



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

September 2010

Chapter Commander's Corner

Dear Comrades;

The weather is cooler and that means fall. A lot has been going on around the Chapter House and I would like to thank everyone who has helped to make things happen in and around the Chapter. Some examples are John DeLeon working hard fixing up the Chapter House with paint and a few wood projects you will be noticing. Leon fixed our coffee pot out in the bay so we can all rest a bit easier. Honor Guard has been fulfilling its mission and doing a great job and as always the Chapter Service Officers are taking care of our local vet population. I would also like to thank the Auxiliary, particularly Terri and Jean for their help in the Chapter House assisting the Service Officers. There has also been a number of new members coming around and helping out the Service Officers and their help is appreciated as well. All help is appreciated and there is always something to do.

I would like to send out a special thanks to Cater Memorial and Comrade Basil Karm. Together they have raised and presented over \$5000 in donations through Memorial Brick sales. This is a very nice gift and one to be appreciated. When possible support Cater Memorial and make sure you thank Comrade Basil Karm for his efforts in

raising the money and setting the Bricks at the Seguin Courthouse Memorial.

With the fall come a lot of events we'll be participating in. We participated in the Guadalupe Veterans Council POW/MIA remembrance sponsored by VFW Post 8456 in Geronimo. A great turn-out by the Chapter and Unit. A very nice program put together by the VFW.

The Chapter hosted the VA's Vet Center van and the DAV's National Service Mobile Van on the 29th and 30th of Sept. A great turnout with lots of support from the membership. Good job.

The next and highly important event is the Forget-Me-Not Drive. This is our major fund raiser of the year and is important for maintaining our financial status. On the 8th and 10th of October we will need a strong showing of membership support at the Seguin Wal-Mart to help bolster both the Chapter and Auxiliary accounts. Please show up at least one of the days and help out for awhile.

November 11th will be the Veteran's Day Event at 11am in Seguin's Veteran's Park. We want to see a big crowd so get the word out and show up in your good hats, vests, and other stuff. If we don't show an interest in Veteran's Day, why should anyone else.

November 20th will be the DAV Dance at the Seguin National Guard Armory. The dance and meal start at 6pm. Put it on your schedule.

I hope to see the continued support and volunteerism from the membership. Enjoy the Fall weather and colors to come.

Semper Fi
Juan Deleon
Commander

Auxiliary Commander

Now that fall is here, I sure hope we finally get some cool weather with it. As we all know, fall is our busy time of year for functions. We have lots of things going on from now until December.

Our events include our annual Forget-Me-Not drive at Wal-Mart on Friday, Oct. 8 and Sunday, Oct. 10. We can always use help so if you can, come out for a couple of hours and help us with our fundraising to help our disabled veterans and their families.

November 20 brings our dinner/dance at the National Guard Armory. Tickets will be \$15.00 and can be bought from a Chapter or Unit member or you can call Terri at 830.305.4338 for information. We should have the tickets by the first of October. We can also use items for our raffle at the dance. If you have anything you would like to donate you can either bring it to the Chapter house or call Terri at the above number. Any and all help will be appreciated. We also have our Veterans Day program and annual Christmas dinner coming up but I will write more on that in our next newsletter.

Remember to always be good to each other.

Jean

From the Chaplain

Lord, Grant that I may always desire more than I can accomplish.

“...forget what lies behind and reach forward to what lies ahead.”

Philippians 3:13

Cathy Guisewite is the creator of the very popular comic strip “Cathy”. In the comic strip Cathy routinely has encounters with her mother, who is always full of advice for her unmarried, career-oriented daughter. In real life, Cathy’s mother has been known to offer her own advice from time to time.

Guisewite once said: “I believe very strongly in visualizing goals way beyond what seems to be humanly possible. I got this from my parents. When my mother first suggested that I submit some scribbles to a syndicate, I told her I knew nothing about comic strips. Mom said, “So what? You’ll learn.” When I pointed out that I didn’t know how to draw, she said, “So what? You’ll learn.” All parents believe that their children can do the impossible. They thought it the minute we were born, and no matter how hard we tried to prove them wrong, they all think it about us now, if they are still with us. And the really annoying thing is, they are or were probably right.

When we face challenges that lie just beyond our ability, we enter the realm of faith and hope. It is as we face new frontiers in our lives that we truly encounter what our Creator has endowed us to do. Don’t be afraid to desire to accomplish more in life, no matter how old you may be.

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

Forget-Me-Not Fund Drive: Oct. 8th and 10th, 9am-5pm both days. Volunteers needed.

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

DAV Dance: Nov. 20th, 6 - 11:30 pm. Tickets \$15, see Terri Herrle.

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.

Minutes Summary

Our last meeting was on 8/10/2010 at 7PM. IAW our C&B, we had a quorum. Minutes from June meeting were read and accepted.

CHAPTER & UNIT JOINT MEETING POINTS

Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club. The Seguin Fire Department motorcycle club, Fire and Iron (chapter of a national club), presented a request to adopt the Chapter as a worthy organization for their charitable support. A short discussion and the generous offer was voted on and accepted by the membership. They will support the

Chapter through manhour support in our needs and occasional monetary donations as the opportunities arise. The Chapter also approved that the Club could hold their monthly meeting at the Chapter House (a former fire station). A draft agreement is to be drawn up and approved by both organizations.

Nov 20th Dance details. Door Prizes and raffle items needed. Design, print and sell tickets (\$15 each). Basil Karm and the Commander are arranging for band. DeLeon family will be taking care of the meal. Need to arrange media coverage. There is a 300 person limit total (including workers) at the Armory, so tickets will be limited. This has been a very good event for the Chapter in the past, so get your tickets early (at least, as soon as they are printed, 250 ticket to be printed).

New Fax line. The Chapter House now has a dedicated fax line. The number is (830) 379-3298.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service Officer's report: 103 hours in Service officer work, and 120 hours in Honor Guard Details. Total 223 service hours for the Chapter.

Chaplain's report: Nothing to report.

Entertainment: Armory is a go for Nov. Dance. 250 tickets at \$15/ticket. Basil working on band.

Building: Hall has been painted, flags installed as well as new fax line.

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Veteran's Park Project continues. Working on benches, signs and memorials. Anyone interested in helping, get hold of the Commander or Comrade Marlin Howze.

Loose electrical connections around the receptionist desk still need to be taken care of. Member Greg Martinez said he would gladly do this as soon as he is finished with another job he is working on.

Security light fixed and turned on.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club offer of support. (addressed in Joint Session of Chapter and Unit above).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. Next meeting will be Oct 12, 2010 at 1900 hrs.

GOOD of the ORDER

Pictures of Chapter/Unit activities suitable for publishing in this newsletter are accepted. IF you have something you want printed, send 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