



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 43rd Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2016

FEBRUARY 2016

Volume 25 - Issue 2

General Meeting — Thursday, February 11, 7:00 p.m., Union College Dick Auditorium, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln

## Implications of Climate Change for Nebraska

by Kim Morrow, Climate Change Resource Specialist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Many people are aware of the constant stream of news articles about the dangers of climate change around the world—but what about right here in Nebraska? How will climate change affect our agriculture sector, our health, our people, our economy?



Kim Morrow

Kim Morrow works at the University of Nebraska with the state's foremost expert on climate change, climatologist Dr. Don Wilhite. Together they have collected the most current data on how climate change is already affecting Nebraska and, more importantly, how these changes are projected to intensify in coming decades. Kim's program will draw on results of the recently completed series of eight sector-

based roundtables in Nebraska that engaged key stakeholders to address implications of climate change for our state.

Morrow serves as climate change resource specialist in the School of Natural Resources at UNL. Her work focuses on community engagement and public policy for climate solutions in Nebraska. Kim also serves as the director of Nebraska Interfaith Power and Light, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to facilitate the faith community's response to climate change. She has worked on this topic in Nebraska for over five years and was recently recognized by the White House for her work on climate change and the faith community.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, February 11**, at **7:00 p.m.** for this free public presentation in the Union College Dick Auditorium, 3800 South 48th Street, in Lincoln. Free parking is available on 48th Street and in the church parking lots. Look for Audubon signs on the doors. There is a ramp at the east entrance and an elevator inside. Refreshments will be served after the program.

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### Calendar

#### February

- 1 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 2 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 11 General Meeting, "Implications of Climate Change for Nebraska," by Kim Morrow, Union College, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Deadline for ordering birdseed – orders and payment must be postmarked by today**
- 15 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 21 Tour of State Capitol to see peregrine nest, 1:00 p.m. (page 5)
- 25 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11<sup>th</sup> & G, 6:00 p.m.
- 27-28 Spring Birdseed Sale, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. both days (pages 3-4)**
- 28 Field Trip to Squaw Creek NWR, 10:00 a.m. (page 2)

### Unicameral Eyes Environmental Trust Again

LR380CA, a constitutional amendment (CA) introduced by Senator Bloomfield, proposes to reallocate lottery funds by reducing the Nebraska Environmental Trust's share from 44.5 percent to 26.5 percent and the State Fair's portion from 10 to 7.5 percent. Funds would be shifted to the education fund that is "used for education as the Legislature may direct." The hearing was held January 25. This change would reduce the Trust's funding by approximately \$6M/year or one-third of their grant budget. This translates to even more environmental projects in Nebraska not being funded. Since this is a CA, if the Legislature approves it, it would be placed on the November ballot.

This year there were 127 projects requesting \$58M, and the Trust only had \$18.8M to grant. With voter acceptance, the Trust would have less than \$13M to grant next year. Wachiska has relied on NET funds for our prairie protection. This could be a big blow to our biggest project. Stay tuned and watch media accounts of this bill as the session continues.



## Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

### Spring on the Wing

When winter begins to lose its grip on Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, a vanguard of water-loving migrants arrives on the edge of spring as ice recedes from their favorite stops along the Missouri River Flyway. This month we'll spend a day in northwest Missouri cruising the refuge's wildlife loop drive where we hope to see the masses of snow geese that use this popular avian rest stop. Other birds that frequent the refuge are bald eagles, trumpeter and tundra swans, and rusty blackbirds. Most viewing will be from inside or near our cars and will require very little walking.

We'll meet at **10:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, February 28**, in the Wachiska office parking lot at 4547 Calvert Street in Lincoln. Participants can either caravan or carpool for the 110-mile drive to our destination. We plan to arrive at the parking lot for the refuge headquarters building and restroom around 12:00 noon for anyone preferring to meet up with the group there on Highway 159 west of 1-29 exit 79. Bring any food, beverages, or drinking water you may want, plus binoculars and scope if you have them. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions, call John Carlini at 402-475-7275.

### Monarch Conservation Plan

by Richard Peterson



Wachiska has been asked to send a representative to a meeting that will develop the statewide Nebraska Monarch and Pollinators Conservation Plan. I will be attending the meeting February 23-24.

The meeting is being arranged by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Other groups on board include the

National Wildlife Federation, Nebraska Wildlife Federation, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Nebraska, Xerces Society, Friends of the Niobrara, Save the Monarchs, Pheasants Forever, and Quail Forever. Due to space limitations, this meeting is being offered by invitation only to interested organizations.

Prior to this meeting I am asking for input from our Wachiska members. I would appreciate hearing from those of you who have ideas and experience with monarchs, pollinators, and prairies as they might relate to this initiative.

With Wachiska's interest and stake in conserving native prairie habitats, this seems to be a great opportunity to become involved. You can reach me by email, [padr20@yahoo.com](mailto:padr20@yahoo.com), or 402-489-2996; if I am out, please leave a message.

## Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

As National Audubon President David Yarnold wrote in the January *Babbling Brook*, the global Agreement reached in Paris may be the most significant environmental agreement ever.

Another initiative launched in Paris at the time of the talks seems to illustrate the old saying that politics makes strange bedfellows. The Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition combines leaders from governments, U.N. institutions, nonprofits (EDF, The Nature Conservancy), and businesses, including some of the world's largest oil companies. Initiated by the World Bank, its goal is to assist all countries in setting up efficient, equitable carbon pricing by 2020. The purpose is to cause change in consumer choices as well as investment in clean energy research and generation as the price of carbon dioxide-emitting products is raised to reflect their full costs, including global warming's damage. The province of British Columbia put a price on carbon in 2009, using the funds collected to reduce individual and corporate taxes. Since then, BC's economy has done very well. A price can be put on carbon emissions with a fee or tax like BC's or by a more complicated system of cap and trade.

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As National Audubon's website says, "Audubon strongly supports properly sited wind power as a renewable energy source that helps reduce the threat posed to birds and people by climate change. However, we also advocate that wind power facilities should be planned, sited, and operated in ways that minimize harm to birds and other wildlife, and we advocate that wildlife agencies should ensure strong enforcement of the laws that protect birds and other wildlife." In August, there was an important victory for strong enforcement of the laws that protect birds. It concerned the federal Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issuance of incidental take permits under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Initially in 2009, FWS conducted an Environmental Assessment (EA), the short version of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and created a five-year permit for activities that were not intended to, but might, result in eagle deaths. In the EA, the agency noted that at that time, wind farms were not a significant cause of eagle deaths.

Banks and businesses that loan money for enterprises lasting 30 years or more like to see as few uncertainties as possible. The wind industry found that the five-year permits were not long enough to reassure their creditors. So they asked for and, in 2013, got a new rule from FWS offering incidental take permits that would last 30 years. The American Bird Conservancy sued, arguing FWS had violated NEPA because it failed to do an EIS or an EA. On August 11, the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California in San Jose agreed and set aside the 30-year rule. The judge quoted heavily from the agency's own record, including a statement from the rule's author that "real, significant, and cumulative biological impacts will result if the proposed regulatory changes are implemented" and that the need for an EIS was a "no brainer." No permits were ever issued by FWS under the 30-year rule.



## Wachiska Audubon Spring 2016 Birdseed Sale Order Form

	Bag Size	Bag Code	Price Each	Quantity	Total Cost
<b>ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX</b>					
FEED MIXES	Regal Audubon Mix	35 lb bag	RE35	\$ 60.00	\$
	Standard Audubon Mix	40 lb bag	ST40	\$ 28.00	\$
	Classic Audubon Mix	20 lb bag	CL20	\$ 19.00	\$
		40 lb bag	CL40	\$ 33.00	\$
	Attraction Audubon Mix	35 lb bag	AT35	\$ 39.00	\$
	Woodpecker Gourmet	20 lb bag	WO20	\$ 33.00	\$
	Bushy Tail Treat	20 lb bag	BT20	\$ 28.00	\$
SEEDS	Millet, White (98%)	50 lb bag	MI50	\$ 18.00	\$
	Nyjer Thistle - NEW smaller bag	8 lb bag	NY8	\$ 12.00	\$
	Peanuts, shelled rejects	20 lb bag	PR20	\$ 33.00	\$
		50 lb bag	PR50	\$ 66.00	\$
	Peanuts, in the shell	50 lb bag	PS50	\$ 80.00	\$
	Safflower Seed	20 lb bag	SA20	\$ 21.00	\$
		50 lb bag	SA50	\$ 42.00	\$
	Sunflower Hearts, coarse	20 lb bag	HC20	\$ 32.00	\$
		50 lb bag	HC50	\$ 64.00	\$
	Sunflower Hearts, fine	20 lb bag	HF20	\$ 32.00	\$
		50 lb bag	HF50	\$ 64.00	\$
	Sunflower Seed, black oil	25 lb bag	SB25	\$ 15.00	\$
		50 lb bag	SB50	\$ 32.00	\$
SUET CAKES	High Energy Treat, 11.75 oz. cake		EN-C	\$ 2.50	\$
	NEW - Berry Treat, 11 oz. cake		BT-C	\$ 2.50	\$
<b>Total number of bags and cost</b> (All prices INCLUDE sales tax)					\$
<b>Wachiska T-shirts</b> (Circle the size you want. For more than one, note sizes on back of form. Price includes tax.) <b>S M L XL XXL</b> \$ 18.00					\$
<b>Tax Deductible Donation</b> to support Wachiska's education & conservation activities					\$
<b>Total Enclosed.</b> Make check payable to Wachiska Audubon Society.					<b>\$</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

This form and your check must be postmarked by Friday, February 12, 2016.  
 Mail to: Wachiska Audubon Society Birdseed Sale - 4547 Calvert St, Suite 10, Lincoln NE 68506-5643  
 You can also order online and pay at [www.WachiskaAudubon.org](http://www.WachiskaAudubon.org).

# Wachiska Audubon Spring 2016 Birdseed Sale & Fundraiser

Wachiska's Birdseed Sales are an important part of our fundraising and offer you a great deal on birdseed!

**Our prices are very competitive.** The great majority of Wachiska's budget for education and conservation programs comes from donations and fundraising, and our twice-a-year birdseed sales are two of our major fundraisers. If you feed birds regularly, or want to give it a try, please buy from Wachiska. Our new convenient pickup location in SW Lincoln makes it easier than ever to get you birdseed. We depend on your purchases, and so do our feathered friends! Thank you!

## FEED MIXES

**Regal Audubon Mix** – sunflower hearts, peanuts, safflower seed, raisins, protein pellets

**Standard Audubon Mix** – white millet, sunflower seed, cracked corn, peanuts, oat groats

**Classic Audubon Mix** – sunflower seed and hearts, white millet, cracked corn, safflower seed, peanuts, oat groats

**Attraction Audubon Mix** – sunflower seed and hearts, safflower seed, peanuts, raisins, protein pellets

**Woodpecker Gourmet** – 75% nuts (almonds, peanuts, walnuts), pumpkin seed, corn, black oil sunflower seed and hearts, safflower seed

**Bushy Tail Treat** – peanuts, sunflower seed, whole corn, raisins, pumpkin seed, feed pellets. Treat your favorite backyard squirrels and keep them away from the bird feeders!

## SUET CAKES

**High Energy Treat** – sunflower seeds, millet, cracked corn; enjoyed by most wild birds

**NEW! Berry Treat** – a wonderful winter treat

## SEEDS

**White Millet (98%)** – popular with cardinals, mourning doves, house finches, juncos, sparrows

**Nyjer Thistle (NEW smaller 8lb. bag)** – all-time favorite of finches, chickadees, juncos

**Peanuts (shelled)** – attractive for woodpeckers and blue jays

**Peanuts in the shell** – watch your bushy tail friends crack the shells to get their favorite treat

**Safflower Seed** – good for house finches, chickadees, cardinals, woodpeckers – NOT FAVORED by squirrels and grackles

**Sunflower Hearts** – highly prized by birds and leave less mess—use coarse hearts for feeders with large openings that might allow fine hearts to drop out

**Black Oil Sunflower Seed** – favored by most seed-eating birds; high oil content for more energy

**Additional copies of this flyer and the order form are available on our website or order online at [www.WachiskaAudubon.org](http://www.WachiskaAudubon.org).**

## ORDER PICK UP DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Pick up site is at the NW corner of 14<sup>th</sup> and Arapahoe streets (between Van Dorn & Hwy 2) in Lincoln.

**Saturday, February 27**  
12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.

**Sunday, February 28**  
12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.

**PLEASE—Plan to pick up your order during one of these times.**

Orders that are not picked up cause a lot of extra work for our volunteers whose help we greatly appreciate! If it is totally impossible for you to pick up your seed, please email Arlys at [office@wachiskaaudubon.org](mailto:office@wachiskaaudubon.org) to make alternate pick up arrangements.

## Familiar Conservationist Joins Wachiska Board

by Richard Peterson



Roxanne Smith

Roxanne Smith is joining the Wachiska Board of Directors as an at-large member. We agreed to meet at DaVinci's during her lunch break from her duties at the State Capitol.

Born in Tilden, Roxanne graduated from high school in Grand Island. In 1982, she received her B.S. in community planning from Iowa State University. She later did graduate work in geography at UNL, focusing on how people use their environment.

Roxanne spent two years with the Nebraska Energy Office promoting energy conservation as an economic development tool. In the 1980s, she was a member of Citizens for Environmental Improvement. The group advocated and lobbied the City to make recycling part of what we take for granted today. Since 1986, this vibrant woman has been a tour guide at the State Capitol where she not only conducts tours for dignitaries, tourists, and school groups but works on special events, updating their website, and writing a blog.

A member of Audubon for over 10 years, Roxanne supports the organization's stance on wildlife habitat conservation and environmental education. She is also a member of The Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club. Last but not least, she was an elected board member of the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, serving in that capacity for 12 years.

Roxanne has lived in the South Salt Creek neighborhood of Lincoln for over 30 years. She knows her neighbors and they know her. Her many outside-of-work interests include gardening. She grows a range of organic vegetables and uses the produce in her love of cooking healthy meals from what you grow yourself. She also cans her own salsa and pasta sauce. Her yard provides wildlife habitat and water for the neighborhood critters; Roxanne plants native species which encourage pollinators. Her reading interests lean toward nonfiction; she's currently reading ethnography on the Ponca. She works with stained glass and has donated her creations to Wachiska's silent auctions.

Travels have taken Roxanne to Europe where she visited England with her mother. Venice, Italy was her favorite and a place she would return to in a heartbeat. Her to-do place to visit in the U.S. is the Big Bend area of west Texas. Until then, she spends her vacation time visiting and helping her mother and catching up with relatives in Ohio.

Roxanne's life focus is relating people with the natural world which she believes is necessary for all of us to become whole. People need to live in God's world, not the world created by man.

## State Capitol and Peregrine Falcon Nest Tour

by Arlys Reitan

Come along with Wachiskans for a free tour of the Nebraska State Capitol on **Sunday, February 21**, at **1:00 p.m.** Meet us at the north door for a one-hour tour. In addition to learning about the Capitol's art and symbolism, those on tour will hear about the peregrine falcon pair which has a nest box on top of the Capitol. Late February or early March begins the mating season, and the falcons are usually present at this time.

Board member Roxanne Smith is a long-time tour guide at this fascinating venue and will show and tell us about numerous features specifically dealing with birds and nature in our state.

## Audubon's Nebraska Crane Festival in March

by Deb Hauswald, Audubon Nebraska

Audubon Nebraska is pleased to announce its 46<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of the sandhill crane migration, Audubon's Nebraska Crane Festival. The Festival will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Convention Center in Kearney March 17-20. Featured will be a variety of birding excursions including guided half- and full-day trips to local birding hotspots, sunrise and sunset trips to crane viewing blinds along the Platte River at Audubon's Rowe Sanctuary, and an overnight outing to see prairie grouse.

Main speakers include acclaimed nature photographer Thomas Mangelsen; emeritus UNL professor and ornithologist Paul Johnsgard; and Brian Trusty, executive director of Audubon Texas. Other presenters will share information on a variety of nature-related topics. Two workshops on crane behavior will be presented, and the popular and family-oriented Wild Experience Room will return with hands-on activities for kids.

For registration and general Festival information, visit [nebraskacrane festival.org](http://nebraskacrane festival.org) or call 402-797-2301. General crane viewing information can be found at [rowe.audubon.org](http://rowe.audubon.org) or by calling Rowe Sanctuary, 308-468-5282.

Nebraska is home to one of the most spectacular wildlife phenomena in the world—the sandhill crane migration. Over 80 percent of the world's population of lesser sandhill cranes (approximately 500,000-600,000) use the Platte River and adjacent fields to rest and refuel before continuing north to their nesting grounds in the northern U.S., Canada, and Siberia.



Photo by Don Brockmeier

## Prairie Management Fund Receives Generous Donations

by Elizabeth Nelson

In the fourth quarter of 2015, Wachiska established the Wachiska Audubon Society Prairie Management Fund, held and managed by the Lincoln Community Foundation. Initial funding included a \$50,000 donation from an anonymous donor matched by a \$50,000 allocation from Wachiska savings, kicking off our three-year \$1 million fundraising goal. During December 2015, Wachiska received three donations totaling nearly \$10,500, directed to the Prairie Management Fund.

- Two children of a long-time Wachiska member each donated \$5,000 to the Wachiska Prairie Management Fund in memory of their mother who passed away in 2015.
- Another long-time Wachiska member and prairie preservation advocate donated just under \$500 from an annual required distribution from an IRA.

Wachiska greatly appreciates these generous donations. Contributions to the Prairie Management Fund help support our land management obligations. Wachiska works hard to make our prairies as self-supporting as possible. Generally, we are able to pay the property taxes with revenues from carefully monitored haying and grazing. Some expenses have been covered by grants. Yet the maintenance and restoration work hours required are considerable; well over 1,500 volunteer hours a year go into caring for and monitoring these prairie parcels plus hundreds of additional hours towards legal activities and special projects like burning, plant inventories, etc.

In addition, Wachiska holds conservation easements on 34 prairie parcels. Landowners have entrusted our chapter with these easements, knowing we are dedicated to protecting these prairies. This requires ongoing, active monitoring of this land and working with land tenants or new owners to assure the terms of the easements are maintained and respected.

### Meeting our long-term obligations

By purchasing prairie and accepting conservation easements, Wachiska has taken on considerable long-term management obligations. We have recognized that, as an organization, we are quickly reaching the point where we need to hire staff to lead our prairie management obligations. When fully funded, the Prairie Management Fund will allow us to:

- First, pay for a part-time land manager to coordinate maintenance and restoration activities supervised by Wachiska's conservation committee.
- Second, generate funds for additional staff positions such as a volunteer coordinator, a grant writer, or an executive director with a focus on enhancing the preservation and educational aspects of managing our prairie lands.

### Your support is needed

Many Wachiska members have given generously to support past prairie purchases. Now we need your support to assure we meet our long-term obligations to caring for the land we own and monitor. We are requesting current gifts or pledged estate bequests to move this effort forward.

Your contributions, whether given now or through your estate, will help Wachiska continue to protect and preserve tallgrass prairie in Nebraska, a legacy dear to all those who value protecting our natural environment. For more information how you can give, please contact anyone on Wachiska's Donor Development Committee, the Lincoln Community Foundation, or your attorney.

*Wachiska Audubon Society was chartered in 1973 as an independent chapter of the National Audubon Society. Wachiska is a qualified 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization, TIN 51-0229888.*

## Great Backyard Bird Count

by the Population and Environment Committee

Do you love watching birds? The 19th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will be held Friday, February 12, through Monday, February 15. This is a free, fun, and easy event that engages birdwatchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org). Anyone can take part in the GBBC, from beginning birdwatchers to experts, and you can participate from your own backyard!

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society learn more about how birds are doing and how to protect them and the environment we share. Last year, more than 140,000 participants submitted their bird observations online, creating the largest instantaneous snapshot of global bird populations ever recorded!

No Internet connection? Call the friendly staff at Wild Bird Habitat Store, 402-420-2553. Folks without an Internet connection will be able to pick up or have mailed to them a GBBC packet with the instructions and information needed to participate in the count. Afterwards, participants can return their data to any Wild Bird Habitat Store and have their findings electronically submitted for them.

Consider sharing this experience with someone new to birding! If every birdwatcher inspired just one other person to watch birds, we could double the number of people who enjoy and care about birds!

NOTE: Wachiska Audubon will not be hosting a Bird EnCOUNTER this year as we are focusing our efforts on other exciting events! We hope to resume this event in 2017.

## Public Officials

### **President Barack Obama**

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

### **Senator Ben Sasse**

100 Centennial Mall N Rm 287, Lincoln NE 68508  
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605  
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-224-5213  
E-mail at website: <http://sasse.senate.gov>

### **Senator Deb Fischer**

440 N 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> District)**

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

### **Congressman Brad Ashford (2<sup>nd</sup> District)**

7126 Pacific St, Omaha NE 68106  
Omaha phone: 402-916-5678  
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4155 Fax: 202-226-5452  
E-mail at website: <http://ashford.house.gov>

### **Congressman Adrian Smith (3<sup>rd</sup> District)**

416 Valley View Dr Ste 600, Scottsbluff NE 69361  
Scottsbluff phone: 308-632-3333 Fax: 308-635-3049  
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-6435 Fax: 202-225-0207  
E-mail at website: <http://adriansmith.house.gov>

### **Capitol Hill Switchboard**

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

### **Governor Pete Ricketts**

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848  
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031  
E-mail 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 10<sup>th</sup> St Rm 110, Lincoln NE 68508  
Phone: 402-441-7447 Fax: 402-441-6301  
E-mail: [commish@lancaster.ne.gov](mailto:commish@lancaster.ne.gov)

### **Mayor Chris Beutler**

County-City Bldg, 555 S 10<sup>th</sup> St Rm 208, Lincoln NE 68508-2828  
Phone: 402-441-7511 Fax: 402-441-7120  
E-mail: [mayor@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:mayor@lincoln.ne.gov)

### **Lincoln City Council**

402-441-7515  
E-mail: [council@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:council@lincoln.ne.gov)

### **Lincoln Journal Star**

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

## **Membership**

Wachiska offers two choices of membership—many people choose both. Local membership, called Friends of Wachiska, includes receiving *The Babbling Brook*, our chapter's monthly newsletter. It also includes voting privileges and attendance at monthly meetings, programs, and field trips. All local membership dues remain with Wachiska to support chapter activities such as prairie preservation and education.

Membership in the National Audubon Society also includes membership in our local chapter, Wachiska. You will receive *Audubon* magazine from National Audubon along with *The Babbling Brook*.

### **Friends of Wachiska (local membership)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Individual/Friend

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Sustainer

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Families

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Patron

Make checks payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds remain with our local chapter. Mail to:

Wachiska Audubon Society  
Attention: Membership Committee  
4547 Calvert St Ste 10  
Lincoln NE 68506-5643

As a conservation organization, our goal is to use our natural resources wisely. Materials and postage are considerable, and we do not want to waste them. When your address changes or if you are receiving *The Babbling Brook* and would rather not get it, please notify us at [office@wachiskaaudubon.org](mailto:office@wachiskaaudubon.org) or 402-486-4846.

### **AND / OR**

### **National Membership in National Audubon Society**

Dues from new (introductory) memberships and for first-time gifts will be returned to Wachiska if this coupon is used:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose introductory membership fee of \$20.

Make checks payable to **National Audubon Society** and mail to:

Wachiska Audubon Society  
Attention: Membership Committee  
4547 Calvert St Ste 10  
Lincoln NE 68506-5643

**C6ZP040Z**

## Members Recycle Cans for Wachiska

Thanks to all Wachiska members and friends who are recycling aluminum cans at A-Can Recycling Center, 3255 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, in Lincoln.

Owners Ben and Connie Dahlberg have set up an account for Wachiska whereby anyone can bring in their cans and specify that the proceeds should be credited to the Wachiska Audubon account.

Stop in Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday, 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Call the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846 if you have questions.

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### BIRDSEED ORDERS

DUE BY FEBRUARY 12

Postmarks after February 12 cannot be accepted.



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Send address changes to *The Babbling Brook*  
Wachiska Audubon Society, 4547 Calvert St Ste 10  
Lincoln NE 68506-5643



*The Babbling Brook* is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.



## Wachiska Audubon Society

4547 Calvert St Ste 10

Lincoln NE 68506-5643

402-486-4846

Office@WachiskaAudubon.org

www.WachiskaAudubon.org

Spring Birdseed Order Form on Pages 3-4

## WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2016

### OFFICERS

President .....	*Jessi Umberger (Otoe) .....	402-580-3057
Vice President .....	*Gary Fehr .....	402-570-4382
Recording Secretary .....	*Rachel Simpson .....	402-742-7991
Treasurer .....	*Gary Fehr .....	402-570-4382
Immediate Past President .....	*Elizabeth Nelson .....	402-770-3485

### STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large .....	*Richard Peterson .....	402-489-2996
Director at Large .....	*Roxanne Smith .....	402-477-1319
Director at Large .....	*vacant .....	
Conservation .....	*Stu Luttich (Geneva) .....	402-759-3597
Education .....	*Tim Knott .....	402-483-5656
	Sue Kohles (Palmyra) .....	402-780-5558
Field Trips .....	John Carlini .....	402-475-7275
	*Ken Reitan .....	402-423-3540
Hospitality .....	Cheryl Moncure .....	402-488-0036
Legislation .....	Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm) .....	402-796-2114
	*Sam Truax .....	402-325-9012
Membership .....	Joyce Vannier .....	402-570-8469
	*Lana Novak .....	402-475-8693
Monthly Programs/General Meetings .....	Arlys Reitan .....	WAS office 402-486-4846
Newsletter Editor .....	Arlys Reitan .....	WAS office 402-486-4846
Population/Environment .....	*Colleen Babcock .....	308-850-0445
Publicity/Public Relations .....	Jeanne Kern .....	402-423-0428

\*Denotes Board member

### OTHER ASSOCIATES

Bird Questions .....	Kevin Poague .....	402-797-2301
Facebook Coordinator .....	Benjamin Vogt .....	402-499-5851
NAS Regional Board Member .....	Michele Crist (Boise, ID) .....	208-863-1918
Newsletter Layout .....	Linda Sullivan .....	402-580-8515
Raptor Recovery .....	Betsy Finch (Elmwood) .....	402-994-2009
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska .....	Marian Langan .....	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director .....	Glynnis Collins .....	402-797-2301
Webmaster .....	Dan Staehr .....	402-440-5869

### NEBirds Website

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

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

### A Gift to the Future

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