



Wachiska
Audubon Society

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

The Babbling Brook

Our 45th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2018

APRIL 2018

Volume 27 - Issue 4

General Meeting and Program — Thursday, April 12, 7:00 p.m., Unitarian Church, Lincoln

One Ripple at a Time

by Kristen Maxfield, National Park Service

Rivers may seem timeless, but it takes people who love them to preserve them into the future. On April 12, **Kristen Maxfield**, chief of interpretation and education for the Niobrara National Scenic River, will share with Wachiska such topics as management issues, public events, visitor center improvements, and current natural resource projects that may engage more local residents and visitors alike. This program will include the new 20-minute park film showcasing the river's distinctive attributes and features local residents who share their viewpoints on the river. This film is the primary result of over three years of filming, critiquing, and tweaking, and premiered last July. As one of two executive producers for the project, Maxfield will be able to answer questions.



Kristen Maxfield

Maxfield will also discuss planning and events surrounding the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In 2018, the 50th anniversary of the act, the Niobrara National Scenic River is challenging visitors and

local residents to consider the importance of the river and water, in general, and to remember that preservation does not stop with designation. Other topics will include the efforts to ensure an appropriate amount of water in the river into the future, aspen genetics and other natural resource studies, and Year of the Bird activities.

Maxfield has worked for either the National Park Service or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 2000. She has been stationed at Effigy Mounds National Monument (Iowa), Aransas National Wildlife Refuge (Texas), the Natchez Trace Parkway (Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee), and the Niobrara National Scenic River (Nebraska). Kristen is a 2017 graduate of the GOAL Leadership Academy. She spends weekends roaming the wilderness area at Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge with her Siberian husky. Her favorite bird is the (native) one in her binoculars at any given moment.

Join Wachiska Audubon to learn more about our Niobrara River at our monthly meeting at **7:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, April 12**, at Lincoln's Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street. Bring family and friends to this free public presentation. This location offers easy access with no steps, is handicap accessible, and provides convenient free parking in the church lot with overflow parking across the street to the west in the Pius High School lot. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

Calendar

April

- 2 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 12 General Meeting, Niobrara River film and update by Kristen Maxfield, Unitarian Church, 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Newsletter submission deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 15 Field Trip to Burchard Lake for prairie-chickens, **4:00 a.m.**, Wachiska office (page 2)
- 17 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G sts., 6:00 p.m.
- 28 **EARTH DAY**, Lincoln's Union Plaza, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (page 2)



Niobrara River from Berry Bridge



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Prairie-Chickens Booming at Burchard Lake WMA



Greater Prairie-Chicken

As April rolls around, everyone thinks of tax day, but as birders turn their calendars to April, the peak of greater prairie-chicken booming season comes to mind. Our April field trip will take us to the southeast corner of the state to experience the age-old chicken

dance from a blind at Burchard Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA). If you're willing to set your alarm for the middle of the night and sit quietly in the blind for an extended period of time without exiting, then this field trip may be for you. Prairie-chickens are icons of Nebraska's remnant native prairie habitat, and, hopefully, we'll have a front row seat to their ritual dance with penetrating booming calls and males vying for dominance.

We'll meet at **4:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, April 15**, in the Wachiska office parking lot at 4547 Calvert Street in Lincoln. Participants can caravan or carpool for the 70-mile drive to our destination at Burchard Lake WMA. To avoid disturbance at this sensitive site, we will enter the blind before sunrise and remain there until after the chickens depart the lek, so wear warm clothing adequate for sitting in cold temps for two or more hours. Bring binoculars and scope if you have them. There is no fee, and the public is welcome. Call John at 402-475-7275 with questions.

Volunteers Invited: Nests to Go

by Colleen Babcock, Chair
Population/Environment Committee

Lincoln Earth Day - April 28, Union Plaza, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

2018 is officially the Year of the Bird. Lincoln's 2018 Earth Day will be the year of focus on bird nests and a *Nests to Go* activity at Wachiska's Earth Day booth. A variety of natural materials useful to birds in the construction of their nests will be provided for participants to nestle within small pouches. Additional information and activities will focus on features of bird nesting diversity. Visitors are invited to stop by our table to answer at least one trivia question about non-nesting birds.

Members of the population/environment committee are again coordinating Wachiska's participation in Lincoln's Earth Day celebration. Those of you who are interested in helping with this fun and easy event are asked to contact the Wachiska office. For additional information, click on <https://www.earthday.org/>.

Annual Birdathon Fundraiser Begins April 1

by Tim Knott, Birdathon Coordinator

Last year Wachiska's Birdathon, our annual chapter fundraiser, was successful thanks to your generosity. We were able to finish the year in the black and still continue our programs and activities. In addition, last year we were able to purchase the high-quality Fertig Prairie near Schuyler for educational use and habitat protection (photo below). It is because of your donations that Wachiska volunteers have the time and the funds to do the extra things such as standing up for Nebraska's conservation laws at the state legislature, organizing educational events for young people such as taking kids to the Raptor Center to learn about hawks and owls or to our native prairies to learn about Nebraska's grassland heritage. Our population and environment committee organized a successful Bird EnCOUNTER for 250 - 300 kids and their parents at Gere Library February 17 (see page 3).

But, of course, things don't just happen. Our Birdathon success depends on you and our other supporters. Your donations are needed so Wachiska can continue to grow and produce greater accomplishments in 2018. Keep your eye open for the annual Birdathon fundraising letter arriving the first part of April. The Birdathon is our one official fund drive of the year, and we count on you to make it a success. Please be generous and donate what you can using the return envelope with the letter.

You can also donate to Birdathon by participating in Give to Lincoln Day this year. It is a fast and easy way to donate online. Just Google Give to Lincoln Day and look for Wachiska Audubon under the environment heading to make your donation. The Lincoln Community Foundation (LCF) sponsors this event which is offering an even larger matching fund of \$400,000 this year. The more money our members and friends donate between May 1 and May 31, the larger the matching amount will be for our chapter. Last year Wachiska's match was over \$1,000. You can also bring or mail your check to our office, made payable to the Lincoln Community Foundation, by noon on May 31, and it will be part of our LCF total. To designate your donation to a special Wachiska purpose, please clearly note that on your check or when donating online.



Plan to take part in our Birdathon birding hikes on May 12 and 13. We often see birds that many beginning birders have never seen. Look for more specific, detailed information on the hikes next month.



Upright Prairie Coneflower

Bird EnCOUNTER: Great Fun—Great Memories

by Colleen Babcock, Chair
Population/Environment Committee

It was a festive fast-paced Bird EnCOUNTER for an hour and a half on February 17 at Gere Library. Staff estimated 250 - 300 visitors were likely attributable to Bird EnCOUNTER; not considered were the number of general library visitors attracted coincidentally to library bird-related book displays, live music, and live raptors.

Near the center of the library, Jim King and a high school library volunteer were music magnets. Crowds consistently filled the area featuring live Raptor Recovery educational birds. Three raptors with their trained handlers were made possible by the generous support and sponsorship of Dave Titterington of the Wild Bird Habitat Store. Thank you so very much, Dave!



Jim King & participants



Shari Schwartz & Bruce Mellberg

Shari Schwartz, patient nurturer of beginning birders, appreciated having child-sized binoculars. Using Nebraska Game and Parks "Bridge to Birding Binocular Kits," Shari and Bruce Mellberg worked with children at the north windows of Gere Library. Chuck Francis placed bird photos on trees and feeders outside enabling successful practice with focusing binoculars.

Elsewhere in the library, activities included a bird-matching game (Bob Boyce and Colleen Geisel), focus on bird nests (Theresa Pella's fun and challenging creation), identifying bird calls (Tim Knott and Katya Duerig), and creation of pine cone bird feeders (Sue and Tom Guild reported 95 total). Knowledge and creativity combined with opportunity to decorate bird silhouette cut-outs (Patty Spitzer reported over 90 of her hand-cut creations to be decorated). Paul Johnsgard, always with a table full of active young artists, appeared to be consistently delighted by it all. It was certainly an honor and pleasure for all to have Dr. Johnsgard's enthusiastic support.



Paul Johnsgard & Linda Brown

Additional volunteers including Wachiska Board members, P/E committee members, and other appreciated recruits helped as needed with activities, greeting visitors, helping direct traffic, and talking with visitors at

the Wachiska prairie display and Spring Creek Prairie display. Those helping included a high school volunteer along with Wachiska members Ingrid Kirst, Jami Nelson, Jordan Dudley, Linda Brown, Mary Burrow, Lana Novak, Rachel Simpson, Colleen Babcock, and event photographer Sam Welsch.

It goes without saying that this fun family event was made possible by the co-sponsorship of Lincoln City Libraries and Gere Library employees. This is attributed to the coordination and publicity role played by Vicki Wood, youth services coordinator for LCL. Thanks much to Mary King for coordinating with Nebraska Game and Parks and initiating coordination with Ms. Wood. Barb and Chuck Francis were instrumental in accessing volunteers and the wide range of materials used in various activities. They also worked with Jason St. Sauver to access a Spring Creek Prairie display. Families and children left Bird EnCOUNTER with library books, personally made pine cone bird feeders, and other bird-related creations, a free pass to Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, and fun-filled memories fostering greater interest and capacity to appreciate birds in any habitat.

Avoid Neonics

by Richard Peterson

With spring planting season just around the corner, here is a reminder on what we can all do to protect our pollinators.

When you purchase your potted flowers and vegetables or seed to start your own plants, select seeds add plants that have not been treated. What do I mean by treated? Many, if not most, seeds are treated with neonicotinoids (neonics, for short). This is true for seed used by a nursery to grow a potted plant or seed sold in a packet. It is done to increase the plant's success, but not the success of pollinators.

Neonics are chemicals the plants will take up internally when growing and developing to maturity. Neonics are a systemic biocide which means the chemical travels to every part of the plant including the leaves, flowers, pollen, and nectar. When a monarch or any butterfly or moth (larva or adult), hummingbird, or even a bat feeds on the plant, the chemical is ingested. Neonics have been implicated in Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) in honey bees.

We can all do our part by growing flowers and vegetables free of harmful biocides which can reduce the success of pollinators.

Another Birdseed Sale in the Books

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Spring Birdseed Sale last month. Helpers included Cathy Shaner, Lana Novak, Bill Gustafson, Arlys Reitan, and Linda Sullivan with preparation. During the two-day distribution, these folks were on hand: Elizabeth Nelson, Bruce Wendorff, Rodney Bredemeier, Gary Hergenrader, and Bailey Novak. And, as always, our gratitude and appreciation to all our customers old and new!

2018 President's Award Given to Linda Brown

Since 1992, Wachiska Audubon has given the President's Award for "exemplary achievement in volunteer work to our chapter." Sometimes the award has been for overall work in many areas; other times it's recognized for a specific project or activity over time. Tonight's recipient has been working on behalf of Wachiska for birds, other wildlife, and nature education for over 30 years.

The President's Award is the only recognition given where the recipient's identity is kept a secret until it is announced at this presentation. While we never know for sure if this attempt has been accomplished, we think we have succeeded tonight.

To keep you in suspense no longer, we are pleased to announce that **Linda Brown** has been chosen this year's award recipient.



Linda Brown & Gary Fehr

Linda was active with Wachiska w-a-y back before we had an office and meeting space. Many Christmas Bird Count tally parties were held at her home where she would often furnish a hot meal after spending the entire day outside counting birds in December. Linda is an excellent birder who has been one of our "people to go to" when we get unusual bird questions. She's been active in the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union and wrote their newsletter for a time. She's opened her

home to our members and shared her picture window as a birdwatching perch. Wachiska's Prairie Discovery Days have benefited from Linda's help. She has been faithful at prairie seed harvesting at Ernie's prairie for years. For several months Linda presented a short slide show on different Wachiska prairies before our monthly programs.

One would say that Linda is willing to do "whatever is necessary" to carry out our chapter's plans, programs, projects, and events. Now that she is retired, she has taken on duties in two areas: the donor development committee and specific tasks with the membership committee. She writes the majority of our thank-you notes and letters, even furnishing the postage for all of them. For the first donor development Lunch and Learn, it was Linda who made the lasagna and homemade pies because the committee was so new it didn't have a budget! When Birdathon rolled around last spring, Linda felt the promotion letter should be printed in color, so she used her own equipment and printed each letter in full color.

Over the past three decades there have been many more examples of a need that required attention, so Linda took it on and got it done. For all of these reasons, tonight we recognize Linda Brown with our 2018 President's Award. Thank you and congratulations, Linda!!

Marilyn McNabb Honored with 2018 Earthkeeper Award

In 1985, Wachiska Audubon realized a need to recognize individuals and organizations exhibiting "tireless efforts toward a significant environmental issue over an extended period of time." The recipient of this year's Earthkeeper Award has attained tremendous accomplishments to qualify for this recognition.

This year Wachiska Audubon's Earthkeeper Award is being presented to **Marilyn McNabb**.

Everyone who regularly reads *The Babbling Brook* will recognize Marilyn's name as the author of a monthly climate change update in almost every issue. Taking on this huge issue is time-consuming, and Marilyn reads and reviews countless websites regularly to keep up with new issues. She works with a network of agencies to develop clean energy policies. Last spring for our awards banquet, Marilyn helped with arrangements to bring Matt Anderson, National Audubon's vice president for climate, to speak.



Marilyn McNabb & Gary Fehr

For nine years Marilyn served on the board of the Lincoln Electric System and was a regular voice when the topic of clean energy came up. She now works with National Audubon and the Citizens' Climate Lobby on these issues. Marilyn also represents Wachiska on the Mayor's Environmental Roundtable.

Before that, Marilyn became involved with Wachiska because her primary interest and concern is with our native prairies. Serving on the conservation committee and as a time as the chairperson, she trudged many prairies looking for native plants and flowers. When she's at home she is feeding birds daily. By her own admission, her front yard looks more like a prairie than the usual bluegrass yard.

It seems long overdue that Wachiska is honoring Marilyn and publicly recognizing her for the numerous tasks and projects she has accomplished for our chapter and for the public over many years. Many thanks and congratulations, Marilyn, for being Wachiska's recipient of the 2018 Earthkeeper Award!!



Dr. Paul Johnsgard's new *Naturalist's Guide to the Great Plains* is available online (free). It can be read in its entirety at this site: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1063&context=zeabook>.



From the Board ...

by Jami Nelson
Chair, Membership Committee

When I was growing up in Northeastern Nebraska, I spent quite a bit of time hanging out with my grandfather, who was most comfortable being outside “doing something.” He built houses by trade but had grown up on a farm and was used to working from sun-up to sun-down. So when I say he was always doing something, it’s because that was second nature to him. Being idle was not an option. If he found me or my brother or sister sitting around, he would find something for us to do.

While my older siblings were adept at sneaking off to spend time with friends instead, I hung out with Grandpa and I’m sure I learned a number of things from him that I wouldn’t have learned otherwise. Often he would take me along to my uncle’s pasture outside of town so we could count the cows and their calves and make sure none was missing. We would take fresh grass clippings after we mowed the lawn (he taught me to use the lawnmower), and the cattle would come running as soon as they saw us enter the pasture gate. There was a small lake on the pastureland where he taught me to fish in the summers; and in the winters, I would go ice skating there. Grandpa also gave me some of my first driving lessons on the bumpy, rutted road that ran through the pasture.

I have many fond memories of those days, although Grandpa has been gone for several years. He was quite a character, and I still laugh at many of his old stock phrases and the tricks he liked to pull on people. I am convinced that my love of nature got its beginnings in that old piece of cow pasture. Every change of season brought new exciting things to watch for. I didn’t know much about grasses, or flowers, or native plants back then; I just knew I loved the sunshine, the breeze, and the smell of fresh country air. Oh yes, and the fact that Grandpa and I would stop at the truck stop for a piece of pie on the way back to town.

Nowadays, so many young people miss these types of experiences because they are more connected to their technology and less connected to nature. I’d like to take this opportunity to suggest to those of you who have children or grandchildren or neighbor kids to make a concerted effort to do what my grandfather did for me. Find ways to introduce them to the wonders of nature. Wachiska offers various educational opportunities throughout the year through field trips, monthly programs, and community events. Visitors are always welcome at our events, so bring along a family member or neighbor.

Look over the following list of recent new members to Wachiska. If you believe your name has been left off the list, please notify the Wachiska office. For those who are not yet Friends of Wachiska, complete the form on page 7 and mail it with your check. You will receive a reminder letter when your renewal is due. Thanks to everyone who supports our chapter and spreads that love of the natural world!

Since the beginning of 2018, we have welcomed many new members to our ranks. Those listed below have either joined as new Friends of Wachiska or have rejoined after an absence:

Cara Bentz	Ann DeVries & Andrew Pitcher
Wilbur Dasenbrock	Phyllis Reagan
Betsy & Doug Finch	Isaac Remboldt
Corinne Kolm & Josh Frank	Carolyn & Bernie Rieke
Jane Renner Hood	Richard Russell
Eve Hulvershorn	Oscar Sarafian
Kathleen Johnson	Don Valenziano
Laddie Lastoka	Mike & Jane Voorhies
Ruth Stearns & Mike Mattson	Sue Ellen & Milan Wall
Dale & Sharon Nielsen	Marcia Wallen
Paul Olson	Mark & Kathryn Wilson

A Broad-billed Tale

Lynette Boyce reported the following story experienced by her cousin in Arizona:

“A broad-billed hummingbird got trapped in the garage. We just found him, opened the door, but apparently he didn’t want to go out into the dark. After a few minutes, he started landing on my hand, shoulders, and hat while I was talking softly to him. We brought a feeder in and left the garage lights on. Hopefully, he will be refreshed in the morning and head to the backyard. I’m guessing he knew me from the backyard and felt some comfort in a strange environment. Great moment.”



Broad-billed Hummingbird

MORNING UPDATE: “When I got to the garage, the hummer was full of energy and talking to me rapidly. Opening the garage door twice, he flew to the opening and flew back; I’m guessing because it was still dark outside. Returning from our walk, I opened the garage door and the hummer took right off. This was a good day in the desert.”

April Programs at SCPAC

by Kevin Poague

Paws on the Prairie – Saturday, April 14, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Third Tuesday Bird Walk – Tuesday, April 17, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Words for Birds – Sunday, April 29, 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

For full details of all programs at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, go to springcreekprairie.audubon.org, call 402-797-2301, or email scp@audubon.org.

New Board Member is Theresa Pella

by Richard Peterson



Theresa Pella

Theresa Pella has joined the Wachiska Board as a director at large. She and her husband, Mike, recently retired and decided to make Lincoln their home. During her one-year plus with Wachiska, Theresa is helping streamline the membership and donations database, is busy with the education committee by helping with planning and participating in a 2018 Community Learning Center after-school raptor program. In addition, Theresa is assisting with Wachiska's Prairie Discovery Days.

Theresa is a Nebraska native, born in Syracuse, and raised with her 10 brothers and sisters on the farm near Tecumseh. Her mother lives on the family farm which will be eligible as a family centennial farm in 2019. After graduation from Tecumseh High School, she studied management and graduated from Sangamon State University in Illinois. She received her M.A. in legal studies from the University of Illinois at Springfield. Theresa then worked in state air quality regulatory programs in various management, programmatic, and policy capacities with the Illinois EPA, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, and the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality.

In 2011, Theresa became executive director of the Central States Air Resource Agencies Association based in Oklahoma City. In that capacity, she and her staff worked with state environmental agencies in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma on technical and skills building training courses and managing regional air quality projects. She retired in 2017. Her husband, Mike, retired in 2016 as an air quality specialist with the National Park Service.

Theresa completed the Texas Master Naturalist program in 2005 and the Nebraska program in 2017. Her volunteer activities include helping with educational programs, bird count surveys, and seed collecting. She enjoys hiking and snowshoeing as well as gardening, reading, traveling, and spending time with her 14 nieces and nephews and their growing families.

She has taken several OLLI classes and is currently part of an OLLI reading group which is introducing her to different authors. At home she is enjoying Portable Prairie-confessions of an unsettled Midwesterner. Music favorites are groups from the late 1960s and early '70s and the Blues. Theresa and Mike are planning a road trip to see historical and natural areas of the southeastern U.S. focusing on Savannah and Charleston. Their annual baseball trip with friends this year will be to the Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Cincinnati ballparks.

Wachiska welcomes Theresa back to Nebraska and looks forward to her contributions to the Board and Wachiska's activities.

Terry Stentz Joined Board in January

by Richard Peterson

Terry Stentz is Wachiska's most recent, newly appointed director at large. Terry has been a Wachiska member since the mid-1970s. You may remember his name as he was president of Wachiska in the late 1980s. He is currently an associate professor and graduate chair in the Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at UNL. Terry has decided to serve on the Board and also contribute to the projects of the conservation committee where his interest is in the preservation and acquisition of native prairies. I had an opportunity to visit with him in his office in Nebraska Hall.



Terry Stentz

Terry was born and raised with his younger brothers and sisters in Lincoln. He became an Eagle Scout and served three summers on the Camp Cornhusker staff as a lifeguard and aquatics instructor. He received his B.A. in biological sciences from UNL during which time he was in Navy ROTC and at graduation was commissioned and entered active service. Deployed twice to Vietnam, Terry was assigned aboard the U.S.S. Ranger and the U.S.S. Saratoga. He left active service in 1972 and then served in the Navy Reserve, retiring as a captain in 1997.

Terry received his M.P.H. in occupational and environmental health from Harvard in 2000. He is married to Christie Hobensack, and they live in west Lincoln. Terry has two sons, both living in Lincoln. Christie will soon complete her B.S. in biology and is helping Dr. Robert Kaul in the Nebraska Herbarium. Like his dad who will be 95 and is still working, Terry has no plans to retire anytime soon.

Terry has been a student of the environment since an early age, thanks to family members, especially his grandfather and his aunt, Phyllis Reagan, who nurtured his interest. He cited a number of influential instructors he has had over the years including our own Dr. Paul Johnsgard. Terry completed the Master Naturalist program at UNL and is a merit badge counselor and assistant Boy Scout council commissioner.

Terry listens to KZUM for its Big Band, jazz, classical, and Native American music programming. He supports Nebraska Public Radio and gets his news from the PBS *NewsHour*. He remains connected with NETV programs like *NOVA*, *Backyard Farmer*, *Nature*, *Masterpiece*, and others.

As the interview was winding down, we talked about his concern that people today are disconnected from the natural world in their everyday lives. The attachment to technology, smart phones, and all the rest is part of it. He stated that humans need lots of interaction with nature to be responsible and informed stewards of the natural world. Terry sees Wachiska's main challenge as attracting more young people to become members and future environmental leaders.

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 Ben Sasse

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

Senator Deb Fischer

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

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (1st District)

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

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

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

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

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

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

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

State Senator _____

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

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

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

Mayor Chris Beutler

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

Lincoln City Council

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

Lincoln Journal Star

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

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

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

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

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E-mail _____

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

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

___ **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.



American Goldfinch Family

Birdseed Available - Contact the Office

2 bags	20# Classic Audubon Mix	\$20/bag
2 bags	20# Safflower Seed	\$23/bag
1 bag	25# Sunflower Seed, black oil	\$19/bag
3 cakes	Berry Treat Suet	\$2.50/ea.
1 cake	High Energy Suet	\$2.50/ea.

Call or email Arlys at the office.

National Audubon Convention in 2019

Remember that the National Audubon Society's next biennial convention is scheduled for **July 26 - 29, 2019** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. To learn all that takes place during this event, check the NAS website or call the Wachiska office to put you in touch with participants who were extremely thrilled with the event last summer.



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WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2018

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Recording Secretary.....	*Richard Peterson.....	402-489-2996
Treasurer.....	*Bill Gustafson.....	402-488-1585
Immediate Past President.....	*Jessi Umberger (Otoe).....	402-580-3057

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*Theresa Pella.....	531-289-6098
Director at Large.....	*Vacant.....	
Director at Large.....	*Terry Stentz.....	402-202-8819
Conservation.....	*Stu Lutich (Geneva).....	402-759-3597
Education.....	*Tim Knott.....	402-483-5656
Field Trips.....	John Carlini.....	402-475-7275
	*Lana Novak.....	402-475-8693
Hospitality.....	Cheryl Moncure.....	402-488-0036
Legislation.....	Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm).....	402-796-2114
	*Sam Truax.....	402-325-9012
Membership.....	*Jami Nelson.....	402-488-1598
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
Raptor Recovery.....	Betsy Finch (Elmwood).....	402-994-2009
Interim Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.....	Bill Taddicken.....	308-468-5282
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director.....	Glynnis Collins.....	402-797-2301

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**.