



Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter

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

1211 N. Peach Street, Seguin, TX. 78155, PH: 830-379-3299

September 2009

Commander's Corner

Hello Comrades;

Summer's over and so is the 40+ days of 100+ temperatures. We've gotten rain and everything is greening up and cooling down a bit. That's great news – because we have a lot of work ahead of us in the next couple of months. Forget-me-not fund drive, grand opening of the new HQ, Veteran's Day, Hats off to Juan Seguin, the Cowboy v Falcons game in Dallas (oh, my bad – that's my event), Home Depot Salute to Veterans, 45th Birthday Bash of the Chapter, and Christmas Dinner.

With all this going on, I sure hope many of you will help us in these endeavors. With a new HQ, the Chapter is moving into a new era and we'll need all the help we can get.

That's not to say we haven't had some help already. Comrade Jim Dickerson donated and installed the beautiful new wood and carpeted floors in the New Chapter House. He worked his tail off and deserves a huge pat on the back. So does Comrade Gregory Martinez for helping us with the lighting inside and outside. Comrade Basil Karms facilitated the acquisition of a brand new flagpole through the generous donation of the local Woodmen of the World Post. Comrade Jimmie Luna came through with a contact from McCoy's corporate office in

San Marcos. The result is that we carried off 8 large trailers of furniture, appliances, and electronics. A lot of hard work was done by a dozen or so of stalwart members of both the Chapter and the Auxiliary. Good job to all who helped. After we sort out what the Chapter wants, we will have to decide on the rest; donating it or having a garage sale.

Veteran's Park is nearing the completion of the Phase I renovation and you should see a greatly revitalized park for Veteran's Day. This is a joint Guadalupe County Veteran's Council project and we are a major player.

Welcome the fall and be ready for the events to come. This is the busy time of the year for us and is a time for us to shine or hide in the shadows. Let's shine.

Marlin Howze
Commander
DAV TX Ch61

Auxiliary Commander's Corner

The National Convention has passed and we have a new set of Line Officers. The most noteworthy thing from the Units perspective was winning the Legislative Award for the National Organization; a big prize for us. Another item discussed at great

length was the Disabled Veteran Commemorative Coin, details will be following, but this will be a fund raising tool to make the Disabled Veteran Monument in D.C. a reality.

As stated by the Commander, a lot going on and we need to be ready to support the Chapter. Especially once we move into the new HQ. Fundraising is a big part of that and it begins with the Forget-me-not drive at Wal-Mart this weekend, 3-4 Oct.

The Unit's office and meeting room are basically 90% finished. Following, the city inspection we will begin to move the furniture in and setting up our own new shop.

Be good to each other.

Terri Herrle
Auxiliary Commander
TX Unit 61

Upcoming Events

Nat'l Guard Send-Off: 3 Oct, 10-10:30 AM, Canyon HS, New Braunfels. Forget-me-not Drive: 3-4 Oct, Wal-Mart, 12PM-6PM. Dist. V Planning Mtg: 11 Oct, Inn Place Hotel, Victoria, TX. Chapter 61 Monthly Meeting: 13 Oct., hopefully the new HQ, 7PM. Hat's Off to Juan Seguin: 24 Oct, Downtown Seguin, details to follow, 8AM. Home Depot Salute to Veterans: 7 Nov, Seguin Home Depot, 10AM. Chapter 61's 45th Birthday Bash: 7 Nov, Seguin Nat'l Guard Armory, 7PM. 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 - ?, Honor Guard Captain – Juan DeLeon.

Other News

We say goodbye to our long time friends and solid supporters, Vickie and Jesse Ayala. They're moving north (ugh) and we wish them well. They were both strong and active supporters of both Chapter and Unit 61.

We have a new Adjutant for the Chapter; Comrade Margarita Bilbrey. Ben Orens had to resign for personal reasons, but remains a dedicated member of the Chapter and is working behind the scenes to help us out when he can.

Margarita stepped up to the plate to take over and I am extremely grateful. She is Chapter member in good standing and one of our Service Officers as well.

We are still in need of a new Chaplain with the departure of Jesse. Look deep and see if you can be a player in the Chapter.

This Newsletter is edited and published by **DAV Chapter 61**,
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: ??
Adjutant: Margarita Bilbrey

The Auxiliary Unit Officers

Commander: Terri Herrle
Senior Vice Commander: Lynette Sierer
Junior Vice Commander: ?
Adjutant / Treasurer: Christa Howze
Chaplin: Jean Garriott