



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

October 2010

Fall is full on and the Chapter has plenty to be thankful for. Our membership has grown, our goodwill to the community has expanded and we have been blessed with good fortune in the health of most of our membership. We had a successful event in the past month and our Honor Guard continues to do a great job for the families of our fallen brothers and sisters.

There has been a lot of help from members in keeping the Chapter House maintained, but there is always room for another couple of helping hands. Keeping the Chapter House clean is everyone's job; don't walk by and leave something that needs attention undone. If we all do our part, then the parts are small and over burdening.

Upcoming, we have a Veteran's Day event, a Dinner Dance, and a Christmas Dinner. All are being handled by the membership; we'll all need to pitch in to make them successful. A **recent change** is that the date has been changed to the 13th of November because the National Guard changed training days.

Membership is another way everyone can pitch in to help the Chapter, the State, and the National Organization meet all of our goals and mission objectives. Remember to be an ambassador for the Chapter and the Organization.

This weekend will be Halloween with a lot of little "monsters" running amok in the

streets. Keep an eye out for them and keep yourself safe as well.

Take time to enjoy the fall colors and keep your relationships strong.

Marlin Howze
Editor

From the Chaplain

**You can accomplish more in one hour
with God than in one lifetime without
Him.**

*"Walk in wisdom...redeeming the time."
Colossians 4:5*

"Big Red" Blake Wesley, a former NFL hockey player, seemed to have it all – money, luxury, a sweet and pretty wife and three sons. However, when the injuries of his sport caused him to experience constant pain, Blake turned to painkillers, then alcohol and eventually drugs. He became increasingly irresponsible as a father and as a husband, so his wife took their sons back home to Oregon until he faced his life head-on.

Told by his coach that his eight-year career was over until he straightened out his life, Blake found himself alone in a dark, seedy hotel room. Tired and angry, he hit bottom. At that point, he remembered the Lord. Falling to his knees, he yielded his life – including the awful weight of his failures

and sins – to the Great Physician, with no strings attached.

Within minutes, his healing had begun. Blake still faced months of counseling and rehabilitation, but an inner work had started that culminated in complete restoration of his family and his life.

Time spent with God today will be the seed that grows into a new tomorrow.

Excerpt from God's Little Devotional Book for Leaders

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

Veteran's Day Event: Nov. 11th, 11am, Veteran's Park Seguin.

DAV Dance: Nov. 13th, 6 - 11:30 pm. Tickets \$15, see Terri Herrle.

Christmas Dinner: Dec. 14th, 6pm. Chapter House.

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

That's our official functions to the end of November 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, Dennis Lorance, Larry & Margarita Bilbrey.

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

Minute Highlights

Our last meeting was on 10/12/2010 at 7PM. IAW our C&B, we had a quorum. Minutes from Sept. meeting were read and accepted.

CHAPTER & UNIT JOINT MEETING POINTS

Discussion of November Party. Mr. Basil Karm brought in tickets for members to sign out and begin selling. Remember bring all unsold tickets and money to the next meeting. Tickets are \$15.00 and tickets are limited to 300. Cdr. Juan DeLeon said everything was on schedule for the meal for the dance. There will be chips & salsa on the tables, and the dinner carne guisada.

The Forget-me-nots were done this previous weekend. We had a great turn out of helpers. We split the funds with the auxiliary. Red took some buckets for the Forget-me-Nots at some other locations that will still be up till Veteran's Day.

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.

Home Depot Event- November 13 honoring veterans and we set up a booth and honor guard presents at the event. Joe DeLeon will have the New Braunfels Event for free dinner for veterans. Flags were put up in the bay and the wall painted in the bay by John DeLeon and active members.

The grass has been kept up at the chapter house as well.

New Members: George O'Brien-Canyon Lake

Transfer Members: Leonel Estrada, Enrique Zavala, Terry Ramsgy, Rufus Hodgkins

Treasurer Report: From 9-1-10 To 9-30-10
Beginning Balance \$ 9445.37
Closing Balance \$9,484.43

Motion by Doug Herrle to accept 2nd by Jim Porter All in favor Unanimous YES

Bills or Communications: Treasurer read off the bills, Communications was a letter from Seguin ISD thanking us for the donation

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service Officer's report: Computer crashed and will get an update for next month

Sickness or Distress (Chaplain):

No written report. Richard Cussan had a death in the family. Dennis Roy is not in attendance his wife is ill. Michael Forefather is sick and still ill.

Entertainment: Armory is a go for Nov. Dance. 250 tickets at \$15/ticket. Basil working on band. Juan DeLeon, Mr. Basle Krumsel and Al Arranda. Music has been set and will need assistance to putting up chairs and the TLU vet students will assist with anything needed.

Building: Hall has been painted, flags installed as well as new fax line. Members put up the flags, and painted the bay. Discussion of relocating the kitchen into the bay. Dennis Garriott wants to donate a microwave to the chapter house.

Saturday Breakfast: Comrade Fore to Chair w/ Aux. Mbr Herrle to assist. Breakfasts could 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.

Legislation: Voting starts on November 2, pay close attention to the ballots. They deal with homestead taxes and exemptions. November 2 our chapter will be closed and the PTSD group will be canceled. The building will be used for voting as a polling station.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Forget-me-Nots have taken place.

Still need to present the awards to the commissioner courts.

Need to check on the lights on the outside of the building to make sure all lights are working for security.

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

NEW BUSINESS

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

Chaplain Cusson talked to Veteran's home (Hacienda Oaks) and possibly do an event for the home. Herrle said the home stopped being a part of our chapter house and concern about becoming involved with them again. Possibly assign an attachment to raise the flag or present veteran caps to them. Motion has been made to create a committee for the veterans home and do an early morning presentation.

Discussion of purchase for new chairs-\$15.00 for the cushion chairs.

Recommendation to purchase 25 seats and the auxiliary offered to purchase 25 chairs. Motion by Larry Bilbrey, 2nd by Dennis Garriott, all in favor ... YES, 2 people opposed, majority YES so motion carried.

Jr. Vice Cdr Garriott made a motion to purchase a new step ladder for the chapter house. Marlin will be seeing about a donated ladder from Home Depot.

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

Marlin (Howze) sends out a news letter and sends it via e-mail. On sign in sheet add a spot for e-mails. You can email to [editor](#).

A work day will is scheduled for 2 Nov. and will need volunteers to come out and clean the park for Veteran's Day.

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