



THE RIVER GUARDIAN SUMMER 2019

ARPOA BOARD: David Smith, President; Carol Vidiro, Treasurer; Judy Walle, Secretary & Newsletter Editor; Julie Gibbs, Web Director; Howard Johnson, Cedars for the Au Sable; Boyd Dillon, Steve Poulos, Chairman River Guardians, David Long, Margot Surridge, Micki Levin.



From the President David Smith

A lot of changes on the river these days...

Northern Strike, the massive training event at the National Guard Camp, is winding down pretty soon; no more 500 pound bombs, fewer helicopters flying over, and less machine guns firing. The Canoe Marathon is over for another year so racers training are down to just a few each day. Labor Day is just around the corner, bringing a reduction in canoe traffic on the river. And another ARPOA Annual Wine and Cheese Meet & Greet is in the books. This year had one of the largest turnouts since the wine and cheese format was adopted. Serving directors were reelected and new directors elected--welcome Margot and Dave!--and a great presentation was given by Nicole Watson about the project to reintroduce Arctic Grayling to Northern Michigan.

The ferns are turning brown, signaling the return of fall and brilliant color to the river valley. It's a wonderful time to be around the river.

Hope to see you there.

David

Welcome to new Board members!



Margot Surridge was born January 20, 1952 in Rogers City, Michigan. She graduated from Wayne State University with a BA in Psychology and from Central Michigan University with a Masters Degree in Health Care Administration. She has 3 children Scott, Amanda and Jessica (Zubek) a son in law Chuck Zubek and two grandchildren Franky and Ella Zubek. She retired in 2014 from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science as the Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer and the President of the Rosalind Franklin University Health System.

Margot lives on the Au Sable River on Beaver Island Road and says she is lucky enough to enjoy its beauty every day!



David Long received a B.A. in Geology from Monmouth College, Illinois; M.S. in Hydro geochemistry from the University of Illinois-Chicago; and Ph.D. in Aqueous Geochemistry from the University of Kansas. He has done research and teaching in the areas of Aqueous and Environmental Geochemistry. He recently become professor emeritus, but still holds adjunct positions in his home department (Earth & Environmental Sciences) at Michigan State University as well as in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. He has studied contaminant and non-contaminant chemicals in surface environments such as lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater. In particular, has studied various Michigan watersheds and inland lakes as well as the Great Lakes including in a manned submersible. Part of his work has been to learn the influences of human activities on environmental systems and evaluate the influences of the environment on human health. International experiences include teaching and research activities in Australia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Israel, Macedonia, Malawi, Mexico (Yucatan), Montenegro, Serbia, and Romania. David's favorite activities include fly fishing, photography and videography (including 3d and drone), playing banjo, cooking and being with my wife Jean and son, when he is in country.

David enjoys the Au Sable River in beautiful Lovells on North Drive off of Shannon.

Membership and Treasurer's Update Carol Vidiro, Treasurer

DUES ARE DUE

Thank you for your continued support of the Au Sable River Property Owners Association. Without you, we could not preserve and protect the Au Sable River.

As you know, our fiscal year begins on August 1st of every year. If you have not yet renewed for the 2019/2020 fiscal year or would like to make an additional donation, please do so by visiting 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!

River Guardians Needs You! Steve Poulos, Chairman

The Association initiated the River Guardians project several years ago to monitor the health and status of the river. The Mainstream and South Branch were divided into reaches and volunteers recruited to float their section at least twice a year and report to the project leader. The reports include the date of the float and any issues requiring further investigation, such as indication of PFAS foam/contamination, invasives, obstructions to navigation, erosion, unpermitted structures in or out of the stream, etc. This information is shared with the appropriate agency for further investigation.

The reaches are below. If you are interested in participating as a River Guardian, contact the association at: Steve Poulos (517) 282-1836, poulos@msu.edu or arpo.mi@gmail.com.

Mainstream

- Frederic to Pollack Bridge
- Pollack Bridge to Grayling (park in town)
- Grayling to Burton's Landing
- Burton's Landing to Wakeley Bridge
- Wakeley Bridge to McMaster's
- Mc Masters to Parmalee
- Parmalee to Camp 10
- Camp 10 to Mio Dam

South Branch

- Roscommon to Chase Bridge
- Chase Bridge to Smith Bridge
- Smith Bridge to the Mainstream

2019 Annual Wine and Cheese Meet & Greet Micki Levin, Vice President

July 13th, over 60 people gathered for the annual meeting of the Au Sable River Property Owners Association at Gate's Lodge. The weather was beautiful; warm sun, blue sky and cool breezes. Friends and fellow property owners socialized over extended conversations. We enjoyed wine and beer, cheese and crackers. Margot and Micki offered homemade cookies which everyone seemed to enjoy as they were eagerly scarfed up by all.

There was a short business meeting chaired by David Smith. Two new board members were elected, Margot Surridge and David Long. Please see their bios above.

Our guest speaker was Nicole Watson who spoke on her work to facilitate the reintroduction of Arctic Grayling to MICHIGAN streams. Nicole was first introduced to the Au Sable at age nine when she began fishing at Wyandotte Lodge (now Riverside). She began fishing with renewed fervor around 2003. Nicole received her M.S. from Central Michigan University where her research focused on the use of otoliths micro chemistry of juvenile Steelhead in tributaries of Lake Michigan to trace Back to stream of origin. She is currently a doctoral student at Michigan State University's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.



The focus of her research is three part: predation of newly hatched Grayling fry by young Brown and Brook trout; competition between age-0 Grayling, Brook and Brown trout; and imprinting of Arctic Grayling to their "home" waters.

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/>.

