

May 2014

Dear Wild Ones Member:

In accordance with our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Wild Ones Nominating Committee is presenting seven board member nominees to be considered for election to the board in 2014. All nominees are Wild Ones members and are volunteers. If elected, all will serve a four year term. If you will not be attending the Annual Meeting on August 16, 2014 at Appleton, Wisconsin, we would like you to cast your vote for nominated board members prior to the meeting.

Please complete the attached ballot, fold and mail to Wild Ones headquarters by August 9, 2014, or go to the Wild Ones website and cast your ballot by August 14, 2014. To get to the electronic ballot, go to the member login button in the upper right-hand corner of the Wild Ones website homepage and click on the link "Board of Directors Ballot." If you haven't already registered, you will need to do so first.

To register, go to the upper right-hand corner of the Wild Ones website home page and click on the Members Login button. In the next window, go to the third line which says "member email not registered? Register password for member here." The window which appears next gives you the opportunity to register your e-mail address. You'll need to make up a password. The Internet will search the Wild Ones database to see if your e-mail address matches with what we have there, and if you're active, and if it's satisfied, it will allow you to go to the next step. Here you will need to answer a couple of pretty simple questions. Once answered, you will be sent back to the log-in page from where you should be able to successfully access a number of pieces of information including the *Wild Ones Journal*, the Photo Contest Voting and the 2014 ballot. Click on the link to the ballot and cast your vote. Or you can go directly to www.wildones.org/members/ballot.cgi

The following table lists individuals nominated for the Wild Ones board. Please cast your ballot for up to seven nominees:

01 Pam Dewey, 02 Trina Hayes, 03 Jan Hunter, 04 John Magee, 05 Janis Solomon, 06 Sally Wencel, 07 Laura Zigmanth.

Nominee	Pam Dewey
Chapter/Location	MI, Kalamazoo Area Chapter
Professional background	<p>My entire professional career has been spent in Private Accounting with the exception of 9 years spent in Public Accounting. The Public Accounting forum gave me audit experience with nonprofits. My volunteer history has been nearly 2 decades serving on 2 nonprofit boards in various capacities.</p> <p><i>Educational Background:</i> MBA (Saginaw Valley State University); Landscape Design/Gardening Study, Master Environmental Study, and Advanced Master Gardener certifications.</p>
Running for the Board because...	<p>I've been a member of Wild Ones since 2010. My experience at my local chapter level, my other nonprofit experience, my commitment to the environment, and the urging of several people encouraged me to run for a Board seat.</p> <p>I believe in Wild Ones' mission of promoting environmentally sound landscaping practices and preserving biodiversity and want to be a more active part of those efforts. I especially want to ensure the organization remains fiscally sound.</p>
Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>I offer nearly 20 years of nonprofit board experience and an audit and accounting background specific to nonprofits. I've also had past experience with for-profit audits, compilations, finance, meetings, and as a recording secretary and treasurer.</p> <p>I also bring effective organizational and communication skills. Plus, I am a certified Master Gardening Study Consultant, a certified Landscape Design Study Consultant, a certified Master Environmental Study Consultant, and have an Advanced Master Gardener certification.</p>
Vision Statement	<p>I envision Wild Ones influencing more and more people's perception of their landscaping and how it should be used to maintain a healthy environment for not only themselves, but also others. I want that to continue until we reach a national consensus on the importance of using native plants and natural landscaping.</p> <p>I want our organization to always keep its eye on staying financially sound as we grow membership and as we increase the perceived benefits of WO membership and its influence.</p>
Nominee	Trina Hayes
Chapter/Location	TN, Tennessee Valley Chapter
Professional background	<p>My work as a clinical social worker and therapist spans almost 20 years. I recently opened my own private practice as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.</p> <p>I'm a self-taught botanist and lifetime member of the TN Native Plant Society, a TN Master Naturalist and Master Gardener, and work as a habitat steward for NWF. I've completed the KY Native Plant Stewardship Certification program and lead plant rescues for the GA Native Plant Society and my own chapter (for whom I'm the Plant Rescue Co-chair). And, I am busy restoring 11 acres of rural TN land to native woods, barrens, and brushy areas.</p>

Running for the Board because...	<p>Two years ago, I was appointed to the Board to fill an open position. I've served as the Nominations Chair (2012), and participated as a member of four committees - Bylaws, Governance, Marketing, and Strategic Planning Committees.</p> <p>I plan to increase my commitment to the Board by more preparation for Board meetings, and by continuing to attend face-to-face Board meetings in person.</p>
Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>As a Southerner, I bring to the Board a fresh, different perspective. I offer an ability to think outside the box. My 22 years as a therapist fine-tuned my people skills. I have a personal commitment to live lightly on the Earth and a deep-seated belief in our mission to attract all to landscape their yards and communities with native plants.</p>
Vision Statement	<p>My vision is that Wild Ones will spread its influence into more states, and to attract larger landowners who are far from chapters.</p> <p>I want to see a clear succession plan to replace our Executive Director, who has been fundamental to our success, when she retires so that Wild Ones will continue to grow and thrive. I also want to see WO develop a strategic plan.</p> <p>I am fully committed in making sure my voice on the Board is heard, and ensuring all Board members have a voice.</p>
Nominee	Jan Hunter
Chapter/location	OH, Oak Openings Chapter
Professional background	<p>As founder and owner of Naturally Native Nursery (Bowling Green OH), I help clients with all aspects of land management, landscape design, and installation. We propagate 300 species of native plants and have a half-acre garden and a 1.5-acre restored prairie.</p> <p>My previous experience includes being a program coordinator for the Green Ribbon Initiative (a partnership of organizations made up of The Nature Conservancy, Toledo Metroparks, ODNR, and others). Before that, I was a wild land firefighter, stewardship director for a land trust, and had various positions with The Nature Conservancy in Idaho and Indiana.</p>
Running for the Board because...	<p>As a long-time WO supporter and current Board member, I have a common-sense approach to relating to the general public regarding the native plant movement and its relationship to the environment.</p>
Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>My involvement in many organizations involving plants, environment, land stewardship, and people can help our organization as it moves into the future.</p> <p>I make it a point to keep current on native landscape information and research (by attending conferences, my active involvement in conservation organizations, and reading books).</p>
Vision Statement	<p>My vision for WO is to have more chapters in more states. I would like to have WO's name be first in conversations about native plants everywhere. I would like to see WO closely involved in local municipal decisions about plantings and conservation as well as in businesses, home landscapes and schools. I want to see chapters working closely together in joint ventures and want to see the growth of the organization throughout the country.</p> <p>Fundraising and development, along with marketing, will demonstrate to the public that we are a strong and committed organization worthy of their involvement. Close ties between National and chapters will make us strong and inspire more people and organizations to become involved.</p>
Nominee	John Magee
Chapter/location	VA, Blue Ridge Wild Ones Chapter
Professional background	<p>I am president of my own firm - Magee Design in Middleburg VA. In my career, I've accumulated 25 years of landscape design/installation experience, including deep knowledge of plant and construction materials, client service, and sales. I emphasize landscapes highlighting native plants and using sustainable landscaping practices (naturally!).</p> <p>Educational Background: B.S. Agriculture (Ohio State), design certifications (U of PA and USDA graduate school).</p>
Running for the Board because...	<p>One of the key reasons for running for the Wild Ones Board is that I want to be actively involved in the mission of the organization.</p>

Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>I bring marketing, native plant expertise, and teaching/presentation skills.</p> <p>I worked in Washington DC, so I am aware of how public opinion differs from one person to the next and from one group to the next, so I've had to develop ways of story?telling to relate to others so they are receptive to the message.</p> <p>I've served on the board of the Virginia Native Plant Society, founded the Gardening for Galapagos Campaign (Galapagos Conservancy), and am an active member of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association and the Piedmont Environmental Council. I have also written almost 20 articles for a variety of publications (e.g., Green and Clean Journal, National Wildlife Federation Magazine, Journal of Science) and I give presentations on landscaping with native plants at local and national events.</p>
Vision Statement	<p>Promoting native plants in the landscape is exactly what I've done for the past 25 years. In Wild Ones, I've found an organization whose beliefs and goals are the same as my own. Thus, participating in the direction of an organization such as this seems like a natural fit.</p> <p>Throughout my career, I've had to find unique and innovative ways to reach people who weren't ecologically minded to begin with. My hope is to bring that ability to the Board to help Wild Ones grow and prosper by reaching a crowd that isn't currently listening to our message.</p>
Nominee	Janis Solomon
Chapter/location	CT, Mountain Laurel Chapter
Professional background	<p>I grew up in Texas deeply appreciating native habitat and have been committed to its preservation during my 50 years of gardening in CT. I retired from Connecticut College 6 years ago, as Prof. of German & Director, Film Studies. I've become an Advanced CT Master Gardner and a Master Composter.</p> <p>I hold life memberships in both Wild Ones and the Sierra Club; I am a member of the CT Botanical Society and many conservation groups.</p> <p>Educational Background: B.A. Liberal Arts (UT Austin), MA & PhD in German Literature (Yale).</p>
Running for the Board because...	I've served on the Board for 2 years, allowing me to learn our organization's issues. To achieve the goal of making WO a national organization, it is imperative to have people outside the Midwest on the Board. We must develop a national agenda to attract a broad base of members around the country.
Skills/experience brought to the Board	I ran an academic department for decades and also created a thriving interdisciplinary program in Film Studies. I raised endowment monies for a scholarship fund. I also have an extensive research and publications background, and served on virtually every major committee at Connecticut College during my tenure.
Vision Statement	<p>I'm aware of the challenges we face as we seek to become the premier voice in a national effort to restore native habitat. We will need a) to organize regional task forces, b) a robust grant-writing effort, and c) a much greater media presence.</p> <p>Our first task is advocacy: spread the word of why our work is not just important, but crucial. Our second task is to raise awareness and funds to implement projects, develop regional seed collecting and propagation nurseries, and enlist landscapers to promote natives in their installations. Finally, our advocacy needs to be on a local level, personally as well as organizationally, as demonstrated in our own gardens and involvement with our communities.</p>
Nominee	Sally Wencel
Chapter/Location	TN, Tennessee Valley Chapter
Professional background	<p>I bring over 25 years of experience working in both for-profit and non-profit organizations with physicians, hospitals, insurers and other organizations on legal issues, contracting, new program development and funding, risk management, managed care, strategic planning, benchmarking, quality review and improvement (including auditing), and compliance.</p> <p>My executive management experience includes full budgeting, P/L, operations, program development, marketing, association governance and management responsibilities.</p> <p>Educational Background: JD (U of WI), MBA (U of TN).</p>
Running for the Board because...	I want to help Wild Ones become a truly national organization by bringing in representation from the South as well as focusing on building the organization's credibility.

Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>I am analytical and a strategic thinker. I have expertise in infrastructure development including developing and deploying systems. I was one of the leaders in putting together the Tennessee Valley Chapter and am currently chapter President (2013-2014).</p> <p>I am also a project developer and was instrumental designing and developing the Friends of the Cumberland Trail's native plant and restoration nursery, "Trailhead Nursery."</p> <p>I'm usually am the "inside-outside" voice in that I politely challenge group conclusions and assumptions. I'm not afraid that people will get mad at me for not going with the conventional wisdom, but I also know how to go about this in a collegial way.</p>
Vision Statement	<p>My vision is that Wild Ones becomes the national voice and authority on landscaping with native plants in residential, commercial, and public settings.</p> <p>I believe that we should use scientific advisors or at least have their names on committees to help address the credibility issue - that would be effective because the policies would have credibility and it would help build Wild Ones' recognition as a natural landscaping organization that promotes environmentally sound landscaping practices.</p> <p>We also need to look for more opportunities to partner with others, such as the successful Wild for Monarchs program.</p>
Nominee	Laura Zigmanth
Chapter/location	MI, North Oakland Chapter
Professional background	<p>Landscape Designer & Horticulture Specialist, owner of ecoChic landscape design.</p> <p>Educational Background: B.F.A., Fine Arts (Albion College); Associates degree, Landscape Design & Horticulture (Oakland Community College).</p>
Running for the Board because...	Our North Oakland chapter helped co-host the May 2012 Warren MI National quarterly Board meeting, which I attended. I became interested in what the National Board was doing and the issues being addressed. To keep current with the organization, I often join the phone meetings. Our chapter president, Jim Brueck, nominated me for the board position.
Skills/experience brought to the Board	<p>I am the Membership Chair for the North Oakland chapter and in that role, overhauled our programs. I also sit on our chapter's board.</p> <p>I serve on the SOCWA (South Oakland County Watershed Association) Technical Lawn Advisory Committee as a landscape designer to promote public awareness of water quality through healthy lawns, mulching trees, removing invasive plants, and planting native plants.</p> <p>Owning a small company, I am used to wearing many hats and meeting deadlines. Trained in sustainable landscape design, I use native plants in urban gardens and habitat restoration, write for local publications, give presentations on these topics, and work with nonprofits.</p>
Vision Statement	<p>My vision is that Wild Ones becomes the "go-to" organization for landscaping with native plants, and becomes as well-known an organization as is Audubon for birds and as is the WWF for wildlife.</p> <p>Homeowners should be able to visit their local nursery and say, "This is what Wild Ones says to do and how come you're not doing it?"</p> <p>I envision Wild Ones focusing more toward crossing the generational divide and working more with younger people, perhaps further reducing "Nature Deficit Disorder." We need fresh eyes to enhance the future of the next generation.</p>

We also want to thank the board members who are stepping down from their positions as national board members. Please share with me a huge thank you to Trish Hacker-Hennig, North Oakland (MI) Chapter who served from 2010; Joe Powelka Madison (WI) Chapter who served from 1998 and as secretary, president and treasurer; Marty Rice Twin Cities (MN) Chapter who served from 2006 and as treasurer and various committee chairs; and Maryann Whitman Oakland (MI) Chapter who served from 1999 and as Vice President and Editor in Chief. Thank you all for your past and continuing support. We really appreciate all your efforts.

Donna VanBuecken
Executive Director

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This is the official ballot for Board of Directors for Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, Ltd for terms ending 2016. Cast your vote to elect up to 7 directors to the Board of Directors and mail in to Wild Ones headquarters by August 9, 2014 or go to the member login button in the upper right-hand corner of the Wild Ones website homepage www.wildones.org If you haven't already registered for the members only webpages, do so now. Logging in will bring you to <http://www.wildones.org/members/> to vote electronically by August 14, 2014.

NOMINEES:

01 Pam Dewey	03 Jan Hunter	05 Janis Solomon	07 Laura Zigmanth
02 Trina Hayes	04 John Magee	06 Sally Wencel	

☐ I vote for all 7 nominees listed.

☐ I do not vote for the following nominee(s): _____
(enter number designations only)

☐ I do not vote for any of the listed candidates.

☐ I vote for the following WRITE-IN nominee(s): _____

_____/_____/2014
Signature of Wild Ones Member Date

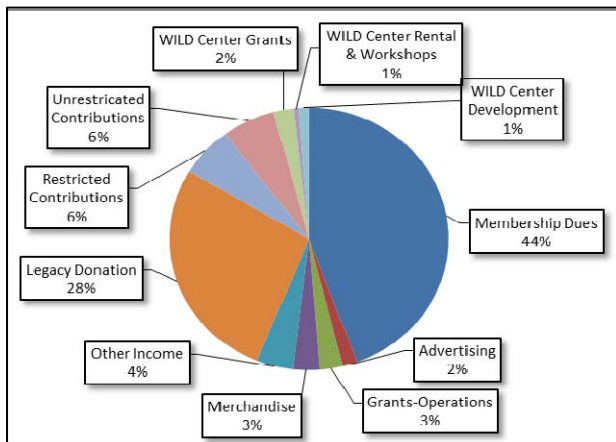
We must receive your hand-written ballot no later than August 9, 2014.

Current Members on the National Wild Ones Board of Directors:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Chapter Affiliation</u>	<u>Current National Board Position(s)</u>	<u>Bd Mbr Since</u>	<u>Board Status</u>
Trish Hacker-Hennig	North Oakland (MI)		2010	Retiring
Katrina Hayes	Tennessee Valley (TN)	Governance Com	2010	Nominee
Tim Lewis	Rock River Valley (IL)	President, Discussion Group Chair, Governance Com, Finance Com, Communications Com, Exec Dir/Editor Search Com Chair	2004	Continuing
Jan Hunter	Oak Openings (OH)		2011	Nominee
Joe Powelka	Madison (WI)	Finance Com, Exec Dir/Editor Search Com	1998	Retiring
Bret Rappaport	Lake-To-Prairie	Vice President, Legal Counsel, Exec Dir/Editor Search Com	1995	Continuing
Marty Rice	Twin Cities (MN)	Treasurer, Finance Com	2006	Retiring
Dan Segal	Habitat Gardening of Central NY (NY)	Nativars Com Co-Chair	2012	Continuing
Bill Snyder	Illinois Prairie (IL)	Finance Com, Audit Co Chair	2012	Continuing
Karen Syverson	Fox Valley Area (WI)	Governance Com Chair, Strategic Planning Com	2008	Continuing
Janis Solomon	Mountain Laruel (CT)	Honorary Dir Chr, Communications Co-Chair, Nominating Com	2011	Nominee
Richard Webb	Partner-at-Large (PA)	Facebook Moderator, Employee vs Contract Com	2012	Continuing
Maryann Whitman	Oakland (MI)	Editor, Marketing Com	2002	Retiring
Stephen Windsor	Greater DuPage (IL)	Secretary, Finance Com, Governance Com	2009	Continuing

With the improved economy, we appear to again be financially okay. Thank you to everyone who has helped us stay financially secure. This past year we received our first substantial bequest which has caused us to take steps to update our strategic plan. To see a complete financial statement contact the national office at 877-394-9453 or info@wildones.org.

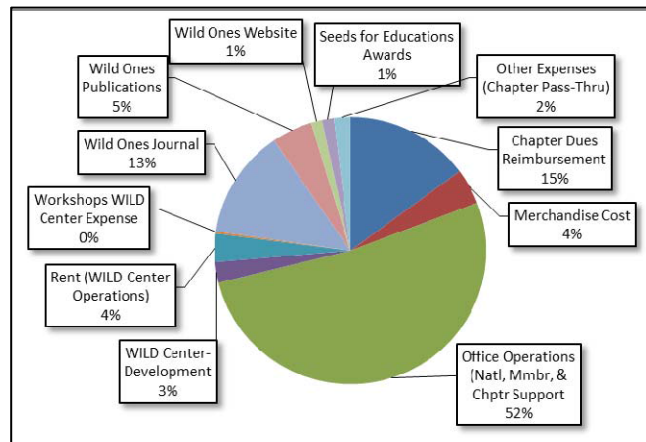
Wild Ones 2013 National Income (\$363,324)



<http://www.wildones.org/members/ballot.cgi>

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Wild Ones 2013 National Expenses (\$241,220)*



*\$15,250 taken from restricted account assets to pay for intended expenses

PLACE
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WILD ONES
P O BOX 1274
APPLETON WI 54912-1274

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If you do not wish to vote electronically at the Wild Ones website, please fold the top panel back and down and fold the bottom panel back and up so that the bench sketch is on the outside. Place a 1 inch strip of Scotch tape along the top edge ½ inch from both ends. Affix a 49¢ stamp and mail.



Wild Ones

the voice for the native landscaping movement