



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 47th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2020

MAY 2020

Volume 29 - Issue 5

General Meeting and Program — Thursday, May 14, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom web conference (see article below)

Audubon's Conservation Ranching Program: Beefing Up Nebraska's Working Lands Strategy

by Andrew Pierson, Audubon Nebraska

Grassland birds have suffered an unparalleled decline over the past half century, stemming from widespread development of North America's grasslands. This calls for Audubon's action. To combat the negative effects of grassland degradations—and to keep grass on the landscape—National Audubon has developed the Conservation Ranching Initiative.



Andrew Pierson

This market-based conservation approach offers incentives for good grassland stewardship through a certification label on beef products. For the first time, consumers can contribute to grassland conservation efforts by selectively purchasing beef from Audubon-certified farms and ranches. The Audubon certification seal brings a broad market appeal that enhances

demand by consumers who want options for beef that is sustainably raised and benefits wildlife habitat.

Andrew Pierson is Audubon Nebraska's director of conservation. He recently transitioned into this statewide role after managing Audubon's Rowe Sanctuary for several years.

During this virtual presentation, Andrew will discuss National Audubon and Audubon Nebraska's "Working Lands" strategies with an emphasis on the Conservation Ranching Initiative. He will also highlight his love of grasslands and grassland birds with some relevant Nebraska trivia.

Join Andrew and Wachiska on **Thursday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m.** for a virtual meeting via Zoom web conference. Preregistration is required. Carefully copy the following link into your browser to reach the registration page: bit.ly/3bDC9js.



After registration, you will receive an email with additional information for joining the meeting on the 14th. If you have never used Zoom, please take 10 minutes prior to the meeting's start time to set up your Zoom connection to ensure the best quality meeting. Zoom has a chat option that allows you to type comments during a meeting, and we will use that method for questions and answers.



For the first time in over 30 years, Wachiska Audubon will NOT be sponsoring the Backyard Garden Tour on Father's Day in June. This has been canceled due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Calendar

May

- 11 Conservation Committee, 5:30 p.m. (check with chairman for format)
- 14 General Meeting via Zoom teleconference, "Audubon's Conservation Ranching Program," by Andrew Pierson, 7:00 p.m. (note required registration)
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 16-17 **32nd annual Birdathon** (pages 2 and 5)
- 19 Board Meeting via Zoom teleconference, 7:00 p.m. (contact Theresa Pella for meeting/password if you're not a Board member and want to attend)
- 28 Give to Lincoln Day (page 8)



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Birdathon Still On

Intrepid Wachiska field trip participants have braved record-low temperatures, flooded roadways, and every kind of inclement weather imaginable, and their badges of honor attest to the fact that field trips in recent years have never been canceled unless safety was a concern.

Unfortunately, due to the spread of COVID-19 in our area, we regretfully must temporarily suspend field trip activities until participants can once again interact safely.



Photo by John Carlini

American Avocet-Oak Lake Park



Photo by John Carlini

Pileated Woodpecker-Indian Cave SP

But that doesn't mean anyone has to forego celebrating the birdiest time of the year during our traditional Birdathon weekend wherein birders can safely participate solo. Our annual fundraiser challenges Wachiskans and allies to collectively tally as many species as possible from Wachiska's region of Southeast Nebraska.

Donations can be based on number of species totaled on the group list. If you **bird the weekend of May 16-17**, you can submit your species list online to the Wachiska office at office@wachiskaaudubon.org to be included in the count.

Birding on Birdathon weekend is not only an excellent motivation to get outside and find amazing birds, it's also a worthy cause. Wachiska has long been a champion for prairie preservation and offers prairie outreach programs such as tallgrass prairie encounters for fourth graders whose perceptions often visibly shift as they learn about our natural world and trade out their



Photo by John Carlini

American Redstart-Wilderness Pk

biases and superstitions for a healthy curiosity. To maximize your impact, consider donating to Wachiska Audubon's annual Birdathon fundraiser online through Give To Lincoln Day May 28 or you can respond to the letter sent in the mail.

There are many great lakes and birding hotspots in our region where one can bird in sublime solitude. Wilderness Park along the edge of Lincoln always hosts great warblers, Indian Cave State Park in the Missouri River hills is home to eastern specialties such as breeding Kentucky warblers and pileated woodpeckers. Although lake conditions can quickly change based on water levels, as of this writing, Oak Lake Park in Lincoln has superb shorebird conditions this spring. Wherever you go exploring for birds—good luck!

Whooper Wish Comes True

by Shari Schwartz

Our annual pilgrimage to see the cranes in central Nebraska was the last scheduled field trip on the calendar until the pandemic passes, so we felt lucky that it was such a memorable one. Only a few people attended which was ideal with the need for social distancing, and everyone agreed that locating a previously reported whooping crane topped our wish list.



Photo by John Carlini

Whooping Crane with 3 Sandhill Cranes

Lone whoopers are periodically observed foraging with flocks of sandhill cranes in the same general area for days or weeks, but figuring out what neighborhood field they've moved to on any particular day can be tricky, especially if they're foraging in a spot that's not visible from the road. As luck would have it, we spied several vehicles pulled over at the side of the road which tipped us off that there was something worth stopping for, and there in all of its glory was a brilliant white whooper sound asleep amidst a flock of sandhills. Fortunately, it finally awoke and proceeded to meander off, affording us one of the best views we'd ever had of that rare species.

At nightfall we listened to the incredible sound emanating from the masses of cranes that overnight on the river, but we had to travel a bit further west than usual due to a lack of birds roosting by the Alda bridge this year with what may have been higher water levels than most years.

Did You Know These Terms?

cosmognosis - natural instinct to migrate
mogshadetree - shadows

"Out of difficulties grow miracles."
(quote by an unidentified Frenchman in the 19th century)

Luna

by Richard Peterson

The luna moth, *Actias luna* (Linnaeus, 1758) is in the Lepidoptera family Saturniidae, commonly known as the giant silk moths. In 1758, when Carl Linnaeus systematically reorganized the nomenclature, he used the luna species name which was derived from Luna, the Roman moon goddess.

These moths range throughout the Nearctic region, inhabiting parts of both the U.S. and Canada. They have one generation per year in Canada, with two or three generations in populations further south. They spend about two weeks as an egg, six to seven weeks as a larvae, nine months as a pupa, and then live only a week or so as a winged adult.

Feeding on the leaves of birch, beech, alder, willow, pecan, cherry, hazelnut, persimmon, sweet gum, hickory, and walnut, the larvae emit a clicking sound when they are touched or disturbed and regurgitate their intestinal contents, all of which is intended to deter a variety of predators. There are a number of wasps that parasitize the larvae.

The adults have pale, lime-green wings and an off-white colored body. The elongated, somewhat twisted tails of the hindwings are thought to confuse the echolocation



detection system used by night-prowling bats. Male and female adult luna moths are similar in size and appearance with eyespots on both the fore and hindwings, reaching a wingspan of 4.5-7 inches across. Adults have vestigial mouthparts and do not feed. Energy needed to live, find mates, and lay eggs comes from fat stored while in the larval stage. Fifth instar larvae, which can grow to 3.5 inches in length, drop to the ground and spin silk to bind dead leaves together to form a cocoon and to overwinter. Upon emerging from the cocoon, the female will fly and search out a tree of the larval food plant. Then she will emit pheromones and wait for the males to find them.

A parasitic wasp (*Compsilura concinnata*), which is native to Europe, was introduced into the eastern U.S. in 1906 in an effort to control the invasive gypsy moth, a destructive pest of hardwood trees. Unfortunately, the wasp is also capable of parasitizing more than 150 species of butterflies and moths. Over the years, the wasp has caused collateral damage to the luna and other native lepidopterans.

More than two dozen native butterflies have been depicted on U.S. postage stamps. As of 2019, only the luna moth has appeared on a postage stamp, which was a 22¢ first-class stamp (Scott stamp catalogue #2293) issued in 1987.

Safe Ways for Birders to Stay Connected

by John Carlini and Shari Schwartz



Corona-free Cardinal

During this period of social distancing, birders can stay connected to one another on Internet sites that have revolutionized public access to bird reports, rarities, and trends. Here's a couple of great options that require membership for participation but can also easily be viewed by non-members of the general public without having to join any groups:

1) "eBird" (<https://ebird.org/explore>) is a citizen scientist database offering maps of species' occurrences throughout the years and also provides recent reports that can be searched by county, state, country, or hotspot sites. Birders can stay abreast of interesting regional finds such as an overwintering Townsend's solitaire that was reported in Lincoln at Pioneers Park and obligingly stuck around for weeks which allowed dozens of birders to submit subsequent reports on it.

2) "NeBirds" posts can be viewed by non-members at "Birding News" (<http://birding.aba.org>) where birder discussion lists for all 50 states can be accessed. Birders can read recent emails about observations and bird behavior such as the early spring saga of conquest at the Omaha power plant wherein a newcomer male peregrine falcon chased the resident male from his territorial nest box, and after nearly a week of courting, won over the resident female.

Hope everyone's spring season is jam-packed with great birds!

Spring Birdseed Sale Report

Thanks to Dave Barnhouse, Jeff Meyer, and Carol Stewart for helping Lana Novak and Cathy Shaner with sorting and loading seed into customers' vehicles during the March birdseed sale. Elizabeth and Daniel Nelson again provided their garages for this easy transfer of 20- and 50-pound bags of birdseed. A total of \$2,759.50 of seed was sold (before expenses). An additional \$114.50 in donations was added to the task, netting just over \$1,200 from the Spring 2020 Birdseed Sale. Every bit helps the cause—and the birds are especially grateful!! Thanks to all!

Survey Responders See a Bright Future!

by Theresa Pella, Strategic Planning Chair

Even while we all struggle to find sense in this new COVID-19 environment, 200 of you found the time to complete the strategic planning survey—and not just complete it, but you spent time prioritizing areas for Wachiska to focus its energy and offering comments that will help the Board develop a feasible strategic plan. A small group of Wachiska partner and peer organizations also held a listening session with the consultant, Tad Dickel, in a third-party critique of Wachiska.

By the time this article is published, the Board will have had its initial conversation about the listening session and survey results and considered an all-day retreat; in the meantime, data compiled by Mr. Dickel illustrate:

- The organization already knows this, but one challenge highlighted from the survey is that no one under the age of 36 completed it.
- 33 percent of those who did complete the survey have been with Wachiska more than 20 years; however, a sizeable “newbie” group of those with 1-5 years’ association also completed the survey.
- Another known challenge was verified—there is a small cadre of volunteers who give more than 10 hours/month keeping the organization flourishing.
- *The Babbling Brook* is by far the current method of keeping track of Wachiska activities AND the preferred method. In addition, there were comments that more social media outreach may be important.
- About 70 percent responded that they attend 0-3 monthly meetings per year.
- The variety of options presented to socialize and network all elicited support, with 33 percent of respondents expressing an interest in “meet ups” at Wachiska prairies; 23 percent doing scheduled walks; 16 percent for small focus groups; 15 percent to meet at coffee shops, breweries, etc.; and 11 percent utilizing web-based social media.
- While still digesting the results, in looking at the question “ways of fulfilling the mission,” the highest #1 (50 respondents) was lobbying and advocacy for preserving and enhancing natural areas. The second area of highest ranking, chosen by 37 respondents, is preserving tallgrass prairies currently under Wachiska’s umbrella. The third area with the most #1 votes (21 people) is lobby/advocacy with a focus on climate change.

The strategic planning committee expresses its sincere appreciation to everyone who has and continues to provide input. The committee and the Board will provide updates as things move forward; in the meantime, you may access the consultant’s report at www.wachiskaaudubon.org.

You Can Help Secure Wachiska’s Future, and Your Legacy, with a Bequest

by Elizabeth Nelson, Donor Development Chair

An attorney friend of mine recently told me that she had seen a surge of individuals updating their wills. Oh, how a pandemic motivates us! Sad but true, sometimes we all need a reason to do something that we have been considering for a long time.

If you have been thinking of making a bequest to the Wachiska Audubon Society in your will or revocable living trust, it is simple to do and now is the time. Your bequest helps assure that Wachiska will continue to make a difference—preserving tallgrass prairie, connecting adults and children with the natural world, and advocating for the conservation and protection of our water, wildlife, and the planet.

Wachiska works with both the Lincoln and Nebraska community foundations, and we have a number of donors who have already made pledges to Wachiska through these organizations. Our foundation partners can advise you on how to give to Wachiska in your will or any number of other ways.

There are many other ways to give, such as from your IRA or other qualified retirement plans: 401(k), 403(b), IRA, Keogh, or profit-sharing pension plan. Wachiska’s donor development committee can provide guidance, as can your attorney or the donor experts we work with at the Nebraska or Lincoln community foundations.

To help us plan for the future, we appreciate knowing of your intentions. Many generous donors are already helping Wachiska protect prairies, wildlife, and our planet. Please join us in supporting these important missions. Thank you.

Clean Water Act Left Intact!!

A forwarded message has just been received by Marge Kennedy of Wachiska’s legislation committee announcing that the Supreme Court left the Clean Water Act intact and “flatly rejected the Trump Administration’s polluter-friendly approach....” The vote was 6 to 3 with Breyer, Roberts, Ginsburg, Sotomayor, Kagan, and Kavanaugh voting in the majority and Thomas, Alito, and Gorsuch voting in the minority.

Rare Creatures of the Photo Ark on May TV

Tune into NET’s *Rare Creatures of the Photo Ark* on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. CT beginning May 10 for a three-part series following Joel Sartore, founder of the Photo Ark, as he documents rare and endangered species around the world. Joel is a Wachiska member and a favorite program speaker in addition to being an award-winning photographer.

Birdathon 2020 Is Happening Now

by Tim Knott, Chair

Wachiska Audubon's biggest fundraising event, the Birdathon, has been bringing in a good number of donations during April, despite the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruptions to our scheduled meetings and newsletter last month. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Even though this is our 32nd annual Birdathon, some folks may not know how important it is to participate each year. The Birdathon pays many of our chapter's expenses. It partly funds our office expenses and office administrator. It enables the legislation committee to effectively communicate our concerns with state senators, and many committee expenses and activities are the result of this fundraiser. Did you realize that Wachiska appears at LPS's Family Nature Nights? Seed gathering on our prairies and prairie burns are also conducted by members of the conservation committee. A couple of weeks after school begins in early fall, Wachiska sponsors Prairie Discovery Days for fourth graders in rural communities. Bird EnCOUNTER continues to be a popular activity of children and parents in February, thanks to a couple of dozen members of the population/environment committee.

May is an especially important fundraising month for Wachiska and other nonprofits because Give to Lincoln Day is observed. This year that will be May 28, but you don't need to wait until the end of this month to participate. Online giving is accepted all month long. Go to the Lincoln Community Foundation's website, find the GTLD section, and specify Wachiska Audubon to receive your credit card donation.

If you prefer to donate by personal check or money order, now is a good time to do that. Mail your check to our office using the return envelope from the Birdathon letter or any envelope or drop your donation off at the Wachiska office. To participate in Give to Lincoln Day, make this check payable to the Lincoln Community Foundation and note Wachiska Audubon on the memo line. All GTLD checks received in our office will be hand delivered to the LCF on May 28, so these gifts will benefit from the matching funds awarded this year.

Wachiska has had a busy spring this year despite the virus distractions. We hope you will show your support with a generous contribution to Wachiska's Birdathon this spring. Thank you for your consideration and support!



Fletcher Prairie Burn – March 2020

Wachiska Chosen for 10 Years of Free Internet from Allo

by Arlys Reitan, Office Administrator

You may have heard by now that Allo Communications has fulfilled an agreement with the City of Lincoln to provide free Internet service to 75 qualified nonprofits in Lincoln. Part of the agreement was that each be a qualified 501(c)(3) organization with fewer than 75 employees. Wachiska applied immediately. When all was said and done, 78 charities qualified, so the judges awarded all of them with 10 years of free Internet service (phone service is not covered under this gift). Estimates are this savings could amount to several thousand dollars over the 10-year period. We won't know the savings for sure until service is effective later this spring.

As an added benefit to our members, Allo's Community Connect program will credit any Wachiska member with \$50 towards the homeowner's new residential account if they mention Wachiska at the time of their changeover; however, Wachiska Audubon will not receive any additional incentive. (This will apply only to new customers after this announcement.)

On behalf of Wachiska's Board and all members, we want to thank Allo for this generous gift for years to come!

Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas: Conserve Bees!

by Katie Lamke, Bumble Bee Conservation Specialist
The Xerces Society

The Nebraska Bumble Bee Atlas is a community science project organized by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Xerces Society. The Atlas aims to track and conserve Nebraska's native bumble bees. Success relies upon the project's volunteers spreading out to collectively survey our state. In 2019, during the first year of the Atlas, educational workshops and hands-on field days were held for communities in eastern Nebraska. These events focus on providing a deep understanding of bumble bee ecology, conservation, the threats they face, and how to identify the ~20 species found in Nebraska. Upon completion, volunteers are equipped with necessary knowledge, skills, and confidence to independently carry out bumble bee surveys. The first season saw 70 percent of workshop attendees signed up to formally participate, and 670 bumble bee observations were submitted!

This information is essential for increasing our understanding of bumble bees. The collected data will allow us to improve habitat that supports the state's pollinators and other wildlife. Additionally, Nebraska's valuable network of pollinator conservation advocates is growing as volunteers learn how to support bumble bees. We intend to move forward with our 2020 season, albeit in a slightly new fashion, and we hope you join our effort. This May and June we plan to host training workshops through Zoom. For more information, visit: www.nebraskabumblebeeatlas.org.

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Taking preventative actions early can reduce big trouble later. That's a lesson from both the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis. To address a problem as big as climate, we need federal legislation. But while we're encouraging Congress to begin a serious bipartisan dialogue on climate, there are things we can do. This month's proposal from Lincoln Electric System (LES) board member Lucas Sabalka offers a checklist of action Audubon supporters in Lincoln can take, right here, right now. Thanks, Lucas! He writes:

As a board member for LES and a Lincoln community member, I'm proud of all the sustainable energy programs LES offers its customers. As an environmentalist, these programs are vital as we move toward our low-carbon future. LES uses these programs as a gauge of community support for sustainable energy. One disheartening comment I hear commonly from staff is that LES is offering so many sustainability initiatives but even the environmentalists they hear from don't use them. So, I'd like your help in fixing that!

I want to demonstrate how much our community supports sustainable energy. I'm asking you to sign up for as many of these programs as you're willing. I've been enrolled in all of them! The more people enrolled means the more LES knows Lincoln wants sustainable energy and the more LES can defend sustainable energy choices. To make it easy, I'm ranking your options by cost to you per month. Spoiler: they're all very affordable.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| PAYS YOU | LES Peak Rewards: Get paid \$25 at sign-up plus \$25/year to let LES temporarily control your smart thermostat a few times a year. This helps LES meet obligations currently fulfilled by coal. If you don't have one, you can get a smart thermostat for around \$100 from Best Buy (offers installation), Amazon, QP Ace, Menards, Target, and most other big box stores. |
| PAYS YOU | Sustainable Energy Program: Get incentives for new lighting, air conditioning, heat pumps and insulation. For |
| \$0 | Paperless Billing: Save trees by saving paper and cost savings for LES to plant more trees and install more solar stations. |
| \$0 | EV Interest Group: Learn more about electric vehicles in Lincoln or support the transition to EVs. |
| \$0.50 | REC Purchase Program: Buy Renewable Energy Credits to offset your emissions. You can brag about being 100 percent renewable to your friends. Tell them how cheap it is for them, too, through LES. More at https://www.les.com/savings-energy/more-programs . |
| \$3 | SunShares Program: Support solar in Lincoln for the price of a coffee a month. |
| \$4.58 | Virtual Net Metering: Lease a solar panel from LES (half a panel at a time, as many as you want!). You get credit on your bill for your panel. After three years, your payments stop, but you continue getting credit for your solar panel through 2036. |

Every little bit helps! Please add your voice in support of these programs, so LES offers more like them; share this with friends who might be interested.



I Naturalist – an App for Amateur Naturalists

by Tim Knott, Education Committee Chair

In the March issue of *The Babbling Brook*, I mentioned that a local Lincoln committee has formed to get Lincoln naturalists involved in a nationwide event called the City Nature Challenge. It was scheduled for Earth Day Weekend. Many changes have taken place since then. Earth Day had to be canceled, and the last weekend in April has passed. Even the theme of the weekend has been changed by the national organizers. The new mission or theme is a family outing in which parents can introduce their kids to local natural areas and wild creatures.

I think it is still a good idea for beginning naturalists and their parents. The idea is to take a family hiking trip in a local park or natural area and use your smart phone to identify unusual plants, mushrooms, insects, and maybe even birds. You can do this on any day with little risk of germs.

After downloading the "I Naturalist" app, it is easy to take a photo of the mystery plant or insect, submit it to the "I Naturalist" computer, and then match your photo with one of the 3-5 identified photos the computer will send back to your phone. The value of this is that your plant, insect, or mushroom can then be entered into their database for future use (University of California and National Geographic), and you might just help create a new amateur naturalist in your family in the process!

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
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Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4806 Fax: 202-225-5686
E-mail at website: <http://fortenberry.house.gov>

Congressman Don Bacon (2nd District)

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

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

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

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Pete Ricketts

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

State Senator _____

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

State Capitol Switchboard

402-471-2311

Lancaster County Commissioners

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

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

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

Lincoln City Council

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

Lincoln Journal Star

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

Join now! Become a Friend of Wachiska Audubon Society!

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

Friends of Wachiska (local membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

Select the level of support that is right for you and make your check payable to **Wachiska Audubon Society**. All funds will remain with our local chapter and are tax deductible. Mail to:

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



American Goldfinches

___ **I prefer to receive my newsletter by email.**

Please note: If you are already a member of National Audubon Society (NAS) you automatically become a member of Wachiska, but not a Wachiska Friend member. Only Wachiska Friends receive the printed newsletter each month. If you wish to join NAS or receive *Audubon* magazine, please contact the National Audubon Society directly.

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Remember Give To Lincoln Day Is May 28

Once again Wachiska Audubon is participating with local nonprofits in Give To Lincoln Day the end of this month. This is an online fundraising event where all donations share in a percentage of a matching fund provided by generous community members in the Lincoln area. The Lincoln Community Foundation sponsors this annual event. To take part, go the LCF website, look for the Give To Lincoln Day page, and specify your online donation to Wachiska Audubon.

A gigantic THANK YOU to all who remember our chapter in this way!



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WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2020

OFFICERS

President.....	*Stu Luttich (Geneva).....	402-759-3597
Vice President.....	*Theresa Pella.....	512-585-1511
Recording Secretary	*Marilyn McNabb.....	402-476-7463
Treasurer	*Mary Rogge.....	402-488-1342

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large.....	*Linda R. Brown	402-489-2381
Director at Large.....	*Curt Donaldson	402-730-0813
Director at Large.....	*Terry Stentz.....	402-202-8819
Conservation	*Ross Scott (Roca).....	402-202-1523
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
Membership.....	*vacant	
Monthly Programs/General Meetings.....	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Newsletter Editor	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Population/Environment	Mary King.....	402-570-3295
	*Patty Spitzer	402-525-9726
Publicity/Public Relations	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Donor Development.....	Elizabeth Nelson	402-770-3485

*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
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.....	*Kristal Stoner.....	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director.....	Meghan Sittler	402-797-2301
Webmaster.....	Roxanne Smith	402-477-1319
Wachiska Computer Issues/Questions	Linda Sullivan	402-580-8515
Bookkeeper	Nancy Hamer	402-499-1306

Remember Wachiska Audubon When Shopping Online

Every time you order from Amazon, please consider logging into smile.amazon.com. Make Wachiska Audubon Society your permanent designee for a five percent discount on whatever you purchase at no extra cost to you.

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**.