



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 42nd Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2015

JULY 2015

Volume 24 - Issue 7

General Meeting—Thursday, July 9, 7:00 p.m., Dick Administration Building, Union College, Lincoln

The Native Spirit – Pollinators and Biodiversity

by Justin Evertson, Landscape Specialist
Nebraska Statewide Arboretum

It seems like every day now brings another media report about the enormous environmental challenges facing our species. Climate change, biodiversity collapse, plant and animal extinctions, water scarcity, and soil degradation come to mind, among others. It's hard to be optimistic some days. But there are several things people can do in their own yards and landscapes to address these challenges. One of the best things we can do for insect and animal biodiversity is to plant and celebrate regionally native plants. The July program will highlight several woody and prairie plant species for attracting and sustaining biodiversity, including pollinators, right in our own yards.



Justin Evertson

Statewide Arboretum (NSA) since 2010. Justin oversees programs that provide funding, technical assistance, and educational outreach for sustainable landscape enhancements in communities across the state. Before joining NFS, he coordinated community programs for the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum for nearly 20 years. In 2010, NSA and NFS staff combined to form the Community Forestry and Sustainable Landscapes unit of NFS.

Justin has authored many publications including “The Guide to Woody Landscape Plants for Nebraska” (1998). He earned his architecture and community and regional planning degrees from UNL. Growing up on a farm in Kimball County (far Western Nebraska) he learned an appreciation for shortgrass prairie and Nebraska’s wide-open spaces. Justin is passionate about trees, the native landscape, biodiversity, and sustainable landscape development. He lives in Waverly where he plants many trees and works to enhance landscapes throughout the community.



Justin Evertson has been Green Infrastructure Coordinator for the Nebraska Forest Service (NFS) and Nebraska

Calendar

July

- 6 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.
- 7 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 General Meeting, “The Native Spirit - Pollinators and Biodiversity,” by Justin Evertson, Union College, 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Field Trip to Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center (page 2)
- 15 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 20 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:30 p.m.

NO Legislation Committee meeting in July

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, July 9, at 7:00 p.m.** for this free public presentation in the Dick Administration auditorium on Union College campus, 3800 South 48th Street, in Lincoln. Free parking is available on both sides of 48th Street and in the College View SDA 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.



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Spring Creek Prairie Is for the Birds

It's summertime at Spring Creek Prairie and the rolling hillsides are inhabited with special birds that raise their families in the tallgrass prairie. Burning, grazing, and resting are used to manage the 850-acre prairie, and the result is premium habitat for prairie species. Bobolinks choose the areas with tall grass from the previous season to provide cover for nesting. Henslow's sparrows also prefer parts of the prairie providing cover as well as a couple of inches of vegetation that has built up on the ground. We'll have a great opportunity to look for these unique birds along with Bell's vireos, grasshopper sparrows, and dickcissels as we spend a morning hiking the prairie's picturesque scenery on our July field trip.

We'll meet on **Sunday, July 12, at 7:30 a.m.** in the parking lot of Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center located 20 minutes southwest of Lincoln. To reach the prairie, take Southwest 98th Street three miles south of Denton to where the sign marks the entrance on the east side. The Center is not open at this time, so restroom facilities will not be available. Bring a water bottle, sun protection, insect repellent, and binoculars if you have them. If you have questions, call John at 402-475-7275.

America's Grasslands: The Future of Grasslands in a Changing Landscape

The third biennial America's Grassland Conference, co-hosted by the National Wildlife Federation, Colorado State University, and Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, will be held in Ft. Collins, Colorado, on September 29 through October 1.

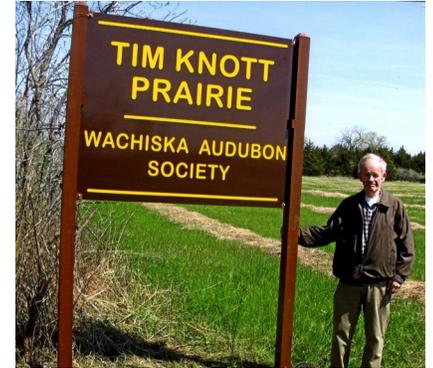


The event brings together researchers, natural resources professionals, farmers and ranchers, policy experts, and conservationists to discuss the conservation of North America's grasslands. See the website for details: www.nwf.org/grasslandsconference.

Tim Knott Prairie

by Ernie Rousek

For the past 21 years, Tim Knott has studied maps and aerial photos and driven thousands of miles in Southeastern Nebraska looking for good native prairies to preserve. Many of the 30 prairies that Wachiska has under conservation easement or has purchased outright are due to Tim's efforts. One prairie Tim found is a 21-acre tract on the west side of the Platte River about three miles northeast of Yutan or about 13 miles east of Wahoo. The owner, Kenneth Storm, sold this prairie to Wachiska in 2001. Tim and others from Wachiska have held education sessions there for students bused from Valley and Yutan schools.



This prairie has gone by the name of "Storm Prairie" for the years since its purchase. Recently it was decided to recognize Tim's many years of dedicated prairie work and the fact that he was responsible for the discovery and preservation of this excellent high-water-table prairie. This naming decision was kept secret from Tim and revealed at the April conservation committee meeting.

This sign is made of aluminum covered with vinyl and will last much longer than the previous wooden ones I have made through the years.

In erecting this sign, Sam Truax, Tim, and I dug two 30-inch-deep holes which promptly filled with water to the surface. This is where a gravel pack saves the day.

Your Help Is Needed at Spring Creek Prairie

by Jason St. Sauver, Community Education Director
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center has three great ways to help the prairie this summer and fall. We need volunteers for three wonderful projects. First and foremost is educating our youth about the tallgrass prairie by becoming a Discovery Leader. Discovery Leaders facilitate exploration during our Prairie Immersion programming. Discovery Leader training will be August 10 and 11 (only need to attend one date) from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided.

We are also starting up two citizen science projects that could use Wachiska's help. A team is forming to help monitor and remove invasive plant species at Spring Creek Prairie, as well as a team to monitor monarch butterflies by counting milkweed, eggs, caterpillars, and more! If any or all of these sound exciting to you, and you have some time available, please email Jason "the Birdnerd" St. Sauver at jstsauver@audubon.org.



From the Board ...

by Gary Fehr, Treasurer

Food Choices and the Environment



Gary Fehr

With climate change driven by fossil fuel lifestyles upon us, we are all aware of how various choices we make can impact the environment for better or worse. Means of transportation, our level of consumption of goods and services, environmental impact of housing designs, recycling—these all become important to consider. What about food? Our food choices have an impact on the

environment, as well. When you seek out locally produced food that has been grown with sustainable practices, you are voting with your dollars for the environment. How are the two related? Here are ways that choosing local and sustainable over conventional food help support the environment.

- Biological diversity - Farms that employ organic methods of production have typically made a commitment to set aside a portion of their land for wildlife. By not plowing fields to the limit of their property boundaries, natural areas remain that can host native birds, animals, pollinators, and plant species. A conservation mindset is carried out in the daily operation of the farm.
- Avoidance of chemical inputs - A guiding principle of many farms that identify themselves as sustainable is to employ biological alternatives to synthetic chemicals when addressing soil fertility and pest and weed control.
- Reduced food miles - Local food producers seek to minimize the number of miles that food has to travel to your plate. In the globally-connected world in which we live, we have become accustomed to having products delivered from all locales in the world to satisfy any craving we can dream up. A rising population demanding more and more from farther and farther away will only escalate this problem and move us closer to the day when cheap fuel supplies are exhausted.

One of the best ways to actively make food choices is to patronize local stores and markets that celebrate sustainably and locally produced food. Many readers of this newsletter live in the Lincoln area, and we are fortunate to have a choice of farmers markets nearly every day of the week. Here is a list for the 2015 season:

Tuesday

F Street Farmers Market, Tuesdays 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., F Street Neighborhood Church parking lot, 1302 F Street

Jazz in June Market, Tuesdays 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., R Street and North 12th Street

Wednesday

University Place Community Market, Wednesdays 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., North 48th Street and Madison Avenue

Thursday

Fallbrook Farmers Market, Thursdays 4:30 to 8:00 p.m., Fallbrook Town Center Park, NW 6th & Fallbrook Boulevard

Friday

The Piedmont Farmers Market, Fridays 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., 1265 South Cotner Boulevard

Saturday

Lincoln Haymarket Farmers Market, Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, P Street and North 7th Street

Sunday

Old Cheney Road Farmers Market (Lincoln), Sundays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 5500 Old Cheney Road

For those outside of Lincoln, a great online resource to find farmers markets statewide is available at <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-ag-farmers-market>. You can search by city or county to find markets close to you.

In addition, there are “virtual” farmers markets online that allow you to order food from Nebraska farms and have it delivered to nearby pickup points.

Lone Tree Foods (online farmers market with area delivery), www.lonetreefoods.com

Nebraska Food Cooperative (online farmers market with area delivery), www.nebraskafood.org

Editor’s Note: Gary is Wachiska’s treasurer. Active in sustainable agriculture organizations, he is the owner of Lincoln Neighbors Urban Farm. You can visit his booth Fridays at the Piedmont Farmers Market. (Food for thought—This statement is included in Gary’s email signature: “Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.”)



“Unfortunately, my age of 92+ and physical condition keep me somewhat homebound. My passion is flowers and birds. I keep my Peterson bird book on the counter for aides who assist me to get interested in birds. I am also very vocal about Nebraska becoming a dumping ground from other states! I read with much interest your interview with Rep. Fortenberry [April 2015 *Babbling Brook*] about solar energy. Keep up the good work.”

– LaVera Schlichtemeier, Murray, NE

Mari Pesek Prairie

by Ernie Rousek

Growing up in Brainard, Mari Pesek had a big interest in the native plant and animal life of Nebraska. She graduated from UNL with high distinction in 2010, earning a degree in environmental studies and later received a master's degree in prairie ecology from the University of Kansas. In September 2013, Mari and her brother completed a hiking trip on the John Muir Trail in California and a climb to the summit of Mt. Whitney. Shortly thereafter her life tragically ended in an automobile accident with her brother being injured.



Tom & Gretchen Pesek

Mari's parents, Tom and Gretchen Pesek, own farmland east of Brainard in the "Bohemian Alps" on which there are three small but very good prairies. The Peseks were interested in preserving these prairies, so they contacted Wachiska about using a conservation easement for this purpose. Several of us with the conservation committee examined these prairie remnants and were very pleased to find an excellent diversity of both native forbs and grasses with a minimum of invasive brome grass.

In the granting of this easement to the Peseks in the fall of 2014, we thought it would be appropriate to dedicate these prairies to Mari by putting her name on the sign to be erected for the easement. This was agreed to by her parents, and the sign was erected on June 5, after a couple of rain delays.

It seems appropriate here to include two of the quotations that appeared in Mari's funeral folder:

"We come and go, but the land is always here. And the people who love it and understand it are the people who own it—for a little while."
— Willa Cather, *O Pioneers!*

"In the wilderness is the salvation of the world."
— Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*

Editor's Note: In today's mail came the following note from the Peseks:

"Wachiska Audubon Society, thank you for taking an easement on the Mari Pesek Memorial Prairie and for the sign made by Ernie Rousek and erected by Ernie, Sam Truax, Arnold Mendenhall, and Tim Knott.

"Wachiska has done great work in preserving prairies in Southeast Nebraska, and this work will be treasured more and more in the years to come. Regards, Tom and Gretchen Pesek"

New Members Have Joined Wachiska

by Joyce Vannier, Membership Chair

Early summer has brought the following new members to Wachiska. We invite you all to take in a monthly general meeting program or a field trip this summer. All members are welcome at monthly Board meetings, as well. All committees always need new people to help out in various ways. Thank you for your interest in and support for Wachiska Audubon.

Those joining through a membership with National Audubon and assigned to our chapter are:

Anne Beurivage	Ben Kastl
Carol Brown	Larry Lewis
Thomas Curd	Nancy Marsh
Joyce Eicher	Julie Pinnell
Charles Elijah	Margaret Prey
Roger Hammer	Nanci & Jim Sherwood
Jerry Homolka	Joseph Wolfe

Joining the growing ranks of Friends of Wachiska (local membership) are these folks:

John Atkeison	Steve McConnell
Marita Bigley	Susan Peterlin
John & Beatty Brasch	Don & Marge Saiser
Craig & Gretchen Jorgensen	Eliza Sams
Steven Lacher	Laurie Richards & Dan Worth

Birdathon Fundraiser Update

by Arlys Reitan

Wachiska's annual fundraiser, the Birdathon, continues with a few donations arriving weekly. To date, 180 donations have been made for which we are most grateful. Many thanks to everyone who has stepped up and contributed to Birdathon 2015; however, totals are down noticeably this year even when considering gifts made during Give To Lincoln Day the end of May. It is not too late to send your donations directly to the Wachiska office. These gifts are, to a great extent, what enable our chapter to function throughout the year.

In the August *Babbling Brook* we will acknowledge all gifts received by July 20. Please consider getting your donations in by that date to have your name included in the lists for both direct Birdathon donations and those given on Give To Lincoln Day.



"The electronic newsletter is great—love the colored pictures."
— JoAnne Thiele

"Thanks for this option; although I love receiving the newsletter, the chance to save paper and expenses is appreciated."
— Patty Spitzer

Climate Change Update

by Marilyn McNabb

Public Comments Needed on Wind Farms

Most of the rules governing wind farms are local zoning rules. Lancaster County is reconsidering its wind zoning requirements for several reasons. The most important reason is vigorous opposition from acreage owners to a proposed wind farm in Gage and Lancaster counties. The second is a very recent Canadian study about noise levels and health which persuaded the City-County Health Department to recommend tough noise restrictions, perhaps among the toughest in the country.

Good information can be found at <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/dev/wind/index.htm>. This page has all the important studies and arguments relevant to the proposed zoning change. It includes materials submitted by the project's opponents and by Volkswind, the company proposing to build a wind farm in Lancaster and Gage counties to take advantage of the transmission lines that run to NPPD's Sheldon coal plant. It includes the three-page zoning ordinance proposed by Health and Planning Departments that is open for public comment until July 8. The current schedule indicates a public hearing will be held in mid-August in front of the Planning Commission. Then in September a second public hearing will be held before the final decision makers which will be the County Board.

Since mid-March, 19 people making up the Wind Energy Text Amendment Working Group have been meeting with staff from Planning and Health Departments to consider the pros and cons of wind farms, in general, and Lancaster County zoning rules, in particular. Wachiskan Bud Dasenbrock; Ben Mullarkey, habitat program manager at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center; and I belong to the Working Group. The meetings were also well attended by farmers, acreage owners, and the public.

The June 8 draft rule touches on such subjects as noise, setbacks for "nonparticipating lots" (meaning mainly acreage owners, not farmers who are participating in lease contracts and expect to receive payments from the wind company for the use of their land), shadow flicker, and decommissioning requirements. It gives explicit protection of the views from Nine-Mile Prairie and Spring Creek Prairie. The proposed zoning ordinance also says "Construction and operation shall not impact identified rare or endangered natural resources such as saline wetlands, native prairie, and grasslands." The review of natural resources that draw on the expert knowledge of the staff of the state's Game and Parks Commission and the federal Fish and Wildlife Service occurs when the project seeks approval from the state level Power Review Board. Wind developers are urged to work closely with these agencies from the start.

Noise restriction is the most contentious subject. Staff referred us to the Wind Turbine Health Impact Study done for Massachusetts state agencies published in January 2012. The

Massachusetts study found "there is insufficient evidence that noise from wind turbines is directly, (i.e., independent from an effect on annoyance or sleep) causing health problems or disease. None of the limited epidemiological evidence reviewed suggests an association between noise from wind turbines and pain and stiffness, diabetes, high blood pressure, tinnitus, hearing impairment, cardiovascular disease, and headache/migraine." ". . . the weight of evidence suggests no association between noise from wind turbines and measures of psychological distress or mental health problems. The acreage owners' response was a handout that said the Massachusetts study is 'biased, distorted,' and without scientific merit."

The nighttime decibel level at 37 dB recommended by the Health Department is even more restrictive than the 40 dB which one person familiar with the project said would, if adopted, stop it altogether. In next month's *Babbling Brook* we will look at the Canadian study published this past April that influenced the Health Department's recommendation.

Omaha's Cemetery-Sanctuaries

by Richard Peterson

This was in the 1916 *Bird-Lore* magazine, Volume XVIII, Number 4, page 207. Most of the early issues of the magazine had stories of school children making bird houses, literally hundreds of bird houses. Here is what Omaha was up to back in the day.

One of the immediate results of a recent enthusiastic meeting of bird-lovers in Omaha was the formation of a local Audubon Society, whose first effort was to establish the cemeteries in the city as bird-sanctuaries. Superintendent H. S. Mann, of the great Forest Lawn Cemetery, had previously been in correspondence with the National Association, and announced that arrangements to that end were under way at Forest Lawn.

It was announced that the Prospect Hill and other cemeteries would do the same. Prizes are to be offered to the boys of the manual-training classes in the city schools for the best bird-houses, feeding-tables, etc., made for placing in these cities of the dead. The newspapers and city authorities are lending help and strength to the work. "The Audubon Society of Nebraska," remarks the *World-Herald*, editorially, "is making a strenuous effort to increase its junior membership throughout this city and state, which means that there will be many delightful 'field days' in the woods during the summer weeks, and that the feathered folks will discover themselves welcome indeed in these parts. Several bird-clubs have already been organized, and the campaign seems sure of success."

Prospect Hill was founded in 1858 and is one of Nebraska's oldest cemeteries. It is a Nebraska State Historical Site and a Nebraska Statewide Arboretum Site. It is located east of North 33rd Street north of Parker Street in Omaha.

Global Population Grows – What about Food for Humans and Habitat for Wildlife?

by Chuck Francis

Be prepared for a shock when you visit the website www.census.gov/popclock to see the dial adding people as they are born around the globe. The speed of accumulation is as fast as the dials on the gas pump as you fill the tank, and the consequences are both immediate and long-lasting. Some people laud the addition of more creative minds, while most realists recognize that the majority of those born today will join the ranks of over one billion in the Global South who are currently suffering from under-nutrition. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. predicts a need for 70 percent more food by 2050 to meet growing demand, including more animal protein due to rising incomes. Who will feed the world, what will happen to wildlife habitat, and what are alternative strategies for reducing hunger?

Our understanding of the challenge can be improved by making a reality check with several of the common myths that abound in the popular press. The first myth is that our Midwest farmers must feed the world. In fact, this country has never fed the world, nor will we in the future, although we have been generous in food donations to provide disaster relief. To put our generosity in perspective, we spend more on pet food (\$60 billion/year) than we do on all economic assistance to other countries (\$31 billion/year), projected for 2015. People around the planet need the technology and access to resources to produce crops and feed themselves as the only long-term solution. Another myth is what we often read in popular farm magazines about the optimistic projections that new transgenic technologies (GMOs) can lead to tripling crop yields in two decades; one UNL plant breeder observes that the ratio of hype to reality in these projections is “near infinity.” Another myth exists in the general confidence of the corporate community that new technologies can solve global hunger, and that an industrial model successful in the North can be transplanted in the South. We challenge that suggestion, and propose that the major goal of transnational corporations is to make more money, and one result is an accelerating gap between rich and poor everywhere.

Growing awareness of the truths that dispel these myths is providing a new set of goals that will actually solve the population and food challenge, and will protect habitat and create a livable environment for most species. FAO, World Bank, and USAID are beginning to modify development strategies. A new approach is to work with farmers, nonprofits, and governments to develop appropriate technologies to improve food production in current systems that will feed the world. Agroecological methods which depend on diversified crop rotations, nutrients from legumes and grass cover crops, and ecologically intensive methods can increase yields without costly inputs, building instead on common sense and new knowledge

rather than on more chemicals. Reducing food waste during harvest, storage, shipping, and in the home can reclaim the 40 percent of food that is lost today. Promoting diets that depend more on plants for protein and energy will further reduce projected demand for food and reduce health care costs by prevention and better eating habits. Reducing demand for industrial animal production and increasing crop yields on the best land can prevent agriculture from expanding into wildlife habitat that is marginal for food production. We can encourage development of local food systems, rather than globalization that provides convenience to consumers in the North and profits to a few with privilege.

These changes we can make today. They are low-cost and efficient alternatives to provide food for people, while we wrestle with challenges of providing education, health, and planning to families who need this most.

Bird Notes

by Kevin Poague

“I have spotted what appears to be a pair of Bohemian waxwings in my backyard, collecting nest materials. Waxwings normally migrate through Nebraska to their breeding grounds up north, don't they?”



photo by Paul Johnsgard

Cedar waxwing

There are two species of waxwings in this country, cedar and Bohemian. Cedar waxwings nest in Nebraska; that is likely the species you saw. Bohemians live in the Northwest and are rare visitors to Nebraska, usually only seen in the winter.

The two species look similar, but Bohemians have wings that have white spots and yellow feathers near the end and have reddish feathers under their tail. The body of

the cedar is a warm brown with a yellowish belly. So, you probably have cedar waxwings. Let me know if that's the case, or if these are two Bohemian waxwings that are lost.



Bohemian waxwing

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Lincoln Journal Star

Letters to the editor, 926 P St, Lincoln NE 68508
E-mail: 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 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 _____

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Enclose introductory membership fee of \$20.

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

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4547 Calvert St Ste 10
Lincoln NE 68506-5643

C5ZP040Z

Members Sign Up to Receive *The Babbling Brook* Online

You can help Wachiska save paper and reduce the cost of printing and mailing *The Babbling Brook*. Each month's newsletter will be posted online by the first day of each month. Our electronic subscribers will receive an email the first of each month with a link to the online newsletter.

If you would like to join the 122 other *Babbling Brook* readers and switch from paper to online delivery, please send an email to newsletter@WachiskaAudubon.org and put "Electronic Newsletter" in the subject line. We'll get you converted over. Thanks!



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*Denotes Board member

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Raptor Recovery.....	Betsy Finch (Elmwood).....	402-994-2009
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska.....	Marian Langan.....	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director.....	vacant.....	402-797-2301
Webmaster.....	Danny 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**.