



Wachiska
Audubon Society

*Wachiska Audubon Society's vision: To share the experience
and love of nature—that life may flourish in all its natural diversity*

The Babbling Brook

Our 45th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2018

OCTOBER 2018

Volume 27 - Issue 10

General Meeting and Program — Thursday, October 11, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, 6300 A St, Lincoln

Pollinators, Plants, and People: What We Can Do for Each Other

by RaeAnn Powers, Farm Bill Pollinator Conservation Planner and Biologist, NRCS

Pollinators are essential to our environment. The ecological service they provide is necessary for the reproduction of more than 85 percent of the world's flowering plants and is fundamental to agriculture and natural ecosystems. More than two-thirds of the world's crop species are dependent on pollination, with an annual estimated value of \$18 to \$27 billion in the United States alone. Beyond agriculture, pollinators are keystone species in most terrestrial ecosystems, since their activities are ultimately responsible for the seeds and fruits that feed everything from songbirds to black bears. Conservation of pollinating insects is critically important to preserving wider biodiversity as well as agriculture.



RaeAnn Powers

Join **Rae Powers** of the Xerces Society and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to learn about the importance and diversity of native pollinators, their life history, and their declines. We will touch on best management practices for pollinators in grasslands as well as creating and managing pollinator habitat in your own backyard and city.

Powers is a Nebraska native with a B.S. in environmental studies and an M.S. in ecology from UNL. Her previous work has focused on the function and diversity of the prairie ecosystem, researching the impacts of restoration, management, and soils and experiencing the joys and trials of native plant production. Currently, Rae provides technical support and training focused on pollinator conservation, monarch butterflies, and other beneficial insects to NRCS field office conservation planners and farmers, assisting in the development of plans that create or improve habitat for pollinators and other beneficial insects on working lands. When not working, Rae can be found reading, visiting the dog park, or planting wildflowers in the front yard.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.** This free talk will take place at Lincoln's Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street. Free parking is available in the church lot with overflow parking in the Pius High lot across the street to the west. There is easy access to the church with no steps and plenty of space for mingling while enjoying refreshments after the meeting.

Remember to Pick Up Your Birdseed

Distribution will be **October 5, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.** and **October 6, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.** at the northwest corner of 14th and Arapahoe streets (between Van Dorn Street and Highway 2). Look for the signs. A few bags might be available if you forgot to order.

Calendar

October

- 1 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 5-6 Fall Birdseed Sale – times/location (pages 1 and 3)**
- 8 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 11 General Meeting, "Pollinators," by Rae Powers
- 13 Field Trip to eastern saline wetlands near Raymond, 8:00 a.m. (page 2)
- 14 Ernie's gayfeather harvest, 12:00 noon & later (page 3)**
- 15 Donor Development luncheon, Unitarian Church, 12:00 noon (page 5)**
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 16 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Seed collecting on Knott Prairie (page 3)
- 25 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G sts., 6:00 p.m.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Salt Marsh Surprises

Are you a longtime local resident who's explored just about every nook and cranny of the county? If you haven't yet seen the unique species that inhabit Nebraska's eastern saline wetlands, you might be pleasantly surprised to encounter something you haven't found before. Sea blite, inland salt grass, and the state-listed endangered saltwort resemble plants belonging next to an ocean but instead thrive in the salty basins of Lancaster and Saunders counties. Saline specialties aren't limited to flora though, and stands of salt-tolerant narrow-leaved cattails provide a favorite haunt for migrant sparrows like Nelson's, LeConte's, swamp, and savannah. More than three-quarters of these rare wetlands have been decimated by a long history of draining and development. Surviving remnants are now threatened by degradation from invasive species.

We'll meet at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 13**, at Little Salt Fork Marsh Preserve located five miles north of Lincoln. The parking lot is a half-mile west of the intersection of North 1st Street and Raymond Road. Full mosquito armor such as repellent and impenetrable clothing is highly recommended. Other suggested items to bring are a water bottle and binoculars, if you have them. Waterproof footwear is not required but will afford maximum sparrow-viewing opportunities. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

Determined Birders Reap a Just Reward

by John Carlini
and Shari Schwartz

An excellent array of warblers graced Fontenelle Forest on our September outing but seeing them required valiant perseverance which birders displayed and were handsomely rewarded for. Ferocious mosquitoes couldn't stand in our way as we encountered mixed flocks of migrants in the uplands and quickly gave ourselves "warbler neck" trying to follow the contingent of goodies zipping from tree to tree. Canada, magnolia, and bay-breasted were just a few of our warbler finds, and woodpeckers also provided some highlights. Throngs of noisy immature red-headed woodpeckers chattered and chased in the treetops, and one observant birder spied two pileated woodpeckers which were a treat to watch. Recent rains produced a fascinating variety of mushrooms along the trail, and we wished we had been in possession of a fungi field guide to identify them all. One platter-shaped specimen called black-footed polypore measured an impressive foot in diameter.



Photo by John Carlini

Gilled Mushrooms

Hummer Migration

by Richard Peterson

Ruby-throated hummingbirds are well known to us in Eastern Nebraska. Although the dynamics of their annual migration is not well documented, banding studies for example, some of the blanks have been filled in from observations and notes recorded by birding enthusiasts.

Hummingbirds are, by and large, birds of the tropics. However, years ago as the ice sheets retreated from North America, some species began expanding their range north to exploit the suitable food sources and nesting areas. They are, in fact, little carnivores who feed on nectar for energy to fuel their hunt for protein. They search out small flying insects such as mosquitoes, gnats, fruit flies, small bees, insects stuck in sap, and small caterpillars and aphids.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Most but not all ruby-throats spend the winter somewhere between southern Mexico and northern Panama. A few spend the winter along our Gulf coast. Hummingbirds live essentially solitary lives and do not migrate as a group as do many other avians. Ruby-throats move north in January and by February they are into the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico preparing to move north across the Gulf of Mexico. Others migrate north along the Mexico-Texas Gulf coast. Before making the long trek, they fatten up and double their weight. The migration is spread over three months. In Nebraska, they arrive from mid-April through May. Their movement follows the earliest blooming flowers which fuel them and their dietary needs up into southern Canada by late May or early June. Nebraska is on the western edge of their range, but those of us living near mature woodlands with more suitable nesting areas along our eastern border have a better chance of having the birds around most of the summer.

Ruby-throats are not well adapted to cold weather. With the cold comes a decline in flowering nectar sources and the small flying insects they need to survive. The urge to migrate is also probably triggered by the shorter day length. Yet they share a migration strategy. Again, they fatten up before moving out. For some hummers in Canada, the journey south begins in mid-July. With the influx of the summer's new hummer births, the number moving south is perhaps double the number that came north. August marks the unofficial start of Nebraska's fall hummingbird sightings. From then into October is the best chance to attract them to our feeders. Planting flowers in our gardens where they can easily get nectar is important. They especially like red, orange, or bright pink tubular flowers. Early and late summer blooming plants to consider are those in the genera *Salvia*, *Agastache*, *Fuchsia*, *Monarda*, *Penstemon*, *Lantana*, *Phlox* and others. We need to keep hummers' little tanks full early in the summer when they arrive and again in the fall when they return to points south.

Flower Seed Harvest Help Needed

by Ernie Rousek, Conservation Committee



In 2016, Wachiska received \$11,802 when our seed volunteers stripped my gayfeather flower field in Seward County. Last year there was a violent windstorm a few days ahead of our scheduled harvest, resulting in a huge loss of seed shattered from the flower stalks, reducing the seed income to \$4,567.

This year we are setting the harvest date a week earlier, to **Sunday, October 14**, to reduce the chances of seed loss by wind. We plan to begin hand harvesting at **12:00 noon**, but come whenever you can.

During the last three years the price we have received per pound from the Stock Seed Farms has risen from \$60/lb. to \$80/lb., so there is the opportunity to make a lot of money for Wachiska, but only if we have many, many volunteers to do the seed stripping. This is easy work and you can talk with your neighbor while you pick. If you know of high schoolers who need volunteer credit or scout troops wanting to earn a badge, bring them along.

To get to the harvest field, drive west on "O" Street to 168th Street which is one mile west of the Pleasant Dale roundabout. At the west edge of the Pleasant Dale Cemetery, turn north about 200 yards to the driveway with the blue 915 sign. Bring leather gloves and a bucket. I'll have extra buckets and drinking water. Hope to see a lot of you there. In case of rain, the date will be a week later.

Help Collect Seed at Knott Prairie

by Beth Coufal
Conservation Committee



Helenium

There will be seed collecting on **Saturday, October 20**, at Knott Prairie near Yutan. This is a lovely wet prairie where we will be looking for gayfeather, helenium, and asters. Please bring buckets, gloves, and clippers if you have them. Meet at the Wachiska office at **9:00 a.m.** to carpool, or meet us at **10:00 a.m.** at the prairie. In the event of rain, this event will be cancelled. Please let me know if you can come by emailing bethngaryc@windstream.net, so I can look for you or let you know of a cancellation due to weather.

Bring friends and family.



From the Board ...

by Theresa Pella, Director at Large

Paying It Forward

When Mike and I were thinking of moving back to Lincoln after retirement, I began researching organizations I thought would be a good fit with my interests. The unique role that the Wachiska Audubon Society has with an emphasis on birds and wildlife, especially those that depend on the tallgrass prairies for food, shelter, and nesting, was intriguing; the fact that the organization puts an emphasis on prairies in Eastern Nebraska was a bonus reason for becoming a Friend of Wachiska. I admit to thinking I could contribute as a payback for our family farm in Johnson County, which was prairie before it was homesteaded in the mid-1860s.

One of the Board's responsibilities is to seek opportunities to improve and enhance Wachiska's efforts in an efficient manner. An opportunity the Board has been discussing is how Wachiska can build upon its financial base that includes numerous mechanisms such as membership dues, Birdathon, seed and prairie hay sales, Give to Lincoln Day, and the Prairie Management Fund. These are all important to maintain and nurture, but not adequate for what is needed to maintain the lands we are stewards of or help to share the experience and love of nature that is our vision. For example, we have not been able to do baseline inventories of plants, birds, animals, or insects on several prairies or fund ways to better educate and introduce others to our work.

Recently, the Board has identified grant options that could be very helpful. In fact, Wachiska was invited to submit a proposal from at least one organization. Wachiska's Board and committee structure provides a ready brainstorming process to identify projects and tasks in need of funding. But missing are individuals who have experience or an interest in grant proposal writing.

Are you one of these individuals?

Helping with a grant process is important for any nonprofit organization and a great chance to be involved for those with time or other restrictions who want to "give back" without committing to a committee or long-term project. If you can, please consider giving this a try and contact a Board officer or director (information is on the back page of each newsletter). The big bluestem, switchgrass, bobolink, meadowlark, weasel, and other prairie residents thank you for your consideration!

Birdseed Order Pick Up

Once again, if you ordered birdseed this fall, remember to pick up your orders on Friday afternoon, **October 5, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.** or on Saturday morning, **October 6, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.** The location is 14th and Arapahoe streets (between Van Dorn Street and Highway 2). There may be a few extra bags of the most popular seeds/mixes if you forgot to order. Don't forget to stop.

Announcing the 2019 Audubon Collection



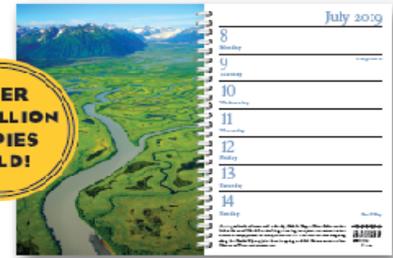
BIRDS PAGE-A-DAY® CALENDAR

From soaring Black-winged Stilts to flashy Scarlet Macaws, the Birds Page-A-Day reveals the breathtaking diversity of birds worldwide. Showcasing a new bird every day, the photographs capture the beauty of species in their natural habitats. Captions provide common and scientific names.

6" x 6" • \$14.99



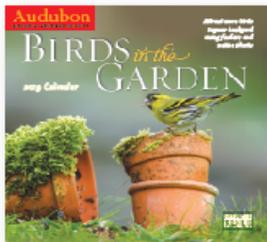
OVER 2.1 MILLION COPIES SOLD!



AUDUBON ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR

Extraordinary nature photography meets elegant design in this engagement calendar that celebrates a world of natural wonders. Each spread of the planner includes a roomy grid for jotting notes and events alongside a full-color landscape photograph. Text provides context to each scene.

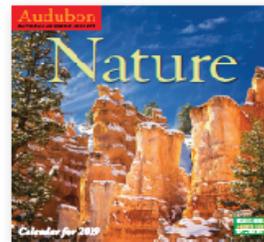
6 1/4" x 9 1/4" • \$15.99 • printed on FSC-certified paper



BIRDS IN THE GARDEN WALL CALENDAR

Enjoy twelve delightful portraits of the birds that brighten your garden. With photographs of a Great Horned Owl in a lavender field or an Allen's Hummingbird sipping nectar, this calendar combines the two beloved passions of birdwatching and gardening.

12" x 12" • \$14.99 • printed on FSC-certified paper



OVER 1 MILLION COPIES SOLD!



NATURE WALL CALENDAR

Perfect for nature lovers and environmental enthusiasts alike, *Audubon Nature* spotlights 12 months of stunning landscapes from around the world. With rich photographs of the beaches of the Channel Islands or the jagged cliffs of Yosemite's El Capitan, this calendar is a reminder of the untouched beauty nature lovers seek to preserve.

12" x 12" • \$14.99 • printed on FSC-certified paper



LITTLE OWLS MINI CALENDAR

Cute, fluffy, and—we think!—wise, palm-sized little owls are guaranteed to elicit an "awww" from bird fans of all ages. Each full-color photograph in this debut calendar is irresistible, and the mini format is just the right fit for cubicles or fridges.

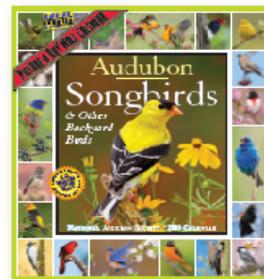
7" x 7" • \$7.99
printed on FSC-certified paper



SWEET SONGBIRDS MINI CALENDAR

Here is a year of sweetly singing birds photographed in their native habitats, highlighting fluffy Warblers, chipper Carolina Chickadees, and more. Colorful and adorable, this calendar comes in a handy, fits-anywhere mini format.

7" x 7" • \$7.99
printed on FSC-certified paper

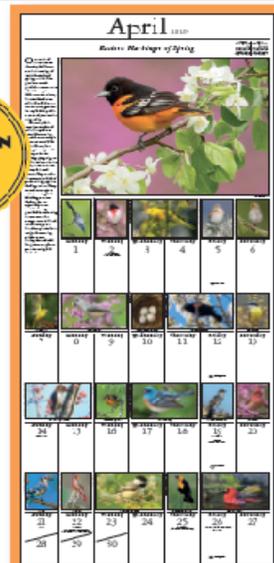


OVER 1.2 MILLION COPIES SOLD!

SONGBIRDS AND OTHER BACKYARD BIRDS PICTURE-A-DAY® CALENDAR

A celebration of everyone's favorite outdoor chanteuses, this calendar presents the musical world of songbirds with a feature photograph announcing each month, smaller pictures throughout the grid, and knowledgeable text alongside. There is a new sighting every day!

12" x 14" • \$15.99



NOTE: Ordering deadline for 2019 Audubon calendars is October 11—but not a day later! Calendars above marked \$14.99 sell for \$16 with tax and shipping included in that price. Those marked \$15.99 sell for \$18 including tax and shipping, and those marked \$7.99 will sell for \$9, also including tax and shipping. All orders will come to the Wachiska office for pick up. Call or email the Wachiska office to order by October 11, or tell Arlys your order at the October 11 general meeting. Payment will be due at time of pick up in mid-November. These make wonderful holiday gifts. Check the website for this magnificent color poster. **Thank you so very much for your support in this fundraiser for Wachiska Audubon.**

Please support Wachiska's Successful Prairie Preservation Program

Over twenty years ago Wachiska Audubon set a goal to protect some the quickly disappearing tallgrass native prairies in Southeastern Nebraska. We have been quite successful! Today Wachiska protects over 1,000 acres of prairie in 14 counties, through direct ownership of nine prairies and conservation easements on another 24. For photos, map and info about our prairies go to www.WachiskaAudubon.org, select *Prairies*.

The prairies we own were purchased primarily with funds from our generous donors. We work hard to make our prairies as self-supporting as possible, paying property taxes and improvement expenses with revenues from carefully monitored haying and grazing, and a few grants. Yet the maintenance and restoration work hours required are considerable, well over 1500 volunteer hours a year go into caring for and monitoring these prairie parcels plus hundreds of additional hours towards legal activities and special projects like burning, plant inventories, etc. While we currently we depend on donations and volunteers, we are actively planning on how we can meet our responsibilities for the next fifty years and beyond.

In 2015, Wachiska established the Prairie Management Fund at the Lincoln Community Foundation which when fully funded the interest will be used to supplement our volunteer efforts by paying for a part-time prairie manager, or grant writer, or volunteer coordinator as well as for legal defense expenses.

As of September 2018 we are a quarter of the way to our \$1 million Prairie Preservation goal, with over \$250,000 donated to our Prairie Management and Prairie Defense funds. Please help us reach our goal with a gift today!

Help Save Tallgrass Prairies: make a gift or pledge today. ---tear here and return to the Wachiska Audubon Society-----

_____ I am giving \$_____ to the Wachiska Prairie Management Fund. My check is enclosed. Make your check out to the **Wachiska Prairie Management Fund #710146**
Mail to Wachiska Audubon Society, 4547 Calvert Street, Suite 10, Lincoln NE 68506
Or to Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508

_____ I pledge to make a reoccurring gift of \$_____ per month/quarter/year.*

_____ I pledge a bequest from my estate.* This is easy to arrange, will not alter your current financial situation, and can be changed at any time.

We sincerely hope you will join us for Wachiska Audubon Society's annual Prairie Preservation Luncheon to learn about the many ways we are protecting and learning from prairies, the considerable responsibilities involved, and how you can help protect our endangered tallgrass prairies.

You are invited to the Prairie Preservation Lunch and Learn



*Enjoy lasagna, salad, and homemade pie!
You are welcome to bring a guest!*

**Monday, October 15, 2018, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.
Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln NE**

Presentation topics include:

- Protecting prairies through conservation easements
- Wachiska's prairie management responsibilities, successes, and challenges
- Research and seed collecting on Wachiska's prairies
- Wachiska's support of the Haines Prairie Corridor project
- "Why I choose to give" – Prairie Management Fund success

RSVP Required – \$25 per-person Donation Requested

Please contact Linda Brown at lindar1brown@gmail.com
Home 402-489-2381 Cell 402-318-1522

We look forward to seeing you! Wachiska luncheon hosts: Elizabeth Nelson, Tim Knott, Linda R. Brown, Peg and Larry Fletcher, Marilyn McNabb, Paul A. Johnsgard

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

*If you select a Pledge option, we will contact you to arrange the details.

Your gift is tax deductible and you will receive a letter confirming your gift. Wachiska Audubon Society was chartered in 1973 as an independent chapter of the National Audubon Society. Wachiska is a qualified 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization, TIN 51-0229888.

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Good news from the Lincoln City Council: With bipartisan support, the Council in August passed the ordinance creating Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE), a mechanism providing loans to building owners for energy efficiency and clean energy improvements. Thanks to Councilman Roy Christensen for his initiative that will open an additional path to reducing our city's carbon footprint.

Not so good news from the federal government. The Trump Administration has initiated three waves of climate pollution deregulation. It offered weakened restrictions in February and August on methane release, in July on carbon dioxide pollution from vehicle tailpipes, and in August on carbon dioxide emissions from coal plants. The CO2 coal rules would replace the Clean Power Plan with the Affordable Clean Energy Plan.

You may remember Hannah Waters' article in *Audubon*, Summer 2018, "A Climate of Censorship." A recent example of disappearing climate change information is found in the editing done in a White House review of regulations for the Affordable Clean Energy Plan. After July, this passage went missing: [1.2.2 Health and Welfare Impacts from Climate Change](#). According to the National Research Council, "Emissions of CO2 from the burning of fossil fuels have ushered in a new epoch where human activities will largely determine the evolution of the Earth's climate. Because CO2 in the atmosphere is long lived, it can effectively lock Earth and future generations into a range of impacts, some of which could become very severe. Therefore, emission reduction choices made today matter in determining impacts experienced not just over the next few decades, but in the coming centuries and millennia." The earlier draft also said, "The climate has continued to change, with new records being set for a number of climate indicators such as global average surface temperatures, Arctic sea ice retreat, CO2 concentrations, and sea level rise. Additionally, a number of major scientific assessments have been released that improve understanding of the climate system and strengthen the case that GHGs endanger public health and welfare both for current and future generations" referring to the IPCC, the USGCRP, and the NRC. You may submit comments by October 31 to <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355-21117>.

A poll conducted in June found that eight in 10 likely voters believe the government should take action to limit carbon emissions; 65 percent of Republicans believed the government should take action. By far, the most favored use of revenues from a carbon tax was direct cash payments, about \$2,000/year for a family of four. See <https://www.clcouncil.org/media/Baker-Shultz-Carbon-Dividends-Plan-Survey-Results.pdf>.

institutional investors whose assets total \$6.2 trillion according to Arabella Advisors. Their July report, "The Global Fossil Fuel Divestment and Clean Energy Investment Movement," stresses the ethical reasons to divest. A July 56-page report, "The Financial Case for Fossil Fuel Divestment," from Sightline and the Institute for Energy Economics, produces a thorough analysis of the economics of divestment. It concludes: "The fossil fuel industry does not lead the market anymore; it lags. Energy was the worst performing sector of the S&P 500 last year, and cumulative returns over the past five years have been abysmal. Fossil fuel investments face a future with volatile revenues, limited growth, and a negative outlook."

Prairie Discovery Days

For some Nebraska fourth graders, the school year began with a half-day trip to a Wachiska prairie. On August 29, 65 children from Syracuse grade school met Professor Sara Crook from Peru State College who demonstrated early pioneer settler life at Dieken Prairie in Otoe County. She dressed in typical pioneer garb and told stories of that early time.

On September 13, about 80 fourth-grade students from DC West (Douglas County) School gathered at Knott Prairie near Yutan in Saunders County where 6-8 Wachiska volunteers again led them in insect and bird identification, butterfly netting, and creative writing. The education committee sponsored these events.



Divestment from fossil fuels has now been chosen by

Public Officials

President Donald Trump

1600 Pennsylvania Av NW, Washington DC 20500-0001
Comment line: 202-456-1111
Phone: 202-456-1414 Fax: 202-456-2461
E-mail at website: <http://whitehouse.gov/contact>

Senator Ben Sasse

1128 Lincoln Mall Ste 305, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-224-5213
E-mail at website: <http://sasse.senate.gov>

Senator Deb Fischer

440 N 8th St Ste 120, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-441-4600 Fax: 402-476-8753
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-6551 Fax: 202-228-0012
E-mail at website: <http://fischer.senate.gov>

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (1st District)

301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508-2537
Lincoln phone: 402-438-1598
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4806 Fax: 202-225-5686
E-mail at website: <http://fortenberry.house.gov>

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

13906 Gold Cir Ste 101, Omaha NE 68144
Omaha phone: 888-221-7452
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4155 Fax: 202-226-5452
E-mail at website: <https://bacon.house.gov>

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

416 Valley View Dr Ste 600, Scottsbluff NE 69361
Scottsbluff phone: 308-633-6333 Fax: 308-633-6335
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-6435 Fax: 202-225-0207
E-mail at website: <http://adriansmith.house.gov>

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031
E-mail at website: <http://governor.nebraska.gov>

State Senator _____

District ___ State Capitol, PO Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 110, Lincoln NE 68508
Phone: 402-441-7447 Fax: 402-441-6301
E-mail: commish@lancaster.ne.gov

Mayor Chris Beutler

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10th St Rm 301, Lincoln NE 68508-2828
Phone: 402-441-7511 Fax: 402-441-7120
E-mail: mayor@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln City Council

402-441-7515
E-mail: council@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln Journal Star

Letters to the editor, 926 P St, Lincoln NE 68508
E-mail: oped@journalstar.com

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

This local chapter membership provides you with voting privileges and access to all our events, programs, and committees, **plus 100 percent of your membership donation goes directly to the Wachiska chapter. In addition, Friend members receive our monthly newsletter, *The Babbling Brook*, in their choice of print or electronic form.**

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

- ___ \$25 Individual/Friend
- ___ \$35 Family Friend
- ___ \$50 Black-capped Chickadee Friend
- ___ \$100 Northern Cardinal Friend
- ___ \$250 Western Meadowlark Friend
- ___ \$500 Bald Eagle Friend
- ___ \$1000 Peregrine Falcon Friend

Select the level of support that is right for you and make your check payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds remain with our local chapter and are tax deductible. Mail to:

Wachiska Audubon Society
Attention: Membership Committee
4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643

___ **I prefer to receive my newsletter by email.**

Please note: If you are already a member of National Audubon Society (NAS) you automatically become a member of Wachiska, but not a Wachiska Friend member. Only Wachiska Friends receive the printed newsletter each month. If you wish to join NAS or receive *Audubon* magazine, please contact the National Audubon Society directly.



American Goldfinch Family

Save Those Unwanted Calendars

Once again Wachiska will be collecting and recycling unwanted calendars. Bring them to the Wachiska office or to a general meeting, and we'll see that a school or nursing home gets them. Oftentimes our own members see a title they like and take those home.

New calendars you get for next year are shared with local retirement and nursing homes; local schools and day cares use the old ones from previous years to cut out the pictures and stories. Last year about 200 calendars from chapter members were recycled in this way.

Thank you ahead of time for helping in this way.



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Wachiska Audubon Society, 4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643



The Babbling Brook is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.



Wachiska Audubon Society

4547 Calvert St Ste 10

Lincoln NE 68506-5643

402-486-4846

Office@WachiskaAudubon.org

www.WachiskaAudubon.org

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2018

OFFICERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| President..... | *Gary Fehr..... | 402-570-4382 |
| Vice President..... | *Stu Luttich (Geneva)..... | 402-759-3597 |
| Recording Secretary..... | *Richard Peterson..... | 402-489-2996 |
| Treasurer..... | *Bill Gustafson..... | 402-488-1585 |
| Immediate Past President..... | *Jessi Umberger (Otoe)..... | 402-580-3057 |

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Director at Large..... | *Theresa Pella..... | 531-289-6098 |
| Director at Large..... | *Terry Stentz..... | 402-202-8819 |
| Director at Large..... | *Melinda Varley..... | 402-416-4111 |
| Conservation..... | *Stu Luttich (Geneva)..... | 402-759-3597 |
| Education..... | *Tim Knott..... | 402-483-5656 |
| Field Trips..... | John Carlini..... | 402-475-7275 |
| | *Lana Novak..... | 402-475-8693 |
| Hospitality..... | Cheryl Moncure..... | 402-488-0036 |
| Legislation..... | Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm)..... | 402-796-2114 |
| | *Sam Truax..... | 402-325-9012 |
| Membership..... | *Jami Nelson..... | 402-488-1598 |
| Monthly Programs/General Meetings..... | Arlys Reitan..... | WAS office 402-486-4846 |
| Newsletter Editor..... | Arlys Reitan..... | WAS office 402-486-4846 |
| Population/Environment..... | *Colleen Babcock..... | 308-850-0445 |
| Publicity/Public Relations..... | Judith Gibson..... | 402-466-0117 |

OTHER ASSOCIATES

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| Bird Questions..... | Kevin Poague..... | 402-797-2301 |
| Facebook Coordinator..... | Benjamin Vogt..... | 402-499-5851 |
| Raptor Recovery..... | Betsy Finch (Elmwood)..... | 402-994-2009 |
| Interim Executive Director Audubon Nebraska..... | Bill Taddicken..... | 308-468-5282 |
| Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director..... | Glynnis Collins..... | 402-797-2301 |
| Webmaster..... | Roxanne Smith..... | 402-477-1319 |

NEBirds Website

Check out the email discussion at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NEBirds> to learn of the latest sightings and interesting tales of Nebraska's most avid birders and those interested in Nebraska birds and their ecology. Posts change daily—and even more often when excitement arises. Offerings of recent sightings, questions, and new photos are all welcome.

Wachiska Audubon Society's financial records are available for examination in the office.

A Gift to the Future

A bequest to Wachiska Audubon Society is a gift to future generations enabling our natural heritage to continue. For wills, trusts, and gifts, our legal name is **Wachiska Audubon Society**. Our Federal Tax ID number is **51-0229888**.