

## DAV Meeting Minutes

Doug Herrle, TX Chapter 61

DATE: 01/12/2016

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

CALL TO ORDER: January 12, 2016

Prayer by Comrade Richard Cusson

Flag Honors: Y

### Joint Meeting Chapter and Unit

- ❖ Golden Corral fundraiser and Honor Guard service Nov 11. Results = \$3033 Donations less \$1516.50 to DAV TX = \$1516.50
- ❖ Veteran's Day parade Nov 11 - a big thank you for all those who participated. We had about 14 entries – first prize went to Seguin HS Jr. ROTC Marching Unit, 2d DAV Float, 3d Green Iron Guys. Our Share on porta pottie rental \$70.06. We want to send a thank you letter to our guest speaker MSG McCool.
- ❖ Nov 14 – TLU 5 K Dash for Vets – results \$1716.00 donation. Thank You!
- ❖ Nov 17 - TLU Vet Night Out –attendance was down 145 meals served, \$250 donation made by Chapter 61
- ❖ Comfort Zone Thanksgiving Day gathering Ch 61 donated \$200.00 Report by Comrade Cervantez. Great support from Home Depot. We need to invite their veterans to our future events.
- ❖ Donation request to Audie Murphie Memorial Hospital's Fischer House ILO VA Medical Center Holiday Gifts. Action still pending.
- ❖ Christmas Dinner and Raffle net income \$1004.36
- ❖ Jan 22-24 DAV TX Dept Mid Year Seminar – **RSVP** NLT Jan 2, Hotel RSVP Dec 31. 6 names collected.
- ❖ Mar 12+13 Forget Me Nots fundraiser Walmart,
- ❖ Oct 8-9 Forget Me Not Fundraiser Walmart
- ❖ TLU Vast Veterans Family Christmas Party donation \$100 from DAV Ch 61 and \$200 from the Chapter Bible Study Group for the veterans' children. The new TLU veteran rep is Ryan Early .
- ❖ Golden Corral donation box income \$322.00
- ❖

Auxiliary Members met separately this month

Roll call of officers by Comrade Linda Truax

Commander:	Present x	Absent
Sr. Vice Commander:	Present x	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander:	Present	Absent x
Treasurer:	Present	Absent x
Chaplain:	Present x	Absent
Adjutant:	Present x	Absent
SAA:	Present x	Absent
Total officers & members present:	20	(Sign in sheet available) Guests:

Chapter had a quorum: Yes Seven Members shall constitute a quorum. 2 present shall be elected officers.

**READING OF THE MINUTES:** Stand as posted. (The commander asks if there are corrections to minutes.)

Hearing none they 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 office bulletin board. Motion to approve by Comrade Marlin H. 2d Wayne L. motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** No report available

From Nov 1-30, 2015 –Beginning: Ending: \$  
Dec 1 - 31

Motion to approve reports: Comrade , 2nd by Comrade . Motion Carried

Full reports available for viewing on request.

**SICKNESS & DISTRESS:**

- 1 death Charles Aulds, and Comrade Gary's wife Francis will undergo surgery on Jan 20
- Please keep our Comrades and their families in your prayers.

**NEW MEMBERS TO RECEIVE OATH:** (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: Comrade Richard Johnson – he was presented the new member pin.

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

**BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** (see list in file)

- DAV HQ 2 new member reports, Blank Offer change report, Solicitation of Funds rules, Happy Holiday card, DAV SA NSO – submittal of forms changes, CSO training dates
- Knights of Columbus Thank you for flags,, Gerdes Family – thank you for Honor Guard Svc, Mr and Mrs Ayala Christmas card, TLU thank you for 5K Dash support

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

- Membership: 14 new members. 1 Transferred member(s).  
Names of New Members: see attached report  
Names of Transferred Members: see attached report
- CSO: (Full report available)
- Service Ofcrs: Nov 2015: total Vets Seen 91 , Tot Hrs Used 13.6.5 Tot Hrs Avail. 252  
Dec 2015: total Vets Seen 62, Tot Hrs Used 93, Tot Hrs Avail. 216  
Nov and Dec combined: Individuals: Linda Truax- 61.5 hrs, Marlin 33 , Dennis 34.5 , Phil 10.5 ,  
Jon 31.5 , Jaime 55 , Dee – 4.5,

- Chaplain Hours: Nov + Dec 41 hrs
- Other Service (Combined)- Comfort Zone Jaime C. 45 hours , Warren 30, Dee14, Linda 2
- Honor Guard Hours: Nov and Dec: 4 events = 2 funerals, 2 ceremony = 2596 vols hrs. Comrade Leon Garcia is the new Sr. Vice for the Honor Guard. Golden Corral Nov 11 HG was 125 hours

#### LEGISLATION – DAV Legislative Report Nov/Dec 2015

- October, 15, 2015, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that due to low inflation this year, no cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) would be made in 2016 for Social Security beneficiaries. Cdr Action Network sought input on special compensation for veterans.
- November 10 by the U.S. Senate includes a provision that would allow Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) doctors to recommend medical marijuana to patients in states where it is legal. Helps with PTSD.
- the VA added six new ships and expanded the dates for some already on the list of ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam.
- On Dec 3 Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced his decision yesterday to open all remaining military occupation specialties to women. With the elimination of the combat exclusion clause, the next question is whether women will now be required to register with the Selective Service System. Decision is pending.
- Instead of reducing U.S. troop strength to 1,000, the president decided to keep 9,800 American forces in Afghanistan through 2016. This is supported by NATO's Resolute Support Mission Commander, Army Gen. John Campbell.
- The VA announced that it will classify eight medical afflictions as *presumptive* disabilities for purposes of adjudicating compensation benefits for veterans who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987. This includes National Guard and Reserve service members who did not serve on active duty but conducted training on the Camp.
- In the third quarter of 2015, there were 72 suicides among service members in the active component, and 70 suicides in the reserve component, which includes 38 suicides among reserve service members and 32 suicides among service members in the National Guard. This averages 2/day please correct those stating 22/day. This is for *Active* service members – not “veterans”.
- The Department of Defense (DOD) announced yesterday the results of a year-long review of the military decorations and awards program. DOD is specifically focused on combat and valor recognition, to include a review of the Medal of Honor process, as well as to create new devices.
- Tricare Copays will be increasing
- 

#### MIAs/POWs Identified: WWII- 3 North Korea - 4 , VN - 1 , Iraq - 1 KIA

- **KIA** Operation Freedom's Sentinel. - SSG. Matthew Q. McClintock, of New Mexico, died Jan. 5, 2016, in Marjah District, Afghanistan, from wounds suffered when the enemy attacked his unit with small arms fire. McClintock was assigned to, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Buckley, Wash.
- **Marine Corps Cpl. James D. Otto**, 20, of Los Angeles, 2nd Marine Division killed in action on Nov. 20, 1943, while fighting on the Pacific island of Tarawa.
- **Army Sgt. Robert C. Dakin**, 22, Mass, 7th IN Division, he was lost in North Korea on Dec. 12, 1950.
- **Army Sgt. Billy J. Williams**, assigned to, 2nd IN Division, was lost in North Korea on Feb. 14, 1951.
- **Army Sgt. 1st Class Billy D. Hill**, 21, of Wichita KS., was assigned 1st Aviation Brigade, when he was lost in Vietnam on Jan. 21, 1968. He was a helicopter gunner on a UH-1D that was shot down
- **Army Pfc. David S. Burke**, 21, of OH, 25th IN Division was lost fighting in North Korea on Nov. 27, 1950.
- **Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Leonard R. Farron**, of WA 13th Air Force was piloting a P-39 Airacobra that failed to return to base after a strafing mission over Guadalcanal on Oct. 15, 1942.
- **Army Pvt. James M. Smith**, 19, GA., 2nd IN Division was lost fighting in South Korea on Feb. 12, 1951.

- **Marine Corps Cpl. Roger K. Nielson**, 22, of CO, Nielson was with 2nd USMC Division, when he was killed in action Nov. 20, 1943

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** See Joint for other Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ Reminder: The VA offers various OJT/Apprenticeship programs to attract and increase retention of well-disciplined Veterans into hard-to-fill positions. Contact a CSO for more information.
- ❖ Home Depot has pledged more than \$1 million through the Home Depot Foundation to renovate American Legion Posts and the homes of veterans throughout the United States
- ❖ The VA made 3 significant changes to the Choice Program which makes it more accessible and useful. Check online for the most recent changes
- ❖ Motion needed to order 5 8x10 Appreciation Plaques (est cost \$30 each) to recognize TLU, Liberators, Golden Corral, Woodsman of the World and Vet Day Guest Speaker for all the support they gave us in 2015. Motion made to pay made by Comrade James D., 2d by Comrade Marlin H.. Motion carried.
- ❖ We need to make a public presentation with certificates of appreciation to the County Commissioners Court and Seguin City Hall for the support provided in 2015.
- ❖ Juan Deleon donated 2 signs warning people we have our Chapter House under Video surveillance. Hopefully this will deter future robbery attempts.
- ❖ Comrade Marlin H. indicated the new TX Law allowing for open carried weapons explains there are two new signs to post to prevent guns from entering our building. Motion made to purchase the signs by Comrade James D., 2d by Comrade Jaime C. Motion carried.

**GOOD of the ORDER**

Moment of Silence. Remembrance of fallen comrades.

Motion for Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Comrade Wayne L. 2d by Comrade Mrlin H. Motion carried.

CLOSING CEREMONY: \_\_x\_\_ Salute \_\_x\_\_ Closing Prayer by Comrade

Next meeting will be PM, on Feb 9, 2016.

Distribution: Chapter Bulletin Board, DAV Ch 61 files, TX Dept DAV  
[adjutant@davtexas.org](mailto:adjutant@davtexas.org)

- ❖ Important Dates:
  - Jan 22-24 DAV TX Dept Mid Year Seminar – RSVP NLT Jan 2, Hotel RSVP Dec 31
  - CSO Traning March 5 2016 Helotes
  - Forget Me Not Fundraiser Walmart Mar 12-13, Oct 8 – 9, 2016