



March 19, 2020

Dear Alumni Association Members:

Wow, how quickly and profoundly our world has changed since I wrote to you just a few weeks ago. We are practicing social distancing and hoping that our friends and colleagues will be protected from the worst effects of Covid-19. Yesterday the Association Board of Directors met and took several important actions driven by this new reality.

First, we will **not have the face-to-face Annual Meeting** which was planned for May 5 in DC. We are looking into the best technology to allow it to proceed virtually, by audio or video conference. We are grateful that former Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe has agreed to speak to us about climate change.



David Menotti,
President

We will soon be **emailing ballots** out for our election of Board Members. "Live" voting at the Annual meeting will not be possible but electronic voting can occur through the virtual meeting.

Our **Spring Teach-ins are cancelled**. We hope that by the Fall, schools will have reopened and we resume efforts to schedule sessions with High Schools, Middle Schools, and community groups. We will use this hiatus to further improve teaching materials we have developed. A few dozen Association Members had volunteered to conduct teach-ins. I 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 recently identified threats to health and the environment. Please click [this link](#) to volunteer.

We continue to plan for the December 2, 2020 Conversation on the Environment and Gala Dinner at the National Press Club. The panel

discussions will be followed by a Gala Dinner which will include a brief awards presentation and musical entertainment. We are hopeful that long-time Region V RA, Val Adamkus, can join us to be recognized for his singular accomplishments to the Agency. More than some of us, Val's post-EPA career was very active - he served as President of his native Lithuania from 1998 to 2009! We have affirmative response for the December 2 events from Administrators Thomas, Browner, Reilly, Johnson, and McCarthy. None of the invited former Administrators has declined our invitation to these events.

We are just a few days from completing the updates to our **Half Century of Progress** Reports which are being formatted into attention grabbing formats. I am grateful to the many Association Members who have worked on these Reports which highlight additional work that must be done to maintain progress and tackle new issues like the Climate Crisis. The content of these Reports provides much of the material for our Teach-in presentations. The updated Reports will begin to appear online soon. We plan to announce the full series, with fanfare, on Earth Day. If you want a preview, take a look at the [Water](#) and [Pesticides](#) reports.



The Association reached an important milestone a few days ago when the **2,000th member joined us!** Camilla Warren, an employee in Region 4 signed on as an Associate Member. Welcome, Camilla! The overwhelming majority of members have learned about our organization by word of mouth. So as you learn of former colleagues who are about to leave EPA, or recently retired or resigned, tell them about us, send them a copy of our newsletter or our recruiting brochure, which you can find [here](#).

Stay safe and I hope to see many of you in December!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Menotti".

David Menotti
President

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