

EPA Alumni Association Newsletter

February
2022



President's Message



Sadly, as I write this we are entering the third (!) COVID year, but hopefully this winter surge will be the last of it. I've been wrong before -- most famously when I recommended last Summer that the Board adopt our "ReEngage" Program to give our members opportunities to reconnect, since it appeared that COVID was over. I still get a lot of kidding about that one. Hopefully, my optimistic assessment will be proven to be correct this time around.

One casualty of this pandemic, unfortunately, has been our planned 50th Anniversary of EPA Gala which we had postponed again to May 3rd. However, we have decided to keep the best part of the Gala, but make it virtual, still in the afternoon on May 3rd. This is the gathering for the first time of all of the former Administrators of EPA who can attend in a "Conversation" that we will broadcast to all of our members. Please save the date, and we will send out the details as we get closer.



Association Leadership

President:
David Menotti

Vice President:
Bob Wayland

Secretary:
Dave Calkins

Treasurer:
Tom Voltaggio

Past President:
Phyllis Flaherty

Executive
Director:
Chuck Elkins

Deputy
Executive
Director
Beth Craig

Board of Directors

John Armstead
John
Bachmann
Candy
Brassard
Sam Coleman
Penny Fenner-
Crisp
Carl Edlund
Richard Emory,
Jr.
Kevin Minoli

There is a lot going on, as this Newsletter will show. I'm particularly proud of the Academy, which has offered a number of wonderful programs already (see the article below where you can find a link to video recordings of previous sessions), with more in the offing. Kudos to the Deans (David Ullrich and Lydia Wegman) and their Academy Committee as well as all the others who have contributed to this success.

Our efforts to assist EPA in recruiting new staff, and our Alumni in the College Classroom programs are just getting underway, but both have tremendous potential. I'm hoping that many of our members will participate in these exciting new efforts.

Thank you to everyone who nominated themselves or others for the Board. I am so appreciative of the commitment by our Members to run for the Board; we can't do this work without you! We will be sending out the ballot by the end of February. The election will continue until the **Annual Meeting** on May 3rd.

On another sad note, the recent, unexpected passing of Board member **Vic Kimm** is noted below. Vic had a long and distinguished EPA career. He served two terms on the Board of Directors and was one of the authors of the Drinking Water *Half Century of Progress* report. In addition to his enthusiastic participation on our Board, Vic distinguished himself as a community leader in Northern Virginia. He will be sorely missed.

Happy New Year to all!

David Menotti
President



May 3 Gala Becomes Virtual "Conversation" with Former Administrators

Marylouise Uhlig
Dave Ullrich
Lydia Wegman
Steve Weil
Louise Wise

New Members since Oct 10 2021 thru Feb 2 2022

[Donald Anderson](#)
[Jacqueline Beatty-Smith](#)
[Cindy Beeler](#)
[Richard Blackman](#)
[Peter Brandt](#)
[Twana Chase](#)
[Eric Cohen](#)
[JoLynn Collins](#)
[Emma Daly](#)
[Fred Dimmick](#)
[Patricia Edwine-Poku](#)
[Walt Francis](#)
[Sharon Fredericks](#)
[Thomas Gardner](#)
[Gail Ginsberg](#)
[Wesley Hardegree](#)
[Connie Hart](#)
[Mark Heare](#)
[Gloria Helfand](#)
[Linda Hicklin](#)
[Chris Knopes](#)
[K. Kooyoomjian](#)
[Margaret Leshen](#)
[Angela Lewis](#)
[Nancy Lindsay](#)
[Enrique Manzanilla](#)
[Ron McCallum](#)
[Karen McClure](#)

At its January meeting, the Association Board decided that the in-person Gala scheduled for May 2022 should not take place because we are not confident it could be safely held with the incidence of COVID at record high-levels.

A conversation among former Administrators remains a very important element of any celebration. Several of them have indicated that they will participate in a virtual "conversation" which will be the highlight of our virtual Annual Meeting on May 3. Please put this on your calendar!!



[Catherine McCord](#)
[Claudette Mitchell](#)
[Mike Nalipinski](#)
[Connie Overbay](#)
[Margo Palmer](#)
[Pankaj Parikh](#)
[Trish Polston](#)
[Linda Reeves](#)
[Ken Sandler](#)
[David Sarokin](#)
[Jeanne Schulze](#)
[Gajindar Singh](#)
[Cindy Singletary](#)
[Sue Slotnick](#)
[William Walsh](#)
[Suzanne Wilson](#)

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and EPA's Hiring

Have you taken a look at EPA's part of the President's Infrastructure Bill? It is massive. EPA is receiving \$6 billion (yes, that is with a B) for each of 10 years. This is in addition to the Agency's annual appropriation and any other funding it may receive. To implement the Infrastructure Bill, EPA is hiring additional staff across the country. Most of these individuals will be working in the Regions, but there will be some positions in the Washington Metro area as well. Over the last two years, EPA hired about 1,000 people each year to backfill their current attrition. The staff who are funded as part of the Infrastructure bill **are above and beyond that.**

Looking at USAJobs, the Agency has 96 vacancy announcements posted as of January 31, 2022. Some of these vacancies allow multiple hires. These jobs range from student trainees to senior executive

service positions! If you know anyone who is looking for a job, check out this link to see these jobs [USAJOBS - Search](#).

Update:

Helping EPA Recruit the Next Generation of Employees!

In the October Newsletter, we noted that during the September 22nd Conversation with Janet McCabe, the Deputy Administrator told Association Members that the Agency plans to hire a significant number of new employees over the next year. (See article on the Infrastructure Bill). We asked for your help in identifying contacts at colleges and universities as well as other organizations.

We are so appreciative of the help that we received from our Alumni. If you were one of those individuals who sent us information, thank you! If you still want to participate, please send to epaalumni@aol.com.

We sent our first submissions to EPA in November and we continue to collect contact information.

1. We doubled the number of contacts at colleges and universities that EPA had.
2. We updated contacts at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) as well as submitted contacts at MSIs that EPA did not have on their original lists.
3. We compiled a comprehensive list of Higher Ed organization contacts.

We have also been helping the Agency publicize their outreach seminars. They conducted Zoom seminars in the fall for Veterans and Active Military, Individuals with Disabilities, and Returning Peace Corps Volunteers. They conducted webinars for MSIs in January and early February.

EPA's link for these seminars is www.epa.gov/careers/hiring-outreach-events.

We are planning our own Alumni outreach to MSI's and other colleges this Spring to encourage young people to apply for these EPA jobs by talking about what it is like to work at EPA.



Do You Get Questions From Friends or Family About Opportunities at EPA and How to Get Them?

If yes, please check out some materials developed by EPA!

Opportunities for Students and Recent Graduates: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phT9-KkoGs4>

Various Videos on Applying/USAJOBS/Resumes: <https://www.epa.gov/careers/how-apply-applying-usajobsgov>

Also, point your friends and family to the outreach webinars and other information described above: <https://www.epa.gov/careers/hiring-outreach-events>



Congratulate John Armstead!

On February 2, 2022, the City of Philadelphia announced their first Environmental Justice Advisory Commission in a ceremony with the Mayor of the City. John Armstead, a Region 3 Alum and Board Member, was appointed to this Commission.

Congratulations to John!! If you would like to send him your personal congratulations, please email him [Here](#).

The Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)

We want to share a TRI Challenge and a recent change to the TRI program. These are just a few highlights of a longer article on the TRI Program including the history of the program and many other updates. Download the article [HERE](#).

The TRI Program has always loved a challenge. What is the latest? It is the ‘Companies Crushing Pollution’ Video Challenge! Can you help us publicize it?

EPA has launched a video competition promoting innovation in pollution prevention (P2) at industrial and federal facilities. The ‘Companies Crushing Pollution’ Challenge invites students and others to use the TRI P2 Search Tool to identify a TRI facility that has reported implementing source reduction practices. The individuals (or teams) will then make a video describing those practices or techniques and illustrating how they benefit the business and positively impact nearby communities and the environment. The challenge is open now and all videos must be submitted by March 1, 2022. Monetary prizes of up to \$5000 will be awarded!

www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/companies-crushing-pollution-video-challenge

In addition, let people know that there is now a Spanish Version of TRI Website Available!

EPA recently published a Spanish version of the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) website to give Spanish-speakers across the United States, including those in Puerto Rico, easier access to resources about toxic chemicals released in their communities. The website includes the most popular features and content from the English version of the site. Spanish versions of automated factsheets—displaying a summary of TRI data for individual states, cities, metro areas, and more—are also available, through the TRI Explorer tool. <https://espanol.epa.gov/tri>
Factsheet example:

https://enviro.epa.gov/triexplorer/msa_spn2.html?pLoc=382&pYear=2020&pParent=TRI&pDataSet=TRIQ1&pPrint=0

EPA Plans for Employees to Return to the Office

EPA is again pushing back its plans to have political appointees and managers come back to the office due to an explosion in Covid-19 infections. The date for these officials to return is now February 28. Supervisors, managers, and non-bargaining unit employees are now slated to come back to the workplace on March 28.

The four week delays were announced by Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe in an internal email to staff obtained by E&E News. McCabe's email also said that the Agency will provide at least 45 days notice to bargaining unit employees before they are called to come back to the workplace.

EPA recently said that 95 percent of its employees had at least one vaccination dose. In addition, the agency was moving forward with disciplinary measures for those staff who have not complied with President Biden's vaccine mandate for federal employees.

Alumni Association Academy

During the past year, the EPA Alumni Association's Academy has provided free programs for alumni via Zoom. These programs feature a wide range of guest speakers and timely topics to keep alumni engaged and current on environmental issues.

If you missed participating in these sessions, you can still view them. Programs are recorded with the approval of our speakers and available **HERE**. (They are recorded and available on YouTube). You can also find links to the recordings on the front page of our website at <http://epaalumni.com>. Click on More under OUR ACADEMY on the website's homepage.



Our Programs and Dates:

Our last Academy session was with Dan Esty in a session entitled "Climate Momentum After Glasgow" on January 26, 2022. Dan is a fellow Member, Alum and Professor.

The other Academy sessions were on a wealth of topics; they included:

Restoring the Chesapeake Bay (November 8, 2021)

What the Biden Administration is Doing to Advance Environmental Justice (October 14, 2021)

Discussion with Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe (September 22, 2021)

Federal/State/Local Government Dynamics (June 23, 2021)

Young People's Voices: Environmental Justice and Climate Change (May 12, 2021)

Reviving Science at EPA (April 29, 2021)

The Tale of Two Rivers: The Potomac and the Rio Grande: How Public Action Can Protect Local Rivers (March 24, 2021)

Renewal of EPA's Public Health Protection and Regulations (February 16, 2021)

~~~~~

Participating in sessions as they occur provides you an opportunity to ask questions via the chat feature. In addition, sessions are generally followed by small breakout group discussions with fellow alumni.

For future courses, watch for Association announcements sent by email. Announcements are also posted on our website. Future sessions are being planned and will be announced as they are scheduled. If you have topics and/or speakers you would like to suggest, please send your ideas to the Deans of the Academy (Dave Ullrich and Lydia Wegman) at [epaalumni@aol.com](mailto:epaalumni@aol.com).

## Membership Drive



Do you know 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 our 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.

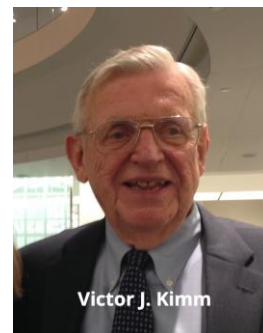
- Log in to [www.epaalumni.org](http://www.epaalumni.org)
- Click on **Our Members** (part of the banner)
- Click on **Members**
- Search **Member Directory** by your Name
- Log in to your **Profile**
- Edit using the edit “pencil” and make your edits
- Go to the bottom of the page and click on **Save my Profile**
- To check if your edits were saved, go back to your **Profile** and review

If you need any help, please reach out to [epaalumni@aol.com](mailto:epaalumni@aol.com).

## In Memoriam

Since the last Newsletter (October 2021) the former EPA employees listed below have passed away. If you learn that a former colleague has died, you may share that information on our Facebook Page or let us know at [newsletter@epaalumni.org](mailto:newsletter@epaalumni.org).

We invite you to reflect on your memories of the colleagues listed below by commenting on their obituaries found on our website. Click [Here](#).



Irwin “Bud” Dickstein  
Dwight Hlustick  
Lester D. Grant  
James A. Combs, Jr.  
Victor J. Kimm  
William Dircks

Janet Moebes  
Marie McPeak  
Debora Browning  
Randall Davis  
Jeff Denit  
Yvonne Countee

Frank Avvisato  
S. T. Rao  
Ed Coe  
William R. Schneider

Larry Kertcher  
James Combs, Jr.  
Albert Heier

## STAY INFORMED!!

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

Go to: <https://www.epaalumni.com/transition-news> to read it or subscribe.

## 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 and send to:

EPA Alumni Association  
628 Chester River Beach Road  
Grasonville, MD 21638.

Thanks to all of our donors. We couldn't do this without you!

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

James Aidala, Derry Allen, John Allis, Jeff Alson, Michael Ardito, Charles Auer, Irv Auerbach, John Bachmann, Daiva Balkus, Mike Bandrowski, Beverly Banister, Walter Barber, Donald Barnes, A. James Barnes, Thomas Barnwell, Mike Barry, Wendy Bartel, Allen Basala, Jay Bassett, Rich Batiuk, Christine Baughman, Nancy Beck, Barbara Beck, Bonnie Bellow, Charmaine Berry, Blake Biles, Gordon Binder, Vicky Binetti, Ron Blair, Mary Blakeslee, James Bland, Richard Boice, Michael Bonchonsky, Barbara Borden, John Bosch, Brooks Bowen, Joe Boyle, Marilyn Bracken, John Bradfield, Lynn Bradley, Joann Brennan McKee, Elaine Brenner, George Brozowski, Dale Bryson, Marjorie Buckholtz, William Burnam, Helga Butler, John Calcagni, David Calkins, Georgia Callahan, Carol Campbell, John Cantilli, Megan Carroll, David Carroll, Glenn Cekus, Tai Chang, Colburn Cherney, John Chicca, Norman Chlosta, Stephen Clark, Jeff Clark, Deborra Cohen, Sally Cole, Jonathan Cole, Samuel Coleman, Thomas Conlon, Margaret Conomos, Basil Constantelos, Norman Cook, Marian Cooper, Gail Cooper, Daniel Costa, Elizabeth Cotsworth, Jeneva Craig, Elizabeth Craig, Andrew Creekmore, Lawrence Culleen, Betsy Curnow, Thomas D'Avanzo, J. Davies, J Michael Davis, David Davis, Belle Davis, Barbara Davis, Christopher Day, Stephany De Scisciolo, Michael DeBusschere, Walter DeRieux, Edward Dettmann,

Thomas Devine, Jane Diamond, Bruce Diamond, Thomas Diggs, Kevin Donovan, Dwight Doxey, Brendan Doyle, John Dugdale, Linda Durkee, Carl Edlund, Barbara Elkus, Jerry Emison, Dale Evarts, Gregory Fabian, David Fege, Margie Fehrenbach, Elissa Feldman, Penelope Fenner-Crisp, Abraham Ferdas, Robert Ferri, Rodger Field, Timothy Fields, Jerry Filbin, Charles Findley, Linda Fisher, Phyllis Flaherty, Deirdre Flannery Tanaka, Robin Fletcher, Mike Flynn, Timothy Fontaine, John Fowle III, Jeanne Fox, Lisa Friedman, David Friedman, Maryann Froehlich, Laura Fujii, Jack Gakstatter, Thomas Gallagher, Linda Garczynski, Anthony Garvin, Bob Geddis, Nanci Gelb, Jeanne Geselbracht, Michael Gill, Gail Ginsberg, Sherry Glick, Joseph Goffman, Alan Goodman, Stephen Goranson, David Gravalles, Mark Greenwood, Betsy Grim, Louise Gross, Georgina Guernica, John Gustafson, Matt Hale, Lynda Hall, Sally Hanft, Ed Hanley, James Hanlon, Bill Hanson, Sallyanne Harper, Erik Hauge, Karl Hausker, Al Havinga, Valeria Heard, Grady Helms, Kathryn Hess, Kathy Hodgkiss, Ron Hoffer, Stephen Hoffman, Rick (William) Hoffmann, Stephen Hogy, Tracy Hopkins, Charles Hornig, Lori Houck Cora, David Howekamp, Charles Howland, Dennis Huebner, Phillip Hutton, Susan Janowiak, Roger Janson, Steve Jellinek, David Jesson, Barnes Johnson, Russell Jones, Rebecca Jones, William Jordan, Tom Jorling, Mark Joyce, Bobbie Kahan, Rick Karl, Anne Keller, Cynthia Kelly, Michael Kenyon, Nancy Ketcham-Colwill, James Ketcham-Colwill, Katrina Kipp, Chuck Kleeberg, Karen Klima, David Kling, Adam Klinger, Kathleen Knox, Myron Knudson, Frans Kok, John Kolojeski, Michael Kosusko, Richard Kotelly, Walter Kovalick, Maury Kruth, Marilyn Kuray, Kelcey Land, Jeff Lape, William Laxton, Korina Layne-Jones, Arnold Leder, Russell Lee, Lily Lee, Susan Lepow, Michael Levin, David Levy, Ken Lloyd, Creavery Lloyd, Raymond Ludwizewski, Gay MacGregor, Anthony Maciorowski, Douglas MacMillan, Caren Madsen, Raymond Magyar, Mario Mangino, Justice Manning, Mark Masarik, Craig Matthiessen, Henry Mazzucca, Michael McCabe, Janet McCabe, Mel McCottry, Daniel McGovern, James McGrath, Colleen McKaughan, Chilton McLaughlin, Robert McManus, Dorothy McManus, Patricia Meaney, Albert Meiburg, Luther Mellen, Mary Melley, David Menotti, Jane Metcalfe, Cynthia Metzger, Leonard Miller, David Mobley, John Moebes, Brian Molloy, Mark Moloney, Anthony Montrone, James Moore, Sam Morekas, David Morell, Douglas Mundrick, William Muno, Linda Murphy, Vanessa Musgrave, Carl Myers, Joe Nash, Carlton Nash, Wayne Nastri, Bill Neuffer, James Newsom, John Neylan III, Armina Nolan, Norine Noonan, Mike Northridge, John O'Connor, James O'Leary, Donald Olson, Marria O'malley Walsh, Wayne Ott, Steve Owens, Joseph Paisie, Christina Parker, Dorothy Patton, William Pedersen, Jeffrey Peterson, Frances Phillips, Gloria Posey, Martha Prothro, Michael Quigley, Norman Radford, Jr., Phyllis Reed-Halloran, Edward Rhodes, Sr., William Rice, Matthew Robbins, Ruth Robenolt, Theodore Rockwell, Joanne Rodman, Fred Rubel, Marvin Rubin, Suzanne Rudzinski, Milton Russell, Robert Sanchez, Richard Sanderson, Michael Sanderson, Sam Sasnett, Amy Schaffer, David Schmidt, Suzanne Schwartz, Jeffrey Schwartz, Leo Schweer, Glenn Schweitzer, Mark Segal, Nancy Seidman, James Seif, John Seitz, Michael Shapiro, Charlene Shaw, Eileen Sheehan, Deborah Shprentz, Kris Shurr, Ann Sibold, Jon Silberman, Theresa (Terry) Simpson, Cynthia Singletary, Douglas Skie, Winston Smith, Arthur Smith, Jr., William Sonntag, James Southerland, Elizabeth Southerland, Jane Souzon, Hal Sprague, Michael Stahl, David Standley, David Stangel, Elaine Stanley, Margaret Stasikowski, Edward Stearns, Bob Stewart, Fred Stiehl, Steve Stodola, Jerry Stubberfield, Richard Sugatt, Robert Sussman, Frances Tafer, Kevin Teichman, Lee A. Thomas, Lee M. Thomas, Joseph Tieger, Joseph Tikvart, Gary Timm, Nikki Tinsley, Robert Tolpa, Stephen Tuber, Catherine Tunis, Linda Tuxen, Donna Twickler, Lee Tyner, David Ullrich, Rachel Van Wingen, Robert Varney, Craig Vogt, Steve Wassersug, Ginger Webster, Lydia Wegman, Anne Weinberg, Nancy Wentworth, Mathilde (Mat) White, John White,

Deanna Wieman, Betty Williamson, Jim Willis, Sharon Wilson, Michaelle Wilson, Louise Wise, John Wise, Eugene Wojcik, Edward Woo, Carol Wood, James Woolford, Gene Wossum, Susan Wyatt, George Wyeth, Deborah Yamamoto, Terry Yosie, Dan Yurman, Howard Zar, Larry Zaragoza, Don Zinger, Audrey Zucker.

## Quote

Who said:

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make.”

*Answer below*

**Answer:** Jane Goodall, primatologist and anthropologist.

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.