



Veterans For Peace - Chapter 93

June 2022 Newsletter

... *The Utah Phillips – J. David Singer Chapter*

Serving Washtenaw, Livingston, Hillsdale, Lenawee, and Jackson Counties.

Local Contact: Bob Krzewinski – 734-487-9058 – wolverbob@gmail.com

www.vfp93.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/VFP93

1. Next Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting – Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 7:30pm

The next VFP Chapter 93 meeting will be held online only, Wednesday, June 15 at 7:30pm. If you would like to participate in the meeting online and your computer has a microphone and video, go to the Zoom meeting link of <https://zoom.us/j/95022299743> No computer access? Dial 312-626-6799 and enter the Meeting ID of 950 2229 9743 if prompted,. Anyone can participate in this meeting, or any other VFP Chapter 93 event, be they veteran or not. The meeting agenda is as follows...

1. Introductions and welcome
2. General Business
 - a. Previous meeting minutes
 - b. Treasury report
 - c. Membership
 - d. VFP 93 [Calendar](#) - Women Veterans Day–June 12th <https://www.military.com/benefits/june-12-women-veteransday.html>, Flag Day- June 14
 - e. Chapter elections for 2022 – Chapter Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.
 - f. VFP Outreach & Meeting time/location
 - g. Other
3. Old & continuing business
 - a. Honorary Chapter member program
 - b. Truth In Recruiting/Opt-out
 - c. Washtenaw County Council of Veterans meetings
 - d. Michigan Peace Alliance
 - e. Restorative Justice program for Washtenaw County veterans
 - f. Mayors For Peace Michigan - <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/>
 - g. Other
4. New Business
 - a. Other
5. Projects
 - a. Peace Studies Scholarship
 - b. MLK Day - January
 - c. Earth Day - April
 - d. Peace Pole
 - e. Arlington Michigan – May & November
 - f. Ann Arbor Art Fair - July
 - g. John Lennon Concert
 - h. John Lennon Concert CD
 - i. Other
6. Upcoming events/announcements
7. Next meeting
8. Adjournment

2. Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2022

1. Introductions and welcome - The meeting began at 7:34pm via Zoom teleconference. Present were Steve Morehouse, Mike Muha, Bill Shea, and Bob Krzewinski.

2. General Business

- a. Previous meeting minutes – April 20th meeting minutes accepted.

- b. Treasury report - \$7052.40 in treasury at the Bank of Ann Arbor and \$50 in a PayPal account.
 - c. Membership – 29 in good standing, 3 lapsed, Bob will send a letter to those lapsed.
 - d. VFP 93 Calendar - College Fairs – Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti not being held this year, Utah Phillips (Chapter namesake) birthday (5/15), Mother’s Day – 2nd Sunday in May, Memorial Day- Arlington Michigan, Women Veterans Day–June 12th <https://www.military.com/benefits/june-12-women-veteransday.html>, Flag Day- June 14, [Green Fair Ann Arbor](#)-June 10-6pm to 9pm
 - e. Chapter elections for 2022 – Chapter Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. Deferred to June.
 - f. VFP Outreach – The Chapter will try a social get-together at [The Session Room](#) on Jackson Road west of Ann Arbor. Steve will check on reservations. Tentative date will be June 15th at 7pm.
3. Old & continuing business
- a. Honorary Chapter member program – No new updates
 - b. Truth In Recruiting/Opt-out – No new news
 - c. Washtenaw County Council of Veterans meetings – Discussed
 - d. Michigan Peace Alliance – Bill attends their online meetings and the group has a web page at <https://mipeacealliance.org> and a Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Michigan-Peace- Alliance-Page-100512129175722](http://www.facebook.com/Michigan-Peace-Alliance-Page-100512129175722).
 - e. Restorative Justice program for County veterans – No new updates.
 - f. Mayors For Peace Michigan – Bob will check if group is active again.
 - g. Rotary Club Peace Conference (September 23/24) – Bill still in contact for setting up a VFP information table at the event..
4. New Business
- a. Mike will participate in an introduction to Veterans For Peace to the Ann Arbor Unitarian Universalist service with details at <https://uuua.org/events>.
5. Projects
- a. Peace Studies Scholarship – No new updates.
 - b. MLK Day – Discussed was for 2023, giving the MLK and militarism talks at the University of Michigan but also perhaps at the new Ypsilanti District Library in Superior Township and either Dexter or Chelsea.
 - c. Earth Day – VFP table at the Earth Day event at the Leslie Science Center on Sunday, April 24th from 1pm to 5pm was well attended.
 - d. Peace Pole - Mike will bring the metal Peace Pole stand to the Arlington Michigan display in Detroit.
 - e. Arlington Michigan – The Detroit Grand Circus Park Arlington Michigan will take place on Memorial Day with setup at 10am and takedown at 5pm. Bob will send out press releases. The Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery will be open during the display with refreshments and restrooms. .
 - f. Ann Arbor Art Fair – Bill confirmed the Chapter can have an information table at this event, scheduled for July 21, 22 and 23 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)
 - g. John Lennon Concert – Bill communicating with Chris Buhalis for concert details or moving the date to November.
 - h. John Lennon Concert CD – Still plenty of CD’s for sale.
6. Upcoming events/announcements – None
7. Next meeting – Wednesday, June 15 tentatively set for The Sessions restaurant in Ann Arbor at 7:30pm.
8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm

3. Chapter Officer Elections

VFP Chapter 93 Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) for the 2022 calendar year will be elected at the February 2022 Chapter meeting with volunteers for those needed. If interested, please attend the June 15th meeting, or contact Bob Krzewinski wolverbob@gmail.com or 734-487-9058.

4. Veterans For Peace At The 2022 Ann Arbor Art Fair

Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 will be having an information table at the Ann Arbor Art Fair on the following dates and times...

Thursday, July 21 • 10AM – 9PM

Friday, July 22 • 10AM – 9PM

Saturday, July 23 • 10AM – 7PM

The display will be on Liberty Street between Division and 5th. Volunteers are needed to staff the information table, even if you can help for an hour or two, and it would be VERY much appreciated! If you can help out, please contact Bob Krzewinski at wolverbob@gmail.com or 734-218-3307.

5. Reminder - Poor Peoples Campaign June 18 March In DC – Busses Leaving From Detroit/Ann Arbor



The June 18th Mass Poor People's and Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington and to the Polls is meant to be a generationally transformative and disruptive gathering of poor and low-wealth people, state leaders, faith communities, moral allies, unions and partnering organizations. It is NOT just a day of action. It is a declaration of an ongoing, committed moral movement to 1) Shift the moral narrative; 2) Build power; and 3) Make real policies to fully

address poverty and low wealth from the bottom up.

People will be gathering from across the nation to demand this nation do more to live up to its possibilities...

- More to fully address the interlocking injustices of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation and the denial of health care, militarism and the war economy and the false moral narrative of religious nationalism.
- More to change the narrative and build the power of those most impacted by these injustices.
- More to realize a Third Reconstruction agenda that can build this country from the bottom up and realize the nation we have yet to be.

CODEPINK is a core partner for the Poor People's Campaign which is working to confront the interlocking evils of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, militarism and the war economy, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. More on CODEPINK and the March can be found at <https://www.codepink.org/06182022>. Busses from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Detroit are planned to transport marchers to and from DC. VFP Chapter 74 (Metro Detroit Chapter) Vice Chair Jim Rine plans to participate in the march and teach-in later - https://www.codepink.org/ppc_antimilitarism_20220618. For more information contact Jim Rine at jimrine22@gmail.com.

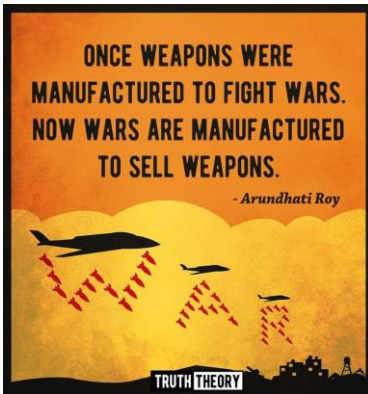
6. VFP Golden Rule Project Coming To The Great Lakes (And Detroit) In 2023



The Golden Rule is a project of Veterans For Peace. We aim to advance Veterans For Peace opposition to nuclear weapons and war, and to do so in a dramatic fashion. We have recovered and restored the original peace ship, the *Golden Rule*, that set sail in 1958 to stop nuclear weapons tests in the Marshall Islands, and which inspired the many peace makers and peace ships that followed. The reborn *Golden Rule* is sailing once more, to show that nuclear abolition is possible, and that bravery and tenacity can overcome militarism.

To follow the VFP Golden Rule Project on Facebook, visit <https://www.facebook.com/GoldenRulePeaceBoat>. If you're interested in crewing in California or around the Great Loop in 2022-23 or wish to volunteer, please fill out a crew application at vfgoldenrule.org/crew-application The [Golden Rule News Fall 2021 edition](#) is now also available.

7. Biden Administration Redeploy U.S. Troops To Somalia To Fight Al-Shabab Re-Escalating A War That The United States Has Never Officially Declared (From Win Without War)



And just like that, the era of endless war is wrenched wide open again. Just nine months after withdrawing U.S. troops from Afghanistan, U.S. operations in Somalia and across the globe continue, because presidents and the Pentagon twist current law to find the authority to keep sending troops and dropping bombs.

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 11 of the Constitution makes it crystal-clear that Congress has the SOLE authority to declare war. But for decades, Congress has ceded their war-making authority to the presidency.

Right now, that failure to lead means expanding U.S. war-footing on almost every continent, as president after president has been able to abuse two congressional authorizations (AUMFs) passed after 9/11 to justify dozens of military misadventures: Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria, and thousands of U.S. troops patrolling Africa across Chad, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan. And those are just the operations we know about.

President Biden's decision to redeploy U.S. troops to Somalia is a clear and distressing signal that he's following the failed strategy of presidents before him, but it's also a complete one-eighty — as a candidate Biden promised to “end the forever wars.” So why's it happening? Well, one explanation is that it's meant to send a signal to Russia and shore up influence in the Horn of Africa, potentially laying the groundwork for yet another proxy war in the region. Here's where we remind you that just like Somalia, Eritrea, and Ethiopia, we're not at war with Russia either.

That's why we say: ENOUGH. A war-first strategy has failed people across the globe for decades, and we refuse to put hundreds more troops in harm's way or turn any more communities into our battlefields. No one, anywhere, will be made safer by more violence. For more on this issue visit

<https://www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2022/05/16/biden-escalates-the-forever-war-in-somalia-00032767>

8. Web Page Reads

The Myths Of War & Why We Should End All War Now - World Beyond War - <https://worldbeyondwar.org> – has a two part series worth looking at... [The myths that generate war support are debunked here](#) and [The arguments for ending all war are listed here](#)

Texas Soldiers Are Unionizing After Facing Attacks by a Right-Wing Governor - In Texas, National Guard members faced painful cuts and absurd assignments by Republican governor Greg Abbott. So they did what many exploited workers before them have done: they organized a union. For more on this story, visit <https://jacobin.com/2022/05/texas-soldiers-unionizing-right-wing-governor-greg-abbott-tseu-national-guard-organizing>

REAL Democracy History Calendar - The REAL Democracy History Calendar provides 1-4 listings per day sent by email every Monday morning of activities, events, quotes from prominent individuals and/or other occurrences (both past and recent) on the themes of democracy, human rights, corporate power and rule, and wealth in society (especially in elections). To subscribe (one e-mail a week) visit <https://list-manage.us12.list-manage.com/subscribe>

9. Announcement, Anniversaries & Reminders

VFP National Online Social Hours – NEW TIME! Every Tuesday At 7pm EDT

VFP has experimented with VFP Social Hours and members enjoyed the chance to chat and catch up (or meet) with other Veterans For Peace members. VFP will continue these every Friday at 6pm. (EST). To join the Social Hour, go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/324812650> or go to Zoom <https://zoom.us/Signin> and click join meeting and enter in Meeting ID: 324 812 650

August 25th-28th - VFP Annual Convention

Veterans For Peace will again hold its annual convention online with a theme this year of “War Making to Peace Seeking”. The Convention Committee envisions three tracks within the theme: Individual transformation from war-making to peace-seeking, the experience of many members of VFP; Community transformation: the “Peace at Home” part of our “Peace at Home, Peace Abroad” lens; and Global transformation: redirecting material, emotional, and spiritual resources from attempts to achieve global domination to cooperation to achieve global healing. More details about the 2022 Convention will be announced shortly.

Veterans For Peace National Weekly E-News List

Get updates on upcoming VFP national actions, ongoing campaigns, and news from chapters across the country. Additionally, the e-news provides resources and helpful tips for engaging your own actions. To sign up visit <https://veteransforpeace.salsalabs.org/eblast0/index.html>.

Support Those Who Supported Us For Our John Lennon Concert!

We again thank our musical artists who are contributing their talent to make our 2019 John Lennon benefit concert a success and urge you to support them throughout the year by attending their performances and purchasing their recordings. Visit <https://www.vfp93.org/john-lennon-concert> for a listing of concert musicians.

VFP John Lennon Birthday Benefit Concert CD



Our VFP Chapter has a compact disc (CD) recording of the musical artists performing at our October John Lennon Birthday Benefit Concerts over the years for our Chapter’s Peace Scholarship program. And like the Concert, a purchase of the CD also goes to benefit the Peace Scholarship program. The John Lennon Birthday Benefit Concert CD can be purchased for \$15, plus \$3 for shipping, by PayPal by visiting www.vfp93.org/john-lennon-concert-cd.

Selections on the John Lennon CD include Revolution (Chris Buhalis, Peter “Madcat” Ruth), Maggie Mae (Dave Boutette, Peter “Madcat” Ruth, Dave Keeney), You’ve Got to Hide Your Love Away (Annie & Rod Capps, Jason Dennie), Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds (Billy King with Emily Slomovits and band), In My Life (Emily Slomovits with Billy King), Dear Prudence (Jo Serrapere), Across The Universe (Jen Sygit), Rest Easy Little Darlin (John Latini), Crippled Inside (Dave Keeney, Sophia Hanfi), Working Class Hero (Rochelle Clark), Come Together (Shari Kane and Dave Steele) and Imagine (Billy King).

Metro Detroit VFP Chapter

The Metro Detroit Chapter of Veterans For Peace covers Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and Monroe Counties and also has regular meetings. For more information visit <https://www.vfp74.org>.

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 don’t 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 or the VFP booth at Earth Day or the Ann Arbor Art Fair. 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 Bob Krzewinski at wolverbob@gmail.com and he will get back in touch with you. Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request!!!

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

Visit our "Thinking About Joining The Military? - Please Read This First" web page at www.vfp93.org/military-recruiting. 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.