

April 2013



# Guadalupe County Chapter 61

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



### Commander's Corner

Chapter 61 continues to grow with the addition of 6 new members. Our membership is increasing at the rate of 6 – 7 new members each month. Good job!

April started out with a visit by the VA Mobile Service Officers Van coming to our Chapter House on April 2 and 3. This was a successful event. The 2 NSOs from San Antonio interviewed more than 30 veterans each day. **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO VANGIE GARCIA** for making **DELICIOUS** chicken salad sandwiches and bringing them for our lunch on Wednesday. **It was a real treat for us!**

Our next event is the **Forget-Me-Not fundraiser** on Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14 at the Seguin Wal-Mart. National allows two of these fundraisers each year [one for the Chapter and one for the Auxiliary] and this is the first one for this year. If you have not already signed up to work a two-hour shift, please contact Gary Elley or just show up and join us. This fundraiser is a major source of our income and funds raised will be spent to assist disabled veterans.

We have fun and meet a lot of interesting people so come on down.

**Fire and Iron**, an organization made up of local fire fighter, is once again selling raffle tickets. Winners will be drawn at their annual fundraiser later this year. Let's support them by buying some of these tickets. They always have great items on the raffle and your support will benefit their organization as well as Chapter 61. Each year Chapter 61 receives a donation from **Fire and Iron**, the amount of which depends upon the success of their fundraiser. They have also invited us to help them at their fundraiser. This is a great way for us to show our appreciation to them for all they do for us and for our community. We will provide more details on their event as the date draws closer.

Plans for the **Memorial Day observance** have yet to be finalized. We will meet with representatives from the other Guadalupe County Veterans organizations to coordinate the event. We should have a report on this at our May meeting.

Phil Sierer,  
Commander

#### New Members

Wayne Austin–New Braunfels  
Paulino Bermudez-Brownsville,  
Brian Johnson-Shertz  
Margaret Randell-New Braunfels Willie  
Walker-Seguin  
Frank Wilson-Seguin

Welcome Aboard to all Our New Members



## Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Unit 61, Seguin, Texas

### DAVA COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Greetings to all and a heartfelt thanks to all of you who continue to support Chapter 61 and all the disabled veterans in Seguin and Guadalupe County. We continue to be busy which is the way we like it.

I want to begin by thanking all of you who brought cookies when the National Service Officers were here on April 2 & 3. A special thank you to Vangie Garcia who brought delicious homemade chicken salad sandwiches for lunch on Wednesday for the NSOs and all of us assisting them. This was a real treat for all of us!

Our monthly meeting was held on April 9<sup>th</sup> and it was great to see everyone. As has become our custom, we first met jointly with members of Chapter 61 to discuss upcoming events. I encourage you to participate in these activities. We have fun working together for a worthy cause and we meet a lot of interesting people along the way. Please mark these dates on your calendar:

**April 13 & 14: Forget-Me-Not Fundraiser at the Seguin Wal-Mart.** Please call me at 830-305-4338 to sign-up for a 2-hr shift on Saturday or Sunday,

**Memorial Day:** This upcoming event is still in the planning stages for May. We will coordinate with the other Veterans organizations in Guadalupe County to sponsor this event, open to the public.

**June 7, 8 & 9: STATE OF TEXAS ANNUAL CONVENTION** at the Double Tree Hotel Austin. If you want to stay at the hotel for the convention rate of \$85/night, please call ASAP at **800-347-0330**, and state that you are with the Disabled American Veterans Department of Texas. Deadline for registration to secure this room rate is May 28<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to attend, please let me know so we can get you registered. Our Unit will pay for your \$15 Registration fee. The annual Forget-Me-Not Luncheon will be held on Saturday, at a cost of \$20/person. Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be attending. This year, at the request of our State Commander, the menu will include chicken fried steak and all the trimmings

**July 3: Freedom Fiesta & July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.** We will once again have a booth at the Freedom Fiesta to sell beef and chicken fajita tacos. Again, we will be working

## The Chapter 61 Staff.

### Chapter Officers:

Commander	Phil Sierer
SV Commander	Gary Elley
JV Commander	Jimmie Dickerson
Treasurer	JJ Chapa
Chaplain	Charles Glass
Adjutant	Marlin Howze
SAA	Leon Garcia
Honor Guard	Juan DeLeon
Service Officer	Doug Herrle

### Unit Officers:

Commander	Terri Herrle
SV Commander	Lynnette Sierer
JV Commander	Jeanne Garriott
Treasurer/Adj	Christa Howze
Chaplain	Leigh Harrelson
SEC	Jeanne Garriott
Alt SEC	Leigh Harrelson

### 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 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.

2-hour shifts. As this event draws closer we will circulate sign-up sheets or you can call me at 830-305-4338, or Lynette Sierer at 210-863-4257. Basic hours of operation will be from 6 PM to midnight. The next day, we will ride our float in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. Please bring your sunblock as you will be in the sun for several hours. More details will be available as event draws nearer.

### **COOKBOOKS! COOKBOOKS!! COOKBOOKS !!!**

We are proud to announce that our DAVA Department of Texas cookbooks are available for sale at \$15 each. More than 350 recipes were submitted by DAV members, family and friends to create this beautiful one-of-a-kind cookbook. This is a fundraiser for our Department and a limited number of books were printed. If you want one of these cookbooks, let me know as I will be getting a few of them to sell here. Or, you can purchase them at the State convention in June.

We are also pleased to announce that the newest Fisher House has opened across the street from the Audie Murphy hospital. We have copies of the "Wish List" for this facility and plan to donate needed items to them on a regular basis as long as our bank account can support the donation.

Our **Caps & Wraps** project continues and we will soon have enough for our first donation to the Christus Santa Rosa cancer unit in New Braunfels. We encourage you to bring your projects with you when you come to meetings or any time our Chapter House is open. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Wednesday between 9 AM and 1 PM. I am usually here during this time along with at least one other member of Unit 61.

Please join us – we welcome your company.

We are looking into buying new shirts for our members. Your input is welcome. Stay tuned for more details.

Terri Herrle,  
Commander

#### **From the Chaplain**

#### *Binnacle List*

We seem to be alright this month.

*They are in our Prayers*

Yours in Faith,  
Chaplain Charles Glass

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**APR 13-14: FORGET-ME-NOT FUND DRIVE**

**JUN 7-9: STATE CONVENTION**

**FREEDOM FIESTA JUL 3:**

**JUL 4: 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE**

## DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 4/9/2013

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

### CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Chaplain Charles Glass

Flag Honors: Y

### Joint Session

- ❖ April 2 & 3 DAV Mobile Service Van visits with San Antonio National Service Officers were very successful again. Thanks to all who helped out.
- ❖ April 13 & 14 is Annual Chapter Forget-Me-Not Drive. Volunteer sheets passed out at meeting. 2 hour segments. Could use some more volunteers. Sheet available in Office. Oct 12 & 13 is the Auxiliaries' Drive.
- ❖ Memorial Day is coming up on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May observed (Monday) and 30<sup>th</sup> (actual). Executive Board will coordinate with other Service Organizations to get set up.
- ❖ Freedom Fiesta will be around July 3rd. We will have 1 booth selling Chicken and beef fajitas as the brisket and beans had already been taken. We will be looking to sign up volunteers at next meeting.
- ❖ Texas Vietnam Memorial Groundbreaking was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March with Past State Commander Doug Herrle reading names of inscribed Texas Veterans.
- ❖ (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:** Frank Hernandez, TLU students Morgan Gates and Jazmin Willie

### ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of New Members: Wayne Austin–New Braunfels, Paulino Bermudez-Brownsville, Brian Johnson-Shertz, Margaret Randell-New Braunfels, Willie Walker-Seguin, Frank Wilson-Seguin.

(New members and those who have not been previously initiated must be initiated at the meeting and their names recorded in minutes.) 3 members sworn in, but I failed to copy their names, will amend minutes when names are researched.

Received Oath: Sue Clark

Names of Transferred In Members: none.

Welcome to all our new members.

### READING OF THE MINUTES: Stand as posted-Motion-Charles G, Second-Mike F, Carried.

(The commander asks if there are corrections to minutes. Hearing none he/she would declare the minutes are approved as read or posted. 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 Mar 01 to 30, 2013.

Beginning: \$16,592.78. Ending: \$15,744.87. Full report and statements read aloud and are attached.

**Motion to accept: Mike F, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Richard C., motion carries.**

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

- ❖ No bills covered in list.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

- ❖ Nothing to report.

**LEGISLATION**

- ❖ See Attached.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

- ❖ Membership: 6 new members and 0 transfers.
- ❖ CSO:
  - SOs: Total Hours 93, Hrs available 240, Veterans seen 62. Hrs for 5 Srvc Ofcrs. See attached report for details. Jaime Cervantez is our newest Service Officer. Thanks for joining the team.
  - District V Chaplain Hours: Comrade Cusson: 10hrs total. (Detailed Report Attached)
  - Honor Guard Hours: 252 total hours for February. (Detailed Report Available from Honor Guard Captain is attached).

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.
- ❖ Still have not received a date from the Food Bank truck for an arrival date.
- ❖ Still have not found a suitable storage container/bldg for the Chapter. Still looking.
- ❖ Still in the works, Chapter 61 and TLU are working to hold a 5K run benefitting the DAV. This is being targeted for Nov. Clean-up Days where TLU used the Chapter House to operate out of during their community events on Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> was a success.
- ❖ Golden Corral is scheduled for Nov 1<sup>st</sup>.
- ❖ Nov will also see the Chapter hosting a Defensive Driver Course. Not for dismissing tickets, but good for reducing insurance rates.
- ❖ We are still looking to get our large BBQ pit welded up. Have been trying to get someone to do it pro-bono, but we may have to look to a commercial welder.
- ❖ Chaplain Cusson is currently running a Bible Study class on Comparative Religions and the History of the major religions active today. The Study is open to all and meets every Wednesday at 1:30 pm. Come join us in fellowship with the Lord.
- ❖ Call to State Convention. Delegates that have been identified so far: Doug H., Frank R., Juan D, Phil S., Justo C., Leon G., Marlin H. Juan D must take his name off the list due to upcoming surgery. Any others desiring to go need to let Adjutant Howze know immediately. Names are going in soon.
- ❖ Working on the State Booklet ad already voted on.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ See Joint Session for other New Business.
- ❖ Comrade Linda T. has volunteered to be our new Public Relations Liaison. This is a position we really need, thank you for stepping up Linda.
- ❖ We will be submitting a donation request to VFW 7110. They have indicated their appreciation for the service to their members and stated we should submit a request. Thank you to VFW Post 7110 New Braunfels.
- ❖ Elm tree next to the Chapter House is dying and poses a threat to the building. Chapter will pursue having the City remove the tree per ordinance.
- ❖ Leon needs volunteers to help cut back the tree line on surrounding fences. The 27<sup>th</sup> of Apr is scheduled for this event, if you can show up and give us a hand. 9 AM.
- ❖ VFW Post 7110 is having their annual Sanctioned BBQ Cookoff on September 7<sup>th</sup> at their Post. If you know of people that would like to participate (or if the Chapter wants to field a team and pay the entry

fee) applications and details are available through Adjutant Howze. They are also selling raffle tickets for a grill, \$5 ea. See Adj Howze for those as well.

### **GOOD of the ORDER**

- ❖ Second round of nominations for upcoming annual elections:
  - Commander: Phil S.
  - SV Commander: Gary E.
  - JV Commander: James D.
  - Treasurer: JJ C.
  - Chaplain: Richard C.
- ❖ Nominations stand as previous month and are closed till next meeting.

**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 Bob M., 2nd by Frank, carried.**

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

**Next meeting will be 7 PM, on May 14th, 2013.**



**DAV Chapter 61 Honor Guard**