



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

April 2010

Commander's Corner

Hello Comrades;

First, sorry for the late newsletter. We had a lot of things going on in the last couple of weeks. Most noticeably the Grand Opening held this last Saturday. A good turn out, though I would have liked to see a stronger member turn out. Those who made it were participated in the Blessing of the new Chapter House and were personally blessed by Father Jack himself. We had the Mayor and members of the City Council present and a little impromptu speaking by Mr. Sam Flores and DAV State of Texas awards given to the City Council for their support on the Chapter House by Comrade Doug Herrle. An outstanding job by the Honor Guard posting colors topped it all off. The real treat was the BBQ put on by the DeLeon brothers, Juan and Raymond and family. Add to that all the fabulous sides and desserts and we had a delicious Saturday lunch serving about 90 people. A great event thanks to all that helped clean and prep the place prior to the event.

A number of developments have happened with the Chapter House; we now have ac/heat, a flag pavilion, wheel chair ramps to the rear entrance and one in the main hall going into the bay/meeting area. A snag in the doors forced the cancelling of all the door projects and they will have to be re-bid on.

Next Saturday will see the Chapter House used as a polling station for local elections. After that the next event we are committed to will be Memorial Day on 31 May at 11am to be hosted at the San Geronimo Cemetery in Seguin. Check the website for details.

Next Tuesday is meeting night and we will be taking bids on the doors, looking at new computers and maybe the phone system. The main item will be election of new officers. This is the time for your voice to be heard. Hope to see you there.

Marlin Howze
Commander
DAV TX Ch61

Upcoming Events

Local Elections: 8 May, Chapter House, 6am-? Memorial Day: 31 May, Seguin San Geronimo Cemetery, 11 am.

That's our official functions to the end of May 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.

Minutes Summary

Our last meeting was on 4/13/2010 at 7PM. IAW our C&B, we had a quorum. Treasurer reported closing balance of \$22,785.96. Minutes from Mar meeting were read and accepted.

New Members to the Chapter and DAV included: Lynn Harrelson and Joe Commisso. Welcome to the Chapter Gentlemen, we look forward to working with you in the future. There were no new Transferees to the Chapter.

Guests Present: Mary Louise Gonzales, City Council Member, Seguin, TX.

Service Officer's report due to service officers hospitalizations and recovery periods, report was unavailable.

Chaplain's report Doug Erin (sp?) passed away Mar 25th. Rito Romero is still battling thyroid cancer. Bill Owen is recovering from knee surgery.

Under **Unfinished Business**, we discussed the flagpole pavillion. Comrade Tomas Castellon undertook the position of Committee Chairman and is working with Gary Elley to finish the project.

The Veteran's Park Project continues along with its development in the form of Phase II

operations. Drip irrigation for the rose garden is completed, staining of the new fence is being undertaken by American GI Forum Members, flagpole hardware installation completed by Tomas Castellon, and waiting on bids for the perimeter fence.

Inside the Chapter House, granite countertops were installed courtesy of Onyx Creations of Seguin, The AC system was installed by Tri-County AC and Seguin Electric, and, of course, the wheel chair ramp to the Meeting area from the main hallway.

On the outside, the Eagle Scouts have contacted us wanting to prep and paint the exterior for a project.

District V Annual Business meeting took place March 26-28 in Corpus Christi resulting in new CSOs for the Chapter. We're looking forward to the help. New District Officers were elected and business meetings conducted. A fruitful meeting.

Under **New Business**, we discussed things that needed to be accomplished with regard to repairs to the new Chapter House. Also discussed was and voted on was the placement of 40 radio ads offered as a package to cover Memorial Day, Flag Day, 4th of July, and POW/MIA Day. A price quote for 5 computers, 5 monitors, with keyboards and mice and 1 printer was from Fry's Discount Electronics was submitted by Comrade Dennis Garriott.

Under **Good of the Order**, 2 award plaques were presented to City Councilwoman Mary Louise Gonzales and City Councilman (and Comrade) Tomas Castellon for their efforts in helping the Chapter obtain the new offices. We also had the 2nd round of nominations. The current nomination standings are as follows:

Commander - Juan Deleon

SV Cdr- Phil Sierer

JV Cdr- Dennis Garriott, Doug Herrle, Gary Elley, Phil Sierer

Treasurer- Larry Bilbrey

Chaplain- Richard Cusson

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm. Next meeting will be May 11, 2010 at 7PM.

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

We are located at 425 Vaughn 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