

- PRESS RELEASE -

Golden Rule Peace Boat Coming to Stillwater

Historic Sailboat Supports UN Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons



The storied *Golden Rule* anti-nuclear sailboat will be in Stillwater from September 16 through September 19, 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.

Meet the crew and learn more about the project:

Sep 17 3-5 PM at Stillwater Library — 224 3rd St N. Stillwater, MN 55082, Margaret Rivers room and Terrace

Sep 18. 2-4 PM at Lowell Park South — Sam Bloomer, Stillwater, MN 55082

The *Golden Rule* will be docked at St. Croix Dock & Packet in Stillwater Sep 16-19

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, in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California and Mexico, even sailing to all the Hawaiian islands.

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

Please contact the Golden Rule Project Manager, Helen Jaccard, at vfpgoldenruleproject@gmail.com or 206-992-6364 or Mary McNellis, 612-439-0063, vfpsow@yahoo.com to schedule an interview.