



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

APRIL 2013

Volume 22 - Issue 4

General Meeting—April 11, 7:00 p.m., Dick Administration Building, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska

Impacts of the 2011 Flood on Fish and Aquatic Habitats of the Missouri River

by Gerald Mestl and staff, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

In 2011, runoff from the Rocky Mountain snowpack and near record rains that fell across much of the upper basin resulted in flooding on Missouri River reaches that hadn't flooded since the mainstem dams were constructed. Because of the duration of the flood and closure of the main channel of the Missouri River to all boat traffic, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission was able to expand on previous sampling efforts focused on documenting the impacts of floodplain connectivity on the fisheries community of the river. Floods act to connect the biological communities of the river with the nutrient and habitat resources of the terrestrial floodplain.

We will present our findings on the response of the fish species as they occupied large areas of the floodplain for an unprecedented length of time as well as some of the longer-term responses we have identified in the year following the event. We will examine the impacts of the record flows on the aquatic habitats of the main channel of the river, the aquatic habitats created by the restoration

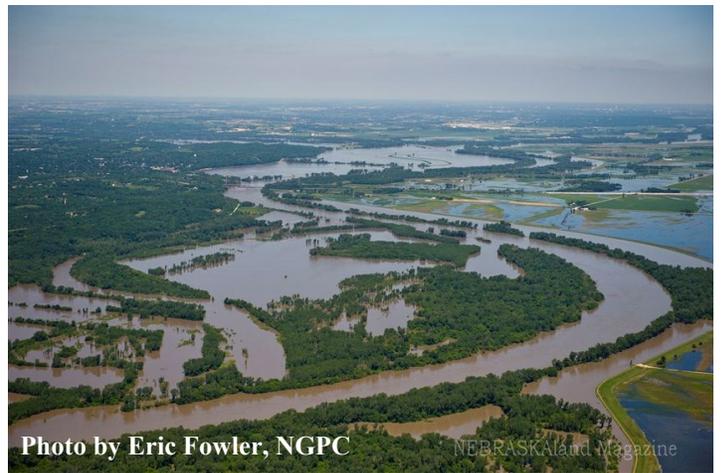


Photo by Eric Fowler, NGPC NEBRASKAland Magazine

Missouri River Flooding

projects that are a part of the Missouri River Ecosystem Recovery Program, and on locations where the river reclaimed aquatic habitat that had been eliminated in the process of channelizing the river.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, April 11, 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

April

- 2 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Population/Environment Committee, 4435 Pioneers Blvd., 7:00 p.m.
- 11 General Meeting, "Impact of Missouri River Flooding in 2011," by Gerald Mestl, Union College Dick Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 16 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 21 Field trip to Branched Oak Lake, 2:30 p.m. (page 2)
- 25 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's at 11th & G streets, 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: NO Education Committee meeting this month

Reminders this Month

City Council Candidate Forum April 18. See page 2.

Earth Day celebration in Lincoln April 21. See page 2.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Assorted Shorebirds

The diverse collection of birds at the water's edge this time of year can be fun to watch because of extreme features like long curving bills and gangly legs. Many shapes and sizes of migrating shorebirds are attracted to exposed muddy edges of lakes, and we have plenty of those due to the ongoing drought. We'll stop if there are hot spots on the way to Branched Oak Lake, our ultimate destination. This lake just northwest of Lincoln rarely disappoints even if it reveals something other than what you were expecting. Our final shorebird of the day will hopefully be an American woodcock beeping and twittering as it displays after sunset.

Meet at **2:30 p.m.** on **Sunday, April 21**, on the south side of the Capitol in Lincoln, at 15th & H streets across from the governor's mansion. Bring binoculars and scope if you have them and any beverages or snacks you may want. A state park entry permit is required. You can purchase a day pass for \$5 per vehicle if you don't have an annual pass. The public is welcome. If you have questions, call 402-475-7275.

Winter Field Trip Summary

by Ken Reitan, Field Trip Committee

The January field trip to Ida Grove, Iowa, was very successful with 23 people attending. There was only one saw-whet owl in the park where they are often found, but everyone got within eight feet of the owl and got some great photos. Later they went to another park where everyone got a good look at a long-eared owl. On the way home the group stopped at the Owego wetlands near Hornick, Iowa, just east a few miles from Interstate 29. There the group got to observe seven short-eared owls and an extra treat of common redpolls. All in all, this was a great trip for owl lovers.

On February 24, ten people went to Neale Woods north of Omaha. It had just snowed, but that day it was sunny. The group got to see a yellow-bellied sapsucker in the upper parts of the park. Later they went to a tract of land down near the Missouri River where they were lucky enough to see a pair of pileated woodpeckers. John Carlini thought it was a breeding pair. The group also got to see many sparrows, including fox sparrows, in the weedy areas near the river. I'm sure everyone was thrilled with this field trip.

Native Plant Sale in Progress

Friends of Wilderness Park is again holding a native plant sale this spring. The catalog and order form feature native plant species that grow in Wilderness Park and are native to our area. Orders must be received by April 25. Plants are then grown by Finke Gardens and will be available for pick up on June 1. Call 402-477-8282 with questions or for a catalog.

City Council Candidate Forum this Month

by Arlys Reitan

Wachiska will again be cosponsoring a City Council candidate forum with Friends of Wilderness Park on **Thursday, April 18, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** at Walt Branch Library, 6701 South 14th Street, in southwest Lincoln. The winners in the primary election will be invited to participate. This is an excellent opportunity to learn the views and intentions of those who will be representing us locally. It also affords us a chance to educate them on environmental issues and concerns in our area. Wachiska will be working on publicity and announcements for this event. Our members will be providing refreshments. If you can furnish treats, please let Cheryl know at 402-488-0036. We can use help in setting up tables and chairs and cleaning up afterwards. Call Adam at 402-421-8464 if you can help in some way.

Wachiska Plans for Earth Day

by Chuck & Barb Francis

Population/Environment Committee

As part of the *Cleaner Greener Lincoln* campaign initiated by the mayor's office, there will be a celebration of Earth Day 2013 to be held on Sunday, April 21. There are stimulating events scheduled all day, starting with a fun run at Wilderness Park at 8:00 a.m., exhibits and activities at Antelope Park in the afternoon, and an evening Night Celebration at the Rococo Theater from 6:00 p.m. to midnight.

Wachiska's population and environment committee is again planning an educational exhibit. For children, there will be several craft activities to help them relate to wildlife, trees, and other parts of the natural habitat, specifically to birds. We hope to pique their interest in returning home to observe what is happening in their own yards and nearby wooded areas, as well as raise awareness about the importance of wildlife plantings and preserving parks.

For adults there will be an exhibit of solar ovens of several different models, demonstrating how food can be cooked and water purified with the construction of a simple box or reflector oven using easily available and low-cost materials. We are hoping for more sun than last year.

The Wachiska tables will be among the events held in Antelope Park from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., and all participants are urged to ride their bikes to the site, if possible. The committee is actively seeking volunteers to help with the crafts and demonstrations, and no prior experience is needed. What we really need are people who like to work with children, who can meet the public, and who can dedicate one or two hours to this activity. Call Jessi Umberger, 402-580-3057, or anyone on the P/E committee, if you are able to help us on Earth Day.

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 a personal acknowledgement to the loved one's family. Contact Arlys or mail your gifts directly to the office.

Birdathon 2013

Birdathon to Begin this Month

by *Tim Knott, Chair*

This is the 24th year for the Birdathon, Wachiska's annual fundraiser. All our members and friends should be receiving a letter soon explaining how important it is that each of us makes a contribution to Wachiska during the annual fund drive. Our chapter depends on donations received each spring and summer to continue our education events, our prairie protection program, our field trips, and most of our other activities. When you receive your Birdathon letter, hang on to it. Give what you can, when you can. Because it's our 40th anniversary this year, you might consider doubling the amount you have given in the past. All donations are welcome. The larger the number of donors, the sooner we can reach our goal for the year.



Participate in Give to Lincoln Day May 16

Wachiska will again participate in Give to Lincoln Day May 16. This is a city-wide donating event involving many nonprofit organizations and is sponsored by the Lincoln Community Foundation (LCF). On Give to Lincoln Day, Wachiska's supporters can go online, find the Give to Lincoln Day website at Razoo.com, then find the Wachiska page, and contribute to the Birdathon electronically. LCF will send Wachiska a check for the total amount of all donations plus matching funds provided by the Foundation. What a great deal! We will provide more details next month. But, if you have a computer, plan to donate on May 16, Give to Lincoln Day. You can also bring a check to the Wachiska office on that day and we will get it to the LCF office.

Birdathon Weekend – Birding Hikes Planned

Birdathon bird watching hikes are set for the weekend of May 18 and 19. Our first hike will be in Wilderness Park at the South 14th Street entrance at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday. Late arrivals are welcome because we will have several hike leaders. This is one of the best places in Lincoln in the spring to get acquainted with migrating birds—a good place for beginners to start, too. Our Sunday hike will be at Platte River State Park, one of the best places in eastern Nebraska to see flycatchers, warblers, and



tanagers. We will meet near the observation tower at 8:00 a.m. More details in the May newsletter.

New Members Recognized

by *Joyce Vannier, Membership Chair*

Welcome to the following new National Audubon members in our chapter area within the past month:

Lloyd Blackburn	Ernest Meyers
Mrs. Dick Boerringter	Dana Miller
Elaine Booth	Nicole Miller
Theodore Browne	Doris Oleson
Nadine Cain	Jim Rice
Dr. R. M. Dwornik	Susan Rife
Sheila Exstrom	Eliza Sams
S. K. Fiddes	Lewis Schafers
Diane & Jerry Hammer	Patrick Simons
Donna Harms	Alicia Small
Leanna Kennedy	Ken Snyder
Mary Lange	Judy Tontegode
Darcy Lingwall	

These folks have joined as Friends of Wachiska during March:

David Brown Julee Hector Frances Rouzee

Who Do You "GoodSearch" For?

by *Jessi Umberger, Vice President*

The answer is...Wachiska Audubon.

You can now support Wachiska Audubon by doing what you do every day—search the Internet. GoodSearch is a search engine powered by Yahoo that contributes 50 percent of its revenue to charities and nonprofit groups—funds generated by advertisers buying space on the website. We search and they donate. Approximately one penny will be contributed to Wachiska for every search that is made. That may not sound like a lot, but when the average person may search 20 times per day, that can add up to \$50 or \$60 a year, and all you have to do is search. To make it easier, just make GoodSearch.com your home page!

You can also support Wachiska by using GoodShop, an online shopping mall that contributes a percentage of every sale to charities and nonprofit groups. We shop and they donate. An average of three percent and up to 20 percent or more, per purchase, will be contributed to our chapter.

Go to www.goodsearch.com and in the box "Who Do You GoodSearch For" enter Wachiska Audubon Society and you're set. The link to GoodShop, as well as GoodDining, is on the GoodSearch home page.

In just two weeks I have raised \$1.25 for Wachiska; please help me and see what you can raise!



From the Board ...

by Arnold Mendenhall, President

Prairie Restoration Planned for Two More Klapka Parcels

First a little background. Wachiska Audubon inherited the Klapka farm located two miles south of Table Rock, Nebraska, in Pawnee County, in 2004 from Elmer Klapka when he died. This farm consists of 400 acres:

- 220 acres had been farmed for many years and then planted to smooth brome grass;
- 145 acres of tallgrass prairie had been grazed hard for many years;
- 26 acres of high-quality tallgrass prairie used for hay land;
- The remaining land was in the farmstead, holding pens, and road right-of-way.

In his will, Mr. Klapka directed that the land be restored to native prairie, but he left no money to do this; thus the challenge for Wachiska Audubon. Mr. Klapka had restored 26 acres to tallgrass prairie. About 194 acres remained to restore, in addition to improving the grazed prairie. To meet the challenge of paying for prairie restoration and taxes, we examined possible sources of income.

We begin by leasing 104 acres to be farmed. The existing grazed prairie was leased for grazing, but with reduced numbers of cattle, and following a prescribed grazing plan. The hay land was leased for native hay production. In July 2005, Wachiska secured a cost-share contract with USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in their Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP) which, combined with our leasing income, funded the installation of a pipeline and tanks for watering cattle, cutting trees, and restoring tallgrass prairie on the 104 acres.

So now we have 120 acres remaining that have not had any restoration except for tree cutting. Most of this land is former farmland that was seeded to smooth brome grass many years ago. (Smooth brome grass is a non-native grass that will crowd out or invade tallgrass prairie.) Wachiska's conservation committee looked at a variety of ways to approach this restoration. Seven alternatives were considered. The selected plan divided the 120 acres into three units—north, center, and south—for management purposes.

We leased the center unit for farming which increases our income, as farmland rents for about three times as much as grassland or hay land. This unit will be the last unit restored to native prairie after other improvements are completed.

Our plan was to begin restoration on the two end units as soon as funds were available. Last fall we checked with USDA-NRCS about cost-share assistance for installing conservation practices. An application was submitted, but we received no response because they were waiting for the new Farm Bill. Then this past February we were informed that, since the existing Farm Bill had been extended, the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) had funds available to assist with the installation of the conservation practice but, as usual, they needed an immediate answer if we were still interested. I quickly met with the USDA-NRCS representative, reviewed the plan that the conservation committee had previously prepared for this land with some guidance from the NRCS. The representative took this information and, with their program requirements, developed an outline of what the federal government was willing to do in a contract with Wachiska. NRCS sent this information to me which I forwarded to the conservation committee and the Wachiska Board for review, and it was approved.

This contract provides funding for restoration on approximately 55 acres of former cropland, and the federal government is willing to provide cost-share assistance of \$13,500 to this end. But to be able to correctly manage the overall restoration, there are several things Wachiska needs to do before the reseeded—such as pipeline and water development, prescribed burning, chemical control of existing invasive trees and grasses, and fencing—which will be funded by Wachiska from revenue generated from the leases on the property. To meet the cost-share contract requirements, we have to complete the project in the next three years.

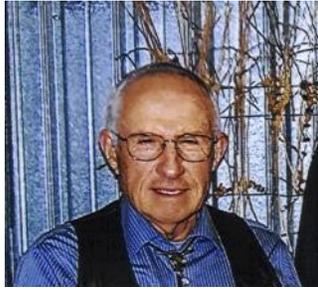
Now we wait for the USDA-NRCS to do their final reviews and to fund the contract. When, and if, the contract is approved, there are a number of jobs we will need to get lined up quickly, including a pipeline contractor, a water tank, prescribed burning, and fencing contractor. I have begun checking into these items as they should be completed in 2013. We anticipate the initial restoration work on the south unit will be completed in 2014 and the north unit the following year.

Editor's Note: Wow! All this planning, estimating, waiting, hurrying up to wait some more—hoping that our chapter can accomplish what Mr. Klapka had envisioned and that Wachiska knows is the right way to manage this situation for the betterment of wildlife and the environment! And all done on the salary of a volunteer. Thanks so much, Arnold, and to the others on the conservation committee who are doing their part.

Wachiska Prairie Restoration Led by Knowledgeable Volunteer

by Elizabeth Nelson

Arnold Mendenhall, author of the article on page 4, is a long-time Audubon member and current president of Wachiska Audubon. Arnold has spent his entire life working on the prairie and on prairie preservation. He grew up on a livestock farm in North Central Kansas and graduated from Fort Hays Kansas State with a B.S. in botany with double majors in native grassland ecology and plant science and soils. For the next 33 years, Arnold worked for the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service, primarily as a rangeland (native grassland) management specialist, providing assistance and leadership to states dealing with grassland issues and the development of new technology.



In 2000 Arnold retired from USDA and went to work for the National Audubon Society as the habitat manager for Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center near Denton, where he focused on improving the native plant community by using many improvement tools, including prairie restoration work on existing cropland fields. Arnold retired from National Audubon after seven years and now volunteers with Wachiska Audubon working on management and restoration of prairies, including managing all the work on the Klapka farm described on page 4.

Wachiska is extremely fortunate to have the expertise and hands-on management that Arnold provides, as well as talents from many other knowledgeable, dedicated volunteers. Without the high levels of volunteer involvement Wachiska enjoys, it would be impossible for us to accomplish what we do. Our sincere thanks to Arnold Mendenhall and the many others who support our organization with their generous contributions of time, energy, and expertise.

Spring Birdseed Sale Benefits Wachiska

The Spring Birdseed Sale was a successful fundraiser for Wachiska Audubon. Nearly 50 customers ordered 3,200 pounds of birdseed, resulting in a \$750 profit for our chapter. Many thanks to our volunteers who made this project happen: Elizabeth Nelson organized the event. Bob Boyce, Joe Francis, and Dorian Roffe-Hammond assisted with distribution while our treasurer, Gary Fehr, coordinated the accounting and created the receipts.

We also greatly appreciate the assistance of chapter members Pam and Rich Brunke, owners of Midwest Roofing, who once again offered their warehouse for use as our distribution site and helped with unloading and organizing the birdseed.

Thanks to all of you who ordered birdseed, and an extra nod to those who added a donation to their checks. We appreciate your choosing Wachiska for your birdseed source, and so do the birds! Our Fall Birdseed Sale will take place in October. Watch the newsletter for the order form.

Wachiska State Legislation Update

by Marge Kennedy, Legislation Committee

The Board of Wachiska Audubon voted at its February meeting to support eight bills introduced in the Nebraska Unicameral. Following is a brief description of those bills and their status as of mid-March:

LB 104 would provide tax incentives for renewable energy development; it was introduced by Senator Lathrop, assigned to the Revenue Committee, and passed to General File on 3-12-13. The Unicameral appears to be supportive of wind and solar energy this session.

LB 517 would establish a water policy task force; it was introduced by Senator Carlson, assigned to the Natural Resources Committee, designated as a priority bill by Senator Carlson, and passed to General File on 3-15-13.

LB 362 would charge a fairly nominal flat fee for vehicles registered in Nebraska to be used to support Nebraska's state parks in lieu of purchasing park permits; it was introduced by Senator Avery and later designated as one of his priority bills. It remains in the Natural Resources Committee following its hearing on 2-7-13.

LB 152 would require entities intending to use eminent domain to have all permits needed before engaging in eminent domain proceedings; it was introduced by Senator Dubas and assigned to the Judiciary Committee where it remains following its hearing on 1-30-13.

LB 557 would authorize the use of community "solar gardens"; it was introduced by Senator McGill and remains in the Natural Resources Committee following its hearing on 3-5-13.

LB 567 would consider many factors in determining electrical generation choices; it was introduced by Senator Haar, assigned to the Natural Resources Committee, and remains in committee following its hearing on 3-1-13.

LB 583 would expand the climate assessment committee to include members with expertise in climate issues and take longer term view of climate; it was introduced by Senator Haar and was designated as one of his priority bills; after a hearing in the Agricultural Committee on 2-26-13, it was passed to General File on 3-18-13.

LB 598 would increase the cap on net metering; it was introduced by Senator Larson and assigned to the Natural Resources Committee where it remains following a hearing on 3-5-13.

Amazing Fact from *BirdNote*

The female red-winged blackbird weaves an intricate nest, often suspended over the water. Scientists examined one nest that contained 142 cattail leaves, 705 pieces of grass, and 34 strips of willow bark.

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

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

40th Anniversary Planning

As we work on plans for our 40th anniversary celebration later this year, we are talking about major projects such as returning the Klapka farm to natural prairie and growing the Wachiska Audubon Society Endowment Fund. Other topics of timely concern have been suggested. If you would be interested in helping us make plans, contact Arlys in the office. Long-time supporters as well as brand new members are encouraged to share their interests and concerns.

Climate Change Lectures

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is welcoming speakers as listed below. The lectures will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Hardin Hall on UNL's East Campus.

April 2 - Lawrence Buja of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder will speak on how climate change will impact water, food, and energy.

April 10 - University of Arizona professor Jeremy Weiss will address how climate changes and droughts will impact vegetation.

April 17 - Agricultural meteorologist Brad Rippey will present on the 2012 drought.

April 24 - The U.S. Geological Survey's Nebraska Water Science Center's Steve Peterson will wrap up the lecture series when he speaks about groundwater.

Rowe Sanctuary to Celebrate Ten Years in Center

The public is invited to the Iain Nicolson Audubon Center at Rowe Sanctuary's open house on Saturday, April 6, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. In addition, there is a ribbon cutting planned for the recently-constructed education deck at 4:00 p.m.

The Center, being one of the larger straw-bale constructed buildings in the U.S., used over 760 straw bales in the outside walls. Finished in 2003, the Center also utilized other sustainable practices such as insulating parts of the building with recycled denim jeans and reclaiming products like cedar posts for beams.

At this time of year, the sanctuary is a staging area for sandhill cranes, waterfowl, and many other migrating birds. The Center continues its conservation work year-round on the Platte River, so birds and other wildlife can rely on it.

Rowe Sanctuary is located at 44450 Elm Island Road along the Platte River at Gibbon, Nebraska. The Center is open year-round and features hand-on nature education programs for children and adults. For more information, visit rowe.audubon.org or call 308-468-5282.

Audubon Convention Registration Now Open

Registration for the National Audubon convention is now available through the website at www.audubonconvention.org. Visit the site for online registration and links to make reservations at one of the three convention hotels. You will also find detailed information about field trips, workshops, transportation options, and scholarships, as well as birding and other activities in the local area. For any questions, contact convention@audubon.org, or Cindy Sherwood at 802-865-5202, or sherwood@audubon.org.

Flint Hills Recreation

The website www.flinthillsadventures.com/ describes a unique partnership among ranchers, recreation interests, and hospitality service providers and brings a new, hassle-free vacation and recreation experience in the Kansas Flint Hills. Not your ordinary vacation or recreation experience, Flint Hills Vacations is designed to be valuable—fun, educational, and relaxing.

With a single call or email, Flint Hills Vacations organizes your experience of the Flint Hills to satisfy your interests and your budget. Come and ...

- Walk or hike the Flint Hills as a guest of one of our rancher-members and enjoy the comfort and friendliness of our accommodations while experiencing the unique cuisine of the Flint Hills.
- Ride your own horse or let us provide you one to experience the Flint Hills from horseback at one or more of our rancher-members' ranches.
- Enjoy time with our ranchers and experience their way of life while enjoying the beautiful outdoors and learning about how they conserve the Flint Hills.
- Watch beautiful sunrises and sunsets over the rolling hills. Bring your telescope to stargaze the beautiful unpolluted night skies.
- Listen to the prairie birds sing and enjoy the beauty of the wildflowers and the tallgrass prairie.

Stay tuned! Construction will be completed soon. For information, email info@flinthillsvacations.com.

Program Rescheduled

The March general meeting program speaker had a family emergency that evening which prevented him from presenting his talk on the extreme weather of 2012. Dr. Ken Dewey has agreed to present his program when it can be rescheduled.

Chuck Francis led the audience in an open forum where they exchanged ideas of this topic and others pertaining to the natural world. It was quite successful. Those in attendance suggested this type of program be offered from time to time.

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://leeterry.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

Get Audubon: Save a Forest

Tired of renewal notices that consume precious forests? Call 800-274-4201 and sign up for National Audubon's Paper Free Renewal Program. Instead of mailing renewal reminders, NAS will automatically renew your membership each year. You'll simply receive a bill as with a newspaper subscription. Of course, you can cancel at any time. And don't forget you can also subscribe and renew on the web at www.audubon.org. Click on "Join & Support" for a new subscription or "Customer Service" to renew. (This does not apply to local/Friends of Wachiska memberships.)

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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.....	*Bob DenHartog (Raymond)....	402-937-3872
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**.