



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

December 2010

Happy New Year to everyone out there. As we enter into the New Year, we can look back on the past year with great satisfaction. The Chapter and Unit enjoyed a very successful year with many achievements and triumphs thanks to the hard work of many of our members. Too many to name individually, but all efforts are appreciated.

The Line Officers kept our noses clean with Department, the Chapter Service Officers had a very successful year in case loads and services rendered, the Honor Guard represented the Chapter well in providing a solemn service to grieving families and the final salute to our fallen brothers and sisters. They also made us look good at several events requiring flag honors. Many of our members stepped up to make needed electrical and building improvements and/or repairs. Several members ensured the Chapter House looked good by mowing the grass and just sprucing the place up.

Our fund raisers were successful, and the recognition by many community leaders and businesses resulted in significant donations to help the Chapter and Unit continue our services to veterans and their families.

Yes, a successful year indeed. Successful due to the hard work of many individuals. To those who worked hard for the Chapter

or Unit – Well Done. If you wished you could have been a part of the group that made the year a success, fear not. It is a new year with new opportunities to make this an even bigger year. Officer elections are approaching and as always, we need people to step up and guide us down the never ending road that enables us to achieve our goals.

The District V annual Meeting which will be on Mar 5th; details to follow, but it will be held at the VFW Post 4146 in Victoria. Delegates will be nominated at the January meeting so if you want to go, you might consider letting CDR DeLeon or one of the other Officers know. CSO Training will be held February 19th at American Legion Post 2 in San Antonio. If you have an interest in becoming a Chapter Service Officer, this is a good opportunity to get in on some quality volunteerism and help fellow veterans and the Chapter at the same time.

Fire and Iron, the local Firefighters motorcycle club, will be doing a benefit fund raiser for the DAV between late Apr and early May at Dirty's Bar on Highway 46. They are currently building a 12' heavy duty field/utility trailer for auction and would like to know if anyone would like to donate a box suitable for being fitted to the tongue of the trailer. They continue looking

for large value raffle items, maybe a new shotgun or other item of value. Items for auction are welcome as well. If you have an "in" with a local vendor, pull some strings. 75% of the proceeds from this fundraiser go to Chapter 61, so it benefits us to help them.

Recently we have had a number of members having to deal with medical difficulties, keep them in your prayers.

Have a great month and be safe.

Marlin Howze
Editor

From the Chaplain

[Apologies to the Chaplain for not getting this out earlier. He was ready and I wasn't. Still a good message. Editor]

The Night Jesus Came

Tw'as the night Jesus came and all through the house, not a person was praying, not one in the house. The Bible was left, on the shelf without care, for no one thought, Jesus would come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed, not once ever kneeling, or bowing their head. And mom in the rocking chair with babe on her lap, was watching the Late Show as I took a nap. When out of the East there arose such a clatter, I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters and lifted the sash.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear, but angels proclaiming that Jesus was here. The light of His face made me cover my head...was Jesus returning, just like He'd said? And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth, I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life, which He held in his hand, was written the name of every saved man.

He spoke not a word as He searched for my name, when He said "it's not here" my head hung in shame. The people whose names had been written with love, He gathered to take to his Father above.

With those who were ready He rose without sound, while all of the others were left standing around. I fell to my knees but it was too late, I'd waited too long and thus sealed my fate. I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight, oh if only I'd known that this was the night....

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear, the coming of Jesus is now drawing near...

There's only one life and when comes the last call, we'll find out that the Bible was true after all...

Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

As your Chaplain, I am available to all members of Chapter #61 and their immediate family for discussion of any spiritual matter or counseling.

Please feel free to contact me at richardcusson@hotmail.com or by calling me at (830) 491-8009.

May God's peace and blessing be with all of you.

Chaplain Richard Cusson

Upcoming Events

CSO Training: American Legion Post 2 in San Antonio, Feb. 19, 2011. Time to follow.

Dist. V Annual Meeting: VFW Post 4146, 2001 Love/VFW Dr., Victoria, Mar. 5, 2011 starting at 9am.

Fire & Iron Benefit: Apr-May, Dirty's Bar

That's our known official functions to the end of January and a bit beyond 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, and Dennis Lorance,.

Committee Chairs: Membership – Phil Sierer, Building - John DeLeon, Hospital – Richard Cusson, Honor Guard Captain – Juan DeLeon.

Minute Highlights

Our last meeting was on 11/09/2010 at 7PM. IAW our C&B, we had a quorum. A Christmas Dinner was held in lieu of a Business meeting.

CHAPTER & UNIT JOINT MEETING POINTS

Christmas Dinner was held December 14, 2010. Very successful with plenty of food and members to share the holiday season with.

In addition to our regular members and their families in attendance were our Current District V Commander Martin Garcia and **Christmas Party December 14, 2010**

many past department and District Officers including Past Auxiliary Officers. Also joining us were Precinct 4 Commissioner Judy Cope and Veteran Outreach Coordinator Mark Gonzalez. We were particularly appreciative of the Hacienda Oaks Nursing home residents and support staff in attendance.

A great time was had by all. The fried Turkey was provided by the Sutton brothers, a real Christmas tradition for us and they did their usual outstanding job. The Auxiliary did a terrific job decorating the bay, setting out all the desserts and sides brought by members and working the serving line and handling the door prizes. Michael Fore brought his DJ equipment and played holiday music throughout the evening providing a great background atmosphere. Santa was there to pass out gifts to the young 'uns as well.

A fun time by all was observed and the bay was packed to maximum capacity. We didn't even have to turn the heater on as it was warm enough. A lot of laughs and good eats, that and a pause to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior are what a Christmas dinner is all about. A great way to show our thanks for a good year. Sorry if you missed the fun, but we'll do it again next year. See you there.

Minutes from Executive Meet.

None

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You can email news or events to the [editor](#).



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
PTSD Group: Every Tuesday, 1:30-2:30pm
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: Juan DeLeon (Email: tx61cdr@davfrat.org)
Senior Vice-Commander: Phil Sierer
Junior Vice-Commander: Dennis Garriott
Treasurer: Larry Bilbrey
Chaplin: Richard Cusson
Adjutant: Margarita Bilbrey
Sergeant-at-Arms: Gary Elley

The Auxiliary Unit Officers

Commander: Jeanne Garriott
Senior Vice Commander: Lynette Sierer
Junior Vice Commander: Christa Howze
Adjutant / Treasurer: Terri Herrle
Chaplin: Liegh Harrelson