



Veterans For Peace - Chapter 93

September 2023 Newsletter

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

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

Local Contact: Bill Shea – 734-662-0818 (cell/text) – billshea@umich.edu

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

1. Next Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting – Thursday, September 21st, 7:00pm (Note Earlier Time)

The next VFP Chapter 93 meeting will be held online only, Thursday, September 21st at 7pm. 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 or computer problems? 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](#) - 9/21/2023, International Day of Peace, <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>
 - e) Other
- 3) Old & continuing business
 - a) Honorary Chapter member program
 - b) Full Disclosure Recruiting
 - c) Michigan Peace Alliance
 - d) Washtenaw County Council of Veterans
 - e) Other
- 4) New Business
 - a) Other
- 5) Projects
 - a) Peace Studies Scholarship
 - b) MLK Day - January
 - c) Peace Pole
 - d) Arlington Michigan – May & November
 - e) Ann Arbor Art Fair – July 20, 21, 22
 - f) Concert For Peace – October 12, 2023
 - g) Other
- 6) Upcoming events/announcements
- 7) Next meeting
- 8) Adjournment

2. Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting Minutes – Thursday, August 17th, 2023

Note: Capitalized names indicate that person will doing follow up tasks

- 1) Introductions and welcome - welcome - Meeting began at 7pm online over Zoom. Present were Mike Muha, Bill Shea, Bob Krzewinski, Steve Morehouse and Ken Parks.
- 2) General Business
 - a) Previous meeting minutes - Accepted.
 - b) Treasury report – Mike reported \$6839.61 in the Bank of Ann Arbor with another \$50 in the Chapter PayPal account. Donations also are also continuing to arrive in a separate Go Fund Me account that Chapter 93 is administering to raise funds for the Goldan Rule visit to southeast Michigan.
 - c) Membership – 14 on the latest membership roster. The group will discuss how to grow membership at the September meeting.

- d) VFP 93 [Calendar](#) - Opt-Out of contact by military recruiters (high school students), International Day Of Peace on September 21st <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace/2023/action-guide>
- 3) Old & continuing business
 - a) Honorary Chapter member program – No new news.
 - b) Full Disclosure Recruiting – BILL and STEVE meeting to review documents and handouts.
 - c) Michigan Peace Alliance – Bill attending online meetings.
 - d) Washtenaw County Council of Veterans – STEVE will attend the next meeting in Saline.
 - e) VFP Golden Rule visit – August 14th visit to Ann Arbor by crewmembers of the Golden Rule at the downtown Ann Arbor District Library went well. Presentation was recorded by Library staff and will be available for posting soon.
- 4) New Business
 - a) Ann Arbor Green Fair – Event will be held on September 22nd, but Chapter 93 cannot attend this year.
- 5) Projects
 - a) Peace Studies Scholarship – Bill reported that Lucas Hartwell, a student at Wayne State University (WSU), turned in a VFP Chapter 93 Peace Scholarship application and Professor Fred Pearson highly recommended Lucas. It was agreed that a Scholarship grant for \$1500 will be awarded with BILL and MIKE coordinating payment. Fred Pearson also talked to Bob at the Detroit Golden Rule presentation and indicated he would be willing to talk about the WSU Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at the VFP 93 Concert For Peace in Ann Arbor and also would like VFP talk to classes in October and November.
 - b) MLK Day – January – BILL will be checking on VFP presentations at the Ann Arbor Public Library and the University of Michigan and BOB will check on a presentation at the Ypsilanti District Library.
 - c) Peace Pole – MIKE, in coordination with Fred Pearson at Wayne State University, held a short presentation at the Golden Rule program at Detroit's Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery on August 16th with the WSU Center for Peace and Conflict Studies accepting the gift of a Peace Pole from VFP. Once installed at WSU, a short dedication ceremony will take place with date, location and time to be determined.
 - d) Arlington Michigan – May & November – All prepared for November display at Ann Arbor's Veterans Park.
 - e) Ann Arbor Art Fair – July 20, 21, 22 – Display went well with only one episode of rain and thunderstorms.
 - f) Concert For Peace – October 12, 2023 – Bill talking with The Ark and Chris Buhalis with a firm date of October 12th.
- 6) Upcoming events/announcements – None
- 7) Next meeting – Thursday, September 21st at 7pm
- 8) Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

3. 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 second 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 "go-fund-me" 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 VFP Metro Detroit Chapter 74 Vice-Chair Jim Rine (who really made this visit happen locally) and VFP 93 Chair Bill Shea who worked to arrange the Ann Arbor visit.

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. Anniversary Of The "Other" 9-11

President James Monroe's 1823 annual message to Congress contained the Monroe Doctrine, which warned European powers not to interfere in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere. Why? So, the United States could control the nations of Central and South America (<https://tinyurl.com/VFP-US-Central-South-America>). With a Statement of Purpose that states "we will work, with others both nationally and internationally to restrain our governments from intervening, overtly and covertly, in the internal affairs of other nations, for years, Veterans For Peace has been actively working to end such practices.

A good example of the US interfering in a takeover of a foreign country is Chile. In 1973, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency helped overthrow the democratic government of Salvador Allende Gossens in Chile in favor of a bloody dictatorship led by Augusto Pinochet Ugarte. Pinochet imprisoned well over a hundred thousand Chileans (torture and rape are the usual methods of interrogation), terminated civil liberties, abolished unions, extended the work week to 48 hours, and reversed Allende's land reforms.

The Interfaith Council For Peace & Justice (www.icpj.org) is sponsoring local programs on the 50th anniversary of the military coup in Chile, September 11th, 1973, and offers a time to more deeply understand the history and impacts of this attack on democracy and the ways that the people have fought for justice. These programs include...

- Exhibit: "Secrets of State: The Declassified History of the Chilean Dictatorship" - August 28 - September 27, 2023 at the University of Michigan's II Gallery, 555 Weiser Hall, [500 Church St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109](https://www.umich.edu/locations/campus-map/500-church-st-ann-arbor-mi-48109)

- Chile '66 (2022): Film Screening and Discussion - Presented by Victoria Langland, Associate Professor of History, U-M Tuesday, September 5, 2023 (5:00 PM), State Theater, [233 S State St. Ann Arbor](#) (Organized by the History Department)
- Brown Bag Lecture/Talk: "Secrets of State: The Declassified History of the Chilean Dictatorship" - Peter Kornbluh, Director of the Chile Declassification Project, National Security Archive, Wednesday, September 20, 2023 (12-1:30 PM) 1010 Weiser Hall, [500 Church St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109](#)

6. Steve Saelzler Memorial Donations

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.

7. 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

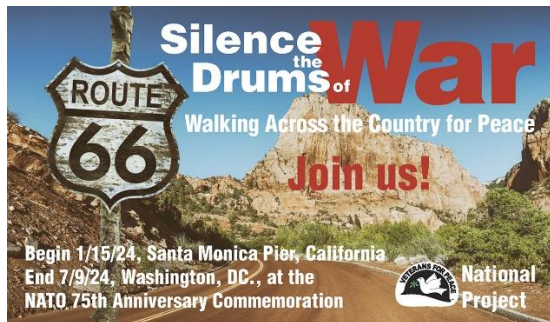
8. Announcement, Anniversaries & Reminders

Every Friday – Ann Arbor Anti-War Rally

The Ann Arbor Committee Against War (AACAW) has been gathering for small anti-war rallies every Friday at 5:30 pm, and we always welcome everyone to join them at the Federal Building. For more information about the AACAW visit <https://www.annarborcoalitionagainstar.org>

International Day of Peace – September 21, 2021

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace/2023/action-guide>

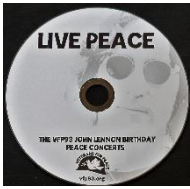


Begins January 15th in California – More details soon.

Veterans For Peace National Weekly 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 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.

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.