



**Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 – The Michael Gramlich – Steve Saelzler -  
Metro Detroit Chapter** Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe Counties  
[www.vfp74.org](http://www.vfp74.org) – Chapter Contact: Jim Rine — 281-414-1386 (cell/text) – [jimrine22@gmail.com](mailto:jimrine22@gmail.com).  
Also, visit us on Facebook, and “like” us at [www.facebook.com/VFP74](https://www.facebook.com/VFP74)

## January 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 Meeting – Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm, Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 meeting will be by Zoom teleconference only. There will be no face-to-face meeting. To participate, five minutes before 7:30pm on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, click on - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85358466909?pwd=bzKxZVNnbFNpVHZ3bk10ZFZyREVZQT09>

To join the meeting by telephone only, call 312-626-6799 and when prompted, enter a Meeting ID of 853 5846 6909 and a passcode of 563885. 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 January 11<sup>th</sup> 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. Detroit MLK Day Rally (January 16)
  - b. VFP Golden Rule sailboat visit to Detroit (August)
  - c. Earth Day
  - d. VFP climate change actions
  - e. Michigan Camp Grayling expansion
  - f. Other
4. New Business
  - a. VFP Midwest Regional Gathering
  - b. Other
5. Upcoming events
6. Next meeting date
7. Adjournment

### 2. Chapter 74 Meeting Notes – December 14, 2022

1. Introductions and welcome – Jim Rine: Chapter Vice-Chair – Meeting started at 7:35pm via Zoom teleconference.
  - a. VFP mission statement
  - b. Members and guests present – Bob Krzewinski, Bruce Baran
2. General business
  - a. Treasury report – No update
  - b. Membership report – 17 members in Chapter, five with lapsed membership renewal. Bruce will work on contacting lapsed members with Bob supplying data.
  - c. Chapter reorganization & outreach – Jim will work on having a VFP information table at Wayne State University.
3. Old Business – Climate actions - Discussed.
4. New Business
  - a. Detroit Martin Luther King Day rally and march (1/16/23) – Jim will look into opportunities to table and/or offer comments at the MLK Day event.
  - b. VFP Golden Rule visit to Detroit – Jim will look into offering support and media alerts for when the VFP Golden Rule sailboat reaches Detroit (tentatively mid-August 2023).
  - c. Earth Day events – Jim will research possible Earth Day events that the Chapter can participate at.

- d. [Camp Grayling expansion](#) – Bob will research this proposal to almost double the size of the Grayling, Michigan base.
5. Upcoming events – VFP Elections (ballots close 12/12/2022) – VFP Golden Rule sailboat passing through Detroit next August (<http://www.vfpgoldenruleproject.org>).
6. Next meeting date – Zoom meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.
7. Adjournment at 8:10pm

### 3. VFP Voting Results

Congratulations to the members who will be joining the VFP Board of Directors in January 2023: Louis Raprager (Returning), Stephanie (Steph) R. Atkinson, Michael L. Wong and Brian Trautman. Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward for consideration. And thank you to our outgoing board members for their service to the organization: Adrienne Kinne, Joshua Shurley, and Ben Schrader. All proposed Resolutions & Bylaws were approved. You can find the vote counts on our 2022 Ballot Results page - <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/2022ballot>

### 4. VFP Volunteers Needed At The Detroit Martin Luther King Day Rally & March On January 16th



Volunteers are very much needed at the annual Detroit Martin Luther King Day Rally & March on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. The Rally and March will be held at St Matthew's & St Joseph's Episcopal Church, 8850 Woodward Avenue (between King & Holbrook – map at <https://goo.gl/maps/PBuZHZREcogo2Hib8>) in Detroit from noon to 4:30pm. VFP volunteers would be helping staff a VFP information table or carry a VFP flag in the march. To help out please contact Jim Rine at [jimrine22@gmail.com](mailto:jimrine22@gmail.com) or 281-414-1386. For general information

about the Rally and March visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/20th-annual-detroit-mlk-day-rally-march-tickets-476944753597> and <https://mlkdetroit.org>

### 5. VFP Local Congressional Member Lobby Visits

VFP members are needed for participation in lobby visits to local offices of Senator Gary Peters and/or US Rep. Elect Shri Thanedar (D-MI13) during early 2023. Purpose of meeting is to discuss (and to gift) the book The Pentagon, Climate Change, and War (<https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262047487/the-pentagon-climate-change-and-war/>). For more information contact Jim Rine at [jimrine22@gmail.com](mailto:jimrine22@gmail.com) or 281-414-1386.

### 6. VFP Golden Rule Sailboat Visit To Detroit



This summer, VFP's nautical ambassador, the Golden Rule, is planning to visit the Great Lakes (<https://www.veteransforpeace.org/our-work/vfp-national-projects/golden-rule-boat-project>). The Golden Rule sailed in 1958 to stop nuclear testing in the atmosphere, a move that inspired many peace makers and peace ships that followed. In more recent times the Golden Rule was found, recovered and restored. After sailing along the Pacific coast of California, and a round trip to Hawaii, the Golden Rule was loaded on a semi-trailer and moved to Minneapolis in the fall of 2022. The ship was launched in the Mississippi for a trip down the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico where it would follow the east coast of the US and Canada to the St. Lawrence Seaway back to Minnesota with stops along the way which include Detroit. At press time, the Golden Rule as also starting a side trip to Cuba.

The Metro Detroit VFP Chapter 74 is teaming with Chapter 93 (south central Michigan) to sponsor activities surrounding the visit to Detroit, tentatively set for mid to late August. Anyone interested in planning this event contact Bruce Baran at [bpbaran@gmail.com](mailto:bpbaran@gmail.com).

### 7. VFP Chapter Membership Committee Members Needed

Volunteers are very much needed to boost the number of members in the VFP Detroit Metro Chapter. All work can be done at home and involve...

- Contacting people whose VFP membership was not renewed and urging them to rejoin through the national VFP web page.
- Welcoming new members.
- Researching how to attract new members.

If you can help with any of these tasks, please contact Bob Krzewinski at [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com) or 734-218-3307.

## **8. Announcement, Anniversaries & Reminders**

### January 16 - Detroit Martin Luther King Rally & March

The annual Detroit Martin Luther King Day Rally & March will be held at a new location in 2019, St. Matthew's & St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, [8850 Woodward, Detroit 48202](https://www.google.com/maps/place/8850+Woodward+St,+Detroit,+MI+48202) (between King and Holbrook). The date and time are Monday, January 16 starting at 12 noon. This event is traditionally attended by VFP members. If planning on attending, please wear VFP items if you have them. For more information on the event visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/692556108819055/>.

### 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. Also, another vigil has started on Saturdays at 11am (same location as Friday event). 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](https://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](http://www.graypanthersmetrodetroit.org/events-calendar)

### E-New 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](mailto:jimrine22@gmail.com) and he will get back in touch with you. Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request!!!