



VFP eNews | January 6, 2024

## “We Are Veterans For Peace – Join Us”

**VFP members!** You can get this terrific Public Service Announcement on the air in your city by contacting local TV station managers and asking them to put it in their "PSA rotation." They have no regulatory responsibility to run it, but stations always have brief times throughout the programming day to fill, which they do with PSAs -- especially well-produced ones like this -- from local public interest groups and community non-profits. **Production courtesy of Damen Cook, NBC24, Toledo, Ohio.**

[CLICK TO WATCH THE P.S.A.](#)

## VFP Responds to Crisis in Gaza CALLS TO ACTION



**JOIN US IN WASHINGTON D.C. JANUARY 13!**

**March on Washington for Gaza  
Saturday, January 13, | 1PM  
The National Mall  
1600 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC**

Veterans For Peace has endorsed the upcoming **March On Washington for Gaza** hosted by the American Muslim Task Force for Palestine in partnership with the ANSWER Coalition.

Get to D.C., take a friend, or join a local demo. Your voice is needed. The people of Palestine are waiting...and dying.

[GET DETAILS & SEE ENDORSERS](#)

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## Call to Action From VFP National Board Member Nick Mottern: Leahy Law Letter-writing Campaign

[DOWNLOAD LETTER-WRITING KIT \[PDF\]](#)

Nice Mottern is coauthor, with Jack Gilroy, of an essay titled "[Welcome To The Slaughterhouse,](#)" published by [CovertAction Magazine](#) on January 3, 2024.

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## Actions Shared by Our Members



### **New Year's Day Interfaith Peace Walk in Troy, New York**

Veterans For Peace had a presence at this moving event. Tarak Kauff and Ellen Davidson joined, NYC associate members Rose and Hideko, and John Amidon from Albany. Woodstock friend Ann helped carry the banner. More than 200 people walked three miles in the cold, visiting a mosque, two churches, and a synagogue. To see more of Ellen's photos, and the text of the powerful remarks delivered by a congregant at the synagogue, [GO HERE](#). To view additional photos by Hideko, [GO HERE](#).

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## Wyoming/Colorado VFP Members Join Ft. Collins Actions

LEFT: Tina Jayroe, VFP associate member from Wyoming, took this photo at a December 23 protest in Ft. Collins, Colorado, that drew 60 people. RIGHT: Navy Veteran Josh Hunter came from Denver to march with Tina and about 70 others in Ft. Collins the next week. Weekly demos led by the Northern Colorado Liberation Coalition are aimed at getting the Ft. Collins City Council to pass a resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Thanks to Tina Jayroe for this report.

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### Billboard Action in Durham, North Carolina

Doug and Vicki Ryder, members of the North Carolina Triangle Area VFP Chapter 157, created this great mobile billboard and drove it to a New Years Eve Rally in Durham.

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## Social Media Shorts



Click image to see a short video of the "Ceasefire Choir" shared with us by Santa Fe VFP Chapter 55 member Greg Corning.



"Can you imagine the Christmas bonuses for Lockheed this year?" Click image to see clip of VFP's Matt Hoh speaking in NC on 12/23.



Click on image to go to X post of a billboard truck driving around hospitals in Dearborn, MI. Shared by VFP Member Gene Marx.

## FOLLOW VFP ON SOCIAL MEDIA



## Additional Photos Shared by VFP Members



**Happy New Year from Gainesville!** On New Year's Eve, VFP Chapter 14 had a contingent in the inaugural [Flying Pig Parade](#) in Gainesville, Florida. In fact, VFP member [Paul Ortiz](#) and Sheila

Payne were Grand Marshals in the parade. Pictured above (L to R): Sheila Payne, Christine Wilson, Janet Davies, Paul Ortiz, Sherry Steiner, Scott Camil, and Pierce Butler. Present but not visible: Kirk Anthony. Photo by Nancye Henkle-McPeck. Thanks to Scott Camil for the submission.



**Baltimore Climate Action!** On December 27, 2023, a broad coalition of Maryland peace activists, including Veterans For Peace, again "crashed" the Military Bowl parade before the yearly football game of mid-level college teams held in the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, Annapolis. This bowl game originated in 2008, and in 2010 military-industrial complex giant Northrop Grumman signed on as the title sponsor, partnering with the USO. This year we brought CODEPINK's inflated



elephant-in-the-room along to represent militarism's effect on climate. (It was used in the March to End Fossil Fuels in NYC last September.) About a dozen of us guided the elephant and carried banners and placards, including the Baltimore VFP chapter's climate and militarism banner (partly visible at right). We stepped right into the end of the parade, with brief police obstruction, similar to last year. Some parade viewers booed but many were friendly and supportive and took flyers.

Thanks to [CCMP](#) members Ellen Barfield and Janet Weil for this submission.

## A Very Happy New Year's Greeting from the Desk of Mike Ferner



Dear VFP Members and Friends,

**I AM SO HAPPY to announce that Casey Stinemetz is coming back on VFP staff to serve as our Membership Organizer.** She returns with the same enthusiasm you saw if you worked with her before, plus several years of valuable experience gained outside of VFP.

Keeping our membership informed and mobilized is vital for grassroots peace and justice organizations like Veterans For Peace. That's why the position of Membership Organizer is so important. Having Casey in that role will make a huge difference in our ability to carry out our primary mission of abolishing war.

**Welcome back, Casey!** VFP board and staff members are ready to support your work in every way we can.

MIKE FERNER  
Veterans For Peace National Director

**P.S. We couldn't bring Casey on board without the many, many generous gifts from members and supporters** received in response to our revitalized fundraising. We are incredibly grateful: to the "Cash Cadre" callers who dialed through our list; to major donors like Ralph Nader

and Medea Benjamin; to the many Lifetime Members who signed up at the convention, to our growing number of monthly sustainers; and to the hundreds of people who have dug deep and repeatedly given contributions large and small—every one of which was a serious investment in Veterans For Peace. **THANK YOU!**

## Ukrainian Conscientious Objector Activist Joins VFP Board of Advisors!



**Yurii Sheliashenko**, a courageous advocate of nonviolence living in Kyiv, counsels young men who refuse to fight. You can imagine the pressure he is under from the Ukraine government. His house has been ransacked more than once and he has been detained but so far luckily, not imprisoned. In recognition of his work, we sent him a VFP peace dove plaque, made at a workshop for the handicapped in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where some of the students are third and fourth generation victims of Agent Orange. We received this thank you video and are also happy to announce that Yurii will be joining our advisory board. Our gift and his work represent the very best of this season and the very best of what humans can be, if they would only stop and recognize their common humanity. [WATCH VIDEO.](#)

## CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 • 10:30am PST | 11:30 MST | 12:30 CST | 1:30 EST

### **Odyssey of the Veterans for Peace Sailboat**

*Golden Rule* project manager Helen Jaccard and Veterans For Peace board member Gerry Condon will speak about the epic voyage of the anti-nuclear sailboat around the eastern half of the United States and Cuba. What lessons were learned? How can antiwar activists strengthen the movement to abolish nuclear weapons? [ZOOM LINK HERE.](#)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, JANUARY 11-12

### **International Court of Justice Public Hearings on South Africa's charge of genocide against Israel**

The hearings will be streamed live and on demand in the two official languages of the court, English and French, on the court's website and on UN Web TV. Malaysia, Turkey, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have endorsed South Africa's application before the ICJ. [MORE INFO HERE.](#)

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 • 1pm ET  
**March on Washington for Gaza**  
**National Mall in D.C.**

Veterans For Peace is an Endorser of this event. Please join us if you can! [DETAILS HERE](#).

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 • 5pm PST | 6pm MST | 7pm CST | 8pm EST  
**Korea Peace Campaign Meeting**

At this online meeting, participants will share developing news on Korea and discuss KPC campaign plans for the future. Email [kpc@veteransforpeace.org](mailto:kpc@veteransforpeace.org) for Zoom information. For more information about KPC, [GO HERE](#).

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MARCH 23–29, 2024 (HOLY WEEK)  
**Sacred Peace Walk 2024**

In this season of wars, a worldwide refugee crisis and the climate thrown into chaos, when the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists moves up its doomsday clock to 90-seconds before midnight, the Nevada Desert Experience invites you to join us in an event of hope and resistance in the desert. [CLICK HERE for the details](#). Anyone with questions about the walk is welcome to contact Dave Patterson, who has participated in the walk for years, at [dpatterson998@yahoo.com](mailto:dpatterson998@yahoo.com).

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COMMENCING SATURDAY, APRIL 27  
WALKING from AUGUSTA, MAINE to WASHINGTON, D.C.  
**VFP Peace Walk 2024**

Peace Walk 2024 is a National Project of Veterans For Peace. Visit the website to learn more: [PeaceWalk2024.org](http://PeaceWalk2024.org).

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July 15–August 19, 2024  
**Poor People's Army March**

Also known as the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, the mission of the nonviolent Poor People's Army is to keep people alive and to build a cooperative economy and society. Endorsed by Veterans For Peace, the two-week Poor People's Army March will go from Milwaukee – site of the Republican National Convention (July 15) – to Chicago – site of the Democratic National Convention (August 19). The march will deliver the same message to both conventions: ***"We reject corporate greed and demand an end to poverty."***

## Make a Year-end Gift to Veterans For Peace!

Keep Us Strong!



Help Us Grow!

**DONATE TODAY**

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