

ARPOA holds annual meeting

The AuSable River Property Owners' Association (ARPOA) held their annual meeting on July 20 at Gates Au Sable Lodge with 61 members attending the Second Annual Wine and Cheese Gathering.

Gary Vetter and Carol Vidrio were newly elected to the Board of Directors and Barb Bowers and Greg Stansbury were re-elected.

Several partners of ARPOA reported on current projects taking place on the river. Howard Johnson told the members about Cedars for the AuSable, which planted about 600 cedar trees in 2012 and more than 18,000 trees over the group's history. Greg Stansbury reported on the Anglers of the AuSable's brown trout telemetry project. Bob Andrus spoke about Mason-Griffith Founders Chapter #019 of Trout Unlimited and their two HIA projects on the

AuSable Mainstream.

David Smith, President of ARPOA, presented the 5th year of the Purple Loosestrife project, an invasive plant problematic to the river which ARPOA is working to manage. Huron Pines AmeriCorps member Claire Wood discussed her service with the Au Sable River Watershed Committee and her involvement in ARPOA's Purple Loosestrife project.

ARPOA, along with the Au Sable River Watershed Committee, will be holding two volunteer events to combat Purple Loosestrife on the AuSable on August 14 and 24. Volunteers will canoe and remove the plant along a stretch of the mainstream. If you would like to participate contact Wood at claire@asrwc.org. To learn more about the association or to become a member, visit the website at arpoa-mi.org or contact arpoa.mi@gmail.com.