Wild Ones, Tri-State Driftless Chapter
Annual Member Meeting
January 22, 2026

The Annual Member Meeting of Wild Ones, Tri-State Driftless Chapter, was called to order via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. by President Mary Edwards.

Board Members present were: Mary Edwards, President; Lori Thompson, Treasurer; and Marie Chenery, Secretary.

Also present were Barbara Kelkhoff, Program Chair and member Valerie Baffa.

Mary reviewed the Wild Ones mission and vision. She reminded us of our chapter name change from Wild Ones Jo Davies County to Tri-State Driftless since we are branching out to nearby communities in the tri-state area.

Mary, who is also Membership Chair, reported that membership is stable around 35 with a 75% retention rate.

Mary reported that we had about 250 attendees at our twelve events last year. She listed all of the events: Annual Meeting, Winter Seed Sowing (Feb 2025), Resources for Native Plants, Save Our Night Skies about light pollution, Bats of the Tri-State Area, Native Bees, The Nature of Oaks (Tallamy), The Art of Photography, What's the Rush (Tallamy), Value of Native Plants (Tallamy), Toward Harmony With Nature (Tallamy), and Winter Seed Sowing (Dec 2025).

In Addition, we participated in events hosted by other organizations, such as the Dubuque Carnegie Stout Library's Seed Swap, the native plant seedling event at the Mississippi River Museum, and the Galena Territory Garden Walk where two native gardens were showcased and many of our volunteers assisted.

Lori Thompson, Treasurer, reported annual revenue of $1,783.33, of which $660.00 was Chapter dues, $1,121.13 donations, and $2.20 earned interest. Expenditures were $627.82, of which $565 were for program expenses and $62.82 for brochures. The current balance on hand is $2,636.02. Lori noted that the majority of the donations were from the native seedlings giveaway. There were also donations collected during events and for bluebird houses that were donated to our chapter.

Mary explained our hopes to expand programs in 2026 to include those with more activities and that we would like to further expand to neighboring communities.

She reminded us that we will again participate in the Dubuque Carnegie Stout Library Seed Swap on January 31 from 10-noon.

Mary reminded us that we are always looking for more volunteers and that no experience is necessary.

The results of our recent elections were announced. The three current directors and officers were all re-elected for another term.

The annual member meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Marie Chenery
Secretary
(Minutes approved at the February 17, 2026 board meeting)