



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 42nd Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2015

APRIL 2015

Volume 24 - Issue 4

General Meeting—Thursday, April 9, 6:15 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3825 Wildbriar Lane

Conservation Status of North American Birds in the Face of Future Climate Change

with Chad Wilsey, Ph.D., Science Division, National Audubon Society



Dr. Chad Wilsey

National Audubon Society scientists recently completed a comprehensive analysis modeling the winter and summer ranges of 588 North American bird species in response to future climate change. Using extensive citizen science data and detailed climate layers, these models characterize the relationship between the distribution of each species and climate through the end of the century.

Chad Wilsey, Ph.D., is a spatial ecologist with National Audubon Society. Chad uses spatial data and analysis tools, such as remote sensing and computer modeling, to address the potential impacts of development and climate change on bird and wildlife populations. Previously, Chad partnered with a team of researchers from several universities, government agencies, and nonprofits to characterize the vulnerability of wildlife populations to climate change in the Pacific Northwest. He has studied the dependence of the endangered black-capped vireo on sustained cowbird management and characterized bird communities in shaded cacao and banana agroforests in Costa Rica. Chad also has extensive field experience including completing wildlife surveys for energy development projects in Wyoming, bird banding in New Mexico, and monitoring of nesting macaws in Peru. He earned an M.S. in conservation biology and sustainable development in the Nelson Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Ph.D. in landscape ecology at the University of Washington.

At our April meeting, **Chad Wilsey** will discuss the results of this analysis and the implications for conservation. The science is clear that climate change is the biggest conservation threat to birds through the rest of the century. As a result, the fate of North America's birds will depend critically on conservation decisions that reduce the impacts of climate change as well as the ability of these birds to colonize areas that become climatically suitable outside of their current ranges.

Wilsey will be the guest speaker for Wachiska's annual awards banquet/potluck on **April 9**. We'll begin at **6:15 p.m.** with a potluck dinner at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 3825 Wildbriar Lane in southwest Lincoln, one block north of the intersection of South 40th Street and Old Cheney Road (same location as the holiday potluck). The building easily accommodates wheelchairs. Bring family and friends along with a favorite dish or two to share and your own table service. Beverages will be provided. The public is invited to this free event as long as you bring food to share for dinner; if you cannot come to eat, the program should begin around 8:00 p.m. You are welcome to drop in for the program.

Calendar

April

- 5 Field Trip to Riverton (page 2)
- 6 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 7 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 **Awards Banquet/potluck**, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, National Audubon speaker, 6:15 p.m.
- 13 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 **Earth Day**, Union Square, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (page 2)
- 20 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 23 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G, 6:00 p.m.

Earthkeeper Award

Wachiska's Earthkeeper Award will be presented to Dave Titterington, owner of Lincoln's Wild Bird Habitat Stores. Dave has been a generous supporter and friend of our chapter for many, many years. The surprise President's Award will also be announced at this time.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Rummaging around Riverton for Rusties

Seen any rusty blackbirds lately? If so, consider yourself lucky because rusty blackbirds are one of the most rapidly declining species in North America. This denizen of wet woods has experienced an 85-95 percent population decline since the mid-1900s. The International Rusty Blackbird Working Group, in partnership with many other groups including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Cornell Lab of Ornithology, has launched a three-year Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz to target key regions for sightings. This year marks the second year of the Blitz and encourages birders to look for rusties at their favorite haunts and then report their findings on [eBird](#) through the "Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz" protocol. The collected data will be used to identify critical stopover areas and better understand migration. Target dates to see rusty blackbirds in our region will run through mid-April.

During our April field trip, we'll visit Riverton Wildlife Area in Iowa to search the flooded wooded areas for rusties in the hopes that we'll find some amidst the red-winged blackbird flocks. Riverton is located just beyond Nebraska City and can be an interesting destination for waterbirds during migration.

Meet at **10:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, April 5**, in the parking lot of the Wachiska office at 4547 Calvert Street in Lincoln. Participants can either caravan or carpool for the 60-mile trip. Bring a water bottle, sack lunch, and binoculars and scope if you have them. We plan to arrive at Riverton around 11:30 a.m. for anyone interested in joining the group at the entrance. There is no fee, and the public is welcome. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

New Members to Wachiska this Month

by Joyce Vannier, Membership Chair

Joining Wachiska this past month with a membership in National Audubon are the following:

James Banister	Peed Foundation
Mary Flanagan	Pegler Family Foundation
Horizon Bank	Pink Flamingo & Spa
Patrick Janike	Rachel Ramsey
Lancaster County Democrats	Gail Russell
Gregory Lauby	Catherine Sellmyer
Marian Malone	Silver Sky Imports
Edward Maynard	Southeast Community College
Marilyn McGreer	Susan Weber

Supporting our chapter as Friends of Wachiska are Lana Novak, Don Pederson, and Nan Weilage.

Lincoln to Celebrate Earth Day April 18

by Colleen Babcock, Chair, P/E Committee

Simple truths can be the most profound. Dr. David Gosselin's March presentation reminded us that "everything is connected to everything else." Human behavior is connected to success of bird life, globally and locally. Wachiska's population and environment (P/E) committee will again host Earth Day activities reinforcing human/bird connections. Join us at Union Plaza east of the downtown area on Saturday, April 18, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Visitors to the Wachiska booth will be able to assemble pine cone bird feeders to be taken home and put up in their backyards or other appropriate bird-accessible areas. It's simple, engaging, and fun for children. Other bird feeding models and information for sustaining bird feeding practices include use of native plants in gardens and landscapes. We also connect with birds in the way we feed ourselves. Our food choices and food preparation methods impact bird habitat and climate change in many ways. While some connections are not as tangible as a pine cone bird feeder, we will demonstrate ways to reduce energy consumption and environmental impact, showing a display of solar ovens we can use in food preparation and water purification. We will let people know how they can build these at home to reduce our energy footprint and save habitat.

One new Earth Day booth activity in 2014 proved enjoyable for many. P/E committee volunteers asked visitors to share personal connections with birds and respond to the question, "What do you love about birds?" (see June 2014 *Babbling Brook*). In addition to physical descriptions, other thoughts were "freedom," "watching them with my mom," "they make my cat angry," "when I wake up they sound happy," and (maybe a favorite of mine) "plants grow out of their poop." We were delighted to see individuals and families pass the booth and then return quickly to write down a remark they wanted to share. You are all invited to stop by the P/E committee table. If this is not your reality on Earth Day, take time to recall and honor what you love about birds and other personal joys with our home planet.

We strongly urge interested Wachiska members to come and volunteer to help on Earth Day. Contact Barb Francis at 402-483-6727 or barbfrancis8@gmail.com.

Nebraska IMBM

Nebraska will be celebrating International Migratory Bird Month during May. Check out the link nebraskabirdmonth.org to learn about Nebraska's IMBM activities, including the growing list of birding events in May. If you plan to host a birding activity during that time, have it added to the Nebraska IMBM list of events.

Wachiska plans to host an event at Fletcher Prairie towards the end of May. Details will be announced in the May newsletter.

Wachiska Urges Fortenberry to Lead on Climate Change

by Linda R. Brown

A delegation of seven Wachiska members led by President Elizabeth Nelson met with Congressman Fortenberry March 11 to share the results of the National Audubon Society study based on breeding bird surveys and Christmas Bird Counts, showing possible future significant declines of current range for over 300 species of birds due to global warming. This includes nearly equal numbers of "climate-threatened" species with a 50 percent reduction of range by 2080 and "climate-endangered" species with likely range loss of at least 50 percent by 2050.

Dr. Paul Johnsgard stated that even though the Audubon study is projecting into the future, it is consistent with the findings reported in his newly-released book, *Global Warming and Population Responses among Great Plains Birds*, documenting winter range shifts northward over the past 47 years.

Other participants were Jessi Umberger, Marian Langan, Rachel Simpson, Doug Campbell, and myself. Congressman Fortenberry greeted us warmly and proudly showed us the wall-sized pheasant painting he had salvaged from the restaurant at the Cornhusker Hotel. He and Rachel commiserated on the fact that both his and her family's bees died over the winter. He also told us that the Fortenberry family helped with a friend's Eagle Scout project to build a bridge at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center.

When we got down to the "nitty-gritty," Fortenberry said he is interested in talking about energy solutions rather than climate problems. He asked his staff person to give us a copy of an article from *The Washington Post*. The same article entitled, "Utilities put squeeze on solar roof industry," was reprinted in the March 9, 2015, edition of the *Lincoln Journal Star*.

When asked how we could help, he said, "Share this information with your groups locally and nationally." The article reported that top utility executives (like those running coal-fired electric plants) gathered to hear warnings that the increase in solar roof panels will be a serious threat to the operators of America's electric grid. They fear serious problems would result from declining sales. They want to put big fees on solar customers' bills to help pay for the grid infrastructure. These utility executives had little success in legislatures because of strong support for solar; however, they received more assistance from politically-appointed and little-watched public utility commissions in their effort to push for fee hikes that could price solar out of reach.

Fortunately, Lincoln Electric System (LES) views solar installations differently. They see increased solar capacity, which is mostly paid for by the homeowner, as helping to meet the peak requirement for electricity. LES provides a generous net-metering policy, so those who generate more electricity than used can sell the remainder to LES. In addition, LES makes a small payment to encourage customers who are building solar systems. Please note that this year—and this year only—there is

a 30-percent federal tax credit for adding solar. Perhaps, with enough solar power added to the grid, we will not need to build another coal-burning electric plant. Whatever we can do to reduce the use of fossil fuels and the resultant greenhouse gases is a plus for the planet and is the right thing to do.

Global Warming and Population Responses among Great Plains Birds

Paul Johnsgard has published a new book (*Global Warming and Population Responses among Great Plains Birds*) with the University of Nebraska's Center for Digital Research, where online versions of countless academic papers (over 70 of Johnsgard's), and thousands of books (21 of Johnsgard's) can be accessed freely. This book summarizes and analyzes Audubon's Christmas Bird Count data from the Great Plains over a four-decade period from 1967 to 2007, plus 2013-14. The states covered extend from North Dakota through Oklahoma, plus the Texas panhandle, and involved more than 200 Great Plains bird species; of these, 144 species were recorded sufficiently often to allow detailed analysis of their distribution and relative early winter abundance on a state-by-state and decade-by-decade basis.

In many instances there has been a substantial shift northward in early winter populations among both migratory and non-migratory species, with the densest population centers sometimes shifting a distance equal to one state northward since the 1960s, and in a few cases as much distance as the equivalent of two states. Later fall freeze-up times have most markedly affected recent fall migration departure times and northern wintering limits for water-dependent birds, such as waterfowl and other aquatic birds. Additionally, moderating fall temperatures and changes in early winter snow cover have increasingly permitted many land birds to develop longer spring-to-fall occupation periods and deferred fall migrations at higher latitudes.

This book can be freely accessed as follows: *Global Warming and Population Responses among Great Plains Birds*. 2015. Zea E-Books & Univ. of Nebraska Digital Commons. 384 pp. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/zeabook>

Print edition copies are available for sale from Lulu.com: <http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/unllib>

A Spanish translation of Professor Johnsgard's *Crane Music*, his widely read book on the North American cranes, has also been recently added to UNL's Digital Commons library: *Musica de las Grullas: Una Historia Natural de las Grullas de América*. 2014. Translation by E. Weir & Karine Gil-Weir. Zea E-Books & University of Nebraska Digital Commons. 182 pp. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/zeabook>

Print edition available from Lulu.com: <http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/unllib>



From the Board ...

*by Stu Luttich, Conservation Committee Chair
with assistance from Elizabeth Nelson, President*

Where Do We Want to Go from Here?

Wachiska Audubon Society (WAS) has grown from a small group of about 35-40 like-minded individuals in 1973 to over 1,200 members 42 years later. While many of our members join us by subscribing to *Audubon* magazine, this is still an over 34-fold increase in membership. The scope of our activities has expanded from basically one or two committees to eight regular standing committees. The organization's responsibilities which originally focused on birdwatching and specialized activism on habitat protection issues, have now greatly expanded.

Wachiska presently owns and manages eight separate prairie properties, totaling 546 acres. We hold and annually monitor 24 conservation easements on prairie properties, totaling 413 acres. We also have become the go-to organization when the Nebraska Environmental Trust, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, or other organizations need support with issues ranging from prairie dog protection to in-stream flow issues to trail-building funds or help with a wide range of issues far beyond our initial bird and habitat protection goals. This expansion has not come without a price to pay in the form of time, money, and resources; but most of the accomplishments have come through a combination of the members volunteering their time and resources. The current status of the organization would not have happened without our many generous volunteers and donors.

However, WAS is now in a "Catch 22" situation which should not come as a surprise to anyone who understands the attendant responsibilities that accompany growth. Most WAS leaders wanted the organization to grow in numbers and become increasingly engaged in conservation issues. But we have now reached a point where the question has to be asked, "Where do we want to go from here"? The needed tasks exceed the manpower provided by volunteers alone. We are particularly challenged because many of the individuals who championed our growth have grown older or are no longer with us. If expectations are for the organization to continue to grow and thrive, decisions and provisions need to be created now.

Wachiska's conservation committee recently formulated a relatively long-term Prairie Conservation and Management Plan, including identifying the goals and objectives to guide the future acquisition of prairie properties and the holding of future prairie conservation easements. How this Plan will be integrated into the more comprehensive policy direction for the chapter still awaits clarification. Intentions are for the owned properties to be self-supporting in terms of defraying management costs. Nonetheless, the Plan will cost money and human endeavor to implement—it will not be cost-free. People and resources will still have to be found to do the jobs, and a proportion of those

people will have to be paid. We cannot expect volunteers alone to accomplish the tasks. Dependable long-term funding sources will have to exist and be sufficient to pay all of the costs for administering and managing the organization, the standing committees, and the properties owned and easements held by the organization.

Organizations are no stronger than the strength of their members. For our organization's leaders to create policy and vision for the future, we first need to understand what our membership is willing to contribute in terms of their time, talents, and treasure. While money can act as a critical catalyst for making dreams come true, money alone in the absence of wise and prudent vision will not accomplish the mission—nor can the mission be accomplished without people employing their talents and enthusiasms for accomplishing the necessary tasks. Volunteers are extremely valuable and welcome. However, when the energies and enthusiasms of the volunteers prove insufficient, regardless of the reason, money will be needed to stimulate the necessary level of motivation. Staff will have to be hired to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities that are beyond the capacity of depending upon volunteers alone.

If an underlying goal inherent to the mission and purpose of Wachiska Audubon Society is to become an increasingly more sustainable prominence in the conservation community, two critical reservoirs would appear to be needed:

- First, we need a sustainable reservoir of people who empathize with the founding mission and purpose of Wachiska Audubon and who can be depended upon to share not only themselves but their resources to fulfill the goals and objectives that are inherent to pursuing that mission and purpose. The survey on the facing page is intended to identify individuals who are willing to step up and work with Wachiska to secure its future.
- Second, realizing we probably cannot maintain sustainable growth on the goodwill of volunteers alone, an endowment fund needs to support our efforts when people volunteering their time alone is not adequate. Wachiska has established an endowment account and the legal structural foundation, but it is not yet funded.

For Wachiska Audubon Society to continue to be a prominent force for the protection and conservation of natural resources in Southeastern Nebraska, both of these reservoirs are equally important. The exhausting of one will only result in the exhausting of the other, while building both will provide a solid foundation for the future of our organization.

Where do we go from here? Your support is key to Wachiska's future.

Dear Wachiska Audubon Members:

The past few years have been very positive for the Wachiska Audubon Society. Wachiska is known for our great programs and field trips for youth and adults, our dedication to advocating for conservation issues, and our success in protecting tallgrass prairie and other important habitat areas. In 2014, with the purchase of our eighth prairie, we now protect over 1,000 acres of prairie land through direct ownership or easement management.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES SURVEY

Wachiska Audubon is at a crucial juncture and we have some important questions to ask ourselves as we look to the future. Your replies to this survey are vital as we explore various pathways forward.

However, our growing successes are challenged by the nature of our organizational foundation. Most Audubon chapters with similar size land holdings employ paid administrators, land managers, and fundraising staff. And often a well-funded endowment fund exists to cover expenses for staff, programs, and land management.

Currently, Wachiska has one part-time office administrator. While we have some investments earmarked for additional land purchases, educational programs, and prairie defense, we work hard each year to raise funds to cover our operational expenses. While we have over 1,200 members, we often scramble to find volunteers for special events. People whose talents we need on our Board and in administrative positions are difficult to recruit. It is challenging to find individuals with the experience, time, and willingness to do the hard work of caring for the land we own. Because of these types of issues our Executive Board is undertaking a Critical Issues Assessment, starting with this survey, to determine what kind of future Wachiska can realistically pursue as an organization.

As the first step, we are asking all Wachiska members to complete the following survey to help us better understand how our membership is willing to support Wachiska.

Sincerely,

The 2015 Wachiska Board of Directors

MEMBERSHIP RESOURCES SURVEY ————— Please detach and return to the Wachiska office by May 1, 2015 —————

Checking a box does **not** mean we will immediately call on you for help. We are trying to identify people who can help us in specific areas over the next five years. Please check all that apply.

Yes, I would consider volunteering to:

- Serve as a volunteer coordinator
- Serve as a fundraiser coordinator
- Help with fundraising phone calls and activities
- Assist with our youth education programs
- Assist with our Legislative Action activities
- Write letters, brochures, website copy
- Design brochures
- Design and/or update a website
- Provide accounting advice as a CPA
- Help manage our tallgrass prairies (we really need people with grassland management experience)
- Assist with controlling invasive plants on our prairies
- Help with easement monitoring
- Serve on the Wachiska Board or other leadership positions

- Volunteer about five hours a month to work on ongoing projects with others
- Volunteer 10-15 hours a month for several months to work on a special project with others

I could help Now Next year In a couple years

No, I am primarily interested in *Audubon* magazine and/or national issues, or for other reasons do not plan to volunteer at the local level.

I would consider making a significant donation, now or in the future, to help create an endowment to fund ongoing operations and paid staff. Yes No Maybe

Do you have **other skills** that might benefit Wachiska? Please describe: _____

NAME _____
EMAIL _____
PHONE _____

Thank you so much for participating in this survey. Please mail or drop off this survey to the Wachiska office at 4547 Calvert Street Suite 10, Lincoln NE 68506 or scan and email to:

office@WachiskaAudubon.org with **SURVEY** as the subject.

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

More on Clean Energy and Birds

Most solar projects, like the one that will soon be under construction on West Holdrege Street north of the Interstate, will generate electricity from photovoltaic panels. A different design, called concentrated solar, uses mirrors to reflect and concentrate sunlight to a central point to generate heat which is then turned into electricity. There are a few more than a dozen concentrated solar projects currently in the U.S., but if/as the technology solves some problems, there will be more. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concentrated_solar_power

A new word was invented—"streamers"—for birds caught and killed in the bright light reflected from the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System project in Nevada, the largest in the world. The local Audubon spokesman advised caution.

Recently, the developers of a concentrated solar plant near Tonopah, Nevada (not yet in full operation) have come up with a new strategy. Previously, when in standby mode, all of the mirrors were focused on one spot creating a bright spot in the air above the central heating tower. Now engineers have developed a way to spread the beam over hundreds of yards resulting in a field, they say, that is safe for birds to fly through. A company spokesman said that once the mirrors are focused on the tower, the solid structure is enough to warn birds away. This story is not over. We'll keep watching it.

How to Save Money, Generate Jobs, and Slow Down Climate Change

The winning energy investment is still energy efficiency. A study by Deutsche Bank and the Rockefeller Foundation found that retrofitting buildings could save the U.S. \$1 trillion over a decade, reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent, and add millions of jobs. A good platform for a run for the presidency—anybody interested?

<http://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/uploads/files/791d15ac-90e1-4998-8932-5379bcd654c9-building.pdf>

Optimism about Climate Disruption? Yes!

Below is a link summarizing the most thorough study done on how many climate scientists agree that human actions are causing global warming. Of those actively publishing in their field from 1991 to 2011, the study found that 97 percent of the scientists agreed that human activity is the cause of global warming. The scientists hold a nearly universal consensus, yet the American public does not understand this fact. But this could be the year the dam breaks, says environmentalist Paul Gilding—not because people come to accept the science, but for six other reasons, he argues: 1) the U.S.-China climate deal, 2) the collapse in oil prices, 3) the falls in solar price are set to continue, 4) market prices

reflect economic disruption (pointing to the loss in value of Peabody Coal), 5) the political power of big business starts to shift sides, and 6) physical impacts accelerating and driving economic and security impact.

<http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/8/2/024024/article>

Peterson and the Leaflets

by Richard Peterson

In a 1935 issue of *Bird-Lore* there were biographical sketches of the new staff members. This was part of Roger Tory Peterson's sketch: "This outstanding young ornithologist confesses that he might easily have become the most notoriously bad boy in his home community of Jamestown, New York, had it not been for the fact that at the age of 11 an opportunity was presented to him to become a member of a Junior Audubon Club. Here his attention was first called, by means of the Audubon Leaflets, to the marvelous beauty of birds, their form, color, wondrous migrations and other interesting habits." (1935 *Bird-Lore* Vol. XXXVII, No. 1, page 8.)

Later, a survey was made of some of the schools where the clubs were formed. Peterson responded, "The comments of the teachers indicated that the color-plates were fine, as were the outline drawings to color, but many teachers of the younger grades found the text too difficult—too far above the level of their children. They used the pictures but had to interpret the texts. So two sets of texts were prepared—one aims primarily at the third or fourth grade level. This is usually interpretable to the first and second grades and usable in the fifth. The other text is aimed primarily at the sixth and seventh grades but is useful throughout high school." (1939 *Bird-Lore* Vol. XLI, No. 1, page 40.)

"As interest rousers for Junior Audubon Clubs that will be formed during the school year, 1939-40, our Roger T. Peterson has just finished writing and illustrating 10 new educational leaflets. Here are the subjects the teachers and youngsters can count on: two birds, the red-headed woodpecker and whip-poor-will, that perennially appeal to children; those two small friends, so tame and faithful at the feeding sill and dooryard, the chickadee and junco; the purple martin which likes to live with man, and the proud, useful red-tailed hawk which does not; the wood thrush that everybody knows and loves, and the redstart that it is time, as we reach the wisdom of the school age, we should begin to recognize. Especially for West Coast Juniors, but for admiration of all, the series rounds off with Anna's hummingbird and the California quail." (1939 *Bird-Lore* Vol. XLI, No. 3, page 171.)

A year later there was an ad for the Junior Audubon Clubs, illustrating what was available. Pictured were four of the leaflets: No. 73a (Junior) The Whip-poor-will; No. 72a (Junior) The Wood Thrush; No. 96 a (Junior) The Slate-colored Junco; No. 61a (Junior) Chickadee; and No. 43a (Junior) The Red-headed Woodpecker. (1940 *Bird-Lore* Vol. XLII, No. 3, page 283.)

By mid-1947, the number of Audubon Junior Club members was expected to top 400,000. Club membership packages "contain six junior and six senior leaflets and a membership button for every Junior member, an Audubon Teacher's Guide for each club advisor, and one or more issues of *News on the Wing*." (1947 *Audubon* magazine Vol. XLIX, No. 3, page 178.)

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 Ben Sasse

100 Centennial Mall N Rm 287, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-224-5213
E-mail available at website

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 Brad Ashford (2nd District)

Contact information not available until later

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 Pete Ricketts

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031
E-mail available at website

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—many people choose both. 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 local membership dues remain 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.

AND / 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

C5ZP040Z

Members Sign Up to Receive *The Babbling Brook* Online

You can help Wachiska save paper and reduce the cost of printing and mailing the *Babbling Brook*. Beginning soon, each month's newsletter will be posted online by the first day of each month. Electronic subscribers will receive an email the first of each month with a link to the online newsletter.

If you would like to switch from paper to online delivery, please send an email to newsletter@WachiskaAudubon.org and put "Electronic Newsletter" in the subject line. We'll get you converted over soon.

Thanks for helping us save trees and postage!



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**Please complete
Member Resources
Survey on page 5.**

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2015

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NEBirds Website

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

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

A Gift to the Future

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