



# American Legion Anderson Post 318

June 2024



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 5th – SAL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm
- June 12th – General Meeting 7:00 pm
- June 19th - Marketing Committee 7:00 pm
- June 26th – E.C. Meeting 7:00 pm
- No Karaoke / Summer Break**
- Bingo – Every Sunday 6:00 pm
- Euchre – Every Thursday 7:00 pm  
\* Friday Euchre has been eliminated \*

## D-Day Normandy Invasion June 6<sup>th</sup> 1944

Shortly after midnight on June 6, 1944, the invasion of Normandy began. Operation Overlord had begun, with the seaborne invasion “Operation Neptune”, the largest seaborne assault in history. 24,000 U.S., British, and Canadian troops landed in a 50 mile stretch of beach, in 5 different sectors. At the same time, 24,000 Airborne troops jumped behind enemy lines to prevent German troops from blocking the assault on the beaches. The heaviest casualties were at Omaha Beach, which was assaulted by U.S. Troops. The initial assault claimed 10,000 Allied casualties, including 4,414 KIA. 5,000 ships, 13,000 aircraft were involved. By the end of June, 875,000 Allied troops had participated. By the end of August, all of Northern France was liberated. Allied forces reorganized, advanced into Germany, which eventually brought an end to the Nazi Reich.



## Membership

We’ve had a very good 2023-24 membership renewal year. Our quota was 165 and we are currently marching at 175. I applaud everyone’s efforts in recruiting to get us where we are today.

Here’s a summary of how our membership went this year:

New	9
Xfer In	8
Xfer Out	2
Active Duty	5
Deceased	6
Not Renewing	0
Not Renewed	6

Just as a heads up, we will be beginning our new (2024-2025) membership year on July 1<sup>st</sup>. You can expect to see renewal notices in your mail shortly after that date. Membership dues will increase to \$45, due to the \$5 increase from National. There is also an anticipated \$5 increase coming from Department; but that hasn’t voted on as of to date.

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

**Robert Kamman**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander  
Membership Chair  
513-545-5237

[Kamman.rc@gmail.com](mailto: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**

## 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 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**

### 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 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. 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](mailto:dwacons@aol.com), or call 513-703-2287

### Uniform Services

June 14<sup>th</sup> marks the 249<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the US Army. Established by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress in 1775, the US Army became the first military branch of the United States. A display of Post 318's US Army Veteran's Uniforms, will be on display, in the lobby of Post 318.

## Ralph Caskey / Sgt. At Arms

### Post Officer's & Committee Chairs

<b>Commander:</b>	Kirk Minnich	513-594-5339
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice:</b>	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice:</b>	Christina Sunderhaus	513-313-1217
<b>Adjutant:</b>	Bob Carey	513-313-7369
<b>Asst. Adjutant:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Randy Lindsey	513-374-2099
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Rob Heberly	513-550-6601
<b>Sergeant at Arms:</b>	Ralph Caskey	513-470-6588
<b>Bingo:</b>	Ed Sears	513-474-0246
<b>Event Coordinator:</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>	Dan Wolfangel	513-703-2287
<b>Corp. Statutory Agent:</b>	Dan Wolfangel	513-474-9577
<b>VA Volunteer Service:</b>	Jerry Porter	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>Asst. Finance Officer</b>	Joe DuBois	513-582-8477
<b>Newsletter Editors:</b>	Gary Gregorio	513-307-3824
	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237

### Post Activities

The Post will host the annual Cookout Social on June 22<sup>nd</sup>! This will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Post Social to be held in the newly renovated Clubroom. I will open the doors at 4:30pm for everyone to come in for drinks and appetizers, but you are more than welcome to come down earlier, I will be down there around 4pm setting up. The Post will provide hamburgers, brats & hot dogs prepared by some of our top grillers!! We will start serving food around 5pm. The event is open to all Post & SAL Members, their families, and guests! I would like to encourage everyone to wear their most unique Hawaiian Shirt!!

We ask for you to please bring a cookout themed side or dessert to share. Drinks will be available for purchase at the Clubroom Bar.

Please RSVP to me at [kirk.minnich@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.minnich@gmail.com) or 513-594-5339 with the number in your party and what you will be bringing. I hope to see everyone there to enjoy an evening with some food and great company!

As always if you have any questions or ideas for events, please reach out to me (call, text or email), thanks!

**Kirk Minnich**  
**Commander**

### TRIVIA QUESTION

How many portable fire extinguishers are available for the Club Room and Rear Hallway Area, and where are they located?

## 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](http://www.ohiovets.gov/veteransbonus)**  
**Charles Cleves / Service Officer**  
**We are here for you**

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

John H. Bothwell Jr.	Eugene C. Johnston Jr
James F. Clark	Jeffrey S. Jones
Robert J. Heberly	Lance E. Larsen
Paul G. Henkel	Harold "Mike" Stringer
Perry Hixson	Brad Wenstrup

## **The Winds of War (with apologies to Herman Wouk)**

As we know, the effects of war linger a long time. That realization has come to me in an unexpected way twice in my life.

In 1994 I was in Prague, Czech Republic negotiating with senior executives of the local heat and power company. They were quite friendly and anxious to work with us. Later I commented about that to our local agent, and he explained that those Czechs old enough to remember the

war will never forget General Patton's Third Army liberating portions of Czechoslovakia in May of 1945. (Prague itself was liberated by the Red Army.)

The second time war memories impacted me was in 2017 when I was in Dresden, Germany on vacation. Whenever we asked a young person for directions, etc., information was provided happily, but not so with those old enough to remember the bombing of Dresden in February 1945 by US and British forces, killing perhaps 25,000. We definitely got the feeling they would prefer we go back home.

**Submitted by Bob Carey / Adjutant / Post 318**

## "KARAOKE THURSDAYS"

Post 318'S "KARAOKE THURSDAYS" Fall 2023 through Spring 2024 season ended May 30<sup>th</sup>, as we go into summer hiatus. The season produced close to \$4,000 to Post in revenue. Current plans, while still in development stage, are to bring these fun events back for the Fall 2024 through Spring 2025. When we do, we will be looking for some volunteer support from our Post and SAL members. 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. **I am also in search of a backup Ass't Coordinator and some backup bartenders to help keep the event going.**

Thanks again to those Post/SAL members that helped make last season successful, and be looking for some more detailed info on the upcoming new season in August Newsletter,

By: Dan Wolfangel - "Karaoke Thursday Coordinator"

**Post 318 has a "Streaker" amongst us! It's not what you think!!**

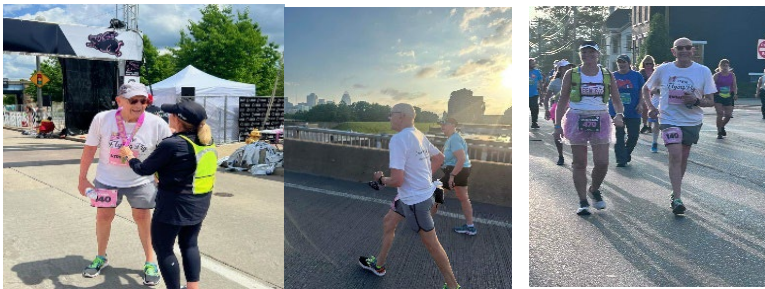


Wayne Hinaman is a 9 year member of Post 318, and a Veteran of the US Army 1953-56. Wayne will turn 90 years old this August. Wayne has participated in the Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon, every year since it began in 1999. He therefore is a Charter Member of the "Flying Pig Streakers!", a unique group of individuals, who have participated in the Flying Pig Marathon, for 26 years! Wayne is now the Senior most member of the Flying Pig "Streakers!" Wayne started running Marathons at the age of 65, in the USAF Marathon in Dayton, Ohio. He was invited to run the USMC Marathon in memory of his buddy, a US Marine, in Washington, DC. Wayne has participated in 52 Marathons in 25 years.

Wayne offers advice to those who choose to pursue this event. He says that you should start by joining a walking group, and to choose people who are motivated and

therefore will motivate you as well. Wayne says that this event is a lifestyle change, involving other exercise, diet, etc.

Congrats to Wayne, his tenacity, and his dedication to his chosen sports field, and has no plans to slow down!



### INSTALLATION OF POST 318'S NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

The following will be the elected officers for the 2024-2024 Post business year, following their election at the May 8<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting. Congrats to all!

- Commander - Kirk Minnich
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander - Bob Kamman
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander - Christina Sunderhaus
- Adjutant - Robert Carey
- Finance Officer - Randy Lindsey
- Chaplain - Rob Heberly
- Sgt-At-Arms - Ralph Caskey

The new officers will be installed at the June 12, 2024 Post General Membership Meeting, and will assume their respective offices / duties following such installation.

**Hopefully, many of you will be able to attend to support and wish them well in their new terms.**

By: Dan Wolfangel - Ass't Adjutant / Corporate Statutory Representative

### 2024 POST 318 "AWARDS & RECOGNITION PROGRAM"

**Mark your calendars now** so you don't miss out on this annual event, which will be coming up on **SATURDAY – JULY 20<sup>th</sup>**, at 7 PM, at the Post. We will provide more detailed info in July issue, but as this time we will be recognizing: 30 Post Members for continuous membership-service awards; 6 Child of a Veteran Scholarships; numerous Boys and Girls State attendees; our Law Officer of Year and Firefighter of Year; and our annual deceased members recognized through Ohio's Veterans Honors Program; just to name a few. **We hope to see many of you there.**

By: Dan Wolfangel – Awards Program Coordinator

### TRIVIA ANSWER:

Two! One is beside the front door, the other is beside the side door to the right, before entering the kitchen.

**Bob Carey / Post Adjutant / Trivia Master**

### UNIFORM SERVICES – MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY MONDAY MAY 27<sup>th</sup>

The Post 318 Honor Guard/Color Guard will perform it's long standing practice of conducting Memorial Day Ceremonies at 9 local cemeteries. A list of cemeteries, and approximate times when the Honor Guard will render Military Honors to 33 gravesites of former members of Post 318, appear in the Enquirer Newspaper. Post 318 Honor Guard/Color Guard will also participate in the Anderson Township Bell Ceremony at Anderson Township Center. The Bell Ceremony will take place at 12:00 Noon

This Memorial Day Service provides an opportunity for residents to recognize the sacrifices made by those military veterans who are no longer with us. The Post's participation includes the raising and lowering of flag to half-staff, the ringing of a memorial bell in honor of deceased veterans, a ceremonial rifle salute by Post 318's Rifle Squad, placing of a memorial wreath at Memorial, and playing of "TAPS". The guest speaker will be Air Force Veteran, and current WCPO-TV news anchor, Craig McKee. This ceremony is held at the site of the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial, which is on the lower lake side of the Anderson Government Center. This is a public observance and all are welcome to attend.

Post 318 originally provided, and continues to maintain the POW-MIA and Purple Heart Flags that are daily flown from the Anderson Government Center primary flag poles in the Veteran Memorial area. The Post also annually replaces the American and POW-MIA flags flown over historic Hillcrest Cemetery on Sutton Road, the site of burials of hundreds of veterans of early military service.

Also, in the period leading up to Memorial Day, Post 318 with the cooperation of the Forest Hills School District (FHSD), during the week of May 20<sup>th</sup> will be providing the opportunity for FHSD elementary students to better understand the observance of Memorial Day, and also the significance of the "Memorial Day Poppy" in it's relationship with Memorial Day, through classroom sessions and each FHSD elementary receiving a Memorial Poppy. Members of Post 318 will once again this year, also be distributing the Memorial Poppies at Anderson Towne Center's Kroger store lobbies on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>, between hours of 10 AM and 6 PM.

The members of Post 318 wish all a happy and safe Memorial Day, but ask that on this day you take some

time to reflect on the intentions of the day --- “to pay honor and recognition to all of our U.S. military forces personnel who have given their all for this great country and it’s populace”. Anyone having questions regarding these events, or interested in becoming a member of Post 318 can contact Post 318 at 231-6477, or visit

[www.post318.org](http://www.post318.org) .

By: Dan Wolfangel – Ass’t Adjutant



Did you know there has been a 7.4% increase in [veteran](#) homelessness, including a 14% rise in unsheltered [veterans](#) in the point-in-time count from the Department of Housing and Urban Development? [VA](#) efforts to decrease [veteran](#) homelessness were not enough to overcome the largest yearly jump in [veteran](#) homelessness since federal officials started tracking more than a decade ago.

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

## **POPPY DAY CAMPAIGN THANKS.**

Although all of the dollar figures are not yet complete, I want to express my appreciation to: the Charities, Inc Board and Advisory Group members; the Post 318 members and the one SAL 318 member who gave of their time to make it all happen. The effort required a Special C.I meeting for the C.I. Boar and Advisory Group member to get ready for the programs. Also, Post member / C.I. Member- C.I. Treasurer Walt Geil spent most of the May 23<sup>rd</sup> through May26<sup>th</sup> period collecting, sorting and counting the donations from the two Poppy Day programs, and assisting me with the set-up and tear-down of donation sites). As C.I. Interim Board Chair, and program coordinator, I handled the staff scheduling and set-up and tear-down of donation sites).

The conclusion of “FHSD Poppy Challenge” on Wednesday - May 22<sup>th</sup>, encompassed six 3 hour shifts during the school lunch period at FHSD’s six elementary schools, distributing the Memorial Day Poppies to all students. The Post Members involved were: Bob Kamman (Ayer Elementary); Steve Stuntz (Maddux Elementary); Joe Baker (Mercer Elementary); Lee Stegmann (Sherwood Elementary); Ed Sears (Summit Elementary); and Bob Williams (Wilson Elementary).

The “Poppy Days” effort at Kroger (ATC) on Friday - May 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday - May 25<sup>th</sup>, encompassed thirty-two 2 hour shifts. Those Post Members and SAL Member involved were: Bob Alfieri; Bob Carey; Ralph Caskey; Joe Dubois (3 shifts); Darrel Everman; Martin Gilbert; Kathern Hassoune (2 shifts); Griffin Herking [SAL]; Eric Howland; Bob Kamman; Bob King; Ken Knight (2 shifts); Randy Lindsey; Jon Palin; Jerry Porter; Ed Sears; Steve Stuntz (2 shifts); Tina Sunderhaus; Ed Watren (2 shifts); Bob Williams; Dan Wolfangel (5 shifts).

To close out our2024 Poppy Days, I would be remiss if I did not note that for the first time, to my knowledge, we distributed to every attendee to the Anderson Twp Memorial Bell Ceremony, at noon on Memorial Day, a “Memorial Poppy”. This was not done to raise funds, but to show the public the nature of Post 318’s sincere efforts to promote and educate on Veteran issues and remembering “Those That Gave Their All”. I want to thank Post Member Tina Sunderhaus and Sal Member Tim Sunderhaus , who handled this distribution at this A/T Ceremony.

We should be able to provide the final financial impact of the Poppy Programs toward our supported Veteran Programs. ***“ONCE AGAIN, THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED IN THIS EFFORT”.***

By: Dan Wolfangel  
Chair – Anderson Post 318 Charities , Inc.