

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 40th Year of Protecting Nature 1973 - 2013

AUGUST 2013

Volume 22 - Issue 8

General Meeting—August 8, 7:00 p.m., Dick Administration Building, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska

Fontenelle Forest's Raptor Recovery Birds

The August general meeting will be one of the most popular of the year. Betsy Finch, founder of what formerly was Raptor Recovery Nebraska, now named Fontenelle Forest's Raptor Recovery, will describe the group's activities and rates of success in rehabilitation of thousands of raptors in Southeast Nebraska. Finch and her staff will bring a number of raptors for all to see "up close and personal."

The raptor center was founded by Wachiska Audubon in 1976 as a special bicentennial project encouraged by National Audubon. A few years later it spun off as an organization on its own. The statewide organization merged with Fontenelle Forest on July 1.

About 30 display and educational birds will be transitioned gradually to facilities at Fontenelle Forest. Injured and orphaned raptors will continue to be housed and treated at the rehabilitation center which is not open to the public.

Fontenelle Forest's Raptor Recovery receives hundreds of injured, sick, poisoned, or orphaned birds of prey each year. Finch and her volunteers have cared for more than 11,000 raptors over the past 37 years.

A treatment center near Elmwood currently houses nearly 80 birds, many of which were injured in collisions with vehicles or electrical wires. Some suffer from lead poisoning. Federal law strictly protects raptors, but some have been shot nevertheless.

A statewide network of trained volunteers helps in all aspects of raptor support including teaching programs, giving live animal demonstrations, and treating and transporting birds to the Elmwood treatment center.



Minerva

Once restored to health, many birds are banded and released. In some cases, birds cannot be released back to the wild because illness or severe injuries leave them unable to fly or hunt.

When possible, non-releasable birds are routed into breeding programs, recruited as foster parents for young orphans, used in research, or join the roster of "education birds" taken to schools and other places to increase awareness about raptors.

Raptor Recovery is the only group in Nebraska permitted by state and federal government to rehabilitate orphaned or injured raptors. Staff and volunteers work with private citizens, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, law enforcement, animal control agencies, and utility companies to find, collect, and deliver injured or orphaned birds to the rehabilitation center.

Join Wachiska on **Thursday, August 8, 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. From 48th and Calvert streets, go one block south to the north end of campus. Due to construction on that end of campus, parking can be found along 48th Street, near the church on Prescott Avenue, or at the campus gym. Look for Audubon signs on the doors of the Dick Building. An on-site ramp and elevator are available. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

Calendar

August

- 1 Education Committee, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 6 Board Meeting, Wachiska office, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 General Meeting with Betsy and the raptors, Dick Auditorium, Union College, 7:00 p.m.**
- 19 Conservation Committee, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 19 Newsletter deadline, Wachiska office, 5:00 p.m.
- 22 Legislation Committee, DaVinci's, 11th & G, 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Field trip to Little Salt Creek WMA & on to Omaha for martin watch, 3:30 p.m. (page 2)

NOTE: NO Population/Environment Committee meeting in August

September 8 Wachiska's 40th Anniversary Celebration, Hillcrest Country Club, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. (pages 4-5)
Reservations due by August 30



Field Trip

by John Carlini, Field Trip Chair

Marshes and Martins

Little Salt Creek Wildlife Management Area is part of a critical habitat corridor just north of Lincoln that protects our unique saline wetlands and surrounding grasslands and prairies. This 256-acre area received funding from the Nebraska Environmental Trust and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. We'll explore the northern section of Little Salt Creek on a hike that will give us a chance to scout for late summer prairie flowers, unusual saline plants, and special grassland birds such as bobolinks.

After the hike, anyone interested in seeing the truly amazing annual pre-migratory purple martin roost in Omaha can continue on to watch the gathering of tens of thousands of martins that congregate before their departure to South America for the winter. The show starts about a half hour before sunset and lasts for about an hour as clouds of martins stream into their roost trees next to the Nebraska Medical Center on 44th Street immediately south of Farnam Street. The parking lot next to Clarkson Doctor's Building South has been opened to birders.

We'll meet at **3:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 25**, on the south side of the Capitol in Lincoln at 15th and H streets across the street from the governor's mansion. Sturdy shoes, long pants, insect repellent, a water bottle, and binoculars, if you have them, are recommended for the hike. A hat and shirt for protection from a possible martin "offering" may also come in handy. There is no fee and the public is welcome. If you have questions about either destination, call John at 402-475-7275.

Wachiska Bylaws are Being Updated

by Elizabeth Nelson, Corresponding Secretary

The current bylaws of the Wachiska Audubon Society have been in place since 2008. At the beginning of 2013, the Board determined they should be updated, and we have been working toward that end for the past seven months. At the July Board meeting, updated language was approved by the Board. A vote of the general membership will be taken to approve the proposed revisions at the October general meeting.

If you would like to review the proposed changes, hard copies are available at the Wachiska office, or you may review documents online at www.wachiskaaudubon.org. If you have questions, comments, or disagree with any of the proposed changes, please email enelson555@gmail.com and put *Bylaws Committee* in the subject line. You may also mail written comments to the Wachiska office. Please do not call the office with your comments. Only written, signed comments can be accepted through September 30, 2013. Questions will receive a reply if a phone number is included.



From the Board ...

by Gary Fehr, Treasurer

Go Birds, Go Local!

It's high summer now. After a cool wet spring, vegetable gardens are in full swing. The gardeners among us have already cleared the beds of the early crops and are harvesting the summer rotation. Farmers markets and CSAs are going strong.

At Wachiska's July general meeting we heard guest speaker William Powers talk about the interconnectedness between agriculture and the environment. The Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society promotes farming choices that strike a balance between sheer agricultural output and the long-term impact on the natural world's ecoservices.



Emerging work such as the Healthy Farm Index by Dr. John Quinn (also a previous Wachiska guest) are providing tools to measure how a farmer's choices impact the underlying environmental services. Interestingly, a primary component of the HFI includes bird populations, asserting that the number and variety of birds are directly related to the overall health of the available ecoservices. Bird diversity is key!

On one end of the diversity spectrum lay large-scale industrialized farms. Generally, their objective emphasizes maximum productivity. A common consequence is very little diversity. On the other end are the small or "local" farms. These types of enterprises often incorporate organic methods, soil conservation, and a reserve of non-farmed habitat. They build reliance on ecoservices like water purification, biodiversity, climate change mitigation, pest control, pollination, and soil and water conservation into their farm plans.

When in decline, substitution of these services by human engineered replacements costs society several billion dollars annually. Ironically, these costs seldom, if ever, make it into conventional agriculture's balance sheets, giving an artificially favorable view of its success. "Cheap" food delivered by this system is subsidized by everyone in the form of higher infrastructure costs and damage repair when natural functions are eliminated or overwhelmed. To quote my wife, "the question we should ask ourselves is not why organic food is so expensive, but rather why conventional food is so cheap."

So the next time we purchase food, let's all be mindful how our choices of where and what to buy tie back into our love of nature. Go birds, go local!

Gary is Wachiska's treasurer. By day, he is a computer systems engineer. His avocation revolves around the environment and sustainable agriculture. Besides serving Wachiska, Gary is past treasurer and operations manager for the Nebraska Food Co-op.

Healthy Farms are Good for Wildlife

submitted by Chuck Francis for the Population & Environment Committee

Much of the discussion today about maintaining wildlife habitat centers on federal lands, city parks, and endangered and threatened species. In fact, over half of the land in the U.S. is owned by private individuals, and most of this is in farming and ranching operations. How do healthy farms relate to healthy habitat for wildlife, and what incentives are there for farmers to include this among their many goals?

July's general meeting featured William Powers, executive director of the Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society, who discussed their annual workshop on "healthy farms" that is organized in cooperation with the University of Nebraska. Powers described many educational and promotional activities sponsored by NSAS to promote healthy farming practices and thus create a more viable habitat on the farm for birds and other wildlife. How can education contribute to sustainability?

The most recent issue of *Catalyst* from the Union of Concerned Scientists (Summer 2013, pp. 7-9) includes a cover story, "The Future of Farming is Now" and suggests how we can continue to produce sufficient food while at the same time reducing pollution and strengthening the rural economy. The healthy farm must be *productive* to assure we have an abundant supply of affordable food while maintaining a healthy export of products. It must also be *economically viable* in order for farmers to maintain their operations and achieve an acceptable standard of living, plus contribute to a robust local and regional economy. Finally, this must be achieved in an *environmentally sustainable* way to maintain soil fertility and quality habitat for other species. What forms should these farming practices take?

The UCS article continues to describe four types of strategies that will contribute to a healthier overall farming system and economy, and one that preserves habitat. Focus on the *watershed and landscape* provides an overview of how a number of unique individual farming operations fit together and complement each other. This is far more complex than the current menu-driven monocultures that dominate in much of the Midwest. With this focus we can identify critical habitat areas and look for connectivity among them to favor wildlife migration and safety. Creating *greater diversity and rotating different crops* contribute to a landscape diversity that is essential for the multiple habitats needed by different species. This also promotes areas where natural predators and parasites can reside to help maintain healthy crops. *Integrating crops and livestock* is a "back to the future" concept that helps maintain soil fertility, requires more forages (usually perennials that help prevent soil erosion), and nesting habitat for many birds. As part of this diversity, using *more cover crops* for green manure and forage for livestock will further diversify the farm and provide habitat for a diverse array of soil organisms and the animals that feed on them.

All these practices contribute to more diverse farms and greater areas of healthy habitat for wildlife. Dr. John Quinn's research results show greater populations of birds on organic and diverse farms, compared to monoculture fields of neighbors. We should remember those results and heed his advice to increase diversity. More diverse farms are good for wildlife.

Revolution?

by Bob Den Hartog

We are in the midst of what is likely the greatest conversion of grassland in Nebraska to row crop land usage since the great "revolution" of center pivot irrigation. There has been a remarkable number of CRP grasslands and legacy pastures taken to the plow in the last five to ten years; in fact, I drive by two or three grasslands sprayed just this spring with glyphosate on my 15-minute drive to work and could probably point out a half dozen grasslands converted to row crop production in a 10-mile radius of my house in the last couple of years. When added together, the loss of grassland acreage has got to be in the neighborhood of hundreds, if not thousands, of acres in Lancaster County alone! It's no surprise that grassland nesting bird numbers are declining so precipitously.

Why is it that we stand idly by as we are distracted by the weed trees being cleared from the roadways in our county? We need to think bigger than this. Conservation is in need of a revolution.

With over 97 percent of the land in Nebraska privately owned, it should be abundantly clear that partnerships between conservation groups and private landowners must be forged or strengthened if there is to be any lasting or significant influence on ecological and economic vitality in our state. The prize is too great not to invest significant creativity, effort, and focus toward this goal.

So then the question is...How? I don't have all the answers. But, let me continue to opine...

Current conservation mechanisms influencing land use are vastly inadequate and unreliable. Government programs come and go, and the validity of conservation easements is regularly challenged in the state legislature. In my estimation, the overarching problem is that there is currently insufficient financial incentive for the average landowner not to use land to its maximum potential productive output.

For real sustainability, a mechanism must be created that is market driven and rewards landowners for their properties' relative ecological contribution to the regional ecosystem. How to get this done is where the rubber meets the road. I see some value in starting with a mechanism like that which the organic farming industry has adopted, including a significant "buy local" facet. But I'm sure there are greater minds than mine who might have more thoughtful ideas. I'd love to hear them.

The next and most urgent revolution in conservation must be focused toward influencing private land use. Given the relative acreage in private hands, it is especially important in Nebraska. Given current commodity prices, there will scarcely be anything left to save if something doesn't change.

Bob Den Hartog served on the Wachiska Board as an at-large member and most recently as chair of the conservation committee for a short time. He can be reached at bt.denhartog@gmail.com or 402-937-3862.

Wachiska Anniversary Features NAS President David Yarnold



Reserve your place by August 30!

I'd like to reserve a seat at the Wachiska Audubon Society 40th Anniversary Celebration.

Circle one meal selection from choices below.

2013 marks the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Wachiska Audubon Society. To celebrate this landmark, Wachiska members, friends, and the general public are invited to a special event featuring **Audubon Society President David Yarnold**.

The event will take place **Sunday, September 8**, from **4:00 to 8:00 p.m.** at Hillcrest Country Club. The event kicks off with a reception, cash bar, and silent auction from 4:00 to 5:30. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to bid on many silent auction items including a weekend at the Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, signed books and artwork, gift and wine baskets, and much more. Donations to date are listed on the next page. All proceeds will help fund Wachiska's prairie restoration and education activities. A plated meal and dessert will be served at 5:30, followed by a short recognition presentation and our featured speaker. At the conclusion of the evening, silent auction bid winners will be able to pick up their items.



David Yarnold

As the highlight of the evening, we are extremely pleased to have David Yarnold, National Audubon Society president, as our special guest.

Mr. Yarnold will be speaking on some of the key efforts of National Audubon and the important role Nebraska and local chapters play in those efforts. Mr. Yarnold became Audubon's 10th president in September 2010, charged with

leading a turnaround that would expand Audubon's effectiveness while building on the organization's strong conservation legacy.

Mr. Yarnold notes he will address "*Audubon's Grassroots: The Power of Many, the Passion We Share.*" He will discuss his vision of how the National Audubon Society will thrive in its second century by building its grassroots network.

We invite all Wachiska members, friends, and anyone with an interest in our natural world, to join in this special celebration. Cost is \$30 per person; advance reservations are required by August 30. You can reserve your spot by completing and returning the form on this page, or find reservation information online at www.wachiskaaudubon.org.

NAME _____ S B C V

ADDRESS _____

CITY STATE ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER EMAIL _____

Number attending _____ @ \$30 each. Total enclosed \$ _____

All reservations must be paid for in advance. Pick up tickets at the door. Confirmation will be sent by email or U.S. mail. Make checks payable to Wachiska Audubon Society and have postmarked by August 30 to 4547 Calvert St Ste 10, Lincoln NE 68506-5643. You may also bring your reservation to the office. Questions? Call the Wachiska office at 402-486-4846.

Delicious meal options from Hillcrest

Hillcrest Country Club chefs are offering four delicious plated dinner options for your dining enjoyment. Each entrée is accompanied by dessert and coffee or tea. Special dietary requests can be accommodated. Call the Wachiska office if you have questions.

Grilled Atlantic Salmon (S) Absolutely fresh Atlantic salmon finished with a honey bourbon glaze, and served with a wild rice blend and a fresh vegetable medley.

Beef Medallions (B) Roasted beef tenderloin sliced and served with Hillcrest mashed potatoes, topped with hunter-brown gravy, and served with a fresh vegetable medley.

Parmesan Chicken (C) Parmesan encrusted chicken breast lightly fried to a golden brown, served over a bed of fettuccini, topped with a mushroom cream sauce, and served with a fresh vegetable medley.

Vegetable Fettuccini (V) Fettuccini noodles tossed in olive oil with broccoli, mushrooms, garlic, pine nuts, artichoke hearts, and sundried tomatoes, served with a mixed salad and garlic bread.

Please Support our Corporate Sponsor: **Wild Bird Habitat Store**

Many Thanks to our 40th Anniversary Celebration Sponsor and Donors

The Wachiska 40th Anniversary Celebration will kick off with a reception, cash bar, and silent auction from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. All proceeds from the auction will help fund Wachiska's prairie restoration and education activities. New donations are coming in daily, but at the time of publication we are pleased to announce the following silent auction items and thank our generous donors.

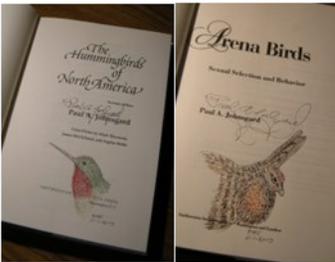
Weekend stay at the Lied Lodge & Conference Center - Enjoy an overnight accommodation and breakfast for two at the stunning lodge surrounded by Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City.



One-hour consulting from Benjamin Vogt, owner of **Monarch Gardens**, a native plant garden consulting business.

Joel Sartore Photography donates a 13"x19" signed bird montage print, a signed fox print, and a signed copy of Joel's book, *RARE*.

Open Harvest Natural Foods Cooperative Grocery - Gift basket of body care and dry goods groceries and \$25 gift card.



The Hummingbirds of North America and Arena Birds by **Paul Johnsgard**, each signed with original illustrations—true collector's items!

Woody Plants for the Central & Northern Prairies by **Walt Bagley and Richard Sutton**.

Birds of Paradise, oil on silk, original art, custom frame (shown at right).

Embroidered Silk Bird Tapestry in glass-on-glass, bamboo-style frame.

Neil Anderson signed print, Spring Sweetness, 63 of 85, custom frame.

Neil Anderson signed print, Baltimore Oriole, 251 of 500, custom frame.



Custom framing donated by Frames for You



Donna Burdic, Passion Hunt earrings, sterling silver with 22k gold and garnet insets, 14k gold post (shown at left).

Ted Kooser - Original gift to be announced.

Stock Seed Farm - Seed collection, wildflower mix, and ornamental prairie grass collection.

Two crane-viewing reservations in blinds at Rowe Sanctuary with Rowe Sanctuary t-shirt.

Michael Forsberg - Signed photograph.

Wild Bird Habitat Store - Special gift to be announced.

Lazlos Empyrean Ales gift bucket including six-pack Empyrean Ale, \$75 restaurant gift certificate, t-shirt, two glasses, and five-gallon keg of beer.



Spring Creek Prairie - Family membership and special gift shop items. Autographed copy of *The Ecology and Management of Prairies in the Central United States* by **Chris Helzer**, prairie ecologist and program manager for The Nature Conservancy.

Glacial Till Vineyard - Wine gift basket.



Gift Card from Des Moines Feed - Specializing in wild bird feeds.

Brad Kreiger - *Turkey Tracks*, graphite on paper.



Ed Zimmer - Historical walking tour of your choice for party of 12.

40th Anniversary T-shirts now available

New t-shirts commemorating Wachiska's 40th year are now available for sale. The front features the 40th Anniversary logo shown here.



The back side displays an original drawing donated by Dr. Paul Johnsgard depicting an upland sandpiper at rest among prairie phlox, along with Wachiska's vision statement. We sincerely thank Dr. Johnsgard for his generous contribution of his illustration, along with the many books and other items he has contributed to our organization over the years.



The t-shirts feature a unisex v-neck design and are available in two colors: black ink on a cranberry fabric or burgundy ink on a heather gray fabric in S, M, L, XL. Price is \$20 per shirt and supports our prairie conservation efforts. T-shirts are available at the monthly general meetings, special events, or by contacting the Wachiska office. Remember this special year with a very special t-shirt. Order yours today!

W.A.R.B.L.E.R

(Wachiska Audubon Readers' Bulletins, Letters, and Environmental Reports)

Photo Contest Winner

In June, Wachiska held a photo contest on our Facebook page. Nearly 30 images were entered, garnering admiration and joy as we celebrated the wildlife and wild places in our state. Deb Miller from Aurora is the winner of a Wachiska tote bag filled with goodies. Her image of a dragonfly received the most votes from our Facebook followers. Congrats, Deb! Now look for another contest on our Facebook page later this summer. This time the prize will be our new t-shirt.



Wilderness Park Photo/Calendar Contest

Friends of Wilderness Park invites photographers of all skill levels to submit photos taken in the Park, with the goal of creating a calendar. All proceeds will go to the maintenance of the Park. You can submit up to three 8"x10" photos. For an application, visit www.friendsofwildernesspark.org, or the Wilderness Park Facebook page. Submit by August 16, 2013.

Calendar cover and monthly photos will be chosen by vote. All entries will be on display at Pepe's Bistro, 3227 S. 13th Street, starting September 5, with a First Friday event from 5:00 to 8:00 to kick off the voting, which will end September 30. The winning photos will be displayed at a First Friday event November 1 at Zipline Brewing Company, 2100 Magnum Circle, Suite 1.

No More TP Rolls Needed

Much to our members' disappointment, Wachiska is not collecting bathroom tissue rolls at this time. This popular activity continued for two years and we are up to our ears in TP rolls! IF the project requiring them is ever repeated, you will be the first to know. Thanks to everyone who helped in the past.

40th Anniversary Update

Wachiska's 40th anniversary committee wants to hear from you! We are collecting photos, stories, and accomplishments of Wachiska during the 40 years of our organization's existence. If you have fond memories or events that stand out to you, please share them with us. You can send pictures and stories to:

Jessica Umberger, jessi.umberger@gmail.com
Elizabeth Nelson, enelson555@gmail.com
Sue Kohles, turnaleaf@windstream.net
Wachiska office, office@wachiskaadubon.org

Canadian Oil is Foreign Oil

by Janet Bonet

The USA needs to be energy SELF-sufficient and needs to lead the world in that direction. The time has come to end the pipelines. Canada should be refining on its own lands and exporting from its own ports if they cannot break the chains of oil dependency. Times change, and if we are going to do things like fracking and pipelines, we need to look at the whole picture of risks. The more we frack in the areas of existing pipelines, the more seismic activity we cause, and the more we endanger both the human and the wild environment.

But let's get to the economics of it as the mayor of Mayflower, Arkansas, has done. He is showing us what the real costs to taxpayers will be when those pipelines malfunction. The stockholders and owners of corporations that profit from the pipeline construction and use the products that flow through them are the ones who should bear the full costs of the process and not the taxpayers who suffer when a pipeline company takes land, abuses the environment, and causes spills.

As I understand it, these pipeline users and builders do not pay into the oil spill trust. Why not? What favoritism is this? It is a passive subsidy. The risk outweighs the benefits. What will homeowners and landowners have to pay in increased insurance premiums now that we see what a pipeline can do to a neighborhood like the one in Mayflower and the fields and lakes in Minnesota? That increase in premiums should be paid by the pipeline profiteers. And the politicians who vote in favor of these oily serpents under our soils should have to build their homes and offices on the land above them. Where is the risk/benefit analysis that shows both the hard and the soft costs of chemical and petroleum pipelines? Using eminent domain laws to bolster private profits dilutes the American Dream and corrodes the public's faith in government.

Birdathon 2013 Progress Report

by Tim Knott, Chair

Thank you to everyone who has already made a contribution this year to Wachiska's Birdathon. We continue receiving donations, and they are still needed. If you haven't sent in your donation, please do so. We depend on continued support from you and all our members each year to pay for our programs, special events, and office expenses. So please think about a gift right now while it is fresh in your mind. No need for a fancy envelope. Just make your check payable to Wachiska Audubon Society and mail or bring to 4547 Calvert St Ste 10, Lincoln NE 68506-5643. Mark the envelope: Birdathon. We will make good use of your gift.

Thank you very much to the following Wachiska members who helped stuff, stamp, and seal Birdathon fundraising letters in early April: Gladys Jeurink, Clarice Hedrick, Bob Boyce, Linda Plock, Pat Stephen, and Phyllis and Bud Narveson. We couldn't have gotten the mailing done without your help.

Public Officials

President Barack Obama

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

Senator Mike Johanns

100 Centennial Mall N Rm 294, Lincoln NE 68508-3803
Lincoln phone: 402-476-1400 Fax: 402-476-0605
Wash. DC phone: 202-224-4224 Fax: 202-228-0436
E-mail: mike_johanns@johanns.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 Lee Terry (2nd District)

11717 Burt St Ste 106, Omaha NE 68154
Omaha phone: 402-397-9944
Wash. DC phone: 202-225-4155 Fax: 202-226-5452
E-mail at website: <http://leeterry.house.gov/>

Congressman Adrian Smith (3rd District)

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

Capitol Hill Switchboard

888-436-8427 or 202-224-3121

Governor Dave Heineman

Capitol Bldg, PO Box 94848, Lincoln NE 68509-4848
Phone: 402-471-2244 Fax: 402-471-6031
E-mail: dave.heineman@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 208, 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

Membership

Wachiska offers two choices of membership. 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 membership dues from a local membership stay 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 _____ 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.

OR

National Membership in National Audubon Society

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Recruited by _____

E-mail _____

Enclose introductory membership fee of \$20.

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

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

C3ZP040Z

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and
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Wachiska Audubon Society



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Wachiska Audubon Society
4547 Calvert St Ste 10
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office@wachiskaaudubon.org

40th Anniversary
To reserve a spot see page 4 NOW

WACHISKA AUDUBON LEADERS - 2013

OFFICERS

President	*Arnold Mendenhall (Hickman)	402-525-4884
Vice-President	*Jessi Umberger	402-580-3057
Recording Secretary	*Bob Boyce	402-770-6865
Corresponding Secretary	*Elizabeth Nelson	402-423-2936
Treasurer	*Gary Fehr	402-570-4382
Immediate Past President	*Anne Vidaver	402-435-0832

STANDING COMMITTEES/POSITIONS

Director at Large	*vacant	
Director at Large	*vacant	
Director at Large	*Benjamin Vogt	402-499-5851
Conservation	*Heidi Hillhouse	402-470-7350
Education	*Chris Thody (Martell)	402-499-0133
Field Trips	John Carlini	402-475-7275
	*Ken Reitan	402-423-3540
Fundraising	vacant	
Hospitality	Cheryl Moncure	402-488-0036
Legislation	Bruce Kennedy (Malcolm)	402-796-2114
	*Sam Truax	402-325-9012
Membership	Joyce Vannier	402-489-4611
	*Lana Novak	402-475-8693
Monthly Programs/General Meetings	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Newsletter Editor	Arlys Reitan	WAS office 402-486-4846
Population/Environment	*Colleen Babcock	308-850-0445
Program Coordinator	Tim Knott	402-483-5656
Publicity/Public Relations	Jeanne Kern	402-423-0428

*Denotes Board member

OTHER ASSOCIATES

Bird Questions	Irene Alexander	402-423-9495
NAS Regional Board Member	Connie Holsinger (Colorado)	720-459-7508
Newsletter Layout	Linda Sullivan	402-580-8515
Raptor Recovery Nebraska	Betsy Finch (Elmwood)	402-994-2009
Executive Director Audubon Nebraska	Marian Langan	402-797-2301
Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center Director	Kristofer Johnson	402-797-2301
Webmaster	Dan Staehr	402-440-5869

NEBirds Website

Check out the email discussion at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NEBirds/> to learn of the latest sightings and interesting tales of Nebraska's most avid birders and those interested in Nebraska birds and their ecology. Information changes 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**.