

EPA Alumni Association News



June 2014 Issue: 9



Messages from the Presidents

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It seems like I was just assuming the presidency of our Association from Len Miller a short time ago, and after two "short" years I am very pleased to be welcoming our new President, Bob Wayland. Bob and the Association Board, and our dedicated members, will face many challenges in the next several years.

We now have over 1,100 members, up nearly 300 in the past two years. Some of our initiatives and accomplishments of the last couple of years include establishing a Climate Change Networking Group, a Travel page where members can both post photos as well as critique their travel experience, a Challenges to EPA page, and, very importantly, an Oral History page. The latter has been a very successful project that is capturing some of the most significant history of the Agency from those individuals who guided the foundation of our programs.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your President for the past two years. This Association has put me in touch with so many of my former colleagues nationally and in the regions, and has maintained my belief that we were all part of a most significant effort to protect the public health and environment of our citizens. I plan to continue to participate actively as a Board member and in any other capacity that the Association asks of me in the future.



Dave Calkins
Past President

Dave Calkins

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I am looking forward to an active term as President, building on the outstanding efforts of Dave Calkins and Len Miller before him. At our June 13 meeting the Board took several

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Bob Wayland
President

significant actions. We launched a committee, co-chaired by Walt Barber and Vic Kimm, that will explore how we can describe the important improvements in the environment which EPA and its State, Tribal, and Territorial partners have accomplished in nearly a half century. A complimentary effort, led by Dave Calkins, Phyllis Flaherty and Fran Phillips will be working on identifying subject matter experts who could serve as mentors for EPA employees, speak to local groups on environmental issues, and be resources for the project being developed by the committee being led by Vic and Walt. We have also decided that the oral histories we have and will develop should be made available to the public, and a special

effort should be made to bring them to the attention of the academic community, current EPA employees, and others. I look forward to updating you on these efforts in the future. If you are interest in serving on either of the new committees, [click here](#) to learn more and volunteer.

Bob Wayland

Carol Browner Addresses DC Get Together



Former Administrator Browner

Carol Browner, EPA's 8th administrator, spoke to the annual meeting of the EPA Alumni Association on May 7th in Washington. Over 100 members attended in person, as did a number from outside Washington who were able to call in to participate. Those in Washington were joined by President Dave Calkins and Board member Stan Legro who flew in from California for the meeting and Vice-President Fran Phillips who flew in from Dallas.

Browner took some time to cite what she considered the high points of her tenure at EPA: creation of the Superfund Brownfields program; increased focus on children and the environment; and the regulation of fine particles under the Clean Air Act.

The low-point, she said, was when the House of Representatives began working to implement the "Contract With America." The subsequent government shut-down created an atmosphere of disdain for government and for public service.

What started as a dark period, she said, became the opportunity for her and agency employees to tell the EPA story---the value of strong, fair regulation; and why you "need a cop on the beat." It was, she said, a chance to build necessary credibility and public support for EPA. [Click here to continue.](#)

Newest Members

We are pleased to welcome the following members who joined since the February, 2014 newsletter was distributed. Click a person's name to read their profile.

Jorge Acevedo
Michael Ardito
Judith Bendor
Karen Bick
Steve Bradbury
Jim Brady
Michael Brody
Carol Browner
Zoraida Julia C. Paton
Jonathan Cannon
Bert Cole
Shannon Cunniff
John Cunningham
Anna Duncan
Abhik Dutta
Carl Ferrentino
Chuck Fox
David Gardiner
Walter Graham
Jim Grove
John Hankinson, Jr.
Sallyanne Harper
Jim Harrison
Charles Hennessey
Jane Henriques
Lydia Isales
Jon Jacobs
Jere Johnson
Sara Johnston
Charlie Kleeman
Walter Kovalick
Janice Kroone
Veronica Kuczynski
Richard Lawrence
Mary Letzkus
Barbara Maco

News Bulletin:

As we were poised to hit "send" on this newsletter we learned that former Administrators Bill Ruckelshaus, Lee Thomas, Bill Reilly, and Christie Todd Whitman will be testifying tomorrow, June 18, at 10 am, at a hearing billed: *Climate Change - The Need to Act Now* before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. The Committee web site indicates the testimony will be streamed live. [Click here.](#)
Check Cspan to see if they will broadcast the hearing.

New Directors Join Board



Pictured above, left to right are Phyllis Flaherty, Ed Hanley, Jane Souzon, and Walt Barber who were elected to the Board in May. Click their names to learn more about them. We are grateful for the service of Kerry Clough, Bob Hall, Stan Legro, and Adam Saslow, whose terms on the Board have ended.

Officers Elected

The Board of Director elected the following officers for two year terms at its June 13, meeting: President, Bob Wayland; Vice President, Ed Hanley; Secretary, Victor Yamada and Treasurer, Tom Voltaggio. The Board also ratified the reappointment of Chuck Elkins as Executive Director.

Patricia Maravilla
Angela Morales
Sam Morekas
Denise Ney
Armina Nolan
Brian Orndorff
Kate Perry
Pat Rankin
Patricia Reitsma
Bill Rice
Janet Rosati
John Schakenbach
Ken Schere
Denise Schwarz
Barbara Shepard
Keith Silva
Henry Sokolowski
Jonah Staller
Timothy Thurlow
Robin Weiss
Chantale Wong
Ed Woo
Nancy Yoshikawa

If you know of former colleagues who are not yet members, please forward this newsletter and invite them to join!

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 Rd., Grasonville, MD 21638

Thank You!



"Earth Month" Gathering in Dallas

Some of the former Region 6 staff who gathered April 23 at Casita restaurant are shown above. They are, left to right, Carl Edlund, Diana Dutton, Betty Williamson, Norm Radford, Courtney Riley, Rob Lawrence, Fran Phillips, Myron Knudson, and Warren Norris.

Anti-EPA Ads & Web Site What Next, Flying Monkeys?

Full page ads have been placed in USA Today attacking EPA and inviting readers to visit the web page of the sponsoring "Environmental Policy Alliance." The first ad appeared May 15 and keyed off the IG investigations of management issues at EPA. It called the Agency "a Joke." On June 3 another ad ran -- the day after EPA's proposed CO₂ regulation was released. That ad read: "What would you call a radical organization that threatens to shut down 25 percent of our electric grid?" Three potential answers - anarchist, militia, and terrorist - are all struck out, leaving "Obama's EPA" as the only answer.

There is no list of members, officers, or funders of the Alliance on its web site. The physical address for the Alliance is the same as the address for Berman and Company, whose web site describes it as "a dynamic research, communications, advertising, and government affairs firm. Berman and Company isn't your average PR firm. Our mission is to 'change the debate,' not simply contribute to it." The CEO of the PR firm is Richard "Rick" Berman.

The Environmental Policy Alliance may have something in common with the Wizard of Oz - a booming voice emanating from a small person hiding behind a curtain. There could be a trade association, a company or companies, or a single individual hiding behind the "Alliance" curtain. Perhaps the ads were purchased by a person or company whose customers, clients or friends might take a dim view of attacks on the Environmental Protection Agency or its mission. Interestingly, the Alliance takes EPA to task for a "lack of transparency" in policy formulation. Right.

Board of Directors

Phil Angell
Walt Barber
Helga Butler
Dave Calkins
Bruce Diamond
Phyllis Flaherty
Ed Hanley, Vice President
Vic Kimm
Alan Levin
Fran Phillips
Len Miller
Jane Souzon
Tom Voltaggio, Treasurer
Bob Wayland, President
Victor Yamada, Secretary

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Executive Director

Chuck Elkins

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RTP Retirees Donate 58 Acre Farm

Bob Kellam and his wife, Susan Wyatt, both long-time career employees in the Office of Air Quality Programs and Standards at RTP, retired from EPA in 2004. But that turned out not to be the end of their concern about the environment.

Kellam had grown up in the Raleigh area, spending much of his childhood on the farm originally owned by his grandfather. Once some 400 acres, and considered "out of town" when Kellam was young, the farm now comprises almost 60 acres and is surrounded by shopping centers and housing developments and is part of the City of Raleigh.

Kellam and Wyatt now own the farm where they have lived since 1970; they built their house on a hill overlooking a favorite view from Kellam's boyhood treehouse. They have not taken an easy path into retirement, rather they have devoted their time and energy to environmental education, open spaces and local and sustainable farming. He started a local CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) cooperative and became a certified Master Gardener. He and his wife raise some 40 different crops on a small part of their farm that they sell at the Midtown Farmers' Market.



Bob Kellam and Susan Wyatt On The Farm They Have Protected From Development

Perhaps Kellam and Wyatt's greatest legacy has been their recent decision to create a conservation easement for the farm that will result in the donation of the farm to the City of Oaks Foundation, a non-profit organization established to accept and manage donations of land to the City of Raleigh.

[Click Here to](#)

[Continue](#)

Masthead Photo

Janet Pawlukewicz took the featured photo, above, near her home on the Northern Neck of Virginia. If you have a photo you'd like to be share with our members, please email it to: newsletter@epaalumni.org.

Thanks!

Thank You Donors!

We are most grateful for donations of any size. We want to thank the 31 members who have made a donation since our February 2014 Newsletter.

We couldn't do this without you!

Walter Barber, Lynn Bradley, Helga Butler, Norman Chlost, Irvin Dickstein, Daniel Esty, Thomas Gallagher, John Hankinson, Ed Hanley, Jane Henriques Doherty, Sharon Hollander, Jon Jacobs, Michael James, Charles Kent, Mary Belefski Klein, Barbara McGuinness, John Neylan III, John O'Connor, Terry Oda, Gary

O'Neal, William Rice, Michael Risner, Ruth Robenolt, Marvin Rubin,
Robert Sanchez, Douglas Skie, Judy Stober, Nancy Wentworth,
Catherine Winer, and Michael Winer.

Philip Angell, Bob Wayland & Susan Wayland, Newsletter Editors
EPA Alumni Association

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rather than using the other tools available in this newsletter.