

**MAY 2009****Northeast Chapter 187****FROM THE COMMANDER**

I want to thank you all for allowing me to be your commander for this coming year. You have given me a great honor and I will do my best for the chapter.

We have just returned from our first meeting and want to tell you that we got a lot done. First, we now have two new service officers at the chapter, Tom Pearson and Bob Snow. This will greatly improve the chapter to help veterans to receive the services and benefits that are deserved. Second, Juan Ruiz Jr became Senior Vice Commander for the District and David Garcia became 2d Jr. Vice Commander.

The next district meeting will be in Amarillo next March. In 2011 the meeting will be here in El Paso. Chapter 10 proved to district that El Paso DAV Chapters work together very well. Let's prove to district when the meeting is hosted here in El Paso. These meetings are very important in that they give us a chance to work together to help all DAV chapters in the district to help all veterans. I wish we could get more to attend this meeting and see how the importance of our work. We need more service officers to can serve El Paso better. This also gives us a change to bring up problems that need to be solved. We were able to talk to a Congressman and bring up items that needed to be stated to help all of our veterans.

We have Austin coming up this year. It is important that we have members here to bring up more items to help our chapter. Our chapter can bring up issues to the state to help when we go to national. We can get changes to National and get some help from Washington. For it is there that we can get the action that is needed to make a real difference for our members and the veterans that we serve.

I ask that we get more members to the meetings. We have many things to work toward so we are able to do the job of helping our members and our veterans. Remember, we are here for the veterans and their families, not only while the veteran is here, but also when they get their marching orders. Their families must then become our responsibility to get the help that they have earned because of the service the veteran gave our country.

Upcoming events are the Forget-me-not, the Veterans Dinner at Golden Corral, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day.

**Jeri Elena Mark**  
**Commander**

**2009-2010  
OFFICERS**

**COMMANDER**  
JERI MARK  
**SENIOR VICE**  
TOM PEARSON  
**ADJUTANT**  
R. RODRIGUEZ  
**1ST UNNIOR VICE**  
OLGA KALPAKGIAN  
**2ND JUNIOR VICE**  
CARL CHRISTMAN  
**CHAPLAIN**  
OTIS DURR  
**TREASURER**  
ROBERT SNOW  
**JUDGE ADVOCATE**  
TED MONETTE  
**SERVICE OFFICER**  
TED MONETTE  
**OFFICER of the DAY**  
ANTHONY ALMEIDA  
**QUARTERMASTER**  
DANNY GALLEGOS  
**EDITOR**  
JOSEPH HUDSON

**CHAPTER  
OFFICE  
HOURS**

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
9:00AM TO 12:30PM  
IF PEOPLE ARE  
AVAILABLE

EMAIL ADDRESS  
davnortheast187@att.net

**Chapter Address**  
8888 Dyer #512  
El Paso, TX 79904

**DAV AUXILIARY**

**COMMANDER**  
ROSELIND ROGER  
**ADJUTANT**  
SOPHIE HILL  
**SENIOR VICE**  
MARY ELLIOT  
**JUNIOR VICE**  
REGINA ARNOLD  
**TREASURER**  
SOPHIE HILL  
**CHAPLAIN**  
MARY HORVATH

**!! NOTICE !!**

**NEXT CHAPTER  
MEETING**  
**JUNE 20, 2009**  
**@ 9:00 AM**

**VFW 8919**  
**5535 Saluki St**

**CHAPTER PHONE  
NUMBERS**

**CHAPTER OFFICE**  
915-751-5800  
**COMMANDER**  
915-759-7512  
**CHAPLAIN**  
915-751-8432  
915-740-2475  
**FAX**  
915 751-4028

# Building Committee

As many of you are aware The Building Committee has been in negotiations with C & M Properties for the past few months. We have reached a point where a contract was presented to DAV 187, The contract (for your information) will basically read as follows: C & M will build DAV 187 a building (complete) which will include an outside patio with a overhead cover to provide shade. It is projected that this area will have picnic tables for our use. The size of the building has not been finalize as of yet. The architect has giving us a outline of the buildings'. The interior has not been received as of this date. We have presented our outline indicating our preferences. Including office space, rest rooms, and the kitchen area. As presented to us and C & M, the building would be between 2200 sq ft to 2500 sq ft. The size of the building is determined by city ordinance over which we have no control. City ordinance requires that a certain amount of building square feet be allotted for each parking space. However we are trying to get a waver on the amount of parking spaces needed.

The Building Committee met on 20 April. There were five members present, three were absent. Present were: Charles Jones, Robert Dixon, Tomas Benero, Lonzie Larry, and Gerald Shippee. Absent were Joe Wilson, David Garcia, and Juan Ritz. Of the members present the vote was 5 to 0 that we accept the offer to build. Of the members not present and were contacted 2, said no to the proposal and 1 did not commit. On 3 May I met with the Executive Committee. At that meeting 3 committee members were present, including the Commander. Of those present 2 voted to accept the proposal and the Commander concurred. Three members of the Executive Committee were not present. One member was contacted by phone and he voted to accept the proposal. The 2 remaining members not present were contacted the following day. They indicated that they were against accepting the proposal. We have a majority of members on both committees who were in favor of accepting the proposal. We will put this issue before the entire organization at the next meeting. If the members agree we will go forward with this plan. Those no voting members have since changed their mine and wish to go forward with the construction.

Now the hard part; What do we have to give up to get this building built? First we must consulate the two lots into one large lot. Next we must sign that property over the C & M Properties.

Then C & M builds the building complete with patio, and parking spaces. When this is completed C & M (by CONTRACT) must turn over the building and land that it sits on to DAV 187, C & M Builders will maintain the parking spaces. DAV 187, or its tenants and C & M or its tenants will have access to all parking areas.

The contract is at this time with two hot shot (DAV 187) lawyers in Dallas. If there is a problem with the contract they will correct it. They will insure that DAV 187, is fully protected. The issues that the no voting members had is: The building is too small, The cost of maintaining insurance, lights, and water. Having checked on insurance issues there is no way that anyone can calculate the cost of insurance at this time. That will be decided by the type of use that we designate once it is built. Worse case, we sell the building. We still would come out ahead. I don't see this happening, but it is something to consider. I have found that owning is much better than renting. With a building at this location we can help many more veterans and their families, and at the same time have the opportunity to generate income.

If any of you have questions of concerns feel free to express them. The Building Committee will answer any and all questions and address all issues that you may have. You may contact us at the DAV office or drop by if you wish.

**Gerald Shippee**  
**Chairman, Building Committee**

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP STATUS

as of February 3, 2009

Total Members	1484
Life Members	1275
Part Life Members	193
Trial Members	17
Goal for Life Members	1312
Goal Percentage	97%
# of members to make goal	37

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND PARTNERS

Community partners are resources that our chapter has in order to assist needy veterans and family members. They can help at higher levels depending on veterans' needs with a referral from our chapter.

We work together to better the lives of our veterans and family members.

Our Community Partners and Resources are:

<b>Salvation Army</b>	544-9811
<b>Opportunity Center</b>	577-0069 ext 227
<b>Project Bravo</b>	757-0199
<b>Veterans Transition Living Center</b>	838-0727
<b>Rescue Mission</b>	532-2275
<b>Paso Del Norte Food Bank</b>	544-5592
<b>El Paso General Assistance</b>	532-8850
<b>N.E Community Health Center</b>	757-7835
<b>Love of Life</b>	755-1222
<b>(Veterans) Texas Workforce Rep.</b>	887-2838

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Vice

As the 2nd Junior Vice, my plans for the following year are to first and foremost work with all the other officers to ensure DAV Chapter 187 remains loyal to all veterans and assists them in getting what they have earned for their service. I am seeking to help my fellow comrades bring membership up and help bring awareness to our great organization. As a member of the Executive Committee it is my responsibility to act in a manner that will create nothing but good comments for this DAV Chapter.

As the chairman of the entertainment committee I would like to seek out local guest speakers that will come and explain what kind of services they can provide to the Disabled Veterans here in the El Paso community. I believe there are a lot of organizations in this community that provide assistance to veterans that many veterans are not aware of and bringing in these special guest speakers should help inform our veterans of these benefits. It is my hope in doing this that the comrades of this Chapter spread the word to other veterans of their earned benefits. It is also my goal as we try to get family members involved in our Chapter to begin an annual Chapter/Family member gathering. We have a great Christmas gathering each year and I believe if we start an annual Chapter/Family gathering it will bring an even closer unity to the comrades and their family members in our Chapter. My belief is that the more the El Paso community sees the DAV the better they will respond to the needs of our veterans who so greatly and selflessly served this great nation. If we as a Chapter can become even more "visible" in the community then hopefully one day our comrades who follow us will get the attention and benefits that they have earned.

I look forward to working with my fellow officers and hope that we can continue to serve this Chapter as well as our previous officers before us did. While working with the Executive Committee it is my hope that together we can make this great Chapter even better.

**Carl Christman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Junior Vice**

## DAV AUXILIARY

Congratulations to two of our Auxiliary members--Jeri Elena Mark and Rosalind Roger--both of whom bear the title of Commander. Jeri is the new Commander of NE 187 DAV and Rosalind is the new Commander of NE 187 DAVA. You may ask, "How can this be?" Both are members of the Chapter (DAV) and the Unit (DAVA). Both are veterans who proudly served their country for many years and both now serve and represent many veterans. Chapter members may also join the auxiliary, and they may hold office in DAVA unit unless they hold an office in the DAV Chapter. Great job, ladies.

To our Past Unit Commander, Vera Monette, we send out a great big THANK YOU for serving as our Unit Commander for the past four and one half years.

Keep watching for and reading this section of our newsletter, and we shall try to keep you up to date on what we are doing. To our parent chapter, NE 187, Thank You for including our news in this newsletter.

**Sophie Hill**  
**Adjutant**

## Chaplain

Greetings Comrades, in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As an ordained minister, I hope to serve you and your family with your spirituals needs. For the members who are sick, hospitalized, or families of deceased members, and also those who may be going through rough times, please inform the Chapter and we will assist you. Remember, prayer is powerful but, the greatest is love. So let us love one another as God for Christ's sake loved us and gave Himself for us. The Word for the month is "Love (Agape)".

"And now abideth, faith, hope, and love, these three, but the greatest of these is "love" 1Cor 13:13

**Chaplain Elder Otis Durr**  
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Phone: 915-751-8432 / 915-740-2475

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*"SERVING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED"*



**!! Congratulations to our newly elected officers !!**

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Comrades,

I welcome any suggestions, comments, or concerns to better our DAV Newsletter. If you want to be added or removed from our mailing list, please contact our office or email me. Our next newsletter will be published in July 2009. Thank you.

Contact me anytime: [joehud5150@yahoo.com](mailto:joehud5150@yahoo.com)

**Joseph Hudson, Editor**