

EPA Alumni Association News



April 2021



Dear Chuck,

Happy Earth Day! We are excited to celebrate EPA's 50+1 Earth Day. This year, we wanted to let Administrator Regan know how much we appreciate the efforts of EPA staff as they deal with today's complex environmental problems. Information about my letter to Administrator Regan is below.

In addition, in this newsletter, we wanted to remind you of how easy it can be to reach out to your former colleagues and organizations to send them an appreciative Earth Day Message. See the information below.



Happy Earth Day! 'm looking forward to a much better year and seeing many of you in person on December 2nd at our 50+1 Anniversary Celebration!

David Menotti

Letter to EPA Administrator Regan

On April 2, Association President Menotti sent a letter to Administrator Michael Regan expressing support to him and the

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[Newest Members](#)

Agency from the Association. Menotti also noted the Association's efforts to encourage members to express their thanks and admiration to today's Agency employees and the importance of their efforts toward the Agency's mission and success.

Click [here](#) to see the full letter.

## *Thank You, Thank You Very Much*

Earth Day is Thursday, April 22. We think it's an ideal time for Association members to thank a current EPA employee or Organization for their dedication and service to the Agency's mission. We sent out a message on April 2nd to you on how you can do this in five easy steps! Click [here](#) to see the message. Let's show Agency employees our support for their efforts!

## Alumni Association Annual Meeting

Please attend the "*Virtual*" *EPA Alumni Association Annual Meeting* on Thursday, **April 29, 2021 from 4 PM to 5:30 PM** EDT. The Meeting includes short remarks by the Association's President, David Menotti and an announcement of the results of the election for members of the Association's Board (*Don't forget to Vote!*).

The primary feature of the meeting is a Panel Discussion followed by a Virtual Cocktail hour.

The Panel Discussion Topic is: *Reviving Science at EPA*

The Panelists are:

**Betsy Southerland**

Former Director, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water, EPA

**Chris Zarba**

Former Director, Science Advisory Board Staff Office, EPA

**Andrew Rosenberg**

Director, Center for Science and Democracy, Union of Concerned Scientists

**Chris Frey** (Invited)

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science Policy  
Office of Research and Development, EPA

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"Attend" via computer (audio and video) or by phone (audio only). You must register to attend (no charge). You will receive the Zoom sign-in information before the event. Click [here](#) to register to attend.

## EPA Alumni Academy - Earth Day Message

As we celebrate the 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, the EPA Alumni Association is geared up to provide more and more content filled programs by alums for alums and other experts! The whole idea is to tap into the many years of experience and insights into environmental and public health protection of our alums and share that with others so we can live up to our motto "We're not done yet!"

We hit the ground running in December 2020 with a joint program with the Environmental Protection Network that focused on their report called "*Resetting the Course for EPA*." In January 2021, we gave an update of the program we did in April 2019 with American University entitled "*What's Next for EPA*." We followed that with "*Renewal of EPA's Public Health Protection*" in February 2021 and then "*The Tale of Two Rivers: The Potomac and the Rio Grande*." The Academy Committee is in the process of considering programs on rebooting science at EPA, environmental justice, climate change, environmental and public health relations among federal, state, tribal, and local governments, and much more. Members interested in topics and organizing a program for the Academy should contact the EPA Alumni Association ([epaalumni@aol.com](mailto:epaalumni@aol.com)) with a suggestion.

## Teach-Ins and Earth Day

Despite disruption in many schools related to the Pandemic, our program has tried once again to schedule alumni experts to deliver our *Half Century of Progress* message this

**Earth Day.** [Many thanks to the Teach-In Volunteers and Coordinators who have been looking for and finding interesting teaching opportunities!](#)

Two Highlights that we wanted to share with our Membership:

◆ The EPA Alumni Association will have a virtual booth to promote our Teach-ins and *Half Century of Progress* reports at the Earth Day Initiative's **Virtual Earth Day Festival** Monday April 19th from noon to 7 pm EDT. This should be an interesting web experience as visitors will have

Please consider inviting friends and former colleagues to join the Association. Just direct them to the web site to learn more and complete a profile!

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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!

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## Board of Directors

Betty Anderson  
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avatars to wander around and converse with anyone, including avatars at our "booth." Feel free to drop by. They are limiting the total number of visitors at any given time, you might find a virtual line waiting. If interested, you can learn more, including how to sign up, here: <http://www.earthdayinitiative.org/2021-events>

◆ Our Teach-in program is also producing two short videos that will appear on the Earth Day org stream on April 22nd.

For more info on all their events see: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

We are busier than we thought we would be! Here are some examples:

◆ Bob Wayland has connected with the Advance Placement Environmental Sciences teacher at Sprayberry HS in Marietta, GA and is booked for 90 minutes with them on April 12. The teacher is quite excited. The session is on the Earthday.org web site (with the teacher's permission)!

◆ John Bachmann has conducted 4 teach-ins and has 2 more scheduled.

◆ Cheryl Wasserman is teaching at Upper Maret School.

◆ Janet Pawlukiewicz is leading a session at the Virginia Beach retirement community where she lives.

◆ Royal Nadeau met the Alma Mater Challenge by teaching environmental sciences students at his High School in upper New York state.

Many more teach-in sessions are in the works!

If you are interested in volunteering with the Teach-In Program, please email [epaalumni@aol.com](mailto:epaalumni@aol.com) and we will connect you to the Coordinator in your region.

### ***Calling All Writers!! Calling All Writers!!***

Did you ever wonder how the weekly newsletter that comes out on Sunday evenings is prepared? Steve Weil has been the primary writer and editor of the *EPA and Environmental News and Weekly Transition Update* for over four years. He just finished Newsletter #219! He singlehandedly wrote and edited the newsletter for the first 2 1/2 years. For almost two years now, Odelia Funke has been writing 3-6 of the summaries each week. She has been an amazing help to Steve. But Steve has said that another contributor (or several actually) would be a great help.

Lydia Wegman  
Steve Weil

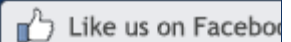
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Every day, sometimes more than once, Steve gets on the computer and searches for "EPA news" and notes on 3x5 cards the stories that he thinks are worth putting into the newsletter. A couple of times a week he also looks for "environment news." Occasionally, he also receives articles from fellow EPA Alumni.

If you want to help, here's the process: Steve would send you a few articles on Thursday evening for you to summarize. The summaries should be as short as possible while still including the main points of the articles. No mean feat on some of these topics!! Then, return your summaries to Steve by early Sunday afternoon so he can incorporate them into the newsletter. The Newsletter is sent out Sunday evening, and posted on the EPA Alumni Association web site on Monday morning.

If you are interested in working with Steve on the Newsletter, please email him at srweil@earthlink.net.

If you are not a subscriber to the newsletter and are interested in subscribing, please email epaalumni@aol.com and you will be signed up.

Board of Directors Election

The Board of Directors has fifteen members. Each year, a number of individuals rotate off the Board. This year, four positions need to be filled. The Elections opened on March 3rd and will be open until the Annual Meeting (which will be the end of April or early May).

Over 300 Members have already voted! [If you have not yet voted and are interested in voting, please **click here for the ballot.**](#)

We're Looking for A Few "New" Alums!

Since there are so many ways to celebrate **Earth Day** you might not be sure what you could do. Here's an easy way to honor **Earth Day** and provide a valuable service to the Association: Reach out to your EPA friends and colleagues and invite them to **become a Member** of the Association! Easy peasy, lemon squeezy.

Let them know that if they served for at least one continuous year as a federal employee of the EPA at any location and in any capacity and no longer work for EPA, OR if they currently work for EPA but are eligible for retirement (including Early Retirement or RIF), then they are eligible to join the Association. And even better, membership is currently **free** thanks to alumni donations. [Click here to check it out!](#)

In Memoriam

We Have recently become aware that these colleagues and friends have passed away:

[*Dick Denney*](#)
[*Russ Dawson*](#)
[*Peter Rosenberg*](#)
[*John Carruthers Topping, Jr.*](#)
[*Anthony Cheatham*](#)
[*Hiroshi Dodohara*](#)
[*Robert Larson*](#)
[*Philip Ross*](#)
[*John Marlar*](#)

Click the names to learn any further information we have received and to leave any remembrances. Where possible, we will share comments with family members.

Thank You Donors!

We are most grateful for donations of any size. We want to thank the members who have made a donation since our January 2021 Newsletter. This was a great outpouring of support in response to our fundraising request.

Allan Abramson, Ralph Bauer, Nancy Beck, Eileen Belanger, Jim Berlow, Michael Berman, Ronald Brand, Richard Clarizio, Samuel Coleman, David Cooper, Betsy Curnow, Walter DeRieux, Stephany De Scisciolo, Thomas Devine, Bruce Diamond, Christine Dibble, Becky Dolph, Kevin Donovan, Anne Fenn, Penelope Fenner-Crisp, J. David Foster, David Frank, Maryann Froehlich, Daphne Gemmill, Jeanne Geselbracht, Barry Gilbert, Doug Grano, Geoffrey Grubbs, Debra Gutenson, Susan Hager, Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, Ed Hanley, James Hanlon, Sallyanne Harper, Dennis Huebner, Patricia Jackson, Elizabeth Jenkins, Russell Jones, Michael Kenyon, Mary Ellen Levine, Tina Levine, David Levy, Mary Lindsay, John Mackenzie, Brook Madrone, Colleen McKaughan, Brian Molloy, Vanessa Musgrave, Joe Nash, Terry Oda, James O'Leary, Martha Prothro, Sara Russell, Sam Sasnett, Diane Sharrow, Winston Smith, Arthur Smith, Jr., Fred Stiehl, Kathleen Veit, Edward Watters, Robert Wayland, Marcia Williams, Jim Willis, William Wisniewski, Eugene Wojcik, Terry Yosie, and Howard Zar

We couldn't do this without you!

[*Click Here to Donate.*](#)

Craig Matthiessen, Newsletter Editor
EPA Alumni Association

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.