



Wachiska
Audubon Society

Wachiska Audubon Society's vision:

To share the experience and love for nature—and help protect its diversity

The Babbling Brook

Our 53rd Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2026

APRIL 2026

Volume 35 - Issue 4

Wachiska Program and General Meeting — Thursday, April 9, 7:00 PM, Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, and also via YouTube link: <https://youtube.com/live/-Alppbk1G54?feature=share>

MIXED-SPECIES FLOCKS WITH DR. ALLISON JOHNSON: How Bird Communities Extend Beyond Species Borders

Dr. Allison Johnson is a Research Assistant Professor in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Originally from Scottsbluff, Nebraska she developed her passion for birds early on, inspired by her mentor, Paul Johnsgard, and the dedicated members of the Scottsbluff Audubon Society, who helped introduce her to birding as a hobby.

Her interest in behavioral ecology took flight at the end of high school, when she began working as a field technician at Cedar Point Biological Station. There, she collaborated with Dr. Charles and Dr. Mary Bomberger Brown on research focused on cliff swallows. The experience proved formative, and she continued this work during her undergraduate studies at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Fascinated by how such small birds could maintain complex and dynamic social lives, she chose to pursue graduate research examining the evolution and ecological drivers of social behavior in birds.

For her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, Dr. Johnson expanded her research internationally. Each fall, she traveled to South Australia to study fairywrens—highly social, cooperative breeding birds that live in family groups. In these systems, young birds often delay dispersal and may remain in their natal groups for life.



Dr. Allison Johnson

While studying fairywrens, Dr. Johnson became increasingly interested in the broader social communities birds form, including interactions across species. In Nebraska, bird enthusiasts may observe this phenomenon in winter mixed-species flocks gathering at backyard feeders. In Australia, however, the resident study species does not migrate seasonally, allowing researchers to uncover the remarkable specificity of these cross-species relationships. Individual birds form extended social networks that include consistent members of other species—and they can recognize one another.

In her upcoming talk, Dr. Johnson will share the fascinating discoveries

emerging from research on mixed-species flocking birds. From communication and territory stability to understanding how these partnerships may help birds adapt to a changing world, her work highlights the complexity of avian social systems. While she will spotlight her favorite Australian passerines, she will also weave in stories from a population of winter mixed-species flocking birds currently under study in Nebraska.

JOIN US: Thursday, April 9, 7:00 PM, at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A St. STREAM LIVE:

<https://youtube.com/live/-Alppbk1G54?feature=share>

WACHISKA'S APRIL CALENDAR

- 9 General Meeting: ALLISON JOHNSON. 7PM/UU Church
- 11 Return of the Thunderbirds: 10-3PM/Indian Center
- 13 Conservation Committee: 6:30PM/ZOOM
- 21 Board Meeting: 7PM
- 25 Earth Day: 10-2PM Innovation Campus
- 26 Arbor Day: 12-3PM Antelope Park Bandshell

APRIL PRAIRIE PINES PARTNERS EVENT

19 Wild Edibles Walk at Prairie Pines: 2-4PM

Join plant expert Bob Henrikson on a guided hike to identify and discuss wild edibles. Get to know common and easily identifiable emerging springtime plants by using your senses, while we learn about the nourishment and healing properties they offer. Learn to collect with respect for nature.



Executive Director's Message by Mark Brohman

2026 LEGISLATIVE WATCH by Mark Brohman

Spring migration is underway we've seen large flocks of geese overhead and new visitors at the bird feeders at Prairie Pines. Now is a good time to come walk the trails and see what is fluttering among the trees.

We had a great *Sunday Cedar Cut* at Prairie Pines on March 22nd. We got a lot of small cedars cut, a few big cedars and cut up branches that had fallen over this winter. A big thank you to our volunteers. We had a lot of people show interest in coming out to help and a nice percentage of those came. People want to help and have something to look forward to, so we'll keep this a consistent thing once a month on a Sunday. We'll also try for one at the prairie by Arnold Elementary (NW 48th).

We had a very successful spring bird seed sale due to consistent social media reminders to the public. We also want to thank Jeff Meyer and his volunteers for giving us a hand during the seed pickup!

Last month's general meeting was really interesting and educational and we had great feedback about it. Board President Theresa Pella gave the 2025 Annual Report and got everyone caught up on the year and our strategic outlook. Almost everyone in attendance won a door prize, which made for a fun evening. This month we have Dr. Allison Johnson speaking at the monthly meeting. Allison will tell us about her bird research in the U.S. and Australia.

We have fun booth events in April, please see our calendar for details on Return of the Thunderbirds, Earth Day and Arbor Day! April 18th and 19th the Raptor Conservation Alliance is celebrating their 50th anniversary at Mahoney Park with an open house to the public from 1-3pm.

Your comment letters to the State Senators have had an impact and we really appreciate your willingness to comment on legislation. The legislative session is almost over. April 1st is the 54th day of the 60-day session. The fate of the Constitutional Amendment (**LR298CA**) has probably been decided and budget bills needed to be finalized last week, but not in time for the publishing deadline. All bills not approved or amended into other bills will die at the end of this session and will need to be reintroduced next January. I'm going to list the most critical bills in this article, there are many additional bills we are monitoring. Feel free to contact me anytime you have questions about a bill.

The bills we were most concerned about this session were the mainline budget bills **LB1071** and **LB 1072**, and **LR298CA**. It was **LB1072** that the Governor proposed to take \$40.7M from the Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) and transfer \$32.7M to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) and \$8M to the Dept. of Water, Environment, and Energy (NDWEE). Fortunately, the Appropriations Committee cut the take down to \$11.1M. **LB1072** proposed sweeping funds from several places including the arts and humanities; health and human services; veteran programs; NGPC; NDWEE; the Dept. of Ag; and many others. I want to thank everyone that took time to submit comments on **LB1072** and the NGPC/NET budget hearing. We even had a member testify in person.

The resolution we are hoping gets passed this session is LR298CA to protect the Nebraska Environmental Trust. It would require all the Lottery proceeds given to the NET to be used for administration of NET and competitive grants. These funds could no longer be raided for other purposes. It will take 30 Senators voting for it to get on the fall ballot.

LB1261 received opposition from the conservation community but was supported by the administration, utilities, and big business. It promotes big data center developments but has few guardrails to protect the public. Data centers can use large amounts of water and energy. Local electric rates can increase because of the large energy demand created, or natural gas prices can spike if it is used to power the data center. There is a lack of decommissioning and bonding requirements that could lead to very large expenses at the end of the facility's life. Data centers have been in the news lately, including proposals for Nebraska. Efforts were being made to amend the bill and include safeguards.

There are several other bills dealing with energy, including **LB1026** that would make it very difficult to retire aging, dirty, and inefficient fossil fuel generation facilities. **LB1027** would create barriers to renewable energy development. **LB1134** and **LB1227** both weaken electric codes and were opposed by the conservation community.

COMEDY IN THE PINES

On Sunday, May 17, Wachiska Audubon will host Comedy in the Pines for a celebratory kickoff to Give to Lincoln Day!

The event will raise funds for Wachiska Audubon while also highlighting and supporting the community work of Friends of Wilderness Park and The Lincoln Community Foundation.

Friends of Wilderness Park have been incredibly helpful in sharing amazing connections.

Tickets to Comedy in the Pines are \$25 can be purchased in advance through our website:

[HTTPS://WWW.WACHISKAUDUBON.ORG/PRODUCT-PAGE/TICKET](https://www.wachiskaaudubon.org/product-page/ticket)

A portion of the proceeds will support the touring comedians traveling from around the region and the remaining funds will benefit Wachiska Audubon.

Bring a chair, favorite beverage, and get ready for an evening of laughter! Pepe's Bistro will be onsite with delicious vegan and vegetarian options! This event will also serve as a kickoff to **Give to Lincoln Day on May 28.**

To keep up-to-date on ever-changing bills, please to the Nebraska Legislature page here: [NEBRASKALEGISLATURE.GOV/BILLS/](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/) Or monitor our Facebook page where we will post important updates.



This fall Wachiska will lead a birding hike in Wilderness Park for Friends of Wilderness Park's first Brunch with the Birds! Stay tuned! Get out and enjoy the spring migration at Prairie Pines or any of Wachiska's prairies.





COMEDY IN THE PINES



We're thrilled to invite you to the first **COMEDY IN THE PINES** at Wachiska Audubon's Prairie Pines Nature Preserve! Come spend a magical evening under the stars, surrounded by the beauty of nature, good food, and lots of laughter. This is a night to connect with friends, enjoy comedy and celebrate an alliance of non-profits who care about conservation.

WHEN & WHERE:

Sunday, May 17 at 6:00 PM
Prairie Pines Nature Preserve Home of Wachiska Audubon – Enter South Gate at 3100 N 112th St, Lincoln.

TICKETS & ENTRY: Grab your tickets from our website, www.wachiskaaudubon.org/product-page/ticket
Bring your ticket email confirmation and valid I.D. to present at the gate. This is a 21+ event.

BRING YOUR OWN :

Chair, Drinks and Flashlight!
Dress for the outdoors!

FOOD:

PEPE's Bistro will be onsite with tasty vegan and vegetarian food for purchase.



Pepe at his food truck!

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT:

This is more than just a comedy show—it's a chance to enjoy nature, support regional performers and celebrate community.

Friends of Wilderness Park are also joining us to celebrate their mission of preserving Wilderness Park's natural beauty. Give to Lincoln Day reminds us how powerful it is when our city comes together to support the organizations that are in alliance with making Lincoln a better place to live.

Tickets are limited, please be sure to get your tickets early to assure you don't miss this first –ever fun event!

VOLUNTEER FOR COMEDY IN THE PINES: Thanks to one of our newest board members, Alyx Knight, we have a dedicated volunteer coordinator for the **day before** and the **evening of the event**—organizing parking attendants, ticket takers, and clean-up crews. If you'd like to lend a hand and support Alyx we would be so grateful! As a thank-you, you'll also receive a free ticket to the show!

CALL ALYX IF YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER: 402.730.8676

EXTRA DETAILS: We're sorry but we cannot refund tickets. Proceeds go to pay the performers and the remainder goes to support Wachiska Audubon's events and education. We have scheduled a rain date in case of inclement weather.

RAIN DATE: Sunday, June 7, 2026, same time/place.

GIVE TO LINCOLN: If you can't attend, please remember that between May 1 and May 28 is **Lincoln Community Foundation's Give to Lincoln** month and every donation to our non-profits counts! Visit www.givetolincoln.com to show your support of your favorite non-profits!

COME FOR THE LAUGHS, STAY FOR THE SUNSET, EVENING STARS AND COMMUNITY. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!

MEET THE COMEDIANS



ZACH PETERSON

Winner of the 2025 Omaha Entertainment and Arts Awards for Best Comedian.

LAUREN VANA

Stand-up comedian and improviser; co-writer and co-director of the short film *Cry Night*, premiering at the Omaha Film Festival.



NATHAN HULTS

Performer at San Diego Comedy Festival and Gilda's LaughFest; co-founder of the Sno Jam Comedy Festival and Boss' Comedy Club; host of The Town Crier Podcast; Winner of Last Comic Standing.



HOME OF WACHISKA AUDUBON: PRAIRIE PINES NATURE PRESERVE
112TH & ADAMS, LINCOLN

WACHISKA AUDUBON PRESENTS

COMEDY IN THE PINES TICKETS \$25

SUNDAY, MAY 17 6PM

FEATURING COMEDIANS
ZACH PETERSON, LAUREN VANA AND NATHAN HULTS

FOOD BY PEPE'S BISTRO FOR PURCHASE. BRING YOUR OWN DRINK AND CHAIR!

RAIN DATE: JUNE 7

WACHISKA AUDUBON'S UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH-JULY 2026



WACHISKA AUDUBON
SUNDAY CEDAR CUT
 Sunday
 March 22
 10-Noon
 PRAIRIE PINES NATURE PRESERVE
 3100 N12 ENTER NORTH GATE MEET @ BIG WHITE BARN

HOME OF WACHISKA AUDUBON: PRAIRIE PINES NATURE PRESERVE
 1121 & ADAMS, LINCOLN

WACHISKA AUDUBON PRESENTS

COMEDY IN THE PINES
 SUNDAY, MAY 17 6PM
 FEATURING COMEDIANS
 ZACH PETERSON, LAUREN VANA AND NATHAN HULTS

TICKETS \$25

FOOD BY PEPE'S BISTRO FOR PURCHASE. BRING YOUR OWN DRINK AND CHAIR!

SPEAKER SERIES
WACHISKA AUDUBON
 DR. ALLISON JOHNSON | BIRD COMMUNITIES



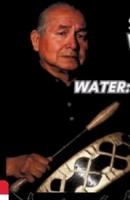
APRIL 9 6300 A ST
 7PM LINCOLN

SPEAKER SERIES
WACHISKA AUDUBON
 Gabriel Rivera Ph.D. & Jennifer Blankenship Rivera
 THE BIRDS OF NEBRASKA: THROUGH OUR LENSE



JUNE 11 6300 A ST
 7PM LINCOLN

SPEAKER SERIES
WACHISKA AUDUBON
 JEROME KILLS SMALL
 WATER: LAKOTA SPIRITUALITY and SCIENCE



MAY 14 6300 A ST
 7PM LINCOLN

HN HUMANITIES NEBRASKA

SPEAKER SERIES
WACHISKA AUDUBON
 TOBIN BROWN: NEBRASKA BIG YEAR



JULY 9 6300 A ST
 7PM LINCOLN

BIRD SIGHTINGS



American Tree Sparrow. South of Valentine, NE along the Niobrara River. Photo by Nancy Simmons

WACHISKA AUDUBON
BOOTH EVENTS



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
 CALL: TIM 402-217-8505
 MARK 402-525-1504

RETURN OF THE THUNDERBIRDS 5th Anniversary

Saturday, April 11
 10 am - 3 pm

Come celebrate the season at our 5th annual cross-cultural community event with music, dancing, art, food, and more! And come back for the fashion show at 5pm!

Arbor Day Foundation.

ARBOR DAY LNK

Sunday, April 26th

For more than 50 years, we've been planting, nurturing, and celebrating trees around the globe. That's why we're excited to celebrate our roots right here in Lincoln. Mark your calendars and join us for free fun for all ages at our annual Arbor Day LNK.

Location: Antelope Park in Lincoln, NE
 Date: Sunday, April 26th

SAVE THE DATE

LINCOLN EARTH DAY 2026

April 25th, 2026
 10 AM - 2 PM
 Nebraska Innovation Campus

LINCOLNEARTHDAY.ORG



PRAIRIE EXPRESSIONS

By Stu Lutich

The plaque cradled into a set of caribou antlers hanging on the wall overlooking my desk reads *"Sweet clean air from east to west; And room to go and come; I loved my fellow man the best; When he was scattered some"*. The words overlay an inscription of a rider on horseback on the free and open range.

Remnant prairies speak to a relict era when the land and humankind was free to express its natural diversity and biodiversity prior to being crucified on the cross of industry and commerce; prior to being cannibalized to serve the false gods designed by human agriculture, avarice and greed. Where the land and air was free to breath, and life in all of its natural diverse abundance was free to thrive, from insects and flowers almost too numerous to recall, to grasses reaching the height of withers on a horse, to small rodents and mammals scurrying among the grasses on the prairie floor, to massive mammals grazing and ranging above, to birds bringing song to life and the crying call of hawks and eagles among the clouds. The prairies speak to a by-gone era before the expanding human population overwhelmed it into being only remnants of what once was.

A neighbor who often accompanies me when visiting the prairies regularly volunteers similar expressions, and a late childhood neighbor who volunteered to preserve a remnant of his former prairie often struggled to enunciate the same. Extrapolating from the remnants to encompass the greater whole. What was it like before the land was harnessed and enslaved by the tools of human progress and invention, when the land was free to express all of its inherent natural health and beauty? Prairies are an expression of the freedom that once was.

From the BB Editor, NOTES ON THE POET: BADGER CLARK

In Stu's article he mentions a few lines set into a plaque near his desk. I thought the words seemed familiar. And sure enough, it's an excerpt from a poem by South Dakota's first poet laureate, Badger Clark. I know Badger Clark's name because, for a time, I spent a week each summer meeting family in Custer State Park. Badger Clark's cabin is there, set among the trees.

I'd heard his name mentioned when I was a student in the writing program at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Poet William Kloefkorn and Author Kent Haruf were both professors of mine,

both writers and both fond of cowboy poets. Badger Clark was the first name I'd heard referenced as a "cowboy poet". Stu's story started me on a journey to read nearly every piece of writing I could find written by Badger Clark.

In an excerpt from an October 2020 Smithsonian article on the life of Badger Clark, by writer Carson Vaughan, titled *Saddle Up With Badger Clark, America's*



Near Legion Lake in Custer State Park is the cabin where Clark spent the last 20 years of his life. Dakota Wesleyan University Archives

Forgotten Cowboy Poet, Clark writes, "South Dakota's first poet laureate lived much of his life alone in a prim cabin in the heart of Custer State Park. He wore whipcord breeches and polished riding boots, a Windsor tie and an officer's jacket. He fed the deer flapjacks from his window in the mornings, paid \$10 a year in ground rent and denounced consumerism at every turn.

"Lord, how I pity a man with a

steady job," he wrote in his diary in 1941... *"I might as well give up trying to be an intellectual and stick to the naivete of the old cowboy stuff,"* he wrote in his diary at the age of 58. Yet Clark's poetry became so widely recited throughout the American West that he eventually collected over 40 different postcards featuring his most popular poem, "A Cowboy's Prayer," each of which attributed the poem to "Author unknown" or "Anonymous," as if the poem belonged to everyone—as if it had been reaped from the soil itself.

As Poetry magazine acknowledged in a correction in September 1917, after mistakenly attributing another Clark poem to "Author Unknown": "It is not everyone who wakes to find himself a folk-poet, and that in less than a generation."

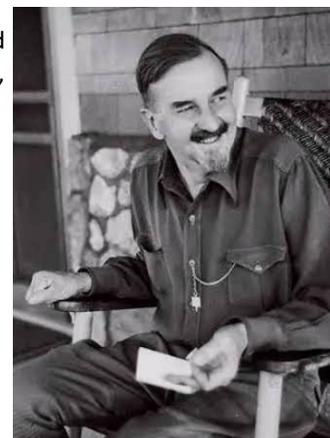
Beyond his home state of South Dakota, few will recognize the name Badger Clark today. Even in the late 1960s and '70s, when at least one of his poems slipped into the canon of the Greenwich Village folk scene, his name carried little currency. Yet at the peak of his career, Clark lunched with President Calvin Coolidge and later ushered Dwight Eisenhower through Custer State Park, where he often served as a golden-tongued ambassador."

It was great to be reminded of Badger Clark.

-WJ Bantam



Badger Clark in his cabin, Badger Hole, in Custer State Park.

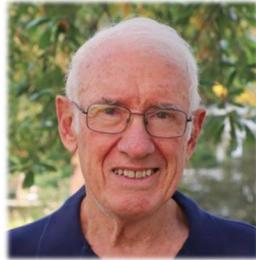


Badger Clark. Summer of 1940. Dakota Wesleyan University Archives

PRESIDENT IGNORES SCIENCE, CHALLENGES ESSENTIAL CLIMATE LEGISLATION ENDANGERMENT RULING IN JEOPARDY

by Charles Francis

In one of the most egregious decisions of the current administration, the president has called for elimination of the 'endangerment clause' in a Supreme Court decision from a 2007 case on climate change. This ruling based on all available science confirms that global warming is real, and will have lasting effects on human and environmental health if we do not take effective action now to slow the pace of change.



Charles Francis

In bowing to those who still profit from the outdated dependence on coal and petroleum energy on which our current society depends, this decision appears to be directed at preserving a misguided economy that continues to depend on extractive technologies for generating power that enrich those industries that cause most of the pollution in our country today. It would repeal the tardy but essential changes that are already recognized by European countries, China and India, and other major polluting societies. These countries are in fact making major changes in sourcing energy from solar, wind, and geothermal sources that cause little pollution and

According to Inside Climate News [14 Feb 2026], as the U.S. withdrew from the global climate negotiations last fall, we were essentially abandoning the high ground to China in terms of forward-thinking decisions on futuristic energy sources.

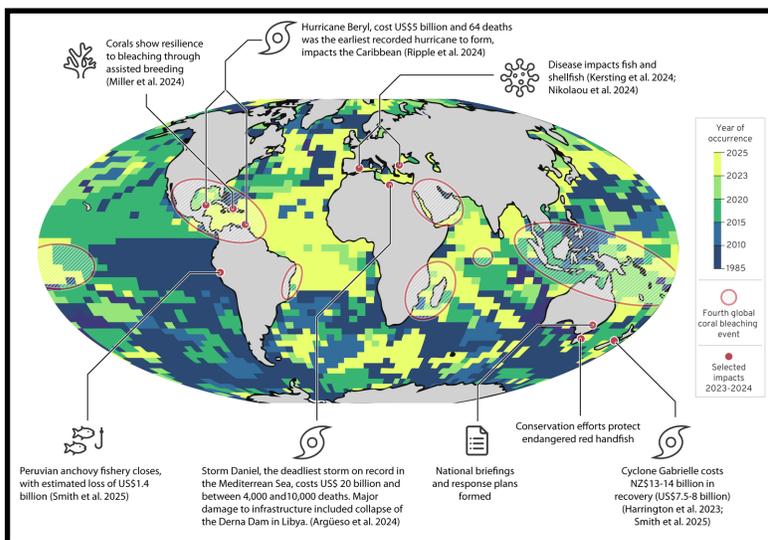


"Analysis by Carbon Brief shows that in 2025 solar power, electric vehicles and other clean-energy technologies powered more than a third of China's gross domestic product growth at the same time the U.S. economy had lower growth and higher inflation". In an interview with Isabel Hilton, formerly with BBC and founder of Dialogue Earth, she reports that China is the largest trading partner with dozens of countries, and the largest supplier of low-carbon goods. This Asian giant "has a virtual monopoly on a lot of those technologies, and is by far the biggest installer of clean energy in the world. There's no climate-denial problem in China". Most developed countries are following their lead. We need to wake up to challenges created by abandoning the endangerment clause. This proposal by our government would put us far behind other countries that are following the findings of science.

It is time for a groundswell of support from the many environmental and policy organizations that are lobbying to save this constitutional mandate, for economic reasons as well as supporting the environment and recognizing the effects of such a foolhardy move that threatens birds and other vulnerable species, including ourselves.

We must support science, make our opinions known to elected officials, and stop the move to remove the climate endangerment clause from its valuable place in our current laws. We owe our children and all other species on the planet no less than stopping this important political decision.

-Charles Francis is professor emeritus at UNL and member of the Senior Climate Legacy



The 10 New Insights in Climate Science is a collaboration between Future Earth, the Earth League, and the World Climate Research Programme, involving 70 globally renowned scientists from 21 countries.

will help reverse the present pattern of increased global warming. This challenge to our future as a global community is not recognized by our current leadership.

SPEAKER SERIES
WACHISKA AUDUBON
DR. ALLISON JOHNSON | BIRD COMMUNITIES

APRIL 9 7PM | **6300 A ST LINCOLN**

Public Officials

President Donald Trump

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 Deb Fischer

1248 O St Ste 1111, 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>

Senator Pete Ricketts

1248 O St Ste 1000, 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://ricketts.senate.gov>

Congressman Mike Flood (1st District)

301 S 13th St Ste 100, Lincoln NE 68508
Lincoln phone: 402-438-1598
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

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: 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
3100 N 112th Street
Lincoln, NE 68527



Eastern Meadowlark

___ **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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3100 N 112th St, Lincoln NE 68527.

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Send address changes, newsletter submissions and requests to our office of publication, listed above. You may also email: office@wachiskaaudubon.org



The Babbling Brook is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.

REMEMBERING WACHISKA'S HISTORY

Wachiska means "stream" or "creek" in the languages of Indigenous people of eastern Nebraska, the Omaha and Ponca.

The environmental stewardship efforts of the Wachiska Audubon Society take place on the past, present, and future homelands of the Pawnee, Ponca, Otoe-Missouria, and Omaha Peoples, as well as those of the relocated Ho-Chunk, Sac and Fox, and Ioway. We humbly join our efforts with theirs in honoring and stewarding this land of prairies, rivers, and streams.

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2026

Executive Director Mark Brohman
Office Administrator WJ Bantam

OFFICERS

President *Theresa Pella
Vice President..... *Ann Briggs
Secretary *April Stevenson
Treasurer/Finance *Carol Bodeen

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large *Dakota Altman
Director at Large *Andrea Faas
Director at Large *Al Davis
Director at Large *Ethan Freese
Director at Large *Nancy Bare
Director at Large *Tom Lynch
Director at Large *Roxanne Smith
Director at Large *Alyx Knight
Conservation *Ross Scott
Education/Outreach *Tim Knott
Membership Linda Brown

*Denotes voting Board member

For contact information of officers and committee chairs, call or email the Wachiska office.

Mission Statement of the Wachiska Audubon Society

The mission of the Wachiska Audubon Society is to bring people together to preserve and restore tallgrass prairies and other natural ecosystems, promote birding, support native wildlife, provide nature education, and advocate for the sustainability of our natural community.

Wachiska Audubon Society

3100 N 112th Street
Lincoln, NE 68527
402-486-4846
office@WachiskaAudubon.org
www.WachiskaAudubon.org

If you missed a monthly program or want to view again, Wachiska Audubon's programs are available on YouTube via the homepage at www.WachiskaAudubon.org.

COMEDY IN THE PINES

Proceeds Support the Performers and Wachiska Audubon

Gate Opens 6PM/Show 7PM
SUNDAY **MAY 17**

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE NOW:

WWW.WACHISKAAUDUBON.ORG/PRODUCT-PAGE/TICKET

**BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR AND DRINKS.
PEPE'S BISTRO on SITE for FOOD PURCHASES**

LOCATION:

**WACHISKA at PRAIRIE PINES NATURE PRESERVE
3100 N 112, LINCOLN, NE**

RAIN DATE: JUNE 7

Wachiska Audubon Society's financial records 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**.

DONATIONS: To make a simple donation and support our work, **VENMO** us @*Wachiska-Audubon* or **SCAN CODE** here:



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