

American Legion Anderson Post 318

May 2024



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1st - SAL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

May 8th – General Meeting 7:00 pm

May 15th - Marketing Committee 7:00 pm

May 29th – E.C. Meeting 7:00 pm

May 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th Karaoke 7:00 pm

Bingo – Every Sunday 6:00 pm

Euchre – Every Thursday 7:00 pm

* Friday Euchre has been eliminated *

HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY

On May 30, 1868, Cdr. John Logan, of the Grand Army of the Republic, declared "Decoration Day" to honor Union Soldiers who died in the Civil War. By 1890, every state in the Union adopted Decoration Day and it's purpose. The World Wars changed this, and now recognize all members of the US Military, who died during these wars. In 1971, Congress declared Decoration Day to be "Memorial Day", to be observed on the Last Monday of May, every year, to honor members of the US Military who died in the service of our country.





COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

April 25, 2024

Hello to everyone. I want to thank all who have helped me the last few years that I have been the Post's Commander. Without all of the help, I don't know how I would have survived. I would like to especially thank all that helped with the Fish Fry Fridays. We have had a record for the amount of money we gained after expenses. I would especially like to thank Eric Franz for all his work and Jerry Porter's help to Eric on his first year on heading up the Fish Fry. We also have had an extremely successful month in March on the Bingo Sunday's. Ed Sears has done a fantastic job, but still could use some help, especially during cleanup. SAL is doing GREAT. Their membership is soaring and their help in so many ways has been beyond words. We have upcoming elections for Post officers. This will take place during the May General Membership meeting. For the first time in many years, we are actually having an election between two members who are running for Commander. Kirk Minnich is one and I am the other. I have really enjoyed being the Commander for the past several years and would appreciate your vote. However, if Kirk is elected, I am sure he will do a fantastic job. I encourage you to attend so you can make your wishes known with your vote.

> Lee Stegmann Commander

<u>Membership</u>

We've had a very good 2023-24 membership renewal year. Our quota was165 and we are currently marching at 175. I applaud everyone's efforts in recruiting to get us where we are today.

Quota: 165

Current Membership: 175 at 106% of quota

Needed to reach quota: -10

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

Post Finance Report

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

Randy Lindsey

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

Clubroom Update

If you have not been down to the Post to see the newly renovated Clubroom you should consider making a trip! As a reminder, the Clubroom is open during Thursday's Karaoke and select Friday for Post & SAL Assembly. There have been a few games of challenge added for your entertainment such as Tabletop Bowling, a Hook Ring Toss Challenge, and a set of Cornhole boards. I also want to send our a thank you to our SAL Squadron who recently paid to upgrade our TV package so we can enjoy Reds Baseball on any of the 3 new TVs! We hope to see you down at the Post!

Kirk Minnich 2nd Vice Commander

Fund Raising

<u>Bingo</u> - 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.

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

TRIVIA QUESTION

Has a submariner ever received the Medal of Honor, the military's highest decoration?

Post Officer's & Committee Chairs

Commander:	Lee Stegmann	513-967-9613
1st Vice:	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237
2 nd 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. Liaiso	n: Dan Wolfangel	513-703-2287
Corp. Statutory Agent: Dan Wolfangel		513-474-9577
VA Volunteer Service		513-528-1557
S.A.L. Advisor:	Tony Capetillo	513-633-1667
S.A.L. Commander:	-	513-460-4560
Asst. Finance Office	-	513-582-8477
Newsletter Editors:	Gary Gregorio	513-307-3824
	Bob Kamman	513-545-5237

Post Activities

The activities at the Post continue to flourish with Karaoke Thursdays, Euchre, Bingo, the Clubroom makeover, and the upcoming Cinco de Mayo Dance. I hope to see some of you down there to join in the fun!

The Post will host The Cincy Rocker on May 4th for Cinco de Mayo dance, tickets are available on EventBrite (link on our website) for the cost of \$13.00. If you would like to reserve a seat and pay the night of the dance please contact me and I will get seats or an entire table set aside for you. May 4th is also the running of the Kentucky Derby which will be available for all those interested. All the details are on the Post website Dance page. Hurry and get your tickets before they sell out!

Keep an eye on the Post Calendar for all the upcoming events and activities. There will be activities surrounding Memorial Day in conjunction with the Township at the Towne Center for the Bell Ceremony starting at noon, we would like to invite everyone to come out and join.

The Post will host the annual Cookout Social on June 22nd! This will be the 1st 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 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 2nd Vice Commander

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

ATTENTION ALL VETERANS OF POST 318

Did you know <u>veterans</u> are entitled to be buried or have their ashes interred in any <u>National Cemetery</u> that has available space at no charge? Currently, the <u>Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA)</u> operates <u>125 national cemeteries</u>, of which 65 are open for new casketed interments, and 21 are open to accept cremated remains only. Burial options are limited to those available at a specific <u>cemetery</u> but may include an in-ground casket or interment of cremated remains in a columbarium, the ground, or a scatter garden.

Bob Kamman 1st Vice Commander

TRIVIA ANSWER

Yes. On March 8, 1924, that honor was awarded by President Coolidge to Torpedoman's Mate 2nd Class Henry Breault for risking his own life to save the life of Chief Electrician's Mate Lawrence Brown, in the sinking of their boat off the coast of Panama. Due to the heroic action of Petty Officer Breault, both he and Chief Brown survived and were rescued the next day.

Bob Carey Post Adjutant / Trivia Master

"KARAOKE THURSDAYS"

Post 318'S "KARAOKE THURSDAYS" current Season continues to be held every Thursday in May, with final session on May 30th, before we go to summer hiatus. Event hours are 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM each event. We continue to look for 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. 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 DJ and earn funds for the Post operations. As "Karaoke Thursday" Coordinator, I am also in search of a backup Ass't Coordinator to help keep the event going.

Any Post or SAL Members needing more info on events, or wishing to volunteer to assist with the events may contact: Deputy Adjutant Dan Wolfangel at dwacons@aol.com (Please note "Karaoke" on email subject line), or via cell at 513-703-2287.

Dan Wolfangel "Karaoke Thursday Coordinator"

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Michael Bursk
Antonio J. Capetillo
Robert P. Carey
Douglas M. Earhart
Charles J. Foerster

Danny L. Garrett
Curtis Grant
Michael Gregorio
Kirk Minnich

POST 318 CHARITIES, INC. UPDATE.

2024 "Post 318 Poppy Days" Program

Post 318 Charities, Inc (C.I.) will once again this year be coordinating the annual <u>"Post 318 Poppy Days"</u> distribution of the Memorial Poppies, and related fundraising efforts through multiple sources as in the past. All

funds raised through Poppy Day Program are earmarked for Military Veteran Programs supported by Post 318. The efforts in this Poppy Program is two fold.

First, we wish to remind all of the public of the significance of the Poppy as the symbol for remembrance of our fallen veterans, on this upcoming Memorial Day Weekend. We accomplish this Poppy distribution, once again through our presence in the entrance lobby areas at Kroger's (Anderson Towne Center) on Friday – May 24th and 25th, as well as through education of today's youth through our Forest Hills School District (FHSD) Program which runs from May 20th through May 23rd.

Secondly, while the Poppy distribution is free, the generous donations and contributions that are received from these two Poppy distribution programs goes a long way in supporting C.I.'s abilities to provide necessary funds for Post 318's selected veteran programs.

HELP!!!!! We will need an estimated 32 volunteers to man the 2-hour shifts over the two days at Kroger's, and at least 6 volunteers for the approximately 2 hour shifts at the six FHSD Elementary School, on the final day of the school distribution program. ANYONE WISHING TO VOLUNTEER IN THIS VITAL FUND-RAISING EFFORT, OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE PLEASE CONTACT DAN WOLFANGEL

(dwacons@aol.com / 513-474-9577), ASAP.

C.I. Board Now Complete.

The seven member C.I. Board is now fully staffed as follows:

Dan Wolfangel - (Vice President / Chair); Walt Geil - (Treasurer); Donna Prues - (Secretary); Lisa Banks - (Fund-Raising Chair); Members at Large Randy Lindsey, Eric Howland, Misty Howland.

The newly established C.I. Advisory Group consists of: Meredith Lindsey and Chistine Moore (Daughter of deceased C.I. President and Founder Don Bishop)

If anyone has any questions regarding C.I., please feel free to contact me at dwacons@aol.com or cell 513-703-2287.

Dan Wolfangel
Post 318 Charities Inc Board Vice President / Acting
Chair

NOTICE TO POST 318 MEMBERSHIP OF ELECTION PROCESS FOR POST OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025 YEAR

This notice is published in accordance with notification requirements of Post 318 By-Laws, Article V, VI and VII.

At the forthcoming May 8, 2024 Post General Membership Meeting, Anderson Post 318 will conduct an election for Post Officers for the 2024 – 2025 business year.

The slate of nominees for the election, as listed below is being submitted to the membership by the Executive Committee, following the April 10, 2024 General Meeting vote to accept the Nominating Committees slate of candidates. The membership present at this meeting voted to accept the below listed slate of candidates for elected positions, and closed nominations for all positions.

Commander - Kirk Minich / Lee Stegmann

1st Vice Commander - Bob Kamman

2nd Vice Commander - Tina Sunderhaus

Adjutant - Robert Carey

Finance Officer - Randy Lindsey

Chaplain - Rob Heberly

Sgt-At-Arms - Ralph Caskey

Since there is a contested officer position (Commander), the Post By-Law provision for the

availability of an absentee ballot option, will be required. Anyone who will be unable to make the election meeting, who desires to cast an **Absentee Ballot** for that contested position, should contact Ass't Adjutant Dan Wolfangel at 513-474-9577 or dwacons@aol.com, prior to May 7th, and one will be sent electronically for your completion and return prior to May 7th to be counted.

The Post Officers elected at the May 8th Post Meeting, will be installed at the June 12, 2024 Post Meeting, and will assume their respective offices/duties following such installation.

By: Dan Wolfangel Asst't Adjutant / Corporate Statutory Representative

Fish Fry Signs

If anyone is still in possession of any Fish Fry Yardsigns please return those to the Post as soon as you can. These can be placed in the Clubroom by the entrance so we can put into storage for next year. Thank you!

Kirk Minnich 2nd Vice Commander