

**Monthly Minutes**  
**For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351**  
**Martinez, CA 94553**  
**Saturday, 17 February 2018**

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 17 February 2018 at 1000 by Post Commander Ellison Lockett. Opening Prayer by Claude Nave – acting as Chaplain, and pledge of allegiance led by Ellison Lockett.

**Roll Call:**

**Officers:**

Ellison Lockett – Commander – Present  
Trazena Jones (Kandie) – Sr. Vice Commander – Present  
Art Miller – Jr. Vice Commander – Present  
Claude Nave - Quartermaster – Present  
Richard Cheney – Adjutant, Website - Present  
Carl Edwards – Asst. Adjutant – Present  
Jason Caiado – Chaplain –Excused  
Mike Keppel - Judge Advocate – Absent  
Stanley Rux –Surgeon – Present  
Stephanie Cornejo –First Year Trustee- Scout Chairman – Absent  
Gus Kritikos– Second Year Trustee -Present  
Paul Steelhammer – Third Year Trustee – Absent  
Jorge Martinez-Sergeant of Arms Absent  
Brian Chauvin – Service Officer-Absent

**Membership:**

Marjorie Detiege – Absent  
Macario N Cero Jr– Present  
Lennie Dombach – Present  
Michael Driggers – Absent  
George Driscoll – Absent  
Phil Dougherty – Present  
Jose Guzman – Absent  
Bill Harbin – Absent  
Terrance Holmes - Absent  
Dennis C Hughes – Absent  
Frank Kastl – Recreation Chairman – Absent  
John Lytle III – Present  
Frank Macan – Absent  
Emmett Schumer – Present  
Robert (Bobby) Siebenrock – Present  
Tom Zamaria – Absent  
Bruce Bauer – Excused  
Edward Aderholt – Absent  
John Platt – Absent

**Minutes** from January 2018 meeting were posted to the website by Richard Cheney. No changes were

noted and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

**Financial Report:** Quartermaster Claude Nave provided the update, and available under separate cover by Claude Nave. Motion to accept by Mac Cero with Carl Edwards second; it was voted on and passed.

**Bring a vet to meeting.** Ellison Lockett asked the membership to bring one of their veteran friends to a future meeting to help our membership drive.

**Committee Reports:** Membership – Claude Nave – there is a need for 3 new members by 31 May to meet the requirements for All State (it allows all members to purchase and wear a white service cap).

Carl Edwards reported that there was nothing to report for the Voice of Democracy or Patriots Pen program. Ellison Lockett asked if anyone had volunteered to assist Carl – Carl said no.

Scout of the year program - Paul Steelhammer was not present.

Activity Chair – Frank Kastl – not present.

Bocce ball – Phil Dougherty – Play begins in April. There will be 6 two-man teams. Find your partner and be ready by April.

Logistics – Trazena Jones – showed the new picture of the membership holding the Sidney Severns lithograph.

Martinez War Memorial – Rich Cheney – reported that Monument Art of Hayward said the granite stone shipped from India two weeks ago and will arrive in California in about a month. Rich showed the memorial article in the Martinez Gazette. Everything is on track for a June 2018 dedication. See website for updates.

Website – Richard Cheney – Always seeking new content. The only items in February's calendar were the meeting today.

Flower wreaths for Veterans and Memorial Day ceremonies – Rich Cheney. The city only provides a wreath with plastic flowers that is reused. It looks pretty tired and, frankly, is disrespectful of our veterans and fallen heroes. Rich distributed pictures of possible replacement wreaths using either real flowers or silk. Real flowers would have to be replaced with each wreath whereas silk flowers would be reused. Cost of real flowers would be \$200/wreath and the silk flowers would be \$300 one time. Cost could be split with American Legion. Other than the obvious advantage of having a high quality wreath for the ceremonies, both Posts benefit because the wreaths would remain in city hall for a week (until the flowers withered) continuing to remind the citizenry of the sacrifices made by the military and acting as a recruiting tool, as the wreaths will have the emblems of both posts attached. A lively discussion followed with concerns about using money for veterans at risk for a flower project. Lennie pointed out how difficult it is to get members to come out for Buddy Poppies – our main source of donations. Claude proposed we try live flowers for one year at \$400 and then re-evaluate. Rich seconded. Approved by the membership.

**Old business:** None

**National Home Prayer:** Given by Claude Nave acting as Chaplain for today.

**New business:** Ellison Lockett said post elections are coming up for commander, Senior vice commander, junior vice commander, quartermaster, chaplain, and one trustee. Nomination and election will follow Bylaws, Sections 216-217. Nominations will be sent to Trazena Jones and Art Miller through March. Elections are in April with installation during the District Convention in June. Lennie Dombach informed us of the upcoming St Patrick's Corned Beef Dinner on 3 March sponsored by the American Legion. Tickets are on sale for \$15 each. See attached flyer.

**Needy and Distressed:** Ellison Lockett and his wife Juanita, Sharon Steelhammer, Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, George Driscoll, and Jason Caiado are on our remember sick list.

**Closing Pray:** Given by Claude Nave acting as Chaplain for today.

The meeting was adjourned at 1105.

Next meeting will be on 17 March 2018

Post 1351

Richard Cheney – Adjutant

# American Legion

Henry A McNamara Post 29

## Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Veterans Memorial Building  
930 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA

Raffle Prize  
tickets sold at  
the event

Saturday, March 3, 2018

No Host Pub – 5:00pm

Dinner – 6:00pm

### Irish Dinner

### Corned Beef & Cabbage

Door Prize  
drawing

For Reservations call:  
Jeff 925-957-1662

Suggested  
Donation \$15.<sup>00</sup>



**Monthly Minutes**  
**For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351**  
**Martinez, CA 94553**  
**Saturday, 21 January 2018**

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 21 January 2018 at 1003 by Post Commander Ellison Lockett. Opening Prayer by Art Miller – acting as Chaplain, and pledge of allegiance led by Ellison Lockett.

**Roll Call:**

**Officers:**

Ellison Lockett – Commander – Present  
Trazena Jones (Kandie) – Sr. Vice Commander – Present  
Art Miller – Jr. Vice Commander – Present  
Claude Nave - Quartermaster – Present  
Richard Cheney – Adjutant, Website - Present  
Carl Edwards – Asst. Adjutant – Present  
Jason Caiado – Chaplain –Excused  
Mike Keppel - Judge Advocate – Present  
Stanley Rux –Surgeon – Present  
Stephanie Cornejo –First Year Trustee- Scout Chairman –Present  
Gus Kritikos– Second Year Trustee -Present  
Paul Steelhammer – Third Year Trustee – Absent  
Jorge Martinez-Sergeant of Arms Absent  
Brian Chauvin – Service Officer-Absent

**Membership:**

Marjorie Detiege – Absent  
Macario N Cero Jr– Present  
Lennie Dombach – Present  
Michael Driggers – Absent  
George Driscoll – Absent  
Phil Dougherty – Present  
Jose Guzman – Absent  
Bill Harbin – Absent  
Terrance Holmes - Absent  
Dennis C Hughes – Absent  
Frank Kastl – Recreation Chairman – Absent  
John Lytle III – Present  
Frank Macan – Absent  
Emmett Schumer – Present  
Robert (Bobby) Siebenrock – Absent  
Tom Zamaria – Absent  
Bruce Bauer – Present  
Edward Aderholt – Absent  
John Platt – Absent

**Guests:**

Cora Young

Ryan-Thomas Brown

**Guest Speakers:** Cora Young works in Rep Mike Thompson's Vallejo office and Ryan-Thomas Brown works in Rep Mark DeSaulnier's Walnut Creek office. Although the Federal government shut down effective today, they were here to discuss what their Congressmen can do to assist veterans and how to reach them when an issue arises that can be solved through Federal intervention. They made a special pitch for the Korean government's "Ambassador for Peace" medal. Information on the medal may be found at <https://mikethompsonforms.house.gov/news/email/show.aspx?ID=NSYJYMWDQZHKC>.

**Financial Report:** First Year Trustee Stephanie Cornejo provided the update, which was provided under separate cover by Claude Nave. Motion to accept by Mac Cero and Carl Edwards seconded it, it was voted on and passed.

**Committee Reports:** Membership – Claude Nave – 15 members still need to pay their dues by 1 June. There is a need for 3 new members by 31 May to meet the requirements for All State (it allows all members to purchase and wear a white service cap). Mike Keppel asked if there was a list of those who need to pay; Claude will make it available.

Carl Edwards reported that there was nothing to report for the Voice of Democracy or Patriots Pen program. Ellison Lockett asked if anyone had volunteered to assist Carl – Carl said no.

Scout of the year program - Paul Steelhammer was not present.

Activity Chair – Frank Kastl – not present. Elliot asked for another person to take over this role from Frank.

Bocce ball – Phil Dougherty – reported the team was full and begins play every Thursday morning beginning in April. He's started a new format with 2-man teams.

Logistics – Trazena Jones – reported hanging the Sidney Severns lithograph and is looking to hang a picture of the membership celebrating the arrival of the lithograph.

Martinez War Memorial – Rich Cheney – reported that Monument Art of Hayward said the granite stone shipped from India this past week and will arrive in California in about 6 weeks. Rich is now an intern for the City of Martinez (part of his graduate school requirements) and will shepherd the project as a member of the city staff. Everything is on track for a June 2018 dedication. See website for updates. Service hours for volunteers working on researching the names of Martinez war dead were reported to Claude Nave.

Website – Richard Cheney – Most pages have new content: home page has link to Rep Mike Thomas' call for Korean War vets; local news will have meeting minute concatenated for the entire year (you can this month's info and then the previous month's immediately after). Rather than send out copies of the minutes to each e-mail address, there will be a link to the minutes on the website. Photo album – new pictures from the Christmas dinner, and additional pictures of Buddy Poppy activity at Safeway, along with the group photo of members with the Sidney Severns lithograph.

**Old business:** None

**National Home Prayer:** Given by Art Miller acting as Chaplain for today.

**Donations:** Claude Nave reported we annually give \$100 to the National Home and Army Historical Museum.

**New business:** Ellison Lockett said post elections are coming up for commander, Senior vice commander, junior vice commander, quartermaster, chaplain, and one trustee. Nomination and election will follow Bylaws, Sections 216-217. Nominations will be sent to Trazena Jones and Art Miller through March. Elections are in April with installation during the District Convention in June.

Information on officer duties can be found here:

<http://www.vfw9785.org/thevfw/PostOfficerDuties.html>. The information is a little dated, but 90% accurate. Ellison also reported the American Legion District 9 will have a crab feed at Veterans Hall on 3 Feb from 1700 to 2100. Tickets are \$50 each, limited to 100 participants. Contact Jeff Roubal at 925-957-1662. There will be a district meeting in Antioch at 0900 on 24 March.

**Needy and Distressed:** Ellison Lockett and his wife Juanita, Sharon Steelhammer, Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, George Driscoll, are on our remember sick list.

**Closing Pray:** Given by Art Miller acting as Chaplain for today.

The meeting was adjourned at 1135.

Next meeting will be on 17 February 2018

Post 1351

Richard Cheney – Adjutant