

Wild Ones Southern Kentucky Chapter – Voter Guide

HOW TO CAST YOUR BALLOT

You have three ways to vote:

1. **Early Voting (by paper)** – mark [the paper ballot](#) and send to us via email or postal mail. It must be received by 4pm on Thursday, November 10th. You can also deliver it in person at the meeting on Thursday by 6pm.
2. **Early Voting (online)** – go to [the online form](#) . It must be submitted by 4pm on Thursday, November 10th.
3. **In person on November 10th** – Come to the Wild Ones Meeting on Thursday, November 10th, at the River Birch Room at Lost River Cave (2818 Nashville Road in Bowling Green KY) and vote on paper ballot there.

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

CURRENT BYLAW: "Two signatures (the President's and the Treasurer's) shall be required on all checks greater than \$100 disbursed from the chapter's account."

AMEND TO: "All Chapter expenditures shall be approved by the Board, either in the annual budget or as they occur during the year. For approved expenditures, the President and the Treasurer each has the authority to sign paper checks and to authorize disbursement from the club's electronic accounts."

REASON: *The President and the Treasurer do not always live near each, and sometimes they travel. Requiring two signatures on a paper check delays and complicates paying our bills. Also, banks do not allow online bill-pay when two signatures are required. Electronic accounts includes our bank, PayPal, Venmo, etc.*

FAQ: *Is this secure? The amended bylaw provides more oversight, since the whole board knows how much is being spent on what. It does assume that we trust our president and our treasurer not to break the law and steal the chapter's money.*

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE 2023

In November, chapter members elect five officers: president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and membership chair. The officers serve a 1-year term, from 1 January to 31 December.

In this election, there are no contested seats. Write-in candidates are allowed on the ballot.

Candidate for President

Lizbeth Likins



I am running for Wild Ones SoKY Chapter President to help continue the growth of our local chapter in celebration of native plants and their role in our ecosystem. It has only been about four years since I began learning about the importance of native plants through social media, books, and online resources, and I have since planted over 20 native trees and hundreds of native flowers and shrubs in my home garden.

I work fulltime as a licensed civil engineer designing bridges for the State of Kentucky, and along with being a Wild Ones member I also volunteer with Re-Tree BG (a group of volunteers working to give free trees to residents in the area to replace those lost to the December 2021 tornado) as a member of the steering committee.

I like to stay active and participate in a variety of sports including gymnastics, volleyball, rock climbing, and recently have taken up tennis. I also enjoy hiking, especially in early spring to see the spring ephemerals, traveling, reading, baking, and spending time in my garden planting and observing.

I like to think of myself as a person who gets things done and works hard to accomplish goals. I have helped put on several Wild Ones SoKY events as a board member including plant sales, tabling events, garden tours, and Re-Tree BG events, and look forward to continuing those events which have quickly become traditions and putting on new events to help our group grow and flourish.

Candidate for Vice President**Katie Marquardt**

This summer, I returned to Bowling Green after five years in Philadelphia, where I worked as the director of membership at The Academy of Natural Sciences, the oldest natural history museum in North America. It was inspiring to work with the museum’s amazing biologists and environmental scientists — I learned so much that I can apply to my gardening and landscaping practices to help protect our natural world. I also learned about Wild Ones through my connections at the museum, and I was excited to join the SOKY chapter after moving. I’m hopeful my background in marketing and fundraising will benefit our chapter.

My new home in Bowling Green sits on an acre of land, and my current focus is transitioning the lawn to useful spaces, including a pollinator garden, rain garden, and a permaculture food forest to benefit local wildlife and my family. It will be a long and continuous process, but I’m privileged to have the opportunity. I enjoy growing other things, including a seven-year-old human (my daughter, Aurora), one dog, three cats, one turtle, and countless indoor plants.

- LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/in/katie-marquardt/>
- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/katie.lasiter>
- email - katie.marquardt@gmail.com

Candidate for Secretary**your name here?**

At this time, no one has offered to be secretary. The Chapter Secretary handles correspondence and writes the minutes for Board meetings (held monthly, often via Zoom) and Chapter business meetings (usually in November).

If you would like to help our chapter by being Secretary for the year 2023, please let the board know by emailing soky.wildones@gmail.org.

Candidate for Treasurer**Janeen Grohsmeyer**

Janeen Grohsmeyer has served as treasurer for other volunteer groups and has a B.S. in Mathematics from Bucknell University in Pennsylvania. Her plans for our chapter include working on a budget and reimbursement process, installing online payment options on our website, and providing

She became interested in gardening when she moved to Kentucky in 2013 and found their new home had a yard of rocks, thistles, and mud. She soon joined the Franklin-Simpson Garden Club and has served as their president since 2017. She has taken the KY Master Gardener course and completed three of the four courses in Landscape Design offered by National Garden Clubs, Inc. She has offered several classes about native-plant landscaping through the Society for Lifelong Learning. Janeen is a founder, former president, and vice president of the SoKY Chapter, and she is also involved in Communications and online work for the chapter.

Candidate for Membership Chair**Kathee Morgeson**

I am a retired Kentucky Elementary Teacher, who developed a passion for educating students about the natural world back in the 1990s. The training I received at the Salato Wildlife Education Center helped our school develop the first Gold Outdoor Classroom in Kentucky. After I retired, I trained as a Master Gardener and Master Naturalist in St. Louis. I joined Wild Ones there and served as a volunteer at the Shaw Nature Reserve greenhouse and Whitmore Gardens and as a Habitat Advisor for Audubon. Since moving back to Kentucky with my husband, Mike, we have volunteered at Lost River Cave helping restore the meadow and at the Warren County Monarch Waystation.

I have a passion for growing natives and love sharing the connections of native plants and wildlife with others. I take the role of membership chair to heart. I believe that Wild Ones is an important grassroots movement, spreading the joy of native landscaping throughout communities. I hope my endeavors will help Wild Ones SoKY Chapter will attract more members of the younger generations and people from diverse backgrounds.