



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 2010

Sorry for the lateness of the Newsletter, some computer problems have been plaguing me and kinda slowed things up a bit. The weather has turned and a slight chill is in the air. Yep, it's that time of the year again – Flu Season. Get your shots; the VA is giving them out to the vets already. Time to be thinking of your and your family's health.

November is done and I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We had a good month with the success of the Chapter 61 Birthday Dance and the several Veteran Day events we held and participated in. Thanks to the DeLeon crews for all the food at the dance and all the members who chipped in to make it another good event. As usual, Chapter 61 looked good and had a good showing of membership at all the different functions we were involved with. This included a 9am ceremony at Hacienda Oakes Nursing Home for the Veterans there. A small detachment from the Chapter made this event and took flags and new hats for the veteran residents and a new flag for the nursing home's flag pole. The main body helped setup and execute the primary event at Veteran's Park at 11am. A huge turn out for the newly renovated Veteran's Park.

We will be having the Christmas Dinner at the next meeting night, Tuesday 14

December at 6:30 PM. The Chapter is providing the meats as usual supplemented with member recipes to make it a fine evening. Check with the Auxiliary Officers for the details on that department. Santa will be making a quick stop for the kiddies, so we need an accurate count so that Santa's helpers (wink wink) can have the presents ready.

After that we will be turning our attention to 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 in Apr or May. They are currently building a large 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 are also looking for another

large value auction item, maybe a new shotgun or something similar. 75% of the proceeds from this fundraiser go to Chapter 61, so it benefits us to help them.

The Chapter continues with its Service Office work on Tues and Weds as well as the Honor Guard keeping up with the always needed Burial Honors. If you have time and are interested in any of these programs, talk to any of the Chapter or Unit Officers. We always can use the help, and it is very rewarding.

Have a great month and be safe.

Marlin Howze
Editor

Unit Commander's Comments

Those that missed our dinner/dance missed a good time. A big THANK YOU goes to the DeLeon family for the wonderful food they made for us to enjoy! I also want to thank all who donated items for our raffle. It was a great success. And another thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help with setting it up and cleaning up after. We had lots of fun.

Our annual Christmas dinner is on December 14, beginning at 6pm. We will have veterans from Hacienda Oaks attending. We are having deep fried turkey and ham. We can always use help with side dishes. We will also have door prizes and some raffle items too. We always have a good time and good food so hope you will be there.

As the holiday season is upon us, remember that we have many in our community that are in need. There are many ways to assist and know that whatever you can do will be appreciated.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving.

From the Chaplain

“I can’t do it!” never yet accomplished anything. “I will try!” has performed wonders.

“I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.”

Philippians 4:13

A father once looked in on his 16-year-old son as he sat at the desk in his bedroom, struggling to finish his algebra homework. The father quickly scribbled a note and tacked it on the bulletin board above his son’s desk. It said DETERMINATION. “What’s that?” his son asked.

“You’re dealing with all those formulas” the dad explained. “X plus Y and all that. So I made up my own formula to encourage you. It’s try plus determination!”

In her autobiography titled *Dolly*, Dolly Parton says, “My high school was small, so during a graduation event, each of us got a chance to stand up and announce our plans for the future. ‘I’m going to junior college one boy would say,’ ‘I’m getting married and moving to Maryville,’ one girl would say. When it came time for my turn, I said, ‘I’m going to Nashville to become a star.’ The entire place erupted in laughter. I was stunned. Somehow though, that laughter instilled in me an even greater determination to realize my dream. I might have crumbled under the weight of the hardships that were to come had it not been for the response of the crowd that day. Sometimes it’s funny how we find inspiration.”

Give your dream a try today, no matter what others say.

Excerpt from God’s Little Devotional Book for Leaders

May your Thanksgiving be a blessed one!

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

Christmas Dinner: Dec. 14th, 6pm.

Chapter House.

Chapter End of Season: Chapter will close from Dec. 15th until Jan. 4th, 2011 for the holidays.

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: TBD

That's our official functions to the end of December 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 Lorange,.

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. Minutes from Oct. meeting were accepted by unam vote.

CHAPTER & UNIT JOINT MEETING POINTS

Continuing Discussion of November Party.

Accepted all unsold tickets, remainder to be sold at the door. Cdr. DeLeon reminded everyone to get the word out that the date of the dinner had to be changed to the 13th due the National Guards Training change, everything else was on schedule for the meal and the dance. There will be chips & salsa on the tables, and the carne guisada for dinner.

Veteran's Day events-November 11 @ 11am- we will be honoring the National Guard. There has been contact with the National Guard to do honors for the troops. Auxiliary will take water and cookies, and we will take out information on the DAV and membership. Comrades Howze, Cusson, Dickerson and Fore will conduct an early event at Hacienda Oaks Nursing Home at 9am.

Home Depot cancelled their event.

Joe DeLeon will have the New Braunfels event for free dinner for veterans.

Treasurer Report: From 10-1-10 To 10-30-10. Beginning Balance \$ 11,604.43, Closing Balance \$12,716.80.

Bills or Communications: Treasurer read off the bills.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sickness or Distress (Chaplain):

No written report. Michael Fore- father is sick and still ill.

Building: Will begin hanging plaques in Doug's Office as well as pictures and other plaques around the Chapter House.

Saturday Breakfasts: Comrade Fore to Chair w/ Aux. Mbr Herrle to assist. Breakfasts will begin in Feb 2011. Working out schedule and costs.

Plaque Committee: Comrade Howze is chair with Comrade Castellon as fellow member. Will look into design and

acquisition of Historical Chapter
Commander Plaque as well as fallen life
member plaques.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The volunteers keeping up with the
landscape are doing a great job.

NEW BUSINESS

1st week of February going to start our
breakfast fundraisers.

Minutes from Executive Meet. None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.
Next meeting will be Nov.9, 2010 at 1900
hrs.

GOOD of the ORDER

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