

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

# EPA Alumni Association News

October 2011 Issue: 4



**Dear Charles,**

EPA is always in the news. Sometimes praise, sometimes criticism. Now with the Presidential campaign season upon us, EPA is already the target of some strong partisan opinions. Most of us will likely be carefully watching this political debate unfold and I can imagine some of us, as individuals, may participate. However, the Association, as a non-partisan organization, should not allow itself to be pulled into the partisan political fray. For us as alumni, our commitment to EPA rises above partisan concerns. For many of us, this is the place where we learned about the environment, learned about government, learned about management - and created our "community". Our concern for EPA and its mission is not partisan. It is, I believe, an unwavering commitment to the ideas and ideals we spent much of our working life supporting.

For those of us who were at the Agency in the early days, it is exciting to see the way in which many of the things we hoped to accomplish have now become the norm in our society. We no longer tolerate dirty rivers, trash filled highways, dark plumes from smoke stacks or automobile exhaust pipes. Once in a while we as alumni should take a moment to think why we spent our time working for EPA and should feel good about all we have accomplished.

Thank you for your support and participation. Remember to introduce your friends to the Alumni Association.

Len Miller,  
President, EPA Alumni Association

## In This Issue

[The 12th Floor](#)

[News from Denver](#)

[Web Guru Needed](#)

[Featured Profile](#)

[BiPartisan Commission](#)

[Membership Grows](#)

Find us on Facebook 

~~~~~  
The Association is supported 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!

~~~~~



## Inside Story: The 12th Floor

We recently had the opportunity to interview four remarkable women who together served over a century at EPA, most of it working for EPA's Administrators or Deputies

and much of that time working together.

Linda Hilwig, a Board Member of the Alumni Association, and her colleagues Betty Wonkovich, Yvonne Countee, and Pat Thorne agreed to share some of their experiences on the "12th Floor" - which was the shorthand for the Administrator's Office when EPA was located in Waterside Mall. Their jobs brought them into contact with the famous (Billy Joel, Tom Brokaw, Sylvester Stallone, & Robert Redford among them) and the infamous - protesters who held a sit-in in Bill Reilly's office and Greenpeace demonstrators who scaled the building and attempted entry through the 12th Floor windows.

They were told they might be in danger when Manson Family member Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme made a death threat against Russ Train. Throughout they kept their bosses on track, on time (mostly), and well-prepared. In a perpetually pressure-filled environment of 10- and 12-hour days, they could laugh at their rare mistakes, put career staff at ease, and handle sensitive and sometimes very personal situations and information with total discretion. But they were willing to share some memories and little known-information with Newsletter Readers.

*Pat : I had to interrupt Bill Ruckelshaus in a meeting with a note, "the President is on the phone." "Which President?" he asked. "Of the United States," I replied. He deadpanned, "What does he want?"*

[Click Here for More of The Inside Story](#)



Membership Tops 750

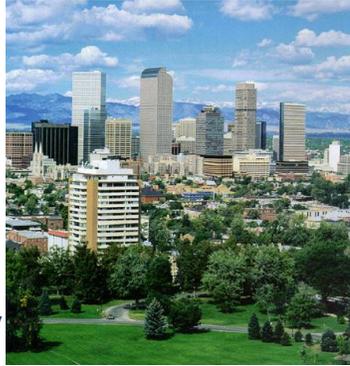
A list of Alums who have joined the Association since February 2011 appears below.

Please forward this email to EPA Alums you know who have not yet joined the Association. They can become members by [clicking here.](#)

John Adams  
Janet Bearden  
Barbara Beck  
Howard Berman  
Melanie Blaha  
Rob Brenner  
Fred Burnside  
Anna Butch  
John Calcagni  
Gus Chavarria  
Jerry Ciotola  
Charles Costa  
Paul Cough  
Dimitrios Critopoulos  
John Crowder  
J. Davies  
Thomas Devine  
JD Duff  
Marguerite Duffy  
John Eagles  
Michael Feeley  
Ken Feith  
Julie Fitzpatrick  
Phyllis Flaherty  
Joseph Foran  
David Fuller  
Charlie Garlow

## News from the Rocky Mountain Region & NEIC by Kerry Clough

The big summer event for former and current Region 8 employees occurred on 8 August at the Wazee Supper Club. The retirement of Debbie and David Janik was dubbed "Roast the Janiks for Charity". Dozens of fans of the "DJs" turned out for good food, good drinks, and fun but bruising stories about the famous couple. Many EPAers around the country know Debbie as the petit soft spoken but shrewd Region 8 Comptroller and know David as the tall quick witted and somewhat acerbic Enforcement Attorney. True to their natures, the DJs concocted a retirement bash that was both entertaining and meaningful. Roasters had to ante up contributions to charity to gain the stage and blast the DJs. Over \$5000 was donated to a host of charities including the Susan G. Komen breast cancer fund, Special Olympics, Mt. Gorilla Conservation Fund and many more.



Our fall get together is set for November 3 at Bogeys on the Park. The event is organized by the Region 8 alumni but current employees are invited and encouraged to attend. It will have a no-host open bar and free appetizers. Both Region 8 and NEIC current and former employees will be there.

In addition to scheduled, widely announced events, the Region 8 and NEIC family have many pods of former and current EPAers who get together for lunches and excursions. For example, most Mays and Octobers see a rag-tag bunch organize for 4-Wheeling in the Rockies or Amateur Archeology swarees to Utah or exotic out of country trips. The usual culprits include Tom Gallagher and Gary Young formerly of NEIC, Bill Gillespie, Rob Laidlaw and Kerry Clough all formerly of both NEIC and Region 8.

### Help Wanted

Barry Gilbert has been a wonderful asset as the Association's web guru -- making many improvements to the web site, taking care of regular maintenance, helping members with questions and problems and coordinating with our web development contractor. Barry has had to step down and we need help with these important tasks. If you are interested [please click here to contact Chuck Elkins](#).

Catherine Garra  
Kathryn Griffith  
Scott Hajost  
Loren Hall  
Sally Harmon Semple  
Erik Hauge  
Roland Hemmett  
Richard Hennecke  
Jonathan Hook  
Jerry Hopkins  
Patricia Hull  
Edwin Johnson  
Thomas Jones  
Patricia Kennedy  
Kent Kitchingman  
Mary Klein  
Myron Knudson  
Joseph Kunz  
Peter Lassovszky  
Alan Levin  
Howard Levin  
David Levy  
Felicia Marcus  
Shek Mark  
Roger Martella  
Thomas McCabe, Jr.  
Carol McNeill  
Alan Melberger  
John Melone  
Anne Miller  
Kittibel Miller  
Richard Morgenstern  
Grant Nakayama  
Wayne Nastri  
Carmen Negrón  
Bill Neuffer  
Michael Nishi  
Tim Oppelt  
Jean Parker  
James Pottiar  
Norman Radford, Jr.  
Lee Regner  
Edward Rhodes, Sr.  
Mario Salazar  
Sara Segal  
Constantine Sidamon- Eristoff  
Jane Souzon  
Brandon Spinks  
Art Spratlin  
Judy Stober



## What's in Your Profile? A Classic Car?

by Bob Wayland

I have to confess I've been smitten with "cool cars" since my Dad owned a "bug-eyed" Austin Healey Sprite in the early '60's. But lacking the resources, time, and most importantly *skill* for restoration of a classic set of wheels myself, I've instead enjoyed going to events like Topping, Virginia's, Wings and Wheels and other events that showcase restored American and imported cars. So I was intrigued when I learned from Jane Souzon's Alumni Association profile that she owns a 1953 Citroen Traction Avant, a car favored by French *flics*, mobsters, and taxi drivers.



When I contacted Jane, I learned that the original importer of the vehicle purchased it for \$50 and brought it back from his Army assignment in Germany in 1965. He sold it in 1970, and in 2009 began to try to find out if it was still on the road. Jane responded to his query on a Citroen parts forum on the internet. In January 2010 Jane reunited the Citroen and it first American owner.

*Does your profile tell fellow Alums something interesting about your post-EPA life? There are a lot of great stories out there. Share yours. Update your profile!*

## Bi-partisan Commission on EPA Alumni Association Finances

The Commission issued its report at the Annual Meeting. The key

Carol Swann  
Frances Tafer  
Maureen Taylor-Glaze  
Paul Thomson  
Lynne Tudor  
Rachel Van Wingen  
Robert Varney  
Betty Waldron  
Bill Waldrop  
David Wiley  
Sharon Wilson  
Wallace Woo  
Fred Woods

### Thank You

to the Members below who  
contributed to the  
Association since our  
Annual Meeting

Janet Beardon  
Ellison Burton  
Doug Costle  
Belle Davis  
Alan Ehrlich  
Barbara Elkus  
Lynn Goldman  
Geoffrey Grubbs  
Bill Holmberg  
Edwin Johnson  
Barry Korb  
Richard Morgenstern  
Connie Muscgrove  
Wayne Nastri  
Glenn Schweitzer  
Nikki Tinsley  
Robert Wayland  
Cathy Winer

Find us on Facebook 

findings were presented in two charts showing the trend in membership and trend in contributions over our short history.

A small number of very generous donors got the Association up and running and essentially covered the first two years of operations. Since the Commission's Report, we have added sixty new members and 18 members have contributed \$1,625. We are very grateful for any and every donation. [Just click here to contribute.](#)

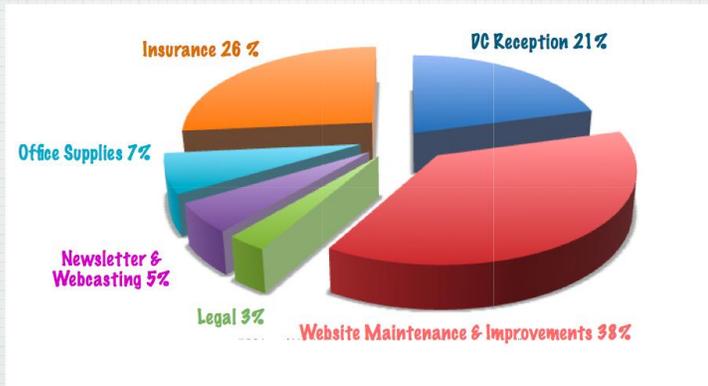
click chart to enlarge



The Board works diligently to hold down expenses. In 2011 Chuck Elkins was able to significantly reduce our insurance costs. Operations cost just over \$4000 a year. The receptions at the 2010 and 2011 Annual Meeting were fully offset by donations at the door.

click chart to enlarge

## 2010 Expenses \$6,696



*Susan and Bob Wayland*, Newsletter Editors  
EPA Alumni Association

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

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to [elkinsenv@aol.com](mailto:elkinsenv@aol.com) by [epaalumni@aol.com](mailto:epaalumni@aol.com) |  
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).  
EPA Alumni Association | 628 Chester River Beach Road | Grasonville | MD | 21638