



Texas Chapter & Unit 61 Newsletter



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October 2012

Editor's Notes

As we move well into the fall, we also move into the "Veteran Season" namely a lot of events going on acknowledging and celebrating the service offered by this country's military services and its veterans. We as Chapter 61 of the Disabled American Veterans have a lot to do in the coming months and we should look at doing these things not as a burden but as a privilege that we can proudly say we accomplished. With the Golden Corral and Veteran's Day events at hand, it is up to us to let the country know that we matter and we are helping our comrades.

Many know that if we sit back and let the "others" run things, we can soon be forgotten, and also the things we have worked hard for. These things include our benefits and the struggles to insure our warriors coming home get the care they deserve. We know what taking a back seat means to a White House and Congress looking for ways to budget the economy. Many of us enjoy benefits that others before us worked hard to get – For Us. We should not be any less hard working in our efforts to maintain and win support for ourselves and our young returning troops.

When we are visible at events like the Golden Corral and Veteran's Day, and POW/MIA Day and all the other days, we are making two statements. One is that we are proud to have been able to serve our country, and the other is that we aren't going to let you "other's" forget it. When it comes time to help the Chapter in an Honor Guard event or a fund raiser, or some patriotic event, it should not be viewed as a hassle, but rather an opportunity to proudly continue serving our brothers and sisters at arms. As a Chapter we support the State and National organizations that protect and create our benefits.

That said, we have a lot of "opportunities" coming up and hope to see the old faces as well as some new faces help make these statements. Chapter 61 is a really good Chapter and it's a really good Chapter because of the members in it. Think about getting active in the Chapter. Challenge the Officers for their positions. Volunteer to the Honor Guard; become one of the Service Officers that is the core of what we do here. Or simply come in and help with events and our Building Manager as he keeps our Chapter Home in Ship Shape condition. Check out the schedule below and put these items on your calendar.

I would also like to thank the Auxiliary for the fine job they did on the Forget-Me-Nots. As a full time partner in the Chapter, they help us immensely with the day to day operations. Keep up the good work.

Marlin Howze
Adjutant/Editor

Chaplain's Corner

There has been a lot of sickness going around. I would like to leave this Scripture in your Heart;

Is any sick among you? Let Him call for the Elders of the Church; And let Them Pray Over Him, Anointing Him with Oil in the name of the Lord:

And The Prayer of Faith Shall Save the Sick, And the Lord Shall Raise Him Up; And if He Have Committed Sins, They Shall Forgive Him.

James:5:14:15

Chaplain Charles Glass

Upcoming Events

- ❖ **Nov 1-12:** Golden Corral
- ❖ **Nov 7 & 8:** DAV Mobile Service Van visits. 9am-4pm both days.
- ❖ **Nov 11:** Veteran's Day (At Veteran's Park)
- ❖ **Dec 7:** Pearl Harbor Day
- ❖ **Dec 11:** Annual Chapter 61 Christmas Party.
- ❖ **Dec 31:** VFW Post 8456 Geronimo, Annual New Year's Eve Party

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

DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 10/09/2012

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Charles Glass, Chaplain

Flag Honors: Y

Joint Session

- ❖ 29 Sep. POW/MIA event led by the Geronimo Memorial VFW, Post 8456, was a great success. This was a Guadalupe County Veteran's Event with Chapter 61 providing support in the way of the Honor Guard, and help from Auxiliary members setting the POW table. Good job to those who attended including our own Ex-POW Robert Lewis III and 2 other POWs from WWII and Korea.
- ❖ Forget-Me-Nots. The Auxiliary's Forget-Me-Not Drive was very successful raising \$2950. Thanks to all who turned out to help in the effort.
- ❖ 1-12 Nov. is the Golden Corral/ DAV Veteran's Day partnership effort. We will need volunteers to help man a table for the 12 days leading up to Veteran's Day. Chapter Commander and officers will meet with Golden Corral manager to straighten out details of when and where to setup.
- ❖ 8 Nov. TLU Veteran's Night Out. A great event where TLU has a lot of activities for veterans to take advantage of including food and music. Details to follow, but Chapter 61 will have a booth there.
- ❖ 8-9 Nov. has the DAV Mobile Service Vans and the San Antonio National Service Officers visiting Chapter 61 again. A great opportunity to meet the National Service Officers in our area, get claims checked on or file news ones as well as find out about other benefits available to vets and their families.
- ❖ 11 Nov. is Veteran's Day. Chapter 61 has the lead on this Guadalupe County Veteran's Council event where all the local Veteran Service Organizations (VFW, AL, AGIF, etc) come together for a unified celebration of Veteran's Day. Event will be 11/11/2012 at 11am at Veteran's Park in Seguin.
- ❖ 11 Dec. is our Christmas Party/Dinner at 6pm. Due to the growing size of our Christmas Parties, we will be moving the party to the Geronimo VFW with their larger Hall. Thank you to Post 8456 for offering. More info at our next meeting, but so far, the Garcia's have offered to bring a baked turkey and the Howze's have offered to bring a ham. Others?
- ❖ Commander Sierer mentioned a deer hunt for 2 vets at the Mobley Ranch up by College Station. Raffle tickets are on sale by the Veteran's Outdoor Alliance (VOA). See them on their Facebook site or contact Comrade Joel Hart.
- ❖ 31 Dec. Geronimo VFW is having their annual New Year's Party. Chapter 61 has once again reserved 2 tables for the event. If you're interested in attending, let one of the Officers know.
- ❖ The Food Drive is currently in gear. If you're stopping by the Chapter bring a canned or boxed food item to throw into the box. A lot of families are in need and the area food banks are low. Help them out.
- ❖ Announced previously, but a special discount program has been set up for Chapter 61 members at the Advanced Auto across from HEB. Cool stuff, support our new sponsor. If your in there ask for (and thank) Don Herrle for this.

- ❖ State Department Okayed our pistol raffle. We will be selling 300 tickets at \$10 apiece. See JJ (our Treasurer) to purchase or get tickets to sell. Raffle will be held at the Christmas Party so we need to get these tickets sold.
- ❖ (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 | Absent X (excused) |

Total officers & members present: 24 (Sign in sheet attached)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

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

Guests:

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of transfer members: Bradford McClendon, Maryland, and Steven Johns, Maryland.

Names of visitors: Jaime Cervantes

Names of New Members: Jerry Dammann, McQueeney and Robert Morrison, Selma.

Names of new members who were initiated: Robert Morrison, Lee Potter, and Bill Alexander.

(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-Comrade Herrle, Second-Comrade Cuellar, Carried: Yes x 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 Sep 01 to 30, 2012

Beginning balance \$10,758.42.

Closing balance \$10,107.04

Motion to Accept: Comrade Herrle, 2nd by Comrade Garcia, carried unam.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (list attached)

- ❖ No bills, Communications covered in list.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

- ❖ Comrade Miguel Telles is out of the hospital, but still having problems. Comrade Chappa had hand surgery. Comrade Cuellar having breathing difficulties. Comrade George down with illness. Comrade Henry Munoz passed away. Comrade Henry Painter passed away with 59 years in the DAV. Keep our comrades and their families in your prayers.

LEGISLATION

- ❖ See Attached.
 - Prop. 1 approved. Waiting on funding. Tax exemption for Surviving Spouses of 100% disabled Vets.
 - TAPS. Students, grades 6-12, can earn scholarship dollars by playing Taps at ceremonial and patriotic events. \$25 certificate per event redeemable on application to eligible school program tuition. No expiration date. See Legislative Officer for details. Adjutant to get this out to area schools.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- ❖ Membership: 2 new members and 2 transfers.
- ❖ CSO:
 - SOs: Total Hours 79.5, Hrs available 192, Veterans seen 53. Hrs for 4 Srvc Ofcrs. See attached report for details.
 - District V Chaplain Hours: Comrade Cusson: 32 total. (Detailed Report Attached)
 - Honor Guard Hours: 124 total hours (Detailed Report Available from Honor Guard Captain).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ 7 Nov. Ft Sam Vietnam Veteran's Welcome Home Parade. See Officers for details.
- ❖ See Joint Session for other New Business.

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Thursday October 18th, need help sorting and assembling cubicle systems in Bay. **(Moved to the next Thursday due to conflict of events. Oct. 26th. Email to follow.)**

Motion for Adjournment:

Motion by Comrade Elley, 2nd by Comrade Garcia, carried unam.

**CLOSING CEREMONY: __x__ Salute __x__ Closing Prayer by Chaplain
Next meeting will be 7 PM, on November 15th, 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