



## Veterans For Peace - Chapter 93

May 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](http://www.vfp93.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/VFP93](https://www.facebook.com/VFP93)

### 1. Next Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting – Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 7:30pm

The next VFP Chapter 93 meeting will be held online only, Tuesday, May 17th 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](#) - May - College Fairs – Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti (?), 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.
  - 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 – April 20, 2022

1. Introductions and welcome - The meeting began at 7:05pm via Zoom teleconference. Present were Steve Morehouse, Mike Muha, Bill Shea, Tim Richards and Bob Krzewinski.

## 2. General Business

- a. Previous meeting minutes – March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes accepted.
- b. Treasury report - \$7052.40 in treasury at the Bank of Ann Arbor and \$50 in a PayPal account.
- c. Membership – 27 in good standing, 8 lapsed, Bob will send a letter to those lapsed.
- d. VFP 93 Calendar - My Lai – March 16, 1968, and Iraq war start – March 20, 2003 discussed.
- e. Chapter elections for 2022 – Chapter Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. Deferred to May.
- f. VFP Outreach – Chapter VFP social get-togethers at area restaurants was discussed with Steve recommending [The Session Room](#) on Jackson Road west of Ann Arbor. Date and time of social to be discussed at the May meeting. Also discussed was how meeting times and locations should be given to the public. Further discussion on this will take place at the May meeting.

## 3. Old & continuing business

- a. Honorary Chapter member program – No new updates
- b. Truth In Recruiting/Opt-out – Bill will look into whether a “College Night” will be held at an Ann Arbor area high school.
- 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 – Tim gave an update and will continue to research this issue.
- f. 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. Mayors For Peace (<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/index.html>) – Bob had been working with a small group of statewide volunteers to expand the number of Michigan cities where the Mayor supports the total abolition of nuclear weapons and joined the Mayors For Peace program. This earlier organizing effort died, but a new attempt is being made to reinvigorate the Michigan Mayors For Peace group and Bob will attempt contact again.
- b. Environmental Defense Fund Op-Ed endorsement. Bob received a request to be a veteran co-signer of a newspaper op-ed statement titled “Improve Our National Security; Step Away From Fossil Fuels”. Bob will forward a final draft of the op-ed to those attending the meeting and if no objections, Bob will be a “signee” of the document that will go out to the media.

## 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 application (no fee) for the Earth Day event at the Leslie Science Center on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 5pm was approved. Bob and Mike will staff the table.
- d. Peace Pole - Mike ordered a metal Peace Pole stand that he will be bringing to area events (Earth Day, Art Fair, etc.)
- e. Arlington Michigan – May & November – Park permit for the display to be placed in Grand Circus Park on Memorial Day was approved (no cost item).
- 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, May 18, 7:30pm on Zoom (Since changed after meeting to 5/17, 7:30pm)

8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm

### 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 April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, or contact Bob Krzewinski [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com) or 734-487-9058.

### 4. VFP Arlington Michigan Display In Downtown Detroit On Memorial Day – May 30th



Veterans For Peace Chapters 74 and 93 have again joined forces to set up the Veterans For Peace Arlington Michigan display (one grave marker for every Michigan soldier killed in the Afghan and Iraq wars – 230 total) in downtown Detroit on Memorial Day. The purpose of this display is to honor those who have fallen, to provide a place to grieve, and to educate the public about the costs of war, as well as the needs of those returning from conflicts. The display will be held on Monday, May 30th, 11am to 5pm, in downtown Detroit's Grand Circus Park (Woodward at East Adams – map link at <https://goo.gl/maps/MjhWcB4ospmmwwFu6>).

### 5. The Radical Origin Of Mother's Day

By Laura Kacere - [CodePink](https://www.codepink.org)

There's a good number of us who question holidays like Mother's Day in which you spend more time feeding money into a system that exploits our love for our mothers than actually celebrating them. It's not unlike any other holiday in America in that its complete commercialization has stripped away so much of its genuine meaning, as well its history. Mother's Day is unique in its completely radical and totally feminist history, as much as it has been forgotten.



Mother's Day began in America in 1870 when Julia Ward Howe wrote the Mother's Day Proclamation. Written in response to the American Civil War and the Franco-Prussian War, her proclamation called on women to use their position as mothers to influence society in fighting for an end to all wars. She called for women to stand up against the unjust violence of war through their roles as wife and mother, to protest the futility of their sons killing other mothers' sons.

Howe wrote: *"Arise, then, women of this day! Arise, all women who have hearts, Whether our baptism be of water or of tears! Say firmly: "We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies, Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause. Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn All that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience. We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country To allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."*

The holiday caught on years later when a West Virginia women's group led by Anna Reeves Jarvis began promoting it as a way to reunite families after the Civil War. After Jarvis' death, her daughter began a campaign for the creation of an official Mother's Day in honor of peace. Devoting much of her life to the cause, it wasn't until 1914 when Woodrow Wilson signed it into national observance in 1914.

The holiday flourished, along with the flower industry. The business journal, the Florists Review, actually admitted to its desire to exploit the holiday. Jarvis was strongly opposed to every aspect of the holiday's commercialization, arrested for protesting the sale of flowers, and petitioning to stop the creation of a Mother's Day postage stamp.

Today we are in multiple wars that continue to claim the lives of thousands of sons and daughters. We are also experiencing a still-rising commercialization of nearly every aspect of life; the exploitation of every possible human event and emotion at the benefit of corporations.

Let's take this Mother's Day to excuse ourselves from the pressure to consume and remember its radical roots – that mothers, or rather all women, in fact, all people, have a stake in war and a responsibility as American citizens to protest the incredible violence that so many fellow citizens, here and abroad, must suffer through.

## 6. Veterans For Peace Webinar - Averting Climate Catastrophe: No New Arms Race!

If you missed the Earth Day webinar, which was hosted by the Veterans For Peace - Climate Crisis & Militarism Project (VFP-CCMP), it can be accessed anytime at [https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/climatecrisis#ws\\_youtube\\_27669](https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/climatecrisis#ws_youtube_27669). The webinar begins with an introduction by Jim Rine, who is a veteran, retired research geologist, and VFP 074 member. The moderator is Marcy Winograd of [CODEPINK](#). Panelists are:

- **Dr. David Vine**, Professor, Department of Anthropology, American University. Dr. Vine is a widely sought-after speaker, authoritative source on militarism and Empire, and the author of [The United States of War and Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World](#).
- **Col. Ann Wright**, retired U. S. Army Colonel, and former high ranking U.S. State Department official, who resigned her position in protest of the U.S. illegal invasion of Iraq and has continued to be a powerful voice for peace and the environment. She is the co-author of [Dissent: Voices of Conscience](#).
- **Erik Edstrom**, A West Point graduate and infantry platoon leader in Afghanistan and Presidential Escort Platoon Leader during the Obama administration. He studied climate change at Oxford University earning a Master of Science degree. Author of [UN-AMERICAN: A Soldier's Reckoning of Our Longest War](#).

For VFP - CCMP's statement on the Ukraine Crisis and the recent IPCC report see - <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/pressroom/news/2022/03/08/ukraine-crisis-and-recent-ipcc-report>.

## 7. Poor Peoples Campaign & CODEPINK June 18 March In DC



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 Vice Chair Jim Rine plans to participate in the march and teach-in later - [https://www.codepink.org/ppc\\_antimilitarism\\_20220618](https://www.codepink.org/ppc_antimilitarism_20220618). For more information contact Jim Rine at [jim-rine22@gmail.com](mailto:jim-rine22@gmail.com).

## 8. Veterans For Peace And A Presence At Military-Themed Air Shows



Airshows are a good opportunity to protest military waste and glorify war. The San Diego VFP Chapter has for years had a presence at the annual Miramar Naval Air Station air show at times [with banners over a busy highway](#) or a [mobile billboard](#). They even produced a great video "[A Disneyland of War](#)" about airshows from the standpoint of a combat veteran.

There will be a Blue Angels show on July 16th and 17<sup>th</sup> in Western Wayne County's Willow Run Airport - <https://yankeeairmuseum.org/airshow/>. For more information on making a Veterans For Peace presence at military-based airshows, contact VFP Chapter 74 (Metro Detroit area) Vice Chair Jim Rine at [jimrine22@gmail.com](mailto:jimrine22@gmail.com).

## 9. Vietnam Veterans Against The War Newsletter



Yes, the Vietnam Veterans Against The War (VVAW) is still around, active, and they publish an absolutely great quarterly newsletter with from-the-heart writing from veterans. To view the Spring VVAW newsletter online, visit <http://www.vvaw.org/veteran/issue/?id=158&action=Go>. Better yet, visit the VVAW website at <http://www.vvaw.org>, become a member and support their history, present work, and future. You don't have to been to Vietnam vet to join, or even be a veteran, as long as open to all people who want to build a veterans' movement that fights for peace and justice.

## 10. 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-28<sup>th</sup> - 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.

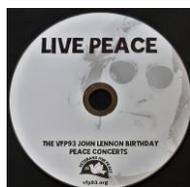
Veterans For Peace National Weekly E-News List

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](http://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 Go 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](mailto: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](http://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.