to continue to pray for our members who are still dealing with health problems, like Charlie Stein, Bill Becker, Keith Musselman, Robert Alfieri, Chester Canter and Lee Bobbit. At this time that is all I know of. If anyone knows of any other member who is under the weather, please let me know.

Rentals are on the increase which means more set ups, so if you can spare an hour or two please let Bob Alfieri or an elected officer know your availability. Dances start up again in August so that will need help. Of course, Bingo is our big money maker, and it always needs your help. We thank all of our Bingo helpers who have found the time to help out like Bill, Gisela, Bobbie and Wayne, Rick, Ralph, Dennis, Randy, Eric and Mindy, Don and Mary, Dan, Steve, and of course our main man Ed, and his trusty companion, Carolyn. Looking forward to seeing Darrell and Sue returning.

Our new and old leaders of the Post need your help and prayers that they have a fruitful year. We still need an Adjutant. This is one of the most important position in the Post, and a must have. Please think about it.

God Bless Our Post and allow us to continue to serve our veterans, our students, and our community.

**Gerald Porter**  
**Chaplain**

### "Help22"

Help22 has made it our mission to deliver the counseling, coaching and therapy our veterans need to remain hopeful that they can overcome the challenges they face after serving. But we can't help veterans if they don't know help is here. [Your donation of \\$11 will help us reach 1,000 more veterans than we would otherwise. \\$22 means we can reach 2,000, and so on.](#) Each day, 22 veterans die from suicide... simply because **they don't have the inspiration, insight and support they need** to overcome the psychological trauma they suffered defending freedom.

Help22 was founded to recruit life coaches, counselors, therapists, social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists nationwide to volunteer on the 22nd of each month to give free care to America's veterans. It's a direct way to deliver hope and healing to those who delivered for us.

[We need your help to reach the most vulnerable veterans in America. Will you help us provide this life saving service? Please contribute a tax-deductible \\$11 to help us reach out to 1,000 more veterans.](#)

Thank you for your help.



**Commander Kirk Lippold**  
**US Navy (Ret.)**

### POST OFFICER ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the Election of Post 318 Officers for the 2021 - 2022 Membership year, held at the May 12, 2021 Post General Membership Meeting is as follows:

Commander	- Lee Stegmann
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	- Robert Kamman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	- Kirk Minnich
Adjutant	- [NO NOMNEE]
Finance Officer	- Randy Lindsey
Sgt-At-Arms	- Ralph Caskey
Chaplain	- Jerry Porter

All of the newly elected officers will either assume, or continue their respective new terms of office following the "Installation of Post Officers" to be held at the June 9, 2021, at the Post 318 General Membership Meeting.

As noted above, there was no candidate for election to Post Adjutant, thus we are still seeking a member to assume these duties, following an appointment by the Executive Committee. In accord with our current Post By-Laws, current Adjutant Wolfangel has agreed to temporarily continue duties during the continuing search for a replacement which hopefully will occur soon.

We sincerely express our appreciation to those members who stepped forward, either again, or for the first time, to provide guidance and administration for Post 318's continued existence, success, and service to our veterans and community.

**Dan Wolfangel**  
**Post 318 Adjutant**

### **Memorial Day, 2021!**

On Memorial Day, Monday – May 31<sup>st</sup>, Anderson Post 318 resumed their long-standing practice of conducting memorial ceremonies at nine local cemeteries in honor of those military veterans laid to rest at those locations. The brief memorial service at each cemetery included the placing of small American flags and flowers on the representative veteran's graves, the firing of a three round volley "salute to the dead" by the Post's Rifle Squad, and playing of "Taps" by Post 318's buglers.

#### **Cemeteries visited by Post 318 were:**

Mt. Moriah Cemetery (Mt. Moriah Drive)  
Veterans Park (Forest Road)  
Asbury Cemetery (Forest Road @ Asbury)  
Old Five Mile Chapel Cemetery (Five Mile Rd.)  
Hillcrest Cemetery (Sutton Road)  
Salem Community Church Cemetery (Salem & Sutton)  
Guardian Angels Cemetery (Beechmont @ Salem)  
Wolfangel Cemetery (Deaconsbench Drive)  
Clough Baptist Cemetery (Bridges Road @ Clough)

The Post then participated in the Anderson Township Memorial Day Bell Ceremony at the Anderson Government Center. This Memorial Day Service provided an opportunity for residents to recognize the sacrifices made by those who are no longer with us. The Post's participation included the raising and of flag to from half-staff, the ringing of the bell in honor of deceased veterans, a ceremonial rifle salute by Post 318's Rifle Squad, placing of a memorial wreath, and playing "Amazing Grace" by our bagpiper, and of "Taps" by our bugler.

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### **Post Scholarship Awards**

The E.C. has voted to permit the awarding of up to six (6) scholarships, utilizing the following award breakdown criteria:

One (1) to Three (3) Awards at \$1,000 each / Four (4) awards at \$750 each / Five (5) Awards at \$600 each / Six (6) awards at \$500 each, with total accumulative amount of all scholarships within a given year not exceeding \$3,000. The decision on number of individual scholarships to be awarded within this set criteria, within a given year, shall be at discretion of Veteran Scholarship Committee Chair.

This revision will be added to the Post 318 Business Plan, and we request that Charities, Inc. to do the same with their Business Plan for 2021-2022.

***Post 318 Scholarship Committee***

### **Hillcrest Flag Posting**



This year flags were posted at Hillcrest Cemetery to honor and pay respect to the 1400 interred Veterans. The posting was a great event supported by 40 volunteers. To pay for the flags a "Go Fund Me" account was created and the community committed over \$1,200. The plan is to leave the flags in place until June 5<sup>th</sup>, then retrieve and store them until next year.

***Don Bishop***

***Hillcrest Cemetery Board Member***

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### **Fall Dance Schedule**

The *Patriot Center* will resume our dance events on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We have pulled together a fall schedule that includes your favorite cover bands, playing the music you want to hear. The schedule includes 9 dances and a Christmas show. The specific dates and groups are listed below:

8/28/2021 - Wild Rice Musical Revue  
9/11/2021 - Cincy Rockers  
9/25/2021 - Slow Burn  
10/9/2021 - The Remains  
10/23/2021 - Wild Rice Musical Revue  
10/30/2021 - Halloween Dance – Cincy Rockers  
11/13/2021 - The Remains  
12/4/2021 - Slow Burn – Loyalty Night  
12/18/2021 - Patriot Center Christmas Show  
12/31/2021 - New Year's Eve – Cincy Rockers

***Don Bishop***  
***Dance Chairman***

### "IN SEARCH OF A POST ADJUTANT "

We are currently moving ahead into the new 2021-2022 membership year, without having elected one of the major Post Officer positions, that of Post Adjutant. I am not saying that merely because I currently serve, and have served in that position since July 2004, a total of almost 16 years years, with one break of about 15 months when Ed Ruffennach served, and I served as his Assistant Adjutant until his death, in late 2020, when I was appointed to serve the balance of his term.

The American Legion requires each Post to have a Commander and an Adjutant to maintain it's charter. We have tried over the past few months to find someone to serve as Assistant Adjutant to "learn the ropes" in preparation to run in this last election, however our efforts have gone unanswered. I have noted here an excerpt from the Post Business Plan: "The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep a full and correct record of all proceedings of all meetings, keep such records as the Department and National Organizations may require, render reports of membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, and under direction of the Commander handle all correspondences of the Post. Other responsibilities of the Adjutant include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Chairs the Internal / External Communications Committee (see Standing Committee Responsibilities)
- 2) Maintains membership records in cooperation with membership Chairperson.
- 3) Records and maintains meeting minutes.
- 4) Publishes and posts official orders, announcements, instructions, and various articles of correspondence as necessary.
- 5) Maintains custody of all Post records.
- 6) Maintain a copy of the Post Adjutant's Manual.
- 7) Has primary access to the Post mailboxes (and distribution of all Post mail)."

I am hoping there is someone within our membership who will step up and assume the responsibilities of Post Adjutant. This is necessary to assure that American Legion – Anderson Post 318 will continue to serve our veterans and our community. Please volunteer to serve as Assistant Adjutant in preparation to assume the role.

I will be willing to discuss the Adjutant responsibilities with any members interested in serving Post 318 in the position, and I am also willing to continue in an Assistant Adjutant role for a period of time to assist a new Adjutant in training.

***Dan Wolfangel***  
***Adjutant - Post 318***

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. We will go through our committee reports, updating our projects and programs. We will install our new officers for program year 2021-2022. Finally we will resume our social get to gather after the General Membership Meeting!

The success of Post 318 depends on your support, so feel free to bring a veteran friend and come out and join us for this important meeting!

Next E.C. meeting will be on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

### Post Officers & Committee Chairs:

<b>Commander:</b>	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237
<b>Ist Vice:</b>	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237
<b>2nd Vice:</b>	Kirk Minnich	513-594-5339
<b>Adjutant:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Jerry Porter	513-528-1557
<b>Sgt.-at-Arms:</b>	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588
<b>Bingo:</b>	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
<b>Community Support, Americanism, and Fundraising are all VACANT</b>		
<b>Event Coordination:</b>	Ken Knight	513-675-5234
<b>House:</b>	Bob Alfieri	513-232-0309
<b>Service Officer:</b>	Charlie Cleves	513-232-7767
<b>Charities Inc. Liaison:</b>	Don Bishop	513-474-4194
<b>Corp. Statutory Agent:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
<b>VA Volunteer Service:</b>	Jerry Porter	513-528-1557
<b>Asst. Finance Officer and Newsletter Editor:</b>	Joe DuBois, joedubois@cinci.rr.com	513-582-8477

### Member John Croxton's Obituary

 John W. Croxton, owner/funeral director/embalmer with T.P. White & Sons Funeral Home for 64 years; Beloved husband of Jean L. Croxton (nee Lamb), married for 65 years. Died May 25, 2021 at the age of 91. Resident of Mt. Washington. Friends may visit T.P. White & Sons Funeral Home, Mt. Washington, on Fri, June 4 from 4pm-7pm. Funeral service will be Sat, June 5 at 1pm at Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church. John served with the US Air Force in Germany during the Korean War. Thank you for all the love, support & prayers that our family has received, especially from our extended clergy family. And a special thanks to the staffs of Anderson Mercy and Hospice of Cincinnati East. Memorials may be directed to Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church.