

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 40th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2013

MAY 2013

Volume 22 - Issue 5

General Meeting—May 9, 7:00 p.m., Dick Administration Building, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska

The New Story of Solar Power in Nebraska

by John Atkeison, Energy Policy Director, Nebraska Wildlife Federation

A new initiative to make solar electric power available to Lincoln area residents and businesses was introduced at the Lincoln Earth Day. Details have not been released at press time, but Lincoln could join a dozen other U.S. cities in offering its citizens access to clean renewable solar power made on their own homes or shops.

Nebraskans have been saying they want more clean renewable power for at least a decade, as has been shown in poll after opinion poll. Public support for wind-generated electricity is consistently in the range of 80 to 96 percent. Folks are willing to pay a little more if they have to, but really they want to roll the cost of the energy from clean sources into the mix the same way as the cost of other electricity.

Wind-powered electricity has become very competitive on the basis of price. With the federal Production Tax Credit (PTC), wind power is directly comparable with coal, despite the huge subsidies given the coal industry. Even without the 2.5 cent

PTC, wind is now cheaper than a new nuclear power plant and is close to being competitive with existing nuclear plants.

Recent polling has shown a favorable attitude towards solar electric or photovoltaic (PV) generating systems. Everyone assumes that PV is still far too expensive, but prices are one-third of what they were a few years ago and continue to drop.



John Atkeison

Coal gets its first subsidies in the form of a very favorable bidding process on federal coal fields. The biggest subsidy of all is that there is no cost for pumping greenhouse gas pollution into the atmosphere. We have just begun to pay the price for that in the form of increased heat and drought, in the changing of the seasons, and in the warping of climate patterns in general.

John Atkeison is a campaigner, publicist, and lobbyist in the energy policy arena. Global warming and the resulting climate changes has been his primary focus for the last dozen years. He served as director of climate and clean energy programs at the Alliance for Affordable Energy in New Orleans and was a sales manager for a solar power hardware manufacturer. John arrived in Lincoln via the Gulf Coast, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. He is currently the energy policy director for the Nebraska Wildlife Federation.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m.** for this free public presentation in the Dick Administration auditorium on Union College campus, 3800 South 48th Street, in Lincoln. From 48th and Calvert streets, go one block south to the north end of campus. Due to construction on that end of campus, parking can be found along 48th Street, near the church on Prescott Avenue, or at the campus gym. Look for Audubon signs on the doors of the Dick Building. An on-site ramp and elevator are available. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

Calendar

May

- 2 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 2 Population/Environment Committee, 4435 Pioneers Blvd., 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 General Meeting, "The New Story of Solar Power in Nebraska," by John Atkeison, Union College Dick Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- 11-12 Annual Birdathon Weekend** (note date change from last month's article)
- 11 Birdathon field trip to Wilderness Park, 8:00 a.m. (page 2)
- 12 Birdathon field trip to Platte River State Park, 8:00 a.m. (page 2)
- 16 Give to Lincoln Day** (page 2)
- 17 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 20 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 23 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's at 11th & G streets, 6:00 p.m.

Wachiska Audubon Office: 402-486-4846

Email: office@wachiskaaudubon.org



Field Trips

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Birdathon Blitz

Wachiska's Birdathon weekend heralds the arrival of many colorful spring migrants as well as nesting birds returning to raise their families. This annual fundraiser provides a couple of opportunities to enjoy the spring weather and go birding during one of the "birdiest" times of the year.

There will be two Birdathon weekend field trips that will explore local favorite hot spots—Wilderness Park and Platte River State Park. Bring a water bottle, insect repellent, and binoculars if you have them. The public is welcome. Birders are invited to submit weekend sightings from our area to maximize the total number of species seen. Ken Reitan will be compiling the final list. Call him at 402-423-3540 or email your list to the Wachiska office.

Wilderness Park - Saturday, May 11, 8:00 a.m.

Meet just south of Lincoln in the South 14th Street parking lot which is located 1/3 mile north of Rokeby Road next to the trestle footbridge that crosses Salt Creek. Larry Einemann will share his expertise as he guides our search through these special woods that attract gem-like warblers, skulking thrushes, and singing red-eyed vireos. This field trip is free and is co-sponsored by Friends of Wilderness Park, an organization with dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to protect and preserve this unique park.

Platte River State Park - Sunday, May 12, 8:00 a.m.

From I-80, turn south at exit 426 and follow S13E past South Bend to the park entrance. Meet in the parking lot by the restaurant and observation tower. We'll explore Stone Creek, an unusual habitat that hosts breeding birds not commonly found in our area. John Carlini and Shari Schwartz will lead the quest for bright red tanagers in the oak trees and Louisiana waterthrushes that loudly claim their territories as they nest in the banks of this scenic creek. We may even see an Eastern gray squirrel which is typically found further east. A state park entry permit is required for all vehicles, but if you don't have an annual pass, a day permit is available for \$5.

If you have questions on either trip call John at 402-475-7275.

Donations Needed for Library Bird Seed

by Chuck and Barb Francis for the P&E Committee

After two successful Bird enCOUNTERs at four Lincoln branch libraries, we are beginning to build more interest among youth in the community. Thanks to generous donations of feeders and installation by Dave and Linda Titterington of Wild Bird Habitat Stores, we now have feeding stations in prime viewing locations at Walt, Gere, Anderson, and Eiseley libraries. To keep them filled with appropriate seed, we are asking for donations by Wachiska members. Those interested can send a check to the office payable to Wachiska Audubon, with "Population and Environment Bird Seed" in the memo line. We have chapter volunteers who refill the feeders as needed. Thank you.

Give to Lincoln Day Sponsored by Lincoln Community Foundation

by Tim Knott, Chair

Give to Lincoln Day is a 24-hour day of giving scheduled for **Thursday, May 16**. This is the second year for the event developed by the Lincoln Community Foundation (LCF) to help Lincoln area nonprofits with their fundraising efforts. It is an opportunity for Wachiska members and supporters to contribute to our chapter's Birdathon campaign online to make a real impact. Wachiska and other nonprofits have the power to raise thousands of dollars for their organizations.

\$200,000 challenge match fund - Every donation made on Give to Lincoln Day will help even more because LCF and their partner sponsors are contributing a challenge match fund of \$200,000. At the end of the event, every nonprofit, including Wachiska, will receive a proportional share of this fund, based on their percentage of total dollars raised. It is a way to multiply the effect of your Birdathon donation.

How to give - Donations for Give to Lincoln Day will be made online at www.GivetoLincoln.com. **Donations must be made on Thursday, May 16, beginning at 12:00 a.m. and ending at 11:59 p.m. to qualify for the matching funds.** If you are familiar with buying items on the Internet with a credit card, it should be easy. Even if you are not familiar with the process, Give to Lincoln Day has tried to make it as simple as possible. Just type in the above website address, look for the Wachiska Audubon Society site (under the heading conservation or education organizations), specify the amount of your donation, provide the credit card information requested, and click the donate tab. That's it. A continuously updated leader board will show dollars raised and number of donors for each nonprofit.

Individuals who prefer to make their gifts by check or cash rather than online can do so. Make your check payable to Lincoln Community Foundation using the date of May 16 and bring or mail it or cash donations to the Wachiska office, 4547 Calvert Street, Suite 10, by 3:00 p.m. that day. We will get all donations to the LCF office by the deadline, so the donation can be part of the \$200,000 matching grant competition.

Additional prizes and grants - Prizes and additional grants to the nonprofits will be awarded during the day of the event. The three nonprofits garnering the largest number of donors May 16 will receive bonus grants of \$2,500, \$1,500, and \$1,000. Ten times during the day, a donor will be selected at random and an additional \$200 will be added to that nonprofit.

Email reminders - We will be sending our members reminders of the May 16th date of Give to Lincoln Day via email. To receive a reminder, call the Wachiska office, leave your email address, and we will add you to our reminder list.

Benefits for Wachiska - Wachiska gained a significant bonus last year by participating in the Give to Lincoln Day event. Why not make your donation online to Wachiska on Give to Lincoln Day this year?!

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." --Winston Churchill

Birdathon and 40th Anniversary Celebration Happening Now

by Tim Knott, Chair

Thank you for Birdathon donations already received in early April. We appreciate your support of Wachiska's activities and programs. During our 40th anniversary, we are counting on each member to make a donation. Because of our large membership, even small donations help a lot in funding our programs—if everyone participates in the fund drive. If you are considering a Birdathon donation this year and would like another letter and return envelope, call me at 402-483-5656 or the Wachiska office. You can also just mail a donation to the Wachiska office and mark the envelope for Birdathon.

Below are scenes of a few programs supported by your Birdathon donation. A new program called Bird enCOUNTER, created last year by the population and environment committee, was again a success in February. Designed to interest young people and their parents in birds and birdwatching, over 600 kids and parents participated at the branch libraries. Raptor Recovery Nebraska gave programs that included live hawks and owls. Kids made birdfeeders, binoculars, and nesting packages while learning the basics of birdwatching.



Bird enCOUNTER Day – Walt Library February 2013



Backyard Habitat Tour – Father's Day, June 2012



Platte River Sandhill Crane Trip March 2013

These programs and many others, including our great birdwatching field trips each month, are funded by the Birdathon. If you haven't contributed, please consider a contribution to Wachiska while it is still fresh in your mind. You can write a check for a flat amount, pledge a certain amount, say 40 cents, for each bird species our birders see on May 11 and 12 (see Birdathon letter), or you can donate on May 16 by participating in Give to Lincoln Day, as explained in the article on page 2.

New BirdLog App Transforms Birdwatching

(Reprinted announcement with permission from Cornell Lab of Ornithology, April 5, 2012)

A satisfying day of birdwatching used to be followed by tedious time spent transferring observations from notebook to computer. No more. Now there's BirdLog, a data entry app for iPhone and Android smartphones.

For the first time, birdwatchers can use their smartphones to instantly report the birds they see from wherever they see them. With one click, sightings go straight to the eBird citizen-science program run by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon. eBird takes in more than a million bird reports each month from anywhere in the world. These reports are used by a global community of educators, land managers, ornithologists, and conservation biologists. BirdLog was developed by Birds in the Hand, creators of the popular BirdsEye bird-finding app which is also based on eBird reports.

Fully integrated with the eBird online reporting system, BirdLog allows participants to select from thousands of existing eBird hotspots and personal birdwatching locations or to use the built-in GPS services of the phone to allow easy and accurate creation of new locations. Users can create lists in BirdLog even if there is no cell coverage at their location. BirdLog will fundamentally change the way birders go birding, making it easier than ever to share observations among themselves and with the science and conservation community.

Christmas Bird Count Results from NAS

This year Audubon is moving to digital delivery of the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) results rather than printing and mailing CBC summary reports to participants. If you would like to receive information regarding the digital edition of *American Birds* this year, sign up online at www.audubon.org/citizenscience by entering your email address. Even if your e-address is currently in the CBC system, you will receive *American Birds* only if you sign up through the new citizen science network.

Joining Audubon's online citizen science network this way also ensures you will receive updates on the latest research results, reports from Audubon scientists, and notification when count summaries are posted online. In addition, you will learn about other citizen science programs and opportunities that may interest you. Take a moment to sign up now and also to share this information with others who may find it of interest.



Northern flicker



From the Board ...

by Elizabeth Nelson, Corresponding Secretary

Celebrating Wachiska Audubon's 40th Year

SAVE THE DATE—Sunday, September 8, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
NAS President David Yarnold to be featured speaker

2013 marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Wachiska Audubon Society. To mark this occasion, we are planning a celebration on Sunday, September 8, from about 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Hillcrest Country Club. This event will feature a buffet dinner, a silent auction, and our special guest, National Audubon Society President David Yarnold, who will be our featured speaker. Many details are still pending, but the speaker, date, location, and approximate time are confirmed. Please mark this date on your calendar as we hope to see many Wachiska members, supporters, and guests in attendance. More information will be announced in future newsletters.



Elizabeth Nelson

Send us your recollections of Wachiska Audubon

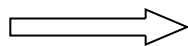
We are also putting together a presentation of some sort, summarizing notable events, special projects—maybe even favorite field trips—over the past 40 years. If you remember a special event or notable project, please email or drop off a short note (50 words or so) to the Wachiska office, attention 40th anniversary planning committee, or to Elizabeth Nelson, enelson555@gmail.com. Include your name and contact information, the year (and specific date if you know it) and main details of the event. Photos would be welcome, too.

Right now, the 40th anniversary planning committee is comprised of Jessi Umberger, Sue Kohles, Arlys Reitan, and Elizabeth Nelson. If you would like to help with organizing the summary of notable events or other smaller projects relating to this celebration, volunteers are certainly welcome.

Wachiska Appreciates our Cookie Bakers

by Cheryl Moncure, Hospitality Chair

Thank you to all of our cookie bakers for the past year (listed to the right). I believe that having delicious refreshments after our general meetings and at special events helps encourage people to stay a little longer, leading to interesting, stimulating conversations. Thank you to committee member Shannon Moncure for organizing the holiday potluck, and a special thanks to our Omaha committee member, Brittany Dabestani, who faithfully recruits bakers each month from our baker list. We are always looking for new cookie bakers, so if you can help, please notify me at 402-488-0036, cmoncure48@gmail.com, or leave a message at the office.



More Folks Choose Wachiska

by Joyce Vannier, Membership Chair

This month several people joined Wachiska with memberships in the National Audubon Society where a perk is that they are assigned to the local chapter and receive our newsletter. Welcome these folks to Wachiska:

Chris Buchholz
Denise Dean
Curtis Faust
Christine Hall
Leendert Kersten
Danny Mitchell

Patricia Osborn
Mary Pedersen
Jane Spence Peters
Dan Safarik
Alan Smith
Phalin Strong

A new Friend of Wachiska (local membership) is Tyler Martin; transferring into Wachiska from another chapter is Stephanie Butler. We welcome both of them as well! Please consider joining in a field trip or program so we can get to know you. Call or email the office if you have any questions about Wachiska.

24th Annual Backyard Habitat Tour

by Anne Senkbeil, Chair

Again this year, Wachiska's Backyard Wildlife Habitat Tour will be held on Father's Day, June 16, between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. All yards will close at 4:00 p.m. This will be the 24th consecutive tour sponsored by the chapter.



Next month, descriptions of each featured garden will be included in *The Babbling Brook*, along with addresses, names of hosts, directions, and instructions on starting points, etc. for this annual fundraiser. One ticket admits visitors to all seven sites, so you can visit one or all of them. Homeowners will be present to answer questions.

We still need helpers for various duties that day. If you can help for a couple of hours, please call Anne at 402-423-6524.

"I value my garden more for being full of blackbirds than of cherries, and very frankly give them fruit for their songs."

--Joseph Addison, essayist and poet (1672-1719)

Cookie Bakers

Judi Cook
Betty Dasenbrock
Clare Sward
Rachel Simpson
Virginia Myers
Lelia Coyne
Betty Safranek
Mitzi Wiggle
Leona Brazil

Barb Francis
Anne DeVries
Cheryl Moncure
Carole Closter
Pat Stephen
Lynn Darling
Peg Fletcher
Bob Boyce
Arlys Reitan

Earth Day 2013 a Success for the Environment

by Chuck and Barb Francis for the P&E Committee

Several thousand people enjoyed a beautiful April Sunday afternoon celebrating Earth Day in Lincoln's Antelope Park. Wachiska Audubon's popular children's activity was construction of pine cone bird feeders with lard, mixed seed, and yarn. The feeders went home to be suspended in every backyard with great expectations of attracting birds for the young ones to observe first hand. Another activity was bending the tops of empty toilet paper rolls to make owl puppets which were then decorated with black drawing pens and markers with details of eyes, beaks, feathers, and other creative markings. We estimated about 150 children worked on these projects over the five hours of the celebration. Wachiska also featured a display of four solar ovens with instructions for making one box-style cooker. About 50 people stopped to see the ovens, asking questions about this energy-saving strategy.



The Wachiska event was organized by Vice President Jessi Umberger, and many volunteers were essential to make the projects work and spread the word about Wachiska: Heidi Hillhouse, Leah Umberger, Angela Tran, Robert Florence, Colleen Babcock, Lynn Darling, Patti Boehner, Kay and Ron Fox, Mary King, Mary Burrow, and Barb and Chuck Francis. We were excited about the interest and enthusiasm of young and old alike in these activities. A young girl repeated a bird call over and over, but none of us was successful at identification. We urged her to keep looking for the source. *Editor's Note: Upon later research, it was determined this ID was that of a black-capped chickadee, just in case she happens to be reading.*

Crete Middle Schoolers Experience Crane Migration

by Chris Thody, Education Committee Chair

The education committee offers various groups a trip to see the sandhill cranes every spring. This year we invited the Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center's Prairie Club and Crete Middle School's Cardinal Zone to participate in an exciting adventure on March 28 to see migrating sandhill cranes. The group of 31 students, family members, and adult volunteers left from Crete Middle School and traveled to Hastings where they filled up on Papa Ray's Pizza. They continued their journey down Tom Osborne Expressway and onto the Great Platte River Road where thousands of sandhill cranes were spotted. The group ended their crane journey at the Alda crane viewing bridge for a brief but memorable encounter with cranes moving to the river to rest for the night. The attendees loaded up on Eileen's Cookies and Kool Aid before returning to Crete. Thanks to Wachiska for providing the food and beverages for the trip and to Crete Public Schools for providing a bus and driver. The education committee is open to anyone interested in sharing nature with people. Contact Chris Thody at 402-499-0133 to learn more.

Sheridan County's Black-tailed Prairie Dog Management Plan

by Marge Kennedy, Legislation Committee

Sheridan County's Board of Commissioners is the first in Nebraska to adopt a management plan to prevent the expansion of black-tailed prairie dog colonies from the owner's land to adjacent property if the owner of the adjacent property objects to prairie dogs coming on their land.



Do these look like weeds?

Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute 23-3803 passed last year in the Unicameral, counties are not required to have such a plan but are allowed to implement and administer one at the option of the individual counties. The Sheridan County plan appears to provide for two possible types of county action against a landowner with "unmanaged colonies" of black-tailed prairie dogs. In both scenarios, the landowner in question is given 60 days to manage the prairie dogs or provide evidence of intent to manage the colonies. If the landowner has not complied within that time, he/she could be fined \$100/day with a maximum fine of \$1,500 using the "Individual Fine Notice" option. Under the "Individual Force Control Notice" option, if the colonies are not managed within 60 days, the notice would indicate that the county board or its agent may enter the property for the purpose of "taking the appropriate management measures" with costs for said management activities being charged to the landowner. People wishing more information should call Kristi Paul at Sheridan County Weed Control, 308-327-5629.

Wachiska and other conservation organizations went on record opposing the state statute allowing for individual counties to "manage" this species. We note that county weed control will apparently be responsible for this program. Interestingly, weed control is involved with eradication of invasive species; black-tailed prairie dogs are (a) native to Nebraska and (b) not weeds!

Recent Memorials Received

In memory of Aletha Biggs (wife of Bill Biggs)

Stan & Delores Brooks
Ron & Lois Meyer

Ann & John Neal
Lin & Jean Schleif

In memory of Ardis Hill (mother of Arlys Reitan)

Barb & Chuck Francis
Marilyn McNabb

Lyle & Joyce Vannier

Memorial gifts to Wachiska Audubon, remembering loved ones who have passed away, may be designated to a particular cause or directed to the general fund. We will send an acknowledgment to the loved one's family. Contact Arlys or mail your gifts directly to the office.

W.A.R.B.L.E.R

(Wachiska Audubon Readers' Bulletins, Letters, and Environmental Reports)

Wachiska Incentives

As an incentive for new members to become Friends of Wachiska, each new local membership of \$75 or more will be entitled to a free Wachiska tote bag until further notice.

Wachiska is posting more and more on Facebook and Twitter—environmental news, action alerts, photos, links to articles and opportunities. As part of our new online community, we'll be having photo contests with prizes, including our tote bags. Friend us online and join the fun!

Name/address Changes for Audubon Magazine

National Audubon members, please use this e-address when you have an address change or National Audubon membership question: Audubon@emailcustomerservice.com. If you would rather communicate via phone, call 800-274-4201.

Wachiska will continue to take changes for local memberships but cannot be responsible for national changes.

Plant Sale

To celebrate ten years of helping families grow food in Lincoln, Community CROPS is holding a plant sale. You'll be able to choose all of your vegetable plants plus tasty herbs and beautiful perennials on Sunday, May 5, from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at EcoStores, 530 West P Street in Lincoln. Plants are grown by Gene Gage (Papa Geno) of Heartland Organics in Martell and other local growers.

Loess Hills Prairie Seminar

Registration for the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar near Onawa, Iowa May 31-June 2 is now available at www.nwaea.k12.ia.us/en/programs_and_services/loess_hills_prairie_seminar/. Registration is free and only needed if you are ordering meals, which needs to be done by May 24. For information, call 712-222-6060, email gkistner@nwaea.org, or bennaid@hotmail.com.

Run Wild

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is sponsoring a 10K run to celebrate the state's wildlife and National Trails Day on Saturday, June 1, at Mahoney State Park. Participants are encouraged to wear wild animal costumes while they run. There will also be a one-mile run for children. Entry fees include park entry for the day, a t-shirt, and the book "Have You Seen Mary?" (a \$17 value). Fees are \$40 through May 9 and \$45 from May 10 to May 24. Entries are limited, and the run is expected to sell out with a capped number of registrations due to limited space on the trails. Proceeds support the Nebraska Wildlife Conservation Fund. For information, go to <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov>. Register at www.runwildne.org.

Advancing Bird Conservation Across the Americas

The international Partners in Flight conference and conservation workshop will be held August 25-28 in Snowbird, Utah. Information is available at www.pifv.org/html/registration.shtml.

You Don't Have to Tweet to Get Value from Twitter

by Adrian Olivera

The public can now follow Wachiska Audubon on Twitter ([twitter.com](https://twitter.com/wachiskaaudubon)) @wachiskaaudubon. Twitter will be utilized to get Wachiska's name out there so other organizations and members of our community can see what we are up to. We want these people to share or "retweet" our tweets so they can be seen by all their followers and hopefully expand the Wachiska community.

For those interested in following Wachiska on Twitter but don't really know what Twitter is about, here are some quick facts to get you started.

Twitter is a real-time information network that connects you to the latest stories, ideas, opinions, and news about what you find interesting. Simply find the accounts (@wachiskaaudubon) you find most compelling and follow the conversations.

At the heart of Twitter are small bursts of information called Tweets. Each Tweet is 140 characters long, but don't let the small size fool you—you can discover a lot in a little space. You don't have to build a webpage to surf the web, and you don't

have to tweet to enjoy Twitter. Whether you tweet 100 times a day or never, you still have access to the voices and information surrounding all that interests you. Visit fly.twitter.com to learn more about what's yours to discover.

Experience Twitter on your mobile device by using one of our free Twitter apps for iPhone, iPad, Android, BlackBerry, and Windows 7. To get the latest apps, go to twitter.com/download on your mobile device.

Twitter lends itself to cause and action. Every day we are inspired by stories of people using Twitter to help make the world a better place in unexpected ways. Visit stories.twitter.com to learn more.

And with just a Tweet, millions of people learn about or show their support for positive initiatives that might have otherwise gone unnoticed. Programs like Twitter Ads for Good offer a way for nonprofit organizations to promote their efforts the same way as businesses can. Follow @TwitterGood and @TwitterSF for more on these topics.

Public Officials

President Barack Obama

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 Mike Johanns

100 Centennial Mall N Rm 294, Lincoln NE 68508-3803
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-228-0436
E-mail: mike_johanns@johanns.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 Lee Terry (2nd District)

11717 Burt St Ste 106, Omaha NE 68154
Omaha phone: 402-397-9944
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4155 Fax: 202-226-5452
E-mail at website: <http://leetterry.house.gov/>

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

416 Valley View Dr Ste 600, Scottsbluff NE 69361
Scottsbluff phone: 308-632-3333 Fax: 308-635-3049
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 Dave Heineman

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031
E-mail: dave.heineman@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 208, 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

Membership

Wachiska offers two choices of membership. Local membership, called Friends of Wachiska, includes receiving *The Babbling Brook*, our chapter's monthly newsletter. It also includes voting privileges and attendance at monthly meetings, programs, and field trips. All membership dues from a local membership stay with Wachiska to support chapter activities such as prairie preservation and education.

Membership in the National Audubon Society also includes membership in our local chapter, Wachiska. You will receive *Audubon* magazine from National Audubon along with *The Babbling Brook*.

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Recruited by _____

E-mail _____

_____ \$20 Individual/Friend

_____ \$50 Sustainer

_____ \$30 Families

_____ \$100 Patron

Make checks payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds remain with our local chapter. Mail to:

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

As a conservation organization, our goal is to use our natural resources wisely. Materials and postage are considerable, and we do not want to waste them. When your address changes or if you are receiving *The Babbling Brook* and would rather not get it, please notify us at office@wachiskaaudubon.org or 402-486-4846.

OR

National Membership in National Audubon Society

Dues from new (introductory) memberships and for first-time gifts will be returned to Wachiska if this coupon is used:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Recruited by _____

E-mail _____

Enclose introductory membership fee of \$20.

Make checks payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail to:

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

C3ZP040Z

Members Recycle Cans for Wachiska

Thanks to all Wachiska members and friends who are recycling aluminum cans at A-Can Recycling Center, 3255 South 10th Street, in Lincoln.

Owners Ben and Connie Dahlberg have set up an account for Wachiska whereby anyone can bring in their cans and specify that the proceeds should be credited to the Wachiska Audubon account.

Stop in Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please call the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846 if you have questions.

Recycling aluminum cans saves 95 percent of the energy used to make aluminum cans from virgin materials. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to power a 60-watt light bulb for over two hours.

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Send address changes to *The Babbling Brook*
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 - 2013

OFFICERS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| President | *Arnold Mendenhall (Hickman) | 402-525-4884 |
| Vice-President | *Jessi Umberger | 402-580-3057 |
| Recording Secretary | *Bob Boyce | 402-770-6865 |
| Corresponding Secretary | *Elizabeth Nelson | 402-423-2936 |
| Treasurer | *Gary Fehr | 402-570-4382 |
| Immediate Past President | *Anne Vidaver | 402-435-0832 |

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Director at Large | *Heidi Hillhouse | 402-470-7350 |
| Director at Large | *Adrian Olivera | 402-310-8060 |
| Director at Large | *Benjamin Vogt | 402-499-5851 |
| Conservation | *vacant | |
| Education | *Chris Thody (Martell) | 402-499-0133 |
| Field Trips | John Carlini | 402-475-7275 |
| | *Ken Reitan | 402-423-3540 |
| Fundraising | vacant | |
| Hospitality | Cheryl Moncure | 402-488-0036 |
| Legislation | Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm) | 402-796-2114 |
| | *Sam Truax | 402-325-9012 |
| Membership | Joyce Vannier | 402-489-4611 |
| | *Barb Francis | 402-483-6727 |
| Monthly Programs/General Meetings | Arlys Reitan | WAS office 402-486-4846 |
| Newsletter Editor | Arlys Reitan | WAS office 402-486-4846 |
| Population/Environment | *Chuck Francis | 402-483-6727 |
| Program Coordinator | Tim Knott | 402-483-5656 |
| Publicity/Public Relations | Jeanne Kern | 402-423-0428 |

*Denotes Board member

OTHER ASSOCIATES

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Bird Questions | Irene Alexander | 402-423-9495 |
| NAS Regional Board Member | Pete Cannon (Madison, WI) | 608-251-1276 |
| Newsletter Layout | Deb Sabata | 402-730-1344 |
| Raptor Recovery Nebraska | Betsy Finch (Elmwood) | 402-994-2009 |
| Executive Director Audubon Nebraska | Marian Langan | 402-797-2301 |
| Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director | Kristofer Johnson | 402-797-2301 |
| Webmaster | Dan Staehr | 402-440-5869 |

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. Information changes 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**.