



Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter

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

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

March 2010

Commander's Corner

Hello Comrades;

We're well into 2010 and some exciting things have been going on at the Chapter House. Our Service Officer's continue to see more and more veterans needing our assistance with Doug at the helm, we continue with our Honor Guard duties headed up by Sr Vice Juan DeLeon, we have a new flagpole thanks to the efforts of Tomas Castellon, Gary Elley and Larry Bilbrey and sons, a new granite kitchen counter top thanks to the efforts of Jim Dickerson and friends, a dishwasher courtesy of the Garriott's and a computer donated by Greg Martinez. Dennis Lorange has been answering the phones. Michael Fore donated money for awards.

All this is volunteered and exemplifies what membership in the DAV is about. As veterans most of us do not wait to be told what is needed, we recognize something has to be done and get with the program. That should be the norm. I am continually asked "What can I help with?" I would rather not have to ask for help, rather I would like to be able to acknowledge the work done by volunteers. If you see something that needs to be done at the Chapter House, step up and do it. If it doesn't require money, I usually do not have to be asked if it can be done. If the Chapter House needs a quick clean up, please jump on it. When the time comes to

mow the grounds, feel free to help out. If trash cans are full dump them. Remember, it has to all be done, and some carry the lion's share. Help out. It's a bigger Chapter House and requires more people to keep it in good condition.

If you desire to become one of the Service Officers or a member of the Honor Guard, there is always room. Bottom line, volunteerism is what makes this Chapter as great as it is.

Marlin Howze
Commander
DAV TX Ch61

Auxiliary Commander's Corner

Spring is here (well almost). I know we are getting ready to start our annual spring cleaning. As you go through your "get rid of" items, remember that the VA hospital can always use clothing and that the DAV has a Thrift Shop in San Antonio with proceeds going to help our veterans. They will come and pick up your donations. Their number is (210) 924-6669 and pick up in Seguin and New Braunfels when there is a need.

We are now planning for the Grand Opening of our new Chapter Home. We will have refreshments, but are still deciding on what they will be.

I encourage all the members to come out and see our new location. I know you will like what you see.

Remember to check the DAV Website for upcoming events as the Chapter Commander keeps it up to date.

Last, but not least, be kind to each other.
Terri Herrle
Auxiliary Commander
TX Unit 61

Upcoming Events

DAV NSO Mobile Van: 24 Mar, Chapter House, 9AM. **Dist V Annual Business Meeting: 26-28 Mar**, 9AM, Corpus Christi Bayfront Hotel, Corpus Christi. **Chapter 61 Grand Opening:** tentatively May 1st at the Chapter House, details to follow.

That's our official functions to the end of March 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 - Chaplain Richard Cusson, Honor Guard Captain - Juan DeLeon.

Other News

Doug Herrle is recovering well after a week stay in the hospital and even returned to work for a short bit. We are saddened at the news of the loss of a mother and sister of our Sr. Vice Cdr John DeLeon. Our prayers go out to him and his family.

Comrade and fellow member Rito Romero has been in the hospital and has been given a jolt of bad news. We pray for his recovery and relief from pain as well. Phil and Lynette Sierer are recovering from a bout with a severe bug. Good to see them up and about.

Synopsis of the Last Meeting

Due to the sale of the old Chapter House we have a new balance that puts us in the black and will be used to bring the new Chapter House up to Standards. Some of the improvements will be new doors to stem the rash of thefts of our computers and equipment, finishing off the Flag pole patio, wheelchair ramps to the rear entrances, fix the AC/Heat system (bids are being taken), and prep and paint the exterior.

We welcome the new granite countertop funded by money raised by Comrade Dickerson and generous donation of labor for the install and hardware by local corporate sponsors. We also appreciate the plumbing work done gratis by Guadarama Plumbing and coordinated by Judge Mike Wiggins and Councilman Guadarama. We are looking at new phones to replace the hodgepodge in place now, tabled for now.

The Chapter voted to transfer a portion of the monies received from the sale of the old Chapter House to the Auxiliary.

For the good of the Order, first round nominations for the next year's officer positions were taken. We will take nominations for the next two meetings and vote at the May meeting. All positions are open and challengers are welcome (and encouraged).

Our next meeting will be April 13, 2010 at 1900 (7PM).

This Newsletter is edited and published by **DAV Chapter 61**,
We are located at 425 Vaughan 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

The Auxiliary Unit Officers

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