

EPA Alumni Association News

August 2018



EPA Emergency Operations Center - Courtesy EPA OEM



In This Issue

[Annual Meeting](#)

[Thanks to Volunteers](#)

[Alums Active in Government](#)

[Chesapeake Bay](#)

[Interview Project](#)

[Job Center Update](#)

President's Message

Greetings!

I hope everyone has been enjoying the summer! The Association has been busy since our last newsletter. The annual meeting featured a lively panel discussion (see details below). I want to welcome **Sam Coleman, Derry Allen, Elizabeth Anderson, and Mark Greenwood** who were elected to our Board of Directors. I also want to thank the Board members who recently completed their terms: **Bharat Mathur, Fran Phillips, David Calkins, and Robert Wayland**. The time you have given and your contributions are much appreciated! As former Presidents, Dave and Bob will remain as Ex Officio members.

The Board has been increasingly active as the Association grows (1,776 members) and takes on more activities. As we have increased our membership, there has been an increase in other organizations reaching out to partner with us. One exciting partnership, with **American University**, aims to look at how the environmental protection "enterprise" may evolve to serve the nation in the next half century (see related article). The support by alumni in participating in the initial discussion groups, the Committee,



Association President
Phyllis Flaherty

Alumni Association Leadership

Phyllis Flaherty, President
Tom Voltaggio,
Vice President & Treasurer
David Menotti, Secretary

Chuck Elkins*
Executive Director

Board of Directors

Derry Allen
Phil Angell
Betty Anderson
John Bachmann
Candace Brassard
Dave Calkins*
Sam Coleman
Penny Fenner-Crisp
Phyllis Flaherty
Mark Greenwood
David Menotti
Margo Oge
Tom Voltaggio
Marylouise Uhlig
Ingrid Wadsworth

and the Focus Groups has been tremendous! I am optimistic that this project, including a conference, planned for 2019, will have a major impact and facilitate a useful dialogue on the future of EPA and environmental protection.

We continue to engage in activities to support EPA employees including small group mentoring sessions with EPA managers led by EPA alumni. Alumni **Ed Hanley** and **Len Miller** have led two small group sessions, which have been well received by EPA. For those considering volunteering for this, our volunteers report that this has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

We welcome input from our members and encourage you to consider volunteering! There are a number of ways to serve!

Phyllis Flaherty
President

Annual Meeting Washington DC, May 11, 5:00pm Fisher, Shogren, & Walsh Speak

The EPA Alumni Association Annual Meeting was held in Washington, DC on May 11. About 85 Alumni attended in person and 30 listened in by phone. Attendees enjoyed a light reception followed by remarks and Q and A session with the invited speakers, a short business meeting, conclusion of the 2018 Class of Board Member elections, and closing with a full open-bar reception.

The three distinguished expert speakers were: **Linda J. Fisher**, former Chief Sustainability Officer of DuPont, EPA Deputy Administrator, and AA for Pesticides, Prevention, and Toxics; **Elizabeth Shogren**, environmental reporter with the Center for Investigative Journalism, NPR, LA Times, and High Country News; and **Mike Walsh**, Founding Chairman and currently Adviser to the International Council on Clean Transportation. Mike was previously Director of Mobile Sources in the Office of Air and Radiation. Each speaker shared insights on the status of the Agency in the current political climate and its future after the current administration, since EPA will reach its 50th birthday in 2020. After the speaker remarks was a series of interesting questions and discussions.

You can see photos of attendees and watch a video of the meeting at <https://www.epaalumni.com/2018-annual-dc-get-together>

Bob Wayland*
Steve Weil

* denotes
ex officio Members of the
Board

Membership Tops 1,776

Welcome to the new members listed below who joined the Association since April 22, 2018. Click on any name to read the member's profile.

[Janie Acevedo](#)
[Alma Adams-Horvath](#)
[Diana Baldi](#)
[Mike Bandrowski](#)
[Tonia Biggs](#)
[Myra Blakely](#)
[Marsha Bush](#)
[Philip Charles](#)
[Mark Charles](#)
[Steven Chester](#)
[Eileen Claussen](#)
[Craig Cooper](#)
[Joseph Cotruvo](#)
[Bill Cox](#)
[Jeneva Craig](#)
[Kathy Dalferro](#)
[Jim Dougherty](#)
[Robert Drake](#)
[David Friedman](#)
[Joseph Gearo](#)
[Ridge Hall](#)
[Gail Hansen](#)
[Jim Hanson](#)
[Charles Howland](#)
[Judith Kane](#)
[Michael Kenyon](#)
[Janet Lemond](#)

ENVIRONMENT 2045 PROJECT: Thank You EPA Alumni Volunteers

We want to extend a big thank you to 60 of our members who have been working together since late May to write a series of five thought-provoking papers on future directions for environmental progress and EPA's role.

The "Environment 2045 Project" looks decades - 25 years - ahead from EPA's 50th anniversary in 2020 -- past today's contentious issues, past EPA's current capacity and strengths/weaknesses, past incremental changes and past the current legislative framework -- to a future time in which we hope that many points of view can come together around a shared vision for the environment.

The project is being conducted by the American University (AU) Center for Environmental Policy in partnership with the EPA Alumni Association. It builds on brainstorming by about two dozen alumni last March and 60 members this summer. The next step is a survey of the Association's 1700+ members. The papers and the survey results will be used to plan a multi-stakeholder conference sponsored by AU and Association in April 2019, featuring former EPA administrators and other prominent experts. Further workshops outside Washington may follow, involving more parties. [**\(Click here for more information.\)**](#)

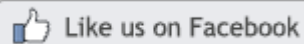
The papers and the survey should be available to all members of the Association in September, so stay tuned. Meanwhile, the Association thanks the very talented alumni who have generously given their time and expertise, as members of five focus groups and the project committee:

Theme 1: What will be the future challenges for achieving environmental progress?

- **Focus Group 1: Future Environmental Challenges:** Stan Laskowski (leader), Mike Cook, Walter DeRieux, Harlan Greem, Alan Hecht, Jamie Heller, Vic Kimm, Roger Martella, Norine Noonan, Frank Princiotta, Michael Shapiro.

Theme 2: What should be the model by which the U.S. and EPA address future challenges for achieving environmental progress?

[John Lovell](#)
[Maureen McClelland](#)
[Stephanie Moran](#)
[Douglas Mundrick](#)
[Tom Nelson](#)
[David Parrish](#)
[Daniel Roth](#)
[Mark Segal](#)
[Rhonda Smith](#)
[Alexandra Smith](#)
[William Sonntag](#)
[Andrew Stewart](#)
[Jeff Tumarkin](#)
[Deborah Vaughn-Wright](#)
[Dana Wessels](#)
[beverly white](#)
[Paul Whitley](#)
[David Williams](#)
[Michaelle Wilson](#)
[Steve Young](#)

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Thank You Donors

The Association is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. We greatly appreciate the contributions of members.

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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

- **Focus Group 2: The "Environmental System" and EPA's Role:** Bob Perciasepe (leader), Joe Cascio, Adria Cooper, Walter DeRieux, Barbara Elkus, Bonnie Gitlin, Mark Greenwood, Bill Hirzy, Dale Medearis, Philip Metzger, Rob Wolcott, George Wyeth.
- **Focus Group 3: EPA's Relationship with States and Other Public and Private Actors:** Dave Ullrich (leader), Mark Charles, Steve Chester, Kerrigan Clough, Ed Hanley, Judy Katz, Walt Kovalick, Maury Kruth, Stan Laskowski, Philip Metzger, William Muno, Armina Nolan, John Whitescarver.

Theme 3: What will EPA need to do its job?

- **Focus Group 4: Science, Technology and Information:** Penny Fenner-Crisp (leader), Dave Friedman, Ed Hanley, Barry Nussbaum, George Schewe, Rita Schoeny, Glenn Schweitzer, Mark Segal, Bill Sonntag, Steve Young.
- **Focus Group 5: EPA Tools, Processes, Culture and Resources:** Stan Meiburg (leader), Rob Brenner, Arden Calvert, Greg Fabian, Odelia Funke, Noha Gaber, Bill Hirzy, Joel Mintz, Bill Shapiro, Stephen Weil, George Wyeth.

Project Committee: Derry Allen (Co-Chair), Tom Voltaggio (Co-Chair), Penny Fenner-Crisp, Phyllis Flaherty, Ed Hanley, Stan Laskowski, Steve Weil, Chuck Elkins (support).



AFTER EPA

Alums Active in Local Government

Many thanks to all our members who have donated since April 2018

Anne Barton
 Alison Bird
 Mary Blakeslee
 Laszlo Bockh
 J Michael Davis
 Craig DeRemer
 Daphne Gemmill
 Doug Grano
 John Gustafson
 Creavery Lloyd
 Gay MacGregor
 Leo Mullin
 Audrey Shileikis
 David Standley
 Judy Stober
 Karen Young

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Last April's newsletter featured EPA AA members who volunteer as docents in a variety of capacities.

This time we feature Alums who have become involved in local government and/or as elected officials on Boards and Councils. For example, **Jake Mackenzie**, formerly of Region 9 Pesticides and HQ, is a Councilman and Mayor of Rohnert Park, CA. **Roy Kime**, who worked in Enforcement, is now Town Administrator of Irvington, VA. Another is **Robert L. Burke**, who worked in program support for air quality and related land use issues, is an elected member of the Newton Highlands Area Council in Newton, MA where he's Chairperson of a study group that is working to establish a local historic district in part of the village. **Kate M. Perry**, former Deputy Director, Ag Division, OC/OECA, was elected to the Committee of 100 on the Federal City and serves on the Historic Preservation Subcommittee to support good land use and historic preservation governmental decisions affecting downtown D.C. **Lynda Deschambault**, who was a Region 9 Remedial Project Manager, served as Mayor of Moraga, CA. Finally, our Executive Director, **Chuck Elkins** is an elected Neighborhood Advisory Commissioner in D.C.

For those of you who wish to embark on such a path, reach out to these Alums and others for their advice. To do this, we all must make sure to share information about ourselves and our activities in our AA profiles to potentially connect with others with similar interests with whom we can share experiences. Future articles could feature those who have an interest in motor sports, coaching or mentoring, art, cooking, homebrewing and home improvement. If there's an activity in which you are interested and want to see an article about it, please contact us.

GOOD NEWS! Chesapeake Bay Health Report Card

According to articles in the Washington Post and Baltimore Sun, scientists say the Bay "hasn't been this healthy in 33 years" and that Bay health is "significantly improving." The Bay's 15-year, \$19 billion cleanup plan is administered by EPA and holds the six states in the Chesapeake watershed to specific pollution limits. Under the plan, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York, along with the District of Columbia, agreed to substantially improve wastewater treatment facilities and decrease runoff from farms responsible for significant amounts of waste reaching the rivers and streams that run into the Bay.

Studies have shown that cutting nutrient pollution from deposition of air emissions as well as runoff from farming,

and discharges in domestic sewage, along with sediment from construction and agriculture - has reduced the size and duration of "dead zones" where fish, oysters and other creatures die in oxygen-depleted water. Underwater grasses, where juvenile crabs and fin fish seek food and shelter, have rebounded significantly as well.



Ben Grumbles

"We all need to continue working in a bipartisan way ... to support the science and good conservation practices," **Benjamin H. Grumbles**, Maryland's Environment Secretary, and a member of the EPA Alumni Association, said at the report card announcement.

Interview Project:

We have been asked if anyone who has recently left the Agency would be willing to be interviewed by an academic team based at Stony Brook and Northeastern Universities as part of an investigation into EPA's history and current trajectory. The project is described below. If you have questions or wish to participate, please contact **Chris Sellers**, at christopher.sellers@stonybrook.edu.

From Chris:

"I'm leading a team that is researching current conditions and the evolving sense of mission inside EPA within the context of its history. Since December 2016 we've been interviewing former EPA employees, especially those who have recently left the agency.

We greatly appreciate the initial invitation issued by the Alumni Association which helped get this project started. We're ready for a new round of interviews, and seek recent agency alumni or others associated with the agency willing to volunteer. Interviews run about 45 minutes, with confidentiality terms at the complete discretion of the interviewee. Most questions explore older versus newer agency initiatives and their perceived effectiveness, evolving priorities, and tasks and challenges ahead, both short-and long-term. The project aims to provide a thorough perspective on the EPA over the past year and a half and beyond."

EPA Alumni Association Jobs Center

Visit the Job Center at Jobs.EPAalumni.org

If you know of a job that should be listed, please post it! The site was designed to be easy and intuitive and is designed for current EPA employees and alumni alike.

Jobs Center Update:

by **Candy Brassard and Penny Fenner-Crisp**

July 18, 2018

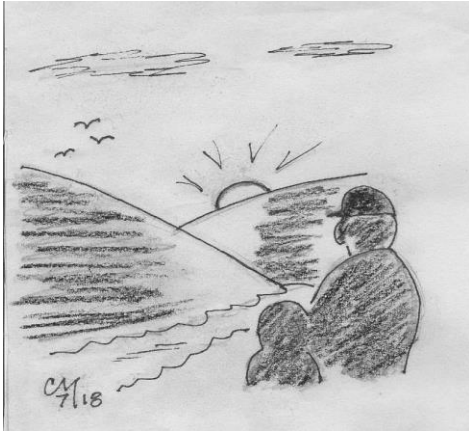
Currently there are 42 new job postings. Of those, 9 positions/employers are located in the DC area. This list of potential employers includes law firms, academia, non-profit organizations, private industry, both part time and full time.

The following categories and approximate number of websites are available showing employment opportunities:

Category	Number of Organizations
Universities	113
Trade Associations	29
Professional Societies	59
NGO	121
Law Firms	58
Laboratories	59
State Agencies	62 (some states have multiple sites)
Engineering Firms	207
Employment Agencies	22
Consulting Firms	104
Chemical Industry	367

Transition Updates Continue

When Steve Weil began preparing his weekly roundup of news about the transition at EPA, shortly about the time Scott Pruitt was nominated, nobody expected that there would still be significant vacancies in appointed positions at EPA well over a year later. We only send the Update to those who request it - currently ~720 of our members. If you would like to subscribe, [click here](#). If you aren't sure, browse recent issues which are posted on our web site [here](#).



"I sure am glad EPA is clearing the air!"

Who said this?

"Nature provides a free lunch, but only if we control our appetites."

Answer below

**William D. Ruckelshaus - Administrator 1970 - 1973 and
1983 - 1985**

EPA Alumni Association

P.S. If you would rather not receive these newsletters, please email us at newsletter@EPAalumni.org rather than using SafeUnsubscribe, below.