# **EPA Alumni Association Newsletter**



Logo from Greensboro Science Center

Dear Chuck,

## **Greetings!**

Below there is extensive coverage of our first ever virtual Annual Meeting, which thanks to ZOOM's failure to honor our contract, resulted in about 300 people who wanted to participate being blocked out. This was very regrettable, needless to say, and we have yet to have ZOOM provide us with an explanation for why this happened. The good



**David Menotti** 

news, however, is that the concept clearly works, particularly the "chat rooms" at the end of the meeting that allowed small groups to interact almost as if we were in face-to-face contact. We will try this again, and hopefully everyone will get in the next time.

Just before we went to the chat rooms, John Bachmann made another pitch for members to sign up for the Teach-in Program. I'm hoping that many of you will do so. The project team has prepared some excellent presentation materials, and we are working to beef up our support network with our team of Regional Coordinators. We have an excellent message to present, and we are hopeful that we will be in a position in the Fall to really deliver. See below for more information.

Stay tuned for updates on the December 2 Gala and Conversation. We are doing some COVID 19 contingency planning, which we will keep the membership informed about as it develops. We are hopeful that we will be able to hold

# May 2020



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## Alumni Association Leadership

David Menotti President

Bob Wayland Vice President

David Calkins Secretary

Tom Voltaggio Treasurer

Chuck Elkins
Executive Director

## **Board of Directors**

Derry Allen
Betty Anderson
John Bachmann
Candace Brassard
Sam Coleman

these events as planned, but it is too early to tell whether we will be able to do so. Again, stay tuned.

David Menotti President Carl Edlund
Richard Emory
Penny Fenner-Crisp
Mark Greenwood
Vic Kimm
Kevin Minoli
Marylouise Uhlig
David Ullrich
Lydia Wegman
Steve Weil

Ex Officio
David Calkins
Phyllis Flaherty
David Menotti
Tom Voltaggio
Bob Wayland
Chuck Elkins

# **Board of Directors Election**

In voting which concluded at the May 5 Annual Meeting, Lydia Wegman, Richard Emory, and Carl Edlund were newly elected Board Members. Candy Brassard, Penny Fenner-Crisp, and John Bachmann were elected to second terms. We appreciate the service of Margo Oge, whose term expired and Phyllis Flaherty, who, as a Past President remains on the Board.

# **Association's Virtual Annual Meeting**

In spite of extensive planning and rehearsals, we were unhappy that a major glitch kept most of you who registered from participating in the Zoom broadcast of the May 5 meeting. Only 100 of more than 400 who registered were able to attend. We were able, however, to make a video of the plenary portion of the meeting available within 24 hours. *Click here to watch.* 

# Membership Tops 2,028

Welcome to the new members listed below who joined the Association since February 8, 2020. Click on any name to to read the member's profile.

> Janet Adams Audrey Binder Vicky Binetti Linda Birnbaum **Patsy Brooks** John Cantilli Jeff Clark Mary Coe Bill Constantelos Viola Cooper Marian Cooper Becky Cover Robert Davis David DeMarini Daniel Drazan Carl Edlund Jerri Garl

apologize sincerely to those who wanted to attend and were locked out.





**Bob Perciasepe** did a terrific job presenting thoughts on how US Greenhouse Gas Emissions could be brought to zero at reasonable cost while maintaining a strong economy. The former Deputy Administrator, who also served as AA for Air and AA for Water, is now Director of the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions. It is impossible to do justice to his remarks in the space available here so we encourage you to listen and watch the video (see link above). Bob graciously took questions following his remarks.

John Bachmann's video "Mother Earth We Will Defend Her" was featured as an introduction to his description of plans to do remote or live Teach-ins for students in the Fall, depending on the situation with the virus. John's video uses selected photos and graphics from the Half Century of Progress Reports to tell a 4 minute version of what the environment was like before EPA, what the Agency has accomplished, and the essential work that remains. We hope more members will step forward to help tell this story in Teach-ins. Extensive support material in the form of audio and video presentation material, model letters to school administrators, and training will support the volunteers. Please *click here* if you can help!

For the fortunate few who were able to connect "live" to the meeting, virtual "tables" of small groups were formed for a virtual social hour following the full meeting. We heard many favorable comments about those gatherings.

**Deborah Good** Brenda Groskinsky Susan Haas **Beth Hall** Karen Harrison Becky Fried Melissa Heath Evan Hornig **Jody Hudson** Angel Ip Rose Jackson Ron Jordan Jessica Kao Richard Killian Chuck Kleeberg Susan Laessig Mary Ellen Levine Janice Linett Laurie Mann Lee Manning Elizabeth Miller Cynthia Nolt-Helms Terry Ouverson Tina Parker Iim Pendergast **Ginny Phillips Julie Rosenberg** Matt Shepherd **John Showman** Michael Smith Christine Snowden Mary Lou Soscia Nick Stone Rick Sugatt James Taft Donna Twickler Brad Vann Camilla Warren Jennifer Wills Lawrence Zeph

Mike Gill



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Thank You Donors

The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. We greatly appreciate the

# **Half Century of Progress**

On April 20, Members were sent an email announcing the release of: *Environmental Protection: A Half Century of Progress.* 



The updated Progress Reports, authored by more than two dozen of our members, were released to the press, the public, and interest groups on April 21. We are grateful to our members who contributed to the 50th Anniversary Education Fund which supported the excellent design and formatting work by Tetra Tech. Tetra Tech also made a generous in-kind gift.

You are encouraged to post these reports on social media and to share the link with friends and family. They can certainly help explain to people what you did at EPA and why you did it! *Click here to see the reports.* 

# **50th Anniversary of Earth Day Teach-Ins**

As you know, our Spring Teach-Ins were cancelled. We hope that by the Fall, schools will have reopened and we will resume efforts to schedule sessions with High Schools, Middle Schools, and community groups.

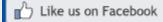
Meanwhile, we are further improving teaching materials we have developed. A few dozen Association Members had volunteered to conduct teach-ins. We hope many more volunteers will step forward to help tell the story of conditions that led to EPA being established, the programs we implemented to address environmental problems, successes, remaining problems, and more recent identified threats to health and the environment in Teach-Ins. Extensive support material in the form of audio and video presentation materials, model letters to school

contributions of members.

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If you prefer to send a check, please make it out to EPA Alumni
Association and mail it to 628 Chester River Beach Road, Grasonville, MD 21638



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administrators, and training will support the volunteers. Please *click here* if you can help!

50th Anniversary of EPA - December 2, 2020



William Ruckelshaus is Sworn in as EPA Administrator

For many months we have been planning how to recognize EPA's 50th. These plans are in a state of flux because of the coronavirus.

Our initial plans were to mark this milestone with "A Conversation About the Environment: Looking Back, Moving Forward" on December 2nd at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The Conversation will be free for the first 400 members who register. Following the panel discussions, there will be a reception and a Gala dinner at the Press Club. Former EPA Administrators have been invited to participate, and many have already accepted.

We are considering a range of alternatives if we are unable to gather a large group in December. Mark the date on your calendar and watch your email as we settle on what we are able to do at that time.

# The Origins of the Association's Logo

Now that we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, 2020, we uncovered an interesting fact about our logo. Former EPA Deputy Administrator, Mike McCabe, tells us that the image of a diverse set of hands reaching up to support the earth comes from the logo for the 10th anniversary Earth Day celebration in 1980. At the

time, McCabe was national director of the event that was organized to revitalize grassroots support and reaffirm the progress that was being made through landmark environmental legislation and the creation of EPA. Earth Day '80, as it was called, was not meant to duplicate or overshadow the extraordinary impact of the first Earth Day, but to build on the foundation it had created in an important election year.

McCabe teamed up with long-time environmental organizer, Byron Kennard, to tap into a broad base of environmental support ranging from local and national organizations to teachers, business owners and political leaders. Drawing on this network, more than 1,000 events occurred across the country, with national and local media reporting on not only the progress being made, but also





#### challenges that remained.

The original Earth Day '80 logo was designed by David Root, of Root and Chester Design, Washington DC, and was intended to be a unifying image for all promotional material and paraphernalia. It was intentionally not copyrighted in order to encourage widespread adoption and use, and to encourage local organizations to use it for individual fundraising purposes. As a testament to its widespread appeal, the image continues to show up in various incarnations, both nationally and abroad.

# In Memoriam

The following former EPA employees recently passed away:

John Raymond Kennedy Norman Lovelace Loretta Marzetti Charles Shumate, Sr. Marian Mlay

We invite you to share your memories of them by commenting on their obituaries found on our website. We will gather up your reflections later and pass them on to the family.

Click here for more information

# **Don't Forget to Update Your Profile!**

Now that most of us are sheltering at home to "flatten the curve" associated with the novel coronavirus, you may have a little extra time on your hands. You may be exploring various new avenues associated with your former EPA profession or pursuing a new passion or hobby. In any case, please update your membership profile to keep fellow members apprised of these changes! Others may wish to connect with you on your path toward exploring new ventures, and they can't do that unless you keep the information current and informative. Many of our members have posted bare bones profiles - their last EPA job, a current street address and email. Don't worry about privacy or personal security - a valid consideration in the era of identity theft, spoofing, etc. Rest assured, that only members of the Association can access our web site and member data. More complete profiles can really be useful and fun! Click here to edit yours now.

# **Stay Informed**

Be sure to sign up to receive your weekly issue of EPA & Environmental News Update, formerly Transition News! Go to: https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news

## **Our Recent Donors:**

Many thanks to all of our members who have donated since February 2020.

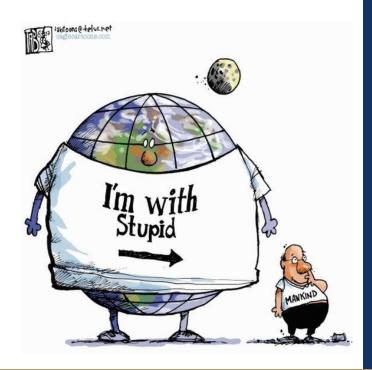
Patty Bettencourt, Steven Chester, Norman Cook, Betsy Curnow, Belle Davis, Joan Ebzery, Robin Fletcher, Maryann Froehlich, Sherry Glick, Doug Grano, David Gravallese, Geoffrey Grubbs, Ed Hanley, Albert Heier, Charles Hennessey, Patricia Jackson, Mary Kemp, Alan Levin, Mary Lindsay, Anthony Maciorowski, Mel McCottry, Dorothy McManus, Charlie Murray, Michael Petruska, Jane Souzon, Hal Sprague, William Spratlin, Daniel Steinborn, Edward Watters, Jim Willis, and Lawrence Zeph.

# Many of our members have donated to the 50th Anniversary of EPA Education Fund via the Meridian Institute.

Diane Ajl, Frederick Allen, Jeffrey Alson, Daiva Balkus, Mike Bandrowski, Linda Baric, Michael Barry, Chris Baughman, Joanne Benante, Charmaine Berry, Blake Biles, Gordon Binder, John Bosch, Joseph Boyle, Marilyn Bracken, William Burnam, David Calkins, Georgia Callahan, David Carroll, Glenn Cekus, Stephen Clark, Thomas Conlon, Margaret Conomos, Chris Cosentini, Elizabeth Cotsworth, Lawrence Culleen, Elaine Davies, Terry Davies, Belle Davis, Craig De Remer, Brendan Doyle, Linda Durkee, Eleanor Dwight, John Eagles, Barbara Elkus, Jerry Emison, Daniel Esty, David Evans, David Fege, Timothy Fields, Charles Findley, Robin Fletcher, David Friedman, Laura Fujii, Irving Fuller, Jack Gakstatter, Linda Garczynski, Charles Garlow, Catherine Garra, Nanci Gelb. Annie Godfrey, Debra Gutenson, Mark Hague, James Hanlon, Karl Hausker, Linda Hilwig, Melanie Hoff, Stephen Hogye, Charles Howland, Susan Janowiak, Steven Jellinek, Louis Johnson, Stephen Johnson, William Jordan, Mark Joyce, David Kling, Myron Knudson, Walter Kovalick, Richard Kuntz, Michael Levin, John Lyon, Caren Madsen, Joseph Manko, Diane McCreary, Donna McGowan, Jack McGraw, David Menotti, Nell Minow, Joel Mintz, David Monroe, Jane Moore, Sam Morekas, David Morell, William Muno, Edward Murphy, Charles Murray, Madeleine Nawar, Donald Olson, Dale Pahl, Joseph Paisie, Marcus Peacock, Cynthia Puskar, Michael Risner, Peter Robertson, Marvin Rubin, Milton Russell, Richard Sanderson, Sally Sasnett, Sam Sasnett, John Schakenbach, Frances Schultz, Arthur Smith, James Southerland, Henry Sprague, Michael Stahl, David Standley, Frederick Stiehl, Steve Stodola, Nancy Stoner, Robert Sussman, Jeremy Symons, Lee Thomas, Robert Tolpa, Linda Tuxen, Martin Wagner, Cheryl Wasserman, Robert Wayland, John Wheeler, John K. Will, Betty Williamson, John Wise, Eugene Wojcik, Rob Wolcott,

Gene Wossum, Victor Yamada, Daniel Yurman and Christopher Zarba.

# **Last Laugh**



EPA Alumni Association

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