**Veterans For Peace - Chapter 74 – Metro Detroit Area Chapter**

Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe Counties
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Also, visit us on Facebook, and “like” us at [www.facebook.com/VFP74](http://www.facebook.com/VFP74)

**May 2020 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 [www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/join-renew](http://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/join-renew)

**1. Next VFP Chapter 74 Meeting – Saturday, May 16th – 2pm**

Due to the Corona pandemic, and the closure of our regular (Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center) meeting location, the Saturday May 16th Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 meeting will be by teleconference only. There will be no face-to-face meeting. To participate, at 2pm, May 16th, dial 563-999-1129 and when prompted, enter the Access Code of 721444. The only cost to participants are long distance fees to the teleconference provider’s location (www.FreeConferenceCall.com in eastern Iowa).

Anyone can participate in this meeting, or any other VFP Chapter 74 event, be they veteran or not. The meeting agenda is below…

1. Introductions and welcome
	1. VFP mission statement
	2. Members and guests present – Member news
2. General business
	1. Treasury report
	2. Other
3. Old Business
4. Peace Pole WSU
5. Arlington Michigan display in Grand Circus Park
6. Other
7. New Business
	1. Therapeutic Writing Program – veteran co-facilitator needed
	2. Other
8. Upcoming events
9. Adjournment – Next Meeting Date

**2. Arlington Michigan Memorial Day Display Cancelled**

With the Governor of Michigan continuing the state-wide “stay-home, stay-safe” policy until May 28th, the planned Memorial Day (which this year is May 25th) Arlington Michigan display in downtown Detroit has been cancelled. The display, of one grave marker for every Michigan soldier killed in the Iraq and Afghan wars, is now tentatively planned to be set up in Detroit’s Grand Circus Park from 10am to 5pm on Independence Day, Saturday, July 4th.

**3. Virtual Arlington Michigan Display**

With the cancellation of the Memorial Day Arlington Michigan display of grave markers for every Michigan soldier killed in the Iraq and Afghan wars, we encourage everyone to make a visit to our “virtual” Arlington Michigan display online by clicking on the links below. This consists of a listing of all soldiers killed with their name, age, a photo (if available), rank and unit. May they rest in peace. [Iraq War (163 killed)](https://dce38e56-2493-4b39-b71f-8709e753bd00.filesusr.com/ugd/50be72_e96cdd767c4b48c6bcc545d19df068ca.pdf) [Afghan War (68 killed)](https://dce38e56-2493-4b39-b71f-8709e753bd00.filesusr.com/ugd/50be72_f9fffb60bcd046aa9db5f8d9681bef54.pdf)

(Newsletter continued below)

**3. Submit Letters to the Vietnam Wall For Memorial Day**

Please write a letter to The Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C.. Join those who were impacted by the war, from soldiers to mothers and fathers to children and grandchildren to peace activists, as we write to those who died a half a century ago.  Let them know that we have not forgotten them. Please send your letter (by May 21st) to Doug Rawlings, at rawlings@maine.edu. Doug will deliver your words on May 25th to The Wall in Washington, DC.  No matter how you lived out those days, your story needs to be told.  It is through your words that history will reveal itself to all generations.  Please join us and for more information on VFP Letters To The Wall visit <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/memorial-day>

**4. VFP John Lennon Birthday Benefit Concert Now On CD**

In April 2020, Veterans For Peace Chapter 93 (mid-lower Michigan) released a compact disc (CD) recording of the musical artists performing at the annual October John Lennon Birthday Benefit Concerts over the years for the Chapter’s Peace Scholarship program. And like the Concert, a purchase of the CD also goes to benefit the Peace Scholarship program, of which there have been a number of awards to students enrolled in Wayne State University’s [peace studies curriculum](http://www.clas.wayne.edu/CPCS/).

Selections on the 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 Slomvits 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).

​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).

A sincere thank you goes to CD Executive Director Diane Zahn, Fred Ellert, Curt Hamilton, Dave Roof, Annie Capps and Cathy Muha for their work on the CD as well as all the performers who donated their time and talent. And a huge thank you Chris Buhalis, who makes these concert fundraisers happen. It should also be noted that the licensing fees and royalties have been paid for the CD production.

**5. Worth Checking Out…**

* Podcast: Congress leaning towards drafting women for next war - Rivera Sun and Edward Hasbrouck on upcoming changes to military draft registration laws, and the history of resistance by men and women. [Listen to Rivera and Edward's update](https://couragetoresist.org/podcast-women-draft/)
* Podcast: "That's me, I AM the enemy" Howard Morland - Air force pilot Howard Morland's exposure to the atrocities in Vietnam and extreme military training led him to question what the war was really about. [Listen to Howard's story](https://couragetoresist.org/podcast-howard-morland/). This Courage to Resist podcast was produced in collaboration with the [Vietnam Full Disclosure](https://www.vietnamfulldisclosure.org/) effort of Veterans For Peace — “Towards an honest commemoration of the American war in Vietnam.” This year marks 50 years of GI resistance, in and out of uniform, for many of the courageous individuals featured.
* Mapping Militarism - A new collection of maps displays what militarism looks like in the world. Included are these topics: Wars, Weapons, U.S. Weapons, Money, Nukes, Chemical and Biological, U.S. Military, Air Strikes, Law, and Promotes Peace and Security. [See the maps](https://u1584542.ct.sendgrid.net/mps2/c/AQE/ni0YAA/t.31h/bWyEN_CbSpyRpeitArRq5g/h3/1x6jJzOKvnsJ4-2FKHPfn05MNfzt3QCnwOjQQTNuzvMck1EZ3eRVoCguWgQiz2GYY-2BfTiyzPRNJZmNVjVXY50wIputAjty4jTZ1z1Lp-2FkDd2x1gcE6h-2F321n0bPEA906kTD6TGH6LyFfWBV3Wyo5Q4kXdaarfZ8BfRgvabXZSAPu3UfWqOfcY2GRRtEIrnvYrJ3h3L-2FG8hI7wGg3tWtm9X2XheIX-2Bs-2FSw1OgWMtcoZVMlrubAV2IbG2OH-2BtEblvzhu0YRLT4Y6p3T1BDm4V2-2Fl24xnASSXdDDQDlgRKcJr-2F-2FwiKFVyDKvPoDDDi-2FqchfzH/hSU9)
* [Meet the US veterans returning to make amends in Vietnam](https://wagingnonviolence.org/2020/04/meet-us-veterans-returning-to-make-amends-vietnam/) - Forty-five years after the fall of Saigon, U.S. veterans are returning to Vietnam to find peace — and to atone for the damage they left behind
* [As COVID Rages, Will the VA Be There for Future Generations of Veterans?](https://indypendent.org/2020/05/as-covid-rages-will-the-va-be-there-for-future-generations-of-veterans/)

**6. Have An E-Mail Address?**
If you are receiving this update by postal mail and have an e-mail address, it would be appreciated if you could forward your e-mail address to Bob Krzewinski at wolverbob@gmail.com. Your e-mail address will be kept confidential and not given to third parties.

**7. Our VFP Chapter Can Use Your Help**

Currently our VFP Chapter literally has only a few people doing all the work and projects and to say we could use help is an understatement. Most of these volunteer 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 (one cross for every soldier killed in Iraq/Afghanistan wars) display on Memorial Day or the VFP Chapter 74 activities. 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 Steve Saelzler at saelzler@comcast.net (or call 734-675-4138) and he will get back in touch with you. Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request!!!

**8. Announcements, Anniversaries & Events**

VFP National Online Social Hours

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 twice a week every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 pm. (EDT). VFP will post the "Join" link in the Calendar section on the right side of the front page of our website - [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org) - before every Social Hour.

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>

VFP 74 On Facebook

Veterans For Peace Chapter 74 now has a Facebook page. To sign up, just visit [www.facebook.com/VFP74](http://www.facebook.com/VFP74) and “like” us.

Metro Detroit Peace Events Calendar

For a complete update of Metro Detroit area events, visit the Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit website at <http://www.graypanthersmetrodetroit.org/CalendarofEvents.html>.

Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery

Open most Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 1pm to 4pm at [33 East Adams](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=33+East+Adams+at+Woodward+detroit+mi&sll=48.779794,-50.378118&sspn=61.451642,185.449219&ie=UTF8&hq=&hnear=33+E+Adams+St,+Detroit,+Wayne,+Michigan+48226&z=16) (near Woodward) and next to Comerica Park in downtown Detroit. Free parking is available in the Central United Methodist Church parking lot on the west side of the Center. If parking lot attendants are present, please tell them you are going to the Gallery. For more information, including current Gallery hours, a map to the Gallery in downtown Detroit, and exhibit updates, visit [www.swordsintoplowsharesdetroit.org](http://www.swordsintoplowsharesdetroit.org).

Women In Black Marches
Second Saturday of every month in the Metro Detroit area with everyone welcome (men, women, children). Please wear black. You can view upcoming "Women in Black - Detroit" events at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WIB-Detroit>.

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 [www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship](http://www.vfp93.org/peace-scholarship).