



Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter

Building a better life for Disabled American Veterans and their families.

425 Vaughn Street, Seguin, TX. 78155, PH: 830-379-3299

November 2009

Commander's Corner

Hello Comrades;

Well, we survived the crush of the October and November activities. The Home Depot Salute to Military Families was very nice attended once again by the Guadalupe County Veterans Council. Doug Herrle, our Service Officer, was able to gain 2 new members. Well attended by the local community. The November 2009 Veteran's Day event was a big success, as well, put on at our newly renovated Veteran's Park. I had the pleasure once again of M/Cing the event and the DAV was well represented with a recruiting booth and an Auxiliary refreshment booth.

The Birthday Bash celebrating 45 years of service to Guadalupe County was a hit again, organized by our Entertainment Committee Chairman Al Aranda and Auxiliary member Becky Hruza. With the help of the Auxiliary and fellow Chapter members we were able to raise a goodly sum of much needed capital. Good Job to all involved.

We have resumed operations in our Service Offices and the new Chapter House is shaping up nicely. The December 8th Christmas Dinner is a go and we'll need help pulling that together. However, it should be really nice in our new home.

Our Honor Guard performed at its usual best Captained by our own SV Cdr Deleon.

The latest service enacted for a Retired Navy Captain out of Wimberly. A bit far for them, but the commitment of our Honor Guard shows that these are members that believe the sacrifices of our comrades deserve to be remembered. My only comment was that while we have some of the Honor Guard members always present, some of the uniformed guard members need to re-examine their commitment.

There are still a few things to take care of at the Chapter House. Plumbing needs attention, flagpole needs to be erected, A/c and heat are non-existent, exterior painting would be nice, and finishing up establishing the internet throughout the Chapter House are all items on our "To-Do" list. Things should straighten out quickly, though, and I'm confident we'll be in the pink soon. A shout out goes to all who have chipped in to help whip the New Chapter House in to shape.

As the holiday season arrives, I'll ask that you all stay safe, and pray that our troops have the Lord looking after them. Our Christmas Dinner is on the 8th at 6:30pm. If I don't get to see you, Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Marlin Howze
Commander
DAV TX Ch61

Auxiliary Commander's Corner

Remember our dinner on Dec. 8 and if you want to bring a side dish it will not go to waste. We are going to have lots of fun with door prizes and raffle items. From all your Auxiliary officers we wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Be good to each other.

Terri Herrle
Auxiliary Commander
TX Unit 61

Upcoming Events

Chapter 61 annual Christmas Dinner: 8 Dec, New HQ, 6PM.

That's our official functions to the end of this year as we know them right now. More info can be found at our website:
<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/tx/61>.

Our Staff of Volunteers

For help with any claim or correspondence contact our staff of Volunteers. Volunteers are: Chapter Service Officers (CSOs): Doug Herrle (Chairman), Marlin Howze, Phil Sierer, & Margarita Bilbrey.

Committee Chairs: Membership & Entertainment - Al Aranda, Building - John DeLeon, Hospital - Richard Cusson, Honor Guard Captain - Juan DeLeon.

Other News

New/Transferred Members

Sickness/Distress

Larry Bilbrey - Sarcoids, Doug Herrle - Pulmonary. , Ben Orens and wife - multiple issues.

Minutes Summary

Our last meeting was on 11/10/2009 at 7PM. IAW our C&B, we had a quorum. The Birthday Bash was a success netting us roughly \$1700.

Being our first meeting in the new Chapter House, there was a lot of discussion about things that needed to be done. Mostly, the clearing of all the stuff received from McCoys Corporate HQ in San Marcos. After dressing our offices with the newer furniture, it was decided that the remaining overstock of office items would be opened to the membership for disposal. If, by the last Saturday of the month, there were still items left, we would open for a garage sale. This has passed and we didn't sell anything, so the remaining desks and loose items are stored in the barn behind the Chapter House.

We still need to raise the flagpole donated by the Woodmen of the World. We need some volunteers to step forward and accomplish this task.

The Veteran's Day was a hit with live HS bands, great speakers, Elementary school choir and our new veteran's park on display. Hope you took the time to stop by and check it out.

Home Depot Salute to Veterans very nice and special as we did not have to do very much for the event, just stand and be recognized. It's nice when you don't have to bang your own drum.

Chapter 61 Birthday Bash went very well. The event provided us with some much needed money as moving into the new HQ put a real drain on us.

Christmas Party will be held at the new HQ on Dec. 8th starting at 6:30PM. Cooking and decorating will begin at 7am and continue most of the day. Contact Auxiliary Commander Terri Herrle for details.

We will also be scheduling an official Grand Opening at some point, probably around the first of the year. Stay tuned for details on that one.

The topic of letting the City use the Chapter House as a polling station beginning with the next year's elections and legislative actions. The membership was in favor and

considered it a nice return for the City's generosity in leasing the Fire Station to the Chapter. A motion was tendered with a second, and having unanimous support passed without dissent.

Tis Christmas. A time of thanks to our Lord. Make sure that amongst the food and gift giving we remember Him and the Sacrifice of His Son. It is also a time to remember the sacrifices of our young men and women serving in places far away from a warm hearth. Be safe and enjoy the Holidays.

This Newsletter is edited and published by **DAV Chapter 61**, PO Box 325,
Seguin, TX 78156

We are located at 1211 N. Peach Street, Seguin, TX. 78155, or call 830-379-3299

Service Hours: 9am to 1pm Tuesday & Wednesday

Monthly Business Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the Month

For the most up to date news, please visit our web site at

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/tx/61>.

You may Bookmark the site and refer often to see what's happening.

Chapter Officers

Commander: Marlin Howze (Email: tx61cdr@davfrat.org)

Senior Vice-Commander: Juan DeLeon

Junior Vice-Commander: John Cuellar

Treasurer: Bill Owen

Chaplin: Richard Cusson

Adjutant: Margarita Bilbrey

Sergeant-at-Arms: Al Aranda

The Auxiliary Unit Officers

Commander: Terri Herrle

Senior Vice Commander: Lynette Sierer

Adjutant / Treasurer: Christa Howze

Chaplin: Jean Garriott