



Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 – The Michael Gramlich – Steve Saelzler -

Metro Detroit Chapter Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe Counties

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Also, visit us on Facebook, and “like” us at www.facebook.com/VFP74

August – September 2023 VFP Chapter 74 News Update

Receiving this Update by email but not yet a Veterans For Peace member? Please consider joining! Non-veterans can join as an Associate Member. The more VFP members there are, the more we can do. For membership information visit <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/donate/join-renew>

1. Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 Online August/September Meeting – Thursday, August 30th, 2023 – 7:30pm

This will be a combination August and September Chapter 74 meeting and will be by Zoom teleconference only starting at 7:30pm. There will be no face-to-face meeting. To participate, five minutes before the 7:30pm meeting start time, click on this link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86046115171>

To join the meeting by telephone only, call 312-626-6799 and when prompted, enter a Meeting ID of ID: 860 4611 5171. Anyone can participate in this meeting, or any other VFP Chapter 74 event, be they veteran or not. Please consider attending this online meeting and help our VFP Chapter grow and become more active! The meeting agenda is as follows...

1. Introductions and welcome
 - a. Members and guests present
2. General business
 - a. Membership report
 - b. Chapter reorganization & outreach
 - c. Other
3. Old Business
 - a. VFP Golden Rule sailboat visit to Detroit
 - b. VFP climate change actions
 - c. Other
4. New Business
 - a. Other
5. Upcoming events
6. Next meeting date
7. Adjournment

2. VFP Golden Rule Visit Detroit/Southeast Michigan Report

On a very pleasant Detroit Sunday afternoon of August 13th, the Golden Rule arrived at the Milliken State Park and Harbor marina at 5:30pm and was met with VFP members, peace & justice activists and also the Detroit Party Marching Band - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit_Party_Marching_Band.

For Monday and Tuesday, August 14th and 15th the crew of the Golden Rule gave tours of the sailboat from 11am to 4pm and then gave evening presentations in Ann Arbor and Lansing on the history of the boat, its restoration and 2nd life spreading the word of the need for nuclear weapon banishment.

While the original plan was to have the Golden Rule to overnight in Detroit on Wednesday, August 16th, the crew had been reviewing deteriorating weather reports for their journey north to Mackinaw City and Traverse City and determined the best course of action was to leave Detroit early to avoid encountering the worst of the weather. However, a Golden Rule planned reception and presentation at Detroit's Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery still took place with Helen Jaccard and Gerry Condon, two of the Golden Rule “ground crew” (who use a travel trailer and drive to each stop of the Golden Rule to make sure everything goes as planned when the boat arrives), stayed an extra night in Detroit.

While the Golden Rule nears the end of its journey in a few more weeks in Minneapolis, Minnesota, there is still a real need for donations to keep the Golden Rule operating and also pay for expenses associated with the Detroit stop (lodging, local transportation, meals, etc.). Tax deductible donations can be made at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/veterans-for-peace-golden-rule-in-detroit>. Every dollar you donate will go directly to support the Golden Rule's trip and mission. The last day for the “gofundme” donations will be 11:59pm, 9/15/2023.

For more information on the Golden Rule, along with an interactive map, visit <https://vfpgoldenruleproject.org>. or visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GoldenRulePeaceBoat>. Also, a huge "THANK YOU" goes out to all the volunteers who helped locally with the Golden Rule visit, and especially Jim Rine who really made this visit happen locally.

3. Steve Saelzler Memorial Donations Can Now Be Given Online By Credit Card

If you would like to make a donation in honor of Steve Saelzler, the deceased Chair of Veterans For Peace Metro Detroit Chapter 74, please consider supporting the Wayne State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies - <https://cpcs.wayne.edu>. The goal of the Center is to develop and implement projects, programs, curricula, research, and publications in areas of scholarship related to international and domestic peace, war, social justice, arms control, globalization, multicultural awareness, and constructive conflict resolution. Steve made a number of visits to peace and conflict resolution classes, talking about his experiences in the military, why he joined Veterans For Peace and urging students to apply for Peace Studies Scholarships offered by Michigan VFP Chapter 93 at <https://www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship..>

Donations in Steve's honor to the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies now can be done online at <https://cpcs.wayne.edu>. At that web page click on the yellow "Make A Gift" button and it will take you to a donation page where you can do a credit card, Venmo, or PayPal payment. Further down the page you can list the honoree's name and choose if you want your name can be shared with the honoree's family member(s) through a personalized letter notifying them of your gift and a tribute message.

4. Mark Your Calendar – VFP Concert For Peace At The Ark In Ann Arbor – Thursday, October 12



The 16th annual Concert For Peace (...formerly known as the John Lennon Birthday Concert), will be held at The Ark in Ann Arbor on Thursday, October 12th with doors opening at 7pm and the concert starting at 7:30pm. The concert is a benefit for the Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Peace Scholarship Fund.

As in past years, the concert will be emceed by Chris Buhalis. The line-up for this year's concert is yet to be announced but the 2022 concert included Laith Al-Saadi , Judy Banker, Dave Boutette & Kristi Davis, Kevin Brown & Jud Branam, Annie & Rod Capps, Rochelle Clark, Dave Keeney & Sophia Hanfi, Shari Kane & Dave Steele, Billy King, Dick Siegel, Michael Smith, and Rollie Tussing. Musical artists will be performing peace and justice related songs, including a tribute to John Lennon, whose widow Yoko Ono, made a generous donation in 2007, to establish the Peace Scholarship Fund.

\$20 admission with proceeds going to scholarships for college students enrolled in peace studies and conflict resolution programs (such as those offered at Wayne State University and Michigan State University). For advance tickets visit <https://theark.org/event/veterans-for-peace-concert-231012/> or call (734) 763-8587. For more information on the Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Peace Scholarships, visit <https://www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship>.

5. Peace Quote Of The Month...

"My life experiences, ranging from the Battle of the Bulge to marching with Martin Luther King, made me a life-long humanist and pacifist and reinforced my belief that violence begets violence and that war is the lowest form of human behavior." -- Tony Bennett 2011

6. Announcement, Anniversaries & Reminders

2023 VFP Online Convention Friday, August 25 through Sunday, August 27

The 2023 theme is: "Choose Peace: Stand Up! Speak Out!" For more information and registration, visit <https://www.vfpconvention.org>

Every Friday - Welcoming New Detroit Immigrants

Welcome new refugees to the metro Detroit region Fridays at Detroit's Clark Park on the corner of Verner and Clark (map at <https://tinyurl.com/ClarkPark-Map>) from 3:45pm to 4:45pm. The name of the event is We Stand With Our Neighbors Immigration Vigil. This weekly vigil was started in response to school children in Southwest Detroit whose teachers and counselors are deeply concerned about the trauma students are experiencing as they face the threat and reality of detention and deportations. Our message is: No deportations! No ban! No wall! No harassment and intimidation! Their Facebook page is www.facebook.com/WeStandWithOurNeighbors.

Metro Detroit Peace Events Calendar

For a complete update of Metro Detroit area, visit the Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit website at www.graypanthersmetrodetroit.org/events-calendar

VFP E-News List

Veterans For Peace puts out a weekly eNews that features a weekly summary of news from Veterans For Peace members, chapters, and the National office. To sign up for the Weekly eNews, [click here!](#)

VFP Michigan Peace Scholarships

Applications are being taken now for the Veterans For Peace Michigan Peace Scholarships, sponsored by VFP Chapter 93. The Scholarships, out of an endowment provided by Yoko Ono to Veterans For Peace, are awarded to college students enrolled in a peace studies or conflict resolution related program. Awards are given to either Michigan residents, or students enrolled at a Michigan college, with a preference given to military veterans. For more information, visit <https://www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship>.

Thinking About Joining The Military? Already In The Military Seeking Conscientious Objector Status, Delayed Enlistment Problems, Or Release From Service?

Visit our new "Thinking About Joining The Military? - Please Read This First" web page by [clicking here](#). The page includes before enlisting, how you should be able to honestly answer some basic questions, and have realistic expectations, about military life, a link to the 24-hour GI Rights Hotline for people already in the military, and a link to Project YANO (Youth And Non-Military Opportunities) with information about military enlistments, the delayed entry program, and resources for alternatives to the military. Also, you will find a link to the Center On Conscience And War which has information on Selective Service registration, the draft, and conscientious objector status.

Our VFP Chapter Can Use Your Help

Currently our VFP Chapter has only a few people doing all the work and projects and to say we could use help is an understatement. Most of these jobs do not take up that much time at all, and would help out the Chapter immensely. One thing we are trying to promote is for people to sign up for a "volunteer email list". We always need extra people to help staff events like the Arlington Michigan display on Memorial/Veterans Day. Just tell us you want to be on the volunteer e-mail list and when an event date starts rolling around, we will email you to see if you can help out. If you can, great. If not, we understand. Even if you are not a veteran, we could still use your help. To be placed on the "volunteer email list", just send an email to Chapter Contact Jim Rine — 281-414-1386 (cell/text) — jimrine22@gmail.com and he will get back in touch with you. Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request!!!