



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 46th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2019

JUNE 2019

Volume 28 - Issue 6

Program and Picnic — Thursday, June 13, 6:15 p.m., Antelope Enclosed (See directions below.)

City of Lincoln Emerald Ash Borer Response and Recovery

by Lynn Johnson and Lorri Grueber

Wachiska Audubon's June monthly program will be presented immediately following our annual potluck picnic (see below). Parks and Recreation Director Lynn Johnson and Community Operations Forester Lorri Grueber will share information about the new Adopt-an-Ash program that allows homeowners to "adopt" and voluntarily treat public ash trees in front of their homes or businesses to protect from damage by the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

Photo by Dan Herms, OSU



Ash tree-lined street

Three years later

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive insect introduced to the U.S. nearly 20 years ago. EAB feeds on and kills all varieties of ash trees growing in North America. The impact of the insect has gradually spread to 36 states and four Canadian provinces killing hundreds of millions of ash trees. EAB was identified in Nebraska in 2016 and in Lincoln in 2018. Once EAB is established in a community, essentially 100 percent of unprotected ash trees will die within a 15-year period. It is important to proactively manage ash trees on public and private property to minimize the potential damage from dead and dying ash trees.

Join Wachiska and these Parks and Rec presenters for our annual potluck picnic on **Thursday, June 13, at 6:15 p.m.** at Antelope Park in Lincoln. Bring one or two of your favorite summer dishes to this indoor picnic along **with your own table service (including cup)**. Beverages will be provided. Meet at the Antelope Enclosed building which is a new structure. Follow these directions carefully as most of you will be coming to this specific building for the first time: From Auld Pavilion, continue east past the new Memorial Gardens to the next building. We will meet there in what is called Antelope Enclosed. There is a kitchen and restrooms in this large meeting room.

Calendar

June

- 3 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Field Trip to Saline Wetlands Nature Center, 7:00 a.m. (page 2)
- 10 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 Finance Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m. (rescheduled)
- 13 Annual potluck picnic, Antelope Enclosed building in Antelope Park, 6:15 p.m., program by Parks & Rec staff (page 1)**
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 16 30th annual Backyard Garden Tour, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (page 4)**
- 18 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Wachiska's Open Forum, Unitarian Church, 7:00 p.m. (page 1)

Help Shape Wachiska's Future!

Wachiska's Board invites you to an Open Forum on **Thursday, June 27, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** at the Unitarian Church (our regular meeting site). We welcome your thoughts, concerns, and questions regarding the chapter's future to help us focus resources where the organization needs them the most.

One hallmark of a healthy organization is to periodically review its strengths and weaknesses and to decide what concrete steps may be needed to stay healthy. Input from you, as someone invested in Wachiska, is the first step in the Board's strategic planning exercise to be held later this year. The Board will also hold a follow-up meeting to share the results of its deliberations and how you can help. If you can't attend the June 27th meeting, you can share your thoughts by sending them to pella_t@yahoo.com.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Marsh Mission

Wetland conditions can fluctuate significantly, and this season local ponds are full to the brim. Might that abundance of water entice marsh birds to rear their families in our soggy neighborhood? Our June field trip will take us to the Lincoln Saline Wetlands Nature Center located in the heart of town where numerous soras along with other marsh inhabitants recently generated a buzz with birders during spring migration. Hopefully some of those great birds decided to stick around to greet us on our upcoming morning visit. We'll walk maintained paths, but intrepid birders who venture off-trail may want to don waterproof footwear. Water bottle, sun protection, and insect repellent are recommended, as well as binoculars and scope if you have them.

We'll meet at **7:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 9**, in the Lincoln Saline Wetlands Nature Center parking lot on the southeast corner of the park at 570 W. Industrial Lake Drive. From Sun Valley Blvd. turn west onto Westgate Blvd. and follow it to its union with W. Industrial Lake Drive. Turn west/left and continue a short distance to the gravel parking lot located just past the railroad tracks. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions call John at 402-475-7275.

Detour for Patriots

by Shari Schwartz and John Carlini

As field trippers gathered in Tecumseh for the April outing, they never imagined the huge surprise that one of their fellow attendees had in store for them. Theresa Pella (one of Wachiska's many unsung volunteers) asked if anyone wanted to take a short detour to see a bald eagle nest on the way to our destination. The group enthusiastically agreed and caravanned to the nest site next to a small creek on private property with an incomparable view from the gravel county road. One of the adult eagles and a large juvenile were in the massive nest and the other parent stood guard in a nearby tree. With leaves still few on the trees and the sunlight in our favor, it was an amazing and memorable encounter with our nation's symbol. A landowner in that neighborhood reported the nest had been there for years so, fortunately, the birds aren't bothered at that location.



After we'd had our fill of eagle viewing, we hiked Osage Wildlife Management Area where a singing Louisiana waterthrush turned up on the wooded spring-fed stream. It may be the first time this species has been reported at this locale, but it's not surprising considering "Louies" have been detected at the other two public units in that region with similar hilly terrain and desirable rocky freshwater seep habitat.

Birds and P/E Committee Survive Earth Day

by Chuck Francis, Population/Environment Committee

Earth Day 2019 dawned cool and windy, and the intrepid Wachiska population and environment team was determined to set up a migration discovery activity for young visitors around the Jayne Snider Trails Center above Antelope Creek. We posted large, colorful bird photos around the booths from O to Q streets and sent children on their own migration to find and identify as many of the 20 species as possible. The goal was to learn which species fly through Lincoln and which ones live here all year long. Twenty-five stalwart kids and their parents completed the migration and received a bird-related reward. Then a surprise for all—Nebraska weather changed from cool and breezy to frigid and gale-like conditions. Luckily the P/E people packed up materials and headed to warmer places just before two neighboring tables were taken down by the wind. The event was closed due to cold conditions, and hopefully birds hunkered down before resuming their time-tested migration. Among the volunteer survivors were Theresa Pella, Patty Spitzer, Bruce Mellberg, Patti Boehner, Mary Burrow, Colleen Geisel, Joyce Vannier, Lyle Vannier, Barb Francis, and Chuck Francis. Mary King was in Hawaii.

Wildflower Week

Celebrated Statewide in Early June

Wildflowers and other native plants are an important part of a region's identity. Nebraska Wildflower Week celebrates this "sense of place" through wildflower-related events and activities the first week in June, when many of Nebraska's prairies and gardens are at their prime.

Nebraska Statewide Arboretum serves as the coordinator for Wildflower Week activities, bringing together organizations and individuals across the state who recognize the value of wildflowers—for their beauty and because where native plants are thriving, it's a sign the environment is healthy.

Opportunities for wildflower enthusiasts across the state include guided tours, presentations on wildflower plantings, exhibits, prairie runs, and much more. For outdoor activities, participants will want to bring water and sunscreen and dress appropriately for hiking natural areas.

Check for updates, particularly for outdoor events, at <https://plantnebraska.org/wildflower-week/>.

In June and year-round, Wachiska Audubon invites people to visit any of the prairies the chapter owns and manages in Southeast Nebraska. Details and locations can be found at www.wachiskaaudubon.org/mentoring-programs.



Treasurer and Bookkeeper Roles Evolve, Assuring Wachiska's Financial Integrity

by Elizabeth Nelson

Over the last two years Wachiska has been evolving the roles of our treasurer and bookkeeper, with the goal to strengthen our financial management process. In 2016, Wachiska began working with Nancy Hamer on focused financial projects, and since that time has expanded her role and now contracts with Nancy as Wachiska's formal bookkeeper. By expanding this paid work, Wachiska has simplified the duties of our volunteer treasurer, making this office more accessible to interested Wachiska members.

Additionally, an active and knowledgeable finance committee works with the treasurer and bookkeeper, meeting quarterly to review all financial matters and to prepare the annual budget.

Recently stepping into the office of treasurer is Mary Rogge, and this spring Mascha Miedaner joined the finance committee joining long-time committee members Arnold Mendenhall, Don Pepperl, Elizabeth Nelson, Tim Knott, Joe Francis, Arlys Reitan, past treasurers Jerry Wiggle and Bill Gustafson, and current president Stu Luttich. Many thanks to these individuals for their valuable contributions toward assuring Wachiska's financial integrity. The next finance committee meeting is **Wednesday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Wachiska office. Any interested Wachiska members are invited to attend.

Updated Treasurer and Bookkeeper Job Descriptions

Treasurer: The treasurer is chair of the finance committee, attends all Board meetings, and presents quarterly reports and budgets to the Board. The treasurer will also:

- Review/supervise the work of the bookkeeper, meeting at least monthly.
- Thoroughly understand all reports to be able to present to the Board and answer questions.
- Review and approve payables, review and sign checks.
- Monitor investments.
- Lead for updating signature cards at Union Bank, LCF, and NCF accounts.
- With the bookkeeper, train incoming treasurer on QuickBooks and accounting processes.
- Track and prepare bid packages for CPA firm and insurance coverage, as necessary.
- Audit coordination and interpretation.

Bookkeeper: Intent is for the bookkeeper to handle day-to-day activities relating to Wachiska's financial management, including all QuickBooks entries and reporting. Duties will include:

- Write checks, including payroll, calculate payroll tax deposit, and other payroll reports.
- Make deposits, reconcile bank statements.

(continued on page 5)

Wachiska Administrative Services Review Update

by Theresa Pella, Vice President

In January a group was formed by the Board to review the critical administrative services Wachiska is currently paying for and to identify critical services being done by volunteers or not at all. The group was also to make recommendations to the Board regarding what services the organization should be paying for. Members of the ad hoc group are Gary Fehr, Terry Stentz, Jami Nelson, and Theresa Pella.

During the March Board meeting, there was a healthy discussion regarding the group's recommendation paper and attachment. If interested, you may access the documents in the office (available in the approved March 2019 Board meeting minutes). During that meeting, the Board agreed on the following priorities:

- Continue to pay the office manager for development of the monthly newsletter, *The Babbling Brook*, and coordination of details for the monthly programs, as well as continuing to provide a presence in the office as the public face of Wachiska.
- Approve additional funds to increase the hours of the bookkeeper to account for additional duties identified by the finance committee. The past several years it has been difficult to find individuals willing to serve as the treasurer, partly because of the time commitment required. By shifting additional duties to the bookkeeper position and allowing the treasurer to have more of a supervisory role, hopefully, the current stigma attached to the position will diminish.
- Update the job descriptions for both the office manager and bookkeeper. Drafts are under review and will be presented to the Board for action, after which meetings with staff will be held.
- Take steps to upgrade the office computers and supporting equipment for the benefit of staff and volunteers. New equipment has been purchased and data transferred, with training ongoing. In conjunction, a serious office cleaning took place.
- Begin preparations for a strategic planning session for Wachiska leadership to define where the chapter wants to go and what additional resources it will take to get there. A starting point can be looking at results of a strategic plan developed in 2010, including what successes and failures followed and why. Some initial conversations with long-time members and outside experts are starting to occur with the expectation that all Wachiska Friends will be able to provide input at some point.

Please contact any ad hoc group members if you have questions or comments (names, positions, and phone numbers are listed on the back page of each newsletter).

Wachiska's 30th Annual Backyard Garden Tour

Wachiska Audubon's 30th annual Backyard Garden Tour will be held on **Father's Day, Sunday, June 16**, from **11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The most diverse and interesting wildlife gardens in Lincoln will be open for public tour. Homeowners will be available to answer questions. Visitors may start at any location. Maps are available at each site. A donation of \$7 is suggested and children under 12 years are free. What a lovely way to spend time with family, enjoying our local surroundings. (NOTE: Please do not try to see the gardens prior to this open house.)

Aldersgate Gardens, 8320 South Street - Aldersgate United Methodist Church began a major transformation of its 1.9 acres of green space in 2016. Their vision is to benefit the environment and serve the community by providing habitat for wildlife, immersion in nature, and nature-based play for children. So far, the church has planted 78 trees, 209 shrubs, 193 perennials, and 1,100 grass plugs. Specialized projects include a pollinator garden, a 1,000 square-foot rain garden, a place for meditation, and a "prairie walkway." New trees and shrubs are identified by markers, and an online catalog of plants (<http://www.aldergatelinc.org/plant-catalog>) provides additional details of what's growing at Aldersgate Gardens. Current plans focus on converting 1,100 square feet of hard-to-mow areas to sustainable landscaping, preparing a nature-based playground featuring a pre-school area with a 13-foot hill slide. Aldersgate Gardens is an affiliate Landscape Steward Site of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and member of the Children and Nature Network.

Linda Helton and Larry Robinson, 2020 Pinedale Avenue - The focus of this yard is perennials, wild and native plants, grasses, sedges, and hostas. The spring yard has tulips, daffodils, peonies, trillium, and other spring wildflowers; the summer features hostas, roses, and annuals with mums and asters popping a colorful display in the fall. Every year new plant varieties not previously tried are planted with varying degrees of success. Two locust trees planted in the 1980s have grown into large trees providing dappled shade. A large pergola is featured in the backyard with bird baths, bird feeders, bug hotels, and a bat house scattered throughout. The yard is visited by large numbers of birds as well as way too many rabbits, squirrels, and opossums.

Greta Gregory, 924 Moraine Drive - As you enter the garden, a large handsome Japanese maple named Keith greets you—named for Greta's father who was a terrific gardener and her inspiration to create a special green space and landscape. A formal garden with rows of Green Velvet Boxwoods became the garden foundation and formed a walkable Parterre. Hicks and Denisformis Yews with varieties of hydrangeas support this space. Wisteria, peonies, iris, allium, Foxtail & Casablanca Lilies along with heuchera and lady's mantle dominate the perennial beds. The garden house is referred to as the "chapel." Bees and ladybugs share the garden with friendly birds which gather to bathe in the pond. It's a private, peaceful space where the wildlife feels safe—even the foxes.

Judy Rogers, 3810 Petersburg Court - As a new homeowner in 1992, the vision of planting flower gardens turned into a scramble installing proper drainage, creating berms/planting beds, tilling in compost, and installing the lawn before the first snow. The following spring favorite trees, shrubs, and perennials set the landscape foundation. As the years passed, favorite plantings were met with mixed success; however, a passion for gardening increased with joining the Lincoln Garden Club and Lincoln Rose Society. New friendships were formed, and the garden proceeded to blossom. Today there are 100 rose bushes surrounded by beautiful trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, and bulbs. The garden has also expanded to include a deck container garden featuring colorful tropicals, flowers, and plants, many which change yearly. A friend calls it a "collector's garden."

Mary Dawson-Keating and Paul Keating, 3427 South 37th Street - The Keatings are blessed to live in an area with 70-year-old trees including white pines and a large blue spruce which provide a serene setting for all their plantings. The landscape was recently "refreshed" to include a unique Chinese maple, a lime green smoke tree which turns purple-orange in the fall, a dogwood, and a red bud tree. Many perennials, including several varieties of heuchera, hostas, and salvia are interspersed along a path winding through the garden. It is fun to get the right balance of size and color from the annuals and perennials. Two fountains in the front yard provide a happy place for visiting blue jays, cardinals, turtle doves, woodpeckers, and hummingbirds. Each year is enjoyed for its own beauty. Visitors passing through this garden will experience a brief moment of pleasure!

Beth and Brent Schott, 2925 O'Reilly Drive - This gardening adventure began seven years ago and is one of ambition—one ordinary woman with an addiction for plants, boundless energy, and a willing and handy husband. Her curiosity and love of variety makes it a garden in perpetual change. Rules and guidelines do not apply. Indoor plants, tropicals—inspiration may come from anywhere. Space must be found weekly for new-found varieties. A chandelier has been converted to solar and lights the way to Buddha; a wind spinner hangs from a tree, and bird baths and cages are reimagined as planters. Ground cover is trimmed around stepping stones with scissors under the light of moon. Mother Nature meets Meticulous Ambition. Welcome to Beth's Garden.



Wachiska's Annual Birdathon Fundraiser Is Off to a Good Start

by Tim Knott

Thanks to a lot of generous Wachiska Audubon friends and members, our chapter has received many Birdathon donations so far, and our contributors to Give to Lincoln Day have increased that list of donors quite a bit. We appreciate every one of our Birdathon donors. Now we are in a critical period. Each year additional donors are needed to reach our annual goal which has remained about the same over the last ten years. It is the amount of funds that Wachiska needs to keep doing the activities that make our chapter one of the more active and effective chapters in the country for our size.

Please contribute to the Birdathon if you have not done so already.

Consider our legislation committee's activities in the state legislature and on the local level. Reflect on the education committee's work

with school programs and prairie programs, and our continuing efforts to provide long-term protection for some of Eastern Nebraska's best tallgrass prairies. We welcome both small and large donations. Each one helps to reach our goal. Send your donation to Wachiska Audubon Birdathon, 4547 Calvert St Ste 10, Lincoln NE 68506. You may also bring your gifts to any of our meetings or drop them by the office. Thank you for your consideration and continued support.



Backyard Garden Tour

Treasurer and Bookkeeper Roles Evolve - (continued from page 3)

- Make all entries into QuickBooks with the correct category numbers.
- Produce the quarterly and annual report, review with the treasurer so the treasurer can present reports to the Wachiska Board.
- Assist in the budget planning process.
- Assemble materials needed for annual income tax preparation, and biennial audits, and coordinate with our CPA, prepare W-9 forms.
- Provide the office administrator with financial reports needed to prepare and submit annual NAS and USPS reports.
- Update computer programs, antivirus, and scam apps.
- Track PayPal payments and distribute donor information to the appropriate individuals for Access database entries and thank-you letters.
- Track fixed assets and depreciation schedules.
- With the current treasurer, train incoming treasurer on QuickBooks and accounting processes.

Sunscreen and Coral

by Richard Peterson

Our oceans have their problems—and for many of those we humans are directly responsible. I'd heard of the effect sunscreen reportedly had on our coral reefs but didn't give it much thought. How could so little sunscreen and so much water be a problem? Then I read an article in a magazine from one of our local grocers. It got me rethinking the issue.

So, I looked at the ingredients on a sunscreen product our family purchased in Lincoln from a national chain pharmacy. The product, rated SPF 50, had active ingredients of Avobenzone 3%, Homosalate 11.7%, Octisalate 4.5%, Octocrylene 4.5%, and Oxybenzone 5.4%.

"One of the ubiquitous chemicals found in sunscreens, oxybenzone (aka benzophenone-3), has been shown to cause deformities in coral larvae and cause young coral to encase themselves in their own skeletons, causing coral bleaching (a prime cause of coral death), trigger viral infections in coral ... The chemical can be damaging even in miniscule amounts. A recent study conducted by an international team of researchers found that the chemical can damage coral in concentrations as low as 62 parts per trillion, comparable to one drop in six and a half Olympic-sized swimming pools." Sea water samples from Hawaii and the Caribbean had concentrations 12 times higher. The chemical, which is also used in cosmetics, is associated with allergic reactions triggered by sun exposure.

The Hawaii State Legislature has passed a bill that would prohibit the sale of non-prescription sunscreen containing oxybenzone and other chemicals damaging to coral reefs, effective January 1, 2021. "All told, up to 14,000 tons of sunscreen is estimated to be released into coral reef areas worldwide each year, putting about 40 percent of the reefs located near all coastal areas at risk of exposure."

The other chemicals in my tube of sunscreen are equally suspect, and the byproducts when all of them break down when in use should make us all think twice.

Besides our coasts, there are other water recreational areas. All the tubers on the Niobrara River come to mind as well as the small nearby lakes many of us use on the weekend. Research on assessing the impacts on these waterways is expensive. There is too little research being done on the impact sunscreen is having on our local water resources.

While saving the world's coral reefs may sound overwhelming, the simple solution we can all be a part of is to choose sunscreen products that eliminate harmful chemicals. So, do your research into alternatives before you buy your next tube of sunscreen.

Wilson, Lindsay. 2018. Could a Simple Personal Choice Help Save the Coral Reef? good4u Health Hotline. Natural Grocers. Vol. 13, June.

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Lincoln's new mayor, Leirion Gaylor Baird, understands the need for action at the city level to counter climate change. She strongly supported the Lincoln Environmental Action Plan (LEAP) at its announcement in July 2017 saying, "What we do at home matters. . . The plan presents measurable goals to strive for in the near and long-term. It charts a course for our city to increase its energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect the health and prosperity of our residents, and become even better stewards of our natural resources for future generations."

On Earth Day, then-Mayor Chris Beutler reviewed the city's progress on the LEAP goals, including meeting early the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25 percent by 2025. The city has saved energy and reduced emissions with the replacement of LED streetlights, now 60 percent complete, and energy efficiency improvements in libraries and Parks and Rec facilities. A solar friendly zoning ordinance was adopted. The bike share program, cardboard diversion from the landfill, traffic flow improvements, plans to replace city trees lost to the Emerald Ash Borer, the start of the Property Assessed Clean Energy program—all contribute to local action toward climate stability.

Recently Beutler officially announced he had signed on to the "We're Still In," a bipartisan coalition which is committed to achieving the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

National Audubon's website ran a story on biologist Thomas Lovejoy's thoughts on the relationships between biological diversity (a term he coined) and climate change, a subject much in discussion with the publication of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) summary report. Lovejoy said that more than 1.5 degrees of warming would "make it basically impossible to manage biologically. The reason is with more climate change, ecosystems literally start to come apart. It's very hard to predict how any particular one will be impacted because modeling doesn't tell you."

The chair of the IPBES put it this way: "We cannot solve the threats of human-induced climate change and loss of biodiversity in isolation. We either solve both or we solve neither." (*The Guardian* May 6, 2019). The report found it necessary to remind its readers that nature is "essential for human existence."

Lovejoy, author of *Biodiversity and Climate Change* (2019), stresses the importance of ecosystem restoration. He said, "People are beginning to understand that 'the planet actually works as a linked physical and biological system. Quite wonderfully, it takes this challenge from being something that people say—'well, what can I possibly do?'—to one where

everybody can do things like plant trees or help restore wetlands and pull some of that carbon back."

A May letter to Congress from National Audubon (posted on the website) proposed that infrastructure efforts, which usually mean things like roads and bridges, also include natural infrastructure. The proposed definition of natural infrastructure reads in part: "The strategic use, restoration, or management of natural lands and waters to conserve and restore ecosystem functions and/or reduce flood or storm damages." The means to do so could include acquisition of land or easements, removal or modification of structures such as dams and levees, and restoration of natural hydrology for rivers, streams, floodplains, wetlands, or shorelines. Audubon also supported funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency as part of efforts to strengthen the nation's infrastructure.

So what progress are we making toward pulling back from practices that send global climate out of control and diminish biological diversity? By one measure—investment trends that indicate humans' willingness to keep burning fossil fuels—the evidence suggests some of us know better, but we continue to behave badly. A recent report by the 30-nation International Energy Agency, "World Energy Investment 2019" said, "Today's capital allocation would need to shift rapidly towards cleaner sources of electricity networks in order to align with the Sustainable Development Scenario and the Paris Agreement . . . Total investment across low-carbon energy—including supply and efficiency—has stalled in recent years and needs a rapid boost to keep Paris in sight."

But consider also the opinions of investment fund managers of firms based in the UK, France, Spain, and Italy that manage \$10 trillion in assets who were recently surveyed by the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association. They were asked if oil companies will be good investments if their business is still focused on fossil fuels in five years' time. Only 18 percent answered "yes; in the same survey, 80 percent of the fund managers reported interest from clients in fossil-free investment strategies (Desmog BB Earth Day 2019 4/28/19).

Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) assets, many of which consider climate change effects, are growing at nearly 40 percent year-over-year since 2016, according to the SIF Foundation's "Report on US Sustainable, Responsible, and Impact Investing Trends." More than \$12 trillion is now invested in a variety of socially responsible ways, which is one out of four of the total assets under management in the U.S. (CNBC 4/9/19 and 5/13/19).

For a search for mutual funds to show their investments in coal, oil, and gas, Google "Fossil-Free Funds."

"I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June."

— Lucy Maud Montgomery

Public Officials

President Donald Trump

1600 Pennsylvania Av NW, Washington DC 20500-0001
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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
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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 will 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

Lots to Remember this Month

Check inside this newsletter for details on the following events in June:

- Saline wetlands field trip
- Potluck picnic at Antelope Park with program on Emerald Ash Borer tree disease
- 30th annual Backyard Garden Tour
- Wachiska's Open Forum at Unitarian Church

Aluminum cans are still being collected in Wachiska's account at A-Can Recycling.

Plan on a yard sale later this summer. Collect your stuff NOW! Details next month.

ENJOY SUMMER FINALLY!!!



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Wachiska Audubon Society

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WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2019

OFFICERS

President.....	*Stu Luttick (Geneva).....	402-759-3597
Vice President.....	*Theresa Pella.....	512-585-1511
Recording Secretary.....	*Cathy Shaner.....	402-421-1652
Treasurer.....	*Mary Rogge.....	402-488-1342
Immediate Past President.....	*Gary Fehr.....	402-570-4382

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*vacant.....	
Director at Large.....	*Terry Stentz.....	402-202-8819
Director at Large.....	*Melinda Varley.....	402-416-4111
Conservation.....	*Ross Scott (Roca).....	402-202-1523
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.....	*Mary King.....	402-570-3295
Publicity/Public Relations.....	Judith Gibson.....	402-466-0117

*Denotes Board member

OTHER ASSOCIATES

Bird Questions.....	Kevin Poague.....	402-797-2301
Facebook Coordinator.....	Benjamin Vogt.....	402-499-5851
Raptor Recovery.....	Betsy Finch (Elmwood).....	402-994-2009
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.....	*Kristal Stoner.....	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director.....	Meghan Sittler.....	402-797-2301
Webmaster.....	Roxanne Smith.....	402-477-1319
Wachiska Computer Issues/Questions.....	Linda Sullivan.....	402-580-8515

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Every time you order from Amazon, please consider logging into smile.amazon.com. Make Wachiska Audubon Society your permanent designee for 5% discount on whatever you purchase at no extra cost to you.

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**.