
January 2015



FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

**DOUG HERRLE CHAPTER 61
SEGUIN, TEXAS**



COMMANDERS' COMMENTS

JANUARY 2015

**THE DOUG HERRLE DAV CHAPTER 61
AND DAVA UNIT 61, SEGUIN, TEXAS**

Happy New Year to All. May we all enjoy good health, happiness and wellbeing during 2015 and beyond.

We want to thank all of you for your concern and prayers during Lynette's recent bout with breast cancer. We are blessed to report that she is now cancer-free. We can't find the words to adequately thank you for all your acts of kind-ness to us during this stressful time. Please know that we appreciate all you, our extended family,

SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 14, 2015

EVENT: Doug Herrle DAV Chapter 61
50th Anniversary Celebration

DATE: March 14, 2015

TIME: TBD (Estimate 6ish – 11 PM)

PLACE: Geronimo VFW

We will have a catered meal and entertainment. As soon as the cost for these has been determined, ticket prices will be set and tickets will go on sale.

Seating is limited to 200 people so we urge you to buy your tickets as soon as they come on sale. We will send out an email with ticket information when they are ready for sale. We will also have information in next month's newsletter as to price and where ticket can be purchased.

This is a very special event in the life of our Chapter and we hope you will join us for this celebration of 50 years helping disabled veterans and their families; keeping promises to those who served.

Terri Herrle and Gary Elley are co-chairs for this event.

Please read this newsletter for more upcoming events and for comments on recently past events.

Continued

A new Bible Study has begun and there is still time to join the group. Topic for this session is learning how to pray. We meet every Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:00 PM at the chapter house. Workbooks are \$2.00 each.

Remember that the chapter house is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 AM – 3 PM. PTSD support groups meet on Tuesdays. Session #1 is from 12 noon – 1 PM. Session #2 is from 1:30 – 2:30 PM. Bible study is on Wednesday afternoons. Please feel free to come by during these hours to participate in these activities or to visit with a chapter service officer, or just to visit for a while over a cup of coffee or soda.

Take care and be safe. We hope to see you soon!

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

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

Feb. 7th: CSO Training. Helotes Chapter 114. 9am.

Mar. 14: Chapter 50th Birthday Party. Dinner/Dance at the Geronimo VFW Hall.

Our New Members

Dahl Bartlett-San Marcos
JoAnna Rollings-Austin

Our Transferred Members

None

The Chapter 61 Staff.

Chapter Officers:

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

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

Seeking Safety: Wed. 7:30pm-9pm

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

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

(2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV)

As a believer in Jesus, you are a new creation. You have a new spirit and a new life! There may be “old” things in your life that you are trying to get rid of. Maybe you have old habits or addictions that you want to change. Remember today that the new has come. It’s a new year with new opportunities, and it’s time for you to be the new you. Let this be the year that you break old habits and addictions. Let this be the year that you move forward into a new life of victory. Let this be the year that you take hold of all the spiritual blessings the Lord has promised — peace, health, protection and victory.

Be encouraged today because no matter what is happening in your life right now, you have a chance for a new beginning. Choose to leave the old behind — leave behind old behaviors, old thinking, old words, and old mindsets and embrace the new by faith. Trust that He is leading you, and this year, declare His Word and embrace the blessings that He has prepared for you!

As your Chaplain, I am available to all members of Doug Herrle Chapter #61 and their immediate family for discussion of any spiritual matter or counseling. Please feel free to contact me at 4Verterans@hotmail.com. May God’s peace and blessing be with all of you. Chaplain Richard Cusson

Binnacle List

Phil & Lynnette Sierer

JD Chapa

Judy Cope

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 Romans.

DAV Meeting Minutes

Guadalupe County, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 01/13/2015

TIME: 7PM

Chapter House, 425 Vaughan St., Seguin TX 78155

CALL TO ORDER:

Prayer by Chaplain Richard Cusson

Flag Honors: Y

Guest Presentations

1. Roy Hall, Social Chaplain, from Hillcrest Church invited membership and anyone who wishes to attend to come and listen to their guest speaker, Dave Reaves, an injured former serviceman from Vietnam. 29 Jan, 10am at Hillcrest Church, 1440 Eastwood Dr. A free brunch will be served.

Joint Meeting Chapter and Unit

- ❖ The Christmas Dinner was a success with lots of folks turning out. We were blessed this year in that we had plenty of food for everyone and didn't run out. Thanks were handed out to our Auxiliary and Chapter members that helped with the event and as always a big thank you to our brothers and sisters at the Geronimo VFW.
- ❖ The DAV Dash put on by TLU on 22 Nov netted \$1,115 to the Chapter. Good job by the students at TLU. Make sure whenever you run into these outstanding young people that you let them know how appreciative we are for their support.
- ❖ The Chapter's 50th Birthday Celebration will be March 14th. We'll be selling tickets for catered Dinner/Dance event. Mark your calendars. We are looking for auction items and stuff to liven the party up so put those on your "to do" list. More details to follow, but tickets will go on sale early in February.
- ❖ We are working on our days for Forget-Me-Nots at Walmart. This is one of our big fundraisers for veteran service.
- ❖ February 7th is CSO training in Helotes at Chapter 114. List has been sent, for those attending – mark your calendar.
- ❖ Jan 22 saw Doug Herrle receiving a Posthumous Vision Award. This was a pretty special award by the Seguin Gazette recognizing the efforts of Seguin citizens that have made significant contributions to the community. Senator Edmund Kuemple is the only other person to have received this award Posthumously. Plenty of Chapter and Unit 61 members were on hand to watch as Terri received the award for Doug.
- ❖ Auxiliary retires.

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	Absent X
Chaplain:	Present X	Absent
Adjutant:	Present X	Absent
SAA:	Present X	Absent

Total officers & members present: 17 (Sign in sheet available)

Chapter had a quorum: Yes

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

Guests: Roy Hall, Hillcrest Church Social Pastor.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Names of New Members: Dahrl Bartlett-San Marcos, JoAnna Rollings-Austin.

Names of Transferred Members: None

(New members and those who have not been previously initiated must be initiated at their 1st meeting and their names recorded in minutes.)

Members Receiving Oath: Dahrl (Dee) Bartlett (presented pin)

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 Nov01 to 30, 2014 & Dec01 to 30.

Beginning: \$. Ending: \$.

Unavailable due to Treasurer's being out for illness in family. **Report to be caught up at Feb mtg.**

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (see list in file)

- ❖ No communications for Chapter at this meeting.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS:

- ❖ Comrade Dennis Roy recovering from illness, Lynnette Sierer going into surgery (has come through but recovering at reporting).

LEGISLATION

Legislative Report Dec 2015 Abbreviated. Full copy available on request.

- House VA Committee held hearing on Veteran's Access, Choice and Accountability Act (VACAA) Expanded to include language surrounding Military Sexual Trauma (MST).
- VA to make access to VA online more streamlined and Veteran friendly.
- Senate Committee of VA looking into better methods for treating mental health issues for veterans.
- Dec, 2014, President appointed Dr. Aston B. Carter to Secretary of Defense.
- VA issues final rule to exempt mental health peer support services from copayment requirements.
- Army releases 1200 Army Capts and 550 Army Majors during drawdown. Prior enlisted officers, Mustangs, allowed to retire with their ranks despite not having a full 8 years in grade.
- Army publishes website to allow service members to upgrade their OTH if they were diagnosed with PTSD.
- Lawmakers successfully extended a law protecting returning servicemen from foreclosure Until Jan 2016.
- 2015 will see military facilities in Europe consolidated. 15 installations will be returned to host nations. This is an effort to save money by the DOD.
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- **Identified MIA/POWs**

- 11 Servicemen were recovered Oct-Dec.
- Eight WWII crewman of the B-24D Liberator by an AA site at Hansa Bay, Apr 10, 1944, were recovered.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

- ❖ Membership: 2 new members.
- ❖ CSO: (Full report available)
 - Service Ofcrs. Nov 2014: Tot Vets Seen 51, Tot Hrs Used 76.5, Tot Hrs Avail 192. Dec 2014: Tot Vets Seen 58, Tot Hrs Used 87, Tot Hrs Avail 240.
 - Chaplain Hours: Sep-23 hrs.
 - Individuals: Linda Nov. 13.25 Golden Corral, Dec 4.75 Vet Visits.
 - Honor Guard Hours: Oct: 4 events, 55 vols, 289 hrs. Nov: 6 events, 77 vols, 544 hrs. Dec: 4 events, 41 vols, 229 hrs. For the year 2014, the Doug Herrle Chapter 61 Honor Guard under Guard Capt Juan Deleon committed 2,800 volunteer hours in service to our comrades and community. Impressive.
 - Constitution and By Law Committee. No report. Committee Chair has been dealing with health issues, but is working on the revision.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint for other Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ See Joint Session.

GOOD of the ORDER

- ❖ Bible Study starts Jan 14. This class cover's "Praying God's Way."
- ❖ Feb 13th, Geronimo VCFW will hold their annual Sock Hop dance. See Bill Owen or stop by the Post on Fridays or Sundays for more info and tickets. There will be a really good Elvis Impersonator and a great DJ on hand.
- ❖ Geronimo VFW will hold their annual BBQ contest Mar 7. Need judges, good stuff here, always a lot of fun and good food.
- ❖ New Seguin VA Community Based Out Patient Clinic (CBOC) open in Seguin at the Silver Center. The New Braunfels CBOC moved to a new location on Landa St West of Walnut Rd.

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

Motion for Adjournment:

Motion by Richard Cusson, 2nd by Leon Garcia, motion carried.

CLOSING CEREMONY: __x__ Salute __x__ Closing Prayer by Chaplain Cusson

Next meeting will be 7 PM, on Feb 10th.