EPA Alumni Association Newsletter



President's Message



As you all should already know, the Board decided to again postpone our inperson celebration of EPA's 50th Birthday scheduled for December 2. This decision reflects the fact that COVID concerns are still very much with us, and the Board appropriately made the health of our members its top priority. But we aren't giving up. The

Conversation and Gala are being rescheduled for **May 3, 2022**. Let us all hope that we can make this happen.

Several months ago, when we all thought that COVID was beyond us, we launched "Operation RE-ENGAGE", which was designed to provide opportunities post-COVID for us all to get together again. The idea is that each Region/geographic area would have a team dedicated to arranging social events for our members. We already were doing this



Association Leadership

President: David
Menotti
Vice President: Bob
Wayland
Secretary: Dave
Calkins
Treasurer: Tom
Voltaggio
Past President:
Phyllis Flaherty

Executive Director: Chuck Elkins

Board of Directors

John Armstead John Bachmann Candy Brassard Sam Coleman in some areas, and the idea was to expand the program so everyone could benefit from it. It was (and is) a great idea, but its implementation, like the 50th Birthday celebration, will have to be postponed until COVID is behind us.

We all are extremely pleased with the success of our Academy programs. There are several more in the planning stages (including one that should draw wide interest on the ongoing efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay, and several on EJ issues). Stay tuned for details and sign-up opportunities. And feel free to let the Academy Deans (<u>Dave</u> <u>Ullrich</u> and <u>Lydia Wegman</u>) know about ideas you may have for other programs.

Best wishes for the remainder of 2021 and the New Year. May we finally see the end of COVID!

David Menotti

President

Helping EPA Recruit the Next Generation of Employees!

During the September 22nd Conversation with Janet McCabe, the Deputy Administrator told the Association members that the Agency plans to hire a significant number of new employees over the next year. The majority of those will be at the entry level (students from many disciplines who recently graduated from undergrad and graduate programs) and mostly in the Regions.

The Deputy Administrator asked for our assistance in recruiting applicants -- especially individuals that are currently underrepresented in the Agency. As a Member herself, she knows the breadth of our Membership. Many of you have kept in touch with your alma maters, taught or worked at colleges and universities, or mentored college students!

We would love to use those contacts to expand the reach of EPA's recruitment. We will compile all your ideas and send to EPA so they can reach out to colleges and universities with vacancy announcements, information, and connections. In particular, EPA would like updated contact information for Minority Serving Institutions. Please send the following to www.epaalumni@aol.com:

Penny Fenner-Crisp Carl Edlund Richard Emory, Jr. Vic Kimm Kevin Minoli Marylouise Uhlig Dave Ullrich Lydia Wegman Steve Weil Louise Wise

New Members joined as of Oct 10 2021

Robert Alvev **Laurie Amaro** Joseph Arena **Jay Bassett Keith Bates Rich Batiuk** William (Bill) Belanger **Barbara Borden Lori Boughton Brooks Bowen** John Bradfield Valerie **Breznicky George Brozowski Corneliu** s Carr Deborra Cohen Sally Cole **Margarita Collantes Kevin Cro** ton **Leigh Cusick** Joseph **Donovan Carole Dougherty Aurelia Pugh-Feaster Patty Felix Paul Felz** Ryan **Fitzpatrick Sandra Germann Thomas** Gibson Tia Green Kimberly Green-Goldsborough **Louise Gross** Lynda Hall

- 1. Name of the college or university,
- 2. State
- Email address for the Career Center or Centers (many schools have multiple career centers)
- 4. Contact Names and their email addresses, if you have them.

We know that some universities and colleges have multiple career centers (for undergraduates, graduate programs, law school, etc.) so we welcome all those addresses. We would love to hear from you!



Letter from EPA Administrator Regan to EPAAA President Menotti

On June 21, 2021, Administrator Regan sent a thank you letter to Association President

Menotti. Here is the text of that letter:

"I would [like] to thank you for your very kind words of congratulations on my appointment as Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Receiving such warm wishes from the EPA Alumni Association and the wonderful people you represent are especially meaningful to me.

President Joe Biden has entrusted me to lead the EPA at this critical moment in our country's history, and I am honored to work with so many talented colleagues once again as we confront climate change, stand up for justice and equity and ensure science is at the heart of our decision-making. This opportunity really is a dream come true, and I am thankful for this opportunity to share my passion for environmental stewardship, public health and economic prosperity.

In the meantime, I offer you and all the EPA alumni my best wishes for much happiness and success in your post-EPA endeavors and well-deserved retirements.

Matthew Hoagland Cindy Hobus **Judy James** Cheryl Jamieson Karen Klima Adam Klinger F. Kevin Koob **Ken Krebs Kenneth Kurtz John Liccione Steven Linder** Vicki Lloyd **Kevin Maxfield** Alice Mayio Joe **McDowell Christine** McKay Stephanie **Mohandas** Teresa Norberg-King Maureen **OReilly Cindy Parke** r Lan Anh Phan Julian Pittman, Ph.D. Mary Reid **Dale Rhines** Ingrid **Rosencrantz Mark** Rupp **David Schmidt Cindy Schuster Peggy** Schwebke MaryJan e Selgrade Carol Ann **Siciliano Thomas Simons Vicki Simons Martha Stine Andrew Stoddard B** etsy Townsend **Lee Tyner** John Van Vranken John Vandenberg Joseph **Vescio Christine** Viail **Alicia Walls Ed Walsh Paul Witthoeft**

Sincerely yours, Michael S. Regan" Dianna Young
Mike Zickler

Save the Date for the 50th Anniversary of EPA Celebration!

Please mark your calendar for May 3, 2022! That's when we will hold our belated 50th Anniversary Gala. Stay tuned for more details.

September Academy Speaker

On September 22, the Association held a discussion with EPA Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe moderated by Bob Wayland. Here is a link to a video of that discussion.



Dr. Cecilia Martinez



Karen L. Martin

October Academy Session: "Do you know what the Biden Administration is doing to Advance Environmental Justice?"

Come join your fellow Alumni and find out! This is the first of several sessions on Environmental Justice (EJ) hosted by the Alumni Association. Dr. Cecilia Martinez, Senior Director for EJ, CEQ, will be the main speaker discussing the Biden Administration's whole government plans and goals for EJ. She will be joined by Karen L. Martin who is the Designated Federal Officer for the White House EJ Advisory Council. This interesting session will be moderated by Sam Coleman and is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2021, from 4:30-5:30 pm Eastern. Please RSVP here.

November Academy Panel Discussion:

"Can We Save the Bay? Restoring the Chesapeake North America's Largest Estuary"

Can a combination of cooperative federalism plus the largest Clean Water Act Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard restore the Chesapeake and point the way for other watershed restoration efforts across the country? Mark your calendar to attend this webinar slated for **Monday**, **November 8**, **2021**, **from 3:00 to 4:30 EST**. Email invitation will be coming out shortly. Please **RSVP** here.

The panel will be moderated by **Ridgway Hall**, Vice Chair, Chesapeake Legal Alliance and Association Member. It will include the following panelists:

Rich Batiuk, Co-Founder, CoastWise Partners and former USEPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office Associate Director for Science, Analysis and Implementation; **Marel King**, Pennsylvania Director, Chesapeake Bay Commission; and **Bobby Whitescarver**, Whitescarver Natural Resources Management, LLC, and a Virginia Farmer, formerly with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service.









Ridgway Hall

Rich Batiuk

Marel King

Bobby Whitescarver

Happy 4th (Belated) Anniversary EPN!

The Environmental Protection Network (EPN) was founded in January 2017 and now has almost 550 EPA alumni across the country volunteering their time to protect the integrity of EPA, human health, and the environment. EPN harnesses the expertise of former EPA career staff and confirmation-level appointees from Democratic and Republican administrations to provide the unique perspective of former regulators with decades of historical knowledge and subject matter expertise.

Check out the EPN website at: https://www.environmentalprotectionnetwork.org

Membership Drive

Do you know of an EPA employee who has departed or retired from EPA? If yes and they are not a member, can you reach out to them and invite them to join the Association?

Point them to the website: https://www.epaalumni.com. The Join Button is prominently featured on the Front Page of the web site. Tell them membership is *FREE* thanks to alumni donations!

Your Membership Profile

The information in your membership profile isn't like fine wine – it doesn't improve with age! In fact, it can go a little stale. Perhaps you've started a new job, moved, or taken on a new volunteer mission.

If so, please update your membership profile; it's easy to do. Just search for your name in the directory, click on it and when your profile comes up, you'll see an *Edit* button. Click on it and away you go! Don't forget to save your changes. But if you need help, please ask!

In Memoriam

Since the last Newsletter (April 2021) the following former EPA employees passed away:

Diane Carroll (Smith) Colman Rod Frederick Douglas D. Campt Mike Cook Eileen Belanger Michael Kane Barbara Hostage Rosalie D. Elliott Kate Bouvé Irvin Dickstein Dwight Hlustick

We invite you to reflect on your memories of them by commenting on their obituary found on our website. Click <u>Here</u>. At a later date, we will gather up your reflections and pass them on to the family.

STAY INFORMED!!

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

Go to: https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news

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 make it out to EPA Alumni Association and mail it to 628 Chester River Beach Road, Grasonville, MD 21638. Thanks!

We are most grateful for donations of any size. We want to thank these members who have donated since our April 2021 Newsletter:

Janet Adams, John Armstead, Brooks Bowen, Elaine Brenner, Joe Cascio, Kathy Daniel, Belle Davis, William Franz, Sandra Germann, Albert Heier, Rick (William) Hoffmann, Barbara Karn, Marilyn Kuray, Ellen Kurlansky, Daniel McGovern, Robert McManus, Joe Nash, Larry Shephard, Judy Stober, Steve Stodola, Rachel Van Wingen, Maria O'Malley Walsh, Deana Weimann, Anne Weinberg, J. Kemper Will, Peter Wyckoff

We couldn't do this without you!

Quote

"The earth is a very complex system. If you take one thing and put it out of balance then that will have an impact on things beyond our comprehension."

Answer below

Answer: Greta Thunberg, climate activist

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.