

Aug 2013



Guadalupe County Chapter 61

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



From the Senior Vice-Commander

Well comrades, we're almost into the fall months and the end of 2013. Chapter 61 has had a very successful year so far. That success is due to you, our members, who help at our fundraisers all year.

We are headed into the final months of the year and some big fundraisers coming up. Oct. 12th & 13th we have the Forget-Me-Not campaign. Nov 1st through 11th, is the Golden Corral Veterans Day fundraiser. Also, there is a DAV Fun Run in November sponsored by TLU. So we will again be asking for your help and participation during these fundraising events. At the rate we are going, we can make 2013 a banner year for Chapter 61. We are already talking about 2014 and how to make it an even better year for Chapter 61.

We are always open to new ideas from our members. So if you have any please share them with us. Working as a team always generates a high degree of success. Remember to think about recruiting new members when you are out and about. Chapter 61 is one of the fastest growing Chapters in the state, if not the nation. Remember also, there are current members that have moved into this area that belong to Chapters in other states or from other cities in Texas that are too far to travel to. Have them stop by the Chapter House when we're open and we will get them transferred to our Chapter.

I would also like to thank our Unit 61 DAVA for all their help this year. Working together as Chapter and Unit greatly increases our success rate.

Again, thank you everyone for everything you do for us. Thank you for your service and your continued service to make sure all of our veterans are taken care of.

Sincerely,
Gary Elley

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary

Unit 61, Seguin, Texas

Off the Cuff with the Unit Adjutant

We want to send get well wishes to our Unit Commander Lynette who had double knee replacement surgery, our DAVA District V Commander Molly Camarillo who had a mild heart attack and to our DAVA State Adj/Treasurer Ruth Gates who had to have last minute surgery. Get well soon ladies!

Fall is rapidly approaching and as usual we are going to be very busy for the next few months. Be ready! We will have more info very soon.

We also have some great things happening in the Veterans Comfort Zone. Jaime and Mike are leading a peer to peer class on Wednesday evenings with probationers from the Veterans Court and it is proving to be a great success. We are also working on some other programs for the Comfort Zone. Great job Jaime and Mike!!

Fall will be here sooner than we think with all its programs, but for now just enjoy these victories and enjoy your summer.

Remember to be good to each other.
Terri Herrle

DAVA COOKBOOKS NOW ON SALE

This is a fundraiser to benefit our DAVA Departmental (State) treasury. Each book costs \$15 and contains more than 300 recipes contributed by DAVA members, families and friends. We have a small supply of them at our Chapter House office. Once we sell these, we can get more until we sell all of them. Exact amount in cash, \$15, or a check made out to DAVA Unit 61 will be appreciated.

Our unit meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Chapter House. This is the same time and place that our Chapter meets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP 20: POW/MIA SERVICE AT GERONIMO VFW

OCT 12-13: FORGET ME NOT DRIVE AT WALMART

NOV 7-8: TLU BENEFIT RUN

NOV 1ST: GOLDEN CORRAL IS SCHEDULED.

FEB 1ST 2014: CSO TRAINING FOR DIST V WILL BE HELD AT CHAPTER 61'S HOUSE.

MAR 3RD: DIST V MEETING WILL BE HOSTED BY CHAPTER 61. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE GERONIMO VFW HALL.

Our New Members

Richard Cook – Schertz,
Tomas Ivarra – Martindale,
Lynda Quinn – Schertz,
Joseph Rimkus – Waelder,
Leroy Dietert – St. Hedwig,
Joseph Ramirez – Seguin,
Librado Ramirez Jr. – Seguin

Our Transferred Members

Miguel Rosas

The Chapter 61 Staff.

Chapter Officers:

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

Unit Officers:

Commander	Lynette Sierer
SV Commander	Leigh Harrelson
JV Commander	Joyce Farr
Treasurer/Adj	Terri Herrle
Chaplain	Jeanne Garriott
SEC	Terri Herrle
Alt SEC	Jeanne Garriott

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.

Thoughts from the Chaplain

As your Chaplain, I am available to all members and their immediate family for counseling or discussion of any spiritual issue. You may contact me anytime at 4Veterans@msn.com

From the Chaplain

Binnacle List

- ❖ Comrades John Doug Herrle and Dennis Roy have both been in the hospital and both are home recovering. Comrade Jaime Cervantez Recovering from Hospital Stay.
- ❖ Lynnette Sierer is recovering from dual knee replacements at home.
- ❖ New member Tomas Ivarra passed away. Keep his family in your prayers during their time of grief.

They are in our Prayers

Yours in Faith,
Chaplain Richard Cusson

Reminder

Bible Study is offered at the Chapter House every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 PM usually finishing up by 3 pm. We have open and engaging discussions while we explore the Word of our Lord and find what he has to offer us. Come, join us. We are currently studying the complex issues surrounding Revelations.

DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61
TIME: 7PM
Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

DATE: 08/13/2013

CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Chaplain Richard Cusson
Flag Honors: Y

Roll call of officers by Marlin Howze, Adjutant

Commander:	Present	Absent X (Excused)
Sr. Vice Commander:	Present X	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Present	Absent X (Excused)
Treasurer:	Present X	Absent
Chaplain:	Present X	Absent
Adjutant:	Present X	Absent
SAA:	Present X	Absent

Total officers & members present: 25 (Sign in sheet attached)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

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

Guests: Peggy Johns, Elias Torres

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of New Members: Richard Cook – Schertz, Tomas Ivarra – Martindale, Lynda Quinn – Schertz, Joseph Rimkus – Waelder, Leroy Dietert – St. Hedwig, Joseph Ramirez – Seguin, Librado Ramirez Jr. - Seguin.
(New members and those who have not been previously initiated must be initiated at their 1st meeting and their names recorded in minutes.)

Received Oath: Lee Ramirez. Pin given.

Names of Transferred In Members: Miguel Rosas

Welcome to all our new members.

READING OF THE MINUTES: Stand as posted. (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, bulletin board, and emailed via Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: From Jul 01 to 31, 2013.

Beginning: \$16,930.74. Ending: \$18,622.20. Full report and statements read aloud and are attached.

Motion to accept: Frank Rosario, 2nd: Tomas Castellon, motion carries.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (list attached)

- ❖ VOA thank you letter for \$400 donation
- ❖ Monthly DAV Nat'l HQ report on membership and Legislative issues
- ❖ Office Depot letting us know of the partnership with DAV National and the discount on business cards
- ❖ Chamber of Commerce invoice for Seguin ISD Tech Fund
- ❖ Donation request from Seguin Gazette asking for "Newspapers in Education" donation

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

- ❖ Comrades John Doug Herrle and Dennis Roy have both been in the hospital and both are home recovering. (Doug has gone back into the hospital since the meeting). Lynnette Sierer is recovering

from dual knee replacements at home. Prayers for their continued recovery. New member Tomas Ivarra passed away. Keep his family in your prayers during their time of grief.

LEGISLATION

- ❖ VA says 97% of claims 2yrs or older have been completed. Sounds a little overly optimistic.
- ❖ Remember to vote in November. Two bills, HJR 24 and 62 will provide property tax exempt status for to vets and their spouses.
- ❖ Bills being introduced in the House include HR 1443; The Tinnitus and Research Act, requiring VA to research recognize tinnitus as a condition for research and treatment by the Auditory Centers of Excellence.
- ❖ President Obama will present MOH to Army Staff Sgt. Ty Michael Carter on Aug. 26th.
- ❖ MIAs identified:
 - Army Air Force Sgt Dominick J. Licari and 2nd Lt Valorie L. Pollard, New Guinea, WWII.
 - Army Sgt 1st Class William Robinson, Chosin, Korea
 - Army Sgt 1st Class Joseph D. Steinberg, Korea

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- ❖ Membership: 7 new members. 1 transferred member.
- ❖ CSO:
 - SOs: Total Hours 154.5, Hrs available 288, Veterans seen 103. Hrs for 5 Srvc Ofcrs. See attached report for details.
 - Chaplain Hours: No Report
 - Honor Guard Hours: Funeral for Joe Montoya: 12 volunteers, 48 hours tot. Funeral for Romero Mundia, 13 volunteers, 78 hours tot. Post Colors at St. Mary's Catholic Church: 6 volunteers, 30 hours tot. Honor Guard Totals: 156 hours, 3 events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Golden Corral is scheduled for Nov 1st.
- ❖ Chapter 61 BBQ has been hauled to welder in McQueeney.
- ❖ Comrade Juan DeLeon and company will represent the Chapter at VFW Post 7110's annual Sanctioned BBQ Cookoff on September 7th at their Post in New Braunfels. Chapter paid the entry fees (good advertizing). 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.
- ❖ Guadalupe County Veterans Council is looking into cost and availability of having a Vietnam Memorial Travelling Wall brought to Seguin for Veteran's Day 2014. Updates to follow.
- ❖ Forget-me-nots and the Golden Corral Fund Raisers are on the horizon. To be discussed at next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ POW/MIA Observance to be held at VFW Post 8456 in Geronimo on Sept 20th. A Guadalupe County Veterans Council event, Chapter 61 is a participant.
- ❖ Our Veteran's Comfort Zone in conjunction with the DAV Auxiliary Unit 61 has successfully started the PTSD /Anger Management therapy sessions for those veterans in the Veteran's Court System for Guadalupe County. Chapter 61 is proud to support this mission. Comrades Mike Fore and Jaime Cervantez kicked it off in good form August 7th.

GOOD of the ORDER

- ❖ The Texas Vietnam Veteran Memorial is on view for the public at the Institute for Texas Cultures (ITC) downtown San Antonio. The memorial will be on display until 31 Aug. A visit reminds the public of our desire to keep our war dead in their thoughts.

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

Motion for Adjournment:

Motion by Leon Garcia, 2nd by Tomas Castellon, carried.

CLOSING CEREMONY: Salute Closing Prayer by Chaplain

Next meeting will be 7 PM, on September 12th, 2013.