



Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter



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November 2012

From the Senior Vice Commander

Comrades,

On the behalf of the Disabled American Veteran Chapter 61 and Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Unit 61 Officers, I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Our Chapter and Unit have had so much to be thankful for this past year. We have had one of the best years ever for fundraising. This couldn't have happened without all your help. Thank you everyone for helping make our fundraisers a success. Our biggest challenge was the 12 day fundraiser at the Golden Corral in New Braunfels. By far the longest continuous fundraiser we've ever attempted. Because of everyone's help, it was a huge success. The management at Golden Corral loved us. They stated that they wanted only our Chapter and Unit back next year. A big pat on the back for everyone.

We are closed this week at the Chapter House so everyone can enjoy being with their families, relatives and friends for Turkey Day.

I'd like to end with thanking The Lord and His Son, Jesus Christ for all the Blessings this past year.

We ask the the Lord and His Son to watch over all of our military, wherever they may be serving. Protect and Return them back safely to their families. Thank you Lord for all our Veterans and their Service to our Great Country.
Amen!

Happy Thanksgiving!!

Gary Elley
DAV, Chapter 61, Seguin

Chaplain's Corner

From District 5 Chaplain and DAV, Chapter 61 Chaplain

Wishing a Happy Thanksgiving to all disabled veterans everywhere.
A quote from scripture, Psalms 100,4.

*Enter into this gate with Thanksgiving and into His court with praise and be thankful unto Him and Bless His Name. For the Lord is good and His mercy is everlasting and His truths endure for all generations.
Amen*

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Dec 7:** Pearl Harbor Day
- ❖ **Dec 11:** Annual Chapter 61 Christmas Party.
- ❖ **Dec 31:** VFW Post 8456 Geronimo, Annual New Year's Eve Party
- ❖ **May 2013:** Fire & Iron Fund Raiser for the DAV.

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 Lorance
Sharon Reininger
Charles Glass

Committee Chairs:

Membership – Gary Elley
Building – Leon Garcia
Hospital – Charles Glass
Honor Guard Captain – Juan De Leon

Veteran Comfort Zone (VCZ)

Gary Elley
Terri Herrle
Michael Fore

DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

DATE: 11/12/2012

CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Charles Glass, Chaplain

Flag Honors: Y

Joint Session

- ❖ Dec. 11, 2012. Chapter 61 CHRISTMAS DINNER. We have 3 hams, 2 roast turkeys, 2 fried turkeys, 1 smoked turkey ordered and donated for the Christmas Dinner. As our dinners have been getting quite large the last few years, we are forced to change the venue. This year, we will have the dinner at VFW Post 8456 with their larger hall. Our friends at the Geronimo Post have kindly allowed us to use the hall. We are required to clean the kitchen and hall after use, but we have opted to pay a \$75 cleaning fee for the hall. Leaving only the kitchen to clean. We are asking for side dishes, but to clear up conflict on too many of the same dish, please let Terri know what you're going to bring. Side dishes should be big enough to feed 10-15 people.
- ❖ REMARKABLE NURSING HOME. Our Unit bought 25 blankets for our veteran residents. The Chapter is looking to provide 20 \$10 gift cards.
- ❖ FOOD DRIVE. We're in the middle of our food drive for area pantries. Their stocks are very low, bring what you can. We have area veterans that do make use of these pantries, bring it in to our collection boxes.
- ❖ GOLDEN CORRAL. Very successful event. One of the owners (Sylvia) was extremely happy with our turn out and courteous attitude. Our Honor Guard looked great with all the flags and bugler. We actually signed up the manager (Yogi) as a member. We pulled in \$4603.98 from donations. Half of this goes to State. A motion was made to donate ½ of our take to the Auxiliary for all the help they provided. We also had students from Texas Lutheran University (TLU) help us out as well. A really great event and super turn out by the Chapter as we had plenty of people to cover the lunch and dinner crowds for the 1st through the 12th. Nice job by membership.
- ❖ TEXAS FACILITIES COMMISSION. We have received our go papers to participate in the State surplus program. We have a big ticket item on the horizon. We need a large storage building and the Facility regularly gets in large shipping containers that measure 8'X 16' or 8'X20'. Our intention is to purchase one when a suitable unit appears. We have transport worked out thanks to Scheel Construction (we may have to pay for fuel). The price runs in the neighborhood of \$900-\$1500. **Motion by Frank, 2nd by Gary, carried.**
- ❖ Dec. 7, 2012. RED BARN EVENT. Will be serving dinners for \$12.95. Proceeds go to our chapter. This is being put on by the Lions Club, but they may need some volunteers. A sign up sheet is going around.
- ❖ Dec. 31st. NEW YEARS EVE at VFW in GERONIMO. DAV purchases 3 tables annually. They have reserved the 3 tables. If you desire to attend, let an officer know. These Tables go quick and the VFW is liable to be sold out very soon for extras (if not sold out already).
- ❖ We will be closed 18-24 Nov for Thanksgiving.
- ❖ We will be closed Dec. 12-Jan. 8th for the Holidays.

- ❖ DAV GUN RAFFLE. Going along OK, but still have a lot of tickets to sell. The raffle will be held at the Christmas dinner. If you can't sell the tickets you have, turn them back in by the first week in Dec so we can redistribute and get them sold.
- ❖ FIRE & IRON ANNUAL FUND RAISER for the DAV. They are already planning for the next event. This last year's event was not as successful as they had hoped, so they are going to try a different tact. They will be selling a 3 weapon raffle for \$20 a tickets (3 chances to win). They wanted to know if the Chapter would help sell ½ of the tickets. Consensus is that Chapter would help them with this fund raiser. Further, any items donated by the Chapter or Unit for the Auctions at their rally would have the receipts returned in full to Chapter.
- ❖ CHRISTMAS RAFFLE. The Unit is selling Christmas Raffle tickets for auction items to be drawn at the Christmas Dinner. \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Jewelry, Car Washes, Hog Hunt, Etc. See Terri for Details.
- ❖ (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
SAA:	Present X	Absent

Total officers & members present: 22 (Sign in sheet attached)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

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

Guests: Larry Gold of New Braunfels.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of transfer members: Eduardo Ayala of NB, Charles Franz of Luling, William Puryear of NB.

Names of visitors: Ginger & Larry Gold, Daniel Noel.

Names of New Members: Jaime Cervantez of Seguin, David Zuniga of Seguin, and Shilo Harris of Floresville.

Names of new members who were initiated: Larry Gold, Jaime Cervantez, Bill Puryear.
(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-Felix, Second-Leon, Carried.**

(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 as well as available in Chapter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: From Oct 01 to 30, 2012

Beginning balance \$10,727.04.

Closing balance \$11,804.87.

Motion to Accept: Comrade Leon, 2nd by Richard, carried.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (list attached)

- ❖ No bills, Communications covered in list.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

- ❖ Basil Karm is sick. Getwell card sent by Chaplain.

LEGISLATION

- ❖ See Attached.
 - HR 4246 deals with reimbursement for payments made to non-VA med centers.
 - TAPS. Could not find info on previously mentioned TAPS program. Not sure if discontinued or what.
 - Could not find status on proposition 1.
 - Superstorm Sandy donations for veterans should be mailed to DAV National HQ, ATTN Disaster Relief Pgm, Cold Springs, KY 41076. More info at National Website DAV.org.
 - HR 6375 passed into law (Public Law-112-191) giving \$155 mil to build spinal cord injury center in Dallas at the VA Med Cewnter.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- ❖ Membership: 3 new members and 3 transfers.
- ❖ CSO:
 - SOs: Total Hours 118.5, Hrs available 420, Veterans seen 79. Hrs for 4 Srvc Ofcrs. See attached report for details.
 - District V Chaplain Hours: Comrade Cusson: 53 total. (Detailed Report Attached)
 - Honor Guard Hours: 224 total hours (Detailed Report Available from Honor Guard Captain).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.
- ❖ Nov. 8, 2012. TLU Vet Appreciation dinner. TLU served 265 dinners to vets and families. Good job to our (Texas Lutheran University (TLU) partners. Good turn out by the Chapter as well.
- ❖ Nov. 11, 2012. Guadalupe County Veterans Day Event. Nice day with a lot of folks turning out. Good speakers and a nice program with a Guest speaker LtCol Chip Johnson coming from Randolph AFB, or Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph as we call it these days.
- ❖ The Auxiliary raised \$2950 at our last Forget Me Not drive at Walmart 3&4 Oct. The Unit donated \$1472 to the Chapter. Nice. Thanks Aux.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Need a new Microwave. Motion by Frank, 2nd by Leon, Carried.
- ❖ Purchase 20 \$10 gift cards for residents at Remarkable Nursing Home for our vets. **Motion Frank, 2nd Charles, carries.**
- ❖ Honor Guard held a flag raising at Remarkable for vets on 11/09/2012. Good event allowing residents to participate.
- ❖ Purchase 10 \$20 Gas Cards for the Veteran Comfort Zone. Motion James, 2nd Leon, Carried.
- ❖ Purchase 3 tables at VFW New Year's Eve Party at \$450. This is a fund raiser for the VFW. **Motion by Felix, 2nd by Robert, carried.**

❖ See Joint Session for other New Business.

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

We have free books (paperbacks) in the back. Take a look and feel free to help yourself.

Motion for Adjournment:

Motion by Felix, 2nd by Richard, carried.

CLOSING CEREMONY: __x__ Salute __x__ Closing Prayer by Chaplain

Next meeting will be 7 PM, on December 11th, 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: 2nd Tuesday of the Month

PTSD Groups: Every Tuesday, 12 am-1pm and 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: Gary Elley

Junior Vice-Commander: James Dickerson

Treasurer: JJ Chapa

Chaplin: Charles Glass

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