You are invited to the 2020 NorCal Regional Convention of Veterans for Peace March 27-29 in Ukiah

Please RSVP by replying to this email with the information requested immediately below, and send it to Steve Scalmanini, Secretary of host Chapter 116 (Mendocino County), at sscalmanini@yahoo.com. (US Mail address is 907 N Oak St., Ukiah, CA 95482.)

Thanks,

Steve Scalmanini Secretary, VFP-116 (Mendocino County, CA) <u>sscalmanini@yahoo.com</u> (707) 391-5853 (cell)

Bill Creighton President, VFP-69 (San Francisco) billjcreighton@yahoo.com (415) 571-9962 (cell)

RSVP

I will attend the 2020 NorCal Veterans-for-Peace Conference March 27-29 in Ukiah.

Agenda priorities - what topics are most important to you?

(Add your own preferences if you don't see them on the agenda):				

You are invited to the 2020 NorCal Regional Convention of Veterans for Peace March 27-29 in Ukiah

When?

Friday, March 27th, 5:00 p.m. to Sunday, March 29th, 2:30 p.m.

Where?

Veterans Memorial Building, Ukiah, California 293 Seminary Avenue (at the corner of South Oak Street) (See directions below.)

Agenda with Tentative Topics:

Here is a rough agenda immediately below. A more detailed agenda will be published in early March after hearing back from those who will attend and from a few potential speakers. (See request for agenda topics and priorities in the RSVP section above.)

Friday	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Chili & Vegie Soup's on! Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. and will remain available to 9:00 p.m. to accommodate arrivals through the evening.
	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Evening session (Usually music, poetry reading, & open mic, and open to the general public)
Saturday	8:00 a.m 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
		PRESENTATIONS: (not in order) - VFP's recent visit to Washington DC to "stop the privatization of VA Hospitals" - The state of Veteran homelessness in Northern California - "How I uncovered a conspiracy between the CIA and the Navy to fabricate the Tonkin Gulf

	0.00 2 m 12.20 2 m	Incident" - The Phoenix Torture Program in Vietnam run by the CIA - "How I stopped an event from happening in Vietnam at the risk of court-martial" - Strategic planning for our region or VFP as a whole - (other topics to be added from attendees registration forms) Morning session
	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
	1:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	1 st afternoon session
	Mid-afternoon	Break (group photo)
	4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	2 nd afternoon session
	5:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.	Break
	5:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Dinner
	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	To be determined.
Sunday	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Morning session Topics to be determined.
	12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Wrap-up, conclusions, loose ends, next steps Possible topics remaining from previous conferences: - Fund Raising - How to keep an organization alive - PTSD treatment - DU issues - Homelessness; squatting - Banished vets - Tools available via the VFP web site - Using mainstream media to cover chapter events - etc.
	1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Lunch (available to-go for those who need to leave early)
	2:30 p.m.	Conference ends (cleanup begins for local hosts)

Tabling:

Please bring any materials that you would like to display for other members and the visiting public to see, purchase, copy, etc.

Internet Access:

High speed Internet access is not normally available in the Ukiah Veterans Building, however the host chapter will try to provide access for the Conference via a temporary WiFi extender

onsite. So bring your laptops if you like, especially if you have any video footage that you would like to show everyone via the projector we'll have.

Meals:

Meals are included in the price of the conference and will be provided at the Veterans Building. All meals will include a vegetarian option. (Tell us your dietary restrictions in the RSVP section above.)

Friday evening: dinner (available through the evening for late arrivals)

Saturday: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Sunday: breakfast, lunch (available to go, for those who want to get on the road

and take lunch with them)

Lodging:

Quality Inn

- 1050 South State St, Ukiah, CA 95482 (near Talmage Rd)
- (707) 462-2906 [fax (707) 462-3040]
- email gm.ca556@choicehotels.com
- Web <u>www.qualityinnukiah.com</u>
- 38 rooms; 2 story
- All rooms have a mini-refrigerator, microwave oven, and coffee maker
- 3 rooms allow smoking
- Ice machine & vending machines on site
- Free WiFi Internet access
- Rates:
 - 1 king bed \$128.00 plus tax / night
 - 1 queen bed \$119 plus tax / night
 - 2 double beds \$137 plus tax / night
 - 2 queen beds \$137.00 plus tax / night
- Manager is Kenny.

Days Inn

- 950 N State St, Ukiah, CA 95482 (just north of Low Gap Road & Brush St)
- (707) 462-7584 [Fax: (707) 463-1218]
- Web <u>www.daysinnukiah.com</u>
- 54 rooms; 2 story
- All rooms have a mini-refrigerator, a microwave oven, and a coffee maker
- Free WiFi Internet access
- Outdoor pool
- 4 rooms allow smoking
- Rates:
 - 1 king or queen bed \$109 (\$99 Group Rate for more than 4 rooms)

2 queen beds - \$134 (\$124 Group Rate for more than 4 rooms)

- Marketing Manager is Alexia.

Super 8

- 693 South Orchard Ave, Ukiah, CA 95482 (just north of Gobbi St freeway exit)
- (707) 468-8181
- Web <u>www.super8ukia</u>h.com
- Email -- info@super8ukiah.com
- 56 rooms; 2 story; all non-smoking rooms
- All rooms have a mini-refrigerator, microwave oven, and coffee maker
- Free WiFi Internet access
- Outdoor pool & spa
- Rates:
 - 1 king \$134 + tax
 - 2 queen beds (none are available as of Feb 17th)
 - 3 queen beds \$206 + tax
- Manager is Rakesh

Hampton Inn

- 1160 Airport Park Blvd, Ukiah, CA 95482 (just south of Talmage Road freeway exit)
- (707) 462-6555
- Web www.hilton.com/en/hotels/ukhcahx-hampton-ukiah
- 76 rooms; 3 story
- All rooms have a mini-refrigerator, a microwave oven, and a coffee maker
- Free WiFi Internet access
- Fitness Center
- Outdoor pool, Hot Tub or Spa
- Business Center
- Lounge/Bar
- Rates
 - 1 king bed \$145.00 plus tax / night
 - 2 gueen beds \$145.00 plus tax / night

Motel 6

- 1208 S State St, Ukiah, CA 95482
- (707) 468-5404
- Some rooms have refrigerators
- Rates

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2 double beds - $80 / night
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1 queen bed - \$76

Limited lodging is available with local residents for attendees on a tight budget.

- Contact Steve Scalmanini, Secretary of VFP-116, to make arrangements. (707) 391-5853 (cell) - sscalmanini@yahoo.com

Directions:

Ukiah is on US 101, 60 miles (one hour drive) north of Santa Rosa, and 120 miles (two hours drive) north of San Francisco and Oakland. On Friday evening there will be commute traffic northbound on US 101 through Marin County and some of Sonoma County until ~ 7:00 pm, when the carpool lanes open to everyone. From 3:00 to 7:00 the carpool lanes are legal for 2 or more people in the vehicle, so carpool if you can. If you are driving from the South Bay Area on Friday evening, going up the Peninsula via I-280, 19th Avenue, and the Golden Gate Bridge is usually faster than dealing with the congestion on I-880 and I-580 in the East Bay.

From the Central Valleys and the Sierras, the fastest route is I-5 to Williams, then Hwy 20 to US 101, then 6 miles south to Ukiah. (It's a little faster to bypass the small resort towns along Hwy 20 on the east [scenic] side of Clear Lake by turning left onto Hwy 53 before Clearlake Oaks and driving through the city of Clear Lake to Lower Lake, where you turn right onto Hwy 29. This intersects with Hwy 20 again at the northwest end of the lake; turn left at the roundabout onto Hwy 20 toward Ukiah.)

When you're near Ukiah on US 101, take the Perkins Street exit one half mile west to downtown. Cross the railroad tracks to the signal light at State Street (the main intersection in town.) Turn left onto South State Street. Take the 3rd right (at the Economy Inn) onto Seminary Avenue. The Veterans Building is at the end of the 2nd short block, on the left side of the divided street – at the corner of South Oak Street. (If you cross South Oak Street you'll be in the driveway to City Hall.)

Price of Conference:

\$60 will cover meals and rental of the Veterans Building for the weekend. The price of lodging is not included and will depend upon where you stay and whether you share a room. Please pay by check to "VFP – Chapter 116" upon arrival at the conference, although you may also pay with cash.

See you there!

Bill Creighton & Steve Scalmanini