



Veterans For Peace - Chapter 93

January 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 – (Note New Day/Time) Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 7:30pm

The next VFP Chapter 93 meeting will be held online only, Wednesday, January 19th 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/93890166824>. No computer access? Dial 312-626-6799 and enter the Meeting ID of 938 9016 6824 when 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](#) - My Lai – March 16, 1968, • Iraq war start – March 20, 2003
 - e. Chapter elections for 2022 – Chapter Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.
 - f. VFP Outreach
 - 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. Other
4. New Business
 - a. Donation to [Washtenaw Jewish Family Services](#) for assisting local Afghan refugees
 - b. 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 - October
 - h. John Lennon Concert CD
 - i. Other
6. Upcoming events/announcements
7. Next meeting
8. Adjournment

2. Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, December 15th, 2021

1. Introductions and welcome - The meeting began at 7:34pm via Zoom teleconference. Present were Steve Morehouse, JT Ramelis, Larry Works, Lynn Gilbert, Mike Muha, Bill Shea, and Bob Krzewinski.
2. General Business
 - a. Previous meeting minutes - Accepted

- b. Treasury report – Mike Muha noted that we have \$7477.71 in the two bank accounts (Comerica and Bank Of Ann Arbor plus \$50 in a PayPal account. Bob renewed the WIX Chapter web page three years for \$193.17 (a sale price) and will be reimbursed.
 - c. Membership – 29 members, 7 lapsed.
 - d. VFP 93 [Calendar](#) – International Human Rights Day (celebrates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) was featured in the December Chapter newsletter and Facebook page • WW1 Christmas Day Truce - Bob will post items on the Chapter web and Facebook pages • J. David Singer (Chapter namesake) birthday (12/7) – Bill found additional information and BOB will post the link on Chapter Facebook and web pages.
 - e. Chapter officer elections for 2022 – After discussion, vote will take place at the January 2021 meeting.
 - f. VFP Outreach – BOB joined the local Team RWB Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TeamRWBAnnArbor> - and watch for outreach openings. BOB will check on how popular our web and Facebook pages and report back next month.
3. Old & continuing business
- a. Honorary Chapter member program – No updates.
 - b. Truth In Recruiting/Opt-out – No updates.
 - c. Washtenaw County Council of Veterans meetings – No November or December meeting. Bill will attend the January meeting.
4. New Business
- a. VFP Metro Detroit Chapter 74 Chair Steve Saelzler passed away on December 5th. Chapter was renamed the Michael Gramlich – Steve Saelzler Chapter. Memorial event is planned for later in January
 - b. Afghan refugees coming to Washtenaw County – Reported on in the online MLive news service and repeated by Facebook, 300 Afghan refugees will be temporarily housed at Eastern Michigan University and co-hosted by Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County. BOB will write a letter from the Chapter to the host groups praising them for their actions.
 - c. Michigan Peace Collaborative – BILL attended last meeting (November) and will attend the next meeting, which seeks to establish a statewide peace and justice coalition.
5. Projects
- a. Peace Studies Scholarship – Steve Saelzler made visits to Wayne State University with Chapter 93 members to talk about VFP and the Scholarship program and it appears the family of Steve will urge those wishing to make a donation for Steve do so by making a gift to WSU's Peace Studies Program.
 - b. MLK Day – January – BILL working on University of Michigan program, BOB working on Eastern Michigan University program. No Ann Arbor District Library program in 2022.
 - c. Earth Day – April – No updates.
 - d. Peace Pole – No updates.
 - e. Arlington Michigan – May & November – Veterans Day 2021 exhibit discussed. Next display will be at Detroit's Grand Circus Park on Memorial Day. New event banners still being researched.
 - f. Ann Arbor Art Fair – July – BILL will submit application for 2022 event
 - g. John Lennon Concert – October – BILL will talk with Chris Buhalis and The ARK about a date for 2022 of 6th. 2022 will be the 15th anniversary of the concerts.
 - h. John Lennon Concert CD – No updates.
 - i. Other – Informal VFP coffee hours were discussed.
6. Upcoming events – Next meeting - Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 19th at 7:30pm online.
7. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm

3. Chapter Officer Elections

VFP Chapter 93 Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) for the 2022 calendar year will be elected at the January 2022 Chapter meeting with volunteers for those needed. If interested, please attend the January 19th meeting or contact Bob Krzewinski wolverbob@gmail.com or 734-487-9058.

4. Metro Detroit VFP Chapter 74 Chair Steve Saelzler Death

Steve Saelzler, long time Chapter Chair of the Veterans For Peace Metro Detroit Chapter 74, passed away on December 5th. Steve was very active with VFP and over the years also helped out Chapter 93 activities. A full obituary for Steve that appeared in the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News can be viewed at <https://www.freep.com/obituaries/det109300>. Condolences for the passing of Steve Saelzler on can be sent to... Charmaine Guerriero & Family, 7121 S Huron River Drive, Rockwood, MI 48179 or The Saelzler Family, 28355 Relda Drive. Brownstown, MI 48183.

Memorial services for Steve will take place Sunday, January 16, 2022, at the Downriver Alano Club, 2060 Council Ave, Lincoln Park, MI 48146 (map: <https://goo.gl/maps/1xWkSbhT5n9vmUQ19>) from 1pm to 4pm. Another memorial service will take place Sunday, January 30, 2022, at the Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery, 33 E Adams Ave St, Detroit, MI 48226 (map: <https://goo.gl/maps/ywzev6hKggCgri159>) from 1pm to 4pm.

If you would like to make a donation in honor of Steve Saelzler, 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 (<https://www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship>). Donations can be sent to Wayne State University, PO Box 674602, Detroit, MI 48267-4602. Also, please make the check out to Wayne State Center for Peace and Conflict Studies and put in the memo "deposit into index 225476." Thank you!

5. VFP Chapter 93 Giving Presentations At Eastern Michigan University And The University of Michigan To Commemorate Martin Luther King Day

Our VFP Chapter will be giving a set of talks at Martin Luther King (MLK) Day celebrations with a theme of “*MLK, Militarism, and the Future*”. The presentations will be at the following locations and times...

- Eastern Michigan University – January 16th – Online Zoom talk only (no campus activity), 2pm to 2:50pm. Online pre-registration required that when completed will provide the Zoom access code. For more information visit <https://www.emich.edu/mlk/schedule/index.php>
- University of Michigan - Ann Arbor – January 17th at 2:00pm – Hussey Room, Michigan League, 911 N. University Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109 (map at <https://goo.gl/maps/QigUMSE1KoC2>). Further details at <https://oami.umich.edu/um-mlk-symposium/events/> (scroll down to 1/17/2022 events that start at 2pm and look for “MLK, Militarism, and the Future”).

6. Michigan Peace Alliance Formed

Over the past few months, peace and justice advocates (including Veterans For Peace Chapters in Michigan) have been working to form a new organization, the Michigan Peace Alliance, that “connects Michigan based organizations dedicated to peace, to share knowledge, resources, actions, and calendars to build a more peaceful, just and nonviolent society.” A web page for the Michigan Peace Alliance is in development but the group does have a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Michigan-Peace-Alliance-100512129175722.

7. TAKE ACTION - Honor Steve Saelzler & Other Vietnam Vets – Ask Representative Debbie Dingell To Cosponsor HR 3518 - Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2021

One suggestion, to honor the recently deceased VFP Metro Detroit Chapter 74 Chair Steve Saelzler, is if your U.S. Representative is Debbie Dingell, to ask her to cosponsor HR 3518, the Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act.

Sending an email message to Debbie can be easily done by going to this web site – <https://veteransforpeace.salsalabs.org/vaorrc-3518/index.html> - and adding your name and address. If your Member of Congress is Debbie Dingell, we suggest you delete the second paragraph (“*I’m urging you to co-sponsor HR 3518, the Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act, introduced by Representative Barbara Lee*”) and replace it with the following text...

In honor of your former constituent, Steven Saelzler, I am asking you to cosponsor H.R. 3518. Steve, who was for many years the Chair of Veterans For Peace Chapter 74, died in early December after a long fight with the after-effects of agent orange exposure while deployed to Viet Nam.

If you are in any other U.S. Congressional District, use the same link above and once you put your address in, the email program will automatically add the address of your U.S. Representative. Currently there are no Michigan U.S. Representatives who have cosponsored HR 3518. For more information about the Victims of Agent Orange Relief Act of 2021, visit <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3518>.

8. Web Reads

Why Are US Right-Wingers So Angry? Because They Know Social Change Is Coming

As this article from The Guardian points out... “While the right has become far more extreme and has its tens of millions of true believers, it is morphing into a minority sect. This has prompted their desperate scramble to overturn free and fair elections and other democratic processes. White Christians, who were 80% of the population in 1976, are now 44%. Mixed-race and non-white people are rapidly becoming the majority”. Read the whole article at <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/dec/20/rightwingers-us-social-change-coming>

Congress Approved \$778 Billion For The Pentagon. That Means We Can Afford Build Back Better

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2021/12/16/congress-approval-778-billion-pentagon-afford-build-back-better-525130>

9. Activist Buttons – Union Made In Southeast Michigan

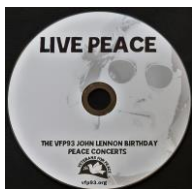
If you need peace and justice related buttons and stickers, consider visiting <http://www.peacebuttons.info>. The website also has signups for a peace and justice history e-newsletter.

10. Announcement, Anniversaries & Reminders

VFP National Online Social Hours – Every Friday At 6pm EST

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://zoom.us/j/324812650> or go to <https://zoom.us/join> and click join meeting and enter in Meeting ID: 324 812 650

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 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).

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.

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!!!

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>.

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.