



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 48th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2021

JULY 2021

Volume 30 - Issue 7

Wachiska Program — Thursday, July 8, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom web conference (registration required)

Link to register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrd-mprT8qHd13tePn432G17Lu45eLMycf>

Celebrating the Teachings of a Great Ornithologist: Paul Johnsgard's Impact on a Young Scientist

by Allison Johnson, Ph.D.

This July 8 presentation will honor the memory and teachings of Dr. Paul Johnsgard, a world-renowned ornithologist and champion of Nebraska's wild places, who passed away at the end of May.

In 2003, while in high school, I had a chance meeting with Dr. Paul Johnsgard in Kearney while crane watching. Dr. Johnsgard became a mentor and a close friend to me, fostering my love of birds and sparking an interest in evolutionary biology, a path which eventually led to graduate school and my current position at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. During this presentation, I will explain the many ways that Dr. Johnsgard influenced my life—



Paul Johnsgard and Allison

through travel, art, and science—beginning with a life-changing trip to the Galapagos Islands taken with Dr. Johnsgard and a company of friends and ending with a glimpse into my own current research. Included will be the work I am now doing in Australia studying the social lives of fairywrens, small, brilliantly colored passerines that lead dramatic lives. This talk will also cover how the lives of social birds in Nebraska inspired studies on the variability in social group size and social group type in these birds and how my work in Australia is helping to shape new work back in Nebraska on mixed species' flocking behavior in common winter birds.

I got my undergraduate degree from St. Olaf College in Minnesota. Masters and doctorate degrees in ecology and evolution came from the University of Chicago. Now I am a research assistant professor at UNL.



Allison with Fairywren

Join Wachiska for the next Zoom presentation on **Thursday, July 8, at 7:00 p.m.** to learn more about **Dr. Allison Johnson's** research, interests, and past experiences with several Wachiska members and friends in ornithology. This free, public program will be available to those who register at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrd-mprT8qHd13tePn432G17Lu45eLMycf>. Copy and paste this link into your browser or go to Wachiska's website after July 1 and click on the link directly from the notice to register. You will then receive a confirmation with the meeting number and password. Keep that email and a few minutes before the program is to begin, click on that confirmation and you'll be invited into the meeting. Invite your friends to join us, too. No birder should miss this one!

Calendar

July

- 10 Second Saturday Seeds, Dieken Prairie near Unadilla, 9:00 a.m. (back page)
- 12 Conservation Committee via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 20 Board Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates to Save

- August 14 Second Saturday Seeds at Dieken Prairie again, 9:00 p.m.
- August 21-22 Tour the Wild Side (page 3)

Honoring Our Friend, Paul Johnsgard



Dr. Paul A. Johnsgard

Since Wachiska was in its infancy over 48 years ago, one person who has always been accessible and at-the-ready to lend a hand anytime it was needed has been Dr. Paul A. Johnsgard. Probably few people has appreciated this and relied on him more than I have while working with Wachiska programs. I could fill this page with examples of Paul's help; to name a few, he has given Wachiska many of his books to sell, raffle, and give away as prizes. Years ago Paul gave a program demonstrating how he carved birds from wood. Everyone knows of Dr. Johnsgard's programs when he could give a presentation on any bird you could imagine and provide his own photographs to inspire us all. Always willing to autograph his books, Paul would include a small pen-and-ink drawing in the margins. His drawings and photographs have graced our t-shirts and posters often.

When I'd have a bird question and was under a deadline for the newsletter, I could always reach Paul by phone or email and the answer would be there pronto. Apparently, he didn't tire of my questions because many years ago he offered to give Wachiska a program once a year, and I took him up on that offer for decades! Even in retirement you could be sure to see Paul at many of our programs and always at the potlucks and picnics.

Publishing over 100 books along with peer-reviewed papers and about 150 nature-related articles for magazines and other publications, Paul truly was a man of many, many talents.

National Audubon presented Dr. Johnsgard with the Charles H. Callahan Award several years ago.

Dr. Johnsgard passed away May 28. Thanks is expressed for all he has done for Wachiska and all of Audubon in Nebraska.

by Arlys Reitan

Honor and Respect

by Paul A. Johnsgard, circa June 25, 2000

I honor the universe, of which I am an infinitesimally small part; its most distant galaxies give me a sense of time beyond all comprehension, and of space beyond measure.

I honor the sun and our solar system; knowing that the sun gives us all our energy, the other planets some sense of how lucky we are to have a beautiful and bountiful Earth, and the moon, a beautiful, if lifeless, symbol to light our evening skies and give romantic poets an outlet.

I honor our Earth, especially its myriad plants and animals, the plants having given us all the oxygen we breathe, and the animals providing the beauty, grace, and amazing diversity that have filled my life with joy.

I honor humanity, from the earliest ancestors who first stood upright and gazed on the savannas of Africa, to the youngest of our kind, still cradled in their mothers' arms.

I honor our artists, writers, composers, and all other creative people who have given us symphonies, novels, sculptures, poetry, and all other forms of enduring imagination, to brighten our lives and give meaning to our existence.

I honor our scientists, who have made the world and universe more understandable, and have helped to free humanity from mindless superstition.

I honor our greatest institutions; our schools, libraries, museums, and galleries, that are the caretakers of our culture, and the people who have established and maintained them.

I honor my immediate family, from my grandparents who tutored me as a young child; to my parents who gave me both life and sustenance, as well as my entire sense of values; to my wife, who has never wavered in her loving support; and to my children and their children, my source of greatest joy and fulfillment. Love itself has no voice. Therefore, all those whom it touches must tell its message, lest love itself die.

And last, I must honor and respect death, the insistent, but patient visitor who was kind enough to refrain from knocking until I was ready to receive him.

Walt Library Native Plant Project Update

by Patty Spitzer, Population/Environment Committee

The Native Plant Project at Walt Library is well underway. In late April, a dozen hard-working volunteers assembled on the hottest day of the year to date (90 degrees plus) to cut and remove existing sod (approximately 900 sq.



ft.) and spread a soil compost mix in preparation for planting. Two days later a second group of awesome volunteers gathered to plant approximately 260 native plants purchased/donated from Prairie Legacy. Thank you, Kay Kottas! Under the direction of Jason St. Sauver, "the Birdnerd," the planting went smoothly; afterwards volunteers spread mulch and thoroughly watered the site. By mid-May, two new bird feeders, complete with baffles to discourage raccoons and squirrels, were installed with many thanks to Dave Titterington and the Wild Bird Habitat Store.

A small group of volunteer "waterers" has continued to monitor the area, weeding and watering regularly. A big shout out to Linda Plock, Patti Boehner, Mike Ford, Amanda Irions, Angel Strong, Mary King, and myself.



A pair of Eastern kingbirds was spotted when Jason checked the site on May 24. The birds are happy with the plantings and new source of food! Jason has labeled some of the plants and provided an Audubon sign for the site. Thank you to Jason and Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center!

Many of the plants have been or are in bloom including primrose, liatris, hyssops, and columbine, to name a few. Check out the site next time you are in the vicinity. You will also have a chance to explore the site on August 22 during the "Tour the Wild Side" event hosted by Wachiska Audubon in conjunction with Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center. For more information on this upcoming event, check *The Babbling Brook* article in the June issue.

We are not done yet! New plants will be introduced this fall as well as a permanent sign to let folks know who was behind this



project. A big thank you to all the Wachiska volunteers who have helped make this project a success.

Volunteers Needed for Prairie Discovery Days

by Tim Knott, Chair, Education Committee

Since 2005, Wachiska has been holding its Prairie Discovery Day for fourth grade kids and their teachers. Each year we invite the schools to bring students to either our Dieken Prairie near Unadilla or to Knott Prairie at Yutan for a half-day of activities. Exercises include capturing and identifying prairie insects, exploring the grassland to learn prairie plants and their defenses, hands-on learning about soils and the geology of Nebraska, and practice in writing about the prairie. We also provide the kids with refreshments (apples and ice water) and pay for their busing expenses.

This fall we are planning at least two prairie educational events, one for Syracuse Elementary on September 9 and one for D.C. West Elementary from Valley one day the following week. We need volunteers to help our Wachiska member-teachers. Being a volunteer doesn't

take a teacher's certificate. We just want to introduce the fourth graders to the prairie basics and its fun. You can help make these events worthwhile for the kids. Call me at

402-483-5656 or email wachiskaoffice2@gmail.com if you would like to help. This is always a fun and rewarding event.



"Tour the Wild Side" Coming Next Month

Be sure to mark your calendars for August 21 and 22 for a new program hosted by Wachiska Audubon. After 30 years of sponsoring a backyard habitat tour, the chapter is honing in on featuring native plants in urban yards. For details, refer to the flyer on page 5 of last month's newsletter or go to the website for updated details. Pollinators will be featured. Several residential landscapes in Lincoln will be open on Saturday. Then on that Sunday you will be able to visit with local nurseries and see up-close public spaces where native plants are growing. Watch for more information next month.

Donations to Ninette Lookabaugh's Memory

Recently family members of long-time Wachiska member Ninette Lookabaugh stopped in the office with a check representing donations in her memory from her bridge group and friends. Thank you to everyone who remembered their friend in this way.

Mourning Cloak

by Richard Peterson



The mourning cloak butterfly, *Nymphalis antiopa* (Linnaeus, 1758), is in the Lepidoptera family Nymphalidae, also referred to as the brush-footed butterfly. Adults can live over 10 months, one of the longest life spans of any butterfly.

The mourning cloak is distributed broadly across the northern hemisphere, which includes all of North America and northern Eurasia. In England it is known as the Chamberwell beauty. There are three subspecies in North America—a northern (*hyperborea*), an eastern (*lintnerii*), and a southwestern subspecies (*thomsoni*). The sexes are similar in appearance.

Adults have a wingspan up to four inches, and the wings are distinctive. They are dark maroon-brown with a broad, pale-yellow ragged outer edge. L. H. Newman, British entomologist and author of popular books on the lepidoptera, compared the pattern to a girl who, disliking having to be in mourning, defiantly let a few inches of a bright dress show below her mourning dress. Hence the older name for the mourning cloak, “white petticoat.” Blue, iridescent spots line the black demarcation between the maroon and yellow. It's the perfect coloring to camouflage themselves when resting on tree bark. When they then instantly take flight, they emit an audible “click” sound. They are rarely seen nectaring on flowers, hence they are not significant pollinators. Adults instead feed primarily on tree sap, spoiled and decaying fallen fruit, and sugary honey dew, the exudate from aphids. Adults overwinter in tree cavities or on the ground under litter protecting them from snow cover. They are often one of the first butterflies on the wing during spring thaw.

Mourning cloak display polygynous mating behavior, meaning males will mate with multiple females throughout their long life. They either use an elevated display site to search and attract females or they fly in a search territory that they defend. These areas may be sunny perches near the margins of wooded areas, parks, gardens, lakes, around stream edges, or anywhere females are likely to visit.

These butterflies lay their eggs on the terminal shoots of the soon-to-develop leaves encircling the stems of the larval food plant. Food plants include willow (*Salix*), birch (*Betula*), poplar and cottonwood (*Populus*), elm (*Ulmus*), hackberry (*Celtis*), and hawthorn (*Crataegus*). The caterpillars live communally in silken nests on the host plant until the fully grown, two-inch larvae disperse to pupate. Some call the larvae the spiny elm caterpillar whether they are found on elm or not. Their complete metamorphosis is completed in another 15 days.

During their life span the eggs are preyed upon by beetles, true bugs, ants, wasps, assassin bugs, and mites. The adults fall prey to praying mantises, assassin bugs, dragon flies, as well as birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. In 2001, the mourning cloak was named the state insect of Montana.

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center July Programs

Third Tuesday Bird Walk

Tuesday, July 20, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Join fellow birders for a guided bird walk along the prairie trails. Free, registration required.

Writing Workshop: “Unleashing Your Creativity”

Saturday, July 24, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Using a series of guided exercises, writing prompts, and reflective practices, this workshop will help participants reconnect with their inner passions and open up ways to unleash their creative abilities. The workshop is led by Lucy Adkins and Becky Breed, winners of the 2020 Mayoral Award in Literature. A portion of the \$40/person fee will go to support Spring Creek Prairie's education and conservation programs. Registration required; space limited.

Summer Serenity

Wednesdays, August 4 & 11, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Join Brianne Bayer (RYT-200) as she guides you through an all-levels yoga flow deepening your connection to mind, body, and soul in the serenity of the prairie. Bring a yoga mat, a water bottle, and wear comfortable clothes. Sessions will be held on two consecutive Wednesday evenings. This is a donation-based class (suggested donation is \$10/evening or \$15/both) with all proceeds benefiting Spring Creek Prairie. Registration required.

Masks are no longer required to be worn inside or outside. More information about these and other programs are on our website, <https://springcreek.audubon.org/events>. Questions can be addressed at 402-797-2301 or scp@audubon.org.

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Opens Regular Hours

After closing for several months in 2020 and having temporary hours this year, the visitor center at Spring Creek Prairie is now open for its new regular hours:

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The hours have changed slightly from previous years, opening earlier on weekdays and in the mornings on weekends, with the hopes of interacting with more people especially during the hot summer months.

Admission is free, and the Center's trails are open as always from sunrise to sunset seven days a week. Rental reservations are being scheduled once again for weddings, meetings, parties, and other events.

Newsletter Impacts Life of LaVera Schlichtemeier

by Arlys Reitan, Editor

“Our mom, LaVera Schlichtemeier, was really supportive of the work that [Wachiska] does. When her copy of *The Babbling Brook* arrived, she would read it thoroughly, then highlight different sections for her adult children, grandchildren, neighbors, and caregivers. Mom kept *The Babbling Brook* and her well-worn bird identification book right on the kitchen table when they came to help!

“When she passed away in April at the age of 98, she wanted some of her memorial funds to be donated to you. Several of her friends and relatives chose Wachiska Audubon Society as their choice. Please accept these memorials in her name: John Wessels, Andy & Marilyn Myrtue, Randy & Judy Burgett, Bill & Marilyn Rishel, Ron & Debra Buehler, Pete & Mary Rishel, Keith & Jill Hamilton, Lance & Sylvia Njos, Chuck & Pat O’Donnell, and Terry Pollard.

“None of us realized that Mom was having her last day; she had been hospitalized briefly (we thought). The last thing she asked me to do until she got home was to feed her birds. My brother and I are still making sure they get fed!

“Mom would be glad to know she was helping to support the newsletter and publications!”

--Sue Schlichtemeier-Nutzman, Ph. D., Nehawka

(Editor’s Note: The memorial funds from the above donors have been credited to the publications committee to help cover printing and mailing of The Babbling Brook in the future. Thank you to each of these folks as well as those who might have found our articles and announcements of value or interest.)

Members Share their Nature Joys

Janet Carlson Geisinger sent the following and included this wonderful image of the screech owl in her birdbath.



Screech Owl

It is often contemplated whether bird lovers realize how important fresh water is for birds, both for bathing and drinking. Janet put in this birdbath about 10 years ago, and it has been extremely popular. Everyone who goes to her feeders visits the birdbath, too. Several days ago, she even had a red fox stand on the rim and lap up some water! When this owl visited, Janet was too mesmerized to stop watching in order to get a camera! But it stayed around for quite sometime, so when it returned in mid-June, she grabbed her phone and took many shots as well as a video that runs for 1 minute and 42 seconds. This is all happening in the Capitol Beach neighborhood in Lincoln.

Wachiska Garage Sale a Success!

by Elizabeth Nelson

Wachiska’s June garage sale fundraiser was a success thanks to the organizers, donors, and shoppers who made it happen. The one-day sale netted over \$900, which makes an important contribution to our 2021 fundraising budget.

Many thanks to Wachiska members and friends who donated hundreds of items to this sale:

Bob Boyce	Carol Wagner
Linda Plock	Tim Knott
Priscilla Handy	Lynn & Tim Borstelmann
Mary Winquest	Elizabeth & Daniel Nelson
Stu Luttich	Sue & Tom Tallman
Foster Collins	Michael Farrell & Lynn Ireland
Carrie Smith	Joanne & Don Pepperl
Marilyn Maude	Gail & Denny Russell
Maureen Ose	Susan Dinsmore
Sharon Kennedy & Ralph Hartley	Eileen Bergt

Apologies to any donor whose name I’ve omitted; we had so many donors, some came and went before I got their names.

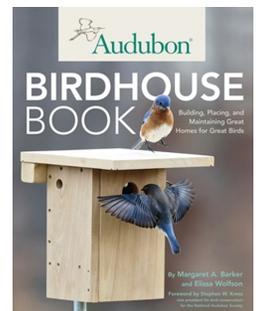
Elizabeth and Daniel Nelson hosted the sale at their commercial garages and donated items. Appreciation goes to the many volunteers who collected, organized, and staffed the sale including Cathy Shaner, Lana Novak, Ruthann Nahorny, Kent Miller, Arlys and Ken Reitan, and Jeff Meyer as well as help from a number of our donors! Thanks to Nancy Hamer for setting up our Facebook promo.

Leftover items are being sorted and donated to appropriate charities including Habitat for Humanity, Bridges to Hope, and People’s City Mission, so this effort will benefit many more organizations in addition to Wachiska.

This sale was successful only because of the contributions of many donors and volunteers. Thanks to all!

Newly Revised and Updated Audubon Birdhouse Book Now Available

Interested in attracting more birds to your outdoor space? Learn how to build, place, and maintain homes to attract birds with this newly revised and updated *Audubon Birdhouse Book*. It features detailed blueprints that guide you in creating havens for your favorite local birds, as well as additional information about how you can contribute to the larger birding community and enhance your birding experience. Check it out at your bookstore or online.



Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Maintaining and restoring the places birds need to live is important for birds. Maintaining and restoring those places is also vitally important now for humans in order to reduce greenhouse gases. The places birds need can pull carbon out of the air and store it in the soil. “Natural Climate Solutions,” a new report from National Audubon, studied ecosystems across the country to identify priority areas for birds with the potential to sequester up to twice as much carbon annually as they do currently. Check this out at <https://www.audubon.org/conservation/climate/naturalsolutions>.

Much of the priority area land is privately owned, so offering incentives for voluntary climate smart practices will be important. Forests, grasslands, and wetlands benefit both birds and carbon storage and so do green spaces in cities and suburbs.

National Audubon noted the city and suburban areas “provide homes for migratory and local bird species like the American goldfinch, critical outdoor spaces for millions of city dwellers, and can also help keep air clean, cool down cities, and manage urban flooding.” The report identifies the need for maintenance for more than 38 million acres of urban and suburban areas and for restoration of more than 55 million acres.

The policy priorities identified in this report call for an increase in funding for Farm Bill Conservation programs including CSP, the Conservation Stewardship Program; EQIP, Environmental Quality Incentives Program; CRP, the Conservation Reserve Program; ACEP, the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program; and RCPP, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

It also calls for a national strategy to protect and restore native grasslands to include the increased use of easements, USDA’s Sodsaver Program, and efforts like Audubon’s Conservation Ranching Initiative. Audubon also calls for “new programs that provide direct payments or tax incentives to reward landowners for implementing climate smart management practices.”

The “Natural Climate Solutions” report has much in common with the Biden Administration’s 30x30 goals—30 percent of U.S. lands, waters, and oceans protected by 2030—initially announced in January. That goal was supported by four out of five U.S. voters in a national poll. Support came from 90 percent of Democrats, 72 percent of Republicans and 68 percent of Independents (*ALG Research 1/26/21*). In May, more specifics were released including “Principle 6: Honor Private Property Rights and Support the Voluntary Stewardship Efforts of Private Landowners and Fishers,” <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2021/05/06/biden-conservation-30x30/>.

Nevertheless, “Stop 30x30” is the rallying cry on a state tour by Governor Ricketts, mainly based on threats he sees to property

rights. In Norfolk he spoke under a giant “Land Grab” sign.

I’ve tried to imagine: When oil, gas, and coal corporate and finance managers go home after work, do family members ever challenge them about their part in climate change? Yes, it’s happened at least once. When asked what motivated him to organize a climate-aware slate of candidates for Exxon’s board of directors, three of whom were elected in May, Christopher James explained it started with questions from his school-aged sons over a family dinner. They asked him how he could consider himself an environmentalist if he invested in fossil fuels. He gave his best answer: “One of my sons had this look on his face where his forehead wrinkled. He didn’t buy it.” The kid made him think. (*WSJ 6/12/21*)

Create a National Strategy to Protect and Restore Grasslands and Sagebrush

(reprinted from National Audubon’s website)

Native grasslands and rangelands have become some of the most reliable and resilient carbon sinks because of their ability to store carbon in their extensive root structures, but they have dwindled to just 40 percent of their historic range. Despite their ecological importance, there is no national strategy to combat grassland conversion, decline, and encroachment of invasive species like cheatgrass.

National Audubon supports a national prioritization of native grassland conservation, efforts to avoid conversion (including easements and the USDA Sodsaver program), financial and technical support for innovative projects that test new management strategies, and management for ecosystem health on public grasslands used for grazing.

Sustainable ranching can also be part of the solution, and Audubon supports the creation of market signals rewarding ranchers who adopt regenerative grazing approaches and manage their rangelands to improve bird habitat such as through Audubon’s Conservation Ranching Initiative.

Read more of this 19-page report here:

https://nas-national-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/natural_climate_solutions_060221_6pm_final.pdf.

Forage Fish Conservation Act Needs Support

Today, there are three hundred million (300,000,000) fewer seabirds in the world than there were in 1950, a population decline of 70 percent. These magnificent birds such as Atlantic puffins, least terns, and black skimmers rely on fish as their primary food source, but they often can’t find enough to eat.

A bill in Congress would help these essential fish populations to rebound and become more stable for the seabirds and other marine wildlife, people, and economies that depend on them. Contact Nebraska’s senators Sasse and Fischer to support the Forage Fish Conservation Act. Find their e-addresses on page 7.

Public Officials

President Joe Biden

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

Senator Ben Sasse

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

Senator Deb Fischer

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

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (1st District)

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

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

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

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

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

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

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

State Senator _____

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

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

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

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

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

Lincoln City Council

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

Lincoln Journal Star

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

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

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

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

Select the level of support that is right for you and make your check payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds 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



American Goldfinches

___ **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.

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Second Saturday Seeds Walks Continue

by Beth Coufal

Wachiska will again host a prairie walk on July 10. Join Beth Coufal at 9:00 a.m. on this second Saturday. This month the location will be Dieken Prairie near Unadilla. We will walk the prairie looking for wildflowers. This will be followed by seed collecting if any suitable species are found at the proper stage of ripeness. All are welcome for either or both activities. This lovely prairie often boasts two species of gayfeather, New Jersey tea, prairie-clover, gentians, and ladies-tresses. Come dressed for walking in tall grasses and bring gloves, clippers, and a bucket if you plan to stay for seed collecting. Call or text Beth at 402-417-3928 if you have questions or need directions. We will cancel if it is raining.

The presenter for the June general meeting had a family emergency arise a few minutes before the program was to begin. Thanks to Chapter President Theresa Pella for her ad lib and then to Ross Scott, chair of the conservation committee, for offering on-the-spot to give a wildflower talk which he had recently presented elsewhere, attendees were not disappointed! Thank goodness for Zoom in this situation!! The original program will be rescheduled in the near future.

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2021

OFFICERS

President	*Theresa Pella
Vice President	*Marilyn McNabb
Recording Secretary	*Linda Plock
Treasurer	*Mary Rogge
Past President	*Stu Luttich

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large	*Dean Cole
Director at Large	*Terry Stentz
Director at Large	*Dave Titterington
Conservation	*Ross Scott
Education	*Tim Knott
Field TripsJohn Carlini *Lana Novak
Hospitality	Cheryl Moncure
Legislation	*Marge Kennedy
Membership	*Linda R. Brown
Monthly Programs/General MeetingsArlys Reitan
Newsletter EditorArlys Reitan
Population/EnvironmentMary King *Patty Spitzer
Publicity/Public RelationsArlys Reitan
Donor DevelopmentElizabeth Nelson
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.	*Kristal Stoner

***Denotes Board member**

For contact information of officers and committee chairs, call the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846.

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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**.

