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November 2013



**DAV CHAPTER 61 & DAVA UNIT 61  
SEGUIN, GUADALUPE COUNTY, TEXAS  
NOVEMBER 2013**

Another busy month has passed and we want to thank all of you who gave of your time and talent to ensure the success of our projects. Details concerning most of the happenings we mention here can be found in the minutes from the Chapter 61 meeting held on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**VETERANS NIGHT OUT at TLU:** a SINCERE & HEARTFELT THANKS goes out to the students, staff, coordinators and sponsors of this event held on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This annual tribute for all veterans gets better every year. Veterans and their families are treated to an evening of delicious food, great entertainment and fellowship. The event was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

**GOLDEN CORRAL & DAV FUNDRAISER:** A BIG THANKS to all of you who helped out at this 11-day fundraiser at the New Braunfels Golden Corral. Donations were generous & we gave out lots of information about DAV & our chapter.

**VETERANS DAY CEREMONY** was held on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Park. It was a tribute to all veterans with special mention of our Korean War veterans. It was a beautiful day and attendance was the best we have had in years. This year, veterans living in local nursing homes were with us and the Jefferson Elementary School Singers were there to lead us in patriotic songs. This ceremony is sponsored by the veteran's organizations and auxiliaries in Guadalupe County. This year, our Chapter and Unit were lead.

**1ST ANNUAL DASH for DISABLED VETS 5K RUN/WALK,** sponsored by TLU, was held on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at Starke Park. Participation in this fundraiser to benefit our DAV Chapter 61 exceeded expectations for the 1<sup>st</sup> year with 60 participants enjoying the paths around Starke Park on a beautiful fall morning. TLU student members of the Honors Freshman Experience Class and the Center for Servant Leadership came up with the idea for this fundraiser, planned it and implemented it. They are also responsible for our annual Veterans Night Out. At a recent awards ceremony at TLU these organizations were recognized for their outstanding volunteer efforts with the Celebration of Service Award. We cannot thank these students and their faculty sponsors enough for all they give of themselves to benefit veterans and especially for their generous and continuing support of our Chapter 61.

**Guadalupe County Chapter 61**

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

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**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY: Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** at the Geronimo VFW. This is the same place we had our party last year. As in the past, our Chapter and Unit will provide the fried turkey, beverages, bread, etc. Through the generosity of several of our members, we will also have roasted and smoked turkey and ham; We ask that each family bring a side-dish large enough to feed 30 people. Please RSVP to 830-305-4338 (Terri) by December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We'd like to know how many members of your family will be attending, adults and children, and what delicious food you are bringing for everyone to enjoy.

**ANNUAL RAFFLE at CHRISTMAS PARTY.** Tickets are now on sale for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. They can be purchased at the Chapter House on Tuesday or Wednesday, 9 AM – 1 PM or at the Christmas party (until we run out of tickets). Raffle items so far include two \$100 gift cards, several items from Kay Jewelers, hand-made items and much more. We are still accepting items for the raffle so if you have something, bring it by the Chapter House. **HOLIDAY HOURS:** The Chapter House will be closed on the following days:  
Thursday, Nov. 21 thru Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013  
Thursday, Dec. 19, 2013 thru Jan.7, 2014

**DOUG HERRLE DAV CHAPTER 61:** At our November meeting, members unanimously voted to change the name of Chapter 61 to honor past chapter commander Doug Herrle. He has been a member of our chapter since 1991, serving as a chapter service officer all those years and as chapter commander for 14 years. He has also been active in the DAV at the state and national levels. Doug continues to be an inspiration to all of us through his dedication and commitment to helping disabled veterans and their families, making their lives better and ensuring that the sacrifices our veterans have made for our country are recognized. There is so much more we want to say about Doug but will sum it all up with a great big **THANK YOU, DOUG!** There are no words to adequately describe all you have done for our chapter and for countless veterans.

**DAVA COOKBOOKS** still available at \$15 each. Great stocking stuffers. Come by the auxiliary office at the chapter house.

**HOLIDAY WISHES:** From our home to yours come our heartfelt wishes for a blessed, safe and joyful Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year 2014!

Phil Sierer, DAV Chapter 61 Commander  
Lynette Sierer, DAVA Unit 61 Commander



Veteran's Day 2013



### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Chapter House. This is the same time and place that our Chapter meets.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**DEC 10<sup>TH</sup>: CHAPTER 61 CHRISTMAS DINNER, GERONIMO VFW, 6PM.**

**DEC 14<sup>TH</sup>: LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS. 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL LIGHTING CEREMONY, GUADALUPE VALLEY MEMORIAL PARK, 9AM. INFO (830)606-6016**

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

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

#### Our New Members

Ronnie Boulineay-Seguin  
Jeremy Carter-New Braunfels  
Tarrant Guillot-Seguin  
Mark Latta-Buda  
Donald Long-Lockhart  
Ward Oliver-Leesville  
Thomas Rogers-Marion  
Charles Turner-Seguin

#### Our Transferred Members

Jose Alaniz Jr.-Seauin

### 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:**  
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/chapter/tx/61>.

You may Bookmark the site and refer often to see what's happening.

## Thoughts from the Chaplain

### **Thanksgiving**

And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. (Luke 17:15-16)

Thankfulness is foundational to the Christian life. Thankfulness is a conscious response that comes from looking beyond our blessings to their source. As Christians, we have been forgiven, saved from death, and adopted as God's children. There could be no better reason for a grateful heart!

Lepers in Jesus' day were social outcasts. Their highly contagious condition ostracized them from those they loved. When ten lepers encountered Jesus, they desperately implored Him to show them mercy. Jesus sent them to the priest. As they obeyed, they were healed! These ten men had been forbidden to enter their own villages, to live in their own homes, to work in their own jobs, or even to touch their own children. Imagine what unrestrained joy must have filled them as they ran back home again!

One of the lepers, a Samaritan, stopped and ran back to thank Jesus. Samaritans were normally shunned by the Jews, but Jesus had healed him! Jesus asked him, "Where are the others?" Ten lepers had been healed. Ten lepers were reveling in their new-found health. Ten men were joyfully rushing to share the good news with those they loved. But only one considered the Source of that blessing and stopped to thank and worship the One who had given him back his life.

We, too, have been healed and made whole by the Savior. We are free to enjoy the abundant life the Savior has graciously given us. Could we, like the nine lepers, rush off so quickly to glory in our blessings without stopping to thank our Redeemer? God looks for our thanks. Our worship, prayers, service, and daily life ought to be saturated with thanksgiving to God (Phil. 4:6).

As your Chaplain, I am available to all members of Chapter #61 and their immediate family for discussion of any spiritual matter or counseling. Please feel free to contact me at [4Verterans@hotmail.com](mailto:4Verterans@hotmail.com).

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving.  
Chaplain Richard Cusson

#### **From the Chaplain**

#### *Binnacle List*

- ❖ Past Commander Doug Herrle still battling illness.
- ❖ Comrade Dennis Roy still recuperating.
- ❖ Comrade John Cuellar recovering.
- ❖ Junior Vice Commander James Dickerson is recovering.

*They are in our Prayers*

#### **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: 11/12/2013

### CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Chaplain Richard Cusson  
Flag Honors: Y

### Joint Meeting Chapter and Unit

- ❖ Guest Speaker Marisol Acosta from the Dept of Health State of Texas gave a presentation on the Texas Children Recovering from Trauma Initiative. Looks to provide treatment resources for traumatized children. [www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org) for more details.
- ❖ Guest Speakers Arin Rope and Vanessa Espye from Texas Lutheran University provided updated information on the upcoming 5K DAV Dash event they are holding for Chapter 61. Things are looking real good and they are encouraging everyone to come out and support the event. They have already gotten more entrants than they expected, but have room for more. This is a run, walk crawl event. Bring your pooches even.
- ❖ Dec 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter 61 Christmas party is still on for the next meeting. This meeting will take place at the Geronimo VFW Post 8456, thanks to our brothers and sisters at Geronimo. Following a pot luck format, the Auxiliary has a list to let them know what people might like to be bringing. See any of the officers for more info. If you make a dish, try making it for 30 people. We ran out of food for the workers last year, so we hope to make a little more.
  - We are looking for Raffle Items. If you have some NEW things you would like to donate, great.
  - We will have bears for the children; let us know how many kids you will be bringing so none are left out.
  - We will have 8 turkeys and 4 hams
    - JJ will donate a smoked turkey, Dennis will provide a raw turkey for frying, Gary was going to bring a baked turkey. The others will be fried. Fryers should be no more than 12 lbs.
    - Phil, Marlin, Lynn, and Tomas all volunteered Hams.
  - We have raffle tickets for sale. \$1 ea or 6 for \$5. Kays Jewelers Manager at the Tanger Mall donated \$1100 in items for our raffle.
  - The Golden Corral event for Military Appreciation took in \$4742.89. 50% goes to state and we keep the rest. Great job by all who volunteered for shifts and helped out with the Flag presentation. Golden Corral Staff were again awestruck by our commitment.
- ❖ 22 Nov, the Honor Guard will post colors at the Family Church in Luling again this year. Hopefully, we can get a lot of participation. Event will start at 5 pm. Honor Captain Juan DeLeon will get more word out as the event draws nearer.
- ❖ Chapter Closings for the Holidays:
  - Nov 21-Dec 22 Thanksgiving
  - Dec19-Jan 7 2014 Christmas/New Years
  - The building will be open for the National Service Officers on 22 November.
- ❖ Feb 1 is Chapter Service Officer Training at our Chapter House. Persons working towards becoming a CSO will be considered for training. That means starting OJT now. The costs associated with training people for CSO certification has gotten pricey and the NSOs are looking to train only those interested in becoming Service Officers.
- ❖ Mar 8 is the Dist V Meeting and will take place at Geronimo Memorial VFW Post 8456. Thanks again to our friends at Geronimo. Auxiliary is working to have a meeting place either at the Chapter House or maybe one of the closer hotels.

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

Commander:	Present X	Absent
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: 22 (Sign in sheet available)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

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

**Guests:** DAV TX District V Commander Dr. Charles Edwards, TLU-Arin Rope, Vanessa Espye, Marisol Acosta Tx Dept Health, and 1 other (Name illegible on sign in sheet)

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Names of New Members: Ronnie Boulineay-Seguín, Jeremy Carter-New Braunfels, Tarrant Guillot-Seguín, Mark Latta-Buda, Donald Long-Lockhart, Ward Oliver-Leesville, Thomas Rogers-Marion, Charles Turner-Seguín.

(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: Elias Torres

Names of Transferred In Members: Jose Alaniz Jr.-Seguín.

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.)

**Motion to accept: Tomas Castellon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Leon Garcia, motion carries.**

**Minutes are posted on Chapter Website, bulletin board, and emailed via Newsletter.**

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

Beginning: \$17,299.99. Ending: \$19,083.78. Full report and statements read aloud and are available.

**Motion to accept: Leon Garcia, 2<sup>nd</sup>: John DeLeon, motion carries.**

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

- ❖ None to report

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

- ❖ Past Commander Doug Herrle still battling illness. Junior Vice Commander James Dickerson is recovering from dual knee surgeries. A late notice of the passing of Comrade Harold Drake. Keep these members and their families in your prayers.

**LEGISLATION**

- ❖ All of the Veteran slated proposals on the last ballot were overwhelmingly passed. These dealt with education and taxes for widows of KIA soldiers.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

- ❖ Membership: 3 new members.
- ❖ CSO:
  - No report
  - Chaplain Hours: 34 tot hrs

- Honor Guard Hours: Funeral for Norman Kraft 10/01/2013: 8 Volunteers, 40 tot hrs, Honors for Mario Garza 10/5/2013: 12 volunteers, 84 hours tot. Funeral for Adrean Jarutwics 10/08/2013: 11 volunteers, 33 hours tot. Funeral for Pierce Alvin Hedrick 10/21/2013: 10 volunteers, 30 tot hrs. Funeral for Steven Daniel Colly 10/22/2013: 9 volunteers, 27 tot hrs. Honor Guard Totals: 214 hours, 6 events.
- Veteran Comfort Zone (VCZ): no report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.
- ❖ BBQ pit is still at fabricators. Cdr and SV Cdr will go and check on progress.
- ❖ Still waiting on Connex storage container to become free.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ 10 Nov an Executive Board Meeting was held. Chapter had approved an earlier commitment to support the Annual Veteran Appreciation Dinner held by Joe DeLeon at Al's Beer Garten in New Braunfels. We do this every year. We forgot to provide the donation and looking back over the minutes did not see mention of the donation. The board mad a decision to go ahead and make the commitment for \$400. The Board now asks for a motion for the Chapter to accept that decision. **Motion to accept Marlin Howze, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leon Garcia, carried.**
- ❖ Need a motion to split the Chapter's take from Golden Corral with the Auxiliary. **Motion split take 50/50 w/ aux Tomas Castellon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leon Garcia, carried.**
- ❖ Motion to rename Guadalupe Chapter 61 "Doug Herrle Chapter 61" in honor of our own Past Commander and State Past Commander. **Motion for change by Gary Elley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leon Garcia, carried unanimously.** This honor is rendered to Doug for his many years of service (and Sacrifice) for our Chapter and our veterans. Many testimonials.

#### **GOOD of the ORDER**

- ❖ District V Commander Dr. Charles Edwards spoke to the Chapter:
  - Possible new Chapter on the way for Dist V
  - Went over mbr stats including Dist V prominence in State.
  - Covered upcoming important dates: CSO Training, Nat'l Mid-Winter Conference, Dist V Annual Meeting, Dept of TX Conv, Nat'l Conv.
  - Also praised Chapter 61 as an outstanding Chapter exhibiting all of the ideals of the National Mission Statement. Particularly impressed with all the programs going on in the Chapter, the leadership exhibited, the spiritual nature of the Chapter, and the volunteerism of it's members. He particularly liked the idea that we had our own pamphlet (Designed by CSO Jaime Cervantes) that detailed all of our endeavors. He had seen no other Chapter do this. Good Job.

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

#### **Motion for Adjournment:**

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

**CLOSING CEREMONY: \_\_x\_\_ Salute \_\_x\_\_ Closing Prayer by Chaplain Cusson**

**Next meeting will be 7 PM, on December 10th, 2013 for the Christmas Party at Geronimo Memorial VFW Post 8456.**