EPA Alumni Association Newsletter

April 2024



President's Message



Dear Fellow Members of the EPA Alumni Association,

Most of us are probably old enough to remember the first Earth Day in 1970. It was a tumultuous time for the environment, and society more broadly. Little did we know that 54 years later we would still be fighting the good fight for the planet.

Well, we are, and it is likely to continue for as long as I can foresee. I am not troubled by that, but it strikes me that we have an obligation to use our experience and expertise to encourage and mentor the generations that have followed us in this effort.

We need to continue our work in the communities of people and environments where we live to help ensure a better quality of life for all. The EPA Alumni Association is doing all it can to make that happen.

David Ullrich President

This Earth Day,
We want to Celebrate EPA's Past and Engage
in our Communities (and Beyond)
for the Future!



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Let's Celebrate the National Environmental Museum and Education Center

Opening on April 9, 2024! www.epa.gov/museum

We are so excited to announce that EPA is having a soft opening of its National Environmental Museum and Education Center located at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. (EPA Headquarters) on April 9.

The Association's Academy had a program with Mark Rupp, Assistant Deputy Administrator and Joanne Amorosi, EPA's Museum Project Manager, on March 14th. If you couldn't attend, the recording can be seen at www.epaalumni.com/videos.

We had a great time talking about the history of the Museum, how the material will be updated so it does not become stale, Alumni videos, artifacts, etc. We also began a discussion on how Alumni can continue to support the Museum. Ideas being discussed include asking Alumni to:

- Submit additional videos
- · Volunteer at the Museum (possibly giving tours, being there as a subject matter expert or speaking before school groups).

Volunteering:

- If you are interested in making a video for the museum, please contact the <u>Association</u> for information on submitting a 5 or 6 sentence script and to request the required form (covers non-compensation and releases for use of the videos).
- If you would like to volunteer at the Museum, please send your name to the <u>Association</u>.

The Association is continuing to work with EPA regarding other volunteer opportunities and will provide more information when we receive it.

The Museum will be open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10am to 4 pm Eastern. Visitors will enter from the Pennsylvania Avenue NW entrance between 12th and 13th Street (adjacent to the Ronald Reagan Plaza and across from CVS) into the William J Clinton North Building. (It is next to the U.S. Post Office at 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW).

All visitors will be screened; touring the museum will be self led. In conjunction with our 2024 Annual Meeting in D.C., we are working with EPA to arrange a guided tour at 2:30 and 3:30 pm on May 7th (the day of the meeting). In person registrants for the Annual Meeting will receive more information.

Please feel free to share information about the Museum with schools planning a D.C. visit by directing them to www.epa.gov/museum. This link provides information on the Museum including how to make reservations for groups and applicable rules.

Some Videos to see before you visit.

New Members from January 1 thru Apr 3

Joanne Amorosi Frank Antwi **Cheryl Atkinson Toni Bandrowicz** Pam Barr **David Bennett Cathy Berlow Bartolome Canellas Jayne Carlin Paul Cort** Scott Fulton **Margaret Gerardin** Priscilla Halloran Joseph Jackson **Angela Perkins** Lauren Knapp Joanne LaBaw Pam Lazos Mindy Lemoine **Suzanne Marr Maitreyi Nagarkar Christine ODonnell Felicia Peppins** Lois Rawji **Paul Ringold** Ray Saracino Almerinda Silva Jane Singley **Cyntia Steiner Virginia Thompson Walt Wilkie Fajr Yousaf**

- -- Welcome by Administrator Regan
- --Tour of the Env Museum

What the Alumni Association has Created to Preserve EPA's History

For those of you who want to share the history and accomplishments of EPA with others, this is just a reminder of the products produced by the hard work and dedication of EPA Alumni Association Members.

- For the Agency's 50th Anniversary, the Association prepared a series of reports, *Protecting the Environment: A Half Century of Progress*. The goal of these reports is to inform high school and college students and others about the major environmental problems and issues encountered in the United States from 1970 to 2020, how they were addressed, and the importance of continued effort to overcome remaining challenges and address newly and emerging problems. www.epaalumni.com/hcp
- The History of EPA -- The Story that only We can Tell! Anthrax Cleanup. Administrators Reilly, Thomas and Ruckelshaus, Deputy Administrator Hank Habicht. The creation of EPA. Early implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act & More. The Association's Oral History program complements the information collected by the Agency in the National Environmental Museum and Education Center. Made up of videos from career staff, former Administrators, etc., it helps tell the story of EPA. www.epaalumni.org/history/

How We Can Continue to Support Environmental Action

The Association offers opportunities to Members to continue to learn about what is happening in and about our environment.

- The Association has a speaker series (called The Academy). Our April 24th program is described below.
 We post information about upcoming sessions on the front page of the Association's website. All of the programs are recorded. Check www.epaalumni.com/videos for sessions you may have missed.
- Weekly Newsletter Sign up for the Weekly EPA and Environmental News Update - its primary focus is on new people, budgets, and policies of the current administration. It's great reading! Go to: https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news to read it or subscribe.

And we know that many of you are continuing to work in your community to improve public health and the environment.

- Whether you live near a river that has a Riverkeeper or live near parks or urban gardens, there are so many opportunities to make a difference in your community. Please don't forget to post your activities and successes on our Facebook page so your fellow Members are inspired!
- The Association continues to work with the Environmental Protection Network (EPN) in ensuring that our Members know about the work to connect Alumni with communities who have asked for assistance. The Academy hosted a program with EPN and Alumni on February 29, 2024, to highlight the needs of two communities and how Alumni are working with those communities. A Community at the Tar Creek Superfund site in Oklahoma and a rural Washington state community requested assistance from EPA Alumni. If you want to know how you can volunteer or you know a community that needs assistance, please check out EPN's Tech Assistance Program.

The Association continues to look for ways to support current EPA employees. Please share these topics and ideas with your former colleagues.

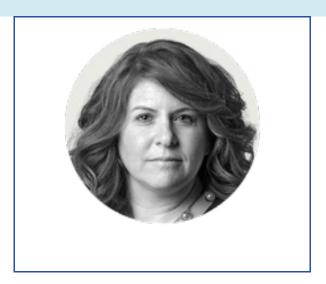
- The Academy The Association is looking for ways to share invitations to our Academy sessions with current EPA employees. Please share your next invitation with a former colleague! Their insights and questions will broaden the discussion of our topics!
- Coaching Program The Alumni Association has been providing coaching support to Agency staff for many years under our MOU with EPA. If you are a certified coach and interested in learning more about the program, please contact <u>Alumni Association</u>. We would love to have you, and EPA staff would appreciate it!
- Shutdown Support for EPA Staff and SEE Enrollees
 This fiscal year, the EPA Alumni Association prepared to support Agency staff and EPA SEE enrollees, in accordance with federal ethics requirements, if there is a government shutdown.
 - We want to support staff and EPA SEE enrollees who are having problems putting food on their table or purchasing essential medications because of the shutdown.
 - During the 2019 shutdown, the Association supported EPA Staff and EPA SEE enrollees during the shutdown which resulted in 280 Alumni giving gifts with a value of \$36,500 to 165 EPA employees and SEE enrollees.

Upcoming Annual Meeting In Person and Virtual

Tuesday, May 7, 2024
AT 6:00 PM EASTERN

REGISTRATION





The Changing World of Environmental Reporting

(Environmental Reporting in the Age of Social Media, the Echo Chamber, AI, Congressional Deadlock, Adverse Supreme Court Decisions, Science Skepticism, and the Complete Absence of Easy Answers)

REGISTRATION

Please join us for remarks by two well respected environmental journalists, Juliet Eilperin (Bio) of the Washington Post and Lisa Friedman (Bio) of the New York Times. We have asked them to speak about the changing world of environmental reporting and to give perspectives on the current state of efforts to protect the environment.

This will be followed by a reception where you can catch up with your former colleagues. For our Members who are joining by Zoom, we will set up breakout rooms after the Program so that you can catchup with former colleagues as well.

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 From 6:00 to 7:00 pm Eastern With a reception from 7:00 to 8:30 pm Eastern

Where

IN PERSON

Offices of Sidley & Austin
1501 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(Paid parking available in the building)

VIA ZOOM

Link will be provided closer the date of the Event

A \$40 contribution is requested to those attending in person to defray the costs of catering. You can receive a refund if you cancel by April 29th at 4 PM Eastern.

If you are planning to attend in-person, please register <u>as soon as you can</u> so we have a headcount for the caterers.

Click Above to Register to Attend Either In Person or via Zoom.

NEXT ACADEMY SESSION

ADVANCING PLANETARY SCALE SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024 4:00 PM EASTERN

REGISTRATION

Celebrate the week of Earth Day with EPA Alumni!







Universities are ideally equipped to cross boundaries of discipline and organization to address the largest scale problems facing the planet, such as climate and sustainability, and do research, try out solutions at their university and then advance these new actions at a larger scale.

Come hear these speakers from Yale University discuss this approach on April 24. Today, the three are leaders in the recently formed <u>Yale Planetary Solutions Initiative</u>, which brings together experts in science, engineering, public policy, business, law, humanities, the arts, medicine and public health.

- Julie Zimmerman is Yale's Vice Provost for Planetary Solutions and Professor of Green Engineering, teaching in several schools at the university. She is also the Editor-in-Chief of <u>Environmental</u> <u>Science & Technology</u>, a highly cited journal. She began her career at EPA in the Office of Research and Development.
- Paul Anastas is Professor of Chemistry for the Environment at Yale. He is best known for his pioneering work on green chemistry. Early in his career he served in EPA's Office of Toxic Substances, and he later returned as Assistant Administrator for Research and Development and Agency Science Advisor.
- Rob Klee is Managing Director of Clean Energy Programming at the Yale Center for Business and the Environment. He recently served as the Commissioner of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. He focuses on sub-national energy and climate policy.

REGISTRATION

More Details in the Upcoming Invitation

UPCOMING EARTH DAY EVENTS AND COMPLETED PROGRAMS THIS CALENDAR YEAR

Upcoming Event in Region 6

Sign up by April 5th



If you are interested in attending future
Region 6 programs/events or
interested in volunteering, please
contact Cindy Singletary at
wilbun@sbcglobal.net or Betty Williams
at betzwilliam@yahoo.com

COMPLETED PROGRAMS THIS CALENDAR YEAR



Region 5 Alums Attend Ruth Duckworth Exhibit

A small but hardy group of Region 5 alums gathering at the University of Chicago, Smart Museum of Art in Hyde Park on the South Side of Chicago on January 25, 2024, to view an exhibit of ceramic art by Ruth Duckworth. The exhibit titled "Life as Unity" positions Duckworth as an innovative Chicago sculptor, deeply engaged in the natural world and responding to artistic developments in the U.S. in the 1960s and 70s. She was an ardent environmentalist throughout her career. Duckworth fled Nazi Germany in the 1930's to England and came to the University of Chicago in 1964 and stayed in the City until her death in 2008.

Laura Steward, Curator of Public Art at the Museum provided the alums with an insightful presentation on Duckworth and her art. The group had dinner at a nearby Italian restaurant and returned to the Museum for a panel discussion on "Embodying Climate" among three art professors. A good time was had by all.

If you are interested in future Region 5 programs/events or in volunteering to help, please contact at Steve Goranson at goranson.stephen@gmail.com



"Because the World is Round"

Jane Saginaw, Former Regional Administrator for Region 6, kicked off Turtle Creek Park Conservancy's The Write Stuff

The Turtle Creek Park Conservancy launched 'The Write Stuff: Conversations With Authors and Influencers," on Thursday, March 21, at 5:30 p.m.

The newly announced program will become "a perk for current and potential members" of the **Turtle Creek Park Conservancy**.

The first gathering featured Turtle Park Conservancy advocate/ longtime supporter Judy Due discussing with author Jane Saginaw Jane's book "**Because the World Is Round**," a memoir about traveling about the world as a teenager in 1970 with her parents, including her mother in a wheelchair due to polio.

According to Turtle Creek Park Conservancy President Tiffany Divis, "This new Member Series is an additional benefit for all membership levels that we hope will generate additional interest and support for the park and our mission. There is no admission charge. We also encourage anyone interested in becoming a member to visit our website and explore the memberships that offer a variety of benefits at very affordable rates."

Thanks to support by its membership, Turtle Creek Park Conservancy "is committed to the conservation, preservation, and exceptional care of Turtle Creek Park and Arlington Hall, while creating a public space for physical and mental wellness, connection, entertaining and educational programs."

If you are interested in future Region 6 programs/events or interested in volunteering, please contact Cindy Singletary at wilbun@sbcglobal.net or Betty Williams at betzwilliam@yahoo.com

Region 9 Hike



Region 9 is having a hiking outing for members, spouses, and friends on April 4th in the Foothills Regional Park in northern Sonoma County. These

quarterly events are usually followed by an optional outing at a nearby brewery.

Photo from the Fall 2023 Hike

If you are interested in future Region 9 programs/events or in volunteering to help, please contact Dave Calkins at davecalkins@comcast.net

Thank You Donors

The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. If you have not given, or gave a year or more ago, please consider donating now. Click Here to make a secure online donation now. If you prefer to send a check, please send to:

EPA Alumni Association 628 Chester River Beach Rd. Grasonville, MD 21638

We are most grateful for donations of any size. We want to thank these members who have donated since our January 2024 Newsletter through April 2nd:

James Aidala, Jeffrey Alson, Roger Anzzolin, Bethami Auerbach, Irv Auerbach, John Bachmann, Nancy Beck, Michael Berman, Kevin Bolger, Georgia Callahan, Elizabeth Craig, Kathy Daniel, Bruce Diamond, Kevin Donovan, Cindy Dyballa, David Fege, Elissa Feldman, Penelope Fenner-Crisp, Lisa Friedman, Roy Gamse, Marius Gedgaudas, David Gravallese, Mark Greenwood, Megan Grogan, Debra Gutenson, Edward Hanley, James Hanlon, Kathryn Hess, Stephen Hoffman, Stephen Hogye, Charles Howland, Roger Janson, Russell Jones, Chuck Kleeburg, Kathleen Knox, Michael Kosusko, Lawrence Kyte, Joan LaRock, William Laxton, Lori Lewis, Mary Lindsay, Janice Linett, Michael MacDougall, Gay MacGregor, Nancy Mayer, Janet McCabe, Thomas McCabe, Jr., Jane Metcalfe, Thomas Miller, Anne Miller, John Moebes, Edward Murphy, Vanessa Musgrave, Norine Noonan, James O'Leary, Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, David Parrish, Hema Prado, Paul Ringold, John Rogers, Eileen Sheehan, Ann Sibold, Douglas Skie, Randy Smith, David Stangel, Lora Strine, Edward Struble, Pat Thorne, Richard Troast, Catherine Tunis, Linda Tuxen, Donna Twickler, David Ullrich, Robert Varney, Anne Weinberg, Michaelle Wilson, Robert Wolcott, Lily Wong, Carolyn Yale, Terry Yosie

In Memoriam

Since the January Newsletter, the Association has been informed that the following former EPA employees having passed away. If you learn that a former colleague has died, you may share that information on our Facebook Page or let us know at newsletter@epaalumni.org.

We invite you to reflect on your memories of the colleagues listed below by

commenting on the obituaries we have received. Click *Here*.

Walter Barber, Jr. Lynda Carroll David Chamberlin Hazel Groman Timothy Harker Michael Levin Jeffrey Schwartz John T. Spafford Judith Sturgess Jan Taradash

AND HELP WANTED!

If you are interested in learning more about our periodic newsletters or volunteering to write articles, please email the Association at epaalumni@aol.com!

We Know You Can Do It!



STAY INFORMED!!

Sign up for the Weekly EPA and Environmental News Update - its primary focus is on new people, budgets, and policies of the current administration. It's great reading!

Go to: https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news to read it or subscribe.

P.S. If you would rather not receive these newsletters, please email us at newsletter@EPAalumni.org rather than using the other tools available in this newsletter.







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