



# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HENRY C. ECHTERNKAMP POST 4760  
SEQUIM, WA

Facebook: Henry Echternkamp VFW Post 4760  
vfwpost4760.com ph: 360-683-9546



## **Post Calendar:**

Business Meeting: second Tuesday of the month, 6pm. Doors open by 5pm. Pizza about 5:45  
Veteran's Coffee & Conversation, Tuesdays 10am-12pm. All veterans are welcome. Membership not required.

## **Auxiliary Calendar:**

Meeting: second Thursday of the month, 4pm

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February 2026

**In Memoriam: Kenneth F. Davidson, Coast Guard**

**Russell E. Faldzinski, Navy**

## **From Post Commander Kevin O'Neill: Memorial Day Call to Service**

Memorial Day is the MOST solemn responsibility of our Order. It is the one day each year when our community looks to the VFW to stand in remembrance of those who gave their lives in the service of our nation. This year our Post will again conduct a Memorial Day ceremony at Sequim View and Gardiner Cemeteries. Gardiner cemetery is the final resting place of Petty Officer Marvin Shields, the only member of the Seabees to be awarded the Medal of Honor. His grave is not only a local landmark— it is a national symbol of courage, sacrifice, and duty. It is fitting and essential that VFW Post 4760 be visibly present on these hallowed grounds. We are calling 25-30 members to volunteer less than one hour of time to help conduct these ceremonies with the dignity and respect it deserves.

## **2025: The Year in Review**

The Post finances remain strong. The profits from the canteen and Sunday breakfasts enable us to contribute to a number of worthy causes. Your post remains active in supporting veterans, youth, and our community. Membership remains about 250 for the VFW and about 160 in the Auxiliary. The Post has made All American the past two years and is on track to achieve it again this year.

Some of our 2025 activities include the following:

### **Memorial Day**

We were honored to lead the Memorial Day ceremonies at Sequim View Cemetery and Gardiner Cemetery as well as putting up the large (12 foot) flags around the Veterans Memorial at Sequim View



### **Veterans Relief**

Our Veterans Relief program assisted 21 veterans, widows, and a minor child for a total of \$12,697. We continue to deliver breakfast to the disabled veterans at Minsky Place in Sequim twice a month.

### **Stand Downs**

We volunteered at all three Stand Downs again this year – Forks, Port Townsend, and Port Angeles. Our post covered the breakfast and dinner food for the PA Stand Down at around \$1300 and donated another \$500 to Voices for Veterans. .

VFW Post 4760 169 E Washington St. PO Box 427 Sequim, WA 98382  
Phone: 360-683-9546 Email: secretary@vfwpost4760.com

Editor: Gery Contreras

## **Veterans Housing**

We continue to support the 4-plex build in Port Angeles for veterans by donating over \$24,000 to Habitat for Humanity. We bought a table at a Sarge's Place Fund Raiser for \$600. We also donated to OlyCAP for homeless vets.

## **Community Service/Participation**

We participated in the VFW Day of Service in May with two community projects. We had two booths at the Unity of Effort event in August along with our Auxiliary. We also donated \$1,000 to the High School Safe & Sober Graduation Event. Several members participated in Veterans Day celebrations at various Sequim schools and had an opportunity to answer student's questions about military life. The schools put on a respectful program and appreciate when veterans attend.

## **Scholarships**

We awarded seven \$1,500 scholarships to Sequim High School seniors.

## **Daughters of the American Revolution**

The DAR presented the post with a tree originating from the 217-year-old famous American elm "Herbie". These genetic clones help continue the legacy of the Yarmouth, Maine tree which was once the tallest and oldest in New England.

## **Youth Essays**

The Post did well in the annual Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen youth essay contests.

- Our 1st place Voice of Democracy winner (high school) was Zoe Truckenmiller. She also finished 1st at District 4 and then 6th at State (Department).
- Our 1st place Patriots Pen winner (middle school) was Josie Hainstock. She also finished 1st at District 4 and 2nd at Department.
- Other award winners were Franklin Critchlow 3rd place at District 4 Voice of Democracy and Jaydon Truckenmiller and Iris Brown Patriots Pen 2nd and 3rd place respectively at District 4.

Congratulations to all the student writers.

## **Teacher of the Year**

Our Teacher of the Year was Anita Schneider who also finished 1st at District 4.

## **Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots**

One of our members led the Marine Corp Toys for Tots program for Clallam County.

## **Over the Horizon**

Sequim VFW Post 4760 is committed to lifting up our fellow veterans and to stay active in our community. We are fortunate to be able to contribute and be involved with so many programs for Clallam County veterans.

Post members will soon receive a survey for your ideas about the future of the Post. Where do we want to be, what do we want to be doing 5-10 years from now.

World events the past 26 years has produced a new generation of veterans. Many are looking for ways to continue serving. When you talk to them, steer them to Post 4760.

Join us at our Post meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 6pm and our Coffee and Conversation get together, which is open to all veterans, every Tuesday, 10-12. Auxiliary meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 4pm. Best wishes for a happy and enjoyable 2026.

## Events



**Daughters of the American Revolution**



**VFW Longevity Awards**



**Security Services Northwest  
Unity of Service**



**Veterans Appreciation Day  
at Sequim Civic Center**



**Youth Essay Winners**



**Coffee &  
Conversation**



**High School Scholarships**



**Birthday  
Celebrations**

*"The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it" – General Norman Schwarzkopf*