



VETERANS FOR PEACE Weekly e-News



VFP eNews | September 23, 2023

Two Weeks of Action Back to Back!



DEFUSE NUCLEAR WAR

DEFUSE NUCLEAR WAR WEEK OF ACTION
September 24–30

As an active member of the **Defuse Nuclear War Coalition**, VFP invites all our chapters and members to join in nationwide protests, vigils, demonstrations, and other actions – for diplomacy with Russia and Ukraine; disarming ICBMs; and reinstating ABM, INF and Open Skies treaties – in the coming week of action.

[CLICK FOR INFO & RESOURCES](#)



GLOBAL DAYS OF ACTION
September 30–October 8

The **Peace in Ukraine Coalition** is a U.S.-based coalition of peace and social justice organizations including VFP that are urgently mobilizing together to end the war in Ukraine. From the beginning – and during our upcoming **Global Days of Action, from Saturday, September 30 through Sunday, October 8** – our message and our demands are concise and clear:

- **Stop the Killing on All Sides – Implement a Ceasefire Now**
- **We Want Negotiations for Peace, NOT Weapons for Endless War**
- **Billions of Dollars for Human Needs, NOT for War Profiteers**
- **Nuclear Abolition, Not Nuclear War!**

We cannot control the actions of the Russian or Ukrainian governments, but we can influence our own government if we organize and mobilize. *Please join us!*

Take Action for Peace in Ukraine

FIND PEACE IN UKRAINE EVENTS TO JOIN:

EVENTS LISTED BY DATE

EVENTS LISTED BY LOCATION

VFP Launches a New Project



Join a new campaign to bring the movement for labor rights in a closer relationship with the movement for a peaceful world.

Veterans For Peace launched an exciting new project on September 7, 2023. Named Veterans and Labor for Sensible Priorities, its purpose is to bring veterans, labor unions, and other worker organizations together around a campaign to cut the Pentagon budget and move the money to address the climate crisis, fund human needs, and create good, family-supporting jobs. The project will also expose how corporate rule is against the interests of labor, peaceful resolution of conflict, and the planet.

As long as the United States spends *more than half* of its discretionary budget on bloated militarism, there will never be enough money available to solve the climate crisis and to meet the real needs of working people everywhere.

Read our Open Letter here: <https://tinyurl.com/VL4SP-open-letter-covermsg>

March to End Fossil Fuels

A Few Pictures from Last Week's Actions



VFP members were among 75,000 people who turned out for the New York City March to End Fossil Fuels on September 17, 2023. [See more NYC photos by Ellen Davidson]





Above left: Al Glatkowski led the VFP contingent in the march, grouped with the Anti-Militarism Hub.
Above right: "Uncle Sam" passed out copies of Peace & Planet News.
[See more NYC photos by Ellen Davidson]



Ann Wright and John Amidon display another great banner!
John also shared this link to a video of VFP at the march.



Nashville members held their own rally to end fossil fuels. Pictured above (L to R): Tom Grose, James Wohlgenuth, unidentified woman, and Michael August.

Keep Us Strong!



DONATE TODAY

Help Us Grow!

VFP Radio recap

Recent shows produced by the Hector Black Chapter

9.14.23 Military Sexual Assault and Trauma: A True Story. Jenny Pacanowski of [Women Veterans Empowered and Thriving](#) facilitates the telling of a true story about military sexual assault experience and the continued failure of the military to address the issue of MST. [LISTEN HERE.](#)

9.21.23 Why is Militarism Often Left Out of Climate Discussions? In the wake of this weekend's nationwide climate action to end fossil fuels, Steve Morse explains the global impact of militarism and how VFP's Climate Crisis and Militarism Project is working to get the word out. [LISTEN HERE.](#)

Congratulations NNOMY!



The 2023 [U.S. Peace Prize](#) was presented to the **National Network Opposing the Militarization of Youth** on September 19, “for national efforts to stop U.S. military influence on young people, saving lives here and abroad.” The award was made at the Peace Resource Center of San Diego by Michael Knox, Chair and Founder of the U.S. Peace Memorial Foundation.



Norman Solomon's recent op-ed, [*Biden Is the Latest President To Tout the Vietnam War as Proud History*](#) (Scheerpost, 9/20/23), explains how our failure to deal with the past ensures more of the same for our future:

"As George Orwell put it, 'Who controls the past controls the future: who controls the present controls the past.' And a government that intends to continue its might-makes-right use of military power needs leaders who do their best to distort history with foggy rhetoric and purposeful omissions. Lies and evasions about past wars are prefigurative for future wars."

Parting Shots



Chapter 27 was joined by several peace groups at Camp Ripley near Little Falls, Minnesota, for an open house. We were able to walk in thru the main gate with our mock

tank before being turned back. "Tanks? No Thanks" was our theme for the day. We shot flower petals rather than armaments.



Mike Marceau (left) represented Veterans For Peace at a solidarity vigil for Yurii Sheliashenko at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, D.C. on September 18. [Click the photo to read the World BEYOND War update on Yurii's case.]

FALL CALENDAR

TODAY! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
10AM PT | 11AM MT | 12PM CT | 1PM ET

FOR VFP MEMBERS: VFP Board Candidate Forum (virtual)

[JOIN THE MEETING HERE](#)

There are 4 open board seats – 1 of them the new associate member seat – and a number of candidates running for the board. All current members will receive an electronic ballot and have a chance to vote on resolutions as well as board members. More details coming soon.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the bios of our 2024 VFP Board Candidates.

SEPTEMBER 27 • 6:30-7:30 EDT**"Healing the Harms of Nuclear Testing"**

A conversation hosted by Friends National Committee on Legislation exploring the impact of nuclear testing and the call to advocate with communities that still bear the scars of our country's nuclear history. Speakers include Tina Cordova, co-founder of the Tularosa Basin Downwinders' Consortium, a friend of VFP Santa Fe Chapter 55.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

SEPTEMBER 30–OCTOBER 8**Global Days of Action for Peace In Ukraine (see above)**

www.peaceinukraine.org

Veterans For Peace is a coalition member.

OCTOBER 8**Golden Rule Homecoming Party in Samoa, California**

Find details online: vfpgoldenruleproject.org

OCTOBER 7–14**International Keep Space for Peace Week**

space4peace.org#095294

Each year the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space holds Keep Space for Peace Week in early October. This year our theme is the dangers of crowded orbits.

OCTOBER 15–19**SOVA Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.**

Join the SOVA National Campaign in Washington D.C. to advocate Congress to help us Save Our VA.

[READ MORE AND REGISTER](#)

OCTOBER 22 • 1–3 PM PDT

Daniel Ellsberg's Celebration of Life

To be held on Zoom

Email the family for info: contact.ellsberg@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 11: Armistice Day

Check out [VFP's Armistice Day_page](#) for information and inspiration.

NOVEMBER 12 • 8 PM EST

Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal

Livestreamed Opening Session

The Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal will hold accountable — through testimony of witnesses — U.S. weapons manufacturers who knowingly produce and sell products which attack and kill not only combatants but non-combatants as well. These manufacturers may have committed Crimes Against Humanity as well as violated U.S. Federal criminal laws. The Tribunal will hear the evidence and render a verdict.

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

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