



Wachiska
Audubon Society

Wachiska Audubon Society's vision: To share the experience and love of nature—that life may sustainably flourish in all its natural diversity

The Babbling Brook

Our 50th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2023

FEBRUARY 2023

Volume 32 - Issue 2

Wachiska Program and General Meeting — Thursday, February 9, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, and also via YouTube link: https://youtu.be/2LxLBX5MM_w

Nebraska's State Bird List: Secrets of the Dead and Emerging Trends

by Joel Jorgensen, Nongame Bird Program Manager, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Nebraska boasts a state bird list totaling 467 species, but this number is far from set in stone. Bird populations and taxonomy are always changing, and birds are also capable of traveling long distances away from their normal ranges. In addition, historical records can be re-evaluated if evidence is available to be examined; sometimes the outcome of a re-examination challenges long-standing conclusions about a species' occurrence in the state.



Joel Jorgensen

Recently, a barnacle goose mount was discovered at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) that turned out to have historical significance. This specific bird was harvested in 1968 in Otoe County and was reported as a Nebraska first. Rediscovery of the specimen provided the opportunity to conduct stable isotope analysis on its feathers, which should

provide the answer to whether this goose was wild. However, additional scrutiny of the specimen provided other plot twists.

Nebraska also has added a handful of new species to its state list in recent years. Some of these occurrences are consequences of bird populations increasing, changing distributions, or both. In addition, some birds new to Nebraska just a few years ago have quickly become more frequent visitors. Some of these "new rarities" can be associated with birds responding to human alterations in the environment. These emerging trends will likely continue into the future. Wachiska's February presentation will look back at historical records and also ponder what is currently brewing with new species recently documented in the state.

Joel Jorgensen lives in Lincoln and is currently manager of the Nongame Bird Program for the NGPC. In this position, which he has held since 2006, Joel works on an array of monitoring, research, regulatory, and conservation issues focused on nongame birds. He is the current president of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, state coordinator for the Breeding Bird Survey, an eBird regional reviewer, and organizer of two annual Christmas Bird Counts. Joel was born and reared in Blair and attended the University of Nebraska—Omaha. For his master's research, he studied the migration ecology of the buff-breasted sandpipers in the Rainwater Basin of Nebraska.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m.** for this program. We are now meeting in person again at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, in Lincoln. This free public presentation will also be live streamed on YouTube at https://youtu.be/2LxLBX5MM_w. Copy this link into your browser before the program begins. No registration will be necessary. Invite family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to join us. It can also be viewed at a later date. Check the Wachiska website for program links to view past programs.

Calendar

February 2023

- 6 Education/Outreach Committee via Zoom, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 General Meeting, "Nebraska's State Bird List," by Joel Jorgensen, 7:00 p.m. in-person at Unitarian Church and also live-streamed; no registration (see above)
- 13 Conservation Committee via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Newsletter submission deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 18 Bird EnCOUNTER, Walt Library, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (page 5)
- 21 Board Meeting via Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

March 17 – 18 Spring Birdseed Sale (page 2)

Executive Director's Message

by Mark Brohman

We have a new Board in place, and everyone is excited to continue the good work we have accomplished in the past. We are delighted to get some new members on the Board to bring innovation and new ideas. You will notice we only have two committees represented directly on the Board now, Conservation and Education/Outreach. The Population/Environment Committee has merged with the Education Committee. The list of voting Board members can be found on the back page of *The Babbling Brook*. We have four officers, seven directors-at-large, and two committee chair directors (actually three because Education has co-chairs).



Our goal this year is to add more and new events in order to make contact with the public. We want to increase the number of people we come into contact with, especially youth. We also want to continue and increase our cooperation with the Otoe-Missouria Tribe.

Planning is underway for our 50th anniversary celebration this year, including a special event with a keynote speaker and meal. If you are interested in helping with planning or volunteering for a specific duty, let me know. We are hoping to pull off an event like what was held for our 40th anniversary, which was very successful. A date for the main celebration has not been set yet; we will let members know as soon as something is confirmed. We are also collecting stories from the past to document our chapter's history and to remember some of the events that have made Wachiska what it is today.

Remember to keep your bird feeders full and keep water in your bird baths if you have a heating element, or make sure there is water on the warmer days. I recently saw about 20 robins on the edge of a small pond, and there were little puddles of water on top of the ice that they were enjoying. Spring migration is just around the corner.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of Wachiska, and a big thank you to those members who made an end-of-the-year contribution. Happy birding!

Legislative Alert: LB814 is an appropriations bill introduced for the governor by Sen. Arch. It is 147 pages long; the part that needs attention is on pages 141 and 143. Those sections appropriate \$7M from the Nebraska Environmental Trust Fund (NETF) to the Water Resources Cash Fund controlled by the Department of Natural Resources for FY2023-24 and FY2024-25. This would be \$14M taken from the NETF that would no longer be available for environmental grants.

2023 Board Takes Office

by Theresa Pella, Board President

The highpoint for the Board and members this year will be the 50th anniversary celebration! Leading to that, throughout the year, you'll be able to read articles here in *The Babbling Brook* or attend monthly program topics about Wachiska's history. For those of us who are considered organization "youngsters" (let's say 10 years or less of membership and/or Friend) they will be informative at the least. Maybe we'll learn why there is a "Wachiska Woods" sign at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center and why Wachiska is listed on the sign at Nine-Mile Prairie. Or perhaps we'll hear the connection between Wachiska and Prairie Pines or why and how Wachiska came to own small pieces of tallgrass prairies in Southeast Nebraska. One overall theme central to our mission for all of these is protection of tallgrass prairie birds and other wildlife.

Another important milestone will come as the National Audubon Society reaches a decision regarding its next steps as the research, feedback, and analyses of the John J. Audubon Naming Task Force are completed and a recommendation is made to the national board. Local chapters, including Wachiska, will face similar decision points. And, for us, what to do and how to honor the native peoples' word we've been using in our name will need further discussion with all members and Friends.

Shortly, the Board will review the four focus areas of the 2020 - 2024 strategic plan to reinforce support of existing priorities and to identify challenges and opportunities in meeting the goals, as well as to identify new priorities for the next few years.

None of this will be possible without the continued support of Wachiska's many Friends and members! Whether you provide financial support, volunteer time, or give feedback and ideas, thank you in advance!

Spring Birdseed Sale – Live Online and Mail-in Orders, Too

by Cathy Shaner

For many years Wachiska has sponsored birdseed sales in the spring and fall, both to accommodate our bird-feeding members and Friends and to raise funds for the chapter's work. Feeding birds has been a central theme of Wachiska since its inception. We offer high-quality Midwest seeds and mixes containing less filler. Check our website (<https://www.wachiskaaudubon.org>) to order your birdseed. As of February 1, you can order your seed online. Orders must be placed by the end of the day on Thursday, March 9. For your convenience, the order form has been uploaded in a printable form for you to submit and postmark by March 9. The birdseed sale form for mail-in orders will also be published in the March newsletter. All order requests must be postmarked by Thursday, March 9. Share this with friends.

Pick up dates will be Friday and Saturday, March 17 - 18. If you can help on these dates, please contact Jeff Meyer at 402-483-2757 or the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846.

Lincoln's 2022 Christmas Bird Count

by Jason "the Birdnerd" St. Sauver, Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center

It was a sunny and bright but brisk Sunday, December 18, 2022 for Lincoln's Christmas Bird Count—part of the 123rd season and longest running community science project around. Overall bird numbers continue to be in decline, especially with the drought this past year and ongoing pressures from habitat loss and climate change. We again hosted an accessible birding station as part of the count, led by Nebraska Birdability Captain Cassandra Dean. Our partners at Pioneers Park Nature Center helped kids and families experience the count around the Ager Building and feeders there.

Sixty-seven (67) species of birds were spotted over the count day, only one less than in 2021, with Canada goose again being the most numerous. While no rare species were found this count, a highlight was several tufted titmouse, uncommon east of the Missouri valley. It was also a good year for hearing or seeing great horned owls. Some species surprisingly absent were meadowlarks, gulls (thousands were counted last season), and bluebirds. For more on comparing data from past counts or other regions, check out Audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count.

The full list of species is shown below. A huge THANK YOU to volunteers of all ages and abilities who helped make the CBC a success. We had 72 volunteer counters in the field and at feeders around Lincoln this year for our 84th Lincoln CBC. And, to celebrate, 25 or more counters joined us at the Unitarian Church of Lincoln for our post-count social for free pizza and to share stories and sightings from the count. THANK YOU ALL!

2022 LINCOLN CBC - BIRD COUNT SUMMARY

Species	Tally	Species	Tally	Species	Tally
Snow Goose	661	Ring-billed Gull	12	Eastern Bluebird	6
Greater White-fronted Goose	2	Rock (Feral) Pigeon	818	American Robin	140
Cackling Goose	787	Eurasian Collared-Dove	240	European Starling	1696
Canada Goose	7194	Mourning Dove	218	Cedar Waxwing	52
American Wigeon	2	Barred Owl	1	Lapland Longspur	1
Gadwall	7	Great Horned Owl	9	Spotted/Eastern Towhee	2
Mallard	516	Belted Kingfisher	10	American Tree Sparrow	420
Northern Shoveler	1	Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Song Sparrow	47
Green-winged Teal	3	Red-bellied Woodpecker	124	White-throated Sparrow	6
Redhead	3	Downy Woodpecker	188	White-crowned Sparrow	1
Common Merganser	63	Hairy Woodpecker	21	Harris's Sparrow	76
Northern Bobwhite	3	Northern Flicker	59	Dark-eyed Junco	1107
Ring-necked Pheasant	4	Shrike spp.	1	Northern Cardinal	296
Wild Turkey	45	Blue Jay	555	Red-winged Blackbird	77
Bald Eagle	15	American Crow	148	Western Meadowlark	2
Northern Harrier	8	Horned Lark	19	Common Grackle	7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	Black-capped Chickadee	317	Brown-headed Cowbird	1
Cooper's Hawk	6	Tufted Titmouse	4	Red Crossbill	7
Red-tailed Hawk	62	Red-breasted Nuthatch	64	House Finch	175
Rough-legged Hawk	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	184	Pine Siskin	3
American Kestrel	16	Brown Creeper	12	American Goldfinch	291
Merlin	1	Golden-crowned Kinglet	19	House Sparrow	1041
American Coot	16				
Total # of Species	67				

In the Past Half Century

by Arlys Reitan

Following my initial memory of Wachiska Past last month, this time I'm recalling an event more recent.

While Wachiska was thinking about how to commemorate our 30th anniversary in 2003, it became known that Pioneers Park Nature Center (PPNC) would be celebrating their 40th anniversary that same year.



Wachiska leaders researched possible projects and decided to offer to purchase and install a scope at PPNC—one designed to view wildlife and that would stand up to variable weather conditions for years to come.

Ernie Rousek and I worked with Terry Genrich with the City of Lincoln Parks and Recreation at the time. We ordered the scope and voted on various locations to have it erected. When it was delivered, Mr. Genrich offered to have parks personnel lay the concrete and erect the all-weather plaque which we'd ordered. As a final step, Wachiska members were invited to the nature center where then-Mayor Colleen Seng spoke at the dedication.

Today the scope and plaque remain in the same location which is just north of the nature center education building on the north side of the road. Stop by and take a view sometime. The plaque is on the ground next to the scope and reads as follows:

**PIONEERS PARK NATURE CENTER
40TH ANNIVERSARY GIFT
DONATED BY
WACHISKA AUDUBON SOCIETY
CELEBRATING ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY
2003**

February is National Bird Feeding Month

Have you been enjoying your backyard winter birds? This month is a good time to get someone interested in feeding birds. Next time you have a guest, share your excitement with them over what you are seeing and feeding at your home. Bird feeders and accessories make good valentine gifts and last longer than candy and flowers. Enjoy nature together and spread your enthusiasm, knowledge, and new discoveries. Consider attending Wachiska's Bird EnCOUNTER at Walt Library on Saturday, February 18 (see article on page 5).

With all the above enthusiasm, you'll be eager to order birdseed during Wachiska's Spring Birdseed Sale next month. Refer to the announcement on page 2 and check out the website where you can begin ordering NOW!

Paddington

by Richard Peterson

There are eight living species of bears in the world—15 if you count the subspecies. Relatively recently, however, new subspecies of bear have been identified and brought to our attention. Here are some of them:

Teddy – surfaced through the deeds of Teddy Roosevelt in 1902

Winnie the Poo – discovered in the 1920s, known to like honey

Smokey – discovered during a forest fire in 1944

Yogi – identified by Hanna Barbera in 1958

Baloo – written about by Kipling (1894), but outed by Disney in 1967

Corduroy – discovered in a department store in 1968 by Don Freeman

Little John – identified by Robin Hood in 1973, they became sidekicks

Fozzie – surfaced with the help of Frank Oz in 1976, named by Jim Henson

And the last bear, brought to my attention by the youngest member of our extended family, is Paddington, a bear that likes marmalade.

Paddington Bear is a character in children's literature. He first appeared in 1958 in the book, *A Bear Called Paddington*, written by Michael Bond. The story was adapted for TV, film, animation, and commercials since it appeared on BBC in 1966.

Bond based the character on a lone teddy bear he saw on the shelf in a London shop near Paddington Station on Christmas Eve in 1956. He was inspired by the sight, during World War II, of refugees from Europe arriving in Britain and of London children being evacuated to the English countryside to get away from the enveloping war.

Found by Mr. and Mrs. Brown at Paddington train station in London, Paddington was wearing an old, floppy red hat, blue duffel coat, carrying a tattered suitcase, and an almost empty jar of marmalade. He had a tag attached to him that read "Please look after this bear. Thank you." Paddington arrived as a stowaway from "Darkest Peru." He was adopted by the Brown family and went to live at 32 Windsor Gardens with their children, Judy and Jonathan. Others in the stories are Mrs. Bird (the strict but kind housekeeper), Mr. Curry (the nosy, bad-tempered next-door neighbor), Mr. Gruber (the friendly Hungarian immigrant who owns an antique shop), and others.

Paddington is always polite and addresses people as "Mr." or "Mrs." He evokes a kindhearted image, although gives one of his "hard stares" to those who incur his disapproval. He is always innocently getting into trouble while trying hard to get things right. Paddington keeps in touch by mail with his Aunt Lucy back in Peru, telling her of his adventures. Here in the U.S., his adventures can be enjoyed on the Nickelodeon channel.

NOTE: South America has only one species of bear, the spectacled bear, which is restricted to the Andes Mountains.

Nebraska Pheasant Restoration Act

by Mark Brohman

Legislative Bill 400 was introduced in the Nebraska Legislature on January 12 by Sen. Tom Brewer of Gordon. LB400 is titled the Nebraska Pheasant Restoration Act. Unfortunately, this bill has no scientific basis. It lists "nest predators" (badger, coyote, opossum, raccoon, red fox, and striped skunk) as species that need to be reduced. It establishes that the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will pay a bounty of \$10 for each "nest predator" harvested during a season that runs from March 1 to July 1. This bill would maximize the number of bounties to be paid at \$50,000 annually, so up to 5,000 animals could be killed and turned in for a \$10 bounty.

These so called "nest predators" are part of the native ecosystem; the ring-necked pheasant is a nonnative species introduced into the U.S. from China and East Asia in the 1880s. Other species of pheasants were brought into the U.S. as early as 1773 (Old English black-neck pheasants). The ring-necked pheasant is found in all 93 counties of Nebraska and has become a favorite target of bird hunters. Numerous scientific studies have shown that when you attempt to eliminate predators like coyotes, as long as there is a food source they will have larger litters of pups to replace those being eliminated artificially.

There are many other "nest predators" including species like bull snakes. Will they be the next predator singled out for a bounty? Sen. Brewer has already condemned hawks as a problem in recent interviews; fortunately, hawks have protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. Maybe we should concentrate on creating more habitat that will benefit all animals instead of throwing nature out of balance by trying to eliminate part of the food web. It seems when man intervenes, it rarely turns out well.



Bird EnCOUNTER 2023

by Patty Spitzer

Join us at Walt Library, 6701 South 14th Street, on Saturday, February 18, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. for Bird EnCOUNTER 2023. We are making plans for an

afternoon of bird- and family-friendly activities such as "build a bird," learning how to identify bird calls, and more. Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center staff will join us with an activity and a table of information. There will be art with the talented Sally Cox who created Wachiska's current banner and interactive music for the kids (or young at heart) thanks to Jim King. As always, our dignified raptors from Raptor Conservation Alliance will be there to capture your attention and awe. We will participate in the Great American Bird Count at the binocular station. Volunteers are needed! Come and help us with activities, games, binocular station/bird count data, greeting/directing library patrons, etc. Contact the Wachiska office at office@wachiskaaudubon.org or 402-486-4846 if you are interested in volunteering. Bring the whole family and enjoy our first public event of the year. Hope to see you there!

Cedar Tree Cutting Opportunity at Arnold Elementary

by Mark Brohman

On January 14, over a dozen volunteers, including Wachiska members, showed up at Wilderness Park to cut eastern red cedar trees out of a prairie on South 14th Street. Wachiska is planning a similar cedar-cutting event later this winter or early spring at the grassland adjacent to Arnold Elementary School on Northwest 48th Street. The site is owned by the City of Lincoln, and we recently got permission to bring volunteers into the grassland just west of the school for a cutting event.

Tim Knott and I conducted several field trips with Arnold Elementary students to this grassland last year. We noticed trees were taking over the site, and it was not hayed last year because no one was interested in haying a site with so many young trees sprouting up. Most of the trees are eastern red cedars and honey locust, with a few other species present. We will be scheduling a workday in the next month or two for volunteers to join us to cut down trees and pile them. Volunteers will use tree saws and loppers. Keep an eye on the next newsletter, our Facebook page, or just let the office know you are interested in volunteering for this event. The site is adjacent to the Jon Oberg property that is being enrolled in a conservation easement and is a mile from Nine-Mile Prairie.

It will be difficult to get burn permits for this site in the future because of its proximity to the City, so haying will be one of the best tools to manage the grassland. This site holds a lot of potential for the school because it doesn't require busing of students.

February Bird-feeding Considerations

Winter is far from over. Natural food sources for birds are becoming increasingly sparse or covered by snow, making bird feeders all the more important.

The Central Great Plains seem to get the heaviest snowfalls in late February and March. Remember that "grit" is essential for birds to digest the seeds they eat. If the ground becomes covered by snow and ice, mix a little grit in your feeders or place some in an open space where it will not get covered with snow.

Open water and well-stocked feeders can increase the survival of birds by 50 percent during extremely cold weather.

Consider using a solar-powered, heated bird bath or a Water Wiggler to keep water from freezing. Birds will relish at these locations!

Provide suet and peanuts for woodpeckers, Carolina wrens, brown creepers, and other birds of the tree-trunk zone.

Use a ground feeder with proso millet and safflower or a general wild bird mix for ground-feeding birds.

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

This column is for you if you 1) are a homeowner, 2) worry that emissions of greenhouse gases are still climbing, not tracking with the goals set in the Paris Agreement, as was recently reported by the U.N. Environmental Program, the World Meteorological Organization, the Rhodium Group, and others, and, 3) want to take meaningful action to move towards a stable climate. Most of the information here is drawn from the book *Electrify: An Optimist's Playbook For Our Clean Energy Future* by Saul Griffith. The project website is at rewiringamerica.org.

Griffin is an entrepreneur, inventor, engineer, and lover of the natural world. Following pages of charts, graphs, and statistics about energy, he writes, "The environment, the elephants, the gorillas, the fish . . . are all worth saving. These are the things that motivated me to get into the business of finding solutions to climate change in the first place. These are the things that make the world rich, beautiful, and fascinating." Griffin proposes house-by-house transformation to electrification and for the rest of the economy, a mobilization on the scale of the one that moved the U.S. to full wartime manufacturing status during World War II.

The rewiringamerica.org website offers help to anyone considering electrifying their home. It begins by proposing participation in your utility's clean energy program. In Lincoln, you might consider checking out <https://www.les.com/sustainability/solar-power>. The next steps in the homeowner's and landlord's checklist are to electrify fossil fuel uses in your home—heat pump space heating and cooling, heat pump water heater, electric stove, electric clothes dryer, electric vehicle, EV charger, rooftop solar PV panels, home storage batteries. If that tickles your imagination to know more, this report discusses each step: <https://www.rewiringamerica.org/electrify-home-guide>. Also, estimates of federal funds through the Inflation Reduction Act available for each of these steps (electric stove, wiring, heat pumps, etc.) and the timing of availability of funds is here: <https://www.rewiringamerica.org/app/ira-calculator>. They also offer good advice to anyone just starting to think about this: "If you replace each fossil-fueled machine with an electric one upon failure, it's only a little more expensive. The important thing is to MAKE A PLAN for what to do when something breaks, so you don't just buy the same fossil machine and lock in another 20 years of emissions!"

I was lucky ten years or so ago when I installed a heat pump that the contractor didn't say "Those don't work in Nebraska's climate." If you are told that, find another contractor! I've been cool in the summer and warm in the winter just fine, and heat pumps have gotten much better over the last ten years. We have more power than we sometimes realize. As Professor Dave Reay at the University of Edinburgh put it, "Every fraction of a degree will equate to massive, avoided damages for generations to come." To say it another way, "Climate experts agree that every

action that limits global heating reduces the suffering endured by people"—and we must add, wildlife—"from climate impacts." Check out <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/oct/27/>.

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Upcoming Programs

Great Backyard Bird Count

Friday, February 17 – 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 18 – 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 19 – 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Monday, February 20 – 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Help us count our Nebraska winter birds during the Great Backyard Bird Count. An experienced guide will lead an outing along the prairie trails. Binoculars and field guides will be available. Free admission; please [register](#) at our website.

Big B.A.D. Birdhouse Project: Community Build

Sunday, February 19 – 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Build your own birdhouse at our community build event in association with the Big B.A.D. Birdhouse Project. Free birdhouse kits will be provided to each registered child from ages 6 - 17, and adults are welcome to join and build with the kids. All art supplies will be provided and families can take their birdhouses home with them. Free admission, but [registration is required](#) (space limited).

More information on these and other programs, as well as registration information, can be found at <https://springcreek.audubon.org/events>. Questions to 402-797-2301; scp@audubon.org.

In Remembrance

Dear Arlys,

In memory of my parents, Stuart and LaVera Schlichtemeier, two avid birders for all of their lives, I am enclosing a donation to Wachiska.

My mom, in particular, loved your newsletters. I enjoy receiving them via email now. Thank you!

I hope your 2023 is off to a great start!

Best regards,
Lori Schlichtemeier Dworak
Boise, Idaho

Editor's Note: LaVera read each newsletter cover to cover, highlighting and color-coding various articles for different people to read when they stopped by. She kept each issue by the phone.

Public Officials

President Joe Biden

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

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E-mail at website: <http://ricketts.senate.gov>

Senator Deb Fischer

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

Congressman Mike Flood

301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508 (1st District)
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Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4806 Fax: 202-225-5686
E-mail at website: <http://flood.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 Jim Pillen

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

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E-mail: mayor@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln City Council

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

Lincoln Journal Star

Letters to the editor, 21st and N 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 _____

Email _____

- ___ \$25 Individual/Friend
- ___ \$35 Family Friend
- ___ \$50 Black-capped Chickadee Friend
- ___ \$100 Northern Cardinal Friend
- ___ \$250 Western Meadowlark Friend
- ___ \$500 Bald Eagle Friend
- ___ \$1,000 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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