

Golden Rule Peace Boat Coming to Minneapolis / St Paul

Historic Sailboat Supports UN Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons



The storied *Golden Rule* anti-nuclear sailboat will be in Minneapolis / St. Paul from September 21 through September 25, 2022 kicking off a series of local events to raise awareness about the growing danger of nuclear war and to build support for the abolition of nuclear weapons. The 34-foot wooden ketch is sailing on a 15-month voyage around the “Great Loop” of the central, southern and eastern United States, making 100 ports-of-call. The *Golden Rule* is a national project of Veterans For Peace, which owns the boat.

Presentations are being scheduled, including:

- Wed Sept 21, 7-9 pm, Unity Church - Unitarian, 732 Holly Ave, St Paul, MN 55104
- Fri Sept 23, 6 - 8 pm, Veterans For Peace office, 4200 Cedar, Minneapolis, MN 55407
- Sat Sept 25, 2 – 4 pm, Crosby Farm picnic shelter, Crosby Farm Rd, St Paul, MN 55116

The public is invited to tour this historic peace boat, which will be docked at the Watergate Marina from September 19 – 26. The historic *Golden Rule* sailboat is part of a Veterans For Peace (VFP) global mission that raises awareness about the growing danger of nuclear war and actions we can take to prevent it.

Church, school and civic groups are welcome to schedule an educational presentation by contacting the Golden Rule Project Manager, Helen Jaccard, at vfpgoldenruleproject@gmail.com or 206-992-6364

“We are sailing for a nuclear-free world and a peaceful, sustainable future,” says project manager Helen Jaccard. ***“Our mission is all the more urgent now that the two nuclear superpowers are confronting one another in Ukraine, greatly increasing the possibility of nuclear war”***

History of Golden Rule: From 1946 to 1958 the U.S. dropped 67 nuclear bombs in the Marshall Islands, displacing the indigenous inhabitants and spreading radiation around the globe. The concerned public tried to stop the nuclear weapons testing, but their efforts were unsuccessful. Finally, in 1958, four Quaker peace activists tried to sail *Golden Rule* to the Marshall Islands to interfere with the tests. They left out of Los Angeles and stopped for supplies in Honolulu, where the crew was arrested and prevented from continuing. The arrests sparked worldwide awareness of the dangers of radiation, which was also being found in mother’s milk. In 1963, President Kennedy, along with leaders of the UK and the USSR, signed the Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, banning nuclear testing in the air, the water, or space, but allowed it to continue underground. Today, most nuclear testing is done via computer simulation.

In 2010 *Golden Rule* was found as a sunken, derelict wreck in northern California’s Humboldt Bay. Over the following five years, she was lovingly restored by members of Veterans For Peace, Quakers and wooden boat lovers. Her original mission was also restored – sailing for a world free of nuclear weapons. Since 2015 the *Golden Rule* has plied the waters of the West Coast and to all the Hawaiian islands.

Press interviews encouraged! Crew members are available for radio, TV and newspaper interviews.

To schedule an interview, please contact

Helen Jaccard, Golden Rule Project Manager, at 206-992-6364 or vfpgoldenruleproject@gmail.com

or Dave Logsdon, President of Minneapolis Veterans For Peace, at dlvfp27@gmail.com 612-203-9768