



# Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter



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June 2012

## Commander's Comments

These continue to be busy and constructive times for our Chapter. Without taking an actual survey, I would venture to say that ours is one of the busiest Chapters in District V, if not in our State. Our membership continues to grow and we have established some fine collaborations with other veterans' and not-for-profit organizations, enabling us to meet the needs of the special group we serve. This can be said for our Auxiliary as well. Through their unfailing support of our efforts and t

This can be said as well for our Auxiliary. Through their unfailing support of our efforts and their commitment to additional programs of their own, we are able to make lives better for disabled veterans, active military and their families. I want to thank all of you who came out to help make all these activities successful.

### **May 8<sup>th</sup> Monthly Meeting**

Please review the minutes of this meeting included in this newsletter.

### **May 17<sup>th</sup> Guadalupe County United Way**

#### **Grant Presentation**

Terri Herrle, Gary Elley, Lynette and I gave a short oral presentation of our grant request submitted in the amount of \$12,500. This was followed by a limited question and answer session with the Board. They thanked us for our grant submission and expressed their sincere gratitude for our military service.

### **May 17<sup>th</sup> thru May 20<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Armed Forces Appreciation Days**

This event sponsored by the Seguin American Legion Post as a salute to all wounded warriors. This multi-day family oriented event included a carnival, a special ceremony saluting our military and a special luncheon for our wounded warriors and their families. We participated by renting a booth space and selling beef and fajita tacos and pinto beans. It was hot and humid but we sure did have a great time. We were glad to have some of our friends from Fire and Iron come out to help us cook.

#### **May 26<sup>th</sup> Fire and Iron Fundraiser**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fire and Iron motorcycle club fundraiser to benefit our Chapter and Auxiliary was a great success. While the final numbers are yet to be compiled, those of you who attended have assured me that it was a full day of fun, food and fundraising, generously supported by our community. We want to thank our fire-fighter friends for adopting our organizations and for working many hours to plan and implement event to benefit our veterans.

#### **May 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Ceremony**

Once again this annual ceremony, sponsored by local veterans' organizations, was held at Geronimo Cemetery. Our Chapter participated in the honor guard. Auxiliary members of all participating veterans' organizations provided bottles of cold water and cookies for those in attendance.

I know I'm jumping ahead by mentioning a June activity, but I want to say something about the **Father's Day Brunch at La Hacienda Oaks Nursing Home**. As many of you know, our Auxiliary members have committed to conducting a monthly activity for the residents of this facility. Several of us joined Auxiliary members on Father's Day morning to serve sandwiches, baked goods and beverages to about 50 residents at this facility. All of us had a great time visiting, serving and being serenaded by two singing cowboys. Things got quite spirited during a medley of "oldies" played on the piano as a couple of members "danced" through the dining area. I mention this now to encourage more of you to attend these activities as it inspires us as much as it entertains the residents.

Your next opportunity to attend one of these functions will be on July 4<sup>th</sup>, after the parade in Seguin. This time the residents will be coming to our Chapter House to partake of the delicious bar-b-que

lunch we will be serving our members and special guests. I encourage each and every one of you to come out for this- not just for the delicious food, but to honor these fine folks, many of whom are veterans, and to enjoy an afternoon of friendship and sharing.

#### **June 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup>**

Several of us will be attending the DAV/DAVA State Convention at the Double Tree Hotel in Austin. Among other items of business at this annual event, Lynette Sierer will be installed as Commander of District V DAVA Commander.

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!**

Again, thanks to all our members, Chapter and Unit, for your many donations of time, talent and treasurer that help us help others. Your generosity in all these areas is deeply appreciated!

Phil Sierer

Commander

### **Chaplin's Corner**

The fact that you are here is a testament to your willingness to stand up and fight for all who served and sacrificed.

2 Timothy 1.7

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Chaplain Charles Glass

### **Upcoming Events**

- ❖ **Jun 30<sup>th</sup>**: Freedom Fiesta. Chapter 61 to participate, need volunteers.
- ❖ **July 4<sup>th</sup>**: American Independence Day
- ❖ **Aug 4-7**: National Convention, Las Vegas.
- ❖ **August 14<sup>th</sup>**: V.J. Day

*That's our known official functions to the end of the month 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 Chapter services please contact our staff of Volunteers. Volunteers are:

### ***Chapter Service Officers (CSOs):***

Doug Herrle (Chairman),  
Marlin Howze,  
Phil Sierer  
Dennis Lorange  
Sharon Reininger  
Charles Glass

### ***Committee Chairs:***

Membership – Mike Fore  
Building – Leon Garcia  
Hospital –Richard Cusson  
Honor Guard Captain – Juan De Leon

### ***Veteran Comfort Zone (VCZ)***

Gary Elley  
Terri Herrle

## DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 06/12/2012

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

### CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Charles Glass, Chaplain

Flag Honors: Y

### Joint Session

- ❖ Bill Owen Jr. - Guest from VFW Geronimo MC, Unit 32. Talked about group. Open house July 14<sup>th</sup>, 4-9PM, Family night
- ❖ Monthly function Hacienda Oaks, Fathers Day. Meet at 9:30A
- ❖ Talked about Freedom Fiesta Food Booth, June 30<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Talked about July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade, Float, Food afterwards
- ❖ Dept DAV Convention, Austin, June 22, 23 & 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ National DAV Convention Las Vegas, Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Talked about Agriculture Workshop in Seguin, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 8-5
- ❖ Talked about "Stuff the Bus" Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ No participation in Stockdale Watermelon Jubilee Parade
- ❖ Fall forget Me Not Campaign Oct 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Made \$402.75 on Legion Armed Forces Week Food Booth(Fri & Sat)
- ❖ Thursday Jun 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day Posting of the Colors at Hillcrest Nursing Home-Luling, 2:30
- ❖ Pass around sign up sheets for food booth and July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.
- ❖ Closed July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> for business at Chapter House.
- ❖ Posting Garrison Flag at Luling Watermelon Thump, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 PM
- ❖ Thank you card from Bazile Family
- ❖ Support requested from Charles Vandenplas for National officer
- ❖ Clearance letter for Dept Convention
- ❖ (Auxiliary retires)

### Roll call of officers by Marlin Howze, Adjutant

Commander: Present X Absent

Sr. Vice Commander: Present X Absent

Jr. Vice Commander Present X Absent

Treasurer: Present X Absent

Chaplain: Present X Absent

Adjutant: Present X Absent

Total officers & members present: 17 (Roster attached)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

Seven (7) Members shall constitute a quorum. 2 members present shall be elected officers.

**Guests:** Bill Owens Jr. Linda Truax

### ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of transfer members: None

Names of visitors: Bill Owens Jr., Linda Truax

Names of New Members: Milton Gavlick, Sidney Weikel, Shawn Williams

Names of new members who were initiated: None

(New members and those who have not been previously initiated must be initiated at the meeting and their names recorded in minutes.)

**READING OF THE MINUTES:** Stand as posted-Motion-Charles Glass, Second-George O'Brien, Carried: Yes  No

(The commander asks if there are corrections to minutes. Hearing none he/she would declare the minutes are approved as read. If there are corrections, the minutes would be adopted as amended by unit vote.)

**Minutes are posted on Chapter Website and mailed via Newsletter.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** From May 01 to 31, 2012

Beginning balance \$8239.21 (adjusted)

Closing balance \$6760.90

**Motion** to Accept Motion: George O'Brien, Second-Leon Garcia, Motion

Carried: Yes  No

**BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** (list attached)

- ❖ No bills, Communications covered in joint session.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

- ❖ Comrade Miguel Tellos in hospital.

**LEGISLATION**

- ❖ Talked briefly about clothing allowance

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

- ❖ Membership: 3 new members.
- ❖ CSO:
  - SOs: Total Hours Available- 360, Total hours with Vets – 118.5, Total vets seen-79.
  - Chaplain Hours: Chaplain Cusson 6 hours (Bible Study Class at Chapter House)
  - Honor Guard Hours: No Report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- ❖ See Covered in Joint session

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ Motion to donate \$100.00 to Stuff the Bus Campaign by Marlin Howze, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J.J. Chapa. Motion passed.
- ❖ No report as of yet on Fire & Iron Fund Raiser.
- ❖ Donation for Honor Guard supplies: George O'Brien \$100.00, James Dickerson \$40.00, Bill Owen \$40.00
- ❖ Talked about wheelchair accessible deer blinds. Marlin made a motion to donate \$150.00 from the chapter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leon Garcia, Motion passed. Amended to read, donation pending approval of high school to let students build it.

**Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.**

**REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Marlin gave a report on Rolling Thunder trip to D.C Vietnam wall, 13 riders, 3300 miles, 10 days.

**Motion for Adjournment:**

**Motion** by Marlin, 2nd by George.

Carried: Yes  No

**CLOSING CEREMONY:**  Salute  Closing Prayer by Chaplain

**Next meeting will be 7 PM, on June 12th, 2012**

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: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month

PTSD Group: Every Tuesday, 1:30-2:30pm

VCZ: Tue-Wed, 9am-3pm

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: Phil Sierer

Senior Vice-Commander: Mike Fore

Junior Vice-Commander: Gary Elley

Treasurer: JJ Chapa

Chaplin: Richard Cusson

Adjutant: Marlin Howze

Sergeant-at-Arms: Leon Garcia

**Unit Officers**

Commander: Terri Herrle

Senior Vice Commander: Lynette Sierer

Junior Vice Commander: Jeanne Garriott

Adjutant / Treasurer: Christa Howze

Chaplin: Liegh Harrelson

State Executive Committeewoman: Jean

Garriott

Alternate SEC is Leigh Harrelson