



VFP Golden Rule Project

A National Project of Veterans For Peace, Inc.

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*Golden Rule Peace Boat to Arrive in [Bellingham](#)
Sailing for a Nuclear-Free World and a Sustainable Future*



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The historic Golden Rule anti-nuclear sailboat will arrive in [Bellingham on Saturday, August 20](#), for a weekend of sailing open to the public for rides, a public Peace Picnic, and educational events hosted by Bellingham Veterans for Peace and the Social and Environmental Justice Committees of the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship. [Bellingham will be the final stop](#) of a four-month voyage to nearly 30 ports in the Pacific Northwest before sailing to British Columbia to participate in Vancouver's Wooden Boat Festival on August 25-28.

In 1958, the *Golden Rule* and her crew of Quaker peace activists attempted to sail into the U.S. nuclear bomb test zone in the Marshall Islands. They were stopped by the U.S. Coast Guard in Honolulu, where they were arrested and jailed. Another American family carried on their mission and successfully sailed the *Phoenix of Hiroshima* into the Marshall Islands nuclear test zone.

Worldwide publicity helped spur international opposition to atmospheric nuclear testing and led to the 1963 signing of *Partial Nuclear Test Ban Treaty* by the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union.

Six years ago the *Golden Rule* was pulled up from the bottom of Humboldt Bay on the northern California coast. After five years of renovation by *Veterans for Peace* and scores of volunteers, the 34-foot wooden ketch is sailing once more. With her burnt red sails emblazoned with a large white peace sign and the Veterans for Peace logo, the *Golden Rule* is sounding the alarm about the continuing dangers posed by nuclear weapons, nuclear power, and fossil fuels.



“We are sailing for a nuclear-free world,” says Golden Rule project manager, Helen Jaccard. “We are sailing for a peaceful, sustainable future.”

The public is invited to hear talks and stories by the crew; songs, and special guests in a diverse panel of speakers on Monday, August 22, at 7 pm, at the Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship, at 1207 Ellsworth St at I St. in Bellingham. The passionate voices of *The Irthlingz Duo*, Sharon Abreau and Mike Hurwicz, will provide musical food for thought.

The Golden Rule will sail in Bellingham Bay all weekend and on Sunday evening, August 21, the public is invited to bring a dish to a 6:00 pm picnic for peace with the Golden Rule crew, hosted by the Veterans For Peace Chapter 111 and Bellingham Unitarian Fellowship Social and Environmental Justice committees, at Zuanich Point Park, 2600 Harbor Loop near Squalicum Harbor. Look for the red-sailed Golden Rule and Veterans for Peace flags!

“Nuclear war remains a real possibility,” said Gerry Condon, national vice president of Veterans for Peace. “Nuclear weapons are as threatening to life as climate change, and could destroy us a whole lot faster. The *Golden Rule* is calling us all to take action for peace and sustainability, while we still can.”

For more information on local events, email [Ellen Murphy at ellenkavanagh@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenkavanagh@yahoo.com)
Those interested in sailing on the Golden Rule during her [Bellingham](#) stay can call 206-992-6364.

For more information on the Golden Rule Project, check out www.vfpgoldenruleproject.org,
vfpbellingham.org,
Or on Face book, *VFP Golden Rule Project*