



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

February 2011

From the Chapter Commander

A reminder of the upcoming events.

Since the meeting, Comrade Mike Fore's father has passed away. Keep Mike and his family in your prayers as they go through this difficult time. Services to be announced.

CSO Training will be held February 19th at American Legion Post 2 in San Antonio. List has been sent.

The Chapter has had its first round of nominations. I liked what I saw and that was new blood being nominated and accepting the nominations. Good job guys. We still have 2 more meetings of nominations, so if you want to nominate someone, or yourself, do it.

The District V annual Meeting will be on Mar 5th; delegate list has been set. I'm looking forward to a new format in the District meeting. I like it and applaud Cdr Garcia for bold steps.

April 1st and 3rd is the Annual DAV Forget-me-not Drive at the Seguin Walmart. We need people in force so make sure this very important fund raiser is on your calendar.

The VFD Station 87 Fire and Iron motorcycle club will be doing a benefit fund raiser for the DAV between late May 28th 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. We have arranged for Kay's Jewelers of the San Marcos Outlet Mall to donate a piece of jewelry for this event as well. 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.

By the way, Kay's Jewelers have been very good to us. If you plan on buying something in the order of jewelry, may I suggest you go and check them out first? Carl, the Manager, is a great guy and a veteran himself. Thank him for his efforts and maybe patronize his business.

Have a great month and be safe.

Juan DeLeon
Commander

From the Unit Commander

It is hard to imagine that spring is almost here. I know most everyone is ready for warmer weather even though some of us love the cooler weather. Just a quick reminder of our upcoming events. Our annual Spring meeting for the DAV/DAVA is March 5 in Victoria. It is a one day event this year and should be fun. We have our Forget Me Not drive on April 1 and 3 at Wal Mart in Seguin. As always we can use volunteers to help us. You do not have to be there all day but even helping out for an hour or so can be a big help. These campaigns are the major fundraiser for the Chapter and Unit each year. In May we have our luau/carnival which will be at the Chapter house and also the Fire and Iron Memorial Day run will be this month and this is benefitting our Chapter. As you can see we have much to keep us busy. One thing we can do on a regular basis is keep in contact with our Legislators. Every day we read in the paper or hear on the news what is going on with our military and veterans and their benefits. As an organization we need to make our voices heard. Let them know where we stand so our veteran's benefits continue. All it takes is a phone call or an email. As always, be good to each other.

Jeanne Garriott
DAVA Unit 61 Commander

From the Chaplain

**What counts is not the number of hours
you put in,**

but how much you put in the hours.

*“Therefore be careful how you walk, not as
unwise men, but as wise men,*

*Making the most of your time, because the
days are evil.”*

Ephesians 5: 15-16

A surgeon in a large city hospital had a habit of insisting on a few minutes alone before he performed any surgery. He had an outstanding reputation as a surgeon, and one of the young doctors who often worked with him wondered if there might be a correlation between this habit and the man's success.

He asked the surgeon about his habit and the surgeon answered, “Yes, there is a relationship. Before each operation I ask the Great Physician to be with me, to guide my hands in their work. There have been times when I didn't know what to do next in a surgery, and then came the power to go on – power I knew came from God. I would not think of performing an operation without asking for His help.

The surgeon's words quickly spread throughout the hospital and then across the country. One day a father brought his daughter to the hospital, insisting that the only doctor he would allow to touch her was the one who worked with God.

One of the greatest elements that anyone can put into their work hours, regardless of the field they are in, is prayer. What motivates you to do your job? What energizes you to do your best? Take some time to cover your daily work with prayer. You will find that time well spent, as He helps you to achieve more.

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

CSO Training: American Legion Post 2 in San Antonio, Feb. 19, 2011. 8 am.

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

Apr 1st and 3rd: Wal-Mart Forget-me-not fund drive.

Fire & Iron Benefit: May 28th, Dirty's Bar

That's our known official functions to the end of February 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.

DAV MEETING MINUTES Feb 8, 2011

Quorum: Yes

DAV MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

PRAYER/FLAG HONORS

Roll call of Officers: note:

(7) to make a quorum, (2) officers

Commander: P Juan DeLeon

Sr. V-Commander: P Phil Sierer

Jr. V-Commander: P Dennis Garriott

Treasurer: P Larry Bilbrey
Chaplain: P Richard Cusson
Adjutant: P Margarita Bilbrey
Sgt of Arms P Gary Elley
Chapter has a quorum Yes xxx No

Vote on Transfers: N/A

Joint Meeting:

March 5th Spring Conference , District Meeting, Delegates list

April 1 & 2- Forget-me-Not,

Aux has new membership rules extended.

Reading of minutes Motion to approve
Seconded Carried: Yes XXX No

Treasurer Report: From Jan 1 To Feb 8
Beginning Balance 11604.43
Closing Balance 12716.80

Bills or Communications:

- 1) Toast to Texas to be held March 2 at the Sebastopol House state Historic site in Seguin. It will be for about an hour beginning at 1300hrs. We were asked to attend.
- 2) Lazaro O. Camarillo III sent in his resume for Department of Texas 2nd Jr Vice Commander for 2011-2012. He asks for our votes.

Sickness or Distress (Chaplain): N/A

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE:

Membership: See above New Members

Service Hospital:

Comrade Mike Fore's father was hospitalized with pneumonia.

Comrade Doug Herrle was hospitalized with chest pains.

Comrade Dennis Roy heart condition.

Fundraising:

April 1 & 2 Forget me nots

Legislation: SBP offset Tricare. Nehmer V VA update. VA review of 100% claims.

Service Officer: 129 CSO hrs completed. 179 CSO ours available. Honor Guard hours not reported.

Unfinished Business:

New Business: Golden Corral in New Braunfels will be willing to allow us to ask for donations out of the building.

Donation of \$200 to the MDA Lock up. Doug Herrle motioned and Gary Elley 2nd. All in Favor. YES.

24th or 25th of March will be a meeting with Congressman Cuellar at the Coliseum

Breakfast- need donations and volunteers. Names: Larry Bilbrey, Mike Fore. Discussion on floor on whether to do the breakfast the 2st Saturday of the month and first one being March 12. There is the motion from Marlin Howze 2nd. All in Favor of having the breakfast... 16 votes for yes and 2 opposed and 5 didn't vote.

The hours for the meal begins at 7am to 10 am for the public. Volunteers need to be here early to cook the meals. Donations for money for the meal or donate food eggs, bacon, and biscuits and more.

Motion by Doug Herrle for half a page advertisement in the Department book. 2nd by Gary Elley. Marlin Howze recommends

we do a full page. Amended by Doug Herrle for the full page.

All in Favor. YES all and passed

Luau in May- Kiddie rides, music, food, door/game prices, media, banner, games
18 January Brick Donation and received 50%

New Heater Pass

New Copier

Nominations for new officers

Commander: Phil Sierer

Senior Vice-President: Juan DeLeon, Dennis Garriott

Junior Vice-Commander: Michael Fore, Leon Garcia, Gary Elley

Treasurer: Larry Bilbrey

Chaplain: Richard Cussan

Minutes from Executive Meetings: N/A

Good of the Order:

District Convention would like to have the support to nominate Richard Cussan as the District Chaplain. Richard Cussan accepted and everyone agreed.

Motion to close: Marlin Howze

Second Thomas Castellon

Carried Yes xxxxx NO

Next meeting: March 8

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



Station 87
Guadalupe County
Proudly presents
87's Memorial Day Run
5/28/11

Benefiting the
DISABLED **A**MERICAN **V**ETERANS
Guadalupe County Chapter 61

Ride will start @ **Dirty's Bar & Q**
State Hwy 46 @ Elm Grove Rd
Seguin TX
Tacos will be available in the AM

First Bike Out @ 1000 hrs
Last Bike In @ 1400 hrs

We will be raffling a 12' trailer
50/50 drawing
Poker Run (best hand wins)

\$15 per driver \$5 per passenger
This price includes a BBQ plate for lunch
And chance to win \$\$\$ during Poker Run