



American Legion Post 318 Newsletter



“For God and Country”

September 2021

Commander’s Corner

As your Commander I spoke on your behalf at the Hometown Heroes fundraiser held on Sunday, August 29th, at Latitudes Bar and Bistro. I first thanked the primary organizers of the fundraiser: Kerri Wolfangel of Comey-Shepard Realty, The management of Latitudes, Sam Khoury and Charlie Ferrara, Musicians Dan Varner, Nick Netherton, John Hatfield, and D.J. Glen Hock, And everyone who assisted in planning and promoting this event, All individuals and businesses who purchased VIP tables and who contributed baskets for the silent auction, And I gave special appreciation to everyone who came out to support this event!

I then summarized the organization and history of The American Legion: A non-profit organization formed in 1919, and the largest and most powerful organization for veterans and their families. We have over 2 million members in 12,000 Posts world wide. The American Legion is the only veterans organization created by an Act of Congress.

Our Post was chartered in 1939, and will be 82 years old in October. Our goals are: to develop and support activities and programs that benefit veterans in need, and those on active duty. To develop and support activities and programs that benefit the Anderson Township Community. And to educate the youth in our community about our American government, our flag, and service to our nation.

I then mentioned our desire to increase our membership, as well as the availability of the Patriot Center for rental events. In this regard I listed our Bingo Games every Sunday at 6 PM, Euchre Games on Thursdays at 7PM, and on Fridays at noon, as well as the current schedule of live band dances at the Patriot Center.

In my closing remarks I mentioned that our web site, www.post318.org, would be a good source for more information about Post 318 membership requirements and activities.

I concluded by again thanking everyone for their kind and generous support of Post 318.

Lee Stegmann
Commander

Membership Update

Our membership renewal program for the 2022 year is off to a good start. The renewal window started 1 July 2021 and is to be completed by Veterans Day, 11 Nov 2022. *Please help us reach our quota, 169 members by Veterans Day.* There are several reasons for reaching quota by this date: 1. We will receive financial incentives, this never hurts, 2. It’s written in our Post constitution, and last and most importantly 3. It will greatly simplify my job.

2020 Membership Scoreboard

Paid as of 8/28/2021	103
2019-20 Post Goal	170
% of Goal	60.6%
2019-20 Quota	169
% of Quota	60.9%
Required for Quota.	66

You have 3 ways to renew you membership:

- By cash or check (still only \$40) delivered to the Post. Or mail to: Post 318, P.O. Box 54390, Cincinnati, OH 45254-0390
- By credit card by going online to www.mylegion.com
- By choosing to be a Paid Up for Life (PUFL) member. This can be accomplished by going to www.mylegion.com
- If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining our Post, please pass their contact information to me and I will follow up with them or you can give them my contact information.

Robert Kamman
1st Vice Commander
Membership Chair
Kamman.rc@gmail.com

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

Uniformed Services

Color Guard detail was there for the FHSD opening again this year after a year off last year. Thanks to Walt, Bob, Gary and Jack (see pic) The flags were delivered to the 9 schools in the FHSD at this opening ceremony for all staff.



Walt Geil, Bob Alfieri, Gary Gregorio, and Jack Surdic
Our Color Guard also presented the flags for the opening ceremony at the "Hometown Heroes" fundraiser at Lattitudes Restaurant on the 29th of August.



Walt Geil, Dan Wolfangel, Bob Alfieri, Bob Kamman

Don't forget to bring items of clothing and toiletries for the veterans at the Joseph House. The container is in the Club room, on the left as you enter the building.

Ralph Caskey
Sergeant-at-Arms

Charities, Inc. Update

Please remember that there are two corporate programs that contribute to CI (Charities, Inc.) 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 supporting a charitable organization through ***Kroger Community Rewards***, we would encourage you to do your part to support your Post! Go to www.kroger.com and register for the Kroger Community Rewards program and select ***American Legion Post 318 Charities, Inc.*** as your cause.

Amazon Smiles – If you shop at Amazon.com 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.

Post Officers & Committee Chairs:

Commander: Lee Stegmann 513-967-9613

1st Vice: Bob Kamman 513-545-5237

2nd Vice: Kirk Minnich 513-594-5339

Adjutant: Dan Wolfangel 513-474-9577

Finance Officer: Randy Lindsey 513-374-2099

Chaplain: Jerry Porter 513-528-1557

Sergeant at Arms: Ralph Caskey 513-470-6588

Bingo: Ed Sears 513-474-0246

Community Support, Americanism, and Fundraising are all VACANT

Event Coordination: Ken Knight 513-675-5234

House: Bob Alfieri 513-232-0309

Service Officer: Charlie Cleves 513-232-7767

Charities Inc. Liaison: Don Bishop 513-474-4194

Corp. Statutory Agent: Dan Wolfangel 513-474-9577

VA Volunteer Service: Jerry Porter 513-528-1557

Asst. Finance Officer and Newsletter Editor: Joe

DuBois, joedubois@cinci.rr.com 513-582-8477

Bingo!

I want to thank all the people that come out to help set up for bingo, along with all of the people that come out and work Bingo for the POST. If you like to play Bingo, we play on Sunday night. Doors open at 4:30 pm. Play starts at 6 pm.

Please consider helping us out on Sundays. The jobs are easy to learn, and about half are completed by 7:30 pm. We are usually finished with all jobs by 9:30 to 10:00 pm. Thank you,

Ed Sears
Bingo Chairman

513-474-0246, emsears1969@gmail.com

All Post 318 ZOOM meetings:

ID: 3959722502, Password: Post318 (Capitol "P" and no space between Post and 318 is necessary 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 mike, and listen and observe the meeting. We need your attendance, since we can't do business without a quorum. We need you there on Zoom!

Randy Lindsey
Zoom Chairman

VAVS, September 11th

The Cincinnati VA will be partnering a 9/11 commemoration and swearing-in ceremony with the Navy and the Association of the United States Army to host a 20 year September 11th at Lunken Airport. We are estimating 1,500-2,000 guests consisting of Military/Veteran Organizations as well as the general public. We need volunteers to assist with set up on Friday, September 10th (times TBD) and working the event on September 11th (estimated 9am-1pm). . If you want to volunteer please email: Alyssia Brown, Voluntary Specialist with the VA. Her email is Alyssia.brown359@va.gov. Or call her at 513-861-3100 ext. 5192. She prefers emails.

Jerry Porter, VAVS Coordinator

Chaplain's Report

At last they have approved the vaccine. There no longer is an excuse for not getting the shot. No chips are going to be implanted. No one is going to become a zombie for the government. The only reason left for anyone not getting the shot is selfishness. I guess some people like being like "Typhoid Mary".

On September 10th and 11th there is going to be an event at Lunken Airport to honor victims of 9/11, put on by the Veteran's Hospital. A request was made for volunteers, but we got very few responses. If you want to volunteer please email Alyssia Brown, Voluntary Specialist with the VA. Her email is Alyssia.brown359@va.gov. Or call her at 513-861-3100 ext. 5192. She prefers emails. There are set up jobs Friday night and two shifts of positions on the 11th. Security jobs, golf cart drivers, set up specialists, etc. I will not be able to attend due to another commitment.

Glad to say we have not had anyone report to me of any major illnesses. Dan Wolfangel's knee is finally on the mend. Bob Alfieri is up and about with his new knee. Gene Sawka's wife just had knee replacement and is doing well. Prayers for all of these for continued healing.

Our membership is still growing but there still is not many people stepping up to volunteer to do small jobs around the Post. A couple hours a month is all that is asked. Call Ed Sears, Bob Alfieri, or Don Bishop if you can spare some time.

Please call me if I can be of help as your Chaplain.

Jerry Porter
Chaplain

Post Finance Report

All bills are paid, and the Post is solvent!

Randy Lindsey
Finance Officer

Next Meeting

Our next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 PM, Wednesday, September 8th. We will go through our committee reports, updating our projects and programs. We will have the drawing for the monthly volunteer's award, and split the pot at the end of the meeting. Following the meeting we will have snacks and socialize in the Club Room!

September Dance Schedule

With the calendar reading September, our dance schedule is in full swing. Two (2) "live music" events will be held for you dancing pleasure, with all proceeds going to fund post operations. First up is the "*Cincy Rockers*". They play the music you want to hear and will have you on the dance floor starting with song 1. A fan favorite, if you haven't had a chance to hear them, please join us!

The Patriot Center Presents:
Cincy Rockers
Saturday, September 11, 2021



For Tickets: Go to www.showclix.com or Call 1-888-718-4253, Option 1, and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events

Doors Open at 7:00 PM

Band Performs From 8:00 to 11 PM

"*Slow Burn*" will join us September 25th. This is a highly talented and versatile band. They play from a huge set list of various musical genres from *Classic Rock* styles to *Traditional Blues*. They are an energetic band that engages audiences and entertains all ages, so let the "burn begin".

The Patriot Center Presents:
Slow Burn
Saturday September 25, 2021



For Tickets: Go to www.showclix.com or Call 1-888-718-4253, Option 1, and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events

Doors Open at 7:00 PM


Band Performs From 8:00 to 11 PM

Tickets for both events can be purchased in advance for \$10 at ShowClix, by following the this link: www.showclix.com, or by calling the ShowClix box office at 1-888-718-4253, Option 1 and ask about *Patriot Center of Cincinnati* events. All fees and taxes are included. **Seat selection will occur when tickets are purchased. If you wish to be seated with others,**

all tickets must be purchased at the same time. Advance sales end at 12:00 PM on the day of the event. Tickets purchased at the door are \$12.50.

"A Cincy Christmas Jamboree II"

The Patriot Center Presents:
"A Cincy Christmas Jamboree II"



For Tickets: Go to www.showclix.com or Call 1-888-718-4253, Option 1, and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events

December 18, 2021
Door Open: 7:00 PM
Show Begins: 8:00 PM

Having received overwhelming feedback the *Patriot Center*, in collaboration with the *Cincy Rockers*, are bringing the legends of Cincinnati entertainment back together for Version II of "*A Cincy Christmas Jamboree*" The show has been updated, and the "A-Team" of *Bobby Harlow, Doug Morgan, Ann Chambers, Jeff Wilson, and Jeanne Blessing* will be here to entertain you with Christmas songs to put you in the Holiday Spirit.

But that's not all! The evening will also include split-the-pot and an "ugly sweater" contest, if you wish to participate."

Event tickets go on sale September 1, from ShowClix. There are three (3) ticket options; **Premium Seating** at \$20.00, **Select Seating** at \$18.00, and **General Admission Seating** at \$15.00. You can purchase tickets on-line by following this link: <https://www.showclix.com/event/a-cincy-christmas-jamboree-ii-december-18-2021>, or by calling the ShowClix Box Office at 1-888-718-4253, Option 1, and ask about Patriot Center of Cincinnati Events. On-line ticket sales close at 12 noon on December 18th. Tickets can be purchased at the door, if available.

Seat selection will be required when tickets are purchased. Groups wishing to be seated together must purchase all tickets at the same time. Seating for tickets purchased at the door will be determined based upon availability. This event will be promoted on Facebook. If you're a Facebook user, please share this event with your friends and family.

"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, with one break of about 15 months when Ed Ruffennach was our Post Adjutant. 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 its 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, Ohio, 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 will continue in an Assistant Adjutant to assist a new Adjutant in training.

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

Charities, Inc. 2021-2022 Budget Approved

American Legion Post 318 Charities Inc. (CI), has approved its 2021-2022 budget. This budget funds all IRS approved program and philanthropy sponsored by the Post.

To fund this budget, CI is focused on generating about \$37,000 by supporting, or implementing, the 8 projects listed below.

- Amazon Smiles
- Kroger Rewards
- Bingo
- Wave the Flag (November 13, 2021)
- Old Coney Christmas Lights (Nov. thru Dec.)
- Cookies & Cocoa with Santa (Dec 4, 2021)
- Gifts for Yanks (March 2022)
- Poppy Days - Schools & Community – (May 2022)

To implement these fundraisers, we will need your support. Please consider how you can help.

Veterans Day Celebration

The Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee will once again host a Veteran Day Celebration at the Patriot Center (Post 318), Thursday, November 11th.

This event includes a cash bar, a complimentary dinner, dessert, and live entertainment. It is open to all Anderson Township Veterans, but capacity is limited to 200. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Each veteran can include one (1) guest in their reservation. To make your reservation call: 688-8400 extension 8444.

The event program is as follows:

- 5:00p – 5:45p - Cash Bar
- 5:45p – 6:00p - Welcome & Short Program
- 6:00p – 7:30p - Dinner & Dessert
- 7:30p – 9:00p - Live Entertainment

Photos Needed

A few years back we began collecting photographs of our members, when they were on active duty. Using these photographs, we created a slide show that we use on special occasions. We will be showing these photos at the Veterans Day Celebration. If you're a new member, or a long time member with additional photos to contribute to our collection, please email a copy of these photos to dabishop@fuse.net

Post Activities Report

I want to thank everyone for coming out for the Ice Cream Social on August 14th!! There was a great turnout with a wide variety of toppings brought by all to share. There are a lot of activities coming up this fall/winter so be sure to check out the Post Calendar and Facebook Posts. Dances have started up again and we expect a big turnout! Please consider helping on the crew to help with the success. In September, we have Bingo on Sunday's (excluding Sept 5th for Labor Day); Euchre on Thursday evenings and Friday mornings; 2 Dances are also on the schedule – Cincy Rocker on the 11th and Slow Burn on the 25th.

We will be having light refreshments after our General Meeting on Wednesday the 8th as well as a Marine Corps Birthday Cake! Please consider coming out. Football Mania is in full swing so make sure you get your money for your tickets back to Randy by Sept 6th.

As always, we are looking for new ideas for events you would like to see at the Post and look forward to having you and your families out during them. Please reach out to me with any ideas.

Be on the lookout for a Tailgating Event coming in October!

Kirk Minnich
2nd Vice Commander