

View this email in your browser.

Facebook Website Email



THE RIVER GUARDIAN FALL 2020

ARPOA BOARD: David Smith, President; Micki Levin, Vice President; Margot Surridge, Treasurer; Julie Gibbs, Web Director; Howard Johnson, Cedars for the Au Sable; Steve Poulos, Chairman River Guardians; Boyd Dillon, David Long, John Blakemore, Adolph "Dolph" Greenberg.



From the President David Smith

As you know, the ARPOA Board of Directors made the decision to cancel the Annual Meeting due to the pandemic. An election of directors was held by mail and email. Howard Johnson, Carol Vidrio, Boyd Dillon, and Judy Walle were reelected to the board and Adolph "Dolph" Greenberg was newly elected. Also, John Blakemore was appointed to the board this fall for a one-year term.

Soon after the election, Judy and Carol informed the board that, because of selling their river properties, they were resigning. It was with much sadness that their resignations were accepted. Both Judy and Carol had been on the board for many years. Judy had served as secretary for much of that time as well as our newsletter editor and Carol was our treasurer for the same period. I want to offer heartfelt thanks for their huge efforts supporting the Association as well as best wishes for the future.

The aforementioned resignations once again leaves the ARPOA board with openings. If you would consider joining the board, email your interest to arpoa.mi@gmail.com. Please include your connection to the river.

Please keep yourselves safe and I hope to see you on the river soon.

David

Please welcome our newest Board members!

Greetings from Adolph "Dolph" Greenberg



Having fly fished for nearly 65 years, my appreciation for trout waters is unbounded and this, in large part, was the reason my wife and I chose to invest in a river property some 25 years ago. While we love the river, we know that appreciation in the absence of active stewardship will not protect and sustain any resource. I know this because I have worked with American and Canadian Indian nations on environmental issues for 40 years as an applied anthropologist, and taught in Miami University's Department of Anthropology and Institute of Environmental Science for the same number of years. I have served as a consultant to the National Park Service on management protocols. Apart from my academic and applied work, I have served as President of Oxford, Ohio's Audubon chapter for 2 years and as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Three Valley Conservation Trust for 6 years.

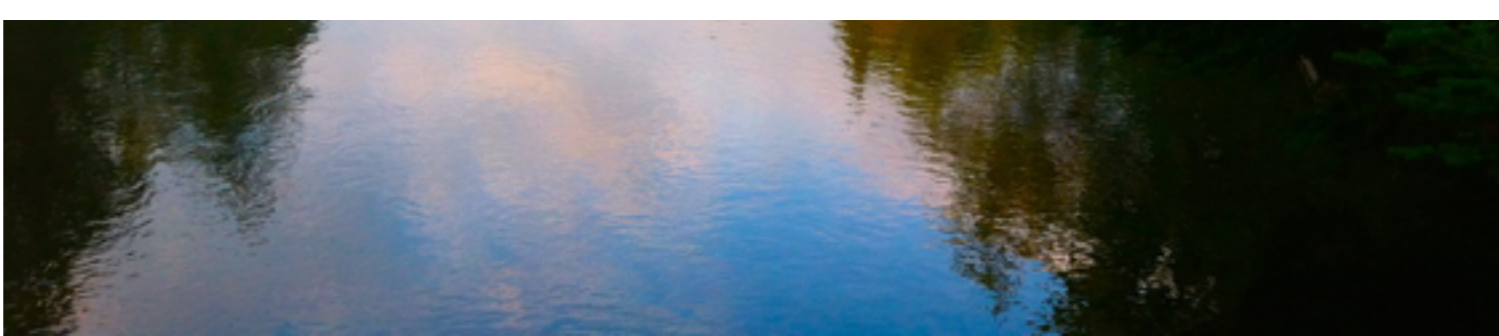
Greetings from John Blakemore



I was born in Winston-Salem, NC, a lovely city in which my mother and brother still reside. After completing a Bachelor of Music Education degree at Appalachian State University, I started my teaching career in 1982 near West Jefferson, NC, a town located in the Blue Ridge Mountains that is about the size of Grayling. After teaching at Northwest Ashe High School for 5 years, and obtaining a Masters Degree in Music Education, also at App. State, I applied for admission to several doctoral programs around the country.

In 1987 we left NC for East Lansing to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from MSU. In 1989 I accepted the position of Director of Bands and Orchestra at Albion College. While teaching at Albion I completed my studies at MSU. In 1995 I left Albion for a similar position in Grand Rapids.

Retirement, along with the gentle persuasion of our friend David Smith, is what brings us together. My wife Diane and I have 6 kids, and new dog "Xylo". Two years ago we purchased and are updating a little cabin on the North Branch. Together with Diane we look forward to making new friends, having fun, and beginning part of our next chapter with you. We love the AuSable, its environs, and are dedicated to assisting you in preserving it and our shared natural resources for future generations.



Treasurer's Update Margot Surridge, Treasurer

On June 24th, I assumed the responsibilities of Treasurer of ARPOA. Due to the pandemic, I did not have the opportunity to meet many of you or collect our annual dues at that time. I sent each of you an invoice in mid-July and sent a reminder at the beginning of September for those who had not submitted payment. Our fiscal year begins August 1st. We appreciate the support we have received from our members! If you have not had the opportunity to send in your dues, please do so at your earliest convenience. Every dollar received is used to enhance your river experience so your contribution is valuable for operations. Family/Individual dues are \$35.00, Sustaining membership is \$100, and Club membership is \$75.00.

Visit our website at www.arpoa-mi.org to pay with PayPal or send us a check via mail to PO Box 15, Grayling, Michigan 49738. Your dues and donations are tax deductible per IRS 501(C)3 regulations.

We are always open to any suggestions our members have as to how you would like us to utilize your donations. You may leave any questions or comments by e-mailing us at arpoa.mi@gmail.com or visit our website at www.arpoa-mi.org.

Thank you, again, for your support! I look forward to serving you!

Purple Loosestrife Update

The Association made a commitment in 2009 to treat purple Loosestrife, an aggressive invasive plant, in the river corridor. This has been accomplished each year during several volunteer events usually held in August.

This year because of Covid 19, the decision was made to not have any events and ask property owners to cut plants when they have floated sections of the river. Several stretches were treated in this manner. Marie Harrington, David Smith, Howard Johnson, and Bob Johnson floated the Holy Water (Burton's Landing to Wakeley Bridge) and removed all the Purple Loosestrife they found. Harrington and Smith also removed plants around Mac's Island and a quarter mile downstream when they were called by an Association member asking for help.



DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?

If you do, here is a great way to donate to the Au Sable River Property Owners Association. Just log on to http://smile.amazon.com and choose us. Amazon automatically donates 0.5% of the purchase of eligible products to our organization.

ARPOA website

Looking for copies of old newsletters or more information on the Au Sable River Property Owners Association visit our Website at www.arpoa-mi.org or join us on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/A.R.P.O.A.MI/.

